

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

137th General Assembly
Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America



Meeting
June 6-8, 2011
at the
Sheraton Dallas-Downtown
Dallas, Texas 75201

The Reverend Elton Hall, *Moderator*
Elder Lewis Leon Cole, *Vice Moderator*
The Reverend Dr. Theodis Acklin, *Stated Clerk*
Elder Stephanie Gilkes, *Acting Engrossing Clerk*

The 137th General Assembly
of the
Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America
Sheraton Dallas-Downtown
Dallas, Texas 75201
June 6-8, 2011

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

The following SUMMARY is a brief description of the actions taken by the 137th General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, June 6-8, 2011. This SUMMARY is not intended to be nor is it, the authoritative document for guiding the church's actions. The intent is to summarize the work of the General Assembly. The General Assembly MINUTES serve as that authority. Note: These actions are the result of the presented and adopted reports of standing board/committees and select committees of the General Assembly and not the minutes. This is a SUMMARY OF ACTIONS ONLY. This SUMMARY is provided as a courtesy of the General Assembly.

The 137th General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, meeting June 6-8, 2011 accomplished the following actions:

Host: Brazos River Presbytery

Host Moderator: The Rev. Elton Hall

Theme: *"What Type of Soil Are You?"*

Scripture: Luke 8:4-15

Organizational Matters:

1. GENERAL ASSEMBLY WAS CONSTITUTED with 49 commissioners, and 3 Youth Advisory Delegates.
2. NATIONAL CHURCH YEAR THEME: *"What Type of Soil are You?"* Luke 8:4-15
3. HEARD OPENING WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION, presented by Moderator, The Rev. Elton Hall, Monday, June 6, 2011.
4. ACKNOWLEDGED the presence of and RECEIVED Dr. Jay Earheart - Brown, President of Memphis Theological Seminary; The Rev. Dr. Debra Matthews, from the Memphis Theological Seminary, Memphis, TN; Rev. Steve Mosley of the CPC Theology & Social Concerns Unified Committee; Chaplain Ed Brogan, Director, Presbyterian Council for Chaplains and Military

Personnel, The Rev. Kevin Henson of the Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home in Denton, TX and Dr. Michael Qualls, Director of Programs of Alternate Studies of CP.

5. **PARTICIPATED** in the Moderator's Reception, Monday, June 6, 2011.
6. **ELECTIONS:** Re-elected Rev. Elton Hall, Moderator (Brazos River Presbytery); Elected Rev. William Robinson, Vice Moderator (Huntsville Presbytery), Re-elected The Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin Stated Clerk (Alabama Synod), Elected the Rev. Lela Fencher as Engrossing Clerk, (Alabama Synod)
7. **RECEIVED** excellent hospitality from the host – Brazos River Presbytery. Expressed words of gratitude to the Brazos Presbytery and its Moderator, the Rev. Elton Hall and other committee members.
8. **AFFIRMED** the meeting of the 138th General Assembly to convene in Huntsville, AL, June 4-7, 2012, Tennessee Valley Presbytery will serve as host. The 139th GA meeting will be held in 2014, hosted by the Hiwasee Presbytery.
9. **AFFIRMED** the words of the Moderator's Report, The Rev. Elton Hall.
10. **AFFIRMED** the words of the Vice Moderator's Report, The Elder Leon Cole
11. **AFFIRMED** the words of the Stated Clerk's Report, The Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin
12. **AFFIRMED** the words of the Administrative Director's Report, The Rev. Dr. Lynne Herring.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Theological and Social Concerns:

ACCEPTED the report after discussion. Motion carried.

Christian Education:

ACCEPTED the report of the Christian Education Committee. Motion carried.

Received Dr. J. Earheart-Brown, President, Memphis Theological Seminary, who presented Dr. G.Lynne Herring with a gift from the Memphis Theological Seminary for serving as a member of the Board of Trustees for nine years.

Permanent Board of Judiciary:

Modified the Administrative Director's contract for 3 years by vote of **Yes, 33, No, 3, and Abstain 1.** Copies of the Administrative Director's contract were distributed to each presbytery (16 copies).

Mission and Evangelism

ACCEPTED the report from the Mission and Evangelism Committee. Recognized Dr. Nancy Fuqua regarding the Cumberland Flag.

