

John Calvin Presbytery  
January 07, 2013

Called Meeting  
Westminster Presbyterian Church  
Springfield, Missouri

**JOHN CALVIN PRESBYTERY  
CALLED MEETING  
January 07, 2013**

The January 7, 2013 Called Meeting of John Calvin Presbytery was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Moderator of the Presbytery, Susan Leonard. The purpose of this called meeting is to examine the Reverend Dr. Andrew Chaney and vote on his terms of call to serve as head of staff at the First and Calvary Presbyterian Church in Springfield, Missouri.

Salary	\$ 80,000
Housing	<u>\$ 30,000</u>
Total Effective Salary	\$ 110,000

Board of Pensions	\$ 36,300
Continuing Education	\$ 2,000
Travel	\$ 2,000
Professional Expenses	<u>\$ 4,000</u>
Total Cost to Church	\$154,300

2 weeks of study leave

4 weeks of vacation

All reasonable and prudent moving expenses will be paid by the church.

The Reverend Ellen Brantley, pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, led the Presbytery in prayer.

The Rev. Melana Scruggs, Stated Clerk, declared that a quorum was present. (A quorum necessary to transact business at each stated meeting of the presbytery shall consist of not less than six (6) ministers and as many ruling elders as may be present providing that at least four (4) particular churches are represented by ruling elders.)

**TEACHING ELDERS PRESENT:**

Brantley, Ellen	Carson, Chuck	Cavicchia, Thomas	Ellis Greg
Evans, Vicki	Ferree, Greg	Havens, Bill	Knott, Alex
Menzel, Dick	Oerter, Lucia	Roberts, Matthew	Rosenbaum, Susan
Schwandt, Becky	Scruggs, Melana	Simpson, Bob	Skillings, John
Williams, Barry	Williams, Chris	Winzenried, Dennis	Wobbema, Peggy
Yoon, Young Kuen			

**TEACHING ELDERS EXCUSED:**

Heth, Ollie	Holle, Shelly	Noonoo, K. O.
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**COMMISSIONED RULING ELDERS PRESENT:**

Winzenried, Phyllis

**COMMISSIONED RULING ELDERS EXCUSED:**

Dellow, Walt	Stover, Sam
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**RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

Carthage First, Topley, Janet	Forsyth Comm. Presb., DeBres, Gerri
Spfd., Westminster, Esselman, Doug	Willard Mt. Zion, Goolson, Michelle

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**PRESBYTERY OFFICER, COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bane, Rosemary - Committee on Representation  
Esselman, Debbie - General Council  
Leonard, Susan - JCP Moderator  
Palmerton, Fred - Nominating Committee  
Tranbarger, Jim - Committee on Ministry  
Williams, Brenda - Committee on Preparation for Ministry

**PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE PRESENT**

Brammer, Ron	Dancey, Tom	Hartner, Keith	Haden, Grant
Wasson, Lynn			

**VISITORS:**

Chaney, Andrew	Leonard, Byron	Phillips, Mac
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The Rev. Melana Scruggs, Stated Clerk moved to seat the following as corresponding members, the Rev. Dr. Andrew Chaney, Chicago Presbytery.

**Motion seconded and approved.**

The members of the First and Calvary congregation were recognized and welcomed

The Reverend Chris Williams, Acting Moderator of our Committee on Ministry, led the discussion of the nomination. Chris introduced Elder Lynn Wasson, chair of the Pastor Nominating Committee and asked Lynn to tell us about the process and introduce the candidate. Lynn told the presbytery that AAEEEO guidelines were followed in the search process and that one candidate stood out. She introduced the Rev. Dr. Andrew Chaney.

Chris moved that the Presbytery invite the Reverend Dr. Andrew Chaney to share his faith journey.

