

**Minutes of the
Presbytery of Detroit
Presbyterian Church
(USA)
2012**

**Presbytery of Detroit
Minutes of the Stated Meeting
January 24, 2012**

WE GATHERED IN GOD'S NAME

A quorum being present, the Presbytery of Detroit convened with litany and prayer in a stated meeting at the First Presbyterian Church, Mt Clemens, on January 24, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. Dianne Bostic Robinson moderated the meeting.

WE CELEBRATED OUR CONNECTIONS IN CHRIST

The Moderator appointed Jane Ethier the assistant to the Stated Clerk *pro tem*.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk *pro tem* the Presbytery adopted the docket.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk *pro tem* the Presbytery excused those who have requested to be excused.

Upon motion the Presbytery voted to seat Dr Jeff Abernathy, Rev Carol Gregg and Rev David Bartley as corresponding members.

Rev. Drs. William Davis and Roxie Ann Davis welcomed Presbytery to Mount Clemens First/

Reports from Presbytery Affiliated Organizations

Dr. Jeff Abernathy, President of Alma College thanked the Presbytery for its support for Alma College. He presented a covenant between Alma and the Presbytery.

Reports from other Councils

David Bartley, the Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Covenant, thanked the Presbytery for our missions.

WE LISTENED FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR COMMUNITY

Presbytery heard reports from the multicultural work group, the Presbyterian Women on its women's retreat, the HOM Fair, and First Presbyterian Church Birmingham on human sexuality.

Moderator's Report

Moderator Dianne Bostic Robinson addressed the Presbytery and presented her reflection on her year and experience as Moderator.

WE RESPOND TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

Executive Presbyter's Report. Allen D. Timm reported.

Mr. Timm reported that Farmington First has been certified by the General Assembly Mission Council as an Earth Care Congregation.

The Moderator offered a prayer for openness.

Business Adopted by Motion and Debate

Upon motion of John Judson on behalf of the session of Birmingham First, the Presbytery voted to approve and send to the General Assembly an Overture Instructing the General Assembly to Take Action to Implement the PCUSA's Approved Policy on Inclusion of People with Disabilities. (The overture is appended to the minutes.)

Committee Items for Action:

Committee on Preparation for Ministry. Elizabeth Downs reported for the Committee.

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry reported the following for the information of Presbytery.

1. Anita Teresko has fulfilled her CRE requirement. This should have been reported in November.
2. CPM met with the following inquirers on the dates noted and sustained their Annual Consultations.

Joon Moon	Korean Metro, Southfield	December 6, 2011
Mattie Hunter	Trumbull Avenue, Detroit	January 3, 2012
Jenny Howard	Northside, Ann Arbor	January 3, 2012
Brad Rito	Grosse Ile	January 3, 2012
3. CPM met with the following candidate for ordained ministry on the date noted and sustained their annual consultations:

Kelly Pittman (Final Assessment)	First, Port Huron	December 6, 2011
Christina Jensen	Greenfield, Berkley	January 3, 2012
Daniel Heaton	Erin, Roseville	January 3, 2012
Emma Ouellette	Allen Park	January 3, 2012
4. CPM met with the following minister ordained in the Korean Presbyterian Church to evaluate his request to become a member in the PC(USA), through the Presbytery of Detroit. The Committee is awaiting further information.
Seung Koo Choi January 3, 2012
5. Jason Morgan has been removed from the roll as inquirer at his own request.

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry presented Chris Thomas, a candidate of the Presbytery of Santa Barbara, has met the requirements for ordination, has received his M.Div. from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and has received a call as Associate Teaching Elder with First Presbyterian Church, Plymouth, MI to the Presbytery for its examination of his Christian faith and views in theology, the Bible, the Sacraments, and the government of the church as it deemed necessary. Mr Thomas was examined by the Presbytery, and upon motion of Neil Cowling, voted to arrest his examination. He stated no scruples. Upon motion, Presbytery voted to approve his examination and proceed to ordination.

Treasurer's report. Alvin Smith reported.

Mr Smith presented his report from November 30, 2011, which is appended to the minutes. He noted that the November statement showed a deficit of \$56,394, and compared it to the similar statement in 2010, which had positive balance of \$10,466.

Coordinating Cabinet. Dianne Bostic Robertson reported for the Coordinating Cabinet.

Upon motion of the Coordinating Cabinet, Presbytery voted to:

1. Make the changes in 2012 budget line items for the Mission Interpretation Ministry Team as follows:

WORKGROUP	AMOUNT REDUCED	012 DRAFT	FINAL 2012
Hom	\$500	\$20,500	\$20,000
2nd Mile Ctr,	\$7,000	\$15,000	\$8,000
Barnabas	\$2,500	\$15,000	\$12,500
Campus Ministries	\$4,500	\$10,000	\$5,500
Month of Mission	\$2,000	\$12,000	\$10,000
Thika	\$0	\$4,000	\$4,000
Howell	\$400	\$2,000	\$1,600
Total	\$16,900	\$78,500	\$61,600

2. Approve the following adjustments to the Social Justice and Peacemaking 2012 Budget:

WORKGROUP	AMOUNT REDUCED	2012 DRAFT	FINAL 2012 BUDGET
Domestic Violence	\$1,165	\$5,000	\$3,835
Foster Care	\$583	\$2,500	\$1,917
All God's Children: Gender & Orientation, Diversity (formerly Homosexuality & the Church)	\$362	\$1,550	\$1,188
Middle East	\$3,500	\$4,500	\$1,000
Multicultural Ministries	\$1,562	\$6,700	\$5,138
Hunger	\$3,578	\$16,000	\$12,422
Hunger Action	\$0	\$30,080	\$30,080 coordinator
TOTAL	\$10,750	\$66,330	\$55,580

3. Approve the Covenant with Alma College. (The Covenant is appended to the minutes.)

The Coordinating Cabinet reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. At their January called meeting, the Coordinating Cabinet looked at a proposed restructuring of Presbytery Assembly meetings and Cabinet organization. Discussion will continue.

WE SHARED GOD'S BOUNTY

Presbytery recessed for dinner at 6:00 p.m..

WE PROCLAIMED THE GOOD NEWS

Presbytery convened for worship and Holy Communion. During the worship service, Presbytery installed Teaching Elder James Porter as the Moderator and Ruling Elder Jean Loup as the Vice Moderator of Presbytery for the year 2012.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY cont'd

James Porter moderated.

Stated Clerk *Pro-Tem*. Allen Timm reported.

Allen Timm, Stated Clerk *pro tem*, presented the Stated Clerk's report.

Upon motion of Mr Timm, Presbytery voted to approve the minutes of November 22, 2011.

Mr Timm reported the following items for the information of the Presbytery.

1. TRANSFERS COMPLETED

a. From the Presbytery of Detroit:

Kathryn Kelly to Chicago Presbytery

Lawrence Farris to Lake Michigan Presbytery

b. To the Presbytery of Detroit:

Carol Tate from Mission Presbytery

2. Judicial Matters

The Stated Clerk has received notice that Thomas Priest has appealed the decision of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission to dismiss his case to the General Assembly. The Presbytery in response has filed a notice of appeal on the issue of whether he had standing to file the complaint. The two notices of appeal are appended to the minutes.

Committee on Ministry. Dixie Elam reported for the Committee.

Upon motion of the Committee on Ministry, Presbytery voted to:

1. Pending successful completion of ordination examination by Presbytery, **approve** the Administrative Commission to ordain/install **Christopher Thomas** at **First, Plymouth** on Sunday, January 29, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. Moderator Jean Loup. Clergy: Rev. Emily Campbell, Rev. Theodore Taylor; Elders: John Marmaduke (First, Plymouth), Dianne Bostic Robinson (Westminster, Detroit). Corresponding Members: Rev. Scott Sunquist (Pittsburgh Presbytery), Rev. Eugene Blackwell (Pittsburgh Presbytery).

The Committee reported actions on behalf of Presbytery pursuant to authority granted it. It has:

1. Approved the following transfers, effective October 31, 2011:
 - Lawrence Farris from First, Ann Arbor, to Lake Michigan Presbytery.
 - Kathryn Kelly from Starr, Royal Oak, to Chicago Presbytery.
 - Jonathan Evans, from First, Royal Oak, to Peace River Presbytery.
3. Approved the validation of **David Prentice-Hyers** as Director of Campus Ministry, Ann Arbor, and **transfer** his membership to Detroit Presbytery from Grace Presbytery, effective August 22, 2011.
4. Approved the request from **Belleville** to extend an installed call to **Rev. Gregory Zurakowski**. He has been serving the church as a Designated Pastor for two years.

5. Approved the 12 month Supply Pastor contract between **Taiwanese Fellowship of Ann Arbor** and **Rev. Hao-Teh Chen**, effective January 1, 2012. Terms: Salary \$24,345; Housing \$13,163; Utilities \$2,932; Medical Deductible \$810; Social Security \$3,156, Full Pension \$13,406; Continuing Education \$1,109; Auto/Travel Expense \$9,509. Vacation: One month including 4 Sundays. Study Leave: Two weeks.
6. Approved the Administrative Commission to ordain **Lindsey Anderson** at Geneva, Canton, on Saturday, January 21, 2012, at 1:00 pm. Moderator: Dianne Bostic Robinson. Clergy: Rev. David Shinn; Rev. Jennifer Parker-Wrzeszcz; Rev. Robert Orr. Elders: Mike Gaubatz (Geneva, Canton); Rosy Latimore (First, Birmingham); Charon Barconey (First, Farmington).
7. Approved the 12 month Parish Associate contract between **Rev. Kathryn Thoresen** and **First, Birmingham**, effective January 1, 2012. No compensation is offered.
8. Approved the 12 month Parish Associate contract between **Rev. Ernest Krug, MD** and **First, Birmingham**, effective December 1, 2011. No compensation is offered.
9. Approved the 12 month Parish Associate contract between **Rev. Henry Borchardt** and **First, Birmingham**, effective January 1, 2012. No compensation is offered.
10. Approved the 12 month Interim Pastor contract between **Rev. Stuart Ritter** and **First, Northville**, effective January 1, 2012. Terms: Full time; Salary \$65,075; Housing \$39,000; Social Security \$7,961.74; Full pension \$11,448.25; Medical benefit \$21,075.19; Death & Disability \$1,040.75; Dental \$582.84; Continuing Education \$1,030; Professional Expenses \$1,236. Vacation: Four weeks including four Sundays. Study Leave: Two weeks including two Sundays.
11. Approved the 6 month Interim Pastor contract between **Rev. Neeta Nichols** and **Westminster, Detroit**, effective October 16, 2011. Terms: Full time; Salary \$24,000; Housing \$24,000; Tax Deferred Annuity \$12,000; Pension \$18,900; Medical Deductible \$600; Dental \$331; Social Security \$4,590; Auto/Travel \$1,179; Study Leave \$1,400. Vacation: Six week including six Sundays. Study Leave: Two weeks.
12. Approved the 6 month Interim Pastor contract between **Rev. Annemarie S. Kidder** and **First, South Lyon**, effective September 16, 2011. Terms: 3/4 time; Salary \$20,989; Housing \$15,000; Social Security \$2,650; Study Leave \$3,600; Other (medical, reimbursable expense, travel) \$3,600. Vacation: One month including four Sundays. Study Leave: Two weeks including two Sundays.

The Committee on Ministry reported the following for the information of Presbytery. It has :

1. Approved the request from Rev. Jennifer Clark to take interim training, January 23-27, 2012, in Georgia.
2. Exempted **Rev. Harry Geissinger** from signing the Sexual Misconduct Policy, per his daughter's request. He is 92 and ill.
3. Approved **Thomas Priest** as moderator at Broadstreet, Detroit, and **Rev. Dr. Lawrence Glenn** to preside at Communion for December and January, per request of Estelle Aaron.
4. Approved **Self Studies for Milford, Lincoln Park, Allen Park and White Lake** and moved to search.
5. Appointed **James Monnett** moderator at South Lyon effective March 1, 2012.
6. Appointed **Allen Timm** moderator at South Lyon on February 21, 2012.

Special Committee on Nominations. Fran Hayes reported for the Committee.

Upon nomination of the committee, there being no nominations from the floor, Presbytery elected the following:

Class of 2013 Elder Francile Anderson Waterford, Community
Class of 2014 Elder Nancy Nawrocki Milford

WE WENTOUT IN GOD’S NAME

After sharing our joys and concerns and upon motion, the Presbytery adjourned with prayer at 8:20 p.m.

The next meeting of the Presbytery will be Tuesday,

ATTEST:



Allan Timm, Stated Clerk *pro tem*

ATTACHMENT ONE: The Roll

APPENDICES: Overture to Implement the PCUSA’s Approved Policy on Inclusion of People with Disabilities
Treasurer’s Report
Covenant with Alma College
Notices of Appeal, *Thomas Priest v. the Presbytery of Detroit.*

ATTACHMENT ONE: THE ROLL

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY FOR JANUARY 24, 2012

CHURCHES: Of 83 churches, 50 were represented and 33 were not.

COMMISSIONERS: Of 139 eligible commissioners, 76 enrolled, and 63 did not.

OTHER RULING ELDERS (OFFICERS, Members of Council)::
Of 21 total, 10 were present, of whom 0 counted as commissioners, leaving 10 as the unduplicated count: 7 excused, and 4 absent.

TEACHING ELDERS: Of the 148 non-retired teaching elders on the combined rolls of active members and members-at-large, 63 were present, 23 were excused, and 62 were absent.

Of the 81 retired teaching elders on the rolls, 9 were present and 72 were excused.

COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS AND CERTIFIED EDUCATORS: Of the 1 Commissioned Law Pastor on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 1 absent

Of the 1 Certified Educators on the rolls, 1 were present, 0 excused, 0 absent.

SUMMARY

	76	Elder Commissioners
+	10	Other Ruling Elders
+	63	Non-retired teaching elders
+	9	Retired teaching elders
=	0	Commissioned lay pastors.
=	0	Certified educators.
=	158	Voting members present.

OTHERS PRESENT

2	Non-voting attendees
2	Corresponding members

Attendance Commissioners and Churches

ALLEN PARK, Allen Park

1 BOB MORTON
2 CYNTHIA HARMON
3
4

ANN ARBOR, Calvary

1 BOBBIE JO BARRETT
ANN ARBOR, First
1 RUTH BARNARD
2 BEN VAN TUYL
3 SUE LEONG
4 HENRY JOHNSON
5

ANN ARBOR, Northside

1 BRUCE WESTLAKE

ANN ARBOR, Westminster

1 WILLIAM R KUHN

AUBURN HILLS, Auburn Hills

1 NOT REPRESENTED

BELLEVILLE, Belleville

1 NOT REPRESENTED

BERKLEY, Greenfield

1 BETH STORMONT

BEVERLY HILLS, Northbrook

1 BILL JORDAN
2

BIRMINGHAM, First

1 ROSY LATIMORE
2 SANDRA NICHOLLS
3 BARBARA RUSSELL
4 AL HUBERTY

BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Kirk/Hills

1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
3
4
5
6

BRIGHTON, First

1 NOT REPRESENTED
2

CANTON, Geneva

1 MICHAEL GAUBATZ

CLARKSTON, Sashabaw

1 NOT REPRESENTED

DEARBORN, Cherry Hill

1 NOT REPRESENTED

DEARBORN, First

1 NOT REPRESENTED
2

DEARBORN, Littlefield

1 NOT REPRESENTED

DEARBORN HGTS, St. Andrew's

1 NOT REPRESENTED

DETROIT, Broadstreet

1 ALVIN SMITH
2
3

DETROIT, Calvary

1 DARRELL REYNOLDS
2

DETROIT, Calvin East

1 NOT REPRESENTED
2

DETROIT, First

1 NOT REPRESENTED

DETROIT, Fort Street

1 W BRADLEY MCCALLUM

DETROIT, Gratiot Avenue

1 NOT REPRESENTED
2

DETROIT, Hope

1 DARYL TAYLOR
2

DETROIT, Jefferson Avenue

1 JOSEPH THOMPSON
2 NANCY BASS

DETROIT, Riverside

1 NOT REPRESENTED

DETROIT, St. John's

1 HAROLD ELLIS
2 JEANE V MOORE

DETROIT, Trinity Community

1 NATALIE BROTHERS
2

DETROIT, Trumbull Avenue

1 MARTHA SINGLEY
2 MARY HOWARD

DETROIT, Westminster

1 MARGARET WHITEHEAD
2
3

FARMINGTON, First

1 KAREN SPICE
2 JERRY HOWE

FERNDALE, Drayton Avenue

1 KEN SEAWELL

FORT GRATIOT, Lakeshore

1 NOT REPRESENTED

GARDEN CITY, Garden City

1 NOT REPRESENTED

GROSSE ILE, Grosse Ile

1 RENEE DANYO

2

GROSSE POINTE, Memorial

1 MARGARET CARPENTER

2 DONNA JOHNSTON
3
4

GROSSE PTE WOODS, Woods

1 SUSAN MATTINGLY
2 NANCY MCENROE

HIGHLAND PARK, Park United

1 MARIE HUGHLEY
2 BANYUGA PEFOK

HOWELL, First

1 NOT REPRESENTED

LINCOLN PARK, Lincoln Park

1 NOT REPRESENTED

LIVONIA, Rosedale Gardens

1 ALICE MCCLOSKEY
2 DYCHE ANDERSON

LIVONIA, St. Paul's

1 BOB WESTBROOK

LIVONIA, St. Timothy's

1 PAUL STIEG

MACOMB, Church/Covenant

1 ED POKRZYINWSKI

MILAN, Peoples

1 NOT REPRESENTED

MILFORD, Milford

1 ROGER ST JOHN
2 MARK SEIDER

MT. CLEMENS, First

1 PHYLLIS MATTHEW

NORTHVILLE, First

1 CAL STROM
2 KATHY ILLEGIBLE
3 DON KELLER
4

NOVI, Faith Community

1 DAVID A BUTTLER

ORCHARD LAKE, Community

1 CHUCK KEPPEL
2 DAVID J DUTTON
3 MICHAEL STARYNCHAK

PLYMOUTH, First

1 JOHN MARMADUKE
2 KAREN THIELE
3 JANE WEAVER
4 KATHY BLRNARD

PONTIAC, First

1 THOMAS DUFFIELD

PONTIAC, Joslyn Avenue

1 NOT REPRESENTED
PORT HURON, First
 1 CYNDI BEERBOWER
 2 HOWARD BORGMAN
PORT HURON, Westminster
 1 DENNIS YOUNG
REDFORD, St. James
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROCHESTER, University
 1 SONYA BROOKS
 2 DOUG DENTON
ROSEVILLE, Erin
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROYAL OAK, First
 1 KENNETH BISSAY
 2
 3
ROYAL OAK, Point of Vision
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROYAL OAK, Starr
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
SALINE, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED

SHELBY TWP., St. Thomas
 1 DIANE MATTHEW MEANS
 2 LORI SADLER
SOUTH LYON, First
 1 ANNE LYKE
SOUTHFIELD, Covenant
 1 BARBARA SMITH
SOUTHFIELD, Korean
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 3
SOUTHFIELD, New Hope
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
ST. CLAIR SHORES, Heritage
 1 GAYE L WHITE
ST. CLAIR SHORES, Lake Shore
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
STERLING HGTS, New Life
 1 RON NEECE
TAYLOR, Southminster
 1 MARY D WONANCOTT

TROY, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
TROY, Korean First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
TROY, Northminster
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WALLED LAKE, Crossroads
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WARREN, Celtic Cross
 1 DAWN LAWRENCE
WARREN, First
 1 MIKE SLUPINSKI
WATERFORD, Community
 1 CINDY BAIRD
WESTLAND, Kirk of Our Savior
 1 DAVID GARCIA
WHITE LAKE, White Lake
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WYANDOTTE, Wyandotte
 1 ANITA TERESKO
YPSILANTI, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED

Attendance of Ruling and Teaching Elder Members

C. ELDER MEMBERS
 P ANDERSON, FRANCILE, PM
 A BOSTIC-ROBINSON, DIANE
 A CLARK, SAM
 A ELAM, DIXIE, PM
 A ELLIS, HAROLD
 A EMMERT, JOHN
 E HYLKEMA, CAROL, PM
 P LEWIS, STEFANIE
 P LOUP, JEAN
 P MORGAN, DONALD
 E MORRISON, HELEN, PM
 P MORTON, JANET
 E PITTS, FRANCES, PM
 E PRIEST, TOM, PM
 E SEABROOKS, DOROTHY M., PM
 E SHIRLEY, JAMES, PM
 P SMITH, ALVIN
 P SMITH, KENNETH, PM
 P SZWED, ROBERT
 P WILLIAMSON, MARGARET
 E WINSLOW, PAUL, PM

D. NON-RETIRED MINISTERS
 A ADAMS, WILLIAM L III
 P ANDERSON, BARBARA S
 A ANDERSON, LINDA
 A ANDERSON, LINDSEY
 P ANDREWS, DOYLL
 P ARAKELIAN, ELIZABETH
 A AUE, CRAIG
 A AUSTIN, MARY
 P BAHR-JONES, MARY
 E *BAILEY, CLOVER
 A BIERSDORF, JOHN
 P BLAIKIE, DOUGLAS
 P BLEIVIK, DAVID
 P BOHN, CHRISTINE
 P BOLT, KENNETH
 P BOURLIER, RUTHANNE
 A BOUSQUETTE, PAUL
 P CAMPBELL, DOUGLAS
 P CAMPBELL, EMILY
 P CARL, STEPHEN

A CHEN, HAO-THE
 A CHOI, SEUNG
 E *CHOI, SEUNG KOO
 A CLARK, JENNIFER
 P CLARK, STEVEN
 A COCHRAN, LINDA
 A COOPER, QUINCY
 P COWLING, NEIL D.
 P DAVIS, ROXIE ANN
 P DAVIS, WILLIAM
 A DE ORIO, ANTHONY
 P DELANEY, BETH
 E *DENNIS, WARREN
 P DOWNS, ELIZABETH
 P DOYLE-HOHF, KATHLEEN
 E *DYKSTRA, CRAIG R.
 P ELE, HERSCHEL
 P FAILE, JAMES
 A FAIR, FAIRFAX
 A FERGUSON, GUY THOMAS
 A FORGER, DEBORAH
 P FRANCIS, RAPHAEL B.
 A GABEL, PETER W.
 E *GAST, TERRI
 A GEISELMAN, KEITH
 A GERE, BREWSTER
 A GRANO, MARIANNE
 P HANNA, RAAFAT
 P HARMON, BREANNE
 E HARRIS, R. JOHN
 P HARTLEY, THOMAS
 A HATCHER, RUFUS
 P HAYES, FRANCES
 A HENDERSON, RICHARD
 A HENRY, PETER J. M.
 P HOFFMAN, MICHAEL (CRE)
 P HUFF, JASON
 P JOHNSON, KEVIN
 A JONES, RICHARD
 P JUDSON, JOHN
 P KAIBEL, KENNETH
 A KIDDER, ANNEMARIE
 E *KIM, Y. MONCH
 E *KIM, YOUNGCHUL

P KING, CATHERINE
 P KLINGER, JAMIE
 E KOSTER, EDWARD H.
 P KRUG, ERNEST
 A KUMIN, JAMES
 A LEE, FREDERICK
 A MABEE, CHARLES
 A MADDEN, JULIE
 E McCLOSKEY-TURNER, CATHARINE
 A McGOWAN, EVANS
 A McMILLAN, JUDITH
 A McRAE, BARBARA
 P MEANS, MATTHEW
 E MELROSE, SUE ELLIS
 P MICHALEK, DANIEL
 P MILLER, J. SCOTT
 A MISHLER, JOHN
 P MONNETT, JAMES
 P MOOK, SHARON
 E MOORE, PETER
 A MORGAN, AMY
 A MORROW, DUKE
 A MORSE, MATTHEW
 A MOZENA, SUSAN
 P NICHOLS, NEETA
 P NICKEL, EMMA
 P NICKEL, MATTHEW
 P OBERG, ARTHUR
 A OLIVER, GARY
 A PARKER, OPELTON
 P PAVELKO, JOHN H.
 A PEARSON, BRENNAN
 P PICKRELL, BROOKE
 A PIECUCH, KEVIN
 P PITTMAN, JASON
 P PORTER, JAMES
 P PORTICE, GEORGE
 A PRENTICE-HYERS, MARY ELIZABETH
 E PRITCHARD, NORMAN
 A PROVOST, KEITH
 P PUNTIGAM, JOEL
 P REED, PHILIP
 A RICE, ELIZABETH
 P RICE, THOMAS

A RIKE, JENNIFER
 E RITTER, W STUART
 P RIZER, JAMES A
 E ROGERS, MELISSA ANNE
 A SCHAEFER, ANNE N.
 P SEILER, GORDON (CRE)
 E *SHIH, SHENG-TO
 A SHINN, DAVID
 A SHIPMAN, JUDY
 E *SHREVE, MAGGIE
 A SIAS-LEE, LAURA
 E *SIMONS, SCOTT W.
 P SKIMINS, JAMES
 E SMALLEY, DIANE
 E SMITH, BRYAN DEAN
 A SMITH, PETER C.
 A SMITH, TRACI
 P SOEHL, HOWARD
 A SOHN, YO SUP
 A SOMMERS, CHARLOTTE
 P STUNKEL, KAREN
 P STUNKEL, PAUL
 A TATE, CAROL ANN
 A THOMPSON, G. PATRICK
 E THORESEN, KATHRYN R.
 P THWAITE, PAUL
 P TIMM, ALLEN D
 A TOMBERLIN, DREW
 A TUCKER-LLOYD, IRIS
 E *VAN SLUIJS, HENDRICK
 A WHITLOCK, KELLIE
 A WILHELMI, MARJORIE
 P WINGROVE, WILLIAM N
 A WOO, BYEONGJIN
 P WRZESZCZ, JENNIFER PARKER
 E WRZESZCZ, MATTHEW PARKER
 P YU, SEUNG WON
 E *YUE, MYUNG JA
 A ZAMBON, WILLIAM
 P ZURAKOWSKI, GREGORY

D. RETIRED MINISTERS

P AARON, ESTELLE
 E ACTON, ELLEN
 E ALBRECHT, GLORIA
 E ANDERSON, JAMES
 E AUSTIN, ANNA MARIE
 E AUSTIN, LARRY

P BEERY, ELDON
 P BENEDICT, IVAN L.
 E BOEVE, PETER
 E BORCHARDT, HENRY
 E BORCHARDT, JUDITH
 P BROWNLEE, RICHARD
 E BYARS, RONALD
 E CAMPBELL, VERN
 E CAPPS, HARRY
 E CARTER, DOUGLAS D.
 E CATER, LAWRENCE H.
 P CHAMBERLAIN, LAWRENCE
 E CHAMBERS, JAMES C.
 E CHOI, IN SOON
 P CLISE, W. KENT
 E COBLEIGH, GERALD R.
 E COLON, LOIS
 P CONLEY, JAMES H.
 E CORSO, LINDA
 E CRILLEY, ROBERT
 E CROSS, PAUL D.
 P DENTON, GRETCHEN
 E DUNCAN, THOMAS
 E DUNIFON, WILLIAM
 E ELLENS, J. HAROLD
 E FINDLAY, WILLIAM
 E FORSYTH, E. DICKSON
 E FOSTER, JOHN
 E GEISSINGER, HARRY L.
 E GEPFORD, WILLIAM G.
 E GLENN, LAWRENCE T.
 E HANNA, J. RICHARD
 E HARP, WILLIAM S.
 E HEINRICH, THOMSON
 E HELMKE, BEN
 E JANSEN, ROBERT
 E JEFFREY, JOHN
 E JONES, VIRGIL L.
 E KESLER, JAMES W.
 E KIM, T. ANDREW
 E KNUDSEN, RAYMOND
 E KOGEL, LYNNE
 E KREHBIEL, DAVID E.
 E LAMBERT, ROY F.
 E LANGWIG, JANICE
 E LANGWIG, ROY
 E LARSON, ROBERT F.
 E LISTER, KENNETH D.

E LONGWOOD, MARJORIE
 E MacINNES, JOHN D.
 E MARVIN, FRANK C., JR.
 P McCLOSKEY, CHARLES
 E McINTYRE, DEWITT
 E MIHOCKO, DAVID
 E NUSSDORFER, GUS
 E OLSON, PHILIP
 E ORR, ROBERT C.
 E OWEN, DAVID
 E PETERS, RICHARD
 E PETERSON, LEROY J.
 E POLKOWSKI, WILLIAM
 E PRICE, MICHAEL T.
 E PRUES, LOUIS J.
 E RATCLIFFE, ALBERT H.
 E ROBERTSON, ANN
 E ROBERTSON, DAVID W.
 E ROBERTSON, WILLIAM
 E RUSSELL, JAMES P.
 E SCRIBNER, LOREN
 E SUTTON, PAUL
 E TAYLOR, J. BERNARD
 E TAYLOR, THEODORE, II
 E WRIGHT, DONALD
 E YOON, HAK SUK
 E ZIEGLER, JACK T.

E. STAFF & OTHERS

AZAR, RUTH
 BARCONEY, CHARON
 FABRÉ, EDWIN
 GRANT, RICHARD
 HIGGINS, JOANNE
 P LLOYD, MARY
 P VANDREBEEK, RONALD

F. CERT. ASSOC. CHRISTIAN ED.
 P PRICE, LAURA

G. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

BENTLEY, DAVID
 SYNOD OF THE COVENANT
 CAROL GREGG
 ALMA COLLEGE

Proposed Overture to the Presbytery of Detroit approved by the Session of First Presbyterian Church Birmingham on December 12, 2011 on Instructing the General Assembly to Take Action to Implement the PCUSA's Approved Policy on Inclusion of People With Disabilities

Recommendations

The Presbytery of Detroit respectfully overtures the 220th General Assembly (2012) to take the following actions to implement *Living into the Body of Christ: Towards Full Inclusion of People with Disabilities*, the policy approved by the 217th General Assembly in 2006.

- Affirm that persons with disabilities are individuals within the rich multi-cultural makeup of the PCUSA.
- Direct the General Assembly Mission Council, the Office of the General Assembly, the Presbyterian Foundation, the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program, the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation, and the Board of Pensions to form a working group that includes Human Resources staff from each entity and representatives from Presbyterians for Disability Concerns (PDC) and the disability consultants in order to develop a plan for training all entity staff, commissioners to GAMC, and all commissioners to General Assembly in disability awareness and inclusion. The working group will meet three times before the 2014 General Assembly and report back its plan at the General Assembly in 2014. The plan may include contracting with a third party if agreed to and approved by PDC and the disability consultants.
- Direct the GAMC to fund, with new money, the disability consultants at a level that includes travel expenses and to fund, with new money, disability consultants and PDC volunteers for travel expenses for consulting with PCUSA staff in developing the new training plan.
- Direct all entities in PCUSA to use "people first" language in all publications and official communications of the PCUSA and to encourage church-wide study and use of "people first" language.^{iv}
- Instruct OGA to encourage event planners and committees on local arrangements to recruit and include people with disabilities in planning and to include people with visible disabilities and other disabilities in church-wide worship leadership.
- Direct PCUSA entities to report back to the 221st General Assembly the progress that has been made since the 220th General Assembly and the plan that fulfills the recommendations in this overture.

Rationale

WHEREAS all members of the body of Christ, including people who live with disabilities, have been given gifts for service and are called to share them with the church for the glory of God,^v

WHEREAS the Old Testament prophets called God's people to "do justice"^{vi} and included people with disabilities in the gathered people of God,^{vii}

WHEREAS Jesus called all people, including the marginalized of his society, to share in God's great banquet, WHEREAS Jesus' ministry of healing was ministry of inclusion that restored persons to their communities,^{viii}

WHEREAS persons who live with disabilities have gifts of wisdom, knowledge, and insight that have come out of their own faith experience as they have faced barriers and exclusion, and as the church is poorer without these gifts,

WHEREAS including people with disabilities in leadership, including worship, is a powerful and visible witness to God's love for all persons and God's gifts to all^{vi} persons, WHEREAS the PCUSA is called to be a prophetic witness and to model justice for all people in our society,^{viii}

WHEREAS persons with disabilities^{ix} are a minority interest^x group within church and society^{xi} and have in common the experience of facing barriers and exclusion in both church and society,

WHEREAS the Constitution of the PCUSA instructs the church to "hear the voices of people long silenced,"^{xii} and the voices of people who live with disabilities are not being heard in the church,

WHEREAS *Living into the Body of Christ: Towards Full Inclusion of People with Disabilities* calls the church to do justice for people with disabilities and offers a vision of God's dream for the world and for Christ's church,^{xiii}

WHEREAS person first language affirms that persons with disabilities are created in the Image of God and are persons first, not defined by their disabilities,^{xiv}

WHEREAS *Living into the Body of Christ: Towards Full Inclusion of People with Disabilities* includes no call for disability inclusion training for staff of the six entities of the PCUSA, for members of the General Assembly Mission Council, or for commissioners to General Assembly,

WHEREAS resources are available within PCUSA to work with human resources staff in developing a plan for training,^{xv}

WHEREAS it is now time, in 2012, for the 220th General Assembly to follow the words of scripture, the instruction in the Constitution of PCUSA, and the policy approved by the 217th General Assembly in 2006 in order to move the church forward toward full inclusion of people with disabilities, therefore, see recommendations

Footnotes

ⁱ “Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.” (I Corinthians 12:4-7)

ⁱⁱ “... we are all called, regardless of our abilities or limitations, to grow and live into the body of Christ as the head of the body of which we are members. No one is excused from this gladsome task of discipleship, being and becoming a disciple of Christ. We must all, individually and communally, ‘... grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ ... [promoting] the body’s growth in building itself up in love; (Eph. 4:15-16, NRSV).” (*Living into the Body of Christ: Towards Full Inclusion of People with Disabilities*)

ⁱⁱⁱ “He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6:8)

^{iv} “See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labour, together; a great company, they shall return here.” (Jeremiah 31:8)

^v “Then the owner of the house said to his slave, “Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.” (Luke 14:21)

^{vi} Kathy Black, *A Healing Homiletic: Preaching and Disability* pg 46 “For first century people, it was one’s sense of *being* in the community that was most crucial ...”

^{vii} Permission in process to use a personal story

^{viii} “Give prophetic witness regarding issues related to people with disabilities, recognizing that disability concerns are matter of social justice.” *Living into the Body of Christ: Towards Full Inclusion of People with Disabilities*, II. 2, b, (1)

^{ix} “Persons with disabilities are a diverse group of individuals who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, such as relating, caring for one’s self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working.” (This was the PCUSA definition in 1990 and consistent with the ADA of 1990. In 2008 ADA was amended to cover a broader category of disabilities)

^x According to ADA, people with disabilities are “a distinct and insular minority who have been faced with restrictions and limitations and subjected to a history of purposeful, unequal treatment, and relegated to a position of political powerlessness in our society ...” (This is a citation from ADA 1990. The 2008 law reaffirmed that people with disabilities continue to face barriers and discrimination.)

^{vi} It is estimated that at least 20% of the general population has some form of disability and that as many as 90% of this group are unchurched.

^{vii} Brief Statement of Faith, PCUSA (line 70)

xiii “As the body of Christ, we are to welcome everyone to the banquet Feast of God’s love in this world. The feast of God’s love is open to all and fully inclusive of people from all pathways of life.

We envision a church in which the designation or naming of a person’s disability is less important than who that person is as one of God’s people.

We envision a church in which everyone welcomes and reflects diversity and inclusiveness in worship, education, fellowship, service, justice, leadership, and evangelism.

We envision a church in which all the members of the body of Christ honor, respect, nurture, and support the gifts, talents, and services of every other member.

We envision a church in which every child of God can realize her/his full potential and through which society is consistently engaged and challenged to become more inclusive.

We envision a church that embodies the creative movement from awareness, through accessibility and integration, to full inclusion, and thus bears healing witness to the world.

We envision the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) as a leader in promoting and manifesting this vision of a just world, serving with and empowering people with disabilities to engage in this ongoing work.

This vision of living into a fuller experience of the Body of Christ illuminates the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s commitment to the full inclusion of people with disabilities in every aspect of life; living into this vision draws us closer to the fulfillment of God’s redemptive will ‘on earth as in heaven’.” (*Living into the Body of Christ: Towards Full Inclusion of People with Disabilities, II*)

^{xiv} Examples of Person First Language: The Power of Words
(excerpt from Kathie Snow’s website www.disabilityisnatural.com)

In describing a person who lives with a disability, name the person first, not the disability. Using words that give dignity affirms our belief that all people are created in the Image of God.

For more examples see Kathie Snow's website:	Say	Instead of
	People with disabilities	The handicapped or disabled
	The child is blind or visually impaired	The blind or visually impaired child
	The Council member is deaf or hard of hearing	The deaf or hard of hearing Council member
	Mary uses a wheelchair	--confined to a wheelchair or wheelchair bound
	The child with Down syndrome	--mongoloid
	The commissioner has a physical disability	--crippled or lame
	The commissioner has a learning disability	--is learning disabled
	Don needs an accessible room	--a handicapped room
	Charlie lives with mental illness	--crazy, insane, emotionally disturbed

www.DISABILITYISNATURAL.COM

¹¹ The PCUSA has disability consultants in the following areas: mobility, vision loss, hearing loss, and developmental disabilities. Consultants respond to questions and concerns across the denomination. In addition they work with Presbyterians for Disability Concerns (PDC) as advisors and they cooperate with PDC in developing print and on-line resources for the denomination. Their combined compensation is \$800 per month and includes no travel expenses. This funding will end in 2012.

PDC is a network of Presbyterian Health Education and Welfare Association. Members of the leadership team are chosen for their experience and knowledge of disability issues. During the past year, mid 2010 -mid 2011, team members reported six hundred volunteer hours of service directly related to their work as members of PDC/PHEWA.

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Overall By Committee
From 11/1/2011 Through 11/30/2011

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2011 Budget	Percent Total Budget Remaining
Revenue				
Committee on Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Trustees	53,009.51	657,272.83	898,022.00	(26.81)%
Presbytery Operations	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Congregational Life	0.00	1,400.00	1,000.00	40.00%
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	6,855.00	7,300.00	(6.10)%
Mission Interpretation	5,778.28	32,571.94	31,620.00	3.01%
Nurture & Support	0.00	1,500.00	1,000.00	50.00%
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	0.00	480.00	1,000.00	(52.00)%
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	2,230.00	8,730.00	1,000.00	773.00%
Outdoor Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Presbyterian Women	0.00	1,500.00	2,000.00	(25.00)%
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	500.00	1,000.00	(50.00)%
Planning & Visioning	0.00	1,440.00	0.00	0.00%
Coordinating Cabinet	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Total Revenue	<u>61,017.79</u>	<u>712,249.77</u>	<u>948,842.00</u>	<u>(24.94)%</u>
Expense				
Nominations	0.00	0.00	850.00	100.00%
Representation	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00%
Committee on Ministry	1,058.95	9,582.67	10,630.00	9.85%
Preparation for Ministry	386.67	1,735.68	4,350.00	61.85%
Trustees	8,142.88	114,216.36	127,400.00	10.35%
Presbytery Operations	27,791.71	340,666.58	395,672.00	13.90%
Congregational Life	11,217.63	26,892.36	33,000.00	18.51%
Social Justice & Peace	3,057.76	61,955.69	63,845.00	18.62%
Mission Interpretation	6,289.20	70,274.76	82,238.00	23.81%
Nurture & Support	2,372.72	33,794.80	41,760.00	19.05%
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	2,103.75	12,864.15	29,100.00	55.79%
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	5,543.37	60,387.55	95,900.00	37.03%
Outdoor Ministry	3,538.08	40,018.88	43,657.00	8.33%
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	3,150.00	100.00%
Planning & Visioning	0.00	4,692.44	4,200.00	(11.72)%
Coordinating Cabinet	1,004.22	1,562.53	3,100.00	49.60%
Total Expense	<u>72,487.04</u>	<u>768,644.46</u>	<u>948,842.00</u>	<u>19.00%</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(11,469.25)</u>	<u>(56,394.69)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Comparative Overall By Committee Fund 100
From 11/1/2011 Through 11/30/2011

	2011 Current Period	2011 Current Year	Current Year	
	Actual	Actual	2010 Prior Year Actual	% Change
Revenue				
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	0.00	496.00	(100.00)
Trustees	53,009.51	657,272.83	654,895.23	0.36
Presbytery Operations	0.00	0.00	4,558.24	(100.00)
Congregational Life	0.00	1,400.00	0.00	100.00
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	6,855.00	21,050.00	(67.43)
Mission Interpretation	5,778.28	32,571.94	40,370.00	(19.32)
Nurture & Support	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	100.00
Spiritual Formation &	0.00	480.00	0.00	100.00
Faith Development				
New Church	2,230.00	8,730.00	500.00	1,646.00
Dev/Redevelopment				
Presbyterian Women	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00
Metro Urban Ministry	0.00	500.00	0.00	100.00
Team				
Planning & Visioning	0.00	1,440.00	0.00	100.00
Total Revenue	61,017.79	712,249.77	723,369.47	(1.54)
Expense				
Committee on Ministry	1,058.95	9,582.67	2,605.30	267.81
Preparation for Ministry	366.67	1,735.68	530.08	227.44
Trustees	8,142.98	114,216.36	100,566.09	13.57
Presbytery Operations	27,791.71	340,666.58	350,904.87	(2.92)
Congregational Life	11,217.63	26,892.36	12,921.96	108.11
Social Justice & Peace	3,057.76	51,955.69	55,907.33	(7.07)
Mission Interpretation	6,289.20	70,274.76	70,630.04	(0.50)
Nurture & Support	2,372.72	33,794.80	16,856.29	100.49
Spiritual Formation &	2,103.75	12,864.15	8,041.67	59.97
Faith Development				
New Church	5,543.37	60,387.56	51,417.72	17.45
Dev/Redevelopment				
Outdoor Ministry	3,538.08	40,018.88	40,165.51	(0.37)
Metro Urban Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,299.58	(100.00)
Team				
Planning & Visioning	0.00	4,692.44	0.00	100.00
Coordinating Cabinet	1,004.22	1,562.53	1,456.67	7.27
Total Expense	72,487.04	768,644.46	713,303.11	7.76
Revenues Over(Under)	(11,469.25)	(56,394.69)	10,066.36	(660.23)
Expenditures				

***The Covenant
 between Alma College
 and the Presbytery of Detroit
 For 2011 Renewal
 Introduction***

During the 2010-2011 academic year, a Church Relations Task Force, appointed by the Alma College President, reviewed and reaffirmed the College's relationship to the Presbyterian Church (USA). One of the outcomes of that review process is the following affirmation on the nature of the relationship between the College and the Church.

Alma College, affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA), affirms its Christian heritage in which all people are made in the image of God. We seek to foster a diverse community by welcoming people of all faiths, as well as those with no faith tradition, into the Alma College experience.

Our heritage affirms that faith and critical thinking reinforce each other. We are committed to cultivating intellectual, spiritual, and vocational discovery in all aspects of campus life. (Statement approved by Executive Staff, July 2011)

The covenant below articulates the mutual commitment between the Presbytery of Detroit and Alma College.

Commitments of the Presbytery

On its part, the Presbytery of Detroit, in order to carry out its responsibilities, makes the following commitments:

1. The Presbytery of Detroit or its designated representative will be a partner with Alma College in carrying forward the terms of this covenant.
2. The Presbytery will encourage interpretation of the mission of the College to the congregations within its bounds.
3. Financial Understanding
 - a. The Presbytery of Detroit, for the duration of this covenant, will strive to provide an annual financial gift to support the educational program of Alma College.
 - b. Individual donors from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) within the Presbytery of Detroit may be asked to give directly to support Alma College, without prior approval of the Presbytery.
 - c. When the College wishes to engage in non-recurring major fund raising efforts through congregations, the Presbytery shall be informed. The Presbytery will be supportive of the College as it approaches congregations.
4. The Presbytery will cooperate with Alma College to recruit students.
5. Mission and Ministry Connections
 - a. The Presbytery will consult with the College, through its faculty and staff, concerning the religious and spiritual dimension of life on the campus.
 - b. The Presbytery may utilize the resources and capacities of the college for its own educational growth, meetings and ministries.
 - c. The Presbytery intends to be informed and shaped by the counsel of the college in determining its mission directions.


- d. In turn, the Presbytery will assist the College in identifying its ministry to the changing needs of persons in contemporary society and strengthening its unique and total contribution to higher education, the church and society.

Commitments of the College

On its part, Alma College, in order to carry out its responsibilities, makes the following commitments:

1. Alma College's Board of Trustees, as the College's representative, will be a partner with the Presbytery of Detroit in carrying forward the terms of this covenant; and the College will continue to maintain a Presbyterian presence on the board.
2. Financial Understanding
Alma College agrees to the terms written in part 3 of the Commitments of the Presbytery.
3. Mission and Ministry Connections
 - a. Alma College agrees to work with the Presbytery when interpreting the mission and educational goals of the College within the Presbytery's bounds.
 - b. Alma College will maintain its basic program as a vital source of church and community leadership. It will continue to offer an education sensitive to the religious pluralism of today's world, informed by its Judeo-Christian heritage.
 - c. The college will provide a Christian presence on campus by fulfilling the following programs:
 - 1) Providing regular worship opportunities for students, faculty and staff
 - 2) Teaching credit courses in religion by full-time faculty
 - 3) Encouraging religious organizations and clubs
 - 4) Maintaining the position of College Chaplain and supporting (financially and otherwise) a vital ministry through that office
4. In cooperation with the Presbytery of Detroit, Alma College will continue to interpret and promote its purposes as an educational institution.

This agreement will continue for five years or until either partner requests a renewal (whichever may come first).



 Jeff Abernathy, President
 Alma College

12-20-11

 Date

 Allen Timm, Presbytery Executive
 Presbytery of Detroit

 Date

WALLACE PLEDGER, PLLC

Attorneys At Law

November 9, 2011

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VIA FEDERAL EXPRESSGeorgana Taggart, Moderator of the SPJC
1911 Indian Wood Circle, Suite B
Maumee, OH 43537Reverend Edward Koster
Presbytery of Detroit
17575 Hubbell St.
Detroit, MI. 48235Mark Schneider, Committee of Counsel
Presbytery of Detroit
17575 Hubbell St.
Detroit, MI 48235David Bartley, Stated Clerk
Synod of the Covenant
1911 Indianwood Circle, Suite B
Maumee OH 43537Gradye Parsons, Stated Clerk
Office of the General Assembly
Presbyterian Church (USA)
100 Witherspoon Street
Louisville, KY 40202-1396Re: *Remedial Case 2011-04 Thomas H. Priest, Jr.*
Vs. The Presbytery of Detroit

Enclosed is the Notice of Appeal of Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

Sincerely,


Archibald Wallace, IIIAW/jpb
Encs:

FORM NO. 19

NOTICE OF APPEAL, REMEDIAL CASE
UNDER D-8.0100, D-8.0201, D-8.0202

To: The Stated Clerk of the Synod of The Covenant

From: Thomas Priest, Jr.

RE:
THOMAS PRIEST, JR.
Appellant

vs.

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
Appellee

Notice is hereby given of the appeal of Thomas Priest, Jr. to the Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly from the Final Order rendered by the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant on the 15th day of November, 2011, and received by Appellant on the 21st day of November, 2011¹. A copy is attached.

I. Introduction

Appellant Thomas H. Priest, Jr., by and through his counsel, Archibald Wallace, III, hereby gives notice to Appellee, Presbytery of Detroit, of his intent to appeal the decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant to dismiss his Remedial Complaint. In his Complaint (Exhibit A attached) Mr. Priest alleged certain irregularities in actions taken against him by the Presbytery of Detroit acting by and through its agent, its Committee on Preparation for Ministry. In this case the Constitutional Officers of the

¹ The terms used throughout are from the Discipline Section of the Book of Order in effect at the time of the incidents and issues of this case. It is believed only the name change Pertinent to these proceedings in the NFOG provisions adopted in 2011 is the use of the Word "Council" as a designation for the Presbytery. For clarity the word Presbytery is used throughout.

Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant (The SPJC hereafter) on August 9, 2011 determined under D-6.035a-d, Rules of Discipline, Book of Order that the Complaint failed to meet the threshold requirements of the jurisdictional Preliminary Questions decline causing the SPJC to accept the case. (See **Exhibit B attached**).

Mr. Priest submitted a Challenge (**Exhibit C attached**) to the decision of the constitutional officers of the SPJC under D-0306a. The full SPJC heard the challenge November 15, 2011 and on that same day affirmed the decision of the SPJC in part and reversed it in part, ultimately denying the Challenge as a whole and dismissing the case. (**Exhibit D attached**) The decision of the SPJC was received November 21, 2011.

It is from the November 15, 2011 decision of the SPJC that Mr. Priest appeals under D-8.000, et seq. submitting the following information in support:

II. The D-8.0202 Contents of the Written Notice of Appeal

- a. **The Name of the Party Filing the Appeal:** Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
- b. **The Name of the Other Party:** Presbytery of Detroit
- c. **The Governing Body from whose judgment the Appeal is taken:**
The Synod of the Covenant, 1911 Indian Wood Circle, Suite B
Maumee, OH 43537
- d. **The Judgment and date and place thereof:** The Decision of the Synod's PJC, appealed from was dated November 15, 2011; it was received by the Appellant on November 21, 2011. A copy is attached as **Exhibit D**.
- e. **The errors of the Permanent Judicial Commission, which conducted the Challenge Hearing being appealed are:**
 1. The determination of the SPJC that it lacked jurisdiction to hear the Complaint under D-6.0305a.
 2. The determination of the SPJC that the Complaint was not timely filed under D-6.0305c.

3. The determination of the SPJC that the Complaint failed to state a claim upon which relief could be granted under D-6.0305d.
- N.B. The SPJC determined in the Challenge Hearing that the Complainant did have Standing to proceed under D-6.0305b, thereby reversing the decision of the Constitutional Officers of the SPJC that Complainant lacked Standing to proceed. Because that point has been resolved favorably for Mr. Priest, it is not being appealed, but should it be determined on or during the appeal that the issue needs to be addressed, or included to complete the record, Mr. Priest reserves the right to address the Standing issue.
- f. **Certification** This Notice of Appeal is being simultaneously provided by certified delivery through Federal Express to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. and to the other parties to this proceeding

III. Factual Background

A brief statement of the factual basis of this case is that Mr. Priest, on March 1, 2011 was impermissibly subjected to a disciplinary proceeding by the Presbytery of Detroit, acting by and through its agent, its Committee on Preparation for Ministry. Mr. Priest complains that he was accused and convicted of racial discrimination, the use of confrontational behavior and abuse of his office as Moderator of the Presbytery. He further claims he was subjected to a disciplinary proceeding by CPM under the guise of a hearing to determine his fitness to continue under the care of the Presbytery. Mr. Priest submits that the activities of the Presbytery, by and through its agent, its CPM were irregular because:

1. A Presbytery can not conduct a disciplinary proceeding against a member except under the provisions of the Discipline in the Book of Order. The Presbytery did so here.
2. A Presbytery can not delegate the power to conduct a disciplinary hearing to a CPM. The Presbytery did so here.
3. A CPM can not abrogate or assume the power to conduct a disciplinary

hearing from its principal merely from the powers granted a CPM in the Book of Order, nor can a CPM, acting for its Presbytery, impose a disciplinary decision upon a member. The CPM, acting as the Presbytery, did so here.

4. A CPM can not label a proceeding a Hearing and claim it is not a disciplinary proceeding merely by pointing to the labeling. The substance of the proceeding must be examined to determine if the proceeding is disciplinary or not. The Presbytery, by and through CPM, did so here.
5. No tribunal, whether legitimate or otherwise, can conduct a disciplinary proceeding or any other kind of a hearing without affording the accused due process (both procedural and substantive) throughout the proceeding (this concept of due process is referred to as fundamental fairness in the Decisions of the PJC of the General Assembly. The presbytery did so here.
6. The allegations of the accuser, Ruth Azar, were the subject of a Form 26, Accusation by Individual as a Statement of Offense against Mr. Priest, citing D-10.0102a. The accusation was presented to an Investigative Committee as required under the Discipline, and following an investigation, was dismissed by the Investigating Committee. Even though the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery knew a Written Complaint had been filed and was being considered by an Investigative Committee, the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery initiated and/or assisted in the initiation of a second investigation for the same purpose, this one conducted with his oversight by the CPM for the Presbytery. The second investigation resulted in the Disciplinary Hearing complained of. (Interestingly, the first formal complaint was dismissed by its Investigating Committee.)
7. The CPM/Presbytery Hearing of March 1, 2011 was irregularly conducted (assuming it could be conducted) in that Mr. Priest was denied the fundamental fairness guaranteed in the Book of Order for such proceedings in that Mr. Priest was not allowed:
 - a. to confront his accuser or hear her testimony
 - b. to call any witnesses
 - c. to examine or cross examine the Investigators, the accusers, or any of the other witnesses
 - d. to know what the accuser or any of the witnesses said or to see what any of the witnesses might have provided to the Investigating Committee

IV. Grounds for Appeal

The Grounds for Appeal under D-8.0105 are:

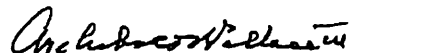
- a. Were there irregularities in the proceedings of the SPJC in resolving the Constitutional questions of D-6.0305a, c and d.
- b. Was there error in the Constitutional interpretations of the SPJC in saying no jurisdiction existed under D-6.0305a, c and d to hear the case.

V. Relief Requested

- 1. That the Permanent Judicial Commission reverse the decision of the SPJC to dismiss the Complaint and rule that the decision was erroneous and irregular.
- 2. That the case be returned to the SPJC for a hearing on its merits.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas H. Priest, Jr., who
has authorized this submission

December 19, 2011
Date


 Archibald Wallace, III
 Minister of the Word and Sacrament (PCUSA)
 Member of the Presbytery of the James
 Counsel for Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
 Member of the Virginia and West Virginia Bars

Certification of Service of Notice of Appeal, Remedial Case

I certify that a copy of the Notice of Appeal has been furnished to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit and the Stated Clerk of General Assembly of the PJC of the Synod of the Covenant, and to the Appellee, by serving it upon the Chair of its Committee of Counsel on the 19 day of December, 2011.

19 December 2011
Date

Thomas H. Puckey
Signature of Appellant

December 19, 2011

Archibald Halliday

Form No. 6

**THE SYNOD OF THE COVENANT
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

A REMEDIAL COMPLAINT UNDER D-6.0100, et. seq.

THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.,

Complainant

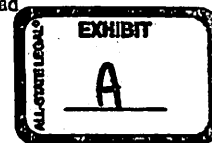
v.

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT,

Respondent

COMPLAINT

Thomas H. Priest, Jr., a member of Calvary Presbyterian Church, Detroit, Michigan, and an enrolled Candidate of the Presbytery of Detroit complains to the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant concerning certain irregularities committed against him by the Presbytery of Detroit, acting by and through its agent, the Committee on the Preparation For Ministry (CPM), in that on March 1, 2011 the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting by and for the Presbytery, conducted a "Hearing" against Thomas Priest on the, "Form 26, Accusation By Individual As Statement of Offense," of Ruth Azar dated April 21, 2010 and submitted under D-10.0102a of the Discipline of the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with letter attached. See Exhibit A attached. While the CPM labeled the March 1, 2011 proceeding a Hearing as to the Suitability for Ministry of Thomas Priest, the entire proceeding was instead a Disciplinary Hearing against Thomas H. Priest. On March 18, 2011 CPM mailed notice of its decision to Mr. Priest, saying in essence Mr. Priest had



abused his authority as Moderator of the Presbytery, had exhibited prejudice and bias against others, and had routinely used methods of confrontation and intimidation to get his way. See Exhibit B, the Notification of the CPM's decision, Exhibit C, the Report of the CPM Subcommittee dated January 18, 2011, which was adopted March 1, 2011. At the March 1, 2011 CPM Meeting Mr. Priest (1) objected to the hearing claiming a disciplinary hearing by CPM was ultra vires, (2) cited the lack of fundamental fairness (procedural and substantive due process) in the conduct of the hearing, and (3) objected to the impropriety of the proceeding because it subjected Mr. Priest to double jeopardy, since a separate PJC disciplinary investigation of the complaint of Mrs. Azar had already been held, following which that Investigative Committee declined to initiate Disciplinary proceedings against Mr. Priest. See Exhibit D attached.

The decision of CPM was mailed March 18, 2011, and was received on March 21, 2011 by Mr. Priest. See Exhibit E attached. It is from this decision that Mr. Priest brings this Remedial Complaint, since the actions complained of are final under the delegated authority of the Presbytery to CPM and since the decision of CPM has not and will not be subject to Presbytery approval or disapproval at any subsequent meeting of the Presbytery.

The Irregularities

Mr. Priest states the following as Irregularities in the Actions taken by CPM:

1. The CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting as agent for and on behalf of the Presbytery of Detroit, conducted a disciplinary hearing against Mr. Priest on March 1, 2011 in violation of D-10.0100, et seq., of the Book of Order which empowers only permanent judicial commissions to hear and decide disciplinary charges.

2. The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit improperly referred the Complaint to the CPM or the Presbytery of Detroit for investigation and action in contravention of D-10.0103 of the Book of Order.
3. The CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting as agent for and on behalf of the Presbytery of Detroit, formed an Investigative Committee to consider the disciplinary charges and present its conclusions at a formal hearing. At the time of the March 1, 2001 Hearing CPM was aware that the same charges had been referred to an Investigative Committee of the Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church, which had investigated the charges and declined to initiate formal disciplinary charges against Mr. Priest.
4. The Hearing of March 1, 2011 was Irregularly conducted in that Mr. Priest was denied the fundamental fairness guaranteed throughout the Book of Order for such proceedings in that he was not allowed:
 - a. to confront his accuser;
 - b. to call any witnesses;
 - c. to cross examine the Investigators, the accusers or any of the other witnesses; and
 - d. to know what the accuser or any witnesses said or see what any witness might have provided to the Investigating Committee; and
5. The findings of CPM of March 1, 2011, while said not to be disciplinary in nature, were in fact disciplinary and, as such, were beyond the scope of authority of CPM (*ultra vires*).

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

1. During the calendar year 2009 Elder Thomas H. Priest of Calvary Presbyterian Church, Detroit, Michigan, served as Moderator of the Presbytery of Detroit. During that year Mr. Priest was also a student at Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit Michigan, working toward an M. Div. Degree, which he was awarded later that year. On June 23, 2009 the Presbytery, after examination, enrolled Mr. Priest as a Candidate for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament at its June Presbytery Meeting.

2. As a part of one of Mr. Priest's classes in 2009 at Seminary, Mr. Priest evaluated two urban ministry centers in Detroit (the Barnabas Mission and Second Mile Center) using Ronald Peters' *Urban Ministry* and John M. Perkins' *Beyond Charity* as guides. Mr. Priest's conclusions were that the Barnabas Mission was a mission of reconciliation and empowerment, under the *Peters'* guidelines, while the Second Mile Center would only qualify as a charitable mission. Mr. Priest conducted his field evaluation at the Second Mile Center on February 18, 2009. After completing his evaluations, Mr. Priest shared his findings with his Seminary class on March 9, 2009, with the Presbytery's Metropolitan Urban Ministry Team on March 12, 2009, and with members of the two centers involved on March 16, 2009. (A copy of the Power Point Presentation used by Mr. Priest in all three presentations is attached as Exhibit F)

3. On March 2, 2009, Mr. Priest, while serving as a member of the Presbytery's Coordinating Cabinet, participated in the Cabinet's consideration and approval of a recommendation that the Presbytery call Ruth Azar as Executive Director of Second Mile Creek. There is nothing in the minutes of that meeting to suggest Mr.

Priest objected in any way to the call. See Exhibit G attached. On June 23, 2009 the Presbytery approved the call of Ms. Azar to the Second Mile Center after a spirited effort to postpone the vote. Mr. Priest Moderated the Presbytery Meeting where the call was ultimately approved and did not participate in the discussions about postponement. See Exhibit H attached.

4. At the end of 2009 Mr. Priest ended his term as Moderator of the Presbytery. In October 2009, just before Mr. Priest's term as Moderator ended, the Coordinating Cabinet received a Report from Ed Koster, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, about the way the Presbytery had handled the call of Ms. Azar to be Executive Director of Second Mile Center. The report was intended as response to the questions raised by some within the Presbytery as to whether the decision of the Presbytery to call Ms. Azar in June 2009 was proper or not. See Exhibit I attached. The solution suggested was to discharge Ms. Azar and go through the call process again. No action was taken on the issue before the end of 2009.

5. As an elder commissioner to the Presbytery but no longer Moderator and while still a member of the Coordinating Cabinet, Mr. Priest on April 5, 2010 advised the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of his intent to file a Motion with the Presbytery asking it to rescind its earlier action regarding the called position at Second Mile Center. A copy of the Motion was to be a part of the Presbytery Packet sent to all commissioners and was to be voted on at the April 27, 2010 Presbytery Meeting. A copy is attached as Exhibit J. On April 12, 2010, the Presbytery Executive emailed a copy of Mr. Priest's Motion to Ms. Ruth Azar to give her a "heads up" that the Motion was coming. See Exhibit K attached. Two days later, on April 14, 2010, Ms. Azar and two others responded, asking the Presbytery Executive what "charges" could be brought against Mr. Priest for what

they perceived to be harassment by Mr. Priest. See Exhibit L attached. The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery responded the same day, saying that charges could be brought under the Discipline against Mr. Priest, if Ms. Azar wished and, because Mr. Priest was under the care of Presbytery, a complaint could be made to CPM. See Exhibit M attached.

6. On April 21, 2010 Ms. Azar submitted a "Form No. 26, Accusation By Individual As Statement of Offense against Mr. Priest, citing D-10.0102a with letter attached as basis for the accusation (together her written statement), thereby invoking the procedure to be used when initiating a Disciplinary Case against a person under the jurisdiction of a governing body. See Exhibit A attached. In the Disciplinary Accusation Ms. Azar claimed Mr. Priest committed the offenses of racism, discrimination, and division against her and others at the Second Mile Center. Interestingly, the accusations related to the one day visit of Mr. Priest on February 18, 2009 to the Second Mile Center. No explanation was given in the Written Statement of Ms. Azar why the accusation had lain dormant for fourteen months. The Disciplinary Accusation was addressed to Rhonda Favors, Clerk of Session of Mr. Priest's home church and to Edward Koster, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery. The Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church immediately appointed an Investigating Committee as required by D-10.0201. Edward Koster, the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery sent the Charge to Presbytery's CPM and advised CPM how it could proceed with its own investigation without having to defer to the Presbyter's Permanent Judicial Commission or the Session of Mr. Priest's home church. Mr. Koster did not refer the Disciplinary Accusation to an Investigating Committee of the Presbytery as required by D-10.0201 of the Book of Order

7. On April 27, 2010 Mr. Priest's Motion to Rescind was brought to the floor of Presbytery but was not voted upon as to its merits because of procedural rulings. Mr. Priest was not in attendance at the meeting.

8. Ms. Azar's disciplinary charges were the subject of an extensive investigation by Calvary Presbyterian Church's Investigative Committee, including a hearing where Mr. Priest was allowed to address and refute the charges. On February 10, 2011, the Investigative Committee of Calvary Presbyterian Church issued its Conclusion of Investigation, advising that "no charges would be filed." This information was provided Presbytery's CPM, before it began its hearing on March 1, 2011; however, CPM went ahead with its hearing related to the same Charges.

9. On May 4, 2010 CPM established its own Investigative Committee and was guided in its investigation by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery. CPM asked the Investigating Committee it appointed to investigate the accusations of Ms. Azar. The Investigating Committee recognized that the approach of CPM could be viewed as violative of the powers granted a CPM by the Book of Order, so the Investigating Committee in its Report of January 18, 2011 took pains to label its actions as advisory only, saying its intended purpose was to advise CPM on issues of Mr. Priest's suitability and not to determine whether or not the Constitution of the PC (USA) was violated. Unfortunately, the stated intent was subverted by a deliberate use of the discipline of the church in a manner not permitted by the Constitution of the PC (USA). The result was the Committee's Report of January 18, 2011. See Exhibit C attached. At no time during its investigation was Mr. Priest given a copy of Ms. Azar's written statement, nor advised what Ms. Azar had said in her presentations to the Committee, nor given any information about the investigation. Subsequently, Mr. Priest was called to an August 9, 2010

meeting with the Investigating Committee where he was asked to discuss his actions on February 18, 2009 in light of the written statement of Ms. Azar. Both before and after the August 9, 2010 meeting the Investigating Committee met with and obtained testimony from other witnesses, some of whom it has not even named to date. None of the materials collected by the Investigating Committee were made available to Mr. Priest. At the end of its work, the Investigative Committee submitted its report dated January 18, 2011 to CPM with conclusions about Mr. Priest's behavior and with recommendations of what he should do to continue under the care of the Presbytery. Among the conclusions the Investigative Committee stated were Mr. Priest's,

1. abuse of his authority as Moderator of the Presbytery;
2. deceit in the identification of himself to the Second Mile Center employees;
3. misuse of his Presbytery office to influence the actions of the Presbytery against Second Mile Center;
4. denial of due process to Second Mile Center in not allowing it be heard regarding his Motion of April 2010;
5. bias against the opinions and experiences of others;
6. racism in his treatment of other racial-ethnic individuals; and,
7. misuse of confrontation and intimidation to achieved his will.

Each of these conclusions has been cited by PJC's across the church as basis for the imposition of discipline upon other minister members of the church. Here, the conclusions were reached without affording Mr. Priest the rights of fundamental fairness. Simply by labeling the proceedings as something other than a disciplinary proceeding. Mr. Priest was called to a Hearing on March 1, 2011 before the whole of CPM, to hear the report and respond to it. CPM advised before the Meeting that it intended on March 1, 2011 to receive the Report of the Investigating Committee of CPM and to act upon it.

Mr. Priest was given a copy of the proposed Agenda for the Meeting before the Hearing. This Agenda was adopted as the Agenda for that Hearing. See Exhibit N attached. He was not given a copy of the Report until just before the original date of the Hearing¹. In the Agenda adopted, CPM advised Mr. Priest that a court reporter would be present, that Mr. Priest could have an advocate, if he wished, and that there would be a time in the Meeting called the "Hearing Stage." CPM advised at the onset of the Hearing that the Investigative Committee would present its findings and report on the evidence it had collected but could not be subjected to cross examination or direct questioning. CPM also advised that none of the witnesses examined by the Investigative Committee would be present or available for cross examination. The procedure for the day only allowed Mr. Priest to submit his testimony and to argue his defense. CPM advised it intended to vote to adopt the Report but wanted to hear from Mr. Priest before it finally ruled. Inexplicably, the Stated Clerk, who had engineered the way the charges were handled by CPM was allowed to sit in with CPM during its deliberations and to advise CPM as to its actions. Mr. Priest was given time to argue his defense, but it mattered not, because the evidential basis for CPM's action (the evidence behind the Report of January 18, 2011) was unavailable and not disclosed throughout the meeting. On March 11, 2011 Mr. Priest received Notice of the decision of CPM. See Exhibit E attached. Because of this Notice Mr. Priest submits this Complaint to the PJC of the Synod of the Covenant, asking this tribunal to correct the Irregularities listed above through this Remedial Action.

STANDING

Thomas Priest states this permanent judicial commission has jurisdiction over his Complaint filed under D-6.0202, et seq., of the Book of Order in that

¹ The Hearing was originally scheduled for February 1, 2011 but was rescheduled to March 1, 2011 at Mr. Priest's request.

1. Complainant has standing to file this Complaint, since he is an elder of Calvary Presbyterian Church (PCUSA), a graduate of Ecumenical Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity Degree and is enrolled under the care of the Presbytery of Detroit as a Candidate to become a Minister of the Word and Sacrament. Because of his enrollment he qualifies as a member of the Presbytery. In addition, some of the actions complained of and the conclusions reached purportedly occurred when Mr. Priest served as Moderator of the Presbytery of Detroit and related to his use or misuse of that office. And finally, he is aggrieved by the actions of the Presbytery, acting by and through its agent, the CPM.
2. The Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod has jurisdiction to hear this Complaint since it involves the decisions and final actions of the Presbytery, acting by and through its Committee for the Preparation of Ministry taken against a Candidate under the care of the Presbytery. The actions taken by CPM are final actions of the Presbytery because of the Presbytery's designation of CPM to act on its behalf in certain matters without further review or action by the Presbytery.
3. The Complaint is timely in that the Complainant seeks to remedy actions taken March 1, 2011, of which he was not notified until notice was mailed to him on March 10, 2011 and received by him on March 11, 2011.
4. The Complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted in that it cites as irregularities four erroneous actions taken by the Presbytery, acting by and through its CPM, as relates to the decisions reached in the meeting of CPM of March 1, 2011, including the conduct of CPM both

before and during that meeting and one erroneous act taken by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, which was continuing in nature, even to this date.

ARGUMENT

1. **The decision of the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting for and on behalf of the Presbytery, to conduct a disciplinary investigation and hearing against Mr. Priest by (a) appointing an Investigative Committee, (b) authorizing it to investigate the disciplinary charges against Mr. Priest, and (c) holding a judicial hearing involving disciplinary charges against Mr. Priest was erroneous and not permitted under the Book of Order, and, as such, it is an irregularity committed by the Presbytery.**

The Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) D-10.0100, et seq. establishes those steps that are to be taken when a written statement of an alleged offense is submitted to one of the governing bodies of the church. In no instance is the power to investigate the accusations or to hear the charges ever delegated or extended to a Committee for the Preparation for the Ministry. Here, the CPM of the Presbytery usurped the power reserved to the Presbytery by investigating and hearing charges that were disciplinary in nature only and it acted beyond its authority in appointing an investigative committee, directing it to investigate disciplinary charges and holding a disciplinary hearing regarding those charges.

Section D-11.0100, et seq. provides that a disciplinary case can only be heard by a permanent judicial commission.

2. **The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit improperly referred the Written Statement of Ms. Azar to the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit for investigation and action in contravention of D-10.0103 of the Book of Order.**

The Book of Order requires the Stated Clerk, upon receipt of a written statement claiming a violation of the discipline of the church, to report to the governing body that an offense has been alleged and to turn the accusations over to an Investigative Committee designated by the Presbytery to investigate and determine whether to bring

charges or not. An Investigative Committee can bring charges or announce that it will not bring charges. If charges are brought, they are presented to the Permanent Judicial Commission of the governing body having jurisdiction. In no instance is the CPM of any governing body empowered to appoint an Investigating Committee or conduct a disciplinary hearing against anyone under the jurisdiction of the governing body. Here, the Stated Clerk referred the accusations against Mr. Priest set forth in the written statement of Ms. Azar against him, to CPM and assisted CPM in outlining a course of action that would allow CPM to circumvent the Discipline of the Church and to withhold those due process safeguards of the church called fundamental fairness due Mr. Priest.

3. The CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting as agent for the Presbytery of Detroit, subjected Mr. Priest to double jeopardy when it formed an Investigative Committee to consider the charges and present its conclusions in a formal hearing, knowing that the same charges had been submitted to the Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church and were the subject of an investigation there.

CPM was specifically advised that Mr. Priest had been subjected to one investigation on the same charges by Calvary Presbyterian Church and that Calvary's Investigative Committee had declined to bring charges against Mr. Priest. This information was specifically communicated to CPM at the beginning of its March 1, 2011 Hearing, but disregarded when the Stated Clerk advised the Meeting that it was not double jeopardy, since charges had not been the subject of a hearing before the Church's Session sitting as a PJC.

4. The Hearing of March 1, 2011 was irregularly conducted (assuming it could be conducted) in that Mr. Priest was denied the fundamental fairness guaranteed throughout the Book of Order for such proceedings in that Mr. Priest was not allowed:

- a. to confront his accuser or hear her testimony
- b. to call any witnesses
- c. to examine or cross examine the Investigators, the accusers, or any of the other witnesses
- d. to know what the accuser or any of the witnesses said or to see what any of the witnesses might have provided to the Investigating Committee

The Discipline of the Book of Order (D-1.000) requires that all participants in church discipline are to be accorded procedural safeguards and due process, and it is the intention of the Rules of Discipline to provide them.

Section D-14.0100, et seq., sets forth the rules of evidence to be followed in a proceeding, which rules prohibit each of the denials of rights stated above.

Throughout the Form of Government Section of the Book of Order, due process safeguards are required in the conduct of any investigation, commission proceeding or hearing.

RELIEF REQUESTED.

1. That the Permanent Judicial Commission rule that it was irregular and impermissible for the Presbytery, acting by and through its Committee for the Preparation for the Ministry, to conduct a disciplinary proceeding against Mr. Priest on March 1, 2011 under D-10.0100, et seq., of the Book of Order, and that the adoption of its Investigative Committee's Report and recommendations presented was in error and should be reversed.

2. That the Permanent Judicial Commission rule that the Presbytery, acting by and through its Stated Clerk improperly referred the Disciplinary Written Statement of

Ms. Azar to the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit for investigation and action in contravention of D-10.0100 of the Book of Order.

3. That the Permanent Judicial Commission rule that the Presbytery, acting by and through its Committee can not form an Investigative Committee to consider disciplinary charges or hold a hearing on those charges when those charges have already been subjected to investigation and been dismissed by another properly formed Investigative Committee, as such second action would constitute double jeopardy, and, as such, is impermissible under the Book of Order.

4. That the Permanent Judicial Commission rule that the Hearing of the Committee for the Preparation for the Ministry, held March 1, 2011, was improperly conducted for reason that Mr. Priest was not afforded fundamental fairness (procedural and substantive due process) required by the Book of Order.

5. That the Permanent Judicial Commission declare the proceedings of March 1, 2011 are null and void and of no further effect.

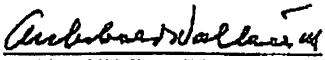
CERTIFICATION

This Complaint is signed by Complainant's attorney, Archibald Wallace, III and by the Complainant. Archibald Wallace, III is a Minister of the Word and Sacrament and a member of the Presbytery of the James. He is also a member of the Virginia and West Virginia Bars. In participating in this proceeding Rev. Wallace is not acting for or on behalf of the Presbytery of the James.

Complainant reserves the right to submit a Brief in Support of this Complaint after the officers of the Synod's Permanent Judicial Commission have made their decision regarding the jurisdictional questions related to this proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
By Counsel

June 7, 2011
Date

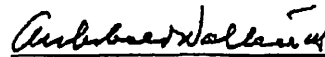

Archibald Wallace, III
Counsel for the Complainant

Date

Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE OF THE COMPLAINT

I hereby certify that the original of the above Complaint was filed by Hand Delivery with written Receipt upon the Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Covenant, George Baird, at his office 1911 Indian Wood Circle, Suite B, Maumee, OH 43537 and that a copy was served upon the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit, by serving Reverend Edward Koster, at the Presbytery's office, 17575 Hubbell, Detroit, MI. 48235 by Hand Delivery with written Receipt this ____ day of June, 2011.



Archibald Wallace, III
Counsel for Complainant
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

Thomas H. Priest, Jr.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

PRESBYTERY OF CINCINNATI PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT PRESBYTERY OF EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERY OF LAKE HURON PRESBYTERY OF LAKE MICHIGAN PRESBYTERY OF MACKINAC PRESBYTERY OF MAUMEE VALLEY
PRESBYTERY OF MIAMI VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF MUSKINGUM VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF SCIOTO VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF THE WESTERN RESERVE

August 19, 2011

Mr. Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
22668 Beckenham Court
Novi, MI 48374

The Rev. Edward H. Koster, Stated Clerk
The Presbytery of Detroit
117 N. First Street, Suite 111
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Re: Remedial Case 2011-04, Thomas J. Priest, Jr., vs. the Presbytery of Detroit

Dear Mr. Priest and Rev. Koster:

On Wednesday, August 9, 2011, I, as Moderator and the Rev. Doris Arnett Whitaker, Clerk, of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission met by conference call to examine documents provided by the Complainant and the Presbytery's Committee of Counsel for the above-captioned matter.

Pursuant to Book of Order, Rules of Discipline, D-6.0305a, the SPJC lacks jurisdiction to consider Remedial Case 2011-04; Pursuant to Book of Order, Rules of Discipline, D-6.0305b, the complainant lacks standing to file the case; Pursuant to Book of Order, Rules of Discipline, D-6.0305c, the complaint was not timely filed; and pursuant to Book of Order, Rules of Discipline, D-6.0305d, the complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

Since all four Preliminary Questions have been answered in the negative, the officers of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant have determined that this case cannot be accepted.

If any party to this case or any member of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission wishes to challenge the findings of the moderator and clerk of the PJC they may do so under the provisions of the Rules of Discipline D-6.0306. Such challenges should be sent to me at the synod office address.

Very truly yours,

Georgana Taggart, Moderator
Synod of the Covenant
Permanent Judicial Commission



1911 Indianwood Circle - Suite B, Maumee, Ohio 43537
419-754-4050 800-848-1030 (Michigan and Ohio) Fax 419-754-4051 www.synodofthecovenant.org

SEP-07-2011 10:30

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IN THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION OF THE SYNOD OF THE COVENANT OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

CHALLENGE TO THE FINDINGS OF THE MODERATOR AND CLERK OF THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION THAT IT DOES NOT HAVE JURISDICTION TO HEAR THE REMEDIAL COMPLAINT OF THE COMPLAINANT, THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.

THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR. Complainant

RECEIVED SEP 07 2011

Remedial Case 2011-04

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT Respondent

STATEMENT OF CHALLENGE

On August 9, 2011 Thomas H. Priest, Jr. ("Thomas H. Priest or Mr. Priest" herein), as Complainant, instituted his Remedial Case in this Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant, complaining of irregularities in the action taken against him which began on March 1, 2011 and were completed on March 18, 2011 by the Presbytery of Detroit, by and through its agent, the Committee on Preparation for the Ministry ("CPM" herein). (A copy of his Complaint is attached as Exhibit A.)¹

In his Complaint Thomas Priest charges: (1) that the Presbytery, acting by and through its agent, its CPM, impermissibly conducted the equivalent of a disciplinary hearing against him without authority and without affording him the procedural and substantive due processes (fundamental fairness) guaranteed to every member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) church whether in a properly filed disciplinary proceeding under D-10.010, et seq, of the Book of Order or in an administrative inquiry, where the

¹ This Complaint is filed under the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) 2009/2011, since all of the irregularities complained of occurred before the effective date of the nFOG which came into effect in July 2011.



discipline of an individual is the result; (2) that the actions of the Stated Clerk in establishing, participating in and shaping the result of the investigation throughout by the Presbytery's agent, its CPM, was impermissible, especially when the Clerk knew that a separate disciplinary investigation was already underway in another of the Church's Courts; and, (3) that the Presbytery's actions, acting by and through its agent, its CPM, could and did constitute double jeopardy against Complainant.

The Officers of this Commission determined August 9, 2011 that the four jurisdictional grounds of D-6.0305 had not been met, namely that the SPJC lacked jurisdiction to consider Remedial Case 2011-04 because (a) complainant lacked standing to file the case, D-6.0305b; (b) the complaint was not timely filed, D-6.0305c; (c) the complaint failed to state a claim upon which relief could be granted, D-6.0305d, and, (d) the SPJC lacked jurisdiction to consider the complaint, D-6.0305a. While the officers of this Commission did not give reason for concluding the four jurisdictional grounds were missing, Complainant will explore each of the grounds using the Answer of the Respondent as basis for this challenge.

a. The Complainant lacks standing to file the case under D-6.0305b.

Thomas A. Priest was at all times pertinent to the events surrounding and related to the irregularities complained of herein enrolled as a Candidate under the care of the Presbytery for purposes of becoming a Minister of the Word and Sacrament.² As a Candidate he is subject to the control and oversight of the Presbytery's Committee for the Preparation for Ministry (COM), the Presbytery's designated agent for such oversight. However, simply saying CPM has been granted oversight, does not elevate CPM or its activities to the level of the Presbytery, except for those powers specifically granted to it. Being enrolled as a Candidate means Mr. Priest of necessity has to be a member of the

² Mr. Priest is a Seminary Graduate and ready to be considered for his final assessment.

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P. 03

Presbytery and subject to its direct rule and control for the limited purposes of its constitutionally granted oversight, whether through its own actions or those granted its CPM. The Presbytery disagrees, saying Mr. Priest has standing to file a Complaint only for irregularities perpetrated upon him in the church of his membership, unless he is then enrolled as a member of Presbytery for a particular Presbytery meeting. Complainant disagrees. Under the reasoning of the Presbytery, there is no place Mr. Priest could go for relief from any disciplinary action taken against him by a Presbytery's CPM, because he was not then a member commissioned to a then designated presbytery meeting and the Presbytery was not then meeting. That was never the intention of the framers of our church's constitutional documents. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has declared repeatedly, it is always to be guided by the twin pole stars of Decency and Order.

Under G-14.041d, an individual enrolled by a Presbytery as an Inquirer or a Candidate continues to be an active member of his or her particular church and subject to the concern and discipline of that particular church's Session, for most things, but, in matters relating to his preparation for ministry, once the individual is "enrolled" in the Presbytery he is thereafter also subject to the oversight, control and discipline of the presbytery through the Presbytery itself and through its constitutionally designated agents for specific purposes, such as its Committee on Preparation for Ministry or its PJC. G-11.0103e requires a CPM to submit the names of individuals to be voted on as Inquirers and Candidates for ministry to the Presbytery. Once approved, they are "enrolled" on the Presbytery's Rolls and thereafter afforded limited membership to the extent necessary to proceed toward Ordination. Once enrolled, all Inquirers and Candidates come under the control of the Presbytery in this limited part through its designated constitutional agent, its CPM.

If the oversight and enrollment of candidates and inquirers does not constitute enrollment sufficient to enable a candidate to invoke the jurisdiction of this Commission for remedial relief, when a CPM, acting as agent for the Presbytery, acts beyond its power, then the actions of every CPM acting for and on behalf of the Presbytery must be deemed a nullity and of no effect. That is not the way our system works. It is inconceivable that a CPM, acting for and on behalf of the Presbytery or acting under its own direction and control could maintain the equivalent of a judicial proceeding against an individual and escape scrutiny for what are of necessity ultra vires acts merely by saying the Complainant lacks standing because he is not a member of the Presbytery.

It was never the intention of the General Assembly to create an immediately disenfranchised class in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), which could be denied the rights of Fundamental Fairness without some right to redress, if one or more persons or committees of the church abused the powers given or mistakenly assumed powers not given or improperly took action when not authorized.

The reason the term "enrolled" is used in the Book of Order is to elevate the Covenantal relationship of Inquirers and Candidates (G-11.0103b) to a position where both sides to this new Covenant of special relationship will be provided all of the constitutional safeguards of Fundamental Fairness inherent in the constitutional documents of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Notwithstanding the suggestion of the Presbytery that Mr. Priest can not seek any redress unless it is at his Session, he could never subject his Presbytery to the jurisdiction of his Session for the improper acts of his Presbytery he here complains of. His avenue of relief must be a right to challenge the irregularity in an appropriate church court above the level of the one causing the irregularity.

SEP-07-2011 10:32

P.08

b. The Complaint was not timely filed under D-6.0305c.

The Decision of the Presbytery, acting by and through its agent, its CPM, to discipline the Complainant, was purportedly reached March 1, 2011 but it was not then announced. A decision was actually mailed March 18, 2011 and received March 21, 2011 by Mr. Priest. The written decision was not announced or proffered to Mr. Priest or his counsel on March 1, 2011. The written decision is not even dated until March 10, 2011. It was not released on that date but held until March 18, 2011 in spite of inquiry and request by Mr. Priest and his counsel for it during the interim.

While a suggestion of the direction CPM might go was voiced before the hearing on March 1, 2011 and again on March 5, 2011 (see the email of Complainant's counsel of the same day attached to the Presbyter's Answer to the Complaint), it was not known then what the particular findings would be or the scope of what CPM intended to do. A finding of the equivalent of guilty on a charge of reverse racial discrimination and the imposition of punitive measures, while recommended by CPM's Investigating Committee and approved by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, was argued against as an irregularity by Mr. Priest at the March 1, 2011 hearing. Mr. Priest did not expect the findings stated in the final decision. On March 5, 2011 Complainant's counsel was advised the Report was still not complete and its provisions could not then be released. The formal Report was not released until March 18, 2011 and it was not until its receipt three days later that Complainant first knew of the severity of the action CPM had taken against him and of the irregularity practiced against him.

The Complaint in the instant proceeding was filed within ninety (90) days of the release of the Report, as is admitted in the Presbytery of Detroit's Answer at page thirteen (13) where it acknowledges a filing date of June 9, 2011.

The actionable irregularity complained of here did not culminate at the March 1, 2011 hearing. Rather, the actionable date could not commence the running of the limitations period until formal announcement of the decision which occurred at its release. Under the Rules of Discipline in our Church's Constitution, PJC's are required to prepare a written decision (D-7.0402c) while still in session and to release it forthwith. The reason for such a requirement is to prevent the mischief that can occur when a delay of weeks is grafted onto the process. Here, CPM met March 1, 2011, heard a summary presentation from its Investigating Committee, that day heard Mr. Priest's argument in response to the summary, deliberated and thereafter reached a tentative but unannounced decision that day subject to reducing it to written form. CPM then withheld its decision from Complainant for eighteen (18) days. The day of the release of its decision completed the irregularities complained of herein. The ninety (90) day clock could not begin to run until then, whether there is a notice requirement or not. The Complaint in this case was timely filed when it was received by the Stated Clerk of the Synod on June 9, 2011 - the eighty-first (81st) day following the date of the end of the irregularities. Even if the date placed on the Report is deemed to be the actionable date (March 10, 2011), filing on June 9, 2011 is also within the ninety (90) days allowed for filing.

c. The Complaint failed to state a claim upon which relief could be granted under D-6.0305d.

1. The proceeding against Mr. Priest was labeled an Investigation. It carried other headers and markers indicating its true nature was a disciplinary proceeding.³ Whether an administrative proceeding or a judicial proceeding, fundamental fairness is required under our Church's Book of Order, as particularized in *Gaba v. Presbytery of*

³The Agenda for the Hearing provided for a Court Reporter, had a Hearing Stage, and allowed him an Advocate, while the Committee was called an Investigating Committee.

SEP-07-2011 10:32

P. 07

Eastern Virginia, Remedial Case 204-11, (2004), *Wolfe vs. Presbytery of Winnebago*, Remedial Case 219-04 (2009) and *Lewis v. Presbytery of New York City*, Remedial Case 207-13, (1995). The denial of fundamental fairness (procedural and substantive due process) in a proceeding in which the result is disciplinary in nature has always been deemed to generate a claim sufficient for which relief can be granted.

2. While a CPM has the right and the power to determine a candidate's fitness for ministry, it can not do so using an approach not permitted within its stated powers (Complainant equates the act of CPM in usurping an authorized power with this country's law's regarding ultra vires acts). Determining fitness in a disciplinary proceeding has never been an enumerated power granted a CPM under any circumstance. Investigating Committees exist only under the Rules of Discipline of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). If used, or if a proceeding is undertaken which in its every attribute is essentially the same as the action of an Investigating Committee under a Disciplinary Action, any person hurt by the misuse of this power, of necessity, should have a right to ask an appropriate church court to remedy the misuse as an irregularity.

d. The Synod's PJC lacks jurisdiction to hear the Complaint under D-6.0305a.

The argument advanced in the Presbytery's Answer is that a CPM is not a governing body. In those functions which require Presbytery action, such as an approval of an Applicant to become an Inquirer or Candidate, it is not. In those functions where CPM, acting as agent for its Presbytery, has the right to make final "oversight" decisions as to "enrolled" members subject to its jurisdiction, it is. And, in those functions in which a CPM is to carry out directions and decisions already made by the governing body (G-9.0501a), its action is the action of the Presbytery.

In this case, where CPM either did not ask, for approval of its action against Mr. Priest or, at most, only reported the action it took as to Mr. Priest to the Presbytery as a completed action, it was acting as the Presbytery (G-9.0501a). Under the facts of this case, in taking final action against Mr. Priest based on its impermissible investigation of Mrs. Azar's letter statement, its action was disciplinary in nature. As such, CPM was either acting for and as the Presbytery or it was acting beyond the powers granted to it. Either way, its action was irregular.

The Presbytery responds to this argument with a Catch 22 defense. It says a CPM is not a governing body, so that no action can be brought against it. This action is not against the CPM, per se. The Presbytery goes on to argue the action taken was that of a committee, so, nothing can be charged against the Presbytery, thus the Catch 22.

CONCLUSION

Complainant asks as a part of his Challenge under D-6.0306b that this pleading be accepted as an appropriate and timely filed Challenge, that he be allowed to present evidence and argument on the findings in question, and that he and the Respondent be allowed to submit Briefs prior to any hearing on the jurisdictional deficiencies challenged herein under a schedule designated by the PJC.

Complainant makes this Challenge to the decision of the Officers of the PJC dated August 9, 2011 and mailed to him by letter form the Moderator of the Synod's PJC dated August 19, 2011. In that letter the Moderator of the SPJC advised that Complainant could challenge the decision under D-6.0306, which Complainant hereby does within the thirty (30) days permitted under D-6.0306a.

SEP-27-2011 12:33

P.09

This Challenge is signed by and on behalf of Complainant by Complainant and by Complainant's attorney, Archibald Wallace, III, as of the date shown opposite each place of signing.

Respectfully submitted.
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

September 2, 2011
Date

By: Archibald Wallace III
Minister of the Word and Sacrament (PCUSA)
Presbytery of the James
Counsel for Thomas H. Priest, Jr. and his
designated Agent for purposes of signing
this Challenge
Member of the Virginia and West Virginia Bars

Date

Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Individually

Certification of Service of Challenge

I hereby certify that a copy of the above Challenge was served upon the Stated Clerk and the Moderator of The Synod of The Covenant at the offices of the Synod of the Covenant, 1911 Indian Wood Circle, Suite B, Maumee, OH 43537 by Federal Express, with delivery tracking requested,, and upon the Respondent in a similar manner, by serving it upon Elder Mark Schneider, 2701 Troy Center Drive, Troy, MI 48084 one of its Committee of Counsel, this ___ day of August, 2011.

THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
of
THE SYNOD OF THE COVENANT
of
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

COPY

CHALLENGE TO DECISION OF MODERATOR AND CLERK

Ruling Elder Thomas Priest)
)
v.) Remedial Case No. 2011-04
)
Presbytery of Detroit)
)

----- [ARRIVAL STATEMENT] -----

This is a remedial case which has come before this Permanent Judicial Commission as a result of a complaint filed by the above named Complainant against the Presbytery of Detroit, Respondent. The SPJC Moderator and Clerk determined that all four of the preliminary questions were not answered in the affirmative. Challenges to this determination were received from the complainant and a member of the SPJC.

----- [PERSONS PRESENT DURING CONFERENCE CALL] -----

In addition to members of the Permanent Judicial Commission, the following parties participated on the live conference call: Thomas Priest (Complainant), Archibald Wallace (Counsel for the Complainant), Mark Schneider (Committee of Counsel, Presbytery of Detroit)

----- [PROCEEDURE] -----

The Complainant and Counsel were given six minutes to give oral evidence in addition to a written brief. Members of the SPJC were granted time for questions. The Respondent was given six minutes to give oral evidence in addition to a written brief. Members of the SPJC were granted time for questions. Both parties were given time for rebuttal.

--- [PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS] ---

- D-6.0305a. *Jurisdiction - the council has jurisdiction;*
After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
1 aye/6 nays/ 0 abstentions. The question was answered in the negative
- D-6.0305b. *Standing - the complainant has standing to file the case;*
After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
6 ayes/0 nays/ 1 abstention. The question was answered in the affirmative.



D-6.0305c. *Timely Filed - the complaint was timely filed; and*
 After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
 3 ayes/3 nays/ 1 abstention. The question was answered in the negative

D-6.0305d. *Relief Can Be Granted - the complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted.*
 After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
 3 aye/4 nays/ 0 abstentions. The question was answered in the negative

----- [ORDER] -----

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

This case is dismissed. (D-6.0305)

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit report this Decision to the Presbytery at its first meeting, that the Presbytery enter the full Decision upon its minutes, and that an excerpt from those minutes showing entry of the Decision be sent to the Stated Clerk of the Synod. (D-7.0701)

----- [ABSENCES AND NON-PARTICIPANTS] -----

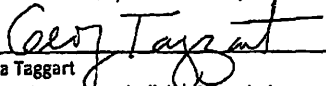
Doyle Andrews (member of the Permanent Judicial Commission) was present for argument of the complaint, but took no part in the decision

AND

Johanna Jozwiak-Stover, Jennifer Saad, and Rebecca Tollefson, members of the Permanent Judicial Commission, were not present and took no part in the proceedings.

----- [DATE] -----

Dated this fifteenth day of November, 2011

[signed] 
 Georgana Taggart
 Moderator, Permanent Judicial Commission

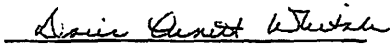
[signed] 
 Doris Arnett Whitaker
 Clerk, Permanent Judicial Commission

CERTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL FORM CERTIFICATES

We certify that the foregoing is a full and correct copy of the decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), in Remedial Case No.2011-04, Thomas Priest v. Presbytery of Detroit, made and announced during conference call, on November 14, 2011.


Georgana Taggart, Moderator,

Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of Covenant



Doris Arnett Whitaker, Clerk,

Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant

I certify that I did transmit a certified copy of the foregoing to the following persons by certified mail, return receipt requested, depositing it in the United States mail at Dayton, Ohio on November 15, 2011:

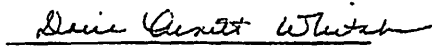
Thomas Priest, Complainant
22668 Beckenham Court
Novi, MI 48374

Archibald Wallace, Counsel for the Complaint
25 Hunting Ridge Road
Manekin Sabot, VA 23103

Edward Koster, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of Detroit
117 N. First Street, Suite 111
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Mark Schneider, Committee of Counsel
Presbytery of Detroit
117 N. First Street, Suite 111
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

David Bartley, Stated Clerk
Synod of the Covenant
1911 Indianwood Circle, Suite B
Maumee, OH 43537



Doris Arnett Whitaker, Clerk
Permanent Judicial Commission of the
Synod of the Covenant

**NOTICE OF APPEAL
REMEDIAL CASE
D-8.0100, D-8.0201, D-8.0202**

To: Rev. David Bartley, Stated Clerk for the Synod of the Covenant

From: Presbytery of Detroit (appellant)

RE:

Presbytery of Detroit

Appellant/Respondent

v.

Ruling Elder Thomas Priest

Appellee/Complainant

Notice is given of appeal to the General Assembly from the decision rendered by the permanent judicial commission of the Synod of Covenant on the 15th day of November, 2011, at the Synod via telephone conference.

a. the name of the party or parties filing the appeal, called the appellant or appellants, and their counsel if any;

The Presbytery of Detroit – represented by Committee of Counsel consisting of Ruling Elder Mark Schneider and Teaching Elder Elizabeth Rice.

b. the name of the other party or parties, called the appellee or appellees, and their counsel if any;

Ruling Elder Thomas Priest – represented by Archibald Wallace.

c. the governing body from whose judgment the appeal is taken;

Synod of the Covenant

d. the judgment or decision, and date and place thereof, from which the appeal is taken;

Appellant/Respondent Presbytery appeals from the decision of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission on the issue of Standing (D-6.0305b). Appellee/Complainant Priest has already appealed the issues of Jurisdiction (D-6.0305a), Timeliness (D-6-0305c) and Availability of Relief (D-6.0305d). Appellee/Complainant Priest did not appeal the issue of Standing. Therefore, this appeal has been filed merely out of an abundance of caution to ensure that all four questions are properly on appeal. Appellant/Respondent Presbytery agrees, and is not appealing, from the decision of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission on the issues of Jurisdiction (D-6.0305a), Timeliness (D-6-0305c) and Availability of Relief (D-6.0305d).

e. a statement of the errors of the permanent judicial commission which conducted the trial or hearing on appeal that are the grounds for the appeal (D-8.0106); and

The Synod Permanent Judicial Commission committed an error in the regularity in its proceedings and/or in constitutional interpretation by finding that Appellee/Complainant Priest had standing to file the complaint. Appellant/Respondent Presbytery agrees with the decision of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission on the issues of Jurisdiction (D-6.0305a), Timeliness (D-6-0305c) and Availability of Relief (D-6.0305d).

For an individual to have standing to file a remedial case against his or her Presbytery, that individual must have been a commissioner to the meeting at which the alleged irregularity occurred. See D-6.0202a.(1). Mr. Priest is a candidate for ministry under the care of the Presbytery of Detroit. The facts of this case stem from a hearing conducted by the Presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) into Mr. Priest's fitness for ministry. Mr. Priest claims that the CPM, acting as the agent of Presbytery, committed an irregularity in making certain findings and requiring him to attend counseling. However, Mr. Priest has never taken this concerns to the floor of Presbytery. Therefore, Mr. Priest has never been a commissioner to a Presbytery meeting that heard his complaints (despite his knowledge that he has that right). Nor is Mr. Priest a member of the CPM entitled to some imagined right to bypass the floor of Presbytery and appeal directly to the church courts. According, the SPJC's determination that Mr. Priest had standing was an error that should be REVERSED.

f. a copy of the notice of appeal has been provided by certified delivery or by personal service to each of the other parties and to the stated clerk of the governing body that will hear the appeal.

12/27/2011

Date

Mark Schneider

Signature

by PKK

CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE OF NOTICE OF APPEAL
REMEDIAL CASE, D-8.0202f

I certify that a copy of the Notice of Appeal has been furnished to the Rev. David *Bartley* and to Appellee/Complainant Thomas Priest and Archibald Wallace by (certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, or by personal delivery) on the 27th day of December, 2011

Edward H. Koster

THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
of
THE SYNOD OF THE COVENANT
of
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

COPY

CHALLENGE TO DECISION OF MODERATOR AND CLERK

Ruling Elder Thomas Priest)
)
v.) Remedial Case No. 2011-04
)
Presbytery of Detroit)
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----- [ARRIVAL STATEMENT] -----

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----- [PERSONS PRESENT DURING CONFERENCE CALL] -----

In addition to members of the Permanent Judicial Commission, the following parties participated on the live conference call: Thomas Priest (Complainant), Archibald Wallace (Counsel for the Complainant), Mark Schneider (Committee of Counsel, Presbytery of Detroit)

----- [PROCEEDURE] -----

The Complainant and Counsel were given six minutes to give oral evidence in addition to a written brief. Members of the SPJC were granted time for questions. The Respondent was given six minutes to give oral evidence in addition to a written brief. Members of the SPJC were granted time for questions. Both parties were given time for rebuttal.

--- [PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS] ---

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After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
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D-6.0305d. *Relief Can Be Granted - the complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted.*
After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
3 aye/4 nays/ 0 abstentions. The question was answered in the negative

----- [ORDER] -----

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

This case is dismissed. (D-6.0305)

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit report this Decision to the Presbytery at its first meeting, that the Presbytery enter the full Decision upon its minutes, and that an excerpt from those minutes showing entry of the Decision be sent to the Stated Clerk of the Synod. (D-7.0701)

----- [ABSENCES AND NON-PARTICIPANTS] -----

Doyll Andrews (member of the Permanent Judicial Commission) was present for argument of the complaint, but took no part in the decision

AND

Johanna Jozwiak-Stover, Jennifer Saad, and Rebecca Tollefson, members of the Permanent Judicial Commission, were not present and took no part in the proceedings.

----- [DATE] -----

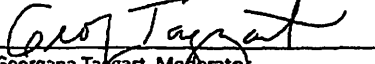
Dated this fifteenth day of November, 2011

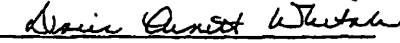
[signed] Georgana Taggart
Georgana Taggart
Moderator, Permanent Judicial Commission

[signed] Doris Arnett Whitaker
Doris Arnett Whitaker
Clerk, Permanent Judicial Commission

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 Georgana Taggart, Moderator,
 Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of Covenant


 Doris Arnett Whitaker, Clerk,
 Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant

I certify that I did transmit a certified copy of the foregoing to the following persons by certified mail, return receipt requested, depositing it in the United States mail at Dayton, Ohio on November 15, 2011:


Thomas Priest, Complainant
 22668 Beckenham Court
 Novi, MI 48374

Archibald Wallace, Counsel for the Complaint
 25 Hunting Ridge Road
 Manakin Sabot, VA 23103

Edward Koster, Stated Clerk
 Presbytery of Detroit
 117 N. First Street, Suite 111
 Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Mark Schneider, Committee of Counsel
 Presbytery of Detroit
 117 N. First Street, Suite 111
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David Bartley, Stated Clerk
 Synod of the Covenant
 1911 Indianwood Circle, Suite B
 Maumee, OH 43537


 Doris Arnett Whitaker, Clerk
 Permanent Judicial Commission of the
 Synod of the Covenant

**Presbytery of Detroit
Minutes of the Stated Meeting
February 28, 2012**

WE SHARED GOD'S BOUNTY

Presbytery was hosted to dinner by Fort Street Church.

WE PROCLAIMED THE GOOD NEWS

A quorum being present the Presbytery of Detroit convened in a stated meeting with prayer and worship on February 28, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at Fort Street Presbyterian Church.

Presbytery worshipped God with a dramatic presentation of Voices of Slavery.

WE CELEBRATED OUR CONNECTIONS IN CHRIST

The Moderator appointed Bobby Ponder the assistant to the Stated Clerk.
The Moderator welcomed new commissioners and teaching elders.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery approved the docket as corrected.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery excused those who had requested to be excused.

Upon motion of Mr Timm, Presbytery seated Jay Hudson of Ohio Valley Presbytery, and Raafat Zaki of Grace Presbytery/Synod of the Covenant as corresponding members.

Sharon Mook welcomed Presbytery to Fort Street Church.

Jean Loup began moderating the meeting.

WE LISTENED FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR COMMUNITY

Announcements

Presbytery heard announcements about Presbyterian Pilgrimage, the 2012 theme of Hospitality, a Presbyterian retreat on church education and faith development, and Hands-on Mission.

Reports

Presbytery heard a report about the coming Alma Youth ix.

REPORT FROM A PRESBYTERY AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION

Presbytery heard a report from Jay Hudson, president of the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program. Mr Hudson distributed checks totaling \$11,577 to four churches that had invested in PILP.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

Executive Presbyter's Report

Mr Timm celebrated ordination anniversaries, retirements and the death of a member. He invited James Faile to address Presbytery, who spoke of the 53 year mission of Church of Our Savior. Before its consolidation with Farmington First, it voted to give a check for \$40,000 as a challenge match for our Hands-On Mission Blitz Build Habitat House this summer.

Business for Adoption by Motion and Debate

Mr Porter resumed moderating the meeting.

Mr Porter offered a brief prayer for openness.

Upon motion of Rosy Latimore, Presbytery voted to request the Riverside Church Administrative Commission make a report at the next stated Presbytery meeting.

Committee Items for Action:

Coordinating Cabinet. Dianne Bostic Robinson reported for the Coordinating Cabinet.

Upon motion of the Coordinating Cabinet, Presbytery voted to approve the Overture to the 220th General Assembly that will allow presbyteries to submit only *per capita* contributions received from the churches to the Synod and General Assembly.

Overture to Amend G-3.0106 to Allow Presbyteries to Forward Only Per Capita Funds Received to their Synods and the General Assembly

The Presbytery of Detroit overtures the 220th General Assembly (2012) to direct the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:

Shall the last paragraph of G-3.0106 be amended by adding the word received between the words between funds and to in the second sentence so that the provision reads:

Each council above the session shall prepare a budget for its operating expenses, including administrative personnel, and may fund it with a per capita apportionment among the particular congregations within its bounds. Presbyteries are responsible for raising their own funds and for raising and timely transmission of per capita funds received to their respective synods and the General Assembly. Presbyteries may direct per capita apportionments to sessions within their bounds, but in no case shall the authority of the session to direct its benevolences be compromised.

Rationale

Per capita apportionments are a traditional means of funding General Assemblies, and have evolved over the years into a method for supporting various ecclesiastical and administrative expenses of presbyteries and synods. The term per

capita refers to the fact that the amount apportioned is based on the membership of the presbytery.

Some presbyteries have funded their own ecclesiastical and administrative expenses by apportioning per capita to their congregations, to which they add the apportionments from their synod and the General Assembly. Other presbyteries pay all of these expenses from their general mission budget.

Since the The Presbytery of Detroit v. Westminster Church Port Huron in 1976, presbyteries have been forbidden from punishing churches for their failure to pay per capita apportionments. The matter has been addressed and litigated many times over the years, and the prohibition has never been removed, so that a presbytery has no way to require its churches to pay when they refuse as a means of objection to grievances. The position has been taken that per capita apportionments are benevolences, and presbyteries do not have the authority to require a session to pay any benevolence. Minihan, et al., v. Presbytery of Scioto Valley, Remedial Case 216-1, 2004.

The wording of the per capita provision has always required presbyteries to pay the apportionments to their synods and the General Assembly regardless of whether it has been received by the congregations. Some presbyteries have recently decided to submit only per capita funds received to their synod and the General Assembly. Other presbyteries have continued to pay these apportionments whether or not received by their churches.

In recent years increasing numbers of congregations have declined to pay per capita apportionments as a way of expressing dissatisfaction with actions of the Church, frequently for actions of the General Assembly. Since presbyteries are required to pay the full apportionment to higher governing bodies from its mission budget when not received, the effect is to reduce the amount available for the mission of the presbyteries to their own regions. In effect, it forces presbyteries to pay from what may be benevolence monies (GA minutes 1999, p. 65) to their synods and the General Assembly. In those cases where the presbytery's per capita has also been withheld, the effect is to double the cost to the presbytery.

In these days where budgets are very constrained at all levels, and where presbyteries under the new Form of Government are called to support their congregations, the effect of the requirement to pay per capita apportionments for the ecclesiastical expenses of their synods and the General Assembly is to reduce their ability to support their congregations. The result is that the General Assembly, which is the often source of the disaffection, is unaffected while the presbyteries are placed under severe pressure. The intention that the presbyteries play important parts in generating missional congregations is damaged.

Since some presbyteries are already paying only what they have received, the effect is that those presbyteries that are loyal to the rules of our polity are penalized. To remove the penalty for faithfulness seems equitable. Moreover, where it is forbidden for presbyteries to require the payment of benevolences, it also should be forbidden for higher governing bodies to require presbyteries to pay from their benevolences.

The Coordinating Cabinet reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. The Coordinating Cabinet held a retreat at its January meeting and is working to implement norms and ideals that were identified during its discussions.

2. The Coordinating Cabinet has received and discussed work from the Planning and Visioning Team about the structure of Presbytery and the organization of Presbytery meetings. The Team will prepare amended bylaws and present them to the Coordinating Cabinet for recommendation to the Presbytery at a later time. These new bylaws will reflect changes in the Form of Government and Robert's Rules of Order, as well as a different model for the working of Presbytery committees and teams.

Committee on Ministry. Dixie Elam reported for the Committee.

Upon motion of the Committee, Presbytery voted to:

1. Approve a six month Temporary Supply contract between **Elder Michael Horlocker and First Church, South Lyon**, effective March 15, 2012. Terms: 35 hours per week, total package \$22,191; Salary, \$9,366; Housing \$9,000, Social Security, \$1,325; Travel (car) \$2,000; Study Leave \$500; Vacation of ½ month including 2 Sundays; Study Leave 1 week per year pro-rated over life of contract. Permission granted to Moderate Session, administer Sacraments, and conduct weddings.
2. Approve the call of **Rev. Mary Austin** as Pastor at **Westminster Church of Detroit**, effective March 5, 2012, with the following terms: Salary \$12, 790; Housing allowance \$30,000; Medical allowance \$856; Pension \$14,185; Social Security allowance \$1,789; Professional expenses \$2,380; 4 Weeks vacation, including 4 Sundays; 2 Weeks Study Leave, , including 2 Sundays. Within the first year, Rev. Austin will attend Pastors in Transition Program, approx. cost of \$200 borne by church. AA/EEO guidelines of the denomination were followed in the search.
3. Terminate the Interim Pastor contract between **Rev. Annemarie Kidder and First Church, South Lyon**, effective March 14, 2012, and move her to At-Large roll of Presbytery.
4. Terminate the Stated Supply contract between **Rev. William Dunifon and Peoples, Milan**, effective February 29, 2012.
5. Terminate the Interim Pastor contract between **Rev. Neeta Nichols and Westminster Church of Detroit**, effective March 12, 2012, and move her to At-Large roll of Presbytery.
6. Approve **Rev. Gregory Zurakowski** called to installed pastor from designated Pastor for **Belleville Church, Belleville, Michigan**.
7. Terminate the Interim Supply contract between **Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills** and **Rev. Keith Provost** and grant him the status of Honorably Retired, effective February 29, 2012.
8. Pending successful completion of ordination examination by Presbytery, approve the call of **People's Church, Milan** to **Kelly Boubel Shriver** as Pastor, effective March 1, 2012. Terms: Full package \$67,188; Salary \$30,000, rental value use of Manse \$15,000; Medical Deductible/Medical allowance \$900; Pension \$14,917; Social Security \$3,511; Optional dental \$600; Personal Expenses \$2,260; One month vacation, including 4 Sundays; Continuing education leave 2 weeks, including 2 Sundays; Moving expenses up to \$1,500. Within first year, Rev. Shriver will attend Pastors in Transition Program, approx. cost of \$200 to be borne by church. AA/EEO guidelines of the denomination were followed in the search.

The Committee reported that under the authority given it, it has:

1. Approved a 12 month, Stated Supply contract between **Rev. Raphael Boyd Francis and Hope Presbyterian Church, Detroit**, beginning January 1, 2012. Terms: Half Time; Total Package \$26,014; Salary \$13,364; Housing \$6,600; Medical Deductible \$400; Social

Security \$1,500; Travel Allowance \$950; Pension \$2,500; Study Leave \$400; Book Allowance \$300; Vacation: 2 weeks, including 2 Sundays. Study leave granted upon request of Session.

2. Approved a six month Interim Pastor contract between **Rev. Ken Kaibel and Starr, Royal Oak**, effective February 1, 2012. Terms: Part Time; Total Package \$14,808; Salary \$1,808; Housing \$10,000; 403b \$1,500; Medical Reimbursement \$700; Professional Expenses \$600; Study Leave \$200; Vacation of one month including 4 Sundays per year pro-rated over the life of the contract; Study Leave 2 weeks per year pro-rated over the life of the contract.
3. Approved a 12 month Parish Associate contract between **Rev. Dr. Louis J. Prues and Jefferson Avenue, Detroit**, effective February 1, 2012. Terms; 4 hours per week, Compensation/Benefits: Salary \$4,235.30; Vacation 12 Sundays.
4. Approved a six month Temporary Supply contract between **Rev. Karen Stunkel and Southminster, Taylor**, effective January 1, 2012. Terms: Full time; Total Package \$74,560; Salary \$26,500; Housing \$17,400; Annuity \$2,580; Social Security \$3,480; Pension \$16,100; Medical Reimbursement \$500; Travel \$4,000; Professional Expenses \$1,000; Continuing Education Leadership Training \$3,000; Study Leave 2 weeks; Vacation One Month, including 4 Sundays.
5. Approved a 12 month Parish Associate contract between **Rev. Ken Lister and Grosse Pointe Woods**, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan, effective January 1, 2012. Total Package \$11,193; Salary \$10,233; Travel/Professional Reimbursement Expenses \$960.

Trustees. Donald Morgan reported for the Trustees.

Upon motion of the Trustees, Presbytery voted to appoint Edward Koster the Overture Advocate for our overture to the General Assembly on *per capita* apportionment.

The Trustees reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. The Trustees elected the following officers of the corporation:
 - Donald Morgan the President
 - Marva Banks the Vice President
 - Allan D. Timm the Secretary.

Alvin Smith has been elected by the Presbytery as the Treasurer and is the corporate treasurer.
2. The Trustees engaged in a long discussion about the future of the Comunidad Los Del Camino, which is occupying the former Detroit Southwest facility. The Trustees have been paying the building maintenance and utilities since the beginning of 2011.
3. The Trustees have referred three churches that are having difficulty paying their pastors to Committee on Ministry.
4. The Trustees have endorsed a request of the Sterling Heights New Life Church to reduce the interest on their PILP loan.
5. The Trustees considered a proposal that would change the way that the Ranney-Balch Fund contributions to the annual expenses of Presbytery are calculated. The proposal was not approved. The Trustees will continue their normal practice of allocating the earned interest from the fund for use of the Presbytery.
6. The Trustees have considered and given approval for various settlement proposals for the Gratiot Avenue litigations.

7. Last year, we did not receive \$63,559.55 in *per capita* apportionments. The tees wish to thank the following churches that paid their full *per capita* apportionments in 2011

ANN ARBOR, First	MILAN, Peoples
ANN ARBOR, Northside	MILFORD, Milford
ANN ARBOR, Westminster	MT. CLEMENS, First
AUBURN HILLS, Auburn Hills	NORTHVILLE, First
BELLEVILLE, Belleville	NOVI, Faith Community
BERKLEY, Greenfield	ORCHARD LAKE, Community
BEVERLY HILLS, Northbrook	PLYMOUTH, First
BIRMINGHAM, First	PONTIAC, First
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Kirk/Hills	PONTIAC, Joslyn Avenue
BRIGHTON, First	PORT HURON, First
CANTON, Geneva	PORT HURON, Westminster
CLARKSTON, Sashabaw	REDFORD, St. James
DEARBORN, Littlefield	ROCHESTER, University
DEARBORN HGTS, St. Andrew's	ROYAL OAK, First
DETROIT, Broadstreet	ROYAL OAK, Starr
DETROIT, Calvin East	SALINE, First
DETROIT, First	SHELBY TWP., St. Thomas
DETROIT, Fort Street	SOUTH LYON, First
DETROIT, Jefferson Avenue	SOUTHFIELD, Covenant
DETROIT, Riverside	SOUTHFIELD, New Hope
DETROIT, St. John's	ST. CLAIR SHORES, Heritage
DETROIT, Trinity Community	ST. CLAIR SHORES, Lake Shore
DETROIT, Trumbull Avenue	STERLING HGTS, New Life
FARMINGTON, First	TAYLOR, Southminster
FERNDALE, Drayton Avenue	TROY, Korean First
GARDEN CITY, Garden City	TROY, Northminster
GROSSE ILE, Grosse Ile	WALLED LAKE, Crossroads
GROSSE POINTE, Memorial	WARREN, Celtic Cross
HIGHLAND PARK, Park United	WARREN, First
HOWELL, First	WATERFORD, Community
LINCOLN PARK, Lincoln Park	WESTLAND, Kirk of Our Savior
LIVONIA, Rosedale Gardens	WHITE LAKE, White Lake
LIVONIA, St. Paul's	WYANDOTTE, Wyandotte
LIVONIA, St. Timothy's	

Stated Clerk. Edward Koster reported.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery voted to:

1. Approve the minutes of January 24, 2012.
2. Approve the reports of the following Commissions and append them to the minutes
 - a. Ordination of Lindsey Anderson on January 21, 2012.
 - b. Ordination of Christopher Thomas and installation as associate pastor of Plymouth First on January 29, 2012
3. Appoint Edward Koster the overture advocate for the overture to the General Assembly to amend the Rules of Discipline.

The Stated Clerk reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. Transfers
 - a. To the Presbytery of Detroit:
 - i. David Prentice-Hyers from Grace Presbytery
 - b. To the Church Triumphant

- i. Harry Geissinger on 2/18/12.
- 2. Pursuant to Presbytery Policy P-10, Guidelines for Disaffected Churches, the Moderator has appointed the following Task Force on Denominational Concerns to speak with Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church regarding its discussions on leaving the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.): Kent Clise, Jean Loup, Peter Henry, Henry Borchardt, Al Timm, and Ed Koster
- 3. The primary Young Adult Advisory Delegate to the General Assembly, Autumn Palmer, has withdrawn as the Young Adult Advisory Delegate to the General Assembly. The alternate, Daniel Brausch of Grosse Ile Church will attend.
- 4. Judicial Process.

The moderator and clerk of the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission have issued a preliminary order dismissing the appeal of Thomas Priest in his case against the Presbytery of Detroit. Unless Mr Priest appeals the decision to the full General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission, the case is closed. The decision is appended to the minutes.

New Church Development/Redevelopment Team. Ted Taylor reported for the Team.

Upon nomination of the Team, Presbytery elected the following to the NCD Commission:

Teaching elder James Kumin, Chairperson

Teaching elders

Arthur Oberg

Chris Thomas

Ruling Elders

Anita Treesco

Richard Grant

Dedication of Mission pledges

Fran Anderson led the Presbytery in dedicating the mission pledges offered by the churches to the Presbytery of Detroit for 2012.

Jean Loup began moderating the meeting.

WE WENT OUT IN GOD'S NAME

After celebrating joys and concerns, Presbytery adjourned with prayer at 9:15 p.m.

The next meeting of the Presbytery will be Tuesday, April 24, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. at Redford St James Church

ATTEST:


EDWARD KOSTER, Stated Clerk

ATTACHMENT ONE: The Roll

APPENDICES:

Ordination/Installation Commissions

Ordination of Lindsey Anderson on January 21, 2012.

Ordination of Christopher Thomas and installation as associate pastor of Plymouth First on January 29, 2012

Decision of the Executive Committee of the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission dismissing the case of Thomas Priest v. the Presbytery of Detroit .

ATTACHMENT ONE: THE ROLL

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2012

CHURCHES: Of 83 churches, 42 were represented and 41 were not.

COMMISSIONERS: Of 139 eligible commissioners, 59 enrolled, and 80 did not.

OTHER RULING ELDERS (Officers, Members of Council)::

Of 21 total, 9 were present, of whom 2 counted as commissioners, leaving 7 as the unduplicated count: 8 excused, and 4 absent.

TEACHING ELDERS: Of the 149 non-retired teaching elders on the combined rolls of active members and members-at-large, 45 were present, 37 were excused, and 67 were absent.

Of the 80 retired teaching elders on the rolls, 10 were present and 60 were excused.

COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS AND CERTIFIED EDUCATORS: Of the 0 Commissioned Law Pastor on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 0 absent

Of the 0 Certified Educators on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 0 absent.

SUMMARY

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

59 Elder Commissioners
 + 7 Other Ruling Elders
 + 45 Non-retired teaching elders
 + 10 Retired teaching elders
 = 0 Commissioned lay pastors.
 = 0 Certified educators.
 = 121 Voting members present.

OTHERS PRESENT

2 Non-voting attendees
 2 Corresponding members

Attendance Churches and Commissioners

ALLEN PARK, Allen Park
 1 ROBERT MORTON
 2
 3
 4

ANN ARBOR, Calvary
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 ANN ARBOR, First
 1 RUTH BARNARD
 2 BEN VAN TUYL

3 SUE LEONG
 4
 5
 ANN ARBOR, Northside
 1 NOT REPRESENTED

ANN ARBOR, Westminster
 1 CAROLE S FRANKLIN
AUBURN HILLS, Auburn Hills
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
BELLEVILLE, Belleville
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
BERKLEY, Greenfield
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
BEVERLY HILLS, Northbrook
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
BIRMINGHAM, First
 1 ROSY LATIMORE
 2 DAN REEVES
 3
 4
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Kirk/Hills
 1 DON GUTHRIE
 2 CAROL ROCK
 3 CHARLOTTE CLARK
 4 MEG LUTZ
 5
 6
BRIGHTON, First
 1 GISELA BOSCH
 2
CANTON, Geneva
 1 MICHAEL GAUBATZ
CLARKSTON, Sashabaw
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
DEARBORN, Cherry Hill
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
DEARBORN, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
DEARBORN, Littlefield
 1 EMILY NIETERING
DEARBORN HGTS, St. Andrew's
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, Broadstreet
 1 ALVIN SMITH
 2
DETROIT, Calvary
 1 ADRIENNE ADAMS
 2 JEFFREY BANKS
DETROIT, Calvin East
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
DETROIT, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, Fort Street
 1 W BRADLEY MCCALLUM
DETROIT, Gratiot Avenue
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
DETROIT, Hope
 1 MARY GREEN
 2
DETROIT, Jefferson Avenue
 1 REBECCA UNDERWOOD
 2
DETROIT, Riverside
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, St. John's
 1 JEANNE V MOORE
 2 WARFIELD MOORE
DETROIT, Trinity Community
 1 FRANCIS BEEMAN
 2 NATALIE BROTHERS
DETROIT, Trumbull Avenue
 1 MARY HOWARD
 2 MARTHA SINGLEY
DETROIT, Westminster
 1 MARGARET WHITEHEAD
 2 RESHAWN WHETSTONE
 3
FARMINGTON, First
 1 KAREN SPICA
 2 JERRY HOWE
FERNDALE, Drayton Avenue
 1 SARA CAMPBELL
FORT GRATIOT, Lakeshore
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
GARDEN CITY, Garden City
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
GROSSE ILE, Grosse Ile
 1 FLORA CASE
 2
GROSSE POINTE, Memorial
 1 BILL BROWN
 2
 3
 4
GROSSE PTE WOODS, Woods
 1 SUSAN MATTINGLY
 2 MATT STEPHENSON
HIGHLAND PARK, Park United
 1 MARIE HUGHLEY
 2
HOWELL, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
LINCOLN PARK, Lincoln Park
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
LIVONIA, Rosedale Gardens
 1 DYCHE ANDERSON
 2 ALICE MCCLOSKEY
LIVONIA, St. Paul's
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
LIVONIA, St. Timothy's
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
MACOMB, Church/Covenant
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
MILAN, Peoples
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
MILFORD, Milford
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
MT. CLEMENS, First
 1 LORETTA FREEMAN-MARTIN
NORTHVILLE, First
 1 KATHY GRICIUS
 2 JOHN EMMERTT
 3 CAL STROM
 4 BARB ROSS
NOVI, Faith Community
 1 BETTY NICK
ORCHARD LAKE, Community
 1 BETH KEPPEL
 2 CHUCK KEPPEL
 3
PLYMOUTH, First
 1 ROGER CROMWELL
 2
 3
 4
PONTIAC, First
 1 CATHY EAMES
PONTIAC, Joslyn Avenue
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
PORT HURON, First
 1 HOWARD BORGMAN
 2
PORT HURON, Westminster
 1 DENNIS YOUNG
REDFORD, St. James
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROCHESTER, University
 1 DOUG DENTON
 2 DOUG FRYER
ROSEVILLE, Erin
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROYAL OAK, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 3
ROYAL OAK, Point of Vision
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROYAL OAK, Starr
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
SALINE, First
 1 KAREN COLLINS
SHELBY TWP., St. Thomas
 1 ILLEGIBLE
 2
SOUTH LYON, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
SOUTHFIELD, Covenant
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
SOUTHFIELD, Korean
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 3
SOUTHFIELD, New Hope
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
ST. CLAIR SHORES, Heritage
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ST. CLAIR SHORES, Lake Shore
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
STERLING HGTS, New Life
 1 ILLEGIBLE
TAYLOR, Southminster
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
TROY, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
TROY, Korean First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
TROY, Northminster
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WALLED LAKE, Crossroads
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WARREN, Celtic Cross
 1 DAVE ROBERTS
WARREN, First
 1 TOM MACONOCHE
WATERFORD, Community
 1 NANCY HUNT
WESTLAND, Kirk of Our Savior
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WHITE LAKE, White Lake
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WYANDOTTE, Wyandotte
 1 MARYFERN THOMAS
YPSILANTI, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED

C. RULING ELDER ELDER MEMBERS

P ANDERSON, FRANCILE, PM
 P BOSTIC-ROBINSON, DIANE, PM
 A CLARK, SAM
 P ELAM, DIXIE, PM
 A ELLIS, HAROLD
 C EMMERT, JOHN
 E HYLKEMA, CAROL, PM
 P LEWIS, STEFANIE
 P LOUP, JEAN
 P MORGAN, DONALD
 E MORRISON, HELEN, PM
 P MORTON, JANET
 E PITTS, FRANCES, PM
 E PRIEST, TOM, PM
 E SEABROOKS, DOROTHY M., PM
 E SHIRLEY, JAMES, PM
 C SMITH, ALVIN
 E SMITH, KENNETH, PM
 A SZWED, ROBERT
 A WILLIAMSON, MAEGARET
 E WINSLOW, PAUL, PM

D. NON-RETIRED TEACHING ELDERS

A ADAMS, WILLIAM L III
 E ANDERSON, BARBARA S
 A ANDERSON, LINDA
 P ANDERSON, LINDSEY
 P ANDREWS, DOYLL
 P ARAKELIAN, ELIZABETH
 A AUE, CRAIG
 E AUSTIN, MARY
 A BAHR-JONES, MARY
 E *BAILEY, CLOVER
 A BIERSDORF, JOHN
 P BLAIKIE, DOUGLAS
 A BLEIVIK, DAVID
 A BOHN, CHRISTINE
 E BOLT, KENNETH
 A BOURLIER, RUTHANNE
 A BOUSQUETTE, PAUL
 A CAMPBELL, DOUGLAS
 A CAMPBELL, EMILY
 A CARL, STEPHEN
 A CHEN, HAO-TEH
 A CHOI, SEUNG
 E *CHOI, SEUNG KOO
 P CLARK, JENNIFER
 P CLARK, STEVEN
 A COCHRAN, LINDA
 A COOPER, QUINCY
 A COWLING, NEIL D.
 P DAVIS, ROXIE ANN
 P DAVIS, WILLIAM
 A DE ORIO, ANTHONY
 P DELANEY, BETH
 E *DENNIS, WARREN
 P DOWNS, ELIZABETH
 A DOYLE-HOHF, KATHLEEN
 E *DYKSTRA, CRAIG R.
 P ELE, HERSHEL
 P FAILE, JAMES
 E FAIR, FAIRFAX
 E FERGUSON, GUY THOMAS
 A FORGER, DEBORAH
 E FRANCIS, RAPHAEL B.
 A GABEL, PETER W.
 E *GAST, TERRI
 A GEISELMAN, KEITH
 P GERE, BREWSTER

A GRANO, MARIANNE
 A HANNA, RAAFAT
 A HARMON, BREANNE
 E HARRIS, R. JOHN
 P HARTLEY, THOMAS
 A HATCHER, RUFUS
 E HAYES, FRANCES
 A HENDERSON, RICHARD
 P HENRY, PETER J. M.
 A HOFFMAN, MICHAEL (CRE)
 P HUFF, JASON
 A JOHNSON, KEVIN
 A JONES, RICHARD
 P JUDSON, JOHN
 P KAIBEL, KENNETH
 A KIDDER, ANNEMARIE
 E *KIM, Y. MONCH
 E *KIM, YOUNGCHUL
 E KING, CATHERINE
 A KLINGER, JAMIE
 P KOSTER, EDWARD H.
 E KRUG, ERNEST
 P KUMIN, JAMES
 A LEE, FREDERICK
 A MABEE, CHARLES
 A MADDEN, JULIE
 E McCLOSKEY-TURNER, CATHARINE
 A McGOWAN, EVANS
 E McMILLAN, JUDITH
 A McRAE, BARBARA
 P MEANS, MATTHEW
 P MELROSE, SUE ELLIS
 P MICHALEK, DANIEL
 E MILLER, J. SCOTT
 A MISHLER, JOHN
 A MONNETT, JAMES
 P MOOK, SHARON
 E MOORE, PETER
 A MORGAN, AMY
 E *MORROW, DUKE
 A MORSE, MATTHEW
 P MOZENA, SUSAN
 P NICHOLS, NEETA
 P NICKEL, EMMA
 A NICKEL, MATTHEW
 P OBERG, ARTHUR
 A OLIVER, GARY
 A PARKER, OPELTON
 P PAVELKO, JOHN H.
 A PEARSON, BRENNAN
 A PICKRELL, BROOKE
 A PIECUCH, KEVIN
 P PITTMAN, JASON
 P PORTER, JAMES
 P PORTICE, GEORGE
 A PRENTICE-HYERS, MARY ELIZABETH
 A PRITCHARD, NORMAN
 P PROVOST, KEITH
 P PUNTIGAM, JOEL
 P REED, PHILIP
 A RICE, ELIZABETH
 E RICE, THOMAS
 A RIKE, JENNIFER
 P RITTER, W STUART
 P RIZER, JAMES A
 A ROGERS, MELISSA ANNE
 E SCHAEFER, ANNE N.
 E SEILER, GORDON (CRE)
 E *SHIH, SHENG-TO
 P SHINN, DAVID
 E SHIPMAN, JUDY
 E *SHREVE, MAGGIE

A SIAS-LEE, LAURA
 E *SIMONS, SCOTT W.
 E SKIMINS, JAMES
 E SMALLEY, DIANE
 E SMITH, BRYAN DEAN
 A SMITH, PETER C.
 P SMITH, TRACI
 A SOEHL, HOWARD
 P SOHN, YO SUP
 A SOMMERS, CHARLOTTE
 P STUNKEL, KAREN
 A STUNKEL, PAUL
 A TATE, CAROL ANN
 E THOMAS, CHRISTOPHER
 A THOMPSON, G. PATRICK
 E THORESEN, KATHRYN R.
 P THWAITE, PAUL
 P TIMM, ALLEN D
 A TOMBERLIN, DREW
 A TUCKER-LLOYD, IRIS
 E *VAN SLUIJS, HENDRICK
 A WHITLOCK, KELLIE
 A WILHELMI, MARJORIE
 A WINGROVE, WILLIAM N
 A WOO, BYEONGJIN
 E WRZESZCZ, JENNIFER PARKER
 A WRZESZCZ, MATTHEW PARKER
 A YU, SEUNG WON
 E *YUE, MYUNG JA
 P ZAMBON, WILLIAM
 P ZURAKOWSKI, GREGORY

D. RETIRED TEACHING ELDERS

P AARON, ESTELLE
 E ACTON, ELLEN
 E ALBRECHT, GLORIA
 E ANDERSON, JAMES
 E AUSTIN, ANNA MARIE
 E AUSTIN, LARRY
 P BEERY, ELDON
 E BENEDICT, IVAN L.
 E BOEVE, PETER
 E BORCHARDT, HENRY
 E BORCHARDT, JUDITH
 P BROWNLEE, RICHARD
 E BYARS, RONALD
 E CAMPBELL, VERN
 E CAPPS, HARRY
 E CARTER, DOUGLAS D.
 E CATER, LAWRENCE H.
 E CHAMBERLAIN, LAWRENCE
 E CHAMBERS, JAMES C.
 E CHOI, IN SOON
 P CLISE, W. KENT
 E COBLEIGH, GERALD R.
 E COLON, LOIS
 P CONLEY, JAMES H.
 E CORSO, LINDA
 E CRILLEY, ROBERT
 E CROSS, PAUL D.
 P DENTON, GRETCHEN
 E DUNCAN, THOMAS
 E DUNIFON, WILLIAM
 E ELLENS, J. HAROLD
 E FINDLAY, WILLIAM
 E FORSYTH, E. DICKSON
 E FOSTER, JOHN
 E GEPFORD, WILLIAM G.
 E GLENN, LAWRENCE T.
 E HANNA, J. RICHARD
 E HARP, WILLIAM S.
 E HEINRICHS, THOMSON

E HELMKE, BEN
 E JANSEN, ROBERT
 E JEFFREY, JOHN
 E JONES, VIRGIL L.
 E KESLER, JAMES W.
 E KIM, T. ANDREW
 E RNUDSEN, RAYMOND
 E KOGEL, LYNNE
 E KREHBIEL, DAVID E.
 E LAMBERT, ROY F.
 E LANGWIG, JANICE
 E LANGWIG, ROY
 E LARSON, ROBERT F.
 E LISTER, KENNETH D.
 E LONGWOOD, MARJORIE
 E MacINNES, JOHN D.
 E MARVIN, FRANK C., JR.
 P McCLOSKEY, CHARLES
 E McINTYRE, DEWITT
 E MIHOCKO, DAVID

E NUSSDORFER, GUS
 P OLSON, PHILIP
 E ORR, ROBERT C.
 E OWEN, DAVID
 E PETERS, RICHARD
 E PETERSON, LEROY J.
 E POLKOWSKI, WILLIAM
 E PRICE, MICHAEL T.
 E PRUES, LOUIS J.
 E RATCLIFFE, ALBERT H.
 E ROBERTSON, ANN
 E ROBERTSON, DAVID W.
 E ROBERTSON, WILLIAM
 E RUSSELL, JAMES P.
 E SCRIBNER, LOREN
 E SUTTON, PAUL
 E TAYLOR, J. BERNARD
 P TAYLOR, THEODORE, II
 P WRIGHT, DONALD
 E YOON, HAK SUK

E ZIEGLER, JACK T.

E. STAFF & OTHERS

AZAR, RUTH
 BARCONEY, CHARON
 FABRÉ, EDWIN
 GRANT, RICHARD

P HIGGINS, JOANNE

P LLOYD, MARY

P VANDERBEEK, RONALD

F. CERT. ASSOC. CHRISTIAN ED.

P PRICE, LAURA

G. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

JAY HUDSON
 OHIO VALLEY PRESBYTERY
 RAAFAT ZAKI
 SYNOD OF THE COVENANT

**Presbytery of Detroit
Ordination/Installation Commission Reports.
February 28, 2012**

Ordination and Installation of Christopher Shawn Thomas

The Commission to ordain Christopher Shawn Thomas and install him as Associate Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth was convened with prayer by the moderator, Jean Loup, at 10:00 a.m. on January 29, 2012, at First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth. The Commission members present were:

The Rev. Emily Campbell, First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth	John Marmaduke, Elder, First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth
The Rev. Theodore Taylor, Honorably Retired, Presbytery of Detroit	Dianne Bostic-Robinson, Elder, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Detroit
The Rev. Scott Sunquist, Pittsburgh Seminary, Pittsburgh Presbytery	Jean Loup, Elder, Northside Presbyterian Church, Ann Arbor
The Rev. Eugene Blackwell, Pittsburgh Seminary, Pittsburgh Presbytery	

The Commission approved the seating of the following member as corresponding member:
The Rev. Scott Sunquist, Pittsburgh Seminary, Pittsburgh Presbytery

The Rev. Eugene Blackwell, Pittsburgh Seminary, was unable to attend the service.

After approving the order of worship, the Commission proceeded to worship, during which it ordained Christopher Shawn Thomas and installed him as Assistant Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth. In the course of the service, Mr Thomas was asked and affirmatively answered the ordination questions in W-4.4003.

Upon conclusion of the worship service, the Commission and congregation were dismissed with prayer and benediction by the Rev. Christopher Thomas.

/s Jean L. Loup
Moderator

Date: January 29, 2012

Ordination Of Lindsey Anderson

The Commission to ordain Lindsey Anderson was convened with prayer by the moderator, Dianne Bostic Robinson, at 1:00 p.m., on January 21, 2012, at Geneva Presbyterian Church. The Commission members present were:

The Rev. Bryan Smith	Ruling Elder Mike Ganbatz, Geneva Presbyterian Church
The Rev. Jennifer Parker-Wrezszez	Ruling Elder Rosy Latimore, 1 st Presbyterian Church of Birmingham
The Rev. Robert Orr	Ruling Elder Charon Barconey, 1 st Presbyterian Church of Farmington

The Commission approved the seating of the following members as corresponding members: NA

The Commission invited the following persons to participate in the worship service: NA

After approving the order of worship, the Commission proceeded to worship, where it ordained Lindsey Anderson. In the course of the service, Ms Anderson was asked and affirmatively answered the ordination questions in W-4.4003. Upon conclusion of the worship service, the commission and congregation were dismissed with prayer and benediction.

s/ Dianne Bostic Robinson
Moderator

Date: 1/25/2012

**PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

Thomas Priest, Jr.,)
Appellant/Appellee (Complainant),)
v.)
Presbytery of Detroit,)
Appellee/Appellant (Respondent).)

Preliminary Order
Remedial Cases GA2011-109 and
GA2011-110

These remedial cases come before the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission (GAPJC or this Commission) on appeals filed by Appellant/Appellee, Thomas Priest, Jr., and by Appellee/Appellant, Presbytery of Detroit, from a Decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant (SPJC) rendered on November 15, 2011.

In its November 15, 2011 Decision, which was a hearing on Preliminary Questions, the SPJC determined that the Appellant/Appellee had standing to file the Complaint, but that it did not have jurisdiction over the matter, the Complaint was not timely filed, and it did not state a claim upon which relief could be granted.

The Appellant/Appellee filed an Appeal (which is case GA2011-109) challenging the latter three determinations.

As an appeal from the decision of a synod permanent judicial commission, Remedial Case GA2011-109 is properly before the GAPJC, was timely filed, and lists one or more of the grounds for appeal contained in D-8.0105. Upon examination of the papers as required by D-8.0301, however, the Executive Committee (EC) of the GAPJC determines that the Appellant/Appellee did not have standing to file the *original* Complaint.

The Appellant/Appellee is a Candidate for ordination under the presbytery's care and was not enrolled as a member at any meeting of the presbytery at which the matter at issue has been addressed; furthermore, the decision complained against is not an irregularity or delinquency of the presbytery itself, but rather a decision of its Committee on Preparation for Ministry.

The Rules of Discipline explicitly provide a means by which actions of the General Assembly's entities can be directly challenged. But no such provision exists for the other councils of the church. In fact, G-9.0505a of the *Book of Order* in effect at the time of the alleged irregularity states that when an administrative commission acts with delegated authority, its decision "shall be the action of the appointing governing body from the time of its completion by the commission and the announcement, where relevant, of the action to parties affected by it." That provision then notes that "a governing body may rescind or amend an action of an administrative commission in the same way actions of the governing body may be modified."


Practice has determined that the proper method for challenging the action of an entity of a council other than the General Assembly is through a motion to rescind or amend the action, made by a person with standing to offer such a motion at a meeting of the council.

Since the EC finds that the Appellant/Appellee did not have standing to file the original Complaint, it determines that he does not have standing to file the Appeal, even though he was a party in the original Complaint. The matter is therefore dismissed.

In light of this dismissal, the EC further determines that matter GA2011-110 (which is a challenge from the Appellee/Appellant, the Presbytery of Detroit to the SPJC's determination that the Appellant/Appellee had standing to file the Complain) is rendered moot unless this Preliminary Order is challenged.

The attention of the parties is called to D-8.0302a., which reads: "If a challenge is made to the findings of the moderator and clerk within thirty days after receipt of those findings, either by a party to the case or by a member of the permanent judicial commission, opportunity shall be provided to present evidence and argument on the finding in question."

Dated the 31st day of January, 2012.



Gregory A. Goodwiller, Clerk
Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly

**Presbytery of Detroit
Minutes of the Special Meeting
March 27, 2012**

A quorum being present, the Presbytery of Detroit convened in a special meeting with prayer on March 27, 2012 at 4:02 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church. James Porter moderated the meeting.

Mr Porter declared a quorum is present and that the meeting has been properly called with the following call:

The purpose of the meeting is to elect an administrative commission pursuant to Presbytery Policy P-10, Guidelines on Disaffected Churches, for the Grosse Pointe Woods Church, which is taking actions to consider leaving the denomination.

The Moderator appointed Eldon Beery the Assistant to the Stated Clerk.

The Moderator called on Peter Henry. Mr Henry reported for the Denominational Concerns Task Force. He described the process followed by Grosse Point Woods Church and the Denominational Concerns Task Force, which led to the preparation of this recommendation.

On behalf of the Task Force, Mr Henry moved approval of the following resolution, requesting to speak first and last. A point of inquiry was raised whether the Policy P-10 is open for discussion, or just the resolution. The Moderator answered that only the resolution is open for discussion.

The Task Force on Denominational Concerns for Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church recommends the Presbytery of Detroit approve the following resolution creating an administrative commission for the Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church:

Administrative Commission on Grosse Pointe Woods Church

Whereas Grosse Pointe Woods Church has given notice that it is considering leaving the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); and
Whereas the Moderator appointed a Task Force on Denominational Concerns pursuant to Presbytery Policy P-10, Guidelines for Disaffected Churches; and
Whereas the session of Grosse Pointe Woods has called two congregational meetings for the purpose of providing the congregation the opportunity to vote to leave the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); and
Whereas the Denominational Concerns Task Force has concluded that its effort toward reconciliation has been unsuccessful; and
Whereas the Task Force on Denominational Concerns has recommended the election of an Administrative Commission by the Presbytery; and
Whereas the Denominational Concerns Task Force, pursuant to Policy P-10, has recommended the Administrative Commissions be given the specific powers below; and
Whereas pursuant to Policy P-10, the Moderator has nominated elders presented;

The Presbytery of Detroit elects the Administrative Commission on Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church to carry out the responsibilities laid out in Policy P-10 for Grosse Pointe Woods Church with the following powers:

- 1) *In accord with Presbytery Policy P-10, to meet with members and the leadership of Grosse Pointe Woods Church to seek a way to preserve unity, diversity, reconciliation, justice, peace, love, mercy, and values that lead to harmony.*
- 2) *To convene and meet with the session, which may not meet without the presence of the Commission;*
- 3) *To identify and meet with those members who do not wish to seek dismissal, with the intent of trying to facilitate the continued existence of the Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church as a member congregation in the presbytery of Detroit.*
- 4) *To convene and meet with any committee or councils of the Session;*
- 5) *To call congregational meetings;*
- 6) *To interview individual members of the congregation;*
- 7) *To require production of all records, rolls, minutes and other documents the Commission believes necessary to conduct its work;*
- 8) *To work with the session, pastors, and congregation to try to affect changes that they mutually see as beneficial to the life of the denomination and the work of the Gospel;*
- 9) *If it concludes it necessary, to recommend Presbytery dissolve the pastoral relationships;*
- 10) *To recommend whether Grosse Pointe Woods should be dismissed to another Christian body that conforms to the doctrines and order of PCUSA and is in correspondence with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), pursuant to Policy P-10., which says in §3.E:*

If a congregation requests to be dismissed by Presbytery the commission shall follow this procedure:

- a. *The session shall meet with representatives from the Administrative Commission elected by Presbytery. All financial records, minutes and any other correspondence shall be made available to the commission.*
- b. *The session shall call a Congregational Meeting within a month of the meeting with the commission. Prior notice shall be given orally from the pulpit on two successive Sundays. Notice shall be in the parish newsletter and a letter sent to all active members stating the purpose of the meeting. At least twenty-five percent (25%) of the active members of the congregation shall be present. Representatives of the Administrative Commission shall be present throughout and have the right to speak. The question to be discussed is "Shall the -----Presbyterian Church be dismissed from the Presbyterian Church (USA)?" Ample time shall be provided for speakers wanting dismissal and those wanting to stay with the PCUSA. No type of vote for any purpose shall be taken at this meeting.*
- c. *The session, no later than three months after the first meeting described above, shall call a second congregational meeting. Prior notice shall be given orally from the pulpit on two successive Sundays. Notice shall be in the parish newsletter and a letter sent to all active members stating the purpose of the meeting. At least seventy-five (75%) of the active members shall be present. Representatives of the Administrative Commission shall be present*

throughout and have the right to speak. The question to be discussed is "Shall the -----Presbyterian Church be dismissed from the Presbyterian Church (USA)?" Ample time shall be provided for both speakers wanting dismissal and those wanting to stay with the PCUSA.

After discussion and prayer, a secret written ballot shall be taken on this question, the only choices being "Request dismissal" or "Do NOT request dismissal."

If the vote is three-quarters (75%) of those active members present and voting vote to request dismissal, the request shall go to presbytery. If the vote fails, the commission will report this to the presbytery and offer suggestions on healing within the congregation.

If any member, present and voting, contests the regularity of the second meeting, he/she shall send the details of the allegation to the Stated Clerk of Presbytery, who shall convene the Permanent Judicial Commission to render a decision.

d. If the vote is to dismiss the commission shall immediately contact the Board of Trustees and offer its recommendation concerning the property, pursuant to G-4.02, Church Property.

- 11) The power to engage the services of and consult with Presbytery staff, and the stated clerks of the Presbytery, synod, and General Assembly;*
- 12) The power to retain counsel, and to authorize expenditures from the appropriate accounts determined by the Trustees to pay for any legal proceedings in civil or ecclesiastical courts;*
- 13) The power to assume original jurisdiction with any and all powers of session should it determine that the session is unwilling or unable to exercise its authority or to manage wisely the affairs of the church.*

The motion was made that item 13, the power to assume original jurisdiction, be removed. A Point of Order was raised that the resolution cannot be amended because it is in the call to the meeting. The Moderator did not sustain the point on order on two grounds. A motion to amend is in order when it does not expand the scope of the call to the meeting; this motion decreases the powers proposed, which is permitted. Furthermore, the motion itself was not in the call to the meeting; it was distributed on March 26 so that Presbytery would know beforehand what would be voted on. The decision of the Moderator was appealed to the Presbytery. The Presbytery voted to sustain the decision of the Moderator.

The motion was made to end debate. A parliamentary inquiry was raised whether there will be separate votes for creating and electing the commission; the Moderator answered that there would be two votes. The motion to end debate was approved.

The resolution was approved.

Mr Henry reported that on behalf of the Moderator, the Task Force on Denominational Concerns for Grosse Pointe Woods Church places in nomination the following elders for the Administrative Commission on Grosse Pointe Woods Church:

Teaching Elders
 Kent Clise, Chair
 John Judson

Charlotte Sommers

Ruling Elders

Dianne Bostic Robinson
 Jean Loup^o
 Bob Ponder
 Bob Szwed

The following were nominated from the floor.

Teaching Elder Don Wright.
 Teaching Elder Drew Tomberlyn

The Presbytery voted by ballot. The tellers reported as follows:

Number of votes cast (including illegal ballots). 113
 Illegal Votes 5
 Necessary for approval (50% + 1 of the legal votes) 57
 Votes received for

Kent Clise, Chair	93
John Judson	92
Charlotte Sommers	97
Drew Tomberlyn	22
Don Wright	20

The Moderator declared that teaching elders Kent Clise, Judson, and Charlotte Sommers were elected by ballot and all nominated ruling elders were elected by acclamation.

Mr Henry made a brief statement.

The Presbytery adjourned with prayer at 5:13 pm.

Presbytery will next meet in a stated meeting at 4pm on April 24th, 2012 at Redford St James Presbyterian Church.

ATTEST:

EDWARD KOSTER, Stated Clerk

ATTACHMENT ONE: The Roll

ATTACHMENT ONE: THE ROLL

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY FOR March 27, 2012

CHURCHES: Of 83 churches, 35 were represented and 48 were not.

COMMISSIONERS: Of 137 eligible commissioners, 45 enrolled, and 92 did not.

OTHER RULING ELDERS (Officers, Members of Council)::

Of 20 total, 7 were present, of whom 1 counted as commissioner, leaving 6 as the unduplicated count: 8 excused, and 4 absent.

TEACHING ELDERS:

Of the 150 non-retired teaching elders on the combined rolls of active members and members-at-large, 61 were present, 16 were excused, and 73 were absent.

Of the 82 retired teaching elders on the rolls, 4 were present and 78 were excused.

COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS AND CERTIFIED EDUCATORS:

Of the 1 Commissioned Law Pastor on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 1 absent

Of the 0 Certified Educators on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 0 absent.

SUMMARY

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

- 45 Elder Commissioners
- + 6 Other Ruling Elders
- + 61 Non-retired teaching elders
- + 4 Retired teaching elders
- = 0 Commissioned lay pastors.
- = 0 Certified educators.
- = 116 Voting members present.

OTHERS PRESENT

- 20 Non-voting attendees
- 0 Corresponding members

Attendance of Churches and Elder Commissioners

ALLEN PARK, Allen Park	BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Kirk/Hills	1 NOT REPRESENTED
1 ROBERT MORTON	1 LYNNE C CARPULL	2
2	2	DETROIT, First
3	3	1 NOT REPRESENTED
4	4	DETROIT, Fort Street
ANN ARBOR, Calvary	5	1 W BRADLEY McCALLUM
1 BOBBIE JO BARRETT	6	DETROIT, Gratiot Avenue
ANN ARBOR, First	BRIGHTON, First	1 MARYANN BRANTLEY
1 RUTH BARNARD	1 NOT REPRESENTED	2
2 SUE LEONG	2	DETROIT, Hope
3 HENRY JOHNSON	CANTON, Geneva	1 NOT REPRESENTED
4 BEN VAN TUYL	1 MICHAEL GAUBATZ	2
5	CLARKSTON, Sashabaw	DETROIT, Jefferson Avenue
ANN ARBOR, Northside	1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 VICKY COLWELL
1 STEPHEN KENNEL	DEARBORN, Cherry Hill	2
ANN ARBOR, Westminster	1 NOT REPRESENTED	DETROIT, Riverside
1 NOT REPRESENTED	DEARBORN, First	1 NOT REPRESENTED
AUBURN HILLS, Auburn Hills	1 JAMES BARBER	DETROIT, St. John's
1 NOT REPRESENTED	2 WILLIAM LESLIE	1 JOSEPH GERMAN
BELLEVILLE, Belleville	DEARBORN, Littlefield	2 JEANE V MOORE
1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 KEITH KAULZ	DETROIT, Trinity Community
BERKLEY, Greenfield	DEARBORN HGTS, St. Andrew's	1 NOT REPRESENTED
1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 NOT REPRESENTED	2
BEVERLY HILLS, Northbrook	DETROIT, Broadstreet	DETROIT, Trumbull Avenue
1 WINIFRED DAVIES-HANCOCK	1 LEOLA BLACK	1 MARY HOWARD
BIRMINGHAM, First	2 ALVIN SMITH	2 MARTHA SINGLEY
1 ROSY LATIMORE	DETROIT, Calvary	DETROIT, Westminster
2 AL HUBERTY	1 BEALER MITCHELL	1 MARGARET WHITEHEAD
3	2 STANLEY EDWARDS	2 DEBORAH FAIR
4	DETROIT, Calvin East	3

FARMINGTON, First
 1 KAREN SPICA
 2
 FERNDALE, Drayton Avenue
 1 JEAN RUSSELL
 FORT GRATIOT, Lakeshore
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 GARDEN CITY, Garden City
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 GROSSE ILE, Grosse Ile
 1 DON HILL
 2
 GROSSE POINTE, Memorial
 1 DONNA JOHNSTON
 2
 3
 4
 GROSSE PTE WOODS, Woods
 1 PAT CHASTEEN
 2 ILLEGIBLE
 HIGHLAND PARK, Park United
 1 MARIE HUGHLEY
 2
 HOWELL, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 LINCOLN PARK, Lincoln Park
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 LIVONIA, Rosedale Gardens
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 LIVONIA, St. Paul's
 1 ALLEN NICHOLAS
 LIVONIA, St. Timothy's
 1 PAUL STIEG
 MACOMB, Church/Covenant
 1 ED POKRZYNSKI
 MILAN, Peoples
 1 NANCY KUZNIAR
 MILFORD, Milford
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 MT. CLEMENS, First
 1 LORETTA FREEMAN-MOELS
 NORTHVILLE, First

1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 3
 4
 NOVI, Faith Community
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 ORCHARD LAKE, Community
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 3
 PLYMOUTH, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 3
 4
 PONTIAC, First
 1 NANCY DUFFIELD
 PONTIAC, Joslyn Avenue
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 PORT HURON, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 PORT HURON, Westminster
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 REDFORD, St. James
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 ROCHESTER, University
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 ROSEVILLE, Erin
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 ROYAL OAK, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 3
 ROYAL OAK, Point of Vision
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 ROYAL OAK, Starr
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 SALINE, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 SHELBY TWP., St. Thomas
 1 LARRY TRIGGER
 2

SOUTH LYON, First
 1 ANNE LYKE
 SOUTHFIELD, Covenant
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 SOUTHFIELD, Korean
 1 ROBERT LEE
 2
 3
 SOUTHFIELD, New Hope
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 ST. CLAIR SHORES, Heritage
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 ST. CLAIR SHORES, Lake Shore
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 STERLING HGTS, New Life
 1 KERRY BORDER
 TAYLOR, Southminster
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 TROY, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 TROY, Korean First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 TROY, Northminster
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 WALLED LAKE, Crossroads
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 WARREN, Celtic Cross
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 WARREN, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 WATERFORD, Community
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 WESTLAND, Kirk of Our Savior
 1 DAVID GARCIA
 WHITE LAKE, White Lake
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 WYANDOTTE, Wyandotte
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 YPSILANTI, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED

Attendance of Teaching and Ruling Elder Members

C. ELDER MEMBERS
 E ANDERSON, FRANCILE, PM
 P BOSTIC-ROBINSON, DIANE, PM
 A CLARK, SAM
 P ELAM, DIXIE, PM
 E ELLIS, HAROLD
 A EMMERT, JOHN
 E HYLKEMA, CAROL, PM
 P LEWIS, STEFANIE
 P LOUP, JEAN
 A MORGAN, DONALD
 P MORRISON, HELEN, PM
 P MORTON, JANET
 E PITTS, FRANCES, PM
 E PRIEST, TOM, PM
 E SEABROOKS, DOROTHY M., PM
 E SHIRLEY, JAMES, PM
 C SMITH, ALVIN
 E SMITH, KENNETH, PM
 P SZWED, ROBERT
 A WILLIAMSON, MAEGARET
 E WINSLOW, PAUL, PM

D. NON-RETIRED MINISTERS
 P ADAMS, WILLIAM L III
 P ANDERSON, BARBARA S
 A ANDERSON, LINDA
 P ANDERSON, LINDSEY
 A ANDREWS, DOYLL
 P ARAKELIAN, ELIZABETH
 A AUE, CRAIG
 P AUSTIN, MARY
 A BAHR-JONES, MARY
 E *BAILEY, CLOVER
 A BIERSDORF, JOHN
 A BLAIKIE, DOUGLAS
 P BLEIVIK, DAVID
 P BOHN, CHRISTINE
 A BOLT, KENNETH
 E BOURLIER, RUTHANNE
 A BOUSQUETTE, PAUL
 A CAMPBELL, DOUGLAS
 A CAMPBELL, EMILY
 A CARL, STEPHEN
 A CHEN, HAO-THE
 A CHOI, SEUNG

E *CHOI, SEUNG KOO
 P CLARK, JENNIFER
 A CLARK, STEVEN
 A COCHRAN, LINDA
 A COOPER, QUINCY
 P COWLING, NEIL D.
 A DAVIS, ROXIE ANN
 P DAVIS, WILLIAM
 A DE ORIO, ANTHONY
 P DELANEY, BETH
 E *DENNIS, WARREN
 P DOWNS, ELIZABETH
 P DOYLE-HOHF, KATHLEEN
 E *DYKSTRA, CRAIG R.
 A ELE, HERSHEL
 P FAILE, JAMES
 A FAIR, FAIRFAX
 P FERGUSON, GUY THOMAS
 A FORGER, DEBORAH
 A FRANCIS, RAPHAEL B.
 A GABEL, PETER W.
 E *GAST, TERRI
 E GEISELMAN, KEITH

A GERE, BREWSTER
 A GRANO, MARIANNE
 A HANNA, RAAFAT
 A HARMON, BREANNE
 E *HARRIS, R. JOHN
 A HARTLEY, THOMAS
 A HATCHER, RUFUS
 P HAYES, FRANCES
 A HENDERSON, RICHARD
 P HENRY, PETER J. M.
 P HOFFMAN, MICHAEL (CRE)
 P HUFF, JASON
 P JOHNSON, KEVIN
 A JONES, RICHARD
 P JUDSON, JOHN
 P KAIBEL, KENNETH
 P KIDDER, ANNEMARIE
 E *KIM, Y. MONCH
 E *KIM, YOUNGCHUL
 A KING, CATHERINE
 A KLINGER, JAMIE
 P KOSTER, EDWARD H.
 A KRUG, ERNEST
 P KUMIN, JAMES
 A LEE, FREDERICK
 A MABEE, CHARLES
 A MADDEN, JULIE
 E McCLOSKEY-TURNER, CATHARINE
 A McGOWAN, EVANS
 A McMILLAN, JUDITH
 A McRAE, BARBARA
 A MEANS, MATTHEW
 A MELROSE, SUE ELLIS
 A MICHALEK, DANIEL
 P MILLER, J. SCOTT
 A MISHLER, JOHN
 P MONNETT, JAMES
 A MOOK, SHARON
 P MOORE, PETER
 P MORGAN, AMY
 A MORROW, DUKE
 A MORSE, MATTHEW
 P MOZENA, SUSAN
 P NICHOLS, NEETA
 P NICKEL, EMMA
 P NICKEL, MATTHEW
 P OBERG, ARTHUR
 A OLIVER, GARY
 A PARKER, OPELTON
 P PAVELKO, JOHN H.
 A PEARSON, BRENNAN
 A PICKRELL, BROOKE
 A PIECUCH, KEVIN
 P PITTMAN, JASON
 P PORTER, JAMES
 P PORTICE, GEORGE
 A PRENTICE-HYERS, DAVID
 A PRENTICE-HYERS, MARY ELIZABETH
 A PRITCHARD, NORMAN
 P PUNTIGAM, JOEL
 P REED, PHILIP
 A RICE, ELIZABETH
 P RICE, THOMAS
 A RIKE, JENNIFER
 P RITTER, W STUART
 P RIZER, JAMES A
 A ROGERS, MELISSA ANNE
 P SCHAEFER, ANNE N.
 A SEILER, GORDON (CRE)
 E *SHIH, SHENG-TO

A SHINN, DAVID
 A SHIPMAN, JUDY
 E *SHREVE, MAGGIE
 P SHRIVER, KELLY
 A SIAS-LEE, LAURA
 E *SIMONS, SCOTT W.
 P SKIMINS, JAMES
 P SMALLEY, DIANE
 A SMITH, BRYAN DEAN
 P SMITH, PETER C.
 P SMITH, TRACI
 P SOEHL, HOWARD
 P SOHN, YO SUP
 P SOMMERS, CHARLOTTE
 P STUNKEL, KAREN
 P STUNKEL, PAUL
 A TATE, CAROL ANN
 P THOMAS, CHRISTOPHER
 A THOMPSON, G. PATRICK
 A THORESEN, KATHRYN R.
 P THWAITE, PAUL
 P TIMM, ALLEN D
 A TOMBERLIN, DREW
 A TUCKER-LLOYD, IRIS
 E *VAN SLUIJS, HENDRICK
 A WHITLOCK, KELLIE
 P WILHELM, MARJORIE
 A WINGROVE, WILLIAM N
 A WOO, BYEONGJIN
 P WRZESZCZ, JENNIFER PARKER
 P WRZESZCZ, MATTHEW PARKER
 A YU, SEUNG WON
 E *YUE, MYUNG JA
 A ZAMBON, WILLIAM
 P ZURAKOWSKI, GREGORY

D. RETIRED MINISTERS

E AARON, ESTELLE
 E ACTON, ELLEN
 E ALBRECHT, GLORIA
 E ANDERSON, JAMES
 E AUSTIN, ANNA MARIE
 E AUSTIN, LARRY
 P BEERY, ELDON
 E BENEDICT, IVAN L.
 E BOEVE, PETER
 P BORCHARDT, HENRY
 E BORCHARDT, JUDITH
 E BROWNLEE, RICHARD
 E BYARS, RONALD
 E CAMPBELL, VERN
 E CAPPS, HARRY
 E CARTER, DOUGLAS D.
 E CATER, LAWRENCE H.
 E CHAMBERLAIN, LAWRENCE
 E CHAMBERS, JAMES C.
 E CHOI, IN SOON
 P CLISE, W. KENT
 E COBLEIGH, GERALD R.
 E COLON, LOIS
 E CONLEY, JAMES H.
 E CORSO, LINDA
 E CRILLEY, ROBERT
 E CROSS, PAUL D.
 P DENTON, GRETCHEN
 E DUNCAN, THOMAS
 E DUNIFON, WILLIAM
 E ELLENS, J. HAROLD
 E FINDLAY, WILLIAM
 E FORSYTH, E. DICKSON

E FOSTER, JOHN
 E GEISSINGER, HARRY L.
 E GEPFORD, WILLIAM G.
 E GLENN, LAWRENCE T.
 E HANNA, J. RICHARD
 E HARP, WILLIAM S.
 E HEINRICHS, THOMSON
 E HELMKE, BEN
 E JANSEN, ROBERT
 E JEFFREY, JOHN
 E JONES, VIRGIL L.
 E KESLER, JAMES W.
 E KIM, T. ANDREW
 E KNUDSEN, RAYMOND
 E KOGEL, LYNNE
 E KREHBIEL, DAVID E.
 E LAMBERT, ROY F.
 E LANGWIG, JANICE
 E LANGWIG, ROY
 E LARSON, ROBERT F.
 E LISTER, KENNETH D.
 E LONGWOOD, MARJORIE
 E MacINNES, JOHN D.
 E MARVIN, FRANK C., JR.
 E McCLOSKEY, CHARLES
 E McINTYRE, DEWITT
 E MIHOCKO, DAVID
 E NUSSDORFER, GUS
 E OLSON, PHILIP
 E ORR, ROBERT C.
 E OWEN, DAVID
 E PETERS, RICHARD
 E PETERSON, LEROY J.
 E POLKOWSKI, WILLIAM
 E PRICE, MICHAEL T.
 E PROVOST, KEITH
 E PRUES, LOUIS J.
 E RATCLIFFE, ALBERT H.
 E ROBERTSON, ANN
 E ROBERTSON, DAVID W.
 E ROBERTSON, WILLIAM
 E RUSSELL, JAMES P.
 E SCRIBNER, LOREN
 E SUTTON, PAUL
 E TAYLOR, J. BERNARD
 E TAYLOR, THEODORE, II
 E WRIGHT, DONALD
 E YOON, HAK SUK
 E ZIEGLER, JACK T.

E. STAFF & OTHERS

P AZAR, RUTH
 A BARCONEY, CHARON
 A FABRÉ, EDWIN
 A GRANT, RICHARD
 A HIGGINS, JOANNE
 A HORLOCKER, MICHEL
 A LLOYD, MARY
 A VANDERBEEK, RONALD

F. CERT. ASSOC. CHRISTIAN ED.

A PRICE, LAURA

G. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Observers		
NAME	CHURCH	CITY
JOHN CHASTEEN	GROSSE POINTE WOODS PC	GROSSE POINTE WOODS
BRIAN SHENSTONE	GROSSE POINTE WOODS PC	GROSSE POINTE WOODS
JOANNE SHENSTONE	GROSSE POINTE WOODS PC	GROSSE POINTE WOODS
SUE CLIST	GROSSE POINTE WOODS PC	GROSSE POINTE WOODS
PAMELA FULLERTON	GROSSE POINTE WOODS PC	GROSSE POINTE WOODS
SANDY FULLERTON	GROSSE POINTE WOODS PC	GROSSE POINTE WOODS
JIM COLSON	GROSSE POINTE WOODS PC	GROSSE POINTE WOODS
MARK GAWEL	GROSSE POINTE WOODS PC	GROSSE POINTE WOODS
ILLEGIBLE	GROSSE POINTE WOODS PC	GROSSE POINTE WOODS
NANCY McENROE	GROSSE POINTE WOODS PC	GROSSE POINTE WOODS
MATT STEPHEN	GROSSE POINTE WOODS PC	GROSSE POINTE WOODS
PATTY SCHACCK	GROSSE POINTE WOODS PC	GROSSE POINTE WOODS
PETE KUPIE	GROSSE POINTE WOODS PC	GROSSE POINTE WOODS
EUNICE RAAR	FIRST	BIRMINGHAM
DONALD C BROWNELL	WESTMINSTER	DETROIT
ANDREE TARRANT	CALVIN EAST	DETROIT
SHELLEY VISSER	GROSSE POINTE WOODS PC	GROSSE POINTE WOODS
MONTE VISSER	GROSSE POINTE WOODS PC	GROSSE POINTE WOODS
JACK SLIMKO	GROSSE POINTE WOODS PC	GROSSE POINTE WOODS
BOB AGNEW	FIRST MERIDIAN HEIGHTS	INDIANAPOLIS, IN

**Presbytery of Detroit
Minutes of the Stated Meeting
April 24, 2012**

WE GATHERED IN GOD'S NAME

A quorum being present, the Presbytery of Detroit convened with litany and prayer in a stated meeting at St James Presbyterian Church on April 24, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. James Porter moderated the meeting.

WE CELEBRATED OUR CONNECTIONS IN CHRIST

The Moderator appointed Marilyn Compton the assistant to the Stated Clerk.

The Moderator welcomed new commissioners and teaching elders.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery approved the docket

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, the Presbytery voted to excuse those who have requested to be excused.

Upon motion of Allen Timm, the Presbytery seated the Rev Dr Martha Foster Boyd, President of the Ecumenical Seminary as a corresponding member.

Paul Bousquette welcomed the Presbytery to St James Presbyterian Church.

REPORTS FROM OTHER GOVERNING BODIES

Synod Commissioner's Report

Raphael Francis reported on the Synod meeting of March 7th meeting at the Weber Center in Adrian.

REPORTS FROM PRESBYTERY AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Dr Martha Foster Boyd, President of the Ecumenical Theological Seminary, brought greetings from the Seminary.

Jean Loup began moderating the meeting.

WE LISTENED FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR COMMUNITY

Announcements

Presbytery heard announcements from the Second Mile Center, the Self Development of People, the Pastoral Response Team, and Hands-On Mission

Reports

The Presbytery heard reports from the Presbyterian Youth Connection, Hands-On Mission, One Great Hour of Sharing, the Multi-cultural Team, the COLA for the 2014 General Assembly, a copy of which is appended to the minutes, and the Trustees.

The Trustees reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. The Trustees have reviewed the current income and expenditures under the 2012 budget. The income shortfall is so substantial and serious that they may recommend as early as May drastic cuts in authorized expenditures for 2012.

2. The Trustees have reviewed and approved the final agreement resolving the legal issues at Gratiot Avenue. It has been agreed to by all parties.
3. The Trustees are making arrangements to allow payments to the Presbytery using PayPal.
4. The Trustees continue to engage in discussion with the IRS over tax matters that arose in 2007. They had understood the problem was resolved, but that was not the understanding of the IRS.
5. The Trustees have authorizing the listing of the Hartland property on M-59 west of US 23 for sale.
6. The Trustees have reviewed the proposal from the Port Huron Westminster Administrative Commission and have voted to endorse the financial settlement for the property.
7. The Trustees are working with Barnabas to advise in their financial accounting and fundraising.
8. The Trustees reviewed and approved the release of funds from the Ranney Balch Fund as proposed by the Metropolitan Urban Mission Team.
9. The Trustees have petitioned the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program and the Synod of the Covenant for relief on loan payments on behalf of Macomb Covenant.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

Mr Porter began moderating the meeting.

Executive Presbyter's Report. Allen Timm reported.

Mr Timm reported on various anniversaries and that he will be on sabbatical from June 1 to September 7. He will be studying how to build teams to help churches become more missional.

Mr Timm invited Fran Anderson to speak. Ms Anderson introduced a missionary to South India, who has been serving as one of our missionaries for 28 years.

The Moderator offered a prayer for openness.

Business Adopted by Motion and Debate

Riverside Church Administrative Commission

James Skimins reported for the Riverside Administrative Commission.

The motion was made by the Commission, that Presbytery approve the following resolution:

The Riverside Administrative Commission moves the closure of the Riverside Community Presbyterian Church and Corporation and requests that the Board of Trustees and the Executive Presbyter take the necessary steps to complete this task.

The motion was made that the motion be postpone the resolution until the final report of the Administrative Commission. The motion was approved.

Port Huron Westminster AC

Lawrence Chamberlain reported for the Port Huron Westminster Administrative Commission.

Upon motion of the Administrative Commission, Presbytery received the Report of the AC, which is appended to the minutes. This report included the following resolutions:

In light of the results of the April 15th meeting of Westminster Presbyterian Church of Port Huron the Administrative Commission, with heavy heart, recommends that:

- a. The Presbytery grant the congregation's request to be dismissed to the oversight and care of The Evangelical Presbyterian Church
- b. The Presbytery authorizes the trustees of the Presbytery to accept the Westminster offer of \$30,000 for the property, assets, and liabilities of the congregation should the trustees find the offer appropriate.

By consent, the Presbytery ended debate. The resolution was approved.

Coordinating Cabinet. Dianne Bostic Robinson reported for the Coordinating Cabinet.

Upon motion of the Coordinating Cabinet, the Presbytery voted to:

1. Amend Presbytery Policy P-13 as indicated (deletions by strike-outs and additions by underlining). The Policy is appended to the minutes.
2. Amend the 2012 Presbytery budget as follows:
 - a. Add the following ECOs:
 - Baby Basics- \$9000
 - Hands on Mission Habitat for Humanity- \$5000
 - Hands on Mission Projects- \$5000
 - b. Add the following grants from the Ranney Balch Fund:

Park United Presbyterian Church	\$5,000.00
Fort Street Presbyterian Church (2 project total)	\$7,500.00
Christian Performing Arts	\$5,000.00
Barnabas	\$6,000.00
Place of Refuge	\$6,500.00
Second Mile Center	\$5,131.00
Spiritual Support	\$3,500.00
Michigan Black Presbytery Charitable Organization	\$3,500.00
3. Accept the invitation of Detroit Westminster to host the November 27 meeting of Presbytery.

The Coordinating Cabinet reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. The Coordinating Cabinet has spent significant amounts of time and energy in reviewing its work and procedures to ensure that it fulfills its responsibilities. This includes the generation and adoption of goals and norms.
2. The Coordinating Cabinet has heard a report from the 2014 COLA about preparations for hosting the 2014 General Assembly.
3. The Coordinating Cabinet heard an extended report on new church development projects and plans. Among other items, the New Church Development/Redevelopment Team is working on developing plans for ministry to an increasing Hispanic community.
4. The Coordinating Cabinet reviewed the proposal for entering a covenant with the Second Mile Center. It will be proposed by the Presbytery Operations Team for approval by the Presbytery.
5. The Coordinating Cabinet has received and referred to the Social Justice and Peacemaking Team a proposal from the Black Caucus involving the Trayvon Martin case.

6. The Coordinating Cabinet reports that the 2012 Presbytery Directory has been published and is posted on line. A hard copy is available for \$7.
7. Pursuant to the Presbytery Operations Team recommendation for the sabbatical for the Presbytery Executive, approve the Coordinating Cabinet has approved the following arrangements for staffing:
 - The Rev Dr Richard Brownlee will serve as acting Executive Presbyter
 - The Rev Jim Russell will serve as acting Assistant Executive Presbyter
 - Both will receive business and travel expenses, but no remuneration.

Stated Clerk’s Report. Edward Koster reported.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery voted to:

1. Approve the minutes of February 28 and March 27, 2012.
2. Amend the minutes of November 22, 2011 to add the election of the Young Adult Advisory Delegate and alternate to the 2012 General Assembly.
3. Appoint Teaching Elder Ernest Krug as the overture advocate for our concurrence on Overture 22, *On Instructing the General Assembly to Take Action to Implement the PC(USA)’s Policy on Inclusion of People with Disabilities—From the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area..*
4. Approve the 2012 Elder Equalization. (The Equalization is appended to the minutes.)
5. Approve the following 2012 Annual Report to the General Assembly:

Ministers on Roll (Retired and active) 12/31/10	219
Died	4
Dismissed to other Presbyteries	12
Dismissed to other denominations	0
Other removals (administrative)	1
Total Losses:	17
Received from other Presbyteries	15
Ordained	5
Received from other denominations	1
Total Gains:	21

Ministers on Roll (Retired and active) 12/31/11: 223

	Churches	Membership
Number of churches		
12/31/10	86	29,181
12/31/11	84	27,811
Change:	-2	-1,370

- The Stated Clerk reported the following for the information of Presbytery:
1. TRANSFERS COMPLETED
 - To the Church Triumphant: LeRoy Peterson on March 12, 2012
 2. Judicial Process.

- a. Thomas Priest has challenged the decision of the Executive Committee of the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission to dismiss his case. His challenged is appended to the minutes. Ruling Elder Mark Schneider, chair of the committee of counsel, will draft any necessary responsive briefs on behalf of the Presbytery. Elder Schneider wishes to report he has been the principal researcher and author of all the Presbytery's pleadings and briefs in this matter and successfully represented Presbytery in oral argument before the Synod PJC. The Stated Clerk did not. He is not part of the committee of counsel but is in regular contact with, and serves as a resource to, that committee.
The General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission has ordered a hearing on the appeal. The order is appended to the minutes.
 - b. Investigating Committee 2011-1 reports that it has filed charges against the member against whom allegations have been filed.
3. I have been informed that at the January meeting, when a commissioner rose to speak and ask questions, some people around her told her that her she was being irritating and she should sit down. This kind of behavior has no place in a meeting of Presbytery; it is an egregious violation of the premise that our meetings are places of safety where all are free to make motions, debate, and vote on matters before the Presbytery. If any member or commissioner experiences or observes such a breach of decorum in the future, he or she should immediately rise, inform the Moderator what is happening, and ask the Moderator to take action to establish proper order and decorum.

Treasurer. Alvin Smith reported.

Mr Smith presented his report.

The Presbytery recessed for Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

The Presbytery convened for the worship of God at 7:00 p.m.

Business Adopted by Motion and Debate (Continued)

Committee on Preparation for Ministry. Sandra Nichols reported for the committee.

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry reported it has conducted the following consultations:

For Teaching Elder (Minister of Word and Sacrament):

1. CPM met with the following inquirers on the dates noted and sustained their Annual Consultations.

Joanne Blair	First, Birmingham	March 6, 2012
Jill Mills	Westminster, Ann Arbor	April 3, 2012
Joanne Morgan	First, South Lyon	April 3, 2012
2. CPM met with the following inquirer, sustained his annual consultations, and recommend that he be presented on the floor of Presbytery for approval to move him to candidacy status.

Jeff Kline	First, Royal Oak	March 6, 2012
(to be examined in June, 2012)		
3. CPM met with the following to be enrolled as an inquirer:

Patricia Gordon	St. John's, Detroit	March 6, 2012
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For Commissioned Ruling Elder (formerly Commissioned Lay Pastor):

4. CPM met with the following Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) students and sustained their annual consultations:

Ruth Azar		March 6, 2012
Nancy Bass	Jefferson Avenue, Detroit	March 6, 2012
Joelly Chiangong	Park United, Highland Park	April 3, 2012
Cindy Rouse-Baird	Community, Waterford	April 3, 2012
5. CPM met with the following Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) student and did not sustain her annual consultation:

Esket Stewart	Park United, Highland Park	April 3, 2012
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Upon motion of the Committee, Presbytery voted to remove David Oh from its rolls as candidate, final assessed, per his request. Mr. Oh is no longer in the Detroit area and no longer seeks ordination as a Teaching Elder in the PC(USA).

The Committee reported that Kelly Shriver, a candidate of Inland Northwest Presbytery, has met the requirements for ordination, has received her M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary, was given Final Assessment by her presbytery of care, and has received a call as Teaching Elder with Peoples Presbyterian Church, Milan, MI.

Ms Shriver gave her background and presented her statement of faith. The Presbytery examined Ms Shriver on her statement of faith, and her views on the theology, and government of the church. Upon motion, Presbytery voted to arrest her examination. Upon motion the Presbytery voted to sustain her examination and proceed to ordination.

Ms Shriver will be ordained by her home Presbytery.

Committee on Ministry. Dixie Elam reported for the Committee.

Upon motion of the Committee, Presbytery voted to:

1. **Approve** the Administrative Commission to install **Paul Stunkel** as Pastor at **St. Paul's, Livonia**, on Sunday, May 20, 2012 at the 10:15 AM worship service, and the request to serve communion as part of the service.
Moderator: To be determined
Teaching elders: Rev. Matthew Nickel; Rev. Jennifer Clark; one to be named.
Ruling elders: Ron Case, Grosse Ile; Dianne Bostic Robinson, Westminster, Detroit; Jan Lapenta, St. Paul's, Livonia; Rich Pratt, Southminster, Taylor.
2. **Approve** the 12 month, Co-interim Pastor contract between **W. Kent Clise** and **Milford**, effective June 15, 2012. Terms: Half-time; Salary \$11,750; Housing \$36,750; Travel by voucher at current IRS rate. Vacation: Four weeks including four Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks including two Sundays.
3. **Approve** the 12 month, Co-interim Pastor contract between **Anne Schaefer** and **Milford**, effective June 15, 2012. Terms: Half-time; Salary \$14,863; Housing \$30,000; Social Security \$3,637; Travel by voucher at current IRS rate. Vacation: Four weeks including four Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks including two Sundays.
4. Grant the status of Honorably Retired to Myung Ja Yue effective May 31, 2012.

The Committee reported that under the authority granted it, it has:

1. **Approved** the 12 month Interim Pastor contract between **Lincoln Park** and **William Zambon**, effective October 1, 2011. Terms: Full time; Salary \$30,873; Housing \$6,000;

Pension \$11,737; Medical deductible \$386; Travel \$6,000; Study Leave \$1,030. Vacation: One month including four Sundays. Study Leave: Two weeks.

2. **Granted** the status of **Honorably Retired** to **Rev. Rufus Hatcher**, effective February 29, 2012.
3. **Approved** the call of **Paul V. Stunkel** as Pastor at **St. Paul's, Livonia**, effective March 25, 2012. Terms: Full time; Salary \$34,100; Housing \$16,500; Medical deductible \$1,060; Deferred Compensation \$2,400; Board of Pension dues \$18,768.08; Social Security \$4,135.59; Auto/Travel \$3,600; Continuing Education \$1,030; Business expenses \$1,300. Vacation: Four weeks including four Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks including two Sundays.
4. **Approved** the twelve month Parish Associate contract between **Elizabeth B. Rice** and **First, Royal Oak**, effective January 1, 2012. Terms: Ten hours/week; Salary \$8,481.49; Social Security \$648.83; Travel compensated according to church rate, commensurate with IRS guidelines.

The committee reported for the information of Presbytery that it has:

1. **Approved** the request from **Rev. Doug Campbell** to attend **Interim Training 2** at Mercy Center, Synod of Lincoln Trails, St. Louis, MO, May 7-11, 2012.
2. **Approved** the **Organizing Pastor description** for **Far West New Church Development**.
3. **Approved** the appointment of **Ron Case** to serve as moderator at **Peoples, Milan** beginning March 8, 2012, until further notice.
4. **Approved** the appointment of **Neeta Nichols** to serve as moderator for a Congregational Meeting at **St. Paul's, Livonia**, on March 25, 2012.
5. **Approved** **First, Northville's** self study and granted permission, to call a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, April 29, 2012, for the purpose of electing a PNC.
6. **Approved** **White Lake's** CIF.
7. Exit interviews have been completed with Rev. Dr. William Dunifon, Rev. Dr. Annemarie Kidder, Rev. Dr. Keith Provost, and Rev. Neeta Nichols.
8. The Parish Associate contract between **Julie Madden** and **Faith, Novi** has ended.

Committee on Nominations. Ruth Ann Boulier reported for the Committee.

The Committee reported it has received word that Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD), Autumn Palmer, is unable to attend GA. The Alternate YAAD, Daniel Brausch, will be attending as the YAAD for the Presbytery of Detroit.

Upon nomination of the Committee, there being no nominations from the floor, Presbytery elected Cameron Crawford-Mook, Detroit- Fort Street, as the Alternate Young Adult Advisory Delegate to the 220th General Assembly in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, June 30 – July 7, 2012.

Presbytery Operations Team. Douglas Blaikie reported for the Team.

Upon motion of the Presbytery Operations Team, Presbytery approved the covenant with the Second Mile Center as proposed. The covenant is appended to the minutes.

Mr. Blaikie offered a prayer for the Presbytery of Detroit and the Second Mile Center and their ministries and mutual relationship.

Jean Loup began moderating the meeting.

WE GAVE THANKS TO GOD

The Presbytery offered prayers of petition and thanksgiving.

Moderator Porter gave a charge and benediction, and adjourned the meeting with prayer at 8:20 p.m.

The next meeting of the Presbytery will be Tuesday, June 26, 2012 at Novi Faith.

ATTEST:


EDWARD KOSTER, Stated Clerk

ATTACHMENT ONE: The Roll

- APPENDICES:
- 2014 COLA Report
 - Port Huron Westminster Administrative Commission Report
 - Presbytery Policy P-13 as amended
 - Equalization of Elders
 - Thomas Priest Challenge to the decision of the Moderator and Clerk of the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission
 - Order of the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission for a hearing on the Thomas Priest case
 - Covenant with Second Mile Center

ATTACHMENT ONE: THE ROLL

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY FOR April 24, 2012

CHURCHES: Of 83 churches, 44 were represented and 39 were not.

COMMISSIONERS: Of 139 eligible commissioners, 66 enrolled, and 73 did not.

OTHER RULING ELDERS (Officers, Members of Council)::

Of 21 total, 8 were present, of whom 0 counted as commissioners, leaving 8 as the unduplicated count: 8 excused, and 5 absent.

TEACHING ELDERS: Of the 150 non-retired teaching elders on the combined rolls of active members and members-at-large, 63 were present, 21 were excused, and 66 were absent.

Of the 81 retired teaching elders on the rolls, 10 were present and 71 were excused.

COMMISSIONED LAY Of the 1 Commissioned Law Pastor on the rolls, 1 was present, * excused, 0

**PASTORS AND
CERTIFIED EDUCATORS:**

absent

Of the 2 Certified Educators on the rolls, 2 were present, 0 excused, 0 absent.

