

January 12, 2008
Meeting Room

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session **met in a Called Meeting** on Saturday, January 12, 2008, to consider and adopt a church operating budget for 2008. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Moderator Mark Cooper at 10:10 a.m.

A quorum consisting of the following was present:

- Moderator Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastor Reverend Helen DeLeon; and
- Active Elders: Carl Allen, Karla Bradley, Jennifer Carr, Tye Cowan, John Dewey, Watson Dupont, Gene Fisseler, Johnny Jones, Diane Kane, Ross Looney, Chuck Moede, Roy Phillips, Reese Terry and Dennis Waehner.

Active Elders Susan Anderson, Al Manson, Stacey Menard, Marjorie Sieter, Elizabeth Spivey, and Michael Stearns were excused.

Active Elders-Elect Jeanette Chase, John Grady, Dan Hunter, John Jordan, Mary Lawrence, and Melissa Moede were present as invited guests.

Treasurer Pat Koester was also present.

The Moderator opened the discussion with his perspective on the budget process and what we should be able to achieve during the meeting. The Session then proceeded to review the proposed spending budget as compiled by the Finance team from submittals by the all the committees.

The Finance team reported that operating budget support pledged by the congregation for 2008 is expected to be \$675,000. Taken with a projected \$60,000 in non-pledged support and \$4,000 in other revenues, the Finance team's best projection of total revenues in 2008 is \$739,000, more than was actually received in 2007. See table below for information regarding 2007 spending.

	2007 Actual As-Spent	
Fellowship & Welcoming	\$1,691	0.3%
Care-Deacons/Stephen Ministry	\$1,743	0.3%
Worship	\$8,747	1.3%
Education	\$10,815	1.6%
Care-Mission	\$48,938	7.3%
Stewardship & Finance	\$70,901	10.5%
Administration-Office	\$89,086	13.2%
Buildings & Grounds	\$120,767	17.9%
Administration-Personnel	\$321,708	47.7%
Total	\$674,396	100.0%

Session agreed that the 2008 budget will reflect following changes:

- Increase in payroll (Administration-Personnel) to cover the addition of the associate music director
- Increase in payroll (Administration-Personnel) to cover staff pay raises by an amount equal to an across-the-board 3% increase

Then, in order to adopt a balanced budget recognizing the above listed items and the incompressible nature of Stewardship & Finance Committee spending, the Session moved,

Treasurer's Report - The Session voted to:

- **Approve a resolution** establishing various banking signatory authorities;
- **Elect Pat Koester** to serve as Treasurer in 2008; and,
- **Elect Anne Waehner and Dick Mills** to serve as Assistant Treasurers in 2008.

The Session received the Treasurer's report.

Clerk's Report - The Session voted to elect Gene Fisseler to serve as Clerk in 2008.
The Session received the Clerk's report.

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of December 18, 2007	711	395	
Gains:			
Transfer of Letter	+ 0	+ 0	
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 0	+ 0	
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses:			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 2</u>	<u>- 0</u>	Roy, Colwell
Membership as of January 22, 2008	709	395	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith:	<u>+ 140</u>		(+1) Eason
Total children, youth and adults:	849		

Baptism: Mia Ann Eason, born September 20, 2007, daughter of Whitney Ann (member) and Michael Duane Eason and sister of Briley Ann Eason; granddaughter of John and Madeline Nugent (member); on December 23, 2007

Deaths:

- A. J. Roy died December 28, 2007; and,
- Pat Colwell died January 5, 2008

Funerals:

- A. J. Roy funeral on January 3, 2008 (Helen DeLeon officiated)
- Pat Colwell funeral on January 5, 2008 (Mark Cooper and Helen DeLeon co-officiated)

Letter of Transfer: The **Session voted to authorize a Letter of Transfer** for Petrea and Tipton Tindall to St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas.

Ordination and Installation of Officers:

- The following individuals, having been duly elected at the Congregational Meeting on November 18, 2007, were Ordained and installed as Elders, Class of 2010, on January 13, 2008: John Grady, Dan Hunter, John Jordan, and Melissa Moede (Youth Elder)
- The following individuals, having been duly elected at the Congregational Meeting on November 18, 2007, and having been previously Ordained, were installed as Elders, Class of 2010, on January 13, 2008: Jeanette Chase, James Kinzler, and Mary Lawrence.

seconded and approved a motion directing the Finance team to (1) "fix" the Administration-Personnel budget proposal, as modified, and the Stewardship & Finance budget proposal and (2) allocate the balance of the expected revenues (\$739,000) to the remaining committees, on a pro rata basis, computed using 2007 actual spending by each of the remaining committees.

A final 2008 budget proposal will be presented at the next Stated Meeting on Tuesday, January 22, 2008, for Session approval. Each committee will then be responsible for developing detailed budget line items.

A summary version of the 2008 budget will be presented to the Congregation at its Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 27, 2008.

The purpose of the meeting having been accomplished, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with Prayer by the Moderator at 12:15 p.m.


Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

January 22, 2008
Meeting Room

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session **convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, January 22, 2008, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:05 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastor Helen DeLeon; and,
- Active Elders, Jeanette Chase, Jennifer Carr, Tye Cowan, John Dewey, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), John Grady, Dan Hunter, Johnny Jones, John Jordan, Diane Kane, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Al Manson, Roy Phillips, Michael Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

The following members of Session were excused:

- Active Elders Watson Dupont and Melissa Moede.

Also present were Pat Koester and Sunday School Superintendent Linda Smith-Gregory.

A quorum was declared by the Clerk and the Agenda for the meeting was approved.

New Members – The Moderator welcomed Shallon Barboza, 2008 Chair of the New Member Team, who introduced Fay Leach an individual expressing a desire to become a full member of Webster Presbyterian Church. After learning a bit about Ms. Leach, Rev. Cooper asked a series of questions regarding her faith and commitment to the church. Being satisfied with her answers, the **Session voted to receive** Fay Leach into Full Membership of Webster Presbyterian Church by reaffirmation of faith. Ms. Leach will be presented to the congregation on Sunday, February 3, 2008, during the 8:30 a.m. worship service.

The **Session voted to approve minutes** of the:

- December 18, 2007, Stated Meeting of Session; and,
- January 12, 2008 Called Meeting (Budget) of Session.

- The following individuals, having been duly elected at the Congregational Meeting on November 18, 2007, were Ordained and installed as Deacons, Class of 2010, on January 13, 2008: Wade Barclay, Roemehl Dewey, Judy Ota, Jennifer Paden (Youth Deacon), Judy Ramsay, and Ed Tobia.
- The following individuals, having been duly elected at the Congregational Meeting on November 18, 2007, and having previously been Ordained, were installed as Deacons, Class of 2010, on January 13, 2008: Carolyn "Bambi" Fitzgerald, Kim Harano, and Jackie Hart.
- James Ingram having been duly elected at the Congregational meeting on November 18, 2007, was installed as Trustee, Class of 2010, on January 13, 2008.

Motion from the Clerk: The **Session voted to approve the process of taking action** via telephone and electronic mail (email) during 2008 on matters that may come to its attention between Stated Meetings and that are suitable for such informal action, which actions will be ratified at the next Stated Meeting.

New Business

The **Session voted to approve the baptisms** of:

- Christopher Ryan Holtz, born October 22, 2007, son of Jacquelyn Green Holtz (member) and Kevin Carl Holtz; grandson of Suzanne and Richard Summers (members);
- Megan Florence Merritt, born December 6, 2007, daughter of Kimberly and David Merritt (members); and,
- Hannah Taylor Bailey, born April 17, 2007, daughter of Heather and Darryl Bailey (non-members) and granddaughter of Patty and Ronnie Lusk (members). Hannah's grandfather, Rev. Robert P. Starbuck, a retired Methodist minister, will co-officiate the baptism.
- The **Session voted to accept, with regret, the resignation** from active service on Session of Elder Susan Anderson, at her request.

Committee/Team Actions and Reports

The following Elder committee assignments were acknowledged:

- **Administration**
 - Communication – John Jordan
 - Personnel – Watson Dupont
 - Stewardship & Finance – Roy Phillips, Mike Stearns
 - Vision – Tye Cowan
- Buildings & Grounds – Dan Hunter, Johnny Jones
- Care of Members – Jeanette Chase
 - Fellowship & Welcoming – Jennifer Carr
- Christian Nurture – John Dewey
 - Children's Ministry – Cathy Black (contingent upon her election to the office of Elder at the Annual Meeting)
 - Youth Ministry – John Grady
 - Adult Ministry – Al Manson
- Mission – Diane Kane, James Kinzler
- Outreach – Gene Fisseler
- Worship – Mary Lawrence, Dennis Waehner

From Adult Ministry: The **Session voted to approve the book** entitled Bad Girls of the Bible authored by Liz Curtis Higgs for use by the Morning Break Bible Study Group during the winter term.

From Youth Ministry: The **Session voted to approve the following fund raising activities** to support Youth Mission activities:

- Jr. High youth collection of donations for Souper Bowl of Caring on Sunday, February 3, 2008;
- Sr. High youth collection of orders and donations for Super Bowl Sandwiches on Sundays, January 20 and 27, 2008; and,
- Sr. High youth selling tickets on Sundays, February 3 and 10, 2008, for the Valentine Dinner Dance which they will be hosting on Saturday, February 16, 2008.

Old Business:

- Roy Phillips, Chair of the Nominating Committee, announced that James Kinzler has agreed to serve as Co-Chair of the Nominating Committee.
- There will be church officer training conducted on Saturday, January 26, 2008, at St. Giles Presbyterian Church, at 5900 Pinemont, in Houston, Texas.
- Webster Presbyterian Church will host the Engaging Church conference on Wednesday, January 30, 2008.

Pastor's Report

Mark Cooper – Mark will be attending the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry meeting on Saturday, January 26, 2008.

Next Meetings

- The Annual Meeting of the Congregation of Webster Presbyterian Church will be convened following the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, January 27, 2008, in the Fellowship Hall.
- The 2008 Elder Retreat will be held at the beach home of Cleo and Johnny Jones on Saturday, February 2, 2008.
- The next Stated Meeting of Session will be convened Tuesday, February 26, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator at 8:40 p.m.


Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

January 27, 2008
Fellowship Hall

The **Congregation of Webster Presbyterian Church convened its duly called Annual Meeting** on Sunday, January 27, 2008, for the purposes of hearing the Session committees' annual reports, voting to change the Ordained Staff Terms of Call, electing at-large persons to the 2008 Nominating Committee, electing church officers to fill vacated positions, and responding to such other business that might properly be brought before it. A spaghetti dinner was served to those attending. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 1:00 p.m. Gene Fisseler, Clerk of Session, was appointed Secretary. A quorum was declared present and an agenda for the meeting was approved.

Printed copies of the Treasurer's Report, the Pastors' reports, and all the Session committee reports were supplied to members of the Congregation. A copy of the package is appended hereto.

Looking At What We Achieved in 2007...

The Congregation received Treasurer Pat Koester's year-end financial report. Her report was followed by reports from the Director of Music & Fine Arts Glenn Foster and Associate Director of Music & Fine Arts Geri Foster. Active Elders stood for their reports and took questions from the Congregation.

Pastors Cooper and DeLeon recognized the church staff, church member volunteers, and outgoing church officers. Outgoing Elders included Carl Allen, Karla Bradley, Ross Looney, Stacey Menard, Chuck Moede, Marjorie Sieter, Elizabeth Spivey, and Reese Terry. Outgoing Deacons were Arland Actkinson, Rosie Cade, Catherine Gragg, Tony LeCara (Moderator '06-'07), Scott McNeill, Susan Stearns (Vice Moderator for '06-'07), Dana Strahan, Linda Thomas, and Amy Waehner.

Looking Forward into 2008...

Elder Jennifer Carr presented the 2008 budget adopted by Session contingent upon changes to Terms of Call for our Ordained Staff. The Moderator yielded the podium to the Chair of the Personnel Committee Fisseler and left the room with Reverend DeLeon. Mr. Fisseler presented and explained the recommended 2.5% increase in Terms of Call for both pastors. The Congregation moved, seconded and passed the proposed increases. The total compensation package for Senior Pastor Mark Cooper in 2008 was set at \$122,549 and the total compensation package for Associate Pastor Helen DeLeon was set at \$72,114.

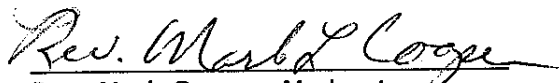
The Moderator and Reverend DeLeon returned to the meeting and the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Al Manson, presented candidates Jan Fisseler and Joyce Sens for the At-Large positions on the 2008 Nominating Committee. Each agreed to serve if elected. No other nominations were received. It was moved, seconded and passed that Jan and Joyce be elected to the 2008 Nominating Committee.


Mr. Manson then presented two candidates to fill vacated church officer seats. Sherry Straight was recommended to serve a one-year term on the Board of Deacons and Cathy Black was recommended to serve a one-year term on Session. Each agreed to serve if elected. No other nominations were received. It was moved, seconded and passed that Sherry and Cathy be elected.

The Deacons and Elders of the Class of 2010 were introduced to the Congregation. The revised structure of the Session was presented and discussed.

The Congregation voted to delegate the review and approval of minutes of 2008 meetings of the Congregation to the Session.

The purposes of the meeting having been accomplished, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by the Moderator at 2:00 p.m.


Rev. Mark Cooper, Moderator


Gene Fisseler, Secretary

LETTER FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

January 2008

Dear Webster Presbyterian Church Family –

The Good Book tells us there is a time and season for everything. Included in that is a time for looking forward and a time for looking back. In church life it is important to look back so we may apply what we have learned when looking ahead. An annual report is a way of looking back, and it is valuable because it helps us more fruitfully look forward.

The year 2007 was significant around WPC in a number of ways. Perhaps the most significant area was staffing. Our associate pastor Helen DeLeon continues her very dedicated hard work in a number of important areas. Daphne Riemer joined our staff as church secretary and has brought us much. She and our bookkeeper Shannon King provide the kind of efficient office presence we need and we are grateful. Glenn Foster returned to bring leadership to our music program, and brought Geri Foster with him. They and our organist Judy Wilson provide us with a music team we can and should be proud of, one that enhances our worship services in many ways. Linda Smith-Gregory continues to provide much-needed creative leadership to our Sunday School program. Our Associate Pastor Nominating Committee is working very hard to find us the right person to lead our youth ministries. Added to all this is a very large contingent of volunteers who work with great commitment to help us be the church God is calling us to be.

One of the major problems we face as a congregation is in the area of finance. We have a sense of the kind of church we want to have, the kind of church we want to be. It requires a certain kind of programming, a certain level of staffing. In actuality, we cannot quite afford to be that church. Our stewardship as a congregation doesn't quite allow it. It would be nice if we could find a way to solve that problem overnight, but that has been and is unlikely. We have, though, made important progress. In both of the last two stewardship campaigns a sizable number of our members have realized that the quality of our mission and ministry largely depends upon the church budget and significantly increased their pledging. If we can continue to make this kind of progress we will finally be in the position to become the church we hope to be.

When I first came to WPC, I was given a copy of the mission study the PNC had done prior to beginning the search for a new senior pastor. In that study members of the church were asked what they considered the church's greatest need to be. More than anything else, members of WPC thought our church needed a contemporary worship service. They didn't necessarily want it for themselves, but they thought it was important for the church to have one if it was going to minister effectively as it moved into the future. The church has examined the possibility over the years in a number of ways, but doing something like that well is difficult and could be quite expensive. In 2007, after the arrival of the Fosters, WPC was able finally to undertake this needed task with a minimum of expense and disruption. Our 8:30 worship service is still a "traditional" Presbyterian worship service, but with the help of our praise band, Joyful Noyz, the music is contemporary. The service has been extremely well received. Attendance has increase almost 50 percent over what it was at that service prior to the change. In addition, the committee which has been working on getting needed projection equipment is nearing the end of its work. This equipment promises to offer even further enhancements to the 8:30 service.

