

Approved Minutes
of the 119th Stated Meeting
of
Covenant Presbytery
of the
Presbyterian Church in America

119-1 ORDER OF THE DAY - WORSHIP

Covenant Presbytery met in its 119th Stated Meeting on Tuesday, May 25, 2010, at the Riveroaks Reformed Presbyterian Church, Germantown, Tennessee. At 9:30 A.M., the presbytery convened with the service of worship according to the following order:

Call to Worship
Hymn - Come, Christians, Join to Sing
Invocation
Intercessory Prayer for TE Andrew Halsey's Family
The Scripture & Sermon - 1 Timothy 4:6-8 - TE William Spink
Hymn - Be Thou My Vision
Benediction - TE William Spink

RE Paul Bush, the Moderator, called presbytery to order and prayed the constituting prayer.

119-2 ENROLLMENT OF MEMBERS

The Stated Clerk, TE Robert Browning, announced that a quorum was present. The complete enrollment of those who registered is as follows:

TEACHING ELDERS

Doug Barcroft, Hickory With, TN
Craig Barnard, Columbus, MS
Bill Bradford, Tupelo, MS
Robert Browning, Olive Branch, MS
Walley Bumpas, Dyersburg, TN
Kevin Chairot, Jackson, TN
Bob Clarke, PCA, RBI
Kurt Cooper, Tupelo, MS
John Crosby, IPC, Memphis
Reed Dunn, Joplin, MS
Don Erwin, Russellville, AR
Ed Eubanks, Hickory Withe, TN
Delbert Farris, AR Children's Hospital
Andrew Flatgard, RUM, Rhodes College
Timothy Fortner, CHPC, Oxford, MS
Grover Gunn, Winona, MS
Kevin Hale, Conway, AR
Clay Harrington, Without Call
Michael Hart, Cleveland, MS
Steve Hill, Cotton Plant, MS
Jeff Hooker, CPC, Oxford, MS
Tim Horn, Clarksdale, MS
Samuel Husband, RUM, U of Memphis
Jeffrey Lancaster, Redeemer, Memphis
Brad Mercer, Greenwood, MS

Bryan Miller, Ripley, MS
Chris Miller, Rogers, AR
Tom Mirabella, Sherwood, AR
Les Newsom, RUM, U of Mississippi
Ed Norton, IPC, Memphis, TN
Tim Reed, Little Rock, AR
Randy Rhea, Corinth, MS
Paul Sagan, Fayetteville, AR
Jeffrey Sample, GEC, Germantown, TN
Brian Sleeth, Greenville, MS
David Smith, Pontotoc, MS
Nate Smith, RRPC, Germantown, TN
Brian Sorgenfrei, RUM, MS State
Billy Spink, Jr., RRPC, Germantown, TN
Harold Spraberry, Water Valley, MS
Timothy Starnes, Cleveland, MS
Seth Still, RUM, Delta State
Robert Thacker, Indianola, MS
Christ Treat, CPC, Oakland, TN
Justin Westmoreland, RUM, UT Martin, TN
Clint Wilcke, Hernando, MS
Ford Williams, RRPC, Germantown, TN
Mike Winebrenner, Olive Branch, MS
James Young, GEC, Germantown, TN

TEACHING ELDERS who were excused by the Presbytery are:

Kenneth Camp, HR
Marvin Camp, HR
Richard Cannon, HR
Carl Chaplain, MTW, Latvia
Ray Cross, HR
Tom Elkin, HR
Bill Gleason, Clarksdale, MS
Andrew Halsey, Charleston, MS
David Hamilton, HR
Steve Irby, HR

AB Kuiper, HR
Werner Mietling, HR
Jay Outen, Military Chaplain
Curt Presley, CPC, Oxford, MS
Harold Richardson, HR
Sam Sheperson, HR
David Strain, Columbus, MS
Nathan Tircuit, Cordova, TN
John Wingard, HR

UNEXCUSED TEACHING ELDERS are:

Charles Carroll, French Camp
Alan Cochet, CHPC, Oxford, MS
James Codling, OLPC, Ackerman, MS
John D'Arezzo, Clarendon, AR
Jason Edwards, Starkville, MS
Durant Fleming, CBHS, Memphis TN
Murray Garrott, IPC, Memphis
David Harrell, Aberdeen, MS
Robbie Hinton, Regents School, Oxford, MS
Greg Hoffman, Without Call
Laurie Jones, Marks, MS
Jeremy Jones, Redeemer, Memphis, TN

Danton Ketchum, Without Call
Don Locke, Houston, MS
Ted Mattis, Memphis, TN
Doug Nystrom, Fayetteville, AR
Sam Riddell, Canton, MS
Don Riley, DMI, Memphis, TN
Richie Sessions, IPC, Memphis, TN
Cecil Wells, Without Call
Ted Wenger, RUM, Fayetteville, AR
Bill Wilkerson, Without Call
Jack Wilkerson, Without Call

RULING ELDERS

FPC, Clarksdale MS: John Duff
Covenant PC, Cleveland, MS: Clint Wood
Main Street PC, Columbus, MS: Gray Flora
FPC, Dyersburg, TN: Dale Milner
Covenant PC, Fayetteville, AR: Jeff Chewning
Covenant PC, Fayetteville, AR: Prentice House
RRPC, Germantown, TN: Jim Gibson
RRPC, Germantown, TN: Morgan Murphy
Westminster PC, Greenwood, MS: John Downs
Grenada PC, Grenada, MS: Brant Godbold
Grenada PC, Grenada, MS: Holland
HWPC, Hickory Withe, TN: Lou Cardamone
HWPC, Hickory Withe, TN: Roy Jenkins
FPC, Indianola MS: Howard Q. Davis
FPC, Indianola MS: Bill Humbarger
Covenant PC, Jackson, TN: Mike Salazar
Covenant PC, Little Rock, AR: Paul Bush

