

**PRESBYTERY OF THE TWIN CITIES AREA  
REGULAR STATED MEETING  
JANUARY 8, 2011  
UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
NEW BRIGHTON, MINNESOTA**

*“We fearlessly follow the **Holy Spirit** into a changing world.”*

**Call to Meeting**

In accordance with *Book of Order*, Form of Government G-11.0200, and the Bylaws of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, Article I, The Presbytery will meet in regular stated session on Saturday, January 8, 2011, at United Theological Seminary, 3000 Fifth Street, New Brighton, Minnesota, 55112, at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will be in the Bigelow Chapel. Parking is available on the south side of the building, and on the east side.

Preceding the meeting, at 8:00 a.m., a Pre-Presbytery event, led by The Reverend Barbara Ann Keely and The Reverend Matt Johnson, sponsored by the Bills and Overtures Committee, will provide an opportunity for presbyters to learn about the new Form of Government, which is a proposed amendment to the Constitution, Part II, *Book of Order*. If approved, the proposed form of government will replace the current Form of Government portion of the *Book of Order*. This amendment will be the subject of a discussion opportunity on February 12, 2011. Please watch the Presbytery website for information concerning this event.

At 8:30 a.m., all clergy and elders new to the Presbytery, or attending for the first time, are invited to an orientation led by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, Elder Nancy Gritman.

Registration and fellowship will begin at 9:00 a.m. Faculty members currently on the staff at UTS will conduct the worship throughout the day. The theme of worship will center on “**Holy Spirit**” as emphasized in the Vision of the Strategic Plan.

The Call to Meeting for September outlined the schedule for dealing with the amendments sent down from 219<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, July 2010. At this meeting, the voting will be on the Belhar Confession. This vote is an up or down vote. It is not open to amendment. A majority of commissioners voting in favor of adding this confession to the constitution will result in a report of “YES” from Twin Cities Area Presbytery. In order to become part of the constitution, two-thirds of the 173 presbyteries (116) must cast a positive vote.

Honoring the Strategic Plan, which was approved overwhelmingly at the November 9, 2010, meeting of this Presbytery, the Bills and Overtures has presented a process, which has been approved by Council, for presenting the Belhar Confession for discussion and vote. A copy of

this process is in your packet, which will provide an opportunity for different perspectives to be heard, as a development of ideas rather than an “us vs. them” environment. Please take time to read this process, as well as review the Strategic Plan, especially Goal Number 4: Establish a culture in which controversial issues are consistently addressed in a Christ-honoring, honest, civil, respectful, healthy, mutually affirming manner.

Small group time will be centered on the New Form of Government, which will be voted on in March. Please read through your copy of nFog, Amendment No. 1, which was distributed in September.

Dates to remember:

February 12, 2011: Open Forum Workshop on nFog, Christ Presbyterian Church, Edina, MN, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon)

March 12, 2011: Regular Stated Meeting, Valley Presbyterian Church, Golden Valley, MN: vote on New Form of Government (nFog); study remaining proposed amendments to the constitution.

April 2, 2011: Oak Grove Presbyterian Church, Bloomington, MN, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon: Open Forum Workshop on remaining amendments.

May 10, 2011: Annual Stated Meeting, Peace Presbyterian Church, St. Louis Park, MN. Voting on all remaining proposed amendments.

Please consider prayerfully electing continuing commissioners to each stated meeting in order to be better prepared to vote.

For the January 8, 2011 meeting, 150 meals (12 vegetarian) have been ordered and are guaranteed by the Presbytery. Tickets are \$7.00 each. Seating for dinner will be in the library, which is on the same level as the chapel.

Grace and peace,

Nancy E. Gritman  
Stated Clerk

**DIRECTIONS:**

**From I-694, exit on Silver Lake Road going SOUTH. Stay on Silver Lake Road to 5<sup>th</sup> St. N.W. Turn right. United Seminary is at the end of the street on the right hand side. Turn right on Stinson to park on the West side of the building.**