Also in 2007, in an effort to assist it in accomplishing its tasks, Session was reorganized. To improve cooperation between teams, the Children's, Youth, and Adult ministry teams are now subcommittees of the new Christian Nurture Committee. The personnel, stewardship and finance, long range planning, and communication committees are now subcommittees of the Administration committee, to allow them work together and help each other. The

newly formed Outreach Committee has been charged with the specific task of raising the profile of WPC in our community.

Much has indeed happened and much more is about to happen. These are exciting times for WPC. As others built a strong church for us to inherit, we are now doing our part to pass along an even stronger church to those who will come after us.

These are exciting times, and blessed times. Let us rejoice and be glad.

Mark L. Cooper

LETTER FROM OUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR

January 2008

Dear Webster Presbyterian Church:

God has plans for us, not for our harm, but for our good.

Webster Presbyterian Church is a congregation; a family and a community of faith called together by God to serve each other and the community around us. We have the comfort of knowing that we do not belong to ourselves, but are a part of something larger and more wonderful than we alone can imagine. We are a part of God's holy kingdom.

In 2007 we have worked to make God's kingdom more readily present among us; as we do so, it becomes more readily present in our world. What a joy! What a gift! We are a part of God's heavenly kingdom, and we get to share that with the world.

That is what I believe Webster Presbyterian Church is about. In the past year, we have seen our staff stabilize with the addition of a new Church Secretary, the return of a Director of Music, and the addition of a co-Director of Music. Mark is nearing the completion of his second year with us, and I have been with you for 4-1/2 years. While we have continued to miss one vital staff person, the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee is working diligently to round out our staff and set us on a new course in 2008.

We have the privilege of being able to look back at 2007 and see how we soared and where we fell. That gives us the information, inspiration, and hope for going forth in 2008, building on our successes and growing from our missteps. Missteps are our assurance that we have been working. We should not be afraid to fail; only to not try.

In 2007, most of the ministry areas of Webster Presbyterian Church continued to grow and stretch into new areas. From Worship to Children's Ministry, from Mission to Deacons, from Adult Education to Fellowship and Welcoming—through all of our ministries—we seek to make God's presence real for ourselves, each other, and our neighbors.

In 2008, we are re-organizing our ministries to facilitate communication and to continue to stretch our reach into the community. Watch for more opportunities to help others learn about God's gracious love for all through the work of the people—YOU—of Webster Presbyterian Church.

My prayer for all of us is that, in 2008, we will join hands and work together to be the community of faith that God has set apart in this community. Join with your pastors, your staff, and your many volunteer leaders to create in our little corner of the world the most joyful, vibrant, on-fire-for-God community in our area.

God has chosen each one of us to be a part of this work; let us do our part gladly.

Love,
Pastor Helen P. DeLeon

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Administration Committee: Gene Fisseler, Reese Terry, Dennis Waehner, and Mark Cooper/Staff Liaison

Office Computer Systems Team: Carlos Noriega, Dennis Waehner and Carla Yager

Personnel Team: Robert Cravens, Janis Edwards, Gene Fisseler, Kim Kinzler, Dennis Waehner, and Mark Cooper/Staff Liaison (Carlos Noriega – Ex Officio member)

Communications Team: India Allen, Nathan Grunden, Tina Looney, Chuck Moede, Joyce Sens, Reese Terry, Dennis Waehner and Jim Young

Acknowledgements: Our thanks to our office staff and the many volunteers from the congregation who've been engaged in the work of this committee, week-to-week and month-to-month. In addition, we offer our appreciation to "retiring" committee and team members Reese Terry, Kim Kinzler and Jim Young who contributed much while they served.

2007 Accomplishments:

Administration Committee (and Office Computer Systems Team)

- Maintained all office computers with latest security updates
- Maintained system backups
- Upgraded ACS (the church membership and financial database) to the '07 version
- Installed a wireless access point
- Replaced the guest computer from member donation
- Assumed landlord responsibility for the corner property upon closing (June) and managed the lease until the tenant left (September)
- Arranged for disposal of abandoned items in the house/garage and for demolition of the garage before the end of the year
- Arranged for removal and reuse of wood fencing around the property in January '08
- Initiated efforts to have house moved off the property - delayed into '08

Personnel Team

- Supported filling of the open full-time church secretary position
- Supported filling of the open full-time music director position
- Updated Performance Evaluation forms for Pastors' positions
- Conducted annual staff performance evaluations for six members of the permanent staff with input from almost 50 church members and staff
- Reassessed the "non-exempt" status of the Sunday School Superintendent position and re-designated the position as "exempt"
- Recommended staff compensation for '08

Communications Team

- Published 12 newspaper/magazine articles in local, regional and national publications
- Produced new visitors' brochure
- Published ten editions of "WebPress" (WPC's member newsletter)
- Redesigned the WPC website focusing on the visitor seeking a church, but including many new web services for the WPC member
- Initiated an assessment of hosting of an online discussion board
- Standardized the "WPC Brand" for publications, defining fonts, colors, stationery, etc.
- Kicked off the Sign Team in late '07 to investigate the design and installation of a new sign on NASA Parkway

Respectfully submitted by Elders Gene Fisseler, Reese Terry and Dennis Waehner

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRIES COMMITTEE REPORT

The members of the 2007 Team are: John Dewey, Chairman; Helen Deleon, Staff Advisor; Mary Lawrence (Sunday School), Jane Markley (Covenant Groups), Tony LeCara (Adult Christian Education), Rowena Colwell (Media & Resource Center), and Liz Loynes (Bible Study Groups). This ministry team has dedicated themselves to the fulfillment of the WPC vision – "To encounter the loving God, to nurture followers of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs" – through Adult Christian Education. Our classes, our covenant and Bible study groups and other education ministry groups have put life into our commitment and empowered our adult congregation to grow in their faith.

Adult Christian Education Classes

Our Adult CE classes go beyond our Sunday School classes. We have offered as many as five and no less than three classes on Sundays, as well as Wednesday night Book Study and Thursday night Pastor class. We averaged about 50–60 attendees per week for all of these programs. Our goal is to see these numbers grow. In 2008 we want to continue to expand our class offerings to grow our Sunday School program, as well as offer additional programming at the other times of the week. Another goal for 2008 is to recruit and train additional teachers.

Covenant Groups

From 2006 through 2007, we have progressed from three covenant groups to eight covenant groups and we have approximately 85 congregation members participating. A covenant group is a small group of 4-12 people who meet regularly to create "Christian Community" as they care, support, encourage and pray for one another. It is a way to know others more intimately by sharing our personal and spiritual life in a way that is not possible in a large group. Our groups are made up of women only, men & women, and a parenting group. In 2008 we are interested in expanding these groups and finding additional members who are interested in leading their own covenant group. In 2008, the Covenant Group Leadership Team is working to deepen the church's commitment to the covenant group ministry through additional leadership training and a seminar, under outside leadership to help re-enforce our progress.

Bible Study Groups

We presently have three Bible Study Groups: **Tuesday Morning Bible Class**, **Morning Break for Women** and **Breakfast Bunch for Women**. The Tuesday Morning Class is made up of men and women and averages 25 to 30 attending. In addition to Bible Study, the groups participate in various outside mission projects, such as Christmas care giving, collecting materials for Seafarer's Christmas boxes, supporting the homeless and "seniors."

Women's Ministries

The Women's Retreat is an annual Fall event where WPC women enjoy the opportunity to get away for a weekend of spiritual renewal, relaxation and fun. Attendance has averaged about 50 women and an outside speaker leads the women in a program of self-discovery. **The Sisters-in-Faith** is a unique program that brings women together two at a time to get to know one another over a six to nine month period. There have been 30 to 35 pairs of sisters having the opportunity to develop friendships with each other through the year. The program has been successful and is searching for ways to continue that success in 2008.

Media and Resource Center

A program of organizing and redistributing the Resource Center materials continues. We have been very successful in getting the children's books and materials into the Children's Ministry area. Closets are getting cleaned out and materials distributed to the proper activity. WPC's audio visual equipment is in constant use and requires care and feeding in order to be available to meet the demand. The Resource Center will continue to work with

the Audio-Visual Team in 2008 to acquire and maintain equipment to enhance the Christian education experience at WPC.

Respectfully submitted by Elder John Dewey, Chairman

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT

The year 2007 was an extremely busy year for the Buildings & Grounds (B&G) Team. The official and unofficial committee members are many. They include, but are not limited to Mike Stearns, Gene Fisseler, Carole Kloves, Joan McMillan, David Cook, Tom Camp, Ed Tobia, Carlos Noriega and many more. There were of course numerous other volunteers who joined in on the many projects that were completed during 2007. Again, big thanks to all who helped.....

The Christian Education (CE) Wing received lots of attention this past year. The roof was reworked and all seams on the membranes were redone. This work should provide WPC many more years of service with this roof. We removed water damaged sheetrock and insulation, dried, cleaned and treated the affected areas and then replaced the insulation and sheetrock. Much of the demolition and rebuilding work was provided by the youth and their parents. We also removed the original air handling unit and boiler. Two new and much more efficient air handlers were installed. These provide better airflow and comfort to all areas of the CE Wing. We had the electrical service reworked in this area to accommodate the new heating system. The classrooms have been repainted and redecorated. This portion of the renovation was particularly gratifying as each area was finished by the folks who regularly use these spaces. We now have a functional and nice looking CE Wing.

We had the membrane roof reworked for the rest of the Administration Building and for Bouton Hall in late 2006 and those repairs seem to be holding up well.

Along with the Worship Committee, we had new lighting added to the Sanctuary to enhance our worship experience and provide options in lighting for special events.

We replaced badly sinking and broken sidewalks around, and to the Fellowship Hall to provide a safer path for our members and guests and for those who work hard preparing food to get it, drinks, and ice carted into this facility. While we are talking about the kitchen, the ice machines in both Fellowship Hall food and preparation area Bouton Hall Kitchen were serviced along with the big commercial refrigerator/ freezer in the Bouton Hall Kitchen. The Kitchen dishwasher and large sink were serviced as well.

B&G fixed plumbing, lights, doors, and plumbing again and again. Our lighting committee has worked diligently to keep up with burned out bulbs and has done a great job. We serviced and had service performed on several air conditioning systems and, at this time, all units but one in the Fellowship Hall are in service (we had to leave something for the 2008 B&G committee to do, right?). The electrical service to the Library air conditioning has been completed and the unit is operational. Our youth painted the fire lane curb and the parking stripes in the drive-through lot and the handicapped-accessible signs were replaced.

The ceiling tiles in Bouton Hall are in the process of being replaced and all lighting there has been changed to the daylight bulbs with new diffusers on their way.

New shelving was installed in the Sanctuary Choir Robe Room to hold the choir's music library and to free up storage space in the Administration Building.

As you can see, the WPC facility requires a lot of work, and many volunteers have stepped forward to provide this support. Please remember these buildings in 2008 and join in when you can.

Respectfully submitted by Elders Ross Looney and Mike Stearns

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY COMMITTEE REPORT

Vision: We will prepare the children of WPC to go out into the world as Christians.

1. *We will educate our children about God and Jesus.*
2. *We will form relationships and mentor children to help them develop a personal relationship with God and Jesus.*
3. *We will teach children about the joy of a spirit-filled life and the Christian responsibility of giving.*
4. *We will partner with families in the spiritual growth of their children.*
5. *We will attract families with children to the church, and to its programs.*

In 2007, Children's Ministry was represented by a separate Session committee. These Committee members included: Diane Kane (Elder/Chair), Karla Bradley (Elder), Linda Smith-Gregory (Sunday School Superintendent), Wendy Noriega, Richard Koester, Rachel Boeckenhauer, Lauren Balletto, and Helen DeLeon, pastoral support.

Commendations: The Children's Ministry program takes the dedicated work of many loyal volunteers. Without the efforts of so many members of our congregation, this program could not be successful. These volunteers include, but are not exclusive to:

*Lauren Balletto	*Freeman Gregory	***Nina Moede	**Maria Atanasova
*Jenny Cowan	*Kim Luedde	*Sandy Murphy	**Kristen Green
*Brenda Fixel	***Cappi McNeill	*Mary Sumrall-Sydnor	**James Kent

* current Sunday School shepherds ** paid child care staff *** children's music leaders

Children's Ministry was also supported by numerous volunteers from the junior and senior high youth during GIGL and fellowship events. Children's Ministry would also like to thank the numerous volunteers who graciously donated their time and resources to give a face lift to the children's Sunday School rooms.

Our goals for 2007 were:

- To provide consistent child care for church events: This was accomplished by hiring and training additional child care staff and creating a larger pool of student workers from the church to assist. We currently provide child care during both services on Sunday, Wednesday night and Thursday night.
- To create a place that was safe and accepting for young children and their families: Several repairs to the physical plant were undertaken. The children's library has been moved into the education wing. We have a private space for mothers nursing their infants. Adult volunteers painted and furnished the Sunday School (of fish) Room and the accompanying parent's nest—a space for parents to network during the Sunday School hour.
- To increase the spirituality of programming for children: We have gone to a large group/small group format, selected a more rigorous Bible-based curriculum, and expanded Wednesday night offerings.

These are the highlights of the work of this team during the last 12 months.

- Conducted Sunday School classes for 2 year olds to 5th grade (~40 Children, average weekly attendance 20-25) The most important change is that all classes have shown more frequent attendance by the children on the roll.
- Recruited and trained small group shepherds. **This accounts for the most important change in the way we DO Sunday School from the past.**
- Provided the Growing in God's Love (GIGL) Program for younger children during the services. In November, this was expanded to include the 8:30 service.
- Provided child care for Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings, and other events.
- Held 4 Parent meetings to present our Mission Statement & Action Plan.
- Interviewed children's ministry representatives from 10 other churches, which is a relationship which Ms. Smith-Gregory intends to continue.
- Presented a workshop on Small Group Sunday School at Presbyterian Focus.
- Conducted concurrent parent and child classes in Spiritual Gifts during the spring.
- Increased Wednesday night programming for parents.
- Parenting 101 Support Group that meets on second and fourth Wednesdays.
- Bible and Me classes conducted by the pastors. Presented bibles to 2nd and 3rd graders. Conducted 3 Wednesday night sessions for children and their parents. A Ready, Set, Worship course for K/1st graders & their parents is planned for 2008.
- Sponsored a Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Event on Mother's Day.
- Participated in the WPC intergenerational Vacation Bible School.
- Held two fellowship events with the junior highs during the summer to ease transition for 5th grade students.
- Participated in Rally Day.
- Coordinated intergenerational Sunday School events on Easter Sunday, Women's Retreat Sunday, and the Family Advent fellowship on Wednesday Night.
- Completed mission projects for Vicki Smith and supported the Heifer project.
- Conducted a Children's Musical.

We still need your help in order to continue to grow and to support these wonderful children in their spiritual journey. Here are our current needs:

- 2-6 GIGL teachers for a one-Sunday a month commitment: GIGL is the ~40 minute Sunday School that takes place AFTER children's sermon. You read a story, serve a snack, pray, and care for 10 or fewer children ages 3 to 9.
- Sunday School shepherds for a 12-week commitment during the Sunday School hour—following the lead of our large group teachers, and maintaining contact with the 6 children assigned to you.
- Participants in our fellowship events, whether or not you have elementary age children. We have some great ideas for family worship, but the success depends on the entire church family taking a nurturing role with our youngest members.

