



Meeting of the Presbytery of New Covenant
Saturday, June 11, 2011 (9:00 am)
Spring Branch 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, June 11, 2011 9:00 am
Spring Branch Presbyterian Church
1215 Campbell Road, Houston, TX 77055 (713-464-7659)

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 the Youth Room (new bldg.)**

By now all ministers and clerks should have received the invitation from the Session and Congregation of Spring Branch Presbyterian Church to the stated meeting of the presbytery on June 11, 2011. A map with directions to the church was included with that invitation. Clerks are asked to pass along all meeting materials to the elected commissioner(s) for this meeting.

No response is required for lunch; lunch tickets will be sold on a first-come/first-serve basis. Childcare reservations **MUST BE MADE DIRECTLY** to Spring Branch Presbyterian Church (contact information is listed above). Please honor all reservations made, as our host congregation commits payment to childcare providers based on reservations made by parents.

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).

May 26, 2011

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

The second stated meeting of the presbytery is soon upon us. Our host congregation is anxious to share with the presbytery their celebration of an enlarged facility, having completed a major building project this past year!

We have a very full DOCKET for this meeting, so I urge all to schedule your day accordingly. The Ecclesiastical Affairs Committee works hard to plan each meeting and in our eyes, not one piece of a meeting is less important than another. Therefore, please note the projected time of adjournment and plan to participate fully throughout the meeting.

Through our worship experience and the keynote presentation on June 11, the presbytery will celebrate a witness to the Christian faith lived out in the southern and almost-southern hemisphere. The Reverend Mauricio Chacon, a member of our presbytery, will be our preacher in worship; Dr. Reinerio Arce-Valentin, President of Seminario Evangelico Teologia, Matanzas, Cuba, will bring the keynote presentation.

The final proposed amendment to the *Constitution* from the 219th General Assembly will be before us at this meeting. The Belhar Confession, if approved by a 2/3 majority vote of the 173 presbyteries of our denomination, will be added to the Book of Confessions, but only after a final vote of ratification by the 220th General Assembly in July, 2012. Both a *pro* and a *con* position were published in the May/June edition of *Connections*, written by members of our presbytery. At the meeting on June 11 there will be two brief presentations: one for, one against adoption. And, of course, before a vote is taken, the floor will be open for discussion by the body. Study materials for this confession can be found at <http://www.pcusa.org/resource/belhar-confession-study-guide/>.

Also to be noted for this meeting will be the election of the next stated clerk of the presbytery. You will find the nomination information under the Report of General Council (F and F.1).

Clerks of Session are reminded that there will be a Session Records Review immediately following the adjournment of the meeting (in Fellowship Hall). Please pre-register with Janice Schessler at the presbytery office if you plan to attend with your records.

Gratefully,



Hear the good news about **The state of the Presbyterian Church in Cuba**

The Presbytery of New Covenant welcomes

Dr. Reinerio Arce Valentin Keynote speaker

for the June 11, 2011 Presbytery Meeting
at Spring Branch Presbyterian Church

Reinerio Arce is currently the Rector of the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Matanzas, Cuba and Professor of Theology. He is a graduate of that Seminary and received his ThD from the University of Tübingen, studying under Jurgen Moltmann. He is the immediate past-Moderator of the Presbyterian-Reformed Church in Cuba and before his selection as Rector of the Seminary in 2006 was the President of the Cuban Council of Churches. He is also a professor in the University of Havana, where his wife Patricia Ares is Director of the Family Study Center. Reinerio is a member of a prominent Presbyterian family: his great-uncle Reinerio was among the first Cuban seminary graduates, his father Sergio is the author of numerous theological works and served as Rector of the Matanzas Seminary, his sister Dora is pastor of the Luyanó Presbyterian Church in Havana. Reinerio is a member of the Luyanó Church and a Ruling Elder.



**Dr. Arce will preach at
Fuentes de Esperanza meeting
at Memorial Drive PC, Houston
Sunday, June 12 at 11:15 a.m.
in the Chapel**

**STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF NEW COVENANT
SATURDAY, June 11, 2011
Spring Branch 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 | (I) |

The Presbytery of New Covenant

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

Stated Meeting

Saturday, June 11, 2011

Spring Branch Presbyterian Church, 1215 Campbell Rd., Houston 77055

713-464-7659

Offering: Seafarers

8:15 am New Commissioner Orientation will take place in the Youth Room/New Bldg.

8:30 am Registration will be in the entry-way to the Administration/Academy Bldg.

There will be a room off the sanctuary and prayer garden available all day for prayer and meditation. Signs will direct you to this location.

PROPOSED

THE DOCKET

Please **SILENCE** all electronic devices (laptops, cellphones, pagers, iPad's, etc., etc.)

8:55 am **Gathering Hymn #377 PH** "Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"
9:00 am **Call to Order and Opening Prayer** Moderator, The Rev. Patricia Clark

WORSHIP

10:00 am **Opening Business** Moderator & Stated Clerk

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

- Report of the Stated Clerk **(B)** The Rev. Diane Prevary (H.R.)
- Omnibus Motion **(B.1)**
- Moderator's Remarks and Appointments
 - Nominations to Nominating Committee – Elder Garry Schoonover
 - Class of 2012: The Rev. Charles Hendricks
The Rev. Jonathan Murray
 - Class of 2013: Elder Doug Arrick, 1st Kingwood
The Rev. Dean Pogue
 - Class of 2014: The Rev. Noelie Day

A Call to Prayer

10:20 am **Ecclesiastical Affairs (C.1)** Elder John Jo
Consideration of the Confession of Belhar (posted separately on website
in Meeting Materials)

11:00 am **Keynote** *State of the Christian/Presbyterian Church in Cuba*
Dr. Reinerio Arce-Valentin, President of Seminario Evangelico
Teologia, Matanzas, Cuba

12:00 pm FELLOWSHIP AT TABLE

1:00 pm (3) Sermons for Ordination (On lunch tables there are colored cards. After lunch, those at tables with blue cards, go to the Sanctuary; green cards go to Fellowship Hall; red cards remain in lunchroom. Each group will hear a sermon and after a time for questions, will vote (whether or not) to recommend to the presbytery that the preaching part of the

ordination examination be sustained for each candidate. All groups will then reconvene in Sanctuary for the remainder of the floor examination of all of the candidates.)

1:30 pm Reconvening Hymn #367 PH "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"
(all return to sanctuary)

Committee on Ministry (D, D.1)

- 1. Floor Examinations for Ordination The Rev. Marie Mickey
- 2. **Action Items** Elder Shelley Hernandez
 - a. Recommend approval of proposed "*Sexual Misconduct Policy*" [posted separately on website at **(D.a)** in Meeting Materials]
 - b. Grant status of Honorable Retirement The Rev. Mike Cole
Service of Retirement The Reverends Connie Alexander and Tom Atkins

Committee on Preparation for Ministry (E, E.1) Elder Jim Bushong
Service of Candidacy

IKE Recovery Update Kendall Boyd

Administrative Division

- Ecclesiastical Affairs **(C.1, C.1a)** Elder John Jo
 - Action Item:** Proposed Overture (C.1a) from sessions of 1st Pasadena and 1st Bryan
- Finance Elder Pete Koester
(C.2 and C.2a) are posted separately on website.

