



Presbytery of Des Moines

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

October 20, 2008

TO: Commissioners to the 473rd Stated Meeting (August 16, 2008)
FROM: Philip W. Barrett, Stated Clerk
SUBJECT: Minutes

You will find the Minutes of the 473rd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Des Moines held on August 16, 2008, hosted at the First United Presbyterian Church in Gibson and co-hosted by White Oak United Presbyterian Church following this letter. Most members are receiving the minutes by going online to download them from our Presbytery web site. Only those without Internet access receive printed copies.

Please read through these Minutes to both remind yourself of what occurred and to check them for accuracy. Please send any corrections to me, preferably in writing. This includes use of e-mail.

Our key focus for the day was older adult ministries. Elder Darlene Shepherd (Oskaloosa, First) and the Rev. Carla Gentry (Heartland Presbytery) brought us very helpful information. Several of our retirement and care facilities in the state also had displays. As part of this focus, we also agreed to a covenant relationship with Calvin Community in Des Moines. We commissioned the Commissioners and Youth Advisory Delegate to General Assembly. We heard about summer camp plans. A power point presentation on our new support group for Sudanese ministries (Khadamat Sudaniya) informed us of ministries and needs in this area. We welcomed the Revs. Bruce Giese (Diagonal, Tingley, Platte Center), Marcy Campbell (Chaplain), Sarai Schnucker Rice (Des Moines Area Religious Council) and Bob DeYoung (Knoxville, First) as members of the Presbytery. We enjoyed several "Moments" about the history of Presbyterian Women. You may remember some other things as well.

If you are attending the November 11 Presbytery Meeting as a commissioner, please remember to bring this minutes packet with you. Extra copies are not provided for those who neglect to bring them. If you are not attending as a commissioner, please pass this packet on to the person who is.

Thanks to all of you for your participation and service.

REMEMBER – The Call for the November 11 Presbytery Meeting will be posted on the Presbytery's Web site at www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org approximately 10 days prior to the meeting. Paper copies will only be sent to those who inform us that they do not have Internet access.

The Presbytery of Des Moines of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held its 473rd Stated Meeting hosted at the First United Presbyterian Church in Gibson, Iowa, and co-hosted by White Oak United Presbyterian Church on August 16, 2008. The meeting was convened at 10:00 a.m. with prayer by Moderator Ray Peters.

FORMATION OF THE ROLL

The following commissioners and members were registered for this meeting (Present, Absent, Excuse):

CHURCH	MINISTER	P/A/E	COMMISSIONER
Adair, First	Char Rief	A	A
Allerton, United	Ross Blount	P	Bill Homann
Ankeny	David Braak	P	Ray Peters
Atlantic, First United	Don Seeger	P	Bev Schelling
Audubon, First	Kay E. Steddom	P	Paul Walther
Bedford, United	Randy S. Allman	A	A
Brooklyn, First	John Reynolds	P	Bev Creps
Carlisle, Scotch Ridge	Doug Bolsem, CLP	P	A
Centerville, First	VACANT	-	Marge Meyer
Chariton, First	Linda O'Connell	P	Ruth Smith
Clive, Heartland	D. Mark Davis	A	A
Clive, Heartland	Barbara Nish	A	-
Corning, First	Ken Rummer	E	Gary Badgett
Creston, First	D. Scott Vandenheuvel	A	A
Dallas Center, First	David Ewing	P	Nancy Lister-Settle
Deep River, United	Ben Wilson	A	A
Des Moines, Central	James Wallace	E	Steve Roberts
Des Moines, Central	-	-	
Des Moines, Clifton Heights	VACANT	-	Maurice Dyer
Des Moines, Cottage Grove Avenue	David Madsen	P	A
Des Moines, Douglas Avenue	VACANT	-	A
Des Moines, First	Ken Stuber	E	Jean Mullen
Des Moines, Fort Des Moines	Donald Elly	A	A
Des Moines, Highland Park	Robert Cook, HR	P	A
Des Moines, Knox United	Bill LeMosy	P	Chuck Howieson
Des Moines, Park Avenue	David Stipp-Bethune	P	Mary Lou Briles
Des Moines, Union Park	VACANT	P	Joyce Rash
Des Moines, Westminster (4)	Amy Miracle	A	Ted Coppock
Des Moines, Westminster	Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy	P	A
Des Moines, Westminster	Ken Arentson	E	A
Des Moines, Westminster	Dick Kiefer, HR	E	A
Des Moines, Westminster	Bill Ekhardt	A	-
Dexter, First	David Kincaide	P	Audrey Wells
Diagonal, United	Bruce Giese	E	A
Earlham, First	Robert Waldron, CLP	P	A
Ewart	Aaron Koskamp, HR	P	Donna Winburn
Gibson, First United	Mike Conn, CLP	P	Marjorie Gale
Gibson, White Oak United	Mike Conn, CLP	P	Leia Molyneux
Greenfield, First	David Kincaide	P	A
Grimes, First	Lynn Williams	P	A