Executive Board Review

AFFIRMED by a vote of Yes, 30, No, 15 to meet biannually with the GAEB working out the logistics and all information in the hands of the commissioners to the GA 90 days prior to the convening of the GA and to amend the Standing Rule General Rule #1, pg. 8, to reflect the meeting change to biannually.

Finance and Budget Distribution

ADOPTED the report of the Finance and Distribution Committee.

Judiciary and Memorial

ADOPTED the report with an amendment to exclude from the vote *biannual meetings and leadership conference*.

Memorial service was conducted.

The Alabama Synod asked to submit record book to the GAEB for review by the Permanent Board of Judiciary due to transition of documents from the former Stated Clerk to the newly elected Stated Clerk.

Nominating Committee

ADOPTED the report of the Nominating Committee.

GAEB: No nominations from the floor. Motion carried

GAMB: No nominations from the floor. Motion carried

CPCA Trustees of Historical Foundation: Submitted Elder Dorothy Hayden, Birmingham Presbytery

Permanent Board of Judiciary: Elder Cecilia Bowden, New Hopewell Presbytery.

Unified Committee on Theological and Social Concerns: Rev. Dr. Nancy Fuqua

School of Continuing Education: Rev. Stanley Miller, Texas Synod and Rev. LaRuth Jefferson, Kentucky Synod.

Historical Foundation Board of Trustees: Elder Dorothy Hayden, Birmingham Presbytery

Cumberland Flag: Encouraged everyone to subscribe to the Cumberland Flag. The position of Editor remains open for applications for all who express an interest in applying.

RECEIVED the Resolution of Thanks to be presented to the Brazos River Presbytery.

ADOPTED the minutes as read by the Acting Engrossing Clerk, Elder Stephanie Gilkes and commended her for a job well done.


Shodis M.
Stated Clerk, GA

ROLL:
137th General Assembly Commissioners and YAD's

Attendance:

		<i>General Assembly Business Session</i>		
		6/6/2011 2:00 p.m.	6/7/2011 2:00 p.m.	6/8/2011 8:00 a.m.
<i>GA Officials</i>				
Rev. Elton Hall	Moderator	P	P	P
Elder Lewis Leon Cole	Vice Moderator	P	P	P
Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin	Stated Clerk	P	P	P
Elder Stephanie S. Gilkes	Engrossing Clerk	P	P	P
Rev. Dr. Lynne Herring	Administrative Director	P	P	P
Mr. Nick Underwood	Attorney	P	P	P
<i>Voting Membership</i>				
<i>Presbytery</i>	<i>Commissioners</i>			
Angelina	Rev. Robert E. Thomas	P	P	P
	Elder Polly Christopher	P	T	A
Birmingham	Rev. Albert Hicks, Jr.	P	P	T
	Elder Dorothy Hayden	P	P	P
Brazos River	Rev. Joan Fields	P	P	P
	Rev. William Greenwell	P	P	P
	Elder Arthur Haywood	P	P	P
	Elder Fred Watley	P	P	P
Cleveland Ohio	Rev. LaRuth Jefferson	P	P	P
	Elder Leon Cole	P	P	P
East Texas	Rev. Kay Ward-Creer	P	P	P
	Elder Thomas Ward	P	T	P
Elk River	Rev. Dr. Rosemary Herron	P	P	P
	Elder Michael Cooper	P	P	P
Florence	Rev. Dr. Nancy Fuqua	P	P	P
	Rev. Docary Ingram	P	P	P