SUMMARY

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT
 66 Elder Commissioners
 + 8 Other Ruling Elders
 + 63 Non-retired teaching elders
 + 10 Retired teaching elders
 = 1 Commissioned lay pastors.
 = 0 Certified educators.
 = 148 Voting members present.
OTHERS PRESENT
 9 Non-voting attendees
 1 Corresponding members

Attendance of Commissioners and Churches

ALLEN PARK, Allen Park
 1 ROBERT MORTON
 2
 3
 4
ANN ARBOR, Calvary
 1 BOBBIE JO BARRETT
ANN ARBOR, First
 1 RUTH BARNARD
 2 SUE LEONG
 3 BEN VAN TUYL
 4
 5
ANN ARBOR, Northside
 1 KATE ROESCH
ANN ARBOR, Westminster
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
AUBURN HILLS, Auburn Hills
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
BELLEVILLE, Belleville
 1 CONNIE ETTER
BERKLEY, Greenfield
 1 MICHAEL FRITSCH
BEVERLY HILLS, Northbrook
 1 MICHAEL BAURHOF
 2 KIM BOWDEN-ADAIR
BIRMINGHAM, First
 1 SANDRA NICHOLLS
 2 ROSY LATIMORE
 3 VIRGINIA AXA
 4 LESLIE HELWIG
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Kirk/Hills
 1 DAVETTA J HORNER
 2 SARA WILLIAMS
 3 DORIS R HOLT
 4 NANG LAU
 5 ARUE MULEEIONI
 6
BRIGHTON, First
 1 STEVE WILLIS
 2 ILLEGIBLE
CANTON, Geneva
 1 MICHAEL GAUBATZ
CLARKSTON, Sashabaw
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
DEARBORN, Cherry Hill

1 JULIUS OTTEN
DEARBORN, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
DEARBORN, Littlefield
 1 JIM McCREADIE
DEARBORN HGTS, St. Andrew's
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, Broadstreet
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
DETROIT, Calvary
 1 DORIS WEBSTER
 2 STAN EDWARDS
DETROIT, Calvin East
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
DETROIT, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, Fort Street
 1 BOB PONDER
DETROIT, Gratiot Avenue
 1 MARYANN BRANTLY
 2
DETROIT, Hope
 1 MARY GREEN
 2 DARYL TAYLOR
DETROIT, Jefferson Avenue
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
DETROIT, Riverside
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, St. John's
 1 JEANE V MOORE
 2
DETROIT, Trinity Community
 1 FRANCIS BEEMAN
 2
DETROIT, Trumbull Avenue
 1 MARTHA SINGLEY
 2
DETROIT, Westminster
 1 MARGARET WHITEHEAD
 2 DEBORAH FAIR
 3 RESHAWN WHETSTONE
FARMINGTON, First

1 IRENE FOSTER
 2
FERNDALE, Drayton Avenue
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
FORT GRATIOT, Lakeshore
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
GARDEN CITY, Garden City
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
GROSSE ILE, Grosse Ile
 1 DON HILL
 2 ANITA TERESKO
GROSSE POINTE, Memorial
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 3
 4
GROSSE PTE WOODS, Woods
 1 JOANNE SHENSTONE
 2 ILLEGIBLE
HIGHLAND PARK, Park United
 1 MARIE HUGHLEY
 2
HOWELL, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
LINCOLN PARK, Lincoln Park
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
LIVONIA, Rosedale Gardens
 1 DYCHE ANDERSON
 2
LIVONIA, St. Paul's
 1 MARDON V MURPHY
LIVONIA, St. Timothy's
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
MACOMB, Church/Covenant
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
MILAN, Peoples
 1 BRIAN LAKEGATE
MILFORD, Milford
 1 BRUCE GILBERT
 2 JUDY BOGADIR
MT. CLEMENS, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
NORTHVILLE, First
 1 CARL STROM
 2 WANDA MOON
 3 BARBARA ROSS

4
NOVI, Faith Community
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ORCHARD LAKE, Community
 1 CHUCK KEPPEL
 2 BETH KEPPEL
 3
PLYMOUTH, First
 1 ILLEGIBLE
 2
 3
 4
PONTIAC, First
 1 MELISSA ROSE
PONTIAC, Joslyn Avenue
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
PORT HURON, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
PORT HURON, Westminster
 1 ILLEGIBLE
REDFORD, St. James
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROCHESTER, University
 1 DOUG DENTON
 2
ROSEVILLE, Erin
 1 NOT REPRESENTED

ROYAL OAK, First
 1 PAT JOHNSON
 2 KENNETH BISSEY
 3
ROYAL OAK, Point of Vision
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROYAL OAK, Starr
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
SALINE, First
 1 ANN VALENTINE
SHELBY TWP., St. Thomas
 1 TODD ALAN
 2
SOUTH LYON, First
 1 ANNE LYKE
SOUTHFIELD, Covenant
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
SOUTHFIELD, Korean
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 3
SOUTHFIELD, New Hope
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
ST. CLAIR SHORES, Heritage
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ST. CLAIR SHORES, Lake Shore
 1 NOT REPRESENTED

2
STERLING HGTS, New Life
 1 KERRY BORDER
TAYLOR, Southminster
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
TROY, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
TROY, Korean First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
TROY, Northminster
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WALLED LAKE, Crossroads
 1 SHARON PICKETT
WARREN, Celtic Cross
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WARREN, First
 1 MIKE McDUGALL
WATERFORD, Community
 1 LORRI SEVELTMAN
WESTLAND, Kirk of Our Savior
 1 DAVID GARCIA
WHITE LAKE, White Lake
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WYANDOTTE, Wyandotte
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
YPSILANTI, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED

Attendance of Teaching and Ruling Elder Members

C. ELDER MEMBERS	P BOURLIER, RUTHANNE	P HENRY, PETER J. M.
P ANDERSON, FRANCILE, PM	P BOUSQUETTE, PAUL	A HOFFMAN, MICHAEL (CRE)
P BOSTIC-ROBINSON, DIANE, PM	A CAMPBELL, DOUGLAS	P HUFF, JASON
A CLARK, SAM	A CAMPBELL, EMILY	P JOHNSON, KEVIN
E ELAM, DIXIE, PM	A CARL, STEPHEN	A JONES, RICHARD
P ELLIS, HAROLD	A CHEN, HAO-THE	P JUDSON, JOHN
A EMMERT, JOHN	A CHOI, SEUNG	P KAIBEL, KENNETH
P HYLKEMA, CAROL, PM	E *CHOI, SEUNG KOO	A KIDDER, ANNEMARIE
P LEWIS, STEFANIE	A CLARK, JENNIFER	E *KIM, Y. MONCH
P LOUP, JEAN	A CLARK, STEVEN	E *KIM, YOUNGCHUL
P MORGAN, DONALD	A COCHRAN, LINDA	P KING, CATHERINE
E MORRISON, HELEN, PM	A COOPER, QUINCY	A KLINGER, JAMIE
P MORTON, JANET	P COWLING, NEIL D.	P KOSTER, EDWARD H.
E PITTS, FRANCES, PM	A DAVIS, ROXIE ANN	P KRUG, ERNEST
E PRIEST, TOM, PM	P DAVIS, WILLIAM	A KUMIN, JAMES
E SEABROOKS, DOROTHY M., PM	A DE ORIO, ANTHONY	A LEE, FREDERICK
E SHIRLEY, JAMES, PM	P DELANEY, BETH	A MABEE, CHARLES
P SMITH, ALVIN	E *DENNIS, WARREN	A MADDEN, JULIE
E SMITH, KENNETH, PM	A DOWNS, ELIZABETH	E McCLOSKEY-TURNER, CATHARINE
A SZWED, ROBERT	A DOYLE-HOHF, KATHLEEN	A McGOWAN, EVANS
A WILLIAMSON, MAEGARET	E *DYKSTRA, CRAIG R.	A McMILLAN, JUDITH
E WINSLOW, PAUL, PM	P ELE, HERSCHEL	A McRAE, BARBARA
	P FAILE, JAMES	E MEANS, MATTHEW
D. NON-RETIRED MINISTERS	E FAIR, FAIRFAX	E MELROSE, SUE ELLIS
P ADAMS, WILLIAM L III	A FERGUSON, GUY THOMAS	P MICHALEK, DANIEL
P ANDERSON, BARBARA S	A FORGER, DEBORAH	P MILLER, J. SCOTT
E ANDERSON, LINDA	P FRANCIS, RAPHAEL B.	A MISHLER, JOHN
A ANDERSON, LINDSEY	A GABEL, PETER W.	A MONNETT, JAMES
P ANDREWS, DOYLL	E *GAST, TERRI	A MOOK, SHARON
P ARAKELIAN, ELIZABETH	A GEISELMAN, KEITH	P MOORE, PETER
A AUE, CRAIG	P GERE, BREWSTER	P MORGAN, AMY
P AUSTIN, MARY	A GRANO, MARIANNE	A MORROW, DUKE
P BAHR-JONES, MARY	A HANNA, RAAFAT	A MORSE, MATTHEW
E *BAILEY, CLOVER	P HARMON, BREANNE	A MOZENA, SUSAN
A BIERSDORF, JOHN	E *HARRIS, R. JOHN	P NICHOLS, NEETA
P BLAIKIE, DOUGLAS	P HARTLEY, THOMAS	P NICKEL, EMMA
A BLEIVIK, DAVID	A HATCHER, RUFUS	P NICKEL, MATTHEW
P BOHN, CHRISTINE	P HAYES, FRANCES	P OBERG, ARTHUR
P BOLT, KENNETH	P HENDERSON, RICHARD	A OLIVER, GARY

A PARKER, OPELTON
 P PAVELKO, JOHN H.
 A PEARSON, BRENNAN
 P PICKRELL, BROOKE
 A PIECUCH, KEVIN
 P PITTMAN, JASON
 P PORTER, JAMES
 P PORTICE, GEORGE
 A PRENTICE-HYERS, DAVID
 A PRENTICE-HYERS, MARY ELIZABETH
 A PRITCHARD, NORMAN
 P PUNTIGAM, JOEL
 P REED, PHILIP
 A RICE, ELIZABETH
 P RICE, THOMAS
 A RIKE, JENNIFER
 P RITTER, W STUART
 P RIZER, JAMES A
 A ROGERS, MELISSA ANNE
 P SCHAEFER, ANNE N.
 A SEILER, GORDON (CRE)
 E *SHIH, SHENG-TO
 A SHINN, DAVID
 A SHIPMAN, JUDY
 E *SHREVE, MAGGIE
 P SHRIVER, KELLY
 A SIAS-LEE, LAURA
 E *SIMONS, SCOTT W.
 P SKIMINS, JAMES
 A SMALLEY, DIANE
 A SMITH, BRYAN DEAN
 P SMITH, PETER C.
 A SMITH, TRACI
 P SOEHL, HOWARD
 P SOHN, YO SUP
 A SOMMERS, CHARLOTTE
 P STUNKEL, KAREN
 P STUNKEL, PAUL
 P TATE, CAROL ANN
 P THOMAS, CHRISTOPHER
 A THOMPSON, G. PATRICK
 E THORESEN, KATHRYN R.
 E THWAITE, PAUL
 P TIMM, ALLEN D
 A TOMBERLIN, DREW
 A TUCKER-LLOYD, IRIS
 E *VAN SLUIJS, HENDRICK
 A WHITLOCK, KELLIE
 P WILHELMI, MARJORIE
 P WINGROVE, WILLIAM N
 A WOO, BYEONGJIN
 P WRZESZCZ, JENNIFER PARKER
 E WRZESZCZ, MATTHEW PARKER
 A YU, SEUNG WON
 E *YUE, MYUNG JA
 A ZAMBON, WILLIAM
 P ZURAKOWSKI, GREGORY

D. RETIRED MINISTERS

P AARON, ESTELLE
 E ACTON, ELLEN
 E ALBRECHT, GLORIA
 E ANDERSON, JAMES
 E AUSTIN, ANNA MARIE
 E AUSTIN, LARRY
 P BEERY, ELDON
 E BENEDICT, IVAN L.
 E BOEVE, PETER
 E BORCHARDT, HENRY
 E BORCHARDT, JUDITH

P BROWNLEE, RICHARD
 E BYARS, RONALD
 P CAMPBELL, VERN
 E CAPPS, HARRY
 E CARTER, DOUGLAS D.
 E CATER, LAWRENCE H.
 P CHAMBERLAIN, LAWRENCE
 E CHAMBERS, JAMES C.
 E CHOI, IN SOON
 E CLISE, W. KENT
 E COBLEIGH, GERALD R.
 E COLON, LOIS
 E CONLEY, JAMES H.
 E CORSO, LINDA
 E CRILLEY, ROBERT
 E CROSS, PAUL D.
 P DENTON, GRETCHEN
 E DUNCAN, THOMAS
 E DUNIFON, WILLIAM
 E ELLENS, J. HAROLD
 E FINDLAY, WILLIAM
 E FORSYTH, E. DICKSON
 E FOSTER, JOHN
 E GEISSINGER, HARRY L.
 P GEPFORD, WILLIAM G.
 E GLENN, LAWRENCE T.
 E HANNA, J. RICHARD
 E HARP, WILLIAM S.
 E HEINRICHS, THOMSON
 E HELMKE, BEN
 E JANSEN, ROBERT
 E JEFFREY, JOHN
 E JONES, VIRGIL L.
 E KESLER, JAMES W.
 E KIM, T. ANDREW
 E KNUDSEN, RAYMOND
 E KOGEL, LYNNE
 E KREHBIEL, DAVID E.
 E LAMBERT, ROY F.
 E LANGWIG, JANICE
 E LANGWIG, ROY
 E LARSON, ROBERT F.
 E LISTER, KENNETH D.
 E LONGWOOD, MARJORIE
 E MacINNES, JOHN D.
 E MARVIN, FRANK C., JR.
 P McCLOSKEY, CHARLES
 E McINTYRE, DEWITT
 E MIHOCKO, DAVID
 E NUSSDORFER, GUS
 E OLSON, PHILIP
 E ORR, ROBERT C.
 E OWEN, DAVID
 E PETERS, RICHARD
 E POLKOWSKI, WILLIAM
 E PRICE, MICHAEL T.
 P PROVOST, KEITH
 E PRUES, LOUIS J.
 E RATCLIFFE, ALBERT H.
 E ROBERTSON, ANN
 E ROBERTSON, DAVID W.
 E ROBERTSON, WILLIAM
 E RUSSELL, JAMES P.
 E SCRIBNER, LOREN
 E SUTTON, PAUL
 E TAYLOR, J. BERNARD
 P TAYLOR, THEODORE, II
 E WRIGHT, DONALD
 E YOON, HAK SUK
 E ZIEGLER, JACK T.

E. STAFF & OTHERS

A AZAR, RUTH
 A BARCONEY, CHARON
 A FABRÉ, EDWIN
 A GRANT, RICHARD
 P HIGGINS, JOANNE
 P HORLOCKER, MICHEL
 P LLOYD, MARY
 P THOMPSON, ARTHEILLIA
 A VANDERBEEK, RONALD

F. CERT. ASSOC. CHRISTIAN ED.

P PRICE, LAURA
 P MERTEN, CINDY
 G. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS
 MARTHA FOSTER BOYD

Report to the Presbytery
Port Huron Westminster Administrative Commission
January 13, 2012

In accord with Presbytery's request the W.A.C. has met with the Session to discuss their petition to withdraw from the PCUSA. The discussion was respectful and all sides had ample opportunity to express perspectives. The W.A.C. regretfully agrees that the differences are irreconcilable. In accordance with the Session's wishes the W.A.C. joined the Session in scheduling an informational Congregational meeting for January 8, 2012.

The meeting was convened immediately following morning worship. 50% of the membership was present. The W.A.C. was present. Dr. Chamberlain moderated the meeting. Ample time was provided for both sides of the question. No vote was taken.

On January 16th the Session and W.A.C. scheduled a congregational meeting to discuss and vote upon the question "Shall Westminster Presbyterian Church request dismissal from the P.C.U.S.A.?" The date for the meeting is April 15, 2012.

In preparation for the April 15th meeting the Session undertook a weekly study of materials supplied by the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in preparation for the possible transfer of membership. The study was elder led and open to the congregation at large. The meetings were well attended and the content of the sessions was widely disseminated through the informal conversations within the congregation.

At their regularly scheduled Session meeting on March 12th a motion to begin a provisional process to join the E.P.C. if the way be cleared by the congregation at the April 15th meeting. The vote was unanimous. All elders signed the provisional petition.

At the request of the Session the A.C. shared its preliminary recommendation to the trustees concerning settlement of property issues should the congregation vote in the Affirmative on April 15th. (Presbytery Policy P 10 E. d.) The A.C. found no faction within the congregation loyal to the P.C.U.S.A. (G-4.0207).

On April 15th the duly called Congregational meeting was convened at 12:15 P.M. in Westminster sanctuary. The question was put to the congregation on written ballot form. The floor was opened for discussion. When the question was called for, the ballots were tallied and the vote was unanimous. A second motion was offered authorizing the Trustees to offer Detroit Presbytery \$30,000 in exchange for all property, assets, and liabilities of the congregation. The meeting closed with prayer.

In light of the results of the April 15th meeting of Westminster Presbyterian Church of Port Huron the Administrative Commission, with heavy heart, recommends that:

- a. The Presbytery grant the congregation's request to be dismissed to the oversight and care of The Evangelical Presbyterian Church
- b. The Presbytery authorizes the trustees of the Presbytery to accept the Westminster offer of \$30,000 for the property, assets, and liabilities of the congregation should the trustees find the offer appropriate.

Dr. L. A. Chamberlain, Dr. William Wingrove, Elder Donna Johnston

P-13 Process for Alternative Ordination Examinations

Process for Alternatives to the Standard Ordination Examinations

In order to fulfill the requirements of ~~G-14.0310b(4) for ordination to the ministry of Word and Sacrament~~ G-2.0607 and G-2.0610 for final assessment, Detroit Presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) submits the following alternative process to the Synod for approval concerning an alternative process for Candidates for ordination as a teaching elder (Minister of Word and Sacrament). ~~(See G-14.0313(b) for guidelines)~~

Candidates who have previously failed any or all the standard ordination exams twice or more are eligible to submit a written request to the CPM for an alternate means to show competence in the failed area(s). After review and consultation with the candidate, which may include a professional assessment of the candidate's difficulties, the CPM will determine whether the prospective candidate should:

1. be authorized to re-take the Standard Ordination Exam; or
2. be recommended to the Presbytery of Detroit for an alternative process.

The Presbytery of Detroit must approve the alternative process for each candidate by a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote. The process the Committee on Preparation for Ministry recommends will depend upon the exam, as described below. (G-2.0610)

- A. If the Candidate has failed the Standard Ordination Exam in Theological Competence, Worship and Sacraments, and/or Church Polity, the following alternative process may be used:

Exam Preparation

The CPM shall select no more than four persons (representing both minister members and elders of the Presbytery of Detroit) currently not serving on CPM to prepare an alternative examination. The Exam Preparation Committee shall be composed of qualified individuals who are able to contribute to the:

- content area of the exam; i.e., worship and sacraments, theology, polity, etc.;
- organization and preparation of the particular exam to be administered.

The Exam Preparation Committee may use resources available from the General Assembly and/or may seek assistance in the preparation of the examination from the faculty at the candidate's theological institution.

Exam Administration and Grading

The CPM shall also select a Work Group to administer and grade the examination. If the examination is a written format, the Work Group shall be composed of three people. If the examination is an oral format, the Work Group shall be composed of five people. The Work Group's composition should include at least:

- a person from the Exam Preparation Committee;
- a person from the presbytery who is qualified and experienced at grading exams;
- a person who has previously served on a CPM

This Work Group shall meet to identify the standards for passing the exam and then provide the evaluation of the exam by the candidate submitting alternative work in the area of examination. It will also arrange for the exam to be administered.

All members of the Work Group shall evaluate the exam. If the majority gives an exam a passing grade, the CPM will report the results to the Presbytery of Detroit and to the Offices of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA.

- B. If the Candidate has failed the Standard Ordination Exam in Biblical Exegesis, the following alternative process may be used:

The CPM shall select one text from the Old Testament and one text from the New Testament. The candidate shall be given the choice from these two texts and shall have no more than one week of seven consecutive days to complete the examination.

The exegetical study of the selected text shall include the following:

1. a study of the language of the text that exhibits a working knowledge of the original language and that deals appropriately with text-critical issues, grammar, syntax, and word use;
2. a study of literary issues, including the literary boundaries and context, the structure and composition, and the genre of the text;
3. a study of the principle theological motifs, themes, and ideas developed in the text; and
4. a study of the historical/sociological setting of the text, its redaction history, and its subsequent interpretation by communities of faith.

Evidence of ability to make contemporary application of the text shall be demonstrated by preparing a sermon or a lesson outline that is derived from and informed by the exegetical study. The candidate will provide a brief description of the situation and audience addressed.

The CPM shall arrange for the exam to be administered by a proctor and the team of three graders (see below) shall identify the standards for passing the examination.

A team of three graders shall evaluate the examination. One grader shall be a member of the Presbytery of Detroit with experience as a reader of standard ordination exams. One grader shall be a former member of a CPM. One grader shall be a faculty member of an accredited seminary with competence in the biblical language.

All three graders shall evaluate the exam. If two give the exam a passing grade, the CPM will report the results to the Presbytery of Detroit and to the Offices of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA.

- C. If the Inquirer or Candidate has failed the Standard Ordination Exam in Bible Content, the following alternative process may be used:

The CPM will appoint a proctor for the exam and form a Work Group of three individuals not presently serving on the CPM.

The Work Group will draft an examination of 100 questions, using questions asked in previous Bible Context Exams, select an appropriate means of administering the exam (e.g. computer, oral, etc.), determine the time period within which the inquirer or candidate must complete the exam, and grade the completed exam.

The minimum passing grade will be correct answers to 70% of the questions asked. If the inquirer or candidate earns a passing grade, the CPM will report the results to the Presbytery of Detroit and to the Offices of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA.

**EQUALIZATION OF ELDER COMMISSIONERS
PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
MAY, 2012-APRIL, 2013**

The Book of Order requires the Presbytery to establish a plan to ensure there is parity at Presbytery meetings between teaching and ruling elders. The intention is to ensure that the number of ministers and elders is equal. G-3.0301

The Book of Order authorizes Presbyteries to assign certain representation according to the size of the church. By policy, the Presbytery of Detroit has given precedence to churches that have a majority of members who are an ethnic minority.

The number of ministers reported last year was 161. I report the number of active ministers this year as 146. I count the number of active ministers as those on the active roll who are resident in the area, plus those on the retired roll who are active in the life of Presbytery. I measured the latter by counting those retired ministers who are on a Presbytery committee, who have a position of some kind in a local congregation, or who attended a meeting last year.

The far-right column represents the number of commissioners a church should elect for the period May 1, 2012 to April 30, 2013. Commissioners should report this new figure to Session so the proper number will come to the June meeting.

City	Church	2011 Mbrs	2011- 12 Elders	2012 Mbrs	Ethnic ?	Elders/ church	Add to Equalize	2012- 2013 Elders
	Elder Members		20					20
	Allen Park	1203	4	1203		3		3
	Ann Arbor	42	1	43		1		1
	Ann Arbor	1805	5	1604		4		4
	Ann Arbor	56	1	56		1		1
	Ann Arbor	428	1	399		1		1
	Auburn Hills	72	1	62		1		1
	Belleville	80	1	80		1		1
	Berkley	238	1	243		1		1
	Beverly Hills	459	1	408		1		1
	Birmingham	991	4	1,001		3		3
	Bloomfield Hills	2222	6	2226		5		5
	Brighton	753	2	761		2		2
	Canton	217	1	217		1		1
	Clarkston	30	1	30		1		1
	Dearborn	325	1	305		1		1
	Dearborn	434	2	422		1		1
	Dearborn	77	1	69		1		1
	Dearborn Hts	106	1	89		1		1
	Detroit	88	2	79	Y	1	1	2
	Detroit	219	2	204	Y	1	1	2
	Detroit	98	2	85	Y	1	1	2
	Detroit	3	1	2		1		1
	Detroit	329	1	246		1		1
	Detroit	52	2	50	Y	1	1	2
	Detroit	123	2	94	Y	1	1	2
	Detroit	502	2	513		2		2
	Detroit	169	2	168	Y	1	1	2
	Detroit	124	2	100	Y	1	1	2
	Detroit	43	2	42	Y	1	1	2
	Detroit	448	3	402	Y	1	1	2
	Farmington	442	2	444		1	1	2
	Ferndale	125	1	132		1		1
	Fort Gratiot	132	1	111		1		1
	Garden City	147	1	148		1		1
	Grosse Ile	491	2	495		1	1	2

City	Church	2011 Mbrs	2011- 12 Elders	2012 Mbrs	Ethnic ?	Elders/ church	Add to Equalize	2012- 2013 Elders
Grosse Pointe	Grosse Pte Mem	1229	4	1,232		3		3
Grosse Pte Wds	Grosse Pte Woods	493	2	498		1	1	2
Highland Park	Park United	51	2	43	Y	1	1	2
Howell	First	454	1	427		1		1
Lincoln Park	Lincoln Park	147	1	141		1		1
Livonia	Rosedale Gardens	673	2	688		2		2
Livonia	St. Paul's	245	1	229		1		1
Livonia	St. Timothy's	198	1	204		1		1
Macomb Cty	Church / Covenant	79	1	71		1		1
Milan	People's	126	1	123		1		1
Milford	Milford	678	2	506		2		2
Mt. Clemens	First	405	1	405		1		1
Northville	First	1342	4	1,097		3		3
Novi	Faith Community	314	1	317		1		1
Orchard lake	Community	936	3	933		2		2
Plymouth	First	1224	4	1,201		3		3
Pontiac	First	202	1	180		1		1
Pontiac	Joslyn Avenue	25	1	25		1		1
Port Huron	First	475	2	469		1	1	2
Port Huron	Westminster	64	1	50		1		1
Redford	St. James	78	1	76		1		1
Rochester	University	630	2	641		2		2
Roseville	Erin	149	1	145		1		1
Royal Oak	First	867	3	857		2		2
Royal Oak	Korean First	79	2	20	Y	1	1	2
Royal Oak	Point of Vision	14	1	3		1		1
Royal Oak	Starr	115	1	91		1		1
Saline	First	301	1	295		1		1
Shelby Twp	St. Thomas	466	2	439		1		1
South Lyon	First	177	1	120		1		1
Southfield	Covenant	126	1	119		1		1
Southfield	Korean	742	3	742	Y	2	1	3
Southfield	New Hope	84	2	84	Y	1	1	2
St. Clair Shores	Heritage	95	1	84		1		1
St. Clair Shores	Lake Shore	486	2	493		1	1	2
Sterling Heights	New Life	187	1	240		1		1
Taylor	Southminster	160	1	163		1		1
Troy	First	161	1	141		1		1
Troy	Northminster	153	1	150		1		1
Walled Lake	Crossroads	99	1	87		1		1
Warren	Celtic Cross	237	1	242		1		1
Warren	First	166	1	154		1		1
Waterford	Community	267	1	255		1		1
West Bloomfield	Ch of Our Saviour	77	1	77		1		1
Westland	Kirk of Our Savior	123	1	105		1		1
White Lake	White Lake	197	1	179		1		1
Wyandotte	First	150	1	174		1		1
Ypsilanti	First	271	1	263		1		1
		29,181	161	27,811		108 (+20)	18	146

**Challenge
To The Findings
Of The Moderator and Clerk
Of The Permanent Judicial Commission
That
The Permanent Judicial Commission
Does NOT Have Jurisdiction
To Hear
The Appeal
Of The Complainant
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.**

**THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.
Appellant (Complainant)**

v.

**Remedial Case
GA2011-109/110**

**PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
Appellee (Respondent)**

STATEMENT OF CHALLENGE

On January 31, 2012 the Moderator and Clerk of The Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly ruled that the Appellant/Complainant (Appellant herein) did not have standing to file an Appeal, saying that since he lacked standing to maintain the original Remedial Action, he could not then appeal the Remedial Action. These conclusions are at the heart of the Preliminary Order entered January 31, 2012, which dismissed the Appeal under D-8.0300, et. seq.

Appellant respectfully challenges the rulings of the Preliminary Order denying jurisdiction to proceed and asks the entire Judicial Commission to hear the issues and determine the propriety of the jurisdictional ruling. This Challenge is limited in its scope to the issue of Standing, since the other jurisdictional issues appear resolved in favor of the Appellant.

Of note is the fact that the issue of standing was Not one of those raised by Appellant, as that issue had been resolved in his favor below. In making this Appeal, Mr. Priest has sought to review the decision of the Synod's Permanent Judicial Commission (the PJC below) that he could not proceed on his Remedial Complaint because (1) his Complaint was not timely filed, (2) his Complaint did Not state a claim upon which relief could be granted, (3) and (3) the PJC lacked jurisdiction to hear the Complaint. In view of the status of the case as it was presented on Appeal, it was surprising that the decision in the Preliminary Order focused on an issue not appealed in this proceeding. Be that as it may, Appellant respectfully disagrees with the conclusions reached and the Preliminary Order entered herein for the reasons set forth below. He respectfully asks that the full Commission hear and determine that he does in fact have standing to proceed.

Specifically stated, the issues raised in this Challenge are as follows:¹

1. D-8.0102 provides that an Appeal may be initiated only by one of the original parties in the case. Mr. Priest was one of the original parties below. As the appeal is limited to the issue of standing, the first question to be answered is whether standing refers to the appeal itself or to the right to proceed in the first place. D-8.0301b appears limited to the question of standing to appeal. Appellant submits it is error to go behind the findings of the PJC below to determine there never was standing.
2. Even if standing in the original complaint is an issue appellant submits he met that test since he was a member of the Presbytery, enrolled as such, at all times pertinent to these proceedings by virtue of his being the Immediate Past Moderator of the Presbytery. His membership in

¹ Proceeding under the Book of Order in effect at the time of the occurrence of the issues here and not nSOG adopted in 2011.

Presbytery was not known by appellant at the time of framing of the original Complaint but was discovered thereafter and corrected. Unfortunately, the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery (Appellee's counsel in the cross appeal) was aware of the membership but defended the proceeding below on the fiction Mr. Priest was not a member. When the PJC below was made aware of the membership status of the Appellant, the challenge to the issue of Standing below evaporated. The Stated Clerk has continued to argue the lack of membership in the Cross Appeal. The Preliminary Order of January 31, 2012 did not find Membership in reaching its conclusions and thus did not consider all of the facts pertinent to this issue.

3. Complainant has submitted a second basis for his standing, stating that since he had been enrolled as a Candidate, the fact of enrollment changed his membership status in part under G-14.0411. Instead of being just a member of his local church, Mr. Priest also came under the jurisdiction of the presbytery. For some issues, he remained subject to his local session for oversight and discipline. For those issues dealing with his candidacy, he came under the jurisdiction of the presbytery, a fact deemed significant by the Book of Order's use of the term "enrollment." In this state of being classified as "enrolled as a Candidate at the Presbytery," the reasoning of the Preliminary Order would not allow him to challenge any decision of the Committee for Preparation of Ministry (CPM hereafter) to the Presbytery. And obviously, he could not challenge the presbytery before his home

session, because a session has no power over a presbytery. The reasoning in the Preliminary Order places a candidate in the valley of no redress and appears neither proper nor in order. Mr. Priest challenges this unique interpretation of the Book of Order.

4. The Preliminary Order goes further to state that Complainant “was not enrolled as a member at any meeting of the presbytery at which the matter at issue has been addressed.” This conclusion overlooks three points: (a) While Mr. Priest was at all times pertinent to these issues a Member of Presbytery as Moderator or as the Immediate Past Moderator, the issue was never presented for consideration; (b) While Mr. Priest was enrolled as a candidate in the presbytery, he lacked the requisite membership (according to the Preliminary Order) to ask that the matter be addressed; and, (c) The issue never came before Presbytery because the Presbytery had empowered CPM, under G-14.0410, G-14.0411 and G-14.0412, to act finally in its behalf as to certain matters without reporting. (A review of the Minutes of CPM related to this issue reflects its belief that it had the power to act finally without reporting its actions to the presbytery.) Mr. Priest challenges this part of the ruling regarding standing.
5. The Preliminary Order states the “decision complained against is not an irregularity or delinquency of the presbytery itself, but rather a decision of its Committee on Preparation for Ministry.” The Preliminary Order then tracks the differences between a Commission and a Committee without addressing those provisions of the Book of Order which allow

a presbytery to delegate its powers to its committees and boards in certain circumstances. The specific language of G-9.0500 is one example of this. Under these provisions CPM is invested with a plethora of powers over myriad actions under G-14. 0410, et. seq. In each case, CPM can act without having to report or recommend. When a CPM acts under these powers, the act is that of the presbytery. Legally, this action is recognized as legal and binding on the presbytery under familiar agency principles and is final in all respects as the act of presbytery. If this were not so, then an act of a CPM which is never reported and never affirmed must of necessity be ultra vires and should not be allowed to stand. Mr. Priest submits that the ruling in the Preliminary Order discussed herein fails to consider this issue and is therefore subject to challenge.

6. The Preliminary Order states the proper method to challenge the action of a sub-entity of a governing body is through a motion to rescind or a motion to amend made to the body having jurisdiction over the sub-entity. This suggestion requires the person who should act to have standing. Under the conclusions stated in the Preliminary Order, Mr. Priest would not be able to act. This suggestion also fails to consider the ability of a committee acting at and for its governing body to be able to act without the necessity of reporting or having its action approved as argued above.

Complainant asks that if necessary, he might be permitted to raise any other issues that might be germane to this Challenge not yet set out, but which might become pertinent as the challenge proceeds.

Complainant also restates and incorporates by reference all arguments and submissions made by him in his Appeal, in the event an issue has been overlooked here inadvertently or in the event this Commission addresses other issues not raised herein.

CONCLUSION

Complainant asks as a part of his Challenge under D-6.0306 (a) that this pleading be accepted as an appropriate and timely filed Challenge, (b) that he be allowed to present evidence and argument on the findings in question, (c) that this appeal be limited to the Preliminary Order's ruling as to case 2011-109, since the ruling in case 2011-110 has not been challenged, and (d) that he and Appellee be allowed to submit Briefs prior to any hearing on the merits of his challenge to the jurisdictional deficiency cited herein under a schedule adopted by this Commission.

Complainant makes this Challenge to the decision of the Officers of this Commission set forth in the Preliminary Order of this Commission dated January 31, 2012 under D-8.0302a of the Book of Order.

This Challenge is signed by and on behalf of Appellant by Appellant and by Appellant's attorney, Archibald Wallace, III, as of the date shown opposite each place of signing.

This Challenge is signed by and on behalf of Appellant by Appellant and by Appellant's attorney, Archibald Wallace, III, as of the date shown opposite each place of signing.

Respectfully submitted.
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

2/27/12
Date

By: Archibald Wallace III
Minister of the Word and Sacrament (PCUSA)
Presbytery of the James
Counsel for Thomas H. Priest, Jr. and his designated
Agent for purposes of signing
this Challenge
Member of the Virginia and West Virginia Bars

2/27/12
Date

Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Individually

Certification of Service of Challenge

I hereby certify that a copy of the above Challenge was served upon the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly's PJC, at the offices of the General Assembly's PJC, 100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville, KY 40202, by Federal Express, and upon the Committee of Counsel for the Appellee, upon Elder Mark Schneider, 2701 Troy Center Drive, Troy, MI 48084, in a similar manner, this 27th day of February, 2012. Also served on Edward Kostner, for the Committee of Counsel, 17575 Hubbell St., Detroit, MI 48235 via Fed. Express.

Archibald Wallace III
Archibald Wallace, III
Counsel for
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

WALLACE PLEDGER, PLLC

Attorneys At Law

November 9, 2011

Archibald Wallace, III
Attorney

The Capstone Center
7100 Forest Avenue, Suite 302
Richmond, Virginia 23226
Telephone: (804) 282-8300
Facsimile: (804) 282-2555

e-mail: AXWallace@WallacePledger.com

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Stated Clerk
General Assembly's PJC
100 Witherspoon Street
Louisville, KY 40202

Re: *Remedial Case 2011-109 Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Vs. The Presbytery of Detroit*

Dear Clerk:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Thomas H. Priest, Jr. is his Statement of Challenge in the above-styled matter.

Sincerely,


Archibald Wallace, III

AW/jpb
cc:
Elder Mark Schneider
Edward Kostner
Diane Minter, Senior Administrative Assistant

**PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

 Thomas Priest, Jr.,)
 Appellant/Appellee (Complainant),)
 v.)
 Presbytery of Detroit,)
 Appellee/Appellant (Respondent).)

Preliminary Order
 Remedial Cases GA2011-109 and
 GA2011-110


These remedial cases come before the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission (GAPJC or this Commission) on appeals filed by Appellant/Appellee, Thomas Priest, Jr., and by Appellee/Appellant, Presbytery of Detroit, from a Decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant (SPJC) rendered on November 15, 2011.

On January 31, 2012, the Executive Committee (EC) of the GAPJC issued a Preliminary Order (PO) dismissing matter GA2011-109 on the basis that the Appellant/Appellee did not have standing to file the original Complaint, even though he was a party to the matter as adjudicated by the SPJC. In that Preliminary Order, the EC did not reach a determination on the issues of jurisdiction, timeliness or the statement of a claim upon which relief can be granted.

The PO further declared that this determination rendered GA2011-110 (which is a challenge from the Appellee/Appellant to the SPJC's determination that the Appellant/Appellee had standing to file the Complaint) moot "unless this Preliminary Order is challenged."

On February 29, 2012, the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly received a challenge to the PO from the Appellant/Appellee. Therefore, a hearing on the Challenge of the determination in question as well as on the full appeals in both cases (which are appeals to SPJC's determination of preliminary questions) will be scheduled for a time to be determined by the GAPJC.

Dated the 26th day of March, 2012.



 Gregory A. Goodwillier, Clerk
 Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly

**COVENANT OF
PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
AND
THE SECOND MILE CENTER OF DETROIT**

The Second Mile Center of Detroit (SMC) is a domestic non-profit corporation that was started by the Presbyterian Women of Detroit (PWPD) as an urban ministry in 2006. SMC is governed by a Board of Directors and their Bylaws. The Presbyterian Women of Detroit plays a vital role in this ministry and are integral to the Presbytery of Detroit (POD) community.

Presbytery of Detroit and The Second Mile Center of Detroit enter into a covenant to define their relationship and mutual commitment to encourage, support, promote and strengthen Christian Ministry within the Presbytery of Detroit. This covenant between POD and SMC affirms a present and historic relationship in which there is mutual purpose.

Presbytery of Detroit Covenants that it will:

- ❖ **Provide operational support to The Second Mile Center of Detroit including:**
 - Use of the Presbytery's facility located on 18391 Morang Detroit, MI. in accord with the Revocable License Agreement.
 - Access to funding through the Presbytery of Detroit, Synod, General Assembly, and other church related sources.
 - Endorse and recognize Extra Commitment Opportunity (ECO) giving by churches of the Presbytery in support of The Second Mile Center of Detroit.
- ❖ **Provide promotional support for The Second Mile Center of Detroit by:**
 - Encouraging women's, men's, youth and other church groups to volunteer services and to visit and plan activities for and with SMC.
 - As appropriate include SMC in promotional materials of the Presbytery.
- ❖ **Provide prayer support to SMC and its ministry.**

The Second Mile Center of Detroit Covenants that it will:

- ❖ Reach out on behalf of Christ through the POD and PWPD.

- ❖ Provide an Urban Ministry presence in the inner city of Detroit.
- ❖ Provide opportunities to strengthen Presbytery church members and groups through participation and service as volunteers in events, activities, and program services at SMC.
- ❖ Provide guidance when possible to other Presbytery related urban programs and outreach activities.
- ❖ Be responsive to requests for speaking engagements at Presbytery or individual church events on topics related to SMC ministry.
- ❖ Provide financial oversight and planning to keep the facilities in repair.
- ❖ Provide prayer support to POD and PWPD and its ministry.

This covenant may be amended from time to time as need arises in the mutual interest of the parties by their mutual consent.

For Presbytery of Detroit

For The Second Mile Center of Detroit

Date of Enactment

Date of Enactment

Allen Timm, Presbytery Executive
Presbytery of Detroit

Michael Bauhof, President
The Second Mile Center of Detroit

**The Presbytery of Detroit
Minutes of the Stated Meeting
June 26, 2012**

WE GATHERED IN GOD'S NAME

A quorum being present, the Presbytery of Detroit convened with litany and prayer in a stated meeting at 4:00 p.m. on June 26, 2012 at Novi Faith Presbyterian Church. James Porter moderated the meeting.

WE CELEBRATED OUR CONNECTIONS IN CHRIST

The Moderator appointed Gary McAleer as the Assistant to the Stated Clerk.

The Moderator greeted new teaching elders and elder commissioners.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk on behalf of the Coordinating Cabinet, Presbytery approved the docket

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery excused those who have requested to be excused.

Upon motion, the Presbytery seated as corresponding members Rose Niles of Hudson River Presbytery and David Gathanju of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa.

Richard Henderson welcomed the Presbytery to Faith Church.

Greetings from the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa.

The Rev David Gathanju, the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa, brought greetings to the Presbytery.

Jean Loup began moderating the meeting.

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR COMMUNITY

Reports

Peter Smith reported for the Committee on Local Arrangements for the 2014 General Assembly. He showed the video, *Abounding Hope*, which will be shown to the General Assembly in Pittsburgh next week.

Margaret Williams of the Social Justice and Peacemaking Team reported on the amendments to its policy on grants, which is appended in the minutes.

The Trustees presented their written report:

The Trustees report the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. The Trustees have met with the Riverside Administrative Committee regarding matters of mutual interest and expect the Riverside AC will continue to process the preparation of its concluding report shortly.
2. In reviewing the 2012 budget, the Trustees determined that there is a significant shortfall, and reported the matter to the Coordinating Cabinet and Planning and Visioning Team.
3. The Trustees approved a loan of \$5,049.30 to Sterling Heights New Life church for emergency sewer repairs.

4. The Trustees report the Presbytery has been served as a defendant in a suit for damages by Mary Solano about an incident at Garden City Church. The matter has been referred to our insurance providers.
5. The Trustees are in consultation with the Committee on Local Arrangements for the 2014 General Assembly about accounting procedures.
6. The Trustees have extended the license agreement for the Hispanic Probe's use of the Southwest Church property to 12/31/12.
7. The Trustees have approved an agreement with a realtor to sell the Hartland Property.
8. The Trustees have approved a 12-month moratorium of interest and principal on the loan amount owed by Macomb Covenant.
9. The Trustees heard a report on the status of Port Huron Westminster. The Stated Clerk has been in contact with officials of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church about its reception of Westminster. To date that transfer has not occurred. Westminster remains a congregation of the Presbytery of Detroit until such time as it is received by the EPC and has paid the amount agreed in the settlement.
10. The Trustees have approved a new Trustee procedure, T-16:
All disbursements to an organizing pastor or a new church development shall be made through the Presbytery's financial procedures until the new church development is chartered.

Estelle Aarons reported on leadership training for facilitators for churches.

Mary Lloyd reported on Gleaners food collection box, Habitat for Humanity and Garden Gatherers.

Dorothy Seabrooks reported on the Black Caucus celebration of the career of Virgil Jones.

James Porter resumed moderating the meeting.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

The Moderator offered a prayer for openness.

Special Order of the Day. Responses to Perceived Threats, as Illustrated by the Trayvon Martin Incident.

Mr Porter introduced the process we will follow in addressing the perceived threats of the African American community as illustrated by the Trayvon Martin Incident.

The Presbytery recessed to meet in small groups for a Kaleidoscope Bible Study.

WE SHARED GOD'S BOUNTY

The Presbytery recessed for dinner at 6:00 p.m.

WE PROCLAIMED THE GOOD NEWS

The Presbytery reconvened at 7:00 p.m for worship. Rose Niles, Theological Education Fund Office, General Assembly Mission Council, preached.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY cont'd

The Presbytery heard responses to the perceived threats as illustrated by the Trayvon Martin incident from Barbara Smith, Tom Priest, Kent Clise, and Michael Barconey.

Acting Executive Presbyter's Report. Richard Brownlee reported

Richard Brownlee reported on celebrations and anniversaries of ordination, totaling 630 years of ordained ministry.

BUSINESS ADOPTED BY MOTION AND DEBATE

Treasurer. Alvin Smith reported

Mr Smith presented his treasurer report as of 4/30/12, which is appended to the minutes.

Coordinating Cabinet. Dianne Bostic Robinson reported for the Coordinating Cabinet.

Upon motion of the Coordinating Cabinet, Presbytery voted to:

1. Approve the amendments to Presbytery Policy P-21 as indicated:

P-21 Questions to Candidates

When a candidate is received under care of the Presbytery, the Moderator shall ask the following questions of the candidate before the candidate is declared enrolled:

Do you believe yourself to be called by God to ~~the ministry of the Word and Sacrament?~~ *the ordered ministry of teaching elder?*

Do you promise in reliance upon the grace of God to maintain a Christian character and conduct, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for this ministry?

Do you accept the proper supervision of the presbytery in matters that concern your preparation for this ministry?

Do you desire now to be received by this presbytery as a candidate for the ~~ministry of the Word and Sacrament~~ *the ordered ministry of teaching elder* in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)?

If these questions are answered in the affirmative, a brief charge shall be given, the candidate's name shall be recorded on the presbytery's roll of candidates, and the proceedings shall close with prayer.

2. Approve amendments to the 2012 budget in the amount of \$150,000 as indicated in the appended budget.

The Coordinating Cabinet reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. The Coordinating Cabinet received a report from the Trustees in May that there were serious difficulties with the budget. The Planning and Visioning Team reviewed the matter and made recommendations to the 2012 budget that were approved at its June meeting for approval by the Presbytery.
2. The Coordinating Cabinet heard a request from the Black Caucus for the Presbytery to address the Trayvon Martin matter. The request was referred to the Social Justice and Peacemaking Team, which brings the matter to this evening's meeting.
3. The Coordinating Cabinet heard a report from Presbyterian Women that the Second Mile Center has been granted 501(c)3 status by the IRS. Second Mile Center will shift all of its

personnel, financial and administrative functions that are now done by the Presbytery to its Board by July 1.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry. Beth Downs reported for the Committee.

The Committee reported the following for the information.

Consultation Reports

For Teaching Elder (Minister of Word and Sacrament):

1. CPM met with the following candidates on the dates noted and sustained their Annual Consultations.

Dan Heaton	First, Birmingham	May 6, 2012
Emma Ouellette	First, Allen Park	May 6, 2012
Edwin Fabre	Calvary, Detroit	June 5, 2012

2. CPM met with the following inquirer, sustained her annual consultations, and recommend that she be presented on the floor of Presbytery for approval to move her to candidacy status.

Allyson Brosky	First, Birmingham	June 5, 2012
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3. CPM met with the following inquirer, sustained her annual consultations, and recommend that she be presented on the floor of Presbytery for approval to move her to candidacy status.

Heidi Church	First, Ypsilanti	June 5, 2012
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For Commissioned Ruling Elder (formerly Commissioned Lay Pastor):

1. CPM met with the following Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) student, sustained her annual consultation, and certified her as an eligible CRE.

Anne Lyke	First, South Lyon	May 6, 2012
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2. CPM met with the following Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) for final certification and recommended further action.

Kerry Border	New Life, Sterling Hgts	June 5, 2012
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The Committee reported that Michael Horlocker has met the requirements for ordination, has received his M.Div. from the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit, was given Final Assessment by this presbytery in 2010, and has received a call as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, South Lyon, MI. They presented Mr Horlocker for examination for ordination as a teaching elder. Mr Horlocker presented his statement of faith. The Presbytery examined Mr Horlocker on his faith, views in theology, the Bible, the Sacraments, and the government of the church. Upon motion, the Presbytery voted to arrest the examination, and after discussion, voted to approve him for ordination to the ordered ministry of teaching elder.

The Committee present Jeff Kline, a member under the care of Royal Oak First, for examination for candidacy. Mr Kline reported on his sense of vocation. The Presbytery examined Mr Kline on his sense of call. Upon motion the Presbytery voted to arrest his examination, and after discussion voted to enroll him as a candidate for the ordered ministry of teaching elder.

The Committee presented Heidi Church, a member under care of Ypsilanti First Presbyterian Church, for examination for candidacy. Ms Church reported on her sense of vocation. The Presbytery examined Ms Church on her sense of call. Upon motion the Presbytery voted to arrest her examination, and after discussion voted to enroll her as a candidate for the ordered ministry of teaching elder.

The moderator invited Mr Kline and Ms Church and their friends and families forward. The Moderator asked Mr Kline and Ms Church the questions from Presbytery policy P-21, and on their affirmative answers gave a brief prayer and directed they be enrolled as candidates for teaching elder.

The Committee reported that it had approved the Committee on Ministry Manual of Administrative Operations and that it is designated policy CPM-1, and it replaces policies CPM-1, CPM-3, CPM-4, CPM-5, CPM-6, CPM-7 and CPM-8. The Manual is appended to the minutes.

The Committee reported it has approved the *Manual and Resource Guide for Commissioned Ruling Elder Candidates*, which will be presented at the next meeting of Presbytery. It will be Policy CPM-2, and replaces the current CPM-2. "Policy for Commissioned Lay Pastors".

Committee on Ministry Dixie Elam reported for the Committee.

Upon motion of the Committee, Presbytery voted to:

1. Transfer Rev. Frederick Lee to San Gabriel Presbytery to serve as the Organizing Pastor of the Covenant Taiwanese New Church Development in Diamond Bar, California.
2. Transfer Rev. Duke Morrow to the Yukon Presbytery.
3. Receive into the Presbytery of Detroit Rev. Steven Nuss, from the Lake Michigan Presbytery, to serve in a validated ministry as chaplain at Henry Ford Hospice.
4. Receive into the Presbytery of Detroit Rev. Bob Agnew as Honorably Retired, from Indianapolis.
5. Dissolve the pastoral relationship between Rev. Traci Smith and Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, effective September 15, 2012.
6. Close the Associate Pastor position at Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, effective September 15, 2012.
7. Transfer Rev. Traci Smith to Mission Presbytery, effective September 15, 2012. Rev. Smith has accepted a call to serve Northwood Presbyterian Church in San Antonio, TX.
8. Release Rev. Terri Gast from the ministry at her own request.
9. Dissolve the pastoral relationship between Rev. Guy Ferguson and Auburn Hills effective September 1, 2012.
10. Approve the call as Pastor to Rev. Adam Grosch from Lake Shore, St. Clair Shores, effective August 15, 2012.
 Terms of Call: Fulltime, Salary \$38,500; Housing \$24,000; Medical allowance \$625; Pension \$20,357.81; Social Security \$4,829.06; IRA Contribution \$1,562.50; Dental Plan \$437.50; Auto/Travel \$1,200; Continuing Education \$1,500; Business Expenses \$500; Professional Expenses \$1,500. Vacation: 4 weeks, including 4 Sundays; Continuing Education: 2 weeks, including 2 Sundays. One time moving expenses of up to \$8,000. Within the first year, Rev. Grosch will attend a Pastors in Transition Program with the cost borne by the church. AAEEO Guidelines were followed in this search.
11. Approve the call as Pastor to Michael Horlocker from First, South Lyon, pending his examination by the Presbytery, effective August 26, 2012.
 Terms of Call: Fulltime, Salary \$27,867.70; Use of Manse \$11,943.30; Medical Allowance \$796; Pension \$13,096; Social Security \$3,106; Auto/Travel \$866; Continuing Education \$1,400. Vacation: 4 weeks, including 4 Sundays; Continuing

Education: 2 weeks, including 2 Sundays. One time moving expenses of up to \$2,000.

Within the first year, Michael Horlocker will attend a Pastors in Transition Program with the cost borne by the church. AAEEEO Guidelines were followed in this search.

12. Approve the termination of the Temporary Pastoral Relationship as Interim Pastor between Cherry Hill and Rev. M. Douglas Campbell effective August 31, 2012.

The Committee reported that under the authority it has been given, it has:

1. Approved the request from South Lyon to hold a congregational meeting May 20, 2012, for the purpose of calling a pastor, pending examination of the candidate and $\frac{3}{4}$ approval by Presbytery at the June meeting. Terms of Call are in order.
2. Approved the Administrative Commission for the installation of Mary Austin on June 17, 2012, at 10:00 AM, at Westminster, Detroit.

Moderator: Dianne Bostic Robinson

Clergy: Rev. Charlotte Sommers, Rev. Estelle Aaron, Rev. Ernest Krug

Elders: Adrienne Adams (Calvary), Sean Neall (Westminster, Detroit), Henry Johnson (First, Ann Arbor), Sara Scott (First, Birmingham).

Other Participants: Chris Gannon (St. James Episcopal Church, Birmingham), and Cindy Merten (First, Birmingham).

3. Approved the 12 month Parish Associate contract between Kirk of Our Savior, and Rev. Dr. Drew Tomberlin, effective May 10, 2012. The contract is without remuneration.
4. Approved the call as Pastor to Rev. Gregory C. Zurakowski from Belleville, effective February 15, 2012.

Terms of Call: Fulltime; Salary \$19,325.50; Housing \$19,325.50; Medical allowance \$773; Pension \$12,419; Social Security \$3,016; Auto/Travel \$1,100; Continuing Education \$750; Business Expenses \$750. Vacation: 4 weeks, including 4 Sundays; Continuing Education: 2 weeks, including 2 Sundays. Within the first year, Rev. Zurakowski will attend a Pastors in Transition Program with the cost borne by the church. AAEEEO Guidelines were followed in this search.

5. Approved the twelve month Temporary Supply Associate Pastor contract between Orchard Lake and Mary Louise Bahr-Jones, effective June 1, 2012.

Terms: Salary \$3,942.80; Housing \$28,000; Social Security \$2,443.62; Pension \$10,061.98; Medical Deductible \$800; Travel \$1,125; Study leave \$750; Dental insurance \$1,326.60. Vacation: One month, including 4 Sundays; Study Leave: 2 weeks.

The Committee reported the following for the information of Presbytery. It has:

1. Passed a motion recommending that the members of a former teaching elder's immediate family not serve on any Pastoral Nominating Committee within the congregation where the teaching elder served.
2. Accepted the "Fringe Benefits Compensation or Employees' Compensation Options" document with the addition to extend the tax annuity program to church employees who choose to sign up.
3. Granted permission for Lorolie Andrews, a member of UCC, to circulate her PIF within the Presbytery of Detroit.
4. Approved the request from Auburn Hills to place Rev. Guy Ferguson on medical leave for the period of June 1-August 31, 2012.

5. Approved the Church Information Form for Lincoln Park, Allen Park, and Milford.
6. Approved the position description and salary package (not to exceed \$100,000) for a Temporary Supply Associate Pastor at First, Northville.
7. Approved the position description and salary package for Interim Temporary Supply at Cherry Hill.
8. Appointed Linda Anderson to serve as moderator at the congregational meeting at South Lyon on May 20, 2012.
9. Appointed Dixie Elam moderator at Auburn Hills, for the June 3, 2012, meeting.
10. Appointed Craig Aue moderator at Auburn Hills, beginning June 11, 2012.
11. Appointed Ruthanne Bourlier moderator at Broadstreet, Detroit beginning June 10, 2012.

Stated Clerk. Edward Koster reported.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery voted to:

1. Approve the minutes of April 24, 2012.
2. Approve the report of the following Commission and append it to the minutes:
Installation of Paul Stunkel as Pastor of Livonia St Paul's on May 20, 2012
3. Invite Elder Kennedy Kamau of Thika Presbytery to the Presbytery in October and to address the October meeting of Presbytery.
4. Dismiss Investigating Committee 2011-1 with thanks.

The Stated Clerk reported the following to the Presbytery for its information:

1. The Stated Clerk read the decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission in the case the *Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) v. The Rev Matthew Morse*, 2012-01. The decision is appended to the minutes.
2. Members Transferred
To the Church Triumphant:
LeRoy Peterson, 3/12/12
Charles McCloskey on 6/26/12
3. Judicial Process
 - a) A complaint against a member of the Presbytery has been received. Investigating Committee 2012-01 has been formed: Bryan Smith, Patricia McCrary, and Michael Hartmann.
 - b) The General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission has issued an order scheduling the hearing of the appeal of Thomas Priest on the dismissal of his complaint by the Synod of the Covenant. The order calls for the parties to submit briefs on the issues. The briefs of the Presbytery of Detroit and Thomas Priest are appended. The pleadings are appended to the minutes.

Ms Loup began moderating the meeting.

After offering prayers of joys, thanksgiving and intercession, the Presbytery adjourned at 9:43 pm.

The next meeting of the Presbytery will be Tuesday, August 28, 2012 at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church.

ATTEST:



EDWARD KOSTER, Stated Clerk

ATTACHMENT ONE: The Roll

- APPENDICES:
- Social Justice and Peacemaking Team Policy on Grants
 - Treasurer's Report
 - Amended 2012 Budget
 - Installation Commission of Paul Stunkel
 - Committee on Preparation for Ministry Policy CPM-1
 - Decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission in the matter of Matthew Morse
 - General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission Order ordering a hearing in the matter of Thomas Priest v the Presbytery of Detroit
 - The brief of Thomas Priest on appeal.
 - The brief of the Presbytery of Detroit on appeal

ATTACHMENT ONE: THE ROLL

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY FOR June 26, 2012

- CHURCHES: Of 83 churches, 47 were represented and 36 were not.
- COMMISSIONERS: Of 126 eligible commissioners, 63 enrolled, and 6 did not.
- OTHER RULING ELDERS (Officers, Members of Council)::
- Of 21 total, 10 were present, of whom 0 counted as commissioners, leaving 10 as the unduplicated count: 8 excused, and 3 absent.
- TEACHING ELDERS:
- Of the 146 non-retired teaching elders on the combined rolls of active members and members-at-large, 59 were present, 36 were excused, and 61 were absent.
 - Of the 81 retired teaching elders on the rolls, 9 were present and 72 were excused.
- COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS AND CERTIFIED EDUCATORS:
- Of the 0 Commissioned Law Pastor on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 0 absent
 - Of the 0 Certified Educators on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 0 absent.

SUMMARY

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

	63	Ruling Elder Commissioners
+	10	Other Ruling Elders
+	59	Non-retired teaching elders

- + 9 Retired teaching elders
 = 0 Commissioned lay pastors.
 = 0 Certified educators.
 = 141 Voting members present.

OTHERS PRESENT

- 5 Non-voting attendees
 2 Corresponding members

Ruling Elder Commissioners

ALLEN PARK, Allen Park
 1 ROBERT MORTON
 2 CYNTHIA HARMON
 3
 ANN ARBOR, Calvary
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 ANN ARBOR, First
 1 RUTH BARNARD
 2 BEN VAN TUYL
 3
 4
 ANN ARBOR, Northside
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 ANN ARBOR, Westminster
 1 GUY CLAYPOOL
 AUBURN HILLS, Auburn Hills
 1 VIOLET SMITH
 BELLEVILLE, Belleville
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 BERKLEY, Greenfield
 1 KATHLEEN PRUKNER
 BEVERLY HILLS, Northbrook
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 BIRMINGHAM, First
 1 ROSY LATIMORE
 2 AL HUBERTY
 3 KEITH BUTLE
 BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Kirk/Hills
 1 LYNNE CARPENTER
 2
 3
 4
 5
 BRIGHTON, First
 1 KAY MICBACLS
 2 LISA SANZICA
 CANTON, Geneva
 1 MICHAEL GAUBATZ
 CLARKSTON, Sashabaw
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 DEARBORN, Cherry Hill
 1 JULIUS OTTENS
 DEARBORN, First
 1 JIM BARBER
 DEARBORN, Littlefield
 1 ROGER SCHEBOR
 DEARBORN HGTS, St. Andrew's
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 DETROIT, Broadstreet
 1 LAWRENCE GLENN
 2
 DETROIT, Calvary
 1 DARRELL REYNOLDS
 2 JEFFREY BANKS
 DETROIT, Calvin East
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 DETROIT, First

1 NOT REPRESENTED
 DETROIT, Fort Street
 1 BOB PONDER
 DETROIT, Gratiot Avenue
 1 GREG SYKES
 2
 DETROIT, Hope
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 DETROIT, Jefferson Avenue
 1 JOHN LONEGREN
 2 MARY WATERSTONE
 DETROIT, Riverside
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 DETROIT, St. John's
 1 JEANE V. MOORE
 2
 DETROIT, Trinity Community
 1 NATALIE BROTHERS
 2 FRANCIS BEEMAN
 DETROIT, Trumbull Avenue
 1 MARTHA SINGLEY
 2 MARY HOWARD
 DETROIT, Westminster
 1 MARGARET WHITEHEAD
 2
 FARMINGTON, First
 1 JAN SULL
 2
 FERNDALE, Drayton Avenue
 1 ILLEGIBLE
 FORT GRATIOT, Lakeshore
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 GARDEN CITY, Garden City
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 GROSSE ILE, Grosse Ile
 1 DON HILL
 2 JIM RYAN
 GROSSE POINTE, Memorial
 1 BILL BROWN
 2
 3
 GROSSE PTE WOODS, Woods
 1 MARK GAWELS
 2 SUSAN MATTINGLY
 HIGHLAND PARK, Park United
 1 MARIE HUGHLEY
 2
 HOWELL, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 LINCOLN PARK, Lincoln Park
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 LIVONIA, Rosedale Gardens
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 LIVONIA, St. Paul's
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 LIVONIA, St. Timothy's

1 NOT REPRESENTED
 MACOMB, Church/Covenant
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 MILAN, Peoples
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 MILFORD, Milford
 1 BRUCE GILBERT
 2 MARTY MARTIN
 MT. CLEMENS, First
 1 PHYLLIS MATTHEW
 NORTHVILLE, First
 1 DAVID GINGRICH
 2 SANDY TANNER
 3 LOIS FULLER
 NOVI, Faith Community
 1 SUE WATSON
 ORCHARD LAKE, Community
 1 DAVID DUTTON
 2
 PLYMOUTH, First
 1 JACK FARROW
 2
 3
 PONTIAC, First
 1 HAROLD BURLTGER
 PONTIAC, Joslyn Avenue
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 PORT HURON, First
 1 HOWARD BORGMAN
 2 STEVE AHLQUIST
 PORT HURON, Westminster
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 REDFORD, St. James
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 ROCHESTER, University
 1 DOUG DENTON
 2
 ROSEVILLE, Erin
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 ROYAL OAK, First
 1 SALLY GILREATH
 2 SUSAN ADAMS
 ROYAL OAK, Point of Vision
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 ROYAL OAK, Starr
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 SALINE, First
 1 BECKY MCVEY
 SHELBY TWP., St. Thomas
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 SOUTH LYON, First
 1 JOSEPH L. SCHAFFER
 SOUTHFIELD, Covenant
 1 BARBARA SMITH
 SOUTHFIELD, Korean
 1 SEUNGMO LEE
 2
 3

SOUTHFIELD, New Hope
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
ST. CLAIR SHORES, Heritage
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ST. CLAIR SHORES, Lake Shore
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
STERLING HGTS, New Life
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
TAYLOR, Southminster
 1 NOT REPRESENTED

TROY, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
TROY, Korean First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
TROY, Northminster
 1 JULIE SIGLER
WALLED LAKE, Crossroads
 1 SHARON PACHEET
WARREN, Celtic Cross
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WARREN, First

1 COZETH J. SHEPINSKI
WATERFORD, Community
 1 CINDY BAIRD
WESTLAND, Kirk of Our Savior
 1 ELL GARCIA
WHITE LAKE, White Lake
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WYANDOTTE, Wyandotte
 1 DENISE ROBERTS
YPSILANTI, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED

Ruling and Teaching Elder Members

C. RULING ELDER MEMBERS
 P ANDERSON, FRANCILE, PM
 P BOSTIC-ROBINSON, DIANE, PM
 A CLARK, SAM
 E ELAM, DIXIE, PM
 E ELLIS, HAROLD
 A EMMERT, JOHN
 E HYLKEMA, CAROL, PM
 P LEWIS, STEFANIE
 P LOUP, JEAN
 P MORGAN, DONALD
 E MORRISON, HELEN, PM
 P MORTON, JANET
 E PITTS, FRANCES, PM
 P PRIEST, TOM, PM
 E SEABROOKS, DOROTHY M., PM
 E SHIRLEY, JAMES, PM
 P SMITH, ALVIN
 P SMITH, KENNETH, PM
 A SZWED, ROBERT
 P WILLIAMSON, MAEGARET
 E WINSLOW, PAUL, PM

**D. NON-RETIRED TEACHING
 ELDERS**
 P ADAMS, WILLIAM L III
 P ANDERSON, BARBARA S
 P ANDERSON, LINDA
 P ANDERSON, LINDSEY
 P ANDREWS, DOYLL
 E ARAKELIAN, ELIZABETH
 P AUE, CRAIG
 E AUSTIN, MARY
 P BAHR-JONES, MARY
 E *BAILEY, CLOVER
 A BIEDSDORF, JOHN
 A BLAIKIE, DOUGLAS
 A BLEIVIK, DAVID
 E BOHN, CHRISTINE
 A BOLT, KENNETH
 P BOURLIER, RUTHANNE
 A BOUSQUETTE, PAUL
 A CAMPBELL, DOUGLAS
 A CAMPBELL, EMILY
 P CARL, STEPHEN
 A CHEN, HAO-THE
 A CHOI, SEUNG
 E *CHOI, SEUNG KOO
 P CLARK, JENNIFER
 P CLARK, STEVEN
 A COCHRAN, LINDA
 A COOPER, QUINCY
 P COWLING, NEIL D.
 A DAVIS, ROXIE ANN
 P DAVIS, WILLIAM

A DE ORIO, ANTHONY
 P DELANEY, BETH
 E *DENNIS, WARREN
 P DOWNS, ELIZABETH
 A DOYLE-HOHF, KATHLEEN
 E *DYKSTRA, CRAIG R.
 A ELE, HERSCHEL
 A FAILE, JAMES
 E FAIR, FAIRFAX
 A FERGUSON, GUY THOMAS
 A FORGER, DEBORAH
 P FRANCIS, RAPHAEL B.
 A GABEL, PETER W.
 E *GAST, TERRI
 P GEISELMAN, KEITH
 E GERE, BREWSTER
 A GRANO, MARIANNE
 A HANNA, RAAFAT
 A HARMON, BREANNE
 E *HARRIS, R. JOHN
 P HARTLEY, THOMAS
 P HAYES, FRANCES
 P HENDERSON, RICHARD
 P HENRY, PETER J. M.
 A HOFFMAN, MICHAEL (CRE)
 E HUFF, JASON
 P JOHNSON, KEVIN
 A JONES, RICHARD
 E JUDSON, JOHN
 P KAIBEL, KENNETH
 A KIDDER, ANNEMARIE
 E *KIM, Y. MONCH
 E *KIM, YOUNGCHUL
 E KING, CATHERINE
 A KLINGER, JAMIE
 P KOSTER, EDWARD H.
 E KRUG, ERNEST
 A KUMIN, JAMES
 A MABEE, CHARLES
 P MADDEN, JULIE
 P McCLOSKEY-TURNER, CATHARINE
 A McGOWAN, EVANS
 A McMILLAN, JUDITH
 A McRAE, BARBARA
 A MEANS, MATTHEW
 P MELROSE, SUE ELLIS
 P MICHALEK, DANIEL
 P MILLER, J. SCOTT
 E MISHLER, JOHN
 A MONNETT, JAMES
 P MOOK, SHARON
 P MOORE, PETER
 P MORGAN, AMY
 A MORSE, MATTHEW
 A MOZENA, SUSAN

P NICHOLS, NEETA
 P NICKEL, EMMA
 A NICKEL, MATTHEW
 P OBERG, ARTHUR
 A OLIVER, GARY
 A PARKER, OPELTON
 P PAVELKO, JOHN H.
 A PEARSON, BRENNAN
 P PICKRELL, BROOKE
 A PIECUCH, KEVIN
 P PITTMAN, JASON
 P PORTER, JAMES
 P PORTICE, GEORGE
 A PRENTICE-HYERS, DAVID
 A PRENTICE-HYERS, MARY ELIZABETH
 E PRITCHARD, NORMAN
 P PUNTIGAM, JOEL
 P REED, PHILIP
 A RICE, ELIZABETH
 A RICE, THOMAS
 A RIKE, JENNIFER
 P RITTER, W STUART
 P RIZER, JAMES A
 A ROGERS, MELISSA ANNE
 A SCHAEFER, ANNE N.
 P SEILER, GORDON (CRE)
 E *SHIH, SHENG-TO
 A SHINN, DAVID
 P SHIPMAN, JUDY
 E *SHREVE, MAGGIE
 P SHRIVER, KELLY
 A SIAS-LEE, LAURA
 E *SIMONS, SCOTT W.
 A SKIMINS, JAMES
 P SMALLLEY, DIANE
 A SMITH, BRYAN DEAN
 P SMITH, PETER C.
 P SMITH, TRACI
 P SOEHL, HOWARD
 P SOHN, YO SUP
 A SOMMERS, CHARLOTTE
 P STUNKEL, KAREN
 A STUNKEL, PAUL
 A TATE, CAROL ANN
 E THOMAS, CHRISTOPHER
 THOMPSON, G. PATRICK
 P THORESEN, KATHRYN R.
 P THWAITE, PAUL
 E TIMM, ALLEN D
 A TOMBERLIN, DREW
 A TUCKER-LLOYD, IRIS
 E *VAN SLUIJS, HENDRICK
 A WHITLOCK, KELLIE
 A WILHELMI, MARJORIE
 A WINGROVE, WILLIAM N

A WOO, BYEONGJIN
 P WRZESZCZ, JENNIFER PARKER
 P WRZESZCZ, MATTHEW PARKER
 P YU, SEUNG WON
 A ZAMBON, WILLIAM
 P ZURAKOWSKI, GREGORY

D. RETIRED TEACHING ELDERS

P AARON, ESTELLE
 P ACTON, ELLEN
 E ALBRECHT, GLORIA
 E ANDERSON, JAMES
 E AUSTIN, ANNA MARIE
 E AUSTIN, LARRY
 P BEERY, ELDON
 E BENEDICT, IVAN L.
 E BOEVE, PETER
 E BORCHARDT, HENRY
 E BORCHARDT, JUDITH
 P BROWNLEE, RICHARD
 E BYARS, RONALD
 E CAMPBELL, VERN
 E CAPPS, HARRY
 E CARTER, DOUGLAS D.
 E CATER, LAWRENCE H.
 E CHAMBERLAIN, LAWRENCE
 E CHAMBERS, JAMES C.
 E CHOI, IN SOON
 P CLISE, W. KENT
 E COBLEIGH, GERALD R.
 E COLON, LOIS
 E CONLEY, JAMES H.
 E CORSO, LINDA
 E CRILLEY, ROBERT
 E CROSS, PAUL D.
 P DENTON, GRETCHEN

E DUNCAN, THOMAS
 E DUNIFON, WILLIAM
 E ELLENS, J. HAROLD
 E FINDLAY, WILLIAM
 E FORSYTH, E. DICKSON
 E FOSTER, JOHN
 E GEPFORD, WILLIAM G.
 P GLENN, LAWRENCE T.
 E HANNA, J. RICHARD
 E HARP, WILLIAM S.
 E HATCHER, RUFUS
 E HEINRICHS, THOMSON
 E HELMKE, BEN
 E JANSEN, ROBERT
 E JEFFREY, JOHN
 E JONES, VIRGIL L.
 E KESLER, JAMES W.
 E KIM, T. ANDREW
 E KNUDSEN, RAYMOND
 E KOGEL, LYNNE
 E KREHBIEL, DAVID E.
 E LAMBERT, ROY F.
 E LANGWIG, JANICE
 E LANGWIG, ROY
 E LARSON, ROBERT F.
 E LISTER, KENNETH D.
 E LONGWOOD, MARJORIE
 E MacINNES, JOHN D.
 E MARVIN, FRANK C., JR.
 E McINTYRE, DEWITT
 E MIHOCKO, DAVID
 E NUSSDORFER, GUS
 P OLSON, PHILIP
 E ORR, ROBERT C.
 E OWEN, DAVID
 E PETERS, RICHARD

E POLKOWSKI, WILLIAM
 E PRICE, MICHAEL T.
 E PROVOST, KEITH
 E PRUES, LOUIS J.
 E RATCLIFFE, ALBERT H.
 E ROBERTSON, ANN
 E ROBERTSON, DAVID W.
 E ROBERTSON, WILLIAM
 P RUSSELL, JAMES P.
 E SCRIBNER, LOREN
 E SUTTON, PAUL
 E TAYLOR, J. BERNARD
 E TAYLOR, THEODORE, II
 E WRIGHT, DONALD
 E YOON, HAK SUK
 E YUE, MYUNG JA
 E ZIEGLER, JACK T.

E. STAFF & OTHERS

P BARCONEY, CHARON
 P FABRÉ, EDWIN
 GRANT, RICHARD
 P HIGGINS, JOANNE
 P HORLOCKER, MICHEL
 P LLOYD, MARY
 A VANDERBEEK, RONALD

F. CERT. ASSOC. CHRISTIAN ED.

A PRICE, LAURA

G. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

NILES, ROSE
 HUDSON RIVER, GAMC STAFF
 OXTOBY, THOMAS C.
 SACRAMENTO

SJP-1 Policy on Grants

1. Peacemaking Offering funds are available for use by churches and organizations within the bounds of the Presbytery of Detroit who wish to sponsor a special peacemaking program or event.
2. Applications for Peacemaking Offering Grants will be received by the Social Justice & Peacemaking (SJP) Team of the Presbytery of Detroit at any time.
3. Applications should be made on the form provided by the SJP Team, available on the Presbytery's website.
4. Action will be taken by the SJP Team three times a year on all applications received ~~within~~ AT LEAST 60 days prior to their meeting day.
5. ~~Meetings when action takes place will ordinarily be in March, June, & October.~~
6. ~~There will be a public announcement on the Presbytery website at least 90 days prior to the date of the meetings when the SJP Team will act on grant applications.~~
7. No church or organization will be eligible to receive a grant, if they have received one within the previous twelve months.
8. All grant recipients must submit quarterly reports, including financial reports, to the SJP Team until the grant funds are exhausted.
9. Grants will be limited to \$2,500.00 or less, based on the present amount of annual income from the Peacemaking Offering. Should the annual income increase, this policy will be reviewed by the SJP Team.

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Overall By Committee
From 4/1/2012 Through 4/30/2012

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	Percent Total Budget Remaining
Revenue				
Committee on Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Trustees	54,101.90	192,010.37	892,742.00	(78.49)%
Presbytery Operations	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Congregational Life	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	6,300.00	7,300.00	(13.70)%
Mission Interpretation	970.00	4,915.30	6,640.00	(25.97)%
Nurture & Support	0.00	900.00	1,000.00	(10.00)%
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Outdoor Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Presbyterian Women	0.00	500.00	2,000.00	(75.00)%
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Coordinating Cabinet	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Total Revenue	<u>55,071.90</u>	<u>204,625.67</u>	<u>918,682.00</u>	<u>(77.73)%</u>
Expense				
Committee on Ministry	0.00	2,028.06	13,630.00	85.14%
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	17.36	4,500.00	89.61%
Trustees	8,218.04	35,609.14	135,000.00	73.62%
Presbytery Operations	31,219.49	121,004.34	407,012.83	70.27%
Congregational Life	2,750.00	7,489.81	29,500.00	74.61%
Social Justice & Peace	6,858.00	23,733.53	61,880.00	61.65%
Mission Interpretation	8,269.33	25,860.94	67,240.00	61.54%
Nurture & Support	2,583.24	11,324.62	42,250.00	73.20%
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	803.56	2,416.48	29,300.00	91.75%
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	3,540.22	16,076.21	95,800.00	83.24%
Outdoor Ministry	3,651.41	14,605.64	43,817.00	66.67%
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	4,300.00	100.00%
Planning & Visioning	0.00	0.00	4,200.00	100.00%
Coordinating Cabinet	167.89	568.01	5,211.00	89.10%
Total Expense	<u>67,849.18</u>	<u>260,732.14</u>	<u>943,740.83</u>	<u>72.37%</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(12,777.28)</u>	<u>(56,106.47)</u>	<u>(25,058.83)</u>	<u>123.90%</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Comparative Overall By Committee Fund 100
From 4/1/2012 Through 4/30/2012

	2012 Current Month Actual	2012 Current Year Actual	2011 Prior Year Actual	Current Year % Change
Revenue				
Trustees	54,101.90	192,010.37	239,410.73	(19.80)
Congregational Life	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	6,300.00	6,800.00	(7.35)
Mission Interpretation	970.00	4,915.30	7,080.09	(30.58)
Nurture & Support	0.00	900.00	1,500.00	(40.00)
New Church	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	(100.00)
Dev/Redevelopment				
Presbyterian Women	0.00	500.00	500.00	0.00
Metro Urban Ministry	0.00	0.00	500.00	(100.00)
Team				
Total Revenue	<u>55,071.90</u>	<u>204,625.67</u>	<u>259,790.82</u>	<u>(21.23)</u>
Expense				
Committee on Ministry	0.00	2,026.06	5,757.73	(64.81)
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	17.36	0.00	100.00
Trustees	8,216.04	35,609.14	32,778.26	8.64
Presbytery Operations	31,219.49	121,004.34	124,996.76	(3.19)
Congregational Life	2,750.00	7,489.81	3,548.93	111.04
Social Justice & Peace	6,858.00	23,733.53	23,516.37	0.92
Mission Interpretation	8,259.33	25,860.94	20,552.97	25.83
Nurture & Support	2,583.24	11,324.62	8,959.87	26.39
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	603.56	2,416.48	3,442.04	(29.80)
New Church	3,540.22	16,076.21	26,108.50	(38.43)
Dev/Redevelopment				
Outdoor Ministry	3,651.41	14,605.64	14,552.32	0.37
Planning & Visioning	0.00	0.00	114.89	(100.00)
Coordinating Cabinet	167.89	568.01	270.58	109.92
Total Expense	<u>67,849.18</u>	<u>260,732.14</u>	<u>264,599.22</u>	<u>(1.46)</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(12,777.28)</u>	<u>(56,106.47)</u>	<u>(4,808.40)</u>	<u>1,066.84</u>

Paper D-1a

Amended Budget
The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Overall By Committee - Unposted Transactions Included In Report
From 5/1/2012 Through 5/30/2012

	This Month	Year to Date	2012 Summary of	
	Actual	Actual	2012 Budget	Total Budget Cuts
Revenue				
Committee on Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Trustees*	35,694.96	227,606.33	882,742.00	787,852.00 30,000.00
Presbytery Operations	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Congregational Life	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	6,300.00	7,300.00	13,029.46
Mission Interpretation	470.00	5,385.30	31,620.00	31,620.00
Nurture & Support	0.00	900.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Spiritual Formation & Faith	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	5,769.48
Development				
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Outdoor Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Presbyterian Women	0.00	500.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Coordinating Cabinet	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Total Revenue	36,064.96	240,690.63	943,682.00	849,370.94
Expense				
Committee on Ministry	69.70	2,095.76	13,630.00	7,147.00
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	17.36	4,500.00	2,500.00
Trustees	13,512.34	49,121.48	135,000.00	135,000.00
Presbytery Operations*	30,402.66	151,407.00	407,012.83	377,012.83 (30,000.00)
Congregational Life	0.00	7,489.81	29,500.00	17,500.00
Social Justice & Peace	7,484.52	31,218.05	61,880.00	60,766.00
Mission Interpretation	4,679.31	30,540.25	92,220.00	80,653.35
Nurture & Support	2,189.24	13,513.88	42,250.00	38,200.00
Spiritual Formation & Faith	2,027.46	4,443.94	29,300.00	16,900.00
Development				
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	5,731.36	21,807.57	95,900.00	75,000.00
Outdoor Ministry	3,651.41	18,257.05	43,817.00	43,817.00
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	4,300.00	1,750.00
Planning & Visioning	0.00	0.00	4,200.00	2,000.00
Coordinating Cabinet	113.13	681.14	5,211.00	2,511.00
Total Expense	69,881.13	330,593.27	968,720.83	880,848.18
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	(33,796.17)	(89,902.64)	(25,058.83)	(11,276.24)

* Trustee addition of \$30,000 for Port Huron Westminster leaving the Presbytery.

**Presbytery Operations cut of \$30,000 for Assoc Exec Presbyter

The Presbytery of Detroit
 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures -DRAFT Report
 From 5/1/2012 Through 5/30/2012

100 - Operating Fund
 Congregational Life

DRAFT

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
General Use	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
Expense					
Church Support					
Budget Support - Congregational Life					
General Use	0.00	3,750.00	20,000.00	(12,000.00)	0,000.00
Self Study/Information Technology					
Budget Support - Congregational Life					
Self Study	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
Evangelism Work Group					
Budget Support - Congregational Life					
Evangelism	0.00	942.70	4,500.00	0.00	4,500.00
Worship Revitalization Work Group					
Budget Support - Congregational Life					
Worship	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2,797.11</u>	<u>3,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>3,000.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>7,489.81</u>	<u>29,500.00</u>	<u>(12,000.00)</u>	<u>17,500.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(7,489.81)</u>	<u>(28,500.00)</u>		<u>16,500.00</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures -DRAFT Report
From 5/1/2012 Through 5/31/2012

100 - Operating Fund
Social Justice & Peace

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 Budget Line
Revenue					
Social Justice & Peace - Hunger					
Revenue - PC USA Grants					
General Use	0.00	6,300.00	6,300.00	0.00	6,300.00
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
Transfer in from Fund 510 Carryover Dollars				6,729.46	6729.46
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,000.00		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>6,300.00</u>	<u>7,300.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>13,079.46</u>
Expenses					
Social Justice & Peace - MCTF					
Budget Support - Social Justice					
Multiculturalism	1,808.15	5,138.00	5,138.00	0.00	5,138.00
Social Justice & Peace - Hunger					
Budget Support - Social Justice					
POD Hunger Fund	3,000.00	10,000.00	12,422.00	0.00	12,422.00
General Use	1,562.90	7,814.50	30,000.00	0.00	30,000.00
Expense - PC USA Grants					
General Use	919.73	4,593.65	6,300.00	0.00	6,300.00
All God's Children Work Group					
Budget Support - Social Justice					
All GOD'S Children Diversity in Church	94.74	815.41	1,188.00	(300.00)	888.00
Interfaith and Ecumenical Justice					
Budget Support - Social Justice					
A Place of Refuge	0.00	356.49	1,917.00	(376.00)	1,542.00
Middle East					
Budget Support - Social Justice					
Middle East Projects	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(250.00)	750.00
Domestic Violence					
Budget Support - Social Justice					
Domestic Violence	0.00	2,500.00	3,835.00	(700.00)	3,635.00
Total Expense	<u>7,494.52</u>	<u>31,218.05</u>	<u>61,880.00</u>	<u>(1,125.00)</u>	<u>60,755.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(7,494.52)</u>	<u>(24,918.05)</u>	<u>(54,869.00)</u>		<u>47,725.54</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures -DRAFT Report
 From 5/1/2012 Through 5/30/2012

100 - Operating Fund
 Mission Interpretation

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
Mission Interpretation - Ann Arbor Campus					
Revenue - Synod Grants					
Ann Arbor Campus Ministry	94.00	677.06	6,124.00	0.00	6,124.00
Mission Interpretation - Ministry Eastern Mich					
Revenue - Synod Grants					
Eastern Michigan Campus Ministry	94.00	677.06	6,124.00	0.00	6,124.00
Mission Interpretation - Ministry Wayne St Univ					
Revenue - Synod Grants					
Campus Ministry Wayne St. Univer.	94.00	677.06	6,124.00	0.00	6,124.00
Mission Interpretation - U of M Ecumenical					
Revenue - Synod Grants					
Ecumenical Center & International Residence	94.00	677.06	6,124.00	0.00	6,124.00
General Campus Ministries					
Revenue - Synod Grants					
General Use	94.00	677.06	6,124.00	0.00	6,124.00
Mission Support Work Group					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
Barnabas Center	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Total Revenue	470.00	5,385.20	31,620.00	0.00	31,620.00
Expense					
Hands On Mission Work Group					
Budget Support - Mission					
General Use	1,613.00	7,869.18	20,000.00	(500.00)	19,500.00
Mission Interpretation - Ann Arbor Campus					
Budget Support - Mission					
Ann Arbor Campus Ministry	114.56	649.98	1,100.00	(500.00)	600.00
Expense - Synod Grants					
Ann Arbor Campus Ministry	610.33	2,265.50	6,124.00		6,124.00
Mission Interpretation - Ministry Eastern Mich					
Budget Support - Mission					
Eastern Michigan Campus Ministry	114.56	672.90	1,100.00	(500.00)	600.00
Expense - Synod Grants					
Eastern Michigan Campus Ministry	610.33	2,265.50	6,124.00		6,124.00
Mission Interpretation - Ministry Oakland Univ					
Budget Support - Mission					
Ministry Oakland University	0.00	0.00	1,100.00	(1,100.00)	0.00
Mission Interpretation - Ministry Wayne St Univ					
Budget Support - Mission					
Campus Ministry Wayne St. Univer	114.56	672.90	1,100.00	(500.00)	600.00
Expense - Synod Grants					
Campus Ministry Wayne St. Univer.	610.33	2,265.50	6,124.00		6,124.00
Mission Interpretation - U of M Ecumenical					
Budget Support - Mission					
Ecumenical Center & International Residence	114.56	649.98	1,100.00	(500.00)	600.00
Expense - Synod Grants					
Ecumenical Center & International Residence	610.33	2,265.50	6,124.00		6,124.00
General Campus Ministries					
Budget Support - Mission					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,100.00	0.00	1,100.00

The Presbytery of Detroit
 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures -DRAFT Report
 From 5/1/2012 Through 5/30/2012

> 100 - Operating Fund
 Mission Interpretation

	This Month	Year to Date	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed	Revised 2012 BUDGET
	Actual	Actual		Cuts	
Expense - Synod Grants					
General Use	0.00	0.00	6,124.00		6,124.00
Kenya Work Group					
Budget Support - Mission					
Kenya	0.00	100.00	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
Month of Mission Work Group					
Budget Support - Mission					
Month of Mission	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	(2,000.00)	8,000.00
Howell Center Mission					
Budget Support - Mission					
General Use	0.00	1,600.00	1,600.00	0.00	1,600.00
Mission Support Work Group					
Budget Support - Mission					
Barnabas Center	0.00	6,249.95	12,500.00	(2,500.00)	10,000.00
Second Mile Center					
Budget Support - Mission					
Second Mile Center	666.57	3,333.35	9,000.00	(4,666.65)	3,333.35
Unallocated Howell Line and 2nd Mile				(12,768.00)	
Total Expense	4,679.31	30,640.25	92,220.00		80,653.35
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	(4,209.31)	(25,154.95)	(50,500.00)		47,833.35

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures -DRAFT Report
From 5/1/2012 Through 6/30/2012

**100 - Operating Fund
Nurture & Support**

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
Youth Council, Events & Missions					
Project Revenue					
NOLA	0.00	900.00	0.00		
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,000.00		
Total Revenue	0.00	900.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Expense					
Youth Council, Events & Missions					
Budget Support Nurture and Support					
NOLA	100.00	900.00	0.00		
Cheron Barconey	2,089.24	9,506.55	27,500.00	0.00	27,500.00
General Use	0.00	494.00	7,000.00	0.00	7,000.00
Alma Youth Mix Work Group					
Budget Support Nurture and Support					
Alma Youth Mix	0.00	0.00	500.00		500.00
Youth Triennium Work Group					
Budget Support Nurture and Support					
Triennium	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	(3,000.00)	0.00
Clergy Retreats Work Group					
Budget Support Nurture and Support					
New Clergy Retreat	0.00	0.00	550.00	(550.00)	0.00
Church Officer Training Work Group					
Training Programs					
Church Officer Training	0.00	2,305.97	3,000.00	(107.34)	2,892.66
Pastors In Transition (PIT Crew) Work Group					
Budget Support Nurture and Support					
Clergy In Transition	0.00	307.34	700.00	(392.66)	307.34
Total Expense	2,189.24	13,513.85	42,250.00	(4,000.00)	38,200.00
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	(2,189.24)	(12,613.85)	(41,250.00)		37,200.00

The Presbytery of Detroit
 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures -DRAFT Report
 From 5/1/2012 Through 5/31/2012

100 - Operating Fund
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
Transfer in from Fund 510 Carryover Dollars				4,769.48	4769.48
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>5,769.48</u>
Expense					
Spiritual Faith Formation - Christian Education					
Budget Support - SFFDMT					
General Use	699.54	779.54	7,800.00	900.00	6,700.00
Spiritual Formation & Faith - Work Group					
Budget Support - SFFDMT					
S. P. E. Small Group Ministry	1,200.00	1,200.00	12,500.00	(6,500.00)	3,700.00
Worship Workgroup (Presbytery Gatherings)					
Budget Support - SFFDMT					
MLK Convocation	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	(3,000.00)	0.00
Resource Center					
Dues and Membership					
General Use	0.00	376.00	0.00		
Resource Material					
General Use	146.92	1,565.91	0.00		
Subscriptions					
General Use	0.00	234.11	0.00		
Contract Help					
General Use	0.00	76.50	0.00		
Travel/Meals Expense					
General Use	61.00	223.08	0.00		
Budget Support - SFFDMT					
General Use	0.00	(10.20)	6,000.00	(1,500.00)	4,500.00
Total Expense	<u>2,027.46</u>	<u>4,443.94</u>	<u>29,300.00</u>	<u>(12,400.00)</u>	<u>16,900.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(2,027.46)</u>	<u>(4,443.94)</u>	<u>(28,300.00)</u>		<u>(11,130.52)</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures -DRAFT Report
 From 5/1/2012 Through 6/30/2012

100 - Operating Fund
New Church Dev/Redevelopment

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,000.00		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
Expense					
New Church Dev/Redevelopment - Probes					
Budget Support - New Church Dev/Redev					
General Use	195.00	1,097.52	3,600.00	(2,500.00)	1,000.00
Training and Support of Ongoing Projects					
Budget Support - New Church Dev/Redev					
General Use	293.01	293.01	6,000.00	(4,600.00)	1,000.00
New Church Development Workgroup					
Budget Support - New Church Dev/Redev					
NCD Far West(Dexter Chelsea)	0.00	0.00	7,300.00	(300.00)	7,000.00
Committed Los Del Cambo	2,520.00	10,590.00	49,000.00	(9,600.00)	40,000.00
Transformation Coordinator					
Budget Support - New Church Dev/Redev					
Estelle Aaron	2,722.55	9,826.14	31,000.00	(5,200.00)	26,000.00
Total Expense	<u>5,731.26</u>	<u>21,807.57</u>	<u>95,900.00</u>	<u>(20,800.00)</u>	<u>75,000.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(5,731.26)</u>	<u>(21,807.57)</u>	<u>(84,900.00)</u>		<u>74,000.00</u>

100 - Operating Fund
Outdoor Ministry

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,000.00		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
Expense					
General					
Budget Support - Outdoor Ministry					
General Use	3,651.41	18,267.05	43,817.00		
Total Expense	<u>3,651.41</u>	<u>18,267.05</u>	<u>43,817.00</u>		<u>43,817.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(3,651.41)</u>	<u>(18,267.05)</u>	<u>(42,817.00)</u>		<u>(42,817.00)</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures -DRAFT Report
 From 5/1/2012 Through 5/30/2012

**100 - Operating Fund
 Presbyterian Women**

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Presbyterian Women Donations					
General Use	0.00	500.00	2,000.00		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>		<u>2,000.00</u>

**100 - Operating Fund
 Metro Urban Ministry Team**

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,000.00		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
Expense					
Leadership Partnerships					
Budget Support-metro Urban					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,100.00	0.00	1,100.00
Grants for Pilot Programs					
Budget Support-metro Urban					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,100.00	(450.00)	650.00
General					
Training Programs					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,550.00	(1,550.00)	0.00
Budget Support-metro Urban					
General Use	0.00	0.00	650.00	(650.00)	0.00
Total Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>4,300.00</u>	<u>(2,550.00)</u>	<u>1,750.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(3,300.00)</u>		<u>750.00</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures -DRAFT Report
 From 5/1/2012 Through 5/30/2012

**100 - Operating Fund
 Planning & Visioning**

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Expenses					
General					
General Budget					
General Use	0.00	0.00	4,200.00	(2,200.00)	2,000.00
Total Expense	0.00	0.00	4,200.00	0.00	2,000.00
Revenues Over/(Under) Expenditures	0.00	0.00	(4,200.00)	(2,200.00)	2,000.00

**100 - Operating Fund
 Coordinating Cabinet**

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,000.00		1,000.00
Total Revenue	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Expense					
General					
Computer - Internet/Website					
General Use	0.00	0.00	800.00	0.00	800.00
Communication/Publicity					
General Use	0.00	0.00	2,361.00	(1,300.00)	1,061.00
Gifts and Flowers					
General Use	0.00	0.00	250.00	(250.00)	0.00
Meeting Expense					
General Use	12.37	560.38	350.00	(350.00)	0.00
Moderator/Vice Moderator Expenses					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(800.00)	200.00
Resource Material					
General Use	89.55	89.55	350.00	0.00	350.00
General Budget					
General Use	11.21	11.21	100.00	0.00	100.00
Total Expense	113.13	661.14	5,211.00	0.00	2,611.00
Revenues Over/(Under) Expenditures	(113.13)	(661.14)	(4,211.00)		911.00

The Presbytery of Detroit
 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures -DRAFT Report
 From 6/1/2012 Through 6/30/2012

**100 - Operating Fund
 Committee on Ministry**

	This Month	Year to Date	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed	
	Actual	Actual		Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	0.00	<u>1,000.00</u>
Expense					
General					
Training Programs	0.00	26.95	850.00	(212.00)	638.00
Background Checks	0.00	0.00	760.00	(188.00)	572.00
Clergy Support	93.70	1,193.70	7,730.00	(2,933.00)	4,797.00
Dues and Membership	(24.00)	686.15	200.00	(50.00)	150.00
Meeting Expense	0.00	53.95	2,400.00	(2,100.00)	500.00
Travel/Mileage Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>235.00</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>	<u>(1,000.00)</u>	<u>500.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>69.70</u>	<u>2,095.75</u>	<u>13,630.00</u>	<u>(6,483.00)</u>	<u>7,147.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(69.70)</u>	<u>(2,095.75)</u>	<u>(12,630.00)</u>		<u>6,147.00</u>

**100 - Operating Fund
 Preparation for Ministry**

	This Month	Year to Date	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed	
	Actual	Actual		Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>		<u>1,000.00</u>
Expense					
General					
Training Programs	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	0.00
Psychological Evaluations	0.00	0.00	3,200.00	(1,000.00)	2,200.00
Travel/Mileage Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>17.36</u>	<u>300.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>300.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>17.36</u>	<u>4,500.00</u>	<u>(2,000.00)</u>	<u>2,500.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(17.36)</u>	<u>(3,500.00)</u>		<u>1,500.00</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Overall By Committee - Unposted Transactions Included in Report
From 5/1/2012 Through 5/30/2012

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Summary of Total Budget Cuts	
Revenue					
Committee on Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Trustees*	35,594.96	227,605.33	892,742.00	787,952.00	30,000.00
Presbytery Operations	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Congregational Life	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	6,300.00	7,300.00	13,029.48	
Mission Interpretation	470.00	5,385.30	31,820.00	31,820.00	
Nurture & Support	0.00	900.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Spiritual Formation & Faith	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	5,769.48	
Development					
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Outdoor Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Presbyterian Women	0.00	500.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Coordinating Cabinet	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Total Revenue	<u>36,064.96</u>	<u>240,690.63</u>	<u>943,662.00</u>	<u>849,370.94</u>	
Expense					
Committee on Ministry	69.70	2,095.76	13,630.00	7,147.00	
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	17.36	4,500.00	2,500.00	
Trustees	13,512.34	49,121.48	135,000.00	135,000.00	
Presbytery Operations*	30,402.86	151,407.00	407,012.83	377,012.83	(30,000.00)
Congregational Life	0.00	7,489.81	29,500.00	17,500.00	
Social Justice & Peace	7,484.52	31,218.05	61,880.00	60,755.00	
Mission Interpretation	4,679.31	30,540.25	92,220.00	80,553.35	
Nurture & Support	2,189.24	13,513.88	42,250.00	38,200.00	
Spiritual Formation & Faith	2,027.46	4,443.94	29,300.00	16,900.00	
Development					
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	5,731.36	21,807.57	95,900.00	75,000.00	
Outdoor Ministry	3,851.41	18,257.05	43,817.00	43,817.00	
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	4,300.00	1,750.00	
Planning & Visioning	0.00	0.00	4,200.00	2,000.00	
Coordinating Cabinet	113.13	881.14	5,211.00	2,511.00	
Total Expense	<u>69,881.13</u>	<u>330,583.27</u>	<u>988,720.83</u>	<u>860,648.18</u>	
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(33,796.17)</u>	<u>(89,902.64)</u>	<u>(25,058.83)</u>	<u>(11,275.24)</u>	

* Trustee addition of \$30,000 for Port Huron Westminster leaving the Presbytery.

**Presbytery Operations cut of \$30,000 for Assoc. Exec. Presbyter

The Presbytery of Detroit
 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - DRAFT Report
 From 5/1/2012 Through 5/31/2012

**100 - Operating Fund
 Congregational Life**

DRAFT

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
General Use	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
Expense					
Church Support					
Budget Support - Congregational Life					
General Use	0.00	3,750.00	20,000.00	(12,000.00)	8,000.00
Self Study/Information Technology					
Budget Support - Congregational Life					
Self Study	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
Evangelism Work Group					
Budget Support - Congregational Life					
Evangelism	0.00	942.70	4,500.00	0.00	4,500.00
Worship Revitalization Work Group					
Budget Support - Congregational Life					
Worship	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2,797.11</u>	<u>3,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>3,000.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>7,489.81</u>	<u>29,500.00</u>	<u>(12,000.00)</u>	<u>17,500.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(7,489.81)</u>	<u>(28,500.00)</u>		<u>16,500.00</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures -DRAFT Report
From 5/1/2012 Through 5/30/2012

**100 - Operating Fund
Social Justice & Peace**

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 Budget Line
Revenue					
Social Justice & Peace - Hunger					
Revenue - PC USA Grants					
General Use	0.00	6,300.00	6,300.00	0.00	6,300.00
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
Transfer in from Fund 510 Carryover Dollars				6,729.46	6,729.46
General Use	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>6,300.00</u>	<u>7,300.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>13,029.46</u>
Expense					
Social Justice & Peace - MCTF					
Budget Support - Social Justice					
Multiculturalism	1,908.16	6,139.00	6,139.00	0.00	6,139.00
Social Justice & Peace - Hunger					
Budget Support - Social Justice					
POD Hunger Fund	3,000.00	10,000.00	12,422.00	0.00	12,422.00
General Use	1,562.80	7,814.50	30,080.00	0.00	30,080.00
Expense - PC USA Grants					
General Use	918.73	4,593.65	6,300.00	0.00	6,300.00
All God's Children Work Group					
Budget Support - Social Justice					
All GOD'S Children Diversity in Church	94.74	815.41	1,188.00	(300.00)	888.00
Interfaith and Ecumenical Justice					
Budget Support - Social Justice					
A Piece of Refuge	0.00	356.49	1,917.00	(375.00)	1,542.00
Middle East					
Budget Support - Social Justice					
Middle East Projects	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(260.00)	750.00
Domestic Violence					
Budget Support - Social Justice					
Domestic Violence	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2,500.00</u>	<u>3,935.00</u>	<u>(200.00)</u>	<u>3,635.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>7,484.52</u>	<u>31,218.05</u>	<u>61,880.00</u>	<u>(1,125.00)</u>	<u>60,755.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(7,484.52)</u>	<u>(24,918.05)</u>	<u>(54,580.00)</u>		<u>47,725.54</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures -DRAFT Report
From 5/1/2012 Through 5/30/2012

**100 - Operating Fund
Mission Interpretation**

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
Mission Interpretation - Ann Arbor Campus Revenue - Synod Grants					
Ann Arbor Campus Ministry	94.00	877.06	6,124.00	0.00	6,124.00
Mission Interpretation - Ministry Eastern Mich Revenue - Synod Grants					
Eastern Michigan Campus Ministry	94.00	877.06	6,124.00	0.00	6,124.00
Mission Interpretation - Ministry Wayne St Univ Revenue - Synod Grants					
Campus Ministry Wayne St. Univer.	94.00	877.06	6,124.00	0.00	6,124.00
Mission Interpretation - U of M Ecumenical Revenue - Synod Grants					
Ecumenical Center & International Residence	94.00	877.06	6,124.00	0.00	6,124.00
General Campus Ministries Revenue - Synod Grants					
General Use	94.00	877.06	6,124.00	0.00	6,124.00
Mission Support Work Group Revenue - Directed Mission					
Barnabas Center	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
General Use	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total Revenue	<u>470.00</u>	<u>5,385.30</u>	<u>31,620.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>31,620.00</u>
Expense					
Hands On Mission Work Group Budget Support - Mission					
General Use	1,813.00	7,869.18	20,000.00	(500.00)	19,500.00
Mission Interpretation - Ann Arbor Campus Budget Support - Mission					
Ann Arbor Campus Ministry	114.58	549.98	1,100.00	(500.00)	600.00
Expense - Synod Grants					
Ann Arbor Campus Ministry	510.33	2,285.50	6,124.00		6,124.00
Mission Interpretation - Ministry Eastern Mich Budget Support - Mission					
Eastern Michigan Campus Ministry	114.58	572.90	1,100.00	(500.00)	600.00
Expense - Synod Grants					
Eastern Michigan Campus Ministry	510.33	2,285.50	6,124.00		6,124.00
Mission Interpretation - Ministry Oakland Univ Budget Support - Mission					
Ministry Oakland University	0.00	0.00	1,100.00	(1,100.00)	0.00
Mission Interpretation - Ministry Wayne St Univ Budget Support - Mission					
Campus Ministry Wayne St. Univer.	114.58	572.90	1,100.00	(500.00)	600.00
Expense - Synod Grants					
Campus Ministry Wayne St. Univer.	510.33	2,285.50	6,124.00		6,124.00
Mission Interpretation - U of M Ecumenical Budget Support - Mission					
Ecumenical Center & International Residence	114.58	549.98	1,100.00	(500.00)	600.00
Expense - Synod Grants					
Ecumenical Center & International Residence	510.33	2,285.50	6,124.00		6,124.00
General Campus Ministries Budget Support - Mission					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,100.00	0.00	1,100.00

The Presbytery of Detroit
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From 5/1/2012 Through 5/30/2012

100 - Operating Fund
Mission Interpretation

	This Month	Year to Date	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed	Revised 2012 BUDGET
	Actual	Actual		Cuts	
Expense - Synod Grants					
General Use	0.00	0.00	6,124.00		6,124.00
Kenya Work Group					
Budget Support - Mission					
Kenya	0.00	100.00	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
Month of Mission Work Group					
Budget Support - Mission					
Month of Mission	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	(2,000.00)	8,000.00
Howell Center Mission					
Budget Support - Mission					
General Use	0.00	1,600.00	1,600.00	0.00	1,600.00
Mission Support Work Group					
Budget Support - Mission					
Barnabas Center	0.00	6,249.96	12,500.00	(2,500.00)	10,000.00
Second Mile Center					
Budget Support - Mission					
Second Mile Center	<u>666.67</u>	<u>3,333.35</u>	<u>8,000.00</u>	<u>(4,666.65)</u>	<u>3,333.35</u>
Unallocated Howell Line and 2nd Mile					
Total Expense	<u>4,679.31</u>	<u>30,640.26</u>	<u>92,220.00</u>	<u>(12,766.65)</u>	<u>80,653.36</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(4,209.31)</u>	<u>(25,154.95)</u>	<u>(60,600.00)</u>		47,833.35

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 From 5/1/2012 Through 5/31/2012

**100 - Operating Fund
 Nurture & Support**

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
Youth Council, Events & Missions					
Project Revenue					
NOLA	0.00	900.00	0.00		
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,000.00		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>900.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
Expense					
Youth Council, Events & Missions					
Budget Support Nurture and Support					
NOLA	100.00	900.00	0.00		
Cheron Barconey	2,089.24	9,506.55	27,500.00	0.00	27,500.00
General Use	0.00	494.00	7,000.00	0.00	7,000.00
Alma Youth Mix Work Group					
Budget Support Nurture and Support					
Alma Youth Mix	0.00	0.00	600.00		600.00
Youth Triennium Work Group					
Budget Support Nurture and Support					
Triennium	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	(3,000.00)	0.00
Clergy Retreats Work Group					
Budget Support Nurture and Support					
New Clergy Retreat	0.00	0.00	550.00	(550.00)	0.00
Church Officer Training Work Group					
Training Programs					
Church Officer Training	0.00	2,305.97	3,000.00	(107.34)	2,892.66
Pastors in Transition (PIT Crew) Work Group					
Budget Support Nurture and Support					
Clergy in Transition	0.00	307.34	700.00	(392.66)	307.34
Total Expense	<u>2,189.24</u>	<u>13,513.86</u>	<u>42,250.00</u>	<u>(4,050.00)</u>	<u>38,200.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(2,189.24)</u>	<u>(12,613.86)</u>	<u>(41,250.00)</u>		<u>37,200.00</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures -DRAFT Report
From 5/1/2012 Through 5/30/2012

100 - Operating Fund
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
Transfer In from Fund 510 Carryover Dollars				4,769.48	4,769.48
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>5,769.48</u>
Expense					
Spiritual Faith Formation - Christian Education					
Budget Support - SFFDMT					
General Use	699.54	779.54	7,800.00	900.00	8,700.00
Spiritual Formation & Faith - Work Group					
Budget Support - SFFDMT					
S. P. E. Small Group Ministry	1,200.00	1,200.00	12,500.00	(8,800.00)	3,700.00
Worship Workgroup (Presbytery Gatherings)					
Budget Support - SFFDMT					
MLK Convocation	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	(3,000.00)	0.00
Resource Center					
Dues and Membership					
General Use	0.00	375.00	0.00		
Resource Material					
General Use	146.92	1,566.91	0.00		
Subscriptions					
General Use	0.00	234.11	0.00		
Contract Help					
General Use	0.00	76.50	0.00		
Travel/Mileage Expense					
General Use	81.00	223.08	0.00		
Budget Support - SFFDMT					
General Use	0.00	(10.20)	6,000.00	(1,500.00)	4,500.00
Total Expense	<u>2,027.46</u>	<u>4,443.94</u>	<u>29,300.00</u>	<u>(12,400.00)</u>	<u>16,900.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(2,027.46)</u>	<u>(4,443.94)</u>	<u>(28,300.00)</u>		<u>(11,130.52)</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures -DRAFT Report
From 5/1/2012 Through 5/31/2012

**100 - Operating Fund
New Church Dev/Redevelopment**

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,000.00		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
Expense					
New Church Dev/Redevelopment - Probes					
Budget Support - New Church Dev/Redev					
General Use	195.00	1,097.52	3,500.00	(2,600.00)	1,000.00
Training and Support of Ongoing Projects					
Budget Support - New Church Dev/Redev					
General Use	293.81	293.81	5,000.00	(4,000.00)	1,000.00
New Church Development Workgroup					
Budget Support - New Church Dev/Redev					
NCD Far West(Dexter Chelsea)	0.00	0.00	7,300.00	(300.00)	7,000.00
Comunidad Los Del Camino	2,520.00	10,590.00	49,000.00	(9,000.00)	40,000.00
Transformation Coordinator					
Budget Support - New Church Dev/Redev					
Estelle Aaron	2,722.55	9,826.14	31,000.00	(5,000.00)	26,000.00
Total Expense	<u>5,731.36</u>	<u>21,807.57</u>	<u>95,900.00</u>	<u>(20,900.00)</u>	<u>75,000.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(5,731.36)</u>	<u>(21,807.57)</u>	<u>(84,900.00)</u>		<u>74,000.00</u>

**100 - Operating Fund
Outdoor Ministry**

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,000.00		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
Expense					
General					
Budget Support - Outdoor Ministry					
General Use	3,651.41	18,257.05	43,817.00		
Total Expense	<u>3,651.41</u>	<u>18,257.05</u>	<u>43,817.00</u>		<u>43,817.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(3,651.41)</u>	<u>(18,257.05)</u>	<u>(42,817.00)</u>		<u>(42,817.00)</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures -DRAFT Report
 From 5/1/2012 Through 5/30/2012

**100 - Operating Fund
 Presbyterian Women**

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Presbyterian Women Donations					
General Use	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>		<u>2,000.00</u>

**100 - Operating Fund
 Metro Urban Ministry Team**

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
General Use	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
Expense					
Leadership Partnerships					
Budget Support-metro Urban					
General Use	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,100.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,100.00</u>
Grants for Pilot Programs					
Budget Support-metro Urban					
General Use	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,100.00</u>	<u>(450.00)</u>	<u>650.00</u>
General					
Training Programs					
General Use	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,650.00</u>	<u>(1,650.00)</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Budget Support-metro Urban					
General Use	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>650.00</u>	<u>(650.00)</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>4,300.00</u>	<u>(2,650.00)</u>	<u>1,750.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(3,300.00)</u>		<u>750.00</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
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**100 - Operating Fund
Planning & Visioning**

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Expense					
General					
General Budget					
General Use	0.00	0.00	4,200.00	(2,200.00)	2,000.00
Total Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>4,200.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	0.00	0.00	(4,200.00)	(2,200.00)	2,000.00

**100 - Operating Fund
Coordinating Cabinet**

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,000.00		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
Expense					
General					
Computer - Internet/Website					
General Use	0.00	0.00	800.00	0.00	800.00
Communication/Publicity					
General Use	0.00	0.00	2,361.00	(1,300.00)	1,061.00
Gifts and Flowers					
General Use	0.00	0.00	250.00	(250.00)	0.00
Meeting Expense					
General Use	12.37	580.38	350.00	(350.00)	0.00
Moderator/Vice Moderator Expenses					
General Use	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(800.00)	200.00
Resource Material					
General Use	89.65	89.65	350.00	0.00	350.00
General Budget					
General Use	11.21	11.21	100.00	0.00	100.00
Total Expense	<u>113.13</u>	<u>681.14</u>	<u>5,211.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2,511.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(113.13)</u>	<u>(681.14)</u>	<u>(4,211.00)</u>		911.00

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures -DRAFT Report
From 5/1/2012 Through 5/31/2012

**100 - Operating Fund
Committee on Ministry**

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	0.00	<u>1,000.00</u>
Expense					
General					
Training Programs	0.00	26.95	850.00	(212.00)	638.00
Background Checks	0.00	0.00	750.00	(186.00)	562.00
Clergy Support	93.70	1,193.70	7,730.00	(2,933.00)	4,797.00
Dues and Membership	(24.00)	686.16	200.00	(50.00)	150.00
Meeting Expense	0.00	53.95	2,600.00	(2,100.00)	500.00
Travel/Mileage Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>235.00</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>	(1,000.00)	500.00
Total Expense	<u>69.70</u>	<u>2,095.76</u>	<u>13,630.00</u>	(6,483.00)	<u>7,147.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(69.70)</u>	<u>(2,095.76)</u>	<u>(12,630.00)</u>		6,147.00

**100 - Operating Fund
Preparation for Ministry**

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Proposed Cuts	Revised 2012 BUDGET
Revenue					
General					
Revenue - Directed Mission	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>		
Total Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>		<u>1,000.00</u>
Expense					
General					
Training Programs	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	0.00
Psychological Evaluations	0.00	0.00	3,200.00	(1,000.00)	2,200.00
Travel/Mileage Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>17.36</u>	<u>300.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>300.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>17.36</u>	<u>4,500.00</u>	(2,000.00)	<u>2,500.00</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(17.36)</u>	<u>(3,500.00)</u>		1,500.00

COMMISSION REPORT
ORDINATIONS AND INSTALLATIONS
PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
June 26, 2012

The Commission to Install The Rev. Paul V. Stunkel as Pastor of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Livonia, was convened with prayer by the past moderator, Dianne Bostic Robinson, at 10:15 p.m., on May 20, 2012, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. The Commission members present were:

The Rev. Emma Nickel, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church Warren	Ruling Elder and Past Moderator Dianne Bostic Robinson, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Detroit
The Rev. Matthew Nickel, Temp. Associate Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Royal Oak	Ruling Elder Janice Lapenta, St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Livonia
The Rev. Jennifer Clark, At large member, Presbytery of Detroit	Ruling Elder Richard Pratt, Southminster Presbyterian Church, Taylor
	Ruling Elder Ron Case, Grosse Ile Presbyterian Church, Grosse Ile

The Commission approved the seating of the following members as corresponding members: NA

The Commission invited the following persons to participate in the worship service: NA
After approving the order of worship, the Commission proceeded to worship, where it installed The Rev. Paul V. Stunkel, as Teaching Elder, during which Mr Stunkel. Upon conclusion of the worship service, the commission and congregation were dismissed with prayer and benediction by Rev Stunkel.

/s
Dianne Bostic Robinson
Past Moderator

Date: 5/20/2012

*Manual of Administrative Operations
Detroit Presbytery
Committee on Preparation for Ministry*

Section 1. Preparation for Ministry Process

The preparation for ministry process involves two phases: Inquiry and Candidacy. These two phases are designed to explore the call, evaluate the gifts, and support the preparation of men and women who feel themselves called to the ordered ministry of teaching elder (also called minister of the Word and Sacrament G-2.0501.) (G-20102, G-2.0204, G-2.0601)

Both the Inquiry Phase and the Candidacy Phase of the process evaluate the individual's development in five key areas:

- **Education for Ministry**, which includes evaluation of the individual's academic potential and progress and the individual's ability to relate the academic learning to the ministry of teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament);
- **Spiritual Development**, which explores with individuals their personal faith journeys and their spiritual practices to discern the will of God in their lives;
- **Interpersonal Relations** which provide opportunities to reflect on how an individual relates to others, one's own leadership style, and what this means in terms of the ministry of the teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament);
- **Personal Growth**, through which persons reflect on who they are, what areas they need to develop, how to understand their call, and how to develop personal stewardship;
- **Professional Development**, to help persons develop specific skills that will enhance their effectiveness as teaching elders (ministers of the Word and Sacrament) and as presbyters. Those skills should include and understanding of one's ministry context and the ability to deal with conflict that may emerge in the place one serves.

It is important for inquirers and candidates to understand that an educational process and the Presbytery of Detroit's process, which is consistent with G-2.06, must both be completed prior to ordination. While they interconnect, the educational institutions and the presbytery operate independently. **It is the responsibility of the inquirer or candidate to coordinate the completion and the timing of those processes**

Section 2. Phase 1: Inquiry

"The purpose of the inquiry phase is to provide an opportunity for the church and those who believe themselves called to ordered ministry as teaching elders to explore that call together so that the presbytery can make an informed decision about the inquirer's suitability for ordered ministry." (G-2.0603) The church is seeking teaching elders who possess "wisdom and maturity of faith, leadership skills, a compassionate spirit, an honest repute, and sound judgment." (G-2.0607a)

Because this exploration is with the whole church, the inquirer is engaged in a network of relationships—first, between the inquirer and the church session, then with the presbytery through the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, and with finally with a theological institution.

2.1. Admission to Inquiry

- 2.1.1. A member of a congregation is considered for enrollment as an inquirer when he or she approaches the session about the possibility of becoming a teaching elder (also known as minister of the Word and Sacrament G-2.0501) and formally agrees with the session and with the presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry to explore the implications of this quest. Enrollment is intended to be a thoughtful and deliberate step; people are encouraged to take this formal action soon after they have made their personal decision to explore this ministry so that the presbytery's Committee can provide them with support and counsel as early as possible.

2.2. The process of the inquiry phase is as follows:

- 2.2.1. A person desiring to become an inquirer shall indicate to the pastor of the particular church a desire to explore the personal implications of becoming a teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament).
- 2.2.2. The applicant shall have been an active member of that particular church for at least six months
- 2.2.3. If, after consultation with the pastor, the applicant wishes to apply to be taken under care, the applicant shall prepare background information by completing Forms 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D and 2A, and request the pastor notify the session and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. The applicant shall also complete the Presbytery of Detroit forms required for a background check. These forms will be submitted to the session and the CPM to be used by the liaisons, and kept in the applicant's file.
- 2.2.4. Prior to meeting with the applicant, the session shall schedule a meeting with a CPM liaison for orientation to the process used by the Presbytery of Detroit to prepare persons who are called to be a teaching elder.
- 2.2.5. The session shall consult with the applicant and, if the individual requests to be enrolled as an inquirer, shall make a recommendation to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. The session's recommendation and the person appointed as session liaison will be reported on Form 1D, "Session Evaluation and Recommendation."
- 2.2.6. Upon receipt of the recommendation of the session, the CPM Subcommittee on Inquirer Qualifications shall request from the presbytery office a criminal background check, and shall conduct a minimum of three reference checks (See Form 2D).
- 2.2.7. When the criminal background check has cleared, and the reference checks have been completed, the Subcommittee on Inquirer Qualifications shall review the information gathered, interview the person and recommend to CPM whether to enroll the person as an inquirer. If the recommendation is to enroll, the committee shall also complete Form 2C, "Report of Initial Consultation."
- 2.2.8. If CPM enrolls the applicant as an inquirer, a liaison shall be assigned. CPM shall discuss with the applicant the implications of Form 2B, "Covenant

Agreement and Inquirer's Release." The applicant shall also be given a copy of the Presbytery of Detroit's "Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedures" (Policy P-4). When the applicant has signed Form 2B, and has signed the receipt of and concurrence with the Sexual Misconduct policy, the applicant shall be enrolled as an inquirer. Copies of the documents signed shall be given to the inquirer and the liaisons, and placed in the inquirer's file.

- 2.2.9. CPM shall report its action to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery on Form 2A. The Stated Clerk shall then notify the Session and the General Assembly.
- 2.2.10. The date of the Committee's action to enroll shall be the beginning of the covenant relationship. "The inquiry and candidacy phases shall continue for a period of no less than two years, including at least one year as a candidate." G-2.0602 (See G-2.0610 for exceptions).
- 2.2.11. The phase of inquiry shall be of sufficient length for the inquirer, the session, and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry to decide whether the inquirer should apply to become a candidate. During this time, the Committee on Preparation for Ministry shall make use of resources such as information provided by the inquirer, personal references, and reports from counseling services, the session, and the inquirer's institution of learning, if the inquirer is a student.

2.3. During Inquiry

When a person is enrolled as an inquirer, she or he, in consultation with the liaison, shall immediately begin the process of gaining a psychological assessment. That assessment should be completed within one year of enrollment as an inquirer but must be completed within 18 months of enrollment to remain an inquirer under the care of the Presbytery of Detroit.

The inquirer should also arrange for and take the Bible Content Exam within one year from the date of enrollment in theological education.

2.4. Inquirers and candidates shall have a consultation at least once a year

Inquirers and candidates shall have a consultation at least once a year with the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. In no case shall an inquirer or candidate be excused from these annual consultations. These consultations will be scheduled by the CPM moderator.

- 2.4.1. Prior to meeting with the committee, the inquirer shall complete Form 3, "Pre-Interview Annual Consultation Report: Growth and Development in the Last 12 Months."
- 2.4.2. These forms must be submitted to the presbytery office one month prior to the scheduled consultation so they may be distributed to the session liaison, CPM and the CPM liaison in preparation for the consultation.
- 2.4.3. During each annual consultation, the Committee, the inquirer, and the session liaison or moderator will assess the inquirer's progress toward previously established goals in each of the five growth areas and together negotiate new goals to be completed by the next consultation.

- 2.4.4. The agreed upon goals shall be reported on Form 4, "Report of Annual Consultation." A copy shall be given to the inquirer/candidate, the session and CPM liaisons, and a copy will be kept in the inquirer/candidate's file.

2.5. Psychological Assessment

- 2.5.1. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) in the Presbytery of Detroit requires that an inquirer have a psychological assessment prior to moving from the inquiry phase to the candidacy phase. The psychological assessment is developed by the assessment center, for the use of CPM and the inquirer in relationship to the inquirer's application or to become a teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament). The psychological assessment is a confidential document which is available to CPM members, but cannot be released by CPM to any other entity. The inquirer may, of course, sign a release with the assessment center releasing the document to anyone the inquirer wishes.
- 2.5.2. CPM's practice regarding the cost at the psychological assessment center for this assessment is that:
- 2.5.2.1. one-third of the cost be paid by the inquirer
 - 2.5.2.2. one-third of the cost be paid by the inquirer's home church
 - 2.5.2.3. one-third of the cost be paid by the CPM
 - 2.5.2.4. If there are significant financial issues for either the inquirer or the inquirer's church, the Committee is willing to negotiate another payment plan.
 - 2.5.2.5. (Ordinarily, the Committee on Preparation for Ministry does not share in any related costs incurred for a psychological assessment; i.e., meals and housing costs while at the assessment center, travel to the center, etc.)
- 2.5.3. To complete a psychological assessment an inquirer must:
- 2.5.3.1. Receive approval from CPM to have the psychological assessment at an approved assessment center upon a request from the inquirer.
 - 2.5.3.2. Schedule a date for an assessment at the center.
 - 2.5.3.3. Inform the center that the inquirer will pay one-third of the cost of the assessment as the down payment, that one-third of the balance should be billed to the inquirer's home church (provide the address),
 - 2.5.3.4. Inform the center the final one-third should be billed to: Committee on Preparation for Ministry, The Presbytery of Detroit, 17575 Hubbell Avenue, Detroit, MI 48235.
 - 2.5.3.5. The psychological assessment center will correspond with the inquirer regarding the specific materials to be completed prior to the assessment.
 - 2.5.3.6. The inquirer must sign a release to have the results of the assessment sent to the current Chair of CPM (at the Presbytery address).

2.6. Educational Standards for Seminarians Who Are Under Care

A candidate for the ministry of teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament) must attend a theological institution accredited by the Association of Theological Schools acceptable to the presbytery (G-2.0607). The seminary and the course of study must be approved by CPM. The course of study the Presbytery of Detroit requires is listed below. The inquirer shall contact the CPM liaison requesting permission to attend a particular seminary and requesting any equivalent courses for substitution. Exceptions to the minimums listed below must be approved by CPM, and in some cases the Presbytery of Detroit.

2.6.1. Biblical Languages (4 courses required)

- 2.6.1.1. Hebrew
- 2.6.1.2. Greek
- 2.6.1.3. Hebrew Scriptures original language exegesis
- 2.6.1.4. New Testament original language exegesis

2.6.2. Biblical Studies (4 courses required)

- 2.6.2.1. Old Testament survey
- 2.6.2.2. New Testament survey
- 2.6.2.3. Additional Biblical study course - OT
- 2.6.2.4. Additional Biblical study course - NT

2.6.3. History (3 courses required)

- 2.6.3.1. Church history overview, pre-Reformation
- 2.6.3.2. Church history overview, post-Reformation
- 2.6.3.3. Presbyterian history and creeds

2.6.4. Theology (3 courses required)

- 2.6.4.1. Systematic theology
- 2.6.4.2. Systematic theology
- 2.6.4.3. Reformed theology

2.6.5. Practical Theology (8 courses required)

- 2.6.5.1. Ministerial overview course
- 2.6.5.2. Reformed Worship and Sacraments
- 2.6.5.3. Speech class
- 2.6.5.4. Homiletics
- 2.6.5.5. Christian Education
- 2.6.5.6. Pastoral Counseling
- 2.6.5.7. Mission / Evangelism

2.6.5.8. Presbyterian Polity

- 2.6.6. Note: Any of the above courses that a student would like to take with a Pass / Fail grade must be approved by the CPM prior to enrolling in that course.

2.7. Clinical Pastoral Education²

The CPM requires all inquirers and candidates take one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) or an approved alternative as approved by the seminary. Before beginning the CPE experience, CPM must be notified and give their approval, and upon completion, the supervisor's report and the inquirer's/candidate's final report will be sent to the CPM chairperson, for the whole committee's review.

Internet address for CPE sites: www.ACPE.org

2.8. Field Education

- 2.8.1. CPM requires each inquirer or candidate to fulfill an approved 480 hour Field Education experience.
- 2.8.2. The Field Education experience shall be in a formal Presbyterian or Reformed church or parish-like setting with supervision and evaluations made available to CPM.
- 2.8.3. The Field Education must not be in the inquirer or candidate's home church and should be in a different setting from the home congregation. For example, if the inquirer or candidate is from a small town, an urban or suburban church would be a challenging and broadening experience. If the candidate's home church is large, a smaller church would provide new experiences.

Section 3. Phase 2: Candidacy

The purpose of the candidacy phase is to provide for the full preparation of persons to serve the church as teaching elders (ministers of the Word and Sacrament). This shall be accomplished through the presbytery's support, guidance, and evaluation of a candidate's fitness and readiness for a call to ministry requiring ordination. Evidence of readiness to begin ordered ministry as a teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament) shall include the completion of the requirements in this manual, and an affirmation of the candidate's wisdom and maturity of faith, leadership skills, compassionate spirit, honest repute, and sound judgment. (G-2.0607a)

3.1. Admission to Candidacy

An inquirer becomes a candidate by action of presbytery. At that time the presbytery formally concludes a candidate has demonstrated adequate promise for ministry (G-2.0604), the candidate is assured of God's call to enter ordered ministry, and the candidate formally agrees to accept the presbytery's supervision of the candidate's preparation for the ministry of teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament).

3.2. The process of the candidacy phase is as follows:

- 3.2.1. When the inquirer has completed a psychological assessment and the results, along with reference checks, and any other required information, have been reviewed by the Subcommittee on Inquirer Qualifications, and its recommendations have been acted upon by CPM, the inquirer and liaison may explore together the inquirer's readiness for candidacy.

- 3.2.2. When the inquirer is ready to apply for status as a candidate, the inquirer and the liaison shall:
 - 3.2.2.1. verify that the inquirer has completed and submitted to CPM a psychological assessment,
 - 3.2.2.2. verify that the inquirer has taken the Bible Content Examination, and
 - 3.2.2.3. verify that any other requirements of CPM have been completed.
- 3.2.3. The inquirer shall complete and present to the session and the CPM the following:
 - 3.2.3.1. Form 5A “Application to Be Received as a Candidate,” including three references: a professor, a supervisor and a colleague who has worked with the candidate,
 - 3.2.3.2. a statement of his or her understanding of the uniqueness of the Reformed tradition (F-1.01 to F-3.04),
 - 3.2.3.3. a statement of personal faith which incorporates an understanding of our tradition as found in F-1.02,
 - 3.2.3.4. a statement of what it means to be Presbyterian, indicating how that awareness grows out of participation in the life of a particular **church**;
 - 3.2.3.5. a statement of self-understanding which reflects the inquirer's personal and cultural background and includes a concern for maintaining spiritual, physical, and mental health;
 - 3.2.3.6. a statement of the candidate's understanding of the task teaching elders (minister of the Word and Sacrament) perform, including a self-awareness of specific gifts for the ministry of teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament) and of areas in which growth is needed.
- 3.2.4. After Form 5A has been completed, the inquirer, the CPM liaison and the session liaison shall schedule with the Session a time for examination.
- 3.2.5. The session shall make a recommendation to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry that this inquirer should or should not be enrolled as a candidate and shall report that recommendation to CPM on form 5A.
- 3.2.6. The CPM liaison shall check the references, on Form 5A using Form 5C, Reference Form for Candidacy. The CPM liaison will prepare a written summary for the Chair of CPM. Upon receipt of that summary, the chair will schedule the examination for candidacy with the Committee on Preparation for Ministry.
- 3.2.7. After receiving and reviewing the above information, and examining the inquirer, CPM shall make a definite recommendation to the presbytery that the inquirer shall or shall not be received as a Candidate for Ordered Ministry.
- 3.2.8. If CPM decides that the inquirer shall not be received as a candidate for ordered ministry, that decision shall be reported to the presbytery and the session on form 5A.

- 3.2.9. If CPM recommends to the presbytery that the inquirer should be received as a candidate for ordered ministry, that decision shall be reported to the presbytery on form 5A, and the inquirer shall sign Form 5B, "Covenant Agreement and Candidate Release. A copy of this form shall be given to the candidate and the session and CPM liaisons, and placed in the candidate's file.
- 3.2.10. The presbytery shall receive the report and recommendation of its committee and shall examine the inquirer in person with respect to his or her Christian faith, forms of Christian service undertaken, and motives for seeking the ministry.
- 3.2.11. If the examination is approved, the presbytery shall receive the inquirer as a candidate as described in the Presbytery of Detroit's policy P-21. "The moderator shall ask the following questions of the candidate before the candidate is declared enrolled.
- 3.2.11.1. "Do you believe yourself to be called by God to *the ordered ministry of teaching elder*?"
- 3.2.11.2. "Do you promise in reliance upon the grace of God to maintain a Christian character and conduct, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for this ministry?"
- 3.2.11.3. "Do you accept the proper supervision of the presbytery in matters that concern your preparation for this ministry?"
- 3.2.11.4. "Do you desire now to be received by this presbytery as a Candidate for *the ordered ministry of teaching elder* in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)?"
- 3.2.12. "If these questions are answered in the affirmative, a brief charge shall be given, the candidate's name shall be recorded on the presbytery's roll of candidates, and the proceedings shall close with prayer."
- 3.2.13. The Stated Clerk of the presbytery shall report the action of the presbytery to the General Assembly, the candidate, and the session by completing Form 5A.

3.3. During Candidacy

The covenant relationship between the candidate and the presbytery shall be continued through annual consultations as described in this manual at Section 2.4., "Inquirers and candidates shall have a consultation at least once a year." During this time CPM will focus on the candidate's preparation for ministry; especially in the areas of educational requirements, field education, and Clinical Pastoral Education.

Every inquirer and candidate enrolled in study in a theological seminary should take the Bible Content exam as often as it is offered, until it is passed.

3.4. Completion of Candidacy

Candidacy continues until the presbytery acts in one of three ways to remove the candidate's name from the Roll of Candidates:

- 3.4.1. Completion of the preparation for ministry process with a call to the ordered ministry of teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament). In this case, the following steps are involved:

- 3.4.1.1. the Committee on Preparation for Ministry determines that the candidate is ready to be examined for ordination (Presbytery of Detroit policy P-17);
- 3.4.1.2. the candidate receives a call; and
- 3.4.1.3. “The presbytery placing the call to the candidate for ministry shall ordinarily examine, ordain and install the candidate.” (G-2.0702)

3.4.2. Withdrawal by the candidate;

3.4.3. Removal by the presbytery;

3.5. Final Assessment and Negotiation for Service (G-2.0607)

3.5.1. Final assessment must ordinarily be completed within one year of the completion of the educational requirements.

3.5.2. A candidate may not enter into negotiation for service as a teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament) without approval of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. The committee shall record when it has certified a candidate ready for examination for ordination, pending a call, and submit Form 6, “Certification of Final Assessment” to the clerk and to the presbytery. (See Presbytery of Detroit policy P-17). Evidence of readiness to begin ordered ministry as a teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament) shall include: (G-2.0607)

3.5.2.1. a candidate’s wisdom and maturity of faith, leadership skills, compassionate spirit, honest repute, and sound judgment;

3.5.2.2. a transcript showing graduation, with satisfactory grades, at a regionally accredited college or university;

3.5.2.3. a transcript from a theological institution accredited by the Association of Theological Schools acceptable to the presbytery, showing a course of study including Hebrew and Greek, exegesis of the Old and New Testaments using Hebrew and Greek, satisfactory grades in all areas of study, and graduation or proximity to graduation; and

3.5.2.4. a satisfactory grades, together with the examination papers in the areas covered by any standard ordination examination approved by the General Assembly.

3.5.3. The basis for this assessment will be:

3.5.3.1. a statement of faith, presented to the committee;

3.5.3.2. an exegesis of an Old Testament or New Testament text,

3.5.3.3. a sermon based upon that text and exegesis, presented and preached to member of the committee, and

3.5.3.4. a face-to-face examination of the candidate by the committee.

3.5.4. Any candidate who has successfully passed all of the Standard Examinations for Ordination, received a positive Final Assessment, and is within six (6) months of

completion of all academic and clinical pastoral education requirements may begin to circulate a Personal Information Form for the purpose of seeking a call as teaching elder (minister of Word and Sacrament.) This action will be recorded on Form 6, and a copy shall be given to the candidate, the liaisons, and placed in the file.

3.6. Transfer or Removal

- 3.6.1. At the request of the inquirer or candidate and with the approval of the sessions and presbyteries involved, a presbytery may transfer the covenant relationship of an inquirer or candidate. (G-2.0608) This action shall be reported to the receiving presbytery by the Stated Clerk on Form 7A. If the transfer is to the Presbytery of Detroit, the Stated Clerk shall report the receipt of the inquirer or candidate to the General Assembly on Form 7A.
- 3.6.2. In accord with G-2.069 the CPM may allow an inquirer or candidate to withdraw, or may remove an inquirer or candidate from the roll. These actions shall be reported to the Stated Clerk on Form 7B, who shall then notify the General Assembly.

3.7. Ordination or reception of a minister from another denomination

- 3.7.1. When a congregation of the Presbytery of Detroit issues a call to a candidate for ministry, or a minister from another denomination, the Committee on Preparation for Ministry shall conduct the Examination for Ordination, unless the Presbytery agrees that the examination shall be done by another presbytery.
- 3.7.2. CPM shall conduct the examination of a candidate when the candidate provides certification of Final Assessment by the sending presbytery (Form 7A).
- 3.7.3. CPM shall conduct the examination of a minister from another denomination when it has received certification that the minister is in good standing, and has complied with G-2.0505.
- 3.7.4. The candidate shall provide CPM and the presbytery with an autobiographical statement, and a Statement of Faith.
- 3.7.5. The candidate shall preach a sermon before the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, and shall be examined by CPM. The examination shall cover the reasons the candidate seeks membership in the presbytery, the candidate's theological understanding, and any other issues the committee believes appropriate.
- 3.7.6. The committee shall present the candidate to the presbytery, with the candidate's statement of faith and autobiographical statement, and with a recommendation as to whether ordain/receive the candidate into membership. The presbytery shall conduct an examination.
- 3.7.7. The Stated Clerk shall report the ordination to the General Assembly on Form 7B.

Section 4. Miscellaneous Policies

4.1. Financial Aid

4.1.1. Premise

The Presbytery of Detroit, through its Committee on Preparation for Ministry', reviews the financial well-being of those individuals under the care of the presbytery in their preparation for ordination as ministers of Word and Sacrament.

The committee sees its role as two-fold. First the committee has a responsibility to guide inquirers and candidates in understanding acceptable rates of indebtedness and realistic level of repayment on a pastor's starting salary. Second, the committee has a responsibility to assist candidates and inquirers in locating sources of financial aid within acceptable indebtedness levels.

4.1.2. Total Educational Debt

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry suggests that \$50,000 is the maximum reasonable level of educational indebtedness. (The committee defines total educational indebtedness as the total of all outstanding debt. from undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate studies.)

The committee urges candidates to be careful about the amount of educational debt incurred, and realistic in their expectation of their future financial ability to repay that indebtedness.

4.1.3. Presbytery Theological Scholarship Fund

The presbytery, through the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, administers a Theological Scholarship Fund. Funding for this scholarship comes from offerings collected at each ordination or installation service conducted by the presbytery. All individuals under care of the presbytery, as inquirers or candidates are eligible to apply for scholarship assistance. Applicants for scholarships from the presbytery must adhere to the following process.

4.1.4. All applicants will furnish the Committee on Preparation for Ministry with a current GAPFAS (Graduate and Professional Financial Aid for Students) form.

4.1.5. The request for financial aid must be accompanied by a detailed accounting of anticipated income and expenses on Form 1C – Financial Planning. This accounting should include all income sources, self, family, church, seminary, denomination and any other financial assistance the individual will receive (or anticipates receiving). Expenses should be specific, e.g. tuition, room, board, books, supplies, etc.

4.1.6. The presbytery will only consider requests for assistance after verification has been provided that the individual has applied for assistance from the sources listed above.

**PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
FOR THE PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
THROUGH THE PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT

v.

DISCIPLINARY CASE NO.: 2012-1

REV. MATTHEW MORSE:

DECISION

A quorum being present, the Permanent Judicial Committee for the Presbytery of Detroit (PPJC) convened for the trial and censure hearing this manner at 9:10 am on Saturday, June 2, 2012.

On Thursday, March 29, 2012, the Executive Committee of the PPJC convened the pretrial hearing in this matter. During the pretrial, Rev. Morse indicated an intension to plead guilty to the following charges:

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) charges you, Matthew Morse of the Presbytery of Detroit, with the following offenses contrary to Scripture and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.):

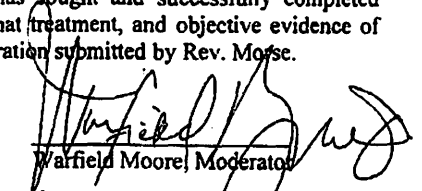
1. On or about the 20th day of July, 2009, you, Matthew Morse did commit the offense of Sexual Misconduct, contrary to Scriptures and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
 - a. On or about the 20th day of July, 2009 you invited a woman to a bar. She reported sharing a drink with you following which you invited her to your home where you both had sexual intercourse.
2. Over period 2007 – 20111 you, Matthew Morse, misused alcohol in violation of Scripture, the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and the order of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Presbytery of Detroit, as follows:
 - a. On or about July 20, 2009, you were intoxicated when you invited a woman to your home and engaged in sexual relations with her.
 - b. On or about March 20, 2008, you were observed conducting a worship service while intoxicated by the Director of Music, Jeffery Burke.
 - c. On or about January 27, 2008, William Zambon observed you intoxicated at Detroit Metropolitan airport, which condition may have cause you miss your flight.
 - d. You lost your driver's license because alcohol use.
 - e. You violated the order of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Presbytery of Detroit, which found you guilty of misuse of alcohol, and directed you to abstain from the use of alcohol.


At trial, Rev. Morse pled guilty to each charge and the Commission voted unanimously to accept Rev. Morse's plea and proceed to a censure hearing.

The Commission heard testimony from the current interim pastor of Southminster Church of Taylor and received as exhibits in the form victim impact letters concerning the degree of censure.

Thereafter, the Commission unanimously approved the following terms of censure:

Whereas, you, Rev. Matthew Morse, have been found guilty of the offenses of Sexual Misconduct and Misuse of Alcohol in Violation of Scripture, and by such offenses you have acted contrary to the Scriptures and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); now, therefore, the Presbytery of Detroit, in the name and by the authority of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), does now declare you temporarily excluded from ordered ministry as a teaching elder for a minimum period of 5 years, and said period of temporary exclusion continuing until after you have applied for restoration to the Presbytery of Detroit and can also prove, to the satisfaction of said Presbytery in conjunction with said application, that you have addressed your serious emotional issues (particularly your persistent anger issues) and your persistent issues of substance use and abuse, moreover this Commission recommends that the Presbytery of Detroit carefully consider the extent to which Rev. Morse has sought and successfully completed professional treatment for these issues, the length of that treatment, and objective evidence of rehabilitation before approving any application for restoration submitted by Rev. Morse.


Warfield Moore, Moderator


Mark Schneider, Clerk

Date: June 2, 2012

**PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

Thomas Priest, Jr.,) Appellant/Appellee (Complainant),) v.) Presbytery of Detroit,) Appellee/Appellant (Respondent).)	Order for Briefing Schedule Remedial Cases GA2011-109 and GA2011-110
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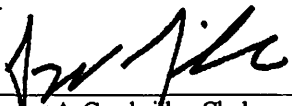
On March 26, 2012, the Executive Committee (EC) of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly (GAPJC or this Commission) ordered a single hearing on three matters: 1) the Appellant/Appellee's challenge to its determination on preliminary questions, 2) the substance of the Appeal filed by the Appellant/Appellee (which is a challenge to the preliminary question determinations of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant (SPJC) on jurisdiction, timeliness, and whether the Complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted), and 3) the substance of the Appeal filed by Appellee/Appellant (which is a challenge to the SPJC's determination that the Appellant/Appellee has standing to file the Complaint). The EC now, therefore, issues the following briefing schedule for this hearing:

Appellant/Appellee Brief: On or before June 7, 2012, the Appellant/Appellee, Thomas Priest, Jr. (Priest), shall submit a brief on all matters in his original Notice of Appeal. This brief shall *also* include the matter of his challenge to the EC's determination on standing.

Appellee/Appellant Brief: On or before June 7, 2012, the Appellee/Appellant, the Presbytery of Detroit (Detroit), shall submit a brief on standing (as the original Appellant in that matter).

Response Briefs: On or before July 9, 2012, if they so desire, either or both parties may submit responses to the briefs of their opposing parties.

Dated the 13th day of May, 2012.



 Gregory A. Goodwiller, Clerk
 Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly

FORM NO. 21
D-8.0304, D-3-8.0305

IN THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

THOMAS PRIEST, JR.
Appellant/Appellee (Complainant)

v.

Remedial Cases:
GA2011-109
GA2011-110

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
Appellee, Appellant (Respondent)

**BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF THE CHALLENGE
TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S
DETERMINATION ON STANDING
OF THOMAS PRIEST, JR.
AND
BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF APPEAL**

The Appellant, Thomas Priest, Jr., submits the following as his (1) Brief in Support of his Challenge to the decision of the Executive Committee of this Commission's determination that Appellant lacks standing to proceed, and (2) his Brief in Support of all matters raised in his original Notice of Appeal to this Commission.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

Thomas H. Priest, Jr. filed a Complaint (EXHIBIT 1 attached) initiating a Remedial Case on June 9, 2011 before the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant of the Presbyterian Church, (U.S.A.), setting forth four specific charges for which he sought Remedial Relief against the Presbytery of Detroit. The charges in the Complaint in shortened form are:

- (1) The Presbytery impermissibly conducted the equivalent of a disciplinary investigation and a disciplinary hearing against Mr. Priest culminating in a hearing on March 1, 2011 and a Ruling on March 10, 2011, without affording him either procedural or substantive due process (fundamental fairness).
- (2) The Presbytery's actions were impermissible in that the Presbytery, acting by and through its CPM, acted beyond its stated powers (an ultra vires act) in conducting a disciplinary proceeding against Mr. Priest through CPM and not through its PJC.
- (3) The Presbytery's action in conducting and concluding a disciplinary proceeding against Mr. Priest was impermissible in that it subjected Mr. Priest to a defense of the same charge by two separate and independent bodies (Double Jeopardy).

The Executive Committee (the statutory officers) of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant (Synod's PJC hereinafter) determined on August 9, 2011 that all four of the jurisdictional grounds of D-6.0305¹ had not been met (EXHIBIT 2) in the allegations of the Complaint, saying the Synod's PJC could not hear the case because:

- (a) The Complainant lacked standing to file the case, citing D-6.0305b.
- (b) The Complaint was not timely filed, citing D-6.0305c.
- (c) The Complaint failed to state a claim upon which relief could be granted, citing D-6.0305d.
- (d) The Synod's PJC lacked jurisdiction to consider the Complaint, citing D-6.0305a.

¹ All references in this Brief are to Sections of the Book of Order in effect at the time of the filings and not to the recently adopted nFOG-Book of Order.

On September 2, 2011, Mr. Priest timely filed a Challenge (EXHIBIT 3) to the findings of the Executive Committee of the Synod's PJC. The Challenge was heard telephonically November 15, 2011, following which the Synod's PJC affirmed the decision of its Executive Committee in part and reversed it in part, ultimately denying the Challenge as a whole and dismissing the case. The Synod PJC's Ruling (EXHIBIT 4) reversed the Executive Committee's determination on standing (D-6.0305b), saying the Complainant had standing to file the case, while it continued to deny the three remaining jurisdictional grounds: (1) there was no jurisdiction oversight to hear the case-D-6.0305a, (2) the Complaint was not timely filed-D-6.0305c, and (3) the Complaint did not state a claim upon which relief could be granted-D-6.0305d.²

On December 19, 2011 Mr. Priest filed his Notice of Appeal with this Commission (EXHIBIT 5, without attachments) appealing only three parts of the decision of the Synod's PJC (1) that it lacked jurisdiction (D-6.0305a), (2) that the Complaint was not timely filed (D-6.0305c) and (3) that the Complaint failed to state a claim upon which relief could be granted (D-6.0305d). Mr. Priest did not appeal the standing issue, since it had been decided in his favor that he had standing to file the Complaint.

On December 27, 2011 the Presbytery of Detroit cross appealed the decision of the Synod's PJC challenging only the finding that Mr. Priest had standing to file his Complaint. (EXHIBIT 6)

On January 31, 2012 the Executive Committee of this Commission ruled that since Mr. Priest did not have standing to file the original Complaint, he did not have

² The vote of the Synod's PJC on the question of standing was: 6 ayes, 9 nays, 1 abstention. The votes on the timeliness issue and the statement of a claim upon which relief could be granted were fairly evenly split, an indication the PJC wrestled with a close question. The overall jurisdictional vote was not close since one or more grounds were not met.

standing to Appeal. (EXHIBIT 7) The PJC then dismissed the entire Appeal without addressing the issues raised on Appeal by the complainant. This PJC also determined the Appeal of the Presbytery was rendered moot by its decision.

On February 29, 2012 Mr. Priest timely filed his formal Challenge (EXHIBIT 8) to the rulings of the Executive Committee of this Commission. On March 26, 2012 this Commission advised it would hear the Challenge and issued a second Preliminary Order establishing a Briefing schedule for both sides regarding all of the issues raised in the Appeal from the Synod of the Covenant. (EXHIBIT 9) This Brief is submitted in compliance with that Order and will try to address all of the issues before this Commission.

ARGUMENT

The Argument below addresses each of the four jurisdictional issues and contains those facts alleged as may be necessary to fully consider the issue.

1. The question of standing (D-6.0305b).

On April 21, 2010 Ruth Azar, Executive Director of The Second Mile Center (an inner-city center sponsored by the Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery to reach underprivileged children) submitted a Form 26, Accusation by Individual against Mr. Priest (EXHIBIT 10) charging him with racism, discrimination and division against her and her staff at the center arising from Mr. Priest's actions on or about February 18, 2009 at the center. Mr. Priest is an African American, a recent seminary graduate pursuing a calling into a second career, and an Elder in the Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Azar is a White, Arab American. Mr. Priest was at the center on February 18, 2009 as part of a

field evaluation related to a class he was taking at the seminary. The remarks complained of were allegedly made during the evaluation visit.³

In 2009 Mr. Priest, even though a seminarian, was the Moderator of the Presbytery of Detroit for the whole year and was enrolled as such on the Presbytery's rolls as a member for all of 2009. He was also enrolled for all of 2010 as a Past Moderator and a Member of the Coordinating Cabinet. All previous Moderators still in the Presbytery are enrolled as members of the Presbytery from and after their time of service. Mr. Priest was also enrolled on the Presbytery's rolls as an inquirer at the beginning of 2009. He advanced to Candidate status, working toward ordination before 2009 ended. He was awarded his M.Div. degree in 2009. He currently is certified as a Candidate ready to receive a call and is enrolled with the Presbytery as such.

The Written Statement of Complaint of Mrs. Azar was submitted as a Form 26 Accusation by an Individual as Statement of Offense against Mr. Priest some fifteen months after the events. The Written Statement (**EXHIBIT 10**) cited D-10.0102a as its authority in proceeding. Mr. Priest has alleged the Written Statement was filed in retaliation for his personal opposition to the unbalanced funding of the two centers operated by the Presbytery in the year after he served as Moderator of the Presbytery.⁴

The fact that the Written Statement invoked D-10.0102a cast it as a Disciplinary Accusation. The Written Statement was addressed to numerous individuals, but initially it was sent to Rhonda Favors, Clerk of Session of Mr. Priest's home church (Calvary Presbyterian Church) and to Edward Koster, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery. The Session of Mr. Priest's church immediately appointed an Investigating Committee as required by

³ Interestingly, none of the remarks were in fact made to Mrs. Azar. Instead, they were allegedly made to members of her staff and those assembled by her and developed into her Written Statement-Formal Accusation.

⁴ The Two Mile Center received significantly more funding than the other center of the Presbytery.

D-10.0201. Mr. Koster, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, knowing that Mr. Priest's home Church's Session had formed an Investigative Committee, sent the charge to the Presbytery's CPM and advised CPM that it could proceed with its own investigation without having to defer to an Investigating Committee of the Presbytery under D-10.0201 or to the Investigating Committee formed by Mr. Priest's home church's Session.

On February 10, 2011 the Investigative Committee of Mr. Priest's home church, after an extensive investigation, issued its Conclusion of Investigation, advising that "no charges would be filed." (EXHIBIT 11) This conclusion was shared with Edward Koster, the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery.

On May 4, 2010 CPM established its own Investigative Committee and was guided in its investigation by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, even though he knew of the work of the Investigative Committee of Mr. Priest's home church. The action of CPM in every aspect was (1) that of an Investigative Committee under the Discipline and (2) that of a CPM acting as a PJC itself once the Investigative Committee's Report was submitted. Interestingly, the CPM repeatedly stated that it was not acting under the Discipline, but a rose by any other name is still a rose. Before CPM concluded its work it was advised of the findings of the Investigative Committee of Mr. Priest's home church. Without regard for that decision, Presbytery's CPM went ahead with a formal disciplinary hearing against Mr. Priest on March 1, 2011.

The result of that hearing was CPM's Report of January 18, 2011 (EXHIBIT 12) sustaining Mrs. Azar's Complaint, finding Mr. Priest to have abused his authority as Moderator, to have engaged in acts of racism, and to have acted deceitfully toward the employees of the Center, among other conclusions. In the Report Mr. Priest was subjected to in essence a finding of guilt and a forced discipline similar to that normally

produced by a PJC in a Disciplinary Hearing. Mr. Priest has alleged he was denied fundamental fairness in the Hearing, as he has outlined in his charges in the Complaint.

The Minutes of the Stated Meetings of the Presbytery of Detroit of February 22, 2011, April 26, 2011, June 28, 2011 and August 23, 2011 (Collectively, EXHIBIT 13) reflect three pertinent facts:

- (1) Mr. Priest was present at all of these meetings and was listed in the minutes as an enrolled member.
- (2) CPM's portion of the Minutes reflects that CPM never asked for permission to proceed against Mr. Priest with a formal investigation, never reported to the Presbytery its Investigation, Conclusions, or its Recommendations and never reported or asked for approval of its actions.
- (3) The Stated Clerk's Reports and Recommendations for Action by the Presbytery never included a request of the investigative action of CPM.

The question of whether Mr. Priest had standing to file the Complaint that he did is governed by D-6.0202 of the Book of Order, where it states in pertinent part:

A Complaint of an irregularity.....may be filed by one or more persons... subject to and submitting to the jurisdiction of a governing body.

a. In the instance of a complaint against a Presbytery, a complaint of an irregularity shall be filed within ninety days after the alleged irregularity has occurred... Those eligible to file such a complaint are

- (1) A minister or an elder enrolled as a member of Presbytery concerning an irregularity...during that period of enrollment, against the Presbytery, with the Synod.

In *Lundin v. Presbytery of Chicago*, 1996-208-5, without providing the detail of the irregularities complained of, the GAPJC has said that a church member enrolled as a Member of the Presbytery has standing to file a Complaint against a Presbytery. Mr.

Priest met the criteria of *Lundin* as an enrolled member of Presbytery at the time the Written Complaint was submitted and when the Presbytery's action was concluded. While it is expected the Presbytery will argue the event did not happen at a Stated Presbytery Meeting, Mr. Priest disagrees for two reasons:

1. The language of Rule D-6.0200a (1) does not include the word "meeting." The language says "an irregularity during that period of enrollment." A Period of Enrollment includes within the definition the time frame of a particular meeting, but is not limited to such meeting.

2. However, if that argument is deemed insufficient, and if a "meeting" is required, the term must also apply in situations where an irregularity occurs when an agent of Presbytery (CPM) acts by and for the Presbytery under the authority of the Book of Order. G-14.0411 states that it is expected and permissible that a CPM can act for and as the Presbytery:

G-14.0411 - During the phases of inquiry and candidacy ... the individual is under the oversight of the Presbytery through the Committee on Preparation for Ministry.

Here, where CPM had been designated to act as and for the Presbytery, it acted irregularly and beyond its powers by conducting a Disciplinary Proceeding from its investigation through its sentencing. That CPM believed it had the power to act as it did is evident by its not reporting its actions to the Presbytery or seeking approval of its actions after their conclusion. Simply stated, CPM believed that it had the authority to act for the Presbytery as it did, that it did not have to report its actions and that it did not have to seek Presbytery approval for any of its actions. Why? Because CPM understood its role to be that of an agent of the Presbytery itself, able to act as the Presbytery and

able to bind the Presbytery in the actions it took. The Minutes of the Presbytery confirm that the Presbytery agreed with this understanding in that the Stated Clerk never took exception with or reported the actions of CPM as regular or irregular.

In previous filings Mr. Priest has also raised as a basis for his standing his enrollment as an Inquirer and Candidate, citing this enrollment as sufficient to give him standing as it relates to any miscues of the CPM in acting as the Presbytery under the generic heading of oversight. He does not abandon those arguments and incorporates those arguments previously made in his appellate and challenge pleadings into this argument. He submits that if that enrollment is deemed insufficient to give him standing, then he, and all others similarly situated, are nothing more than residents in an alien land. Presbytery can subject a candidate to a condition of having no rights, especially when a CPM, acting as and for the Presbytery takes disciplinary actions against him, with no rights and no remedy within the Presbytery itself.

Mr. Priest expects the Presbytery of Detroit will argue there can be no standing to file a Complaint about the act of a committee of the Presbytery (CPM here), urging instead Mr. Priest should have brought his discomfiture to the Presbytery itself. How could he without standing (as the Presbytery argues)? How should he know such a remedy might be available, when the Book of Order does not say how it is an available right? And, how is he to know, which acts are the acts of CPM only and which are the acts of the Presbytery, acting by and through its agent, its CPM? The Presbytery's standing argument produces a perfect Catch 22 situation. If he is not a member of Presbytery, he can not challenge the acts of CPM. If he challenges, the Presbytery can argue it has no jurisdiction, since CPM was the Presbytery when it acted. Mr. Priest also disagrees that bringing the matter to the Presbytery was necessary, since CPM was

cloaked in the apparent authority of the Presbytery, and was in fact the Presbytery when it acted. Mr. Priest submits such a review would in effect be asking the Presbytery to review its own actions and his effort would not be entertained. The Book of Order gives CPM's oversight but does not define its limits. It also says when it exercises oversight (in whatever form that may take), it is acting as a Presbytery.

2. The question of timeliness in the filing (D-6.0305c).

The action complained of as impermissible by Mr. Priest began March 1, 2011 and ended with the decision reached in that Hearing on March 10, 2011. While the decision was purportedly reached on March 1, 2011, it was not communicated in any manner to Mr. Priest. In fact, the decision, whenever reached, was not put in the mail to Mr. Priest until March 10, 2011. It is acknowledged that before the written decision was received (March 18, 2011), Mr. Priest and his counsel were separately informed on March 11, 2011 that a decision was coming and was in the mail. The specifics of the decision and the language of the decision were not known until the receipt of this written decision. While there does not appear to be a receipt requirement as to the time for establishing the beginning date from which the filing of a Complaint is to be initiated, the triggering date should not be allowed to precede the verbal notification given to Mr. Priest on March 11, 2011. Accordingly, Mr. Priest submits that his filing was timely because:

a. Mr. Priest filed his Complaint on June 9, 2011, which was the 90th day after his first partial knowledge of the decision. In computing time, D-6.0202a states that "a complaint of an irregularity shall be filed within 90 days after the alleged irregularity has occurred..." (Underlines added) Because of the use of the words "within" and "after" the day of the Irregularity, the beginning date cannot be the day of the

announcement but must be on March 12, 2011, thus extending the counting from that date (using it) to the 90th day "after." If the Book of Order said only "within," then June 8, 2011 would be the date, but the term "within" is not the only word. Again, using well accepted Rules of Construction requiring that all the language be considered, the last date for filing is June 9, 2011, which is the day of the filing of the Complaint herein.

b. While the Irregularity complained of began on March 1, 2011, the act was not completed until the decision was communicated. The letter announcing the decision bears the date of March 10, 2011, but its general finding was not communicated to Mr. Priest until March 11, 2011 (verbally, in part). It was not until March 18, 2011, the day the writing was received, that Mr. Priest knew the specifics of the decision. No one has addressed the impact of mailing on these computations. Section D-6.0202a says a Complaint of an irregularity shall be filed within ninety days after the alleged irregularity has occurred. Mr. Priest submits the irregularity was not completed under these circumstances until the decision is communicated. The Presbytery disagrees and will say the irregularity, if any, was completed on March 1, 2011. The Book of Order is silent about the effect of withholding a decision that is part of the irregularity. Because the decision was withheld, Mr. Priest submits that the irregularity which resulted in the Hearing of March 1, 2011 did not conclude until the result was communicated. Mr. Priest asks the PJC to consider the mischief that could be perpetrated with a different interpretation. A violator of the Book of Order giving rise to an irregularity could withhold its decision for 91 or more days, so that the time to respond will have passed.

Here, CPM purportedly made a disciplinary determination on March 1, 2011, but did not release the decision that day.⁵ Instead, CPM chose to mail the decision, placing a date of March 10, 2011 on its decision document, while the document was not actually received until March 18, 2011. Such a delay is not the fault of the Complainant and should not be counted against him in this case. To do so would allow the limitations period of the Book of Order to be manipulated and would infringe further upon the rights of fundamental fairness afforded under the Book of Order. As argued above, the Complaint was filed on the 90th day.

3. The question of whether the Complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted.

Ms. Azar submitted her Written Statement as a Form 26 document on April 21, 2011, charging Mr. Priest for incidents which occurred more than fourteen months before. Form 26 is entitled "Accusation By Individual as Statement of Offense, D-10.01021." Among the charges she raised were:

- racial discrimination;
- misuse of his office as Moderator of the Presbytery;
- inappropriate behavior in contravention of his vows as a Candidate under care of the Presbytery.

CPM convicted Mr. Priest of these charges, and in so doing, acted *ultra vires*, as a self appointed PJC. The approach taken by CPM and the documents it used bely the repeated protestation of CPM that it was only conducting an oversight hearing. Consider the way CPM saw what it was doing and how it acted:

⁵ The Presbytery has argued Mr. Priest and his counsel left before the decision was reached on March 1, 2011. That is true. After waiting four hours, they were told a decision had not yet been reached. Four days later an inquiry by counsel as to the decision produced an answer that the decision had not been completed even then.

a) The manner and circumstances of the referral by the Stated Clerk of the Written Complaint of April 21, 2010 from Mrs. Azar were in error. A Written Complaint is to be directed to an Investigative Committee of a PJC (D-10.0203). The Stated Clerk knew an Investigating Committee of Mr. Priest's Home Church's Session intended to and did handle the matter under the Rules of Discipline. He could not have referred the Written Complaint to the Presbytery's PJC for reasons of double jeopardy. Instead, he referred it to CPM and orchestrated a path for CPM, acting as and for the Presbytery under the guise of an "oversight proceeding," to conduct the equivalent of a disciplinary hearing, one which was beyond its authority.

b) CPM invoked terms and concepts in its labeling of the events of the Hearing, and the instructions it used related thereto, that were consistent with a disciplinary hearing, except that while invoking the disciplinary Rules, they failed to give Mr. Priest the procedural and substantive rights of fundamental fairness he would ordinarily have received in a properly conducted disciplinary hearing. Whether the proceeding was an administrative proceeding or a judicial proceeding, fundamental fairness is required under our Church's Book of Order, as particularized in *Gaba v. Presbytery of Eastern Virginia*, Remedial Case 204-11 (2004); *Wolfe vs. Presbytery of Winnebago*, Remedial Case 219-04 (2009); and *Lewis v. Presbytery of New York City*, Remedial Case 207-13 (1995). The denial of fundamental fairness (procedural and substantive due process) in a proceeding in which the result is disciplinary in nature has always been deemed to generate a claim sufficient for which relief can be granted.

- c) CPM advised Mr. Priest he could be represented by an Advocate.
- d) CPM announced it would use a Court Reporter.
- e) CPM consistently used words from which disciplinary inferences could be drawn.
- f) In addition, CPM conducted what was in essence a disciplinary proceeding without the due process (fundamental fairness) safeguards required under the Book of Order. Consider the failings of the CPM under this Irregularity.

While a CPM has the right and the power to determine a candidate's fitness for ministry, it can not do so using an approach not permitted within its stated powers. Mr. Priest equates the act of the CPM here in usurping a power not authorized, an *ultra vires* act as the term is understood under American jurisprudence. Determining fitness through a disciplinary proceeding has never been an enumerated power granted a CPM, in its own right, or acting as and for the Presbytery, under any circumstance. Investigating Committees which conduct a disciplinary investigation exist only under the Rules of Discipline of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). If an Investigative Committee is used by a CPM or if a proceeding is undertaken, which in its every attribute is essentially the same as the action of a disciplinary Investigating Committee considering Disciplinary Action, any person hurt by the misuse of this power, or by the use of a Disciplinary Hearing to enforce the Report of the Investigating Committee in a disciplinary manner, should have a right to ask an appropriate church court to remedy the misuse as an irregularity. That is what Mr. Priest seeks to do here.

The language of page 21 of the Transcript of Proceedings sets forth Complainant's concerns as voiced to the CPM: "We're going back to the first point, we object to the proceedings in the way in which we're doing this: with a court reporter; with an agenda that spells out a number of places that this is a hearing; that the report itself has language that we're here to investigate, takes Mr. Priest to task for a number of offenses. In fact, what has occurred here is a disciplinary hearing without all of the rights, all of the duties that are owed a person facing a disciplinary hearing. For example, Ms. Azar is not here today to be cross-examined. If you look and hear all of the evidence, none of the statements she quotes were made to her. They were purportedly made to others. And, when you examine them and look at the record, none of the statements happened in the context in which they were reported." In short, the Investigative Committee conducted a flawed investigation, yet it could not be asked anything about its investigation or its report.

4. **The question of jurisdiction (D-6.0305a).**
 - a. The action of CPM is and was in essence the action of the Presbytery under the well known legal principle called Principal and Agent. CPM had the delegated authority to act as the Presbytery in certain oversight matters under D-6.0202a. Its acts were final. Its acts were taken within the authority of the Book of Order. Its acts were intended to be the acts of the Presbytery.
 - b. The Presbytery, by and through its CPM, acted in a manner beyond the enumerated powers granted to a CPM under G-9.0501a.
 - c. The Presbytery, by and through its CPM, acted beyond the powers granted to it as agent of the Presbytery.

- d. The Presbytery, by and through its CPM, never asked the Presbytery for approval for its actions but deemed its decision final.
- e. The argument advanced by the Presbytery is that since CPM is not a governing body, no action can be maintained against the Presbytery for the acts of a CPM. While that might be true in many instances, it cannot apply where a CPM is acting as and for and on behalf of the Presbytery and is the final arbiter of the issue. When a CPM acts as it did here, the actions are those of the Presbytery.

RELIEF REQUESTED

Appellant Thomas Priest, Jr., respectfully asks that his Challenge be sustained and that his Appeal be heard in full by the General Assembly's Permanent Judicial Commission or if a hearing is unnecessary, that the initial relief requested in his Complaint of setting aside the March 1, 2011 decision of the Presbytery, acting by and through its CPM, and declare the conclusions and resolution null and void.

Respectfully submitted.
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

June 6, 2012
Date

By: Archibald Wallace III
Minister of the Word and Sacrament (PCUSA)
Presbytery of the James
Counsel for Thomas H. Priest, Jr. and his
designated Agent
Member of the Virginia and West Virginia Bars

June 5, 2012
Date

Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.,
Individually

Certification of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the attached was served electronically and by Federal Express upon the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly's PJC, Gregory A. Goodwiller, at the offices of the General Assembly's PJC, 100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville, KY 40202, by Federal Express, upon the Committee of Counsel for the Appelle, upon Elder Mark Schneider, c/o Presbytery of Detroit, 117 N. First Street, Suite 111, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, upon Edward H. Koster (Stated Clerk Presbytery of Detroit) c/o Presbytery of Detroit, 117 N. First Street, Suite 111, Ann Arbor, MI 48108 and the Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Covenant, the Rev. David E Bartley, 1911 Indian Wood Circle Suite B, Maumec, OH 43537, this 6 day of June, 2012

Archibald Wallace III
Archibald Wallace, III
Counsel for
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

Form No. 6

**THE SYNOD OF THE COVENANT
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

A REMEDIAL COMPLAINT UNDER D-6.0100, et. seq.

THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.,

Complainant

v.

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT,

Respondent

COMPLAINT

Thomas H. Priest, Jr., a member of Calvary Presbyterian Church, Detroit, Michigan, and an enrolled Candidate of the Presbytery of Detroit complains to the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant concerning certain irregularities committed against him by the Presbytery of Detroit, acting by and through its agent, the Committee on the Preparation For Ministry (CPM), in that on March 1, 2011 the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting by and for the Presbytery, conducted a "Hearing" against Thomas Priest on the, "Form 26, Accusation By Individual As Statement of Offense," of Ruth Azar dated April 21, 2010 and submitted under D-10.0102a of the Discipline of the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with letter attached. See Exhibit A attached. While the CPM labeled the March 1, 2011 proceeding a Hearing as to the Suitability for Ministry of Thomas Priest, the entire proceeding was instead a Disciplinary Hearing against Thomas H. Priest. On March 18, 2011 CPM mailed notice of its decision to Mr. Priest, saying in essence Mr. Priest had



2. The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit improperly referred the Complaint to the CPM or the Presbytery of Detroit for investigation and action in contravention of D-10.0103 of the Book of Order.
3. The CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting as agent for and on behalf of the Presbytery of Detroit, formed an Investigative Committee to consider the disciplinary charges and present its conclusions at a formal hearing. At the time of the March 1, 2001 Hearing CPM was aware that the same charges had been referred to an Investigative Committee of the Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church, which had investigated the charges and declined to initiate formal disciplinary charges against Mr. Priest.
4. The Hearing of March 1, 2011 was irregularly conducted in that Mr. Priest was denied the fundamental fairness guaranteed throughout the Book of Order for such proceedings in that he was not allowed:
 - a. to confront his accuser;
 - b. to call any witnesses;
 - c. to cross examine the Investigators, the accusers or any of the other witnesses; and
 - d. to know what the accuser or any witnesses said or see what any witness might have provided to the Investigating Committee; and
5. The findings of CPM of March 1, 2011, while said not to be disciplinary in nature, were in fact disciplinary and, as such, were beyond the scope of authority of CPM (*ultra vires*).

Priest objected in any way to the call. See Exhibit G attached. On June 23, 2009 the Presbytery approved the call of Ms. Azar to the Second Mile Center after a spirited effort to postpone the vote. Mr. Priest Moderated the Presbytery Meeting where the call was ultimately approved and did not participate in the discussions about postponement. See Exhibit H attached.

4. At the end of 2009 Mr. Priest ended his term as Moderator of the Presbytery. In October 2009, just before Mr. Priest's term as Moderator ended, the Coordinating Cabinet received a Report from Ed Koster, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, about the way the Presbytery had handled the call of Ms. Azar to be Executive Director of Second Mile Center. The report was intended as response to the questions raised by some within the Presbytery as to whether the decision of the Presbytery to call Ms. Azar in June 2009 was proper or not. See Exhibit I attached. The solution suggested was to discharge Ms. Azar and go through the call process again. No action was taken on the issue before the end of 2009.

5. As an elder commissioner to the Presbytery but no longer Moderator and while still a member of the Coordinating Cabinet, Mr. Priest on April 5, 2010 advised the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of his intent to file a Motion with the Presbytery asking it to rescind its earlier action regarding the called position at Second Mile Center. A copy of the Motion was to be a part of the Presbytery Packet sent to all commissioners and was to be voted on at the April 27, 2010 Presbytery Meeting. A copy is attached as Exhibit J. On April 12, 2010, the Presbytery Executive emailed a copy of Mr. Priest's Motion to Ms. Ruth Azar to give her a "heads up" that the Motion was coming. See Exhibit K attached. Two days later, on April 14, 2010, Ms. Azar and two others responded, asking the Presbytery Executive what "charges" could be brought against Mr. Priest for what

7. On April 27, 2010 Mr. Priest's Motion to Rescind was brought to the floor of Presbytery but was not voted upon as to its merits because of procedural rulings. Mr. Priest was not in attendance at the meeting.

8. Ms. Azar's disciplinary charges were the subject of an extensive investigation by Calvary Presbyterian Church's Investigative Committee, including a hearing where Mr. Priest was allowed to address and refute the charges. On February 10, 2011, the Investigative Committee of Calvary Presbyterian Church issued its Conclusion of Investigation, advising that "no charges would be filed." This information was provided Presbytery's CPM, before it began its hearing on March 1, 2011; however, CPM went ahead with its hearing related to the same Charges.

9. On May 4, 2010 CPM established its own Investigative Committee and was guided in its investigation by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery. CPM asked the Investigating Committee it appointed to investigate the accusations of Ms. Azar. The Investigating Committee recognized that the approach of CPM could be viewed as violative of the powers granted a CPM by the Book of Order, so the Investigating Committee in its Report of January 18, 2011 took pains to label its actions as advisory only, saying its intended purpose was to advise CPM on issues of Mr. Priest's suitability and not to determine whether or not the Constitution of the PC (USA) was violated. Unfortunately, the stated intent was subverted by a deliberate use of the discipline of the church in a manner not permitted by the Constitution of the PC (USA). The result was the Committee's Report of January 18, 2011. See Exhibit C attached. At no time during its investigation was Mr. Priest given a copy of Ms. Azar's written statement, nor advised what Ms. Azar had said in her presentations to the Committee, nor given any information about the investigation. Subsequently, Mr. Priest was called to an August 9, 2010

Mr. Priest was given a copy of the proposed Agenda for the Meeting before the Hearing. This Agenda was adopted as the Agenda for that Hearing. See Exhibit N attached. He was not given a copy of the Report until just before the original date of the Hearing¹. In the Agenda adopted, CPM advised Mr. Priest that a court reporter would be present, that Mr. Priest could have an advocate, if he wished, and that there would be a time in the Meeting called the "Hearing Stage." CPM advised at the onset of the Hearing that the Investigative Committee would present its findings and report on the evidence it had collected but could not be subjected to cross examination or direct questioning. CPM also advised that none of the witnesses examined by the Investigative Committee would be present or available for cross examination. The procedure for the day only allowed Mr. Priest to submit his testimony and to argue his defense. CPM advised it intended to vote to adopt the Report but wanted to hear from Mr. Priest before it finally ruled. Inexplicably, the Stated Clerk, who had engineered the way the charges were handled by CPM was allowed to sit in with CPM during its deliberations and to advise CPM as to its actions. Mr. Priest was given time to argue his defense, but it mattered not, because the evidential basis for CPM's action (the evidence behind the Report of January 18, 2011) was unavailable and not disclosed throughout the meeting. On March 11, 2011 Mr. Priest received Notice of the decision of CPM. See Exhibit E attached. Because of this Notice Mr. Priest submits this Complaint to the PJC of the Synod of the Covenant, asking this tribunal to correct the Irregularities listed above through this Remedial Action.

STANDING

Thomas Priest states this permanent judicial commission has jurisdiction over his Complaint filed under D-6.0202, et seq., of the Book of Order in that

¹ The Hearing was originally scheduled for February 1, 2011 but was rescheduled to March 1, 2011 at Mr. Priest's request.

before and during that meeting and one erroneous act taken by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, which was continuing in nature, even to this date.

ARGUMENT

1. The decision of the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting for and on behalf of the Presbytery, to conduct a disciplinary investigation and hearing against Mr. Priest by (a) appointing an Investigative Committee, (b) authorizing it to investigate the disciplinary charges against Mr. Priest, and (c) holding a judicial hearing involving disciplinary charges against Mr. Priest was erroneous and not permitted under the Book of Order, and, as such, it is an irregularity committed by the Presbytery.

The Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) D-10.0100, et seq. establishes those steps that are to be taken when a written statement of an alleged offense is submitted to one of the governing bodies of the church. In no instance is the power to investigate the accusations or to hear the charges ever delegated or extended to a Committee for the Preparation for the Ministry. Here, the CPM of the Presbytery usurped the power reserved to the Presbytery by investigating and hearing charges that were disciplinary in nature only and it acted beyond its authority in appointing an investigative committee, directing it to investigate disciplinary charges and holding a disciplinary hearing regarding those charges.

Section D-11.0100, et seq. provides that a disciplinary case can only be heard by a permanent judicial commission.

2. The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit improperly referred the Written Statement of Ms. Azar to the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit for investigation and action in contravention of D-10.0103 of the Book of Order.

The Book of Order requires the Stated Clerk, upon receipt of a written statement claiming a violation of the discipline of the church, to report to the governing body that an offense has been alleged and to turn the accusations over to an Investigative Committee designated by the Presbytery to investigate and determine whether to bring

4. The Hearing of March 1, 2011 was irregularly conducted (assuming it could be conducted) in that Mr. Priest was denied the fundamental fairness guaranteed throughout the Book of Order for such proceedings in that Mr. Priest was not allowed:

- a. to confront his accuser or hear her testimony
- b. to call any witnesses
- c. to examine or cross examine the Investigators, the accusers, or any of the other witnesses
- d. to know what the accuser or any of the witnesses said or to see what any of the witnesses might have provided to the Investigating Committee

The Discipline of the Book of Order (D-1.000) requires that all participants in church discipline are to be accorded procedural safeguards and due process, and it is the intention of the Rules of Discipline to provide them.

Section D-14.0100, et seq., sets forth the rules of evidence to be followed in a proceeding, which rules prohibit each of the denials of rights stated above.

Throughout the Form of Government Section of the Book of Order, due process safeguards are required in the conduct of any investigation, commission proceeding or hearing.

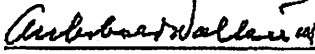
RELIEF REQUESTED.

1. That the Permanent Judicial Commission rule that it was irregular and impermissible for the Presbytery, acting by and through its Committee for the Preparation for the Ministry, to conduct a disciplinary proceeding against Mr. Priest on March 1, 2011 under D-10.0100, et seq., of the Book of Order, and that the adoption of its Investigative Committee's Report and recommendations presented was in error and should be reversed.

2. That the Permanent Judicial Commission rule that the Presbytery, acting by and through its Stated Clerk improperly referred the Disciplinary Written Statement of

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
By Counsel

June 7, 2011
Date


Archibald Wallace, III
Counsel for the Complainant

Date

Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

GAPJC 2011-09/10
HEARING ON PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS

GAPJC Remedial Cases 2011-09/10
APPELLANT BRIEF pg. 27



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

PRESBYTERY OF CINCINNATI PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT PRESBYTERY OF EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERY OF LAKE HURON PRESBYTERY OF LAKE MICHIGAN PRESBYTERY OF MACKINAC PRESBYTERY OF MAUMEE VALLEY
PRESBYTERY OF MIAMI VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF MUSKINGUM VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF SCIOTO VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF THE WESTERN RESERVE

August 19, 2011

Mr. Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
22668 Beckenham Court
Novi, MI 48374

The Rev. Edward H. Koster, Stated Clerk
The Presbytery of Detroit
117 N. First Street, Suite 111
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Re: Remedial Case 2011-04, Thomas J. Priest, Jr., vs. the Presbytery of Detroit

Dear Mr. Priest and Rev. Koster:

On Wednesday, August 9, 2011, I, as Moderator and the Rev. Doris Arnett Whitaker, Clerk, of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission met by conference call to examine documents provided by the Complainant and the Presbytery's Committee of Counsel for the above-captioned matter.

Pursuant to Book of Order, Rules of Discipline, D-6.0305a, the SPJC lacks jurisdiction to consider Remedial Case 2011-04; Pursuant to Book of Order, Rules of Discipline, D-6.0305b, the complainant lacks standing to file the case; Pursuant to Book of Order, Rules of Discipline, D-6.0305c, the complaint was not timely filed; and pursuant to Book of Order, Rules of Discipline, D-6.0305d, the complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

Since all four Preliminary Questions have been answered in the negative, the officers of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant have determined that this case cannot be accepted.

If any party to this case or any member of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission wishes to challenge the findings of the moderator and clerk of the PJC they may do so under the provisions of the Rules of Discipline D-6.0306. Such challenges should be sent to me at the synod office address.

Very truly yours,

Georgana Taggart, Moderator
Synod of the Covenant
Permanent Judicial Commission



1911 Indianwood Circle - Suite B, Maumee, Ohio 43537
419-754-4050 800-848-1030 (Michigan and Ohio) Fax 419-754-4051 www.synodofthecovenant.org

IN THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION OF THE SYNOD OF THE
COVENANT OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

**CHALLENGE
TO THE FINDINGS OF THE
MODERATOR AND CLERK OF THE
PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
THAT IT DOES NOT HAVE JURISDICTION
TO HEAR THE REMEDIAL COMPLAINT OF
THE COMPLAINANT, THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.**

THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.
Complainant .

Remedial Case 2011-04

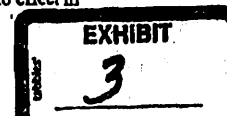
PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
Respondent

STATEMENT OF CHALLENGE

On August 9, 2011 Thomas H. Priest, Jr. ("Thomas H. Priest or Mr. Priest" herein), as Complainant, instituted his Remedial Case in this Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant, complaining of irregularities in the action taken against him which began on March 1, 2011 and were completed on March 18, 2011 by the Presbytery of Detroit, by and through its agent, the Committee on Preparation for the Ministry ("CPM" herein). (A copy of his Complaint is attached as Exhibit A.)¹

In his Complaint Thomas Priest charges: (1) that the Presbytery, acting by and through its agent, its CPM, impermissibly conducted the equivalent of a disciplinary hearing against him without authority and without affording him the procedural and substantive due processes (fundamental fairness) guaranteed to every member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) church whether in a properly filed disciplinary proceeding under D-10.010, et seq, of the Book of Order or in an administrative inquiry, where the

¹ This Complaint is filed under the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) 2009/2011, since all of the irregularities complained of occurred before the effective date of the nFOG which came into effect in July 2011.



discipline of an individual is the result; (2) that the actions of the Stated Clerk in establishing, participating in and shaping the result of the investigation throughout by the Presbytery's agent, its CPM, was impermissible, especially when the Clerk knew that a separate disciplinary investigation was already underway in another of the Church's Courts; and, (3) that the Presbytery's actions, acting by and through its agent, its CPM, could and did constitute double jeopardy against Complainant.

The Officers of this Commission determined August 9, 2011 that the four jurisdictional grounds of D-6.0305 had not been met, namely that the SPJC lacked jurisdiction to consider Remedial Case 2011-04 because (a) complainant lacked standing to file the case, D-6.0305b; (b) the complaint was not timely filed, D-6.0305c; (c) the complaint failed to state a claim upon which relief could be granted, D-6.0305d, and, (d) the SPJC lacked jurisdiction to consider the complaint, D-6.0305a. While the officers of this Commission did not give reason for concluding the four jurisdictional grounds were missing, Complainant will explore each of the grounds using the Answer of the Respondent as basis for this challenge.

a. The Complainant lacks standing to file the case under D-6.0305b.

Thomas A. Priest was at all times pertinent to the events surrounding and related to the irregularities complained of herein enrolled as a Candidate under the care of the Presbytery for purposes of becoming a Minister of the Word and Sacrament.² As a Candidate he is subject to the control and oversight of the Presbytery's Committee for the Preparation for Ministry (COM), the Presbytery's designated agent for such oversight. However, simply saying CPM has been granted oversight, does not elevate CPM or its activities to the level of the Presbytery, except for those powers specifically granted to it. Being enrolled as a Candidate means Mr. Priest of necessity has to be a member of the

² Mr. Priest is a Seminary Graduate and ready to be considered for his final assessment.

Presbytery and subject to its direct rule and control for the limited purposes of its constitutionally granted oversight, whether through its own actions or those granted its CPM. The Presbytery disagrees, saying Mr. Priest has standing to file a Complaint only for irregularities perpetrated upon him in the church of his membership, unless he is then enrolled as a member of Presbytery for a particular Presbytery meeting. Complainant disagrees. Under the reasoning of the Presbytery, there is no place Mr. Priest could go for relief from any disciplinary action taken against him by a Presbytery's CPM, because he was not then a member commissioned to a then designated presbytery meeting and the Presbytery was not then meeting. That was never the intention of the framers of our church's constitutional documents. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has declared repeatedly, it is always to be guided by the twin pole stars of Decency and Order.

Under G-14.041d, an individual enrolled by a Presbytery as an Inquirer or a Candidate continues to be an active member of his or her particular church and subject to the concern and discipline of that particular church's Session, for most things, but, in matters relating to his preparation for ministry, once the individual is "enrolled" in the Presbytery he is thereafter also subject to the oversight, control and discipline of the presbytery through the Presbytery itself and through its constitutionally designated agents for specific purposes, such as its Committee on Preparation for Ministry or its PJC. G-11.0103c requires a CPM to submit the names of individuals to be voted on as Inquirers and Candidates for ministry to the Presbytery. Once approved, they are "enrolled" on the Presbytery's Rolls and thereafter afforded limited membership to the extent necessary to proceed toward Ordination. Once enrolled, all Inquirers and Candidates come under the control of the Presbytery in this limited part through its designated constitutional agent, its CPM.

If the oversight and enrollment of candidates and inquirers does not constitute enrollment sufficient to enable a candidate to invoke the jurisdiction of this Commission for remedial relief, when a CPM, acting as agent for the Presbytery, acts beyond its power, then the actions of every CPM acting for and on behalf of the Presbytery must be deemed a nullity and of no effect. That is not the way our system works. It is inconceivable that a CPM, acting for and on behalf of the Presbytery or acting under its own direction and control could maintain the equivalent of a judicial proceeding against an individual and escape scrutiny for what are of necessity ultra vires acts merely by saying the Complainant lacks standing because he is not a member of the Presbytery.

It was never the intention of the General Assembly to create an immediately disenfranchised class in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), which could be denied the rights of Fundamental Fairness without some right to redress, if one or more persons or committees of the church abused the powers given or mistakenly assumed powers not given or improperly took action when not authorized.

The reason the term "enrolled" is used in the Book of Order is to elevate the Covenantal relationship of Inquirers and Candidates (G-11.0103b) to a position where both sides to this new Covenant of special relationship will be provided all of the constitutional safeguards of Fundamental Fairness inherent in the constitutional documents of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Notwithstanding the suggestion of the Presbytery that Mr. Priest can not seek any redress unless it is at his Session, he could never subject his Presbytery to the jurisdiction of his Session for the improper acts of his Presbytery he here complains of. His avenue of relief must be a right to challenge the irregularity in an appropriate church court above the level of the one causing the irregularity.

b. **The Complaint was not timely filed under D-6.0305c.**

The Decision of the Presbytery, acting by and through its agent, its CPM, to discipline the Complainant, was purportedly reached March 1, 2011 but it was not then announced. A decision was actually mailed March 18, 2011 and received March 21, 2011 by Mr. Priest. The written decision was not announced or proffered to Mr. Priest or his counsel on March 1, 2011. The written decision is not even dated until March 10, 2011. It was not released on that date but held until March 18, 2011 in spite of inquiry and request by Mr. Priest and his counsel for it during the interim.

While a suggestion of the direction CPM might go was voiced before the hearing on March 1, 2011 and again on March 5, 2011 (see the email of Complainant's counsel of the same day attached to the Presbyter's Answer to the Complaint), it was not known then what the particular findings would be or the scope of what CPM intended to do. A finding of the equivalent of guilty on a charge of reverse racial discrimination and the imposition of punitive measures, while recommended by CPM's Investigating Committee and approved by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, was argued against as an irregularity by Mr. Priest at the March 1, 2011 hearing. Mr. Priest did not expect the findings stated in the final decision. On March 5, 2011 Complainant's counsel was advised the Report was still not complete and its provisions could not then be released. The formal Report was not released until March 18, 2011 and it was not until its receipt three days later that Complainant first knew of the severity of the action CPM had taken against him and of the irregularity practiced against him.

