

ADDENDUM D-5

THE PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Rev. John L. Frye, Jr., Chair

October 22-23, 2010

FIRST SECTION

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY, AN ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION, OR A TASK FORCE THAT REQUIRE ACTION BY PRESBYTERY:

I. RECOMMEND TO PRESBYTERY FOR EXAMINATION AND ORDINATION/INSTALLATION:

B. ROBERT TUTTLE

From: Candidate, Presbytery of Western North Carolina

As: Vice-President of the Center for Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Montreat Conference Center

Effective: November 7, 2010

(See COM Attachment 3 for Bio Credo.)

III. RECOMMEND FOR COMMISSIONING BY THE PRESBYTERY AS LAY PASTORS:

A. KENNETH HUMPHREYS

From: Commissioned Lay Pastor Student

As: Commissioned Lay Pastor, Bessemer City First Presbyterian Church

Effective: October 22, 2010 - October 21, 2011

(The commission is to include permission to celebrate the Lord's Supper, Baptisms, weddings, and moderate the Session)

(See COM Attachment 4 for Bio Credo)

B. LINDA (LYNN) MOORE

From: Commissioned Lay Pastor Student

As: Commissioned as Dean, School for the Laity

Effective: October 22, 2010 - October 21, 2011

(The commission is to include permission to celebrate the Lord's Supper)

(See COM Attachment 5 for Bio Credo)

SECOND SECTION

The Book of Order provides that the Committee on Ministry may be given authority by the Presbytery to find in order calls issued by churches, to approve and present calls for service of ministers, to approve the examination of ministers transferring from other Presbyteries, required by G-11.0402 and G11.0502g, to dissolve the pastoral relationship in cases where the congregation and pastor concur, to dismiss ministers to other Presbyteries, and to approve administrative commissions to ordain/install with the provision that such actions be reported at the next stated meeting of the Presbytery. (G-11.0502h) This permission was granted to our Committee on Ministry; therefore, the following actions are to be simply admitted to the record.

ADDENDUM D-6

I. APPROVED THE EXAMINATION AND TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP TO THE PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA:

B. KENT L. SMITH

From: Presbytery of the Palisades

As: Honorably Retired

Effective: October 12, 2010

(See COM Attachment 6 for Bio Credo)

III. APPROVED INTERIM PASTOR RELATIONSHIP:

B. Margaret Skidmore and Lincolnton First Presbyterian Church

Effective: October 12, 2010 - October 11, 2011

C. Donald B. Patchel and Green Street Presbyterian Church

Effective: April 1, 2010 - March 31, 2011

IV. APPROVED STATED SUPPLY RELATIONSHIPS:

E. Bob McCully and Dallas First Presbyterian Church

Effective: October 1, 2010 - September 30, 2011

F. Becky Stanley and Forest City First Presbyterian Church

Effective: November 1, 2010 - October 31, 2011

V. APPROVED CONTINUATION OF COMMISSIONED LAY PASTOR RELATIONSHIPS:

E. Randy Patterson and Dixon Presbyterian Church

Extended: September 7, 2010 - September 6, 2011

F. John Stanley and Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church

Extended: September 29, 2010 - September 28, 2011

G. Philip Adams and Conley Memorial Presbyterian Church

Extended: August 5, 2010 - August 4, 2011

VI. APPROVED AS MODERATORS:

E. Steve Austin and Oakwood Presbyterian Church

F. Bert Sigmon and Bridgewater Presbyterian Church

G. Margaret Skidmore and Lincolnton First Presbyterian Church

H. Jim McPherson and Saluda Presbyterian Church

I. Bert Sigmon and Old Fort Presbyterian Church

VII. APPROVED DISSOLUTION OF PASTORAL RELATIONSHIPS:

C. Margaret P. Lauterer and Burnsville First Presbyterian Church

Effective: October 31, 2010

D. Tony Baker and Dallas First Presbyterian Church

Effective: September 30, 2010

ADDENDUM D-7

VIII. APPROVED THE TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP FOR:

- D. Jon Brown
To: Palisades Presbytery
As: Designated Pastor, Old Bergen Presbyterian Church
Effective: October 15, 2010
- E. George W. Alexander
To: Charlotte Presbytery
As: Retired
Effective: October 12, 2010

