

Deer Creek Shores
Brazilian Christian
Christ Fellowship
Chickamauga
Cartersville
Acworth
Sixes
Euharlee ~ Cloudland ~ Cohutta ~ Bethany
Beersheba ~ Woodlawn ~ Kirkwood ~ Southminster
Woodstock ~ **Cherokee Presbytery** ~ Covenant
Calhoun ~ Parkway ~ Rockmart ~ Trinity ~ Marietta
Grace ~ Eastminster ~ Calvary ~ Faith Canton
Menlo
Dalton
Macland
Heritage
Mars Hill
John Knox
LaFayette
Cedartown
Providence
Summerville
Silver Creek
Westminster
New Lebanon
Morton Memorial
Faith North Georgia
Ray Thomas Memorial

One Church, Forty-One Locations, Following Christ Together

Handbook for the Gathering and Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery
July 25, 2009, 10:00 a.m
Bethany Presbyterian Church
4644 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta, GA 30066
770-643-1459

Cherokee Presbytery

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



One Church, Forty-One Locations, Following Christ Together

Rev. Rebecca M. Blackwell, Mission Coordinator and Stated Clerk

July 15, 2009

Dear Elder Commissioners and Ministers of Cherokee Presbytery,

Cherokee Presbytery will meet for its next Gathering and Stated Meeting on Saturday, July 25, 2009, at Bethany Presbyterian Church, Marietta, Georgia. Registration and coffee will begin at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. as we come together for worship. Lunch will be provided by the church. Driving directions are on the following page.

Here are some highlights of the meeting:

1. The Theme for the meeting is *Christian Hospitality*. We will celebrate the *Spirit at Work* as we hear about two exciting places where the gifts of hospitality are being realized.
2. Our worship will include an installation service for your Mission Coordinator. **Churches are invited to provide a banner and ministers are invited to wear robes and red stoles and participate in the procession prior to worship.** We hope you will encourage youth groups and other people to join your commissioners at this special service.
3. We will receive two minister candidates for membership in Cherokee Presbytery. We will also examine one inquirer for candidacy.
4. We are continuing to use an omnibus motion to keep you from having to vote individually on reports with their recommendations, commission minutes, and communications in this Handbook. A table of the omnibus motion items can be found on page 6 of this Handbook. Items marked with an asterisk will be put on the floor for discussion and vote. Other items may be lifted from the table for discussion and vote if requested.
5. We will receive reports and consider recommendations of Ministry Teams, Committees, Commissions and Board in the Presbytery.
6. We will share our joys and our concerns and pray with and for each other.

All active ministers are required to attend the meeting and sessions are to elect elder commissioners. If you need to be excused from the meeting, please communicate with the presbytery office in writing by letter, or by email to rebecca@cherokeepresbytery.org, or betty@cherokeepresbytery.org.

Rebecca M. Blackwell
Mission Coordinator and Stated Clerk



Bethany Presbyterian Church

4644 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta, Georgia 30066

Bethany Presbyterian Church cordially invites you to the next presbytery meeting on July 25, 2009. We are truly excited to host and to have this opportunity to serve a scrumptious Korean lunch.

Bethany was established on November 11, 1981 under the care of Rev. Jin Hoon Kim and after his retirement, Rev. Byeong Ho Choi took the helm in leading the Korean congregation. God has instilled in Rev. Choi's heart the need to plant multi-cultural church and in April of 2005, the Bethany English Ministry was established. The English Ministry is led by Rev. Peter Lim and is currently serving members who are primarily English speaking and other members who love contemporary worship.

In 2007 of November, God gave Bethany a unique opportunity to join Ray Thomas Memorial and the Brazilian congregation to establish a true multi-cultural church. We are working together, hand in hand, to serve the community and most importantly, to worship our Lord with all our heart.

We invite you to join us and share God's love through fellowship.

In Christ,

Bethany Presbyterian Church

Bethany Presbyterian Church and Ray-Thomas Memorial Presbyterian Church are both located at 4644 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta, GA 30066, one-fourth mile south of Highway 92. The telephone number is 770-643-1459.

GARY W. PICHON

4265 Afton Road
Marble Hill Georgia 30148

706 265 4534
gwpcbp@windstream.net

Note from moderator for handbook

As a reminder, the presbytery has voted to conduct government differently than we have in the past. We have said that we want more of a worship service and relationship building at our presbytery meetings and less business detail. To make this work, each of us will have to do more work to prepare. Ministers and elders should read the handbook carefully and completely. Brief your first time elders. If you have questions or suggestions try and get those handled by contacting the teams, committees, or commissions beforehand. We will have to trust them, to rely upon their judgment, and to not second guess them. Every delegate retains the right to the floor but if we lightly exercise that right we will lapse into the practice which we say we do not want. So when you take the floor to ask a question or make a point, please make sure that you have thoroughly done your part beforehand.

Gary Pichon
Elder / Moderator

Docket for the July 25, 2009, Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery
Bethany Presbyterian Church, Marietta, GA

9:00 a.m. Registration, Fellowship, and Coffee

10:00 a.m. GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Procession of Churches – with banners

Call to Order / Declaration of Quorum / Convening Prayer – Moderator Gary Pichon

Welcome from our Hosts

A Word from the Hospitality Team

Approval of the Docket

Introduction of Visitors and First-time Elder-Commissioners

Seating of Corresponding Members

Moderator's Appointments

A Word from the Mission Coordinator

Call to Worship

Hymn

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading and Sermon – Peter M. Paulsen

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Creed

Installation of the Reverend Rebecca M. Blackwell, Mission Coordinator

Receive Into Membership

John S. Martin, to serve as Pastor,

Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church, Cumming, GA

Julie Jensen (Monmouth Presbytery), to serve as Associate Pastor,

First Presbyterian Church, Cartersville, GA

Candidacy Examination

Invitation to Give and Offertory

Offering for Cherokee Retreat Center

Special Music

The Lord's Supper

12:00 Noon Lunch (\$5)

Reconvene with Hymn

Prayers of the People

Omnibus Motion

CELEBRATION OF THE SPIRIT AT WORK

MINDER (Missional Inspiration, Nurture and Discernment to Encourage Redevelopment)

Hymn

Bethany/Ray–Thomas Memorial

Hymn

Administrative Commission Report and Action

Other Business

Motion to Adjourn following Benediction

MOVING FORWARD IN GOD'S NAME

A Litany of Celebrating God's Providence and Grace and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Closing Hymn

Benediction – Peter M. Paulsen

Stated Clerk's Report

1. The Stated Clerk prepared and circulated the Minutes of the Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery, on Tuesday, May 26, 2009, at Silver Creek Presbyterian Church, Silver Creek, Georgia. They were reviewed for completeness and accuracy by the Moderator and a committee appointed by the Moderator consisting of Rev. Alex Stevens and Elder Joan Parsons (Calvary) and were circulated by posting on the website and on the stated clerk's table. **Recommend approval. (This action is part of the omnibus motion.)**
2. The Stated Clerk received the May 6, 2009, Minutes of the Tri-Presbytery Commission for New Church Development. **Recommend admitting to record, per G-9.0502. (This action is part of the omnibus motion.)**
3. The Stated Clerk received the June 6, 2009, Minutes of the Tri-Presbytery Commission for Campus Ministry. **Recommend admitting to record, per G-9.0502. (This action is part of the omnibus motion.)**
4. The Stated Clerk received an invitation from Rockmart Presbyterian Church to host the Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery on September 28, 2010. **Referred to the Worship Ministry Team.**
5. The Stated Clerk received correspondence from Bethany Presbyterian Church regarding concurrence with the dissolution of the pastoral relationship with Rev. Howard H. Kim by the congregation at a meeting on June 7, 2009. **Referred to the Committee on Ministry.**
6. The Stated Clerk received correspondence from Chickamauga Presbyterian Church with completed audited financial statements for years 2006, 2007, 2008 as mandated by a special presbytery commission. **Information reviewed and placed on file.**
7. The Stated Clerk received the Minutes for the meeting of the Bethany-Ray Thomas Memorial Administrative Commission on July 2, 2009. **Recommend admitting to record per G-9.0502. (This action is part of the omnibus motion.)**
8. The Stated Clerk received correspondence from the Board of Pensions regarding delinquent ministers' dues payments. **Referred to the Committee on Ministry.**

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.