The Complaint in the instant proceeding was filed within ninety (90) days of the release of the Report, as is admitted in the Presbytery of Detroit's Answer at page thirteen (13) where it acknowledges a filing date of June 9, 2011.

The actionable irregularity complained of here did not culminate at the March 1, 2011 hearing. Rather, the actionable date could not commence the running of the limitations period until formal announcement of the decision which occurred at its release. Under the Rules of Discipline in our Church's Constitution, PJC's are required to prepare a written decision (D-7.0402c) while still in session and to release it forthwith. The reason for such a requirement is to prevent the mischief that can occur when a delay of weeks is grafted onto the process. Here, CPM met March 1, 2011, heard a summary presentation from its Investigating Committee, that day heard Mr. Priest's argument in response to the summary, deliberated and thereafter reached a tentative but unannounced decision that day subject to reducing it to written form. CPM then withheld its decision from Complainant for eighteen (18) days. The day of the release of its decision completed the irregularities complained of herein. The ninety (90) day clock could not begin to run until then, whether there is a notice requirement or not. The Complaint in this case was timely filed when it was received by the Stated Clerk of the Synod on June 9, 2011 – the eighty-first (81st) day following the date of the end of the irregularities. Even if the date placed on the Report is deemed to be the actionable date (March 10, 2011), filing on June 9, 2011 is also within the ninety (90) days allowed for filing.

c. **The Complaint failed to state a claim upon which relief could be granted under D-6.0305d.**

1. The proceeding against Mr. Priest was labeled an Investigation. It carried other headers and markers indicating its true nature was a disciplinary proceeding.³ Whether an administrative proceeding or a judicial proceeding, fundamental fairness is required under our Church's Book of Order, as particularized in *Gaba v. Presbytery of*

³The Agenda for the Hearing provided for a Court Reporter, had a Hearing Stage, and allowed him an Advocate, while the Committee was called an Investigating Committee.

Eastern Virginia, Remedial Case 204-11, (2004), *Wolfe vs. Presbytery of Winnebago*, Remedial Case 219-04 (2009) and *Lewis v. Presbytery of New York City*, Remedial Case 207-13, (1995). The denial of fundamental fairness (procedural and substantive due process) in a proceeding in which the result is disciplinary in nature has always been deemed to generate a claim sufficient for which relief can be granted.

2. While a CPM has the right and the power to determine a candidate's fitness for ministry, it can not do so using an approach not permitted within its stated powers (Complainant equates the act of CPM in usurping an authorized power with this country's law's regarding ultra vires acts). Determining fitness in a disciplinary proceeding has never been an enumerated power granted a CPM under any circumstance. Investigating Committees exist only under the Rules of Discipline of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). If used, or if a proceeding is undertaken which in its every attribute is essentially the same as the action of an Investigating Committee under a Disciplinary Action, any person hurt by the misuse of this power, of necessity, should have a right to ask an appropriate church court to remedy the misuse as an irregularity.

d. The Synod's PJC lacks jurisdiction to hear the Complaint under D-6.0305a.

The argument advanced in the Presbytery's Answer is that a CPM is not a governing body. In those functions which require Presbytery action, such as an approval of an Applicant to become an Inquirer or Candidate, it is not. In those functions where CPM, acting as agent for its Presbytery, has the right to make final "oversight" decisions as to "enrolled" members subject to its jurisdiction, it is. And, in those functions in which a CPM is to carry out directions and decisions already made by the governing body (G-9.0501a), its action is the action of the Presbytery.

In this case, where CPM either did not ask, for approval of its action against Mr. Priest or, at most, only reported the action it took as to Mr. Priest to the Presbytery as a completed action, it was acting as the Presbytery (G-9.0501a). Under the facts of this case, in taking final action against Mr. Priest based on its impermissible investigation of Mrs. Azar's letter statement, its action was disciplinary in nature. As such, CPM was either acting for and as the Presbytery or it was acting beyond the powers granted to it. Either way, its action was irregular.

The Presbytery responds to this argument with a Catch 22 defense. It says a CPM is not a governing body, so that no action can be brought against it. This action is not against the CPM, per se. The Presbytery goes on to argue the action taken was that of a committee, so, nothing can be charged against the Presbytery, thus the Catch 22.

CONCLUSION

Complainant asks as a part of his Challenge under D-6.0306b that this pleading be accepted as an appropriate and timely filed Challenge, that he be allowed to present evidence and argument on the findings in question, and that he and the Respondent be allowed to submit Briefs prior to any hearing on the jurisdictional deficiencies challenged herein under a schedule designated by the PJC.

Complainant makes this Challenge to the decision of the Officers of the PJC dated August 9, 2011 and mailed to him by letter from the Moderator of the Synod's PJC dated August 19, 2011. In that letter the Moderator of the SPJC advised that Complainant could challenge the decision under D-6.0306, which Complainant hereby does within the thirty (30) days permitted under D-6.0306a.

This Challenge is signed by and on behalf of Complainant by Complainant and by Complainant's attorney, Archibald Wallace, III, as of the date shown opposite each place of signing.

Respectfully submitted.
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

September 2, 2011
Date

By:

Archibald Wallace III
Minister of the Word and Sacrament (PCUSA)
Presbytery of the James
Counsel for Thomas H. Priest, Jr. and his
designated Agent for purposes of signing
this Challenge
Member of the Virginia and West Virginia Bars

Date

Thomas H. Priest, Jr.,
Individually

Certification of Service of Challenge

I hereby certify that a copy of the above Challenge was served upon the Stated Clerk and the Moderator of The Synod of The Covenant at the offices of the Synod of the Covenant, 1911 Indian Wood Circle, Suite B, Maumee, OH 43537 by Federal Express, with delivery tracking requested,, and upon the Respondent in a similar manner, by serving it upon Elder Mark Schneider, 2701 Troy Center Drive, Troy, MI 48084 one of its Committee of Counsel, this ___ day of August, 2011.

Form No. 6

**THE SYNOD OF THE COVENANT
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

A REMEDIAL COMPLAINT UNDER D-6.0100, et. seq.

THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.,

Complainant

v.

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT,

Respondent

COMPLAINT

Thomas H. Priest, Jr., a member of Calvary Presbyterian Church, Detroit, Michigan, and an enrolled Candidate of the Presbytery of Detroit complains to the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant concerning certain irregularities committed against him by the Presbytery of Detroit, acting by and through its agent, the Committee on the Preparation For Ministry (CPM), in that on March 1, 2011 the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting by and for the Presbytery, conducted a "Hearing" against Thomas Priest on the, "Form 26, Accusation By Individual As Statement of Offense," of Ruth Azar dated April 21, 2010 and submitted under D-10.0102a of the Discipline of the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with letter attached. See Exhibit A attached. While the CPM labeled the March 1, 2011 proceeding a Hearing as to the Suitability for Ministry of Thomas Priest, the entire proceeding was instead a Disciplinary Hearing against Thomas H. Priest. On March 18, 2011 CPM mailed notice of its decision to Mr. Priest, saying in essence Mr. Priest had

abused his authority as Moderator of the Presbytery, had exhibited prejudice and bias against others, and had routinely used methods of confrontation and intimidation to get his way. See Exhibit B, the Notification of the CPM's decision, Exhibit C, the Report of the CPM Subcommittee dated January 18, 2011, which was adopted March 1, 2011. At the March 1, 2011 CPM Meeting Mr. Priest (1) objected to the hearing claiming a disciplinary hearing by CPM was ultra vires, (2) cited the lack of fundamental fairness (procedural and substantive due process) in the conduct of the hearing, and (3) objected to the impropriety of the proceeding because it subjected Mr. Priest to double jeopardy, since a separate PJC disciplinary investigation of the complaint of Mrs. Azar had already been held, following which that Investigative Committee declined to initiate Disciplinary proceedings against Mr. Priest. See Exhibit D attached.

The decision of CPM was mailed March 18, 2011, and was received on March 21, 2011 by Mr. Priest. See Exhibit E attached. It is from this decision that Mr. Priest brings this Remedial Complaint, since the actions complained of are final under the delegated authority of the Presbytery to CPM and since the decision of CPM has not and will not be subject to Presbytery approval or disapproval at any subsequent meeting of the Presbytery.

The Irregularities

Mr. Priest states the following as Irregularities in the Actions taken by CPM:

1. The CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting as agent for and on behalf of the Presbytery of Detroit, conducted a disciplinary hearing against Mr. Priest on March 1, 2011 in violation of D-10.0100, et seq., of the Book of Order which empowers only permanent judicial commissions to hear and decide disciplinary charges.

2. The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit improperly referred the Complaint to the CPM or the Presbytery of Detroit for investigation and action in contravention of D-10.0103 of the Book of Order.
3. The CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting as agent for and on behalf of the Presbytery of Detroit, formed an Investigative Committee to consider the disciplinary charges and present its conclusions at a formal hearing. At the time of the March 1, 2001 Hearing CPM was aware that the same charges had been referred to an Investigative Committee of the Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church, which had investigated the charges and declined to initiate formal disciplinary charges against Mr. Priest.
4. The Hearing of March 1, 2011 was Irregularly conducted in that Mr. Priest was denied the fundamental fairness guaranteed throughout the Book of Order for such proceedings in that he was not allowed:
 - a. to confront his accuser;
 - b. to call any witnesses;
 - c. to cross examine the Investigators, the accusers or any of the other witnesses; and
 - d. to know what the accuser or any witnesses said or see what any witness might have provided to the Investigating Committee; and
5. The findings of CPM of March 1, 2011, while said not to be disciplinary in nature, were in fact disciplinary and, as such, were beyond the scope of authority of CPM (*ultra vires*).

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

1. During the calendar year 2009 Elder Thomas H. Priest of Calvary Presbyterian Church, Detroit, Michigan, served as Moderator of the Presbytery of Detroit. During that year Mr. Priest was also a student at Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit Michigan, working toward an M. Div. Degree, which he was awarded later that year. On June 23, 2009 the Presbytery, after examination, enrolled Mr. Priest as a Candidate for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament at its June Presbytery Meeting.

2. As a part of one of Mr. Priest's classes in 2009 at Seminary, Mr. Priest evaluated two urban ministry centers in Detroit (the Barnabas Mission and Second Mile Center) using Ronald Peters' *Urban Ministry* and John M. Perkins' *Beyond Charity* as guides. Mr. Priest's conclusions were that the Barnabas Mission was a mission of reconciliation and empowerment, under the *Peters'* guidelines, while the Second Mile Center would only qualify as a charitable mission. Mr. Priest conducted his field evaluation at the Second Mile Center on February 18, 2009. After completing his evaluations, Mr. Priest shared his findings with his Seminary class on March 9, 2009, with the Presbytery's Metropolitan Urban Ministry Team on March 12, 2009, and with members of the two centers involved on March 16, 2009. (A copy of the Power Point Presentation used by Mr. Priest in all three presentations is attached as Exhibit F)

3. On March 2, 2009, Mr. Priest, while serving as a member of the Presbytery's Coordinating Cabinet, participated in the Cabinet's consideration and approval of a recommendation that the Presbytery call Ruth Azar as Executive Director of Second Mile Creek. There is nothing in the minutes of that meeting to suggest Mr.

Priest objected in any way to the call. See Exhibit G attached. On June 23, 2009 the Presbytery approved the call of Ms. Azar to the Second Mile Center after a spirited effort to postpone the vote. Mr. Priest Moderated the Presbytery Meeting where the call was ultimately approved and did not participate in the discussions about postponement. See Exhibit H attached.

4. At the end of 2009 Mr. Priest ended his term as Moderator of the Presbytery. In October 2009, just before Mr. Priest's term as Moderator ended, the Coordinating Cabinet received a Report from Ed Koster, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, about the way the Presbytery had handled the call of Ms. Azar to be Executive Director of Second Mile Center. The report was intended as response to the questions raised by some within the Presbytery as to whether the decision of the Presbytery to call Ms. Azar in June 2009 was proper or not. See Exhibit I attached. The solution suggested was to discharge Ms. Azar and go through the call process again. No action was taken on the issue before the end of 2009.

5. As an elder commissioner to the Presbytery but no longer Moderator and while still a member of the Coordinating Cabinet, Mr. Priest on April 5, 2010 advised the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of his intent to file a Motion with the Presbytery asking it to rescind its earlier action regarding the called position at Second Mile Center. A copy of the Motion was to be a part of the Presbytery Packet sent to all commissioners and was to be voted on at the April 27, 2010 Presbytery Meeting. A copy is attached as Exhibit J. On April 12, 2010, the Presbytery Executive emailed a copy of Mr. Priest's Motion to Ms. Ruth Azar to give her a "heads up" that the Motion was coming. See Exhibit K attached. Two days later, on April 14, 2010, Ms. Azar and two others responded, asking the Presbytery Executive what "charges" could be brought against Mr. Priest for what

they perceived to be harassment by Mr. Priest. See Exhibit L attached. The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery responded the same day, saying that charges could be brought under the Discipline against Mr. Priest, if Ms. Azar wished and, because Mr. Priest was under the care of Presbytery, a complaint could be made to CPM. See Exhibit M attached.

6. On April 21, 2010 Ms. Azar submitted a "Form No. 26, Accusation By Individual As Statement of Offense against Mr. Priest, citing D-10.0102a with letter attached as basis for the accusation (together her written statement), thereby invoking the procedure to be used when initiating a Disciplinary Case against a person under the jurisdiction of a governing body. See Exhibit A attached. In the Disciplinary Accusation Ms. Azar claimed Mr. Priest committed the offenses of racism, discrimination, and division against her and others at the Second Mile Center. Interestingly, the accusations related to the one day visit of Mr. Priest on February 18, 2009 to the Second Mile Center. No explanation was given in the Written Statement of Ms. Azar why the accusation had lain dormant for fourteen months. The Disciplinary Accusation was addressed to Rhonda Favors, Clerk of Session of Mr. Priest's home church and to Edward Koster, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery. The Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church immediately appointed an Investigating Committee as required by D-10.0201. Edward Koster, the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery sent the Charge to Presbytery's CPM and advised CPM how it could proceed with its own investigation without having to defer to the Presbyter's Permanent Judicial Commission or the Session of Mr. Priest's home church. Mr. Koster did not refer the Disciplinary Accusation to an Investigating Committee of the Presbytery as required by D-10.0201 of the Book of Order

7. On April 27, 2010 Mr. Priest's Motion to Rescind was brought to the floor of Presbytery but was not voted upon as to its merits because of procedural rulings. Mr. Priest was not in attendance at the meeting.

8. Ms. Azar's disciplinary charges were the subject of an extensive investigation by Calvary Presbyterian Church's Investigative Committee, including a hearing where Mr. Priest was allowed to address and refute the charges. On February 10, 2011, the Investigative Committee of Calvary Presbyterian Church issued its Conclusion of Investigation, advising that "no charges would be filed." This information was provided Presbytery's CPM, before it began its hearing on March 1, 2011; however, CPM went ahead with its hearing related to the same Charges.

9. On May 4, 2010 CPM established its own Investigative Committee and was guided in its investigation by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery. CPM asked the Investigating Committee it appointed to investigate the accusations of Ms. Azar. The Investigating Committee recognized that the approach of CPM could be viewed as violative of the powers granted a CPM by the Book of Order, so the Investigating Committee in its Report of January 18, 2011 took pains to label its actions as advisory only, saying its intended purpose was to advise CPM on issues of Mr. Priest's suitability and not to determine whether or not the Constitution of the PC (USA) was violated. Unfortunately, the stated intent was subverted by a deliberate use of the discipline of the church in a manner not permitted by the Constitution of the PC (USA). The result was the Committee's Report of January 18, 2011. See Exhibit C attached. At no time during its investigation was Mr. Priest given a copy of Ms. Azar's written statement, nor advised what Ms. Azar had said in her presentations to the Committee, nor given any information about the investigation. Subsequently, Mr. Priest was called to an August 9, 2010

meeting with the Investigating Committee where he was asked to discuss his actions on February 18, 2009 in light of the written statement of Ms. Azar. Both before and after the August 9, 2010 meeting the Investigating Committee met with and obtained testimony from other witnesses, some of whom it has not even named to date. None of the materials collected by the Investigating Committee were made available to Mr. Priest. At the end of its work, the Investigative Committee submitted its report dated January 18, 2011 to CPM with conclusions about Mr. Priest's behavior and with recommendations of what he should do to continue under the care of the Presbytery. Among the conclusions the Investigative Committee stated were Mr. Priest's,

1. abuse of his authority as Moderator of the Presbytery;
2. deceit in the identification of himself to the Second Mile Center employees;
3. misuse of his Presbytery office to influence the actions of the Presbytery against Second Mile Center;
4. denial of due process to Second Mile Center in not allowing it be heard regarding his Motion of April 2010;
5. bias against the opinions and experiences of others;
6. racism in his treatment of other racial-ethnic individuals; and,
7. misuse of confrontation and intimidation to achieved his will.

Each of these conclusions has been cited by PJC's across the church as basis for the imposition of discipline upon other minister members of the church. Here, the conclusions were reached without affording Mr. Priest the rights of fundamental fairness. Simply by labeling the proceedings as something other than a disciplinary proceeding. Mr. Priest was called to a Hearing on March 1, 2011 before the whole of CPM, to hear the report and respond to it. CPM advised before the Meeting that it intended on March 1, 2011 to receive the Report of the Investigating Committee of CPM and to act upon it.

Mr. Priest was given a copy of the proposed Agenda for the Meeting before the Hearing. This Agenda was adopted as the Agenda for that Hearing. See Exhibit N attached. He was not given a copy of the Report until just before the original date of the Hearing¹. In the Agenda adopted, CPM advised Mr. Priest that a court reporter would be present, that Mr. Priest could have an advocate, if he wished, and that there would be a time in the Meeting called the "Hearing Stage." CPM advised at the onset of the Hearing that the Investigative Committee would present its findings and report on the evidence it had collected but could not be subjected to cross examination or direct questioning. CPM also advised that none of the witnesses examined by the Investigative Committee would be present or available for cross examination. The procedure for the day only allowed Mr. Priest to submit his testimony and to argue his defense. CPM advised it intended to vote to adopt the Report but wanted to hear from Mr. Priest before it finally ruled. Inexplicably, the Stated Clerk, who had engineered the way the charges were handled by CPM was allowed to sit in with CPM during its deliberations and to advise CPM as to its actions. Mr. Priest was given time to argue his defense, but it mattered not, because the evidential basis for CPM's action (the evidence behind the Report of January 18, 2011) was unavailable and not disclosed throughout the meeting. On March 11, 2011 Mr. Priest received Notice of the decision of CPM. See Exhibit E attached. Because of this Notice Mr. Priest submits this Complaint to the PJC of the Synod of the Covenant, asking this tribunal to correct the Irregularities listed above through this Remedial Action.

STANDING

Thomas Priest states this permanent judicial commission has jurisdiction over his Complaint filed under D-6.0202, et seq., of the Book of Order in that

¹ The Hearing was originally scheduled for February 1, 2011 but was rescheduled to March 1, 2011 at Mr. Priest's request.

1. Complainant has standing to file this Complaint, since he is an elder of Calvary Presbyterian Church (PCUSA), a graduate of Ecumenical Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity Degree and is enrolled under the care of the Presbytery of Detroit as a Candidate to become a Minister of the Word and Sacrament. Because of his enrollment he qualifies as a member of the Presbytery. In addition, some of the actions complained of and the conclusions reached purportedly occurred when Mr. Priest served as Moderator of the Presbytery of Detroit and related to his use or misuse of that office. And finally, he is aggrieved by the actions of the Presbytery, acting by and through its agent, the CPM.
2. The Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod has jurisdiction to hear this Complaint since it involves the decisions and final actions of the Presbytery, acting by and through its Committee for the Preparation of Ministry taken against a Candidate under the care of the Presbytery. The actions taken by CPM are final actions of the Presbytery because of the Presbytery's designation of CPM to act on its behalf in certain matters without further review or action by the Presbytery.
3. The Complaint is timely in that the Complainant seeks to remedy actions taken March 1, 2011, of which he was not notified until notice was mailed to him on March 10, 2011 and received by him on March 11, 2011.
4. The Complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted in that it cites as irregularities four erroneous actions taken by the Presbytery, acting by and through its CPM, as relates to the decisions reached in the meeting of CPM of March 1, 2011, including the conduct of CPM both

before and during that meeting and one erroneous act taken by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, which was continuing in nature, even to this date.

ARGUMENT

1. The decision of the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting for and on behalf of the Presbytery, to conduct a disciplinary investigation and hearing against Mr. Priest by (a) appointing an Investigative Committee, (b) authorizing it to investigate the disciplinary charges against Mr. Priest, and (c) holding a judicial hearing involving disciplinary charges against Mr. Priest was erroneous and not permitted under the Book of Order, and, as such, it is an irregularity committed by the Presbytery.

The Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) D-10.0100, et seq. establishes those steps that are to be taken when a written statement of an alleged offense is submitted to one of the governing bodies of the church. In no instance is the power to investigate the accusations or to hear the charges ever delegated or extended to a Committee for the Preparation for the Ministry. Here, the CPM of the Presbytery usurped the power reserved to the Presbytery by investigating and hearing charges that were disciplinary in nature only and it acted beyond its authority in appointing an investigative committee, directing it to investigate disciplinary charges and holding a disciplinary hearing regarding those charges.

Section D-11.0100, et seq. provides that a disciplinary case can only be heard by a permanent judicial commission.

2. The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit improperly referred the Written Statement of Ms. Azar to the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit for investigation and action in contravention of D-10.0103 of the Book of Order.

The Book of Order requires the Stated Clerk, upon receipt of a written statement claiming a violation of the discipline of the church, to report to the governing body that an offense has been alleged and to turn the accusations over to an Investigative Committee designated by the Presbytery to investigate and determine whether to bring

charges or not. An Investigative Committee can bring charges or announce that it will not bring charges. If charges are brought, they are presented to the Permanent Judicial Commission of the governing body having jurisdiction. In no instance is the CPM of any governing body empowered to appoint an Investigating Committee or conduct a disciplinary hearing against anyone under the jurisdiction of the governing body. Here, the Stated Clerk referred the accusations against Mr. Priest set forth in the written statement of Ms. Azar against him, to CPM and assisted CPM in outlining a course of action that would allow CPM to circumvent the Discipline of the Church and to withhold those due process safeguards of the church called fundamental fairness due Mr. Priest.

3. The CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting as agent for the Presbytery of Detroit, subjected Mr. Priest to double jeopardy when it formed an Investigative Committee to consider the charges and present its conclusions in a formal hearing, knowing that the same charges had been submitted to the Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church and were the subject of an investigation there.

CPM was specifically advised that Mr. Priest had been subjected to one investigation on the same charges by Calvary Presbyterian Church and that Calvary's Investigative Committee had declined to bring charges against Mr. Priest. This information was specifically communicated to CPM at the beginning of its March 1, 2011 Hearing, but disregarded when the Stated Clerk advised the Meeting that it was not double jeopardy, since charges had not been the subject of a hearing before the Church's Session sitting as a PJC.

4. The Hearing of March 1, 2011 was irregularly conducted (assuming it could be conducted) in that Mr. Priest was denied the fundamental fairness guaranteed throughout the Book of Order for such proceedings in that Mr. Priest was not allowed:

- a. to confront his accuser or hear her testimony
- b. to call any witnesses
- c. to examine or cross examine the Investigators, the accusers, or any of the other witnesses
- d. to know what the accuser or any of the witnesses said or to see what any of the witnesses might have provided to the Investigating Committee

The Discipline of the Book of Order (D-1.000) requires that all participants in church discipline are to be accorded procedural safeguards and due process, and it is the intention of the Rules of Discipline to provide them.

Section D-14.0100, et seq., sets forth the rules of evidence to be followed in a proceeding, which rules prohibit each of the denials of rights stated above.

Throughout the Form of Government Section of the Book of Order, due process safeguards are required in the conduct of any investigation, commission proceeding or hearing.

RELIEF REQUESTED.

1. That the Permanent Judicial Commission rule that it was irregular and impermissible for the Presbytery, acting by and through its Committee for the Preparation for the Ministry, to conduct a disciplinary proceeding against Mr. Priest on March 1, 2011 under D-10.0100, et seq., of the Book of Order, and that the adoption of its Investigative Committee's Report and recommendations presented was in error and should be reversed.

2. That the Permanent Judicial Commission rule that the Presbytery, acting by and through its Stated Clerk improperly referred the Disciplinary Written Statement of

Ms. Azar to the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit for investigation and action in contravention of D-10.0100 of the Book of Order.

3. That the Permanent Judicial Commission rule that the Presbytery, acting by and through its Committee can not form an Investigative Committee to consider disciplinary charges or hold a hearing on those charges when those charges have already been subjected to investigation and been dismissed by another properly formed Investigative Committee, as such second action would constitute double jeopardy, and, as such, is impermissible under the Book of Order.

4. That the Permanent Judicial Commission rule that the Hearing of the Committee for the Preparation for the Ministry, held March 1, 2011, was improperly conducted for reason that Mr. Priest was not afforded fundamental fairness (procedural and substantive due process) required by the Book of Order.

5. That the Permanent Judicial Commission declare the proceedings of March 1, 2011 are null and void and of no further effect.

CERTIFICATION

This Complaint is signed by Complainant's attorney, Archibald Wallace, III and by the Complainant. Archibald Wallace, III is a Minister of the Word and Sacrament and a member of the Presbytery of the James. He is also a member of the Virginia and West Virginia Bars. In participating in this proceeding Rev. Wallace is not acting for or on behalf of the Presbytery of the James.

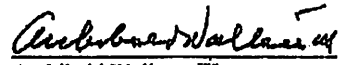
Complainant reserves the right to submit a Brief in Support of this Complaint after the officers of the Synod's Permanent Judicial Commission have made their decision regarding the jurisdictional questions related to this proceeding.

GAPJC 2011-09/10
HEARING ON PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS

GAPJC Remedial Cases 2011-09/10
APPELLANT BRIEF pg. 52

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
By Counsel

June 7, 2011
Date

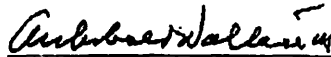

Archibald Wallace, III
Counsel for the Complainant

Date

Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE OF THE COMPLAINT

I hereby certify that the original of the above Complaint was filed by Hand Delivery with written Receipt upon the Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Covenant, George Baird, at his office 1911 Indian Wood Circle, Suite B, Maumee, OH 43537 and that a copy was served upon the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit, by serving Reverend Edward Koster, at the Presbytery's office, 17575 Hubbell, Detroit, MI 48235 by Hand Delivery with written Receipt this ____ day of June, 2011.



Archibald Wallace, III
Counsel for Complainant
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
of
THE SYNOD OF THE CONVENANT
of
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

COPY

CHALLENGE TO DECISION OF MODERATOR AND CLERK

Ruling Elder Thomas Priest)
v.) Remedial Case No. 2011-04
Presbytery of Detroit)

[ARRIVAL STATEMENT]

This is a remedial case which has come before this Permanent Judicial Commission as a result of a complaint filed by the above named Complainant against the Presbytery of Detroit, Respondent. The SPJC Moderator and Clerk determined that all four of the preliminary questions were not answered in the affirmative. Challenges to this determination were received from the complainant and a member of the SPJC.

[PERSONS PRESENT DURING CONFERENCE CALL]

In addition to members of the Permanent Judicial Commission, the following parties participated on the live conference call: Thomas Priest (Complainant), Archibald Wallace (Counsel for the Complainant), Mark Schneider (Committee of Counsel, Presbytery of Detroit)

[PROCEEDURE]

The Complainant and Counsel were given six minutes to give oral evidence in addition to a written brief. Members of the SPJC were granted time for questions. The Respondent was given six minutes to give oral evidence in addition to a written brief. Members of the SPJC were granted time for questions. Both parties were given time for rebuttal.

[PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS]

D-6.0305a. *Jurisdiction - the council has jurisdiction;*
After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
1 eye/6 nays/ 0 abstentions. The question was answered in the negative

D-6.0305b. *Standing - the complainant has standing to file the case;*
After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
6 eyes/0 nays/ 1 abstention. The question was answered in the affirmative.



D-6.0305c. *Timely Filed - the complaint was timely filed; and*
After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
3 ayes/3 nays/ 1 abstention. The question was answered in the negative

D-6.0305d. *Relief Can Be Granted - the complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted.*
After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
3 aye/4 nays/ 0 abstentions. The question was answered in the negative

----- [ORDER] -----

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

This case is dismissed. (D-6.0305)

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit report this Decision to the Presbytery at its first meeting, that the Presbytery enter the full Decision upon its minutes, and that an excerpt from those minutes showing entry of the Decision be sent to the Stated Clerk of the Synod. (D-7.0701)

----- [ABSENCES AND NON-PARTICIPANTS] -----

Doyl Andrews (member of the Permanent Judicial Commission) was present for argument of the complaint, but took no part in the decision

AND

Johanna Jozwiak-Stover, Jennifer Saad, and Rebecca Tollefson, members of the Permanent Judicial Commission, were not present and took no part in the proceedings.

----- [DATE] -----

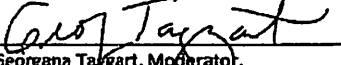
Dated this fifteenth day of November, 2011

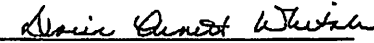
(signed) Georgana Taggart
Georgana Taggart
Moderator, Permanent Judicial Commission

(signed) Doris Arnett Whitaker
Doris Arnett Whitaker
Clerk, Permanent Judicial Commission

CERTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL FORM CERTIFICATES

We certify that the foregoing is a full and correct copy of the decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), in Remedial Case No.2011-04, Thomas Priest v. Presbytery of Detroit, made and announced during conference call, on November 14, 2011.


 Georgana Taggart, Moderator,
 Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of Covenant


 Doris Arnett Whitaker, Clerk,
 Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant

I certify that I did transmit a certified copy of the foregoing to the following persons by certified mail, return receipt requested, depositing it in the United States mail at Dayton, Ohio on November 15, 2011:

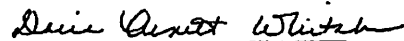
Thomas Priest, Complainant
 2266B Beckenham Court
 Novi, MI 48374

Archibald Wallace, Counsel for the Complaint
 25 Hunting Ridge Road
 Manakin Sabot, VA 23103

Edward Koster, Stated Clerk
 Presbytery of Detroit
 117 N. First Street, Suite 111
 Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Mark Schneider, Committee of Counsel
 Presbytery of Detroit
 117 N. First Street, Suite 111
 Ann Arbor, MI 48104

David Bartley, Stated Clerk
 Synod of the Covenant
 1911 Indianwood Circle, Suite B
 Maumee, OH 43537


 Doris Arnett Whitaker, Clerk
 Permanent Judicial Commission of the
 Synod of the Covenant

FORM NO. 19

NOTICE OF APPEAL, REMEDIAL CASE
UNDER D-8.0100, D-8.0201, D-8.0202

To: The Stated Clerk of the Synod of The Covenant

From: Thomas Priest, Jr.

RE:
THOMAS PRIEST, JR.
Appellant

vs.

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
Appellee

Notice is hereby given of the appeal of Thomas Priest, Jr. to the Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly from the Final Order rendered by the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant on the 15th day of November, 2011, and received by Appellant on the 21st day of November, 2011¹. A copy is attached.

I. Introduction

Appellant Thomas H. Priest, Jr., by and through his counsel, Archibald Wallace, III, hereby gives notice to Appellee, Presbytery of Detroit, of his intent to appeal the decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant to dismiss his Remedial Complaint. In his Complaint (Exhibit A attached) Mr. Priest alleged certain irregularities in actions taken against him by the Presbytery of Detroit acting by and through its agent, its Committee on Preparation for Ministry. In this case the Constitutional Officers of the



¹ The terms used throughout are from the Discipline Section of the Book of Order in effect at the time of the incidents and issues of this case. It is believed only the name change pertinent to these proceedings in the NFOG provisions adopted in 2011 is the use of the Word "Council" as a designation for the Presbytery. For clarity the word Presbytery is used throughout.

Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant (The SPJC hereafter) on August 9, 2011 determined under D-6.035a-d, Rules of Discipline, Book of Order that the Complaint failed to meet the threshold requirements of the jurisdictional Preliminary Questions decline causing the SPJC to accept the case..(See Exhibit B attached).

Mr. Priest submitted a Challenge (Exhibit C attached) to the decision of the constitutional officers of the SPJC under D-.0306a. The full SPJC heard the challenge November 15, 2011 and on that same day affirmed the decision of the SPJC in part and reversed it in part, ultimately denying the Challenge as a whole and dismissing the case. (Exhibit D attached) The decision of the SPJC was received November 21, 2011.

It is from the November 15, 2011 decision of the SPJC that Mr. Priest appeals under D-8.000, et seq. submitting the following information in support:

II. The D-8.0202 Contents of the Written Notice of Appeal

- a. **The Name of the Party Filing the Appeal:** Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
- b. **The Name of the Other Party:** Presbytery of Detroit
- c. **The Governing Body from whose judgment the Appeal is taken:**
The Synod of the Covenant, 1911 Indian Wood Circle, Suite B
Maumee, OH 43537
- d. **The Judgment and date and place thereof:** The Decision of the Synod's PJC, appealed from was dated November 15, 2011; it was received by the Appellant on November 21, 2011. A copy is attached as Exhibit D.
- e. **The errors of the Permanent Judicial Commission, which conducted the Challenge Hearing being appealed are:**
 1. The determination of the SPJC that it lacked jurisdiction to hear the Complaint under D-6.0305a.
 2. The determination of the SPJC that the Complaint was not timely filed under D-6.0305c.

3. The determination of the SPJC that the Complaint failed to state a claim upon which relief could be granted under D-6.0305d.

N.B. The SPJC determined in the Challenge Hearing that the Complainant did have Standing to proceed under D-6.0305b, thereby reversing the decision of the Constitutional Officers of the SPJC that Complainant lacked Standing to proceed. Because that point has been resolved favorably for Mr. Priest, it is not being appealed, but should it be determined on or during the appeal that the issue needs to be addressed, or included to complete the record, Mr. Priest reserves the right to address the Standing issue.

- f. Certification This Notice of Appeal is being simultaneously provided by certified delivery through Federal Express to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. and to the other parties to this proceeding

III. Factual Background

A brief statement of the factual basis of this case is that Mr. Priest, on March 1, 2011 was impermissibly subjected to a disciplinary proceeding by the Presbytery of Detroit, acting by and through its agent, its Committee on Preparation for Ministry. Mr. Priest complains that he was accused and convicted of racial discrimination, the use of confrontational behavior and abuse of his office as Moderator of the Presbytery. He further claims he was subjected to a disciplinary proceeding by CPM under the guise of a hearing to determine his fitness to continue under the care of the Presbytery. Mr. Priest submits that the activities of the Presbytery, by and through its agent, its CPM were irregular because:

1. A Presbytery can not conduct a disciplinary proceeding against a member except under the provisions of the Discipline in the Book of Order. The Presbytery did so here.
2. A Presbytery can not delegate the power to conduct a disciplinary hearing to a CPM. The Presbytery did so here.
3. A CPM can not abrogate or assume the power to conduct a disciplinary

hearing from its principal merely from the powers granted a CPM in the Book of Order, nor can a CPM, acting for its Presbytery, impose a disciplinary decision upon a member. The CPM, acting as the Presbytery, did so here.

4. A CPM can not label a proceeding a Hearing and claim it is not a disciplinary proceeding merely by pointing to the labeling. The substance of the proceeding must be examined to determine if the proceeding is disciplinary or not. The Presbytery, by and through CPM, did so here.
5. No tribunal, whether legitimate or otherwise, can conduct a disciplinary proceeding or any other kind of a hearing without affording the accused due process (both procedural and substantive) throughout the proceeding (this concept of due process is referred to as fundamental fairness in the Decisions of the PJC of the General Assembly. The presbytery did so here.
6. The allegations of the accuser, Ruth Azar, were the subject of a Form 26, Accusation by Individual as a Statement of Offense against Mr. Priest, citing D-10.0102a. The accusation was presented to an Investigative Committee as required under the Discipline, and following an investigation, was dismissed by the Investigating Committee. Even though the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery knew a Written Complaint had been filed and was being considered by an Investigative Committee, the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery initiated and/or assisted in the initiation of a second investigation for the same purpose, this one conducted with his oversight by the CPM for the Presbytery. The second investigation resulted in the Disciplinary Hearing complained of. (Interestingly, the first formal complaint was dismissed by its Investigating Committee.)
7. The CPM/Presbytery Hearing of March 1, 2011 was irregularly conducted (assuming it could be conducted) in that Mr. Priest was denied the fundamental fairness guaranteed in the Book of Order for such proceedings in that Mr. Priest was not allowed:
 - a. to confront his accuser or hear her testimony
 - b. to call any witnesses
 - c. to examine or cross examine the Investigators, the accusers, or any of the other witnesses
 - d. to know what the accuser or any of the witnesses said or to see what any of the witnesses might have provided to the Investigating Committee

IV. Grounds for Appeal

The Grounds for Appeal under D-8.0105 are:

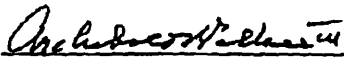
- a. Were there irregularities in the proceedings of the SPJC in resolving the Constitutional questions of D-6.0305a, c and d.
- b. Was there error in the Constitutional interpretations of the SPJC in saying no jurisdiction existed under D-6.0305a, c and d to hear the case.

V. Relief Requested

1. That the Permanent Judicial Commission reverse the decision of the SPJC to dismiss the Complaint and rule that the decision was erroneous and irregular.
2. That the case be returned to the SPJC for a hearing on its merits.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas H. Priest, Jr., who
has authorized this submission

December 19, 2011
Date


Archibald Wallace, III
Minister of the Word and Sacrament (PCUSA)
Member of the Presbytery of the James
Counsel for Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Member of the Virginia and West Virginia Bars

Certification of Service of Notice of Appeal, Remedial Case

I certify that a copy of the Notice of Appeal has been furnished to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit and the Stated Clerk of General Assembly of the PJC of the Synod of the Covenant, and to the Appellee, by serving it upon the Chair of its Committee of Counsel on the 19 day of December, 2011.

19 December 2011
Date

Thomas H. Prutz
Signature of Appellant

December 19, 2011

Archibald McLean

**NOTICE OF APPEAL
REMEDIAL CASE
D-8.0100, D-8.0201, D-8.0202**

To: Rev. David Bartley, Stated Clerk for the Synod of the Covenant

From: Presbytery of Detroit (appellant)

RE:

Presbytery of Detroit

Appellant/Respondent

v.

Ruling Elder Thomas Priest

Appellee/Complainant

Notice is given of appeal to the General Assembly from the decision rendered by the permanent judicial commission of the Synod of Covenant on the 15th day of November, 2011, at the Synod via telephone conference.

a. the name of the party or parties filing the appeal, called the appellant or appellants, and their counsel if any;

The Presbytery of Detroit – represented by Committee of Counsel consisting of Ruling Elder Mark Schneider and Teaching Elder Elizabeth Rice.

b. the name of the other party or parties, called the appellee or appellees, and their counsel if any;

Ruling Elder Thomas Priest – represented by Archibald Wallace.

c. the governing body from whose judgment the appeal is taken;

Synod of the Covenant



d. the judgment or decision, and date and place thereof, from which the appeal is taken;

Appellant/Respondent Presbytery appeals from the decision of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission on the issue of Standing (D-6.0305b). Appellee/Complainant Priest has already appealed the issues of Jurisdiction (D-6.0305a), Timeliness (D-6-0305c) and Availability of Relief (D-6.0305d). Appellee/Complainant Priest did not appeal the issue of Standing. Therefore, this appeal has been filed merely out of an abundance of caution to ensure that all four questions are properly on appeal. Appellant/Respondent Presbytery agrees, and is not appealing, from the decision of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission on the issues of Jurisdiction (D-6.0305a), Timeliness (D-6-0305c) and Availability of Relief (D-6.0305d).

e. a statement of the errors of the permanent judicial commission which conducted the trial or hearing on appeal that are the grounds for the appeal (D-8.0105); and

The Synod Permanent Judicial Commission committed an error in the regularity in its proceedings and/or in constitutional interpretation by finding that Appellee/Complainant Priest had standing to file the complaint. Appellant/Respondent Presbytery agrees with the decision of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission on the issues of Jurisdiction (D-6.0305a), Timeliness (D-6-0305c) and Availability of Relief (D-6.0305d).

For an individual to have standing to file a remedial case against his or her Presbytery, that individual must have been a commissioner to the meeting at which the alleged irregularity occurred. See D-6.0202a.(1). Mr. Priest is a candidate for ministry under the care of the Presbytery of Detroit. The facts of this case stem from a hearing conducted by the Presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) into Mr. Priest's fitness for ministry. Mr. Priest claims that the CPM, acting as the agent of Presbytery, committed an irregularity in making certain findings and requiring him to attend counseling. However, Mr. Priest has never taken this concerns to the floor of Presbytery. Therefore, Mr. Priest has never been a commissioner to a Presbytery meeting that heard his complaints (despite his knowledge that he has that right). Nor is Mr. Priest a member of the CPM entitled to some imagined right to bypass the floor of Presbytery and appeal directly to the church courts. According, the SPJC's determination that Mr. Priest had standing was an error that should be REVERSED.

f. a copy of the notice of appeal has been provided by certified delivery or by personal service to each of the other parties and to the stated clerk of the governing body that will hear the appeal.

12/27/2011

Date

Mark Schneider

Signature

by FNK

GAPJC 2011-09/10
HEARING ON PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS

GAPJC Remedial Cases 2011-09/10
APPELLANT BRIEF pg. 70

CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE OF NOTICE OF APPEAL
REMEDIAL CASE, D-8.0202f

I certify that a copy of the Notice of Appeal has been furnished to the Rev. David *Bartley* and to Appellee/Complainant Thomas Priest and Archibald Wallace by (certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, or by personal delivery) on the 27th day of December, 2011

Edward G. Koster

**PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

Thomas Priest, Jr.,)
Appellant/Appellee (Complainant),)
v.)
Presbytery of Detroit,)
Appellee/Appellant (Respondent).)

Preliminary Order
Remedial Cases GA2011-109 and
GA2011-110

These remedial cases come before the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission (GAPJC or this Commission) on appeals filed by Appellant/Appellee, Thomas Priest, Jr., and by Appellee/Appellant, Presbytery of Detroit, from a Decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant (SPJC) rendered on November 15, 2011.

In its November 15, 2011 Decision, which was a hearing on Preliminary Questions, the SPJC determined that the Appellant/Appellee had standing to file the Complaint, but that it did not have jurisdiction over the matter, the Complaint was not timely filed, and it did not state a claim upon which relief could be granted.

The Appellant/Appellee filed an Appeal (which is case GA2011-109) challenging the latter three determinations.

As an appeal from the decision of a synod permanent judicial commission, Remedial Case GA2011-109 is properly before the GAPJC, was timely filed, and lists one or more of the grounds for appeal contained in D-8.0105. Upon examination of the papers as required by D-8.0301, however, the Executive Committee (EC) of the GAPJC determines that the Appellant/Appellee did not have standing to file the *original* Complaint.

The Appellant/Appellee is a Candidate for ordination under the presbytery's care and was not enrolled as a member at any meeting of the presbytery at which the matter at issue has been addressed; furthermore, the decision complained against is not an irregularity or delinquency of the presbytery itself, but rather a decision of its Committee on Preparation for Ministry.

The Rules of Discipline explicitly provide a means by which actions of the General Assembly's entities can be directly challenged. But no such provision exists for the other councils of the church. In fact, G-9.0505a of the *Book of Order* in effect at the time of the alleged irregularity states that when an administrative commission acts with delegated authority, its decision "shall be the action of the appointing governing body from the time of its completion by the commission and the announcement, where relevant, of the action to parties affected by it." That provision then notes that "a governing body may rescind or amend an action of an administrative commission in the same way actions of the governing body may be modified."



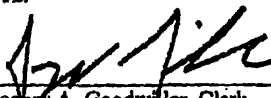
Practice has determined that the proper method for challenging the action of an entity of a council other than the General Assembly is through a motion to rescind or amend the action, made by a person with standing to offer such a motion at a meeting of the council.

Since the EC finds that the Appellant/Appellee did not have standing to file the original Complaint, it determines that he does not have standing to file the Appeal, even though he was a party in the original Complaint. The matter is therefore dismissed.

In light of this dismissal, the EC further determines that matter GA2011-110 (which is a challenge from the Appellee/Appellant, the Presbytery of Detroit to the SPJC's determination that the Appellant/Appellee had standing to file the Complaint) is rendered moot unless this Preliminary Order is challenged.

The attention of the parties is called to D-8.0302a., which reads: "If a challenge is made to the findings of the moderator and clerk within thirty days after receipt of those findings, either by a party to the case or by a member of the permanent judicial commission, opportunity shall be provided to present evidence and argument on the finding in question."

Dated the 31st day of January, 2012.



Gregory A. Goodwiler, Clerk
Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly

GAPJC 2011-09/10
HEARING ON PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS

GAPJC Remedial Cases 2011-09/10
APPELLANT BRIEF pg. 74

**Challenge
To The Findings
Of The Moderator and Clerk
Of The Permanent Judicial Commission
That
The Permanent Judicial Commission
Does NOT Have Jurisdiction
To Hear
The Appeal
Of The Complainant
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.**

THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.
Appellant (Complainant)

v.

Remedial Case
GA2011-109/110

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
Appellee (Respondent)

STATEMENT OF CHALLENGE

On January 31, 2012 the Moderator and Clerk of The Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly ruled that the Appellant/Complainant (Appellant herein) did not have standing to file an Appeal, saying that since he lacked standing to maintain the original Remedial Action, he could not then appeal the Remedial Action. These conclusions are at the heart of the Preliminary Order entered January 31, 2012, which dismissed the Appeal under D-8.0300, et. seq.

Appellant respectfully challenges the rulings of the Preliminary Order denying jurisdiction to proceed and asks the entire Judicial Commission to hear the issues and determine the propriety of the jurisdictional ruling. This Challenge is limited in its scope to the issue of Standing, since the other jurisdictional issues appear resolved in favor of the Appellant.



Of note is the fact that the issue of standing was Not one of those raised by Appellant, as that issue had been resolved in his favor below. In making this Appeal, Mr. Priest has sought to review the decision of the Synod's Permanent Judicial Commission (the PJC below) that he could not proceed on his Remedial Complaint because (1) his Complaint was not timely filed, (2) his Complaint did Not state a claim upon which relief could be granted, (3) and (3) the PJC lacked jurisdiction to hear the Complaint. In view of the status of the case as it was presented on Appeal, it was surprising that the decision in the Preliminary Order focused on an issue not appealed in this proceeding. Be that as it may, Appellant respectfully disagrees with the conclusions reached and the Preliminary Order entered herein for the reasons set forth below. He respectfully asks that the full Commission hear and determine that he does in fact have standing to proceed.

Specifically stated, the issues raised in this Challenge are as follows:¹

1. D-8.0102 provides that an Appeal may be initiated only by one of the original parties in the case. Mr. Priest was one of the original parties below. As the appeal is limited to the issue of standing, the first question to be answered is whether standing refers to the appeal itself or to the right to proceed in the first place. D-8.0301b appears limited to the question of standing to appeal. Appellant submits it is error to go behind the findings of the PJC below to determine there never was standing.
2. Even if standing in the original complaint is an issue appellant submits he met that test since he was a member of the Presbytery, enrolled as such, at all times pertinent to these proceedings by virtue of his being the Immediate Past Moderator of the Presbytery. His membership in

¹ Proceeding under the Book of Order in effect at the time of the occurrence of the issues here and not nSOG adopted in 2011.

Presbytery was not known by appellant at the time of framing of the original Complaint but was discovered thereafter and corrected. Unfortunately, the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery (Appellee's counsel in the cross appeal) was aware of the membership but defended the proceeding below on the fiction Mr. Priest was not a member. When the PJC below was made aware of the membership status of the Appellant, the challenge to the issue of Standing below evaporated. The Stated Clerk has continued to argue the lack of membership in the Cross Appeal. The Preliminary Order of January 31, 2012 did not find Membership in reaching its conclusions and thus did not consider all of the facts pertinent to this issue.

3. Complainant has submitted a second basis for his standing, stating that since he had been enrolled as a Candidate, the fact of enrollment changed his membership status in part under G-14.0411. Instead of being just a member of his local church, Mr. Priest also came under the jurisdiction of the presbytery. For some issues, he remained subject to his local session for oversight and discipline. For those issues dealing with his candidacy, he came under the jurisdiction of the presbytery, a fact deemed significant by the Book of Order's use of the term "enrollment." In this state of being classified as "enrolled as a Candidate at the Presbytery," the reasoning of the Preliminary Order would not allow him to challenge any decision of the Committee for Preparation of Ministry (CPM hereafter) to the Presbytery. And obviously, he could not challenge the presbytery before his home

session, because a session has no power over a presbytery. The reasoning in the Preliminary Order places a candidate in the valley of no redress and appears neither proper nor in order. Mr. Priest challenges this unique interpretation of the Book of Order.

4. The Preliminary Order goes further to state that Complainant "was not enrolled as a member at any meeting of the presbytery at which the matter at issue has been addressed." This conclusion overlooks three points: (a) While Mr. Priest was at all times pertinent to these issues a Member of Presbytery as Moderator or as the Immediate Past Moderator, the issue was never presented for consideration; (b) While Mr. Priest was enrolled as a candidate in the presbytery, he lacked the requisite membership (according to the Preliminary Order) to ask that the matter be addressed; and, (c) The issue never came before Presbytery because the Presbytery had empowered CPM, under G-14.0410, G-14.0411 and G-14.0412, to act finally in its behalf as to certain matters without reporting. (A review of the Minutes of CPM related to this issue reflects its belief that it had the power to act finally without reporting its actions to the presbytery.) Mr. Priest challenges this part of the ruling regarding standing.
5. The Preliminary Order states the "decision complained against is not an irregularity or delinquency of the presbytery itself, but rather a decision of its Committee on Preparation for Ministry." The Preliminary Order then tracks the differences between a Commission and a Committee without addressing those provisions of the Book of Order which allow

a presbytery to delegate its powers to its committees and boards in certain circumstances. The specific language of G-9.0500 is one example of this. Under these provisions CPM is invested with a plethora of powers over myriad actions under G-14. 0410, et. seq. In each case, CPM can act without having to report or recommend. When a CPM acts under these powers, the act is that of the presbytery. Legally, this action is recognized as legal and binding on the presbytery under familiar agency principles and is final in all respects as the act of presbytery. If this were not so, then an act of a CPM which is never reported and never affirmed must of necessity be ultra vires and should not be allowed to stand. Mr. Priest submits that the ruling in the Preliminary Order discussed herein fails to consider this issue and is therefore subject to challenge.

6. The Preliminary Order states the proper method to challenge the action of a sub-entity of a governing body is through a motion to rescind or a motion to amend made to the body having jurisdiction over the sub-entity. This suggestion requires the person who should act to have standing. Under the conclusions stated in the Preliminary Order, Mr. Priest would not be able to act. This suggestion also fails to consider the ability of a committee acting at and for its governing body to be able to act without the necessity of reporting or having its action approved as argued above.

Complainant asks that if necessary, he might be permitted to raise any other issues that might be germane to this Challenge not yet set out, but which might become pertinent as the challenge proceeds.

Complainant also restates and incorporates by reference all arguments and submissions made by him in his Appeal, in the event an issue has been overlooked here inadvertently or in the event this Commission addresses other issues not raised herein.

CONCLUSION

Complainant asks as a part of his Challenge under D-6.0306 (a) that this pleading be accepted as an appropriate and timely filed Challenge, (b) that he be allowed to present evidence and argument on the findings in question, (c) that this appeal be limited to the Preliminary Order's ruling as to case 2011-109, since the ruling in case 2011-110 has not been challenged, and (d) that he and Appellee be allowed to submit Briefs prior to any hearing on the merits of his challenge to the jurisdictional deficiency cited herein under a schedule adopted by this Commission.

Complainant makes this Challenge to the decision of the Officers of this Commission set forth in the Preliminary Order of this Commission dated January 31, 2012 under D-8.0302a of the Book of Order.

This Challenge is signed by and on behalf of Appellant by Appellant and by Appellant's attorney, Archibald Wallace, III, as of the date shown opposite each place of signing.

This Challenge is signed by and on behalf of Appellant by Appellant and by Appellant's attorney, Archibald Wallace, III, as of the date shown opposite each place of signing.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

2/27/12
Date

By:

Archibald Wallace III
Minister of the Word and Sacrament (PCUSA)
Presbytery of the James
Counsel for Thomas H. Priest, Jr. and his designated
Agent for purposes of signing
this Challenge
Member of the Virginia and West Virginia Bars

2/27/12
Date

Thomas H. Priest Jr.
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Individually

Certification of Service of Challenge

I hereby certify that a copy of the above Challenge was served upon the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly's PJC, at the offices of the General Assembly's PJC, 100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville, KY 40202, by Federal Express, and upon the Committee of Counsel for the Appellee, upon Elder Mark Schneider, 2701 Troy Center Drive, Troy, MI 48084, in a similar manner, this 27th day of February, 2012. Also served on Edward Kostner, for the Committee of Counsel, 17575 Hubbell St., Detroit, MI 48235 via Fed. Express.

Archibald Wallace III
Archibald Wallace, III
Counsel for
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

Thomas H. Priest Jr.
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

**PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

<p>Thomas Priest, Jr.,) Appellant/Appellee (Complainant),) v.) Presbytery of Detroit,) Appellee/Appellant (Respondent).)</p>	<p>Preliminary Order Remedial Cases GA2011-109 and GA2011-110</p>
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These remedial cases come before the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission (GAPJC or this Commission) on appeals filed by Appellant/Appellee, Thomas Priest, Jr., and by Appellee/Appellant, Presbytery of Detroit, from a Decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant (SPJC) rendered on November 15, 2011.

On January 31, 2012, the Executive Committee (EC) of the GAPJC issued a Preliminary Order (PO) dismissing matter GA2011-109 on the basis that the Appellant/Appellee did not have standing to file the original Complaint, even though he was a party to the matter as adjudicated by the SPJC. In that Preliminary Order, the EC did not reach a determination on the issues of jurisdiction, timeliness or the statement of a claim upon which relief can be granted.

The PO further declared that this determination rendered GA2011-110 (which is a challenge from the Appellee/Appellant to the SPJC's determination that the Appellant/Appellee had standing to file the Complaint) moot "unless this Preliminary Order is challenged."

On February 29, 2012, the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly received a challenge to the PO from the Appellant/Appellee. Therefore, a hearing on the Challenge of the determination in question as well as on the full appeals in both cases (which are appeals to SPJC's determination of preliminary questions) will be scheduled for a time to be determined by the GAPJC.

Dated the 26th day of March, 2012.



 Gregory A. Goodwiler, Clerk
 Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly

REC'D APR 06 2012



GAPJC 2011-09/10
HEARING ON PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS

GAPJC Remedial Cases 2011-09/10
APPELLANT BRIEF pp. 64
4/21/10
Exhibit B

FORM NO. 26 ACCUSATION BY INDIVIDUAL AS STATEMENT OF
OFFENSE,
D-10.0102a

To: ___Rhonda Favors and Edward Koster___ (clerk of session or
stated clerk of presbytery)

From: _Ruth Azar_____ (name of person or
persons making accusation)

I, ___Ruth Azar_____, under the jurisdiction of the ___Grosse
Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church_ (name of session of congregation
or presbytery), accuse ___Thomas H. Priest, Jr. ___ (name of person
accused) of committing the offense of _racism, discrimination, division
without attempt of reconciliation_____ contrary to Holy Scripture and
the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and I submit the
following information in support of said accusation:

The said _____ Thomas H. Priest, Jr. _____ (name of accused)
did, on or about ___February 2009 through March 2009 _____ (date),
___see attached _____ (insert a narrative and
alleged facts believed to support the accusation).

Date

Ruth Azar
Signature of Accuser

EXHIBIT
10

Exhibit B

RUTH AZAR
21478 MORINGSIDE DRIVE
GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MI 48236
(313) 881-6651

April 21, 2010

As an ordained elder of the PC (USA) it saddens me to have to request an investigation of Thomas H. Priest, Jr. due to the racist remarks made to me, my staff, and volunteers of The Second Mile Center. This act of racism has caused there to be brokenness not only between Mr. Priest and myself but between larger bodies in the Presbytery.

The comments listed below were made while Mr. Priest between February 2009 and March 2009 during this time Mr. Priest was under care of the Presbytery as an inquirer and also the Moderator of the Presbytery of Detroit. I am attaching the letters and emails that provide a written witness to these comments and to the brokenness that followed. After conversation with the National Middle Eastern Presbyterian Caucus I was encouraged to file racism charges against Mr. Priest due his comments and behaviors. As a racial ethnic woman, a child of immigrants, I have been on the receiving end of racist comments all of my life as I know that any racial/ethnic persons are; that is why these comments are so troubling to me and why I am moved to bring this action.

Comments that Mr. Priest said to Sandra Addrow, Lawrence Lorkowski, Pam Whitaker Reid, Kari Gorman and me:

1. "You get the money from the churches because you are white they will not give it to Stan from Barnabas."
2. "How many "Arabs" own the gas stations and party stores in the area?"
3. When Lawrence Lorkowski told Tom that I am a minority woman and of Arabic heritage, Tom's response was, "she is too white and the people only see white. Especially she is the head of the center and the power is with a white person it sends the wrong message."
4. "A black person needs to be running the center not a different race."
5. "A white person cannot teach the children about their culture."
6. "Like Jesus he will be persecuted confronting the establishment showing that the Presbytery of Detroit is racist."
7. "You are too white to be here." (to Ruth Azar a racial ethnic person)
8. Tom demanded I meet with him so he could teach me about Urban Ministry in spite of me being at The Second Mile for almost 3 years. In a few hours he decided that I did not know anything about Urban Ministry because I am a Middle Eastern Woman.
9. "White men have all the power."
10. "Your assistant Lawrence is a white male he has the power."

Exhibit B

Mr. Priest started making these comments approximately one hour after being at the center, he had come to the center as part of his Urban Ministry Project at The Ecumenical Theological Seminary. Pam, as an African-American, was so upset by his remarks that she left abruptly stating, "I ain't got time for this. He is racist as hell, and I'm not coming back to volunteer, you Presbyterians are a mess." Pam did not return for months. Sandra Addrow, as an African-American, issued a letter to Al Timm, Executive Presbyter informing him of Tom Priest prejudice.

I called Al Timm following Mr. Priest's visit to inform him of the racist remarks in which he told me to call Rev. Marcia Foster Boyd, President of the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit since Tom came to the center for a class he was taking at the seminary. I called her immediately and she directed me back to Al Timm since she said it was a Presbyterian issue not a seminary issue. I called Al Timm and he explained that I could file a complaint against Mr. Priest. After that, I had a meeting with Mr. Priest, Kari Gorman, Stan Edwards, Lawrence Lotkowski and the racist comments were worse and the idea of reconciliation was crushed by Mr. Priest. I prayed about it for awhile however in conversation with the National Middle Eastern Caucus I was encouraged to file disciplinary action against Mr. Priest.

As a racial ethnic woman I am deeply offended by his remarks and feel oppressed. I also feel that there is no longer an avenue to be reconciled with Mr. Priest outside of this type of action. This behavior should not be ignored and certainly not from a potential pastor.

Exhibit B

To whom it may concern,
I am writing this letter to
inform you of the visit that
we received from Tom Priest
in February and March 2009.
How Mr. Priest came in put
down the leaders at the Center
making racial remarks and
statements stated that a black
person needs to be running the
Center not a different race. How
many black people are on payroll
how many Arabs are the Gas Station
and Party stores, me being a
Black woman was totally offended
because in God's eyes we
are no color we are of one
body in Christ, after hearing all
of this Pamela Whitehead Reid, stated
the presbyterians are a mess they
all ways have stuff saying an
and that she wasn't coming
back up to Valerian cause they
are not in unity, cl
Sanderson was telling Ruth Aza
that he doesn't care about the

FORM NO. 29

CONCLUSION OF INVESTIGATION, D-10.0202G, D-10.0300

To: Thomas Priest

From: Calvary Presbyterian Church

It is the conclusion of the investigating committee formed on May 11, 2010 to investigate allegations against Thomas Priest that no charges will be filed.

2/10/2011
Date

Harvey S. Herbert
Signature



CPM SUBCOMMITTEE
CONVENED IN THE MATTER
OF COMPLAINT BY RUTH AZAR
AGAINST CANDIDATE THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.

Date of Report – January 18, 2011

Introduction

After prayerful consideration, the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, on May 4, 2010, authorized the formation of a subcommittee to investigate the above referenced complaint. The composition of the subcommittee was approved June 1: Reverend David Abbott, Reverend Christine Bohn, Elder Henry Johnson, and Reverend Elizabeth Rice.

The committee convened its first meeting on June 9, 2010, the intent being to determine its agenda and the process for achieving outcomes. The committee received guidance from the Stated Clerk, Ed Koster, concerning process and the parameters of its investigation.

The committee's task was to investigate and make a recommendation to CPM concerning Mr. Priest's suitability for ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. It was not this committee's task to determine whether or not the Constitution of the PC(USA) was violated. This committee was advisory to CPM on matters of suitability and preparation for ministry; disciplinary or judicial proceedings were not this committee's purview.

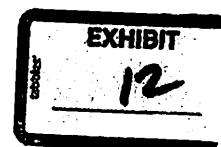
We met again on June 22, 2010, to begin scheduling interviews and to clarify our approach to the investigation.

On July 15, 2010, we interviewed Ruth Azar. Key issues included:

- concerns about Mr. Priest's interactions with staff and volunteers at Second Mile Center (SMC)
- disturbing statements made by Mr. Priest during his visit to SMC
- a perception that SMC was being targeted by Mr. Priest and its ministry devalued and undermined.

On July 28, 2010, we met to discuss the interview with Ms. Azar and plan for the interview with Mr. Priest.

On August 9, 2010, we interviewed Mr. Priest, who was accompanied by his Advocate, Elder Darrell Reynolds. The committee found it notable that Mr. Priest gave evasive responses to the questions and frequently redirected the conversation. Key issues included:



- a denial of certain comments and insistence that others were taken out of context
- Mr. Priest's desire that Barnabas Youth Opportunities Center and SMC work together, share resources, and visit other urban ministries
- his preferred model of urban ministry and his interpretations of his observations of SMC.

On August 13, 2010, we met to discuss and plan.

On September 28, 2010, we interviewed separately Sandra Addrow, Lawrence Lorkowski, and Elder Stan Edwards. We interviewed each person specifically about their personal interactions with Mr. Priest during his visits to SMC and Barnabas Youth Opportunities Center and a later meeting at SMC.

On November 19, 2010, we met for discussion and further planning.

On November 30, 2010, we met for further discussion and also to interview another witness, who was present at the later meeting at SMC.

On December 10, 2010, we met again for further discussion of past interviews and also to interview a final witness.

On January 11, 2011, we met again to draft a report and recommendation.

We finalized our report on January 18, 2011.

Central Issues

Three primary areas of concern were identified by this committee.

One of these concerns has to do with use of authority. In arranging his first visit to Second Mile Center, Mr. Priest identified himself as a seminary student preparing a paper for a class. In subsequent activities, however, Mr. Priest regularly used his influence and authority as Moderator of Presbytery and former moderator of the Metropolitan Urban Ministries Team to lobby decision-making bodies within presbytery to share his view of work and structure of Second Mile Center. At the same time, Mr. Priest did not notify Second Mile that he was taking his findings and interpretation of those findings to presbytery, nor did he use that same influence and authority to provide an opportunity for Second Mile to have voice in actions intended to affect dramatically the future of the Center. In other words, Mr. Priest represented himself as a student to the subjects of his investigation, but freely applied the authority of presbytery office to pursue actions against those subjects.

This committee also observed a consistent pattern of Mr. Priest prejudging the opinions and experiences of others without listening to what they had to say about their own opinions and experiences. People self-identifying with three different racial-ethnic groups (white, Arab-American, and African-American) indicated to the committee their

frustration and discomfort when they perceived that Mr. Priest assumed he knew what they thought about certain issues (or what they should think) based on his perception of their racial-ethnic identity. At least in certain circumstances, it appears that Mr. Priest was unwilling to listen to what people had to say about their experience and opinions and was, instead, rather forceful verbally in attributing his experience and opinion to others.

It is evident to this committee that Mr. Priest is fiercely devoted to his preferred model of urban ministry. This committee is concerned that Mr. Priest is unwilling to acknowledge the legitimacy of alternative ministry styles and routinely uses methods of confrontation and intimidation.

Recommendations

It is the opinion of this committee that Candidate Priest's current pattern of confrontational behaviors would cause great difficulty in a congregation and in a presbytery.

Therefore, this committee moves that CPM require Mr. Priest to participate in the Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders led by the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center.

Additionally, we move that at an appropriate future time CPM examine Mr. Priest to assess his pastoral development in the areas identified above.

This assessment might include such tools as asking Mr. Priest to write papers on what he has learned personally and professionally from the mediation skills training and his own sense of pastoral identity and authority.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. David Abbot, Rev. Christine Bohn, Elder Henry Johnson, Rev. Elizabeth Rice

**Presbytery of Detroit
Minutes of the Meeting
August 23, 2011**

WE GATHERED IN GOD'S NAME

A quorum being present, the Presbytery of Detroit convened with litany and prayer in a stated meeting on August 23, 2011 at 4:01 p.m. at Northbrook Presbyterian Church. Dianne Bostic Robinson moderated the meeting.

WE CELEBRATED OUR CONNECTIONS IN CHRIST

The Moderator appointed Paul Long the assistant to the Stated Clerk.

The Moderator welcomed new commissioners and teaching elders.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, the docket was approved as amended.

Upon motion, the Presbytery voted to excuse those who had requested to be excused.

Upon motion the Presbytery voted to enroll Rifaat Zaki, Synod Executive and member of Grace Presbytery, as a corresponding member

Marjorie Wilhelmi sang a welcome to the Presbytery to Northbrook Church.

James Porter began moderating the meeting.

WE LISTENED FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR COMMUNITY

Announcements

Presbytery heard announcements from the Congregational Life Team, Presbyterian Men, the Thika Partnership, and the Spiritual Formation and Faith Development Team.

Reports

Report of the Synod Commissioners. Rafael Francis, a commissioner to the Synod, reported on the Synod Meeting of August 10-11.

The Presbytery heard reports from the Multicultural Ministries Work Group, the Planning and Visioning Team, and the Presbytery Youth Connection.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

Executive Presbyter's Report. Allen Timm reported.

Mr Timm reported that the Presbytery of Detroit has been honored for our mission giving: we are 7th in the denomination for special offerings and 9th in overall mission giving. He reported on pastoral concerns and celebrations, activities of various churches and synods, and plans for future events.

Dianne Bostic Robinson resumed moderating the meeting.

The moderator offered a brief prayer for openness.

Upon motion of David Kinikson on behalf of the congregation and Session of Utica Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery voted to change the name of the Presbyterian Church of Utica to New Life Presbyterian Church.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry. Beth Downs reported for the committee.

The Committee reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. CPM met with the following inquirers/candidates for ordained ministry on the dates noted and sustained their annual consultations:
Lucas Keppel Community, Orchard Lake Louisville August 2, 2011
2. CPM met with the following applicants and voted to enroll them as Inquirers:
Megan Polich Westminster, Ann Arbor McCormick August 2, 2011
Matt Bauhof Northbrook, Beverly Hills N/A August 2, 2011

The Committee reported that Beth Delaney has met the requirements for ordination specified in section G-14.0450 under the prior *Book of Order*, has her MDiv. from Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit, and has received a validated call as part-time Stated Supply to the Filipino Fellowship of Southfield, MI, in the Presbytery of Detroit. Ms Delaney presented her statement of faith and Presbytery examined her on her Christian faith and views in theology, the Sacraments, and the government of this church. Upon motion, the Presbytery arrested her examination. Upon motion and after debate, Presbytery voted to sustain her examination and proceed to ordination as a teaching elder.

The committee reported that Evans McGowan has met the requirements for ordination specified in section G-14.0450 under the prior *Book of Order*, has his MDiv. from San Francisco Theological Seminary, and has received a call as Lilly Resident to the First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor, MI, in the Presbytery of Detroit. Mr McGowan presented his statement of faith and Presbytery examined him on his Christian faith and views in theology, the Sacraments, and the government of this church. Upon motion the examination was arrested. Upon motion and after debate, Presbytery voted to sustain his examination and proceed to ordination as a teaching elder.

Trustees. Donald Morgan reported for the Trustees.

Upon motion of the Trustees, and a second, Presbytery voted to approve the sale of the property of the Church of Our Saviour for \$650,000 as described below, contingent on the approval by the congregation (scheduled for August 28th) and contingent on ratification by the Trustees when they meet on September 6, for \$650,000:

Land in the City of West Bloomfield, County of Oakland, State of Michigan being more particularly described as:

Part of the West ¼ of the Northwest ¼ of Section 36, Town 2 North, Range 9 East, described as beginning at a point in the West section line distant South 01 degree 15 minutes East 576.86 feet from the Northwest section corner; thence North 88 degrees 45 minutes East 255 feet; thence North 01 degree 15 minutes West 227.27 feet; thence North 89 degrees 00 minutes East 560.40 feet; thence South 01 degree 10 minutes East along

the West line of South Bloomfield Glens Number 1, 747.97 feet; thence South 88 degrees 45 minutes West 814.30 feet; thence North 01 degree 15 minutes West on section line 523.14 feet to the point of beginning.

EXCEPTING THEREFROM the West 60 feet decided to the Board of County Road Commissioners, County of Oakland, State of Michigan and described as:

Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Section 36; thence South 01 degree 15 minutes East along the West line of said Section 36, a distance of 576.86 feet to the point of beginning of this description; thence South 01 degree 15 minutes East, along said section line 523.14 feet; thence North 88 degrees 45 minutes East, 60.00; thence North 01 degree 15 minutes West 523.14 feet; thence South 88 degrees 45 minutes West, 60.00 feet to the point of beginning.

Commonly known as: 6655 Middlebelt
Tax Parcel ID: 18-36-101-006

The Trustees reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. The Trustees have prepared a policy that creates procedures when there are churches that wish to close, consolidate, merge, or yoke. It will be submitted to the Coordinating Cabinet in October for a recommendation to the October meeting of Presbytery.
2. The Trustees have met with representatives of Divine Word and Wyandotte First to discuss their plans for consolidation.
3. Pursuant to authority granted them by Presbytery on June 28, 2011, the Trustees approved on behalf of Presbytery the sale by Allen Park Church of the property at 15446 Harrison Avenue, Allen Park, known as:
Lot 407 also Sly 1/2 ADJ vacated alley of Lincolnlawn Sub
for the sale price of \$130,000.
4. Pursuant to authority granted them by Presbytery on June 28, 2011, the Trustees approved on behalf of Presbytery the sale by Allen Park Church of the property 15439 Cleveland Avenue, Allen Park, described as:
A84A259 LOT 259 ALSO NE 1/4 ADJ VAC AL- LEY LINCOLNLAWN SUB PC
84, 86, 95
for the sale price of \$85,000.
5. The Trustees have reviewed and approved the 2010 audits for the Presbytery and for the Howell Center for presentation by the Treasurer for adoption by the Presbytery.
6. The Trustees have estimated income from endowments in 2012 will be \$525,000, and will inform the Planning and Visioning Team so it can be used for the 2012 budget.

Coordinating Cabinet. Kent Clise reported for the Coordinating Cabinet.

Upon motion of the Coordinating Cabinet, Presbytery voted to:

1. Create an Administrative Commission on Riverside Church with seven members, as follows:
The organizing pastor of the Riverside Church has resigned. In a congregational meeting that may have been irregular, the congregation has voted to dissolve so that it can form itself into a non-denominational congregation. The matter has been reviewed by members of the NCD Administrative Commission, the Committee on Ministry, and the New Church Development/Redevelopment Team. From the observations of those who have

engaged the matter, it is apparent that the session of Riverside Presbyterian Church is unable or unwilling to manage wisely its affairs. G-3.0303e.

Pursuant to G-3.0109 and G-3.0109.b. the Presbytery of Detroit establishes this Administrative Commission on Riverside Church, and charges it with the following duties and powers:

Duties. The AC shall:

1. inquire into all circumstances relating to the decision of the Riverside Church to dissolve as a congregation, and as necessary;
 - a. consult with appropriate committees, teams, staff and members of Presbytery;
 - b. consult with members, ruling elders, the teaching elder involved with the ministry;
2. account for all property over which the church has any ownership or claim to ownership;
3. review all accounts and financial arrangements and require an accounting of them;
4. decide on the disposition of all property, real and personal (tangible and intangible) in ways consistent with the requirements of the Constitution;
5. review all obligations and contracts and conclude them;
6. report all of its actions to the Presbytery; and
7. make a report to Presbytery of findings and recommendations that arise from the events and relationships of this new church development. This report may include a recommendation to continue the congregation in a new location and different leadership.

Powers. The AC shall have the following powers:

1. Pursuant to G-3.0303e, to assume original jurisdiction of the session with all the powers and authorities of elders and the session found in G-2.030, G-3.0101-07, G-3.02, G-4.01, and G-4.02;
2. To dispose of all property, whether it be tangible or intangible personal property, or real property;
3. To take control over all accounts in any financial institution;
4. To assume all powers granted the congregation under state law;
5. On behalf of the Presbytery of Detroit:
 - a. to approve the sale, transfer or encumbrance of all property pursuant to G-4.0206;
 - b. to approve the dissolution of the congregation at its request;
 - c. to negotiate with all higher councils regarding finances and grants, and to conclude agreements unless they require the expenditure of Presbytery funds.
 - d. Approve an amendment to the 2011 Social Justice and Peacemaking Team budget to move \$150 from the Greening Work Group to the Domestic Violence Project.
2. Approve the grant request for the Hunger Action Enabler.
3. Upon nomination of the Coordinating Cabinet, there being no nominations from the floor, the Presbytery elected following to be members of the Riverside Church Administrative Commission:

Jim Skimins (Chairperson), teaching elder
 Bernard Ogelsby, ruling elder
 Don Brownell, ruling elder
 Ted Taylor, teaching elder
 Judy Shipman, teaching elder
 Beth Baergen, ruling elder
 To be appointed by the Moderator

The Coordinating Cabinet reported the following for the information of the Presbytery:

1. The Coordinating Cabinet reviewed the policy on placing papers on the table at Presbytery meetings. Here is the policy:

CC-1.1 Official and Unofficial Tables.

There shall be two tables at presbytery meetings: one for business papers and one for papers of an informational nature. Papers shall be germane to the programs and concerns of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Placing of papers on the tables must be approved by the Stated Clerk, the Executive Presbyter or a presbytery unit. The Stated Clerk shall be informed in advance of all papers, which are to be distributed at a presbytery meeting. Business papers shall ordinarily be available to commissioners at the Presbytery office by noon on the Friday before the meeting of Presbytery.

If you have a paper you would like placed on the unofficial table, please see either the Executive Presbyter or the Stated Clerk.

The above note referred to a paper placed on the table at the June Presbytery meeting. Thomas Priest presented a statement that rebutted what he said were false statements in that paper, and moved that his statement be included in the minutes. The motion was made to amend the motion to include the paper that had been put on the table. In the course of the debate, A point of order was raised that the discussion must be on whether to approve the motion as made.

Upon motion the Presbytery voted to end debate. Presbytery voted 83 yes to 46 no to approve the amendment. The motion as amended was not approved by a vote of 64 yes to 69 no.

2. The Coordinating Cabinet heard a report from the Planning and Visioning Team that it is reviewing the vision and values of the Presbytery so that it can create a design for a new associate executive presbyter that meets our needs. They will be making contact with the various committees and teams of Presbytery. The end product will be a new set of bylaws and policies that meet our needs and comply with the nFoG.
3. The Spiritual Formation and Faith Development Team has agreed to take the responsibility for planning the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration.
4. It was expressed at Coordinating Cabinet that there is some pain related to the passing of Amendment 10-A. The leadership of the Coordinating Cabinet is in the process of planning ways to assist pastors to share and work through the issues in their congregations.

WE SHARED GOD'S BOUNTY

Presbytery recessed for dinner at 6:15.

WE PROCLAIMED THE GOOD NEWS

The Presbytery worshipped God.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY cont'd

The Presbytery reconvened at 7:34 pm.

Committee on Ministry. Dixie Elam reported for the committee.

Upon motion of the Committee, Presbytery voted to:

1. Approve the call of Rev. Brooke E. Pickrell as Pastor at Northside, Ann Arbor, effective September 21, 2011.
 Terms: ¾ Time; Salary \$14,935; Housing \$15,600; Medical Allowance \$610.70; Board of Pension \$10,955.26; Social Security \$2,335.93; Optional Dental Plan \$675; Auto/Travel \$1,200; Continuing Education \$773; Business Expenses \$927. Vacation: Four weeks including four Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks, including 2 Sundays. One time moving expenses up to \$5,000. Within the first year, Rev. Pickrell will attend Pastors in Transition Program, approx. cost of \$200 borne by church. AA/EBO Guidelines of the denomination were followed in the search.
2. Approve the Administrative Commission to ordain Beth Delaney, at Geneva, Canton, on October 9, 2011, at 3:00 PM, pending successful examination by Presbytery.
 Moderator: Elder Dianne Bostic Robinson
 Clergy: Rev. Bryan Smith; Rev. Kevin Johnson
 Elders: Donna Gray, (Geneva, Canton); Nancy Ryan, (First, Saline).
3. Approve the Administrative Commission to install Rev. Carol Tate as Associate Pastor for Adult Ministries at Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills, on September 11, 2011, at 11:00 AM, pending completion of the commission.
 Members known at time of COM Meeting:
 Elders: Jean Loup (Ann Arbor, Northside), Ron Case (Grosse Ile)
 Corresponding Members: Rev. Ted Wardlaw, President Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary; Rev. K. C. Ptomey, Jr., Austin, TX.
4. Approve the 12 month Temporary Supply contract between Beth Delaney and the Filipino Fellowship, Southfield, pending receipt of contract.
5. Approve the 12 month Stated Supply Pastor contract between Rev. Hao-Teh Chen and the Taiwanese Fellowship, Ann Arbor effective September 1, 2011.
 Terms: Full time; Salary \$23,636; Housing \$12,780; Utilities allowance \$2,847; Medical deductible \$786; Social Security \$3,064; Full Pension \$12,615; Continuing Education \$1,077; Auto/Travel and other Business Expenses \$9,232. Vacation: One month including four Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks.
6. Pending approval of the contract arrangement above, grant permission for Rev. Hao-Teh Chen to labor within the bounds of Presbytery of Detroit.
7. Approve the 12 month Stated Supply Associate Pastor contract between Rev. Kathleen Doyle-Hohf and Grosse Ile, effective September 1, 2011.
 Terms: Full-time; Salary \$17,800; Housing \$20,500; Social Security \$5,640; Full Pension \$12,253; Medical Deductible \$600; Travel \$1030; Study Leave \$1,200.
 Vacation: One month including six Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks. (This is a move from Interim to Stated Supply.)
8. Approve the 12 month Interim Pastor contract between Rev. Matthew D. Campbell and Cherry Hill, Dearborn, effective September 1, 2011.

Terms: Full-time; Salary \$50,000; Housing \$14,000; Social Security \$4,972; Full Pension 403b) \$11,518; Travel \$1,600; Study Leave \$2,400; Professional expenses \$2,000. Vacation: Four weeks, including four Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks including two Sundays. (One week of Study Leave to be spent on Interim Training.)

9. Transfer Rev. Johnie Bennett, H.R., to Coastal Carolina Presbytery.
10. Grant permission to Rev. Linda Cochran to labor outside the bounds at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Rochester, MI, as Christian Education Director.
11. Grant the request from Rev. Terri Gast to be moved to "at large" member while in graduate school.
12. Receive Rev. Arthur Oberg from the Reformed Church of America upon CPM approval & Presbytery examination.
13. Transfer the membership of Peace United, Clinton Township to Presbyterian Church of Utica upon dissolution of Peace United, effective August 31, 2011.

Under the authority given it, the Committee reported that it has:

1. Extended the Temporary Supply contract between Rev. James Kumin-Severance and White Lake until September 30, 2011, with the same terms.
2. Approved the nine month Temporary Supply contract between Rev. Donald Wright and Lakeshore, St. Clair Shores, effective January 1, through September 30, 2011.
Terms: Half-time; Salary \$14,475; Social Security \$1,275; Medical Allowance \$7,500; Professional expenses \$10,500. Vacation: One month including four Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks.
3. Approved the 12 month Stated Supply contract between Rev. Quincy Cooper, and Covenant, Southfield, effective May 25, 2011.
Terms: Salary \$26,000; Housing allowance \$27,200; Study Leave expense \$1,000.
Vacation: Four weeks, including four Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks including two Sundays.
4. Approved the request from Peace United, Clinton Township to grant the status of Pastor Emeritus to Rev. James Kesler effective May 7, 2006.
5. Accepted the resignation of Rev. Brenda Jarvis from Riverside Community Church, Detroit effective August 17, 2011, and moved her to member at large.
6. Granted the request from Rev. William Dunifon, to be honorably retired effective July 18, 2011.

The Committee reports the following for the information of the Presbytery:

1. It has approved Church Information Forms (CIF) for Westminster, Detroit; First, South Lyon; and St. Andrews, Dearborn Heights.
2. The Pastoral Search Committee will now have responsibility for the church self study process, allowing churches seeking a new pastor to have a single liaison with COM for the entire search process.
3. Rev. Phil Reed is now chair of the Pastoral Search subcommittee.
4. It has appointed Rev. Roy Langwig moderator at Starr, Royal Oak for four months effective August 1, 2011.
5. It has appointed Rev. Mary Austin moderator at Joslyn Avenue, Pontiac for one year, effective September 1, 2011.
6. The Committee on Ministry shall continue to use the rules of Chapter XIV in effect as of July 2009 until it develops new rules and procedures to conform to the New Form of Government.

Treasurer. Alvin Smith reported

Mr Smith presented the Treasurer's Report (which is appended to the minutes).

Upon motion, the Presbytery adopted the 2010 consolidated audit (Howell Center and the Presbytery). The audit is appended to the minutes.

Stated Clerk. Edward Koster

The motion was made to approve the minutes of June 28, 2010.

Stanley Edwards rose to say that the answer of the Presbytery of Detroit to the complaint of Detroit Calvary included the minutes of the March 1, 2011 Committee on Preparation for Ministry meeting as an exhibit. Those minutes mentioned a letter he had sent the Committee on Preparation for Ministry which was not included in the answer. Upon motion, the Presbytery voted to attach the letter sent by Mr Edwards to the minutes of this meeting.

The minutes were approved as amended.

Upon motion, Presbytery voted to approve the reports of the following Commissions and append them to the minutes:

- a) Ordination of Brennan Pearson on July 25, 2011 at Rosedale Gardens AS Amended
- b) Ordination of Penny Ehrlich Pitts on May 14, 2011 at Grosse Pointe Memorial
- c) Ordination of Mary Bahr-Jones as Teaching Elder Temporary Supply Pastor of Orchard Lake on August 14, 2011.

The Stated Clerk reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. TRANSFERS COMPLETED
 - a) From the Presbytery of Detroit:
 - i) Penny Pitts to Baltimore Presbytery
 - ii) Sarah Wiles to Olympia Presbytery
 - b) To the Church Triumphant
 - i) Deborah Kerr on August 17, 2011
2. The stated Clerk reported the following judicial matters:
 - a) A complaint has been received against a member of the Presbytery. The following persons have been appointed to the Investigating Committee 2010-2: Ruling Elder Michael Hartman, Teaching Elders Bryan Smith and Lynne Kogel.
 - b) Answer of the Presbytery of Detroit to the complaint by Detroit Calvary (2) to the Synod of the Covenant, case 2010-03. (Appended to the minutes)
 - c) Answer of the Presbytery of Detroit to the complaint by Thomas Priest to the Synod of the Covenant, case 2010-04. (Appended to the minutes.)
 - d) Synod Decision Calvary v. Presbytery, 2011-01. (Appended to the minutes.)
 - e) Synod Decision. Calvary v. Presbytery, 2011-03. (Appended to the minutes)
 - f) Synod Decision. Priest v. Presbytery, 2011-04. (Appended to the minutes.)

The Stated Clerk reported the following communications:

1. Letter from Port Huron Westminster regarding Amendment 10-A and the response of the Stated Clerk. (Appended to the minutes)
2. Letter from Drayton Avenue regarding the starting time of Presbytery and the response of the Stated Clerk. (Appended to the minutes)

Committee on Nominations. Ruthanne Bourlier reported for the Committee.

Upon nomination, with no nominations from the floor, Presbytery elected:

For the vacancy in the Class of 2012 on the Committee on Ministry:

Elder Dorothy Buchan Warren First

For the vacancy in the Class of 2012 on the Congregational Life Ministry Team:

Elder Michael Hoffman Allen Park Allen Park

Mr Porter began moderating the meeting.

Presbytery shared joys and concerns and offered prayers of thanksgiving and intercession.

By consent, Presbytery adjourned with prayer at 8:33 pm

The next meeting of the Presbytery will be Tuesday, October 25, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at Ann Arbor Westminster Church.

ATTEST:

EDWARD KOSTER, Stated Clerk

~~ATTACHMENT ONE: The Roll~~

APPENDICES:

Treasurer's Report

2010 Consolidated Audit

Ordination Commission Reports:

Brennan Pearson

Penny Ehrlich Pitts

Mary Bahr-Jones

Letter of Stanley Edwards to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Letter from Port Huron Westminster regarding Amendment 10-A and the response of the Stated Clerk

Letter from Drayton Avenue regarding the starting time of Presbytery and the response of the Stated Clerk

Judicial matters:

Answer of the Presbytery of Detroit to the complaint by Detroit Calvary (2) to the Synod of the Covenant, case 2010-03

Synod Decision Calvary v. Presbytery, 2011-01

Synod Decision. Calvary v. Presbytery, 2011-03

Answer of the Presbytery of Detroit to the complaint by Thomas Priest to the Synod of the Covenant, case 2010-04

Synod Decision. Priest v. Presbytery, 2011-04

ATTACHMENT ONE: THE ROLL

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY FOR AUGUST 23, 2011

CHURCHES: Of 86 churches, 54 were represented and 32 were not.

COMMISSIONERS: Of 141 eligible commissioners, 79 enrolled, and 62 did not.

OTHER RULING ELDERS (Officers, Members of Council)::
Of 20 total, 11 were present, of whom 1 counted as commissioners, leaving 10 as the unduplicated count: 6 excused, and 3 absent.

TEACHING ELDERS:
Of the 147 non-retired teaching elders on the combined rolls of active members and members-at-large, 61 were present, 30 were excused, and 56 were absent.
Of the 82 retired teaching elders on the rolls, 12 were present and 70 were excused.

COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS AND CERTIFIED EDUCATORS:
Of the 0 Commissioned Law Pastor on the rolls, 0 were present,) excused, 1 absent
Of the 0 Certified Educators on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 0 absent.

SUMMARY

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

- * Elder Commissioners
- + * Other Ruling Elders
- + * Non-retired teaching elders
- + * Retired teaching elders
- + * Commissioned lay pastors.
- + * Certified educators.
- = * Voting members present.

OTHERS PRESENT

- 5 Non-voting attendees
- 1 Corresponding members

ATTENDANCE

<p>ALLEN PARK, Allen Park 1 ROBERT MORTON 2 BOB SZWED 3 4 ANN ARBOR, Calvary 1 NOT REPRESENTED ANN ARBOR, First 1 HENRY JOHNSON 2 BEN VAN TUYL 3 SUE LEONG 4 RUTH BARNARD 5 ANN ARBOR, Northside 1 CAROLINA RICHARDSON ANN ARBOR, Westminster 1 AL WILLIAMSON AUBURN HILLS, Auburn Hills 1 JUDY GEISLER BELLEVILLE, Belleville 1 CONNIE ETTER BERKLEY, Greenfield</p>	<p>Ruling Elder Commissioners 1 AMY BUTTERS BEVERLY HILLS, Northbrook 1 MICHAEL CAMPION BIRMINGHAM, First 1 ROSY LATIMORE 2 BARBARA RUSSELL 3 S. NICHOLLS 4 CHARLOTTE FISCHER BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Kirk/Hills 1 GORDON ALLARDYCE 2 CAROL ROCK 3 CHARLOTTE CLARK 4 SAM CLARK 5 LYNNE CARPENTER 6 HOWARD SAUM BRIGHTON, First 1 ILLEGIBLE 2 CANTON, Geneva 1 CINDY THOMAS CLARKSTON, Sashabaw 1 NOT REPRESENTED</p>	<p>CLINTON TWP, Peace 1 KERRY BORDER DEARBORN, Cherry Hill 1 CARRIE THORPE DEARBORN, First 1 NOT REPRESENTED 2 DEARBORN, Littlefield 1 JACKIE TOZER DEARBORN HGTS, St. Andrew's 1 NOT REPRESENTED DETROIT, Broadstreet 1 LEOLA BLACK 2 JUANETA STAFFORD DETROIT, Calvary 1 STANLEY EDWARDS 2 DARRELL REYNOLDS DETROIT, Calvin East 1 NOT REPRESENTED 2 DETROIT, First 1 NOT REPRESENTED</p>
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DETROIT, Fort Street
1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, Gratiot Avenue
1 MARY ANN BRANTLEY
2
DETROIT, Hops
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
DETROIT, Jefferson Avenue
1 STAN M VOORHEES
2
DETROIT, Riverside
1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, St. John's
1 JEANNE V MOORE
2
DETROIT, Trinity Community
1 NATALIE BROTHERS
2 FRANCES BEEMAN
DETROIT, Trumbull Avenue
1 MARTHA SINGLEY
2
DETROIT, Westminster
1 MARGARET WHITEHEAD
2 BILL JOHNSON
3 TILLIE TAYLOR
FARMINGTON, First
1 JAN SELL
2
FERNDALE, Drayton Avenue
1 KEN SEAMEK
FORT GRATIOT, Lakeshore
1 NOT REPRESENTED
GARDEN CITY, Garden City
1 NOT REPRESENTED
GROSSE ILE, Grosse Ile
1 DON HILL
2 JEAN FLETCHER
GROSSE POINTE, Memorial
1 JULIE BELLOVICH
2 BILL BROWN
3
4
GROSSE PTE WOODS, Woods
1 PAT CHASTEEN
2
HIGHLAND PARK, Park United
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
HOWELL, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
LINCOLN PARK, Lincoln Park
1 NOT REPRESENTED
LIVONIA, Rosedale Gardens

1 ALICE MCCLOSKEY
2 OYCHE ANDERSON
LIVONIA, St. Paul's
1 KATE MACKIE
LIVONIA, St. Timothy's
1 JIM HARRINGTON
MACOMB, Church/Covenant
1 NOT REPRESENTED
MILAN, Peoples
1 NOT REPRESENTED
MILFORD, Milford
1 KATHY KLECKNER
2
MT. CLEMENS, First
1 LORETTA FREEMAN-MARTIN
NORTHVILLE, First
1 KIRK SWARBRICK
2 KATHY GRICIUS
3 MATT FRICK
4
NOVI, Faith Community
1 PATRICIA KORTLANAT
ORCHARD LAKE, Community
1 DAVID J DUTTON
2 KAY CARPENTER
3
PLYMOUTH, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
3
4
PONTIAC, First
1 MELISSA ROSE
PONTIAC, Joslyn Avenue
1 BARBARA GRAHAM
PORT HURON, First
1 HOWARD BORGMAN
2
PORT HURON, Westminster
1 NOT REPRESENTED
REDFORD, St. James
1 MAUREEN BIANCHI
ROCHESTER, University
1 DOUG DENTON
2 CATHY MARTINEZ
ROSEVILLE, Erb
1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROYAL OAK, First
1 SALLY GILREATH
2
3
ROYAL OAK, Point of Vision
1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROYAL OAK, Starr

1 NOT REPRESENTED
BALINE, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
SHELBY TWP., St. Thomas
1 GREGORY MCCARTHY
2 MARY RICHARDSON
SOUTH LYON, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
SOUTHFIELD, Covenant
1 BARB SMITH
SOUTHFIELD, Korean
1 SUNG YANG
2
3
SOUTHFIELD, New Hope
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
ST. CLAIR SHORES, Heritage
1 GAYE WHITE
ST. CLAIR SHORES, Lake Shore
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
STERLING HGTS, Ulca
1 DAVID KONKIN
TAYLOR, Divine Word
1 ALAN ENGLE
TAYLOR, Westminster
1 D WONNACOTT
TROY, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
TROY, Korean First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
TROY, Northminster
1 JULIE A SIGLER
WALLED LAKE, Crossroads
1 SHARON PICKETT
WARREN, Celtic Cross
1 NOT REPRESENTED
WARREN, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
WATERFORD, Community
1 NANCY HUNT
W. BLOOMFIELD, Church/Savior
1 JEROLD WSCHEEL
WESTLAND, Kirk of Our Savior
1 NOT REPRESENTED
WHITE LAKE, White Lake
1 SUSAN MYSLIWEC
WYANDOTTE, Wyandotte
1 NOT REPRESENTED
YPSILANTI, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED

C. ELDER MEMBERS

P ANDERSON, FRANCILE, PM
P BOSTIC-ROBINSON, DIANE
P ELAM, DIXIE, PM
A ELLIS, HAROLD
P EMMERT, JOHN
A GEAKE, BOB
A HOLLOWELL, KENNETH
E HYLKEMA, CAROL, PM
P LEWIS, STEFANIE
P MORGAN, DONALD
E MORRISON, HELEN, PM
P MORTON, JANET
E PITTS, FRANCES, PM

Teaching and Ruling Elder Members

P PASTOR TOM, PM
P SEABROOKS, DOROTHY M., PM
E SHIRLEY, JAMES, PM
P SMITH, ALVIN
E SMITH, KENNETH, PM
C SZWED, ROBERT
E WINSLOW, PAUL, PM
D. NON-RETIRED MEMBERS
A ADAMS, WILLIAM L III
E ANDERSON, BARBARA S
A ANDERSON, LINDA
A ANDREWS, DOYLL
E ARAKELIAN, ELIZABETH
A AUE, CRAIG
P AUSTIN, MARY

P BAHR-JONES, MARY
E BAILEY, CLOVER
A BIERSDORF, JOHN
A BLAKIE, DOUGLAS
A BLEVIK, DAVID
E BOHN, CHRISTINE
A BOLT, KENNETH
P BOURLIER, RUTHANNE
A BOUSQUETTE, PAUL
P CAMPBELL, DOUGLAS
P CAMPBELL, EMILY
A CARL, STEPHEN
E CHOI, SEUNG KOO
P CLARK, JENNIFER

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P	CLARK, STEVEN	A	OTT, JEFFREY	E	CAMPBELL, VERN
A	COCHRAN, LINDA	A	PARKER, OPELTON	E	CAPPS, HARRY
A	COOPER, QUINCY	P	PARKER-WRZESZCZ, JENAZER	E	CARTER, DOUGLAS D.
E	COWLING, NEIL D.	E	PARKER-WRZESZCZ, MATTHEW	E	CATER, LAWRENCE H.
P	DAVIS, ROXIE ANN	P	PAVELKO, JOHN H.	E	CHAMBERLAIN, LAWRENCE
P	DAVIS, WILLIAM	P	PEARSON, BRENNAN	E	CHAMBERS, JAMES C.
A	DE ORIO, ANTHONY	A	PIECUCH, KEVIN	E	CHOI, IN SOON
A	DELANEY, BETH	P	PITTMAN, JASON	P	CLISE, W. KENT
E	*DENNIS, WARREN	P	PORTER, JAMES	E	COBLEIGH, GERALD R.
P	DOWNS, ELIZABETH	A	PORTICE, GEORGE	E	COLON, LOIS
P	DOYLE-HOHF, KATHLEEN	E	PRITCHARD, NORMAN	E	CONLEY, JAMES H.
A	DUNFON, WILLIAM	A	PROVOST, KEITH	E	CORSO, LINDA
E	*DYKSTRA, CRAIG R.	P	PUNTKAM, JOEL	E	CRILLEY, ROBERT
P	ELE, HERSCHEL	P	REED, PHILIP	E	CROSS, PAUL D.
A	EVANS, JONATHAN	A	RICE, ELIZABETH	E	DANIELAK, RICHARD
P	FAILE, JAMES	E	RICE, THOMAS	P	DENTON, GRETCHEN
P	FAIR, FAIRFAX	A	RKE, JENNIFER	E	DUNCAN, THOMAS
A	FERGUSON, GUY THOMAS	E	RITTER, W STUART	E	ELLENS, J. HAROLD
A	FORGER, DEBORAH	A	RIZER, JAMES A	E	FINDLAY, WILLIAM
P	FRANCIS, RAPHAEL B.	A	ROGERS, MELISSA ANNE	E	FORSYTH, E. DICKSON
A	GABEL, PETER W.	P	SCHAEFER, ANNE N.	E	FOSTER, JOHN
E	*GAST, TERRI	E	SELER, GORDON (CLP)	E	GEISSINGER, HARRY L.
A	GEISELMAN, KEITH	E	*SHIH, SHENG-TO	E	GEPPORD, WILLIAM G.
P	GERE, BREWSTER	E	SHINN, DAVID	E	GLENN, LAWRENCE T.
A	GRANO, MARIANNE	P	SHIPMAN, JUDY	E	HANNA, J. RICHARD
A	HANNA, RAAFAT	E	*SHREVE, MAGGIE	E	HARP, WILLIAM S.
A	HARMON, BREANNE	E	SIAS-LEE, LAURA	E	HARRIS, R. JOHN
A	HARTLEY, THOMAS	E	*SIMONS, SCOTT W.	E	HENRICH, THOMSON
A	HATCHER, RUFUS	P	SKIMINS, JAMES	E	JANSEN, ROBERT
P	HAYES, FRANCES	E	SMALLEY, DIANE	E	JEFFREY, JOHN
A	HENDERSON, RICHARD	P	SMITH, BRYAN DEAN	E	JONES, VIRGIL L.
P	HENRY, PETER J. M.	P	SMITH, PETER C.	E	KEBLER, JAMES W.
A	HOFFMAN, MICHAEL (CLP)	A	SMITH, TRACI	E	KIM, T. ANDREW
A	HUFF, JASON	A	SOEHL, HOWARD	E	KNUDSEN, RAYMOND
A	JARVIS, BRENDA	A	SOHN, YO SUP	E	KOGEL, LYNNE
P	JOHNSON, KEVIN	P	SOMMERS, CHARLOTTE	E	KREHBIEL, DAVID E.
A	JONES, RICHARD	P	STUNKEL, KAREN	E	LAMBERT, ROY F.
P	JUDSON, JOHN	P	STUNKEL, PAUL	E	LANGWIG, JANICE
E	KABEL, KENNETH	P	TATE, CAROL ANN	E	LANGWIG, ROY
A	KELLY, KATE	E	THOMPSON, G. PATRICK	E	LARSON, ROBERT F.
A	KIDDER, ANNEMARIE	P	THORESEN, KATHRYN R.	E	LISTER, KENNETH D.
E	*KIM, Y. MONCH	P	THWAITE, PAUL	E	LONGWOOD, MARJORIE
E	*KIM, YOUNGCHUL	P	TIMM, ALLEN D	E	MacINNES, JOHN D.
P	KING, CATHERINE	A	TOMBERLIN, DREW	E	MARVIN, FRANK C., JR.
P	KLINGER, JAMIE	E	TUCKER-LLOYD, IRIS	P	McCLOSKEY, CHARLES
P	KOSTER, EDWARD H.	E	*VAN SLUIJS, HENDRICK	E	McINTYRE, DEWITT
A	KRUG, ERNEST	A	VANDERBEEK, RONALD	E	MIHOCKO, DAVID
A	KUMIN, JAMES	P	WHITLOCK, KELLIE	P	NUSSDORFER, GUS
A	LEE, FREDERICK	P	WILHELM, MARJORIE	P	OLSON, PHILIP
A	MABEE, CHARLES	A	WINGROVE, WILLIAM N	E	ORR, ROBERT C.
E	MADDEN, JULIE	A	WOO, BYEONGJIN	E	OWEN, DAVID
E	McCLOSKEY-TURNER CATMARIE	A	YU, SEUNG WON	E	PETERS, RICHARD
A	McDEVITT, JENNY	E	*YUE, MYUNG JA	E	PETERSON, LEROY J.
E	McMILLAN, JUDITH	P	ZAMSON, WILLIAM	E	POLKOWSKI, WILLIAM
A	McRAE, BARBARA	P	ZURAKOWSKI, GREGORY	E	PRICE, MICHAEL T.
A	MEANS, MATTHEW			E	PRUES, LOUIS J.
P	MELROSE, SUE ELLIS	D. RETIRED MINISTERS		E	RATCLIFFE, ALBERT H.
P	MICHALEK, DANIEL	P	AARON, ESTELLE	E	ROBERTSON, ANN
P	MILLER, J. SCOTT	E	ABBOTT, DAVID W.	E	ROBERTSON, DAVID W.
E	MISLER, JOHN	P	ACTON, ELLEN	E	ROBERTSON, WILLIAM
P	MONNETT, JAMES	E	ALBRECHT, GLORIA	P	RUSSELL, JAMES P.
P	MOOK, SHARON	E	ANDERSON, JAMES	P	SCRIBNER, LOREN
P	MOORE, PETER	E	AUSTIN, ANNA MARIE	E	SUTTON, PAUL
P	MORGAN, AMY	E	AUSTIN, LARRY	P	TAYLOR, J. BERNARD
A	MORROW, DUKE	E	BEERY, ELDON	E	TAYLOR, THEODORE, II
A	MORSE, MATTHEW	E	BENEDICT, IVAN L.	E	WRIGHT, DONALD
P	MOZENA, SUSAN	E	BENNETT, JOHNNIE	E	YOON, HAK SUK
P	NICHOLS, NEETA	E	BORCHARDT, HENRY	E	ZIEGLER, JACK T.
P	NICKEL, EMMA	E	BORCHARDT, JUDITH		
P	NICKEL, MATTHEW	E	BROWNLEE, RICHARD	E	E. STAFF & OTHERS
P	ONBERG, ARTHUR	E	BYARS, RONALD	A	AZAR, RUTH

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P BARCONEY, CHARON
P FABRE, EDWIN
A GRANT, RICHARD
P HIGGINS, JOANNE
P LLOYD, MARY

F. CERT. ASSOC. CHRISTIAN ED.
P PRICE, LAURA
G. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

RAAFAT ZAKI
SYNOD EXECUTIVE

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures By Committee Fund 100
From 5/1/2011 Through 5/31/2011

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2011 Budget	Percent Total Budget Remaining
Revenue				
Committee on Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Trustees	71,177.10	310,587.83	838,022.00	(85.41)%
Presbytery Operations	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Congregational Life	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00%
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	6,800.00	7,200.00	(8.89)%
Mission Interpretation	750.00	7,830.00	31,620.00	(76.24)%
Nurture & Support	0.00	1,500.00	1,000.00	80.00%
Spiritual Formation & Faith	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Development				
New Church Dev't/development	3,600.00	6,600.00	1,000.00	830.00%
Outdoor Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Presbyterian Women	0.00	600.00	2,000.00	(75.00)%
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	600.00	1,000.00	(60.00)%
Coordinating Cabinet	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Total Revenue	75,427.10	335,217.82	948,942.00	(64.67)%
Expense				
Nominations	0.00	0.00	850.00	100.00%
Representation	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00%
Committee on Ministry	20.00	5,777.73	10,630.00	43.95%
Preparation for Ministry	695.00	695.00	4,850.00	84.73%
Trustees	10,125.06	69,135.82	127,400.00	63.68%
Presbytery Operations	25,697.86	150,694.82	395,672.00	61.84%
Congregational Life	4,762.89	8,311.82	33,000.00	74.81%
Social Justice & Peace	9,070.53	32,686.90	83,845.00	48.98%
Mission Interpretation	12,305.47	32,658.44	82,238.00	64.38%
Nurture & Support	3,329.24	12,288.11	41,760.00	70.67%
Spiritual Formation & Faith	1,101.86	4,544.00	29,100.00	84.38%
Development				
New Church Dev't/development	6,751.70	32,650.20	95,900.00	66.73%
Outdoor Ministry	3,638.08	18,190.40	43,657.00	68.33%
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	3,150.00	100.00%
Planning & Visioning	42.81	197.71	4,200.00	96.25%
Coordinating Cabinet	0.00	270.58	3,100.00	81.27%
Total Expense	77,448.71	358,271.43	948,942.00	62.28%
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	(2,021.61)	(23,053.61)	0.00	0.00%

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Comparative Overall By Committee Fund 100
From 5/1/2011 Through 5/31/2011

	2011 Current Period Actual	2011 Current Year Actual	2010 Prior Year Actual	Current Year % Change
Revenue				
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	0.00	496.00	(100.00)
Trustees	71,177.10	310,587.83	320,082.21	(2.97)
Presbytery Operations	0.00	0.00	1,363.89	(100.00)
Congregational Life	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	100.00
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	6,800.00	21,050.00	(67.70)
Mission Interpretation	750.00	7,830.09	750.00	944.01
Nurture & Support	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	100.00
New Church	3,500.00	6,500.00	(2,583.33)	(351.61)
Dev/Redevelopment				
Presbyterian Women	0.00	500.00	500.00	0.00
Metro Urban Ministry	0.00	500.00	0.00	100.00
Team				
Total Revenue	75,427.10	335,217.92	341,658.77	(1.89)
Expense				
Committee on Ministry	20.00	5,777.73	424.00	1,262.67
Preparation for Ministry	695.00	695.00	(36.67)	(1,997.87)
Trustees	10,126.06	59,135.82	50,192.39	17.82
Presbytery Operations	75,597.86	150,594.62	161,413.16	(6.70)
Congregational Life	4,762.99	8,311.92	3,305.28	151.47
Social Justice & Peace	9,070.53	32,586.90	40,740.47	(20.81)
Mission Interpretation	12,305.47	32,858.44	29,544.03	11.22
Nurture & Support	3,328.24	12,288.11	6,102.24	101.37
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	1,101.96	4,544.00	2,812.13	61.59
Dev/Redevelopment				
New Church	6,751.70	32,850.20	19,032.30	72.65
Team				
Outdoor Ministry	3,638.08	18,190.40	18,257.05	(0.37)
Metro Urban Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,299.58	(100.00)
Team				
Planning & Visioning	42.82	187.71	0.00	100.00
Coordinating Cabinet	0.00	270.58	934.03	(71.03)
Total Expense	77,440.71	398,271.43	394,020.04	7.26
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	(2,013.61)	(23,053.51)	7,638.73	(401.80)

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures Fund 100 By Committee
From 8/1/2011 Through 8/30/2011

	This Month Actual	Year to Date		Percent Total Budget Remaining
		Actual	2011 Budget	
Revenue				
Committee on Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Trustees	64,485.85	376,073.68	898,022.00	(58.23)%
Presbytery Operations	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Congregational Life	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00%
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	6,000.00	7,300.00	(8.85)%
Mission Interpretation	10,785.75	18,615.84	31,820.00	(41.13)%
Nurture & Support	0.00	1,500.00	1,000.00	50.00%
Spiritual Formation & Faith	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Development				
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	0.00	6,500.00	1,000.00	650.00%
Outdoor Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Presbyterica Women	500.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	(50.00)%
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	500.00	1,000.00	(50.00)%
Planning & Visioning	750.00	750.00	0.00	0.00%
Coordinating Cabinet	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Total Revenue	76,521.60	411,739.52	948,942.00	(66.61)%
Expense				
Nominations	0.00	0.00	650.00	100.00%
Representation	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00%
Committee on Ministry	2,311.50	8,089.32	10,630.00	23.60%
Preparation for Ministry	402.34	1,097.34	4,650.00	75.80%
Trustees	13,872.84	72,708.48	127,400.00	42.93%
Presbytery Operations	28,044.88	178,239.26	391,872.00	54.70%
Congregational Life	1,482.76	9,804.88	23,000.00	70.29%
Social Justice & Peace	1,940.04	34,325.94	63,045.00	45.22%
Mission Interpretation	6,603.80	39,034.34	92,238.00	57.15%
Nurture & Support	3,685.19	15,873.30	41,750.00	61.98%
Spiritual Formation & Faith	2,584.25	7,128.26	29,100.00	75.60%
Development				
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	5,077.16	37,937.38	95,900.00	60.44%
Outdoor Ministry	3,838.08	21,828.48	43,657.00	50.00%
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	3,150.00	100.00%
Planning & Visioning	2,834.30	2,892.01	4,200.00	28.70%
Coordinating Cabinet	135.75	408.33	3,100.00	88.89%
Total Expense	72,824.87	431,196.10	948,942.00	64.88%
Revenues Over/(Under) Expenditures	3,696.73	(19,456.58)	0.00	0.00%

Paper B-2

**Presbytery of Detroit
Minutes of the Stated Meeting
~~June 28, 2011~~**

A quorum being present, the Presbytery of Detroit convened with litany and prayer in a stated meeting at the St John's Presbyterian Church on June 28, 2011 at 4:02 p.m. Dianne Bostic Robinson moderated the meeting.

WE CELEBRATED OUR CONNECTIONS IN CHRIST (15)

The Moderator appointed Pat McCrary the assistant to the Stated Clerk.

The Moderator welcomed new members and commissioners.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery approved the docket

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery excused those members who requested to be excused.

Dorothy Seabrooks welcomed Presbytery to St John's Church.

WE LISTENED FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR COMMUNITY

James Porter began moderating the meeting.

Announcements

The Presbytery heard announcements about hosting the 2014 General Assembly, the Presbytery Youth Council, the Second Mile Center, a Place of Refuge, and workshops in evangelism,

Reports

Eldon Beery reported on the Presbytery History Project.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

Executive Presbyter's Report. Allen Timm reported.

Mr Timm asked Mr Pearson to report on the summer programs at the Howell Center. Mr Timm lifted up ordination anniversaries. He reported on a meeting to be held in October for ruling elders about how to change church culture to make it more inviting.

Moderator Dianne Bostic Robinson resumed moderating, and offered a prayer for openness.

Committee Items for Action:

Committee on Preparation for Ministry. Sam Clark reported for the Committee.

The Committee reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

Consultation Reports

For Minister of Word and Sacrament:

1. CPM met with the following inquirers/candidates for ordained ministry on the dates noted and sustained their annual consultations:

Mary Bahr-Jones	First, Northville	Princeton	May 3, 2011
Joanne Morgan	Greenfield, Berkley	ETS	May 3, 2011
David Oh	Korean Metro, Southfield	Princeton	May 3, 2011
Julie Daysa	Rosedale Gardens, Livonia	Princeton	June 7, 2011
Edwin Fabre	Calvary, Detroit	ETS	June 7, 2011
T. C. Anderson	Geneva, Canton	McCormick	June 7, 2011
Jeff Kline	First, Royal Oak	McCormick	June 7, 2011

2. CPM met with the following applicant and voted to enroll her as an Inquirer:

Allyson Brosky	First, Birmingham	McCormick	June 7, 2011
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3. CPM met with the following applicant and voted not to enroll him as an Inquirer:

Kenneth Rip	Westminster, Port Huron	June 7, 2011
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4. The following were granted permission to take or re-take ordination exams:

Julie Daysa, Edwin Fabre, Lucas Keppel, Emma Ouelette, Joon Moon

For Commissioned Lay Pastor:

1. CPM met with the following CLP student and voted to continue the learning phase of preparation:

Kerry Border	Peace, Clinton Twp.	ETS	June 7, 2011
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The Committee on Preparation for Ministry presented Mary Bahr-Jones for examination for the ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament. It reported she has met the requirements for ordination specified in section G-14.0450 in the *Book of Order*, has her M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary, and has received a call as Temporary Supply Associate to the Orchard Lake Community Church, Orchard Lake, MI, in the Presbytery of Detroit.

Ms Bahr-Jones presented her statement of faith, after which Presbytery examined her on her views in theology, the Bible, the Sacraments, and the governance of the church. Upon completion of the examination and upon motion, Presbytery voted to approve Mary Bahr Jones for ordination.

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry presented Brennan Pearson for examination for ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. It reported he has met the requirements for ordination specified in section G-14.0450 in the *Book of Order*, has his M.Div. from Louisville Theological Seminary, and has received a call as Lilly Resident to the First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor, MI, in the Presbytery of Detroit.

Mr Pearson presented his statement of faith, after which Presbytery examined him on his views in theology, the Bible, the Sacraments, and the governance of the church. Upon motion that the examination be arrested, and upon motion, Presbytery voted to approve Brennan Pearson for ordination.

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry presented Elizabeth Prentice-Hyers for examination for ordination for Ministry of Word and Sacrament. It reported she has met the requirements for ordination specified in section G-14.0450 in the *Book of Order*, has her M.Div. from Austin Theological Seminary, and has received a call as Lilly Resident to the First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor, MI, in the Presbytery of Detroit.

Ms Prentice-Hyers presented her statement of faith, after which Presbytery examined her on her views in theology, the Bible, the Sacraments, and the governance of the church. Upon motion that the examination be arrested, and upon motion, Presbytery voted to approve Elizabeth Prentice-Hyers for ordination.

Coordinating Cabinet. Kent Clise reported for the Coordinating Cabinet.

Upon motion of the Coordinating Cabinet, Presbytery voted to:

1. Amend the 2011 budget by adding the following items:

From the Ranney-Balch Fund (pending Trustee approval):	
Barnabas	\$16,800
Christian Perf. Arts	6,000
del Camino	5,000
MBPC Hagar	5,000
Second Mile	<u>6,000</u>
	\$38,800
From the Sceley Fund:	
Conversations,	
Peace Camp,	
Open Door.	<u>\$3970</u>
2. Amend the 2011 Committee on Ministry budget by moving already-approved expenditures as follow:
 - \$1,000 from Training Programs to Clergy Support
 - \$500 from Background Checks to Clergy Support
 - \$500 from Travel/mileage to Clergy Support
3. Amend the 2011 Social Justice and Peacemaking Team budget by moving already approved expenditures as follow:
 - \$200 from the Middle East Work Group to the Domestic Violence Work Group.
 - \$300 from the Homosexuality and the Church Work Group to the Domestic Violence Work Group.

The motion was made to amend the motion to move \$150 from the Social Justice and Peacemaking Team Greening Work Group to the Domestic violence. The motion was ruled of order because budget motions must come from the Coordinating Cabinet.

Amendment 10-1, the Proposed Form of Government was placed on the floor by the General Assembly for the approval or disapproval of the Presbytery:

John Judson spoke against the new Form of Government, Catherine Kelly spoke against it, and the Stated Clerk described the probable effects of its approval.

WE SHARED GOD'S BOUNTY

Presbytery recessed at 6:00 p.m. for dinner.

WE PROCLAIMED THE GOOD NEWS

Presbytery worshipped God, during which it commissioned the youth mission trip to Katrina.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY cont'd

Presbytery reconvened at 7:37.

Amendment 10-1, the Foundations of Presbyterian Polity and Form of Government, having been placed on the floor by the General Assembly, Presbytery debated the merits of approving the Amendment 10-1. Upon motion, the Presbytery voted to end debate. Presbytery voted not to approve Amendment 10-1.

The Coordinating Cabinet reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. The Coordinating Cabinet heard a report from the Presbytery Operations Team on their plans for an associate executive Presbyter. They are working with the Planning and Visioning Team, and are addressing whether it would be better to call an associate or to continue with consultants. If we do call someone, they are looking to November of this year. They are also looking at the Presbytery structure to see if there are any areas of the Presbytery structure that can be streamlined.
2. The Committee on Nominations reported that the Committee needs input from the Coordinating Cabinet for suggestions on whom to nominate to teams and committees, and who would be good for chair persons.
3. The Coordinating Cabinet spent some time discussing the April meeting and the discussion on the Belhar Confession. The discussion of the proposed Form of Government at the June 28 meeting will be preceded by reports *pro* and *con*.
4. The Coordinating Cabinet has appointed Charlotte Fischer the new chair of the Coordinating Cabinet Communications Work Group. The Work Group is working on redesigning our web site and on-line presentations.
5. The Social Justice and Peacemaking Team announced it has established a Foster Care Workgroup, Chair Kate Thoresen
6. The Coordinating Cabinet has referred a letter from Drayton Avenue re the Presbytery docket to the Planning and Visioning Team.

Committee on Nominations. Ruth Ann Boulier reported for the Committee

Upon nomination of the Nominations Committee, there being no nominations from the floor, Presbytery elected the following:

For the vacancy for the 2011 Chair, on the MUMT

Rev. Dr. Duke Morrow Divine Word, Taylor

For the vacancy in the class of 2011 on the MUMT

Elder Stefanie Lewis Hope, Detroit

For the vacancy in the Class of 2013 on the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Elder Margaret Bell St. John's, Detroit

Treasurer. Alvin smith reported.

Mr Smith reported reported the Treasurer's Report (Appended to the minutes.)

Stated Clerk. Edward Koster reported.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery voted to:

1. Approve the minutes of April 26, 2011.
2. Approve the report the Commission:
 - a) Installation of Steven Clark as Pastor of Rosedale Gardens Church on May 8, 2011. (Appended to the Minutes)
3. Approve the minutes and records of sessions as follow:

Ann Arbor First	Approve with exceptions	Livonia St Paul's	Approve with exceptions
Ann Arbor Northside	Approve with exceptions and corrections	Livonia St Timothy	Approve with exceptions and corrections
Auburn Hills Auburn Hills	Approve with exceptions and corrections	Orchard Lake Community	Register not submitted Approve
Birmingham First	Approve	Plymouth First	Approve with exceptions and correction
Brighton First	Approve	Port Huron First	Approve with exceptions and correction
Canton Geneva	Approve with exceptions	Royal Oak First	Approve with exceptions and corrections
Clinton Twp Peace	Approve	Royal Oak Starr	Approve with exceptions
Dearborn First	Approve	Southfield Covenant	Approve
Dearborn Littlefield Boulevard	Approve	South Lyon First	Approve with correction
Detroit Broadstreet	Approve	Sterling Heights	Approve with exceptions
Detroit Calvary	Approve with exception and correction	Utica	Approve with Exceptions
Detroit Fort Street	Approve	Taylor Southminster	Approve
Detroit Jefferson Avenue	Approve	Troy First	Approve
Detroit St. John's	Approve	Walled Lake	Approve
Detroit Westminster	Approve	Crossroads	Approve
Farmington First	Approve	Warren First	Approve
Garden City	Approve	White Lake	Approve with exception
Grosse Ile	Approve	Wyandotte First	Approve
Grosse Pointe Farms	Approve		
Grosse Pointe Memorial			
Grosse Pointe Woods	Approve		
Lincoln Park	Approve		
Howell First	Approve		

The Stated Clerk reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. **TRANSFERS COMPLETED**
 - a) To the Presbytery of Detroit:
 - i) Fairfax Fair from the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky
 - ii) Carol Ann Tate from Mission Presbytery
 - iii) Jennifer Clark from Mid-Kentucky Presbytery
2. **Judicial Matters.**
 - a) The Permanent Judicial Commission has reported that it has examined the petition by the accuser in case 2010-4 for a review of the decision of the Investigating Committee not to file charges, and has sustained the decision of the Investigating Committee.
 - b) The Presbytery has been served with a series of remedial complaints:
 - i) A remedial complaint by the Session of Detroit Calvary with the Synod of the Covenant, Synod Case 2011-01. (The complaint is appended to the minutes.)
 - a) The answer of the Presbytery of Detroit to Synod Case 2011-01 is appended to the minutes.
 - ii) A second remedial complaint by the Session of Detroit Calvary with the Synod of the Covenant, Synod Case 2011-03. (The complaint is appended to the minutes.)
 - iii) A remedial complaint by Thomas Priest with the Synod of the Covenant, Synod Case 2011-04. (The complaint is appended to the minutes);
 - iv) A remedial complaint by the Session of Detroit Calvary against the Presbytery with the Presbytery, Presbytery Case 2011-1 Remedial. (The complaint is appended to the minutes.)
 - a) Answer of the Presbytery of Detroit to Presbytery Case 2011-1.
 - b) The decision of the Presbytery Permanent Judicial Commission on the complaint by Detroit Calvary, Presbytery Case 2011-1 Remedial. (The decision is appended to the minutes.)
 - c) All complaints arise out of the same facts, make similar claims of irregularity, and seek similar remedies.

For the three complaints filed with the Synod, the Moderator has appointed the following Committee of Counsel:
Mark Schneider
Betsy Rice

For the complaint filed with the Presbytery, the Moderator has appointed the following Committee of Counsel:
Richard Brownlee
Terina Piazza
3. **Presbytery Minutes.** The Presbytery minutes have been reviewed by the Synod and approved with the following exception: There was no report from the Committee on Representation.
4. **The new Form of Government.** The new Form of Government has been approved and will take effect on July 11th. While it will not materially affect the operation of

congregations, it will require that churches take some steps to conform to it. The most immediate involves the bylaws. The Michigan Nonprofit Corporation Act governs the corporate structure of our churches. Under the current Book of Order, the necessary provisions are present that preserve our polity. Since many of those provisions are not in the new Form of Government, bylaws may need to be amended. The most urgent needs are to change the quorum of a congregational meeting to 10% of the membership (the current rule), since state law requires 50%; to ensure that there is a 10-day notice for calling a meeting; and to change the quorum of a session meeting to the pastor plus 1/3 of the elders. (This latter is not urgent as long as the pastor and 50% of the elders are present at a session meeting.)

Later this summer, after I get a chance to review state law and the new FoG, I will prepare a more thorough set of recommendations for congregations and sessions.

The effect on the Presbytery is of a different kind. With the exception of a committee on representation, there are no longer any required committees. Moreover, a general mission mandate of the Presbytery has been changed from "initiat[ing] mission through a variety of forms in light of the larger strategy of the synod and the General Assembly," G-11.0103c, to "assisting and supporting the witness of congregations to the sovereign activity of God in the world . . ." G-3.0301. Because our current structure is established in both our Bylaws and Policies and Procedures Manual, no urgent changes are required. It is likely that a revision of the Bylaws will be prudent.

Committee on Ministry. Dixie Elam reported for the Committee

Upon motion of the Committee, Presbytery voted to:

1. Validate the Ministry at the Filipino American Presbyterian Fellowship, which meets at Covenant Church, Southfield.
2. Approve the call of Beth Delaney into the Ministry of Word & Sacrament as Temporary Supply to the Filipino American Fellowship, pending approval of her ordination.
3. Grant Rev. Dr. Louis Prues honorable retirement effective August 1, 2011.
4. Grant permission for Rev. Dr. David Robertson to labor outside the bounds of the Presbytery of Detroit, as Interim at Midland Memorial Church in Lake Huron Presbytery.

The Committee on Ministry reported the following actions taken under the authority that has been granted to it

1. Approved the Administrative Commission to ordain Penny Pitts on Saturday, May 14, 2011, at 4:00 PM, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, and to serve communion at the service:
Moderator: Dianne Bostic Robinson. Clergy: Rev. Dr. Keith Provost; Rev. Dr. Beth Downs, Rev. Dr. Peter Henry. Elders: Susan Acton (Grosse Pointe Memorial); Harold Ellis (St. John's, Detroit).

Upon ordination, transfer Ms. Pitts' credentials to the Presbytery of Baltimore in order that she may accept the call as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Frostburg, MD.

2. Approved the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between Rev. R. John Harris and the Milford Church, effective May 31, 2011.

3. Approved the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between Rev. Matthew Morse and Taylor, Southminster, effective March 23, 2011.
4. Approved the 12 month Temporary Supply contract between Mary Bahr-Jones and Orchard Lake, effective June 1, 2011, pending validation by Credentials and approval of ordination by the Presbytery. Terms: Part time (35 hours/week); Salary \$3,340; Housing \$28,000; Social Security \$2,397; Pension \$9,871; Medical Deductible \$800; Travel/Business Expense \$1,125; Study Leave \$750; Dental Insurance \$1,217. Vacation One month including 4 Sundays; Study Leave Two weeks.
5. Approved the 12 month Co-Interim contract between Rev. W. Kent Clise and Milford, effective June 15, 2011. Terms: Full-time co-pastorship with each co-pastor serving Part time at the rate of 20-25 hours/week. Salary \$11,750; Housing \$36,750; Travel per IRS standards. Vacation four weeks including four Sundays; Study leave two weeks including two Sundays.
6. Approved the 12 month Co-Interim contract between Rev. Anne Schaefer and Milford, effective June 15, 2011. Terms: Full-time co-pastorship with each co-pastor serving Part-time at the rate of 20-25 hours/week. Salary \$14,863; Housing \$30,000; Social Security \$3,637 (7.5%); Travel per IRS standards. Vacation four weeks including four Sundays; Study leave two weeks including two Sundays
7. Approved the request of Lake Shore, St. Clair Shores, to grant the title of Pastor Emeritus to Rev. Thomas Duncan, effective June 12, 2011.

Upon motion and second, the Presbytery voted to:

1. Approve the transfer of Rev. Sarah Wiles to Olympia Presbytery as per her request.
2. Approve Rev. Linda Cochran to labor outside the bounds of the Presbytery of Detroit in a validated ministry as Director of Christian Education at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Rochester, Michigan.
3. Approve the following Administrative Commission to ordain Brennan Pearson as a Lilly Minister in Residence at First Church Ann Arbor. Ordination to be held at Rosedale Gardens, Livonia, on July 24, 2011 at 3:00PM. Administrative Commission: Moderator Elder Dianne Bostic Robinson. Clergy: Rev. Richard Peters, Rev. Kellie Whitlock, Elders: Richard Grant (First Howell, Howell); Bobby Ponder (Fort Street, Detroit); Dixie Elam (Rosedale Gardens, Livonia); Corresponding Member: Rev. Dr. Clifton Kirkpatrick (Mid-Kentucky Presbytery).
4. Approve the following Administrative Commission to ordain Mary Bahr-Jones as Temporary Supply for Orchard Lake Community. Ordination to be held at First of Northville on August 14, 2011 at 3:00PM. Administrative Commission: Moderator's designee Rev. Kent Clise. Clergy: Rev. Marjorie Wilhelm, Elders: Marie Hughley (Park United, Highland Park), Reem Cassel, (Church of Our Savior, West Bloomfield), Ted Payne (Orchard Lake Community, Orchard Lake)

The Committee on Ministry reported that it has:

1. Appointed Rev. Iris Tucker-Lloyd moderator of the Session at Detroit, Trumbull Avenue.
2. Appointed Rev. Phil Reed moderator of the Session at Starr, Royal Oak.

3. Appointed Rev. Larry Chamberlain moderator of the Session at Westminster, Port Huron, and granted permission for him to officiate at communion.
4. Approved the final report from the Cherry Hill Administrative Commission and dissolved the commission with thanks.
5. Approved a Shared Grant of \$2,100 be distributed among 3 pastors in need (each to receive \$700). This action is based on adjustments in the COM budget, which will be acted upon by Presbytery.
6. Voted to ask Operations to come up with a plan to address the "New Form Government," which could include a project manager.
7. Voted to grant authority to the COM Committee Chairs to deal with issues that come before COM over the next month, in lieu of a meeting of the whole COM in July.
8. Approved that Appointed Moderators be reimbursed for mileage at the approved Presbytery rate, in addition to the moderating honorarium.

Trustees: Donald Morgan reported for the Trustees.

Upon motion of the Trustees, the Presbytery voted to:

1. Authorize the Trustees to approve on behalf of Presbytery the sale of the following properties by Allen Park Church if the sale price is above the prices noted:
15439 Cleveland Avenue, (A84A259 LOT 259 ALSO NE 1/2 ADJ VAC AL- LEY
LINCOLNLAWN SUB PC 84, 86, 9) at a price not less than \$80,000
and
15446 Harrison Avenue (Lot 407 also Sly 1/2 ADJ vacated alley of Lincolnlawn Sub) at a price not less than \$120,000.
2. Approve Kirk in the Kills' granting an easement to DTE Energy for electrical service from the utility pole on the west side of the manse, across the land on the western and northern borders of the west parking lot, towards the refectory where it will be connected to the transformer located in the maintenance area of the Kirk, in accordance with the metes and bounds description to be provided by DTE Energy.
3. Dissolve Peace Church as a congregation effective August 31, 2011, and that the assets of Peace Church be transferred to Utica Church for \$1 consideration as to real property and \$1 as to all tangible and intangible personal property on the effective date of dissolution of Peace Church, pursuant to the Plan of Union agreed to by both churches and reviewed by the Trustees.

The Trustees reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. The Trustees have amended the due date for the repayment of funds borrowed by Barnabas on their \$20,000 line of credit from 4/30/12 to 6/30/12.
2. The Trustees have authorized Allen Park Church to list manses for sale as follow:
15439 Cleveland Avenue (Lot 258 and also NE 1/2 ADJ vacated alley of Lincolnlawn Sub) at not less than \$80,000
15446 Harrison Avenue (Lot 407 also Sly 1/2 ADJ vacated alley of Lincolnlawn Sub) at not less than \$120,000.

James Porter began moderating the meeting.

After sharing joys and concerns, and offering prayers of thanksgiving and information, by consent the Presbytery adjourned with prayer at 8:18 p.m.

The next meeting of the Presbytery will be Tuesday, August 23, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at Northbrook Church.

ATTEST:

Edward H. Koster

EDWARD KOSTER, Stated Clerk

ATTACHMENT ONE: The Roll

APPENDICES:

- A. Treasurer's Report
- B. Installation of Steven Clark as the Pastor of Rosedale Gardens
- C. Complaint by Detroit Calvary (1) Synod Case 2011-01
- D. Answer of the Presbytery of Detroit to Complaint by Calvary, Synod Case 2011-01
- E. Complaint by Detroit Calvary (2) Synod Case 2011-03
- F. Complaint by Thomas Priest Synod Case 2011-04
- G. Complaint by Detroit Calvary against the Presbytery of Detroit, Presbytery Case 2011-1 Remedial
- H. Answer of the Presbytery of Detroit to Presbytery Case 2011-1 Remedial
- I. Decision of the Presbytery of Detroit Permanent Judicial Commission on Presbytery Case 2011-1 Remedial.

~~ATTACHMENT ONE: THE ROLL~~

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY FOR June 28, 2011

CHURCHES: Of 86 churches, 50 were represented and 36 were not.

COMMISSIONERS: Of 141 eligible commissioners, 81 enrolled, and 60 did not.

OTHER RULING ELDERS (Officers, Members of Council)::

Of 20 total, 8 were present, of whom 0 counted as commissioners, leaving 8 as the unduplicated count: 7 excused, and 5 absent.

TEACHING ELDERS:

Of the 147 non-retired teaching elders on the combined rolls of active members and members-at-large, 52 were present, 29 were excused, and 66 were absent.

Of the 81 retired teaching elders on the rolls, 10 were present and 71 were excused.

COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS AND CERTIFIED EDUCATORS:

Of the 0 Commissioned Law Pastor on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 1 absent

Of the 0 Certified Educators on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 0 absent.

SUMMARY

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

- 81 Elder Commissioners
- + 8 Other Ruling Elders
- + 52 Non-retired teaching elders
- + 10 Retired teaching elders
- = 0 Commissioned lay pastors.
- = 0 Certified educators.
- = 151 Voting members present.

OTHERS PRESENT

- 7 Non-voting attendees
- 0 Corresponding members

Ruling Elder Commissioners

- ALLEN PARK, Allen Park
- 1 CHRIS WHITNEY
- 2 CYNTHIA HARMON
- 3 JUDITH OUELLETTE
- 4 RAY TESSIER
- ANN ARBOR, Calvary
- 1 J F ESCARA-WILKE
- ANN ARBOR, First
- 1 SUE LEONG
- 2 BEN VAN TUYL
- 3 RUTH BARNARD
- 4
- 5
- ANN ARBOR, Northside
- 1 ALAN KISTE
- ANN ARBOR, Westminster
- 1 GAIL ARNOLD
- AUBURN HILLS, Auburn Hills
- 1 NOT REPRESENTED
- BELLEVILLE, Belleville
- 1 CONNIE ETTER
- BERKLEY, Greenfield
- 1 MICHAEL FRITSCH
- BEVERLY HILLS, Northbrook
- 1 BARBARA BURNHAM
- BIRMINGHAM, First
- 1 BARBARA RUSSELL
- 2 ROSY LATIMORE
- 3 AL HUBERTY
- 4
- BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Kirk/Hills
- 1 ILLEGIBLE
- 2 SAM CLARK
- 3
- 4
- 5

- 8
- BRIGHTON, First
- 1 NOT REPRESENTED
- 2
- CANTON, Geneva
- 1 BETH DELANEY
- CLARKSTON, Seaham
- 1 NOT REPRESENTED
- CLINTON TWP, Peace
- 1 KAREN BORDER
- DEARBORN, Cherry Hill
- 1 NOT REPRESENTED
- DEARBORN, First
- 1 NOT REPRESENTED
- 2
- DEARBORN, Littlefield
- 1 TRUDY MCCREADIE
- DEARBORN HGTs, St. Andrew's
- 1 PEGGY NELSON
- DETROIT, Broadstreet
- 1 LEOLA BLACK
- 2 A BERNARD OGLESBY
- DETROIT, Calvary
- 1 STANLY EDWARDS
- 2 DARRELL REYNOLDS
- DETROIT, Cabin East
- 1 LINDA WILLIAMS
- 2
- DETROIT, First
- 1 NOT REPRESENTED
- DETROIT, Fort Street
- 1 ILLEGIBLE
- DETROIT, Gratiot Avenue
- 1 MARY ANN BRANTLEY
- 2
- DETROIT, Hope

- 1 MARY GREEN
- 2 DARYL TAYLOR
- DETROIT, Jefferson Avenue
- 1 REBECCA UNDERWOOD
- 2 MARY WATERSTONE
- DETROIT, Riverside
- 1 KARI GORMAN
- DETROIT, St. John's
- 1 JEANE V MOORE
- 2
- DETROIT, Trinity Community
- 1 NATALIE BROTHERS
- 2
- DETROIT, Trumbull Avenue
- 1 MARTHA SINGLEY
- 2 ANGELA LACOUR
- DETROIT, Westminster
- 1 JEANNE WHITE
- 2 LYNN BURDELL
- 3 PRINCE ELLA CUNNINGHAM
- FARMINGTON, First
- 1 TOM NEAL
- 2 KAREN SPICA
- FERNDALE, Drayton Avenue
- 1 CHRIS WOOD
- FORT GRATIOT, Lakeshore
- 1 NOT REPRESENTED
- GARDEN CITY, Garden City
- 1 ILLEGIBLE
- GROSSE ILE, Grosse Ile
- 1 DON HILL
- 2
- GROSSE POINTE, Memorial
- 1 BILL BROWN
- 2 PEG CARPENTER
- 3 BETH BAERGEN

4
 GROSSE PTE WOODS, Woods
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 HIGHLAND PARK, Park United
 1 MARIE HUGHLEY
 2
 HOWELL, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 LINCOLN PARK, Lincoln Park
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 LIVONIA, Rosedale Gardens
 1 DYCHE ANDERSON
 2
 LIVONIA, St. Paul's
 1 JOYCE BARTON
 LIVONIA, St. Timothy's
 1 JIM HARRINGTON
 MACOMB, Church/Covenant
 1 ED ILLEGIBLE
 MILAN, Peoples
 1 VAN THOMPSON
 MILFORD, Milford
 1 KEITH MOUNTS
 2 MARK SCHORER
 MT. CLEMENS, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 NORTHVILLE, First
 1 MATTHEW FRICK
 2 CARL STROM
 3 KIRK SWARBRICK
 4 DON KELLEE
 Novi, Faith Community
 1 DAVE BARBER
 ORCHARD LAKE, Community
 1 TED PAYNE
 2 DAVID DUTTON
 3 MIKE STARYNCHAK
 PLYMOUTH, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED

2
 3
 4
 PONTIAC, First
 1 TOM DUFFIELD
 PONTIAC, Joslyn Avenue
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 PORT HURON, First
 1 VALERIE TOCCO
 2 HOWARD BORGMAN
 PORT HURON, Westminster
 1 DENNIS YOUNG
 REDFORD, St. James
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 ROCHESTER, University
 1 BOB QUICK
 2
 ROSEVILLE, Erin
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 ROYAL OAK, First
 1 LIZ SPRY
 2
 3
 ROYAL OAK, Point of Vision
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 ROYAL OAK, Starr
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 SALINE, First
 1 BARBARA BALOG
 SHELBY TWP., St. Thomas
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 SOUTH LYON, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 SOUTHFIELD, Covenant
 1 SOLOMON (RWE) CECHECH
 SOUTHFIELD, Korean
 1 HI SONG
 2
 3

SOUTHFIELD, New Hope
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 ST. CLAIR SHORES, Heritage
 1 GAYE L WHITE
 ST. CLAIR SHORES, Lake Shore
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 STERLING HGTS, Ulcea
 1 DAVID ILLEGIBLE
 TAYLOR, Divine Word
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 TAYLOR, Southminster
 1 JUDY CALDERONE
 TROY, First
 1 MARESE GLAC
 TROY, Korean First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 TROY, Northminster
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 WALLED LAKE, Crossroads
 1 ILLEGIBLE
 WARREN, Celtic Cross
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 WARREN, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 WATERFORD, Community
 1 CINDY BAIRD
 W. BLOOMFIELD, Church/Savior
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 WESTLAND, Kirk of Our Savior
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 WHITE LAKE, White Lake
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 WYANDOTTE, Wyandotte
 1 CARVIL KULBERG
 YPSILANTI, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED

Ruling Elder and Teaching Elder Members

C. RULING ELDER MEMBERS
 E ANDERSON, FRANCILE, PM
 P BOSTIC-ROBINSON, DIANE
 P ELAM, DIXIE, PM
 P ELLIS, HAROLD
 A EMMERT, JOHN
 A GEAKE, BOB
 A HOLLOWELL, KENNETH
 E HYLKEMA, CAROL, PM
 A LEWIS, STEFANIE
 P MORGAN, DONALD
 E MORRISON, HELEN, PM
 P MORTON, JANET
 E PITTS, FRANCES, PM
 P ~~FRANCIS, RICHARD~~
 P SEADROOKS, DOROTHY M., PM
 E SHIRLEY, JAMES, PM
 P SMITH, ALVIN
 E SMITH, KENNETH, PM
 A SZWED, ROBERT
 E WINSLOW, PAUL, PM
 D. NON-RETIRED TEACHING
 ELDERS
 A ADAMS, WILLIAM L III

A ANDERSON, BARBARA S
 A ANDERSON, LINDA
 P ANDREWS, DOYLL
 A ARAKELIAN, ELIZABETH
 A AUE, CRAIG
 E AUSTIN, MARY
 E BAILEY, CLOVER
 A BERSDORF, JOHN
 A BLAISE, DOUGLAS
 A BLEVIK, DAVID
 P BOHN, CHRISTINE
 E BOLT, KENNETH
 P BOURLIER, RUTHANNE
 A BOUSQUETTE, PAUL
 E CAMPBELL, DOUGLAS
 E CAMPBELL, EMILY
 A CARL, STEPHEN
 E CHOI, SEUNG KOO
 P CLARK, JENNIFER
 P CLARK, STEVEN
 A COCHRAN, LINDA
 P COOPER, QUINCY
 A COWLING, NEIL D.
 A DAVIS, ROXIE ANN

A DAVIS, WILLIAM
 A DE ORIO, ANTHONY
 E DENNIS, WARREN
 A DOWNS, ELIZABETH
 E DOYLE-HOHF, KATHLEEN
 A DUNIFON, WILLIAM
 E DYKSTRA, CRAIG R.
 A ELE, HERSCHEL
 P EVANS, JONATHAN
 P FAILE, JAMES
 P FAIR, FAIRFAX
 A FERGUSON, GUY THOMAS
 A FORGER, DEBORAH
 P FRANCIS, RAPHAEL B.
 A GABEL, PETER W.
 E GAST, TERRI
 A GEISELMAN, KEITH
 P GERE, BREWSTER
 A GRAND, MARIANNE
 A HANNA, RAAFIAT
 P HARMON, BREANNE
 P HARTLEY, THOMAS
 A HATCHER, RUFUS
 E HAYES, FRANCES

P HENDERSON, RICHARD
 P HENRY, PETER J. M.
 A HOFFMAN, MICHAEL (CLP)
 P HUFF, JASON
 A JARVIS, BRENDA
 P JOHNSON, KEVIN
 A JONES, RICHARD
 P JUDSON, JOHN
 P KAIBEL, KENNETH
 P KELLY, KATE
 A KERR, DEBORAH
 A KIDDER, ANNEMARIE
 E *KIM, Y. MONCH
 E *KIM, YOUNGCHUL
 A KING, CATHERINE
 A KLINGER, JAMIE
 A KOSTER, EDWARD H.
 P KRUG, ERNEST
 A KUMIN, JAMES
 A LEE, FREDERICK
 A MABEE, CHARLES
 A MADDEN, JULIE
 E McCLOSKEY-TURNER, CATHARINE
 P McDEVITT, JENNY
 P McMILLAN, JUDITH
 A McRAE, BARBARA
 A MEANS, MATTHEW
 E MELROSE, SUE ELLIS
 E MICHALEX, DANIEL
 A MILLER, J. SCOTT
 P MISHLER, JOHN
 A MONNETT, JAMES
 E MOOK, SHARON
 P MOORE, PETER
 P MORGAN, AMY
 P MORROW, DUKE
 A MORSE, MATTHEW
 E MOZENA, SUSAN
 P NICHOLS, NEETA
 P NICKEL, EMMA
 P NICKEL, MATTHEW
 P OBERG, ARTHUR
 A OTT, JEFFREY
 A PARKER, OPELTON
 P PARKER-WRZESZCZ, JENNIFER
 A PARKER-WRZESZCZ, MATTHEW
 P PAVELKO, JOHN H.
 A PIECUCH, KEVIN
 P PITTMAN, JASON
 P PORTER, JAMES
 A PORTICE, GEORGE
 A PRITCHARD, NORMAN
 P PROVOST, KEITH
 P PRUES, LOUIS J.
 P PUNTINGAM, JOEL
 E REED, PHILIP
 A RICE, ELIZABETH
 P RICE, THOMAS
 A RIKE, JENNIFER
 P RITTER, W. STUART
 A RIZER, JAMES A.
 P ROGERS, MELISSA ANNE
 E SCHAEFER, ANNE N.
 P SEILER, GORDON (CLP)
 E *SHIH, SHENG-TO
 A SHINN, DAVID
 P SHIPMAN, JUDY

E *SHREVE, MAGGIE
 A SIAS-LEE, LAURA
 E *SIMONS, SCOTT W.
 E SKIMINS, JAMES
 E SMALLEY, DIANE
 E SMITH, BRYAN DEAN
 P SMITH, PETER C.
 A SMITH, TRACI
 P SOEHL, HOWARD
 P SOHN, YO SUP
 P SOMMERS, CHARLOTTE
 P STUNKEL, KAREN
 A STUNKEL, PAUL
 A TATE, CAROL ANN
 A THOMPSON, G. PATRICK
 E THORESEN, KATHRYN R.
 P THWAITE, PAUL
 P TIMM, ALLEN D.
 A TOMBERLIN, DREW
 A TUCKER-LLOYD, IRIS
 E *VAN SLUIJS, HENDRICK
 A VANDERBEEK, RONALD
 A WHITLOCK, KELLIE
 A WILES, SARAH
 P WILHELM, MARJORIE
 A WINGROVE, WILLIAM N.
 A WOO, BYEONGJIN
 A YU, SELUNG WON
 E *YUE, MYUNG JA
 A ZAMBON, WILLIAM
 P ZURAKOWSKI, GREGORY

 D. RETIRED TEACHING ELDERS
 P AARON, ESTELLE
 E ABBOTT, DAVID W.
 P ACTON, ELLEN
 E ALBRECHT, GLORIA
 E ANDERSON, JAMES
 E AUSTIN, ANNA MARIE
 E AUSTIN, LARRY
 P BEERY, ELDON
 E BENEDICT, IVAN L.
 E BENNETT, JOHNE
 E BORCHARDT, HENRY
 E BORCHARDT, JUDITH
 E BROWNLEE, RICHARD
 E BYARS, RONALD
 E CAMPBELL, VERN
 E CAPPS, HARRY
 E CARTER, DOUGLAS D.
 E CATER, LAWRENCE H.
 E CHAMBERLAIN, LAWRENCE
 E CHAMBERS, JAMES C.
 E CHOI, IN SOON
 P CLISE, W. KENT
 E COBLEIGH, GERALD R.
 E COLON, LOIS
 P CONLEY, JAMES H.
 E CORSO, LINDA
 E CRILLEY, ROBERT
 E CROSS, PAUL D.
 E DANIELAK, RICHARD
 E DENTON, GRETCHEN
 E DUNCAN, THOMAS
 E ELLENS, J. HAROLD
 E FINDLAY, WILLIAM
 E FORSYTH, E. DICKSON

E FOSTER, JOHN
 E GEISSINGER, HARRY L.
 P GEFFORD, WILLIAM G.
 P GLENN, LAWRENCE T.
 E HANNA, J. RICHARD
 E HARP, WILLIAM S.
 E HARRIS, R. JOHN
 E HEINRICHS, THOMSON
 E JANSEN, ROBERT
 E JEFFREY, JOHN
 E JONES, VIRGIL L.
 P KESLER, JAMES W.
 E KIM, T. ANDREW
 E KNUDSEN, RAYMOND
 E KOEGL, LYNNE
 E KREHBIEL, DAVID E.
 E LAMBERT, ROY F.
 E LANGWIG, JANICE
 E LANGWIG, ROY
 E LARSON, ROBERT F.
 E LISTER, KENNETH D.
 E LONGWOOD, MARJORIE
 E McINNIS, JOHN D.
 E MARVIN, FRANK C., JR.
 E McCLOSKEY, CHARLES
 E McINTYRE, DEWITT
 E MIHOCKO, DAVID
 E NUSSDORFER, GUS
 E OLSON, PHILIP
 E ORR, ROBERT C.
 E OWEN, DAVID
 E PETERS, RICHARD
 E PETERSON, LEROY J.
 E POLKOWSKI, WILLIAM
 E PRICE, MICHAEL T.
 E RATCLIFFE, ALBERT H.
 E ROBERTSON, ANN
 E ROBERTSON, DAVID W.
 E ROBERTSON, WILLIAM
 E RUSSELL, JAMES P.
 P SCRIBNER, LOREN
 E SUTTON, PAUL
 E TAYLOR, J. BERNARD
 E TAYLOR, THEODORE, II
 E WRIGHT, DONALD
 E YOON, HAK SUK
 E ZIEGLER, JACK T.

E. STAFF & OTHERS

P AZAR, RUTH
 P BARCONEY, CHARON
 P FABRE, EDWIN
 P GRANT, RICHARD
 P HIGGINS, JOANNE
 P LLOYD, MARY

F. CERT. ASSOC. CHRISTIAN ED.

P PRICE, LAURA

G. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Paper B-2

**Presbytery of Detroit
Minutes of the Stated Meeting
February 22, 2011**

WE GATHERED IN GOD'S NAME

A quorum being present, the Presbytery of Detroit convened with prayer and litany in a stated meeting on February 22, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. at Plymouth First Presbyterian Church. Dianne Bostic Robinson moderated the meeting.

WE CELEBRATED OUR CONNECTIONS IN CHRIST

The Moderator appointed Susan Hagen and Steve Renaldi as assistants to the Stated Clerk.

The Moderator welcomed new ministers and commissioners.

Upon motion, the Presbytery approved the docket.

Upon motion, the Presbytery excused those who requested to be excused.

Upon motion, the Presbytery seated Raafat Zaki, transitional executive of the Synod of the Covenant, Paul Silver, minister of the Church of God, and Carol Gregg, Chaplain at Alma College.

James Skimins welcomed the Presbytery to Plymouth First.

Report from a Presbytery-Affiliated Organization

Carol Gregg, the Chaplain at Alma College, brought greetings from Alma College and gave an update, including the new President, Dr Abernathy; celebrating 125th year; adding new majors, sports, facilities. Reporting on religious life, she reported an attendance increase at worship on Sunday nights and other activities.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

The Moderator offered a brief prayer for openness.

Committee Items for Action

Coordinating Cabinet. Kent Clise reported for the Coordinating Cabinet.

Amendment to the Constitution 2010-A, submitted by the 219th General Assembly, was placed on the floor for approval or disapproval of Presbytery. The Presbytery debated the matter for an hour. Traci Smith, Jim Rizer, Brian Spolarich, Christine Bohn began the discussion with presentations pro and con.

The Moderator appointed Gretchen Denton, Paul Thwaite, Marie Hugley, and Tom Andison as tellers. After the vote was taken, the tellers retired to count the votes.

The Coordinating Cabinet reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. The Coordinating Cabinet has conducted a consultation on the process for budgeting funds from the Ranney-Balch Fund. These funds will continue to be grants that are not a part of the budgeting process for the operating budget.
2. The Coordinating Cabinet has amended the Personnel Guidelines, which are appended to the minutes.

3. The Coordinating Cabinet has taken steps to ensure appropriate representation on the Committee on Local Arrangements for the 2014 General Assembly.
4. The Coordinating Cabinet is addressing grants from peacemaking funds that were not well announced before the grants were made.

Committee on Ministry. Dixie Elam reported for the Committee.

Upon motion of the Committee, Presbytery voted to:

1. Approve the commission to install Rev. William L. Adams, III as Associate Pastor for Children, Youth and Families at Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills, on February 27, 2011, at 11:00 am.
Moderator: Elder Dianne Bostic. Robinson
Clergy: Rev. Dr. Norman Pritchard; Rev. Dr. Keith Provost; Rev. Linda Cochran
Elders: Barbara Littleton, Kirk in the Hills; Norma Barrett Adams, Center Presbyterian, McMurray, PA; Ray Tessier, Allen Park.
2. Approve the commission to install Rev. Marjorie A. Wilhelm as Pastor at Northbrook, Beverly Hills on March 13, 2011 at 10:00 am.
Moderator: TBD
Clergy: Rev. Cathi King; Rev. Jaime Klinger; Rev. David Robertson
Elders: Rosy Latimore, First, Birmingham; Ron Verduin, Orchard Lake Community Church, Waterford; Kathy Doctor, Northbrook, Beverly Hills.
3. Rescind the approval to appoint Rev. Bernard Taylor as Moderator of Gratiot Avenue, effective March 11, 2011, per the request of the Gratiot Avenue Session.
4. Receive Rev. Karen Stunkel from Black Hawk Presbytery into the Presbytery of Detroit as a Member at Large.
5. Grant Honorable Retirement to Rev. Janice Langwig, effective March 21, 2011.
6. Grant Honorable Retirement to Rev. Roy Langwig, effective February 28, 2011.

The Committee reported the following actions taken under the authority that has been granted to it

1. Approved the 12 month Parish Associate contract between First, Birmingham and Rev. Henry Borchardt , effective January 1, 2011. No compensation is offered.
2. Approved the 12 month Parish Associate contract between First, Birmingham and Rev. Kathryn Thoresen, effective January 1, 2011. No compensation is offered.
3. Approved the 12 month Parish Associate contract between First, Birmingham and Rev. Ernest Krug, M.D., effective December 1, 2010. No compensation is offered.
4. Approved the 12 month Parish Associate contract between Jefferson Avenue, Detroit and Rev. Dr. Louis J. Prues, effective February 1, 2011. Time: 4 hours/week. Salary \$4,132. Vacation: 12 Sundays
5. Approved the 12 month Parish Associate contract between First, Royal Oak and Rev. Elizabeth B. Rice, effective January 1, 2011. Time: 10 hours/week. Compensation: Salary \$8,315.19; Soc. Sec. \$636.11.
6. Approved the 12 month Interim Pastor contract between Grosse Ile and Rev. Kathleen Doyle-Hohf, effective January 1, 2011. Terms: Full time; Salary \$20,290; Housing \$20,500; Soc. Sec. \$2,820; Pension \$11,806; Medical Deductible \$600; Travel \$1,133; Study Leave \$1,200; Optional Dental \$675. Vacation: One month including 6 Sundays. Study Leave: 2 weeks

7. Approved the 10-month Parish Associate contract between Grosse Pointe Woods and Rev. Ken Lister, effective January 1 – May 31 and August 1 – December 21, 2011. Compensation: Salary \$9,935; Travel & Professional Expenses \$960.
8. Approved the contract for Temporary Evangelist between the NCD Administrative Commission of the Presbytery of Detroit and Rev. James Kumin-Severance, effective for up to 6 months beginning September 14, 2010. Terms: Part-time averaging no more than 20 hours/week during any one-month period. Salary: \$20/hour for time spent. Housing: \$10/hour for time spent. All personal business expenses (inclusive) \$150/calendar month. Total Compensation: max \$2,600/month. Vacation time to accrue at the rate of one hour of vacation time for every twelve hours worked, over the life of the contract. Unused vacation time of up to forty hours will be paid at the agreed hourly rate at the conclusion of this contract.
5. Approved the request from Rev. Richard Jones to labor outside the bounds of the Presbytery of Detroit. (Point of information, Rev. Jones would serve at Joy Reigns Lutheran Church, Edgewater, MD.)

The Committee reported the following for the information of Presbytery, that it has:

1. Approved the request from Gordon Seiler to pursue a Commissioned Lay Pastor position at Calvin East.
2. Appointed Rev. Jim Russell moderator at Milford through May 2011 per the permission granted by Rev. John Harris.
3. Approved a \$2,500 grant to a pastor in need which will be matched by Board of Pensions.
4. Approved the requests from Peace, Clinton Township and Utica, Sterling Heights to hold congregational meetings to vote on a merger.

Stated Clerk. Edward Koster reported.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery voted to:

1. Approve the minutes of January 25, 2011.
2. Dismiss Investigating Committee 2010-4 with thanks.
3. Approve the report of the following Commission and append it to the minutes:
 - a. Ordination of Linda Anderson on January 9, 2010

The Stated Clerk reported the following for the information of the Presbytery:

1. TRANSFERS COMPLETED
 - a. From the Presbytery of Detroit:
 - i. Karen Ferguson to Chicago Presbytery
 - ii. Mickey Blair to the Presbytery of plains and Peaks
2. The Permanent Judicial Commission has completed its review of the petition of the accuser in case 2010-3 and has not sustained the petition. The case is closed.
3. The Investigating Committee 2010-4 has decided it will not file charges.

The Stated Clerk reported the following communication from the Synod of the Covenant:
The formal decision of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission in *Latimore, et. Al v. The Presbytery of Detroit*. (Appended to the minutes.)

WE SHARED GOD'S BOUNTY

Presbytery recessed for dinner and fellowship at 6:00 p.m.

WE PROCLAIMED THE GOOD NEWS

The Presbytery was led in worship by the Michigan Black Presbyterian Caucus: Stewardship of Spiritual Life group. During worship, Presbytery received and dedicated the 2011 pledges to the mission budget.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY cont'd

The Presbytery reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

The Moderator reported the results of the ballot on Amendment A:

Votes cast: 179

Votes in favor: 113

Votes opposed: 66.

James Porter began moderating the meeting.

Executive Presbyter's Report. Allen D. Timm reported.

Mr Timm report concerns for prayer and ordination anniversaries. He reported that Clergy Day drew over 60 pastors and candidates; it related the experiences of our 15 Growing congregations. He asked prayers for new direction; to reach people for Christ; about their purpose; and to engage folks in worship.

WE LISTENED FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR COMMUNITY

Announcements

Presbytery heard announcements about Presbytery Mission, Hands-On Mission, Youth Council, the Presbytery History Project, the Communication Work Group, Presbyterian Women, the Metropolitan Urban Ministry Team, and the Christian Education and Faith Development Retreat.

Reports

The Presbytery heard reports from the Self Development of People, and the following from the Trustees and Committee on Preparation for Ministry:

Committee on Preparation for Ministry. Beth Downs reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

Consultation Reports:

For Minister of Word and Sacrament:

1. CPM met with the following person and enrolled her as an inquirer:

Mattie Hunter	Trumbull Avenue, Detroit	February 1, 2011
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2. CPM met with the following inquirers/candidates for ordained ministry on the dates noted and sustained their annual consultations:

Dan Heaton (cand.)	Erin, Roseville	February 1, 2011
Beth Delaney (cand.)	Canton, Geneva	February 1, 2011
Emma Ouellette (cand.)	Allen Park	February 1, 2011

Jason Morgan (inq.)	First, Birmingham	February 1, 2011
CORRECTION to the January 25 report:		
Joanne Blair (inq.)	First, Birmingham	December 7, 2010
<i>For Commissioned Lay Pastor:</i>		
3. CPM met with the following CLP student and sustained her annual consultation:		
Nancy Bass	Jefferson Avenue, Detroit	February 1, 2011

Trustees. Don Morgan reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. The Trustees have reviewed the financial reports of the Howell Center and believe the center is healthy and functioning well. Their long-term goal is to be independent of the Presbytery by 2014. It will take them that much time to build a sufficient reserve.
2. The Trustees approved the change in the Northminster PILP loan from 6.25% to 4.25%, keeping the monthly payments the same but paying off the loan a year early.
3. The Trustees are reviewing the accounting software because we seem to be unable to get it to provide some reports the Trustees believe are necessary.
4. The Trustees decided that no principal of the Ranney-Balch will be released for this year of 2011. The Trustees point out that the 2011 Presbytery budget contains the information that the sum of \$38,802 is available as income from Ranney-Balch for potential release to uses approved by the Presbytery.
5. The Trustees have approved the planning for a seminar on what congregations can do when their buildings are a problem.
6. The Trustees have invited members of Lakeshore to attend a Trustee meeting to discuss their request for approval of a PILP loan.
7. The Trustees are arranging for oversight of the SW Church property.

WE GAVE THANKS TO GOD

Presbytery shared joys and concerns, offered prayers of thanks and intercession, and shared Christ's peace with one Another

Ms Bostic Robinson resumed moderating the meeting.

Upon motion and prayer the Presbytery adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

The next meeting of the Presbytery will be Tuesday, April 26, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at the Grosse Ile Presbyterian Church.

ATTEST:

EDWARD KOSTER, Stated Clerk

ATTACHMENT ONE: The Roll

APPENDICES:

- The Coordinating Cabinet Personnel Guidelines revised as of 11/1/10
- Ordination of Linda Anderson on January 9, 2010

- The decision of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission in *Latimore, et. Al v. The Presbytery of Detroit*.

ATTACHMENT ONE: THE ROLL

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY FOR February 22, 2011

CHURCHES: Of 86 churches, 64 were represented and 22 were not.

COMMISSIONERS: Of 155 eligible commissioners, 94 enrolled, and 61 did not.

OTHER ELDERS (Officers, Members of Council):-

Of 20 total, 8 were present, of whom 2 counted as commissioners, leaving 4 as the unduplicated count: 7 excused, and 5 absent.

MINISTERS: Of the 148 non-retired ministers on the combined rolls of active members and members-at-large, 70 were present, 22 were excused, and 56 were absent.

Of the 78 retired ministers on the rolls, 16 were present and 62 were excused.

COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS AND CERTIFIED EDUCATORS: Of the 0 Commissioned Lay Pastor on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 0 absent

Of the 0 Certified Educators on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 0 absent.

SUMMARY	VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT
	94 Elder Commissioners
	+ 4 Other Elders
	+ 70 Non-retired ministers
	+ 16 Retired Ministers
	= 0 Commissioned lay pastors.
	= 0 Certified educators.
	- 184 Voting members present.
	OTHERS PRESENT
	1 Non-voting members
	3 Corresponding members

Attendance: Elder Commissioners and Churches

ALLEN PARK, Allen Park	ANN ARBOR, Northdale	BIRMINGHAM, First
1 B SZWED	1 BRIAN SPOLARICH	1 CHARLOTTE FISCHER
2 MICHELE DAM	ANN ARBOR, Westminster	2 JUDY PERRYMAN
3 MEGAN CUTHBERT	1 JOANN HIRTH	3 AL HUBERTY
4	2 AL BANNING	4 ROSY LATIMORE
ANN ARBOR, Calvary	AUBURN HILLS, Auburn Hills	BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Kirk/Hills
1 BOBBIE JO BARRETT	1 BOB CHRISTON	1 GORDON ALLARDYCE
ANN ARBOR, First	BELLEVILLE, Belleville	2 SAM CLARK
1 RUTH BARNARD	1 CONNIE ETTER	3 TOM HOLT
2 BEN VAN TUYL	BERKLEY, Greenfield	4 NANCY LAW
3 SUE LEONG	1 BETH MORRISON	5 CHARLES TALLINGER
4	BEVERLY HILLS, Northbrook	6 BOB BECK
5	1 JOHN THOMAS	7 MARGE WHITTENOW
6	2 KAREN VANDERWEIDE	BRIGHTON, First

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1 NANCY MANALI	1 DON HILL	2 CATHERINE MARTINEZ
2 STEVE WILLIS	2 SUSAN HURST	ROSEVILLE, Elm
3	GROSSE POINTE, Memorial	1 KEVIN SMITH
CANTON, Geneva	1 WILLIAM BROWN	ROYAL OAK, First
1 CINDY THOMAS	2	1 ELIZABETH PATTERSON
CLARKSTON, Goshawbaw	2	2 SALLY GILREATH
1 NOT REPRESENTED	4	3 SUSAN ADAMS
CLINTON TWP, Pease	GROSSE PTE WOODS, Woods	ROYAL OAK, Korean First
1 KERRY BORDER	1 NANCY MCENROE	1 NOT REPRESENTED
DEARBORN, Cherry Hill	2	2
1 CARRIE THORPE	HIGHLAND PARK, Park United	ROYAL OAK, Point of Vision
2 BRAD SHUMAKER	1 MARIE HUGHLEY	1 NOT REPRESENTED
DEARBORN, First	2	ROYAL OAK, Starr
1 JIM BARBER	HOWELL, First	1 NOT REPRESENTED
2 BILL LESLIE	1 DAVE AHLQUIST	ROYAL OAK, Starr
DEARBORN, Littlefield	2 PAT ROY	1 NOT REPRESENTED
1 PAMELA MOORE	LINCOLN PARK, Lincoln Park	SALINE, First
DEARBORN HGTS, St. Andrew's	1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 JOYCE LESLIE
1 NOT REPRESENTED	LIVONIA, Rosedale Gardens	SHELBY TWP., St. Thomas
	1 DYCHE ANDERSON	1 LORI SADLER
	2	2
DETROIT, Broadstreet	LIVONIA, St. Paul's	SOUTH LYON, First
1 ALVIN SMITH	1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 NOT REPRESENTED
2	LIVONIA, St. Timothy's	SOUTHFIELD, Covenant
DETROIT, Calvary	1 JIM HARRINGTON	1 BARBARA SMITH
1 ADRIENNE ADAMS	MACOMB, Church/Covenant	SOUTHFIELD, Korean
2	1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, Calvin East	MILAN, Peoples	2
1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 NOT REPRESENTED	3
2	MILFORD, Milford	4
DETROIT, First	1 KEITH MOUNTS	SOUTHFIELD, New Hope
1 NOT REPRESENTED	2 IRENE TAYLOR	1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, Fort Street	3 DICK TAYLOR	2
1 BOB PONDER	MT. CLEMENS, First	ST. CLAIR SHORES, Heritage
2 ILLEGIBLE	1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, Gratiot Avenue	2	ST. CLAIR SHORES, Lake Shore
1 MARYANNE BRANTLEY	NORTHVILLE, First	1 NOT REPRESENTED
2 GREG SYKES	1 SEAN HOLLISTER	2
DETROIT, Hope	2 CAL STROM	STERLING HGTS, Utica
1 NOT REPRESENTED	3 WANDA MOON	1 NOT REPRESENTED
2	4	TAYLOR, Divine Word
DETROIT, Jefferson Avenue	5	1 NANCY BURKE
1 KATHI JOHNSON	NOVI, Faith Community	TAYLOR, Southminster
2 VICKY COLWELL	1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, Riverside	2	TROY, First
1 KARI GORMAN	ORCHARD LAKE, Community	1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, St. John's	1 JUDY DAVIS	TROY, Northminster
1 JEANE V MOORE	2 DAVID DUTTON	1 THERESA CLANCY
2	3 MICHAEL STARYNCHAK	WALLED LAKE, Crossroads
DETROIT, Trinity Community	PLYMOUTH, First	1 NOT REPRESENTED
1 NATALIE BROTHERS	1 TOM BRADY	WARREN, Celtic Cross
2	2	1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, Trumbull Avenue	3	WARREN, First
1 MARTHA SINGLEY	4	1 TOM MACONOCHE
2	PONTIAC, First	WATERFORD, Community
DETROIT, Westminster	1 NANCY DUFFIELD	1 ROBERT GIMMONS
1 MARGARET WHITEHEAD	PONTIAC, Jealyn Avenue	W. BLOOMFIELD, Church/Savior
2 ALICE HOSBACK	1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 SANDI RANDETT
3 DEBORAH FAIR	PORT HURON, First	WESTLAND, Kirk of Our Savior
FARMINGTON, First	1 THOS ANDISON	1 CHERYL HARRISON
1 KATHLEEN GAGE	2 ANN RANDALL KENDRICK	WHITE LAKE, White Lake
2 LAWRENCE GAGE	PORT HURON, Westminster	1 SUSAN MYSLIMEC
FERNDALE, Drayton Avenue	1 DENNIS YOUNG	WYANDOTTE, Wyandotte
1 JOAN STERLING	REDFORD, St. James	1 DENISE ROBERTS
FORT GRATIOT, Lakeshore	1 NOT REPRESENTED	YPSILANTI, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED	ROCHESTER, University	1 NOT REPRESENTED
GARDEN CITY, Garden City	1 DOUG DENTON	2
1 ILLEGIBLE		
GROSSE ILE, Grosse Ile		

Attendance: Clergy and Elder Members

C. ELDER MEMBERS		
P ANDERSON, FRANCILE, PM	P HARTLEY, THOMAS	P SHINN, DAVID
P BOSTIC-ROBINSON, DIANE	A HATCHER, RUFUS	P SHIPMAN, JUDY
P ELAM, DIXIE, PM	P HAYES, FRANCES	E *SHREVE, MAGGIE
A ELLIS, HAROLD	P HENDERSON, RICHARD	A SIAS-LEE, LAURA
A EMMERT, JOHN	P HENRY, PETER J. M.	E *SIMONS, SCOTT W.
A GEAKE, BOB	A KUFF, JASON	P SKIMINS, JAMES
A HOLLOWELL, KENNETH	P JARVIS, BRENDA	A SMALLLEY, DIANE
P HUTHWAITE, MOTOKO	P JOHNSON, KEVIN	A SMITH, BRYAN DEAN
E HYLKEMA, CAROL, PM	A JONES, RICHARD	P SMITH, PETER C.
A LEWIS, STEFANIE	P JUDDSON, JOHN	P SMITH, TRACI
P MORGAN, DONALD	P KAIBEL, KENNETH	A SOEHL, HOWARD
E MORRISON, HELEN, PM	P KELLY, KATE	A SOHN, YO SUP
E PITTS, FRANCES, PM	A KERR, DEBORAH	P SOMMERS, CHARLOTTE
P PITTS, FRANCES, PM	A KIDDER, ANNEMARIE	A STUNKEL, PAUL
P PITTS, FRANCES, PM	E *KIM, Y. MONCH	E THOMPSON, G. PATRICK
E SEABROOKS, DOROTHY M., PM	E *KIM, YOUNGCHUL	P THORESEN, KATHRYN R.
E SHIRLEY, JAMES, PM	P KING, CATHERINE	P THWAITE, PAUL
C SMITH, ALVIN	P KLINGER, JAMIE	P TIMM, ALLEN D
E SMITH, KENNETH, PM	P KOSTER, EDWARD H.	A TOMBERLIN, DREW
C SZWED, ROBERT	P KRUG, ERNEST	A TUCKER-LLOYD, IRIS
E WAINSLAW, PAUL, PM	A KUMIN, JAMES	E *VAN SLUIJS, HENDRICK
D. NON-RETIRED MINISTERS	P LANGWAG, JANICE	A VANDERBEEK, RONALD
P ADAMS, WILLIAM I III	P LANGWAG, ROY	A WHITLOCK, KELLIE
P ANDERSON, BARBARA S	A LEE, FREDERICK	E *WIGGINS, GREGORY L.
A ANDERSON, LINDA	A MABEE, CHARLES	P WILES, SARAH
P ANDREWS, DOYLL	P MADDEN, JULIE	P WILHELM, MARJORIE
P ARAKELIAN, ELIZABETH	A MARKS, JULIE	A WINGROVE, WILLIAM N
A AUE, CRAIG	E McCLOSKEY-TURNER, CATHARINE	A WOO, BYEONGJIN
P AUSTIN, MARY	E McDEVITT, JENNY	E WRZESZCZ, JENNIFER
E *BABLEY, CLOVER	E McMILLAN, JUDITH	P WRZESZCZ, MATTHEW
A BIERSDORF, JOHN	A McRAE, BARBARA	P YU, SEUNG WON
E BLAIKE, DOUGLAS	A MEANS, MATTHEW	E *YUE, MYUNG JA
P BLEIVIK, DAVID	P MELROSE, SUE ELLIS	P ZAMBON, WILLIAM
P BOHN, CHRISTINE	P MICHALEK, DANIEL	P ZURAKOWSKI, GREGORY
A BOLT, KENNETH	P MILLER, J. SCOTT	
P BOURLIER, RUTHANNE	A MISHLER, JOHN	D. RETIRED MINISTERS
A BOUSQUETTE, PAUL	A MONNETT, JAMES	A AARON, ESTELLE
P CAMPBELL, DOUGLAS	E MOOK, SHARON	E ABBOTT, DAVID W.
P CAMPBELL, EMILY	P MOORE, PETER	P ACTON, ELLEN
A CARL, STEPHEN	P MORGAN, AMY	P ALBRECHT, GLORIA
E *CHOI, SEUNG KOO	P MORROW, DUKE	E ANDERSON, JAMES
A COCHRAN, LINDA	A MORSE, MATTHEW	E AUSTIN, ANNA MARIE
P COOPER, QUINCY	P MOZENA, SUSAN	E AUSTIN, LARRY
P COWLING, NEIL D.	P NICHOLS, NEETA	P BEERY, ELDON
A DAVIS, ROXIE ANN	P NICKEL, EMMA	E BENEDICT, IVAN L.
P DAVIS, WILLIAM	P NICKEL, MATTHEW	E BENNETT, JOHNIE
P DE ORIO, ANTHONY	P OBERG, ARTHUR	P BORCHARDT, HENRY
E *DENNIS, WARREN	E OTT, JEFFREY	P BORCHARDT, JUDITH
P DOWNS, ELIZABETH	A PARKER, OPELTON	P BROWNLEE, RICHARD
A DOYLE, KATHLEEN	A PAVELKO, JOHN H.	E BYARS, RONALD
A DUNIFON, WILLIAM	A PIECUCH, KEVIN	P CAMPBELL, VERN
E *DYKSTRA, CRAIG R.	A PITTMAN, JASON	E CAPPS, HARRY
A ELE, HERSCHEL	P PORTER, JAMES	E CARTER, DOUGLAS D.
A EVANS, JONATHAN	E PORTICE, GEORGE	E CATER, LAWRENCE H.
P FAILLE, JAMES	E PRITCHARD, NORMAN	E CHAMBERLAIN, LAWRENCE
P FARRIS, LAWRENCE	A PROVOST, KEITH	E CHAMBERS, JAMES C.
P FERGUSON, GUY THOMAS	P PRIJES, LOUIS J.	E CHOI, IN SOON
A FORGER, DEBORAH	P PUNTKAM, JOEL	P CLISE, W. KENT
A FOSTER, JOHN	P REED, PHILIP	E COBLEIGH, GERALD R.
P FRANCIS, RAPHAEL B.	A RICE, ELIZABETH	E COLON, LOIS
A GABEL, PETER W.	P RICE, THOMAS	P CONLEY, JAMES H.
E *GAST, TERRI	A RIKE, JENNIFER	E CORSO, LINDA
A GEISELMAN, KEITH	P RITTER, W STUART	E CRILLEY, ROBERT
A GERE, BREWSTER	P RIZER, JAMES A	E CROSS, PAUL D.
A GRANO, MARIANNE	A ROGERS, MELISSA ANNE	E DANIELAK, RICHARD
A HANNA, RAAFAT	E *RUSSELL, LANA	P DENTON, GRETCHEN
P HARMON, BREANNE	A SCHAEFER, ANNE N.	E DUNCAN, THOMAS
A HARRIS, R. JOHN	E *SHIH, SHENG-TO	E ELLENS, J. HAROLD

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E FINDLAY, WILLIAM
E FORSYTH, E. DICKSON
E GEISSINGER, HARRY L.
P GEFFORD, WILLIAM G.
P GLENN, LAWRENCE T.
E HANNA, J. RICHARD
E HARP, WILLIAM S.
E HEINRICH, THOMSON
E JANSEN, ROBERT
E JEFFREY, JOHN
E JONES, VIRGIL L.
E KESLER, JAMES W.
E KIM, T. ANDREW
E KNUDSEN, RAYMOND
E KOBEL, LYNNE
E KREHBIEL, DAVID E.
E LAMBERT, ROY F.
E LARSON, ROBERT F.
P LISTER, KENNETH D.

E LONGWOOD, MARJORIE
E MacINNIS, JOHN D.
E MARVIN, FRANK C., JR.
E McCLOSKEY, CHARLES
E McINTYRE, DEWITT
P MIHOCKO, DAVID
E NUSSDORFER, GUS
E OLSON, PHILIP
E ORR, ROBERT C.
E OWEN, DAVID
E PALMER, F. WILLIAM
E PETERS, RICHARD
E PETERSON, LEROY J.
E POLKOWSKI, WILLIAM
E PRICE, MICHAEL T.
E RATCLIFFE, ALBERT H.
E ROBERTSON, ANN
P ROBERTSON, DAVID W.
E ROBERTSON, WILLIAM

E RUSSELL, JAMES P.
E SCRIBNER, LOREN
E SUTTON, PAUL
E TAYLOR, J. BERNARD
P TAYLOR, THEODORE, II
E WRIGHT, DONALD
E YOON, HAK SUK
E ZIEGLER, JACK T.

F. CERT. ASSOC. CHRISTIAN ED.
A MERTEN, CINDY
P PRICE, LAURA

G. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS
RAAFAT ZAKI
SYNOD OF THE COVENANT

Paper B-2

Presbytery of Detroit
Minutes of the Stated Meeting
~~April 26, 2011~~

WE GATHERED IN GOD'S NAME

A quorum being present, the Presbytery of Detroit convened with litany and prayer in a stated meeting on April 26, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. at the Grosse Ile Presbyterian Church. Dianne Bostic Robinson moderated the meeting.

WE CELEBRATED OUR CONNECTIONS IN CHRIST

The Moderator appointed Kathy Rankin the assistant to the Stated Clerk.

The Moderator welcomed new commissioners and commissioners.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, the Presbytery approved the docket as amended.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery excused those who have requested to be excused.

Upon motion, Presbytery voted to grant Stephen Keizer, the regional representative of the Presbyterian Foundation, the privilege of the floor.

Phil Reed welcomed Presbytery to Grosse Ile Presbyterian Church.

Reports from Other Governing Bodies (5)

Stephen Keizer reported on the history and work of the Presbyterian Foundation.

Reports from Presbytery Affiliated Organizations

Dick Grant reported on the ministry, programs, and activities of the Howell Center.

James Porter began moderating the meeting.

WE LISTENED FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR COMMUNITY

Announcements. Presbytery heard announcements from:

The Coordinating Cabinet Communications group; Hands-On Mission; the Homosexuality & the Church Work Group; the Committee on Local Arrangements for the 2014 General Assembly's need to raise \$150,000 to host the Assembly; a meeting on The Book of Revelation at Birmingham First; the rebuilding of the NCD Administration Commission.

Reports. Presbytery heard reports about:

The Presbytery meeting as worshipful work; A Transformation seminar put on by the Synod of the Covenant; the Social Justice and Peacemaking Team Grant Policy (appended to the minutes); a proposed Michigan House Bill 4305 that is modeled after the Arizona bill on immigration; the work of the Metropolitan Urban Ministry Team to address the urban nature of the Detroit Presbytery; the grant process for the Seeley and Ranney-Balch Funds; Planning and Visioning Team plans to address issues of loss in Detroit and the Presbytery; and the Great Tomato Giveaway.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

Executive Presbyter's Report. Allen Timm reported.

Mr Timm celebrated anniversaries of the ordinations of ministers in the Presbytery. He reported on his studies with Gil Rendel and his book, Journey in the Wilderness. He reported on activities and plans regarding church transformation, clergy growth, and new mission.

Dianne Bostic Robinson resumed moderating the meeting.

The Moderator offered a brief prayer for openness.

Business for Adopted by Motion and Debate**Treasurer:**

Alvin Smith presented his treasurer's report. (Appended to the minutes.)

Committee on Ministry. Dixie Elam reported for the Committee.

Upon motion of the Committee on Ministry, Presbytery voted to:

1. Grant Honorable retirement to Rev. John Foster, effective February 1, 2011.
2. Transfer Rev. Lana Russell to Mission Presbytery in Texas.
3. Transfer Rev. R. Bruce Meyer to Foothills Presbytery in South Carolina.
4. Approve the call of Rev. Fairfax F. Fair as Pastor at First, Ann Arbor, effective May 30, 2011, with the following terms: Full time; Salary \$59,000; Housing \$59,000; Board of Pension dues \$34,791; Social Security \$7,264.60; Dental \$500; Auto/Travel \$2,000; Continuing Ed \$3,500; Business Expense \$4,000. Vacation 5 weeks including 4 Sundays; Study Leave 2 weeks, including 2 Sundays (cumulative to 6 weeks). One time moving expense estimated at \$10,000. AA/EEO Guidelines of the denomination were followed in the search.
5. Approve the call of Rev. Carol Ann Tate as Associate Pastor at Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills, effective no later than August 1, 2011, with the following terms: Full time; Salary \$50,000; Housing \$25,000; Board of Pension dues \$23,625; Medical deductible reimbursement \$1,780; optional Dental plan \$470; Auto/Travel \$1,350; Business Expense \$1,600; D-Min studies \$4,000. Vacation four weeks including four Sundays; Study leave four weeks including two Sundays. One time moving expense up to \$4,000. AA/EEO guidelines of the denomination were followed in the search.
6. Approve the Administrative Commission to install Rev. Steven W. Clark as Pastor at Rosedale Gardens on May 18, at 3:00 PM, and receive Rev. Clark into the Presbytery of Detroit.

Moderator: Dianne Bostic Robinson
Clergy: Rev. Anne Schaefer; Rev. Richard Peters; Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Downs.
Elders: Scott Yamazaki (Rosedale Gardens); Barbara Taylor (St. Timothy, Livonia); John H. Clark (Allen Park).
Corresponding Members: Rev. Jennifer B. Clark (Detroit), Rev. Dr. Thomas Patterson (North Puget Sound Presbytery, Washington).
7. Approve the 12 month Commissioned Lay Pastor contract between Gordon Seiler and Calvin East, Detroit effective May 1, 2011. The contract includes permission to moderate the Session, administer the Sacraments, and officiate at weddings. Terms: Half time (20 hours/week); Salary \$14,000; Contribution to 401K (or similar) \$13,675. Vacation: Four weeks including four Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks.

8. Approve the 6 month Temporary Supply contract between Keith O. Provost and Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills, effective June 1, 2011. Terms: Full time; Salary and Housing \$57,630; Pension \$8,900; Medical and Dental \$1,800; Auto reimbursement \$1,200; Study leave \$1,800. Vacation: One month including four Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks.
9. Extend the Temporary Supply contract between James Kumin-Severance and White Lake through August 1, 2011.
10. Receive Rev. Jennifer Clark from Donegal Presbytery, Pennsylvania, into Presbytery of Detroit.
11. Give latitude to grant Honorable Retirement to Rev. John Harris, effective May 31, 2011, if so requested by the congregation.
12. Approve the resignation of the Rev Debbie Kerr from White Lake 3/20/2011

The Committee reported that under the authority given it, it has:

1. Approved the Transitional Minister contract between Rev. Kent Clise and Milford, effective March 1 through May 31, 2011. Terms: Half time; Salary \$5,000/month; Mileage at current approved IRS rate; Reimbursement for church/business expenses. Vacation one month including 4 Sundays, and Study Leave of two weeks, both pro-rated over the life of the contract.
2. Approved the 12 month Parish Associate contract between Rev. Julie Madden and Faith, Novi, effective March 15, 2011. Time: 10 hours/week. Terms: Salary \$10,200; Vacation: Four weeks; Study Leave: Two weeks.
3. Approved the 3 month Temporary Supply contract between Rev. Karen Stunkel and Southminster, Taylor, effective March 22, 2011. Terms: Full time; Salary \$26,500; Housing \$17,400; Annuity \$2,580; Social Security \$3,480; Full Pension \$16,100; Medical Deductible \$500; Travel (car) \$4,000; Professional Expenses \$1,000. Vacation: One month including four Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks.
4. Approved the six month Interim Pastor contract between Rev. Ellen Acton and Northside, Ann Arbor, effective April 5, 2011. Time: 3/4; Salary \$24,400; Housing \$10,000; Social Security \$2,631.60; Pension \$4,128; Medical Deductible \$400; Travel \$1,940; Study Leave \$1,700; Retirement Savings \$600. Vacation one month including six Sundays; Study Leave two weeks.
5. Approved the 12 month Commissioned Lay Pastor contract between Michael J. Hoffman and Allen Park, effective September 15, 2010. The contract includes permission to administer the Sacraments and to officiate at weddings and funerals. Terms: Part time (10 hours/week); Salary \$10,000. Vacation: Two weeks including two Sundays; Study leave: One week.
6. Approved the 6 month Interim Pastor contract between Rev. Neeta R. Nichols and Westminster, Detroit, effective April 16, 2011. Terms: Full time; Salary \$24,000; Housing \$24,860; Annuity \$15,000; Pension \$20,116; Medical Deductible \$639; Dental \$331; Social Security \$4,885; Auto/Travel \$1,200; Study Leave \$1,900; Business Expense \$1,242. Vacation: Six weeks including six Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks.
7. Approved the 12 month Interim Pastor contract between Rev. Kathryn Kelly and Starr, Royal Oak, effective September 23, 2010. Terms: Salary: \$17,048; Housing \$27,000; Social Security \$3,369.62; Pension \$15,650.46; Medical deductible \$993.68; Study Leave \$600; Professional Expenses \$1,000; Worship Paraments \$400; Medical Reimbursement

\$5,523.28 and Medical Deductible \$113.02 (in a medical savings account set aside from salary). Vacation: One month including four Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks.

