



Presbytery of Des Moines

REV. PHILIP W. BARRETT, GENERAL PRESBYTER & STATED CLERK
E-MAIL: PBY1@QWEST.NET

Nov. 3, 2006

CALL TO THE 466th STATED MEETING

The 466th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Des Moines will be held on Tuesday, November 14, 2006, at the Highland Park Presbyterian Church of Des Moines, Iowa. Directions to the church are contained with a map included in this packet.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. **Please do not arrive before 8:30.** The people preparing the materials and process for registration, and those preparing the coffee and rolls, will not be ready until then. **The Presbytery will convene at 9:30 a.m.**

The *Proposed Docket* is enclosed, along with items for information and action. Commissioners should bring these to the meeting. Extra copies are available at the meeting for visitors only, so extra packets are limited. A special opportunity is being provided as we participate in a Mission Fair during the morning – a fun way to learn more about how our presbytery carries out its mission. The rest of our time together includes worship, electing officers and committee members, adopting a preliminary budget, and receiving some recommendations from the Administrative Commission working with the Windsor Church. We will also be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women of the Word and Sacrament and recognizing women pastors in our presbytery.

As has happened in our previous meeting, much of our “usual” business will be handled in what is called a “Consent Agenda” process. This means we will vote to approve or adopt – in one action – all actions or recommendations that do not require debate or conversation. The Council will introduce this process to us more fully and carefully lead us through it. You will notice that the reports in *The Call* contain a letter designation with numbers for the various sections or parts. This allows for easy identification in the *Consent Agenda* format.

We have a new addition to our Orientation Time. The Budget and Finance Committee will be holding a “Budget Conversation” for those interested in learning more or talking about our budget.

The minutes of the August 19 Stated Meeting were distributed to Commissioners and Members Nov. 2. Please remember to bring these to the November Meeting by going online and downloading them to print. They are located on the Internet at: www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org. Extra copies are for those churches and members who do not have access to the Internet.

Meeting Format: Under our structure and style of operating in our Presbytery, meetings do not have business as the central focus and purpose for our gathering. Worship, dialogue and fellowship are primary reasons for meeting. There is still business – after all, we cannot be Presbyterians if we do not have business – but much of our meeting time is more conversational than parliamentary in nature. It

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will help our meetings to be carried on in this kind of spirit if members and commissioners come expecting such a spirit to be present.

As you look at the *Proposed Docket*, you will see that this meeting lasts until approximately 3:25 p.m. Knowing that most attendees travel a long distance, the Council has planned a docket that will allow for early adjournment to allow for traveling home. A full day's meeting is standard in our structure and design. We meet as a Presbytery only four times per year, so all of our meetings are "all day." All of the items on the *Docket* require Presbytery attention or fit in with what we have said we want to have happen at our meetings.

Another thing you might note as you look at the *Proposed Docket* is that, as usual, it is full. We have a variety of activities and actions – worship, reports, and welcoming of new members, for example. These will keep the time moving quickly and 3:25 p.m. will be on us before we know it. Each commissioner and minister member is encouraged to be present for the entire meeting. Avoidable late arrivals and early leavings are discourteous to those presenting reports and rob other people of the opportunity to share in work and ministry with those not present.

Participation Guidelines: For a variety of reasons, some members of our Presbytery have asked who may participate in discussions during a Presbytery meeting. *Guidelines for Participation in Presbytery Meetings*, is a helpful piece explaining this and is located at the end of this packet.

A reminder about how we handle "Joys and Concerns;" instead of mixing announcements with items for prayer, we now have an Announcement Time for publicity items after lunch, and prayer concerns will be shared during worship.

Child Care: Child care will be provided. Please call the Highland Park Presbyterian Church in Des Moines, 515-288-5703, to sign up for child care. Contact must be made by Noon on Friday, Nov. 10. Please provide a sack lunch for each child. Milk will be provided.

A/V Equipment: The church has a large flat-screen television, a VCR, a DVD player with a television monitor and an overhead projector. A video projector can be available if requested prior to the meeting. If you need to use the projector or any other A/V equipment, please contact the Presbytery Office.

We will continue the registration process of having all attendees sign in. This has seemed to work well in our previous two meetings. **Remember:** Congregations are not excused from having an elder in attendance. Also, if you plan to bring extra persons, please call the church to let them know.

In case the weather is bad or you have questions about the status of the meeting, call the Presbytery Office, 515-276-4991. A message will be left on the voice mail system informing you if the meeting has been postponed or cancelled.

I look forward to being with all of you on the November 14.