CHURCH	MINISTER	P/A/E	COMMISSIONER
Grinnell, First	Kirsten Klepfer	P	A
Guthrie Center, First	Calvin Hsu	P	A
Hartford, Community United	Nathan Lamb	P	Larry B. Meyers
Indianola, Trinity United	David Endriss	P	Tom Kimball
Johnston, St. Paul	John Gilmore	P	A
Knoxville, First	Robert J. DeYoung	A	A
Lenox, United	Tim Maxa	E	A
Leon, First	Jack DePond	P	Mary Ellen Stanley
LeRoy, First	Dale O'Connell, HR	P	Bob Moore
Lucas, First	Linda O'Connell	P	Pat Bahr
Malcom, First United	John Reynolds	P	Mary Gropper
Monroe	Ann Rouse	E	A
Montezuma, First United	George Salnave	P	A
Mount Ayr, United	Mike Maddy	A	A
New Sharon, First	VACANT	-	A
Newton, First	Tiare Mathison-Bowie	P	George Wilkening
Newton, First	Sara Hopkins, CLP	P	-
Newton, United	Donald Freeman	P	Margaret C. Caldwell
Oskaloosa, First	Dennis Morey	E	Darlene Shepherd
Oskaloosa, First	Hans Cornelder	P	-
Ottumwa, East End	Kate Stangl	P	Dorothy Carlo
Ottumwa, First	VACANT	-	A
Ottumwa, Westminster	VACANT	-	A
Perry, First	Joan White	E	A
Pitzer, United	Donna Vaughan, CLP	A	A
Platte Center	Bruce Giese	E	A
Sharpsburg	Tim Maxa	E	A
Sigourney, First	Julie Sterling	P	Anna May Reber
Tingley, United	Bruce Giese	E	A
West Des Moines, Covenant	Jan Scott	P	A
Windsor Heights, Windsor	Shamaine Chambers King	E	A
Winterset, First United	Jim Howland	E	A

OTHER MEMBERS OF PRESBYTERY (MINISTERS)

Present: Philip Barrett, General Presbyter/Stated Clerk; Sue Babovec; Marcy A. Campbell; Goanar Chol; M. Denise Group; Claude Jones (HR); Gus Nelson (HR); Marvin Potter (HR); and Patricia Summers (HR).

Excused: John Beran (HR); Robert Burnett (HR); Harold Butz (HR); Tom Conrey (HR); Carl Cooper (HR); Glen Dillely (HR); Ane Fitzgerald; Harold Gilleney (HR); Elizabeth Knott (HR); Ray Martin (HR); Jane Martinez; John McElroy; Jeffrey Means; Sara Speer Palmer (HR); Russell Tomlinson (HR); Erasmo Vélez (HR); Hume Ward (HR); and Francis Younkin (HR).

Absent: Pete Brantner; Kirk Erwin; John Gallentine; Christopher (Kip) Harris; Steve Mathison-Bowie; Sarai Schnucker Rice; and Sue Tomlinson.

LAY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Present: Presbytery Moderator Ray Peters; Presbyterian Women Moderator Emily Seeger; Congregational Care and Development Acting Moderator Julie Cloud, Two Rivers Regional Partnership Facilitator Elder Sarah Mapes; Professional Care and Development Moderator Leland Smith.

VISITORS

Chad Schwickerath, (Ankeny); Lila Jean Jensen, (Audubon, First); Kathy Mahler, Kathryn Roblee, (Clive, Heartland); Dennis Britson, (Dallas Center, First); Mike Bassett, Mary Jean Paschen, (Des Moines, Central); Mary Lou Aspengren, (Des Moines , First); Barbara Koskamp, (Indianola, Trinity United); Dianne Van Gorp, (Oskaloosa, First); Lori Funk, (Ottumwa, East End); Deb Devine, (Corwith UMC); Karen Krum, Presbyterian Foundation; Kim Coulter, Presbytery staff (Des Moines, Westminster); and Betty Dyer, Presbytery staff (Indianola, Trinity United).

MINISTERS (90 on roll)

Present: 41
Excused: 30
Absent: 19

ELDER COMMISSIONERS AND OTHERS

Present: 82
Excused: 0
Absent: 36

QUORUM

A quorum was present and declared so by Moderator Ray Peters.

ADOPTION OF DOCKET

The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the Proposed Docket as printed and distributed.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the Consent Agenda with two items – C-I-6 and I-I-15 – removed for comment.

APPROVAL OF EXCUSED ABSENCES

The Presbytery VOTED to grant excused absences to those requesting them.

SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

The Presbytery VOTED to seat the Rev. Suzanne Gorhau, a Minister Member of the Presbytery of Missouri River Valley, as a Corresponding Member for this meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF FIRST TIMERS AND GUESTS

Persons who were attending a Presbytery meeting for the first time or who were guests were introduced.

APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARIAN

Moderator Elder Ray Peters announced that he had appointed the Rev. David Madsen, pastor of the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church in Des Moines, Ia., as Parliamentarian for this meeting.

APPOINTMENT OF RECORDING CLERK

Stated Clerk Rev. Phil Barrett reported that Elder Wanda Hawkins-Klotz, a member of the First United Presbyterian Church of Gibson, had been appointed as Recording Clerk for this meeting.

