

143rd Stated Meeting
The Presbytery of Southern New England
Ethel Walker School
Simsbury, CT
November 13, 2010

The 143rd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Southern New England began with singing of “Come All You People” and a ceremonial procession. The meeting was called to order at 9: 39 am in the Wilkin Dining Hall of the Ethel Walker School, Simsbury, CT by the Moderator Elder Tom Taylor, who offered an opening prayer.

FORMING OF THE ROLL:

Stated Clerk Bill Thomas reported that the roll was being formed through the registration for the meeting and that a quorum was present.

MINISTERS PRESENT: 51

Arner, Susan	Kimatu, Joseph	Robinson, Graham
Castner, Edward	LaSala, Marie	Roh, Dae Joon
Chase, David (R.K.)	Lindsley, Dana F	Sandel, John S.
Clark, Stephen	Maxwell, William	Schreiner III, Samuel A.
Crawford, Adele	McLaren, Nancy	Shippee, Arthur
Davis, Kathleen	McNaughton, Marilyn	Showalter, William
Davis, Terrence	Mehr-Muska , Tracy	Smanik, Virginia
Epperson, Eileen	Merz, John	Speers, Jr., Tom
Ferguson, John	Meyerhoffer, Anne Marie	Stanford, Katherine
Foster, Christine	Notley, Patrick	Tate, Chris
Fuhrmeister, Anne	Pfeil, Susan	Thayer, Steve
Fuller, Julia	Porizky, Mark	Thies, Mary Marple
Gilmore, Paul	Priest, Joan Withers	Van Dyke, David
Goettler, William	Ramos, Jovelino	Vought, Rick
Hager, Barbara	Ramsey, Glenn	Watermulder, David G.
Highsmith, Martha	Ray, Justin	Webster, John
Jung, Johanna Johns	Robertson, Frank	Wood, Jeffrey

MINSTERS EXCUSED: 20

Appel, Beth	Duffy, Edward	Poole, Frank
Caton, Christine	Gestal, William	Porizky, Barbara
Conboy, Thomas	Glenn, James	Rodkey, John
Dannenfelser, Richard	Johnson, Tracy	Snell, Georgia Ann
Davis, Stephen	Laird, Kathryn Kibbie	Speers, Jr., T. Guthrie
Delmar, Chris	Lindner, John	Unsell, Frances
Drake, Brandi	Mahan, Jim	

ELDER COMMISSIONERS FROM CHURCHES: 49

Ashaway: Babcock

Donna Litwin

Barrington

Betsy Dietrick

Brookfield

Ann Thomas
Granville Reed

Cranston: Faith

Not represented

Cumberland

Peter Cameron
Bob Wallace
Eric Fontecchio

Darien: Noroton

James Rusiakas
Diane Gilliam

Enfield: Calvary

Richard Sterling
Gloria Walsh

Fairfield: First

Herb Smith
Lois James
John Winstead

Fall River: Calvary

Not represented

Fall River: Christ

Not represented

Fall River: United

Not represented

Granby: Pioneer Valley

Not represented

Groton: St. Andrew

Not represented

Greenwich: First

Charlene Roberson
Philip J. Mc Whorter

Hamden: NH Korean

Not represented

Hartford: First

Not represented

Manchester: Hartford Korean

Not represented

Milford: United

Jill Krakovich
Robert Heerema

New Canaan: First

Charlotte Brown
David Brown
Anne Bennett
Ellen Taylor Sissen
Wendy Stahl

New Haven: CT Korean

Charlie Chung
Charles Kim

New Haven: First

Dick Hasbany
Nancy Rupp
Teddy Joy Hogle

Newport: First

Jan Jones
David A. Tenney
Richard Price

Old Greenwich: PCOG

Walter Baker
Shirley Prey

Providence

Bob Smanik
Judy Babcock

Springfield: Christ

Not represented

Springfield: MLK

Lisa Baker

Stamford: First

Ann Curtis Cox
Lawrence A. Cox
Lee Pashayan
Diane Dischino

Stamford: TOR

Not represented

Warwick: Greenwood

Henry Ruppenthal
Evon Burge

Warwick: Woodbury

Douglas Ray

Waterford: Crossroads

Penny Webster
John Succo

W. Hartford: Westminster

Alice Cruikshank
Ange Brown
Michael Brown
Nicole Aronson

Westerly: Dunn's Corners

Not represented

Wilton:

Not represented

MEMBERS OF THE PRESBYTERY COUNCIL: 4

Elder Stephanie Brackett
Elder William Schimpf
Elder Tom Taylor
Elder William Thomas

CERTIFIED ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF: 1

Pam Garner

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS: 2

Rev. Michael Prewitt, Presbytery of New Brunswick

Rev. John Nesbitt, United Church of Canada

VISTORS: 6**TOTAL REGISTERED ATTENDANCE: 113****MINISTERS ABSENT: 91**

Annunciacao, Gerson	Graybill, David	Phillips, Jim
Beams, Ann	Greer, Bob	Pietsch, William V.
Ahn, Shin	Hare, David L.	Pomeroy, George
Alter, Robert	Holleck, Tiffany Nicely	Prasse, Barbara
Baez, Samuel	Holt, Carl T.	Prasse, Edgar
Blackadar, Murray	Hwang, John H.	Robbins, Cynthia
Braddock, Matthew	Johnson, Gordon	Robertson, Jill
Brooks, Edwin	Jun, Matthew	Rockness, David
Brooks, Virginia	Keller, James	Ruppert, Randall
Carvalhaes, Claudio	Kelsey, David	Sausville, gretchen
Chang, Wilson	Kim, Keun Soo	Sloan, Karen
Couch, Ed	Kim, Sun Gil	Smith, Stuart
Dacunha, Alonso F.	Lantz, Bob	Soares, Denise
Danks, Ed	Line, M. Allen	Soares, Edward
DeWolfe, Norman	Little-Andrade, Heather	Sugg, Robert A.
Dietrich, Wendell S.	Lockhart, James	Sullivan, Thomas P.
Doll, Greg	Loder, Cory	Sundquist, Ralph R.
Evans, Robert	Lover, William	Sweet, John D.
Evertsberg, William	Ludeman, Ross	Teague, David
Faithfull, Gail	Lundgren, Donald K.	Troeger, Thomas
Feroe, Russell	Marion, Patricia	Trucksess, Susan Power
Field, Jane	Martinez, Jamie Harris	Udell, Harold
Fisher, Thomas	Mellon, David	Unsworth, Richard
Fletcher, Stuart	Miller, Joseph	VanDerbeck, Holmes
Forman, Charles	Minor, Ron	Van Deusen, Richard
Fuhrmeister, John	Newberry, Charles (Terry)	Veon, Robert
Garren, Royal	North, Carol	West, Frank
Gestal, William	Olson, Susan	Winter, Jeffrey
Gibson, Robert	Orr, Mark	Witter, Thomas
Goudreau, Diane	Peel, Craig L.	Wright, Heather P.
	Perry, Robert M.	

ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET

Presbytery VOTED to adopt the docket as amended: adding a report by the Old Greenwich Review Team, and there will be no Personnel Report. (Appendix I)

COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS

Rev. Tom Speers welcomed the Presbytery to the Ethel Walker School. For almost 100 years, this school has educated young women to make a difference in the world. There are about 260 students, grades 6-12. Thanks were given to the Babcock: Ashaway, RI Church for providing the refreshments for the beginning of the meeting. This is a good model for small churches who are not able to host the meeting, but who can serve the refreshments. He shared thanks for prayers and concerns for his father, who is recovering from heart surgery.

ENROLLMENT AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Moderator asked for the introduction and enrollment of Corresponding Members and other guest ministers. First-time Commissioners were introduced and welcomed.

Presbytery **VOTED** to enroll as Corresponding Members: Rev. Michael Prewitt, the Interim candidate at Calvin PC and Rev. John Nesbitt, United Church of Canada minister.

CONSENT MOTION

The Stated Clerk presented the Consent Motion. The Stated Clerk **MOVED**:

- 1) That the Presbytery grant excuses from attendance at the 143rd Stated Meeting to those needing the same, but that the Presbytery suspend the reading of their names.
- 2) That the Presbytery grant excuses for early departures from the 143rd Stated Meeting for those requesting the same by signing their names on a list maintained at the Clerks' desk, but that the Presbytery suspend the reading of their names.
- 3) That the Presbytery seat as corresponding members those ministers for whom a request is made at the beginning of the meeting.
- 4) That the Presbytery approve the minutes of the sessions as noted in Appendix II.
- 5) That the Presbytery receive, with regret, the resignations of:
 - Rev. Barbara Wilson, as member of the Committee on Ministry
 - Elder Ann Thomas, as Synod Commissioner and member of the New England Presbyterian Partnership Group (PPG)
 - Elder Raymond Parker, Ecclesiastical Relations Committee
- 6) That the Presbytery approve the minutes of the 142nd Stated Meeting held on September 18, 2010, as printed in the "Minutes" section of the PSNE website.