Philip W. Barrett, Stated Clerk

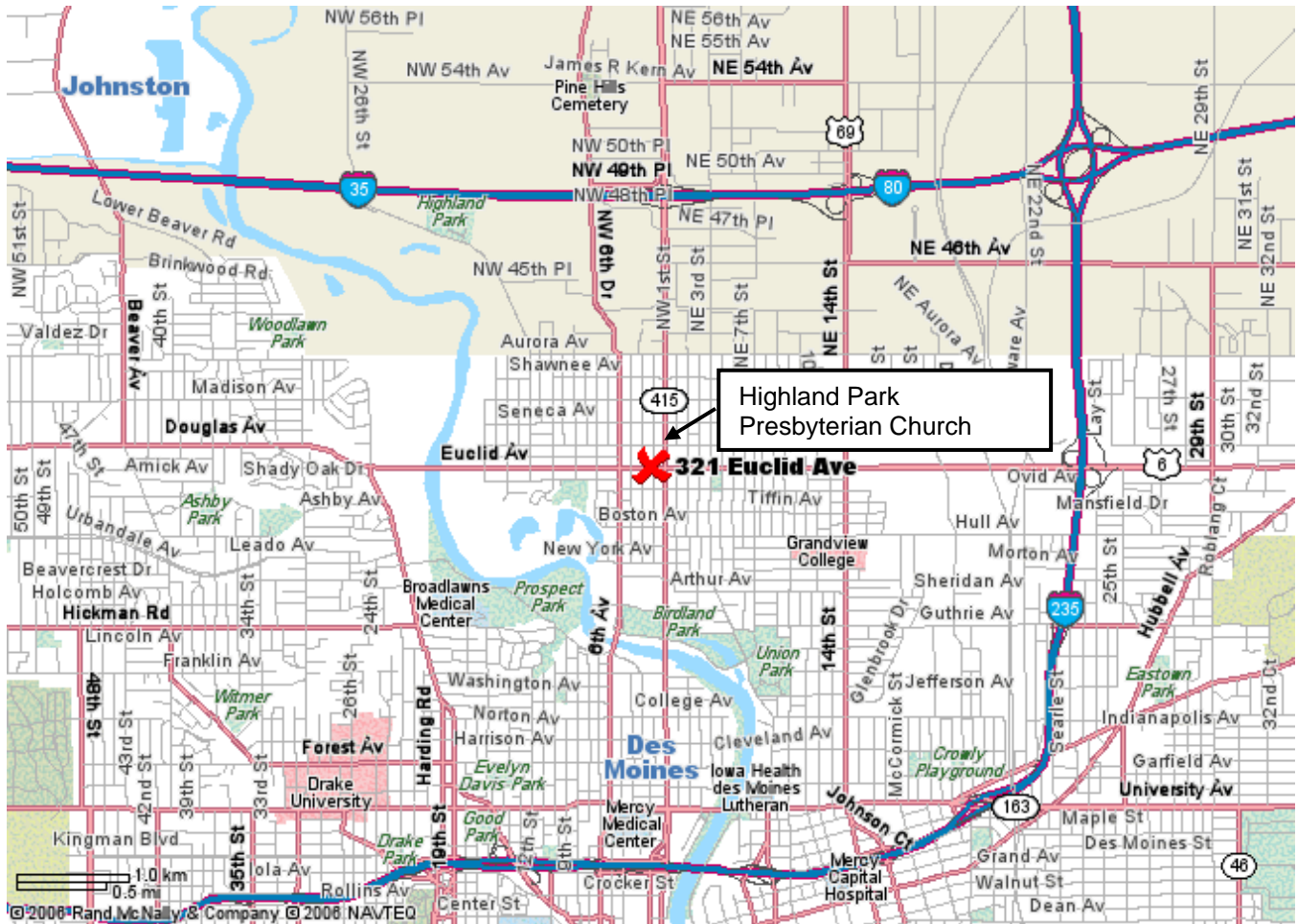
Enclosures

PROPOSED DOCKET

November 14, 2006

8:30 a.m.	Registration Begins Coffee and Fellowship	
9:00 a.m.	Orientation of "First Timers" Budget Orientation	Rev. Kate Stangl Rev. Jack DePond
9:30	Convene Presbytery I – Stated Clerk's Report	Elder Lila Jean Jensen Rev. Phil Barrett
10:00	A – Congregational Care and Development Committee	Rev. Ann Rouse
10:15	C – Committee on Preparation for Ministry	Rev. David Ewing
10:20	Worship	
11:20	Mission Fair	
Noon	Lunch	
1:00 p.m.	Announcements	
1:10	N – Windsor Administrative Commission	Elder John Sprole
2:10	E – Coordinating Council	Rev. Tim Maxa
2:15	B – Professional Care and Development Committee	Rev. Ken Rummer
2:25	J – General Presbyter's Report	Rev. Phil Barrett
2:35	D – Budget and Finance Committee	Rev. Jack DePond
2:45	F – Nominating Committee Report	Rev. David Kincaide
2:55	Q – Presbyterian Women	Emily Seeger, PW Moderator
3:05	K – Social Ministries Task Force	Elder Nancy Lister-Settle, Hunger Action Enabler
3:15	Other Business	
3:25	Benediction and Adjournment	

Map to Highland Park Presbyterian Church in Des Moines, Iowa:



Driving Directions: The Highland Park Presbyterian Church in Des Moines is located at 321 Euclid Ave., Des Moines. The building is on the north east corner of 4th Street and Euclid Avenue on the east side of Des Moines.