WELCOME BY HOST CHURCH

Mike Conn, the Commissioned Lay Pastor of the host churches, welcomed the Presbytery.

APPROVAL OF MAY STATED MEETING MINUTES

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the *Minutes of the May 20, 2008 Stated Meeting* as printed and distributed.

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK

- I-I-13 Stated Clerk Phil Barrett reported that all reports have been filed with the Synod of Lakes and Prairies and the General Assembly as of this date. Also, all correspondence received on behalf of the Presbytery has been assigned, referred or answered.
- I-I-14 Phil reported that Elder Keith Garber (Allerton, United) has resigned from the Congregational Care and Development Committee, Class of 2010, due to health reasons. This has been referred to the Nominating Committee.
- I-I-15 The Clerk reported that official notice has been received from the Ewart Presbyterian Church, Ia., requesting that the congregation be dissolved and the church closed. This matter has been referred to the Congregational Care and Development Committee. The Presbytery will need to elect an administrative commission to deal with this matter. The Clerk requested suggestions or volunteers to serve on the commission.
- I-I-16 Phil noted that it is not too early to extend an invitation to the Presbytery to hold one of its stated meetings in your church during 2009. The dates are:
- Saturday, January 17
Tuesday, May 19
Saturday, August 15
Tuesday, November 10
- I-I-17 Presbytery Moderator Ray Peters reported that he represented the Presbytery in the installation of the Rev. Joan White, a minister member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), as Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church and the Christian Church both of Perry, Ia.
- I-I-18 The Clerk reported that the Moderator of the General Assembly has been invited to attend the next meeting (November 11) of the Assembly since he will be in the state and encouraged the commissioners to mark that date as we will be celebrating our 165 years of ministry together.
- I-I-19 Phil read a letter from Clifton Kirkpatrick, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, thanking the presbytery for its full payment of our per capita assessment for 2008.

The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the following recommendations from the Stated Clerk:

- I-R-8 A report has been received from the Moderator of the Commission to Install the Rev. Jan Scott as Pastor of the Covenant Presbyterian Church in West Des Moines. I recommend that the Commission be dismissed with thanks.
- I-R-9 The Synod of Lakes and Prairies reviewed the 2007 Minutes of the Presbytery and approved them with the following exceptions:
- (1) Annual report of ministers' work is incomplete (G-11.0502a)
 - (2) The annual report of the Committee on Representation is not included (G-4.0403, G-9.0104)

- (3) There is no report on the review of presbytery records by synod (G-11.0305) and the record of presbytery's response (G-9.0402)
- (4) There is no record of presbytery's establishment of its per capita apportionment (G-9.0404d)

I recommend that the Presbytery respond to these exceptions in the following manner:

- (1) The Stated Clerk and the Professional Care and Development Committee establish a process for making sure this report is presented annually.
- (2) The report was not submitted as the Moderator of the Committee on Representation was out of the country. The Stated Clerk and the new Moderator will make sure the report is submitted for 2008.
- (3) The Stated Clerk's hand should be slapped for neglecting to report the synod's action. As can be seen from this item, the report has been submitted this year.
- (4) This appears in the budget, but a separate action to set the per capita assessment amount was not made. The Budget and Finance Committee will be asked to make sure this happens for 2009.

I-R-10 That the Presbytery renew the Covenant with Elder Nancy Lister-Settle (Dallas Center, First) as Hunger Action Enabler

REPORT OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONERS AND YOUTH ADVISORY DELEGATE

Minister Commissioner Jan Scott (West Des Moines, Covenant) thanked the presbytery for electing her and allowing her to have the experience.

Minister Commissioner David Endriss (Indianola, Trinity United) gave a synopsis of the key actions taken at the Assembly and explained the processes of dealing with them.

Youth Advisory Delegate Chad Schwickerath (Ankeny) talked about the role and impact of advisory delegates.

Elder Commissioner Nancy Lister-Settle (Dallas Center, First) told about the process she went through in preparing and submitting a commissioner's resolution. This resolution encouraged the denomination to take some steps in response to the world food crisis. It was passed unanimously by the General Assembly.

Elder Commissioner Paul Walther (Audubon, First) shared about the various worship services that were part of the assembly experience.

There was then a time of conversation about the assembly with the folks present at the presbytery meeting.

WORSHIP

The Presbytery entered into a time of worship. Worship leaders included Elder Mary Lou Briles, (Des Moines, Park Avenue); the Rev. Marcy Campbell, (At Large); Elder Mary Ellen Stanley, (Leon, First);

the Rev. David Stipp-Bethune, (Des Moines, Park Avenue) and the Rev. Phil Barrett, (General Presbyter/Stated Clerk). The Rev. David Endriss (Indianola, Trinity United) was the Preacher for the day. Using Micah 6:6-8 as the basis for the sermon, David preached on “What’s It All About?”, focusing on peoples’ search for meaning, for what God wants us to do. As we do this, we often do things for God with the expectation of something in return instead of doing justice and walking with God and each other. Mike Conn, CLP (Gibson, First/White Oak) and the Rev. Goanar Chol (At Large) administered the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper. The offering was designated for Presbyterian Disaster Relief. Musicians for the day were Shelby Behrens, pianist; Carrie Brown, soloist; and the Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy, (Des Moines, Westminster).