	Elder Otis Johnson	P	P	P
	Elder Ivey Clark	P	P	P
Hiwassee	Rev. Earnest Jefferson	P	P	P
	Rev. Dr. Perrin Rice	P	P	P
	Elder Demetrius Ramsey	P	P	P
	Elder Edna White	P	T	P
Huntsville	Rev. Dr. Mitchell Walker, Sr.	P	P	P
	Rev. William Robinson	P	P	T
	Rev. Versey Jones	P	P	P
	Elder Pearlle Sales	P	P	P
	Elder Roosevelt Fletcher	P	P	P
	Elder Dr. Army Daniel, Jr.	P	P	P
	Elder Patricia Ward	P	P	P
	Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin	P	P	P
Kansouri	Rev. Walter Smith	P	P	P
	Elder Diane Smith	P	P	P
New Hopewell	Rev. Roscoe Myles, Jr.	P	P	P
	Elder E. L. Albea	P	P	P
Ohio Valley	Rev. Torris Powell	P	P	P
	Elder Mary Powell	P	P	P
Purchase	Elder James Stubblefield, Jr.	P	P	P
	Elder Gail Chapman	P	P	P
South Alabama	Rev. William R. Twilley	P	P	P
	Elder Minnie McMillian	P	P	P
Tennessee Valley	Rev. Michael Jones	E	P	P
	Rev. Willie Cowan	P	P	P
	Rev. Dr. Lynne Herring	P	P	T
	Elder George Lockett	P	P	P
	Elder Nettie Wynn	P	P	P
Tuscaloosa	Rev. Moses Finch	P	P	P
	Rev. Gerald Fencher	P	P	P
	Elder Glee Thompson, Jr.	P	P	P
	Elder Eugene Jones	P	P	T

Shooki NK
State Clerk, GA

MINUTES
137TH MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America
Sheraton Dallas -Downtown
Dallas, Texas 75201
June 6-8, 2011

1st Session – Monday, June 6, 2011

The first session of the 137th General Assembly was called to order by Moderator Rev. Elton Hall at 11:15 a.m.

Roll Call of Commissioners and Youth Advisory Delegates was by Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin. The 137th General Assembly was constituted by 49 Commissioners and three Youth Advisory Delegates. A quorum was present.

The Moderator was presented by Rev Dr. Theodis Acklin, Stated Clerk.

The Constitutional Prayer was led by Rev. William Greenwell of the Brazos River Presbytery.

Elder Lewis Cole, Cleveland Ohio Presbytery, moved for the Adoption of the Agenda, seconded by Rev. Willie Cowan, Huntsville Presbytery. Motion carried.

Moderator Hall extended greetings and welcomed commissioners and youth advisory delegates, Ecumenical, Board Representatives, and other guest to the 137th General Assembly.

It was moved by Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin from the Huntsville Presbytery that all Ecumenical guest be seated as Advisory delegates, and seconded. Motion carried.

The Moderator called for the Nominating Committee Report.

Nominating Committee Report – Part I, read by Elder Craig White.

Recommendation 1:

The committee submits the following names for the offices of moderator, vice moderator, stated clerk, and engrossing clerk for the consideration of the General Assembly:

Moderator: The Rev. Elton Hall (Texas Synod)

Vice Moderator: The Rev William Robinson (Alabama Synod)

Stated Clerk: The Rev Dr. Theodis Acklin (Alabama Synod)

Engrossing Clerk: The Rev. Lela Fencher (Alabama Synod)

The chair was relinquished to the Stated Clerk, Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin for the election of the moderator.

It was moved by Elder Thomas Ward, East Texas Presbytery to elect Rev Elton Hall as Moderator. Seconded.

Unreadiness on the motion by Rev. Dr. Perryn Rice.

Rev. Dr. G. Lynne gave instructions to the body on how the election process is to operate.

Previous motion and second were rescinded.

It was moved by Rev. Robert E. Thomas, Angelina Presbytery, to accept the Nominating Committee's Report –Part I. Seconded, by Elder Joan Fields, Brazos River Presbytery. Motion carried.

The Stated Clerk called for nominations for the office of Moderator from the floor.

It was moved by Rev. Robert Earl Thomas, Angelina Presbytery, to suspend the rules and elect by acclamation. Seconded, Motion carried. The Rev Elton Hall was elected by acclamation.

A brief acceptance speech was made by Moderator, Rev. Elton Hall.

The Stated Clerk relinquished the chair to the Moderator (Moderator Elton Hall, presiding).

Election of Vice Moderator

Moderator Hall called for other nominees from the floor. No nominees were presented from the floor. It was moved by Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin, Huntsville Presbytery, to suspend the rules and elect Rev. William Robinson by acclamation, seconded by Rev. Dr. Mitchell Walker, Huntsville Presbytery. Motion carried.

