

**‘DRAFT 3’ MINUTES OF THE
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIRST STATED MEETING
OF THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS
OCTOBER 12-13, 2012**

The 121st Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas began in Fellowship Hall of Central Presbyterian, Pine Bluff with the Agape’ Meal at 5:15 p.m. on Friday, October 12, 2012, following annual orientation of church professionals new to the presbytery and three concurrent pre-presbytery workshops.

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING PRAYER

Teaching Elder David H. Dyer, presbytery moderator, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary, lit the Christ candle, and gave the opening prayer.

ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET

Moderator moved adoption of the docket as printed and **docket was approved.**

REPORT OF ENROLLMENT

Stated Clerk declared a quorum present with 28 teaching elders and 30 ruling elders registered at the time of the gavel.

TEACHING ELDERS: Karen Kokles Akin, Nancy Benson-Nicol, Tasha Blackburn, Robert Brian Brock, Janet B. Butin, Philip W. Butin, Joy Carrington, Lance Clemmons, Jeff Cranton, Kris Crawford, Ruskin Falls, Dan Festa, Bill Galbraith, Gordon F. Garlington III, David E. Gill, Jesus Juan Gonzalez, Susan Gray, Robert Hadley, Steve Hancock, Terry Hart, Al Henager, Marion A. Humphrey, Clare Martin Kelley, Kendal Land, Frank LeBlanc, Liz Lindsey, Robert Lowry, Larry Mitchell, Camille LeBron Powell, Jeff Price, Timothy C. Reeves, Dennis Ritchie, Leslie Bethell Roper, Dari Rowen, Anne Russ, David Schaller, Patricia Schaller, Georgia Senor, Kenneth Shaw, Maetta Snyder, Rebecca Spooner, Catherine Ulrich, Thomas A. Ulrich, Michael Vinson.

HONORABLY RETIRED TEACHING ELDERS: Ben H. Bateman, Donald K. Campbell II, Guy Delaney, David H. Dyer, Howard H. Gordon, Sally Johnson, David S. King, Carlos Lopez, James B. Miller, Richard Shinkle, Don Wardlaw.

RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS FROM CONGREGATIONS: Amity, Alpine, Thomas A. Robertson, Jr.; First, Arkadelphia, Amanda Matthews; West End, Arkadelphia, Patricia Wright; First, Beebe, Aaron Bridges; Presbyterian Church of Bella Vista, Jack McFadyen and Dave Guarncia; First, Benton, Berry Beard; First, Clarksville, Lynn Castleman; First, Conway, Larry Dunn and Julie Adkisson; First, Dardanelle, Marty Shepherd; First, Eureka Springs, Nancy B. Vanderburg; First United, Fayetteville, Mary Ellen Moore and James F. Moore; Graham Memorial, Forrest City, Donnie Jones; Central, Fort Smith, Mike McClure; First, Fort Smith, Charlotte Scott and Ann Smith; First, Heber Springs, John Hanna; Holiday Island, Burt Gore; Faith, Horseshoe Bend, George F. Jackson III; First, Hot Springs, Kathy White; Westminster, Hot Springs, Richard H. Kilmer and Freida L. Cooley; Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village, Clark

Mowry and Gail Salmen; First, Huntsville, Wendy Kurry; First, Jacksonville, Glenn Fiscus; Allison, Little Rock, Herman Richardson; First, Little Rock, Libby Ingram; Grace, Little Rock, Ellen McLemore; Pulaski Heights, Little Rock, Jane Anne Spikes; Second, Little Rock, Aileen Moore and Catherine Lowry; Westover Hills, Little Rock, Danine Rogers; First, Malvern, Helen Wyrick; First, Mena, Wayne Quinney; Hopewell, Morrilton, Susan Morris; Barr Memorial, Norman, Mary Beth Lysobey; Park Hill, North Little Rock, Karene Jones; Mount Vernon, Pea Ridge, Ron David; Central, Pine Bluff, Laurence Fikes; First, Pine Bluff, Steve Matthews and Bill Ross; First, Searcy, Michelle Clark; First, Van Buren, Jan Enke; Wynne, Wes Shaver.

AT-LARGE COMMISSIONERS: Ruling Elder Members of General Committee, Chuck Blanton, Linda Castleman, Janis McClure; Ruling Elder Members of the Committee on Clusters, Patty Minga; Ruling Elder Moderators of Presbytery Committees, Julie Gillaspay, Nominations; Al Glover, Clusters; Ruling Elder Commissioners to General Assembly 220, Richard Freer; Moderator, General Committee, Sam Highsmith.

COMMISSIONED RULING ELDERS: Carolyn Beane, Barr Memorial, Norman; Joshua Bridges, First, Beebe; K. C. Chanthorn, Laotian Ministry-First, Fort Smith; Elizabeth Hardin, First, Gurdon; Jim Hays, Memorial, Atkins; G. Hartley Jones, Barr Memorial, Norman; Jim Keyes, 101, Gamaliel; Kelly Pearson, First, Dardanelle; Claire Rhodes, West End, Arkadelphia; Kenneth Rhodes, West End, Arkadelphia; Harlis Wright, Faith, Pine Bluff.

CERTIFIED CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS: Jeannie Ford, Linda LeBron, NiAnn Thompson.

Christian Educators from Particular Churches: Mary Shaw, First, Springdale; Britton Varn, Presbytery Staff.

VISITORS TO THIS MEETING OF PRESBYTERY: 24 registered.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS: Melinda Hunt, Grace Presbytery, Texas Presbyterian Foundation; Mike Kuner, Northern Kansas Presbytery, Westover Hills, Little Rock; Kade Curry, Palo Duro Presbytery, First, Searcy; Lindy Vogado, Trinity Presbytery, Grace, Little Rock; Stan Larson, ELCA, Holy Trinity Lutheran, Shreveport, LA.

TEACHING ELDERS WITH EXCUSED ABSENCES: Leslie F. Belden, D. Breckinridge Castleman, Lewis R. Donelson IV, Alan Ford, Clifton P. Ford, Debra Carl Freeman, Elizabeth Gabbard, Lance Jones, Andrew King, John E. King, Mark Lenneville, Jennifer Lord, Carl McCormack, Emmett Powers, Susan Rose, Lacy Sellars, Shauna Silmon, J. Stewart Smith, Debbie Spangler, Nancy Taylor, Drew Travis, Robert Williamson, Rita Wilson.

HONORABLY RETIRED ACTIVE TEACHING ELDERS WITH EXCUSED ABSENCES: William W. Branch, Thomas S. Carter, Jim Chaffin, Heinrich B. Eiler,

Orin M. Frank, William F. Henning, Robert Hyatt, Ron Jones, Richard H. Miller, Jerry Rice, C. Michael D. Seitz, Frederick A. Taylor.

TEACHING ELDERS ABSENT WITHOUT EXCUSE: Catherine L. Allsbury, Bill Bailey, Phillip Blackburn, Robert Cox, Fern M. Davis, James J. Farley III, John Gibson, Randi Henderson, Chris Jones, Libby Lizarraga, Melissa McNair-King, Jeff Parker, Marci Ward, Daniel Wooley, Harry Young.

HONORABLY RETIRED ACTIVE TEACHING ELDERS ABSENT WITHOUT EXCUSE: Milton B. Davis, James P. Fleming, Richard Frothingham, David Laverty, Burle D. Mattingly, Leila L. Power, Walter Swetnam, Donald Trent, W. Kennedy Upham, Darwin Wolfe.

SESSIONS WITH EXCUSED ABSENCES: Memorial, Atkins; First, Batesville; Vaughn, Bentonville; Cane Hill; Kirk of the Hills, Fairfield Bay; Walnut Grove, Farmington; First, Gurdon; Spring River, Hardy; First, Harrison; First, Marianna; First, McGehee; First, Morrilton; First, Prairie Grove; First, Siloam Springs; First, Springdale; First, Stuttgart; First, Walnut Ridge; First, Yellville.

