

Synod of the Sun
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



2014
Minutes & Records

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Synod of the Sun

2014 Minutes & Records

Table of Contents

Stated Meeting, February 25-26, 2014.....	1
<i>Attachments.....</i>	<i>7</i>
Stated Meeting, November 1-2, 2013	50
<i>Attachments.....</i>	<i>63</i>
Synod Grants & Scholarships Commission	109
Synod Commissioners & Committees	119
Working Paper of the Nominating Committee	121
Roster of Permanent Judicial Commission.....	132
Personnel Policies	133
Standing Rules	144
Network Team Policies	151
Bylaws.....	153
Index	157

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SYNOD OF THE SUN
Stated Meeting, February 25 - 26, 2014
Woodhaven Presbyterian Church, Irving, Texas

The SYNOD OF THE SUN met in stated meeting on **Tuesday, February 25, 2014** at Woodhaven Presbyterian Church, Irving, Texas. The Assembly gathered for worship in Hancock Hall at noon (**Attachment A**) followed by lunch and informal conversation.

At 1:15 p.m. Moderator SarahLee Morris called the meeting to order and offered an opening prayer. Moderator Morris welcomed everyone. Moderator Morris announced that Valerie Young, Co-leader for Administration and Stated Clerk, was ill; accordingly, Assistant Stated Clerk Ernest R. Higginbotham would be taking minutes and serving as stated clerk for this Assembly. Assistant Stated Clerk Higginbotham reported that more than a majority of the number of commissioners were present, constituting a quorum. The moderator declared a quorum (Synod Bylaws 3.5)

First Name	Last Name	Presbytery	Role	Committee
Lynne	Castle	South Louisiana	Commissioner	Connecting
Mauricio	Chacon	New Covenant	Commissioner	Connecting
Gay	Cocheres	Cimarron	Commissioner	Connecting
Bernadette	Coffee	Tres Rios	Commissioner	Connecting
Lynn	Hargrove	New Covenant	Commissioner	Connecting
Mark	Henslee	Indian Nations	Commissioner	Connecting
Joyce	Ludwig	Eastern Oklahoma	Commissioner	Connecting
Joe Pat	Nance	Mission	Commissioner	Connecting
Tom	Ulrich	Arkansas	Commissioner	Connecting
SarahLee	Morris	Palo Duro	Synod Moderator	Connecting
Judia	Foreman	Tres Rios	Commissioner	Stewardship
Grace	Goodeagle	Eastern Oklahoma	Commissioner	Stewardship
Malcolm	Hall	Indian Nations	Commissioner	Stewardship
Bart	Henson	New Covenant	Commissioner	Stewardship
Shelby	Miller	Grace	Commissioner	Stewardship
Ted	Roeliing	South Louisiana	Commissioner	Stewardship
Tom	Wisdom	Palo Duro	Commissioner	Stewardship
Erin	Kaye	Pines	Co-opted Member	Connecting
Joy	Durrant	Mission	Synod PW Moderator/Co-opted	Connecting
Aaron	Carland	Indian Nations	Corresponding Member	Connecting
Greg	Coulter	Eastern Oklahoma	Corresponding Member	Connecting
Joe	Hill	Pines	Corresponding Member	Connecting
Ron	Sutto	South Louisiana	Corresponding Member	Connecting
Ruben	Armendariz	Mission	Corresponding Member	Stewardship
Jose Luis	Casal	Tres Rios	Corresponding Member	Stewardship
Mike	Cole	New Covenant	Corresponding Member	Stewardship
Bill	Galbraith	Arkansas	Corresponding Member	Stewardship

Richard	Schempp	Palo Duro	Corresponding Member	Stewardship
Lila	Crotty	South Louisiana	Synod COR Member	Representation
Aida Faris	Faris	Mission	Synod COR Member	Representation
Daniel	Garza	Palo Duro	Synod COR Member	Representation
Ernest	Higginbotham	Synod Staff	Assistant Stated Clerk	Representation
Daniel	Saperstein	Synod Staff	Co-Leader for Mission & Partnership	Connecting
Ruth	Clendenin	Palo Duro	Synod Minion	
Excused				
Emily	Laurel	Arkansas	Commissioner	Stewardship
Jim	Cole	Eastern Oklahoma	Commissioner	Stewardship
Valerie	Young	Synod Staff	Stated Clerk/Co-Leader Administration	Stewardship

Guests to the Assembly were introduced:

Elizabeth	Gabbard	Arkansas	Guest Preacher
Robert	Dalglis	Mission	President
David	Hawkins	Palo Duro	Worship leader
Gladys	Chacon	New Covenant	Vistor/Guest
Karen	Langley	Mission	Mo Ranch

Corresponding and co-opted members were recognized.

It was moved, seconded and passed that all corresponding and co-opted members be seated with voice.

It was moved, seconded and passed that the Agenda, as amended to move the Wednesday morning mission project before committee reports, be adopted.

Synod Assembly, February 25-26, 2014
Woodhaven Presbyterian Church, Irving, TX

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

<i>11:30 a.m. Shuttle from hotel to Woodhaven</i>		
Noon	~ Worship	
12:30 pm	~ Lunch	Hancock Hall
1:15 pm	~ Welcome & Introductions <div style="text-align: right;"> Declaring a Quorum Seating of Corresponding Members and visitors Adoption of the Agenda Bylaws Amendment </div>	
1:45 pm	~ Orientation	
	<i>Reflecting on God's call in your life, what are some specific gifts you bring to service in the wider church?</i>	
	<i>What do you hope to contribute, and what do you hope you'll gain or experience from your Synod service?</i>	
	Introduction to Mission & Structure of the Synod	
3:00 pm	~ Break	
3:15 pm	~ Synod's Communications	
4:15 pm	~ Committee meetings <div style="text-align: right;"> <i>orientation and community-building</i> Representation Connecting Stewardship </div>	Bride's room Groom's room Education
5:45 pm	~ Covenant Renewal <div style="text-align: right;"><i>Presbyterian Pan American School</i></div>	Hancock Hall
6:00 pm	~ Dinner	
7:00 pm	~ Worship (with communion)	
After worship	Hospitality	Hotel meeting room
<i>7:45 p.m. Shuttle from Woodhaven to hotel</i>		
<u>Wednesday, February 26, 2014</u>		
<i>8:00 a.m. Shuttle from hotel to Woodhaven</i>		
8:30 am	~ Morning prayer	Hancock Hall
8:45 am	~ Committees	
10:00 am	~ Break	
10:15 am	~ Plenary	
	~ The Assembly does Mission Together: prepare Church World Service hygiene kits	
	~Covenant Renewal <div style="text-align: right;"><i>Trinity University</i></div>	
	~Reports <div style="text-align: right;"> Committee on Representation Connecting Stewardship Stated Clerk Coordinating Team </div>	
11:15 am	~ Sharing at tables	

	<i>How will you, as a commissioner, fulfill your responsibilities to share/report on the work of the Synod?</i>	
11:45 am	Closing worship <i>RE, Aida Faris</i>	
Noon	Box lunches	
<i>Shuttle and ride share to airports</i>		

Moderator Morris announced that the Coordinating Team has designated the offering from this evenings worship to go to Family Promise of Irving, a program supported by Woodhaven.

Vice Moderator, Judia Foreman, on behalf of the Coordinating Team and after having provided the 30 day notice (**Attachment B**) as required by the bylaws, moved the following motion to amend the Bylaws:

The Synod of the Sun Coordinating Team moves the approval to amend the bylaws (4.2 and 4.3) moving the communication responsibilities from the Connecting Committee to the Stewardship Committee as follows:

4. Commissions and Committees

4.2 The Connecting Committee shall be responsible for: maintaining and renewing covenant partnerships; oversight of mission networks and recommending the formation of mission networks to carry out the ministry of the Synod; interpretation of mission and ministry of the Synod; coordination of synod-wide events (i.e. Synod Youth Workshop, etc.); serving as the Nominating Committee for the Synod; administering grant and scholarships programs; ~~implementing and maintaining effective communication to further the Synod's mission and programs.~~

4.3 The Stewardship Committee shall be responsible for: proposing a budget for the Synod; oversight of the budget of the Synod; oversight of Synod property including office space, records storage, computers and office equipment; relations with other councils of the church; coordination with the Synod of the Sun Foundation and the Texas Presbyterian Foundation; **implementing and maintaining effective communication to further the Synod's mission and programs.**

The motion was seconded and passed.

At 1:50 the commissioners began orientation with sharing about Synod service at tables reflecting on gifts and hopes. At 2:20, members of the Coordinating Team led a PowerPoint presentation (**Attachment C**) introducing the mission and structure of the Synod. Rich Schempp, Executive Presbyter of Palo Duro Presbytery, challenged commissioners to be co-missionaries to discern the mind of Christ. Book of Order F-3.0204 ("*Presbyters are not simply to reflect the will of the people, but rather to seek together to find and represent the will of Christ.*")

After a break, Vice Moderator Foreman led the Assembly in a guided table discussion on methods of communication and their effectiveness.

At 3:40, the Assembly then divided and moved into committee meetings: its two principal standing Committees: Connecting and Stewardship, and the Committee on Representation.

At 5:50, the Assembly gathered for the renewal of the covenant with Presbyterian Pan American School (**Attachment D**). Moderator Morris introduced The Rev. Dr. Doug Dalglish, President of Pan American, who provided information about the history of and current developments at Pan American. Erin Kaye and Mauricio Chacon, members of the covenant renewal team, moved the

motion from the Connecting Committee to approve the covenant. After a prayer of thanksgiving, the motion was passed unanimously, and was signed.

After a blessing by Doug Dalglish, the Assembly enjoyed dinner.

Following dinner, the Assembly gathered for Worship with communion in the sanctuary.
(Attachment A)

At 7:30 PM, the Assembly recessed for the evening, to reconvene at 8:30 AM on Wednesday, February 26, 2014.

The SYNOD OF THE SUN continued its stated meeting on **Wednesday, February 26, 2014**, at Woodhaven Presbyterian Church, Irving, Texas, by gathering for Morning Prayer at 8:30 AM.

Following announcements, the Assembly again divided and moved into committee meetings of its two principal standing Committees, Connecting and Stewardship, and the Committee on Representation.

The Assembly reconvened to do mission together by preparing hygiene kits for Church World Services.

Plenary was called to order by Moderator Morris at 10:40 a.m.

Erin Kaye described how the Church World Services hygiene kits are prepared and distributed.

Committee Chair Aida Faris gave the Committee on Representation report. **(Attachment E)**

Committee Chair Erin Kaye gave the Connecting Committee report. **(Attachment F)**

On behalf of the Connecting Committee acting as Nominating Committee, Erin Kaye moved that Dan Garza be elected to be a member of the Committee on Representation. The motion passed.

On behalf of the Personnel Committee, Vice Moderator Foreman moved that Ernest R. Higginbotham continue to be employed by the Synod as Assistant Stated Clerk, on a volunteer basis, through December 31, 2015. The motion passed.

Vice Moderator Foreman gave the Stewardship Committee report. **(Attachment G)** She called attention to the 2014 budget found on pages 2-5 of the Stewardship packet, and described the adjustments to the 2014 budget that were made to reflect the amount actually received in 2013, which is the number to be used for the 2014 budget. These adjustments are necessary as the amount received in 2013 had to be estimated when the 2014 budget was prepared.

It was moved and passed that proposed amended budget be adopted. **(Attachment H)**

The Coordinating Team report was presented orally by Vice Moderator Foreman.

- The Coordinating Team has been reading the Art of Possibility by Zander, and it is suggested that all commissioners read it.
- Mid-year committee meetings will be held at the Presbyterian Mission Center
 - August 7-8 Connecting
 - August 8-9 Stewardship
- Fall Assembly will meet October 31 - November 1 at the Presbyterian Mission Center

The assembly heard a report from Co-leader Dan Saperstein.

In the Moderator's Report, Moderator Morris advised that the minutes for both the May and November 2013 Synod Assemblies had been read and approved by the 2013 Moderator and Vice Moderator.

It was moved, seconded and passed that all the reports be accepted.

At 11:20, the Assembly divided into presbyteries to talk around table how to report and share the work of the synod with presbytery.

At 11:27, Rev. Dr. Diane M. Baldwin, Pastor at Woodhaven, thanked the Synod for meeting at Woodhaven and offered their facilities for future meetings.

Moderator Morris announced that \$328 was received in last evening's offering for Family Promise of Irving.

It was moved, seconded and passed that the Synod express its thanks with gratitude to Woodhaven Presbyterian Church.

Following lunch, the Assembly joined for Closing Worship. (**Attachment A**)

At the conclusion of worship, Moderator Morris adjourned the Assembly at 11:52 AM.

Ernest R. Higginbotham, Assistant Stated Clerk

The above minutes of this Stated Meeting of the Synod of the Sun were reviewed and approved by Ruling Elder SarahLee Morris and Ruling Elder Judia Foreman.

Synod Assembly Worship Packet
February 25-26, 2014
Hancock Hall,
Woodhaven Presbyterian Church, Irving, Texas
Attachment A

Tuesday Gathering Worship (Noon)

Gathering

Prelude: "Open the Eyes of My Heart" (Hymn #452)

***Opening Sentences (7 Rev. 4:11) (Liturgist)**

O Lord, open my lips.
And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power for you
created all things,
and by your will they existed and
were created.

***Morning Songs of Praise**

Hymn: #401 "Gather Us In"

Psalm: Psalm 146 Abbot's Leigh (461 Blue, 2 verses) Bless the
Lord, give praise and honor
Unto God who lends me breath;
May my tongue God's greatness never Cease to
tell before my death.
And in songs of sovereign goodness, Let me sing
beyond the grave;
God, whose grace my life to ransom, God, whose
will my soul to save.

Blest are they whose hope is vested In the God
of Israel;
In the hour of deepest anguish, God's
provisions will not fail; Freedom for the
shackled spirit, Strength and stay to those
who fall; Blessings offered without measure,
Righteousness enough for all.

Prayer of Confession (Liturgist)

God reveals deep and mysterious things,
and knows what is hidden in darkness.
We could ask the darkness to hide us
or the light around us to become night,
but even the darkness is not enough to shelter our sin

I confess to God Almighty;...

before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my
brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned by my own fault, in thought, word and deed; and I pray God

almighty to have mercy on me,
to forgive all my sins, and bring
me to everlasting life.

May Almighty God have mercy on you, pardon and
deliver you from all your sins
and give you time to amend your life.

Amen.

I confess to God Almighty;
before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my
brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned by my own fault, in thought,
word and deed;
and I pray God almighty to have mercy on me, to forgive all
my sins,
and bring me to everlasting life.

May Almighty God have mercy on you,... pardon and
deliver you from all your sins
and give you time to amend your life.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

You are our lamp, O Lord. You
lighten our darkness, You are our
strong refuge.
You have made our way safe. Amen

Gloria Patri: #582 “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

Sung Prayer for Illumination: #452 “Open the Eyes of My Heart”

Proclaiming

Scripture Reading: 1 John 4:7-21 (Liturgist)

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love.

We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responding

Psalm: Psalm 54 **Land of Rest (603 Blue, 3 verses)**

O save me, God, and hear my cry;

My prayer to Thee ascends; And
vindicate me by Thy might; On Thee, my
hope depends.

Thou, Lord, my help shall ever be, Though evil
pow'rs assail;
From their designs, my life redeem Through grace
which cannot fail.

My sacrifice I offer Thee, As
thanks for all Thy grace;
Let me so live, that I in death May greet
Thee face to face.

Prayers of Intercession (Liturgist)

Satisfy us with your love in the morning,
and we will live this day in joy and praise.

Eternal God,

we rejoice this morning in the gift of life, which we have
received by your grace,
and the new life you give in Jesus Christ. Especially we
thank you for the love of our families . . .
the affection of our friends . . .
strength and abilities to serve your purpose today . . . this community in
which we live . . .
opportunities to give as we have received. . . .

God of grace,

we offer our prayers for the needs of others and commit
ourselves to serve them
even as we have been served in Jesus Christ.

Especially we pray for

those closest to us, families, friends, neighbors . . . refugees and
homeless men, women and children . . . the outcast and persecuted .

..
those from whom we are estranged . . . the church
in Africa. . . .

Hear us now as we offer our own prayers
for those we have left behind to come here,

for those are worried about
for those who can only be comforted by you.

(Prayers of the people)

Eternal God,
our beginning and our end,
be our starting point and our haven,
and accompany us in this day's journey.
Use our hands to do the work of your creation, and use our
lives to bring others your new life.
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray Our Father...

Sending

Closing Hymn: #546 "Lord, Dismiss us With Your Blessing"

Benediction

May we continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

...

Bless the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

Postlude: "We Are One in the Spirit" (Hymn #300)

Tuesday Evening Worship (7:00 PM)

Gathering

Prelude: "Soon and Very Soon" (Hymn #384)

*Call to Worship (taken from Psalm 96) (Elizabeth Gabbard)

O sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
Sing to the LORD, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.
For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised.
Worship the LORD in holy splendor.
Let us worship the LORD together.
Alleluia! Amen!

*Invocation

(Jose Luis Casal)

Triune God, Father, Son, and Spirit;
You have called us together at this time and in this
place
to be your people.
Give us eyes to see
and ears to hear your presence among us.
Send our your Holy Spirit
that our hearts and minds would be open for you and you
alone.
Bless our time of worship together,
and give us grace to make all of our lives and all of
our work worship for you.
In Christ's name I pray, Amen.

*Hymn: #691 "Lord, When I Came Into This Life"

Call to Confession

(Liturgist)

The proof of God's amazing love is this:
While we were sinners Christ died for us.
Because we have faith in him,
we dare to approach God with confidence.
In faith and penitence,
let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession (from Psalm 51) (Liturgist)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to
your steadfast love; according to your
abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and
cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions, and my
sin is ever before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done
what is evil in your sight,
so that you are justified in your sentence and
blameless when you pass judgment.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not
take your holy spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain
in me a willing spirit.

(Please continue your prayers during a moment of silent confession.)

Assurance of Pardon

(Liturgist)

As a voice from heaven spoke to Jesus, in our
baptism, God speaks to us:
"You are my child, my beloved; with you I
am well pleased."

In the name of Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

***Hymn: #707 "Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord"**

Proclaiming

Prayer for Illumination (Elizabeth Gabbard)

Scripture: Jonah 4 & Matthew 26:36-46 (Elizabeth Gabbard)

(Jonah 4:1 NRSV)

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry.

2 He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing.

3 And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live."

4 And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?"

5 Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

6 The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush.

7 But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered.

8 When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

9 But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die."

10 Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night.

11 And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

(Mat 26:36-46NRSV)

36 Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray."

37 He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated.

38 Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me."

39 And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want."

40 Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour?"

41 Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

42 Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done."

43 Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. 44 So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words.

45 Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

46 Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

Sermon: "Changing the Call, or Calling the Changed?"

Rev. Elizabeth Gabbard

***Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed (Liturgist)**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of
heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was
conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin
Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried; He
descended into hell;

the third day He rose again from the dead; He
ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He
shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the
holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the
forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Responding

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer (Liturgist)

Our Father,
who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation but
deliver us from evil
for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Presentation of our Tithes and Offerings (Liturgist)

Invitation to the Offering
The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the
world, and those who live in it.
Let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts
of the earth.

Offertory: "Give Thanks" (Hymn #647)

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all
creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host. Creator,
Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication (Jose Luis Casal)**

Blessed are you, God of all creation;
through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the
service of your kingdom.

***Hymn: #523 "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"**

Communion of the People

The Lord be with you. And
also with you. Lift up your
hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy...

to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and
ruler of the universe.

In your wisdom, you made all things and sustain
them by your power.

You formed us in your image,

setting us in this world to love and to serve you, and to live in
peace with your whole creation.

When we rebelled against you refusing to trust and obey you, you did not reject
us, but still claimed us as your own.

You sent prophets to call us back to your way.

Then in the fullness of time,

out of your great love for the world,

you sent your only Son to be one of us,

to redeem us and heal our brokenness.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels, with prophets,
apostles, and martyrs,

and with all the faithful of every time and place,

... who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are
full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the
highest.

You are holy, O God of majesty...

and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

In Jesus, born of Mary, your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and
truth.

He lived as one of us, knowing joy
and sorrow.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, opened blind eyes, broke bread with
outcasts and sinners,
and proclaimed the good news of your kingdom to the poor
and needy.

Dying on the cross,
he gave himself for the life of the world.

Rising from the grave,
he won for us victory over death.

Seated at your right hand, he leads
us to eternal life.

We praise you that Christ now reigns with you in glory, and will come
again to make all things new.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ,
we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully
celebrate his dying and rising,
as we await the day of his coming.

With thanksgiving,
we offer our very selves to you
...to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died, Christ is
risen,
Christ will come again.

Gracious God,...

pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread
we break and the cup we bless
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in
ministry in every place.
As this bread is Christ's body for us,
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

Prayers of Intercession

Remember your church....
Unite it in the truth of your Word

and empower it in ministry to the world.
Remember the world of nations....
 By your Spirit renew the face of the earth; let peace
 and justice prevail.
Remember our family and friends....
 Bless them and watch over them;
 be gracious to them and give them peace.
Remember the sick and the suffering, the aged and the dying....
 Encourage them and give them hope.

Rejoicing in the communion of saints,
 we remember with thanksgiving all your faithful servants,
 and those dear to us, whom you have called from this life....
We are grateful that for them death is no more, nor is there
 sorrow, crying, or pain,
 for the former things have passed away. In union
with your church in heaven and on earth,
 we pray, O God,
 that you will fulfill your eternal purpose in us and in all
 the world.

Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory, and we shall feast
 with all your saints
 in the joy of your eternal realm.
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity
 of the Holy Spirit,
 all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, now and forever.
 Amen

Invitation

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Music during The Lord's Supper: #204 "Stay with Me"

Prayer after Communion (Jose Luis Casal)

Loving God,
 we thank you that you have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with
 Christ,
 and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal
 kingdom.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and
work to your praise and glory,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Sending

***Hymn: #733 "We All Are One in Mission"**

***Charge & Benediction** (Elizabeth Gabbard)

Text

***Postlude: "The Summons"** (Hymn #726)

(As we exit, let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.)

Wednesday Morning Worship (8:30 AM)

Gathering

Prelude: “Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning” (Hymn#350)

*Opening Sentences (Ps. 5:2b–3) (Liturgist)

O Lord, open my lips.

And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

I pray to you, O Lord;

you hear my voice in the morning;

at sunrise I offer my prayer and wait for your answer.

*Morning Songs of Praise

Hymn: #388 “Come All You People”

Psalm: Psalm 15 (with “My Hope is Built”)

Solid Rock (#379)

Lord, who may in thy temple dwell

Upon Thy holy hill abide?

Who shows forth love instead of hate, Humility
in place of pride?

On Christ the solid Rock I stand; All other
ground is sinking sand, All other ground
is sinking sand.

A blameless life help me to live, Free from
contempt and selfish will; When I through
mortal frailness fail, God deigns by grace to
love me still.

Proclaiming

Sung Prayer for Illumination: #458 “Thy Word”

Scripture Reading: 1 John 2:12-17 (Liturgist)

I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven

on account of his name.

I am writing to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning.

I am writing to you, young people, because you have conquered the evil one.

I write to you, children, because you know the Father.

I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning.

I write to you, young people, because you are strong and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world; for all that is in the world - the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches - comes not from the Father but from the world. And the world and its desire are passing away, but those who do the will of God live forever.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responding

Prayers of Intercession (Liturgist)

Satisfy us with your love in the morning,
and we will live this day in joy and praise.

God of all mercies,

we praise you that you have brought us to this new day, brightening our lives
with the dawn of promise

and hope in Jesus Christ.

Especially we thank you for the warmth of sunlight, the wetness of
rain and snow,

and all that nourishes the earth ...

the presence and power of your Spirit ...

the support and encouragement we receive from others ... those who
provide for public safety and well-being ...

the mission of the church around the world....

Merciful God,

strengthen us in prayer

that we may lift up the brokenness of this world for your
healing,

and share in the saving love of Jesus Christ.
Especially we pray for
those in positions of authority over others ... the lonely
and forgotten ...
children without families or homes ... agents of caring
and relief ...
the church in Asia and the Middle East....

We also pray for those dear to us...

(Prayers of the people)

Eternal God,
you call us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet
untrodden, through perils unknown.
Give us faith to go out with courage, not
knowing where we go,
but only that your hand is leading us and your love
supporting us;
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray Our Father...

Sending

Closing Hymn: #547 "Go, My Children, With My Blessing"

Benediction (Liturgist)

May we continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ, our Lord and
Savior. Amen.

...

Bless the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

Postlude: "We Will Go Out with Joy" (Hymn #539)

Wednesday Closing Worship (11:45)

Gathering

Prelude: “Brethren, We Have Met to Worship” (Hymn #396)

***Opening Sentences (Ps. 5:2b–3) (Liturgist)**

O Lord, open my lips.

And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Those who trust in the Lord for help will find
their strength renewed.

They will rise on wings like eagles; they will run
and not get weary;
they will walk and not grow weak.

Praise the Lord.

The Lord’s name be praised.

***Songs of Praise**

Hymn: #384 “Soon And Very Soon”

Psalm: Psalm 48 Lyons

How great is the Lord and worthy of praise, Whose glory
above Mount Zion displays!

In light of Thy splendor our cities are dust; Eternal our
refuge, unquestioned our trust.

The rulers of earth are shaken with fright, When thou in Thy
wrath appear in their sight; But we as Thy chosen have
witnessed Thy hear, And at its remembrance, all fears soon
depart.

The far-fashioned bounds of earth lift their voice, An for Thy
goodwill, the mountains rejoice;
Thy righteousness follows the course of our days; Whatever our
pathway, our Guide for always.

Proclaiming

***Exhortation:** #350 “Keep Your Lamps Trimmed And Burning”

Mid-day Prayer (Liturgist)

God, our creator,
you have given us work to do

Responding

and call us to use our talents for the good of all.
Guide us as we work,
and teach us to live in the Spirit
who made us your sons and daughters, in the
love that made us sisters and brothers,
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray, saying,
Our Father,...

Sending

Closing Hymn: #539 “We Will Go Out with Joy”

Benediction (Liturgist)

The God of peace be with us.
...
Bless the Lord.
The Lord’s name be praised.

Postlude: “Today We All Are Called” (Hymn #757)



Attachment B

January 17, 2014

Synod Commissioners;

At the November 1 – 2, 2013 Synod Meeting in Irving, Texas, the Connecting and the Stewardship Committees mutually agreed to move the responsibility for communication from the Connecting Committee to the Stewardship Committee. At the Synod Coordinating Team Retreat January 13 -24, 2014, it was approved to present a motion to the February 25 – 26, 2014 Synod Meeting to amend the bylaws (4.2 and 4.3) to facilitate this change.

The motion comes from the Synod Coordinating Team and requires notification 30 days prior to the vote: The Synod of the Sun Coordinating Team moves the approval to amend the bylaws (4.2 and 4.3) moving the communication responsibilities from the Connecting Committee to the Stewardship Committee as follows:

4. Commissions and Committees

4.2 The Connecting Committee shall be responsible for: maintaining and renewing covenant partnerships; oversight of mission networks and recommending the formation of mission networks to carry out the ministry of the Synod; interpretation of mission and ministry of the Synod; coordination of synod-wide events (i.e. Synod Youth Workshop, etc.); serving as the Nominating Committee for the Synod; administering grant and scholarships programs; ~~implementing and maintaining effective communication to further the Synod's mission and programs.~~


4.3 The Stewardship Committee shall be responsible for: proposing a budget for the Synod; oversight of the budget of the Synod; oversight of Synod property including office space, records storage, computers and office equipment; relations with other councils of the church; coordination with the Synod of the Sun Foundation and the Texas Presbyterian Foundation; **implementing and maintaining effective communication to further the Synod's mission and programs.**

Respectfully submitted,

Judia Foreman
Vice Moderator
Synod of the Sun


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(Attachment C)




**Connecting, Equipping, and Empowering
Presbyterians for Christ's Mission**

1



WHO ARE WE?



- 1 of 16 PCUSA synods
- Four states
- Eleven Presbyteries
- 840 congregations
- 150,000 members

2




WHO ARE WE?

The Challenge

- Culture shifts
- Denominational shifts
- Financial shifts
- Where do synods fit in?



3



WHO ARE WE?

The Response:
A new model of synod

- From governance to mission
- From hierarchy to networks
- From maintenance to action



4




WHO ARE WE?