Nominating Committee (H) (H.1) Elder Bart Henson

Report of General Council (F, F.1) Elder Mary Lee Going

- 1. **Action Item:** Election of Stated Clerk (info posted separately)
- 2. **Action Item:** Approve Terms of Call for Stated Clerk **(F)**.

New Business (only if submitted four days prior to meeting date, so it can be posted online 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)



**FOLLOWING ADJOURNMENT, CLERKS WILL MEET FOR SESSION RECORDS
REVIEW IN FELLOWSHIP HALL.**

**THE NEXT STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF NEW COVENANT WILL BE
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2011
at Clear Lake Presbyterian Church**

STATED CLERK
REPORT TO PRESBYTERY
June 11, 2011

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 reports of the following Administrative Commissions for ordinations/ installations/chartering. The commissions have now been dismissed with the gratitude of the presbytery:
1. to install The Rev. Dr. Fred Seay as Pastor of 1st Presbyterian Church of Sugar Land, TX, during a service of worship on Sunday, March 27, 2011 at 4:00 pm.
 2. to charter Pathways Church of Houston as a congregation in the Presbytery of New Covenant, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), to ordain/install elders and to install the pastor, during worship on Sunday, May 1, 2011, at 3:00 pm. *[A list of the charter members will be attached to the minutes of this meeting.]*
- B. Transferred the membership of Jenny Townes, former member of the now dissolved First Presbyterian Church of Liberty, TX, to Atascocita Presbyterian Church. The roll of remaining members at the time of dissolution was sent to the stated clerk of the presbytery. Transfer is effective March 27, 2011. Ms. Townes joins her parents, Rhett and Cathy Townes, whose membership was transferred in 2010.

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.

B.1

OMNIBUS MOTION
June 11, 2011 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)

Move and recommend approval of the minutes of the Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of New Covenant on Saturday, February 5, 2010, as distributed (posted separately on the presbytery’s website, as part of the Meeting Materials for today’s meeting).

[end.Omnibus]

“Do you promise that if at any time you can no longer accept the Lordship of Christ or the authority of Scripture or the guidance of our confessions in their essentials, you will on your own initiative make known to ____ (for ministers: the Presbytery; for elders and deacons: the Session) the change which has taken place in your convictions since the assumption of this ordination vow?”

Rationale

This question was, originally, one of the ordination questions asked of all church officers in the Presbyterian Church in the United States (PCUS). Including it among the current questions asked of church officers in the PC(USA) provides an accountability of church officers – elders, deacons, and ministers of the Word and sacrament. If they have serious reservations regarding their own commitment to the theological standards and polity of the PC(USA), a church officer’s first responsibility is for ministers to inform the presbytery and for elders and deacons to inform the session of this change of heart. When a significant change and divergence of conviction has occurred, each one can only speak for oneself. One cannot speak for the congregation, and it is not a church officer’s prerogative to influence decisions related to the ministry of Jesus Christ through the Presbyterian church of whom an officer is a part without being engaged in conversations of appropriate oversight with the ordaining/installing governing body.

This overture was adopted by the session of First Presbyterian Church, Pasadena, TX, at their stated meeting on February 21, 2011, and by the session of First Presbyterian Church, Bryan, TX, at their stated meeting on February 27, 2011.

D

Committee on Ministry Presbytery Report June 11, 2011

I. Recommended for Action

- A. The committee moves and recommends the adoption of an updated sexual misconduct policy for the Presbytery of New Covenant. The existing policy was adopted in 1993. The **text of the proposed policy** may be found separately on the presbytery’s website in meeting materials for the June 11, 2010 meeting @ **(D.a)** General Council concurs with this recommendation to adopt.

Background

The question that was considered by the 219th General Assembly and the 173 presbyteries of the PC(USA) was: **Shall G-9.0404 be amended by adding a new paragraph “e.” as follows:** [Text to be added is shown as italic.]

*“G-9.0404 In order to give meaning to the interdependent nature of Presbyterian polity: “e.” **All governing bodies shall adopt and implement a sexual misconduct policy.**”*

To this question the church, through the voice of the presbyteries, answered “yes.”

- B. The committee moves and recommends granting the status of Honorably Retired to **The Reverend Connie Alexander** effective June 1, 2011.

- C. The committee moves and recommends granting the status of Honorably Retired to **The Reverend Thomas Atkins** effective June 30, 2011.
- D. The committee moves and recommends that the examination of **Shane Webb** Candidate for ordination be sustained; called to serve as Mission Associate for the PCUSA/First Presbyterian Church, Pasadena.

II. Actions taken on behalf of Presbytery

1. Approved Pastoral Calls

- a. **Shane Webb** called by First Presbyterian Church Pasadena as a Mission Associate/PCUSA to serve as a Missionary in Peru for 12 months. Called approved by COM 4/5/11; sustained examination by Committee on Examinations 4/16/11; COM sustained the examination on 5/10/11. Candidate under care of New Covenant Presbytery; Formal Education: 2002 – 2004 AA, General Studies, San Jacinto Community College; 2004 – 2007 BA, Religious Studies and Spanish; 2007 – 2011 MDiv., Austin Theological Seminary (**Statement of Faith follows COM Report in Packet**).
- b. **The Reverend Brian Wiggins** called to serve as Designed Pastor at First Presbyterian Church Lufkin effective 7/1/11.

Salary	\$40,000
Housing and Utility Allowance	25,000
Auto Allowance @ IRS Rate	6,000
Books, Professional Dues	960
Board of Pensions Dues (Full 31 ½%)	20,475
Study Leave Allowance (cumulative for 3 years)	2,135
Study Leave (cumulative for 3 years)	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks
Social Security Compensation up to 8.24%	5,356
Annual Review	7/12

Approved by COM 4/5/11; sustained the examination of Committee on Examinations on 4/16/11; COM sustained the examination on 5/10/11; Transferring from Mission Presbytery; Formal Education: 1981 – 1985 BBA, Finance, University of Texas; 1993 – 1996, MDiv., Princeton Theological Seminary; 2006 – 2011 DMin., Austin Theological Seminary. (**Statement of Faith follows COM Report in Packet**).

