

A brief summary of the meeting of Eastminster Presbytery

The Presbytery was **welcomed** by the Rev. Rusty Cowden, Interim Pastor.

Family Remembrances included concerns for Elder Wendell Cole (New Lisbon), Elder Dale Riley (Kent), and the family of Linda Fassnacht (Akron First). Celebrations included closing on the Mellinger property by Common Ground Church Community, the recent adoption of Tabitha by Rev. Paul & Lynda Gaug, and the safe return of Peter Lawson from Iraq.

General Presbyter Dan Schomer reported on the new vision incorporated into the 2007 Eastminster Presbytery Mission Budget and encouraged ministers and sessions to attend one of the four regional consultations on the budget being held on November 5 and 11.

Trustee Vice-President Rusty Cowden provided a visual presentation on how Eastminster Presbytery funding works. President Trella Johnson presented action items including permission for the Youngtown Wickliffe Church to take out a loan and for the New Covenant Community Church to sell the Market Street property. The 2007 Asking Budget was presented and approved.

Presbyterian Women President Goldie Burrier shared the vital ministries being carried out by P.W. at both the presbytery and national levels and provided an object lesson using a peacock feather.

Resource Center Coordinator Lorraine Jones introduced new resource added to the Center and announced new hours (9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Mondays & Wednesdays, Saturdays 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.).

Presbytery Worship included a sermon by the Rev. Michael Weller, Presbyterian mission co-worker along with his wife Rachel in Ethiopia; musical selections by the Poland Presbyterian youth ensemble (Heaven's Eleven); and the commissioning of Synod commissioners and Mission partnership travelers to Levante Presbytery, Spain.

Following a delicious dinner, the **Coordinating Council** presented a recommendation that was approved to form a commission to implement the spirit of the "PUP" report in Eastminster Presbytery. The Council also presented for first reading a resolution and proposed manual changes from seven sessions in Eastminster Presbytery.

Committee on Ministry moderator Nick Mager informed the presbytery that no changes were being recommended to minimum terms of call for pastors (noting that Board of Pensions dues do increase by ½% in 2007); that the Rev. Don Aull has begun as part time Interim Pastor at the East Palestine Church; and that two workshops—one for Church Treasurers (Board of Pensions) on September 16 and one for Ministers and Lay Pastors on October 26 (Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Boundary Issues)—are being sponsored by C.O.M. Actions included dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Anne Hagler and the New Covenant Community Church and to move her to the status of honorably retired; approval of the plans for installation of the Rev. Derek Redwine as pastor of Akron Westminster Church on October 8 at 3:30 p.m.; dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Rein Krone and the Petersburg Church

so that he might join his wife Susan who will be teaching in a medical school in the Caribbean; the appointment of the Rev. Ross Jackson as moderator of the Youngstown Christ Church Session; and the appointment of the Rev. Dick Ferris as moderator of the Petersburg Church Session. Words of appreciation were expressed to the Rev. Anne Hagler by the Rev. Kay Roberts (in song), to the Rev. Robert Offerdahl by the Rev. Paul Gaug (not in song), and to the Rev. Rein Krone by Presbytery Moderator, Elder Peggy Richmond.

Congregational Resources Committee presented a video CD on the Peacemaking Offering and the Rev. Tom Niccolls encouraged churches to receive the offering on or near World Communion Sunday.

Communications and Nurture Committee Moderator John Graves presented the guidelines for articles to be submitted for the new presbytery newsletter, announced a contest to name the newsletter, and presented the 2006 Eliza Doolittle Award to the Columbiana Church.

Evangelism and Growth Commission Moderator Dick Ferris invited the Rev. Bonnie Dutton to share how the Acts 16:5 Initiative has begun transformation at the Ellsworth Church. A motion was presented and approved to encourage remaining funds from disbanding congregations to be committed to new church development.

Joseph Badger Meadows Camp Director Karen Riley highlighted the 40th Anniversary Celebration on October 7 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and encouraged all to attend.

Nominating Committee presented the name of Romeo (Butch) Protacio (Barberton, First) who was elected to the Self Development of People Committee.

The Rev. Dick Braun announced that the **Self Development of People Committee** has received an application for a project that they will be recommending for funding.

During **Miscellaneous Business** those eligible were reminded by Elder Lucille Clay to fill out and submit an application for the Margaret Park Scholarship Fund, the Rev. Paul Gaug shared the good news about the most recent Kidzfest in Trumbull County, and the Rev. Jim Henkel announced a series of meeting sponsored by the National Alliance on Mental Illness and invited the presbytery to the North Benton Church for their upcoming music festival.

<p>The next Stated Meeting of Eastminster Presbytery will be held at the Petersburg Presbyterian Church on November 14, 2006, beginning at 5:00 p.m.</p>
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