



## Presbytery of Des Moines

---

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

October 29, 2007

**TO:** Commissioners to the 469<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting (August 18, 2007)  
**FROM:** Philip W. Barrett, Stated Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Minutes

You will find the Minutes of the 469<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Des Moines held on August 18, 2007, held at the First Presbyterian Church of Des Moines, 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.

We examined Candidates Shamaine Chambers King and Adam Nardini for ordination. Shamaine, a candidate under the care of Grace Presbytery, has been invited to serve as temporary supply pastor of the Windsor Presbyterian Church in Windsor Heights, and Adam, a candidate under care of this Presbytery, has been extended a call to serve as pastor of the Union Park Presbyterian Church in Des Moines. We received a fun report from most of our delegation from the Presbyterian Youth Triennium. We approved a loan for the Trinity United Presbyterian Church of Indianola for a new addition to their building. We viewed displays of summer activities from a number of churches and groups. These are just some of the highlights.

If you are attending the November 13 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 13 Presbytery Meeting will be posted on the Presbytery's Web site at [www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org](http://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 469<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting at the First Presbyterian Church of Des Moines, Iowa, on August 18, 2007. The meeting was convened at 9:30 a.m. with prayer by Moderator Rev. Kate Stangl.

### **FORMATION OF THE ROLL**

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

<b>CHURCH</b>	<b>MINISTER</b>	<b>P/A/E</b>	<b>COMMISSIONER</b>
Adair, First	Char Rief	A	A
Allerton, United	Ross Blount	P	Barb Martin
Ankeny	David Braak	E	Marcia Justice
Atlantic, First United	Don Seeger	P	Bettie Siggins
Audubon, First	Kay E. Steddom	A	Paul Walther
Bedford, United	Randy S. Allman	A	A
Brooklyn, First	John Reynolds	P	Carla Kriegel
Carlisle, Scotch Ridge	Doug Bolsem, CLP	P	Bonnie Stookey
Centerville, First	VACANT	-	Richard Wakefield
Chariton, First	VACANT	-	S. Kay Montgomery
Clive, Heartland	D. Mark Davis	A	Scott Valentine
Clive, Heartland	Barbara Nish	A	-
Corning, First	Ken Rummer	P	Dennis Hill
Creston, First	D. Scott Vandenheuvel	P	Deb Norman
Dallas Center, First	David Ewing	P	Jon Kimple
Deep River, United	Ben Wilson	A	A
Des Moines, Central	James Wallace	P	Steve Roberts
Des Moines, Clifton Heights	Eric Keller	P	A
Des Moines, Cottage Grove Avenue	David Madsen	P	A
Des Moines, Douglas Avenue	VACANT	-	Jim Kreitzinger
Des Moines, First	Ken Stuber	P	Jean Mullen
Des Moines, Fort Des Moines	Donald Elly	P	A
Des Moines, Highland Park	Bob Cook, HR	P	Peter Hallock
Des Moines, Knox United	Bill LeMosy	P	Chuck Howieson
Des Moines, Park Avenue	David Stipp-Bethune	P	A
Des Moines, Union Park	Adam Nardini, candidate	P	Joyce Rash
Des Moines, Westminster (4)	Amy Miracle	P	Ted Coppock
Des Moines, Westminster	Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy	E	A
Des Moines, Westminster	Ken Arentson	P	A
Des Moines, Westminster	Dick Kiefer, HR	E	A
Des Moines, Westminster	Bill Ekhardt	A	-
Dexter, First	David Kincaide	P	Linda Rummel
Diagonal, United	John Beran, HR	E	A
Earlham, First	Robert Waldron, LP	P	Sheryl Bobst
Ewart	Aaron Koskamp, HR	P	Mary Holtz
Gibson, First	Mike Conn, CLP	E	A
Gibson, White Oak	Mike Conn, CLP	E	A
Greenfield, First	David Kincaide	P	Steve Wolfe
Grimes, First	Lynn Williams	E	Jo Rainer
Grinnell, First	Kirsten Klepfer	P	Shane B. Cook

CHURCH	MINISTER	P/A/E	COMMISSIONER
Guthrie Center, First	Calvin Hsu	P	Brenda Dinkla
Hartford, Community United	Nathan Lamb	P	Claren Rawson
Indianola, Trinity United	David Endriss	P	Carmen Hampton
Johnston, St. Paul	John W. Gilmore	P	Valerie Nichols
Knoxville, First	Kirk Erwin	A	A
Lenox, United	Tim Maxa	P	Robert Rhoades
Leon, First	Jack DePond	P	Mary Ellen Stanley
LeRoy, First	VACANT	-	A
Lucas, First	Linda O'Connell	E	A
Malcom, First United	John Reynolds	P	A
Monroe	Ann Rouse	P	Howard Clark
Montezuma, First United	George Salnave	P	A
Mount Ayr, United	Mike Maddy	A	A
New Sharon, First	VACANT	-	A
Newton, First	Tiare Mathison-Bowie	A	Sara Hopkins
Newton, United	Donald Freeman	A	A
Oskaloosa, First	Dennis Morey	P	Darlene Shepherd
Oskaloosa, First	Hans Cornelder	P	-
Ottumwa, East End	Kate Stangl	P	Dorothy Carlo
Ottumwa, First	Sue Babovec	P	Jan Markham
Ottumwa, Westminster	Milton Forbes	A	A
Perry, First	Joan White	P	Chad Hoffbeck
Perry, First	Tom Conrey	A	-
Pitzer, United	Donna Vaughan, CLP	P	A
Platte Center	VACANT	-	A
Sharpsburg	Tim Maxa	P	A
Sigourney, First	VACANT	-	A
Tingley, United	VACANT	-	Mildred Boyd
West Des Moines, Covenant	Dave Schneider	P	John Sprole
Windsor Heights, Windsor	Shamaine Chambers King, candidate	P	Hal DeGood
Winterset, First United	Jim Howland	P	Laura Silverthorn

### **OTHER MEMBERS OF PRESBYTERY (MINISTERS)**

**Present:** Philip Barrett, General Presbyter/Stated Clerk; (HR); John Gallentine; Claude Jones; Steve Mathison-Bowie; Gus Nelson (HR); Patricia Summers.

**Excused:** Robert Burnett (HR); Harold Butz (HR); Carl Cooper (HR); Glen Dilley (HR); Ane Fitzgerald; Harold Gilleney (HR); M. Denise Group; Elizabeth Knott, (HR); Ray Martin (HR); Jane Martinez; John McElroy; Jeffrey Means; Dale O'Connell (HR); Sara Speer Palmer (HR); Marvin Potter (HR); Russell Tomlinson (HR); Erasmo Vélez (HR); Hume Ward (HR); Francis Younkin (HR).