March 1, 2011

2. Received Annual Reports

Linda Sharon	John Mark Cooper	Lynne Hall Buckridge
Emilee Dawn Whitehurst	Susan Phalen	David L. Jones

3. Approved Compensation Reports

- a. Between Alan Brehm and Houston, Community of the Servant-Savior effective 1/1/11 (1/2 time)

Salary	\$11,500	\$11,730
Housing and Utility Allowance	11,500	11,730
Social Security Compensation 8.25 & Above	1,897	1,935
Auto Allowance @ IRS Rate	1,000	1,000
Books, Professional Dues	200	200
Board of Pensions Dues 31 ½ %	7,843	8,824
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	720	720
Study Leave cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Social Security Compensation UP to 8.24%	2,054	2,095
Annual Review		6/1/11
- b. Between Alan Brehm and Dickinson, First effective 1/1/11 (1/2 time)

Salary	\$11,500	\$12,075
Housing and Utility Allowance	11,500	12,075
Social Security Compensation 8.25 & Above	2,055.80	1,989
Board of Pensions Dues 31 ½ %	7,852.48	8,233.79
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	720	720
Study Leave cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Social Security Compensation UP to 8.24%	1,895.20	2,153.85

Annual Review		1/29/11
c. Between Michael Umbenhaur and Orange, First effective 1/1/11		
Salary	\$40,067	\$40,067
Housing and Utility Allowance	17,150	17,150
Auto Allowance @ IRS Rate	5,000	4,000
Books, Professional Dues	1,200	2,200
Board of Pensions Dues 31 ½ %	18,023	18,023
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	1,700	1,700
Study Leave cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Annual Review		9/11
d. Between Jeff Smith and Houston, St. Andrew's effective 1/29/11		
Salary	\$65,134.65	\$66,438
Housing and Utility Allowance	20,500	20,910
Other direct compensation/reimbursement	4,800	4,800
Deferred Income	3,000	3,000
Books, Professional Dues	3,000	3,000
Board of Pensions Dues 31 ½ %	29,431.91	29,971.62
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	1,485	1,485
Study Leave cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Social Security Compensation UP to 8.24%	7,699.02	7,840.20
Annual Review		12/11
e. Between John Melsness and Houston, St. Andrew's effective 1/29/11		
Salary	\$49,200	\$50,200
Housing and Utility Allowance	5,000	5,000
Value of Manse	15,000	15,900
Auto Allowance @ IRS Rate	2,000	2,000
Books, Professional Dues	3,000	3,000
Board of Pensions Dues 31 ½ %	22,081.50	22,428
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	1,680	1,700
Study Leave cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	3 weeks	3 weeks
Annual Review		12/11
f. Between David Jones and The Woodlands effective 1/1/11		
Salary	\$50,158	\$52,164
Housing and Utility Allowance	43,872	45,627
Other Paid Insurance - Dental \$27.55 mo/ Life \$69 mo		1,159
Auto Allowance @ IRS Rate	2,225	2,225
Board of Pensions Dues 31 ½ %	29,619	31,169
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	2,500	2,500
Study Leave cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Social Security Compensation UP to 8.24%	7,748	8,058
Annual Review		End of the year
g. Between Christa Brewer and The Woodlands effective 1/1/11		
Salary	\$25,000	\$26,000
Housing and Utility Allowance	17,500	18,200
Other paid Insurance – Dental \$27.55 mo	331	331
Auto Allowance @ IRS Rate	2,000	2,000
Board of Pensions Dues 31 ½ %	13,492	14,027
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	3,000	3,000
Study Leave cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Social Security Compensation UP to 8.24%	3,529	3,669
Annual Review		End of the year
h. Between Jon Burnham and Houston, St. John's effective 1/1/11		
Salary	\$27,815	\$27,957

Housing and Utility Allowance	39,148	39,148
Other direct compensation/reimbursement		1,217
Other paid Insurance	1,000	1,000
Auto Allowance @ IRS Rate	4,400	4,400
Books, Professional Dues	1,500	1,500
Board of Pensions Dues 31 ½ %	21,094	21,863
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	2,000	2,000
Study Leave cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Social Security Compensation UP to 8.24%	5,518	5,518
Annual Review		10/11
i. Between Barbara Retzhoff and Houston, Pines effective 1/1/11	(Certified Christian Educator)	
Salary	\$35,850	\$35,850
Other direct compensation/reimbursement (bonus 2010)	500	
Auto Allowance @ IRS Rate	2,400	2,400
Books, Professional Dues	500	500
Board of Pensions Dues 31 ½ %	11,450.25	11,292.75
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	9,850	8,950
Study Leave cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Annual Review		12/10
j. Between Paul Nazarian and Houston, Northwoods effective 1/1/11		
Salary	\$59,178	\$63,362
Housing and Utility Allowance	42,410	42,410
Deferred Income 403(b)	3,000	3,000
Other direct compensation/reimbursement	5,800	5,800
Board of Pensions Dues 31 ½ %	Full	Full
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	2,900	2,900
Study Leave cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Annual Review		3/7/11
k. Between David Leard and Houston, Northwoods effective 1/1/11		
Salary	\$30,000	\$30,200
Housing and Utility Allowance	25,000	27,000
Auto Allowance @ IRS Rate	Actual	Actual
Board of Pensions Dues 31 ½ %	Full	Full
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	1,500	1,500
Study Leave cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Social Security Compensation up to 8.24%	½	½
Annual Review		3/7/11
l. Between Ann Marie Quigley-Swanson and Houston, Northwoods effective 1/1/11 (less than full-time)		
Salary	\$ 8,122	\$ 9,328
Housing and Utility Allowance	20,000	20,000
Auto Allowance @ IRS Rate	Actual	Actual
Board of Pensions Dues 31 ½ %	Full	Full
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	1,000	1,500
Study Leave cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Social Security Compensation up to 8.24%	½	½
Annual Review		3/7/11
m. Between Alan Trafford and Lake Jackson, First effectively 1/1/11		
Salary	\$38,850	\$40,793
Housing and Utility Allowance	37,333	39,200
Deferred Income 403(b)	3,344	3,511
Other paid insurance - dental	1,300	1,300
Auto Allowance @ IRS Rate	6,100	6,100
Books, Professional Dues	800	800