The Presbytery **VOTED** to approve the Consent Motion.

Rev. Martha Highsmith assumed the Chair of the Meeting.

WORSHIP

Rev. Marilyn McNaughton, Council Chair, and Rev. Eileen Epperson led the Presbytery in Worship. Worship consisted of a sharing time at our tables, prayers, scripture reading of Philemon, hymn "Live Into Hope". The Meditation was in the form of a drama about Philemon by Marilyn McNaughton. It was followed by table discussions, an Agape meal, hymn "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love" and Benediction.

Presbytery continued to worship at various intervals in the meeting with the singing of hymns and offering of prayers.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER

Rev. Dana Lindsley addressed the Presbytery noting that he will be on a three month Sabbatical after the February Presbytery meeting. During these months, there will be a new position description for the Executive, which will be presented today for reading. The role is as sentinel, midwife as the church gives new life in our midst and tender of the new vineyards. The role of the leader is moving toward a new way of working together as a Presbytery.

There will be a new position created for a facilitator for the process of “Discerning the Way”. Rev. Tom Speers has contracted to be the Presbyter responsible for the functioning of this process.

Our life together as a Presbytery is changing. We meet around tables and enter into discussion with one another. There are new worship experiences, which include the singing of hymns.. The goal is to be people discerning God’s will.

All these things are a part of Spiritual formation as God’s people. How are we allowing ourselves to be formed more faithfully to God? These disciplined practices “tame the wilderness”.

Responding to Scripture: “Lord, we are the clay and you are our potter, we are all the work of your hand”, how do we allow God to form us?

What has formed us in the past? Some formative work we have done well, and some not.

We have debated polity for years. Does this make us legalistic?

We have disagreed about issues. Does this make us adversaries?

Worship is presentational, staid and formal. Does this make us listeners and not participants?

We focus on business, which needs to be done. But have we made this our priority?

The Executive asked the Presbytery: What practices open us to God forming us in more faithful and noble ways?

Singing hymns forms us to be a people of praise.

Theological reflection forms us to think and live out of faith.

Small group discussion connects and forms us as God’s people.

Discernment forms us to look for God in everyone and everywhere.

Hospitality forms us to be open vessels to God’s presence.

Our practices are responsive to who God is.

Practices change our being...body, soul and mind. Disciplines are the things we do, the clothing on the body of our practices.

The Executive asked for small group discussion around tables on the practices of Christians, and to answer three questions about these practices.

After discussion, the Executive noted that we are meeting at a school, because in this Presbytery, there are a number of specialized clergy who do not serve in congregations. We are here to celebrate the ministry of Tom Speers in this school.

The executive concluded his report.

The Vice-moderator said that we are glorifying and enjoying God by our singing and Presbytery sang “Gloria, Gloria”.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

Rev. Marilyn McNaughton brought the report of the Council. The underlying theme of the Council meeting was listening. There was also a lot of laughter at the meeting. Steve Clark commented pastors are often likened to “shepherds.” Strictly speaking, though, the Lord is our Shepherd; our calling is to be sheepsdogs trying to get the sheep to follow the Shepherd.

The Council has been spending time developing the position description for both the Presbyter to the Spiritual Community (Appendix III) and for a Presbyter for the “Discerning the Way” (Appendix IV).

Marilyn highlighted the availability of “Getting Connected” Presbytery newsletter. Through that newsletter, we receive the “Parish Paper” and Council discussed a recent article on dealing with conflict.

The Council received letters of concern from six of the Sessions of the Presbytery. A task force has been appointed to consider these letters of concern. The convener of this task force is Rev. Beth Appel. A response letter was created (see Appendix V). On October 25, the letter of response was sent. The Council is proposing opportunities for discussion and an invitation to a mutual season of discernment. Rev. McNaughton is the contact person for people and churches to respond to this letter and suggestions. The Chair of the Council concluded her report.

The Rev. Tom Speers gave an overview of the Review Team’s process, to date, in their discussions with the Presbyterian Church of Old Greenwich (Appendix VI).

The Review Team recommendations were:

- The Review Team believes that, as it stands currently, it is unlikely that PCOG will willingly continue to serve together with the Presbytery in the PC (USA).
- The Review Team and PCOG have mutually discerned that an Implementation Team ought to be formed to develop and negotiate the terms of the dismissal of the PCOG to another Reformed denomination.

It was MOVED to authorize the Council to act on behalf of Presbytery to appoint an Implementation Team. During discussion, some questions were raised about the formation of the Implementation Team. No decisions will be made without discussion and vote by the Presbytery. Council was encouraged to include persons from all perspectives on the team.

Presbytery **VOTED** to authorize the Council to act on behalf of the Presbytery to name an Implementation Team.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Rev. William Showalter presented the Treasurer's report (Appendix VII, VIII, IX and X). This is a third quarter report. There are several income items that are lagging behind, especially General Mission. Also per capita is behind, at 60% as opposed to what it should be at 75%. The expenses of Presbytery exceed the income by about \$32,000. He is hopeful that income will increase in the final quarter. He discussed the report on dedicated accounts. He highlighted the Investments report. Questions were asked about the availability of "Flood Recovery Fund" which came from the Presbyterian Disaster funds.

Presbytery **VOTED** to receive the Treasurer's Report.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

Elder William Schimpf presented the Trustee's Report. The trustees moved, and Presbytery **VOTED** that the budget line for attendance at the June 2010 General Assembly be increased by \$1,571.15, to compensate Presbytery representatives for their expenses.

REPORT OF THE SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Rev. Adele Crawford presented the report of the Social Justice Committee. She and Elder Dick Hasbany discussed a survey of the issues for focus by the Social Justice Committee. Homelessness and hunger are the top concerns of Churches. In New Haven, sixteen Churches took turns sheltering the homeless during the winter weeks. Members of the first Presbyterian Church of New Haven spoke about their experience of sheltering homeless. The main shelter in New Haven spoke of problems associated with the closing of an "Overflow shelter". The local shelter asked churches and synagogues to take turns hosting men for a week during the winter. Several persons spoke about their experiences.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Rev. Tracy Mehr-Muska presented the report of the Committee on Nominations.

The Committee nominated and Presbytery **VOTED** to elect the following:

Committee on Ministry: **Elder Judy Babcock**, Providence, 2013

Social Justice: **Rev. Christine Caton**, 2013

Synod Commissioner: **Elder Judy Cunningham**, Brookfield: Valley, 2012

Ecclesiastical Relations: **Elder Barry Baxter**, Warwick: Greenwood, 2011

There were no nominations from the floor.

Rev. Chris Foster announced that every church has a Book of Mission for prayer and Study, and commissioners are urged to take these Mission Yearbooks to their church.

REPORT OF THE CHURCH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Rev. David Watermulder presented the report of the Church Development Committee. He thanked Presbytery for the prayers and support during the time of crisis for their new born daughter, Abigail, who is now home.

He introduced Rev. Michael Prewitt, Interim at Calvin: Cumberland. His focus is on "Helping Churches to Grow Churches."

David introduced Rev. Joseph Kimatu, Pastor of the Tumaini Fellowship in Springfield. Rev. Kimatu spoke about the good news of the worship and celebration of God in the Tumaini Fellowship. The Fellowship has been looking for a place to purchase for worship. The congregation has acquired a building which was dedicated last November. Since then, there have been a number of expenses. 2010 has been financially challenging for the group, which have been supporting a member of their Fellowship.

The Presbytery recessed for lunch by singing "Now Thank We All Our God", which was the grace for the meal.

Interactive reports are available during the lunch time.

Information and announcements are available as a power point presentation.

The Moderator, Tom Taylor reconvened the meeting of Presbytery at 1:02 in the Wilkin Dining Room following lunch.

Council Chair Rev. Marilyn McNaughton highlighted a slide show presentation prepared by Marty Legg, with photographs taken by Dan Cunningham, of highlights of the 142nd Stated Meeting held at the Valley Presbyterian Church in Brookfield, CT on September 18, 2010.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

Rev. David Van Dyke presented the report from the Committee on Preparation for Ministry.