Covenant PC, Little Rock, AR: Jim Nowell
IPC, Memphis, TN: Whittingham
IPC, Memphis, TN: Bucky Phillips
IPC, Memphis, TN: Tom Phillips
IPC, Memphis, TN: Jurey Howard
IPC, Memphis, TN: David Richardson
New Beginnings, Memphis, TN: Rod Williams
Redeemer, Memphis, TN: Gil Brandon
Redeemer, Memphis, TN: Drew Dawkins
Trinity Grace, Rogers AR: Ken Hargis
Trinity Fellowship, Sherwood, AR: Bob Beatty (Emeritus)
Trinity Fellowship, Sherwood, AR: Darrel Croswell
Lawndale PC, Tupelo, MS: Read Jones
Shongalo PC, Vaiden, MS: Ken McDougal
FPC, Water Valley, MS: Ersel King
FPC, Winona, MS: John Rigby

RULING ELDER representatives excused by Presbytery are:

New Life RPC, Munford, TN
CPC, Olive Branch, MS
Maple Drive, Pontotoc, MS

CHURCHES WITHOUT REPRESENTATION are:

Faith PC, Aberdeen, MS	Grace PC: Jackson, TN
Old Lebanon, Ackerman, MS	Marks PC: Marks, MS
Bassett PC, Bassett, AR	CPC, Oakland, TN
Carrollton PC, Carrollton, MS	CPC, Oxford, MS
FPC, Charleston, MS	CHPC, Oxford, MS
FPC, Clarendon, MS	Covenant Pres., Russellville, AR
St. Andrews, Cordova, TN	Covenant Life, Saltillo, MS
Covenant PC, Greenville, MS	Sardis PC, Sardis, MS
Covenant PC, Hot Springs, AR	Grace PC, Starkville, MS
Houlka PC, Houlka, MS	Blackmonton PC, Vaiden, MS
Houston PC, Houston MS	Oak Ridge PC, Water Valley, MS
IB-MC, Itta Bena, MS	

A quorum being present the moderator proceeded with the business of the docket presented to the presbytery.

119-3 DOCKET

The Stated Clerk, TE Robert Browning, presented the proposed docket, and the docket was adopted with modifications as follows:

SCHEDULE

9:30 a.m.	Convene with Worship
11:35a.m.	Order of the Day - TE Bob Clarke - PCA's RBI
11:40 a.m.	Order of the Day - TE Jim Stewart Evangelism Explosion
11:50 a.m.	Order of the Day - WIC Love Gift Video
12:00 noon	Dinner recess
1:00 p.m.	Reconvene and ten minute season of prayer
1:10p.m.	Closing prayer by Moderator
1:15pm	Order of the Day - Credentials Committee Report - (By unanimous consent, presbytery voted to divide into two committees of the whole to hear the sermons of those who come before presbytery for licensure and ordination.)
3:30 p.m.	Adjournment; If there is any remaining business, presbytery will adjourn until Tuesday, June 1, 2010, at 9:30 a.m. at Christ Presbyterian Church, Olive Branch, MS (SR 3-2).

DOCKET

Call to Order (2010 Moderator Mr. Paul Bush)
Constituting Prayer
Enrollment of Members
Adoption of Docket
Introduction of New Commissioners and Visitors
Welcome from Host
Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting: 118th Stated Meeting
Report of Stated Clerk Treasurer's Report
Appointment of the Resolution and Thanks Standing Committee by the Moderator
Commission Reports Trustees Report Permanent Committee Reports
1. Administration
2. Nominating
3. MNA

4. Church Care:

Sessional Records Due for Review:

First PC, Charleston, MS; Main Street PC, Columbus, MS; Trinity PC Mission, Corinth, MS; Hickory Withe PC, Eads, TN; Covenant PC, Fayetteville, AR; Grenada PC, Grenada, MS; Covenant PC, Hot Springs, AR; Houlika PC, Houlika, MS; Houston PC, Houston, MS; Itta Bena-Morgan City PC, Itta Bena, MS; Covenant PC, Jackson, TN; Grace PC, Jackson, TN; Marks PC, Marks, MS; Independent PC, Memphis, TN; New Life Reformed PC, Munford, TN; Grace PC, Starkville, MS; Lawndale PC, Tupelo, MS

5. [Credentials - Order of the Day]

6. Candidates

7. CE

8. MTW

Standing Committee Report: Resolution and Thanks

Unfinished Business

New Business

Concluding Prayer and Adjournment

Time and Place of Next Meeting: Oct. 5, 2010, Main Street Presbyterian Church, Columbus, MS.

119-4 INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMISSIONERS AND VISITORS

A number of commissioners in attendance for the first time and other visitors were introduced and welcomed to the meeting of the presbytery. Guests and visitors who registered are as follows:

Alan Smith (Peru Mission)
Bob Barber
Chad Watkins
Marc Scheibe
Morgan Murphy
Patrick McGill
K.K. McGill
Tom Phillips
Tyler Hall
James Stewart
Tag Reed
Bob McCarhen
Quintin Little
Miles Shatzer
Tim Williams
Jeff Whittingham
Timothy Hammons
James 'Bebo' Elkin

J.D. Shaw
Allan Bledsoe
Allen Smith
Roderick Williams
Brandt Hammack
Billy McGarity
Gaye McGarity
Philip Emerson
Deon Barnes
Ginny Barnes
Joshua Keel
Michael Cantrell
Derek Leonard
Andrew Barnes
Richard Owens
Brandon Davidson
Jared Zeiser

119-5 WELCOME FROM HOST CHURCH

TE William Spink, Pastor of Riveroaks Reformed Presbyterian Church, welcomed the commissioners and visitors attending the meeting. He informed the presbytery of plans for dinner and offered the church facilities for the use of those attending the meeting.