**Absent:** Barry Anderson; Pete Brantner; Goanar Chol; Christopher (Kip) Harris.

### **LAY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

**Present:** Lila Jean Jensen, moderator of coordinating council; Ray Peters, vice-moderator of Presbytery; Emily Seeger, PW moderator; Sarah Mapes, moderator of Des Moines Two Rivers Regional Partnership.

**VISITORS**

Lorena Blount, (Allerton, United); Dennis Britson, Jim Howard, Niah Howard, Matt Ewing, Jeff Ewing, Cody Childs, Tyler Carmen, (Dallas Center, First); Sharon Vignaroli, (Des Moines, Douglas Avenue); Mary Lou Aspengren, (Des Moines, First); Paul Stanfield, (Des Moines, Knox United); Lisa Whitmarsh Peterson, (Des Moines, Park Avenue); Marilyn Fors-Roby, Carolyn Tenney, (Des Moines, Union Park); Sandi Stuckey, Nancy Baker, (Des Moines, Westminster); Joyce Byers, (Ewart); Matt Nesler, Bonnie Nesler, (Hartford, Community United); Megan Brotherson, (Johnston, St. Paul); Naomi Maxa (Lenox, United); Leland Smith (Newton, First); Dianne Van Gorp, Stephanie Cornelder, (Oskaloosa, First); Allan Brown, (Ottumwa, East End); Lucy Sanderson, Leon Sanderson, Ron Grohe, Glenna Grohe, (Windsor Heights, Windsor); Sara Lamb, Derek Silverthorn, (Winterset, First United); Nancy Lister-Settle, Presbytery Staff (Dallas Center, First); Kim Coulter, Presbytery Staff (Des Moines, Westminster); Betty Dyer, Presbytery Staff (Indianola, Trinity United).

**MINISTERS (89 on roll)**

Present: 45  
Excused: 26  
Absent: 17

**ELDER COMMISSIONERS AND OTHERS**

Present: 77  
Excused: 0  
Absent: 26

**CORRESPONDING MEMBERS**

None

**QUORUM**

A quorum was present and declared so by the Stated Clerk.

**ADOPTION OF DOCKET**

The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the *Proposed Docket* as printed and distributed with the inclusion of a report from the Nominating Committee at the discretion of the Moderator.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the *Consent Agenda* and all the items on it.

**APPROVAL OF EXCUSED ABSENCES**

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

**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**

Presbytery Moderator Rev. Kate Stangl announced that she had appointed the Rev. Ken Rummer, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Corning, as Parliamentarian for the remainder of the year.

**APPOINTMENT OF RECORDING CLERK**

Stated Clerk Phil Barrett reported that Elder Mary Lou Aspengren, a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Des Moines, had been appointed as recording clerk for this meeting.

**WELCOME BY HOST CHURCH**

The Rev. Ken Stuber, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Des Moines, welcomed the Presbytery.

**APPROVAL OF MAY STATED MEETING MINUTES**

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the minutes of the stated meeting held on May 15, 2007, as printed and distributed with the following correction:

Page 5, Professional Care and Development Committee Report – Ken Rummer is the moderator of the committee, not of the Presbytery.

**REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK**

I-I-12 Stated Clerk Phil Barrett reported that all reports had been filed with the Synod of Lakes and Prairies or the General Assembly as of this date, and all correspondence received on behalf of the Presbytery has been assigned, referred or answered.

I-I-13 The Ankeny Presbyterian Church has invited the Presbytery to hold its January 19, 2008, stated meeting in their building, and the St. Paul Presbyterian Church of Johnston has invited the Presbytery to hold its November 11, 2008, stated meeting in their building. Invitations to the Presbytery to host the other two stated meetings on Tuesday, May 20 and Saturday, August 16 are needed and welcomed.

I-I-14 A written accusation of an offense against a member of the Presbytery has been received and needs to be referred to an Investigating Committee.

I-I-15 The Rev. Cathy Allen, interim pastor of the United Trinity Parish in Humeston and LeRoy, has submitted her resignation as of July 25. She has received a call to a congregation in Nebraska.

The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the following recommendation from the stated clerk:

I-R-5 That, in the section of the Presbytery *Manual of Operations* delineating the duties of the Moderator, the following addition be made: in consultation with the Stated Clerk appoint Investigating Committees in disciplinary cases.

This would make that section read:

“It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the deliberations of Presbytery, constitute Presbytery with prayer, appoint a parliamentarian for his/her term of office, appoint temporary committees unless otherwise provided for in the *ByLaws*, **in consultation with the Stated Clerk appoint Investigating Committees in disciplinary cases**, serve as a resource person to Presbytery’s committees and task forces, preside over the Coordinating Council in the absence of its Moderator, coordinate the budget process, and perform such other duties as are provided in the *Manual of Operations*.”

**COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY**

The Rev. David Ewing, moderator of the committee, presented the report.

C-I-4 The Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) is in the midst of conducting annual consultations with all “under care folks.” Every year, we interview every person, inquirer, candidate and CLP student to determine what kind of progress is being made in preparing for ministry, to assess the theological learning that is happening, to identify and consult on road blocks that are popping up, and to think ahead with each person on the coming year’s

challenges and opportunities. Most consultations have happened for this year. The remaining meetings are scheduled for mid-fall.

- C-R-5 The CPM Committee and the Congregational Care and Development Committee (CCD) presented Shamaine Chambers King for examination for ordination as minister of Word and Sacrament. Shamaine is a candidate under the care of Grace Presbytery in Texas. She has been invited to serve as temporary supply pastor of the Windsor Presbyterian Church in Windsor Heights.

The Rev. Gus Nelson (HR), a member of CCD, introduced Shamaine to the Presbytery. She was examined by the Presbytery. The Presbytery VOTED to arrest the examination, then VOTED to note that the examination is successfully completed and Shamaine be approved for ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament.

- C-R-6 The CPM Committee and the Congregational Care and Development Committee (CCD) presented Adam Nardini for examination for ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. Adam is a candidate under the care of our Presbytery. Recently, Adam candidated at the Union Park Presbyterian Church in Des Moines. The Union Park Church has extended a call to him, pending successful completion of his preparation process.

Elder Mary Lou Aspengren, a member of CCD, introduced Adam to the Presbytery. He was examined by the Presbytery. The Presbytery VOTED to arrest the examination, then VOTED to sustain the examination and proceed with Adam's ordination.

**The *Statements of Faith* for Shamaine and Adam appear as Appendix A at the end of these minutes.**

- C-R-7 The Committee presented a Proposed Policy on Election of Ordination Examination Readers. The *Book of Order* requires presbyteries to adopt procedures for providing readers and this policy has been updated based on our presbytery's recent practices of electing readers. The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the Policy and implement it immediately. **(This policy appears as Appendix B at the end of these minutes.)**

### **SOCIAL MINISTRIES TASK FORCE**

Elder Nancy Lister-Settle, moderator of the task force presented the report.

