

**PRESBYTERY OF LONG ISLAND**  
**ANNUAL REPORT RESPONSES FROM NON-PARISH CLERGY**  
**January 28, 2012**

**RESPONDENTS:** We have 24 responses - Ministries Approved by Presbytery, Members-at-Large, and Honorably Retired. The information is based on responses received by January 20, 2012.

**MINISTRIES APPROVED BY THE PRESBYTERY:**

**Aaron T. Hicks** has completed five years in Spain, continuing to work as an employee of World Harvest Mission, an interdenominational mission agency with roots in the Reformed tradition. This mission employs about 160 different missionaries in 14 countries and specializes in working with internationals in major cities of the world. Mattituck Presbyterian Church is his "home church"; the congregation supports him and his family financially, emotionally, and prayerfully. At the current time, he and his family are worshiping regularly in Granada, Spain at "Iglesia de Reconciliación", a new-church development that they are helping to start in an immigrant district of the city. Aaron sends the following message: "Grace and peace in 2012 to all our dear friends and colleagues on Long Island! Thank you for your prayers as we continue to minister in Jesus' name here in Spain. Please feel free to pay us a visit!"

**Miriam Koo** serves as director and a member of the faculty at the Korean Pastoral Care and Counseling Program of Blanton Peale Institute where she also teaches eight courses. As a self-employed psychoanalyst and mental counselor, she has been providing Pastoral care and counseling for numerous people as well as doing supervisions for 14 supervisees.

Miriam writes: "Teaching seminarians how to bring about God's kingdom, inclusive and diverse, through counseling and pastoral care has been an important ministry to me."

**Min Jung Park** is a full time Staff Chaplain in the Pastoral Care Department at Winthrop University Hospital where she provides pastoral care to a diverse group of people.

**Christopher Stratton** teaches at the Stony Brook School where he works with students and faculty members "providing education, counseling, and preaching, and administering the Lord's Supper." He worships at Central Presbyterian Church in Huntington where he is working at becoming a Parish Associate; he is also working on establishing a relationship that will allow him to administer the sacrament of Baptism at the school.

**MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:**

**Glee B. Bartlett** serves as a volunteer with the Montgomery Hospice and continues to take part in their training opportunities. She reads all that's current coming from our denomination, attends local workshops and lectures, continues her involvement with the Women's liturgy Group in NYC and frequently attends the Tacoma Presbyterian Church. Glee is taking steps to return to active ministry and getting her PIF in order.

**John B. Chu** has held a half-time position (Friday through Sunday) at Eunhye Korean Presbyterian Church of Indianapolis (PCA) as an English Ministry (E.M) pastor Since June of 2011. He works with young married couples, undergraduate and graduate students, and the youth group. He preaches every week, leads a bible study on Sunday afternoon after the worship service, leads a prayer group on Saturdays, and occasionally makes home visitations.

The position that John is currently holding is a temporary position because he can serve them for one year only (until his wife finishes her doctorate studies next year).

Then it is his "prayer and desire to find a pastorate within PCUSA."

**Christine Hong** is a part time Contemporary Worship Minister working with a PC(USA) congregation in the San Gabriel Presbytery where she serves Wednesdays and Sundays in return for a tuition scholarship. She also serves as a teaching assistant to classes with M.Div students, taking part in guiding prospective Teaching Elders in their seminary journey as they discern and follow their respective calls. As a continuing student in a doctoral program in Religious Education Christine is constantly challenged by and learning from scripture, theological texts, and her peers as she teaches and preaches. Through her parish and school she volunteers at local shelters, hospices, and organizations such as Habitat for Humanity.

She is still in pursuit of her doctorate in Practical Theology, will graduate in 2013, be married on September 15, 2012, and hopes to return to Long Island by the end of 2012.

**Nancy O'Neal Howarth** is the Parish Associate for the First Presbyterian Church, Amagansett where she works with deacons, women, occasionally guest preaches and makes hospital visits, oversees coffee hour, and is now working as directed by the pastor re: the Scoville Hall inventory and eventual re-build.

Nancy also works for Wolffer Estate vineyard in Sagaponack and occasionally guest preaches in east end churches.

**Reginald Tuggle** Since leaving Memorial Presbyterian Church in March, Reggie has continued in his position at Nassau Community College in Garden City and has preached at several Presbyterian churches on Long Island and in New York City. He is organizing an annual interfaith service in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King as he has done for the past 26 years.

