

MINUTES OF THE STATED MEETING OF CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY  
Saturday, July 23, 2011, 10:00 a.m., Providence Presbyterian Church, Dallas, Georgia

*New Church Development* was the emphasis as Cherokee Presbytery met at the Providence Presbyterian Church for its July 23, 2011, Stated Meeting.

**THE FOLLOWING MINISTERS WERE PRESENT: (35)**

Cido Araujo	Jack Foley	Stuart Leyden (HR)	Ted Smith
Tino Ballesteros (HR)	Bill Ford	Peter Lim	Ron Stoker
Denise Beltzner	Dave Grove	O. Gregory Moore	Ken Terrell (HR)
Rebecca Blackwell	Sid Gunter	Dan Nail	Pete Ullmann
Fritz Bogar	Bryant Harris	Dick Neelly (HR)	Carol Wade
Joe Brice	Sam Henderson	Cyndi Parr	Tom Wood
Catherine Cavazos	Maryellen Hittel	Pete Paulsen	(HR = Honorably Retired)
(Received 7/23/11)	Roger Kvam (HR)	Lucas Pina	
Byeongho Choi	Zeta Lamberson	Susan Reggin	30 Active + 5 HR=35
Julie Ferguson	Ben Laughlin	Carol Scott	

**THE FOLLOWING MINISTERS WERE GRANTED EXCUSED ABSENCES: (15)**

Paul Bayerl	Keith Gunter	Ray Jones	Bridget Waddell
Sam Bridges	Stephen Hayner	Jennifer Lee	Ken Waddell
Tim Dunn	David Horton	Mickey Shealy	Debbie Wells
Don Esa	Julie Jensen	John Spangler	John Wells
Darrell Guder	Young Jeon	George Stroup	Taekhan Yoon

**THE FOLLOWING HONORABLY RETIRED MINISTERS WERE ABSENT AND DID NOT REQUIRE EXCUSES: (38)**

Herschel Allen, Ewell Black, Jack Bunkley, Bert Carmichael, Pem Cooley, Archie Davis, Maxine Edwards, Tim Erskine, Charles Feast, Eleana Garrett, David Glauner, Catherine Gonzalez, Jenny Hammett, William Hammond, Rodney Hunter, Walter Jones, Jin Hoon Kim, Homer Kimmons, Ed Langham, Larry Lewis, Jake Marshall, Roger Martin, Elizabeth McAliley, David McDonald, Van Nesbit, Jan Rhodes, Tom Rogers, Frank Sapp, Mary Kay Sapp, Cuyler Smith, Jim Speed, John Tarrant, Gil Ward, Jack Waskey, Frank Weathersby, Charles Weaver, Thurston Wilson, Donn Wright.

**THE FOLLOWING MINISTERS WERE ABSENT WITHOUT EXCUSE: (9)** Reginaldo Braga, Ed Craft, Tyler Downing, Mike Jackson, Daewang Kim, Janet Looby, John Martin, Tim McConnell, Jose Pezini.

**ELDER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT – 51; UNEXCUSED – 15 = 66**

<b>Acworth</b> – Randy De Pietro	<b>Mars Hill</b> – Debra Kasson-Jones, <i>Annice Yeary</i>
<b>Beersheba</b> – (Unexcused)	<b>Menlo</b> – James Spears
<b>Bethany</b> – (Unexcused), (Unexcused), (Unexcused)	<b>Morton Memorial</b> – (Unexcused)
<b>Brazilian Christian</b> – (Unexcused)	<b>New Lebanon</b> – Dayton Adams, Don Martin
<b>Calhoun</b> – (Unexcused), (Unexcused)	<b>Parkway</b> – Stephen Edge, David Miller
<b>Calvary</b> – Pam Jones	<b>Providence</b> – Rich Hammond
<b>Cartersville</b> – Karl Baumheckel, Todd Jacobson, Velma Tilley	<b>Ray-Thomas</b> – Susan Monk, (Unexcused)
<b>Cedartown</b> – Allen Copeland	<b>Rockmart</b> – Janet Moody
<b>Chickamauga</b> – Chris Townley	<b>Silver Creek</b> – Jane McDonald
<b>Christ Fellowship</b> – (Unexcused)	<b>Sixes</b> – Helen Hertel
<b>Cloudland</b> – John Gauldon	<b>Southminster</b> – David Markle
<b>Cohutta</b> – Donna Hill	<b>Summerville</b> – Sue Spivey
<b>Covenant</b> – Ken White, (Unexcused)	<b>Trinity</b> – <i>Scott Forward</i>
<b>Dalton</b> – Palmer Griffin, Jeane Jones, (Unexcused)	<b>Westminster</b> – <i>Andrew Elkins</i> , Michael Elliott
<b>Deer Creek</b> – Linda Snowden	<b>Woodlawn</b> – Freida St. Germain
<b>Eastminster</b> – <i>Teri Apparucci, Robert Richter,</i> Bobby Ryder	<b>Woodstock</b> – Sue McConnell
<b>Euharlee</b> – (Unexcused)	
<b>Faith, Canton</b> – Rell Kitchen	
<b>Faith, North Georgia</b> – <i>Judy Evans</i>	
<b>Grace</b> – Kay Parrish	
<b>Heritage</b> – <i>Howard Moore, Jim Royal, Ken Loud</i>	
<b>John Knox</b> – <i>Floyd Bushey, Stephen Bennett</i>	
<b>Kirkwood</b> – Ann Smith	
<b>LaFayette</b> – Laura Wilson	
<b>Macland</b> – Courtney Hollar, Bill White	
<b>Marietta First</b> – Nate Marini, Tommy Smithweck, Scott Suhr, Mary Varella, (Unexcused), (Unexcused)	