119-6 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the 118th Stated Meeting, February 2, 2010, had been distributed prior to this meeting. The motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve these minutes as distributed.

119-7 REPORT OF STATED CLERK

119-7.1 TE Robert Browning, Stated Clerk, had distributed copies of his printed report prior to the meeting. An updated version is attached to these minutes. TE Browning gave an overview of correspondence and referrals since the last stated meeting.

119-7.2 The motion that Covenant Presbytery grant requested excused absences from the 119th stated meeting, May 25, 2010, was amended by the addition of other names and permissions to leave early, as indicated on the roll of commissioners and the attached report of the stated clerk, and the amended motion was adopted by the presbytery.

119-7.3 TE Browning reported that the following commission reports had been received:

119-7.3.1 Report of commission to install Rev. Doug Barcroft as Assistant Pastor of Hickory Withe Presbyterian Church, Eads, TN.

119-7.3.2 Report of commission to install Rev. Brian Sleeth as Pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church, Greenville, MS.

119-7.3.3 Report of commission to install Rev. Bill Bradford as Senior Pastor of Lawndale Presbyterian Church, Tupelo, MS.

119-7.4 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that Presbytery admit the above commission reports to the record, noting the actions taken on behalf of presbytery, documented in the above commission reports, and dissolve the above mentioned commissions with thanks.

119-7.5 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that Presbytery ratify the Stated Clerk's referrals and other dispositions of communications received as listed in the Stated Clerk's report.

119-8 TREASURER'S REPORT

119-8.1 The printed report of the Presbytery Treasurer had been previously distributed. RE Lee Mattox, Presbytery Treasurer, was not present. TE Browning, Stated Clerk, presented the report, and it was received as printed. The summary statement is as follows:

COVENANT PRESBYTERY TREASURER'S REPORT
 FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2010 THROUGH April 30, 2010

General Fund

Beginning balance - January 1, 2010	(\$ 14,876 42)	
Total receipts - January 1 - April 30, 2010	31,582 46	
Total disbursements - January 1 - April 30, 2010	(19,912 06)	
Ending balance - April 30, 2010		(\$ 3,206 02)

Designated Funds

Beginning balance - January 1, 2010	\$ 92,563 61	
Total receipts - January 1 - April 30, 2010	188 15	
Total disbursements - January 1 - April 30, 2010	(0 00)	
Ending balance - April 30, 2010		<u>92,751 76</u>

Total General and Designated Funds ending balance -		
April 30, 2010		\$89,545 74 =====

Other Presbytery Fund Balances at April 30, 2010

MNA Church planting fund	\$ 9,024.77 =====
Disaster fund	\$ 6,796.75 =====

Asking for 2010 budget is \$12.57 per communing member.

COVENANT PRESBYTERY TREASURER'S REPORT
GENERAL FUND CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS STATEMENT

	<u>January 1 through April 30,</u>	
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
GENERAL FUND - Beginning balance	<u>(\$14,876 42)</u>	<u>(\$ 16,951 73)</u>
Receipts:		
Aberdeen, Faith	921 00	0 00
Carrollton	2,750 00	0 00
Charleston	447 36	1,333 00
Clarksdale, First	2,324 27	2,100 00
Cleveland, Covenant	2,900 00	2,650 00
Columbus	1,250 00	1,200 00
Cordova, St. Andrews	0 00	1,083 75
Covenant, Hot Springs	225 00	0 00
Fayetteville, Covenant	1,033 32	774 99
Germantown, Grace Evangelical	800 00	0 00
Germantown, River Oaks	1,500 00	0 00
Greenville, Covenant	0 00	1,600 00
Greenwood, Westminster	1,133 34	1,600 00
Grenada	1,200 00	0 00
Hickory Withe	0 00	533 20
Houston	0 00	800 00
Indianola, First	1,200 00	4,900 00
Itta Bena/Morgan City	0 00	0 00
Jackson, Grace	41 67	150 00
Jackson, Covenant	100 00	400 00
Little Rock, Covenant	1,800 00	1,650 00
Marks	0 00	0 00
Memphis, Gracewood	0 00	0 00
Memphis, Independent	1,250 00	2,500 00
Memphis, New Beginnings	0 00	0 00
Memphis, Redeemer	2,000 00	1,925 25
Munford, New Life	0 00	0 00
Olive Branch, Christ	1,250 00	1,250 00
Oxford, Christ Presbyterian	0 00	0 00
Pontotoc, Maple Drive	0 00	0 00
Rogers, Trinity Grace	2,000 00	0 00
Russellville, Covenant	0 00	150 00
Saltillo, Covenant Life	0 00	0 00
Sardis	0 00	0 00
Sherwood, Trinity	400 00	400 00
Tupelo, Lawndale	3,528 00	500 00
Water Valley, First	300 00	300 00
Winona, First	0 00	0 00
Other Sources	<u>1,228 50</u>	<u>0 00</u>
 Total Receipts	 <u>\$ 31,582 46</u>	 <u>\$ 27,800 19</u>

119-9 APPOINTMENT OF RESOLUTION AND THANKS COMMITTEE

The moderator, RE Bush, announced the appointment of the following to the Resolution and Thanks Committee: RE Jim Nowell and TE Paul Sagan (convener).