After sharing his journey of faith and sense of call, Presbytery **VOTED** to enroll **Christopher Samsen** as a Candidate.

After answering the Constitutional Questions in the affirmative, Christopher Samsen was enrolled as a Candidate. Rev. Sam Schreiner of the Noroton Church gave the charge to the Candidate and Rev. Van Dyke offered a celebratory prayer. The Moderator welcomed him to the Presbytery as a Candidate.

Rev. Van Dyke concluded his report.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Rev. John Webster presented the report of the Committee on Ministry.

- The Committee **MOVED** and Presbytery **VOTED** to approve the request from the Korean Presbyterian Church of Greater Hartford to change the name of the church to the Hartford Korean Presbyterian Church.
- The Committee **MOVED** and Presbytery **VOTED** to approve the request of the Wilton Presbyterian Church and the Rev. David Graybill to dissolve their

pastoral relationship and to grant the Rev. Graybill honorable retirement effective July 31, 2011, with his last day at the church being June 5, 2011.

- The Committee **MOVED** and Presbytery **VOTED** to approve the request of the Rev. Patricia Marion that she be honorably retired effective March 23, 2011.
- The Committee **MOVED** and Presbytery **VOTED** to receive Rev. Michael Prewitt into membership as Interim Pastor at Calvin Presbyterian Church, Cumberland, RI, if the way be clear. The terms of call for the part time position are in order. (Appendix XI)

Rev. Michael Prewitt responded to questions about his statement of faith. His interest is in New Church Development and in New Ministry development. He has been welcomed by both the Calvin Church and the New Church Development Committee. He encourages congregations to find a passion and mission.

After answering the Constitutional Questions in the affirmative, Rev. Prewitt was welcomed to the Presbytery.

Rev. Steven Clark offered a celebratory prayer.

- Rev. John Webster highlighted several actions taken by the Committee. The Committee encourages individuals and congregations to give ample notice to the Committee of ordinations and installations.
- He also discussed the severance package offered to Rev. Hwang. The Committee recommends no changes to the package.
- He discussed several letters sent to the Presbytery and Council from Sessions. Because one of the questions concerns the work of the Committee, the Committee will be responding to the Council, and will draft a response at the December meeting.

Rev. Webster concluded the report of the Committee on Ministry.

Presbytery praised God by singing "Amazing Grace".

REPORT OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Rev. Arthur Shippee brought the report of the Ecclesiastical Relations Committee. On January 8, 2011, Rev. Paul Hooker from the GA will be in the Presbytery to Discuss the Form of Government proposed by the General Assembly.

The committee **MOVED** as a group a number of Amendments from the General Assembly for the vote of the Presbytery (10-B, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, O)

Following a request, Amendments 10-C, 10-M and 10-N were considered separately.

10-B. Removing Stated Clerk or Clerk of Session—On Amending G-9.0203b. This specifies a process for removing derelict clerks, when it was discovered there is none. **APPROVED**

10-D. Nominating Committees—On Amending G-9.0801a. This proposed amendment and 10-H came from G.A. committees. They replace representation language that related to the 1983 reunion with more traditionally Presbyterian language that urges a balance of ministers and elders, and of women and men. **APPROVED**

10-E. Presbytery Rolls and Registers—On Amending G-11.0407. Reserving the word "Roll" for ministers, this instructs that "Registers" be kept of all CCE's and CACE's and of all Commissioned Lay Pastors. **APPROVED**

10-G. Synod Function—On Amending G-12.0100. Allows for curtailing functions of Synod (not including the judicial and review) and for combining two adjoining Synods' administrative services, by 2/3 vote of Presbyteries. **APPROVED**

10-H. Nominations Process—On Amending G-13.0108, G-13.0111a, and G-13.0202b) This proposed amendment and 10-D came from G.A. committees. **APPROVED**

10-I. Prayer Added to Ordination and Installation Services—On Amending W-4.4003h, W-4.4004a(2) and W-4.4006b(2) adding "pray for" in these three places. **APPROVED**

10-J. Stay of Enforcement—On Amending D-6.0103. This corrects a prior error concerning entering stays of enforcement. **APPROVED**

10-K. Preliminary Questions—On Amending D-6.0306, D-8.0302, and D-13.0302. This came from GA, that when a PJC's moderator and clerk find the points answered in the negative, without challenge, then dismissal is automatic, and the PJC need not meet. **APPROVED**

10-L. Reviewing Work of Investigating Committee—On Amending D-10.0202 Allows an Investigative Committee not to pursue repetitive allegations without new evidence. **APPROVED**

10-O. Decision of Permanent Judicial Commission—On Amending D-13.0404. Moot if 10-N passes; should 10-N fail, then a prosecutor's appeal, when upheld, is returned to the lower court for retrial; this is because the appeal is passed by a simple majority, but in a trial, guilt is by 2/3 majority. **APPROVED**

10-F. Certified Christian Educators—On Amending G-11.0407 and G-14.0730 This amendment may well require discussion, as a similar amendment two years ago did. It allows CCE's, who are also elders, to have a voice and a vote at Presbytery, as ministers do, while in an educational ministry under Presbytery jurisdiction. **APPROVED**

The following motions were considered individually:

10-C. The Committee MOVED, and Presbytery discussed the proposed Amendment requiring Sexual Misconduct Policy—On Amending G-9.0404: stipulating that "All governing bodies shall adopt and implement a sexual misconduct policy." **APPROVED**

10-M. The Committee MOVED, and Presbytery discussed the proposed Amendment that changes the Time Limit—On Amending D-10.0401 (statute of limitations) that charges may be filed within five (instead of current three) years of the alleged offense. **APPROVED**

10-N. The Committee MOVED, and Presbytery discussed the proposed Amendment-Appeal of “Not Guilty” Verdict—On Amending D-13.0102 and D-13.0106. This returns the Book of Order to its pre-2004 state, and in accord with civil practice, where only the party found guilty has the right to appeal to a higher judiciary. At the vote, there was a division of the house and a second vote was taken. **NOT APPROVED (27 YES/43 NO)**

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK

Elder Bill Thomas reported that the action items were included in the Consent Motion. The reports by commissioners to the 219th General Assembly are in Appendices XII, XIII, and XIV. There was no new or old business.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to come before the Presbytery.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to come before the Presbytery.

The Moderator announced that the next regular meeting of the Presbytery of Southern New England will be called to order at 9:30 am on Saturday, February 12, 2011 at First Presbyterian Church, Fairfield, CT.

Presbytery **VOTED** to adjourn.

The Presbytery sang “God Be With You” to close the meeting.

The Moderator Tom Taylor led the Presbytery in prayer to adjourn the meeting at 2:22 pm.

Attested:

William G. Thomas
Stated Clerk

Appendix I

**143rd Stated Meeting of the
Presbytery of Southern New England
Ethel Walker School, Simsbury, CT
Saturday, November 13, 2010**

PROPOSED DOCKET

9:00	Registration	
9:30	We Gather in God's Name – “Come All You People”	Procession
	Call to Order by the Moderator	Elder Tom Taylor
	Presbytery constituted with prayer	
	Forming of the Roll	
9:35	We Continue Gathering in God's Name	
	Adoption of the Docket	Elder Tom Taylor
	Report of the Committee on Arrangements	Rev. Tom Speers
	Enrollment and Introductions	Elder Tom Taylor
	Consent Motion	Elder Bill Thomas
9:45	Worship	Rev. Marilyn McNaughton
10:30	Executive Presbyter Report	Rev. Dana Lindsley
11:00	Hymn	“Gloria, Gloria” (as a
	round)	
11:15	Mission and Ministry of the Presbytery	
	Council Report (Ref. A)	Rev. Marilyn McNaughton
	Treasurer’s Report (Ref. C)	Rev. William Showalter
	Trustees Report (Ref. P)	Elder William Schimpf
	Social Justice Committee (Ref. I)	Rev. Jim Mahan
	Committee on Nominations (Ref. O)	Elder Pat Wales
11:50	Hymn	“Now Thank We All Our
God”	(1st verse)	
12:00	Luncheon	
	Interactive Reports (available during and after the luncheon)	
	Announcements (available on the PowerPoint screens)	
1:00	The Presbytery as Community	Rev. Marilyn McNaughton
1:05	Mission and Ministry of the Presbytery	
	Committee on Preparation for Ministry (Ref. J)	Rev. David Van Dyke
	Committee on Ministry (Ref. H)	Rev. John Webster
	Ecclesiastical Relations Committee (Ref. N)	Rev. Arthur Shippee
	Presentation, Discussion, & Voting on Amendments	
2:00	Hymn “Amazing Grace”	
	Church Development Committee (Ref. K)	Rev. David Watermulder
	Stated Clerk’s Report (Ref. B)	Elder Bill Thomas
	Old Business	
	New Business	
3:00	Adjournment Hymn “Song of Hope”	