Respectfully submitted by Elders Diane Kane and Karla Bradley

CARE MINISTRY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Care Ministry of Webster Presbyterian Church, for the Year 2007, consisted of the Deacon Ministry, Prayer Chain, and Stephen Ministry. Pastor Helen DeLeon served as staff liaison and coordinator for the Care Ministry this year.

Deacon Ministry

The Deacon Board was led in 2007 by Tony Le Cara, Moderator, and Susan Stearns, Secretary/Treasurer. The Deacon Board is made up of 25 deacons, serving 24 geographic zones and a Youth deacon. The Deacons have established several committees to assist them in providing care to the congregation and the community: Immediate Care provides receptions following funeral or memorial services and other crisis care services; the 2007 Committee three provided receptions, two of which actually occurred early in 2008;

Transportation coordinates a group of volunteers who have agreed to provide transportation for members who need a ride to a doctor or other critical appointment; individuals in need of transportation are asked to contact their deacon who, in turn, calls the Transportation Committee Chair who will make the necessary arrangements; Community Service maintains a basket of care items for the ICU Waiting Room at St. John's Hospital; the Committee seeks contributions of personal care, devotional, and entertainment items and keeps the basket filled; Young-at-Heart arranges for outings at least once-a-month for WPC members and friends who are 50 years of age or older—these are fun and lively outings that always include FOOD and are enjoyed by all who participate; Communications Committee shares with the WPC community, in various ways, the work and activities of the Deacon Board; the Social Committee works to ensure that the deacons have opportunities for "down time" and fellowship. In addition, the Deacons took a first step toward developing a Health Ministry at WPC by sponsoring two CPR/AED classes, led by Deacon Michael Cooper. In 2007, the Deacon Board has participated in ongoing training to better equip them to meet the needs of the WPC congregation and community. In 2008, the Board will continue to develop its skills, continue to develop a Health Ministry, continue to provide loving care to WPC members and the community, and will work diligently to get to know the people of WPC. Andy Posluszny, Coco Motley, and Elaine Lapka will lead the Deacons in 2008 as Moderator, Vice Moderator, and Secretary/Treasurer, respectively.

Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain was ably led in 2007 by Alberta Rohlfing ('07), Chair, Mary Goeckler ('08), and Jeanne Camp ('09). The prayer chain is now primarily an email chain, and prayer requests are sent out Monday-Friday, at approximately 4:00 p.m., by our Church Secretary, Daphne Riemer. A few members still receive phone calls with the days' requests. This is a vital ministry of WPC, and prayer requests come in frequently from members and the community we serve. The 2008 Prayer Chain Leadership Team will be led by Mary Goeckler, Chair, Jeanne Camp, and Jackie Hart ('10), who are planning a Prayer Retreat to be held sometime in the first quarter of 2008.

Stephen Ministry

The Stephen Ministry of WPC went on hiatus in 2004. Since that time, two members and the associate pastor received leadership training, five prospective ministers have been recruited, and a training class for them will begin in February. Connie Carden, Chair, and Julie Yencharis will coordinate the classes. Connie has been in communication with the Stephen Ministry leaders at Clear Lake Presbyterian Church in an effort to share training resources. We are looking forward to the possibility that one member of CLPC will participate in the 2008 class at WPC. The goal for 2008 is to train the ministers, educate the congregation, get referrals coming in, and develop a dynamic Stephen Ministry for WPC.

Bridges to Healing

A fourth area into which the Care Ministry has branched in 2007 is Bridges to Healing, an effort to provide volunteers within churches to provide support and healing ministry to the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces and their families. A group of WPC members have attended two trainings, and we will continue in this effort in 2008. This may become a part of the Health Ministry at some point; for now it is an autonomous activity within the Care Ministry.

Respectfully submitted by Rev. Helen P. DeLeon

FELLOWSHIP & WELCOMING MINISTRY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Fellowship & Welcoming Ministry of WPC consists of two primary teams: Fellowship and Welcoming, each led by an elder. Pastor Helen serves as staff liaison to both teams.

Fellowship – Fellowship provides opportunities for members of WPC to enjoy one another's company and to celebrate various milestones in the lives of WPC and its members. It organizes and coordinates events and provides assistance and advice for others carried out by other teams.

Stacey Menard chaired the Fellowship Team in 2007, which provided the infrastructure for many of the ongoing fellowship programs of the Church, such as Wednesday Night dinners, ably coordinated by Blaine Goeckler; the Shrimp Boil; the Worship Committee's Hanging of the Greens event, the Choir Concert, the Graduate Celebration, Ice Cream Social, and the Annual Congregational Meeting. In 2007, the Team replaced the clothes washer, a refrigerator, and steam table; provided new shelving in the Fellowship Hall Closet and new table linens for Fellowship Hall; and cleaned and organized the Bouton Hall supply closet. The Fellowship Team also organized and led a garden-themed pot luck in May and a luau in September. The Fellowship Team either sponsored or assisted in other major events: Mark's Ordination Anniversary Celebration in January, the Jim Paden celebration, and Clay Anderson's Welcome Home Party. Dinner Club 7, coordinated by Blaine Goeckler, and the monthly Sunday morning breakfasts, coordinated and cooked by the Boyers, also are functions of the Fellowship Team. Jennifer Carr will lead the Fellowship Team in 2008.

Welcoming – The Welcome Ministry of WPC has three primary teams: Greeters, Visitors, and New Members. The elder for this ministry resigned early in the year, and these teams have carried out their work admirably without that level of leadership. This Ministry opens the "arms" of the congregation to welcome each other and all who come through our doors.

Greeters stand at the doors of the sanctuary narthex on Sunday mornings to welcome all who enter for our worship services. They provide a smile, a hand shake, and a welcome to friend and stranger alike. In 2008, the Welcome Ministry will seek to re-organize this Team and provide further training in what makes a church hospitable, rather than merely welcoming. This training will be provided to all of the Welcome Ministry teams.

The purpose of the Visitor Team is to meet and welcome all first-time visitors to our worship services. These visitors are identified as those who sign in on the Fellowship Pads, or fill out Guest Cards, and provide contact information. A Visitor Team takes a bag of goodies and information to the visitors' homes. If home, they visit briefly; if not, they leave the bag and make contact by telephone. In 2007, the Teams made approximately 60 visits! In 2008, this Team will continue to refine its practices. Goodie bags contain two candy-filled WPC mugs, WPC pens, a Visitor Brochure, a current newsletter, and other ministry and program information. Pastor Helen also writes a personal letter to each first-time visitor.

The purpose of the New Member Team is to encourage visitors to become members and to help them assimilate into the life of the congregation once they join. Once a visitor has signed in a third time, the New Member Team engages, inviting the member to Open Door classes. The Team organizes these classes and provides a reception for New Members three-to-four times a year. In 2007, the Team welcomed seven families into the WPC community of faith. For 2008, the New Member Team has asked the Deacon Board to help with the assimilation process by inviting new members in their zones to fellowship and other special programs and enlisting another member of that zone to serve as host to the new member. The team also provides photos of new members for the website, the Church database, for the newsletter, along with a brief bio. The Team worked with the Communications Team in 2007 to produce a new Visitors' Brochure, which was delivered in December. The Team will be led in 2008 by Shallon Barboza, and will continue to focus on new ways to transform visitors into new members, refining the Open Door Class, and helping new members become a part of the WPC community of faith.

In 2008, both Fellowship and Welcoming will become a part of the Care Ministry. Jeanette Chase will lead the Care Ministry, with Jennifer Carr providing guidance to the Fellowship Ministry.

Respectfully submitted by Elder Stacey Menard and Rev. Helen P. DeLeon

MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT

Our Goal: A Congregation United in Mission

Providing Hands-On Service to our Community through the efforts of 120+ volunteers

- Teaching English as a Second Language for 20+ of our neighbors at Oasis of Hope, a neighbor church
- Teaching new technology to school children and adults at the Webster Computer Center
- Building Habitat for Humanity houses for families in Dickinson
- Volunteering at ICM, Bay Area Turning Point, Meals-on-Wheels
- Adult and youth mission trips to rebuild houses in New Orleans flooded by Hurricane Katrina
- Opening our homes to international students during the Christmas holiday via Christmas International House
- Donating over 50 units of blood to help the sick and injured

Providing Direct Support for People

- Community Assistance funds distributed by the Pastors
- Member Benevolence funds to support emergencies in the WPC family
- WPC Patriots – sharing our support, care packages, faith, and love with members of the Armed Forces
- Support for Vicki Smith's mission in Jamaica
- Sarah Schwarz – summer intern with Interfaith Worker Justice
- Sponsoring a student from Furr High School to attend an Institute for Civility in Government – a Washington DC trip
- Opened our doors to a Girl Scout troop

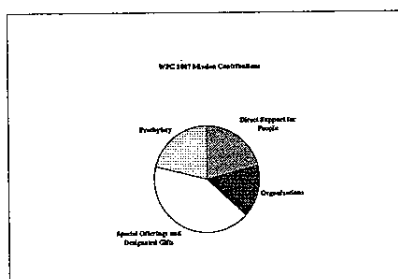
Contributions to Organizations

- Presbytery of New Covenant
- Bay Area Turning Point – sheltering victims of domestic abuse
- United Campus Ministry – bringing God's word to Houston's college students
- Interfaith Caring Ministry – supporting our neighbors with a variety of services
- Adelante – identifying, recruiting, and supporting Hispanic lay pastors in greater Houston
- Meals on Wheels – feeding the hungry
- Samaritan Center – supporting our neighbors with mental health resources
- Vellore Hospital – healing the sick in India
- Life Center – providing shelter for the homeless
- Presbyterian Service Center – providing accessible housing for the differently abled
- CEDEPCA – sharing in mission and mutual understanding with our neighbors in Central America
- Camp Cho-Yeh – providing space for spiritual growth and development for all
- Presbyterian Outreach to Patients – providing spiritual nurture to those who are ill
- Seafarers International – providing Christmas cheer and love to seafaring men and women away from home
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance – providing support for victims of the devastating California wild fires

Special Offerings and Designated Gifts

- Supporting Vicki Smith's teaching mission in Jamaica with over \$3800 in designated gifts

- Youth and adults walking together in the CROP Walk to raise over \$2000 to end hunger in our community and the world
- Generously giving an estimated \$15,500 worth of Christmas gifts for hundreds of children and families in our neighborhood through the Gifts of Joy and ICM Christmas Store
- Offering over \$13,200 to the Presbyterian special offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost Offering, Peacemaking Offering, Joy Offering
- Providing Christmas cheer and love to seafaring men and woman away from home through Seafarer boxes
- Fighting hunger and poverty by donating to the Souper Bowl of Caring on Super Bowl Sunday
- Various donations to our youth mission activities such as car washes, sub sandwich sales, Valentine Dance



Mission Opportunities for our Congregation in 2008

- Teaching English as a Second Language and computer skills
- Building locally with Habitat for Humanity
- Donating blood
- Supporting our troops through the WPC Patriots
- Joining an Institute for Civility in Government trip to Washington, D.C. as a sponsor
- Traveling to Columbia with the Presbytery's Central American Partnership Committee
- Mission education and conferences
- Volunteering at ICM, Bay Area Turning Point, Meals on Wheels
- Joining the Mission Committee

Seeing, hearing, going, touching . . . sharing God's heart with the world

Respectfully submitted by Elders Marjorie Seiter and Carl Allen

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

*Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run
and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.*

Isaiah 40:31

The Stewardship & Finance Committee was staffed by Mark Cooper, Jennifer Carr (chair), Roy Phillips, Johnny Jones and Priscilla Koester.

Work on the Stewardship Program ("IMAGINE") began in August. The Stewardship Breakfast meetings led by Head of Staff Mark Cooper were scheduled through September. The WPC praise band Joyful Noyz provided the musical entertainment this year and, after enjoying a good meal, church members participated in short informational meetings

followed by a Q&A session. Pledge packets were mailed out to members beginning October 8. Offering envelopes for pledging families have been available in the Narthex since the last Sunday in December.

Financial Review – 2007

	<u>Actual 2006</u>	<u>Actual 2007</u>
Total Receipts	\$ 675,675	\$ 681,204
Pledged, non-pledged, loose plate, and other		
Total Expenses	\$ 686,228	\$ 674,571
Net Receipts	\$ (10,553)	\$ 6,632
2007 Building fund balance		\$ 52,615
2007 Corner property funds		\$ 118,316
2007 Exchange & Designated funds		\$ 60,000

Funds (ex: LA mission trip, Youth mission trip, Wednesday night dinners, Women's Retreat, Shrimp Boil, fundraisers, etc)

Respectfully submitted by Elders Jennifer Carr (Chair), Johnny Jones, Roy Phillips

WORSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

*All the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; they shall sing your glories.
Psalms 66:4*

Thanks to the Committee members in 2007. They were: Jackie Allen, Susan Anderson (co-chair), Jackie Hart, Terrell McMillan, Chuck Moede, Sylvia Scales, and Joyce Sens. Mark Cooper and Glenn and Geri Foster provided excellent guidance for the committee.

The key Worship enhancement of 2007 is one the Worship Committee can not take credit. The committee is grateful that we can again enjoy the many talents that Glenn Foster brings to WPC as our Director of Music. And, he brought Geri with him! Our music program suffered and, our worship even lost ground, during his absence. We are looking forward to an inspiring music program again in 2008.

Last year we reported the formation of the Task Force for Explorations of Worship. That group did a lot of research and visited a number of other churches. Our intent was not to blindly establish a contemporary worship service but rather determine what would work best at WPC. This year, as a follow-up to that effort, we made changes in our 8:30 Worship Service. This service, while still traditional, provides somewhat contemporary music and style. We are very fortunate to have Geri Foster and the Joyful Noyz providing and leading the music for this service. They bring renewed energy and excitement to this service. This is a work in progress; it is not finalized and the worship team will continue to look for additional ways to improve our worship.

During 2007 the Audio-Visual Team also spent a lot of time doing research with the intent to purchase and install a projection system. We hope to do that in the near future. While this system will be used primarily at the 8:30 service it will also add a great deal to the 11:00 service as well as other special services.

In addition to Sunday morning worship we have enjoyed many special services, musical presentations and Sanctuary Guild meetings. We are very appreciative of the many people who make our worship happen. They include our Ministers, the Audio-Visual Team, Ushers, Elders who serve communion, Deacons who prepare communion, Choir Directors, Organist, Faith Choir, Children's Choir, Joyful Noyz, all the Bell Players, Recorder Players, the directors of these groups, and our many other talented musicians. Worship would not happen without your efforts. We thank you all.

Respectfully submitted by Elder Al Manson, Chairman

YOUTH MINISTRY COMMITTEE REPORT

To encounter the loving God, to learn to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ, to share the Good News, to change the world.

During 2007 the Youth Ministry Committee, the Jr. High Youth Planning Team, and the Sr. High Youth Planning Team worked diligently to provide a vital, fresh, and meaningful Christian experience for the youth at WPC. The committee and teams understood that this ministry area is based on the people involved, and so sought to engage various people (relying on those already active with youth and inviting others to join) and utilize their gifts for the benefit of our youth and the church as a whole. Certainly any achievements and successes this past year are the result of the dedication, prayer, and commitment of many volunteers and parents. Their willingness to respond and follow God's call is a wonderful blessing for which the Youth Ministry leadership is sincerely grateful.