LUNCH

The Presbytery recessed for a delicious lunch provided by the host congregations. An opportunity to visit the White Oak Church was offered as part of this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Presbytery reconvened with a time for announcements. Announcements included Dave Madsen (Des Moines, Cottage Grove Avenue) reporting on the CROSS “Back to School Giveaway” and indicating his willingness to share in a pulpit exchange so he can bring words about Cottage Grove Church and Sudanese ministries; Bob Cook (HR) raising concerns about exclusive language in one hymns in worship; Dianne Van Gorp (Oskaloosa, First) asking people to fill out the Nominating Forms for themselves or nominating others; Claude Jones (HR) reminding the presbytery of Seminary Relations Sunday in September and inviting folks to visit Dubuque Seminary; and Ross Blount (Allerton, United) inviting folks to attend the National Tentmakers Conference.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Elder Julie Cloud, acting Moderator of the Committee, presented the report.

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the following actions of the Committee:

- A-A-12 Approved the terms of dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Adam Nardini and the Union Park Presbyterian Church of Des Moines, Ia., effective July 31, 2008. Rev. Nardini will receive his regular salary through July 31, 2008, pay for unused vacation time, and dues to the Board of Pensions will be paid through July 31, 2008 or through unused vacation time.
- A-A-13 Approved the terms of call for the Rev. Suzanne Gorhau as Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Centerville, Ia., effective August 11, 2008, as follows:

Cash Salary	\$35, 240
Housing	Manse Provided
Utilities	\$3,960
Auto Allowance	IRS Rate
Medical/Dental Reimbursement	13,939
Continuing Education Allowance	\$4,600
Moving Expense	\$2,385
Vacation	Four Weeks Annually
Study Leave	Two Weeks Annually cumulative up to six weeks
Full pension, major medical, death and disability dues	

Suzanne was introduced to the Presbytery.

- A-A-14 Appointed the Rev. Kate Stangl (Ottumwa, East End) as Moderator of the First Presbyterian Church of Ottumwa, Ia., and the Rev. Gus Nelson (HR) as Moderator of the Union Park Presbyterian Church of Des Moines, Ia.
- A-A-15 Approved the position of Religious Life Intern at Grinnell College as an ordainable position and membership in the Presbytery for Katie Snipes, pending her ordination by the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley.

The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the following recommendations from the Committee:

- A-R-3 That the following persons be elected to the Commission to install the Rev. Julie Sterling as Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Sigourney, Ia.:

Elder Ray Peters (Ankeny) – Moderator
 Rev. Marvin Potter (HR)
 Rev. George Salnave (Montezuma, First United)
 Rev. Dennis Morey (Oskaloosa, First)
 Rev. Lynn Williams (Grimes, First)
 Elder Mary Ann Sterling (Knoxville, First)
 Elder Sheila Ferree (Sigourney, First)

- A-R-4 Approve the Transformation Grant Proposal being made to the General Assembly by the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church of Des Moines.

CAMPING/YOUTH MINISTRIES TASK FORCE

Elder Dennis Britson, Moderator of the Task Force, presented the report.

Dennis reported on summer camps and upcoming events with youth. Slides from summer camps were also shared.

PROFESSIONAL CARE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Elder Leland Smith, Moderator of the Committee, presented the report.

The Committee presented the following items of information to the Presbytery:

- B-I-1 Working with the Congregational Care and Development Committee, the pastor and congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Dallas Center, Ia., are being guided in a time of reflection and deliberation as the future of their ministry is considered.
- B-I-2 The Committee has not yet determined a recommended minimum salary amount for pastors for 2009. It looks like it will be in the 3-3½ percent range. This is the current Cost of Living Index for the past 12 months.

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the following actions taken by the Committee:

- B-A-13 Approved granting the Rev. John C. Beran the status of Missionary/Pastor Emeritus for the United Church of Diagonal, Ia.
- B-A-14 Approved the terms of dissolution for the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Adam Nardini and the Union Park Presbyterian Church of Des Moines, Ia.

- B-A-15 Approved the terms of dissolution for the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Susan Babovec and the First Presbyterian Church of Ottumwa, Ia., and granted Rev. Babovec permission to labor outside the bounds in the Presbytery of Wabash Valley until that presbytery grants her membership. Expressions of thanks to Sue came from members of the Presbytery and from Sue.
- B-A-16 Approved the transfer of the Rev. Kirk Erwin (At Large) to the Presbytery of Beaver-Butler where he has been called to serve a congregation in Harrisville, Pa.
- B-A-17 Approved the request of the congregation of the First Presbyterian church of Chariton, Ia., to grant the status of Pastor Emeritus to the Rev. Sara Speer Palmer.

