

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY - Presbytery of Seattle
October 9, 2008 – Approved
Presbytery Offices at Beacon Hill

PRESENT

Tom Fox	Randy Roberts	Wes Nordman	Janine Moriarty
Howard Strickler	Gary Barckert	Larry Grounds	Tim Snow
Steve Bass	Elaine Swigart	Dick Erickson	Helen Nash
Madeleine Brenner	Cal Uomoto	Chris Griggs	Fred Davis
Chet Gean	Barbara Jirsa	Jiyon Kim	

ABSENT

Grant Jensen*	Claudia Rowe	Dianne Thompson
Jennifer Juncker	Jane Pauw	Kolinus Buntaran

STAFF

Dennis Hughes, Stated Clerk	Karen Cunningham, Council Liaison
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The Meeting was opened with prayer at 4:15 pm by the Chair, Tom Fox. The Minutes of the September 4, 2008, Meeting were approved with one minor correction: Sept. 7 rather than Sept. 21 in UPC/APNC item, p. 2.

REPORT OF THE MODERATOR

Tom Fox reported on the budget process. He is working on the COM budget request and will email it to all members when it is ready, within two weeks. Current year commitments and receipts are presently running behind hopes and expectations.

Tom also reported that the CLP/EMT Administrative Review group has been formed and will have an organizational meeting in the next two weeks.

ORDER OF THE DAY/University PNC Prosecuting Call to George L. Hinman

Madeleine Brenner, Pete Anderson, and Tom Burley reported on the PNC process, and submitted a report form #2 on Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity procedures observed in the search. Their search went beyond the usual methods, and included soliciting targeted PIFs and/or resumes from people not currently seeking a call.

It was voted, on behalf of presbytery (G-11.0502h), to approve the call to the Rev. George L. Hinman, Presbytery of the Pacific, effective October 10, 2008 on the following terms:

Salary:	\$120,000	Study Allowance:	\$1,000
Housing:	\$ 55,000	4 weeks vacation	
Other Cash:	\$ 2,400	4 weeks study leave, cumulative to 6	
BOP Dues:	\$ 40,398	wks	

AAEEO Report:

54 Dossiers received 49 male / 4 female / 1 clergy couples
 100 Names considered, without dossiers 95 male / 5 female / 2 racial ethnic
 16 Candidates considered 16 male
 3 Interviews conducted 3 male

The COM exam team reported favorably on their interview with Rev. Hinman.

***It was voted to recommend that Presbytery receive and enroll Rev. George Hinman on receipt of papers from the Presbytery of the Pacific.**

A lengthy report was given regarding the matter of seeking a co-pastor instead of following the ordinary search procedures, and a written report was distributed. There were no positive responses from anyone in UPC concerning the co-pastor model that was followed. Many people responded with strong emotions, and it was determined that the

congregation missed a chance to disassociate from the continuing co-pastor and to undergo a much needed grief process. This undercut the opportunity to express excitement over the new minister because both staff and congregation felt a need to downplay their positive feelings to avoid giving offense to the continuing co-pastor. It was said that this “put a pall on the process,” and distracted the congregation and PNC from their tasks.

SEATTLE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN TASK FORCE REPORT

The Rev. Gary Barckert presented a Power Point, information only, report on the work of the Task Force. Current membership of the congregation was reported as approximately 150. The goal articulated was to have the Church receive a new facility with 50,000 sq. ft. of space free and clear, a space adequate for a congregation of approximately 750 members. At the conclusion of the report there was a lengthy discussion as members of the COM asked questions of Task Force members Gary King, Steve Judd, Halleck Greider, and Karen Cunningham (Tim Snow was present in his dual role as Task Force and COM member). The next step planned is for the Task Force to bring a more fact-filled, detailed report to the November COM meeting and to have COM recommend action to the November meeting of the Presbytery, specifically including permission to seek “Requests for Proposals” from developers as the next step. COM members are encouraged to submit questions and suggestions to Gary Barckert gbarckert@aol.com by email within the next two weeks.

REPORT ON CHURCHES / MINISTER MEMBERS

Tweitmann / John Knox

A Congregational Meeting was held on September 28, 2008, to act on the request of the Rev. Christopher Tweitmann to dissolve the Associate Pastor relationship effective October 18, 2008. Rev. Tweitmann has accepted a call to serve Grace Lutheran Church, Huntington Beach, CA., a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Pacifica Synod, under the Formula of Agreement between our denominations, as Interim Pastor, effective October 18, 2008. His last Sunday at John Knox PC is October 12, 2008. Rev. Tweitmann intends to remain a member of the Presbytery of Seattle, serving in a validated ministry as interim pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Huntington Beach, CA. Pacifica Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, occupation code 505, until he is transferred to the ELCA. The status of Interim Pastor is transitional service required by the ELCA for the period from October 18, 2008 until his rostering by the ELCA, (the process by which he becomes a full clergy member of the ELCA denomination). Permission for Chris to labor outside the bounds is not needed in this circumstance because the work is not within the jurisdiction of the PCUSA.