A brief acceptance speech was made by Rev William Robinson.

Election of Stated Clerk

Moderator Hall called for other nominees from the floor. No nominees were presented from the floor. It was moved by Rev Roscoe Myles, Jr., New Hopewell Presbytery, to suspend the rules and elect Rev. Dr Theodis Acklin by acclamation. Seconded, by Rev Robert E. Thomas, Angelina Presbytery. Motion carried.

A brief acceptance speech was given by Rev. Dr. Acklin.

Election of Engrossing Clerk

Moderator Hall called for other nominees from the floor. No nominees were presented from the floor. It was moved by Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin, Huntsville Presbytery, to suspend the rules and elect Rev. Lela Fencher by acclamation. Seconded, by Elder Eugene Jones.

Unreadiness on the question.

Previous question- Motion carried.

A brief acceptance speech was given by Rev. Lela Fencher.

Nominating Committee Part II – Election of General Assembly Permanent Boards and Committees presented by Elder Craig White.

The GA will be given an opportunity to review Part II. These nominees will be voted upon Wednesday morning.

It was moved by Rev. Robert Thomas, Angelina Presbytery, to receive the Nominating Committee Report- Part II. Seconded, by Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin, Huntsville Presbytery.

Unreadiness.

Previous question.

Motion carried.

The body welcomed the Ecumenical guest and received greetings and remarks from the following: Dr. Jay Earheart Brown, President, Memphis Theological Seminary; Rev. Steve Mosley of the CPC Theology & Social Concerns Unified Committee; Chaplain Ed Brogran, Director, Presbyterian Council for Chaplains and Military Personnel.

Closing prayer was led by the Moderator, The Rev. Elton Hall.
Recess for Lunch at 12:10

MINUTES
137TH MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America
Monday, June 6, 2011
2:00 p.m. Session

Reconvene at 2:00

Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin led the body in the singing of "I will Trust in the Lord."

The continuation of the first session of the 137th General Assembly was called to order by the Moderator Elton Hall.

Prayer was led by Vice Moderator-Elect, The Rev. William Robinson, Huntsville Presbytery.

The body recognized and welcomed the Rev. Kevin Henson of the Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home in Denton, TX, and Dr. Michael Qualls, Director of Programs of Alternate Studies of CP.

Administrative Director, Dr. G. Lynne Herring, informed the GA that the 138th GA will be hosted by the Tennessee Valley Presbytery at the Embassy Suites in Huntsville, AL. Dates for consideration of the 2012 General Assembly are June 2-7, 2012 and June 23-28, 2012. Constitutionally, neither dates fall within the time frame of our constitution. Request that the GA vote on the option dates given for the 2012 General Assembly.

The Moderator called for a vote of commissioners by standing.

June 2-7, 2012 - 41 votes

June 23-28, 2012 – 5 votes

It was moved by Elder Army Daniel, Huntsville Presbytery, that the GA will be held on June 2-7, 2012, hosted by Tennessee Valley Presbytery in Huntsville, AL. Seconded, by Rev. Willie Cowan, Tennessee Valley Presbytery. Motion carried.

The Administrative Director, Rev. Dr. G. Lynne Herring, ask for Presbyteries to hold General Assembly for next 2 meeting times.

The Rev. Dr. Perryn Rice, Hiwassee Presbytery, offered the Hiwassee Presbytery for the 2013 or the next meeting after 2012 of the General Assembly of the CPCA.

The Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin, Huntsville Presbytery, offered the Huntsville Presbytery after the GA meeting in Hiwassee Presbytery.

It was moved the Rev Joan Fields, Brazos River Presbytery, to accept the invitation of the Hiwassee and Huntsville Presbyteries for the next two General Assemblies. Seconded, by Rev. Robert Thomas, Angelina Presbytery. Motion carried.

Three communications were received and presented by the Stated Clerk, The Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin:

- 1) Rev Michael Jones, Tennessee Valley Presbytery, request the GA consider changing the opening date of the GA. This communication was referred to the GA Executive Board.
- 2) Rev Michael Jones, Tennessee Valley Presbytery, request to be excused from the opening of the GA. Scheduled to be in attendance for Tuesday sessions. Body consented to receive the request and excuse Rev Jones from Monday's Session.
- 3) Huntsville Presbytery –Letter to the 137th GA, Subject: Sell of the CPCA Headquarters. It was moved by Elder Army Daniel, Huntsville Presbytery, that this item be acted upon the floor of the 137th GA. Seconded, by Rev Albert Hicks, Jr., Birmingham Presbytery.