8. Approved the appointment of Rev. John Pavelko to serve as moderator at St. John's, Detroit, effective April 13, 2011.
9. Approved the call of Rev. Steven W. Clark as Pastor at Rosedale Gardens, Livonia, effective April 4, 2011, with the following terms: Full time; Salary \$42,000; Housing \$33,000; Board of Pension \$23,625; Social Security \$5,737.50; Medical deductible \$2,500; Auto/travel \$3,000; Continuing Education \$2,500. Vacation: Four weeks including four Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks including two Sundays. AA/EEO guidelines of the denomination were followed in the search.

The Committee reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi was installed as Pastor at Northbrook, Beverly Hills, on March 13, 2011.
2. Rev. William L. Adams, III was installed as Associate Pastor at Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills on February 27, 2011.
3. Approved a grant of \$2,000 to a pastor in need and asked the BOP for a matching grant.
4. Co-opted Rev. Phil Reed to serve on the Pastoral Response team.
5. Co-opted Rev. Eldon Beery as a Consultant to COM.
6. Pastoral Search recommends, and COM concurs, that Coordinating Cabinet look into the merger of the Self Study Committee of Congregational Life and the Pastoral Search Committee of COM. The feeling is that this would centralize and simplify the pastoral search process for congregations.
7. Endorsed Rev. Kathryn L. Kelly's request to register for Interim Training, Week Two, conducted by the Synod of Mid-America in St. Louis.
8. Requested permission from the Christian Reformed Church for Rev. Suk-Hyun Kim and Rev. Yun-Kyeong Jin to serve as pulpit supply for Korean First, Troy.
9. Approved the request from White Lake to consider Rev. James Kumin-Severance as a candidate for Interim Pastor, as long as they conduct an open search to consider other candidates as well.
10. COM received a report from Elder Dixie Elam, Chair of COM; Elder Mary Jane Johnson; and the Rev. Dr. Allen D. Timm concerning a meeting that was held with the Session of Fort Street and Rev. Mook regarding the recommendations of the COM Commission. They (Elam, Johnson and Timm) were satisfied that the session actions that have been taken and promised to stand by for any invitations to support the session. Amendments to 9, 10 and 12.

The Committee on Ministry presented Michael J Hoffman for commissioning as a Commissioned Lay Pastor to Allen Park Presbyterian Church. The Committee on Ministry has approved his terms of call as follow:

Effective September 15, 2010 for 10 hours/week; Salary \$10,000; Vacation: two weeks including two Sundays; Study leave: one week.

The Committee on Ministry presented Gordon Seiler for commissioning as a commissioned lay pastor to Calvin East Presbyterian Church beginning May 1, 2010, with the following authorities: moderate session; administer the sacraments; and officiate at weddings. The terms of call are:

Half time (20 hrs/week); Salary \$14,000; contribution to 401k (or similar) \$13,675; Vacation 4 weeks including 4 Sundays; study leave3: 2 weeks.

The Moderator led Presbytery in a litany of commissioning. Upon their answering the questions for commissioning, the Moderator commissioned Michael Hoffman to serve as a commissioned lay pastor at Allen Park and Gordon Seiler to serve as a commissioned lay pastor at Calvin East.

The Presbytery entered into a discussion of the term "transitional minister." It was explained as a case where the pastor is getting ready to retire and the transitional minister assists the church in that period.

Trustees: Don Morgan reported for the Trustees.

Upon motion of the Trustees, the Presbytery voted to:

- 1. Close and dissolve the Detroit Southwest Church as of 12/31/10.
- 2. Approve the following resolution:

The Presbytery of Detroit (a "Corporation") of the Presbyterian Church (USA) having received and reviewed the loan application of the Lake Shore Presbyterian Church of St Clair Shores, Michigan, a member in good standing of this Presbytery, approves the loan application and guarantees the repayment of principal and interest on the loan to the Presbyterian Church (USA), a Corporation ("CLP"), in the amount of \$522,000.00, provided that that they change their Church Information Form to reflect their financial situation, and that the new pastor must have a gift for stewardship in order to facilitate the payoff of this loan. The officers of the Presbytery Corporation are authorized to sign a Guaranty Agreement for this loan as agents of the Presbytery corporation.

The time for the special order of the day having arrived, the Presbytery adjourned for dinner and worship at 6:02 p.m.

The Presbytery worshipped God.

The Presbytery reconvened at 6:40 PM.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY cont'd

Trustees (continued)

The motion to approve the loan to Lake Shore Church was approved.

The Trustees reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

- 1. Thanks to the work of Bev Auger, the Presbytery has been exonerated in the matter of back taxes owed for Howell. The IRS has reduced our obligation to \$0.
- 2. Trustees voted to approve carryover of \$134,377.83 of the 510 Designated Fund Projects, as follow, deleting those which no longer exist:

POD Designated Funds	Bal 12/31/2010	Habitat for Humanity	\$.	(353.36)
		COM/CPM Training	\$	4,938.83
Healthy Congregations	\$	Theological Education	\$	942.70

ETS/CLP Training	\$	3,603.17	Campus Min WSU	\$	9,695.15
ACTS 16.5	\$	-	Kenya Well	\$	9,006.00
Metro Urban Ministry Team	\$	292.82	Kenya	\$	500.00
Anti Racism	\$	-	Detroit Westminster		
Domestic Violence	\$	36.85	Thanks	\$	-
Two Cents A Meal	\$	2,909.36	Habitat for Humanity		
Helping Hand Fund	\$	4,224.82	Carter	\$	-
POD Hunger Fund	\$	3,081.52	ECO Alma College	\$	-
MOSES Econ Justice	\$	3,000.00	Youth Triennium Work Gp	\$	(169.48)
Middle East Projects	\$	2,776.51	Youth Council	\$	888.00
Peace Presbytery	\$	10,722.95	Alma Youth	\$	1,893.34
A Place of Refuge	\$	-	Clergy in Transition	\$	3,370.40
Lazarus Project	\$	-	Niche Mix	\$	-
Katrina Outbound Mission	\$	6,605.05	APCE Scholarships	\$	-
Detroit Inbound Mission	\$	4,084.92	SPE Small Group	\$	7,631.40
Iowa Mission	\$	2,186.69	NCD Site	\$	-
Georgia Mission Trip	\$	70.00	Eric Law	\$	-
Ecumenical Center	\$	-	MULTICULTURALISM (New)	\$	10,385.83
Alma College	\$	-	Presbyterian Men	\$	1,096.35
Texas Mission Trip	\$	1,060.00	MLK Convocation	\$	-
Second Mile Center	\$	-	Presbytery History Project	\$	500.00
Fort Street Open Door	\$	-	Reframing Presbytery Rox	\$	(206.04)
Park United Roof	\$	1,250.00	Unallocated	\$	-
Barnabas Center	\$	-	Dexter/Chelsea NCD	\$	21,306.53
Hands On Mission	\$	(120.44)	NCD 510	\$	1,000.00
Ann Arbor Campus Ministry	\$	-	SJC Literacy Work Group	\$	2,000.00
Campus Min EMU	\$	14,167.96	TOTAL	\$	134,377.83
Campus Min Oakland U	\$	-			

3. Three churches in the Presbytery have received rebates from PILP.
4. The Trustees have approved the listing of the Church of Our Savior real property for \$1,185,000.
5. Trustees voted to loan Detroit Hope Church \$7,000 for 30 months at 5% simple interest, to be repaid at \$245/month.
6. The Trustees have responded to a request from one of the Presbytery teams to spend funds not expended from the 2010 budget on the grounds that they do not have the authority to authorize it.
7. The Trustees have been investigating the sale of the Hartland property. Because of the times, this is not a good time to sell property, so they have decided not to list it. They will place a sign on the property saying it is for sale by the owner.
8. The Trustees report on the serious situation of sexual misconduct at Vienna Presbyterian Church in the National Capital Presbytery. It was reported extensively by the Washington

Post, and can be found at http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/vienna-presbyterian-church-works-to-overcome-revelations-of-sexual-abuse/2011/03/30/AF3hNxQC_story.html.

According to the article, teenage victims of sexual involvement with a youth leader reported incidents and the church initially supported the youth leader. It is a cautionary tale for churches of the Presbytery to ensure they have a sexual misconduct policy (as required in the new amendment to the Book of Order), and that they are scrupulous in following it. They would also like to inform Presbytery that for \$10, the Presbytery will do a national background check on staff and volunteers.

9. The Trustees have voted to accept full financial reviews from Presbyterian Women, Second Mile Center, and the Riverside NCD for purposes of the 2010 audit.
10. The Trustees have voted to advance a \$20,000 line of credit to Barnabas for the period 5/1-12/31/2011 at no interest if it is fully repaid by 4/30/2012.

Coordinating Cabinet: Kent Clise reported for the Coordinating Cabinet.

Amendment 10-2, the Belhar Confession, was placed on the floor by the General Assembly for Presbytery's approval or disapproval.

Mr Clise presented a history of the Belhar Confession and arguments *pro* and *con*.

The motion was made to postpone action on this motion until such time as there is an equal time given in opposition to the Belhar Confession as had been given in favor.

The motion was made to amend the motion to read "postpone until the next meeting of Presbytery."

After debate, the motion was put to postpone to the June meeting of Presbytery. The motion to postpone to the June meeting failed.

A point of order was raised that the motion approved was only whether to set the time of postponement to June. The Moderator ruled against the point of order since she put the motion as postponing until June.

Upon motion, the Presbytery voted to end debate.

The Presbytery voted to approve Amendment 10-2, the Belhar Confession, by a vote of 78 yes to 33 no.

Upon motion of the Coordinating Cabinet, Presbytery voted to:

1. Amend the 2011 budget by adding the following ECOs:
Hispanic Ministry for \$50,000
Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Intervention Initiative for \$14,000
2. Approve the administration of the Lord's Supper at the Spring Gathering of the Presbyterian Women on May 4, 2011 at 9:45 at the Allen Park Church.

The Coordinating Cabinet reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. Because of the importance of the amendments, the Coordinating Cabinet has decided to schedule approval of the Proposed Form of Government for the June meeting, rather than their previously announced schedule of doing it at this meeting.
2. The Coordinating Cabinet voted to confirm the appointment of Peter Smith as chair of the Committee on Local Arrangements for the 2014 General Assembly; Sue Ellis Melrose and Elaine Terrell Ellis as co-vice chairs; Elaine Terrell Ellis as treasurer; and Budge Gere as chair of the fundraising committee.
3. The Coordinating Cabinet has approved the following as a Coordinating Cabinet policy:
"When non-budget funds or grants are available for use by units of the Presbytery of Detroit,

the amount of the funds, the process for application, and the use of such funds shall be made public before making grants.”

~~Committee on Preparation for Ministry~~ Both Downs reported for the committee.

The Committee presented the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. CPM met with the following inquirers/candidates for ordained ministry on the dates noted and sustained their annual consultations:

Liz Ryder	Ann Arbor, First	Princeton	March 1, 2011
Adam Bowers	Milford, First	Princeton	April 5, 2011
2. CPM met with the following candidate and granted Final Assessment, with permission to circulate a PIF:

Liz Ryder	Ann Arbor, First	Princeton	March 1, 2011
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3. CPM met with the following minister, ordained in the United Church of Christ, seeking transfer to membership in the PC(USA), and granted permission to circulate a PIF:

Larry Hoxey	Installed Pastor, First Congregational Church (UCC), Jackson Michigan
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4. Kate Voskeritchian was removed from the rolls as inquirer upon her own request.
5. CPM met with the following CLP students and voted to continue the learning phase of preparation:

Monique Fube	Highland Park, United	ETS	March 1, 2011
Esket Stewart	Highland Park, United	ETS	April 5, 2011
Joelly Chiangong	Highland Park, United	ETS	April 5, 2011
Ann Lyke	Southfield Korean Metro	ETS	April 5, 2011

The Committee presented Penny Pitts for examination for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament. Ms Pitts has met the requirements specified in section G-14.050 of the Book of Order, has earned an M.Div. from McCormick Theological Seminary, and has received a call as the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Frostburg, Md. She is under care of the Presbytery of Detroit, and is a member of Grosse Pointe Memorial Presbyterian Church. The Presbytery of Baltimore has requested that we examine and ordain her if the way be clear.

The Presbytery examined Ms Pitts faith and views in theology, the Bible, Sacraments, and the government of the church. Upon motion, the Presbytery voted to arrest the examination. After debate, the Presbytery voted to approve her ordination.

Committee on Nominations: Ruth Ann Boulter reported for the Committee.

Upon nomination of the Nominating Committee and after nominations were opened to the floor, Presbytery elected the following:

For the vacancy in the Class of 2013 on the Committee on Ministry

Rev. David Shinn New Hope Church, Southfield

For the vacancy in the Class of 2013 on the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Elder Sandra Nicholls First Presbyterian Birmingham

For the vacancy of Chair 2011 on the New Church Development-Redevelopment Ministry Team

Rev. Theodore Taylor H. R.

Stated Clerk Edward Koster reported.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery voted to:

1. Approve the minutes of February 22, 2011.
2. Approve the reports of the following Commissions and append them to the minutes:
 - a) The installation of Paul Stunkel as the Designated Pastor of Livonia St Paul's Presbyterian Church
 - b) The installation of Marjorie Wilhelmi as the pastor of Northbrook Church on March 13, 2011.
 - c) Installation of William Adams as associate pastor of the Kirk in the Hills on February 27, 2011.
 - d) Installation of Emma Nickel as pastor of Warren First on October 17, 2010

3.	Approve the 2011 Elder Equalization.(Appended to the Minutes)	
4.	Approve the following 2011 Annual Report to the General Assembly:	
	Ministers on Roll (Retired and active)	221
	12/31/09	
	Died	2
	Dismissed to other Presbyteries	7
	Dismissed to other denominations	0
	Other removals (administrative)	0
	<u>Total Losses:</u>	<u>9</u>
	Received from other Presbyteries	6
	Ordained	3
	<u>Received from other denominations</u>	<u>0</u>
	Total Gains:	9
	Ministers on Roll (Retired and active) 12/31/10:	221

	Churches	Membership
Number of churches		
12/31/09	86	30,530
12/31/10	86	29,240
Change:	0	-1290

- The Stated Clerk reported the following for the information of Presbytery:
1. TRANSFERS COMPLETED
 - a) From the Presbytery of Detroit:
 - i) R. Bruce Meyer to Foothills Presbytery
 - ii) Lana Russell to Mission Presbytery
 - iii) Gregory Wiggins to Greater Atlanta Presbytery
 - b) To the Presbytery of Detroit:
 - i) Karen Stunkel from Blackhawk Presbytery
 - c) To the Church Triumphant:
 - i) F. William Palmer on 9/22/10
 2. The accuser in case 2010-4 has petitioned the Permanent Judicial Commission for a review of the decision of the Investigating Committee not to file charges.

3. A disciplinary allegation has been received against a member of the Presbytery. Pursuant to the Bylaws and Policies of the Presbytery, Investigating Committee 2011-1 has been formed, and the following have been appointed to it:

Rosy Latimore
Rafael Francis
Annemarie Kidder

The Stated Clerk reported the letter from the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly thanking the Presbytery for our full payment of our *per capita* assessment.(Appended to the minutes).

Mr Porter began moderating the meeting.

WE GAVE THANKS TO GOD

Presbytery shared joys and concerns, offered prayers of thanks and intercession, and shared Christ's peace with each other.

WE WENT OUT IN GOD'S NAME

Upon motion and with prayer, the Presbytery adjourned at 9:32 pm.

The next stated meeting of Presbytery will convene June 28, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at Detroit, St John's.

ATTEST:

EDWARD KOSTER, Stated Clerk

ATTACHMENT ONE: The Roll

APPENDICES: Social Justice and Peacemaking Grant Policy
Treasurer's Report
Installation Commissions
Elder Equalization
Letter from the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly

ATTACHMENT ONE: THE ROLL

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY FOR April 26, 2011

CHURCHES: Of 86 churches, 50 were represented and 36 were not.

COMMISSIONERS: Of 155 eligible commissioners, 83 enrolled, and 72 did not.

OTHER ELDERS (Officers, Members of Council):

Of 20 total, 8 were present, of whom 4 counted as commissioners, leaving 4 as the unduplicated count: 4 excused, and 4 absent.

MINISTERS:

Of the 143 non-retired ministers on the combined rolls of active members and members-at-large, 53 were present, 33 were excused, and 58 were absent.

Of the 80 retired ministers on the rolls, 13 were present and 67 were excused.

COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS AND CERTIFIED EDUCATORS:

Of the 0 Commissioned Lay Pastor on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 1 absent

Of the 0 Certified Educators on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 0 absent.

SUMMARY

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

- 83 Elder Commissioners
- + 4 Other Elders
- + 53 Non-retired ministers
- + 13 Retired Ministers
- 0 Commissioned lay pastors.
-) Certified educators.
- 153 Voting members present.

OTHERS PRESENT

- 1 Non-voting members
- 1 Corresponding members

Attendance Elder Commissioners

ALLEN PARK, Allen Park	2	1 NOT REPRESENTED
1 ROBERT MORTON	BIRMINGHAM, First	2
2 RICHARD HUEBLER	1 ALAN HUBERTY	DEARBORN, Littlefield
3 BOB SZWED	2 ROSY LATIMORE	1 ILLEGIBLE
4	3 BARBARA RUSSELL	DEARBORN HGTS, St. Andrew's
ANN ARBOR, Calvary	4 CHARLOTTE FISCHER	1 NOT REPRESENTED
1 NOT REPRESENTED	BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Kirk/Hills	DETROIT, Broadstreet
ANN ARBOR, First	1 GORDON ALLAROYCE	1 ALVIN SMITH
1 SUE LEONG	2 CHARLES TALLINGER	2
2 RUTH BARNARD	3 ILLEGIBLE	DETROIT, Calvary
3 BEN VAN TUYL	4 DON GUTHRIE	1 KAREN HERBERT
4 HENRY JOHNSON	5 TOM HOLT	2 PAMELA DAWSON
5	6	DETROIT, Calvin East
6	7	1 ANDREE TARRANT
ANN ARBOR, Northside	BRIGHTON, First	2 JOHN CLINKSCALES JR
1 ALAN KISTE	1 ILLEGIBLE	DETROIT, First
ANN ARBOR, Westminster	2	1 NOT REPRESENTED
1 MARJURIE McROBERTS	3	DETROIT, Fort Street
2 JILL MILLS POLICH	CANTON, Geneva	1 RUTH BOYCE
AUBURN HILLS, Auburn Hills	1 NOT REPRESENTED	2 BOB PONDER
1 JUDY GEISLER	CLARKSTON, Sashabaw	DETROIT, Grand Avenue
BELLEVILLE, Belleville	1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 NOT REPRESENTED
1 CONNIE ETTER	CLINTON TWP, Peace	2
BERKLEY, Greenfield	1 NOT REPRESENTED	DETROIT, Hope
1 NOT REPRESENTED	DEARBORN, Cherry Hill	1 NOT REPRESENTED
BEVERLY HILLS, Northbrook	1 CARRIE THORPE	2
1 WILLIAM TRAVIS	2 ILLEGIBLE	DETROIT, Jefferson Avenue
	DEARBORN, First	1 JOHN LOVEGREN

2 HOWARD RILEY
DETROIT, Riverviews
1 KARI GORMAN
DETROIT, St. John's
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
DETROIT, Trinity Community
1 NATALIE BROTHERS
2 FRANCES BEEMAN
DETROIT, Trumbull Avenue
1 MARTHA SINGLEY
2
DETROIT, Westminster
1 RESHAWN WHETSTONE
2 MARGARET WHITEHEAD
3
FARMINGTON, First
1 LARRY GAGE
2 BILL VINCENT
FERNDALE, Drayton Avenue
1 BILL MALVITZ
FORT GRATIOT, Lakeshore
1 NOT REPRESENTED
GARDEN CITY, Garden City
1 ILLEGIBLE
GROSBE ILE, Grosbe Ile
1 DON HILL
2
GROSBE POINTE, Memorial
1 JOE KAISER
2 LOIS ANN HERNQUIST
3 JOHANNA GILBERT
4 SUE ACTON
GROSSE PTE WOODS, Woods
1 VIRGINIA MERCHANT
2 SUSAN MATTINGLY
HIGHLAND PARK, Park United
1 MARIE HUGHLEY
2
HOWELL, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
LINCOLN PARK, Lincoln Park
1 CHRIS ADAMS
LIVONIA, Rosedale Gardens
1 ALICE McCLOSKEY
2 DYCHE ANDERSON
LIVONIA, St. Paul's
1 JAN LAPENTA
LIVONIA, St. Timothy's
1 JIM HARRINGTON
MACOMB, Church/Covenant
1 NOT REPRESENTED

MILAN, Peoples
1 VON R THOMPSON
MILFORD, Milford
1 ROGER ST JOHN
2
3
MT. CLEMENS, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
NORTHVILLE, First
1 JOHN EMMERT
2 BARBARA ROSS
3 KIRK SWARBRICK
4 CAL STROM
5 DON KELLY
NOVI, Faith Community
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
ORCHARD LAKE, Community
1 ANNE SCOTT
2
3
PLYMOUTH, First
1 SALLY DAUDERMAN
2 DON MORGAN
3
4
PONTIAC, First
1 RICK NEWILL
PONTIAC, Joslyn Avenue
1 NOT REPRESENTED
PORT HURON, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
PORT HURON, Westminster
1 DENNIS YOUNG
REDFORD, St. James
1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROCHESTER, Univerally
1 SONYA BROOKS
2 DOUG DENTON
ROSEVILLE, Erin
1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROYAL OAK, First
1 SALLY GILREATH
2
3
ROYAL OAK, Korean First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
ROYAL OAK, Point of Vision
1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROYAL OAK, Sierra

1 NOT REPRESENTED
SALINE, First
1 TROY NEWBERRY
SHELBY TWP., St. Thomas
1 LARRY TRIGGER
2
SOUTH LYON, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
SOUTHFIELD, Covenant
1 BARB SMITH
SOUTHFIELD, Korean
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
3
4
SOUTHFIELD, New Hope
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
ST. CLAIR SHORES, Heritage
1 NOT REPRESENTED
ST. CLAIR SHORES, Lake Shore
1 KURT HOHN
2 GAIL HALL
STERLING HGTS, Ulea
1 NOT REPRESENTED
TAYLOR, Divine Word
1 NOT REPRESENTED
TAYLOR, Southminster
1 DEL WONNACOTT
TROY, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
TROY, Northminster
1 NOT REPRESENTED
WALLED LAKE, Crossroads
1 NOT REPRESENTED
WARREN, Celtic Cross
1 NOT REPRESENTED
WARREN, First
1 DOROTHY BUCHAN
WATERFORD, Community
1 CINDY BAIRD
W. BLOOMFIELD, Church/Savior
1 NOT REPRESENTED
WESTLAND, Kirk of Our Savior
1 NOT REPRESENTED
WHITE LAKE, White Lake
1 SUE MYSLIWEC
WYANDOTTE, Wyandotte
1 MARYFERN THOMAS
YPSILANTI, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2

C. ELDER MEMBERS
P ANDERSON, FRANCILE, PM
P BOSTIC-ROBINSON, DIANE
P ELAM, DIXIE, PM
A ELIS, HAROLD
C ENMERT, JOHN
A GEAKE, BOB
A HOLLOWELL, KENNETH
P HUTHWAITE, MOTOKO
E HYLKEMA, CAROL, PM
A LEWIS, STEFANIE
C MORGAN, DONALD
P MORRISON, HELEN, PM
E PITTS, FRANCES, PM

Attendance Ministers and Elder Members

P PIERCE, TOM, PM
P SEABROOKS, DOROTHY M., PM
E SHIRLEY, JAMES, PM
C SMITH, ALVIN
P SMITH, KENNETH, PM
C SZWED, ROBERT
E WINSLOW, PAUL, PM
D. NON-RETIRED MINISTERS
A ADAMS, WILLIAM L III
E ANDERSON, BARBARA S
A ANDERSON, LINDA
P ANDREWS, DOYLL
P ARAKELIAN, ELIZABETH
A AUE, CRAIG

A AUSTIN, MARY
E BAILEY, CLOVER
A BIERSDORF, JOHN
P BLAINE, DOUGLAS
P BLEMK, DAVID
A BOHN, CHRISTINE
E BOLT, KENNETH
P BOURLIER, RUTHANNE
A BOUSQUETTE, PAUL
A CAMPBELL, DOUGLAS
E CAMPBELL, EMILY
A CARL, STEPHEN
E CHOI, SEUNG KOO
A COCHRAN, LINDA

A	COOPER, QUINCY	A	PARKER, OPELTON	E	CAPPS, HARRY
E	COWLING, NEIL D.	A	PARKER-WARZESZCZ, JENNIFER	E	CARTER, DOUGLAS D.
A	DAVIS, ROXIE ANN	E	PARKER-WARZESZCZ, MATTHEW	E	CATER, LAWRENCE H.
P	DAVIS, WILLIAM	P	PAVELKO, JOHN H.	E	CHAMBERLAIN, LAWRENCE
A	DE ORIO, ANTHONY	A	PIECUCH, KEVIN	E	CHAMBERS, JAMES C.
E	*DENNIS, WARREN	P	PITTMAN, JASON	E	CHOI, IN SOON
P	DOWNIS, ELIZABETH	P	PORTER, JAMES	E	CLUSE, W. KENT
P	DOYLE-HOHF, KATHLEEN	E	PORTICE, GEORGE	E	COBLEIGH, GERALD R.
P	DUNIFON, WILLIAM	A	PRITCHARD, NORMAN	E	COLON, LOIS
E	*DYKSTRA, CRAIG R.	P	PROVOST, KEITH	P	COMLEY, JAMES H.
P	ELE, HERSCHEL	A	PRUES, LOUIS J.	E	CORSO, LINDA
P	EVANS, JONATHAN	P	PLUNTGAM, JOEL	E	CRILLEY, ROBERT
P	FALE, JAMES	P	REED, PHILIP	E	CROSS, PAUL D.
E	FARRIS, LAWRENCE	A	RICE, ELIZABETH	E	DANIELAK, RICHARD
E	FERGUSON, GUY THOMAS	P	RICE, THOMAS	P	DENTON, GRETCHEN
A	FORGER, DEBORAH	A	RIKE, JENNIFER	E	DUNCAN, THOMAS
A	FOSTER, JOHN	P	RITTER, W STUART	E	ELLENS, J. HAROLD
P	FRANCIS, RAPHAEL B.	P	RIZER, JAMES A	E	FINDLAY, WILLIAM
A	GABEL, PETER W.	A	ROGERS, MELISSA ANNE	E	FORSYTH, E. DICKSON
E	*GAST, TERRI	A	SCHAEFER, ANNE N.	E	GEISSINGER, HARRY L.
A	GEISELMAN, KEITH	E	*SHIH, BHENG-TO	E	GEPFORD, WILLIAM G.
P	GERE, BREWSTER	A	SHINN, DAVID	E	GLENN, LAWRENCE T.
P	GRANO, MARIANNE	A	SHIPMAN, JUDY	E	HANNA, J. RICHARD
A	HANNA, RAAFAT	E	*SHREVE, MAGGIE	E	HARP, WILLIAM S.
A	HARMON, BREANNE	A	SIAS-LEE, LAURA	E	HARRIS, R. JOHN
E	HARTLEY, THOMAS	E	*SIMONS, SCOTT W.	E	HEINRICHS, THOMSON
A	HATCHER, RUFUS	E	SKIMINS, JAMES	E	JANSEN, ROBERT
P	HAYES, FRANCES	P	SMALLEY, DIANE	E	JEFFREY, JOHN
A	HENDERSON, RICHARD	A	SMITH, BRYAN DEAN	E	JONES, VIRGIL L.
P	HENRY, PETER J. M.	P	SMITH, PETER C.	E	KESLER, JAMES W.
A	HUFF, JASON	P	SMITH, TRACI	E	KIM, T. ANDREW
A	JARVIS, BRENDA	A	SOEHL, HOWARD	E	KNUDSEN, RAYMOND
A	JOHNSON, KEVIN	A	SOHN, YO SUP	E	KOGEL, LYNNE
E	JONES, RICHARD	P	SOMMERS, CHARLOTTE	E	KREHBIEL, DAVID E.
E	JUDSON, JOHN	P	STUNKEL, KAREN	E	LAMBERT, ROY F.
P	KAIBEL, KENNETH	P	STUNKEL, PAUL	E	LANGWIG, JANICE
A	KELLY, KATE	E	THOMPSON, G. PATRICK	E	LANGWIG, ROY
A	KERR, DEBORAH	A	THORESEN, KATHRYN R.	E	LARSON, ROBERT F.
P	KIDDER, ANNEMARIE	P	THWAITE, PAUL	E	LISTER, KENNETH D.
E	*KIM, Y. MONCH	P	TIMM, ALLEN D	E	LONGWOOD, MARJORIE
E	*KIM, YOUNGCHUL	A	TOMBERLIN, DREW	E	McINNIS, JOHN D.
P	KING, CATHERINE	A	TUCKER-LLOYD, IRIS	E	McNIN, FRANK C., JR.
A	KLINGER, JAMIE	E	*VAN SLUIJS, HENDRICK	P	McCLOSKEY, CHARLES
P	KOSTER, EDWARD H.	A	VANDERBEEK, RONALD	E	McINTYRE, DEWITT
E	KRUG, ERNEST	P	WHITLOCK, KELLIE	E	MIHOCKO, DAVID
P	KUMIN, JAMES	A	WILES, SARAH	E	MUSSDORFER, GUS
A	LEE, FREDERICK	E	WILHELM, MARJORIE	E	OLSON, PHILIP
A	MABEE, CHARLES	A	WINGROVE, WILLIAM N	E	ORR, ROBERT C.
E	MADDEN, JULIE	A	WOO, BYEONGJIN	E	OWEN, DAVID
E	McCLOSKEY-TURKER, CATHARINE	A	YU, SEUNG WON	E	PETERS, RICHARD
A	McDEVITT, JENNY	E	*YUE, MYUNG JA	E	PETERSON, LEROY J.
E	McMILLAN, JUDITH	P	ZAMBON, WILLIAM	E	POLKOWSKI, WILLIAM
A	McRAE, BARBARA	P	ZURAKOWSKI, GREGORY	E	PRICE, MICHAEL T.
A	MEANS, MATTHEW			E	RATCLIFFE, ALBERT H.
P	MELROSE, SUE ELIUS		D. RETIRED MINISTERS	E	ROBERTSON, ANN
P	MICHALEK, DANIEL	P	AARON, ESTELLE	E	ROBERTSON, DAVID W.
A	MILLER, J. SCOTT	E	ABBOTT, DAVID W.	E	ROBERTSON, WILLIAM
P	MISHLER, JOHN	P	ACTON, ELLEN	P	RUSSELL, JAMES P.
A	MONNETT, JAMES	E	ALBRECHT, GLORIA	E	SCRIBNER, LOREN
P	MOCK, SHARON	E	ANDERSON, JAMES	E	SUTTON, PAUL
E	MOORE, PETER	E	AUSTIN, ANNA MARIE	E	TAYLOR, J. BERNARD
A	MORGAN, AMY	E	AUSTIN, LARRY	P	TAYLOR, THEODORE, II
P	MORROW, DUKE	P	BEERY, ELDON	P	WRIGHT, DONALD
E	MORSE, MATTHEW	E	BENEDICT, IVAN L.	E	YOON, HAK SUK
P	MOZENA, SUSAN	E	BENNETT, JOHNNIE	E	ZIEGLER, JACK T.
E	NICHOLS, NEETA	E	BORCHARDT, HENRY		
P	NICKEL, EMMA	E	BORCHARDT, JUDITH	F. CERT. ASSOC. CHRISTIAN ED.	
P	NICKEL, MATTHEW	E	BROWNLEE, RICHARD	E	MERTEN, CINDY
P	OBERG, ARTHUR	E	BYARS, RONALD	P	PRICE, LAURA
A	OTT, JEFFREY	P	CAMPBELL, VERN		

GAPJC 2011-09/10
HEARING ON PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS

GAPJC Remedial Cases 2011-09/10
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G. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS



PEACEMAKING OFFERING GRANT POLICIES
PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
SOCIAL JUSTICE & PEACEMAKING TEAM

1. Peacemaking Offering funds are available for use by churches and organizations within the bounds of the Presbytery of Detroit who wish to sponsor a special peacemaking program or event.
2. Applications for Peacemaking Offering Grants will be received by the Social Justice & Peacemaking (SJP) Team of the Presbytery of Detroit at any time.
3. Applications should be made on the form provided by the SJP Team, available on the Presbytery's website.
4. Action will be taken by the SJP Team three times a year on all applications received within 60 days prior to their meeting day.
5. Meetings when action takes place will ordinarily be in March, June, & October.
6. There will be a public announcement on the Presbytery website at least 90 days prior to the date of the meetings when the SJP Team will act on grant applications.
7. No church or organization will be eligible to receive a grant, if they have received one within the previous twelve months.
8. All grant recipients must submit quarterly reports, including financial reports, to the SJP Team until the grant funds are exhausted.
9. Grants will be limited to \$2,500.00 or less, based on the present amount of annual income from the Peacemaking Offering. Should the annual income increase, this policy will be reviewed by the SJP Team.

Paper C

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures Fund 100 By Committee
From 12/1/2010 Through 12/31/2010

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2010 Budget	Budget Variance
Revenue				
Nominations	0.00	0.00	750.00	(750.00)
Representation	0.00	0.00	750.00	(750.00)
Committee on Ministry	0.00	0.00	750.00	(750.00)
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	485.00	750.00	(254.00)
Trustees	154,507.99	809,403.22	701,357.48	108,045.74
Presbytery Operations	0.00	4,538.24	750.00	3,608.24
Congregational Life	0.00	0.00	750.00	(750.00)
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	21,050.00	750.00	20,300.00
Mission Interpretation	750.00	41,120.00	31,570.00	9,750.00
Nurture & Support	0.00	0.00	750.00	(750.00)
Spiritual Formation & Faith	618.10	618.10	750.00	(131.90)
Development				
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	9,568.67	4,068.67	750.00	3,318.67
Outdoor Ministry	0.00	0.00	750.00	(750.00)
Presbyterian Women	0.00	1,500.00	7,000.00	(5,500.00)
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	750.00	(750.00)
Planning & Visioning	0.00	0.00	750.00	(750.00)
Coordinating Cabinet	0.00	0.00	750.00	(750.00)
Total Revenue	158,444.76	882,814.23	750,227.48	132,568.75
Expense				
Nominations	0.00	0.00	650.00	650.00
Representation	0.00	0.00	400.00	400.00
Committee on Ministry	3,676.75	6,282.05	11,570.00	5,387.95
Preparation for Ministry	286.72	916.80	6,450.00	4,633.20
Trustees	16,233.75	116,789.64	180,794.00	13,894.16
Presbytery Operations	30,780.69	381,685.66	373,292.33	(8,393.23)
Congregational Life	3,624.40	16,546.36	24,628.00	7,981.84
Social Justice & Peace	8,915.38	64,822.71	65,854.00	(8,968.71)
Mission Interpretation	12,682.81	63,292.85	88,168.00	4,875.15
Nurture & Support	1,500.00	16,356.29	19,958.00	1,601.71
Spiritual Formation & Faith	8,590.55	19,832.22	27,610.00	10,677.78
Development				
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	8,009.05	59,426.77	87,590.00	28,163.23
Outdoor Ministry	3,651.41	43,816.92	49,817.00	0.08
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	1,299.66	2,772.00	1,472.42
Planning & Visioning	0.00	0.00	3,384.16	3,384.16
Coordinating Cabinet	2,433.22	3,689.89	8,760.00	1,660.11
Total Expense	100,364.73	813,667.84	881,227.48	87,559.84
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	58,080.03	69,146.39	(131,000.00)	200,148.39
Fund Balance (Net Assets) 1/1/10		(210,772.71)		
Fund Balance (Net Assets) 12/31/10		(141,626.32)		

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Comparative Overall By Committee Fund 100
From 12/1/2010 Through 12/31/2010

	2010 Current Period Actual	2010 Current Year Actual	2009 Prior Year Actual	Current Year % Change
Revenue				
Committee on Ministry	0.00	0.00	500.00	(100.00)
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	406.00	1,006.00	(50.70)
Trustees	154,507.99	809,403.22	830,662.69	(2.56)
Presbytery Operations	0.00	4,558.24	7,000.00	(34.88)
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	21,050.00	2,550.00	725.49
Mission Interpretation	750.00	41,120.00	45,770.00	(10.16)
Spiritual Formation &	618.10	618.10	0.00	100.00
Faith Development				
New Church	3,568.67	4,068.67	50,248.00	(91.90)
Dev/Redevelopment				
Outdoor Ministry	0.00	0.00	500.00	(100.00)
Presbyterian Women	0.00	1,500.00	2,000.00	(25.00)
Total Revenue	<u>159,444.76</u>	<u>882,814.23</u>	<u>940,236.69</u>	<u>(6.11)</u>
Expense				
Nominations	0.00	0.00	598.55	(100.00)
Committee on Ministry	3,676.75	6,282.05	7,807.14	(19.53)
Preparation for Ministry	286.72	816.80	4,758.55	(82.98)
Trustees	16,233.75	116,799.84	179,090.56	(34.78)
Presbytery Operations	30,780.69	381,685.56	539,550.40	(29.26)
Congregational Life	3,624.40	16,546.36	22,011.00	(24.83)
Social Justice & Peace	8,915.38	64,822.71	25,759.54	151.65
Mission Interpretation	12,662.81	83,292.85	116,000.85	(28.20)
Nurture & Support	1,500.00	18,356.29	25,537.48	(28.12)
Spiritual Formation &	8,590.55	16,632.22	31,970.50	(47.98)
Faith Development				
New Church	8,009.05	59,426.77	149,873.26	(60.35)
Dev/Redevelopment				
Outdoor Ministry	3,651.41	43,816.92	38,871.96	12.72
Metro Urban Ministry	0.00	1,299.58	2,080.74	(37.54)
Team				
Planning & Visioning	0.00	0.00	196.61	(100.00)
Coordinating Cabinet	2,433.22	3,889.89	6,927.23	(43.85)
Total Expense	<u>100,364.73</u>	<u>812,667.84</u>	<u>1,151,074.37</u>	<u>(29.31)</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>59,080.03</u>	<u>69,146.39</u>	<u>(210,837.68)</u>	<u>(132.80)</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Fund 100 By Committee
From 2/1/2011 Through 2/28/2011

	Year to Date		2011 Budget	Budget Variance
	This Month Actual	Actual		
Revenue				
Committee on Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
Trustees	38,850.71	79,166.81	896,022.00	(816,865.39)
Presbytery Operations	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
Congregational Life	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	6,300.00	1,000.00	6,300.00
Mission Interpretation	0.00	0.00	31,820.00	(31,820.00)
Nurture & Support	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
Spiritual Formation & Faith	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
Development				
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	3,000.00	3,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
Outdoor Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
Presbyterian Women	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
Coordinating Cabinet	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)
Total Revenue	41,850.71	88,466.81	942,642.00	(854,185.39)
Expense				
Nominations	0.00	0.00	650.00	650.00
Representation	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Committee on Ministry	3,012.73	3,012.73	10,630.00	7,617.27
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	0.00	4,550.00	4,550.00
Trustees	24,773.11	33,423.51	127,400.00	93,976.49
Presbytery Operations	31,589.26	66,157.90	395,872.00	329,514.10
Congregational Life	0.00	3,000.00	33,000.00	30,000.00
Social Justice & Peace	8,953.29	12,531.16	87,845.00	45,013.84
Mission Interpretation	6,721.79	11,110.39	82,258.00	61,127.61
Nurture & Support	2,203.24	4,012.84	41,750.00	37,737.16
Spiritual Formation & Faith	1,067.90	1,283.85	28,100.00	27,835.15
Development				
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	8,887.58	13,508.06	95,800.00	82,893.92
Outdoor Ministry	3,638.08	7,276.16	43,857.00	38,350.84
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	3,150.00	3,150.00
Planning & Visioning	0.00	0.00	4,200.00	4,200.00
Coordinating Cabinet	74.63	124.83	3,100.00	2,975.17
Total Expense	89,301.81	165,416.45	942,642.00	787,222.65
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	(47,471.10)	(86,962.84)	0.00	(86,962.84)

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Comparative Overall By Committee Fund 100
From 2/1/2011 Through 2/28/2011

	2011 Current Period Actual	2011 Current Year Actual	2010 Prior Year Actual	Current Year % Change
Revenue				
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	0.00	456.00	(100.00)
Trustees	38,830.71	79,156.61	101,767.50	(22.22)
Presbytery Operations	0.00	0.00	1,357.89	(100.00)
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	6,300.00	21,050.00	(70.07)
New Church	<u>3,000.00</u>	<u>3,000.00</u>	<u>5,833.00</u>	<u>(48.57)</u>
Dev/Redevelopment				
Total Revenue	<u>41,830.71</u>	<u>88,456.61</u>	<u>130,804.39</u>	<u>(32.22)</u>
Expense				
Committee on Ministry	3,012.73	3,012.73	360.00	736.87
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	0.00	5.35	(100.00)
Trustees	24,773.11	33,423.51	16,604.49	101.29
Presbytery Operations	31,869.26	66,157.90	75,010.22	(11.80)
Congregational Life	0.00	3,000.00	471.93	535.69
Social Justice & Peace	6,953.29	12,531.16	24,484.75	(48.82)
Mission Interpretation	6,721.79	11,110.39	11,439.48	(2.88)
Nurture & Support	2,203.24	4,012.84	2,333.54	71.96
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	1,067.90	1,263.85	162.09	679.72
New Church	8,987.58	13,506.08	16,199.27	(16.63)
Dev/Redevelopment				
Outdoor Ministry	3,638.08	7,276.16	7,302.82	(0.37)
Coordinating Cabinet	<u>74.83</u>	<u>124.83</u>	<u>659.53</u>	<u>(81.07)</u>
Total Expense	<u>89,301.81</u>	<u>155,419.45</u>	<u>155,033.47</u>	<u>0.25</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(47,471.10)</u>	<u>(66,962.84)</u>	<u>(24,529.08)</u>	<u>172.99</u>

**Presbytery of Detroit
Ordination and Installation Commissions**

Ordination of Marjorie Wilhelmi

The Commission to install The Reverend Ms. Marjorie Alice Wilhelmi as Pastor of The Northbrook Presbyterian Church was convened with prayer by Minister-Commissioner Mary Austin, at 9:40 a.m. on Sunday March 13, 2011, at The Northbrook Presbyterian Church.

The Commission members present were:

The Rev. W. Kent Clise, Moderator of the Commission Pastor at Large and Honorably Retired, Presbytery of Detroit.

The Rev. Cathi King, Associate Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Ann Arbor

The Rev. David Robertson, Pastor at-Large and Honorably Retired, Presbytery of Detroit

The Rev. Jaime Klinger co-pastor St. Thomas Community Church, Shelby Township.

Elder Rosy Latimore of the Birmingham First Presbyterian Church, Birmingham.
Elder Ron Verduin of Orchard Lake Community Presbyterian Church, Orchard Lake.

Elder Clyde Pritchard of Northbrook Presbyterian Church, Beverly Hills

Elder Kathie Doctor of Northbrook Presbyterian Church, Beverly Hills

The Commission approved, upon a motion made by Elder Rosy Latimore and supported by The Reverend Mr. David Robertson, the Order of Worship and the seating of and the inviting of the following additional persons to participate in the worship service:

Mrs. Sherrill Heinrichs, Director of Church Education Ministries, of the Northbrook Presbyterian Church, Beverly Hills.

Ms. Grace Iglehart, Director of Youth Ministry of the Northbrook Presbyterian Church, Beverly Hills Detroit Presbytery

The Commission proceeded to worship, where it installed Marjorie Alice Wilhelmi as Pastor and Head of Staff of The Northbrook Presbyterian Church, Beverly Hills.

Upon conclusion of the worship service, the commission and congregation were dismissed with prayer and benediction by The Reverend Ms. Marjorie Alice Wilhelmi at 11:20 am.

/s

Moderator W. Kent Clise

Date: March 22, 2011.

Installation of Emma C. Nickel

The Commission to install Rev. Emma C. Nickel as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Warren was convened by the vice moderator, Dianne Bostic Robinson, at 2:30 p. on October 17, 2010, at First Presbyterian Church of Warren. The Commission members present were:

The Rev. Mathew Nickel, Lilly Resident, Ann Arbor First

The Rev. Judi McMillan

The Rev. Dr. Scott Miller, Pastor Drayton Avenue Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Ruthanne Boulier, Chaplain, Glacier Hills Retirement, Ann Arbor

Elder Henry Johnson, of First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor
 Elder Bill Halstead, of First Presbyterian Church of Warren
 Elder Donna Johnson of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church
 Elder Beth Arnold of Celtic Cross

After approving the order of worship, the Commission proceeded to worship, where it installed Rev. Emma C. Nickel as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Warren. Upon conclusion of the worship service, the commission and congregation were dismissed with prayer and benediction by Rev. Emma C. Nickel.

/s
 Vice Moderator Dianne Bostic Robinson
 Date: October 22, 2010

Installation of William L. Adams III

The Commission to install Rev. William L. Adams, III as Associate Pastor of Kirk in the Hills was convened by the moderator, Dianne Bostic Robinson, at 10:45 a.m. on February 27, 2011 at Kirk in the Hills. The Commission members present were:

The Rev. Dr. Norman M. Pritchard, Pastor, Kirk in the Hills
 The Rev. Dr. Keith O. Provost, Temporary Stated Supply Associate Pastor, Kirk in the Hills
 The Rev. Linda E. Cochran, Director of Christian Education for Children and Youth
 Elder Norma Barrett Adams, Center Presbyterian Church, McMurray, Pennsylvania
 Elder Ray Tessier, Allen Park Presbyterian Church
 Elder Barbara Littleton, Kirk in the Hills

The Commission approved Elder Norma Barrett Adams, from the Washington Presbytery as a corresponding member.

After approving the order of worship, the Commission proceeded to worship, where it installed Rev. William L. Adams, III as Associate Pastor of Kirk in the Hills. Upon conclusion of the worship service, the commission and congregation were dismissed with prayer and benediction by Rev. William L. Adams, III.

/s
 Moderator Dianne Bostic Robinson
 Date: February 28, 2011

Installation of Paul Stunkel

The Commission to Rev. Paul V. Stunkel as Designated Pastor of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church was convened with prayer by the moderator, Dianne Bostic Robinson, at 5:00PM, on March 6, 2011, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. The Commission members present were:

The Rev. Karen Stunkel, At large Member
 The Rev. Joel Puntigam, St. Timothy Presbyterian Church
 The Rev. Dr. J. Harold Ellens, Honorably Retired
 Elder Kari Gorman of Riverside Community Church
 Elder Rosy Lalimore of First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham

Elder Janice Lapenta of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church

The Commission approved the seating of the following members as corresponding members:

The Rev. Dr. Robert Campbell of The Church of the Covenant, Cleveland, OH

After approving the order of worship, the Commission proceeded to worship, where it installed Paul V. Stunkel as Designated Pastor of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. The Moderator invited the following person to participate in the worship service:

The Rev. Dr. Al Timm, Executive Presbyter")

Upon conclusion of the worship service, the commission and congregation were dismissed with prayer and benediction by Rev. Paul V. Stunkel.

**/s
Dianne Bostic Robinson
Moderator**

Date: March 7, 2011

**EQUALIZATION OF ELDER COMMISSIONERS
PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
MAY, 2011-APRIL, 2012**

The Book of Order requires the Stated Clerk annually to ascertain the members of Presbytery who are active in the life of the Presbytery in order to determine the appropriate number of commissioners that the churches should be sending. The intention is to ensure that the number of ministers and elders is equal. G-11.0101

The Book of Order specifies certain representation according to the size of the church. G-11.0101a. It further states that if additional commissioners are needed to bring the representation to equal numbers, a Presbytery may select its own criteria for granting additional commissioners. By policy, the Presbytery of Detroit has given precedence to churches that have a majority of members who are an ethnic minority.

The number of ministers reported last year was 176. I report the number of active ministers this year as 161. I count the number of active ministers as those on the active roll who are resident in the area, plus those on the retired roll who are active in the life of Presbytery. I measured the latter by counting those retired ministers who are on a Presbytery committee, who have a position of some kind in a local congregation, or who attended a meeting last year.

The far-right column represents the number of commissioners a church should elect for the period May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012. Commissioners should report this new figure to Session so the proper number will come to the June meeting.

City	Church	2010 Mbrs	2010- 11 Elders	2011 Mbrs	Ethnic ?	Book of Order	Add to Equalize	2011- 2012 Elders
Elder Members			21					20
Allen Park	Allen Park	1232	4	1203		3	1	4
Ann Arbor	Calvary	42	1	42		1		1
Ann Arbor	First	1790	6	1805		4	1	5
Ann Arbor	Northside	54	1	56		1		1
Ann Arbor	Westminster	430	2	428		1		1
Auburn Hills	Auburn Hills	75	1	72		1		1
Belleville	Belleville	80	1	80		1		1
Berkley	Greenfield	225	1	238		1		1
Beverly Hills	Northbrook	466	2	459		1		1
Birmingham	First	1,268	4	991		3	1	4
Bloomfield Hills	Kirk in the Hills	2248	7	2222		5	1	6
Brighton	First	746	3	753		2		2
Canton	Geneva	207	1	217		1		1
Clarkston	Sashabaw	33	1	30		1		1
Clinton Twp	Peace United	75	1	63		1		1
Dearborn	Cherry Hill	357	2	325		1		1
Dearborn	First	541	2	434		2		2
Dearborn	Littlefield	80	1	77		1		1
Dearborn Hts	St. Andrew's	115	1	106		1		1
Detroit	Broadstreet	92	2	88	Y	1	1	2
Detroit	Calvary	221	2	219	Y	1	1	2
Detroit	Calvin (East)	105	2	98	Y	1	1	2
Detroit	First	3	1	3		1		1
Detroit	Fort Street	374	2	329		1		1
Detroit	Gratiot Avenue	82	2	52	Y	1	1	2
Detroit	Hope	127	2	123	Y	1	1	2
Detroit	Jefferson Avenue	508	2	502		2		2
Detroit	Riverside Community	0		59		1		1
Detroit	Southwest United	51	1	0		0		0
Detroit	St. John's	186	2	169	Y	1	1	2
Detroit	Trinity Community	134	2	124	Y	1	1	2
Detroit	Trumbull Avenue	49	2	43	Y	1	1	2
Detroit	Westminster	455	3	448	Y	1	2	3
Farmington	First	442	2	442		1	1	2
Ferndale	Drayton Avenue	113	1	125		1		1

City	Church	2010 Mbrs	2010- 11 Elders	2011 Mbrs	Ethnic ?	Book of Order	Add to Equalize	2011- 2012 Elders
Fort Gratiot	Lakeshore	134	1	132		1		1
Garden City	Garden City	149	1	147		1		1
Grosse Ile	Grosse Ile	487	2	491		1	1	2
Grosse Pointe	Grosse Pte Mem	1,212	4	1229		3	1	4
Grosse Pte Wds	Grosse Pte Woods	539	2	493		1	1	2
Highland Park	Park United	53	2	51	Y	1	1	2
Howell	First	458	2	454		1		1
Lincoln Park	Lincoln Park	155	1	147		1		1
Livonia	Rosedale Gardens	704	2	673		2		2
Livonia	St. Paul's	257	1	245		1		1
Livonia	St. Timothy's	207	1	198		1		1
Macomb City	Church / Covenant	78	1	79		1		1
Milan	People's	142	1	126		1		1
Millford	Millford	940	3	678		2		2
Mt. Clemens	First	409	2	405		1		1
Northville	First	1,341	5	1342		3	1	4
Novi	Faith Community	345	2	314		1		1
Orchard Lake	Community	914	3	936		2	1	3
Plymouth	First	1,224	4	1224		3	1	4
Pontiac	First	247	1	202		1		1
Pontiac	Joslyn Avenue	25	1	25		1		1
Port Huron	First	470	2	475		1	1	2
Port Huron	Westminster	68	1	64		1		1
Redford	St. James	78	1	78		1		1
Rochester	University	647	2	630		2		2
Roseville	Erin	153	1	149		1		1
Royal Oak	First	859	3	867		2	1	3
Royal Oak	Korean First	79	2	79	Y	1	1	2
Royal Oak	Point of Vision	14	1	14		1		1
Royal Oak	Starr	117	1	115		1		1
Saline	First	288	1	301		1		1
Shelby Twp	St. Thomas	453	2	466		1	1	2
South Lyon	First	177	1	177		1		1
Southfield	Covenant	246	1	126		1		1
Southfield	Korean	734	4	742	Y	2	1	3
Southfield	New Hope	79	2	84	Y	1	1	2
St. Clair Shores	Heritage	107	1	95		1		1
St. Clair Shores	Lake Shore	490	2	486		1	1	2
Sterling Heights	Utica	184	1	187		1		1
Taylor	Divine Word	41	1	28		1		1
Taylor	Southminster	168	1	160		1		1
Troy	First	169	1	161		1		1
Troy	Northminster	154	1	153		1		1
Walled Lake	Crossroads	101	1	99		1		1
Warren	Celtic Cross	240	1	237		1		1
Warren	First	177	1	166		1		1
Waterford	Community	269	1	267		1		1
West Bloomfield	Ch of Our Saviour	77	1	77		1		1
Westland	Kirk of Our Savior	136	1	123		1		1
White Lake	White Lake	223	1	197		1		1
Wyandotte	First	160	1	150		1		1
Ypsilanti	First	346	2	271		1		1
		30,530	176	29240		112	29	161



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

April 5, 2011

Rev. Edward H. Koster, Stated Clerk
Detroit Presbytery
3772 Bridle Pass Court
Ann Arbor MI 48108

Dear Ed:

On behalf of the General Assembly I want to extend a special word of appreciation to Detroit Presbytery for your faithful stewardship for 2010. More than ever, maintaining the covenant connection that links together the body of Christ is crucial for the faithful witness of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Your presbytery's full support for 2010 per capita apportionment is a tangible sign of commitment to that vision, and I am extraordinarily grateful.

As you well know, the per capita apportionment makes possible the General Assembly session through which Presbyterians seek to discern the mind of Christ for the church. It also enables us to uphold our *Constitution*, to promote the unity of Christ's church, preserve our historical records through the Department of History, and to facilitate communication throughout the church. We have sought to be good stewards of the resources that you have shared with the whole church and look forward to a continuing partnership in the Gospel with you in 2011.

Please share the deepest appreciation of all of us in the Office of the General Assembly for the faithful support of your presbytery and its particular churches for the per capita budget of the General Assembly. May God continue to richly bless your ministry.

Yours in Christ,

Gradye Parsons
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly

GP/ms

GAPJC 2011-09/10
HEARING ON PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS

GAPJC Remedial Cases 2011-09/10
APPELLANT BRIEF pg 161

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Gregory A. Goodwiller, Stated Clerk
c/o Diane Minter
General Assembly's PJC
100 Witherspoon Street
Louisville, KY 40202

Re: *Remedial Case 2011-109, 2011-110*
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Vs. The Presbytery of Detroit

Dear Mr. Goodwiller:

Enclosed for filing is the Brief in Support (1) of the Challenge to the Executive Committee's Determination on the question of jurisdiction and (2) of Mr. Priest's Appeal to be filed on behalf of Thomas H. Priest, Jr. I also enclose ten (10) additional copies with all attachments for use by the General Assembly's PJC.

Sincerely,

Archibald Wallace, III

AW/jpb
cc:
Elder Mark Schneider
Edward Koster
David Bartley

WALLACE PLEDGER

Page 3

PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.,

Complainant/Appellee

v.

Case No 2011-110

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT,

Respondent/Appellant

**BRIEF OF REPENDENT/APPELLANT
PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT**

The Question Presented for Review

The question on review in Case 2012-110 is whether the Permanent Judicial Commission for the Synod of Covenant committed reversible error when it held that Complainant Priest had standing to file the instant remedial case.

Appellant answers: Yes.

Procedural History

This is an appeal from the decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod for the Covenant ("SPJC") on the preliminary question of standing.

The complaint in this remedial case was filed on June 9, 2011. It was one of four (4) separately filed complaints that sought to address the same set of facts and circumstances. The other three (3) complaints were all filed by the Session of Mr. Priest's church and (like this case) were dismissed at the preliminary question stage. Of the four cases filed, Mr. Priest's complaint is the only one on appeal to this Commission.

The Presbytery timely answered Mr. Priest's complaint and argued that all four (4) of the preliminary questions identified in D-6.0305 should be answered in the negative. On August 19, 2011, the SPJC executive committee determined that Mr. Priest's case could not be accepted because all four (4) preliminary questions had been answered in the negative. See Exhibit 1.

Mr. Priest challenged the decision of the SPJC executive committee and the parties thereafter participated in a hearing before the entire commission. On November 15, 2011, the SPJC overruled the executive committee on the question of standing but otherwise affirmed the committee's decision. See Exhibit 2.

On or about December 19, 2011, Mr. Priest appealed the decision of the SPJC. On December 21, 2011, the Presbytery appealed the decision of the SPJC on the preliminary question of standing.

On January 31, 2012, the executive committee of this Commission issued a preliminary order finding that Mr. Priest did not have standing. See Exhibit 3. Mr. Priest has challenged that preliminary order. By order dated May 13, 2012, Mr. Priest's challenge to the decision of this Commission's executive committee on the preliminary question of standing and his appeal from the SPJC decision are the subjects of Mr. Priest's merits brief in Case No. 2011-109. See Exhibit 4.

The issue in this appeal – and this brief – is limited to the Presbytery's appeal from the SPJC's decision on the question of standing

Statement of the Basis for Jurisdiction

To the extent jurisdiction may be found to be proper, this Commission has jurisdiction over this appeal pursuant to D-8.0000 *et seq.*

Book Of Order Provisions Involved in the Case

The provisions of the Book of Order particularly relevant to this appeal include: D-6.0305b (Preliminary Questions - Standing) and D-6.0202 (Who May File Complaint).

Statement of the Case

Mr. Thomas H. Priest is a member of Cavalry Presbyterian Church ("Cavalry") and a candidate for ministry under the care of the Presbytery of Detroit. See Exhibit 5, Answer at ¶ 1. On April 20, 2010, Ms. Ruth Azar set a letter jointly addressed to the Committee on Ministry ("COM") and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry ("CPM") for the Presbytery of Detroit that made certain claims against Mr. Priest, with the Stated Clerk as a cc addressee. See Exhibit 5, Answer at ¶¶ 16. The Stated Clerk informed Ms. Azar that the Presbytery did not have disciplinary jurisdiction over Mr. Priest. So, On April 21, she filed her allegations with Cavalry's session, which then handled the matter as required by the Rules of Discipline. No charges were brought against Mr. Priest by Cavalry as a result of Ms. Azar's complaint. See Exhibit 5, Answer at ¶ 8. The text and claims in the written allegation are almost exactly the same as the text and claims of the April 20th letter.

Quite separate from any action by Cavalry, the CPM responded to Ms. Azar's April 20th letter by starting its own investigation of Mr. Priest in furtherance of the committee's duty to determine his fitness for ministry. In starting the investigation, the CPM followed the procedures laid out in Robert's Rules of Order, decisions of the GAPJC and guidance from the General Assembly. Specifically, the CPM appointed a sub-committee, which it labeled an investigating committee, to interview persons and collect information related to the statements contained in the April 20th letter. See Exhibit 5, Answer at ¶¶ 19, 24. A sub-committee report with recommendations was prepared, and a hearing before the full CPM was held March 1. See Exhibit 5, Answer at ¶ 27. The hearing actually began on February 1, 2011, but was quickly stopped and continued to March 1 because Mr. Priest's counsel was not present. Nothing substantive was accomplished on February 1. See Exhibit R (Transcript of the Hearing of March 1, 2011), at page 10, lines 3ff of Exhibit 5, Answer.

Mr. Priest was provided with a copy of the report and recommendations of the CPM sub-committee before the initial hearing date of February 1st and so he had those papers in hand for more than a month before the March 1st hearing. See *Id* and Exhibit 5, Answer at ¶ 19. Many of the witnesses interviewed by the sub-committee were also identified in the report of the sub-committee. See Exhibit T, pp2ff, §8, of Exhibit 5, Answer.

The March 1 hearing was before a neutral body – the full CPM. The hearing also included a court reporter who prepared a full transcript. See Exhibits R and T of Exhibit 5. Mr. Priest was represented by counsel, and both Mr. Priest and his counsel were allowed to speak at great length and present arguments to the full CPM. See Exhibit R, pp 18 ff of Exhibit 5, Answer.

The CPM voted on the recommendations of the sub-committee the same day as the hearing – March 1 – but neither Mr. Priest nor his counsel opted to stay to receive the decision in person. If Mr. Priest had stayed he obviously would have been notified of the outcome of the vote immediately and in person. However, even though he was

not present at the time of the vote, Mr. Priest still received actual notice of the vote (via email and telephone) at least as early as March 2, 2011 and certainly no later than March 5, 2011. *Id.* In addition, a summary of the CPM's action was transmitted to Mr. Priest in a letter dated March 10, 2011.

Mr. Priest did not like the CPM's decision. So, rather than take his complaint to the actual governing body/council having oversight of the CPM, Mr. Priest decided to try and bypass the floor of Presbytery by filing the instant complaint. In the complaint, Mr. Priest claimed that the CPM hearing was a judicial hearing in disguise and that he had been "robbed" of his rights. He also alleged that the Stated Clerk had conspired to "get him". To date, Mr. Priest has never taken his concerns to the floor of Presbytery.

On October 4, 2011, the CPM met with Mr. Priest and granted him Final Assessment with permission to circulate his PIF. See Exhibit 6, item 3, which was included as Exhibit H of the Presbytery's brief to the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission.

Argument

To have standing, Mr. Priest must have been "a minister or an elder enrolled as a member of a presbytery concerning an irregularity or a delinquency during that period of enrollment....". See D-6.0202(a)(1). Mr. Priest is not a minister. Nor has he ever been an elder enrolled at any meeting of the Presbytery that considered the disputed actions of the CPM. Indeed, the disputed actions have never been taken up by the Presbytery. Therefore, since he cannot meet the clear language of the Constitution, his complaint must be dismissed for lack of standing.

Mr. Priest laid out a number of arguments in favor of standing in the run-up to the hearing before the Synod. But he essentially abandoned all those positions in favor of an argument asserted for the first time – ever – during the Synod hearing. In the hearing Mr. Priest argued that since the Presbytery's bylaws granted him the status of a member of Presbytery, he *ipso facto* had standing to file the complaint. To be sure, as a former moderator of the Presbytery, the Presbytery's bylaws do grant Mr. Priest the status of "member." However, being a "member" in the eyes of a single presbytery is not the same thing as being 1) a minister or 2) an enrolled elder in the eyes of the Constitution. Since Mr. Priest was and is neither of those things he cannot have standing. Indeed, allowing this would give every presbytery the power to grant Constitutional standing under the Rules of Discipline to any elder merely by granting that person membership – even though that person was never a commissioner to the meeting in the eyes of the Constitution.

But let us assume for sake of argument that Mr. Priest's status as a "member" of Presbytery placed him Constitutionally speaking in the same shoes as a minister. Would that make a difference? Absolutely not. Even if Mr. Priest were presumed to have the same status as a minister he would still be unable to point to any irregularity or delinquency – by the Presbytery – that occurred during his "period of enrollment". That the irregularity or a delinquency must result from the actions of a presbytery itself (and

- not a committee thereof) follows from the express language of D-2.0101, which states that "[a] remedial case is one in which an irregularity or a delinquency of a lower council ... may be corrected by a higher council". The meaning of this text is clear, the body that commits the error must be a governing body/council, and not simply a subordinate committee of a governing body/council. Indeed, Mr. Priest is well aware that he should have taken his dispute with the CPM to the floor of Presbytery before filing his complaint since his own counsel argued as much to the CPM during the March 1st hearing:

This committee has the power and the right to say whether he should ever be ordained. You can do it in a number of ways and you can say, no, he always has the right to go to presbytery and challenge their decision. But where does that get him if he does that, what is the taste in your mouth, what is the future, how are we working together if we go that route?

Exhibit 5, p.11. (*emphasis added*). (Quoting from the Transcript of the Hearing of March 1, Exhibit R, p. 22, ll 13ff, of Exhibit 5, Answer.)

Unfortunately, for whatever reason, Mr. Priest has refused to bring a motion to the floor of a meeting of the Presbytery requesting that the CPM be instructed to correct its decision. As result, Mr. Priest is unable to point to a single action – taken by any governing body/council – that would amount to an irregularity or a delinquency. Since he cannot do that, he does not have standing.

Mr. Priest's (Discarded) Secondary Arguments

In addition to the argument above, Mr. Priest argued in pleadings filed with the Synod that he must be a member of Presbytery for purposes of standing because he was enrolled as a candidate; and that he has to have standing because otherwise he would have no recourse from the CPM's disciplinary proceeding. The obvious problems with this argument are two fold. The first problem is that the CPM hearing was not a disciplinary proceeding under the Rules of Discipline. The CPM hearing was a perfectly valid and properly conducted exercise of the discretionary authority of CPM to guide a candidate as he prepares for ministry. See the former G-14.0405 and G-14.0512. Mr. Priest's second problem is that his argument is directly contrary to the plain language of the former G-14.0411, which states that "[d]uring the phases of inquiry and candidacy, the individual continues to be an active member of his or her particular church."

Another argument posited by Mr. Priest was that he needed to be a member of the Presbytery for purposes of standing in order to have rights to fundamental fairness. Mr. Priest's claim on this point is, quite simply, wrong. He has a right to fundamental fairness as a Presbyterian. Moreover, these rights are so broad and important that the CPM took extraordinary steps to ensure that he was informed of the issues and allegations, was given full opportunity to prepare and present his case to the CPM and was represented by counsel.

The ordinary process by which a candidate for teaching elder is protected and supported is for the session of his or her church to be the advocate. The cases show

that in every case where there is a complaint that relates to candidacy, someone besides the candidate is the party bringing the case. This is so because the candidate lacks the standing to file a case. In this matter, Mr. Priest has been supported by the session of his congregation; the Session of Calvary has filed three remedial cases in this matter, one with the Presbytery and two with this Commission. All were dismissed without trial, and the Session of Calvary has made no appeal to this Commission.

In short, Mr. Priest basically argued that he must have standing, or otherwise he could not file this case, a remarkably pure example of circular reasoning. As a part of his claim he says that he was unjustly treated, even though the facts he presents in his own pleading refute that contention. The rules of standing are clearly stated and rigorously enforced in the courts of the church to ensure that legitimate cases of real issues are brought to trial. If this Commission grants Mr. Priest standing to file a remedial case with the Synod against the Presbytery, the effect would be to write new law, not enforce the law as clearly stated.

Decision on the Briefs

A hearing is scheduled in this appeal, and in the related co-pending appeal in 2011-109, for the end of July. But a hearing is not required. See e.g., PJC 2006, 217-6, 472, *Raines v. Session of Miami Shores PC* (PJC has discretion under D-8.0302b not to conduct a hearing on a challenge to the findings of the moderator and clerk on preliminary questions). Nor is it likely that a hearing will be of substantial benefit to the Commission. This is not an appeal on the merits. The only issues on appeal concern straightforward application of the four preliminary questions. The Constitution trusts that the executive committee can digest and rule on these questions in the first instance without a hearing, and the Presbytery sees no harm in extending that trust to the entire Commission. Mr. Priest lost, soundly, on three of the four preliminary questions in the Synod. And, the one issue he did succeed on (i.e., standing) before the Synod was rightly dismissed by the executive committee of this Commission. Accordingly, the Presbytery submits that little will be gained and much to be lost (in terms of travel and other expenses) by requiring an in-person hearing in these matters. The Commission should exercise its discretion, decline to hold a hearing, and decide 2011-109 and 2011-110 on the briefs.

CONCLUSION

For all the above reasons, the decisions of the Moderator and Clerk should be sustained on all four (4) questions.

Committee of Counsel for the Presbytery of Detroit:

Mark Schneider by MK

Mark Schneider

Date: June 6, 2012

Elizabeth Rice by PHK

Elizabeth Rice

Date: June 6, 2012

Exhibit 1

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

PRESBYTERY OF CINCINNATI PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT PRESBYTERY OF EASTMINSTER
 PRESBYTERY OF LAKE HURON PRESBYTERY OF LAKE MICHIGAN PRESBYTERY OF MACKINAC PRESBYTERY OF MAUMEE VALLEY
 PRESBYTERY OF MIAMI VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF MUSKINGUM VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF SCIOTO VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF THE WESTERN RESERVE

August 19, 2011

Mr. Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
 22668 Beckenham Court
 Novi, MI 48374

The Rev. Edward H. Koster, Stated Clerk
 The Presbytery of Detroit
 117 N. First Street, Suite 111
 Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Re: Remedial Case 2011-04, Thomas J. Priest, Jr., vs. the Presbytery of Detroit

Dear Mr. Priest and Rev. Koster:

On Wednesday, August 9, 2011, I, as Moderator and the Rev. Doris Arnett Whitaker, Clerk, of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission met by conference call to examine documents provided by the Complainant and the Presbytery's Committee of Counsel for the above-captioned matter.

Pursuant to Book of Order, Rules of Discipline, D-6.0305a, the SPJC lacks jurisdiction to consider Remedial Case 2011-04; Pursuant to Book of Order, Rules of Discipline, D-6.0305b, the complainant lacks standing to file the case; Pursuant to Book of Order, Rules of Discipline, D-6.0305c, the complaint was not timely filed; and pursuant to Book of Order, Rules of Discipline, D-6.0305d, the complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

Since all four Preliminary Questions have been answered in the negative, the officers of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant have determined that this case cannot be accepted.

If any party to this case or any member of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission wishes to challenge the findings of the moderator and clerk of the PJC they may do so under the provisions of the Rules of Discipline D-6.0306. Such challenges should be sent to me at the synod office address.

Very truly yours,

Georgana Taggart, Moderator
 Synod of the Covenant
 Permanent Judicial Commission

1911 Indianwood Circle – Suite B, Maumee, Ohio 43537
 419-754-4050 800-848-1030 (Michigan and Ohio) Fax 419-754-4051 www.synodofthecovenant.org

Exhibit 2

THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
of
THE SYNOD OF THE CONVENANT
of
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

COPY

CHALLENGE TO DECISION OF MODERATOR AND CLERK

Ruling Elder Thomas Priest)	
)	
v.)	Remedial Case No. 2011-04
)	
Presbytery of Detroit)	
)	

----- [ARRIVAL STATEMENT] -----

This is a remedial case which has come before this Permanent Judicial Commission as a result of a complaint filed by the above named Complainant against the Presbytery of Detroit, Respondent. The SPJC Moderator and Clerk determined that all four of the preliminary questions were not answered in the affirmative. Challenges to this determination were received from the complainant and a member of the SPJC.

----- [PERSONS PRESENT DURING CONFERENCE CALL] -----

In addition to members of the Permanent Judicial Commission, the following parties participated on the live conference call: Thomas Priest (Complainant), Archibald Wallace (Counsel for the Complainant), Mark Schneider (Committee of Counsel, Presbytery of Detroit)

----- [PROCEEDURE] -----

The Complainant and Counsel were given six minutes to give oral evidence in addition to a written brief. Members of the SPJC were granted time for questions. The Respondent was given six minutes to give oral evidence in addition to a written brief. Members of the SPJC were granted time for questions. Both parties were given time for rebuttal.

--- [PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS] ---

- D-6.0305a. *Jurisdiction - the council has jurisdiction;*
After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
1 aye/6 nays/ 0 abstentions. The question was answered in the negative

- D-6.0305b. *Standing - the complainant has standing to file the case;*
After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
6 ayes/0 nays/ 1 abstention. The question was answered in the affirmative.

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- D-6.0305c. Timely Filed - the complaint was timely filed; and
After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
3 ayes/3 nays/ 1 abstention. The question was answered in the negative*
- D-6.0305d. Relief Can Be Granted - the complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted.
After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
3 aye/4 nays/ 0 abstentions. The question was answered in the negative*

----- [ORDER] -----

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

This case is dismissed. (D-6.0305)

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit report this Decision to the Presbytery at its first meeting, that the Presbytery enter the full Decision upon its minutes, and that an excerpt from those minutes showing entry of the Decision be sent to the Stated Clerk of the Synod. (D-7.0701)

----- [ABSENCES AND NON-PARTICIPANTS] -----

Doyll Andrews (member of the Permanent Judicial Commission) was present for argument of the complaint, but took no part in the decision

AND

Johanna Jozwiak-Stover, Jennifer Saad, and Rebecca Tollefson, members of the Permanent Judicial Commission, were not present and took no part in the proceedings.

----- [DATE] -----

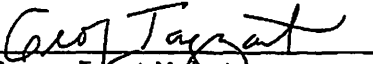
Dated this fifteenth day of November, 2011

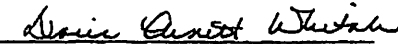
[signed] Georgana Taggart
Georgana Taggart
Moderator, Permanent Judicial Commission

[signed] Doris Arnett Whitaker
Doris Arnett Whitaker
Clerk, Permanent Judicial Commission

Exhibit 2**CERTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL FORM CERTIFICATES**

We certify that the foregoing is a full and correct copy of the decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), in Remedial Case No.2011-04, Thomas Priest v. Presbytery of Detroit, made and announced during conference call, on November 14, 2011.


 Georgana Taggart, Moderator,
 Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of Covenant


 Doris Arnett Whitaker, Clerk,
 Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant

I certify that I did transmit a certified copy of the foregoing to the following persons by certified mail, return receipt requested, depositing it in the United States mail at Dayton, Ohio on November 15, 2011:

Thomas Priest, Complainant
 22668 Beckenham Court
 Novi, MI 48374

Archibald Wallace, Counsel for the Complaint
 25 Hunting Ridge Road
 Manakin Sabot, VA 23103

Edward Koster, Stated Clerk
 Presbytery of Detroit
 117 N. First Street, Suite 111
 Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Mark Schneider, Committee of Counsel
 Presbytery of Detroit
 117 N. First Street, Suite 111
 Ann Arbor, MI 48104

David Bartley, Stated Clerk
 Synod of the Covenant
 1911 Indianwood Circle, Suite B
 Maumee, OH 43537

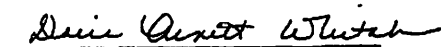

 Doris Arnett Whitaker, Clerk
 Permanent Judicial Commission of the
 Synod of the Covenant

Exhibit 3

**PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

Thomas Priest, Jr.,) Appellant/Appellee (Complainant),) v.) Presbytery of Detroit,) Appellee/Appellant (Respondent).)	Preliminary Order Remedial Cases GA2011-109 and GA2011-110
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These remedial cases come before the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission (GAPJC or this Commission) on appeals filed by Appellant/Appellee, Thomas Priest, Jr., and by Appellee/Appellant, Presbytery of Detroit, from a Decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant (SPJC) rendered on November 15, 2011.

In its November 15, 2011 Decision, which was a hearing on Preliminary Questions, the SPJC determined that the Appellant/Appellee had standing to file the Complaint, but that it did not have jurisdiction over the matter, the Complaint was not timely filed, and it did not state a claim upon which relief could be granted.

The Appellant/Appellee filed an Appeal (which is case GA2011-109) challenging the latter three determinations.

As an appeal from the decision of a synod permanent judicial commission, Remedial Case GA2011-109 is properly before the GAPJC, was timely filed, and lists one or more of the grounds for appeal contained in D-8.0105. Upon examination of the papers as required by D-8.0301, however, the Executive Committee (EC) of the GAPJC determines that the Appellant/Appellee did not have standing to file the *original* Complaint.

The Appellant/Appellee is a Candidate for ordination under the presbytery's care and was not enrolled as a member at any meeting of the presbytery at which the matter at issue has been addressed; furthermore, the decision complained against is not an irregularity or delinquency of the presbytery itself, but rather a decision of its Committee on Preparation for Ministry.

The Rules of Discipline explicitly provide a means by which actions of the General Assembly's entities can be directly challenged. But no such provision exists for the other councils of the church. In fact, G-9.0505a of the *Book of Order* in effect at the time of the alleged irregularity states that when an administrative commission acts with delegated authority, its decision "shall be the action of the appointing governing body from the time of its completion by the commission and the announcement, where relevant, of the action to parties affected by it." That provision then notes that "a governing body may rescind or amend an action of an administrative commission in the same way actions of the governing body may be modified."

Exhibit 3


Practice has determined that the proper method for challenging the action of an entity of a council other than the General Assembly is through a motion to rescind or amend the action, made by a person with standing to offer such a motion at a meeting of the council.

Since the EC finds that the Appellant/Appellee did not have standing to file the original Complaint, it determines that he does not have standing to file the Appeal, even though he was a party in the original Complaint. The matter is therefore dismissed.

In light of this dismissal, the EC further determines that matter GA2011-110 (which is a challenge from the Appellee/Appellant, the Presbytery of Detroit to the SPJC's determination that the Appellant/Appellee had standing to file the Complain) is rendered moot unless this Preliminary Order is challenged.

The attention of the parties is called to D-8.0302a., which reads: "If a challenge is made to the findings of the moderator and clerk within thirty days after receipt of those findings, either by a party to the case or by a member of the permanent judicial commission, opportunity shall be provided to present evidence and argument on the finding in question."

Dated the 31st day of January, 2012.



Gregory A. Goodwiler, Clerk
Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly

Exhibit 4

**PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

 Thomas Priest, Jr.,)
 Appellant/Appellee (Complainant),)
 v.)
 Presbytery of Detroit,)
 Appellee/Appellant (Respondent).)

Order for Briefing Schedule
 Remedial Cases GA2011-109 and
 GA2011-110

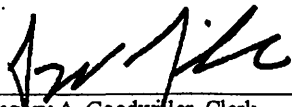
On March 26, 2012, the Executive Committee (EC) of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly (GAPJC or this Commission) ordered a single hearing on three matters: 1) the Appellant/Appellee's challenge to its determination on preliminary questions, 2) the substance of the Appeal filed by the Appellant/Appellee (which is a challenge to the preliminary question determinations of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant (SPJC) on jurisdiction, timeliness, and whether the Complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted), and 3) the substance of the Appeal filed by Appellee/Appellant (which is a challenge to the SPJC's determination that the Appellant/Appellee has standing to file the Complaint). The EC now, therefore, issues the following briefing schedule for this hearing:

Appellant/Appellee Brief: On or before June 7, 2012, the Appellant/Appellee, Thomas Priest, Jr. (Priest), shall submit a brief on all matters in his original Notice of Appeal. This brief shall *also* include the matter of his challenge to the EC's determination on standing.

Appellee/Appellant Brief: On or before June 7, 2012, the Appellee/Appellant, the Presbytery of Detroit (Detroit), shall submit a brief on standing (as the original Appellant in that matter).

Response Briefs: On or before July 9, 2012, if they so desire, either or both parties may submit responses to the briefs of their opposing parties.

Dated the 13th day of May, 2012.



 Gregory A. Goodwillier, Clerk
 Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly

Exhibit 5

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
SYNOD OF THE COVENANT
PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION**

THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.,

Complainant

Case No 2011-04

v.

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT,

Respondent.

**ANSWER
OF THE PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT**

The Committee of Counsel of The Presbytery of Detroit submits the following answer to the complaint of the irregularity alleged in the complaint of Thomas H. Priest, Jr., as follows:

1. Allegation: Thomas H. Priest, Jr., a member of Calvary Presbyterian Church, Detroit, Michigan, and an enrolled Candidate of the Presbytery of Detroit complains to the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant concerning certain irregularities committed against him by the Presbytery of Detroit, acting by and through its agent, the Committee on the Preparation For Ministry (CPM), in that on March 1, 2011 the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting by and for the Presbytery, conducted a "Hearing" against Thomas Priest on the, "Form 26, Accusation By Individual As Statement of Offense," of Ruth Azar dated April 21, 2010 and submitted under D-10.0102a of the Discipline of the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with letter attached.

Response: Respondent admits that Thomas H. Priest ("Priest") is a member of Calvary Presbyterian Church, Detroit. Respondent admits that Priest is an enrolled candidate with the Presbytery of Detroit. Respondent denies that an irregularity was committed against Priest for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated. Respondent denies that the Presbytery of Detroit has taken any action against Priest for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated.

Respondent denies that the Committee on the Preparation For Ministry "conducted a "Hearing" against Thomas Priest on the, "Form 26, Accusation By Individual As Statement of Offense," of Ruth Azar dated April 21, 2010 and submitted under D-10.0102a of the Discipline of the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)" for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated.

Exhibit 5

Respondent further notes that the complaint omitted the letter of Ruth Azar dated April 20, 2010 and addressed to CPM and the Committee on Ministry, which letter included exactly the same allegations as Exhibit A of the complaint. The April 20th letter is attached as Exhibit O (Respondent is lettering its exhibits starting from where the Complaint left off)

- 2. Allegation: While the CPM labeled the March 1, 2011 proceeding a Hearing as to the Suitability for Ministry of Thomas Priest, the entire proceeding was instead a Disciplinary Hearing against Thomas H. Priest. On March 18, 2011 CPM mailed notice of its decision to Mr. Priest, saying in essence Mr. Priest had abused his authority as Moderator of the Presbytery, had exhibited prejudice and bias against others, and had routinely used methods of confrontation and intimidation to get his way.**

Response: Respondent admits that the March 1st hearing was a hearing as to the suitability of Priest for ministry. Respondent denies as untrue or mistakenly stated that the March 1st hearing was a disciplinary hearing against Priest. Respondent admits that CPM mailed out a letter dated March 10th on or about March 18th. Respondent denies as untrue or mistakenly stated that it was a "notice of its decision" since Priest had received actual notice of the decision at least as early as March 2nd, and certainly no later than March 5, 2011. See e.g., Exhibits P and Q. Respondent notes that the March 10th letter speaks for itself, and otherwise denies as untrue or mistakenly stated the remainder of this allegation and leaved Complainant to his proofs.

- 3. Allegation: At the March 1, 2011 CPM Meeting Mr. Priest (1) objected to the hearing claiming a disciplinary hearing by CPM was ultra vires, (2) cited the lack of fundamental fairness (procedural and substantive due process) in the conduct of the hearing, and (3) objected to the impropriety of the proceeding because it subjected Mr. Priest to double jeopardy, since a separate PJC disciplinary investigation of the complaint of Mrs. Azar had already been held, following which that Investigative Committee declined to initiate Disciplinary proceedings against Mr. Priest.**

Response: The hearing transcript, Exhibit R, speaks for itself regarding objections made by Complainant. Respondent denies that the objections and this allegation have any merit for the reason that they are untrue or mistakenly stated. Any objections, for example, ignored the unambiguous provisions of G-14.0411 that granted Complainant's Session jurisdiction over disciplinary matters, but also granted the CPM jurisdiction over Complainant to determine fitness for ministry.

- 4. Allegation: The decision of CPM was mailed March 18, 2011, and was received on March 21, 2011 by Mr. Priest.**

Response: Respondent admits a summary of the CPM's March 1st decision was transmitted by letter dated March 10, 2011. Respondent does not have personal knowledge as to when Complainant received that letter, and so denies same as

Exhibit 5

untrue or mistakenly stated, and leaves Complainant to his proofs. Respondent notes that Complainant received actual notice of the decision at least as early as March 2, 2011 and certainly no later than March 5, 2011 (see Exhibits P and Q), and also that by virtue of the letter Complainant was aware that the CPM had made its decision on March 1, 2011. Furthermore, had Complainant remained at the meeting of the CPM until the decision was made rather than departing, he would have been notified of the decision immediately and in person.

5. Allegation: It is from this decision that Mr. Priest brings this Remedial Complaint, since the actions complained of are final under the delegated authority of the Presbytery to CPM and since the decision of CPM has not and will not be subject to Presbytery approval or disapproval at any subsequent meeting of the Presbytery.

Response: Respondent denies that the actions of CPM were final for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated. Complainant could have taken this matter to the floor of Presbytery and moved that the Presbytery direct that CPM withdraw its decision.

6. Allegation: Mr. Priest states the following as Irregularities in the Actions taken by CPM:

Response: Respondent answers the claims of Mr. Priest as follows:

7. Allegation: 1. The CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting as agent for and on behalf of the Presbytery of Detroit, conducted a disciplinary hearing against Mr. Priest on March 1, 2011 in violation of D-10.0100, et seq., of the Book of Order which empowers only permanent judicial commissions to hear and decide disciplinary charges.

Response: Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and leaves Complainant to his proofs.

8. Allegation: 2. The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit improperly referred the Complaint to the CPM or the Presbytery of Detroit for investigation and action in contravention of D-10.0103 of the Book of Order.

Response: Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue. The complaint referred to was addressed to the CPM and the Committee on Ministry. The Stated Clerk merely told the Committee on Ministry that it had no jurisdiction, and the CPM that it had jurisdiction over Mr. Priest for the purposes of deciding fitness for ministry.

9. Allegation: 3. The CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting as agent for and on behalf of the Presbytery of Detroit, formed an Investigative Committee to consider the disciplinary charges and present its conclusions at a formal hearing.

Exhibit 5

At the time of the March 1, 2001 Hearing CPM was aware that the same charges had been referred to an Investigative Committee of the Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church, which had investigated the charges and declined to initiate formal disciplinary charges against Mr. Priest.

Response: Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and leaves Complainant to his proofs.

9. Allegation: 4. The Hearing of March 1, 2011 was Irregularly conducted in that Mr. Priest was denied the fundamental fairness guaranteed throughout the Book of Order for such proceedings in that he was not allowed:

- a. to confront his accuser;
- b. to call any witnesses;
- c. to cross examine the Investigators, the accusers or any of the other witnesses; and
- d. to know what the accuser or any witnesses said or see what any witness might have provided to the Investigating Committee; and

Response: Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and leaves Complainant to his proofs. The hearing transcript, **Exhibit R**, speaks for itself concerning what Complainant was and was not allowed to do. Respondent submits, however, the CPM treated Complainant in a fundamentally fair manner.

10. Allegation: 5. The findings of CPM of March 1, 2011, while said not to be disciplinary in nature, were in fact disciplinary and, as such, were beyond the scope of authority of CPM (*ultra vires*).

Response: Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

11. Allegation: 1. During the calendar year 2009 Elder Thomas H. Priest of Calvary Presbyterian Church, Detroit, Michigan, served as Moderator of the Presbytery of Detroit. During that year Mr. Priest was also a student at Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit Michigan, working toward an M. Div. Degree, which he was awarded later that year. On June 23, 2009 the Presbytery, after examination, enrolled Mr. Priest as a Candidate for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament at its June Presbytery Meeting.

Response: Admitted.

12. Allegation: 2. As a part of one of Mr. Priest's classes in 2009 at Seminary, Mr. Priest evaluated two urban ministry centers in Detroit (the Barnabas Mission and Second Mile Center) using Ronald Peters,' *Urban Ministry*

Exhibit 5

and John M. Perkins' *Beyond Charity* as guides. Mr. Priest's conclusions were that the Barnabas Mission was a mission of reconciliation and empowerment, under the *Peters'* guidelines, while the Second Mile Center would only qualify as a charitable mission. Mr. Priest conducted his field evaluation at the Second Mile Center on February 18, 2009. After completing his evaluations, Mr. Priest shared his findings with his Seminary class on March 9, 2009, with the Presbytery's Metropolitan Urban Ministry Team on March 12, 2009, and with members of the two centers involved on March 16, 2009.

Response: The cited documents speak for themselves. Further, Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs. Further answering, Respondent states that even if true, the allegation is not material to the complaint.

13. Allegation: 3. On March 2, 2009, Mr. Priest, while serving as a member of the Presbytery's Coordinating Cabinet, participated in the Cabinet's consideration and approval of a recommendation that the Presbytery call Ruth Azar as Executive Director of Second Mile Creek. There is nothing in the minutes of that meeting to suggest Mr. Priest objected in any way to the call. On June 23, 2009 the Presbytery approved the call of Ms. Azar to the Second Mile Center after a spirited effort to postpone the vote. Mr. Priest Moderated the Presbytery Meeting where the call was ultimately approved and did not participate in the discussions about postponement.

Response: The cited documents speak for themselves. Further, Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs. Moreover, Respondent states that even if true, the allegation is not material to the complaint.

14. Allegation: 4. At the end of 2009 Mr. Priest ended his term as Moderator of the Presbytery. In October 2009, just before Mr. Priest's term as Moderator ended, the Coordinating Cabinet received a Report from Ed Koster, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, about the way the Presbytery had handled the call of Ms. Azar to be Executive Director of Second Mile Center. The report was intended as response to the questions raised by some within the Presbytery as to whether the decision of the Presbytery to call Ms. Azar in June 2009 was proper or not. The solution suggested was to discharge Ms. Azar and go through the call process again. No action was taken on the issue before the end of 2009.

Response: Admitted. The cited documents speak for themselves. Further, Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs. Further answering, Respondent states that even if true, the allegation is not material to the complaint.

15. Allegation: 5. As an elder commissioner to the Presbytery but no longer Moderator and while still a member of the Coordinating Cabinet, Mr. Priest

Exhibit 5

on April 5, 2010 advised the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of his intent to file a Motion with the Presbytery asking it to rescind its earlier action regarding the called position at Second Mile Center. A copy of the Motion was to be a part of the Presbytery Packet sent to all commissioners and was to be voted on at the April 27, 2010 Presbytery Meeting. On April 12, 2010, the Presbytery Executive emailed a copy of Mr. Priest's Motion to Ms. Ruth Azar to give her a "heads up" that the Motion was coming. Two days later, on April 14, 2010, Ms. Azar and two others responded, asking the Presbytery Executive what "charges" could be brought against Mr. Priest for what they perceived to be harassment by Mr. Priest. The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery responded the same day, saying that charges could be brought under the Discipline against Mr. Priest, if Ms. Azar wished and, because Mr. Priest was under the care of Presbytery, a complaint could be made to CPM.

Response: The cited documents speak for themselves. Further, Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs. Further answering, Respondent states that even if true, the allegation is not material to the complaint.

16. Allegation: 6. On April 21, 2010 Ms. Azar submitted a "Form No. 26, Accusation By Individual As Statement of Offense against Mr. Priest, citing D-10.0102a with letter attached as basis for the accusation (together her written statement), thereby invoking the procedure to be used when initiating a Disciplinary Case against a person under the jurisdiction of a governing body. See Exhibit A attached. In the Disciplinary Accusation Ms. Azar claimed Mr. Priest committed the offenses of racism, discrimination, and division against her and others at the Second Mile Center. Interestingly, the accusations related to the one day visit of Mr. Priest on February 18, 2009 to the Second Mile Center. No explanation was given in the Written Statement of Ms. Azar why the accusation had lain dormant for fourteen months. The Disciplinary Accusation was addressed to Rhonda Favors, Clerk of Session of Mr. Priest's home church and to Edward Koster, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery. The Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church immediately appointed an Investigating Committee as required by D-10.0201. Edward Koster, the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery sent the Charge to Presbytery's CPM and advised CPM how it could proceed with its own investigation without having to defer to the Presbyter's Permanent Judicial Commission or the Session of Mr. Priest's home church. Mr. Koster did not refer the Disciplinary Accusation to an Investigating Committee of the Presbytery as required by D-10.0201 of the Book of Order

Response: Respondent observes that on April 20, 2010, Ms. Azar transmitted a letter address to the COM and CPM that included exactly the same accusations set forth in the Form No. 26, dated April 21, 2010. See Exhibit O. Respondent notes further that a copy of the April 20, 2011 letter was not attached to the complaint. Moreover, Respondent states that even if true, the allegation is not material to the complaint.

Exhibit 5

Respondent further denies this allegation as untrue or mistakenly stated – and frankly, patently misleading. The allegation makes a less than veiled allegation that the Stated Clerk conspired to lead the CPM in a process to avoid the Book of Order. Such unsupported and blanket allegations have no place in his church, or any church for that matter. See e.g., Exodus 23:1. The Book of Order is clear that Complainant's Session had jurisdiction over him in disciplinary cases. See G-14.0411. As such, there was no reason for the Stated Clerk to refer the matter to a presbytery investigating committee because the presbytery did not have disciplinary jurisdiction over Complainant. However, that same section, and the one that follows it (G-14.0412) gave the CPM wide discretion to determine (and investigate if necessary) the fitness of an inquirer or candidate for ministry. Indeed the CPM's discretion to investigate, order counseling, and even *remove* a candidate from the rolls (with the consent of Presbytery) has been supported time and time again by decisions of the GAPJC. See e.g., 2004, PJC 217-1 Hope v. Pby. of San Francisco; 1997, PJC 210-2 Bevensee v. Pby. of New Brunswick; 1993, PJC 205-4 LeTourneau v. Pby. of Twin Cities Area. Respondent notes that, for all of its length, the complaint failed to cite even one (1) decision supporting Complainant's position.

17. Allegation: 7. On April 27, 2010 Mr. Priest's Motion to Rescind was brought to the floor of Presbytery but was not voted upon as to its merits because of procedural rulings. Mr. Priest was not in attendance at the meeting.

Response: The cited documents speak for themselves. Further, Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs. Further, Respondent questions how it could have been Complainant's motion, when he was not in attendance at the meeting? See Exhibit S - SPJC Letter of 9/23/2010 in 2010-2. Moreover, Respondent states that even if true, the allegation is not material to the complaint.

18. Allegation: 8. Ms. Azar's disciplinary charges were the subject of an extensive investigation by Calvary Presbyterian Church's Investigative Committee, including a hearing where Mr. Priest was allowed to address and refute the charges. On February 10, 2011, the Investigative Committee of Calvary Presbyterian Church issued its Conclusion of Investigation, advising that "no charges would be filed." This information was provided Presbytery's CPM, before it began its hearing on March 1, 2011; however, CPM went ahead with its hearing related to the same Charges.

Response: The cited documents speak for themselves. Further, Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs. Still further, on information and belief, Calvary's "extensive" investigation did not include questioning Ms. Azar. Finally, Respondent states that even if true, the allegation is not material to the complaint.

Exhibit 5

19. Allegation: 9. On May 4, 2010 CPM established its own Investigative Committee and was guided in its investigation by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery. CPM asked the Investigating Committee it appointed to investigate the accusations of Ms. Azar. The Investigating Committee recognized that the approach of CPM could be viewed as violative of the powers granted a CPM by the Book of Order, so the Investigating Committee in its Report of January 18, 2011 took pains to label its actions as advisory only, saying its intended purpose was to advise CPM on issues of Mr. Priest's suitability and not to determine whether or not the Constitution of the PC (USA) was violated. Unfortunately, the stated intent was subverted by a deliberate use of the discipline of the church in a manner not permitted by the Constitution of the PC (USA). The result was the Committee's Report of January 18, 2011. See Exhibit C attached. At no time during its investigation was Mr. Priest given a copy of Ms. Azar's written statement, nor advised what Ms. Azar had said in her presentations to the Committee, nor given any information about the investigation. Subsequently, Mr. Priest was called to an August 9, 2010 meeting with the Investigating Committee where he was asked to discuss his actions on February 18, 2009 in light of the written statement of Ms. Azar. Both before and after the August 9, 2010 meeting the Investigating Committee met with and obtained testimony from other witnesses, some of whom it has not even named to date. None of the materials collected by the Investigating Committee were made available to Mr. Priest. At the end of its work, the Investigative Committee submitted its report dated January 18, 2011 to CPM with conclusions about Mr. Priest's behavior and with recommendations of what he should do to continue under the care of the Presbytery. Among the conclusions the Investigative Committee stated were Mr. Priest's,

1. abuse of his authority as Moderator of the Presbytery;
2. deceit in the identification of himself to the Second Mile Center employees;
3. misuse of his Presbytery office to influence the actions of the Presbytery against Second Mile Center;
4. denial of due process to Second Mile Center in not allowing it be heard regarding his Motion of April 2010;
5. bias against the opinions and experiences of others;
6. racism in his treatment of other racial-ethnic individuals; and,
7. misuse of confrontation and intimidation to achieved his will.

Each of these conclusions has been cited by PJC's across the church as basis for the imposition of discipline upon other minister members of the church. Here, the conclusions were reached without affording Mr. Priest the rights of fundamental fairness. Simply by labeling the proceedings as something other than a disciplinary proceeding. Mr. Priest was called to a Hearing on March 1, 2011 before the whole of CPM, to hear the report and respond to it. CPM advised before the Meeting that it intended on March 1, 2011 to receive the Report of the Investigating Committee of CPM and to act upon it. Mr. Priest was given a copy of the proposed Agenda for the Meeting before the Hearing. This Agenda was

Exhibit 5

adopted as the Agenda for that Hearing. See Exhibit N attached. He was not given a copy of the Report until just before the original date of the Hearing¹. In the Agenda adopted, CPM advised Mr. Priest that a court reporter would be present, that Mr. Priest could have an advocate, if he wished, and that there would be a time in the Meeting called the "Hearing Stage." CPM advised at the onset of the Hearing that the Investigative Committee would present its findings and report on the evidence it had collected but could not be subjected to cross examination or direct questioning. CPM also advised that none of the witnesses examined by the Investigative Committee would be present or available for cross examination. The procedure for the day only allowed Mr. Priest to submit his testimony and to argue his defense. CPM advised it intended to vote to adopt the Report but wanted to hear from Mr. Priest before it finally ruled. Inexplicably, the Stated Clerk, who had engineered the way the charges were handled by CPM was allowed to sit in with CPM during its deliberations and to advise CPM as to its actions. Mr. Priest was given time to argue his defense, but it mattered not, because the evidential basis for CPM's action (the evidence behind the Report of January 18, 2011) was unavailable and not disclosed throughout the meeting. On March 11, 2011 Mr. Priest received Notice of the decision of CPM. See Exhibit E attached. Because of this Notice Mr. Priest submits this Complaint to the PJC of the Synod of the Covenant, asking this tribunal to correct the irregularities listed above through this Remedial Action.

Response: The cited documents speak for themselves. Further, Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs.

Further answering, Respondent notes that the Complainant first appeared before the CPM at the meeting on February 1, 2011 and requested an adjournment so that he could have counsel present. That adjournment was granted (in a showing of fairness), and he appeared again before the CPM on March 1, 2011 with counsel.

RESPONDENT'S RESPONSE TO COMPLAINANT'S ARGUMENTS CONCERNING STANDING

Respondent denies that this Permanent Judicial Commission has jurisdiction to hear this complaint for at least the following reason:

20. Allegation: 1. Complainant has standing to file this Complaint, since he is an elder of Calvary Presbyterian Church (PCUSA), a graduate of Ecumenical Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity Degree and is enrolled under the care of the Presbytery of Detroit as a Candidate to become a Minister of the Word and Sacrament. Because of his enrollment he qualifies as a member of the

Exhibit 5

Presbytery. In addition, some of the actions complained of and the conclusions reached purportedly occurred when Mr. Priest served as Moderator of the Presbytery of Detroit and related to his use or misuse of that office. And finally, he is aggrieved by the actions of the Presbytery, acting by and through its agent, the CPM.

Response: Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs.

Complainant does not have standing. Complainant is only eligible to file his complaint if he qualifies under D-6.0202(a)(1)(Jurisdiction based on membership in the presbytery). Complainant, however, fails to qualify under that provision.

In this allegation, Complainant boldly claims that he is a member of presbytery because he is a candidate for ministry. This claim is a manifestly false. It is also expressly contradicted by other allegations in the complaint. Specifically, at paragraph 1, *supra*, Complainant avers that he a member of Calvary. And, at paragraph 18, *supra*, Complainant avers that he was subject (exclusively) to a disciplinary investigation by Calvary (pursuant to the Rules of Discipline). Thus, by his own admission, Complainant is a member of Calvary and not a member of the Presbytery.

Complainant also (noticeably) failed to cite to any authority to support his claim that his status as a candidate endowed him with the privilege of membership in the presbytery. Respondent cites to G-14.0411, which refutes Complainant's claim as that section clearly states that every candidate is subject to the jurisdiction of his or her session for purposes of discipline.

Complainant's status as a candidate does not grant him membership in the presbytery. Therefore, he is not eligible to file the complaint, and this Commission does not have jurisdiction to hear the complaint.

Also, in order for an individual to have standing to file a remedial case against the Presbytery, he or she must have been a commissioner to the meeting at which the alleged irregularity occurred. D-6.0202a.(1). Complainant claims the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, acting as the agent of Presbytery, committed the irregularity. Complainant was not a member of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, and has no standing on his own right to file a remedial action against Committee on Preparation for Ministry or the Presbytery.

21. Allegation: 2. The Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod has jurisdiction to hear this Complaint since it involves the decisions and final actions of the Presbytery, acting by and through its Committee for the Preparation of Ministry taken against a Candidate under the care of the Presbytery. The actions taken by CPM are final actions of the Presbytery

Exhibit 5

because of the Presbytery's designation of CPM to act on its behalf in certain matters without further review or action by the Presbytery.

Response: Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs.

Respondent also notes that a remedial case is one in which an irregularity or a delinquency of a lower governing body ... may be corrected by a higher governing body. D-2.0202 (*emphasis added*). The complaint here did not allege any action by a lower governing body. The only action alleged was that of the CPM, which is not a governing body. Therefore, Respondent respectfully submits that this Commission does not have jurisdiction to hear the complaint.

There can be no dispute that the CPM is not a governing body. There is also no dispute that the complaint focused exclusively on actions taken by the CPM. This limited factual scope in the complaint is wholly attributable to that fact that Complainant never took his concerns regarding the CPM to the floor of the presbytery. As a result, Respondent has never had occasion to address or otherwise act on Complainant's concerns.

In addition, Respondent notes that the action taken by the CPM was not final. It was a decision made in the course of its responsibilities to guide the Complainant as he prepared for ordained ministry pursuant to G-14.0405 and G-14.0512. The action merely directed the Complainant to do additional things to prepare himself. A "final" action would be a decision to report to the Presbytery that the Complainant had passed his final assessment and was ready to receive a call. G-14.-0450. Or make recommendation to Presbytery that be removed from the roll. G-14.0463. Since the supervision of a Committee on Preparation for Ministry over a candidate is a continuing process, its decisions regarding preparation for ministry in that process are not final and are not reviewable by a higher governing body.

If Complainant had a problem with the CPM, and the procedure the CPM used to investigate his fitness for ministry, then Complainant had a clear avenue of appeal to the floor of presbytery. Indeed, Complainant through Calvary's commissioner(s) could have requested from Respondent (by way of a motion from the floor) some, if not all, of the remedies Complainant now demands from this Commission. That, however, was clearly not something that Complainant wanted to do. See, e.g., Exhibit R at 22, wherein Complainant's counsel argued:

This committee has the power and the right to say whether he should ever be ordained. You can do it in a number of ways and you can say, no, he always has the right to go to presbytery and challenge their decision. But where does that get him if he does that, what is the taste in your mouth, what is the future, how are we working together if we go that route?

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Exhibit R, at 22, ln. 14 – 19 (*emphasis added*).

Had Complainant taken the basic step of appealing the CPM's decision to the floor of Presbtery, and had Respondent then failed (in Complainant's mind) to act appropriately, Complainant would then be able to point to at least SOME action by a lower governing body with which to vest this Commission with jurisdiction. But that is not what happened here. What happened (and is happening) here is that Complainant is attempting to use this Commission and the judicial process to circumvent standard parliamentary procedure, Respondent's wide discretion in considering the worthiness of candidates for ministry, and the Constitution. Complainant's efforts should not be rewarded.

Finally, if at any time the Commission concludes that Respondent did not form a disciplinary committee in accordance with the Rules of Discipline then this case should be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction. The inappropriate formation of a disciplinary committee in violation of the Book of Order is the only Constitutional violation alleged in the complaint. Absent that allegation, all that remains are questions of policy. However, under prevailing case law, this Judicial Commission only has jurisdiction to hear violations of the Constitution, not violations of policy. See e.g., See 2004, PJC 217-1 Hope v. Pby of San Francisco.

22. Allegation: 3. The Complaint is timely in that the Complainant seeks to remedy actions taken March 1, 2011, of which he was not notified until notice was mailed to him on March 10, 2011 and received by him on March 11, 2011.

Respondent denies this allegation as untrue. The complaint was ten (10) days late. Complainant cannot rely on the March 10th date of the CPM's letter, the mailing date of that letter, or even his receipt of that letter to determine whether the complaint was timely filed. The only relevant date was and is March 1st, the date the CPM made its decision. And the complaint here was filed more than ninety days after that date.

Under D-6.0202, "...a complaint of an irregularity shall be filed within ninety days after the alleged irregularity has occurred...". The phrase "after the irregularity has occurred" being the relevant point (and one left unreferenced by Complainant's pleading). This language makes clear that the clock starts running on the date of an alleged irregular action, and not on the date an allegedly aggrieved party received notice. Where things otherwise, the deadline for filing would be never ending because a complaining party could secure more time by claiming that he or she was unaware of the irregular action. The purpose of filing in our Constitution "is to prevent controversies with the church from going on and on..." 1994, PJC 206-7, Bayley v. Pby of Minn. Valleys. A notice requirement would undermine that purpose. Moreover, it must be pointed out that other (unrelated) provisions in the Book of Order do include a notice

Exhibit 5

requirement. D-6.0306, for example, allows for a challenge to the finding of a PJC clerk and moderator "... within thirty days after receipt of those findings...". Therefore, had the denomination desired to include a notice provision in D-6.0202, it would have done so.

The Stated Clerk of this Synod has confirmed that the complaint in this case was received by his office on June 9, 2011. Even giving Complainant the benefit of a March 2nd start date (omitting March 1st), the complaint was ten (10) days late. Indeed, the last day the complaint could have been filed by Respondent's count was May 31, 2011 (the actual 90th day having been Memorial Day).

But, let's say for sake of argument, that Complainant was entitled to a notice requirement. Even under that requirement the complaint was untimely because Complainant had actual notice of the CPM's decision by March 2, 2011. Specifically, on that date Complainant had an approximately 40 minute telephone conversation about the CPM decision with Sam Clark – a co-moderator of CPM. Then, on March 3, 2011, Complainant responded to an email from Elizabeth Downs – the other CPM co-moderator concerning the decision. See Exhibits P and Q. Then, on March 5, 2011, counsel for Complainant transmitted an email to Rev. Downs, the content of which makes clear that Complainant was fully aware of the CPM's decision. *Id.* (FYI – a March 6th notice date should have been filed by June 3, 2011).

In addition, Respondent notes the obvious problem with Complainant's allegations against Respondent's Stated Clerk – (i.e., the Second Irregularity). Complainant was clearly aware of the Stated Clerks actions as of the March 1st hearing, but never filed a complainant. As a result, Complainant's ninety-day window to take action as to that allegation expired a long time ago.

The case of 2005, PJC 218-7, Jackson v. Session of Cordova Presbyterian Church is instructive. In Jackson, an investigating committee drafted and mailed out a decision memorandum. The memorandum was undated, which prevented the GAPJC from knowing the actual date of the committee's decision. So, the GAPJC inferred a decision date by concluding that the decision could have been no later than the day the memorandum was postmarked. The point is, in Jackson the GAPJC could have relied on the date Jackson received the decision. But it didn't. In fact, that date was not even mentioned. Instead, the GAPJC inferred a *decision* date based on the available evidence and it then counted out the relevant time period. Jackson's complaint was then found to have been untimely.

Two points distinguish this case from Jackson. Neither point favors Complainant. The first point is that, unlike the undated memorandum in Jackson, the March 10th letter relied on by Complainant clearly referenced the CPM's March 1st decision. Complainant, therefore, cannot claim that it was not aware of the decision date when he received the letter. The second point is that Complainant's

Exhibit 5

own Session actually filed a complaint (see case 2011-1) within the 90-day period. The complaint in 2011-1 is untimely for other reasons, but it still stands as strong evidence that Complainant could have filed timely filed the complaint in this case.

The facts are clear. Complainant knew about the CPM's decision as early as March 2, 2011 and has missed the ninety-day deadline. As a result, he is now 1) ignoring his own actual notice of the CPM's decision and 2) attempting to construct an unconstitutional "written notice" requirement in an effort to gain standing. Complainant's efforts should not be rewarded. The complaint was clearly not timely filed and it should be not accepted.

23. Allegation: 4. The Complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted in that it cites as irregularities four erroneous actions taken by the Presbytery, acting by and through its CPM, as relates to the decisions reached in the meeting of CPM of March 1, 2011, including the conduct of CPM both before and during that meeting and one erroneous act taken by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, which was continuing in nature, even to this date.

The complaint confuses the separate duties and obligations of Complainant and Respondent's CPM concerning the oversight of a candidate – Mr. Priest. Paragraph G-14.0411 of our Constitution granted the Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church original jurisdiction to investigate the *disciplinary* complaint against Mr. Priest. However, that same paragraph also granted Respondent's CPM original jurisdiction to *administratively* determine Mr. Priest's fitness for ministry. It is well established that a CPM may appoint a task force to investigate allegations made against a candidate. See 2004, 217-1 Hope v. Pby of San Francisco. The *Hope* decision is particularly relevant because there, as here, the COPM "... appointed a task force to investigate concerns about the candidate's ability to resolve conflicts..." See also *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, 10th ed. 480 (Cambridge, Mass.: Perseus Publishing, 2000)("A committee can appoint a subcommittee, which are responsible to and report to the committee and not to the assembly.")

Respondent's CPM did not need to resort to the Rules of Discipline to investigate and exercise oversight of Mr. Priest when considering his fitness for ministry, because our Constitution and numerous GAPJC decisions make clear that the CPM inherently has that authority. See e.g. 1997, 210-2 Bevensee v. Pby of New Brunswick (upholding Presbytery removal of inquirer from roles for not complying with counseling requirement mandated by CPM). Therefore, even if the allegations in the complaint are taken as true, the complaint failed to state a claim. Respondent's COPM did investigate Mr. Priest, but that investigation was not a disciplinary investigation. Rather, the CPM conducted an *administrative* investigation of Mr. Priest in accordance with the CPM's constitutionally mandated duty to provide oversight of candidates under its care. See G-14.0412. Moreover, during that investigation and subsequent hearing, Mr. Priest was

Exhibit 5

treated with fundamental fairness. He was supplied with copies of relevant documents. He was afforded the opportunity to speak on his behalf. And, he was granted a right to counsel.

Respondents assert that no relief can be granted because the complainant has stated no violation of the Book of Order, as required by 2006, PJC 217-1, Hope v. Pby of San Francisco.

Furthermore, the Book of Order grants the CPM the full authority and discretion to decide matters of readiness before recommending Presbytery declare a person ready to receive a call. G-14.0401; G-14.0411; G-14.0412; G-14.0450. Since the CPM has this discretion, its decision cannot be overruled except in cases where there has been an abuse of discretion. *Lightner v the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee*, 1983; *Jackson v. the Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley*, 1996; *Leslie v. Session, First Church, Manhattan, KS.*, 2002. Since no abuse of discretion has been alleged, no relief can be granted.

RESPONSE TO ARGUMENT

24. 1. behalf of the Presbytery, to conduct a disciplinary investigation and hearing against Mr. Priest by (a) appointing an Investigative Committee, (b) authorizing it to investigate the disciplinary charges against Mr. Priest, and (c) holding a judicial hearing involving disciplinary charges against Mr. Priest was erroneous and not permitted under the Book of Order, and, as such, it is an irregularity committed by the Presbytery.

Respondent points to the statement made by Complainant's counsel at the hearing on March 1, 2011:

"I must submit as a student of the Book of Order, CPM, and I am a long-standing member of the CPM in Virginia, CPM's have the right and power and ability and directive to consider the suitability of persons seeking to be ordained. You have that right and you have the right to exercise that and you have the right to look into matters. There's no question about that."

Exhibit R at 19, In. 3 – 9 (statements made by Counsel for Complainant at March 1st hearing).

Complainant admitted at the hearing, as he must, that the CPM had the right to determine his fitness for ministry. However, while conceding that CPM has a right to act, Complainant now attempts to reserve for himself the privilege of instructing the CPM how to exercise its rights. No candidate in this denomination is granted that ability, or that privilege.

Exhibit 5

Robert's Rules (and thus our own Book of Order) grants to every committee the right to appoint sub-committees. See RONR (10th ed.), p 480, I. 11 - 13. Therefore, implicit in the CPM's right to consider the suitability of persons seeking to be ordained was a right to appoint a sub-committee to determine the suitability of a particular candidate and report back to the full CPM. Complainant's argument then that the investigation by CPM sub-committee was disciplinary is a red herring.

Moreover, Complainant's argument that the CPM hearing was a disciplinary proceeding under the Rules of Discipline is simply without merit. THE fundamental characteristic of a disciplinary proceeding under our Rules of Discipline is the possibility that the party charged could be subject to a public censure before presbytery. At a minimum, the censure is a judgment of "guilt" followed by verbal rebuke before the assembled presbytery. See D-11.0403; D-12.000; D-12.0102. The worst possible censure is removal from office and/or membership. D-12.0105. Complainant was NEVER at risk of to even the lowest degree of censure by the CPM. Therefore, no matter how much Complainant might wish to characterize the CPM hearing as a disciplinary hearing – it simply was no such thing. To be sure, Complainant was admonished and "corrected" by the CPM as part of CPM's assessment for his fitness for ministry. But that is CPM's right. See e.g., 1997 PJC 210-2 Bevensee v. Pby of New Brunswick(candidate required to receive counseling). The GAPJC has ruled time and time again in cases just like this – indeed more extreme than this – that a Presbytery has exceptionally wide discretion over candidates under its care. See e.g., Bevensee, supra, where the GAPJC noted that only mandatory requirement prior to REMOVING a candidate from the rolls is that the candidate be given an opportunity to be heard. Complaint here was granted that right, and much much more.

The CPM was well within its rights, and the record is clear that Mr. Priest was treated with fundamental fairness. The case should be dismissed.

25. 2. The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit improperly referred the Written Statement of Ms. Azar to the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit for investigation and action in contravention of D-10.0103 of the Book of Order.

The actions of the Stated Clerk, even if accepted as true, occurred more than 90 days before the Complaint was filed. As a result, the Commission clearly does not have jurisdiction over this alleged irregularity.

However, assuming jurisdiction exists, Respondent was and is astonished that the complainant did not include Ms. Azar's letter of April 20, 2010 to COM and CPM. See Exhibit O. The content of that letter was nearly identical to the Written Statement authored the next day. Why was the letter not provided in the complaint? Respondent doesn't know – at present. But the existence of the letter turns Complainant's narrative on its head. Without Ms. Azar's letter

Exhibit 5

Complainant is free to spin and weave a story of a conspiracy, in which Respondent's Stated Clerk is out to "get" Mr. Priest. But, with Ms. Azar's letter, what we have (at best) is a story of the Stated Clerk providing duplicate information to the CPM. Clearly, the latter is not as sexy, or supportive, of the alleged plight of Complainant.

This irregularity is nothing more than a red herring founded on the convenient omission of an exceptionally material fact. It should be dismissed.

26. 3. The CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting as agent for the Presbytery of Detroit, subjected Mr. Priest to double jeopardy when it formed an Investigative Committee to consider the charges and present its conclusions in a formal hearing, knowing that the same charges had been submitted to the Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church and were the subject of an investigation there.

This irregularity has no merit. Zero. It is directly refuted by the plain language of G-14.0411, which granted Complainant's home church jurisdiction over him in disciplinary matters but granted the CPM jurisdiction over determining his fitness for ministry.

One way to test a theory is to see how well it holds up at the extremes. In this case, suppose we have a candidate for ministry in presbytery X that commits a serious secular felony. Suppose further that the victim of the felony happened to also be Presbyterian and so files a disciplinary case against the candidate with the candidate's church. And, suppose further that the candidate is never charged by the church. Does Complainant really think that under those circumstance the CPM doesn't have the right to undertake its own investigation to determine the fitness of the candidate for ministry? The answer in the example, and also under the much less extreme circumstances at issue here, is the same – CPM clearly does the right to conduct its own investigation.

As mentioned *supra*, the CPM had and has every right to determine Complainant's fitness for ministry. That right is separate and distinct from the rights of the Session of Calvary Presbytery. And it includes the right to investigate charges against a candidate until the CPM is satisfied that the candidate is fit to be a minister of the Word and Sacrament.

27. 4. The Hearing of March 1, 2011 was irregularly conducted (assuming it could be conducted) in that Mr. Priest was denied the fundamental fairness guaranteed throughout the Book of Order for such proceedings in that Mr. Priest was not allowed:

- a. to confront his accuser or hear her testimony**
- b. to call any witnesses**
- c. to examine or cross examine the Investigators, the accusers, or any of the other witnesses**

Exhibit 5

- d. to know what the accuser or any of the witnesses said or to see what any of the witnesses might have provided to the Investigating Committee

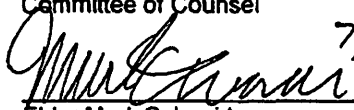
The accused in a *disciplinary* case under the Rules of Discipline is entitled to full due process rights. The reason for that is simple. As explained *supra*, every accused in a disciplinary action is at risk of a formal public censure. Here, Complainant did not risk censure. He was not the subject of a disciplinary hearing under the rules of discipline. And, he was not entitled to full due process.

What Complainant was entitled to was fundamental fairness. Which is exactly what he got. Complainant had the opportunity to speak at the hearing. Complainant was allowed to have counsel present (and speaking) during the hearing. Complainant was also given copies of all relevant papers – and more than a month to review them before the March 1st hearing. And the matter was heard before a body different from the investigating body: It was heard before the CPM as a whole, which had full rights and authority to inquire of the sub-committee and to deny or add to its recommendations. Indeed, the CPM, after hearing the Complainant and his counsel, adopted requirements different from what was in the original report. See Exhibit T - Minutes of the CPM of March 1, 2011, pp 3f. It is then, simply not true that Complainant was denied fundamental fairness.

This irregularity too is a red herring and should be dismissed.

Respondent reserves the right to file a motion to dismiss in the event the Commission decides to accept the case notwithstanding the arguments set forth above.

Presbytery of Detroit
Committee of Counsel


Elder Mark Schneider

7/19/2011

Rev. Betsy Rice

Exhibit 5

Exhibit O

**RUTH AZAR
21478 MORINGSIDE DRIVE
GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MI 48236
(313) 881-6651**

April 20, 2010

Rev. Elizabeth Rice, Chairperson
Committee on Preparation for Ministry
Rev. James Russell,
Chair of Committee On Ministry

Dear Reverends:

As an ordained elder of the PC (USA) it saddens me to have to request an investigation of Thomas H. Priest, Jr. due to the racist remarks made to me, my staff, and volunteers of The Second Mile Center. The intention of this document is to enlighten the Committee on Preparations for Ministry and the Committee on Ministry of the Racist behavior that we have document. I am concerned that this behavior would limit Mr. Priest ability to be an effective leader and pastor in our churches.

The comments listed below were made while Mr. Priest was under care of the Presbytery as an inquirer and also while he was the Moderator of the Presbytery of Detroit. I have letters and emails that provide a written witness of these comments that I can provide to you if you would like to review them. After conversation with the National Middle Eastern Presbyterian Caucus I was encouraged to inform both CPM and COM of Mr. Priest's comments and behaviors. As a racial ethnic women I have been on the receiving end of racist comments all of my life as I know that any racial/ethnic persons are. that is why these comments are so troubling to me and why I am moved to bring this to your attention.

A sampling of the comments that Mr. Priest said to Sandra Addrow, Lawrence Lorkowski, Pam Whitaker Reid, Kari Gorman and I:

1. "You get the money from the churches because you are white they will not give it to Stan from Barnabas."
2. "How many "Arabs" own the gas stations and party stores in the area?"
3. When Lawrence Lorkowski told Tom that I am a minority woman and of Arabic heritage, Tom's response was, "she is too white and the people only see white. Especially she is the head of the center and the power is with a white person it sends the wrong message."
4. "A black person needs to be running the center not a different race."
5. "A white person cannot teach the children about their culture."
6. "Like Jesus he will be persecuted confronting the establishment showing that the Presbytery of Detroit is racist."

Exhibit 5**Exhibit O**

7. "You are too white to be here." (to Ruth Azar a racial ethnic person)
8. Tom demanded I meet with him so he could teach me about Urban Ministry in spite of me being at The Second Mile for almost 3 years. In a few hours he decided that I did not know anything about Urban Ministry because I am a Middle Eastern Woman.
9. "White men have all the power."
10. "Your assistant Lawrence is a white male he has the power."

Mr. Priest starting making these comments approximately one hour of being at the center, he had come to the center as part of his Urban Ministry Project at The Ecumenical Theological Seminary. Pam was so upset by his remarks that she left abruptly stating, "I ain't got time for this. He is racist as hell, and I'm not coming back to volunteer, you Presbyterians are a mess." Pam did not return for months. Sandra Addrow, issued a letter to Al Timm, Executive Presbyter informing him of Tom Priest prejudice (copy attached). I called Al Timm following Mr. Priest visit to inform him of the racist remarks in which he told me to call Rev. Marcia Foster Boyd, President of the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit since Tom came to the center for a class he was taking at the seminary. I called her immediately in which she directed me back to Al Timm since she said it was a Presbyterian issue not a seminary issue. I called Al Timm and he explained that I could file a complaint against Tom. I prayed about it for awhile however in conversation with the National Middle Eastern Caucus I was encouraged to inform both CMP and COM. which is why I am sending this letter to you now.

As a racial ethnic woman I am deeply offended by his remarks and feel oppressed. This behavior should not be ignored and certainly not from a potential pastor. I pray that you will review Mr. Priest and his call. Mr. Priest as a pastor in a racially mixed community I have concerns about his ability to service a church and not offend or oppress races that are not his own.

Your sister in Christ,

Ruth Azar
Enclosures

Cc: Rev. Edward H. Koster, J.D., Stated Clerk
Rev. Dr. Allen D. Timm, Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Detroit
Rev. Douglas Blaikie, Chairperson, Presbytery Operations Ministry Team
Amgad Beblawi, Middle Eastern Congregational Enhancement (U.S.A.)
Rev. Fahed Abu-Akel, Moderator, National Middle Eastern Presbyterian Caucus
James H. Turner, The Second Mile Center, Chair of Personnel

Exhibit 5**Exhibit P**

From: Thomas Priest Jr <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>
To: Elizabeth Downs <drbethd@sbcglobal.net>
Cc: Thomas Priest Jr <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>;
axwallace@wallacepledger.com; Sam Clark <SSClark3@comcast.net>;
Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, March 3, 2011 5:09:12 PM
Subject: Re: CPM decision
Greetings Beth,
Thank you. Amen.
Tom

On Mar 3, 2011, at 4:44 PM, Elizabeth Downs wrote:

Hi Tom:

I understand from Sam that you would rather not meet face-to-face with him and me to receive a written copy of the decision of the CPM unless Mr. Wallace is also present. We don't want to create any more stress or cost for you and will therefore send it by registered mail to your home sometime next week when we have the final copies from our CPM secretary Marjorie Wilhelmi.
May God grant shalom and a good resolution to all of this.

Beth Downs

Elizabeth L. Downs

"To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you." (Ps. 25:1-2)

T. Harrison Priest Jr.

thomaspjr@earthlink.net

Exhibit 5**Exhibit Q**

From: Archibald X. Wallace <AXWallace@wallacepledger.com>
To: Elizabeth Downs <drbethd@sbcglobal.net>; Tom Priest <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>
Cc: Sam Clark <SSClark3@comcast.net>; Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, March 5, 2011 9:46:52 AM
Subject: RE: CPM decision

While I offered to be available by phone at whatever time suited, I can appreciate the reluctance to have further legal involvement. Mr. Priest and I thank you for giving us the time and opportunity to be heard. Obviously, we are disappointed in the conclusions of the committee but the result was not unexpected from the way the inquiry was handled. Would you be able to advise how CPM's decision will be reported to Presbytery? We look forward to receiving the official report of the committee.

From: Elizabeth Downs [mailto:drbethd@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 03, 2011 4:45 PM
To: Tom Priest
Cc: Archibald X. Wallace; Sam Clark; Edward Koster
Subject: CPM decision

Hi Tom:

I understand from Sam that you would rather not meet face-to-face with him and me to receive a written copy of the decision of the CPM unless Mr. Wallace is also present. We don't want to create any more stress or cost for you and will therefore send it by registered mail to your home sometime next week when we have the final copies from our CPM secretary Marjorie Wilhelmi. May God grant shalom and a good resolution to all of this.

Beth Downs

Elizabeth L. Downs

"To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you." (Ps. 25:1-2)

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THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR. - Volume II

March 1, 2011

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IN THE MATTER OF:
PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
HEARING OF THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.

HEARING OF THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR. - VOLUME II
Taken by the Committee on Ministry on the 1st day of
March, 2011, at First Presbyterian Church, 529 Hendrie,
Royal Oak, Michigan, at 8:38 a.m.

APPEARANCES:

For the Presbytery
of Detroit:

THE REV. EDWARD H. KOSTER, J.D., STATED CLERK
Presbytery of Detroit
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
3772 Bridle Pass Court
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108
(734) 358-5403
ehkoster@aol.com

Reported By: Ann M. Courter, CSR-6239
Certified Shorthand Reporter



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EXHIBITS:

None.



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1 Royal Oak, Michigan,

2 Tuesday, March 1, 2011 - 8:38 a.m.

3
4 COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY - VOLUME II

5 (Introduction, 8:38 a.m.)

6 REV. KOSTER: I'm Edward Koster, Stated Clerk of the
7 Presbytery of Detroit.

8 This morning's hearing is a continuation of the
9 hearing of February 1st in which Thomas Priest asked for an
10 adjournment.

11 It is a meeting of the Committee on Preparation for
12 Ministry of the Presbytery of Detroit. Mr. Priest is a
13 candidate for ministry. We will be hearing a motion to
14 approve, excuse me, to adopt a report of investigating
15 subcommittee that brings findings and recommendations to the
16 committee. The first part of this will be an open hearing in
17 which Mr. Priest will present his response to the motion.

18 He will be represented by a gentleman named
19 Archibald Wallace, who is an attorney from Richmond, Virginia.
20 He may have other advocates with him who most likely will not
21 be allowed to speak.

22 The first part of the hearing will be an open
23 hearing after which the committee will go in executive session
24 and everybody will be asked to leave except for certain
25 people, voting members and those invited. During that period



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1 the committee will consider the motion and the defenses and
2 points raised by Mr. Priest during the open hearing. When the
3 committee has made a decision on the motion to adopt the
4 report of the investigating subcommittee, it will return to
5 open session at which point the result will be announced.

6 (Statement concluded at 8:41 a.m.)

7 (Meeting called to order, 9:00 a.m.)

8 REV. DOWNS: We will call ourselves to order and ask
9 the light of Christ to be among us this day. I want to
10 apologize, my computer crashed on Saturday and it crashed
11 really hard. So the only ability I had to be on-line about
12 anything has been at work and I was there until 7:30 and I
13 still didn't get it all done yesterday. So the hymn I had
14 planned, this is a different hymnal. It's not in here. So I
15 thought we'd lean on some old reliable hymn that has stood the
16 test of a lot of ages. Number 84 in this hymnal, O God Our
17 Health In Ages Past. I was always taught that we could sing
18 better if we stand.

19 Let me offer up a prayer before we sing. Loving
20 God, you gather us together in this place to do your work.
21 Make your presence to us known and felt throughout this day,
22 this morning as we deliberate in closed session, and this
23 afternoon as we meet with our candidates and our COPs. Dear
24 Lord, this work you have called us to, make us worthy of that.
25 In the name of your son we pray. Amen.



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1 GROUP: Amen.

2 REV. DOWNS: Let us sing, O God, Our Health In Ages

3 Past.

4 (Singing.)

5 REV. DOWNS: Please, be seated.

6 I would like to read Psalm 19.

7 The heavens are telling the glory of God and the

8 firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth

9 speech, night to night declares knowledge. There is no

10 speech, nor are their words, their voice in not heard; yet

11 their voice goes out through all the earth and their words

12 through the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a

13 tent for the sun which comes out like a bridegroom from his

14 wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs his course with

15 joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its

16 circuit to the end of them, and nothing is hid from its heat.

17 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul. The

18 decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple, the

19 precepts of the Lord are right rejoicing the heart; the

20 commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes; the

21 fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The ordinances of

22 the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be

23 desired are they than gold, even much fine gold, sweeter also

24 than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover by them

25 is your servant warned, in keeping them there is great reward.



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1 But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.
 2 Keep back your servant also from the insolent, do not let them
 3 have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and
 4 innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth
 5 and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord,
 6 our rock and our redeemer.

7 All God's people say.

8 THE GROUP: Amen.

9 REV. DOWNS: Good morning.

10 THE GROUP: Good morning.

11 REV. DOWNS: I appreciate, we all appreciate all of
 12 you being out here this bright and early hour. Some of you I
 13 know have traveled some distance to get here, and hopefully
 14 others will be trickling in as we go.

15 Now, is there anybody who does not have paperwork
 16 for today?

17 ELDER RICE: I have paperwork and did not put it out
 18 on the table. I will pass this around in the rubberband so
 19 that you know this is the collective extra paperwork for
 20 anyone who needs it.

21 REV. DOWNS: Do we need any introductions? I think
 22 everybody here mostly knows everybody. Do we need to
 23 re-introduce for the court reporter?

24 REV. KOSTER: You might.

25 REV. DOWNS: Well, I am Elizabeth Downs, and this is



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1 Ann Courter, she is appropriately named that I think to be a
2 court reporter. So she will be recording our proceedings as
3 we go this day, as we started to do a month ago.

4 We already have on the floor a motion to approve,
5 I'm sorry, to adopt the report and recommendations of the
6 investigating subcommittee. I don't want to proceed any
7 further at this point until Tom and his lawyer are here, are
8 actually in the room with us. And so I know that there are a
9 handful of other items we need to take care of today for
10 business items and so on. And here comes somebody, and so let
11 me go and find out what the deal is on that or somebody could
12 run out and find out what's going on. Here he comes.

13 When you speak, or when you have a question or a
14 comment to make, please state your name clearly for the court
15 reporter to make a record here.

16 They are on the way I see, so excuse me just a
17 moment.

18 (Off the record.)

19 REV. DOWNS: Tom, what I would like to do is have
20 the folks introduce themselves and you introduce the people,
21 or they can introduce themselves as well, and then we will
22 proceed.

23 All right, my name again is Elizabeth Downs. I am
24 the interim minister for First Presbyterian Church in Pontiac,
25 and I am one of the moderators of the Committee on Preparation



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for Ministry.

Marie, would you introduce yourself to the table.

ELDER HUGLEY: Sure. I'm Marie Hugley from Elder Park United Presbyterian Church.

ELDER BARBARA JACKSON: Barbara Jackson from Troy First, an Elder.

ELDER ROBERT JACKSON: Bob Jackson, Troy First, Elder.

ELDER EDWARD: Stanley Edward, Elder Calvary Presbyterian Church.

ELDER REYNOLDS: Darrell Reynolds, Elder Calvary Presbyterian Church.

REV. WALLACE: I'm Archibald Wallace. I'm Minister of the Word and Sacrament. I'm Presbyterian James. I have my own church in Hopewell, Virginia. I'm also a practicing attorney.

ELDER PRIEST: I'm Elder Tom Priest.

ELDER CLARK: Sam Clark, Elder at Kirk in the Hills Church here and also co-chair of CPM.

REV. WILHELMI: I'm Marjorie Wilhelmi. I'm the Pastor at Northbrook Presbyterian Church, and I'm also the secretary taking the minutes.

REV. BROWNLEE: I'm Richard Brownlee. I'm a minister, honorably retired.

REV. MCMILLAN: Judy McMillan, Pastor of First



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1 Presbyterian Troy.

2 REV. MCDEVITT: Jenny McDevitt, one of the pastors
3 at First Presbyterian Ann Arbor.

4 ELDER GAUBATZ: Mike Gaubatz. I'm an Elder at
5 Geneva in Canton.

6 REV. KRUG: Ernest Krug. I'm a minister and parish
7 associate at First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham.

8 REV. STUNKEL: Paul Stunkel, Pastor of St. Paul's
9 Presbyterian, Livonia.

10 REV. RICE: I'm Betsy Rice. I'm a parish associate
11 here at First Royal Oak.

12 REV. BOHN: Chris Bohn. I'm here as a
13 representative of the Committee on Ministry.

14 ELDER HUNT: Phyllis Hunt. I'm an Elder at
15 Southminster in Taylor.

16 ELDER JOHNSON: Henry Johnson, Elder First
17 Presbyterian Church, Ann Arbor.

18 REV. HARTLEY: Good morning. Tom Hartley, Pastor at
19 Community Presbyterian in Waterford.

20 REV. TIMM: I'm Al Timm. I'm from the Presbytery of
21 Detroit. I serve as executive presbyter and ex-officio member
22 of this committee.

23 REV. PRITCHARD: I'm Norman Pritchard, Pastor at
24 Kirk in the Hills.

25 REV. KOSTER: I'm Ed Koster. I'm the Stated Clerk



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1 of the Presbytery. I've been asked to come as advisor on the
2 process.

3 REV. DOWNS: Again, last month the motion was made
4 to adopt the committee's report and recommendations, and then
5 we postponed any discussion of that at Tom Priest's request so
6 we are reconvening on this day.

7 There are a couple of things. I wrote out some
8 remarks I would like to read and a reminder that for the
9 purposes of this day and this meeting today, only you, Tom,
10 and your lawyer can speak to the committee during this
11 meeting, during this hearing.

12 We reconvened today the CPM hearing on the motion to
13 adopt the report and recommendations of the special
14 investigating committee. I have to tell you that this report
15 has generated a lot of response from a number of people
16 outside of the committee. I have received e-mails and phone
17 messages. I have documents forwarded to me from individuals
18 and other pastors in the presbytery, as well as requests from
19 the black caucus of our presbytery to meet separately with
20 them to discuss Mr. Priest's status and this issue. Reverend
21 Timm also has had some of these contacts. I can only assume
22 that some of the others on the committee have received similar
23 contacts, but I don't know that. I appreciate that there are
24 so many people concerned with what we are doing is just and
25 fair and faithful, and that Tom has as many supporters as he



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1 does. I'm grateful for their dedication and care.

2 We on this committee are also I believe dedicated
3 and caring, and we strive to do what is just and faithful. I
4 pray that any discussion we have or any decision we make will
5 have no reason to be labelled as unfair or unjust or even
6 politically or racially motivated. We work hard. We work
7 hard to keep each other on track in our responsibility. Our
8 task remains simple and straight forward and is really limited
9 in scope. If we as a committee determine the report to be
10 fair, then we adopt it. Do we need to require additional work
11 or education or other effort on the part of the candidate
12 under our care before we feel it's prudent to grant that
13 candidate final assessment? Is that candidate in our
14 estimation ready for ordained ministry in PC USA? Since
15 Mr. Priest is a candidate under our care, the responsibility
16 to determine his readiness for ministry falls to us, as it
17 should. That's the entire scope of our responsibility here
18 today.

19 Remember, we've done this with others. We required
20 additional course work or workshops or counseling or
21 supervised field experiences, and I suspect we'll do so again
22 in the future. Such action may not be widespread, but it is
23 not unusual. So we are here today to resume our discussion,
24 and I invite us to take a deep collective breath and continue
25 with this simple task. First I ask that you be silent for



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1 just a few moments and listen for God's Spirit, word, and
 2 guidance, and for the openness to truly listen to one another.
 3 So let us be in silent prayer.

4 And together we say.

5 THE GROUP: Amen.

6 REV. DOWNS: As I said before, this was merely a
 7 postponement. We didn't make any decisions so the motion is
 8 still on the floor. Marjorie, do you have this in front of
 9 you? Can you read that to us?

10 REV. WILHELMI: Motion is to adopt the investigating
 11 committees report and recommendations.

12 REV. DOWNS: Since we've had this full month
 13 intervening and not everyone was present last month, I would
 14 ask that we begin again with the special committee and its
 15 report, to review that with us and review its recommendations
 16 to us.

17 REV. RICE: Review, you mean read in its entirety?

18 REV. DOWNS: I think so.

19 REV. RICE: Again, this will be familiar.

20 "CPM Subcommittee, Convened in the Matter of
 21 complaint by Ruth Azar Against Candidate Thomas H.
 22 Priest, Jr. Date of Report is January 18, 2011.

23 After prayerful consideration, the CPM of the
 24 Presbytery of Detroit, on May 4, 2010, authorized the
 25 formation of a subcommittee to investigate the above



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1 referenced complaint. The composition of the
 2 subcommittee was approved June 1: Reverend David Abbot,
 3 Reverend Christine Bohn, Elder Henry Johnson, and
 4 Reverend Elizabeth Rice.

5 The committee convened its first meeting on June 9,
 6 2010, the intent being to determine its agenda and the
 7 process for achieving outcomes. The committee received
 8 guidance from the Stated Clerk, Ed Koster, concerning
 9 process and the parameters of its investigation.

10 The committee's task was to investigate and make a
 11 recommendation to the Committee on Preparation for
 12 Ministry concerning Mr. Priest's suitability for
 13 ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. It was
 14 not this committee's task to determine whether or not the
 15 Constitution of the PC(USA) was violated. This committee
 16 was advisory to CPM on matters of suitability and
 17 preparation for ministry; disciplinary or judicial
 18 proceedings were not this committee's purview.

19 We met again on June 22, 2010, to begin scheduling
 20 interviews and to clarify our approach to the
 21 investigation.

22 On July 15, 2010, we interviewed Ruth Azar. Key
 23 issues included:

24 Concerns about Mr. Priest's interactions with staff
 25 and volunteers at Second Mile Center (SMC), disturbing



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1 statements made by Mr. Priest during his visit to SMC, a
 2 perception that Second Mile Center was being targeted by
 3 Mr. Priest and its ministry devalued and undermined.

4 On July 28, 2010, we met to discuss the interview
 5 with Ms. Azar and plan for the interview with Mr. Priest.

6 On August 9, 2010, we interviewed Mr. Priest, who
 7 was accompanied by his Advocate, Elder Darrell Reynolds.
 8 The committee found it notable that Mr. Priest gave
 9 lengthy responses to the questions and frequently
 10 redirected the conversation. Key issues included: a
 11 denial of certain comments and insistence that others
 12 were taken out of context. Mr. Priest's desire that
 13 Barnabas Youth Opportunities Center and Second Mile work
 14 together, share resources, and visit other urban
 15 ministries. His preferred model of urban ministry and
 16 his interpretations of his observations of Second Mile
 17 Center.

18 On August 13, 2010, we met to discuss and plan.

19 On September 28, 2010, we interviewed separately
 20 Sandra Addrow, Lawrence Lorkowski, and Elder Stan
 21 Edwards. We interviewed each person specifically about
 22 their personal interactions with Mr. Priest during his
 23 visits to Second Mile Ministries and Barnabas Youth
 24 Opportunities Center and a later meeting at Second Mile.

25 On November 19, 2010, we met for discussion and



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further planning.

On November 30, 2010, we met for further discussion and also to interview another witness, who was present at the later meeting at Second Mile Center.

On December 10, 2010, we met again for further discussion of past interviews and also to interview a final witness.

On January 11, 2011, we met again to draft a report and recommendation.

We finalized our report on January 18, 2011.

CENTRAL ISSUES

Three primary areas of concern were identified by this committee.

One of these concerns has to do with use of authority. In arranging his first visit to Second Mile Center, Mr. Priest identified himself as a seminary student preparing a paper for a class. In subsequent activities, however, Mr. Priest regularly used his influence and authority as Moderator of Presbytery and former moderator of the Metropolitan Urban Ministries Team to lobby decision-making bodies within presbytery to share his view of work and structure of Second Mile Center. At the same time, Mr. Priest did not notify Second Mile that he was taking his findings and interpretation of those findings to presbytery, nor did



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1 he use that same influence and authority to provide an
 2 opportunity for Second Mile to have voice in actions
 3 intended to affect dramatically the future of the Center.
 4 In other words, Mr. Priest represented himself as a
 5 student to the subjects of his investigation, but freely
 6 applied the authority of presbytery office to pursue
 7 actions against those subjects.

8 This committee also observed a consistent pattern of
 9 Mr. Priest prejudging the opinions and experiences of
 10 others without listening to what they had to say about
 11 their own opinions and experiences. People
 12 self-identifying with three different racial-ethnic
 13 groups (white, Arab-American, and African-American)
 14 indicated to the committee their frustration and
 15 discomfort when they perceived that Mr. Priest assumed he
 16 knew what they thought about certain issues (or what they
 17 should think) based on his perception of their
 18 racial-ethnic identity. At least in certain
 19 circumstances, it appears that Mr. Priest was unwilling
 20 to listen to what people had to say about their
 21 experience and opinions and was, instead, rather
 22 forceful verbally in attributing his experience and
 23 opinion to others.

24 It is evident to this committee that Mr. Priest is
 25 fiercely devoted to his preferred model of urban



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1 ministry. This committee is concerned that Mr. Priest is
 2 unwilling to acknowledge the legitimacy of alternative
 3 ministry styles and routinely uses methods of
 4 confrontation and intimidation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

5
 6 It is the opinion of this committee that Candidate
 7 Priest's current pattern of confrontational behaviors
 8 would cause great difficulty in a congregation and in a
 9 presbytery.

10 Therefore, this committee moves that CPM require
 11 Mr. Priest to participate in the Mediation Skills
 12 Training Institute for Church Leaders led by the Lombard
 13 Mennonite Peace Center.

14 Additionally, we move that at an appropriate future
 15 time CPM examine Mr. Priest to assess his pastoral
 16 development in the areas identified above.

17 This assessment might include such tools as asking
 18 Mr. Priest to write papers on what he has learned
 19 personally and professionally from the mediation skills
 20 training and his own sense of pastoral identity and
 21 authority.

22 Respectfully submitted, Reverend David Abbot,
 23 Reverend Christine Bohn, Elder Henry Johnson, and
 24 Reverend Elizabeth Rice."

25 REV. DOWNS: Thank you very much.



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1 This is now the time for Tom and Mr. Wallace,
2 Reverend Wallace to direct any comment or questions. The
3 questions, please direct at the committee, this committee
4 here, CPM, and not to the investigating committee. Any of the
5 comments and questions that you might raise we will definitely
6 ask them, but that will be done in close session, executive
7 session.

8 So you have the floor.

9 REV. WALLACE: Thank you. May I start?

10 REV. DOWNS: Please.

11 REV. WALLACE: Mr. Priest asked me some time ago to
12 assist him in this and other issues related to the complaint
13 of Mrs. Azar. As you know, Mrs. Azar filed a formal
14 complaint, disciplinary complaint, that initiated this
15 proceeding. That disciplinary complaint was directed to the
16 stated clerk of the presbytery and to the stated clerk of the
17 sponsoring church for Mr. Priest.

18 Investigative committee is formed by the session of
19 his own church or sponsoring church, and that investigating
20 committee examined and did the same thing as this committee.
21 That committee has declined to file charges. Mr. Priest was
22 charged in the complaint by Mrs. Azar with racial
23 discrimination, reverse racial discrimination, among other
24 charges.

25 Mr. Priest denies and has repeatedly said he did not



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1 say or do the things with which Ms. Azar has written or
2 charged. Now, this committee has appointed its own
3 investigative committee. I must submit as a student of the
4 Book of Order, CPM, and I am a long-standing member of the CPM
5 in Virginia, CPM's have the right and power and ability and
6 directive to consider the suitability of persons seeking to be
7 ordained. You have that right and you have the right to
8 exercise that and you have the right to look in to matters.
9 There's no question about that. But the issue as we, as I
10 look at it and we look at it up front is what you are doing
11 here is in excess of that right. And you're going to say, oh,
12 no, I'm attacking the process, and you're going to be upset
13 that I'm attacking your process, but I have to point out to
14 you that Ms. Azar's original complaint was a disciplinary
15 complaint. It is filed under D6 of the Book of Order. That
16 is a disciplinary complaint. This committee had the right to
17 look into those issues, but it could not do so as a second
18 investigative committee or second judicial committee.

19 You will tell me, oh, no, there's plenty of language
20 in what our report is that's been submitted. There's language
21 in it that says we're not doing anything that's disciplinary
22 when this is not a judicial proceeding, that's not within this
23 committee's purview, I agree, and you have said that and
24 remarkably so that is the purview of what's in the
25 investigation.



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1 Do CPM's appoint ad hoc committees? All the time.
 2 Do they ask the seat to look into matters? All the time. Is
 3 that within your purview and power? Yes, but there's a line.
 4 And when you style your report as investigative "CPM
 5 Subcommittee Convened in the Matter of Complaint by Ruth
 6 Azar," the complaint is a disciplinary complaint. Now I would
 7 point out to you there's nothing in G14.0400 that authorizes
 8 you to act as a judicial commission or as an investigative
 9 committee appointed by a body such as a presbytery or a
 10 session or a general assembly. Just don't have that power.
 11 You may exercise it as you have done here informally, which
 12 you have gone about it and we been saying we're objecting to
 13 the approach you're taking getting to a result that you have a
 14 right to get to. We're objecting to the process, because we
 15 believe this is an irregularity under the Book of Order, and I
 16 advised Mr. Priest that it is such an irregularity and if
 17 carried to finality could form the basis for remedial action.
 18 That's my advice. That's not what Mr. Priest is doing.
 19 Mr. Priest comes today to say to you that he's in
 20 submission to you. He wants to work with this committee. He
 21 seeks this committee's approval and endorsement and movement
 22 from candidate to readiness so he can move on with the
 23 process. He feels a deep spiritual call to serve as a
 24 minister of the word and sacrament in the presbytery church
 25 USA. He also says that he's listening to the Holy Spirit to



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1 discern as to how he should respond to this. Also should tell
2 you that he bears malice toward none and that he wishes that
3 the process here today would be fully spelled out and spread
4 out so that you, too, could see what many have seen, these
5 actions either didn't occur or are not violative or are not as
6 conclusions of the committee.

7 We're going back to the first point, we object to
8 the proceedings in the way in which we're doing with a court
9 reporter; with an agenda that spells out a number of places
10 that this is a hearing; that the report itself has language
11 that we're here to investigate yet takes Mr. Priest to task
12 for any number of things; and, in fact, what has occurred here
13 is a disciplinary hearing without all of the rights, all of
14 the duties that are owed a person facing a disciplinary
15 hearing. For example, Ms. Azar is not here today to be
16 cross-examined. If you look at and hear all of the evidence,
17 these statements were not made to her. They were supposedly
18 made to others, yet when you examine them and look at the
19 records, it did not happen in the context which they were
20 reported.

21 So first thing is Ms. Azar's not here, can't be
22 examined nor the other witnesses, not been confronted, not
23 given the information which they presented, given this
24 conclusion by this committee and this report by this
25 committee.



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1 He is charged in the complaint which she originally
2 brought with racial discrimination. That is not Tom Priest.
3 That is nothing about him. That's just not where he comes
4 from. Is he an African-American? Sure. He will tell you he
5 sees through the lens of presbyterian elder. He sees through
6 the lens of being presbytery. Yes, he's concerned about
7 issues of justice for African-Americans and for all and he's
8 concerned about those kinds of things, but not inordinately to
9 the point of saying or doing things.

10 Now, we also take issue not only with the process,
11 and frankly, I have to say that process Mr. Priest is in a
12 very difficult position, because if he challenges the process
13 he may never get ordained. This committee has the power and
14 the right to say whether he should ever be ordained. You can
15 do it in a number of ways and you can say, no, he always has
16 the right to go to presbytery and challenge their decision.
17 But where does that get him if he does that, what is the taste
18 in your mouth, what is the future, how are we working together
19 if we go that route? So a more reasoned route and a route
20 certainly recommended that he's willing to take is we have to
21 be here, we have to participate. We object to it, because we
22 believe it violates his rights and we have to participate and
23 we are participating. We don't waive that, but there's no
24 other way to go with this. We have to go ahead the way it is
25 today.



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1 Now, let me talk to you for a moment about the
2 evidence that is in this case. On February 18, 2009,
3 Mr. Priest went to Second Mile Center as part of a seminary
4 project to look at urban ministries within the presbytery as
5 opposed to the model being taught in the seminary. I don't
6 know whether that model is good, bad, or otherwise. I just
7 know that's the model the professors are teaching and that was
8 a part of his courses to go in some center somewhere against
9 the model. So he went to the two in the presbytery, the two
10 centers in the presbytery, urban ministry centers, one on the
11 17th, one on the 18th.

12 He then presented on March 9th, he presented his
13 report to the seminary, and we have all the slides and
14 everything he said is on those slides and documents. I trust
15 the committee had access to it and can see it. On March 12th
16 he presented that again to the seminary, and on the 16th he
17 shared the results in March of '09 with both centers meeting
18 with Mr. Edwards who's here, one of the centers and meeting
19 with Ms. Azar, the other head, and he shared results of his
20 study of his visit there at both centers compared to the
21 model. He believes in the model, rightly or wrong he believes
22 in the model. As the committee reports he prefers that model.
23 I don't see anything wrong with preferring a particular model
24 with having to do urban ministry, but that's certainly a
25 mistake.

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1 But anyway, in March '09 he met with Ms. Azar and
2 other folks from SMC, Second Mile, and Mr. Edwards, and
3 presented his findings. They were all present together. He
4 only ever spoke with Ms. Azar twice. Once was during his
5 visit, once first visit; once during his presentation of his
6 findings on March 16th. March 16, '09, onward he had no
7 contact with Ms. Azar.

8 Now, hold that over here aside to deal with another
9 factual setting that I'm sure the committee also went in to.
10 For a long time there was a question of Ms. Azar's and the
11 center's reporting or oversight, reporting to or oversight by
12 presbytery, and one of the issues was, how do we as a
13 presbytery, how to raise benefits and who has oversight. So
14 that needed to be cleaned up. Had nothing to do with
15 Mr. Priest. Started long before he came on board. Mr. Priest
16 was hired by a women's council, I may not be given exact right
17 name, that oversaw Second Mile Center. But the question came
18 up, how to make sure she's under the purview, control, and
19 oversight of the presbytery. That was in the works before
20 Mr. Priest ever went out there.

21 On March 2, '09, the coordinating cabinet of
22 presbytery approved the Second Mile Center model that is with
23 Ms. Azar at the head and approved it to come in under the
24 oversight of the presbytery. June 23, '09 the presbytery
25 approved the action of the coordinating cabinet of March 2,



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1 '09, and said, yes, we will accept her, accept her as
2 employees or technical employees of the presbytery. Again,
3 this is not something that Mr. Priest was involved in
4 directly. But I must tell you for the full year of 2009, he
5 served as moderator of the presbytery and also a member of the
6 coordinating cabinet. Why is that important? Because in
7 September, October 2009, a lady named Rosy Lattimore submits a
8 letter to stated clerk or to the coordinating cabinet and the
9 stated clerk weighs in on it and deals with the question of,
10 the question of can the presbytery approve a position and make
11 a presbytery position without adhering to the rules of the
12 presbytery procedure of the presbytery regarding open bidding
13 and open advertising and that type of thing. Can we just
14 allow somebody to come in to that position without having to
15 go through the process the presbytery says this is our
16 procedure when we have presbyteries all over.

17 Coordinating cabinet some time between October 5 and
18 December 5 of '09 looked into the subject. Mr. Priest was on
19 that committee, and they agreed on December 5 to send a letter
20 to Ms. Lattimore that says, in the future we're not going to
21 do this. We're not going to just take somebody in without
22 advertising, promoting the position. But there are
23 extenuating circumstances here, and so we're not going to
24 undue this particular one, that's December 5, 2009.

25 Now Mr. Priest's term as moderator ends with the



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1 January 2010 meeting. No action has been taken by anybody to
2 do anything at that point in time except the committee that
3 he's a member of has written back to Ms. Lattimore saying,
4 you're right, it probably was a violation of our procedure but
5 the extenuating circumstances we're going to leave it that
6 way. Once he's no longer moderator in April 2010, he prepares
7 and requests and submits to the presbytery a motion to rescind
8 that action, that action of approval of the appointment and
9 the adoption of Ms. Azar as that position. He was not at that
10 presbytery meeting in 2010.

11 Another, Ms. Lattimore did offer the motion. There
12 was a lot of exchange in that time frame April 2010 just
13 before the presbytery meeting about six or seven days before.
14 One part of the exchange that went on during that time frame
15 was executive presbytery provided Mrs. Azar with a heads up,
16 this motion is coming and I want you to know about it and
17 stated clerk talked about e-mails talking about here's the way
18 the parliamentary process and procedure we're going to use at
19 that meeting, presbytery meeting.

20 One of the things this jumps out at that point in
21 time is an e-mail at that point in time, now talking about
22 April 2010, that Ms. Azar said to the presbytery, what can we
23 do to bring charges against Mr. Priest and Ms. Lattimore,
24 because this is just a wreck? And they are told and response,
25 here's where you go to find out how to do a complaint. So a



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1 complaint was filed.

2 Now, the timing, I submit to this committee, is a
3 big issue, something I would really want to know about Why
4 Ms. Azar, why from March of '09 when he makes his report with
5 Mr. Edwards present -- I'm not sure what Mr. Edwards remembers
6 -- why was nothing taken until this motion came up by a member
7 of presbytery? Any member of the presbytery has a right to
8 make a motion, and there's nothing wrong with making motion.
9 May not agree with it and you could certainly vote them down,
10 but why did nothing go on until after the motion came forward
11 over being deposed in April 2010, thirteen months later.

12 The presbytery at the April 27 meeting did not deal
13 with that motion directly. The presbytery at that motion, at
14 that meeting heard a motion by another who said, I move that
15 we not hear that motion. I object to it and move we not hear
16 it. So presbytery voted on that issue and that issue
17 prevailed and the motion that Mr. Priest was offered was not
18 heard, read, made, voted on per se.

19 I will submit to you in July 2010, Mr. Priest and
20 Elder Dorothy Seabrooks and Ms. Lattimore filed a complaint
21 with the Senate about that process, that is how can you deny a
22 motion and rule it out of order before you ever had a motion
23 made? Is that appropriate process, is there an issue here?
24 That has since been dismissed for jurisdiction. Mr. Priest
25 was not at the meeting so he did not have standing.



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1 The other motion of the other two was a day late in
2 being filed, so it was dismissed as not timely, that's all.

3 In the meantime, the complaint had been filed by
4 Ms. Azar and Mr. Priest's sponsoring church along with
5 investigative committee and began hearing. The presbytery did
6 not form an investigative committee. This committee did and
7 the Book of Order gives you the power to look into things, but
8 not in the form of investigative committee. So we would
9 submit to you that if you look at all of the facts and all of
10 the documents and all of the records, and hear all of the
11 witnesses -- for example, Mr. Edwards is given a statement
12 saying I was there in March 2009 at the meeting with
13 Mr. Priest and Ms. Azar and myself to figure out how the
14 directors of the two urban ministries program of presbytery of
15 Detroit can work together and share information and resources.
16 There's nothing in this statement, nothing in this statement
17 that says Mr. Priest made disparaging remarks, didn't listen,
18 abused his authority or did anything racial or made any racial
19 statements or acted in any way untoward toward Ms. Azar or the
20 Second Mile. I have his statement here and submit it to be
21 part of the record if there's no objection. But in essence,
22 he's saying this is the one that was difficult when I read it.
23 I received this yesterday.

24 CPM shared with me that Tom and Ruth had several
25 meetings which I had not attended. Mr. Priest would tell you



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1 that was his second meeting with her and all the meetings he
 2 ever had. And CPM representatives, I felt they already made
 3 up their minds before they come and meet with me since they
 4 waited so long to find out what happened. CPM representatives
 5 assured me they did not form an opinion. Time delay was due
 6 to them just getting information April 2010. So I read that
 7 particular paragraph to show again the time line that 13
 8 months after the fact, 13 months after the last meeting, there
 9 are charges made by Mrs. Azar, charges that are disciplinary
 10 in nature which are very damaging to Mr. Priest, charges which
 11 accuse him of very serious offenses if true.

12 This committee says one of the concerns we have is
 13 with the use of authority. Nothing that Mr. Priest did in
 14 March of '09 was as moderator of the presbytery. In fact,
 15 there's no evidence that says he came in and said, I'm the
 16 moderator, I want to do this. The evidence is that he was
 17 there doing a study and he shared results of that study as a
 18 student with his school and with the two centers. Mr. Edwards
 19 will share that this is what I heard him say. So what
 20 authority is he exercising in '09? He is the moderator of the
 21 presbytery. He is on the coordinating cabinet. But while as
 22 a moderator, nothing came up at a presbytery meeting that he
 23 swayed, oversaw, or did, or any actions taken by him there
 24 against Second Mile. In fact, as a member of the coordinating
 25 cabinet he was part of the cabinet's discernment and



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1 discussion when they responded to Ms. Lattimore's concern
2 that, yes, we didn't follow procedure but you're correct, but
3 this isn't the case to change it. We will leave it as is.

4 So that whole year '09 when he's in that position of
5 moderator and member of that committee, where is any evidence
6 that he used his authority against Second Mile Center or
7 Ms. Azar? And we take strong exception to that inclusion,
8 that he abused his authority, which is a very serious charge.
9 But we will say this at this point too, if the conclusion of
10 those listed in trying to discern as this sounds like that to
11 us, certainly apologize and begs forgiveness because that's
12 not who he is or what he was trying to do and that's a
13 misperception of what actually happened on that occasion.

14 But you cannot point to any place in any record of
15 the presbytery or in the coordinating cabinet, you cannot
16 point to any evidence there that says here, here's when he
17 abused his power, here's where he over-used his authority,
18 here's where he took advantage of that authority. And the
19 motion was made in April 2010 by him to look into the issue,
20 not Ms. Azar, but look into the issue of, can we allow folks
21 to be put in presbytery positions without following our
22 process and procedure, and if not, what should we do about
23 situations for that to occur. He has the right to make that
24 motion as member of the presbytery. Is that an abuse of his
25 authority? He disagreed and goodness knows I go to presbytery



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1 meetings all the time, people disagree. Is that an abuse of
2 authority? I submit that is not.

3 It says at that time, Mr. Priest did not notify
4 Second Mile he was taking his findings and interpretations of
5 findings to presbytery. There's no evidence he took them to
6 presbytery at the time that he was moderator or member of
7 coordinating cabinet. Now, did it come up at some later time
8 to the presbytery when he made the motion? Sure. But is that
9 wrong to at that point in time raise it in support of his
10 motion? He says he didn't use that same influence and
11 authority to provide opportunity to Second Mile and voice and
12 actions intended to dramatically affect him. He was not
13 moderator. He was not dysfunction if he filed a motion to
14 tell them this is the motion per se. The motion is not
15 directed at them per se, although certainly can be perceived
16 that way.

17 I submit to you the conclusion drawn about abuse of
18 authority is, we submit, overreaching.

19 Now the committee also observed a consistent pattern
20 of prejudging the opinions and experiences of others without
21 listening. All of us need to be better listeners, and if he's
22 not a good listener I think this committee ought to encourage
23 him to be a better listener and encourage him to take training
24 in being a better listener. Mediation skills, I don't know if
25 he needs that. I'm a mediator. I certainly handle hundreds



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1 and hundreds of mediations in my life time, does that train
 2 you to listen? Yes. So does counseling courses I took in
 3 seminary, they trained me to listen. So years of practice of
 4 law trained me to listen. Lots of places you can go to learn
 5 to listen. Not everybody's a good listener. The bible tells
 6 you over and over, hear, see. Always enjoy the line, God gave
 7 us two ears and one tongue, two eyes and one tongue, so
 8 suggests I need to hear twice as much as I talk. I know you
 9 want me to shut up now.

10 I think those are two serious things, abuse of
 11 authority and persistent pattern of prejudging. I think if
 12 you sat and listened to Mr. Priest, find out who he is. He's
 13 a man, middle age, hearing the call of God to serve, to be a
 14 minister of the word and sacrament. How easy it would be to
 15 say I'm too old, too many other things going on, but he's here
 16 and listening to the Holy Spirit. He cares about people. Is
 17 he an African-American concerned about issues of justice and
 18 fairness? Yes, but all of us are whether we're
 19 African-American, otherwise. We as Christians certainly heard
 20 the words of our Lord speaking to us and walk humbly before
 21 our God and seek justice and love mercy.

22 Tom Priest I know is that way. I think the
 23 gentleman here with us today, say the Tom Priest that they
 24 know is that way. Does that mean he's not to speak out on
 25 issues where he doesn't think it's right? If a job is going



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1 to be offered in a minority area is it right not to have it
 2 advertised so it can be filled by someone who may not have
 3 gone through that process? I think that's fair to raise that
 4 question. Maybe in this case we wished he hadn't, but is it
 5 fair to raise it? I think there's folks here who raised
 6 questions about that before.

7 Now, the suggestion that there's something wrong
 8 being fiercely devoted to his preferred model of urban
 9 ministry, I don't know that that's objectionable, but if being
 10 fiercely devoted is a problem, we again beg forgiveness. I
 11 don't think that's really what the issue is here.

12 Seems to me in looking at the charges, concerns as
 13 they are called, dealing with authority and consistent
 14 patterns and assumptions of knowing more than others know. I
 15 think those are admonitions that he needs, fair to say them
 16 and tell him he needs to be concerned about those things, but
 17 not in the context of a disciplinary proceeding, not in a
 18 context where every word is being taken down and preserved for
 19 goodness knows what purpose, not in the context of
 20 investigating a complaint of this committee that doesn't have
 21 the authority to do them, investigating presbytery itself.
 22 Seems to me when we on CPM approach a candidate we're here for
 23 two functions. Gatekeeping surely and we have to do that.
 24 But nurturing too, and I commend you because I think your
 25 report does seek to provide, nurture, gatekeeping and nurture



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1 and comes to the recommendation. Frankly, we're fine with the
2 recommendation and perhaps would even say let's go with them
3 but not with the conclusions and not with the report and not
4 with the process.

5 So when we conclude all of this, what we ask you to
6 do is not approve this report as it's written, because it
7 makes a very strong statement about this man that could be
8 damaging for the rest of his, potentially damaging for the
9 rest of his career, but to adopt the recommendations and say
10 we reviewed the report and we mark it as receive. We do not
11 adopt the report but we do believe that the recommendations,
12 we do accept the recommendations. As our moderator has said,
13 Ms. Bohn said at the beginning, often CPM's do require
14 additional steps not particularly spelled out in the Book of
15 Order, but certainly in the purview of determining suitability
16 and nurture. I think it would be appropriate to assure
17 yourselves that, one, this man is ready to go forward at some
18 point in time. I think you ought to do that, but to assign to
19 him fault and to investigate him in this way and determine
20 that he has violated certain steps and proceedings, I would
21 encourage you not to do that.

22 I appreciate your listening to me and letting me go
23 through this. I can take you through the evidence. I brought
24 copies of all the documents I referred to that if you would
25 like to have them. I got Mr. Priest here. I got Mr. Edwards

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1 here. We can go through any or all of this, but we will ask
 2 you in the long run don't adopt this report as is stated but
 3 do seek to discern ways to assure that this man is ready at
 4 the appropriate time and he wants to continue in the process.
 5 He wants to be, to answer the call that he believes God is
 6 making to him to be ordained in word and sacrament and serve
 7 in that capacity. It would be very easy just to say, no, we
 8 hear that but our committee did this and they're good people
 9 and we're not going to budge. This is our committee and we're
 10 right. I submit to you if we considered every fact fully, you
 11 come to a different conclusion number one. And number two, I
 12 would submit to you in a court of law which my arena has been
 13 for 35 years before I became a lawyer on this side of the
 14 house, minister lawyer, this is a case evidentially Ms. Azar's
 15 case would not stand up, be dismissed and investigative
 16 committee heard the evidence that was their conclusion. They
 17 did not press charges. Obviously they're not a commission or
 18 a court. They have to decide whether there's probable cause.
 19 That's the lesser standard of necessity of guilt.

20 Thank you for listening to me, and if you want to
 21 hear anything from Mr. Priest he'll certainly speak if you'll
 22 let him to.

23 ELDER PRIEST: May I speak now?

24 REV. DOWNS: Sure.

25 ELDER PRIEST: Thank you. I ditto everything



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1 Mr. Wallace said. I just want to give you an idea when I met
2 with him I drove overnight to Richmond, Virginia, where he's
3 stationed, where he lives. And I stayed at a hotel, he told
4 me I should never stayed at, but I went to school in DC in
5 that area so I knew the area. I stayed at the Days Inn and
6 when I drove up to the exit at two in the morning I didn't see
7 any lights, I didn't see anything. Where was I? Finally I
8 drove up, somebody came out. Half the units were windows were
9 knocked out and vacant. That's the only place I could afford.
10 I drove to his office and next to his office was a nice hotel.

11 So we sit there for four hours and he said, look,
12 you need to tell me everything. I never sat with a lawyer
13 before. He said you need to tell me everything, everything.
14 If you did tell me whatever I need for you to deny what you,
15 what's true, what is not true, and stand up for what you said
16 from the beginning. And we went through that. A very
17 spiritual, a very open experience for me.

18 I'm going to add to what he has said. When I met
19 with the committee, excuse me, the investigative committee for
20 CPM, when I met with them we met for roughly two hours and my
21 advocate Darrell, Darrell Reynolds was with me, and we did not
22 complete the investigation. We just got through preliminaries
23 where I was explaining the report, why I was there, and the
24 time line. So as we were going through that, the chair of the
25 committee said we need to reconvene because we ran out of

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1 time. So we need to get back together, because we're not
 2 finished. So I said, I cannot commit to rescheduling until I
 3 meet with my attorney. I have always been and continue to be
 4 led by the Holy Spirit to do what is right and I felt it was
 5 right thing to honor Betsy's request for me to come to you,
 6 because I have the upmost respect for Betsy and during this
 7 process for CPM everybody has been fine. Need to look at
 8 this, look at that, very open and up front as I have been. So
 9 with that, I told out of respect for that I came to this
 10 meeting without an attorney, but the next meeting I need to
 11 have my attorney with me. So I will call you back when I get
 12 an attorney to reschedule the rest of the meeting.

13 I sent an e-mail on September 26, Greetings, Betsy,
 14 I pray all is well with you and your family. I am now able to
 15 schedule a time to meet with the investigating committee. At
 16 our last meeting I was unable to schedule a next meeting until
 17 I consulted with my lawyer. Please let me know possible time
 18 the investigative committee is available to meet.

19 I received a response back from Betsy. My prayers
 20 continue with you and all involved in investigation. Thank
 21 you for letting me know. The committee meets again tomorrow,
 22 and I will let you know.

23 I did not hear back from the committee until I got
 24 the report. So I felt at all that at least there should be
 25 some continuation to have an opportunity that there was some



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1 work left undone.

2 I am very sensitive to conclusions that were drawn
3 about me, because in fact that is not my behavior. Everything
4 that has been said I have been up front and above board. Not
5 all people agree with what I said, but I been always up front,
6 honest, and above board with everything. Most members of my
7 church, and Darrell and Stanley can talk to that, didn't even
8 know I was moderator presbytery before. All they know is, we
9 call Tom to teach Sunday school. He teaches Sunday school.
10 Need him to come preach, he'll preach. Need Tom to come work
11 the food ministry, Tom will work the food ministry. Whatever
12 my church asks me to serve, that's what I did.

13 I'm not the type person that even uses titles or
14 offices. You go into my office and work where I was working
15 you didn't see any awards. You go in my office at home, no
16 awards, no diplomas, no anything. I been like that my whole
17 life.

18 So being led by the Holy Spirit, not one time during
19 my discernment process I committed to this call. I put myself
20 under the guidance of this committee. I feel like a fighter,
21 a prize fighter call, one or two punches I have to take
22 another one. I don't like it. I don't want to do it, but if
23 that's what God is calling me to do and I put myself under the
24 authority of this body, I have to do it. I understand what it
25 means to walk humbly with God. It means you may have to do



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1 things you don't want to do. Am I'm ready to go into
 2 ministry? Yes, I'm ready. I felt I been ready since I
 3 accepted the call. Is patience once of my virtues? No, but
 4 it's one of the things I'm learning to grow in to, but humbly
 5 to me is overriding patience. It means to, if I have to do
 6 this, I have to do what I have to do, and I'm willing to
 7 accept that. But as Mr. Wallace says, not under the
 8 conditions of being portrayed in this manner.

9 I mentioned to my lawyer and I want to mention this
 10 to you. If it's an issue of conflict, it takes more than one
 11 person to have conflict. If this training is offered to
 12 myself and to Ruth and Tim, Ed Koster, whoever, to me that
 13 would be a building and living community. We all go together.
 14 Let's all go do it and work together. I feel because I'm
 15 different or because I'm assessed to be different, I go out,
 16 you get right and come back to us. I've already submit myself
 17 to this authority, but in the building of community which is
 18 already built by God, we have to live in it. To go out
 19 together to work together on sensitivity training, conflict
 20 resolution training together with the people you have conflict
 21 with is a much better idea and I would be more than happy to
 22 do it, if it takes five years, ten years, whatever, I would
 23 not have a problem with that. But to send me out alone to
 24 come back under these conditions, I'm very concerned with
 25 that.



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1 Again, I submit myself under the auspices and
2 authority of this body to pray that you discern the Holy
3 Spirit to do what is right based on the evidence and data.

4 REV. DOWNS: Either of you have anything else you
5 like to add? Now you were writing down some of the issues I'm
6 assuming in your notes, Marjorie, we want to be sure to bring
7 up in our private discussion. I've written down a couple
8 things, questions that I think I heard you wanting us to raise
9 and let me run those by you so that, to see if I heard you
10 right.

11 One is to look at a time line of all of these events
12 and even before the complaint was filed to look kind of
13 backwards in time and carry it forward to see what connections
14 we may or may not see.

15 Another was to examine the evidence that there was
16 any abuse of his authority as moderator in testimonies that
17 were received and again in the process of the events that
18 occurred; is that correct?

19 REV. WALLACE: That is right.

20 REV. DOWNS: The other one, these are in regard to
21 the three issues that were raised in investigating committee.

22 The third one was related to listening and
23 consistent pattern so to speak of jumping to conclusions and
24 prejudging and again ask us to look back at what the evidence
25 is there for that.



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1 I think that was, that's what I heard, that's what I
2 jotted notes down. I don't know if anybody wrote anything
3 else down.

4 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I heard that the
5 recommendation would be that this committee consider approving
6 the recommendations, adopting the recommendations, but not the
7 report.

8 REV. DOWNS: To receive the report, but not adopt
9 the report.

10 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Not adopt the recommendations.

11 REV. DOWNS: Tom?

12 ELDER PRIEST: Other thing Mr. Wallace said and
13 myself, the witnesses, initial witnesses, that information
14 made available as part of evidence. Mr. Edwards witness
15 information and witnesses at the meetings, two of the
16 witnesses that are signed in the report were not at attended
17 other meetings.

18 REV. DOWNS: I'm a little, I'm a little confused.

19 ELDER PRIEST: Evidence part that Mr. Wallace
20 mentioned was also important as far as the record, was
21 Mr. Edwards' written deposition.

22 REV. DOWNS: I see.

23 ELDER PRIEST: And then the other witnesses that
24 were part of that, that's a theme, two of the witnesses that
25 are included in this report were not part of any of the



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1 meetings I had at Second Mile Center.

2 REV. DOWNS: "In this report" meaning the committee?

3 ELDER PRIEST: This report here.

4 REV. DOWNS: The investigating committee's report?

5 ELDER PRIEST: Yes, investigating committee. Two of
6 those witnesses were not at any of the meetings regarding
7 Second Mile. The fourth witness they did not identify. I had
8 to call and ask for the other two witnesses, was not involved
9 in any way with Second Mile Center. So those three people
10 listed in this report, one unnamed and two named, were not
11 involved in any of these.

12 REV. DOWNS: And the unnamed ones I'm assuming you
13 know who they are?

14 ELDER PRIEST: I know who they are now. I wish they
15 had put them in the report. I had to call and ask.

16 REV. DOWNS: We will be happy to receive any
17 paperwork you like to add to this. Please not 150 pages. We
18 need to be able to distribute it and have folks take a look
19 at. But Mr. Edwards' comments copy you have apparently a
20 sheet of his remarks?

21 REV. WALLACE: I have.

22 REV. DOWNS: Thank you.

23 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: What's on that paper?

24 REV. DOWNS: This is a narrative from Mr. Stanley
25 Edwards, Elder, about your participation in the meetings with



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1 Tom; is that correct?

2 ELDER CLARK: Did it come out in all the discussion
3 that Mr. Edwards is the leader at Barnabas which is the other
4 two centers?

5 REV. DOWNS: I think it was mentioned in the
6 introductions, but thank you.

7 ELDER CLARK: I think he's also chairman at
8 Barnabas.

9 REV. DOWNS: Thank you.

10 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: In listening to your eloquence,
11 Mr. Wallace became quite aware that there's a suggestion that
12 there was a subtext in all of this involving possible
13 retribution by Mrs. Azar for the fact that Mr. Priest was
14 involved in the issues concerning with how she came upon her
15 position at Second Mile Center. This is not something that
16 I'm aware has been suggested previously, and I'm anxious, Tom,
17 to ask you if you feel this whole thing evolved as a result of
18 the role you played with Mrs. Lattimore and Dorothy Seabrook
19 in the concerns about how it came to be that she was named as
20 the coordinator of Second Mile Center. Do you feel that you
21 were in fact a target as a result of her feeling for your
22 involvement in calling that in to question?

23 REV. WALLACE: May I answer that? The short
24 answer's, yes.

25 Second thing I would add if I might, maybe little



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1 longer answer. Ms. Lattimore acted initially on her own.

2 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I'm having a hard time
3 hearing.

4 REV. WALLACE: Mrs. Lattimore initiated the action
5 on her own. Subsequently, Mr. Priest believed that justice
6 had not been done in allowing someone to be put in a position
7 without going through advertising and discernment by the
8 presbytery about, is this the right person. So he then took
9 up that issue himself. But when he did the motion, in
10 response to that motion, we even had it e-mailed from
11 Mrs. Azar to the effect, what can we do to bring charges
12 against him now that we know he's going to file this motion
13 that's been filed and going to be brought to presbytery on the
14 27th of 2010. She writes on the 21st, what can we do to bring
15 charges against him? There no charges, nothing, 13 months.
16 So our submission is that this is retaliation and it's
17 unfortunate and I think she was concerned about her job.

18 I would offer to you also, and I don't know if the
19 committee, investigative committee has this, but trustees
20 minutes for Second Mile Center from late '09 we have those.
21 If you don't, it shows where the problem is within Second Mile
22 Center, the Clark Hill attorney's memorandum in December 2008
23 saying they really are not in keeping with presbytery
24 procedure. The January 22, 2009 motion of the operations
25 ministry team to the coordinating cabinet, and then a series



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1 of e-mails about that, minutes of the coordinating cabinet of
 2 March 2009 showing where it was dealt with, the presbytery
 3 minutes, coordinating council minutes of March 2, '09, again
 4 showing where they're dealing with how do we reconcile that
 5 position not being filled properly. Then we have the slides
 6 that Mr. Priest used in his presentation both in the seminary
 7 and with Mrs. Azar and Mr. Edwards. The minutes of the
 8 Metropolitan Urban Ministry Team is March 12, 2009 where they
 9 dealt with an issue motion to rescind over in 2010, first put
 10 together April 5 and then it shows being sent out by e-mail
 11 showing it being sent out April 12 by moderator, I mean
 12 Executive Presbyter Timm and Stated Clerk Mr. Koster sending
 13 it out to responding to Ms. Azar's concerns.

14 And anyway then one of these e-mails if you like to
 15 have it, one of these e-mails, April 14, we would like to know
 16 what charges we can bring against Mr. Priest and
 17 Ms. Lattimore. We believe this is harassment. We want to
 18 move forward with charges. That's Paragraph 3 of that e-mail.

19 Mr. Koster then writes a response, very eloquent
 20 response the next day saying, you're fair to everybody here,
 21 here's the outline of the process. Anybody can do what they
 22 have to do. Here's how it works, spells it out with a whole
 23 series of e-mails and here's a complaint filed April 21.

24 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: So as a follow-up, Tom, to that,
 25 is it your feeling that Ruth Azar fabricated these allegations



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1 against you of harassment, sexual -- racial insensitivity, and
2 I think some gender inequality, I was going there with that
3 comment? What is then the motivation in your bottom line for
4 what her actions were, the fact that she fabricated these
5 allegations as retribution toward you for the role you saw
6 yourself necessarily having to play in her appointment?

7 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: What's your question, Larry?

8 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: My question is whether Tom feels
9 that the complainant fabricated the allegations as retribution
10 towards him?

11 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I don't know if that would be
12 appropriate to even answer.

13 REV. WALLACE: I was getting ready to say something
14 close to that. We don't say whether she tells the truth or
15 not. We do point to two things. One, we deny all these
16 things, context changes all of these things. They weren't
17 said to her and there was an issue before the house, the
18 presbytery about re-advertising the job. What motivated her I
19 don't think anybody would say.

20 ELDER PRIEST: Can I say something in my defense? I
21 feel bad people talking for me. People aren't used to that
22 from me. I will say this. It's very important to me what
23 Mr. Wallace says about what was said to her, and I think
24 that's a key piece of data what was said to each person
25 individually, not summed up and said these are the comments



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1 that were made. What was said to her, what was said to each
2 person is a critical piece, and that's when you look at the
3 context. And that's when you see things were not said to her
4 and certain things were not said to others, and some were not
5 even said at all.

6 REV. DOWNS: Any other questions addressing
7 different issues, different aspects at this point? Okay, then
8 what I will do is give us a 5 minute recess.

9 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I have an observation.

10 REV. DOWNS: Please do.

11 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I'm more concerned in the report
12 about their observations of their interaction with Mr. Priest
13 when he was with them, and I'm more concerned about their
14 perception with him as a person they were talking with who was
15 a potential candidate for ministry. The allegations, and I
16 understand you be defensive in that situation, but the
17 allegations have been dismissed for lack of evidence and I'm
18 not concerned about the allegations, but I am concerned how he
19 functions with relation to this committee.

20 REV. KOSTER: As a point of order, we don't know why
21 the allegations were dismissed. The Book of Order says that
22 an investigative committee must decide whether it has the
23 evidence to prove it, whether they have considering the people
24 who testified and evidence they have. They could say they
25 didn't violate the constitution, we don't know. So your



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1 statement that there's no evidence of it is probably not quite
2 true.

3 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: To me the allegation, the issue
4 is interaction.

5 REV. KOSTER: I'm just trying to clarify what the
6 rules of evidence say about filing charges.

7 REV. WALLACE: One reason we don't raise the issue,
8 we would have double jeopardy. We don't know why they
9 declined to go forward. All we know is they declined to go
10 forward period. If they said anything more than that and said
11 no evidence then we probably jumping up and down about double
12 jeopardy.

13 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Who declined to go forward?

14 REV. WALLACE: Investigative committee of the
15 church.

16 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The church, I see.

17 REV. WALLACE: The complaint filed by Ms. Azar was
18 to the clerk of session and the stated clerk of presbytery.
19 The presbytery declined to step forward, but the church itself
20 appointed an investigative committee and it's their committee
21 and we appeared before that about two months ago.

22 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I have one other question. What
23 happens to the file of candidates in this presbytery?

24 REV. DOWNS: They are kept until ordination and then
25 the files are given to the candidate.



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1 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: So the file does not follow the
2 candidate once the candidate's ordained?

3 REV. KOSTER: I believe that's true.

4 REV. DOWNS: That's my understanding. I got all
5 mine back. If they weren't supposed to do that, I'm not
6 returning them.

7 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Closed, sealed, and returned
8 upon ordination.

9 REV. RICE: The CPM of the calling presbytery may
10 request to read through the file.

11 ELDER BARBARA JACKSON: What about is he a candidate
12 for ordination?

13 REV. DOWNS: Ordination

14 ELDER BARBARA JACKSON: Okay.

15 REV. DOWNS: We will take a 5 minute recess, and
16 when we reconvene we'll be in executive session.

17 (Cff the record 10:29 a.m. through 12:51 p.m.)

18 REV. KOSTER: The committee adjourned from executive
19 session at 12:50 p.m. During the executive session the
20 committee approved the report of the investigating
21 subcommittee and approved the recommendations with amendments.

22 The committee recessed from open session for lunch
23 at 12:55.

24 (Concluded at 12:55 p.m.)
25 - - -



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I also certify that prior to taking this deposition,
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-----	29:23 31:12	advice	25:19	4:17 22:15
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3:5 4:6,7	activities	advised	22:24	38:5
Abbot	15:18	20:16	Al	Amen
13:2 17:22	ad	advisor	9:20	4:25 5:1 6:8
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4:11 19:5	add	advisory	48:3	amendments
able	36:18 40:5	13:16	allegations	49:21
37:14 42:18	42:17 43:25	Advocate	45:25 46:5,9	among
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30:24 31:1,17	11:10,20	advocates	21	Ann
32:10 40:16	34:14	3:20	allow	1:19,22 7:1
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28:18 30:8,17	17:14	16:3 31:12	allowed	announced
accept	addressing	affirmed	3:21	4:5
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39:7	Adrow	afford	44:6	12:2 15:3
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6:5	adhering	A f r i c a n -	39:23	27:14 38:22
accepted	25:11	A m e r i c a n	along	40:15
39:3	adjourned	16:13 22:4	28:4	answer
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23:15	adjournment	A f r i c a n -	7:4 29:2	44:1 46:12
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29:11	adopt	4:23	8:15,19,21	43:16
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28:19 44:1	26:9	7:3 18:11	alternative	4:10 30:11
action	advantage	48:21	17:2	apparently
11:22 20:17	30:18	agree	although	42:19
24:25 26:1,8	advertised	19:23 27:9	31:15	APPEARANCES
44:4	33:2	38:5	altogether	1:16
actions	advertising		5:22	appeared



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applied	Arbor	10:21	available	21:2
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**Exhibit S**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

PRESBYTERY OF CINCINNATI PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT PRESBYTERY OF EASTMINSTER
 PRESBYTERY OF LAKE HURON PRESBYTERY OF LAKE MICHIGAN PRESBYTERY OF MACKINAC PRESBYTERY OF MAUMEE VALLEY
 PRESBYTERY OF MIAMI VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF MUSKINGUM VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF SCIOTO VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF THE WESTERN RESERVE

September 23, 2010

Rosy Latimore
 1762 Farmbrook Drive
 Troy, MI 48098

Thomas Priest
 22668 Beckenham Court
 Novi, MI 48374

Dorothy Seabrooks
 422 University Place
 Detroit, MI 48224

Detroit Committee of Counsel
 % Edward H. Koster
 3722 Bridal Pass Court
 Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Dear Rosy, Dorothy, Thomas, and Edward

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On Wednesday, September 15, 2010, I, as Moderator and the Rev. Doris Arnett Whitaker, Vice Clerk, of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission met by conference call to examine documents provided by the Complainant and the Presbytery's Committee of Counsel for case *Latimore et al v. The Presbytery of Detroit*. (indexed as case # 2010-02) The Rev. George Baird, Stated Clerk for the Synod of the Covenant, joined the conference call in order to assist with questions of process, but did not participate in the examination of documents under the provisions of D-6.0305, or in the decision about them.