SESSIONS ABSENT WITHOUT EXCUSE: First, Alma; First, Bentonville; First, Brinkley; Presbyterian Church of Bull Shoals; Harmony, Clarksville; Elkins; Mt. Comfort, Fayetteville; Central, Fort Smith (second elder); One-O-One, Gamaliel; First, Gravette; Good Shepherd, Greenwood; First, Helena; Holly Grove; Woodlands, Hot Springs Village; First, Jonesboro; First, Lincoln; Second, Little Rock (third and fourth elders); Trinity, Little Rock; Westminster, Little Rock; First, Lonoke; First, Mountain Home; Mountainburg; First, Newport; First, North Little Rock; First, Ozark; First, Paragould; Faith, Pine Bluff; First, Pocahontas; First, Rogers; Central, Russellville; West Fork; Cleburne Avenue, West Helena.

AT-LARGE RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS WITH EXCUSED ABSENCE: General Committee, Sheree Niece and Sissy Wells; Ruling Elder Moderators of Presbytery Committees, Elizabeth Branch, Disaster Preparedness & Response; Ledridge Davis, Representation; Moderator of Presbyterian Women, Cissy Rose.

AT-LARGE RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS ABSENT WITHOUT EXCUSE: General Committee, Becky Williams; Ruling Elder Members of the Committee on Clusters, Ted Belden, Russ Mathis, Wally Thacker.

COMMISSIONED RULING ELDERS ABSENT WITHOUT EXCUSE: Bill Brown, West Fork; Bill Bush, First, Gravette; Bruce Schlegel, Walnut Grove, Farmington and Cane Hill Presbyterian.

CERTIFIED CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS WITH EXCUSED ABSENCE: Lynn King and Nancy Irving Smith. **Certified Associate Christian Educators:** Lynn Condra, Sheila Reddig, Theresa Spragins, Susie Wright.

WELCOME FROM HOST

Teaching Elder Dan Festa, pastor of the host church, brought greetings from session and congregation. He pointed out the volunteers who have worked on the meeting and said they have worked for three years to get ready for this happy occasion.

WELCOME TO FIRST-TIME ELDER COMMISSIONERS

Stated Clerk Ulrich asked for responses to these invitations: if you grew up in church where you gave an offering during Sunday School, used an offering envelope with a number, were expected to tithe, know the definition of a legacy resource, or pledge to charities beyond the local church. She welcomed commissioners who have previously attended and those ruling elders and teaching elders who were attending for the first time in the Presbytery of AR.

INTRODUCTION OF PRESBYTERY STAFF

Moderator introduced General Presbyter Bill Galbraith, Director of Mission Support Kenneth Rich, Resourcing Director/Assistant Stated Clerk NiAnn Thompson, new Staff for Youth Ministries Britton Varn, Staff for Healthy Congregations Michael Vinson and Stated Clerk Cathy Ulrich. Evangelist Jesse Gonzalez will be present on Saturday.

SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS/ GRANTING PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Those seated were: Melinda Hunt, Grace Presbytery, Texas Presbyterian Foundation; Mike Kuner, Northern Kansas Presbytery, Westover Hills, Little Rock; Kade Curry, Palo Duro Presbytery, First, Searcy; Lindy Vogado, Trinity Presbytery, Grace, Little Rock. **Privilege of the floor was given** to the corresponding members and two candidates for ministry, Marie Mainard O'Connell and Susan Carter Wiggins.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moderator asked if any item should be removed from consent agenda, and none was moved. **Stated Clerk moved approval of the Consent Agenda as follows and approval was voted.** A prayer for the Des Arc church was offered by the Stated Clerk.

1. The Assistant Stated Clerk has received Session record review reports for 2011 from all eight geographic clusters. Specifics on the exceptions are available at the presbytery office. All other churches are encouraged to submit their reports of record review immediately. Thanks are extended to the Committee on Clusters, and especially moderator Al Glover. A copy of the reports follows:

SESSION RECORDS REVIEWED AND APPROVED FOR 2011 UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE

Cluster I:

Bella Vista, Presbyterian Church of Bella Vista, with exceptions to register and with exceptions to minutes

Fayetteville, First United, without exceptions to register or minutes

Fayetteville, Mt. Comfort, without exception to register and with exception to minutes

Pea Ridge, Mount Vernon, without exception to register and with exceptions to minutes

Rogers, First, without exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Siloam Springs, First, without exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Springdale, First, with exceptions to register and with exceptions to minutes
**Churches not reviewed for 2011: Bentonville, First; Bentonville, Vaughn; Cane Hill;
Elkins; Farmington, Walnut Grove; Gravette, First; Huntsville, First; Lincoln,
First; Prairie Grove, First; West Fork.**

Cluster II:

Eureka Springs, First, without exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Gamaliel, One-o-One, without exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Harrison, First, without exception to register or minutes
Holiday Island, without exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Yellville, First, without exception to register or minutes
**Churches not reviewed for 2011: Presbyterian Church of Bull Shoals and Mountain
Home, First**

Cluster III:

Batesville, First, 2010-2011, without exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Hardy, Spring River, with exceptions to register and with exceptions to minutes
Horseshoe Bend, Faith, 2010, without exception to register or minutes
Jonesboro, First, with exceptions to register and with exceptions to minutes
Pocahontas, First, 2010-2011, with exceptions to register and with exceptions to minutes
Searcy, First, 2010, without exceptions to register and with exceptions to minutes
Walnut Ridge, First, 2010-2011, without exception to register and with exceptions to
minutes
Churches not reviewed for 2011: Newport, First and Paragould, First

Cluster IV:

Brinkley, First, without exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Forrest City, Graham Memorial, without exception to register and with exceptions to
minutes
Holly Grove Presbyterian, Holly Grove, without exception to register or minutes
Marianna, First, without exception to register or minutes
Stuttgart, First, without exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Wynne, Wynne Presbyterian, without exception to register and with exceptions to
minutes
Church not reviewed for 2011: Helena, First, and West Helena, Cleburne Avenue

Cluster V:

Amity, Alpine, without exception to register or minutes
Arkadelphia, First, without exception to register and with exception to minutes
Arkadelphia, West End, without exception to register or minutes
Benton, First, without exception to register and with exception to minutes
Gurdon, First, without exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Hot Springs, First, without exception to register or minutes
Hot Springs, Westminster, no register and with exception to minutes

Hot Springs Village, Kirk, without exception to register or minutes
Hot Springs Village, Woodlands, without exception to register and with exception to minutes
Malvern, First, without exception to register or minutes
McGehee, First, without exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Norman, Barr Memorial, no register and with exceptions to minutes
Pine Bluff, Central, without exception to register and with exception to minutes
Pine Bluff, First, without exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Church not reviewed for 2011: Pine Bluff, Faith

Cluster VI:

Alma, First, 2007-2008, without exception to minutes
Fort Smith, Central, without exception to minutes
Fort Smith, First, without exception to minutes
Mountainburg Presbyterian, without exception to minutes
Van Buren, First, 2012, without exception to minutes
Churches not reviewed for 2011: Greenwood, Good Shepherd and Mena, First

Cluster VII:

Beebe, First, without exception to register or minutes
Clarksville, First, without exception to register or minutes
Clarksville, Harmony, no register and with exceptions to minutes
Conway, First, without exception to register or minutes
Dardanelle, First, with exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Fairfield Bay, Kirk of the Hills, without exception to register or minutes
Heber Springs, First, with exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Morrilton, Hopewell, 2006-2010, no register and with exceptions to minutes
Russellville, Central, without exception to register and with exception to minutes
Church not reviewed for 2011: Atkins, Memorial; Morrilton, First; and Ozark, First

Cluster IX:

Jacksonville, First, without exception to register and with exception to minutes
Little Rock, First, with exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Little Rock, Grace, with exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Little Rock, Pulaski Heights, without exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Little Rock, Second, without exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Little Rock, Trinity, without exception to register and with exceptions to minutes
Little Rock, Westover Hills, without exception to register and with exception to minutes
North Little Rock, Park Hill, without exception to register and with exception to minutes
Churches not reviewed for 2011: Little Rock, Allison Memorial; Little Rock, Westminster; Lonoke, First; North Little Rock, First

2. The presbytery approves the request from honorably retired Teaching Elder Ron Jones to change his status from active to non-active for 2012.