A simple listing of activities does not accurately convey the efforts, learning, service, fun, laughter, and caring that made WPC's Youth Ministry what it was in 2007. But, it can provide some sense of what is happening, and what could be happening, in this place. So, here is a brief review:

Some of the significant new initiatives were:

- Human Sexuality Retreats in January, one for Sr. High and one for Jr. High
- Youth were directly involved with planning of the Crop Walk with WPC serving as host (Much appreciation to Ann Taylor and the Mission Committee)
- Youth-initiated Big Sibling-Little Sibling program
- Defining the overall goals and objectives for Youth Ministry at WPC, from entry at 6th grade to graduation at 12th grade
- Refurbishment and decoration of the youth rooms
- Youth Giving Tree and the gracious response of the congregation

Additional accomplishments and activities during the past year were:

Jr. High Youth Ministry

- Sunday School for 14-16 youth
- Weekly PYC year-round for 13-15 youth
- Souper Bowl of Caring mission project
- Confirmation Class and associated Mentor Program for 15 youth
- Conclaves at Cho-Yeh in the spring
- Jr. Highs developed and led May Youth Worship Service
- Jr. High youth trip to Jr. High Jubilee at Mo-Ranch
- Summer Wonderful Wednesday program involving college student leaders, and year-round Wednesday program
- Midnight Madness, the annual youth planning and fellowship kickoff event
- Collected items and packed Seafarer's Christmas boxes

Sr. High Ministry

- Sunday School for 16-18 youth

- Weekly PYC year-round for 14-16 youth
- Service at ICM Resale Shop
- Conclaves at Cho-Yeh in the spring
- Mission Trip fund raisers – Super Bowl Sandwiches, Sweetheart Dinner Dance, Baking Brothers, Car Wash
- Mission Trip to Slidell, Louisiana in June
- Four youth were selected to attend Triennium 2007 as part of our Presbytery's delegation
- Annual Summer Fellowship and Planning Retreat in August at High Island
- Year-round Connections program on Wednesdays
- Sr. High's "Trick or Treat So People Can Eat" to benefit ICM food supplies
- Presbytery involvement with three PYCC youth representatives and 1 PYCC adult leader

Combined Jr. High and Sr. High Ministry

- Monthly Youth Worship Services continued throughout the year
- Musical program "Worship Together" (Music Program offering led by George Gray)
- Support for WPC's Vacation Bible School in June
- Youth-wide fellowship activities, such as attending Astros game
- Crop Walk at the end of September
- Fall Presbytery-wide Rally at Northwoods Presbyterian
- Attended two Christian concerts, one in March and one in October
- Attended A.D. Player's presentation of "Christmas Tree-O"
- Participation in Elves & More Bicycle Project

The committee and teams continually explored and considered opportunities to improve and expand youth ministry at WPC. The development of the overall goals and objectives for youth ministry will be used in the planning of future programs and activities, and will continue to be reviewed and examined for improvement. In looking forward, those involved in Youth Ministry are excited by the possibilities that are before us and the directions that God will lead us. The arrival of the Youth Minister or Director that He has for this church is a much-anticipated event in the life of WPC. And the committee is deeply grateful for the faithful efforts of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) in seeking that special person.

As we begin 2008, it is the hope of the Youth Ministry Committee that we will, with God's help and guidance, meet the challenge of our vision and, through the growth of our youth's faith, change the world.

Respectfully submitted by Elders Chuck Moede and Watson Dupont

February 2, 2008
Galveston Island

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session **met in retreat** in the bayside home of Cleo and Elder Johnny Jones on Galveston Island on Saturday, February 2, 2008. The Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. Associate Pastor Helen DeLeon led a worship service that included the celebration of communion for all the members of Session who were present.

A quorum of the following was in attendance:

- Moderator, Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastor Helen DeLeon;

- Active Elders Cathy Black, Jennifer Carr, Jeanette Chase, Tye Cowan, John Dewey, Watson Dupont, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), John Grady, Dan Hunter, Johnny Jones, John Jordan, Diane Kane, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Al Manson, and Dennis Waehner.

The following Active Elders were excused: Melissa Moede, Roy Phillips, and Mike Stearns.

The Moderator presented copies of the 2007-2008 PCUSA Book of Order to all Elders present. He provided an overview of the organization of the Book of Order and led a review of the portions addressing duties of the Session as a whole and of Elders individually.

The Session considered its revised structure and engaged in a discussion of how it can maximize its effectiveness in 2008. Areas addressed included committee member recruitment, leadership selection, and meeting schedules.

Following a break for a lovely lunch prepared by Cleo Jones, the retreat continued with a conversation of the goal of the larger church and the goals of Webster Presbyterian Church. The Session considered statistics regarding churches experiencing growth and those that are in decline, which statistics were shared at the Engaging Church seminar hosted on January 30. A serious discussion ensued.

It was agreed that the Session will undertake the following actions in 2008:

- A financial review or audit coordinated by the Board of Trustees
- Reinstatement of Time & Talent survey of church members
- One or more committee fairs in the Narthex following worship services
- Changes in practices to better attract, connect, and assimilate guests to our church.

The Clerk presented the draft annual statistical report to the Session for concurrence. In a final matter of business, the Session elected Dennis Waehner and Mary Lawrence to serve as Commissioners to the February 9 meeting of the Presbytery of New Covenant at Central Presbyterian Church in Houston.

Renewed and committed to the new directions laid out over the four-hour meeting, the Session adjourned its retreat with prayer at 2:00 p.m.


Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

February 26, 2008
Meeting Room

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session convened a Stated Meeting on Tuesday, February 26, 2008, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:05 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastor Helen DeLeon; and,
- Active Elders, Jeanette Chase, Jennifer Carr, Tye Cowan, John Dewey, Watson Dupont, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), John Grady, Dan Hunter, Johnny Jones, John Jordan, Diane Kane, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Al Manson, Melissa Moede, Michael Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

The following member of Session was excused: Active Elder Roy Phillips

Also present were Treasurer Pat Koester, Sunday School Superintendent Linda Smith-Gregory, Associate Pastor Nominating Committee Chair Kimberly Glaus-Late, and Chuck Moede.

A quorum was declared by the Clerk and the Agenda for the meeting was approved.

Treasurer's Report - Pat Koester presented the financial report. The Session received the Treasurer's report.

New Members - The Moderator welcomed Shallon Barboza, Chair of the New Member Team, who introduced Janet Harreld, and her daughter Hope, who has expressed a desire to become a full member of Webster Presbyterian Church. After learning a bit about Ms. Harreld, Rev. Cooper asked a series of questions regarding her faith and commitment to the church. Being satisfied with her answers, the **Session voted to receive Janet Harreld** into Full Membership of Webster Presbyterian Church by letter of transfer.

Sanctuary Projection System - Chuck Moede, representing the Audio-Visual Team, made a presentation to the Session regarding the team's work on a proposed sanctuary projection system. Other members of the team include Jackie Allen, Robert Cravens, Mary Lawrence, Ross Looney, Al Manson, Dennis Waehner, and Ken Wood. The proposed new projection and screen system is expected to support worship music and sermons, weddings, memorial services, church and non-church meetings, and youth events. The team has determined that a system composed of (1) three projectors suspended from the ceiling and (2) three fixed 7.5' x 10' screens, all displaying common content will meet our needs. The system will be designed to be operated from the sound room rather than remotely (for example, from the chancel). Multiple proposals have been received and others may be entertained. Based on costs contained in these proposals, the team expects \$35,000 to cover the purchase and installation of the complete system. The **Session voted to authorize the Audio-Visual Team, under the direction of the Worship Committee, to proceed with the purchase and installation of a projection system for the sanctuary meeting these specifications and expending not to exceed \$35,000.**

APNC Report - Kimberly Glaus-Late, Chair of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee, and Watson Dupont reported that, after many months of prayer and hard work, the APNC is prepared to extend an offer to a candidate. They were confident that this candidate will be a tremendous addition to our staff. The Committee reviewed the Presbytery's minimum terms of call and proposed that a total annual expenditure of \$55,000 should suffice. It is expected that the candidate would be able join the staff before May and that moving expenses should be minimal. The **Session voted to authorize the APNC to proceed with negotiations with the candidate for the position of associate pastor of children, youth and families regarding terms of call totaling approximately \$55,000 annually.**

The **Session voted to approve minutes** of the:

- January 2, 2008, Stated Meeting of Session;
- January 27, 2008, Called Meeting of the Congregation; and,
- February 2, 2008, Annual Session Retreat.

Clerk's Report
Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of January 22, 2008	709	395	

2246

Gains:			
Transfer of Letter	+ 0	+ 0	
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 1	+ 1	Leach
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses:			
Transfer of Letter	- 2	- 1	Tindalls
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 0</u>	<u>- 0</u>	
Membership as of February 26, 2008	708	395	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith: <u>+ 141</u> (+1) Holtz			
Total children, youth and adults:	849		

Baptism performed by Mark Cooper:

- Christopher Ryan Holtz, born October 22, 2007, son of Jacquelyn Green (M) and Kevin Carl Holtz (NM), granddaughter of Suzanne and Richard Summers, on January 27, 2008

New Business

The Session agreed to reinstate the Time & Talent Survey in connection with a Ministry Fair to be held in the Narthex following both worship services on Sunday, March 16. The Time & Talent survey will be administered using paper copies, electronically on the church webpage and via email. Elder Cathy Black will be ordained during the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, March 2.

Committee/Team Actions and Reports

The following Elder committee reports were acknowledged:

Administration

- Personnel – An effort is underway to collect and review all church policies. Personnel files are being reviewed for completeness. A job description for the new associate pastor will be developed.
- Stewardship & Finance – The committee has adopted a 14-point operating policy. Among other items, the policy calls for a financial review or audit to be performed annually.
- Vision – Lynn Godwin and Carlos Noriega will serve as members on this new committee. Other members are being sought with strengths in operational process, organizational development, survey generation and interpretation, resource management, and strategic thinking.

Buildings & Grounds

- The corner house has been jacked up and will be moved when the ground dries out a bit. Member Carole Kloves donated her used but "newer than what we've got" clothes washer and dryer which were installed in Bouton Hall. A volunteer workday is set for Saturday, March 29.

Care of Members

- Care – Elder Jeanette Chase continues to develop an understanding of the groups that operate under the Care "umbrella."
- Fellowship – There was no meeting in February; next meeting is March 4

Christian Nurture – The leadership of the three ministries within Christian Nurture convened a planning meeting and agreed that each would meet individually and report separately to Session. Other areas of discussion included review of the annual church events that will require coordination and cooperation between the three groups.

- Children's Ministry – Regular Sunday School attendance in kindergarten through Grade 3 classes was recognized on Sunday, February 17. A teacher appreciation

breakfast will be scheduled for the Spring. Plans for Easter Sunday and the Easter Egg Hunt are finalized.

- Youth Ministry – The **Session voted to approve a request by the Committee to recruit, using posters in the Administration and Education buildings, adult volunteers to assist with youth activities.**
- Adult Ministry – An intergenerational breakfast is set for Easter Sunday in the Fellowship Hall with a program led by Helen DeLeon. The date of the 2008 Women's Retreat has been scheduled for September 12-14. The committee is looking into WPC hosting two seminars annually with the targeted audience for one being the congregation and the other being the community at large.

Mission – Elder Melissa Moede will serve on this committee. The 2008 mission budget has been allocated to several categories: Community Assistance, Local Mission, World Mission, Presbytery, Mission Trips/Conferences, WPC Missionary, and WPC Mission Projects.

Outreach – A short list of channels identified that should help the committee achieve its goals includes the following: curb appeal, on campus appeal, internet, direct mail, paid advertising, "free" advertising, radio/TV, brochures/flyers, and on-campus special events.

Worship – Lent planning is complete and special activities are underway. The Children's Musical is set for February 24 during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The Senior High youth have prepared a full-up worship service and are targeting Sunday, April 13. The Youth Musical will likely be offered in May. Confirmation Sunday is scheduled for May 18.

Old Business: Jennifer Carr and Dennis Waehner reported on the events of and actions taken at the recent Presbytery of New Covenant meeting.

Pastors' Reports – Due to late hour, there was nothing further offered by the pastors.

Next Meetings

- The next Stated Meeting of Session will be convened Tuesday, March 25, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator at 9:40 p.m.


Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

March 25, 2008
Meeting Room

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session **convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, March 25, 2008, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastor Helen DeLeon; and,
- Active Elders, Jeanette Chase, Jennifer Carr, John Grady, Dan Hunter, Johnny Jones, John Jordan, Diane Kane, Mary Lawrence, Al Manson, Melissa Moede, Roy Phillips, and Dennis Waehner (Clerk Pro Tem).

The following members of Session were excused: Active Elders Tye Cowan, John Dewey, Watson DuPont, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), James Kinzler, Roy Phillips and Michael Stearns.

Also present was Treasurer Pat Koester.

Session voted to elect Dennis Waehner as Clerk Pro Tempore for this stated meeting. A quorum was declared by the Clerk and the Agenda for the meeting was approved.

Treasurer's Report - Pat Koester presented the financial report. The Session received the Treasurer's report.

The **Session voted to approve minutes** of the:

- February 26, 2008, Stated Meeting of Session.

Approval of baptism - The **Session voted to approve the baptism** of Emma Sophia Dam, born March 3, daughter of Susan Braeuer (M) and Christopher Dam, and granddaughter of members Kathy and Harry Braeuer, on April 27, 2008

Clerk's Report

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of February 26, 2008	708	395	
Gains:			
Transfer of Letter	+ 1	+ 1	Harreld
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 0	+ 0	
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses:			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 0</u>	<u>- 0</u>	
Membership as of March 25, 2008	709	396	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith:	<u>+142</u>		(+1) Merritt

Total children, youth and adults: 851

Baptisms performed by Helen DeLeon

- Megan Florence Merritt, born December 6, 2007; parents Kimberly A. (M) and David W. Merritt (M), on March 06, 2008

Committee/Team Actions and Reports

The following Elder committee reports were acknowledged:

Administration

- Communications - The **Session voted to allow the Communications Team to organize and publish a new Photo Directory as a fundraiser**; with the directory printing cost of \$10 to \$11 each covered by voluntary member donations upon delivery of the directories; with church member Tina Looney coordinating the overall effort, contributing all proceeds from the sale of photo packages to interested members to cover the cost of (1) printing directories for new members and others who elect not to make a donation, (2) additional brochure racks for the narthex, and (3) a large flat-screen monitor installed in the narthex that will electronically display

church activities; and with the directories being delivered no later than 90 days after the last photo is taken.

- **Stewardship & Finance** – The committee reviewed current WPC financial data and discussed responsibilities, challenges, and goals for the committee for 2008.

Buildings & Grounds – The corner house is to be moved on Thursday March 27.

Care of Members

- Stephen Minister training is underway. The Prayer Chain is reviewing and adjusting its operating procedures.
- Fellowship – The **Session voted to approve a Fellowship fundraiser** with all proceeds to support the new kitchen fund on a date to be determined. The Sunday morning coffee fellowship is on the move and has a new name; "Holy Grounds." Ultimately it will end up in the Fellowship Hall foyer. Planned date for the last move is April 13.
- The New Member Team is preparing for its next Open Door class on Sunday, April 13.

Christian Nurture – The leadership of the three ministries within Christian Nurture convened a planning meeting to review coordination and cooperation between the three groups.

- **Children's Ministry** – The **Session approved the following motion from Children's Ministry:** To allow the Children's Ministry Team to plan and host WPC's 2008 Vacation Bible School Sunday through Thursday, June 8 through June 12 with a celebration service on June 15 at the 8:30 a.m. service, and using the curriculum "Power Lab: Discovering Jesus' Miraculous Power." www.groupvbs.com/powerlab
- **Youth Ministry** – The **Session voted to approve the Youth Ministry's Baking Brothers bake sale** to be held on May 11, 2008 with proceeds going to support Youth Mission Trip.
- **Adult Ministry** – A new book was approved for the Morning Break Study Group. Liz Loynes provided a description of: If you want to walk on water you need to get out of the boat, by John Ortberg, Willowcreek Community Church minister.