"The Plan for the Future"
(**"The Vine"**)

- Co-leaders
- Commissioners
- Organizationally lean and nimble
- Missional funding
 - NO per capita funding
 - presbytery mission gifts – goal of 100% to mission support
 - grant from Synod of the Sun Foundation
 - direct congregational and individual gifts and bequests




5



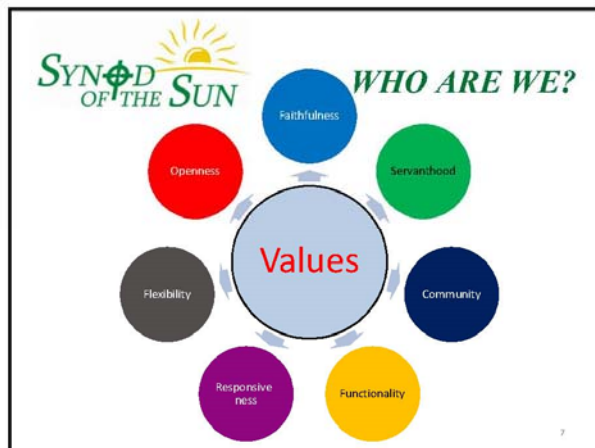
WHO ARE WE?

MISSION STATEMENT:

"The Synod of the Sun of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) serves Christ by connecting, equipping, and empowering Presbyterians for Christ's mission within and beyond the Synod's bounds."



6



SYNOD OF THE SUN *CONNECTING*

Supporting Presbyteries

- Transition assistance
- Mission consultation
- Emergency grants & loans
- Leadership & COM training
- EPs & Stated Clerks forums
- Administrative & judicial review

Grace Presbytery

8

SYNOD OF THE SUN *CONNECTING*

COVENANT PARTNERS

9

SYNOD OF THE SUN *CONNECTING*

MISSION PROGRAMS, NETWORKS & AFFILIATES

10

SYNOD OF THE SUN *CONNECTING*

A Synod grant connected the University of the Ozarks to Presbyterian Village in a creative collaboration. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b79n0Kq724&feature=youtu.be>

11

SYNOD OF THE SUN *EQUIPPING*

Training events & workshops

- COM workshops ('14)
- Leadership convocations ('15)
- Mission convocations ('14)
- Clerks' training events
- Interim/transitional ministry training (with APTS)

12



EQUIPPING



Mission Grants

- Any Presbyterian *organization* within the Synod may apply
- Priority given to applications from partnerships of two or more organizations
- 19 different grant accounts - see list at www.synodsun.com
- Awarded in Jan, Apr, July, Oct

13



EQUIPPING

Scholarships

- 10 different synod scholarships
- Eligibility criteria vary
- See list and application at www.synodsun.com
- Additional M.Div. scholarship assistance available through Synod of the Sun Foundation



14



EMPOWERING

Building a More Diverse Church

- Developing cultural affinity networks
- Multicultural youth conference at Mo-Ranch
- Hispanic Latino scholarship funds
- Co-sponsor of National Multicultural Conference in Fort Worth Jul 31-Aug 3



15th National
Multicultural
Conference

15



EMPOWERING

The Power of Networks

- Can be any ministry, program, or mission that involves partners in two or more presbyteries
- Synod assists in completing a network planning guide
- Synod funds may assist in launching the network
- Examples: Hispanic Women's Conference; Synod Youth Workshop



16



EMPOWERING

Solar Under the Sun:

A Mission of Empowerment

- Trains groups to install solar generators in Third World settings
- Over 45 installations in Haiti, Africa, Central America
- Solar School in May, August
- Winner of Presbyterian Restoring Creation Award, 2013
- www.solarunderthesun.org



EMPOWERING



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6VWZ7ioTPGE>

18



(Attachment D)
REVISED
COVENANT RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

A COVENANT BETWEEN
PRESBYTERIAN PAN AMERICAN SCHOOL
AND THE
SYNOD OF THE SUN

I. THE NATURE OF THE COVENANT

This covenant between the Synod of the Sun and Presbyterian Pan American School located in Kingsville, Texas, is established for the purpose of defining the relationship between the Synod and the School.

This relationship involves a spirit of mutual understanding advancing our common mission, a striving for creative solutions to problems and shared concerns, and a pledge to serve God.

This covenant is consistent with and subject to all legal documents of Presbyterian Pan American School and the Synod of the Sun (Charters, By-laws, the Book of Order, Standing Rules, etc.)

This covenant re-affirms the ongoing and future relationship between Presbyterian Pan American School and the Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

II. PARTIES TO THE COVENANT

A. PRESBYTERIAN PAN AMERICAN SCHOOL

1. History and Relationships

Presbyterian Pan American School was founded by action of the Synod of Texas (PCUS) in 1955 by melding the assets of Texas Mexican Industrial Institute (founded in 1911) and Presbyterian School for Mexican girls (founded in 1924). From 1956 through 1974 it was operated by trustees elected by the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico, by the Synod of Texas (PCUS) and by the Boards of National Missions and of World Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, under directives given by the Synod of Texas (PCUS).

On January 10, 1973 the Synod of Red River (PCUS) succeeded to the rights, titles, properties and benefits of the Synod of Texas (PCUS).

From 1974 through June 29, 1985 the Synod of Red River (PCUS) [succeeded by Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)], and five of their constituent presbyteries, New Covenant, Mission, Grace, Palo Duro and Tres Rios, along with the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico, have elected persons to serve as trustees of Presbyterian Pan American School, and the Presbyteries provided regular budgeted benevolent gifts to the School annually. In 1985, the Synod of the Sun was reorganized to include eleven presbyteries.

On September 21, 1979 the Synod of Red River (PCUS) by quit claim deed conveyed title to and responsibility for the land, buildings, financial assets, and perishable property in which the Synod of Red River (PCUS) may have had interest as successor to the Synod of Texas (PCUS) to the Trustees of Presbyterian Pan American School in return for a covenant with the School that Synod and all ecclesiastical bodies would be released from any and all responsibility for debts, obligations or liabilities of the School.

2. Mission of the School

Presbyterian Pan American School is a Christian college preparatory school That educates and empowers young adults for leadership in the global community.

3. Board of Trustees and Administration

Presbyterian Pan American School is governed by an independent Board of Trustees elected by itself, the Synod of the Sun, and the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico.

The School is incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas and is recognized as a 501 (c) 3 organization.

The School is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

The Principal staff officer is the President, who is elected by the Board and is responsible for the ongoing operation of the School.

B. THE SYNOD OF THE SUN

The Synod of the Sun is a regional council of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), successor to the Synod of Red River (PCUS) and the Synod of the Sun (UPCUSA), which is incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas.

The Synod serves the mission of Jesus Christ, communicating among and connecting with the presbyteries, Presbyterian colleges and seminary, institutions, agencies, and ministries within the region embracing Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. The goal of the Synod is to facilitate these components to harmonize in ministry. The Synod proclaims and promotes the reign of God in a spirit of ecumenicity.

III. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

Presbyterian Pan American School (the “Corporation”) shall be governed by a board of directors which shall be referred to collectively as the “Board,” and each individual director shall be referred to as a “Trustee.” The Board shall consist of not less than twenty (20) nor more than twenty-six members. Included among these shall be nine (9) Trustees elected by the Synod of the Sun (the “Synod”), two (2) Trustees appointed by the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico or its congregations, and elected by the Presbyterian Pan American School Board of Trustees, and not more than fifteen (15) Trustees nominated by the Board itself (no more than six of whom may be At-Large -- members of religious bodies other than the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) or members residing outside the bounds of the Synod of the Sun).

Persons so nominated will be confirmed as Trustees by majority vote of the Board and shall serve staggered three-year terms and cannot serve more than two (2) consecutive terms. The Synod will solicit recommendations from the President of the Corporation and the Board for persons suitable to fill Synod vacancies on the Board. Each year the Synod will elect three (3) persons, giving consideration to those nominated by the Board itself in consultation with the President.

In selection of nominees, the Board of Trustees and the Synod shall give consideration to representation of women, minorities and alumni. Further, the Synod shall make an effort to secure broad representation from all geographical areas of the Synod.

IV. COMMITMENT OF THE COVENANT

A. COMMITMENTS OF PRESBYTERIAN PAN AMERICAN SCHOOL TO THE SYNOD

Presbyterian Pan American School is an international boarding and day school, grades 9-12, for young men and women seeking a college preparatory education in a Christian environment in the Reformed and Presbyterian traditions.

1. The School’s purposes are:

- a. To prepare students from many nations for admission to the college or university of their choice;
- b. To train and encourage young people for church and/or secular service as Christian leaders for all the Americas and beyond;
- c. To develop mature Christian young people who can relate to and function successfully in an increasingly complex, multicultural and multilingual society;
- d. To teach young people the value and dignity of any job well done by engaging each student in meaningful and productive labor for the well-being of the school community;
- e. To serve as a cultural, recreational and educational resource for the Church and neighboring communities.

2. Therefore, the School agrees:

- a. To meet its responsibilities to the Synod with regards to representation, consultation, reports and recommendations and with such details as may be necessary to reveal the purpose, programs and needs of the School;
- b. To make available to the Synod, its presbyteries and its churches information regarding the program and mission of the School, such as printed materials, video presentations and student visits;
- c. To develop, when possible, and maintain a relationship to the Presbyterian Hispanic community of the Synod and serve it as a resource, e.g., Hispanic churches;
- d. To encourage and sustain an ongoing relationship with all racial ethnic communities, the National Hispanic Latino Presbyterian Caucus, and the racial ethnic ministry offices of the General Assembly;
- e. To pursue the multicultural, multilingual objectives of the School by seeking to recruit students from all cultural backgrounds;
- f. To encourage, when possible, various bodies of Synod and other church groups to visit, meet, or work on campus;

B. COMMITMENTS OF THE SYNOD TO PRESBYTERIAN PAN AMERICAN SCHOOL

The Synod pledges to cooperate with the School in its mission. To that end the Synod makes the following commitments:

- a. As partner with the School in its mission of multicultural, multilingual, multinational education, to encourage and aid the School in communicating and interpreting its mission, its program and its needs to Presbyterians across the Synod;
- b. To encourage and assist the School in the seeking of financial and other support for its programs;
- c. To encourage its presbyteries and churches to provide opportunity for the School to interpret its work and to encourage their responsible stewardship in its behalf;
- d. To list the School as one related to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and recommend it to prospective students throughout the Church;
- e. To support Presbyterian Pan American School with the General Assembly agencies to the effect that the unique purpose and programs of the School be identified, promoted, and supported as a church-wide resource;
- f. To encourage and promote the ongoing close relationship between Presbyterian Pan American School and all racial ethnic communities, the National Hispanic Latino Presbyterian Caucus, and the racial ethnic ministry offices of the General Assembly.

C. A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP: LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FOR HISPANIC MINISTRY

While Presbyterian Pan American School serves students from many nations, the Synod and the School recognize that the School's primary constituency is people of Hispanic background. Therefore, both the School and the Synod affirm the School's unique capability to assist Synod in its Hispanic ministry. To this end:

1. The Synod and the School shall mutually inform one another of opportunities and challenges for Hispanic Ministry;
2. The School and the Synod shall share in Hispanic ministries in the Synod and beyond;

3. The Synod and the School shall mutually resource one another for ministering with the Hispanic community.

V. PROCEDURES FOR APPROVAL

This covenant shall become operative when it has been approved by the Board of Trustees of Presbyterian Pan American School and by the Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). By adopting this covenant the School and the Synod pledge to advance the cause of Christ together as partners.

VI. REVIEW AND REAFFIRMATION CYCLE

The initial duration of this covenant shall be for five (5) years. Every five (5) years, a covenant review team shall be created. The covenant review team shall include two (2) representatives nominated by the Board of Trustees of the School, and two (2) representatives (one of which will be Hispanic) from the Synod of the Sun.

This team will review the current covenant and may recommend possible changes or amendments.

At the request of either the School or the Synod, a process of review and reconsideration of the covenant at an earlier time shall be initiated.

Approved by:

Board of Trustees – Presbyterian Pan American School

Chair:

President

Date

Kingsville, Texas

Approved by:

The Synod of the Sun

Moderator:

Stated Clerk:

Date

Irving, Texas

(Attachment E)
Synod of the SUN Meeting
February 25=26
Irving TX
Committee on Representation Report

Ernest Higginbotham followed by the introduction of members opened the meeting with a prayer. Moderator, Aida Faris, presented a historic overview covering the sequence of events leading to formation of the current COR. In addition, she reviewed the responsibilities outlined in the General Assembly Committee on Representation (GACOR) Manual of Operations and also reviewed pending assignment of the Cross Cultural Task Force to the committee

The committee then moved to a discussion of goals of 2014, which include:

1. Conduct a follow up on multicultural workshop on growing multicultural congregations lead by the Cross Cultural Task Force in March 2013 which would focus on:
 - I. Experience of current multicultural congregations
 - II. How to build multicultural congregations
 - III. Language: Barrier or Opportunity
 - IV. Distribute a survey to the members of congregations who attended the March 2013 workshop. By April 30, 2014
 - V. Plan the next workshop
2. Discussed the fact that there are no commissioner members on the committee (it is not a must) and also the need to have a member of COR act as a liaison to Synod's nominating committee.
3. Put together a list of all presbytery COR moderators to facilitate contact and to use the network to offer assistance and encouragement to said committee. By March 30, 2014
4. Complete the report form required of the synod by GACOR
5. Develop contacts with the Korean Congregation through their existing networks in order to extend an invitation for them to participate in our multicultural ministries. By March 30, 2014
6. Seek scholarships for COR members to attend the National Multicultural Workshop July 1-August 3, 2014. We learnt later from the Connection Committee that we could start applying right now

(Attachment F)

Connecting Committee report

The Committee approved Dan Garza as a member of the Committee on Representation

The Committee affirmed and recommends renewal of the Synod's covenant with Presbyterian Pan American School.

The following were appointed to the Grants and Scholarships Commission:

Guinn Blackwell Eagleson

Joyce Ludwig

Bernie Coffee

Sarah Lee Morris (ex-officio)

The commission will also include three members from the Stewardship Committee and an appointee from the Synod of the Sun Foundation

The Committee named the following to Covenant Renewal Teams for 2014

Synod of Living Waters - Tom Ulrich (chair), Dan Saperstein, Kathy Pardue White (to be asked by Lynne Castle)

Evergreen Life Services - Joe Hill (chair), Erin Kaye, Ernie Higenbotham

PCHAS - Joe Pat Nance (chair), Ron Sutto, Mauricio Chacon

Vera Lloyd - Robert Lowry (chair), Erin Kaye

TPF - Dan Saperstein (chair), Bernie Coffee, Malcolm Hall

The Committee began to discuss the membership of the Network Development Team, a fall mission convocation, and covenant liaisons.

(Attachment G)

Stewardship Committee Report

February 26, 2014

Action Items:

The Stewardship Committee moves the approval of the adjustments to 2014 Budget (handout)

Items for Information:

1. Financial reports of the synod, Synod Youth Workshop and Solar Under the Sun were received.
2. Child & Youth Protection Policy Task Force: Gary Holloman, Lita Simpson, Carissa Murray, Ernie Higginbotham and Valerie Young
3. Jose Luis Casal, Malcolm Hall, Bart Henson and Judia Foreman were appointed to Finance Committee
4. Grace Goodeagle, Shelby Miller and Judia Foreman were appointed to the Grants and Scholarship Committee
5. Communications:
 - A. Our objective is to insure presbyteries of the Synod of the Sun understand the key synod activities of equipping, empowering, and connecting activities, together with success stories in these areas.
 - B. At each meeting we will provide a power point to take back to their presbytery.
 - C. For this meeting you will receive the power point via e-mail shown at this meeting within the week. It will also be posted on the Synod of the Sun website.

(Attachment H)

Synod 2014 Budget – Adjusted

		2014	2014	
		Total Budget	Adjusted Total	Notes
INCOME				
Endowments, Undesignated Interest & Donations				
43000	Interest Earned	\$ 24,900.00	\$ 24,900.00	
44002	SOSPF Endowment (Mission/Admin	185,700.00	185,700.00	
44003	SOSPF Endowment Rent	9,400.00	9,400.00	
41500	Presby & Misc Gifts to Synod	4,000.00	4,000.00	
	Total Endowments, Undesignated	224,000.00	224,000.00	
-	Interest & Donations			
	Mission Contributions from Presbyteries	0.00	0.00	<i>for use in 2015</i>
-	41501 - 41511			
	Withdrawal from Unrestricted Reserves	0.00	0.00	
-	45500			
	TOTAL INCOME	\$ 224,000.00	\$ 224,000.00	
Office Expenses				
66002	Office Rent	(\$ 7,000.00)	(\$ 9,400.00)	Revised rent for 2014
66004	Telephone	(7,000.00)	(7,500.00)	Adjusted for new accounts
66006	Postage	(2,500.00)	(750.00)	Cancellation of Pitney Bowes Contract
66008	Copiers	(7,000.00)	(7,000.00)	
66010	Supplies	(3,000.00)	(3,000.00)	
66030	File Retention/Storage	(2,000.00)	(2,000.00)	
65302	Bookkeeping Services	(10,500.00)	(9,000.00)	SOS charges only
66013	Insurance	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	
66015	Audit Fees	(8,600.00)	(8,600.00)	

66017	Bank Charges	(1,000.00)	(1,000.00)	
66025	Misc Charges	(1,000.00)	(1,000.00)	
67001	Contingency Expense	(2,750.00)	(2,760.27)	Budget balancing
66035	Pbty Mission Giving for 2015	0.00	0.00	<i>Expensed to accrual for use in 2015- Will balance with 41501- 41511</i>
	Total Office Expenses	(57,350.00)	(57,010.27)	
Meeting and Book of Order Expenses				
64203	Stated Meeting, Fall	(8,000.00)	(8,000.00)	
64204	Stated Meeting, Spring	(8,000.00)	(8,000.00)	
60430	Mid-Year Committee Gathering	(8,000.00)	(8,000.00)	
64300	Perm Jud Commission	(1,400.00)	(1,400.00)	
64100	COR & Nominating Comm	(1,500.00)	(1,500.00)	
64250	Other Committee Expenses	(4,000.00)	(4,000.00)	
	Total Meeting and Book of Order Expenses	(30,900.00)	(30,900.00)	
Personnel Expenses				
65301	Dir Admin Svcs Salary	0.00	0.00	
65501	Dir Admin Svcs Benefits	0.00	0.00	
65624	Dir. Admin Svcs Prof Exp	0.00	0.00	
65205	Stated Clerk Salary	0.00	0.00	
65404	Stated Clerk FICA	0.00	0.00	
65643	SOS Co-Lead 1 Salary & Housing	(79,285.00)	(79,285.00)	
65644	SOS Co-Lead 1 BOP	(28,300.00)	(28,300.00)	
65644.5	SOS Co-Lead 1 SECA	(6,060.00)	(6,060.00)	
65645	SOS Co-Lead 1 Prof Exp	(1,500.00)	(1,500.00)	
65646	SOS Co-Lead 1 Prof Dev Allow	(1,500.00)	(1,500.00)	
65647	SOS Co-Lead 2 Salary & Housing	(72,720.00)	(72,720.00)	
65648	SOS Co-Lead 2 BOP	(30,600.00)	(30,600.00)	
65649	SOS Co-Lead 2 Prof Exp	(1,500.00)	(1,500.00)	
65650	SOS Co-Lead 2 Prof Dev Allow	(1,500.00)	(1,500.00)	
65504	Receptionist	(5,500.00)	(5,500.00)	
65505	Temp Staff & Other Staff Exp	0.00	0.00	
65101	Co Leader 1 (Exec) Travel	(17,500.00)	(17,500.00)	

Synod of the Sun Stated Meeting, February 2014

65106	Stated Clerk/Co-Lead 2 Travel	(17,500.00)	(17,500.00)	
65631	SOS Co-Lead 1 Moving Exp	0.00	0.00	
65632	SOS Co-Lead 2 Moving Exp	0.00	0.00	
65633	SOS Co-Leads Search Com Exp	0.00	0.00	
	Total Personnel Expenses	(263,465.00)	(263,465.00)	
Connecting Expenditures (Network Support and Institutions)				
63340	Funds for New Priorities	0.00	0.00	
63330	Solar Under the Sun	(100.00)	(100.00)	
61700	COM Event	(2,500.00)	(2,500.00)	
60400	Mission Grants	(20,000.00)	(20,000.00)	
60410	Network Nurture *	(24,000.00)	(24,000.00)	
61600	Interim Pastors	(100.00)	(100.00)	
61850	First Call Pastors training	(100.00)	(100.00)	
61105	EP Forum 2011	(4,000.00)	(4,000.00)	
60600	Presbyterian Women	(3,000.00)	(3,000.00)	
61800	Hispanic Women's Conference	(3,000.00)	(3,000.00)	
61900	College Connection	(1,500.00)	(1,500.00)	
64409	Staff Convocation Event	(2,800.00)	(2,800.00)	
				<i>All non-staff covenant related travel</i>
64416	Covenant relationships travel	(3,500.00)	(3,500.00)	
63101	Lyon College	(100.00)	(100.00)	
63110	Austin College	(100.00)	(100.00)	
63120	University of Ozarks	(100.00)	(100.00)	
63130	Schreiner University	(100.00)	(100.00)	
63140	Trinity University	(100.00)	(100.00)	
63150	Tulsa University	(100.00)	(100.00)	
63160	Pan American School	(100.00)	(100.00)	
63170	Austin Seminary	(100.00)	(100.00)	
63201	Pby. Children's Homes & Servc	(100.00)	(100.00)	
63210	Evergreen Pby. Ministries	(100.00)	(100.00)	
63220	Vera Lloyd Home & Family	(100.00)	(100.00)	
63230	Goodland academy	(100.00)	(100.00)	
63301	Mo Ranch	(100.00)	(100.00)	
63310	Pres History Society of SW	(100.00)	(100.00)	
63320	TPF	(100.00)	(100.00)	
61200	Multi-Cultural Youth Conf.	(4,000.00)	(4,000.00)	
61400	Synod Youth Workshop	(100.00)	(100.00)	

60450	Clerk Forum	(2,500.00)	(2,500.00)	
60440	Mission Convocation	(3,000.00)	(3,000.00)	
	Total Connecting Expense	(75,700.00)	(75,700.00)	
Communication				
62604	Computer (Maint Svc Provider)	(7,000.00)	(2,000.00)	Change in contract services
62602	Webmaster	(3,000.00)	(3,000.00)	
62603	Communications Initiatives	(21,000.00)	(17,000.00)	
66020	Computer (Hardware & Software)	(1,000.00)	(1,700.00)	Purchase new laptop
66021	Communications (mtgs, web exp)	(2,000.00)	(2,000.00)	
	Total Communication	(34,000.00)	(25,700.00)	
	TOTAL EXPENSE	(\$ 461,415.00)	(\$ 452,775.27)	
	TOTAL INCOME	\$ 224,000.00	\$ 224,000.00	
	Surplus (Deficit)	(\$ 231,355.00)	(\$ 228,775.27)	
	<i>Presbytery giving 2013 from accrual</i>	<i>\$ 237,500.00</i>	<i>\$ 228,775.27</i>	
	TOTAL BALANCE	\$ 6,145.00	\$ 0.00	
	<i>* For example: Racial Ethnic/Cultural community network development</i>			



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July 3, 2014

Dear Synod Commissioners,
Executive Presbyters and staff,

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together in love. Often this phrase comes to my mind during the day as it helps me to refocus on the spiritual in the midst of living in the world rather than in the Word. As we approach the upcoming August mid-year synod meeting, my prayer is we focus on being united in the Body of Christ.

Ephesians 4 1-6 NRSV

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Resignation:

It is with regret that the Synod Coordinating Team accepted the resignation of Moderator SarahLee Morris due to personal reasons. We were blessed by her leadership and gracious spirit as she guided us in the transitional period. Our prayers are with her as she continues her service to the Lord as a Spiritual Director and as she ministers to others in a variety of ways

According to the by-laws, the term of office of the moderator/moderator-elect is for two years with the first year as moderator-elect and the second year as moderator. I will continue for the remainder of my term this year as moderator-elect with one of the duties being to fulfill the role of the moderator when the moderator cannot then transition to moderator at the end of this year. I ask for your prayers for guidance as we walk together in service.

Leadership changes:

Bart Henson is now chair of the Stewardship Committee.

Joyce Ludwig was elected chair of the Grants and Scholarship Commission.

August Mid-year Meeting:

Have you registered for the upcoming August synod mid-year meeting? If not, please take time to do so now. If you cannot find the email Valerie sent out, go to the synod webpage and click on events then mid-year synod meeting. This is a very important planning meeting with no plenary business. The Connecting Committee meets August 7 & 8 and Stewardship Committee meets August 8 & 9. The two will join in unity for lunch, hear a report from Valerie Young and Dan Saperstein on GA decisions related to mid-councils and for worship.

Worship:

Rev. Joe Clifford has graciously agreed to preach with Josh Taylor leading us in music. They are both from 1st Presbyterian Church in Dallas. Dan and Valerie will work with them on the liturgy.

Offering: Immigration Project El Paso, Texas

In the Old Testament, the book of Leviticus we are provided with encouragement and instruction for time just like these “When a foreigner resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the foreigner. The foreigner who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the foreigner as yourself.”

Synod of the Sun is faced with an opportunity to share the love of God through Christ as many immigrants seeking asylum from Central America are being transported into El Paso while they wait processing and court dates. In response, churches and non-profit organizations have been teaming up to provide them shelter and care to keep them off the streets while they pass through El Paso. This is an overwhelming task, with planes of 150 people and buses of 50 people coming in without much warning. The bulk of the burden is being shouldered by the Catholic churches, who are starting to feel tapped out. Grace Presbyterian Church in El Paso is joining with the other churches in El Paso to minister to these immigrants: sitting with them, helping with cleaning, handing out supplies, helping organize donations, car rides, and security needs.

We can help as donations are needed:

Trial sized deodorant

Brushes, combs, hair ties

Women's undergarments: underwear sizes XS-M, bras 34-36B (bras are needed especially).

"Flip flop" sandals, children's sizes up to women's size 8.

We are asking all attending the August synod meeting to bring these items with them to the meeting. They will be boxed and taken by van to El Paso by those attending from Tres Rios Presbytery.

I look forward to seeing each of you in Irving August 7-8 or 8-9th.

God bless,

Judia Foreman

Synod of the Sun

Moderator-Elect

314 South L Street

Midland, Texas 79701

(h)432.684.8695

(c)432.889.5697

perry.4man@yahoo.com

From: Judia Foreman <perry.4man@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, July 28, 2014 3:54 PM
To: Mauricio Chacon; Rev Mauricio Chacon; Bart Henson; Aida Faris; Valerie Young; Dan Saperstein; Robert Lowry; Erin Kaye; Ernie Higginbotham; William Galbraith
Subject: Resignation

Synod of the Sun Coordination Team,

After much prayer, meditation and consultation, I feel it is in the best interest of the synod and my family if I resign as Moderator-Elect. I do so with a heavy heart but also know that God has put in place wonderful leaders to lead this synod forward. I will keep everyone in my prayers. As soon as I know who the new Moderator will be, I will immediately mail to them all of the materials in my possession.

It has been a pleasure to serve with you even though it was not for as long as I would have liked it to be. I will send Rev. Jose Luis Casal my resignation as a commissioner from Tres Rios.

God Bless,
Judia Foreman

Valerie Young

From: Valerie Young <office@synodsun.com>
Sent: Monday, August 18, 2014 6:59 AM
To: 'Valerie Young'
Cc: 'Bart Henson'; 'Bernadette Coffee'; 'Christianne Chase'; 'Emily Laurel'; 'Gordon Edwards'; 'Grace Goodeagle'; 'Jim Cole'; 'Jim Miles'; 'Joe Pat Nance'; 'John Guice'; 'Lynne Castle'; 'Malcolm Hall'; 'Pat Gwyn'; 'Rev Mauricio Chacon'; 'Rev. Aaron Carland'; 'Rev. Bill Galbraith'; 'Rev. Erin Kaye'; 'Rev. Gay Cocheres'; 'Rev. Greg Coulter'; 'Rev. Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson'; 'Rev. Jan DeVries'; 'Rev. Joe Hill'; 'Rev. José Luis Casal'; 'Rev. Joyce Ludwig'; 'Rev. Mark Henslee'; 'Rev. Mike Cole'; 'Rev. Richard Schempp'; 'Rev. Robert Lowry'; 'Rev. Ron Sutto'; 'Rev. Shelby Miller'; 'Rev. Ted Roeling'; 'Rev. Tom Ulrich'; 'Rev. Tom Wisdom'; Ernest Higginbotham; Dan Saperstein
Subject: RE: Synod E-vote

Good morning!

With 18 out of 21 voting commissioners voting in the affirmative, I am declaring that the motion has passed. Ruling Elder Christianne Chase now serves as Moderator Pro-tem of the Synod of the Sun through December 31, 2014.