The Task Force presented a written report and highlighted some of the items. **(This report appears as Appendix C at the end of these minutes.)** Nancy then presented the *Just Neighbors* banner to CROSS Ministries for its work with hunger issues. The Rev. David Madsen, pastor of the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church in Des Moines – where CROSS Ministries is a program of that congregation – received the banner on behalf of CROSS Ministries.

### **CAMPING/YOUTH MINISTRIES TASK FORCE – I**

The Rev. David Ewing, adult advisors and many of the youth who attended the national Presbyterian Youth Triennium of our denomination held this summer, shared some experiences and activities, ending with a Top 10 list. Twenty-two youth and three adults attended the triennium.

### **CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

The Rev. Ann Rouse, moderator of the committee, presented the report.

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

- A-A-9 Approved the renewal of the interim pastor relationship between the Rev. David Schneider and the Covenant Presbyterian Church, West Des Moines, effective July 23, 2007 to July 22, 2008, with the following terms:

Cash Salary	\$26,060
Housing Allowance	23,780
Social Security Offset	3,813
Auto Expenses (reimbursement)	1,800
Continuing Education (reimbursement)	2,500
Medical Reimbursement	3,600
Business Expenses (reimbursement)	2,400
Full Pension/Major Medical/Death/Disability Dues	

- A-A-10 Approved the agreement between the Rev. Jan Scott and the Douglas Avenue Presbyterian Church of Des Moines for services as an interim pastor, effective September 17, 2007, with the following terms:

Cash Salary	\$22,800
Fidelity 403(b) Retirement Fund	7,200
Life Insurance Reimbursement	1,447.20
Dental Insurance Reimbursement	675
Housing Allowance	12,000
Auto Allowance	2,000
Full Pension/Major Medical/Death/Disability Dues	

- A-A-11 Approved the Installation Commission for the Rev. Calvin Hsu as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Guthrie Center, on August 26, 2007, at 4:00 p.m.:

Rev. Kate Stangl (Ottumwa, East End), Moderator  
 Rev. Sue Babovec (Ottumwa, First)  
 Rev. Aaron Koskamp (HR)  
 Rev. Philip W. Barrett (General Presbyter)  
 Elder Paul Walther (Audubon, First)  
 Elder Brenda Dinkla (Guthrie Center, First)  
 Elder Margaret Magill (Atlantic, First)

- A-A-13 Approved the Call from the Union Park Presbyterian Church, Des Moines, to Adam Nardini, a candidate under the care of this Presbytery, to serve as pastor. With the timing of the stated meeting of the Presbytery at which Mr. Nardini would be examined for ordination, the committee allowed him to begin work at the Union Park Church on August 1, 2007, with the following terms:

Cash Salary	\$38,000
Continuing Education Reimbursement	1,000
Mileage Reimbursement (IRS Rate)	900
Study Leave	2 weeks (cumulative up to 3 weeks)
Vacation	4 weeks (1 week every 3 months)

Full Pension/Major Medical/Death/Disability dues

- A-A-14 Approved the following Ordination/Installation Commission for Adam Nardini on August 25, 2007, at 4:00 p.m. at the Union Park Presbyterian Church, Des Moines, pending satisfactory completion of his Ordination Examination by the Presbytery on August 18, 2007:

Rev. Kate Stangl (Ottumwa, East End), Moderator  
 Rev. Amy Miracle (Des Moines, Westminster)  
 Rev. Lynn Williams (Grimes, First)  
 Elder Mary Lou Aspengren (Des Moines, First)  
 Elder Robert Mahaffey (Des Moines, Union Park)

- A-A-15 Approved the following Commission to install the Rev. David Braak as pastor of the Ankeny Presbyterian Church on July 29, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.:

Rev. Kate Stangl (Ottumwa, East End), Moderator  
 Rev. Russell Tomlinson (HR)  
 Elder Jan Davison (Des Moines, Westminster)  
 Elder Scott Hamilton (Ankeny)  
 (A third elder to be identified by Jan Davison; must not be from Ankeny – this person was Elder Mary Lou Aspengren (Des Moines, First)

- A-A-16 Received and approved the Equal Opportunity Employment Reports from the pastoral call processes at the First Presbyterian Church in Guthrie Center, the Union Park Presbyterian Church in Des Moines, and the Ankeny Presbyterian Church.

**New pastors to the Presbytery** – Rev. Nathan Lamb (Hartford, Community) and Rev. Calvin Hsu (Guthrie Center, First) – were introduced to the Presbytery. Both shared some of their personal and pastoral history with the Presbytery.

### **PEACE, UNITY AND PURITY TASK FORCE**

The Rev. Ross Blount, a member of the Task Force, introduced a presentation given by Rev. Sue Babovec and Elder Ray Peters. Using a cell phone conversation, Sue and Ray emphasized the need for churches to be in a time of discernment, with Sue sharing how the folks at First Presbyterian Church in Ottumwa are working at discernment.

### **BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The Rev. Phil Barrett gave the report at the request of Elder Pat Aksamit, moderator of the committee.

The Committee reported the following actions:

- D-I-3 Approved the following for the Trinity United Presbyterian Church of Indianola:

To borrow \$1,017,407.00 for new construction:

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)	\$ 450,000.00
Community State Bank	\$ 367,407.00
Synod of Lakes and Prairies	\$ 200,000.00

D-I-4 Rev. Phil Barrett gave an update on the situation with the building of the United Christian Presbyterian Church in Bedford, a building with structural problems. The congregation decided to demolish the building. They are now meeting in the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Bedford as they consider options for their future.

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

D-R-3 That the Presbytery of Des Moines (a “Corporation”) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) having received and reviewed the loan application of the Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Indianola, Iowa, a member in good standing of the Presbytery, approved the loan application and guarantees the repayment of principal and interest on the loan to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), a Corporation (“CLP”), in the amount of \$450,000. The officers of the Presbytery Corporation are authorized to sign a Guaranty Agreement for this loan as agents of the Presbytery Corporation.

D-R-4 That the guidelines of the Walther/Anderson fund be revised. As the funds from the Anderson Fund, in itself, have long since been used, the fund will now be called the Walther Fund. **(The guidelines as now approved appear as Appendix D at the end of these minutes.)**

The committee also provided as information the *Presbytery Financial Statement* as of April 30, 2007 and *Presbytery Restricted Funds* as of March 31, 2007. **(These reports appear as Appendix E at the end of these minutes.)**

### **LUNCH AND FAIR**

The Presbytery recessed for a delicious lunch provided by the members of First Church and had an opportunity to view displays from churches and organizations highlighting activities from the summer.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Presbytery reconvened with a time for announcements. Among these were: Kim Coulter (director of communications) – information on presbytery communications and time spent working in New Orleans; Don Elly (Des Moines, Fort Des Moines) – Noting that he will move to Methodist Hospital as a chaplain in November and has observed his 20th year as pastor at the Fort Des Moines Presbyterian Church; Rev. Dale O’Connell (HR) – noting that Rev. Linda O’Connell (Lucas, First) will be celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her ordination next month, and reminding the Presbytery of the visit of missionary Jonna Reeder in October; Jo Rainer noting the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the First Church in Grimes; Ted Coppock (Des Moines, Westminster) – highlighting the visit of Rev. Jack Rogers in September; Darlene Shepherd (Oskaloosa, First) – announcing the *Older Adult Ministries Conference* to be held in St. Louis in April; and Ray Peters (Ankeny) reminding the Presbytery of the *Healthy Congregations Workshop* to be held at Ankeny on Oct. 27.