*Bold Italics = first time attending as elder commissioner (11)*

**Elder Coordinating Team Member with Voting Rights (1):**  
Teri Abercrombie (Nurturing Disciples Moderator)

**Elder Commissioners Present: 51 + 1 Coordinating Team Member = 52**

**REGISTERED VISITORS: (95)** Columbia Theological Seminary Associate Director of Spirituality Deedra Rich, Esther Ballesteros (Presbyterian Village Resident), Dickson Mwirabua (Acworth), Burmah Green, Donald Green (Cloudland), Nancy Collins (Cedartown), Jerry Snowden (Deer Creek Shores), Chuck Frew (Eastminster), Judy Williams (Faith/Blue Ridge), Robert Wolf (John Knox, Intern), Walter Beamer, Kathy Carter, Kelley Crone, Thomas Crone, Tom Duncan, Gail Franklin, Neil Franklin, Heidi Hanz, Kim Hollomon, Charles Holmes, Charlotte Holmes, Charles Jarman, Susan Jarman, Margaret Johnson, Jeff Kemp, Betty Laube, Ken Laube, Kay Maloney, Rich Maloney, Susan Miles, Shelley Sitzes, Steve Sitzes, Marvin Wailes, Serena Wailes, Edie Witt, (Kirkwood), Linda Neighbors (Macland), Warren Herron (Parliamentarian), Janice Phillips (Marietta First), Norm Bruinsma, Suzie Dominique, Mary Mac Harrell, Tom Harrell, Constance Hoffs, David Hoke, Shannon Holthaus, Eloise Newton (Parkway), Lisa Baty, Michael Baty, Sandra Brice, Lynne Byers, Debi Cleary, Arlene Eckman, Ida Frech, Julie Fuller, Dee Garrigan, Steve Garrigan, Cathea Gilliland, Beth Green, John Grimes, Carol Hester, Holly Hester, Fay Israel, Mike Lauter, Nina Lauter, Ethelind Lindsey, Vickie Lindsey, Jewel Long, Robert Long, Luz Lopez, Carol Osborne, Don Byers, Cheryl Pegram, Mike Pegram, Carol Peterson, Reinaldo Joel Romes-Suarez, Bob Schwedt, Donna Schwedt, Laura Sellers, Marie Sellers, Mark Sellers, Gail Stieglitz, Richard Stieglitz, Ginny Tebo-Grimes, Martha Williamson, Janet Yoak (Providence), Jim Arp (Silver Creek), Charles Allen (Southminster), Denise Forward (Trinity), Betty Cheek, Sarita Morris (Presbytery Staff), and Visiting Ministers Rev. Sara Hayden (Greater Atlanta), Ken McKenzie (Savannah), Fred Boozer (Savannah), Reg Parsons (Synod Exec.), and Rev. Cathy Meyer (Hospice Chaplain/Muskingum Valley Presbytery).

**Total attendance: 35 ministers, 52 elders = 89 with voting rights; + 95 registered visitors = 184 Total.**

### **We Gather in God's Name**

During the gathering and fellowship hour from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m., coffee and pastries were served and displays of information were set up on New Church Development and the *Certificate in Spirituality Formation Program* offered at Columbia Theological Seminary.

### **Declaration of Quorum, Call to Order, Convening Prayer**

Following the Gathering Ritual led by Providence Presbyterian Church members Lynne Byers, Beth Green, Michael Baty, Cheryl Pegram and Mark Sellers, Stated Clerk Rev. Rebecca Blackwell declared that a quorum was present; Moderator Elder Velma Tilley called the meeting to order and led the opening prayer.

### **Introduction of Visitors and First-time Elder Commissioners**

Presbytery welcomed visitors and corresponding members. Eleven first-time elder commissioners stood for introduction.

The Moderator granted privilege of the floor to Deedra Rich, Associate Director of Spirituality at Columbia Theological Seminary, who told of the CTS Center for Lifelong Learning leadership education certificate program for the fall of 2011.

### **Seating of Corresponding Members**

**Action #1 – Presbytery welcomed and seated: Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission Director Rev. Sara Hayden (Presbytery of Greater Atlanta), Rev. Fred Boozer (Savannah Presbytery), Synod Executive Rev. Reg Parsons (St. Augustine Presbytery), PDA Synod Coordinator Ken McKenzie (Savannah), and Rev. Cathy Meyer (Muskingum Valley Presbytery). Rev. Catherine Cavazos (Middle Tennessee Presbytery) was present to be examined and received as a member of Cherokee Presbytery to consider a pastoral call from Kirkwood Presbyterian Church.**

### **Moderator's Appointments**

Rev. Cyndi Parr and Elder Michael Elliott (Westminster) were appointed to read the minutes of the July 23, 2011, Stated Meeting. Rev. Cido Araujo and Elder Betty Cheek (Presbytery Staff) were appointed to the Absentee Committee for the meeting. At the February meeting the Moderator appointed Rev. Pete Paulsen as Discernmentarian, Rev. John Spangler as Parliamentarian, and Elder Betty Cheek (Presbytery Staff) as Recording Clerk for the duration of the Moderator's Term. In the absence of Rev. John Spangler, the Moderator appointed Elder Warren Herron (Marietta First) as Parliamentarian for the meeting. Rev. Denise Beltzner and Elder Todd Jacobson (Cartersville First) were appointed tellers should a standing or ballot vote be needed.

### **Welcome from our Hosts**

Providence Pastor Rev. Joe Brice brought greetings from the Providence session and congregation.

### **Approval of Agenda**

The Moderator called upon Mission Coordinator and Stated Clerk Rev. Rebecca Blackwell, who reviewed and moved the docket, reminding everyone of the consent agenda process and clarifying the process for the Parkway overture discussion.

**Action #2 – Presbytery approved the Agenda for Worship and Deliberation as printed.**

Action #3 – Presbytery approved limiting speaking time for each person to three minutes during debates.