Thanks be to God!

Valerie L. Young
Co-leader for Administration
and Stated Clerk
Synod of the Sun
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Irving, TX 75039
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From: Valerie Young [<mailto:vyoung@synodsun.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 12, 2014 6:57 AM
To: office@synodsun.com
Cc: Bart Henson; Bernadette Coffee; Christianne Chase; Emily Laurel; Gordon Edwards; Grace Goodeagle; Jim Cole; Jim Miles; Joe Pat Nance; John Guice; Lynne Castle; Malcolm Hall; Pat Gwyn; Rev Mauricio Chacon; Rev. Aaron Carland; Rev. Bill Galbraith; Rev. Erin Kaye; Rev. Gay Cocheres; Rev. Greg Coulter; Rev. Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson; Rev. Jan DeVries; Rev. Joe Hill; Rev. José Luis Casal; Rev. Joyce Ludwig; Rev. Mark Henslee; Rev. Mike Cole; Rev. Richard Schempp; Rev. Robert Lowry; Rev. Ron Sutto; Rev. Shelby Miller; Rev. Ted Roeling; Rev. Tom Ulrich; Rev. Tom Wisdom
Subject: Synod E-vote
Importance: High

Recently, the Synod's Coordinating Team received a letter of resignation from Judia Foreman, who, for personal reasons, has resigned from the office of Moderator/Moderator Elect of the Synod of the Sun. The Synod's Connecting Committee (which acts as the Nominating) met last week and has presented an omnibus motion for a vote by the Synod.

- a. Accept the resignation of Judia Foreman with thanks for her faithful service to the synod.
- b. That the Stated Clerk conduct an electronic vote of synod commissioners to elect a moderator pro-tem to serve through Dec. 31, 2014.
- c. That the Nominating Team puts forth the name of Christianne Chase in nomination. She has agreed to serve if elected.

Christianne Chase is a former Moderator of the Synod of the Sun (2008-2009), recently elected to a new term as Commissioner from Cimarron Presbytery.

Gracious God,

Help us to unclutter our lives, to organize ourselves in the direction of simplicity. Lord, teach us to listen to our hearts; teach us to welcome change, instead of fearing it. Lord, we give you our restlessness, our doubt, our despair.

We give you all the longings we hold inside. Help us to listen to your signs of change, of growth; help us to listen seriously and to follow where they lead through the breathtaking empty space of an open door. For it is in the name of Jesus that we trust and pray, Amen.

Please “Reply All” with questions, comments, or your “Yay” or “Nay” vote no later than Sunday, August 17, 2014.

A few notes about electronic voting:

1. The motion is presented as one. Therefore, one “Yay” vote will indicate your agreement with the entire motion. Likewise, a “Nay” vote. If a majority answers in the affirmative, Ruling Elder Christianne Chase will become Moderator Pro-tem of the Synod through December 31, 2014.
2. Please present your comments or questions to the entire group via “Reply All” email, so that everyone has the benefit of questions and responses.
3. A motion shall be considered adopted when it receives yes votes from a majority of the Commissioners. It shall be considered not adopted when it receives no votes from a majority of the Commissioners.
4. Up until such time as a majority vote either in favor or against is declared, a person may change his or her vote, but not after.
5. Persons who haven’t done so, should still register their vote even after a majority has been declared.
6. Any voting member (Commissioner) may request at any time, until such point as a majority vote has been declared, that a conference call be conducted on the motion.
7. All votes will be ratified at the next Stated Meeting of the Synod of the Sun, October 31 – November 1, 2014.

Valerie L. Young
Co-leader for Administration
and Stated Clerk
Synod of the Sun
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SYNOD OF THE SUN
Stated Meeting, October 31- November 1, 2014
Woodhaven Presbyterian Church, Irving, Texas

The SYNOD OF THE SUN met in stated meeting on **Friday, October 31, 2014** at Woodhaven Presbyterian Church, Irving, Texas. Following lunch and informal conversation in Hancock Hall, the Assembly gathered outside at 12:30 p.m. for opening prayers, worship and Holy Communion. (**Attachment A**)

At 1:15, Moderator Pro-tem Christianne Chase called the meeting to order. Commissioner Pat Guinn welcomed everyone to Woodhaven Presbyterian Church. Assistant Stated Clerk Ernest R. Higginbotham reported that more than a majority of the number of commissioners were present, constituting a quorum. The moderator declared a quorum.

First Name	Last Name	Presbytery	Role	Committee
Frances	Carlton	Tres Rios	Commissioner	Connecting Committee
Lynne	Castle	South Louisiana	Commissioner	Connecting Committee
Gay	Cocheres	Cimarron	Commissioner	Connecting Committee
Bernie	Coffee	Tres Rios	Commissioner	Connecting Committee
Pat	Gwyn	Grace	Commissioner	Connecting Committee
Mark	Henslee	Indian Nations	Commissioner	Connecting Committee
Dan	Hignight	Pines	Commissioner	Connecting Committee
Joyce	Ludwig	Eastern Oklahoma	Commissioner	Connecting Committee
Joe Pat	Nance	Mission	Commissioner	Connecting Committee
Barbara	Taylor	Palo Duro	Commissioner	Connecting Committee
Tom	Ulrich	Arkansas	Commissioner	Connecting Committee
Christianne	Chase	Cimarron	Commissioner	Stewardship Committee
Grace	Goodeagle	Eastern Oklahoma	Commissioner	Stewardship Committee
Bart	Henson	New Covenant	Commissioner	Stewardship Committee
Emily	Laurel	Arkansas	Commissioner	Stewardship Committee
Shelby	Miller	Grace	Commissioner	Stewardship Committee
Ted	Roeling, sr	South Louisiana	Commissioner	Stewardship Committee
Tom	Wisdom	Palo Duro	Commissioner	Stewardship Committee
Greg	Coulter	Eastern Oklahoma	Corresponding Member	Connecting Committee
Joy	Durrant	Mission	Corresponding Member	Connecting Committee
Joe	Hill	Pines	Corresponding Member	Connecting Committee
B Gordon	Edwards	Cimarron	Corresponding Member	Stewardship Committee
Bill	Galbraith	Arkansas	Corresponding Member	Stewardship Committee

Richard	Schempp	Palo Duro	Corresponding Member	Stewardship Committee
Aida	Faris	Mission	Synod COR Member	Representation Committee (COR)
Daniel	Garza	Palo Duro	Synod COR Member	Representation Committee (COR)
Patricia	Lane	Tres Rios	Synod COR Member	Representation Committee (COR)
Ernie	Higginbotham	Grace	Assistant Stated Clerk	Representation Committee (COR)
Valerie	Young	Grace	Stated Clerk & Co-Leader for Administration	Stewardship Committee
Dan	Saperstein	Palo Duro	Co-Leader for Mission & Partnership	Connecting
Faye	Sanders	Grace	Synod assistant	
Guests				
David	Gill	Arkansas	Ferncliff Camp & Conference Center	
Jane	Smith		Guest	
Paul	Hooker		Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary	
Stephen	Nickle	Mission	Trinity University	
Ed	Knight		Presbyterian Children's Homes & Services	
Excused				
Jim	Miles	Tres Rios	Commissioner	Connecting
Robert	Lowry	Arkansas	Co-opted Member	Stewardship Committee
Mauricio	Chacon	New Covenant	Commissioner	Connecting Committee
Erin	Kaye	Pines	Co-opted Member	Connecting Committee

Corresponding and co-opted members and visitors were recognized.

It was moved, seconded and passed that all corresponding and co-opted members be seated with voice.

It was moved, seconded and passed that a revised Agenda, rescheduling the Co-leaders Reports to Saturday and changing the times for covenant renewals on Saturday so that Trinity University will be at 9:00 a.m. and Austin Seminary will be at 11:00 a.m., be adopted.

Synod Assembly, Oct. 31 – Nov. 1, 2014

Friday, October 31, 2014

<i>11:30 a.m. Shuttle from hotel to Woodhaven</i>		
Noon	~ Lunch	
12:30 pm	~ Worship	
1:15 pm	~ Welcome & Introductions <i>Declaring a Quorum</i> <i>Seating of Corresponding Members and visitors</i> <i>Adoption of the Agenda</i> <i>Stated Clerk Report</i>	Hancock Hall
	~ Covenant Renewal - PCHAS	Hancock Hall
1:45 pm	~ Committee meetings Representation Connecting Stewardship	Bride's room Groom's room Education
3:30 pm	<i>Synod does mission</i>	
4:00 pm	~ Committee meetings	
5:45 pm	~ Covenant Renewal - Ferncliff	
6:00 pm	~ Dinner	
6:45 pm	<i>Synod has Fun!</i>	
7:00 pm	~ MCC II process discussion <i>Evening Prayer</i>	
8:30 pm	Hospitality	Hotel meeting room
<i>7:45 p.m. Shuttle from Woodhaven to hotel</i>		

Saturday, November 1, 2014

<i>8:00 a.m. Shuttle from hotel to Woodhaven</i>		
8:30 am	~ fellowship	Hancock Hall
8:45 am	--Morning prayer	
9:00 am	~ Covenant Renewal – Trinity University	
	~ Stewardship Report	
	~ Committee on Representation Report	
	~ Covenant Renewal – Austin Seminary	
	~ Connecting Report	
	~ Coordinating Team	
	~ Co-leaders Report Dan Saperstein – Co-leader for Mission & Partnership Valerie Young – Co-leader for Administration	
	~ MCC II process follow-up	
11:00 am	Closing worship & Moderator Installation	
Noon	Box lunches	
<i>Shuttle and ride share to airports</i>		

Co-leader for Administration and Stated Clerk Valerie Young gave the Stated Clerk's Report.
(Attachment B)

It was moved, seconded and passed that the Assembly ratify and approve the following and all actions taken pursuant thereto since February 2014:

- a. Accept the resignation of Moderator, SaraLee Morris and Moderator Elect Judia Foreman with thanks for their faithful service to the Synod.
- b. That Christianne Chase (Ruling Elder, Cimarron Presbytery) be elected as Synod Moderator Pro-tem through December 31, 2014.

Moderator Pro-tem Christianne Chase introduced Ed Knight, President and CEO of **Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services, who gave a report on PCHAS**. It was moved, seconded and passed that the Covenant between the Synod of the Sun and **Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services** be renewed. **(Attachment C)** The Covenant was signed and Pro-tem Christianne Chase gave a prayer of thanksgiving for PCHAS.

At 1:45, the Assembly divided and moved into committee meetings: its two principal standing Committees: Connecting and Stewardship, and the Committee on Representation.

At 3:30, the committees recessed so the Assembly could do mission together by preparing "shave and shine" kits for delivery to the homeless by The Stewpot of First Presbyterian Church of Dallas

At 4:00, the committee meetings resumed.

At 5:55, the Assembly reconvened and Moderator Pro-tem Christianne Chase introduced David Gill, Executive Director of Ferncliff **Camp and Conference Center, who gave a report on Ferncliff.** It was moved, seconded and passed that the Covenant between the Synod of the Sun and Ferncliff **Camp and Conference Center** be renewed. **(Attachment D)** The Covenant was signed and Commissioner Tom Ulrich gave a prayer of thanksgiving for Ferncliff and blessing for our food.

The Assembly enjoyed dinner and table fellowship. Following dinner, the Synod had fun by sharing favorite Halloween memories.

At 7:00, the Assembly focused on Mid Council Commission II (MCC II). Co-leader for Mission and Partnership Dan Saperstein presented the "Introduction to the Synod Boundary Consultation Process" materials. **(Attachment E)** and introduced Jane Smith, a member of MCC II, who reported on the background of MCC I and II and the General Assembly's charge to the synods. Around tables, the Assembly discussed the proposed process for the Synod to consult with presbyteries to be able to respond the GA mandate.

It was moved and seconded to adopt Proposed Synod Consultation Process. **(Attachment F)** It was moved, seconded and passed to amend paragraph 4 of the Proposed Synod Consultation Process to add a member to the Synod of the Sun Boundary Consultation Task Force from either Tres Rios or Palo Duro Presbytery. It was moved, seconded and passed to amend the first line paragraph 5 of the Proposed Synod Consultation Process to insert "and Stated Clerk" between "EP and "of each presbytery." As amended, the original motion passed.

At 8:00, the Assembly gathered for Evening Prayers. **(Attachment G)**

At 8:15, the Assembly recessed for the evening, to reconvene at 8:45 a.m. on Saturday, November 1, 2014

The SYNOD OF THE SUN continued its stated meeting on **Saturday, November 1, 2014**, at Woodhaven Presbyterian Church, Irving, Texas, by gathering for Morning Prayer at 8:45 a.m.

Moderator Pro-tem Chase introduced Stephen Nickle, Chaplin of Trinity University, **who gave a report on Trinity.** It was moved, seconded and passed that the Covenant between the Synod of the Sun and Trinity University be renewed. **(Attachment H)** The Covenant was signed and Commissioner Shelby Miller gave a prayer of thanksgiving for Trinity.

Committee Chair Bart Henson gave the Stewardship Committee report. **(Attachment I)** The committee presented the following action items:

1. It was moved and passed that the budget of \$449,741 be approved. **(Attachment J)**

2. Recognizing the likely size able under run of the 2014 budget, it was moved and passed that:
 - a. Add \$20,000 from 60400 to Mission grants, code 33802.
 - b. Add a \$10,000 Theoacademy grant targeted at support of Spanish language materials.
 - c. Direct the remaining excess funds to investment at the TPF in our reserves. The committee delegated to Valerie Young and Bart Henson the responsibility of arranging this with TPF once the amount is known at year end.
3. It was moved and passed that *the following changes be made to the Synod Standing Rules, Section 8 regarding Budget Guidelines (Attachment K)*
 - a. Mission Contributions from Presbyteries are normally retained in an interest bearing account during the year received and expended withdrawn at a rate of 25% of the year's total per quarter during the following year (i.e. funds received in 2013 are used to meet budgetary needs in 2014)
 - c. Unless otherwise specified ~~by the donor~~, all ~~gifts to the synod~~ gifts received (undesignated, designated as general mission or administration), other than Presbytery mission support, will be applied to ~~a unified budget covering all normal expenses of the ministry of the synod~~ income during the year in which they were received.

The synod receives interest from endowments some of which are unrestricted in their use and some restricted for specific grants and scholarships. Other synod income includes presbytery mission contributions, church, and individual contributions. The synod will provide complete and accurate reporting to include budget and financial statements for the synod, as well as those ministries for which the synod provides financial oversight, a consolidated budget and financial statement, reflecting all restricted and unrestricted funds, at each assembly meeting, to the Coordinating Team at least quarterly and may at the discretion of the Coordinating Team, provide such information to others upon request.
4. It was moved and passed to receive the results of an Insurance Review (**Attachment L**)
5. It was moved and passed that *the results of the 2013 audit be received (Attachment M)*

Committee Chair Aida Faris gave the Committee on Representation report.

The COR members met with the Connecting/Nominating Committee and discussed the lack of diversity found in the structure of the Synod. Together we discussed the function, mission, and structure of COR. After some discussion, the matter will be referred to the committee reviewing the bylaws so that they may recommend changes.

The COR spent some time discussing the feasibility of holding a gathering of Presbytery COR chairs and representatives that would study the issues for diversity within our synod and possible avenues for action.

Moderator Pro-tem Christianne Chase introduced Paul Hooker, Associate Dean for Ministerial Formation and Advanced Studies at **Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, who gave a report on** Austin Seminary. It was moved, seconded and passed that the Covenant between the Synod of the Sun and **Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary** be renewed.

(Attachment N) The Covenant was signed and Commissioner Mark Henslee gave a prayer of thanksgiving for Austin Seminary.

Committee Chair Joe Pat Nance gave the Connecting Committee report. **(Attachment O)** The committee presented the following action items:

1. It was moved and passed that the Hispanic Ministries Network of Austin Seminary be recognized by the Synod as a mission network.

2. The Connecting Committee acting as Nominating Committee submitted the following names for election:

a. Synod of the Sun Grants & Scholarships Commission

Pby	Comm	Class	Name	S	E	A	Address	Phone/Email
EO	S	2016	Grace Goodeagle	FRE	NA			
A	S	2015	Emily Laurel	FRE	W			
G	S	2014	Shelby Miller	FTE	W			
C	C	2015	Gay Cocheres	FRE	W			
TR	C	2015	Frances Carlton	FRE	W			
A	C	2016	Tom Ulrich	MTE	W			
PD	C	2017	Barbara Taylor	FRE	W			
E	C	Co-opt	Joy Durrant	FTE	W			

b. Trustees of the Synod of the Sun

Pby	Class	Name	T	S	E	A	Address
M	2015	Joe Pat Nance	1	MRE	W	MA	Gonzales, TX
SL	2015	Lynn Castle	1	FRE	W	MA	Lafayette, LA

c. Synod Moderator/Moderator-elect

Pby	Class	Name	T	S	E	A	Address
C	2015 Mod.	Christianne Chase		FRE	W	MA	Enid, OK
P	2015 M-E	Dan Hignight		MTE	W	MA	Hope, AR

d. Synod Boundary Consultation Task Force

Pby	Name	S	E	A	Address
C	Christianne Chase	FRE	W	A	Enid, OK
M	Lemuel Garcia	MTE	H	A	Austin, TX
P	James Freeman	MTE	W	A	Shreveport, LA
G	Ruth Roman-Meza	FRE	H	A	Desoto, TX
A	Dari Rowen	FTE	W	A	Benton, AR
TR	Judia Foreman	FRE	W	SA	Midland, TX
EP	Rev. Joe Hill, Resource				

e. Synod of the Sun Presbyterian Foundation

Pby	Class	Name	T	S	E	A	Address
SL	2017	Edward Bush	1	MRE	W	MA	New Orleans, LA
A	2017						
C	2017						
IN	2017						
M	2017						
P	2017						
	2016						

f. Covenant Renewal Team: University of the Ozarks - 2015

Pby	Name	S	E	A	Address
P	Erin Kaye	FTE	W	A	Camden, AR
	Dan Saperstein, Staff	MTE			
IN	Malcolm Hall	MRE	W	A	Oklahoma City, OK
A	Tom Ulrich	MTE	W	A	Fort Smith, AR

g. Covenant Renewal Team: Schreiner University - 2015

Pby	Name	S	E	A	Address
	Dan Saperstein, Staff	MTE			
M	Joe Pat Nance	MRE	W	MA	Gonzales, TX
C	Ann Wasson	FTE	W	MA	

h. Covenant Renewal Team: Lyon College – 2015

Pby	Name	S	E	A	Address
	Dan Saperstein, Staff	MTE			
C	Gay Cocheres	FTE	W	A	
G	Pat Gwyn	FRE	W	A	

Moderator Pro-tem Chase asked for nominations from the floor; there were none. It was moved, seconded and adopted that nominations cease and the proposed persons be elected.

3. The Connecting Committee acting as Nominating Committee submitted the following names from Covenant Partners for election by the Synod of the Sun:

a. Presbyterian Pan American School

Pby	Class	Name	T	E/C	E	A	Address
NC		Susan Buell	2	FRE	W		Lake Jackson, TX

b. Lyon College

Pby	Class	Name	T	E/C	E	A	Address
A	2018	James Rutherford III	4	MRE	W	S A	Little Rock, AR
A	2018	Phil Baldwin	4	MRE	W	S A	Rosie, AR
A	2016	Scott Daniel	2	MRE	W	M A	Little Rock, AR
-	2016	Brad Austin	2	MRE	W	M A	Littleton, MA
A	2018	David Churchill	4	MRE	W	S A	Fayetteville, AR
A	2018	Ricky Davis	4	MRE	W	3	Heber Springs, AR

A	2015	Charles Whiteside III	1	MRE	W	M A	Little Rock, AR
A	2017	Richard Neice	1	MRE	W	M A	Hot Springs Village, AR

c. Presbyterian Foundation of Louisiana

Pby	Class	Name	T	E/C	E	A	Address
SL	2017	<i>Karen Eigenbrod</i>	1	FRE	W	SA	<i>Metairie, LA</i>

d. Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest

Pby	Class	Name	T	E/C	E	A	Address
C		John Cool	1	MRE	W	SA	Ponca City

Moderator Pro-tem Chase asked for nominations from the floor; there were none. It was moved, seconded and adopted that nominations cease and the proposed persons be elected.

4. The Connecting Committee acting as Nominating Committee submitted the following names from Covenant Partners for confirmation/affirmation by the Synod of the Sun:

a. Texas Presbyterian Foundation Board of Trustees

Pby	Class	Name	T	E/C	E	A	Address
M	2015	Jennifer Dooling	1	FRE	W	M A	San Antonio, TX
NC	2016	James G. Cooper	1	MRE	W	SA	Missouri City, TX
M	2017	Paul Beyer	3	MRE	W	SA	San Antonio, TX
NC	2017	Fred Robertson	3	MRE	W	M A	Houston, TX
G	2017	Gilbert Segovia	1	MRE	HL	M A	Richardson, TX

G	2017	Ronald Gafford	1	MRE	W	SA	Dallas, TX
M	2017	Judy Ferguson	1	FRE	W	M A	Kerrville, TX
M	2017	Nelson Puett	1	MRE	W	A	Austin, TX

It was moved and passed that the proposed persons be confirmed/affirmed.

Moderator Pro-tem Chase reported for the Coordinating Committee:

Dates for the next Assembly has changed to 1:00 p.m. on Monday March 9 through 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 10, with the Coordinating Team meeting at 10:00 a.m. on the 9th.

The mid-year committee meetings will be August 6-8, 2015, with Connecting meeting August 6-7, and Stewardship meeting August 7-8.

The Fall Assembly will meet November 6-7.

The following have been appointed to a committee to review and suggest revisions to Bylaws and Standing Rules:

Commissioner Joe Pat Nance

Moderator-elect Dan Hignight

another to be added

Assistant Stated Clerk Higginbotham will resource the committee

Moderator Pro-tem Chase reported for the Personnel Committee:

It was moved and passed that the Synod adopt a policy that it will pay Board of Pension medical dues for both members and dependents.

Co-leader for Mission and Partnership Dan Saperstein reported.

Co-leader for Administration and Stated Clerk Valerie Young updated the Stated Clerk's report to advise that 2013 minutes Mission Presbytery have been read with no exceptions noted. In an effort to go paperless, electronic tablets will be available for use at Synod meetings in 2015.

Moderator Pro-tem Chase announced that the Coordinating Team will hold a retreat January 7-9, 2015.

It was moved, seconded and passed that Ernest R. Higginbotham continue to be employed by the Synod as Assistant Stated Clerk, on a volunteer basis, through December 31, 2015.

It was moved, seconded and passed that the Assembly adjourn at the conclusion of worship.

The Assembly joined in Closing Worship (**Attachment O**) and Installation of Moderator Christianne Chase (**Attachment O**).

At 10:45 a.m., the Assembly was adjourned.

Ernest R. Higginbotham, Assistant Stated Clerk

The above minutes of this Stated Meeting of the Synod of the Sun were reviewed and approved by Moderator, Christianne Chase and Moderator-Elect, Rev. Dan Hignight per the Synod Standing Rule, Section 5.

OPENING WORSHIP

Synod of the Sun Assembly

Friday, Oct. 31 2014

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 84

One: How lovely is your dwelling place,
O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, indeed it
faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart
and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

*Many: Even the sparrow finds a home, and
the swallow a nest for herself, where she
may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord
of hosts. Happy are those who live in your
house, ever singing your praise.*

HYMN: "Almighty Lord, How Lovely is That
Place" v1-4

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *In the
community of Christ's church and in the
presence of God's people, we confess to
God that we have sinned in thought, word,
and deed. We have not loved God, cared
for God's world or respected God's people
as we should. We own our responsibility
and we pray for God's pardon....*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON *Isaiah*
43: 16-20

SERMON "In Search of Certainty" Rev.
Schempp

HYMN: "God Is Here"

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY: "Almighty Lord..." v.5

*"Glory to God, the Father and the Son,
and Holy Spirit, ever three in one;
ever the same, while endless ages run!
Aleluia! Aleluia!"*

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN: "For the Beauty of the Earth" v. 1,2
& 5

BENEDICTION

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Leading worship today are Ruling Elder
Christianne Chase and Teaching Elder Rev.
Rich Schempp*

Attachment B

Synod of the Sun Stated Clerk's Report October 31, 2014

Valerie L. Young
Stated Clerk

Synod Permanent Judicial Commission: The Synod PJC came together in February of this year for training, community building, and the election of moderator. Thanks to Laurie Griffith from OGA for her excellent work and insight. There is currently no business before the Commission.

Clerk's Colloquium: Next week the synod will host its third Presbytery Clerk's gathering for 2014. This has been a good first year of gathering around common work, continued education, and building connectedness within and among the presbyteries in the synod.

Synod Minutes Reading: The Synod's minutes were read and reviewed by a peer group and the General Assembly's Committee on Mid-Council Issues.

Exceptions:

1. Neither 2012 meeting indicated the number required to constitute a quorum.
2. No indication of the results of electronic vote.

Comments:

1. Clerk should indicate when pages (or parts of pages) are left intentionally blank.
2. Nothing in the bylaws indicating electronic voting.

Presbytery Minutes Reading:

The exchange of Presbytery minutes began with a meeting of the Presbytery Clerk's Colloquium, July 9-10, 2014. Following is a list of those comments and exceptions, if any.

Arkansas

Exceptions: None noted

Comments: *Very excellent minutes!*

Read by: Kay Long, Stated Clerk of Tres Rios Presbytery

Cimarron

Exceptions:

1. *Existence of a committee on representation*
2. *Treasurer's full annual review and reported the results of the audit*
3. *Existence of a presbytery manual of operations*

Comments: None noted.

Read by: Rev. Carol Waters, Stated Clerk of Indian Nations Presbytery

Eastern Oklahoma

Exceptions: None noted

Comments: None noted

Read by: Rev. Ruth Clendenin, Stated Clerk of Palo Duro Presbytery

Grace

Exceptions: *Opportunity for nominations from the floor in July 2013 meeting.*

Comments: *These are just fine.*

Read by: Rev. David Dyer, Assistant Stated Clerk of Arkansas Presbytery

Indian Nations

Exceptions: *Treasurer's Annual Review – it appears that getting this task accomplished is as difficult for other presbyteries as for Cimarron.*

Comments: *Clear, concise minutes – keep up the good work!*

Read by: Rev. Deborah Meinke, Stated Clerk of Cimarron Presbytery

Mission - 2013 minutes have not yet been received for review

New Covenant -

Exceptions: None noted

Comments: None noted

Read by: Rev. Ron Sutto, Stated Clerk of Presbytery of South Louisiana

Palo Duro

Exceptions: No exceptions.

Comments: Minutes are neat & concise.

Read by: Bonnie Smith, Stated Clerk of Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery

Pines

Exceptions:

1. *The budget and the annual review from the treasurer were missing.*

2. *Session's records and review were not included*

3. *Property and liability insurance were not included.*

Comments: *Great job!*

Read by: Julia Miller, Presbytery of South Louisiana

South Louisiana

Exceptions:

Index is not sufficient

Missing legal description of properties owned by presbytery

Missing review of actions taken by entities of Presbytery

Comments:

Very thorough minutes, in general! Well organized.

Work on the index to make it easier to find items.

Tres Rios

Exceptions: Existence of a Committee on Representation (G-3.0103)

Comments: Excellent minutes!

Read by: Rev. Gerry Tyer, Stated Clerk of Grace Presbytery

MOTION:

That the Assembly ratify and approve the following and all actions taken pursuant thereto since February 2014:

- a. Accept the resignation of Moderator, SaraLee Morris and Moderator Elect, Judia Foreman with thanks for their faithful service to the synod.
- b. That Christianne Chase (Ruling Elder, Cimarron Presbytery) be elected as Synod Moderator Pro-tem through December 31, 2014.

(Attachment C)

The Covenant Between

Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services

and the

Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Article One Nature of the Covenant

1.01. Covenant Relationships in General. The relationship that exists between Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services ("PCHAS") and the Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Inc. ("the Synod") shall be defined and characterized by the word "covenant." The term "covenant" has found its highest expression among God's people. Thus, covenant within the family of God implies the deepest level of trust between covenanting parties and of commitment to one another. A Christian covenant is a living agreement, offering vast opportunities for creative adaptation to meet changing conditions.

1.02. Confirmation of the Covenant Relationship. PCHAS and the Synod hereby confirm their covenant relationship recognizing that the life and work of each is enriched and made more dynamic through this relationship and also recognizing that each party has its own role that can be strengthened through the mutual exchange of ideas, resources, and support for the mission of the other.

