

Eastminster Presbytery held its stated meeting at J.B.M. at 5:00 p.m. The meeting was convened with prayer by the Moderator Debby Dockstader. Camp Director Karen Riley welcomed the Presbytery to the camp and encouraged commissioners to join the Sunshine and LEAD campers for dinner.

Stated Clerk Meta Cramer announced that, by action of the Coordinating Council, differently-colored name tags had been distributed at this meeting. A green tag indicated "go ahead and vote," while red tags were prepared for those who did not have vote at Presbytery.

Items approved in the Consent Agenda included:

- the appointment of the Rev. Bob Offerdahl as Moderator of the Gibson Heights/Second Presbyterian Church effective September 1, 2007.
- the appointment of the Rev. Debby Dockstader as Moderator of the First Presbyterian Church, Warren, effective July 1, 2007.
- the election of Elder Ruth Gerrard Cole as a reader for the ordination exams.
- designation of the offering of the July 10, 2007 stated meeting to Kristen Stroble, an inquirer under the care of the Presbytery for her work in the Philippines in the Young Adult Volunteer program.
- that proposed changes to the *Manual of Operations* relating to voting privileges and the size of the Permanent Judicial Commission be received for a 1st reading.
- concurrence with the Session and the Congregation of the Canfield Presbyterian Church in proceeding with their renovation/expansion project.

Family Remembrances and Celebrations: The Moderator introduced the Rev. David Gilbert, newly-installed pastor of the Poland Presbyterian Church; announced the birth of a son, A.J., to the Rev. Aaron and Anna Meadows, the illness of Dan Schomer, the continued recuperation of Molly Halter, and the 50th wedding anniversary of Al and Marilyn Shakely. The Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer.

Committee on Nominations: The following resignations were announced--John Besore, Congregational Resources; Rev. Paul Gaug, COM; Elder Bob Gillette, Communication & Nurture; Rev. Larry Stewart, JBM. The following persons were elected: Rev. Debby Dockstader, Committee on Ministry; Rev. David Gilbert, Trustees; Elder William Cooper, Congregational Resources; Elder Chuck Chalker, JBM Committee. Elders, Ministers, and Youth were encouraged to apply no later than December 1 to be commissioners and youth advisory delegates to the 218th General Assembly

Evangelism & Church Growth: Motion prevailed that Eastminster Presbytery request a matching Challenge Grant from the Synod of the Covenant in the amount of \$10,000 for the purpose of bringing redevelopment/transformation to the Hudson Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) by assisting with the cost of securing pastoral services.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry: Inquirer Doug Hagler, a senior at San Francisco Theological Seminary and a member of the New Covenant Community Church, Akron, was enrolled as a Candidate under care of Eastminster Presbytery. It was reported that Doug's mother Anne has recovered well after a major brain aneurysm earlier this year.

Committee on Mission: Copies of "International Mission Personnel: An Almanac of Faces and Facts 2006-2007" were distributed for every church. A covered-dish dinner was announced for September 15 at the Coitsville Church to welcome a mission worker who is working with Dakota Presbytery. A request was made for good-condition used sporting/recreational equipment for a Relational-Recreational Mission Trip with some members of congregations in Dakota Presbytery.

Trustees : Thanks was offered to all participating in the "Complete the Mission" campaign. It was announced that over \$28,000 has been raised, allowing full funding of the \$15,000 that would have been cut

from the 2007 mission budget and providing enough “new money” to apply for a Synod matching grant for the benefit of Hudson Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Stow Commission: The Moderator announced that the following persons had been appointed to the commission—Elder Trella Johnson, Rev. David Black, Rev. John Gruneich, Elder Bob Forsythe, Rev. Carolyn Griffeth, Elder Dale Riley and Elder Peggy Richmond. On May 8 Eastminster Presbytery passed a motion that the Moderator appoint an AC to seek a resolution at the Stow Church. In response to a request for clarification by the commission, the presbytery amended the responsibilities of the commission as follows: “That the Moderator appoint an administrative commission to seek a *resolution and will bring the proposed resolution to the Presbytery.*” (*amended language in italics*)

Committee on Ministry: The following actions by COM were reported to the presbytery:

- approved the dissolution of the pastoral relation between Rev. Burt McGlawn and the First Presbyterian Church of Warren effective June 30, 2007 at terms agreed to by Rev. McGlawn and approved by the congregation on June 3, 2007.
- approved the Interim Covenant of First Presbyterian Church of Hubbard with Rev. Burt McGlawn effective July 1, 2007 for 12 months.
- announced that the Champion Presbyterian Church of Warren voted May 27, 2007 to concur with Rev. Paul Gaug to dissolve the pastoral relation effective June 16, 2007, with presbytery having approved dissolution in May pending the vote of the congregation.
- announced that the Hudson Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) is celebrating its 25th Anniversary
- approved Rev. Tom Niccolls and Rev. Dick Ferris to serve as part-time Temporary Supply Pastors for First Presbyterian Church of Salem through Sept. 30, 2007.
- Announced that the United Church of Christ denomination has released the former John Calvin/ St. Paul UCC in Boardman to Eastminster Presbytery of the PCUSA to become part of the new Heritage Presbyterian Church.
- Extended the covenant contract between the Rev. Lynn Thompson Bryant and the Firestone Park Presbyterian Church for six months.

The following actions were taken by the presbytery:

- approved the dissolution of the Brownlee Woods Presbyterian Church effective July 10, 2007 in order that they may become part of the newly formed Heritage Presbyterian Church in Poland.
- approved the “Terms of Merger” as approved by the Brownlee Wood Presbyterian Church and the John Calvin/St. Paul United Church of Christ to form the Heritage Presbyterian Church.
- Approved constituting the Heritage Presbyterian Church, consisting of members of the former Brownlee Woods Presbyterian Church and the John Calvin/St. Paul United Church of Christ effective July 10.
- approved the terms of call for the Rev. Peter Lawson to serve as Pastor of the Heritage Presbyterian Church at the same terms previously approved for his service at the Brownlee Woods Presbyterian Church.
- approved the dissolution of the pastor relationship between the Rev. Jan Douglass and the Lake Milton Church effective August 31, 2007.
- approved terms of agreement between Rev. Jan Douglass and the Clarkson & New Waterford Churches as stated supply on a part-time basis effective September 1, 2007.
- appointed Rev. Bonnie Dutton as moderator of the Lake Milton Session.
- approved dissolving the Good News Parish effective August 31, 2007, and that the presbytery continue 2007 mission support to the three churches through the end of 2007.

Synod Report – The Rev. Joe Atkins, a member of the Synod Council, reported on the need of the Synod for people to serve. He called attention to PDA Disaster Training on August 17-18, a Stewardship Workshop on October 4, a late summer urban pastors’ gathering, and COM/CPM training in early 2008.

The next Stated Meeting will be held at the New Lisbon Presbyterian Church, Lisbon, Ohio on, September 11, 2007, beginning at 5:00 p.m.