### **WORSHIP**

The Presbytery entered into a time of worship focusing on “A Celebration of Stewardship.” Worship Leaders were Elder Mary Ellen Stanley (Leon, First), Rev. Aaron Koskamp (HR), and Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy (Des Moines, Westminster). The Rev. Dennis Morey offered the sermon, “Altar the Plan” centering on the need to develop our discipleship more in order to meet challenges and issues facing congregations. The Revs. David Stipp-Bethune (Des Moines, Park Avenue) and Ken Stuber (Des Moines, First) officiated at the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper and elders from the host congregation assisted in the distribution of the elements. Jerry Milholin (Des Moines, First) and the Rev. Phil Barrett (General Presbyter) were the musicians.

**WORD FROM DUBUQUE SEMINARY**

The University of Dubuque's Director of Church Relations Rev. Claude Jones explained the work he is now doing for the University. He highlighted the history of the University and told about the various schools under the University umbrella.

**PROFESSIONAL CARE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

The Rev. Ken Rummer, moderator of the committee, presented the report.

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

- B-A-9 Transferred the membership of the Rev. Tom Bower to the Presbytery of North Central Iowa at the request of that Presbytery.
- B-A-10 Transferred the membership of the Rev. Ray Fancher to the Presbytery of Wabash Valley at the request of that Presbytery.
- B-A-11 Gave permission to the Rev. Linda O'Connell (Lucas, First) to labor outside the bounds of the Presbytery to officiate at a wedding this summer in Omaha, Neb.
- B-A-12 Gave permission to the Rev. Denise Group to labor outside the bounds of the Presbytery to accept an appointment in the Iowa Conference of the United Methodist Church to Corwith and Wesley United Methodist Churches. The Committee determined this to be a validated ministry under the terms of this Presbytery's policies and Rev. Group will be retained on the Active Member list of the Presbytery.

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

- B-R-5 That the minimum compensation for 2008 for full-time called pastors in the Presbytery be increased by \$1,000 in the Effective Salary component (**as delineated in Appendix F at the end of these minutes**).
- B-R-6 That the Rev. Dr. Marvin Potter (HR) be granted permission to labor outside the bounds of the Presbytery to assist in his grandson's wedding in Minnesota in October.
- B-R-7 That the following changes in the terms of call for the Rev. Tiare Mathison-Bowie, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Newton, be approved:
 

Cash Salary	\$30,000
Housing Allowance	20,000
Continuing Education Allowance	1,690
Automobile Allowance	4,227.50
Social Security	4,750
Full Pension/Major Medical/Death/Disability Dues	
- B-R-8 That the Rev. Sara Speer Palmer (HR) be granted permission to labor outside the bounds of the Presbytery to perform a wedding on November 10, 2007, at the Swedesburg Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Presbytery of East Iowa.

B-R-9 That the Rev. Claude Jones (At Large) be granted permission to labor outside the bounds of the Presbytery to baptize his wife's daughter's child on December 30, 2007, in Phoenix, AZ, in and Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Church.

The committee also reminded congregations to act on 2008 Housing Allowances for pastors before the November meeting of the Presbytery so it can take effect January 1. Otherwise, approval would have to wait until the January meeting of the Presbytery, leaving a gap in housing coverage.

### **GENERAL PRESBYTER REPORT**

General Presbyter Rev. Phil Barrett presented a written report. (**This report appears as Appendix G at the end of these minutes.**) Using the contrasting cheers of "If you build it, they will come" and "We're not in Dyersville anymore," Phil encouraged the Presbytery to be focused on the basics of Matthew 28 – Go out, Make, and Teach.

### **CAMPING/YOUTH MINISTRIES TASK FORCE – II**

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

Using a slide show presentation, Dennis gave a report on the various camps offered by our Presbytery this summer.

### **COORDINATING COUNCIL**

Elder Lila Jean Jensen, Moderator of the Council, presented the report.

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

- E-A-13 Reviewed the May 18, 2007, Stated Meeting of the Presbytery.
- E-A-14 Planned the August 18, 2007, stated meeting of the Presbytery to include an emphasis on stewardship and mission, observance of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, examination of two candidates for ordination, and a time for viewing of displays about summer and other activities of various presbytery entities.
- E-A-15 Made initial plans for the November 13, 2007, stated meeting of the Presbytery to include election of officers, presentation of a proposed budget and a time of studying scripture together.
- E-A-16 Elected Elder Gail Masinda, director of music at the First Presbyterian Church of Ottumwa, to the Worship Task Group.

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

- E-R-2 That the offering to be taken during worship at the August 18 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery be designated to assist in the costs of sending a container of supplies to our sister parish in El Salvador.
- E-R-3 That the Presbytery renew its covenant with Elder Nancy Lister-Settle to serve as the Presbytery's Hunger Action Enabler.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Elder Dianne Van Gorp, moderator of the Nominating Committee, presented information on the Nominating Committee process and called the Presbytery's attention to the Nomination form, encouraging people to submit nominations to the committee for any of its positions.

CROSS Ministries Director Roberta Victor, Ph.D., presented a written report. (**This report appears as Appendix H at the end of these minutes.**)

The Presbytery VOTED to express its gratitude to the members and staff of the First Presbyterian Church of Des Moines for their warm and helpful hospitality.

**ADJOURNMENT AND BENEDICTION**

The Presbytery VOTED to adjourn. The Rev. Scott Vandenheuvel offered the closing prayer and benediction.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Philip W. Barrett, Stated Clerk  
Elder Mary Lou Aspengen, Recording Clerk

## APPENDIX A

## God is.

**A Statement of Faith—Shamaine Chambers King**

With all my heart, I believe in God, the God that I came to know around the kitchen table and in Sunday school. I believe in the love of Jesus, that I knew as a child and that has been present through my life in joy and sorrow.

I believe that the Holy Scriptures are the authoritative revelation of God's triune nature—Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

I believe in the one God of Israel—

Whose mystery I can never hope to comprehend;  
Who is greater and more complex than I can imagine;  
Who spoke creation out of nothingness—caring and reigning in sovereign love for all that is;  
Who is everywhere and knows all things and can do all things;  
Who created humanity in his own image and then sent his own Son to reconcile us to himself.