Board of Pensions Dues 31 ½ %	13,352	26,303
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	1,400	1,420
Study Leave cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Annual Review		10/31/11
n. Between Debbie Measells and Brazoria, First effective 1/1/11		
Salary	\$23,900	\$23,900
Housing and Utility Allowance	17,700	19,230
Other direct compensation/reimbursement/Auto Allowance	4,600	4,600
Deferred Income 403(b)	2,700	2,700
Books, Professional Dues	500	500
Board of Pensions Dues 31 ½ %	15,400	15,885
Study Leave Allowance cumulative for 3 years	1,700	1,700
Study Leave cumulative for 3 years		
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Annual Review		11/21/10
4. Approved administrative commission to install		
a. Frederick N. Seay as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Sugar Land, on 3/27/11 at 4pm.		
To preside and propound the constitutional questions: The Rev. Pat Clark, Moderator, Pastor, Houston, St. Stephens		
To preach the sermon: The Rev. James McLeod, Honorably Retired		
To charge the pastor: Elder Tom Taylor, First, Pearland		
To charge the congregation: The Rev. Belinda Windham, Pastor, New Hope, Katy		
To complete the commission: Elder Jeanette Vaughn, First, Navasota and Elder Bill Schaub, First, Sugar Land		
5. Added Guideline for Installation of a Pastor "...shall take place in a timely fashion, ordinarily within 3 months of beginning service."		
6. Approved request from the Lay Pastor Subcommittee to put the following elders on the Pulpit Supply List		
a. Marge Chamberlain (Spring, Advent)		
b. Jim Mayer (Houston, St. Luke's)		
7. Received Commissioned Lay Pastor Annual Report		
a. Between Gene Marion and Cleveland, St. Luke's		
8. Received Retired Clergy Annual Reports		
Ray Gearing	David Barnes	CO Magee
9. Appointed Transition Teams		
a. Houston, Heritage – Blake Brinegar and Patty Tremble		
b. Houston, Juan Marcos – Tom Atkins		
10. Approved Renewal of Stated Supply Contract		
a. Between Becky Downs and Sealy, First effective 3/1/11 for 6 months (less than full-time)		
Salary		\$1,000/month
Housing Allowance		1,000/month
Vacation		2 weeks
Annual Review		
b. Between Stephen Rehrig and The Woodlands, Timber Ridge full time, effective 1/1/11		
Salary	\$15,000	\$16,000
Housing Allowance	34,000	35,000
Auto Expenses Reimbursement@ IRS Rate	975	974
Medical & Pension @ Full Rate	17,417	16,600
Study Leave Allowance	325	325
Study Leave Time	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	5 weeks	5 weeks
Other –	3,113	3,304
	403(b) – 1,200; FICA 1,913	403(b)-1,200; FICA 2,104
Annual Review		
11. Approved Renewal of Commissioned Lay Pastor Contract		
a. Between Gene Marion and Cleveland, St. Luke's for 3 years effective 3/1/11 – 3/1/14 and that he be granted the following functions: baptism, lord's supper, moderate session, voice in presbytery meetings, vote in presbytery meeting and perform marriages.		

Study Leave	(cumulative for 3 years)	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation		4 weeks	4 weeks
Social Security Compensation up to 8.24%		2,991	3,115
Annual Review		10/11	10/11
e. Between Benjamin Stewart and PNC International Seafarers Ministry effective 3/1/11			
Salary		\$23,900	\$24,100
Housing and Utility Allowance		21,000	21,100
Auto Allowance		@ IRS Rate	@ IRS Rate
Board of Pensions Dues (Full 31 ½%)		14,144	14,238
Study Leave Allowance (cumulative for 3 years)		1,680	1,700
Vacation		4 weeks	4 weeks
Annual Review			
f. Between Harland Merriam and Beaumont, St. Andrew's effective 1/1/11			
Salary		\$32,249.30	\$33,861.77
Housing and Utility Allowance		32,249.30	33,861.77
Auto Allowance @ IRS Rate		4,000	4,000
Board of Pensions Dues (Full 31 ½%)		20,317.06	21,332.91
Study Leave Allowance (cumulative for 3 years)		1,325	1,325
Study Leave (cumulative for 3 years)		2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation		4 weeks	4 weeks
Social Security Compensation up to 8.24%		4,934.14	5,180.85
Annual Review			
4. Approved administrative commission to install/ordain			
a. Brent Hampton as pastor of Brenham Church on May 29, 2011 at 4 pm			
To preside and propound the constitutional questions: The Rev. Pat Clark, moderator, Pastor, Houston, St. Stephen			
To preach the sermon: The Rev. Dr. Theodore Wardlaw, President Austin Theological Seminary, Austin, TX			
To charge the pastor: The Rev. Nora Fitch, Member at Large NCP			
To charge the congregation: The Rev. Christian Harrison, Pastor, Giddings, First, Mission Presbytery			
To complete the commission: Elder Sharon Darden, Houston, Pinecrest; Elder Brian Gillespie, Brenham; The Rev. Ed Triem, Honorably Retired NCP; The Rev. Kristin Galle, United Church of Christ/Disciples of Christ; The Rev. Michael Haywood, Executive Director, Mission Brenham; The Rev. David Segueno, Trinity Episcopal Church, Marble Fall, TX; and The Rev. Susan Liljestrang, Pastor, Burnet PC, Mission Presbytery			
6. Behavioral Ethics in Ministry Policy – adopted writing and preaching policy; adopted language change for Sexual Misconduct Policy and recommend to presbytery for its adoption. (D.a) on presbytery's website) and text at the end of this report).			
7. Approved Transfer of Membership			
a. Jimmie M. Chaffin, HR to Arkansas Presbytery effective 4/5/11			
8. Approved change in language of Involuntary Dissolution of Call (Minimum Terms)			
9. Approved recommending to presbytery Honorably Retired Status			
a. To Connie Alexander effective June 1, 2011			
10. Received Annual Reports			
Richard Siciliano			
11. Received Annual Report			
a. CLP – Melissa Brown			
12. Approved CIF			
a. Houston, John Knox for Designated Pastor			
b. Huntsville, First for Interim Pastor			
13. Received FastTrac Report			
a. Pearland, Peace			
14. Received Transition Team Report			
a. Houston, Juan Marcos			
15. Approved renewal of Stated Supply Contract			
a. Between CO Magee and LaMarque ¼ time effective 3/6/11 for one year			
Salary		\$1,300 mo	\$ 700 mo

Study Leave time	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Other	300	300
Annual Review	3/12	3/12
b. Between Dan Alexander and Trinity, First ¼ time effective 1/2/11 for one year		
Salary	\$17,004	\$17,004
Housing Allowance	8,562	6,802
Utilities Allowance	3,401	3,401
Auto Expenses Reimbursement @ IRS Rate	.50/mile	.51/mile
Medical & Pension (at full rate)		2,400
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Annual Review	3/16/11	3/16/11
c. Between Lloyd Crosby and Beaumont, Pioneer ¼ time effective 1/1/11 for one year		
Salary	\$4,800	\$4,800
Housing Allowance	7,200	7,200
Study Leave time	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Annual Review	3/6/11	3/6/11
e. Between Rhonda Detenbeck and Rosenberg, First ½ time effective 1/24/11 for one year		
Salary	\$20,800	\$13,600
Housing Allowance	0	7,200
Auto Expenses Reimbursement @ IRS Rate	0	400
Medical & Pension (at full rate)	11,799	11,799
Study Leave Allowance		100
Study Leave Time	1 week	2 weeks
Vacation	800	800
Continuing Education	300	500
Annual Review	10/1/11	10/1/11
f. Between Beth Faulk and Silsbee, First ¼ time effective 3/15/11 for one year		
Salary	\$1,700 mo	\$1,700 mo
Annual Review	4/19/11	4/19/11
16. Renewal of Interim Pastor Contract		
a. Between Michael Sydnor and Alvin, First for 12 months 6/1/11 – 5/31/12.		
Salary	\$25,000	
Housing Allowance	10,000	
Social Security Supplement	2,680	
Auto Expenses Reimbursement @ IRS Rate	1,500	
Medical & Pension (at full rate)	11,025	
Study Leave Allowance	1,700	
Study Leave Time	14 days/2 Sunday	
Vacation	4 weeks	
Continuing Education	300	
Annual Review	10/1/11	