After an extended discussion regarding the Denominational Center by members of the 137th General Assembly, The Rev Dr Theodis Acklin, Huntsville Presbytery called for the vote.

It was moved by Rev Moses Finch, Tuscaloosa Presbytery, not to re-list the property for sale and withdraw it from sale after termination of the listing agreement. Seconded, by Rev Joan Field, Brazos River Presbytery.

Discussion on the question.

Rev. Dr. Mitchell Walker, Huntsville Presbytery questioned will the General Assembly Executive Board (GAEB) have authority to list property in the future? Attorney Underwood clarified that this will prohibit the GAEB from making this attempt again.

Previous Question.

Motion carried.

Committee Appointments and Referrals, Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin, Stated Clerk

Regarding the Administrative Director's contract, the Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin asked the Moderator which committee will the contract be referred to?

The Moderator asked for authority from the body to appoint three people from three synods to review the contract or pass to the Judiciary. Request denied.

It was moved by Elder Thomas Ward, East Texas Presbytery, to send employment contracts to the Permanent Board of Judiciary. Seconded, by Elder Eugene Jones, Tuscaloosa Presbytery. Unreadiness.

Questions pertaining to the Administrative Director's contract were asked by the GA. Dr. Joe Ward, Chair of Permanent Board of Judiciary, questioned "what is the judiciary board to resolve once the Administrative Director's contract is received?"

The Moderator informed the GA that the Judiciary Board is to determine whether or not the contracts of employment are subject to review and ratification of the General Assembly.

Copies of the Administrative Director's Contract were distributed to each presbytery (16 copies).

Order of the day was called.

Motion on the floor died.

It was moved by Elder Thomas Ward, East Texas Presbytery, to refer the Administrative Directors Contract to Permanent Board of Judiciary, seconded by Elder Eugene Jones, Tuscaloosa Presbytery

Unreadiness.

Previous Question.

Vote – Yes – 24

Vote – No – 11

Motion carried

Recess for Committee Work.

Closing prayer was led by Rev. Roscoe Myles, Jr., New Hopewell Presbytery.



Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin
Stated Clerk



Elder Stephanie S. Gilkes
Engrossing Clerk

MINUTES
137TH MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America
2nd Session – Tuesday, June 7, 2011
2:00 p.m. Session

The Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin, Stated Clerk, led the body in the singing of “Near the Cross.”

The Moderator of the 137th General Assembly was presented by the Stated Clerk, Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin.

The second Session of the 137th General Assembly was called to order by Moderator Elton Hall at 2:28 p.m.

Prayer was led by Rev Robert E. Thomas, Angelina Presbytery.

Roll Call of Commissioners and Youth Advisory Delegates was by Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin. The 137th General Assembly was duly constituted. A quorum was present.

Reading of the last minutes was presented by Engrossing Clerk, Elder Stephanie S. Gilkes.

The Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin, Huntsville Presbytery, moved for the adoption of the minutes. Seconded, by Rev. Roscoe Myles, New Hopewell Presbytery. Motion carried. Minutes were approved as read.

Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin commended Elder Stephanie S. Gilkes for a job well done in recording the minutes.

The Moderator called for the Proposed Solution of the Administrative Director’s contract. Elder Army Daniel, Huntsville Presbytery recommends that the 137th General Assembly commissioners take the following steps:

- That mutual love and respect must prevail at the GA; convened to conduct the business of our denomination.
- We will not resolve the various issues by continuing to beat this dead horse; for a dead horse cannot carry you to the next level.
- Without assessing blame, we must right what some feel in a usurping of the GA authority by the GAEB.
- The following resolution is offered to this dilemma:

- a) This 137th General Assembly, in this Business Session, modify their contract with the Administrative Director to read for “three years” instead of the current duration of “five years.”
- b) Direct the Permanent Board of Judiciary of the General Assembly to “spell-out” the authority and the duties of the GAEB, and the conditions under which the GAEB can take action on behalf of the General Assembly.
- c) That the GA use these three years to establish guidelines for the issuing of contracts of all personnel of the General Assembly.