2009 Parity Determination: According to the Book of Order G-II.0101, **the Stated Clerk has determined the parity between minister and elder presbytery commissioners for 2009.** All active ministers are required to attend the meeting and sessions are to elect commissioners. Based on 2007 membership, the policy we will use **beginning February 2009** for establishing a balance of ministers and elders will remain the same as for 2008, and is as follows: Marietta First will send **seven** elder commissioners; Eastminster will send **five** elder commissioners; Cartersville First, Dalton First, and Heritage will send **four** elder commissioners; Bethany, Mars Hill, Macland, Parkway, and Ray-Thomas Memorial will send **three** elder commissioners; Westminster, Covenant, and Calhoun First will send **two** elder commissioners; New Lebanon, John Knox, Kirkwood, Southminster, Deer Creek Shores, Providence, Brazilian Christian, Sixes, Woodstock, Cedartown, Acworth, Silver Creek, Calvary, Beersheba, Rockmart, Euharlee, Woodlawn, Faith/Canton, Chickamauga, Cohutta, Trinity, Faith/Blue Ridge, Cloudland, Christ Fellowship, Morton Memorial, Summerville, LaFayette, and Menlo will send **one** elder commissioner. Elders serving as chairs of committees reporting to Presbytery will be voting members. Elders serving as At-large Members of Council will be voting members.

Omnibus Motion

	Motion	Page(s)
1.	That Presbytery approve the Minutes of the Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery on Tuesday, May 26, 2009, at Silver Creek Presbyterian Church. The minutes were reviewed by a committee appointed by the moderator consisting of Rev. Alex Stevens and Elder Joan Parsons (Calvary) and were circulated by posting on the website and on the stated clerk's table.	As Circulated
2.	That Presbytery approve the recommendations of the Nominating Committee and elect to office those persons nominated. Nominees are in bold in report. (Attachment C)	17-18
3.	That Presbytery admit to record the July 2, 2009, minutes of the Bethany/Ray-Thomas Memorial Administrative Commission. (Attachment D)	19
4.	That Presbytery admit to record the May 6, 2009, Minutes of the Tri-Presbytery Commission for New Church Development. (Attachment E)	20-21
5.	That Presbytery admit to record the June 6, 2009, Minutes of the Tri-Presbytery Commission for Campus Ministry. (Attachment F)	22-23
6.	That Presbytery receive as information the Treasurer's year-to-date finance report for Cherokee Presbytery. (Attachment G) For questions, call Treasurer Greg Moore, 678-654-3733 (cell).	24-28

Committee Reports

Committee on Ministry – Ken Terrell

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: Ken Terrell, Denise Beltzner, Marx Borges, Gloria Eberhart, Dave Grove, Jesse Hunter, Todd Johnson, LaVert Jones, Dick Neelly, Robert Smalley, Jack Waskey, Debbie Wells.

For information, the COM:

1. Met on June 25, 2009.
2. Validated the new call for Tim Dunn.
3. Approved Tim Dunn to labor outside the bounds of Cherokee Presbytery in a ministry in Brazil.
4. Approved a request from Paul Bayerl to apply for mission work.
5. Approved the Stated Supply contract between Pete Paulsen and the Calvary Church effective July 1, 2009.
6. Approved the Stated Supply contract between Pete Paulsen and the Southminster Church effective July 1, 2009.
7. Noted that Jake Marshall is regularly supplying the pulpit at the Woodstock Church.
8. Noted with joy that Steve Hayner has been elected President of Columbia Theological Seminary effective July 1, 2009.
9. Changed the ministerial status of Julia Wiley to at large.
10. Changed the ministerial status of Gail Neal to at large effective June 1, 2009.
11. Approved the Stated Supply contract between Roger Kvam and the Cloudland and Menlo Churches effective May 1, 2009.
12. Dissolved the pastoral relationship between Howard Kim and the Bethany Church effective May 7, 2009.
13. Dismissed Howard Kim to Whitewater Valley Presbytery when the way is clear, to receive a call to serve as Senior Pastor of the Korean Presbyterian Church of Indianapolis, Indiana.

*Recommendations:

1. **That, pending questions from the floor, his ordination by the Presbytery of San Francisco, and his signing the book of obligation, John Martin be received as a member of Cherokee Presbytery.**
(Attachment A, pages 11-13)
2. **That the following terms of call between John Martin and the Deer Creek Shores Church be approved.**

A.	Salary	34,200
B.	Housing Allowance	17,000
C.	½ Social Security	3,917
D.	Board of Pensions	16,128
E.	Auto Ex.	3,500
F.	Cell Phone Reims.	1,100
G.	Continuing Ed	800
H.	4 weeks annual vacation	
I.	2 weeks Continuing Education	
J.	Moving Expenses reimbursed up to \$3,000	
3. **That the following commission of Cherokee Presbytery to install John Martin at the Deer Creek Shores Church on Sunday, August 16, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. be approved:**
Ministers: Rebecca Blackwell, Fritz Bogar, Mark Weaver
Elders: Gail Smith (Deer Creek Shores), LaVert Jones (John Knox), Hal McClain (Marietta First)
4. **That, pending questions from the floor and her signing the book of obligation, Julie Jensen be received as a member of Cherokee Presbytery and a request for her transfer of membership be made to Monmouth Presbytery, Tennent, New Jersey.** (Attachment B, pages 14-16)
5. **That the following terms of call between Julie Jensen and First Church Cartersville be approved.**

A.	Salary and Housing	50,000
B.	Board of Pensions	15,750
C.	½ Social Security	3,825
D.	Auto Expense	1,250

- E. Continuing Ed 750
- F. 4 weeks annual vacation
- G. 2 weeks annual study leave
- H. Paid Sabbatical of 10 weeks at the end of 7 years of service.

6. That the following commission of Cherokee Presbytery to install Julie Jensen at First Church Cartersville on Sunday, September 27, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. be approved:
Ministers: Rebecca Blackwell, Ted Smith, Carol Wade
Elders: Robert Smalley (Dalton First), Betty Cheek (Southminster), Anne Simms (Cartersville First)

Committee on Preparation for Ministry – Fritz Bogar

Overview: The work of this Committee is to guide those persons who believe themselves called to the Ministry of the Word and Sacrament so that they receive full preparation. It is the Committee’s responsibility to guide them in exploring their call in such a way that a decision regarding their suitability for the ministry may be reached.

Committee Members: Fritz Bogar, Walt Beamer, Becky Cameron, Julie Ferguson, Bryant Harris, Helen James, Roger Kvam, Ben Laughlin, Dickson Lester, Carol Scott, Velma Tilley, Bridget Waddell

For Information:

1. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry scheduled a meeting for July 21, 2009. **The report of the meeting with *possible action will be in a supplemental report.**

Nominating Committee – Sue Spivey

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: Sue Spivey, Charles Allen, Brett Berto, Sid Gunter, Jane Lawhon, Jane McDonald, Van Nesbit, Ted Smith (one vacancy in class of 2010)

For Information:

The Nominating Committee has prepared a slate of nominees for election by the presbytery.

Recommendations:

That Presbytery approve the nominees as submitted by the Nominating Committee and elect them to office. Nominees are in bold, attachment C, pages 17-18. (This action is part of the omnibus motion.)

Commission Reports

Bethany/Ray-Thomas Memorial Administrative Commission – Warren Herron

The Commission met on July 2, 2009. The purpose of the meeting was to see how the transition is going after eighteen months. The Vision has been the development of a multi-cultural church with all groups (Korean speaking, Korean-English speaking, RTM English speaking, RTM Brazilian Fellowship) participating in one church. Full minutes of the meeting are in Attachment D, page 19.

Commission Members: Warren Herron, Carol Scott, Byeongho Choi, Bob Bullock, Peter Lim, Doug Roberts, Soo Chang

***RECOMMENDATION TO CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY:**

The commission unanimously agreed to recommend that the presbytery adopt the following resolution:

“Whereas, On August 28, 2007, Cherokee Presbytery established an administrative commission and empowered it to (1) transfer the title of the property of Ray-Thomas Memorial Church to the Bethany Church, (2) work with the two churches to implement the plan of sharing the facilities, (3) dissolve the RTM church when appropriate, and (4) oversee the work of a new church development when it is formed;

Whereas, Tasks (1) and (2) have been accomplished and the two churches have successfully shared the facility for more than eighteen months in conducting worship, nurture, outreach, and mission activities; and

Whereas, all the parties agree that tasks (3) and (4) should not be carried out in the near future; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That tasks (3) and (4) be removed from the charge of the administrative commission and that the commission be dismissed.”

Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission

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, Tom Barrentine, Byeongho Choi, Chuck Holmes, Walter Jones, Ted Smith, Bob Sloop.

For Information:

The Cherokee Presbytery New Church Development Commission met for a phone conference on July 1, 2009. Minutes of that meeting will be included with minutes of the next face-to-face meeting.

The Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission met on May 6, 2009.

Recommendation:

That the minutes of the May 6, 2009, Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Commission, Attachment E, pages 20-21, be admitted to record. (This action is part of the omnibus motion.)

Tri-Presbytery Campus Ministry Commission

Overview: 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.

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

For Information:

The Tri-Presbytery Campus Ministry Commission met on June 6, 2009. Minutes of the meeting are on page 22-23.

Recommendation:

That the minutes of the June 6, 2009, Tri-Presbytery Campus Ministry Commission, Attachment F, pages 22-23 be admitted to record. (This action is part of the omnibus motion.)

Presbytery Coordinating Team

Coordinating Team – Susan Reggin

Overview: The Mission Goal 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: Susan Reggin, Gary Pichon, Mark Weaver, Jerry Black, Connie Beauchamp, Ken McKenzie, Teri Abercrombie, Pete Paulsen, Don Esa, George Taylor, Sam Henderson, John Wells, Rebecca Blackwell(ex officio), Kelly Howington (ex officio).

For Information:

1. The Coordinating Team held its initial meeting on June 23, 2009, focusing primarily on getting to know each other and becoming familiar with the function of the Ministry Team.
2. Reports were heard from each of the teams and board.
3. Future meetings were scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month prior to presbytery meetings: August 11, October 13, and December 8.

Worship Team – Jerry Black

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

Team Members: Jerry Black, Cido Araujo, Rick Gomez, Keith Gunter, Zeta Lamberson (one vacancy in class of 2010)

For Information:

1. The Team met on May 5 and June 23 to determine the theme and docket for the July 25 stated meeting of Cherokee Presbytery.
2. Invitations were received from the Cartersville First PC to host the January 23, 2010, stated meeting and from Rockmart PC to host the September 28, 2010, stated meeting.
3. The Worship Team would entertain invitations to host stated meetings of Cherokee Presbytery on Tuesday, March 23, 2010, at 5:30 p.m.; Tuesday, May 25, 2010, at 10:00 a.m.; Saturday, July 24, 2010, at 10:00 a.m.; and Tuesday, November 16, 2010, at 10:00 a.m.

Mission Team – Connie Beauchamp

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.

Team Members: Connie Beauchamp, Paul Bayerl, Tyler Downing, Stuart Leyden, Roberta Sarchet, Laura Wilson.

For Information:

1. The Mission Team met on May 14 and July 9, 2009.

Celebration and Hospitality Team – Ken McKenzie

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: Ken McKenzie, Tim Erskine, Ann Stubbs Maddux, Paul Sherwood, Sandi Townley, Carol Wade.

For Information:

1. The Celebration and Hospitality Team met on July 14, 2009.

Nurturing Disciples Team – Teri Abercrombie

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

Team Members: Teri Abercrombie, Pem Cooley, Pinkie Owens, Lucas Pina, Mickey Shealy (one vacancy in class of 2011).

For Information:

2. The Nurturing Disciples Team met on July 14, 2009.

Spiritual Development Team – Pete Paulsen

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, Ben Atha, Maxine Edwards, Bill Ford, David Gama, Caron Gruben.

For Information:

1. The Spiritual Development Team met on April 22 and June 20, 2009.

Ministry Support Team – Don Esa

Overview: The Mission Goal 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, Dayton Adams, Judy Greeson, Lisa Marie Haygood, Maryellen Hittel, Tommy Smithweck.

For Information:

At its June 16, 2009, meeting, the Ministry Support Team:

1. Reviewed its section of the new presbytery Ministry Manual to make needed corrections.
2. Discussed our responsibilities under the new presbytery model.
3. Made preliminary plans for future meetings.

Recommendation:

That Presbytery receive as information the Treasurer's year-to-date financial report for Cherokee Presbytery. (This action is part of the omnibus motion.)

Retreat Center Board of Directors – John Wells

Overview: Providing a space apart for focusing on Christian education, spiritual development, fellowship, and retreat from the material world.

Board Members: John Wells, Corrin Baines, Brian Enlow, Anita Errickson, John Hay, Cheryl Jenkins, Becky Jordon, Nate Marini, Heather Perrin, Mark Thompson (two vacancies in class of 2010).

For Information:

3. The Cherokee Retreat Center Board met on June 16 and July 14.

***These items are set aside from the omnibus motion for discussion and vote.**

Future Meetings:

Tuesday, September 22, 2009, 5:30 p.m. – Providence Presbyterian Church, Dallas
Tuesday, November 17, 2009, 10:00 a.m. – Southminster Presbyterian Church, Marietta
Saturday, January 23, 2010, 10:00 a.m. – First Presbyterian Church, Cartersville
Tuesday, March 23, 2010, 5:30 p.m. – (Open)
Tuesday, May 25, 2010, 10:00 a.m. – (Open)
Saturday, July 24, 2010, 10:00 a.m. – (Open)
Tuesday, September 28, 2010, 5:30 p.m. – Rockmart Presbyterian Church, Rockmart
Tuesday, November 16, 2010, 10:00 a.m. – (Open)

Statement of Faith

John S. Martin, Candidate

June 8, 2009

There is one God who has chosen to be understood by humans in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The works and being of these three persons are indivisible. They represent a unified, single divinity, a living community of Love. All words are inadequate and cannot fully describe God since God is the almighty and infinite creator of all things, visible and invisible. However, the Bible is a witness without parallel. Scriptures tell us who God is and how we can best live in the presence of God. They begin by describing how God made all things from nothing. God made all things good and God made humans, male and female. God is beyond the greatest and highest we can imagine yet God is also a personal God. The Bible describes how God establishes intimate, loving relationships with people and invites them to participate in God's work.

God also made people free, as God is free. People can choose to think and act against the way and Love of God. As a result, people sin against God and fail to live abundant lives of love. They cause pain, death, and brokenness for themselves, others, and the rest of creation.

Jesus Christ is the clearest revelation of who God is and what God intends humans to be. Jesus, the Son of God, was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born from the womb of the Virgin Mary, and walked the earth as a man in what we call the first century. The intersection of God and humanity, Jesus was both human and divine. He was Immanuel, God with us. He was also human so he was tempted to break away from relationship with God but did not. He lived and taught among the people. Jesus reached out to all kinds of people and ignored false barriers that society creates to divide or oppress God's people. Jesus taught, and demonstrated, that God is both a God of Love and a God of Justice. As we study the Bible and learn what Jesus did in earthly ministry, we must interpret the scripture from nature of the language in which it was written and according to the context in which these events took place. If we understand how God spoke and acted in Jesus of Nazareth then, we can better discern how God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) is speaking and acting in the world today.

Jesus was crucified on a cross by the Romans, died, and was buried. He then rose again from the dead and appeared to the disciples and many other witnesses. By going through this horrible suffering, and this miraculous resurrection, God was reconciling the world to God. God was demonstrating that despite how evil and sinful we are, God has forgiven us and God rules all. Our sin was crucified with Christ on the cross and we too can "rise again" as forgiven sinners because of the Cross of Jesus. Jesus commanded the disciples to, "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." In doing this Jesus established the Church, a single body of believers who seek to follow Jesus. Baptism is the sign and seal of incorporation into Christ. The Holy Spirit calls people into communion with Jesus and with each other. Worship and the Lord's Supper unite true believers across the world, and across time, and proclaim that Jesus is Lord. One day Jesus will return to bring final judgment to those living and those dead. Those in Christ will live forever in the eternal Love of God. Meanwhile, the Church is a priesthood of all believers, working together to understand God's Word and apply its Truth. The Lord has called me, as one trained and able to be a Minister of the Word and Sacrament, to enjoy work in God's field, and to serve God's mission as needed.