The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the following recommendations from the Committee:

- B-R-5 That the *2008 Salary Changes* be approved. (These changes appear as **APPENDIX A** at the end of these minutes.)
- B-R-6 That permission to labor outside the bounds of the Presbytery be granted to the Rev. Sue Babovec (Ottumwa, First) in order for her to work in her new call in the Presbytery of Wabash Valley until that Presbytery's Committee on Ministry can act on her transfer in October.
- B-R-7 That permission to labor within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) be granted to the Rev. Stephen Mathison-Bowie (At Large) so that he can serve as the Interim Pastor of the Bondurant Christian Church in Bondurant, Ia.

SOCIAL MINISTRIES TASK FORCE

Elder Ted Coppock, a member of the Task Force, presented the report. (This report appears as **APPENDIX B** at the end of these minutes.)

Ted highlighted the upcoming *Rural Ministries Offering* and noted that materials for this offering are available in the Presbytery Office and on the web site. He also highlighted the Immigrants and Immigration Workshop to be held on October 12, 2009.

Elder Coppock introduced Kathy Mahler (Clive, Heartland) who has been chosen as the new Designated Mission Co-Worker with our sister parish in El Salvador. Kathy shared her excitement at accepting the new position and her hopes for the relationship.

Ted noted that the denominational *Peacemaking Offering* will be coming up in October and that the Task Force is interested in how our congregations use their 25% share of the receipts.

The *Just Neighbors* award and banner was presented to the East End Presbyterian Church of Ottumwa, Ia.

STEWARDSHIP AND MISSION INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

The Rev. Dale O'Connell, Moderator of the Committee, presented the report. Dale encouraged participation by all our congregations in the four special offerings of our denomination. Dale introduced Don Hampton (Indianola, Trinity United), our local Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) contact. Don shared what the PDA is about and what it does, the different places the organization is at work, and how they respond to more than just weather disasters – they were present to assist after the shootings at

Virginia Tech. He noted that funding for PDA comes from the *One Great Hour of Sharing Offering* received by the churches in our denomination. He concluded by reporting on what is happening with PDA in Iowa following tornadoes and flooding.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL PRESBYTER

General Presbyter Phil Barrett presented a written report (This report appears as **APPENDIX C** at the end of these Minutes).

Phil shared comments on the Presbyterian understanding of CALL and how these letters can help us understand the implications of this concept: **C** (Connection) – We are connected as Christians and Presbyterians; **A** (Accountable) – Through these connections we are accountable to each other; **L** (Loved) – We are loved by Christ and are to love each other; **L** (Lucky) – We are lucky to be called, loved and connected by and through Christ.

SYNOD SCHOOL REPORT

Deacon Kim Coulter, Presbytery's Director of Communications, presented the report.

Kim shared the number of people attending from our Presbytery, her experiences as one of the teachers at Synod School, information about some of the special leaders and courses offered. She then showed a video with highlights of all of Synod School.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

The Rev. David Stipp-Bethune, Moderator of the Committee, presented the report.

The Committee presented the following items of information:

- C-I-4 The Committee on Preparation for Ministry reports that Annual consultations have been completed for Candidates Cindy Ray (Leon, First) and Cyndy Ripperger (Creston, First) and Inquirer Laurie Berry (Ankeny).
- C-I-5 Other inquirers and candidates under care are: Inquirer Pam Rhode (Oskaloosa, First) and Candidate Maria Springer (Des Moines, Central).
- C-I-6 Candidates "Certified to Receive a Call" are Brian Diebold (Ottumwa, First) and Beth Seeger Troy (Atlantic, First United).
- C-I-7 Currently Scott Valentine (Clive, Heartland) and Ann Polito (Hartford, Community United) have been participating in CLP Training.
- C-I-8 Scott Valentine has completed his academic training in the Center/Learn program, and the Presbytery is invited to participate in recognizing this accomplishment. Scott will undergo a final assessment with the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, the results of which will be reported to CCD.
- C-I-9 The Committee on Preparation for Ministry is responsible for working with those wishing to explore and prepare for ministry as Ordained Ministers of the Word and Sacrament or Commissioned Lay Pastors, and their home congregations. We currently have a small number of inquirers, candidates, and CLPs in training. Congregations throughout the Presbytery are especially encouraged to consider who might make a good candidate for these forms of ministry. If you have someone you believe could be "called" to these forms of

ministry, please contact the Committee. Committee members and the moderator are also available to speak with Sessions about the preparation process.

- C-I-10 The Presbytery of Des Moines will elect ordination exam readers at our November meeting. As a reminder, you must complete an application for CPM in order to be considered. CPM will be responsible for evaluating those who apply, and will create a slate for election. Exam reading is done with the Chicago Reading Group the first week of March. It is five full days of work! Those elected need to be willing to commit to the time needed to prepare and then grade exams.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Rev. Marvin Potter, a member of the Committee, presented the report.

The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the following recommendation from the Committee:

- D-R-1 When the First Presbyterian Church of New Sharon, Ia., closes, \$1,085.00 will be requested from the proceeds to pay the past due amount of per capita, or whatever the amount is that is owed at that point in time.