Mission – The Mission Committee approved:

- To support the Interfaith Caring Ministries (ICM) request to direct WPC donated funds to the ICM computer lab general budget.
- \$600 from the first quarter budget to the Institute for Civility.
- \$400 from endowment and \$100 from the World Budget to go to the Ubuntu African mission.

Outreach – The signage committee continues to meet to explore the wide variety of sign options. WPC was featured in numerous articles in the Citizen and in the Bay Area Printing newsletters. The committee is planning a targeted direct mail project in the future.

Worship – The Audio Visual team is comparing the projection system proposals offered by two suppliers. The team is attempting to schedule a demonstration to assess brightness of the proposed projectors.

Pastor's Reports

- Mark reviewed the plan for the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee candidate as follows:
 - On Saturday, March 29, 2008, candidate to appear before the Presbytery of New Covenant.
 - On April 6, 2008, candidate to preach at both WPC worship services; a congregational meeting to follow to uphold the candidacy.
 - Should the way be clear, an expected start date is early May, 2008.

Next Meetings

- The next Stated Meeting of Session will be convened Tuesday, April 22, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room.

2250

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator at 8:45 p.m.



Dennis Waehner
Clerk of Session Pro Tem

March 30, 2008
Church Parlor

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session **convened a Called Meeting** on Sunday, March 30, 2008, in the church parlor. Acting Moderator, Reverend Helen DeLeon, opened the meeting with prayer at 12:10 p.m.

The purpose of the Called Meeting was to receive a new member.

The following members of Session were present:

- Associate Pastor Helen DeLeon, Acting Moderator; and,
- Active Elders Cathy Black, Jennifer Carr (Acting Clerk), Watson Dupont, and James Kinzler.

Also in attendance was prospective new member Paula Bray.

Jennifer Carr was appointed to serve as Acting Clerk and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Helen introduced Paula as a candidate for membership at Webster Presbyterian Church. After a period of discussion and questions, **a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to receive Paula Bray into membership by reaffirmation of faith.** The date to be introduced to the congregation is to be determined.

The business of the Called Meeting having been concluded, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer by the Acting Moderator at 12:18 p.m.



Jennifer Carr
Acting Clerk of Session

April 6, 2008
Church Sanctuary

The **Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Congregation convened a called meeting** on Sunday, April 6, 2008, immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Moderator Reverend Mark Cooper at 12:15 p.m. Clerk of Session Gene Fisseler was appointed Secretary. A quorum was declared present.

Reverend Cooper stated the purposes of the meeting: to receive the report from the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC), to present the proposed terms of call, to vote on the motion to extend a call to the candidate, and to dismiss the APNC.

Kimberly Glaus-Late, Chair of the APNC, introduced the committee members: Watson Dupont, Laura Grady, Erik Kinzler, Phyllis Koenig, Jennifer Paden, and Elizabeth Stoltz. On behalf of the APNC, she moved that Caressa Lynn Murray be called by the Congregation to serve as Associate Pastor of Children, Youth and Families. The motion was seconded.

Kimberly described the amazing journey the APNC had traveled to arrive at this nomination and some of the candidate's background. The Terms of Call were presented. The total compensation package inclusive of salary, housing, and contribution to the Board of Pensions is \$58,323.

The Congregation did elect, by acclamation, Caressa Lynn Murray to serve as its Associate Pastor of Children, Youth and Families.


The Congregation elected three members of the APNC (Kinzler, Koenig, and Grady) to sign the Call for presentation to the Presbytery of New Covenant.

The Congregation congratulated the APNC for its work and voted to dismiss the APNC with its thanks.

Caressa was invited back to the meeting and was greeted by the Congregation singing the Doxology followed by a standing ovation.

The purposes of the meeting having been accomplished the meeting was closed with prayer by Rev. Mark Cooper at 12:40 p.m. and with an invitation to join a reception following the meeting in the Fellowship Hall Foyer.


Reverend Mark Cooper, Moderator


Gene Fisseler, Secretary

April 22, 2008
Bouton Hall

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session **convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, April 22, 2008, in Bouton Hall. The meeting was opened with a devotion led by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, and a prayer offered by Associate Pastor, Helen DeLeon, at 7:10 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastor Helen DeLeon; and,
- Active Elders, Cathy Black, Jeanette Chase, Jennifer Carr, John Dewey, Watson Dupont, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), John Grady, Dan Hunter, Johnny Jones, Diane Kane, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Al Manson, Melissa Moede, Roy Phillips, and Dennis Waehner.

The following members of Session were excused:

- Active Elders Tye Cowan, John Jordan, and Mike Stearns.

A quorum was declared by the Clerk and the Agenda for the meeting was approved.

New Members – The Moderator welcomed Shallon Barboza, 2008 Chair of the New Member Team, who introduced Ashley Rodgers and family and Sarah Barnette both of who expressed a desire to become full members of Webster Presbyterian Church. After learning a bit about Ms Rodgers and Ms Barnette, Rev. Cooper asked a series of questions regarding their faith and commitment to the church. Being satisfied with their answers, the **Session voted to receive** Ashley Rodgers and Sarah Barnette into Full Membership of Webster Presbyterian Church both by reaffirmation of their faith.

The **Session voted to approve minutes** of the:

- March 25, 2008 Stated Meeting of Session, as amended;
- March 30, 2008 Called Meeting of Session; and,
- April 6, 2008 Called Meeting of the Congregation.

Treasurer's Report - The Session received the Treasurer's report.

Clerk's Report

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of March 25, 2008	709	396	
Gains:			
Transfer of Letter	+ 0	+ 0	
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 1	+ 1	Bray
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses:			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 0</u>	<u>- 0</u>	
Membership as of April 22, 2008	710	397	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith:	<u>+143</u>		(+1) Bailey
Total children, youth and adults:	853		

Births:

- Leilani Isabella Perez, daughter of Shayna and Alfred Perez (granddaughter of Carlos and Wendy Noriega), born April 20, 2008.

Baptisms performed:

- Hannah Taylor Bailey, born April 17, 2007, daughter of Heather and Darryl Bailey (non-members) and granddaughter of Patty and Ronnie Lusk (members). Hannah's grandfather, Rev. Robert P. Starbuck, a retired Methodist minister, performed the ceremony.

New Business

- The **Session voted to approve the baptisms** of:
 - Leilani Isabella Perez, daughter of Shayna and Alfred Perez (granddaughter of Carlos and Wendy Noriega), born April 20, 2008, to be baptized on Sunday, June 1, 2008, at the 11:00 a.m. service.
 - Christopher Matthew Dam, son of Mark and Angeles Dam, born March 22, 1977, to be baptized on Sunday, June 1, 2008, at the 11:00 a.m. service
- The Session **elected Jennifer Carr, James Kinzler, and Mary Lawrence to serve as Commissioners** to the May 10 meeting of Presbytery of New Covenant at First Presbyterian Church, Houston.

- The Session received a report from Dennis Waehner regarding the recent Time & Talent survey. A total of 84 members completed the surveys and copies of each committee's survey results were presented to the associated elders.

Committee/Team Actions and Reports

The following Elder committee:

- Administration
 - Personnel – Our newest minister, Caressa Murray, will be preaching at the May Presbytery meeting. A large contingent from WPC is expected to attend.
 - Stewardship & Finance – The Committee presented data regarding the 2008 church pledges. The 190 pledges were broken into seven groups ranging from \$1-\$100 per month to greater than \$600 per month and presented in a bar chart. The chart will be included in the next church newsletter.
 - Buildings & Grounds – The **Session voted to authorize placement of framed copies of the Master Plan Drawings** in an appropriate space on the church campus.
- Care of Members
 - Care – The Deacons will work with Adult Ministry on the summer adult education offering, Summer Roundtables. The New Member Team has been renamed the Engaging Team. Planning for a welcoming center for the Narthex is underway.
 - Fellowship – Details regarding the October 25 fundraiser event are coming together. Madeline Nugent is working with Coldwater Creek to host an on-campus fashion show. Church members will model the clothing (models will enjoy a price discount). The event will take place around lunch.
- Christian Nurture Ministry
 - Adult Ministry – Planning for the summertime adult education program is nearly complete. All adults will be invited to participate in the Summer Roundtables which will be led by one of our pastors each week. The Deacons will help host the Roundtables and the classes will be advertised in local newspapers and newsletters.
 - Youth Ministry – The **Session voted to call a special meeting of Session on Saturday, May 10, 2008**, to interview and receive the 2008 Confirmands.
 - Children's Ministry – Helen DeLeon is passing the torch as the committee's staff liaison to Caressa who will assume that role at the next meeting. Looking ahead to the Fall, Rally Day is set for September 7.
- Mission – A total of 43,339 was contributed to One Great Hour of Sharing by WPC. The first Saturday in June is our next Habitat for Humanity Workday. The committee is working to get our mission partners to include a WPC link on their web pages
- Outreach – The sign team continues to meet and consider various alternatives for signage, locations for installation, and the costs. We continue to get good coverage in local newspapers and newsletters – promoting VBS in June, publicizing May's youth musical, and announcing our new minister.
- Worship – The sanctuary projection system will be installed and operational in the next several weeks. Stay tuned. And, our worship services are being recorded digitally, which will allow posting audio copies of the sermons on the church website.

Old Business

- Report from Called Meeting of Presbytery

Pastors' Report

Helen DeLeon – Helen presented the concept of "Worship Plus 2" to the Session. The idea is that each member of the congregation should, in order to be fully engage in the life of our church, in addition to attending worship each week also take advantage of two additional church offerings...one to further "receive" – for example,

join a Bible study or Small Group...and a second to "give" – for example, serving on a committee, the session, or the board of deacons. This is Worship Plus 2.

Mark Cooper – Mark shared some concerns about the long-term options of servicing our soon-to-be-installed projection equipment and extensive lighting.

Next Meetings

- Presbytery of New Covenant will convene a meeting on Saturday, May 10, at First Presbyterian Church, Houston.
- The Session will convene a Called meeting on Saturday, May 10, at 6:00 p.m. at the church.
- The next Stated Meeting of Session will be convened Tuesday, May 27, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator at 9:15 p.m.


Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

May 10, 2008
Meeting Room

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session **convened a Called Meeting** on Saturday, May 10, 2008, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 6:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastor Helen DeLeon;
- Associate Pastor Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders, Cathy Black, Jennifer Carr, John Grady, Diane Kane, Mary Lawrence, Al Manson, Mike Stearns, and Dennis Waehner (Clerk Pro Tem).

Russ Bachtel was also in attendance.

Session voted to elect Dennis Waehner as Clerk Pro Tempore for this called meeting. A quorum was declared by the Clerk and the Agenda for the meeting was approved.

The Session welcomed the following confirmation candidates:


- Blake Bachtel
- Aresha Bagheri
- Hannah Haws
- Matt Kibikas
- Becca Massie
- Tim Seiter

The Session discussed expectations and requirements regarding the confirmands' Statements of Faith.

Members of Session introduced themselves to the confirmation candidates. The confirmation candidates read their Statements of Faith and responded to questions posed by

the Session. The Session opened up the discussion to questions from the confirmation candidates. Following questions and responses, the session dismissed the confirmation candidates. Following discussion, the **Session voted to sustain the confirmands' candidacy**. The confirmands were welcomed back and welcomed into full membership in Webster Presbyterian Church.

The business of this Called Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator at 7:10 p.m.



Dennis Waehner
Clerk of Session Pro Tem

May 11, 2008
Church Parlor

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session **convened a Called Meeting** on Sunday, May 11, 2008, in the Church Parlor. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by Acting Moderator, Reverend Helen DeLeon at 9:50 a.m.

The purpose of the Called Meeting was:

- To examine two members of the 2008 Confirmation Class who were unable to attend the Called Session Meeting on Saturday, May 10;
- To determine the readiness of these two individuals for their public profession of faith; and,
- To receive them into active membership in the congregation.

The following members of Session were present:

- Associate Pastor Helen DeLeon, Acting Moderator; and,
- Active Elders John Grady, Johnny Jones and Allen Manson (Acting Clerk).

Allen Manson was elected to serve as Acting Clerk and a quorum was declared.

The 2008 confirmation candidates present were:

- Johnathan James
- Brandon C. Looney

Session members each introduced themselves to the confirmands.

Each confirmand was individually examined. The confirmands began by giving a brief description of their background and then read their Statements of Faith. The Elders then questioned the confirmands to determine their readiness for full membership in Webster Presbyterian Church. The confirmands were excused.

The Elders discussed the confirmands. **The Session moved, seconded and approved unanimously to sustain the examination of the confirmands and to accept them as full members of Webster Presbyterian Church.**

The confirmands were welcomed back into the meeting where they were congratulated for their hard work on their journey of faith. Acting Moderator Helen DeLeon gave a brief overview of the confirmation service to be held at 8:30 a.m. on May 18, 2008.

The business of the Called Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Allen Manson

Allen Manson
Acting Clerk of Session

May 27, 2008
Meeting Room

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session **convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, May 27, 2008, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper at 7:10 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastor Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders, Cathy Black, Jeanette Chase, Jennifer Carr, Tye Cowan, John Dewey, Watson Dupont, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), John Grady, Johnny Jones, John Jordan, Diane Kane, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Al Manson, Roy Phillips, Mike Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

The following members of Session were excused:

- Pastor Helen DeLeon; and,
- Active Elders, Dan Hunter and Melissa Moede.

Treasurer Pat Koester was also present.

A quorum was declared by the Clerk and the Agenda for the meeting was approved.

New Members – The Moderator welcomed Shallon Barboza, 2008 Chair of the New Member Team, who introduced Irene Case who had expressed a desire to become a full member of Webster Presbyterian Church. After learning a bit about Ms. Case, including that she was once before a member of this church, Rev. Cooper asked a series of questions regarding her faith and commitment to the church. Being satisfied with her answers, the **Session voted to receive** Irene Case into Full Membership of Webster Presbyterian Church by letter of transfer.

The **Session voted to approve minutes** of the:

- April 22, 2008 Stated Meeting of Session;
- May 10, 2008 Called Meeting of Session; and,
- May 11, 2008 Called Meeting of Session.

Treasurer's Report - The Session received the Treasurer's report.

Clerk's Report

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of April 22, 2008	710	397	
Gains:			
Transfer of Letter	+ 0	+ 0	
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 2	+ 2	Barnette, Rodgers

2257

Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 8	+ 0	Confirmands
Losses:			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 0</u>	<u>- 0</u>	
Membership as of May 27, 2008	720	399	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith:	<u>+137</u>		(-6) Confirmands, Dams
Total children, youth and adults:	857		

Baptisms performed:

- Emma Sophia Dam, born March 3, daughter of Susan Braeuer (member) and Christopher Matthew Dam, and granddaughter of members Kathy and Harry Braeuer
- Christopher Matthew Dam, son of Mark and Angeles Dam, born March 22, 1977

Offsite Weddings performed:

- Sheri Lynne Klug and Donald William Boonstra (non-members); officiated by Pastor Helen DeLeon on March 26, 2008

Funerals:

- A service was held for Tip Tindall on May 4, 2008

New Business

The **Session voted to approve the baptisms** of:

- o Justice James Rodgers, born November 21, 1999;
 - o Jordan Elizabeth Rodgers, born December 29, 2001; and,
 - o Jayleigh Kay Rodgers, born September 19, 2003
- All children of Ashley (member) and David Rodgers.