The purpose of this conference call was to determine whether the Preliminary Questions were answered according to D-6.0305.

D-6.0305a the governing body has jurisdiction
 The answer is yes

D-6.0305b the complainant has standing to file the case
 Elder Thomas Priest was not in attendance at the presbytery meeting at which the action in question was taken by the presbytery and therefore, does not have standing. Both Elder Rosy Latimore and Elder Dorothy Seabrooks were in attendance and enrolled as elder commissioners at this meeting so therefore, the answer is yes.

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Exhibit 5**Exhibit S****D-6.0305c** *the complaint was timely filed*

The complaint was received by the Synod office on Tuesday, July 27, 2010 which is at least ninety-one days after the date of the presbytery meeting. The Synod office was open on Monday, July 26, 2010 on which the documents could have been delivered. Therefore, the answer is no.

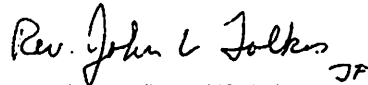
D-6.0305d *the complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted.*

According to Robert's Rules of Order (10th edition), the motion, *Objection to the Consideration of a Question*, is one of a category of motions known as Incidental Motions. Incidental Motions relate to "pending" business or other business at hand. (RONR, page 66, ¶15). "The purpose of an *Objection to the Consideration of a Question* is to enable the assembly to avoid a particular original main motion altogether when it believes it would be strongly undesirable for the motion even to come before the assembly." (RONR, page 258, ¶ 25) This indicates that the procedures used during the Presbytery meeting of April 27, 2010, while unusual, were not out of order. Because the action of the presbytery in dealing with this matter was in order and because the SPJC cannot force a Presbytery to apologize to its own assembly, the SPJC cannot grant the relief requested. Therefore the answer is no.

Since two of the four Preliminary Questions have been answered in the negative, the officers of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant have determined that this case cannot be accepted. The request from the Presbytery Committee of Counsel to dismiss this case will not be considered since the case is not being accepted.

If any party to this case, or any member of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission, wish to challenge the findings of the moderator and clerk of the PJC they may do so under the provisions of the Rules of Discipline D-6.0306. Such challenges should be sent to me at the synod office address.

Sincerely In Christ,



Rev. John V. Folkers, SPJC Moderator

cc: Doris Arnett Whitaker

George W. Baird

The members of the Synod PJC

Exhibit 5**Exhibit T**

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT

March 1, 2011

Bell, Margaret
 Brownlee, Richard
 Clark, Sam
 Downs, Elizabeth
 Gage, Larry
 Gaubatz, Mike

Hartley, Tom
 Hughley, Marie
 Hunt, Phyllis
 Jackson, Barbara
 Jackson, Robert
 Johnson, Henry

Krug III, Ernest
 McDevitt, Jenny
 McMillen, Judi
 Pittman, Jason
 Pritchard, Norman
 Rice, Betsy

Stunkel, Paul
 Warren, Orlean
 Wilhelm, Marjone
 Timm, Allen

1. Call to Order:

CPM co-chair Beth Downs called the meeting to order at 9 am with prayer. The minutes were approved, as corrected.

2. Introductions:

All members were introduced and the following were seated: Tom Priest, Stanley Edwards, elder Calvary Pres, Darryl Reynolds, elder Calvary, Rev. Archibald Wallace, attorney and advisor to Tom Priest, Mrs. Courter as court reporter, Christine Bohn as member of the Investigative Committee, and Ed Koster, Clerk of Presbytery.

3. Motion to Approve Agenda:

The agenda was approved

4. Explanation of Purpose and Process:

Beth Downs reminded the committee that we are reconvening the CPM hearing on the motion to adopt the report and recommendations of the investigative sub-committee regarding the complaint of Ruth Azar, of Second Mile Center, against Tom Priest, candidate. The investigative committee included David Abbott, Christine Bohn (COM), Elizabeth Rice, and Henry Johnson. Beth urged fairness and diligence in our task to assess the report, and to determine Tom's fitness for ministry, in accordance with the process outlined in the Book of Order, and the manual for CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit. We do not have function or power to determine disciplinary action, and this is not a legal or disciplinary hearing.

5. Hearing Stage

- On February 1, 2011, a motion was *made and seconded to adopt the Investigating Committee's report and recommendations*. Having been postponed and not withdrawn, it was still on the floor. The Investigating Committee's report and recommendations were read. This report can be found on the POD Caucus website.
- Mr. Wallace acknowledged CPM's right and responsibility to evaluate suitability for ministry, but maintained that the style and tone of the report and process of the investigative committee are disciplinary in nature and therefore in excess of that right.
- Mr. Wallace responded to the issues raised in the report, specifically: that Mr. Priest did not abuse his authority as Moderator of the Presbytery; and that Mr. Priest values justice and equity highly and never intended prejudice or malice in any interactions he had with Ms. Azar.
- Mr. Wallace submitted that Mr. Priest does not object to the recommendations of the sub-committee, but to the nature of the report, its conclusions, and the process by which this has been handled. They requested that the committee approve the recommendations, but not the report.
- Mr. Priest stated that he is committed to his call to ministry, and submits to the authority of this body and the recommendations for growth and training. He suggested that all parties involved should be offered the training as an opportunity to build community. He maintained that any conflict resolution should include all involved.
- Mr. Wallace submitted a narrative from Mr. Stan Edwards, elder, Calvary Presbyterian Church and director of Barnabas Center, about his participation in the meetings with Tom (copy attached).
- The committee went into executive session. Mr. Koster was asked to remain.

Exhibit 5**Exhibit T****7. Executive Session**

- The approved minutes of this session are sealed and on file in the offices of the Presbytery of Detroit.

8. Move to Open Session

- The Committee returned to open session. While in executive session, the Committee adopted the report and recommendations of the CPM Subcommittee Convened in the Matter of Complaint by Ruth Azar against Thomas H. Priest, Jr, dated January 18, 2011, as follows:
- After considerable discussion, a motion is made *to separate the report from the recommendations*. Second. Votes to approve 10, to oppose 8. **The motion passed.**
- **The motion to adopt the report is approved.**
- A motion on the floor is *to adopt the recommendations*. A question was raised about including objective measurements of progress.
- A motion was made that *in addition to the mediation training, Mr. Priest return to this committee to report on what he learned, and then as a follow-on he participate in a psychological assessment.*
Withdrawn.
- A motion was made *to adopt the recommendations, amended as follows:*

CPM SUBCOMMITTEE
CONVENED IN THE MATTER OF COMPLAINT BY RUTH AZAR
AGAINST CANDIDATE THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.
Date of Report – January 18, 2011

Introduction

After prayerful consideration, the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, on May 4, 2010, authorized the formation of a subcommittee to investigate the above referenced complaint. The composition of the subcommittee was approved June 1: Reverend David Abbott, Reverend Christine Bohn, Elder Henry Johnson, and Reverend Elizabeth Rice.

The committee convened its first meeting on June 9, 2010, the intent being to determine its agenda and the process for achieving outcomes. The committee received guidance from the Stated Clerk, Ed Koster, concerning process and the parameters of its investigation.

The committee's task was to investigate and make a recommendation to CPM concerning Mr. Priest's suitability for ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. It was not this committee's task to determine whether or not the Constitution of the PC(USA) was violated. This committee was advisory to CPM on matters of suitability and preparation for ministry; disciplinary or judicial proceedings were not this committee's purview.

We met again on June 22, 2010, to begin scheduling interviews and to clarify our approach to the investigation.

On July 15, 2010, we interviewed Ruth Azar. Key issues included:

- concerns about Mr. Priest's interactions with staff and volunteers at Second Mile Center (SMC)
- disturbing statements made by Mr. Priest during his visit to SMC
- a perception that SMC was being targeted by Mr. Priest and its ministry devalued and undermined.

On July 28, 2010, we met to discuss the interview with Ms. Azar and plan for the interview with Mr. Priest.

On August 9, 2010, we interviewed Mr. Priest, who was accompanied by his Advocate, Elder Darrell Reynolds. The committee found it notable that Mr. Priest gave lengthy responses to the questions and frequently redirected the conversation. Key issues included:

- a denial of certain comments and insistence that others were taken out of context
- Mr. Priest's desire that Barnabas Youth Opportunities Center and SMC work together, share resources, and visit other urban ministries
- his preferred model of urban ministry and his interpretations of his observations of SMC.

On August 13, 2010, we met to discuss and plan.

Exhibit 5**Exhibit T**

On September 28, 2010, we interviewed separately Sandra Addrow, Lawrence Lorkowski, and Elder Stan Edwards. We interviewed each person specifically about their personal interactions with Mr. Priest during his visits to SMC and Barnabas Youth Opportunities Center and a later meeting at SMC.

On November 19, 2010, we met for discussion and further planning.

On November 30, 2010, we met for further discussion and also to interview another witness, who was present at the later meeting at SMC.

On December 10, 2010, we met again for further discussion of past interviews and also to interview a final witness.

On January 11, 2011, we met again to draft a report and recommendation.

We finalized our report on January 18, 2011.

Central Issues

Three primary areas of concern were identified by this committee.

One of these concerns has to do with use of authority. In arranging his first visit to Second Mile Center, Mr. Priest identified himself as a seminary student preparing a paper for a class. In subsequent activities, however, Mr. Priest regularly used his influence and authority as Moderator of Presbytery and former moderator of the Metropolitan Urban Ministries Team to lobby decision-making bodies within presbytery to share his view of work and structure of Second Mile Center. At the same time, Mr. Priest did not notify Second Mile that he was taking his findings and interpretation of those findings to presbytery, nor did he use that same influence and authority to provide an opportunity for Second Mile to have voice in actions intended to affect dramatically the future of the Center. In other words, Mr. Priest represented himself as a student to the subjects of his investigation, but freely applied the authority of presbytery office to pursue actions against those subjects.

This committee also observed a consistent pattern of Mr. Priest prejudging the opinions and experiences of others without listening to what they had to say about their own opinions and experiences. People self-identifying with three different racial-ethnic groups (white, Arab-American, and African-American) indicated to the committee their frustration and discomfort when they perceived that Mr. Priest assumed he knew what they thought about certain issues (or what they should think) based on his perception of their racial-ethnic identity. At least in certain circumstances, it appears that Mr. Priest was unwilling to listen to what people had to say about their experience and opinions and was, instead, rather forceful verbally in attributing his experience and opinion to others.

It is evident to this committee that Mr. Priest is fiercely devoted to his preferred model of urban ministry. This committee is concerned that Mr. Priest is unwilling to acknowledge the legitimacy of alternative ministry styles and routinely uses methods of confrontation and intimidation.

Recommendations

It is the opinion of this committee that Candidate Priest's current pattern of confrontational behaviors would cause great difficulty in a congregation and in a presbytery.

Therefore, this committee moves that CPM require Mr. Priest to participate in the Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders led by the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center.

Additionally, we move that at an appropriate future time CPM examine Mr. Priest to assess his pastoral development in the areas identified above.

~~This assessment might include such tools as asking Mr. Priest to write papers on what he has learned personally and professionally from the mediation skills training and his own sense of pastoral identity and authority.~~

[This assessment will include asking Mr. Priest to present a report on what he has learned personally and professionally.]

Exhibit 5**Exhibit T**

CPM requires Mr. Priest to subsequently undergo professional assessment through Midwest Career Counseling Center. CPM will furnish Midwest with the CPM Sub-Committee report and require that Midwest furnish their assessment to CPM. Pastoral counseling may also be helpful in Mr. Priest's learning and healing through this process, and CPM encourages Mr. Priest to pursue that option.]

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. David Abbot, Rev. Christine Bohn, Elder Henry Johnson, Rev. Elizabeth Rice

(end of report)

- **The motion passed.**

Since Mr. Priest and Mr. Wallace were unable to remain nearby until the executive session concluded, the Co-Moderators of CPM will contact them and give them written copies of the committee's action.

9. Examinations and Annual Consultations:

- Groups A and B met with Liz Ryder for Final Assessment (1-11/07, C-6/08, McDevitt). Upon examining Liz on her responses to Form 3, a motion was made *to sustain her annual consultation*. **Seconded. Approved.** Upon examining Liz on her statement of faith, her exegesis and her sermon, a motion was made and seconded *to grant her final assessment and give her permission to circulate her PIF*. **Approved.** Liz was dismissed with prayer.
- Group C met with Monique Fube for Annual Consultation (CLP, Rice). A motion was made *to continue her in the learning phase of CLP, while urging her to complete her field placement*. **Seconded. Approved.** Although she submitted her exam after the due date, a recommendation is made to proceed to grade it. Jenny McDevitt and Judi McMillan agreed to help. Monique was dismissed with prayer.
- Group D met with Cynthia Rouse-Baird for Annual Consultation (CLP, Barbara Jackson). Group D does not recommend any action to be taken by CPM at the moment. They recommend that we *not to sustain her annual consultation*, because her paperwork was late, incomplete and her written responses hard to evaluate. This is a time for discernment for her and the committee. She has yet to decide if she will retake the exam. The committee requests a follow-up assessment with Cynthia in two months. Tom raised concerns about the lack of appropriate care and nurture provided by the committee, lack of clear instructions, and constructive feedback. Cynthia was dismissed with prayer.

10. Business:

- **Report from Al Timm:**
 - Al reported on the clergy event in February. It was well received, and 8 candidates attended.
 - There will be a workshop on stewardship on March 26, at Ypsilanti. Robert Hunter is the presenter.
 - Al will offer a course on Polity at ETS in the Fall, depending on what the educators want, either Al or Ed Koster will teach it.
- **Sub-committee Reports:**
 - **Lay Pastor Preparation Sub-Committee Report** (formerly CLP report).
 - The committee will meet in April at 9:30 am, focusing on the issue of the final examination for the CLP candidates. Larry has collected other samples for the committee to compare and consider for the recommendation for the format of the examination.
 - **Ordination Exams** – The exam results are due in about two weeks.
 - **Session Relations** – No new business.
 - **CPM Retreat** – No new business to be reported.
 - **Coordinating Cabinet** – Operations requests us to describe what we would require in an associate executive presbyter. Richard Brownlee will attend in March. Betsy will attend in April.
- **Liaison Reports:**
 - We need a new liaison for David Oh, who is currently working in California.
 - We thank David Abbott for his faithful service, and relieve him of any co-opt responsibilities.

Exhibit 5**Exhibit T**

- c There are three other people who would like to be reassigned to a new liaison. We need to
- assess how assignments are made, rather than default to whoever raises their hand.
- c We need to ensure appropriate liaison oversight. Larry suggests a half-day retreat to regroup for reorientation. Richard recommends that the covenant include clear responsibilities on the candidate's part.

There being no further business, CPM adjourned at 3:50 pm with prayer. ***The next gathering of CPM is scheduled for April 5, 2011 at 11:00 am at Drayton Plains Community Church, Waterford. Tom Hartley and Beth Downs will be our hosts, and Larry Gage will lead in prayer.***

Respectfully submitted,
Marjorie Wilhelmi

Exhibit 6**Exhibit H****PAPER G-1****REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY**

October 25, 2011

The Committee submits the following report for the months of September and October, 2011.

FOR INFORMATION: Consultation Reports***For Minister of Word and Sacrament:***

1. CPM met with the following candidate and sustained her/his Annual Consultation. S/He has already been granted Final Assessment and permission to seek a call.

Karen Zurakowski	First Presbyterian, Grosse Ile	September 6, 2011
Lindsay Anderson	Geneva, Canton	October 4, 2011

2. CPM met with the following inquirers/candidates for ordained ministry on the dates noted and sustained their annual consultations:

Paula Allstetter		
Daniel Portice		September 6, 2011

3. CPM met with the following candidate and granted him Final Assessment with permission to circulate his PIF.

Thomas Priest	Calvary, Detroit	October 4, 2011
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4. CPM met with the following applicants and voted to enroll them as an Inquirers:

Heidi Church (Nicholls)	First Presbyterian Church, Ypsilanti	September 6, 2011
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For Commissioned Lay Pastor:

5. CPM met with the following CRE (Commissioned Ruling Elder, formerly Commissioned Lay Pastor) students and sustained their annual consultations:

Charon Barconey		October 4, 2011
Anita Teresko		October 4, 2011

FOR ACTION: Transfer of Membership from Another Denomination

"When a minister of another Christian church is called to a work properly under the jurisdiction of a presbytery, the presbytery, after the constitutional conditions have been met, shall recognize the minister's previous ordination to ministry. Such ministers shall furnish credentials and evidence of good standing acceptable to the presbytery, and shall submit satisfactory evidence of possessing the qualifications of character and scholarship required of candidates of this church (G-2.0607 and G-2.01610). In exceptional circumstances the following provisions will apply:

"... A minister of another Reformed church who has been ordained for five or more years may be granted an exemption for some or all of the examinations required of candidates for ordination by a two-thirds vote of the presbytery." (G-2.0505.2)

On September 6, 2011, the CPM examined the Rev. Arthur Oberg on his understanding of theology, the Bible, the Sacraments, and the government of the PC(USA), and has satisfactorily taken a class in PC(USA) polity. He has been ordained into the Reformed Church of America for nearly 10 years, is a member in good standing, and currently serves as called pastor to the First Presbyterian Church of Wyandotte, MI.

The CPM offers the following motions for consideration by this Presbytery:

Exhibit 6**Exhibit H**

1. The CPM recommends that the Presbytery examine the Rev. Arthur Oberg for transfer of his membership from the Reformed Church of America into the PC(USA) and grant an exemption for all the examinations required of candidates for ordination.
2. The CPM recommends that the Presbytery receive the Rev. Arthur Oberg into membership in this Presbytery and the PC(USA).

FOR INFORMATION: Other

1. Written Ordination Exams are scheduled for January 27-28, 2012; bible Content exam is scheduled for February 3, 2012. Registration deadline is December 15.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Downs, CPM Co-Moderator

**PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
MINUTES OF THE STATED MEETING
August 28, 2012**

WE GATHERED IN GOD'S NAME

A quorum being present, the Presbytery of Detroit convened with a litany and prayer at the Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church on August 28, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. Jim Porter moderated the meeting.

WE CELEBRATED OUR CONNECTIONS IN CHRIST

The Moderator appointed Dennis Witte the Assistant to the Stated Clerk.

The Moderator welcomed new commissioners and teaching elders.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery approved the docket

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery excused those who had requested to be excused.

Steven Clark welcomed Presbytery to Rosedale Gardens Church

Reports from Presbytery Affiliated Organizations

Ruth Azar reported for the Second Mile Center, and its new designation as a 501(c)3 organization by the IRS.

**Reports from Other Governing Bodies (10)
Synod Commissioners report**

Deborah Fair, a synod commissioner report, reported on the August Synod meeting at Alma College, and the upcoming programs of Synod. Jean Loup reported on the moderator meeting incorporated into the Synod meeting.

Jean Loup began moderating the meeting.

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR COMMUNITY

Announcements

Presbytery heard announcements:

- On the history project, including a report on the dissolution of Kenjockety. The description of the ministry of Kenjockety is appended to the minutes.
- The tragedy in Kenya where there was a bus accident that killed or injured many women in the Thika Presbytery's Women's Guild.
- On the work Presbytery has done in the 17 years since Hurricane Katrina, which has included sending 15 groups there to provide disaster relief
- Fran Anderson sang an announcement about the Month of Mission in October.

Reports

Presbytery heard reports on:

- Presbyterian Youth activities and next year's Youth Triennium.
- The 2012 Leadership Training and Transformation event on Sept 21 and 22.
- The activities of Hands-on Mission this summer.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

Executive Presbyter's Report. Richard Brownlee

Richard Brownlee reported on his work as the acting Presbytery Executive (in a team with Jim Russell). He reported on pastoral issues and lifted up ministry anniversaries for celebration.

Jim Porter began moderating the meeting.

The Moderator offered a brief prayer for openness.

Committee Items for Action:

Treasurer. Alvin Smith reported.

Alvin Smith reported the Treasurer's Report as of 6/30/2012. The report is appended to the minutes.

Coordinating Cabinet: Dianne Bostic Robinson reported for the Coordinating Cabinet.

Upon motion of the Coordinating Cabinet, Presbytery voted to endorse the 2013 HAE Covenant Update Worksheet to the Presbyterian Hunger Program for a Hunger Action Enabler Grant of \$6300.00 to support the salary of the Hunger Action Coordinator at the Presbytery of Detroit. The Covenant is appended to the minutes.

The Coordinating Cabinet reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. The Coordinating Cabinet heard a report and motion from the Social Justice and Peacemaking Team as a follow-up to the discussions about Trayvon Martin at the June meeting. The matter was referred back to the Team for more specific recommendations.
2. The Coordinating Cabinet considered a motion submitted by the session of the Grosse Pointe Woods Church to amend Presbytery Policy P-10. That Policy, on disaffected churches, is guiding the process of considering the expressed desire to seek transfer to a different denomination. It calls for a congregational meeting to vote on the matter, at which attendance of $\frac{3}{4}$ of their membership is required; a vote of $\frac{3}{4}$ those present and voting is required, which means that 56% of the congregation would need to approve. The session desired to change the policy to require attendance of $\frac{1}{3}$ of their membership, which would mean that the required vote would be 25% of their membership. The Coordinating Cabinet voted not to propose the amendment to Presbytery. The Coordinating Cabinet in its deliberations considered the following interpretation of the matter provided by the Stated Clerk:

The meeting we are talking about is not a congregational meeting in the sense of what the Form of Government calls for. Below are the distinctions.

- *Congregations have very limited powers*
G-1.0503 Business Proper to Congregational Meetings

Business to be transacted at meetings of the congregation shall be limited to matters related to the following:

- a. electing ruling elders, deacons, and trustees;*
- b. calling a pastor, co-pastor, or associate pastor;*
- c. changing existing pastoral relationships, by such means as reviewing the adequacy of and approving changes to the terms of call of the pastor or pastors, or requesting, consenting to, or declining to consent to dissolution;*
- d. buying, mortgaging, or selling real property;*
- e. requesting the presbytery to grant an exemption as permitted in this Constitution (G-2.0404).*

Notice that these powers do not include the power to request dismissal to another denomination.

- *The meeting is purely advisory in nature. All it does is give the Presbytery/Administrative Commission information about the desires of the congregation. The AC is not required to follow the vote, regardless of what it turns out to be. A motion to dismiss, if there ever be one, comes to the Presbytery not from the congregation or the session of GPW, but from the AC.*
 - *Since this is a purely advisory vote, the ordinary rules regarding quorums do not apply. That is, the congregational bylaw quorum is not what is at issue here. Since it is advisory to the Presbytery, the Presbytery can set whatever quorum it believes necessary to provide the information necessary.*
 - *Some of the major responsibilities of the Presbytery are these:*
 - *A responsibility to those who do not wish to leave.*
 - *A responsibility to the desires of those who in the past have built the church.*
 - *A responsibility to the mission and ministry of the Presbytery.*
- Therefore, a simple vote by the congregation is not determinative, regardless of how many are there or what the vote might be.*

Committee on Preparation for Ministry: Beth Downs reported for the Committee.

The Committee reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

Consultation Reports

For Teaching Elder (Minister of Word and Sacrament):

1. CPM met with the following candidate on the date noted and granted him Final Assessment and permission to circulate his PIF.

Dan Heaton	Erin, Roseville *	August 7, 2012
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** Note: Correction to the June 2012. Heaton is not a member of First, Birmingham.*
2. CPM met with the following candidate on the dates noted and sustained his Annual Consultation. He received Final Assessment in April 2010

Adam Bowers	First, Milford	August 7, 2012
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3. CPM met with the following inquirer and sustained his annual consultation.

Matt Bauhof	Northbrook, Beverly Hills	August 7, 2012
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4. CPM met with the following inquirer and recommends that she be presented on the floor of Presbytery for approval to move her to candidacy status.

Joanne Blair	First, Birmingham	August 7, 2012
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5. CPM met with the following and enrolled her as inquirer.
Christine Sackett Garden City August 7, 2012
6. The following inquirer was scheduled but had to be postponed because paperwork was not submitted.
Megan Polich Westminster, Ann Arbor

Other items for information:

- (1) The *Manual and Resource Guide for Commissioned Ruling Elder Candidates CPM-2 (2012)* is available. It replaces "CPM-2 Policy for Commissioned Lay Pastors." The Policy is appended to the minutes.
- (2) The full CPM manual is now on line, under Committees/Ministry Teams/Preparation for Ministry. The manual online includes all our CPM POD forms. (Note that the General Assembly forms are not to be used; they have the same titles but differ from what we use in here.)

The Committee presented Joanne Blair, a member under the care of the session of Birmingham First, for examination to be a candidate for the ordered ministry of teaching elder. The Presbytery examined Ms Blair on her faith, service, and sense of call. Upon motion, the Presbytery voted to arrest the examination. Upon motion, the Presbytery voted to enroll Ms Blair as a candidate for the ordered ministry of teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

The Vice Moderator asked Ms Blair the questions in Presbytery Policy P-21. Upon her affirmative answers, the Moderator offered a prayer, and directed she be enrolled as a candidate for the ordered ministry of teaching elder.

Upon nomination of the Committee, there being no nominations from the floor, Presbytery elected the following as Ordination Exam Readers from this Presbytery for 2013:

Elder Henry Johnson – principal	Rev. Judi McMillan - alternate
Rev. Thomas Hartley – principal	Elder May Gholz - alternate
Rev. Neeta Nichols – principal	

Stated Clerk: Edward Koster reported.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery voted to:

1. Approve the minutes of June 26, 2012.
2. Approve the reports of the following Commissions and append them to the minutes:
 - a. Installation of Mary Austin as pastor, Detroit Westminster on June 17, 2012
 - b. Installation of Michael Horlocker as the pastor of South Lyons Presbyterian Church on August 18, 2012.
3. Discharge Investigating Committee 2011-04 with thanks.
4. Discharge Investigating Committee 2012-01 with thanks.
5. Approve the minutes and records of churches as follow:

Ann Arbor Calvary	Auburn Hills	Birmingham First
No exceptions	With exceptions	No exceptions
Ann Arbor First	Beverly Hills	Bloomfield Kirk in the Hills
No Exceptions	Nortbrook	Hills
Ann Arbor Northside	With exceptions	No exceptions
With exceptions		

Brighton First No exceptions	Milford With exception	Shelby Twp St Thomas No exceptions
Dearborn Littlefield With exceptions	& correction	Southfield Covenant With exception
Detroit Calvary No exceptions	Mt Clemens First With exceptions	Sterling Hts New Life No exceptions
Detroit Fort Street No exceptions	Northville First With correction	Taylor Southminster With exception
Detroit St John's No exceptions	Orchard Lake Community	& correction
Garden City No exceptions	With exceptions	Troy First With exception
Grosse Ile No exceptions	& correction	Troy Northminster With exceptions
Grosse Pointe Memorial	Plymouth First With exceptions	Walled Lake Crossroads
No exceptions	& correction	No exceptions
Grosse Pointe Woods No exceptions	Port Huron First No exceptions	Waterford Community With exception
Howell First With exceptions	Rochester Hills University	Westland Kirk of our Savior
Livonia St Paul's No exceptions	No exceptions	With exception
Macomb Church of the Covenant	Royal Oak Starr No exceptions	& correction
With exception	St Clair Shores Heritage	White Lake With exceptions
Milan People's With exception	No exceptions	Wyandotte First With exceptions
	St Clair Shores Lakeshore	Ypsilanti First With exceptions
	No exceptions	

The Stated Clerk reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. TRANSFERS COMPLETED

- a. From the Presbytery of Detroit:
 - i. Frederick Lee to San Gabriel Presbytery
 - ii. Duke Morrow to Yukon Presbytery
 - iii. Terri Gast released from the office of teaching elder
- b. To the Presbytery of Detroit:
 - i. Steve Nuss from Lake Michigan Presbytery
 - ii. Robert Agnew HR from Whitewater Valley Presbytery
 - iii. Kelley Shriver from Inland Northwest Presbytery

2. Judicial Procedures.

- a. Investigating Committee 2011-04 has concluded its investigation and determined it will not file charges.
- b. Investigating Committee 2012-01 has concluded its investigation and determined it will not file charges.
- c. The General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission has issued a decision in the matter of Thomas Priest v. The Presbytery of Detroit. The Permanent Judicial Commission has dismissed the matter. This concludes the judicial process; no

further appeal is possible under this complaint. The Presbytery's Reply Brief, Mr Priest's Reply Brief, and the decision of the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission are appended to the minutes.

The Stated Clerk Reported the following communication from the Office of the General Assembly:

The 220th General Assembly (2012) took the following action on overture(s) submitted by your presbytery:

- A. *Item 03-02. On Amending G-3.0106 to Allow Presbyteries to Forward Only Per Capita Funds Received to Their Synods and the General Assembly—From the Presbytery of Detroit*

Disapproved with comment:

That the recommendation be referred to the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA) for deliberate consideration and recommendation to the 221st General Assembly (2014) with comment. Comment: The 220th General Assembly (2012) makes this referral because the difficulty of presbyteries raising and transmitting per capita funds goes beyond the scope of the original overture.

- B. *Item 06-02. On Amending D-10.0101-.0102 to Clarify the Duties of an Investigating Committee—From the Presbytery of Detroit*

Approved alternate resolution.

- C. *Item 21-02. On Instructing the General Assembly to Take Action to Implement the PC(USA)'s Policy on Inclusion of People with Disabilities—From the Presbytery of Twin Cities Area. Concurrence: Presbyteries of Cincinnati, Detroit, Ohio Valley, Synod of the Covenant.*

Approved with amendment.

Committee on Nominations: Ruthanne Bourlier reported for the Committee.

Upon nomination of the Committee, there being no nominations from the floor, Presbytery elected the following:

Elder Delois Cain, Detroit, Trinity, to the vacancy (Elder Eunice Raar) in the Class of 2013 on the Presbytery Operations Ministry Team

Committee on Ministry. Dixie Elam reported for the Committee.

Upon motion of the Committee, Presbytery voted to:

1. Approve a 6 month PT Interim Pastor Contract between **Royal Oak, Starr and Kenneth Kaibel**, effective August 1, 2012. Terms: Salary \$2,370; Housing \$12,000; Pension 402b \$1,500; Medical Deductible (reimbursement) \$700; Processional Expenses, Auto mileage at 55.5 cents per mile; Study Leave (reimbursable) \$200; other expenses \$600. Vacation 2 weeks including 2 Sundays per year over the life of the contract. Study leave of 1 week per year pro-rated over the life of the contract. Total package: \$17,370.
2. Approve a 12 month Interim Pastor Contract between **Dearborn, Cherry Hill and Neeta Nichols**, effective September 1, 2012. Terms: Salary \$24,000; Annuity \$9,000; Housing Allowance \$24,000; (Basic Compensation, \$57,00) Social Security \$4,360; Full Pension \$18,383; Medical Deductible \$570; Dental \$331; Travel (car) \$1,200; Study Leave \$2,156;

total \$84,000. Vacation: one month including 4 Sundays per year pro-rated over the life of the contract. Study leave: Two weeks per year pro rated over the life of the contract.

4. Receive into the Presbytery of Detroit the **Rev. Thomas Oxtoby**, Honorably Retired, from Sacramento Presbytery.
5. Approve the recommended changes to Presbytery of Detroit's Sexual Misconduct Policy submitted by the Pastoral Response Team through Committee on Ministry. The amendments are appended to the minutes.

Upon motion and second, Presbytery voted to appoint the a commission to install Adam Grosch, as the Pastor of Lake Shore Presbyterian Church, as follows:

The members of the Commission are: Teaching Elders John Judson, Tom Duncan, and Jim Porter (Moderator); Ruling Elders Dorothy Buchan (Warren First), Skip Bearance (Lake Shore), Mary Anne Brantley (Detroit Gratiot Avenue).

The installation shall take place on October 21, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. at the Lake Shore Church.

The Committee reported the following actions it has taken under the authority given it. It has:

1. Approved a 12 month Parish Associate Contract between **Allen Park Church** and **Keith Provost**, effective July 1, 2012. Terms \$1,000 Study Leave.
2. Approved a 12 month Parish Associate Contract between **Berkley, Greenfield** and **Ruthanne Bourlier**, effective August 1, 2012. Terms: Travel (car); Travel expenses (mileage).
3. Approved a 12 month Supply Contract between **Southfield, Covenant** and **Quincy Cooper**, effective May 24, 2012. Terms: Salary, \$26,000; Housing Allowance, \$47,200, Travel (car) Allowance reimbursed at IRS approved rate, \$1,800 (est.); Vacation leave of four (4) weeks including 4 Sundays pro rated over the life of this contract. Study leave of 2 weeks pro rated over the life of this contract.
4. Received the transfer to Presbytery of Detroit of **Kelly Shriver** from Inland Northwest Presbytery.
5. Approved Administrative Commission to ordain **Michael Horlocker** on Sunday, July 22, 2012 at 10:30 AM at Detroit, Jefferson Avenue. Moderator's designee Peter Smith; Teaching Elder: Linda Anderson. Ruling Elders: Dianne Bostic Robinson (Detroit, Westminster); Ron Case (Grosse Ile).
6. Approved Administrative Commission to install **Michael Horlocker**, as pastor of **First, South Lyon**, on August 18, 2012 at 4:00 PM. Moderator's designee Jean Loup; Teaching Elders: Louis Prues, Elizabeth Downs. Ruling Elders: Gordon Seiler (Farmington, First); Nancy Bass (Detroit, Jefferson Avenue); Mary Lloyd (Grosse Pointe Memorial); Dan McNish (South Lyon, First).

The Committee reports the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. Approved request of Gordon Seiler to attend Interim Training 2.
2. Approved **Northville, First's** request to search for an assistant pastor, to fill a new position. The previous request for approval to search for a temporary supply has been withdrawn.
3. Approved **Allen Park** to begin the search for an Associate.
4. Approved **Royal Oak Starr's** self study.
5. Approved **Northville, First's** self study.

The Presbytery recessed for dinner at 5:56 p.m.

The Presbytery convened for worship at 7:00 p.m.

At the conclusion of worship, adjourned with prayer at 7:45 p.m.

The next meeting of the Presbytery will be Tuesday, October 23, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. at the Allen Park Church

ATTEST:



EDWARD KOSTER, Stated Clerk

ATTACHMENT ONE: The Roll

APPENDICES:

- Kenjockey History
- Treasurer's Report
- HAE Covenant
- Committee on Preparation for Ministry Policy on Commissioned Ruling Elders
- Installation Commissions:
 - Installation of Mary Austin, June 17, 2012
 - Installation of Michael Horlocker, August 18, 2012
- Case of Thomas Priest v. Presbytery of Detroit:
 - Presbytery Reply Brief
 - Priest Reply Brief
 - Decision of the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission
- Amendments to the Sexual Misconduct Policy

ATTACHMENT ONE: THE ROLL

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY FOR August 28, 2012

CHURCHES: Of 83 churches, 49 were represented and 34 were not.

COMMISSIONERS: Of 126 eligible commissioners, 62 enrolled, and 64 did not.

OTHER RULING ELDERS (Officers, Members of Council):

Of 21 total, 9 were present, of whom 1 counted as commissioners, leaving 8 as the unduplicated count: 8 excused, and 4 absent.

TEACHING ELDERS: Of the 147 non-retired teaching elders on the combined rolls of active members and members-at-large, 56 were present, 26 were excused, and 65 were absent.

Of the 82 retired teaching elders on the rolls, 8 were present and 74 were

excused.

**COMMISSIONED LAY
PASTORS AND
CERTIFIED EDUCATORS:**

Of the 1 Commissioned Law Pastor on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 1 absent

Of the 0 Certified Educators on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 0 absent.

SUMMARY

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT
62 Elder Commissioners
+ 8 Other Ruling Elders
+ 56 Non-retired teaching elders
+ 8 Retired teaching elders
= 0 Commissioned lay pastors.
= 0 Certified educators.
= 134 Voting members present.

OTHERS PRESENT
4 Non-voting attendees
1 Corresponding members

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners and Churches

ALLEN PARK, Allen Park
1 BOB MORTON
2
3
ANN ARBOR, Calvary
1 BOBBIE JO BARRETT
ANN ARBOR, First
1 RUTH BARNARD
2 BEN VANTUYL
3 SUE LEONG
4
ANN ARBOR, Northside
1 NOT REPRESENTED
ANN ARBOR, Westminster
1 AL WILLIAMS
AUBURN HILLS, Auburn Hills
1 NOT REPRESENTED
BELLEVILLE, Belleville
1 CONNIE ETTER
BERKLEY, Greenfield
1 MATT HOWELL
BEVERLY HILLS, Northbrook
1 BRIAN LONG
BIRMINGHAM, First
1 ROSY LATIMORE
2 DICK JUDY
3 SANDRA NICHOLLS
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Kirk/Hills
1 DORIS R HOLT
2 TOM HOLT
3
4
5
BRIGHTON, First
1 AL TUCKER
2 BETTY TROST
CANTON, Geneva
1 MICHAEL GAUBATZ
CLARKSTON, Sasahaw
1 NOT REPRESENTED

DEARBORN, Cherry Hill
1 JULIUS OTTEN
DEARBORN, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
DEARBORN, Littlefield
1 JACKIE TOZER
DEARBORN HGTS, St. Andrew's
1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, Broadstreet
1 ALVIN SMTH
2
DETROIT, Calvary
1 DARRELL RETNOLDS
2 ADRIENNE ADAMS
DETROIT, Calvin East
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
DETROIT, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, Fort Street
1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, Gratiot Avenue
1 MARYANN BRANTLEY
2
DETROIT, Hope
1 DARYL TAYLOR
2
DETROIT, Jefferson Avenue
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
DETROIT, Riverside
1 NOT REPRESENTED
DETROIT, St. John's
1 NOT REPRESENTED
2
DETROIT, Trinity Community
1 NATALIE BROTHERS
2
DETROIT, Trumbull Avenue
1 MARTHA SINGLEY

2
DETROIT, Westminster
1 MARGARET WHITEHEAD
2
FARMINGTON, First
1 LESLIE MOYNA
2 MIKE GIDLEY
FERNDALE, Drayton Avenue
1 KIM TURNER
FORT GRATIOT, Lakeshore
1 NOT REPRESENTED
GARDEN CITY, Garden City
1 NOT REPRESENTED
GROSSE ILE, Grosse Ile
1 RON CASE
2 DON HILL
GROSSE POINTE, Memorial
1 WILLIAM BROWN
2
3
GROSSE PTE WOODS, Woods
1 PAT CHASTEEN
2 JON MCCLOSKEY
HIGHLAND PARK, Park United
1 MARIE HUGHLEY
2
HOWELL, First
1 NOT REPRESENTED
LINCOLN PARK, Lincoln Park
1 NOT REPRESENTED
LIVONIA, Rosedale Gardens
1 DYCHE ANDERSON
2
LIVONIA, St. Paul's
1 AUGUST KORUOWIZ
LIVONIA, St. Timothy's
1 NOT REPRESENTED
MACOMB, Church/Covenant
1 NOT REPRESENTED
MILAN, Peoples

1 NOT REPRESENTED
MILFORD, Milford
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
MT. CLEMENS, First
 1 PHYLLIS MATTHEW
NORTHVILLE, First
 1 WANDA MOON
 2 BARBARA ROSS
 3 SANDY TANNER
NOVI, Faith Community
 1 PATRICIA KORTLANDT
ORCHARD LAKE, Community
 1 NANCY RATAJCZAK
 2 CHARLES KEPPEL
PLYMOUTH, First
 1 TODD EWERS
 2
 3
PONTIAC, First
 1 THOMAS DUFFIELD
PONTIAC, Joslyn Avenue
 1 TOM KOSTRZEWA
PORT HURON, First
 1 HOWARD BORGMAN
 2
PORT HURON, Westminster
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
REDFORD, St. James
 1 NOT REPRESENTED

ROCHESTER, University
 1 DOUG DENTON
 2
ROSEVILLE, Erin
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROYAL OAK, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
ROYAL OAK, Point of Vision
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROYAL OAK, Starr
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
SALINE, First
 1 MATT GILLINGHAM
SHELBY TWP., St. Thomas
 1 TERRY URWIN
SOUTH LYON, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
SOUTHFIELD, Covenant
 1 BARBARA SMITH
SOUTHFIELD, Korean
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 3
SOUTHFIELD, New Hope
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
ST. CLAIRSHORES, Heritage
 1 GAYE WHITE
ST. CLAIRSHORES, Lake Shore

1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
STERLING HGTS, New Life
 1 KERRY BORDER
TAYLOR, Southminster
 1 M WONNACOTT
TROY, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
TROY, Korean First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
TROY, Northminster
 1 JOSEPH A TENUS
WALLED LAKE, Crossroads
 1 GAYLE WEAKLAND
WARREN, Celtic Cross
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WARREN, First
 1 AARON CROWTON
WATERFORD, Community
 1 TOM HARTLEY JR
WESTLAND, Kirk of Our Savior
 1 KATE FOX
WHITE LAKE, White Lake
 1 WILLIAM KELLER
WYANDOTTE, Wyandotte
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
YPSILANTI, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED

C. TEACHING ELDER MEMBERS

P ANDERSON, FRANCILE, PM
 P BOSTIC-ROBINSON, DIANE, PM
 A CLARK, SAM
 P ELAM, DIXIE, PM
 A ELLIS, HAROLD
 A EMMERT, JOHN
 E HYLKEVA, CAROL, PM
 P LEWIS, STEFANIE
 P LOUP, JEAN
 P MORGAN, DONALD
 E MORRISON, HELEN, PM
 P MORTON, JANET
 E PITTS, FRANCES, PM
 E PRIEST, TOM, PM
 E SEABROOKS, DOROTHY M., PM
 E SHIRLEY, JAMES, PM
 C SMITH, ALVIN
 E SMITH, KENNETH, PM
 P SZWED, ROBERT
 A WILLIAMSON, MAEGARET
 E WINSLOW, PAUL, PM

D. NON-RETIRED MINISTERS

E ADAMS, WILLIAM L III
 A ANDERSON, BARBARA S
 A ANDERSON, LINDA
 A ANDERSON, LINDSEY
 P ANDREWS, DOYLL
 A ARAKELIAN, ELIZABETH
 A AUE, CRAIG
 E AUSTIN, MARY
 E BAHR-JONES, MARY
 E *BAILEY, CLOVER
 A BERSDORF, JOHN
 A BLAIKIE, DOUGLAS
 A BLEVIK, DAVID

Teaching and Ruling Elder Members

P BOHN, CHRISTINE
 P BOLT, KENNETH
 P BOURLIER, RUTHANNE
 A BOUSQUETTE, PAUL
 A CAMPBELL, DOUGLAS
 A CAMPBELL, EMILY
 A CARL, STEPHEN
 A CHEN, HAO-THE
 A CHOI, SEUNG
 E *CHOI, SEUNG KOO
 P CLARK, JENNIFER
 P CLARK, STEVEN
 A COCHRAN, LINDA
 A COOPER, QUINCY
 P COWLING, NEIL D.
 P DAVIS, ROXIE ANN
 P DAVIS, WILLIAM
 A DE ORIO, ANTHONY
 P DELANEY, BETH
 E *DENNIS, WARREN
 P DOWNS, ELIZABETH
 A DOYLE-HOHF, KATHLEEN
 E *DYKSTRA, CRAIG R.
 P ELE, HERSHEL
 P FAILE, JAMES
 E FAIR, FAIRFAX
 A FERGUSON, GUY THOMAS
 A FORGER, DEBORAH
 A FRANCIS, RAPHAEL B.
 A GABEL, PETER W.
 A GESELMAN, KEITH
 P GERE, BREWSTER
 A GRANO, MARIANNE
 P GROSCH, ADAM
 A HANNA, RAAFAT
 P HARMON, BREANNE
 E *HARRIS, R. JOHN

P HARTLEY, THOMAS
 P HAYES, FRANCES
 P HENDERSON, RICHARD
 A HENRY, PETER J. M.
 P HOFFMAN, MICHAEL (CRE)
 P HORLOCKER, MICHEL
 A HUFF, JASON
 E JOHNSON, KEVIN
 A JONES, RICHARD
 P JUDSON, JOHN
 P KAIBEL, KENNETH
 A KIDDER, ANNEMARIE
 E *KIM, Y. MONCH
 E *KIM, YOUNGCHUL
 P KING, CATHERINE
 A KLINGER, JAMIE
 P KOSTER, EDWARD H.
 P KRUG, ERNEST
 A KUMN, JAMES
 A MABEE, CHARLES
 P MADDEN, JULIE
 E McCLOSKEY-TURNER, CATHARINE
 A McGOWAN, EVANS
 P McMILLAN, JUDITH
 A McRAE, BARBARA
 A MEANS, MATTHEW
 P MELROSE, SUE ELLIS
 P MCHALEK, DANIEL
 P MILLER, J. SCOTT
 A MSHLER, JOHN
 A MONNETT, JAMES
 E MOOK, SHARON
 P MOORE, PETER
 P MORGAN, AMY
 A MOZENA, SUSAN
 P NICHOLS, NEETA
 A NICKEL, EMMA

A NICKEL, MATTHEW
 A NUSS, STEVEN
 P OBERG, ARTHUR
 A OLIVER, GARY
 A PARKER, OPELTON
 P PAVELKO, JOHN H.
 P PEARSON, BRENNAN
 A PICKRELL, BROOKE
 A PIECUCH, KEVIN
 P PITTMAN, JASON
 P PORTER, JAMES
 A PORTICE, GEORGE
 A PRENTICE-HYERS, DAVID
 A PRENTICE-HYERS, MARY ELIZABETH
 E PRITCHARD, NORMAN
 P PUNTIGAM, JOEL
 P REED, PHILIP
 A RICE, ELIZABETH
 P RICE, THOMAS
 A RIKE, JENNIFER
 P RITTER, W STUART
 A RIZER, JAMES A
 A ROGERS, MELISSA ANNE
 E SCHAEFER, ANNE N.
 E SELER, GORDON (CRE)
 E *SHIH, SHENG-TO
 A SHINN, DAVID
 P SHIPMAN, JUDY
 E *SHREVE, MAGGIE
 P SHRIVER, KELLY
 A SIAS-LEE, LAURA
 E *SIMONS, SCOTT W.
 E SKIMINS, JAMES
 P SMALLLEY, DIANE
 A SMITH, BRYAN DEAN
 A SMITH, PETER C.
 A SMITH, TRACI
 A SOEHL, HOWARD
 A SOHN, YOSUP
 P SOMMERS, CHARLOTTE
 P STUNKEL, KAREN
 P STUNKEL, PAUL
 A TATE, CAROL ANN
 A THOMAS, CHRISTOPHER
 E THOMPSON, G. PATRICK
 P THORESEN, KATHRYN R.
 E THWAITE, PAUL
 E TIMM, ALLEN D
 A TOMBERLIN, DREW
 A TUCKER-LLOYD, IRIS
 E *VANSLUJIS, HENDRICK
 P WHITLOCK, KELLIE
 P WILHELM, MARJORIE
 A WINGROVE, WILLIAM N
 A WOO, BYEONGJIN

P WRZESZCZ, JENNIFER PARKER
 P WRZESZCZ, MATTHEW PARKER
 A YU, SEUNG WON
 P ZAMBON, WILLIAM
 P ZURAKOWSKI, GREGORY

D. RETIRED MINISTERS ▶

P AARON, ESTELLE
 E ACTON, ELLEN
 E AGNEW, ROBERT
 E ALBRECHT, GLORIA
 E ANDERSON, JAMES
 E AUSTIN, ANNA MARIE
 E AUSTIN, LARRY
 P BEERY, ELDON
 E BENEDICT, IVAN L.
 E BOEVE, PETER
 E BORCHARDT, HENRY
 E BORCHARDT, JUDITH
 P BROWNLEE, RICHARD
 E BYARS, RONALD
 E CAMPBELL, VERN
 E CAPPS, HARRY
 E CARTER, DOUGLAS D.
 E CATER, LAWRENCE H.
 E CHAMBERLAIN, LAWRENCE
 E CHAMBERS, JAMES C.
 E CHOI, IN SOON
 P CLISE, W. KENT
 E COBLEIGH, GERALD R.
 E COLON, LOIS
 E CONLEY, JAMES H.
 E CORSO, LINDA
 E CRILLEY, ROBERT
 E CROSS, PAUL D.
 P DENTON, GRETCHEN
 E DUNCAN, THOMAS
 E DUNIFON, WILLIAM
 E ELLENS, J. HAROLD
 E FINDLAY, WILLIAM
 E FORSYTH, E. DICKSON
 E FOSTER, JOHN
 P GEPFORD, WILLIAM G.
 E GLENN, LAWRENCE T.
 E HANNA, J. RICHARD
 E HARP, WILLIAM S.
 E HATCHER, RUFUS
 E HENRICH, THOMSON
 E HELMKE, BEN
 E JANSEN, ROBERT
 E JEFFREY, JOHN
 E JONES, VIRGIL L.
 E KESLER, JAMES W.
 E KIM, T. ANDREW
 E KNUDSEN, RAYMOND

E KOGEL, LYNNE
 E KREHBIEL, DAVID E.
 E LAMBERT, ROY F.
 E LANGWIG, JANICE
 E LANGWIG, ROY
 E LARSON, ROBERT F.
 E LISTER, KENNETH D.
 E LONGWOOD, MARJORIE
 E MacINNIS, JOHN D.
 E MARVIN, FRANK C., JR.
 E McINTYRE, DEWITT
 E MHOCKO, DAVID
 E NUSSDORFER, GUS
 E OLSON, PHILIP
 E ORR, ROBERT C.
 E OWEN, DAVID
 E PETERS, RICHARD
 E POLKOWSKI, WILLIAM
 E PRICE, MICHAEL T.
 E PROVOST, KEITH
 E PRUES, LOUIS J.
 E RATCLIFFE, ALBERT H.
 E ROBERTSON, ANN
 E ROBERTSON, DAVID W.
 E ROBERTSON, WILLIAM
 P RUSSELL, JAMES P.
 E SCRIBNER, LOREN
 E SUTTON, PAUL
 E TAYLOR, J. BERNARD
 P TAYLOR, THEODORE, II
 E WRIGHT, DONALD
 E YOON, HAK SUK
 E YUE, MYUNG JA
 E ZIEGLER, JACK T.

E. STAFF & OTHERS

P BARCONEY, CHARON
 A FABRE, EDWIN
 A GRANT, RICHARD
 P HIGGINS, JOANNE
 A LLOYD, MARY
 P THOMPSON, ARTHELLIA
 A VANDERBEEK, RONALD

F. CERT. ASSOC. CHRISTIAN ED.

P PRICE, LAURA

G. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

THOMAS OXTOBY
 SACRAMENTO PRESBYTERY

A Brief History of Kenjockety

1904 - 2004

Mary C. Barkley, wife of James M. Barkley, Pastor of Forest Avenue Presbyterian Church, Detroit, Michigan, thought of the idea of starting a club for ministers' wives and enlisted the aid of her friend Caroline Cooper, wife of Dr. David Cooper. This was about 1900 or 1901.

Since 1904, the lives of many ministers' spouses of the Presbytery of Detroit have been involved, entertained, shared, and perhaps inspired by an organization called "Kenjockety" (from an old Indian name) which means "Apart from the Multitude". The organizing meeting was held at the home of Mrs. E. H. Pence (Jessie) of Fort Street Church on November 17, 1904. She hurriedly found a gavel (a chair leg), for the new president, Mary C. Barkley, and a constitution was formed.

Article 1 - The society shall be called the Kenjockety Club.

Article 2 - All wives of Presbyterian preachers who are in good and regular standing and who are willing to meet the heavy expenses of the annual dues are eligible for membership (dues 25 cents/year)

Article 3 - Meetings are to be held each month for luncheon or refreshments in members' homes or churches.

Article 4 - The object of this society shall be a means of relaxation from over-wrought enthusiasm, a tonic for unstrung nerves, and a time for fun and frolic.

The group early voted to "annex" their spouses for a Christmas party and a summer family picnic. From then on, spouses were affectionately termed the "Annex".

Through World War I years, the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression of the 1930s, political and church upheavals, the miracle of Kenjockety held. Each member felt the love by the others, whether in joy or sorrow. Perhaps no one then would realize how important Kenjockety was to family morale during those hard times when it was so difficult to "Keep the Faith".

A few years of relative calm preceded World War II. After Pearl Harbor was bombed, we listened to the nightly news on the

radio and shared in the grief of the death of a son, relative or church member. Kenjockety's response was to carry on as usual with our monthly meetings, in spite of shortages and rationing and busy lives of volunteer service. When the General Assembly met in Detroit in 1943, we sacrificed our sugar to make cookies, and served a beautiful tea for visiting wives of ministers.

Then came the fabulous fifties with its affluence and new life. Church membership increased. Many new names were added to our roll. Again in 1954, General Assembly came to Detroit. Kenjockety provided a hospitality booth at the assembly hall where invitations were issued for a tea at First Church downtown Detroit for all visiting wives of ministers.

The Golden Anniversary of Kenjockety was celebrated on November 29, 1954 at the new Detroit Westminster Church during the annual Christmas party. A beautiful birthday cake made with ice cream and decorated with roses was served.

The merger of the United Presbyterian Church of North America and the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. found Kenjockety eager to invite all the wives of the uniting churches to the November 1957 meeting at First Church, Royal Oak.

The troubled 60s were upon us. The world became our neighborhood. Yet, Kenjockety was felt still to be a place apart - where we could be revitalized. Retreats were begun, held at Drake House, Howell Conference Center, Y.W.C.A and other places. Topics for study and reflection included devotional life, the role of ministers' wives and our changing world.

On December 6, 1974, again at Detroit Westminster Church, a pageant celebrating "70 Years of Kenjockety" was presented by the members. The three episodes, I - Apart from the Multitude (1904-1930); II - The Good Old Days? (1930-1950); III - You've Come a Long Way Baby (1950-1974), were enthusiastically portrayed and enjoyed by everyone. A copy of the pageant and four volumes of Kenjockety minutes (1904-1958) were placed in the Bentley Historical Library, Michigan Historical Collection, at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Copies of our minutes after 1958 are kept in the Presbytery of Detroit office.

The last twenty-five years have seen many changes. Life styles, energy problems, inflation, terrorists attacks, more wives

working, more women being ordained to the ministry, all have raised challenges for Kenjockety.

Some of the more interesting happenings during Kenjockety's last twenty-five years are listed below.

In 1980, our constitution was changed to ministers' spouses instead of wives, since more and more women were being ordained as Presbyterian ministers

In 1988, ministers' spouses' names were included in the Presbytery Directory

In 1989, Kenjockety gave two banners in memory of Lydia Hoot to the Presbytery of Detroit, one represented the Presbytery and the other the Synod of the Covenant and the General Assembly

In 1992, our policy was established for Memorials of members and spouses to be \$25.00.

In December 1994, Kenjockety's 90th Anniversary was at Starr Presbyterian Church with a luncheon, only members this time

1996, Kenjockety contributed the Communion plates to be used in the new chapel at Presbyterian Village, Redford

In 1999, Kenjockety celebrated our 95th anniversary with a luncheon with spouses invited

Christmas parties with spouses and up to 90 people were held and for many recent years at Redford Presbyterian Church where beautiful Christmas trees representing many countries and occasions were enjoyed.

Kenjockety for several years enjoyed outings to the Coffee Concert at Orchestra Hall.

Kenjockety attended Presbytery meetings for many years as a group, had snacks before dinner, joined Presbytery for dinner and the worship service, and then returned to the parlor for our own business meetings.

For 100 years, this amazing segment of our extended church has held together. Duties and cares, programming, family and spouses were forgotten each month as we met. Today, after 100 years of continuous support to and with the many spouses, past and present, Kenjockety is still be a place apart for rest, comfort, fun, fellowship and love!

(excerpts were taken from an article written by Florence G. Dempsey celebrating Kenjockety's 75 years)

Kenjockety Officers -- 2004

President	Flossie Lumley
Co-Secretaries	Vivian Glenn / Janice Caldwell
Treasurer	Alice McCloskey
Noon Day Summons	Violet Werner
Sunshine	Katie Beery

Recent Kenjockety Presidents beginning in 1977

Evelyn Baker, Amy Russell, Maxine Taylor
 Alice McCloskey, Virginia Marvin, Peggy Beal
 Ruth Marie Ramsey, Laila Sherwin, Linda Meester
 Nancy Boyd, Ruby Sutton, Flossie Lumley
 Katie Beery and Janice Caldwell

Kenjockety Artifacts

Kenjockety has two artifacts from years' past.

The Kenjockety pin, only one is now in existence, was worn by the members beginning about 1905 or 1906. It resembles a waving pennant, royal blue background with the word Kenjockety written in silver.

The Kenjockety gavel is still in use today, when we have a serious meeting. The following information was recorded on December 16, 1907. "The head was a piece of southern pine from the floor of the battleship "Texas" commanded by Captain Phillip at the Battle of Santiago. The piece of wood was brought from the Brooklyn Navy Yard by Dr. Barkley. The handle, a piece of black ebony, was brought from Cuba by Dr. Earl Barkley."

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Overall By Committee
From 6/1/2012 Through 6/30/2012

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	Percent Total Budget Remaining
Revenue				
Committee on Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Trustees	72,964.97	312,442.26	892,742.00	(65.00)%
Presbytery Operations	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Congregational Life	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Social Justice & Peace	6,728.46	13,029.46	7,300.00	78.48%
Mission Interpretation	8,952.06	14,337.36	31,820.00	(54.66)%
Nurture & Support	1,361.20	2,261.20	1,000.00	126.12%
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	4,769.48	4,769.48	1,000.00	376.95%
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Outdoor Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Presbyterian Women	500.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	(50.00)%
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Coordinating Cabinet	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Total Revenue	<u>95,277.17</u>	<u>347,839.76</u>	<u>843,662.00</u>	<u>(63.14)%</u>
Expense				
Committee on Ministry	147.29	2,243.05	7,147.00	68.62%
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	17.36	2,500.00	99.31%
Trustees	8,346.03	58,339.60	135,000.00	56.78%
Presbytery Operations	41,025.18	192,453.41	377,012.83	48.95%
Congregational Life	0.00	7,489.81	17,500.00	57.20%
Social Justice & Peace	5,685.08	36,903.13	60,755.00	39.26%
Mission Interpretation	3,179.58	33,719.83	80,320.00	58.02%
Nurture & Support	6,150.78	20,239.64	38,200.00	47.02%
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	111.82	5,229.62	16,900.00	69.06%
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	7,201.15	29,008.72	75,000.00	61.32%
Outdoor Ministry	3,651.41	21,908.46	43,817.00	50.00%
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	1,750.00	100.00%
Planning & Visioning	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	100.00%
Coordinating Cabinet	97.53	778.67	2,511.00	68.99%
Total Expense	<u>75,595.85</u>	<u>408,331.30</u>	<u>860,412.83</u>	<u>52.54%</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>19,681.32</u>	<u>(60,491.54)</u>	<u>83,249.17</u>	<u>(172.66)%</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Comparative Overall By Committee Fund 100
From 6/1/2012 Through 6/30/2012

	2012 Current Month Actual	2012 Current Year Actual	2011 Prior Year Actual	Current Year % Change
Revenue				
Trustees	72,964.97	312,442.26	375,073.68	(16.70)
Congregational Life	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)
Social Justice & Peace	6,729.46	13,029.46	6,800.00	91.61
Mission Interpretation	8,952.06	14,337.36	18,615.84	(22.98)
Nurture & Support	1,361.20	2,261.20	1,500.00	50.75
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	4,769.48	4,769.48	0.00	100.00
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	0.00	0.00	6,500.00	(100.00)
Presbyterian Women	500.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	500.00	(100.00)
Planning & Visioning	0.00	0.00	750.00	(100.00)
Total Revenue	<u>95,277.17</u>	<u>347,839.76</u>	<u>411,739.52</u>	<u>(15.52)</u>
Expense				
Committee on Ministry	147.29	2,243.05	8,089.32	(72.27)
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	17.36	1,097.34	(98.42)
Trustees	8,346.03	58,339.60	56,476.96	3.30
Presbytery Operations	41,025.18	192,453.41	179,239.28	7.37
Congregational Life	0.00	7,489.81	9,804.68	(23.61)
Social Justice & Peace	5,685.08	36,903.13	34,526.94	6.88
Mission Interpretation	3,179.58	33,719.83	39,524.34	(14.69)
Nurture & Support	6,150.78	20,239.64	15,873.30	27.51
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	111.82	5,229.62	7,128.26	(26.64)
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	7,201.15	29,008.72	37,937.36	(23.54)
Outdoor Ministry	3,651.41	21,908.46	21,828.48	0.37
Planning & Visioning	0.00	0.00	2,992.01	(100.00)
Coordinating Cabinet	97.53	778.67	406.33	91.63
Total Expense	<u>75,595.85</u>	<u>408,331.30</u>	<u>414,924.60</u>	<u>(1.59)</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>19,681.32</u>	<u>(60,491.54)</u>	<u>(3,185.08)</u>	<u>1,799.22</u>



Presbyterian Hunger Program
HAE Covenant Update Worksheet
COVENANT for 2013 Calendar Year – please return by September 17, 2012
Applicants agree to notify PHP regarding any changes to HAE Position.

I. General Information

1. Sponsoring Middle Governing Body: Presbytery of Detroit

2. Middle Governing Body Supervisor for HAE Position (may or may not be the Executive Presbyter):

Name: The Rev. Dr. Allen D. Timm

Position Title: Executive Presbyter

Address: 17575 Hubbell, Detroit, MI 48235

Phone: 313-345-6550 x230 E-mail: allen@detroitpresbytery.org

By initialing here, ADT, the above named person accepts responsibility as supervisor for HAE position and agrees to contact the Presbyterian Hunger Program should the below named person no longer be able to fulfill the position.

3. Title of HAE Position: Hunger Action Coordinator

Position is: Full Time Part Time Volunteer

How many hours per week are devoted to specifically hunger-related activities: 20 hours

4. Person currently serving in HAE Position: (Please include Ecclesiastical status if applicable)

Name: Artheillia Thompson Birthday: April 19, xxxx

Address: 17575 Hubbell, Detroit, MI 48253

Home Phone: 313-xxx-xxxx Office Phone: 313-345-6550 x207

Cell Phone: 313-xxx-xxxx E-mail: artheillia@detroitpresbytery.org

We are seeking a new person to serve as HAE.

We expect to fill the position by (date) _____

5. Present HAE's beginning date in this position: January 12, 1983

HAE's previous experience (where/years):

1959 to 1985: American Swiss Manufacturing Company and the Michigan Lava Company

1985 to 1991: nursing home consultant for Detroit East Mental Health, Inc.

6. Amount received from PHP for the current year: \$ 6,300

Amount requested from PHP for next year: \$ 6,300

Matching funds available from local Presbytery \$ _____

7. Time period for requested funding (if not full calendar year):

_____ through _____

II. Questions regarding your role as HAE

1. How has being an official HAE impacted how you do the work you do? (If you weren't an official HAE would you still be working for/in partnership with the presbytery? Would you still be doing hunger work?)

Being an official HAE allows me to speak to and interact with our congregations. If I were not official, I would still continue in partnership with the presbytery by any means possible. I was doing this work long before I was official. I feel that hunger work and concerns are a challenge for our churches. Hunger work involves laypersons in the churches official ministries and stops a devaluation of the laity's social responsibility. Again, I would still be doing hunger ministries, working hand in hand with the new poor, the agencies trying to offer assistance, and with congregations who have people in their pews affected.

2. Your stories and work matter. Please provide one concrete example of a project/or work that you've strengthened or accomplished in the past year.

Helped to reinstate the Garden Program at Westminster Presbyterian Church of Detroit for youth ages 6-14. The program had been put on hold due to the lack of funding. Contacted the City of Detroit who arranged for farmers at Eastern Market to come and help the youth with their market which was open to the public.

3. What is the biggest struggle that you face as a Hunger Action Enabler?

The biggest struggle is not being able to help everyone in need.

While the 7 Food Pantries have helped many people they have also had to turn people away because they ran out of food. I do not have the number of people turned away but even one person is one too many.

Example 1: The Hunger Ministries Budget for 2011 started with \$21,990.88 which was comprised of \$16,000.00 Presbytery Budget, \$2,909.36 Two Cents a Meal, and \$3,081.52 Monetary Donations to the Hunger Ministries. These funds were dispensed equally every month to the 7 Churches with Food Pantry Covenants which means each of the Food Pantries received approximately \$261.80 per month to purchase food when the donated canned goods run short or to run their prepared meal programs. The 7 Pantries combined served 28,167 persons in 2011 on a budget of approximately \$0.78 per person.

Example 2: Twelve churches have been collecting canned goods for the Hunger Ministries 7 Food Pantries which fall under the Social Justice and Peacemaking Ministry Team and then the Hands-on Mission Work Group of the Mission Interpretation Ministry Team decided to collect canned goods for the Gleaners Food Bank from some of the same churches that have been helping the Hunger Ministries Food Pantries so the canned goods that would have gone to the Pantries went to Gleaners. This has placed an extra burden on the Pantries to provide for the needs of the communities they serve.

III. Concerning Next Year's Hunger Action Program

1. Please comment on how you are covenanting to organize so that people in congregations with passions around direct food relief, development assistance and lifestyle integrity are most easily able to connect those passions with advocacy and educational opportunities offered by the presbytery or the PHP.

For this next year, I am planning to continue being a part of Bread for the World, supporting and updating local food banks, garden programs, and other programs that work in our PHP areas of concern. It will mean being available for meetings and programs to give concerned folks the opportunity to give and share ideas, resources, and assistance together. Hunger never ends, and consequently, my work is never done. It is not simply a "Sunday" event, nor a "Monday" or "Tuesday" event. It's truly an awareness of integration of "any day in our lives." We can all work to feed people and assist people within the professional and occupational roles by including also the people who can be more effective and more virtuous by being "themselves," by being "ordinary," because practicing social justice that works means "eyes and heart upon their lives with family and with jobs and other people," not a "meet once a month committee," not just being aware of a "pick and choose schedule and time," or a "few people." The common good, and social justice have become the essence of the daily work of many lay people. Not simply a program, but also not a run of the mill church-run lay ministry that does not reflect the work of Jesus Christ nor teach all how to appreciate the "common" good.

2. How, if at all, do you promote the OGHS offering? Do you see this as a crucial part of your responsibility?

We promote OGHS through the Social Justice and Peacemaking Committee of the Presbytery. Sharing what OGHS is, and what it does, is a critical part of how Hunger, Self Development of People, and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance help people around the world. Yes, I consider promoting the OGHS offering a critical part of my responsibility. OGHS allows for assistance and actions to be done by the participants on both sides of the scale. Response to disasters, how to help yourselves, and assisting hungry people with needs and concerns can teach us all about appreciating the common good. None of the above would be able to be done effectively in a concise, regulated, and constructive schedule. All are a part of "any day in our lives." Sharing activities and actions allows people to assist with eyes, hearts, and minds as well as funds. Knowledge and action are essential to spreading the word about the work we do.

3. Do you promote CentsAbility (or other ways) as a means to connect congregations the National and International work of PHP? If so how do you do that?

I speak at various churches throughout the year when requested and share literature about programs such as 2 cents a Meal. We have a "How Can I Help?" brochure on the presbytery's web site and I see that they are distributed to the congregations yearly.

- a. CentsAbility (Two Cents a Meal, Pennies/Dimes/Nickels for Hunger) giving to the Presbytery: \$7,232
 b. Annual CentsAbility Domestic Grants Given: _____
 c. Annual CentsAbility International Grants Given: _____

IV. Yearly Work

Please give us a sense of the rhythm of your work – when you do certain events/tasks. If there is something you do every month then put that under every month. If you do something quarterly, please list it under the months you do it. Please attach additional pages if necessary to help supplement this information and or explain your work.

January

- *Hunger program goal setting.*
- *Meet with the Hunger Ministries Support Teams on the 3rd Tuesday.*
- *Distribute food and checks to the nine Hunger Ministries Support Team pantries.*
- *Assess needs and situations for assistance requests by individuals and congregations.*
- *Meet with the Social Justice & Peacemaking Ministry Team of the Presbytery.*

February

- *Meet with the Hunger Ministries Support Teams on the 3rd Tuesday.*
- *Distribute food and checks to the nine Hunger Ministries Support Team pantries.*
- *Assess needs and situations for assistance requests by individuals and congregations.*
- *Meet with the Social Justice & Peacemaking Ministry Team of the Presbytery.*
- *Legislative sharing with State Representatives concerned with hunger and poverty.*

March

- *Meet with the Hunger Ministries Support Teams on the 3rd Tuesday.*
- *Distribute food and checks to the nine Hunger Ministries Support Team pantries.*
- *Assess needs and situations for assistance requests by individuals and congregations.*
- *Meet with the Social Justice & Peacemaking Ministry Team of the Presbytery.*
- *Meet with Northwest Ministerial Alliance Group as the Hunger Task Force representative.*

April

- *Meet with the Hunger Ministries Support Teams on the 3rd Tuesday.*
- *Distribute food and checks to the nine Hunger Ministries Support Team pantries.*
- *Assess needs and situations for assistance requests by individuals and congregations.*
- *Meet with the Social Justice & Peacemaking Ministry Team of the Presbytery.*
- *Set up display table and spoke at Presbytery meeting*
- *Contact State Senators and Representatives about hunger issues in Southeastern Michigan.*

May

- *Meet with the Hunger Ministries Support Teams on the 3rd Tuesday.*
- *Distribute food and checks to the nine Hunger Ministries Support Team pantries.*
- *Assess needs and situations for assistance requests by individuals and congregations.*
- *Meet with the Social Justice & Peacemaking Ministry Team of the Presbytery.*

June

- *Meet with the Hunger Ministries Support Teams on the 3rd Tuesday.*
- *Distribute food and checks to the nine Hunger Ministries Support Team pantries.*
- *Assess needs and situations for assistance requests by individuals and congregations.*
- *Meet with the Social Justice & Peacemaking Ministry Team of the Presbytery.*
- *Strategize about funding and promotion of the hunger programs and the Barnabas Youth program.*
- *Gear up information for Westminster Youth Gardening Program with schedule and tools*

July

- *Send out letter to churches about the Thanksgiving Day Dinner asking for donations.*
- *Meet with the Hunger Ministries Support Teams on the 3rd Tuesday.*
- *Distribute food and checks to the nine Hunger Ministries Support Team pantries.*
- *Assess needs and situations for assistance requests by individuals and congregations.*
- *Meet with the Social Justice & Peacemaking Ministry Team of the Presbytery.*
- *Speak at the organizing meeting for the Detroit Police Reserve Hunger program.*

August

- *Meet with the Hunger Ministries Support Teams on the 3rd Tuesday.*
- *Distribute food and checks to the nine Hunger Ministries Support Team pantries.*
- *Assess needs and situations for assistance requests by individuals and congregations.*
- *Meet with the Social Justice & Peacemaking Ministry Team of the Presbytery.*

September

- Start advertising for CROP Walk in October and November Thanksgiving Dinner.
- Meet with the Hunger Ministries Support Teams on the 3rd Tuesday.
- Distribute food and checks to the nine Hunger Ministries Support Team pantries.
- Assess needs and situations for assistance requests by individuals and congregations.
- Meet with the Social Justice & Peacemaking Ministry Team of the Presbytery.
- Plan and promote the Heifer Project, 2 Cents A Meal, and CWS Crop Walk with several area churches and community members.

October

- Hold and host CROP Walk for all of the Hunger Ministry Team Churches.
- Hunger Education Program and information sharing.
- Meet with the Hunger Ministries Support Teams on the 3rd Tuesday.
- Distribute food and checks to the nine Hunger Ministries Support Team pantries.
- Assess needs and situations for assistance requests by individuals and congregations.
- Meet with the Social Justice & Peacemaking Ministry Team of the Presbytery.

November

- Coordinate and cook Thanksgiving Day Dinner with volunteers from across the Presbytery and community serving approximately 3,500 meals at no charge.
- Meet with the Hunger Ministries Support Teams on the 3rd Tuesday.
- Distribute food and checks to the nine Hunger Ministries Support Team pantries.
- Assess needs and situations for assistance requests by individuals and congregations.
- Meet with the Social Justice & Peacemaking Ministry Team of the Presbytery.

December

- Send out thank you letters to the volunteers and churches for making Thanksgiving Dinner happen.
- Celebrate with the Hunger Ministries Team what worked and implement the new programs for the coming year.
- Meet with the Hunger Ministries Support Teams on the 3rd Tuesday.
- Distribute food and checks to the nine Hunger Ministries Support Team pantries.
- Assess needs and situations for assistance requests by individuals and congregations.
- Meet with the Social Justice & Peacemaking Ministry Team of the Presbytery.

V. Financial Information**VI. TIME LINE OF REAFFIRMATION APPROVAL BY PRESBYTERY/SYNOD**

PRESBYTERY: Already approved on (date) _____ Anticipate approval on (date) August 28, 2012

SYNOD: Already approved on (date) _____ Anticipate approval on (date) _____

When the Middle Governing Body has officially endorsed this reaffirmation, please send a letter/e-mail notifying the Presbyterian Hunger Program.

*Manual of Administrative Operations
Detroit Presbytery
Committee on Preparation for Ministry*

Section 1. Preparation for Ministry Process

The preparation for ministry process involves two phases: Inquiry and Candidacy. These two phases are designed to explore the call, evaluate the gifts, and support the preparation of men and women who feel themselves called to the ordered ministry of teaching elder (also called minister of the Word and Sacrament G-2.0501.) (G-20102, G-2.0204, G-2.0601)

Both the Inquiry Phase and the Candidacy Phase of the process evaluate the individual's development in five key areas:

- **Education for Ministry**, which includes evaluation of the individual's academic potential and progress and the individual's ability to relate the academic learning to the ministry of teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament);
- **Spiritual Development**, which explores with individuals their personal faith journeys and their spiritual practices to discern the will of God in their lives;
- **Interpersonal Relations** which provide opportunities to reflect on how an individual relates to others, one's own leadership style, and what this means in terms of the ministry of the teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament);
- **Personal Growth**, through which persons reflect on who they are, what areas they need to develop, how to understand their call, and how to develop personal stewardship;
- **Professional Development**, to help persons develop specific skills that will enhance their effectiveness as teaching elders (ministers of the Word and Sacrament) and as presbyters. Those skills should include and understanding of one's ministry context and the ability to deal with conflict that may emerge in the place one serves.

It is important for inquirers and candidates to understand that an educational process and the Presbytery of Detroit's process, which is consistent with G-2.06, must both be completed prior to ordination. While they interconnect, the educational institutions and the presbytery operate independently. **It is the responsibility of the inquirer or candidate to coordinate the completion and the timing of those processes**

Section 2. Phase 1: Inquiry

"The purpose of the inquiry phase is to provide an opportunity for the church and those who believe themselves called to ordered ministry as teaching elders to explore that call together so that the presbytery can make an informed decision about the inquirer's suitability for ordered ministry." (G-2.0603) The church is seeking teaching elders who possess "wisdom and maturity of faith, leadership skills, a compassionate spirit, an honest repute, and sound judgment." (G-2.0607a)

Because this exploration is with the whole church, the inquirer is engaged in a network of relationships—first, between the inquirer and the church session, then with the presbytery through the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, and with finally with a theological institution.

2.1. Admission to Inquiry

2.1.1. A member of a congregation is considered for enrollment as an inquirer when he or she approaches the session about the possibility of becoming a teaching elder (also known as minister of the Word and Sacrament G-2.0501) and formally agrees with the session and with the presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry to explore the implications of this quest. Enrollment is intended to be a thoughtful and deliberate step; people are encouraged to take this formal action soon after they have made their personal decision to explore this ministry so that the presbytery's Committee can provide them with support and counsel as early as possible.

2.2. The process of the inquiry phase is as follows:

- 2.2.1. A person desiring to become an inquirer shall indicate to the pastor of the particular church a desire to explore the personal implications of becoming a teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament).
- 2.2.2. The applicant shall have been an active member of that particular church for at least six months
- 2.2.3. If, after consultation with the pastor, the applicant wishes to apply to be taken under care, the applicant shall prepare background information by completing Forms 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D and 2A, and request the pastor notify the session and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. The applicant shall also complete the Presbytery of Detroit forms required for a background check. These forms will be submitted to the session and the CPM to be used by the liaisons, and kept in the applicant's file.
- 2.2.4. Prior to meeting with the applicant, the session shall schedule a meeting with a CPM liaison for orientation to the process used by the Presbytery of Detroit to prepare persons who are called to be a teaching elder.
- 2.2.5. The session shall consult with the applicant and, if the individual requests to be enrolled as an inquirer, shall make a recommendation to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. The session's recommendation and the person appointed as session liaison will be reported on Form 1D, "Session Evaluation and Recommendation."
- 2.2.6. Upon receipt of the recommendation of the session, the CPM Co-moderator(s) shall request from the presbytery office a criminal background check, and appoint a liaison who shall conduct a minimum of three reference checks (See Form 2D).
- 2.2.7. When the criminal background check has cleared, and the reference checks have been completed, the inquirer's liaison shall review the information gathered, and present the person and the information to CPM. CPM shall determine whether to enroll the person as an inquirer. If the person is enrolled, the committee shall also complete Form 2C, "Report of Initial Consultation."

- 2.2.8. CPM shall discuss with the applicant the implications of Form 2B, “Covenant Agreement and Inquirer’s Release.” The applicant shall also be given a copy of the Presbytery of Detroit’s “Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedures” (Policy P-4). When the applicant has signed Form 2B, and has signed the receipt of and concurrence with the Sexual Misconduct policy, the applicant shall be enrolled as an inquirer. Copies of the documents signed shall be given to the inquirer and the liaisons, and placed in the inquirer’s file.
- 2.2.9. CPM shall report its action to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery on Form 2A. The Stated Clerk shall then notify the Session and the General Assembly.
- 2.2.10. The date of the Committee’s action to enroll shall be the beginning of the covenant relationship. “The inquiry and candidacy phases shall continue for a period of no less than two years, including at least one year as a candidate.” G-2.0602 (See G-2.0610 for exceptions).
- 2.2.11. The phase of inquiry shall be of sufficient length for the inquirer, the session, and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry to decide whether the inquirer should apply to become a candidate. During this time, the Committee on Preparation for Ministry shall make use of resources such as information provided by the inquirer, personal references, and reports from counseling services, the session, and the inquirer’s institution of learning, if the inquirer is a student.

2.3. During Inquiry

When a person is enrolled as an inquirer, she or he, in consultation with the liaison, shall immediately begin the process of gaining a psychological assessment. That assessment should be completed within one year of enrollment as an inquirer but must be completed within 18 months of enrollment to remain an inquirer under the care of the Presbytery of Detroit.

The inquirer should also arrange for and take the Bible Content Exam within one year from the date of enrollment in theological education.

2.4. Inquirers and candidates shall have a consultation at least once a year

Inquirers and candidates shall have a consultation at least once a year with the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. In no case shall an inquirer or candidate be excused from these annual consultations. These consultations will be scheduled by the CPM moderator.

- 2.4.1. Prior to meeting with the committee, the inquirer shall complete Form 3, “Pre-Interview Annual Consultation Report: Growth and Development in the Last 12 Months.”
- 2.4.2. These forms must be submitted to the presbytery office one month prior to the scheduled consultation so they may be distributed to the session liaison, CPM and the CPM liaison in preparation for the consultation.
- 2.4.3. During each annual consultation, the Committee, the inquirer, and the session liaison or moderator will assess the inquirer’s progress toward

previously established goals in each of the five growth areas and together negotiate new goals to be completed by the next consultation.

- 2.4.4. **The agreed upon goals shall be reported on Form 4, "Report of Annual Consultation." A copy shall be given to the inquirer/candidate, the session and CPM liaisons, and a copy will be kept in the inquirer/candidate's file.**

2.5. Psychological Assessment

- 2.5.1. **The Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) in the Presbytery of Detroit requires that an inquirer have a psychological assessment prior to moving from the inquiry phase to the candidacy phase. The psychological assessment is developed by the assessment center, for the use of CPM and the inquirer in relationship to the inquirer's application or to become a teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament). The psychological assessment is a confidential document which is available to CPM members, but cannot be released by CPM to any other entity. The inquirer may, of course, sign a release with the assessment center releasing the document to anyone the inquirer wishes.**

- 2.5.2. **CPM's practice regarding the cost at the psychological assessment center for this assessment is that:**

2.5.2.1. one-third of the cost be paid by the inquirer

2.5.2.2. one-third of the cost be paid by the inquirer's home church

2.5.2.3. one-third of the cost be paid by the CPM

2.5.2.4. If there are significant financial issues for either the inquirer or the inquirer's church, the Committee is willing to negotiate another payment plan.

2.5.2.5. (Ordinarily, the Committee on Preparation for Ministry does not share in any related costs incurred for a psychological assessment; i.e., meals and housing costs while at the assessment center, travel to the center, etc.)

- 2.5.3. **To complete a psychological assessment an inquirer must:**

2.5.3.1. Receive approval from CPM to have the psychological assessment at an approved assessment center upon a request from the inquirer.

2.5.3.2. Schedule a date for an assessment at the center.

2.5.3.3. Inform the center that the inquirer will pay one-third of the cost of the assessment as the down payment, that one-third of the balance should be billed to the inquirer's home church (provide the address),

2.5.3.4. Inform the center the final one-third should be billed to:
Committee on Preparation for Ministry, The Presbytery of Detroit,
17575 Hubbell Avenue, Detroit, MI 48235.

- 2.5.3.5. **The psychological assessment center will correspond with the inquirer regarding the specific materials to be completed prior to the assessment.**
- 2.5.3.6. **The inquirer must sign a release to have the results of the assessment sent to the current Chair of CPM (at the Presbytery address).**

2.6. Educational Standards for Seminarians Who Are Under Care

A candidate for the ministry of teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament) must attend a theological institution accredited by the Association of Theological Schools acceptable to the presbytery (G-2.0607). The seminary and the course of study must be approved by CPM. The course of study the Presbytery of Detroit requires is listed below. The inquirer shall contact the CPM liaison requesting permission to attend a particular seminary and requesting any equivalent courses for substitution. Exceptions to the minimums listed below must be approved by CPM, and in some cases the Presbytery of Detroit.

- 2.6.1. **Biblical Languages (4 courses required)**
 - 2.6.1.1. **Hebrew**
 - 2.6.1.2. **Greek**
 - 2.6.1.3. **Hebrew Scriptures original language exegesis**
 - 2.6.1.4. **New Testament original language exegesis**
- 2.6.2. **Biblical Studies (4 courses required)**
 - 2.6.2.1. **Old Testament survey**
 - 2.6.2.2. **New Testament survey**
 - 2.6.2.3. **Additional Biblical study course - OT**
 - 2.6.2.4. **Additional Biblical study course - NT**
- 2.6.3. **History (3 courses required)**
 - 2.6.3.1. **Church history overview, pre-Reformation**
 - 2.6.3.2. **Church history overview, post-Reformation**
 - 2.6.3.3. **Presbyterian history and creeds**
- 2.6.4. **Theology (3 courses required)**
 - 2.6.4.1. **Systematic theology**
 - 2.6.4.2. **Systematic theology**
 - 2.6.4.3. **Reformed theology**
- 2.6.5. **Practical Theology (8 courses required)**
 - 2.6.5.1. **Ministerial overview course**
 - 2.6.5.2. **Reformed Worship and Sacraments**

- 2.6.5.3. **Speech class**
- 2.6.5.4. **Homiletics**
- 2.6.5.5. **Christian Education**
- 2.6.5.6. **Pastoral Counseling**
- 2.6.5.7. **Mission/ Evangelism**
- 2.6.5.8. **Presbyterian Polity**

2.6.6. Note: Any of the above courses that a student would like to take with a Pass / Fail grade must be approved by the CPM prior to enrolling in that course.

2.7. Clinical Pastoral Education

The CPM requires all inquirers and candidates take one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) or an approved alternative as approved by the seminary. Before beginning the CPE experience, CPM must be notified and give their approval, and upon completion, the supervisor's report and the inquirer's/candidate's final report will be sent to the CPM chairperson, for the whole committee's review.

Internet address for CPE sites: www.ACPE.org

2.8. Field Education

- 2.8.1. CPM requires each inquirer or candidate to fulfill an approved 480 hour Field Education experience.
- 2.8.2. The Field Education experience shall be in a formal Presbyterian or Reformed church or parish-like setting with supervision and evaluations made available to CPM.
- 2.8.3. The Field Education must not be in the inquirer or candidate's home church and should be in a different setting from the home congregation. For example, if the inquirer or candidate is from a small town, an urban or suburban church would be a challenging and broadening experience. If the candidate's home church is large, a smaller church would provide new experiences.

Section 3. Phase 2: Candidacy

The purpose of the candidacy phase is to provide for the full preparation of persons to serve the church as teaching elders (ministers of the Word and Sacrament). This shall be accomplished through the presbytery's support, guidance, and evaluation of a candidate's fitness and readiness for a call to ministry requiring ordination. Evidence of readiness to begin ordered ministry as a teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament) shall include the completion of the requirements in this manual, and an affirmation of the candidate's wisdom and maturity of faith, leadership skills, compassionate spirit, honest repute, and sound judgment. (G-2.0607a)

3.1. Admission to Candidacy

An inquirer becomes a candidate by action of presbytery. At that time the presbytery formally concludes a candidate has demonstrated adequate promise for ministry (G-2.0604), the candidate is assured of God's call to enter ordered ministry, and the

candidate formally agrees to accept the presbytery's supervision of the candidate's preparation for the ministry of teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament).

3.2. The process of the candidacy phase is as follows:

- 3.2.1. **When the inquirer has completed a psychological assessment and the results, along with reference checks, and any other required information, have been reviewed by the Subcommittee on Inquirer Qualifications, and its recommendations have been acted upon by CPM, the inquirer and liaison may explore together the inquirer's readiness for candidacy.**
- 3.2.2. **When the inquirer is ready to apply for status as a candidate, the inquirer and the liaison shall:**
 - 3.2.2.1. verify that the inquirer has completed and submitted to CPM a psychological assessment,
 - 3.2.2.2. verify that the inquirer has taken the Bible Content Examination, and
 - 3.2.2.3. verify that any other requirements of CPM have been completed.
- 3.2.3. **The inquirer shall complete and present to the session and the CPM the following:**
 - 3.2.3.1. Form 5A "Application to Be Received as a Candidate," including three references: a professor, a supervisor and a colleague who has worked with the candidate,
 - 3.2.3.2. a statement of his or her understanding of the uniqueness of the Reformed tradition (F-1.01 to F-3.04),
 - 3.2.3.3. a statement of personal faith which incorporates an understanding of our tradition as found in F-1.02,
 - 3.2.3.4. a statement of what it means to be Presbyterian, indicating how that awareness grows out of participation in the life of a particular church;
 - 3.2.3.5. a statement of self-understanding which reflects the inquirer's personal and cultural background and includes a concern for maintaining spiritual, physical, and mental health;
 - 3.2.3.6. a statement of the candidate's understanding of the task teaching elders (minister of the Word and Sacrament) perform, including a self-awareness of specific gifts for the ministry of teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament) and of areas in which growth is needed.
- 3.2.4. **After Form 5A has been completed, the inquirer, the CPM liaison and the session liaison shall schedule with the Session a time for examination.**
- 3.2.5. **The session shall make a recommendation to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry that this inquirer should or should not be enrolled as a candidate and shall report that recommendation to CPM on form 5A.**

- 3.2.6. The CPM liaison shall check the references, on Form 5A using Form 5C, Reference Form for Candidacy. The CPM liaison will prepare a written summary for the Chair of CPM. Upon receipt of that summary, the chair will schedule the examination for candidacy with the Committee on Preparation for Ministry.
- 3.2.7. After receiving and reviewing the above information, and examining the inquirer, CPM shall make a definite recommendation to the presbytery that the inquirer shall or shall not be received as a Candidate for Ordered Ministry.
- 3.2.8. If CPM decides that the inquirer shall not be received as a candidate for ordered ministry, that decision shall be reported to the presbytery and the session on form 5A.
- 3.2.9. If CPM recommends to the presbytery that the inquirer should be received as a candidate for ordered ministry, that decision shall be reported to the presbytery on form 5A, and the inquirer shall sign Form 5B, "Covenant Agreement and Candidate Release. A copy of this form shall be given to the candidate and the session and CPM liaisons, and placed in the candidate's file.
- 3.2.10. The presbytery shall receive the report and recommendation of its committee and shall examine the inquirer in person with respect to his or her Christian faith, forms of Christian service undertaken, and motives for seeking the ministry.
- 3.2.11. If the examination is approved, the presbytery shall receive the inquirer as a candidate as described in the Presbytery of Detroit's policy P-21. "The moderator shall ask the following questions of the candidate before the candidate is declared enrolled.
- 3.2.11.1. "Do you believe yourself to be called by God to *the ordered ministry of teaching elder*?"
- 3.2.11.2. "Do you promise in reliance upon the grace of God to maintain a Christian character and conduct, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for this ministry?"
- 3.2.11.3. "Do you accept the proper supervision of the presbytery in matters that concern your preparation for this ministry?"
- 3.2.11.4. "Do you desire now to be received by this presbytery as a Candidate for *the ordered ministry of teaching elder* in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)?"
- 3.2.12. "If these questions are answered in the affirmative, a brief charge shall be given, the candidate's name shall be recorded on the presbytery's roll of candidates, and the proceedings shall close with prayer."
- 3.2.13. The Stated Clerk of the presbytery shall report the action of the presbytery to the General Assembly, the candidate, and the session by completing Form 5A.

3.3. During Candidacy

The covenant relationship between the candidate and the presbytery shall be continued through annual consultations as described in this manual at Section 2.4., "Inquirers and candidates shall have a consultation at least once a year." During this time CPM will focus on the candidate's preparation for ministry; especially in the areas of educational requirements, field education, and Clinical Pastoral Education.

Every inquirer and candidate enrolled in study in a theological seminary should take the Bible Content exam as often as it is offered, until it is passed.

3.4. Completion of Candidacy

Candidacy continues until the presbytery acts in one of three ways to remove the candidate's name from the Roll of Candidates:

3.4.1. **Completion of the preparation for ministry process with a call to the ordered ministry of teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament). In this case, the following steps are involved:**

3.4.1.1. **the Committee on Preparation for Ministry determines that the candidate is ready to be examined for ordination (Presbytery of Detroit policy P-17);**

3.4.1.2. **the candidate receives a call; and**

3.4.1.3. **"The presbytery placing the call to the candidate for ministry shall ordinarily examine, ordain and install the candidate." (G-2.0702)**

3.4.2. **Withdrawal by the candidate;**

3.4.3. **Removal by the presbytery;**

3.5. Final Assessment and Negotiation for Service (G-2.0607)

3.5.1. **Final assessment must ordinarily be completed within one year of the completion of the educational requirements.**

3.5.2. **A candidate may not enter into negotiation for service as a teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament) without approval of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. The committee shall record when it has certified a candidate ready for examination for ordination, pending a call, and submit Form 6, "Certification of Final Assessment" to the clerk and to the presbytery. (See Presbytery of Detroit policy P-17). Evidence of readiness to begin ordered ministry as a teaching elder (minister of the Word and Sacrament) shall include: (G-2.0607)**

3.5.2.1. **a candidate's wisdom and maturity of faith, leadership skills, compassionate spirit, honest repute, and sound judgment;**

3.5.2.2. **a transcript showing graduation, with satisfactory grades, at a regionally accredited college or university;**

3.5.2.3. **a transcript from a theological institution accredited by the Association of Theological Schools acceptable to the presbytery, showing a course of study including Hebrew and Greek, exegesis of the Old and New Testaments using Hebrew and Greek, satisfactory**

grades in all areas of study, and graduation or proximity to graduation; and

- 3.5.2.4. a satisfactory grades, together with the examination papers in the areas covered by any standard ordination examination approved by the General Assembly.

3.5.3. The basis for this assessment will be:

- 3.5.3.1. a statement of faith, presented to the committee;
- 3.5.3.2. an exegesis of an Old Testament or New Testament text,
- 3.5.3.3. a sermon based upon that text and exegesis, presented and preached to member of the committee, and
- 3.5.3.4. a face-to-face examination of the candidate by the committee.

- 3.5.4. Any candidate who has successfully passed all of the Standard Examinations for Ordination, received a positive Final Assessment, and is within six (6) months of completion of all academic and clinical pastoral education requirements may begin to circulate a Personal Information Form for the purpose of seeking a call as teaching elder (minister of Word and Sacrament.) This action will be recorded on Form 6, and a copy shall be given to the candidate, the liaisons, and placed in the file.

3.6. Transfer or Removal

- 3.6.1. At the request of the inquirer or candidate and with the approval of the sessions and presbyteries involved, a presbytery may transfer the covenant relationship of an inquirer or candidate. (G-2.0608) This action shall be reported to the receiving presbytery by the Stated Clerk on Form 7A. If the transfer is to the Presbytery of Detroit, the Stated Clerk shall report the receipt of the inquirer or candidate to the General Assembly on Form 7A.
- 3.6.2. In accord with G-2.069 the CPM may allow an inquirer or candidate to withdraw, or may remove an inquirer or candidate from the roll. These actions shall be reported to the Stated Clerk on Form 7B, who shall then notify the General Assembly.

3.7. Ordination or reception of a minister from another denomination

- 3.7.1. When a congregation of the Presbytery of Detroit issues a call to a candidate for ministry, or a minister from another denomination, the Committee on Preparation for Ministry shall conduct the Examination for Ordination, unless the Presbytery agrees that the examination shall be done by another presbytery.
- 3.7.2. CPM shall conduct the examination of a candidate when the candidate provides certification of Final Assessment by the sending presbytery (Form 7A).

- 3.7.3. **CPM shall conduct the examination of a minister from another denomination when it has received certification that the minister is in good standing, and has complied with G-2.0505.**
- 3.7.4. **The candidate shall provide CPM and the presbytery with an autobiographical statement, and a Statement of Faith.**
- 3.7.5. **The candidate shall preach a sermon before the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, and shall be examined by CPM. The examination shall cover the reasons the candidate seeks membership in the presbytery, the candidate's theological understanding, and any other issues the committee believes appropriate.**
- 3.7.6. **The committee shall present the candidate to the presbytery, with the candidate's statement of faith and autobiographical statement, and with a recommendation as to whether ordain/receive the candidate into membership. The presbytery shall conduct an examination.**
- 3.7.7. **The Stated Clerk shall report the ordination to the General Assembly on Form 7B.**

Section 4. Miscellaneous Policies

4.1. Financial Aid

4.1.1. Premise

The Presbytery of Detroit, through its Committee on Preparation for Ministry', reviews the financial well-being of those individuals under the care of the presbytery in their preparation for ordination as ministers of Word and Sacrament.

The committee sees its role as two-fold. First the committee has a responsibility to guide inquirers and candidates in understanding acceptable rates of indebtedness and realistic level of repayment on a pastor's starting salary. Second, the committee has a responsibility to assist candidates and inquirers in locating sources of financial aid within acceptable indebtedness levels.

4.1.2. Total Educational Debt

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry suggests that \$50,000 is the maximum reasonable level of educational indebtedness. (The committee defines total educational indebtedness as the total of all outstanding debt. from undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate studies.)

The committee urges candidates to be careful about the amount of educational debt incurred, and realistic in their expectation of their future financial ability to repay that indebtedness.

4.1.3. Presbytery Theological Scholarship Fund

The presbytery, through the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, administers a Theological Scholarship Fund. Funding for this scholarship comes from offerings collected at each ordination or installation service conducted by the presbytery. All individuals under care of the presbytery, as inquirers or candidates are eligible to apply for scholarship assistance. Applicants for scholarships from the presbytery must adhere to the following process.

4.1.4. All applicants will furnish the Committee on Preparation for Ministry with a current GAPFAS (Graduate and Professional Financial Aid for Students) form.

4.1.5. The request for financial aid must be accompanied by a detailed accounting of anticipated income and expenses on Form 1C – Financial Planning. This accounting should include all income sources, self, family, church, seminary, denomination and any other financial assistance the individual will receive (or anticipates receiving). Expenses should be specific, e.g. tuition, room, board, books, supplies, etc.

4.1.6. The presbytery will only consider requests for assistance after verification has been provided that the individual has applied for assistance from the sources listed above.

COMMISSION REPORT
ORDINATIONS AND INSTALLATIONS
PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
August 28, 1012

Installation of Mary Austin

The Commission to Install The Rev. Mary Austin as Teaching Elder at Westminster Church of Detroit was convened with prayer by the past moderator, Dianne Bostic Robinson, at 10:00 p.m., on June 17, 2012, at Westminster Church of Detroit. The Commission members present were:

<p>The Rev. Estelle Aaron, Presbytery of Detroit</p> <p>The Rev. Dr. Ernest Krug, Parish Associate, First Presbyterian, Birmingham</p>	<p>Ruling Elder and Past Moderator Dianne Bostic Robinson, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Detroit</p> <p>Ruling Elder Adrienne Adams, Calvary Presbyterian, Detroit</p> <p>Cindy Merten, Director of Christian Education, First Presbyterian, Birmingham</p> <p>Ruling Elder Sarah Scott, First Presbyterian Church, Birmingham</p>
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The Commission approved the seating of the following members as corresponding members: NA

The Commission invited the following persons to participate in the worship service: Christine Gannon, Minister to Youth and Young Adults, St. James Episcopal Church, Birmingham.

After approving the order of worship, the Commission proceeded to worship, where it installed The Rev. Mary Austin, as Teaching Elder. In the course of the installation, Ms Austin answered in the affirmative to the questions in W-4.4003. Upon conclusion of the worship service, the commission and congregation were dismissed with prayer and benediction by Ms Austin.

/s

Dianne Bostic Robinson
Past Moderator

Date: 6/27/2012

**Installation of Michael T. Horlocker
First Presbyterian Church of South Lyon**

The Commission to install Michael T. Horlocker as **Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of South Lyon**, was convened with prayer by the moderator, Jean Loup, at 3:30 p.m. on August 18, 2012, at First Presbyterian Church of South Lyon. The Commission members present were

<p>The Rev. Dr. Louis Prues, Parish Associate, Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church, Detroit</p>	<p>Nancy Bass, CRE Candidate, Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church, Detroit</p>
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The Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Downs, Interim
Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Pontiac

Mary Lloyd, Elder, Grosse Pointe
Memorial Church, Grosse Pointe Farms

Gordon Sieler, Commissioned Ruling
Elder, Calvin East Presbyterian Church,
Detroit

Dan MacNish, Elder, First Presbyterian
Church, South Lyon

There were no Corresponding Members.

Others who participated in worship included Ann Clifton, member, South Lyon; Rev. Albert LeBlanc, Pastor, Hope Lutheran Church of Dearborn, ELCA; Anne Lyke, Elder, South Lyon; Ron McClintock, member, South Lyon; Rev. James Russell, Associate Pastor Emeritus, First Presbyterian Church, Northville; Rev. Peter C. Smith, Pastor, Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church, Detroit.

After approving the order of worship, the Commission proceeded to worship, during which it **installed Michael T. Horlocker as Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of South Lyon**. In the course of the installation, Mr Horlocker answered in the affirmative the questions in W-4.4003

Upon conclusion of the worship service, the Commission and congregation were dismissed with prayer and benediction by the Rev. Michael Horlocker.

/s

Jean L. Loup
Moderator

Date: August 18, 2012

**PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.
Appellant/Appellee (Complainant)

v.

Case No.: GA2011-110

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
Appellee, Appellant (Respondent)

**COMPLAINANT/APPELLEE'S RESPONSE TO
RESPONDENT/APPELLANT'S BRIEF**

The Appellant, Thomas Priest, Jr., submits the following as his Response to the Brief of Respondent/Appellant Presbyter of Detroit:

In the Brief of the Respondent/Appellant Presbytery of Detroit at page 3, the Presbytery says the issue on appeal for it is limited to the Presbytery's appeal on the question of standing. Yet, in its presentation, the Presbytery addresses issues other than standing, which Mr. Priest answers in part.

I. Digressions

A few of the digressions by the Presbytery from the issue on appeal in need of a response are addressed here:

A. At page 6, the Presbytery addresses the issue of the timeliness of Complainant's original Complaint, saying Mr. Priest received notice of the vote via email and telephone on March 2 or March 5 or in the letter it dated March 10. All three dates are factually disputed. As to the letter, Mr. Priest says he did not get the actual decision until 11 days after the letter dated March 10. Mr. Priest also submits that what the Presbytery claims as notice was insufficient and unknowable at the time.

B. At page 5, the Presbytery attacks the timeliness of Mr. Priest's filing by saying Mr. Priest and his counsel did not stay to receive the decision of the CPM, an allegation not at issue before this appeal. In fact, Mr. Priest and his counsel waited after the hearing in an adjacent room from 12:55p.m. until 4:55p.m. while the body deliberated what to do. At 3:30p.m., Mr. Priest asked the Moderator if she could provide any guidance as to how much longer the body would need to deliberate. The question was prompted because of the plane schedule of Mr. Priest's counsel. When the Moderator advised she could not predict a time, Mr. Priest and his counsel waited an additional hour and then left, with the Moderator's permission, to get Mr. Priest's counsel to the airport. Both Mr. Priest and his counsel were assured that when a decision was reached it would be announced and available. In fact, while the decision was reached by the body that day, it was not then formally provided. Calls over the next two days by Mr. Priest and his counsel produced a response from the leader of the body that they were willing to meet with Mr. Priest and tell him, but they would not meet or discuss the decision, if Mr. Priest's counsel was present. When Mr. Priest opted not to meet without having counsel present, he was told he would have to wait until the decision was typed and vetted, after which it would be available. That process took over two weeks. While it is true that Mr. Priest was advised in the discussions about scheduling a meeting that the decision was not favorable, no further specifics were given. General oral advice is not the same as being given a copy of the ruling and recommendations so he could know precisely what the decision was and could decide what action to take next. Mr. Priest submits the act of the irregular hearing was not completed until the decision was written, signed and received.

C. At page 5, the Presbytery attacks the issue of whether the Complaint has stated a viable cause of action in saying the hearing was before a neutral body. The body was not neutral as the Investigating Committee that recommended discipline was made up of members of the same body charged with voting on the report. The Investigating Committee was advised in every step it took by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery whom Complaint has alleged engineered the specifics of the preceding against him. As further objection to the neutrality of the body, Complainant submits that the Stated Clerk was present advising the deliberative body throughout its meeting.

D. At page 5, the Presbytery challenges the evidence in the case in arguing it acted based on a letter from Ms. Azar dated April 20, 2010, without addressing Mr. Priest's allegations that Ms. Azar's Complaint of April 21, 2010 (identical to the letter purportedly dated the previous day) submitted her Complaint under the Discipline to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery and to the Clerk of Mr. Priest's Session. That submission changed the nature of the proceedings and put the Stated Clerk in a conflicted situation. While the Stated Clerk believed the Presbytery did not have jurisdiction to hear the Written Statement of Ms. Azar under the Discipline, it did not preclude the Stated Clerk from charting a course to have the Presbytery act through its CPM to do the very thing the Presbytery lacked jurisdiction to do. The Stated Clerk was especially complicated because he knew the Session of Mr. Priest's church had initiated its own investigation under the Discipline against Mr. Priest related to the same charge while he was recommending the Presbytery through its CPM to do the same thing. The Stated Clerk knew the Session of Mr. Priest's church declined to press disciplinary charges against Mr. Priest after its investigation before the Presbytery hearing against Mr. Priest on March 1, 2012, yet he took no action. Instead the Stated Clerk chose to advise and

guide the Presbytery through its CPM to conduct the equivalent of a second Disciplinary Proceeding against Mr. Priest.

E. At page 6, the Presbytery inserts inflammatory rhetoric in claiming Mr. Priest says he was “robbed” and the Stated Clerk was out to “get him.” Neither of these quoted lines is in the Complaint of Mr. Priest.

II. The Standing Issue

The Presbytery does ultimately address the “standing issue” it appeals, at pages 6 and 7 of its Brief. The arguments raised there are those expected. In the main, they have been addressed by Mr. Priest thoroughly in his Brief filed earlier herein. Mr. Priest incorporates his previous submissions here and relies on what he has heretofore argued as his response. Mr. Priest is not aware of any cases of the GAPJC addressing the issue of standing from the point each side raises. Mr. Priest is aware of the case of Fair-Booth v. National Capital Presbytery, 2006, 218-02, in which an Elder, serving as a commissioner, has standing to complain about a decision of the Presbytery, if the elder was present and enrolled at the meeting where the inappropriate action was taken. That is not the case here, as Mr. Priest was an enrolled member of Presbytery GAP for all of the times pertinent to this case, designated as such for the entire times in question here.

The Presbytery does submit one new argument, saying Mr. Priest has abandoned a part of his standing argument. The past allegedly abandoned is labeled by the Presbytery as a secondary argument at page 7 of its Brief. It is true that argument has been included in Mr. Priest’s standing argument from the beginning. It has not been abandoned. But, Mr. Priest and the Synod’s PJC became aware at an earlier hearing that Mr. Priest was an enrolled member of the Presbytery at all times pertinent to the issues raised in this Complaint because of his service as a past Moderator of the Presbytery. While the Stated

Clerk maintained the official roll of the Presbytery, the Stated Clerk failed to disclose the fact of Mr. Priest's actual membership until it was brought to his attention in the hearing with the Synod's PJC. That event was of such significance that the issue of standing was quickly resolved in Mr. Priest's favor before the Synod's PJC.

III. Waiver of Oral Argument

The last part of the Presbytery's Brief is a plea that oral argument not take place. In reviewing the Book of Order's provisions for a challenge, it does not appear that D-6.036a and b, when read together, vest a discretionary power in the PJC to waive a challenge hearing or not. The controlling language states, "an opportunity shall be provided to present evidence and argument on the finding in question. Parties shall be invited to submit briefs prior to the hearing on the jurisdictional questions." (D-6.0306a). Subsection a clearly anticipates a hearing. While it is true that D-6.0306a uses language that could arguably be used to support the possibility of a waiver of the hearing, a fairer construction would be to read both subsections together, which, when considered as a whole, supports an intent that when a hearing is requested, the scheduling of the hearing must be more than 30 days before the trial of the Complaint. Complainant is not aware of any decisions of the GAPJC to the contrary. While decided on other grounds, the case of Phillips v. Pby. of S. Kansas, 1997, 209-4, appears to say where there is a Challenge, the challenger has a right to be heard at a pretrial conference or at a hearing.

The issues of whether (1) a final action of a constitutional committee is the act of the Presbytery itself where the presbytery has delegated its powers to that committee and (2) whether a constitutional committee can conduct a disciplinary hearing with impunity, simply by saying what it is doing is not a disciplinary hearing, are too important not to give both parties a full opportunity to be heard.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

July 6, 2012
Date

By: Archibald Wallace III
Minister of the Word and Sacrament (PCUSA)
Presbytery of the James
Counsel for Thomas H. Priest, Jr. and his
designated Agent
Member of the Virginia and West Virginia Bars

5 July 2012
Date

Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Individually

Certification of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the attached was served electronically and by Federal Express upon the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly's PJC, Gregory A. Goodwiller, at the offices of the General Assembly's PJC, 100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville, KY 40202, by Federal Express, upon the Committee of Counsel for the Appellee, upon Elder Mark Schneider, c/o Presbytery of Detroit, 117 N. First Street, Suite 111, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, upon Edward H. Koster (Stated Clerk Presbytery of Detroit) c/o Presbytery of Detroit, 117 N. First Street, Suite 111, Ann Arbor, MI 48108 and the Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Covenant, the Rev. David E Bartley, 1911 Indian Wood Circle Suite B, Maumee, OH 43537, this 6th day of July, 2012.

Archibald Wallace III
Archibald Wallace, III
Counsel for
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.,

Complainant/Appellee

v.

Case No 2011-109

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT,

Respondent/Appellee

BRIEF OF APPELLANT
PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT

The Question Presented for Review

The questions on review in Case 2011-109 are:

1) whether the Executive Committee of this Commission committed reversible error when it found that Complainant Priest did not have standing to file the instant remedial case.

Appellee answers: No.

2) whether the Permanent Judicial Commission for the Synod of Covenant committed reversible error when it held that: a) the complaint was not timely filed, b) the complaint failed to state a claim upon which relief could be granted, and c) the Synod of the Covenant did not have jurisdiction to decide the complaint.

Appellee answers: No.

D

Decision on the Briefs Requested

A hearing is scheduled in this appeal and in the related co-pending appeal in 2011-110. However, a hearing is not required. See e.g., PJC 2006, 217-6, 472, *Raines v. Session of Miami Shores PC* (PJC has discretion under D-8.0302b not to conduct a hearing on a challenge to the findings of the moderator and clerk on preliminary questions). The only issues on appeal here concern straightforward applications of the four preliminary questions. The Constitution trusts that the executive committee can digest and rule on these questions, and the Presbytery sees no harm in extending that trust to the entire Commission. Mr. Priest lost, soundly, on three of the four preliminary questions in the Synod. The one issue he did succeed on (i.e., standing) was rightly dismissed by the executive committee of this Commission. Accordingly, the Presbytery submits there is very likely little to be gained and much to be lost in terms of travel and other expenses by requiring a hearing in these matters. The Commission should exercise its discretion, decline to hold a hearing, and decided 2011-109 and 2011-110 on the briefs.

Procedural History

This is an appeal from a decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod for the Covenant ("SPJC") on the preliminary questions of timeliness, failure to state a claim, and jurisdiction. Also at issue is a challenge to the decision of the executive committee of this Commission that Mr. Priest did not have standing to file the original complaint.

The complaint in this remedial case was filed on June 9, 2011. It was one of four (4) separately filed complaints that sought to address the same set of facts and circumstances. The other three (3) complaints were all filed by the Session of Mr. Priest's church and (like this case) were dismissed at the preliminary question stage. Of the four cases filed, Mr. Priest's complaint is the only one appealed to this Commission.

The Presbytery timely answered Mr. Priest's complaint and argued that all four (4) of the preliminary questions identified in D-6.0305 should be answered in the negative. On August 19, 2011, the SPJC executive committee determined that Mr. Priest's case could not be accepted because all four (4) preliminary questions had been answered in the negative. See **Exhibit A**.

Mr. Priest challenged the decision of the SPJC executive committee and the parties thereafter participated in a hearing before the entire commission. On November 15, 2011, the SPJC overruled the executive committee on the question of standing but otherwise affirmed the committee's decision. See **Exhibit B**.

On or about December 19, 2011, Mr. Priest appealed to this Commission the decision of the SPJC. On December 21, 2011, the Presbytery appealed the decision of the SPJC on the preliminary question of standing.

On January 31, 2012, the executive committee of this Commission issued a

preliminary order finding that Mr. Priest did not have standing. See **Exhibit C**. Mr. Priest has challenged that preliminary order. By order dated May 13, 2012, Mr. Priest's challenge to the decision of this Commission's executive committee on the preliminary question of standing and his appeal from the SPJC decision are the subjects of Mr. Priest's merits brief in Case No. 2011-109. See **Exhibit D**.

As mentioned *supra*, the issue in this appeal 2011-109 – and this brief – is the Presbytery's appeal from the SPJC's decision on the questions of preliminary questions of timeliness, failure to state a claim, and jurisdiction. Also at issue is a challenge to the decision of the executive committee of this Commission that Mr. Priest did not have standing to file the original complaint.

Statement of the Basis for Jurisdiction

To the extent jurisdiction may be found to be proper, this Commission has jurisdiction over this appeal pursuant to D-8.0000 *et seq*.

Book of Order Provisions Involved in the Case

The provisions of the Book of Order particularly relevant to this appeal include: D-6.0305a - d (Preliminary Questions) and D-6.0202 (Who May File Complaint).

Statement of the Case

Mr. Thomas H. Priest is a member of Cavalry Presbyterian Church ("Cavalry") and a candidate for ministry under the care of the Presbytery of Detroit. See **Exhibit E**. Answer (without exhibits) at ¶ 1. On April 20, 2010, Ms. Ruth Azar set a letter jointly addressed to the Committee on Ministry ("COM") and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry ("CPM") for the Presbytery of Detroit that made certain claims against Mr. Priest, with the Stated Clerk as a cc addressee. See **Exhibit F**. The Stated Clerk informed Ms. Azar that the Presbytery did not have disciplinary jurisdiction over Mr. Priest. So, on April 21, Ms. Azar filed her allegations with Cavalry's session, which then handled the matter as required by the Rules of Discipline. See **Exhibit G**. No charges were brought against Mr. Priest by Cavalry as a result of Ms. Azar's complaint. See **Exhibit E** at ¶ 8. The text and claims in Ms. Azar's written allegation are almost exactly the same as the text and claims of her April 20th letter.

Quite separate from any action by Cavalry, the CPM responded to Ms. Azar's April 20th letter by starting its own investigation of Mr. Priest in furtherance of the committee's duty to determine his fitness for ministry. In starting the investigation, the CPM followed the procedures laid out in Robert's Rules of Order, decisions of the GAPJC and guidance from the General Assembly. Specifically, on May 4, 2010 the CPM appointed a sub-committee, which it labeled an investigating committee, to interview persons and collect information related to the statements contained in the April 20th letter. See **Exhibit J**, p. 1., *Introduction*. A sub-committee report with recommendations was prepared, and a hearing before the full CPM was held March 1. See **Exhibit I**. The hearing actually began on February 1, 2011, but was quickly

stopped and continued to March 1 because Mr. Priest's counsel was not present. Nothing substantive was accomplished on February 1. See Exhibit H.

Mr. Priest was provided with a copy of the report and recommendations of the CPM sub-committee before the initial hearing date of February 1st and so he had those papers in hand for more than a month before the March 1st hearing. See Exhibit H, ll. 22ff, and See Exhibit E at ¶ 19. Many of the witnesses interviewed by the sub-committee were also identified in the report of the sub-committee. See Exhibit J.

The March 1 hearing was before a neutral body – the full CPM. The hearing also included a court reporter who prepared a full transcript. See Exhibits H and I. During that investigation and subsequent hearing, Mr. Priest was treated with fundamental fairness. He was supplied with copies of relevant documents and had a month (from February to March) to review them. He was represented by counsel – Mr. Wallace – and both Mr. Priest and his counsel were allowed to speak at great length and present arguments to the full CPM.. Mr. Priest was not able to cross-examine a witness - but then no witnesses were called at the hearing. See Exhibit I.

The CPM voted on the recommendations of the sub-committee the same day as the hearing – March 1, see Exhibit K – but neither Mr. Priest nor his counsel opted to stay to receive the decision in person. If Mr. Priest had stayed he obviously would have been notified of the outcome of the vote immediately and in person. However, even though he was not present at the time of the vote, Mr. Priest still received actual notice of the vote (via email and telephone) at least as early as March 3, 2011 and certainly no later than March 5, 2011 (see Exhibits M and L). For example, as demonstrated below, Mr. Priest and his counsel were both well aware of the CPM's decision by March 5th:

From: Archibald X. Wallace <AXWallace@wallacepledger.com>
To: Elizabeth Downs <drbethd@sbcglobal.net>; Tom Priest <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>
Cc: Sam Clark <SSClark3@comcast.net>; Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, March 5, 2011 9:46:52 AM
Subject: RE: CPM decision

While I offered to be available by phone at whatever time suited, I can appreciate the reluctance to have further legal involvement. Mr. Priest and I thank you for giving us the time and opportunity to be heard. Obviously, we are disappointed in the conclusions of the committee but the result was not unexpected from the way the inquiry was handled. Would you be able to advise how CPM's decision will be reported to Presbytery? We look forward to receiving the official report of the committee.

This is an email from Mr. Wallace to Elizabeth Downs, the then co-chair of the CPM. The Presbytery specifically notes Mr. Wallace's reference to the "...conclusions of the committee..." and the fact that Mr. Priest was also a recipient of the email.

In addition to the March 5th email, Rev. Downs and Mr. Priest had the following

exchange on March 3rd:

From: Thomas Priest Jr <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>
To: Elizabeth Downs <drbethd@sbcglobal.net>
Cc: Thomas Priest Jr <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>;
 axwallace@wallacepledger.com; Sam Clark <SSClark3@comcast.net>;
 Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, March 3, 2011 5:09:12 PM
Subject: Re: CPM decision
 Greetings Beth,
 Thank you. Amen.
 Tom

On Mar 3, 2011, at 4:44 PM, Elizabeth Downs wrote:

Hi Tom:

I understand from Sam that you would rather not meet face-to-face with him and me to receive a written copy of the decision of the CPM unless Mr. Wallace is also present. We don't want to create any more stress or cost for you and will therefore send it by registered mail to your home sometime next week when we have the final copies from our CPM secretary Marjorie Wilhelmi. May God grant shalom and a good resolution to all of this.

Beth Downs

Elizabeth L. Downs

"To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
 my God, I put my trust in you." (Ps. 25:1-2)
 T. Harrison Priest Jr.
 thomaspjr@earthlink.net

While short on detail, at a minimum this March 3rd email exchange confirms that Mr. Priest was aware of the CPM decision.

As detailed in Mr. Priest brief, a summary of the CPM's action was transmitted to Mr. Priest in a letter dated March 10, 2011.

The action of the CPM on March 1 was not reported to the Presbytery, as is its custom in such supervisory matters. Presbytery received notice of this action only when the cases filed by the Session of Calvary and Mr. Priest were reported to the Presbytery at its June 22, 2011 stated meeting.

Mr. Priest did not like the CPM's decision. Therefore, one remedy available to him was to take his concerns to the floor of Presbytery. In fact, it was this exact remedy that was proposed by Mr. Priest's counsel during the March 1st hearing. Specifically, Mr. Priest's counsel stated on the record that:

This committee has the power and the right to say whether he should ever be ordained. You can do it in a number of ways and you can say, no, he always has the right to go to presbytery and challenge their decision. But where does that get him if he does that, what is the

taste in your mouth, what is the future, how are we working together if we go that route?

Exhibit I, at 22, ln. 14 – 19 (*emphasis added*).

However, instead of taking his complaint to the actual governing body/council having oversight of the CPM, Mr. Priest decided to try and bypass the floor of Presbytery by filing the instant complaint. In the complaint, Mr. Priest claimed that the CPM hearing was a judicial hearing in disguise and that he had been “robbed” of his rights. He also alleged that the Stated Clerk had conspired to “get him”.¹ To date, Mr. Priest has never taken his concerns to the floor of Presbytery.

On October 4, 2011, the CPM met with Mr. Priest and granted him Final Assessment with permission to circulate his PIF. See **Exhibit N**.

Argument

Mr. Priest Did Not Have Standing

Mr. Priest’s arguments in favor of standing rested exclusively on the premise that the CPM was acting on behalf of the Presbytery and so the CPM’s action was really a “final” action of Presbytery. This position has zero basis in fact and can be dispensed with a great number of ways. It is rebutted, for example, by the opinion of the Commission’s executive committee which held that:

Practice has determined that the proper method for challenging the action of an entity of a council other than the General Assembly is through a motion to rescind or amend the action, made by a person with standing to offer such a motion at a meeting of the council.

See **Exhibit C**.

Mr. Priest’s brief leaves unchallenged this holding by the executive committee.²

Alternatively, Mr. Priest’s position is rebutted by the observation that if the CPM’s March 1 hearing decision was a “final” action of the Presbytery, why did the CPM bother to later approve Mr. Priest for “final assessment”? Or, as a further alternative, it may be

¹ In the course of his many pleadings, Mr. Priest has made multiple allegations of misconduct by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit. The Presbytery has never had the opportunity to respond specifically to these allegations. The Presbytery now answers the specific allegations with **Exhibit P and its attachments**.

² Mr. Priest’s brief does not reassert his challenge to the right of the executive committee of this Commission to consider his standing to file the original complaint. Therefore, Presbytery considers that issue to have been waived. However, to the extent Mr. Priest attempts to reassert that issue at oral argument, Presbytery notes that the ability of the executive committee to review a complainant’s right to file was affirmed in 2001, 213-3 *Pahn v. Pby. of Midwest Harmi*.

observed that - if the hearing decision was final, why did Mr. Priest's counsel expressly concede that Mr. Priest had recourse to the floor of Presbytery:

This committee has the power and the right to say whether he should ever be ordained. You can do it in a number of ways and you can say, no, he always has the right to go to presbytery and challenge their decision. But where does that get him if he does that, what is the taste in your mouth, what is the future, how are we working together if we go that route?

Exhibit I, at 22, ln. 14 – 19 (*emphasis added*).

Mr. Priest's problems in this case are of his own making, and many of those problems could have been easily overcome had Mr. Priest simply followed the advice of his counsel and taken the matter to the floor of Presbytery. Why he has refused to take that action is anyone's guess.

Looking next at the language of the Constitution, to have standing Mr. Priest must have been "a minister or an elder enrolled as a member of a presbytery concerning an irregularity or a delinquency during that period of enrollment..." See D-6.0202(a)(1). But he is not a minister and was not enrolled as an elder (or otherwise) at any meeting of the Presbytery that considered the disputed actions of the CPM. Indeed, the disputed actions have never been taken up by the Presbytery. Therefore, since he cannot meet the clear language of the Constitution, it seems plain that the complaint must be dismissed for lack of standing. Mr. Priest, however, sees things differently and thinks he has found a loophole.

According to Mr. Priest, because the Presbytery's bylaws granted him the status of a member of Presbytery he *ipso facto* had standing to file the complaint – a novel argument found nowhere in his complaint. To be sure, as a former moderator the Presbytery's bylaws do grant Mr. Priest the status of "member." However, being a "member" in the eyes of a single presbytery is not the same thing as being 1) a minister or 2) an enrolled elder in the eyes of the Constitution. Since Mr. Priest was and is neither of those things he cannot have standing under the Constitution. Indeed, to allow him standing would give every Presbytery the power to grant standing under the Rules of Discipline to anyone merely by granting that person "membership".

But let us assume for sake of argument that Mr. Priest's status as a "member" of Presbytery placed him Constitutionally speaking in the same shoes as a minister. Would that make a difference? Absolutely not. For starters, there is still the matter of his contention that the CPM decision was a final decision of the Presbytery. This, of course, is simply ludicrous and is directly rebutted by the facts (see *supra*). Moreover, even if Mr. Priest were presumed to have the same status as a minister he would still be unable to point to any irregularity or delinquency – by the Presbytery – that occurred during his "period of enrollment". That the irregularity or a delinquency must result from the actions of a presbytery itself (and not a committee thereof) follows from the express language of D-2.0101, which states that "[a] remedial case is one in which an

irregularity or a delinquency of a **lower council** ... may be corrected by a higher council". The meaning of this text is clear; the body that commits the error must be a governing body/council, and not simply (as the executive committee of this Commission has correctly pointed out) a subordinate committee of a governing body/council. In fact, in every case that the Presbytery could find, two things were consistently true 1) the alleged irregularity was a direct result of a **vote on the floor of presbytery** and 2) the complainant unquestionably had Constitutional standing. See e.g., 2004, 217-1 *Hope v. Pby of San Francisco* (remedial case challenging remove of candidate filed by commissioners to Presbytery. meeting); 1997, 210-2 *Bevensee v. Pby. of New Brunswick* (Candidate challenging her removal from the roll was an elder commissioner to Presbytery. meeting); 1992, 205-4, *LeTourneau et al. v. Pby. of the Twin Cities* (Refusal to ordain Lisa Larges challenged by commissioners to Presbytery meeting); 1987, 199-1, *Bedford-Central Pby. Ch. v. Pby. of New York City* (Remedial case by Session against Presbytery for refusing to ordain candidate). Neither of the factors is present in this case.

It is also puzzling that Mr. Priest now questions in this brief – “how should he know that a remedy [to the floor of Presbytery] might be available...”. Mr. Priest was well aware that he should have taken his dispute with the CPM to the floor of Presbytery before filing his complaint since, as mentioned *supra*, his own counsel argued as much to the CPM during the March 1st hearing. Moreover, assuming **former moderator** Priest really didn't know what remedies were available to him one reasons that he could have asked that question any time after learning of the CPM decision. He could have asked the stated clerk. Or, he could have followed the advice of this counsel. Or, he could have simply read the Presbytery's pleadings in this matter – because that is precisely what the Presbytery has been telling him to do the whole time. But, for whatever reason, Mr. Priest has stubbornly refused to bring a motion to Presbytery requesting that the CPM be instructed to correct its decision. As result, Mr. Priest is unable to point to a single action – taken by any governing body/council – that would amount to an irregularity or a delinquency. Since he cannot do that, he does not have standing.

Finally, this Commission should consider the consequences of Mr. Priest's argument that the CPM's March 1 decision was actually a final decision of the Presbytery. If this argument is accepted, then ANY intermediate decision by ANY CPM becomes a target for immediate appeal to a PJC. A candidate is directed to take counseling? Appeal to the PJC. A candidate is directed to take particular course of study? Appeal to the PJC. The case of 2004, 217-1 *Hope v. Pby of San Francisco* is instructive. In that case a CPM "... appointed a task force to investigate concerns about the candidate's ability to resolve conflicts..." The candidate appealed the CPM decision, but only after an actual vote by the Presbytery. No such vote of the PRESBYTERY has ever taken place in this case.

Mr. Priest's (Discarded) Secondary Arguments on Standing

In the complaint, Mr. Priest principal argument on the issue of standing was that he must be a member of Presbytery for purposes of standing because he was enrolled

as a candidate; and that he has to have standing because otherwise he would have no recourse from the CPM's disciplinary proceeding. The obvious problems with this argument are twofold. The first problem is that the CPM hearing was not a disciplinary proceeding under the Rules of Discipline. The CPM hearing was a perfectly valid and properly conducted exercise of the discretionary authority of CPM to guide a candidate as he prepares for ministry. See the former G-14.0405 and G-14.0512. The second problem is that this argument is directly contrary to the plain language of the former G-14.0411, which states that "[d]uring the phases of inquiry and candidacy, the individual continues to be an active member of his or her particular church" and also the first line of his complaint wherein Mr. Priest expressly stated that he is a member of Calvary church. See Exhibit E at ¶ 1.

Another argument posited by Mr. Priest was that he needed to be a member of the Presbytery for purposes of standing in order to have rights to fundamental fairness. Mr. Priest's claim is, quite simply, wrong. He has a right to fundamental fairness as a Presbyterian. Moreover, these rights are so broad and important that the CPM took extraordinary steps to ensure that he was informed of the issues and allegations, was given full opportunity to prepare and present his case to a neutral body and was represented by counsel.

The ordinary process by which a candidate for teaching elder is protected and supported is for the session of his or her church to be the advocate. The cases show (see *supra*) that in every case where there is a complaint that relates to candidacy, someone besides the candidate is the party bringing the case. This is so because the candidate lacks the standing to file a case. In this matter, Mr. Priest was supported by the session of his congregation; the Session of Calvary filed three remedial cases, one with the Presbytery and two with the Synod. All were dismissed without trial, and the Session of Calvary has made no appeal to this Commission.

In short, Mr. Priest basically argued that he must have standing, or otherwise he could not file this case, a remarkably pure example of circular reasoning. As a part of his claim he says that he was unjustly treated, even though the facts he presents in his own pleading refute that contention. The rules of standing are clearly stated and rigorously enforced in the courts of the church to ensure that legitimate cases of real issues are brought to trial. If this Commission grants Mr. Priest standing to file a remedial case with the Synod against the Presbytery, the effect would be to write new law, not enforce the law as clearly stated.

The Complaint was Not Timely Filed.

There are two undisputed facts concerning the timing for filing the Complaint. One is that the CPM vote occurred on March 1, 2012. The other is that Mr. Priest filed his Complaint on June 9, 2012, a date that is unquestionably more than 90 days after March 1. Therefore, the only way Mr. Priest can prove timeliness is if the clock did not begin to run against him until he received the written CPM decision. But on that point Mr. Priest readily concedes that "...there does not appear to be a receipt requirement..." in the Constitution. And, not only does he fail to identify a single case that supports his

position, his argument is directly contrary to existing precedent. See 2005, PJC 218-7, *Jackson v. Session of Cordova Presbyterian Church* discussed *infra*. Accordingly, the decision of the Synod concerning timeliness should be affirmed.

In addition, on closer review the Presbytery finds it exceptionally troubling that Mr. Priest's brief misleads the Commission regarding his "partial knowledge" of the CPM decision. Mr. Priest claims he was informed of the CPM decision on March 11, 2012 and that he filed the Complaint on "...the 90th day after his first partial knowledge of the decision". However, an exchange of emails between Mr. Priest and the co-chair of CPM show that he actually had "partial knowledge" of the CPM decision as early as March 3, 2012. See Exhibit M – reprinted here:

From: Thomas Priest Jr <thomasprj@earthlink.net>
To: Elizabeth Downs <drbethd@sbcglobal.net>
Cc: Thomas Priest Jr <thomasprj@earthlink.net>;
 axwallace@wallacepledger.com; Sam Clark <SSClark3@comcast.net>;
 Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, March 3, 2011 5:09:12 PM
Subject: Re: CPM decision
 Greetings Beth,
 Thank you. Amen.
 Tom

On Mar 3, 2011, at 4:44 PM, Elizabeth Downs wrote:

Hi Tom:

I understand from Sam that you would rather not meet face-to-face with him and me to receive a written copy of the decision of the CPM unless Mr. Wallace is also present. We don't want to create any more stress or cost for you and will therefore send it by registered mail to your home sometime next week when we have the final copies from our CPM secretary Marjorie Wilhelmi. May God grant shalom and a good resolution to all of this.

Beth Downs

Elizabeth L. Downs

"To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
 my God, I put my trust in you." (Ps. 25:1-2)

T. Harrison Priest Jr.

thomasprj@earthlink.net

Moreover, two days later, Mr. Priest's counsel stated as part of a different exchange that he was "...disappointed in the conclusions of the committee but the result was not unexpected...". Exhibit L – reprinted here:

From: Archibald X. Wallace <AXWallace@wallacepledger.com>
To: Elizabeth Downs <drbethd@sbcglobal.net>; Tom Priest
 <thomaspr@earthlink.net>
Cc: Sam Clark <SSClark3@comcast.net>; Edward Koster
 <ehkoster@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, March 5, 2011 9:46:52 AM
Subject: RE: CPM decision

While I offered to be available by phone at whatever time suited, I can appreciate the reluctance to have further legal involvement. Mr. Priest and I thank you for giving us the time and opportunity to be heard. Obviously, we are disappointed in the conclusions of the committee but the result was not unexpected from the way the inquiry was handled. Would you be able to advise how CPM's decision will be reported to Presbytery? We look forward to receiving the official report of the committee.

Thus, Mr. Priest and his counsel both unquestionably had "partial knowledge" of the CPM's decision many days prior to what is stated in Mr. Priest's brief! Note too that these emails are not new and were attached to prior pleadings in this case.

Now, accepting for sake of argument Mr. Priest's "partial knowledge" standard for timeliness, the clear evidence of record is that he had "partial knowledge" of the CPM's decision by March 5th. His Complaint, therefore, was filed beyond the 90-day deadline and must be dismissed. However, in the event the Commission chooses to not rely on Mr. Priest's "partial knowledge" standard, the same result may be obtain by relying on the standard articulated by the Constitution and past precedent.

Under D-6.0202, "...a complaint of an irregularity shall be filed within ninety days after the alleged irregularity has occurred...." The phrase "after the irregularity has occurred" being the relevant point. This language is unambiguous and clear and it has been applied time and time again. It is standard practice, for example, to time an irregular action occurring at a meeting of a governing body/council from the date of the meeting, not the date the minutes for that meeting are distributed or approved. As such, the clock started to run against Mr. Priest on the date of the alleged irregular CPM action - not on the date he received notice. Note too that the Constitutional standard for timely filing a complaint is different from other timing provisions in the Rules of Discipline. Under D-6.0306, for example, challenges to the findings of a PJC clerk and moderator must be filed "... within thirty days after receipt of those findings...." Note, further, that CPM is not a PJC. Likewise, under D-13.0200, an appeal in a remedial case must "be filed within forty-five days after a copy of the judgment has been delivered ... to the party appealing." Thus, our Constitution deliberately uses different standards for different circumstances, and the standard that applies in this case is the date the alleged irregularity occurred.

Applying D-6.0202 to this case, the only relevant date was and is March 1st, the date the CPM actually made its decision – the date the alleged irregularity occurred. The 90th day from March 1 was May 30, but since that was a federal holiday, the complaint could still have been filed on May 31 and been timely. The Stated Clerk of the

- Synod has confirmed that the complaint was received on June 9th. And so the complaint was late.

Finally, two cases are particularly instructive on the issue of timeliness. Both cases have been consistently cited by the Presbytery throughout this proceeding – and consistently ignored by Mr. Priest. The first case is *Latimore v. Presbytery of Detroit*, 2010-2 (Synod of the Covenant). Exhibit O. Mr. Priest was one of the named complainants in *Latimore*. Therefore, to the extent that this Commission respects *Stare decisis* (the legal principle whereby judges are obliged to respect precedents established by prior decisions), *Latimore* should be applied to Mr. Priest.

In *Latimore*, the Synod held that a complaint filed one (1) day late was untimely and could not be accepted. The alleged irregularity occurred at a Presbytery meeting. In determining whether the complaint was timely, the Synod calculated the 90-day deadline from the date of that meeting – and not from the date of some writing (e.g., the minutes of the meeting). Moreover, Mr. Priest never claimed that the clock started when he received notice of the Presbytery's decision. None of the complainants in *Latimore*, including Mr. Priest, challenged the Synod's decision dismissing the case.

The second notable case is 2005, PJC 218-7, *Jackson v. Session of Cordova Presbyterian Church*. In *Jackson*, an investigating committee drafted and mailed out a decision memorandum. The memorandum was undated, which prevented this Commission from knowing the actual date of the committee's decision. A decision date (i.e., the date the irregularity occurred) was inferred, however, based on the conclusion that the decision could only have been made on or before the day the memorandum was postmarked. Certainly, the Commission could have relied on the date Jackson received the decision – which is what Mr. Priest would have the Commission do now. But that is not what happened. In fact, the receipt date and/or Mr. Jackson's "partial knowledge" date for the letter was not even mentioned in the decision. Instead, this Commission inferred a *decision* date based on the available evidence and it then counted out the relevant time period. Jackson's complaint was then found to have been untimely. Curiously, the Presbytery has cited to *Jackson* in every paper it has filed in this matter, and Mr. Priest has never addressed its relevance.

A couple of points distinguish this case from *Jackson*. Neither point favors Mr. Priest. The first point is that, unlike the undated memorandum in *Jackson*, **the March 10th letter relied on by Mr. Priest clearly referenced the CPM's March 1st decision.** Mr. Priest, therefore, cannot claim that he was not aware of the decision date when he received the letter. The second point is that the Session of Calvary, Mr. Priest's own Church, managed to file a complaint with the Synod within the 90-day period. The session's complaint was rejected for other reasons, but it still stands as strong evidence that Mr. Priest could have timely filed the complaint in this case.

In his brief Mr. Priest confuses the notice standard required of judicial commission decisions with the decision date standard required of deliberative bodies. Even worse, if accepted by this Commission, Mr. Priest's standard would render the timeliness question essentially meaningless because all a complainant need then do is

deny their knowledge of the irregularity until they are ready to file. His arguments should be rejected and the decision of the SPJC on timeliness should be affirmed.

The Complaint Does Not State A Claim Upon Which Relief Could Be Granted

Even if the allegations in the complaint are taken as true, the complaint failed to state a claim. Mr. Priest argues that the Presbytery's Stated Clerk "referred" Ms. Azar's letter to the CPM, but he ignores that fact that the letter was jointly addressed to COM and CPM. He then accuses the Presbytery of having engaged in a disciplinary process, but overlooks that he was nevertheless granted (and exercised) significant rights during that process. It is well established that a CPM may appoint a task force to investigate allegations made against a candidate. See 2004, 217-1 *Hope v. Pby of San Francisco*. The *Hope* decision is particularly relevant because there, as here, the CPM "... appointed a task force to investigate concerns about the candidate's ability to resolve conflicts..." See also *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, 10th ed. 480 (Cambridge, Mass.: Perseus Publishing, 2000) ("A committee can appoint a subcommittee, which are responsible to and report to the committee and not to the assembly.") In a nutshell, Mr. Priest's real complaint is not that he wasn't granted substantive rights. No, his real complaint was that he simply did not like the CPM's decision.

The CPM did not need to resort to the Rules of Discipline to investigate and exercise oversight of Mr. Priest when considering his fitness for ministry, because our Constitution and numerous GAPJC decisions make clear that the CPM inherently has that authority. See e.g. 1997, 210-2 *Bevenssee v. Pby of New Brunswick* (upholding Presbytery removal of inquirer from roles for not complying with counseling requirement mandated by CPM). The CPM did investigate Mr. Priest, but that investigation was not a disciplinary investigation. Rather, the CPM conducted an *administrative* investigation of Mr. Priest in accordance with the CPM's constitutionally mandated duty to provide oversight of candidates under its care. See former G-14.0412. During that investigation and subsequent hearing, Mr. Priest was treated with fundamental fairness. He was supplied with copies of relevant documents and had a month to review them. He was granted a right to counsel. And, both he and his counsel were afforded the opportunity to speak on his behalf. Mr. Priest was not able to cross-examine a witness - but then no witnesses were called at the hearing. Moreover, a CPM is not given the power to compel the attendance of such witnesses in the first place! Further, the documents provided to Mr. Priest identified the people who were interviewed by the CPM. If Mr. Priest wanted to talk with those people, *he had a month to do it*.

Mr. Priest believes, strongly but incorrectly, that the CPM hearing was a disciplinary hearing. The March 1 hearing was NOT a hearing on a judicial complaint. That the term "hearing" was used to describe what occurred is also in point of fact in full conformity with RONR (10th ed.), p. 483, which says,

When a committee is to make substantive recommendations or decisions on an important matter, it should give members of the society an opportunity to appear before it and present their views on the subject at a time scheduled by the committee. Such a meeting is usually called a

hearing. During actual deliberations³ of the committee, only committee members have the right to be present.

Id.

This is exactly how and why the Committee on Preparation for Ministry meeting was conducted in the way it was, to distinguish it from a disciplinary hearing.

Mr. Priest also used two terms from civil law: *substantive due process*, and *ultra vires*. Substantive due process describes secular civil rights given to U.S. Citizens by the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution. The Presbyterian Church does not give these rights to its members: members are instead guaranteed *fundamental fairness*. *Gaddie, et al. v. Pby of Whitewater Valley*, Remedial Case 205-9, General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission (1993).

The term *ultra vires* is used in civil law where an act was taken that was beyond the scope of the legal power of a person or body. Mr. Priest concedes, however, that the CPM had both the power and the responsibility to determine his fitness for ministry. See e.g., Exhibit D at 19, ln. 3 – 9. Having a court reporter make a transcript did not transform the hearing into a disciplinary proceeding. Rather it was a decision (a wise one it turns out) of the Presbytery to prepare a transcript of the hearing. Allowing Mr. Priest an advocate is simply required of all such hearings.

The Presbytery of Detroit also asserts that no relief can be granted because Mr. Priest has stated no violation of the Book of Order, as required by 2006, PJC 217-1, *Hope v. Pby of San Francisco*. Furthermore, the Book of Order grants the CPM the full authority and discretion to decide matters of readiness before recommending Presbytery declare a person ready to receive a call. G-14.0401; G-14.0411; G-14.0412; G-14.0450. Since the CPM has this discretion, its decision cannot be overruled except in cases where there has been an abuse of discretion. *Lightner v. the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee*, 1983; *Jackson v. the Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley*, 1996; *Leslie v. Session, First Church, Manhattan, KS.*, 2002. Since no abuse of discretion has been alleged, no relief can be granted.

This Commission Does Not Have Jurisdiction To Hear the Complaint

A remedial case is one in which an irregularity or a delinquency of a lower governing body ... may be corrected by a higher governing body. D-2.0202 (*emphasis added*). Mr. Priest has not alleged any action by a lower governing body. The only action alleged was that of the CPM, which – as the executive committee of this Commission has already pointed out - is not a governing body. In addition, to the extent Mr. Priest objected to the actions of the CPM, his avenue of appeal – again as suggested by the executive committee - was to the floor of Presbytery – not this Commission. Therefore this Commission does not have jurisdiction to hear the complaint.

There can be no dispute that the CPM, as a committee of Presbytery, is not a governing body. There is also no dispute that the complaint focused exclusively on actions taken by the CPM. This limited factual scope in the complaint is wholly attributable to that fact that Mr. Priest never took his concerns regarding the CPM to the floor of the presbytery even though, as discussed *infra*, he was fully aware that that avenue was available to him. As a result, the Presbytery has never had occasion to address or otherwise act on Mr. Priest's concerns, or even know about them save for the filing of the complaints by Mr. Priest and his session against the Presbytery with the Synod.

Instead Mr. Priest takes the position that the CPM took a "completed" or "final" action, and it therefore was acting as the Presbytery. He concludes this by claiming that the CPM was acting for Presbytery to make "'final' oversight decisions as to 'enrolled' members subject to its jurisdiction," therefore making the CPM equal to Presbytery. And, this is key, to prove his assertion Mr. Priest points to ... absolutely nothing. No Constitutional provision. No rule. No case law. No authority whatsoever. At least in the Synod below he sought to revive his meritless claim by alleging that since he was enrolled as a candidate and under the jurisdiction of the CPM for purposes of preparation for ministry, it is the Presbytery that must be the respondent. Here, he fails to make even that claim.

The action taken by the CPM on March 1 was not final. The issue under consideration was Mr. Priest's fitness for ministry and the final decision on that question was not made until months later when Mr. Priest was actually approved for final assessment. No, the CPM vote at the hearing was merely one of many preliminary decisions made in the course of its responsibilities to guide Mr. Priest as he prepared for ordained ministry pursuant to the former G-14.0405 and G-14.0512. The CPM action directed Mr. Priest to do additional things to prepare himself. A "final" action would have been a decision to report to the Presbytery that the Complainant had passed his final assessment (which it eventually did) and was ready to receive a call. G-14.-0450. Or make recommendation to Presbytery that be removed from the roll. G-14.0463. Since the supervision of a CPM over a candidate is a continuing process, its decisions regarding preparation for ministry in that process are not final and are not reviewable by a higher governing body.

Moreover, and this too is key, if Mr. Priest really had a problem with the CPM, and the procedure the CPM used to investigate his fitness for ministry, then he had a clear avenue of appeal to the floor of presbytery. Indeed, Mr. Priest personally (or through Calvary's commissioner(s)) could have requested that Presbytery (by way of a motion from the floor) grant him some, if not all, of the remedies he demanded in this Complaint. But that approach was apparently not something that Mr. Priest wanted to try. See, e.g., Exhibit I at 22, wherein Mr. Priest's counsel argued:

This committee has the power and the right to say whether he should ever be ordained. You can do it in a number of ways and you can say, no, he always has the right to go to presbytery and challenge their decision. But where does that get him if he does that, what is the

taste in your mouth, what is the future, how are we working together if we go that route?

Exhibit I, at 22, ll. 14 – 19 (*emphasis added*).

This statement by Mr. Priest's counsel to the CPM proves the Presbytery's case. Mr. Priest has consistently refused to address this statement in this briefs, and his counsel worked very hard to dodge it during the hearing before the Synod. But the point is clear - had Mr. Priest taken the basic step of appealing the CPM's decision to the floor of Presbytery, and had Presbytery then failed (in his mind) to act appropriately, he would then be able to point to at least SOME action by a lower governing body with which to vest this Commission with jurisdiction. But that is not what happened here. What happened (and continues to happen) here is that Mr. Priest is trying to use this Commission and the judicial process to circumvent standard parliamentary procedure, the Presbytery's wide discretion to considering the worthiness of candidates for ministry, and the Constitution. Mr. Priest's efforts should not be rewarded.

CONCLUSION

For all the above reasons, the decisions of the Moderator and Clerk should be sustained on the issue of standing, and the decision of the Synod should be affirmed on the three remaining preliminary questions.

Committee of Counsel for the Presbytery of Detroit:

Mark Schneider by *MNK*

Date: July 9, 2012

Mark Schneider

Elizabeth Rice by *MNK*

Date: July 9, 2012

Elizabeth Rice

Exhibit A

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

PRESBYTERY OF CINCINNATI PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT PRESBYTERY OF EASTMINSTER
 PRESBYTERY OF LAKE HURON PRESBYTERY OF LAKE MICHIGAN PRESBYTERY OF MACKINAC PRESBYTERY OF MAUMEE VALLEY
 PRESBYTERY OF MIAMI VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF MUSKINGUM VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF SCIOTO VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF THE WESTERN RESERVE

August 19, 2011

Mr. Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
 22668 Beckenham Court
 Novi, MI 48374

The Rev. Edward H. Koster, Stated Clerk
 The Presbytery of Detroit
 117 N. First Street, Suite 111
 Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Re: Remedial Case 2011-04, Thomas J. Priest, Jr., vs. the Presbytery of Detroit

Dear Mr. Priest and Rev. Koster:

On Wednesday, August 9, 2011, I, as Moderator and the Rev. Doris Arnett Whitaker, Clerk, of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission met by conference call to examine documents provided by the Complainant and the Presbytery's Committee of Counsel for the above-captioned matter.

Pursuant to Book of Order, Rules of Discipline, D-6.0305a, the SPJC lacks jurisdiction to consider Remedial Case 2011-04; Pursuant to Book of Order, Rules of Discipline, D-6.0305b, the complainant lacks standing to file the case; Pursuant to Book of Order, Rules of Discipline, D-6.0305c, the complaint was not timely filed; and pursuant to Book of Order, Rules of Discipline, D-6.0305d, the complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

Since all four Preliminary Questions have been answered in the negative, the officers of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant have determined that this case cannot be accepted.

If any party to this case or any member of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission wishes to challenge the findings of the moderator and clerk of the PJC they may do so under the provisions of the Rules of Discipline D-6.0306. Such challenges should be sent to me at the synod office address.

Very truly yours,

Georgana Taggart, Moderator
 Synod of the Covenant
 Permanent Judicial Commission

1911 Indianwood Circle – Suite B, Maumee, Ohio 43537
 419-754-4050 800-848-1030 (Michigan and Ohio) Fax 419-754-4051 www.synodofthecovenant.org

Exhibit B

THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
of
THE SYNOD OF THE COVENANT
of
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

COPY

CHALLENGE TO DECISION OF MODERATOR AND CLERK

Ruling Elder Thomas Priest)
)
v.) Remedial Case No. 2011-04
)
Presbytery of Detroit)
)

----- [ARRIVAL STATEMENT] -----

This is a remedial case which has come before this Permanent Judicial Commission as a result of a complaint filed by the above named Complainant against the Presbytery of Detroit, Respondent. The SPJC Moderator and Clerk determined that all four of the preliminary questions were not answered in the affirmative. Challenges to this determination were received from the complainant and a member of the SPJC.

----- [PERSONS PRESENT DURING CONFERENCE CALL] -----

In addition to members of the Permanent Judicial Commission, the following parties participated on the live conference call: Thomas Priest (Complainant), Archibald Wallace (Counsel for the Complainant), Mark Schneider (Committee of Counsel, Presbytery of Detroit)

----- [PROCEEDURE] -----

The Complainant and Counsel were given six minutes to give oral evidence in addition to a written brief. Members of the SPJC were granted time for questions. The Respondent was given six minutes to give oral evidence in addition to a written brief. Members of the SPJC were granted time for questions. Both parties were given time for rebuttal.

--- [PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS] ---

- D-6.0305a. *Jurisdiction - the council has jurisdiction;*
After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
1 aye/6 nays/ 0 abstentions. The question was answered in the negative
- D-6.0305b. *Standing - the complainant has standing to file the case;*
After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
6 ayes/0 nays/ 1 abstention. The question was answered in the affirmative.

Exhibit B

- D-6.0305c. Timely Filed - the complaint was timely filed; and
After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
3 ayes/3 nays/ 1 abstention. The question was answered in the negative*
- D-6.0305d. Relief Can Be Granted - the complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted.
After discussion/debate, the SPJC voted on this question with the following vote:
3 aye/4 nays/ 0 abstentions. The question was answered in the negative*

----- [ORDER] -----

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

This case is dismissed. (D-6.0305)

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit report this Decision to the Presbytery at its first meeting, that the Presbytery enter the full Decision upon its minutes, and that an excerpt from those minutes showing entry of the Decision be sent to the Stated Clerk of the Synod. (D-7.0701)

----- [ABSENCES AND NON-PARTICIPANTS] -----

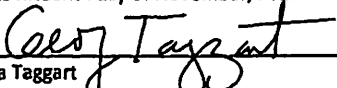
Doyll Andrews (member of the Permanent Judicial Commission) was present for argument of the complaint, but took no part in the decision

AND

Johanna Jozwiak-Stover, Jennifer Saad, and Rebecca Tollefson, members of the Permanent Judicial Commission, were not present and took no part in the proceedings.

----- [DATE] -----


Dated this fifteenth day of November, 2011

[signed] 
Georgana Taggart
Moderator, Permanent Judicial Commission

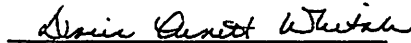
[signed] 
Doris Arnett Whitaker
Clerk, Permanent Judicial Commission

Exhibit B**CERTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL FORM CERTIFICATES**

We certify that the foregoing is a full and correct copy of the decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), in Remedial Case No.2011-04, Thomas Priest v. Presbytery of Detroit, made and announced during conference call, on November 14, 2011.



Georgana Taggart, Moderator,
Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of Covenant



Doris Arnett Whitaker, Clerk,
Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant

I certify that I did transmit a certified copy of the foregoing to the following persons by certified mail, return receipt requested, depositing it in the United States mail at Dayton, Ohio on November 15, 2011:

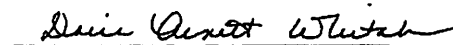
Thomas Priest, Complainant
22668 Beckenham Court
Novi, MI 48374

Archibald Wallace, Counsel for the Complaint
25 Hunting Ridge Road
Manakin Sabot, VA 23103

Edward Koster, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of Detroit
117 N. First Street, Suite 111
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Mark Schneider, Committee of Counsel
Presbytery of Detroit
117 N. First Street, Suite 111
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

David Bartley, Stated Clerk
Synod of the Covenant
1911 Indianwood Circle, Suite B
Maumee, OH 43537



Doris Arnett Whitaker, Clerk
Permanent Judicial Commission of the
Synod of the Covenant

Exhibit C

**PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

Thomas Priest, Jr.,)
Appellant/Appellee (Complainant),)
v.)
Presbytery of Detroit,)
Appellee/Appellant (Respondent).)

Preliminary Order
Remedial Cases GA2011-109 and
GA2011-110

These remedial cases come before the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission (GAPJC or this Commission) on appeals filed by Appellant/Appellee, Thomas Priest, Jr., and by Appellee/Appellant, Presbytery of Detroit, from a Decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant (SPJC) rendered on November 15, 2011.

In its November 15, 2011 Decision, which was a hearing on Preliminary Questions, the SPJC determined that the Appellant/Appellee had standing to file the Complaint, but that it did not have jurisdiction over the matter, the Complaint was not timely filed, and it did not state a claim upon which relief could be granted.

The Appellant/Appellee filed an Appeal (which is case GA2011-109) challenging the latter three determinations.

As an appeal from the decision of a synod permanent judicial commission, Remedial Case GA2011-109 is properly before the GAPJC, was timely filed, and lists one or more of the grounds for appeal contained in D-8.0105. Upon examination of the papers as required by D-8.0301, however, the Executive Committee (EC) of the GAPJC determines that the Appellant/Appellee did not have standing to file the *original* Complaint.

The Appellant/Appellee is a Candidate for ordination under the presbytery's care and was not enrolled as a member at any meeting of the presbytery at which the matter at issue has been addressed; furthermore, the decision complained against is not an irregularity or delinquency of the presbytery itself, but rather a decision of its Committee on Preparation for Ministry.

The Rules of Discipline explicitly provide a means by which actions of the General Assembly's entities can be directly challenged. But no such provision exists for the other councils of the church. In fact, G-9.0505a of the *Book of Order* in effect at the time of the alleged irregularity states that when an administrative commission acts with delegated authority, its decision "shall be the action of the appointing governing body from the time of its completion by the commission and the announcement, where relevant, of the action to parties affected by it." That provision then notes that "a governing body may rescind or amend an action of an administrative commission in the same way actions of the governing body may be modified."

Exhibit C


Practice has determined that the proper method for challenging the action of an entity of a council other than the General Assembly is through a motion to rescind or amend the action, made by a person with standing to offer such a motion at a meeting of the council.

Since the EC finds that the Appellant/Appellee did not have standing to file the original Complaint, it determines that he does not have standing to file the Appeal, even though he was a party in the original Complaint. The matter is therefore dismissed.

In light of this dismissal, the EC further determines that matter GA2011-110 (which is a challenge from the Appellee/Appellant, the Presbytery of Detroit to the SPJC's determination that the Appellant/Appellee had standing to file the Complain) is rendered moot unless this Preliminary Order is challenged.

The attention of the parties is called to D-8.0302a., which reads: "If a challenge is made to the findings of the moderator and clerk within thirty days after receipt of those findings, either by a party to the case or by a member of the permanent judicial commission, opportunity shall be provided to present evidence and argument on the finding in question."

Dated the 31st day of January, 2012.



Gregory A. Goodwiller, Clerk
Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly

Exhibit D

**PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

Thomas Priest, Jr.,) Appellant/Appellee (Complainant),) v.) Presbytery of Detroit,) Appellee/Appellant (Respondent).)	Order for Briefing Schedule Remedial Cases GA2011-109 and GA2011-110
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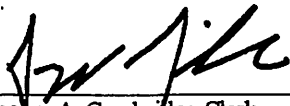
On March 26, 2012, the Executive Committee (EC) of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly (GAPJC or this Commission) ordered a single hearing on three matters: 1) the Appellant/Appellee's challenge to its determination on preliminary questions, 2) the substance of the Appeal filed by the Appellant/Appellee (which is a challenge to the preliminary question determinations of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant (SPJC) on jurisdiction, timeliness, and whether the Complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted), and 3) the substance of the Appeal filed by Appellee/Appellant (which is a challenge to the SPJC's determination that the Appellant/Appellee has standing to file the Complaint). The EC now, therefore, issues the following briefing schedule for this hearing:

Appellant/Appellee Brief: On or before June 7, 2012, the Appellant/Appellee, Thomas Priest, Jr. (Priest), shall submit a brief on all matters in his original Notice of Appeal. This brief shall *also* include the matter of his challenge to the EC's determination on standing.

Appellee/Appellant Brief: On or before June 7, 2012, the Appellee/Appellant, the Presbytery of Detroit (Detroit), shall submit a brief on standing (as the original Appellant in that matter).

Response Briefs: On or before July 9, 2012, if they so desire, either or both parties may submit responses to the briefs of their opposing parties.

Dated the 13th day of May, 2012.



 Gregory A. Goodwiller, Clerk
 Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly

Exhibit E

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
SYNOD OF THE COVENANT
PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION**

THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.,

Complainant

Case No 2011-04

v.

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT,

Respondent.

**ANSWER
OF THE PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT**

The Committee of Counsel of The Presbytery of Detroit submits the following answer to the complaint of the irregularity alleged in the complaint of Thomas H. Priest, Jr., as follows:

1. Allegation: Thomas H. Priest, Jr., a member of Calvary Presbyterian Church, Detroit, Michigan, and an enrolled Candidate of the Presbytery of Detroit complains to the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant concerning certain irregularities committed against him by the Presbytery of Detroit, acting by and through its agent, the Committee on the Preparation For Ministry (CPM), in that on March 1, 2011 the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting by and for the Presbytery, conducted a "Hearing" against Thomas Priest on the, "Form 26, Accusation By Individual As Statement of Offense," of Ruth Azar dated April 21, 2010 and submitted under D-10.0102a of the Discipline of the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with letter attached.

Response: Respondent admits that Thomas H. Priest ("Priest") is a member of Calvary Presbyterian Church, Detroit. Respondent admits that Priest is an enrolled candidate with the Presbytery of Detroit. Respondent denies that an irregularity was committed against Priest for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated. Respondent denies that the Presbytery of Detroit has taken any action against Priest for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated.

Respondent denies that the Committee on the Preparation For Ministry "conducted a "Hearing" against Thomas Priest on the, "Form 26, Accusation By Individual As Statement of Offense," of Ruth Azar dated April 21, 2010 and submitted under D-10.0102a of the Discipline of the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)" for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated.

Exhibit E

Respondent further notes that the complaint omitted the letter of Ruth Azar dated April 20, 2010 and addressed to CPM and the Committee on Ministry, which letter included exactly the same allegations as Exhibit A of the complaint. The April 20th letter is attached as Exhibit Q (Respondent is lettering its exhibits starting from where the Complaint left off)

- 2. Allegation: While the CPM labeled the March 1, 2011 proceeding a Hearing as to the Suitability for Ministry of Thomas Priest, the entire proceeding was instead a Disciplinary Hearing against Thomas H. Priest. On March 18, 2011 CPM mailed notice of its decision to Mr. Priest, saying in essence Mr. Priest had abused his authority as Moderator of the Presbytery, had exhibited prejudice and bias against others, and had routinely used methods of confrontation and intimidation to get his way.**

Response: Respondent admits that the March 1st hearing was a hearing as to the suitability of Priest for ministry. Respondent denies as untrue or mistakenly stated that the March 1st hearing was a disciplinary hearing against Priest. Respondent admits that CPM mailed out a letter dated March 10th on or about March 18th. Respondent denies as untrue or mistakenly stated that it was a "notice of its decision" since Priest had received actual notice of the decision at least as early as March 2nd, and certainly no later than March 5, 2011. See e.g., Exhibits P and Q. Respondent notes that the March 10th letter speaks for itself, and otherwise denies as untrue or mistakenly stated the remainder of this allegation and leaved Complainant to his proofs.

- 3. Allegation: At the March 1, 2011 CPM Meeting Mr. Priest (1) objected to the hearing claiming a disciplinary hearing by CPM was ultra vires, (2) cited the lack of fundamental fairness (procedural and substantive due process) in the conduct of the hearing, and (3) objected to the impropriety of the proceeding because it subjected Mr. Priest to double jeopardy, since a separate PJC disciplinary investigation of the complaint of Mrs. Azar had already been held, following which that Investigative Committee declined to initiate Disciplinary proceedings against Mr. Priest.**

Response: The hearing transcript, Exhibit R, speaks for itself regarding objections made by Complainant. Respondent denies that the objections and this allegation have any merit for the reason that they are untrue or mistakenly stated. Any objections, for example, ignored the unambiguous provisions of G-14.0411 that granted Complainant's Session jurisdiction over disciplinary matters, but also granted the CPM jurisdiction over Complainant to determine fitness for ministry.

- 4. Allegation: The decision of CPM was mailed March 18, 2011, and was received on March 21, 2011 by Mr. Priest.**

Response: Respondent admits a summary of the CPM's March 1st decision was transmitted by letter dated March 10, 2011. Respondent does not have personal knowledge as to when Complainant received that letter, and so denies same as

Exhibit E

untrue or mistakenly stated, and leaves Complainant to his proofs. Respondent notes that Complainant received actual notice of the decision at least as early as March 2, 2011 and certainly no later than March 5, 2011 (see Exhibits P and Q), and also that by virtue of the letter Complainant was aware that the CPM had made its decision on March 1, 2011. Furthermore, had Complainant remained at the meeting of the CPM until the decision was made rather than departing, he would have been notified of the decision immediately and in person.

5. Allegation: It is from this decision that Mr. Priest brings this Remedial Complaint, since the actions complained of are final under the delegated authority of the Presbytery to CPM and since the decision of CPM has not and will not be subject to Presbytery approval or disapproval at any subsequent meeting of the Presbytery.

Response: Respondent denies that the actions of CPM were final for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated. Complainant could have taken this matter to the floor of Presbytery and moved that the Presbytery direct that CPM withdraw its decision.

6. Allegation: Mr. Priest states the following as Irregularities in the Actions taken by CPM:

Response: Respondent answers the claims of Mr. Priest as follows:

7. Allegation: 1. The CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting as agent for and on behalf of the Presbytery of Detroit, conducted a disciplinary hearing against Mr. Priest on March 1, 2011 in violation of D-10.0100, et seq., of the Book of Order which empowers only permanent judicial commissions to hear and decide disciplinary charges.

Response: Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and leaves Complainant to his proofs.

8. Allegation: 2. The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit improperly referred the Complaint to the CPM or the Presbytery of Detroit for investigation and action in contravention of D-10.0103 of the Book of Order.

Response: Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue. The complaint referred to was addressed to the CPM and the Committee on Ministry. The Stated Clerk merely told the Committee on Ministry that it had no jurisdiction, and the CPM that it had jurisdiction over Mr. Priest for the purposes of deciding fitness for ministry.

9. Allegation: 3. The CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting as agent for and on behalf of the Presbytery of Detroit, formed an Investigative Committee to consider the disciplinary charges and present its conclusions at a formal hearing.

Exhibit E

At the time of the March 1, 2001 Hearing CPM was aware that the same charges had been referred to an Investigative Committee of the Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church, which had investigated the charges and declined to initiate formal disciplinary charges against Mr. Priest.

Response: Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and leaves Complainant to his proofs.

9. **Allegation: 4. The Hearing of March 1, 2011 was Irregularly conducted in that Mr. Priest was denied the fundamental fairness guaranteed throughout the Book of Order for such proceedings in that he was not allowed:**

- a. to confront his accuser;
- b. to call any witnesses;
- c. to cross examine the Investigators, the accusers or any of the other witnesses; and
- d. to know what the accuser or any witnesses said or see what any witness might have provided to the Investigating Committee; and

Response: Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and leaves Complainant to his proofs. The hearing transcript, Exhibit R, speaks for itself concerning what Complainant was and was not allowed to do. Respondent submits, however, the CPM treated Complainant in a fundamentally fair manner.

10. **Allegation: 5. The findings of CPM of March 1, 2011, while said not to be disciplinary in nature, were in fact disciplinary and, as such, were beyond the scope of authority of CPM (*ultra vires*).**

Response: Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

11. **Allegation: 1. During the calendar year 2009 Elder Thomas H. Priest of Calvary Presbyterian Church, Detroit, Michigan, served as Moderator of the Presbytery of Detroit. During that year Mr. Priest was also a student at Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit Michigan, working toward an M. Div. Degree, which he was awarded later that year. On June 23, 2009 the Presbytery, after examination, enrolled Mr. Priest as a Candidate for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament at its June Presbytery Meeting.**

Response: Admitted.

12. **Allegation: 2. As a part of one of Mr. Priest's classes in 2009 at Seminary, Mr. Priest evaluated two urban ministry centers in Detroit (the Barnabas Mission and Second Mile Center) using Ronald Peters,' *Urban Ministry***

Exhibit E

and John M. Perkins' *Beyond Charity* as guides. Mr. Priest's conclusions were that the Barnabas Mission was a mission of reconciliation and empowerment, under the *Peters'* guidelines, while the Second Mile Center would only qualify as a charitable mission. Mr. Priest conducted his field evaluation at the Second Mile Center on February 18, 2009. After completing his evaluations, Mr. Priest shared his findings with his Seminary class on March 9, 2009, with the Presbytery's Metropolitan Urban Ministry Team on March 12, 2009, and with members of the two centers involved on March 16, 2009.

Response: The cited documents speak for themselves. Further, Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs. Further answering, Respondent states that even if true, the allegation is not material to the complaint.

13. **Allegation: 3.** On March 2, 2009, Mr. Priest, while serving as a member of the Presbytery's Coordinating Cabinet, participated in the Cabinet's consideration and approval of a recommendation that the Presbytery call Ruth Azar as Executive Director of Second Mile Creek. There is nothing in the minutes of that meeting to suggest Mr. Priest objected in any way to the call. On June 23, 2009 the Presbytery approved the call of Ms. Azar to the Second Mile Center after a spirited effort to postpone the vote. Mr. Priest Moderated the Presbytery Meeting where the call was ultimately approved and did not participate in the discussions about postponement.

Response: The cited documents speak for themselves. Further, Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs. Moreover, Respondent states that even if true, the allegation is not material to the complaint.

14. **Allegation: 4.** At the end of 2009 Mr. Priest ended his term as Moderator of the Presbytery. In October 2009, just before Mr. Priest's term as Moderator ended, the Coordinating Cabinet received a Report from Ed Koster, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, about the way the Presbytery had handled the call of Ms. Azar to be Executive Director of Second Mile Center. The report was intended as response to the questions raised by some within the Presbytery as to whether the decision of the Presbytery to call Ms. Azar in June 2009 was proper or not. The solution suggested was to discharge Ms. Azar and go through the call process again. No action was taken on the issue before the end of 2009.

Response: Admitted. The cited documents speak for themselves. Further, Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs. Further answering, Respondent states that even if true, the allegation is not material to the complaint.

15. **Allegation: 5.** As an elder commissioner to the Presbytery but no longer Moderator and while still a member of the Coordinating Cabinet, Mr. Priest

Exhibit E

on April 5, 2010 advised the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of his intent to file a Motion with the Presbytery asking it to rescind its earlier action regarding the called position at Second Mile Center. A copy of the Motion was to be a part of the Presbytery Packet sent to all commissioners and was to be voted on at the April 27, 2010 Presbytery Meeting. On April 12, 2010, the Presbytery Executive emailed a copy of Mr. Priest's Motion to Ms. Ruth Azar to give her a "heads up" that the Motion was coming. Two days later, on April 14, 2010, Ms. Azar and two others responded, asking the Presbytery Executive what "charges" could be brought against Mr. Priest for what they perceived to be harassment by Mr. Priest. The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery responded the same day, saying that charges could be brought under the Discipline against Mr. Priest, if Ms. Azar wished and, because Mr. Priest was under the care of Presbytery, a complaint could be made to CPM.

Response: The cited documents speak for themselves. Further, Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs. Further answering, Respondent states that even if true, the allegation is not material to the complaint.

16. Allegation: 6. On April 21, 2010 Ms. Azar submitted a "Form No. 26, Accusation By Individual As Statement of Offense against Mr. Priest, citing D-10.0102a with letter attached as basis for the accusation (together her written statement), thereby invoking the procedure to be used when initiating a Disciplinary Case against a person under the jurisdiction of a governing body. See Exhibit A attached. In the Disciplinary Accusation Ms. Azar claimed Mr. Priest committed the offenses of racism, discrimination, and division against her and others at the Second Mile Center. Interestingly, the accusations related to the one day visit of Mr. Priest on February 18, 2009 to the Second Mile Center. No explanation was given in the Written Statement of Ms. Azar why the accusation had lain dormant for fourteen months. The Disciplinary Accusation was addressed to Rhonda Favors, Clerk of Session of Mr. Priest's home church and to Edward Koster, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery. The Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church immediately appointed an Investigating Committee as required by D-10.0201. Edward Koster, the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery sent the Charge to Presbytery's CPM and advised CPM how it could proceed with its own investigation without having to defer to the Presbyter's Permanent Judicial Commission or the Session of Mr. Priest's home church. Mr. Koster did not refer the Disciplinary Accusation to an Investigating Committee of the Presbytery as required by D-10.0201 of the Book of Order

Response: Respondent observes that on April 20, 2010, Ms. Azar transmitted a letter address to the COM and CPM that included exactly the same accusations set forth in the Form No. 26, dated April 21, 2010. See Exhibit O. Respondent notes further that a copy of the April 20, 2011 letter was not attached to the complaint. Moreover, Respondent states that even if true, the allegation is not material to the complaint.

Exhibit E

Respondent further denies this allegation as untrue or mistakenly stated – and frankly, patently misleading. The allegation makes a less than veiled allegation that the Stated Clerk conspired to lead the CPM in a process to avoid the Book of Order. Such unsupported and blanket allegations have no place in his church, or any church for that matter. See e.g., Exodus 23:1. The Book of Order is clear that Complainant's Session had jurisdiction over him in disciplinary cases. See G-14.0411. As such, there was no reason for the Stated Clerk to refer the matter to a presbytery investigating committee because the presbytery did not have disciplinary jurisdiction over Complainant. However, that same section, and the one that follows it (G-14.0412) gave the CPM wide discretion to determine (and investigate if necessary) the fitness of an inquirer or candidate for ministry. Indeed the CPM's discretion to investigate, order counseling, and even *remove* a candidate from the rolls (with the consent of Presbytery) has been supported time and time again by decisions of the GAPJC. See e.g., 2004, PJC 217-1 Hope v. Pby. of San Francisco; 1997, PJC 210-2 Bevenssee v. Pby. of New Brunswick; 1993, PJC 205-4 LeTourneau v. Pby. of Twin Cities Area. Respondent notes that, for all of its length, the complaint failed to cite even one (1) decision supporting Complainant's position.

17. Allegation: 7. On April 27, 2010 Mr. Priest's Motion to Rescind was brought to the floor of Presbytery but was not voted upon as to its merits because of procedural rulings. Mr. Priest was not in attendance at the meeting.

Response: The cited documents speak for themselves. Further, Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs. Further, Respondent questions how it could have been Complainant's motion, when he was not in attendance at the meeting? See Exhibit S - SPJC Letter of 9/23/2010 in 2010-2. Moreover, Respondent states that even if true, the allegation is not material to the complaint.

18. Allegation: 8. Ms. Azar's disciplinary charges were the subject of an extensive investigation by Calvary Presbyterian Church's Investigative Committee, including a hearing where Mr. Priest was allowed to address and refute the charges. On February 10, 2011, the Investigative Committee of Calvary Presbyterian Church issued its Conclusion of Investigation, advising that "no charges would be filed." This information was provided Presbytery's CPM, before it began its hearing on March 1, 2011; however, CPM went ahead with its hearing related to the same Charges.

Response: The cited documents speak for themselves. Further, Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs. Still further, on information and belief, Calvary's "extensive" investigation did not include questioning Ms. Azar. Finally, Respondent states that even if true, the allegation is not material to the complaint.

Exhibit E

19. **Allegation: 9.** On May 4, 2010 CPM established its own Investigative Committee and was guided in its investigation by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery. CPM asked the Investigating Committee it appointed to investigate the accusations of Ms. Azar. The Investigating Committee recognized that the approach of CPM could be viewed as violative of the powers granted a CPM by the Book of Order, so the Investigating Committee in its Report of January 18, 2011 took pains to label its actions as advisory only, saying its intended purpose was to advise CPM on issues of Mr. Priest's suitability and not to determine whether or not the Constitution of the PC (USA) was violated. Unfortunately, the stated intent was subverted by a deliberate use of the discipline of the church in a manner not permitted by the Constitution of the PC (USA). The result was the Committee's Report of January 18, 2011. See Exhibit C attached. At no time during its investigation was Mr. Priest given a copy of Ms. Azar's written statement, nor advised what Ms. Azar had said in her presentations to the Committee, nor given any information about the investigation. Subsequently, Mr. Priest was called to an August 9, 2010 meeting with the Investigating Committee where he was asked to discuss his actions on February 18, 2009 in light of the written statement of Ms. Azar. Both before and after the August 9, 2010 meeting the Investigating Committee met with and obtained testimony from other witnesses, some of whom it has not even named to date. None of the materials collected by the Investigating Committee were made available to Mr. Priest. At the end of its work, the Investigative Committee submitted its report dated January 18, 2011 to CPM with conclusions about Mr. Priest's behavior and with recommendations of what he should do to continue under the care of the Presbytery. Among the conclusions the Investigative Committee stated were Mr. Priest's,

1. abuse of his authority as Moderator of the Presbytery;
2. deceit in the identification of himself to the Second Mile Center employees;
3. misuse of his Presbytery office to influence the actions of the Presbytery against Second Mile Center;
4. denial of due process to Second Mile Center in not allowing it be heard regarding his Motion of April 2010;
5. bias against the opinions and experiences of others;
6. racism in his treatment of other racial-ethnic individuals; and,
7. misuse of confrontation and intimidation to achieved his will.

Each of these conclusions has been cited by PJC's across the church as basis for the imposition of discipline upon other minister members of the church. Here, the conclusions were reached without affording Mr. Priest the rights of fundamental fairness. Simply by labeling the proceedings as something other than a disciplinary proceeding. Mr. Priest was called to a Hearing on March 1, 2011 before the whole of CPM, to hear the report and respond to it. CPM advised before the Meeting that it intended on March 1, 2011 to receive the Report of the Investigating Committee of CPM and to act upon it. Mr. Priest was given a copy of the proposed Agenda for the Meeting before the Hearing. This Agenda was

Exhibit E

adopted as the Agenda for that Hearing. See Exhibit N attached. He was not given a copy of the Report until just before the original date of the Hearing¹. In the Agenda adopted, CPM advised Mr. Priest that a court reporter would be present, that Mr. Priest could have an advocate, if he wished, and that there would be a time in the Meeting called the "Hearing Stage." CPM advised at the onset of the Hearing that the Investigative Committee would present its findings and report on the evidence it had collected but could not be subjected to cross examination or direct questioning. CPM also advised that none of the witnesses examined by the Investigative Committee would be present or available for cross examination. The procedure for the day only allowed Mr. Priest to submit his testimony and to argue his defense. CPM advised it intended to vote to adopt the Report but wanted to hear from Mr. Priest before it finally ruled. Inexplicably, the Stated Clerk, who had engineered the way the charges were handled by CPM was allowed to sit in with CPM during its deliberations and to advise CPM as to its actions. Mr. Priest was given time to argue his defense, but it mattered not, because the evidential basis for CPM's action (the evidence behind the Report of January 18, 2011) was unavailable and not disclosed throughout the meeting. On March 11, 2011 Mr. Priest received Notice of the decision of CPM. See Exhibit E attached. Because of this Notice Mr. Priest submits this Complaint to the PJC of the Synod of the Covenant, asking this tribunal to correct the Irregularities listed above through this Remedial Action.

Response: The cited documents speak for themselves. Further, Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs.

Further answering, Respondent notes that the Complainant first appeared before the CPM at the meeting on February 1, 2011 and requested an adjournment so that he could have counsel present. That adjournment was granted (in a showing of fairness), and he appeared again before the CPM on March 1, 2011 with counsel.

RESPONDENT'S RESPONSE TO COMPLAINANT'S ARGUMENTS CONCERNING STANDING

Respondent denies that this Permanent Judicial Commission has jurisdiction to hear this complaint for at least the following reason:

20. Allegation: 1. Complainant has standing to file this Complaint, since he is an elder of Calvary Presbyterian Church (PCUSA), a graduate of Ecumenical Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity Degree and is enrolled under the care of the Presbytery of Detroit as a Candidate to become a Minister of the Word and Sacrament. Because of his enrollment he qualifies as a member of the

Exhibit E

Presbytery. In addition, some of the actions complained of and the conclusions reached purportedly occurred when Mr. Priest served as Moderator of the Presbytery of Detroit and related to his use or misuse of that office. And finally, he is aggrieved by the actions of the Presbytery, acting by and through its agent, the CPM.

Response: Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs.

Complainant does not have standing. Complainant is only eligible to file his complaint if he qualifies under D-6.0202(a)(1)(Jurisdiction based on membership in the presbytery). Complainant, however, fails to qualify under that provision.

In this allegation, Complainant boldly claims that he is a member of presbytery because he is a candidate for ministry. This claim is a manifestly false. It is also expressly contradicted by other allegations in the complaint. Specifically, at paragraph 1, *supra*, Complainant avers that he a member of Calvary. And, at paragraph 18, *supra*, Complainant avers that he was subject (exclusively) to a disciplinary investigation by Calvary (pursuant to the Rules of Discipline). Thus, by his own admission, Complainant is a member of Calvary and not a member of the Presbytery.

Complainant also (noticeably) failed to cite to any authority to support his claim that his status as a candidate endowed him with the privilege of membership in the presbytery. Respondent cites to G-14.0411, which refutes Complainant's claim as that section clearly states that every candidate is subject to the jurisdiction of his or her session for purposes of discipline.

Complainant's status as a candidate does not grant him membership in the presbytery. Therefore, he is not eligible to file the complaint, and this Commission does not have jurisdiction to hear the complaint.

Also, in order for an individual to have standing to file a remedial case against the Presbytery, he or she must have been a commissioner to the meeting at which the alleged irregularity occurred, D-6.0202a.(1). Complainant claims the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, acting as the agent of Presbytery, committed the irregularity. Complainant was not a member of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, and has no standing on his own right to file a remedial action against Committee on Preparation for Ministry or the Presbytery.

21. Allegation: 2. The Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod has jurisdiction to hear this Complaint since it involves the decisions and final actions of the Presbytery, acting by and through its Committee for the Preparation of Ministry taken against a Candidate under the care of the Presbytery. The actions taken by CPM are final actions of the Presbytery

Exhibit E

Because of the Presbytery's designation of CPM to act on its behalf in certain matters without further review or action by the Presbytery.

Response: Respondent denies this allegation for the reason that it is untrue or mistakenly stated, and so leaves Complainant to his proofs.

Respondent also notes that a remedial case is one in which an irregularity or a delinquency of a **lower governing body** ... may be corrected by a higher governing body. D-2.0202 (*emphasis added*). The complaint here did not allege any action by a lower governing body. The only action alleged was that of the CPM, which is not a governing body. Therefore, Respondent respectfully submits that this Commission does not have jurisdiction to hear the complaint.

There can be no dispute that the CPM is not a governing body. There is also no dispute that the complaint focused exclusively on actions taken by the CPM. This limited factual scope in the complaint is wholly attributable to that fact that Complainant never took his concerns regarding the CPM to the floor of the presbytery. As a result, Respondent has never had occasion to address or otherwise act on Complainant's concerns.

In addition, Respondent notes that the action taken by the CPM was not final. It was a decision made in the course of its responsibilities to guide the Complainant as he prepared for ordained ministry pursuant to G-14.0405 and G-14.0512. The action merely directed the Complainant to do additional things to prepare himself. A "final" action would be a decision to report to the Presbytery that the Complainant had passed his final assessment and was ready to receive a call. G-14.-0450. Or make recommendation to Presbytery that be removed from the roll. G-14.0463. Since the supervision of a Committee on Preparation for Ministry over a candidate is a continuing process, its decisions regarding preparation for ministry in that process are not final and are not reviewable by a higher governing body.

If Complainant had a problem with the CPM, and the procedure the CPM used to investigate his fitness for ministry, then Complainant had a clear avenue of appeal to the floor of presbytery. Indeed, Complainant through Calvary's commissioner(s) could have requested from Respondent (by way of a motion from the floor) some, if not all, of the remedies Complainant now demands from this Commission. That, however, was clearly not something that Complainant wanted to do. See, e.g., Exhibit R at 22, wherein Complainant's counsel argued:

This committee has the power and the right to say whether he should ever be ordained. **You can do it in a number of ways and you can say, no, he always has the right to go to presbytery and challenge their decision. But where does that get him if he does that, what is the taste in your mouth, what is the future, how are we working together if we go that route?**

Exhibit E

Exhibit R, at 22, ln. 14 – 19 (*emphasis added*).

Had Complainant taken the basic step of appealing the CPM's decision to the floor of Presbtery, and had Respondent then failed (in Complainant's mind) to act appropriately, Complainant would then be able to point to at least SOME action by a lower governing body with which to vest this Commission with jurisdiction. But that is not what happened here. What happened (and is happening) here is that Complainant is attempting to use this Commission and the judicial process to circumvent standard parliamentary procedure, Respondent's wide discretion in considering the worthiness of candidates for ministry, and the Constitution. Complainant's efforts should not be rewarded.

Finally, if at any time the Commission concludes that Respondent did not form a disciplinary committee in accordance with the Rules of Discipline then this case should be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction. The inappropriate formation of a disciplinary committee in violation of the Book of Order is the only Constitutional violation alleged in the complaint. Absent that allegation, all that remains are questions of policy. However, under prevailing case law, this Judicial Commission only has jurisdiction to hear violations of the Constitution, not violations of policy. See e.g., See 2004, PJC 217-1 Hope v. Pby of San Francisco.

22. Allegation: 3. The Complaint is timely in that the Complainant seeks to remedy actions taken March 1, 2011, of which he was not notified until notice was mailed to him on March 10, 2011 and received by him on March 11, 2011.

Respondent denies this allegation as untrue. The complaint was ten (10) days late. Complainant cannot rely on the March 10th date of the CPM's letter, the mailing date of that letter, or even his receipt of that letter to determine whether the complaint was timely filed. The only relevant date was and is March 1st, the date the CPM made its decision. And the complaint here was filed more than ninety days after that date.

Under D-6.0202, "...a complaint of an irregularity shall be filed within ninety days after the alleged irregularity has occurred...". The phrase "after the irregularity has occurred" being the relevant point (and one left unreferenced by Complainant's pleading). This language makes clear that the clock starts running on the date of an alleged irregular action, and not on the date an allegedly aggrieved party received notice. Where things otherwise, the deadline for filing would be never ending because a complaining party could secure more time by claiming that he or she was unaware of the irregular action. The purpose of filing in our Constitution "is to prevent controversies with the church from going on and on..." 1994, PJC 206-7, Bayley v. Pby of Minn. Valleys. A notice requirement would undermine that purpose. Moreover, it must be pointed out that other (unrelated) provisions in the Book of Order do include a notice

Exhibit E

requirement. D-6.0306, for example, allows for a challenge to the finding of a PJC clerk and moderator "... within thirty days after receipt of those findings...". Therefore, had the denomination desired to include a notice provision in D-6.0202, it would have done so.