- If traveling Interstate 80/35, take Exit 135 or 2nd Avenue, south about 1 mile to Euclid Avenue and take a right, going west to 4th Street.
- If traveling I-235 freeway, access includes the 2nd Avenue exit, go north to Euclid Avenue, and west to 4th Street. Or use the Euclid Avenue exit and go west to 4th Street.

Parking: The Highland Park Presbyterian Church has parking lots west of the building or side street parking is available on 4th Street.

Building Entrances: There are three ways to enter the church. Two are on 4th Street or the west side of the building. One entry, with fewer steps, is through the gate to the playground, north of the building. The second is through the door at the top of the driveway ramp, however, once inside there are several steps going down to the registration area. Both take you to the Fellowship Hall for registration and coffee fellowship. A third, with handicap accessible parking and an entrance, is on the east side of the building in the alley between the church and 3rd Street.

D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**November 14, 2006****Presbytery of Des Moines
Proposed Budget 2007**

	2006 Actual	2007 Requested
	\$14.90/10,700	\$16.60/10,493
INCOME		
Per Capita	\$ 159,430.00	\$ 174,183.00
General Mission	\$ 142,000.00	\$ 152,934.00
Synod Support Staff Salaries	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
Carryover Previous Year	-	
Income Restricted Funds	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 18,150.00
Interest Income	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Bad Debt Estimate	\$ (5,000.00)	\$ (5,000.00)
Total Income	\$ 341,430.00	\$ 381,267.00
EXPENSE		
Governance		
CPM	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Perm. Judicial Committee	-	
Committee On Representation	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Budget & Finance	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Nominating Committee	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Personnel	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Sexual Misconduct Team	\$ 400.00	-
Subtotal	\$ 2,850.00	\$ 2,450.00
Administrative		
Moderator/Task Forces	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
Admin Commissions	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Presbytery Meetings	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00
GP/Stated Clerk to GA	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Commissioner Orientation	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Stated Clerk Expense	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Communication	\$ 500.00	\$ 400.00
Insurance	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 4,200.00
Attorney	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,500.00
Subtotal	\$ 8,550.00	\$ 8,050.00

	2006 Actual	2007 Requested
EXPENSE continued	\$14.90/10,700	\$16.60/10,493
Extension of Ministries		
Church Development		
Task Force	\$ 500.00	-
GA Loan int./Principal	\$ 700.00	-
Church Transformation	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
Social Ministries	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 17,000.00
CROSS Ministries	\$ 55,000.00	\$ 56,000.00
Special Events	-	
Camping	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 6,500.00
Youth	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00
Resources	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Advocacy for Women	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Subtotal	\$ 72,300.00	\$ 89,100.00
Support of Local Ministries		
Congregational Care & Development	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Incentive Grants	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Conflict Mgmt Resourcing	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Resourcing Workshops	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,500.00
Professional Care & Development	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 4,200.00
Regional Partners		
Southeast	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
East	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 250.00
DM West/Northwest	\$ 500.00	\$ 250.00
Southwest	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 7,000.00
West	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,500.00
South Central	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
DM Two Rivers	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,300.00
Coordinating Council	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Worship Task Group	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Bills & Overtures	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00
Emergency Contingency	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 500.00
Presbytery Office	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,046.00
Staff Salaries/Benefits	\$ 190,839.00	\$ 202,946.00
Subtotal	\$ 268,114.00	\$ 281,767.00
TOTAL OF ALL EXPENSE	\$ 351,814.00	\$ 381,367.00
BUDGET SURPLUS/DEFICIT		

11/3/2006; 5:30 p.m.

Presbytery of Des Moines, PC(USA)

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L – YOUTH AND CAMPING TASKFORCE REPORT

November 14, 2006

Fall Retreat – Light It Up! 2006

Send your high schoolers (9th – 12th graders) to “Encounters of the Third Kind”, an ‘overnight Jesus-party’ on Nov. 17-18 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Des Moines. Speaker Jason Taylor and Musician Troy Kooima will bring us close to understanding that God meets us each in a unique way. If you’d like to bring your youth group, contact Registrar Dennis Britson at: dnbritson@mchsi.com or 515-282-9139.

2007 Spring Connection – Middle and High Schoolers

Both age groups (6th – 12th graders) will be welcome at our spring event, which is to be held at an outdoor conference venue for the first time in 3 years. If you wish to take part in the design team, contact Steve Mathison-Bowie at: stevemb@pcpartner.net or 641-792-2790.

2007 Presbyterian Youth Triennium – July 17-22 “Hope Is In Our Midst”

Young people are encouraged to register soon for this 2007 PC(USA) youth event to be held at Purdue University in Indiana. For information go to www.presbyterianyouthtriennium.org/. Registrar Lisa Whitmarsh-Peterson is coordinating all aspects of our endeavor, from recruiting leaders to organizing transportation by bus. Questions? Contact Lisa at: Lefty-Lizard@juno.com or 515-287-1288.