Summary: My Journey of Faith

By: John S. Martin

Prepared for: Cherokee Presbytery COM

June 8, 2009

Sixteen years ago I fell to my knees in prayer. My view of the world had been shattered when my wife of twelve years unexpectedly filed for divorce. The court froze assets and I could not participate in a new business partnership I had been working on for months. I felt I was losing my two year old daughter who I loved immensely. In California, I was 2,000 miles from family and home near Atlanta. It seemed everything I stood for was proving to be false. I had been living in a self-created illusion.

“Oh God,” I prayed, “am I anything?” Then I was silent. Perhaps for the first time in my adult life I had nothing to think or say. Into this silence I felt words arrive, “You are OK.” I stopped breathing, and listened. Almost immediately a current of Love flowed into me and through me. I felt like a child, snuggled safely in bed for the night. The hole inside me that I had been trying to fill with money, and power, and what the world calls success, was closed. It has never returned.

I turned to the Bible and realized for the first time that Jesus was a man who walked and suffered just like all of us- and much more. As I prayed for relief from my problems an image of Jesus with crowds of people following Him came to me. Jesus paused and looked at me. I felt the words, “you are doing it yourself.” And, Jesus continued on while I stood and watched. I realized that Jesus wanted more than just believers, He wants followers. I was trying to do things my way, was causing many problems myself, and was not going the way Jesus was.

I felt compelled to write down several experiences and realized God had been working in my life, at key points, all along. I turned to my Pastor for guidance. He asked if I would share my story in the chapel service on Sunday evening. I did, and for the first time felt used in a significant way because I was witnessing to the power of Jesus Christ. My Pastor also gave me several of his seminary books to read and invited me to speak on various events during Sunday worship.

Ten years passed. My business career was successful by many measures but, at some deep level, I felt I was wasting my life. At a Men’s Retreat the leader challenged us to write down what we’d really like to do and reasons we were not. I realized I wanted to go to seminary and learn more about God so I could preach.

Finally, in 2004, I took a leap of faith and enrolled in Fuller seminary on a part-time basis. This proved to be the right path and, through a series of miracles, I graduated in 2008 with the MDiv from Columbia. The CPM process, combined with internships and academic work removed any doubts that God has called me to full time service as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament.

I strive to share my faith experiences, encourage others in their journey, and to represent Christ to others. Because I have been through some trials in life, I am willing and able to be with people as they struggle through their issues and to trust that God will heal all in time.

Today, my wife and I are increasingly aware of God’s hand on our lives. I am motivated by the desire to know Christ and to make Him known to others. As I lead worship, preach, and work with others, I continue to grow in maturity through Christ. Our children have grown beautifully, and I look forward to the blessings of serving the Church and leading a Christ.

Sense of Call to the Deer Creek Shores Congregation

John S. Martin, Candidate

June 8, 2009

In February, 2009 the PNC from Deer Creek phoned me based on my profile at Columbia Seminary. I explained that I was still wrapping up CPM requirements but happened to be preaching at Lawrenceville Presbyterian Church the next two Sundays. I invited them to come and observe. The Chairman, Richard Wilks, said he was unable to come that first Sunday but could come the second. He promised to check with other committee members and determine if it was possible for any of them to come the next Sunday. It was short notice.

I was a bit surprised when almost all the PNC members showed up. Two even attended the early contemporary service, stayed for Sunday School, then heard me preach again at the 11:00 traditional service. I was busy leading worship, and did not have much time to chat, but they seemed to thoroughly enjoy being there. One gentleman asked direct and detailed questions about my status. He clearly understood CPM.

Later that week I pulled up their CIF and read it closely. I noticed the leadership attributes and style of worship they envisioned seemed closely aligned with my preferences and abilities. But, I can only do what God enables me to do so I forged ahead the following Sunday with the sermon and service already planned. Richard Wilks was able to attend the next Sunday and worshipped in both services.

The next three months were busy for me as I wrapped up the internship in Lawrenceville and flew to California for my CPM final assessment on May 6th. I did not give much more thought to "that Cumming church." I did pray that God would give me the wisdom to discern the right path and I asked again for patience and trust in God's care for me and my family.

Throughout seminary I received assurance that God would place us in a loving community. I know the Lord wants me to enjoy work in God's field. I sensed a place of community and joy was waiting, but that it was not yet time for me to see it.

One Sunday in May my wife and I worshipped at Deer Creek Shores. We observed community, laughter, worship, and fellowship and left with very positive feelings. Worship was sincere and Spirit filled. The church was small, beautiful, and in a nice, neighborhood location. It is really a suburban church, not a small town church. We felt at home.

Our daughter senses God in the eyes of her horse, and my wife teaches riding. Later in May my daughter began asking to move the horse to another barn where her best friends were now riding. She would "just die" if she couldn't ride at Hillmar. "Where's that?" I asked. "Near Cumming", she replied.

Conversations with the PNC indicate I am the right fit for this church at this time. I can't imagine anything more suitable for my first call. They need leadership and have a strong desire for growth in Christ. As the narrative above indicates, I believe God is calling me to this position and has a hand in making it possible. I am ready to begin the work God has prepared for me.

Rev. Julie Jensen
Statement of Call

I began my search process in a place of discerning what and where God was calling me to next. I knew God was calling me to a new role and to use the gifts I have been given while learning and developing others. When the call was extended I heard that still small voice saying very loudly, “This is it. I’m calling you here.” I am excited to see how God will use me to serve this congregation.

God has given me many gifts for ministry that enable me to serve this congregation. Among them are pastoral care, preaching, and serving a diverse community. I look forward to mission opportunities, and the ability to use my gifts for “matchmaking” – finding someone’s gifts and talents and then the place where they can use them in the church.

The Associate Pastor position will also provide me an opportunity to try some new things. I have longed to become more involved in mission, including mission trips and am excited that this is part of the role here. We are called to look beyond our own doors and help others, and this is a call FPCC takes seriously. Both the local mission and “far away” mission are driven by a desire to serve God and our neighbors, and I look forward to being a part of that work.

Pastoral care is an area I take seriously. Meeting the seniors, listening to them, and ministering to this particular age group has so many intangible rewards. I find each time I work with this age group I learn something new about myself and about the gifts they have to offer that we sometimes overlook. The opportunity to teach and learn from this generation is something I look forward to. I feel called to spend time listening and learning from this particular group. However, I know that pastoral care is not limited to seniors. Care is required at all ages and faith stages. One of my gifts is working with people of all ages and from varied backgrounds. I find that God uses me in times when a non-anxious presence is needed. I feel God at work visiting in hospitals and meeting with families and individuals who simply need someone to listen.

Worship leadership and preaching are areas where I have gifts that have been utilized weekly. I am looking forward to not preaching weekly to have an opportunity to dig more deeply into the text as I prepare worship and liturgy.

I was drawn to the position at FPCC for several reasons. In looking at the CIF and meeting with the APNC, I recognized that this was a congregation that is healthy, active, and outwardly focused. The staff has a solid collegial relationship, which is one of the characteristics I sought as I discerned a new call. As a solo pastor, I have missed working with colleagues as part of a team. I thrive in an environment where I can be creative and be in conversation with others as we plan and implement projects and events. This call is an area where those gifts can be used to their fullest potential. In meeting the staff of the church, I felt that God was calling me to come and be part of this team. As I was discerning my next call, the word I kept hearing was “collegial” and that is certainly the environment here. In meeting the congregation through the APNC and those who work for the church, I recognized that this is the congregation God is calling me to serve.

Rev. Julie Jensen
Faith Journey

The earliest memories I have of church are in my grandparent's Baptist church in Oregon, a congregation they belonged to for over 50 years. My grandfather was the sexton; each week he would tend and care for their church home, almost always taking along one of the grandchildren. They attended weekly Bible Study, prayer meetings, and worship while holding various leadership positions. Through them, and my mother, I learned about service to the church and service to God. I close my eyes and smell the polish and see the sun streaming through the windows and recall that this was a place I felt loved and safe. It was here that I learned the stories of Jesus on flannel-boards, saw push-pins on maps representing missionaries, and saw first-hand what it means to say and live the statement that Jesus is your Lord and Savior.