The Committee presented the following items for information:

- D-I-1 Much discussion took place regarding general mission funds and the method in which the Presbytery office receives those funds at the present time. We are looking into possibly receiving all funds at the office and dispersing them ourselves.
- D-I-2 Much discussion also took place regarding past due per capita funds and how to handle each individual situation. Letters will be sent to some churches.

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the following action of the Committee:

We have received a request to have the yearly per capita assessment figures set before the November Presbytery Meeting each year in order to help churches plan their following year's budgets. In response to that request, and after gathering of figures, a tentative figure was reached and the Committee took the following action:

- D-A-2 Based on projections, a tentative figure of \$28-29, which is an approximate 5% increase, will be the per capita assessment amount for 2009.

(The *January-June Income Statement* for the Presbytery appears as **APPENDIX D** at the end of these minutes.)

COORDINATING COUNCIL

Council Moderator Rev. Kate Stangl presented the report.

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the following actions of the Council:

- E-A-11 Reviewed the May 20, 2008, Stated Meeting Minutes of the Presbytery.
- E-A-12 Planned the August 18, 2008, Stated Meeting of the Presbytery to focus on reports and information from various summer activities: General Assembly, camps and Synod School, as

well as a celebration of completion of training of a Commissioned Lay Pastor training process, and opportunities to visit the White Oak Presbyterian Church.

- E-A-13 Made initial plans for the November 11 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery to be the celebration of our presbytery's 165 years of ministry. Included in this time would be recognition of ordination dates and a combined choir. An invitation has been sent to the Moderator of the General Assembly to attend this meeting since it is possible that he will be in the area or any other meeting that would fit into his schedule.

The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the following recommendations from the Council:

- E-R-3 That the offering received during worship at the August 16 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery go to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Relief.
- E-R-4 That the Presbytery approve the formation of an Older Adult Ministries Task Force. A specific description of its work will be developed and presented at the November 11 Stated Meeting.
- E-R-5 That Elder Darlene Shepherd (Oskaloosa, First) be elected as Moderator of the Older Adult Ministries Task Force.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Presbytery VOTED to express its gratitude to the First and White Oak Presbyterian Churches for their gracious hospitality and special treat of visiting the White Oak Church.

ADJOURNMENT AND PRAYER

The Presbytery VOTED to adjourn. Moderator Elder Ray Peters offered closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Philip W. Barrett, Stated Clerk
Wanda Hawkins-Klotz, Recording Clerk

The next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Des Moines will be held on Tuesday, November 11, 2008, at the St. Paul Presbyterian Church in Johnston, Ia.

APPENDIX A**Presbytery of Des Moines
2008 SALARY CHANGES****As of August 16, 2008**

*You will note that **Appendix A** is not included. The chart listing changes in terms of pastoral calls (2008 Salary Changes as of August 16, 2008) has been omitted. At the request of some minister members for limited release of these figures, this appendix will only be sent to a minister member of the Presbytery or a commissioner. You may request a copy by contacting the Presbytery Office.*

APPENDIX B**K – SOCIAL MINISTRIES TASK FORCE REPORT****August 16, 2008**

The Social Ministries Task Force provided four scholarships (from the presbytery's portion of our Peacemaking Offering) to the 2008 **Peacemaking Conference** in Orange, California: Rev. Kate Stangl and Lori Funk (Ottumwa, East End), David Best (Audubon, First), and Nancy Lister-Settle (Dallas Center, First). The four also attended the Joining Hands pre-conference along with partners from Egypt: Nada Thabet, Nabil Sisostres, and Nancy Collins.

The **JUST NEIGHBORS** banner has been displayed at First Presbyterian Church of Grinnell since May. The Rev. Kirsten Klepfer and members of the congregation were recognized for being active peacemakers in the community as well as advocates for peace—nationally and globally.

SMTF would like to know what your congregation is doing with your portion of the Peacemaking Offering—or how Presbyterians you know are doing peacemaking. Help us discover who should be the next recipient of the JUST NEIGHBORS AWARD!

Compañeros: The Mission Co-worker Search Committee has interviewed and recommended Elder Kathy Mahler (Heartland, Clive) to be the new Designated Mission Co-worker in El Salvador. We and the Pastoral Team are **very** happy with the outcome of this long search and thank God for calling Kathy to this ministry!

Joining Hands: Nada Thabet and Nabil Sisostres from our partner network in Egypt (Together for Family Development), and companionship facilitator, Nancy Collins, spent a week in July traveling around the presbytery, visiting in Atlantic, Audubon, Guthrie Center, Des Moines, Ottumwa and points between. We have been celebrating the network's success in the passage of an amendment to Egyptian child law that guarantees the right of children with disabilities to attend public school. Find photos and information at our Joining Hands website: www.desmoineswithegypt.org.

Mark your calendars for Sunday afternoon, **October 12th**, for a Social Ministries Task Force-sponsored workshop: **IMMIGRANTS AND IMMIGRATION**, led by Angel Gonzalez Irizarry. We will explore the issues from an economic and historic point of view. Watch your email for the time and place.