PERMANENT COMMITTEE REPORTS

119-10 ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

- 119-10.1 TE Wally Bumpas, Chairman, presented the report of the Administration Committee. TE Bumpas prayed for this portion of the meeting. Copies of the printed report had been distributed prior to the meeting of the presbytery.
- 119-10.2 The motion was made, seconded, and passed to postpone consideration of the resolution concerning the division of Covenant Presbytery from the First Presbyterian Church, Indianola, Mississippi, until the May, 2011, stated meeting of Covenant Presbytery.
- 119-10.3 The motion was made, seconded, and passed to postpone consideration of the resolution concerning modifying a portion of BCO Chapter 59 from the First Presbyterian Church, Winona, Mississippi, until the October, 2010, stated meeting of Covenant Presbytery.
- 119-10.4 TE Bumpas presented in writing as the first reading and presbytery voted to receive the following proposed amendment to the Standing Rules of Covenant Presbytery:
- 119-10.4.1 that item 4(1)(g) of the Standing Rules be removed.
 - 119-10.4.2 that item 3(1)(c) be added to the Standing Rules as follows:
 - "3(1)(c) The Administrative Committee shall appoint a Worship subcommittee to plan and coordinate the worship service at Presbytery meetings. This subcommittee shall consult with the host church regarding music, facilities and other matters related to the worship service. Worship subcommittee members shall serve a one year term and may be reappointed."
- 119-10.5 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that the Administration Committee form a subcommittee with representation from the different areas affected by presbytery division to lead discussion of the division of presbytery (see above). TE Don Erwin led the presbytery in prayer with regard to this issue.

119-11 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- 119-11.1 TE Mike Winebrenner presented the report of the Nominating Committee. TE Winebrenner offered prayer for this portion of the meeting. Copies of the report had been distributed prior to the meeting of the presbytery.
- 119-11.2 TE Winebrenner reported that the Nominating Committee acted as a commission of Covenant Presbytery in accordance with her standing rules in the appointment of TE Jeffery Lancaster to serve on GA's Administration CoC. The presbytery ratified this action.
- 119-11.3 The following Teaching and Ruling Elders were nominated and elected to fill current vacancies in the Permanent Committee Classes:
 - RE Credentials (2013)- RE Billy Davis, Corinth
- 119-11.4 The following Teaching and Ruling Elders were nominated and elected to fill current vacancies in the GA Committee of Commissioner Positions:
 - TE Interchurch Relations - TE Michael Hart
- 119-11.5 The following Teaching and Ruling Elders were nominated and elected to the 2012 class for the Nominating Committee which shall consist of 2 Teaching Elders and 1 Ruling Elder:
 - RE Brant Godbold - Grenada
 - TE Sam Husband
 - TE Jeff Hooker

119-12 CHURCH CARE COMMITTEE

- 119-12.1 TE Ed Eubanks, chairman, presented the report of the Church Care Committee. The committee report was distributed prior to the meeting. TE Eubanks offered prayer for this portion of the meeting.
- 119-12.2 The recommendation was approved that TE Sam Murrell's credentials as a Teaching Elder be released to the Anglican Mission in America (AMiA), and that he be removed from the rolls of Covenant Presbytery pending notification from the receiving denomination. TE Murrell has requested this

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- transfer, indicating that his credentials in the AMiA are now completed.
- 119-12.3 The recommendation was approved that Presbytery approve the actions of the Church Care Committee acting as a commission to dissolve TE Corey Pelton's pastoral relationship with Covenant Presbyterian Church, Hot Springs, Arkansas, and that TE Pelton's credentials be released to Calvary Presbytery, effective May 1, 2010.
- 119-12.3.1 TE Pelton has received a call as Senior Pastor of Redeemer PC, Greenville, SC.
 - 119-12.3.2 Covenant PC held a congregational meeting on February 14, 2010 and voted to accept TE Pelton's resignation.
 - 119-12.3.3 Covenant Presbytery has received confirmation from Calvary Presbytery that TE Pelton's floor exam has been sustained and that TE Pelton has been received pending release from Covenant Presbytery.
- 119-12.4 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that the recommendation be amended to read that TE Don Riley be approved to serve as the Chaplain for the 2010 Boy Scout Jamboree pending confirmation of the assurances of BCO 8-7. This call stands in addition to TE Riley's ongoing work out-of-bounds with Discipling Men.
- 119-12.5 TE Eubanks reported that the Church Care Committee has been extended a formal request for advice and counsel from Covenant PC, Greenville, MS.
- 119-12.6 The recommendation was approved that the pastoral relationship between TE Craig Barnard and Main Street Presbyterian Church, Columbus, Mississippi, be dissolved effective June 6, 2010, and that TE Barnard remain on the roll of Covenant Presbytery without call. The Session of Main Street Presbyterian Church voted on April 21, 2010, to agree with this dissolution of call.
- 119-12.7 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that TE Matt Schilling's credentials be transferred to Grace Presbytery.
- 119-12.8 The following churches' records were received for review:
Christ, Conway, AR (no exceptions), Christ PC, Oxford, MS (not reviewed), Covenant PC, Fayetteville, AR (not reviewed), Grace PC, Jackson, TN (exceptions of form), Grenada PC, Grenada, MS (not reviewed), Hickory Withe PC, Eads, TN (exceptions of form), Lawndale PC, Tupelo, MS (no exceptions), Main Street PC, Columbus, MS (not reviewed), Marks PC, Marks, MS (not reviewed), New Life Reformed PC, Munford, TN (not reviewed), Covenant, Little Rock, AR (not reviewed)
- 119-12.9 TE Eubanks reported that the following churches did not submit records for review, as required by the Standing Rules of Presbytery:
First PC, Charleston, MS; Covenant, Hot Springs, AR; Houlka, Houlka, MS; Itta Bena-Morgan City, Itta Bena, MS; IPC, Memphis, TN; Grace, Starkville, MS.
- 119-12.10 TE Eubanks reported that the following churches have not submitted records for review since last year:
Covenant, Cleveland, MS; Covenant, Greenville, MS; First PC, Charleston, MS;
First PC, Winona, MS; IPC, Memphis, TN.
- 119-12.11 TE Eubanks reported that the following churches have not submitted records for review in the past 10 years:
First PC, Clarendon, AR; Bassett PC, Joiner, AR; Itta Bena-Morgan City PC, Itta Bena, MS;
Oak Ridge PC, Water Valley, MS; Houlka PC, Woodland, MS.
- 119-12.12 TE Eubanks reported that the following churches have not submitted records for review since 2004:
Sardis PC, Sardis, MS.
- 119-12.13 TE Eubanks reported that the following churches have not submitted records for review since 2005:
Faith PC, Aberdeen, MS; Houston PC, Houston, MS.
- 119-12.14 TE Eubanks reported that the following churches have not submitted records for review since 2007:
College Hill PC, Oxford, MS; New Beginnings Community Church, Memphis, TN.
- 119-12.15 TE Eubanks reported that the following churches have not submitted records for review since 2008:
Covenant PC, Hot Springs, AR; First PC, Clarksdale, MS; Grace PC, Starkville, MS; St. Andrews PC, Cordova, TN.