It was moved by Rev. Robert E. Thomas, Angelina Presbytery, to adopt the recommendations as presented by Elder Army Daniel. Seconded, by Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin, Huntsville Presbytery.

Unreadiness.

Previous question. Seconded (to stop the discussion). Vote – yes 34 No 7. Motion carried.

Vote on the modification of the administrative director’s contract: Yes 33 No 3 Abstain 1. Motion carried.

The Moderator recognized Elder Otis Johnson, Florence Presbytery.

Elder Otis Johnson moved that the General Assembly will evaluate and determine within the next three years (2014) if this judicatory will continue in the role of Administrative Director or return to the Stated Clerk position. This process will consist of General Assembly Mission Board (GAMB) and the Permanent Board of Judiciary presenting the 138th General Assembly with recommendations. During the 139th General Assembly responsibilities, duties and qualifications will be presented. Then, a person is elected, during the 140th General Assembly.

Seconded, by Rev. Roscoe Myles, New Hopewell Presbytery.

Unreadiness. Motion carried.

Select Committee Reports

Theological and Social Concerns

It was moved by Rev Joan Fields, Brazos River Presbytery and seconded by Rev William Greenwell, Brazos River Presbytery, to accept the report.

Unreadiness.

Previous Question. Motion carried.

Christian Education

Moved by Rev. Joan Fields, Brazos River Presbytery and seconded by Elder George Lockett, Tennessee Valley Presbytery, to accept the report. Motion carried.

Recessed to continue committee work.

Reconvened at 4:20 p.m.

The Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin led the body in the singing of "Glory, Glory Hallelujah."

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Elton Hall.

Dr. J. Earheart-Brown, President of Memphis Theological Seminary was asked to come forth.

Dr. Brown made a presentation on behalf of the Memphis Theological Seminary to Rev. Dr. G. Lynne Herring for serving on the Board of Trustees from 2000-2008.

Dr. G. Lynne Herring graciously accepted the gift and thanked Memphis Theological Seminary and Dr. J Earheart-Brown.

To maintain order in the 137th General Assembly, the Moderator appointed Elder Joe Ward, Permanent Board of Judiciary, as Parliamentarian.

Select Committee Reports cont'd

Permanent Board of Judiciary

It was moved by Elder Army Daniel, Huntsville Presbytery and seconded by Rev Willie Cowan, Tennessee Valley Presbytery to accept the report.

Unreadiness by Elder Leon Cole, Cleveland Ohio Presbytery, referenced Recommendation II- "All contracts must be approved by the GA prior to the award." Clarification was requested on "all contracts" or just employment contract of the Administrative Director.

Response from Elder Joe Ward, only the Administrative Director's contract must be approved by the GA prior to the award.

Previous question.

Motion carried.


Mission and Evangelism


It was moved by Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin, Huntsville Presbytery, and seconded by Rev Walker Smith, Kansouri Presbytery, to accept the report. Motion carried.

The Moderator recognized Rev. Dr. Nancy Fuqua, Florence Presbytery. She requested that commissioners stop by the host table for Cumberland Flag subscriptions and renewals.

Closing prayer was led by Rev. Gerald Fencher, Tuscaloosa Presbytery.

Recess at 4:45 p.m. for Committee work to reconvene at 8:00 a.m. Wednesday morning.


Rev Dr Theodis Acklin
Stated Clerk


Elder Stephanie S. Gilkes
Engrossing Clerk

MINUTES
137TH MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America
3rd and Final Session – Wednesday, June 8, 2011
8:00 a.m. Session

The Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin, Stated Clerk, led the body in the singing of “Satisfied With Jesus.”

The final session of the 137th General Assembly was called to order by Moderator Elton Hall at 8:10 a.m.

Prayer was led by Rev LaRuth Jefferson, Cleveland, Ohio Presbytery.

Roll Call of Commissioners and Youth Advisory Delegates was by Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin, Stated Clerk. A quorum was present. The final session of the 137th General Assembly was duly constituted.

