



Call to the Presbytery Meeting

9:00 am

March 21, 2015

St. Philip Presbyterian Church, 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056
www.saintphilip.net 713/622-4807

Dear Commissioners,

We begin the year of "Passionately Engaging Our Community" as we work backwards through the vision statement of the presbytery. Our keynote speaker is Rodger Nishioka, from Columbia Theological Seminary. He is well known in Presbyterian circles for his focus on equipping pastors to be teachers and leaders in the church's educational ministry. He is particularly interested in building a congregation's youth and young adult ministries. He will be with us in the morning, and then will be working with our youth over the weekend.

We also have the privilege of hearing from Gradye Parsons, the Stated Clerk of the PC(U.S.A.) who will be preaching the morning worship service. Gradye is coming to town with the Presbyterian Historical Society who will be leading a workshop at the Presbytery Center (1110 Lovett) on Friday afternoon about preservation of church records. More information will be coming about that event.

We will be voting on the amendments to the Book of Order at this meeting. The commissioners at last year's General Assembly acted on all kinds of business that had come up from congregations and presbyteries in the form of overtures. We have 7 items that we will be voting on including the change in the Directory for Worship regarding marriage.

The General Council has decided that new revisions to the Gracious Reconciliation and Dismissal Procedure constitute substantial enough changes that they are asking for the document from November to be withdrawn. We will look at the new document as a new first reading. The newly proposed revisions are to bring us more in line with the Book of Order and the Tom decision on the financial settlement, which should protect us from the possibility of disciplinary action against the presbytery. We appreciate the input that we have received, and want to bring you the best procedure that we can offer.

We will hear from someone seeking ordination in a new call, and do our usual business along the way. I am hopeful that it will be a great day in the life of our presbytery!

Lynn Hargrove
Stated and Recording Clerk



JOHN W. WURSTER, PASTOR

Dear Partners in Ministry,

Grace and peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ! On behalf of the Session of St. Philip Presbyterian Church, I invite you to the meeting of the Presbytery of New Covenant on March 21, 2015. We are looking forward to having you here.

Registration opens at 8:30 with an orientation for new commissioners at 8:45. The meeting begins at 9:00 with worship in the Sanctuary. Gradye Parsons, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, is the preacher. The meeting docket also includes voting on proposed constitutional amendments, as well as a keynote presentation by Rodger Nishioka of Columbia Seminary.

Parking is available in the church lots off of San Felipe.

With advanced notice, childcare is available for the meeting for children five years old and younger. **Please contact the church office for childcare reservations by March 14.** Parents must bring a sack lunch, snacks, diapers, bottles, etc. Unfortunately, we are unable to care for sick children or those with special needs. Parents should pick up their children promptly after the meeting.

Tickets for lunch at the church will be sold during registration. Additionally, there are numerous restaurants within walking distance of St. Philip.

Please let the presbytery staff know of any equipment, meeting rooms, or display area desired. They will coordinate with us in making provisions. You must arrange for display area ahead of time by completing a display request form. Please call Lynn Hargrove. (713) 525-2585, ext. 210 or email her at lhargrove@pbyofcovenant.org.

The Presbytery Packet will be posted online two weeks prior to the meeting and mailed to those churches and ministers without e-mail. It is the responsibility of each commissioner to access this packet and bring it to the meeting. There is wi-fi at the church.

I am grateful for our life together and anticipate our gathering at St. Philip.

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Wurster", is written below the typed name.

St. Philip Presbyterian Church
4807 San Felipe
Houston, TX 77056

The church is located on San Felipe just west of Loop 610.



Nearby hotels:

Hampton Inn Galleria
4500 Post Oak Pkwy, Houston, TX 77027
855-271-3622 www.hamptoninn.com

La Quinta Inn & Suites Houston Galleria Area
1625 West Loop South, Houston, TX 77027
800-753-3757 www.lq.com

Drury Inn & Suites Near the Galleria
1615 West Loop South, Houston, TX 77027
713-963-0700 www.druryhotels.com