IX. APPROVED PERMISSION TO LABOR WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA:

- B. Margaret Skidmore
From: Charlotte Presbytery
As: Full-time Interim, Lincolnton First Presbyterian Church
Effective: October 12, 2010
- C. Beth Yarbough
From: Holston Presbytery
As: Temporary Supply in an Associate Type Position, Gastonia, First
Effective: August 9, 2010

XI. APPROVED THE REQUEST FOR HONORABLE RETIREMENT:

- A. Margaret P. Lauterer
Effective: November 1, 2010

XII. APPROVED MOVING FROM MEMBER-AT-LARGE TO ACTIVE STATUS:

- A. Joan Martin

XIII. APPROVED MOVING FROM ACTIVE STATUS TO MEMBER-AT-LARGE:

- A. Tony Baker

XIV. APPROVED PERMISSION TO LABOR OUTSIDE THE BOUNDS OF THE PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA:

- A. Carol Noel Seaman
To: Holston Presbytery
As: Temporary Supply, First Church, Kingsport, TN
Effective: October 12, 2010

XV. APPROVED COMMISSIONED LAY PASTOR RELATIONSHIPS:

- A. Kenneth Humphreys and Bessemer City, First
Effective: October 22, 2010 - October 21, 2011
- B. Linda (Lynn) Moore and PWNC Dean of School for the Laity
Effective: October 22, 2010 - October 21, 2011

COM ATTACHMENT 3

Statement of Faith Bob Tuttle

My only comfort, as the first question of the Heidelberg Catechism relates, is that I belong--body and soul, in life and in death--not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. With this rock-solid assurance, I can proceed to my purpose in life, memorized at an early age from the Westminster Shorter Catechism--to glorify and enjoy God forever. With these bookends, I can say what I believe.

I believe that God created heaven and earth and all that dwells therein. God loves us so much that from the beginning God sought a relationship with us as individuals and as a community. The kind of relationship that God seeks with us is best expressed by the word "covenant", a relationship in which it is clear who is in charge and what is required of those who are not. Scripture reveals a record of "mighty acts" of God and of the cycle of belief and unbelief by God's people. With their unbelief came misdeeds of individuals and communities. And God would give them another chance. But people just didn't get it. So God performed the "mightiest" act, sending Jesus into the world to show people how much they and the world they lived in was loved by God. And when Jesus was crucified by them, in an act of forgiveness and victory God raised Jesus back to life. The Holy Spirit is God with us today and enables us to understand God's Word and to attempt to be faithful disciples. Those disciples still gather today as "church", in many ways and in many places to worship the triune God and to give witness to the saving love of Christ in the world. Jesus' life and service point us to the needs of the poor, the sick, the downtrodden. His ministry helps give shape to the church's mission in the world.

I understand the Bible to be the unique and authoritative witness to the revelation of God in Jesus Christ. The many voices of Scripture all point us toward the living Word, Jesus Christ. I appreciate John Calvin's image of Scripture as spectacles for our dull eyes through which we can see Christ more clearly. We can only make sense of Scripture through the power of the Holy Spirit.

I understand the sacraments as mysteries that cannot be fully described by words, so we understand them as "visible signs of invisible grace." They are ways in which the Gospel is communicated to us, ways in which we are educated and sustained. I understand Baptism in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as initiation into the Christian life, a confirmation of our identity as children of God. I understand the Lord's Supper as the nourishment needed for the Christian life, the sustenance for the journey, the remembrance of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for us and the foretaste of the future joyful table of a new heaven and a new earth.

The church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic and the particular branch to which we belong is Reformed and is Presbyterian. No family of faith is perfect, but I am pleased to be part of a family that orders itself in a particular way, that values education and Biblical preaching, that engages in mission in a wide variety of ways, that struggles to understand the implications of Scripture. In this church I am continually challenged to live a life of thanksgiving, worship and service in response to the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit.