119-13 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- 119-13.1 TE Craig Barnard presented the report of the Christian Education Committee. The committee report had been distributed prior to the meeting. TE Barnard prayed for this portion of the meeting.
- 119-13.2 TE Barnard reported that the committee wants churches to respond to a survey about presbytery CE needs, particularly a conference focused on the history of the PCA.
- 119-13.3 TE Barnard encouraged churches to participate in the WIC Love Gift and reported that a video will be presented at the next Presbytery meeting.
- 119-13.4 TE Barnard reported that Logos software will have a display booth in the lobby area for those interested at an upcoming Presbytery meeting.

119-14 MTW COMMITTEE

- 119-14.1 TE Steve Hill reported on his call to Peru. RE Clint Wood led the presbytery in prayer for the Hills as they go to Peru.
- 119-14.2 The motion was made, seconded, and passed to amend the docket to move up the orders of the day to this time.

119-15 ORDER OF THE DAY - TE Bob Clarke - PCA's RBI

TE Bob Clarke reported on the ministry of the PCA Ministerial Relief and encouraged churches to participate. TE Grover Gunn prayed for this ministry.

119-16 ORDER OF THE DAY - TE Jim Stewart - Evangelism Explosion

- 119-16.1 TE Stewart reported on the ministry of Evangelism Explosion in the area.
- 119-16.2 The motion was made, seconded, and passed to amend the docket to change the order of the day for a ten minute season of prayer to the present time.

119-17 ORDER OF THE DAY - Ten Minute Season of Prayer

The moderator led the presbytery in a season of prayer for the needs of the presbytery and closed the time by offering thanks for the dinner to be provided by Riveroaks Reformed Presbyterian Church.

119-18 ORDER OF THE DAY - Dinner Recess and Reconvene

At 12 noon the meeting was recessed. At 1:00 P.M., the Moderator called the presbytery to order and prayed for the remainder of the meeting.

119-19 ORDER OF THE DAY - CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

- 119-19.1 TE Les Newsom presented the report of the Credentials Committee. The committee report was distributed prior to the meeting. TE Newsom offered prayer for this portion of the meeting.
- 119-19.2 Presbytery divided to hear the sermons of those to be examined. (When the Docket was adopted, presbytery voted by unanimous consent to divide in order to hear the sermons.)
- 119-19.3 TE Newsom introduced TE Marc Scheibe, TE Parker Tenent, and TE Philip McRae to the presbytery. TE Scheibe is a currently a member of North Texas Presbytery (RUF Tulsa) and is being called to Covenant PCA in Hot Springs as Senior Pastor. TE Tenent is currently a member of from Southwest Presbytery (RUF Arizona) and is being called to IPC, Memphis, TN as Assistant Pastor. TE Philip McRea is currently a member of MS Valley Presbytery (Waynesboro PCA) and is being called to Blackmonton PCA and Shongolo PCA in Vaiden, MS.
- 119-19.4 TE Newsom reported that our stated clerk has received a letter of dismissal from North Texas Presbytery pending Rev. Scheibe's acceptance in Covenant Presbytery. The motion was made, seconded, and passed that it be found in order.
- 119-19.5 TE Newsom reported that we have yet to receive letter of dismissals from Southwest Presbytery or