Committee/Team Actions and Reports

- Administration
 - o Communication – The Communication reported that the church newsletter has a new look, due to being published by the church secretary on our new color copier. The church member photo directory is behind schedule, but efforts are underway to wrap it up.
 - o Personnel – The job description for the Associate Minister for Youth, Children, & Families will be reformatted and finalized. Review and revision of the Personnel Policies is underway.
 - o Stewardship & Finance – The team along with Pastor Cooper led a discussion about developing a better sense of stewardship at WPC, rather than simply focusing on stewardship for a few weeks each year. The **Session voted to approve opening of a new mutual fund account (AIM)** by the Treasurer to receive shares of stock gifted by a member of the congregation.
- Buildings & Grounds – Two Administration Building air conditioner units were replaced over the past several weeks. Our B&G team will work Matt Kibikas, 14 year old son of Cindy Kibikas to identify a suitable project to satisfy his requirements for Eagle Scout. A small team will replace the moisture-damaged exterior doors that lead into the Education Wing HVAC room.
- Care of Members
 - o Care – Stephen Ministry training is complete with commissioning of new team member scheduled for July 13. The Deacons are set to support the Summer Round Tables during the Sunday School hour in June.

- Fellowship – On July 5, there will be a potluck lunch following the 11:00 worship service to celebrate Helen's fifth anniversary at WPC. On July 27, a reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 4:30 p.m. in conjunction with Pastor Caressa's 3:00 p.m. installation service.
- Christian Nurture Ministry
 - Adult Ministry – Preparations are complete for the Summer Round Tables. The members of Session, as the spiritual leaders of the congregation, were encouraged to participate on Sundays.
 - Youth Ministry – The **Session voted to approve the celebration of communion** during the Youth Mission Trip to Colorado in June.
 - Children's Ministry – Preparations for Vacation Bible School (June 8 through 12) are complete.
- Mission – The Mission Team is considering ways WPC can support Heritage Presbyterian Church which recently lost the majority of its membership and financial support.
- Outreach – The sign committee continues to meet with sign vendors and consider alternatives – style, size, material, and location. Church brochures have been placed in more than a half dozen motel lobbies along Bay Area Boulevard between Interstate 45 and Space Center.
- Worship – The team continues to work on the new sanctuary projection system. Fourteen members of the congregation have indicated interest in serving as lay readers during worship.

Old Business

The Commissioners who represented WPC at the recent Presbytery meeting reported that the most notable item was that there was a new church in the Presbytery, the third to become part of our Presbytery in recent months.

Pastors' Reports

Mark Cooper – taking stock after just two years at WPC, he is happy to say he and Jill feel this is a good place to be and things only seem to be getting better.

Caressa Murray – expressed her excitement to be here at WPC; she has been busy with Austin Seminary graduation ceremonies, where she and her husband Jonathan both received their degrees; and, she reported that she had been ordained at her home church over the previous weekend.

Next Meeting

The next Stated Meeting of Session will be Tuesday, June 24, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator at 9:10 p.m.


 Gene Fisseler
 Clerk of Session

June 24, 2008
Meeting Room

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session **convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, June 24, 2008, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper at 7:05 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastor Helen Deleon;
- Associate Pastor Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders, Cathy Black, Jeanette Chase, Tye Cowan, John Dewey, Watson Dupont, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), John Grady, Dan Hunter, Johnny Jones, John Jordan, Diane Kane, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Al Manson, Melissa Moede, Mike Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

The following members of Session were excused:

- Active Elders, Jennifer Carr, and Roy Phillips.

Treasurer Pat Koester was also present.

A quorum was declared by the Clerk and the Agenda for the meeting was approved.

New Members – The Moderator welcomed Shallon Barboza, 2008 Chair of the New Member Team, who introduced Sandy Dwyer who had expressed a desire to become a full member of Webster Presbyterian Church. After learning a bit about Ms. Dwyer, Rev. Cooper asked a series of questions regarding her faith and commitment to the church. Being satisfied with her answers, the **Session voted to receive** Sandy Dwyer into Full Membership of Webster Presbyterian Church by letter of transfer.

The **Session voted to approve minutes** of the May 27, 2008 Stated Meeting.

Treasurer's Report – The Session received the Treasurer's report.

Clerk's Report

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of May 27, 2008	720	399	
Gains:			
Transfer of Letter	+ 1	+ 1	Case
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 0	+ 0	
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses:			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 0</u>	<u>- 0</u>	
Membership as of June 24, 2008	721	400	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith:	<u>+141</u>	(+4) Rodgers, Perez	
Total children, youth and adults:	862		

Baptism performed by Mark Cooper:

Leilani Isabella Ahuwalekapookelakkauhanaiahai Perez, daughter of Shayna and Alfred Perez (members), granddaughter of Carlos and Wendy Noriega, born April 20, 2008, was baptized on Sunday, June 1, 2008.

Baptisms performed by Helen DeLeon and Mark Cooper:

The children of Ashley Rodgers (member) and David Rodgers,

- o Justice James Rodgers, born November 21, 1999;
- o Jordan Elizabeth Rodgers, born December 29, 2001; and,
- o Jayleigh Kay Rodgers, born September 19, 2003;

were baptized on June 22, 2008.

New Business

The **Session voted to ratify its earlier electronic approval of the baptism** of Alina Rose Becker, born May 15, 2008, daughter of Mandy (member) and Justin Becker.

Committee/Team Actions and Reports

- Administration
 - o Personnel – Due to vacation schedules, there was no report.
 - o Stewardship & Finance – The scope of the Audit Committee, which is staffed by Dick Mills, Robert Cravens, and Tye Cowan, is to develop a schedule and determine data requirements. The committee will investigate the procedures employed by other churches. In order to support the 2009 budget, each Session committee is requested to provide the S&F team its itemized budget before the August 26 stated meeting.
 - o Buildings & Grounds – The church's electricity contract will expire at the end of June. While we have enjoyed a very low rate during the contract period ending, electricity rates are significantly higher now than they were when that rate was locked. We can expect our bills to increase with the new rate. Church member Ed Tobia is working to get the best deal and Jim Ingram will review and sign off on the new contract.
- Care of Members
 - o Care – An Open Door Class for new members is set for August 10 at 12:30 p.m. Our newly trained Stephen Ministers will be commissioned during worship on July 13. Several umbrellas have been placed in the Education Wing and in the Narthex for use on rainy days.
- Christian Nurture Ministries
 - o Children's Ministry – The committee reported that Vacation Bible School was a resounding success. The materials used have been forwarded to the recently divided Heritage Presbyterian Church for use with its VBS.
 - o Youth Ministry – The **Session commended the Youth Team, Pastor Caressa Murray, the youth who went on the trip, and the others who supported and/or participated in the very successful youth mission trip** to Colorado earlier in the month.
 - o Adult Ministry – It was noted that participation in Sunday morning Adult Education program is measurably "up" this summer, that many of those participating are not "regulars," and that there is a general "buzz" around the church about the program. The **Session commended Jane Markley, the Board of Deacons, the Early Bird Breakfast Bunch and our pastors for their contributions to the Summer Roundtables.** It was Jane who initially suggested the concept of the Round Tables to spark a change of pace, increase interest in Adult Christian Education, and give our regular teachers the summer off. Our Deacons facilitated the weekly discussions, introducing participants to the fellowship of a covenant-style group. In addition, they had sent letters

explaining and inviting their zone members, followed up with telephone call reminders, and brought snacks and sweets to the initial session. The Early Bird Breakfast Bunch provided a full breakfast to all the folks who turned out for second Round Table Sunday. And a "hats off" is offered to the leaders of the Bunch for providing breakfast tacos and muffins throughout the rest of June. Our pastors prepared the weekly discussion materials for the discussions. The written questions posed by the pastors, based on each Sunday's scripture text, enabled all a better understanding of the day's sermon.

- **Mission** – The **Session voted to approve a special offering on September 21** to provide financial support for the redevelopment of Heritage Presbyterian Church in Presbytery of New Covenant (Mission Committee funds will be used if necessary to assure that WPC provides at least \$2,000 in assistance).
- **Outreach** – Church brochures have now been placed in the motel lobbies of motels located along NASA Road between El Camino Real and Highway 146. The sign committee continues to explore options.
- **Worship** – The next Youth Worship Service is set for Sunday, June 29, at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Lunar Communion will be remembered on July 20. WPC's praise band, Joyful Noyz, is losing its drummer Michael Wilson later this summer as he has enlisted in the U.S. Navy. A search is underway to find a new drummer. The music team may attend a later meeting of Session to discuss options.

Old Business – There was none

Pastors' Reports


Mark Cooper – Mark will be on vacation for two weeks, missing one Sunday.

Caressa Murray – Caressa reported on the youth mission trip, her participation in the upcoming Synod Youth Workshop, and that her installation at WPC is set for July 27 at 3:00 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next Stated Meeting of Session will be Tuesday, July 22, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator at 9:05 p.m.


Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

July 22, 2008
Meeting Room

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session **convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, July 22, 2008, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper at 7:05 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastor Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders; Jennifer Carr, Jeanette Chase, John Dewey, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), John Grady, Johnny Jones, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Al Manson, Roy Phillips, Mike Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

The following members of Session were excused:

- Associate Pastor Helen DeLeon;
- Active Elders; Cathy Black, Tye Cowan, Watson Dupont, Dan Hunter, John Jordan, Diane Kane, and Melissa Moede.

Treasurer Pat Koester was also present.

A quorum was declared by the Clerk and the Agenda for the meeting was approved.

Treasurer’s Report - The Session received the Treasurer’s report.

Clerk’s Report
Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of June 24, 2008	721	400	
Gains:			
Transfer of Letter	+ 1	+ 1	Dwyer
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 0	+ 0	
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses:			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 1</u>	<u>- 1</u>	Gray
Membership as of July 22, 2008	721	400	
Baptized persons who’ve			
not made Professions of Faith:	<u>+141</u>		
Total children, youth and adults:	862		

Requests for Transfer Letter: Lisa and Kevin Gildea to First Methodist Church of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.

Weddings performed:

- Angela Brockett (NM) and Vance Boyer (NM) on June 28, 2008 (son of members Ed and Anna Mae Boyer), officiated by Rev. Mark Cooper
- Kimberly Hamal (NM) and Pete Hernandez (NM) on July 5, 2008, officiated by Rev. Helen DeLeon
- Tracy Tinkey (NM) and Anthony Rodriguez (NM) on July 10, 2008, officiated by Rev. Helen DeLeon

Death: George Gray passed away on Thursday, June 26, 2008

Funeral: A service for George Gray was conducted on Monday, June 30, 2008

New Business

- The **Session voted to approve the Special Funds Committee proposal** for new signatories associated with the Church Endowment Fund: Richard Brackett, Trustee; Dennis Rohlfing, Trustee; James Ingram, Trustee; Pat Koester, Treasurer; and, Anne Waehner, Assistant Treasurer.
- The **Session approved the Nominating Committee’s recommendation for three new at-large Nominating Committee members:** Carol Kloves, Tom Camp, Sandra Murphy. The **Session voted to approve the nomination of James Kinzler as the Vice Chair** of the Nominating Committee.

- The **Session voted to approve the baptism** of Keelin Grace Monk, born April 11, 2008, daughter of Courtney and Cody Monk, sister of Alexis Lynn Monk, grandchild of Gary and Sandy Mossman (date tentatively set for September 28, 2008).
- The **Session voted to approve the fundraising effort by member Bill Straight** to sell NASA Apollo program commemorative ballpoint pens with the proceeds going to the general operating fund.

Committee/Team Actions and Reports

- Administration
 - Communication – Bill Dixon has suggested that the church sponsor a blog on its website. However, further discussion will be required as the characteristics of a blog may make church sponsorship a challenge.
 - Stewardship & Finance – The team reiterated its request for itemized budget proposals for 2009 to be submitted to Mike Stearns by August 18. The continuing and increasing deficit between projected support and revenues received was discussed. Mike Stearns and Roy Phillips will be making announcements from the pulpit over the next few weeks.
- Buildings & Grounds – With the new electricity contract in place, more attention must be paid to thermostat settings during the air conditioning season. There was also discussion around a proposal to hold a fundraiser in the form of a church garage sale. While the garage sale format wasn't a concern, how the funds raised will be used requires more consideration. Committing the church to new construction is not appropriate, but raising funds to outfit a new kitchen when one is ultimately constructed met with general agreement. The matter was tabled until the B&G Chair is available to discuss the matter further.
- Care of Members
 - Care – New Stephen Ministers were commissioned July 13 during both worship services. The Deacons have continued to be busy with the Summer Round Tables each Sunday and with the reception for the George Gray funeral on June 30.
 - Fellowship – The fifth anniversary of Rev. DeLeon's ministry at WPC was celebrated on Sunday, July 13, with an estimated 180 in attendance. Helen was presented with a new laptop computer by the congregation and GPS unit by the Session. Wednesday Night dinners will be starting again in early September. WPC's annual Shrimp Boil is set for September 27.
- Christian Nurture Ministries
 - Children's Ministry – "Get Ready! Get Set! Worship," a preparatory course for children to attend worship, began July 13 and continues through August 31. A Parents' Night Out is scheduled for August 13. Rally day is set for September 7.
 - Youth Ministry – Eight youth from our church, along with adult sponsors Caressa and Jonathan Murray and Phyllis Koenig, joined 380 others at the Synod Youth Workshop. Our youth are sponsoring a service project, asking church members to donate 5-gallon buckets filled with cleaning materials to be delivered to flood victims in the Midwest. A 2008-09 planning retreat will be held at High Island in late August.
 - Adult Ministry – The Summer Round Tables continue to draw strong attendance and will continue through August 24. The Fall Adult Ministry offerings have been firmed up and include two consecutive sets of five-week classes. The Special Events Board has been staffed by Mike Carden, Courtenay Clifford, Bill Dixon, Janet Harreld, Lisa Haws, Patty Lusk, David Merritt, Carlos Noriega, Earline Wilcott, and Jean Zophy.

- Mission – Vicki Smith, our missionary in Jamaica, is recovering from Dengue fever and will be stateside next month. She will make a presentation to our congregation on August 17. An adult mission team will return to New Orleans for a third annual trip. It is hoped that 15 to 20 adults will participate and publicity efforts are underway.
- Outreach – The sign committee met with a masonry sign expert.
- Worship – Lunar Communion was commemorated on July 20. Rev. Murray's installation service will be held on July 27, with members of Presbytery and guests from other churches participating and in attendance. There is news that a new drummer for the praise band, Joyful Noyz, has been lined up.

Old Business – There was none.

Pastors' Reports

Mark Cooper – Mark covered his items in earlier discussions.

Caressa Murray – There will be greater coordination between the youth music programs going forward. At her request, the **Session voted to approve the celebration of the Lord's Supper at the August 9-10 Youth Retreat.**

Next Meeting

The next Stated Meeting of Session will be Tuesday, August 26, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator at 9:10 p.m.


Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

August 26, 2008
Meeting Room

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session **convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, August 26, 2008, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotional and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastors Helen DeLeon and Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders Cathy Black, Jennifer Carr, Jeanette Chase, Watson DuPont, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), John Grady, Dan Hunter, Johnny Jones, John Jordan, Diane Kane, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Al Manson, Melissa Moede, Roy Phillips, Michael Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

The following members of Session were excused: Active Elders Tye Cowan and John Dewey.

Also present was Treasurer Pat Koester.

A quorum was declared present by the Clerk and an Agenda for the meeting was approved.

New Members – The Moderator welcomed Shallon Barboza, 2008 Chair of the New Member Team, who introduced Stephanie and Joey Lane who had expressed a desire to become full members of Webster Presbyterian Church. After learning a bit about the Lanes, Rev. Cooper asked a series of questions regarding their faith and commitment to the church. Being satisfied with her answers, the **Session voted to receive** Stephanie Lane by Letter of Transfer and Joey Lane by Reaffirmation of Faith into Full Membership of Webster Presbyterian Church.