3. The administrative commission elected by the presbytery to close First, Des Arc has completed its work and filed its final report (appendix). The commission is dissolved with the thanks of the presbytery.
4. The administrative commissions to install Teaching Elder Leslie Roper as pastor at First, Batesville and Teaching Elders Phillip and Tasha Blackburn, First, Fort Smith have filed reports. These commissions are dissolved with the thanks of the presbytery.
5. The minutes of the 120th stated meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas have been available for review by the presbytery, no changes have been reported, and the minutes were approved.
6. **The Presbytery approved the request of the session at Memorial Presbyterian Church, Atkins to grant an exemption to rule G-2.0404 for the limitation of terms of service for their elders. Due to lack of active members at Atkins Memorial, it is not possible to have rotating classes.**
7. **The Presbytery approved the request from the Committee on Christian Education and Nurture for the sacrament of the Lord's Supper to be served by the following: (1) Youth A Team in 2013 at Senior High Youth Quake, April 7, at Camp Ozark; Junior High Youth Quake, September 29 at Ferncliff; (2) Arkansas Presbytery Pilgrimage for Pilgrimage Renewal Weekends April 11-14 at Ferncliff; April 27; at Ferncliff October 2-3 and 5-6; and October 19 with teaching elders officiating.**

FOR INFORMATION

Correspondence has been received from the Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia that the church register, diaconate minutes, church history and anniversary file for Highland Presbyterian, Hot Springs have been deposited in its archives.

APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Moderator Dyer announced the following appointments:

Leaves of Absence: Ruling Elder Al Glover, Central, Pine Bluff; RE Julie Adkisson, First, Conway; TE David Gill, Ferncliff Camp.

Tellers: TE Rebecca Spooner, Laurence Schmidt Center; RE Ron David, Mount Vernon, Pea Ridge; RE Jeannie Ford, Second, Little Rock; TE Robert Lowry, First and Harmony, Clarksville.

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION

Moderator Guy Delaney reported on the 2013 budget, financial reports, financial review for 2011. As required by the Synod of the Sun annually, the Administration Committee has reviewed the insurance carried by presbytery and found the coverage sufficient for all presbytery needs.

The Administration Committee held budget hearings on August 11 from which a budget for 2013 was prepared and that information is attached to this report for information

(appendix). This budget will be presented for approval at the February meeting of presbytery. Wes Shaver, the treasurer of Presbytery, will answer any questions. A review of presbytery's finances for 2011 was conducted by Hudson and Cisne and all was found to be in order. A copy of this review is available (appendix).

The Personnel Subcommittee of the Administration Committee (with three co-opted members from the Education Committee) met several times to review and rewrite the job description of the Youth Ministry Coordinator, a position vacated by Whitney Bordelon, and to search for a replacement. The number of hours needed to fulfill the duties of this position (26 hours per month) was judged to be insufficient and was raised to 10 hours per week. The committee interviewed three candidates and selected Britton Varn, who accepted the offer and began her work on the presbytery staff on September 11, 2012.

Motions before the presbytery:

- 1) **The committee moves to change the call of the General Presbyter, Bill Galbraith, to reflect a 3% increase in effective salary for 2013 with appropriate adjustments to Board of Pension dues, FICA, and Medicare Tax. A comparison of current and proposed terms of call is shown below:**

	2012	2013
Salary	\$38,564	\$39,721
Housing	\$47,134	\$48,548
Social Security Offset	\$6,556	\$6,753
Board of Pensions	\$27,638	\$28,467
Total	\$119,892	\$123,489

Galbraith left the sanctuary during the discussion. **Terms for 2013 were approved.**

- 2) **The committee moves to reduce the interest rate on Holiday Island's loan (from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Investment and Loan Program, Inc.) from 5.25% to 3.5%, which more accurately reflects the going interest rates at the current time. Interest Rate was approved.**
- 3) **The committee moves to grant presbytery permission to sell a right-of-way on property owned by presbytery and never used by presbytery for new church development on Highway 265 (Crossover Road) in northwest Fayetteville to the City of Fayetteville for \$14,480. This is inclusive of an easement to Ozarks Electric Cooperative for which the presbytery received no funds.**

Ruskin Falls asked question of sale of property: are you sure this is not the same property sold last year. Reply was this is different footage. His second question was why ordinarily property sale is handled by the CC&D committee with proceeds earmarked for new church development or re-development funds and now a different committee is involved and funds are being used differently. Moderator said that this will be worked out at a later date. Delaney said that the two committees would work out the details. **Sale was approved.**

4) The committee moves that \$10,000 of the monies received from the sale of the Fayetteville right-of-way be allocated for leadership development and that the rest be placed in the general budget.

Regarding use of proceeds, Falls asked about using the money for new church development and inquired what “leadership development” is. He moved to **amend the original motion so that proceeds of sale go into CC&D fund for NCD and redevelopment.** In discussion Delaney agreed that this was a deviation from the past and asked for Galbraith to speak to this “new day” development. Galbraith spoke about the need to bring in outside speakers for the education of the whole presbytery and said there is no pressing or immediate need for these funds for NCDs. This use of money would give more “bang for the buck” for education of the commissioners. Phil Butin spoke in favor of the amendment, saying that the weekend event would be over and gone, whereas property is permanent. Galbraith explained that the sale is only for the easement and not for property itself. Falls said it has fallen to CC&D to deal with property sales, that the issue should be looked at carefully, asked if this is the time to make such a change and said he is in favor of the amendment. George Jackson suggested tabling the motion until it can be straightened out between the committees. **Amendment failed on vote.** Original motion was voted on and Moderator ruled it passed on oral vote. On request for division of the house, tellers were called to count. **Main motion #4 was approved by a vote of 48 in favor; 27 opposed.**

Delaney called Britton Varn forward and recounted the process which brought her to this position as staff resource for youth ministry, her education and previous service to the denomination.

A Shared Mission giving brochure was distributed. The committee expresses its appreciation to those churches which have been able to maintain their giving level during these hard times. A few churches have been forced to make significant decreases in their giving due to changes in membership and lost revenues. Administration prays for those churches and hopes their financial condition in 2013 will make it possible for them to once again achieve their mission goals for presbytery.

PLENARY

J. Clif Christopher, president of Horizons Stewardship Company, gave a spirited two-hour lecture on the ways that non-profits seek the three pockets of giving, what the church can learn from them, the efficacy of telling stories of lives changed by ministry rather than just presenting a line item budget, the necessity for the pastor to know giving patterns, and the need to thank and involve donors. His books were available for purchase.

The church hosted a reception at 9 p.m. to end the evening.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2012

The host church offered a continental breakfast in Fellowship Hall beginning at 7:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Moderator Dyer called the council back to order at 8:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.

OPENING WORSHIP

Candidate for ministry Susan Carter Wiggins preached as part of her exam for ordination.

BUSINESS SESSION #2

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK

Stated Clerk Ulrich gave the report. In a letter to the stated clerk of Arkansas Presbytery, dated July 10, 2012, Art Fogartie renounced the jurisdiction of the Presbytery of Arkansas. At that time an Investigating Committee had filed charges which had been forwarded to the Permanent Judicial Commission. The renunciation of jurisdiction removes Mr. Fogartie from membership and ordered ministry in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and his name has been deleted from the rolls. (G-2.0509) **A copy of the charges will be in the personnel file and the church file in the presbytery office.**

Stated clerk reported on item above and as required has charges against Art Fogartie at the clerk's table for this meeting only. Church discipline requires procedural safeguards and distribution to those who need to know rather than posting for all through the packet. Moderator Dyer offered a prayer for Fogartie and others.

COMMITTEE ON MISSION

Teaching Elder Gordon Garlington, committee moderator, gave the report.