Ecclesiastical Relations Committee

November 13, 2010

Review of Session Records

CHURCH	REVIEWER	RECOMMENDATION	EXCEPTIONS
Milford, CT: United	G. Walsh	Approve	0
Granby, MA: Pioneer Valley	A. Shippee	Approve	0
Cumberland, RI: Calvin	G. Snell	Approve	2
Fall River, MA: Calvary	A. Shippee	Minutes not received by reviewer	
Warwick, RI: Woodbury	R. Parker	Approve	0
New Canaan, CT: First	R. Parker	Approve	0
Springfield, MA: Christ	R. Parker	Approve	0
Old Greenwich, CT: PCOG	A. Shippee	Approve	0
Ashaway, RI: Babcock	A. Shippee	Approve	0

Due for signing at September 2010 meeting but not presented:

Cranston: Faith

Barrington

Stamford: TOR

Reports for the following churches were due in September 2010 but not received:

New Haven: CT Korean

Waterford: Crossroads

Due for signing at the May 2010 meeting but not presented:

Darien: Noroton

New Haven: First

Newport: First

The following churches were due in May but not received:

Fall River: United

Hamden: New Haven Korean

Manchester: Korean

Springfield: MLK

**DRAFT Position Description
Presbyter to the Spiritual Community
(Former Executive Presbyter)**

This position of staff leadership in the Presbytery of Southern New England grows out of an understanding that we are a people of God being led by our Lord. The Presbytery seeks to be a spiritual community formed anew by God's divine hand. Several biblical images inform this position description.

Sentinel (Jer. 6:17)

The Presbyter to the Spiritual Community will serve as a sentinel who is on the watch-tower looking for ways God is coming to us, for signs of danger and obstacles to God's coming, and communicating and informing the Presbytery of what he/she observes and discerns.

The Presbyter will engage both within and outside the Presbytery with people, events, and ideas that inquire into what God is doing today and how God's people can join God in that holy work. And the Presbyter will intentionally find ways of sharing what is seen, perceived, and discerned with the whole body of the Presbytery.

Specifically this Presbyter will:

- engage with people and events and ideas in the denominational, ecumenical, and religious worlds;
- host gatherings of people in the Presbytery to draw upon our collective wisdom and to stimulate each other's discernment of God's work;
- speak at Presbytery meetings, write to the Presbytery, and find effective ways to share personal and collective learnings.

Midwife (Ex. 1:17)

The Presbyter to the Spiritual Community will serve as a midwife who coaches the current church to be healthy and engaged in the process of birth.

The Presbyter will pay attention to current congregations, committees and ministries by:

- challenging them to hear God's call to ministry in God's world;
- sharing with them the ways birth is happening in the wider church;
- helping them to face the inevitable losses that come with the transition to something new.

More specifically this Presbyter will:

- be a coach to current Presbytery leaders, committees and groups to help create the capacity for openness and courage in the discerning of God's new work;

- host gatherings of people in the Presbytery to draw upon our collective wisdom and to strengthen our community through shared faith;
- **meet with sessions and church leaders;**
- **provide administrative leadership as it helps to make the Presbytery more effective and responsive to the new life God is delivering.**

Tender of the New Vineyards

The Presbyter to the Spiritual Community will focus his/her energies on nurturing God's new work that is emerging. This includes:

- advocating for ways in which the Presbytery supports, interacts with, and nurtures new ways of being church;
- paying particular attention to new fellowships, and new church and ministry developments;
- identifying and encouraging ways that people in the Presbytery can connect with one another for support, resource sharing, theological inquiry, etc.
- scattering seeds of ideas and possibilities in the attempt to find fertile soil for new growth.

More specifically this Presbyter will:

- engage with congregations, committees, and ministries that have ideas for and are starting to implement new ways of being the church;
- speak, write, and communicate with the Presbytery and wider community about emergent ideas of spirituality and congregational/missional life.

Appendix IV

Job description for the Presbyter for Discerning the Way

The objective of this position is to provide Presbytery staff support to all elements of the various teams, to Presbytery, and respond to public interfaces involved in the "Discerning the Way" processes undertaken by the Presbytery of Southern New England. This position will be considered adjunct staff of the Presbytery and as such has access and use of all resources of the Presbytery.

This Presbyter will coach the discerning the way teams: listening, review, mission strategy, and implementation teams. In that capacity he/she will orient the teams when they are formed, encourage them as they do their work, ask questions of them to ensure clarity of direction, purpose, comprehensiveness and timeliness of their work. When requested by the teams and with concurrence of the executive presbyter will do research and make appropriate contacts on behalf of the teams. It is expected that this Presbyter would not regularly attend meetings of the teams but would do so sparingly, as requested by the teams.

This Presbyter will facilitate and support the regular communication of the teams with the Presbytery, its committees and its staff, ensuring that all who need to know the progress and decisions of the teams are well informed. He/she can attend and have voice at meetings of the Council, COM, CDC, Presbytery, and staff.

This Presbyter will pay particular attention to the overall process of Discerning the Way to ensure that progress in that process is appropriate, timely, and effective.

This Presbyter will be the primary interface between the Presbytery and the public and media, and between the Presbytery and PCUSA/ecumenical entities.

This Presbyter would rarely, if ever, interact with the congregations involved in Discerning the Way. The exceptions to this may include initial contacts and interpretation of the process when various stages of the process are begun. He/she would be available as the staff contact to the pastor, or leaders of congregational teams when they have issues with the progress or process that are not resolved by contact with the Presbytery teams. In these cases the Presbyter will help to resolve issues, but in no case would make decisions without consulting with the teams and the Executive.

The Presbyter for Discerning the Way will be appointed by, accountable to, and will regularly report to the Presbytery Executive. The expenses of the work of the Presbyter for Discerning the Way, including such items as mileage, phone, copying, etc., will be covered as reimbursables. This Presbyter will keep a record of his/her hours worked and will be compensated on a flat rate of \$70.00 per hour with a yearly total of no more than 100 hours.

This contract can be renewed annually by mutual agreement between the Presbyter, the Executive, the Personnel Committee, and the Council.



Appendix V

**THE PRESBYTERY OF SOUTHERN NEW
ENGLAND**

123 Elm Street, #200
Old Saybrook, CT 06475
860/388-0874 FAX 860/388-5813

www.psne.org

October 25, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We, the members of the PSNE Council, have received and prayerfully considered your letter (initially sent on July 15, then also on July 21 and August 28) requesting repentance, a reaffirmation of scripture, and a reversal of the vote which re-validated the ministry of Rev. John Merz at the May meeting of Presbytery. We recognize the considerable pain these issues are causing you, and the urgency with which you would like them addressed. We regret that you are feeling both marginalized by the decision-making process of our Presbytery and disappointed by the results of that process, and we hope to find a way to open up possibilities for the re-building of trust and respect on all sides. We do, in fact, feel the brokenness of our fellowship acutely, for when one member of the body suffers, all suffer. We pray this letter will be a step along the process of seeking greater understanding and healing, for the circle that binds all of us together is certainly broken and in need of restoration.

As Presbytery Council has reviewed the specific requests of your letter, and the actions that took place at the May Presbytery meeting, we acknowledge that mistakes were made at that meeting which had unintended consequences. It was clear to the Presbytery Leadership Team (Tom Taylor, Martha Highsmith, Marilyn McNaughton, Dana Lindsley, and Bill Thomas) that a number of people were very upset, and members of the Team immediately set about the task of apologizing for mistakes, and reaching out to those they knew were hurting. It must be said that they did this prior to the receipt of your letter, and that they continue to be engaged in the process of seeking better ways to conduct such meetings, so that all participants feel included and have the opportunity to be heard. We also acknowledge that those who chair Presbytery committees and preside over meetings do so on a volunteer basis, and human error is bound to come into play. We are all fallible servants trying our best to minister faithfully, and so we urge forbearance and tolerance toward one another as we work through the difficult issues that we must face together.