- MS Valley Presbytery. The motion was made, seconded, and approved that Covenant Presbytery receive Rev. Tenent and Rev. McRea pending dismissal from their respective Presbyteries.
- 119-19.6 TE Newsom read TE Scheibe's call (see appendix) to the presbytery. The recommendation was approved that TE Scheibe's call be found in order and placed in his hands at the proper time. The presbytery advised Covenant Presbyterian Church to include four weeks vacation as part of TE Scheibe's call.
- 119-19.7 TE Newsom read TE Tenent's call (see appendix) to the presbytery. The recommendation was approved that Rev. Tenent's call be found in order and placed in his hands at the proper time.
- 119-19.8 TE Newsom read TE McRae's call (see appendix) to the presbytery. The recommendation was approved that Rev. McRae's call be found in order and placed in his hands at the proper time.
- 119-19.9 The recommendation was approved that Covenant Presbytery examine TE Scheibe, TE Tenent, and TE McRea as to their Christian Experience, Call, and views in Theology, Sacraments, and Church Government.
- 119-19.9.1 TE Scheibe, TE Tenent, and TE McRea each concurred with Covenant Presbytery's nine declarations in regards to the New Perspective and Federal Vision Controversy.
- 119-19.9.2 TE Scheibe and TE McRea each stated that he took no exceptions to the Confession and Catechisms of the PCA.
- 119-19.9.3 Each of the portions of TE Scheibe's and TE McRea's examinations was sustained.
- 119-19.9.4 TE Tenent stated that he took exception to the teaching of the Confession Chapter 4, the Shorter Catechism Question 9 and the Larger Catechism Question 15 regarding creation. He holds to the framework view of creation. He affirms the historicity of Adam and Eve.
- 119-19.9.5 TE Tenent stated that he took exception to the teaching of the Confession Chapter 21, the Shorter Catechism Question 60, and the Larger Catechism Question 117 regarding activities on the Sabbath. He believes that Scripture permits certain recreations with family, friends, and church on the Sabbath.
- 119-19.9.6 TE Tenent's examinations in Christian Experience, Call, Sacraments, and Church Government were each sustained. TE Tenent's examination in theology was sustained with the court judging that the stated difference(s) to be more than semantic, but "not out of accord with any fundamental of our system of doctrine" (BCO 21-4) in accordance with RAO 16-3-5.
- 119-19.9.7 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that TE Scheibe's, TE Tenent's, and TE McRea's examinations be approved as a whole.
- 119-19.9.8 TE Scheibe, TE Tenent, and TE McRea each stated his desire to accept the call extended to him.
- 119-19.9.9 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that TE Scheibe be received by Covenant Presbytery and that he sign the ministerial obligation in the book of records.
- 119-19.9.10 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that TE Tenent and TE McRea be received by Covenant Presbytery pending reception of their dismissals from their previous presbyteries and that they sign the ministerial obligation in the book of records.
- 119-19.9.11 TE Clint Wilcke led the presbytery in prayer for these men and the churches they will serve.
- 119-19.9.12 The moderator set the date and time and appointed the following commission to install TE Marc Scheibe as senior pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church, Hot Springs, AR:
Date & Time: 6:00 P.M. on June 20, 2010
TE: Chris Treat (convener), Tim Reed, Del Farris, David O'Doud
RE: Session of Covenant PC, Hot Springs
Guest: RE Tres Scheibe
- 119-19.9.13 The moderator appointed the following commission to install TE Parker Tenent as assistant pastor of Independent Presbyterian Church, Memphis, TN:
Date & Time: September 19, 2010 following 11:00am service
TE: Richie Sessions, Murray Garrott, Les Newsom (convener),

Robert Browning

RE: Sam Graham, Lee Greene, Bucky Philip, Scott Fleming

119-19.9.14 The moderator set the date and time and appointed the following commission to install TE Philip Mcree as pastor of Shongolo & Blackmonton Presbyterian Churches, Vaiden, MS

Date & Time: 5:30 P.M. on June 27, 2010

TE: Ford Williams (convener), Tim Fortner, Grover Gunn

RE: Dell Lee, Dennis Welch, Joe Don Jones, Ken McDougal

Guest: RE Emeritus Bernhard Sanders

- 119-19.10 TE Newsom introduced to the presbytery Mr. Chad Watkins, Mr. Patrick McGill, and Mr. Andrew Perrie each of whom are seeking to be licensed to preach the Gospel within Covenant Presbytery in accordance with BCO 19. TE Newsom also introduced Mr. Richard Owens who has received a call from Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greenwood, MS, as Assistant Pastor. Mr. Owens was examined along with the candidates for licensure, and afterward was examined in the areas of church history, including the history of the PCA, and the Sacraments.
- 119-19.11 The recommendation was approved that Mr. Owens, Mr. Watkins, Mr. McGill, and Mr. Perrie be examined in the areas of their Christian experience and call to the ministry, and their knowledge of theology, English Bible, and PCA Book of Church Order.
- 119-19.11.1 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that the sermon which Mr. Watkins preached before presbytery be approved.
- 119-19.11.2 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that the sermon which Mr. McGill preached before presbytery be approved.
- 119-19.11.3 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that the sermon which Mr. Perrie preached before presbytery be approved.
- 119-19.11.4 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that the sermon which Mr. Owens preached before presbytery be approved.
- 119-19.11.5 Each candidate stated that he took no exceptions to the Confession and Catechisms of the PCA.
- 119-19.11.6 Each candidate concurred with Covenant Presbytery's nine declarations in regards to the New Perspective and Federal Vision Controversy.
- 119-19.11.7 Each of their examinations in the areas of their Christian experience and call to the ministry, and their knowledge of theology, English Bible, and PCA Book of Church Order was sustained.
- 119-19.11.8 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that Mr. Watkins', Mr. McGill's, and Mr. Perrie's licensure examinations as a whole be approved.
- 119-19.11.9 The moderator asked the candidates the questions of BCO 19-3, which each answered in the affirmative, and he prayed for them and declared each to be licensed to preach the Gospel in Covenant Presbytery in accordance with BCO 19-4.
- 119-19.12 At this time, TE Newsom introduced Mr. Billy McGarity to the presbytery, who is already licensed in Covenant Presbytery. Mr. McGarity comes to complete his ordination so that he might accept a call from Grace Community Church, a PCA mission church in Union City, TN, upon its particularization. Mr. McGarity and Mr. Owens were examined in the Sacraments and Church History, including the history of the PCA, and each portion of their examinations was sustained.
- 119-19.12.1 The recommendation was approved that Mr. McGarity's previous examination for licensure be accepted as meeting the requirements of ordination as found in BCO 21-4.
- 119-19.12.2 TE Newsom read Mr. McGarity's call to the presbytery. The motion was made, seconded, and passed that Mr. McGarity's call (see appendix) be found in order and that it be placed in his hands at the proper time.
- 119-19.12.3 TE Newsom read Mr. Owens' call to the presbytery. The motion was made, seconded, and passed that Mr. Owens' call (see appendix) be found in order and that it be placed in his hands at the proper time, pending the approval of his completed internship [**Note: See 120-6.6 of our October 2010 minutes where action was taken to ratify actions of the Candidates Committee.**]
- 119-19.12.4 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that Mr. McGarity's written work be approved, including his theological paper on *The Reformed Doctrine of*

Adoption and exegetical paper Ephesians 1:1-14.