Items for information:

1. In June of 2010, the Presbytery of Arkansas voted to make Hunger our "Unified Mission Emphasis" for 2011-2013. Mission Committee has been working to fulfill that mandate: sponsored a pre-presbytery workshop on hunger ministries in October of 2011, awarded grants to the congregations of First Presbyterian Church of Jonesboro and Grace Presbyterian Church of Little Rock as they offered summer programs providing meals and recreation to at-risk children and youth in their neighborhoods; to the Graham Memorial Presbyterian Church of Forrest City for its "soup kitchen" feeding program and other hunger ministries, to the Barr Memorial Presbyterian Church of Norman for its Gretta Lane Food Pantry and other hunger ministries; to Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center for its Garden, Nutrition, Education and Outreach program, a community garden serving as an instrument of mission education and providing food for Ferncliff guests and fresh vegetables/fruit for an area food pantry; to The Stewpot, feeding meals to the homeless, sponsored by and housed at First Presbyterian Church of Little Rock, and to the "Food for Kids" backpack program of the Arkansas Rice Depot.

So far in 2012, to First Presbyterian of Jonesboro as they offered a second summer program providing meals and recreation to at-risk children and youth in their neighborhood; a second year grant to Ferncliff for its Garden, Nutrition, Education and Outreach program; to the Ferncliff-sponsored "Stop Hunger Now" project carried out in conjunction with presbytery meeting on June 1-2, 2012, in which over 30,000 meals were packaged and sealed to be distributed to students in schools in nations where hunger is

rampant; on recommendation of First Presbyterian Church of Harrison, to the Children's Charity Ministry of that community, providing 9,400 meals per month to children in 42 schools and 8 counties in North Central Arkansas; to the Grace Community Food Pantry of Helena, of which First Presbyterian Church of Helena was one of the founders and an active supporter and participant. A brochure, *Unified Mission Emphasis Hunger Grants*, can be found under "Resources," under "Presbytery Documents," on the presbytery's website and in the packet.

2. The annual **Cents-Ability** (formerly 2 Cents A Meal) offerings received in Presbyterian Church (USA) congregations each year benefit causes to which the 2012 Cents-Ability offerings are designated:

International - The Cameroon Food Sovereignty Program (H000128) – A program helping villages build and operate village-run grain banks which allows villagers to sell their grain to a community silo and then buy their grain at a reasonable cost throughout the year. If villagers don't have money, they can buy grain on credit and pay back that grain at harvest. The villagers make the decisions, are responsible for the banks, and are the beneficiaries. The incredibly successful grain banks mean children in the Sahel who were eating maybe once a day during lean months are now able to eat twice a day.

National - The national portion will go to the general Cents-Ability fund (H000107) from which at the end of the year a Cents-Ability Advisory Committee will select and award grants to hunger-related projects across the United States.

Presbytery of Arkansas – The local portion of the 2012 Cents-Ability offerings will go to help support the hunger ministries of the Graham Memorial Presbyterian Church in Forrest City, Arkansas. That congregation now serves through their soup kitchen held each week approximately 400 individuals. In addition, during the school year they pack backpacks of easily-opened and served food for Forrest City school children from at-risk families.

3. **The Peacemaking Offering** supports national and international peacemaking efforts through grants made by the Peacemaking Program of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

The 50% of the Peacemaking offerings received in Presbytery of Arkansas' churches during 2012 that is designated for local use will help make possible a year of service in Northern Ireland for a young man from this presbytery, David Mills. David is spending the year building bridges of peace through the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s Young Adult Volunteers program. He will serve with the Abbey Presbyterian Church in Monkstown, a lower income housing area in northern Belfast, working with youth in and beyond the church.

4. The Arkansas Rice Depot, founded in 1982, is currently celebrating its 30th year of service. As noted in the meeting of presbytery in Malvern in June, 2010 at which Laura Rhea, president of the Depot, addressed the presbytery and Rev. Jerry Bedford, a member of the Presbytery of Arkansas who was instrumental in the founding of the ARD, was honored, Presbyterians were key players in beginning this important hunger ministry and

have been vital to its support through the years. Among other leaders in creating the Rice Depot were Mrs. LaVerne Feaster and the late Rev. Donn Walters.

In light of that request, your Mission Committee voted unanimously to formally endorse the ministry of the Arkansas Rice Depot during its 30th anniversary year, commending it to congregations, the larger church community, and the citizens of the state, and to ask that the Presbytery at its meeting on October 13, 2012, go on record as endorsing the ministry of the Arkansas Rice Depot during its 30th anniversary year, commending it to congregations, the larger church community, and the citizens of the state.

5. Chiapas/ Covenant with the Presbytery of Lacandon -- The relationship with the Presbytery of Lacandon is on hold. The National Presbyterian Church of Mexico voted at a called meeting of their General Assembly to sever ties with the Presbyterian Church (USA). Whether that decision will stand at the next stated meeting of that body is uncertain. After that action, the Presbytery of Lacandon voted to continue their relationship with the Presbytery of Arkansas, signaling their appreciation for the relationship we have had and the work we have done together over the past decade. Now, however, tension has arisen between the Presbytery of Lacandon and their parent synod, the Synod of the Maya. At this point, the Chiapas Mission Team and the Mission Committee, in response to the decisions made by the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico and the changing relationships within that portion of Christ's Church, have entered a season of prayer and discernment regarding the relationship with the Presbytery of Lacandon. We invite the Presbytery of Arkansas to join us in prayer for the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico and for our friends and colleagues in ministry in the Presbytery of Lacandon.

Items for action:

1) The Mission Committee moves that the Presbytery of Arkansas at its meeting on October 13, 2012, go on record as endorsing the ministry of the Arkansas Rice Depot during its 30th anniversary year, commending it to PC(USA) congregations, the larger church community, and the citizens of the state. He gave the background of the formation and leading initial figures of ARD. **Endorsement was approved.**

Report to the Presbytery:

The Mission Committee invited Ann Owens of Second Presbyterian, Little Rock to address the Presbytery regarding the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s "Earth Care Congregation" program, the process by which Second Church came to be recognized as an "Earth Care Congregation," and how this program expresses and encourages faithful Christian stewardship of the earth with which God has gifted humanity. She mentioned the conference of the national group at Ferncliff next year. Creation-care activities were listed such as eco-palms, educational events, outreach and facilities changes.

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Committee moderator Ruling Elder Julie Agee Gillaspy gave the report. She thanked the members of the committee for their work at several meetings and those who agreed to serve and encouraged others to consider serving at the presbytery level.

1. The Committee on Nominations moves to elect the following to fulfill unexpired terms:

Committee on Christian Education and Nurture, Class of 2012

Ruling Elder Glenn Fiscus, First, Jacksonville

Moderator, Committee on Congregational Care and Development, Class of 2012

Teaching Elder Rita Wilson, First, Yellville

General Committee, Class of 2013

Teaching Elder Leslie Roper, First, Batesville

ELECTION WAS APPROVED.

2. The Committee on Nominations moves to elect the following for one-year terms:

Ruling Elder Sheree Niece, Moderator of Presbytery, 2013 First, Clarksville

Teaching Elder Clare Martin Kelley, Vice Moderator of Presbytery, 2013

Northwest AR Larger Parish

Teaching Elder David H. Dyer, honorably retired, Moderator of General Committee, 2013 Westminster, Little Rock

Moderators of Presbytery Committees, all for Class of 2013:

Teaching Elder Guy Delaney, HR, Administration (second year), Little Rock

Ruling Elder Marty Shepherd, Care and Nurture of Church Professionals (second year), First, Dardanelle

Ruling Elder Linda LeBron, Christian Education and Nurture (second year), Second, Little Rock

Teaching Elder Rita Wilson, Congregational Care and Development, (second year), First, Yellville

Ruling Elder James Anderson, Disaster Preparedness and Response (first year), First, Batesville

Teaching Elder Frank LeBlanc, Committee on Ministry, (first year), First, Morrilton

Ruling Elder Kim Danehower, Mission, (first year), Graham Memorial, Forrest City

Ruling Elder Susie Wright, Preparation for Ministry, (first year), Westminster, Hot Springs

Ruling Elder Ledridge Davis, Representation, (second year), First, Malvern

Readers of Theological Exams, Class of 2013

Teaching Elder Karen Akin, Second Presbyterian, Little Rock

Teaching Elder Heinrich Eiler, honorably retired, Hot Springs Village

Ruling Elder Peg Falls-Corbitt, First, Conway

Ruling Elder Ruth Hamilton, Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village

Alternate Readers of Exams:

Teaching Elder Phil Butin, First United, Fayetteville

Teaching Elder Kendal Land, First, Arkadelphia

ELECTION WAS APPROVED.