REMINDER: *Broken Bread*, the Social Ministries quarterly newsletter, will continue to be distributed in hard copy form to congregations. Individual subscribers must contact the Presbytery Office in order to remain on the mailing list; call 515-276-4991, e-mail pbydesmoines@qwestoffice.net, or write 2400 86th St., Ste. 20, Urbandale, IA 50322-4306.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Lister-Settle, Hunger Action Enabler and
Moderator of the Social Ministries Task Force

APPENDIX C**J – REPORT OF THE GENERAL PRESBYTER****August 16, 2008**

On an almost daily basis I am reminded of how little we Christians heed the apostle Paul's words. I would even suggest that we totally ignore the imploring words to be in the world but not of the world. It doesn't take much to see this when we look at how we have succumbed to the allure of doing our own thing, hoarding of possessions, trying to control everything in our lives – and those of others, closing ourselves to those who disagree with us or who are different from us, and worshiping “idols” instead of God. If we were to do some honest thinking about this on our own, we could make lots of additions to our list.

For reasons I don't really know, I've been reflecting recently on how we have become so consumed with the immediate, the “here and now,” that we have little thought about the future, let alone faith that there is one. The only stockpiling we do is of things, possessions, needs for supplies in case of disasters, or weapons. We demand immediate response, information and results. We seem to think that the only time things should happen is now – and within the confines of our calendars. Oh yeah, we get all gussied up for church on Easter but the significance of that day gets lost as we hunt for eggs and plan family gatherings. The Kingdom of God? That's something to worry about later. I've got all this stuff I have to do, to build, to make happen now that I don't have time to worry about that.

At almost the same time, we do want to make something happen. We do want to make a difference. We are aware that helping to set some things in motion that will come to fruition in the future is part of God's call to us. We know that what and who we are now can make a difference in things down the road, but we want to know what that is or will be. Our focus on the present pushes us to want to see results now, not just do some things and hope they will help in times ahead – maybe after we're gone. (Ah – the tension between being in the world but not of it.) I came across some words from a person especially important to the folks in our sister parish in El Salvador, as well as to many of us – Archbishop Oscar Romero. They are helpful to me and I hope might be the same for you.

“It helps now and then to step back and take a long view. The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.

“We accomplish in our lifetime only a small fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.

“No statement says all that could be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection. No pastoral visit brings wholeness. No program accomplishes the Church's mission. No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

“This is what we are about: We plant the seeds that will one day grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.

“We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something, and to do it well. It may be incomplete but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

“We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.

“We are prophets of a future not our own.”

May these words freshen our vision and relax our compulsion to try to do everything now.

Part of what allows us to look to the future is what goes on in the past. Here is what I have been up to since we met this past May:

- Visited the Park Avenue Presbyterian Church in Des Moines
- Participated in the Installation of the Rev. Jan Scott as Pastor of the Covenant Presbyterian Church in West Des Moines
- Along with other governing body staff across our denomination participated in a pre-General Assembly conference call with our General Assembly leadership to prayerfully consider helpful direction for the Assembly. This same group had a post-Assembly conference call to share what has been heard since the Assembly.
- Met with leaders of several faith traditions and agricultural organizations in a continuing conversation about issues confronting all of us and how to work together in dealing with them
- Met with several pastors
- Attended our denomination’s 218th General Assembly in San Jose, Calif.
- Attended the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Rev. Ken Stuber’s Ordination at First Presbyterian Church in Des Moines
- Attended our presbytery’s gathering at an I-Cubs game in Des Moines
- Preached and moderated a congregational meeting at the Union Park Presbyterian Church in Des Moines

As is always the case, I welcome the opportunity to share more about any of these with you.

I continue to be grateful for our opportunities to share in ministry together. These give much hope for our future presence and ministry.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Philip W. Barrett, General Presbyter

