

NORTH ALABAMA PRESBYTERY

Synod of Living Waters

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

CALLED MEETING

Minutes

Saturday, March 10, 2007

9:30 a.m.

Call to Order

Elder Billy Bell, Vice-Moderator of the Presbytery, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church in Athens.

Opening Prayer

Vice-Moderator, Billy Bell, opened the meeting with prayer and then called on the Rev Sam Hobson to welcome the Presbytery.

Welcome from Host Church and Devotional

Rev. Sam Hobson, First Athens, welcomed all to the meeting and gave a brief overview of the church.

Rev. Jaina Anderson, First Athens, gave a devotional, reflecting from Corinthians 3:1-15 and closing with the hymn "*They Will Know We Are Christians By Our Love*".

Declaration of Quorum and Purpose of Meeting

Elder Richard Borie, Stated Clerk, declared a quorum present. Elder Borie then read the purpose of the meeting from the notification sent to all NAP ministers and commissioners.

The purpose of this meeting is to respond to the actions of Central Presbyterian Church of Huntsville, AL, which include the Session, Trustees, and Pastor, and to take any actions necessary that pertain to the aforementioned.

The docket (*Appendix A*) was presented to presbytery and **approved**.

Enrollment

The enrollment for this meeting of Presbytery is recorded as follows:

Roll of Churches

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>MINISTER</u>	<u>ELDER</u>
Albertville, First	Ed Hamlett, Stated Supply EXCUSED	EXCUSED
	Lyndall Hamlett, Parish Associate, EXCUSED	
Athens, First	Sam Hobson	Don Payne

Athens, First	Jaina Anderson	Charlotte Lyle
Athens, Copeland	Tom Lewis	Tommy Hutton
Athens, Nebo	VACANT	NOT PRESENT
Belgreen, Mountain Home	Philip Faris	NOT PRESENT
Brownsboro, Big Cove	Rosemary McMahan, EXCUSED	Tom Jones
Cullman, First	Terry Tingle	Gus Lowry
Decatur, First	Don Haas	Betty Pickell
		Doris Sundback
Decatur, St. Andrew	Steve Arndt	Margaret Marsh
		Philip Gilbert
		NOT PRESENT
Decatur, Westminster	David Rollins	John Rogers
		Andy Matthews
Elkmont, Beulah	VACANT	NOT PRESENT
Florence, First	Sam Pope, NOT PRESENT	Sibley Thomas
		Martha Anne Hardiman
Florence, Westminster	John McKell	Paula Hammond
		EXCUSED
Fort Payne, First	Jerry Davis EXCUSED	EXCUSED
		EXCUSED
Gadsden, Trinity	Jerry Keeling EXCUSED	Les Anderson
Guntersville, First	Scott Jeffreys	Lee Matthews
		Shay Griggs
Hartselle, First	VACANT	Marilyn Haynes
		Curtis Taylor
Huntsville, Central	Randy Jenkins NOT PRESENT	NOT PRESENT
Huntsville, Covenant	Hal Oakley	Jim Tower
	Robert Seitz NOT PRESENT	Hugh Comfort
	Mark Looyenga	Leon Trotter
	Leigh Ann Looyenga EXCUSED	
Huntsville, Faith	Steve Stager	Susan Lockridge
Huntsville, Fellowship	John Herndon	George Grayson
		Lula Jones
Huntsville, First	William Cockrill	Bunny Hovater
	Libby Rollins	Mary Romer
	Luke Ponder	Harriet Bibb
Huntsville, Hope	Jim Roberts	Bob Lord
		NOT PRESENT
Huntsville, Korean	VACANT	NOT PRESENT
Huntsville, Trinity	Carol Byrd	Doug Fee
Madison, Grace	Robin Palmer	Martie Heaston
		Marita Durham
Mount Hope, Rock Springs-Mitchell Mem.	Philip Faris	NOT PRESENT
New Market, New Market	Bradley David Hall	NOT PRESENT
Muscle Shoals, Old Brick	VACANT	EXCUSED
Sheffield, First	Van Edington	NOT PRESENT
Toney, Madison Cross Roads	Jim Matthews, Temp Supply, EXCUSED	EXCUSED
Trenton, Trenton	VACANT	NOT PRESENT
Valley Head, Winston Memorial	VACANT	NOT PRESENT
Waterloo, Williams Chapel	Robert Lawton, CLP	Danny Scott

Other ministers on roll, present

Warner Durnell, Bill Allen, John Bush, Wallace Faris, Houston Hodges, Luther Kramer, Bill McWeeny, James Nash, William Shouse, Mel Strain, James Thompson