*Agenda for Worship and Deliberation  
Cherokee Presbytery  
Saturday, July 23, 2011*

**WE GATHER TOGETHER IN GOD'S NAME**

Gathering Ritual

Elder Lynne Byers

Liturgist: This is the day which the Lord has made.

**People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Liturgist - (Rings Chime three times)

[Symbols of our common calling and life are brought into the worship space.]

Moderator: Welcome Home!

*Call to Order/Declaration of Quorum Opening Prayer (Velma Tilley)*

*Welcome of first time commissioners and seating of corresponding members*

*Moderator Appointments*

*Welcome from Hosts*

*Approval of Docket*

*Committee on Ministry Report*

Prelude

*Holy Ground*

Elder Lisa Baty

\*Call to Worship

Elder Mike Lauter

Leader: In this time of worship, may we remember others, may we get lost in God's love.

**People: May we set aside petty differences, and lift up what is honorable.**

Leader: In this time of worship, may we pursue God's way: do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.

**People: In this time of worship, may we practice love, that it may become who we are at every other time of the week.**

Leader: Let us hold fast to what is good. Let us rejoice in hope.

**People: Let us persevere in prayer and give joyfully in love.**

Leader: Let us stand firm in one spirit and strive side by side with one mind.

**People: And worship God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.**

\*Hymn *O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!*

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

Scripture Philippians 1:3-7; Acts 2:42-47

Sermon "Adding to Our Number"

Rev. Sara Hayden

Affirmation of Life Together

Rev. Sam Henderson

\* [Please stand and remain standing when your church is named.]

Leader: God has blessed us as we have shared in the gospel from the first day until now.

**People: We are confident that the one who began a good work among us will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.**

Leader: We celebrate this day the communities beginning in the 1800s that have been added to our number so that our love might overflow to today:

**People: Marietta First, LaFayette, Mars Hill, Cartersville First, Dalton First, Calhoun First, Summerville, Beersheba, Menlo, Euharlee, Cohutta First, Woodstock, Rockmart, Cedartown First, Silver Creek and Acworth.**

Leader: We affirm the communities that added to our number with knowledge of God and full insight of grace in the 1900s:

**People: Chickamauga, Woodlawn, Cloudland, Westminster, John Knox, Trinity, Calvary, Morton Memorial, Covenant, Deer Creek Shores, Southminster, Eastminster, Heritage, New Lebanon, Ray Thomas Memorial, Christ Fellowship, Kirkwood, Bethany, Faith in Canton, Macland, Parkway and the Brazilian Christian Church.**

Leader: We support and encourage our new communities of faith that are adding to our number daily as they grow in the faith and love of Jesus Christ:

**People: Providence, Faith in Blue Ridge, Sixes and Grace in Dawsonville.**

Leader: May God continue to bless us as we spend time together, break bread together, and worship our Lord and Savior.

**People: May God continue to add to our number those who are saved through the love and grace of Jesus Christ.**

**All: Thanks be to God for the witness of the faithful in Cherokee Presbytery from the first day until now!**

\*Hymn *The Church's One Foundation*

Witness to God's Work (video)

**WE SHARE OUR GIFTS WITH GOD AND WITH ONE ANOTHER**

Offering Our Financial Gifts

Special Music *What If*

Laura Ann Sellers, Soloist

Offering the Gifts of our Time and Skills

*PDA*

*CPM report*

*Nominating Committee Report*

*Sixes Commission Report*

Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Carrie Scott

\*Doxology

*Stated Clerk's Report, Part I*

*Presentation of the Parkway Overture*

*Dismiss for Lunch*

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND GOD'S WORD**

\*Reconvene, singing Hymn *In Christ There Is No East or West*

*Stated Clerk's Report, Part II*

*Attendance Report*

*Debate and Vote on Parkway Overture*

\*Litany and Prayer

Elder Chuck Frew

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills – from whence will my help come?

***My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.***

God will not let your foot be moved. God who keeps you will not sleep.

***God who keeps Israel will not slumber nor sleep.***

The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

***The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.***

The Lord will keep you from all evil, God will keep your life.

***The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.***

\* Prayer of Confession (unison)

***We come to you, O God, as the One who created us. We come to you, O God, as people who have strayed from the ways you intended for us. We confess, Lord, that you are the Way and that we need your way out of our distress and into your rest, the way out of our anxiety and into your peace, the way out of our disillusionment and into your integrity. We ask for strength to be instruments of your righteousness so that others will see you in us by our love, by the integrity of the words we speak, by the order in which we set our priorities. When we have strayed from the path you set for us, forgive us and set us straight on the road you set before us. Where we have nursed anger and held grudges, urge us to forgiveness as you have forgiven us. Where we have hurt others by word or deed, forgive us and remind us of the reconciliation we know in the love of our Savior. Open our eyes to see one another as your children, worthy of love and acceptance despite our differences. Forgive us for loving you and ourselves too little. We ask all these things in the name of the one who loved us enough to give his life for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

\*Assurance of Pardon

Elder Chuck Frew

Friends, our baptism is the sign and seal of our cleansing from sin and of our being grafted into Christ, who is at work in us to bring us into perfection. Remember your baptism, and be at peace.

\*Hymn *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

*Mission Coordinator's Report*

Sharing our Joys and Concerns with one another

Prayers of the People

Rev. Ted Smith

*Present and Act on Consent Agenda*

*Coordinating Team Report*

*Other Business*

*Announcements*

**WE DEPART TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE WITH THE WORLD**

*Motion to Adjourn after Benediction*

\*Closing Hymn                      *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*  
\*Benediction  
\*Closing Prayer

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\*All who are able please stand.