Reading of the last minutes was presented by Engrossing Clerk, Elder Stephanie S. Gilkes. The Rev Joan Fields, Brazos River Presbytery, moved for the adoption of the minute. Seconded, by Rev Dr Theodis Acklin, Huntsville Presbytery. Motion carried. Minutes were approved as read.

COMMITTEE REPORTS Continued

Executive Board Review and Resolution of Thanks

Elder Army Daniel, Huntsville Presbytery, moved to adopt the report. Seconded, by Elder Eugene Jones. An unreadiness on the motion. Elder Patricia Ward, Huntsville Presbytery, moved to amend the report to vote on the acceptance of the report with the exception of the General Assembly meeting biannually and it will be voted upon separately. Seconded. VOTE – YES 34 NO 13, motion carried.

Attorney Nick Underwood addressed the body to ask that the GA take into consideration the following: What will be the reporting requirements? What will be the requirements for payment of assessment and fee? How will this align with the Constitution and Bi-laws?

Elder Otis Johnson, Florence Presbytery, moved to adopt the Stated Clerks recommendation to meet biannually. Amendment to the motion by Rev. Dr. G. Lynne Herring, Tennessee Valley Presbytery, that the GAEB prepare the logistics and all information will be in the hands of each commissioner 90 days prior to the convening of the General Assembly. Seconded, by Rev Dr Theodis Acklin. After a discussion, Dr. Herring withdrew her amendment to the motion and Dr. Acklin withdrew his second. The vote was called for adopt the Stated Clerk’s recommendation to meet biannually. Vote Yes-30 No -15. Motion carried.

Rev Dr. G. Lynne Herring, Tennessee Valley Presbytery moved to assign the logistics of meeting biannually to the GAEB. All information will be in the hands of each commissioner to the GA 90 days prior to the convening of the GA. Seconded, by Rev William Robinson, Huntsville Presbytery. Motion carried.

Rev Dr. G. Lynne Herring, Tennessee Valley Presbytery moved to amend the Standing Rules, General Rule #1, page 8 to reflect the meeting change to biannually. Seconded, by Elder Mary Powell, Ohio Valley Presbytery. Motion carried.

Finance and Budget Distribution

Rev Dockery Ingram, Florence Presbytery, moved to adopt the report of the Finance and Distribution Committee. Seconded, by Rev Willie Cowan, Tennessee Valley Presbytery. Motion Carried.

Judiciary and Memorial

It was moved to adopt the report of the Select Committee on Judiciary. Seconded, by Rev Joan Fields, Brazos River Presbytery. Unreadiness. Elder Otis Johnson, Florence Presbytery, moved to amend the motion to exclude from the vote biannual meetings and leadership conference. Seconded, by Elder Army Daniel, Huntsville Presbytery. Vote to adopt the report as amended. Motion carried.

Memorial service was conducted and the following names were retrieved from the Synod Record Books:

Cleveland Ohio: Rev Andrew West and Elder Mary Martha Daniel

Elk River: Elder Charles Charlene McClain

Tennessee Valley: Elder Booker T. Morrow

Brazos River: Elders William Sheppard, Bernice Morris, and Arthurs Robinson

Purchase: Rev Anthony Reeves

In response to the Select Committee on Judiciary and Memorial regarding the Alabama Synod record books, a letter was read by Rev Dr Theodis Acklin, Stated Clerk, from the Moderator of the Alabama Synod, Rev James Robinson and Stated Clerk of Alabama Synod, Elder Vanessa Midgett. The Alabama Synod asked to submit record book to the GAEB for review by the Permanent Board of Judiciary. The Alabama Synod elected a new Stated Clerk and is working to transition all documents from the former Stated Clerk to the newly elected Stated Clerk.

Nominating Committee

Rev Dr Theodis Acklin, Huntsville Presbytery, moved to adopt the report of the Nominating Committee. Seconded, by Rev Joan Fields, Brazos River Presbytery. Unreadiness. Rev. Dr. G. Lynne Herring, Tennessee Valley Presbytery requested the nominee's names be read aloud.

Nominees were read by Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin, Stated Clerk. Previous question. Vote. Motion Carried.