COM ATTACHMENT 3

Brief Biography Bob Tuttle

Every believer in Jesus is called to live out their lives in faithful gratitude as a response to God's saving love. Each of us seeks to serve God in the best way that we can with who we are at any given time.

As I was graduating from the Presbyterian School of Christian Education 35 years ago, I felt God calling me to serve the church in a direct way through my career. The first 12 years I served as a Director of Christian Education in three different local congregations. The last 23 years at Montreat I have been called to conference ministry, serving God as I have helped a hundred planning teams theologically articulate the goals for their conference; as I've participated in the training and preparation of two thousand collegiates serving as summer staff; as I've staffed conferences for over 100,000 young people and their adult leaders. In the fall of 2003 I entered seminary at what is now Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte because I believed that God was adding another element to my call--to serve God's people as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament.

There have been many individuals and communities who have given witness in my life. I acknowledge the nurture of the Salem (Virginia) Presbyterian Church where I was baptized, and confirmed. As a college student I felt the love of Jesus through members of Campus Crusade at Virginia Tech and in a student-led Christian group at Davis & Elkins College as we conducted worship services in small churches in West Virginia. At the Presbyterian School of Christian Education I received my first graduate level education and glimpsed what real Christian community could be like. The three congregations that I served as church educator (the Presbyterian Church of Radford Virginia, the First Presbyterian Church of Spartanburg South Carolina, and the First Presbyterian Church of Savannah Georgia nurtured my own faith and those of our young children. The Black Mountain Presbyterian Church finished raising my son Chris and my daughter Sarah and gave my wife Pat the opportunity to serve as a certified educator for young children there for 17 years. My colleagues at Montreat Conference Center have supported and encouraged me. My family, which now includes a wonderful daughter-in-law and son-in-law have all been shining examples for me and so supportive— as well as my extremely patient wife.

Since I have been a member of the Black Mountain church, I have served as an Elder, a preschool Sunday school teacher, a youth Sunday school teacher, member and chair of various committees, and moderator of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina although my ministry at Montreat Conference Center and then my seminary education has limited those roles. These seven years have been ones of learning, growth, and challenge as a student in Charlotte, as a chaplain at Pardee Hospital doing my Clinical Pastoral Education, and as an intern learning from the good folks of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Asheville while leading worship, preaching, and assisting in the administration of the sacraments there.

I like to think that over the last seven years God has given me new energy and new knowledge that I have already begun applying to my ministry. I look forward to the next phase of that journey at Montreat Conference Center as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament.

COM ATTACHMENT 4

STATEMENT OF FAITH -Dr. Kenneth K. Humphreys

I believe in God the Father Almighty, His Son Jesus the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, together the one Triune God. God the Father created the entire universe and everything in it including humankind. He bestows His unfailing love upon all of us, even when we forsake Him and sin against Him.

He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God with us, to become human, to live and suffer with us, and to be crucified as the ultimate sacrifice so that we might be forgiven of our sins, not just at the time of the crucifixion but for all eternity. Through Jesus Christ's death and resurrection we are justified by God's grace and are assured of eternal life even though we will never be fully worthy of that grace and justification.

I believe in the Holy Spirit that came to the disciples at Pentecost and which comes to everyone who truly accepts Jesus as Lord and Savior. Through the Holy Spirit we are called to become servants of God and to commit our lives in service to Him. Christ charged the disciples to "feed my sheep" and that charge is brought to all Christians through the Holy Spirit. We are called to share God's love with all of God's children -the poor, the needy, the infirm, the aged, the blind, everyone in need without regard to race, religion, nationality or politics. God loves all of His children and we are called to extend that love to all of His creatures, human and non-human. We are further called to preserve and protect this world which God has given to us.