Other ministers on roll, EXCUSED

Perry Brackin, David Palmer

At Large/Retired ministers on roll, EXCUSED

Donald Kaller; Amanda Ragland, Jack Ragland, Paul David Reynolds, Irving Rudolph

Retired ministers on roll, NOT PRESENT

Edward Babcock, John Bolton, John Bush, Robert Dobbins, Joseph Gamble, Edward Gartrell, Robert Grigsby, Chris Hauer, Washio Ishii, John Johnston, John Sadler, Robert McGehee, Roy Miller, James Pruden, , Charles Van Devender,

Presbytery Personnel

Billy Bell, Vice-Moderator

Richard Borie, Stated Clerk

Linda Griffis, Secretary and Recording Clerk

Marja Brock, Bookkeeper

Visitors

Lucile Adams, FPC Huntsville; Mamie Jones, FPC Huntsville; Charlotte Hudson, Hope, Huntsville; Linda Hobson, FPC Athens; Virginia White, FPC Hartselle; Frances Bell, Trinity, Huntsville; Sarah Ford, Fellowship Huntsville; Tina Scott, Williams Chapel; Ruth Vinz, Covenant; Frank Vinz, Covenant; Sylvia Townsley, Covenant; Diana Gibson, Covenant; Meagan Kish, Covenant; Dan Kish, Covenant; Mary Ann Enlow, Covenant; Tennent Lee, Big Cove; Doug Elgin, Hope; Maurice

Executive Presbyter's Report

Rev. Warner Durnell, EP for North Alabama Presbytery, reviewed the circumstances leading up to this called meeting.

Committee on Ministry

Elder Patrick Smith, COM Moderator, reviewed COM's involvement with Central Presbyterian Church as background for action taken by his committee.

The Committee on Ministry of North Alabama Presbytery (the "Presbytery") makes the following recommendations to the Presbytery:

- 1) An Administrative Commission (the "Commission") be erected to manage our defense and legal counsel in the cases brought against the Presbytery by Central Presbyterian Church, Huntsville, Alabama ("Central Church") and any other legal matters arising there from;
- 2) The commission consist of the following individuals:
 1. Rev. Dr. William Cockrill (First, Huntsville)
 2. Rev. Dr. John Herndon (Fellowship, Huntsville)
 3. Rev. Dr. John Bush (HR, Decatur)
 4. Elder Patrick Smith (First, Sheffield)
 5. Elder Phil Mitchell (Westminster, Decatur)
 6. Elder Leanne Pasker (Trinity, Huntsville)
 7. Elder Marita Durham (Grace, Madison)

- 3) The Commission be further empowered to visit Central Church for the purpose of inquiring and making determination whether the Pastor and/or the Session of Central Church has violated the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and violated vows which each took upon ordination and installation into office.
- 4) The Commission be further empowered, in accordance with G-9.0504a.(4) of the *Book of Order*, to take whatever measures are required to restore the peace, unity and purity of the church, including (a) dissolving the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Dr. Randall T. Jenkins and Central Church and, (b) assuming original jurisdiction of Central Church by dissolving the session.
- 5) Having been warned by Rev. Mr. Warner Durnell, Executive Presbyter, by letter on March 8, 2007 (*Appendix B*), that proceeding to moderate the improperly called congregational meeting of Central Presbyterian Church called by its session to follow the worship service on Sunday, March 11, 2007 would likely be deemed by the Committee on Ministry as “not approved work” as embodied in the *Book of Order* Section G-6.0502, that North Alabama Presbytery acknowledge that this letter constitutes “consultation and notice” under that provision, and further deem the Rev. Dr. Randall T. Jenkins to have renounced the jurisdiction of the PC(USA) under that provision if he so moderates this meeting on that, or any other, date.
- 6) That North Alabama Presbytery remove the Rev. Dr. Randall T. Jenkins from the Committee on Ministry, Class of 2008, effective immediately, and notify the Nominating Committee that a vacancy has thus been created which they should move to fill.

After lengthy discussion, the presbytery approved the motion by 51 yes, 12 no, 1 abstention.

Rev. David Rollins moved that:

Randy Jenkins name be removed from the roll of ministers of North Alabama Presbytery, that he be stripped of his ordination, and that he cease all contact with Central Presbyterian Church, Huntsville, AL effective immediately.

This motion was seconded and after considerable discussion, Rev. Rollins requested that his motion be withdrawn. By common consent, the motion was withdrawn.