

MINUTES
WEST TENNESSEE PRESBYTEERY
March 6, 2010

West Tennessee Presbytery meeting in stated session, Saturday, March, 2010, 9:00 a.m.

Call to Order: The meeting called to order by Moderator Ron Gardner.

Quorum: A quorum was declared. Registration showed 58 ministers, 45 elder delegates, 8 candidates, and 9 licentiates, marked **APPENDIX A** and filed.

Constituting Prayer: The constituting prayer was led by the Rev. Ben Luttrell.

Worship: Pastor Host Helen Hamilton welcomed West Tennessee and led in worship. An offering was received in the amount of 537.00, which was given equally to the Children's Home and Camp Clark Williamson. Licentiate Eric Corbin read from Deuteronomy 10: 17-21 on the subject, "Howdy Stranger, Thank You for being a friend." Rev. Andy McClung led the Memorial Service for elders and ministers that died during the past year (since the March 2009 meeting) and for the Mt. Gilead CP church, (HC) that was closed. (see **APPENDIX B**)

Report #1 of the Nominating Committee: the report was received, marked **APPENDIX C** and filed. Nominees were elected by acclamation. The Rev. Robert Rush escorted Moderator the Rev. Clinton Buck and he assumed the chair. Dr. Tommy Thompson led in prayer. The Vice Moderator, Kathy Waterbury, was introduced to Presbytery.

Adoption the Program: the program was adopted, subject to change.

Treasurer's Report: the report was accepted, marked **APPENDIX D** and filed.

Recognition of Visiting Clergy: The Rev. Milton Ortiz, director of Pastoral Development, from East TN Presbytery and the Rev. Roger Reed, Grace Presbytery, were introduced. The Rev. Ortiz was seated as an advisory member.

Presentation of Unpublished Material:

A letter from the Germantown Church Session requesting approval for a loan in the amount of \$541,248 for improvements and refinancing. (To be considered in "Other Presbyterial Business.")

Communications:

- a. Letter from Oak Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Church requesting permission to deed the Oak Grove Cemetery to the community Perpetual Care Committee. The request was approved.
- b. Letter from denominational Discipleship Ministry Team inviting churches in West Tennessee Presbytery to make a monetary donation to a CCW endowment. The clerk was instructed to distribute copies of the letter to churches of the Presbytery.
- c. Letter of dismissal from Grace Presbytery for the Rev. Roger Reed was received and his name was added to the roll of ordained ministers. The Rev. Roger Reed is pastor of Union City Church.

- d. Letter from Rev. J. B Burns requesting that his name to be removed from the role of ordained ministers of West Tennessee Presbytery. The request was referred to Clergy Care Committee.
- e. A letter of resignation from Sharon Barnes from the Judicial Concerns Committee was granted and referred to the nominating committee.

Presentation by Two Churches: Elder Jamie McAdams gave a brief history of the Palestine Church (HC).

Announcement: The pastor host made necessary announcements.

Recess: The Moderator declared recess.

Recess Out: The Moderator re-convened presbytery for business.

Presbyterial Pictorial Directory: The Rev. Melvin Orr gave a presentation concerning the new pictorial directory that will be available by the June meeting of Presbytery. Presbytery approved underwriting congregation one copy at \$10.00 and that a copy of the directory be added to the website of the presbytery.

Report of the Credentials Committee: The report was received and all requests giving reason for absence or early leaving from this meeting were excused, marked **APPENDIX E**, and filed.

Hearing of Denominational Representatives: Ms. Cathy Johnson, Memphis Theological Seminary, Vice-president for Advancement. The Rev. Milton Ortiz, director for the denominational Pastoral Development Team. Mr. Ron Gardner, OUO representative. The Rev. David Lancaster representing Bethel University could not be present for the morning session due to teaching but will speak following the lunch break.

Agency Reports:

Report of the Presbytery Council: the report was accepted and its recommendations adopted, marked **APPENDIX F** and filed.

Report of Committee on the Ministry for Probationer Care: the report was received seriatim. **Steve Rogers** was presented as a candidate for the ministry by the Rev. Linda Glenn. Mr. Rogers shared his sense of his call. The Rev. Johnny Welch spoke on behalf of Mr. Rogers. Presbytery was given the opportunity to ask questions. The Rev. Glenn asked the constitutional questions which Mr. Rogers answered in the affirmative. **Recommendation 1** was adopted and the name of Steve Rogers will be entered on the role of candidates for the ministry in WTP. The Rev. Welch led in prayer for the candidate.

Recess for Lunch: Pastor Host Helen Hamilton gave instructions for lunch and led in a prayer of thanks for the meal.

Report of Committee on the Ministry for Probationer Care (continued)

Recommendation 2 was adopted and the name of Mike Lavender will be entered in the roll of licentiates.

Recommendation 3 That Presbytery approved and endorse Mark Brown for board certification as a chaplain.

Recommendation 4: That the Carey Morris be dropped as a candidate for ministry at his on request.

Recommendation 5: That the report be approved as a whole, marked **Appendix G** and filed.

Denominational Representative (continued): David Lancaster spoke on behalf of the Bethel University and Linda Glenn prayed for the University.

Report of Board of Missions: The report of Missions was concurred in and its recommendations were adopted, marked **Appendix H** and filed

Report No. 1 of Task Force on New Church Development: The report was concurred in and its recommendation was approved unanimous, marked **Appendix I** and filed

Report No. 2 of the Task Force on New Church Development: That the report be concurred and its recommendations adopted, marked **Appendix J** and filed. The Rev. Jonathan Watson, church planter of Hope Church, gave a report on the Fellowship.

Report of the Board of Directors of Camp Clark Williamson: The report was concurred in, marked **APPENDIX J** and filed.

Report of Stated Clerk: The report was approved, marked **APPENDIX K**, and filed. The Rev. Robert Rush spoke concerning the General Assembly and the celebration of our church 200th anniversary.

Report of Clergy Care Committee: The report was concurred in, marked **APPENDIX L** and filed.

Report of Board of Christian Education: The report was concurred in marked **APPENDIX M** and filed.

Report of Board of Trustees: The report was concurred in, marked **APPENDIX N** and filed.

Report of Committee on Judicial : The report was concurred in, marked **APPENDIX O** and filed

Report No. 2 of Nominating Committee: The report was received and those named listed were elected, marked **APPENDIX P** and filed. (A complete list of commissioners and delegates will be listed in the minutes.

Report of New Seekers Region: The report was received marked **APPENDIX Q** and filed.

Other Presbyterial Business: That approved to the request of the Germantown Church to borrow \$471,248 for needed improvement and refinancing from the Board of Stewardship and finance, marked **APPENDIX R** and filed.

Appreciation to Host Church: The moderator gave words of appreciation.

Reading of Minutes: The Minutes were approved as read and corrected.

Final Roll Call (by card)

Adjournment: The presbytery was adjourned to meet at Union City Church, June 6, 2010, 4:00 p.m.

Closing Prayer: The Rev. Jim Ratliff led the closing prayer.

Clinton O. Buck, Moderator
Earl Phelps, Stated Clerk