**Motion approved.**

*Faith Journey*

*My faith journey began growing up as a Presbyterian pastor's son. My father was the pastor of a church in Alabama for 23 years. Since my grandmother's little country church was in a neighboring town and they didn't have a pastor, sometimes our family would go to church twice. One church was in the middle of a small university town, and the other church was in the rural countryside. When I completed confirmation, I remember being so excited to exercise my membership rights in the church. A memorable time was when I nominated Dorothy Nelson, the first woman to serve on the church's session.*

*I learned to think about theology in my worship in these churches, mainly through old, great hymns like Great is Thy Faithfulness, Fairest Lord Jesus, What a Friend We Have in Jesus, Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart, Take My Life and Let It Be, Have Thine Own Way, Trust and Obey, The Church's One Foundation, and Holy, Holy, Holy. Hymns, music old and new, still inform my theological framework to this day.*

*Our church had an active youth program. Eventually it led me to working as a leader at youth conferences at Montreat, North Carolina, where my family enjoyed attending Mission conferences. Missionaries always seemed to be stopping by our house so we were very aware of what being a missionary means. When I was selected to*

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*represent our synod on the Youth and Young Adult Ministries Committee, I began to learn more about our denomination, and that led me to attend several General Assemblies with my father.*

*I attended a small Presbyterian college, Rhodes College, in Memphis, Tennessee, but my call to ministry happened after I pursued more studies in graduate school. My father was stricken with cancer and the congregation visited him in the hospital. They sang hymns with him, prayed with him, and asked him how this could happen to such a wonderful man of God. The illness took him quickly, but the experience of community during that summer had a profound impact upon me. I had prayed with my beloved friends, with my father and family, and in prayer God's call to ministry to me became clear.*

*My experience in seminary was punctuated by three internships. One was a full time internship where my wife and I left campus to learn about ministry first hand. The other two internships were part-time in churches a short drive from the campus. One of my campus jobs was being the site trip coordinator for the field education department. I helped students discern where they would do their internships by arranging site trips to area chaplaincies, prison ministries, agencies, churches, campus ministries, and other settings. As a seminary student, I was impressed at how unique God's call was, sometimes calling people to particular settings, but sometimes surprising them with the completely unexpected.*

*Eventually I returned to one of my internship churches to be Associate Minister. When I was called to a church nearby to serve as Senior Minister, I continued an intern program. One of the things I enjoy doing in churches is to facilitate God's gifts being unleashed from a person's life. It's a real joy to watch someone discover God's blessings. I enjoyed our presbytery and working with colleagues to address poverty, developing Operation Good Neighbor. After five years, the Executive Presbyter suggested that I respond to an inquiry from the oldest non-denominational church in America, Kenilworth Union Church. It had a tradition of calling Presbyterians to serve as Senior Minister.*

*My faith journey continued at Kenilworth Union Church, located in a suburb of Chicago, Illinois. With fifty agencies supported by the church and an active mission and outreach program, there have been many exciting opportunities for ministry. After four years, when another one of my past intern churches needed a minister, I wondered if God was calling me to new challenges. I realized, as I explored this opportunity, that I enjoyed working as part of the Presbytery of Chicago's Stewardship and Financial Development Workgroup providing stewardship help to the presbytery's churches, but I had missed the complete Presbyterian system within the life of the church. I missed the polity and theology that had formed my faith identity- I longed to return to the Presbyterian way. There is something very spiritual about sitting around a table with elders who are called to serve and whose wisdom is guided by prayer and an understanding of polity. When I encountered the people of First and Calvary, I truly feel God's call to them and in deep humility look forward to what God has planned for ministry with them and my new colleagues in presbytery.*

#### *Statement of Faith*

*My faith is rooted in belief in the Triune God: the Creator, Sustainer, Redeemer; or God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. There are many expressions of God that only begin to express God's relationship with us. They offer a glimpse of who God is and who we are. We are children of God welcomed by God into the family of faith that is the church. God created all things, seen and unseen, known and unknown, ancient and new. Out of love, God created the cosmos, our world and humanity. God declared all of God's creation to be good and thus humans were given the opportunity and command to love and care for God's creation. Humans were created in the image of God, the breath of God in humanity, to live in personal relation to God to be stewards of God's creation.*

*The Bible is the story God has given to humanity to explain how God reaches out in love to humanity after it rebelled from God in sin. It shows how God reconciled the world by taking on human flesh and breaking into history in the person of Jesus, bringing salvation and liberation to humanity. Jesus became human and lived a life completely devoted to God, teaching in parables, touching outcasts and loving sinners, challenging assumptions, and*