I believe God revealed himself to us through his son, Jesus Christ—

Who the Holy Spirit makes known to us;  
Who was and is fully God;  
Who was born in human flesh in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, fully human with all human frailties, facing all human temptation;  
Who through his teachings, miracles, relationships, healings, life, death and resurrection show us who God is;  
Who died to redeem a sinful humanity;  
Who God raised from the dead, destroying the power of sin and death so that we might share in eternal life; and upon  
Whom we wait with fervent longing for resurrection, judgment and final transformation.

I believe in the Holy Spirit—

By whose power the church was born and perseveres;  
Who is God's spirit, active in the world, inspiring us to seek and do the will of God;  
Who works through each person, despite our failings, to make God known in our sinful and fallen world;  
Who intercedes for us with God in our time of need.

I believe that Christ is head of the church—

Which gathers people together to worship God and enjoy his benefits;  
Which is his body, a community called to live out the gospel, proclaiming God's judgment, love and mercy to all the world;  
Which is called to serve after the example of Jesus himself who was a friend to sinners and outcasts—visiting the lonely, tending the sick, feeding the hungry, helping the needy, comforting the brokenhearted, praying with and for the world, and spreading the good news;  
Which is to welcome all, acknowledging that we are all sinners in need of God's grace; and  
Which executes God's mission in the world, under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and by the unity and power of the Holy Spirit, striving toward the Kingdom of God, living into the resurrection which transforms the present, until that day when Christ comes again in glory—"Come quickly Lord Jesus."

## My Statement of Faith

Adam W. Nardini

I believe in the **triune God** who is three persons in One true eternal God.

**God (the Father)** is the Creator of all known and unknown realities and is the very God who “created the heavens and the earth.” Therefore, “God created humanity in His own image ...male and female He created them.” This means that all humans are fundamentally children of the One who knows us by name and desires a relationship with each of us. The sin of Adam and Eve, however, entered into the dynamics of this relationship and thereby all humanity changed forever. *Sin*, although we strive against it, remains as an unavoidable and constant reminder for all humanity that it is not redeemable by its own nature.

**God (the Son)** is the person in God’s being that humanity attempts to emulate because of His redemptive and remarkable life. Fully human and fully God, the person of Jesus the Christ is like no other being or spiritual leader. Jesus Christ lived an actual historical life on earth in which He taught, preached, loved, challenged, and motivated others to follow Him. He died a real death on a Roman cross, descended to the dead, was raised by God and is now seated at the right hand of God as our mediator to the sin of this fallen world. He shows humanity the real and present love of God for His creation and gives all humanity the true and irreconcilable way in which they can be redeemed and saved from sin.

**God (the Holy Spirit)** is the active presence of God in our everyday lives. The Spirit works so that we are aware of Christ’s presence with us. It reveals God’s word to us through the interpretation of the scriptures (both Old and New Testaments), is the convicting power which lies behind the true preaching of the Gospel, advocates for us when we have turned away from God, and assists and comforts us at all times to remind us of the real presence of God in our lives.

**Scripture** is the inspired word of God and the revelation of Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord. It consists of the Hebrew Testament (called “Old” in reference to date, not relevance) and the New Testament. Scripture should be used in devotion, teaching, education and preaching as the way in which we, God’s people, gain deeper theological understanding of what it truly means to be a Christian. Prayerfully read and faithfully preached, God’s word brings about both conviction and comfort through the inward work of the Holy Spirit. It remains the central document of faith that points the church into a right relationship with God.

**The Church** is the gathering of the people of God (the visible *Body of Christ*) with Christ as its head. It communicates the faith, hope, and love of Jesus the Christ through its presence in the world. It is a community into which both men and women are called to serve God and is an example of the body that Christ calls us into when we “make disciples of all nations”. The church has a central mission of bearing witness to, “God’s love for the world in Jesus Christ”. It points to the love of Jesus by embodying mercy and forgiveness and is an ambassador of Christ in and to the community. It welcomes all with open arms and gives humanity a chance to respond and refocus their lives to Christ’s teachings.

**The Sacraments** are God’s *visible expressions of invisible grace*. There are two: The *Lord’s Supper* and *Baptism*. **Baptism** is a sign of covenant, signifying cleansing, acceptance into the community, and regeneration, death, and life with Christ. It is to be done in the name of the Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit). The **Lord’s Supper** was ordained by Jesus as a sign of the new covenant, sealed in His blood. It is to be consecrated and partaken of as a remembrance of Jesus’ life, death and resurrection. Both sacraments are signs and seals of God’s grace, but not the source of it. They are efficacious by God’s own grace.

In **Summation**, I see the Christian Faith not just as a series of doctrinal statements, but rather a living, moving witness to the love of God made known by the Holy Spirit and manifest through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is both profoundly personal and openly communal. It is a living organism that transcends human limitation. God not only works through the rational nature of human cognitive ability, but also through the stillness of the human heart and the vulnerability of human relationships. The world is in need of the saving grace that Christ Jesus provides and the church has a responsibility to reach out in faith. Ultimately I am comforted by knowing that one day Christ will return. Until then, I feel called to act as a faithful minister of a gospel that demands my energy, my strength, and the full commitment of my soul.

**APPENDIX B**

**Presbytery of Des Moines  
Committee on Preparation for Ministry  
PROPOSED POLICY ON ELECTION OF ORDINATION EXAM READERS**

**August 1, 2007**

Procedure for Electing Ordination Exam Readers

In the Presbyterian Church (USA), presbyteries have the joy and the responsibility of preparing candidates for ordination to the ministry of Word and Sacrament. These responsibilities include support, guidance, prayer, evaluation and discernment for Inquirers and Candidates under their care.

One particular way that candidates are evaluated is through ordination exams administered through the national Presbyteries Cooperative Committee on Examinations for Candidates (PCC). According to PC(USA) polity, all candidates must pass all ordination exams before they can be ordained to the office of minister of word and sacrament. The PCC, through the Examination Services office in Louisville, manages the process of examinations.

There are four ordination exams that are taken after the equivalent of two full years of seminary education. They are: Worship and Sacraments, Theology, Polity, and Biblical Exegesis exams. The first three exams are essay exams. The fourth is a take home exam that requires Greek or Hebrew language translation and a drafted paper. All four exams must be graded by competent readers who come from individual presbyteries.

Readers must be elected through an approved process by individual presbyteries. They can be elders or ministers of word and sacrament. They can be members or former members of CPMs. They should be women and men based on the PC(USA)'s commitment to inclusiveness. Readers who are fluent in Spanish or Korean are especially urged to be included.

The Presbytery of Des Moines elects readers in the fall to attend the following March reading sessions. Based on the size of the presbytery, Des Moines elects two principal readers. Principal readers are usually invited by PCC to participate. Additional alternate readers can be elected and may be called upon by PCC to assist when additional readers are needed.

