

MINUTES OF THE STATED MEETING OF CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY  
Tuesday, March 22, 2011, 5:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, Rome, Georgia

*Seeing Jesus Christ Through The Confessions* was the emphasis as Cherokee Presbytery met in the Westminster Presbyterian Church West Center for its March 2011 Stated Meeting.

**THE FOLLOWING MINISTERS WERE PRESENT: (42)**

Paul Bayerl	Sid Gunter	Pete Paulsen	Carol Wade
Denise Beltzner	Bryant Harris	Jose Pezini	Jack Waskey
Rebecca Blackwell	Sam Henderson	Lucas Pina	Charles Weaver (HR)
Fritz Bogar	Julie Jensen	Susan Reggin	Debbie Wells
Reginaldo Braga (3/22/11)	Young Jeon	Carol Scott	John Wells
Joe Brice	Roger Kvam (HR)	Mickey Shealy	Tom Wood
Tyler Downing	Stuart Leyden (HR)	Ted Smith	(HR = Honorably Retired)
Julie Ferguson	Ben Laughlin	John Spangler	
Jack Foley	Peter Lim	Ron Stoker	38 Active + 4 HR=42
Bill Ford	Tim McConnell	Ken Terrell	
Dave Grove	O. Gregory Moore	Pete Ullmann	
Keith Gunter	Dick Neelly (HR)	Bridget Waddell	

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

Sam Bridges	Stephen Hayner	Dae Wang Kim	George Stroup
Byeongho Choi	Maryellen Hittel	Zeta Lamberson	Chuck Taber
Tim Dunn	David Horton	Janet Looby	Taekhan Yoon
Darrell Guder	Ray Jones	Cyndi Parr	

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

Herschel Allen, Tino Ballesteros, Ewell Black, Jack Bunkley, Bert Carmichael, Pem Cooley, Archie Davis, Maxine Edwards, Tim Erskine, Robert Farrow, 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, Frank Weathersby, Thurston Wilson, Donn Wright.

**THE FOLLOWING MINISTERS WERE ABSENT WITHOUT EXCUSE: (9)** Cido Araujo, Ed Craft, Don Esa, Mike Jackson, Jennifer Lee, John Martin, George Mitchell, Dan Nail, Ken Waddell.

**ELDER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT – 49; EXCUSED – 2, AND UNEXCUSED – 15 = 66**

**Acworth** – Travis Prestwood  
**Beersheba** – (Unexcused)  
**Bethany** – Jay Jhun, (Unexcused), (Unexcused)  
**Brazilian Christian** – (Unexcused)  
**Calhoun** – Darin Hardin, Laurie Kersey  
**Calvary** – Michel Phillips  
**Cartersville** – Bobby Bergman, Phil Bridges, Mary Gilreath  
**Cedartown** – Katy Miller  
**Chickamauga** – Jim McGregor  
**Christ Fellowship** – (Unexcused)  
**Cloudland** – *John Gauldon*, (Donald Green)  
**Cohutta** – *DeMaris Davenport*  
**Covenant** – Toni Garner, Brian Rindt  
**Dalton** – Carole Rollins, James Lesslie, (Unexcused)  
**Deer Creek** – *Linda Snowden*  
**Eastminster** – Chuck Frew, Mike Hayes, Tom Nickles  
**Euharlee** – (Unexcused)  
**Faith, Canton** – *Jean Howington*  
**Faith, North Georgia** – Randy Blankenship  
**Grace** – Kay Parrish  
**Heritage** – Ralph Walker, (Unexcused), (Unexcused)  
**John Knox** – Erma Jones, (Unexcused)  
**Kirkwood** – (Excused)  
**LaFayette** – Laura Wilson  
**Macland** – Linda Neighbors, Laura Yaramishyn

**Marietta First** – Doug Allen, Jeff Cain, *Victoria Chastain*, Mike Clotfelter, David Hartin, Mary Varella  
**Mars Hill** – Debra Kasson-Jones, (Unexcused)  
**Menlo** – James Spears  
**Morton Memorial** – (Unexcused)  
**New Lebanon** – Dayton Adams, Don Martin  
**Parkway** – Stephen Edge, Shannon Holthaus  
**Providence** – Lynn Byers  
**Ray-Thomas** – (Unexcused), (Unexcused)  
**Rockmart** – (Unexcused)  
**Silver Creek** – Shirley Rudisill  
**Sixes** – (Excused)  
**Southminster** – Beverly Larsen  
**Summerville** – Sue Spivey  
**Trinity** – Teri Abercrombie  
**Westminster** – Marie Carlisle, Richard Merritt  
**Woodlawn** – Freida St. Germain  
**Woodstock** – *Keith Wood*  
*Bold Italics = first time attending as elder commissioner (6)*  
**Elder Coordinating Team Members with Voting Rights (1):**  
Velma Tilley (Moderator)  
**Elder Commissioners Present: 48 + 1 Coordinating Team Member = 49**

**REGISTERED VISITORS: (35)** Dan Turk (Missionary to Madagascar), Paulo Mendes (Minister Member of Greater Atlanta), Abraham Luckhoff (Minister Member of Elizabeth), Randy Calvo, Columbia Theological Seminary Staff (Minister Member of Greater Atlanta), Christian Educators Jean Strain (Dalton), Michael Porter (Mars Hill), and Bonnie Mellage (Westminster), Ana Garcia da Silva, Raphael Pinto (Brazilian Christian), R. T. Lawless, Donald Green (Cloudland), Brenda Terrell (Covenant), Laura Gunter (Heritage), LaVert Jones (John Knox), Iva Spears (Menlo), Martha Waskey (Morton Memorial), David Miller (Parkway), Carol Osborne (Providence), Marta Pina (Sixes), Joan Brock, Paul Culotta, Shari Culotta, Gloria Eberhart, Barbara Elliott, Michael Elliott, Anita Errickson, Joe Errickson, Marge Hauser, Rex Hauser, Susan Henley, Sarah Whitley, Gail Wilkes (Westminster), Betty Cheek, Kelly Howington, Sarita Morris (Presbytery Staff).

**Total attendance: 42 ministers, 49 elders = 91 with voting rights; + 35 registered visitors = 126 Total**

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

During the gathering and fellowship hour from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the new *West Center* we were invited for home-made soups provided by Westminster PC members and staff. We remained at the tables for the worship hour and meeting.

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

Following the Gathering Ritual, Stated Clerk Rev. Rebecca Blackwell declared that a quorum was present; Moderator Velma Tilley called the meeting to order and led the opening prayer.

First-person *Lenten Vignettes* were read at various times throughout the meeting.

### **Approval of Docket**

The Moderator called upon Mission Coordinator and Stated Clerk Rev. Rebecca Blackwell, who moved the docket.

**Action #1 – Presbytery approved the docket as amended and printed:**

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Amended Docket for the March 22, 2011, Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery  
Westminster Presbyterian Church, Rome, Georgia

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

**4:30 p.m.** Registration, Fellowship, Light Supper (\$5)  
**5:30 p.m.** Gathering Ritual  
Declaration of Quorum – Stated Clerk Rev. Rebecca Blackwell  
Call to Order – Moderator Velma Tilley  
Convening Prayer  
Approval of Docket (Amended)  
Welcome from our Hosts – Rev. Tom Wood, Interim Pastor  
*Lenten Vignette*

### ***We Worship God Together***

Worship – Rev. Ted Smith Preaching

### ***We Put our Faith to Work***

Introduction and Welcome of Visitors and First-time Elder Commissioners  
Seating of Corresponding Members  
Moderator's Appointments  
*Lenten Vignette*

Mission Report – Dan and Elizabeth Turk

*Lenten Vignette*

Committee Action Report

Committee on Ministry – Rev. Dave Grove

Recommendation to receive as a member:

Reginaldo P. Braga, Jr. (Hudson River)

Retirement Celebrations

Ken Terrell, effective April 1, 2011

Jack Waskey, effective March 1, 2011

*Lenten Vignette*

Committee on Preparation for Ministry – Rev. Fritz Bogar  
Introduction of Newly Enrolled Inquirer (2-15-11)  
Stephen Fearing (Dalton First)

Presentation of Candidates  
Ana Sara Pinto (Brazilian Christian)  
Raphael Pinto (Brazilian Christian)

Committee on Representation  
Commission Action Report  
Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission  
*Lenten Vignette*

**8:00 p.m.** Debate and vote on a portion of the Proposed Amendments to the Book of Order: nFOG  
*Lenten Vignette*  
Introduction of Belhar Confession  
  
Present and Act on Consent Agenda

### ***Go in God's Name***

Other business (including any items lifted from Consent Agenda)  
Attendance Report  
Announcements  
Closing Prayer  
Motion to Adjourn

**9:30 p.m.** Benediction

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### **Welcome from our Hosts**

Rev. Tom Wood, Interim Pastor, welcomed presbytery on behalf of the Westminster session and congregation, and gave a brief history of the church and the newly completed *West Center* in which we were meeting. Presbytery was invited to view the banners encircling the room which were symbolic of the Confessional Statements. The banners were made by members of the congregation and were inspired by pictures in the back of *The Book of Confessions*.

### **Procedure for voting on the Proposed Amendments to the PCUSA Constitution**

**Action #2 – By common consent, Presbytery approved the same procedure as recommended by the Coordinating Team and approved by Presbytery on November 16, 2010, for voting on the Proposed Amendments to the Constitution approved by the 219<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2010) and recommended to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:**

- That debate be limited to two minutes per person.
- That a person can speak only once unless and until all who wish to speak have spoken.
- That one hour total docket time be allowed for debate. Extending the time of debate beyond one hour would require approval of Presbytery by a two-thirds vote.
- That the vote on the New Form of Government be by standing vote unless changed by the body.

### **We Worship God Together**

*The Book of Confessions* was our inspiration as we worshipped using words from the confessional statements. Rev. Ted Smith preached the sermon “Who is this Jesus,” based on John 12:20-33. Assisting with worship were Barbara Elliott, Teri Abercrombie, Sam Henderson, Mike Elliott, Mike Jones, Julie Ferguson, and Tom Wood. An offering in the amount of \$572.25 was received for the Pastoral Assistance Fund (*Pastoral Care Emergency Fund*) of the presbytery.

### **We Put our Faith to Work**

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

Visitors introduced included ministers Paulo Mendes (Minister Member of Presbytery of Greater Atlanta), Abraham Luckhoff (Minister Member of Elizabeth Presbytery), Randy Calvo, Columbia Theological Seminary (Minister Member of Presbytery of Greater Atlanta). Six first-time elder commissioners stood for introduction.

## Seating of Corresponding Members

**Action #3 – Presbytery welcomed visiting minister Randy Calvo, Columbia Seminary Director of Alumni/ae and Church Relations (Greater Atlanta), and seated and granted right to speak to corresponding members Paulo Fernando Mendes (Greater Atlanta), and Abraham Luckhoff (Elizabeth).**

## Moderator's Appointments

Rev. Jack Foley and Elder Mary Gilreath (Cartersville First) were appointed to read the minutes of the March 22, 2011, Stated Meeting. Rev. Tyler Downing and Elder Betty Cheek (Presbytery Staff) were appointed to the Absentee Committee for the meeting. At a previous 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.

## Spiritual Development Team Report

Spiritual Development Team Moderator Rev. Pete Paulsen presented gifts to everyone present on behalf of the Team – a CD entitled *Lenten Listening: Hearing God Through Lectio Divina*, featuring readings especially for Lent. Extra copies are available at the presbytery office for those who did not receive one.

## Mission Team Report

Mission Team member Rev. Stuart Leyden introduced mission partner Dr. Dan Turk, who showed slides and told of the ministry he and his wife, Elizabeth, are supporting in Madagascar, an island off the southeast coast of Africa. Dan brought a display with photographs and stayed through the meeting for questions. Their work is to improve environmental and health conditions. They are on furlough and are staying at Mission Haven in Decatur through the school year. Congregations were urged to invite Dan and Elizabeth to present programs at their churches.