3. The Committee on Nominations moves to elect the following for three-year terms:

General Committee, Class of 2015

Ruling Elder Frances Bateman, Westminster, Hot Springs

Teaching Elder Kris Crawford, First, Bentonville

Committee on Administration, Class of 2015

Ms. Theresa Spragins, Central Presbyterian, Russellville

Ruling Elder Ray Woodruff, Wynne Presbyterian, Wynne

Ruling Elder Drew Linder, First, Fort Smith

Committee on Care and Nurture of Church Professionals, Class of 2015

Teaching Elder Karen Akin, Second Presbyterian, Little Rock

Ruling Elder Marty Shepherd, First, Morrilton

Teaching Elder Drew Travis, First, Conway

Committee on Christian Education and Nurture, Class of 2015

Ruling Elder Glenn Fiscus, First, Jacksonville

Ruling Elder Evelyn Mills, First, Harrison

Ruling Elder Gail Phillips, First, Jacksonville

Committee on Congregational Care and Development, Class of 2015

Ruling Elder Lon Hardin, Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village

Committee on Disaster Preparedness and Response, Class of 2015

Ruling Elder James Anderson, First, Batesville

Teaching Elder Bob Hadley, Kirk of the Hills, Fairfield Bay

Ruling Elder Betty Brown Powell, Park Hill, North Little Rock

Committee on Ministry, Class of 2015

Teaching Elder Leslie Belden, First United, Fayetteville

Ruling Elder Charles Cook, Central Presbyterian, Fort Smith

Ruling Elder Joy Henning, First, Harrison

Teaching Elder Sally Johnson, Honorably Retired, Little Rock

Teaching Elder Chris Jones, First, Jonesboro

Teaching Elder Frank LeBlanc, First, Morrilton

Teaching Elder Jim Miller, Honorably Retired, Little Rock

Ruling Elder Bill Walmsley, First, Batesville

Committee on Mission, Class of 2015

Teaching Elder Nancy Benson-Nicol, UofO, Clarksville

Teaching Elder Lance Clemmons, First, Pine Bluff

Ruling Elder Carol Williams, Second, Little Rock

Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Class of 2015

Teaching Elder Lance Jones, First, Mena

**Commissioned Ruling Elder Claire Rhodes, serving West End, Arkadelphia,
(member of Kirk in the Pines, Hot Spring Village)**

Ruling Elder Jeff Roper, First, Batesville

Teaching Elder Marci Ward, at-large, Clarksville

Committee on Representation, Class of 2015

Ruling Elder Ledridge Davis, First, Malvern

Ruling Elder Jeanne Steen, First, Harrison

Ruling Elder Yuri Hernandez Ramos, Barr Memorial, Norman

**Ruling Elder/CRE Bruce Schlegel, serving Cane Hill and Walnut Grove,
Farmington (member of First United, Fayetteville)**

Counselor-at-law, Class of 2013-2015

Marti Woodruff, First United, Fayetteville

ELECTION WAS APPROVED.

4. The Committee on Nominations moves to elect the following:

Commissioners to General Assembly in 2014

Teaching Elder Larry Mitchell, Graham Memorial, Forrest City

Teaching Elder Anne Russ, First, North Little Rock

Ruling Elder Ed Wilkinson, Good Shepherd, Greenwood

Ruling Elder Mary Beth Lysobey, Barr Memorial, Norman

Young Adult Delegate Advisor to General Assembly in 2014

Yuri Hernandez Ramos, Barr Memorial, Norman

**Alternate Commissioners to General Assembly in 2014 (will be nominated to attend
in 2016)**

Teaching Elder Camille LeBron Powell, Second, Little Rock

Teaching Elder Tom Ulrich, Central, Fort Smith

Ruling Elder Jesse Rancifer, Allison Memorial, Little Rock

Ruling Elder Sharon Lessenberry, First, Conway

Commissioners to Synod of the Sun, Class of 2014

Teaching Elder Robert Lowry, First and Harmony, Clarksville

Ruling Elder Emily Laurel, First, Benton

ELECTION WAS APPROVED.

REPORT FROM GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONERS

Those from this presbytery who served as commissioners this summer to the meeting of the General Assembly, Teaching Elders Jesse Gonzalez, Ruling Elders Claire Rhodes and Richard Freer, reported. Young adult advisory delegate Ryan Smith was absent due to a death in the family and TE Breck Castleman was ill. Rhodes thanked presbytery for the experience, was vice moderator of a GA committee and loves the church. TE Jesse Gonzalez was pleased to go as a commissioner, served on health issues committee and came back very hopeful. Breck Castleman was absent but sent a statement of thanks and report. Dick Freer reported that the church is alive and well and being watched carefully

and asked questions to consider the next two years on Israel/Palestine, marriage and synod/non-geographic, like-minded presbyteries. All affirmed the YADAs, and Freer asked for them to be allowed to vote in the future.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION FROM FERNCLIFF CAMP

Ferncliff Executive Director Teaching Elder David Gill reported on the \$3.5 million capital campaign announced at last presbytery meeting. He explained the need for more pool space and a dining hall, 10 more motel rooms, two more cabins, eco-center, and a house for young adult volunteers. Gill shared the really good news that Ferncliff has been awarded a \$1 million challenge grant from Walton Family Foundation, recognizing Rev. Gordon Garlington and DCE Mary Shaw for years of service to Bentonville church. If \$350,000 is raised by year end, that will be matched by Mabee Foundation. Churches are asked to consider pledging and paying \$10 per year per member. A reverse offering was shared containing a brochure, grant and pledge card.

COMMITTEE ON CARE AND NURTURE OF CHURCH PROFESSIONALS

Committee Moderator Ruling Elder Marty Shepherd made the report. **Renewal of the contract covenant between the Presbytery and Laurence Schmidt Counseling Center for 2013 was approved** (appendix).

GENERAL COMMITTEE

Committee Moderator Ruling Elder Sam Highsmith made the report.

The General Committee met on August 25, 2012, at First Presbyterian Church, Conway, Arkansas. Twelve of 15 voting members were present.

Discussions requiring no action:

Reports and minutes were received from:

- Committee on Administration
- Assistant Stated Clerk
- Committee on Christian Education and Nurture
- Committee on Mission
- Committee on Disaster Preparedness and Response
- Treasurer
- General Presbyter

Discussions with respect to which the General Committee took action (but no action on behalf of the Presbytery is required)

Members of the General Committee received the following time-sensitive request:

The Committee on Ministry requested that an **Administrative Commission be formed** to inquire into and settle the differences of the First Presbyterian, Ozark (G-3.0109b(5)). If needed, members may be replaced by vote of the General Committee, or by the Presbytery upon the request of the moderator of the commission. The Commission will:

- guide the congregation in taking initial steps toward securing consistent leadership;
- continue conversation with the congregation regarding denominational association;

- be authorized to assume original jurisdiction if it is determined that the session, after thorough investigation, is unable or unwilling to manage wisely the affairs of the church (G-3.0201).