MAY 10, 2011

1. Received Annual Reports

John Potter

2. Approved J. Potter's request to renew our ecclesiastical endorsement for his military chaplaincy

3. Approved Compensation Reports

a. Between Scott Harbison and Houston, St. Luke's

Salary	\$20,000	\$20,000
Housing and Utility Allowance	33,500	33,500
Auto Allowance @ IRS Rate	2,500	2,500
Books, Professional Dues	2,500	2,500
Board of Pensions Dues (Full 31 ½ %)	16,582.50	16,582.50
Study Leave Allowance (cumulative for 3 years)	1,450	1,450
Study Leave (time is cumulative for 3 years)	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks

Social Security Compensation up to 8.24%	4,092.72	4,092.72
Annual Review		January 2012
b. Between Ryan Cook and Katy, Grand Lakes		
Salary	\$42,000	\$43,680
Other paid insurance (supplement life \$75.60/dental \$534.16)	540	609.76
Auto Allowance @ IRS Rate	1,800	1,800
Cell Phone	600	700
Board of Pensions Dues (Full 31 ½ %)	13,400	13,951.27
Study Leave Allowance	2,430	1,680
Study Leave Time cumulative for 3 years	2 weeks	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks/28 days	4 weeks/28 days
	Grand Lakes Holidays –	Grand Lakes Holidays –
	10 plus a floating holiday	10 plus a floating holiday
Social Security Compensation Up to 8.24%	3,505.30	3,649.48
Actual Moving Expenses	Actual	N/A
Annual Review		November 2011
4. Approved Pastoral Calls for		
a. Conroe, First (Associate Pastor)		
Salary		\$25,200
Housing and Utility Allowance		16,800
Auto Allowance		2,600
Board of Pensions Dues (Full 31 ½%)		13,230
Study Leave Allowance (cumulative for 3 years)		2,250
Study Leave (Time cumulative for 3 years)		2 weeks
Vacation		4 weeks
Social Security Compensation UP to 8.24%		3,460
Annual Review		June 15, 2012
b. Houston, Grace (Associate Pastor)		
Salary		\$38,000
Houston and Utility Allowance		38,000
Auto Allowance @ IRS Rate		3,600
Board of Pensions Dues (Full 31 ½ %)		23,560
Study Leave Allowance (cumulative for 3 years)		2,000
Study Leave (Time cumulative for 3 years)		2 weeks
Vacation		4 weeks
Social Security Compensation UP to 8.24%		5,814
5. Granted permission to Labor in the Bounds		
a. Hector Rivera-Velez member of Mission – will be serving as a chaplain at Christus-VNA Hospice		
b. Judith Lijestrland, member of Grace Presbytery		
c. Linda Herron, member of Grace Presbytery (pending approval from Grace on May 17 th)		
6. Adopted policy that when a pastoral call is dissolved, any unused continuing education funds <i>shall</i> be escrowed with the presbytery of the next Call or New Covenant for future use as approved by the General Presbyter (text of policy at the end of this report).		
7. Adopted additional language regarding Minimum Terms of Call Policy. Text of policy at the end of this report.		
8. Adopted additional language regarding policy governing Parish Associate covenants. Text of policy at the end of this report.		
9. Approved dissolution of the relationship between The Rev. Thomas Atkins and Houston, St. Thomas effective June 30, 2011.		
10. Approved request to be added to Pulpit Supply list		
a. Judith Liljestrland member of Grace Presbytery, living in New Covenant bounds		
11. Received Annual Report		
a. Commission Lay Pastor – Debra L Battise-Kleinman		
12. Appointed Transition Teams		
a. Houston, St. Thomas		
b. College Station, Covenant		
13. Approved CIF for		
a. Houston, St. Philip		
14. Received FastTrac Reports		

- a. Brenham
- b. 1st Texas City

III. Items for information

1. The Committee on Ministry met March 1; April 5; and May 10, 2011. The Committee For Examinations met March 26; April 16 and May 21, 2011.
2. 42 ministers and spouses participated in the Annual Church Professional Retreat held at Cho-Yeh Camp and Conference Center in Livingston, TX on May 3 – 5, 2011.

BIOGRAPHICAL

CONNIE SUE ALEXANDER

At the ripe old age of 47, after successful careers as a banker and a high school English teacher, I finally answered God's call (heard at least faintly when I preached on a youth Sunday at the age of 16) to ministry.

I attended the seminary nearest my home in Santa Rosa, California, San Francisco Theological Seminary. My first two calls were Plainview, Texas and Dimmitt, Texas. I loved ministry and found that it wonderfully made use of all the talents and abilities I had been honing without knowing why.

Next I served churches in Ruston, Louisiana and Winnfield, Louisiana, the most difficult and the most wonderful of all my churches.

It was from Winnfield that I signed up for a trip to Jordan with a group of Presbyterian ministers. Who should sit behind me on the airplane to New York but John and Paul Alexander. When we discovered we were all on the same trip, I changed seats with the fellow in their row, and the three of us began to talk. We have been talking ever since! Now you need to know that I had been a single person for 25 years; Paul had been single for 10 years. Neither of us was looking for someone to marry. What is it they say: tell God your plans and watch God laugh!

Paul and I were married in January 2007, and I moved to Texas where I became pastor for Drake Memorial PC in Orange.

My career as a pastor has been a great joy to me, capping my work life with a great deal of happiness.

Other details of my life BP (before Paul) include a B.A. from the University of Illinois, and a D. Min. from McCormick Theological Seminary.

Also, I have two sons: Cody in Portland, Oregon, and Michael and his wife Kelly (both Presbyterian ministers) in Desert Aire, Washington.

In retirement I intend to keep enjoying my love of opera, biographies, and travel. I have several trips planned, the best being a 3-week trip to Italy with Paul where we will spend a week in Tuscany, a week in Naples and Amalfi, and a week in Sicily.

How fortunate I have been: living in interesting places, doing very satisfying work, finding the love of my life at age 60 when I least expected to. God has indeed been very good to me. How blessed I am!