Nominations

GAEB – There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved by Rev Dr Mitchell Walker, Sr., Huntsville Presbytery, to elect the names given by the Nominating Committee. Seconded, Rev Willie Cowan, Tennessee Valley Presbytery. Vote. Motion carried.

GAMB – There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved by Elder Patricia Ward, Huntsville Presbytery, to elect the names given by the Nominating Committee. Seconded, Rev Dr Perryn Rice, Hiwassee Presbytery. Unreadiness. Previous question. Vote. Motion carried.

CPCA Trustees of Historical Foundation- Two names were submitted. Elder Army Daniel, Huntsville Presbytery, nominated Elder Dorothy Hayden, Birmingham Presbytery, from the floor. It was moved by Elder Patricia Ward, Huntsville Presbytery, that the submitted names be elected to this position. Seconded, by Elder Army Daniel, Huntsville Presbytery. Vote. Motion carried.

Permanent Board of Judiciary – Rev Roscoe Myles, New Hopewell Presbytery, nominated Elder Cecilia Bowden, New Hopewell Presbytery. It was moved by Elder Patricia Ward, Huntsville Presbytery that the submitted names be elected to this position. Seconded, by Elder Pearl Sales, Huntsville Presbytery. Vote. Motion Carried.

Unified Committee on Theological and Social Concerns- There were nominees from the floor. Elder Otis Johnson nominated Rev Dr Nancy Fuqua. Moved by Elder Daniel, Huntsville Presbytery to close the nominations on the submitted names. Seconded, by Rev Torris Powell, Ohio Valley, motion carried.

It was moved by Rev Dr Perryn Rice to elect those names submitted. Seconded, by Rev Willie Cowan. Vote. Motion carried.

School of Continuing Education –The following nominations from the floor were made: Rev. Stanley Miller- Texas Synod and Rev LaRuth Jefferson- Kentucky Synod. Elder Patricia Ward, Huntsville Presbytery, moved that nominations be closed on submitted names and elected to the position. Seconded, Rev Walter Smith. Vote. Motion carried.

Cumberland Flag

GA encourages everyone to subscribe to the Cumberland Flag. If someone is interested in being editor of the Cumberland Flag, please call the GA office.

Moderator Elton Hall recognized Elder Otis Johnson, Florence Presbytery. Elder Johnson moved to rescind the action taken regarding the National Youth Works Coordinator and place

Sister Nina Phipps in the position. Unreadiness. Previous Question. Vote Yes -3 No – Majority. Motion denied.

Moderator Hall gave closing remarks.

Administrative Director, Dr. G. Lynne Herring, reminded attendees of the GA that reservations for the 2012 GA may be made starting July 1, 2011.

Select Committee on GA Executive Review and Resolution of Thanks

Rev Roscoe Myles moved to adopt the Resolution of Thanks to the Brazos River Presbytery and Host in Texas. Seconded, Elder Michael Cooper of the Elk River Presbytery. Vote. Motion carried.

Moved by Rev Joan Fields, Brazos River Presbytery, to adopt the minutes as presented by Elder Stephanie S. Gilkes, Acting Engrossing Clerk. Unreadiness. Vote. Motion carried.

Rev. Dr. Theodis Acklin commended Elder Stephanie S. Gilkes on a job well done as Engrossing Clerk.

Moderator Elton Hall individually called the Vice-Moderator, Stated Clerk, Engrossing Clerk, Attorney, Administrative Director, and Parliamentarian and thanked them for a job well done.

Vice –Moderator Elect, Rev William Robinson was called to the podium to address the body.

Rev Dr Perryn Rice was recognized and congratulated on his recent accomplishment of receiving is doctoral degree.

It was moved by Rev Dr Theodis Acklin, Huntsville Presbytery and seconded by Rev Robert E. Thomas, Angelina Presbytery to adjourn this session of the 137th General Assembly until we meet again in June 2-7, 2012 General Assembly, to be hosted by the Tennessee Valley Presbytery, in Huntsville, AL. Vote. Motion carried.

Closing Prayer was led by Vice-Moderator elect- Rev William Robinson.

Adjourned at 10:55 a.m.



Rev Dr Theodis Acklin
Stated Clerk



Elder Stephanie S. Gilkes
Engrossing Clerk