My family moved multiple times during my childhood, and each time we moved to a new town or country we found a church. In my youth, I saw church as a place of community and support. As I grew older, we did not attend church as often. However dinner was not eaten until grace was said, and our days ended with bedtime prayers. My parents divorced, and each re-married a Roman Catholic, broadening the scope of my worship experiences considerably. While I did not agree with all of the theology (or really understand why I was excluded from the table), I grew to cherish the familiar words spoken each week and the predictability of the liturgy in a turbulent time.

When I began high school we moved to South Carolina, and I began to seek a church home. A member of my class invited me to worship in her church, this experience was foreign to me in many ways – it was Pentecostal, in every stereotypical sense of the word. I had lots of questions, and kept being told I would understand when I was baptized, an event which had not yet occurred. I was never truly at ease with this worship setting (including watching individuals speak in tongues!) and when another friend invited me to her church, I went. It was the Presbyterian Church and I felt at home immediately. The liturgy, worship style, music and preaching called me to return, and in time my mother and I joined the church - -she through re-affirmation of faith, and I through Baptism. I was 16.

Through my participation in campus ministry at the University of South Carolina, I was urged to consider a call to ordained ministry. I participated in every facet of the program - -as moderator, cook, intern and volunteer. It was through the nurture and support of 2 campus ministers that I recognized God was calling me to use my gifts in an area outside of Corporate America. I entered seminary with the thought that I was only going to stay for a year and see if God was calling me to the ministry. During my summer internship, I recognized that God's call was indeed for me to serve the church. I graduated, and 10 months later was called as a solo pastor, and now God calls me to serve in a new place and in new ways.

There have been many ups and downs, many times I have wondered and questioned and struggled with my faith. Through them all I see God's hand at work in my life and continue to learn to trust that God keeps God's promises, and will continue to nurture and support me. My grandfather died my senior year of seminary, and as I was grieving in the church that began to nurture and shelter my faith, I could sense God's presence and faithfulness through the grief and loss. My faith has been nurtured and sustained by many voices in many places and ways; God has been and will continue to be faithful.

Rev. Julie Jensen
Faith Statement

“In life and in death, we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy one of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.”

We worship and serve the Triune God who created everything from nothing, whose spirit hovered over the waters and called forth land and life. We worship and serve the God who sent rulers and prophets to speak God’s word, even when we did not want to listen. We worship and serve the God who continues to act in our lives and in the world God created as good. God is not an absent God, but a God who is involved in our lives, a God who created each of us in the image of God. We are called to live our lives as a reflection of God.

“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God.” The Word was Jesus Christ, fully human, and fully divine who called us to repent and believe in the Gospel. In his life, Jesus Christ taught us how to live. He ate with sinners and outcasts, healed the sick, proclaimed release to the captives, and called us to make disciples. I believe that while God created the world to be good, we do not always act in accordance with that creation. We sin. We fail. We make mistakes. Through his death on the cross, Jesus Christ redeemed a broken world. God gave us the gift of salvation in Jesus Christ, a gift we cannot do anything to earn. We are called to live our lives as an offering in response to the salvation received in Christ, not out of guilt or obligation, rather in gratitude and love.

Through the rushing winds of the Spirit at Pentecost, the church was born. Those winds blow still today. The Holy Spirit guides and nurtures us. When we are unable to speak, unable to pray, the Holy Spirit intercedes on our behalf. Our creativity, inspiration, imagination and talents are gifts of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit acts to transform our lives, and to empower us for service.

At the font as we hear and profess ancient words and as we feel the water of baptism- water necessary for life, both physical life and spiritual life in Christ- we mark outwardly the inward claim God has made on us. We are washed in the waters of Baptism in order that we might live new life in Christ. In the baptism of infants, their identity in Christ is claimed on their behalf until they are able to make their own profession of faith. In the baptism of adults, this identity is directly claimed upon profession of faith.

We gather around the bread and cup to be nourished for service, to recall the saving death and resurrection of Christ, to give thanks, and to be restored. We gather in joy as we experience a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. We gather to share a meal as a community, just as Christ and his disciples did. We gather around a common table with the saints of every time and place to receive nourishment to go out and serve the world. The table is a place of community and welcome. We joyfully anticipate the day when Christ returns and the Kingdom of God is fully present. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to go out and proclaim the Gospel, serve the world, and work to seek justice and peace.

In life and in death we belong to God. Glory be to God, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

Nominating Committee Report – July 25, 2009

Nominations for approval and election by presbytery are in **Bold**

PRESBYTERY MODERATOR

Moderator Class of 2009 Gary Pichon (New Lebanon/Grace)
 Moderator in Nomination Class of 2009 Rev. Mark Weaver

WORSHIP TEAM: Moderator – Jerry Black

<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>	<u>Class of 2012</u>
Rev. Cido Araujo	Rev. Keith Gunter	Rev. Zeta Lamberson
_____	Jerry Black (Covenant)	Rick Gomez (Cartersville First)

MISSION TEAM: Moderator – Connie Beauchamp

<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>	<u>Class of 2012</u>
Rev. Stuart Leyden	Rev. Tyler Downing	Rev. Paul Bayerl
Connie Beauchamp (Beersheba)	Laura Wilson (LaFayette)	Roberta Sarchet (New Lebanon)

CELEBRATION & HOSPITALITY TEAM: Moderator - Rev. Ken McKenzie

<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>	<u>Class of 2012</u>
Rev. Tim Erskine	Rev. Carol Wade	Rev. Ken McKenzie
Paul Sherwood (Marietta First)	Ann Stubbs Maddux (Beersheba)	Sandi Townley (Chickamauga)

NURTURING DISCIPLES TEAM: Moderator – Teri Abercrombie

<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>	<u>Class of 2012</u>
Rev. Pem Cooley	Rev. Mickey Shealy	Rev. Lucas Pina
Pinkie Owens (Rockmart)	_____	Teri Abercrombie (Trinity)

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM: Moderator – Rev. Pete Paulson

<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>	<u>Class of 2012</u>
Rev. Pete Paulson	Rev. Maxine Edwards	Rev. Bill Ford
Caron Gruben (Kirkwood)	Ben Atha (Heritage)	David Gama (Brazilian Christian)

MINISTRY SUPPORT TEAM: Moderator – Rev. Don Esa

<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>	<u>Class of 2012</u>
Dayton Adams (New Lebanon)	Rev. Maryellen Hittel	Rev. Don Esa
Tommy Smithweck (Marietta First)	Judy Greeson (Calhoun)	Lisa Marie Haygood (Sixes)

CHEROKEE RETREAT CENTER (CRC) BOARD – Moderator: Rev. John Wells

<u>Class of 2010:</u>	<u>Class of 2011:</u>	<u>Class of 2012</u>
Brian Enlow	Nate Marini (Marietta First)	Rev. John Wells
Cheryl Jenkins (Westminster)	Mark Thompson (Marietta First)	John Hay (Eastminster)
_____	Anita Errickson (Westminster)	Corrin Baines
_____	Heather Perrin	Becky Jordon

CAMPUS MINISTRY COMMISSION - Moderator: George Taylor

<u>Class of 2009:</u>	<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>
Cheryl Jenkins (Westminster)	Rev. Mickey Shealy	George Taylor (Covenant)
Katherine Preston (Calvary)	Susan Monk (Ray-Thomas)	_____
Rev. Sid Gunter		

NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION – Moderator: Sam Henderson

<u>Class of 2009:</u>	<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>
Rev. Byeongho Choi	Tom Barrentine (Faith/BR)	Rev. Sam Henderson
Rev. Walter Jones	Bob Sloop (Marietta First)	Chuck Holmes (Kirkwood)
Rev. Ted Smith		

PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION

<u>Class of 2010:</u> Harris Hines (Marietta First) Rev. Zeta Lamberson Robert Smalley (Dalton First)	<u>Class of 2012</u> Peter Olson (Cartersville First) Elder James Osborn (Providence) Rev. Debbie Wells Rev. Julia Wiley	<u>Class of 2014</u> Coy Temples (Dalton First) Rev. Mary Ellen Hittel Teri Abercrombie (Trinity)
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COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION – Moderator: John Spangler