## Committee Action Reports

### Committee on Ministry – Dave Grove, Moderator

*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. The Committee on Ministry met on January 15, 2011, for a five-hour training retreat on COM responsibilities. Present were Gloria Eberhart, Todd Johnson, Dave Grove, Carol Osborne, Dick Neelly, John Speiser, Jack Waskey, and Rebecca Blackwell. A meeting was held following training.
  - Approved Honorable Retirement of Rev. Jack Waskey, Pastor of Morton Memorial PC, effective March 1, 2011
  - Re-established Associate Pastor position at Eastminster PC
  - Approved Honorable Retirement of Rev. Ken Terrell, Pastor of Covenant PC, effective April 1, 2011
2. The Committee on Ministry met for its stated meeting on March 10, 2011. Present were Dave Grove, Gloria Eberhart, Jesse Hunter, Carol Osborne, George Stroup, Robert Smalley, Todd Johnson, Marx Borges, Dick Neelly, Debbie Wells.
  - Permission was granted for Rev. Abraham Luckhoff, Minister Member of the Presbytery of Elizabeth, to labor in the bounds of Cherokee Presbytery while serving as Stated Supply Pastor of Faith Presbyterian Church, Canton as Stated Supply Pastor, by renewable contract 1/22/11 to 12/31/11.
  - A Pastoral Care Emergency Fund Sub-Committee was formed consisting of COM members George Stroup, Jack Waskey and Gloria Eberhart with Rebecca Blackwell ex-officio.
  - The Committee on Ministry reviewed all 2011 Parish and Non-Parish Annual Reports received from minister members of Cherokee Presbytery. A summary table has been prepared and is included in the Handbook.
  - The Committee on Ministry had a discussion on Amendment 10-A, and wishes, by unanimous decision, to assure Presbytery that if it passes the COM will continue to examine candidates fully and comprehensively on a case-by-case basis as it has for years. Ordination is the ultimate call of the Presbytery. The Committee noted that PNCs can ask any questions of candidates, both now and if Amendment 10-A passes.

**Action #4 – As recommended by the Committee on Ministry, Presbytery approved the continuing membership of all Cherokee Presbytery parish minister members and the following non-parish minister members: Rebecca Blackwell, Sam Bridges, Tim Dunn, Don Esa, Darrell Guder, Steve Hayner, Sam Henderson, David Horton, Mike Jackson, Ray Jones, Zeta Lamberson, Jose Pezini, George Stroup, Chuck Taber, Debbie Wells, Taekhan Yoon (Attachment A, page 12).**

**Action #5 - Committee on Ministry Chair Rev. Dave Grove introduced Rev. Reginaldo Braga, Jr. Following questions from the Committee on Ministry and time for questions from the floor, Presbytery received him as its newest member. Reggie is Assistant Professor of Christian Education at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta. He and his wife Domitila Bicudo live in Acworth, GA. (Attachment B, pages 13-16).**

**On behalf of the Spiritual Development Team, Rev. Pete Paulsen presented a gift book to Rev. Braga and welcomed him to Cherokee Presbytery.**

**Action #6 – Presbytery approved and celebrated the March 1 retirement of Rev. Jack Waskey, who has served the Morton Memorial Church as its pastor for the past twenty-one years. At the pastor’s request and the congregation’s concurrence, his call with Morton Memorial Church ended with his retirement.**

**Action #7 – Presbytery approved the recommendation by the Morton Memorial session, which was approved by vote of the congregation in its meeting on March 20, 2011, to grant Jack *Pastor Emeritus* status.**

**Presbytery was led in prayer by Rev. Dick Neelly.**

**Action #8 – Presbytery approved and celebrated the April 1 retirement of Rev. Ken Terrell, who has served the Covenant Church as its pastor for the past thirteen years. At a called meeting on February 6, 2011, the Covenant congregation concurred with the pastor’s request to dissolve the pastoral relationship effective March 31, 2011.**

**Presbytery was led in prayer by Rev. Debbie Wells.**

**Presbytery stood to sing the Doxology.**

**Committee on Preparation for Ministry – Fritz Bogar, Moderator**

*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 Tuesday, February 15, 2011 and interviewed Stephen Fearing, a member of the Dalton Church and a first year student at Columbia Seminary. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry voted unanimously to enroll Stephen as an Inquirer. His Faith Statement is in the Handbook
2. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry met on March 16, 2010, to interview Ana Sara Garcia da Silva Pinto and Raphael Pinto for Candidacy. Ana Sara and Raphael are under care of the Brazilian Christian church. They are husband and wife.

**Action # 9 – Committee on Preparation for Ministry Chair Rev. Fritz Bogar introduced Ana Sara Garcia da Silva Pinto, who gave a statement regarding her faith and sense of call (Attachment C, page 17), and Raphael Pinto, who gave a statement regarding his faith and sense of call (Attachment D, page 18). Ana Sara and Raphael are Inquirers under the care of Brazilian Christian Church and Cherokee Presbytery. Following a time for questions from the floor, Ana Sara and Raphael were enrolled by vote of the presbytery for advancement to Candidacy for the Office of Minister of Word and Sacrament. The questions of commitment\* were asked by the moderator, which were answered in the affirmative by Ana Sara and Raphael. A brief charge was given by the moderator and the proceeding was closed with prayer. The candidates’ names are to be entered in the Roll of Candidates for Cherokee Presbytery.**

*\*Do you believe yourself to be called by God to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament?*

*Do you promise in reliance upon the grace of God to maintain a Christian character and conduct, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for this ministry?*

*Do you accept the proper supervision of the presbytery in matters that concern your preparation for this ministry?*

*Do you desire now to be received by this presbytery as a candidate for the ministry of the Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)?*

**Announcement was made that the Committee on Preparation for Ministry had enrolled a new Inquirer, Stephen Fearing, a member of Dalton First PC (Attachment E, page 19).**

#### CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY ROLL OF 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)
Bernsoo 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)
Camille Townsend	Inquirer from Macland (8/21/07)
William Yoo	Candidate from Bethany – certified ready to receive a call (1/20/09)

### **Committee on Representation Report**

Committee on Representation Chair Rev. John Spangler reviewed the *Advice and Counsel Memorandum* in the Supplemental Handbook from the Presbytery's Committee on Representation (**Attachment F, page 20**).

### **Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission Report**

Cherokee Presbytery New Church Development Commission Chair Rev. Sam Henderson made the following report:  
For Information:

#### **NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:**

As a joint commission of the Presbyteries of Cherokee, Greater Atlanta, and Northeast Georgia it was recommended for clarity, donor recognition and tax identification purposes, that the Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission (TPNCDC) incorporate as a 501c(3) of the State of Georgia with a unique Federal Tax ID. The TPNCDC approved this action at its August 2010 meeting and upon filing with the state, has received status as a non-profit corporation.

As our January 2011 approved By-laws recognize, The Board of the Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission, Inc. consists of the same members duly nominated and elected by the presbyteries to serve on the TPNCDC and is guided by the identical mission purposes and oversight as the TPNCDC.

That Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission, Inc., desires affirmation that it receives the same oversight for its financial and programmatic integrity as the Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission -- from the Presbyteries of Cherokee, Greater Atlanta, and Northeast Georgia;

Each recognized entity (church, commission, presbytery) of the PCUSA can request inclusion in the denomination's Group Ruling as an incorporated ministry program within our denomination. This is an important legal step for corporations and connects the entity with the non-profit recognition of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

#### **For Recommendation:**

**That the Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission, Inc., be allowed to request inclusion in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Group Ruling as an incorporated ministry program of the Presbyteries of Cherokee, Greater Atlanta, and Northeast Georgia.**

**Cherokee Presbytery agrees to exercise oversight responsibility for the Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission, its programs, and its financial integrity.**

**Action # 10 – Presbytery approved the recommendation: That the Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission be allowed to request inclusion in the PC(USA) Group Ruling as an incorporated ministry program of the Presbyteries of Cherokee, Greater Atlanta, and Northeast Georgia. Cherokee Presbytery agrees to exercise oversight responsibility for the Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission, its programs, and its financial integrity.**

### **Stated Clerk's Report**

1. The Stated Clerk prepared and circulated the Minutes of the Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery on January 22, 2011, at John Knox Presbyterian Church, Marietta, Georgia. The minutes were reviewed for completeness and accuracy by the Moderator and a committee appointed by the Moderator consisting of Rev. George Mitchell and Elder Sue Spivey (Summerville), 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 received the Minutes of the Commission to Install Rev. Tim McConnell on Sunday, January 30, 2011, 4:30 p.m. at Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Marietta. **Recommend they be entered into the March 22, 2011, stated meeting minutes of Cherokee Presbytery. (This action is part of the consent agenda.)**

3. The Stated Clerk received the Minutes of the Commission to Install Rev. Ron Stoker, Sunday, February 27, 2011, 4:00 p.m. at Macland Presbyterian Church, Powder Springs. **Recommend they be entered into the March 22, 2011, stated meeting minutes of Cherokee Presbytery. (This action is part of the consent agenda.)**
4. The Stated Clerk received the November 16, 2010 and January 18, 2011 Minutes of the Cherokee Retreat Center Board of Directors. **Recommend they be entered into the March 22, 2011, stated meeting minutes of Cherokee Presbytery. (This action is part of the consent agenda.)**
5. The Stated Clerk has reviewed the 2010 Session Minutes for Bethany, Calhoun, Calvary, Cedartown, Cohutta, Eastminster, Grace, John Knox, Kirkwood, Macland, Silver Creek, Sixes, Summerville, and Westminster Churches, and 2009 Session Minutes for Cedartown Church (15). 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: Acworth, Beersheba, Brazilian Christian, Cartersville, Chickamauga, Christ Fellowship, Cloudland, Covenant, Dalton, Deer Creek, Euharlee, Faith BR, Faith Canton, Heritage, LaFayette, Marietta, Mars Hill, Menlo, Morton Memorial, New Lebanon, Parkway, Providence, Ray-Thomas, Rockmart, Southminster, Trinity, Woodlawn, and Woodstock. (28) **Recommend receiving as information. (This action is part of the consent agenda.)**
6. The Stated Clerk has received the minutes of the January 26, 2011 meeting of the Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission. **Recommend they be entered into the March 22, 2011, stated meeting minutes of Cherokee Presbytery. (This action is part of the consent agenda.)**
7. The Stated Clerk has reviewed the 2010 Session Statistical Reports and prepared a table on membership of congregations in Cherokee Presbytery. **Recommend receiving as information. (This action is part of the consent agenda.)**
8. The Stated Clerk has prepared and submitted to the Office of the General Assembly the 2010 report of minister members of Cherokee Presbytery: We started the year with 102 minister members. Losses include three deaths and eight dismissals to other presbyteries. We ordained four ministers, transferred three from other presbyteries, and restored one. At the end of 2010 we had 99 minister members and two in transit. We started the year with 41 churches. Grace Presbyterian New Church Development was constituted on November 21, which brought our total to 42 churches. **Recommend receiving as information. (This action is part of the consent agenda.)**
9. The Stated Clerk has filed the 2011 Corporation Annual Registration with the Secretary of State for Cherokee Presbytery Properties, Inc. The 2011 Officers are: CEO – Velma C. Tilley; CFO – O. Gregory Moore; Secretary – Rebecca M. Blackwell; Agent – Rebecca M. Blackwell. **Recommend receiving as information. (This action is part of the consent agenda.)**
10. The Stated Clerk received invitation from the Session of Providence Presbyterian Church, Dallas, Georgia, to host the Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery on Saturday, July 23, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. **Recommend receiving as information. (This action is part of the consent agenda.)**

### Present and Act on Consent Agenda

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

1. That Presbytery approve the Minutes of the Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery on Saturday, January 22, 2011, at John Knox Presbyterian Church, Marietta, Georgia. The minutes were reviewed for completeness and accuracy by the Moderator and a committee appointed by the Moderator consisting of Rev. George Mitchell and Elder Sue Spivey (Summerville), were emailed to pastors and clerks of session, and posted on the stated clerk's table at this meeting.
2. That the Minutes of the Commission to Install Rev. Tim McConnell, Sunday, January 30, 4:30 p.m., Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Marietta be included in the minutes of the March 22, 2011, Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery (Attachment G, page 21).
3. That the Minutes of the Commission to Install Rev. Ron Stoker, Sunday, February 27, 4:00 p.m., Macland Presbyterian Church, Powder Springs, be included in the minutes of the March 22, 2011, Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery (Attachment H, page 22).
4. That the Treasurer's report (Attachment I, pages 23-26) be admitted to and included in the minutes of the March 22, 2011, Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery. For questions, call Treasurer O. Gregory Moore, 678-654-3733 (cell).
5. That the November 16, 2010 and January 18, 2011 Minutes of the Cherokee Retreat Center Board of Directors be included in the minutes of the March 22, 2011, Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery (Attachment J, pages 27-30).
6. That Presbytery receive the report of the Stated Clerk regarding the review of 2010 Session Minutes.
7. That the January 26, 2011 Minutes of the Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission be included in the minutes of the March 22, 2011 Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery (Attachment K, pages 31-35).