Reading exams is a week long experience including long days actually reading and critiquing the exams. Additionally, there is preparation time before hand as well as travel time to a central location. It is a demanding schedule, and it is also rewarding. Familiarity with Greek and Hebrew languages is not a requirement. Assistance is available for those who have little or no knowledge of the languages.

What is needed is an openness to a wide spectrum of theological perspectives and an ability to assess exams on their own merit, rather than on personal theological perspectives. It is also important for readers to have strong backgrounds in and love for the Presbyterian/Reformed tradition so they are able to evaluate how well exams demonstrate Reformed understandings and practice in the areas of theology, worship, and polity.

The Presbytery of Des Moines delegates to its Committee on Preparation for Ministry have the task of asking the presbytery to elect readers. At each August presbytery meeting, and in the August Presbytery newsletter, the CPM will announce the dates of the March reading session and request nominations for readers for that session. **Nominations will be received up to October 1.** At the fall CPM meeting, the committee will consider nominations and prepare a slate of readers. At the November Presbytery Stated

Meeting, the CPM will present that slate of readers and the presbytery will vote. Since it is difficult for most folk to plan for years in advance, all terms of readers will be only one year.

In considering nominations, the committee will give first preference to CPM committee members who wish to read exams. Most CPM members have an understanding of the examination process and gain hands-on experience through the reading process. The committee will give second preference to those who have prior reading experience. It is important to train up and coming readers, but it is also very important to do this job well. The future of many candidates is based, in part, on the results of these exams. Last, the committee will consider issues of inclusiveness as it prepares slates of readers. The Presbytery strongly encourages both elders and ministers of word and sacrament, both women and men, to consider being readers.

Following the election, the CPM will report the results to the Examination Services office in Louisville, Kentucky. The PCC will then invite principal readers for the coming March session, and may invite alternate readers, too. As long as nominations are available, CPM will request the election of two to four alternate readers in addition to the principal readers. The presbytery has a strong tradition of providing a number of qualified readers, and wishes to continue assisting the church in this form of ministry.

It is important that those who are elected as principal readers make every effort to accept PCC's invitation to read. The PCC counts on presbyteries to assist in this important ministry. Below is a sample nominations form for the Presbytery of Des Moines. Questions or suggestions about this process or the form should be directed to the CPM.

-----

**The Presbytery of Des Moines' Committee on Preparation for Ministry**



***ORDINATION EXAM READERS' NOMINATIONS FORM***

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The following person is nominated to be an ordination exams reader:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church \_\_\_\_\_ Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_

Current CPM member \_\_\_\_\_

Former CPM member \_\_\_\_\_ If so, when? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years prior experience reading ordination exams (approx) \_\_\_\_\_

Fluent in Spanish? \_\_\_\_\_ Fluent in Korean? \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU for considering the commitment of being an ordination exam reader!**

## K – SOCIAL MINISTRIES TASK FORCE REPORT

August 18, 2007

**REMINDER: *Broken Bread***, the Presbytery's Social Ministries Task Force's 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: [pbycommunication@qwest.net](mailto:pbycommunication@qwest.net), or write: 2400 – 86<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 20, Urbandale, IA 50322-4306.

**Just Neighbors** – The Just Neighbors traveling banner has been displayed in Ankeny since the May Meeting of Presbytery, celebrating the many and varied hunger ministries undertaken by that congregation. SURVEY UPDATE: So far we have received responses to the Hunger Action Survey from over half of Des Moines Presbytery congregations and the results to date are available at the SMTF display table.

**El Salvador Mission** – Members of Compañeros and the Search Committee met with a candidate after his visit with the Pastoral Team in Berlín. He has been offered the Mission Co-worker in El Salvador position and discussion continues!

**Joining Hands** – Nancy Collins, PC(USA) mission co-worker in Egypt, and in-country facilitator for our Joining Hands partnership, met with pastors from all JH-related congregations during her itineration this summer. We will be bringing two members of the Together for Family Development network to the presbytery September 14-23 and encourage you to invite them to your churches and communities. Since the network is focusing on changing government policy related to children with disabilities, they would be interested in seeing what we are doing here in Iowa. I'm sure they would also be interested in witnessing the special political access we enjoy in our state! A delegation to Egypt is being planned for October too. Contact the Des Moines Presbytery's Joining Hands team at [www.desmoineswithegypt.org](http://www.desmoineswithegypt.org).

**Rural Partnership Offering** – 2007 offering materials are **available today!** Each pastor or commissioner should pick up a packet, and envelopes have been bundled for your convenience—take the number you need. **Two new resources for 2007** include a bulletin/newsletter insert featuring Margaret Magill (Atlantic, First) and Marcia Justice (Ankeny), two members of Des Moines Presbytery who are active in the two international mission partnerships; and “*Suggestions for 12 Sundays of Global Mission Interpretation*” which was compiled from the sharing done at three regional mission workshops. Both resources can be used at any time—but we hope you will find them helpful when promoting our own Rural Partnership Offering!

**Cents-Ability** – Check out the Cents-Ability display today. Hunger Action Enabler, Nancy Lister-Settle is eager to help you get a program started in your congregation. E-mail: [NeithertheCat@aol.com](mailto:NeithertheCat@aol.com), call: 515-992-3639, or write: P.O. Box 333, Dallas Center, IA 50063.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elder Nancy Lister-Settle, Moderator

## **JEAN DUVALL WALTHER MEMORIAL FUND GUIDELINES**

1. The fund shall be called the Jean Duvall Walther Memorial Fund.
2. All the principal received from the initial gifts and other continuing gifts received for this fund shall be invested and the earned interest shall be reinvested by Des Moines Presbytery in an interest-producing fund in which both the principal and the interest may be withdrawn at any time in part or in total upon request by the Camping/Youth Ministries Task Force.
3. The Camping/Youth Ministries Task Force shall publicize in its annual camping publicity that financial scholarships in full or in part are available for youth opportunities for the physically or mentally challenged youth and/or children in need.
4. The Camping/Youth Ministries Task Force may award financial scholarships in full or in part based on the needs of the children requesting financial scholarships; annual awards not to exceed 10 percent of the total fund balance until balance is depleted.
5. The Camping/Youth Ministries Task Force will make an annual financial report which will include the interest earned, balance in the fund and use of the fund to the First Presbyterian Church in Audubon, Iowa, before December 31 each year.