1.03. Purpose of this Document. This document is a current statement of the covenant relationship between PCHAS and the Synod and of the mutual expectations and commitments that provide the basis for review and evaluation of the work done by PCHAS and the fulfillment of the Synod's responsibilities to PCHAS. It is intended that this covenant be legally binding on both parties and that the governing documents of each party not be inconsistent with this covenant.

Article Two Parties to the Covenant

2.01. Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services. Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services is a Texas nonprofit corporation resulting from the merger on January 1, 2002, of Presbyterian Children's Homes ("PCH") and Presbyterian Children's Services, Inc., of the Synod of the Sun ("PCS").

(a) Presbyterian Children's Homes. PCH was a Texas nonprofit corporation originally chartered on December 31, 1904. The genesis of PCH occurred in Dallas, Texas, where a children's home was established by the Ladies Missionary Society of First Presbyterian Church in 1902. At the Society's request, the Synod of Texas of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. assumed control of the home in October 1903. Later, the Synods of Arkansas and Oklahoma joined in support. A strong relationship continuously existed between PCH and these synods and their successors. The first written confirmation of the covenant relationship between PCH and the

Synod was adopted in 1984 and renewed unchanged in 1989. PCH developed and maintained programs in areas throughout Texas.

(b) Presbyterian Children's Services. It was in early 1916 that a group of concerned and caring Presbyterians responded to a need and opened Reynolds Presbyterian Orphanage and School in the small west Texas community of Albany. The Home served needy children in that area under the direction of the Presbytery of Abilene until economics necessitated a move to Dallas in 1923, and the agency came under the care of the Presbytery of Dallas. The Home weathered the difficult years of the 20's and 30's and continued to serve children in that location until 1960, when it relocated to a new campus in Waxahachie. The name was then changed to United Presbyterian Homes. To more adequately identify with its origin and purpose the name Presbyterian Children's Services was approved by the Synod and the PCS Board of Trustees in 1989. Written confirmations of the covenant relationship between PCS and the Synod were first adopted in 1986.. Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services has renewed their covenant with the Synod periodically thereafter.

(c) Current Programs. PCHAS offers a variety of services that are continually evaluated to maximize the best use of resources and the best practices for serving traumatized children. Primary services include residential group homes on campuses at Itasca and Waxahachie; community-based foster homes in many cities and communities; 18 offices in cities around Texas and Louisiana offer family preservation services to entire families in their own homes; adoption services are available state wide; and residential programs serving single parents and their children are presently operated in Weatherford, Waxahachie, and soon in Houston and San Antonio. In addition, educational advocacy in various forms is a backdrop to all our programs and post-secondary education is available to former residents who have graduated from high school. In 2014, a transitional living residential program will be established in San Antonio for young adults who have aged out of foster care.

2.02. Synod of the Sun. The Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Inc. is a Texas nonprofit corporation. The Synod is a regional governing body of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and its jurisdiction includes the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Article Three Legal Relationship of the Parties

3.01. Separate Legal Entities. PCHAS and the Synod are separate legal entities.

3.02. Governance of PCHAS. PCHAS' Articles of Incorporation provide that it shall be managed by a Board of Trustees and that the manner of election, term of office, and qualifications of trustees, the method and cause for removal of such trustees, and the number of such trustees shall be as provided for by the Board of Trustees in the Bylaws. A majority of the members of the PCHAS Board of Trustees shall be either active minister members of a presbytery or active members of a church under the jurisdiction of the Synod. The Synod may submit names to PCHAS for consideration as prospective trustees.

3.03. Distribution of Assets Upon PCHAS Dissolution. PCHAS' Articles of Incorporation provide that upon the dissolution of PCHAS and pursuant to a plan of dissolution adopted according to Texas law, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, (a) to an organization qualified to receive such assets according to the

terms or directions from the Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Inc., or, if no such organization exists, then (b) to such organization or organizations that are entitled to hold property for the benefit of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) or its successor organization as the Board of Trustees of PCHAS shall select, in such proportions as the Board of Trustees shall determine. To qualify to receive such assets upon dissolution, an organization must be exempt within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, at the time of dissolution. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of PCHAS is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as the court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

3.04. Controlling Documents. A copy of PCHAS' governing documents and any amendments thereto shall be provided by PCHAS to the Synod Executive, and a copy of the governing documents of the Synod and any amendments thereto shall be provided by the Synod to the President of PCHAS.

Article Four Responsibilities under the Covenant

4.01. Mission of Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services. The Synod entrusts Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services to provide Christ-centered care and support to children and families in need.

4.02. Mission of Synod of the Sun. The purpose of God is fully revealed in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. As Christ's body, the Church is called to proclaim the gospel and, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to make disciples, inviting and encouraging people to become followers of Jesus—to grow spiritually, emotionally, and theologically on the journey of faith and faithfulness. All expressions of the Church called Presbyterian are called to be instruments of God's will. To each there is a particular role, with accompanying responsibilities. The vision of the Synod of the Sun is to be a regional community of Christians who work together across geographic boundaries. Being a living expression of the Great Ends of the Church is the primary task of all entities of the Church beginning at the congregational level. Presbyteries exist to create and encourage such congregations and to motivate, develop, and support lay and clergy leadership. The presbytery is meant to be a community of interdependent congregations. The Synod of the Sun seeks to be an agent of mutual ministry among the presbyteries, Presbyterian colleges and seminaries, institutions, agencies, and ministries within the region embracing Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. The goal of the Synod is to facilitate these components to harmonize in ministry. The Synod seeks to proclaim and promote the reign of God in a spirit of ecumenicity.

4.03. Mutual Concern and Support. Both PCHAS and the Synod shall at all times demonstrate mutual concern and support for one another. The primary expression of mutual concern and support shall involve program relationships between PCHAS and the Synod in which each provides services for the other.

4.04. Governing Boards and Communication. In fulfilling the responsibilities of this covenant, PCHAS normally acts through its Board of Trustees and the Synod through its Assembly, although each may delegate responsibilities to others. Continuing communication between

PCHAS and the Synod should be affirmed and maintained. PCHAS may communicate with the Synod through the Synod's appropriate working group or the Synod Executive. The Synod may communicate with PCHAS through PCHAS' Board of Trustees or the President of PCHAS.

4.05. Role of Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services.

(a) Legal Responsibilities. PCHAS, through its Board of Trustees, accepts the legal responsibilities associated with the governance of PCHAS and the responsibility for nominating, electing, and training trustees who shall bring effective leadership to PCHAS and a general commitment to the goals and programs of the Synod. PCHAS shall be cognizant of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s criteria for fair representation on its Board of Trustees.

(b) Availability of Expertise and Resources. PCHAS commits to offering its expertise and facilities as a resource for the Synod. PCHAS personnel, insofar as reasonable, shall be available to lead or participate in conferences and other events and to serve on committees and task forces of the Synod. PCHAS' physical facilities and resources shall be available for use by the Synod in appropriate and needed ways. These services, which are not for profit to PCHAS, shall ordinarily be rendered on a cost basis to the Synod. Both the Synod and PCHAS shall respect the primary responsibility of PCHAS to fulfill its mission in deploying personnel and other resources.

(c) PCHAS Funding. PCHAS agrees to assume primary responsibility in securing funding for its management and operation. PCHAS is free to solicit funds from individual Presbyterians and other persons, congregations, presbyteries, trusts, foundations, estates, and any other appropriate sources.

(d) Cooperation With Other Synod Institutions. PCHAS is cognizant of the existence of other Synod institutions, including child and family service organizations, and will actively seek ways to work cooperatively for the mutual benefit of all.

4.06. Role of the Synod of the Sun.

(a) Advocate for PCHAS. The Synod shall interpret and advocate the role and programs of PCHAS to congregations, governing bodies, individual Presbyterians, and others, particularly those within the Synod's area of jurisdiction. This will include the distribution of information regarding the mission and work of PCHAS.

(b) Support of PCHAS. The Synod shall encourage support of PCHAS, including financial support, by congregations, governing bodies, individual Presbyterians, and others, particularly those within the Synod's area of jurisdiction.

(c) Availability of Expertise and Resources. The Synod commits to offering its expertise and facilities as a resource for PCHAS. Synod personnel and commissioners, insofar as reasonable, shall be available to consult and work with PCHAS in support of its mission. The Synod's physical facilities and resources shall be available for use by PCHAS in appropriate and needed ways. These services, which are not for profit to the Synod, shall ordinarily be rendered on a cost basis to PCHAS. Both PCHAS and the Synod shall respect the primary responsibility of the Synod to fulfill its mission in deploying personnel and other resources.

4.07. Annual Report and Review. The Synod shall provide PCHAS an opportunity to present an annual report on how it is carrying out its mission. PCHAS declares its openness to periodic evaluations by the Synod which has concern for PCHAS' institutional faithfulness as a Christian ministry.

Article Five Miscellaneous Provisions

5.01. Authorization of Other Relationships. PCHAS and the Synod recognize the advantages of working relationships between PCHAS and other individuals and organizations (including other church governing bodies) not inconsistent with this covenant. Such relationships allow for mutual responsibilities and resources to be identified and exercised at every level. PCHAS, therefore, may continue or establish relationships with other individuals and organizations (including other church governing bodies) that are consistent with this primary covenant. PCHAS may also continue or establish relationships with congregations that have been dismissed from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to other denominations.

5.02. Review and Renewal of the Covenant. The statement of covenant relationship between PCHAS and the Synod shall be reviewed and, if necessary, revised at least every four years. It is the joint responsibility of PCHAS and the Synod to ensure that such a review is accomplished. Interim changes agreeable to both parties may be made as conditions require.

5.03. Formal Approval of the Covenant. Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services and the Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Inc., adopt this current statement of their covenant relationship, effective on the affirmative vote of both governing boards.

Adopted by the Board of Trustees of
Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services
(U.S.A.),

on 2014

Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services,
a Texas nonprofit corporation
corporation

By: _____

Fancy Jezek
Chair of the Board

By: _____

Ed Knight
President

Adopted by the Assembly of the Synod
of the Sun, Presbyterian Church

Inc. on _____ 2014

Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church
(U.S.A.), Inc. a Texas nonprofit

By: _____

Christianne Chase
Moderator Pro-tem

By: _____

Valerie Young
Co-leader for Administration
And Stated Clerk

(Attachment D)
Covenant Agreement
between
Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center, Inc
and
Synod of the Sun
for
Solar Under the Sun

Revised 11-1-14

This document articulates the covenant relationship with Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center and the Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for Solar Under the Sun (SUTS), a ministry which trains and equips people to install solar energy to God's children around the world. Oversight and administration of this ministry is through the SUTS board which is elected by the Synod of the Sun and includes representatives from Synod and Ferncliff. The ministry is located at the Solar Mission Training Center on the grounds of Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center, Ferndale, Arkansas.

Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center, Inc. (Ferncliff) agrees to:

- Provide space and bear cost of construction of buildings for classrooms and the operation and storage of the training equipment and materials needed for Solar 1 and Solar 2 – the training classes run by SUTS.
 - This space shall be designed in consultation with the SUTS Board and will meet SUTS needs and all applicable building codes.
 - SUTS will have use of this space for all scheduled sessions and will have use of the designated storage space.
 - Ferncliff will have access to this space, exclusive of the SUTS storage areas.
- Retain ownership of the buildings associated with the SUTS training
- Maintain in good operating order:
 - buildings associated with SUTS
 - the roads by which they are accessed
- Provide adequate and appropriate insurance on the buildings and contents, including SUTS equipment and materials stored therein, as well as general liability
- Conform to state, local or federal regulations that apply to the buildings
- Be responsible for registration for Solar 1 and Solar 2 classes at Ferncliff
- Host the Solar 1 and Solar 2 sessions of Solar School on dates mutually agreed upon including:
 - Lodging in adult-friendly facilities, as mutually defined and agreed upon by SUTS for students, faculty and staff of Solar School to be paid by SUTS on a per capita basis
 - Lodging for Solar School faculty and staff for one day before each session, to be charged as above
 - Space in or near the faculty/staff lodging where faculty can meet several times daily
 - Board for students, faculty and staff, to be paid on a per capita basis

- Use of the following facilities:
 - building necessary to train students on the installation of various solar energy systems
 - classroom areas with tables and chairs, separate from the systems training building, for the instruction of students in Solar 1; these should accommodate up to 20 persons
 - meeting room capable of seating up to 75 people (this can also be used as one of the classroom areas, if necessary)
 - a chapel or appropriate worship space
- Assist SUTS in promoting its ministry, including:
 - public relations activities, ‘spreading the word’ about the ministry
 - fundraising activities on behalf of SUTS, as agreed upon by both parties, including campaigns, grant identification, etc.
- Provide one person to serve on the SUTS Board in an ex-officio capacity,
- Discover any legal implications of this agreement, and arrange for necessary documents to be prepared
- The Synod of the Sun agrees to:
- Provide equipment necessary to establish the training facility including materials needed for Solar 1 and Solar 2 courses and all equipment needed to build a sample water purification system powered by solar panels
- Train SUTS faculty and staff to operate Solar 1 and Solar 2 at Ferncliff
- Provide a trained SUTS Program Director, an administrator, and a faculty for each Solar School session
- Compensate Ferncliff for expenses related to the operation of each session of Solar 1 and Solar 2 at Ferncliff, including:
 - lodging and board of participants, faculty and staff upon receipt of invoice (at a rate negotiated and mutually agreed upon by Ferncliff and SUTS)
 - cost of providing a Program Director for each session of Solar 1 and Solar 2
- Pay stipend to the Program Director for each session of Solar 1 and Solar 2 at Ferncliff
- Reimburse instructors for travel and expenses related to SUTS classes
- Assist SUTS in promoting its ministry, including:
 - public relations activities, ‘spreading the word’ about the ministry
 - fundraising activities on behalf of SUTS, as agreed upon by both parties, including campaigns, grant identification, etc.

Amendment and Termination

- Any party may terminate this covenant upon 180 days written notice. Revisions to this covenant that are requested by any party will be reviewed and authorized by the SUTS Board, Ferncliff, and Synod of the Sun. In the event of termination, the equipment belongs to the purchaser (Ferncliff or Synod of the Sun). This covenant shall be reviewed and renewed every 4 years.

This covenant is established in a spirit of servanthood in the ministry of Jesus Christ and shall be held as a sign of trust and good will among all involved in this endeavor.

Date: _____

Valerie Young, Stated Clerk
Synod of the Sun, PC(USA)

David Gill, Executive Director
Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center

Christianne Chase, Moderator
Synod of the Sun, PC(USA)

John Dickins, President of the Board
Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center

(Attachment E)
Introduction to the Synod Boundary Consultation Process
The Synod of the Sun

The 221st General Assembly adopted with amendment recommendations of the second Mid Council Administrative Commission That, “a new configuration of synod boundaries be established based on an emerging sense of purpose, partnership, context, and call through a collaborative process between the synods and presbyteries resulting in no more than 10-12 synods.” The Coordinating Team is proposing a process by which collaboration between the synod and its presbyteries may take place in the Synod of the Sun.

This proposal focuses only on our Synod’s contribution to a church-wide process engaging 15 of the 16 existing synods (the Synod of Puerto Rico was exempted from participation at their request). It provides for:

- Synod consultations to be overseen by a Boundary Consultation Task Force
- Each presbytery to determine its own method of response
- Responses to be coordinated between presbyteries by the Task Force, and with adjacent synods through the Coordinating Team.
- Proposals developed by the Task Force, along with any developed in consultation with other synods either by the Synod Executive Forum or through the Office of the General Assembly to be presented to the Fall 2015 Synod Assembly.
- The Synod Assembly to approve the Synod’s response
- The Coordinating Team will be charged to represent that response with other synods with the goal of presenting a common proposal to the 222nd General Assembly

Presbyteries and the synod are charged to consider how their “emerging sense of purpose, partnership, context, and call” – informed by their history, culture, and mission – may inform possible synod boundary adjustments or mergers. They may also report as a result of their process any issues regarding presbytery and/or synod structures, partnerships, and boundaries that might arise for consideration by the Synod and the General Assembly.

Ordinarily, such a process would reasonably require two to three years of conversation. However, the General Assembly has required that proposals be submitted in time for consideration by the 222nd General Assembly (2016). This means our process should be completed no later than mid-January 2016.

(Attachment F)

PROPOSED SYNOD CONSULTATION PROCESS

1. Synod level discussion will begin at the synod stated meeting in October by having one hour presentation and discussion.
2. An MCC II member will be invited to give us a 30 minute presentation on the GA mandate directive (especially language used on the mandate -see page 1 of the attachment) for clarification and to describe the rationales MCC II had.
3. Synod Coordinating Team leads next 30 minute discussion with the Synod to explain how we plan to proceed (see page 2-4 of attachment). The MCC II member will not be involved in this discussion but simply observes.

4. The Synod will elect a Synod Boundary Consultation Task Force to facilitate the process

Synod of the Sun Boundary Consultation Task Force is to be comprised of five (5) people (representing each state, with one ~~at large~~ **from Palo Duro or Tres Rios Presbytery**) for easy mobility and logistics with balance for M/F, RE/TE, and at least 2 racial-ethnic members. Resourced by one EP/GP and one or both Co-leaders.

5. Soon after the Synod stated meeting, Valerie will send a letter to the EP **and Stated Clerk** of each presbytery to explain the process and will ask them to provide responses to the designated member of the Boundary Consultation Task Force (see timeline).

6. The letter will ask: (a) Guided by the mission, history, and culture of your presbytery and the synod, what changes (if any) to our synod boundaries would you recommend? Why or why not? (b) What other recommendations regarding presbytery and/or synod structures, boundaries, or relationships arise from the context and perspective of your own presbytery? Is there any other request for the synod to consider regarding presbytery and/or synod boundaries?

Each presbytery may conduct its own discussion in any form it chooses. Resource persons will be available: (a) an MCC2 member avail by phone for clarification of GA mandate and requirement, (b) Synod Boundary Consultation Task Force member available for further clarification of the synod process, and (c) either or both Synod co-leaders are available in person (if requested) to be a resource person or to facilitate the presbytery discussion.

Presbytery must report its responses/recommendations to the Synod through the designated Boundary Consultation Task Force member by the deadline.

7. Boundary Consultation Task Force will consolidate the result from the presbyteries and report to the Synod Coordinating Team in March 2015.
8. Boundary Consultation Task Force will coordinate with neighboring synods, if any of presbyteries request contain such desire AND are so instructed by the Synod Coordinating Team.
9. Boundary Consultation Task Force reports the all results to the Fall 2015 Synod stated meeting along with any consensus report from other synods (Oct 2015)
10. Synod Coordinating Team further coordinates or adjusts the result according to the 2015 Synod assembly instruction.
11. Synod Coordinating Team submits joint or solo synod report to 222nd General Assembly by deadline.

See attached timetable for all these steps.

A Suggested Timeline for Synod Boundary Change Process

- **Mid-October 2014:** Preliminary conversations at Fall Polity Conference
- **Late October 2014:** Presentation and discussion at the Synod stated meeting with the 221st GA mandate for a new configuration of Synod boundaries. Form a Synod Boundary Consultation Task Force to lead the process.
- **November 2014:** Boundary Consultation Task Force notifies the presbyteries with the 221st GA mandate and asks their response, based on mission, culture, and history, to the synod by early March 2015.
- **March 2015:** Boundary Consultation Task Force collects and collates the presbytery responses and reports to the Synod Coordinating Team for further coordination and action.
- **April thru August 2015:** As necessary if desired by any of our 11 presbyteries, engage conversation with neighboring synods, to get a response from them.
- **August 2015:** Synod Executive Forum develops consensus plan based on individual synod consultation processes. Discussion to follow at Fall Polity Conference.
- **October 2015:** Boundary Consultation Task Force reports both the initial result and consensus plan to the Synod stated meeting for further instruction. Synod can adopt one or the other, or amend either.
- **October 2015 thru January 2016:** Synod Coordinating Team conducts necessary coordination and adjustment with other synods for the final report to be submitted to GA.
- **January 2016:** Synod Coordinating Team Reports the final result of the Synod of the Sun collaborative responses to Synod Executive Forum (if consensus report adopted)

- **Late January 2016** Either a joint or individual synod report submitted to 222nd General Assembly.
- **February 19, 2016:** Deadline to the Office of the General Assembly (OGA) if the report contains any *Book of Order* changes.

Synod of the Sun Boundary Consultation Task Force is to be comprised of five (5) people (representing each state, with one at-large) for easy mobility and logistics with balance for M/F, RE/TE, and at least 2 racial-ethnic members. Resourced by one EP/GP and one or both Co-leaders.

(Attachment G)EVENING

Worship

Friday, Oct. 31 2014

I call upon you, O Lord; come quickly to me;

give ear to my voice when I call to you.

Let my prayer be counted as incense before you,

and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.

One: We are met in the presence of God;

Many: And we do not meet alone.

One: With the angels in highest heaven,

Many: We gather to worship the Lord.

One: With the saints of every age,

Many: We gather to worship the Lord.

One: With the Church throughout the world,

Many: We gather to worship the Lord.

One: We are met in the presence of God;

Many: And we do not meet alone.

SUNG RESPONSE:

“Bless the Lord, my soul; and bless God’s holy name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.” (3x)

A reading from Psalm 40: 4-10

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us say a prayer for those who need to be remembered tonight:

Those who have made the news headlines today because of what they have done or said...

Those who have been brought to our attention through our meetings and conversations...

Those who are in hospitals and nursing homes, those in prison, and those who find themselves in places that are strange to them...

Those who live with chronic pain, those who are weary in body and in spirit...

Those who need to forget the God
they do not believe in and meet
the God who believes in them...

***I call upon you, O Lord; come
quickly to me;***

***give ear to my voice when I call
to you.***

***Let my prayer be counted as
incense before you,***

***and the lifting up of my hands
as an evening sacrifice.***

Lord, we believe that you hear our
prayers, both spoken and silent,
and will be faithful in your
promise to answer us.

When our eyes open again, may
they do so not to end our
devotions, but to expect your
kingdom, for Jesus' sake. AMEN

**HYMN: "For the Fruit of All
Creation" v. 1 & 3**

***"For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God.***

***For God's gifts to every nation,
thanks be to God.***

***For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are***

***sleeping, future needs in earth's
safekeeping, thanks be to God.***

***For the harvests of the spirit,
thanks be to God.***

***For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.***

***For the wonders that astound us,
for the truth that still confounds
us, most of all that love has found
us, thanks be to God."***

BENEDICTION

May God bless us in our sleep with
rest, in our dreams with vision,

in our waking with a calm mind, in
our soul with the friendship of the
Holy Spirit, this night and every
night. AMEN.

(Attachment H)

**THE COVENANT BETWEEN THE SYNOD OF THE SUN, THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A), AND TRINITY UNIVERSITY**

Preamble

The Church affirms that the creating and redeeming God sustains all of life. That same God as revealed in Jesus the Christ calls humanity to love God and neighbor with heart, soul, strength, and mind. Taking seriously the life of the mind, the Reformed tradition continuously seeks to express this aspect of God's call in encouragement of and support for education. From the beginning of its presence on the North American continent, the Presbyterian branch of the Reformed tradition has committed itself to establishing church-related colleges and universities. Changing circumstances may call for new forms of relationship between the Church and its related colleges and universities, but the commitment itself remains consistent.

Historical Context

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church established Trinity University in 1869 in Tehuacana, Texas, to serve and witness in the field of higher education. The Church called its educational enterprise "Trinity" because of the joint work of the three founding Synods, in the name of the Holy Trinity. Trustees were elected to operate the University. These Trustees were granted the direct control and management of the institution in accordance with the legislative act of August 13, 1870, adopting the original charter. The University was moved to Waxahachie, Texas, in 1902, and in 1906, with the union of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., the University became related to that united church. In 1942 Trinity was moved to San Antonio. The legal relationship between the Church and the University continued, through the Synod's authority to elect the Trustees, until the Board of Trustees became a self-perpetuating body in 1969 and entered a covenant relationship with the Synod of Texas of the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. In 1983, with the reunion of the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. and the Presbyterian Church U.S., the University retained its vital covenantal relationship with the reunited Church called the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and a larger reorganized Synod of the Sun. The Synod and Trinity University are intimately bound to one another in common heritage and in contemporary witness. Each institution should express in structure its own integrity and its own distinctive mission. As each understands its own unique role, the mission of the other will be enriched and strengthened. The mission of each to the other will be hindered if the distinctive role of either is blurred or absorbed in that of the other. Trinity University and the Synod of the Sun of the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. with the dissolving of legal ties, in 1969, declared themselves bound in a covenant of trust and mutual obligation, to which were added in 1983 and 1989 supplemental Statements of Understanding, further interpreting the Covenant Affirmation. The following is a revision of that Covenant and Statements of Understanding approved by the Trinity University Board of Trustees on May 5, 2001, and by the Synod of the Sun on November 11, 2000.

The Covenant Affirmations

- I. The Trustees of Trinity University, affirming their covenant relationship with God, enter into a covenant with their predecessors in office, with the Synod of the Sun of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and with each other to pursue the purpose for which Trinity University was founded and the mission for which it endures. This Covenant commits the Board of Trustees to the following:
 - A. That Trinity University shall recognize its birth and origin in the concern of the Presbyterian Church for the intellectual and spiritual growth of men and women.
 - B. That Trinity University shall continue to express this concern of the Church in higher education by offering quality education committed to the wholeness of life interpreted and illumined by the Christian faith; that love of God and God's creation and love for one another find opportunities for expression in campus, classroom, and chapel; and that the University, by exercising its responsibility to be free to pursue truth under God, shall continue to be a resource to the Church for creative leadership and for the interpretation of new discoveries for the enrichment of life under God.
 - C. That Trinity University shall continue to be an institution in the tradition of the liberal arts and sciences with a balance between the humanities, fine arts, social sciences, and natural sciences, with the addition of limited and carefully selected professional degree programs, and with such other academic offerings as may seem to the Board of Trustees wise and proper in accordance with a continued goal for academic excellence.
 - D. That Trinity University shall continue to recognize its opportunity to provide leadership for the various aspects of the Church's life, to make available its facilities for meetings such as Synod, Presbyterian Women, youth events, and other church activities.
 - E. That Trinity University shall administer faithfully funds given in trust for purposes related to the training of leadership for the Church and other specified or related purposes.
 - F. That Trinity University shall be nondiscriminatory and affirmative in all its policies, admitting qualified students and employing faculty and staff without restrictions as to race, ethnic origin, creed, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability.
 - G. That Trinity University shall be maintained and perpetuated to merit regional and national recognition for quality and leadership as it represents

- open and responsible education, an essential resource in a free society as well as a particular commitment of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
- H. That Trinity University, through its Board of Trustees, shall nominate and elect its own trustees and shall continue its century-old commitment to avoid discrimination on the basis of race, ethnic origin, faith, creed, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability.
 - I. That Trinity University shall seek to instill in its students the ideals of rigorous pursuit of truth, freedom of thought and investigation, and respect for differing opinions, including differences in religious beliefs and practices.
 - J. That Trinity University shall provide to the Synod informational materials for the Synod's use in supporting Trinity University throughout the region.
- II. The Synod of the Sun of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), recognizing its covenant relationship with God, enters into a covenant with its predecessors and with the Trustees of Trinity University to pursue the purposes for which Trinity University was founded and for which it continues. This covenant commits the Synod to the following:
- A. That the Synod and the appropriate General Assembly agencies shall continue their interest in and support of Trinity University, and that Trinity University shall continue to be listed as a college related to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
 - B. That the Synod shall provide annually to the Board of Trustees a report on the current work and ministry of the Synod of the Sun.
 - C. That the Synod shall provide appropriate resource persons to confer and to consult with representatives of Trinity University as may be desired, and shall participate in the Committee on the Nomination of Trustees as specified in the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees of Trinity University.
 - D. That the Synod shall seek to provide financial support to Trinity University and shall encourage financial support from individuals, churches, and presbyteries.
 - E. That the Synod shall continue to present to Presbyterian youth the educational opportunities available at Trinity University, and that particular encouragement be extended to persons interested in church-related professions.
 - F. That the Synod and its appropriate agencies and committees shall continually rethink their role in higher education and communicate their concepts and vision and challenges to the University, and that the Synod

shall continue to support the University, its faculty, students and administration with its prayers.