2007 Summer Camping Program

Camp Coordinator Dennis Britson would enjoy hearing from anyone who has an interest in staffing a camp this coming summer. In addition to camps run through the Presbytery, Camp Wyoming and the Presbyterian Camp on Okoboji would be glad to hear from interested staffers.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Steve Mathison-Bowie

E – COORDINATING COUNCIL REPORT

November 14, 2006

The Coordinating Council of the Presbytery of Des Moines met on October 12, 2006, at Calvin Community in Des Moines. The Council took the following actions:

- E-1 Granted permission for the observance of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at the Regional Transformation Conference October 6-8, 2006. Our Presbytery is hosting this conference in Des Moines, along with the Presbytery of Missouri River Valley.
- E-2 Reviewed the August 19, 2006, 465th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery.
- E-3 Planned the November 14, 2006, 466th Stated Meeting with a special focus on the mission of the Presbytery through the experience of a mission fair.
- E-4 Made initial plans for the January 20, 2007, 467th Stated Meeting, including a report from the Presbytery's Peace, Unity and Purity Task Force, discussion of Proposed Amendments to our denomination's Constitution, and a possible report from the Administrative Commission working with the Windsor Presbyterian Church.

The Council recommends that the Presbytery adopt the following actions:

- E-5 Add an Item #8 to the Duties of the Coordinating Council listed in the Presbytery Manual of Operations:

“Do vision thinking for the Presbytery and develop strategic planning for accomplishing the vision.”

- E-6 Establish a governance committee for Stewardship and Mission Interpretation:

The Committee will consist of six members.

The main duties of the Committee are:

1. Promote and interpret the mission of the presbytery, synod and General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the (U.S.A.).
2. Educate the presbytery regarding the meaning of stewardship and Identify resources for local congregations in stewardship education and programs.

- E-7 Empower the Moderator of the Coordinating Council and the Stated Clerk together to accept invitations from churches offering to host a Presbytery meeting, and, when more than one offer for a particular meeting is received, to negotiate alternative meetings for hosting.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Tim Maxa, Moderator

B – PROFESSIONAL CARE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

November 14, 2006

Actions taken on behalf of the Presbytery by the committee:

B-1	Approved changes in terms of call for the Rev. Ann Rouse effective 11/1/06:	
	Salary	\$29,400
	Utilities	\$3,500
	Housing	\$7,600
	Car Allowance	
	(reimbursed at IRS rate of 44.5¢/mile)	\$3,000
	Continuing Education	
	(cumulative up to 3 years)	\$900 and 2 weeks
	Cell Phone Reimbursement	\$720
	Vacation	4 weeks

Recommended for approval by Presbytery:

B-2 That the following terms of call for 2007 be approved:

Oskaloosa, First – The Rev. Dennis E. Morey

Salary	\$45,355
Housing	\$16,000
Utilities	\$2,566
Social Security	\$6,878
Continuing Education	
(cumulative up to 3 years)	\$900 and 2 weeks
Reimbursable Expenses	\$5,427
Vacation	4 weeks
Pension Plan	

Ottumwa, First – The Rev. Sue Babovec

Salary	\$21,737.50
Housing	\$12,276
Utilities	\$10,360
403(b)	\$2,500
1/2 of SECA	\$3,882.86
Continuing Education	
(cumulative up to 3 years)	\$1,000 and 2 weeks
Books	\$500
Professional Expenses	\$3,340.26
Mileage	\$4,947
Vacation	4 weeks
Pension Plan	\$17,333.38

Brooklyn/Malcom – The Rev. John Reynolds, Jr.

Cash Salary	\$19,569
Housing Allowance	
(Effective salary: \$43,569)	\$24,000
Continuing Education	
(cumulative up to 3 years)	\$900 and 2 weeks
Auto Reimbursement	IRS rate
Cell Phone	1/3 cost with cap of \$400
Vacation (in force until amended by action of congregation and presbytery)	4 weeks

Corning, First – The Rev. Ken Rummer

Manse and Utilities allowance	\$7,100
(in force until amended by action of congregation and presbytery)	

B-3 That the Presbytery minimum compensation for full-time pastors in 2007 be established as follows:

Effective Salary:	\$38,000
Pension Dues:	31.5% of Effective Salary
Continuing Education:	2 weeks and \$1,000
(cumulative up to 3 years)	
Auto:	actual expenses or IRS rate
Vacation:	4 weeks

5-Year History Pastoral Compensation Minimums Presbytery of Des Moines

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 Proposed
Effective Salary ¹	\$33,000	\$33,500	\$34,200	\$35,200	\$36,400	\$38,000
Pension Dues ²	28.5% of Effective Salary	28.5/29.5% of Effective Salary	30.5% of Effective Salary	31% of Effective Salary	31% of Effective Salary	31.5% of Effective Salary
Continuing Ed. Dollars ³	\$800	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$1000
Continuing Ed. Leave ^{3,4}	2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks
Auto Reimburse	Actual or IRS	Actual or IRS	Actual or IRS	Actual or IRS	Actual or IRS	Actual or IRS
Vacation ³	4 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks

¹ Effective Salary includes cash salary; employee contributions to 403(b) plans, tax sheltered annuity plans; salary reduction contributions to flexible health spending accounts and cafeteria plans; housing, utilities, and furnishings allowances; employing organization contributions to 403(b) plans, tax sheltered annuity plans, equity allowances; bonuses, overtime pay, professional expense allowances that are not set up on an "accountable reimbursement" basis, gifts from employing organization, manse equity allowances; other allowances such as medical deductible, insurance premiums, and the portion of any SECA allowance that exceeds 50% of the SECA obligation; and an amount for the manse equal to 30% of all the above if the member lives in employer provided housing. See Board of Pensions publication, "Understanding Effective Salary."

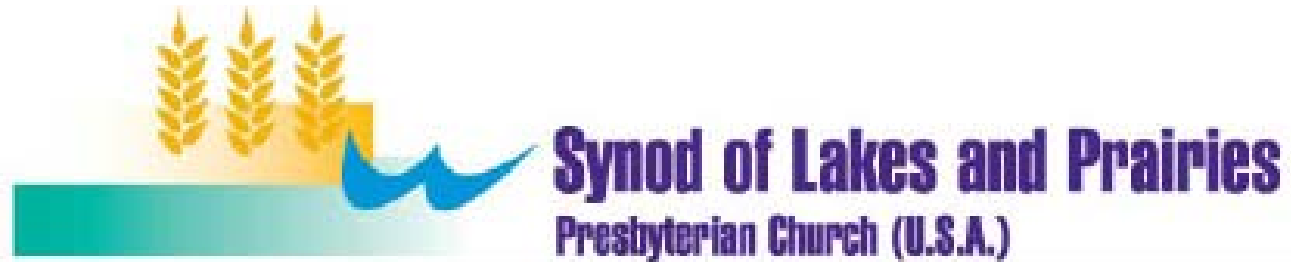
² The Board of Pensions plan includes health insurance, disability insurance, life insurance, and survivor benefits, along with retirement pension benefits.

³ Continuing Education dollars and leave are not lost if not used by the end of the year but accumulate up to a maximum of three years' worth. Example: If no continuing education was taken in 2005 and 2006, the dollars and time available for 2007 would be \$2800 (900+900+1000) and 6 weeks. To avoid budget surprises, any such carryover should be reported to the Session in advance.

⁴ Sundays are included in the weeks of continuing education and vacation, so a pastor planning continuing education could be away for 2 Sundays for that purpose, and a pastor taking vacation could be away 4 Sundays during the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Rummer, Moderator

P – SYNOD COMMISSIONER’S REPORT



October Meeting - Synod of Lakes and Prairies - Mount Olivet Retreat Center - Farmington, Minnesota - October 1-3, 2006

Unity, reformed perspective highlighted session

A call to unity from a reformed perspective highlighted discussion about Sunday’s opening educational presentation and that presentation preceded a variety of topics at the October meeting of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies.

Paul Capetz, associate professor at United Theological Seminary, provided the meeting’s opening educational presentation that covered a brief history of the reformed tradition and the inclusiveness of the Presbyterian denomination.

Capetz noted that reformation is a tradition of continuing reform to reclaim the foundations of faith over time rather than change that occurred at a specific moment in time.

Reflecting on the Trinity Report received by this year’s General Assembly, Capetz pointed out that the Bible contains references to both the father and mother aspects of God. Quoting the Old Testament, when Moses asked God to provide a name, God responded, “I am who I am” (Exodus 3:13).

During Tuesday’s discussion of Capetz’s presentation, Gregg Neel, executive presbyter of the Milwaukee Presbytery, describing the current position of the Presbyterian denomination, said, “We’re not a safe place because God is working.” Addressing a continuing reformation, Diana Barber, associate synod executive for leadership development, later added, “Where we are [as Presbyterians] is not always where we’ve been.”

It was also pointed out at the meeting that the General Assembly “received and commended for study” the Trinity Report and did not adopt the report as policy of the Presbyterian denomination.

While unity during transformation highlighted the meeting, the discussions at the meeting covered a variety of aspects from the General Assembly’s Peace, Unity and Purity and Trinity reports, to the summer’s successful Synod School, to ecclesiastical relationships among presbyteries, to the future of Dakota Presbytery, and to a report on the changes and structure of the General Assembly.

Meeting Highlights

Synod Executive notes ‘different, dynamic day:’ In his report, Synod Executive Phil Brown wrote, “In a new and vastly different and dynamic day ... the Synod of Lakes and Prairies can no longer claim to be experts able to provide the solutions to its constituent presbyteries, institutional relationships or to the other synods and the General Assembly.” The synod’s challenge is “to discern the Synod’s role in forming relationships and networks for ministry and mission with its presbyteries, institutional relationships, other synods and the General Assembly for the 21st Century. Ultimately, our purpose is to serve and make a difference in the name of Jesus Christ.”