One of the main concerns of your letter involves the question of how we, as Presbyterians, understand and interpret Holy Scripture. Specifically, you request that the Presbytery “repent and affirm Scripture as the infallible Word of God.” While we understand that you disagreed with one particular way of expressing

biblical authority that was presented at the February Presbytery meeting, we are convinced that our members, as a rule, do adhere to the *Book of Order's* description of the Bible as "the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal and God's Word to you." (W-4.4003b) We have also observed that sincere Christians who are equally committed to the authority of Holy Scripture as the rule and guide for faith, have, nevertheless, often come to differing conclusions when interpreting the whole of Scripture as it applies to specific contemporary questions. Because this is true, your letter provides us with a valuable invitation. We would like to propose a series of opportunities for reflection and discernment about how we, as a community of PC(USA) churches, read, accept, and follow Scripture together in faith. We sincerely believe that this course of action has the potential to open up pathways toward healing and mutual understanding which could transform our life together in very positive ways.

In addition to your concern about Scripture, your letter expressed dismay at the perceived denial of the PC(USA) constitution in the re-validation of the ministry of Rev. Merz. We understand that you strongly disagree with the interpretation of the constitution that was presented by the COM in recommending this action. (We also note that you have asked for further details, and we have asked the COM to respond directly to this request.) Once again, we acknowledge that there is diversity of opinion, and strong feelings on all sides of this question. We observe that people of good conscience may disagree in their understanding and application of the *Book of Order*, especially where varying sections of the constitution seem to conflict with one another. Applying this document to our common life can at times be challenging, as witnessed by the ongoing judicial proceedings that are taking place throughout the country (and by the diversity of viewpoints held even within our own Council). Therefore, we would also like to propose a series of opportunities for prayerful discernment and discussion concerning how we, as a community of PC(USA) churches, accept, interpret, and apply the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

It is our hope that by engaging in a mutual season of discussion and discernment, we could at least begin to understand and respect one another's perspectives, if not come to unanimous and unambiguous agreement on all issues facing our church. We believe that only good can come from Presbyterians of differing viewpoints reading and studying the Bible and the *Book of Order* together. We believe this is a step along a positive continuum which holds open the most potential to mend the walls of distrust that separate us. We invite your participation and response; and offer our chairperson, Marilyn McNaughton, as the point of contact (phone: 860-464-5265; email: formclegg@sbcglobal.net). We will have the opportunity to consider these questions further at our December 9th Council meeting.

Yours in Christ,

The Council of the Presbytery of Southern New England

Presbyterian Church of Old Greenwich Review Team Report to Presbytery Council

1. Overview of Review Team actions

- a. **Meetings**— The Review Team met for an orientation on August 19, 2010. Following that orientation, at mutually agreed upon times, the Review Team met with a “Discernment Team” already in place at the Presbyterian Church of Old Greenwich (PCOG) on 8/30/10, 9/27/10, and 10/11/10, and also attended a “Town Hall” meeting of the congregation, on 10/24/10 (followed by another short meeting between the PCOG Discernment Team and the Review Team). There was an additional meeting on 11/1/10 to discuss this report and to allow PCOG to comment on and/or suggest modifications, among other tasks.
- b. **Conference Calls**— The Review Team conducted two conference calls (8/29/10, 10/27/10) to prepare for meetings with PCOG, specifically to share observations on previous meetings and/or to develop our collective input (if any) to present to PCOG to assist in mutually setting agendas for our meetings together.
- c. **Meeting Goals**— Through the course of our meetings with PCOG, the Review Team attempted to follow our mandate in “Discerning the Way” to:
 - i. Study and assess the situation in the congregation
 - ii. Engage in discussion to clarify issues of concern of both the congregation and the presbytery (with particular attention paid to the “Mutual clarity of the beliefs, practices, and theology of the PCUSA” sub-bullet in the Discerning the Way document)
 - iii. Recommend the next appropriate actions mutually discerned and developed by the Review Team and the congregation.
- d. **Meeting Content** — Throughout our meetings, we attempted to fulfill our mandates by:
 - i. Requesting documents of the congregation (when not already provided), describing their discernment process and the history of PCOG’s relationship with the presbytery and the denomination. Documents were provided for us willingly and openly. The Review Team requested copies of a prayer journey in which PCOG engaged during their internal discernment process on the issue of separation from the PC(USA).
 - ii. Listening to the members of the PCOG Discernment Team share their stories (collectively and individually) about how PCOG came to prayerfully arrive at their current conclusion that separation from PCUSA is the direction God is calling them.
 - iii. Sharing our diverse views, as representatives of the Presbytery, relating to three theological issues that we identified (to the general agreement of the PCOG Discernment Team) as strongly associated with PCOG’s rationale for considering dismissal at this time— 1. The necessity of Jesus Christ for salvation, 2. The nature and/or authority of Holy Scripture, 3. A perceived disagreement and/or difference concerning the way the Presbytery seemed to be trying to live out, in practice, faithful Christianity, and the way PCOG seemed to be trying to live out, in practice, faithful Christianity. The Review

Team was very careful not to engage in nor to motivate argument or debate, attempting to hold closely to the Discerning the Way process goal of “mutual clarification.”

iv. Attending a “Town Meeting,” where the congregation shared their beliefs and concerns with the presbytery and the denomination (91 people attended this meeting, 38 spoke)

v. Meeting with the PCOG Discernment Team to discuss this report and ensure fulfillment of the third part of our mandate as a Review Team.

2. Review Team Observations

a. **“The Situation in the Congregation”**— Through our meetings, conversations, examination of documents, conference calls, and reflections, the Review Team makes the following main observations about the situation at PCOG. (These are **not** listed in any particular order of primacy and/or importance)

i. **PCOG has had concerns about the Presbytery and the PC(USA) for many years.** The current state of dissatisfaction does not appear to be something new, as much as it represents the arrival of PCOG at a place where they no longer have the energy or desire to engage and confront the Presbytery and the PC(USA) on issues of concern to them. PCOG seems to feel they have been moving in a different theological direction than the Presbytery for some time, and can provide considerable anecdotal and documented evidence supporting this.

ii. **PCOG has been engaged in considerable internal discernment on the particular issue of separation for a lengthy period of time, much of it having occurred prior to the involvement of the Review Team.** Looking at documents provided by PCOG, and listening to their leadership, it is clear that significant discernment (prayer journeys, “town meetings,” and “Discernment Team” reports, for example) on the issue of separation began at least as early as October of 2009, and probably much earlier. Thus, upon the arrival of the Review Team in August of 2010, the impression of the Review Team was that PCOG had largely completed its internal discernment on the issue of dismissal in a faithful, prayer-filled, and honest way.

iii. **PCOG is united in its support for dismissal from the Presbytery and the PC(USA).** Through conversations with the PCOG Discernment Team and listening to the congregation, there was no dissent articulated regarding separation from the PC(USA).

iv. **PCOG has already begun preliminary investigations into new possible denominational homes.** Members of the PCOG Discernment Team have indicated that PCOG is considering the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC) as a new denominational home.

b. **“Discussion to clarify issues of concern of both the congregation and the presbytery”** — Through our discussion, the Review Team came to more clearly understand several issues of concern to PCOG. The Review team also attempted to clarify with PCOG the variety and diversity of perspectives within the Presbytery, particularly on several key issues of concern identified by PCOG (described in 1.d.iii)

i. Theological Issues Identified by the Review Team

1. PCOG believes that actions taken and statements made by the PC(USA), as well as the Presbytery, demonstrate or indicate a difference in the understanding of the role/meaning/significance of Jesus Christ that is deeply troubling and that makes PCOG's continued participation in the Presbytery and PC(USA) untenable. Similarly, PCOG points to actions taken and statements made by the Presbytery and PC(USA) that seem to them to demonstrate or indicate a difference in the understanding of the authority and interpretation of Scripture that is deeply troubling and that makes PCOG's continued participation in the Presbytery and PC(USA) untenable. (Specifics can be found in the PCOG "Denominational Issues" document, dated January 15, 2010). Statements made at the town meeting suggest the Congregation believes that **both** the Presbytery and PC(USA): A. Fundamentally question the divinity and salvific nature of Christ, as well as B. Fundamentally question the importance of Scripture (i.e. whether and in what way it is the Word of God), and whether Scripture has real applicability to daily life.