## APPENDIX E

**D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT****Presbytery of Des Moines  
Income Statement****For the Six Months Ending June 30, 2007**

	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Current Year-to-Date</b>	<b>Annual Budget</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>	<b>Prior Year-to-Date</b>
<b>Income</b>					
Total Per Capita	\$12,979.50	\$201,613.98	\$155,415.00	129.73	\$195,330.00
Presbytery General Mission	\$22,072.08	\$54,102.36	\$142,499.00	37.97	\$50,318.00
Synod Support Staff Salaries	\$3,333.33	\$19,999.98	\$40,000.00	50.00	\$20,000.00
H.A.E. Income	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$4,000.00	75.00	\$2,990.00
Interest Income	\$182.72	\$7,493.59	\$1,000.00	749.36	\$606.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$0.00	\$6,192.03	\$0.00	0.00	\$537.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$38,567.63</b>	<b>\$292,401.94</b>	<b>\$342,914.00</b>	<b>85.27</b>	<b>\$269,781.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
<b>Governance Expense</b>					
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$0.00	\$1,630.19	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
Committee Preparation Ministry	\$119.00	\$641.17	\$1,600.00	40.07	\$71.00
Stewardship & Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00	0.00	\$0.00
Budget & Finance	\$63.14	\$63.14	\$100.00	63.14	\$0.00
Nominating Committee	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	0.00	\$29.00
Personnel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	0.00	\$0.00
GA Per Capita	\$0.00	\$60,754.47	\$60,752.00	100.00	\$59,599.00
Synod Per Capita	\$0.00	\$48,373.00	\$48,313.00	100.12	\$48,471.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$182.14</b>	<b>\$111,461.97</b>	<b>\$111,790.00</b>	<b>99.71</b>	<b>\$108,170.00</b>
<b>Administrative Expense</b>					
Moderator's Expense/Task Groups	\$0.00	\$88.77	\$350.00	25.36	\$221.00
Administrative Commissions	\$19.00	\$19.00	\$250.00	7.60	\$0.00
Presbytery Meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	0.00	\$164.00
GP to General Assembly	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$311.00
Commissioner Orientation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	0.00	\$80.00
Stated Clerk's Expense	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	100.00	\$30.00
Communication	\$0.00	\$438.10	\$400.00	109.53	\$28.00
Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,200.00	0.00	\$0.00
Legal fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	0.00	\$0.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$19.00</b>	<b>\$595.87</b>	<b>\$7,050.00</b>	<b>8.45</b>	<b>\$834.00</b>

**D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT continued...**

	Current Month	Current Year-to-Date	Annual Budget	% of Budget	Prior Year-to-Date
<b>Extension of Ministries</b>					
Transformation Conference	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	(\$3,734.00)
Church Transformation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,000.00	0.00	\$0.00
Social Ministries	\$260.42	\$991.64	\$7,600.00	13.05	\$1,311.00
El Salvador Mission Associate - Benefits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,400.00	0.00	\$4,229.00
CROSS	\$4,583.33	\$32,083.31	\$55,000.00	58.33	\$32,083.00
Camping	(\$11,727.50)	(\$12,972.50)	\$5,000.00	(259.45)	(\$9,508.00)
Youth	\$2,735.87	\$5,674.53	\$6,000.00	94.58	(\$308.00)
Resources	(\$527.85)	\$149.13	\$300.00	49.71	(\$55.00)
Women's Advocacy Task Force	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	0.00	\$0.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>(\$4,675.73)</b>	<b>\$25,926.11</b>	<b>\$87,400.00</b>	<b>29.66</b>	<b>\$24,018.00</b>
<b>Support of Local Ministries</b>					
Congregational Care & Development	\$246.00	\$1,080.77	\$5,000.00	21.62	\$1,867.00
Conflict Management Resourcing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	0.00	\$0.00
Resourcing Workshops	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	0.00	\$0.00
Professional Care & Development	\$0.00	\$1,448.01	\$3,300.00	43.88	\$564.00
Regional Partners					
Southeast	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	0.00	\$0.00
East	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
DM West/NW	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
Southwest	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$5,000.00	60.00	\$3,000.00
West	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	0.00	\$500.00
South Central	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	0.00	\$0.00
DM Two Rivers	\$271.69	\$538.96	\$3,000.00	17.97	\$405.00
Coordinating Council	\$0.00	\$45.00	\$300.00	15.00	\$236.00
Worship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	0.00	\$0.00
Bills & Overtures	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	0.00	\$0.00
Contingency	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	0.00	\$0.00
Presbytery Office	\$2,387.61	\$19,464.32	\$27,446.00	70.92	\$22,881.00
Presbytery Staff	\$1,155.60	\$87,856.70	\$196,222.00	44.77	\$91,789.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$4,060.90</b>	<b>\$113,433.76</b>	<b>\$246,443.00</b>	<b>46.03</b>	<b>\$121,242.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(\$413.69)</b>	<b>\$251,417.71</b>	<b>\$452,683.00</b>	<b>55.54</b>	<b>\$254,264.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$38,981.32</b>	<b>\$40,984.23</b>	<b>(\$109,769.00)</b>	<b>(37.34)</b>	<b>\$15,517.00</b>

08/07/07

**Presbytery of Des Moines  
Restricted Funds**

**As of June 30, 2007**

**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. \$48,152.07

**Swan Fund**

Interest earnings used for seminary student's assistance. \$21,490.12

**Albia Sale**

To be used for the assistance of small churches in the Presbytery. \$28,738.84

**Camping Fund – Knox Knolls**

$\frac{3}{4}$  of interest earnings used for the camping program. \$363,534.62  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  of interest earnings used for Presbytery causes.

**Walther/Anderson Fund**

Scholarship aid for underprivileged and handicapped campers. \$21,696.10

**Colfax Fund**

To be used for Church Development with interest to be placed in Colfax Fund Money Market. \$54,594.59

**FIRST AMERICAN BANK – URBANDALE**

**Pastor Emergency Fund Savings**

Short-term loans for pastors. \$875.54

**Colfax Fund Money Market**

To be used for church development. \$12,783.25

## APPENDIX F

**5-YEAR HISTORY  
PASTORAL COMPENSATION MINIMUMS  
Presbytery of Des Moines**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 Proposed
<b>Effective Salary</b> <sup>1</sup>	\$33,500	\$34,200	\$35,200	\$36,400	\$38,000	\$39,000
<b>Pension Dues</b> <sup>2</sup>	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	31.5% of Effective Salary
<b>Continuing Ed. Dollars</b> <sup>3</sup>	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$1000	\$1000
<b>Continuing Ed. Leave</b> <sup>3,4</sup>	2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks
<b>Auto Reimburse</b>	Actual or IRS	Actual or IRS	Actual or IRS	Actual or IRS	Actual or IRS	Actual or IRS
<b>Vacation</b> <sup>3</sup>	4 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks

<sup>1</sup> 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.”

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

<sup>3</sup> 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 2006 and 2007, the dollars and time available for 2008 would be \$2,900 (900+1000+1000) and 6 weeks. To avoid budget surprises, any such carryover should be reported to the Session in advance.

<sup>4</sup> 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 vacation Sundays.

## APPENDIX G

**J – GENERAL PRESBYTER REPORT****August 18, 2006**

A familiar saying goes something like this: “I’ve said it before and I’ll say it again.” Well, I’m going to pull that on you with this report.