THOMAS ROSS ATKINS

I am one of eight children born to Salvation Army officers who were missionaries to Hispanics in Mexico City and Laredo, Texas for more than 40 years. Shortly after graduating from Asbury

University in Kentucky, I was quickly called to serve as a U.S. Army field artilleryman in Vietnam. It was in Vietnam that I learned the *real* meaning of fear.

After military service and while teaching secondary education in southern Illinois I sensed a call to ministry. Affirmation of that calling came after two years of theology courses at Olivet University and ministry-related work with the Salvation Army.

Columbia Theological Seminary prepared me for my ordination in 1977 at Grace Presbyterian Church as Associate Pastor in Corpus Christi in what is now Mission Presbytery. It was there, after frequent encounters with U.S. Navy chaplains from the Naval Air Station in Corpus Christi at clergy gatherings over a few years, that I decided to try a three-year stint as a chaplain because, as they said, it would be "just three years, a nice change of pace, and would look good on a resume."

There was no way I could have anticipated such tremendous fulfillment and challenge in my privileged ministry to Sailors and Marines. The fast-paced **24 years** at sea with Sailors and on deployments with Marine units to hotspots around the world, made the encounter of Jesus (Matthew 8) with the Roman centurion all the more meaningful to me. Time and again, I could say with Jesus: *"I have not found anyone ... with such great faith!"*

I was then equally privileged to become Pastor of Northminster Presbyterian Church in Sarasota, Florida and of St. Thomas Presbyterian Church in Houston, Texas. Particularly at St. Thomas I have been richly blessed by the regular prayer gatherings that have undergirded every expression of worship, study, outreach, fellowship and service in that family of faith. I thank them all for what they have meant to me through their vitality and excited expectation of God's blessings.

My sense of divine calling to ordained ministry will not change, even though in retirement it will in some ways be redefined. I will forever remember the incredible privilege and thrilling journey that God has afforded me as a Pastor.

My wife, Alice, has been an unflinching source of strength and encouragement to me in our 45 years of marriage. She has been unflappable in our over thirty moves around the world. However, she is greatly looking forward to our less ministry-encumbered companionship as we make long visits to our three daughters and six grandchildren living in England, Germany and New Hampshire. Our home base will be in Sarasota, Florida.

STATEMENTS OF FAITH

SHANE WEBB

I believe in a loving and wonderful Creator who made order out of chaos. I believe that everyone is both sinner and beloved child of God. I believe that I am saved by grace through faith in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. All people have this opportunity for salvation through the Son of God, but I cannot account for anyone else, for only the Judge will know who will have eternal life. I believe in the movement of the Holy Spirit in all Christians at all times through all of creation without limits. I believe in the Church universal as the Body of Christ, and though this body is broken and diverse, we are unified in God's love and purpose. I confess that I rely more on the sovereignty and providence of the Triune God rather than my own will. I believe in the authority of Scripture as the Word of God made flesh that is revealed to us through the Holy Spirit. God's Word both read and proclaimed in corporate worship and personal devotion feeds Christian life. I believe in the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper. It is my belief that baptism in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost initiates us into the body of Christ and the community of believers. Baptism of water and the Spirit is also the beautiful act and sign that our sins are washed clean. Through the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, we are able to continue communing with God and neighbor. Thus, my faith brings me to join in

relationship and union with the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. I believe in a God who is present with us who also seeks justice. Therefore, I am called to reaching out to the poor, those who are sick, the widows, those who are in prison and loving my neighbor as Jesus taught. I have hope in the in-breaking of God's kingdom here and now, as well as the eternal reunion with all the saints when my life on Earth is over or when the Lord returns again.

DR. BRIAN H. WIGGINS

I believe there is one living and eternal God who is Lord over everything known and unknown, who is infinite in being and perfection, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. I believe God has revealed Godself in the Holy Scriptures as the one true God who consists of three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These are not three gods, but three persons who share equally within the Godhead and are so joined together that they are one God.

I believe that God created both man and woman in the image of God so that they might have fellowship with God, love God with their whole heart and live eternally with God. Unfortunately, both the man and woman were tempted and rebelled against God's sovereignty and became servants to sin. All of humanity is fallen and in need of redemption.

I believe God is a God of grace who has from the very beginning of time even until now, covenanted to restore humanity to its proper relationship with its Creator. God has made these promises through Adam and Eve, then through Noah, then through Abraham and David, onwards to the birth of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ was the promised Messiah, who was born of the Virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, revealed the love of God for all the world through his preaching, teaching, and ministry to the poor, sick, afflicted, sinful, and outcast. In an unconditional act of love, Jesus willingly took our place on the cross, died for our sins, and rose from the grave to offer new life to any who accept his saving grace.

Those believing in Jesus Christ by faith receive salvation unto eternal life. The Holy Spirit is given to pour the love of God into our hearts and give birth to faith so that believers may take their proper place within the body of Christ. I believe in the Holy Spirit, who inspired and illumines the Holy Scriptures, and by whose power I am able to know, believe, and live these things which I confess. The Holy Spirit binds all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church, rules our life and faith in Christ through Scripture and engages us through the Word proclaimed.

The church is called into ministry to reveal God through the reading and teaching of God's Word and administration of the sacraments. I believe in one baptism by water in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; through which believers and children of believers are welcomed into the church universal. The waters of baptism are a sign and seal of a covenant relationship with God through Christ. As God's own, our baptism calls us to rise and walk in the newness of life we have with Christ. I believe that Holy Communion is God's way of calling all believers to come and be nourished by Jesus Christ who is present to serve us this spiritual meal. Communion not only calls us to commune with Christ, but to have fellowship with all who feast at the Lord's table. Communion reminds us of Christ's sacrifice, Jesus' body broken for us, but it also challenges believers, who having been nourished in faith, to go forth as Christ's body in the world today as we look to his coming again. Having been fed, the church is to go forth in faith, hope, and love tending to the needs of the oppressed, lowly, hungry, naked, and sick as it anticipates God's coming kingdom.

AMENDMENTS TO POLICIES OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY ADOPTED AT THE STATED MEETING, MAY 10, 2011

A. Addition to Parish Associate Policy:

1) Any proposed Parish Associate covenant with remuneration, or renewal of such a covenant, must be submitted at least 30 days prior to its effective date.

2) prior to approval of any proposed Parish Associate covenant with remuneration, the Administration subcommittee will consult with the Care of Congregations subcommittee to determine whether the covenant is in accordance with the Parish Associate policy of the New Covenant Presbytery, and in particular with the portion of paragraph (4) that reads, "If a session desires to retain a retired minister or a minister in a validated position to perform regular pastoral services, it should utilize a different form of pastoral relationships enumerated in Book of Order G.14.0501". If the covenant is not in accordance with the policy, the Care of Congregations shall counsel with the session as to the appropriate form of pastoral relationship.