Jesus gave us two sacraments, baptism and communion, the Lord's Supper. Through baptism, the fact that our sins have been washed away is confirmed. Through the Lord's Supper we are perpetually reminded of Christ's crucifixion and death, so freely given, so that we might be forgiven of our sins. While it is impossible for us to ever be truly sinless, the two sacraments remind us of God's grace and of our responsibility as Christians to ever seek sanctification through the Holy Spirit.

God speaks to us through the Bible, His inspired word. Through the Bible we are guided and encouraged and are ever reminded of our forgiveness and our charge to live to the best of our ability as true servants of God.

I have been a Presbyterian all of my life except for my teenage years when I attended a Methodist Church. My parents did not attend church and were not role models for me in that respect. My church involvement has been personal and self-motivated. The form of governance as described in the Book of Order, and the confessions of the Presbyterian Church are a foundation of my faith.

The Church is the Body of Christ, guided by the Word of God and led by the Holy Spirit to bring all people into community. The Church is called to serve God through studying and preaching of the Word, administration of the sacraments, and spreading God's Kingdom throughout the earth in service and mission. Christ said to the eleven disciples, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." That charge remains with us and it is through the Church that it is accomplished.

COM ATTACHMENT 4

Dr. Kenneth K Humphreys My Journey of Faith

My mother was Roman Catholic and my father was Methodist. They married outside of the Roman Catholic Church. In those days, a Roman Catholic who did this was denied the sacraments of the church. The result was that neither my mother nor my father attended any church after their marriage and my brother and I were left to our own devices when it came to religion. When we were very young, an uncle who was a Presbyterian elder would take my brother and me to church and Sunday school at the Bailey Avenue UP Church in Pittsburgh. Even though I was very young then, I well remember the loving and caring nature of that small church and of the pastor who had the appropriate name of Rev. Love.

My family moved to Florida when I was about 12. My father had become an alcoholic and my mother struggled to keep the family together working a minimum wage job. I was badly injured in an automobile accident and spent almost a full year in a body cast while recovering. During that time I was frequently visited by members of the church I had attended before the accident, Park Temple Methodist, and also by a caring woman from the Jehovah's Witnesses. It was these folks and my mother's strength that helped me to keep my faith strong. When I recovered from my injuries, I became heavily involved in the Wesley Fellowship at Park Temple until I left for college in Pittsburgh back in 1955.

In college I participated in the Presbyterian Westminster Fellowship where I met my wife Betsy. We were married in 1961 and joined the East Liberty Presbyterian Church together. This church was a large gothic cathedral church located in a very depressed part of Pittsburgh. I took over as Scoutmaster there for about 40+ boys of diverse faiths and all races, most of whom lived in the poverty stricken ghetto which surrounded the church.

In 1965 I took a job at West Virginia University and we joined the First Presbyterian Church in Morgantown, WV. I served there as a deacon and elder and also as the Scoutmaster, again with a group of Scouts of many faiths. Working with the Scouts and providing them with the opportunity to worship according to their own faith when we were camping was an enlightening experience for me. I conducted services for them whenever we were camping as I had done for the Scouts in Pittsburgh and always strived to respect their differing religious beliefs and to educate all of the Scouts about their various religions and religious tolerance.

In 1993, I took early retirement and we moved to Granite Falls, NC and the Waldensian Presbyterian Church in Valdese. Like Park Temple, East Liberty and First of Morgantown, Waldensian is a rather large church. I was also a Scout leader there but in this church something was missing. Waldensian and the other churches were just too large and impersonal at times. It really was a virtual impossibility in all four churches to really know the many members of the congregations. While the people at Waldensian PC were wonderful and very welcoming to us, we concluded that it was not the right church for us. We really needed a small church and in 2004 joined the Fairview Presbyterian Church finding a very loving and caring congregation and an outstanding pastor in the Rev. Edyth Pruitt. While at Fairview, I was reminded about the School of the Laity / Certified Lay Pastor program and something told me that I had to enroll. I enrolled in the program and know now that God wants me to be a pastor. That message is incredibly clear to me.