**Kim Joon Suk** - no report. Kim Joon Suk is serving a church in the Eastern Korean Presbytery; his transfer is not yet complete.

#### **INACTIVE:**

**Carol Maher** – no report

#### **RETIRED:**

**Angela B. Archer** writes: "I continue to find joy and reward in teaching a weekly mid-day Bible Study at a local Presbyterian church." This year she attended the fall conference at Union Theological Seminary which she found educational. Angela occasionally leads worship and preaches.

Angela sends the following message: "Please convey my best wishes and blessings to the churches, especially those whose congregations I have had the joy of meeting with and leading in worship."

Two granddaughters brought great joy to Angela's family this year and she sends "Christmas joy and prayers to everyone."

**Tom M. Castlen** - report was received.

**Stanert L. Dransfield's** son sent the following report: "Stan is no longer physically or mentally able to deal with any correspondence. He continues to live in assisted living at Falmouth House, Apartment 237, 32 Blueberry Lane, Falmouth, ME 04105. Thank you for inquiring about him."

**Holly Haile Davis** reports: "Good to hear from you.... nothing important going on in my life, but it's nice to be asked, sending you all the best, peace be with you."

**Kenneth E. Graham** "What I think is important to me in order of importance:

1. I'm still alive.
2. I'm still married to my favorite wife, Sally.
3. My cat, Bobby Greyfriar still thinks I'm a great preacher.
4. To all my 70+ retiree friends, get off the couch & go for a walk."

**Ian Campbell Lang** participates in Presbytery meetings, is active in the Peace, Justice, and Hunger Workgroup of presbytery, attends weekly Bible Study groups at Babylon Presbyterian Church and the annual clergy retreat. He has celebrated the Lord's Supper and preached at a number of churches in the presbytery. Ian worship at First Presbyterian Church in New York City and has gone on a mission trip with members of that congregation. He continues to "attempt helping a number of young people on parole from several prisons."

**Gordon E. Letizia** worships with various Presbyterian congregations, but mostly with the folks at his son's church, First Presbyterian, Mesa, Arizona. He became involved with a study group on process theology which he finds very enjoyable. In his sermons Gordon tries to be a challenge, playing out the perspective of his sermon to the Presbytery: "Presbyterians are dividing into camps with no one listening to the other side. Doing this makes process theology a matter of putting God in the philosophical clouds while on earth we do anything but process theologically."

On the personal level, Gordon spent an extended vacation by Bethesda, Maryland. Their son, Andrew, was transferred by the Navy to Walter Reed Hospital in Bethesda. He and Carol helped them get their new house settled (somewhat) and was there for the birth of his son's third daughter, Cecilia. They returned right after Thanksgiving for another extended vacation due to the death of their sister-in-law, Barbara Stupplebeen, due to cancer.

Gordon sends the following greeting: "I hope the Presbytery of Long Island finds 2012 a fruitful year in service to our Lord."

**Ellen F. Marquardt** reports that this has been a good year for her and Bill. January through May they were in Scotland, where she enjoyed very much my work as visiting pastoral assistant for St. Leonard's in the Fields and St. John's Kirk in Perth. They returned to Kansas City in late June and have spent the ensuing months settling back into their home after an absence of more than four years.

Ellen is serving her second term as a member of the General Assembly's Mission Development Resource Committee, and has become involved with the prayer shawl ministry at a United Methodist Church in their neighborhood. Bill and she worship regularly at Second Presbyterian Church in midtown Kansas City.

**Clyde L. Mellinger** sends the following report: "Although my wife and children want me to stop climbing ladders, I still do. But I do let one of the 'kids' drive when we travel significant distances by car! I've done more preaching at various services this past year than in the last almost ten years. And I boated more keeper bass in Plum Gut this fall than ever before! Yes, I did spend a couple of days in Rochester General but all my doctors have me on a six month schedule. Dr. Naso even gave me a lifetime reprieve! While I have been fighting 'writer's cramp', I should have my book on Captain Potter finished by the weekend. Praises to the Lord!"

Roxanna still loves me and watches over me very carefully.”

**Joseph Simpson** - This past year has been full of ups and downs, Joe continues to struggle with Parkinson's disease, which makes walking difficult and engaging in many past activities next to impossible. During the first half to three quarters of the year Joe enjoyed participating in the Adult Sunday School class, but that has been too challenging lately. Last winter, mostly due to weather, Joe stopped going to physical therapy. This fall he has started a new therapy involving light lasers and vibrating pads to address his neuropathy in his legs and feet. It has made sleeping better on a number of nights, but it isn't solving the whole problem.