***It was voted, on behalf of presbytery (G-11.0502h), to concur with the dissolution** of the Associate Pastor relationship with John Knox PC effective October 17, 2008. (G-11.0502h)

***It was voted, on behalf of presbytery (G-11.0502h), to find the call of the congregation of Grace Lutheran Church, Huntington Beach, CA.,** a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, to the Rev. Chris Tweitmann for ministerial services as interim pastor under the Formula of Agreement between the PCUSA and the ELCA, to be in order, understanding that the provisions of the Formula of Agreement that require Rev. Tweitmann’s medical and pension dues to continue through the Board of Pensions of the PCUSA as long as he continues to be a member of the PCUSA. (G-11.0502h). Rev. Tweitmann’s occupation code will be 505.

Strong / Wabash

The Rev. Peter Strong, Associate Pastor at Wabash PC, who is also a Reserve Chaplain, subject to mobilization to active duty in the US Army. Rev. Strong was mobilized and has been ordered to deploy to Iraq on October 3, 2008. As of October 1, 2008, his relationship with Wabash PC has changed. He is has been relieved of his responsibilities to the congregation in order to report for active duty. Wabash PC has committed to the following requirements of law and/or the Board of Pensions to:

- continue his salary and allowances for a period of 30 days
- set aside monthly payments of pension dues to the BOP for the entire length of the mobilization in accordance with provisions outlined in federal law
- remit to the BOP the full pension dues payable for the period of activation when the member returns to his civilian employment
- continue medical coverage dues for the chaplain and his family for 31 days following mobilization, or less, once notified by the chaplain that they are covered by military medicine and enrolled in TRICARE, military medical program.
- Honor the right to return to his position as Associate Pastor, which is guaranteed by Federal Law USERRA, binding on employers for five years.

NOTE: The Clerk of Session at Wabash has suggested that Presbytery change Rev. Strong's occupation code from 103, Associate Pastor, to 751 Military Chaplain serving outside the bounds of the presbytery. Conversation with the Office of the General Assembly indicates that it is not necessary to change codes, but that it would be appropriate to add the Military Chaplain code, so that ecclesiastically Rev. Strong would continue to be listed as Associate Pastor and as a Military Chaplain. The new code would be 103/751. This would maintain the pastoral relationship between Rev. Strong and Wabash church clearly until his return.

It was voted, on behalf of presbytery (G-11.0502h), to change the occupation code to 103/751 during Rev. Strong's deployment.

Inglewood

An update was provided by Liaison Team member Madeleine Brenner, including the upcoming "Jubilee Celebration," noting that former pastor Tom Salmon has been invited to attend.

Rolling Bay Update

PNC is negotiating with a pastor candidate. Exec check has been completed and Exam Team has met and cleared the candidate.

EXTENSION OF DESIGNATED PASTORAL RELATIONSHIPS – action pending receipt of official requests

- a. Central Kitsap / Mabanglos – term ending October 31, 2008 – expecting request to extend this relationship from Rev. Hallack Greider. The Session and the Mabanglos have agreed that a one year extension during the Interim time would be appropriate. Full review of the Designated Associate Pastor relationship would occur when the new installed pastor has arrived.
- b. Bethany / Faris Blessing – term ended May 2008 – expecting request for extension from Dan Baumgartner.

REPORT FROM THE EXAM TEAM

Upon the favorable report of the exam team regarding the following persons:

***It was voted to recommend that Presbytery approve the request for validation of the work of Rev. Mike Langford as instructor in theology at Seattle Pacific University, and to receive and enroll him upon receipt of his papers from Mission Presbytery.**

***It was voted to recommend that Presbytery approve the request for validation of the work of Rev. Jeff Gephart as Dean of the Bear Creek School, and to receive and enroll him upon receipt of his papers from Sacramento Presbytery.**

REPORT FROM THE CLP COMMITTEE

Via an e-mail report, Jane Pauw notified the committee that CLP trainees Stephen Wachira and Mua Tran have been notified that their processes are on hold until further notice, as the CLP Committee has no working process in place and is awaiting results and guidance from the CLP/EMT Administrative Review Committee.