B. Amendments to Policy on Unused Professional Development Funds and Time

1) In all policies regarding unused professional development funds and time the following will now be policy: at the time of dissolution of a call, the prorated amount of any unused professional development allowance **shall** be sent to the Treasurer of the next employing organization or the appropriate presbytery, or to the Presbytery of New Covenant, to be held until next Call (or if there is no Call, use may be authorized by the General Presbyter). When a Call is in place, any escrowed funds will be sent directly to the calling church. Ordinarily, unused professional development time is not compensated, **unless the Committee on Ministry finds that the use of professional development time has been limited or blocked by the church.**

2. In all documents related to the Committee on Ministry, the term "professional development" will replace all other terms such as "continuing education," "continued study", etc.

C. Addition to Minimum Terms of Call Policy

[In order to secure the required annual review in congregations that have not filed a report of compensation or report of changed terms for each pastor, or the new special report as to annual review of each pastor and annual congregational meeting for the review of the adequacy of each pastor's compensation, the following will be implemented, as appropriate, by the Committee on Ministry:]

1. Send a letter to the moderator and clerk of each congregation that has not filed a report by mid-June [after the June Presbytery meeting], reminding them of the requirement and the deadline, and asking that they conduct the review and the congregational meeting promptly and submit the required report.
2. Delay any actions requested of COM for the congregation or its pastors [including approval of terms of call for new pastors, appointment of installation/ordination commissions, etc.] until the annual review and congregational meeting for each current minister associated with the church has been completed.
3. Note in the annual review of minutes of congregational meetings, the failure to comply with the requirement for annual review of compensation for all pastors, and direct the congregation to correct the deficiency promptly. ["Annual review of pastor's salary by Congregation..." is already on the checklist for the Clerk's minutes review.]
4. On behalf of the Presbytery, call a congregational meeting of the church for the purpose of reviewing the adequacy of compensation for all its pastors.

Writing and Preaching

Presbyterians believe that the efficacy of preaching is the work of the Holy Spirit, not the cleverness or even the scholarship of the preacher. Thus, preaching is a regular spiritual partnership involving the preacher, the Holy Spirit, and the people of God who hear the Word and respond – not to the preacher, but to God.

Over the past decade, the development of the Internet has given rise to a vast amount of information (much of it unedited) that is accessible through a variety of technologies. With the growth of this communication medium has also grown the problem of utilizing such materials in improper ways.

The internet is a great tool for learning and background research, but these materials must be chosen and evaluated carefully in light of our primary allegiance to Jesus Christ as Lord, the Scriptures, the Reformed tradition and our Church's Constitution. We misrepresent ourselves, as well as demean the labor of others, if we fail to make proper attribution of borrowed material.

This word from the Committee on Ministry is offered to the preachers in our presbytery as a corrective for failures in the past. It is also an encouragement to practice excellence and integrity in the study and the pulpit. To fulfill the gospel as truly good news, it must take up residence in the preacher, the preaching, and the listening Church.

Adopted by COM: April 5, 2011

[end.COM]

E

Committee on Preparation for Ministry Presbytery Report June 11, 2011

I. CPM ACTIONS TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE PRESBYTERY

March 12, 2011

1. Approved assessing Isabel Rivera-Velez (Galveston, Emmanuel) as ready to receive a call.
2. Granted Barbara Retzhoff (Houston, Pines) permission to do CPE.
3. Granted Barbara Retzhoff (Houston, Pines) permission to taken ordination exams – Polity in August 2011 and other exams in January 2012.
4. Granted Anthony Ceder (Houston, First) to do CPE.
5. Granted Anthony Ceder (Houston, First) permission to take ordination exams.
6. Approved Jesse Edstrom (Katy, New Hope) internship description.
7. Approved Martin Garner (The Woodlands) internship description.
8. Approved Annual Consultations for the following and granted permission to continue in the process: Barbara Retzhoff (Houston, Pines) (March 7, 2011) and Kay Atchinson (Houston, Memorial Drive) (February 16, 2011)

April 16, 2011

1. Approved assessing Mark Plunkett (Houston, Spring Branch) as ready to receive a call.
2. Granted Luke Gordon (Houston, Memorial Drive) permission to do CPE.
3. Granted Ray Henderson (Houston, Northwoods) permission to do CPE.
4. Approved job description for Becky Provence (Houston, Memorial Drive).
5. Approved Annual Consultation for the following and granted permission to continue in the process: Alyssa Payne (Houston, Grace) (April 16, 2011) and Chad Erb (Kingwood, First) (April 16, 2011)
6. Granted Chad Erb (Kingwood, First) permission to take ordination exams.

May 14, 2011

1. Granted Ray Henderson (Houston, Northwoods) permission to take ordination exams.
2. Approved job description for Alyssa Payne (Houston, Grace)

III. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry met on March 12; April 16; and May 14, 2011
2. The Lay Pastor Subcommittee met on February 15; March 15; and May 17, 2011

[end.CPM]

REPORT TO THE PRESBYTERY
GENERAL COUNCIL
JUNE 11, 2011

I. Actions Recommended for Presbytery's consideration:

A. Places in nomination for the office of Stated Clerk, The Reverend Lynn Hargrove. The term of office will be three years, commencing October 1, 2011. If elected, installation will be scheduled for the October 22, 2011 stated meeting. Bio info is posted separately in the Meeting Materials **(F.1)**.

B. Moves and recommends approval of Terms of Call as follows for The Rev. Lynn Hargrove as Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of New Covenant, effective October 1, 2011:

- 1. Salary
 - 2. Housing \$18,000
 - 3. PNC Share of BOP Dues \$ 4,946 Total: \$22,946

 - 4. Mileage Reimbursed @ IRS Rate
 - 5. Continuing Education Budget \$ 800
 - 6. Vacation Included in Above S&H
- [No Other Benefits Provided] [Current Budget Provision: \$22,956]

II. Actions taken on behalf of the presbytery

A. Dismissed the Administrative Commission for Heritage Presbyterian Church, established by the presbytery at a called meeting on December 11, 2007, effective February 15, 2011. Over time several members left the AC and others were added by General Council, at the direction of the presbytery. The dissolution of this Administrative Commission is with the gratitude of the presbytery for the service of all who have served. Current members: Jim Bushong (chair), Rev. Jack Lancaster, Rev. Debbie Measells, Elder Rupert Turner, Elder Mary Herlitz, Elder Jeanie Flowers, Elder Ann Hardy, Elder Charles Harrison, and Elder Mary Lee Going; Former members: The Rev. Winfield "Casey" Jones, Elder Scott Meddaugh, Elder Sidney Holderness (deceased), and The Rev. Kevin Rudolph.

B. Granted approval to Faith PC, Baytown to transfer a detention pond property to the City of Baytown.

C. Approved guaranteeing a loan for Atasocita PC with Presbyterian Investment & Loan Program (PILP) to build a new sanctuary.

