

Minutes
PRESBYTERY OF ST. ANDREW
CALLED MEETING

First Presbyterian Church – Oxford, Mississippi
10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 9, 2011

A quorum was declared present and the meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by the moderator, Teaching Elder Rusty Douglas.

There were 33 Teaching and Ruling Elders present with voice and vote, and an additional 19 corresponding members, visitors, and staff, for a total enrollment of 52.

Teaching Elders (21):

Beck, Frank	Pointon, Melodie Jones
Bryson, Tom	Ragsdale, Annette
Cochrane, Rita	Reinschmidt, Todd
Connolly, William J.	Richardson, Ron
Douglas, Rusty	Scanlon, Jonathan
Fellows, Susan	Sherrard, Joey
Freeman, David	Wilson, Don
Goodwiller, Greg	Winter, Milton
Groome, Thomas	Wood, Michael
Hatcher, Jr., Robert	Yancey, Hershel Don
Kelly, Ann Houston	

Ruling Elders (12):

Byhalia, First – Dabney Fontaine
Cleveland, First – Dorsey Johnson
Columbus, First – Sue Hatcher (as Council Member)
Greenwood, First – Richard Oakes
Oakland, Pine Hill – Richard Denham
Olive Branch, Bethel – Daryl Dye
Oxford, First – Ben Pettis
Oxford, First – Hale Freeland
Biggersville, New Hope – Evelyn Farrior
Southaven, Providence – Nancy Carrison
Tupelo, First – Richard Hastings
Tupelo, First – Sallie Kate Ray

Corresponding Members with Voice but not Vote (3):

Walt Griffith (Cleveland, First – Interim Pastor)
Nick Phillips (Biggersville, New Hope – CRE)
Freddie Rasberry (Starkville, Osborn – CRE)

Visitors (13):

Bill McCain, Carson Overstreet, Memrick Kimmel, Al Hatcher, James McClanahan, Sydne Check

Allen, Travis Allen, Martha Knichel, Mary Ann Osborne, Phyllis Hicks, Allyn Camp, Bill Farrior, Shae Cole.

Presbytery Staff (3):

Meg Swaim, Allyson Ashmore, Darren Ashmore.

Minister Members not present and congregations not represented for this called meeting were excused by unanimous consent.

The meeting was for the following purposes:

- 1) Examining the Rev. Dr. James McClanahan for membership in the Presbytery of St. Andrew (where he will be serving as moderator of the session and part-time temporary supply pastor at Providence Presbyterian Church) (papers attached).
- 2) Examining Candidates Sydne and Travis Allen for ordination and installation as Associate Pastors of First Presbyterian Church, Greenwood (papers attached).
- 3) Examining Candidate Carson Overstreet for installation as Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Tupelo (pending her ordination) (papers attached).
- 4) Examining Inquirers Shae Cole and Nick Phillips for enrollment as Candidates for ordination as Teaching Elders.
- 5) Commissioning Ruling Elder Freddie Rasberry to Pastoral Service (former "CLP" service) at First Presbyterian Church, West Point.

The moderator then recognized Tom Groome for the report of the Committee on Ministry. He first noted that the body would be recessing to hear sermons by two of the Candidates.

He then moved on behalf of the committee that the presbytery commission Ruling Elder Freddie Rasberry to Pastoral Service at First Presbyterian Church, West Point with all of the permissions contained in G-2.1001 of the *Book of Order*. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Moderator Douglas then conducted the Commissioning Service, including the constitutional questions to the candidate and prayer for his ministry.

Tom Groome then moved that those present be divided into two committees, with Teaching Elder Melodie Jones Pointon serving as the moderator of the committee to hear the sermon of Sydne Check Allen and Teaching Elder Frank Beck serving as the moderator of the committee to hear the sermon of Travis Allen, and that the presbytery recess at this time for the committees to meet.

With further instructions about arrangements for the sermons, the moderator declared the body in recess at 10:10 a.m.

The Presbytery was called back to order by the moderator at 10:30 a.m. for reports of the sermon committees.

Melodie Jones Pointon moved on behalf of her committee that the sermon of Sydne Check Allen be sustained as satisfactory. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Frank Beck then moved on behalf of his committee that the sermon of Travis Allen be sustained as

satisfactory. The motion was approve by voice vote.

The Committee on Ministry moderator then introduced all four candidates, spoke to their current status (two are being examined for ordination, one for installation pending ordination, and one for membership transfer from another presbytery). He noted that they have all been examined extensively by the Committee on Ministry, and have expressed their willingness to abide by all mandatory provision of the *Book of Order* as required by our *Manual of Operations*.