2. As Presbytery representatives, the Review Team attempted to clarify the complex and diverse views of these issues, which are represented within the Presbytery, for the PCOG Discernment Team. This occurred prior to the town meeting. The PCOG Discernment Team listened to the clarification. Since the goal was not to debate issues, no response to the clarification was offered (nor was one requested by the Review Team). At least one member of the PCOG Discernment Team seemed to suggest that while one could understand, appreciate, and perhaps even accept the clarification offered by the Review Team in the context of smaller groups meeting together, the translation of, practical implementation of, and/or politicization of this diversity in the larger body of the Presbytery and/or PC(USA) resulted in situations, statements, actions, and decisions that were not acceptable to the PCOG leadership and congregation. It does not appear that the Review Team's clarifying comments were shared in any formal fashion (notes, summary e-mail, etc.) with the PCOG Congregation beyond the PCOG

Discernment Team, nor did the Review Team request that this occur.

ii. Issues of Concern noted for "particular attention" in Discerning the Way — None of the "issues of concern," other than the "Mutual clarity of the beliefs, practices, and theology of the PCUSA" (see 2.b.i) were addressed specifically by the Review Team. However, based upon the Review Team's meetings with the PCOG Discernment Team and the Congregation, the following comments can be made on the other sub-bullets:

1. The guidance of Holy Scripture and the Holy Spirit— Members of PCOG have readily consulted scripture in their discernment and prayer process, and many quoted it regularly when sharing their reasons for requesting dismissal from the Presbytery and the

PC(USA). PCOG strongly believes the Holy Spirit is calling PCOG towards separation from the Presbytery and the PC(USA)

2. The call of God to church unity— PCOG believes they will be better able to build and strengthen God's church if they can be permitted to do so alongside, and not in opposition to, the Presbytery and the PC(USA). Members of the PCOG Discernment Team and the Congregation see the Presbytery and the PC(USA) as having fractured the unity of the church as much as the Presbytery and PC(USA) might consider PCOG to have done/be doing the same.

3. The value of being a PC(USA) congregation. Based upon the Review Team's conversations with the PCOG Discernment Team and hearing from the Congregation at the town meeting, the congregation as a whole appears to have lost a sense of there being value to a relationship with the PC(USA).

4. Constitutional Processes— The PCOG Discernment Group has several members who are well-versed in constitutional processes, and in fact PCOG likely knew/knows more about such processes than the Review Team.

5. The exercise of mutual discernment disciplines— The Review Team noted that, on the issue of dismissal, PCOG had largely completed their internal discernment on this issue faithfully and diligently, prior to the Review Team's arrival. The Review Team mutually discerned with PCOG that there would be little benefit in forcing PCOG to reexamine concerns they had already prayerfully considered for some time. There may be some additional "room" for mutual discernment with the Presbytery regarding the EPC denominational home, which the Review Team has agreed will be left to the Implementation Team to engage in with PCOG.

6. The extent of disaffection with the PC(USA) in the congregation— PCOG expressed a high degree of disaffection with the PC(USA). Again, the primary emotions did not seem to be animosity or revulsion, but some combination of grief (primarily among some PCOG Discernment Team members), frustration, disillusionment, and weariness. The Review Team also noted a sense of resolve to proceed on the path of separation, and hope that a burden would soon be lifted, so that PCOG could go on with its life as a worshipping community.

3. Review Team Recommendations

a. The Review Team believes that, as it stands currently, it is unlikely that PCOG will willingly continue to serve together with the Presbytery in the PC(USA).

b. The Review Team and PCOG have mutually discerned that an Implementation Team ought to be formed to develop and negotiate the terms of the dismissal of the PCOG to another Reformed denomination.

Appendix VII

REFERENCE C

Treasurer's Report as of 9/30/2010

Presbytery of Southern New England - Statement of Financial Position			
	Balance as of 12/31/2009	Balance as of 9/30/2010	Difference
Assets:			
<i>Cash</i>			
Petty Cash	100.00	100.00	-
Debit Card Account	882.24	652.55	(229.69)
Checking Account for Operating Cash	147,174.78	107,308.49 A	(39,866.29)
ING Direct Savings Account	101,815.40	102,558.72	743.32
Ministerial Relief Cash	16,651.83	21,627.87	4,976.04
Simsbury NCD - ING Savings Account	99,020.26	99,743.17 B	722.91
<i>Investments</i>			
New Covenant Mutual Funds	137,848.89	142,645.02	4,796.13
Merrill Lynch	23,480.20	23,396.62	(83.58)
Accounts Receivable	15,125.76	11,317.77	(3,807.99)
<i>Loans Receivable</i>			
Loans Receivable	454,186.31	452,458.31	(1,728.00)
Personnel Loans & Exchanges	-	-	-
Prepaid Expenses	-	-	-
Fixed Assets	43,560.44	43,560.44	-
Accumulated Depreciation	(74,862.45)	(74,862.45)	-
Office Condo	202,853.54	202,853.54 C	-
Total Assets	1,167,837.20	1,133,360.05	(34,477.15)
Liabilities:			
Allowance for Bad Debt	454,973.04	454,973.04	-
Loan Payable to GA (MLK)	229,358.39	224,907.63	(4,450.76)
Loan Payable to Synod (MLK)	29,981.60	26,180.90	(3,800.70)
Total Liabilities	714,313.03	706,061.57	(8,251.46)
Net Assets	453,524.17	427,298.48 D	(26,225.69)
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	1,167,837.20	1,133,360.05	(34,477.15)
A) Of the \$107,308.49 Checking Account Balance, \$64,192.37 is designated income, see Dedicated Accounts Report.			
B) Simsbury dismissal agreement settlement of \$105,000 minus \$7,204.69 payment of 2008 Per Capita, designated for New Church Development, see Dedicated Accounts Report.			
C) Represents purchase price not market value.			
D) Does not include the value of Church properties or charges against them.			

Appendix VIII

Treasurer's Report
as of 9/30/2010

REFER

Presbytery of Southern New England - Statement of Activities						
OPERATIONS	Mission/Ministry	Admin.	Annual Budget	Year to Date Actual	Annual Budget Bal.	YTD 75%
Income						
General Mission	140,000.00		140,000.00	58,684.84	81,315.16	42%
General Mission - prior year			0.00	0.00	0.00	
Interest on Operating Cash		3,300.00	3,300.00	1,333.27	1,966.73	40%
Presbytery Per Capita		251,912.00	251,912.00	174,130.23	77,781.77	69%
Donations			0.00	7,825.00	(7,825.00)	
Merrill Lynch dividends minus fees			0.00	(64.40)	64.40	
Merrill Lynch market changes			0.00	(54.60)	54.60	
New Covenant Funds dividends			0.00	1,396.94	(1,396.94)	
New Covenant market changes			0.00	4,796.53	(4,796.53)	
Total Income	140,000.00	255,212.00	395,212.00	248,047.81	147,164.19	63%
Expense						
PY Moderator Expenses	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0%
Committees:						
Church Development	67,705.00	1,195.00	68,900.00	33,139.10	35,760.90	48%
Committee on Ministry	2,500.00	6,500.00	9,000.00	4,172.07	4,827.93	46%
Committee on Preparation	7,000.00	3,480.00	10,480.00	3,710.45	6,769.55	35%
Ecclesiastical	6,866.00	134.00	7,000.00	4,984.56	2,015.44	71%
Nominations	418.00	0.00	418.00	114.20	303.80	27%
Personnel		500.00	500.00	59.54	440.46	12%
Presbytery Council		5,000.00	5,000.00	2,564.17	2,435.83	51%
Social Justice	720.00		720.00	155.38	564.62	22%
Stewardship & Mission	14,884.00	116.00	15,000.00	2,354.08	12,645.92	16%
Trustees	2,500.00	7,500.00	10,000.00	8,067.67	1,932.33	81%
Youth Ministries	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	100%
MLK Loan Repayment	17,824.00		17,824.00	13,367.70	4,456.30	75%
Office Operations		36,400.00	36,400.00	23,053.18	13,346.82	63%
Salaries & Benefits	18,583.00	219,818.00	224,201.00	160,156.01	64,044.99	71%
Travel		14,200.00	14,200.00	7,916.91	6,283.09	56%
Bldg. Maint/Equip. Replacement		5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	0%
GA Travel		1,500.00	1,500.00	3,071.14	(1,571.14)	205%
Honorariums		3,100.00	3,100.00	2,175.00	925.00	70%
Miscellaneous		5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	0%
Haiti Donation - Council	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	(10,000.00)	
Total Expense	140,000.00	309,443.00	436,243.00	280,061.16	155,181.84	64%
Net Income/Expense				(32,013.35)		
PER CAPITA PASS-THRU						
Designated Income:						
GA Per Capita				34,831.24		
Synod Per Capita				23,216.12		
Total Designated Income				58,047.36		
Designated Expense:						
GA Per Capita				38,786.52		
Synod Per Capita				24,280.98		
Total Designated Expense				63,067.50		
Net Per Capita Pass-Thru				(5,020.14)		
MISSION PASS-THRU						
GA General Mission	26,211.99			Total Revenues for the year	397,251.41	
Synod General Mission	10,320.44					
GA Special Mission	54,555.40			Total Expenditures for the year	434,284.90	
Synod Special Mission	38.41					
Grants	0.00					
Total Mission Pass-thru	91,156.24			Net Gain/Loss	(37,033.49)	