The **Session voted to approve minutes** of the following:

- the June 24, 2008, Stated Meeting of Session; and,
- the July 22, 2008, Stated Meeting of Session.

Treasurer's Report – The Session received the Treasurer's report.

Clerk's Report

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of July 22, 2008	721	400	
Gains			
Transfer of Letter	+ 0	+ 0	
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 0	+ 0	
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses			
Transfer of Letter	- 2	- 1	Gildea
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 0</u>	<u>- 0</u>	
Membership as of August 26, 2008	719	399	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith	+141		
Total children, youth and adults	860		

New Business

- The **Session voted to approve the baptism** of Jackson Dale Murphy, grandson of Laurie Albrigo, to be baptized on September 14, 2008.
- The **Session voted to ratify its election** of Active Elders Jennifer Carr and Mary Lawrence to serve commissioners for WPC at the August 23 Stated Meeting of New Covenant Presbytery.
- The **Session voted to approve the request** by Watson Dupont for Suzan Hawkinson to officiate the marriage of Jennifer Dupont and Jeffry Kinzler on June 20, 2009 at WPC.
- Following a discussion regarding the appropriate placement of certain items that were given to the church by Clay Anderson (member, NASA astronaut, and International Space Station resident for six months in 2007), it was determined that the most appropriate location would be the niches in the foyer of the Fellowship Hall. The items themselves accompanied Clay during his stay on the ISS.

Committee/Team Actions and Reports

- Administration
 - Communication – The long awaited church member pictorial directories are received. Distribution will begin immediately. Due to office staffing issues, production of the monthly church newsletter is on temporary hiatus.


- Personnel – Job descriptions for the Minister of Youth, Children & Families is complete. The Personnel Policy is being reviewed and all recommended changes will be presented to the Session. It was requested that Committee member Janis Edwards, who is beginning her chemotherapy, be remembered in our prayers.
- Stewardship & Finance – Preparations for an audit/financial review of fiscal year 2007 are underway. The first cut at a 2009 budget indicates a greater than 10% increase over 2008.
- Buildings & Grounds – Four leaks were reported in the Administration Building roof and a full replacement may be in order.
- Care of Members
 - Care – The numbers of guests visiting Sunday worship are much above previous months. Unfortunately, the August 10 Open Door class had to be cancelled, but it will be rescheduled. Stephen Ministers were commissioned during the July 13 worship services.
 - Fellowship – The date of the Annual Shrimp Boil is September 17. There was considerable discussion about the October 15 Tabletop Brigade fundraiser. There is confusion as to whether the funds raised can be used to purchase equipment for and upgraded kitchen associated with the Fellowship Hall or if the funds can only be used for construction. Discussion regarding this matter will continue.
- Christian Nurture Ministries
 - Children's Ministry – The Children's Musical will be presented on February 15.
 - Youth Ministry – September 7 is Rally Day, the theme of which is "Jesus Rocks." The immediately previous Saturday will be spent sprucing up our classrooms.
 - Adult Ministry – The committee has approved the use of Traveling Light, by author Max Lucado, for use by one of the covenant groups. Fifty-three participants are signed up for the Women's Retreat. Fall Sunday School classes include *An Epic Telling of the Book of Ecclesiastes* led by Rev. Cooper, *The Multicultural Church* led by Rev. Tim Phillips, *Human Suffering* led by Ed Tobia, and *Getting from Sunday to Monday* led by Mary Lawrence.
- Mission – About a dozen volunteers are signed up for the annual adult mission trip to New Orleans which is set to begin the last weekend in September. WPC is the official host for the 2008 CROP Walk that will take place on Sunday, October 12, starting and ending in Clear Lake Park.
- Outreach – The sign committee has determined that a fairly simple church sign can be installed near the corner of NASA Parkway and Austin Street for less than \$30,000.
- Worship – In preparation for Rally Day, a Sanctuary Guild workday is on the calendar for Saturday, September 6. Our praise band, Joyful Noyz, has a new drummer...Greg Wilson will follow his son Michael's footsteps.

Old Business – Mary and Jennifer reported on the recent Presbytery of New Covenant Stated Meeting. There was a report presented regarding the status of Heritage Presbyterian Church and there was an overarching "multicultural" ambience and theme to the meeting.

Next Meeting:

- The next Stated Meeting of Session is September 23, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer at 9:35 p.m.


Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

September 23, 2008
Meeting Room

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session **convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, September 23, 2008, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastors Helen DeLeon and Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders, Cathy Black, Jennifer Carr, John Grady, Dan Hunter, John Jordan, Diane Kane, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Al Manson, Melissa Moede, Roy Phillips, and Dennis Waehner (Clerk Pro Tem).

The following members of Session were excused: Active Elders Jeanette Chase, Tye Cowan, John Dewey, Johnny Jones, Watson DuPont, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), and Michael Stearns.

Also present were Treasurer Pat Koester and Trustee Dick Brackett.

Session voted to elect Dennis Waehner as Clerk Pro Tempore for this stated meeting.

A quorum was declared by the Clerk and the Agenda for the meeting was approved.

Treasurer's Report - Pat Koester presented the financial report. The Session received the Treasurer's report.

Clerk's Report

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of August 26, 2008	719	399	
Gains			
Transfer of Letter	+ 1	+ 1	Lane
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 1	+ 0	Lane
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 0</u>	<u>- 0</u>	
Membership as of September 23, 2008	721	400	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith	+141		
Total children, youth and adults	862		

Funerals:

- Scott Montgomery (NM); son of Bob and Betty Montgomery; September 6, 2008, officiated by Mark Cooper.

Report from the Special Funds Committee

Trustee Dick Brackett presented proposed modifications to the Special Funds resolution. The modifications are primarily clarifications. Per the requirements of the Special Funds

resolution, the Session will be required to vote both in the October and the November 2008 stated session meetings in order to approve the proposed modifications.

Committee/Team Actions and Reports

The following Elder committee reports were acknowledged. It was noted that many committees were not able to meet in September as Hurricane Ike made landfall on Galveston Island on September 12 and the local community continues recovery efforts.

Administration

- Communication – The new membership directories have been delivered. Contributions collected will cover printing costs.
- Stewardship & Finance – The committee distributed the letters of commitment to the active elders and requested their joyful participation as quickly as possible in order to set a positive example for the congregation. The planning for the October 19 Stewardship service and luncheon is proceeding. The committee needs the input of testimonials from all ministry teams as soon as possible.

Buildings & Grounds – Minor damage to the sanctuary roof was sustained during Hurricane Ike. The committee is having the damage assessed. The Education Wing/Administration Wing roof held up well. The lock on the Fellowship Hall door has been repaired.

Care of Members

- The Deacons, Helen, and Caressa all worked in the aftermath of hurricane Ike to reach out to all church members.
- The Annual Shrimp Boil has been postponed due to Hurricane Ike. In place of the traditional event, a potluck dinner will be held on Saturday, September 27.

Christian Nurture – The leadership of the three ministries within Christian Nurture convened a planning meeting to review coordination and cooperation between the three groups.

- Youth Ministry – **The Session approved the following motion from Youth Ministry:** WPC youth will sponsor two fundraisers - a car wash in November and "Christmas Post Office" in December – with proceeds from both benefiting the 2009 Youth Mission Trip. Regarding the "post office," WPC youth will be available to deliver Christmas cards for church members who would otherwise send their Christmas greetings to other church members via the U.S. mail service. Donations for this service will be accepted.

Mission – The week-long Adult Mission Trip to New Orleans, which was scheduled to begin September 28, has been canceled due to Hurricane Ike. The committee is preparing for the "Peacemaking Offering." Twenty-five percent of this year's offering will go toward local Hurricane Ike victims.

Session Commendations:


The **Session voted to commend:**

- Daphne Reimer for her outstanding work during Hurricane Ike, connecting people with needs to people who can help.
- Mark Cooper, Helen Deleon, and Caressa Murray for their leadership and inspiration in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike. Mark was found tearing damaged carpet and walls from homes of church members. Helen personally called every member of the congregation. Caressa contacted all families with children and youth to check on their well being. In addition, Caressa organized a dinner for those returning on the Wednesday evening after the storm. The event provided members a real sense of hope and normalcy and reminded us that God is always with us and is acting through our neighbors.

Next Meetings

- The next Stated Meeting of Session will be convened Tuesday, October 28, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator at 8:30 p.m.



Dennis Waehner
Clerk of Session Pro Tem

October 28, 2008
Meeting Room

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session **convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, October 28, 2008, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastor Helen DeLeon and,
- Active Elders, Cathy Black, Jennifer Carr, John Dewey, Watson Dupont, Dan Hunter, Johnny Jones, John Grady, John Jordan, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Al Manson, Roy Phillips, Michael Stearns, and Dennis Waehner (Clerk Pro Tem).

The following members of Session were excused: Active Elders Jeanette Chase, Tye Cowan, Diane Kane, Melissa Moede, and Gene Fisseler (Clerk).

Also present were Treasurer Pat Koester and Trustees Dick Brackett and Jim Ingram.

The Session voted to elect Dennis Waehner as Clerk Pro Tempore. A quorum was declared by the Clerk and the Agenda for the meeting was approved.

New Members – The Moderator welcomed Shallon Barboza, Chair of the New Member Team, who introduced Melinda Refford, Melissa Refford and Horace Robbins, who have expressed a desire to become full members of Webster Presbyterian Church. After learning a bit about the inquirers, Rev. Cooper asked a series of questions regarding their faith and commitment to the church. Being satisfied with their answers, the **Session voted to receive Melinda Refford, Melissa Refford and Horace Robbins** into the full membership of Webster Presbyterian Church. Melinda and Melissa join by reaffirmation of faith and Horace joins by letter of transfer from First Presbyterian, Houston.

Treasurer's Report - Pat Koester presented the financial report. The Session received the Treasurer's report.

Clerk's Report
Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of September 23, 2008	721	400	
Gains:			
Transfer of Letter	+ 0	+ 0	
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 0	+ 0	

2270

Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses:			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 2</u>	<u>- 2</u>	Brewer, Scott
Membership as of October 28, 2008	719	398	
Baptized persons who've			
not made Professions of Faith:	<u>+ 141</u>		
Total children, youth and adults:	860		

Birth:

- Matthew Aidan Lane, son of members Stephanie and Joey Lane, was born September 26, 2008.

Weddings:

- Grace Greenshield (NM) and Daniel Lunsford (NM), performed offsite (Spring, Texas) on September 27, 2008, by Rev. Helen DeLeon
- Amy Lou Middaugh (NM) and Michael Buell (NM), performed offsite (Houston, Texas) on October 3, 2008, by Rev. Helen DeLeon

Deaths:

- Dorothy Brewer, on September 24, 2008
- Betty Ruth Scott, on September 30, 2008

Funeral/Memorial Service:

- Betty Ruth Scott on October 3, 2008

The **Session** voted to approve minutes of the September 23, 2008, Stated Meeting of Session.

New Business

- Trustee Dick Brackett again presented the proposed modifications to the Special Funds Committee resolution that was brought before session in the September meeting. The modifications are primarily clarifications. Dick answered some questions regarding the changes and the **Session voted to approve the proposed changes**. The Session will be required to vote again in the November 2008 stated session meeting in order to approve the proposed modifications.
- The Session voted to approve the creation of a task force, chaired by Roy Phillips, and charged with the updating of the membership rolls. Roy will recruit members to join the task force and bring the names before Session in the November meeting for approval.
- The Session received a report from the 2008 Nominating Committee. No action was required.
- The **Session voted to elect Active Elders Johnny Jones and John Jordan to serve as Commissioners** to the November 15 Stated Meeting of Presbytery of New Covenant at First Presbyterian Church, Pasadena.
- The **Session voted to set the date for a congregational meeting for November 23 after the 11:00 a.m., worship service**. The meeting will be used to elect new officers and receive a report from the Stewardship Committee.
- The **Session voted to set the date for the annual congregational meeting for January 25 after the 11:00 a.m. worship service**.

Committee/Team Actions and Reports

The following Elder committee reports were acknowledged:

- Administration
 - Communication – The Team is investigating the feasibility of incorporating a blog on the WPC website. The Session asked that a plan of the proposed project be brought before Session at a future meeting.
 - Stewardship & Finance – To date we have received 84 letters of commitment totaling \$344,949. Of those, 47 represent increases over 2008, six represent decreases, and 24 are unchanged. In accordance with Book of Order guidelines, the Team has requested bids for auditing of WPC finances. Estimates for both a full audit and, optionally, an audit review, have been requested.
 - Personnel – The Session reviewed and approved the proposed changes to the Personnel Policies. **A motion was made, seconded and approved by the Session to provide a one-time extension to allow church staff to carry over unused 2008 vacation hours for six months into 2009.** This is being offered as we transition to the new Personnel Policies vacation rules. Mark Cooper will discuss with the Personnel Team a request for a specific extension to carryover his 2008 vacation hours into 2009. The Personnel Team will bring a motion regarding that request to the November 2008 stated meeting of Session for approval.
- Fellowship - The shrimp boil has been set for November 8 and the annual Thanksgiving dinner for November 19.
- Worship – Youth worship services are scheduled for November 16 and December 7.

Session Commendations

- The Session voted to commend Ann Taylor for her outstanding work leading not only WPC, but the entire Bay Area ecumenical community, in the 2008 CROP Walk.

Next Meeting

- **The Session voted to move the next Stated Meeting of Session** to Tuesday, November 18, 2008, at 7:00 p.m., in the Meeting Room.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator at 9:50 p.m.



Dennis Waehner
Clerk of Session Pro Tem

November 18, 2008
Meeting Room

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session **convened a Stated Meeting** on Tuesday, November 18, 2008, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with the reading of two poems and a prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastors Helen DeLeon and Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders Cathy Black, Jennifer Carr, Jeanette Chase, Tye Cowan, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), Dan Hunter, Johnny Jones, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Al Manson, Melissa Moede, Roy Phillips, Michael Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

The following members of Session were excused: Active Elders Watson DuPont, John Dewey, John Grady, John Jordan, and Diane Kane.

Also present were Treasurer Pat Koester and Trustee Dick Brackett.

A quorum was declared present by the Clerk and an Agenda for the meeting was approved.

New Members – The Moderator welcomed Shallon Barboza, 2008 Chair of the New Member Team, who introduced Maryann Neukom, Evelyn Timmons, Lynn & Kevin Snowden, and Jeanne & Tim Murray, all of whom have expressed a desire to become full members of Webster Presbyterian Church. After learning a bit about the prospective new members, Rev. Cooper asked a series of questions regarding their faith and commitment to the church. Being satisfied with her answers, the **Session voted to receive** into the Full Membership of Webster Presbyterian Church:

- Maryann Neukom by Transfer of Letter;
- Evelyn Timmons by Reaffirmation of Faith;
- Lynn & Kevin Snowden, both by Transfer of Letter (with two baptized children, Johnathan & David);
- Jeanne Murray by Reaffirmation of Faith; and,
- Tim Murray by Letter of Transfer.

Dick Brackett reminded those present that, in addition to the first affirmative vote at the October Stated Meeting of Session, a second affirmative vote of Session is required in order to approve the proposed Endowment & Special Funds Amendment. The **Session voted to approve** the Amendment. The matter will put before the Congregation for its approval at the Annual Meeting in January 2009.

The **Session voted to approve minutes** of the following:

- o the August 26, 2008 Stated Meeting of Session; and,
- o the October 28, 2008 Stated Meeting of Session.

Treasurer’s Report – The Session received the Treasurer’s report.