Teaching Elder Annette Ragsdale lead the examinations on personal faith (and for the individuals being examined for ordination also their view of the Scriptures), after which Moderator Groome moved that this portion of the examination be sustained for all candidates. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Teaching Elder Bill Connolly led the examination in polity and church government, after which Moderator Groome moved that this portion of the examination be sustained for all candidates. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Teaching Elder Frank Beck led the examination in the sacraments, after which Moderator Groome moved that this portion of the examination be sustained for all candidates. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Teaching Elder Melodie Jones Pointon led the examination in theology, after which Moderator Groome moved that this portion of the examination be sustained for all candidates. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Tom Groome then moved that the examinations as a whole be sustained, which was approved by voice vote.

The following Terms of Call for those being installed were presented for information (having been approved by the Committee on Ministry):

	Travis Allen	Sydne Allen
Salary	\$ 21,900	\$ 21,900
Housing Allowance.....	7,500	7,500
½ SECA	2,235	2,235
Auto Allowance	2,400	2,400
Continuing Education/Books	800	800
Pastor Spouse Retreat	300	300
Board of Pensions	3,528	9,261
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	\$ 38,663	\$ 44,396
		=====
		\$ 83,059

Other Terms of Call:

1. Paid Vacation, 4 weeks
2. Paid Continuing Education, 2 weeks (cumulative to six weeks)
3. Clergy-Spouse Retreat, 1 weekend
4. Maternity leave, 8 weeks

5. Moving allowance, \$5,000

Carson Overstreet:

Salary and Housing Allowance.....	\$ 46,043
SECA	5,709
Medicare	1,335
Board of Pensions	15,613
Continuing Education	1,000
Clergy/Spouse Retreat	300

	\$ 70,000

Vacation	4 Weeks
Study Leave	2 Weeks
Pastor Spouse Retreat Leave.....	1 Weekend
Moving Costs.....	\$ 5,000

Moderator Tom Groome then moved the approval of the following recommendations from the Committee on Ministry, all of which were approved by voice vote:

that Candidate Sydne Allen be approved for ordination, received into the membership of the Presbytery of St. Andrew upon her ordination, and installed as Co-Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Greenwood.

that the Presbytery of St. Andrew request the Presbytery of Salem to conduct Sydne Allen's ordination on behalf of the Presbytery of St. Andrew.

that Candidate Travis Allen be approved for ordination, received into the membership of the Presbytery of St. Andrew upon his ordination, and installed as Co-Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Greenwood.

the Presbytery of St. Andrew request the Presbytery of Palo Duro to conduct Travis Allen's ordination on behalf of the Presbytery of St. Andrew.

that the following Administrative Commission be appointed to conduct the installations of Sydne and Travis Allen on Sunday, October 2, 2012:

Teaching Elders: Bill Connolly, moderator, Tom Bryson, Melodie Pointon, and Todd Reinschmidt;

Ruling Elders: Lina Elfert (First, Greenwood), Becky Knighton (First, Cleveland), and Frank Mitchener (Sumner).

that Candidate Carson Overstreet be received as a member of the Presbytery of St. Andrew and installed as Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Tupelo, pending her ordination by the Presbytery of Charlotte.

that the following Administrative Commission be appointed to conduct the installation at 11:00 a.m. on October 30, 2012:

Teaching Elders: Tom Groome, Annette Ragsdale, and Todd Reinschmidt;

Ruling Elders: Richard Hastings (FPC, Tupelo), Moderator, and Allyson Ashmore (FPC, Oxford);

Additional Teaching Elder to Sit With the Commission: Jill Tolbert (Presbytery of Greater Atlanta).

that Teaching Elder James McClanahan be received as a member of the Presbytery of St. Andrew.

[note: the Committee on Ministry has approved Dr. McClanahan's service at part-time temporary Supply Pastor at Providence Presbyterian Church, Southaven]

that Teaching Elder James McClanahan be named as Moderator of the Session of Providence Presbyterian Church.

The moderator then recognized teaching Elder Hershel Don Yancey for the report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry.

He presented Inquirers Shae Cole and Nick Phillips for Candidacy in accordance with the presbytery's current policy:

“The presbytery shall receive the report and recommendation of its committee [on Preparation for Ministry] 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” (G-14.0305e of the 2005-2007 *Book of Order*).

Following the examinations, Moderator Yancey then moved the approval of the committee's recommendation as follows, which was approved by voice vote:

that Inquirers Shae Cole and Nick Phillips be enrolled as a Candidates for ordination as a Teaching Elder.

The moderator then led a service in which the Candidates affirmed their sense of call to the ministry.

The purposes for the meeting having been accomplished, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Don Wilson at 1:00 p.m.

Approved September 13, 2011

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Don Wilson', is written over the typed name.