<u>Class of 2008:</u> Andrea Albuquerque (Ray Thomas) Roy Norman (Sixes) Kat Davidson (Marietta First, Youth)	<u>Class of 2009:</u> Gail Meacham (Marietta First) Dan Boles (Celtic Cross/KSU) Jake Tompkins (Heritage, youth)	<u>Class of 2010</u> Rev. John Spangler Rev. Jose Pezini Kate Tutwiler (Southminster)
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COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION – Moderator: Fritz Bogar

<u>Class of 2009:</u> Helen James (Southminster) Rev. Ben Laughlin Rev. Bridget Waddell Velma Tilley (Cartersville First)	<u>Class of 2010</u> Rev. Bryant Harris Rev. Roger Kvam *Dickson Lester (Mars Hill) Walt Beamer (Kirkwood)	<u>Class of 2011</u> *Rev. Fritz Bogar Rev. Carrie Scott Rev. Julie Ferguson *Becky Cameron (Marietta First)
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COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY – Moderator: Ken Terrell

<u>Class of 2009:</u> Gloria Eberhart (Westminster) Jesse Hunter (New Lebanon) LaVert Jones (John Knox) Rev. Jack Waskey	<u>Class of 2010:</u> *Rev. Denise Beltzner Robert Smalley (Dalton First) *Rev. Ken Terrell Rev. Debbie Wells	<u>Class of 2011:</u> *Rev. Dave Grove Rev. Dick Neelly Todd Johnson (Cohutta) Marx Borges (Ray-Thomas)
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SYNOD COMMISSIONERS (Four-Year Terms, Bi-Annual Meetings: March & September)

2008-2011 Commissioners:	Minister Ben Laughlin	Ralph Walker (Heritage)
2008-2011 Alternate Commissioners:	Minister Ken McKenzie	Pat Alverson (Calvary)
2011 Synod Nominating Committee	Minister Jack Foley	

*Serving second consecutive term.

COORDINATING TEAM – Moderator: Sue Reggin

<u>Rev. Susan Reggin</u> <i>Past Moderator</i>	<u>Gary Pichon (New Lebanon/Grace)</u> <i>Moderator</i>	<u>Rev. Mark Weaver</u> <i>Moderator-elect</i>
<u>Jerry Black (Covenant)</u> <i>Worship</i>	<u>Connie Beauchamp (Beersheba)</u> <i>Mission</i>	<u>Rev. Ken McKenzie</u> <i>Celebration & Hospitality</i>
<u>Teri Abercrombie</u> <i>Nurturing Disciples</i>	<u>Rev. Pete Paulsen</u> <i>Spiritual Development</i>	<u>Rev. Don Esa</u> <i>Ministry Support</i>
<u>George Taylor</u> <i>Campus Ministry Commission</i> <i>Moderator</i>	<u>Rev. Sam Henderson</u> <i>NCD Commission</i> <i>Moderator</i>	<u>Rev. John Wells</u> <i>CRC Board Moderator</i>
<u>Rev. Rebecca Blackwell</u> <i>Mission Coordinator, ex officio</i>	<u>Kelly Howington</u> <i>CRC Director, ex officio</i>	<u>Rev. Susan Reggin</u> <i>Discernmentarian, ex officio</i>

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Sue Spivey, Moderator

<u>Class of 2009:</u> Jane Lawhon (Rockmart) Sue Spivey (Summerville) Rev. Sid Gunter	<u>Class of 2010:</u> Charles Allen (Southminster) <hr/> Rev. Ted Smith	<u>Class of 2011</u> *Rev. Van Nesbit Jane McDonald (Silver Creek) Brett Berto (Parkway)
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BETHANY – RAY THOMAS MEMORIAL ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes, July 2, 2009

THOSE PRESENT WERE: Warren Herron, Moderator, John Wells, Peter Lim, Jeff Choe, Moon Pack, Byeongho Choi, Taekhan Yoon, Carrie Scott, Bob Bullock, Fritz Bogar, and Rebecca Blackwell, Mission Coordinator.

Purpose of the Meeting: To see how the transition is going after eighteen months.

The Vision has been the development of a multi-cultural church with all groups (Korean speaking, Korean - English speaking, RTM English speaking, RTM Brazilian Fellowship) participating in one church.

OPENING PRAYER – The meeting was called to order with an opening prayer led the Administrative Commission Moderator, Warren Herron.

PROGRESS REPORTS:

BETHANY – Peter Lim reported the Korean-speaking congregation is thriving even in the midst of the recession. Giving has not been affected.

The Bethany English-speaking ministry has grown to 100 with 85 in worship. Non Asians are joining as well and the ministry is now financially independent. The present challenges they face are the Korean tradition/culture which sees Elders as mature in age and is slow to accept change. This makes it difficult for the younger, English speaking congregation to be represented on the Session.

RAY THOMAS MEMORIAL - Carrie Scott reported that the English-speaking congregation is doing well. The Brazilian congregation had to let their pastor go but they are now in the process of calling an ITC professor who is an ordained Presbyterian minister. If the way be clear, he will begin December 1, 2009. In the meantime, there is a lot of healing taking place in the Brazilian congregation.

The goal is bringing the two groups together in one multicultural worship service which when they come together is increasingly contemporary. The food Pantry is feeding up to 60 families, some of which are our Brazilian families who were hit hard by the recession. The Brazilians who are on the Session are bilingual.

OVERALL CHALLENGES – Rev. Choi reported on the lack of space in both facilities and parking, particularly on Sunday mornings. As for expansion, the County requires a considerable amount of the property for a retention pond which severely limits what can be built. Renovations on the existing building are almost completed. Since moving into the facility, the Bethany church has spent \$800,000 in facility improvements, repairs, and loan payments.

The Kenyan Fellowship which is leasing the old Bethany property has bought the property next to the existing facilities. Their congregation continues to increase. They have a growing building fund which will be used to make a large payment for buying the property to Bethany.

RECOMMENDATION TO CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY:

The commission unanimously agreed to recommend that the presbytery adopt the following resolution:

“Whereas, On August 28, 2007, Cherokee Presbytery established an administrative commission and empowered it to (1) transfer the title of the property of Ray-Thomas Memorial Church to the Bethany Church, (2) work with the two churches to implement the plan of sharing the facilities, (3) dissolve the RTM church when appropriate, and (4) oversee the work of a new church development when it is formed;

Whereas, Tasks (1) and (2) have been accomplished and the two churches have successfully shared the facility for more than eighteen months in conducting worship, nurture, outreach, and mission activities; and

Whereas, all the parties agree that tasks (3) and (4) should not be carried out in the near future; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That tasks (3) and (4) be removed from the charge of the administrative commission and that the commission be dismissed.”

The meeting closed with prayer by Rebecca Blackwell.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Bullock, Clerk for the Administrative Commission

**Joint Commission for New Church Development,
Peachtree Presbyterian Church May 6, 2009, 1:00 p.m.**

The Joint Commission for New Church Development of Cherokee, Greater Atlanta, and Northeast Georgia Presbyteries was convened by Chair Pam Driesell at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 6, 2009, in Room 2309 at Peachtree Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. Opening prayer was offered by Sam Henderson.

The following commissioners were present: Carol Smith, Ted Smith, Dave Fahner, Jeff Browning, Tom Albright and Ken Meeks. Also present: Mark Weaver, NCD Pastor, Grace Church, Dawsonville, Marta Pina, Administrative Assistant

Minutes of January 26, 2009, and March 4, 2009, were approved.

Pam Driesell reported on a meeting that she had attended with Ed Albright and new church development representatives from the United Church of Christ and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The United Church of Christ has a fulltime staff person for new church development. The possibility of collaborative efforts is real.

Sam Henderson, Chair of Visioning and Strategic Planning Committee presented the revised draft of Tri-Presbytery New Church Development Operations document. Discussion ensued and various modifications were suggested. It was agreed that Section B. 4. Would be amended to read "That Tri-Presbytery Commission is charged with the task of establishing new church developments that may emerge in one or more of the various ways..." It was agreed that in Section B. 4. d. 2 the designation should read "New Immigrant congregations" (per Book of Order G-11.0404f). Also it was agreed to amend Section B. 6. a. to read "to raise funds from churches with Session approval, individuals, foundations, and other identified sources. " A question arose regarding whether buying and selling property for new church development is lodged within the Commission or requires the approval of the respective presbytery. Mention was made of the section from the original Accepting the Challenge and Sharing the Promise document entitled "Criteria for Locating New Churches." It was agreed that the Committee would consider including this section in the final document. However, it is clear from the original constituting documents that the Commission was empowered by the presbyteries to buy and sell property for new church development and that the Commission also is committed to engaged congregations located near potential sites for new church development in NIMBY (Not in My Back Yard) dialogues.