8. That Presbytery receive as information the 2010 Session Statistical Reports membership table of congregations in Cherokee Presbytery (Attachment L, page 36).
9. That presbytery receive as information the report of the Stated Clerk regarding the 2010 report of minister members of Cherokee Presbytery to the Office of the General Assembly.
10. That presbytery receive as information the report of the Stated Clerk regarding filing of the 2011 Corporation Annual Registration for Cherokee Presbytery Properties, Inc. with the State of Georgia.
11. That Presbytery receive as information the invitation from the Session of Providence Presbyterian Church to host the Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery on Saturday, July 23, 2011, at 10:00 a.m.

### **Debate and Vote on a portion of the proposed Amendments to the Constitution: nFOG**

**Action #12** – Having received the Proposed Amendments to the *Constitution* approved by the 219<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2010) and recommended to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative vote, Mission Coordinator and Stated Clerk Rebecca Blackwell presented the New Form of Government Amendment before Presbytery for vote. The motion failed by a vote of 69 NO, 17 YES and 2 ABSTAIN.

### **Introduction of *Confession of Belhar***

Mission Coordinator and Stated Clerk Rev. Rebecca Blackwell introduced the *Confession of Belhar*, which will come before Cherokee Presbytery for vote at the May 24., 2011 Stated Meeting. Copies were distributed for study and preparation and congregations were urged to host and/or participate in small group discussions prior to the vote.

### **Go in God's Name**

### **Other Business**

Reports of teams, committees, commissions and Retreat Center Board were received as information and entered into the minutes of the meeting.

### **Attendance Report**

The Moderator announced the tentative attendance report as determined by the Absentee Committee. Details are on pages 1 and 2.

### **Announcements**

Announcements were made that there will be a Mission Conference at Heritage Presbyterian Church on March 26; the Cherokee Presbytery 2011 Summer Camp sessions begin June 5; the Reverend Dr. Ronald Edward Peters will become the Eighth President of The Interdenominational Theological Center (The ITC) when he is inaugurated to lead the consortium of six different denominational constituent seminaries on April 8, 2011; and Sunday, April 10, 2011 will be a day of emphasis for *Self Development of People*.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

**Action # 13** – The motion to adjourn carried. The meeting was closed with prayer at 8:30 p.m. by Moderator Velma Tilley.

### **Benediction, Closing Hymn**

Presbytery received the Benediction led by Rev. Ted Smith and sang the closing hymn. The next Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery will be Tuesday, May 24, 2011, 10:00 a.m. at Cherokee Retreat Center.

### **Committee Reports for Information**

**Nominating Committee** – George Mitchell, Moderator

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

For Information:

The Nominating Committee met on February 17 to consider nominees for presbytery Teams, Committees, Commissions, and Board for Cherokee Presbytery.

### **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.*

For Information:

The Committee on Representation met on Monday, January 24, 2011.

### **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.*

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

For Information:

The Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission met on January 26, 2011. Minutes of the meeting have been submitted to the Stated Clerk for inclusion in presbytery minutes (**Attachment K, pages 31-35**).

### **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 (2012), (One Vacancy), Ted Smith (2012), Bob Sloop (2013), George Gitahi (Co-opt).*

### **Tri-Presbytery Commission for Campus Ministry**

*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. Each of the three presbyteries elects seven commissioners to the Commission, as required by the Book of Order.*

### **Cherokee Presbytery Commission for Campus Ministry – Mickey Shealy, Moderator**

*Team Members: Mickey Shealy (Moderator), George Taylor, Dan Boles, (ex officio), Joe Brice, Sheri Grove (ex officio), Sid Gunter, Cheryl Jenkins, Susan Monk, Katheryn Preston.*

### **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).]*

### **Presbytery Coordinating Team**

#### **Coordinating Team – Velma Tilley, Moderator**

*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), Don Esa (Ministry Support Team Moderator), Sam Henderson (New Church Development Commission Moderator), Zeta Lamberson (Worship Team Moderator), Pete Paulsen (Spiritual Development Team Moderator and Discernmentarian), Mickey Shealy (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 January 18, 2011. Present were Teri Abercrombie, Don Esa, Tyler Downing, Sam Henderson, Ken Terrell, Zeta Lamberson, Pete Paulsen, Velma Tilley, John Wells, Tom Wood, and Rebecca Blackwell. Ken Terrell was elected to serve as Secretary and 2011 meetings were set for Thursdays on February 10, April 14, June 9, August 11, October 13, and December 8 at the presbytery office. Light meals will be served at 5:00 p.m. and meetings will begin at 5:30 p.m. A review was made of the Parkway proposed Overture in preparation for report at the January 22, 2011 stated meeting of Cherokee Presbytery. The Coordinating Team heard reports from the Retreat Ministries Board of Directors, the Ministry Support Team, the Mission Team, the Nurturing Disciples Team, the New Church Development Commission, the Worship Team, the Spiritual Development Team, the Celebration and Hospitality Team, and from the Mission Coordinator/Stated Clerk. No actions were prepared for approval by presbytery.
2. The Coordinating Team met on Thursday, February 10, 2011. Present were Teri Abercrombie, Velma Tilley, Nate Marini, Tyler Downing, Sam Henderson, Zeta Lamberson, Tom Wood, Ken Terrell, Mickey Shealy and Rebecca Blackwell. Reports were heard from New Church Development, Worship, Nurturing Disciples, Campus Ministry, Retreat Ministries, Mission, and Ministry Support Committees and Teams, and from Mission Coordinator/Stated Clerk Rebecca Blackwell. No actions were prepared for approval by presbytery.

#### **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 March 7, 2011 to plan worship for the stated meeting of Cherokee Presbytery on March 22, 2011. Present were Zeta Lamberson, Julie Ferguson and Tom Holder.

#### **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), Paul Bayerl (2012) Stuart Leyden (2013), Roberta Sarchet (2012), Laura Wilson (2011), Vacancy in Class of 2013. Ex officio members: Karen Jones (PATH), Nancy Collins (Presbyterian Women).*

#### For Information:

The Mission Team met on Monday, February 28, 2011.

#### **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), Sandi Townley (2012), Carol Wade (2011).*

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

Overview: *The purpose of the Nurturing Disciples Team is to support ambassadors 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).*

#### For Information:

The Nurturing Disciples Team met on March 4, 2011. Present were Teri Abercrombie, Pem Cooley, Laurie Kersey, Lucas Pina, and Sue Spivey. Review was made of the February 19, 2011 Winter Leadership Event sponsored by the Team, which was held at Eastminster Presbyterian Church. Julie Johnson did a great job as the keynote speaker. Our host church did an outstanding job of making us feel welcome and at home, and the band, *The Curb*, lifted up our singing. This made the Leadership Event a roaring success. To make the next event(s) even better the Nurturing Disciples Team is looking for input and ideas from all members of the presbytery. Please contact any of the members of the team with your suggestions.

#### **Spiritual Development Team – Pete Paulsen, 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), Pat Anderson (2012), Maxine Edwards (2011), Caron Gruben (2013), Marshall Jenkins (2011), Susan Reggin (2012).*

For Information:

The Spiritual Development Team scheduled its next meeting for Saturday, March 12, 2011.

### **Ministry Support Team – Don Esa, 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: Don Esa (Moderator) (2012), Dayton Adams (2013), Jack Foley (2013), Judy Greeson (2011), Lisa Marie Haygood (2012), Maryellen Hittel (2011).*

For Information:

The Ministry Support Team met on March 8, 2011.

MINISTRY SUPPORT TEAM report for the March 22, 2011 Presbytery Meeting packet

1. The Ministry Support Team has established the 2011 presbytery budget. It will be submitted to the Coordinating Team for its approval and then included in the supplementary presbytery packet.
  - a. Pledges from churches were down about 20 percent this year, attributed to the weak economy which has affected most churches' budgets.
  - b. Staff salaries have been put on hold again for 2011.
  - c. The presbytery had more than \$30,000 in surplus income in 2010. This allowed us to recommend this year's budget with a deficit. Many teams have not used all their budgets in the past two years. We believe we will break even in 2011 even with reduced income.
2. The presbytery has renewed the loan on the Paulding County property. We continue to try to sell this property.
3. Trinity church in Canton presented expansion plans to the committee, including an education wing and a multi-purpose (gym) building. More details are still expected before final approval is requested of the presbytery.
4. A communications task force continues research on a potential media campaign and reassessing the presbytery's website.

### **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), Mary Gilreath (2013), Jon Hayes (2012), Heather Perrin (2011), Mark Thompson (2011), John Wells (2012), John Zavitz (2013), Vacancy in Class of 2011, Vacancy in Class of 2012, Kelly Howington – Executive Director of Cherokee Retreat Center, Ex Officio.*

For Information:

The Retreat Center Board of Directors met on November 16, 2010, and January 18, 2011. Minutes of the meetings have been submitted to the Stated Clerk for inclusion in presbytery minutes (**Attachment J, pages 27-30**).

#### **Future Presbytery Meetings:**

Tuesday, May 24, 2011, 10:00 a.m. – Cherokee Retreat Center, White, GA

Saturday, July 23, 2011, 10:00 a.m. – Providence Presbyterian Church, Dallas, GA

Tuesday, September 27, 2011, 5:30 p.m. - open

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

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Velma C. Tilley, Moderator

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Rebecca M. Blackwell, Stated Clerk

## COM 2011 Annual Report on Ministerial Compensation

Active Minister	Members	Salary	Housing	Pension-	Equiv	Auto/Prof	Study &	Other
	2010		& Utilities	Medical	½ SS	Expense	Books Exp	
Araujo, Cido	475	20,055		9354	1534	1650		800
Bayerl, Paul	75/21	24,500	14,850	13,650	3010	3500	800	
Beltzner, Denise	2233	37,000	30,000		5125	2500	800	
Bogar, Fritz	126	29,605	19,000	16,571	4026		2400	
*Brice, Joe	148	<b>18,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>4730</b>	<b>3290</b>	<b>3500</b>	<b>1200</b>	<b>9920</b>
Choi, Byeongho	663	17,960	29,500	yes	yes	11,000	13,500	dental
Craft, Ed	37	8521	10,000		1300		300	
Downing, Tyler	573	38,853	18,630	18,107	4397	3500	2000	
Foley, Jack	96	15,855	22,939	13,829	3358	5110	3000	
Ford, Bill	475	47,250	31,500	26,023	3615	3000	1500	
*Grove, Dave	96	<b>33,075</b>	<b>5,733</b>	<b>yes</b>	<b>4845</b>	<b>4128</b>	<b>1100</b>	
Gunter, Keith	2233	42,500	22,500			3300	800	
Gunter, Sid	467	42,000	31,518	24,417	2716	8881	2500	675
Harris, Bryant	490	56,997	20,325	yes	5915	2450	1850	
Hittel, Maryellen	83	23,460	16,800	13,312	1579	6900		1200
Jensen, Julie	634	43,000	16,000	16,430	4017	1000	1120	
*Laughlin, Ben	175	<b>30,500</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>19,058</b>	<b>4628</b>	<b>5000</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>200</b>
Lim, Peter	663	8000	31,350	12,395	3010	10,000		2562
Martin, John	112	38,117	18,100	yes	yes	3500	800	
McConnell, Tim	565	49,000	32,000	25,515	6197	4900	2000	3740
Pina, Lucas	118	18,000	26,000	14,811	3366	3500	800	
*Reggin, Susan	52	<b>14,401</b>	<b>25,489</b>	<b>yes</b>	<b>3289</b>	<b>4393</b>	<b>1200</b>	<b>3000</b>
Scott, Carol	157	54,986				7728		
Shealy, Mickey	573	60,000	25,000	26,775	6502	5500	4000	
Smith, Ted	634	40,214	34,596	27,345	6641	1113	2173	12,000
Spangler, John	65	12,437	32,112	14,033	3408	2746	550	
Stoker, Ron	418	42,250	22,750	20,475	4973	3500	800	1217
Terrell, Kenneth	234	35,700	28,800	21,105	3600	4820	1000	2831
Ullmann, Pete	161	24,500	20,500	14,850	3442	3500	800	600
Wade, Carol	61	25,300	14,850	12,647	3071	4500	800	
Waskey, Jack	31		9,000	12,637			100	
Wells, John	2233	67,000			5024	2000	800	