The Stated Clerk of this Synod has confirmed that the complaint in this case was received by his office on June 9, 2011. Even giving Complainant the benefit of a March 2nd start date (omitting March 1st), the complaint was ten (10) days late. Indeed, the last day the complaint could have been filed by Respondent's count was May 31, 2011 (the actual 90th day having been Memorial Day).

But, let's say for sake of argument, that Complainant was entitled to a notice requirement. Even under that requirement the complaint was untimely because Complainant had actual notice of the CPM's decision by March 2, 2011. Specifically, on that date Complainant had an approximately 40 minute telephone conversation about the CPM decision with Sam Clark – a co-moderator of CPM. Then, on March 3, 2011, Complainant responded to an email from Elizabeth Downs – the other CPM co-moderator concerning the decision. See Exhibits P and Q. Then, on March 5, 2011, counsel for Complainant transmitted an email to Rev. Downs, the content of which makes clear that Complainant was fully aware of the CPM's decision. *Id.* (FYI – a March 6th notice date should have been filed by June 3, 2011).

In addition, Respondent notes the obvious problem with Complainant's allegations against Respondent's Stated Clerk – (i.e., the Second Irregularity). Complainant was clearly aware of the Stated Clerks actions as of the March 1st hearing, but never filed a complainant. As a result, Complainant's ninety-day window to take action as to that allegation expired a long time ago.

The case of 2005, PJC 218-7, Jackson v. Session of Cordova Presbyterian Church is instructive. In Jackson, an investigating committee drafted and mailed out a decision memorandum. The memorandum was undated, which prevented the GAPJC from knowing the actual date of the committee's decision. So, the GAPJC inferred a decision date by concluding that the decision could have been no later than the day the memorandum was postmarked. The point is, in Jackson the GAPJC could have relied on the date Jackson received the decision. But it didn't. In fact, that date was not even mentioned. Instead, the GAPJC inferred a *decision* date based on the available evidence and it then counted out the relevant time period. Jackson's complaint was then found to have been untimely.

Two points distinguish this case from Jackson. Neither point favors Complainant. The first point is that, unlike the undated memorandum in Jackson, the March 10th letter relied on by Complainant clearly referenced the CPM's March 1st decision. Complainant, therefore, cannot claim that it was not aware of the decision date when he received the letter. The second point is that Complainant's

Exhibit E

own Session actually filed a complaint (see case 2011-1) within the 90-day period. The complaint in 2011-1 is untimely for other reasons, but it still stands as strong evidence that Complainant could have filed timely filed the complaint in this case.

The facts are clear. Complainant knew about the CPM's decision as early as March 2, 2011 and has missed the ninety-day deadline. As a result, he is now 1) ignoring his own actual notice of the CPM's decision and 2) attempting to construct an unconstitutional "written notice" requirement in an effort to gain standing. Complainant's efforts should not be rewarded. The complaint was clearly not timely filed and it should be not accepted.

23. Allegation: 4. The Complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted in that it cites as irregularities four erroneous actions taken by the Presbytery, acting by and through its CPM, as relates to the decisions reached in the meeting of CPM of March 1, 2011, including the conduct of CPM both before and during that meeting and one erroneous act taken by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, which was continuing in nature, even to this date.

The complaint confuses the separate duties and obligations of Complainant and Respondent's CPM concerning the oversight of a candidate – Mr. Priest. Paragraph G-14.0411 of our Constitution granted the Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church original jurisdiction to investigate the *disciplinary* complaint against Mr. Priest. However, that same paragraph also granted Respondent's CPM original jurisdiction to *administratively* determine Mr. Priest's fitness for ministry. It is well established that a CPM may appoint a task force to investigate allegations made against a candidate. See 2004, 217-1 Hope v. Pby of San Francisco. The *Hope* decision is particularly relevant because there, as here, the COPM "... appointed a task force to investigate concerns about the candidate's ability to resolve conflicts..." See also *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, 10th ed. 480 (Cambridge, Mass.: Perseus Publishing, 2000)("A committee can appoint a subcommittee, which are responsible to and report to the committee and not to the assembly.")

Respondent's CPM did not need to resort to the Rules of Discipline to investigate and exercise oversight of Mr. Priest when considering his fitness for ministry, because our Constitution and numerous GAPJC decisions make clear that the CPM inherently has that authority. See e.g. 1997, 210-2 Bevensee v. Pby of New Brunswick (upholding Presbytery removal of inquirer from roles for not complying with counseling requirement mandated by CPM). Therefore, even if the allegations in the complaint are taken as true, the complaint failed to state a claim. Respondent's COPM did investigate Mr. Priest, but that investigation was not a disciplinary investigation. Rather, the CPM conducted an *administrative* investigation of Mr. Priest in accordance with the CPM's constitutionally mandated duty to provide oversight of candidates under its care. See G-14.0412. Moreover, during that investigation and subsequent hearing, Mr. Priest was

Exhibit E

treated with fundamental fairness. He was supplied with copies of relevant documents. He was afforded the opportunity to speak on his behalf. And, he was granted a right to counsel.

Respondents assert that no relief can be granted because the complainant has stated no violation of the Book of Order, as required by 2006, PJC 217-1, Hope v. Pby of San Francisco.

Furthermore, the Book of Order grants the CPM the full authority and discretion to decide matters of readiness before recommending Presbytery declare a person ready to receive a call. G-14.0401; G-14.0411; G-14.0412; G-14.0450. Since the CPM has this discretion, its decision cannot be overruled except in cases where there has been an abuse of discretion. *Lightner v the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee*, 1983; *Jackson v. the Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley*, 1996; *Leslie v. Session, First Church, Manhattan, KS.*, 2002. Since no abuse of discretion has been alleged, no relief can be granted.

RESPONSE TO ARGUMENT

24. 1. behalf of the Presbytery, to conduct a disciplinary investigation and hearing against Mr. Priest by (a) appointing an Investigative Committee, (b) authorizing it to investigate the disciplinary charges against Mr. Priest, and (c) holding a judicial hearing involving disciplinary charges against Mr. Priest was erroneous and not permitted under the Book of Order, and, as such, it is an irregularity committed by the Presbytery.

Respondent points to the statement made by Complainant's counsel at the hearing on March 1, 2011:

"I must submit as a student of the Book of Order, CPM, and I am a long-standing member of the CPM in Virginia, CPM's have the right and power and ability and directive to consider the suitability of persons seeking to be ordained. You have that right and you have the right to exercise that and you have the right to look into matters. There's no question about that."

Exhibit R at 19, ln. 3 – 9 (statements made by Counsel for Complainant at March 1st hearing).

Complainant admitted at the hearing, as he must, that the CPM had the right to determine his fitness for ministry. However, while conceding that CPM has a right to act, Complainant now attempts to reserve for himself the privilege of instructing the CPM how to exercise its rights. No candidate in this denomination is granted that ability, or that privilege.

Exhibit E

Robert's Rules (and thus our own Book of Order) grants to every committee the right to appoint sub-committees. See RONR (10th ed.), p 480, I. 11 - 13. Therefore, implicit in the CPM's right to consider the suitability of persons seeking to be ordained was a right to appoint a sub-committee to determine the suitability of a particular candidate and report back to the full CPM. Complainant's argument then that the investigation by CPM sub-committee was disciplinary is a red herring.

Moreover, Complainant's argument that the CPM hearing was a disciplinary proceeding under the Rules of Discipline is simply without merit. THE fundamental characteristic of a disciplinary proceeding under our Rules of Discipline is the possibility that the party charged could be subject to a public censure before presbytery. At a minimum, the censure is a judgment of "guilt" followed by verbal rebuke before the assembled presbytery. See D-11.0403; D-12.000; D-12.0102. The worst possible censure is removal from office and/or membership. D-12.0105. Complainant was NEVER at risk of to even the lowest degree of censure by the CPM. Therefore, no matter how much Complainant might wish to characterize the CPM hearing as a disciplinary hearing – it simply was no such thing. To be sure, Complainant was admonished and "corrected" by the CPM as part of CPM's assessment for his fitness for ministry. But that is CPM's right. See e.g., 1997 PJC 210-2 Bevensee v. Pby of New Brunswick(candidate required to receive counseling). The GAPJC has ruled time and time again in cases just like this – indeed more extreme than this – that a Presbytery has exceptionally wide discretion over candidates under its care. See e.g., Bevensee, supra, where the GAPJC noted that only mandatory requirement prior to REMOVING a candidate from the rolls is that the candidate be given an opportunity to be heard. Complaint here was granted that right, and much much more.

The CPM was well within its rights, and the record is clear that Mr. Priest was treated with fundamental fairness. The case should be dismissed.

25. 2. The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit improperly referred the Written Statement of Ms. Azar to the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit for investigation and action in contravention of D-10.0103 of the Book of Order.

The actions of the Stated Clerk, even if accepted as true, occurred more than 90 days before the Complaint was filed. As a result, the Commission clearly does not have jurisdiction over this alleged irregularity.

However, assuming jurisdiction exists, Respondent was and is astonished that the complainant did not include Ms. Azar's letter of April 20, 2010 to COM and CPM. See Exhibit O. The content of that letter was nearly identical to the Written Statement authored the next day. Why was the letter not provided in the complaint? Respondent doesn't know – at present. But the existence of the letter turns Complainant's narrative on its head. Without Ms. Azar's letter

Exhibit E

Complainant is free to spin and weave a story of a conspiracy, in which Respondent's Stated Clerk is out to "get" Mr. Priest. But, with Ms. Azar's letter, what we have (at best) is a story of the Stated Clerk providing duplicate information to the CPM. Clearly, the latter is not as sexy, or supportive, of the alleged plight of Complainant.

This irregularity is nothing more than a red herring founded on the convenient omission of an exceptionally material fact. It should be dismissed.

26. 3. The CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, acting as agent for the Presbytery of Detroit, subjected Mr. Priest to double jeopardy when it formed an Investigative Committee to consider the charges and present its conclusions in a formal hearing, knowing that the same charges had been submitted to the Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church and were the subject of an investigation there.

This irregularity has no merit. Zero. It is directly refuted by the plain language of G-14.0411, which granted Complainant's home church jurisdiction over him in disciplinary matters but granted the CPM jurisdiction over determining his fitness for ministry.

One way to test a theory is to see how well it holds up at the extremes. In this case, suppose we have a candidate for ministry in presbytery X that commits a serious secular felony. Suppose further that the victim of the felony happened to also be Presbyterian and so files a disciplinary case against the candidate with the candidate's church. And, suppose further that the candidate is never charged by the church. Does Complainant really think that under those circumstance the CPM doesn't have the right to undertake its own investigation to determine the fitness of the candidate for ministry? The answer in the example, and also under the much less extreme circumstances at issue here, is the same – CPM clearly does the right to conduct its own investigation.

As mentioned *supra*, the CPM had and has every right to determine Complainant's fitness for ministry. That right is separate and distinct from the rights of the Session of Calvary Presbytery. And it includes the right to investigate charges against a candidate until the CPM is satisfied that the candidate is fit to be a minister of the Word and Sacrament.

27. 4. The Hearing of March 1, 2011 was irregularly conducted (assuming it could be conducted) in that Mr. Priest was denied the fundamental fairness guaranteed throughout the Book of Order for such proceedings in that Mr. Priest was not allowed:

- a. to confront his accuser or hear her testimony**
- b. to call any witnesses**
- c. to examine or cross examine the Investigators, the accusers, or any of the other witnesses**

Exhibit E

- d. to know what the accuser or any of the witnesses said or to see what any of the witnesses might have provided to the Investigating Committee

The accused in a *disciplinary* case under the Rules of Discipline is entitled to full due process rights. The reason for that is simple. As explained *supra*, every accused in a disciplinary action is at risk of a formal public censure. Here, Complainant did not risk censure. He was not the subject of a disciplinary hearing under the rules of discipline. And, he was not entitled to full due process.

What Complainant was entitled to was fundamental fairness. Which is exactly what he got. Complainant had the opportunity to speak at the hearing. Complainant was allowed to have counsel present (and speaking) during the hearing. Complainant was also given copies of all relevant papers – and more than a month to review them before the March 1st hearing. And the matter was heard before a body different from the investigating body: It was heard before the CPM as a whole, which had full rights and authority to inquire of the sub-committee and to deny or add to its recommendations. Indeed, the CPM, after hearing the Complainant and his counsel, adopted requirements different from what was in the original report. See **Exhibit T - Minutes of the CPM of March 1, 2011, pp 3f.** It is then, simply not true that Complainant was denied fundamental fairness.

This irregularity too is a red herring and should be dismissed.

Respondent reserves the right to file a motion to dismiss in the event the Commission decides to accept the case notwithstanding the arguments set forth above.

Presbytery of Detroit
Committee of Counsel


Elder Mark Schneider

7/19/2011


Rev. Betsy Rice

Exhibit F

**RUTH AZAR
21478 MORINGSIDE DRIVE
GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MI 48236
(313) 881-6651**

April 20, 2010

Rev. Elizabeth Rice, Chairperson
Committee on Preparation for Ministry
Rev. James Russell,
Chair of Committee On Ministry

Dear Reverends:

As an ordained elder of the PC (USA) it saddens me to have to request an investigation of Thomas H. Priest, Jr. due to the racist remarks made to me, my staff, and volunteers of The Second Mile Center. The intention of this document is to enlighten the Committee on Preparations for Ministry and the Committee on Ministry of the Racist behavior that we have document. I am concerned that this behavior would limit Mr. Priest ability to be an effective leader and pastor in our churches.

The comments listed below were made while Mr. Priest was under care of the Presbytery as an inquirer and also while he was the Moderator of the Presbytery of Detroit. I have letters and emails that provide a written witness of these comments that I can provide to you if you would like to review them. After conversation with the National Middle Eastern Presbyterian Caucus I was encouraged to inform both CPM and COM of Mr. Priest's comments and behaviors. As a racial ethnic women I have been on the receiving end of racist comments all of my life as I know that any racial/ethnic persons are, that is why these comments are so troubling to me and why I am moved to bring this to your attention.

A sampling of the comments that Mr. Priest said to Sandra Addrow, Lawrence Lorkowski, Pam Whitaker Reid, Kari Gorman and I:

1. "You get the money from the churches because you are white they will not give it to Stan from Barnabas."
2. "How many "Arabs" own the gas stations and party stores in the area?"
3. When Lawrence Lorkowski told Tom that I am a minority woman and of Arabic heritage, Tom's response was, "she is too white and the people only see white. Especially she is the head of the center and the power is with a white person it sends the wrong message."
4. "A black person needs to be running the center not a different race."
5. "A white person cannot teach the children about their culture."
6. "Like Jesus he will be persecuted confronting the establishment showing that the Presbytery of Detroit is racist."

Exhibit F

7. "You are too white to be here." (to Ruth Azar a racial ethnic person)
8. Tom demanded I meet with him so he could teach me about Urban Ministry in spite of me being at The Second Mile for almost 3 years. In a few hours he decided that I did not know anything about Urban Ministry because I am a Middle Eastern Woman.
9. "White men have all the power."
10. "Your assistant Lawrence is a white male he has the power."

Mr. Priest starting making these comments approximately one hour of being at the center, he had come to the center as part of his Urban Ministry Project at The Ecumenical Theological Seminary. Pam was so upset by his remarks that she left abruptly stating, "I ain't got time for this. He is racist as hell, and I'm not coming back to volunteer, you Presbyterians are a mess." Pam did not return for months. Sandra Addrow, issued a letter to Al Timm, Executive Presbyter informing him of Tom Priest prejudice (copy attached). I called Al Timm following Mr. Priest visit to inform him of the racist remarks in which he told me to call Rev. Marcia Foster Boyd, President of the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit since Tom came to the center for a class he was taking at the seminary. I called her immediately in which she directed me back to Al Timm since she said it was a Presbyterian issue not a seminary issue. I called Al Timm and he explained that I could file a complaint against Tom. I prayed about it for awhile however in conversation with the National Middle Eastern Caucus I was encouraged to inform both CMP and COM, which is why I am sending this letter to you now.

As a racial ethnic woman I am deeply offended by his remarks and feel oppressed. This behavior should not be ignored and certainly not from a potential pastor. I pray that you will review Mr. Priest and his call. Mr. Priest as a pastor in a racially mixed community I have concerns about his ability to service a church and not offend or oppress races that are not his own.

Your sister in Christ.

Ruth Azar
Enclosures

Cc: Rev. Edward H. Koster, J.D., Stated Clerk
Rev. Dr. Allen D. Timm, Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Detroit
Rev. Douglas Blaikie, Chairperson, Presbytery Operations Ministry Team
Amgad Beblawi, Middle Eastern Congregational Enhancement (U.S.A.)
Rev. Fahed Abu-Akel, Moderator, National Middle Eastern Presbyterian Caucus
James H. Turner, The Second Mile Center, Chair of Personnel

4/21/10
Exhibit G

FORM NO. 26 ACCUSATION BY INDIVIDUAL AS STATEMENT OF OFFENSE,
D-10.0102a

To: Rhonda Favors and Edward Koster (clerk of session or stated clerk of presbytery)

From: Ruth Azar (name of person or persons making accusation)

I, Ruth Azar, under the jurisdiction of the Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church (name of session of congregation or presbytery), accuse Thomas H. Priest, Jr. (name of person accused) of committing the offense of racism, discrimination, division without attempt of reconciliation contrary to Holy Scripture and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and I submit the following information in support of said accusation:

The said Thomas H. Priest, Jr. (name of accused) did, on or about February 2009 through March 2009 (date), see attached (insert a narrative and alleged facts believed to support the accusation).

Date

Ruth Azar
Signature of Accuser

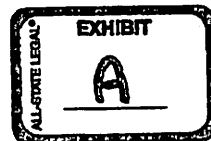


Exhibit G

RUTH AZAR
 21478 MORINGSIDE DRIVE
 GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MI 48236
 (313) 881-6651

April 21, 2010

As an ordained elder of the PC (USA) it saddens me to have to request an investigation of Thomas H. Priest, Jr. due to the racist remarks made to me, my staff, and volunteers of The Second Mile Center. This act of racism has caused there to be brokenness not only between Mr. Priest and myself but between larger bodies in the Presbytery.

The comments listed below were made while Mr. Priest between February 2009 and March 2009 during this time Mr. Priest was under care of the Presbytery as an inquirer and also the Moderator of the Presbytery of Detroit. I am attaching the letters and emails that provide a written witness to these comments and to the brokenness that followed. After conversation with the National Middle Eastern Presbyterian Caucus I was encouraged to file racism charges against Mr. Priest due his comments and behaviors. As a racial ethnic woman, a child of immigrants, I have been on the receiving end of racist comments all of my life as I know that any racial/ethnic persons are; that is why these comments are so troubling to me and why I am moved to bring this action.

Comments that Mr. Priest said to Sandra Addrow, Lawrence Lorkowski, Pam Whitaker Reid, Kari Gorman and me:

1. "You get the money from the churches because you are white they will not give it to Stan from Barnabas."
2. "How many "Arabs" own the gas stations and party stores in the area?"
3. When Lawrence Lorkowski told Tom that I am a minority woman and of Arabic heritage, Tom's response was, "she is too white and the people only see white. Especially she is the head of the center and the power is with a white person it sends the wrong message."
4. "A black person needs to be running the center not a different race."
5. "A white person cannot teach the children about their culture."
6. "Like Jesus he will be persecuted confronting the establishment showing that the Presbytery of Detroit is racist."
7. "You are too white to be here." (to Ruth Azar a racial ethnic person)
8. Tom demanded I meet with him so he could teach me about Urban Ministry in spite of me being at The Second Mile for almost 3 years. In a few hours he decided that I did not know anything about Urban Ministry because I am a Middle Eastern Woman.
9. "White men have all the power."
10. "Your assistant Lawrence is a white male he has the power."

Exhibit G

Mr. Priest started making these comments approximately one hour after being at the center, he had come to the center as part of his Urban Ministry Project at The Ecumenical Theological Seminary. Pam, as an African-American, was so upset by his remarks that she left abruptly stating, "I ain't got time for this. He is racist as hell, and I'm not coming back to volunteer, you Presbyterians are a mess." Pam did not return for months. Sandra Addrow, as an African-American, issued a letter to Al Timm, Executive Presbyterian informing him of Tom Priest prejudice.

I called Al Timm following Mr. Priest's visit to inform him of the racist remarks in which he told me to call Rev. Marcia Foster Boyd, President of the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit since Tom came to the center for a class he was taking at the seminary. I called her immediately and she directed me back to Al Timm since she said it was a Presbyterian issue not a seminary issue. I called Al Timm and he explained that I could file a complaint against Mr. Priest. After that, I had a meeting with Mr. Priest, Kari Gorman, Stan Edwards, Lawrence Lotkowski and the racist comments were worse and the idea of reconciliation was crushed by Mr. Priest. I prayed about it for awhile however in conversation with the National Middle Eastern Caucus I was encouraged to file disciplinary action against Mr. Priest.

As a racial ethnic woman I am deeply offended by his remarks and feel oppressed. I also feel that there is no longer an avenue to be reconciled with Mr. Priest outside of this type of action. This behavior should not be ignored and certainly not from a potential pastor.

Exhibit G

To whom it may concern
I am writing this letter to
inform you of the visit that
we received from Tom Priest
in February and March 2009
how Mr. Priest came in putting
down the leaders at the Center
making racial remarks and
statements stated that a black
person needs to be running the
Center not a different race. How
many black people are on payroll
How many Arabs are the Gas Stations
and Party stores, me being a
Black woman was totally offended
because in God's eyes we
are no color we are of one
body in Christ, after hearing all
of this Pamela Whitaker Reid stated
the presbyterians are a mess they
all ways have stuff saying an
and that she wasn't coming
back up to volunteer cause they
are not in unity, cl
sanders was telling Ruth Azar
that he doesn't care about the

Exhibit G

Mission that it is all about
the money cuz if we are of
one body we are to support
and encourage the Kingdom of
God not tear it down
cl was so out done over
the racial visit I wrote a
letter to Al Tsim speaking
of his prejudice and how cl
was offended as a black
woman when God sends you
on a assignment he doesn't
see what color you are!
if you have any questions I will be
to call me. God Bless you
Dorinda Hudson

313-729-9472

Exhibit G

Tom Priest requested a visitation and an interview with Mrs. Ruth Azar, executive director of The Second Mile Center (SMC) for a class on "urban Ministry" taught at ETS.

During the course of Tom's visit he spoke racist remarks to me that are offensive below are a few of them:

1. There are no black employee(s) in an authoritative paid position. I commented that Mrs. Ruth Azar is a minority and Arabic heritage. Tom's response "it does not matter they just see white."

2nd. Tom spoke of Jesus' ministry similar to his, as Jesus' confronted the Jewish religious establishment, equally so, his ministry is to demonstrate that "The Presbytery of Detroit is racist" the fruit of confrontation, opposition, and persecution is expected just as Jesus ministry had been."

3rd. Tom said, "Black people in positions can teach black culture."

Lawrence Lorkowski

586-909-0149

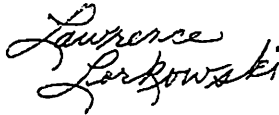


Exhibit G

Dear Mr. Tim in regards
 To Tom Priest visit
 @ second mile.

If Mrs. Azar gives me
 something now + then it
 is no one business
 and I am not prejudice
 and we do not need this
 here at second mile so
 we need to be attentive of
 that we do not look @ color
 here
 Spindel
 Address

Exhibit H

THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.

February 1, 2011

1

IN THE MATTER OF:
 PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
 COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
 HEARING OF THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.

HEARING OF THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR. - VOLUME I

Taken by the Committee on Ministry on the 1st day of
 February, 2011, at the Presbytery of Detroit, 17575 Hubbell,
 Detroit, Michigan, at 9:52 a.m.

APPEARANCES:

For the Presbytery
 of Detroit:

THE REV. EDWARD H. KOSTER, J.D., STATED CLERK
 Presbytery of Detroit
 Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
 3772 Bridle Pass Court
 Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108
 (734) 358-5403
 ehkoster@aol.com

Reported By: Ann M. Courter, CSR-6239
 Certified Shorthand Reporter



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THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.

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February 1, 2011

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1 Detroit, Michigan,

2 Tuesday, February 1, 2011 - 9:52 a.m.

3 - - -
4 COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY - VOLUME I

5 (Introduction, 9:52 a.m.)

6 REV. KOSTER: I'm Ed Koster, K-o-s-t-e-r. This is
7 Elizabeth Downs. I'm Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, and she
8 is the Chairman of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry
9 which is meeting today.

10 There will be no sworn testimony. The purpose of
11 this meeting is to hear and consider approval adopting,
12 adopting a report from the Investigating Subcommittee in the
13 Matter of Thomas Priest.

14 Mr. Priest is here, members of the committee will be
15 here shortly, and we believe it's likely that the hearing
16 portion of this will be postponed. We are not sure, because
17 it will be a vote of the committee.

18 Do you have anything else you want to say?

19 REV. DOWNS: No, I don't think so. I am co-chair of
20 the committee, but I will be leading these proceedings today.

21 REV. KOSTER: Okay. Thank you.

22 (End of Introduction, 9:55 a.m.)

23 (Meeting Called to Order, 9:59 a.m.)

24 REV. DOWNS: Okay, I would like to call this meeting
25 to order. Is there anybody here who does not have a copy of



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1 the agenda? You don't have one? Barb, Bob sat down over
 2 here. I don't know if you want to sit together or not.
 3 Anybody else need a copy of this?

4 REV. RICE: I have a whole bunch in back if anybody
 5 needs one.

6 REV. DOWNS: They will be right here on the corner
 7 if anybody needs them.

8 I would like to open us with prayer.

9 Eternal God who came to us in Jesus Christ and is
 10 still with us today in the movement of the Holy Spirit, You
 11 called us to be a special people, to preach the Gospel through
 12 justice, show mercy, and walk humbly. You called us to this
 13 work of preparing others for ministry. Keep Your spirit with
 14 us this day as we meet together so that in everything we may
 15 do Your Will. Guide us lest we stumble or be misguided by our
 16 own desires. May all we do be done for the reconciling of the
 17 world, for the upbuilding of the Church, and for the greater
 18 glory of Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

19 And all God's people say, Amen.

20 GROUP: Amen.

21 REV. DOWNS: I think we may need some introductions.
 22 I don't know if everybody knows everybody here or not. I'm
 23 Beth Downs. I'm the co-moderator here of the Committee on
 24 Preparation for Ministry, and I am a minister At Large for two
 25 more weeks then I start at Pontiac First as the interim



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1 minister.

2 Barb, would you like to introduce yourself?

3 ELDER BARBARA JACKSON: I'm Barbara Jackson and I'm
4 an Elder of Troy First. My husband is here. He's an Elder at
5 Troy First.

6 ELDER CLARK: Sam Clark. I'm also a co-moderator of
7 CPM and an Elder, Kirk in the Hills, co-moderator of CPM.

8 REV. DOWNS: I'm sorry, Tom. I want to introduce
9 this person sitting back here listening real hard. This is
10 Mrs. Courter. She is a court reporter. So when you speak,
11 please speak up so that she can hear your name and what you're
12 saying so she can be accurate in her notes. Thank you. I'm
13 sorry, Tom.

14 ELDER PRIEST: My name is Tom Priest. I'm a
15 candidate undercare for the Presbytery.

16 REV. ROBERTSON: I'm Reverend Dave Robertson,
17 retired, and Tom's pastoral advocate.

18 ELDER WARREN: I'm Orlean Warren, Elder from
19 Trumbull at New Presbyterian Church.

20 REV. MCMILLAN: Judy McMillan, Pastor of First
21 Presbytery Troy.

22 REV. GAGE: I'm Larry Gage, Elder at Farmington
23 First Presbyterian and also Associate Lay Pastor Preparation
24 Subcommittee.

25 REV. DR. TIMM: I'm Al Timm, Executive Presbytery.



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1 REV. DR. KRUG: Ernest Krug, Parish Associate First
2 Presbyterian Church of Birmingham.

3 ELDER BELL: Margaret Bell, Elder, St. John's.

4 REV. STUNKEL: Paul Stunkel, designated Pastor, St.
5 Paul's of Livonia.

6 ELDER HUNT: Phyllis Hunt, Elder at Southminster in
7 Taylor.

8 REV. RICE: I'm Betsy Rice or Elizabeth Rice. I am
9 a Parish Associate at Royal Oak First, and I'm part of
10 Investigative Subcommittee.

11 Christine Bohn from Committee on Ministry should be
12 here momentarily from the same subcommittee. And Henry
13 Johnson assured me he would be here. He's having a root
14 canal. He said he'd be here. And Dave Abbot is improving.

15 REV. HARTLEY: Tom Hartley, Ordination Subcommittee
16 for this Committee and Pastor Community Presbyterian
17 Waterford.

18 REV. WILHELMI: I'm Marjorie Wilhelmi, the Pastor at
19 Northbrook.

20 REV. KOSTER: I'm Ed Koster. I'm not a member of
21 this committee. I've been asked to support the process. I'm
22 Stated Clerk.

23 ELDER JACKSON: Bob Jackson from First Presbyterian
24 Church of Troy and my wife Barbara.

25 REV. DOWNS: Marie, would you like to turn around



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1 and introduce yourself?

2 ELDER HUGLEY: Marie Hugley from Park United.

3 REV. DOWNS: You all should have a copy of the
4 agenda. I like to have a motion to Approve the Agenda. This
5 may change momentarily.

6 REV. GAGE: Motion here.

7 REV. DOWNS: Are there any additions or changes to
8 the Agenda? So all in favor of the Agenda as it stands say
9 "yes".

10 GROUP: Yes.

11 REV. DOWNS: Opposed "no". All right.

12 I've had a jumble of thoughts over these last
13 several weeks as this was approaching in and have had a lot of
14 input from a lot of people and a lot of time in prayer. And I
15 would like to, and I ended up writing down some opening
16 remarks, because what I want to do is to clarify what we're
17 doing here, what our purpose is, and how we got here. And
18 then at the end of that, I will hear a Motion to Adopt the
19 Report and the Recommendations of the Investigating
20 Subcommittee, and at that point I know that Tom Priest would
21 like to speak to the group after that motion.

22 So this meeting is a meeting of Committee on
23 Preparation for Ministry to hear the Report and the
24 Recommendations of the Special Investigative Subcommittee
25 regarding a complaint by Ruth Azar against a candidate for



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February 1, 2011

1 ministry, Thomas H. Priest, Jr.

2 We're here at this portion of our meeting
3 reluctantly I think. I know I am, and I'm reluctant because
4 we're faced with a decision regarding someone we all like and
5 admire. It's easy to serve on CPM when all goes well, and
6 when it inquires, a candidate sails through the process. It's
7 hard when it appears that that may not be the case, but that's
8 our job. The CPM is one of the few committees actually
9 required by the Book of Order. Our overall charge is to
10 determine Fitness for Ministry within the Presbyterian Church
11 USA of those who are under our care.

12 There's a long checklist of things that helps make
13 this easy in some ways. Do you have an undergrad degree?
14 Check it off. Are you endorsed by your Session? Check it
15 off. Are you working on, have and give from an accredited
16 theological school? Check. Have you satisfactorily completed
17 field placement, clinical pastoral education, and all
18 ordination exams? Check, check, check.

19 Our task, however, is not just to check off a list.
20 Our task is also to determine the more elusive parts of what
21 we call Fitness for Ministry, and this is why I love you guys
22 on this committee and why I love our Presbyterian calling.
23 It's because we not only look at checklists, but we wrestle
24 with concerns and take action with candidates who haven't
25 completed the checklist, still something needs to happen.



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1 Something that's a lot less measurable, whether it's in
2 theology or in self-confidence, whether it's in recognition of
3 the various pastoral roles or in academic competence, whether
4 it's in emotional difficulties or instabilities and so on.
5 And we have required some of those under our care to have
6 additional experience, supervision, and training, another
7 course or two, another field placement, psychological
8 counseling, and other things. We have required those of our
9 candidates even when they're all done with that checklist.

10 And it's with pride that I say about the people on
11 this committee, that we do wrestle with these things and we
12 don't take that task lightly. We struggle to both properly
13 guide and nurture those under our care as well as determine
14 whether or not they would serve the church well which we call
15 the Presbyterian Church USA. This task has made me fall in
16 love with our calling all over again because of quality, if we
17 use it, it ensures fairness, considered deliberation, and not
18 knee jerk or emotional reactions while counting votes on one
19 side or another. It's grounded in Scripture. It's open to
20 the Rules of the Holy Spirit and the Body of Christ which is
21 the whole Church.

22 So today we aren't here as a disciplinary committee.
23 We don't have that function, and we don't have that power.
24 Disciplinary action is not ours to decide. That belongs to
25 other bodies. Sessions for their members and Presbytery for



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1 the members who are ordained ministers. So if we're not here
2 as a disciplinary body, why the heck are we here? Our task is
3 always and not only to determine Fitness for Ministry. Always
4 and only to determine Fitness for Ministry. That's why we're
5 here right now.

6 Ms. Azar's Letter of Complaint was sent to both the
7 Committee on Ministry and the Committee on Preparation for
8 Ministry. Ms. Azar's complaint alleges misconduct on the part
9 of one of our candidates, and since Mr. Priest is not
10 ordained, COM does not have jurisdiction and that
11 responsibility to investigate this falls to us. We're
12 obligated to investigate a written complaint. We have to. No
13 one sitting here would want to have such a complaint filed
14 against him or her or be the one filing it and not have a fair
15 hearing. It's not our immediate task to determine a motive
16 for any complaint. It is our task to sufficiently determine
17 its validity, and whether and to what degree it might impact
18 our evaluation of Fitness for Ministry.

19 Because Ms. Azar's letter initially came to COM as
20 well as CPM, we informed the Investigative Subcommittee last
21 night, we included a representative from COM, Reverend
22 Christine Bohn. We also included active and co-opted members
23 of our CPM, Reverend Betsy Rice, Elder Henry Johnson, and
24 Reverend Dave Abbot. Dave is unable to be with us today
25 because his illness.



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The Investigative Subcommittee Report states the following:

"The committee's task was to investigate and make a recommendation to CPM concerning Mr. Priest's suitability for ordination as a Minister or Word and Sacrament. It was not this committee's task to determine whether or not the Constitution of the PC(USA) was violated. This committee was advisory to CPM on matters of suitability and preparation for ministry; disciplinary or judicial proceedings were not this committee's purview."

Because this isn't a disciplinary report, we have much more leeway in how we receive it and act upon it or not act upon it. This is a hearing, not a trial, to help us determine Fitness for Ministry. It's not to look at violations of the Constitution, because this is a legislative action, not a legal one. We're not guided by the same strict rules of evidence such as beyond a reasonable doubt required in legal proceedings, and we can even consider hearsay.

So no new witnesses are permitted today during this hearing. We can permit new evidence if you choose to accept it, because this is an action of this committee and not of the investigative committee. Any comments that we hear need to be directed to the CPM committee, not to the investigative committee. And then in Executive Session, members of CPM can discuss and ask questions, and we will raise on behalf of



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1 Mr. Priest any questions he brings before us. That's our job.

2 You all know me. I'm co-moderator of this
3 committee. We'll be following parliamentary procedures. Any
4 questions about that or about Book of Order, I will refer you
5 to Mr. Koster if I don't know them, and it's likely I won't.
6 We will have a verbatim of the hearing portion so that when
7 you speak or ask a question, identify yourself by name and
8 what your position is in the Presbytery for the record.

9 Our decision need not go before Presbytery, unless
10 the very unlikely chance the decision to remove Tom Priest
11 from the role of standing, otherwise the decision remain right
12 here with notice to COM. Our discussion today could feel as
13 if it's a legal or disciplinary one, but that is not the case.
14 Our responsibility is strictly to determine Fitness for
15 Ministry within the Presbytery Church USA, through our
16 Presbytery. That's the only task we have. And I know we are
17 up to that task. We are up to that task, because we are a
18 faithful people who love the church. We take our mandate to
19 mentor seriously, and we give consideration not only to facts
20 and checklists, but to the growth and nurture of our
21 candidates and our churches. We're up to it, because we've
22 dealt with sticky issues before. We're up to it because we
23 rely not merely on ourselves, but on the guidance of the Holy
24 Spirit. We do this faithfully, follow the scripture, acting
25 in common with Mr. Priest, the Presbytery, and one another as



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1 the Body of Christ, and we listen for God's word in our work.
 2 We're up to the task because it's God who's calling us to do
 3 this work.

4 And now I will hear a Motion to Adopt the Report and
 5 its Recommendations.

6 REV. RICE: Madam Moderator, I move the Adoption of
 7 the Report by the Investigative Subcommittee, and I would like
 8 to read that report.

9 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Second.

10 REV. DOWNS: What that means is we discuss the
 11 report, however, before we get there, I like to grant Tom an
 12 opportunity to speak.

13 REV. RICE: May I read this before Tom speaks? We
 14 were concerned that, as often happens, people may not have
 15 read and digested the report before this moment.

16 REV. DOWNS: My understanding is that Tom wants to
 17 request a postponement.

18 ELDER WARREN: Can you speak a little louder?

19 REV. KOSTER: You can do either way. It's up to
 20 you.

21 REV. DOWNS: Tom will request a postponement of this
 22 hearing, and we can read it now.

23 REV. RICE: I think part of making the motion is.

24 REV. DOWNS: Go ahead.

25 REV. RICE: The Report of the Investigative



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1 Subcommittee is in three parts. It's three-pages written by
 2 the four of us. It includes the Complaint by Ruth Azar
 3 against Tom Priest, and a one-page flier from the Lombard
 4 Mennonite Peace Center.

5 "CPM Subcommittee, Convened in the Matter of
 6 complaint by Ruth Azar Against Candidate Thomas H.
 7 Priest, Jr. Date of Report is January 18, 2011.

8 After prayerful consideration, the CPM of the
 9 Presbytery of Detroit, on May 4, 2010, authorized the
 10 formation of a subcommittee to investigate the above
 11 referenced complaint. The composition of the
 12 subcommittee was approved June 1: Reverend David Abbot,
 13 Reverend Christine Bohn, Elder Henry Johnson, and
 14 Reverend Elizabeth Rice.

15 The committee convened its first meeting on June 9,
 16 2010, the intent being to determine its agenda and the
 17 process for achieving outcomes. The committee received
 18 guidance from the Stated Clerk, Ed Koster, concerning
 19 process and the parameters of its investigation.

20 The committee's task was to investigate and make a
 21 recommendation to the Committee on Preparation for
 22 Ministry concerning Mr. Priest's suitability for
 23 ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. It was
 24 not this committee's task to determine whether or not the
 25 Constitution of the PC(USA) was violated. This committee



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1 was advisory to CPM on matters of suitability and
 2 preparation for ministry; disciplinary or judicial
 3 proceedings were not this committee's purview.

4 We met again on June 22, 2010, to begin scheduling
 5 interviews and to clarify our approach to the
 6 investigation.

7 On July 15, 2010, we interviewed Ruth Azar. Key
 8 issues included:

9 Concerns about Mr. Priest's interactions with staff
 10 and volunteers at Second Mile Center (SMC), disturbing
 11 statements made by Mr. Priest during his visit to SMC, a
 12 perception that Second Mile Center was being targeted by
 13 Mr. Priest and its ministry devalued and undermined.

14 On July 28, 2010, we met to discuss the interview
 15 with Ms. Azar and plan for the interview with Mr. Priest.

16 On August 9, 2010, we interviewed Mr. Priest, who
 17 was accompanied by his Advocate, Elder Darrell Reynolds.
 18 The committee found it notable that Mr. Priest gave
 19 lengthy responses to the questions and frequently
 20 redirected the conversation. Key issues included: a
 21 denial of certain comments and insistence that others
 22 were taken out of context. Mr. Priest's desire that
 23 Barnabas Youth Opportunities Center and Second Mile work
 24 together, share resources, and visit other urban
 25 ministries. His preferred model of urban ministry and



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1 his interpretations of his observations of Second Mile
2 Center.

3 On August 13, 2010, we met to discuss and plan.

4 On September 28, 2010, we interviewed separately
5 Sandra Addrow, Lawrence Lorkowski, and Elder Stan
6 Edwards. We interviewed each person specifically about
7 their personal interactions with Mr. Priest during his
8 visits to Second Mile Ministries and Barnabas Youth
9 Opportunities Center and a later meeting at Second Mile.

10 On November 19, 2010, we met for discussion and
11 further planning.

12 On November 30, 2010, we met for further discussion
13 and also to interview another witness, who was present at
14 the later meeting at Second Mile Center.

15 On December 10, 2010, we met again for further
16 discussion of past interviews and also to interview a
17 final witness.

18 On January 11, 2011, we met again to draft a report
19 and recommendation.

20 We finalized our report on January 18, 2011.

21 **CENTRAL ISSUES**

22 Three primary areas of concern were identified by
23 this committee.

24 One of these concerns has to do with use of
25 authority. In arranging his first visit to Second Mile



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1 Center, Mr. Priest identified himself as a seminary
 2 student preparing a paper for a class. In subsequent
 3 activities, however, Mr. Priest regularly used his
 4 influence and authority as Moderator of Presbytery and
 5 former moderator of the Metropolitan Urban Ministries
 6 Team to lobby decision-making bodies within presbytery to
 7 share his view of work and structure of Second Mile
 8 Center. At the same time, Mr. Priest did not notify
 9 Second Mile that he was taking his findings and
 10 interpretation of those findings to presbytery, nor did
 11 he use that same influence and authority to provide an
 12 opportunity for Second Mile to have voice in actions
 13 intended to affect dramatically the future of the Center.
 14 In other words, Mr. Priest represented himself as a
 15 student to the subjects of his investigation, but freely
 16 applied the authority of presbytery office to pursue
 17 actions against those subjects.

18 This committee also observed a consistent pattern of
 19 Mr. Priest prejudging the opinions and experiences of
 20 others without listening to what they had to say about
 21 their own opinions and experiences. People
 22 self-identifying with three different racial-ethnic
 23 groups (white, Arab-American, and African-American)
 24 indicated to the committee their frustration and
 25 discomfort when they perceived that Mr. Priest assumed he



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1 knew what they thought about certain issues (or what they
 2 should think) based on his perception of their
 3 racial-ethnic identity. At least in certain
 4 circumstances, it appears that Mr. Priest was unwilling
 5 to listen to what people had to say about their
 6 experience and opinions and was, instead, rather
 7 forceful verbally in attributing his experience and
 8 opinion to others.

9 It is evident to this committee that Mr. Priest is
 10 fiercely devoted to his preferred model of urban
 11 ministry. This committee is concerned that Mr. Priest is
 12 unwilling to acknowledge the legitimacy of alternative
 13 ministry styles and routinely uses methods of
 14 confrontation and intimidation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

15 It is the opinion of this committee that Candidate
 16 Priest's current pattern of confrontational behaviors
 17 would cause great difficulty in a congregation and in a
 18 presbytery.
 19

20 Therefore, this committee moves that CPM require
 21 Mr. Priest to participate in the Mediation Skills
 22 Training Institute for Church Leaders led by the Lombard
 23 Mennonite Peace Center.

24 Additionally, we move that at an appropriate future
 25 time CPM examine Mr. Priest to assess his pastoral



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1 development in the areas identified above.

2 This assessment might include such tools as asking

3 Mr. Priest to write papers on what he has learned

4 personally and professionally from the mediation skills

5 training and his own sense of pastoral identity and

6 authority.

7 Respectfully submitted, Reverend David Abbot,

8 Reverend Christine Bohn, Elder Henry Johnson, and

9 Reverend Elizabeth Rice."

10 REV. DOWNS: Thank you.

11 Tom would like to put another suggestion in motion

12 on the floor.

13 ELDER PRIEST: Can I make a motion?

14 REV. DOWNS: Request made on your behalf.

15 ELDER PRIEST: Thank you so much. I appreciate

16 that. On the advice of my attorney, I like to say for the

17 record, ask for a postponement of this hearing due to the

18 timely notice that it did not allow my attorney to be

19 available at this meeting, and for discussion I need the

20 reasons why he requested that.

21 REV. DOWNS: So someone move postponement?

22 REV. KOSTER: You can do that either now or after he

23 leaves, whichever you wish to do.

24 REV. DOWNS: Do now and he can talk to the reasons.

25 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I accept Mr. Priest's request of



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1 postponement.

2 REV. DOWNS: Is there a second in support?

3 ELDER CLARK: Support.

4 REV. DOWNS: Motion is to postpone this hearing and
5 we need to have a date for that.

6 ELDER PRIEST: One month he said.

7 REV. DOWNS: To the March 1st meeting, which we'll
8 be here at 10:00. Now we can talk the motion.

9 ELDER WARREN: On what request?

10 REV. DOWNS: On his request only.

11 ELDER WARREN: I think I'm understanding this was
12 not a legal matter?

13 REV. DOWNS: Right.

14 ELDER WARREN: So I'm wondering what the necessity
15 of having an attorney if this is not something that's legal?

16 REV. DOWNS: This is a choice that Tom has to have,
17 and if he chooses to have an attorney with him there are
18 parameters that our Book of Order require, that this attorney
19 be Presbyterian and which he is. He's a Presbyterian minister
20 as I understand and a practicing attorney. And with those
21 circumstances then, when his attorney's here, his attorney can
22 speak for him. Otherwise an advocate, that's not permitted.
23 I don't know if that answers your question?

24 ELDER WARREN: Yes.

25 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I have a concern. If, in fact,



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1 this attorney knew prior to this meeting that he was not going
 2 to be available, I think the least that attorney could have
 3 done was to submit in writing why he could not be here. I
 4 think that's the least this committee is owed. Is it possible
 5 to get a written statement from your attorney to that effect?
 6 Not that I don't trust Mr. Priest relaying the message. I
 7 don't think it's good protocol or good form.

8 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I don't know where that falls
 9 within the context of the motion. His attorney should have
 10 sent us some correspondence indicating his unavailability.

11 ELDER BARBARA JACKSON: My question for you, Tom, is
 12 do you think that this delay will be helpful to the end
 13 result? Seems to me they gave specific recommendations. They
 14 weren't throwing you out in the street. And you know the
 15 quicker you get there and start doing them, the quicker you
 16 might be able to resolve the problem.

17 ELDER PRIEST: Ms. Jackson, you said?

18 ELDER BARBARA JACKSON: Yes.

19 ELDER PRIEST: Amen. Absolutely. Sam knows I'm
 20 anxious as anything to get going with this. However, because
 21 of certain allegations, and advice of my attorney, I must be
 22 patient. As anxious as I am, Sam knows I'm very anxious.
 23 When I past my last exam, I'm ready to go. However, I must do
 24 these things in order and try very hard to get closure on this
 25 so I can move forward and all of us can move forward. And I'm



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1 not the only one moving forward. We all are moving forward
2 together. So under the advice of my attorney because of the
3 other complaint, the investigative committee, this is the most
4 appropriate thing. So I must be patient myself; otherwise,
5 yes, I'll be the first to say, whatever it takes for us to
6 move forward, I'm willing to do. So I must be patient also
7 and respect the advice of my attorney.

8 REV. DOWNS: In response to Henry's comment though,
9 even you and I had a little bit of conversation before the
10 meeting began because he wanted to put in his request for
11 postponement in front of the committee. And would you explain
12 to the committee why it is that he can't be here and what
13 changed, because he knew the date? What was it that changed
14 from?

15 ELDER PRIEST: Sure, no problem. We had two days.
16 I received an e-mail from Betsy Rice on, a week before last.
17 What's the date of your e-mail, Betsy? Thursday I think. The
18 report came out January 18th, it was, anyway that was about a
19 week and a half I received that, and I sent information to my
20 attorney. He replied back to me, okay, have all your
21 information, I feel comfortable with you going through with
22 this information, going through with the knowledge that you
23 have. You'll be able to succinctly talk about it. Don't
24 worry about going before CPM and talking about the
25 Recommendation. I sent a copy of the report to him.



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1 Then I received a copy from Beth about the agenda on
2 I think January 27th, 28th, not sure what date, and then I
3 sent that to him. And he was traveling and the next day, I
4 think the next day, 28th or 29th, he called me back. He said,
5 oh, no, this is a hearing in the form of a disciplinary
6 proceeding, and because I had sent him an e-mail earlier to
7 ask him is it proper to have a court reporter and all that.
8 He said, yeah, sometimes people want to do that. So he was
9 very open with me, and for my attorney to allow me to come by
10 myself to say, go ahead, no problem, I was comfortable with
11 that. But when he saw the flow of the agenda in terms of a
12 discipline hearing, he said, no, you need representation. And
13 that's why he has the issues raised and I agreed.

14 As far as what his travel schedule is, I don't know.
15 I didn't ask him to send anything in. I'm sure he'd be happy.
16 He travels all over the country, and he has commitments to
17 clients. He needs more notice than a few days. We only had
18 like a few days notice to respond.

19 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I would like to pick up on the
20 introductory question Elder Warren raised, and that is the
21 need for this to be postponed for legal counsel to be present
22 when we clearly state in the introduction to this, this
23 committee was advisory to CPM on matters of suitability and
24 preparation for ministry. Disciplinary or judicial
25 proceedings were not this committee's purview, and you in your



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1 comments just now made reference to the fact that your
2 attorney said, actually I should be present because this is a
3 hearing of a disciplinary nature. And I would wonder from
4 your perspective, because it is obviously your prerogative to
5 have legal counsel, from your perspective what was the
6 necessity for legal counsel based on what the purpose of this
7 hearing was? What did you envision the legal counsel's role
8 to be in requesting presence?

9 ELDER PRIEST: I trust his judgment, and initially
10 it was, you go ahead to committee. It's, it's asking
11 questions about your Fitness for Ministry and suitability, no
12 problem. Go ahead, be there. You have my blessing. Just
13 remember, hear the findings. Don't get off target. Stay
14 succinct, all of that, the things he reminds me of most of the
15 time. But when the agenda came out, he says, I meant to say
16 he said it's a hearing, now becomes calling a discipline type
17 process, and not to say it is, but when it becomes a hearing
18 and it becomes this stage, a hearing stage, and Mr. Priest
19 advocate and IC using the terms which I'm going to read what
20 he states why, I'm going to read those, that's what his
21 concern was. He didn't say it was a disciplinary hearing, but
22 disguised to read this way, then you have a right to counsel,
23 for me to read his concerns, and then that committee can talk
24 about it.

25 So the thing I want you to realize, in the beginning



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1 he had no problem me coming and doing an on target review, but
2 until the agenda came out on the 27th or 28th and I sent it to
3 him and when he got to read it, he said, oh, I may need to be
4 there because now it looks like it's a hearing as opposed to
5 just a meeting with CPM.

6 REV. DOWNS: I don't want us to get stymied by
7 semantics. Hearing to me sounds disciplinary and in the
8 function of the life of CPM and in your pursuit of ministry,
9 to me, this is somewhat more formal consultation. It's not an
10 annual consultation, but it's a discussion with you about next
11 steps towards ordination. I think the hearing term is a
12 distraction.

13 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Am I permitted to speak?

14 REV. DOWNS: No. You can talk to Tom, but not to
15 the committee.

16 Anyway, I'm going to ask Ed to simply clarify what
17 this means.

18 REV. KOSTER: The Book of Order is interpreted and
19 written, gives people what we call fair, fundamental fairness
20 rights. In any case where there is an adversarial, some type
21 of event that could affect a person's ministry in the future,
22 outside of judicial process, this is not a judicial case, that
23 person has some rights. One is the right to fair notice,
24 quick notice, and the right to present his or her defense to
25 the allegations and to the matters before, the matters



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1 presented before a fair body, and that is what this hearing is
2 designed to do. That is to say, the allegations are going to
3 be presented by the subcommittee before you as a committee as
4 the bodies of assembly.

5 There are two other rights that are attached to
6 this. One is the right to have an advocate. An advocate is
7 an advisor, somebody to be with someone. What distinguishes
8 between that and counsel, counsel is somebody who can speak
9 for the person. A person has a right to counsel, period. And
10 to deprive Mr. Priest of the right of a reasonable right to
11 have counsel here would make it detrimental to this motion to
12 fairness, fundamental fairness. He doesn't have to justify
13 having counsel here. The requirement is counsel be
14 Presbyterian, that's required. He does not have to be an
15 attorney either. The reason he has to be Presbyterian,
16 attorneys have been known to misbehave. So we have to have
17 somebody watch over the attorney.

18 So those are the requirements of fundamental
19 fairness that the Book of Order and various cases and
20 interpretation lay out in a matter which affects a person's
21 ministry.

22 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Thank you.

23 ELDER PRIEST: Can I respond to that?

24 REV. DOWNS: Sure.

25 ELDER PRIEST: Again, about my attorney, I want you



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1 to know about my attorney being a pastor, very spiritual. And
2 he is concerned about my theological health, my spiritual
3 health, and fitness for being pastor. Believe me, with him,
4 is pretty tough. And he is concerned, he more than me wants
5 me to get moving on this process. He doesn't want to do
6 anything to delay it. He's been through a second career, and
7 he says, Tom, my role is to help you get through this, not to
8 delay it in any way.

9 So the reason for this is even though it's not a
10 legal stance, the wording of "hearing" and following that
11 process sends an antenna up. Even though these are
12 allegations, it's a report of committee and they are charging
13 me with something, allegations, this happened and this
14 happened and they're very serious. And as a result of these
15 allegations in this report, a judgment can be rendered, either
16 punitive or taking a class or some judgment can be done out of
17 this. So when you look at that, his concern is me. So on top
18 of that, the recommendation of these, if it's accepted, I will
19 suffer something based on something that can be challenged,
20 that some of these things can be challenged. And I think all
21 he is looking out for my best interest, not only legal issues,
22 but as Fitness for Ministry.

23 REV. DOWNS: Tom?

24 REV. HARTLEY: I think I want to speak more than the
25 process. In fact at the table, we have legal and counsel



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1 representation, Ed Koster, and the perception of fairness or
 2 equitability, it's reasonable on our part to acknowledge his
 3 desire safely to have legal representation and advocacy. It's
 4 better to proceed deliberately but fairly and delay, though
 5 this is already been warned for six months. Reasonable for us
 6 to be patient in the process.

7 Our authority, my view is only ministerial and
 8 declarative, not judicial, only Presbytery remains, we
 9 recommend. So as far as the need for legal representation,
 10 constitutionally and legally, isn't needed at this hearing I
 11 believe, but because of the recommendation by the committee at
 12 hand, there is an implicit if not explicit requirement or
 13 demand to admit responsibility with a tentative requirements.
 14 So I think it's reasonable that he recognize that, to even
 15 consent to these recommendations admits responsibility.
 16 That's where we are in the process. I think it's an
 17 unfortunate delay, but I understand.

18 REV. DOWNS: Any other comments of the committee or
 19 questions of the committee?

20 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I like to call a question.

21 ELDER PRIEST: Can I read the points?

22 REV. DOWNS: Yes.

23 ELDER PRIEST: Again, my attorney did not felt
 24 necessary for me to come before he got the agenda, other than
 25 that I would be here with you discussing this.



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1 Issue number one, he knows of no provision in our
2 constitutional documents that would allow a CPM to appoint an
3 investigative committee to look into issues raised in a
4 complaint or to conduct a hearing on its findings and
5 recommendations in the nature of prosecution.

6 The agenda that has been provided uses words such as
7 "hearing stage," "investigative committee's report," and
8 "recommendation". As Mr. Priest's advocate, no opportunity
9 for Mr. Priest to present testimony from others or right to
10 face accusers or right to examine his accusers.

11 Issue number two that concerns him is the lack of
12 sufficient notice. Being subjective to the equivalent of a
13 disciplinary hearing, Mr. Priest should have received more
14 notice and Mr. Priest should have afforded the right to have
15 an advocate of his choosing present to represent him.

16 Issue number three, double jeopardy. The Ruth Azar
17 Complaint is already before the Presbytery by her written
18 complaint. An investigative committee appointed by Calvary
19 Presbyterian Church has conducted numerous hearings and
20 appears close to deciding whether to proceed or not. If CPM
21 convicts in the meantime on the same written statement, will
22 that not render the IC's work a nullity? Or if the IC decides
23 not to press charges, can CPM convict from the same issues?
24 The decision by CPM to go forward will be a violation of both
25 Mr. Priest's substantive and procedural due process rights and



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1 could lead to a one to two year court proceeding to prevent
2 what waiting may cure otherwise.

3 That's his legal statement and he asked me to read.
4 These are not my words. These are his words.

5 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Which in a sense goes back to my
6 question. Could he not have sent that in advance? I can ask
7 the question.

8 REV. DOWNS: Yes.

9 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: We're all on the spot. It's
10 not, excuse me, it is not heroics to his attorney and to him.
11 We spent a number of months going through this whole process.
12 We, the subcommittee. It's not as though we haven't had our
13 own time, energy, and expertise tested and invested. I really
14 feel strongly that if your attorney felt that strongly about
15 what you just read that you said are his words, then I assume
16 that he would have sent that to us in advance so we would have
17 a sense what his feelings were.

18 ELDER PRIEST: The attorney doesn't relate to this
19 body. He relates through me, and I brought his wishes
20 immediately as I could. I spoke to him yesterday, and when he
21 got it, processed information, he asked me to do a certain
22 process and I did, and to get with the moderate ahead of time
23 with no surprises, to keep everything above board.

24 REV. DOWNS: And I'll get a copy of that?

25 ELDER PRIEST: Yes.



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1 REV. DOWNS: What is the date of that?

2 ELDER PRIEST: I talked to him yesterday. This is

3 my writing of his e-mail. His e-mail is more into it, and he

4 counseled me yesterday.

5 REV. DOWNS: His e-mail is dated yesterday as well?

6 ELDER PRIEST: No, his e-mail is dated January 28th.

7 REV. RICE: I like to respond also. Wherever the

8 complaint is filed, it has to have a response. I don't think

9 that there's any sense in having a priority of us waiting for

10 the resolution of the complaint shared with Calvary and then

11 CPM responding once we heard what Calvary finds or does not

12 find. To me that would not seem to be in your favor, and I

13 think we owe it to the complainant to respond. So I don't

14 think you can link those two processes. They're different,

15 and we are not a hearing. We are not a disciplinary

16 proceeding. We're advisory to CPM on what the complaint says

17 about Fitness for Ministry.

18 REV. DOWNS: Let's continue to speak to the motion

19 to postpone, so if there are no other questions or comments

20 regarding that? Tom, nothing else you like to add?

21 ELDER PRIEST: Only thing is my lawyer very

22 emphatically wanted to go forward. It's only the agenda and

23 use of the word "hearing" and those words that call for

24 concern, and he's just trying to protect me.

25 REV. DOWNS: I will ask you and David to excuse



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1 yourselves, please, and we will discuss as a committee and
2 make recommendations.

3 All those in favor?

4 GROUP: Yes.

5 (Off the record, 10:47 a.m. - 11:25 a.m.)

6 REV. DOWNS: During executive session this committee
7 voted in favor of the Motion to Postpone until March 1st. You
8 need to know that we are considering meeting earlier at 9:00
9 rather than at 10. So I will confirm with you, either Sam or
10 I, will confirm with you in the meantime, and it's out in
11 Waterford.

12 ELDER PRIEST: Okay. I can send that to my attorney
13 now, that's confirmed March 1st, 9:00?

14 REV. DOWNS: March 1st, likely 9:00.

15 And then we also during executive session committee
16 voted to approve the Motion to Rescind our approval for you to
17 serve in any temporary capacity until this is resolved.

18 ELDER PRIEST: I didn't quite understand?

19 REV. DOWNS: A long time ago we let COM know that we
20 had approved your being able to take on a temporary position.
21 In this case it was with Calvin East.

22 ELDER PRIEST: Yes, yes.

23 REV. DOWNS: So because of the delay of this and
24 because of leaving the church still hanging in all of this and
25 because it now continues on, we are rescinding, we are



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1 removing our permission to you, and we will let COM know, to
2 be able to serve in a temporary capacity at this time.

3 ELDER PRIEST: So --?

4 REV. DOWNS: So you can't serve the church.

5 ELDER PRIEST: Can't serve the church. Until this
6 is resolved?

7 REV. DOWNS: Until we go through the process that we
8 do with all of our candidates.

9 ELDER PRIEST: Thank you.

10 REV. DOWNS: Any other comments? Let us stand and
11 offer prayer, please.

12 Let us pray. Loving God, You throw us into the fray
13 and we wonder why there are lions in the den, but You are
14 always with us. You walk with us and guide us. You teach us
15 to hear. Open our ears that we may hear You. Open our hearts
16 that we may know You. Open our minds that we can work with
17 Your mind. Guide our feet so we can walk in Your ways, our
18 hands to lift and praise and heal others. May You travel with
19 Tom this day as he goes about the rest of his day and next
20 several weeks until we meet again. Comfort his heart, lift
21 him up, and all of those on this committee. Help us to give
22 the thanks to all those who have worked so hard and continue
23 to guide our deliberations, our discussions, and our communal
24 meeting together and those candidates who are coming before us
25 this day. In the name of Your Son, our Lord Jesus, who walked



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ahead of us and led us, we pray.

As people say, Amen.

GROUP: Amen.

(Adjourned at 11:28 a.m.)

- - -



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1 STATE OF MICHIGAN)

2)

3 COUNTY OF WAYNE)

4

5 I certify that this transcript is a complete, true,
6 and correct record of the testimony of the witness held in
7 this case.

8 I also certify that prior to taking this deposition,
9 the witness was duly sworn or affirmed to tell the truth.

10 I further certify that I am not a relative or an
11 employee of or an attorney for a party; and that I am not
12 financially interested, directly and indirectly, in the
13 matter.

14 I hereby set my hand this day, February 8, 2011:

15

16

17

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19

20

21

22 _____
Ann M. Courter, CSR-6239

23 Wayne County, Michigan

24 My Commission Expires: October 2, 2012

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A	10:22	28:3	already	29:2
a.m.	activities	advocate	28:5 29:17	appointed
3:5, 22, 23	17:3	5:17 15:17	also	29:18
32:5 34:4	add	20:22 24:19	5:6, 23 8:20	appreciate
Abbot	31:20	26:6 29:8, 15	10:22 16:13,	19:15
6:14 10:24	additional	affect	16 17:18 22:6	approach
14:12 19:7	9:6	17:13 25:21	31:7 32:15	15:5
able	Additionally	affects	35:8	approaching
21:16 22:23	18:24	26:20	alternative	7:13
32:20 33:2	additions	affirmed	18:12	appropriate
Absolutely	7:7	35:9	always	18:24 22:4
21:19	Addrow	afforded	10:3 33:14	approval
academic	16:5	29:14	Amen	3:11 32:16
9:3	Adjourned	African -	4:19, 20 21:19	Approve
accept	34:4	American	34:2, 3	7:4 32:16
11:20 19:25	admire	17:23	Ann	approved
accepted	8:5	agenda	1:19, 22 35:22	14:12 32:20
27:18	admit	4:1 7:4, 8	annual	A r a b -
accompanied	28:13	14:16 23:1, 11	25:10	American
15:17	admits	24:15 25:2	another	17:23
accredited	28:15	28:24 29:6	9:6, 7, 19	Arbor
8:15	Adopt	31:22	12:25 16:13	1:19
accurate	7:18 13:4	ago	19:11	areas
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Exhibit H 011
 February 19, 2001
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Exhibit H 011
Feb 11, 2011
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THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR. - Volume II

Exhibit I
March 1, 2011

1

IN THE MATTER OF:
 PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
 COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
 HEARING OF THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.

HEARING OF THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR. - VOLUME II
 Taken by the Committee on Ministry on the 1st day of
 March, 2011, at First Presbyterian Church, 529 Hendrie,
 Royal Oak, Michigan, at 8:38 a.m.

APPEARANCES:

For the Presbytery
 of Detroit:

THE REV. EDWARD H. KOSTER, J.D., STATED CLERK
 Presbytery of Detroit
 Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
 3772 Bridle Pass Court
 Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108
 (734) 358-5403
 ehkoster@aol.com

Reported By: Ann M. Courter, CSR-6239
 Certified Shorthand Reporter



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1 Royal Oak, Michigan,

2 Tuesday, March 1, 2011 - 8:38 a.m.

3 - - -

4 COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY - VOLUME II

5 (Introduction, 8:38 a.m.)

6 REV. KOSTER: I'm Edward Koster, Stated Clerk of the
7 Presbytery of Detroit.

8 This morning's hearing is a continuation of the
9 hearing of February 1st in which Thomas Priest asked for an
10 adjournment.

11 It is a meeting of the Committee on Preparation for
12 Ministry of the Presbytery of Detroit. Mr. Priest is a
13 candidate for ministry. We will be hearing a motion to
14 approve, excuse me, to adopt a report of investigating
15 subcommittee that brings findings and recommendations to the
16 committee. The first part of this will be an open hearing in
17 which Mr. Priest will present his response to the motion.

18 He will be represented by a gentleman named
19 Archibald Wallace, who is an attorney from Richmond, Virginia.
20 He may have other advocates with him who most likely will not
21 be allowed to speak.

22 The first part of the hearing will be an open
23 hearing after which the committee will go in executive session
24 and everybody will be asked to leave except for certain
25 people, voting members and those invited. During that period



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Exhibit I

THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR. - Volume II

March 1, 2011

4

1 the committee will consider the motion and the defenses and
2 points raised by Mr. Priest during the open hearing. When the
3 committee has made a decision on the motion to adopt the
4 report of the investigating subcommittee, it will return to
5 open session at which point the result will be announced.

6 (Statement concluded at 8:41 a.m.)

7 (Meeting called to order, 9:00 a.m.)

8 REV. DOWNS: We will call ourselves to order and ask
9 the light of Christ to be among us this day. I want to
10 apologize, my computer crashed on Saturday and it crashed
11 really hard. So the only ability I had to be on-line about
12 anything has been at work and I was there until 7:30 and I
13 still didn't get it all done yesterday. So the hymn I had
14 planned, this is a different hymnal. It's not in here. So I
15 thought we'd lean on some old reliable hymn that has stood the
16 test of a lot of ages. Number 84 in this hymnal, O God Our
17 Health In Ages Past. I was always taught that we could sing
18 better if we stand.

19 Let me offer up a prayer before we sing. Loving
20 God, you gather us together in this place to do your work.
21 Make your presence to us known and felt throughout this day,
22 this morning as we deliberate in closed session, and this
23 afternoon as we meet with our candidates and our COPs. Dear
24 Lord, this work you have called us to, make us worthy of that.
25 In the name of your son we pray. Amen.



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1 GROUP: Amen.

2 REV. DOWNS: Let us sing, O God, Our Health In Ages

3 Past.

4 (Singing.)

5 REV. DOWNS: Please, be seated.

6 I would like to read Psalm 19.

7 The heavens are telling the glory of God and the

8 firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth

9 speech, night to night declares knowledge. There is no

10 speech, nor are their words, their voice in not heard; yet

11 their voice goes out through all the earth and their words

12 through the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a

13 tent for the sun which comes out like a bridegroom from his

14 wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs his course with

15 joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its

16 circuit to the end of them, and nothing is hid from its heat.

17 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul. The

18 decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple, the

19 precepts of the Lord are right rejoicing the heart; the

20 commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes; the

21 fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The ordinances of

22 the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be

23 desired are they than gold, even much fine gold, sweeter also

24 than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover by them

25 is your servant warned, in keeping them there is great reward.



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Exhibit I

THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR. - Volume II

March 1, 2011

6

1 But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.
 2 Keep back your servant also from the insolent, do not let them
 3 have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and
 4 innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth
 5 and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord,
 6 our rock and our redeemer.

7 All God's people say.

8 THE GROUP: Amen.

9 REV. DOWNS: Good morning.

10 THE GROUP: Good morning.

11 REV. DOWNS: I appreciate, we all appreciate all of
 12 you being out here this bright and early hour. Some of you I
 13 know have traveled some distance to get here, and hopefully
 14 others will be trickling in as we go.

15 Now, is there anybody who does not have paperwork
 16 for today?

17 ELDER RICE: I have paperwork and did not put it out
 18 on the table. I will pass this around in the rubberband so
 19 that you know this is the collective extra paperwork for
 20 anyone who needs it.

21 REV. DOWNS: Do we need any introductions? I think
 22 everybody here mostly knows everybody. Do we need to
 23 re-introduce for the court reporter?

24 REV. KOSTER: You might.

25 REV. DOWNS: Well, I am Elizabeth Downs, and this is



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1 Ann Courter, she is appropriately named that I think to be a
2 court reporter. So she will be recording our proceedings as
3 we go this day, as we started to do a month ago.

4 We already have on the floor a motion to approve,
5 I'm sorry, to adopt the report and recommendations of the
6 investigating subcommittee. I don't want to proceed any
7 further at this point until Tom and his lawyer are here, are
8 actually in the room with us. And so I know that there are a
9 handful of other items we need to take care of today for
10 business items and so on. And here comes somebody, and so let
11 me go and find out what the deal is on that or somebody could
12 run out and find out what's going on. Here he comes.

13 When you speak, or when you have a question or a
14 comment to make, please state your name clearly for the court
15 reporter to make a record here.

16 They are on the way I see, so excuse me just a
17 moment.

18 (Off the record.)

19 REV. DOWNS: Tom, what I would like to do is have
20 the folks introduce themselves and you introduce the people,
21 or they can introduce themselves as well, and then we will
22 proceed.

23 All right, my name again is Elizabeth Downs. I am
24 the interim minister for First Presbyterian Church in Pontiac,
25 and I am one of the moderators of the Committee on Preparation



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1 for Ministry.

2 Marie, would you introduce yourself to the table.

3 ELDER HUGLEY: Sure. I'm Marie Hugley from Elder
4 Park United Presbyterian Church.

5 ELDER BARBARA JACKSON: Barbara Jackson from Troy
6 First, an Elder.

7 ELDER ROBERT JACKSON: Bob Jackson, Troy First,
8 Elder.

9 ELDER EDWARD: Stanley Edward, Elder Calvary
10 Presbyterian Church.

11 ELDER REYNOLDS: Darrell Reynolds, Elder Calvary
12 Presbyterian Church.

13 REV. WALLACE: I'm Archibald Wallace. I'm Minister
14 of the Word and Sacrament. I'm Presbyterian James. I have my
15 own church in Hopewell, Virginia. I'm also a practicing
16 attorney.

17 ELDER PRIEST: I'm Elder Tom Priest.

18 ELDER CLARK: Sam Clark, Elder at Kirk in the Hills
19 Church here and also co-chair of CPM.

20 REV. WILHELMI: I'm Marjorie Wilhelmi. I'm the
21 Pastor at Northbrook Presbyterian Church, and I'm also the
22 secretary taking the minutes.

23 REV. BROWNLEE: I'm Richard Brownlee. I'm a
24 minister, honorably retired.

25 REV. MCMILLAN: Judy McMillan, Pastor of First



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1 Presbyterian Troy.

2 REV. MCDEVITT: Jenny McDevitt, one of the pastors

3 at First Presbyterian Ann Arbor.

4 ELDER GAUBATZ: Mike Gaubatz. I'm an Elder at

5 Geneva in Canton.

6 REV. KRUG: Ernest Krug. I'm a minister and parish

7 associate at First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham.

8 REV. STUNKEL: Paul Stunkel, Pastor of St. Paul's

9 Presbyterian, Livonia.

10 REV. RICE: I'm Betsy Rice. I'm a parish associate

11 here at First Royal Oak.

12 REV. BOHN: Chris Bohn. I'm here as a

13 representative of the Committee on Ministry.

14 ELDER HUNT: Phyllis Hunt. I'm an Elder at

15 Southminster in Taylor.

16 ELDER JOHNSON: Henry Johnson, Elder First

17 Presbyterian Church, Ann Arbor.

18 REV. HARTLEY: Good morning. Tom Hartley, Pastor at

19 Community Presbyterian in Waterford.

20 REV. TIMM: I'm Al Timm. I'm from the Presbytery of

21 Detroit. I serve as executive presbyter and ex-officio member

22 of this committee.

23 REV. PRITCHARD: I'm Norman Pritchard, Pastor at

24 Kirk in the Hills.

25 REV. KOSTER: I'm Ed Koster. I'm the Stated Clerk



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1 of the Presbytery. I've been asked to come as advisor on the
2 process.

3 REV. DOWNS: Again, last month the motion was made
4 to adopt the committee's report and recommendations, and then
5 we postponed any discussion of that at Tom Priest's request so
6 we are reconvening on this day.

7 There are a couple of things. I wrote out some
8 remarks I would like to read and a reminder that for the
9 purposes of this day and this meeting today, only you, Tom,
10 and your lawyer can speak to the committee during this
11 meeting, during this hearing.

12 We reconvened today the CPM hearing on the motion to
13 adopt the report and recommendations of the special
14 investigating committee. I have to tell you that this report
15 has generated a lot of response from a number of people
16 outside of the committee. I have received e-mails and phone
17 messages. I have documents forwarded to me from individuals
18 and other pastors in the presbytery, as well as requests from
19 the black caucus of our presbytery to meet separately with
20 them to discuss Mr. Priest's status and this issue. Reverend
21 Timm also has had some of these contacts. I can only assume
22 that some of the others on the committee have received similar
23 contacts, but I don't know that. I appreciate that there are
24 so many people concerned with what we are doing is just and
25 fair and faithful, and that Tom has as many supporters as he



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1 does. I'm grateful for their dedication and care.

2 We on this committee are also I believe dedicated
3 and caring, and we strive to do what is just and faithful. I
4 pray that any discussion we have or any decision we make will
5 have no reason to be labelled as unfair or unjust or even
6 politically or racially motivated. We work hard. We work
7 hard to keep each other on track in our responsibility. Our
8 task remains simple and straight forward and is really limited
9 in scope. If we as a committee determine the report to be
10 fair, then we adopt it. Do we need to require additional work
11 or education or other effort on the part of the candidate
12 under our care before we feel it's prudent to grant that
13 candidate final assessment? Is that candidate in our
14 estimation ready for ordained ministry in PC USA? Since
15 Mr. Priest is a candidate under our care, the responsibility
16 to determine his readiness for ministry falls to us, as it
17 should. That's the entire scope of our responsibility here
18 today.

19 Remember, we've done this with others. We required
20 additional course work or workshops or counseling or
21 supervised field experiences, and I suspect we'll do so again
22 in the future. Such action may not be widespread, but it is
23 not unusual. So we are here today to resume our discussion,
24 and I invite us to take a deep collective breath and continue
25 with this simple task. First I ask that you be silent for



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1 just a few moments and listen for God's Spirit, word, and
 2 guidance, and for the openness to truly listen to one another.
 3 So let us be in silent prayer.

4 And together we say.

5 THE GROUP: Amen.

6 REV. DOWNS: As I said before, this was merely a
 7 postponement. We didn't make any decisions so the motion is
 8 still on the floor. Marjorie, do you have this in front of
 9 you? Can you read that to us?

10 REV. WILHELMI: Motion is to adopt the investigating
 11 committees report and recommendations.

12 REV. DOWNS: Since we've had this full month
 13 intervening and not everyone was present last month, I would
 14 ask that we begin again with the special committee and its
 15 report, to review that with us and review its recommendations
 16 to us.

17 REV. RICE: Review, you mean read in its entirety?

18 REV. DOWNS: I think so.

19 REV. RICE: Again, this will be familiar.

20 "CPM Subcommittee, Convened in the Matter of
 21 complaint by Ruth Azar Against Candidate Thomas H.
 22 Priest, Jr. Date of Report is January 18, 2011.

23 After prayerful consideration, the CPM of the
 24 Presbytery of Detroit, on May 4, 2010, authorized the
 25 formation of a subcommittee to investigate the above



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1 referenced complaint. The composition of the
 2 subcommittee was approved June 1: Reverend David Abbot,
 3 Reverend Christine Bohn, Elder Henry Johnson, and
 4 Reverend Elizabeth Rice.

5 The committee convened its first meeting on June 9,
 6 2010, the intent being to determine its agenda and the
 7 process for achieving outcomes. The committee received
 8 guidance from the Stated Clerk, Ed Koster, concerning
 9 process and the parameters of its investigation.

10 The committee's task was to investigate and make a
 11 recommendation to the Committee on Preparation for
 12 Ministry concerning Mr. Priest's suitability for
 13 ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. It was
 14 not this committee's task to determine whether or not the
 15 Constitution of the PC(USA) was violated. This committee
 16 was advisory to CPM on matters of suitability and
 17 preparation for ministry; disciplinary or judicial
 18 proceedings were not this committee's purview.

19 We met again on June 22, 2010, to begin scheduling
 20 interviews and to clarify our approach to the
 21 investigation.

22 On July 15, 2010, we interviewed Ruth Azar. Key
 23 issues included:

24 Concerns about Mr. Priest's interactions with staff
 25 and volunteers at Second Mile Center (SMC), disturbing



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1 statements made by Mr. Priest during his visit to SMC, a
2 perception that Second Mile Center was being targeted by
3 Mr. Priest and its ministry devalued and undermined.

4 On July 28, 2010, we met to discuss the interview
5 with Ms. Azar and plan for the interview with Mr. Priest.

6 On August 9, 2010, we interviewed Mr. Priest, who
7 was accompanied by his Advocate, Elder Darrell Reynolds.
8 The committee found it notable that Mr. Priest gave
9 lengthy responses to the questions and frequently
10 redirected the conversation. Key issues included: a
11 denial of certain comments and insistence that others
12 were taken out of context. Mr. Priest's desire that
13 Barnabas Youth Opportunities Center and Second Mile work
14 together, share resources, and visit other urban
15 ministries. His preferred model of urban ministry and
16 his interpretations of his observations of Second Mile
17 Center.

18 On August 13, 2010, we met to discuss and plan.

19 On September 28, 2010, we interviewed separately
20 Sandra Addrow, Lawrence Lorkowski, and Elder Stan
21 Edwards. We interviewed each person specifically about
22 their personal interactions with Mr. Priest during his
23 visits to Second Mile Ministries and Barnabas Youth
24 Opportunities Center and a later meeting at Second Mile.

25 On November 19, 2010, we met for discussion and



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1 further planning.

2 On November 30, 2010, we met for further discussion

3 and also to interview another witness, who was present at

4 the later meeting at Second Mile Center.

5 On December 10, 2010, we met again for further

6 discussion of past interviews and also to interview a

7 final witness.

8 On January 11, 2011, we met again to draft a report

9 and recommendation.

10 We finalized our report on January 18, 2011.

11 **CENTRAL ISSUES**

12 Three primary areas of concern were identified by

13 this committee.

14 One of these concerns has to do with use of

15 authority. In arranging his first visit to Second Mile

16 Center, Mr. Priest identified himself as a seminary

17 student preparing a paper for a class. In subsequent

18 activities, however, Mr. Priest regularly used his

19 influence and authority as Moderator of Presbytery and

20 former moderator of the Metropolitan Urban Ministries

21 Team to lobby decision-making bodies within presbytery to

22 share his view of work and structure of Second Mile

23 Center. At the same time, Mr. Priest did not notify

24 Second Mile that he was taking his findings and

25 interpretation of those findings to presbytery, nor did



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1 he use that same influence and authority to provide an
2 opportunity for Second Mile to have voice in actions
3 intended to affect dramatically the future of the Center.
4 In other words, Mr. Priest represented himself as a
5 student to the subjects of his investigation, but freely
6 applied the authority of presbytery office to pursue
7 actions against those subjects.

8 This committee also observed a consistent pattern of
9 Mr. Priest prejudging the opinions and experiences of
10 others without listening to what they had to say about
11 their own opinions and experiences. People
12 self-identifying with three different racial-ethnic
13 groups (white, Arab-American, and African-American)
14 indicated to the committee their frustration and
15 discomfort when they perceived that Mr. Priest assumed he
16 knew what they thought about certain issues (or what they
17 should think) based on his perception of their
18 racial-ethnic identity. At least in certain
19 circumstances, it appears that Mr. Priest was unwilling
20 to listen to what people had to say about their
21 experience and opinions and was, instead, rather
22 forceful verbally in attributing his experience and
23 opinion to others.

24 It is evident to this committee that Mr. Priest is
25 fiercely devoted to his preferred model of urban



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1 ministry. This committee is concerned that Mr. Priest is
2 unwilling to acknowledge the legitimacy of alternative
3 ministry styles and routinely uses methods of
4 confrontation and intimidation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

6 It is the opinion of this committee that Candidate
7 Priest's current pattern of confrontational behaviors
8 would cause great difficulty in a congregation and in a
9 presbytery.

10 Therefore, this committee moves that CPM require
11 Mr. Priest to participate in the Mediation Skills
12 Training Institute for Church Leaders led by the Lombard
13 Mennonite Peace Center.

14 Additionally, we move that at an appropriate future
15 time CPM examine Mr. Priest to assess his pastoral
16 development in the areas identified above.

17 This assessment might include such tools as asking
18 Mr. Priest to write papers on what he has learned
19 personally and professionally from the mediation skills
20 training and his own sense of pastoral identity and
21 authority.

22 Respectfully submitted, Reverend David Abbot,
23 Reverend Christine Bohn, Elder Henry Johnson, and
24 Reverend Elizabeth Rice."

25 REV. DOWNS: Thank you very much.



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1 This is now the time for Tom and Mr. Wallace,
2 Reverend Wallace to direct any comment or questions. The
3 questions, please direct at the committee, this committee
4 here, CPM, and not to the investigating committee. Any of the
5 comments and questions that you might raise we will definitely
6 ask them, but that will be done in close session, executive
7 session.

8 So you have the floor.

9 REV. WALLACE: Thank you. May I start?

10 REV. DOWNS: Please.

11 REV. WALLACE: Mr. Priest asked me some time ago to
12 assist him in this and other issues related to the complaint
13 of Mrs. Azar. As you know, Mrs. Azar filed a formal
14 complaint, disciplinary complaint, that initiated this
15 proceeding. That disciplinary complaint was directed to the
16 stated clerk of the presbytery and to the stated clerk of the
17 sponsoring church for Mr. Priest.

18 Investigative committee is formed by the session of
19 his own church or sponsoring church, and that investigating
20 committee examined and did the same thing as this committee.
21 That committee has declined to file charges. Mr. Priest was
22 charged in the complaint by Mrs. Azar with racial
23 discrimination, reverse racial discrimination, among other
24 charges.

25 Mr. Priest denies and has repeatedly said he did not



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1 say or do the things with which Ms. Azar has written or
2 charged. Now, this committee has appointed its own
3 investigative committee. I must submit as a student of the
4 Book of Order, CPM, and I am a long-standing member of the CPM
5 in Virginia, CPM's have the right and power and ability and
6 directive to consider the suitability of persons seeking to be
7 ordained. You have that right and you have the right to
8 exercise that and you have the right to look in to matters.
9 There's no question about that. But the issue as we, as I
10 look at it and we look at it up front is what you are doing
11 here is in excess of that right. And you're going to say, oh,
12 no, I'm attacking the process, and you're going to be upset
13 that I'm attacking your process, but I have to point out to
14 you that Ms. Azar's original complaint was a disciplinary
15 complaint. It is filed under D6 of the Book of Order. That
16 is a disciplinary complaint. This committee had the right to
17 look into those issues, but it could not do so as a second
18 investigative committee or second judicial committee.

19 You will tell me, oh, no, there's plenty of language
20 in what our report is that's been submitted. There's language
21 in it that says we're not doing anything that's disciplinary
22 when this is not a judicial proceeding, that's not within this
23 committee's purview, I agree, and you have said that and
24 remarkably so that is the purview of what's in the
25 investigation.

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1 Do CPM's appoint ad hoc committees? All the time.
2 Do they ask the seat to look into matters? All the time. Is
3 that within your purview and power? Yes, but there's a line.
4 And when you style your report as investigative "CPM
5 Subcommittee Convened in the Matter of Complaint by Ruth
6 Azar," the complaint is a disciplinary complaint. Now I would
7 point out to you there's nothing in G14.0400 that authorizes
8 you to act as a judicial commission or as an investigative
9 committee appointed by a body such as a presbytery or a
10 session or a general assembly. Just don't have that power.
11 You may exercise it as you have done here informally, which
12 you have gone about it and we been saying we're objecting to
13 the approach you're taking getting to a result that you have a
14 right to get to. We're objecting to the process, because we
15 believe this is an irregularity under the Book of Order, and I
16 advised Mr. Priest that it is such an irregularity and if
17 carried to finality could form the basis for remedial action.
18 That's my advice. That's not what Mr. Priest is doing.
19 Mr. Priest comes today to say to you that he's in
20 submission to you. He wants to work with this committee. He
21 seeks this committee's approval and endorsement and movement
22 from candidate to readiness so he can move on with the
23 process. He feels a deep spiritual call to serve as a
24 minister of the word and sacrament in the presbytery church
25 USA. He also says that he's listening to the Holy Spirit to

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1 discern as to how he should respond to this. Also should tell
2 you that he bears malice toward none and that he wishes that
3 the process here today would be fully spelled out and spread
4 out so that you, too, could see what many have seen, these
5 actions either didn't occur or are not violative or are not as
6 conclusions of the committee.

7 We're going back to the first point, we object to
8 the proceedings in the way in which we're doing with a court
9 reporter; with an agenda that spells out a number of places
10 that this is a hearing; that the report itself has language
11 that we're here to investigate yet takes Mr. Priest to task
12 for any number of things; and, in fact, what has occurred here
13 is a disciplinary hearing without all of the rights, all of
14 the duties that are owed a person facing a disciplinary
15 hearing. For example, Ms. Azar is not here today to be
16 cross-examined. If you look at and hear all of the evidence,
17 these statements were not made to her. They were supposedly
18 made to others, yet when you examine them and look at the
19 records, it did not happen in the context which they were
20 reported.

21 So first thing is Ms. Azar's not here, can't be
22 examined nor the other witnesses, not been confronted, not
23 given the information which they presented, given this
24 conclusion by this committee and this report by this
25 committee.



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1 He is charged in the complaint which she originally
2 brought with racial discrimination. That is not Tom Priest.
3 That is nothing about him. That's just not where he comes
4 from. Is he an African-American? Sure. He will tell you he
5 sees through the lens of presbyterian elder. He sees through
6 the lens of being presbytery. Yes, he's concerned about
7 issues of justice for African-Americans and for all and he's
8 concerned about those kinds of things, but not inordinately to
9 the point of saying or doing things.

10 Now, we also take issue not only with the process,
11 and frankly, I have to say that process Mr. Priest is in a
12 very difficult position, because if he challenges the process
13 he may never get ordained. This committee has the power and
14 the right to say whether he should ever be ordained. You can
15 do it in a number of ways and you can say, no, he always has
16 the right to go to presbytery and challenge their decision.
17 But where does that get him if he does that, what is the taste
18 in your mouth, what is the future, how are we working together
19 if we go that route? So a more reasoned route and a route
20 certainly recommended that he's willing to take is we have to
21 be here, we have to participate. We object to it, because we
22 believe it violates his rights and we have to participate and
23 we are participating. We don't waive that, but there's no
24 other way to go with this. We have to go ahead the way it is
25 today.



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1 Now, let me talk to you for a moment about the
2 evidence that is in this case. On February 18, 2009,
3 Mr. Priest went to Second Mile Center as part of a seminary
4 project to look at urban ministries within the presbytery as
5 opposed to the model being taught in the seminary. I don't
6 know whether that model is good, bad, or otherwise. I just
7 know that's the model the professors are teaching and that was
8 a part of his courses to go in some center somewhere against
9 the model. So he went to the two in the presbytery, the two
10 centers in the presbytery, urban ministry centers, one on the
11 17th, one on the 18th.

12 He then presented on March 9th, he presented his
13 report to the seminary, and we have all the slides and
14 everything he said is on those slides and documents. I trust
15 the committee had access to it and can see it. On March 12th
16 he presented that again to the seminary, and on the 16th he
17 shared the results in March of '09 with both centers meeting
18 with Mr. Edwards who's here, one of the centers and meeting
19 with Ms. Azar, the other head, and he shared results of his
20 study of his visit there at both centers compared to the
21 model. He believes in the model, rightly or wrong he believes
22 in the model. As the committee reports he prefers that model.
23 I don't see anything wrong with preferring a particular model
24 with having to do urban ministry, but that's certainly a
25 mistake.

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1 But anyway, in March '09 he met with Ms. Azar and
2 other folks from SMC, Second Mile, and Mr. Edwards, and
3 presented his findings. They were all present together. He
4 only ever spoke with Ms. Azar twice. Once was during his
5 visit, once first visit; once during his presentation of his
6 findings on March 16th. March 16, '09, onward he had no
7 contact with Ms. Azar.

8 Now, hold that over here aside to deal with another
9 factual setting that I'm sure the committee also went in to.
10 For a long time there was a question of Ms. Azar's and the
11 center's reporting or oversight, reporting to or oversight by
12 presbytery, and one of the issues was, how do we as a
13 presbytery, how to raise benefits and who has oversight. So
14 that needed to be cleaned up. Had nothing to do with
15 Mr. Priest. Started long before he came on board. Mr. Priest
16 was hired by a women's council, I may not be given exact right
17 name, that oversaw Second Mile Center. But the question came
18 up, how to make sure she's under the purview, control, and
19 oversight of the presbytery. That was in the works before
20 Mr. Priest ever went out there.

21 On March 2, '09, the coordinating cabinet of
22 presbytery approved the Second Mile Center model that is with
23 Ms. Azar at the head and approved it to come in under the
24 oversight of the presbytery. June 23, '09 the presbytery
25 approved the action of the coordinating cabinet of March 2,

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1 '09, and said, yes, we will accept her, accept her as
 2 employees or technical employees of the presbytery. Again,
 3 this is not something that Mr. Priest was involved in
 4 directly. But I must tell you for the full year of 2009, he
 5 served as moderator of the presbytery and also a member of the
 6 coordinating cabinet. Why is that important? Because in
 7 September, October 2009, a lady named Rosy Lattimore submits a
 8 letter to stated clerk or to the coordinating cabinet and the
 9 stated clerk weighs in on it and deals with the question of,
 10 the question of can the presbytery approve a position and make
 11 a presbytery position without adhering to the rules of the
 12 presbytery procedure of the presbytery regarding open bidding
 13 and open advertising and that type of thing. Can we just
 14 allow somebody to come in to that position without having to
 15 go through the process the presbytery says this is our
 16 procedure when we have presbyteries all over.

17 Coordinating cabinet some time between October 5 and
 18 December 5 of '09 looked into the subject. Mr. Priest was on
 19 that committee, and they agreed on December 5 to send a letter
 20 to Ms. Lattimore that says, in the future we're not going to
 21 do this. We're not going to just take somebody in without
 22 advertising, promoting the position. But there are
 23 extenuating circumstances here, and so we're not going to
 24 undue this particular one, that's December 5, 2009.

25 Now Mr. Priest's term as moderator ends with the



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1 January 2010 meeting. No action has been taken by anybody to
2 do anything at that point in time except the committee that
3 he's a member of has written back to Ms. Lattimore saying,
4 you're right, it probably was a violation of our procedure but
5 the extenuating circumstances we're going to leave it that
6 way. Once he's no longer moderator in April 2010, he prepares
7 and requests and submits to the presbytery a motion to rescind
8 that action, that action of approval of the appointment and
9 the adoption of Ms. Azar as that position. He was not at that
10 presbytery meeting in 2010.

11 Another, Ms. Lattimore did offer the motion. There
12 was a lot of exchange in that time frame April 2010 just
13 before the presbytery meeting about six or seven days before.
14 One part of the exchange that went on during that time frame
15 was executive presbytery provided Mrs. Azar with a heads up,
16 this motion is coming and I want you to know about it and
17 stated clerk talked about e-mails talking about here's the way
18 the parliamentary process and procedure we're going to use at
19 that meeting, presbytery meeting.

20 One of the things this jumps out at that point in
21 time is an e-mail at that point in time, now talking about
22 April 2010, that Ms. Azar said to the presbytery, what can we
23 do to bring charges against Mr. Priest and Ms. Lattimore,
24 because this is just a wreck? And they are told and response,
25 here's where you go to find out how to do a complaint. So a



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1 complaint was filed.

2 Now, the timing, I submit to this committee, is a
3 big issue, something I would really want to know about. Why
4 Ms. Azar, why from March of '09 when he makes his report with
5 Mr. Edwards present -- I'm not sure what Mr. Edwards remembers
6 -- why was nothing taken until this motion came up by a member
7 of presbytery? Any member of the presbytery has a right to
8 make a motion, and there's nothing wrong with making motion.
9 May not agree with it and you could certainly vote them down,
10 but why did nothing go on until after the motion came forward
11 over being deposed in April 2010, thirteen months later.

12 The presbytery at the April 27 meeting did not deal
13 with that motion directly. The presbytery at that motion, at
14 that meeting heard a motion by another who said, I move that
15 we not hear that motion. I object to it and move we not hear
16 it. So presbytery voted on that issue and that issue
17 prevailed and the motion that Mr. Priest was offered was not
18 heard, read, made, voted on per se.

19 I will submit to you in July 2010, Mr. Priest and
20 Elder Dorothy Seabrooks and Ms. Lattimore filed a complaint
21 with the Senate about that process, that is how can you deny a
22 motion and rule it out of order before you ever had a motion
23 made? Is that appropriate process, is there an issue here?
24 That has since been dismissed for jurisdiction. Mr. Priest
25 was not at the meeting so he did not have standing.



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1 The other motion of the other two was a day late in
2 being filed, so it was dismissed as not timely, that's all.

3 In the meantime, the complaint had been filed by
4 Ms. Azar and Mr. Priest's sponsoring church along with
5 investigative committee and began hearing. The presbytery did
6 not form an investigative committee. This committee did and
7 the Book of Order gives you the power to look into things, but
8 not in the form of investigative committee. So we would
9 submit to you that if you look at all of the facts and all of
10 the documents and all of the records, and hear all of the
11 witnesses -- for example, Mr. Edwards is given a statement
12 saying I was there in March 2009 at the meeting with
13 Mr. Priest and Ms. Azar and myself to figure out how the
14 directors of the two urban ministries program of presbytery of
15 Detroit can work together and share information and resources.
16 There's nothing in this statement, nothing in this statement
17 that says Mr. Priest made disparaging remarks, didn't listen,
18 abused his authority or did anything racial or made any racial
19 statements or acted in any way untoward toward Ms. Azar or the
20 Second Mile. I have his statement here and submit it to be
21 part of the record if there's no objection. But in essence,
22 he's saying this is the one that was difficult when I read it.
23 I received this yesterday.

24 CPM shared with me that Tom and Ruth had several
25 meetings which I had not attended. Mr. Priest would tell you



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1 that was his second meeting with her and all the meetings he
2 ever had. And CPM representatives, I felt they already made
3 up their minds before they come and meet with me since they
4 waited so long to find out what happened. CPM representatives
5 assured me they did not form an opinion. Time delay was due
6 to them just getting information April 2010. So I read that
7 particular paragraph to show again the time line that 13
8 months after the fact, 13 months after the last meeting, there
9 are charges made by Mrs. Azar, charges that are disciplinary
10 in nature which are very damaging to Mr. Priest, charges which
11 accuse him of very serious offenses if true.

12 This committee says one of the concerns we have is
13 with the use of authority. Nothing that Mr. Priest did in
14 March of '09 was as moderator of the presbytery. In fact,
15 there's no evidence that says he came in and said, I'm the
16 moderator, I want to do this. The evidence is that he was
17 there doing a study and he shared results of that study as a
18 student with his school and with the two centers. Mr. Edwards
19 will share that this is what I heard him say. So what
20 authority is he exercising in '09? He is the moderator of the
21 presbytery. He is on the coordinating cabinet. But while as
22 a moderator, nothing came up at a presbytery meeting that he
23 swayed, oversaw, or did, or any actions taken by him there
24 against Second Mile. In fact, as a member of the coordinating
25 cabinet he was part of the cabinet's discernment and



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1 discussion when they responded to Ms. Lattimore's concern
2 that, yes, we didn't follow procedure but you're correct, but
3 this isn't the case to change it. We will leave it as is.

4 So that whole year '09 when he's in that position of
5 moderator and member of that committee, where is any evidence
6 that he used his authority against Second Mile Center or
7 Ms. Azar? And we take strong exception to that inclusion,
8 that he abused his authority, which is a very serious charge.
9 But we will say this at this point too, if the conclusion of
10 those listed in trying to discern as this sounds like that to
11 us, certainly apologize and begs forgiveness because that's
12 not who he is or what he was trying to do and that's a
13 misperception of what actually happened on that occasion.

14 But you cannot point to any place in any record of
15 the presbytery or in the coordinating cabinet, you cannot
16 point to any evidence there that says here, here's when he
17 abused his power, here's where he over-used his authority,
18 here's where he took advantage of that authority. And the
19 motion was made in April 2010 by him to look into the issue,
20 not Ms. Azar, but look into the issue of, can we allow folks
21 to be put in presbytery positions without following our
22 process and procedure, and if not, what should we do about
23 situations for that to occur. He has the right to make that
24 motion as member of the presbytery. Is that an abuse of his
25 authority? He disagreed and goodness knows I go to presbytery



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1 meetings all the time, people disagree. Is that an abuse of
2 authority? I submit that is not.

3 It says at that time, Mr. Priest did not notify
4 Second Mile he was taking his findings and interpretations of
5 findings to presbytery. There's no evidence he took them to
6 presbytery at the time that he was moderator or member of
7 coordinating cabinet. Now, did it come up at some later time
8 to the presbytery when he made the motion? Sure. But is that
9 wrong to at that point in time raise it in support of his
10 motion? He says he didn't use that same influence and
11 authority to provide opportunity to Second Mile and voice and
12 actions intended to dramatically affect him. He was not
13 moderator. He was not dysfunction if he filed a motion to
14 tell them this is the motion per se. The motion is not
15 directed at them per se, although certainly can be perceived
16 that way.

17 I submit to you the conclusion drawn about abuse of
18 authority is, we submit, overreaching.

19 Now the committee also observed a consistent pattern
20 of prejudging the opinions and experiences of others without
21 listening. All of us need to be better listeners, and if he's
22 not a good listener I think this committee ought to encourage
23 him to be a better listener and encourage him to take training
24 in being a better listener. Mediation skills, I don't know if
25 he needs that. I'm a mediator. I certainly handle hundreds



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1 and hundreds of mediations in my life time, does that train
2 you to listen? Yes. So does counseling courses I took in
3 seminary, they trained me to listen. So years of practice of
4 law trained me to listen. Lots of places you can go to learn
5 to listen. Not everybody's a good listener. The bible tells
6 you over and over, hear, see. Always enjoy the line, God gave
7 us two ears and one tongue, two eyes and one tongue, so
8 suggests I need to hear twice as much as I talk. I know you
9 want me to shut up now.

10 I think those are two serious things, abuse of
11 authority and persistent pattern of prejudging. I think if
12 you sat and listened to Mr. Priest, find out who he is. He's
13 a man, middle age, hearing the call of God to serve, to be a
14 minister of the word and sacrament. How easy it would be to
15 say I'm too old, too many other things going on, but he's here
16 and listening to the Holy Spirit. He cares about people. Is
17 he an African-American concerned about issues of justice and
18 fairness? Yes, but all of us are whether we're
19 African-American, otherwise. We as Christians certainly heard
20 the words of our Lord speaking to us and walk humbly before
21 our God and seek justice and love mercy.

22 Tom Priest I know is that way. I think the
23 gentleman here with us today, say the Tom Priest that they
24 know is that way. Does that mean he's not to speak out on
25 issues where he doesn't think it's right? If a job is going

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1 to be offered in a minority area is it right not to have it
 2 advertised so it can be filled by someone who may not have
 3 gone through that process? I think that's fair to raise that
 4 question. Maybe in this case we wished he hadn't, but is it
 5 fair to raise it? I think there's folks here who raised
 6 questions about that before.

7 Now, the suggestion that there's something wrong
 8 being fiercely devoted to his preferred model of urban
 9 ministry, I don't know that that's objectionable, but if being
 10 fiercely devoted is a problem, we again beg forgiveness. I
 11 don't think that's really what the issue is here.

12 Seems to me in looking at the charges, concerns as
 13 they are called, dealing with authority and consistent
 14 patterns and assumptions of knowing more than others know. I
 15 think those are admonitions that he needs, fair to say them
 16 and tell him he needs to be concerned about those things, but
 17 not in the context of a disciplinary proceeding, not in a
 18 context where every word is being taken down and preserved for
 19 goodness knows what purpose, not in the context of
 20 investigating a complaint of this committee that doesn't have
 21 the authority to do them, investigating presbytery itself.
 22 Seems to me when we on CPM approach a candidate we're here for
 23 two functions. Gatekeeping surely and we have to do that.
 24 But nurturing too, and I commend you because I think your
 25 report does seek to provide, nurture, gatekeeping and nurture



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1 and comes to the recommendation. Frankly, we're fine with the
2 recommendation and perhaps would even say let's go with them
3 but not with the conclusions and not with the report and not
4 with the process.

5 So when we conclude all of this, what we ask you to
6 do is not approve this report as it's written, because it
7 makes a very strong statement about this man that could be
8 damaging for the rest of his, potentially damaging for the
9 rest of his career, but to adopt the recommendations and say
10 we reviewed the report and we mark it as receive. We do not
11 adopt the report but we do believe that the recommendations,
12 we do accept the recommendations. As our moderator has said,
13 Ms. Bohn said at the beginning, often CPM's do require
14 additional steps not particularly spelled out in the Book of
15 Order, but certainly in the purview of determining suitability
16 and nurture. I think it would be appropriate to assure
17 yourselves that, one, this man is ready to go forward at some
18 point in time. I think you ought to do that, but to assign to
19 him fault and to investigate him in this way and determine
20 that he has violated certain steps and proceedings, I would
21 encourage you not to do that.

22 I appreciate your listening to me and letting me go
23 through this. I can take you through the evidence. I brought
24 copies of all the documents I referred to that if you would
25 like to have them. I got Mr. Priest here. I got Mr. Edwards



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1 here. We can go through any or all of this, but we will ask
 2 you in the long run don't adopt this report as is stated but
 3 do seek to discern ways to assure that this man is ready at
 4 the appropriate time and he wants to continue in the process.
 5 He wants to be, to answer the call that he believes God is
 6 making to him to be ordained in word and sacrament and serve
 7 in that capacity. It would be very easy just to say, no, we
 8 hear that but our committee did this and they're good people
 9 and we're not going to budge. This is our committee and we're
 10 right. I submit to you if we considered every fact fully, you
 11 come to a different conclusion number one. And number two, I
 12 would submit to you in a court of law which my arena has been
 13 for 35 years before I became a lawyer on this side of the
 14 house, minister lawyer, this is a case evidentially Ms. Azar's
 15 case would not stand up, be dismissed and investigative
 16 committee heard the evidence that was their conclusion. They
 17 did not press charges. Obviously they're not a commission or
 18 a court. They have to decide whether there's probable cause.
 19 That's the lesser standard of necessity of guilt.

20 Thank you for listening to me, and if you want to
 21 hear anything from Mr. Priest he'll certainly speak if you'll
 22 let him to.

23 ELDER PRIEST: May I speak now?

24 REV. DOWNS: Sure.

25 ELDER PRIEST: Thank you. I ditto everything



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1 Mr. Wallace said. I just want to give you an idea when I met
2 with him I drove overnight to Richmond, Virginia, where he's
3 stationed, where he lives. And I stayed at a hotel, he told
4 me I should never stayed at, but I went to school in DC in
5 that area so I knew the area. I stayed at the Days Inn and
6 when I drove up to the exit at two in the morning I didn't see
7 any lights, I didn't see anything. Where was I? Finally I
8 drove up, somebody came out. Half the units were windows were
9 knocked out and vacant. That's the only place I could afford.
10 I drove to his office and next to his office was a nice hotel.

11 So we sit there for four hours and he said, look,
12 you need to tell me everything. I never sat with a lawyer
13 before. He said you need to tell me everything, everything.
14 If you did tell me whatever I need for you to deny what you,
15 what's true, what is not true, and stand up for what you said
16 from the beginning. And we went through that. A very
17 spiritual, a very open experience for me.

18 I'm going to add to what he has said. When I met
19 with the committee, excuse me, the investigative committee for
20 CPM, when I met with them we met for roughly two hours and my
21 advocate Darrell, Darrell Reynolds was with me, and we did not
22 complete the investigation. We just got through preliminaries
23 where I was explaining the report, why I was there, and the
24 time line. So as we were going through that, the chair of the
25 committee said we need to reconvene because we ran out of



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1 time. So we need to get back together, because we're not
 2 finished. So I said, I cannot commit to rescheduling until I
 3 meet with my attorney. I have always been and continue to be
 4 led by the Holy Spirit to do what is right and I felt it was
 5 right thing to honor Betsy's request for me to come to you,
 6 because I have the upmost respect for Betsy and during this
 7 process for CPM everybody has been fine. Need to look at
 8 this, look at that, very open and up front as I have been. So
 9 with that, I told out of respect for that I came to this
 10 meeting without an attorney, but the next meeting I need to
 11 have my attorney with me. So I will call you back when I get
 12 an attorney to reschedule the rest of the meeting.

13 I sent an e-mail on September 26, Greetings, Betsy,
 14 I pray all is well with you and your family. I am now able to
 15 schedule a time to meet with the investigating committee. At
 16 our last meeting I was unable to schedule a next meeting until
 17 I consulted with my lawyer. Please let me know possible time
 18 the investigative committee is available to meet.

19 I received a response back from Betsy. My prayers
 20 continue with you and all involved in investigation. Thank
 21 you for letting me know. The committee meets again tomorrow,
 22 and I will let you know.

23 I did not hear back from the committee until I got
 24 the report. So I felt at all that at least there should be
 25 some continuation to have an opportunity that there was some



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1 work left undone.

2 I am very sensitive to conclusions that were drawn
3 about me, because in fact that is not my behavior. Everything
4 that has been said I have been up front and above board. Not
5 all people agree with what I said, but I been always up front,
6 honest, and above board with everything. Most members of my
7 church, and Darrell and Stanley can talk to that, didn't even
8 know I was moderator presbytery before. All they know is, we
9 call Tom to teach Sunday school. He teaches Sunday school.
10 Need him to come preach, he'll preach. Need Tom to come work
11 the food ministry, Tom will work the food ministry. Whatever
12 my church asks me to serve, that's what I did.

13 I'm not the type person that even uses titles or
14 offices. You go into my office and work where I was working
15 you didn't see any awards. You go in my office at home, no
16 awards, no diplomas, no anything. I been like that my whole
17 life.

18 So being led by the Holy Spirit, not one time during
19 my discernment process I committed to this call. I put myself
20 under the guidance of this committee. I feel like a fighter,
21 a prize fighter call, one or two punches I have to take
22 another one. I don't like it. I don't want to do it, but if
23 that's what God is calling me to do and I put myself under the
24 authority of this body, I have to do it. I understand what it
25 means to walk humbly with God. It means you may have to do



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1 things you don't want to do. Am I'm ready to go into
2 ministry? Yes, I'm ready. I felt I been ready since I
3 accepted the call. Is patience once of my virtues? No, but
4 it's one of the things I'm learning to grow in to, but humbly
5 to me is overriding patience. It means to, if I have to do
6 this, I have to do what I have to do, and I'm willing to
7 accept that. But as Mr. Wallace says, not under the
8 conditions of being portrayed in this manner.

9 I mentioned to my lawyer and I want to mention this
10 to you. If it's an issue of conflict, it takes more than one
11 person to have conflict. If this training is offered to
12 myself and to Ruth and Tim, Ed Koster, whoever, to me that
13 would be a building and living community. We all go together.
14 Let's all go do it and work together. I feel because I'm
15 different or because I'm assessed to be different, I go out,
16 you get right and come back to us. I've already submit myself
17 to this authority, but in the building of community which is
18 already built by God, we have to live in it. To go out
19 together to work together on sensitivity training, conflict
20 resolution training together with the people you have conflict
21 with is a much better idea and I would be more than happy to
22 do it, if it takes five years, ten years, whatever, I would
23 not have a problem with that. But to send me out alone to
24 come back under these conditions, I'm very concerned with
25 that.

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1 Again, I submit myself under the auspices and
2 authority of this body to pray that you discern the Holy
3 Spirit to do what is right based on the evidence and data.

4 REV. DOWNS: Either of you have anything else you
5 like to add? Now you were writing down some of the issues I'm
6 assuming in your notes, Marjorie, we want to be sure to bring
7 up in our private discussion. I've written down a couple
8 things, questions that I think I heard you wanting us to raise
9 and let me run those by you so that, to see if I heard you
10 right.

11 One is to look at a time line of all of these events
12 and even before the complaint was filed to look kind of
13 backwards in time and carry it forward to see what connections
14 we may or may not see.

15 Another was to examine the evidence that there was
16 any abuse of his authority as moderator in testimonies that
17 were received and again in the process of the events that
18 occurred; is that correct?

19 REV. WALLACE: That is right.

20 REV. DOWNS: The other one, these are in regard to
21 the three issues that were raised in investigating committee.

22 The third one was related to listening and
23 consistent pattern so to speak of jumping to conclusions and
24 prejudging and again ask us to look back at what the evidence
25 is there for that.



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1 I think that was, that's what I heard, that's what I
2 jotted notes down. I don't know if anybody wrote anything
3 else down.

4 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I heard that the
5 recommendation would be that this committee consider approving
6 the recommendations, adopting the recommendations, but not the
7 report.

8 REV. DOWNS: To receive the report, but not adopt
9 the report.

10 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Not adopt the recommendations.

11 REV. DOWNS: Tom?

12 ELDER PRIEST: Other thing Mr. Wallace said and
13 myself, the witnesses, initial witnesses, that information
14 made available as part of evidence. Mr. Edwards witness
15 information and witnesses at the meetings, two of the
16 witnesses that are signed in the report were not at attended
17 other meetings.

18 REV. DOWNS: I'm a little, I'm a little confused.

19 ELDER PRIEST: Evidence part that Mr. Wallace
20 mentioned was also important as far as the record, was
21 Mr. Edwards' written deposition.

22 REV. DOWNS: I see.

23 ELDER PRIEST: And then the other witnesses that
24 were part of that, that's a theme, two of the witnesses that
25 are included in this report were not part of any of the



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1 meetings I had at Second Mile Center.

2 REV. DOWNS: "In this report" meaning the committee?

3 ELDER PRIEST: This report here.

4 REV. DOWNS: The investigating committee's report?

5 ELDER PRIEST: Yes, investigating committee. Two of

6 those witnesses were not at any of the meetings regarding

7 Second Mile. The fourth witness they did not identify. I had

8 to call and ask for the other two witnesses, was not involved

9 in any way with Second Mile Center. So those three people

10 listed in this report, one unnamed and two named, were not

11 involved in any of these.

12 REV. DOWNS: And the unnamed ones I'm assuming you

13 know who they are?

14 ELDER PRIEST: I know who they are now. I wish they

15 had put them in the report. I had to call and ask.

16 REV. DOWNS: We will be happy to receive any

17 paperwork you like to add to this. Please not 150 pages. We

18 need to be able to distribute it and have folks take a look

19 at. But Mr. Edwards' comments copy you have apparently a

20 sheet of his remarks?

21 REV. WALLACE: I have.

22 REV. DOWNS: Thank you.

23 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: What's on that paper?

24 REV. DOWNS: This is a narrative from Mr. Stanley

25 Edwards, Elder, about your participation in the meetings with

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Exhibit I

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1 Tom; is that correct?

2 ELDER CLARK: Did it come out in all the discussion
3 that Mr. Edwards is the leader at Barnabas which is the other
4 two centers?

5 REV. DOWNS: I think it was mentioned in the
6 introductions, but thank you.

7 ELDER CLARK: I think he's also chairman at
8 Barnabas.

9 REV. DOWNS: Thank you.

10 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: In listening to your eloquence,
11 Mr. Wallace became quite aware that there's a suggestion that
12 there was a subtext in all of this involving possible
13 retribution by Mrs. Azar for the fact that Mr. Priest was
14 involved in the issues concerning with how she came upon her
15 position at Second Mile Center. This is not something that
16 I'm aware has been suggested previously, and I'm anxious, Tom,
17 to ask you if you feel this whole thing evolved as a result of
18 the role you played with Mrs. Lattimore and Dorothy Seabrook
19 in the concerns about how it came to be that she was named as
20 the coordinator of Second Mile Center. Do you feel that you
21 were in fact a target as a result of her feeling for your
22 involvement in calling that in to question?

23 REV. WALLACE: May I answer that? The short
24 answer's, yes.

25 Second thing I would add if I might, maybe little



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1 longer answer. Ms. Lattimore acted initially on her own.

2 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I'm having a hard time
3 hearing.

4 REV. WALLACE: Mrs. Lattimore initiated the action
5 on her own. Subsequently, Mr. Priest believed that justice
6 had not been done in allowing someone to be put in a position
7 without going through advertising and discernment by the
8 presbytery about, is this the right person. So he then took
9 up that issue himself. But when he did the motion, in
10 response to that motion, we even had it e-mailed from
11 Mrs. Azar to the effect, what can we do to bring charges
12 against him now that we know he's going to file this motion
13 that's been filed and going to be brought to presbytery on the
14 27th of 2010. She writes on the 21st, what can we do to bring
15 charges against him? There no charges, nothing, 13 months.
16 So our submission is that this is retaliation and it's
17 unfortunate and I think she was concerned about her job.

18 I would offer to you also, and I don't know if the
19 committee, investigative committee has this, but trustees
20 minutes for Second Mile Center from late '09 we have those.
21 If you don't, it shows where the problem is within Second Mile
22 Center, the Clark Hill attorney's memorandum in December 2008
23 saying they really are not in keeping with presbytery
24 procedure. The January 22, 2009 motion of the operations
25 ministry team to the coordinating cabinet, and then a series



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1 of e-mails about that, minutes of the coordinating cabinet of
 2 March 2009 showing where it was dealt with, the presbytery
 3 minutes, coordinating council minutes of March 2, '09, again
 4 showing where they're dealing with how do we reconcile that
 5 position not being filled properly. Then we have the slides
 6 that Mr. Priest used in his presentation both in the seminary
 7 and with Mrs. Azar and Mr. Edwards. The minutes of the
 8 Metropolitan Urban Ministry Team is March 12, 2009 where they
 9 dealt with an issue motion to rescind over in 2010, first put
 10 together April 5 and then it shows being sent out by e-mail
 11 showing it being sent out April 12 by moderator, I mean
 12 Executive Presbyter Timm and Stated Clerk Mr. Koster sending
 13 it out to responding to Ms. Azar's concerns.

14 And anyway then one of these e-mails if you like to
 15 have it, one of these e-mails, April 14, we would like to know
 16 what charges we can bring against Mr. Priest and
 17 Ms. Lattimore. We believe this is harassment. We want to
 18 move forward with charges. That's Paragraph 3 of that e-mail.

19 Mr. Koster then writes a response, very eloquent
 20 response the next day saying, you're fair to everybody here,
 21 here's the outline of the process. Anybody can do what they
 22 have to do. Here's how it works, spells it out with a whole
 23 series of e-mails and here's a complaint filed April 21.

24 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: So as a follow-up, Tom, to that,
 25 is it your feeling that Ruth Azar fabricated these allegations



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1 against you of harassment, sexual -- racial insensitivity, and
2 I think some gender inequality, I was going there with that
3 comment? What is then the motivation in your bottom line for
4 what her actions were, the fact that she fabricated these
5 allegations as retribution toward you for the role you saw
6 yourself necessarily having to play in her appointment?

7 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: What's your question, Larry?

8 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: My question is whether Tom feels
9 that the complainant fabricated the allegations as retribution
10 towards him?

11 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I don't know if that would be
12 appropriate to even answer.

13 REV. WALLACE: I was getting ready to say something
14 close to that. We don't say whether she tells the truth or
15 not. We do point to two things. One, we deny all these
16 things, context changes all of these things. They weren't
17 said to her and there was an issue before the house, the
18 presbytery about re-advertising the job. What motivated her I
19 don't think anybody would say.

20 ELDER PRIEST: Can I say something in my defense? I
21 feel bad people talking for me. People aren't used to that
22 from me. I will say this. It's very important to me what
23 Mr. Wallace says about what was said to her, and I think
24 that's a key piece of data what was said to each person
25 individually, not summed up and said these are the comments



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1 that were made. What was said to her, what was said to each
2 person is a critical piece, and that's when you look at the
3 context. And that's when you see things were not said to her
4 and certain things were not said to others, and some were not
5 even said at all.

6 REV. DOWNS: Any other questions addressing
7 different issues, different aspects at this point? Okay, then
8 what I will do is give us a 5 minute recess.

9 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I have an observation.

10 REV. DOWNS: Please do.

11 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I'm more concerned in the report
12 about their observations of their interaction with Mr. Priest
13 when he was with them, and I'm more concerned about their
14 perception with him as a person they were talking with who was
15 a potential candidate for ministry. The allegations, and I
16 understand you be defensive in that situation, but the
17 allegations have been dismissed for lack of evidence and I'm
18 not concerned about the allegations, but I am concerned how he
19 functions with relation to this committee.

20 REV. KOSTER: As a point of order, we don't know why
21 the allegations were dismissed. The Book of Order says that
22 an investigative committee must decide whether it has the
23 evidence to prove it, whether they have considering the people
24 who testified and evidence they have. They could say they
25 didn't violate the constitution, we don't know. So your



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1 statement that there's no evidence of it is probably not quite
2 true.

3 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: To me the allegation, the issue
4 is interaction.

5 REV. KOSTER: I'm just trying to clarify what the
6 rules of evidence say about filing charges.

7 REV. WALLACE: One reason we don't raise the issue,
8 we would have double jeopardy. We don't know why they
9 declined to go forward. All we know is they declined to go
10 forward period. If they said anything more than that and said
11 no evidence then we probably jumping up and down about double
12 jeopardy.

13 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Who declined to go forward?

14 REV. WALLACE: Investigative committee of the
15 church.

16 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The church, I see.

17 REV. WALLACE: The complaint filed by Ms. Azar was
18 to the clerk of session and the stated clerk of presbytery.
19 The presbytery declined to step forward, but the church itself
20 appointed an investigative committee and it's their committee
21 and we appeared before that about two months ago.

22 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I have one other question. What
23 happens to the file of candidates in this presbytery?

24 REV. DOWNS: They are kept until ordination and then
25 the files are given to the candidate.



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1 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: So the file does not follow the
2 candidate once the candidate's ordained?

3 REV. KOSTER: I believe that's true.

4 REV. DOWNS: That's my understanding. I got all
5 mine back. If they weren't supposed to do that, I'm not
6 returning them.

7 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Closed, sealed, and returned
8 upon ordination.

9 REV. RICE: The CPM of the calling presbytery may
10 request to read through the file.

11 ELDER BARBARA JACKSON: What about is he a candidate
12 for ordination?

13 REV. DOWNS: Ordination

14 ELDER BARBARA JACKSON: Okay.

15 REV. DOWNS: We will take a 5 minute recess, and
16 when we reconvene we'll be in executive session.

17 (Off the record 10:29 a.m. through 12:51 p.m.)

18 REV. KOSTER: The committee adjourned from executive
19 session at 12:50 p.m. During the executive session the
20 committee approved the report of the investigating
21 subcommittee and approved the recommendations with amendments.

22 The committee recessed from open session for lunch
23 at 12:55.

24 (Concluded at 12:55 p.m.)
25 - - -



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STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)
COUNTY OF WAYNE)

I certify that this transcript is a complete, true,
and correct record of the testimony of the witness held in
this case.

I also certify that prior to taking this deposition,
the witness was duly sworn or affirmed to tell the truth.

I further certify that I am not a relative or an
employee of or an attorney for a party; and that I am not
financially interested, directly and indirectly, in the
matter.

I hereby set my hand this day, March 10, 2011:

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THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR. - Volume II

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Exhibit J

CPM SUBCOMMITTEE
CONVENED IN THE MATTER
OF COMPLAINT BY RUTH AZAR
AGAINST CANDIDATE THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.

Date of Report – January 18, 2011

Introduction

After prayerful consideration, the CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit, on May 4, 2010, authorized the formation of a subcommittee to investigate the above referenced complaint. The composition of the subcommittee was approved June 1: Reverend David Abbott, Reverend Christine Bohn, Elder Henry Johnson, and Reverend Elizabeth Rice.

The committee convened its first meeting on June 9, 2010, the intent being to determine its agenda and the process for achieving outcomes. The committee received guidance from the Stated Clerk, Ed Koster, concerning process and the parameters of its investigation.

The committee's task was to investigate and make a recommendation to CPM concerning Mr. Priest's suitability for ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. It was not this committee's task to determine whether or not the Constitution of the PC(USA) was violated. This committee was advisory to CPM on matters of suitability and preparation for ministry; disciplinary or judicial proceedings were not this committee's purview.

We met again on June 22, 2010, to begin scheduling interviews and to clarify our approach to the investigation.

On July 15, 2010, we interviewed Ruth Azar. Key issues included:

- concerns about Mr. Priest's interactions with staff and volunteers at Second Mile Center (SMC)
- disturbing statements made by Mr. Priest during his visit to SMC
- a perception that SMC was being targeted by Mr. Priest and its ministry devalued and undermined.

On July 28, 2010, we met to discuss the interview with Ms. Azar and plan for the interview with Mr. Priest.

On August 9, 2010, we interviewed Mr. Priest, who was accompanied by his Advocate, Elder Darrell Reynolds. The committee found it notable that Mr. Priest gave lengthy responses to the questions and frequently redirected the conversation. Key issues included:

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- a denial of certain comments and insistence that others were taken out of context
- Mr. Priest's desire that Barnabas Youth Opportunities Center and SMC work together, share resources, and visit other urban ministries
- his preferred model of urban ministry and his interpretations of his observations of SMC.

On August 13, 2010, we met to discuss and plan.

On September 28, 2010, we interviewed separately Sandra Addrow, Lawrence Lorkowski, and Elder Stan Edwards. We interviewed each person specifically about their personal interactions with Mr. Priest during his visits to SMC and Barnabas Youth Opportunities Center and a later meeting at SMC.

On November 19, 2010, we met for discussion and further planning.

On November 30, 2010, we met for further discussion and also to interview another witness, who was present at the later meeting at SMC.

On December 10, 2010, we met again for further discussion of past interviews and also to interview a final witness.

On January 11, 2011, we met again to draft a report and recommendation.

We finalized our report on January 18, 2011.

Central Issues

Three primary areas of concern were identified by this committee.

One of these concerns has to do with use of authority. In arranging his first visit to Second Mile Center, Mr. Priest identified himself as a seminary student preparing a paper for a class. In subsequent activities, however, Mr. Priest regularly used his influence and authority as Moderator of Presbytery and former moderator of the Metropolitan Urban Ministries Team to lobby decision-making bodies within presbytery to share his view of work and structure of Second Mile Center. At the same time, Mr. Priest did not notify Second Mile that he was taking his findings and interpretation of those findings to presbytery, nor did he use that same influence and authority to provide an opportunity for Second Mile to have voice in actions intended to affect dramatically the future of the Center. In other words, Mr. Priest represented himself as a student to the subjects of his investigation, but freely applied the authority of presbytery office to pursue actions against those subjects.

This committee also observed a consistent pattern of Mr. Priest prejudging the opinions and experiences of others without listening to what they had to say about their own opinions and experiences. People self-identifying with three different racial-ethnic groups (white, Arab-American, and African-American) indicated to the committee their

Exhibit J

frustration and discomfort when they perceived that Mr. Priest assumed he knew what they thought about certain issues (or what they should think) based on his perception of their racial-ethnic identity. At least in certain circumstances, it appears that Mr. Priest was unwilling to listen to what people had to say about their experience and opinions and was, instead, rather forceful verbally in attributing his experience and opinion to others.

It is evident to this committee that Mr. Priest is fiercely devoted to his preferred model of urban ministry. This committee is concerned that Mr. Priest is unwilling to acknowledge the legitimacy of alternative ministry styles and routinely uses methods of confrontation and intimidation.

Recommendations

It is the opinion of this committee that Candidate Priest's current pattern of confrontational behaviors would cause great difficulty in a congregation and in a presbytery.

Therefore, this committee moves that CPM require Mr. Priest to participate in the Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders led by the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center.

Additionally, we move that at an appropriate future time CPM examine Mr. Priest to assess his pastoral development in the areas identified above.

This assessment might include such tools as asking Mr. Priest to write papers on what he has learned personally and professionally from the mediation skills training and his own sense of pastoral identity and authority.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. David Abbot, Rev. Christine Bohn, Elder Henry Johnson, Rev. Elizabeth Rice

Exhibit J

**RUTH AZAR
21478 MORINGSIDE DRIVE
GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MI 48236
(313) 881-6651**

April 20, 2010

Rev. Elizabeth Rice, Chairperson
Committee on Preparation for Ministry
Rev. James Russell,
Chair of Committee On Ministry

Dear Reverends:

As an ordained elder of the PC (USA) it saddens me to have to request an investigation of Thomas H. Priest, Jr. due to the racist remarks made to me, my staff, and volunteers of The Second Mile Center. The intention of this document is to enlighten the Committee on Preparations for Ministry and the Committee on Ministry of the Racist behavior that we have document. I am concerned that this behavior would limit Mr. Priest ability to be an effective leader and pastor in our churches.

The comments listed below were made while Mr. Priest was under care of the Presbytery as an inquirer and also while he was the Moderator of the Presbytery of Detroit. I have letters and emails that provide a written witness of these comments that I can provide to you if you would like to review them. After conversation with the National Middle Eastern Presbyterian Caucus I was encouraged to inform both CPM and COM of Mr. Priest's comments and behaviors. As a racial ethnic women I have been on the receiving end of racist comments all of my life as I know that any racial/ethnic persons are, that is why these comments are so troubling to me and why I am moved to bring this to your attention.

A sampling of the comments that Mr. Priest said to Sandra Addrow, Lawrence Lorkowski, Pam Whitaker Reid, Kari Gorman and I:

1. "You get the money from the churches because you are white they will not give it to Stan from Barnabas."
2. "How many "Arabs" own the gas stations and party stores in the area?"
3. When Lawrence Lorkowski told Tom that I am a minority woman and of Arabic heritage, Tom's response was, "she is too white and the people only see white. Especially she is the head of the center and the power is with a white person it sends the wrong message."
4. "A black person needs to be running the center not a different race."
5. "A white person cannot teach the children about their culture."
6. "Like Jesus he will be persecuted confronting the establishment showing that the Presbytery of Detroit is racist."

Exhibit J

7. "You are too white to be here." (to Ruth Azar a racial ethnic person)
8. Tom demanded I meet with him so he could teach me about Urban Ministry in spite of me being at The Second Mile for almost 3 years. In a few hours he decided that I did not know anything about Urban Ministry because I am a Middle Eastern Woman.
9. "White men have all the power."
10. "Your assistant Lawrence is a white male he has the power."

Mr. Priest starting making these comments approximately one hour of being at the center, he had come to the center as part of his Urban Ministry Project at The Ecumenical Theological Seminary. Pam was so upset by his remarks that she left abruptly stating, "I ain't got time for this. He is racist as hell, and I'm not coming back to volunteer, you Presbyterians are a mess." Pam did not return for months. Sandra Addrow, issued a letter to Al Timm, Executive Presbyter informing him of Tom Priest prejudice (copy attached). I called Al Timm following Mr. Priest visit to inform him of the racist remarks in which he told me to call Rev. Marcia Foster Boyd, President of the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit since Tom came to the center for a class he was taking at the seminary. I called her immediately in which she directed me back to Al Timm since she said it was a Presbyterian issue not a seminary issue. I called Al Timm and he explained that I could file a complaint against Tom. I prayed about it for awhile however in conversation with the National Middle Eastern Caucus I was encouraged to inform both CMP and COM, which is why I am sending this letter to you now.

As a racial ethnic woman I am deeply offended by his remarks and feel oppressed. This behavior should not be ignored and certainly not from a potential pastor. I pray that you will review Mr. Priest and his call. Mr. Priest as a pastor in a racially mixed community I have concerns about his ability to service a church and not offend or oppress races that are not his own.

Your sister in Christ,

Ruth Azar
Enclosures

Cc: Rev. Edward H. Koster, J.D., Stated Clerk
Rev. Dr. Allen D. Timm, Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Detroit
Rev. Douglas Blaikie, Chairperson, Presbytery Operations Ministry Team
Amgad Beblawi, Middle Eastern Congregational Enhancement (U.S.A.)
Rev. Fahed Abu-Akel, Moderator, National Middle Eastern Presbyterian Caucus
James H. Turner, The Second Mile Center, Chair of Personnel

Re: Your visit - 'att.net Mail'

Page 1 of 1

YAHOO! MAIL
SEARCH

Re: Your visit

Sunday, March 1, 2009 8:15 PM

From: "T Harrison Priest Jr" <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>
To: "second mile living" <secondmileliving@sbcglobal.net>

Greetings Ruth,

I am not sure what you are referring to. I have not shared a report from my visit. So I am a little confused. Please provide more information. Thanks, Tom

On Mar 1, 2009, at 7:48 PM, second mile living wrote:

Tom,

After careful thought and prayer I have decided to directly address some of the results of your visit with us at The Second Mile Center.

Immediately, it had come to my attention that much had been said to others about racism which caused them distress. I believe a meeting would be appropriate inviting those offended to discuss the issue in my presence.

Please call me.

Ruth Azar

313-245-5252

Exhibit J

Exhibit J

Dear Al Tim in regards
 To Tom Priest visit
 @ second mile.

If Mrs. Azar gives me
 something now + then it
 is no one business
 and I am not prejudice
 and we do NOT need this
 here at second mile so
 we need to be attentive of
 that we DO NOT look @ color
 here
 stand
 Address

About the Institute

Schedule

The *Mediation Skills Training Institute* runs daily from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with the exception of Monday, which starts at 9:00 a.m., and Friday, which concludes at 4:00 p.m.

Monday, 3/21, 5/2, 8/1, 10/3, 11/14

Introduction: The Nature and Role of Conflict
Conflict in the Bible: Finding Renewal in Conflict
Understanding Your Own Style of Response to Conflict
Your Personal Style Profile for Communication at Work
Affirming Your Strengths and Managing Your Excesses

Tuesday, 3/22, 5/3, 8/2, 10/4, 11/15

Interpersonal Peacemaking Skills: How to Be Effective When People Are Angry
Interpersonal Peacemaking Skills: Negotiating Win-Win Solutions
Mediating Conflict Between Individuals: An Overview of the Process
Mediation Skills: Getting People to the Table
Mediation Skills: The Introduction Stage

Wednesday, 3/23, 5/4, 8/3, 10/5, 11/16

Mediation Skills: The Story-Telling Stage
Mediation Skills: The Problem-Solving Stage
Mediation Skills: The Agreement Stage

Thursday, 3/24, 5/5, 8/4, 10/6, 11/17

Mediating Multi-Party Disputes
Congregational Conflict: Understanding Conflict in Groups
Family Systems Theory and Church Conflict
Designing Effective Group Decision-Making Procedures
Congregational Conflict: Structuring Dialogue When Anxiety Is High

Friday, 3/25, 5/6, 8/5, 10/7, 11/18

Mediating Congregational Disputes: An Overview of the Intervention Process
Mediation Skills: Early Phases of the Intervention
Mediation Skills: Healing and Problem-Solving Phases
Mediation Skills: Bringing Closure to the Intervention

Overview

The institute includes lectures, discussion, and guided practice in role-plays. Active and practical in focus, the sessions emphasize hands-on skills training and real-life role-plays based on the kinds of conflicts faced by participants. A more detailed description of the sessions is available upon request.

Locations

March 21-25, 2011

St. Paul United Church of Christ
 31654 Mound Rd. — Warren, MI

May 2-6, 2011

Gethsemane Lutheran Church
 65 Sagamore St. — Manchester, NH

August 1-5, 2011

First Presbyterian Church of Wheaton
 715 North Carlton Ave. — Wheaton, IL

October 3-7, 2011

Lover's Lane United Methodist Church
 9200 Inwood Rd. — Dallas, TX

November 14-18, 2011

Foresi Lake Presbyterian Church
 6500 N. Trenholm Rd. — Columbia, SC

A map with travel information from airports, will be sent with confirmation of registration in any of the institutes.

Meals and Accommodations

Daily refreshments and lunches on Monday and Friday are included. Participants will need to arrange for their own lodging and the other meals. Lodging options, directions, and a registrant list will be sent with confirmation of registration, after the pre-registration deadline.

Tuition

Tuition is \$695 when paid by: *February 21* for the *March* institute; *April 4* for the *May* institute; *July 1* for the *August* institute; *September 2* for the *October* institute; *October 17* for the *November* institute, or \$770 after those dates. Participants receive a training manual and other materials upon arrival. Cancellations are subject to a \$75 non-refundable fee if LMPC is notified at least two weeks prior to the institute, or half of the registration fee otherwise. Enrollment is limited, so register early. Send form and full payment.

Trainer

Richard Blackburn is the Executive Director of the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center. LMPC desires to equip others to be ministers of reconciliation in daily life. Richard has led hundreds of workshops on conflict transformation and mediation skills, and serves as a mediator and consultant for individuals, churches, schools, and other organizations.

For Further Information

Write: Lombard Mennonite Peace Center
 101 West 22nd Street, Suite 206
 Lombard, IL 60148

Cell: (630) 627-0507 Fax: (630) 627-0519
 E-mail: Admin@LMPeaceCenter.org
 Web Site: www.LMPeaceCenter.org

Other LMPC Programs

Here I Stand: Leading Change Through Self-Differentiation
 August 14-18, 2011 — Lombard, IL

Here I Stand equips pastors to address congregational patterns of conflict, blaming, and distancing by inviting members toward greater clarity of core beliefs and principles.

Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process

Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process is designed to enhance the ability of participants to function as differentiated leaders in their ministry setting. The clinic meets 3 times each program year, 3 days each, for 9 full days of training. See the LMPC web site: www.LMPeaceCenter.org for dates for the 2011-12 program year.

Registration Form

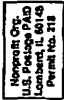
Yes! Register me for the *Mediation Skills Training Institute*. Enclosed is my full payment. (Checks payable in U.S. funds to LMPC.) Clip and mail to: LMPC, 101 W. 22nd Street, Suite 206, Lombard, IL 60148.

Name (s) _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Address _____ Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Congregation/Organization _____ Other Email _____
 Personal Email _____

Please register me for the: _____ March 21-25, 2011, Institute _____ May 2-6, 2011, Institute
 _____ August 1-5, 2011, Institute _____ October 3-7, 2011, Institute _____ November 14-18, 2011, Institute
 Please send me _____ more copies of this brochure for distributing to others in my church or organization.
 Please send me information about conflict transformation skills and other workshops that can be held in my community.
 Please send me the brochure for *Here I Stand: Leading Change Through Self-Differentiation*.
 Please send me the brochure for *Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process*.

Exhibit J



LOMBARD MENNONITE PEACE CENTER
 101 WEST 22ND STREET, SUITE 206
 LOMBARD, IL 60148-4987



Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders

March 21 - 25, 2011
 Warren, Michigan
 (Detroit Area)

May 2 - 6, 2011
 Manchester, New Hampshire

August 1 - 5, 2011
 Wheaton, Illinois
 (Chicago Area)

October 3 - 7, 2011
 Dallas, Texas

November 14 - 18, 2011
 Columbia, South Carolina



Sponsored by
 Lombard Mennonite Peace Center
 Lombard, Illinois

Everyone Has to Deal with Conflict

Conflict is normal and inevitable — whether in the home, school, community, church or workplace. Leaders in all walks of life often have a responsibility to help others work through their conflicts.

The *Mediation Skills Training Institute* presented by the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center (LMPC) is designed to equip church leaders with the skills necessary to deal effectively with interpersonal, congregational, and other forms of group conflict. The five-day institute also includes a component on congregational intervention and consultation, placed within the context of family systems theory.

Although focused primarily on the church setting, the skills learned are directly transferable to other settings. Thus, managers in business, attorneys, experienced mediators and others in leadership will be enriched by the training as well, gaining skills in a transformational model of mediation.

Who Will Benefit

- **PASTORS and INTERIM PASTORS** of all denominations — to enhance skills for managing conflict in the church.
- **JUDICATORY LEADERS** — Bishops; Conference Ministers; District Superintendents; Diocesan, Presbytery, Synod Staff — to assist pastors and congregations in handling conflicts.
- **DENOMINATIONAL OFFICIALS and CHURCH CONSULTANTS** — to bring healing in the midst of divisive church fights.
- **LAY LEADERS and PASTOR-PARISH COMMITTEE MEMBERS** — to receive valuable leadership training to benefit the church, while also gaining insight for peaceful conflict transformation in the home.
- **ADMINISTRATORS** — to introduce conflict transformation to the organizations they oversee.
- **MANAGERS and SUPERVISORS** — to help workers diminish conflict and enhance productivity.
- **COLLEGE and SEMINARY STUDENTS** — to gain hands-on skills training not typically offered in regular classes.
- **ATTORNEYS** — to gain skills in alternative dispute resolution procedures.
- **COMMUNITY MEDIATION CENTER STAFF and VOLUNTEERS** — to acquire additional skills in a transformational model of mediation for working with both individuals and groups.

"All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation." — 2 Corinthians 5:18

Exhibit J

Exhibit K

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT

March 1, 2011

<u>E</u> Bell, Margaret	<u>P</u> Hartley, Tom	<u>P</u> Krug III, Ernest	<u>P</u> Stunkel, Paul
<u>P</u> Brownlee, Richard	<u>P</u> Hughley, Marie	<u>P</u> McDevitt, Jenny	<u>E</u> Warren, Orlean
<u>P</u> Clark, Sam	<u>P</u> Hunt, Phyllis	<u>P</u> McMillen, Judi	<u>P</u> Wilhelm, Marjorie
<u>P</u> Downs, Elizabeth	<u>P</u> Jackson, Barbara	<u>E</u> Pittman, Jason	<u>P</u> Timm, Allen
<u>P</u> Gage, Larry	<u>P</u> Jackson, Robert	<u>P</u> Pritchard, Norman	
<u>P</u> Gaubatz, Mike	<u>P</u> Johnson, Henry	<u>P</u> Rice, Betsy	

1. Call to Order:

CPM co-chair Beth Downs called the meeting to order at 9 am with prayer. The minutes were approved, as corrected.

2. Introductions:

All members were introduced and the following were seated: Tom Priest, Stanley Edwards, elder Calvary Pres, Darryl Reynolds, elder Calvary, Rev. Archibald Wallace, attorney and advisor to Tom Priest, Mrs. Courter as court reporter, Christine Bohn as member of the Investigative Committee, and Ed Koster, Clerk of Presbytery.

3. Motion to Approve Agenda:

The agenda was approved

4. Explanation of Purpose and Process:

Beth Downs reminded the committee that we are reconvening the CPM hearing on the motion to adopt the report and recommendations of the investigative sub-committee regarding the complaint of Ruth Azar, of Second Mile Center, against Tom Priest, candidate. The investigative committee included David Abbott, Christine Bohn (COM), Elizabeth Rice, and Henry Johnson. Beth urged fairness and diligence in our task to assess the report, and to determine Tom's fitness for ministry, in accordance with the process outlined in the Book of Order, and the manual for CPM of the Presbytery of Detroit. We do not have function or power to determine disciplinary action, and this is not a legal or disciplinary hearing.

5. Hearing Stage

- On February 1, 2011, a motion was *made and seconded to adopt the Investigating Committee's report and recommendations*. Having been postponed and not withdrawn, it was still on the floor. The Investigating Committee's report and recommendations were read. This report can be found on the POD Caucus website.
- Mr. Wallace acknowledged CPM's right and responsibility to evaluate suitability for ministry, but maintained that the style and tone of the report and process of the investigative committee are disciplinary in nature and therefore in excess of that right.
- Mr. Wallace responded to the issues raised in the report, specifically: that Mr. Priest did not abuse his authority as Moderator of the Presbytery; and that Mr. Priest values justice and equity highly and never intended prejudice or malice in any interactions he had with Ms. Azar.
- Mr. Wallace submitted that Mr. Priest does not object to the recommendations of the sub-committee, but to the nature of the report, its conclusions, and the process by which this has been handled. They requested that the committee approve the recommendations, but not the report.
- Mr. Priest stated that he is committed to his call to ministry, and submits to the authority of this body and the recommendations for growth and training. He suggested that all parties involved should be offered the training as an opportunity to build community. He maintained that any conflict resolution should include all involved.
- Mr. Wallace submitted a narrative from Mr. Stan Edwards, elder, Calvary Presbyterian Church and director of Barnabas Center, about his participation in the meetings with Tom (copy attached).
- The committee went into executive session. Mr. Koster was asked to remain.

Exhibit K

7. Executive Session

- The approved minutes of this session are sealed and on file in the offices of the Presbytery of Detroit.

8. Move to Open Session

- The Committee returned to open session. While in executive session, the Committee adopted the report and recommendations of the CPM Subcommittee Convened in the Matter of Complaint by Ruth Azar against Thomas H. Priest, Jr, dated January 18, 2011, as follows:
- After considerable discussion, a motion is made *to separate the report from the recommendations*. Second. Votes to approve 10, to oppose 8. **The motion passed.**
- **The motion to adopt the report is approved.**
- A motion on the floor is *to adopt the recommendations*. A question was raised about including objective measurements of progress.
- A motion was made that *in addition to the mediation training, Mr. Priest return to this committee to report on what he learned, and then as a follow-on he participate in a psychological assessment.*
Withdrawn.
- A motion was made *to adopt the recommendations, amended as follows:*

CPM SUBCOMMITTEE
CONVENED IN THE MATTER OF COMPLAINT BY RUTH AZAR
AGAINST CANDIDATE THOMAS H. PRIEST, JR.
Date of Report – January 18, 2011

Introduction

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On August 13, 2010, we met to discuss and plan.

Exhibit K

On September 28, 2010, we interviewed separately Sandra Addrow, Lawrence Lorkowski, and Elder Stan Edwards. We interviewed each person specifically about their personal interactions with Mr. Priest during his visits to SMC and Barnabas Youth Opportunities Center and a later meeting at SMC.

On November 19, 2010, we met for discussion and further planning.

On November 30, 2010, we met for further discussion and also to interview another witness, who was present at the later meeting at SMC.

On December 10, 2010, we met again for further discussion of past interviews and also to interview a final witness.

On January 11, 2011, we met again to draft a report and recommendation.

We finalized our report on January 18, 2011.

Central Issues

Three primary areas of concern were identified by this committee.

One of these concerns has to do with use of authority. In arranging his first visit to Second Mile Center, Mr. Priest identified himself as a seminary student preparing a paper for a class. In subsequent activities, however, Mr. Priest regularly used his influence and authority as Moderator of Presbytery and former moderator of the Metropolitan Urban Ministries Team to lobby decision-making bodies within presbytery to share his view of work and structure of Second Mile Center. At the same time, Mr. Priest did not notify Second Mile that he was taking his findings and interpretation of those findings to presbytery, nor did he use that same influence and authority to provide an opportunity for Second Mile to have voice in actions intended to affect dramatically the future of the Center. In other words, Mr. Priest represented himself as a student to the subjects of his investigation, but freely applied the authority of presbytery office to pursue actions against those subjects.

This committee also observed a consistent pattern of Mr. Priest prejudging the opinions and experiences of others without listening to what they had to say about their own opinions and experiences. People self-identifying with three different racial-ethnic groups (white, Arab-American, and African-American) indicated to the committee their frustration and discomfort when they perceived that Mr. Priest assumed he knew what they thought about certain issues (or what they should think) based on his perception of their racial-ethnic identity. At least in certain circumstances, it appears that Mr. Priest was unwilling to listen to what people had to say about their experience and opinions and was, instead, rather forceful verbally in attributing his experience and opinion to others.

It is evident to this committee that Mr. Priest is fiercely devoted to his preferred model of urban ministry. This committee is concerned that Mr. Priest is unwilling to acknowledge the legitimacy of alternative ministry styles and routinely uses methods of confrontation and intimidation.

Recommendations

It is the opinion of this committee that Candidate Priest's current pattern of confrontational behaviors would cause great difficulty in a congregation and in a presbytery.

Therefore, this committee moves that CPM require Mr. Priest to participate in the Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders led by the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center.

Additionally, we move that at an appropriate future time CPM examine Mr. Priest to assess his pastoral development in the areas identified above.

~~This assessment might include such tools as asking Mr. Priest to write papers on what he has learned personally and professionally from the mediation skills training and his own sense of pastoral identity and authority.~~

[This assessment will include asking Mr. Priest to present a report on what he has learned personally and professionally.]

Exhibit K

CPM requires Mr. Priest to subsequently undergo professional assessment through Midwest Career Counseling Center. CPM will furnish Midwest with the CPM Sub-Committee report and require that Midwest furnish their assessment to CPM. Pastoral counseling may also be helpful in Mr. Priest's learning and healing through this process, and CPM encourages Mr. Priest to pursue that option.]

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. David Abbot, Rev. Christine Bohn, Elder Henry Johnson, Rev. Elizabeth Rice

(end of report)

- **The motion passed.**

Since Mr. Priest and Mr. Wallace were unable to remain nearby until the executive session concluded, the Co-Moderators of CPM will contact them and give them written copies of the committee's action..

9. Examinations and Annual Consultations:

- Groups A and B met with Liz Ryder for Final Assessment (1-11/07, C-6/08, McDevitt). Upon examining Liz on her responses to Form 3, a motion was made *to sustain her annual consultation*. **Seconded. Approved.** Upon examining Liz on her statement of faith, her exegesis and her sermon, a motion was made and seconded *to grant her final assessment and give her permission to circulate her PIF*. **Approved.** Liz was dismissed with prayer.
- Group C met with Monique Fube for Annual Consultation (CLP, Rice). A motion was made *to continue her in the learning phase of CLP, while urging her to complete her field placement*. **Seconded. Approved.** Although she submitted her exam after the due date, a recommendation is made to proceed to grade it. Jerry McDevitt and Judi McMillan agreed to help. Monique was dismissed with prayer.
- Group D met with Cynthia Rouse-Baird for Annual Consultation (CLP, Barbara Jackson). Group D does not recommend any action to be taken by CPM at the moment. They recommend that we *not to sustain her annual consultation*, because her paperwork was late, incomplete and her written responses hard to evaluate. This is a time for discernment for her and the committee. She has yet to decide if she will retake the exam. The committee requests a follow-up assessment with Cynthia in two months. Tom raised concerns about the lack of appropriate care and nurture provided by the committee, lack of clear instructions, and constructive feedback. Cynthia was dismissed with prayer.

10. Business:

- **Report from Al Timm:**
 - Al reported on the clergy event in February. It was well received, and 8 candidates attended.
 - There will be a workshop on stewardship on March 26, at Ypsilanti. Robert Hunter is the presenter.
 - Al will offer a course on Polity at ETS in the Fall, depending on what the educators want, either Al or Ed Koster will teach it.
- **Sub-committee Reports:**
 - **Lay Pastor Preparation Sub-Committee Report** (formerly CLP report).
 - The committee will meet in April at 9:30 am, focusing on the issue of the final examination for the CLP candidates. Larry has collected other samples for the committee to compare and consider for the recommendation for the format of the examination.
 - **Ordination Exams** – The exam results are due in about two weeks.
 - **Session Relations** – No new business.
 - **CPM Retreat** – No new business to be reported.
- **Coordinating Cabinet** – Operations requests us to describe what we would require in an associate executive presbyter. Richard Brownlee will attend in March. Betsy will attend in April.
- **Liaison Reports:**
 - We need a new liaison for David Oh, who is currently working in California.
 - We thank David Abbott for his faithful service, and relieve him of any co-opt responsibilities.

Exhibit K

- There are three other people who would like to be reassigned to a new liaison. We need to assess how assignments are made, rather than default to whoever raises their hand.
- We need to ensure appropriate liaison oversight. Larry suggests a half-day retreat to regroup for reorientation. Richard recommends that the covenant include clear responsibilities on the candidate's part.

There being no further business, CPM adjourned at 3:50 pm with prayer. ***The next gathering of CPM is scheduled for April 5, 2011 at 11:00 am at Drayton Plains Community Church, Waterford. Tom Hartley and Beth Downs will be our hosts, and Larry Gage will lead in prayer.***

Respectfully submitted,
Marjorie Wilhelmi

Exhibit L

From: Archibald X. Wallace <AXWallace@wallacepledger.com>
To: Elizabeth Downs <drbethd@sbcglobal.net>; Tom Priest
<thomaspjr@earthlink.net>
Cc: Sam Clark <SSClark3@comcast.net>; Edward Koster
<ehkoster@aol.com>
Sent: Sat, March 5, 2011 9:46:52 AM
Subject: RE: CPM decision

While I offered to be available by phone at whatever time suited, I can appreciate the reluctance to have further legal involvement. Mr. Priest and I thank you for giving us the time and opportunity to be heard. Obviously, we are disappointed in the conclusions of the committee but the result was not unexpected from the way the inquiry was handled. Would you be able to advise how CPM's decision will be reported to Presbytery? We look forward to receiving the official report of the committee.

From: Elizabeth Downs [mailto:drbethd@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 03, 2011 4:45 PM
To: Tom Priest
Cc: Archibald X. Wallace; Sam Clark; Edward Koster
Subject: CPM decision

Hi Tom:

I understand from Sam that you would rather not meet face-to-face with him and me to receive a written copy of the decision of the CPM unless Mr. Wallace is also present. We don't want to create any more stress or cost for you and will therefore send it by registered mail to your home sometime next week when we have the final copies from our CPM secretary Marjorie Wilhelmi. May God grant shalom and a good resolution to all of this.

Beth Downs

Elizabeth L. Downs

"To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you." (Ps. 25:1-2)

Exhibit M

From: Thomas Priest Jr <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>
To: Elizabeth Downs <drbethd@sbcglobal.net>
Cc: Thomas Priest Jr <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>;
axwallace@wallacepledger.com; Sam Clark <SSClark3@comcast.net>;
Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, March 3, 2011 5:09:12 PM
Subject: Re: CPM decision
Greetings Beth,
Thank you. Amen.
Tom

On Mar 3, 2011, at 4:44 PM, Elizabeth Downs wrote:

Hi Tom:

I understand from Sam that you would rather not meet face-to-face with him and me to receive a written copy of the decision of the CPM unless Mr. Wallace is also present. We don't want to create any more stress or cost for you and will therefore send it by registered mail to your home sometime next week when we have the final copies from our CPM secretary Marjorie Wilhelmi.

May God grant shalom and a good resolution to all of this.

Beth Downs

Elizabeth L. Downs

"To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you." (Ps. 25:1-2)

T. Harrison Priest Jr.

thomaspjr@earthlink.net

Exhibit M

From: Thomas Priest Jr <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>
To: Elizabeth Downs <drbethd@sbcglobal.net>
Cc: Thomas Priest Jr <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>;
axwallace@wallacepledger.com; Sam Clark <SSClark3@comcast.net>;
Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
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May God grant shalom and a good resolution to all of this.

Beth Downs

Elizabeth L. Downs

"To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you." (Ps. 25:1-2)

T. Harrison Priest Jr.

thomaspjr@earthlink.net

Exhibit N
PAPER G-1

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

October 25, 2011

The Committee submits the following report for the months of September and October, 2011.

FOR INFORMATION: Consultation Reports

For Minister of Word and Sacrament:

1. CPM met with the following candidate and sustained her/his Annual Consultation. S/He has already been granted Final Assessment and permission to seek a call.

Karen Zurakowski	First Presbyterian, Grosse Ile	September 6, 2011
Lindsay Anderson	Geneva, Canton	October 4, 2011

2. CPM met with the following inquirers/candidates for ordained ministry on the dates noted and sustained their annual consultations:

Paula Allstetter		
Daniel Portice		September 6, 2011

3. CPM met with the following candidate and granted him Final Assessment with permission to circulate his PIF.

Thomas Priest	Calvary, Detroit	October 4, 2011
---------------	------------------	-----------------

4. CPM met with the following applicants and voted to enroll them as an Inquirers:

Heidi Church (Nicholls)	First Presbyterian Church, Ypsilanti	September 6, 2011
-------------------------	--------------------------------------	-------------------

For Commissioned Lay Pastor:

5. CPM met with the following CRE (Commissioned Ruling Elder, formerly Commissioned Lay Pastor) students and sustained their annual consultations:

Charon Barconey		October 4, 2011
Anita Teresko		October 4, 2011

FOR ACTION: Transfer of Membership from Another Denomination

"When a minister of another Christian church is called to a work properly under the jurisdiction of a presbytery, the presbytery, after the constitutional conditions have been met, shall recognize the minister's previous ordination to ministry. Such ministers shall furnish credentials and evidence of good standing acceptable to the presbytery, and shall submit satisfactory evidence of possessing the qualifications of character and scholarship required of candidates of this church (G-2.0607 and G-2.01610). In exceptional circumstances the following provisions will apply:

" ... A minister of another Reformed church who has been ordained for five or more years may be granted an exemption for some or all of the examinations required of candidates for ordination by a two-thirds vote of the presbytery." (G-2.0505.2)

On September 6, 2011, the CPM examined the Rev. Arthur Oberg on his understanding of theology, the Bible, the Sacraments, and the government of the PC(USA), and has satisfactorily taken a class in PC(USA) polity. He has been ordained into the Reformed Church of America for nearly 10 years, is a member in good standing, and currently serves as called pastor to the First Presbyterian Church of Wyandotte, MI.

The CPM offers the following motions for consideration by this Presbytery:

Exhibit N

1. The CPM recommends that the Presbytery examine the Rev. Arthur Oberg for transfer of his membership from the Reformed Church of America into the PC(USA) and grant an exemption for all the examinations required of candidates for ordination.
2. The CPM recommends that the Presbytery receive the Rev. Arthur Oberg into membership in this Presbytery and the PC(USA).

FOR INFORMATION: Other

1. Written Ordination Exams are scheduled for January 27-28, 2012; bible Content exam is scheduled for February 3, 2012. Registration deadline is December 15.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Downs, CPM Co-Moderator

**Exhibit O**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

PRESBYTERY OF CINCINNATI PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT PRESBYTERY OF EASTMINSTER
 PRESBYTERY OF LAKE HURON PRESBYTERY OF LAKE MICHIGAN PRESBYTERY OF MACKINAC PRESBYTERY OF MAUMEE VALLEY
 PRESBYTERY OF MIAMI VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF MUSKINGUM VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF SCIOTO VALLEY PRESBYTERY OF THE WESTERN RESERVE

September 23, 2010

Rosy Latimore
 1762 Farmbrook Drive
 Troy, MI 48098

Thomas Priest
 22668 Beckenham Court
 Novi, MI 48374

Dorothy Seabrooks
 422 University Place
 Detroit, MI 48224

Detroit Committee of Counsel
 % Edward H. Koster
 3722 Bridal Pass Court
 Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Dear Rosy, Dorothy, Thomas, and Edward

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On Wednesday, September 15, 2010, I, as Moderator and the Rev. Doris Arnett Whitaker, Vice Clerk, of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission met by conference call to examine documents provided by the Complainant and the Presbytery's Committee of Counsel for case *Latimore et al v. The Presbytery of Detroit*. (indexed as case # 2010-02) The Rev. George Baird, Stated Clerk for the Synod of the Covenant, joined the conference call in order to assist with questions of process, but did not participate in the examination of documents under the provisions of D-6.0305, or in the decision about them.

The purpose of this conference call was to determine whether the Preliminary Questions were answered according to D-6.0305.

D-6.0305a *the governing body has jurisdiction*
 The answer is yes

D-6.0305b *the complainant has standing to file the case*
 Elder Thomas Priest was not in attendance at the presbytery meeting at which the action in question was taken by the presbytery and therefore, does not have standing. Both Elder Rosy Latimore and Elder Dorothy Seabrooks were in attendance and enrolled as elder commissioners at this meeting so therefore, the answer is yes.

1911 Indianwood Circle – Suite B, Maumee, Ohio 43537
 419-754-4050 800-848-1030 (Michigan and Ohio) Fax 419-754-4051 www.synodofthecovenant.org

Exhibit O**D-6.0305c** *the complaint was² timely filed*

The complaint was received by the Synod office on Tuesday, July 27, 2010 which is at least ninety-one days after the date of the presbytery meeting. The Synod office was open on Monday, July 26, 2010 on which the documents could have been delivered. Therefore, the answer is no.

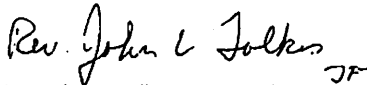
D-6.0305d *the complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted.*

According to Robert's Rules of Order (10th edition), the motion, *Objection to the Consideration of a Question*, is one of a category of motions known as Incidental Motions. Incidental Motions relate to "pending" business or other business at hand. (RONR, page 66, ¶15). "The purpose of an *Objection to the Consideration of a Question* is to enable the assembly to avoid a particular original main motion altogether when it believes it would be strongly undesirable for the motion even to come before the assembly." (RONR, page 258, ¶ 25) This indicates that the procedures used during the Presbytery meeting of April 27, 2010, while unusual, were not out of order. Because the action of the presbytery in dealing with this matter was in order and because the SPJC cannot force a Presbytery to apologize to its own assembly, the SPJC cannot grant the relief requested. Therefore the answer is no.

Since two of the four Preliminary Questions have been answered in the negative, the officers of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant have determined that this case cannot be accepted. The request from the Presbytery Committee of Counsel to dismiss this case will not be considered since the case is not being accepted.

If any party to this case, or any member of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission, wish to challenge the findings of the moderator and clerk of the PJC they may do so under the provisions of the Rules of Discipline D-6.0306. Such challenges should be sent to me at the synod office address.

Sincerely in Christ,



Rev. John V. Folkers, SPJC Moderator ^{JF}

cc: Doris Arnett Whitaker

George W. Baird

The members of the Synod PJC

Exhibit P**ANSWER TO ALLEGATIONS AND INSINUATIONS MADE
AGAINST THE STATED CLERK OF THE PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT**

In the course of these pleadings, Thomas Priest has made allegations and insinuations about the actions of the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit that are without foundation or basis in fact. Other than a simple denial, the Presbytery has not been able to give evidence in response to these allegations and insinuations. Since these allegations suggest improper actions by the Stated Clerk, the Presbytery here responds to the following unfounded and supported insinuations and allegations:

- The Stated Clerk improperly referred the complaint of Ms Azar to the Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry for investigation and action in contravention of D-1.0103 of the Book of Order. **Complaint pp 3, 11**
- That the Stated Clerk sent the Charge to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry and advised how it could proceed with its own investigation without having to defer to the Presbytery's Permanent Judicial Commission or the Session of Mr Priest's Home church. **Complaint p 6**
- Inexplicably, the Stated Clerk, who had engineered the way the charges were handled by Committee on Preparation for Ministry was allowed to sit in with the Committee on Preparation for Ministry during its deliberations and to advise the Committee on Preparation for Ministry as to its actions. **Complaint, p.9**
- Here, the Stated Clerk referred the accusations against Mr. Priest set forth in the written statement of Ms. Azar against him, to CPM and assisted CPM in outlining a course of action that would allow CPM to circumvent the Discipline of the Church and to withhold those due process safeguards of the church called fundamental fairness due Mr. Priest. **Complaint, P.12**
- That the Calvary investigating had concluded its work without making charges was specifically communicated to CPM at the beginning of its March 1, 2011 Hearing, but disregarded when the Stated Clerk advised the Meeting that it was not double jeopardy, since charges had not been the subject of a hearing before the Church's Session sitting as a PJC. **Complaint p12**
- The actions of the Stated Clerk in establishing, participating in and shaping the result of the investigation throughout by the Presbytery's agent, its Committee on Preparation for Ministry, was impermissible when the clerk knew that a separate disciplinary investigation was already underway in another of the Church's courts. **Challenge to the Synod, p. 2**
- The Stated Clerk served as Counsel for the Presbytery. **Appeal to the full General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission. P. 3.**

In response, the Presbytery declares:

The Stated Clerk did not improperly refer a complaint by Ms Azar submitted to the Session of Calvary Church. In support of this we submit the following:

- a) He was an information addressee on a April 20, 2010 from Ruth Azar letter addressed to the chairs of the Committee on Ministry and Committee on Preparation for Ministry. **Exhibit F.**
- b) On receipt of the April 20 letter, he took the following steps:

Exhibit P

- i) He informed the chairs of the Committee on Ministry and Committee on Preparation for Ministry that COM did not have jurisdiction over Mr Priest, and the CPM did have jurisdiction to determine if the allegations by Ms Azar reflected on Mr Priest's fitness for ministry. **See Attachment 1.**
- ii) He informed Ms Azar that the COM had no jurisdiction, that the CPM had jurisdiction only over Mr Priest regarding his fitness for ministry, and that the complaint did not work as an allegation under the rules of Discipline. In response to this call, Ms Azar declared she wished to press charges, and asked the Stated Clerk how to proceed. **Attachment 2.** Her complaint, dated April 21, **Exhibit G**, is the sole document upon which Mr Priest bases his accusations that the Stated Clerk acted improperly.
- iii) He advised Mr Priest of the status of the complaint on Mr Priest's request, and met with him on May 11, 2010. **See Attachment 3.**

The Stated Clerk did not act improperly in his advice and counsel to the parties involved, but rather restricted himself to giving process advice designed to ensure that the procedures were properly conducted and that Mr Priest's rights were preserved. His advice to Committee on Ministry, Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Mr Priest and Ms Azar about jurisdiction was correct and in no way improper. In support of this we submit the following:

- a) The chairs of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry and Committee on Ministry, solicited the advice of the Stated Clerk on process. **Attachments 4 and 5.**
- b) The Chair of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry invited the Stated Clerk to train the investigating sub-committee. **Attachment 6**
- c) Answering the request of the chair of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, the Stated Clerk advised that since this was not a disciplinary proceeding, but rather an ordinary proceeding of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, it was not confidential in the way a disciplinary complaint would be. **Attachment 7.**
- d) The Stated Clerk met with and gave guidance to the investigative sub-committee regarding process and the parameters of the investigation on June 9, 2010. **Exhibit J, p.1**
- e) The Stated Clerk had no further involvement in the matter until he received a request from the chair of the investigative sub-committee for advice on how to proceed with their report on January 13, 2011. **Attachment 8.**
- f) In his response to the January 13 request, the Stated Clerk laid out what he believed was the proper process. Included in this recommendation were steps to ensure Mr Priest was afforded his rights under fundamental fairness. *Id.* Note that in the hearing of February 1, the Stated Clerk laid out to the full Committee on Preparation for Ministry the fundamental fairness rights Mr Priest was due. This was in response to questions about whether the committee should approve Mr Priest's motion to adjourn because his counsel was not present. The Stated Clerk argued that not to approve the adjournment would deprive Mr Priest of one of his fundamental fairness rights. **Exhibit H, 25, ll 18ff.**
- g) In response to a request from the chair of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, the Stated Clerk provided advice on how to form the docket and how to handle various matters that may arise during a hearing on the report. **Attachment 9.**
- h) The Stated Clerk was asked to be present during the meetings of February 1 and March 1, 2011. **Exhibit H (2/1) l. 20.** He was asked to remain on March 1 when the Committee voted to go into executive session. **Exhibit K, p. 1, last line.**

Exhibit P

- i) While it is true that the Stated Clerk advised all parties that there was no double jeopardy since the Committee on Preparation for Ministry process was not a disciplinary but was an administrative matter, he did not do so at the March 1 meeting and he never suggested it was because the Calvary investigating committee did not press charges.
- j) Contrary to the allegation in his appeal to this commission, the Stated Clerk is not counsel of the Presbytery. He has advised the Committee of Counsel and provided staff services for it.

7/7/12

Re: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

Exhibit P Attachment 1

From: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
To: jprussell <jprussell@firstpresville.org>; allen <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>
Subject: Re: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.
Date: Fri, Apr 23, 2010 12:23 am

Jim

Sorry to be late in responding. I have been on the road all day.

I spoke to day with Ms Rice. Since Tom is under the jurisdiction of CPM, I told her I believe it has the duty to investigate this and decide what should be done. This under CPM's duty to determine a candidate's character, personality, and fitness for ministry. In order to proceed in this, they will need to inquire into the facts of the case. In this process they must give Tom his due process rights: notice of the allegations against him, and the opportunity to answer them. I am not certain how she will proceed. She is of the opinion that the full CPM needs to address this.

Tom is having an annual consultation in May. I suggested to her that using that period to address this is probably not wise, because CPM tends to have a very tight schedule, and this deserves some considerable time. I suggested they could inform Tom formally at his annual consultation and set a time for a hearing.

I do not believe COM has any jurisdiction at this point. But, it certainly is COM's responsibility to evaluate whether or not he should serve a church.

Rather than having multiple investigations, it may be wise to coordinate your efforts with CPM. You could have someone sit with them and report to COM or some such arrangement.

It may be that Ruth will file disciplinary charges against Tom. If she does that, it would be before the session of Calvary. COM has no piece in that process, except that it would be prohibited from authorizing any kind of ordination commission: a person under charges cannot be transferred, and ordination constitutes a transfer from his church to the Presbytery.

Ed

Edward Koster
 734-358-5403
ehkoster@aol.com
<http://thechallengeofthepresbyterianchurch.blogspot.com/>

—Original Message—

From: James Russell <jprussell@firstpresville.org>
To: 'Ed Koster' <ehkoster@aol.com>; 'Allen D. Timm' <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>
Sent: Thu, Apr 22, 2010 3:18 pm
Subject: FW: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

7/7/12

Re: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

Ed and Al,
FYI and please contact me to let me know of procedure.
Jim

Exhibit P Attachment 1

From: DIXIE [mailto:dixie@ml.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 22, 2010 1:15 PM
To: James Russell
Subject: Re: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

Jim,

I agree with your recommendation in delaying Tom's going to CalMn East. This certainly is not the best move under the circumstances.

I think it would be good to have an Investigative Committee in place prior to the Presbytery Meeting, if possible. I know that there will be much discussion when this becomes known.

I do not wish to move without thought or caution. However, this needs to be handled within COM and CPM.

Peace,

Dixie

— Original Message —

From: James Russell
To: estellearon@att.net ; Peter Smith'
Cc: Dixie Elam' ; Martha Nelson' ; Rolatimo2@aol.com ; mary johnson' ; Allen D. Timm' ; Ed Koster' ; betsyrice@att.net
Sent: Thursday, April 22, 2010 12:15 PM
Subject: FW: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

Estelle and Peter,

Greetings!

I trust and pray that both of you are doing well.

Yesterday I received an email that was addressed to Elizabeth Rice and to myself in regards to a Complaint that has be brought against Tom Priest.

After reviewing this complaint I would recommend that we put on hold Tom's going to Calvin East Church as the Interim until this matter is cleared up. I am including the complaint which was submitted. You will notice that I am copying everyone and once we have guidance I will correspond with everyone about how this matter will proceed.

Please keep Tom in your prayers and please keep Ruth in your prayers.

Thank you for your leadership.

Jim Russell

From: second mile living [mailto:secondmileliving@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2010 9:06 PM
To: betsyrice@att.net; James Russell
Cc: fahed abu-akel; Doug Blaikie; Edward Koster; Allen Timm; Jim Turner; Amgad Beblawi
Subject: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

77112

Re: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

After much prayer it is now time to stop the racism in the body of Christ.
Two documents attached. The second m1e letters.pdf has two pages.
Please inform me by email indicating you have received this.
Your sister in Christ,
Ruth Azar

Exhibit P
Attachment 1

Re: Disciplinary Cases

Page 1 of 2

Exhibit P Attachment 2

From: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
 To: secondmileliving <secondmileliving@sbcglobal.net>
 Cc: allen <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>
 Subject: Re: Disciplinary Cases
 Date: Tue, Apr 20, 2010 11:33 pm

Ruth

You need to submit a written set of allegations against Mr. Priest to the clerk of Session at his church. He is a member of Detroit Calvary. The clerk there is Rhonda Favors. Since she will need my help, please let me know the moment you give it to her.

There is a form for an accusation in the Book of Order:

FORM NO. 26 ACCUSATION BY INDIVIDUAL AS STATEMENT OF OFFENSE,
 D-10.0102a

To: _____ (clerk of session or
 stated clerk of presbytery)
 From: _____ (name of person or
 persons making accusation)

I, _____, under the jurisdiction of the _____ (name of
 session of congregation or presbytery), accuse _____ (name of
 person accused) of committing the offense of _____ contrary to Holy
 Scripture and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and I submit the following
 information in support of said accusation:

The said _____ (name of accused) did, on or about
 _____ (date), _____ (insert a narrative and alleged
 facts believed to support the accusation).

Date

 Signature of Accuser

Ed

Edward Koster
 734-358-5403
ehkoster@aol.com
<http://thechallengeofthepresbyterianchurch.blogspot.com/>

-----Original Message-----

From: second mile living <secondmileliving@sbcglobal.net>
 To: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
 Cc: Allen Timm <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>
 Sent: Tue, Apr 20, 2010 9:13 pm

Re: Disciplinary Cases

Page 2 of 2

Exhibit P
Attachment 2

Subject: Disciplinary Cases

Ed,

It is my intention to file a disciplinary action against Thomas H. Priest, Jr.
I need to know the proper procedure that needs to be followed to move forward on this action besides the letter
I issued to CPM and COM.

Your sister in Christ,
Ruth Azar

From: Thomas Priest Jr <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>
To: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
Cc: Thomas Priest Jr <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>
Subject: Re: Complaint
Date: Sat, May 8, 2010 10:51 pm

Exhibit P
Attachment 3

Greetings Ed,
Thanks. Will you have some time after the GA Commissioner meeting on Wednesday? If not how about Tuesday at 9:00 am.? Thank you. Tom
On May 6, 2010, at 12:32 PM, Edward Koster wrote:

Tom

Ms Azar has submitted a complaint to COM and CPM. A complaint of that kind does not follow the Rules of Discipline. The COM has authority to deal only with it as it relates to your work in a pastoral context. CPM has authority over you as a candidate. It falls under the general duties of CPM in Chapter XIV to supervise, monitor, measure, and recommend candidates for ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament.

If it is urgent, I could meet with you tomorrow. More convenient would be Mon, Tues, Friday any time, or on Thursday in a way to accommodate a meeting in Ann Arbor from 12-2.

Ed

Edward Koster
734-358-5403
ehkoster@aol.com
<http://thechallengeofthepresbyterianchurch.blogspot.com/>

-----Original Message-----

From: Thomas Priest Jr <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>
To: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>

Cc: Thomas Priest Jr <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>
Sent: Thu, May 6, 2010 12:22 pm
Subject: Re: Complaint

Exhibit P
Attachment 3

Thank you. Yes. When are you in the office and have some time? Tom
On May 6, 2010, at 12:19 PM, Edward Koster wrote:

Chapter X ff of the Rules of Discipline.

I will be delighted to meet with you to explain
and advise on process if you desire.

Ed

Edward Koster
734-358-5403
ehkoster@aol.com
<http://thechallengeofthepresbyterianchurch.blogspot.com/>

-----Original Message-----

From: Thomas Priest Jr <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>
To: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
Cc: Thomas Priest Jr <thomaspjr@earthlink.net>
Sent: Thu, May 6, 2010 1:07 am
Subject: Complaint

Greetings Ed,
Where in the Book of Order does Ruth Azar's complaint fall? Thanks, Tom
T. Harrison Priest Jr.
thomaspjr@earthlink.net

=

T. Harrison Priest Jr.
thomaspjr@earthlink.net

Exhibit P
Attachment 3

=

T. Harrison Priest Jr.
thomaspjr@earthlink.net

=

7/7/12

Re: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

Exhibit P

Attachment 4

> **From:** Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
To: betsyrice <betsyrice@att.net>
Subject: Re: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.
Date: Wed, Apr 21, 2010 9:15 pm

I will be traveling starting tomorrow. Call me at any time—I can always pull over to talk to you.

Ed

Edward Koster
 734-358-5403
ehkoster@aol.com
<http://thechallengeofthepresbyterianchurch.blogspot.com/>

—Original Message—

From: Thomas Rice <betsyrice@att.net>
To: EHKoster@aol.com
Sent: Wed, Apr 21, 2010 7:28 pm
Subject: Fw: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

Hello Ed;
 When's a good time to reach you by phone?
 Betsy

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: second mile living <secondmileliving@sbcglobal.net>
To: betsyrice@att.net; James Russell <jrussell@firststonesmile.org>
Cc: fahed abu-akel <fabu-akel@peachtreepres.org>; Doug Blaikie <doug@apcc.us>; Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>; Allen Timm <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>; Jim Turner <jturnerc5@comcast.net>; Amgad Beblawi <Amgad.Beblawi@pcusa.org>
Sent: Tue, April 20, 2010 9:05:45 PM
Subject: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

After much prayer it is now time to stop the racism in the body of Christ.
 Two documents attached. The second mile letters.pdf has two pages.
 Please inform me by email indicating you have received this.
 Your sister in Christ,
 Ruth Azar

7/7/12

FW: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

Exhibit P

Attachment 5

From: James Russell <jprussell@firstpresnwila.org>
To: 'Allen D. Timm' <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>; 'Ed Koster' <ehkoster@aol.com>
Cc: estelleaaron <estelleaaron@att.net>; 'Peter Smith' <pcsjapc@comcast.net>; 'Dixie Elam' <dixie@mi.r.com>
Subject: FW: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.
Date: Thu, Apr 22, 2010 12:18 pm
Attachments: Second_Mile_Letters.pdf (381K), 2009-4_final_letter_of_complaint_to_CPM.doc (39K)

Al and Ed,
 I look forward to hearing from both of you and let's all put our heads together on how we should proceed.
 Blessings!
 Jim Russell

From: second mile living [<mailto:secondmileliving@sbcglobal.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2010 9:06 PM
To: hetsyrice@att.net; James Russell
Cc: fahed abu-akel; Doug Blaikie; Edward Koster; Allen Timm; Jim Turner; Amgad Beblawi
Subject: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

After much prayer it is now time to stop the racism in the body of Christ.
 Two documents attached. The second mile letters.pdf has two pages.
 Please inform me by email indicating you have received this.
 Your sister in Christ,
 Ruth Azar

7/7/12

Re: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

Exhibit P Attachment 6

From: Thomas Rice <betsyrice@att.net>
To: James Russell <jrussell@firstpresnville.org>
Cc: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>; Allen Timm <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>
Subject: Re: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.
Date: Fri, Apr 23, 2010 2:37 pm

Hello Jim and Ed and Al;

I think that at CPM's May 4 meeting we can appoint an investigative committee and invite participation by a couple of COM appointees. That committee will explore whether or not Tom Priest is racist and if so, if that prohibits him from serving the PC(USA) as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. We would welcome having Rev. Ed Koster train the team in an appropriate process. We will make every effort to include minorities in the committee. I would not imagine that it will be a large committee.

At this point, I think it is CPM's prerogative to withdraw its permission for Tom to serve Calvin East.

I am trying to get in touch with Ruth Azar to let her know that I'll send her letter to Tom Priest and members of CPM.

I do not anticipate having this committee assembled before Tuesday's Presbytery meeting.

Thank you for your help and input into this process.

Betsy Rice

From: second mile living <secondmileliving@sbcglobal.net>
To: betsyrice@att.net; James Russell <jrussell@firstpresnville.org>
Cc: fahed abu-akel <fahu-akel@beachtreepres.org>; Doug Balke <doug@apoc.us>; Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>; Allen Timm <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>; Jim Turner <jturnerc5@comcast.net>; Amgad Beblawi <Amoad.Bebawi@pcusa.org>
Sent: Tue, April 20, 2010 9:05:45 PM
Subject: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

After much prayer it is now time to stop the racism in the body of Christ.
 Two documents attached. The second mile letters.pdf has two pages.
 Please inform me by email indicating you have received this.
 Your sister in Christ,
 Ruth Azar

7/7/12

Re: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

Exhibit P

Attachment 7

From: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
To: betsyrice <betsyrice@att.net>; allen <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>; jprussell <jprussell@firstpresville.org>
Subject: Re: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.
Date: Mon, Apr 26, 2010 11:57 am

Betsy

This is an allegation of personal misconduct not covered by the Rules of Discipline. It was addressed to you and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry (as well as Jim Russell as the chair of COM). The Committee has the right to know what has been sent to it, and has a need to know in order to consider it. How you distribute the letter, when, and to whom are matters for which you are accountable to the Committee.

Since this is not a Disciplinary matter, there is no official requirement for confidentiality.

Since it is a matter of personal reputation, there may be some considerations of defamation. In general, if the information is distributed only to those who have a need to know, there is probably little liability under the law, but that does not prohibit Mr. Priest from filing suit against the Presbytery for defamation. If we are careful not to broadly broadcast the material and limit it only to those with a need to know, we will be able to claim a limited privilege to do so. I would not worry about this.

As a general rule, things distributed by e-mail are easily copied to others. This has already been done by the originator. Given this, confidentiality is moot—we can presume a lot of people know. You may wish not to add yourself to that e-mail chain, so you could choose to distribute only hard copies of the material, either by mail or at the meeting.

Ed

Edward Koster
 734-358-5403
ehkoster@aol.com
<http://thechallengeofthepresbyterianchurch.blogspot.com/>

—Original Message—

From: Thomas Rice <betsyrice@att.net>
To: Allen Timm <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>; James Russell <jprussell@firstpresville.org>
Cc: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
Sent: Mon, Apr 26, 2010 11:35 am
Subject: Re: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

I have spoken with Tom Priest and just sent him Ruth's complaint.

I am not sending her letter for CPM to preview, though I did send a copy to Sam Clark, Tom's liaison.

7/7/12

Re: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

As I understand it, CPM does need to know that Tom has been charged with **Exhibit P** and CPM has the prerogative of withdrawing its permission for him to serve Calvin East. Therefore, should I read the letter to CPM or just announce the charge? CPM needs to know what the issues are in order to form this investigative committee. **Attachment 7**

I'd appreciate your help determining the boundaries of confidentiality here!

Thank you all;
Betsy

From: Allen Timm <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>
To: Thomas Rice <betsyrice@att.net>; James Russell <jprussell@firststoresville.org>
Cc: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, April 23, 2010 4:54:18 PM
Subject: Re: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

Hi Betsy, this sounds good.

I have two thoughts.

Would you want to read the complaint and only give it to the sub-committee?
Maybe Ed has an idea, but I think email makes it possible to send far and wide, and these are allegations, not charges, and they are not yet proven fact. I am thinking of protecting his reputation.

Regarding permission to serve Calvin East, I believe, first CPM has to agree for him to be considered, and then COM may consider him.. However, COM can withdraw their endorsement independently. So if CPM acts to withdraw support, they must withdraw support. If CPM decides to allow him to serve, COM can still withdraw support. The allowance of candidates to serve is in the old Book of Order, 2005/7, under which COM is still operating, until it comes up with a manual to address things not addressed by the B of Order. .

Blessings, Al

— Original Message —

From: Thomas Rice
To: James Russell
Cc: Edward Koster ; Allen Timm
Sent: Friday, April 23, 2010 2:23 PM
Subject: Re: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

Hello Jim and Ed and Al;

I think that at CPM's May 4 meeting we can appoint an investigative committee and invite participation by a couple of COM appointees. That committee will explore whether or not Tom Priest is racist and if so, if that prohibits him from serving the PC(USA) as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. We would welcome having Rev. Ed Koster train the team in an appropriate process. We will make every effort to include minorities in the committee. I would not imagine that it will be a large committee.

At this point, I think it is CPM's prerogative to withdraw its permission for Tom to serve Calvin

7/7/12

Re: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

East.

Exhibit P**Attachment 7**

I am trying to get in touch with Ruth Azar to let her know that I'll send her letter to TMM West and members of CPM.

I do not anticipate having this committee assembled before Tuesday's Presbytery meeting.

Thank you for your help and input into this process.

Betsy Rice

From: second mile living <secondmilleliving@sbcglobal.net>
To: betsyrice@att.net; James Russell <jrussell@firstpresville.org>
Cc: fahed abu-akef <fabu-akef@peachtreepres.org>; Doug Blaikie <doug@apoc.us>; Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>; Allen Timm <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>; Jim Turner <jturnerc5@comcast.net>; Amgad Beblawi <Amgad.Beblawi@pcusa.org>
Sent: Tue, April 20, 2010 9:05:45 PM
Subject: Complaint Thomas H. Priest Jr.

After much prayer it is now time to stop the racism in the body of Christ.
 Two documents attached. The second mile letters.pdf has two pages.
 Please inform me by email indicating you have received this.
 Your sister in Christ,
 Ruth Azar

Re: Mailing address

Page 1 of 3

Exhibit P Attachment 8

From: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
 To: betsyrice <betsyrice@att.net>
 Subject: Re: Mailing address
 Date: Thu, Jan 13, 2011 2:13 pm

Betsy

I'll be awaiting your call on Monday.

Re the process for making the report. I am assuming that the report will include some recommendations and statements that may not be to Mr Priest's liking. That effectively places this in an adversarial context. Given that, I have some recommendations for you. We can talk more on Monday, if you like. Here are some considerations.

- Mr Priest should receive a copy of the report before it is considered by the committee for its decision. This is because there is generally a "fundamental fairness" requirement in adversarial matters. Fundamental fairness means that a person is given notice of any allegations against him and is given the opportunity to give a defense. It could be mailed to him or even downloaded--the investigating subcommittee need not meet with him personally or deliver it in person.
- Mr Priest has the right to have someone come with him to the CPM meeting at which this is considered. This can be an advisor, who may not speak for him and who needs not be a Presbyterian, or be counsel/attorney, who must be a Presbyterian and can speak for him. (This person does not need to be a lawyer.)
- The form of the meeting at this point should be a "public hearing" format. I would recommend that the room be arranged in a way where Mr Priest and his counsel/advisor be on one side, and the CPM opposite him.
- The matter would come to the CPM on a motion to adopt the report and recommendations of the investigating committee. The proceedings are legislative, not judicial. That has some significant consequences:
 - The decision of the committee does not depend on being persuaded "beyond a reasonable doubt."
 - The committee can consider any information it wishes. E.g., it is not prevented from hearing "hearsay evidence." Any debate or discussion of the motion is limited only by whether it is germane to the motion.
 - While the CPM could allow him to call witnesses, it is not necessary. The assumption here is that the investigating sub-committee presenting the report has spoken to everyone Mr Priest has suggested they contact. If the Committee hears witnesses supporting the report, it would be prudent to at least allow Mr Priest to call rebuttal witnesses.
- The process would be that once the motion is made, the investigating sub-committee will make any introductory statement it wishes. Then Mr Priest would have the opportunity to respond. You would be wise to give him as much time and space to respond as he wants. Members of the CPM can question him as they wish. When he has completed his case, neither he nor his counsel should be allowed to address the CPM. That means that the chair will need to make a declaration that the hearing part of the proceedings is complete.
- The matter then moves to debate. I note that this debate follows the rules of parliamentary procedure for debates. Mr Priest or his counsel/advisor have no

Re: Mailing address

Page 2 of 3

Exhibit P

Attachment 3

standing to speak to the matter. You may wish to excuse him from the meeting if the debate begins, or even go into executive session (which excuses everyone except voting members and those directed by CPM to remain).