### *Committee on Ministry Report*

#### **Committee on Ministry report was made by Moderator Rev. Dave Grove.**

*Overview: The Committee on Ministry serves as pastor and counselor to the ministers of the presbytery, facilitates relationships between congregations, ministers, and the presbytery, and settles difficulties on behalf of the presbytery when possible and expedient.*

*Committee Members: Dave Grove (Moderator) (2011), Marx Borges (2011), Gloria Eberhart (2012), Jesse Hunter (2012), Todd Johnson (2011), Dick Neelly (2011), Carol Osborne (2012), Robert Smalley (2013) John Speiser (2013), George Stroup (2012), Jack Waskey (2013), Debbie Wells (2013).*

For information:

1. At its May 12, 2011 meeting, the Committee on Ministry approved David McDonald as Moderator of the Morton Memorial session, George Stroup as Moderator of the Woodstock session, and Dave Grove as Moderator of the Euharlee session.
2. The Committee on Ministry met on July 6 and July 7, 2011.

**Action #4 – Committee on Ministry Moderator Rev. Dave Grove introduced the Reverend Catherine C. Cavazos (Middle Tennessee Presbytery), called to be Pastor of Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, if the way be clear. Following her faith statement and time for questions from the floor, Presbytery approved the Committee on Ministry recommendation that, Catherine C. Cavazos be received as a member of Cherokee Presbytery to receive the pastoral call from Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, effective September 5, 2011 (Attachment A).**

**Action #5 – Presbytery approved the following terms of call between Catherine C. Cavazos and Kirkwood Presbyterian Church:**

a. Salary	\$30,540.00
b. Housing Allowance	22,000.00
c. Equiv. ½ Self-employment tax	4,352.00
d. Pension	5,779.00
e. Medical	10,770.00
f. Disability	528.00
g. Auto/Travel/Cell Phone/Miscellaneous	6,867.00
h. Continuing Education	1,002.00
i. Four weeks paid vacation	
j. Two weeks paid continuing education	
k. Moving Expenses	10,000.00
l. Office Expenses/furniture/computer	5,300.00

**Action #6 – Presbytery approved the appointment of the following Commission to Install Catherine C. Cavazos on Sunday, October 9, 2011, 5:00 p.m. at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church:**

**Ministers – Rev. Julie Ferguson, Rev. Mickey Shealy, Rev. Rebecca Blackwell**

**Elders – Velma Tilley (Cartersville First), Neil Franklin (Kirkwood)**

**Guests – Elder Cesar Cavazos, Elder Beth Cavazos (Grace Presbytery)**

**Preaching – Rev. Shannon J. Kersner (Presbytery of Western NC)**

**Following prayer, Presbytery stood to welcome Rev. Cavazos and to sing the Doxology. A gift book was presented to her by Rev. Pete Paulsen on behalf of the Spiritual Development Team. Rev. Cavazos signed the book of obligation and her name was entered in the rolls of Cherokee Presbytery.**

#### **Preparation to Hear God’s Word**

Following the Prelude and Call to Worship, Presbytery sang “O Worship the King, All Glorious Above.”

#### **WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD**

Executive Director of the Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission Rev. Sara Hayden preached the sermon, “Adding to Our Number” based on Philippians 1:3-7 and Acts 2:42-47 (**Attachment B**). Rev. Sam Henderson led the Affirmation of Life Together, celebrating the beginning and continuing ministry of each of the forty-two communities in Cherokee Presbytery from the 1800s until now (**Attachment C**).

#### **Witness to God’s Work**

A video on New Church Development, *NCD 2011 Celebration*, was played, featuring the stories of three new sister congregations in Georgia who are joyfully seeking to follow Christ together with us: Presbyterian Church of Ghana in Mableton, Kairos Church in Atlanta, and Iglesia Presbiteriana el Buen Pastor in Lilburn.

## **WE SHARE OUR GIFTS WITH GOD AND WITH ONE ANOTHER**

### **Offering Our Financial Gifts**

An offering was received in the amount of \$724.11 to benefit *Shepherd's Rest Ministries*, a family violence crisis center which provides a 24-hour crisis line, emergency housing, emergency transportation, legal advocacy, food, clothing, counseling, resource referrals and financial assistance to the community-at-large located in Paulding County, Georgia.

### **Offering the Gifts of our Time and Skills**

#### *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance*

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Synod Coordinator Rev. Ken McKenzie brought an update on activities of the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and introduced National PDA Team Member, Elder Sue McConnell (Woodstock). Emphasis is being placed on forming local rapid response teams.

#### *CPM Report*

### **Committee on Preparation for Ministry report was made by Moderator Rev. Fritz Bogar.**

*Overview: The work of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry is to represent the Presbytery in partnership with local Sessions, overseeing the constitutional process of preparation of individuals for the office of Minister of Word and Sacrament. The Committee is responsible for engaging with individuals in a process of mutual discernment of God's particular call and in practical preparation for the demands of the office.*

*Committee Members: Fritz Bogar (Moderator) (2011), Walt Beamer (2013), Becky Cameron (2011), Julie Ferguson (2011), Helen James (2012), Julie Jensen (2013), Roger Kvam (2013), Tim McConnell (2012), O. Gregory Moore (2013), Carol Scott (2011), Chris Townley (2012), Bridget Waddell (2012).*

For Information:

1. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry met on June 21, 2011 and interviewed Kira Stringer, a member of the Marietta First Presbyterian Church who will be a full-time, first-year student at Princeton Theological Seminary in September. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry voted unanimously to enroll Kira as an Inquirer. Her Faith Statement is included in the report (**Attachment D**).
2. Prayers were requested for those inquirers and candidates who are taking ordination exams in August: Elizabeth Luangphakdy, Charles Nyaga, Joseph Song, Camille Townsend, and Rev. David Jordan (transitioning from another denomination).

### CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY INQUIRERS and CANDIDATES

Clyde Bearrs	Candidate from Ray-Thomas – certified ready to receive a call (5/19/09)
Silvio Estevez	Inquirer from Ray-Thomas (7/21/09)
Stephen Fearing	Inquirer from Dalton (2/15/11)
Bermsoo Kris Kim	Candidate from Bethany (3/16/10)
Elizabeth Luangphakdy	Candidate from Brazilian Christian Church (11/16/10)
Charles Nyaga	Candidate from Southminster (5/24/05)
Samuel Pack	Inquirer from Bethany (11/9/10)
Ana Sara Pinto	Candidate from Brazilian Christian Church (3-22-11)
Raphael Pinto	Candidate from Brazilian Christian Church (3-22-11)
Carolyn Smith	Candidate from Dalton – certified ready to receive a call (2002)
Joseph Song	Inquirer from Bethany (12/15/09)
Kira Stringer	Inquirer from First Marietta (6/21/11)
Camille Townsend	Inquirer from Macland (8/21/07)
William Yoo	Candidate from Bethany – certified ready to receive a call (1/20/09)

#### *Nominating Committee Report*

### **Nominating Committee report was made by Moderator Rev. Ted Smith.**

Overview: The Nominating Committee nominates persons to fill all vacancies on continuing committees (except the nominating committee), councils, boards, and other bodies that require election by the presbytery or synod.

Team Members: Ted Smith (Acting Moderator) (2013), Charles Allen (2013), Tim Erskine (2013), Jane McDonald (2011), Van Nesbit (2011), Susan Reggin (2012), Jean Strain (2012), (one vacancy in class of 2011), (one vacancy in class of 2012).

For Information

The Nominating Committee met on Wednesday, June 22, and is scheduled to meet on Thursday, July 14, 2011, to consider nominations for vacancies on presbytery committees, commissions, and teams. A full report will be in the Supplemental Handbook with those persons nominated for election being indicated in bold type.

**Action #7 – Presbytery approved the recommendation that the eleven nominees indicated in bold type on the Nominating Committee report be elected by presbytery to serve on presbytery committees, commissions and teams (Attachment E).**

### *Sixes Administrative Commission Report*

**Administrative Commission – Sixes** – On May 24, 2011, Presbytery approved the recommendation of the Committee on Ministry to: *appoint an administrative commission to do all things necessary on behalf of the Presbytery to review the missional, relational and financial health of the Sixes congregation and determine its viability; and to report their findings back to the July 23, 2011, Presbytery meeting.* The following Administrative Commission members were appointed: Elder James Osborn (Providence), Rev. O. Gregory Moore, Elder Chuck Frew (Eastminster), Rev. Zeta Lamberson, Elder Janice Phillips (Marietta First), Rev. Carrie Scott and Elder Marx Borges (Ray-Thomas).

For Information

Commission Member Rev. Zeta Lamberson presented the report and minutes from the Commission. Sixes Pastor Rev. Lucas Pina spoke of the status of the church to date.

**Action #8 – After hearing a positive report from the Administrative Commission appointed to review the missional, relational and financial health of the Sixes congregation, Presbytery voted to dismiss the Commission with thanks and refer their findings to the Ministry Support Team. The full report and minutes of the Commission meetings are included in the July 23, 2011, Minutes of the Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery (Attachment F).**

Presbytery was led in a Prayer of Dedication by Rev. Carrie Scott, and Presbytery sang the Doxology.

### *Stated Clerk's Report, Part I - Presentation of the Parkway Overture*

Stated Clerk Rev. Rebecca Blackwell advised Presbytery that she had received communication from the session of Parkway Church requesting to be dismissed to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, and explained the process for presenting, debating, and voting on the Overture (**Attachment G**). The Stated Clerk invited Parkway Elder David Miller to come forward and share the reasons for their request. Following a time for questions from the floor relating to facts and procedures, the Stated Clerk reviewed the *Polity and Procedural Information Relating to Dismissal of a Congregation* which was included in the Handbook with other information (**Attachment H**). The Stated Clerk explained some actions that Presbytery must take before acting on any such request. Commissioners were encouraged to discuss the Parkway overture during lunch in preparation for the motion.

### *Dismiss for Lunch*

Presbytery was dismissed for lunch at 12:15 p.m. Lunch was prepared and served by members of the Providence congregation.

### *Reconvene*

Presbytery reconvened at 1:00 p.m. with the hymn, "In Christ There Is No East or West."

### *Stated Clerk's Report, Part II*

**Elder David Miller was recognized and moved that presbytery approve the request of the session of the Parkway Presbyterian Church that the congregation be dismissed with its name and all property, assets, and liabilities to the Presbytery of the Southeast of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church as soon as the way be clear. Second was made by Rev. Jack Foley. Following the second, David Miller yielded back to the Moderator.**

**The Moderator recognized Rev. Ken Terrell, who made the following three-part motion:**

- 1. That the request of the session of Parkway Presbyterian Church for dismissal to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church be referred to the Coordinating Team for study and recommendation to Presbytery at the September Stated Meeting.**
- 2. That the Committee on Ministry consider whether the Evangelical Presbyterian Church is (a) doctrinally consistent with the essentials of Reformed theology as understood by the Presbytery; (b) governed by a**

polity that is consistent in form and structure with that of the Presbyterian Church (USA); and (c) is of sufficient permanence to offer reasonable assurance that the congregation is not being dismissed to de facto independence, and report its finding to the Coordinating Team.

3. That the Moderator appoint a committee to consult with the Parkway congregation to (1) attempt to facilitate reconciliation; (2) afford all persons affected by the dismissal request an opportunity to be heard on the subject; and (3) determine if there is a faction that is entitled to the property as the true church within the PC(USA) and is capable of functioning as a viable, independent congregation; (4) consult with the presbyteries of Greater Atlanta and Northeast Georgia who are our partners in new church development; and report the results of its efforts to the Coordinating Team.

The maker of the motion then spoke to the motion:

Part 1 is to insure that Presbytery follows its Standing Rules (Chapter 2, 4. D. 4-6, p. 2-9), which call for overtures to go to “the appropriate Ministry Team” for recommendation to the Coordinating Team and then to presbytery for action. Since there is no appropriate Ministry Team, it could go directly to the Coordinating Team for recommendation to presbytery.