Non-parish (NP) or At-large (AL) reports have been received from:

- |                                |                         |                       |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| ( x ) Rebecca Blackwell NP     | ( x ) Mike Jackson NP   | ( x ) Chuck Taber AL  |
| ( ) Sam Bridges (military) NP  | ( x ) Ray Jones NP      | ( ) Debbie Wells NP   |
| ( x ) Don Esa AL               | ( x ) Zeta Lamberson AL | ( x ) Taekhan Yoon AL |
| ( x ) Darrell Guder NP         | ( x ) Janet Looby AL    |                       |
| ( x ) Steve Hayner NP          | ( x ) Dan Nail NP       |                       |
| ( x ) Sam Henderson AL         | ( x ) Jose Pezini NP    |                       |
| ( ) David Horton (military) NP | ( x ) George Stroup NP  |                       |

**\*Denotes 2010 figures**

Stated Supply/Interim/NCD Tim Dunn (missionary serving out of bounds), Julie Ferguson (SS), Young Jeon (Tentmaker), Daewang Kim (NCD), Roger Kvam (HR, SS), George Mitchell (SS), O. Gregory Moore (SS), Cyndi Parr (Interim), Pete Paulsen (SS), Bridget Waddell (SS), Ken Waddell (SS), Tom Wood (Interim)

Honorably Retired: Herschel Allen, Tino Ballesteros, Ewell Black, Jack Bunkley, Bert Carmichael, Pem Cooley, Archie Davis, Maxine Edwards, Tim Erskine, Bob Farrow, Charles Feast, Eleana Garrett, David Glauner, Catherine Gonzalez, Jenny Hammett, Bill Hammond, Rod Hunter, Walter Jones, Jin Hoon Kim, Homer Kimmons, Roger Kvam, Gaspar Langella, Ed Langham, Larry Lewis, Stuart Leyden, Jake Marshall, Roger Martin, Elizabeth McAliley, David McDonald, Dick Neelly, Van Nesbit, Jan Rhodes, Tom Rogers, Frank Sapp, Mary Kay Sapp, Cuyler Smith, Jim Speed, John Tarrant, Gil Ward, Jack Waskey (3/1/11), Frank Weathersby, Charles Weaver, Thurston Wilson, Donn Wright

**31 + 17 + 12 + 44 = 104**

**COM 2011 Annual Report on Ministerial Compensation Word.doc**

## ***JOURNEY OF FAITH***

### **REGINALDO P. BRAGA, JR.**

### **ACWORTH, GA, FALL 2010**

Being born to an abused and abandoned Christian woman, daughter of a Baptist pastor, in Northeastern Brazil of the late sixties gave me, from the onset of my life, the crucial themes of my faith journey. Revelation, redemption and reconciliation, *have been*, from the beginning, determining themes in my life.

I still remember the backyard of our apartment building. I was 7, and Recife's blue sky of that Saturday morning was beautiful. The neighbors' kids had gathered *in the yard* to play ball, a boyish ritual that gathered boys and fathers in *that particular time in our country*. That was the Brazil of the 70's, three times world soccer champion, with a reportedly economic miracle in the making, and a tune of nationalism *carrying all of us*. All of that positive, or shall I say Positivist energy, *was* happening hand in hand with the military dictatorship that was *rupturing* the constitutional order and *implanting* an estate of grandiloquence in the public sphere, and of dungeons, and repression *in civil society*. At that time this was also a Brazil of full masculinity with full -fledged militarism, authoritarianism and conservatism. The soccer ritual of that morning was then a *much bigger script than I had the capacity to be aware of*; it brought our national issues on a *collision course* with my family's issues. No wonder why I, without a father to join me, was mocked for coming to play ball alone: no father, just a mother who had stayed at the apartment *to care for the chorus of household demands*. "No father? Why don't you bring your mom to play with us!" The episode had such a *deflating* effect on that 7 year old boy *that when he went back to the apartment, he did what he had learned to do so far, he kept it to himself and opened it all in prayers in his bedroom*. Prayer time, learned from Sunday School, came in a concrete way to connect the Scriptures and *my living* in my earliest experience of what I would later call a confessing faith. In prayers, that child opened the Scriptures to read *and found* the psalmist saying that (even) "when my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up." The idea of a God, that would engage in concrete situations of life, that could be found in the scriptures and in prayers, and that could adopt a child, turning him into a man, redeeming him from his condition of abandonment was trans-formative to me. A sovereign, redeeming, loving God that we could know with our own feet (i.e. know God by walking with God) began to reveal Godself to me.

The centrality of the Scriptures, the nurture of prayer and the/my new special relationship to God would dominate the following years in a series of variations of the previous themes revealing the importance of the Church as a community of Life. During these formative years I worked in my local congregation, in the regional church, and in the ecumenical efforts of other Christian bodies, particularly in missions and evangelism. The result was a very early sense of call to ministry with an accompanying shaping of identity while I experienced more and more the local and global dimensions of the Body of Christ. Baptized and confirmed, my later adolescence found me struggling with the earlier and now present sense of a call to ministry. Ordained and installed as associate pastor of my home congregation in May 1992, now teaching at our seminary, away from engineering, I would see the beginning of my pastoral ministry as a profound challenge to continue relating my personal faith to my profession of faith in the coming of new realities for our country. My teaching led me to increasingly relate theological reflection and art primarily in literature. These explorations also marked my ministry at SETE (Society of Evangelical Theological Students) a ministry of SEPAL (Service for the Evangelization of Latin America). As I led regional, and later national, theological reflection gatherings for seminarians, I began to relate to the national and continental theological tasks along the lines of the Lausanne movement. The ministry evolved into participation with FTL (Latin American Theological Fraternity) and invitations to Latin American gatherings like Clade III in Quito in 1992, and an invitation to serve as Brazil's Executive Secretary for FTL. The themes of revelation, redemption and reconciliation and its several variations had continued and had now evolved increasingly into a larger, more complex notion of world, peoples, cultures, and certainly of the human condition. I remember writing after Clade III, that there I received a 'shower' of "latinidad".

Invited to move to teach at the Presbyterian Seminary in Campinas São Paulo, God's movement lead me to accept the offer of Princeton Theological Seminary for my second Master's in Theology. Here new variations of old themes presented themselves in powerful ways. Identity and all its components presented themselves, in fact, as a variation of the themes shared before, revelation *presented new aspects* for me to explore, as did redemption and reconciliation. This point became much clear even to me during my years in Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). Serving on a full year of CPE at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick, NJ was a mighty formative experience in my spiritual journey and in my pastoral development. That is so because it offered an opportunity to relate the various themes of my spiritual journey. In fact experiences lived during that time would inform my later research for my doctoral program.

Reflecting back, the kid from Recife, embarked on some of the most transformative encounters of his life, Princeton, CPE, and then Columbia University – Union Theological Seminary in New York City were in fact an ever growing collection of experiences and of challenges to the core elements of my being and faith. Never before had I appreciated how real/strong and pervasive my "nurturing" themes of revelation, redemption and reconciliation were in what I lived and did. Faith more and more became an active-passive factor initiated in God, and yet actively creating that which existed around me in successive professions, professions of faith. This has sustained me in the traumatic experience of my mother's death back in 2001, the completing of my dissertation, my pastoral years creating a multicultural congregation in the heart of the Upper-West Side of

Manhattan, my departure from there, my new ministry in Yonkers South, my marriage and my initial years teaching at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta. The variations of these themes have led me to discern a constant and embracing “tune”, a dear and central theme of my understanding of myself as a Reformed Christian: grace. My journey of faith has me “faithing”, i.e., confessing into existence these themes and their variations of revelation, redemption, and reconciliation into this gigantic evolving drama of grace. My journey I believe thus far, has brought me to probing into the depths, wideness, heights, indeed the being of the Grace of God in Christ my Lord, savior and friend, through the ministration of the Holy Spirit.

## **STATEMENT OF CALL**

**REGINALDO P. BRAGA, JR.**  
**ACWORTH, GA, FALL 2010**

A short statement of my sense of call is yet another instance of the confessional character of our faith, thus it is provisional, historic and human. My sense of call is thus deeply rooted in both my journey of faith as well as my statement of faith. It makes plain the centrality of the themes of revelation, redemption and reconciliation in the probing and experiencing of God’s grace. It enforces the vision that a confessional faith is once again professing a faith that wills into reality the expected and created new realities of God’s new world order.

Thus I believe that I am called to God’s redeeming work in Jesus Christ that embraces the whole of humankind’s life: social and cultural, economic and political, scientific and technological, individual and corporate. This work includes humanity’s natural environment as exploited and despoiled by sin. It is the will of God that God’s purpose for human life shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ and all evil be banished from God’s creation. (9.53)

With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God. (9.54)

Therefore I see myself together with the community of faith (life) in Jesus Christ, working through preaching and teaching, praise and prayer, baptism and communion working for the reconciliation of the whole creation with God, through Jesus Christ my Lord, and through the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

I see myself especially challenged by and with the realities of increasing globalism, virtual relations, rampant migration, towards the appearance of a world order shaped by multicultural, multiethnic and multiracial consciousness;

I see myself especially challenged by the ever growing hegemonic, fundamentalist, dimensions and expression of empire, that obliterates God’s plan of reconciliation in justice for consumerist, commodifying and egotistic institutions, social orders, and religious practices;

I see myself specially challenged by the ever growing forgetfulness of being. The eroding public space, civil society and life world (Habermas), effectively disabling the discernment of real human interests and relationality is an all pervasive reality challenging the vision of the church as a community of faith (life) rather than a depersonalized corporation, or religious club.

As a result I believe that confessing reconciliation today means that our Presbyterian witness must engage in multicultural ministries, in peace, reconciliation and justice ministries throughout the US and the world, and fashion the church as a community of confessing (affirming and willing into reality) faith.

I believe that my particular talents and call equip me to work in both local congregation and higher education.

“Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.” (9.56)

# STATEMENT OF FAITH

**REGINALDO P. BRAGA, JR.  
ACWORTH, GA, FALL 2010**

My statement of faith is based on a confessing practice of faith that is rooted in my journey of faith. This statement expresses my commitment to a faith which not only affirms but also wills into existence through expectation and construction the new reality of the Kingdom of God. Such view is first in tune with its confessional character, thus provisional, historic, and human (9.03); and second finds its language and articulation in conversation with the confessions of past and present times, as the Scots, Helvetic, Westminster, Barmen, 1967, Belhar and Accra Confessions.

In life and in death and throughout eternity I belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, I trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of the Jewish and Christian Scriptures, whom alone I worship and serve.

I trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

In Jesus Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself. Jesus Christ is God with man. He is the eternal Son of the Creator, who became man and lived among us to fulfill the work of reconciliation. Jesus Christ is present in the church by the power of the Holy Spirit to continue and complete his mission. This work of God, the Father (Creator), Son, and Holy Spirit, is the foundation of all confessional statements about God, humankind, and the world. Therefore, the church calls the whole humanity to be reconciled to God, to one another and to the whole creation.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving His life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

I trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But humankind rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.