In Section C.3.b. the word "and" was removed as a typo. Also in Section C. 3. f. the phrase "in the bounds of Cherokee Presbytery" was replaced with "in the bounds of the respective presbytery." It was noted that other places where Cherokee Presbytery was noted would be replaced with more inclusive wording. In Section C.3.h. the word "mentor" was replaced with "liaison" and in between h. and i. an item "Assign a coach to each organizing pastor. " Actually, items h. thru j. are to be shifted out of Section C. to Section B. except for the statement in item j. "to hold the rolls of prospective members of a new church development until such time there is a chartering service. Sam commented that the Committee has discussed including a list of "touch points" or benchmarks for conventional congregational new church developments. Possible use of Natural Church Development criteria was discussed. This list will be included in the final version. It was agreed that the document once approved by the Commission, will be presented as an act of covenant renewal with each presbytery. The Committee was also asked to clarify at what point the Commission ends its relationship to a new church development and releases the church to the respective presbytery.

NCDC Staff Position Task Force- Joanna Adams reported that the Task Force had met twice-Members include Bob Sloop, Tom Barrentine, Ted Smith, Sam Henderson, Pam Driesell and Joanna Adams. They developed characteristics and qualities to be sought in a potential New Church Development Coordinator. A sheet was presented including Roles, Responsibilities, and Relationships. Previous the Commission was heavily dependent on Rick Wolters and Lucas Pina. Now we need someone who can help coordinate the work of the Commission, insure communication with the various new church developments and new immigrant fellowships, assist with demographic studies, and assist with fund development. Funding is only available for a couple of years. Person could be employed on a one year contract renewable. There was some discussion concerning whether this position would require ordination. Preference is for PCUSA, but openness to others. The Roles, Responsibilities, and Relationships sheet was approved and the Task Force was authorized to become the search committee for this person, develop a compensation package in consultation with Carol Johnson, and hire this person.

Locust Grove- Tom Barrow- Tom reported that he had had very positive conversation with Kathy Sims, member of Smyrna Church in Conyers, whose business is located in the Locust Grove area and who is interested in the possibility of a new church development there. She has indicated willingness to make a conference room available for a bible study group to begin. A larger space for beginning worship could also be available at the Locust Grove Conference Center. Interest in possible use of the former Baptist church has declined. Question is where to go next. We have about \$70,000 available. We need a bit more to proceed to seek an organizing pastor. We could make a start with a more emergent model, but we don't have the funds to seek an organizing pastor in a traditional pattern. The Session of McDonough would like the Timber Ridge location restarted once the lawsuit is settled with the church leaving the denomination. There could be a considerable number of persons available after the end of the lawsuit. Also Timber Ridge property could be sold in the future to provide funds for something at Locust Grove or somewhere else. Another option could be utilizing the gifts of a CLP who is a member at Smyrna Church in Conyers (Bill Harris). Tom Barrow and Ed Albright will pursue conversation with Bill Harris about possible creation of Bible Study groups at Locust Grove.

Mark Crumpler reported for the Immigrant Fellowships Committee- They have had an inquiry for Christ for the Nations Church (Korean). They were referred to grant sources. Minutes of the Hispanic Group are available. At their meeting Pastor Choi listed three items: 1) Korean Church of La Grange was established in April and they will be a fellowship sponsored by the La Grange Presbyterian Church; 2) Jesus' Hope Church is ready to charter. Ed Albright will follow up on this conversation; 3) there is a third group meeting across the state line in Tennessee. They are asking to organize a fellowship as a part of Cherokee Presbytery; however this is not possible across state lines.

Mark Weaver, pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church in Dawsonville reported on their growth and progress in ministry and mission. He also expressed a desire on the part of his group for clarification on chartering criteria.

The meeting closed with prayers of thanksgiving and blessing for the faithful service of Ed Albright.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Meeks, Jr.

Tri-Presbytery for Commission for Campus Ministry Minutes for June 6, 2009

A called meeting of PCM of Georgia was held on June 6, 2009 at Columbia Theological Seminary.

Call to meeting

The meeting was opened with prayer by Ann Clay Adams

Present: Ann Clay Adams (GAP), Andy Cooke (NEGa), Shannon P.E. Ball (GAP), Lamar Carney (NEGa), Susan Monk (CP), Katheryn Preston (CP), Jay Thomas (GAP), Sharon Riley (GAP), Dan Boles (CP), Edward Tamsberg (guest, GT student), Don Handel (guest, GT Board), and George Taylor (CP)

Excused: Trace Haythorn (GAP), Jeannie Simpson (GAP), Alice Hickcox (GAP), Forrest Palmer (GAP staff), Jim Heyl (NEGa), Ken Meeks (NEGa staff), and Sid Gunter (CP)

The agenda was presented and approved.

Introductions

Minutes

- It was **moved** by Sue Monk and seconded by Shannon Ball that the **February 7, 2009 minutes be approved as amended** (Add GT to their campus ministry report, omit “lack of participation and” from the Berry report) The motion passed.
- It was **moved** by George Taylor and seconded by Shannon Ball that the **April 1, 2009 minutes be approved as amended** (midway thru, “Lance articulated...Gail noted that within NEGaP” should read “Gail noted that within CP,...”) The motion passed.

New Business

There is no new business on the agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

Budget Allocations

The moderator presented a **summary of the allocations** for each campus ministry.

- It was **moved** by George Taylor and **seconded** by Shannon Ball **that the proposed allocations be approved.**

Jay Thomas asked for clarification regarding the UGA allocation being higher than they actually requested. Lamar Carney asked for clarification regarding the low amount allocated to Atlanta University Center. Both concerns were addressed and discussed.

The motion passed.

Bylaws

The moderator presented the proposed bylaws for the Tri-Presbytery Campus Ministry Commission / PCM of Georgia.

- It was **moved** by Sue Monk and **seconded** by Shannon Ball that the **proposed bylaws be approved.**

The moderator began a discussion with clarification on called meetings. A friendly amendment was made by Jay Thomas that “A quorum of 7 voting commissioners, with at least one commissioner from each of the three presbyteries is needed to conduct official business.” This sentence should be the second sentence of the paragraph under the “Meetings” section.

- It was **moved** by George Taylor and **seconded** by Lamar Carney that we accept the friendly amendment. The motion passed.

A friendly amendment was made by Jay Thomas that the first sentence under “Terms of Office” read: The term of office for all officers is one year. Officers may serve up to two consecutive terms in the same office, and are ineligible for another term in that same office, full or partial, until a calendar year shall pass from their leaving of office until their resumption of office.

- It was **moved** by George Taylor and **seconded** by Lamar Carney that we accept the friendly amendment. The motion passed.

The overall motion passed.

The following commission representatives will assure that their respective presbyteries vote on the bylaws at their next regular meetings. Lamar Carney for NEGa, Susan Monk for Cherokee, Jill Tolbert for Greater Atlanta.

Budget

Lamar asked for clarification regarding the funds from Greater Atlanta Presbytery. The moderator responded that we do have a commitment from GAP, and that we should operate as if that will, in fact, come in.

NEW BUSINESS

“A Proposal for Effective Support, Encouragement, Connection, and Expansion of Campus Ministry Within the Bounds of Northeast Georgia Presbytery” was presented, clarifying that it has been adopted by NEGa Presbytery, and that it is presented for our edification only, with discussion as to how it might affect the commission’s life together as well as the campus ministries that we serve. A lively discussion followed, with Andy Cooke addressing comments and questions as they arose.

Special order of the day: Lunch arrived, and a blessing was offered by Dan Boles.

- A **motion** was made by Susan Monk and seconded by Lamar Carney that we receive the proposal. The motion passed.

The moderator encouraged those who have strong feelings regarding the presented proposal to put them down on paper and share them with those on the commission in Northeast Georgia Presbytery.