Synod authorizes study of relationships among presbyteries: In response to a proposal to create a special committee of the synod to complete a “comprehensive analysis of presbytery boundaries and staffing,” the synod voted to authorize the moderator “to appoint a task force of three to five people to review the motion and the issues surrounding it and to bring back recommendations to the January 2007 meeting of the synod.”

Without the motion, John Sherman, chair of the synod’s Program Coordination Committee, said the synod would be “losing an opportunity and a window.” Manley Olson, General Assembly Council representative of the synod, noted that the council
(See Highlights, Page 2)

Highlights (continued)

will be forming a group to address presbytery geographic and staffing realignments that are "being raised in various parts of the country."

Synod School sets record in 2006: Nearly 600 people -- actually 590 and a record number -- participated in Synod School at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa, last summer. The total included six Methodists, seven Roman Catholics and 22 others who were members of either a UCC, Jewish, Reformed Church, ELCA or other congregation from 184 separate towns in 19 states and two Canadian provinces. Synod School 2007 will take place July 22-27 at Buena Vista University and a flier about the school will be mailed in November to alumni, congregations and presbytery offices.

Dakota Presbytery seeks additional time to provide answers regarding its ability to govern: The Dakota Presbytery, a non-geographic, Native American presbytery of the synod, told the Ecclesiastical Relations Committee that it would respond in January regarding its ability to carry out the governing responsibilities of a presbytery. In a letter to the presbytery dated Sept. 15, 2006, Synod Executive Phil Brown asked the Dakota Presbytery, "How can the Presbytery of Dakota fulfill its responsibilities as a governing body of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and how can you sustain the Presbytery?" The Rev. Maeng-Ho Ahn, a commissioner from the presbytery, who identified himself as the coordinator of mission development within the presbytery, said Dakota Presbytery would respond to the questions at the January meeting. "The answer is very simple," he said, it is "to continue as a presbytery." The Ecclesiastical Relations Committee reported, "Meanwhile the synod will continue to explore the process of dissolution and will keep the presbytery informed." A decrease in monetary mission support to the presbytery will begin in 2007.

General Assembly Council begins implementing changes: Manley Olson, General Assembly Council member from the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, said the GAC has begun to implement changes to the number of voting members, committee structure and staff reductions ratified by the 2006 General Assembly. The report stated, "The GAC now has 50 voting members, down from 71 and will eventually have 39 voting members. No new members were elected this year as the lower number is phased in." The report also noted:

- Ten associate director positions will be eliminated as of Dec. 31. Six new director positions were created and it is expected that some of the current staff will fill some of those positions. These changes follow significant layoffs in May.
- In February the GAC adopted a new committee structure that replaced the existing divisions with four goal-area committees.

The staff and structure changes were based on a continuing decline in unrestricted mission giving.

Synod approves timeline for 2008-09 Post-Secondary Education Grants: The deadline for 2008-09 Post-Secondary Education Grants is April 1, 2007. The Ecclesiastical Relations Committee is attempting to clarify the grant application process, simplify the process for the the screening committee and modify the format to produce a more uniform set of data about each project. More than \$200,000 from the synod's mission budget and Westminster Fund assist annually to fund creative ministries through the six-state region. The criteria for application were changed to allow both public and private institutions to apply. For more information about the grants, inquiries can be directed to Elona Street-Stewart, staff for racial-ethnic ministries and community empowerment, (streetstewart@comcast.net).

Attendance

28 commissioners, 3 youth advisory delegates, stated clerk/treasurer, 11 corresponding members, and 3 support staff members of the synod

Highlights (continued)

Synod approves 2007 budget: The Synod of Lakes and Prairies adopted a budget for 2007 that is down nearly \$100,000 from 2006. The budget also includes about \$150,000 from the prior years' surplus. The budget includes \$1.15 million for ministries in partnership, and more than \$250,000 for ecumenical and institutional ministry, and communication.

Examples of ministries in partnership, and ecumenical and institutional ministries include general financial support to the mission and staff of presbyteries throughout the synod, staff partnerships with presbyteries, grants to support the development and redevelopment of churches, and financial support to campus ministries.

A narrative budget in MSWord and PowerPoint is available from the synod office. Detailed financial information about the synod can be obtained by contacting Jay Wilkinson, stated clerk and treasurer of the synod, at jwilkinson@lakesandprairies.org.

Sweep begins call as communications associate: The Synod of Lakes and Prairies approved the call to and welcomed Duane Sweep as the associate for communications. He began work in late August. Duane is continuing to explore multiple communication strategies that support the ministry and mission of the synod and its presbyteries. Duane comes to the synod with a substantial background in communications work in journalism, public relations and media research. He can be contacted by e-mail at dsweep@lakesandprairies.org.