Part 2 is to comply with 218<sup>th</sup> General Assembly’s wording (Item 7-13).

Part 3 is to comply with the ruling of the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission in *Sundquist v Heartland Presbytery* and with the requirement in the New G-4.0207 relating to congregations in schism.

Parkway representatives concurred with this motion.

Action #9 – Presbytery approved, without opposition, the three-part motion to refer the request to the Coordinating Team with instructions to make a recommendation at the September 27, 2011, Stated Meeting, after the necessary actions. After the debate and vote, Presbytery was led in a litany of prayer and confession and sang the hymn, “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise.”

#### *Mission Coordinator’s Report*

Mission Coordinator Rev. Rebecca Blackwell brought greetings from Minister Member Rev. Darrell Guder, Henry Winters Luce Professor of Missional and Ecumenical Theology at Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey.

The Moderator recognized Rev. Pete Paulsen, Elder Pam Jones (Calvary) and Elder Freida St. Germain (Woodlawn), who made a report on the South Cobb Four-congregation conversation working to form a new congregation from the resources present at Calvary, Southminster, and Woodlawn with the Ghanaian New Church Development as a partner in this community-based ministry (Attachment I).

Action #10 – Presbytery approved the appointment of Rev. Tino Ballesteros as liaison to this visioning team until an administrative committee is appointed later.

#### **Sharing our Joys and Concerns with one another**

Following a time of sharing concerns and celebrations, Rev. Ted Smith led Presbytery in prayers of the people.

#### *Present and Act on Consent Agenda*

Rev. Rebecca Blackwell presented the Stated Clerk’s Report and Consent Agenda. No items were removed for discussion.

#### **Stated Clerk’s Report**

1. The Stated Clerk prepared and circulated the Minutes of the May 24, 2011, Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery at Cherokee Retreat Center, White, Georgia. The minutes were reviewed for completeness and accuracy by the Moderator and a committee appointed by the Moderator consisting of Rev. Tom Wood and Elder Teri Abercrombie (Trinity), were emailed to pastors and clerks of session, and posted on the stated clerk’s table at this meeting. **Recommend approval. (This action is part of the consent agenda.)**
2. The Stated Clerk has reviewed the 2010 Session Minutes for Cartersville First, Chickamauga, Faith Canton, Faith North Georgia, Heritage, Mars Hill, New Lebanon, Rockmart, Southminster, and Woodlawn Churches. Those 2009 Session Minutes remaining to be reviewed are: Bethany, Brazilian Christian, Christ Fellowship, LaFayette, Marietta First, Ray-Thomas, and Woodstock (7). Those 2010 Session Minutes remaining to be reviewed are: Beersheba, Brazilian Christian, Christ Fellowship, Cloudland, Deer Creek, Euharlee, LaFayette, Marietta First, Menlo, Morton Memorial, Parkway, Ray-Thomas, Trinity, and Woodstock. (14). **Recommend receiving as information. (This action is part of the consent agenda.)**
3. The Stated Clerk has reported to the Office of the General Assembly the Cherokee Presbytery vote results on the *Confession of Belhar* at its stated meeting on May 24, 2011. The motion failed by a vote of 45 NO, 34 YES. **Recommend receiving as information. (This action is part of the consent agenda.)**

4. The Stated Clerk has received a *Congregational Hunger Ministry Grant Application* for the First Presbyterian Church, Cartersville. The amount requested from Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) is \$1000 to help finance the ongoing *Meals on Wheels* project, a cooperative effort of 14 churches and a senior citizen group which feeds between 55 and 60 seniors in the community. The FPC volunteers are overseen by the Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women in the congregation. This action has been affirmed by the PATH Committee. **Recommend approval. (This action is part of the consent agenda.)**
5. The Stated Clerk has received requests for excused absence for this meeting from Julie Jensen, Keith Gunter, John Spangler, George Stroup, Debbie Wells, and John Wells and referred the requests to the Attendance Committee. Others excused are Sam Bridges, Tim Dunn, David Horton, and Taekhan Yoon.
6. The Stated Clerk has received a letter from the Parkway Presbyterian Church requesting that Presbytery dismiss the church with its property to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. **A complete report was prepared and included in the Handbook.**
7. The Stated Clerk has received the July 7, 2011 minutes of the Cherokee Presbytery Commission for Campus Ministry for Presbytery approval to include in the July 23, 2011 minutes of Cherokee Presbytery (Pages 24-25). **Recommend receiving to include in the July 23, 2011 minutes of Cherokee Presbytery. (This action is part of the consent agenda.)**

**Action #11 – Presbytery approved the Consent Agenda, which included the following recommendations:**

1. **That Presbytery approve the Minutes of the Tuesday, May 24, 2011, Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery at Cherokee Retreat Center, White, Georgia. The minutes were reviewed for completeness and accuracy by the Moderator and a committee appointed by the Moderator consisting of Rev. Tom Wood and Elder Teri Abercrombie (Trinity), were e-mailed to pastors and clerks of session, and posted on the stated clerk's table at this meeting.**
2. **That Presbytery receive as information the report of the Stated Clerk regarding review of 2009 and 2010 Session Minutes.**
3. **That Presbytery receive as information the Stated Clerk's report to the Office of the General Assembly of Presbytery's May 24, 2011 vote on the *Confession of Belhar*.**
4. **That Presbytery receive as information the June 30, 2011 Financial Statements as submitted by the Ministry Support Team and Treasurer (Attachment J).**
5. **That Presbytery approve the Congregational Hunger Ministry Grant Application for First Presbyterian Church, Cartersville, and that it be forwarded to the Presbyterian Hunger Program.**
6. **That Presbytery receive the July 7, 2011 minutes of the Cherokee Presbytery Commission for Campus Ministry to include in the July 23, 2011 minutes of Cherokee Presbytery (Attachment K).**