D. Approved Vision Initiatives Grant Team of General Council as follows:

Class of 2011

- Debbie Measells (Brazoria, First)
- Ben Svoboda (Sugarland, First) (previously approved)

Class of 2012

- Nancy Penney (Conroe, First) (previously approved)
- Charles Harrison (Houston, Westminster)

Class of 2013

- Katie Cummings (Houston, Grace)
- Mario Gomez (Bryan, First)

E. Approved the Rev. Mike Umbenhaur (Orange, First), Class of 2013 as a member of the Lynn Johnson Memorial Fund Social Justice Grant Committee of General Council. Other

members are Rev. Helen Deleon (Webster, Webster), Class of 2011, and Mary Lee Going (Houston, MDPC) By Virtue of Office.

- F. Approved Elder Julia Ann Moffett as General Council Liaison for the Fondren-Fuqua Property Team.
- G. Endorsed proposal from GP Mike Cole to the Outreach Committee for funding support for a trip to Taiwan with Peacemaking Funds. The purpose of this trip was to attend the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan, April 26-May 2, 2011.
- H. Endorsed the application for a grant from the Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering by The Bridge Over Troubled Waters, Inc. (The Bridge) of Pasadena, TX. [The national PW requires that a "presbytery" endorse an application.]
- I. Approved of the request from Silsbee Presbyterian Church to sell their manse.
- J. Approved concurrence with recommendation of the Committee on Ministry to adopt a revised Sexual Misconduct Policy for the Presbytery of New Covenant (posted separately in Meeting Materials).
- K. Assigned the responsibility for assuring parity between minister and elder commissioners to meetings of the presbytery (called "equalization") to the Ecclesiastical Affairs Committee. [previously responsibility of stated clerk and staff in that office]
- L. Approved the following dates and locations for the 2012 meetings of the presbytery: February 11 @ MDPC; June 9 @ St. Andrew's (Houston); July 15 @ Love PC (formerly UKCH)—report of GA Commissioners; October 20 @ (location to be confirmed). By consensus EAC is authorized to schedule the location for the October 20, 2012, and announce as soon as known.
- M. Authorized spending at the 2010-2011 levels until a budget for 2011-2012 can be presented to the presbytery for approval.
- N. Approved amendment of the ByLaws and Manual of Operations of the Presbytery of New Covenant, if necessary, by adapting each with appropriate citations to the revised Book of Order *should this adoption take place*.
- O. Approved the recommended list of Vision Initiative Grant recipients and amount to be awarded, as follows (description of each project is posted separately in Meeting Materials):

FPC, Dickinson	\$ 10,000	St. Philip	1,872
FPC, Galveston	3,500	Peace	2,200
First African	4,160	Westminster (Hou)	2,730
Heights	4,000	Woodforest	1,264
New Waverly	1,500		
St. Paul (Houston)	2,500		\$33,726

- P. Approved the recommended list of Lynn Johnson Social Justice Grant recipients and amount to be awarded, as follows (description of each project is posted separately in Meeting Materials): Note: one additional project is under consideration.

Funds Available: \$ 8, 865

St. John's	\$ 1,000
Arabic Presbyterian Fellowship	1,000
FPC – Brazoria	1,000
Healing the Brokenness Conference	615
Heights	750
Summer Youth Employment Program	
Pinecrest PC	2,000
St. Thomas	500

- Q. Endorsed Moderator Patricia Clark's "Call to Prayer" for the presbytery.

III. Items for Information

- A. General Council met on February 15, March 15, May 5 (called mtg), and May 17, 2011.
- B. The called meeting on May 5, 2011, was specifically to reflect upon, discuss and pray over mutual concerns within our denomination.
- C. Received a detailed account from representatives of Heritage Presbyterian Church about the health of that congregation and the challenges to be faced.
- D. The overtures adopted by the presbytery at the February 5, 2011 meeting w/re: merger of Providence Presbyterian Church and St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church and the transfer of United Korean Church of Houston to New Covenant were forwarded to the Synod of the Sun for their approval at their May meeting. These actions will be sent on to the 220th General Assembly for consideration/concurrence.
- E. Received communication on behalf of the presbytery from the Presidents of the 11 theological seminaries related to the PCUSA (including Evangelical Sem. of Puerto Rico) expressing appreciation for our participation in and contributions to the Theological Education Fund (TEF).
- F. The final payment to General Assembly to repay the Special Offerings that were owed has been made (\$163,270).
- G. Heard a report from GP Mike Cole on his visit to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan.
- H. Members of General Council are working with other interested persons in the presbytery to develop a policy that will provide encouragement to and a path for reconciliation for dissenting churches of our presbytery toward reconciliation with the PCUSA, or failing that, provide provisions for seeking dismissal. The goal is to present a draft of this policy to the body at the October meeting for first reading. At that time all suggestions for revision will be heard by this writing team and a final draft will be presented to the body for vote at a subsequent meeting, perhaps as early as November. Members of General Council on this writing team are The Rev. Casey Jones, Elder David Eyre, and The Rev. Katie Cummings with staff support from General Presbyter Mike Cole and Associate General Presbyter Wendy Bailey.

[end GC Report]

H

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

June 11, 2011

The following names are placed in nomination for the positions listed:

COM/Committee on Ministry

2011 – Vice Chair – Bob Patterson (Houston, St. Luke's)

COM/Administration

2011 – Sylvia Washer (Houston, Northwoods)

2011- Karen Akers (Orange, First)

COM/Care of Congregations

2013 – Rev. Bob Bullock (Galveston, West Isle)

MD/Evangelism & Renewal

2011 – Joseph Breda (Houston, Oaks)

PJC/Permanent Judicial Commission

2012 - Rev. Michael Umbenhaur (Orange, First)

2016 – Rev. Kent Landry (Mo. City, Southminster)

2016 – Rev. Linda McCarty (PNC, At Large)

SYNOD OF THE SUN

2011 – Sharon Darden (Houston, Pinecrest)

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!

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

PRESBYTERY OF NEW COVENANT
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
2011

June

18-25

CEDEPCA Partnership Trip
Guatemala

June 30 – July 2

Big Tent Event
Indianapolis

July

4

Presbytery Office Closed
Independence Day

28 - 31

Administrative Personnel Association
Regional Conference
Oklahoma City, OK

30

Session Records Review &
Treasurers' Workshop
Livingston, First

August

2 – 4

Weekday Ministries Conference
Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church

20

Presbyterian Night at the Astros
Minute Maid Park at 6:05 pm
Astros vs. San Francisco Giants

September

5

Presbytery Office Closed
Labor Day

October

1

FOCUS
Houston, St. Philip

22

Stated Presbytery Meeting
Session Records Review
Clear Lake Presbyterian Church

Displays for Today's Meeting

Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

Montreat Conference Center

Seafarers