Rationale: On April 22, 2012, after due notification by the session to its members, TEs Robert Lowry and Brian Brock led First Presbyterian, Ozark in a time of conversation and Appreciative Inquiry. This was at the request of the session and with the concurrence of the Presbytery through the Committee on Ministry. Several issues were clarified through this process including growing mistrust of denominational structures, breakdown of trust within the congregation, and a lack of clarity of distinctions between polity and doctrine. A full report of this consultation, dated June 28, 2012 was filed with the Committee on Ministry at its meeting on July 10, 2012.

These findings are a result of conversations spanning three months. Included in the conversations was the possibility of dismissal from the denomination. The session has requested an administrative commission be appointed.

Function and composition:

The administrative commission will function for one year; will have a budget of \$500, will have as staff resource Stated Clerk Cathy Ulrich; will be composed of four or five members of Presbytery of AR, a majority of whom will compose a quorum of the commission. The commission will make a final report to the presbytery upon completion of its work.

The stated clerk will convene the AC which will elect a moderator and clerk at its first meeting. The members of the AC will be

Teaching Elder Robert Lowry, First and Harmony, Clarksville

Teaching Elder Maetta Snyder, at-large, Clarksville

Ruling Elder Cindy Lanphear, Harmony, Clarksville

Commissioned Ruling Elder Kelly Pearson, First, Dardanelle

Formation, population and functions of the Administrative Commission WERE VOTED.

Members of General Committee:

1. Voted to approve the request from the Committee on Disaster Preparedness and Response to permit the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service to exhibit at the October meeting. The objective is to get preparedness materials out to as many churches as possible.
2. Approved a request from the Mission Committee for 15 minutes on the docket of the October, 2012, meeting of the presbytery to present a report and in a subsequent decision, a motion.
3. Approved a request from Teaching Elder Tom Ulrich to consider Dr. Chip Hardwick, Director of Theology, Worship, and Education for the General Assembly Mission Council, of the PC (USA), for the presentation of a workshop at our February 2013 meeting of the presbytery. The tentative plan is for the workshop to be on the topic of marriage. This would be for a maximum of two hours. Bill Galbraith will be in touch with Dr. Hardwick to firm the details.
4. Received as information the financial report sent by Treasurer Wes Shaver.

5. Approved a recommendation from the Committee on Administration that a right of way easement be executed from First, Conway, to the City of Conway. The city will pay the church \$105,357 for the right of way.
6. Approved a request from the Committee on Administration to empower First Presbyterian, Newport, to sell real property belonging to the church near Possum Grape, AR, for the sum of \$2,300.00.
7. Approved a request from the Committee on Christian Education and Nurture to accept the following dates for the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper proposed by (1) Youth A Team in 2013: Senior High Youth Quake, April 7, at Camp Ozark; Junior High Youth Quake, September 29 at Ferncliff; (2) Arkansas Presbytery Pilgrimage for Pilgrimage Renewal Weekends April 11-14 at Ferncliff; April 27; at Ferncliff October 2-3 and 5-6; and October 19 to send to Presbytery.
8. Approved Stewpot ministry at First, Little Rock, as the worship offering recipient for the October 2012 meeting.
9. Approved CASA at Pine Bluff, a shelter for adults recovering from abuse, as the ingathering recipient of specific items at the October 2012 meeting of the presbytery (bar soap, shampoo, and packages of Kool-Aid®)
10. Directed the moderator of the General Committee to select issues for consideration by any Young Adult Advisory Delegates attending the October 2012 meeting of the presbytery.
11. Approved a request from Cluster 2 for a waiver to elect a Commissioned Ruling Elder to serve on the General Committee since no TE is available.
12. Approved a request from Cluster 3 to choose a Ruling Elder for service on the Committee on Clusters because no TE is available.
13. Approved the appointment of the commissioners to the 2012 meeting of the General Assembly of the PC(USA) to serve as the polity committee to deal with the proposed amendments from the GA. This committee will make recommendations to the presbytery.
14. A small task force of GC members and staff reported on the task of suggesting changes in the Standing Rules to bring the wording into conformity with the current Book of Order. These proposed amendments will be presented for a **first reading, only**, at the October 2012 meeting of the presbytery, and will be voted upon at the February 2013 meeting. **PLEASE NOTE:** These changes are **NOT** substantive or structural changes, but grammatical ones or current citations. A second set of recommended changes regarding substantive and structural changes will be considered by a larger task force and be presented for consideration at a later date.

The General Committee recommended the following for consideration and approval by the presbytery:

1. That the presbytery confirm the action of the GC in electing the following to unexpired terms on presbytery committees:

TE Richard Shinkle, HR, Harrison to the Committee on Ministry, Class of 2014

Deacon Ryan Holder, Second, Little Rock, Committee on Administration, Class of 2014

TE Susan Rose, UCM Fayetteville, Permanent Judicial Commission, Class of 2013

TE Georgia Senor, First, Huntsville, Permanent Judicial Commission, Class of 2015.

That the presbytery elect the following members of Committee on Nominations:

Ruling Elder Julie Agee Gillaspy, First, Conway, committee moderator, 2013 and member of Class of 2015

Teaching Elder Carl McCormack, First, Malvern, Class of 2015

Teaching Elder Elizabeth Gabbard, Central, Fort Smith, to fill an unexpired term, Class of 2013

ELECTION WAS APPROVED.

2. That the presbytery confirm the action of the GC in adopting the format for the presentation of the amendments to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA) at the February and June, 2013, meetings of the presbytery. The GC voted to use the same format as in '11. That is, the amendments to the Book of Order will be considered at the February meeting. A new translation of the Heidelberg Catechism, suggested for inclusion in the Book of Confessions, will be discussed at the February meeting and then voted upon in June. David Dyer will present on Heidelberg in February. **TIMETABLE FOR VOTING ON AMENDMENTS WAS APPROVED.**

3. That the presbytery vote to confirm the approval of the dates for the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper set forth in #7, above. (Moved to the Consent Agenda)

Highsmith announced that presbytery's Standing Rules have been brought into conformity with the Book of Order's Form of Government; all of these changes to language, citations, uniformity of style related to documents. Substantive changes will go to a larger group and be related later. He asked that this draft be shared with February commissioners.

He asked CNCP moderator Marty Shepherd to return and read the list of ordination anniversaries and commissioning. First-timers received keyrings and second-timers received certificates from Moderator Dyer (appendix).

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Vice Moderator of COM Teaching Elder Frank LeBlanc gave the report. He thanked the committee members and former members for their service.

Information and Recommendations from the July 2012 and September 2012 Committee on Ministry Meetings

For Information Only

1. A Commissioned Ruling Elder Oversight Subcommittee was established and a CRE manual has been approved.
2. The Presbytery Committee on Nominations will be urged to give high priority to ensuring proportionate representation from Clusters 1, 2, 6, and the western half of Cluster 7, so that the large number of churches in the area can be adequately served.
3. A request that General Committee form an Administrative Commission for Ozark, First, was approved.
4. The election of a new PNC at Bentonville, Vaughn, was approved.
5. Van Alma Parish was given permission to search for a designated pastor.
6. The following validated ministries were approved:
 - a. Candidate Susan Wiggins (under care of Presbytery of Arkansas) in the resident chaplaincy program at Baptist Hospital, Little Rock. COM referred to Committee on Preparation for Ministry the decision to proceed to examine the candidate for ordination.
 - b. TE Patty Schaller as a hospice chaplain, Legacy Hospice of North Arkansas
7. The following were added to the pulpit supply list:
 - a. RE Ellen McLemore, session member at Little Rock, Grace, and a graduate of the 2011 lay academy program.
 - b. Jen Bluestein, member at Springdale, First, and a candidate under the care of Presbytery of Arkansas.
8. Update on acknowledgement of receipt of sexual misconduct policy and release forms to perform background checks.
9. Art Fogartie has renounced jurisdiction of the PCUSA.
10. COM extended CREs Ken and Claire Rhodes' covenant at Arkadelphia, West End, through December 2013. He asked that they and congregation members stand and be recognized.
11. Introduction of Co-pastors TE's Phil and Tasha Blackburn, Fort Smith, First. They were not present but members of the church were recognized.