DEDICATED ACCOUNTS
as of 9/30/2010

Appendix IX

OPERATING CASH DEDICATED ACCOUNTS:	Balance 12/31/2009	Year to Date Receipts	Year to Date Expenses	Balance 9/30/2010
Reserve Fund Accounts:				
Capital Reserve Fund	6,552.42			6,552.42
Contingency Fund	2,565.00		1,330.00	1,235.00
Equipment Reserve Fund	6,408.10			6,408.10
Maintenance Reserve Fund	4,402.41			4,402.41
Total Reserve Fund Accounts	19,927.93		1,330.00	18,697.93
Church Development:				
Church Development Reserve	11,770.32	1,600.00	13,050.00	(2,229.68)
Immigrant Fellowship Grant		3,100.00	1,969.17	1,130.83
Poncey Valley Student Grant				
Total Church Development	11,770.32	4,700.00	16,969.17	(1,098.85)
Grants				
PC(USA) flood recovery grants		11,865.00	1,865.00	10,000.00
PDA flood grant - community		10,000.00		10,000.00
Total Grants		21,865.00	1,865.00	20,000.00
Living into the New Church	30,137.35			30,137.35
Stewardship & Mission				
Resignment Donations		1,047.36		1,047.36
UJIME Grant			4,655.00	
Next Year Mission Badges				
Total Stewardship & Mission	4,655.00	1,047.36	4,655.00	1,047.36
Social Justice:				
Peace-making Donations		3,870.00		3,870.00
Synod Grant for N/PH		6,230.00	1,250.00	5,000.00
Total Social Justice	10,120.03	10,100.00	1,250.00	9,023.85
Travel:				
General Assembly Travel		1,500.00		1,500.00
Pass-thru Accounts:				
Dedicated Foundations		200.00	120.00	80.00
GA Per Capita	804.18		804.18	
GA Per Capita	(9,118.21)	34,811.24	38,786.52	(13,073.99)
Synod Per Capita	(1,316.70)	23,216.12	24,280.98	(2,381.63)
GA General Mission		26,211.99	24,913.04	1,298.95
Synod General Mission		19,320.44	19,812.58	(492.14)
GA Special Mission		54,385.40	54,385.40	
Synod Special Mission		38.41	38.41	
Total Pass-thru Accounts	(9,630.82)	149,463.11	153,093.11	(13,260.33)
EP Events:				
Genesis Center			185.00	(185.00)
Cape Cod		3,450.00		3,450.00
Total EP Event		3,450.00	3,805.00	(355.00)
Total Operating Cash Dedicated Accounts	68,479.87	180,014.78	184,302.28	64,192.37
ING Savings Account				
Simsbury /NCD Reserve	99,020.26	722.91		99,743.17
TOTAL DEDICATED ACCOUNTS	167,500.13	180,737.69	184,302.28	163,935.54

Presbytery of Southern New England Investment Summary as of 9/30/2010						
	December 2009 Balance	Fees	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Unrealized Gain(Loss)	9/30/2010 Balance
Merrill Lynch - Cash Account	23,098.00				(64.40)	23,033.60
Equities	382.20				(19.18)	363.02
New Covenant Mutual Funds - market value						
acct.#10001030716	122,424.66			1,247.63	3,025.75	126,698.04
acct.#0001036710 Endowment	15,424.23			149.31	373.44	15,946.98
ING Direct Savings Account	101,815.40				743.32	102,558.72
Simsbury NCD-ING Savings Account	99,020.26				722.91	99,743.17
Totals	362,164.75	-	-	1,396.94	4,781.84	368,343.53
Restricted Investment Funds:						
Endowment	15,946.98					
Simsbury NCD-ING Savings Account	99,743.17					
Total Restricted Funds	115,690.15					
Unrestricted Investment Funds:						
Merrill Lynch	23,396.62					
New Covenant	126,698.04					
ING Savings Account	102,558.72					
Total Unrestricted Funds	252,653.38					
A) Dividends transferred to Operating Cash						

V. COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS –

SESSION agrees that the terms of this agreement will meet or exceed the standards for ministerial compensation of THE PRESBYTERY OF SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND, as they may from time to time be amended.

SESSION agrees to employ MINISTER as an interim pastor on a part-time (twenty-five hours per week (62.5%)) basis according to the following terms

COMPENSATION INCLUDED IN EFFECTIVE SALARY

	<u>PSNE Minimum</u>	<u>2010</u>
1. <u>Annual Cash Salary</u>	\$36,000	<u>4,356</u>
2. <u>Housing allowance Equal to Fair Rental Value(see Standards)</u>		<u>40,000</u>
3. <u>Deferred compensation</u> (IRA, TDA, etc.)		<u> </u>
4. <u>Other allowances</u> (E.G. SECA allowance in excess of 50% of estimated obligation, optional insurance such as dental, life, etc.)		<u> </u>
5. <u>Manse amount</u> (Fair Rental Value but not less than 30% of #9)		<u> </u>
6. <u>Utility and furnishing allowances</u>		<u> </u>
7. <u>Bonuses, unvouchered allowances, gifts from employer</u>		<u> </u>
8. <u>Medical Deductible</u> against receipts (add lines 1-7, then multiply by 2%)		<u>887.12</u>
9. <u>Total Effective Salary</u> (Sum of lines 1-8)		<u>45,243.12</u>
10. Benefits Plan Dues (12% of Line 9)		<u>17,780.55</u>

COMPENSATION NOT INCLUDED IN EFFECTIVE SALARY

11. <u>Accountable Reimbursement Plan</u> (vouchered business expenses):		
a. Continuing Education reimbursements (\$1000 minimum)		<u>1,000</u>
b. Automobile and Professional expenses		
Check one: <u>X</u> per vouchered mile		
___ or church owned car with full expenses		<u>1,500</u>
c. Professional expenses		<u> </u>
12. SECA Tax allowance (only up to 50% of estimated obligation 7.65% of line 9)		<u> </u>
13. <u>Other vouchered allowances</u> (including moving costs)		<u> </u>
<u>TOTAL COMPENSATION (lines 9, 10, and 11)</u>		<u>65,523.67</u>

OTHER: # of Paid Holidays X Weeks of Annual Vacation 4
Weeks of Annual Study Leave 2 Working Time Units/Week See Part V

Appendix XII

General Assembly 2010 Report from Ernest Jung

Report to the Presbytery of Southern New England on the 219th General Assembly

The strongest impression that I brought back from my time as a Commissioner to the 219th General Assembly, concerned the work of the youth in our denomination. Their enthusiasm, intelligence, wisdom and their ability to listen to what was being said, and willingness to approach sensitive issues with concern and compassion was clearly evident at committee meetings and plenary sessions. The election of Moderator Cindy Bolbach was a case in point. After a long session of questions from the floor, it was a Youth Advisory Delegate (YAD) who had the courage to ask the one question which proved to be the most substantive and most difficult for all the candidates to answer. In plenary sessions, the YADs spoke with clarity on justice issues and with compassion, openness and reason on all issues. It is evident that the church's leadership is in place and will continue to work for the will of God. The Presbytery of Southern New England selected one the most knowledgeable YADs. We all admired Emily for her good work.

Moderator Cindy Bolbach, the only elder of the field of six candidates, proved to be wise, concerned and well prepared to lead the denomination. Her sense of humor was refreshing and her skillful way of handling hard issues kept the General Assembly moving at a good pace.

When I received my committee assignment in the mail, I was disappointed and thought The Committee on General Assembly Procedures was not much of a challenge until I read the overtures that would come before the committee. One of the first items we dealt with was an overture sent by the Presbytery of Santa Barbara. This overture sought to restrict the ability of advisory delegates to speak in Plenary Sessions. YADs make up the largest number of Advisory Delegates. This overture was soundly defeated by the committee and subsequently defeated by the Assembly.