Clerk’s Report

The Clerk presented a letter received of the First Presbyterian Church of Kingwood expressing “very real and deep dissent regarding actions taken by General Assembly 2008 regarding sexual conduct.” The ensuing discussion led to an interest in further exploration of the recent actions of General Assembly and the matters that will be considered by Presbytery of New Covenant in 2009 to be pursued in the form of a presentation or class.

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of October 28, 2008	719	398	
Gains			
Transfer of Letter	+ 1	+ 1	Robbins
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 2	+ 1	Refford/Refford
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	<u>- 0</u>	<u>- 0</u>	
Membership as of November 18, 2008	722	400	
Baptized persons who’ve not made Professions of Faith	+141		

Total children, youth and adults

863

New Business

- The **Session voted to approve** the baptism of Matthew Aidan Lane, son of Stephanie & Joey Lane, on February 15, 2009, at the 11:00 a.m. worship service.
- The **Session voted to invite the Board of Deacons** to its December 16 Stated Meeting.

Committee/Team Actions and Reports

- Administration
 - Communication – With the resignation of the church secretary, the publication of the monthly newsletter will be closely considered.
 - Personnel – There was discussion surrounding the personnel policies adopted at the last stated meeting.
 - Stewardship & Finance – As of this juncture, there exists a \$60,000 deficit in the church operating budget which is not expected to improve before year's end. A special appeal to the congregation is being considered. The 2009 stewardship campaign continues to move forward. The Session directed Tye Cowan to return a proposal, developed in conjunction with the Special Events Board, by March 2009 regarding how WPC could bring Dave Ramsey's financial peace university to our campus.
- Buildings & Grounds – With the recent rains, numerous roof leaks have been discovered in the administration building.
- Care of Members
 - Care – Michael Cooper has been elected to serve as 2009 Deacon Moderator; Ed Tobia has been elected to serve as 2009 Vice Moderator; and, Elaine Lapka has been elected to serve as 2009 Secretary/Treasurer.
 - Fellowship – For the second consecutive year, the annual Shrimp Boil was moved indoors to the Fellowship Hall and again was a unqualified success. Making this a new tradition is under consideration. The committee will provide wassail and gingerbread along with other goodies after the choir cantata on the evening of December 14.
- Christian Nurture Ministries
 - Children's Ministry – It was reported that our nursery is full on Sunday mornings. Further, the possibility of offering "donuts and devotions" to those in the Parents' Retreat on Sunday mornings.
 - Youth Ministry – The youth will lead a worship service on the evening of Sunday, December 7. Our Junior High and Senior High youth programs are enjoying tremendous participation. Elders may be asked to support the 2009 confirmation class.
 - Adult Ministry – An Adult Rally Day for Sunday School offerings is set for January 4. The Women's Retreat is rescheduled due to Hurricane Ike to March 20-22, 2009.
- Mission – Anita and Bill Knowles have stepped up to manage the Gifts of Joy Christmas mission project. Other seasonal mission projects include Christmas International House, ICM Christmas Store, and the Joy Offering.
- Outreach – The committee has been successful in getting WPC articles into local neighborhood newsletters and local newspapers all year. There will be a big push through Advent to keep our name in these publications.


Old Business – The Nominating Committee amended its request for a Congregational Meeting. Rather than as originally proposed, it now requests that notice for a Congregational Meeting on December 14 be provided along with a slate of candidates for

church officers. During the intervening weeks, the congregation will be solicited for names of members who may be called upon to serve.

Next Meeting:

- The next Stated Meeting of Session is Tuesday, December 16, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer at 9:50 p.m.


Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session

December 7, 2008
Church Parlor

The Session of Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) **convened a Called Meeting** on Sunday, December 7, 2008, in the Church Parlor. The Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, opened the meeting with prayer at 12:15 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to receive new members.

The following members of Session were present:

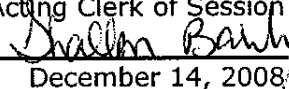
- Moderator, Pastor Mark Cooper; Associate Pastor Helen DeLeon; and Pastor Caressa Murray
- Active Elders Cathy Black, Jeanette Chase, Watson Dupont, John Grady, John Jordan, James Kinzler, Al Manson, Mike Stearns and Dennis Waehner

Also in attendance was New Member Team Chair Shallon Barboza, who, as a newly elected Elder, served as Acting Clerk.

A quorum was declared present.

Shallon introduced prospective members Jace and Sarah Frey along with their children Aaron, Michael and John. After the pastors and elders present engaged in discussion and questions with the Freys, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously affirmed to receive Jace and Sarah Fray into membership, both by reaffirmation of faith. The Freys will be introduced to the congregation on December 14, 2008 in the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

The business of the Called Meeting having been concluded, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor Mark Cooper at 12:25 p.m.

Shallon Barboza
Acting Clerk of Session

December 14, 2008
Church Sanctuary

The **Congregation of Webster Presbyterian Church convened a Called Meeting** of the Congregation on Sunday, December 14, 2008, in the Church Sanctuary. The Moderator, the Reverend Mark Cooper, opened the meeting with prayer at 12:05 p.m. Clerk of Session Gene Fisseler was appointed Secretary and a quorum was declared present. The Moderator

stated the purpose and the agenda for the meeting: to receive a report from the Nominating Committee, to elect church officers, class of 2011 and to receive a report from the Stewardship & Finance Committee.

Report from the Nominating Committee/Election of Church Officers

The Chair of the Nominating Committee, Roy Phillips, introduced the members of the committee: Tom Camp, Jan Fisseler, James Kinzler, Carol Kloves (who previously resigned her seat), Sandy Murphy, and Joyce Sens. and reported on the committee's work. Their efforts were recognized by the Chair and by the Congregation. Mr. Phillips placed the following names in nomination for the offices indicated:

- Trustee - Tom Dibello;
- Elder - Shallon Barboza, Kathy Braeuer, Jim Magnant, Joan McMillan, Randy Moore, and Jimmy Spivey;
- Youth Elder - Jennifer Paden;
- Deacon - Dave Bolon, Paul Cianchetti, Liz Clifford, Carole Kloves, Richard Koester, Joann Letson, Katy Rendon, and Jamee Wilson;
- Youth Deacon - Elizabeth Noriega.

Each of the five officer slates were considered individually. The Moderator asked for nominations from the floor for each office. There were none for any office. The Moderator asked for discussion and/or questions regarding the nominees for each office. Hearing none, the Moderator called for voice votes for each office and the congregation voted to elect the individuals listed above to the offices.

The Moderator explained that there remains one open position on the Session and that unfilled term will be filled by an election properly noticed and conducted at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Congregation in January 2009.

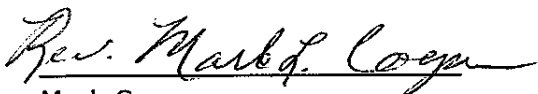
Report from the Stewardship & Finance Committee

Roy Phillips represented the Chair of the Stewardship & Finance Committee Mike Stearns who was out of the country on business. Mr. Phillips and the Congregation recognized the good work performed by the pastoral staff, the office staff, the Sunday School Superintendent, the music program staff, and the treasurer. He also discussed the difference between the proposed 2009 budget and the pledges received to date. Letters of commitment were circulated among those present.

Other Business

The Moderator asked if there was other business that should be brought before the Congregation. Elder Diane Kane rose to a "point of order" and advised the Congregation that her mother, Mary Francis Kane, was, as of the date of the meeting, celebrating her 90th birthday. The Congregation delivered a spontaneous congratulatory standing ovation to the birthday girl and acknowledged that her husband Vernon had clearly "robbed the cradle."

The business of the meeting having been accomplished, the meeting was adjourned by the Moderator at 12:35 p.m. with prayer.



Mark Cooper
Moderator



Gene Fisseler
Secretary/Clerk of Session

December 16, 2008
Bouton Hall

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session convened a Stated Meeting on Tuesday, December 16, 2008, in Bouton Hall. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m. This meeting served as the official joint annual meeting of the Session and the Board of Deacons.

The following members of Session were present:

- Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper;
- Associate Pastors Helen DeLeon and Caressa Murray; and,
- Active Elders Cathy Black, Jennifer Carr, Jeanette Chase, Tye Cowan, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), John Grady, Dan Hunter, Johnny Jones, John Jordan, Diane Kane, James Kinzler, Mary Lawrence, Al Manson, Roy Phillips, and Dennis Waehner.

The following members of Session were excused: Active Elders Watson DuPont, John Dewey, Melissa Moede (Youth), and Michael Stearns.

The following members of the Board of Deacons were present: Michael Cooper, Laura Grady, Jackie Hart, Judy Ota, Jennifer Paden (Youth), Andy Posluszny. Also present were Treasurer Pat Koester and Shallon Barboza, Chair of the New Member Team.

A quorum was declared present by the Clerk and an Agenda for the meeting was approved.

New Members – The Moderator welcomed Shallon Barboza, 2008 Chair of the New Member Team, who introduced individuals who have expressed a desire to become full members of Webster Presbyterian Church: (1) Ron Middaugh and (2) Darren & Tacy King with their two baptized daughters, Elsa and Elena. After learning a bit about the prospective new members, Rev. Cooper asked a series of questions regarding their faith and commitment to the church. Being satisfied with their answers, the **Session voted to receive** into the Full Membership of Webster Presbyterian Church Ron Middaugh by Reaffirmation of Faith and the Kings, Tacy and Darren, also by Reaffirmation of Faith.

Board of Deacons - Moderator Rev. Cooper turned the floor over to the Deacons who led a lively half-hour discussion regarding their activities and lessons learned during 2008. Andy Posluszny, outgoing Moderator of the Board of Deacons, spoke about the overall role of the Deacons and Michael Cooper, 2009 Moderator, discussed the committee structure and responsibilities. Other topics that were covered included receptions following funerals and memorial services, the role played by Deacons in the 2008 adult education program Summer Roundtables and local Hurricane Ike recovery, Communion element preparation, the continuing church sponsored blood drive, and preparation of baskets of items for individuals with family members hospitalized at St. John's. The Board's minutes were reviewed.

The **Session voted to approve minutes** of the following:

- the Board of Deacons for the year 2008,
- the November 18, 2008, Stated Meeting of Session; and,
- the December 7, 2008, Called Meeting of Session.

Treasurer's Report – The Session received the Treasurer's report. It is estimated that the \$55,000 operating shortfall will continue through the end of the year.

Clerk's Report – The Clerk read an item of correspondence received from Mike Cole, General Presbyter of Presbytery of New Covenant, expressing appreciation for the letter explaining WPC's inability to provide financial support in 2008 for a church in the presbytery

as well as acknowledging and expressing thanks for WPC's pastoral staff support provided to that church.

Statistical Report

	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Membership as of November 18, 2008	722	400	
Gains			
Transfer of Letter	+ 4	+ 2	Neukom, Snowden, TMurray
Reaffirmation of Faith	+ 4	+ 3	Timmons, JMurray, Frey
Profession of Faith & Baptism	+ 0	+ 0	
Losses			
Transfer of Letter	- 0	- 0	
Removal from Roll	- 0	- 0	
Death	- 0	- 0	
Membership as of December 16, 2008	730	405	
Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith	+143		(+2) Snowdens
Total children, youth and adults	873		

New Business – Upcoming meetings were discussed. The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be convened on Sunday, January 25, 2009. The business of the meeting will include review of 2008 Session committee reports, election of members to the 2009 Nominating Committee, approval of any proposed changes to the pastoral staff terms of call, presentation of the budget, election to fill an open seat on the Session, and a vote on the proposed change to Endowment & Special Funds Resolution. A called meeting of the Session to adopt a 2009 budget prior to the Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, January 17, 9:00 a.m. Proper notice will be provided for both of these meetings.

Committee/Team Actions and Reports

- Administration
 - Communication – John Jordan used most of his time to tell the Session about the outpouring of concern, support and love from WPC pastoral staff and members following the auto accident in which he and his wife Fey were involved. Fey continues to recover.
 - Personnel – The Session voted to table, until the January budget meeting, action on the request from the Personnel Team for approval, on an ongoing basis, to pay WPC Childcare workers an hourly rate equal to FLSA Minimum Wage plus 30%.
 - Stewardship & Finance – The team identified three financial goals for the church going forward: (1) to develop and work within a balanced operating budget without further borrowing; (2) to pay down existing debt; and, (3) to build a reserve fund of \$50,000.
- Buildings & Grounds
- Care of Members
 - Care – Six spaces in the parking lot directly across Moody Street from the sanctuary will be designated for "guests." The Deacons have elected Michael Cooper to serve as Moderator, Ed Tobia to serve as Vice Moderator, and Elaine Lapka to serve as Secretary/Treasurer in 2009.
 - Fellowship – A sit-down lunch will accompany the 2009 Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 25.
- Christian Nurture Ministries

- o Children's Ministry – The ministry serving parents of kids "birth to age 3" will kick off on January 10.
- o Youth Ministry – The **Session voted to approve:**
 1. The annual Super Bowl Sandwich fundraiser with sales on January 18 & 25, 2009, with the proceeds used to fund youth trips and mission activities;
 2. The annual Valentine Sweetheart Dinner Dance fundraiser on February 14 with ticket sales on February 1 & 8, 2009, with the proceeds used to fund youth trips and mission activities;
 3. The annual collection of Souper Bowl of Caring donations on February 1 to support local food pantries; and,
 4. The use of the Fellowship Hall to serve as a Lenten Spirituality Center, featuring a fabric labyrinth borrowed from Presbytery, from February 25 through April 11.
- o Adult Ministry – The **Session voted to approve** WPC hosting a Biblical Storytelling Workshop on February 21, 2009, 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., with advance ticket sales - \$18 for adults/\$12 for students - in the Narthex following worship in January and February and with \$25 admission at the door for adults.
- Mission – The Session voted to approve fundraising in support of the Habitat for Humanity Women's Build with the Mission Team budget covering the difference between funds raised and a \$2,000 commitment for WPC to the Women's Build. The Session voted to commend Bill and Anita Knowles for leading the 2009 Gifts of Joy.
- Worship – The **Session voted to commend** the Audio-Visual Team for its dedication and contribution to meaningful Sunday morning worship. The **Session voted to approve** the following dates in 2009 for the celebration of Communion.


January 4, 2009	First Sunday of the month	July 19, 2009	Lunar Communion
February 1, 2009	First Sunday of the month	August 2, 2009	First Sunday of the month
February 25, 2009	Ash Wednesday (by intinction)	September 6, 2009	First Sunday of the month
March 1, 2009	First Sunday of the month	October 4, 2009	World Communion Sunday
March 22, 2009	Women's Retreat	November 1, 2009	First Sunday of the month
April 5, 2009	month - Palm Sunday	December 6, 2009	First Sunday of the month
April 9, 2008	Maundy Thursday (by intinction)	December 24, 2009	Christmas Eve
May 3, 2009	First Sunday of the month	January 3, 2010	First Sunday of the month
June 7, 2009	First Sunday of the month		


Old Business – As a follow-up to last month's news that the church secretary has resigned, it was reported that two members have been hired on a part-time, temporary basis to meet the office needs until the position is filled.

Upcoming meetings and important dates:

- Committee Chairs are requested to post their 2008 annual reports on the Session web page by Friday, January 16, 2009.
- The next Called Meeting of Session is tentatively set for Saturday, January 17, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. (budget).
- The 2009 Annual Meeting of the Congregation is set for Sunday, January 25, 2009, at noon.
- The next Stated Meeting of Session is Tuesday, January 27, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer at 9:30 p.m.

EXAMINED & APPROVED BY
 PRESBYTERY OF NEW COVENANT
 STATED CLERK
 [] WITHOUT EXCEPTION DATE: 1/14/09
 [] WITH EXCEPTION AS NOTED


 Gene Fisseler
 Clerk of Session