Necrology: Teaching Elder Dr. John Robert Shell, HR of Conway, died on Sept 13, 2012, and will be remembered in prayers during the 10:00 worship service. Teaching Elder Dr. William Andrew (Bill) McWeeny of Little Rock died on Oct. 10, 2012 and will also be remembered in prayers during worship, and their necrology will be published in February.

Motions before the Presbytery

1. **The Clergy Terms of Call for 2012 (appendix) WERE APPROVED.**
2. **To enroll the following:**
 - a. **TE John Barklind, HR as a member-at-large from Giddings Lovejoy Presbytery. He was welcomed, introduced and brought greetings. ENROLLMENT WAS APPROVED.**
 - b. **TE Eugene Edwards, Jr., HR as a member-at-large from New Covenant Presbytery. He was absent.**

3. **TE Lindy Vogado as interim at Little Rock, Grace, with an effective start date of July 16, 2012**

- a. **Motion to approve the following terms of call:**

Salary	\$22,000
Housing	14,800
Professional Expenses:	
Travel Expenses and Mileage (55.5 cents per mile)	1,600
General Professional Expenses	2,250
Continuing Education Expenses	3,350
Benefits:	
Pension Plan	12,255
Payroll Taxes (SECA)	2,960
Total Compensation Package	\$59,415

TERMS WERE APPROVED.

- b. **Motion to enroll Vogado as a member of Presbytery of Arkansas. She is currently a member of Trinity Presbytery. ENROLLMENT WAS APPROVED. She was introduced and is glad to be part of this presbytery.**

4. **Extending the interim covenant between Teaching Elder Debra Carl Freeman and the Session of Jacksonville, First, and to provide interim pastoral services effective August 1, 2012, until July 31, 2013, with the following terms of call:**

Salary	\$14,070.00
Housing	\$14,070.00
Pension and Medical Benefits (full)	\$11,071.80
Professional Expense Allowance and Study Leave:	
Expenses	\$ 2,000.00
Time	Two weeks
Vehicle Allowance	\$ 8,000 annually

This call is considered a ¾ of “Full time pastorate”

COVENANT WAS APPROVED. Jacksonville people stood and were recognized.

5. **TE Kris Crawford as interim at Bentonville, First, with an effective start date of August 15, 2012, and the following terms of call:**

\$56,400	Salary
12,000	Housing
5,233	SECA Offset
16,000	Professional Expenses (Vouchered)
(11,000 Auto/Travel Expense; 3,000 including Cell Phone; 2,000 Continuing Education)	

**BOP Full Participation, and
Temporary Housing (Up to \$16,860.)
1,500 Moving Expense (Vouchered)
4 Weeks Vacation
2 Weeks Continuing Education
Salary Continuance up to 3 months; balance of lease and at&t
internet/cable contract for early termination of covenant
contract.**

INTERIM RELATIONSHIP AND TERMS OF CALL WERE APPROVED.
She stood and was recognized.

6. **Dissolution of calls between TE Andy King and TE Melissa McNair-King and Bentonville, First effective July 8, 2012. Melissa has accepted a call as pastor of First, Pulaski, VA in the Presbytery of The Peaks. DISSOLUTION WAS APPROVED.**

7. **Dissolution of call between TE Randi Henderson and Fayetteville, Mt. Comfort, effective October 12, 2012. Randi has accepted a call as pastor of United Presbyterian Church, Keokuk, IA, Presbytery of East Iowa. COM recommends dismissing her to Presbytery of East Iowa per her request. DISSOLUTION WAS APPROVED. Highsmith assumed moderator duties. DISMISSAL WAS APPROVED.**

8. **TE Maetta Snyder requested the status of honorable retirement, effective October 1, 2012.**

She was welcomed and **RETIREMENT WAS APPROVED.** TE Robert Lowry offered a word of appreciation for her presence in Clarksville. She received a certificate of retirement from LeBlanc and gave remarks.

9. **TE David Dyer HR as part-time stated supply at Little Rock, Westminster, effective date July 22, 2012 with the following covenant terms from July 22, 2012 to July 21, 2013:**

1. **TE Dyer shall receive \$1,100.00 monthly housing allowance for a total of \$13,200.00 during the term of this contract. Mileage reimbursement for church activities outside a 35-mile radius of Westminster Presbyterian Church will be at the IRS amount.**

2. **This covenant may be terminated at any time by either party with a 2-week written notice, and may be renewable after one year. COVENANT WAS APPROVED.**

COM report was arrested to move to worship.

ORDER OF THE DAY

WORSHIP WITH THE SACRAMENT OF LORD'S SUPPER

Leading worship at 10:10 were REs Laura Festa and NiAnn Thompson, Commissioned Ruling Elder Harlis Wright, musicians Marty Shell and Ralph Wilcox, combined choirs from First and Central, Pine Bluff, TEs Jeff Price, Dari Rowen and Jeff Cranton who officiated at the sacrament served by intinction, and Candidate Marie Mainard O'Connell who preached. The worship offering for Stewpot feeding ministry, First, Little Rock totaled \$1,415.95.

BUSINESS SESSION #3

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY resumes

TE LeBlanc resumed the COM report:

10. TE Kade Curry

- a. **TE Kade Curry as pastor of Searcy, First, with a beginning date of July 23, 2012, with the following terms of call: Base Salary**

\$46,000

Housing and Utilities Allowance	\$12,000
Travel (Reimbursable)	\$ 3,000
Cell Phone Allowance (Reimbursable)	\$ 1,200
Continued Education (Reimbursable)	\$ 1,000
Civic Dues (Reimbursable)	\$ 1,000
4 Weeks Vacation	
2 Weeks Study Leave	
3 Month Sabbatical in 7th year of Ministry	
Pension and Benefits	\$18,705
Total Effective Salary	\$58,000
Total Package Amount	\$82,905.

APPROVAL WAS VOTED.

11. **To enroll Teaching Elder Eugene Edwards, Jr., HR as a member-at-large of the Presbytery of AR from New Covenant Presbytery was APPROVED.** Edwards was not present but may be introduced later.

12. a. **To enroll TE Kade Curry in the Presbytery of Arkansas. Curry is currently a member of Palo Duro Presbytery. ENROLLMENT WAS APPROVED.**

- b. **To approve the following Administrative Commission to install Teaching Elder Kade Curry as Pastor of Searcy, First, on October 28, 2012, at 4:30 p.m.:**

**Teaching Elder David Dyer, HR, Little Rock, Westminster,
Moderator**

Teaching Elder Dennis Bennett, HR, Searcy

Teaching Elder Al Henager, Heber Springs, First

Ruling Elder Marcia Szabo, Searcy, First

Ruling Elder Joy Henning, Harrison, First

Teaching Elder Drew Travis, Conway, First

Ruling Elder Karene Jones, North Little Rock, Park Hill

**The offering recipient will be Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center.
COMMISSION WAS APPROVED.**

Kade Curry brought greetings and is glad to be in AR.

13. Candidate Marie Mainard O'Connell under care of Shenandoah Presbytery:

a. Examination of Marie Mainard O'Connell for ordination

She gave a sense of her call to ministry and her background in the faith. **It was voted to sustain the faith and commitment portion of the exam. It was voted to sustain the sermon portion of her exam. It was voted to sustain the printed faith statement (appendix).** TE Powell examined in the area of Bible (spiritual though not religious). **It was voted to sustain the Bible portion of exam.** TE Miller examined in the area of theology (which theologian has influenced you). **It was voted to sustain the Reformed Theology portion of exam.** RE Hamilton examined in the area of worship and sacraments. **It was voted to sustain the worship and sacraments portion of exam.** TE Rowen examined in the area of polity. **It was voted to sustain the polity portion of exam. IT WAS VOTED TO SUSTAIN THE EXAM AS A WHOLE.**

O'Connell was escorted from the sanctuary. **Motion that presbytery approve her for the office of Teaching Elder passed.** She returned to great joy and applause.

b. Terms of call:

1) Pastoral relationship between Marie Mainard O'Connell and First Presbyterian, Little Rock, with a start date of September 1, 2012, with the following terms of call:

Effective Salary

- Cash salary \$20,600
- Housing allowance \$17,400

Professional Expenses (reimbursable only)

- Automobile expenses at \$0.555 per mile up to \$2,000
- Business and professional expenses up to \$1,000
- Continuing education (cumulative to 3 years) \$1,600

Benefits

- Board of Pensions (pension/medical/death/disability) \$12,225
- Social security \$2,907

- **Study leave: 2 weeks per year (cumulative to six weeks); one additional week may be requested for service to the denomination**
- **Vacation: 4 weeks per year**
- **Personal leave: 1 week per year, as requested**
- **Maternity leave 8 weeks, if requested**
- **Disability (as certifiably warranted by a licensed physician not to exceed 90 days): full effective salary with pension dues paid**
- **Sick leave: 12 days per year**
- **Sabbatical: 3 months after six years of service inclusive of study leave**
- **One time moving expenses up to \$1,000 (reimbursable only)**

for a total minimum compensation package of \$58,732.