- 119-19.12.5 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that Mr. Owen's written work be approved, including his theological paper on *The Holy Spirit's Role in Creation and Re-creation* and exegetical paper on *Exodus 33:12-34:1*.
- 119-19.12.6 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that Mr. Owen's college degree from the University of South Alabama and Master of Divinity degree from RTS Jackson be accepted (in lieu of oral exam in original languages) and approved as meeting the BCO requirements for ordination.
- 119-19.12.7 TE Newsom reminded the presbytery that BCO 21-4 lists the ordination trials for ordination in the PCA. This section states that: *No Presbytery shall omit any of these parts of trial for ordination except in extraordinary cases, and then only with three-fourths (3/4) approval of Presbytery.* The recommendation was unanimously approved that presbytery omit Mr. McGarity's trial concerning 1) educational requirements as well as 2) an examination in the original languages under the extraordinary clause in BCO 21-4, which states as follows: *The extraordinary clauses should be limited to extraordinary circumstances of the church or proven extraordinary gifts of the man. Presbyteries should exercise diligence and care in the use of these provisions in order that they not prevent the ordination of a candidate for whom there are truly exceptional circumstances, nor ordain (nor receive from other denominations (BCO 13-6) a person who is inadequately prepared for the ministry.* TE Newsom reported that Mr. McGarity is two years into pursuing a degree from Whitefield Theological Seminary online.
- 119-19.12.8 Mr. Owens and Mr. McGarity each reaffirmed that they have no exceptions to the Confession, Catechisms, or the Book of Church Order of the PC A.
- 119-19.12.9 Mr. Owens and Mr. McGarity each reaffirmed that they concur with the nine declarations of Covenant Presbytery with respect to the New Perspective and Federal Vision Controversy.
- 119-19.12.10 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that each of their examinations as a whole be approved.
- 119-19.12.11 Mr. Owens and Mr. McGarity each stated his desire to accept their respective calls.
- 119-19.12.12 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that Mr. Owens (pending approval of his internship completed in Warrior Presbytery) and Mr. McGarity be accepted into Covenant Presbytery and that they sign the ministerial obligation in the book of records.
- 119-19.13 The moderator set the date and time and appointed the following commission to ordain and install Mr. Richard Owens as Assistant Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greenwood, Mississippi:
- Date & Time: 6:00 P.M. on July 11, 2010
TE: Brad Mercer (convener), Brian Sleeth, Rob Thacker
RE: Ruling Elders of Westminster Presbyterian Church
Guest: TE Joseph Wheat (MS Valley), TE Tom Kay, Jr.(Warrior), RE Richard Owens, Sr., RE Edward Owens, Jr.
- 119-19.14 The moderator set the date and time and appointed the following commission to ordain and install Mr. Billy McGarity as Pastor of Grace Community Church, Union City, TN (pending her particularization):
- Date & Time: 6:00 P.M. on June 6, 2010
TE: Wally Bumpas (convener), Justin Westmoreland, Kevin Chiarot
RE: Tim Williams, Deon Barnes, Jim Needham
- 119-19.15 The motion was made, seconded, and passed that the order of the day to adjourn be extended thirty minutes.
- 119-19.16 The presbytery ratified the action of the Credentials Committee acting as a commission to allow Mr. Perrie to move to the field in Grenada, MS pending a successful examination before Covenant Presbytery.

