



**Highlights of the 101st Stated Meeting of the
Presbytery of Charlotte Hosted by the
Concord Bethpage Presbyterian Church &
Kannapolis Spanish Mission
Tuesday, May 19, 2009**



The Reverend Alexander Porter & the Reverend Sergio Schmidt bring greetings to the Presbytery on behalf of Bethpage Church and the Kannapolis Spanish Mission.
(Photo courtesy of the Presbytery of Charlotte)

It was with great joy and thanksgiving to God that we gathered for our meeting at Bethpage Presbyterian Church in Concord, NC. Many thanks go to our host church for their warm and gracious welcome, their hospitality, the delicious home-made cookies and other refreshments, and their care of our needs throughout the day.

The Church Development Committee sponsored a pre-Presbytery workshop on the MissionInsite demographics program, led by the Reverend Brad Busiek. MissionInsite is a tool to help your congregation examine how it needs to change in order to become a blessing to others. It challenges congregations to become outwardly focused as they identify and create relevant ministries for the communities in which they live seek to serve.

The Presbytery entered into a time of worship led by the Reverend Alexander Porter, Pastor of Bethpage Presbyterian Church and the Reverend Sergio Schmidt, Pastor of the Kannapolis Spanish Mission. Candidate for Ministry Lori Raible delivered the sermon based on I Corinthians 9: 24 - 26. The music was provided by the Bethpage Presbyterian Church Choir under the direction of Russell Harrington.



The Bethpage Church Choir leads the Presbytery in a time of "Praise & Worship" to begin the Presbytery meeting. The choir is under the direction of Russell Harrington
(Photo courtesy of the Presbytery of Charlotte)

Church Development Committee Moderator, the Reverend Millie Snyder introduced a presentation on the future of technology, community demographics, growth and development and challenged the body to think about how that will affect our churches. The future of the church depends on their transformation to meet the needs of the coming generations. She then did an overview of the final proposal of the Presbytery's new Strategic Plan to Build Healthy Churches. Members of the Presbytery were given time for discussion within the pews and to give feedback on the plan. The Strategic Plan was approved and adopted by the Presbytery, but will continue to be a "work in progress" - allowing for it to be revised and updated based on challenges and changes within our churches and communities in the future.

Catherine Lynch of the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program made a presentation to Meadowlake Church of a \$1,308.00 rebate from their loan with PILP and gave an brief overview on their investment programs for churches. Jeff Parker accepted the check on behalf of the church



Catherine Lynch makes a presentation to Jeff Parker of Meadowlake Church on behalf of PILP.
(Photo courtesy of the Presbytery of Charlotte)

Leadership Development Committee Moderator, the Reverend Darryl Baker reminded the body about several of the upcoming events, especially the "Find Your Path" event that will take place January 9, 2010. The event will include a much broader spectrum of topics and workshops that will be open to everyone, not just church officers. Congregations are urged to send suggestions for workshop topics and to encourage their members to attend.

Nancy Youmans and Sharon VanPelt made a presentation recognizing each of the TOOLS Graduates for 2008 - 2009: Donna Beach (Riverview PC); Jan Boswell (Bethel PC); Debbie Dixon (Matthews); Christi Flansburg (Grace PC); Mayne Long (Bowling Green PC); Jeanette Price (Grier Heights); Kristen Sloan (Rocky River); Cynthia Smith (CN Jenkins); Kimberly Williams (Antioch Baptist); Barbara Wilson (Davidson)

The Reverend Von Clemans spoke to the Presbytery about the success of the Older Adults Awards Luncheon that was held at Charlotte Covenant Church on Tuesday, May 12th. The following persons were recognized for their lifetime of commitment and service to their church and community: Tommie Kiser (Amity Presbyterian Church); Lue Singer (Avondale Presbyterian Church); Grace Caldwell White (Bellefonte Presbyterian Church); Dorothy "Dot" Brown (Bethel Presbyterian Church); Pat Rankin (Bethpage Presbyterian Church, Kannapolis); Sarah Coleman (CN Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian Church); Adeline Ostwalt (Davidson College Presbyterian Church); Sarah Whitlow (Derita Presbyterian Church); Helen Meacham (First Presbyterian Church, Mt. Gilead); Ethel Hunter Goodwin (First United Presbyterian Church); Charles Floyd (Hickory Grove Presbyterian Church); Floyd Halberg (Indian Trail Presbyterian Church); Alma Webb (Johnston Memorial Presbyterian Church); Carlita Hunter (Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church); Henry Brittain Stokes & Mary Elizabeth Springs Stokes (Mulberry Presbyterian Church); Clarence & Lib Gallagher (Myers Park Presbyterian Church); Frances Dixon Leete (Philadelphia Presbyterian Church); Dorothy Anne Hrabanek (Providence Presbyterian Church); Anne Bishop (Seigle Avenue Presbyterian Church); Lib Shuman (Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church); David Nichols (South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church); Alston Bellamy (Statesville Avenue Presbyterian Church); J. Y. Barnette (Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church); Dick & Ruth Gault (Trinity Presbyterian Church); Oliver Claude "Shorty" Waters (Williams Memorial Presbyterian Church).

Peter Thompson (Cook's Memorial) has been certified ready to receive a call. Ashley Cheek (Myers Park), Nick Cheek (Myers Park), and Jason Robbins (Sardis) were approved to be enrolled as inquirers. Phuc Dai Nguyen (Los Ranchos Presbytery) and Lori Raible (Myers Park) were examined and approved for ordination. Phuc will be serving as a hospice chaplain in the Providence Presbytery. Lori has accepted the call to serve as Temporary Supply Pastor to Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church.

The Reverend J. Alan Buckner was approved to accept the call as Pastor to Gilwood Church in Concord, NC. The Reverend Michael Koch has accepted the call as Pastor to Pleasant Grove Church in Charlotte, NC.

Attendance: 113 Ministers; 134 Elders; 66 Visitors; 7 Christian Educators; 2 Council Members; 5 Corresponding Minister Members; 3 Commissioned Lay Pastors; Total in attendance: 397; Churches represented: 83

The Presbytery of Charlotte was adjourned at 5:02 PM with a closing prayer by the 2008 Moderator, Elder John Baber, to meet again at 4:00 PM on Tuesday, July 21, 2009 at Mt. Olive Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC.



The Reverend Carol Hassel leads the Presbytery through the ordination examination for Phuc Dai Nguyen.
(Photo courtesy of the Presbytery of Charlotte)



The Reverend John Earl leads the Presbytery through the ordination examination for Lori Raible
(Photo courtesy of the Presbytery of Charlotte)