### *Coordinating Team Report*

**Presbytery Coordinating Team Report was made by Moderator Velma Tilley**

*Overview: The Mission Goal of the Coordinating Team is to encourage, coordinate and maintain the presbytery's focus on its vision and mission while giving other ministry teams, committees and commissions permission to carry out their functions.*

*Team Members: Velma Tilley (Presbytery Moderator), Teri Abercrombie (Nurturing Disciples Team Moderator), Tyler Downing (Mission Team Moderator), Maryellen Hittel (Ministry Support Team Acting Moderator), Sam Henderson (New Church Development Commission Moderator), Zeta Lamberson (Worship Team Moderator), Pete Paulsen (Spiritual Development Team Moderator and Discernmentarian), Susan Monk (Campus Ministry Commission Moderator), Ken Terrell (Presbytery Moderator Elect), Nate Marini (Cherokee Retreat Center Board Chair), Tom Wood (Celebration & Hospitality Team Moderator), Ex officio member Rebecca Blackwell.*

For Information:

1. The Coordinating Team met on June 2, 2011.

Recommendations:

The Coordinating Team puts forward three options related to the number of stated presbytery meetings to be held each year. We would propose adopting one of the formats to guide us for the next two years (**Attachment L**). Changing the number of meetings would require amendments to the Presbytery Bylaws.

**Action #12 – Advisory vote was made by Presbytery to refer to the Coordinating Team:**

**Option A: Continue with the six stated meetings that we have at present – 22 votes**

**Option B: Move to four stated meetings (February, May, August and November) – 40 votes**

**Option C: Move to four stated meetings plus two special meetings/events per year that are open to everyone (examples might include shared mission projects, leadership development opportunities, special speakers and workshops, etc.) – 15 votes**

### *Other Business, Announcements*

Providence Church adults and youth came forward to share information about their participation in the Paulding County Community Makeover program (<http://makeover.engageatlanta.com/>). The Community Makeover is a concentrated weekend of community service combining the efforts of Businesses, Churches, and Civic groups serving in their own Community, engaging their community with the love of Jesus Christ.

## WE DEPART TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE WITH THE WORLD

### *Motion to Adjourn after Benediction*

**Action # 13 – The motion to adjourn carried. The meeting was ended at 1:55 p.m. with the Benediction and the singing of “Blest Be the Tie That Binds.”**

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## Committee Reports for Information

### **Committee on Representation** – John Spangler, Moderator

*Overview: The main function is to advise the governing bodies with respect to their membership and to that of their committees, boards, agencies, and other units in implementing the principles of participation and inclusiveness to ensure fair and effective representation in the decision making of the church.*

*Team Members: John Spangler (Moderator) (2013), Dan Boles (2011), LaVert Jones (2012), Marty Lindeman (2011), Gail Meacham (2011), Charles Nyaga (2012), Jose Pezini (2013), Kate Tutwiler (2013), Vacancy in Class of 2012.*

## Commission Reports

G-9.0502: *A commission is empowered to consider and conclude matters referred to it by a governing body. The appointing body shall state specifically the scope of power given to a commission. A commission shall keep a full record of its proceedings, which shall be submitted to its governing body to be incorporated in its minutes and to be regarded as the actions of the governing body itself.*

### **Permanent Judicial Commission**

*Overview: The functions of the Permanent Judicial Commission are to consider and decide a case of process for the governing body according to the Rules of Discipline. In the cases transmitted to it, the permanent judicial commission shall have only the powers prescribed by and conduct its proceedings according to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).*

*Team Members: Harris Hines (2016), Zeta Lamberson (2016), Robert Smalley (2016), Peter Olson (2012), James Osborn (2012), Debbie Wells (2012), Jack Foley (2012), Teri Abercrombie (2014), Maryellen Hittel (2014), Coy Temples (2014)*

*[Roster of those members whose terms have expired within the past six years for purposes of record (D-5.0206b): Thurston Wilson (2010), Todd Johnson (2008), Chuck Frew(2006), Robert Walther(2006), Jack Waskey (2006), Catherine Gonzalez (2004), Warren Herron (2004).]*

### **Cherokee Presbytery Commission for Campus Ministry** – Susan Monk, Moderator

*Team Members: Joe Brice (2011), Sid Gunter (2012), Cheryl Jenkins (2012), Jodi Johnson (2013), Susan Monk (Moderator) (2013), Katheryn Preston (2012), George Taylor (2011), Dan Boles, (ex officio), Sheri Grove (ex officio).*

#### **For Information and Action:**

**The Cherokee Presbytery Commission for Campus Ministry met on July 7, 2011. Minutes of the meeting (draft to be approved at the next Campus Ministry meeting) have been submitted to the Stated Clerk to include in the minutes of presbytery (Attachment K). This action is part of the Consent Agenda.**

### **Tri-Presbytery Commission for Campus Ministry** – Susan Monk, Moderator

*Overview: The mission goal of the Cherokee Presbytery Campus Ministry Commission is promoting, supporting, connecting, and expanding Christian ministry in institutions of higher education within the bounds of Cherokee Presbytery, in cooperation with the Tri-Presbytery Campus Ministry Commission. In 2006 the Tri-Presbytery Campus Ministry Commission was established by action of Cherokee, Greater Atlanta, and Northeast Georgia Presbyteries to oversee campus ministry efforts within the bounds of the three presbyteries.*

### **Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission** – Sara Hayden, Executive Director; Joanna Adams, Moderator

For Information:

The Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission Quarterly Meeting will be Wednesday, August 10, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Brazilian Christian Church/John Knox Presbyterian Church, Marietta.