119-20 CANDIDATES COMMITTEE

- 119-20.1 TE Jeff Sample presented the report of the Candidates Committee in the place of TE Andy Halsey whose mother was gravely ill. The report had been distributed prior to the meeting. TE Sample prayed for this portion of the meeting and for the Halsey family.
- 119-20.2 The recommendation was approved that Mr. Russell Jeffares' internship at Grace Evangelical Church be approved as completed and that he be dismissed to North Florida Presbytery.
- 119-20.3 TE Sample introduced Mr. Allan Bledsoe, Mr. Deon Barnes, Mr. John Mark Scruggs, Mr. Ken Hargis, Mr. Tyler Hall, Mr. Brandon Davidson, and Mr. Joshua Keel to the presbytery. The recommendation was approved that each of these men be examined in their Christian experience and motives for seeking the Gospel ministry.
- 119-20.3.1 Mr. Keel has requested transfer of candidacy from Evangel to Covenant Presbytery. Covenant Presbytery has received testimonials from Evangel Presbytery that Mr. Keel is a candidate in good standing. The motion was made, seconded, and passed that Mr. Keel's transfer of candidacy be accepted and that he be received as a candidate under care of Covenant Presbytery pending his dismissal from Evangel Presbytery.
- 119-20.3.2 Mr. Bledsoe is a member of Grace Presbyterian Church, Starkville, and has met the membership requirement of BCO 18:2. His application was received at least one month prior to this meeting of presbytery. Testimonials regarding his Christian character and promise of usefulness in the ministry have been received and reviewed by the Candidates Committee. Mr. Bledsoe's examination was sustained and the motion was made, seconded, and passed that Mr. Bledsoe be received as a candidate for the Gospel ministry.
- 119-20.3.3 Mr. Barnes is a member of Grace Community Church, Union City, Tennessee, and has met the membership requirement of BCO 18:2. His application was received at least one month prior to this meeting of presbytery. Testimonials regarding his Christian character and promise of usefulness in the ministry have been received and reviewed by the Candidates Committee. Mr. Barnes' examination was sustained and the motion was made, seconded, and passed that Mr. Barnes be received as a candidate for the Gospel ministry.
- 119-20.3.4 Mr. Scruggs is a member of Lawndale Presbyterian Church. While he has not yet met the 6-month requirement for membership, the committee will recommend an exception to the requirement of BCO 18:2 in view of Mr. Scruggs' long-standing relationship to Lawndale and his current work there. His application was received at least one month prior to this meeting of presbytery. Testimonials regarding his Christian character and promise of usefulness in the ministry have been received and reviewed by the Candidates Committee. Mr. Scruggs' examination was sustained and the motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously that Mr. Scruggs be received as a candidate for the Gospel ministry.
- 119-20.3.5 Mr. Hargis is a Ruling Elder and a member of Trinity Grace Church, and has met the membership requirement of BCO 18:2. His application was received at least one month prior to this meeting of presbytery. Testimonials regarding his Christian character and promise of usefulness in the ministry have been received and reviewed by the Candidates Committee. Mr. Hargis' examination was sustained and the motion was made, seconded, and passed that Mr. Hargis be received as a candidate for the Gospel ministry.
- 119-20.3.6 The motion was made, seconded, and passed to extend the order of the day for thirty minutes.
- 119-20.3.7 Mr. Tyler Hall is a member of Lawndale Presbyterian Church. His application was received at least one month prior to this meeting of presbytery. Testimonials regarding his Christian character and promise of usefulness in the ministry were received and reviewed by the Candidates Committee. Mr. Hall did not meet the six month church membership requirement because he was a RUF intern at Baylor University. The committee will recommend that this exception be allowed and that Mr. Tyler Hall be received by presbytery as a candidate under care. Mr. Hall's examination was sustained and the motion was

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made, seconded, and passed unanimously that Mr. Hall be received as a candidate for the Gospel ministry.

119-20.3.8 Mr. Brandon Davidson is a member of Christ the King Presbyterian Church, Joplin, MO, and has met the membership requirement of BCO 18-2. His application was received at least one month prior to this meeting of presbytery. Testimonials regarding his Christian character and promise of usefulness in the ministry were received and reviewed by the Candidates Committee. Mr. Davidson's examination was sustained and the motion was made, seconded, and passed that Mr. Davidson be received as a candidate for the Gospel ministry.

119-20.4 The Moderator asked the questions of BCO 18-3 of the candidates, which they all answered in the affirmative, and TE Chris Miller charged them from the Scriptures and prayed for them.

119-21 MISSION TO NORTH AMERICA

119-21.1 TE Ed Norton, chairman, presented the report of the MNA Committee. Copies of the committee report had been distributed prior to the meeting. TE Norton led the presbytery in prayer for this portion of the meeting.

119-21.2 TE Billy McGarity reported on God's work in Grace Community Church, Union City, TN. The recommendation was approved that Covenant Presbytery particularize Grace Community Church in Union City, TN on June 6, 2010. TE Ed Eubanks prayed for God's work in this place. [**Note: See 120-6.5 of our October 2010 minutes where action was taken to approve a commission for particularization.**]

119-21.3 TE Reed Dunn reported on God's work in Christ the King Church, Joplin, MO. The recommendation was approved that Covenant Presbytery particularize Christ the King in Joplin, MO on November 7, 2010. TE Del Farris prayed for this work.

119-21.4 TE Clint Wilcke reported on God's work in Christ Covenant, Hernando, MS. The recommendation was approved that Covenant Presbytery particularize Christ Covenant in Hernando, MS, on September 12, 2010. TE Jeffrey Lancaster prayed for God's work there. [**Note: See 120-6.5 of our October 2010 minutes where action was taken to approve a commission for particularization.**]

119-21.5 TE Norton reported the need for a church planter in Jonesboro, AR. TE Tim Reed prayed for this work.

119-22 RESOLUTION AND THANKS COMMITTEE

TE Paul Sagan presented the report of the Resolution and Thanks Committee which was adopted as follows:

We are a Covenant, the family of God and bride of Christ, our Husband and Lord. And we are bound together with unbreakable cords of love and faith and fellowship. This was again shown to us with wonderful hospitality by the members of Riveroaks Reformed Presbyterian Church. How generous you were in your hospitality and your welcoming spirit! Thank you for the wonderful food, the edifying music, and the warm fellowship.

We are resolute in our gratitude and thank you everyone for your generous giving of yourselves to service as we labor in the vineyard of our Savior.

119-23 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

119-24 NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

119-25 TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

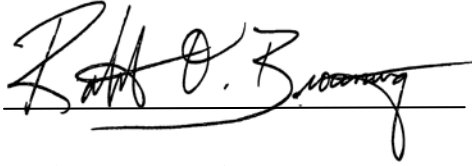
The Moderator called attention to the time and place which presbytery had set for the next Stated Meeting. Covenant Presbytery is scheduled to meet on October 5, 2010, at Main Street Presbyterian Church, Columbus,

Mississippi.

119-26 CONCLUDING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT

The motion was made, seconded, and adopted that the meeting be adjourned. The presbytery stood as the Moderator adjourned the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. O. Browning", written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Robert O. Browning
Stated Clerk