In effect I really have been a pastor of sorts most of my life, particularly in working with youth for so many years and regularly conducting church services for Scouts and in handling the inevitable counseling needs that are encountered with groups of youth. My wife and I also funded the construction of an all-faith chapel at Camp Bud Schiele, the Scout camp of the Piedmont Scout Council, so that Scouts and leaders would have a quiet place to pray and to worship while at that camp. While in West Virginia, with the help of my Scout Troop I organized the renovation of the Boyce Chapel at Camp Mountaineer, the camp of the Mountaineer Area Scout Council. Both chapels were designed in a manner to accommodate Scouts of any faith, Christian, Jewish, Islam and others. Scouts are of all faiths and all Scouts pledge to "Do my duty to God". A condition of being a Scout is faith in God, not in any specific religion. That is why I have tried to provide these two places of worship for all Scouts, not just Christians.

I have preached at many Scout events, not just in informal services for my Scout Troops but also at major conferences and in large Scout Camps in many states. I have preached on Scout Sunday in a number of Presbyterian churches in West Virginia and North Carolina and have upon request filled the pulpit of various churches when the regular pastor was away. I enjoy preaching and am very comfortable in the pulpit. I also have extensive administrative experience in non-profit organization work which I believe would hold me in good stead as a pastor. With God's help I will become an effective pastor for a small church in the Presbytery of Western North Carolina.

COM ATTACHMENT 5

Statement of Faith by Lynn W. Moore

I believe in the one triune God, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. God the Father created the world that was without form and breathed the breath of life into the void. Because of God's great love, God sought relationship with humankind from the time of creation and continues to love and to seek relationship with us today. Even though we break God's laws, fail to love our neighbors and fail to love the earth, God forgives us and loves us. The Old Testament tells of God's direct action with the people of Israel and tells us of God's great love for all humankind. In further divine action in history, Jesus came to earth to teach us how to live in relationship with God and with others. The New Testament is the divinely inspired word of God and tells us of the life and teachings of Jesus. Jesus was fully human and fully God. Jesus was born of Mary, a virgin, and grew up experiencing all the physical, mental and emotional joy and pain as a human. He was tempted as a human, as we are tempted, but he lived a life free from sin. Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice for us and our sins when he died. However, in his resurrection we are shown the power of Christ over death. As believers, we too confess that we will one day join him. I believe Christ will come again in the future at a time that is known only to the Triune God. I believe in life and in death we belong to God. According to Holy Scripture in the New Testament, Jesus did not leave us without hope and consolation. The Holy Spirit, the great comforter, came to us after Jesus ascended into heaven. The New Testament reveals the power of the Holy Spirit in the early church and in the lives of believers, who sought to follow the teachings of Jesus and share the gospel of Christ to the world. The Holy Spirit is present and active in the world today. As followers of Jesus, we seek to follow Christ and live Christ centered lives with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

I believe the church is one of God's great gifts. According to the New Testament, the church is the living body of Christ on earth. As members of the church, with our strengths and weaknesses, we are the different parts of the body as we seek to serve Christ and our neighbors. It is in the church universal and in fellowship with other believers that we are strengthened to serve God and serve others. The sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper are central to our fellowship with the risen Lord. Baptism brings us new life in Christ. Communion reminds us of Jesus' sacrifice of love for the world and his presence with us until he returns.

I believe in the tenets of Reformed Theology that are held as beliefs by the Presbyterian Church. I believe that scripture is the word of God; that God is sovereign; that humans are prone to stray and worship other "idols"; that humans are made for covenant life; that we are chosen for service as well as for salvation (and that God wants salvation for all people); that we are called to stewardship and the transformation of society; I believe in the priesthood of all believers. These tenets are more than words. They are living guidelines that direct my life.

COM ATTACHMENT 5

Faith Journey

Lynn W. Moore

Although my journey of faith points to places traveled and roles filled, my journey is not about places and roles. My faith journey is about the leading of Christ and the presence of Holy Spirit in these places and roles. My faith journey is one that is directed by God, who has led me in the past and continues to lead me to paths of service as a Commissioned Lay Pastor.