Statements of Understanding

- I. Trinity University's understanding of its commitment to the Covenant is expressed through the following intentions:
 - A. Persons elected to Trinity University's Board of Trustees shall support the University's covenantal relationship with the Synod as represented by this Covenant.
 - B. Trinity University's Board of Trustees shall have as one of its standing committees a Committee on Church Relations and Religious Life. The Committee shall have a continuing concern for the university's fulfillment of its covenantal relationship with the church, and shall be appointed and charged as all other standing committees.
 - C. Trinity University shall make an annual report to the Synod of the Sun furnishing the Synod with materials relating to its mission and progress.
 - D. There shall be a report, review, and, if necessary, revision of the Statement of Understanding portion of the Covenant Relationship every four years. The Synod Executive and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees shall see that such a review is accomplished, that a report over the past four years and a projection and agreement for the next four years is presented to the Synod and the Board of Trustees of Trinity University, and that adequate time be allocated for such a presentation before the Synod and Board of Trustees.
 - E. University Programs and Services for the Church:
 1. Interpretation. The University shall provide to the Synod an interpretation of its role and mission as a university in covenant relationship with the Church through printed materials and personal contact. The University will inform the Synod of its perspective as an institution in covenant relationship with the Church on contemporary issues in higher education. A person within the University designated by the President who is responsible for Church Relations and Religious Life shall be the primary agent responsible for this interpretative service.
 2. Student Admission and Financial Aid. The University shall admit students through its regular admissions policies, seeking heterogeneity, geographic and denominational diversity, admitting qualified students without discrimination or preference with regard to race, ethnic origin, faith creed, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability. The University shall charge students a proper proportion of the cost of their education. The University assumes the responsibility for promotion of the financial

aid of the University through the churches, presbyteries, and individuals. The student aid program of scholarships, grants, employment and loans shall be justly administered, and the University shall make a concerted effort to encourage students from within the membership of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and any related churches which permit and facilitate such efforts, to consider Trinity University in making their college decisions. The University shall also make certain that potential students with very limited financial resources who meet the academic requirements are challenged to consider Trinity University as a viable option for their education.

3. Chaplaincy/University Ministry. The University has an endowed chaplaincy and shall maintain for the university community a full-time chaplain to provide a ministry of worship, counseling, religious education and the encouragement of service activities. Regular programs of worship and Bible study shall be maintained for those students who prefer to remain on campus for worship in the setting of the university community. The University also encourages students to support local congregations and religious groups by active participation in their worship and congregational life.
4. Formal and Ceremonial Presence. In its formal and ceremonial observances such as commencements and convocations, the historic and covenantal relationship of the University and the Synod shall be symbolically visible in the ritual of the occasion.
5. Personnel. Nothing in this statement or generally in the relationship of the University and Synod shall be interpreted so as to infringe upon the integrity and freedom of the faculty and administration in the pursuit of truth, nor shall the autonomy of the University's internal policies and procedures be compromised by any religious requirement or restriction. However, persons employed in faculty or administrative positions shall be made aware of the institution's covenantal relationship with the Synod of the Sun represented by this covenant and shall be asked if they will respect such covenant and be comfortable with the covenant regardless of their possible differing personal judgments and convictions. The Board of Trustees, when seeking a President, shall recognize the unique function of the President to represent and articulate publicly the institution's commitments, and thereby may properly include a personal Christian commitment with a high regard for the Reformed tradition as a principle of preference among its criteria for candidates. In the filling of appropriate administrative positions, such as the Office of the Chaplain, the President will consider active involvement in the Christian community in addition to those superior professional qualifications that naturally would be expected.

6. Religious Studies. Fully recognizing the authority of the faculty over the specific content of the University curriculum, the University is committed to supporting a strong program of academic study of religion, including biblical, historical, religious, and ethical studies. The University believes such study is an important component of a liberal education and a distinctive resource contributed by the church-related institution but by few other institutions of higher education within our geographical region.
7. Pre-Seminary Preparation. The covenant commits the University to be a resource for the education of creative professional leadership in the church. Subject again to the curricular authority of the faculty, the University, in addition to offering the common range of liberal studies, commits itself to budgetary support of studies in Greek for the benefit of students planning to attend seminary, when there is demand and enrollment for such studies.
8. University Touring Groups. The University shall make available the University Choir and any other touring groups on the understanding that such tours shall generally be self-sustaining through appropriate financial arrangements between the University and local groups.
9. Resources. The University shall consider itself to be a resource for the Synod and other church governing bodies and agencies. University personnel shall be encouraged to participate as their time permits when invited to leadership roles, and University facilities shall be made available insofar as possible for conferences, institutes, workshops, seminary, and other programs including Synod youth events and workshops, and Synod and Presbytery meetings. The provisions of these resources shall respect the primary educational responsibility of the University and shall be on a self-sustaining basis.
10. Lecture Series. The University shall provide its Willson Lectureship and its Fund for Christian Renewal for the enrichment of the spiritual life of the campus. For these series, clergy and laypersons in the Synod shall be encouraged to attend. For these as well as other appropriate lectures which may be sponsored through the University Lectures Committee and the academic departments, clergy and laity of various denominations in the community shall also be encouraged to attend.
11. Relationship with Other Faith Traditions. Throughout its history, Trinity University's student body has been diverse and has included a substantial number of dedicated persons of other faith traditions. The University shall seek to maintain and further cultivate its relations with individuals, and where appropriate, with congregations and governance structures of other expressions of faith and also with other

denominations closely linked by historical and ecumenical relationships to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

12. Conferences and Special Programs. Through its diverse program of conferences and special programs, the University shall offer educational resources for persons in the community. Where workshops or institutes of particular interest to clergy or laypersons are offered, a wider regional participation shall be invited. Through its office of conferences and special programs, the University commits itself to sponsoring conferences and special programs which would bring enrichment to the church and its leadership.

II. The Synod of the Sun of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) understands its commitment to the Covenant through the following intentions:

- A. The Synod of the Sun, through its appropriate representatives, may suggest the names of persons who could ably serve on the Board of Trustees who would be supportive of the covenant relationship.
- B. The Synod of the Sun shall continue to find ways to support the University as it articulates its vision, mission, interests and concerns.
- C. The Synod shall provide regular reporting about Trinity University through social media and email listservs to presbyteries, congregations and members within the Synod.
- D. The Synod shall provide to the University an annual interpretation of its role and mission as a governing body of the Church in covenant relationship with the University through printed materials and personal contact. A person on the staff of the Synod shall be the primary agent responsible for this interpretative service.
- E. The Synod of the Sun shall endeavor to make available to Trinity University the names of Presbyterian high school students within the Synod. The clergy of the Synod shall be urged to be advocates for church-related colleges and universities to high school students and their parents, and will especially make known the resources of the University for those interested in religious studies and pre-seminary education.
- F. The Synod of the Sun shall encourage its churches to host the University's touring groups as a way of strengthening the Covenant. In addition, the Synod should seek to discover and utilize the gifts and expertise of the University's faculty and administration for education, resource, and advocacy. The Synod shall also publicize through the media available to it the lectureships and continuing education opportunities available at Trinity.

- G. The Synod shall serve as a resource to the University for the recruitment of minority members to the University community (student body, faculty, staff, and the Board) and shall encourage the University in its nondiscriminatory commitments.
- H. The Synod shall work with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and Trinity University to support mutually beneficial efforts to utilize the Presbyterian scholarship program.

This covenant was reviewed in 2014 and shall be reviewed again in the year 2018 by a covenant review team of representatives from the University and the Synod.

SarahLee Morris, Moderator
Synod of the Sun

Dennis Ahlburg, President
Trinity University

Date

Date

(Attachment I)

Stewardship Committee

Synod Stated Meeting

November 1, 2014

ACTION ITEMS:

2. 2015 Budget (*attached*)
3. Recognizing the likely size able under run of the 2014 budget, we recommend the following disposition of the excess funds:
 - a. Add \$20,000 from 60400 to Mission grants, code 33802.
 - b. Add a \$10,000 TheoAcademy grant targeted at support of Spanish language materials.
 - c. Direct the remaining excess funds to investment at the TPF in our reserves. The committee delegated to Valerie Young and Bart Henson the responsibility of arranging this with TPF once the amount is known at year end.
4. Approve changes in Standing Rules, Sec. 8 Finance, Budget Guidelines as amended (*attached*)
5. Receive the results of Insurance review (*attached*)
6. Receive the results of the 2013 audit (*plenary packet*)

(Attachment J)
2014 Final Budget

Notes

2015 Budget

INCOME

Endowments, Undesignated Interest & Donations

43000	Interest Earned	\$ 24,900.00	<i>interest on DAR's invested with PILP & TPF investments</i>	\$ 20,000.00	<i>w/ investment of Pby mission giving</i>
44002	SOSPF Endowment (Mission/Administration)	\$ 185,700.00	<i>interest on endowments based on SOSPF spend rate</i>	\$ 211,600.00	
44003	SOSPF Endowment Rent	\$ 9,400.00	<i>equal to rent cost</i>	\$ 9,600.00	
41500	Presby & Misc Gifts to Synod	\$ 4,000.00	<i>undesignated gifts to Synod</i>	\$ 4,000.00	
	Total Endowments, Undesignated Interest & Donations	\$ 224,000.00		\$ 245,200.00	
	Mission Contributions from Presbyteries in Previous year	\$ 228,775.27	<i>for use in 2015</i>	\$ 204,500.00	
	Withdrawal from Unrestricted Reserves	\$ -	<i>None since 2013</i>	\$ 41.00	<i>zero out Operations account for use as deferred revenue</i>
- 45500					
TOTAL INCOME		<u><u>\$ 452,775.27</u></u>		<u><u>\$ 449,741.00</u></u>	

EXPENSES

Office Expenses

66002	Office Rent	\$ (9,400.00)	<i>Revised rent for 2014</i>	\$ (9,600.00)	
66004	Telephone	\$ (7,500.00)	<i>Adjusted for new accounts</i>	\$ (7,500.00)	
66006	Postage	\$ (750.00)	<i>Cancellation of Pitney Bowes Contract</i>	\$ (350.00)	
66008	Copiers	\$ (7,000.00)	<i>copier lease & usage charges</i>	\$ (3,000.00)	
66010	Supplies	\$ (3,000.00)	<i>Office supplies</i>	\$ (3,000.00)	
66030	File Retention/Storage	\$ (2,000.00)	<i>Retention/destruction</i>	\$ (2,500.00)	
65302	Bookkeeping Services	\$ (9,000.00)	<i>TPF-SOS charges only</i>	\$ (9,000.00)	
66013	Insurance	\$ (5,000.00)	<i>liability & worker's comp</i>	\$ (5,000.00)	
66015	Audit Fees	\$ (8,600.00)	<i>independent auditor</i>	\$ (8,600.00)	
66017	Bank Charges	\$ (1,000.00)	<i>fees</i>	\$ (1,000.00)	
66025	Misc Charges	\$ (1,000.00)	<i>flowers, gifts, etc.</i>	\$ (1,000.00)	
67001	Contingency Expense	\$ (2,760.27)	<i>Budget balancing</i>	\$ (3,092.35)	
66900	Reconcile discrepancies (system)	\$ -			

Total Office Expenses

\$ (57,010.27)

\$ (53,642.35)

Meeting and Book of Order Expenses

64203	Stated Meeting, Fall	\$ (8,000.00)	<i>meeting costs</i>	\$ (8,000.00)	
64204	Stated Meeting, Spring	\$ (8,000.00)	<i>meeting costs</i>	\$ (8,000.00)	
60430	Mid-Year Committee Gathering	\$ (8,000.00)	<i>meeting costs</i>	\$ (7,000.00)	
64300	Perm Jud Commission	\$ (1,400.00)	<i>training</i>	\$ (3,000.00)	<i>2015 Training Incl. Pby PJC</i>
64100	COR & Nominating Comm	\$ (1,500.00)	<i>meeting costs</i>	\$ (1,500.00)	

64150	National Event hospitality			\$ (1,000.00)	Fall Polity, GA, etc.
64250	Other Committee Expenses	\$ (4,000.00)	Coordinating Team/Personnel	\$ (7,000.00)	Incl: Coordinating Team; BCTF; Mod. Conference

Total Meeting and Book of Order Expenses

\$ (30,900.00)

\$ (35,500.00)

Personnel Expenses

65643	SOS Co-Lead 1 Salary & Housing	\$ (79,285.00)	2015 will add 1%	\$ (80,077.85)	
65644	SOS Co-Lead 1 BOP	\$ (28,300.00)	Traditional Benefits package	\$ (29,745.00)	
65644.5	SOS Co-Lead 1 SECA	\$ (6,060.00)	Self-Employment taxes paid directly to employee	\$ (6,120.60)	
65645	SOS Co-Lead 1 Prof Exp	\$ (1,500.00)	Professional Expenses	\$ (1,500.00)	
65646	SOS Co-Lead 1 Prof Dev Allow	\$ (1,500.00)	Continuing Education	\$ (1,500.00)	
65647	SOS Co-Lead 2/SC Salary & Housing	\$ (72,720.00)	2015 will add 1%	\$ (73,447.20)	
65648	SOS Co-Lead 2/SC BOP	\$ (30,600.00)	Traditional Benefits package	\$ (26,809.00)	
65648.5	SOS Co-Lead 2/FICA Share		Employer portion only	\$ (5,599.00)	
65649	SOS Co-Lead 2/SC Prof Exp	\$ (1,500.00)	Professional Expenses	\$ (1,500.00)	
65650	SOS Co-Lead 2/SC Prof Dev Allow	\$ (1,500.00)	Continuing Education	\$ (1,500.00)	
	Total Compensation Synod Co-Leaders #1 & #2	\$ (222,965.00)		\$ (227,798.65)	
65504	Receptionist	\$ (5,500.00)	PMC 1/4 time receptionist	\$ (5,500.00)	

65101	Co-Leader for Mission Travel	\$ (17,500.00)	Travel & meeting costs	\$ (16,750.00)	
65106	Stated Clerk/Co-Lead Admin Travel	\$ (17,500.00)	Travel & meeting costs	\$ (16,750.00)	
Total Personnel Expenses		\$ (263,465.00)		\$ (266,798.65)	
Connecting Expenditures (Network Support and Institutions)					
63330	Solar Under the Sun	\$ (100.00)	Covenant Network	\$ (100.00)	
61700	COM Event	\$ (2,500.00)	Program budget	\$ (2,500.00)	
60400	Mission Grants	\$ (20,000.00)	feeds Grant program	\$ (23,000.00)	
60410	Network Nurture *	\$ (24,000.00)	Exploration, Creation, and 2nd year funding	\$ (20,000.00)	
61600	Interim Pastors	\$ (100.00)	Program assistance paid to APTS	\$ (100.00)	
61850	First Call Pastors training	\$ (100.00)	Program budget - last was in 2010	\$ (100.00)	
61105	EP Forum	\$ (4,000.00)	Executive Presbyters Forum	\$ (4,000.00)	
60600	Presbyterian Women	\$ (3,000.00)	Paid directly to PW quarterly	\$ (3,000.00)	
61800	Hispanic Women's Conference	\$ (3,000.00)	2014 last year as budget item; Paid directly to Mo-Ranch	\$ -	
61900	College Connection	\$ (1,500.00)	Paid directly to Mo-Ranch	\$ (1,500.00)	
64409	Staff Convocation event	\$ (2,800.00)		-	
64416	Covenant relationships travel	\$ (3,500.00)	All non-staff covenant related travel	\$ (3,500.00)	
63101	Lyon College	\$ (100.00)	Covenant Partner	\$ (100.00)	
63110	Austin College	\$ (100.00)	Covenant Partner	\$ (100.00)	
63120	University of Ozarks	\$ (100.00)	Covenant Partner	\$ (100.00)	

63130	Schreiner University	\$ (100.00)	<i>Covenant Partner</i>	\$ (100.00)	
63140	Trinity University	\$ (100.00)	<i>Covenant Partner</i>	\$ (100.00)	
63150	Tulsa University	\$ (100.00)	<i>Covenant Partner</i>	\$ (100.00)	
63160	Pan American School	\$ (100.00)	<i>Covenant Partner</i>	\$ (100.00)	
63170	Austin Seminary	\$ (100.00)	<i>Covenant Partner</i>	\$ (100.00)	
63201	Pby. Children's Homes & Services	\$ (100.00)	<i>Covenant Partner</i>	\$ (100.00)	
63210	Evergreen Pby. Ministries	\$ (100.00)	<i>Covenant Partner</i>	\$ (100.00)	
63220	Vera Lloyd Home & Family	\$ (100.00)	<i>Covenant Partner</i>	\$ (100.00)	
63230	Goodland academy	\$ (100.00)	<i>Covenant Partner</i>	\$ (100.00)	
63301	Mo Ranch	\$ (100.00)	<i>Covenant Partner</i>	\$ (100.00)	
63310	Pres History Society of SW	\$ (100.00)	<i>Covenant Partner</i>	\$ (100.00)	
63320	Texas Presbyterian Foundation	\$ (100.00)	<i>Covenant Partner</i>	\$ (100.00)	
61200	Multi-Cultural Youth Conf.	\$ 4,000.00)	<i>feeds Scholarship program only</i>	\$ (8,000.00)	
61400	Synod Youth Workshop	\$ 100.00)	<i>Covenant Partner</i>	\$ (3,000.00)	
60450	Clerk Forum	\$ 2,500.00)	<i>Presbytery Stated Clerk's forum</i>	\$ (3,000.00)	<i>Represents \$500 increase</i>
60440	Mission /Leadership Convocation	\$ 3,000.00)	<i>Program budget, even years</i>	\$ (3,000.00)	
60460	National Conference sponsorships		<i>upon CT approval</i>	\$ 1,000.00)	<i>Request of G&SC</i>

Total Connecting Expense

\$ (75,700.00)

\$ (77,300.00)

Communication

62604	Computer (Maint Svc Provider)	\$ (2,000.00)	<i>Domain server; Mail server maintenance</i>	\$ (2,500.00)	
62602	Webmaster	\$ (3,000.00)	<i>Website work</i>	\$ (3,000.00)	
62603	Communications Initiatives	\$ (17,000.00)	<i>Facebook, Constant Contact enewsletter</i>	\$ (10,000.00)	
66020	Computer (Hardware & Software)	\$ (1,700.00)	<i>Purchase laptop 2014</i>	\$ (500.00)	

66021	Communications (mtgs, web exp)	\$ (2,000.00)	<i>Domain, memberships, etc.</i>	\$ (500.00)
Total Communication		\$ (25,700.00)		\$ (16,500.00)
TOTAL EXPENSE		\$ (452,775.27)		\$ (449,741.00)
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 452,775.27		\$ 449,741.00
Surplus (Deficit)		\$ -		\$ -

** For example: Racial Ethnic/Cultural
community network development*

Accrual accounts for expense of Pby Giving	
33687	Pby Giving for use in odd years
33688	Pby Giving for use in even years

(Attachment K)

Synod Standing Rules

8. Finance

Budget Guidelines

- a. Mission Contributions from Presbyteries are normally retained in an interest bearing account during the year received and ~~expended withdrawn at a rate of 25% of the year's total per quarter during~~ the following year (i.e. funds received in 2013 are used to meet budgetary needs in 2014)
- b. The Stewardship Committee will normally present a budget based on projected income to the full assembly at the fall meeting. At the winter/spring meeting any necessary adjustments will be made and approved by the assembly.
- c. Unless otherwise specified ~~by the donor~~, all ~~gifts to the synod~~ gifts received (undesignated, designated as general mission or administration), other than Presbytery mission support, will be applied to ~~a unified budget covering all normal expenses of the ministry of the synod~~ income during the year in which they were received.

The synod will conduct an annual, professional, external financial audit.

Synod grants shall be disbursed only to organizations that conduct annual financial reviews or formal audits. The synod may require copies of these financial reviews or audits. All scholarships are ordinarily paid directly to the event or institution.

The synod receives interest from endowments some of which are unrestricted in their use and some restricted for specific grants and scholarships. Other synod income includes presbytery mission contributions, church, and individual contributions. The synod will provide complete and accurate reporting to include budget and financial statements for the synod, as well as those ministries for which the synod provides financial oversight, ~~a consolidated budget and financial statement~~, reflecting all restricted and unrestricted funds, at each assembly meeting, to the Coordinating Team at least quarterly and may at the discretion of the Coordinating Team, provide such information to others upon request.

(Attachment L)

UCC Insurance **BOARD**

.: Partners in Protection

UCC Disciples t Presbyterian 700 Prospect Avenue, 5th Floor
Cleveland, OH 44115
(800) 437-8830. Fax (216) 736-3239
www.InsuranceBoard.org

October 9, 2014

Synod of the Sun
6100 Colwell Blvd.
Suite 200
Irving, TX 75039-3112

Regarding: Underwriting Review and updated application

Greetings,

Recently, the Insurance Board completed an Underwriting Review based on an updated application reviewed with Valerie Young on behalf of the Synod of the Sun. We appreciate your participation in this review and engagement with us to keep the policy and coverage up to date. The exposures were in line with what we expected. In appreciation of the engagement to keep exposures up to date the Underwriter suggested an accommodation to the renewal. The renewal premium offered for the 1/1/15-11/1/16 term will be \$2,216 a reduction from the current premium of \$2,463. We appreciate your past participation and continue to look forward to serving the Synod of the Sun into the future. Please let me know if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Best regards, .

~

Jennifer Perri, CISR, **ere**
Manager, Member Services

(Attachment M)

EVANS, PINGLETON and HOWARD, PLLC
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
8950 Gary Burns Drive, Suite D
Frisco, Texas 75034
PH 972-335-9754
FAX 972-335-9758

April 3, 2014

To the Board of Directors
Financial Services Agency of the Synod of the Sun of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A)

We have audited the financial statements of Financial Services Agency of the Synod of the Sun of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) for the year ended December 31, 2013, and have issued our report thereon dated April 3, 2014. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated October 9, 2013. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by Financial Services Agency of the Synod of the Sun of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2013. We noted no transactions entered into by the Organization during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the accounting estimates and determined that they were reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, some of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated April 3, 2014.

Financial Services Agency of the Synod of the Sun of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A)

April 3, 2014

Page 2

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the Organization's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Organization's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

With respect to the supplementary information accompanying the financial statements, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

This information is intended solely for the use of Board of Directors and management of Financial Services Agency of the Synod of the Sun of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,



Evans, Pingleton and Howard, PLLC

(Attachment N)

**A Covenant Between
The Synod of the Sun
and
Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary
2014**

I. THE NATURE OF THE COVENANT

Any covenant made within the church is to reflect God's covenant of grace in Jesus Christ. That covenant, through which the church was created, gives content and direction to any other relationship which the church names as covenantal. Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary and the Synod of the Sun covenant to express and forward the work of the church of Jesus Christ.

Austin Seminary exists to serve the church in relationship with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) and the Synod of the Sun. The relationship to the General Assembly is through the Committee on Theological Education. The relationship with the Synod is through this covenant and our shared mission to be a provisional witness to the reign of God.

II PARTIES TO THE COVENANT

A. Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary is a non-profit corporation incorporated by the State of Texas. The Restated Articles of Incorporation were approved by the Board of Trustees on November 12, 1987 and revised in 1996 and by the General Assembly in 1988.

B. Synod of the Sun

The Synod of the Sun is a council of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) as defined in the Book of Order G-3.04 and is incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas. As a council of the church, the Synod is committed to and expresses the functions of the church as stated in G-3.0101

C. Mission Statement of Each Party

1. Austin Seminary (adopted 1982)

For the glory of God and to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary is a seminary in the Presbyterian-Reformed tradition whose mission is to educate and equip individuals for the ordained Christian ministry and other forms of Christian service and leadership; to employ its resources in the service of the church; to promote and engage in critical theological thought and research; and to be a winsome and exemplary community of God's people.

2. Synod of the Sun (adopted 2013)

The Synod of the Sun of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) serves Christ by connecting, equipping, and empowering Presbyterians for Christ's mission within and beyond the Synod's bounds.

III.COMMITMENTS OF THE COVENANT

A. Commitment of the Seminary to the Synod

1. The primary commitment of the Seminary to the Synod is to prepare persons for the ordained Ministry of the Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian and Reformed tradition and to provide additional education for ordained teaching elders and commissioned ruling elders.. This commitment is expressed by the faculty providing students with the education and skills needed for ministry. Every other activity of the Seminary is supplementary of this primary program, and the Seminary will consider other tasks in light of this central service to the church.
2. Austin Seminary will provide theological leadership for the church. The faculty will continue to bring the highest standards of academic excellence to bear on the needs of the church. The results of their experience and scholarship will be shared with the church through teaching, preaching, and publications.
3. The Seminary will continue as a theological institution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), enriched and challenged by the variety of ministries in the church universal and by the theological diversity within our Presbyterian heritage. The Seminary claims as God's gifts both the particular emphases of the Reformed tradition and the perspectives of the church catholic.
4. The Seminary will continue to claim the diversity of this region, the American Southwest, and beyond as one of God's gifts and challenges to the Church. Accordingly, the Seminary will seek an increased involvement of racial-ethnic people and perspectives in its faculty, staff, administration, students, and programming.
5. The Seminary will provide credit and non-credit programs to enhance the effectiveness of ordained Christian ministers and other leaders of the church, where possible in cooperation with the Synod, and in such areas as the church's ministry in higher education.
6. The Seminary will inform the Synod of its programs, plans, needs, and activities.
7. The Seminary will encourage various bodies of Synod and other church groups to meet on campus.
8. The Seminary will welcome a Synod representative as liaison to the Board of Trustees.

B. Commitments of the Synod to the Seminary

The primary commitment of the Synod to the Seminary is to cooperate with the Seminary in its mission to educate and equip individuals for ordained Christian ministry and for other forms of Christian service and leadership. To that end, the Synod makes the following commitments:

1. As partner with the Seminary in this mission of education, the Synod will encourage and aid the Seminary to interpret its mission, its program, and its

needs to Presbyterians across the Synod.

2. The Synod will encourage its presbyteries and congregations to support the Theological Education Fund (1% Plan). In addition, the Synod will honor the history of partnership with the Seminary by continuing to include a stated amount for Austin Seminary in its annual budget as a symbol of this covenant relationship. The Synod encourages the Seminary to solicit financial and other support from individuals, Presbyterian governing bodies, and other sources.
3. The Synod will encourage sound educational planning by the Seminary which recognizes its unique location and role in this region, which maintains continuity with the values and emphases of the historic Reformed tradition, and which affirms the Presbyterian emphasis on the highest quality of theological education and training.
4. The Synod will encourage presbyteries to provide care for their ministerial candidates and those preparing for church occupations at the Seminary, to urge their candidates to study at the Seminary, and to help in the placement of the Seminary's graduates.
5. The Synod will aid the Seminary in promoting the awareness that theological education is an intrinsic part of the whole church and that trained leadership is crucial for the church's faithfulness.
6. The Synod will work with the Seminary to inform presbyteries and congregations of special needs and opportunities in theological education as these affect the mission of both Synod and Seminary.
7. The Synod will help to provide access to other governing bodies and will work to stimulate communication between the Seminary and Synod's constituent presbyteries.
8. The Synod will consult with the Seminary in determining the need and in making provision for educational programs designed to strengthen ministry among racial-ethnic peoples and other special program groups.
9. The Synod will cooperate with the Seminary in supporting and implementing theological educational events provided for ministers and ordained and non-ordained leaders at the local church, presbytery, and Synod levels.
10. The Synod will look to the resources of the Seminary for assistance in evaluating and responding to various currents in the life of the church universal in light of Reformed and Presbyterian theology.

C. Mutual commitments of the Synod and the Seminary:

1. The Synod and the Seminary will seek to interpret to communicants within the Synod the unique place of the Seminary in the Synod's mission and that of the greater Church.

2. The Synod and the Seminary will support each other through prayers and encouragement of their work and mission.
3. The Synod and Seminary will work together to develop educational events for pastors and ordained and non-ordained leaders and to provide opportunities for the constituency to be in dialogue about the mission of the church.
4. The Seminary will consult with the Synod before embarking on a major capital funds campaign when such a campaign would enlist support from all congregations in the Synod. The Synod encourages the Seminary to approach individuals for gifts, trusts, wills, and bequests.
5. The Synod and the Seminary are committed to continue and strengthen the relationship of the Seminary and the presbyteries of the Synod through such vehicles as might be deemed appropriate.

IV FORMAL APPROVAL AND IMPLEMENTATION

- A. This Covenant shall be effective upon the approval of the APTS Board of Trustees and the Synod Assembly and shall remain in effect until amended by both parties or rescinded by either party.
- B. Hereafter this Covenant will be reviewed every five years. The Synod, in consultation with the Board of Trustees, will set the schedule for this review. The review will be done by Synod's Covenant Review Team and the Covenant Review Team named by the Seminary, and they will recommend possible changes or amendments. Amendment procedures can be initiated by the officers of the Board of Trustees of the Seminary and/or the Synod if there are anticipated major decisions by the Seminary or the Synod which could change the nature of the covenant relationship.
- C. The Synod and the Seminary shall seek appropriate ways to give recognition to this Covenant.