APPENDIX D

D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

August 16, 2008

**Income Statement
January 1, 2008 – June 30, 2008**

	Current Month	Current Year-to-Date	Annual Budget	% of Budget	Prior Year-to-Date
Income					
Total Per Capita	\$5,632.25	\$189,455.09	\$265,221.00	71.43	\$201,614.00
Presbytery General Mission	\$0.00	\$30,038.41	\$146,615.00	20.49	\$54,102.00
Synod Support Staff Salaries	\$0.00	\$16,666.65	\$40,000.00	41.67	\$20,000.00
Hunger Action Enabler Income	\$0.00	0.00	\$3,000.00	0.00	\$3,000.00
Interest Income	\$32.61	\$382.25	\$2,000.00	19.11	\$781.00
Investment Income	(\$1,539.22)	(\$44,647.34)	\$35,000.00	(127.56)	\$5,038.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$0.00	\$2,849.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$6,192.00
Total Revenues	\$4,125.64	\$194,744.06	\$491,836.00	39.60	\$290,727.00
Expenses					
Governance Expense					
Committee Preparation Ministry	\$0.00	\$296.82	\$2,000.00	14.84	\$641.00
Stewardship & Mission Interpretation	\$50.00	\$2,958.44	\$1,900.00	155.71	\$0.00
Permanent Judicial Commission	\$0.00	\$28.46	\$1,000.00	2.85	\$0.00
Budget & Finance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	0.00	\$63.00
Nominating	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	0.00	\$0.00
Personnel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	0.00	\$0.00
Sexual Misconduct Response Team	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	0.00	\$0.00
GA Per Capita	\$0.00	\$56,875.17	\$56,875.00	100.00	\$60,754.00
Synod Per Capita	\$0.00	\$46,069.87	\$46,070.00	100.00	\$48,373.00
Subtotal	\$50.00	\$106,228.76	\$108,220.00	98.16	\$109,831.00
Administrative Expense					
Moderator's Expense/Task Groups	\$0.00	\$139.00	\$300.00	46.33	\$89.00
Administrative Commissions	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	0.00	\$19.00
Presbytery Meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	0.00	\$0.00
General Presbyter to General Assembly	\$0.00	\$317.39	\$2,000.00	15.87	\$0.00
Commissioner Orientation	\$0.00	\$48.00	\$100.00	48.00	\$0.00
Stated Clerk's Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	0.00	\$50.00
Communication	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$1,590.00	3.14	\$438.00
Insurance	\$0.00	(\$278.00)	\$5,300.00	(5.25)	\$0.00
Legal Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal	\$0.00	\$276.39	\$11,290.00	2.45	\$596.00

D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT continued...

	Current Month	Current Year-to-Date	Annual Budget	% of Budget	Prior Year-to-Date
Extension of Ministries					
Transformation Team**	\$0.00	\$1,558.22	\$8,000.00	19.48	\$1,630.00
Social Ministries Task Force	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	0.00	\$245.00
El Salvador Mission Assoc-Benefits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,400.00	0.00	\$0.00
Hunger Action Enabler & <i>Broken Bread</i>	\$0.00	\$844.93	\$5,500.00	15.36	\$747.00
CROSS Ministries	\$5,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$60,000.00	58.33	\$32,083.00
Older Adult Ministries	\$0.00	\$1,182.85	\$1,050.00	112.65	\$0.00
Camping	(\$7,820.00)	(\$9,145.09)	\$5,000.00	(182.90)	(\$12,973.00)
Youth Ministries	\$375.00	\$653.04	\$1,000.00	65.30	\$5,675.00
Resources	(\$199.30)	(\$429.43)	\$300.00	(143.14)	\$149.00
Women's Advocacy Task Force	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal	(\$2,644.30)	\$28,106.30	\$83,350.00	33.72	\$25,926.00
Support of Local Ministries					
Congregational Care & Development	\$98.75	\$1,382.71	\$2,500.00	55.31	\$1,081.00
Resourcing Workshops	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	0.00	\$0.00
Professional Care & Development	\$0.00	\$570.83	\$3,750.00	15.22	\$1,448.00
<u>Regional Partnerships</u>					
Southeast	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	0.00	\$0.00
East	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
DM West/Northwest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
Southwest	\$3,500.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	100.00	\$3,000.00
West	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	50.00	\$0.00
South Central	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	0.00	\$0.00
DM Two Rivers	\$170.34	\$565.79	\$3,750.00	15.09	\$539.00
Coordinating Council	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	0.00	\$45.00
Worship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	0.00	\$0.00
Bills & Overtures	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	0.00	\$0.00
Contingency	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	0.00	\$0.00
Presbytery Office	\$3,328.32	\$19,773.25	\$41,610.00	47.52	\$19,464.00
Presbytery Staff	\$18,010.09	\$92,958.31	\$213,745.00	43.49	\$87,856.00
Subtotal	\$25,107.50	\$120,750.89	\$273,855.00	44.09	\$113,433.00
Total Expenses	\$22,513.20	\$255,362.34	\$476,715.00	53.57	\$249,786.00
Net Income	(\$18,387.56)	(\$60,618.28)	\$15,121.00	(400.89)	\$40,941.00

** Funds taken from Colfax Money Market.
Transformation Team Expenses are not added in to totals.

D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT continued...**Presbytery of Des Moines
Restricted Funds****As of June 30, 2008****NEW COVENANT FUNDS****McCahon Fund**

Annual income can be used for grants for small churches (under 150) for one-time needs. Unused income to be reinvested each year in the trust.	\$41,539.65
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Swan Fund

Interest earnings used for seminary student's assistance.	\$19,116.65
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Albia Sale

To be used for the assistance of small churches in the Presbytery.	\$29,606.49
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Camping Fund – Knox Knolls

$\frac{3}{4}$ of interest earnings used for the camping program.	\$337,210.87
$\frac{1}{4}$ of interest earnings used for Presbytery causes.	

Walther Fund

To be used for scholarship aid for physically or mentally challenged youth and/or children in need.	\$19,747.12
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Colfax Fund

To be used for Church Development with interest to be placed in Colfax Fund Money Market.	\$49,311.94
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FIRST AMERICAN BANK – URBANDALE**Pastor Emergency Fund Savings**

Short-term loans for pastors.	\$124.46
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Colfax Fund Money Market

To be used for church development.	\$6,158.61
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