My journey of faith began as a child. I can never remember a time that I was not taken to church. In fact, my mother and I attended three services a week as our weekly family activities centered around events in the church. I was nurtured in faith by the prayers and support of my parents, Sunday school teachers, youth leaders, my choir director, the minister, and by all the members of my small Baptist Church. I was given opportunities to sing solos, play piano, sing in the choir and participate in many church activities. It was in this church that I walked down the aisle of the church, made a public confession of faith and was baptized. There was never a doubt in my mind as to who I was and whose I was.

I remember as a child and teenager my faith and belief in God getting me through the death of my beloved grandmother, the suicide of my uncle, my father's failing health, my father's losing his job, the financial and health struggles my family endured and the death of my mother. However, I also know that answered prayer and hard work earned me an academic scholarship to a college that my father would not have been able to afford.

As a young adult my faith sustained me as I struggled as a young wife away from home with a baby and with the threat of my husband's being sent to war in Viet Nam. I also dealt again with death in the loss of my father. Times of trouble are testing times but my faith in God comforted me as my life moved forward.

The years of rearing my son and daughter were busy, wonderful times. There was always a lesson to be taken to or a church event or a sports event to attend. This time was a time for my husband and me to take our children to church and the share our Christian faith with them and tell them of God's love. We lived the faith in our private and public lives.

In my life roles as wife, mother, public school teacher, school counselor, church choir director, school administrator, Elder, grandmother, Sunday School teacher, Director of programs for special needs children, and Dean of School for the Laity, and preaching the word of God, I am continually led by the presence of the Holy Spirit. I try every day with God's help to live a faithful life in response to God's great love for me. I believe that my calling as a Commissioned Lay Pastor is evidence of God's plan for me. It is in heartfelt gratitude for all that God has planned for me that I say, "Thank you God for loving me".

COM ATTACHMENT 6

Statement of Faith: Kent L Smith

Retirement, for me, is but a “Jubilee Year.” A respite and refreshment after 40 years of following God's call. Three months? A year? Then, I am convinced, God will call me to some new work. I know not to second guess God, but I do know God has something in mind for me.

This sense of calling by God has been central to my theology from High School on. The core beliefs of the Christians faith, as expressed in the Presbyterian *Book of Confessions* have been a given, a starting place in my thinking and work. Since I am rather orthodox, I won't stop to articulate what I consider the obvious – the Trinity, the Dual nature of Jesus the Christ, Salvation by Grace, etc. But I will point out the theological issues that make such a difference in my ministry.

What has always excited, intrigued, kept me on my toes is paying attention to and accepting God's wishes for me. Sometimes these wishes have gone against my own wishes or desires, but I learned early on that my job has been to obey not argue. Well, argue, maybe, but accept never-the-less. (*Book of Confessions* 5.155)

Another core and instinctive issue for me is the Sovereignty of God. The first paragraph of the first article of the Scot's Confession so well articulates my thinking in this matter that I have unpacked this paragraph, phrase at a time, for my confirmation classes for many years. I also point out that it is no coincidence that it is the opening paragraph of “The Scot's Confession.”

As a Christian Educator and Youth Minister for so many years I have regularly made use of the Confessions in my work, particularly the “Brief(?) Statement of Faith” which articulates the ancient Reformed belief systems in modern language and applies it to modern situations and concerns. It has always been a part of my work to translate the ancient Reformed belief system (even Predestination) into language that makes sense to the current generations.

As for the Bible, I have a “high” theology of Scriptures. I do believe they are inspired by God and have meaning in all ages to all people. However, the inspirations were interpreted by real people in real time and space. Therefore we have to work at understanding and reapplying the eternal truths in our own time – again with God's inspirations to help us. I am a member of the Society of Biblical Literature and have been recently involved in the work of the “Paul and Scriptures Seminar.” I take modern scholarship seriously and enjoy working at this craft.