I believe that,

God has revealed Godself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;

God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged;

God calls the church to follow him in this, for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;

God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind;

God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly;

For God pure and undefiled religion is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering;

God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right (Deut. 32:4; Luke 2:14; John 14:27; Eph. 2:14; Isa. 1:16-17; James 1:27; James 5:1-6; Luke 1:46-55; Luke 6:20-26; Luke 7:22; Luke 16:19-31; Ps. 146; Luke 4:16-19; Rom. 6:13-18; Amos 5);

The Church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream;

that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.

I trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

God the Holy Spirit fulfills the work of reconciliation in humankind. The Holy Spirit creates and renews the church as the community in which the whole creation is reconciled to God and to one another. He enables them to receive forgiveness as they forgive one another and to enjoy the peace of God as they make peace among themselves. In spite of their sin, God gives them power to become representatives of Jesus Christ and his gospel of reconciliation to all creation.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, I affirm with the Brief Statement of Faith, the Confession of 1967, the Belhar Confession and with the Accra Confession, that I strive to serve Christ in my daily tasks and to live holy and joyful life, even as I together with his church watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, I rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Creator, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen

**Ana Sara Garcia da Silva Pinto**

### **Autobiographical Sketch**

I was born into a Christian family. My father has been a minister since the first day I met him. He was what we would call, an evangelist, and would be in a Church for only a year at a time. He would be called to fix what he could and prepare the Church for a real Pastor. I do not remember much about that phase of my life, or our life, I should say. What I do remember, however, is when we actually moved to the Presbyterian Seminary of Campinas, São Paulo in Brazil. It was time for my father to become a real Pastor.

Us, kids had a good time playing with the other children in the Seminary and the four years went by quickly. However, this was not the time where my call started to be shaped into what it is today. The time when I started to believe God was calling me for ministry was when my parents received their call for missions. I did not have even the smallest idea of what that really meant. I had mixed feelings: excitement to go to another country, but at the same time, sadness to leave the friendships I had made and the rest of my family.

The seed that had been planted in my heart earlier was now turning into a plant. I was falling in love with this people and sharing the gospel with them. I was around missionaries all day. We all lived in a big house and I heard them talking about their calls to other countries and to serve the Lord with their lives. Besides the Church that my father planted there was also a Mission School to train the missionaries.

As the Church grew in number and maturity, so did I. Many people said I matured too fast. But the reality is that God's calling for my life was the one maturing in me. I started teaching the children Sunday Bible School when I was only thirteen years old and did it for five years. This however, was not the regular Sunday Bible School class: we had around sixty to seventy kids per week. Besides the children I later got involved into the youth ministry and additionally the worship team.

At this point I already knew God was calling me to serve him with my life; just as those missionaries talked about. My heart hurt to know that so many people needed Jesus and I could not help them all at once. The eight years we spent in Bolivia were the foundation for all that God began in my life, but of course, He was not nearly done with me. After moving from Bolivia we lived two years in Brazil and after those two years I applied to Berea College here in the US.

The two years spent in Brazil were very similar to those in Bolivia. I was working with children in three different Churches, youth, music, drama, Bible studies and just anywhere I could help. I also had the opportunity there to attend the Discipleship Training School with *Youth With A Mission*. It was another confirmation that God was calling me to serve Him and I knew at this point that I needed to prepare myself. I needed to get trained in order to be ready to answer my call.

Berea College welcomed me and I used the opportunity to its fullest. I got involved with Intervarsity and opened a Hispanic Ministry with a couple other women. God again had placed me in the midst of people that had a passion for Him and partnering with Him for the benefit of His kingdom. Columbia Theological Seminary is the continuation of this training process. I do not know for sure what God has in store for me after Seminary. I never thought I would be here today, but I know that God has control over all and will lead me. My heart burns with compassion for souls in need of God and I will serve Him as He pleases, for the rest of my life.

**Ana Sara Garcia da Silva Pinto**

### **Faith Statement**

I believe in God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God is the creator of all things. I believe in the authority of the Bible and that it is inspired by God. I believe we are justified by faith and saved by God's grace. God sent God's only son to die for our sins. I understand that all believers are priests and called to make disciples and join God in His mission in the world.

I believe in the Sovereignty of God and in the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the head of the Church. As the Church we worship and fellowship together, promoting spiritual growth and maturity. In Communion we remember Jesus' sacrifice and affirm: Jesus Christ is preparing a place for us and will come again to take with Him, His Church.

Raphael Pinto

## Autobiographical Sketch

I have firm belief that nothing occurs without reason, culminating into the preparation which God desires for us to become vessels of His work, guiding us with the Holy Spirit to utilize our experiences and that which we have learned from them to assist others through the various journeys of life. It is with this stance which I continue to pursue preparation to do His work in the various seasons of my life to whatever ministries He so leads me to partake of. I can reach into my past and already begin to see His hand at work in preparation of my person to current ministries that I lead.

Having immigrated to this country at the age of seven I found myself split in two different worlds. The dominant reality was that of my new surroundings, one which I had to learn to understand. Apart from the language barrier and the discrimination (both cultural and financial) I had to battle with my continuing adaptation of finding a median between my familiar Brazilian life and my new American one. I found myself as a lone child within a very small community of Brazilians, where I initially felt the most comfortable, but was constantly drawn to the mainstream churches with their masses of children and activities that I could partake of. This caused the cultural rift within me to only grow and develop into isolation problems due to difficulties with fitting in to either group.

In the early middle school days of my life the isolation began to fade and I began to have a foothold into my identity, not as a Brazilian, nor an American, but as myself, a child of God whom was created with purpose and drive. Throughout my middle and high school I was deeply involved with the church and evangelism, and also created deep rooted friendships which became brotherhoods that stand till this day.

During my undergraduate studies I was submersed in studies and work. Holding a full time job to assist my family and studying full time led to understand the need for careful balancing of work, studies and ministry. After having graduated from Georgia State University I continued to work, becoming a partner at my work. This time in my life was one which God really used to wake me up to His lead. I had been following my own dreams and desires since high school, and though my heart was ever extended in helping others, I was satisfied with being a good person. I was soon shaken out of my pettiness, and began being more involved with the church, and was soon leading the youth and teen ministries and once again playing on the praise team. After some time I realized that I was being extremely fulfilled working with the church and decided to pursue a deeper involvement in that realm, which ultimately brought me to continue my studies at Columbia Theological Seminary. While working with the Brazilian church I have been part of the praise and worship team since the church began. Being part of this congregation has also allowed me to participate in the liturgy, children's ministries, Sunday school, VBS, and as a couple Ana and I have led the youth and teen ministries, leading studies, mission trips, fundraisers, entertainment activities and multiple thematic weekend and week retreats.

During the past year God began to call Ana and I to a need in the community which Ana and I had begun hearing about before we got married in 2009. The needs of the youth and teens range loudly to us, and we received affirmation of this ministry last year as we prayed for discernment and guidance. We began L2 Reaction (living love reaction) towards the end of last year so that we could work with multiple churches from various denominations to create the support that many congregations did not have. Lacking resources, trained leaders and many times perspectives, various churches approached us with the call for assistance. Hearing this call we responded and have begun working as missionaries in this ministry as of 2011.

Raphael Pinto

## Statement of Faith

I believe in the Holy Triune God, equal in all parts, God the Creator, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. In an abundance of grace and love God become flesh, as the incarnated Jesus Christ whom was born of the virgin Mary, lived life as a fully human, fully divine being, ministered in a life without sin, guiding us by example and by teachings, was crucified as the perfect sacrifice of atonement for our sins, resurrected on the third day and reigns for all eternity. The sacrifice made for us by Jesus Christ is what permits us to be in unity with the Sovereign God.

Through the mediation and guidance of the Holy Spirit we are all called to be in relationship with God and to serve God to the capacities and seasons in which we are called. As one single church upon the earth we are asked to live out a life of servitude to God looking upon Jesus Christ as our exemplary model in which we strive to love and serve as He did. We have been given the Bible as the living Word of God in whose truth lies the authority of our beliefs.

Being created as relational beings, we are to be seeking to be evermore closer to God, but also to each other, living the example of love which He has set for us. By the empowerment of the Holy Spirit we are called to extend our hands to those in physical, emotional and spiritual need so that God can work through us for His glory as living vessels of His power.

STEPHEN FEARING

As I attempt to describe my “calling” to ordained ministry, I must first admit and rejoice in the fact that this “calling” is an ever-going process whose outcome is, for the time being, unknown to me. All I can affirm is that I am pursuing the direction which I believe God is pulling me toward. Furthermore, I am continually doing my best to assess this pursuit and the direction in which it places me with intentional listening and discernment.

The beginning of my theological growth and faith journey began in the youth program at First Presbyterian Church of Dalton, Georgia. Although I had always grown up in the faith in this congregation, it was first through the leadership of my dear friend and mentor John Ryan (my youth director at the time) that I began to form my faith into something beyond a simple embedded theology. I was taught to ask the difficult questions and to not be discouraged but rather be faithfully encouraged by the lack of simple answers to my theological queries. Through this struggle, I was taught to “wrestle” with my faith and join with those around me in growing as the Body of Christ so that we might continue to serve and love the God who first loved us!

After high school, I went on to receive my bachelors degree at Presbyterian College with a major in Religion. Throughout my college career, as I continued my studies in theology, I experienced severe depression and struggled with the relationships that I had fostered throughout the past four years. It was during this time that I began to understand with greater clarity the importance of being part of a Christian community. I learned that faith is not an individual action but rather a communal participation in and with those both inside and outside of the “Church.”

I feel called to ordained ministry. More importantly, however, I feel called to continue my struggle with God. I feel called to continually engage in the struggles that have led me to where I am while trusting that they, in turn, will shape me into the disciple I was called and am being called to be each day! I feel called to love others by listening, learning, and loving! How to do that best, I do not know. What I do know and trust is that I will continue to be a part of a loving community that has supported me and will continue to support me for all of eternity. What role I will play in that community so that I can reciprocate that love and support is yet to be determined. Faith, I believe, is the never-ending journey to continually reform our understanding of what it means to be a disciple of the Risen Christ!

February 28, 2011

## ADVICE AND COUNSEL MEMORANDUM

TO: Cherokee Presbytery  
 FROM: The Presbytery's Committee On Representation (COR)  
 ABOUT: Advice and counsel on the Proposed Amendments to the Constitution--Part 1 of 3:  
 Foundations of Presbyterian Polity and Form of Government (nFOG)

COR does not choose to provide advice and counsel on the merits of a "yes" or "no" vote regarding the proposed nFOG taken as a whole.

But COR does choose to provide advice and counsel on Cherokee Presbytery's subsequent and faithful responsibilities should nFOG be approved by a majority of the PC (USA) presbyteries.

COR's advice and counsel is rooted in the evident reality that approval of nFOG will affirm a churchwide weakening of the PC(USA)'s longstanding biblical-theological-polity positions regarding matters of diversity, inclusion, fair representation, Affirmative Action-Equal Employment Opportunity issues, etc. among and for all members of the denomination.

**With what it says and what it omits or fails to say, nFOG proposes an overall diminished sense of commitment, clarity, and continuity regarding all of these foundational principles and statements of polity and governance.**

Regarding a diminished sense of commitment and clarity, nFOG briefly speaks (at F-1.0403) of unity in diversity and (at F-1.0404) of openness in the church. But those statements lack the depth and breadth of extant statements (G-4.0400 and G-3.0401, etc.) in the current Form of Government.

Regarding a diminished sense not only of commitment and clarity but also of continuity, nFOG proposes that all councils above the session shall provide ways to fulfill unity in diversity and openness in the church. But precious few if any details are provided about the who, what, when, where, how, and why involved in fulfilling such functions. In fact, each council is left to its own desires and devices to develop such procedures and mechanisms in a manual of operations. Consequently, there will be precious little continuity from one council of the church to another regarding these foundational principles of polity and governance in the PC(USA).