TERMS OF CALL WERE APPROVED.

2) Enroll Marie Mainard O'Connell as a member of Presbytery of Arkansas. ENROLLMENT WAS APPROVED.

3) The Administrative Commission to ordain and install Marie Mainard O'Connell as Pastor of Little Rock, First, on October 21, 2012, at 4:00 p.m. and to authorize the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper during that service, Teaching Elder O'Connell to officiate:

TE David Dyer, HR, Moderator of Presbytery

TE Howard Gordon, HR, Minister Emeritus, Little Rock, First

TE Marion Humphrey, Little Rock, Allison Memorial

**TE Camille LeBron Powell, Little Rock, Second Presbyterian
Ruling Elder Susan Wiggins, Little Rock, Westover Hills
Presbyterian**

Ruling Elder Owen Lyon, Little Rock, First Presbyterian

Ruling Elder Lowanna Morehead, Little Rock, Allison

Guests seated with Administrative Commission:

**TE Michael Kuner, Interim Minister, Little Rock,
Westover Hills Presbyterian and a member of Northern
Kansas Presbytery**

Rev. Wendell Griffin

The offering recipient will be Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION WAS APPROVED.

Moderator Dyer offered a prayer for O'Connell.

COMMITTEE ON CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND DEVELOPMENT

Teaching Elder Ruskin Falls, committee vice moderator, gave the report. This committee oversees a grant program to assist congregations with ministries. Falls also publicized the

annual spring retreat CC&D sponsors and named the plenary speakers, workshop leaders and plans for that event.

People from First, LR were belatedly recognized by Committee on Ministry.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

Teaching Elder Jeff Cranton, committee moderator, gave the report.

At its meeting on Aug. 11, 2012, the Committee on Preparation for Ministry:

1. Conducted Annual Reviews for Molly McGinnis, Becky Purcell and Susan Wiggins
2. Set meeting for Sept. for Annual Review for Cameron Highsmith and final assessment for Susan Wiggins.

At its meeting on Sept. 15, 2012, the Committee on Preparation for Ministry:

1. Received update on Barbara Padgett
2. Conducted an Annual Review for Cameron Highsmith
3. Conducted Final Assessment for Susie Wiggins
4. Voted to present candidate Susie Wiggins to presbytery at the October meeting for examination for ordination where she will preach and answer questions in the areas of Bible, Worship and Sacraments, Polity, and Theology.

Cranton called on Wiggins who shared a brief statement of personal faith in which she thanked the churches who nurtured her and those who spoke of her call to ministry along the way. **Approval of her printed statement of faith was voted.** (appendix). **Motion to sustain the faith statement portion of the exam was sustained. Motion to sustain the sermon portion of the exam was approved.** CPM member Lopez asked two questions in the area of theology. **Motion to sustain the theology portion of the exam was approved.** CPM member Annette Greenland asked two questions in the area of Bible. **Motion to sustain the Bible portion of the exam was approved.** CPM member Cranton asked two questions in the area of polity. **Motion to sustain the polity portion of the exam was approved.** CPM member Cranton asked two questions in the area of worship and sacraments. **Motion to sustain the worship and sacraments portion of the exam was approved.** Wiggins was escorted from the room. **Motion was made to sustain the exam as a whole.** In the discussion TE Al Henager asked what was the position she is being ordained to and if it is full time or training. Response was that position is clinical pastoral education. Henager pointed out that the presbytery usually does not ordain and install ministers to temporary positions. COM member Phil Butin said this was a change in precedents and that current Book of Order allows this ministry to qualify as a call and cited letter from Wiggins' supervisor at Baptist Health, Little Rock that celebrating the sacraments is required by her position. TE Mike Kuner told of his experience with Wiggins' faith story and his working with O'Connell and what a blessing they both are. **Exam was approved as a whole.** Wiggins returned to the sanctuary to great joy and

applause. Westover Hills people were recognized. Prayer was offered for her. **Motion was approved to ordain Wiggins as a Teaching Elder.**

MINUTE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following gave brief announcements: TE Nancy Benson-Nicol, University of the Ozarks, announced their board of trustees had elected Richard Dunsworth as the university's next president. Jan Enke announced grants are still available for 2012 from CC&D. Kuner announced Cotham lectures in Nov. at Westover Hills, LR. Laura Festa publicized aprons are still available for purchase. Jeannie Ford publicized the Resource Center and its online catalog. Kuner announced TE Bill McWeeny's service at 10:30 Tuesday at Westover Hills and invited clergy to robe.

REPORT OF LEAVES OF ABSENCE COMMITTEE

Stated Clerk Ulrich gave the report: 55 TE, 5 corresponding members, 47 elder commissioners from churches, 8 members at large, 11 commissioned ruling elders, 3 Certified Christian Educators, 2 Christian Educators, 24 visitors, for a total of 155 registered, of whom 124 could vote. A total of 61 people requested excused absences. 24 TEs and 31 REs were absent without excuse. **It was voted to record this report in the minutes.**

NEW BUSINESS

Stated Clerk brought the items of new business.

1. Motion to enroll Susan Carter Wiggins as a member of the presbytery and approve the following Administrative Commission to ordain her to validated ministry as a chaplain, Baptist Health Medical Center, Little Rock on Sunday, December 9, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. at Westover Hills Presbyterian, Little Rock:

**TE David Dyer, HR, moderator of presbytery
TE Debra Carl Freeman, interim pastor, First, Jacksonville
TE Rebecca Spooner, LPC, Laurence Schmidt Center, Little Rock
TE Bill Branch, HR, Little Rock
Ruling Elder Twig Satterfield, First, Conway
Ruling Elder Betty Glenn, Westover Hills, Little Rock
Ruling Elder Wilma Lewis, First, North Little Rock
Ruling Elder Howard Turney, Second, Little Rock**

Guests seated with the Administrative Commission:

**TE Mike Kuner, interim pastor, Westover Hills, Little Rock and a member of Northern Kansas Presbytery
TE James Freeman, pastor, Broadmoor Presbyterian, Shreveport, LA and a member of Pines Presbytery**

**The offering recipient will be Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Children's Home.
Enrollment and Commission were approved.**

2. Motion to add TE Leslie Belden to the Administrative Commission for West Fork church and extend their commission for one year (calendar year of 2013). Addition to AC was approved.

3. Motion to expand the scope of the Administrative Commission of West Fork and the AC of First, Ozark to include allowing the commission to elect a new moderator after it has begun its work. Each Administrative Commission will set the parameters for the election of the moderator. Scope was approved.

4. Motion from Committee on Nominations to elect RE Bill James, First, Hot Springs, Class of 2015, on Committee on Congregational Care & Development. Election was approved.

CLOSING PRAYER

First, Searcy people were recognized. TE Curry gave the closing prayer, citing joys and concerns and dedicated the Ingathering offering for CASA, shelter for people affected by abuse.

Adjournment came at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

NiAnn Thompson
Assistant Stated Clerk

Cathy Ulrich
Stated Clerk

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