*giving hope. Jesus gave his life on the cross, and through that sacrificial act, gave humanity the gift of salvation, redemption and hope. In his resurrection, Jesus taught that death does not have the last word; the last word belongs to God and it is a word of life and the promise of eternal and abundant life.*

*Jesus is God's Incarnate Word, embodying God's abundant love, saving power, and God's call to go and serve others. The Bible is the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus, as well as God's covenantal promises and God's salvation history with humanity since the beginning of time. The ministry of Jesus continues as Jesus poured the Holy Spirit upon the disciples, creating the church. God's creative activity continues in order to bring about the Kingdom of God on earth. God seeks justice and peace, freedom and unity, reconciliation and hope, forgiveness and love.*

*The Bible demonstrates how God reveals Godself to us through the continual presence of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit leads us into truth, renews and sustains us, and gives peace in community. It teaches, guides, and opens us to truth. As we study God's words in the Scriptures in community, we trust that they were inspired by the Holy Spirit and believe them to be the unique witness to Jesus.*

*The Holy Spirit sustains our faith- uniting us to one another, guiding us along our journey, illuminating the Word of God for our understanding. The Word contains God's message of grace, which is God's love in spite of the fact that we are not deserving of it. Through God's love and grace we are forgiven, set free, and united to serve God and God's people in the world. God's grace is free, abundant, and completely undeserved. With hearts overflowing in gratitude for God's mercy, we seek to repent and turn away from the powers of sin and live faithfully into God's steadfast promise of eternal life.*

*Through God's forgiveness, we are called out of the world of sin and death and called to dwell in Christian community as the Body of Christ, the Church. In the Church we seek to live and serve and love God and God's people as Jesus loved. The Church is the place where broken and struggling people of God come together to bear witness to the truth and power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Church's call is to discern where God is at work in the world and join in that mission. When we participate in God's mission, when we partner with God, we usher in the kingdom of God in the here-and-now – the kingdom of God on earth as it is in Heaven.*

*The Church is a covenant community that lives by an obedient concern for order through polity and the historic creeds and confessions. Through the Holy Spirit, the Church is bound together – one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God of all. God's calling involves dwelling with, serving, and loving all of God's people, including those with which we disagree, through preaching, teaching, corporate and private prayer, the study of God's Word, service to the poor and outcaste, and the administration of the sacraments.*

*We are nourished for this mission through the two sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper- the signs and seals of God's active and powerful presence in the world. Through our baptism, we become a part of the body of Christ. The community witnesses to and embodies God's promise that we are welcomed into God's family and united in covenant with God and God's people. Baptism calls a congregation to commit to journeying with each other and with the baptized as they grow in faith. Through the Lord's Supper, we are continually strengthened and nourished by the body and blood of Christ through the Spirit, remembering the salvific demonstration of God's love through the cross and resurrection. We gather to witness, remember, and encounter the Risen Christ. As we share in the spiritual feast, we are gifted with a glimpse of the heavenly banquet where we will gather as God's people. Baptism and the Lord's Supper remind us of God's in-breaking power surrounding us in daily life.*

*As we are actively involved in this world, we continue to look forward to the fully-realized Kingdom of God that we believe, in faith, will come one day – the new earth and the new heaven. But until that day comes, we are called to love God the Creator, to seek to follow the way of Jesus the Redeemer and to be attentive to all the movements of the Spirit the Sustainer. We must seek to live in community as the body of Christ, serving as Christ served, loving as Christ loved. Amen.*

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Chris Williams asked the first question and after his response, the floor was opened for questions.

Matthew Roberts made the motion to arrest the examination.

**Seconded and approved.**

Dr. Chaney was escorted from the room

Discussion ensued on the floor. Reverend Bill Havens moved to sustain the examination.

**Seconded and approved.**

Dr. Chaney was escorted back to the meeting and was met with applause and welcomed into membership in the Presbytery. The Rev. Greg Ellis prayed for Andrew, his family, and the First and Calvary congregation as they begin this new relationship.

Chris Williams presented the terms of call and moved for approval.

**Seconded and approved.**

Chris Williams moved that the COM be given permission to approve the Administrative Commission to install Dr. Chaney. **Motion approved.**

The Rev. Lucia Oerter closed with prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 11:15am.