

# Highlights

## of the 137<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Southern New England May 2, 2009 New Haven Korean Church, Hamden, CT

There were 75 ministers, 64 elder commissioners, and 6 elder Council members present and voting. Twenty-four of the Presbytery's 34 sessions were represented. There were 15 observers at the meeting. The total attendance was 184.

### Council Report

Elder Bill Schimpf nominated and Presbytery VOTED to elect the following to serve as co-chairs of the Nominations Committee:

**Rev. James Glenn**, Co-chair, class 2010

**Rev. Mary Marple Thies**, Co-chair, class 2010

Elder Bill Schimpf, on behalf of Council, requested and Presbytery VOTED to set aside By-Law 7.03 to permit the nomination of Elder Patricia Wales to the Nominations Committee, class of 2012. This will be Pat's third consecutive term.

### Election

**Elder Tom Taylor**, Darien: Noroton was nominated and Presbytery VOTED to elect Tom as Vice Moderator.

### Ecclesiastical Relations Committee

Rev. Arthur Shippee introduced six speakers to speak to the proposed amendment 08-B:

Joseph Kimatu, Lois Maxwell, Dotsie Shaw,  
Bill Gestal, Bill Goettler, and Jessica Johnson

After the speakers, Presbytery broke into small groups and discussed "What did you hear?", "How did you react?", and "What did you learn?"

Following lunch, Amendment 08-B was moved and discussed. Presbytery VOTED to approve the proposed amendment on Ordination Standards, 08-B.

### Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women's Church wide Gathering will be held in Louisville, KY July 11-15, 2009. Scholarships are available.

### Were You There ...?

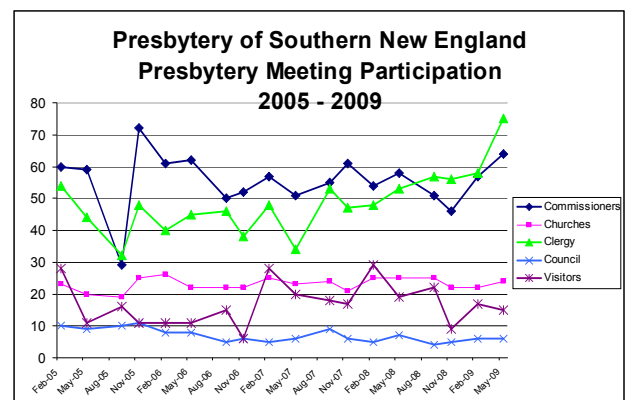
- **Were you there ...** when Presbytery was led in worship by **Rev. Dae Joon Roh** and **Rev. Thomas Troeger**?
- **Were you there ...** when Communion was celebrated by **Rev. Maria LaSala** and **Rev. Steven Thayer**?
- **Were you there ...** for the installation of **Elder Judy Babcock** as Moderator and **Elder Tom Taylor** as Vice Moderator?
- **If you weren't there ...** you missed a lot!

### Treasurer's Report

Rev. Bill Showalter reported on the state of investments of the Presbytery. He noted that almost all of Per Capita and Mission pledges have been paid. Presbytery **VOTED** to receive the report from the Treasurer.

### Committee on Preparation for Ministry

- Presbytery VOTED to enroll **Morgan Campbell**, Groton: St. Andrew, as a Candidate.
- Presbytery VOTED to enroll **David Martinez**, New Canaan: First, as a Candidate.



## Church Development Committee

Rev. David Watermulder brought the report of the CDC. The committee reported on the process they are following with new churches which are forming within the Presbytery. There is a four-step process towards chartering:

- A self-forming community will approach the Presbytery
- Fellowship Status is the first formalized step
- New Church Development moving towards self-governance
- An independent congregation

One of the congregations in this process is the Tumaini Fellowship. Rev. Joseph Kimatu spoke to the Presbytery about the developments taking place in the Fellowship. Tumaini is the Swahili word for HOPE. The anniversary of the congregation is on Easter Sunday. It is now 3 years and 3 weeks old. There are elected leaders. The one hardship is with the space available at the MLK center. The Fellowship is looking for another space in which to meet. There are about 80 active members.

## More Elections

Elder Stephanie Bracket requested and Presbytery VOTED to set aside By-Law 7.03 to permit the nomination of Rev. Paul Terry as chair of the Trustees. Presbytery **VOTED** to elect Rev. Terry as Chair of Trustees, class of 2010.

## Board of Pensions

Rev. Phil Gehman reported that there will be no experience apportionment for this year. The Pension fund is fully funded with prudent, diverse investments and your benefits are secure.

There are new enhancements to the benefits. Financial counseling is available to members at no cost.

The new Global Fit benefit is available. This discounts memberships to fitness centers. Use of the BC/BS card is encouraged.

The open enrollment period for long-term care insurance is open to the end of the month.

## Committee on Ministry

- Presbytery VOTED to approve changing the status of **Rev. Anne Marie Meyerhoffer** from designated pastor to installed pastor at Milford United Presbyterian Church with her installation scheduled for June 21, 2009.
- Presbytery VOTED to approve the request of **Rev. Jey Deifell** for Honorable Retirement effective June 30, 2009. Jey and his wife, Joan, are planning to move to North Carolina.
- **Adele Crawford** was examined by Presbytery for Ordination and membership. Presbytery VOTED to approve Adele for ordination and to validate her call as Acting Associate Minister of the Wapping Community Church (UCC), South Windsor, CT.
- The committee voted to dismiss:
  - **Rev. Eve Tolley** to the Presbytery of Tropical Florida.
  - **Rev. Margaret (Peg) Ferguson** to the Presbytery of Boston
  - **Rev. Kathryn Nichols** to the Presbytery of Olympia
- The committee voted to change the status of:
  - **Rev. Cory Loder** from Specialized Ministry to member-at-large
  - **Rev. Emily Heath** from Specialized ministry to member-at-large
- The committee completed Triennial visits at:
  - Turn of River Presbyterian Church of Stamford, March 31, 2009
  - Valley Presbyterian Church of Brookfield, March 9, 2009
  - First Presbyterian Church of Stamford, on February 17, 2009

**The next Stated Meeting of Presbytery**  
**will be held on Wednesday, Sep. 16 2009**

**at**

**St. Andrew Presbyterian Church  
Groton, CT**