

Minutes of the  
COVENANT PRESBYTERY

October 13, 1984

1. Covenant Presbytery met for its Fall meeting at the Faith Bible Presbyterian Church of Falls Church, Virginia on Saturday, October 13, 1984. The meeting was called to order by the moderator, Elder John B. Debnam, Jr., at 10:20 A.M. and led in the opening prayer.
2. The moderator presented a short devotional followed by prayer led by Dr. George W. Fincke, Jr.
3. ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET: Motion carried to adopt the regular docket including the election of officers.
4. WELCOME BY THE HOST CHURCH: Elder James M. Diehl of the Faith Bible Presbyterian Church of Falls Church, Virginia welcomed the Presbytery and stated that lunch would be served in the Fellowship Hall at the lunch hour.
5. ROLL CALL AND PRESENTATION OF EXCUSES: Those present were Dr. George W. Fincke, Jr., the Rev. George B. Fincke, Elder John B. Debnam, Jr., Elder James M. Diehl, Elder Robert N. Kerr, Elder Elwood Reamer and the Rev. Ralph J. Schuler. The following were excused upon their written request: The Robert H. DuVall, the Rev. Evan Renne, the Rev. John V. G. Koontz, Dr. Allan A. MacRae, Elder Robert Carpenter, Dr. Gary Cohen, the Rev. Robert Laman, Dr. Gordon H. Clark and the Rev. Joseph W. Trindle.
6. RECEPTION OF NEW AND CORRESPONDING MEMBERS: None. It was pointed out that Elder Reamer was the elder delegate representing the Covenant Bible Church and Elder Kerr was the alternate delegate from that church.
7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: On motion which carried, the Rev. George B. Fincke was elected by acclamation of presbytery to serve as its moderator for the coming year. By a similar vote Elder James M. Diehl was elected to serve as vice-moderator and the Rev. Ralph J. Schuler was elected to a three year term as Stated Clerk to replace Elder Ronald L. Taylor who has moved to Kansas. On motion which carried the new Stated Clerk was requested to write a letter to Elder Taylor expressing the appreciation of the presbytery for his service as Stated Clerk, the prayers of presbytery in his new situation and the hope that we could have continued fellowship in the future.
8. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE ENGROSSED MINUTES: On motion which carried the minutes of May 12, 1984 were approved as printed without a reading.
9. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS: Lunch would be served by the church in the Fellowship Hall as mentioned in the Welcome by Elder James M. Diehl at the convenience of presbytery.
10. REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK: The Stated Clerk reported that the

Rev. Robert H. DuVall had resigned the pulpit of the Ortega Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville, Florida and that the Rev. Earl E. Pinckney had been received by the Central Florida Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America. This presbytery has not received any correspondence from the Central Florida Presbytery (PCA). The previous Stated Clerk, Elder Ronald Taylor, at the request of the Rev. Earl Pinckney had addressed a letter to that Presbytery stating that the Rev. Earl E. Pinckney was a member in good and regular standing of this presbytery.

11. TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer reported a balance on hand of \$395.29.

12. OFFERING: An offering of \$24.00 was received bringing the balance on hand to \$419.29.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: A report was given regarding the installation service of the Rev. George B. Fincke as Associate Pastor of the Covenant Bible Church. Motion carried that presbytery pay 20 cents per mile to officers of presbytery who attend official functions at the direction of presbytery as a standing policy.

Presbytery recessed for lunch at 12:05 P.M.

14. PRESENTATION OF CALLS AND REQUESTS FOR DISSOLUTION: Motion carried to remove the name of the Rev. Earl E. Pinckney from the roll of our presbytery in that he had been received by the Central Florida Presbytery (PCA).

15. REPORT OF COMMITTEES: There were no committee reports, however, it was pointed out that we had not elected members to committees when electing officers. Whereupon, the following committee members were elected by classes:

#### CANDIDATES AND CREDENTIALS:

Class of 1985: Dr. Allan A. MacRae and Rev. Ralph J. Schuler  
Class of 1986: Elder John B. Debnam and Rev. Geo. B. Fincke  
Class of 1987: Elder Robert Carpenter and Rev. John Koontz

#### YOUTH COMMITTEE:

Class of 1985: Rev. Ralph J. Schuler  
Class of 1986: Dr. George W. Fincke, Jr.  
Class of 1987: Elder Chris Collyer

#### SESSIONAL RECORDS:

Class of 1985: Elder James M. Diehl  
Class of 1986: Elder Robert N. Kerr  
Class of 1987: Elder Elwood Reamer

#### VACANCY AND SUPPLY:

Class of 1985: Rev. Ralph J. Schuler

Class of 1986: Elder James M. Diehl  
Class of 1987: Rev. George B. Fincke

ORGANIZATION AND RECEPTION OF NEW CHURCHES:

Class of 1985: Dr. Gary Cohen and Rev. Robert H. DuVall  
Class of 1986: Elder Elwood Reamer and Rev. Ralph J. Schuler  
Class of 1987: Elder John Debnam and Elder Robert Kerr

The Stated Clerk was asked to request the Clerks of Sessions to bring their Session Minute Books to the next meeting of presbytery.

16. BUSINESS ON THE DOCKET: None

17. NEW BUSINESS: The presbytery discussed its concern for the Rev. Robert H. DuVall in his divorce situation and resignation from the Ortega Presbyterian Church. The Stated Clerk was instructed to write him a letter requesting him to meet with a committee of presbytery in Falls Church at a mutually convenient time. The presbytery would pay his travel costs.

Because of the lack of sufficient time to deal with other items, the following items were placed on the docket of the next meeting:

1. Discussion of developments within the Bible Presbyterian Church.
2. Church development and extension.
3. Eligibility of ministers not engaged in an active ministry to remain a member of presbytery.

18. RESOLUTIONS AND VOTES OF THANKS: Dr. George W. Fincke, Jr. moved that thanks be extended to the host church for the use of its facilities and hospitality. Motion carried.

19. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: Motion carried to accept the invitation of the Covenant Bible Church of North Cape May, N.J. for the meeting to be held Saturday, May 11, 1985 at 10 A.M. The church will provide lunch for presbytery on that day.

20. READING OF THE MINUTES BY THE STATED CLERK: On motion which carried, the minutes were not read.

21. ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER: On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:21 P.M. with the Rev. George B. Fincke leading in the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph J. Schuler,  
Stated Clerk

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