Commissioners, other attendees provide positive evaluation

While comments overall were positive and included good suggestions, at least one would make good Reader's Digest reading —

"The egg salad sandwich tasted fine, but it was so sloppy that the filling dribbled all over. The problem was exacerbated when I had to apply the brakes in a panic stop. ... I wound up with egg on the steering wheel, my pants, the car seat, everywhere but on my face."

A full printout of comments is available by sending an e-mail to Mary Taaffe (mtaaffe@lakesandprairies.org).

Upcoming meetings

January 14 - 16, 2007

May 6 - 8, 2007

September 30 - October 2, 2007

The Synod of Lakes and Prairies
of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
2115 Cliff Drive, Eagan, Minnesota 55122-3327
Phone: 651.357.1140 - Toll Free: 1.800.328.1880

N – WINDSOR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION REPORT

November 14, 2006

Members: Elder John Sprole, Chair, Elder Craig Johnstone, Rev. Tiare Mathison-Bowie, Elder Wendall Harms, Rev. Tim Maxa, Elder Jennifer Hines, Rev. Ross Blount

Background

The Presbytery of Des Moines, meeting in special session on August 1, 2006, elected this commission to "...work with the session and congregation of Windsor Presbyterian Church (WPC) as the congregation considers and acts upon the recommendation from the session to withdraw from the PC(USA)..."

Process

The Commission began meeting in late August, 2006, to generate a plan of response to the WPC request. Over the course of the next two months the Commission met five times and had numerous 'e-mail discussions'. Guiding our work was a commitment to being both pastoral and constitutional.

In addition, the chair met with the Congregational Care and Development (CCD) Committee and the Presbytery Coordinating Council to listen to their questions and concerns.

Communication and Contact

To help the Commission get to know WPC better, information was asked for and received from their session. Membership lists (both active and inactive), annual reports, session membership list, and committees and their rosters were provided.

It became apparent immediately from the mixed vote (53 yes, 26 no) that the congregation was not of one accord nor was the total active membership represented by the votes. The Commission designed a "Congregational Response Survey" that was sent to all members. Results are included in a different part of this report.

Through the survey and other contacts, the Commission generated a list of people who wanted to have a meeting. Individual meetings were set up with 20 different people.

Reconciliation and Response

Following Matthew 18; the Commission sent two members to talk with Rev. Terry Amann. Then a meeting was set up with the session of WPC to invite them to reconsider. This was politely but firmly refused. The congregation was allowed to listen in at that meeting but not respond.

Recommendations

- N-1 The Commission recommends that the Presbytery declare a schism exists among the members at Windsor Presbyterian Church and the Commission be empowered to determine the true church within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) pursuant to *Book of Order* G-8.0601.
- N-2 The Commission recommends that in the event resignations from the Windsor Presbyterian Church's Session make it impossible for the Session to function, the Commission is authorized to assume original jurisdiction at the church pursuant to *Book of Order* G-11.0103(s).

Congregational Response Survey Results

For members of the Windsor Presbyterian Church September, 2006

Data shown is actual numbers, not percentages.

Tabulation of Responses as of 10/23/06

Cross Tabulation

	Total	Leave	Stay	Uncertain
1. The Session of the Windsor Presbyterian Church has petitioned to withdraw from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Do you agree with this decision?				
Yes, we should withdraw from PC(USA)	51	51	0	0
No, we should not withdraw	31	0	31	0
I am uncertain	8	0	0	8
2. Were you at the Windsor Congregational Meeting on August 13, 2006, when the vote to withdraw was taken?				
Yes, I was at the meeting	65	45	17	3
No	25	6	14	5
No Answer	0			
3. Were you notified that a vote would be taken that day?				
Yes	75	49	21	5
No	12	2	9	1
No Answer	3	0	1	2
4. If Yes in Question 3, please describe the way(s) you were notified:				
5. Would you say that the session, congregation and pastor are of one accord in making this decision?				
Yes	47	43	2	2
No	28	3	24	1
Don't know	11	4	4	3
No Answer	0			
6. Would you say the pastor is encouraging the decision to leave the PC(USA)?				
Yes	49	16	29	4
No	24	22	1	1
Don't Know	3	2	1	0
No Answer	14	11	0	3

Tabulation of Responses as of 10/23/06**Cross Tabulation**

	Total	Leave	Stay	Uncertain
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	Total	Leave	Stay	Uncertain
7. What is your vision for the future of the Windsor Presbyterian Church? (Please check the one response that best reflects your answer.)				
Continue with PC(USA) as in the past	20	0	19	1
Continue with PC(USA) until we see if the judicial process of PC(USA) will uphold the church's constitution as stated in the <i>Book of Order</i>	11	1	7	3
Withdraw from the PC(USA) as an independent church	13	13	0	0
Withdraw from PC(USA) and affiliate with another denomination (i.e., the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, the Presbyterian Church in America, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church or the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church).	32	31	1	0
Other (please describe):	6	3	1	2
No Answer	9	3	3	3
8. Please give us your understanding of the mission of Windsor Presbyterian Church:				
9. How long have you been a member of the Windsor Presbyterian Church?				
Less than 2 years	9	7	2	0
2 to 5 years	13	8	4	1
Over 5 years	64	34	25	5
No Answer	4	2	0	2
10. Please check the types of involvement you have had in the Windsor Presbyterian Church:				
Participant Only (attend church, etc.)	36	22	7	7
Leadership (Sunday school teacher, etc.)	4	2	2	0
Ordained, plus above	50	27	22	1
11. What is your age?				
Under 20	1	1	0	0
20 to 35	5	2	0	3
36 to 50	14	12	2	0
51 to 65	22	15	6	4
Over 65	46	21	21	3
No Answer	2	0	2	2
12. Please share any other comments, suggestions, or needs for spiritual nurture:				
13. Your responses are confidential. To help us be sure that we have contacted all members, please give your name below:				
Name: _____				