The moderator shared her work within the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta to have the September meeting focus on campus ministry, with the offering designated for campus ministry, and as many of our campus ministers attend and offer to serve as liturgists. Other ideas for promoting and development for campus ministry were shared / discussed.

- A **motion** was made by George Taylor and seconded by Susan Monk that Dan Boles and Andy Cooke work together to create the website www.PCMofGeorgia.org, with a budget of no more than \$200 from the Statewide Development Fund. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Jay Thomas and seconded by Andy Cooke that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed.

Prayer requests were received, and the meeting was closed with prayer by the moderator.

There will be a regular meeting hosted by Atlanta University Center (likely at New Life Presbyterian Church) on Saturday, August 1, 2009 at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill P. Tolbert, secretary

Cherokee Presbytery and Properties
Summary Balance Sheet
As of June 30, 2009

	Jun 30, 09
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	298,826.05
Total Current Assets	298,826.05
Fixed Assets	858,286.78
Other Assets	277,997.41
TOTAL ASSETS	1,435,110.24
 LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	914.66
Total Current Liabilities	914.66
Long Term Liabilities	545,690.56
Total Liabilities	546,605.22
Equity	888,505.02
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,435,110.24

Cherokee Presbytery and Properties
Profit & Loss
January through June 2009

	Jan - Jun 09
Income	
44009 · Budgeted Receipts	
44000 · Unified Gifts	255,300.22
44002 · Interest Income	155.78
Total 44009 · Budgeted Receipts	255,456.00
47000 · CRC Income	
47200 · Summer Camp Fees	81,319.96
47201 · Presbytery Unified Giving	50,000.00
47202 · Retreat Center Fees	16,074.80
47203 · Retreat Event Fees	2,210.00
47204 · Community Camp	2,000.00
47208 · Electric Income Res Home	131.45
Total 47000 · CRC Income	151,736.21
Total Income	407,192.21
Expense	
51000 · Administration Division	
51001 · Salaries	
51002 · Interim GP	
51100 · Salary/Interim GP	18,724.26
51101 · P/R Tax/Interim GP	1,933.58
51102 · Housing/Interim GP	11,250.00
51104 · Annuity/Interim GP	2,250.00
51105 · Pension/Interim GP	8,977.35
51106 · Travel/Interim GP	2,587.02
51107 · Professional Expense/Interim GP	611.77
51108 · Education/Interim GP	267.44
Total 51002 · Interim GP	46,601.42
51109 · Administration Assistant	
51200 · Salary/Admin Asst	17,486.28
51201 · P/R Tax/Admin Asst	1,398.90
51202 · FSA/Admin Asst	3,421.02
Total 51109 · Administration Assistant	22,306.20
51203 · Finance Administrator	
51210 · Salary/Finance Admin	13,173.01
51211 · P/R Tax/Finance Admin	1,053.84
51215 · Communications	10,001.32
51219 · Treasurer	1,500.00
Total 51203 · Finance Administrator	25,728.17
Total 51001 · Salaries	94,635.79

Attachment G-3

51216 · Pby Office Operating Expense	
51302 · Utilities	2,487.09
51303 · Telephone	2,370.38
51304 · Office Renovation Loan	12,116.22
51305 · Office Supplies	4,679.40
51306 · Postage	718.78
51307 · Office Property Insurance	1,904.71
51310 · Printer Lease	1,298.37
51311 · Workers Comp/Pby Staff	2,387.60
51313 · QuickBooks Support	1,107.97
51317 · Janitor/Pby	<u>480.00</u>
Total 51216 · Pby Office Operating Expense	<u>29,550.52</u>
Total 51000 · Administration Division	124,186.31
51318 · Church Development	
52101 · New Development	
52100 · New Church Dev. Comm.	<u>0.00</u>
Total 52101 · New Development	0.00
52201 · Desig/ Cap/ Debt	
52200 · Faith/P&I=\$533.79@5%	2,296.57
52202 · Macland/P&I=\$533.79@6.25%	4,593.14
52204 · Property Tax WL	486.15
52206 · Providence (Old Prop) UCB Loan	<u>7,762.13</u>
Total 52201 · Desig/ Cap/ Debt	<u>15,137.99</u>
Total 51318 · Church Development	15,137.99
53103 · Church Support	
53100 · Redevelopment	0.00
53101 · Percept Vista Agreement	<u>1,638.00</u>
Total 53103 · Church Support	1,638.00
54505 · Committee on Prep for Ministry	
54502 · Committee Expense	408.00
54503 · Background Inquiry	<u>143.00</u>
Total 54505 · Committee on Prep for Ministry	551.00
55109 · Mission Program	
55200 · GA Campus Min Commission	1,875.00
55201 · Presbyterian College	0.00
55202 · Villa International Atlanta	0.00
55203 · Georgia Lodge-Benevolence	500.00
55204 · Johnson C. Smith Theo Seminary	999.99
55205 · Thornwell Children's Home/School	-39.00
55206 · Duvall Home	250.00
55207 · Medical Benevolence Foundation	0.00
55208 · Presbyterian Disaster Relief As	<u>375.00</u>
Total 55109 · Mission Program	3,960.99

Attachment G-4

56110 · Nurture Division

56100 · Fall Leadership Event	0.00
56101 · Winter Leadership Event	2,089.03
56103 · Resource Center	100.00
56107 · Subscriptions	44.95
Total 56110 · Nurture Division	2,233.98

56500 · Cherokee Retreat Center 50,000.00

57000 · CRC Expense

57001 · CRC Administration

57100 · Campers Insurance	414.12
57101 · Property Insurance	2,336.47
57102 · Office Supplies	2,705.32
57105 · ACA	1,437.00
Total 57001 · CRC Administration	6,892.91

57002 · Year Round Program/Staff

57200 · Year-Round Program	521.02
57201 · Year Round Food Service	1,929.44
57202 · Year Round Publicity	3,825.08
57203 · Contract Staff	3,000.00
57204 · Workers Comp	2,100.00
Total 57002 · Year Round Program/Staff	11,375.54

57003 · Summer Program/Staffing

57300 · Publicity	5,513.76
57301 · Food	13,175.00
57302 · Ed. Resources	536.54
57304 · Challenge Camp	2,842.26
57305 · Medical Supplies	449.18
57306 · T-Shirts	2,255.59
57307 · Recreational Supplies	350.74
57308 · Worship/Small Group Supplies	192.43
57309 · Arts and Craft Supplies	83.39
57350 · Summer Staff Salaries	17,478.85
57351 · Summer Staff PR Taxes	550.15
57352 · Summer Staff Training Exp	881.89
Total 57003 · Summer Program/Staffing	44,309.78

57004 · Utilities

57500 · Electric	8,691.70
57501 · Propane	3,569.45
57502 · Telephone	1,667.61
57503 · Water/Sewer	2,275.09
57504 · Trash Pickup	1,038.40
57505 · Internet	674.28
Total 57004 · Utilities	17,916.53

57005 · Loans/Debts

57601 · Residential Trailer	3,884.42
57602 · Corps Lease	500.00
Total 57005 · Loans/Debts	4,384.42

Attachment G-5

57006 · Maintenance/Operations	
57401 · Buildings/Facilities/Grounds	9,023.77
57402 · Pool Operations	2,990.01
57403 · Tools/Equipment	924.42
57404 · Truck Operation	1,361.66
57405 · Machinery Operation	269.28
57407 · Incidental Labor	700.00
57408 · Custodial Supplies	<u>1,549.25</u>
Total 57006 · Maintenance/Operations	16,818.39

57007 · Retreat Center Director	
57710 · Salary	26,250.00
57711 · Travel	173.04
57712 · Pension	6,360.90
57713 · PR Tax	2,279.69
57715 · Professional Expense	542.17
57716 · Workers Comp	<u>547.22</u>
Total 57007 · Retreat Center Director	36,153.02

57008 · Grounds Keeper	
57720 · Salary	7,999.98
57721 · PR Tax	639.99
57722 · Pension/Benefits	<u>4,093.08</u>
Total 57008 · Grounds Keeper	<u>12,733.05</u>

Total 57000 · CRC Expense 150,583.64

60001 · Payroll Expenses 6,625.78

66900 · Reconciliation Discrepancies 0.00

Total Expense 354,917.69

Income Net 52,274.52