- The report and recommendations can be amended using the ordinary procedures for amending. Unless the resolution is to remove Mr Priest from the roll of candidates, Presbytery will have no say in this matter.
- The report would be approved by a majority vote.

Mr. Priest has demonstrated that he can be litigious. For that reason, it may be prudent to take some precautions. Much of what I have laid out above is designed to ensure that he is given the due process he has a right to and which will protect the CPM and Presbytery, but these will not prevent him from filing a remedial case. Because of the potential for some kind of further judicial process, you may wish to have a verbatim record made of the proceedings. That could be done by the use of a court reporter, recording it, or having a video made. If you wish to do that, let me know.

This is not a pleasant matter, and it would appear likely that there will be some heated discussion and divided votes. Bless you. I will give you as much help as I can. If you wish me to be there at any of these meetings, I will be glad to come in any capacity.

Ed

Edward Koster
ehkoster@aol.com
 734-358-5403

-----Original Message-----

From: Thomas Rice <betsvrice@att.net>
 To: Ed Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
 Sent: Thu, Jan 13, 2011 12:19 pm
 Subject: Mailing address

Hello Ed;

The Investigating Subcommittee has a first draft of a report to CPM. I'm going to mail a copy to your home. I hope you'll have a chance to look at it before the subcommittee meets on Tuesday morning. I'll call you on Monday.

Secondly, I would like to talk to you about the process of making our report. As it stands right now, CPM suggested that the subcommittee meet with Mr. Priest before we present the report to CPM on Feb. 1. Right now I'm a little dubious about that.

CPM will meet at 10:00 on Feb. 1 for the purpose of receiving our report and taking action on it. I think Mr. Priest should be there for that hour.

Thank you for consulting with us in this process.

I'll talk to you on Monday.

Re: Mailing address

Page 3 of 3

Grace and peace;
Betsy Rice

Exhibit P
Attachment 8

7/7/12

Re: IC Report to CPM

Exhibit P Attachment 9

From: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
 To: drbethd <drbethd@sbcglobal.net>
 Subject: Re: IC Report to CPM
 Date: Fri, Jan 21, 2011 5:27 pm

Hi Beth

Re: your agenda:

- The motion should be to adopt the report and its recommendations. The effect of this motion will be to make it the act of the Committee.
- You may not need to put the "explanation of the process" portion in the agenda. I believe that would best be done verbally by you at the beginning of the discussion.
- I would recommend not using the term "Q and A" to describe the hearing portion. (See below.)
- Al is a member (ex officio), and is not excused during executive sessions.
- I believe the IC may wish to read the report and recommendations when the motion is made to adopt.

Betsy contacted Don Morgan, chair of the Trustees, and asked about having a lawyer present. He called me to inquire what is going on, and I filled him in. He does not believe it will be necessary to have an attorney present, but he did recommend a court reporter and authorized me to get one. I will take care of that. The only part of the meeting that will be transcribed will be the proceedings up until Mr Priest is excused.

Re: an adversarial process. When Betsy spoke to him about the report, and before he had seen it, he asked what it says. She gave him a short statement. His response was to the effect of challenging the committee to the effect that he did not have enough time. It is possible that he will accept this report and the recommendations; I would hope he will. Either way, we need to presume he will respond to oppose the report so that we will be prepared for it.

Here is why I suggest not using the term "Q and A." Mr. Priest's rights in this are to respond to the report in as much depth as he desires. Since this is a hearing, not a trial, he does not have the right to call witnesses. Nor does he have the right to require the IC respond to questions he poses. The term Q and A hints that he can do those things. My experience and training is to prepare for the worst case scenario. Here is what I believe could be such a scenario:

Mr Priest may wish to defend by challenging the report and trying to put the IC on the defensive. He may wish to engage in a discussion during the hearing. He may prepare a written response to the IC report and recommendations and want to use that as a basis for discussion.

If that is how he presents, you will be in a position of resisting him. Here are some basic principles you will need to be prepared to assert:

- The Investigating Sub-Committee is accountable to the CPM, not Mr. Priest. Therefore,
 - Any challenges he presents to the report and recommendations can be addressed by the CPM to the IC in the course of discussion and debate.

7/7/12

Re: IC Report to CPM

- o You can assure Mr Priest that the CPM can ask any question to the IC during the course of the debate.
- Mr. Priest has the right to present his arguments against the report. He does not have the right to present witnesses.
- He does not have the right to question the CPM or the IC
- Any written material he presents is a matter for consideration by the CPM, not a source of discussion between Mr Priest and the CPM. (If he presents such a document at the meeting, it might be wise to use a short recess in the transition from hearing to executive session to allow folks to read it.)
- Mr Priest may complain about not being able to do what he wants to do. He may even make threats. You will need to trust that the process we are using will stand the scrutiny of any judicial challenge. (I am trying very hard to ensure we are doing it right.) Which may mean you will feel far more authoritative than you are inclined to be or are comfortable with.

You get to earn your big bucks on this one. On the other hand, he may be very compliant.

A word about amendments. On a motion to adopt a report such as this, the rule is that the original report must be identifiable in the minutes. Therefore, any deletions or insertions will be identifiable: deletions struck out, additions underlined. The report as published will incorporate the amendments. This is the process followed by the General Assembly.

I'd be delighted to meet at 2 next Wednesday. I have a 4pm meeting at the Presbytery office, so I will need to be there at that time. Let me know exactly where and when. If that is not sufficient time, I can meet early morning or late afternoon on Thursday.

Ed

Edward Koster
ehkoster@aol.com
 734-358-5403

—Original Message—

From: Elizabeth Downs <dbeind@sbcglobal.net>
 To: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
 Sent: Fri, Jan 21, 2011 3:43 pm
 Subject: Re: IC Report to CPM

Try, try again ...

I have been working to get my head around all of this. It bothers me that we must assume an adversarial stance right from the beginning. I don't know Tom really well, but I have had a good relationship with him for a few years, I've worked hard with him on his exams, and he has done pulpit supply for me. I pray that will mitigate some of the tension. Maybe, maybe not.

I hope to keep any discussions from becoming circular and to set an open-minded and prayerful tone from the beginning. We are all subject to the movement of the Spirit in all of this we need to be open to that and keep it in mind all along. That's my job to a great extent. Limiting discussion to relevant and concise comments is too.

Let's record this as you suggest, and could we meet maybe next Wed after 2 or Thu any time in the afternoon? Sam and I are discussing this as well. I hope my "agenda" made it through and that it addresses some of your concerns.

7/7/12

Re: IC Report to CPM

(FYI: the indented portions of the agenda are my reminders to myself, not for general use.)

Thank you for all your counsel, Ed. May God grace this work and time.
Beth

Exhibit P Attachment 9

Elizabeth L. Downs

"To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you." (Ps. 25:1-2)

From: Edward Koster <ekoster@aol.com>
To: drbethd@sboglobal.net
Sent: Wed, January 19, 2011 9:39:29 PM
Subject: Re: IC Report to CPM

Beth

The attachment did not come through through.

I will be delighted to be present to assist you.

Giving it some thought, I believe I can tape the meeting using the Presbytery equipment. It has three wireless mics, two with desktop stands, so a court reporter will not be necessary. One mic would be for you and one for Mr Priest. The third one can be passed to people who wish to ask questions of him. I am thinking that the critical part to tape will be the hearing portion, where Mr Priest is given the opportunity to make his case. The report suggests (and I can affirm from my own experience) that Mr Priest is wont to say he did not say things others heard him say. Or to claim that others said things that they did not say. It will be important to record those things. If you wish, we can record the discussion portion, with folks passing around the mics.

I am thinking that this will be a very difficult meeting to moderate. You and I can perhaps discuss it by e-mail, but you may wish to sit down and walk through it. I would be glad to meet with you at a location and time of your choosing.

What I think will be critical will be the handling of the motion when it is made, the limiting of Mr Priest during the hearing phase—I anticipate he may want to do things and claim rights that are not appropriate—and moderating the deliberations. It would not surprise me if there were motions to amend, refer, or substitute. You may be required to make some decisions on the spot, and I would like to go over some of them I think may arise.

I spoke with Betsy at some length about this. It appears to me that this will be very hot politically. Because of that it will be necessary to ensure that we are scrupulously fair to all parties and that the various procedures are followed to the jot and tittle. The general process I suggested in my e-mail is designed to ensure good process. But if it will be as hot as I think it could be, there may be some who would like to do things differently or to trip you up. CPM may come under fire if it adopts the report and recommendations; I believe the very best defense will be the report itself (with the attached allegations made by Ms Azar), and a well designed, fair process. And a recording.

7/7/12

Re: IC Report to CPM

I'll get back to you when I get a chance to review the agenda. ...

Exhibit P Attachment 9

Ed

Edward Koster
ehkoster@aol.com
734-358-5403

—Original Message—

From: Elizabeth Downs <drbethd@sbcglobal.net>
To: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
Sent: Wed, Jan 19, 2011 5:02 pm
Subject: IC Report to CPM

Hi Ed:

Betsy forwarded your suggestions and I'd like to take you up on your offer both to be present when the IC gives it report and recommendations, and to have a recorder there. I'd much prefer a court reporter and do not want a video recorder. Audio would be OK if we need to, but then it would need to be transcribed, wouldn't it?

I have attached a draft agenda for the meeting based on suggestions from Betsy, Sam, and you. (The indented portions are for my notes and memory-tickling during the meeting.)

Any input is welcome.

Thanks, and blessings,
Beth

Elizabeth L. Downs

"To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you." (Ps. 25:1-2)

**PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

Thomas Priest, Jr.,)	
Appellant/Appellee (Complainant),)	
)	
v.)	Order on Challenge of the Preliminary Questions and Appeal
)	
Presbytery of Detroit.)	
Appellee/Appellant (Respondent).)	Remedial Case 221-01

Arrival Statement

These remedial cases come before the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission (GAPJC or this Commission) on appeal GA2011-109 filed by Appellant/Appellee Thomas Priest, Jr. (Appellant), on appeal GA2011-110 filed by Appellee/Appellant Presbytery of Detroit (Presbytery or Appellee), both from a Decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant (SPJC) rendered on November 15, 2011, and on a challenge to the Executive Committee of this Commission (GAPJC EC), rendered January 31, 2012. For the purpose of judicial economy, the two appeals and the challenge are herein combined.

Jurisdictional Statement

As appeals from the decision of a synod permanent judicial commission. Remedial Cases GA2011-109 and GA2011-110 are properly before the GAPJC, were timely filed, and raise one or more of the grounds for appeal contained in D-8.0105.

Appearances

Appellant appeared in person and was represented by Archibald Wallace III. Appellee appeared through its counsel, Mark Schneider.

History

Appellant was a candidate for ministry under the care of Presbytery, as well as a member of Calvary Presbyterian Church (Calvary). On April 20, 2010, an individual sent a letter addressed to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) complaining about Appellant's

conduct. The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery was sent a copy of the letter.² The Stated Clerk notified the author of the letter that CPM does not have disciplinary jurisdiction over Appellant. On April 21, 2010, the author sent the same or a similar letter to Calvary's session. After an investigation, Calvary's session determined that no charges should be brought against Appellant.

After receiving the letter, CPM appointed a sub-committee to investigate the grievances in its role of determining Appellant's fitness for ministry. The sub-committee conducted interviews and collected related information. On January 18, 2011, the sub-committee recommended to the full CPM that Appellant participate in mediation training and assessment.

A hearing was scheduled for the purpose of determining whether the CPM would accept the recommendations of the sub-committee. The hearing was originally scheduled for February 1, 2011, but was rescheduled for March 1, 2011, at the request of Appellant so that he could have counsel present. At the close of the hearing, CPM voted to accept the recommendations of the sub-committee. CPM advised Appellant of the decision.

On June 9, 2011, Appellant filed a complaint with SPJC. On August 19, 2011, the Executive Committee of the SPJC (SPJC EC) found: Appellant did not have standing, the complaint did not state a claim upon which relief could be granted, the complaint was untimely, and SPJC did not have jurisdiction over the matter. Appellant challenged the decision of SPJC EC.

On October 4, 2011, CPM met with Appellant and approved him as ready to pursue a call.

On November 15, 2011, SPJC overruled SPJC EC and found that Appellant did have standing, but affirmed SPJC EC's dismissal based on a lack of timeliness, lack of jurisdiction, and failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted. On December 19, 2011, Appellant appealed SPJC's decision on timeliness, jurisdiction, and failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted. On December 21, 2011, Presbytery appealed SPJC's decision on standing.

On January 31, 2012, the GAPJC EC found that Appellant did not have standing to file the original complaint and dismissed the complaint. On February 29, 2012, Appellant challenged the decision of the GAPJC EC. Therefore, all four preliminary questions are before this Commission.

Specifications of Error

There are four specifications of error raised by the appeal, cross-appeal, and the challenge.

1. *SPJC erred in finding there was no jurisdiction to hear the complaint (GA2011-109).*

This specification is not sustained. See the Decision below.

2. *SPJC erred in finding the complaint was not timely filed (GA2011-109).*

This specification is not sustained. See the Decision below.

3. SPJC erred in finding the complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted (GA2011-109).

This specification is not sustained. See the Decision below.

4. SPJC erred in finding that complainant had standing to file the case (GA2011-110).

This specification is not sustained. See the Decision below.

Decision

Jurisdiction: Since this is a remedial case alleging an irregularity by a presbytery, the complainant must show that the presbytery acted and that the action taken was irregular. Appellant argued that the action taken by CPM constituted a final act of Presbytery. This argument lacks merit. The only action taken was that of CPM, which is not a governing body (D-2.0102).

Even if the facts alleged in the complaint are true, at most the action by CPM was made in the course of its responsibilities to guide the complainant as he prepared for ordained ministry pursuant to then applicable G-14.0405 and G-14.0412. Having decided that CPM was not acting as Presbytery and is not a governing body, there was no basis for the exercise of authority through the judicial process. The party complained of, Presbytery, took no action.

Timeliness: Presbytery did not act and, hence, there was no triggering event for timeliness. See D-6.0202a.

Relief: CPM directed Appellant to take additional steps to prepare himself for ministry, which CPM has the authority to do. [2006, PJC 217-1, Hope v. Presbytery of San Francisco] Since Presbytery as a governing body never acted, there is no basis for relief.

Standing: This Commission finds that Appellant had standing to file a remedial case with SPJC. However, since the other three preliminary questions have been answered in the negative, the issue of standing is immaterial.

Order

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the decision on the preliminary questions by the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Covenant is affirmed and its dismissal of the case is affirmed. Consequently, the dismissal of the case by the Executive Committee of the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission is also affirmed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Covenant report this Decision to the Synod of the Covenant at its first meeting after receipt. that the Synod of the

Covenant enter the full Decision upon its minutes, and that an excerpt from those minutes showing entry of the Decision be sent to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit report this Decision to the Presbytery of Detroit at its first meeting after receipt, that the Presbytery of Detroit enter the full Decision upon its minutes, and that an excerpt from those minutes showing entry of the Decision be sent to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

Absences and Non-Appearences

Commissioner Meta Shoup Cramer was absent and did not take part in the deliberations or decision.

Certificate

We certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in Remedial Case 221-01, Thomas Priest, Jr., Appellant/Appellee (Complainant), v. Presbytery of Detroit, Appellee/Appellant (Respondent) made and announced at Louisville, KY this 28th day of July, 2012.

Dated this 28th day of July, 2012.

**Pastoral Response Team
Recommended Changes to
Presbytery of Detroit's
Sexual Misconduct Policy
June 2012**

1. The Pastoral Response Team recommends that the terms "minister," "commissioned lay pastor," and "elder" be changed throughout the policy to "teaching elder," "commissioned ruling elder," and "ruling elder" respectively, to conform to the terminology used in the new Form of Government.
2. The Pastoral Response Team recommends that under section II.C. ("Presbytery Entities Involved in Sexual Misconduct Cases"), paragraph 6 on the "Permanent Investigating Committee" be deleted and the following paragraph be substituted:
 6. *The Investigating Committee. This is the committee established under the Rules of Discipline to investigate any allegation of misconduct received as an allegation of an offense. If it determines that an offense has been committed, it will file charges with the Stated Clerk.*
3. The Pastoral Response Team recommends that under section IV. ("Procedures and Implementation"), parts A.3, A.4, and all of part B be deleted and that the following part B be substituted:

B. Sexual Misconduct and the Disciplinary Process.

1. When a teaching elder is accused of sexual misconduct, two processes are begun: procedures under this policy, and judicial procedures under the Rules of Discipline. The two processes are related and in some cases overlap, but they are distinct. The judicial process is mandated by the Rules of Discipline, and where there is a conflict between the two procedures, the judicial process takes priority.

2. A case is initiated by a written allegation. In the case of a teaching elder, it is given to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery; in the case of a ruling elder or member of a church, to the Clerk of Session. A person accused is presumed innocent until proved guilty. He or she is afforded the right of counsel at all stages, and the session or Permanent Judicial Commission may authorize payment of counsel fees on application.

3. Upon receipt of a written allegation, the clerk will cause to be appointed an "investigating committee," which has the duty to inquire into all the facts, contact all the witnesses, and review all the available evidence. If it determines that the accused committed an offense, and that it has sufficient evidence to prove it, the Investigating Committee will file charges with the clerk, which will begin the process of a trial. In the case of a ruling elder/member, the

**Presbytery of Detroit
Minutes of the Stated Meeting
October 23, 2012**

WE GATHERED IN GOD'S NAME

The Presbytery of Detroit convened with prayer and litany in a stated meeting at Allen Park Presbyterian Church on October 23, 2012 at 4:02 pm. James Porter moderated the meeting.

The Moderator declared a quorum was present.

WE CELEBRATE OUR CONNECTIONS IN CHRIST (15)

The Moderator appointed Bob Morton the Assistant to the Stated Clerk

The Moderator welcomed new commissioners and ministers.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery excused those who had requested to be excused.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, the Presbytery approved the docket.

Upon motion of Fran Anderson, the Presbytery voted to seat Elizabeth Cook, a missionary from Costa Rica, and Elder Kennedy Kamau from Thika Presbytery, Presbyterian Church of East Africa as corresponding members.

Welcome from Host Church

Douglas Blaikie welcomed Presbytery to Allen Park Church.

Vice Moderator Jean Loup began moderating the meeting.

Reports from Other Governing Bodies

Presbytery received reports and PowerPoint presentations about the 220th General Assembly.

Presbytery received greetings from elder Kennedy Kamau from Thika Presbytery, Presbyterian Church of East Africa.

Reports from Presbytery Affiliated Organizations

Presbytery received a report from Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of Detroit by Janet Morton

WE LISTENED FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR COMMUNITY

Announcements

Presbytery heard announcements about disaster training, the Youth Trienium, the new hymnal, and Barnabas.

Reports

Trustees. Donald Morgan presented the report of the Trustees:

The Trustees reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. The Trustees have reviewed the 2011 audit and have recommended the Treasurer submit it to the Presbytery for its adoption.
2. The Trustees have reviewed our current insurance policies and coverage. They are proceeding to renew coverage with our current carrier.
3. The Trustees engaged in a wide ranging discussion indicating grave concern with the continued shortfall of revenue against expenditures for the current and last few years. They expect decreased revenues again for next year.
4. The Trustees reviewed a letter sent by the Stated Clerk to Westminster Port Huron. The Stated Clerk reported that he has informed the Evangelical Presbyterian Church that we will not release Port Huron Westminster until we receive the \$30,000 they have agreed on. The Stated Clerk has informed Port Huron that in order for them to be dismissed to the Evangelical Presbyterian church, it must: (1) obtain acceptance into an EPC Presbytery, and (2) pay the \$30,000.
5. The Trustees have voted to guarantee 25% of a loan sought by Northville Presbyterian Church, which is being sought to refinance a previous loan.
6. The Trustees have approved contracts for pest control and ceiling repairs of the former Southwest Church ceiling in the amount of \$1860.
7. The Trustees voted to pay the City of Detroit \$124.32 for a Barnabas tax bill, and add it to the amount owed.
8. The Trustees voted to forecast gross income of \$518,617.66 for the Presbytery budget.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

Executive Presbyter .Allen Tim, reported.

Mr Timm thanked the Presbytery for his sabbatical, and Richard Brownlee and Jim Russell who covered his duties. He reported his study on the book *Holy Conversations* by Gil Rendel. Based and consultations with Mr Rendel. He has created a process for working with congregations using the principles laid out by Mr Rendel. There are six conversations now in progress; more openings in May. Mr Timm called Fran Anderson forward to accept the award we have received for our offerings to the General Assembly. Ms Anderson led Presbytery in her M-I-S-S-I-O-N song.

Mr Porter resumed moderating the meeting and offered a brief prayer for openness.

BUSINESS ADOPTED BY MOTION AND DEBATE

Committee Items for Action:

Grosse Pointe Woods Administrative Commission. Kent Clise reported for the Commission.

Mr Clise gave a brief introduction to the written interim report and opened the floor for questions or comments. Upon motion the Presbytery voted to receive the interim report and enter it in the minutes. (The report is appended to the minutes,

Treasurer. Alvin Smith reported.

Mr Smith presented the Treasurer's report, which is appended to the minutes.

Mr Smith reviewed and reported the 2011 Audit. The motion was made by Mr Smith that Presbytery adopt the audit. Stephanie Lewis rose and moved correction of the following matters:

In Note 8, paragraph 2 defines *Temporarily Restricted Funds* in a way that conflicts with the definition as found on p. 5.

The Moderator declared that a motion to amend a report of the auditor was inappropriate, but invited a motion to refer the matter back to the auditor. The motion was made by Ms Lewis to refer the matter back to the auditor for clarification or correction. Upon motion, Presbytery voted to amend the motion to refer the matter to the Trustees. The amended motion was approved as follows:

To refer the audit to the Trustees to clarify or correct the discrepancies in definitions of *Temporarily Restricted Funds* found in Note 8, paragraph 2 and page 5.

Committee on Ministry. Dixie Elam reported for the Committee.

Upon motion of the Committee, Presbytery voted to:

1. **Transfer Rev. Drew Tomberlin** to the Presbytery of the New Covenant, where he will serve as pastor of Covenant Church in College Station, TX.
2. **Set aside the ordination of Rev. Dr. Hendrik Van Sluijs** per his request.
3. **Validate the ministry of Rev. Dr. Iris Tucker-Lloyd** as a Behavioral Therapist at the Renewal Christian Counseling and Ministry Center.
4. **Grant the status of Honorably Retired to Rev. Diane Smalley**, effective August 1, 2012.
5. **Approve** a 2% increase to the Minimum Terms of Call, effective January 1, 2013. All full-time calls are required to meet the minimum.
6. **Approve** the 3 month Temporary Supply Contract between **Rev. Robert Agnew and Grosse Pointe Woods**, effective October 24, 2012. Terms of Call (1 year pro-rated over the life of the contract): Full-time; Salary \$22,000; Housing allowance \$32,000; SECA \$5,049; 403b contribution \$12,000; Pension \$21,285; Optional dental \$679; Medical reimbursement \$2,640; Professional expenses \$2,484; Study allowance \$5,000. Vacation: One month including 4 Sundays; Study leave: two weeks.

The Committee reported that under the authority granted it, it has:

1. **Approved** the 12 month Assistant Pastor contract between **Emma Lee Ouellette and First, Northville**, effective October 16, 2012.
Terms of Call: Full time, Salary \$32,000; Housing \$18,000; Social Security \$3,825; Pension \$16,422; Accountable Expenses \$1,500; Study Leave \$1,500. Vacation: one month including four Sundays. Study leave: two weeks.
2. **Approved** the 12 month **Parish Associate** contract between **Faith Community, Novi and Jennifer Clark**, effective September 1, 2012.
3. **Approved** the **dissolution** of the Parish Associate contract between **Rev. Drew Tomberlin and Kirk of Our Savior, Westland**, effective immediately.
4. **Approved** the termination of the Temporary Supply Associate Pastor contract between **Rev. Kathleen Doyle-Hohf and Grosse Ile**, effective September 30, 2012.
5. **Approved** the twelve month Interim Pastor contract between **Rev. William R. Zambon and Lincoln Park**, effective October 1, 2012.

Terms: Full time; Salary \$30,873; Housing \$6,000; Pension \$11,737; Medical Deductible \$386; Travel \$6,000; Study Leave \$1,030. Vacation: one month including 4 Sundays; Study Leave: two weeks.

6. **Approved** the Administrative Commission to install **Rev. Kelly Shriver** as Pastor at **People's, Milan**, on September 16, 2012.

Moderator: Elder Dianne Bostic-Robinson

Clergy: Rev. Dr. Norman Pritchard, Rev. Mary Elizabeth Prentice-Hyers,

Elders: Brian LaFuente (Peoples, Milan), Ann Hartzell (Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills)

Invited to Participate: Rev. Chris Hooker (St. Augustine Presbytery)

The Committee reported the following for the information of Presbytery. It has:

1. Approved the Self Study for First, Pontiac, which allows the church to begin their search. The congregation elected a PNC Sunday, September 16, 2012.
2. Approved the appointment of Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi to act as a mentor to Emma Ouellette for the duration of her Assistant Pastor contract at First, Northville.
3. Authorized **Rev. Ruthanne Bourlier**, moderator of **Broadstreet, Detroit**, to train four Ruling Elders to officiate at the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.
4. Approved the position description for Organizing Pastor of Comunidad Los de Camino.
5. Exit interviews have been completed with Rev. Doug Campbell, Rev. Traci Smith and Rev. Yo Sup Sohn.
6. Appointed **Rev. Peter Smith** moderator at **Grosse Pointe Woods** until more permanent pastoral leadership is in place.
7. COM recommends that Sessions and Congregations of Presbytery of Detroit write letters of encouragement and support to the Session of Grosse Pointe Woods.
8. Rescinded the previous COM Policies & Procedures.
9. Adopted the attached new, revised COM Policies and Procedures. (Appended to the minutes)
10. Gregory Sykes and Pamela Hutchens have resigned from COM.

WE SHARED GOD'S BOUNTY

The Presbytery recessed for dinner at 6:00 p.m.

WE PROCLAIMED THE GOOD NEWS

The Presbytery reconvened for worship at 7:00.

Presbytery worshiped God, led by missionaries from Costa Rica and Africa.

BUSINESS ADOPTED BY MOTION AND DEBATE (continued)

Committee on Preparation for Ministry. Elizabeth Downs Reported for the committee.

The Committee reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

Consultation Reports

For Teaching Elder (Minister of Word and Sacrament):

1. CPM met with the following candidate on the date noted and granted him Final Assessment and permission to circulate his PIF.

Lucus Keppel

Orchard Lake Community

September 4,

- 2012
2. CPM met with the following and enrolled him as inquirer.
Steve Ogdie Allen Park September 4,
2012
 3. CPM met with the following candidate for examination for ordination. The Committee will recommend her to the Presbytery.
Emma Ouelette Allen Park October 2, 2012
 4. CPM met with the following Inquirer and recommends that she be examined by Presbytery and enrolled as a Candidate.
Jill Mills Westminster, Ann Arbor October 2, 2012
- For Commissioned Ruling Elder (formerly Commissioned Lay Pastor)***
5. CPM met with the following for examination for CRE certification. She has been approved as eligible to receive a call.
Cindy Rouse-Baird Community, Waterford October 2,
2012
 6. CPM met with the following and received her as a CRE student.
Patricia Johnson First, Royal Oak October 2, 2012

Other

- (1) *The Manual and Resource Guide for Commissioned Ruling Elder Candidates CPM-2 (2012)* is available. It replaces "CPM-2 Policy for Commissioned Lay Pastors."
- (2) The full CPM manual is now on line, under Committees/Ministry Teams/Preparation for Ministry. The manual online includes all our CPM POD forms. (Note that the General Assembly forms are **not** to be used. Instead **use the forms that are available from our Presbytery in the online CPM Manual**; GA's forms have the same titles but differ from what we use here.)
- (3) Allyson Brosky (First, Birmingham) formally requested to be removed from CPM rolls as an inquirer; CPM granted her request.

EXAMINATIONS FOR CANDIDACY AND ORDINATION

Having met and examined Jill Mills, a member of Ann Arbor Westminster and a student at DuBuque Seminary, the Committee on Preparation for Ministry presented her to Presbytery for examination for candidacy for the ordered ministry of teaching elder. Presbytery examined Ms Mills on her faith, forms of seeking service, and motivation for seeking a call. The motion was made to received Ms Mills as a candidate. Upon motion the Presbytery arrested debate and voted in the affirmative.

Ms Mills came forward and answered in the affirmative the questions in Policy P-21, after which the Moderator offered a brief charge and prayer, the moderator directed she be entered on the roll of candidates for the ordered ministry of teaching elder.

Emma Ouelette, a member under the care of Allen Park Church and a student at Columbia Theological Seminary, having met the requirements of this Presbytery for ordination, received her M.Div. from Columbia Theological Seminary, been granted Final Assessment, and having received a call as Assistant Pastor with First Presbyterian Church, Northville, MI, the Committee presented her to Presbytery for examination for the ordered ministry of teaching elder. The Presbytery examined Ms Ouelette's calling, gifts, preparation, suitability for the

responsibilities of ordered ministry, and her ability and commitment to fulfill all requirements as expressed in the constitutional questions for ordination and installation. Upon motion, Presbytery voted to arrest the examination. Upon motion Presbytery voted to ordain her to the ordered ministry of teaching. Elder.

The moderator invited Ms Ouelette forward along with her friends and family, and offered her a brief charge and prayer.

Coordinating Cabinet. Dianne Bostic Robinson Reported for the Coordinating Cabinet.

The Coordinating Cabinet presented revised bylaws to the Presbytery for reading and questions for information.

The Coordinating Cabinet reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. The Coordinating Cabinet heard a series of suggestions from the Racial Understanding Discussion addressed at improving relationships in the Presbytery.
2. The Coordinating Cabinet considered a motion from the Social Justice and Peacemaking Team that the Coordinating Cabinet form a work group to address certain matters. The Coordinating Cabinet referred the recommendations in the motion back to the Social Justice and Peacemaking Team, the Multi-Cultural Work Group (of the Social Justice and Peacemaking Team) and the Committee on Representation.
3. The Coordinating Cabinet spent the major part of its September meeting addressing issues of trust and conflict in the Presbytery and Coordinating Cabinet.
4. The Coordinating Cabinet heard a report from the Mr Timm on his work during his sabbatical, and his plans for implementing his research.

Stated Clerk. Edward Koster reported.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery voted to:

1. Approve the minutes of August 28, 1012.
2. Approve the reports of the following Commission:
 - a. Installation of Kelly Shriver as pastor, Milan Peoples on September 16, 2012. (Appended to the minutes.)

The Stated Clerk reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. Transfers completed
 - a. To the Presbytery of Detroit:
 - i. Thomas Oxtoby from Sacramento Presbytery
 - b. From the Presbytery of Detroit
 - i. Traci Smith to Mission Presbytery
 - c. Renunciation of Jurisdiction pursuant to G-2.0509
 - i. James Rizer. 10/8/12
 - ii. Elizabeth Arakelian. 10/8/12

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from the Stated Clerk to the Editor, Presbyterian Layman. (Appended to the minutes.)
2. Letter from the Stated Clerk to Westminster Port Huron. (Appended to the minutes.)

Committee on Nominations. Ruth Ann Boulier reported for the Committee.

Upon nomination of the Committee, there being no nominations from the floor, Presbytery elected the following:

For vacancies in the Class of 2012 on the **Committee of Representation:**

Chair 2012	° Ruling Elder Jeffrey Banks	Detroit, Calvary
Class of 2012	Ruling Elder Jeffrey Banks	Detroit, Calvary
	(replaces Teaching Elder Seung Won Yu)	
Class of 2012	Ruling Elder Terry Chaney	Birmingham, First
	(replaces Teaching Elder Rufus Hatcher)	

For the vacancy in the Class of 2014 (Teaching Elder Phil Olson) on the **New Church Development/Redevelopment Ministry Team:**

Ruling Elder Anita Teresko	Gross Ile
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For the vacancy in the Class of 2013 (Ruling Elder Sharon Pickett) on the **Trustees:**

Teaching Elder Kevin Johnson	Detroit, Calvary
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Jean Loup began moderating the meeting.

WE GAVE THANKS TO GOD

Presbytery shared its joys, concerns, and prayers.

WE WENT OUT IN GOD'S NAME

The Presbytery adjourned with prayer at 9:00 pm

The next meeting of the Presbytery will be Tuesday,

ATTEST:


EDWARD KOSTER, Stated Clerk

ATTACHMENT ONE: The Roll

APPENDICES: Grosse Pointe Woods Administrative Commission Interim Report
Revised COM Policies and Procedures
Installation of Kelly Shriver
Treasurer's Report
Letter from the Stated Clerk to the Presbyterian Layman
Letter from the Stated Clerk to Port Huron Westminster

ATTACHMENT ONE: THE ROLL

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY FOR October 23, 2012

CHURCHES: Of 83 churches, 46 were represented and 37 were not.

COMMISSIONERS: Of 126 eligible commissioners, 64 enrolled, and 62 did not.

OTHER RULING ELDERS (Officers, Members of Council)::

Of 21 total, 11 were present, of whom 1 counted as commissioners, leaving 10 as the unduplicated count: 6 excused, and 4 absent.

TEACHING ELDERS:

Of the 144 non-retired teaching elders on the combined rolls of active members and members-at-large, 58 were present, 28 were excused, and 58 were absent.

Of the 83 retired teaching elders on the rolls, 10 were present and 73 were excused.

COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS AND CERTIFIED EDUCATORS:

Of the 1 Commissioned Law Pastor on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 1 absent

Of the 0 Certified Educators on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 0 absent.

SUMMARY**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT**

	64	Elder Commissioners
+	10	Other Ruling Elders
+	58	Non-retired teaching elders
+	10	Retired teaching elders
=	0	Commissioned lay pastors.
=	0	Certified educators.
=	142	Voting members present.

OTHERS PRESENT

2	Non-voting attendees
2	Corresponding members

ATTENDANCE**CHURCHES AND RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERES**

ALLEN PARK, Allen Park	3 STAN EVANS	1 STANLEY EDWARDS
1 ROBERT MORTON	BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Kirk/Hills	2 TIMOTHY NGARE
2 PAT ILLEGIBLE	1 GORDON ALLARDYCE	DETROIT, Calvin East
3	2 DAVETTA J HORNER	1 NOT REPRESENTED
ANN ARBOR, Calvary	3 ANNE MULAION	2
1 NOT REPRESENTED	4 NANG LAU	DETROIT, First
ANN ARBOR, First	5	1 ILLEGIBLE
1 RUTH BARNARD	BRIGHTON, First	DETROIT, Fort Street
2 BEN VANTUYL	1 STEVE WILLIS	1 NOT REPRESENTED
3 HENRY JOHNSON	2	DETROIT, Gratiot Avenue
4	CANTON, Geneva	1 MARYANN BRANTLEY
ANN ARBOR, Northside	1 MICHAEL GAUBATZ	2
1 NOT REPRESENTED	CLARKSTON, Sashabaw	DETROIT, Hope
ANN ARBOR, Westminster	1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 MARY GREEN
1 ROBIN HESS	DEARBORN, Cherry Hill	2
AUBURN HILLS, Auburn Hills	1 NOT REPRESENTED	DETROIT, Jefferson Avenue
1 JOYCE SMITH	DEARBORN, First	1 SALLY WICKS
BELLEVILLE, Belleville	1 NOT REPRESENTED	2
1 CONNIE ETTER	DEARBORN, Littlefield	DETROIT, Riverside
BERKLEY, Greenfield	1 TRUDY MCCREADIE	1 NOT REPRESENTED
1 DOUG ADAMS	DEARBORN HGTS, St. Andrew's	DETROIT, St. John's
BEVERLY HILLS, Northbrook	1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 JEANE V MOORE
1 NOT REPRESENTED	DETROIT, Broadstreet	2
BIRMINGHAM, First	1 LASENIA JONES	DETROIT, Trinity Community
1 ROSY LATIMORE	2 ALVIN SMITH	1 FRANCIS BEEMAN
2 HAL BURG	DETROIT, Calvary	2 NATALIE BROTHERS

DETROIT, Trumbull Avenue

1 MARTHA SINGLEY

2

DETROIT, Westminster

1 MARGARET WHITEHEAD

2 RESHAWN WHETSTONE

FARMINGTON, First

1 DAVE DELMONICO

2 RICK FULLER

FERNDALE, Drayton Avenue

1 JUDI ZACHARY

FORT GRATIOT, Lakeshore

1 NOT REPRESENTED

GARDEN CITY, Garden City

1 CHRISTINE SACKETT

GROSSE ILE, Grosse Ile

1 DON HILL

2 VICKI UDAY

GROSSE POINTE, Memorial

1 NOT REPRESENTED

2

3

GROSSE PTE WOODS, Woods

1 JOANNE SHERSTONE

2 FRANK ZINN

HIGHLAND PARK, Park United

1 MARIE HUGHLEY

2

HOWELL, First

1 NOT REPRESENTED

LINCOLN PARK, Lincoln Park

1 NOT REPRESENTED

LIVONIA, Rosedale Gardens

1 DYCHE ANDERSON

2

LIVONIA, St. Paul's

1 NOLA BONANDRENI

LIVONIA, St. Timothy's

1 NOT REPRESENTED

MACOMB, Church/Covenant

1 GARY CYNOWA

MILAN, Peoples

1 NOT REPRESENTED

MILFORD, Milford

1 BOB TROMBLEY

2

MT. CLEMENS, First1 LORETTA FREEMAN-
MARTIN**NORTHVILLE, First**

1 BARBARA ROSS

2 CAL STROM

3

NOVI, Faith Community

1 GARY MCALEEN

ORCHARD LAKE, Community

1 CHUCK KEPPEL

2 BETH KEPPEL

PLYMOUTH, First

1 NOT REPRESENTED

2

3

PONTIAC, First

1 MELISSA ROSE

PONTIAC, Joslyn Avenue

1 NOT REPRESENTED

PORT HURON, First

1 CYNDI BEENBONEER

2 ROBERT WILLIAMS

PORT HURON, Westminster

1 NOT REPRESENTED

REDFORD, St. James

1 NOT REPRESENTED

ROCHESTER, University

1 DOUG DENTON

2

ROSEVILLE, Erin

1 NOT REPRESENTED

ROYAL OAK, First

1 KENNETH BISSEY

2

ROYAL OAK, Point of Vision

1 NOT REPRESENTED

ROYAL OAK, Starr

1 NOT REPRESENTED

SALINE, First

1 NOT REPRESENTED

SHELBY TWP., St. Thomas

1 NOT REPRESENTED

SOUTH LYON, First

1 SHIRLEY BROOKS

SOUTHFIELD, Covenant

1 BARBARA SMITH

SOUTHFIELD, Korean

1 NOT REPRESENTED

2

3

SOUTHFIELD, New Hope

1 NOT REPRESENTED

2

ST. CLAIR SHORES, Heritage

1 NOT REPRESENTED

ST. CLAIR SHORES, Lake Shore

1 NOT REPRESENTED

2

STERLING HGTS, New Life

1 NOT REPRESENTED

TAYLOR, Southminster

1 PRESTON STORMS

TROY, First

1 NOT REPRESENTED

TROY, Korean First

1 NOT REPRESENTED

2

TROY, Northminster

1 JULIE A SIEGLI

WALLED LAKE, Crossroads

1 NOT REPRESENTED

WARREN, Celtic Cross

1 NOT REPRESENTED

WARREN, First

1 NOT REPRESENTED

WATERFORD, Community

1 NANCY HERST

WESTLAND, Kirk of Our Savior

1 ILL GARCIA

WHITE LAKE, White Lake

1 NOT REPRESENTED

WYANDOTTE, Wyandotte

1 MARYFERN THOMAS

YPSILANTI, First

1 NOT REPRESENTED

TEACHING ELDERS AND RULING ELDER MEMBERS**C. RULING ELDER MEMBERS**

P ANDERSON, FRANCILE, PM
 P BOSTIC-ROBINSON, DIANE, PM
 A CLARK, SAM
 P ELAM, DIXIE, PM
 A ELLIS, HAROLD
 A EMMERT, JOHN
 E HYLKEMA, CAROL, PM
 P LEWIS, STEFANIE
 P LOUP, JEAN
 P MORGAN, DONALD
 E MORRISON, HELEN, PM
 P MORTON, JANET
 E PITTS, FRANCES, PM
 E PRIEST, TOM, PM
 P SEABROOKS, DOROTHY M., PM
 C SHIRLEY, JAMES, PM
 E SMITH, ALVIN
 P SMITH, KENNETH, PM
 P SZWED, ROBERT
 A WILLIAMSON, MAEGARET
 E WINSLOW, PAUL, PM

D. NON-RETIRED MINISTERS

P ADAMS, WILLIAM L III
 P ANDERSON, BARBARA S
 A ANDERSON, LINDA
 P ANDERSON, LINDSEY
 A ANDREWS, DOYLL
 A AUE, CRAIG
 E AUSTIN, MARY
 P BAHR-JONES, MARY
 E *BAILEY, CLOVER
 A BIERSDORF, JOHN
 P BLAIKIE, DOUGLAS
 A BLEIVIK, DAVID
 E BOHN, CHRISTINE
 A BOLT, KENNETH
 P BOURLIER, RUTHANNE
 A BOUSQUETTE, PAUL
 A CAMPBELL, DOUGLAS
 A CAMPBELL, EMILY
 A CARL, STEPHEN
 A CHEN, HAO-THE
 A CHOI, SEUNG
 E *CHOI, SEUNG KOO

A CLARK, JENNIFER
 E CLARK, STEVEN
 A COCHRAN, LINDA
 A COOPER, QUINCY
 E COWLING, NEIL D.
 A DAVIS, ROXIE ANN
 P DAVIS, WILLIAM
 A DE ORIO, ANTHONY
 P DELANEY, BETH
 E *DENNIS, WARREN
 P DOWNS, ELIZABETH
 A DOYLE-HOHF, KATHLEEN
 E *DYKSTRA, CRAIG R.
 P ELE, HERSCHEL
 E FAILE, JAMES
 E FAIR, FAIRFAX
 A FERGUSON, GUY THOMAS
 P FORGER, DEBORAH
 E FRANCIS, RAPHAEL B.
 A GABEL, PETER W.
 A GEISELMAN, KEITH
 E GERE, BREWSTER
 P GRANO, MARIANNE

P GROSCH, ADAM
 A HANNA, RAAFAT
 P HARMON, BREANNE
 E *HARRIS, R. JOHN
 P HARTLEY, THOMAS
 P HAYES, FRANCES
 A HENDERSON, RICHARD
 A HENRY, PETER J. M.
 P HOFFMAN, MICHAEL (CRE)
 P HORLOCKER, MICHEL
 P HUFF, JASON
 P JOHNSON, KEVIN
 A JONES, RICHARD
 P JUDSON, JOHN
 E KAIBEL, KENNETH
 A KIDDER, ANNEMARIE
 E *KIM, Y. MONCH
 E *KIM, YOUNGCHUL
 P KING, CATHERINE
 A KLINGER, JAMIE
 P KOSTER, EDWARD H.
 P KRUG, ERNEST
 A KUMIN, JAMES
 A MABEE, CHARLES
 P MADDEN, JULIE
 E McCLOSKEY-TURNER, CATHARINE
 A McGOWAN, EVANS
 A McMILLAN, JUDITH
 A McRAE, BARBARA
 A MEANS, MATTHEW
 E MELROSE, SUE ELLIS
 E MICHALEK, DANIEL
 P MILLER, J. SCOTT
 A MISHLER, JOHN
 A MONNETT, JAMES
 P MOOK, SHARON
 P MOORE, PETER
 E MORGAN, AMY
 P MOZENA, SUSAN
 P NICHOLS, NEETA
 P NICKEL, EMMA
 P NICKEL, MATTHEW
 A NUSS, STEVEN
 P OBERG, ARTHUR
 A OLIVER, GARY
 P PARKER, OPELTON
 P PAVELKO, JOHN H.
 A PEARSON, BRENNAN
 P PICKRELL, BROOKE
 A PIECUCH, KEVIN
 P PITTMAN, JASON
 P PORTER, JAMES
 P PORTICE, GEORGE
 A PRENTICE-HYERS, DAVID
 A PRENTICE-HYERS, MARY ELIZABETH
 E PRITCHARD, NORMAN
 P PUNTIGAM, JOEL
 P REED, PHILIP
 A RICE, ELIZABETH
 P RICE, THOMAS
 A RIKE, JENNIFER
 P RITTER, W. STUART
 A ROGERS, MELISSA ANNE
 A SCHAEFER, ANNE N.
 A SEILER, GORDON (CRE)
 E *SHIH, SHENG-TO
 P SHINN, DAVID
 P SHIPMAN, JUDY

E *SHREVE, MAGGIE
 P SHRIVER, KELLY
 A SIAS-LEE, LAURA
 E *SIMONS, SCOTT W.
 A SKIMINS, JAMES
 A SMALLEY, DIANE
 E SMITH, BRYAN DEAN
 P SMITH, PETER C.
 A SOEHL, HOWARD
 P SOHN, YO SUP
 P SOMMERS, CHARLOTTE
 P STUNKEL, KAREN
 P STUNKEL, PAUL
 A TATE, CAROL ANN
 A THOMAS, CHRISTOPHER
 E THOMPSON, G. PATRICK
 A THORESEN, KATHRYN R.
 P THWAITE, PAUL
 P TIMM, ALLEN D
 A TOMBERLIN, DREW
 A TUCKER-LLOYD, IRIS
 E *VAN SLUIJS, HENDRICK
 P WHITLOCK, KELLIE
 P WILHELMI, MARJORIE
 A WINGROVE, WILLIAM N
 A WOO, BYEONGJIN
 E WRZESZCZ, JENNIFER PARKER
 A WRZESZCZ, MATTHEW PARKER
 P YU, SEUNG WON
 P ZAMBON, WILLIAM
 P ZURAKOWSKI, GREGORY

D. RETIRED MINISTERS

E AARON, ESTELLE
 E ACTON, ELLEN
 P AGNEW, ROBERT
 E ALBRECHT, GLORIA
 E ANDERSON, JAMES
 E AUSTIN, ANNA MARIE
 E AUSTIN, LARRY
 P BEERY, ELDON
 E BENEDICT, IVAN L.
 E BOEVE, PETER
 E BORCHARDT, HENRY
 E BORCHARDT, JUDITH
 P BROWNLEE, RICHARD
 E BYARS, RONALD
 E CAMPBELL, VERN
 E CAPPS, HARRY
 E CARTER, DOUGLAS D.
 E CATER, LAWRENCE H.
 E CHAMBERLAIN, LAWRENCE
 E CHAMBERS, JAMES C.
 E CHOI, IN SOON
 P CLISE, W. KENT
 E COBLEIGH, GERALD R.
 E COLON, LOIS
 P CONLEY, JAMES H.
 E CORSO, LINDA
 E CRILLEY, ROBERT
 E CROSS, PAUL D.
 P DENTON, GRETCHEN
 E DUNCAN, THOMAS
 E DUNIFON, WILLIAM
 E ELLENS, J. HAROLD
 E FINDLAY, WILLIAM
 E FORSYTH, E. DICKSON
 E FOSTER, JOHN

P GEPFORD, WILLIAM G.
 E GLENN, LAWRENCE T.
 E HANNA, J. RICHARD
 E HARP, WILLIAM S.
 E HATCHER, RUFUS
 E HEINRICHS, THOMSON
 E HELMKE, BEN
 E JANSEN, ROBERT
 E JEFFREY, JOHN
 E JONES, VIRGIL L.
 E KESLER, JAMES W.
 E KIM, T. ANDREW
 E KNUDSEN, RAYMOND
 E KOGEL, LYNNE
 E KREHBIEL, DAVID E.
 E LAMBERT, ROY F.
 E LANGWIG, JANICE
 E LANGWIG, ROY
 E LARSON, ROBERT F.
 E LISTER, KENNETH D.
 E LONGWOOD, MARJORIE
 E MacINNES, JOHN D.
 E MARVIN, FRANK C., JR.
 E McINTYRE, DEWITT
 E MIHOCKO, DAVID
 E NUSSDORFER, GUS
 E OLSON, PHILIP
 E ORR, ROBERT C.
 E OWEN, DAVID
 P OXTOBY, THOMAS
 E PETERS, RICHARD
 E POLKOWSKI, WILLIAM
 E PRICE, MICHAEL T.
 E PROVOST, KEITH
 E PRUES, LOUIS J.
 E RATCLIFFE, ALBERT H.
 E ROBERTSON, ANN
 E ROBERTSON, DAVID W.
 E ROBERTSON, WILLIAM
 P RUSSELL, JAMES P.
 P SCRIBNER, LOREN
 E SUTTON, PAUL
 E TAYLOR, J. BERNARD
 E TAYLOR, THEODORE, II
 E WRIGHT, DONALD
 E YOON, HAK SUK
 E YUE, MYUNG JA
 E ZIEGLER, JACK T.

E. STAFF & OTHERS

A BARCONEY, CHARON
 P FABRÉ, EDWIN
 A GRANT, RICHARD
 P HIGGINS, JOANNE
 A LLOYD, MARY
 A VANDERBEEK, RONALD

F. CERT. ASSOC. CHRISTIAN ED.

A PRICE, LAURA

G. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

**Interim Report to the Presbytery of Detroit
From the Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission
October 23, 2012**

Precipitating Issues

1. In early February of 2012 The Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church informed the Presbytery of Detroit of their desire to seek dismissal from the PC(USA).
2. In light of this information the Presbytery of Detroit, following its "P-10 Guidelines for Disaffected Churches" (Appendix 1) named a Denominational Concerns Task Force. This Task Force consisted of Teaching Elders Peter Henry, Allen Timm, Hank Borchardt, Ed Koster, Kent Clise (who was not present for the meeting) and Ruling Elder Jean Loup. The Task Force met with the Grosse Pointe Woods Session on Wednesday, March 7th. The meeting was a difficult one and led the Task Force to recommend moving to the next step in P-10; the naming of an administrative commission.
3. Following its meeting with the Denominational Concerns Taskforce, the session of Grosse Pointe Woods (in a divided vote) voted to proceed with a process of dissolution without regard to P-10 Guidelines for Disaffected Churches. This included setting a date for a vote to be dismissed from the PC (USA) on April 22, 2012. In addition the session retained the services of an attorney to help guide them through the dissolution process (in a divided vote).

Work of the Administrative Commission

1. The Administrative Commission (AC) for the Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church (GPW) was created by motion at a special called meeting of the Presbytery of Detroit on Tuesday, March 27th, 2012. (Appendix 2) Members of the Commission include Teaching Elders Kent Clise, Moderator, John Judson, and Charlotte Sommers and Ruling Elders Dianne Bostic-Robinson, Jean Loup, Bobby Ponder and Bob Swzed. The Presbytery's Policy P-10 provided guidance for this action.
2. The Administrative Commission met for the first time on Wednesday, April 11th, to examine its charge and plan for its first meeting with the Session of GPW. At this meeting the AC, understanding that the powers given to the AC were broad, determined that it would be very careful in using those powers. The AC sought instead to create a sense of mutual purpose and trust as it moved forward with the Session. In addition the AC examined 10 years of session minutes seeking to discern the depth of the sessions displeasure with the PC(USA). The AC would meet an additional 16 times during this process.
3. At the initial meeting with the session of GPW, the session agreed to:
 - a. rescind its decision to hold a vote to seek dismissal on Sunday, April 22nd
 - b. follow the P-10 process
 - c. allow the AC time to learn more about the situation at GPW.
4. The AC next held a retreat with the Session on Saturday, May 5th. At that meeting the AC informed the session that the AC would hold "listening sessions" in order that members of GPW could share their points of view as to the direction in which the denomination and congregation were headed. Members could also express their concerns via e-mail or letter.
5. This was followed by thirty-four 30-minutes listening sessions with 79 individuals and the reception of a number of letters and emails. The information garnered from these sessions was invaluable as the AC moved forward with the process.
6. At the June Session meeting, the AC informed the Session that it believed that reconciliation between the session majority and the PC(USA) was not possible. The AC encouraged the session to call an informational meeting for the congregation, as the next step in the process outlined in P-10.

7. This meeting was held on Sunday, July 22nd, and allowed numerous members of the congregation to speak, both in favor of and opposed to dismissal. In addition, the AC presented a reasoned statement responding to the concerns heard in the congregational listening sessions, e-mails and letters.
8. At the August Session meeting, with concurrence by the AC and based on P-10, the session set October 7th as the date for the advisory vote for or against dismissal.
9. The session and AC had agreed that the quorum for the congregational meeting on October 7th would be 256 (75% of the active GPW membership as of its September session meeting, as required by P-10).
10. Following morning worship the AC, using a member roster provided by the GPW Clerk of session, asked members to sign in. Once members signed in they were given a numbered ballot. In addition two announcements concerning receiving ballots were made to members gathered in the sanctuary in order to insure that all members had the opportunity to receive a ballot.
11. The number of members registered was 198, plus two provisional ballots given to persons who believed themselves to be members, but whose names were not on the roles.
12. The AC then, in accordance with P-10, ruled that there was an insufficient number of members present for the meeting to take place. This announcement was made to the congregation by the AC moderator and Rev. Rizer offered a prayer.

Events Subsequent to the Inability to Proceed to a Vote for Dismissal

1. On Sunday night, October 7, some members of GPW and Teaching Elders Rizer and Arakelian met at a location away from the GPW campus for worship. Cards giving the time and location of this worship service, having been prepared in advance, were distributed at GPW following the declaration of a lack of a quorum following the morning worship service at the GPW campus.
2. On Monday October 8, 2012 Teaching Elders James Rizer and Elizabeth Arakelian resigned their positions at GPW. In addition they renounced the jurisdiction of the PC(USA).
3. On Monday October 8, 2012 the long time treasurer of the congregation resigned.
4. On Tuesday October 9, 2012 nine currently serving Ruling Elders (out of 16 Ruling Elders on the session) tendered their resignations from the session. This included the individual resignation from the Clerk of Session.
5. On October 11, 2012 nine actively serving deacons (out of 20 deacons on the Board of Deacons) resigned from the Board of Deacons.
6. On Tuesday night October 9, the AC met with the remaining members of the GPW session in order to offer the support of the AC and assist the session in examining the immediate consequences of the resignations (this was a meeting of the AC with session members present, and not an official meeting of the session).
7. On Tuesday night October 16, the AC met with the session of GPW at a meeting moderated by Teaching Elder Peter Smith representing the Committee on Ministry. At that meeting the session voted to:
 - a. Officially close the process of discernment seeking dismissal from the PC(USA).
 - b. To recommit itself to be a congregation of the PC(USA).
 - c. If the way be clear and the session contract with an Interim Pastor to receive permission to meet as a session without the presence of the AC.

Additional Critical Information and Reflections

1. The AC decided that it would follow as closely as possible the process laid out in P-10. Though there were requests from session members and pastors to make exceptions to the process we did not believe that the presbytery had empowered us to do so.
2. The AC attempted to the best of its ability to avoid even appearing to take sides in the dismissal process. To that end the AC did not engage in side-bar discussions with persons on either side of the process

(those wanting to leave or those wanting to stay). When emails or other communication were received from individuals, whether members or session members, the AC Moderator was very clear that the AC's task was to deal directly with the session and pastors, not with individual members of the congregation (other than in the listening sessions). The AC believes that it was successful in maintaining its neutrality because at the end of the process persons on both sides of the process (including the pastors and session members) thanked the AC for its impartiality.

3. By carefully following the policy P-10 the AC discovered that GPW was a congregation deeply divided over the issue of dismissal. Some of the session votes on the matter were as close as 9-7, and 8-6. In addition the listening sessions and the informational meeting made it clear that a significant number of GPW members desired to remain in the PC(USA).
4. The AC never asked the pastors of GPWPC about their future plans, possible future plans at GPWPC or their desire to remain in, or to leave the PCUSA. The AC did not believe such conversations were appropriate. The AC trusted that the pastors would make the decisions which were appropriate for them once they discerned God's will for their ministry.
5. The resignations of Pastors Rizer and Arakelian were, as their resignation letters pointed out, the result of their own spiritual wrestling and not the result of any actions of the AC. The AC was stunned and surprised, as were many in the congregation, at the pastors' choice to resign on October 8.
6. The process outlined in P-10 served the AC well. There are however, a few issues within the policy which the AC believes need some clarification. The AC is considering the possibility of proposing some changes to P-10 to the Presbytery.

Reason for an Interim Report

At the time this interim report was filed with the presbytery the AC could see that there might still be some additional work to be done to support the Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church. It is the intention of the AC to produce a final report as soon as it believes its task to be complete.

Our AC has always and remains committed to the conclusion of our commission ministry to be faithful daughters and sons of God for the People of God whom our AC touches. The AC believes and acknowledges that each person involved in this discernment process deserves to be covered with the saving Grace of God as revealed in Jesus Christ. The AC is committed to conducting our ministry in a gracious and honorable manner toward each and every person seriously seeking the discernment of God's Will.

Jean Loup, Clerk
Charlotte Sommers
Bob Szwed

Dianne Bostic Robinson, Vice Moderator
Bobby Ponder
John Judson

Kent Clise
Moderator

Appendix 1

P-10 GUIDELINES FOR DISAFFECTED CHURCHES

JOHN 17:21

I PRAY THAT THEY MAY ALL BE ONE. FATHER! MAY THEY BE IN US, JUST AS YOU ARE IN ME AND I AM IN YOU. MAY THEY BE ONE, SO THAT THE WORLD WILL BELIEVE THAT YOU SENT ME.

THE PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT

GUIDELINES FOR DISAFFECTED CHURCHES

1. THE CHURCH AND ITS UNITY
Universal and Particular (G-4.102)

Since this whole company cannot meet together in one place to worship and to serve, it is reasonable that it be divided into particular congregations. The particular church is, therefore, understood as a local expression of the universal Church.

A Particular Presbyterian Church (G-4.104)

Each particular church of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) shall be governed by this Constitution. Its government and guidance are the responsibility of the session. It shall fulfill its responsibilities as the local unit of mission for the service of all people, for the upbuilding of the whole church, and for the glory of God.

Oneness (G-4.0402)

There is one Church. As the Bible speaks of the one body which is the Church living under the one Spirit of God known through Christ, it reminds us that we have "one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all." (Ephesians 4: 5-6)

2. INTRODUCTION

The Church of Jesus Christ has never been free of conflict. As people of the church struggle with tension, they are periodically polarized.

Whatever is happening at any given time that might cause individuals or churches to contemplate separation, the Detroit Presbytery is firmly committed to unity, diversity, reconciliation, justice, peace, love, mercy, values that lead to harmony.

There is a confessional mandate for unity in our Confession of 1967, which calls for reconciliation across various lines of conflict.

When faced with the possibility of any kind of organized separation, the Presbytery of Detroit is obligated to facilitate the maintenance and integrity of the Presbyterian system. We are a connectional church, which does not readily provide for the unilateral separation of a segment of the body from the rest of the body.

3. PROCESS

A. When the leadership of the presbytery receives word that a congregation is discussing whether to leave the denomination, either through formal congregational action or through informal contacts with church leaders or members, the Executive Presbyter will, as soon as possible, ask for a pastoral visit to hear concerns and offer the assistance of a Denominational Concerns Task Force appointed by the Moderator of Presbytery. The Denominational Concerns Task Force shall consist of three people. This action shall be reported to the Coordinating Cabinet and Presbytery at the next meeting. The purpose of the Denominational Concerns Task Force would be to engage either the leaders of the congregation, or the congregation as a whole, in a time of prayer and conversation aimed at understanding the conflict or identifying steps toward reconciliation. If the Denominational Concerns Task Force determines that progress can be made toward reconciliation through continued dialogue this will be reported to the Executive Presbyter, Coordinating Cabinet, and Presbytery. If this effort leads to resolution of the situation, no further action is required. If the visit is refused or unsuccessful the Denominational Task Force shall recommend to Presbytery that an Administrative Commission be nominated by the Moderator of the presbytery and elected by the presbytery as soon as possible. The Denominational Task Force shall recommend to presbytery the specific powers that should be given the Administrative Commission. Ordinarily the power to remove a pastor would require a specific request by the Commission after it is formed. The Administrative Commission shall consist of 3 ministers and 4 elders, directed to report its progress at Coordinating Cabinet meetings and Presbytery meetings. The

commission shall complete its work and make recommendations with all deliberate dispatch as outlined herein. There shall be no session meetings without the Administrative Commission.

If the Denominational Concerns Task Force finds that no resolution is likely and that the congregation, sincerely bound by conscience and Scripture, wishes to work with Presbytery to seek dismissal to another Reformed denomination in correspondence with the General Assembly, the Task Force shall request the Administrative Commission facilitate the procedure under E below while not assuming original jurisdiction.

B. The Administrative Commission of the presbytery will meet with the session and minister of the church in disagreement to resolve the issues. The commission could listen to the concerns of the congregation at large and with the session offer a pastoral presence. The commission and the session would agree to work within the system to affect changes they mutually see as beneficial to the life of the denomination and the work of the Gospel. Should this strategy succeed the relationship between the congregation and presbytery could be preserved. The commission would continue to work with the congregation for an additional two months as a support. In the event that this option is unsuccessful the commission must consider other alternatives within the powers given it or request additional powers from Presbytery. (G-4.0301f)

C. If the commission has been given the authority to do it and finds that all or part of the ordained leadership unable or unwilling to function within the Presbyterian Church (USA) it shall assume original jurisdiction pursuant to G-11.0103s. If the commission finds it necessary it could recommend the Presbytery dissolve the pastoral relationship.

D. If a congregation requests to be dismissed by Presbytery to another Christian body, it must be one recognized by the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly (PCUSA) and the procedure in E (below) be followed.

E. If a congregation requests to be dismissed by Presbytery the commission shall follow this procedure: (G-11.0103i)

a. The session shall meet with representatives from the Administrative Commission elected by Presbytery. All financial records, minutes and any other correspondence shall be made available to the commission.

b. The session shall call a Congregational Meeting within a month of the meeting with the commission. Prior notice shall be given orally from the pulpit on two successive Sundays.

Notice shall be in the parish newsletter and a letter sent to all active members stating the purpose of the meeting. At least twenty-five percent (25%) of the active members of the congregation shall be present. Representatives of the Administrative Commission shall be present throughout and have the right to speak. The question to be discussed is "Shall the ----- Presbyterian Church be dismissed from the Presbyterian Church (USA)?" Ample time shall be provided for speakers wanting dismissal and those wanting to stay with the PCUSA.

No type of vote for any purpose shall be taken at this meeting.

c. The session, no later than three months after the first meeting described above, shall call a second congregational meeting. Prior notice shall be given orally from the pulpit on two

successive Sundays. Notice shall be in the parish newsletter and a letter sent to all active members stating the purpose of the meeting. At least seventy-five (75%) of the active members shall be present. Representatives of the Administrative Commission shall be present throughout and have the right to speak. The question to be discussed is "Shall the -----Presbyterian Church be dismissed from the Presbyterian Church (USA)?" Ample time shall be provided for both speakers wanting dismissal and those wanting to stay with the PCUSA.

After discussion and prayer, a secret written ballot shall be taken on this question, the only choices being "Request dismissal" or "Do NOT request dismissal."

If the vote is three-quarters (75%) of those active members present and voting vote to request dismissal, the request shall go to presbytery. If the vote fails, the commission will report this to the presbytery and offer suggestions on healing within the congregation.

If any member, present and voting, contests the regularity of the second meeting, he/she shall send the details of the allegation to the Stated Clerk of Presbytery, who shall convene the Permanent Judicial Commission to render a decision.

d. If the vote is to dismiss the commission shall immediately contact the Board of Trustees and offer its recommendation concerning THE CHURCH AND ITS PROPERTY, (G-8.000)

A full written report shall be submitted to the Coordinating Cabinet Moderator, Moderator of Presbytery, Stated Clerk of Presbytery and the Executive Presbyter within a week of the deciding vote.

CORINTHIANS 12: 12-
13

CHRIST IS LIKE A SINGLE BODY, WHICH HAS MANY PARTS; IT IS STILL ONE BODY, EVEN THROUGH IT IS MADE UP OF DIFFERENT PARTS. IN THE SAME WAY ALL OF US, WHETHER JEWS OR GENTILES WHETHER SLAVES OR FREE, HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED INTO THE ONE BODY BY THE SAME SPIRIT, AND WE HAVE ALL BEEN GIVEN THE ONE SPIRIT TO DRINK

Amended by substitution 11/27/07.

Appendix 2

The Presbytery of Detroit

March 27, 2012

The Task Force on Denominational Concerns for Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church recommends the Presbytery of Detroit approve the following resolution creating an administrative commission for the Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church:

Administrative Commission on Grosse Pointe Woods Church

Whereas Grosse Pointe Woods Church has given notice that it is considering leaving the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); and

Whereas the Moderator appointed a Task Force on Denominational Concerns pursuant to Presbytery Policy P-10, Guidelines for Disaffected Churches; and

Whereas the session of Grosse Pointe Woods has called two congregational meetings for the purpose of providing the congregation the opportunity to vote to leave the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); and

Whereas the Denominational Concerns Task Force has concluded that its effort toward reconciliation has been unsuccessful; and

Whereas the Task Force on Denominational Concerns has recommended the election of an Administrative Commission by the Presbytery; and

Whereas the Denominational Concerns Task Force, pursuant to Policy P-10, has recommended the Administrative Commissions be given the specific powers below; and

Whereas pursuant to Policy P-10, the Moderator has nominated elders presented;

The Presbytery of Detroit elects the Administrative Commission on Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church to carry out the responsibilities laid out in Policy P-10 for Grosse Pointe Woods Church with the following powers:

- 1) In accord with Presbytery Policy P-10, to meet with members and the leadership of Grosse Pointe Woods Church to seek a way to preserve unity, diversity, reconciliation, justice, peace, love, mercy, and values that lead to harmony.
- 2) To convene and meet with the session, which may not meet without the presence of the Commission;
- 3) To identify and meet with those members who do not wish to seek dismissal, with the intent of trying to facilitate the continued existence of the Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church as a member congregation in the presbytery of Detroit.
- 4) To convene and meet with any committee or councils of the Session;
- 5) To call congregational meetings;
- 6) To interview individual members of the congregation;
- 7) To require production of all records, rolls, minutes and other documents the Commission believes necessary to conduct its work;
- 8) To work with the session, pastors, and congregation to try to affect changes that they mutually see as beneficial to the life of the denomination and the work of the Gospel;
- 9) If it concludes it necessary, to recommend Presbytery dissolve the pastoral relationships;
- 10) To recommend whether Grosse Pointe Woods should be dismissed to another Christian body that conforms to the doctrines and order of PCUSA and is in correspondence with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), pursuant to Policy P-10., which says in §3.E:

If a congregation requests to be dismissed by Presbytery the commission shall follow this procedure:

- a. The session shall meet with representatives from the Administrative Commission elected by Presbytery. All financial records, minutes and any other correspondence shall be made available to the commission.
- b. The session shall call a Congregational Meeting within a month of the meeting with the commission. Prior notice shall be given orally from the pulpit on two successive Sundays. Notice shall be in the parish newsletter and a letter sent to all active members stating the purpose of the meeting. At least twenty-five percent (25%) of the active members of the congregation shall be present. Representatives of the Administrative Commission shall be present throughout and have the right to speak. The question to be discussed is "Shall the -----Presbyterian Church be dismissed

from the Presbyterian Church (USA)?” Ample time shall be provided for speakers wanting dismissal and those wanting to stay with the PCUSA.

No type of vote for any purpose shall be taken at this meeting.

- c. The session, no later than three months after the first meeting described above, shall call a second congregational meeting. Prior notice shall be given orally from the pulpit on two successive Sundays. Notice shall be in the parish newsletter and a letter sent to all active members stating the purpose of the meeting. At least seventy-five (75%) of the active members shall be present. Representatives of the Administrative Commission shall be present throughout and have the right to speak. The question to be discussed is “Shall the -----Presbyterian Church be dismissed from the Presbyterian Church (USA)?” Ample time shall be provided for both speakers wanting dismissal and those wanting to stay with the PCUSA.

After discussion and prayer, a secret written ballot shall be taken on this question, the only choices being “Request dismissal” or “Do NOT request dismissal.”

If the vote is three-quarters (75%) of those active members present and voting vote to request dismissal, the request shall go to presbytery. If the vote fails, the commission will report this to the presbytery and offer suggestions on healing within the congregation.

If any member, present and voting, contests the regularity of the second meeting, he/she shall send the details of the allegation to the Stated Clerk of Presbytery, who shall convene the Permanent Judicial Commission to render a decision.

- d. If the vote is to dismiss the commission shall immediately contact the Board of Trustees and offer its recommendation concerning the property, pursuant to G-4.02, Church Property.

- 11) The power to engage the services of and consult with Presbytery staff, and the stated clerks of the Presbytery, synod, and General Assembly;
- 12) The power to retain counsel, and to authorize expenditures from the appropriate accounts determined by the Trustees to pay for any legal proceedings in civil or ecclesiastical courts;
- 13) The power to assume original jurisdiction with any and all powers of session should it determine that the session is unwilling or unable to exercise its authority or to manage wisely the affairs of the church.

The Task Force on Denominational Concerns:

Peter Henry
 Jean Loup
 Henry Borchardt
 Kent Clise
 Allen Timm
 Edward Koster

Committee on Ministry
Policies and Procedures
(September, 2012)

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COM-1 DISSOLUTION OF PASTORAL SERVICES

Pastoral calls are established and dissolved by the Presbytery. The Presbytery, through the COM, is a party to the negotiations in involuntary dissolutions and resignation agreements to ensure fairness and unity of purpose. Separation agreements shall be compatible with the provision of the Book of Order and these procedures and guidelines.

It is understood that this guideline is applicable to those situations after the COM, the Session and the minister have done all in their power to seek reconciliation and peace. But the matter remains unresolved.

The COM shall be involved in the guidance and counsel process, recommending to Presbytery the dissolution of the pastoral relationship. All negotiated agreements shall be documented in writing and signed by the Session representative, Pastor, and COM representative. The COM must be satisfied that these terms meet the guidelines of the Book of Order before recommending the dissolution to Presbytery.

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

COM-1.1 Salary and Pension/Medical Provisions

Recognizing that clergy do not have access to unemployment security payments, we recommend that full salary, housing, pension, medical deductible and Social Security payments already agreed upon be paid for three months minimum to six months maximum beyond the effective date of dissolution, or until the minister has found full-time employment, whichever occurs first. The Presbytery will not assume financial liability for severance agreements.

COM-1.2 Church-owned Manse

If a manse has been provided, but it seems appropriate to arrange for other housing prior to the effective dissolution date, the church shall provide for other housing. Otherwise, manse occupancy is expected to terminate on the effective dissolution date, and definitely at the end of the support period. A thorough inspection of the manse by a representative of the Session, a member of the COM and an officer of the involved church must be made when the manse is vacated and prior to the departure of the minister. The minister shall be responsible for any damages to the manse beyond ordinary wear and tear. Any reimbursement for unusual damage shall be negotiated among the Session, COM representative and minister.

COM-1.3 Vacation, Study Leave and Allowances

Vacation time prorated for the current year shall be allowed and must be taken prior to the effective date of dissolution. Study leave time is not allowed, unless there has been a specific event previously agreed upon by the minister and Session. Car allowances and other prerequisite are not allowed after the date of dissolution.

COM-1.4 Pastoral Contact

The minister is subject to the Statement of Ethics of the Presbytery regarding professional contact with members of the former parish after the date of dissolution.

COM-1.5 Approval of the Congregation and Presbytery

When the terms of dissolution have been negotiated, the dissolution of call and the written severance agreement must be approved at a congregational meeting. This agreement may include prepared statements about the reason for the dissolution. The terms of dissolution must be submitted to the COM for approval and then voted on by the Presbytery. If the pastor does not concur, the Presbytery shall hear from him/her the reasons why the Presbytery should not dissolve the relationship. If the pastor fails to appear, or if the reasons for maintaining the relationship are judged insufficient, the relationship may be dissolved. It shall be a duty of the COM to monitor compliance with the agreements. The separation agreement shall be documented in writing by the session to the Executive Presbyter or Stated Clerk of the Presbytery. A plan to cover the costs of an agreement must be included in this document.

COM-1.6 Ministerial Counseling and Training

The COM may recommend appropriate counseling and/or training for the minister.

COM-1.7 Congregational Counseling and Training

In order to restore congregational vitality and address underlying causes for the dissolution, COM may recommend appropriate actions for the congregation to undertake.

COM-1.8 Signed Agreements

Both clergy and Clerk of Session (on behalf of the congregation) will sign agreements of the terms of dissolution including agreements not to sue (see attached.).

COM-1.9 Authority of Committee on Ministry

The COM will expect the church and the minister to fulfill all the terms of the approved written severance agreement. If they are not fulfilled by the minister, the COM shall reserve the right to withhold the transfer of credentials and/or reserve recommendations for future secular/ecclesiastical employment. For the church, the COM may refuse to allow a new search process to begin or continue. The minister and the ordained officers are subject to disciplinary process for breach of this agreement.

The COM's obligation is to the peace and welfare of both the congregation and minister. The procedures and responsibilities dissolution form used in dissolutions are attached to this document. The Ethics Statement is also attached.

COM-1.10 Dissolution Absent an Agreement

If parties to a disagreement are unable to reach a mutually acceptable dissolution agreement through the counsel and mediation of the COM, and if the committee finds the church's mission under Word imperatively demands the dissolution of the pastoral relationship, then the COM shall recommend dissolution to the Presbytery with terms of its devising. Presbytery shall then proceed, according to the Book of Order.

If Presbytery dissolves a pastoral relationship under terms with which the pastor disagrees, the

pastor may appeal the Presbytery's decision by filing for remedial action against the Presbytery with the Synod.

If Presbytery dissolves a pastoral relationship with terms of dissolution that the congregation has disapproved, or if Presbytery dissolves a pastoral relationship that the congregation has not yet approved, then the Presbytery shall seek the participation of the congregation in meeting the financial terms it (Presbytery) approves.

If Presbytery dissolves a pastoral relationship with terms of dissolution that the congregation has approved, then the Presbytery's responsibility under this provision is canceled.

**AGREEMENT FOR TERMINATION AND SEPARATION
TERMS OF DISSOLUTION BETWEEN**

Rev. _____

And

Church: _____

We the members of the _____ Session request
dissolution

of the pastoral relationship with Rev.

for the following reasons and the followings terms:

1. List reasons for the dissolution:

2. List the terms:

A. Amount of salary to be
paid. _____

B. Housing arrangements.

C. Vacation to be
paid. _____

D. Pension/Medical to be paid. _____

E. Repayment of loans. _____

F. Any special financial arrangements to be paid in a lump sum or over a period of time.

3. Time and date of separation:

A. Pastoral duties will cease effective _____

B. The relationship will end on a date set by the congregation and approved by the Presbytery on _____

C. Date set for congregational meeting on _____

D. Scheduled date of Presbytery action and completion of separation agreement on _____

4. Other terms

A. Attached waiver for right to pursue legal action must be completed.

B. It is understood that all benefits for Rev. _____ will be discontinued at any time before _____ (payoff date.) should he/she receive another call for full time employment.

C. Any other terms that may be required by the Presbytery or by the State of Michigan.

Signed on _____ (date.)

By _____
(Minister) (Clerk of Session)

Committee on Ministry Representative(s) _____

Signed by other members of Session:

Date approved by congregation _____

Signed by Clerk _____

Date approved by COM _____

Date approved/disapproved by Presbytery _____

Copies to: The Minister, Executive Presbyter, Clerk of Session, Moderator of COM,
Stated Clerk
of Presbytery

WAIVERS

In conjunction with the consideration provided by the Dissolution Agreement and release
with

_____ Church, and _____
 Presbytery,
 dated _____, I agree, knowingly and voluntarily, to waive any and all
 claims
 that I might have under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 against the
 Church,
 its employees or agents, occurring on or before the date of this Waiver. I acknowledge
 that I
 have been advised to consult with legal counsel prior to executing this Waiver and have
 been
 provided up to twenty-one (21) days within which to consider the Waiver. I further
 understand
 that I have seven (7) days after the execution of this Waiver in which to revoke the
 Waiver,
 subject to the provisions and possible penalties specified in the Agreement for
 Termination and
 Settlement.
 Also, because of the negotiated settlement received, I hereby agree not to sue

_____ Church and/or its officers, singularly or collectively. I
 also
 agree not to sue the Presbytery of Detroit.

Date: _____ Clergy: _____
 The following agreement is to be signed by the Clerk of Session on behalf of the
 congregation:

On behalf of _____ Church, we agree to any limitations herein
 stated

_____ (state or say none.) _____. And further, in consideration of _____ (name
 of

clergy) _____ leaving in peace, we hereby individually and collectively agree
 not to sue

_____ (name of clergy) ____.

Date: _____ Clerk of Session: _____

COM-2 AA-EEO POLICY

In the light of this Presbytery's concern for Equal Employment Opportunity, COM will provide for each Pastor Nominating Committee a presentation of the rationale for Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity in the hiring of teaching elders. This presentation will be made by the COM liaison assigned to each local church committee. This presentation will provide the following information:

- a.) An outline of the General Assembly's position on Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action.
- b.) Explanation and distribution of forms for reporting committee and session action.
- c.) Encouragement to seriously consider minority, women and physically handicapped persons.
- d.) Resources for considering minority, women and physically handicapped persons for pulpit supply employment.

COM-3 GUIDELINES FOR STUDY LEAVE

Every contract from a church or agency of this Presbytery with a Teaching Elder shall, in accordance with the Book of Order, grant study leave in addition to vacation and all other terms of call. The scheduling of study leave shall be arranged by mutual agreement to the Teaching Elder and the session or agency board, with concern for the welfare of the church or agency and the educational benefits for the Teaching Elder. Each church or agency shall meet the minimum terms of call established by COM for study leave. Additional financial assistance may be available through contact with the Committee on Professional Growth and Development and other sources. The following options shall be provided:

- a.) A two-week study leave taken each full year of active service in order to stay abreast of current educational developments and opportunities,
- b.) Up to three years' accumulation (six weeks) should be allowed so long as scheduling is mutually agreeable to the session or agency and Teaching Elder,
- c.) Study leave is not considered salary and should not be paid after resignation.
- d.) A report of study leave activities should be made to the Teaching Elders session or agency, and to Presbytery
- e.) A description of the Teaching Elder's use of study leave shall be reported annually to the COM, along with any revision of terms of call..

COM-4 GUIDELINES FOR PARENTAL LEAVE

The COM has become aware of the need for interim guidelines to assist Teaching Elders and sessions in arriving at a contract to cover time off resulting from pregnancy, adoption, or guardianship. The purpose of these interim guidelines is to suggest reasonable terms for such leave.

COM-4.1 Maternity Leave

- a.) It is recommended that maternity leave consist of not less than eight (8) weeks with full salary and benefits, timing in relation to delivery date to be negotiated between Teaching Elder and session.
- b.) Extension of one (1) week may be negotiated as vacation time or leave without pay. Pension benefits to continue on regular salary basis.

COM-4.2 Paternity Leave

It is recommended that two weeks paternity leave with full pay be granted following the arrival of a child. Any additional time is to be negotiated with the Session from vacation allowance.

Additional Considerations

These guidelines may be considered in negotiating appropriate maternity leave for families.

- a.) Study leave may not be used for maternity/paternity leave.

- b.) 'Re-entry' may be scheduled on a full-time or part-time basis as agreed upon by session and Teaching Elder, with medical approval.
- c.) If a Teaching Elder initiates dissolution within one year following maternity leave, any unused vacation time should be credited against the maternity leave.
- d.) These interim guidelines will be available to Teaching Elders and sessions as they negotiate parental leave.

COM-5 SUB-MINIMUM COMPENSATION PROCEDURES

Should churches be unable to meet the minimum levels of compensation above, after consultation with the COM, they will be asked to consult with the New Church Development/Redevelopment Team for reevaluation of their mission design. Such consultation may result in the church receiving assistance in its stewardship program, applying for mission assistance, becoming part-time, being yoked with another church, or some other such solution. Exceptions to the minimum compensation, with reasons for such exceptions, will be approved only after the above consultations have been completed.

COM-6 PENSION DUES

The Presbytery shall not be responsible for any unpaid pension dues for Teaching Elders or other employees of congregations. A Church may not call a new Teaching Elder if previous the Teaching Elder has outstanding pension dues.

COM-7 MINISTERS FROM OTHER DENOMINATIONS

COM is designated as the appropriate committee to examine Teaching Elders seeking membership in the Presbytery in accordance with the Book of Order. COM will insure that an examination is conducted.

COM-8 FICA INCLUSIONS

The Presbytery does not require that FICA be included as part of the salary in determining the pension base. However, it is to be understood that FICA payments must be reported on the W-2 Form as income for IRS purposes.

COM-9 TAX DEFERRED ANNUITY

The Presbytery of Detroit desires to make available to employees an annuity purchase program, which provides the Federal income tax treatment prescribed by Section 403(b.) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1954 as amended by Public Law 87-370. The Presbytery of Detroit is willing to make such program available to any employee by purchasing and paying premiums on any annuity policy for such employee to the extent such employee is willing to accept a reduction in salary;

It is the policy of the Presbytery of Detroit that this Tax Deferred Annuity Program be made available to all employees of the Employer at the election of each employee. The Treasurer is authorized to prepare a form agreement to be executed by the Presbytery of Detroit and by each employee desiring to participate in this Tax Deferred Annuity Program under the terms of which agreement the Presbytery of Detroit shall agree to pay the premiums in the amount of such reduction of an annuity policy owned by the employee.

The Treasurer is authorized to adopt such administrative rules and procedures as may be necessary and proper to implement this Tax Deferred Annuity Program and employer's appropriate officers are authorized to execute such applications and other forms as may be necessary to effectuate the purchase of annuity policies for individual employees pursuant to this program.

The COM encourages congregations to make the same program available for their employees.

COM-10 MANSE POLICY

The following policy is for the purpose of clarifying the relationship between the clergy and the trustees of congregations with manses (or the appropriate committee such as property, buildings and grounds, manse.). Its purpose is to facilitate clear communication between the parties to a pastoral call involving the use of a church-owned manse, and to assist the trustees (or appropriate committee.) with their ongoing plans for repair, maintenance, and property upkeep.

POLICY:

a.) Inspections of the manse (with written reports) will be completed at the entrance and exit

of Teaching Elders who will live in that manse as a part of their terms of call.

Inspection will

be done by the Teaching Elder involved, a representative of the personnel committee,

a

representative of the trustees (or appropriate committee.), and a representative of the COM.

b.) A Teaching Elder Facilities Use Agreement will be negotiated, drawn up and signed by clergy, the clerk of session, and the president of the trustees (or chair of the appropriate committee) at the time the call is issued. This may be renegotiated during the time of the call as conditions

change. A copy will be forwarded to the COM along with the report of the terms of call.

c.) There will be an annual manse evaluation by the clergy, a representative of the personnel

committee and a representative of the trustees (or appropriate committee.) with written report

including (a.) condition, (b.) needs, (c.) plans for the upcoming year's repair, redecoration, etc.

This report will be signed by each of the above parties with a copy forwarded to the COM

along with the annual terms of call report. At the request of any of the above parties, a representative of the COM can be included in the evaluation viewing.

d.) The repair of any damage caused by unusual use of the facility by the Teaching Elder or other

occupants are the responsibility of the Teaching Elder. If the Teaching Elder is leaving the call,

the repair or arrangements for the repair must be completed to the satisfaction of the trustees

(or appropriate committee) and the COM before the clergy's credentials will be released from

the Presbytery of Detroit.

COM-11 PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEES AND MINISTERIAL CALLS

1. Pastor Nominating Committees may be elected by congregations only with the prior approval

of the COM. Spouses or family members of previous Teaching Elders for the searching

congregation shall not be members of the Pastor Nominating Committee.

2. Teaching Elders serving in transitional pastoral positions are only able to become candidates for

the permanent positions in churches they serve as described in the section in this document on
Transitional Pastoral Relations.

COM-12 THE ROLE OF STAFF IN THE PASTOR/ASSOCIATE PASTOR NOMINATING PROCESS

NOMINATING A PASTOR (Solo or Head of Staff)

THE INTERIM HEAD OF STAFF

may:

Encourage the nominating committee to make frequent reports to the session and the congregation about the status of their process.
Provide reflections to the nominating committee on the culture of the congregation, its strengths and weaknesses.
Provide information to the nominating committee and the session on job responsibilities.

may not:

- ◆ Make name recommendations for the composition of the nominating committee.
- ◆ Make recommendations of potential candidates to the nominating committee.
- ◆ Provide PIFs to the nominating committee.
- ◆ Read PIFs.
- ◆ Participate in the deliberations of the nominating committee.

may, with discretion, care, and attention to issues of confidentiality:

- ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates about submitting a PIF for the position.
- ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates who are interested/want more information about the position.
- ◆ Advise the PNC about either of the above two activities without revealing names.

THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

may:

Prior to call, converse with short list candidates (arranged by the nominating committee.).

may not:

- ◆ Make name recommendations for the composition of the nominating committee.
- ◆ Attend meetings of the nominating committee without invitation from the chair.
- ◆ Make recommendations of potential candidates to the nominating committee.
- ◆ Provide PIFs to the

may, with discretion, care, and attention to issues of confidentiality:

- ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates about submitting a PIF for the position.
- ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates who are interested/want more information about the position.
- ◆ Advise the PNC about either of the above two activities without revealing names.

nominating committee.

- ◆ Read PIFs.
- ◆ Participate in the deliberations of the nominating committee.

THE INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR

may:

Prior to call, converse with short list candidates (arranged by the nominating committee.).

may not:

- ◆ Make name recommendations for the composition of the nominating committee.
- ◆ Make recommendations of potential candidates to the nominating committee.
- ◆ Provide PIFs to the nominating committee.
- ◆ Read PIFs.
- ◆ Participate in the deliberations of the nominating committee.

may, with discretion, care, and attention to issues of confidentiality::

- ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates about submitting a PIF for the position.
- ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates who are interested/want more information about the position.
- ◆ Advise the PNC about either of the above two activities without revealing names.

OTHER PAID STAFF (Christian Educator, Music Director, Business Manager, Custodian, etc.)

may:

Advise the session and nominating committee of the nature of their working relationship with the previous installed pastor, strengths and weaknesses.
Participate in all congregational events designed to elicit information prior to the completion of a CIF.

may not:

- ◆ Make name recommendations for the composition of the nominating committee.
- ◆ Recommend potential candidates to the nominating committee
- ◆ Provide PIFs to the nominating committee.
- ◆ Read PIFs.
- ◆ Participate in the deliberations of the nominating committee.

may, with discretion, care, and attention to issues of confidentiality:

- ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates about submitting a PIF for the position.
- ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates who are interested/want more information about the position.
- ◆ Advise the PNC about either of the above two activities without revealing names.

THE FORMER PASTOR(S)

may:

may not:

may, with discretion, care, and attention to issues of confidentiality:

- Take no action in the work of the Pastor Nominating Committee.
- ◆ Be consulted by the Pastor Nominating Committee as to potential candidates.
 - ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates about submitting a PIF for the position.
 - ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates who are interested/want more information about the position.

NOMINATING AN ASSOCIATE PASTOR

THE HEAD OF STAFF

may:

- ◆ Attend the meetings of the nominating committee in a supportive, collaborative role.
- ◆ Provide input to the nominating committee for the CIF.
- ◆ Reflect with the nominating committee on the kind of working relationship you would like to have with an associate, i.e., shared job responsibilities, definitive job responsibilities, changeable job responsibilities.
- ◆ Read PIFs with the nominating committee.
- ◆ Help design interview questions.
- ◆ Have one on one time with the final few candidates.
- ◆ Prior to the decision of the nominating committee, shall disclose support or non-support for each of the final candidates.

may not:

- ◆ Write the CIF.
- ◆ Vote in nominating committee meetings.
- ◆ Interview applicants without the knowledge of the nominating committee.

may, with discretion, care, and attention to issues of confidentiality:

- ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates about submitting a PIF for the position.
- ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates who are interested/want more information about the position.
- ◆ Advise the APNC about either of the above two activities without revealing names.
- ◆ Check other references in regards to the candidate(s).

THE EXISTING ASSOCIATE PASTOR(S)

may:

Discuss with APNC how you

may not:

◆ Make recommendations of

may, with discretion, care, and attention to issues of confidentiality:

◆ Converse with

were received by the congregation/staff.

Discuss with APNC how your role is same as or different from what is expected of the newly sought associate.

Prior to call, converse with short list candidates (arranged by the nominating committee.).

potential candidates to the nominating committee.

- ◆ Make name recommendations for the composition of the nominating committee.
- ◆ Provide PIFs to the nominating committee.
- ◆ Read PIFs.
- ◆ Participate in the deliberations of the nominating committee.

ministers/candidates about submitting a PIF for the position.

- ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates who are interested/want more information about the position.
- ◆ Advise the APNC about either of the above two activities without revealing names.

OTHER PAID STAFF (Christian Educator, Music Director, Business Manager, etc.)

may:

- ◆ Advise the session and nominating committee of the nature of their working relationship with the previously installed associate pastor, strengths and weaknesses.
- ◆ Participate in all congregational events designed to elicit information prior to the completion of a CIF.

may not:

- ◆ Make name recommendations for the composition of the nominating committee.
- ◆ Make recommendations of potential candidates to the nominating committee.
- ◆ Provide PIFs to the nominating committee.
- ◆ Read PIFs.
- ◆ Participate in the deliberations of the nominating committee.

may, with discretion, care, and attention to issues of confidentiality:

Converse with ministers/candidates about submitting a PIF for the position.
Converse with ministers/candidates who are interested/want more information about the position. Advise the APNC about either of the above two activities without revealing names.

THE INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR

may:

Discuss with APNC how you were received by the congregation/staff.

Discuss with APNC how your role is same as or different from what is expected of the newly sought associate.

may not:

- ◆ Make name recommendations for the composition of the nominating committee.
- ◆ Make recommendations of potential candidates to the nominating committee.
- ◆ Provide PIFs to the nominating committee.
- ◆ Read PIFs.
- ◆ Participate in the

may, with discretion, care, and attention to issues of confidentiality:

- ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates about submitting a PIF for the position.
- ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates who are interested/want more information about the position.
- ◆ Advise the APNC about either of the above two activities without revealing

deliberations of the
nominating committee.

names.

FORMER PASTOR(S) OR ASSOCIATE PASTOR(S)

may:

may not:

***may, with discretion, care,
and attention to issues of
confidentiality:***

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Take no action in the work of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Be consulted by the Pastor Nominating Committee as to potential candidates. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates about submitting a PIF for the position. ◆ Converse with ministers/candidates who are interested/want more information about the position. |
|--|---|--|

COM-13 INTERIM MINISTER TRAINING

All interim pastors in our Presbytery are required to take Phase I of interim training. All new

Interim Pastors in our Presbytery who wish to take a second interim in our Presbytery to enroll in Phase II of interim training, and those, who upon completion of Phase II would like to take a third interim position, to have obtained endorsement by the course leaders of Phase II interim training. *Submitted to Presbytery 10/24/06*

COM-14 RETAINING FORMER CHAPTER XIV RULES

Chapter XIV of the current Book of Order (2011/2013) shall be used for Evidence In Remedial or Disciplinary Cases by COM until new rules and procedures are put into effect.

COM-15 PROCESS FOR TRANSFERRING MINISTERS AND CERTIFIED LAY PASTORS INTO PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT

Relevant Book of Order (G-201) sections:

- a. Every minister shall ordinarily be a member of the Presbytery where his or her work is situated.
- b. The authority for granting permission to labor within...the bounds of the Presbytery may be delegated by Presbytery to its ...Committee on Ministry, with the provision that all such actions be reported to the next stated meeting of the Presbytery.
- c. The Committee on Ministry shall make recommendations to Presbytery regarding calls

- for the services of its ministers.
- d. No call to a permanent pastoral relationship shall be in order for consideration by the Presbytery unless the church has received and considered the committee's counsel before action is taken to issue a call.
 - e. A call to a permanent pastoral relationship shall not be issued until the call has been approved by the Presbytery.
 - f. Every call to a candidate shall be accompanied by a description of the Presbytery's plan or the integration of new ministers into the life and work of Presbytery.

Persons to be considered under this proposal:

1. Pastors, Co-Pastors, Associate Pastors; Interim Pastors, Associates, and Co-Pastors; Organizing Pastors; Stated Supplies; Temporary Supplies; Designated Pastors; Commissioned Lay Pastors; and those who are to serve in validated ministries of the Presbytery.
2. All final/short-listed ministers or CLPs for positions shall be examined/interviewed.

Examination/Interview Team:

No fewer than two members of the Committee on Ministry, one of whom shall be the COM liaison or designee. The team, at minimum, shall consist of one pastor and one elder. Others, such as the EP, the liaison from temporary pastoral relations subcommittee, or a member of a Board for a validated ministry may be included depending on the employment circumstances.

Before meeting with the interviewee, the interviewers shall receive copies of the CIF, the PIF, a Statement of Faith from the interviewee and any relevant statistical information related to the employment, i.e., annual report, GA statistics.

Examination/Interview of Transferring Ministers or Commissioned Lay Pastors:

1. Questions to be asked during the interview would include:
 - inquiries related to the Statement of Faith.
 - inquiries related to the ordination/installation questions.
 - an exploration of the interviewee's vision for ministry and how it relates to the ministry goals of the body with whom the interviewee will be working.
 - a discussion of previous and future Presbytery involvement.
 - an exploration of any special accommodations the person would need to fulfill the obligations of the position.
2. The candidate should be given ample opportunity to ask about the Presbytery, terms of call questions, an appraisal of the health and history of the Presbytery, neighboring congregations, the community, and the body with whom the minister will be working.

The interviewee will be advised of the required attendance at the Orientation Gathering and the Sexual Misconduct Training and be given a copy of the Statement of Professional Ethics which will have to be signed at the time the Call papers are signed.

Welcome into the Presbytery:

1. A COM liaison (or designee.) shall attend the congregational or session meeting when the report of the search committee is being made.
2. The liaison shall see that the call papers are signed, including the Ethics Statement, and returned to the Presbytery office or to the COM committee for processing.
3. If the person is being hired into a non-called position or into a validated ministry, the liaison shall make other arrangements to receive the appropriate contract terms and the signed Ethics statement.
4. At the time the Presbytery votes to approve the call/contract, any problem of accommodation declared by a person being transferred into the Presbytery, must be reported to the Presbytery.
5. Introduction of the new person(s) shall be made at the first Presbytery meeting after the person(s) begins work.
6. The person(s) shall sit at a designated dinner table where neighboring pastors and others shall also be asked to sit and welcome the new persons. The appropriate liaison shall arrange for this.
7. The person(s) shall be introduced early in the Presbytery meeting, ideally by a member of the Pastor/Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.
8. The COM Moderator or designee shall present each person a welcome gift.

COM-16 WHEN A PIF HAS A REPORT OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Every Personal Information Form (PIF) has a section to report sexual misconduct. On most Personal Information Forms, this report will be blank, indicating that the candidate has no history of sexual misconduct. However, you may receive a PIF with a report of sexual misconduct. When you receive such a PIF please consider it as you would any other PIF. The Committee on Ministry Representative working with your PNC can walk with you in discerning the faithful implications of this section. The representative will also assist in reference checks regarding any issue shared in the PIF. Please consider the following issues as you prayerfully work through this issue:

1. Please receive a report of sexual misconduct with a spirit of openness. PC (U.S.A.) makes sure that all candidates address the sexual misconduct issue. The intent is to establish an atmosphere of honesty and truthfulness. While your spirits review this in faithful deliberations please remember the confidentiality of this sensitive information.
2. You are welcome to discuss the sexual misconduct report with the Candidate. The report of sexual misconduct on the PIF is brief. If you believe you need to know more, ask the Candidate. For instance, it is important to know if the Candidate has a history of misconduct or is guilty of a singular occurrence. It is important to know the type of misconduct – i.e. adultery verses child sexual abuse. You will gain a sense of the Candidate’s responsibility and personal and spiritual growth in how she/he responds to this issue.
3. What will we tell the congregation?” This is another important question for the PNC to ask. Sometimes a PNC rejects a Candidate with reports of sexual misconduct because they believe it puts the PNC in a difficult situation when it comes time to present the Candidate to the congregation. Every congregation is different and the PNC, Candidate, and Presbytery will need to develop an appropriate communication strategy. At times, it is appropriate to communicate the information to the entire congregation. At other times, it is appropriate to communicate to the Session. At still other times, it is appropriate that the sexual misconduct report remain confidential within the PNC.
4. Evaluate the report knowing God is at work. Sexual misconduct is a sin and a serious violation of trust. The gravity of the issue requires that we address it openly and justly by the Presbytery in which the offense took place. Once Presbytery’s disciplinary procedure has been satisfied and the Candidate given permission to circulate a PIF, it is important that the church be open to God’s grace at work. The purpose of discipline in the PC (U.S.A.) is “to bring members to repentance and restoration.”(See D-1.0101.) God has a plan for clergy who repent. This may be the Creator’s plan for your church family.

COM-17 SABBATICAL LEAVE POLICY FOR CHURCHES

COM-17.1 Definitions

Sabbatical Leave for pastors and church educators is a planned time of intensive enhancement for ministry and mission. Sabbatical Leave follows precedents in the academic community and among a growing number of private sector groups. This “extended time” is qualitatively different from “vacation” and “days off”. It is an opportunity for the individual to strategically disengage from regular and normal tasks so that ministry and mission may be viewed from a new perspective because of a planned time of focus.

Sabbatical Leave is recommended for all full-time pastors and educators serving churches, who have served in their present position for six (6) continuous years and who have served the Presbyterian Church (USA.) for a minimum of ten years. The recommended length of the Sabbatical Leave is three (3) months. Accrued vacation time and study leave may be attached to the Sabbatical Leave. It is further recommended that this Sabbatical Leave be built into the Call Process. Upon completion of the Sabbatical Leave, the incumbent pastor/educator would normally continue serving the same congregation for a period of at least four times the length of the Sabbatical Leave plus accrued vacation time. In addition, Congregations may limit Sabbatical Leave to one staff person per year, in multiple staff situations.

COM-17.2 Planning for Sabbatical Leave

COM-17.2a Eligible Program Activity and Judicial Review

To be eligible for a Sabbatical Leave, the pastor/educator shall present, in writing, to the Church session for their approval, a program (“The Plan”) of activity for the Sabbatical Leave at

least one year prior to the proposed beginning of the Sabbatical Leave. This program of activity

and meditation shall include:

1. A detailed description of the plan,
2. The goals to be achieved, and
3. The expected end-product(s), together with
4. A personal statement as to why this Sabbatical Leave would be valuable for both the pastor/educator and the church.

Upon the approval by the Session in the year prior to the Sabbatical Leave, the Plan shall be forwarded to the Presbytery’s Committee on Ministry for their review and recommendation. Included in this Plan will be the church’s plan for pastoral/educator

services during the period of the Sabbatical Leave.

At the completion of the Sabbatical Leave, the pastor/educator should present to the next regular meeting of the church Session, a written report of activities and findings. This report also will be sent to the Committee on Ministry immediately following the Session meeting when it is presented.

COM-17.2b Funding

The employing church will continue the pastor/educator salaries, pension/major medical benefits, book allowance, and, at the direction of the Session, auto and continuing education allowances at the same level as those in effect at the time of the Sabbatical Leave.

The employing church will also contract for substitute pastor/educator services during the period of the Sabbatical Leave. Although on the face of it, the Sabbatical Leave may seem like yet another financial burden for the local congregation to bear, it is crucial for Session and congregation to recognize the long-term benefits they as a church will reap from granting sabbaticals. For example, ministers/educators who have the opportunity to examine issues of professional growth and development as ministers within an existing pastorate are more likely to stay more years in a particular call. The sabbatical provision conveys a sense of support and caring on the part of the calling church. It also offers an incentive to both ministers and educators to commit to and think in terms of longer years of service in a particular church.

Clergy, churches, and Presbytery are encouraged to set aside funds each year so that resources will be available during the time of Sabbatical Leave. Those churches that would have financial problems in providing for the Sabbatical Leave could consult with their Presbytery. In addition, those churches that could not secure lay leadership within their own congregations might consider using elders trained as Lay Pastors or Associate Pastors who might be willing to preach one Sunday without honorarium, etc.

NOTE: The Louisville Institute, a Lilly Endowment Program housed at Louisville Seminary provides study grants for pastoral leaders.

COM-17.2c Re-Entry

Upon re-entry, it is strongly suggested that the clergy share with the entire congregation the details of the leave as well as reflections on its value and benefit. The re-entry process provides a great opportunity to reflect upon the benefits that resulted from the Sabbath Leave. Such expected benefits as:

- Discovering the strength of lay leadership heretofore under utilized.
- New understandings of the concepts of mission between clergy and congregation.
- Reaffirmation of calling to ministry on part of clergy and congregation with both being reinvigorated and rededicated to the work of God's people.

The ideal result would be for the congregation to see this period of time not just as the clergy's Sabbatical Leave, but also as the congregation's Sabbatical Leave.

COM-18 COMPENSATION GUIDELINES FOR THE TRANSITIONAL PASTOR

Assumptions:

- 1.) With the exception of Commissioned Ruling Elders and Parish Associates, all transitional packages will meet the Presbytery minimum standards.
- 2.) Transitional pastors will negotiate their own compensation package with Session including annual increases and cost of living adjustments.
- 3.) While it is an important function of the Committee on Ministry and Presbytery to insure a living and viable salary for the ministers in its care, it must be remembered that COM and the Presbytery of Detroit exists to insure that the congregations under their care are nurtured and supported.

Guidelines:

- 1.) In determining the appropriate salary for the transitional pastor, the following items may be considered:
 - a. Compensation provided previous Pastor
 - b. Transitional Pastor's previous salary
 - c. Transitional Pastor's "successful" experiences in a transitional role
 - d. Transitional Pastor's special skills and talents that will be especially helpful to the congregation
- 2.) If the transitional ministry is part-time, the financial and benefit package should be pro-rated accordingly.

COM-19 TRANSITIONAL PASTORAL RELATIONSHIPS

All transitional relationships of a Teaching Elder or Commissioned Ruling Elder, full-time or part-time, are established by the Session or Commission of the Presbytery with the approval of the Presbytery through its Committee on Ministry.

These transitional relationships have titles appropriate to the ministerial tasks to which the Teaching Elder or Commissioned Ruling Elder is called. A minister serving in a transitional pastoral relationship is called for a specified period, which may be renewable with the approval of the Committee on Ministry. A written contract signed by the minister, the Clerk of Session or Presbytery commission, and a representative of the Committee on Ministry shall specify the pastoral functions, compensation, and any special skills or training required for the ministry. A transitional pastor is not installed and is not a member of the Session. The Presbytery through the Committee on Ministry shall appoint a moderator of the Session who may be the transitional pastor.

Interim Pastors/Associate Pastors, Temporary Supply Pastors/Associate Pastors and Assistant Pastors contracts shall not be renewable after three years of service.

A person entering into a one year contract as Interim Pastor, Associate Interim Pastor, Temporary Supply Pastor, Temporary Supply/Associate Pastor, Stated Supply Pastor or Assistant Pastor may be ordained as a Teaching Elder upon the recommendation of the Committee on Ministry and the approval of Presbytery.

With the exception of a Parish Associate position,

- Transitional Pastors shall submit semi-annual reports to the Transitional Pastoral Relationship Committee and attend semi-annual events conducted by the committee.
- A transitional pastor who has not completed Interim Pastor Training I shall attend such a training event within the first three months of their first service as a transitional pastor in the Presbytery.
- A transitional pastor who has not completed Interim Pastor Training II shall attend such
 - a training event within the first three months of their second year as a transitional pastor in the Presbytery.

COM-19-1 Pastor in Transition Seminar

All new Pastors to the Presbytery are required to attend a "Pastors in Transition" Seminar. The calling church will pay all expenses for attendance. These expenses, however, are not to be part of the Terms of Call. They are in addition to the Terms of Call. In a yoked parish, expenses will be paid in accordance to time allocations in each parish.

COM-19.2 Titles and Terms of Service for Transitional Pastoral Relationships

1.) Interim Pastor/Interim Co-Pastor/Interim Associate Pastor:

- a. When a Session determines the needs of their church would benefit by searching for an Interim Pastor/Co-Pastor/Associate Pastor to help their church reflect on its past, discern its future and prepare for the arrival of an installed pastor, the Session shall consult the Committee on Ministry for guidance and approval..
- b. If the Committee on Ministry approves, the Session shall develop a position description and salary package and present it to the Committee on Ministry for approval. If approved, the Session may begin its search for a suitable interim pastor candidate after the departure date of the installed pastor or associate has been announced.
- c. The Session in consultation with the Committee on Ministry shall determine the search process for an Interim Pastor, Interim Co-Pastor or Interim Associate Pastor.
- d. The Interim Pastor, Interim Co-Pastor or Interim Associate Pastor shall normally be an ordained teaching elder in the PCUSA or one of the denominations with which we have full communion.

- shall be
renewable
Co-
recommendation of the
to serve
voice but
- e. The search for an Interim Pastor, Interim Co-Pastor or Interim Associate Pastor open and inclusive.
 - f. The contract for an Interim Pastor/Associate Pastor may be for up to one year, for maximum of three years total.
 - g. The Presbytery may terminate the contract between the Interim Pastor, Interim Pastor or Interim Associate Pastor and the church upon the Committee on Ministry.
 - h. An Interim Pastor, Interim Co-Pastor or Interim Associate Pastor is not eligible the church as the next permanent or designated pastor.
 - i. An Interim Pastor, Interim Co-Pastor or Interim Associate Pastor shall have not vote at Session meetings.

2.) Temporary Supply Pastor/Associate Pastor:

- searching for a
course and direction of the
until a new pastor is called, the Session
for guidance and approval.
- a. When the Session determines the needs of their church would benefit by Temporary Supply Pastor/Associate Pastor to maintain the vacated position and to serve the congregation shall consult the Committee on Ministry for guidance and approval.
 - b. If Committee on Ministry approves, the Session shall develop a position description and salary package and present it to Committee on Ministry for approval. If approved, the Session may begin its search for a suitable temporary supply candidate after the departure date of the installed pastor or associate has been announced.
 - c. The Session in consultation with the Committee on Ministry shall determine the search process for a Temporary Supply Pastor/Associate Pastor.
 - d. The contract for a Temporary Supply Pastor/Associate Pastor may be for up to one year, renewable for maximum of three years total.
 - e. The Temporary Supply Pastor/Associate Pastor is eligible to become the installed pastor or associate pastor with 3/4 approval of the Presbytery following a traditional PNC/APNC search by the congregation.
 - f. The Presbytery may terminate the contract between the Temporary Supply Pastor/Associate Pastor and the church upon the recommendation of the Committee on Ministry.
 - g. The Temporary Supply Pastor/Associate Pastor shall have voice but not vote at Session meetings.

3.) Assistant Pastor:

- a. When a Session and Pastor/Head of Staff determine the needs of the church would benefit from establishing an Assistant Pastor position, the Session shall consult the Committee on Ministry for guidance and approval.
- b. If the Committee on Ministry approves, the Session shall develop a position description and salary package and present it to Committee on Ministry for

approval. If approved, the Session may begin its search for a suitable Assistant Pastor candidate.

- c. The Session in consultation with the Committee on Ministry shall determine the search process for an Assistant Pastor.
- d. The contract for the Assistant Pastor shall not exceed three years.
- e. The Assistant Pastor may be called to serve as an Associate Pastor with the approval of the congregation and Presbytery without the congregation having to form a pastor nominating committee.
- f. If the Assistant Pastor is not called to serve as an Associate Pastor by the end of the second year of the contract, the contract will conclude no later than the end of the third year.
- g. The Presbytery may terminate the contract between the Assistant Pastor and the church upon the recommendation of the Committee on Ministry.
- h. An Assistant Pastor shall have voice but not vote at Session meetings.

4.) Stated Supply Pastor:

- a. When a Session in consultation with the Committee on Ministry concludes their church will not be conducting a search for an installed pastor, they may consult with and request the Committee on Ministry appoint a Stated Supply Pastor.
- b. If the Committee on Ministry concurs, the Committee on Ministry, in consultation with the Session, shall develop a position description and salary package.
- c. The Stated Supply Pastor shall be part-time and not eligible to become the installed pastor.
- d. The Presbytery may terminate the contract with the Stated Supply Pastor upon the recommendation of the Committee on Ministry.
- e. The Stated Supply Pastor shall have voice but not vote at Session meetings.

5.) Commissioned Ruling Elder:

- a. When a Session determines that the financial condition of the church cannot afford a teaching elder, but could be served by a part-time Commissioned Ruling Elder, the Session shall consult the Committee on Ministry for guidance and approval of such a strategy.
- b. If the Committee on Ministry concurs, the Session, in consultation with the Committee on Ministry, shall develop a position description and salary package.
- c. Committee on Ministry, at its discretion, may ask the church to consult with the New Church Development/Redevelopment Team for re-evaluation of their mission design. Exceptions to the minimum compensation, with the reasons for such exceptions, will be considered only after the above consultations have been completed.
- d. A Commissioned Ruling Elder compensation package is not restricted to the Presbytery minimums of a teaching elder.

e. If the Committee on Ministry agrees, the Presbytery may authorize a ruling elder (already determined eligible by the committee on preparation for ministry i.e. an eligible certified ruling elder or ECRE.) to be commissioned to limited pastoral service as assigned by the Presbytery.

f. A ruling elder so designated may be commissioned to serve in a validated ministry of the Presbytery. Presbytery, in its commission, may authorize the ruling elder for any or all of the following: 1) to moderate the Session of the congregation to which he or she is commissioned, 2) to administer the Sacraments, 3) and/or to officiate at marriages where permitted by state law. This commission shall also specify the term of service, which shall not exceed three years but may be renewable.

g. The Presbytery through its Committee on Ministry shall review the work of the Commissioned Ruling Elder, the commission, and the needs of the ministry of the church at least annually.

h. The Presbytery may terminate the contract with the Commissioned Ruling Elder upon the recommendation of the Committee on Ministry.

i. The Commissioned Ruling Elder shall have voice but not vote at Session meetings.

6.) Parish Associate:

a. A Parish Associate is a teaching elder who serves in some validated ministry other than the local parish, or is a member-at-large, or is retired, but who wishes to maintain a relationship with a particular church or churches in keeping with ordination to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament. Such persons, already qualified as continuing members of Presbytery, may serve as Parish Associates.

b. When a Session and Pastor determine the mission of their church would be better served by having a Parish Associate who shall be responsible to the Pastor, as head of staff, on an "as needed, as available" basis and with or without remuneration, they will consult with the Committee on Ministry for guidance and approval.

c. The contract between the Session, the Parish Associate, and the Presbytery shall terminate when the call to the installed pastor is dissolved.

d. The Parish Associate may not be called to be the next installed Pastor or Associate Pastor of a church served as parish associate, unless at least six months have elapsed since the end of the Parish Associate relationship.

e. The Presbytery may terminate the contract with the Parish Associate and the church upon the recommendation of the Committee on Ministry.

f. The Parish Associate shall have voice but not vote at Session meetings

COM 19.3 Pulpit Supply:

After the departure of the pastor has been announced the Committee on Ministry shall provide a list of Pastors eligible to fill the pulpit on Sunday mornings. The Committee on

Ministry shall annually review and determine the appropriate compensation for anyone serving as a pulpit supply.

COM 19.4 Moderator of Session:

The Presbytery shall designate the moderator of a particular Session after the departure of the installed Pastor. Associate Pastors may serve as moderator and/or head of staff until the arrival of the transitional Pastor/Head of Staff.

COM-20 ON PAYMENT OF PENSION DUES BEFORE CALLING A PASTOR

When a congregation wishes to call a pastor/associate pastor, it may proceed only if the Board of Pension dues are current for the previous pastor(s).

Presbytery of Detroit
Report of Installation Commission
October 23, 2012

The Commission to install Kelly Boubel Shriver as Teaching Elder of Peoples Presbyterian Church was convened with prayer by the Past Moderator, Dianne Bostic Robinson, at 2:30 p.m. on September 16, 2012, at People's Presbyterian Church. The Commission members present were:

The Rev. Mary Elizabeth Prentice-Hayers
The Rev. Dr. Norman Pritchard
Elder Dianne Bostic Robinson of Westminster Church of Detroit
Elder Ann Hartzell of Kirk in The Hills Presbyterian Church
Elder Brain LaFuente of People's Presbyterian Church

After approving the order of worship, the Commission proceeded to worship, where it installed Kelly Boubel Shriver as Teaching Elder of People's Presbyterian Church. In the course of the service, Kelly Boubel Shriver affirmed the obligations of the questions laid out in W-4.4003. Upon conclusion of the worship service, the commission and congregation were dismissed with prayer and benediction by Rev. Kelly Boubel Shriver.

/s
Dianne Bostic Robinson, Moderator
Date: **9/17/12**

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Overall By Committee
From 8/1/2012 Through 8/31/2012

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	Percent Total Budget Remaining
Revenue				
Committee on Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Trustees	29,643.30	400,943.47	892,742.00	(55.09)%
Presbytery Operations	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Congregational Life	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	13,029.46	7,300.00	78.48%
Mission Interpretation	1,470.00	16,777.36	31,820.00	(46.84)%
Nurture & Support	0.00	2,861.20	1,000.00	186.12%
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	0.00	4,769.48	1,000.00	376.95%
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Outdoor Ministry	0.00	625.00	1,000.00	(37.60)%
Presbyterian Women	0.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	(50.00)%
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Coordinating Cabinet	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Total Revenue	31,113.30	440,005.97	843,662.00	(53.37)%
Expense				
Committee on Ministry	2,317.09	4,560.14	7,147.00	36.20%
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	17.38	2,500.00	99.31%
Trustees	10,431.50	76,621.12	195,000.00	43.24%
Presbytery Operations	33,253.50	255,120.11	377,012.63	32.33%
Congregational Life	725.00	8,214.81	17,500.00	53.08%
Social Justice & Peace	2,881.63	42,366.39	60,765.00	30.27%
Mission Interpretation	4,091.76	44,732.76	60,320.00	44.31%
Nurture & Support	1,666.93	30,400.63	38,200.00	20.42%
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	0.00	5,317.61	16,800.00	68.53%
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	5,351.35	38,233.45	75,000.00	49.02%
Outdoor Ministry	3,651.41	29,211.28	43,817.00	33.33%
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	1,750.00	100.00%
Planning & Visioning	322.95	322.95	2,000.00	83.85%
Coordinating Cabinet	80.00	858.67	2,511.00	65.80%
Total Expense	64,873.12	535,977.28	860,412.63	37.71%
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	(33,759.82)	(85,971.31)	83,249.17	(215.28)%

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Comparative Overall By Committee Fund 100
From 8/1/2012 Through 8/31/2012

	2012 Current Month Actual	2012 Current Year Actual	2011 Prior Year Actual	Current Year % Change
Revenue				
Trustees	29,643.30	400,943.47	471,915.30	(15.04)
Congregational Life	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	13,029.46	6,800.00	91.61
Mission Interpretation	1,470.00	16,777.36	19,365.84	(13.37)
Nurture & Support	0.00	2,861.20	1,500.00	90.75
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	0.00	4,769.48	0.00	100.00
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	0.00	0.00	6,500.00	(100.00)
Outdoor Ministry	0.00	625.00	0.00	100.00
Presbyterian Women	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	500.00	(100.00)
Planning & Visioning	0.00	0.00	750.00	(100.00)
Total Revenue	<u>31,113.30</u>	<u>440,005.97</u>	<u>509,331.14</u>	<u>(13.61)</u>
Expense				
Committee on Ministry	2,317.09	4,560.14	8,195.82	(44.36)
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	17.36	1,097.34	(98.42)
Trustees	10,431.50	76,621.12	78,284.30	(2.12)
Presbytery Operations	33,253.50	255,120.11	247,113.34	3.24
Congregational Life	725.00	8,214.81	9,804.68	(16.22)
Social Justice & Peace	2,981.63	42,366.39	43,334.70	(2.23)
Mission Interpretation	4,091.76	44,732.76	46,239.40	(3.26)
Nurture & Support	1,666.93	30,400.63	27,392.47	10.98
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	0.00	5,317.61	8,365.82	(36.44)
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	5,351.35	38,233.45	48,602.39	(21.33)
Outdoor Ministry	3,651.41	29,211.28	29,104.64	0.37
Planning & Visioning	322.95	322.95	2,992.01	(89.21)
Coordinating Cabinet	80.00	858.67	466.33	84.13
Total Expense	<u>64,873.12</u>	<u>535,977.28</u>	<u>550,993.24</u>	<u>(2.73)</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(33,759.82)</u>	<u>(95,971.31)</u>	<u>(41,662.10)</u>	<u>130.36</u>

Clerk offers apologies to AC, presbytery, session and congregation

Posted Monday, September 24, 2012 by the Presbyterian Layman

On September 20, *The Layman* posted a commentary [attached] by Carmen Fowler LaBerge entitled, "Members of Presbytery: 'Is this what you had in mind?'" In it she describes an episode in an unnamed presbytery concerning the administrative commission (AC) appointed to work with a congregation seeking to leave the denomination. What she described was a meeting in which a motion was made in the session that the pastor not preach for three Sundays. At that point the session recessed, and the chair of the AC called the stated clerk of the presbytery to consult about the proposed motion. He returned with two opinions of the stated clerk: that the motion was in order and that the administrative commission could assume original jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to the authority given it by the presbytery.

LaBerge cited W-1.4004,5 and W-2.2007 to question the opinion given by the stated clerk.

I am the stated clerk that gave that opinion. The presbytery is the Presbytery of Detroit.

Elders on the session had made the motion concerning the pastor's presence in the pulpit for the three Sundays preceding the scheduled meeting of the congregation to vote on seeking dismissal from the Presbyterian Church. After the motion was made and seconded, the AC asked for a recess. The opinion I provided when I received the call was that a session could do that under its responsibilities to provide that the Word is properly proclaimed, and that since the AC had been given the authority to assume original jurisdiction of the session, it could decide the matter if it assumed that jurisdiction.

As I read LaBerge's commentary, I realized that in my consideration of the matter, I did not think of the provisions in the Directory of Worship that she cited. I should have and was negligent in my research for not doing so. If I had reviewed those provisions, I would have advised the administrative commission that the matter was not as clear as my opinion suggested.

By my negligence I embarrassed our administrative commission and the Presbytery of Detroit. This was particularly egregious because of the difficulties and complexities of the matter. I should have been more attentive and careful. I offer my apologies to the administrative commission, the Presbytery of Detroit, and the session and congregation of the church.

For the record, the AC wanted my opinion to assist the session in its consideration of the motion that had been made and seconded. When the meeting reconvened, the moderator ruled the motion out of order, and that is how the matter ended.

It turns out the AC was wiser than I. They were surprised at my opinion, and advised session not to pursue this matter any further and that while it would be possible to appeal the moderator's/pastors's ruling it would be unwise to do so.

Edward Koster, stated clerk

Presbytery of Detroit

Members of presbytery: 'Is this what you had in mind?'

Commentary by Carmen Fowler LaBerge, The Layman, Posted Thursday, September 20, 2012

The context is a healthy sized congregation in the Presbyterian Church (USA) that is engaged in the gracious dismissal process of their particular presbytery. The presbytery formed an Administrative Commission (AC) with full powers. This process has been going on for a significant length of time and all sides are growing weary.

What I share here is a Facebook string that removes all the names of those involved and gives no reference to the specific church or presbytery. My hope is that every presbyter who is in a presbytery where an AC is operating will consider finding out more about how the authority granted them is being exercised and whether or not the Kingdom is actually being advanced.

A ruling elder posts about a session meeting:

Frustrated. We had two RE's move and second a motion that our pulpit be filled by a neutral pastor ... or that at least the right of our pastor to preach would be censored. When the motion was ruled out of order, our AC recessed, called the stated clerk who gave an over the phone opinion that the motion is in order. ... Shenanigans. Thanks for your prayers.

Several PCUSA pastors and elders jumped in to the conversation. The first asked, "So, did the motion pass or fail?"

A person in attendance at the meeting reported that "The motion was declared out of order." Then asked, "does a Session have the authority to bring in someone else to preach instead of the installed pastors without the approval of the installed pastor/moderator/head of staff?"

The answer was offered from the *Book of Order*, quoting W-2.2007 which reads, "A teaching elder or other person authorized by presbytery may be invited by the pastor with the concurrence of the session or, when there is no pastor, by the session. A person may be sent to preach by the presbytery."

It was then noted that the final sentence of W-2.2007 "seems open to wide interpretation."

Another person present at the meeting added, "After reading W-1.4004-5 and W-2.2007 the motion was ruled out of order because the Session does not have the necessary authority." They then added that the presbytery's Stated Clerk (who was not present at the meeting) ruled by phone that it was in order. He determined that the Session does have the authority.

So, is the answer yes or no?

The elder continued, "We do know, and have been told repeatedly that the AC can do whatever they want (including claiming original jurisdiction, bring someone else in to preach, etc.). So, does the Session have the authority to remove the installed pastor from the pulpit and have someone else preach without the consent of the pastor?"

Another presbyter weighs in, "The Pastor was called by the local church and approved by the presbytery. The Session cannot unilaterally pull the called Pastor from the pulpit without the Presbytery getting involved." The comment concluded that this is the kind of thing that is normally handled by a presbytery Committee on Ministry (COM).

Then a group member asked, "OK. So, what is original jurisdiction and how does it work? Is it actually defined anywhere or is it just a vague 'do as we say or we'll take over your world' bullying tactic? Are there constraints on when and how it should be used? Are there any boundaries within original jurisdiction?"

The answer offered was, "Boundaries of an AC are determined when it is formed by presbytery and by presbytery as it sees fit." And another participant added, "G-11.0103.s gives the presbytery power "to assume original jurisdiction in any case in which it determines that a session cannot exercise its authority. Whenever, after a thorough investigation, and after full opportunity to be heard has been accorded to the session in question, the presbytery of jurisdiction shall determine that the session of a particular church is unable or unwilling to manage wisely the affairs of its church, the presbytery may appoint an administrative commission (G-9.0503) with the full power of a session. This commission shall assume original jurisdiction of the existing session, if any, which shall cease to act until such time as the presbytery shall otherwise direct."

The emphasis is added by underlining several words and phrases that are open to wide interpretation and widely variant application.

If you're a member of a presbytery where an AC has approved in a gracious dismissal process, you have to ask yourself, "is this what you had in mind?" Is this a right expression of ecclesiastical collegiality or a right exercise of discipline?

Do you really know what your AC is doing in your name to your fellow presbyters? Does it not raise alarm that an AC has picked up the ax of censorship in terms of the freedom of speech a pastor has in the pulpit? Once in hand, that weapon is likely to swing both ways. That is not a future anyone should welcome.

THE PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT

Office of the Stated Clerk
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Ann Arbor, MI 48108

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E-Mail: ehkoster@aol.com



September 26, 2012

Ms Joanne Porrett
Clerk of Session
Port Huron Westminster Presbyterian Church

Dear Ms Porrett:

At its April 24, 2012 stated meeting, the Presbytery of Detroit approved the following resolution:

Port Huron Westminster AC

Lawrence Chamberlain reported for the Port Huron Westminster Administrative Commission.

Upon motion of the Administrative Commission, Presbytery received the Report of the AC, which is appended to the minutes. This report included the following resolutions:

In light of the results of the April 15th meeting of Westminster Presbyterian Church of Port Huron the Administrative Commission, with heavy heart, recommends that:

- a. The Presbytery grant the congregation's request to be dismissed to the oversight and care of The Evangelical Presbyterian Church
- b. The Presbytery authorizes the trustees of the Presbytery to accept the Westminster offer of \$30,000 for the property, assets, and liabilities of the congregation should the trustees find the offer appropriate.

By consent, the Presbytery ended debate. The resolution was approved.

On the basis of that resolution, I contacted the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and notified them of that resolution. I presumed that you folks would move forward as well.

You can send your check to:
The Trustees
Presbytery of Detroit
17575 Hubbell

**PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
OFFICE OF THE STATED CLERK**

Detroit, MI 48235

When your check clears, I will inform the Stated Clerk of the Midwest Presbytery of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church that the way is clear for your transfer.

Grace and peace to you.

Edward H Koster

Edward H Koster
Stated Clerk

cc: Allen Timm, Presbytery Executive, Presbytery of Detroit
John Calvin Manon, Stated Clerk, Presbytery of the Midwest, Evangelical Presbyterian Church

**Presbytery of Detroit
Minutes of the Meeting
November 27, 2012**

WE GATHERED IN GOD'S NAME

The Presbytery of Detroit convened with prayer and litany in a stated meeting on November 27, 2012 at p.m. at 4:01 p.m at Detroit Westminster Church. James Porter moderated the meeting.

WE CELEBRATED OUR CONNECTIONS IN CHRIST (15)

The Moderator declared that a quorum is present.

The Moderator appointed Gay Montgomery the Assistant to the Stated Clerk.

The Moderator welcomed new commissioners and teaching elders.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, Presbytery approved the docket.

Upon motion of the Stated Clerk, the Presbytery excused those who have requested to be excused.

Mary Austin welcomed Presbytery to the Westminster Church.

Jean Loup began moderating the meeting.

Reports from Other Governing Bodies

Raphael Francis reported on the Synod meeting of November 1 and 2 and the events there.

WE LISTENED FOR THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR COMMUNITY

Reports

- The Presbytery heard reports from Eldon Beery on the History Project;
- **Committee on Preparation for Ministry.** Beth Downs reported for the Committee: The Committee met on November 6 and submits this report for the month.

FOR INFORMATION: Consultation Reports

For Teaching Elder (Minister of Word and Sacrament):

1. CPM met with the following candidates on the date noted and sustained their annual consultations.

T. C. Anderson	Geneva, Canton	November 6, 2012
Paula Alstetter	Belleville	November 6, 2012
Tom Priest (F.A.)	Calvary, Detroit	November 6, 2012

For Commissioned Ruling Elder (formerly Commissioned Lay Pastor)

2. CPM met with the following CRE student and did not sustain her annual consultation for lack of paperwork and preparation.

Linda Singley	Trumbull, Detroit	November 6, 2012
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FOR INFORMATION: Other

(1) The CPM Manual section 3.5.4 has been amended to read:

“Any candidate who has successfully passed all of the Standard Examinations for Ordination, received a positive Final Assessment, and is within six (6) five (5) months of successful completion of all academic and clinical pastoral education requirements, has fulfilled any other requirements specified by CPM and the Presbytery, and has received a positive Final Assessment, may begin to circulate a Personal Information Form for the purpose of seeking a call as teaching elder (minister of Word and Sacrament.) This action will be recorded on Form 6, and a copy shall be given to the candidate, the liaisons, and placed in the file.”

This Manual is available online, under Committees/Ministry Teams/Preparation for Ministry, and includes all our CPM POD forms. (Note that the General Assembly forms are **not** to be used. Instead **use the forms that are available from our Presbytery in the online CPM Manual**; GA’s forms have the same titles but differ from what we use in here.)

- **Trustees**

The Trustees reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. The Trustees have referred the question posed about the definition of *temporarily restricted funds* contained in the audit to the auditor. They expect the report to be ready for the January meeting.
2. The Trustees are working hard to develop reports that are helpful to the Presbytery in understanding the budget and financial status of our finances.
3. The Trustees, after extensive work with the Hispanic Ministry and the New Church Development/Redevelopment Team, has decided to sell the former Southwest Church building.
4. The Trustees plan to co-opted Frank Zinn and appoint him as the Presbytery representative to the University of Michigan Presbyterian Corporation.
5. The Trustees have approved the signing of a warranty deed for the property at 601 South Colonial, Detroit to Lion Hearted Ministries, pursuant to a land contract dated December 13, 1989.

Announcements

Presbytery heard announcements about:

- Scholarships for Christian Educators for a cOnference in Florida.
- Frank Zinn from Grosse Pointe Woods Church recognized and thanked some folks on behalf of GPW: Presbytery Executive Timm; Pastor Peter Henry; Kent Clise and the Administrative Commission for Grosse Pointe Woods Church; Peter Smith from the Committee on Ministry. He reported that things are going well: 2/3 of the Congregation remain after departures. Bob Agnew has been very helpful as the temporary pastor and moderator.
- Mary Lloyd reported for Hands-On Mission that a response to Hurricane Sandy is underway—a 45’ trailer full of supplies is leaving today.
- Janet Morton reported on the Presbyterian Women’s retreat in March.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST’S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

Executive Presbyter's Report Al Timm reported

Mr Timm celebrated various anniversaries. He thanked Jim Porter, Dianne Bostic Robinson and Jean Loup, who met monthly with Ed Koster and himself to help coordinate the work of the Presbytery.

Mr Porter resumed moderating the Presbytery.

The Moderator offered a brief prayer for openness.

COMMITTEE ITEMS FOR ACTION**Riverside Administrative Commission.**

Mr Skimins reported for the Riverside Church Administrative Commission. All of whom (except for Marva Banks) came forward. The report is appended to the minutes.

By consent, the motions proposed by the Commission were considered individually.

The motion was made by the Administrative Commission that the presbytery direct the Executive Presbyter, two members of COM elected by COM, and two members of this reporting Riverside AC to approach Ms. Jarvis in the spirit of Christian reconciliation, both in writing and in person if possible, and offer her the prayers and assistance of the presbytery should she wish in the future to seek re-ordination to the ministry.

The motion was made to end debate. The point of order was made that since the person who moved to end debate spoke to the main motion before calling the question, the motion was not in order. The Moderator sustained the point of order.

Upon motion, Presbytery voted to end debate. The main motion was approved.

Upon motion of the Administrative Commission, Presbytery voted that the Riverside Church be officially closed, and that the Trustees and Executive Presbyter take the necessary actions to complete this.

Upon motion of the Administrative Commission, Presbytery voted that having completed its work, the Administrative Commission is released from further responsibilities. The point was made that members of the AC will comply with the first resolution.

Upon motion of John Pavelko the Presbytery voted that the Committees that are mentioned in the recommendations submit reports to the Presbytery within a year with a response to the ideas.

The Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer.

Coordinating Cabinet. Jean Loup reported for the Coordinating Cabinet.

The General Assembly having sent Amendments to the Constitution to the presbyteries for their positive or negative votes, the following amendments were placed before the Presbytery for its positive or negative vote:

12-A. Business Proper to Congregational Meetings: On Amending G-1.0503

12-C. Presbytery Registers: On Amending G-3.0104 and G-3.0305

12-E. Enrolling Ruling Elders as Members of Presbytery: On Amending G-3.0301

12-J. Investigating Committee Responsibilities: On Amending D-10.0202 (Item 06-02)

The Presbytery voted to approve these amendments.

1. The Coordinating Cabinet moved that Presbytery approve the Revised Bylaws.

Upon motion of Paul Bousquette on behalf of the Howell Nature Center Team, Presbytery voted to amend the Revised Bylaws as follow:

- Amend Article XI.2.a by deleting “,including the Howell Nature and Conference Center.”
- Amend Article XI.2.b. by inserting after “Executive Staff” the following: “(Including the Director of the Howell Nature Center).”

Upon motion, Presbytery voted to amend the Bylaws by deleting the duplicated “Newly Revised” in Article XII §5.

The motion was made by Carol Hylkema to amend Article IV as follows:

3) Terms and Elections

Delete:

~~Stated Clerk, Recording Clerk, Treasurer.~~ The ~~Stated Clerk, the~~ Recording Clerk, the Treasurer and the Assistant Treasurer shall serve for three years or until a successor takes office. Their election, and the election of an Interim Stated Clerk, shall be handled like a pastoral call. The Coordinating Cabinet shall nominate one candidate, upon recommendation of the Presbytery Operations Ministry Team. Nominations from the floor shall not be in order. The Presbytery shall vote by ballot on the question, "Shall this person be elected to this Office?"

And insert:

The Stated Clerk shall serve for three years or until a successor takes office. The election shall take place following an announcement (several months ahead) to the presbytery that the Clerk's term is ending. The Coordinating Cabinet shall nominate one candidate, upon the recommendation of the Presbytery Operations Ministry Team which shall have conducted an open search. Nominations from the floor shall be in order with the permission of those nominated. If there are nominees from the floor, there shall be a time for each candidate to be introduced and for each to give a brief statement of his/her vision of the job of Stated Clerk. Following this, the election shall take place by written ballot with a majority vote required for election. If there are more than two candidates, the candidate receiving the least votes after the second ballot shall be removed from each succeeding vote until one final ballot is taken.

Upon motion of Mr Clise Presbytery voted to refer the motion to the Coordinating Cabinet.

Upon motion, Presbytery voted to delete” *new church development*” from Article VIII § 1.e.

The motion was made by Carol Hylkema to amend Article V§1 by inserting at the end “*except the nominating committee*”. Upon motion, Presbytery voted to end debate. The main motion was not approved.

Presbytery recessed for Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Presbytery worshipped God.

Presbytery reconvened at 7:36.

WE RESPONDED TO CHRIST'S CALL TO MISSION AND MINISTRY (continued)

Coordinating Cabinet Report (continued)

Upon motion of Gretchen Denton Presbytery voted to postpone the decision on the proposed bylaws until the January 2013 meeting and required all proposed amendments be submitted by Jan first so they can be included in the Presbytery papers.

The stated clerk was asked to explain the process if postponed. He explained that amendments must be proposed by January first. All will be posted as received in the Presbytery papers. The Coordinating Cabinet may respond either by incorporating a particular amendment or by recommending it, or by giving a rationale for or against.

Upon motion the Presbytery voted that all amendments must be presented by January 1 and no new amendments will be considered at the January meeting. The vote to approve was 57 *yes*, 32 *no*.

2. The motion was made to approve the 2013 Budget.

The motion was made to postpone the mission interpretation expense portion until the January meeting. The motion was not approved.

The main motion approved. The budget is appended to the minutes.

3. Upon motion, Presbytery voted to approve the 2013 Extra Commitment Opportunities. (The ECOs are appended to the minutes.)
4. Upon motion Presbytery voted to approve a 2.5% increase to the called presbytery staff with the following new terms of call:

The Rev. Dr. Allen D. Timm, Executive Presbyter

An increase in salary of \$1955 (a 2.5% increase in total of salary and housing)

\$32,590	Salary
47,560	Housing Allowance
1,000	Medical reimbursement
6,131	FICA allowance
17,041	Board of Pension Medical dues
8,926	Board of Pension dues
812	Board of Pensions Life and Disability Insurance dues
100	Workmen's Comp insurance dues
6,660	Reimbursement for travel expenses (at IRS rate)
4,000	Reimbursement for Professional Business Expenses
3,000	Reimbursement for Continuing Education
\$127,820	Total Compensation

The Rev. Edward H. Koster, J.D., Stated Clerk

An increase of salary of \$765 (a 2.5% increase in total of salary and housing) This is a half-time position.

\$2,611	Salary
28,763	Housing Allowance
518	Medical reimbursement
2,400	FICA allowance
11,340	Board of Pensions medical dues
3508	Board of Pensions pension dues
319	Board of Pension Life insurance and disability
100	Workmen's comp insurance
1,400	Reimbursement for travel expenses (at IRS rate)
1,400	Reimbursement for business expenses
<u>1,000</u>	<u>Reimbursement for Continuing Education</u>
\$53,359	Total Compensation

Richard Grant, Executive Director. Howell Nature and Conference Center

The following is 1/4 of the terms of call, the other 3/4 payable by the Howell Nature and Conference Center.

An increase in salary of \$298, which is 2.5% of the presbytery portion of his salary and deferred compensation in his TOC

Use of manse and utilities (valued at 1/3 total salary for pension dues)

\$13,723	Salary
1,500	Deferred Compensation
250	Medical reimbursement
1,050	FICA allowance
2934	Board of Pension medical dues
1,537	Board of Pension Pensions dues
140	Board of Pension life insurance and disability dues
750	Travel reimbursement
375	Professional business reimbursement
750	Continuing Education reimbursement
23,009	Total Compensation
84,084	Grand Total including Howell Conference and Nature Center portion, plus value of the manse,
\$16,468	(salary of 54,892 x 1/3)

5. Upon motion Presbytery voted to accept the invitation of the following churches for the following meetings in 2013:

January 22: Ann Arbor First
February 26: Farmington First.

The Coordinating Cabinet reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. It has approved the following schedule for approving Constitutional Amendments sent down to the presbyteries for their positive or negative votes:

November 27:

- 12-A. Business Proper to Congregational Meetings: On Amending G-1.0503
- 12-C. Presbytery Registers: On Amending G-3.0104 and G-3.0305
- 12-E. Enrolling Ruling Elders as Members of Presbytery: On Amending G-3.0301
- 12-J. Investigating Committee Responsibilities: On Amending D-10.0202 (Item 06-02)

January 22:**D. Shared Permanent Judicial Commission**

- 12.D.1. Judicial Commissions: On Amending G-3.0109a
- 12.D.2. Administrative Commissions: On Amending G-3.0109b(6)
- 12-D.3. Reduced Function: On Amending G-3.0404
- 12-D.4. Permanent Judicial Commissions: On Amending D-5.0101
- 12-D.5. Permanent Judicial Commission Expenses: On Amending D-5.0106
- 12-D.6. Permanent Judicial Commission Meetings: On Amending D-5.0203
- 12-D.7. Permanent Judicial Commissions Quorum: On Amending D-5.0206
- 12-D.8. Initiating a Remedial Case: On Amending D-6.0101
- 12-D.9. Filing a Complaint in a Remedial Case : On Amending D-6.0202a(6)
- 12-G. Service of Ordination, Installation, or Commissioning: On Amending W-4.4002

February 26:**Heidelberg Catechism****April/May:**

- 12-B. Gifts and Qualifications: On Amending G-2.0104a
 - 12-F. Concurrences for Overtures: On Amending G-3.0302d
 - 12-H. Jurisdiction in Judicial Process: On Amending D-3.0101b(2)
 - 12-I. Administrative Leave: On Amending D-10.0106
2. The Coordinating Cabinet received a report from the Committee on Local Arrangements (COLA) for the 2014 Assembly. On its recommendation, the Coordinating Cabinet appointed Harold Gardner to fill the vacant position of Treasurer.

Treasurer. Alvin Smith reported

Mr Smith presented his Treasurer's report. The report in appended to the minutes.

Committee on Nominations. Ruthanne Bourlier reported for the Committee.

Upon nomination of the Committee, no nominations having been made from the floor, Presbytery elected the following:

Officers of the Presbytery - 2013

Moderator	Elder Jean Loup	Ann Arbor - Northside
Vice-Moderator	Elder Harold Ellis	Detroit – St. Johns

Committee on Ministry

Chair 2013	Elder Dixie Elam	Livonia – Rosedale Gardens
Vice Chair 2013	Rev. Philip Reed	Grosse Ile
Class of 2013	Elder Diane Agnew	Grosse Pointe Memorial
Class of 2014	Rev. Donald Wright	HR
Class of 2015	Rev. Mary Austin	Detroit - Westminster
Class of 2015	Rev. David Bleivik	Dearborn – First
Class of 2015	Rev. Fairfax Fair	Ann Arbor - First
Class of 2015	Rev. Phil Reed	Grosse Ile
Class of 2015	Elder Judy Armstrong	Mount Clemens - First
Class of 2015	Elder Dr. Dorothy Buchan	Warren – First
Class of 2015	Elder Shirley Henry	Northville- First

Class of 2015	Elder Edwin Fabre	Detroit – Community
Class of 2015	Elder John Clark	Allen Park
Class of 2015	Rev Kelly Shriver	Milan People's
Committee on Preparation for Ministry		
Co-Chair 2013	Elder Samuel Clark III	Bloomfield Hills – Kirk in the Hills
Co-Chair 2013	Rev. Jason Pittman	Port Huron – First
Class of 2015	Rev. Paul Stunkel	Livonia – St. Paul's
Class of 2015	Rev. Michael Horlocker	South Lyon - First
Class of 2015	Rev. Keith Geiselman	Ypsilanti - First
Class of 2015	Elder Aaron Crowton	Warren - First
Class of 2015	Elder Samuel Clark III	Bloomfield Hills – Kirk in the Hills
Class of 2015	Elder Rudi Ansbacher, MD, MS	Ann Arbor – First
Class of 2015	Elder Marlys Schutjer	Ann Arbor - First
Committee on Representation		
Chair 2013	Rev. Gretchen Denton	H.R.
Class of 2015	Elder Michael Barconey	Southfield - Covenant
Congregational Life Team		
Chair 2013	CRE Michael Hoffman	Dearborn - First
Class of 2015	CRE Michael Hoffman	Dearborn - First
Class of 2015	Elder Michael Barconey	Southfield - Covenant
Metropolitan Urban Ministry Team		
Chair 2013	Rev. Beth Delaney	Southfield – Filipino American Fellowship
Class of 2015	Elder Darrell Reynolds	Detroit – Calvary
Class of 2015	Rev. Matthew Nickel	Royal Oak – First
Mission Interpretation/Projects/Partnerships Team		
Chair 2013	Elder Fran Anderson	Waterford – Community
Class of 2015	Heidi Church	Ypsilanti – First
Class of 2015	Elder Tim Ngare	Detroit – Calvary
New Church Development/Redevelopment Team		
Chair 2013	Rev. Chris Thomas	Plymouth – First
Class of 2015	Rev. Chris Thomas	Plymouth – First
Class of 2015	Elder Rosy Latimore	Birmingham – First
Nurture & Support of Clergy & Lay Leadership Team		
Chair 2013	Elder Dorothy Seabrooks	Detroit – St. John's
Class of 2015	Elder Dorothy Seabrooks	Detroit – St. John's
Outdoor Ministries Team		
Chair 2013	Rev. Paul Bousquette	Redford – St. James
Class of 2015	Elder Dixie Elam	Livonia – Rosedale Gardens
Class of 2015	Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers	Ann Arbor – First
Permanent Investigating Committee		
Class of 2018	Rev. John Foster	H.R.
Class of 2018	Elder Nancy Nawrocki	Milford – First
Class of 2018	Elder Natalie Brothers	Detroit – Trinity Community
Planning & Visioning Team		

Chair 2013	Vacancy	
Class of 2015	Rev. Emma Nickel	Warren – First
Class of 2015	Elder Katherine Nyberg	Birmingham First
Class of 2015	Vacancy	
Presbytery Operations Team		
Chair 2013	Elder Lasenia Jones	Detroit – Broadstreet
Class of 2015	Rev. Greg Zurakowski	Belleville
Class of 2015	Elder Ron Whitney	Bloomfield Hills – Kirk in the Hills
Social Justice & Peacemaking Team		
Chair 2013	Elder Margaret Williamson	Detroit – St. John’s
Class of 2015	Elder Tremetre Young	Bloomfield Hills – Kirk in the Hills
Class of 2015	Rev. Dr. William Dunifon	H.R.
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development Team		
Chair 2013		
Class of 2015	Vacancy	
Class of 2015	Rev. Diane Smalley	H.R.
Trustees		
Class of 2015	Rev. Kent Clise	Milford - First
Class of 2015	Elder Michael Starynchak	Orchard Lake – Community
Class of 2015	Elder Ken Hollowell	Detroit - Broadstreet

Committee on Ministry. Dixie Elam reported for the Committee.

Upon motion of the Committee on Ministry, Presbytery voted to:

1. Approve the status of **Pastor Emeritus** for **Rev. William Colwell**, pending the request by Allen Park Church.
2. Grant permission for **Teresa Peterson** to labor within the bounds of the Presbytery of Detroit to conduct two weddings.

The Committee on Ministry reported that pursuant to authority given it, it has:

1. Approved the **Administrative Commission** to ordain **Emma Ouellette** on Saturday, November 17, 2012, 2:00 pm at Allen Park, and grant permission to serve communion at the service.

Moderator: Rev. James Porter

Clergy: Rev. Douglas Blaikie; Rev. Stuart Ritter; Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi.

Elders: Virginia Horvath (Allen Park); Wanda Moon (First, Northville); Harold Ellis (St. John’s, Detroit).

Corresponding Members: Rev. Kirk Miller, Lake Michigan Presbytery.

2. Approved the call to Rev. Isaac Chung as Pastor at White Lake, effective November 25, 2012. Terms: Full time; Salary \$25,000; Housing \$18,500; Board of Pension \$15,008; Social Security \$3,328; Medical deductible \$1,000; Auto/travel \$2,000; Continuing Ed \$1,030; Business supplies \$1,336. Vacation: one month including four Sundays. Study leave: two weeks. One time moving expense up to \$2,000. Within the first year, Rev. Chung will attend a Pastors in Transition Program with the cost borne by the church. AA/EEO Guidelines were followed in this search.

Upon motion and second, Presbytery voted to approve 2012 Terms of Call received to date. (Appended to the minutes)

The Committee reported that Cindy-Rouse Baird has been trained and examined by the Committee in Preparation for Ministry and given instructions appropriate to being a hospital chaplain. It presented her for examination on her personal faith, motives for seeking the commission, and the work of a hospital chaplain.

The Presbytery examined Cindy-Rouse Baird on her personal faith, motives for seeking the commission, and the work of a hospital chaplain. Upon motion, the examination was arrested and the Presbytery voted to commission her.

Upon motion of the committee, the Presbytery voted to approve the three year commission of **Cindy Rouse-Baird** to serve in the validated ministry as Spiritual Care Coordinator at Crittendon Hospital, Rochester, MI, and grant permission for her to administer the sacraments and to perform weddings for patients and staff of the hospital.

Vice Moderator Loup asked the questions required in W-4.4003, to which she responded in the affirmative, and Moderator Porter gave her a brief charge and prayer.

The Committee on Ministry reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. Rev. Adam Grosch was installed as Pastor at Lake Shore on October 22, 2012.
2. It has appointed Rev. Bill and Rev. Ann Robertson as co-moderators at First, Troy during Rev. Judy McMillan's absence.
3. It has validated the ministry of Cindy Rouse-Baird as Spiritual Care Coordinator at Crittendon Hospital, Rochester, MI, including permission to perform sacraments and weddings in association with her role at Crittendon.
4. At the January meeting of Presbytery, COM will publish the names of those who have not sent in their Annual Reports.
5. Approximately 6 pastors have not signed the Sexual Misconduct Policy Acknowledgement Form. This leaves POD vulnerable. **BY MOTION, COM granted** permission for the Presbytery office to
 - 1.) Send a letter to the pastor stating that he/she is out of compliance, and
 - 2.) If there is no response, to send a letter to the clerk of that pastor's session stating that the pastor is out of compliance.
6. The 2013 Minimum Terms of Call for Full-time Clergy is posted on the Presbytery's website.

Mission Interpretation/Projects/Partnerships. Doug Denton reported for the team.

Upon motion of the Team, Presbytery ratified the partnership with Thika Presbytery. The partnership covenant is appended to the minutes.

Special Committee on Nominations. Dixie Elam reported for the Committee

Upon nomination by the committee, there being no nominations from the floor, Presbytery voted to elect the following to the Nominating Committee:

Chair	Rev. Marianne Grano	Rochester, University
Class of 2015	Elder Marie Hughley	Highland Park, Park United

Rev. Howard Soehl	Howell, First
Rev. Charlotte Sommers	Troy, Northminster
Elder Robert S. Lee	Southfield, Korean/Metro Detroit

Stated Clerk Edward Koster reported

Upon motion of the stated clerk, Presbytery voted to:

1. Approve the minutes of October 23, 2012.
2. Approve the following review of session minutes and records:

Ann Arbor Westminster	Detroit Hope
<u>No exceptions</u>	With exceptions
<u>Dearborn Cherry Hill</u>	Detroit Westminster
<u>With exceptions</u>	With exception
Detroit Broadstreet	Warren First
With exceptions	No exceptions
Detroit Gratiot Avenue	
With exceptions	

The Stated Clerk reported the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. TRANSFERS COMPLETED
 - a) From the Presbytery of Detroit:
 - i) Drew Tomberlin to New Covenant Presbytery
2. The Port Huron Westminster Church has complied with all the requirements of our agreement with them, and has been received by the Midwest Presbytery of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. They have been removed from the roll of the Presbytery of Detroit.
3. The report of the Riverview Administrative Commission includes the following:

Recommendation #4

“In our considered view, any mistakes made by Ms. Jarvis did not need to be addressed by renunciation of jurisdiction and loss of ordination and isolation from her life-long Presbyterian Church (USA) membership. Other ministers in POD have had performance problems or moral failures (which were not alleged in this case) or other issues, and yet have been able to go through a restoration process. There is no evidence of financial or moral impropriety on the part of Ms. Jarvis. It is our view that given the intensity of the conflict in 2011 and the difference in interpretation of the Book of Order between the Stated Clerk’s Office at GA and the POD Stated Clerk, that Ms. Jarvis’ decision to renounce jurisdiction was made under pressure, and due process may have been short circuited.”

I report that the conclusion that Ms Jarvis was in any way pushed to renounce the jurisdiction of the church is incorrect. Since it gives the suggestion that Ms Jarvis was forced to renounce, and that Presbytery was implicated in her decision to renounce, it is necessary to clarify the procedure. Ms Jarvis's renunciation occurred as follows.

Ms Jarvis requested to lay aside her ordination, and I responded that it could not be done until she had resolved issues she had with the Committee on Ministry. She contacted the GA, and learned that the new Form of Government requires a presbytery to release a person upon request. She informed me of her intention to file a remedial charge to force the matter. I informed the COM of this, and that she could not be prevented from leaving the jurisdiction of the Presbytery

and the COM. I subsequently received a written allegation pursuant to the Rules of Discipline that included the following allegations:

“Therefore, I hereby file an alleged offense against Rev. Brenda Jarvis. The alleged offense is based on Rev. Jarvis failure to fulfill her duties/responsibilities as an Ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament.

They are specifically:

- Failure to Ordain/Install elected members of Session of Riverside Community Church
- Failure to have a Clerk of Session elected and minutes be taken of Congregational Meetings and Session meetings.
- Failure to assist in moving from Organizing Pastor to Pastor of Riverside Community Church.
- Failure to supply necessary financial documents.
- Questions surrounding the list of Charter Members.”

Whenever a clerk receives a written allegation against a member, he or she is required immediately to form an investigating committee. The Rules of Discipline specifically prohibit the clerk from investigating or evaluating the allegations. That process is done by the investigating committee. The filing of such allegations prohibits the transfer of the members until the matter is concluded.

I began the process of forming the investigating committee and immediately informed Ms Jarvis that her release from ordination would be delayed until the matter was concluded. Before I could get an investigating committee in place, Ms Jarvis renounced the jurisdiction of the church.

I report that Ms Jarvis was under no pressure to renounce the jurisdiction, and that all the due process protections were afforded her. She decided on her own to renounce the jurisdiction after she was informed that disciplinary allegations had been filed. If she had not renounced, she would have had the due process privilege of counsel, the privilege of a trial if the IC decided to file charges, and be considered innocent until proved by a 2/3 vote of the PJC that she was guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. This information would have remained confidential under the rules until the filing of charges. If the IC decided not to file charges, none of this information would be made public.

I make this information available now because Ms Jarvis has apparently persuaded the Administrative Commission that she was forced out and that due process was not followed. Renunciation of jurisdiction is a voluntary act of a member, and it is effective on receipt; it cannot be reversed. One effect of renunciation is that all disciplinary processes are terminated—since membership is voluntary, we cannot conduct disciplinary proceedings against a person who rejects the authority of the church to do so. The “restoration process” suggested by the AC is frequently a part of the disciplinary process in those cases where a person is convicted of the charges.

Any right to confidentiality she may have had falls since she is no longer a member to the Presbyterian Church (USA) and because Presbytery has the right to defend itself when allegations are made against it.

The Stated Clerk reported the following communication:

1. To the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly reporting the recording of the decision in the matter of *Thomas Priest v. the Presbytery of Detroit*. (Appended to the minutes.)

WE GAVE THANKS TO GOD

Presbytery shared joys and concerns, and offered prayers of thanks and intercession.

WE WENT OUT IN GOD'S NAME

The Presbytery adjourned with prayer at 9:08 pm

The next meeting of the Presbytery will be Tuesday, February 26, 2013 at 4 p.m. at Farmington First Presbyterian Church.

ATTEST: 

EDWARD KOSTER, Stated Clerk

ATTACHMENT ONE: The Roll

APPENDICES: The Report of the Riverside Church Administrative Commission
2013 Budget
2013 Extra Commitment Oppertunities
Treasurer's Report
2012 Terms of Call
Thika Partnership Covenant
Letter to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly on the remedial case *Thomas Priest v. the Presbytery of Detroit.*

ATTACHMENT ONE: THE ROLL

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY FOR November 27, 2012

CHURCHES: Of 82 churches, 46 were represented and 36 were not.

COMMISSIONERS: Of 125 eligible commissioners, 63 enrolled, and 62 did not.

OTHER RULING ELDERS (Officers, Members of Council)::

Of 21 total, 10 were present, of whom 0 counted as commissioners, leaving 10 as the unduplicated count: 8 excused, and 3 absent.

TEACHING ELDERS: Of the 142 non-retired teaching elders on the combined rolls of active members and members-at-large, 64 were present, 18 were excused, and 69 were absent.

Of the 84 retired teaching elders on the rolls, 5 were present and 79 were excused.

COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS AND CERTIFIED EDUCATORS: Of the 2 Commissioned Lay Pastor on the rolls, 0 were present, 0 excused, 2 absent

Of the 0 Certified Educators on the rolls. * were present, * excused, *

Stated Clerk
The Synod of the Covenant

minutes approved
without exception
may 7, 2013
Deed Burt

absent.

SUMMARY

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

63 Elder Commissioners
 + 10 Other Ruling Elders
 + 64 Non-retired teaching elders
 + 5 Retired teaching elders
 = 0 Commissioned lay pastors.
 = 0 Certified educators.
 = 142 Voting members present.

OTHERS PRESENT

3 Non-voting attendees
 0 Corresponding members

Attendance of Churches and Elder Commissioners

ALLEN PARK, Allen Park	1	LASENIA JONES	2
1 ROBERT MORTON	2	BERNARD OGLESBY	3
2 MICHELE DAN		DETROIT, Calvary	GROSSE PTE WOODS, Woods
3		1 ADRIENNE ADAMS	1 FRANK ZINN
ANN ARBOR, Calvary		2 JEFFREY BANKS	2 DAVID BENJAMINS
1 NOT REPRESENTED		DETROIT, Calvin East	HIGHLAND PARK, Park United
ANN ARBOR, First		1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 MARIE HUGHLEY
1 BEN VAN TUYL		2	2
2 RUTH BARNARD		DETROIT, First	HOWELL, First
3 SUE LEONG		1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 NOT REPRESENTED
4		DETROIT, Fort Street	LINCOLN PARK, Lincoln Park
ANN ARBOR, Northside		1 BOB PONDER	1 NOT REPRESENTED
1 NOT REPRESENTED		DETROIT, Gratiot Avenue	LIVONIA, Rosedale Gardens
ANN ARBOR, Westminster		1 MARY ANN BRANTLEY	1 DYCHE ANDERSON
1 JILL MILLS		2	2
AUBURN HILLS, Auburn Hills		DETROIT, Hope	LIVONIA, St. Paul's
1 JUDY GEISLER		1 MARY GREEN	1 ALLEN NICHOLAS
BELLEVILLE, Belleville		2 DONALD G HUDSON	LIVONIA, St. Timothy's
1 CONNIE ETTER		DETROIT, Jefferson Avenue	1 NOT REPRESENTED
BERKLEY, Greenfield		1 RICHARD D JEWELL	MACOMB, Church/Covenant
1 DOUG ADAMS		2	1 NOT REPRESENTED
BEVERLY HILLS, Northbrook		DETROIT, Riverside	MILAN, Peoples
1 NOT REPRESENTED		1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 NOT REPRESENTED
BIRMINGHAM, First		DETROIT, St. John's	MILFORD, Milford
1 ROSY LATIMORE		1 NOT REPRESENTED	1 NOT REPRESENTED
2		2	2
3		DETROIT, Trinity Community	MT. CLEMENS, First
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Kirk/Hills		1 FRANCIS BEEMAN	1 LARETTA FREEMAN-MARTIN
1 JOAN HANPETER		2 NATALIE BROTHERS	NORTHVILLE, First
2 ED HANPETER		DETROIT, Trumbull Avenue	1 LYDIA PRATT
3 BOB BECK		1 MARTHA SINGLEY	2 KATHY GRIDER
4		2	3 SHIRLEY HENRY
5		DETROIT, Westminster	NOVI, Faith Community
BRIGHTON, First		1 MARGARET WHITEHEAD	1 JIM ERNET
1 GISDER BEST		2 RESHAWN WHETSTONE	ORCHARD LAKE, Community
2 JONATHAN NELSON		FARMINGTON, First	1 CHARLES KEPPEL
CANTON, Geneva		1 MARTHA S COMPTON	2 BETH KEPPEL
1 MICHAEL GAUBATZ		2 KAREN SPICE	PLYMOUTH, First
CLARKSTON, Sashabaw		FERNDALE, Drayton Avenue	1 NOT REPRESENTED
1 NOT REPRESENTED		1 LARISH HALMI	2
DEARBORN, Cherry Hill		FORT GRATIOT, Lakeshore	3
1 JULIUS OTTEN		1 NOT REPRESENTED	PONTIAC, First
DEARBORN, First		GARDEN CITY, Garden City	1 THOMAS DUFFIELD
1 NOT REPRESENTED		1 CHRISTINE SACKETT	PONTIAC, Joslyn Avenue
DEARBORN, Littlefield		GROSSE ILE, Grosse Ile	1 NOT REPRESENTED
1 ROGER SCHEBOR		1 DON HILL	PORT HURON, First
DEARBORN HGTS, St. Andrew's		2	1 HOWARD BORGMAN
1 NOT REPRESENTED		GROSSE POINTE, Memorial	2 CYNDI BEERBOWER
DETROIT, Broadstreet		1 NOT REPRESENTED	REDFORD, St. James

1 SANDY BOUSQUETTE
ROCHESTER, University
 1 DOUG DENTON
 2
ROSEVILLE, Erin
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROYAL OAK, First
 1 SALLY GILREATH
 2
ROYAL OAK, Point of Vision
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ROYAL OAK, Starr
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
SALINE, First
 1 KAREN COLLINS
SHELBY TWP., St. Thomas
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
SOUTH LYON, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
SOUTHFIELD, Covenant

1 BARBARA SMITH
SOUTHFIELD, Korean
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
 3
SOUTHFIELD, New Hope
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
ST. CLAIR SHORES, Heritage
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
ST. CLAIR SHORES, Lake Shore
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
STERLING HGTS, New Life
 1 KAREN BORDER
TAYLOR, Southminster
 1 MARY D WONNACOTT
TROY, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
TROY, Korean First

1 NOT REPRESENTED
 2
TROY, Northminster
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WALLED LAKE, Crossroads
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WARREN, Celtic Cross
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WARREN, First
 1 KENT CARR
WATERFORD, Community
 1 CINDY BAIRD
WESTLAND, Kirk of Our Savior
 1 DAVID GARCIA
WHITE LAKE, White Lake
 1 NOT REPRESENTED
WYANDOTTE, Wyandotte
 1 ROBERT HOALFELDER
YPSILANTI, First
 1 NOT REPRESENTED

Attendance of Ruling and Teaching Elder Members

C. ELDER MEMBERS	P CLARK, STEVEN	P McCLOSKEY-TURNER, CATHARINE
P ANDERSON, FRANCILE, PM	A COCHRAN, LINDA	A McGOWAN, EVANS
E BOSTIC-ROBINSON, DIANE, PM	A COOPER, QUINCY	A McMILLAN, JUDITH
A CLARK, SAM	P COWLING, NEIL D.	A McRAE, BARBARA
P ELAM, DIXIE, PM	A DAVIS, ROXIE ANN	A MEANS, MATTHEW
E ELLIS, HAROLD	P DAVIS, WILLIAM	P MELROSE, SUE ELLIS
A EMMERT, JOHN	A DE ORIO, ANTHONY	A MICHALEK, DANIEL
P HYLKEMA, CAROL, PM	P DELANEY, BETH	P MILLER, J. SCOTT
P LEWIS, STEFANIE	E *DENNIS, WARREN	P MISHLER, JOHN
A LOUP, JEAN	P DOWNS, ELIZABETH	A MONNETT, JAMES
P MORGAN, DONALD	A DOYLE-HOHF, KATHLEEN	P MOOK, SHARON
E MORRISON, HELEN, PM	E *DYKSTRA, CRAIG R.	P MOORE, PETER
P MORTON, JANET	P ELE, HERSCHEL	P MORGAN, AMY
E PITTS, FRANCES, PM	P FAILE, JAMES	A MOZENA, SUSAN
P PRIEST, TOM, PM	E FAIR, FAIRFAX	P NICHOLS, NEETA
E SEABROOKS, DOROTHY M., PM	A FERGUSON, GUY THOMAS	P NICKEL, EMMA
E SHIRLEY, JAMES, PM	A FORGER, DEBORAH	P NICKEL, MATTHEW
P SMITH, ALVIN	P FRANCIS, RAPHAEL B.	A NUSS, STEVEN
E SMITH, KENNETH, PM	A GABEL, PETER W.	P OBERG, ARTHUR
P SZWED, ROBERT	A GEISELMAN, KEITH	A OLIVER, GARY
A WILLIAMSON, MAEGARET	E GERE, BREWSTER	A OUELLETTE, EMMA
E WINSLOW, PAUL, PM	A GRANO, MARIANNE	A PARKER, OPELTON
	A GROSCH, ADAM	P PAVELKO, JOHN H.
D. NON-RETIRED MINISTERS	A HANNA, RAAFAT	A PEARSON, BRENNAN
A ADAMS, WILLIAM L III	P HARMON, BREANNE	E PICKRELL, BROOKE
E ANDERSON, BARBARA S	E *HARRIS, R. JOHN	A PIECUCH, KEVIN
E ANDERSON, LINDA	P HARTLEY, THOMAS	P PITTMAN, JASON
P ANDERSON, LINDSEY	P HAYES, FRANCES	P PORTER, JAMES
P ANDREWS, DOYLL	P HENDERSON, RICHARD	P PORTICE, GEORGE
A AUE, CRAIG	P HENRY, PETER J. M.	A PRENTICE-HYERS, DAVID
P AUSTIN, MARY	P HOFFMAN, MICHAEL (CRE)	P PRENTICE-HYERS, MARY ELIZABETH
P BAHR-JONES, MARY	E HORLOCKER, MICHEL	P PRITCHARD, NORMAN
E *BAILEY, CLOVER	A HUFF, JASON	P PUNTIGAM, JOEL
A BIERSDORF, JOHN	P JOHNSON, KEVIN	P REED, PHILIP
A BLAIKIE, DOUGLAS	A JONES, RICHARD	A RICE, ELIZABETH
A BLEIVIK, DAVID	P JUDSON, JOHN	P RICE, THOMAS
A BOHN, CHRISTINE	P KAIBEL, KENNETH	A RIKE, JENNIFER
A BOLT, KENNETH	A KIDDER, ANNEMARIE	E RITTER, W STUART
P BOURLIER, RUTHANNE	E *KIM, Y. MONCH	A ROGERS, MELISSA ANNE
P BOUSQUETTE, PAUL	E *KIM, YOUNGCHUL	A SCHAEFER, ANNE N.
A CAMPBELL, DOUGLAS	P KING, CATHERINE	P SEILER, GORDON (CRE)
A CAMPBELL, EMILY	A KLINGER, JAMIE	E *SHIH, SHENG-TO
A CARL, STEPHEN	P KOSTER, EDWARD H.	P SHINN, DAVID
P CHEN, HAO-THE	P KRUG, ERNEST	P SHIPMAN, JUDY
A CHOI, SEUNG	A KUMIN, JAMES	E *SHREVE, MAGGIE
E *CHOI, SEUNG KOO	A MABEE, CHARLES	P SHRIVER, KELLY
P CLARK, JENNIFER	A MADDEN, JULIE	A SIAS-LEE, LAURA

E *SIMONS, SCOTT W.
 P SKIMINS, JAMES
 A SMITH, BRYAN DEAN
 A SMITH, PETER C.
 P SOEHL, HOWARD
 A SOHN, YO SUP
 P SOMMERS, CHARLOTTE
 P STUNKEL, KAREN
 P STUNKEL, PAUL
 A TATE, CAROL ANN
 P THOMAS, CHRISTOPHER
 E THOMPSON, G. PATRICK
 P THORESEN, KATHRYN R.
 P THWAITE, PAUL
 P TIMM, ALLEN D
 A TUCKER-LLOYD, IRIS
 A WHITLOCK, KELLIE
 A WILHELMI, MARJORIE
 A WINGROVE, WILLIAM N
 A WOO, BYEONGJIN
 A WRZESZCZ, JENNIFER PARKER
 P WRZESZCZ, MATTHEW PARKER
 A YU, SEUNG WON
 P ZAMBON, WILLIAM
 P ZURAKOWSKI, GREGORY

D. RETIRED MINISTERS

E AARON, ESTELLE
 E ACTON, ELLEN
 P AGNEW, ROBERT
 E ALBRECHT, GLORIA
 E ANDERSON, JAMES
 E AUSTIN, ANNA MARIE
 E AUSTIN, LARRY
 P BEERY, ELDON
 E BENEDICT, IVAN L.
 E BOEVE, PETER
 E BORCHARDT, HENRY
 E BORCHARDT, JUDITH
 E BROWNEE, RICHARD
 E BYARS, RONALD
 E CAMPBELL, VERN
 E CAPPS, HARRY

E CARTER, DOUGLAS D.
 E CATER, LAWRENCE H.
 E CHAMBERLAIN, LAWRENCE
 E CHAMBERS, JAMES C.
 E CHOI, IN SOON
 P CLISE, W. KENT
 E COBLEIGH, GERALD R.
 E COLON, LOIS
 E CONLEY, JAMES H.
 E CORSO, LINDA
 E CRILLEY, ROBERT
 E CROSS, PAUL D.
 P DENTON, GRETCHEN
 E DUNCAN, THOMAS
 E DUNIFON, WILLIAM
 E ELLENS, J. HAROLD
 E FINDLAY, WILLIAM
 E FORSYTH, E. DICKSON
 E FOSTER, JOHN
 E GEPFORD, WILLIAM G.
 E GLENN, LAWRENCE T.
 E HANNA, J. RICHARD
 E HARP, WILLIAM S.
 E HATCHER, RUFUS
 E HEINRICHS, THOMSON
 E HELMKE, BEN
 E JANSEN, ROBERT
 E JEFFREY, JOHN
 E JONES, VIRGIL L.
 E KESLER, JAMES W.
 E KIM, T. ANDREW
 E KNUDSEN, RAYMOND
 E KOGEL, LYNNE
 E KREHBIEL, DAVID E.
 E LAMBERT, ROY F.
 E LANGWIG, JANICE
 E LANGWIG, ROY
 E LARSON, ROBERT F.
 E LISTER, KENNETH D.
 E LONGWOOD, MARJORIE
 E MacINNES, JOHN D.
 E MARVIN, FRANK C., JR.
 E McINTYRE, DEWITT

E MIHOCKO, DAVID
 E NUSSDORFER, GUS
 E OLSON, PHILIP
 E ORR, ROBERT C.
 E OWEN, DAVID
 E OXTOBY, THOMAS
 E PETERS, RICHARD
 E POLKOWSKI, WILLIAM
 E PRICE, MICHAEL T.
 E PROVOST, KEITH
 E PRUES, LOUIS J.
 E RATCLIFFE, ALBERT H.
 E ROBERTSON, ANN
 E ROBERTSON, DAVID W.
 E ROBERTSON, WILLIAM
 E RUSSELL, JAMES P.
 P SCRIBNER, LOREN
 E SMALLEY, DIANE
 E SUTTON, PAUL
 E TAYLOR, J. BERNARD
 E TAYLOR, THEODORE, II
 E WRIGHT, DONALD
 E YOON, HAK SUK
 E YUE, MYUNG JA
 E ZIEGLER, JACK T.

E. STAFF & OTHERS

BARCONEY, CHARON
 FABRÉ, EDWIN
 GRANT, RICHARD
 P HIGGINS, JOANNE
 P LLOYD, MARY
 VANDERBEEK, RONALD

F. CERT. ASSOC. CHRISTIAN ED.

P PRICE, LAURA

G. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

REPORT OF RIVERSIDE CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION

November 27, 2012

This is the final report of the Administration Commission that was created by a resolution of the Presbytery at its August 23, 2011 meeting. The report starts with an introduction, followed by a history, then an analysis, a conclusion, and ending with recommendations. Throughout the report, this administrative commission refers to itself as the "Riverside AC". The original administrative commission set up to establish and oversee the Riverside NCD is referred to as the "NCD AC".

INTRODUCTION

The Riverside AC was appointed with the following members: Dr. Jim Skimins, Chair; Elder Marva Banks; Dr. Judy Shipman; Elder Don Brownell; Rev. Ted Taylor; Elder Beth Baergen; Elder Bernard Ogelsby. The Riverside AC first met in September 2011. Its charge is attached as **Attachment A**.

The Riverside AC or specific members of the Riverside AC met with or had telephone conversations with the following persons: Rev. Dr. Jim Skimins (NCD AC chair 2006-12/2009); Elder Don Brownell (NCD AC Member, 2008-2010); Rev. Dr. Allen Timm, Executive Presbyter; Rev. Dr. Phil Reed (NCD AC co-chair 2010); Rev. Keith Geiselman (NCD AC co-chair 2010); Rev. Arthur Oberg (NCD AC chair 2011); Ruling Elder Dixie Elam of the Committee on Ministry; Ruling Elder Ruth Azar, former member of Riverside Church; Ruling Elder Charon Barconey, former employee and member of Riverside Church through 2010; Ruling Elder Kari Gorman, former member of Riverside Church; Rev. Estelle Aaron, Consultant for Transformation; Ms. Brenda Jarvis (Judy Shipman and Beth Baergen, Don Brownell only); Rev. Jim Porter; Dr. Marsha Foster Boyd, President of Ecumenical Theological Seminary; (Jim Skimins only); Jerome Assenmacher (CPA).

HISTORY

The history set forth in this Report is drawn from the conversations and meetings referenced above.

Starting in 2006, serious conversations began about starting a new church development in downtown Detroit. The exploratory group, which consisted of Rev. Phil Reed, Dr. Jim Skimins, and Ruling Elders Don Brownell and Donna Johnson, submitted a New Congregation Grant Application to the General Assembly, dated February 11, 2008. See **Attachment B**.

The initial Riverside NCD administrative commission ("NCD AC") was created in 2006 and had the following chairs: Rev. Jim Skimins (2007-2009), Rev. Phil Reed and Rev. Keith Geiselman (2010), Rev. Arthur Oberg (2011). The New Church Development itself had a Steering

Committee composed of the NCD pastor and NCD attendees. This Steering Committee reported monthly to the NCD AC which oversaw all NCD's within the Presbytery of Detroit, and was supposed to function as a Session for all the NCD churches. The NCD AC reported to the Presbytery of Detroit and the General Assembly.

The Presbytery of Detroit received a 5-year New Congregation Grant from PC (USA) on January 5, 2009, as well as grants from Synod of the Covenant and POD. Ms. Brenda Jarvis, then employed as Associate Executive Presbyterian with POD, worked with others in preparing the proposal that was approved by General Assembly. Ms. Jarvis was ordained as Minister of Word and Sacrament on March 29, 2008. She then worked part time for POD and part-time as the NCD evangelist. **Attachment C** shows the final iteration of the contract between POD and Ms. Jarvis, which was modified several times. The final contract was approved by POD at the October, 2010 meeting.

The NCD AC considered various NCD models:

- “**Multi-cell**” with small group bible studies in homes or other locations, and no particular worship space.
- “**Cruise ship**” with full staffing and a large number (e.g., 100-400) of experienced church members drawn from existing churches, planted in a new location.
- “**Landing strip**” and “**parachute**” consists of a single pastor with a small staff in a specific location.

The original vision and plan, approved by the Presbytery and supported by General Assembly grants and various donations, was to gather a worshipping community, reaching out to professionals and new residents in mid-town Detroit and Wayne State. It was a multicultural, multi-staff approach, initially worshipping at the Ecumenical Theological Seminary. (Acknowledgement is made to ETS for renting the facility to the Riverside NCD.)

Starting in July 2009, POD, with consent of the NCD AC, authorized that all grant monies and contributions to Riverside NCD would no longer be administered by POD, but be delivered directly to Riverside so it could manage its own expenses.

There was good initial success with 25 baptisms taking place, a strong youth outreach, and a very strong attendance on Palm Sunday 2010.

As time passed, the model changed to a “mission-driven” church, providing food for hungry street people in Detroit around ETS and sharing Christ with them. Finally, the “coffeehouse” model was adopted, with the goal of seeking new church members through a coffeehouse with bible study, sharing and worship. The coffeehouse was to draw people in, and the servers would be church members who would talk about Christ, so the coffeehouse would be the “magnet” to attract people to church.

By 2010, the “coffeehouse” model was substituted for the “landing strip” model. Much time, effort and prayer went into finding a location for the joint coffeehouse/church. Some members of the NCD AC that were interviewed thought the coffeehouse effort took time and attention away from establishing the church.

People on the NCD Steering Committee and the NCD AC believed or hoped that the coffeehouse would generate enough net income to support the church, since by 2010, it was becoming clear that the congregation members would not be able to sustain the church financially on their own. Some on the NCD AC thought that Ms. Jarvis's prior business experience would assist with the coffeehouse becoming an income-producing model. The NCD AC thought that a coffeehouse as a gathering point, with worship services and a ministry through the coffeehouse, had real possibility and wanted to give the vision a chance. That model had worked well in some other geographical areas such as Seattle and Pittsburgh.

Multiple locations for the prospective coffeehouse/church were considered. The search for a location for the coffeehouse/NCD took many months since some landlords did not want a church as a tenant. Once the location was found for both the NCD space and the coffeehouse, Ms. Jarvis, after consultation with the Steering Committee, the NCD AC, and the POD Trustees, set up a "for profit" corporation for the coffeehouse. The coffeehouse corporation entered into a lease dated November 17, 2010 for space for the coffeehouse and adjacent space for the church's worship, etc. See **Attachment D**.

At the same time, a "push" was on to get Riverside Church chartered, in part so that POD would not be required to sign a lease for the church/coffeehouse space. The NCD AC supported chartering at that time to give the coffeehouse vision a chance. Riverside Church was chartered in November 2010, even though it did not have the required number of members (100). See **Attachment E**.

The NCD AC, in Summer-Fall 2010, decided that Riverside was not ready to call a pastor, because of lack of members and funds, and that Ms. Jarvis should continue as organizing pastor under the renegotiated contract with POD rather than have the church decide on whether to install her.

On December 3, 2010, the Steering Committee for Riverside voted to split rent charges 50/50 between the coffeehouse and the church. See **Attachment F**. At the same meeting, the names of Ruth Azar, Kari Gorman, John Johnson, Kitty Johnson, Charon Barconey, Katie Friedlund and Sean Friedlund were nominated as ruling elders, with formal election to be the 2nd Sunday in January 2011. *Note:* A snowstorm prevented worship on the scheduled day. Per Kari Gorman, only 2 of the 7, Katie and John Friedlund, were eventually elected, ordained and installed in either spring or summer of 2011. Mr. and Mrs. Friedlund were invited to speak with the Riverside AC, but declined.

Between January 2011 and August 2011, deep theological and operational schisms emerged in Riverside Church. One member said that while meeting at ETS, the NCD was involved in community, mission, communion and sharing meals with street people. Once the lease was signed for the coffeehouse building, the focus became getting the building ready so the coffeehouse would recruit members and support the ministry. The members stayed within the walls, were further from the street people geographically, and did not share communion and outreach with the people in the streets anymore.

The coffeehouse opened up by April 2011. The worshipping community ranged from 12 to 50. Ms. Jarvis stated that, by this time, she was exhausted; her family finances were stressed since she had not received salary for some time, and she owed a considerable amount of money to her parents who had given her a loan toward the coffeehouse.

On July 7, 2011 Ms. Jarvis advised the new chair of the NCD AD, Rev. Arthur Oberg, and various others that she would resign her employment on July 19, 2011, with 30 days notice for a termination on August 19, 2011. See **Attachment G**. On July 7, 2011 Riverside member Kari Gorman advised Don Morgan and Ed Koster that Ms. Jarvis told Riverside Church leadership that she intended to evict Riverside Church from the coffeehouse, to make it a non-denominational coffeehouse, and give up her ordination in the PC (USA). See **Attachment H**. Ed Koster suggested to the Committee on Ministry Chair, Dixie Elam, that if Ms. Jarvis continued to run the coffeehouse under these circumstances, POD could declare that she had renounced the jurisdiction of the Church, and her PC (USA) ordination would become null and void.

On July 8, 2011, Al Timm emailed Ed Koster and Mrs. Elam to say he believed the coffeehouse lease was in Brenda Jarvis' name, and even if not, POD would not be interested in a coffeehouse in that location but in a place which attracted business people.

On July 16, 2011, Ms. Jarvis inquired with Mr. Koster as to the appropriate way to set aside her ordination. Such action would have allowed her to re-instate her PC (USA) ordination at a future date.

On July 18, 2011, Ms. Jarvis submitted her letter of resignation to the Riverside leadership and COM, giving 30 days notice to terminate. See **Attachment I**.

On July 19, 2011, Rev. Estelle Aaron, Elder Dixie Elam and Rev. Oberg met with Ms. Jarvis and the Riverside Church leadership, consisting of Kari Gorman, Ruth Azar, Katie and Sean Friedland. They discussed: 1) Did they want to continue as a Church? 2) Did they want to continue as a PC (USA) Church? The split between the two groups of people was evident. Emergency NCD AC meetings were scheduled.

On July 20, 2011, Ms. Jarvis wrote to inform the NCD AC and the Committee on Ministry that the Session of Riverside had accepted her resignation and would like to have a congregational meeting on July 31, 2011. She also asked if something could be done to stop Kari Gorman from saying to others in POD that Riverside was leaving the denomination, since the congregation had made no final determination on that issue. Dixie Elam replied that non-clergy do not fall under COM's jurisdiction.

Ed Koster and Dixie Elam consulted by email on July 20, 2011 regarding a way to stop Ms. Jarvis from working at the coffeehouse. Mr. Koster replied with a comparison of 'oFOG' (old form of government) and 'nFOG' (new form of government) regarding the release from ordination.

The old form of government seemed to leave Presbytery discretion in granting release from ordination. The new form of government, which went into force July 10, 2011, leaves no Presbytery discretion, stating in Section G-2.0507 - Release from Ministry as a Teaching Elder, that the Presbytery “shall delete that person’s name if they are in good standing and have no charges filed against them.” Mr. Koster’s email also compared the ‘oFOG’ and the ‘nFOG’ process for Renunciation of Jurisdiction, i.e. renouncing jurisdiction of the church with no possibility of re-instatement. Mr. Koster then laid out a process POD should follow that could end in Ms. Jarvis’ renouncing jurisdiction.

On July 24, 2011, Ms. Jarvis queried Dixie Elam on the way to set aside her ordination. Elder Elam suggested she speak with Eldon Berry from Nurture and Support of Clergy, and send COM a dated request.

On July 29, 2011, Ms. Jarvis wrote to COM and the NCD AC and asked for her ordination to be set aside under the Book of Order G-2.0507, effective August 19, 2011. In the same letter she advised that approximately \$24,000 was owed to her under her employment contract. See **Attachment J**. On the same day, Rev. Oberg, Rev. Aaron and Elder Elam wrote back concerning the process for moving forward on terminating the pastoral relationship. See **Attachment K**.

A congregational meeting was held on July 31, 2011. Revs. Estelle Aaron and Ted Taylor were present from the beginning of the meeting as observers from POD. Sometime after the congregational meeting began, Elder Dixie Elam, Rev. Arthur Oberg, Elder Kari Gorman and Elder Ruth Azar arrived, questioning whether those who had said they would leave the congregation, but who had not yet formally resigned, could still be part of the quorum for the meeting. One POD representative attending said that there was no Clerk, no one taking minutes, people had moved out of the worship area, etc. The question posed to the congregation was either “whether Riverside Church continue to be with the PC(USA)” or “whether Riverside continue as a church.” Reports differ. The meeting turned into pandemonium, with church members crying, people shouting, etc. Finally, Ms. Jarvis said a closing prayer.

Ms. Elam believed that the congregation voted to remove themselves from the Presbyterian Church (USA) and become a non-denominational church, and she reported this to the Clerk of POD. Ms. Jarvis, in an interview with some members of the Riverside AC, clearly believed that the vote was to not continue as a church, period. Reports of those in attendance vary, and no official minutes have been located. The Riverside AC found no evidence that this church intended or has attempted to continue in any form beyond the vote taken at that congregational meeting.

Based on emails, it is unclear how long Ed Koster and Dixie Elam continued to believe that the congregation voted to become a non-denominational church, and that Ms. Jarvis should not be allowed to continue to operate the coffeehouse. In email conversations on the evening of July 31, 2011, they appeared to be pursuing a ‘cease and desist’ process that could lead to renunciation of jurisdiction.

A letter from Dixie Elam dated August 12, 2011 advised Ms. Jarvis that COM recommended that POD accept Ms. Jarvis’s resignation, effective August 19, 2011, at the August 23, 2011 POD

meeting, and that Ms. Jarvis become a Member at Large rather than having her ordination set aside as she had requested. See **Attachment L**. The Report of COM to the Presbytery, August 23, 2011, Item II.5 reflects this recommendation, which POD approved. See **Attachment M**.

An email exchange between Ms. Jarvis, Elder Elam and Stated Clerk Ed Koster, between August 23, 2011 and August 26, 2011, discusses Ms. Jarvis' request that her ordination be set aside under the Book of Order Section G-2.0507 as a non-discretionary matter for the Presbytery. In these emails, Ms. Jarvis states that she has spoken to the Clerk at the Office of the General Assembly who informed her that nFOG did apply and that an application to be released from the exercise of ordered ministry of Teaching Elder was non-discretionary on the part of the Presbytery; therefore, she considers herself no longer on the Presbytery rolls. Mr. Koster disagreed. She contacted the Stated Clerks Office at GA and was told that her only recourse was to file a remedial case against the Presbytery. On August 26, 2011, Ms. Jarvis emailed Al Timm, Ed Koster and Dixie Elam, begging them not to force her into such a destructive process. See **Attachment N**.