For the Synod of the Sun	Date
Per action of the Synod 11/1/2014	

For Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary	Date
Per action of the Board of Trustees 5/24/2014	

(Attachment O)

**Connecting Committee
REPORT TO THE SYNOD ASSEMBLY**

Action Items

1. The Committee moves that the following covenant renewals be approved as submitted to the Stated Clerk:
 - a. Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services
 - b. Ferncliff Presbyterian Conference Center
 - c. Trinity University
 - d. Austin Theological Presbyterian Seminary
2. The Committee moves that the Hispanic Ministries Network at Austin Seminary be recognized by the Synod as a mission network.
A summary of the purpose of the network from the planning guide is attached below.
3. The Committee acting as Synod Nominating Committee moves the list of nominees be elected to their respective positions of service.
Please refer to the nomination list as amended.

Hispanic Ministries Network at Austin Seminary

1. Primary Purpose

The Hispanic Ministries Network at Austin Seminary will provide a center point for Hispanic pastors and church leaders to come together for mutual support, for ongoing learning and professional development, and for taking action to strengthen Hispanic congregations and leaders. The core purpose is to build up leaders for healthy congregations to serve the mission of the church in this geographic area.

2. Network Overview

Give a brief description of the proposed Network and background information.

Hispanic Presbyterian pastors, leaders and congregations are in short supply within the Synod of the Sun. Their numbers have been dwindling even as the population of Hispanic and Latino/a people has significantly increased. Without leadership development, this trend will likely continue until the PC(USA) disappears from Hispanic religious life. We believe the Reformed tradition, as lived out in the PC(USA), needs to thrive, for the sake of the faithful members and for the sake of the world. The Network will bring support for leadership development and education.

Austin Seminary's mission is to educate and equip individuals for the ordained Christian ministry and other forms of Christian service and leadership and to employ its resources in the service of the church. The Seminary comes to this partnership with a long and varied history of theological education with and for Hispanic Presbyterian pastors. In this season, the Seminary is committed to identifying the best ways to live out its mission with and among Hispanic lay leaders and clergy. In 2013, with support from Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church, the Seminary began

new conversations with Hispanic Presbyterian leaders. The initial conversations led to a gathering of a larger group of Hispanic leaders from the Synod of the Sun in April, 2014. Together, they generated an agenda for action.

Participants in the April meeting confirmed that the time spent together was valuable and energizing. They agreed to formalize their desire to meet together and to include additional pastors and church leaders in subsequent meetings. Each meeting will include time for worship, teaching and learning, structured dialogue and planning for specific actions to fulfill the Network's purpose.

How will this Network and its implementation benefit the body of Christ, individual community members, and humanity?

Hispanic Presbyterian pastors are few in number. They work in congregations where people are dealing with complex issues of generational differences, language conflicts, growing pains or dying pains related to preservation of their cultural heritage. In addition, these pastors do the work that pastors in all congregations do every day. Emerging leaders in Hispanic congregations are often new members and new to the Reformed tradition; they show gifts and capacities for leadership but they need to learn theology, polity and leadership basics. Many Hispanic churches are growing and they require well-prepared leaders to reach out in mission to the communities around them.

This Network fills the needs of Hispanic pastors: to come together with Presbyterians who share their cultural heritage, to find mutual support, to continue to learn and grow, and to develop leadership among Hispanics in the Presbyterian church.

The Network's mission is to serve Hispanic populations across presbytery "borders" based on their common cultural, ethnic, racial and often immigrant experiences within a geography dominated by Anglo culture. The strategy of the Network is to:

- identify leaders and prepare them well so that they are able to help educate and to organize people in their congregations and local communities
- increase awareness of migration and immigration patterns among traditional PCUSA constituencies
- organize within Hispanic congregations to reach out into neighborhoods and larger communities to act on behalf of the Gospel
- reach out and work in multi-cultural alliances.

Hispanic pastors and church leaders in this Synod are uniquely situated to move forward with such a strategy.

INSTALLATION OF THE MODERATOR

(Parts in BOLD ITALICS are to be said in unison by the assembly)

There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to the one hope of our calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Creator of us all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Valerie: Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Dan S: We are called by God to be the church of Jesus Christ, a sign in the world today of what God intends for all humankind.

***The great ends of the church are
the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind;
the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God;
the maintenance of divine worship;
the preservation of the truth;
the promotion of social righteousness;
and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.***

Bill: The call of Christ is to willing, dedicated discipleship. Our discipleship is a manifestation of the new life we enter through baptism. Discipleship is both a gift and a commitment, an offering and a responsibility.

Christianne, the grace bestowed on you in baptism is sufficient for your calling because it is God's grace. By God's grace we are saved and enabled to grow in the faith, and to commit our lives in ways which serve Christ. God has called you to particular service as Moderator of the Synod of the Sun. Show your purpose by answering these questions. Who is your Lord and Savior?

CC: *Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.*

Joe Pat: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

CC: *I will, with God's help.*

Mauricio: Do you welcome the responsibility of this service because you are determined to follow the Lord Jesus, to love neighbors, and to work for the reconciling of the world?

CC: *I do.*

Bart: Will you serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination and love, relying on God's mercy and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit?

Synod of the Sun Stated Meeting, Oct/Nov 2014

CC: I will, with God's help.

Ernie: Do you, the members of the Synod of the Sun, confirm the call of God to our sister Christianne as Moderator, in the service of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Ernie: Will you support and encourage her in this ministry?

We will.

INSTALLATION PRAYER

Dan S: Let us pray. Faithful God, in baptism you claimed us and by your Holy Spirit you are working in our lives, empowering us to live a life worthy of our calling.

Valerie: We thank you for leading Christianne to this time and place. Establish her in your truth, and guide her by your Holy Spirit, that in your service she may grow in faith, hope, and love, and be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ.

Bill: Almighty God, in Jesus Christ you called disciples and, by the Holy Spirit, made them one church to serve you. Let your Spirit rule your church, so that we may be joined in love and service to Jesus Christ, who alone is head of the church. Amen.

ALL: Christianne, you are now installed to service as Moderator of the Synod of the Sun. Whatever you do in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him.

BENEDICTION: (CC)

Grants & Scholarships Commission Report 2014

Grants & Scholarships Commission
Synod of the Sun
Conference Call of May 7, 2014

The conference call meeting was held on May 7, 2014, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Judia Foreman, Jim Burns, Dan Saperstein, Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson, SarahLee Morris, Shelby Miller, and Valerie Young were present. Sarah Lee opened the meeting with prayer, noting that a moderator from the group needs to be selected for the next meeting. The committee looked at grants and scholarships for the first quarter of 214, and those received to date for the second quarter. As acting moderator, SarahLee grouped together as much as possible those requesting from the same fund. Shelby Miller agreed to keep a record of allocations, follow up requests and explanation of refusals.

After the committee made its decisions (see attached), it was agreed that Valerie Young would write the appropriate letters, and Sara Lee would sign them as acting moderator. A meeting will be called in July to complete the second quarter allocations. A permanent moderator needs to be secured.

Submitted by,

Shelby S. Miller, Recorder

Grants & Scholarships Commission
Synod of the Sun
Conference Call Meeting, June 25, 2014

The conference call meeting of Grants and Scholarship Commission met at 3:00 on June 25, 2014. Members present were Joyce Ludwig, acting moderator, Shelby Miller, recorder, Judia Foreman, Grace Goodeagle, Dan Saperstein, and Valerie Knox, staff. Jim Burns and Glenn were excused. Judia introduced Joyce Ludwig as acting moderator and the meeting was opened with prayer. Shelby Miller was appointed recorder. The committee looked at grants and scholarships for the second quarter of 2014 (see attached). The committee was instructed that for each fund category of the Unassigned GA Funds, one applicant was to be chosen to endorse and send forward. It was also noted that the actions of the committee deplete the funds for 33675, Multicultural Youth Conference, and thought to move forward with these funds are to be made at the next budget process of Synod.

Upon conclusion of its decisions, the committee elected Joyce Ludwig as moderator for 2014. For communications to applicants, Valerie has templates for those granted, with the committee responding to those denied with specific, tailored responses. Joyce, Dan and Valerie will get together to sort out the duties of communications. Shelby Miller closed the meeting with prayer.

Grants & Scholarships Commission
Synod of the Sun

Grants & Scholarships Commission Report 2014

Conference Call Meeting July 26, 2014

Minutes

Present: Joyce Ludwig, moderator; Grace Goodeagle; John Guice; Dan Saperstein (synod staff)

The meeting opened with prayer by Dan Saperstein at 9:15 a.m.

The moderator appointed Dan Saperstein to take minutes.

The meeting was called for the purpose of completing the process of e-voting on four requests which have issues of timeliness.

1. UKirk Conway. The Commission voted unanimously to APPROVE this grant request in the amount of \$5000 from the Higher Education Ministries account (#33620). The vote included two email yes votes from Judia Foreman and Shelby Miller.
2. NMCC- Esparza. The Commission voted unanimously to APPROVE this scholarship request, in the amount of \$400 from the Hispanic Latino Continuing Education Fund (#12218/12219). \$800 had been requested. The vote included two email yes votes from Judia Foreman and Shelby Miller.
3. NMCC-Sampayan. The Commission voted unanimously to APPROVE this scholarship request in the amount of \$200 from the Educational Programs fund (#33542). \$400 had been requested, but there is only \$204 in the account. The vote included two email yes votes from Judia Foreman and Shelby Miller.
4. NMCC-Iglesia Latina. The Commission voted unanimously to APPROVE this scholarship request in the amount of \$5650 from the Hispanic Latino Continuing Education Fund (#12218/12219) for the following adults and youth (with amounts for each):

first name	last name	synod scholarship
Rocio	Simon	275.00
Alberto	Simon	300.00
Norberto	Herrera	300.00
Angel	Simon	300.00
Eric	Simon	300.00
Isbela	Mejia	300.00
Milgian	Montoya	300.00
Elba	Montoya	300.00
Elba	Gonzales	275.00

Grants & Scholarships Commission Report 2014

Jaset	Gonzales	child
Martin	Flores	300.00
Italia	Flores	300.00
Linda	Flores	child
Baby	Flores	infant
Carlos	Mejia	300.00
Carmen	Ramirez-Mejia	300.00
Wesley	Mejia	child
Kenneth	Mejia	child
Iris	Guzman	150.00
Kayla	Guzman	child
Angel	Villanueva	300.00
Mireya	Villanueva	300.00
Hannya	Rodriguez	150.00
Seattle	Villanueva	child
Angel Jr.	Villanueva	150.00
Natalio	Villaverde	300.00
Norma	Villaverde	300.00
Norma	Gonzales	150.00
Natalie	Villaverde	child

The meeting was closed in prayer by the moderator at 9:38 a.m. with thanks to all the participants.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Saperstein
Clerk pro-tem

Grants & Scholarships Commission
October 6, 2014

Present: Voting Members, Grace Goodeagle, Berneddette Coffee, Shelby Miller, Guinn Blackwell-Eagleston; non-voting Dan Sapperstein, Valerie Young.

Meeting began at 10:30 AM; Dan prayed for the deliberations.

We opened with the Scholarships portion.

Discussion of scholarship which had been approved in 2013 for Elias Arroyo. At that time the committee approved a total of \$33,000 from account 12220, 12221 Hispanic Latino Student

Grants & Scholarships Commission Report 2014

Fund (MAPPA) to be paid in three installments of \$11,000. each. According to a letter received in July, there were some funds left from 2013 / 2014 school year which meant that \$9,005 should be drawn on the account to pay for 2014/2015. Need some additional clarification because the \$11,000 was also to cover transportation.

For the present the \$9,005 is to be transferred to Indiana Wesleyan Univ.

Also discussed were two Synod of the Sun grants which were received late . The grant monies will be sent to FPC Mesquite, TX to reimburse them for Taylor Blake Hammer, and Charlie Blake Hammer who both attended the Synod Youth Workshop in July.

The amount is \$200 drawn from 33900. I believe Shelby made the motion, Grace approved and motion carried.

A request for \$201.00 from account 12218, 12219 Hispanic latino Continuing Ed. Fund made by Mrs. Imelda Carillo a CRE in Pasadena, TX for the Small Church pastor's Conference Oct. 13-16. Moved by Shelby, second by Guinn. Motion passed. Funds to be sent directly to Mo-Ranch. Joyce will write to recipient.

A request for \$200 from acct 33621, Small Church Pastors Conference from Viola Hickson Lee CRE in Lockhart TX. Because there was not enough money in acct 33621, (\$61.75) an additional \$106.39 was drawn from account 33542 Educational Programs for a total of \$168.14. Motion made by Joyce, second by Guinn, approved. The \$168.14 will be paid directly to Mo-Ranch. Joyce will inform the recipient.

An application for funds from account 12220, 12221 in the amount of \$1,800 has been requested by Karla Lara. For one course in Theology at Austin Seminary. This is to cover the course, student fees and transportation as a "commuter" student from San Antonio to Austin on a weekly basis. This was moved by Shelby, second by Guinn, motion carried. The funds will be sent to Austin Seminary, with clarification as to how much is to be held or reimburses for transportation.

The committee received a request from Rev. Michael Eickhoff for \$500 from account 33673, Rural Church DMin program at Austin Seminary. Pastor Eickhoff has received funds from this account in the past. Currently the account specifies that these DMin Students be from Presbyteries within in the Synod of the Sun, which he is not. However, the committee decided to "grandfather" him in this program and award him the \$500 with the understanding that in the future, the scholarship, which does not regenerate funds, will apply only to pastors within the Synod. Motion made by Shelby, second by Guinn, approved. \$500 to be sent to Austin Seminary, DMinProgram. Joyce will either call or e-mail Paul Hooker.

This completes the Scholarship portion of the Minutes.

Synod Grants discussed in Oct. 6, 2014 Conference call.

Two Endorsements for "1001 Worshiping Communities Initiative" from GA were received. Both in Mission Presbytery. One is for a Spanish Service nesting in St. Andrews Presbyterian Church of San Antonio, TX, the other is from the Hildago Hispanic Worshiping Community in McAllen, TX.

Grants & Scholarships Commission Report 2014

The committee is happy to endorse both these initiatives within the Spanish – speaking communities in San Antonio and McAllen. However, no money can be awarded from the Synod of the Sun at this time because no specific requests have been made for the fellowships themselves. These will be forwarded to GA. Shelby moved, Guinn second, the motion carried. Dan will speak to Ruben Amenderiz about the funding.

Two requests were received for funding from account 33705, Mexico partnership Fund.. One request was from Presbyterian Pan American School for \$5,000. The other was from Northridge PC in Dallas for the Tocando Puertas Family Center Feeding program in Juarez, Mexico in the amount of \$2000. Currently the fund has \$3696.57 in the account, and will not replenish.

The motion was made to fully fund the Tocando Puertas Family Center request at \$2000, and to award PPAS the remaining \$1696.57 in the fund. Motion made by Grace, second by Guinn, approved. Joyce will send the notification letters.

A request for a grant of \$5000 from Old Age Concerns, account 33607 was received from First Presbyterian Church of Fort Worth to support the James L. West Caregiver and Community Education Program to give training and support to caregivers managing the care of loved ones. This request was approved. Moved by Shelby, second by Guinn. Valerie, will you please contact Susan Farris to see where these funds should be sent, and I will send the notification letter.

A request from Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Family Services was received for \$3,000 for two storage buildings on the grounds at the facility in Monticello, AR. The committee decided to grant \$1500 from account 12223, 12224, Albert Crisp Orphanage Support. Motion made by Shelby, second by Guinn. Approved

Three request in the amount of \$5,000 each were made for Mission Grants 33802. Currently, there is \$5,193.82 available.

The request for support for the Romanian Mission Co-worker was approved in the amount of \$2,500 drawn on the Peacemaking Fund 33600, since this was not a new mission initiative and met the other criteria of the fund. Motion by Shelby, second by Grace. Approved. This request came from Palo Dura Presbytery. Joyce will send letter.

A request was received from Mission Presbytery for a relationship building journey to Cuba. This was approved in the amount of \$2500 drawn on account 33802 since this is a new initiative. Motion from Shelby, second Grace. Approved. Check to Mission Presbytery, I will send letter.

PCHAS (Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services) submitted a request for \$5,000 from 33802 Mission Grants. With a little creative thinking we were able to award PCHAS new Foster Care and Adoption Services in Austin \$2,693.82 from account 33802, and additionally \$1,514.01 from 12223, 12224 Albert Crisp. Total \$4,207.83
Shelby moved, Grace second. Approved. Check to PCHAS, Austin, I can send letter.

Grants & Scholarships Commission Report 2014

This concludes the minutes from the Grants and Scholarships Committee conference call of October 6, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Joyce Ludwig (HR)

Many thanks for your attention and creative thinking through this process.

Acct ID	Account Description	Date	Trans Description	Award Amt	Total Awarded
33606	Texas National Missions				
		5/15/14	First Presbyterian Church of B - Grant Award - Baird P.C. Pavillion	5,000.00	
		5/22/14	Mission Presbytery - GA Matching Grant-Final Payment; Community Fellowship 924	8,000.00	
		7/3/14	New Covenant Presbytery - Synod Wide Church Officer Training and Enrichment Event	500.00	
		7/3/14	Grace Presbytery - GA Matching Grant final payment: EBOC	7,000.00	
		12/31/14			20,500.00
33705	Mexico Partnership Fund				
		5/15/14	New Covenant Fellowship - Grant Award-Chiapas Project	2,000.00	
		5/15/14	Hackberry Creek Pres. Church - Grant Award - Toribio Family Center	2,000.00	
		9/11/14	Lyon College - Grant Award: Transformacion Urbana Internacional (TUI)	2,000.00	
		10/9/14	Northridge Pres. Church - Grant award: Tocando Puertas Family Center feeding program	2,000.00	
		10/9/14	Presbyterian Pan American School - Grant Award	1,696.57	
		12/31/14			9,696.57
	<u>Other Ministries</u>				

Grants & Scholarships Commission Report 2014

33620	Higher Education	5/15/14	First Presbyterian Church - Grant Award - Second Wind	3,000.00	
		7/31/14	First Presbyterian Church - Grant award: Ukirk Conway	5,000.00	
		12/31/14	Grant Award: Career and Calling- Christian Discernment -Schreiner Univ	5,000.00	
		12/31/14	Grant Award: UCM Space Renewal - UCM of Greater Houston	5,000.00	
		12/31/14			18,000.00
33600	Peacemaking	5/15/14	Divine Redeemer Presbyterian C - Grant Award - MEYO	5,000.00	
		10/9/14	Palo Duro Presbytery - Grant Award: Support for Mission co-worker in Romania	2,500.00	
		12/31/14			7,500.00
33607	Old Age Concerns	5/15/14	First Presbyterian Church of B - Grant Award - Baird P.C. Restrooms	5,000.00	
		5/15/14	First Presbyterian Church - Grant Award - Helping Hands	1,350.00	
		5/15/14	Gilmont Camp & Conference Cent - Grant Award - Midweek Sabbath Awakening	4,500.00	
		5/15/14	Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly - Grant Award - Mo-Ranch Scooters	5,000.00	
		10/9/14	First Presbyterian Church - Grant Award: James L. West Caregiver and Community Education Program	5,000.00	
		12/31/14	Grant Award: Juarez Feeding Program at Verdad Y Redencion Church and Toribio Family Cntr - Arrow Outreach	5,000.00	
		12/31/14	Grant Award: Music and Memory Program- Presbyterian Village	4,146.00	
		12/31/14	Grant Award: National PW Churchwide Gathering - Pres Women of Synod of the Sun	5,000.00	
		12/31/14			34,996.00
12224	Albert Crisp Orphanage Support	10/9/14	Vera Lloyd Home & Family Servi - Grant Award: Storage Buildings	1,500.00	

Grants & Scholarships Commission Report 2014

		10/9/14	Presbyterian Childrens Homes & - Grant Award: Austin Foster Care and Adoption Program	1,514.01	
		12/31/14			3,014.01
33802	Mission Networks Grants				
		5/15/14	PC USA - Grant Award - National Multicultural Church Conference: SE14003	7,000.00	
		7/3/14	New Covenant Presbytery - Synod Wide Church Officer Training and Enrichment Event	3,000.00	
		10/9/14	Mission Presbytery - Grant Award: Relationship building journey to Cuba	2,500.00	
		10/9/14	Presbyterian Childrens Homes & - Grant Award: Austin Foster Care and Adoption Program	2,693.82	
		12/31/14			15,193.82
			Total awarded in Grants 2014		108,900.40

Acct ID	Account Description	Date	Trans Description	Award Amt	Total Awarded
12220/12221	Hispanic Latino Student Fund (MAPPA)	12/31/14	Scholarship Funds (MAPPA): for student Matthew Aldas -Austin Pres Theological Seminary	8,200.00	
		10/9/14	Indiana Wesleyan University - Scholarship for Elias Antonio Cabarcas Arroyo from MAPPA	9,005.00	
		12/31/14			17,205.00
	<u>Racial Ethnic Ministries</u>				
12218/12219	Hispanic Latino Continuing Education fund (MACC)	7/3/14	PC(U.S.A) Special Events-SE140 - Scholarship: One Day Registration for Alfredo Ruiz to National Multicultural Conference	100.00	
		7/31/14	PC(U.S.A) Special Events-SE 14 - Iglesia Latina Scholarships for National Multicultural Conference (list attached)	5,650.00	

Grants & Scholarships Commission Report 2014

		7/31/14	PC(U.S.A) Special Events-SE 14 - Scholarship: NMCC-Silbia Esparza	400.00	
		10/9/14	Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly - Imelda Carillo - Small church pastors retreat scholarship	201.00	
		5/15/14	Imelda Carrillo - Scholarship Award - Bold Word Conference	220.00	
		12/31/14			6,571.00
33675	Multicultural Youth				
		5/15/14	Mo-Ranch - Scholarship Award - Multicultural Youth Conference: list attached	4,800.00	
		5/29/14	Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly - Scholarship Award: Iglesia Latina MCYC (list attached)	1,500.00	
		7/3/14	Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly - Multicultural Youth Conference Scholarships: List Attached	5,100.00	
		12/31/14			11,400.00
	Other Ministries				
33541	Volunteers in Mission				
		7/3/14	University Presbyterian Church - Scholarship Award: Abigail Loraine Morell Nickle -YAV Support	2,300.00	
		12/31/14			2,300.00
33621	Small Church Pastors				
		10/9/14	Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly - Viola Lee - Small Church Pastors Retreat Scholarship	61.75	
		12/31/14			61.75
33542	Educational Programs				
		5/15/14	Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly - Scholarship Award - Women's Conference (\$50 Trudy Cleveland) (\$50 for Johnna Marie Murad)	100.00	
		7/31/14	PC(U.S.A) Special Events-SE 14 - Scholarship: NMCC-Glenn Sampayan	200.00	

Grants & Scholarships Commission Report 2014

		10/9/14	Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly - Viola Lee- Small Church Pastors Retreat Scholarship	106.39	
		12/31/14			406.39
33673	Rural Ch Min D Min (Trull)				
		3/13/14	Austin Pres. Theological Semin - Rural Ministry Grant for Michael Eickhoff	500.00	
		5/15/14	Austin Pres. Theological Semin - Rural Ministry Scholarship - M. Eickhoff	500.00	
		7/3/14	Austin Pres. Theological Semin - Rural Ministry Scholarship: Final grant for Nancy Taylor	500.00	
		10/9/14	Austin Pres. Theological Semin - Rural Ministry Scholarship Final - Michael Eikoff	500.00	
		12/31/14			2,000.00
33900	SYW Scholarship - SOS				
		5/14/14	SYW Scholarships Jensen; McLaren; Nyama; Olivo	500.00	
		7/2/14	SYW Scholarships T. Rose; B. Hans; Cambrie Jennings; Colton Jennings; N. Edling	500.00	
		10/16/14	First Presbyterian Church - Synod SYW Scholarship: 2014, C. Hammer & T. Hammer	200.00	
		10/16/14	First Presbyterian Church - Synod SYW Scholarship: 2014, C. Hammer & T. Hammer	200.00	
		12/31/14			1,400.00
			Total granted in Scholarships 2014		41,344.14

2014 Commissioner & Committee list

Commissioner Type	Title	First	Last	Pby	Class	Committee	City	State
Commissioner	Rev.	Tom	Ulrich	A	2014	Connecting	Fort Smith	AR
Commissioner		Emily	Laurel	A	2014	Stewardship	Benton	AR
Commissioner	Rev.	Gay	Cocheres	C	2015	Connecting	Enid	OK
Commissioner		Christianne	Chase	C	2016	Stewardship	Enid	OK
Commissioner	Rev.	Joyce	Ludwig	EO	2014	Connecting	Providence Village	TX
		VACANCY		EO	2015			
Commissioner At-Large		Grace	Goodeagle	EO	2016	Stewardship	Commerce	OK
Commissioner		Pat	Gwyn	G	2014	Connecting	Irving	TX
Commissioner	Rev.	Shelby	Miller	G	2015	Stewardship	Denton	TX
Commissioner	Rev.	Mark	Henslee	IN	2014	Connecting	Lawton	OK
Commissioner		Malcolm	Hall	IN	2014	Stewardship	Oklahoma City	OK
Commissioner		Joe Pat	Nance	M	2015	Connecting	Gonzales	TX
Commissioner		VACANCY		M	2016			
Commissioner	Rev.	Guinn	Blackwell-Eagleson	NC	2014	Connecting	Houston	TX
Commissioner At-Large	Rev	Mauricio	Chacon	NC	2016	Connecting	Houston	TX
Commissioner		Bart	Henson	NC	2016	Stewardship	Houston	TX
Commissioner		John	Guice	P	2014	Connecting	Winnsboro	LA
Commissioner	Rev.	Dan	Hignight	P		Stewardship	Hope	AR
		VACANCY		PD	2016	Connecting		
Commissioner	Rev.	Tom	Wisdom	PD	2016	Stewardship	Wichita Falls	TX
Commissioner	Rev.	Ted	Roeling	SL	2014	Stewardship	Baton Rouge	LA
Commissioner		Lynne	Castle	SL	2015	Connecting	Lafayette	LA
Commissioner At-Large		Bernadette	Coffee	TR	2015	Connecting	San Angelo	TX
Commissioner		Frances	Carlton	TR	2015	Stewardship	Midland	TX
Commissioner	Rev	Jim	Miles	TR	2016	Connecting	Fort Stockton	TX
Commissioner At-Large		VACANCY			2015	Stewardship		
Executive Presbyterian	Rev.	Greg	Coulter	EO	EP	Connecting	Tulsa	OK
Executive Presbyterian	Rev.	Jan	DeVries	G	EP	Connecting	Irving	TX
Executive Presbyterian	Rev.	Aaron	Carland	IN	EP	Connecting	Oklahoma City	OK
Executive Presbyterian	Rev.	Joe	Hill	P	EP	Connecting	Ruston	LA

2014 Commissioner & Committee list

Interim Executive Presbyter	Rev.	Ron	Sutto	SL	EP	Connecting	Baton Rouge	LA
Executive Presbyter	Rev.	Bill	Galbraith	A	EP	Stewardship	Little Rock	AR
Interim Executive Presbyter	Rev.	Gordon	Edwards	C	EP	Stewardship	Broken Arrow	OK
Acting Head of Staff		Ruben	Armendariz	M	EP	Stewardship	San Antonio	TX
Executive Presbyter	Rev.	Mike	Cole	NC	EP	Stewardship	Houston	TX
Executive Presbyter	Rev.	Rich	Schempp	PD	EP	Stewardship	Lubbock	TX
Executive Presbyter	Rev.	José Luis	Casal	TR	EP	Stewardship	Midland	TX
Resigned								
Commissioner		Gini	Norris-Lane	M	2016	Connecting	Kerrville	TX
Commissioner		Judia	Foreman	TR	2013	Stewardship	Midland	TX
Commissioner		SarahLee	Morris	PD	2013	Connecting	Lubbock	TX
Commissioner		Lauren	Moore	PD				
Commissioner		Jim	Cole	EO	2015	Stewardship	Muskogee	OK
Coordinating Team								
Commissioner		Judia	Foreman	TR				
Commissioner		SarahLee	Morris	PD				
Commissioner		Joe Pat	Nance	M				
Commissioner – At-Large		Mauricio	Chaucon	NC				
COR		Aida	Faris	NC				
Commissioner		Christianne	Chase	C				
Corresponding Member		Bill	Galbraith	A				
Commissioner		Bart	Henson	NC				
Co-opt Member		Erin	Kaye	P				
Co-opt Member		Robert	Lowry	A				
Staff		Valerie	Young					
Staff		Dan	Saperstein					
Staff		Ernie	Higginbotham					

WORKING PAPER OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE OF THE SYNOD OF THE SUN

The information provided in this paper is intended for the work of the Synod of the Sun Nominating Committee. Contained herein are the entities for which the Nominating Committee has the responsibility of either electing or nominating representatives in accordance with their relationship with and to the Synod of the Sun.