Having worked in a Roman Catholic dominated society for the past 17 years I have become most emphatic about the Sacraments being “signs” and “symbols” (BOO W-1-3033.2) and not efficacious in and of themselves (BOO W-2-3007). Neither are they just ritual, but each person is invited to be personally involved (BOO W-2-3006; BOO W-2-4005).

Although “synods and counsels may err” and I accept that the church cannot “bind the conscience” (G-1.0307) I firmly hold to the Reformed tenant of the “depravity of humans.” Put colloquially, I believe that God has a better chance of getting through to a majority of a group than one hard-headed minister (me). So, even though I may lobby for or against a position and try to make changes, I accept and will live by the decisions of the various Governing Bodies. I feel it is *hubris* to do otherwise.

Finally, in good Reformed fashion, the outgrowth of my acknowledging that salvation is by grace, I work at responding to this grace with thanksgiving and a life of committed service to God. I joyfully want to follow God's call.

Retirement, then, is but a “Jubilee Year.” A time of respite and refreshment before continuing my life of service.

COM ATTACHMENT 6

Brief Biography Kent L Smith August, 2010

I grew up in the Southminster Presbyterian Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma (a polar opposite church to the Kirk of Hills church in Tulsa). After a lot of resistance in my younger years, I became highly involved. For no religious reason I went to the Presbyterian college Westminster College, Fulton, MO. After three years as a history major and getting very involved in the fledgling subject of Computer Science (this was the mid 60s when you couldn't get a degree in computers) – I spent a summer working days as a Summer youth worker at Southminster and nights running and programming computers. At that time I decided to try Seminary, but with no zeal to go into the ministry, as such.

I Graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary in May, 1970, with an intent to go into the Parish ministry only long enough to work on all the languages needed to get into a Doctorate program in LXX studies. In the meantime I presented a paper for the Society of Biblical Literature on the use of computers in LXX and other Biblical research. While at Seminary I married a lifelong friend, Ms Margo Kenady, to whom I am still happily married. Margo's calling is as a classroom teacher.

I accepted a call as Assistant Minister for Christian Education and Youth at the First Presbyterian Church, Joplin, Missouri, a part of John Calvin Presbytery. This was one of the first Presbyteries to become a Union Presbytery. I was the first ordained there under the union and they spent all their time debating how to do it... I was Ordained Oct 20, 1970. Once I get started working in Christian Education and Youth I knew what my calling was and forgot all about graduate school.

Three years later I was bumped up to “Associate Minister.” In February of 1976 I accepted a call as Associate Minister for Christian Education and Youth to Palma Sola Presbyterian Church in Bradenton, FL. Margo and I acquired two children, Tyler and Palmer, at this time. That Presbytery was a part of the PCUS but also became a Union Presbytery. I was blessed by the opportunity of being a delegate (on the PCUS) side to the Reunion General Assembly in 1983.

Shortly thereafter, in December of 1984, I accepted a position as Associate Minister for Christian Education and Youth at the First Presbyterian Church, Bartlesville, OK. I served there until Summer of 1993 when I accepted a call as Associate Minister for Christian Education and Youth at The West Side Presbyterian Church, Ridgewood, NJ. A church of 1500 members, it made national news by burning to the ground in 2002. A long hard period of survival and rebuilding followed. Other staff members left but I stayed. After 17 years there I felt that the congregation was in good hands and on the way back to strength and health so I took this opportunity to retire.

Throughout my ministry I worked at Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly levels in youth work. Most notably I wrote a series of articles that was published in a PC(USA) periodical, *Strategy Magazine*, that was eventually edited into the PCUS *Youth Manual*, I then wrote a new section for the *Supplement*. I wrote portions of the Presbyterian Youth Connection curriculum and other denominational curricula. I served on three committees designing our denominational confirmation curricula. My group in Florida wrote a Small Group Manual for a Montreat Youth Conference, and I have served as a Small Group Leader for many Montreat and Triennium Youth Conferences and was on one MYC planning team.

I am reconciled to the fact that I am not likely to be doing much more serious youth work at this age, but I do feel that God will have a new calling for me in the near future.