Rev. Pauw also reported that the CLP committee will be meeting with CLP's and key leadership from their fellowships on November 8, 2008 at West Side PC to assess their needs regarding operational procedures and polity implementation. COM and Administrative Review Committee members were invited to participate.

REPORT FROM THE TRANSITION TEAM

- **Magnolia** – Pastor. Interim Pastor, Elaine Swigart. Liaison Jane Frissell. PNC elected. Mission Study completed. CIF was approved at the end of Sept.
- **Wabash** – Pastor. Rev. Ron McHattie, Interim. Colleen Chinen is Liaison.
- **Rolling Bay** – Associate Pastor. Interim is Rev. Tom Masters. Steve Van Hoff is Liaison.
- **Rolling Bay** – Pastor. Interim is Rev. Rebecca Blackwell. Steve Van Hoff is liaison. Mission Study completed. PNC elected. Interviewing candidates. Negotiations in process with final candidate.
- **Madrona** – Pastor. Interim Pastor is Rev. Larry Low. Ivan Ellis and Howard Strickler are liaisons. Permission to elect a PNC. PNC has been elected, 9/08.
- **Lake City** – Pastor. Interim Pastor Barbara Schacht. Liz Cedergreen is Liaison. PNC elected. Mission Study completed. Working on CIF.
- **Sammamish** – Pastor. Interim Pastor is Rev. Jerry Hilton. Liaison is Karen Bankson. Mission Study completed. PNC Elected. CIF approved. Interviewing. Negotiations in process with final candidate.
- **Central Kitsap** – Interim Pastor Rev. Hallack Greider. Liaison is Paul Middents. PNC elected and will do the mission study.
- **Japanese** – Associate Pastor. Dick Erickson is Liaison. CIF approved. Interviewing candidates.

CONSENT AGENDA - All of these actions were taken under authority of G-11.0502h

JERRY POOLE

It was voted to name the Rev. Jerry Poole Member-at-large, having completed his service as Interim Executive Presbyter, effective September 1, 2008.

JAMES BERKLEY

It was voted to name the Rev. James Berkley Member-at-large, having completed his work at the Institute on Religion and Democracy/Presbyterian Action, effective September 18, 2008.

THELMA BURGONIO-WATSON

It was voted to dismiss the Rev. Thelma Burgonio Watson to the Presbytery of the Plains and Peaks effective September 11, 2008, at the request of that Presbytery. Rev. Burgonio Watson is serving in a validated ministry as Chaplain beyond the jurisdiction of the church.

WEDGWOOD / Amy Delaney

It was voted to concur with the request of the pastor and Session of Wedgwood Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Amy Delaney and recommend that Presbytery appoint Rev. Delaney Parish Associate for a one year term. Rev. Delaney will work with the Adult Education program, preach occasionally as invited and provide pastoral care for the congregation when the pastor is on vacation or leave. This relationship is non-remunerated except for the standard honorarium when preaching.

WALLINGFORD / Donna Frey DeCou

It was voted to concur with the request of the pastors and Session of Wallingford PC, and recommend that Presbytery extend the Parish Associate relationship with Rev. Donna Frey Decou for another year, with no remuneration. Rev. DeCou assists the pastors as needed and helps with adult education, and mission.

EARL PALMER

It was voted to grant permission to the Rev. Earl Palmer (HR) to labor outside the bounds of Seattle Presbytery, within the bounds of National Capital Presbytery, for the period of his service as Visiting Preacher at National Presbyterian Church, Washington D.C., November 3, 2008 through June 14, 2009, contingent upon confirmation from the Presbytery of National Capital that he has been granted permission to labor within their bounds.

SESSION RECORD REVIEW

The report of the Session Record Review was submitted by Helen Nash and is attached at the end of these Minutes.

6 pm ADJOURN WITH PRAYER at 6:35 p.m. by Tim Snow.

UPCOMING MEETINGS: November 13, 2008 4pm at Beacon Hill
 December 11, 2008 4pm at Beacon Hill

2009 Meeting Schedule

Saturday, January 10, 2009	Annual Retreat and Business Meeting, Place tbd
Thursday, February 5, 2009	4pm at Beacon Hill
Thursday, March 5, 2009	4pm at Beacon Hill
Thursday, April 2, 2009	4pm at Beacon Hill
Thursday, May 7, 2009	4pm at Beacon Hill
Thursday, June 4, 2009	4pm at Beacon Hill
Thursday, July 9, 2009	4pm at Beacon Hill
Thursday, September 3, 2009	4pm at Beacon Hill
Thursday, October 1, 2009	4pm at Beacon Hill
Thursday, November 5, 2009	4pm at Beacon Hill
Thursday, December 3, 2009	4pm at Beacon Hill