PRESBYTERY MEMBER ABBREVIATIONS

A -- Arkansas	NC -- New Covenant
C -- Cimarron	PD -- Palo Duro
EO -- Eastern Oklahoma	P -- Pines
G -- Grace	SL -- South Louisiana
IN -- Indian Nations	TR -- Tres Rios
M -- Mission	A-L -- At Large

DEMOGRAPHICS KEY

[Term; Status; Ethnicity; Age category]

Term	Status	Ethnicity	Age Category
1 First	FRE Female Ruling Elder	As Asian	Y ≤ 25
2 Second Consecutive	FTE Female Teaching Elder	B Af. Am	YA 26-35
3 Third Consecutive	MRE Male Ruling Elder	Af African	A 36-55
	MTE Male Teaching Elder	NA Hisp/Latino	MA 56-64
		NA Native Am	SA 65+
		ME Mid Estrn	
		W White/Euro.Am.	

WORKING PAPER OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE OF THE SYNOD OF THE SUN

SYNOD COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION

The Synod shall elect a Committee on Representation consisting of six members, each serving a three-year term. The committee shall consist of three classes except where initial classes of one- and two-year terms are necessary to establish regular rotation. Committee members shall be elected to no more than two consecutive terms.

The Committee on Representation shall consist of equal numbers of men and women representing a minimum of 4 presbyteries. A majority of the members shall be selected from the racial ethnic groups within the Synod.

G-3.0103 Participation and Representation

The councils of the church shall give full expression to the rich diversity of the church's membership and shall provide for full participation and access to representation in decision-making and employment practices (F-1.0403). In fulfilling this commitment, councils shall give due consideration to both the gifts and requirements for ministry (G-2.0104) and the right of people in congregations and councils to elect their officers (F-3.0106).

Each council shall develop procedures and mechanisms for promoting and reviewing that body's implementation of the church's commitment to inclusiveness and representation. Councils above the session shall establish by their own rule committees on representation to fulfill the following functions: to advise the council regarding the implementation of principles of unity and diversity, to advocate for diversity in leadership, and to consult with the council on the employment of personnel, in accordance with the principles of unity and diversity in F-1.0403. A committee on representation should not be merged with another committee or made a subcommittee of another committee.

Time Requirement: *One meeting in the Dallas area, bi-monthly conference calls, and a biennial training session by GACOR in conjunction with the meeting.*

Pby	Class	Name	T	S	E	A	Address	Phone/Email
IN	2014	Juanita Scott	1	FRE	NA		P.O. Box 401 Seminole, OK 74868	405-382-1811
G	2014	Rashid Gill	1	MRE	A		South Asian PC 4684 Parnell Ln Plano, TX 75024	972-981-8085 rashidgill@sbcglobal.net
TR	2015	Rev. Patty Lane	2	FTE	W		607 New York Ave. El Paso, TX 79902	C O plmattox@att.net
M	2015	Aida Faris*	2	FRE	ME		2918 N. 620 #123 Austin, TX 78734	512-535-4626 H 512-775-8159 C Afaris875@gmail.com
SL	2016	Lila Kay Crotty	1	F	A	SA	3957 Haddon Street Metairie, LA 70002	504-885-1616 H 504-982-0386 C liliuokalani_q@yahoo.com
PD	2016	Dan Garza	1	MTE	H	SA		dmgarza@gmail.com

Invited General Assembly Committee on Representation Participant

M	Rev. Hector Rivera-Velez		MTE	H		4241 Woodcock Dr., Ste A-100 San Antonio, TX 78228	210-403-9893 H 210-478-9872 C Hector.rivera-velez@christushealth.org
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Invited General Assembly Nominating Committee Participant

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**WORKING PAPER OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE
OF THE SYNOD OF THE SUN**

SYNOD COMMISSIONERS AT-LARGE

3.1.2 Four commissioners (two ruling elders and two teaching elders from four different presbyteries) shall be elected as at-large commissioners to represent racial-ethnic constituencies. The Nominating Committee shall make recommendations for at-large commissioners at the fall stated meeting. At-large commissioners are elected by the Assembly.

Pby	Class	Name	T	S	E	A	Address	Phone/Email
NC	2016	Mauricio Chacon	1	MTE	H		11612 Memorial Drive Houston, TX 77024	713-849-2101 H 713-412-7478 C revchacon@comcast.net
EO	2016	Grace Goodeagle	1	F	NA		124 Cardinal Lane Commerce, OK 74339	918-675-4028 H Ggoodeagle1@cableone.net
TR	2015	Bernadette Coffee		FRE	AA		2510 1 st Atlas San Angelo, TX 76905	325-262-7276 bernadettecoffee@yahoo.com
	201?	VACANT						

WORKING PAPER OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE OF THE SYNOD OF THE SUN

SYNOD OF THE SUN PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION

The Permanent Judicial Commission meets to consider remedial or disciplinary cases transmitted to the Commission, utilizing the powers prescribed by and conducting its proceedings according to the Constitution and rules governing the procedure of such cases with the denomination.

D-5.0101 Election. . . each synod **or cooperating synods**, . . shall elect a permanent judicial commission from the teaching elders and ruling elders subject to its jurisdiction. Each commission shall be composed of teaching elders and ruling elders in numbers as nearly equal as possible. When the commission consists of an odd number of members, the additional member may be either a teaching elder or a ruling elder. The General Assembly commission shall be composed of one member from each of its constituent synods. The synod commission shall be composed of no fewer than eleven members distributed equally, insofar as possible, among the constituent presbyteries.

D-5.0102 Term The term of each member of a permanent judicial commission shall be six years,

D-5.0103 Classes. . . commissioners shall be elected in three classes, with no more than one half of the members to be in one class.

Nominating Committee nominates - Synod of the Sun elects members to the commission.

Time Requirement: Meetings are called by the Stated Clerk, who is staff to the Commission, as needed for judicial work. A two-day biennial training meeting is also held.

Pby	Class	Name	T	S	E	A	Address	Phone/Email
A	2015	Leslie Belden	1	FTE	W	A	15 S. Block, Suite 201 Fayetteville, AR 72701	479-443-9401 479-466-1061 C lesliebeld@aol.com
EO	2015	Ann Brizendine	1	FTE	W		First Presbyterian Church 500 West Broadway Muskogee, OK 74401	918-687-5401 W 918-686-0085 H fpcmuskogee@denlinkmail.com
PD	2015	Julie Johnson	1	FRE	W	M A	10440 Mountain Trail Canyon, TX 79015	mindocs@midplains.coop 806-438-0886 806-488-2469 H
IN	2017	Rick Baggett	1	MTE	W	M A	First Presbyterian Church Ardmore, OK	rbgoodnews@yahoo.com 580-223-3800
SL	2017	Nanette Cagney CRE, <i>Secretary</i>	1	FRE	W	M A	St. Andrew PC Lake Charles, LA	cagney13@yahoo.com (337) 794-6197
P	2017	Kathleen Hignight	1	FTE	W	A	(First Presbyterian Church, Hope, AR) 611 S. Main St. Hope, AR 71802	kthignight@gmail.com 870-474-7005 H 318-347-0735 C
TR	2017	Ralph E. Truskowski, P.E.	1	MRE	W	M A	2800 Emerson Ln. Midland, TX 79705	retski@suddenlink.net 432-260-1647
G	2019	Michael J. "Mike" Vaughn, <i>Moderator</i>	1	MRE	W	SA	P.O. Box 2130 Flint, TX 75762-2130	903-894-4232 mikevaughn@cayugatexas.com

**WORKING PAPER OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE
OF THE SYNOD OF THE SUN**

C	2019	Christianne Chase	1	FRE	W	A	3507 North Lake Lane Enid, OK 73703	580-233-9062 (h) 580-278-5290 (c) chasechristianne@gmail.com
M	2019	Andy Anzaldua	1	MRE	H	SA	5234 Crestwick Drive Corpus Christi, TX 78413	andyanzaldua@gmail.com 361-994-9081 H 361-877-1590 C
NC	2019	Anne Wilson	1	FRE	A s	M A	811 St. Francis Houston, TX 77079	713-465-1054 nosliwa@comcast.net

TRUSTEES OF THE SYNOD OF THE SUN

- 6.1 The Synod Assembly shall elect four commissioners to serve as Trustees, one each from Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas, for a two-year term, to serve no more than three consecutive two-year terms.
- 6.2 The Trustees shall be responsible for carrying out instructions from the Synod regarding transactions involving the properties of the Synod, title to which is vested in the Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (USA), a Texas Corporation.

Time Requirement: Business is usually conducted by phone. A one-day meeting as needed upon call from the Synod.

Pby	Class	Name	T	S	E	A	Address	Phone/Email
G	2014	Patrick McCoy	2	MTE	W		5871 W. Virginia Pkwy McKinney, TX 75071	972-658-7679 C 972-548-0511 H 972-542-4629 O pmccoy@tpcmckinney.org
SL	2014	Kathy Randall	3	FRE	W	A	170 Walnut St. 3F New Orleans, LA 70118	504-866-7435 kathyran@covad.net
EO	2015	Jim Cole	1	MRE	W	A	535 N. 13 th St. Muskogee, OK 74401	918-682-4355 jtctlc@suddenlink.net
A	2015	Tom Ulrich	1	MTE	W	A	2901 Rogers Ave Fort Smith, AR 72901	479-782-9395 479-782-9395 tomulrich@sbcglobal.net

**WORKING PAPER OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE
OF THE SYNOD OF THE SUN**

SOLAR UNDER THE SUN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

a network of the Synod of the Sun

Article II. Solar Under the Sun bylaws

Section 2. Election and Term of Office. The directors shall be elected at the annual meeting; provided, however, that two (2) directors shall be appointed to the Board by the Synod of the Sun, as the Synod's liaisons to the Organization. Each director shall serve until a successor has been nominated, qualified and elected. Directors shall be elected to a three (3) year term. Directors may be eligible for reelection to a second three (3) year term. However, no director shall be eligible to serve more than two (2) consecutive three-year terms. A director who has served two (2) consecutive three-year terms shall be ineligible for election to the Board of Directors for at least one (1) year. Directors shall serve staggered terms. Directors shall be elected to three (3) classes of four (4) directors, each, with the term of only one (1) class ending each year. When elected for the first time under these bylaws, the initial set of directors shall have one (1) class of directors elected for a one (1) year term, the second class for a two (2) year term, and the third class for a three (3) year term. Thereafter, all directors shall be elected for a three (3) year term.

Pby	Class	Name	T	S	E	A	Address	Phone/Email
M	2015	Mary Ellen Summerlin	1	FRE	W	A	105 Turnberry Circle, Kerrville, TX 78028	830-895-7982 mects@kctc.com
C	2016	Christianne Chase	1	FRE	W	A	3507 North Lake Lane Enid, OK 73703	580-233-9062 (h) 580-278-5290 (c) chasechristianne@gmail.com

SYNOD MODERATOR

5.1 The officers of the Synod shall be the Moderator, Moderator-elect and the Stated Clerk.

5.2 The Synod shall elect one of its commissioners for a two-year term as Moderator-Elect/ Moderator. The elected commissioner shall serve one year as Moderator-Elect and the following year as Moderator.

Synod of the Sun Bylaws adopted May 23, 2013

Pby	Class	Name	S	E	A	Address	Phone/Email
C	2015	Christianne Chase	FRE	W	A	3507 North Lake Lane Enid, OK 73703	580-233-9062 (h) 580-278-5290 (c) chasechristianne@gmail.com
P	2015-16	Dan Hignight	MTE	W	A		

Synod of the Sun Presbyterian Foundation Trustees

c/o Beth Wilt
6100 Colwell Blvd, Suite 220
Irving, TX 75039
214/522-3155

WORKING PAPER OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE OF THE SYNOD OF THE SUN

PRESBYTERIAN PAN AMERICAN SCHOOL

The Board of Trustees is the policy-making body of the Presbyterian Pan American School. It is responsible for establishing the philosophy of education and the objectives of the School, and for keeping these under constant review for pertinence. It is responsible for the fiscal well-being of the School and manages the property and the business of the Corporation. The board has the responsibility for the effective implementation of the policies it lays down. To this end, it elects the President to whom it delegates administrative functions. The President's administration is therefore subject to final approval by the Board.

PPAS nominates and Synod elects nine members of the Board. *Nine others are elected by the Board and two by the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico. Members may serve three consecutive terms.*

Time Requirement: *The board meets in late September, late January, and mid-May, (at least three times per year), lasting at least 24 hours on the campus of the School. Committee meetings can be called between Board meetings.*

Pby	Class	Name	T	E/C	E	A	Address	Phone/Email / Church
NC	2014	Susan Buell	1	FRE	W		509 Oak Dr Lake Jackson, TX 77566	979-297-3024 (H) buellcol@hotmail.com FPC, Lake Jackson
TR	2014	Chris Laufer	1	FRE	W		3004 Meadowbrook Dr Midland, TX 79705	432-520-4536 (H) 432-978-5801 (C) cclaufer@sbcglobal.com Grace PC, Midland
M	2014	John Wurster	2	MTE	W		First Presbyterian Church 800 Jefferson Kerrville, TX 78024	830-739-8513 jwurster@fpckerrville.org Mission Presbytery
NC	2015	Mario Gomez	1	MRE	H		First Presbyterian Church Bryan, TX	
M	2015	Izzet "Ike" Guney	1	MRE			Alamo Heights PC San Antonio, TX	
NC	2015	Lawrence D. Spencer	1	MTE	W		New Covenant Presbytery Dallas, TX	
G	2016	Grace de Lugo Lauro	2	FRE	H	4	1425 Mayfield Ave Garland, TX 75401	972-926-7515 H 469-438-6438 C gracelauro@hotmail.com El Divino Salvador, Dallas
G	2016	Marcia Hinojosa	2	FRE	W	3	6038 Woodland Dr. Dallas, TX 75225	241-891-9565 Marciah6038@msn.com Preston Hollow PC, Dallas
M	2016	Mike Miller	2	MTE	W		P.O. Box 2069 Wimberley, TX 78676	512-847-7124 (H) 512-970-4577 (C) mmiller@txstate.edu Mission Presbytery

NOTE: *No other information was provided for individuals in Class 2015.*

WORKING PAPER OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE OF THE SYNOD OF THE SUN

COVENANT RENEWAL TEAMS

The following agencies and/or institutions share a covenant relationship with the Synod of the Sun that is up for renewal in the year indicated. Each Covenant Review Team should have 3 members, where one is a currently serving synod commissioner, and one is currently representing the synod by participation in the agency/institution's board meetings.

Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary-2013

Pby	Name	S	E	A	Address	Phone/Email
S	Dan Saperstein	MTE	W	SA		dsaperstein@synodsun.com
IN	Mark Henslee	MTE	W	SA		mthenslee@att.net
M	Liz Anzaldua	FRE	H	SA		lizanzaldua@gmail.com

Trinity University - 2013

Pby	Name	S	E	A	Address	Phone/Email
S	Dan Saperstein	MTE	W	SA		dsaperstein@synodsun.com
M	Mary Ellen Summerlin	FRE	W	SA		mects@ktc.com
NC	Lynn Hargrove	FTE	W	A		lhargrove@pbyofnewcovenant.org

Presbyterian Pan American School - 2012

Pby	Name	S	E	A	Address	Phone/Email
S	Dan Saperstein	MTE	W	SA		dsaperstein@synodsun.com
NC	Debbie Battise-Kleinman	FRE	NA	SA		dbkkoala@yahoo.com
M	Esperanza Guajardo	FRE	H	SA		espijoeg@yahoo.com

Ferncliff/Arkansas Presbytery (SUTS) - 2013

Pby	Name	S	E	A	Address	Phone/Email
S	Dan Saperstein	MTE	W	SA		dsaperstein@synodsun.com
A	Robert Lowry	MTE	W	A		robertwilliamlowry@gmail.com
C	Christianne Chase	FRE	W	A		chasechristianne@gmail.com

Synod of Living Waters (SUTS) - 2013

Pby	Name	S	E	A	Address	Phone/Email
S	Dan Saperstein	TE	W	SA		dsaperstein@synodsun.com
	Tom Ulrich*	TE				
	Kathy Pardue White					

Evergreen Life Services - 2014

Pby	Name	S	E	A	Address	Phone/Email
S/G	Ernest Higginbotham	RE	W	A		ehigginbotham@synodsun.com

**WORKING PAPER OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE
OF THE SYNOD OF THE SUN**

	Joe Hill*					
	Erin Kaye					

Presbyterian Children's Homes & Services - 2014

Pby	Name	S	E	A	Address	Phone/Email
	Joe Pat Nance*					
	Ron Sutto					
	Mauricio Chacon					

Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home & Family Services - 2014

Pby	Name	S	E	A	Address	Phone/Email
	Robert Lowry*					
	Erin Kaye					

Texas Presbyterian Foundation - 2014

Pby	Name	S	E	A	Address	Phone/Email
	Dan Saperstein*					
	Bernie Coffee					
	Malcolm Hall					

Boards, Councils, Agencies, Institutions

Boards of the following agencies of the Synod of the Sun nominate their members for Synod election.

Louisiana Board of Presbyterian Publications

c/o Rev. Ted Roeling
279 Marilyn Dr. #5
Baton Rouge, LA 70815
225-924-6206

Lyon College

Dr. Donald Weatherman, President
P.O. Box 2317
Batesville, AR 72503-2317
870/793-9813

Presbyterian Foundation of Louisiana, Inc., Board of Trustees

Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest

Rev. Dr. James Currie
4807 San Felipe
Houston, TX 77056

**WORKING PAPER OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE
OF THE SYNOD OF THE SUN**

713-965-0766

Jscurrie51@yahoo.com

Boards of the following Agencies of the Synod of the Sun are self-electing and are submitted to the assembly for Synod confirmation/affirmation.

Evergreen Presbyterian Ministries

John Taylor, President
2101 Highway 80
Haughton, LA 71037
318-949-5500

Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly

Rev Dick Powel, President
HC1, Box 158
Hunt, TX 78024-9711
830/238-4455

Texas Presbyterian Foundation Board of Trustees

Mr. Dan Klein, President
6100 Colwell Blvd, Suite 220
Irving, TX 75039
800/955-3155

University of the Ozarks

Dr. Richard Dunsworth, President
Clarksville, AR 72830
501/979-1242

Boards of the following Agencies of the Synod of the Sun are self-electing boards requiring no action by the Synod.

Austin College

Dr. Marjorie Hass, President
900 N. Grand Avenue
Sherman, TX 75090-4440
903/813-3001

Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

Theodore J. Wardlaw, President
100 E. 27th Street
Austin, TX 78705
512/472-6736

Goodland Presbyterian Children's Homes

Mr. David Dearing, Executive Director

**WORKING PAPER OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE
OF THE SYNOD OF THE SUN**

P.O. Box 1056
Hugo, OK 74743
580/326-7568

Presbyterian Children's Homes & Services

Mr. Ed Knight, President
4407 Bee Cave Road, #520
Austin, TX 78746-6405
512/476-1234

Schreiner University

Dr. Tim Summerlin, President
2100 Memorial Boulevard
Kerrville, TX 78028
830/896-5411

Trinity University

Dennis Ahlburg, President
One Trinity Place
San Antonio, TX 78212
210-999-8401

University of Tulsa

President Dr. Steadman Upham
600 S. College
Tulsa, OK 74104
918/631-2000

Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home and Family Services

Lyn Whaley, CEO
1501 N. University, #260
Little Rock, AR 72207
877-353-6430

ROSTER
Synod of the sun Permanent Judicial Commission

Members whose terms have expired (D-5.0206)

Class of 2013

Barbara Ware
1090 N. Rockcliff Rd.
Ponca City, OK 74604
580-765-7757

Melinda Veatch
2925 Alton Rd.
Fort Worth, TX 76109
817-737-5554 O
817-832-7915
melindav@tarrantareach.org

Nancy Chester McCranie
P.O. Box 787
McDade, TX 78650
512-342-4716 W
512-567-5527 C
nancymccranie@yahoo.com

Hill Kemp
122 Hardwood Ct.
Many, LA 71449
318-256-9793 H
318-315-1534 C
hillk@suns-river.com

Class of 2011

Bert Bronaugh
P.O. Box 22
Ballinger, TX 76821
325-265-9066
Bertsmail5@aol.com

Mr. Tom Myrick
P.O. Box 455
Benton, LA 71006
318-965-2533
tmyrick@bellsouth.net

Rev. Ted Roeling
12909 Old Hammond Hwy
Baton Rouge, LA 78016
225-275-1242 O
225-824-6206 H

Mr. Jim Shaw
100 Park Avenue #200
Oklahoma City, OK 73102
405-236-8541
jshaw@millerdollarhide.com

Class of 2009

Mr. Sam Highsmith
5524 Chevaux Court
Little Rock, AR 72223
501-367-9166 H
501-993-1289
shighsmith@comcast.net

Mr. Robert Lucy
2882 E. 29th ST.
Tulsa, OK 74114
918-712-1059
paldenl@aol.com

Ms. Barbara Taylor
5503 Berget
Amarillo, TX 79106
806-354-2561
crsstich@mail.com

Class of 2007

Rev. Joe Parker
Box 861480
Plano, TX 75086
214-349-6467 H
214-405-7083 C
josparker@sbcglobal.net

Mr. Scott Simpson
217 Northcrest Dr.
San Antonio, TX 78213
210-335-2823 O
210-509-0001 H
ssimpson@co.bexar.tx.us

Rev. Charlie Smith
400 West Fay
Kingfisher, OK 73750
405-375-3336 O
405-375-4623 H
405-368-4084 C
pastorchas@pldi.net

Rev. Dr. Belinda Windham
2726 Fontana Dr.
Houston, TX 77043-1716
713-334-7467 H
832-687-5786 C
revdoctress@aol.com

Personnel Policies & Procedures

SYNOD OF THE SUN

Personnel Policies

Overview

The synod is committed to the full use of the human potential of its staff through an open-partnership style of shared rights, responsibilities, and accountability. The synod will form and activate, through its coordinating team, a standing personnel committee consisting of five (5) members: two (2) members from governance working group, one (1) member from communications working group one (1) member from mission working group, and the synod moderator elect. The personnel committee moderator will be appointed by the coordinating team in consultation with the synod executive. The synod executive serves as staff resource to the personnel committee. The personnel policies of the synod are established by the synod and administered by the personnel committee. The personnel committee reports to the synod through the coordinating team.

The Personnel Committee will conduct its business with the following understandings and philosophy:

1. The committee will work in cooperation with the synod staff.
2. All committee members will respect confidentiality of information.
3. The committee will become informed from the synod staff as to:
 - a. work loads
 - b. staffing assignments
 - c. work effectiveness

Personnel Policies & Procedures

4. It is the responsibility of the committee to write job descriptions and personnel policies for approval by the synod. The committee may request assistance from appropriate working groups and staff in writing job descriptions.
5. The committee will annually provide information to the budget group and the coordinating team in the determination of annual salaries for the synod staff.
6. The committee will meet annually with the staff to listen and to offer support in order to facilitate healthy communication.
7. When a new synod executive is to be called, the personnel committee will be nominated along with the addition of as many persons as needed to insure the representative of each presbytery to serve as the slate for the search committee to be elected by the synod.
8. The term of membership on the Personnel Committee will be two (2) years, with the option of additional terms to assure continuity.
9. A quorum will be three (3) persons.

Personnel Policies & Procedures

GENERAL POLICIES

1. **Change in Policy:** The synod reserves the right to change any policy at any time, including those covered here. Changes will be dated and distributed to all employees.
2. **Employment Relationship:** Employment with Synod of the Sun is voluntary, and employees serve at will.
3. **Equal Employment Opportunity Policy:** The Synod of the Sun is an equal employment opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or age.
4. **Position Descriptions:** A position description is required for each position. The personnel committee will review these descriptions at least every two years. The committee will recommend any modification to the coordinating team after review.
5. **Annual Review:** All staff will receive an annual evaluation of their progress and performance. The head of staff will conduct such reviews. The head of staff will review these evaluations with the personnel committee.
6. **Confidentiality Policy:** Confidentiality will be respected.
7. **Employment Trial Period:** The first 90 days of employment constitute a trial period which gives both the employee and the supervisor the opportunity to evaluate interest in and qualifications for the position under actual working conditions. After the

Personnel Policies & Procedures

trial period, a written performance appraisal is discussed. Separation policies do not apply to employees working under a trial employment period.

8. **Safety:** The synod makes every effort to provide a safe working environment for all employees. Safety is everyone's responsibility. Therefore, the synod requests that employees do everything reasonable and necessary to keep the synod office a safe place to work.

EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

1. **Salaries:** The synod is committed to salary policies that provide fair pay for the work performed, incentives for personal achievement and growth, and flexibility to meet changes in duties and the cost of living. Salaries will normally be reviewed every 12 months. The synod executive will consult with the personnel committee which will make recommendations regarding staff salaries to the coordinating team and budget group.
2. **Pensions & Insurance:** Exempt staff and support staff are covered by Board of Pensions plan of the Presbyterian Church (USA) which includes health insurance and pension.
3. **Social Security:** All salaried and hourly employees are governed by the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (Social Security).
4. **Continuing Education:** Each support staff employee has five days per year, and each exempt staff employee has two weeks per year of continuing education.

Personnel Policies & Procedures

Funding is designated annually for participation in continuing education for the enhancement of skills used in their work or to be added to their responsibilities on the initiative of their supervisors and/or the synod executive.

Funding and the annual days allowed for continuing education may be accumulated for a period not to exceed three years.

Funding and time off to attend the annual Southwest Region conference of the Administrative Personnel Association (PCUSA) is granted to support employees. If work prevents employees from attending the regional conference, they may attend the national conference with the same time and funding as they would have used to attend the regional conference.

5. **Days Off:** Each full-time support staff employee works a 37.5 hour week. Specific days off will be selected with the approval of the synod executive and will ordinarily be the same days each week.
6. **Compensatory Time:** Support staff employees are to be compensated in time for time worked in addition to 37.5 hours a week, on an hour for hour basis. The office manager keeps the record of compensatory time requested and taken. The synod executive approves these requests. No more than 30 hours may be accrued for compensatory time.
7. **Vacation Days:** Exempt staff are entitled to four weeks of vacation. Full-time support staff are entitled to ten working days of vacation granted annually after one year of

Personnel Policies & Procedures

continuous service; after five years of service they will receive fifteen days of vacation annually. Half-time staff will have five paid days of vacation granted annually after one year of continuing service; after five years of service they will receive ten days of vacation annually. First year vacation is granted on a prorated basis based on hire month. Vacation may be granted one period at a time or a few days at a time, all to be charged to the total vacation leave. All vacation leave will be pre-arranged and approved by the synod executive. Vacation time will not be cumulative from year to year, though with the permission of the synod executive, vacation from one year may be used in the first quarter of the next year. Cash will not be paid in lieu of vacation except upon separation. Contract employees receive no vacation pay.

If an employee started in:	Full-time:	Part-time:
January	10.0 days/yr	5 days/yr.
February	9.0 days/yr.	4.5 days/yr.
March	8.0 days/yr.	4 days/yr.
April	7.5 days/yr.	3.5 days/yr.
May	6.5 days/yr.	3 days/yr.
June	6.0 days/yr.	2.5 days/yr.
July	5.0 days/yr.	2 days/yr.
August	4.0 days/yr.	2 days/yr.
September	3.0 days/yr.	1.5 days/yr.
October	2.5 days/yr.	1 days/yr.
November	1.5 days/yr.	.5 days/yr.
December	.5 days/yr.	0 days/yr.

Personnel Policies & Procedures

8. **Holidays:** The synod office is closed New Year's Eve Day, New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, President's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve Day, and Christmas Day. If a holiday falls on Saturday, Sunday or other day when office is closed, the head of staff will determine which alternate days will be observed as holidays. If the holiday falls within a vacation period, the additional time may be added to the vacation time with the approval of the head of staff. Contract employees will not receive holiday pay.
9. **Personal Leave:** To reduce the impact of loss of income during a major illness of themselves or a family member, each full-time staff member will receive 10 working days of personal leave during each calendar year to be used in case of illness. Personal leave will be cumulative from year to year, but will not exceed 120 working days. Personal leave entitlement during the first year of employment will be prorated based on hire month. Each half-time staff member will receive five days of personal leave per calendar year; this time will be cumulative from year to year, but will not exceed 120 working days. Personal leave pay is based on the employee's average daily rate. At the time of termination of employment, either voluntary or involuntary an employee will have no claim for pay in lieu of unused sick leave. Contract employees will not receive any sick leave.