His son, Ben, graduated from Brooklyn Law School last June and passed the New York State Bar Exam as of November. He has a job with a firm in NYC, the same firm he was working with as an intern for his last year and a half of his law school, which he is enjoying it greatly. His other son, Chris, has separated from his wife and was laid off from his teaching position in California. Betsy asks that we keep her and Joe in our prayers.

**Norman D. Stanton's** wife Susan was hospitalized for eight days in late May with intestinal flu systems after which she felt better for a time and was able to go to Chicago where they enjoyed a reunion with their five children, their spouses and children. They are now looking forward to a week in Berlin in February to celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary..

Norman has done supply preaching for Long Island congregations and once in Staten Island where he served as an Interim Pastor in 1993-94, and he also conducted a few weddings.

Norman's health is good. He was diagnosed with Diabetes last year and has successfully controlled that through diet and medications. In March he completed chemo therapy treatments for low-grade, non-aggressive non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. The radiographic test indicates that the treatment was successful.

Susan and Norman will spend Christmas with his daughter, Tamera, and her husband in Washington, DC. Tamera who has had surgery for brain tumors twice is in good health and flourishing as the Director for Government Relations of the Pew Charitable Trust.

**Robert B. Stuart**, as Pastor Emeritus and the unofficial historian for the Amagansett church, retrieved the church records two days after the fire in Scoville Hall. The records are okay, but the covers are charred and he has follow through on the restoration of the records with help from the Presbyterian Historical Society.

Rob has completed a third volume of the history of the Amagansett Church, bringing the record up into 2011. The earlier histories were from 1985 and 1995.

Rob has been active in Christ Episcopal Church, Sag Harbor, for the past six years where he teaches a Bible course, and is on the vestry. He recently introduced himself to the bishop of the Diocese of Long Island who thought Rob's association and involvement "interesting." In fact, Rob also finds it so.

This past March he went with members of our Cuba Work Group on his eighth trip to Guines, Cuba where he had a most rewarding experience, including preaching on occasion in Spanish. He reports: "It's like starting my ordination and ministry all over again. It's great."

**S. Bruce Wagner** and his wife, Sylvia, have been “living” wherever they are, whatever they are doing. In November they lived in Sicily eight days, seeing its beauty, tasting its food and wine, venturing into its history, and mixing with a delightful group of people new to their acquaintance. They live in Manhattan whenever their daughter Lydia is away and leaves them her apartment, and her dog, and sometimes their granddaughter Lucy. They walk their dog in Central Park, visit the nearby Metropolitan Museum of Art and have lunch at the cafeteria.

Bruce presided at the interment of his brother-in-law’s ashes in September which he reports was the most emotionally trying committal he ever did. When the clock struck midnight and the day of marriage equality began in NY State, Bruce led a group of Presbyterians, and others, in singing a hymn, “When Morning Has Broken,” at the Glen Cove Town Hall. They were there for the wedding of two of their members.

So, the Wagner’s “lived” in 2011. Bruce sends the following message: “May mornings break kindly for all of you and us, no matter what our circumstances, in the year ahead.”

**John L. Wallace** At 82 years of age John is doing pretty well. Most of his church activity is in backing up his wife as Director of Music at Westminster in West Islip. They are involved in the food bank with attending communications with the Harry Chapin food bank.

John substitutes once in a while in the pulpit at Westminster, at Deer Park and Northport.

Their health is fairly good, except for arthritis.

They haven't given up on travel, except that for running low on funds and enthusiasm for walking long distances over cobblestones.

**Ralph B. Wright, Jr.** reports that his 2011 retirement year has been as busy as before he retired. He continues to work as a Tentmaker with various church ministries, on both the parish and Presbytery level. He serves as Vice President of the Board of Trustees, on the board of the Association of Presbyterian Tentmakers, and as a member of the Brookfield Church Administrative Commission, and he has regularly preached in various churches including Islip, Remsenburg, East Moriches and Elmont.

His Tent is E&R Tax and Business Services, Inc., where he is co-owner with his wife and serves as president of the corporation. In the community Ralph is a member of the Patchogue Chamber of Commerce, Treasurer of the Greater Patchogue Foundation, and member of the Allocations Board of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, New York Corporation.