The committee also dealt with an overture that would require any amendment to the Constitution that proposes substantially the same action as an amendment that had been sent to the Presbyteries by one of the two previous sessions of General Assembly and defeated, could not be considered again unless 75% of the commissioners vote to accept it as an item of business. The overture was sent because some members of the PC (USA) object to the same items coming up year after year. However, the Assembly felt that some of these issues are important to the PC (USA) and need to be revisited. This controversial overture was not approved by the Committee and was defeated when it came to a vote in the Assembly.

As commissioners we worked well together and took our work seriously. The respect and courtesy shown to one another in spite of differences, made me glad I am part of the denomination. I felt the presence of God with us as we worked, prayed and worshipped as a unit. In the word of former GA Moderator, Marj Carpenter, "I am sinfully proud to be a Presbyterian"

I want to thank the Presbytery of Southern New England for giving me the opportunity to serve the church in what was for me a mountaintop experience. There could have not been a better team to work with than our Commissioners.

Peace,
Ernest Jung

Appendix XIII

General Assembly 2010 Report from Tom Speers

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as a commissioner to the 219th General Assembly. I served on committee five—Church Polity. We did not deal with issues concerning the new form of government; a separate committee dealt with those issues. We did not deal with issues surrounding G-6.0106b; that also was sent to another committee. We had the *fun* of reviewing Synod minutes. We discussed proposed changes to the Rules of Discipline. Much of our business could be considered minutiae and I left with a greater appreciation for the work of Stated Clerks throughout the church. Three examples of our work: We recommended that the General Assembly answer questions from the Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy about ethical and polity implications of financial gifts made directly by individuals to ministers.

The request asks a series of questions that have to do with the practice of financial gifts to a minister that amount to undisclosed compensation additional to the terms of call authorized by the congregation and that may not meet the requirements of federal and state tax laws.

1. What are the ethical and polity implications of financial gifts, bonuses, or other offerings made directly by individuals to a minister?
2. Under what circumstances are such gifts appropriate and when are they not appropriate?
3. Does the size of the gift matter and to whom?
4. What reports are required and to whom when these gifts are made or received?
5. When is congregational approval required and is congregational approval necessary to solicit such gifts?
6. What about honoraria or gifts received as extra compensation for presiding at worship during special occasions?

The committee recommended, and the Assembly approved the following response:

With regard to the six questions raised, the Advisory Committee on the Constitution finds that the *Book of Order* gives very little specific guidance in the area of fiscal responsibility for churches, and even less guidance for ministers. It does lay down some underlying principles, and it specifies the responsibilities of the session, congregation, and presbytery for approving the terms of a minister's call. It mandates that the session is responsible "to challenge the people of God with the privilege of responsible Christian stewardship of money and time and talents" (G-10.0102h); establish the particular church's budget and "determine the distribution of the church's benevolences" (G-10.0102i); to provide for "the annual review of the adequacy of compensation for all staff" (G-10-0102n); and to oversee the finances of the church with minimum standards of financial procedure established at G-10.0401. The *Book of Order* reserves to the congregation matters related

to the pastoral relationship, such as changing the terms of call of a pastor (G-7.0304a(3)). The presbytery has the right and responsibility for oversight of all calls within the presbytery, including the approval of changes in terms of call, and the establishment of minimum compensation and benefits requirements for all pastoral calls (G-11.0103n). Section G-14.0534 very clearly specifies two requirements for the terms of call—that they meet the requirements of federal and state tax laws; and that they fully disclose the compensation of the minister.

The Advisory Committee on the Constitution finds that the basic requirements set forth in G-14.0534 leave latitude and responsibility for presbyteries to determine fiscal policies for their member churches and standards of financial ethical conduct for members of the presbytery, consistent with current and applicable federal and state tax laws. When problems arise, there is adequate remedy available to presbyteries through general and special administrative review processes.

To the extent that further guidance is necessary, one may refer to the General Assembly Mission Council/Office of the General Assembly Standards of Ethical Conduct (<http://www.pcusa.org/oga/publications/ethical-conduct.pdf>).

On the committee there were two other issues that I found particularly interesting. One was concerning authoritative interpretations of the constitution and the role of the assembly and the GAPJC. Both bodies can make authoritative interpretations that are equally binding on the church. The other issue was about gracious dismissal policies for congregations wanting to leave the denomination. It was helpful to read the policies of other presbyteries.

Outside the committee, I would share a number of highlights. It was good to work with a strong group of commissioners and a wonderful young adult advisory delegate from our presbytery. I attended the pre-assembly meeting about the report on civil unions and marriage and was especially appreciative of the way that members of that committee worked together amidst their very real differences. They modeled behavior for all of us. Great and inspiring service is being performed by Presbyterians all across the country and throughout the world. Our Young Adult Advisory Delegates are clearly committed to the church of Jesus Christ and provided a source of wisdom and a needed perspective and sense of humor to the rest of us. I concur with our moderator, Elder Cynthia Bolbach in her pastoral letter to the church:

While the content of the assembly's decisions is important, what may be of equal or greater importance is the *manner* in which commissioners and advisory delegates did their work. They debated, but did not fight. They tackled tough issues while refraining from tackling each other. They placed great value on finding common ground as they displayed gracious, mutual forbearance toward one another. They sought the will of God within their actions, rather than regarding their decisions as the will of God. One commissioner called the experience of seeking – and finding – common ground truly “miraculous.”

Nowhere was this more obvious than in the work of the committee on Middle East Peacemaking Issues. At the start, the main report to that committee was, in my opinion, deeply flawed. The end result was a report approved by a large majority of the assembly.

Most of all, in a time when much of the news of the denomination is negative, focusing on shrinking membership numbers, I left this Assembly with a stronger sense of the ways God's Spirit is alive and moving in our midst. Faithful people are serving, working, praying, and worshipping all across the country. Again, I am grateful to this Presbytery for this opportunity to serve God.

Appendix XIV

Thomas W. Taylor
Noroton: Darien

I was honored to represent the presbytery as an Elder Delegate to the 219th General Assembly; I was one of five commissioners and one Young Adult Advisory Delegate from Southern New England. In addition the Stated Clerk, Executive Presbyter, and several observers were present from the presbytery.

God and Christ did not establish different denominations within the Christian faith; they were created by people, and therefore, are inherently political. And I am proud to be Presbyterian partly because of its structure of governance. As we all know, the process of governance is not always pleasant to watch in action, but the challenge of participation is often exhilarating. The Presbyterian Church governs itself through a system that includes the Office of General Assembly, the Synods, Presbyteries, and local churches. The polity flows both ways, up and down.

Workshops for the delegates were conducted before the Assembly opened. They were designed to explain some of the more controversial overtures. For the most part they were quite helpful, although the Form of Government Task Force was quite defensive in response to questions from the audience, rather than candidly acknowledging the various trade-offs involved in the proposed changes.

For the first four days I was assigned to the Middle Governing Body Commission. I was one of 45 commissioners, which most of us agreed was an unwieldy number. However, we got to know each other and played nicely in the sandbox. The middle governing bodies are the synods and presbyteries, and the Commission would have the power to respond to requests by synods and presbyteries for combining geographies or sharing resources. The discussions centered less around theology than how efficiencies could be attained. The issue of whether a synod is needed in the present environment occupied much of the discussion and the divide was between those who were from presbyteries that had strong synods, and those that had weak ones. The committee agreed to create a Commission, with the attendant powers of the General Assembly, to respond to specific requests by synods or presbyteries for geographical realignment.

The plenary sessions opened on Wednesday with the election of a new Moderator. Six candidates, an unusually large number, stood for election and after five ballots Cindy Bolback gained a majority of the votes. She appears to have been a good choice; she moderated the meetings with grace and humor and had an excellent grasp of the rules of order.

The plenary sessions were the most numbing part of the Assembly as we slogged through so many overtures that we could not possibly keep up at all times with the issues at hand. The low light of the meeting was the three hours presented by the Social Justice Commission. For the most part it was irrelevant to our mission, and the world outside the convention doors will little know or care what was done. For instance, we approved a \$5,000 appropriation for the Presbytery of Chicago to celebrate the One Hundredth anniversary of the first social justice overture approved by the General Assembly in 1908. At least we now know that Presbyterians can employ earmarks as easily as Congress.

The more substantive issues received more attention and reasoned debated. These included ordination standards, Civil Union and Marriage issues, Form of Government, and actions regarding the Middle East. Notably, the discourse was civil, polite, and to the point. These debates reflected the differences that divide us, but also illustrated for the most part that there is an underlying unity in Christ's church.