If an employee started in:	Full-time:	Part-time:
January	10.0 days/yr	40 hours/yr.
February	9.0 days/yr.	36 hours/yr
March	8.0 days/yr.	32 hours/yr
April	7.5 days/yr.	30 hours/yr

Personnel Policies & Procedures

May	6.5 days/yr.	26 hours/yr.
June	6.0 days/yr.	24 hours/yr.
July	5.0 days/yr.	20 hours/yr.
August	4.0 days/yr.	16 hours/yr.
September	3.0 days/yr.	12 hours/yr.
October	2.5 days/yr.	10 hours/yr.
November	1.5 days/yr.	6 hours/yr.
December	.5 days/yr.	2 hours/yr.

10. Administrative Leave:

a. A maximum of one week of leave with pay will be given in the event of the death of a member of the employee's immediate family.

b. In the event an employee is called for jury duty, regular salary will be paid for the time served. If the absence of the employee will seriously affect the operation of the office, postponement of the jury duty may be requested of the court.

c. The head of staff may declare the office closed because of inclement weather. Employees may be compensated without reporting to work. If the office is not declared closed, employees failing to come to work will be expected to make up the lost time within that pay period or suffer loss of compensation for time.

d. Military leave will be granted in accordance with the law. Upon presentation of a military pay voucher, employees will be reimbursed for the difference between their normal compensation and the pay they receive while on such military training duty,

Personnel Policies & Procedures

up to a maximum of 20 calendar days a year. In addition, employees returning from active military service who apply for re-employment, and who comply with their obligations under USERRA, may return to employment as provided for in that statute and its accompanying regulations.

- 11. Leave without pay:** Requests for leave without pay may be made to the synod executive and will be considered on an individual basis.
- 12. Workers Compensation:** The synod carries insurance to cover the cost of work-incurred injury or illness. To be assured of maximum coverage, the employee must immediately report work-related accidents to his/her supervisor so that appropriate action can be taken to file timely claims.
- 13. Cafeteria Plan:** Employees may designate a portion of their salary to be placed in a cafeteria plan for the purpose of covering medical expenses not covered by insurance. To receive reimbursement for medical expenses, employees are to provide validation (receipts) of expenses. Employees forfeit any monies remaining in the fund at the end of the fiscal year. Monies may not be carried over to a subsequent year.

SEPARATION POLICIES

1. Exempt staff are expected to give 30 calendar days notice prior to leaving employment of the church and all other employees are expected to give 14 calendar day's notice prior to leaving.

Personnel Policies & Procedures

2. **Reduction in Force:** In the event that reduction of staff is necessary through no fault of the employee, written notice of separation will be given 30 calendar days in advance. In the event notice is not given, employees will be given a minimum of 20 working days of severance pay.

3. **Dismissal:** Dismissal will be by the head of staff in conversation with the moderator of the personnel committee.

GRIEVANCE POLICY

Any employee who feels he/she has a grievance will discuss the problem first with his/her immediate supervisor. If the grievance is not resolved, the head of staff will be consulted. If this discussion does not result in solution of the problem, the matter will then be taken to the personnel committee. These lines of communication will be respected; and employment difficulties will not be discussed with individual members of the synod.

Revised by Personnel Committee: 2009

Approved by Synod of the Sun: November 2009

Personnel Policies & Procedures

Addition to the proposed Personnel Policies as written in the plenary packet. – approved, Nov. 2009

The Statement below is intended to be considered as a part of the Personnel Policy presented by the Synod's Personnel Writing Team for approval by the Synod.

Sexual Misconduct and Sexual Harassment:

It is the policy of the Synod of the Sun to maintain a workplace free of any form of sexual misconduct or intimidation, including sexual harassment, by any Synod employees, including supervisors, or by non-employee work contacts. Should allegations of sexual misconduct be made, they will be fully and fairly investigated. Corrective or disciplinary action, which may include dismissal from employment, will be taken as warranted.

Standing Rules

1. Mission Statement

Mission Statement: The Synod of the Sun of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) serves Christ by connecting, equipping, and empowering Presbyterians for Christ's mission within and beyond the Synod's bounds.

This mission will be accomplished through:

1. **CONNECTING** Presbyterians.

a. **Networks:** The synod helps to create, encourage, facilitate, and provide financial assistance for networks of people engaged in similar ministries. The networks enable relationships and mission opportunities which are not possible within a single presbytery. These networks provide opportunities for peer learning, support, and new mission initiatives. The synod develops covenant relationships with each network through consultation with a Synod Network Team and the use of a Synod Network Planning Guide.

Network participants are responsible for planning and implementing the activities sponsored by the networks. The Synod Co-leaders help to organize, shepherd, and nurture the networks as needed or requested. Some networks sponsor conferences or other events to further their common ministry. The synod helps to finance the networks to the extent funds are available and in accordance with the mission and priorities established by the synod.

b. **Institutions:** The synod maintains current covenant relationships and establishes new covenants with Presbyterian-related institutions such as schools, colleges, universities, and service organizations who wish to be connected to Presbyterians within the synod and who wish to emphasize Presbyterian faith and heritage.

2. **COMMUNICATING** among Presbyterians. The synod works to develop effective means for interpreting Presbyterian mission, communicating mission opportunities, gathering Presbyterians together in regional educational events, and publicizing activities sponsored by presbyteries, synod-related networks and institutions. The goal is to strengthen connectionalism within the synod, presbyteries and congregations. Possible means to achieve this mission include:

- a. E-newsletters and an interactive website
- b. Brochures and other promotional material
- c. Social networking media
- d. Regional (or statewide) educational events

3. **COORDINATING** resources, endowments, grants and scholarships. The synod has been authorized by a number of endowments as the agent to disburse funds for designated purposes (as restricted by the donors), and to use funds from undesignated endowments. The Mission Grants and Scholarship Commission works to distribute the interest from endowments and other designated funds in accordance with recorded donor designations.

4. **CARRYING OUT** Book of Order required functions. Guided by the Stated Clerk, the synod will fulfill all required duties as listed in the Form of Government, G-3.0101 – G-3.0113 and G-3.0401 – G-3.0406, and the Rules of Discipline. Disciplinary functions are accomplished through the Permanent Judicial Commission. Other functions are accomplished through the synod's continuing support and coordination of groups and events including, for example, the Executive Presbyter Forum, COM/CPM Event, Staff Convocation, and Presbytery Stated Clerks gathering and continued education opportunities.

Standing Rules

2. Synod Assembly

The Synod Assembly will seek to establish policies that benefit the synod as a whole.

The Synod Assembly will be responsible for itself and its membership through regular self-evaluation, and discipline as well as commissioner orientation and development.

The Coordinating Team is made up of the Synod Moderator, Moderator-elect, and Standing Committee Moderator(s) with Synod Co-leaders as resource. Synod Co-leaders will have voice and no vote.

The Coordinating Team, without staff members, will act as the Personnel Committee.

The agenda of each Synod Assembly meeting, as planned by the Coordinating Team, will contain time for gathering in community, celebration of the Lord's Supper, worship, and study. The first meeting of each year should have a component for orientation of new commissioners.

Between synod gatherings, committee, task force and work team meetings will be conducted via **conference telephone call or other electronic means** – unless circumstances require a face-to-face meeting. The committees, task forces, and work teams will ordinarily meet during stated meetings of the Synod Assembly.

To ensure appropriate focus of resources and accountability the synod will adopt objectives annually. The Coordinating Team will draft the first set of objectives covering a three-year period. In subsequent years a committee assigned or appointed by the Moderator shall report to the first assembly of the year an evaluation of the synod's progress on the objectives of the past year, any recommended adjustments to the objectives for the next two years, and proposed objectives for the new third year. In this way the synod will always have a plan of action for three years into the future that is clear, flexible, and realistic.

3. Commissioners and Representatives

Commissioners serve as leaders and missionaries of the synod. They are to seek and to discern the will of Christ, interpret the mission and actions of the synod, and serve the needs of the denomination in the region and member presbyteries.

Commissioners, in taking action as the full Synod Assembly, speak with one voice. It is expected that while not all actions will be unanimous, the decisions of the body will be respected and supported by all. One voice ensures clarity of purpose and direction.

Commissioners are the direct link to constituent presbyteries and will maintain regular communication with the presbytery for which they serve. Whenever possible, commissioners will obtain time on their presbytery's docket in order to provide a report of the work of the synod. Where a personal report is not possible, a written report will be provided for publication.

Much of the work of synod is conducted primarily through email, conference calls, and web conferencing between Synod Assemblies.

Every commissioner serves on one of two Standing Committees (Stewardship or Connecting). Additional opportunities for service are in subcommittees, commissions, and teams or task forces.

Standing Rules

Commissioners, while offering their gifts, skills, and abilities to the work of Synod, will avoid conflicts of interest in exercising their fiduciary responsibility.

Co-opted and corresponding members, as well as synod staff, offer a unique perspective of the execution of the synod's mission. They will have voice and vote in the work of committees, and will have voice but no vote in Synod Assembly.

4. Commissions and Committees

Members of a Synod Committee or Commission (with the exception of the Permanent Judicial Commission) may, in addition to elected commissioners, include persons co-opted for particular skills or service.

Synod will strive for inclusive representation in matters of cultural diversity, ordination, and wherever possible, presbytery representation in all working bodies.

Each commissioner and corresponding member serves on either the Stewardship or Connecting Committee based upon his/her input of personal discernment, and in conjunction with the needs of those committees. The Stated Clerk and Moderator shall designate committee assignments prior to the spring meeting of the Assembly.

Any working body of the synod shall include at least one Synod Commissioner.

Stewardship Committee is charged with the development and oversight of a stewardship component which seeks to expand funds available for synod mission.

Committee on Representation is charged with the implementation of the Report of the 2011 Task Force for Cross Cultural Implementation and duties related to G-3.0103.

- The Synod shall elect a Committee on Representation consisting of six members, each serving a three-year term. Members need not be Synod Commissioners.
- The committee shall consist of three classes except where initial classes of one- and two-year terms are necessary to establish regular rotation.
- Committee members shall be elected to no more than two consecutive terms.
- The Committee on Representation shall consist of equal numbers of men and women representing a minimum of 4 presbyteries. A majority of the members shall be selected from the racial ethnic groups within the Synod.

Connecting Committee is charged with review and oversight of synod mission programs, networks, and other items as outlined in the by-laws.

The synod may designate additional committees to operate in addition to and in consultation with Connecting, Stewardship, and Representation, on an ad hoc or permanent basis. These may include:

- Finance
- Communication
- Recruitment
- Covenant Review Teams
- Development

Standing Rules

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

Permanent Judicial Commission

The Permanent Judicial Commission is charged with exercising judicial process in accordance with the Rules of Discipline. It shall consist of eleven members, elected and constituted in accordance with the Rules of Discipline. The Stated Clerk shall provide for the regular training of commission members.

Grants & Scholarships Commission

Reviews grants and scholarships from those designated funds belonging to, or within the charge of the Synod in accordance with policy established and maintained within the Synod's Manual of Operations.

The Commission is made up of eight Synod Commissioners, five from Connecting and three from Stewardship. The Commission has the ability to co-opt members when needed.

Network Development Team

Works directly with groups and organizations submitting a Synod Network Planning Guide and makes recommendations for endorsement as a Synod Network.

5. Officers and Staff

The office of Moderator-elect/Moderator rotates among the eleven constituent presbyteries, wherever possible, alphabetically.

A Synod Moderator-elect is nominated by the Synod Recruitment Committee, in consultation with the presbytery in rotation, and elected in the fall prior to the beginning of the one-year term.

Installation of the Moderator ordinarily occurs at the end of the fall meeting prior to the beginning of that one-year term.

Moderator Responsibilities:

- moderating all Assembly meetings;
- moderating all Coordinating Team meetings;
- moderating the Personnel Committee;
- appointing, and at times serving on, any Task Forces, Teams or Commissions that are deemed necessary by the Assembly for dealing with needs beyond that outlined for Synod Committees;
- representing the Synod at events beyond Assembly meetings as may be appropriate;
- serving on either the Connecting or Stewardship Committee as agreed with the Moderator-elect so that each committee has an elected officer;
- With the Moderator-elect, reviewing and approving the minutes of Assembly meetings as prepared by the Stated Clerk.

Moderator-elect Responsibilities:

- moderating the Assembly and/or Coordinating Team when the Moderator is unavailable;
- serving on the Coordinating Team;
- being Vice Moderator of the Personnel Committee;

Standing Rules

- at times serving on any appointed groups of the Synod that are deemed necessary by the Assembly for dealing with needs beyond that outlined for Synod Committees;
- representing the Synod at events beyond Assembly meetings as may be appropriate;
- serving on either the Connecting or Stewardship Committee as agreed with the Moderator so that each committee has an elected officer;
- with the Moderator, reviewing and approving the minutes of Assembly meetings as prepared by the Stated Clerk.

Current synod staff includes a Stated Clerk/Co-leader for Administration; Co-leader for Mission & Partnership; and (volunteer) Assistant Stated Clerk.

Synod shall have a current Personnel Manual, with position descriptions, included in the Synod's Manual of Operations and updated as necessary.

6. Trustees

Description and election of the Synod Trustees is outlined in section 6 of the Bylaws.

7. Bylaws

The Synod Bylaws and Standing Rules will be reviewed regularly and amended as needed.

The Synod Moderator will appoint a task force at least every five years to review and update the Mission Statement, Bylaws, and Standing Rules.

8. Finance

Budget Guidelines

- a. Mission Contributions from Presbyteries are normally retained in an interest bearing account during the year received and withdrawn at a rate of 25% of the year's total per quarter during the following year (i.e. funds received in 2013 are used to meet budgetary needs in 2014)
- b. The Stewardship Committee will normally present a budget based on projected income to the full assembly at the fall meeting. At the winter/spring meeting any necessary adjustments will be made and approved by the assembly.
- c. Unless otherwise specified all gifts received (undesignated, designated as general mission or administration), other than Presbytery mission support, will be applied to income during the year in which they were received.

The synod will conduct an annual, professional, external financial audit.

Synod grants shall be disbursed only to organizations that conduct annual financial reviews or formal audits. The synod may require copies of these financial reviews or audits. All scholarships are ordinarily paid directly to the event or institution.

Standing Rules

The synod receives interest from endowments some of which are unrestricted in their use and some restricted for specific grants and scholarships. Other synod income includes presbytery mission contributions, church, and individual contributions. The synod will provide complete and accurate reporting to include budget and financial statements for the synod, as well as those ministries for which the synod provides financial oversight, reflecting all restricted and unrestricted funds, at each assembly meeting, to the Coordinating Team at least quarterly and may at the discretion of the Coordinating Team, provide such information to others upon request.

These Standing Rules may be amended as needed at any Stated Synod meeting by simple majority vote.

Approved by Synod Assembly, Nov. 2, 2013

Revised by Synod Assembly, Nov. 1, 2014

Network Team Policies

I. Composition of the Networks Team

A. The Networks Team will be composed of seven people appointed by the Moderator of the Connecting Committee. Three should be commissioners to the Synod of the Sun; others may be co-opted members. Every effort will be made to include representatives of racial-ethnic minorities within the synod. One member shall be a representative of an existing or previous network. The Synod Co-leader for Mission and Partnership is an ex officio member of the Networks Team with voice but not vote.

B. The members of the team shall elect their own moderator.

C. The appointment of the members will take place annually at the spring meeting of the synod. While there is no mandatory term limit, the Connecting Moderator will appoint members based on their abilities and willingness to serve.

II. Steps in the Approval Process for New Networks

A. The document by which a potential network applies to become an official Synod Network is the Network Planning Guide. It serves as the application.

B. When a potential network submits a completed Planning Guide, the Co-leader for Administration will forward it by email to the Networks Team and set up a conference call to discuss it.

C. At the conference call meeting the Team will set up a plan for building a relationship with the proposed network. Two members of the team will be assigned to make personal contact with the proposed network leaders. In supporting the development of a network the Team may

1. Gather more information
2. Support the proposed network in identifying and taking its next steps
3. Identify and recommend other resources
4. Help refine the final covenant to define the relationship of the Network and the Synod.

D. When all members of the Team are satisfied that they are prepared, the Team will vote on its recommendation and forward it to the Connecting Committee for information and placement on the agenda for the next regular meeting of the synod.

E. The synod votes whether to enter into the covenant and endorse the plan as a Synod Network.

Network Team Policies

III. Finances

While the Networks Team may offer funding recommendations to the Synod for proposed or continuing Synod Networks, the Synod is ultimately responsible for all allocation of funds to endorsed Networks. These funds may be used for three functions:

A. Exploration. Some portion of the annual budget will be available for potential networks to use, as approved by the Team, for exploring their mission. An example would be to cover expenses for a needed face-to-face meeting of possible participants.

B. Formation. Some disbursement of funds may be recommended for approval by the Synod at the time the Team recommends establishment of a new Synod Network as part of the synod's participation in the Network.

C. The Network Team may recommend, and the synod may approve, a commitment to fund an endorsed Network into a second year. This would be contingent upon submission of the Follow-up section of the Planning Guide and would ordinarily be funded through the Network Nurture line item.

Grants & Scholarships Commission Meeting Policy

The Grants and Scholarships Commission will ordinarily meet by telephone conference call quarterly in the month following each financial/calendar quarter; that is in April, July, October, and January.

When the commission receives scholarship applications that are time-sensitive between meetings, it may consider and act on those by email.

Because funds accrue quarterly, the Commission will ordinarily aim to award no more than ¼ of funds from the synod annual budget at the first meeting of the year, with any unawarded funds rolling over to subsequent quarters, though it will also necessarily consider extraordinary situations and the pace of applications received.

Rationale:

We are committed to making the very best use we can, with God's help, of the resources available to the Synod of the Sun, both of money and time. We have been concerned specifically with the need to "pace ourselves" with the awarding of available funds for Mission Grants and Network Grants which come from the annual Synod budget. We want to make sure that projects considered early in the year, when the available totals look high both to applicants and even to ourselves, do not have an unfair advantage over those that come in later in the year. We think slowing down the schedule of our meetings and disciplining ourselves to consider the synod mission and network grants in quarterly installments will help us ensure fairness. Funds from synod endowments already accrue on a quarterly basis. To give plenty of advance notice of this change, we expect to begin the new policy in 2014.

We realize that there is a need for follow-up on applications either because information is missing or because further background data would be helpful. Those who are willing have volunteered to take turns, two per quarter, making follow-up telephone calls or emails to complete applications and gather needed background information. Quarterly meetings will allow us more flexibility to complete these tasks.

Finally, we are also concerned to be good stewards of staff and volunteer time. We think we can work more efficiently and thoughtfully, keeping the big picture in view, in longer quarterly meetings than in monthly meetings.

SYNOD OF THE SUN BYLAWS

Approved on May 21, 2013, during the Synod's Stated Meeting in Irving, Texas.

Revised (Sec. 3) Nov. 2013

Revised (Sec.4) Feb. 2014

1. Mission Statement

- 1.1 The Synod of the Sun is a council of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) that connects Presbyterians engaged in similar ministries, communicates Presbyterian mission opportunities, and coordinates resources in order to advance Christ's mission in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas.
- 1.2 The Synod will focus on ministries which are beyond the capability of a single presbytery and best accomplished by a regional body.
- 1.3 The Synod of the Sun serves the following Presbyteries located in the four states of Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas: Arkansas, Cimarron, Eastern Oklahoma, Grace, Indian Nations, Mission, New Covenant, Palo Duro, Pines, South Louisiana, and Tres Rios.
- 1.4 All Synod entities are encouraged to find creative ways to further the mission of Jesus Christ within the bounds of the Synod.

2. Synod Assembly

- 2.1 The Synod Assembly shall gather in stated meetings twice a year.
- 2.2 The Synod shall provide for a Coordinating Team to carry out the necessary business of the Assembly between plenary meetings.
- 2.3 The Moderator shall call a special assembly at the request or with the concurrence of four currently elected teaching elder commissioners and four currently elected ruling elder commissioners representing at least four presbyteries. Notice of a special assembly shall be sent no fewer than thirty days prior to the date of the special assembly and shall set out the purpose of the meeting. No other business than that listed in the notice shall be transacted.

3. Commissioners and Representatives

- 3.1 The Synod Assembly shall consist of twenty-six (26) Commissioners. One half shall be ruling elders and one half shall be teaching elders.

SYNOD OF THE SUN

BYLAWS

- 3.1.1 Twenty-two commissioners shall be elected by the eleven presbyteries of the Synod. Each presbytery shall elect one teaching elder commissioner and one ruling elder commissioner, in alternating years, for a three-year term.
- 3.1.2 Four commissioners (two ruling elders and two teaching elders from four different presbyteries) shall be elected as at-large commissioners to represent racial-ethnic constituencies. The Nominating Committee shall make recommendations for at-large commissioners at the fall stated meeting. At-large commissioners are elected by the Assembly.
- 3.2 Commissioners shall serve for three-year terms and may serve no more than two consecutive terms. Terms for commissioners shall begin in January and conclude in December. If a commissioner is elected to fulfill an unexpired term, the term shall begin upon the commissioner's election.
- 3.3 The Assembly may seat Corresponding Members with voice, but not vote, at its discretion.
- 3.4 Executive/General Presbyters within the bounds of the Synod (unless duly elected as a commissioner) shall be seated as corresponding members of the Synod with voice and no vote in the Assembly and committees.
- 3.5 The Synod may co-opt non-voting members for committees or commissions if its mission strategy requires it. Co-opted members shall be enrolled at stated and special assembly meetings as corresponding members with voice and no vote.

4. Commissions and Committees

- 4.1 The Assembly carries out its work through three standing committees (Connecting, Stewardship and Representation) and one commission (Permanent Judicial). Other commissions and committees may be appointed by the Assembly as required. Membership of all commissions and committees shall be in compliance with the most recent edition of the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Assembly may assign additional responsibilities to the standing committees.
- 4.2 The Connecting Committee shall be responsible for: maintaining and renewing covenant partnerships; oversight of mission networks and recommending the formation of mission networks to carry out the ministry of the Synod; interpretation of the mission and ministry of the Synod; coordination of synod-wide events (i.e. Synod Youth Workshop, etc.); serving as the Nominating Committee for the Synod; administering grant and scholarship programs.
- 4.3 The Stewardship Committee shall be responsible for: proposing a budget for the Synod; oversight of the budget of the Synod; oversight of Synod property including office space, records storage, computers and office equipment; relations with other

SYNOD OF THE SUN BYLAWS

councils of the church; coordination with the Synod of the Sun Foundation and the Texas Presbyterian Foundation; implementing and maintaining effective communication to further the Synod's mission and programs.

- 4.4 The Committee on Representation shall be maintained in accordance with the requirements of the most recent edition of the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
- 4.5 Commission Powers: The Assembly may at its discretion grant the powers of a commission to standing committees to ensure the efficient functioning of the Synod between assembly meetings.
- 4.6 The Permanent Judicial Commission shall function in accordance with the most recent edition of the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

5. Officers and Staff

- 5.1 The officers of the Synod shall be the Moderator, Moderator-elect and the Stated Clerk.
- 5.2 The Synod shall elect one of its commissioners for a two year term as Moderator-Elect/ Moderator. The elected commissioner shall serve one year as Moderator-Elect and the following year as Moderator.
- 5.3 The Stated Clerk shall be elected by the Synod.
- 5.4 The Synod shall employ two Co-Leaders who shall be a resource to all the entities of the Synod in their respective areas of responsibility.
- 5.5 The Synod may elect or employ other staff as is determined to be needed to support the mission and ministry of the Synod.

6. Trustees

- 6.1 The Synod Assembly shall elect four commissioners to serve as Trustees, one each from Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas, for a two-year term, to serve no more than three consecutive two-year terms.
- 6.2 The Trustees shall be responsible for carrying out instructions from the Synod regarding transactions involving the properties of the Synod, title to which is vested in the Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Church (USA), a Texas Corporation.

SYNOD OF THE SUN BYLAWS

7. Bylaws

- 7.1 Bylaws shall be amended and approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the commissioners present during a duly called synod assembly.
- 7.2 Proposals for amendments shall be made available to commissioners thirty days prior to the synod assembly during which a vote will be called for on such amendment.
- 7.3 Bylaws may be suspended by two-thirds of the commissioners present and voting during a duly called synod assembly.
- 7.4 Sections 7.1, 7.2 and 7.4 may not be suspended.

8. Authority

- 8.1 The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) shall supersede any part of these bylaws deemed to be in conflict with the Constitution. If upon action of the General Assembly the Synod of the Sun is no longer a council of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), this provision shall be null and void.

Index

A

Attachment A 1, 5, 6, 5
 Attachment B 4, 24, 9, 21
 Attachment C 4, 26, 10, 24
 Attachment D 5, 30, 10, 30
 Attachment E 5, 37, 10, 33
 Attachment F 5, 38, 10, 34
 Attachment G 5, 39, 10, 38
 Attachment H 6, 40, 11, 40
 Attachment I 11, 48
 Attachment J 11, 49
 Attachment K 11, 56
 Attachment L 12, 57
 Attachment M 12, 58
 Attachment N 12, 60
 Attachment O 12, 19, 65
 Austin College 42, 53, 94
 Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary 6, 12, 60, 64, 92, 94
 Austin Seminary 43, 7, 9, 12, 53, 60, 61, 62, 65, 66, 73

B

Boundary Consultation 10, 14, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37
 budget 4, 5, 6, 24, 11, 22, 48, 52, 53, 54, 56, 62, 70, 98, 100, 113, 115, 116, 119
Budget 39, 40, 41, 11, 48, 49, 50, 56, 112
 bylaws 4, 24, 12, 21, 89, 120
 Bylaws 1, 3, 4, 18, 25, 42, 89, 112, 120

C

Co-leader 1, 6, 1, 3, 9, 10, 19, 29, 112, 114
 Committee on Representation 3, 5, 37, 38, 9, 10, 12, 23, 84, 110, 119
 Connecting Committee 4, 5, 24, 38, 45, 1, 5, 6, 7, 12, 16, 17, 110, 114, 118
 Consultation Process 10, 33
 Coordinating Team 3, 4, 6, 24, 45, 1, 9, 12, 18, 19, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 51, 56, 81, 109, 111, 112, 113, 117
 Corresponding 2
 Covenant 1, 2, 3, 31, 38, 42, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 40, 41, 43, 46, 47, 52, 53, 54, 60, 63, 75, 77, 82, 91, 92, 111, 117
 COVENANT 30, 33, 40, 60, 61, 92

E

Evergreen 38, 43, 54, 92, 94

F

Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center 10, 30, 32

G

Goodland academy 43, 54
 Grants & Scholarships Commission 12, 70, 72, 111, 116

H

History Society of SW 43, 54

I

Insurance 40, 12, 48, 50, 57, 100

L

Lyon College 42, 16, 53, 75, 93

M

Mid Council Commission II 10
 Mo Ranch 2, 43, 54
 Moderator 1, 4, 5, 6, 25, 36, 37, 45, 46, 47, 1, 3, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 29, 32, 47, 68, 69, 87, 89, 109, 110, 111, 112, 114, 117, 119

N

Network 38, 42, 12, 52, 65, 66, 108, 111, 114, 115, 116
 Nominating Committee 4, 5, 24, 12, 16, 17, 65, 82, 84, 86, 87, 118

P

Pan American School 3, 5, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 43, 16, 53, 74, 75, 91, 92
 Permanent Judicial Commission 21, 87, 108, 110, 111, 119
 Personnel Policies 97, 107
 Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services 9, 10, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 65, 74
 Presbyterian Foundation of Louisiana 17, 93
 Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest 17, 93

Index

PRESBYTERIAN PAN AMERICAN SCHOOL 30, 33, 91

R

Resignation 45, 47

S

Schreiner University 42, 15, 53, 95

Solar Under the Sun 39, 42, 30, 52, 89

Standing Rules 30, 11, 18, 48, 56, 108, 112, 113

Stated Clerk's Report 9, 21

Stated Meeting 1, 6, 41, 3, 5, 19, 48, 50, 117

Stewardship Committee 4, 5, 24, 38, 39, 45, 5, 6, 7, 11, 48, 56, 110, 112, 113, 119

Synod of the Sun Presbyterian Foundation 15, 89

Synod Youth Workshop 4, 24, 39, 43, 54, 73, 118

T

Texas Presbyterian Foundation 4, 24, 17, 54, 93, 94, 119

Texas Presbyterian Foundation Board of Trustees 17, 94

Trinity University 3, 42, 6, 7, 9, 11, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 46, 47, 53, 65, 92, 95

TRINITY UNIVERSITY 40

Trustees 31, 32, 35, 36, 14, 25, 26, 27, 29, 40, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46, 60, 61, 63, 64, 88, 89, 91, 93, 112, 119, 120

Tulsa University 42, 53

U

University of Ozarks 42, 53

University of the Ozarks 15, 94

V

Vera Lloyd Home & Family 43, 54, 77

W

Worship 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 11, 19, 22, 46, 8, 19