Therefore, at a minimum, should nFOG be approved by a majority of the presbyteries, Cherokee Presbytery will need faithfully to consider the variety of questions and options suggested (nFOG, pages 73-74) with regard to "policies and procedures guide for the work of the presbytery." Current related material in Cherokee Presbytery's Manual of Operations (especially chapter 15: Committee on Representation) will be both outdated and inadequate, thus contributing to a further diminished sense of commitment, clarity, and continuity regarding the public claims of faith which we and the rest of the PC(USA) have made about ourselves.

**In the final analysis, the advice and counsel of COR is that Cherokee Presbytery, guided by the Holy Spirit and Scriptures, do everything in its power to affirm in word and deed, as matters of theology and polity, that the church, which consists of all baptized believers, shall reflect and demonstrate inclusive welcome, rich diversity, fair representation, and full participation for the whole people of God.**

**COR re nFOG--1A**

MINUTES OF COMMISSION TO INSTALL TIMOTHY P. MCCONNELL  
Sunday, January 30, 2011, 4:30 p.m., Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Marietta

The Commission of Cherokee Presbytery appointed to install the Reverend Dr. Timothy P. McConnell as Pastor of Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Marietta, Georgia, met on Sunday, January 30, 2011, in the pastor's study at Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Marietta, Georgia.

The meeting was called to order with prayer at by Rev. Ken Terrell.

Ken Terrell was elected Moderator for the Commission, and Debbie Wells was elected Clerk.

The following members were present:

Ministers: Dave Grove, Ken Terrell, Debbie Wells

Elders: Doug Allen (Marietta First), Paul Johnson (Mars Hill)

Participating Guest Ministers: Tom Goodrich, Jonathan Miller

The Commission approved the order for worship, which included a sermon preached by Rev. Tom Goodrich.

The Commission adjourned to the sanctuary with the consensus that the Benediction of the worship service would serve as closing for the meeting.

The offering was designated to provide emergency assistance to clergy, including shared grants through the Board of Pensions.

The Constitutional Questions were propounded to the minister by Elder/Moderator Velma Tilley and were answered in the affirmative. The Constitutional Questions, asked of the congregation by Elder Diane Brock, were answered in the affirmative.

The Prayer of Installation was offered by Rev. David Grove.

The Rev. Dr. Timothy McConnell was pronounced duly installed according to the provisions of the Book of Order. A Charge was given to the minister by Dr. Jonathan Miller and to the Congregation by Rev. David Grove.

The service was closed with the benediction pronounced by the newly installed minister.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie Wells, Clerk

**MINUTES OF COMMISSION TO INSTALL RON STOKER**

Sunday, February 27, 2011, 4:00 p.m., Macland Presbyterian Church, Powder Springs, Georgia

The Commission of Cherokee Presbytery appointed to install the Reverend Ron Stoker as Pastor of Macland Presbyterian Church, met on Sunday, February 27, 2011, in the church library at Macland Presbyterian Church, Powder Springs, Georgia.

The meeting was called to order with prayer at 3:40 p.m. by Rev. Ken Terrell.

Ken Terrell was elected Moderator for the Commission, and Rebecca Blackwell was elected Clerk.

The following members were present:

Ministers Ken Terrell, Rebecca Blackwell, Denise Beltzner

Elders Carol Osborne (Providence), Marion Savic (Macland)

Other Invitees: Rev. Jim Speed, Honorably Retired Minister Member of Cherokee Presbytery

The Commission approved the order for worship, which included a sermon preached by Rev. Ken Terrell.

The Commission adjourned to the sanctuary with the consensus that the Benediction of the worship service would serve as closing for the meeting.

Rev. Jim Speed was liturgist for the service.

The Constitutional Questions were propounded to the minister by Rev. Rebecca Blackwell.

The Prayer of Installation was offered by Carol Osborne.

The Declaration of Installation was pronounced by Carol Osborne and the Commission greeted the newly installed minister on behalf of the Presbytery.

A Charge was given to the minister by Rev. Denise Beltzner and to the Congregation by Elder Marion Savic.

The Benediction was pronounced by the newly installed minister.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rebecca Blackwell, Clerk

## PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT

	<b>Jan - Feb 11</b>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
44009 · Budgeted Receipts	52,706.66
47000 · Cherokee Retreat Center Income	52,028.98
48000 · Berry College Ministry Income	3,000.00
49000 · Kennesaw State Univ. Ministry Income	2,541.68
<b>Total Income</b>	110,277.32
<b>Expense</b>	
51304 · Office Renovation Loan	4,038.74
51216 · Presbytery Office Operating Expense	5,219.13
52201 · Designated/ Capital/ Debt	5,299.48
49300 · Kennesaw State Univ. Operation Expense	2,541.68
48300 · Berry Campus Operation Expense	3,000.00
51000 · Salaries & Benefits	26,551.89
51600 · Spiritual Development Team	69.45
54105 · Committee on Ministry	121.88
56500 · Cherokee Retreat Center	37,500.00
57000 · Cherokee Retreat Center Expense	39,100.83
60001 · Payroll Expenses	25.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	123,468.08
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	-13,190.76
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-13,190.76</b>

## Balance Sheet

	<b>Feb 28, 11</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Checking/Savings	412,432.77
Other Current Assets	3,946.50
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	416,379.27
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	4,599,010.61
<b>Other Assets</b>	300,041.29
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>5,315,431.17</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Accounts Payable	1,100.00
Other Current Liabilities	-959.03
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	140.97
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>	573,088.35
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	573,229.32
<b>Equity</b>	4,742,201.85
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>5,315,431.17</b>

## 2011 Unified and Per Capita Pledges Received/Paid

Church	Unified Pledged	Per Capita Pledged	Unified Received	Per Capita Received
Acworth				
Beersheba	4,200.00			
Bethany	9,000.00	5523.00	1,500.00	920.25
Brazilian Christian				
Calhoun	8,820.00		1,470.00	269.98
Calvary	8,862.00	519.10	1,477.00	86.52
Cartersville First	40,000.00	5,647.45	3,333.32	865.72
Cedartown			416.67	79.06
Chickamauga	660.00	393.80	660.00	393.80
Christ Fellowship				
Cloudland				384.85
Cohutta				
Covenant	12,000.00	2,058.50	2,000.00	343.08
Dalton First	54,000.00		13,500.00	
Deer Creek Shores	3,000.00	1,002.40		
Eastminster	30,000.00	5,146.25	2,500.00	428.85
Euharlee				
Faith Canton	6,400.00	465.40		
Faith North Georgia	1,100.00	492.25	275.00	492.25
Grace				
Heritage			5,000.04	4,394.60
John Knox				
Kirkwood	7,200.00	1,238.40	1,200.00	206.15
LaFayette	3,000.00	300.00		
Macland	4,500.00			
Marietta First	110,000.00	15,000.00	18,333.34	
Mars Hill	3,000.00	4,385.50	500.00	730.90
Menlo	1,000.00	116.35		
Morton Memorial				268.50
New Lebanon	10,000.00		1,666.00	
Parkway	2,000.00		500.00	500.00
Providence	2,000.00			577.00
Ray-Thomas Memorial				
Rockmart	7,200.00	751.80		
Silver Creek	1,200.00	425.00	200.00	70.84
Sixes	1,000.00			
Southminster	3,300.00	984.54	550.00	164.09
Summerville				
Trinity	500.00	384.85		384.85
Westminster	5,000.00	2,864.00	1,256.00	710.50
Woodlawn	600.00	626.50	150.00	156.63
Woodstock	3,600.00	456.45		456.45
Miscellaneous Receipts			1,086.00	
<b>Totals 3/7/11</b>	<b>343,142.00</b>	<b>48,781.54</b>	<b>57,573.37</b>	<b>12,884.87</b>

## Cherokee Presbytery Loan Worksheet

Church Name	Loan Amount	Balance	Loan Date	Maturity Date	Next Reset Date	Bank	Rate %	Monthly Payment	Co-sign By Pby.	Pd. By Pby	Pd. By Tri-Pby	Pd. By Church	Up-date
Acworth	200,716	181,681	7/19/06			NW	6.75	1582				x	3/10
Beersheba	No Loans												
Bethany 10244706	300,000	274,888	3/18/08	3/25/28		PCUSA	5.25	2022	x			x	12/10
Bethany 33021909	197,000	10,686	10/17/89	12/28/11		PCUSA	6.25	2212		X pass thru			12/10
Brazilian Christian	?												
Calhoun 1026807	920,000	905,235	1/16/08	5/1/30	5/1/12	PCUSA	5.52	6339	x			x	12/10
Calvary 10223603	150,000	Paid in Full	12/15/92	1/25/13		PCUSA	6.00	1125	x			x	12/10
Cartersville	414,000	414,000	Int. Only			?	4.00					x	12/10
Cedartown	No Loans												12/10
Chickamauga	No Loans												12/10
Christ Fellowship	No Loans												12/10
Cloudland	No Loans												12/10
Cohutta	No Loans												12/10
Covenant	No Loans												12/10
Dalton	No Loans												12/10
Deer Creek	?												
Dawsonville 5036129809	35,000	Paid in Full	6/4/09	6/4/11 9/1/10		United Comm.	5.00	60 Int. only	x			x	9/10
Dawsonville 1022405	400,000	337,123	2/3/06	3/1/26		PILP	6.00	2870			x		12/10
Eastminster	?1,330,995	1,330,995					6.75						12/10
Euharlee	No Loans												12/10
Faith N. GA	No Loans												12/10
Faith Canton	No Loans												
Heritage #1	1,414,386	1,387,252	8/20/04	6/22/12		Atlanta Business	7.60	10,938				x	12/10
Heritage #2	669,635	656,789	6/30/04	6/22/12		Atlanta Business	7.60	5179				x	12/10
John Knox	? 117,000	117,000					5.9						12/10
Kirkwood	43,374	25,000	7/2/08	6/15/11 Balloon		BB&T	4.75	1043				x	12/10
LaFayette	?												
Macland 11169006	78,500	22,600	5/25/93	4/28/13		PCUSA	6.25	881		x			12/10
Macland	2,200,000	2,000,000	3/2/05			Wachovia	5.5	15,687				x	12/10
Marietta	No Loans												
Mars Hill	?												
Menlo	No Loans												
Morton Mem.	No Loans												
New Lebanon	No Loans												
Pby. Office Renovation 712302	98,401	24,600	3/27/07	3/27/12		Bartow Co.	8.25	2019		x			2/11
Parkway	2,452,295	2,342,744	7/1/08	7/1/13		Signature	6.5	16,705				x	12/10
Parkway 33039300	400,000	Paid in Full	12/12/97	12/24/17		PCUSA	6.00	3375			x		2/11
Providence 5080201638	200,000 92 Property	153,996	12/22/09	1/5/2011		United Comm.	6.51	2065		X Prin	X Int.		10/10
Providence 400246900	1,375,000 Building	823,735	12/19/05	10/19/12		Affinity	6.00	5944				X	12/10

Church Name	Loan Amount	Balance	Loan Date	Maturity Date	Next Reset Date	Bank	Rate %	Monthly Payment	Co-sign By Pby	Pd. By Pby	Pd. By Tri-Pby	Pd. By Church	
Ray-Thomas 33042206	350,000	216,330	12/6/99	12/25/19		PCUSA	5.00	2557	x			Paid by Bethany	12/10
Ray-Thomas 1004298	425,000	247,901	1/15/99	2/1/19		PCUSA	6.00	3209	x			Paid by Bethany	12/10
Rockmart	No Loans												
Silver Creek	No Loans												
Sixes 1021505	800,000	693,750	9/30/05	2/1/30		PCUSA	4.88	4662	x			x	12/10
Southminster 1011701	1,024,000	638,609	2/4/02	10/1/23		PCUSA	5.66	5925	x			x	12/10
Summerville	No Loans												
Trinity	No Loans												
Westminster	1,471,049	1,471,049					5.00						12/10
Woodlawn	No Loans												
Woodstock 6093804	300,000	149,637	3/6/96	3/25/21		PCUSA	5.50	1550	x			x	12/10
<b>Totals</b>	<b>17,366,351</b>	<b>14,425,599</b>											

(Updated 9/30/2010, 10/19/10, 12/10, 2/11)

## Cherokee Retreat Center Board of Directors Meeting November 16, 2010 7:00pm

**NEXT MEETING: January 18, 2011 7:00pm**

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**Roll Call:**

In attendance: Jon Hayes, Heather Perrin, Kelly Howington, Corrin Baines, John Wells (a quorum was present)

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**I. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00pm.