**Cherokee Presbytery New Church Development Commission** – Sam Henderson, Moderator

*Overview: The purposes of the New Church Development Commission are to study and choose the best locations for New Church Developments (NCDs), call organizing pastors, seek and allocate funding, and initiate New Church Developments in the Cherokee, Greater Atlanta, and Northeast Georgia tri-Presbytery area.*

*Team Members: Sam Henderson (Cherokee Moderator) (2011), Tom Barrentine (2013), Peter Lim (2012), Chuck Holmes (2011), Ted Smith (2012), (Vacancy in Class 2013), George Gitahi (Co-opt).*

## Boards

**Retreat Center Board of Directors** – Nate Marini, Chair

*Overview: The Mission Goal of the Cherokee Retreat Center is to provide a space apart for focusing on Christian education, spiritual development, fellowship, and retreat from the material world.*

*Board Members: Nate Marini (Chair) (2011), Corrin Baines (2012), Frank Byrd (2013), Brian Enlow (2013), Stephen Fearing (2012), Mary Gilreath (2013), Jon Hayes (2012), Heather Perrin (2011), Ron Stoker (2013), Mark Thompson (2011), John Wells (2012), John Zavitz (2011), Kelly Howington – Executive Director of Cherokee Retreat Center, Ex Officio.*

## Ministry Teams

**Worship Team** – Zeta Lamberson, Moderator

*Overview: The Worship Team has the responsibility to focus the presbytery on being a Christ-centered worshipping community of faith.*

*Team Members: Zeta Lamberson (Moderator) (2012), Julie Ferguson (2013), Keith Gunter (2011), Tom Holder (2013), Domitila Bicudo (Co-opt), Vacancy in Class of 2011, Vacancy in Class of 2012.*

For Information:

The Worship Team met on June 6, 2011, to plan worship for the stated meeting of Cherokee Presbytery on July 23, 2011.

**Mission Team** – Tyler Downing, Moderator

*Overview: The purpose of the Mission Team is to facilitate the presbytery in its responsibilities to encourage, coordinate, and resource mission common to the presbytery.*

*How you can help: If you have a mission project idea or if you are going on a mission trip, and you would like your sister churches to know about it, please contact the Mission Team. The presbytery office can forward your idea to the current chair.*

*Team Members: Tyler Downing (Moderator) (2011), Stuart Leyden (2013), Howard Moore (2013), Roberta Sarchet (2012), Laura Wilson (2011), Vacancy in Class of 2012. Ex officio members: Karen Jones (PATH), Barbara Elliott (Presbyterian Women).*

For Information:

The Mission Team met on Monday, June 23, 2011. Present were Stuart Leyden (Moderator pro-tem), Roberta Sarchet, Barbara Elliott, and Nancy Collins.

**Ministry Support Team** – Maryellen Hittel, Acting Moderator

*Overview: The Mission Goal of the Ministry Support Team is to provide the infrastructure for the presbytery's mission and ministry so that the members and staff will support, respect, and be accountable to one another. This includes Personnel, Budget and Finance, and Communications.*

*Team Members: Dayton Adams (2013), Jack Foley (2013), Judy Greeson (2011), Lisa Marie Haygood (2012), Maryellen Hittel (2011, (Acting Moderator), Stan Tilley (2012), Ex-Officio Member: Greg Moore.*

For Information:

The Ministry Support Team met on Tuesday, June 14, 2011.

**Recommendations:**

**The Ministry Support Team submits the June 30, 2011 Financial Statements (Handbook, pages 25-28), to be received as information. (This action is part of the consent agenda.)**

**Celebration and Hospitality Team** – Tom Wood, Moderator.

*Overview: The purpose of the Celebration and Hospitality Team is to celebrate disciples whose words and actions*

*demonstrate the proclamation of God's Kingdom in the world.*

*Team Members: Tom Wood (Moderator) (2013), Tim Erskine (2013), Larry Lewis (2012), Ann Stubbs Maddux (2011), **Brenda Terrell (2012)**, Carol Wade (2011).*

**Spiritual Development Team** – Pete Paulson, Moderator

*Overview: The purpose of the Spiritual Development Team is to encourage and support presbyters as they live and proclaim God's Kingdom, enabling the presbytery to more effectively listen to God and one another.*

*Team Members: Pete Paulsen (Moderator) (2013), Maxine Edwards (2011), Caron Gruben (2013), Marshall Jenkins (2011), Susan Reggin (2012), Vacancy in Class of 2012*

For Information – Announcement of Retreats:

**Think Cool Autumn Days:** Two Autumn Mountain Retreats have been announced which will be led by Dr. Julie A. Johnson and will be in nearby Cherry Log, Georgia. The October 5–9 retreat focus will be *Resisting the Violence of Busyness*, and will be from Wednesday dinner through Sunday brunch. The November 2–5 retreat theme will be *Diving Deep: Cultivating & Growing Small Groups*, and will be from Wednesday dinner through Saturday afternoon. Fees are \$155 and \$160, respectively, and you choose your own housing option. Flyers to promote the events are available at <http://holycreek.org/>. For information and to register, contact Julie Johnson at [holycreek@aol.com](mailto:holycreek@aol.com). Many of you already know Julie from our Leadership Event last year at Eastminster PC.

**Nurturing Disciples Team** – Teri Abercrombie, Moderator.

*Overview: The purpose of the Nurturing Disciples Team is to support ambassadors sent by God to change the world in which we live.*

*Team Members: Teri Abercrombie (Moderator) (2012), Pem Cooley (2013), Laurie Kersey (2011), Lucas Pina (2012), Mickey Shealy (2011), Sue Spivey (2013).*

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Velma C. Tilley, Moderator

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Rebecca M. Blackwell, Stated Clerk

**Future Presbytery Meetings:**

Tuesday, September 27, 2011, 5:30 p.m. – Bethany Presbyterian Church, Marietta, GA

Tuesday, November 15, 2011, 10:00 a.m. – Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Marietta, GA