Tabulation of Responses as of 10/23/06

Cross Tabulation

	Total	Leave	Stay	Uncertain
14. Do you have questions or further comments?				
Yes	15	6	9	0
No	57	37	16	4
No Answer	18	8	6	4

If yes, please give your phone number and a time to call:

Phone number: _____ Time to call: _____

After completing, please use the enclosed envelope and mail to:

Administrative Commission – Windsor Presbyterian Church

Presbytery of Des Moines
 2400 86th Street, Suite 20
 Des Moines, IA 50322-4306

GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION IN PRESBYTERY MEETINGS

Meetings of our Presbytery are always special because it is a time for the Presbytery family to gather for conversations, business and fellowship. Many different people come to a Presbytery meeting for many different reasons.

When our Presbytery meets, we welcome and encourage participation. There are times, however, that participation is limited. Those times are ordinarily when our Presbytery is conducting its formal business. Because our Presbyterian structure calls for elected Commissioners to determine direction and act on business, only those who are elected Commissioners or are members of our Presbytery are allowed to participate in discussions or voting. Visitors and guests become observers of the process at that time.

At other times in our meetings, each person present is invited to participate in dialogues, conversations, or other activities. Such times include worship, special thematic presentations and small group discussions.

If you are not sure when you may participate in what is happening in the meeting, please talk to the Moderator or Stated Clerk individually.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES AT-A-GLANCE

TO DO THIS	YOU SAY THIS:	MAY YOU INTERRUPT SPEAKER?	MUST YOU BE SECONDED?	IS THE MOTION DEBATABLE?	IS THE MOTION AMENDABLE?	WHAT VOTE IS REQUIRED?
Adjourn the meeting	"I move that we adjourn."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Not debatable	Not amendable	Majority vote required
Recess the meeting	"I move that we recess until..."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Not debatable	Amendable	Majority vote required
Complain about noise, room temp, etc.	"Point of privilege."	May interrupt speaker	No second needed	Not debatable	Not amendable	No vote required ³
Suspend further consideration of something	"I move we table it."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Not Debatable	Not amendable	Majority vote required
End debate	"I move the previous question."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Not Debatable	Not amendable	Two-thirds vote required
Postpone consideration of something	"I move we postpone this matter until..."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Debatable	Amendable	Majority vote required
Have something studied further	"I move we refer this matter to a committee."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Debatable	Amendable	Majority vote required
Amend a motion	"I move that this motion be amended by..."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Debatable	Amendable	Majority vote required
Introduce business (a primary motion)	"I move that..."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Debatable	Amendable	Majority vote required
¹ The motions or points above are listed in established order or precedence. When any one of them is pending, you may not introduce another that is listed below it. But you may introduce another that is listed above it. ² In this case, any resulting motion is debatable. ³ Chair decides						
Object to procedure or to a personal affront	"Point of order."	May interrupt speaker	No second needed	Not debatable	Not amendable	No vote required, chair decides
Request information	"Point of information."	If urgent, may interrupt speaker	No second needed	Not debatable	Not amendable	No vote required
Ask for a vote by actual count to verify a voice vote	"I call for a division."	May not interrupt speaker ²	No second needed	Not debatable	Not amendable	No vote required unless someone objects ³
Object to considering some undiplomatic or improper matter	"I object to consideration of this question."	May interrupt speaker	No second needed	Not debatable	Not amendable	Two-thirds vote required
Take up a matter previously tabled	"I move we take from the table..."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Not debatable	Not amendable	Majority vote required
Reconsider something already disposed of	"I move we now (or later) reconsider our action relative to..."	May interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Debatable if original motion is debatable	Not amendable	Majority vote required
Consider something out of its scheduled order	"I move we suspend the rules and consider..."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Not debatable	Not amendable	Two-thirds vote required
Vote on a ruling by the chair	"I appeal the chair's decision."	May interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Debatable	Not amendable	Majority vote required
¹ The motion, points, and proposals listed above have no established order of precedence. Any of them may be introduced at any time – except when the meeting is considering one of the top three matters listed in the above chart (motion to adjourn, motion to recess, point of privilege). ² But division must be called for before another motion is stated. ³ Then majority vote is required.						

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