**II. Old Business**

Jon Hayes requested that the spelling of his name be corrected in the meeting minutes. (From John to Jon).

**III. General Discussion and New Business:**

1. Corrin welcomed Dan, who provided an introduction to fundraising and made terrific suggestions for our group to pursue.
2. Corrin recommended Kim Ellis for the Board
3. The January 2011 meeting will need to address committees, including the new Development Committee suggested by Dan.
4. Each Board member needs to provide no less than 10 names that the Development committee can solicit donations from. This needs to be to Heather by Thanksgiving.
5. At next meeting, consider Grandparent's Day at camp.
6. The Camp's 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be in 2012. We need to develop a calendar of events to celebrate throughout the year.
7. The January 2011 meeting will need to elect a new Chair, as John Wells will be stepping down (though he will still be a board member).
8. The board considered a resume from Jean Howington for the position of Program Director. Jean would report to the Board rather than to Kelly. The board unanimously voted to hire Jean Howington as the Program Director.

Our next meeting will be on January 18, 2011 at 7:00pm.  
Minutes respectfully submitted by Heather Perrin.

## Cherokee Retreat Center Board of Directors Meeting January 18, 2011 7:00pm

**NEXT MEETING: February 15, 2011 7:00pm**

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**Roll Call:**

In attendance: Jon Hayes, Heather Perrin, Kelly Howington, Corrin Baines, John Wells, Mark Thompson, Brian Enlow, Nate Marini, Mary Gilreath, John Zavitz, Jean Howington (a quorum was present)

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**IV. Call to Order:**

John Wells called the meeting to order at approximately 7:15pm.

**V. Old Business**

- a. This meeting is the first of the new year and a new chair and executive committee need be elected. John Wells is stepping down as Chair.
- b. After some discussion, the following persons were nominated for Board positions:
  - Nate Marini – Chair
  - Corrin Baines - Vice Chair
  - Heather Perrin – Secretary
  - Brian Enlow – Treasurer
  - All committee members were elected unanimously by acclamation.
- c. Jean Howington introduced herself as the new Program Director and the Board welcomed her and looks forward to having her assistance and expertise.
- d. Financial Status.
  - i. John Wells brought good news to the meeting - the Dalton church had pledged assistance to the CRC. The church is donating a good deal of the money specifically for missions like CRC. Broken down, they are giving \$72,000 to the Presbytery, 25% of that will be for missions (\$18,000), including the CRC, which will receive at least \$6,000. Also, the Presbytery finished the year with a \$50,000 surplus.
  - ii. Marietta FPC has pledged \$16,000 for the CRC this year.
  - iii. CRC finished the year in the black, though there were no surpluses.
- e. 2011 Budget.
  - i. Kelly went over the draft budget and changes from 2010.
  - ii. This year, we need to add a line item to purchase canoes with a plan to purchase one per year on a rotating basis until all 10-12 are continually being renewed (with the oldest being decommissioned and replaced).
    1. A motion was made to add canoes to the 2011 budget for \$3,000. The motion was seconded by Corrin and it carried unanimously.
  - iii. Payroll taxes should decrease this year (social security deductions are decreasing).

- iv. A cost-of-living raise is provided for the Camp Director in the 2011 budget.
- v. Camp Store.
  - 1. This is a new item that should be considered in order to generate income for the camp. Jean discussed the operation of the stores at other camps at the camp conference in Colorado, and it is generally thought to be a good investment that produces income with little initial outlay.
  - 2. The store would likely be placed near the kitchen.
  - 3. We need income/expense lines in the budget for the store.
  - 4. Parents could add money to a camper's account for the week for them to spend at the store. If there is money left over, the parent could elect to be paid the balance or donate it to camp.
  - 5. Change line 57306 in the budget from t-shirts to camp store and add an income line "Camp Store".
  - 6. This item needs \$3,000 to begin operation.
  - 7. Nate motioned to add the appropriate lines to the budget and the \$3,000 for the camp store. Brian seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
- vi. Heather moved to approve the 2011 Budget with the approved changes, Corrin seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.
- f. Board members were reminded of their duty to donate to CRC within their means as we are a full-participation Board.

**VI. General Discussion and New Business:**

- 9. Fundraising.
  - a. The Board discussed fundraising. To date, churches and the Presbytery have donated a total of \$72,000 (\$6,000 from Dalton, \$50,000 from Presbytery, and \$16,000 from FPC Marietta).
  - b. Heather noted that she still needs 10 names from each Board member to contact for donations. We are largely looking for persons who can donate larger sums (not likely parents of campers), or persons who have contacts with individuals who are interested in donating to non-profits like CRC. We are also looking for at least 7 committee members for a Fundraising subcommittee who can make contacts and help to generate donations. The Board is asked to provide these 10 names to Heather by February 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - c. A few possible contacts were mentioned at the meeting including Laura Wilson, John Spangler, Jimmy Scarr (Nate will contact), and Anhauser Busch.
- 10. ACA Accreditation.
  - a. Jean noted that the ACA accreditation is coming up for renewal this summer.

- b. The Board needs to help Jean with document review and checklists before this summer's visit. Jean passed around operations documents for the Board to read prior to the next meeting (everyone is asked to bring their folder back to the next meeting).
- c. We are seeking certifications in archery and canoeing this year.

11. Summer Program.

- a. Jean presented some details for the summer program and a recap of the camp conference in Colorado.
- b. CRC won a "green" award for our commitment to the environment (2011 Green Leaf Seal from the PCUSA Environmental Ministries and Presbyterian Church Camp and Conference Association). This award is given annually, but the camp must continue to grow in this area in order to receive it again the next year (we cannot rest on our laurels). Part of the drive for the award next year is to hire a summer environmental intern.
- c. We will try also to conduct partner programs with the Peace Center in Acworth, which has environmental programs.
- d. We are seeking certification from the American Canoe Association and a National Certification in Archery.
- e. For the summer staff, June 2<sup>nd</sup> will be the Commissioning, and all Board members are asked to be present to show their support and encouragement.
- f. Volunteers are also needed for the summer, and Board members are encouraged to volunteer in order to show continuity, involvement, and support.

12. Marketing.

- a. Kelly asked the Board to forward him any marketing ideas.
- b. Kelly and Jean are attending camp expos at local malls and Montreat next week. Board members are asked to help if possible.
- c. It would also be helpful if Board members could man the table at the Presbytery meeting (Nate will be in attendance and will assist).

13. Maintenance.

- a. There are ongoing issues with mold and settling (cracks in the walls) that need to be addressed at the Director's residence. Since this is camp property the issues need to be assessed and maintenance or repairs should be made as needed. Kelly will have someone check the wall cracks and the foundation.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Heather Perrin.

Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission  
Minutes - DRAFT  
January 26, 2011  
College Park Presbyterian Church

In attendance:

**Cherokee**

Chuck Holmes

**Staff**

Sara Hayden

**PGA**

Tom Bagley

Tom Barrow

Gloria Chough

Katie Givens-Kime

April Love-Fordham

Rick Wolters

**Northeast Georgia**

Jose Torres

Blaine Walker

**Ex-Officio**

Pam Driesell, Moderator

**Gathering**

- Pam Driesell called the meeting to order and invited the Commission to read the mission statement.
- Jonier Orozco welcomed everyone to the meeting and shared about College Park's ministry.
- Devotional – Sara Hayden led the Commission on a devotional based on the Commission's mission statement followed by an opening prayer.

**Equipping: Information Items**

General NCDC Reports (Sara Hayden)

1. Commissioners Self-Introductions. The Commissioners introduced themselves.
2. Approval of November 11 minutes: Blaine moved and it was seconded, that the Minutes of November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010 be approved. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Resignation of Bob Sloop (Cherokee Presbytery). Sara informed of his resignation due to work commitments effective December 2010.
4. NCDC Organizational Structure. Sara provided a summary on the NCDC Task Forces structures.

Task Force Reports & Business

1. Cross Timbers Task Force Report April Love-Fordham, Chair. April reported that the best decision was to close the church due to challenges including lack of substantial growth. The Task Force recommended that the NCDC:
  - a. Take different stance when evaluating space and location.
  - b. Develop guidelines for evaluating potential Pastors for NCD skills, including asking the question of whether they have entrepreneurial skills and if they do relate to the people they are ministering to?
  - c. Provide each NCD pastor with a coach.
  - d. Ensure that NCD Pastor lives in the community where they serve.
  - e. Consider timing of renting/buying space.
  - f. Consider whether or not part-time service could be effective.
  - g. Set measurable goals for each NCD in regard to people and finances.
  - h. Setting NCD Pastors expectation for what they can expect from us (and what our expectations are for them). i.e., in terms of funding, bringing seed members, developing relationships with nearby churches and pastors, developing vision, and fundraising.
  - i. Work with sponsoring churches better.
  - j. Ask nearby churches to provide seed members.

Sara shared that these recommendations will be addressed by the Procedures and Training Task Force.

Rick moved that the balance of left over from the ministry's original grant over as a result of closing be put back into the NCDC general fund. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

April moved that the Task Force be dissolved. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

2. SW Atlanta Task Force Report - Sara Hayden, Chair. Sara reported that an African American congregation closed and as part of the process the Administrative Commission (of SW Atlanta) recommended that half of the fund be set aside for revitalization and half for birth of an African American or Multicultural congregation in the area. The funds available from this initiative for a new church are \$180,000. In the November 11, 2010 meeting of the NCDC the SW Atlanta Task Force was commissioned to work on the demographics, develop a mission study, research discern and recommend a mission plan (including staffing and funding needs) to the commission based on opportunities and interest for a new congregation outside I-285 in SW Atlanta. It asks the Commission to pray and share particular interests of getting involved and will come back in April with some general recommendations. It will work closely with the Strategic Planning Team.
3. Strategic Planning Task Force Report - Katie Givens-Kime, Chair. Katie reported that at the first meeting the Task Force gathered to assess available tools including people at the denominational level as well as other denominations, and finances. This team will over the next four months (at least) research and recommend mission plans and opportunities for up to three new NCDs (one of which it is confirmed will be SW Atlanta). The team is currently soliciting from the NCDC, the presbyteries and other people a list of potential opportunities (including sites as well as target demographics). The demographic studies for all suggestions will be completed in early March. The Strategic Plan will begin discerning proposals shortly after, with the goal of presenting three specific new opportunities to the NCDC at its April quarterly meeting. Mission InSite training will be provided in February for the SP Team, the SW Atlanta Team and any other NCDC folks interested. The Funds-Development Team is responsible for working with the SP Team to develop supporters and financial resources for these and our current NCD initiatives.
4. Gloria asked about the possibilities for new Korean NCD. Pam indicated there are no new initiatives planned at least for the next four months, but that the Strategic Planning Team would be discerning this and other suggested potential NCD opportunities. Pam also indicated she will meet with Gloria to share about Gloria's involvement in this possibility. A conversation took place about the need to include and affirm Korean women in ordained ministry.
5. Procedures and Training Task Force Report - Sheila Palmer, Chair, was ill and so team member Blaine reported that the Task Force has met once and a few couple of conference calls. The main goal has been to understand what we polices and procedures we have in place and what actions the commission has taken. The team will examine multiple denominational and other best practices for NCD care in constituent organizations and use this study to create a resource manual for NCDs and NCDC members to help them work successfully through the NCD process. The team will also recommend amended and current policies for adoption by the NCDC at our April Meeting. Two hand outs were given: 1. Format for Progress Report given to our churches, and 2. Successful application for a Missions Program Grant. These will help develop the resource book/procedure book. The Task Force will also reach to the NCD Pastors to solicit helpful resources.
6. Funding/Development Task Force Report Rick Wolters, Chair. Rick reported that the Task Force had the first meeting yesterday with the three Presbyteries Executives. There is a need to come up with a whole different system for funding and development. The first issue to address is communication. The issue is not with funding but with understanding. The Task Force is going to build on the meeting's discussion from the bottom up. Will work closely with Strategic Planning Task Force.