On August 26, 2011, Al Timm wrote Mr. Koster and Elder Elam an email expressing the opinion that, since no complaint against her was likely to be forthcoming, she could probably be released as soon as the accounting reviews were done. In an email exchange on August 26, Mr. Koster expressed that he had no interest in releasing her, and Ms. Elam said that was exactly the position of COM. Ms. Elam also asked Ed Koster if he needed her to file an allegation. He replied "Anyone [who] believes Brenda has violated the Constitution can file a written allegation with me. I think your allegations would need to be very specific." It is unclear whether an allegation was actually filed. See **Attachment S**.

In a letter to COM dated September 7, 2011, Ms. Jarvis stated: "I think I am going to have to do what the Stated Clerk told me to do," and that in the light of the Stated Clerk of POD's position, she had no option but to renounce jurisdiction. See **Attachment O**.

On October 11, 2011, Ms. Jarvis wrote, in part, "after much prayer, many tears and a pile of anger, I am writing to renounce jurisdiction of the PC (USA)." See **Attachment P**.

ANALYSIS

As a result of our investigation/study, the Riverside Administrative Commission presents the conclusions we have drawn regarding the demise of Riverside New Church Development. The following factors led to the failure of this NCD:

Confusion of Vision:

The Riverside NCD was originally conceived by a group of enthusiastic, focused, and knowledgeable people as one part of a comprehensive plan for developing new churches in POD. Rather quickly after Riverside launched, their focus became obscured.

The initial vision for the NCD in downtown Detroit was a church that would focus on young urban professionals in the central business district, and would give church people in the suburbs a chance to do mission in Detroit.

In 2009, the geographic focus for new church development moved out of Downtown and into Midtown, as the NCD began meeting at ETS as a gathering of people to share Christ. Some people came from other churches in POD to trail-blaze something new, while others came as new Christians. There was high excitement and a sense of the Holy Spirit at work. However, the dissonance between expectations appeared on the scene quickly. The NCD AC was concerned about how many people came to Sunday worship, while the NCD pastor was more interested in introducing local people to Christ via food assistance (sandwich ministry), communal meals, and communal worship.

The “coffeehouse” component was not part of the 2008 New Congregation Grant Application to GA but was grafted onto the NCD model at a later date. Starting in mid-2009, a great deal of the time and attention of Ms. Jarvis, the Riverside New Church Development, and the NCD AC members went to finding a suitable location in Downtown Detroit and/or Midtown for a church/coffeehouse operation.

With the church operating at ETS, and then in Midtown, the focus seemed to be serving students, poorer people, and the working class rather than young urban professionals in downtown Detroit. It became apparent that the contributions of the church members alone would not be able to sustain Riverside Church financially. Ms. Jarvis, the Steering Committee, and the NCD AC hoped that the coffeehouse would generate sufficient net income to sustain Riverside Church. This simply never happened.

POD Supervision of Riverside:

A personnel shift occurred in the NCD AC by December 2010. The new chair did not realize:

1) That they were supposed to continue monitoring Riverside Church and Ms. Jarvis; 2) That Ms. Jarvis had not been installed as pastor; 3) That the Session members had not been installed/ordained; 4) That minute books were not being kept or that the Clerk of Session was either not installed or not fully trained. Many of the people who had enthusiastically researched, planned, envisioned, and set goals for Riverside NCD ended their terms on the administrative commission. This reflects a familiar difficulty our polity presents in terms of continuity. In this particular situation, the difficulty should not be overlooked as a major contributing factor in the demise of Riverside.

Governance/Oversight Compromises:

Various NCD members believed Ms. Jarvis thought members or agencies of POD were against the coffeehouse vision. The NCD AC relied on Ms. Jarvis’s prior business background rather than appointing someone to serve in an administrative capacity so that Ms. Jarvis could focus on ministerial responsibilities. The NCD AC wanted the coffeehouse vision to work. The NCD AC recommended that POD waive its 100-charter person minimum requirement so that the coffeehouse concept could be pursued without POD getting involved in running the coffeehouse. Riverside Church was chartered at the November 2010 Presbytery meeting, with a waiver of the minimum number of members rule.

Staffing Issues and Pastoral Support:

Riverside NCD, then Riverside Church, had a newly ordained pastor without experience in a local church. There were only a few attendees at the NCD with PC (USA) church membership and leadership experience. Ms. Jarvis asked the NCD AC for help with accounting and financial affairs, but finding this support was a continuing problem. During the last 6 months of 2009, a member of First, Plymouth volunteered to help Riverside NCD with accounting, but illness interfered. There was no one with financial expertise attending Riverside NCD and willing to serve as a treasurer. There was also no one with PC (USA) polity knowledge or training that was willing to serve as the Clerk of Session after Riverside Church was chartered. Coaching from the PC (USA), which was part of the original agreement with the denomination, did not happen because the coaches did not follow through.

Church Conflict and Theological Issues:

Riverside NCD experienced interpersonal conflict that was not unlike that experienced in many churches in POD of late. These fall under two principal categories:

Theological Conflict: Theologically, this church had deep divisions. Some of the new charter members of Riverside NCD had conservative theological beliefs and were offended by PC (USA) positions on infant baptism and ordination standards. More traditional members of Riverside, many of whom were transplants from other PC (USA) churches, were offended by a more modern worship style and the music. These conflicts were issues before and after the church was chartered. The action of the 2010 General Assembly on ordination standards seemed to bring the division to a head. In the spring of 2010, several persons met with Ms. Jarvis to discuss whether Riverside should stay PC (USA). In an interview with members of this commission, Ms. Jarvis said she made it very clear she would not leave the PC (USA), and the decision was made at that point to keep the church in the denomination. Ms. Jarvis did not share this meeting and its content with the NCD AC at the time. In Spring/Summer 2011, many of those who signed on as charter members stopped attending Riverside NCD and signaled they would withdraw their membership from Riverside Church because of theological differences.

Administrative Issues: In 2011, one of the NCD's members became the target of comments about their character, and the rumor was spread that this person had "darkness" on them. In January-Spring 2011, this conflict spread into the congregation. It culminated in a 4-hour meeting to "discern darkness" in church members. Ms. Jarvis stated that she and the church member had accusations leveled against them during this meeting. In addition, Ms. Jarvis and Kari Gorman were in conflict over how much involvement the pastor should have in running the coffeehouse.

Pastor/NCD Mismatch:

The NCD AC's search for a pastor/evangelist encountered difficulties when very few qualified candidates showed interest in the position. Ms. Jarvis had a passion for NCD work and was available. Almost from the start, dissonance existed between the presbytery's new church development leadership and Ms. Jarvis regarding the type of church Riverside would become. Ms. Jarvis was offered mentoring and staff support by First, Plymouth, which she declined. Perhaps a more experienced pastor would have seen the wisdom of leaning on others in the Presbytery, yet the evidence points to a pastor who viewed herself as an entrepreneur. Meanwhile, the NCD AC envisioned the more traditional church that had been approved by the

Presbytery. Both approaches to new church development are valid but they do require different skill sets, and they do pull against each other. Over time, the pull was too great.

PCUSA Governance Rules Not Followed:

The Riverside Church Steering Committee nominated 7 people for Session, with formal election to occur in January 2011. This did not happen. Of the slate of 7, one person (Charon Barconey) transferred membership to another congregation in order to pursue certified lay pastor training at a more established church. Ruth Azar and Kari Gorman, along with Katie Friedlund and Sean Friedlund, considered themselves to be on the Session; however, only Mr. and Mrs. Friedlund were ever installed, possibly in Summer 2011. No Minutes have been located to verify this. It is unclear whether a Clerk of Session was ever elected or trained.

Ms. Jarvis's Request to Set Aside Her Ordination: It appears that Ms. Jarvis attempted to follow PC (USA) procedure with her request to set aside her ordination "decently and in order." Yet we conclude that Presbytery officials reached erroneous conclusions based on assumption rather than fact, and accusation rather than evidence. The fear that Ms. Jarvis would start a non-denominational church became *the* narrative for making decisions regarding her ordination and her vocation. While it is not clear how much COM as a whole knew of this situation, it is clear that fear and anxiety, inaccurate information, and the changeover in the Book of Order resulted in the decisions that were made regarding Ms. Jarvis, as well as the processes set in motion to elicit renunciation of jurisdiction from her. In our view, the Committee on Ministry failed to adequately ensure fair process.

Financial Issues:

The financial assumptions in the original NCD business plan were unachieved, possibly because of the market crash of 2008 and the resultant economic malaise in the Detroit Metro area. The persons attending the Riverside NCD worship and communal meals oftentimes were either people with prior commitments to other churches, or students and people without a lot of financial wherewithal. The original model assumed that contributions from members would grow, together with other contributions from suburban churches. All targets were missed, and the amounts were not achieved.

When the NCD AC and Ms. Jarvis adopted the church/coffeehouse model, they assumed that the coffeehouse would generate sufficient net income to sustain the church. Ms. Jarvis received a large loan from her parents, and invested her own savings, to pay for the coffeehouse component. The coffeehouse opened in Spring 2011. However, the coffeehouse did not generate any net income at first, and never generated enough net income to sustain the church. The coffeehouse is now closed. The expectations of the NCD AC and Ms. Jarvis in regard to income from new members, suburban churches and outside contributions were never met, and may have been unrealistic.

Were there Financial Improprieties?

POD Trustees hired a CPA to review the books of Riverside NCD and Riverside Church. The CPA did not complete his work due to incomplete recordkeeping (that is, vouchers that did not have receipts attached). Receipts to back up the vouchers were available in file folders corresponding to the line items, per Ms. Jarvis, but according to the CPA, completion of the audit

would require a significant expenditure of time and money to recreate the books using actual receipts and bank statements, and organizing boxes of receipts. However, the CPA advised the Trustees that all the money that came in for Riverside NCD and Riverside Church from G.A., Synod and POD was spent on the NCD/Church, not on the coffeehouse. In addition, Ms. Jarvis voluntarily advised the Presbytery of the amounts due from Thistle (the coffeehouse) to Riverside Church for leasehold improvements and furnishings. (These amounts were recovered as part of the financial reconciliation discussed in the Financial Reconciliation and Property Disbursement section below). Therefore, we have found no financial improprieties.

Pastoral Compensation:

Starting in 2010, the pastor's salary package was renegotiated several times because there was not enough money to pay the pastor in full and keep the NCD running (paying for the other staff members, facility rent, etc.). In 2010, Ms. Jarvis stopped receiving regular paychecks. In 2011, this continued until Ms. Jarvis's resignation. At the time of Ms. Jarvis's resignation, she had accrued unpaid compensation (including unpaid 403B contributions) of \$37,148.00 for 2010 and 2011 under the contract between Ms. Jarvis and the Presbytery dated October 12, 2010 with an effective date of July 5, 2009. See Attachment Q. Ms. Jarvis advised the Riverside AC that the NCD AC was aware she was not being paid. Ms. Jarvis kept working as the organizing pastor even though she was receiving no salary, in hopes that contributions would come in from which she could be paid, or that the coffeehouse would start generating net income.

FINANCIAL RECONCILIATION AND PROPERTY DISBURSEMENT

In addition to the money owed to Ms. Jarvis under the employment contract, Riverside Church owed the coffeehouse rent under the unwritten occupancy agreement pursuant to which expenses under the coffeehouse lease were split 50/50. Occupancy charges of \$3,332.00 were paid for September and October 2011, when the equipment, chairs and other tangible movable personal property were removed by POD and given to Comunidad de los Camino (located at the former Southwest Church). The coffeehouse paid back \$3,950.00 in leasehold improvements that had been paid for by the Riverside NCD, as well as \$1,500.00 for the refrigerator and sofa in the Thistle space. The security deposit for Riverside was paid back as well. The final reconciliation was as follows:

Owed to Ms. Jarvis under the contract:	\$ 37,148.00 *
Plus rent to Thistle for September & October 2011	3,332.00
Plus 50% property taxes through 10/31/11 to Thistle	850.00
Minus repayment by Thistle of refrigerator & sofa	- 1,500.00
Minus repayment by Thistle of Leasehold improvements	- 3,950.00
Minus security deposit from Thistle	<u>- 1,666.00</u>
Gross amount owed to Ms. Jarvis/Thistle	\$ 34,214.00

Except for the 403(B) contributions, POD Trustees paid Ms. Jarvis back salary in June 2012, subject to withholdings.

* The 403(B) contributions are contained within the total and were paid directly to Ms. Jarvis' 403(B) plan.

After Riverside Church closed, Presbytery representatives reviewed the equipment at the site and, at the end of October 2011, picked up the chairs, AV equipment, etc., which the Presbytery representatives thought could be used at another location. These items went to Comunidad de los Camino, located at the former Southwest Church). See Attachment R.

CONCLUSIONS

Well-intentioned and faithful people from all over the Presbytery spent hundreds of hours of time, including the Pastor, staff and members of Riverside NCD. Mistakes were made. Assumptions were made which did not work out. Presbytery procedures were waived in an effort to do a new thing in God's kingdom. The Riverside leadership did not follow Presbyterian polity. Supervisory structures of the presbytery did not detect or address the problems. The clarity between who was in charge of whom, and who was responsible for what, became blurred. Quick fixes were seen as the way to success. Conflict erupted. Secrets were kept. Blame began to be assigned.

In other words, the whole system surrounding the Riverside NCD broke down. The demise of Riverside NCD came through systemic dysfunction, not through the mistakes of any single entity or individual. Our recommendations reflect what we have learned in our months of study and investigation. We present them with the hope that they will serve as learning tools for addressing a process that went off the rails. We also offer them with the knowledge that they cannot take the place of a presbytery willing to search its own soul, or one that will enthusiastically participate in the slow growth of God's Kingdom by fully investing its money, emotional and spiritual energy, and prayers into God's work of planting new churches for the kingdom.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Presbytery should encourage all NCD's to avail themselves of any and all conflict management tools in POD, including Healthy Congregations Consultants and professional mediators, as soon as damaging conflict arises. It appears the theological and interpersonal problems at Riverside remained under the radar for a while, so the Presbytery needs to make it clear that NCD pastors and NCD AC's should seek help quickly. It should not be assumed that a new congregation comes together easily. Conflict training and consultation can keep Stage 1 conflict (a problem to be solved) from becoming Stage 4 conflict (a destructive fight). NCD pastors and congregations should be given ample support, as well as funds, to seek outside consultation when needed. In fact, while Presbytery consultants can be helpful for low-level conflict within NCD's, they cannot bring a level of objectivity that an outsider can bring.

2. Churches that have realistic ministry goals are much less apt to dissolve into destructive conflict. We recommend that NCD's and NCD AC's undertake goal setting together, and that trained professionals with expertise in long range planning be used as facilitators. This would do much to insure that the goals of the congregation and the Presbytery are in sync. In this case, the NCD AC set goals, the pastor set goals, and the congregation set goals, but they were conflicting goals. Such an approach obviously requires adequate funding from the Presbytery and should be included in the NCD AC budget.
3. Some of the elders and members attending Riverside during 2011 were not equipped to develop a new church. We recommend that all NCD members be trained in the PC (USA) Book of Confessions and the Book of Order early in the process. We further recommend that all classes of ruling elders and deacons receive training on the Book of Order and the Book of Confessions prior to election to office.
4. In our considered view, any mistakes made by Ms. Jarvis did not need to be addressed by renunciation of jurisdiction and loss of ordination and isolation from her life-long Presbyterian Church (USA) membership. Other ministers in POD have had performance problems or moral failures (which were not alleged in this case) or other issues, and yet have been able to go through a restoration process. There is no evidence of financial or moral impropriety on the part of Ms. Jarvis. It is our view that given the intensity of the conflict in 2011 and the difference in interpretation of the Book of Order between the Stated Clerk's Office at GA and the POD Stated Clerk, that Ms. Jarvis' decision to renounce jurisdiction was made under pressure, and due process may have been short circuited.

We strongly recommend that the Committee on Ministry as a whole review its policies for handling situations of conflict over a minister's request to set aside ordination.

5. POD has a fairly long history of NCD failures. Just as established churches get into a pattern of calling the wrong pastors, the Presbytery has very often mismatched the NCD goals of the Presbytery with the skills of NCD pastors. The failure of the NCD is then blamed on the pastor, while the system that produced the marriage of the pastor and NCD goes unexamined.

We recommend that the New Church Development Committee form a consulting relationship with Pittsburgh Seminary. This seminary currently specializes in producing graduates who are specifically trained in New Church Development. Not only could this provide POD insights into calling NCD pastors whose skill set matches the type of church envisioned, but also give the Presbytery an entrée into gifted candidates for future NCD's.

6. The Riverside situation suggests that new congregations are fragile and have little resilience when problems arise. We recommend that searches for potential candidates be conducted until the best possible match is made, even if the formation of the NCD gets postponed.

7. Until an NCD is properly chartered and a trained treasurer is handling the church's books, all monies should be handled by POD, with vouchers and receipts submitted to POD for reimbursement, payment of salaries, etc. Monthly financial reports should be submitted to the NCD AC for approval.
8. NCD pastors should not be expected to assume the duties of a church accountant. This is not considered appropriate in organized churches, and should not be practiced in NCD's.
9. The pastor should have formal written performance reviews each 12 months conducted by a sub-set of the NCD AC.
10. The pastor should submit written reports at least 3 business days before each meeting of the NCD AC for the purpose of receiving guidance and support. We suggest that NCD AC's should attempt to avoid micro-management.
11. The multiple levels of supervision of the NCD pastor by POD staff, COM, and the NCD AC needs careful review.
12. We recommend there be a particular administrative commission for each NCD, with members of this NCD AC routinely worshiping at the NCD at least once a month until a year after chartering. We suggest that NCD AC members consider their charge to be spiritual as well as administrative.
13. Revolving door membership on the NCD AC should be minimized as much as possible. The NCD AC should be organizationally modeled after the Session of an organized church with 3-year terms, and 1/3 of the members rotating off each year.
14. The NCD AC should remain in place to monitor congregational meetings, Clerk's minutes, and Financial Reports for the first year a new church is chartered.
15. The NCD AC should insure that PC (USA) polity and procedures are followed, especially if someone without a prior pastoral position in a PC (USA) congregation is called as pastor or hired by the POD as the organizing pastor.
16. If the NCD contemplates a business venture, POD should retain experienced professionals to evaluate a formal business plan and recommend necessary legal steps.
17. If the NCD contemplates a business venture, a computerized time-keeping program should be employed for all paid staff involved in both the business venture and the NCD, to distinguish between hours spent on the business venture versus time spent on the church. Monthly reports should be submitted to the NCD AC.
18. The POD requirements for the minimum membership to charter a new congregation should be enforced without exception.

19. Before the church is chartered, the prospective Clerk of Session should have training in his/her obligations under the Book of Order and POD guidelines. Ruling elders should be trained in Presbyterian polity before chartering. New members should be trained, before chartering, in what it means to be a member of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The Presbytery should review Session minutes and congregational minutes after the first respective meetings and quarterly thereafter for the first year.
20. When an NCD is chartered, the Presbytery should insure that the congregation meets immediately to elect and install a Session.
21. When an NCD is chartered, the Presbytery should insure that the congregation meets immediately to either elect and install the organizing pastor or enter into the pastoral search process with COM support and oversight.

The Riverside Administrative Commission respectfully submits this report with the following requests:

1. **That the presbytery direct the Executive Presbyter, two members of COM elected by COM, and two members of this reporting Riverside AC to approach Ms. Jarvis in the spirit of Christian reconciliation, both in writing and in person if possible, and offer her the prayers and assistance of the presbytery should she wish in the future to seek re-ordination to the ministry.**
2. **That the Riverside Church be officially closed, and that the Trustees and Executive Presbyter take the necessary actions to complete this.**
3. **That having completed its work, the Administrative Commission is released from further responsibilities.**

Signed:

Marva Banks
 Beth Baergen
 Don Brownell
 Judy Shipman
 Jim Skimins, Chairperson
 Ted Taylor

Attachment List:

Attachment A, Riverside AC Charge
Attachment B, New Congregation Grant Application
Attachment C, Contract between POD and Ms. Jarvis
Attachment D, Lease between Thistle as Tenant and Rosie Yaladoo as Landlord
Attachment E, Motion to Charter
Attachment F, Riverside Steering Committee Minutes December 2010
Attachment G, E-mail from Ms. Jarvis to Arthur Oberg et al. dated July 7, 2011
Attachment H, E-mail dated 7/7/11 from Kari Gorman to Don Morgan with a copy to Ed Koster

Attachment I, Letter faxed July 18, 2011 from Ms. Jarvis to COM and Riverside Session

Attachment J, Letter dated 7/29/11 from Ms. Jarvis to COM and NCD AC asking for ordination to be set aside

Attachment K, Letter dated 7/29/11 to Ms. Jarvis from Rev. Oberg, Rev. Aaron and Elder Elam

Attachment L, Letter from Dixie Elam to Ms. Jarvis dated 8/12/11

Attachment M, Report of COM August 23, 2011 moving Ms. Jarvis to "Member at Large" and accepting resignation effective 8/17/12

Attachment N, Emails between Ms. Jarvis and Rev. Ed Koster concerning whether "setting aside" ordination is mandatory or discretionary.

Attachment O, Letter from Ms. Jarvis dated 9/7/11 concerning "setting aside" ordination

Attachment P, Letter (communication?) from Ms. Jarvis dated October 11, 2011 renouncing jurisdiction of PCUSA

Attachment Q, June 4, 2012 Computation of Amounts owed by POD to Brenda Jarvis under her Contract, Amounts owed by the Church to the Coffeehouse, and Amounts owed by the Coffeehouse to the Church

Attachment R, Tangible Personal Property removed from former Riverside Church site to Comunidad los del Camino on October 29, 2011.

Attachment S, Various E-Mails from Allen Timm, Dixie Elam, Brenda Jarvis and Ed Koster dated August 26, 2011 concerning Ms. Jarvis's Request to Set Aside Ordination

**Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
Attachment A**

The Riverside Church Administrative Commission

From the minutes of the Presbytery of Detroit, August 23, 2011:

Upon motion of the Coordinating Cabinet, the Presbytery of Detroit approved the following resolution:

Create an Administrative Commission on Riverside Church with seven members, as follows:

The organizing pastor of the Riverside Church has resigned. In a congregational meeting that may have been irregular, the congregation has voted to dissolve so that it can form itself into a non-denominational congregation. The matter has been reviewed by members of the NCD Administrative Commission, the Committee on Ministry, and the New Church Development/Redevelopment Team. From the observations of those who have engaged the matter, it is apparent that the session of Riverside Presbyterian Church is unable or unwilling to manage wisely its affairs. G-3.0303e.

Pursuant to G-3.0109 and G-3.0109.b. the Presbytery of Detroit establishes this Administrative Commission on Riverside Church, and charges it with the following duties and powers:

Duties. The AC shall:

1. inquire into all circumstances relating to the decision of the Riverside Church to dissolve as a congregation, and as necessary;
 - a. consult with appropriate committees, teams, staff and members of Presbytery;
 - b. consult with members, ruling elders, the teaching elder involved with the ministry;
2. account for all property over which the church has any ownership or claim to ownership;
3. review all accounts and financial arrangements and require an accounting of them;
4. decide on the disposition of all property, real and personal (tangible and intangible) in ways consistent with the requirements of the Constitution;
5. review all obligations and contracts and conclude them;
6. report all of its actions to the Presbytery; and
7. make a report to Presbytery of findings and recommendations that arise from the events and relationships of this new church development. This report may include a recommendation to continue the congregation in a new location and different leadership.

Powers. The AC shall have the following powers:

1. Pursuant to G-3.0303e, to assume original jurisdiction of the session with all the powers and authorities of elders and the session found in G-2.030, G-3.0101-07, G-3.02, G-4.01, and G-4.02;

2. To dispose of all property, whether it be tangible or intangible personal property, or real property;
3. To take control over all accounts in any financial institution;
4. To assume all powers granted the congregation under state law;
5. On behalf of the Presbytery of Detroit:
 - a. to approve the sale, transfer or encumbrance of all property pursuant to G-4.0206;
 - b. to approve the dissolution of the congregation at its request;
 - c. to negotiate with all higher councils regarding finances and grants, and to conclude agreements unless they require the expenditure of Presbytery funds.

Upon nomination of the Coordinating Cabinet, the Presbytery elected the following to the commission:

Jim Skimins (Chairperson), teaching elder
 Bernard Ogelsby, ruling elder
 Don Brownell, ruling elder
 Ted Taylor, teaching elder
 Judy Shipman, teaching elder
 Beth Baergen, ruling elder
 Marva Banks (by the Moderator)

Contact Information

Bernard Ogelsby
 (H) 313-533-2111
 Email: abo@ameritech.net
 Don Brownell
 248-844-1040
 Fax 248-844-9989
 Jim Skimins.
jimskimins@fpcp.net
 Ted Taylor.
tsktaylor@wowway.com
 Judy Shipman
JudyShip@tc3net.com,
 Beth Baergen
eb@baergen@aol.com
 Marva Banks
marvad1984@att.net

Office of Mission Program Grant
 General Assembly Council, Presbyterian Church (USA)
 100 Witherspoon Street
 Louisville, Kentucky 40202-1396
 (888) 729-7228, Ext. 6230 / 6251
 Fax: (502) 333-7261

Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
 Attachment B

Tim.McCallister@pcusa.org, Bill.Moore@pcusa.org

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY MISSION PROGRAM GRANT
 NEW CONGREGATION GRANT APPLICATION**

Date Prepared February 11 2008

Synod Covenant Phone 517-858-2341
 Contact Person Robert Bidwell E-mail Address Robertbidwell@comcast.net
 Presbytery Detroit Phone 313-345-6550
 Contact Person Jim Sidmies E-mail Address jsidmies@pcpp.net
 Project Name New Congregation, Detroit Woodward Corridor
 Pastor / Project Director Brenda Jarvis
 Address/City/State/Zip 17676 Hubbell, Detroit, MI 48235
 E-mail Address Brenda@detroitpresbytery.org Phone 734-328-7218 (cell)

DEFINITION: New church development is the establishment of a new ministry under the direction of the presbytery. A new congregation develops as a response by a presbytery to the needs of a new group of persons (emerging generation, new immigrant group, population growth). The ultimate goal is to grow a viable, sustained and significant ministry within the life of that presbytery, which may lead to a chartered congregation.

GRANT PERIOD: Realizing that some projects desire a shorter or longer funding period, funding may be spread over a period of 5-7 years.

GRANT FUNDING AMOUNTS: A project may receive a cumulative grant amount of no more than \$100,000 from any combination of General Assembly Mission Program Grants.

INSTRUCTIONS: After obtaining the necessary presbytery and synod signatures, send the original and nineteen copies of this application, copied two-sided with required attachments to the Mission Program Grant Office in accordance with the attached submission dates. This form is available in Microsoft Word format and may be obtained by downloading from the Mission Program Grants web page, www.pcusa.org/missions/missionprogramgrants, or by e-mail from the Mission Program Grants office.

NOTE: If this project received Exploration & Feasibility Grant funding, ensure that you provide an end-of-study report prior to or with this grant request.

In narrative form, please respond to the following.

- Vision:** Describe the vision for this project.
- Staffing Requirements:** Describe the qualities you seek in an organizing pastor to carry out your proposed ministry plans. Include a position description for each staff member to be funded by this grant.
- Demographic Study:** Include a summary of the demographic study, not to exceed one page, which provides relevant findings such as sacramental and mission opportunities, racial/ethnic population, age distribution, and economic strength.
- Ministry Plan:** Describe the ministry plan for the project, listing the measurable goals and objectives for the first year and the method for establishing, building up, and maintaining the new congregation. Areas may include, but are not limited to, evangelism and outreach, worship, education, lay leader training, pastoral/staff professional development, mission, finances, stewardship and plans for location.
- Attendance:** List the realistic attendance estimates of worship, church school and other regularly scheduled activities, respectively, for each year of the grant. Give data to support your estimates.
- Income and Expense Budgets:** Display itemized and balanced operating income and expense budgets for each year of the grant. Capital expenses should be excluded. Include income amounts from General Assembly, synod, presbytery, project and other sources. Please include last year's financial statement, if

- available, showing the budgeted and actual income/expenditures. All projects are expected to achieve 10% of its total program operating budget to Basic Mission Support by the end of grant funding.
7. **Oversight of Project:** Describe your presbytery's plan to provide oversight, encouragement and regular contact with the leadership of this project.
 8. **Funding Schedule:** Complete the following display of scheduled proposed Mission Program Grant funding to support the new church development. Place an asterisk (*) after specific amount to indicate that action has been taken to approve the grant and the specified amount.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED MISSION PROGRAM GRANT FUNDING

- A. Anticipated date that the monthly payment is expected to begin. September 2008
- B. Anticipated final year of mission program grant. 2012

	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>	<u>Year 4</u>	<u>Year 5</u>	<u>Year 6</u>	<u>Year 7</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
PROJECT	<u>0</u>	<u>85,000</u>	<u>85,000</u>	<u>120,000</u>	<u>130,000</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>410,000</u>
PRESBY.	<u>85,000</u>	<u>57,500</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>162,500</u>
SYNOD	<u>0</u>	<u>12,500</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>8,250</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>38,250</u>
GA	<u>0</u>	<u>35,000</u>	<u>28,500</u>	<u>20,500</u>	<u>16,000</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>100,000</u>
OTHER	<u>85,000</u>	<u>58,801</u>	<u>61,568</u>	<u>58,568</u>	<u>51,568</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>263,801</u>
TOTAL	<u>140,000</u>	<u>208,801</u>	<u>220,068</u>	<u>229,568</u>	<u>228,816</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>1,027,351</u>

NOTE: The Mission Program Grant shall not exceed the combined funding amount provided by the presbytery and/or synod and may be less during the funding life of the grant. Mission Program Grants are scheduled on a declining scale.

Please refer to the Mission Program Grant Proposal Checklist contained within Grant Writing 101 for general evaluation criteria.

Middle Governing Bodies participating and giving oversight and assistance to this project, please sign below and provide helpful information as appropriate.

At the Feb 26 (date) meeting of the Presbytery of Detroit, the foregoing new congregation plan for ministry and program grant application were reviewed and approved by the mission strategy body of this presbytery as fulfilling the criteria and guidelines governing GA Mission Program Grants.

Allen D. Jensen
General / Executive Presbyter or designee

3/17/08
Date

Synod Executive or designee

New Congregation Grant Application
 Detroit, Michigan, Woodward Corridor

Our Purpose:

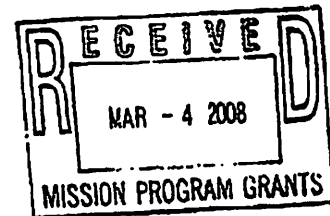
To establish a new Presbyterian church in the Woodward Corridor of Downtown Detroit as this area is exploding with new young adults who are working professionals in this area. They range from ages of 25 to 40, mostly single, newly married, recently divorced, and "unchurched." We seek to reach out to them with a highly missional setting, engaging programs that address their need to find God on their terms and in an energetic, "emergent" style worship, emphasizing discipleship, high member involvement in local and national outreach and mission programs, creating committed and engaged members that will aid the church in its growth and spiritual maturity of its members.

Our Mission Statement:

"Finding God where we are and being changed by that relationship"

Our Vision Statement:

Worshipping with energy and thankfulness.
 Reaching out to the community and the world.
 Finding renewal in the Grace given by our Lord.
 Welcoming all into a loving and caring community.
 Being evangelists and good witnesses to what God has done in our lives.
 Learning and growing together as we hear the Good News of the Gospel.



2/28/08

Robert H. Belmont

New Congregation Grant Application
Detroit, Michigan, Woodward Corridor

2. Staffing Rationale: *Describe the qualities you seek in an organizing pastor to carry out your proposed ministry plans. Include a position description for each staff member to be funded by the grant.*

Title of Position: NCD Organizing Pastor

Process for Screening Applicants

1. Our NCD Commission will receive Personal Information Forms.
2. The Commission will verify that the applicants have been screened and endorsed as NCD Pastors through the denomination.
3. These candidates will be contacted for telephone interviews.
4. Face to face interviews will be held and neutral pulpit will be arranged.
5. The NCD Commission will determine the appropriate candidate and enter into negotiation for the terms of call.

Development Network:

We desire that our Pastor continue to develop skills. We wish to encourage personal development of our NCD Pastor. The NCD Commission will ensure that the following oversight and development items are in place:

1. The NCD Organizing Pastor will train concerning the issues such as development of a new church in an urban area or making disciples doing mission in urban areas.
2. The NCD Organizing Pastor shall have a professional coach to provide direct and immediate feedback. This coach will be assigned during denominational evaluation. The Commission will ensure that the NCD Organizing Pastor is making meetings consistently with his/her coach.
3. The NCD Organizing Pastor will be required to enter into or maintain a relationship with a Spiritual Director, who will provide leadership and accountability for the NCD Pastor to self-care and spiritual renewal.
4. The NCD Organizing Pastor will develop relationships with other NCD Pastors who will support and guide the NCD Pastor and allow the group to share common joys and concerns.
5. Supervision of the NCD Pastor will be by the NCD Commission through the NCD's liaison.

NCD Pastor - Characteristics and Qualifications:

1. Proven entrepreneurial abilities, able to create and develop new ventures.
2. Visionary - able to re-vision and redevelop the ministry plan on a continual basis due to change in culture and community.
3. A proven ability to reach the unchurched for Christ.
4. Outgoing and able to build meaningful relationships.
5. Proven ability to network with people.
6. Ability to engage new members to become part of the life of the church.

New Congregation Grant Application
Detroit, Michigan, Woodward Corridor

7. Ability to raise money and seek new ways of raising money to support the ministry of the church.
8. Ability to create excitement and buzz around projects and programs.
9. Proven ability to gather and focus resources.
10. Proven ability to act as a business manager and staff supervisor, giving space for employee growth and development.
11. Demonstrate mature Christian faith and proven ability to help others deepen their spiritual life.
12. Gifted in communication of biblical truth in public and unsympathetic settings.
13. Resilience - effective in adapting to changing situations.
14. Proven ability to provide multi-sensory worship style.
15. Proven to be a high-energy individual, self-motivating, and a proven ability to work very hard.
16. Experienced in building emergent ministries and proven knowledge of, compassion for, and ability to speak to the emergent culture.

Our Organizing Pastor:

We are looking for a pastor who....

1. Has deep faith and sense of who God is calling them to be and provide a faithful witness to God's call.
2. Is Visionary
3. Provide a Multi-sensory, creative worship style.
4. Committing to the community and providing an active missional congregation.
5. Relates effectively to the unchurched.
6. Is Outgoing, easily engaging in conversation.
7. Is an Evangelist
8. Helps others to find and use their gifts for ministry.
9. Is adaptable to rapidly changing environments.
10. Has a strong self-image and a healthy set of personal boundaries.

New Congregation Grant Application
Detroit, Michigan, Woodward Corridor

Title of Position: Director of Education and Spiritual Development

Process for Screening Applicants:

1. NCD Organizing Pastor and Steering Committee will develop a job description based on the educational and spiritual needs of this community.
2. The job will be posted on the Presbytery website, given out at Presbytery meetings, and possibly place ads in other Christian Publications or the APCE website.
3. Candidates will be determined and phone interviews held. Each member of the hiring team will be provided with appropriate questions for the candidate.
4. Top three candidates will be interviewed in person and a final candidate will be selected.
5. An offer will be made to the Candidate.

Development Network

To provide for ongoing development of skills and to encourage the personal development of the Director of Education and Spiritual Development (DESD), the NCD Pastor and the Steering Team will ensure that the following components of personal and spiritual development are in place:

1. Based on the needs of the NCD and the community that it service, training will be required annually.
2. The DESD will meet with the NCD Pastor monthly for program check up's and critical review of ongoing projects.
3. The DESD will become part of the Presbytery's Spiritual Directors gatherings.
4. The DESD will select and establish relationships with a Spiritual Director who will foster personal development.
5. Direct supervision of the DESD will be provided by the NCD Organizing Pastor.

Director of Education and Spiritual Development (DESD): Characteristics and Qualifications:

1. Ability to assess the community and create new and creative educational and spiritual opportunities.
2. Ability to connect to others who can develop and resource leaders for various programs.
3. Proven effectiveness in networking with people.
4. Ability to recruit people to use their gifts for ministry to serve in programs of the ministry.
5. High energy and willingness to work hard.
6. Possess a passion for reaching the unchurched with the Gospel.
7. Proven gifts in education, multi-sensory worship, art and drama in worship, and spiritual development.
8. Task driven.
9. Demonstrated Christian faith and has helped others to deepen there spirituality.

New Congregation Grant Application
Detroit, Michigan, Woodward Corridor

Job Title: Pastoral Ministry Intern

This position is 10 to 15 hours per week and subject to agreement between Seminary and the NCD. The position is to aid the NCD Pastor in day-to-day tasks of a church, allowing the NCD Pastor to focus on reaching new members.

Process for hiring a pastoral intern:

1. Contact the Ecumenical Theological Seminary on Woodward in Detroit, Dr. Tony Curtis Henderson, Director of Pastoral interns, to inform him on the opening for an intern interested in NCDs.
2. Invite possible candidates to meet with the staff and steering team to determine the candidate's appropriateness for this position.
3. Once a candidate is identified, the NCD Organizing Pastor will meet with Dr. Henderson to receive the required paperwork.
4. The NCD Pastor and the intern will verify the job description as required by the Seminary.
5. The annual fee of \$3,000 is paid to the seminary on the intern's behalf and the job description is given to Dr. Henderson.

Pastoral Interns Qualifications:

1. Be willing to learn.
2. Proven ability to work hard.
3. Willingness to preach at least 4 times a year (requirement of the seminary).
4. Ability to share their faith easily.
5. Desire to learn about new church development startup.
6. Ability to lead and create small groups.

This position will be from September until June unless the intern has interest in staying on until the next new class of interns. In the event that the intern does continue in the ministry, an appropriate stipend will be determined.

Job Title: Worship Leader

Process for hiring a Worship Leader: Advertisements will be placed in the Metro Times, on the job's board at the Center for Creative Studies (Wayne State University), on the Presbytery website, and other Christian Publications. The AEP/NCD Pastor will also contact other churches concerning people who may be seeking this type of called position. Such candidates will be interviewed by the AEP/NCD Pastor, representatives from the Steering Committee, and the Administrative Commission.

1. Person of deep faith that is able to share that gift in worship.
2. Able to play and sing contemporary music.
3. Proven ability to energize a worshipping body during worship.
4. To lead in prayer and praise.
5. Has experience with multi-sensory worship.

New Congregation Grant Application
Detroit, Michigan, Woodward Corridor

3. Demographic Study: *Include a summary of the demographic study, not to exceed one page, which provides relevant findings such as ecumenical and mission opportunities, racial ethnic population, age distribution, and economic strength.*

According to the Presbytery of Detroit's Church Growth Work Group, Phase One Summary Report suggested that the Woodward Corridor be explored for a possible new church development site. In the committee's "Time to Act" presentation, it has identified this area of Detroit as a priority area due to the new growth and focus on the area by the city.

The Woodward area of the Downtown Development District is growing. The area is a target area for the Detroit Renewal project. The new housing, new businesses, and new attractions are exciting. In the last four years, the Comp-u-ware Company has relocated into this district, as well as other major companies. In the next three years, the Quicken Loans Corporation will relocate to this area of the city, bringing more life and more homebuyers.

New jobs in this area and the renewing excitement within the city has brought young adults and adults, 25 to 40 years of age, into this area to the many new lofts, apartments, and townhouses. According to two real estate agencies that are working to lease the Downtown flats, they are seeing mostly single male adults leasing the flats. However, the townhouses and condominiums are being sold to predominantly single and newly married couples, most of which are first-time homebuyers. There is also a portion of this group that is 35 to 40 year old married persons with no children or recently divorced. This is not as large a percentage as the single homebuyers. All of these individuals are working in the downtown area or nearby, some choosing to live in the city and work in the surrounding suburbs.

According to Percept Ministry area profile the target area shows:

1. The largest growth in 25 to 34 year olds [110,609], approximately 31% of the population; following very closely is 35 to 44 year olds [119,304], approximately 36.4% of the population.
2. 16.6% [20,738] of the households are 50 to 75 thousand dollar incomes.
3. The racial population is Hispanics 40.7%, Whites 25.1%, Asian 18.8%, and Black 15.4%.
4. 20 % of the households are new owners and first-time buyers.
5. 44% single, never married. This percentage is increasing.
6. The new home prices are between 150,000 and 400,000, accounting for 35.9% of all sold properties.
7. The total population targeted is 350,000; 46.8% are unchurched [163,800 people], 23.6% [82,600] have left a church due to disagreement or lack of connection, and 10% have changed their religious preference in the last 10 years.

There are several old, established churches in this area, few with growth. The Congregational Church has been stable and is currently one of the largest worshipping bodies in this area of the city. None of the churches in the immediate area are offering an emergent/multi-sensory style of worship.

The new growth in the targeted area are working professionals between 35 and 44 years of age, a large portion buying their first home and are single or newly married. According to the demographics, the greatest need in this area is stress reduction, singles ministry, spiritual development, and divorce recovery.

New Congregation Grant Application
 Detroit, Michigan, Woodward Corridor

4. Ministry Plan: *Describe the ministry plan or the project, listing the measurable goals and objectives for the first year and the method for establishing, building up, and maintaining the new congregation. Areas may include, but are not limited to, evangelism and outreach, worship, education, lay leader training, pastor/staff professional development, mission, finances, stewardship and plans for location.*

The Presbyterian Church on the Woodward Corridor will exist as a church of the Kingdom, welcoming all who are seeking Jesus Christ. It will help them to come to understand this relationship and grow as disciples. It will respond to this in active ministry to the surrounding community and the world.

God leads us to plant a new seed in this area, to create a large congregation of those seeking a new way to worship, and those that seek to find what is missing in their lives in the person of Jesus Christ. The demographics, not to mention the palpable sense of renewal in this area of Downtown Detroit, lead us to this area to create a new worshipping community. We see a church of many, not few, seeking to have constant growth and renewal due to the faithful witness of this community in service and in faith development. This will be accomplished by beginning our journey with a full staff and a full program schedule. We believe that through the growth of those in faith and the empowerment of new leaders, this church will continue to grow and find new leaders to take their place in God's service.

We will make use of economies of scale. We will call the Associate Executive Presbyter to begin the work in this area. She has been authorized as a new church development pastor by the denomination. She will begin making contacts, creating groups, and beginning programs. The staff of the Presbytery will provide support to this new ministry for a time preparing flyers, advertisements, letters, and other secretarial needs. The Presbytery will also provide the website for this new venture. By using these economies of scale, much of the beginning legwork will have been started. When the New Church Development Pastor is called, we will be assured that a new church starting will have a great chance at success in this area.

This ministry will grow and be maintained by the congregation. Current scholarship indicates that people in the 25 to 45 year old groups seek to lead. They do not like to be involved in programs that are not invited to use their gifts in that community. We seek to use the knowledge of this culture to grow leaders and by this, grow the church.

The multiple programs that will be offered will begin to introduce the unchurched to God. This will be done in a passive way to start, increasingly showing God's love for them and how that will affect their lives, offering messages, bible studies, singles ministries, and divorce recovery programs that will show this group the real meaning of the Gospel.

A core team will be developed to begin work in the target area. The core team will be leader from in the areas of special interest for this area and leaders identified from the Presbytery who have gifts in these special interest areas. The AEP will be a member of the Core team.

New Congregation Grant Application
Detroit, Michigan, Woodward Corridor

Below are some of our tentative goals and objectives, making use of Presbytery Staff, a core team to begin work then calling the NCD Organizing Pastor:

• March - June, 2008

1. A feasibility grant will be submitted to Presbytery of Detroit and Synod of the Covenant for \$10,000 to begin programs and offset costs for preliminary work.
2. AEP will have conversations with 10 pastors in the area to discuss needs and problems in the targeted area.
3. Schedule and complete at least three phone conversations between the AEP and her coach - Brian Clark.
4. AEP will call and speak to John Buchanan at 4th Presbyterian Chicago about doing ministry in a growing downtown area. The desired outcome of this conversation is to hear what ministries have and have not worked for them. There will also be a conversation about alternative ways to financially support a downtown church.
5. AEP will call the pastor of the New York Avenue Church in Washington D.C. to talk about the community based programs that they offer and how that has helped that church's ministry.
6. AEP will have conversations with the Ecumenical Theological Seminary about what can be done to support each other and to talk about their Wednesday outreach program.
7. AEP will talk to the Rev. Dr. Adams at Hartford Memorial Baptist Church about alternative ways to fund outreach ministry.
8. AEP will meet with the pastor of Straight Gate Church about their programs and outreach in the city.
9. AEP will speak with 10 to 15 pastors of churches in the Presbytery about committing \$5,000 a year to new church developments.
10. AEP will speak to Dr. Tony Henderson about the intern program at the Ecumenical Theological Seminary and let him know what the services of an intern that will be needed.
11. The AEP will summarize these meetings and provide the information to the Steering committee to work on the CIF.
12. Administrative Commission will approve Steering Committee to work with NCD.
13. The Steering Committee will begin and complete work on CIF, to be submitted to Administrative Commission for approval.
14. The Core team will begin to meet with age appropriate residents about what programs would be effective in the area of spiritual development programs, new homeowners, new married groups, stress management, divorce recovery, and faith development (bible study).
15. The Core team will identify a location to hold stress reduction meditation or yoga. This will be advertised in Metro Times, on flyers, and posted in local coffee shops and bars.
16. The Core team will begin five Bible studies in restaurants and coffee shops will be started. The purpose of these studies is to begin to move to home-based studies, after identifying leaders.

New Congregation Grant Application
Detroit, Michigan, Woodward Corridor

17. The Core team will meet with the singles ministry leaders at Ward Presbyterian Church and 1st Northville Presbyterian Church to discuss their singles ministry programs. One round table discussion will be held with target aged singles to discuss what kind of singles program would be enticing enough for them to take time out to attend.
18. Steering committee and Administrative Commission will begin to identify possible sites to rent for new church use.

July – September 2008

The AEP will be responsible for the following steps until a NCD Pastor is called. Presbytery operations will allow for an increase in AEP's time allocation for this project based on time needed. No grant funding will be requested until NCD Pastor is called. *The AEP will work with a core group of leaders to complete the following goals until the NCD Pastor is called.*

1. Forty people will be in small groups. A leader will be identified in each group and empowered to grow that group. The core leaders will work with these groups until a NCD Pastor is identified and put in place.
2. Twenty new people will be reached through each one of six programs, identified as needed, outreaches through the conversations identified in the first quarter of this timeline.
3. Administrative Commission and Steering Committee will have begun interviewing possible NCD Pastors following the process on Page 2.
4. An NCD Pastor is called to this mission site.
5. NCD Pastor will begin getting acquainted with the area and will work with AEP, and core leaders to get up to speed.
6. NCD Pastor, Steering Committee, and staff (if in place) will review programs offered to date and decide on effectiveness of these programs, determining if refocusing is needed.
7. The vision will be reviewed and targets and goals will be redeveloped, if need be.
8. New programs will be identified for outreach to targeted groups and they will be started.
9. NCD Pastor will begin to interview for Director of Education and Spirituality Pastor Intern and Music Director.
10. NCD Pastor and Steering Committee will begin advertising the coming of the new church.
11. Five Mission/Outreach projects will be available to the small groups and program attendees.
12. NCD Pastor, steering committee, and core team will speak to 200 people (this quarter) in local establishments about their faith, their needs in this community, and what would bring them to a church, if they are unchurched.
13. NCD Pastor and Steering Committee will begin to determine how many are engaged and affected by the programs and outreach, to set possible target date (this is just to set goals and for communication purposes with possible new members).

New Congregation Grant Application
Detroit, Michigan, Woodward Corridor

October – December 2008

1. Small groups will be asked to come together three times for mission outreach projects and three times for worship together.
2. Three New Spiritual development programs will be offered to the community and to the working community around the target site for the NCD.
3. Two programs related to Thanksgiving and Advent/Christmas will be created, highly advertised in Metro Times, flyers, and possibly billboards.
4. Steering Committee, NCD Pastor, and staff will meet with Administrative Commission for checkup and review.
5. Informational brochures will be created and handed out to possible small group or church members.
6. NCD Pastor will continue to meet with leaders of small groups to determine where the groups are concerning common worship together. In these groups, the leaders will ask if the groups would style of worship they would like to see, what is important about a worshipping community, and other questions determined by the Steering Committee.
7. Programs that are fruitful will continue, with contact and oversight by NCD Pastor and/or Director of Education and Spiritual Development, and core group.
8. Pastoral Intern will meet with individuals in coffee houses, restaurants, and other gathering places to have conversations about faith, about spiritual life, and the NCD.
9. A five-year plan will be developed, with a regular schedule developed for review (annually).
10. NCD Pastor, Pastoral Intern, and Core Group will have conversations with 200 people in the targeted community about the new church.
11. Small group leaders who have been identified are encouraged to invite others into small groups and to act as Evangelist for the NCD and its programs.
12. NCD Pastor continues to seek financial support from Presbyterian churches and other churches.
13. NCD Pastor is required to meet with his/her coach at least six times in this quarter to check up on personal spiritual development and what is going on with the NCD.

January – March 2009

1. NCD Pastor will meet with core group to gather information for assessing if the NCD is ready to begin worship.
2. Steering Committee, NCD Pastor, and staff will meet with Administrative Commission for checkup and review.
3. Provided the target numbers have been attained and the NCD Pastor, Steering Committee, and the Administrative Commission agree, a definite target date will be set for the NCD's first worship. If approval is not given, a new work plan will be developed for this quarter. A NCD coach will be consulted about initial start up and best practices.
4. NCD Pastor will speak with and seek guidance from NCD coach at least six times this quarter.
5. If the NCD worship takes place – a target date will be set and heavily advertised.

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Detroit, Michigan, Woodward Corridor

6. Small group leaders, program leaders, NCD Pastor, Intern, and staff (launch team) will meet to discuss what worship should entail. The Steering Committee and the staff will then plan the initial worship.
7. NCD Pastor, Pastoral Intern, and small group leaders will knock on doors telling residents about the church, leaving program, mission, and worship information with residents.
8. The Presbytery will be informed of the target date for the first worship and invite the Presbytery to come and celebrate this new beginning. Other churches that have donated to the development of this new church will be invited to come and worship with the NCD.
9. A new church is birthed.
10. The second year goals and vision will be reviewed and updated, along with year three, four, and five goals and resubmitted to the Administrative Commission, Steering Committee, Church Development/Redevelopment Ministry Team, Synod of the Covenant, and General Assembly.

5. Attendance: *List the realistic attendance estimates of worship, church school and other regularly scheduled activities, respectively, for each year of the grant. Give data to support your estimates.*

This ministry plan will focus on a multi-staff startup and make effective use of creating a program infrastructure suitable for a large church before we have our first public worship service. We will use the grant to support the staff and some of the programs of the NCD. We will further engage and develop new leaders in many program areas, allowing us to continue to grow.

Before we launch, there will be continual assessment of the number of new leaders that have come to be part of this community. The Steering Committee will be comprised of many of the leaders that will be identified from this community. These leaders will take responsibility for the behind the scenes preparation and support needed to not only start this church but to continually grow this church to be all that God has called it to be. When it is determined that an appropriate number of members have been attained (by the NCD Pastor/Steering Committee/Administrative Commission), a launch team will develop the initial worship plan. The launch team will be between 25 and 50 leaders and will meet in listening groups. This will allow them to go back to their group or program and create excitement within the groups that they lead. The initial launch will be between 100 and 150 people. We expect our average worship attendance in the first year to be 150 to 175.

Within a year from our first public launch, with continual program, mission, and outreach and in the understanding that we are working with over 130,000 souls that do not know Jesus Christ and that this launch model takes into account that we are developing leaders, ministers, disciples, and new children of faith in an energetic and exciting atmosphere and knowing that new businesses and new homes are being added daily to this area, it is possible to reach out to and add another 200 disciples to this community by the end of the second year and added new members at a rate of 100 every year.

**New Congregation Grant Application
Detroit, Michigan, Woodward Corridor**

For the many programs and missions, it is difficult to estimate. Not all will be members but all will be possible members. In this effective ministry, this number could be as many as 500 per year. The more quickly leaders are identified and put in the place, the larger this number can become.

This worshipping community will not have many, if any small children. So the "Sunday School" model will not be used but the small group Bible Study will be our largest portion for this type of program. If the program develops in the expected manner, it is possible to have 200 members in small groups and programs by our first launch, expecting that this number will also double within the next year.

6. Income and Expense:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
<u>Income:</u>						
New Church		65,000	95,000	120,000	130,000	410,000
Gift Reserve		10,300	28,568	28,568	28,568	90,000
Partner Churches	25,000	16,667	10,000	10,000	10,000	71,667
Feasibility Study	10,000					10,000
Gifts to the church	50,000	31,934	25,000	25,000	25,000	158,934
Presbytery Capital Support	25,000	12,500				37,500
NCD/RD committee Support	30,000	25,000	25,000	20,000	15,000	115,000
GA		35,000	28,500	20,500	16,000	100,000
Synod of the Covenant		12,500	10,000	7,500	6,250	36,250
Sub Total	140,000	208,901	220,068	226,566	228,816	1,027,351
<u>Expenses:</u>						
Personnel						
Pastoral Leadership	21,151	84,060	85,741	87,456	88,205	367,613
Director of Education and Spiritual Development	9,000	41,000	41,820	42,856	43,510	177,986
Music leader	-	8,000	9,200	9,300	9,400	35,900
Administrative Assistant	1,500	12,000	12,240	12,486	12,734	50,959
Pastoral Intern	1,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	0	15,000
Sub Total	33,151	149,560	153,501	156,397	154,849	647,458

New Congregation Grant Application
Detroit, Michigan, Woodward Corridor

Administrative/Building:

Space rental	6,000	10,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	61,000
Additional Equipment	-	200	2,000	2,000	2,000	6,200
Supplies	250	1,000	1,500	2,000	2,000	6,750
Communications	1,000	4,000	2,000	2,500	2,500	12,000
Insurance	500	1,750	1,800	2,000	2,500	8,550
Other non planned expense	1,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	13,000
	8,750	19,950	25,300	26,500	27,000	107,500

Programs/Mission:

Active mission/outreach	5,000	7,500	8,000	8,500	9,000	38,000
Small Groups	500	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500	6,000
Assimilation/Connection	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	5,000
Worship	500	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	8,500
Family Ministry	-	500	750	750	750	2,750
New Programs	-	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500	5,500
	7,000	13,000	14,750	15,250	15,750	65,750

Mission

Per Capita and Shared Mission	0	21,880	25,007	25,957	27,382	100,235
Other Giving	0	0	1,000	1,500	2,000	4,500
	0	21,880	26,007	27,457	29,382	104,735

Total Expense

	48,901	204,400	219,558	225,604	226,981	925,443
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Net Revenue/Expense

	91,089	4,501	510	3,982	1,835	101,908
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These dollars will be placed in reserve for use over the 5 year plan
People give more in the initial excitement of a new thing, we plan
to take advantage of this and reserve funds for future use.

New Congregation Grant Application
Detroit, Michigan, Woodward Corridor

7. Overnight of Project: *Describe your Presbytery's plan for oversight, encouragement and regular contact with the leadership of this project.*

The church growth work group has looked at our last few NCD's and transformation projects and found that support and encouragement by the Presbytery is critical. The oversight of this project will be first by the Church Growth Work Group. This group is the administrative group for the NCD. They will receive the reports from the Administrative Commission and submit them to the Ministry Team – New Church Development and Redevelopment. Both of these groups will be responsible for ensuring that goals are reviewed by the Steering Committee and the New Church and that goals set are met as prescribed.

The Administrative Commission will oversee the Steering Committee's work, according to policies of the Presbytery of Detroit. This group will act as advisors and supporters of the NCD, providing positive and fruitful support to the steering team and the NCD. The group will also provide reality checks with the Pastor and the Steering Committee for visions and goals developed in the ongoing process of creation of this NCD.

The NCD Pastor will be required to meet with their coach throughout this process. This coach will also meet with the Steering Committee and the Administrative Commission to help develop a healthy and supportive relationship with in all the groups engaged.

The Steering Committee and the NCD Pastor will be the hands of God at work in this community and will carry the heaviest load. The pastor will continually support the leaders on the Steering Committee and assist them in continual spiritual development; this will be assisted by the Director of Education and Spiritual Development.

The staff will meet weekly to support each other. Four spiritual retreats will be held to aid the staff in this task. The Presbytery's Spiritual Directors will be contracted to lead these four retreats.

Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
Attachment C

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
Committee on Ministry

CONTRACT FOR NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZING PASTOR
as Pastor/Head of Staff

After having completed a full call process within EEOC guide lines the Administrative Commission establishes the following contract as of July 5, 2009 between the Administrative Commission of Riverside Community Presbyterian New Church Development, Brenda Jarvis as Organizing Pastor, and the Presbytery of Detroit for the purpose of Organizing Pastor to Riverside Community Presbyterian Church.

The Administrative Commission, the Organizing Pastor and the Committee on Ministry covenant to work on the following goals for the three year period:

- Create a healthy congregational life;
- provide leadership;
- development of short-range and long range goals identified in the goal-setting process of the church;

Review and Accountability

As the Organizing Pastor Brenda Jarvis will be a member of this Presbytery.

There will be a joint review conducted by the Steering Team, the Rev. Brenda Jarvis, in consultation with the Administrative Commission, every 12 months or more often at the request of anyone of the parties.

During this time of service, the Organizing Pastor will be accountable to the Administrative Commission of the Presbytery of Detroit and to the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Detroit.

Length of Contract/Termination

This contract is for a period of 36 months beginning on July 5, 2009. This contract may be terminated by any party on 1 months notice provided there is prior consultation with and concurrence by the Committee on Ministry. This is a full time time position

(Continued on back of page)

Compensation/Benefits

The Rev. Brenda Jarvis will be compensated during the term of this contract as follows: (State compensation on an annual basis even if contract is for less than a year.)

Salary	<u>18,400</u>
Housing Allowance/Value of manse (Indicate which)	<u>29,000</u>
Utilities (if manse provided)	<u> </u>
Social Security	<u>3,626</u>
Full Pension	<u> </u>
Medical Deductible (as specified by the Board of Pension)*	<u> </u>
Travel (car)	<u> </u>
Study Leave	<u> </u>
Other (specify)	<u> </u>
403B	<u>5,000</u>
Professional Reimbursement	<u>500</u>
Continuing Education	<u>1,000</u>
Travel	<u>500</u>
Total	<u>58,026</u>

* The candidate elected to opt out of the Board of Pensions

Vacation of one month including 4 Sundays per year over the life of this contract plus the Sundays after Christmas and Easter

Study leave of 2 weeks per year over the life of this contract.

Kel Ross
Chair of Commission

Brenda H. Jarvis
Organizing Pastor

[Signature]
Chairperson, Committee on Ministry

6/9/09 (Recommended 10/12/10)
Date of Administrative Commission Action

June 9, 2009
Date

Oct 10, 2010
Date of Action by Committee on Ministry

Return to Chair of Temporary Pastoral Relations Sub-Committee, Committee on Ministry

**Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
Attachment D**

LEASE

THIS LEASE, made this 17 day of November, 2010, between Roxie Yalton, whose address is 4445 Second Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48201 (hereinafter referred to as "Landlord"), and Thistle Coffee House, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "Tenant"):

WITNESSETH:

1. **Demised Premises.** Landlord, in consideration of the rents to be paid and the covenants and agreements to be performed by Tenant, does hereby lease unto Tenant premises situated in the City of Detroit, County of Wayne, and State of Michigan, located in that certain building commonly known as 4445 Second Avenue (1,680 square feet), 4455 Second Avenue (640 square feet) and 4463 Second Avenue (1,200 square feet), Detroit, Michigan 48201, containing a total of 3,520 square feet (which premises are hereinafter referred to as the "demised premises"), together with the right to use the parking and common facilities which may be furnished by Landlord, in common with Landlord and the tenants and occupants (their agents, employees, customers and invitees) of the building in which the demised premises are located.

2. **Term and Rent.**

(a) The lease period will be for the term of Three (3) years from November 1, 2010 or the date Tenant opens the demised premises for business (but in no event shall this be later than January 1, 2011), ending not later than November 1, 2013. Tenant will pay to Landlord as base rent during the continuance of this Lease for rent of the demised premises the sum of Forty Thousand and no/100ths Dollars (\$40,000.00) in lawful money of the United States payable in equal consecutive monthly installments of Three Thousand Five Hundred and no/100ths Dollars (\$3,333.00) in advance upon the first (1st) day of each and every month throughout the term of this Lease, commencing January 1, 2011. By execution hereof, Tenant hereby hires the demised premises for the three (3) year term as herein set forth and covenants well and truly to pay, or cause to be paid unto the Landlord at the dates and times as required, the rent herein reserved. In the event Landlord fails to deliver possession of the demised premises on the first date because the demised premises are not then ready for occupancy as a result of Landlord's failure to perform its work in a timely manner, or because the previous occupant of said premises is holding over, or for any other cause beyond Landlord's control, Landlord will not be liable to Tenant for any damages as a result of Landlord's delay in delivering the demised premises, and the commencement date of this Lease will be postponed until such time as the demised premises are ready for Tenant's occupancy. The demised premises will be deemed ready for Tenant's occupancy for all purposes under this Lease upon Landlord's tender of the demised premises to Tenant.

(b) In the event that Tenant lease term commences on a day other than the first day of November, 2010, the rental for such fractional month will be such proportion of the monthly rental as the number of days in such fractional month bears to the total number of days in the calendar month.

(c) The base rent herein required will be paid without demand, set-off or deduction unless prior agreement to demand, set-off, or deduction in given in writing by both Landlord and Tenant

(d) All payments of rent and/or other sums to be made to Landlord will be paid to the Landlord's at its address set forth in the preamble hereto or at such other place as Landlord will designate in writing from time to time. All payments of rent and/or other sums will be deemed paid on the date said amounts are received by Landlord, provided that all checks delivered by Tenant for payment are subsequently honored in the ordinary course.

3. **Possession.** It is understood that if the Tenant will be unable to enter into and occupy the premises hereby leased at the time above provided by reason of the holding over of any previous occupant of the demised premises, or as a result of any cause or reason beyond the direct control of the Landlord, the Landlord will not be liable in damages to the Tenant therefore. It is expressly understood that the right to possession of the demised premises will pass from Landlord to Tenant upon execution of this Agreement and the lapse of any due diligence period provided for herein.

4. Use and Occupancy.

(a) During the continuation of this Lease, the demised premises will be used and occupied for church meetings and incidental purposes and as a coffee house with counter food service, and for no other purposes without the written consent of Landlord. Tenant will not use the demised premises for any purpose in violation of any law, municipal ordinance, or regulation, nor will Tenant perform any acts or carry on any practices that may injure the demised premises or the building in which the demised premises are located or be a nuisance, disturbance or menace to the other tenants of the building. Upon breach of this agreement, Landlord will have the right to terminate this Lease forthwith and to re-enter and repossess the demised premises.

(b) Landlord agrees and covenants no space in the building will be let to any other person whose primary use will be a church or a coffee house business. Primary Use shall be defined as sales of coffee or pastries which exceed 25% of a business's gross sales. Landlord shall have the right to lease space in the rest of the shopping center to any on or off premises food or beverage business during the term of this Lease, as the same may be extended.

5. Utilities. The demised premises have separate meters for water and sewer and for electrical service. Tenant will furnish or cause to be furnished to the demised premises water service, electricity, sewage service and ordinary janitorial services. Heating and cooling equipment to service the building of which the demised premises are a part will be operated and maintained by Landlord. Landlord will not be liable or responsible for any interruption in any utilities or services due to causes beyond Landlord's reasonable control or for interruptions in connection with the making of repairs or improvements to the demised premises or the building in which the demised premises are located.

6. Additional Rent.

(a) For purposes of this Lease, the term "operating expenses" will include taxes, hazard and casualty insurance of the building, maintenance and service charges and all other direct costs of operating, managing and maintaining the building in which the demised premises are located other than the public utilities that have separate meters at the building and for which Tenant will pay the costs of service directly to the applicable utility. The term "taxes" will include real estate taxes and assessments, special or otherwise, on the land and buildings of which the demised premises are a part. The Tenant will not be responsible for taxes due before the date of the lease.

(b) The Tenant will furnish, at its sole cost and expense, janitorial services to the demised premises. The term "common areas of the building" will include the sidewalks at the front and side of the building, the planting areas.

(c) Tenant agrees to pay as additional rental beginning with the commencement date and continuing thereafter during the term of this Lease a sum equal of any operating expenses for the building based upon a percentage determined by calculating total square footage of demised premises divided by total square footage of the building owned by Landlord within these premises. Tenant will submit payment of the additional rent to Landlord within thirty business days of Landlord's statement therefore. Tenant will be provided with copies of paid statements of taxes, insurance or other building maintenance costs along with an invoice for payment.

(d) If this Lease expires prior to the date that Landlord bills Tenant for its share of operating expenses at the end of the term of this Lease, Tenant hereby agrees to pay within thirty days from the statement delivery date all sums that will be due and payable by Tenant under Landlord's statement of operating expenses as hereinabove provided, which agreement will survive the expiration of the term of this Lease.

7. Repairs.

(a) Tenant will make all necessary repairs and replacements to the building systems repairs up to a limit of \$1,000 per repair. If repairs exceed \$1,000, then Tenant shall pay the first \$1,000.00 and Landlord shall pay any amount in excess of \$1,000. The Tenant will make all repairs and replacements arising from its or its employees' or invitees' acts, omissions or default. Landlord is

responsible for all roof, walks, floor, HVAC replacements, sidewalk and parking lot repairs and maintenance.

(b) Except as provided in subparagraph (a) above, Tenant will keep the demised premises in good repair and condition and consistent with all applicable building, health and use codes, and Tenant will upon the expiration of the term of this Lease, yield and deliver up the demised premises in like condition as when taken, reasonable use and wear thereof excepted.

(c) In the event that the Landlord deems it necessary, or is required by any governmental authority to alter, repair, remove, reconstruct or improve any part of the demised premises or of the building in which the demised premises are located (unless the same result from Tenant's act, neglect, default or mode of operation, in which event Tenant will make all such repairs, alterations and improvements), then the same will be made by Landlord with 7 days and should the making of such repairs, alterations or improvements cause any interference with Tenant's use of the demised premises, such interference will not relieve Tenant from the performance of its obligations hereunder, including the payment of rent and additional rent.

8. Alterations.

(a) Tenant will not make any alterations, additions or improvements to the demised premises (whether or not the same may be structural in nature) without Landlord's prior written consent, and all alterations, additions or improvements made by either party hereto to the demised premises, except movable restaurant or church furniture/furnishings and equipment installed at Tenant's expense, will be the property of the Landlord and remain upon and be surrendered with the demised premises at the expiration of the term hereof.

(b) Tenant will, at its sole cost and expense, apply for and obtain each and every building code and health code permit, signage permit and any other permit or variance, including zoning variances, required by applicable law for the operation and occupancy of a church and coffee bar at the demised premises. Landlord will cooperate with Tenant in obtaining each such permit and/or variance at no cost to Landlord. Any improvements made and fixtures installed by tenant will be immediately paid for by Tenant so that no construction liens arise against the demised premises as a result of Tenant's work and Tenant covenants to keep and maintain the demised premises free of construction liens during the term of this Lease.

(c) If after all reasonable action has been taken by and on behalf of the Tenant and required permits for Coffee House and Church from all city and state agencies cannot be obtained, the Tenant will have right to terminate this lease with 60 day notice, forfeiting the security deposit and first month's rent to the Landlord.

9. Assignment and Subletting. Tenant covenants not to assign or transfer this Lease or hypothecate or mortgage the same or sublet the demised premises or any part thereof without the prior written consent of Landlord, which consent will not be unreasonably withheld, delayed or conditioned any assignment, transfer (including transfers by operation of law or otherwise) hypothecation, mortgage or subletting without such written consent will give Landlord the right to terminate this Lease and to re-enter and possess the demised premises. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Tenant may assign or sublet the demised premises with Landlord's consent to an affiliate of Tenant, or in connection with a merger, consolidation, reorganization or a sale of Tenant or its assets; provided that (i) Tenant has given Landlord not less than thirty (30) days advance notice of such assignment and subletting and (ii) the provisions of the succeeding sentence are not violated. In addition to the foregoing, Landlord may withhold consent to an assignment or subletting if, as a result of such assignment or subletting, (i) the exclusive use provisions of this Lease or any other lease of space of the building in which the demised premises are located are violated or (ii) otherwise the Landlord's obligations under any of the Lease or other leases are increased or modified. In all cases the Landlord's permission will not be unreasonably withheld.

10. Insurance and Indemnification.

(a) Tenant agrees to be responsible for and to protect, defend, indemnify and hold Landlord harmless from and against any and all losses, costs, liabilities, damages, claims, demands, expenses and legal actions arising or allegedly arising out of any accident or occurrence causing or allegedly causing injury or death to any person or persons or damage to any property in any way connected or allegedly connected with the condition of the demised premises or the use of the demised premises or any part thereof by the Tenant or by any other person or persons, no matter by whomsoever or howsoever caused. Tenant will, at its own expense, defend any such claim and any suit, action or proceeding that may be commenced there under, and Tenant will pay any and all judgments that may be recovered in any such suit, action or proceeding, and any and all expenses, including but not limited to costs, attorney's fees and settlement expenses that may be incurred therein.

(b) Tenant will procure at its sole cost and expense and keep in effect during the entire term on this Lease, comprehensive general liability insurance with minimum limits of liability of Two Million (\$2,000,000.00) Dollars per person, Two Million (\$2,000,000.00) Dollars per occurrence for bodily injury and One Million (\$1,000,000.00) Dollars per occurrence for property damage. The insurance shall name Landlord as an additional named insured, will specifically include the liability assumed hereunder and will provide that it is primary and not excess over or contributory with any other valid, existing and applicable insurance, in force for Landlord. Tenant will deliver policies of such insurance or certificates thereof to Landlord and, in the event Tenant will fail to procure such insurance, Landlord may, at its option, procure the same for the account of Tenant and the cost thereof will be paid to Landlord as additional rent upon receipt by Tenant of bills therefore.

11. **No Personal Liability.** If Landlord will fail to perform any covenants term or condition of this Landlord's part to be performed, and if as a consequence of such default, Tenant will recover a money judgment against Landlord, such judgment will be satisfied only out of the proceeds of sale received upon execution of such judgment and levied thereon against the right, title and interest of Landlord in the building in which the demised premises are located and out of rents or other income from such property receivable by Landlord, or out of the consideration received by Landlord from the sale or other disposition of all or any part of Landlord's right, title and interest in the building in which the demised premises are located, and Landlord will not be personally liable for any deficiency.

12. **Fire.**

(a) In the event the demised premises are damaged or destroyed in whole or in part by fire or other casualty during the term of this Lease, Landlord will, at its own cost and expense upon Landlord's receipt of all insurance settlement proceeds acceptable to Landlord, repair and restore the same to tenable condition with reasonable dispatch, and the rent herein provided for will abate entirely in case the entire demised premises are untenable and pro rata for the portion rendered untenable, in the event of partial untenability, until such time as the demised premises are restored to tenable condition. The demised premises cannot be restored to tenable condition within a period of One hundred (100) days, Landlord and Tenant will each have the right to terminate this Lease upon written notice to the other and any rent paid for any period in advance of the date of such damage and destruction will be refunded to Tenant. If the demised premises are damaged due to fire or other casualty, Tenant will at its own cost and expense remove its furniture and other belongings from the demised premises as Landlord will require in order to repair and restore the demised premises. Landlord and Tenant will be the judge as to the extent of the untenability of the demised premises and of the time required for the repair and rebuilding of the same.

(b) In the event the building in which the demised premises are located is destroyed to the extent of more than one-half of the then value thereof, Landlord will have the right to terminate this Lease upon written notice to Tenant, in which event any rent paid in advance of the date of such destruction will be refunded to Tenant.

(c) Landlord and Tenant do each hereby release the other from any liability resulting from damage by fire or any other peril covered by extended coverage insurance with waiver of subrogation normally available in the State of Michigan irrespective of the cause therefore

13. **Eminent Domain.** If the whole or any substantial part of the demised premises or the building in which the demised premises are located will be taken by any public authority under the power of eminent domain, then the term of this Lease will cease on the part so taken on the date possession of that part will be required for public use, and any rent paid in advance of such date will be refunded to Tenant, and Landlord and Tenant will each have the right to terminate this Lease upon written notice to the other, which notice will be delivered within thirty (30) days following the date notice is received of such taking. In the event that neither party hereto will terminate this Lease, Landlord will make all necessary and practicable repairs to the demised premises and the building in which they are located to render and restore the same to a complete architectural unit and Tenant will continue in possession of the portion of the demised premises not taken under the power of eminent domain, under the same terms and conditions as are herein provided, except that the rent reserved herein will be reduced in direct proportion to the amount of the demised premises so taken. All damages awarded for such taking will belong to and be the property of Landlord, whether such damages be awarded as compensation for diminution in value of the leasehold or to the fee of the demised premises; provided, however, Landlord will not be entitled to any portion of the award made to Tenant for removal and reinstallation of fixtures, loss of business or moving expenses.

14. **Late Charge.** If any monthly installment of rental is received by Landlord after the fifteen (15th) day of any month, a late charge of five percent (5 %) of such monthly rental will be paid to Landlord by Tenant.

15. **Condition of Premises.** Tenant will accept the demised premises in their present condition, and Tenant acknowledges that no representations as to the condition of the demised premises have been made by Landlord or its agents, and no obligation as to repairing improving or adding to the same has been assumed by Landlord, except for the construction and installation of the Landlord's work. Any changes, alterations, repairs or decorations to make the demised premises suitable for the occupancy of Tenant will be made at Tenant's sole cost and expense.

16. **Landlord's Work.** Landlord will deliver the demised premises to the Tenant in clean and maintained condition and in conformance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA"). Any alterations and improvements to be made to the demised premises after Landlord's delivery of possession will be made by Tenant in conformance with all local, state and federal codes, ordinances and regulations including the ADA and any state or local equivalents.

19. **Quiet Enjoyment.** Landlord warrants that Tenant, upon paying the rents hereinbefore provided and in performing each and every covenant hereof, will peacefully and quietly hold, occupy and enjoy the demised premises throughout the term hereof.

20. **Subordination.** Landlord reserves the right to subject and subordinate this Lease at all times to the lien of any mortgage or mortgages now or hereafter placed upon Landlord's interest in the demised premises and on the land and buildings of which the demised premises are a part. In confirmation of such subordination, Tenant will execute promptly any certificate that Landlord may request.

21. **Non-Liability.** Landlord will not be responsible for or liable to Tenant for any loss or damage that may be occasioned by or through the acts or omissions of persons occupying adjoining premises or any part of the premises adjacent to or connected with the demised premises or any part of the building of which the demised premises are a part or for any loss or damage resulting to Tenant or his property from burst, stopped or leaking water, gas, sewer or steam pipes, or for any damages or loss of property within the demised premises from any cause whatsoever. In the event of any sale or transfer (including any transfer by operation of law) of the demised premises, Landlord (and any subsequent owner of the demised premises making such a transfer) will be relieved from any and all obligations and liabilities under this Lease except such obligations and liabilities as will have arisen during Landlord's (or such subsequent owner's)

respective period of ownership, provided that the transferee assumes in writing all of the obligations of the Landlord under this Lease.

22. Non-Waiver. One or more waivers of any covenant or condition by Landlord will not be construed as a waiver of a subsequent breach of the same covenant or condition, and the consent or approval by Landlord to or of any act by Tenant requiring Landlord's consent or approval will not be deemed to waive or render unnecessary Landlord's consent or approval to or of any subsequent similar act by Tenant.

23. Bankruptcy. In the event the estate created hereby is taken in execution or by other process of law, or if Tenant is adjudicated insolvent or bankrupt pursuant to the provisions of any state or federal insolvency or bankruptcy law, or if a receiver or trustee of the property of Tenant is appointed by reason of Tenant's insolvency or inability to pay its debts, or if any assignment is made of Tenant's property for the benefit of creditors, then and in any such events, Landlord may terminate this Lease by written notice to Tenant; provided, however, if the order of court creating any of such disabilities is not final by reason of the pendency of such proceedings, or appeal from such order, then Landlord will not have the right to terminate this Lease so long as Tenant performs its obligations hereunder.

24. Landlord's Remedies.

(a) In the event Tenant will fail to pay the rent reserved herein, Landlord will give Tenant written notice of such default and if Tenant will fail to cure such default within fifteen days (15) days after receipt of such notice, Landlord will, in addition to its other remedies provided by law, have the remedies set forth in subparagraph (c) below

(b) If Tenant will be in default in performing any of the terms of this Lease other than the payment of rent, Landlord will give Tenant written notice of such default, and if Tenant will fail to cure such default within thirty (30) days after the receipt of such notice, or if the default is of such a character as to require more than thirty (30) days to cure, then if Tenant will fail within said thirty (30) day period to commence and thereafter proceed diligently and continuously to cure such default, then and in either of such events, Landlord may (at its option and in addition to its other legal remedies) cure such default for the account of Tenant and any sums so expended by Landlord will be additional rent for all purposes hereunder, including subparagraph (a) above and will be paid by Tenant with the next monthly installment of rent.

(c) If any rent will be due and unpaid or Tenant will be in default of any of the other terms of this Lease, and such default has not been cured after notice and within the time provided in subparagraphs (a) and (b) above, or, if the demised premises are abandoned or vacated, then Landlord, in addition to its other remedies, will have the immediate right of re-entry. Should Landlord elect to reenter or take possession pursuant to legal proceedings or any notice provided for by law, Landlord may either terminate this Lease or from time to time, without terminating this Lease, re-let the premises or any part thereof on such terms and conditions as Landlord will in its sole discretion deem advisable. The avails of such re-letting will be applied: first, to the payment of any indebtedness of Tenant to Landlord other than rent due hereunder, second, to the payment of any reasonable costs of such re-letting, including the cost of any reasonable alterations and repairs to the premises; third, to the payment of rent due and unpaid hereunder; and the residue, if any, will be held by Landlord and applied in payment of future rent as the same may become due and payable hereunder. Should the avails of such re-letting during any month be less than the monthly rent reserved hereunder, the Tenant will during each such month pay such deficiency to Landlord.

(d) All rights and remedies of Landlord hereunder will be cumulative and none will be exclusive of any other rights and remedies allowed by law.

25. Estoppel Letter. Tenant will furnish Landlord, upon request after delivery of the demised premises to Tenant, a letter addressed to Landlord or Landlord's mortgagee or financial institution certifying the following information if true:

6 of 10

Yaldo Lease
4445 - 4463 Second Ave

D-6

- (a) The demised premises have been satisfactorily completed, as of the date of such letter, and Tenant has accepted possession subject to the terms of this Lease.
- (b) The commencement date and expiration date of this Lease.
- (c) The date when rent commenced or commences and the amount of the rental payment
- (d) Landlord is not in default, under the terms of this Lease, and has performed all obligations of an inducement nature. Such other information as the mortgagee or financial institution or prospective purchaser may require.

26. Security Deposit and First Month's Rent.

(a) As security for the faithful performance by Tenant of all of the terms and conditions upon the Tenant's part to be performed, Tenant has deposited with Landlord the sum of Three Thousand Three Hundred and Thirty Three and no/100ths Dollars (\$3,333.00) which will be returned to Tenant without interest upon the expiration date of this Lease provided that Tenant has fully and faithfully performed all the terms, covenants, and conditions on its part to be performed. Landlord will have the right, but not the obligation, to apply any part of the deposit to cure any default of Tenant and if Landlord does so, Tenant will, upon demand, deposit with Landlord the amount so applied so that Landlord will have the full deposit on hand at all times during the term of this Lease. Landlord will not be obligated to keep such security deposit as a separate fund but may mix such security deposit with Landlord's own funds.

(b) Upon execution of this Lease, Tenant will deposit the sum of Three Thousand Three Hundred and Three and no/100ths Dollars (\$3,333.00) with Landlord as the first month's rent due under this Lease., subject to adjustment as provided in subparagraph 2 (b) of this Lease.(b) In the event of a sale of the building or of the lease of the land on which it stands, the Landlord will have the right to transfer this security deposit to the vendee or lessee and the Landlord will be considered released by Tenant from all liability for the return of such security and Tenant will look solely to the new landlord for the return of such security. It is agreed that this will apply to every transfer or assignment made of this security to a new landlord. The security deposited under this Lease will not be mortgaged, assigned, or encumbered by Tenant without the written consent of Landlord and any attempt to do so will be void. In the event of any rightful, and permitted assignment of this Lease, the security deposit will be deemed to be held by Landlord as a deposit made by the assignee and Landlord will have no further liability to Tenant.

27. Holding Over. In the event of Tenant holding over after the termination of this Lease, thereafter the tenancy will be from month to month in the absence of a written agreement to the contrary and the rent and other amounts due Landlord will be increased by fifteen percent (15%) of the amount due for the last month of the term of this Lease.

28. Entire Agreement. This Lease will constitute the entire agreement of the parties hereto; all prior agreements between the parties whether written or oral, are merged herein and will be of no force and effect. This lease cannot be changed, modified or discharged orally but only by an agreement in writing, signed by the party against whom enforcement of the change, modification or discharge is sought.

29. Notices. Whenever under this Lease a provision is made for notice of any kind, it will be deemed sufficient notice and service thereof if such notice to Tenant is in writing addressed to Tenant at his last known post office address, or at the demised premises, and deposited in the mail, certified or registered mail, with postage prepaid, and if such notice to Landlord is in writing addressed to the last known post office address of Landlord and deposited in the mail, certified or registered mail, with postage prepaid. Notice need be sent to only one Tenant or Landlord where Tenant or Landlord is more than one person.

30. Successors. This agreement will inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties hereto, their respective heirs, administrators, executors, representatives, successors and assigns.

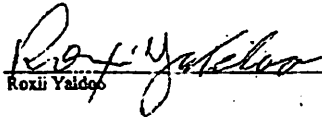
31. Rules and Regulations. Tenant agrees to abide by all reasonable rules and regulations as Landlord will make from time to time which are of uniform applicability to all tenants of the building of which the demised premises are a part and of which Tenant will have received notice.

32. **Option to Extend** If no default exists on the date of the giving of notice and on the date of commencement of the applicable extension term, then ninety (90) days prior to the expiration of the initial term of this Lease or any permitted extension hereof, Tenant may by written notice to Landlord extend the term of this Lease for a period of three (3) years. The base rent during the extension term will be Forty Three Thousand Two Hundred Sixty and no/100ths Dollars (\$43,260.00) payable in equal consecutive monthly installments in the amount of Three Thousand Six Hundred Five and 00/100ths Dollars (\$3,605.). In addition to the base rent, Tenant will pay Landlord the additional rent due as operating expenses and any other amounts, sums and charges due Landlord hereunder. Except for the modification of the term and of the base rent, all other terms and conditions of this Lease will continue in full force and effect.

33. **Tenant's Termination Rights** - Tenant, upon ninety (90) days' advance written notice to Landlord, may terminate this Lease for any reason provided that all amounts due hereunder to Landlord have been paid in full and that all of Tenant's covenants and obligations have been fully performed. Additionally, Tenant will surrender the demised premises with all damage completely repaired, in broom clean condition, all debris removed and all fixtures to remain at the demised premises. Tenant will defend and indemnify Landlord and hold Landlord harmless against any and all costs, loss and expenses resulting from any act or omission that occurred or accrued prior to the date of termination of this Lease, and Tenant's indemnity and hold-harmless will survive the termination of this Lease by the Tenant.

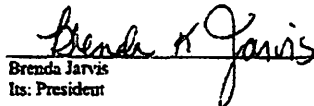
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have hereunto set these hands as of the day and year first above written.

LANDLORD:


Roxii Yaldeo

TENANT:

Thistle Coffee House, Inc.


Brenda Jarvis
Its: President

**Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
Attachment E (19 pages)**

**Report of the NCD/RD Ministry Team
Presbytery of Detroit
November 23, 2010**

For Action:

In response to the grace of God made known through our Lord Jesus Christ,

And in recognition of the work of the Holy Spirit in and through the members of the new church development known as Riverside Community Church,

At the request of the charter members of this new church, in accordance with G-7.0201 of the Book of Order (signatures attached) and conforming to the Constitution of the P.C.(U.S.A.),

With the full endorsement of the Administrative Commission and the Steering Committee of the new church, and the NCD/RD Ministry Team of the Presbytery of Detroit,

The NCD/RD Ministry Team moves the formal chartering of the Riverside Community Church as a fully constituted congregation of the P.C.(U.S.A.) and the Presbytery of Detroit, effective this day, November 23, 2010.

For Information:

The NCD/RD Ministry has voted to remove NCD/R-1 "URBAN MINISTRY FUND" from the NCD/RD section of the Policies and Procedures Manual of the Presbytery of Detroit.



We, the undersigned, in response to the grace of God, desire to be constituted and organized as a church to be known as Riverside Community Church. We promise and covenant to live together in unity and to work together in ministry as disciples of Jesus Christ, bound to him and to one another as part of the body of Christ in this place according to the principles of faith, mission, and order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

1 *Dore C. Burkhardt*

2 *Amy Gray*

3 *K. G.*
Anthony Sarkis

4 *Ray Bismuth*

5 *Heard Zupkowski*

6 *Glenda Chaney*

7 *DESEAN Chandler*

8 *Sarah McGinnis*

9 *Sandra Maxwell*

10 *L. Lynn Clyne*

11 *Barbara Clyne*

12 *Charm Bancroft*

13 *[Signature]*

14 *[Signature]*
(Eddie Gray)

15 *[Signature]*

16 *Kari Gorman* with David Arley

17 ~~*[Signature]*~~ Clarke

18 *Mignon Burkhardt*

19 *Martez Prother*

20 *J. Sean Thomas*

21 *[Signature]*
(Sean Fredlund)

22 *Kate Finkler*

23 *[Signature]*

24 *Carol Brown-King*

25 *[Signature]*

26 *[Signature]*

27 *Crystal Mack* (with Michael Bancroft)

28 ~~*Cheyenne Jewels*~~ (children)

29 ~~*Alyden Mack*~~ (children)

30 *Dulene Burkhardt*



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- 21 ⁽⁵⁾ Kitty Johnson & John Johnson
- 32 Ashley Rosewell
- 33 Jammy Molinar
- 34 ~~_____~~
- 35 James Johnson
- 36 Ryan Johnson
- 37 ~~_____~~
- 38 ~~Christina Mitchell~~
- 39 Kyle J. Pritchard
- 40 Dannielle R. Hubbard
- 41 ~~_____~~
- 42 ~~_____~~
- 43 Lucia Gajowski
- 44 Janice Smith
- 45 Andrew Smith
- 46 Hanna J. Phillips
- 47 ~~_____~~
- 48 Sydney Burkhardt
- 49 Luke Schomay (by Confirmation)
- 50 Kelley Turcotte
- 51 John Johnson (next to Kitty)
- 52 Lacey Goldins
- 53 ~~_____~~ (Chris Pahl)
- 54 Tony Coffman
- 55 Christa Williamson
- 56 Robert Brun



We, the undersigned, in response to the grace of God, desire to be constituted and organized as a church to be know as Riverside Community Church. We promise and covenant to live together in unity and to work together in ministry as disciples of Jesus Christ, bound to him and to one another as part of the body of Christ in this place according to the principles of faith, mission, and order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

57
Kristi Harbaugh

58
Erin Harbaugh

59
Jan Harbaugh

60
Johnathan Harbaugh

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Riverside Detroit NCD Preamble

11/9/2010

DOCUMENT 1

To the Presbytery of Detroit,

On behalf of the Administrative Commission for the New Church Development, we thank you for considering our request to charter the Riverside Church of Detroit. As most of you know, the Riverside Church is one of our experiments in developing new churches in the Detroit area. We are very excited by the potential that this ministry has to impact the people of Detroit in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. We are also aware of the challenges in doing something new. Normally, a congregation would be required to have 100 members before the body charters itself as a new church. We asked the NCD/RD Ministry Team to exempt Riverside Church from this policy for the reasons outlined below. The NCD/RD agreed to the exemption of its committee policy at its regular meeting on Oct. 28, 2010.

The rationale for making this exemption for the requirement to have 100 members before it can charter is that Riverside Church is a new church development that is trying to find new ways to reach out to the community that are more fitting to the modern world in which we have to work (and were not anticipated in by the current policy). We are well aware that Scripture and our Book of Order teach us that everything is to be done "decently and in order." This rule has been our guide throughout the process. We are also aware, however, that the Holy Spirit blows where the Spirit chooses. Riverside Church is a body of believers that is trying to do things in a new way while still keeping the lessons we have learned from the past.

Riverside Church is a body that is following the concept of being a church "without walls." This means that its focus is on doing ministry for God in the neighborhood out on the streets where God has called them to be. There is a twofold emphasis to this focus. The first is to be out there with the people bringing Jesus Christ to the streets of Detroit. The second is to find a creative way to entice people to come to them to hear about the Gospel, as well. From the beginning, Riverside Church has felt that God is calling them to start a coffee house to support the ministry and to be a hospitable way to gather people together and encourage personal conversations. This coffee house will create revenue to support the mission of Riverside Church, and it will be a focal point for the church to present the Gospel to a wide variety of people that they would not have the opportunity to reach without it. The employees will be trained on how to prepare a great mocha and will also be able to witness to the love of God found in Christ Jesus, our Lord. There are great reasons to do this both practically in the financial sense and spiritually in the outreach sense. After lengthy investigation and consultation with the Presbytery trustees, legal and financial consultants, the Commission is convinced that in order to get the coffee house going Riverside must first be able to charter as a congregation.

Furthermore we confirm the work that the Holy Spirit is doing in calling and gathering a community of faith as witnessed by 25 baptisms, 60 charter members, works of healing, reconciliation and community outreach to share the Good News.

Riverside Detroit NCD Preamble

11/9/2010

We, the Administrative Commission feel that Riverside Church can grow into a congregation with well over 100 members. For this to happen, however, the order in which things are to be done needs to be flexible. We pray that you grant us this request and that God is glorified through all our efforts as the Holy Spirit builds Christ's church through us.

In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ,

The Administrative Commission for the Riverside New Church Development:
Keith Geiselman (co-chair), Phil Reed (co-chair), Arthur Oberg, Kari Gorman, Don Morgan (co-opted, Board of Trustees), James Skimins, Brenda Jarvis (ex-officio), James Kumin-Severance (ex-officio), Al Timm (ex-officio),

K-6

Document 1 of 6

DOCUMENT 2Who is Riverside Church?

At Riverside Church we are a church that seeks to be a church without walls. Our community loves to serve and is seeking to create a closer relationship with Christ by tying on our servant's clothes and kneeling to wash the feet of our community.

Riverside is a praying and fasting church we commit to fasting and praying for any decision that the church makes about direction. All leaders will make a commitment to fast and pray for personal direction and for guidance with the church. The pastor will call for fasting and prayer for seasons of the church, for growth, and for leadership direction for the church.

We are a community that is seeking new ways to reach out to those that don't know Jesus Christ yet. We will walk the streets and give a drink of water and a word of prayer. We will take sack lunches out to the community and offer the love of our Lord in a kind word or a conversation to all that we encounter. We will also offer the image of Jesus Christ in the coffee house that we will open as a way to reach those that don't know the love of God. The coffee house will be "Prayed Up" everyday. All staff members of the coffee house will be evangelists, always ready to share Christ's love for us, even if it is in a kind word and/or a listening ear.

Riverside is committed to forming leaders so that we can give birth to new churches. When we gather a group of 200 people, we will plant a new congregation.

In short, we believe that our sole job as followers of Christ is to bring people to know the love of God, through deed and word. We have committed ourselves to reaching the lost, no matter the cost, no matter what we must do to reach them. After all, this is what we were charged to do by Jesus, go and make disciples, and that is what we intend to do!

Five-Year Plan for Riverside Church:Year One

Riverside will open "The Thistle Coffee House." This coffee house will not only be a income maker for the church but will be the primary way that we will reach the community that lives, works and attends school in the area. This coffee house will be "Prayed Up" everyday so that all that enter will feel the peace of our Lord. We will also employ individuals that will be able to share the love of God easily. The Thistle will employ people who know how to act like Christ and speak of their faith without a Bible to the forehead, as well as able to be an excellent Barista. The goal of the coffee house and the church is to lead people to a disciple relationship with Christ. Riverside Church will continue to develop small groups and offer energetic and emotional worship. We will continue to offer our "Be the church" Sunday as well as offering our Sandwich ministry and Communion meal, these ministries are the foundation of our faith and action and the reason many love Riverside Church. The individual steps are as follows:

1. Create a corporation for the coffee house.

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- a. Create bylaws that insure the transfer of revenue that will be in excess of one additional month's expenses for the coffee house.
 - b. The coffee house will "green space." We will use only recycled products. Also, we will partner with local urban farmers to supply composting material. In addition, we will not buy anything brand new; all equipment and furnishings will be reusable (no new global footprint).
 - c. We will use all organic products and will use, as much as possible, local producers.
2. Create the new church corporation.
 - a. The furnishings for the church will be, with a few exceptions, reused; reducing the new global footprint.
 3. Obtain all required approvals and permits.
 4. Open the coffee house and church (hiring and setting up schedules for volunteers who will work at the coffee house).
 5. Advertise all openings in multiple newspapers and radio stations.
 6. We will reach out to at least 200 people about our ministry and church in the last few months of this year.
 7. Offer Friday and Saturday night open mike nights at the coffee house.
 8. Provide a place for artists to show their work and sell it without asking for a commission.
 9. Offer evening Bible study, book study, and outreach work.
 10. We will continue to talk to the community about the needs of our friends and respond to those needs.
 11. Partner with some of the local outreach groups.
 12. We will worship on Sundays and Wednesdays.
 13. We will add five new small groups in a year's period.

Year Two

Riverside will continue to be very visible in the community and on the streets. We will add an additional worship service for campus age folks. We will continue to work to create leaders so that we can, in year three, create a satellite location. This way we will not be without leaders in the original location. We will start a greater discipleship program. Disciples are better leaders and also tithe better. We cannot continue on a growth cycle without a plan to make members more than pew sitters.

1. There will be 30% growth in the worshipping community.
2. Five new leaders will be identified and begin to be raised up to take a larger leadership role.
3. Six people will enter into the discipleship program. Those in a disciple program covenant to lead two new disciples when they complete their program.
4. We will begin to create our satellite-worshipping group. This will be done through a "house church" type gathering.
5. We will increase our tithes and offering.
6. We will increase our presence in the community by placing leaders in various local groups.

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Doc. 2 of 5

7. Our youth group will increase by 20%.
8. Our Sunday school will increase by 20%.
9. Our campus ministry will increase by 50%.
10. We will develop a program for continuing new member development because of the transient local community.
11. We will continue to identify the gifts of the members of the community and encourage them to use those gifts in worship, the coffee house and with our various programs.
12. There will be an annual retreat to vision for this church. There will be fasting and praying to discern God's will for Riverside and The Thistle.

Year Three

By year three, the pastor and various leaders will be well known to the people on the streets and in the neighborhoods. The Thistle will be a primary hangout on Friday and Saturday night, showcasing local talent in music, art, and comedy. A large portion of the income for the church will come from the coffee house and this will aid us in reaching out to more of the lost in the community and more of our brothers and sisters who can use a hand up.

In this year, we will charter through the Presbytery our first of several churches that will be birthed by Riverside. Our campus ministry will be reaching many who either have a relationship with our Lord or have never heard of him. We will begin to open the second of our outreach locations, a free clinic on Woodward near C.O.T.S. We will also reach out to the children of the community through a local community center, providing support and programming for the children from three local schools, as well as C.O.T.S. and the Cass Community Center. We will accomplish this through:

1. We will be able to charter a new church. This will be confirmed through New Church Development.
2. There will be a celebration of birth as we send out a portion of our community to seed another community.
3. We will raise up leaders for the next satellite location.
4. We will increase our worshiping community by 40% over the reduced membership.
5. Our youth ministry will increase by 20% and our Sunday school by 30%.
6. The leadership of the newly formed church and Riverside will fast and pray for God's leading in the next step for these ministries.
7. Our campus ministry programs will foster faithful graduates who will return to Presbyterian and non-Presbyterian church's and light these churches on fire with their faith.
 - a. Some of our young adults in this program will be raised up as leaders to lead the next year of students; our desire is to create more people to reach out on campus. We will see 2% of the young adults in our campus program move into a campus internship in Detroit or somewhere in the county.
8. Leaders will be identified for the free clinic. They will bring the development, connection to grants and other support.
9. A program will be developed to reach the children of the neighborhood.

Year Four

In this year we will look to develop a new church to birth through Riverside in the fifth year of our ministry. The leadership team will fast and pray about who should be raised up to leadership and be the backbone of the next new church. We will seek to take not only our leaders from our community but some of our campus ministry leaders to come into the supporting role for a new church. This is a year to focus and look to the next three years, continually coming before God and asking, "What next, Lord?" "Where are we to go?" This is a year of reflection as to what worked well and what could be better, looking and listening to what God has for us as a community and for the community that surrounds us. We will accomplish this by:

1. Starting the year with a 40 day fast and arranging small groups that will be in prayer and discussion as to where we will go next and what that will require in people, time and finances.
2. We will ask our small groups, which will be at least 20 by year four, to set apart time to continue to fast and pray for direction.
3. The session will create a plan for gleaning this information and move to identifying what it seems the Lord is asking us to move to.
4. Those who are preaching and teaching will teach about fasting and listening to our Lord.
5. Whatever the results are, the session will begin to organize leadership to make these items set into motion.
6. All ministries will continue.
7. The Church will grow by 20%

Year Five

This is a year of new beginning and a wonderful new future lead by the Lord. Riverside will always be a church that is a praying church. It will always be a church that will not be bound to a building but to a ministry and will always focus on how to reach the children of God and bring them to a closer, deeper relationship with our Lord.

In this year, we will move to launch the next of our satellite churches. We will be over 200 in worship and may be seeking a larger location, if that is what year four finds to be what God desires. The discipleship program will be in full swing, having no less than 30 people in discipleship groups. We will welcome new folks to our church, into a family group that will walk with them and help them to grow in their faith. The rest of our time will be set to move toward the new vision that we received in year four.

E-10

Doc. 2 of 5

DOCUMENT 3

From the original vision Riverside church has planned on being a coffee house ministry-- using this unusual type of location for a church so as to reach those that would never walk into a traditional church. Because of this vision for this new type of congregation there is a need to create a corporate structure that is very different than the traditional church.

Because of this plan there will be a couple of needs: one is that a corporation will need to be formed for the Coffee House -- it will have to be a "for Profit" corporation due to tax laws. Forming this corporation prior to chartering through the Presbytery of Detroit would cause a liability issue for the Presbytery and causes a complex set of issues because of the structure of the Presbytery.

Riverside will be using the income from the coffee house to support the church and its mission. This is the avenue that several churches in the city are using to support their ongoing mission. Through the Coffee House, Riverside will become stronger financially, and we believe it will be able to reach a greater community of people who have never had a relationship with the Lord.

The coffee house ministry will provide not only revenue support for the church but will provide a place for the evangelists of Riverside to talk about the love of our Lord, and how Riverside is a unique place to find the one thing that is missing in their lives.

Through this type of ministry, Riverside will be financially viable and will grow through the daily contact with those who need to hear the Good News.

Riverside Church

11/9/2010

DOCUMENT 4**Names on Charter (In the order of the signatures below)**

1. Dave Burkhart
2. Amy Gray
3. Anthony Sarkis
4. Roy Dismukes
5. Gerald Lorkowski
6. Glenda Chaney
7. Desean Chandler
8. Sarah McGinnis
9. Sandra Maxwell
10. LeRoy Clyne
11. Barbara Clyne
12. Charon Barcone
13. Kevin Gorman
14. Eddie Gray
15. Ruth Azar
16. Kari Gorman
17. Removed
18. Meghan Burkhart
19. Martez Prather
20. J. Dian Thomas
21. Sean Friedlund
22. Katie Friedlund
23. Kevin Jarvis
24. Carol Brown
25. Britney Brown-Turcotte
26. Dylan Balicki
27. Crystal March
28. Removed (baptized child of Riverside)
29. Removed (baptized child of Riverside)
30. Darlene Burkhart
31. Kitty Johnson
32. Ashley Rischerl
33. Tammy Molinar
34. Kevin Jarvis Jr.
35. Jamie Johnson
36. Ryan Lemina
37. Hubert Russell
38. Christie Mitchel
39. Kyle Rischeil
40. Danielle Hubbard
41. Molly Geier
42. Kevin Gajewski
43. Lucia Gajewski

Riverside Church

11/9/2010

44. Janice Smith
45. Andrew Smith
46. Wayne Phillips
47. Removed Duplicate
48. Sydney Burkhart
49. Luke Schummar (by confirmation)
50. Kelly Turcotte
51. John Johnson
52. Lacey Adkins
53. Kris Pahl
54. Tony Coffman
55. Christa Willingham
56. Robert Brennan
57. Lorie Harbaugh
58. Russ Harbaugh
59. James Harbaugh
60. Jonathan Harbaugh

Replacing

- 17 David Allen (by confirmation)
- 28 Michael Barconey (by confirmation)
- 29 Ryan Berns (by confirmation)

Total valid signatures = 59

Charter Signatures are on the next three pages...



We, the undersigned, in response to the grace of God, desire to be constituted and organized as a church to be known as Riverside Community Church. We promise and covenant to live together in unity and to work together in ministry as disciples of Jesus Christ, bound to him and to one another as part of the body of Christ in this place according to the principles of faith, mission, and order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | Jane Burt | 15 | Leah Taylor |
| 2 | Amy Kear | 16 | Tim Eisman <small>with David Miller</small> |
| 3 | Ky G
<small>Anthony Sarkis</small> | 17 | John ... |
| 4 | Ray ... | 18 | Naghan Burt |
| 5 | Heard Zupkowski | 19 | Marty ... |
| 6 | Glenda Cheney | 20 | J. ... Thomas |
| 7 | DESEAN Chandler | 21 | ... <small>(Sara ...)</small> |
| 8 | Susan McGinnis | 22 | Kate ... |
| 9 | Jandra Macphee | 23 | ... |
| 10 | Lily Clyne | 24 | Carol Brown-King |
| 11 | Barbara Clyne | 25 | ... |
| 12 | Charm Barclay | 26 | ... |
| 13 | ... | 27 | Cynthia Mack <small>with Michael Barone</small> |
| 14 | ... <small>(Eddie Gray)</small> | 28 | ... <small>(Christina)</small> |
| | | 29 | ... <small>(Christina)</small> |
| | | 30 | Jane Burt |



We the undersigned, in response to the grace of God, desire to be constituted and organized as a church to be known as Riverside Community Church. We promise and covenant to live together in unity and to work together in ministry as disciples of Jesus Christ, bound to Him and to one another as part of the body of Christ in this place according to the principles of faith, mission, and order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

- 30 ⁽⁵⁾ Betty Johnson & John Johnson
- 31 Audrey Rosewell
- 32 Jimmy Molinar
- 33 ~~John~~
- 34 ~~John~~
- 35 Janice Johnson
- 36 Fran Larson
- 37 ~~John~~
- 38 ~~John~~
- 39 Hugh J. R...
- 40 Damnielle R. Hubbard
- 41 ~~John~~
- 42 ~~John~~
- 43 James Gagnowski
- 44 Janice Smith
- 45 Jordan Smith
- 46 ~~John~~
- 47 ~~John~~
- 48 ~~John~~
- 49 Luke Schomayr by consent
- 50 Kelley Turcotte
- 51 John Johnson (consent to merge)
- 52 ~~John~~
- 53 ~~John~~ (from 12/1)
- 54 Tony Johnson
- 55 Christa Williamson
- 56 ~~John~~

Riverside Church

11/9/2010



We, the undersigned, in response to the grace of God, desire to be constituted and organized as a church to be known as Riverside Community Church. We promise and covenant to live together in unity and to work together in ministry as disciples of Jesus Christ, bound to him and to one another as part of the body of Christ in this place according to the principles of faith, mission, and order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

57
Kris Harbaugh
58
Kris Harbaugh
61
John Harbaugh
Johnathan Harbaugh

Riverside Church

11/9/2010

Riverside Church

5 Year Budget: 2010-2014

10/25/2010

	Year 1 2010	Year 2 2011	Year 3 2012	Year 4 2013	Year 5 2014	Year 6 2015
Income:						
New Church Offering	80,000	80,000	80,000	100,000	120,000	120,000
Carry over prior year		148	825	229	485	46
Partner Churches	10,000	10,000	7,500	8,000	3,000	2,000
Gifts to the church	10,000	10,000	7,500	5,000	2,500	1,000
Coffee Shop Income Gifts	3,000	3,000	3,500	10,000	11,000	12,000
Grant Income	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	4,000	4,000
Campus Ministry Support	9,500	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
MCDPRD nominating Support	20,000	15,000	10,000	5,000	0	0
GA	270,000	280,000	12,000	7,000	0	0
Synod of the Covenant	100,000	7,500	8,950	0	0	0
Sub Total	124,900	146,800	149,975	147,929	150,985	159,066
Expenses:						
Personnel:						
Pastoral Leadership	67,857	67,857	70,000	70,700	71,437	72,121
Outreach Minister/Campus	15,000	25,000	25,500	25,750	25,919	25,839
Music leader	10,000	10,000	10,500	10,805	10,711	10,825
Sub Total	92,857	102,857	106,000	107,255	108,067	108,785
Administrative/Building:						
Space rental	15,800	21,000	21,000	21,000	21,000	21,000
Utilities	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Insurance	500	750	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500
Leasehold improvements and Gas	4,000	3,000	3,000	1,000	800	500
Supplies	500	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Communications	1,000	3,000	3,000	1,500	1,500	2,000
Legal and other service fees						
Advertising	1,500	3,000	1,000	1,000	2,000	2,000
Sub Total	24,780	33,750	32,000	29,000	29,500	30,000
Programs/Mission:						
Active mission/breach	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	5,000	5,000
Small Groups	0	500	750	750	1,000	1,000
Worship	500	750	750	750	1,000	1,000
Campus Ministry	200	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
New Programs	0	500	750	1,000	1,000	5,000
Sub Total	4,700	6,750	8,500	8,500	10,000	15,000
Mission						
Per Capita	0	1,200	1,200	1,700	1,500	2,100
Shared Mission	1,245	1,486	1,486	1,482	1,510	1,580
Sub Total	1,245	2,686	2,686	3,182	3,010	3,680
Total Expense	124,902	146,893	149,986	147,742	150,945	159,270
Net Revenue/Expense	148	807	229	487	46	776

Riverside Church

11/9/2010

DOCUMENT 6

- At it's October 12 meeting the NCD Commission approved the following people as Elders at Riverside (having heard that they have been trained to be Elders and have consented to being appointed as such upon chartering):

1. John Johnson,
2. Kitty Johnson,
3. Kate Friedlund,
4. Sean Friedlund,
5. Ruth Azar,
6. Kari Gorman
7. Charon Barconey.
- 8.

Record of Baptisms by Riverside NCD:

1.	4/20/2009	Nancy McGinnis	52
2.	8/9/2009	Aubrey Maurer	2
3.	8/16/2009	Roy Dismukes	16
4.	8/16/2009	David Allen	14
5.	10/25/2009	Eddie Gray	30
6.	10/25/2009	Alissa Gray	3
7.	10/25/2009	Kaylynn Gray	2 months
8.	12/24/2009	Cameron Troutman-Broden	5 months
9.	1/10/10	Adian March	1 month
10.	1/10/10	Cheyenne Jacobs	6 years
11.	4/4/2010	Meghan Burkhart	26
12.	4/4/2010	Sydney Burkhart	10
13.	7/17/2010	Kevin Gajewski	27
14.	7/25/2010	Martez Pranter	17
15.	9/26/2010	Barbara Kane	50
16.	9/26/2010	Julie Oestreich	60
17.	10/3/2010	Brittney Turcotte	24
18.	10/3/2010	Hunter Turcotte	1
19.	10/17/2010	Jason Wiudyka	11
20.	10/17/2010	Chloe Hiser	10
21.	10/17/2010	Dannielle Hubbard	25
22.	11/7/2010	Lisa Long	37
23.	11/7/2010	Dena Clark	46
24.	11/7/2010	Glenda Chaney	52
25.	11/14/2010	Devon Adkins	2

Riverside Church

11/9/2010

DOCUMENT 7

Articles of Ecclesiastical Incorporation are drawn up upon an affirmative action by POD to charter Riverside NCD as a congregation.

**Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
Attachment F (2 pages)**

**Minutes Session Meeting
December 3, 2010**

Session as approved by Administrative Commission:

Attending: Charon Barconey, Sean Friedlund, Kari Gorman, Ruth Azar, John Johnson

Excused: Katie Friedlund, Kitty Johnson.

Opening Prayer – by Rev. Jarvis

1. Catch up with John – John reports the small group is growing and moving forward, he and Kitty made plans for the Christmas party, and excited to have everyone come together again.
2. Call of Pastor - Request continue the 3 year contract between Rev. Brenda Jarvis and Presbytery of Detroit, with the following terms as an Organizing Pastor :
 - a. Salary 45,000
 - b. Benefits 14,775
 - c. FICA 3,444
 - d. Reimbursable 1,956
 - e. Total 65,175

Motion was made by John Johnson to continue the call of Rev. Jarvis as an organizing Pastor with the same terms of call for the completion of the 2009 3 year contract. Second by Sean Friedlund. Motion passes.

3. Name of the church : Suggested Riverside Community Church
 - a. By mutual agreement Riverside Community Church will be the name of the new church. Rev. Jarvis will inform Mr. Morgan and have him begin the process to create the corporate papers.
4. Create DBA – Creek Side Church
 - a. John will check into this when the legal name is set up.
5. Insurance : Church Asset Management
 - a. Agreement to get quotes for insurance
6. Contract for Security system: ADT
 - a. Authorize Brenda to continue to create contracts on behalf of church with notice to Board
7. Catch up on space
 - a. Affirmed that the name on the lease is Thistle Coffee house. Ms. Gorman's father Mr. Oldham prepared the lease and it was given to Mr. Morgan to review. The AC has also reviewed the lease and approved its signing. Pastor Jarvis complained about the fact that she is on the hook for the lease and that she could be financially hurt because of it being her name only. Ms. Gorman asked how will the costs for the rent and utilities be handled, after discussion by the group it was motioned by Sean Friedlund and seconded by Charon Barconey that the cost of the rent and the utilities be split 50/50, until further notice. Motion passes.
 - i. A question was posed as to when would the corporation be completed for the Church, there was no definite information. A

F-1

concern was presented by Pastor Jarvis that contracts would have to be in the name of the Coffee House as there was not a corporate identity for the Church yet. The group was informed that the AC would not move on the corporation until the charter was approved and now that it was the corporation would move forward.

- b. Rev. Jarvis is given authority to continue to set up utilities.
- 8. Budget for 2011
 - a. Rev. Jarvis asks for Ms. Azar to help with the budget for 2011, Ms. Azar said it could be done by email. All were in agreement.
- 9. Election of Elders - meeting notice
 - a. Formal election of the following people will be the 2nd Sunday in January
 - i. The slate is as follows:
 1. Ruth Azar
 2. Keri Gorman
 3. John Johnson
 4. Kitty Johnson
 5. Charon Barconey
 6. Katie Friedlund
 7. Sean Friedlund

It was determined that Ms. Gorman would be responsible for Outreach

Ms. Barconey would be responsible for Campus Ministry

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson would be responsible for Creeksides ministry

Ms. Friedlund would be responsible for worship

Mr. Friedlund would like to be responsible for Sunday school

Pastor Jarvis would like suggestions and a nomination for a Clerk by the next meeting.

- 10. Permission to create permits
 - a. Rev Jarvis is given permission to provide for the permits that needed for the church and the coffee house.
- 11. Financials
 - a. The group was told that Rev Jarvis has not been paid her full salary for the year. There are some thoughts about how to raise funds to do the build out of the church and to make sure that the pastor is paid. Ideas are to be brought to the next meeting.
- 12. Prayers and sending - John offered the closing prayer

Many went to the space to see it again.

From: Brenda Jarvis
To: 'arthur oberg'
Cc: allen@detroitpresbytery.org ; teresko@att.net ; david.shinn@thenewhopechurch.com ;
morganlaw_48170@yahoo.com ; estelle@detroitpresbytery.org ; jkuminseverance@gmail.com
; klgorman87@yahoo.com ; jim.porter@comcast.net ; Ted Taylor ; 'DIXIE' ; 'second mile living' ;
'Katie' ; seantfriedlund@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 9:29 AM
Subject: For your information

Hello everyone,

This is to inform the AC and all interested parties, that at a meeting with the elders of Riverside on Tuesday, I informed them of my intention to terminate my contract with Riverside Community Presbyterian Church. Since this meeting was not a called session meeting there could be no action on this request. I do expect them to accept my request at the next session meeting on July 19, 2011. As required by the contract there is the required 30 days notice so the contract will end on August 19, 2011.

After my meeting with the elders I did text Arthur (the chair of the AC) to let him know what had just happened. He informed me that he was on vacation, I do expect to talk to him next week.

Also I am completing the financials and will have them out within a day or so.

Thanks,
Brenda

PS I have included the elders of Riverside on this email

Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
Attachment G

From: Kari Gorman <klgorman87@yahoo.com>
To: Don Morgan <morganlaw_48170@yahoo.com>
Cc: ehkoster@aol.com
Subject: riverside
Date: Thu, Jul 7, 2011 1:57 pm

Hello Don

I am sure you have received Brenda Jarvis' email regarding her intention to resign her car to Riverside Community Presbyterian Church. At the informal meeting of the Leadership team, she also announced her intent to evict R.C.P.C. from its lease with Thistle Coffee house, to start a non-denominational church in that same location, and give up her ordination as a PC USA Minister of the Word and Sacrament.

I have spoken with Rev. E Koster in his capacity as the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit, and he has requested the following information: Articles of Incorporation

By Laws

Lease

I recently had a computer virus and cannot find these files since the computer has been restored. Would you please forward what you have to Rev. Koster?

Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
Attachment H

11-18-2011 03:04 FROM:THISTLE COFFEE/RIVER 3139747251

TO:17344228562

P.1/2

To the Session of Riverside Community Presbyterian Church and the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Detroit.

This is to serve as official notice of my intent to terminate my contract with Riverside Community Presbyterian Church. Per the terms of the contract dated October 2010, this will serve as 30 days notice to this termination.

A copy of this termination will be submitted to the committee on temporary pastoral arrangements, within the committee on ministry, and to the Administrative commission of the Presbytery of Detroit, to the New Church Development / Redevelopment Ministry Team of the Presbytery of Detroit.

It is with great sadness that I take this step, but with great joy at the possibilities of the future that God has in store for me.

Any unpaid salary will be settled before the completion of this 30 day period, attached is a statement of payments and unpaid balances.

With Great Respect,


Rev. Brenda K. Jarvis

Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
Attachment I

JUL-28-2011 22:57 FROM: THISTLE COFFEE/RIVER 3139747251

TO: 17344226560

P.2/E

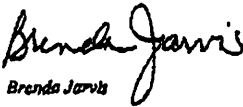
July 29, 2011

Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Detroit
 Administrative Commission of the Presbytery of Detroit

RE: Setting Aside my Ordination in the Presbyterian Church USA

I am requesting that my ordination in the Presbyterian Church USA be set aside on August 19, 2011, per G 2.0507. August 19 would provide for the required 30 days notice per my contract with Riverside Community Presbyterian Church. As I have completed the contract terms, and they are satisfied, I am expecting any back pay due to me as of the August 19, 2011. As of July 29 the amount due to me is approximately \$24,000. Please submit to me, in writing, how the balance will be settled by the August 11, 2011.

Your Sister in Christ,


 Brenda Jarvis

G-2.0507 Release from Ministry as a Teaching Elder

When a teaching elder against whom no inquiry has been initiated pursuant to D-10.0101 and D-10.0201, against whom no charges have been filed, and who otherwise is in good standing shall make application to be released from the exercise of the ordered ministry of teaching elder, the presbytery shall delete that person's name from the roll and upon request of a session dismiss that person to a congregation. Release from the exercise of ordered ministry requires discontinuance of all functions of that ministry. The designations that refer to teaching elders shall not be used. The person so released shall engage in the ministry shared by all active members of congregations. Should a person released under this section later desire to be rostered to the ordered ministry of teaching elder, that person shall apply through the presbytery which granted the release, and upon approval of that presbytery, the reaffirmation of the ordination questions, and the resumption of a ministry that qualifies that person for membership in the presbytery, shall be restored to the exercise of the ordered ministry as a teaching elder without re-ordination.

Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
 Attachment J

THE PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT

17575 Hubbell • Detroit, Michigan 48235
Office: (313) 345-6550 • Fax: (313) 345-7250



July 29, 2011

Rev. Brenda Jarvis
6625 Gilman
Garden City, Mi.
48135

Re: Setting aside Ordination as of August 19, 2011

Dear Brenda,

We have received your letter by fax addressed to the Committee on Ministry and the Administrative Commission of the Presbytery of Detroit dated July 29, 2011 requesting that your ordination be set aside as of August 19, 2011, from the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Your request will be moved through the process of the Administrative Commission and the Committee on Ministry. The presbytery must grant the release. It is our desire that all business will be completed prior to the meeting of presbytery on August 23, 2011.

You have stated in your letter of July 29, 2011, that you are due approximately \$24,000 in back pay. We need a statement with the exact breakdown of figures as to the outstanding amount you perceive is still owed from your Terms of Call. Also, please make the adjustments you mentioned at the Session Meeting that is owed to the congregation.

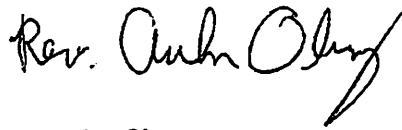
You must have a financial review of Riverside Church and the Thistle Coffee Shop. The review shall be completed by someone not affiliated with Riverside Church or the Thistle Coffee Shop. The review must be submitted

**Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
Attachment K**

to the Administrative Commission prior to any financial settlement.

It is our understanding that you will be moderating the meeting on Sunday, July 31, 2011.

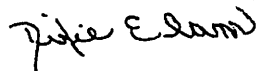
We pray that you will find peace and harmony in your future.



Rev. Arthur Oberg
Chairperson
Administrative Commission



Rev. Estelle Aaron
Presbytery of Detroit
Consultant for Transformation



Elder Dixie Elam
Chairperson
Committee on Ministry

August 12, 2011,

Rev. Brenda Jarvis
c/o Thistle Coffee Shop
4445 Second Ave.
Detroit, Michigan
48201

Re: Termination of contract with Riverside Community Presbyterian Church

Dear Rev. Jarvis,

The Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Detroit discussed, at their August 11, 2011 meeting, your thirty days notice to terminate your contract with Riverside Community Presbyterian Church dated July 18, 2011.

This request will be recommended to the Presbytery of Detroit at the August 23, 2011 stated meeting. If the recommendation is approved it will be retroactive to August 19, 2011. This will bring into compliance the thirty days required by your contract.

The Committee on Ministry will also recommend that your membership in the Presbytery of Detroit be placed as At Large. You will be notified as to the Presbytery of Detroit's action after the stated meeting.

The Coordinating Cabinet of the Presbytery of Detroit will be recommending, at the Presbytery of Detroit's stated meeting of August 23, 2011, an Administrative Commission be established to oversee all other matters pertaining to Riverside Community Presbyterian Church.

Peace,

Dixie J. Elam
Chair, COM
Presbytery of Detroit

c/c Rev. Arthur Oberg
Rev. Dr. Allen Timm

Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
Attachment L

Vacation: Four weeks, including four Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks including two Sundays. (One week of Study Leave to be spent on Interim Training.)

9. Transfer Rev. Johnie Bennett to Coastal Carolina Presbytery.
10. Grant permission to Rev. Linda Cochran to labor outside the bounds at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Rochester, MI, as Christian Education Director.
11. Grant the request from Rev. Terri Gast to be moved to "at large" member while in graduate school.
12. Receive Rev. Arthur Olberg from the Reformed Church of America upon CPM approval & Presbytery examination.
13. Transfer the membership of Peace United, Clinton Township to Presbyterian Church of Utica upon dissolution of Peace United, effective August 31, 2011.

II. THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORTS THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS TAKEN UNDER THE AUTHORITY THAT HAS BEEN GRANTED TO IT

1. Extended the Temporary Supply contract between Rev. James Kumin-Severance and White Lake until September 30, 2011, with the same terms.
2. Approved the nine month Temporary Supply contract between Rev. Donald Wright and Lakeshore, St. Clair Shores, effective January 1, through September 30, 2011.
Terms: Half-time; Salary \$14,475; Social Security \$1,275; Medical Allowance \$7,500; Professional expenses \$10,500. Vacation: One month including four Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks.
3. Approved the 12 month Stated Supply contract between Rev. Quincy Cooper, and Covenant, Southfield, effective May 25, 2011.
Terms: Salary \$26,000; Housing allowance \$27,200; Study Leave expense \$1,000. Vacation: Four weeks, including four Sundays; Study Leave: Two weeks including two Sundays.
4. Approved the request from Peace United, Clinton Township to grant the status of Pastor Emeritus to Rev. James Kesler effective May 7, 2006.
5. Accepted the resignation of Rev. Brenda Jarvis from Riverside NCD, effective August 17, 2011, and moved her to member at large.
6. Granted the request from Rev. William Dunifon, to be honorably retired effective July 18, 2011.

III. For Information

1. Approved Church Information Forms (CIF) for Westminster, Detroit; First, South Lyon; and St. Andrews, Dearborn Heights.
2. Pastoral Search Committee will now have responsibility for the church self study process, allowing churches seeking a new pastor to have a single liaison with COM for the entire search process.
3. Rev. Phil Reed is now chair of the Pastoral Search subcommittee.
4. Appointed Rev. Roy Langwig moderator at Starr, Royal Oak for four months effective August 1, 2011.
5. Appointed Rev. Mary Austin moderator at Joslyn Avenue, Pontiac for one year, effective September 1, 2011.

Report of the Committee on Ministry, August 23, 2011
Page 3

Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
Attachment N (3 pages)

From: Brenda Jarvis <brenda@riversidedetroit.com>
To: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
Cc: dixie@mi.rr.com <dixie@mi.rr.com>; allen@detroitpresbytery.org <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>;
al_timm@yahoo.com <al_timm@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: My request to set aside my ordination
Date: Fri, Aug 26, 2011 4:28 pm

I just got off the phone with Lori from GA she confirmed that the boo says Shall for the presbytery to set aside -she also said that Eds comment about renouncing has the same shall and the comment from Ed that I could renounce but not set aside does not make since. She said the only way to challenge this decision is to file a remedial case against the Presbytery. Please don't make me do this! Please, this is a destructive situation for me and so many, please don't make me have to resort to this!

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 23, 2011, at 10:55 PM, Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com> wrote:

The General Assembly does not dictate how the Presbytery of Detroit may exercise its discretion.

Edward Koster
Stated Clerk, Presbytery of Detroit
ehkoster@aol.com
734-358-5403

—Original Message—

From: Brenda Jarvis <brenda@riversidedetroit.com>
To: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
Cc: dixie@mi.rr.com <dixie@mi.rr.com>; allen@detroitpresbytery.org <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>; al_timm@yahoo.com <al_timm@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tue, Aug 23, 2011 10:51 pm
Subject: Re: My request to set aside my ordination

Interesting that is not what GA say I will get it in writing from them.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 23, 2011, at 10:42 PM, Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com> wrote:

N-1

You have it wrong. You do not get to dictate that you be released from ministry. Your status with the Presbytery is a discretionary act of Presbytery. You were transferred this evening to the at-large roll and remain under the jurisdiction of the Presbytery of Detroit.

If you desire to make this your act rather than the act of the Presbytery, I refer you to G-2.0407.

Edward Koster
 Stated Clerk, Presbytery of Detroit
ehkoster@aol.com
 734-358-5403

—Original Message—

From: Brenda Jarvis <brenda@riversidedetroit.com>
 To: 'Ed Koster' <ehkoster@aol.com>; dixie@mi.r.com; 'Allen Timm' <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>
 Sent: Tue, Aug 23, 2011 7:33 pm
 Subject: My request to set aside my ordination

Hello Folks,

I spoke to the Clerk at GA today and I was told that there is no procedure for setting aside my ordination. He said that the following section applies:

G-2.0507 Release from Ministry as a Teaching Elder

When a teaching elder against whom no inquiry has been initiated pursuant to D-10.0101 and D-10.0201, against whom no charges have been filed, and who otherwise is in good standing shall make application to be released from the exercise of the ordered ministry of teaching elder, the presbytery shall delete that person's name from the roll

and upon request of a session dismiss that person to a congregation. Release from the exercise of ordered ministry requires discontinuance of all functions of that ministry. The designations that refer to teaching elders shall not be used. The person so released shall engage in the ministry shared by all active members of congregations. Should a person released under this section later desire to be restored to the ordered ministry of teaching elder, that person shall apply through the presbytery which granted the release, and upon approval of that presbytery, the reaffirmation of the ordination questions, and the resumption of a ministry that qualifies that person for membership in the presbytery, shall be restored to the exercise of the ordered ministry as a teaching elder without re-ordination.

He said that the letter submitted to the Chair of COM (as I was directed by her to do) is an expectable way to submit the letter. He said that as a representative of the Presbytery the chair of COM will serve as the representative of the Presbytery. He told me that the Presbytery cannot reject or consider the request it is just accepted. So the letter that was faxed to Dixie is my notice and I should be able to consider that my ordination was set aside on August 19 , 2011 so I am moving under that understanding. He said that I could get this in writing if you would like but he thought that the above quoted section should be sufficient.

So since COM had the request prior to its meeting in August I am considering myself, not on the rolls of the Presbyterian Church.

Thanks
Brenda

=

=

N-3

SEP 15 2011 09:08 FROM: THIS IS LE COFFEE RIVER 3139797251

TO: 13133457250

P.2/2

**Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
Attachment O**

September 7, 2011

Committee on Ministry

Presbytery of Detroit

Re: Renounce of Ordination

I write this letter with great regret. I did try to set aside my ordination to leave room for an error of understanding or even reconciliation with where God wants me to be but was told by the Stated Clerk that I could not set aside. I checked with the General Assembly office, who said that there are no restrictions on setting aside an ordination.

The two clerks at GA that I spoke to said the language is clear, the Presbytery "shall" set aside once the request is given to the Clerk or an agent of the Presbytery. Then I was told by Lee at the Constitutional Office that the only way to challenge this ruling by the Clerk of this Presbytery was to file charges against the Committee on Ministry, the Clerk and the Presbytery.

I then emailed the Stated Clerk who responded to this comment that GA does not tell this Presbytery what to do but I could renounce my ordination (even though it has the same language as Setting aside). I then wrote up charges and was prepared to send them to the Synod and realized that I just don't care anymore. I am reminded of Exodus 4, where God hardened Pharoah's heart. I think I am just going to have to do what the Stated Clerk told me to do.

Having said all of this, I feel that there is no other option but to renounce my Ordination as of August 19, 2011. My heart is breaking over the loss of my Christian family and Denominational home. However, there is no other option for me.

I feel betrayed by the Administrative Commission that was there to help me and Riverside and even after several conversations about burnout, there was no help offered. I feel betrayed by my Pastor, Al Timm, who in all of this has never offered counsel or support.

I feel betrayed by Dixie Elam, who listened to the voices of Karl Gorman and Ruth Azar, who were the catalyst for my burnout and for the implosion of Riverside Church. To this day, no one has asked why I resigned from this church or even what happened.

Ed Koster writes in the Presby Lite that my resignation was abrupt. Was it? Who would know other than me and God? I realize that I am responsible for all of this and, as such, feel a great sense of failure to my church, to the faithful of that community and, more importantly, to my God.

I pray that you will not allow this to happen to another New Church without a great plan for Pastoral Care and real supportive oversight and not browbeating, demeaning and making something new fit into the old way of doing things.

Your Sister in Christ,

Brenda Jarvis

011-14-2011 02:24 FROM:THISTLE COFFEE/RIVER 3139747251

TO:13133457250

P.1/1

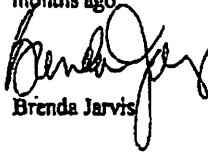
**Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
Attachment P**

October 11, 2011

To all that are in need of this information:

After much prayer, many tears, and a pile of anger, I am writing to Renounce jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church USA. I frankly can not handle anything to do with this any more. As I have said I am almost financially bankrupt, defiantly spiritually bankrupt, and holding so much anger that it is physically hurting me and doing damage to my health.

I can not stand this any more. I happily turn my back on you as you did to me many months ago.



Brenda Jarvis

June 4, 2012

Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
Attachment Q

	Salary	Housing	SECA	Profes- sional Exp	Travel	Contia. Ed	403B		
2010									
Contract Terms	\$18,400.00	\$29,000.00	\$3,626.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$517.00	5000	\$57,543.00	
Actual paid	\$17,488.00	\$25,581.00	\$2,763.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$45,832.00	
Amount unpaid:	\$912.00	\$3,419.00	\$863.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$517.00	\$5,000.00	\$11,711.00	\$11,711.00
1/1/11 to 8/19/11 (16 pps)									
Contract terms (prorated)	\$11,323.00	\$17,846.00	\$2,231.00	\$500.00	\$500.00		5534	\$37,934.00	
Actual Paid:	\$6,249.00	\$6,248.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$12,497.00	
Amount unpaid:	\$5,074.00	\$11,598.00	\$2,231.00	\$500.00	\$500.00		5534	\$25,437.00	\$25,437.00
Total Unpaid under Contract									\$37,148.00
Occupancy Agt Reconcil:									
Rent for Sept & Oct 2011								\$3,332.00	
1/2 taxes thru 10/31/2011								\$850.00	
Net Rent due Thistle								\$4,182.00	
Thistle repay frig & sofa								-\$1,500.00	
Thistle repay LH improvms								-\$3,950.00	
Security Deposit								-\$1,666.00	
Net owed by Thistle to POD								-\$2,934.00	
Payouts:									
403B to BOP								\$10,534.00	
Unpaid other Contract 2010							\$6,711.00		
unpaid other contract 2011							\$19,903.00		
Less Thistle repayment							-\$2,934.00		
Net pay to Brenda Jarvis directly								\$23,680.00	
Total Due from POD								\$34,214.00	

Presbytery of Detroit Property transferred
from Riverside to Comunidad los del Camino

Chairs # 1012

AV Equipment, listed

large speaker, column speaker
audio pads, wireless mike case
video monitor, sound board & case
projection screen, laptop computer
projector

Other

Representative from Riverside

[Signature]

Representative from Comunidad los del Camino

TRAVIS TRAVIS SMITH

Representative from NCD/POD

[Signature]

Writer L. Bick
[Signature]
(Witness) 10/29/11

Date: 10/29/2011

Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
Attachment R

Riverside AC Report 11/27/12
Attachment S , 2 pages

From: Allen Timm
To: Edward Koster
Cc: Dixie Elam
Sent: Friday, August 26, 2011 4:43 PM
Subject: Fw: My request to set aside my ordination

Ed, it seems to me that it could be said that POD will release her from her ordination as soon as the accounting reviews are turned in and a financial and property settlement is reached to wind down the church. At this time we do not know as there will not be any complaint against her. We assume not. But we want to wait, because we have not seen the accounting reviews for the church and coffee house (which she was paid by POD to run). This is what COM discussed. Al

From: DDXE <dixe@mi.rr.com>
To: Brenda Jarvis <brenda@riversidedetroit.com>; Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>
Cc: allen@detroitpresbytery.org; al_timm@yahoo.com
Subject: Re: My request to set aside my ordination
Date: Fri, Aug 26, 2011 5:22 pm

Brenda,

On July 19, 2011 you sent COM OFFICIAL NOTICE as per the terms of your contract dated October 2010 with Riverside Community Church to terminate the contract.

Your OFFICIAL NOTICE to terminate your contract with Riverside Community Church was reported to the Presbytery of Detroit , by COM, at the August 23, 2011, meeting. You were placed At Large as per your request.

Ten days later, July 29, 2011, you REQUESTED that your ordination with the Presbyterian Church USA be set aside. COM did not accept the request.

Please read again the directives from the BOO.

You are in my prayers,

Dixie

Attachment S, Page 1

From: Brenda Jarvis <brenda@riversidedetroit.com>
To: DIXIE <dixie@mi.r.com>
Cc: Edward Koster <ehkoster@aol.com>; <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>
 <allen@detroitpresbytery.org>; <al_timm@yahoo.com> <al_timm@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: My request to set aside my ordination
Date: Fri, Aug 26, 2011 5:31 pm

I did several times - and please remember this is what you told me to do (the process you told me to take). Now two clerks have said that I have done what is required and by the BOO the presbytery "shall" receive or whatever it says. According to GA the request was to be moved on and by your own time line well before the COM meeting prior to the august presbytery meeting. I will file a remedial case if this is not repaired, as I understand from GA I have a pretty good cause of action.

To: Al Timm
Cc: Dixie Elam
Sent: Friday, August 26, 2011 6:22 PM
Subject: Re: My request to set aside my ordination. CONFIDENTIAL

I am not much interested in releasing her. Let her file her remedial case. In the mean time, an allegation that she has committed an offense filed with me will arrest the process long enough for us to proceed.

Ed

Edward Koster
Ehkoster@aol.com
 734-358-5403
 From my iPhone

Attachment 5, Page 2

2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
Summary Operating Budget

Paper D-4

	Modified			
	2011 Budget	2011 Actual	2012 Budget	2013 Budget
General and Undesignated Revenue				
Shared Mission	515,650.00	356,534.61	495,000.00	350,000.00
Per Capita (Apportionment)	705,243.00	648,333.67	686,555.00	664,662.90
Projected Short Fall	0.00	0.00	-48,306.51	-25,000.00
Prior Year Per Capita Receipts	25,000.00	46,935.77	25,000.00	11,000.00
Directed Mission (Budget Support)	12,000.00	34,348.04	12,000.00	20,000.00
Offering	260,000.00	230,203.61	260,000.00	225,800.00
Endowment Income (fund 100)	171,146.00	161,915.68	165,827.50	208,150.00
Endowment Income (Pass Thru)	205,061.50	276,664.26	222,619.50	247,170.00
Endowment Income (Mgmt Fees)	80,000.00	77,802.08	80,000.00	80,000.00
Ranney Balch Endowment Income	38,802.50	47,348.60	42,131.00	46,700.00
Interest (fund 100 & 510)	2,100.00	3,219.62	2,100.00	2,100.00
Other Income (Fund 200 Seeley)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Presbyterian Women	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
PCUSA Grant Hunger Coordinator		6,100.00	6,100.00	6,100.00
Total General and Undesignated Revenue	2,016,993.00	1,913,406.14	1,973,026.49	1,836,662.90
				-6.91%
Pass-Through and Designated Revenue				
POD ECD	150,000.00	156,070.25	124,000.00	135,000.00
Denomination ECD Support	85,000.00	30,753.84	18,000.00	20,000.00
Non-Denomination Support	50,000.00	27,003.63	1,000.00	25,000.00
Interest on POD Loan Payments	70,223.10	67,825.65	65,308.20	60,994.00
Principal on POD Loan Payments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
GA & Other Synod Grants	60,000.00	43,562.52	31,825.00	30,000.00
NCD Synod and Synod Campus Ministry Grants	50,620.00	54,659.76	5,640.00	5,640.00
Howell Conference and Nature Center	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Committee Project Revenue	125,000.00	116,476.22	32,000.00	137,000.00
Total Pass-Through and Designated Revenue	590,843.10	496,583.90	277,573.20	413,634.00
				-48.02%
Total Revenue	2,607,836.10	2,409,990.04	2,250,599.69	2,250,316.90
				-0.01%

2011	2012	2013
Per Capita	Per Capita	
\$ 23.08	\$ 23.48	\$ 23.90

Increase of only 25 cents for Pby Share

580,000.00

-6.91%

-48.02%

-0.01%

2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
Summary Operating Budget

Paper D-4

	2011 Budget	2011 Actual	Modified		
			2012 Budget	2013 Budget	
Ecclesiastical Committee Expenses					
Committee on Ministry	10,630.00	10,629.71	7,147.00	7,147.00	0.00%
Committee on Prep for Ministry	4,550.00	1,735.68	2,500.00	4,000.00	60.00%
Trustees	127,400.17	184,864.49	135,000.00	133,000.00	-1.48%
Operations	395,672.00	380,287.82	377,012.83	389,250.00	5.90%
Nominations	650.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Representations	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Ecclesiastical Committee Expenses	539,002.17	557,517.70	621,659.83	643,397.00	4.17%
Ministry Team Expenses					
Congregational Life	33,000.00	24,897.36	17,500.00	21,500.00	22.86%
Outdoor Ministries	43,657.00	43,856.98	43,817.00	21,810.00	-50.68%
Social Justice	55,645.00	55,741.83	60,755.00	57,335.22	-5.63%
Mission Interpretation	61,818.00	60,623.83	80,320.00	48,600.00	-38.46%
Nature and Support	41,750.00	34,495.82	38,200.00	38,501.00	0.79%
Spiritual Faith Formation	29,100.00	23,690.50	16,900.00	16,900.00	0.00%
New Church Development	95,900.00	72,739.41	75,000.00	84,700.00	12.93%
Planning & Visioning	4,200.00	4,682.44	2,000.00	1,500.00	-25.00%
Metro Urban Ministry Team	3,150.00	0.00	1,750.00	4,500.00	157.14%
Coordinating Cabinet	5,100.00	1,938.51	2,511.00	2,250.00	-10.39%
Total Ministry Team Expenses	373,020.00	322,746.48	338,763.00	297,396.22	-12.21%

2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
Summary Operating Budget

Paper D-4

	Modified			
	2011 Budget	2011 Actual	2012 Budget	2013 Budget
Pass-Through and Designated Expenses				
General Assembly Portion of Shared Mission	171,883.33	108,304.87	163,350.00	106,500.00
General Assembly Portion of Per Capita	188,445.00	188,445.00	183,861.20	189,114.80
General Assembly Offering	260,000.00	230,203.81	260,000.00	225,800.00
Synod Portion of Shared Mission	51,585.00	2,488.29	49,500.00	10,219.13
Synod Portion of Per Capita	69,222.50	69,222.50	65,030.00	60,385.75
Other Presbyteries (from endowment fund)	31,872.50	42,053.40	34,603.08	38,420.00
Other Disbursement from Endowment Fund	175,180.00	228,464.22	163,035.58	208,750.00
Comenon/Munder Mgmt Fees	80,000.00	77,807.08	80,000.00	80,000.00
Rainey Baich Portion of Endowment Fund	38,802.50	38,800.00	42,131.00	46,700.00
Pass-Through to Fund 200 including (Seeley)	0	0	0	0
POD ECO	150,000.00	156,070.25	124,000.00	135,000.00
Denomination ECO Support	65,000.00	30,753.84	16,000.00	20,000.00
Non-Denomination Support	50,000.00	27,006.83	1,000.00	25,000.00
Interest on POD Loan Payments	70,223.10	67,825.85	63,308.30	60,994.00
Principal on POD Loan Payments	0.00	0.00		
GA & Other Synod Grants	60,000.00	43,562.52	31,625.00	30,000.00
Synod NCD & Campus Ministry Grants	50,620.00	56,030.94	5,640.00	5,640.00
Howell Conference and Nature Center	0.00	0.00		
PCUSA Grant Hunger Coordinator			6,100.00	
Committee Project Revenue	125,000.00	116,478.22	32,000.00	137,000.00
Total Pass-Through and Designated Expenses	1,696,813.93	1,523,539.22	1,390,186.86	1,409,523.68
Total Expenses	2,607,836.10	2,403,803.36	2,250,599.65	2,250,316.90
Net Income for 2011	0.00	6,186.66	0.00	0.00

622,019.68

10% of Joy fund income; 7.68% of Endowment disbursements to Fort Street-41.73% Expense Shared
9.35% of Endowment Income

See Social Justice

-0.01%

**2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
Committee on Ministry Expense Budget**

	2009	2010	2011	Modified	2013
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Allowance - Professional Bus Exp	0	0			
Supply	200	200			
Postage	350	350			
Printing	200	200			
Telephone	250	250			
Clergy Support	3120	3120	4650	7730	4797
Consulting Fee	0	0	0		
Dues and Membership	150	150	0	200	150
Legal Fees	0	0	0		
Registration Fees	0	0	1500		
Mileage Reimbursed	1500	1500	0	1500	300
Meeting Exp	300	300	300	100	200
Background checks	500	500	1000	750	562
Training Healthy Congregation WG	0	1000	1000		
Training	5000	4000	2030	850	638
Tri Annual Visits				2500	500
Misc	100	100	150		
	11670	11670	10,630	13,630	7,147

**2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
Committee on Prep for Ministry Expense I**

	2010 Budget	2011 Budget	Modified 2012 Budget	2013 Budget
Postage	500			50
Printing	400		0	50
Consultations	0	0		
Psychological Evaluation	1,800	1,800	2,200	2,750
Candidate Support	250	250		
Training Programs	1,000	1,000	0	1,000
Travel Expense	0	0	300	150
Hispanic CLP Program	1,000	1,000		
Clergy Development/Continuing Ed	500	500		
Unallocated	0	0		
Total CPM	5,450	4,550	2,500	4,000

**2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
Trustees Expense Budget**

	2010	2011	Modified	
	Budget	Budget	2012	2013 Budget
			Budget	
Computer System - support/maintain	5,000	4,400	4,000	4,000
Freight Charges	250	100	250	150
Copier - Meter Charges & Supplies	4,000	2,500	8,800	8,800
Internet Service	250	250	1,000	1,000
Maintenance and Repair -Buildings	0			
Maintenance & Repair - Equip	1,000	100		
Minor Equipment Purchase	0			
Supplies	10,000	5,000	10,750	10,500
Postage	1,000	3,500	6,000	5,000
Printing	1,000	500	1,000	850
Telephone- Usage & Maintenance	12,900	13,500	14,000	13,500
Equipment Lease	16,428	23,750	26,500	26,500
Occupancy - Rent & Security	57,136	49,200	38,100	38,100
Real Estate Tax - Presby Owned Property	0			
Audit & Accounting Fees	10,000	9,000	10,500	10,500
Bank Charges	100	150	100	100
Insurance Expense	10,000	10,000	11,000	11,500
Legal Fees	1,500	4,000	3,000	2,500
Meeting Expense	200	200		
Unallocated Budget (hartland)	0	650		
Travel Budget	0	600		
Total Trustees	130,764	127,400	135,000	133,000

**2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
Operations Committee Expense Budget**

	2008 Budget	2009 Budget	2010 Budget	2011 Budget	Modified 2012 Budget	2013 Budget
Staff	607886	554288	394542		377,013	399,250
Feb adjustment			-21250			
Total Staff	607886	554288	373292	395,672.00	377,013.00	399,250.00

Includes 2.5% increase for cost of living adjustment and a correction was made from an eliminating a transfer into the account.

**2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
Nominations Committee Expense Budget**

	2010 Budget	2011 Budget	2012 Budget	2013 Budget
General Items	650	650	0	0
Total Nominations	650	650	0	0

2013 Presbytery Mission Celebratio
Representation Committee Expense E

	2010 Budget	2011 Budget	2012 Budget	2013 Budget
General Items	100	100		
Total Representation	100	100	0	

**2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
Congregational Life Expense Budget**

	2010 Budget	2011 Budget	Modified 2012 Budget	2013 Budget
Point of Vision	0	0	0	
Grandate Church of the Master	0	0	0	
Church Grants	12250	16500	5000	12000
1st Korean	0	0		
Em Program	0	0		
Macomb Ch of the Covenant	0	0		
Church Support	0	0		
Self Study	4200	6000	2000	2000
Evangelism	3500	5000	4500	4500
Partnering	0	0		
Worship Resources	2100	3000	3000	3000
Postage and Mailing	720			
Congregational Vision	1750	2500		
Percept Tech	0	0		
Total Congregational Life	24526	33,000.00	17,500.00	21,500.00

**2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
Outdoor Ministries Expense Budget**

	2010 Budget	2011 Budget	Modified 2012 Budget	2013 Budget
Howell Conference & Nature Center	43,817	43,657	43,817	21,610
Total Outdoor Ministries	43,817	43,657	43,817	21,610

This amount reflects Presbytery's support of 1/4 of the Director's salary and benefits.

**2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
Social Justice Expense Budget**

	2010 Budget	2011 Budget	Modified 2012 Budget	2013 Budget
Multiculturalism	5040	3158	5138	6300
Postage	282	0		
Printing	282	0	0	
Hunger Work Group	40080	46080	42502	44335.22
Homosexuality and the church	1260	1415	888	1550
Overture Adv.	0	0		
Restoring Creation	504	288		
MOSES	1058	604		
Other Support transfer 510 to supp	0	0	-6729	
Ecumenical Interfaith	0	0		
Middle East	4032	2000	750	0
Domestic Violence	3216	2000	3635	4500
Unallocated Budget	0	0		
Economic Justice	0	0		
Parish Nursing	100	0		
Place of Refuge			1542	650
Scholarships				
Total Social Justice	55854	55,545.00	47,726.00	57,335.22

PCUSA Grant of \$6,100 is used to offset Hunger Coordinator's payroll costs

**2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
Mission Interpretation Expense Budget**

	2012 Budget	2011 Budget	2012-2013	2013 Budget
Printing	353.00			
Postage	283.00			
Keynotes	28,000.00		4,000.00	32,000.00
Mission Mission			18,000.00	26,000.00
Mission of Mission	7,000.00	10,000.00	3,000.00	10,000.00
Mission Interpretation	700.00	700.00		
Mission Interpretation (Travel Support)	123,000.00	140,000.00	17,000.00	140,000.00
Mission Interpretation (Travel Support)	157,000.00	178,000.00	21,000.00	179,000.00
Mission Interpretation (Travel Support)	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Computer Services	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Other Mission Interpretation	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Salaries & Benefits	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Supplies	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Travel	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Other	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Total	375,000.00	375,000.00	42,000.00	417,000.00

**2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
Nuture & Support Expense Budget**

	2010 Budget	2011 Budget	Modified	2013 Budget
			2012 Budget	
Postage	150	0		
Printing	200	0		
Special Events	0	0		
Congregational Care of Pastors	0	0		
Clergy Retreats/Clergy in Transition	500	1250	307	308
Church Leadership Training	1000	1000	2893	2893
Retired Clergy	0	0		
Youth Council	17608	9000	7000	7000
Youth Council - Alma	0	0	500	500
Youth Mission Consultant	0	27500	27500	27500
Triennium Savings for Future Year (510)*	0	3000	0	
Samaritan Clergy Group	0	0		
New Clergy Retreat	0	0	0	
Welcome Lunch	500	0	0	300
Scholarship fund	0	0		
Pastoral Support	0	0		
Total Nuture & Support	19958	41 750.00	38,200.00	38,501.00

Spiritual Formation & Faith PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT

Spiritual

	2010 Budget	2011 Budget	Modified	
			2012 Budget	2013 Budget
Postage	140.00	0.00		
Printing	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Formation (small group)	9,800.00	7,800.00	3,700.00	3,700.00
Worship	140.00	0.00	0.00	
Christian Education	12,250.00	12,500.00	8,700.00	8,700.00
Resource Center	4,900.00	7,700.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
Theological Education	70.00	1,100.00		
General	0.00	0.00		
Martin Luther King Memorial			0.00	
Stewardship	210.00	0.00		
Other Source Transfer from 510			-4,769.00	
Total Spiritual Faith Formation				
Expense	27,510.00	29,100.00	12,131.00	16,900.00

**2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
New Church Development Expense Budget**

	2010 Budget	2011 Budget	Modified 2012 Budget	2013 Budget
Postage	0.00			
Printing	100.00			
Probes	0.00		1,000.00	
General	0.00			
Comunidad Los Del Camino			40,000.00	40,000.00
Training and Support	4,000.00	4,400.00	0.00	
Gratiot	0.00	0.00		
Southfield Presbyterian	0.00	0.00		
Transformation Coordination	28,480.00	31,000.00	26,000.00	28,000.00
New Transformation Projects/Ever	10,000.00	11,000.00	1,000.00	
MLK/Morang St	0.00	0.00		
Vietnamese Fellowship	0.00	0.00		
Far West			7,000.00	18,700.00
Fellowship				
NCD	45,000.00	49,500.00		
Total NCD Expense	87,580.00	95,900.00	75,000.00	84,700.00

**2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
Planning & Visioning Expense Budget**

	2008 Budget	2009 Budget	2010 Budget	2011 Budget	Modified 2012 Budget	2013 Budget
Postage	0	0	0	0		
Printing	0	0	0	0		
Unallocated Budget	4600	5387	2251	4200	2000	1500
Total P&V Expenses	4600	5387	2251	4,200.00	2,000.00	1,500.00

**2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
Metro Urban Task Force Expense Budget**

	2008 Budget	2009 Budget	2010 Budget	2011 Budget	Modified 2012 Budget	2013 Budget
Training	0	720	504	1000	0	1600
Leadership Partnerships	0	720	504	600	1100	1200
Grants for Pilot Programs	0	1440	1008	1100	650	1200
Probe in Cooperative Effort	0	720	504	550	0	
Assessment of Urban Ministries					0	500
Copy/ing, Mailing, Supplies	0	360	252	0	0	
Total Metro Urban Expenses	0	3960	2772	3,150.00	1,750.00	4,500.00

**2013 Presbytery Mission Celebration
Coordinating Cabinet Expense Budget**

	Modified					
	2008 Budget	2009 Budget	2010 Budget	2011 Budget	2012 Budget	2013 Budget
Gifts and Flowers	600	250	250	250	0	250
General Budget	0	100	100	100	100	100
Task Force Expense	500	0	0	0		
Caucus	500	1000	800	800	800	250
Resource Material	200	150	150	150	69.55	350
Subscription	250		0	0		
Postage	300	250	250			
Printing	400	500	400			
General Assembly Expense	250		0	0	0	
Moderator/Vice Mod expense	1500	800	700	700	200	1000
Meeting Expense	200	300	300	300	350	300
Communication Committee	250	0	0	0	971.45	
Multicultural Task Force	7500	4000	2000	2000		
Exec. Presbyter Search	0	0	0	0		
MLK Convocation	1700	800	800	800		
Total Coordinating Cabinet Expenses	14150	8250	5750	5,100.00	2,511.00	2,280.00

**PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
2013 EXTRA COMMITMENT OPPORTUNITIES (ECO)**

This is a list of ministries approved by Presbytery for giving beyond shared mission contributions.

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND PEACEMAKING

A Place of Refuge

Provides transitional housing for youth aging out of the foster care system.

Baby Basics

To help provide basic supplies for infants as an outreach to young mothers in need.

Helping Hand Fund

To provide for Presbytery's emergency assistance fund for one time grants to assist with utilities, rent and rent deposits, emergency medical care, and other urgent needs.

Hunger Program

To provide financial support of the Presbytery's Churches with food programs.

2 Cents per Meal

To raise awareness and funds to help reduce the hunger problem locally, nationally, and globally.

MISSION INTERPRETATION

Alma College

To provide general support to Alma College, the only Presbyterian-related four-year liberal arts college in the state of Michigan.

Barnabas Youth Opportunities Project

To offer training designed to enable youth to discover, prepare for, and engage in meaningful, purposeful, and fulfilling work for youth in Detroit at Trumbull and Grand River Avenue.

Ecumenical Theological Seminary

To provide general support to the Ecumenical Theological Seminary, an accredited Seminary uniquely equipped to prepare individuals for ministry in urban centers.

Fort Street Open Door

To serve the homeless and poor in downtown Detroit.

Habitat for Humanity

To build houses for families in need of housing who contribute with sweat equity.

Hands-On Mission

To furnish supplies for mission projects to help congregations get involved in mission.

International Partnerships - Kenya

To continue support of the established 5 year International Partnership agreement with the Thika Presbytery in Kenya, including the drilling of wells to provide much needed water.

Michigan Presbytery Black Charitable Organization / Lazarus & Angel Touch Ministry

To help citizens re-entering society from prison by providing housing, support, accountability, job training, and Christian fellowship.

Presbyterian Villages of Michigan

To provide financial support to residents of PVM that serves the needs of older adults with more than a dozen senior living communities and outreach services throughout Michigan.

Second Mile Center

To provide outreach to youth and families on the East Side of Detroit by the Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Detroit.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN**Park United, Highland Park – Roof Fund**

To replace the roof to prevent further structural damage.

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Overall By Committee
From 9/1/2012 Through 8/30/2012

	This Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	2012 Budget	Percent Total Budget Remaining
Revenue				
Committee on Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Trustees	47,251.81	448,195.28	782,952.00	(47.76)%
Presbytery Operations	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Congregational Life	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	13,029.46	7,300.00	78.45%
Mission Interpretation	7,234.02	24,011.38	31,620.00	(24.06)%
Nurture & Support	0.00	2,881.20	1,000.00	186.12%
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	0.00	4,769.48	1,000.00	376.95%
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Outdoor Ministry	0.00	625.00	1,000.00	(37.50)%
Presbyterian Women	500.00	1,500.00	2,000.00	(25.00)%
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Coordinating Cabinet	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(100.00)%
Total Revenue	<u>54,985.83</u>	<u>494,991.80</u>	<u>833,872.00</u>	<u>(40.64)%</u>
Expense				
Committee on Ministry	0.00	4,560.14	7,147.00	36.20%
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	17.36	2,500.00	99.31%
Trustees	2,475.99	79,097.11	135,000.00	41.41%
Presbytery Operations	30,923.84	286,043.95	377,012.83	24.13%
Congregational Life	1,817.90	10,032.71	17,500.00	42.67%
Social Justice & Peace	2,551.63	44,918.02	60,755.00	26.07%
Mission Interpretation	4,448.05	49,180.81	80,320.00	36.77%
Nurture & Support	2,689.24	35,089.87	38,200.00	13.38%
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	2,000.00	7,317.61	16,800.00	56.76%
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	4,451.37	42,684.82	75,000.00	43.06%
Outdoor Ministry	3,851.41	32,862.69	43,817.00	25.00%
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	1,750.00	100.00%
Planning & Visioning	2,452.70	7,775.85	2,000.00	(38.76)%
Coordinating Cabinet	0.00	858.67	2,511.00	65.90%
Total Expense	<u>57,462.13</u>	<u>593,439.41</u>	<u>860,412.83</u>	<u>31.03%</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(2,476.30)</u>	<u>(98,447.61)</u>	<u>(26,540.83)</u>	<u>270.65%</u>

The Presbytery of Detroit
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Comparative Overall By Committee Fund 100
From 9/1/2012 Through 9/30/2012

	2012 Current Month Actual	2012 Current Year Actual	2011 Prior Year Actual	Current Year % Change
Revenue				
Trustees	47,251.81	448,195.28	536,155.33	(16.41)
Congregational Life	0.00	0.00	1,400.00	(100.00)
Social Justice & Peace	0.00	13,029.46	6,830.00	90.77
Mission Interpretation	7,234.02	24,011.38	26,043.66	(7.80)
Nurture & Support	0.00	2,861.20	1,500.00	90.75
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	0.00	4,769.48	480.00	893.64
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	0.00	0.00	6,500.00	(100.00)
Outdoor Ministry	0.00	625.00	0.00	100.00
Presbyterian Women	500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00
Metro Urban Ministry Team	0.00	0.00	500.00	(100.00)
Planning & Visioning	0.00	0.00	750.00	(100.00)
Total Revenue	<u>54,985.83</u>	<u>494,991.80</u>	<u>581,658.99</u>	<u>(14.80)</u>
Expense				
Committee on Ministry	0.00	4,560.14	8,523.72	(46.50)
Preparation for Ministry	0.00	17.36	1,280.67	(98.64)
Trustees	2,475.99	79,097.11	90,430.07	(12.53)
Presbytery Operations	30,923.84	286,043.95	282,573.64	1.23
Congregational Life	1,817.90	10,032.71	11,549.38	(13.13)
Social Justice & Peace	2,551.63	44,918.02	46,644.55	(3.70)
Mission Interpretation	4,448.05	49,180.81	50,569.20	(2.75)
Nurture & Support	2,689.24	33,089.87	30,030.56	10.19
Spiritual Formation & Faith Development	2,000.00	7,317.61	8,606.97	(14.98)
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	4,451.37	42,684.82	50,946.76	(16.22)
Outdoor Ministry	3,651.41	32,862.69	32,742.72	0.37
Planning & Visioning	2,452.70	2,775.65	2,992.01	(7.73)
Coordinating Cabinet	0.00	858.67	466.33	84.13
Total Expense	<u>57,462.13</u>	<u>593,439.41</u>	<u>617,356.58</u>	<u>(3.87)</u>
Revenues Over(Under) Expenditures	<u>(2,476.30)</u>	<u>(98,447.61)</u>	<u>(35,697.59)</u>	<u>175.78</u>

CHURCHES	ITEMS INCLUDED IN THE STANDARD CALL														OTHER ITEMS		SUB TOTALS				GRAND TOTAL (package)
	BASIC COMPENSATION							BASIC BENEFITS	PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES					Vacation	Study Leave	Basic Comp.	Change over 2011	Basic Benefits	Pro. Expenses		
	Ministers	Cash Salary	Housing & Utility Allowance	Use of Manse	Medical Ded./ Allow.	Flex. Benefits (Description)	Flex. Benefits (Amount)	Board of Pension Dues	Social Security (SECA) Allow.	Auto/Travel Allowance	Cont. Education	Business Expenses	Other (Description)	Other (Amount)	(wks)						
ALLEN PARK																					
DOUGLAS BLAIKIE	REP ORT	NOT RECEIV ED	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0						\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
ANN ARBOR CALVARY																					
CHRISTINE TILLER BOHN	\$24,000	\$22,400		\$928			\$15,382	\$3,621	\$1,500	\$1,200				1 Mon th	2 Weeks	\$47,328	\$1,390	\$19,003	\$2,700	\$69,031	
ANN ARBOR FIRST																					
FAIRFAX FAIR	\$50,000	\$71,540	\$0	\$0	Dental	\$360	\$38,277	\$9,298	\$2,000	\$3,500	\$4,000			5 Wee ks	2 Weeks	\$12,190	\$3,540	\$47,505	\$9,500	\$178,975	
BREWSTER GERE	\$0	\$48,000	\$0		Def. Comp	\$14,625	\$20,197	\$4,791		\$2,500	\$5,187			28 day s	2 Weeks	\$62,625	(\$10,494)	\$24,988	\$7,687	\$95,300	
DAVID PRENTICE-HYERS	\$23,288	\$25,500		\$0		\$0	\$15,734	\$3,732		\$1,000	\$1,200			4 Wee ks	2 Weeks	\$48,788	\$483	\$19,066	\$2,200	\$70,454	
MELISSA ANNE ROGERS	\$11,798	\$37,725		\$0		\$0	\$16,911	\$3,789		\$1,000	\$1,300	Cell phone	\$1,000	4 Wee ks	2 Weeks	\$49,523	\$2,803	\$20,700	\$3,300	\$73,523	
ANN ARBOR NORTHSIDE																					
BROOKE PICKRELL	\$15,935	\$15,600	\$0	\$731	Dental	\$736	\$11,479	\$2,412	\$0	\$773	\$927			4 Wee ks	2 Weeks	\$33,002	\$0	\$13,891	\$1,700	\$48,593	
ANN ARBOR WESTMINSTER																					
STEPHEN CARL	\$35,400	\$50,680	\$0	\$6,034		\$0	\$28,405	\$6,585		\$1,000	\$4,000			4 Wee ks	2 Weeks	\$92,114	\$712	\$34,990	\$5,000	\$132,104	
CATHERINE KING	\$20,548	\$24,652	\$0	\$7,054			\$14,916	\$3,458		\$1,500	\$1,500			4 Wee ks	2 Weeks	\$52,254	\$0	\$18,374	\$3,000	\$73,628	
AUBURN HILLS																					
VACANT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0							\$0	\$0	\$0	
BELLEVILLE																					
GREGORY ZURAKOWSKI	\$19,326	\$19,325		\$773		\$0	\$12,714	\$3,016	\$1,100	\$750	\$750			4 Wee ks	2 Weeks	\$39,424		\$15,730	\$2,600	\$57,754	
BERKLEY GREENFIELD																					
PETER MOORE	\$7,500	\$35,000		\$9,053	Def. Comp.	\$7,500	\$17,757	\$581	\$0	\$0	\$0	Reimb. Acct.	\$17,000	28 Day s	14 Days	\$60,253	\$318	\$18,338	\$17,000	\$95,591	

					Other	\$1,200						24	10	\$92,	\$37	\$3,0	\$132.36	
BIRMINGHAM FIRST												Days	Days	165	.20	00	6	
JOHN JUDSON	\$60,165	\$30,000	\$0	\$2,000		\$29,732	\$7,469	\$0	\$3,000	\$0				\$92,165	\$0	\$3,000	\$132.36	
AMY MORGAN	\$27,481	\$21,492	\$0	\$2,000		\$16,439	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,631		28	14	\$50,973	\$0	\$2,631	\$70.043	
BEVERLY HLS. NORTHBROOK																		
MARJORIE WILHELMI	\$37,650	\$23,000	\$0	\$6,000	Dental Def. Comp.	\$736	\$20,556	\$4,839	\$2,500	\$2,000	\$0	20	10	\$69,986	\$250	\$4,500	\$99.881	
VACANT						\$2,600	\$0			\$0				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
BLMFLD HILLS KIRK																		
NORMAN PRITCHARD	\$10,323	\$0	\$309	\$0	Dental	\$675	\$39,796	\$8,050	\$2,500	Med. Reimb	\$2.438	30	2	\$13,487	\$5.161	\$39,796	\$12,988	
VACANT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0					\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
WILLIAM ADAMS III	\$30,650	\$26,000	\$0	\$0	Dental	\$675	\$18,270	\$0	\$1,350	\$1,600	Med. reimb	\$1.780	4	2	\$57,325	\$1,650	\$4,730	\$80.325
CAROL ANN TATE	\$45,000	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	Dental	\$675	\$24,187	\$1,350	\$5,600	Med. Reimb	\$1.780	4	2	\$75,675	\$0	\$8,730	\$108.592	
BRIGHTON FIRST																		
DANIEL MICHALEK	\$36,299	\$38,140	\$1,603	\$0		\$23,953	\$5,695	\$1,800	\$2,000			4	3	\$76,042	\$1.561	\$29,648	\$3,800	
CANTON GENEVA																		
BRYAN SMITH	\$32,040	\$38,000	\$4,200	\$0		\$22,588	\$400	\$1,000	\$400			4	2	\$74,240	\$0	\$1,800	\$98.628	
CLARKSTON SASHABAW																		
LAURA SIAS-LEE	REP ORT	NOT RECEIVED	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
DEARBORN CHERRY HILL																		
NEETA NICHOLS	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$570		Annuit Dental	\$9,000 \$331	\$18,383	\$4,360	\$1,200	\$2,156	\$0	1	2	\$57,901	\$0	\$3,356	\$84.000	
DEARBORN FIRST																		
DAVID BLEIVIK	\$32,014	\$40,800	\$0	\$1,800	Def. Comp.	\$14,482	\$28,153	\$5,570	\$1,650	\$1,000	\$800	5	2	\$89,096	\$1,869	\$3,450	\$126.269	
MICHAEL HOFFMAN	\$24,000	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$1,836	\$1,000	\$200		2	1	\$24,000	\$0	\$1,836	\$27.036	
VACANT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	

DEARBORN LITTLEFIELD														28	14																
	FRANCES HAYES	\$31,920	\$25,080	\$0	\$1,710	Def. Comp.	\$1,200	\$18,525	\$4,360	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$800	\$0	days	days	\$59,910	\$1,851	\$22,885	\$3,300	\$86,095											
DBN HGTS/ST ANDREW'S																															
	VACANT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0											
DETROIT BROADSTREET																															
	VACANT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0											
DETROIT CALVARY																															
	KEVIN JOHNSON	\$44,989	\$6,000	\$0	\$1,012		\$0	\$17,991	\$3,786	\$4,508	\$800	\$0	\$0	4 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$52,001	\$0	\$21,777	\$5,308	\$79,086											
DETROIT CALVIN EAST																															
	GORDON SEILER	\$14,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	401K	\$13,675	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	4 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$27,675	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$27,675											
DETROIT FORT STREET																															
	SHARON MOOK	REP	NOT RECEIVED	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0											
DETROIT GRATIOT AVE.																															
	VACANT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0											
DETROIT HOPE																															
	RAPHAEL FRANCIS	\$13,364	\$6,600	\$0	\$400		\$0	\$2,500	\$1,500	\$950	\$400	\$0	Book allow.	2 Weeks	Upon request	\$20,364	\$0	\$4,000	\$1,650	\$26,014											
DETROIT JEFFERSON AVE																															
	PETER C. SMITH	\$69,276	\$0	\$20,783	\$2,701		\$0	\$31,041	\$6,889	\$4,500	\$2,000	\$2,975	\$0	35 Days	21 Days	\$92,760	\$2,263	\$37,930	\$9,475	\$140,165											
DETROIT RIVERSIDE																															
	VACANT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0											
DETROIT ST. JOHN'S																															
	VACANT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0											
DETROIT TRINITY																															
	EDWIN FABRE	REP	NOT RECEIVED	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0											
DETROIT TRUMBULL AVE																															
	VACANT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0											
DETROIT WESTMINSTER																															
	MARY AUSTIN	\$12,790	\$30,000	\$0	\$856		\$0	\$14,185	\$1,789	\$0	\$0	\$2,380	\$0	4 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$43,646	\$0	\$15,974	\$2,380	\$62,000											
FARMINGTON FIRST																															
	SUE ELLIS MELROSE	\$46,335	\$25,500	\$0	\$3,500	Dental	\$736	\$24,741	\$5,495	\$0	\$2,000	\$3,100	\$0	5 Weeks	4 Weeks	\$76,863	\$988	\$30,236	\$5,100	\$112,199											

	KELLIE WHITLOCK	\$23,610	\$24,270	\$3,100	Def. Annuity	\$1,200	\$16,796	\$3,892	\$3,000	\$800	\$200	4 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$52,540	\$600	\$20.68	\$4,000	\$77,228	
					Dental	\$360													
LIVONIA ST. PAUL'S																			
	PAUL STUNKEL	\$34,100	\$16,500	\$1,060	Def. Comp.	\$2,400	\$18,768	\$4,136	\$3,600	\$1,030	\$1,300	4 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$54,060	\$0	\$22.90	\$5,930	\$82,894	
LIVONIA ST. TIMOTHY																			
	JOEL PUNTINGAM	\$29,100	\$26,600	\$1,115	Dental	\$1,327	\$17,964	\$4,261	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$800	30 Days	2 Weeks	\$58,142	\$1,719	\$22.22	\$3,300	\$83,667	
MACOMB CHURCH/COVENANT																			
	JASON HUFF	\$8,651	\$30,000	\$0	\$773	\$0	\$12,419	\$3,016	\$1,236	\$1,030	\$0	28 Days	14 Days	\$39,424	\$0	\$15.43	\$2,266	\$57,125	
MILAN PEOPLES																			
	KELLY B. SHRIVER	\$30,000	\$0	\$15.00	\$900	Dental	\$600	\$14,917	\$3,511	\$0	\$0	1 Month	2 Weeks	\$46,500	\$0	\$18.42	\$2,260	\$67,188	
MILFORD																			
	W. KENT CLISE	\$11,750	\$36,750	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	IRS rate	\$0	\$0	4 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$48,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$48,500	
	ANNE SCHAEFER	\$14,863	\$30,000					\$3,637	IRS rate			4 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$44,863	\$0	\$3,637	\$0	\$48,500	
MT CLEMENS FIRST																			
	ROXIE ANN DAVIS	\$25,500	\$9,865	\$700	Def. Comp.	\$5,000	\$13,244	\$2,746	\$2,520	\$500	\$0	30 Days	2 Weeks	\$41,065	(\$135)	\$15.99	\$3,020	\$60,075	
	WILLIAM F W DAVIS	\$25,500	\$9,865	\$700	Def. Comp.	\$5,000	\$13,244	\$2,746	\$2,520	\$500	\$0	30 Days	2 Weeks	\$41,065	(\$135)	\$15.99	\$3,020	\$60,075	
NORTHVILLE FIRST																			
	W. STUART RITTER	\$65,075	\$39,000		Dental	\$583	\$33,564	\$7,962	\$0	\$1,030	\$1,236	4 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$10,465	\$0	\$41.52	\$2,266	\$148,450	
	EMMA L. OUELLETTE	\$32,000	\$18,000			\$0	\$16,422	\$3,825	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,500	1 Month	2 Weeks	\$50,000	\$0	\$20.24	\$3,000	\$73,247	
NOVI FAITH COMMUNITY																			
	RICHARD J. HENDERSON	\$30,348	\$32,893	\$1,260		\$0	\$19,921	\$4,838	\$6,200	\$1,800	\$2,591	5 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$64,501	\$322	\$24.75	\$10,591	\$99,851	
ORCHARD LK COMMUNITY																			
	PAUL THWAITE	\$51,679	\$25,000	\$1,708	Annuit 403(b) match	\$2,846	\$25,647	\$5,866	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$0	4 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$83,983	\$2,944	\$31.51	\$4,500	\$119,996	
	MARY BAHR-	\$3,900	\$28,000	\$800	Dental	\$1,327	\$10,062	\$2,444	\$1,120	\$750	\$0	1	2	\$34,713	\$12	\$1.8	\$48,451		

JONES	43								5			Mon th	Weeks	070		.50 6	75	
PLYMOUTH FIRST																		
JAMES SKIMINS	\$60,959	\$38,000	\$0	\$3.331	Life Ins. Def. Comp.	\$362	\$34,556	\$7,915		\$2.500	\$5.390	6 Wee ks	2 Weeks	\$107.152	\$2,882	\$42.471	\$7.890	\$157.513
EMILY CAMPBELL	\$34,088	\$30,000	\$0	\$4.100		\$0	\$21,991	\$4,903	\$0	\$1.500	\$2.675	4 Wee ks	2 Weeks	\$68.188	\$1,867	\$26.394	\$4.175	\$99.257
CHRISTOPHER THOMAS	\$34,700	\$16,800		\$1.500			\$16,695	\$3,940		\$1.030	\$1.236	4 Wee ks	2 Weeks	\$53.000	\$0	\$20.635	\$2.266	\$75.901
PONTIAC FIRST																		
ELIZABETH DOWNS	\$6,500	\$28,500		\$1.399	Def. Annuity	\$11.637	\$0	\$3,568		\$0	\$4.000	1 Mon th	2 Weeks	\$48.036	\$0	\$3.568	\$4.000	\$55.604
PONTIAC JOSLYN AVE																		
VACANT	\$0	\$0		\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0
PORT HURON FIRST																		
JASON PITTMAN	\$40,000	\$17,065		\$1.141		\$0	\$18,546	\$4,453	\$1.000	\$1.000	\$1.000	4 Wee ks	2 Weeks	\$58.206	\$0	\$22.999	\$3.000	\$84.205
BREANNE HARMON	\$27,811	\$12,000	\$0	\$398			\$13,068	\$3,076	\$1.236	\$1.030	\$0	4 Wee ks	2 Weeks	\$40.209	\$781	\$16.144	\$2.266	\$58.619
REDFORD ST. JAMES																		
PAUL BOSQUETTE	REP ORT	NOT RECEIV ED	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
ROCHESTER UNIVERSITY																		
GEORGE PORTICE	REP ORT	NOT RECEIV ED	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
MARIANNE GRANO	\$21,533	\$24,240		\$1.780		\$0	\$15,094	\$3,502	\$1.520	\$1.030	\$0	28 Day s	2 Weeks	\$47.553	\$433	\$18.596	\$2.550	\$68.699
ROSEVILLE ERIN																		
G. PATRICK THOMPSON	REP ORT	NOT RECEIVED		\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
ROYAL OAK POINT OF VISION																		
JOHN BIERSDORF	\$10,800	\$0	\$0	\$500				\$0	\$700	\$0	\$0	4 Wee ks	2 Weeks	\$11.300		\$0	\$700	\$12,000
ROYAL OAK FIRST																		
THOMAS RICE	\$42,864	\$31,326	\$0	\$1.220		\$0	\$24,508	\$5,676	\$2.000	\$1.000	\$1.000	1 Mon th	2 Weeks	\$75.410	\$1,759	\$30.184	\$4.000	\$109.594
MATTHEW NICKEL	\$29,825	\$18,000	\$0	\$913			\$15,839	\$3,659	\$0	\$1.030	\$1.200	4 Wee ks	2 Weeks	\$48.738	\$0	\$19.49	\$2.230	\$70.466

ROYAL OAK STARR													ks			8					
	KENNETH KAIBEL	\$2,370	\$12,000		\$700	Def. Comp	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200	\$600	\$0	2 Weeks	1 Week	\$16,570	\$0	\$0	\$800	\$17,370	
ST CLAIR SHORES HERITAGE																					
	KENNETH BOLT	\$13,103	\$26,000		\$0			\$12,611	\$2,991	\$850	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$0	5 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$39,103	\$0	\$15,602	\$3,050	\$57,755	
ST CLAIR SHORES LAKE SHORE																					
	ADAM GORSCH	\$38,500	\$24,000		\$625	IRA Contrib Dental	\$1,562	\$20,358	\$4,829	\$1,200	\$1,500	\$500	Prof. Exp	\$1,500	4 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$65,124	\$0	\$25,187	\$4,700	\$95,011
SALINE																					
	JUDY SHIPMAN	\$31,600	\$31,000		\$1,400	Def. Comp.	\$3,650	\$23,042		\$2,227	\$500	\$650		35 Days	2 Weeks	\$67,650	\$1,430	\$23,042	\$3,377	\$94,069	
SHELBY ST THOMAS																					
	JAIME KLINGER	\$23,535	\$10,159	\$0	\$604	Def. Annuity	\$1,200	\$12,715	\$2,669	\$2,068	\$1,500	\$600		4 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$35,498	\$0	\$15,384	\$4,168	\$55,050	
	JAMES PORTER	\$37,990	\$22,438	\$0	\$1,432	Def. Annuity Dental	\$2,400	\$20,689	\$4,806	\$2,575	\$1,800	\$1,000		4 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$65,586	\$0	\$25,495	\$5,375	\$96,456	
SOUTHFIELD NEW HOPE																					
	DAVID SHINN	\$35,000	\$20,000		\$2,375		\$0	\$17,325	\$4,207	\$5,000	\$1,500	\$1,500		4 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$57,375	\$0	\$21,532	\$8,000	\$86,907	
SOUTHFIELD KOREAN																					
	SEUNG WON YU	REP ORT	NOT RECEIVED	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
	YO SUP SOHN	REP ORT	NOT RECEIVED	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
SOUTHFIELD COVENANT																					
	QUINCY COOPER	\$26,000	\$47,200	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,800	\$0	\$0		4 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$73,200	\$0	\$0	\$1,800	\$75,000	
SOUTH LYON																					
	MICHAEL HORLOCKER	\$27,868	\$0	\$11,943	\$796		\$0	\$13,096	\$3,106	\$866	\$1,400	\$0		4 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$40,607	\$0	\$16,202	\$2,266	\$59,075	
STERLING HGTS NEW LIFE																					
	DOYLL ANDREWS	\$32,860	\$15,900	\$0	\$1,500	Dental	\$486	\$15,359	\$3,730	\$1,272	\$1,500	\$0		5 Weeks	2 Weeks	\$50,746	\$0	\$19,089	\$2,772	\$72,607	

TAYLOR SOUTHMINSTER													28			\$19				
	KAREN STUNKEL	\$26,500	\$17,400	\$0	\$500	Def. Comp.	\$2,580	\$16,100	\$3,480	\$4,000	\$3,000	\$1,000	\$0	Days	2 Weeks	\$46,980	\$0	\$0	\$8,000	\$74,560
TROY FIRST													28			\$17				
	JUDITH MCMILLAN CHRISTENSEN	\$16,800	\$25,000		\$129	Def. Comp. Dental	\$2,400 \$871	\$14,365	\$3,198	\$1,379	\$1,300	\$0	\$0	Days	2 Weeks	\$45,200	\$0	\$0	\$2,679	\$65,442
TROY KOREAN FIRST													1			\$12				
	SEUNG CHOI	\$18,109	\$12,000		\$802			\$9,674	\$2,349	\$1,236	\$1,030	\$0	\$0	Month	2 Weeks	\$30,911	\$0	\$0	\$2,266	\$45,200
TROY NORTHMINSTER													30			\$24				
	CHARLOTTE SOMMERS	\$30,749	\$28,560		\$593	Dental	\$360	\$19,469	\$4,583	\$0	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$0	Days	14 Days	\$60,262	\$0	\$0	\$3,500	\$87,814
WALLED LAKE CROSSROADS													25			\$18				
	JOHN PAVELKO	\$17,740	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	Def. Comp. Dental	\$2,000 \$3,500 \$1,313	\$15,609	\$3,269	\$1,236	\$1,030	\$0	\$0	Days	14 Days	\$49,553	\$0	\$0	\$2,266	\$70,697
WARREN CELTIC CROSS																				
	MATTHEW MEANS	REP ORT	NOT RECEIVED	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WARREN FIRST													4			\$16				
	EMMA NICKEL	\$30,170	\$10,000	\$0	\$402	Dental	\$285	\$13,085	\$3,104	\$500	\$1,030	\$1,795	\$0	Weeks	3.5 Weeks	\$40,857	\$1,182	\$0	\$3,325	\$60,371
WATERFORD COMMUNITY													4			\$20				
	THOMAS HARTLEY	\$25,310	\$23,800	\$0	\$0		\$3,538	\$16,979	\$3,864	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$0	Weeks	2 weeks	\$52,648	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$76,491
WESTLAND KIRK/SAVIOR													4			\$16				
	NEIL D. COWLING	\$24,248	\$17,510	\$0	\$0	Life Ins. Dental	\$418 \$675	\$13,049	\$3,194	\$6,000	\$380	\$0	\$0	Weeks	2 weeks	\$42,851	\$0	\$0	\$6,380	\$65,474
WHITE LAKE																				
	VACANT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WYANDOTTE, FIRST													28			\$17				
	ARTHUR OBERG	\$12,059	\$30,600	\$0	\$853	Dental	\$876	\$13,877	\$3,263	\$1,566	\$1,030	\$798	\$1,032	Days	14 Days	\$44,388	\$0	\$0	\$4,426	\$65,954
YPSILANTI, FIRST													5			\$18				
	KEITH GEISELMAN	\$15,000	\$27,000	\$0	\$14,000		\$0	\$14,794	\$3,519	\$0	\$1,500	\$5,500	\$3,000	Weeks	2 Weeks	\$56,000	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$84,313

**Memorandum of Understanding
between
Thika Presbytery, Presbyterian Church of East Africa
and
Presbytery of Detroit, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**

Introduction

Whereas, Thika Presbytery and the Presbytery of Detroit began a partnership in 1999 for mutual support and ministry in the name of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, Covenantal relationships are fundamental to Biblical understanding of God's relationship with humanity and with interactions between humans living together as God's children; and

Whereas, Thika Presbytery and the Presbytery of Detroit desire to strengthen their partnership; and

Whereas, The presbyteries regularly reaffirm their commitment to common ministry; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Thika Presbytery of the P.C.E.A. and Presbytery of Detroit of PC(USA) enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U.) concerning their partnership.

Statement of Intention

This MOU represents the general intention of the parties. The ongoing relationship shall be subject to the negotiation and execution of specific agreements with all necessary approvals obtained from the two presbyteries. This MOU outlines the broad terms and conditions on which Thika Presbytery will work with Presbytery of Detroit socially, economically, and spiritually in order to promote, educate, and inform the communities and membership of the presbyteries. The partnership does not require a financial obligation of either party.

Possible Areas of Partnership

The following represents possible areas of work. This list of activities does not exclude exploration of other projects at a future time.

- ✓ Cultural exchange between the two communities
- ✓ Spiritual growth of the membership of the two Presbyteries and their surrounding communities
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Health
- ✓ Food security

Further Arrangements

When the presbyteries begin specific projects involving both parties, it will be helpful to create Memorandums of Understanding that will facilitate communication and commitment. At the present time communication shall flow between the presbyteries through the Thika Partnership Work Group of the Presbytery of Detroit and the Moderator of the Thika Presbytery.

Time Frame

The partnership between the Presbytery of Detroit and the Thika Presbytery is already in force and shall continue indefinitely. Either presbytery may dissolve the partnership.

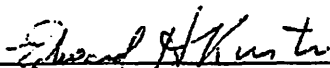
Projects

Both Presbyteries shall identify areas or projects of co-operation time and again. After completion of one project, another project may be identified and the relationship shall continue.



 Rev. Patrick M. Muthungu
 Presbytery Clerk - Thika Presbytery

3/10/2012
 Date



 Rev. Edward H. Koster
 Stated Clerk - Presbytery of Detroit

10/23/2012
 Date

THE PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT

Office of the Stated Clerk
3772 Bridle Pass Court
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Voice: (734) 358-5403 Fax: (734) 531-0768
E-Mail: ehkoster@aol.com



November 1, 2012

The Rev Gradye Parsons
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly
Office of the General Assembly
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
100 Witherspoon St
Louisville, KY

Re: The Decision of the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission Case *Thomas Priest v. the Presbytery of Detroit*, Remedial Case 221-01

Dear Mr Parsons:

The decision of the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission in the matter of *Thomas Priest v. the Presbytery of Detroit*, Remedial Case 221-01, gave the following directive:

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit report this Decision to the Presbytery of Detroit at its first meeting after receipt, that the Presbytery of Detroit enter the full Decision upon its minutes, and that an excerpt from those minutes showing entry of the Decision be sent to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

The minutes of the Presbytery of Detroit of August 28, 2012, approved at the meeting of October 23, 2012, include the following:

Stated Clerk: Edward Koster reported.

- The Stated Clerk reported the following for the information of Presbytery:
-
- 2. Judicial Procedures.
-
- c. The General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission has issued a decision in the matter of *Thomas Priest v. The Presbytery of Detroit*. The Permanent Judicial Commission has dismissed the matter. This concludes the judicial process; no further appeal is possible under this complaint. The Presbytery's Reply Brief , Mr Priest's Reply Brief, and

PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT
OFFICE OF THE STATED CLERK

the decision of the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission
are appended to the minutes.

Please let me know if there is any further report that you need.

Grace and peace.

Edward H Koster

Edward H Koster
Stated Clerk