**Responding to God's Call: Other Action Items**Financial Report & Business - Sara Hayden

1. 2010 Year- End Financial Report. Sara reported that there are two documents to look at:
  - a. 2010 Year-end Profit and Loss Report: Sara explained the various income and expenses. Our deficit was less than the \$78,689 projected in January 2010. The NCDC closed 2010 with a deficit of \$65,863. Rick noted the eleven churches that have given financially to the NCD.
  - b. Statement of Financial Position:
2. Hanbit Proposal, Providence Proposal. Tom Bagley moved that members of the NCD engage the Session of Hanbit around the NCDC's desire to end NCDC mortgage support to Hanbit and Providence by the end 2011 and bring the report at next quarterly meeting. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
3. 2011 Budget Discussion. Sara presented the 2011 reflecting pledged income from Churches and Presbyteries. Based on these figures we can expect \$318,000. First page reflects administrative expenses. Second page reflects restructuring of program grants. Mortgage property are committed. Operations are planned for groups travel. El Buen Pastor wants us to take over their books and will add \$26,000 as their own investments. Discussion took place around whether we want to operate a deficit. Pam expressed the previous discussion that if we desired to generate meaningful ministry we will need to dip into our reserves.

Rick moved to remove \$25,000 initiative grant from our program expenses. Motion is seconded and approved unanimously.

Tom Barrow moved that a line item of \$32,529 be added to the revenue section of the budget as undesignated income from congregations. The Funds-Development team pledges to raise these funds during 2011. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously. This will balance the 2011 budget.

Other Business (Pam Driesell)

1. Corporation By-laws. Rick moved to accept corporation by-laws contingent upon the purchase of director liability insurance. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
2. Election of Corporate Officers. Sara indicated that after by laws are accepted we need to have four officers on the Board of Directors (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer). Tom Bagley moved that Sara Hayden serves as the President, Pam as the Vice-President, Betsy Turner the Secretary, and Sara Hayden as the Registered Agent. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. We will be seeking a treasurer from outside of the NCDC to serve.

**Going forth to Love and Serve God and Neighbor: Blessing and Upcoming Events**Brief Calendar Discussion (Pam Driesell)

1. We discussed the multiple standing commitments that NCDC members have on Particular weekdays. Based on the diversity of commitments the NCDC agreed it was best to alternate meeting days throughout the year (that is, four quarterly meetings per year occurring once on a Monday, once on Tuesday, once on Wednesday, once on Thursday). The agreement is that each commission, being informed of the meeting dates in advance, will to the best of their ability arrange to be present at all the meetings throughout the year (understanding that they may need to arrange to miss a standing commitment once per year to attend NCDC).
2. Based on this model the 2011 Quarterly NCDC Meetings/Locations are:
  - Thursday, April 7, 2011 - 10:00 - 2:00 pm [NEGA - First Presbyterian Church – Cornelia]
  - Wednesday, August 10th, 2011 - 10:00 - 2:00 pm [Cherokee - Location TBD]
  - Monday, November 7th, 2011 - 10:00 -2:00 pm [Greater Atlanta - Location TBD]

Mission Opportunities (Sara Hayden)

1. Annual Celebration [Trinity Presbyterian Church: 3033 Howell Mill Rd NW; 30327]:  
*Saturday, February 12th - 5:30 - 8:30 pm*
  - a. bring your family and friends, especially other leaders and members of your church mission team/session
  - b. consider singing in our combined choir -- rehearsal begins at 4:00 pm
  - c. consider pledging to host a table, or fill a table of 8 (whether you can financially sponsor one or not)
  - d. create a culture of warmth and relationship-building -- introduce yourself as a commissioner and get to know people. Share with enthusiasm why being a part of this mission has an impact on your life and the church.
2. Best Practices for New Ministries: NCD Pastors Panel & Brunch  
*Proposed Date: Saturday in May or April - 9:30 am - 12:00 pm*
  - a. come and gain practical insights for this ministry from highly successful NCD pastors
  - b. we need six NCD volunteers to serve as hosts (come at 9:00 am and stay until 12:30)
  - c. all new church pastors, their leadership teams, and commissioners encouraged to attend
  - d. shall we extend the invite to others in the presbyteries, or make this a more intimate event for NCD leaders?
  - e. for the Procedures/Resource Team: what's the best way to create a culture of accountability for each NCD/fellowship leader to attend and bring their team (to this and other events)?
  - f. this will need to be translated likely into Spanish and Korean
3. Best Practices: Nuts and Bolts for Effective Ministry: Websites, New Church Finances, and Insurance  
*Proposed Date: Saturday, June 25th - 9:30 am - 12:00 pm (North Atlanta)*
  - a. ideally, church leadership teams would come and send teams of at least two leaders with identified gifts and roles to each workshop
  - b. it would be ideal to have several volunteer "experts" to work individually with different levels of knowledge
  - c. we need six NCD volunteers to serve as hosts (come at 9:00 am and stay until 12:30)
3. Tribal Church: Ministering to the Missing Generation seminar (Speaker to be confirmed)  
*Proposed Date: Saturday, October 1st or October 8th: 9:00 - 2:30 pm*
  - a. how churches effectively welcome the leadership and presence of young adults
  - b. this would be a great one to open up to NCDs and long-established churches from all presbyteries
  - d. \$15 registration, which includes lunch.

**Christ's Great Commission Matthew 28:19-20 Pam Driesell**

*"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

--- Minutes compiled and respectfully submitted by Jose Torres

Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission

A Shared Ministry of the Churches and Presbyteries of Cherokee, Greater Atlanta, and Northeast Georgia

1024 Ponce de Leon Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30306

TEL: 678-638-0479 FAX: 404-898-0679

Rev. Sara A. Hayden, Executive Director

Rev. Pam Driesell, Moderator

Rev. Joanna Adams, Vice-Moderator

December 13, 2010

Dear friends of Cross Timbers and brothers and sisters in Christ,

The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. We celebrate the important ministry and witness to Jesus Christ that has happened through your partnership in mission in Locust Grove over the past fifteen months. We recognize that lives have been transformed to the glory of God through the worship, meaningful pastoral care and witness to God's love evident in this congregation of faithful disciples.

In consultation with Commissioned Lay Pastor Bill Harris, who was called to serve a new Presbyterian congregation in Locust Grove in late summer of 2009 and has done so faithfully, we have been commissioned by the New Church Development Commission to discern whether Cross Timbers NCD has the signs of vitality that recommend the resources we are stewards of, to continue as a new church development of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

After prayerful discernment, we are recommending closing of Cross Timbers NCD, in gratitude to Christ and to his disciples who have carried out this mission as a congregation since October 25, 2009. In consultation with Bill Harris we have determined that the final worship service of the congregation will be Sunday, December 26th. Bill will continue to give transitional pastoral support to this community until January 15th, 2011. At that time, he will have faithfully fulfilled this particular call and will receive transitional support for three months afterward.

As Christians we have the privilege and duty to support the ministry of the church and care for its servants. To that end, an attachment detailing financial aspects of transitional support is enclosed. In other terms of support, as a team and as your brothers and sisters, we are honored to accompany and support you in this transition whenever called upon.

We praise God for all the saints who, in times present and past, have formed a congregation of God's people and served the Lord with energy, creativity, imagination and love. We give thanks for the knowledge that Christ's church and his ministry among us will continue today, tomorrow, and forever, whenever we have gathered in his name.

In Christ,

Rev. Sara Hayden Rev. April Love-Fordham Elder Sheila Palmer Elder Tom Barrow

## Cherokee Presbytery Statistical Comparative Summary of Membership/Average Worship Attendance 2004-2010

	2004 Members/ Av. Worship	2005 Members/ Av. Worship	2006 Members/ Av. Worship	2007 Members/ Av. Worship	2008 Members/ Av. Worship	2009 Members/ Av. Worship	2010 Members/ Av. Worship
Acworth	130/-	116/72	-	98/47	81/41	77/36	81/ -
Beersheba	88/48	88/-	-	-	75/40		75/38
Bethany	338/550	410/550	450/550	506/650	577/700		663/800
Braz. Ch.	112/85	110/85	120/-	-	-		*120/ -
Calhoun	212/124	207/122	206/120	214/113	220/102	181/94	161/ -
Calvary	86/59	78/51	77/53	89/59	75/48	58/44	58/38
Cartersville	595/234	579/236	597/275	609/289	604/251	631/260	634/280
Cedartown	128/70	133/60	111/48	113/50	109/45	106/52	97/52
Chickamauga	81/40	75/42	61/60	-	40/32	44/41	48/ -
Christ Fel.	40/30	39/35	-	39/35	-	35/30	37/30
Cloudland	44/-	44/-	-	43/-	43/32	43/-	43/35
Cohutta	52/37	55/37	60/38	-	64/31	60/-	52/26
Covenant	255/150	251/150	253/-	253/145	237/138	230/140	234/130
Dalton 1st	691/326	624/267	592/252	548/284	572/309	585/296	573/286
Deer Creek	183/79	175/70	144/85	128/85	114/77	112/91	120/ -
Eastminster	673/315	632/305	624/275	624/310	590/321	575/318	565/312
Euharlee	110/-	110/-	127/50	78/45	-		78/ -
Faith N Ga.	40/34	40/38	41/37	45/-	46/38	55/40	61/38
Faith Canton	56/35	61/42	65/25	71/40	70/40	52/40	50/30
Grace							113/67
Heritage	505/315	487/300	535/-	510/310	511/325	492/295	467/ -
John Knox	179/110	180/110	181/110	175/100	166/90		126/ -
Kirkwood	187/108	181/100	157/83	147/80	144/75	137/76	121/70
LaFayette	24/15	24/20	22/20	24/18	22/25		*22/25
Macland	490/312	497/295	-	470/275	486/249	429/211	418/180
Marietta	2927/948	2728/827	2681/806	2421/884	2420/858	2325/794	2233/811
Mars Hill	414/294	448/310	478/310	499/325	476/315	490/256	494/251
Menlo	24/-	24/-	-	-	13/13		13/ -
Morton Mem	48/-	48/-	-	30/17	-		31/18
New Leb.	200/138	200/142	178/128	184/128	182/130	182/136	174/ 127
Parkway	452/326	472/340	472/268	442/316	374/250	439/275	475/286
Providence	105/76	115/82	103/83	121/100	134/80	145/85	148/85
Ray-Thomas	528/210	498/155	401/150	383/150	313/150	263/100	157/65
Rockmart	95/52	97/48	86/47	86/49	87/52	84/54	83/55
Silver Creek	87/61	88/61	91/66	94/65	96/61	92/59	96/57
Sixes		139/140	129/140	118/120	104/121	113/85	118/94
Southminster	175/84	175/-	-	133/56	130/53	110/54	111/50
Summerville	63/28	63/-	34/25	26/20	24/25	21/22	21/18
Trinity	67/38	67/28	-	48/33	44/32	43/34	42/35
Westminster	454/194	451/181	375/176	339/175	330/162	320/169	319/146
Woodlawn	76/42	76/44	78/54	74/49	73/40	70/37	65/40
Woodstock	106/80	113/90	114/78	117/70	-	51/39	53/40
<b>Pby. Totals</b>	<b>11,120/5647</b>	<b>11,036/5210</b>	<b>10,682/5413</b>	<b>10,245/5533</b>	<b>10,030/5361</b>	<b>9,719/4368</b>	<b>9,642/5066</b>

Source: Year-end Statistical Reports from churches of Cherokee Presbytery to OGA (Dash = no data reported.)

\*If no report was submitted, statistics revert back to previous year.

Statistical Comparative Summary 2010