I’ve said it before and I’ll say it again – Our Presbytery structure is based on the Mission Design adopted by the Presbytery some years ago: Support of Local Ministries, Extension of Ministries and Governance. Our Presbytery’s financial structure, our budget, if you will, is also based on that design so that (and here we go with I’ve said it before) every penny given to our Presbytery, whether through the mission or per capita processes, goes toward mission.

In a random look through our financial reports, I found that your financial support of our Presbytery allowed the following things to happen:

- < Support, assistance, guidance and training for people being trained as ministers or commissioned lay pastors
- < Assisted groups and individuals going on work trips, to the Presbyterian Youth Triennium, summer camps, Synod School and the Synod’s Presbyterian Women’s Gathering
- < Provided back to school supplies for families in need
- < Assisted congregations in searching for, identifying, and preparing for the arrival of pastors
- < Publication and transmission of a newsletter, e-mail updates, Presbytery minutes and call to meetings
- < Helped support our Mission Associate in El Salvador
- < Assisted several congregations in the process of applying for grants and loans
- < Provided a presbytery presence and leadership in local church worship, meetings, celebrations and memorial services
- < Strengthened ties with and financed visits with partners in Egypt
- < Supported and assisted pastors and congregations having difficulties
- < Participated in ministries with the Sudanese in our area
- < Helped discover and/or provide leadership for congregations without pastors
- < Provided for oversight and guidance of all we do

There are many, many other things we do. This list is just a minor taste of all we do, and we are able to do these things because our congregations believe in and support what we are up to. Without what you share, we would not be able to do all the things we do to carry out the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.

A song that was popular when I was much younger ended with “There, I’ve said it again,” and so I have. But the first line of the song is “I love you.” Besides the Lord we all serve, I love our denomination, I love our Presbytery, I love what I get to do as part of this call to serve with you, I love this Presbytery – its operating style, its communal respect, its sensitive and thoughtful ways of doing things, and, most of all, its people. I am grateful God has brought us together and given us the opportunity to be in ministry. I anticipate and trust that we will continue to love, trust and support each other as we continue on this amazing journey in Iowa.

Yes, you've heard this before, and now you've heard it again. I hope you will keep it in mind as you consider how you and your congregation will support and participate in the life of our Presbytery and its ministry.

I've had many opportunities to gather with folks in our Presbytery and in the wider church. Here are the places I have been able to do this since our last time together:

- Met with Bart Brenner (Interim Executive Presbyter in South Dakota) and others interested in coordinating ministries with Sudanese
- Attended that annual retreat of the ecumenical leaders in Iowa
- Preached and moderated a congregational meeting at the Douglas Avenue Presbyterian Church in Des Moines
- Attended a meeting of the Planning Team for the Synod's COM/CPM Training Event that will be held in January
- Shared in leadership of the service celebrating the life of Lynn Tucker Brown, wife of our Synod Executive, Phil Brown
- Met with the pastors of the Southeast Regional Partnership
- Met with the Pastor Nominating Committee at First Presbyterian Church, Centerville
- Resourced a meeting with the Personnel Committee of the Presbytery of Central Nebraska
- Preached at First Presbyterian Church, Guthrie Center, St. Paul Presbyterian Church in Johnston, First Presbyterian Church in Atlantic and First Presbyterian Church in Earlham
- Shared in the leadership of the celebration of life of the Rev. Mel Roblee, a member of our Presbytery
- Met with several pastors
- Attended the farewell reception for Forrest Harms as he retired from the position of Executive Director of the Des Moines Area Religious Council
- Worshipped and shared in the groundbreaking ceremony at the Trinity United Presbyterian Church in Indianola
- Taught one day of a course at Synod School
- Attended our denomination's COM/CPM Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah
- Met with some of the religious advisors for a Presidential candidate
- Met with the Southwest Regional Partnership in Bedford
- Along with other ecumenical leaders met with Senator Tom Harkin regarding the upcoming Farm Bill legislation
- Participated in a conference call of the task force taking a look at our Synod's involvement in and support of campus ministries

So much for a quiet summer!

Again, thank you for the opportunity to share in ministry with you, and, as always, feel free to connect with me if you'd like to know more about any of this stuff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Philip W. Barrett, General Presbyter

## APPENDIX H

## T1 – CROSS MINISTRIES DIRECTOR'S REPORT

CROSS Committee Meeting  
June 7, 2007**Back to School Giveaway – August 2 & 3:**

Preparations for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual *Back to School Giveaway* have begun. Newsletter articles have been sent to all of the area churches requesting donations as well as to each of the Presbyterian Women's groups. I requested a gift/community grant from Liberty Bank but I have not received any word from them regarding a donation. The Two Rivers Partnership has agreed to once again help organize supplies on Sunday, July 29 from 2-4:00 PM. Interns from Westminster Presbyterian Church will also be available to help. A Spanish translator has been lined up for the first night of the event.

**Polk County Housing Continuum:**

The PCHC works to identify the state of homeless and affordable housing in Polk County and to create a coordinated plan that addresses the economic and social challenges that produce homelessness and a lack of affordable housing. This includes fostering open communication and facilitating collaboration among existing affordable housing delivery systems (shelters, agencies, etc). According to HUD's definition, affordable housing is that which does not exceed 30% of the household's gross income.

- **The PCHC Training and Education Committee** is preparing a Crisis Management Workshop that will be held on Friday, July 27 from 9-12 at the Raccoon River Nature Lodge, West Des Moines. Topics will include understanding when to call the Des Moines Police Department's Mobile Crisis Unit, and a discussion on mental health and chemical dependency. Dr. Dee Wright, Director of the Drake Counseling Center, and I are preparing a workshop that will be offered from 11 to noon on crisis management for the crisis counselor.
- **The PCHC Communication and Networking Committee** has published the first edition of *The Networker* which will be released on a monthly basis and distributed to the various agencies and list serves within the continuum and greater Des Moines community. Topics will include all agency announcements, grant opportunities, a calendar of events, PCHC committee topics, an agency spotlight, and a section called Life Victories featuring a client success story, etc.

**Liberty Bank:**

While most families are trying their hardest to survive under challenging circumstances, we did have an unfortunate theft occur this month with a former client. Tuesday, May 8, 2007 I opened my April bank statement from Liberty Bank and discovered a phone payment to MidAmerican Energy in the amount of \$679.29. It listed an account number of 0450040410S149 with the payment deducted on 4-02-07. I immediately called MidAmerican Energy and asked about the payment since this had not been authorized. I asked for the name on the account and was told that it belonged to a man named Robert T. Jones living at 1109 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt. 1, Des Moines, IA, 50311.

Although we never assist clients with a sum of money that large or make payments by phone, I checked my records to see if this man had ever been a client of CROSS. The records indicated that he had received a check from us for \$125 made out to his landlord, Ken Tharp, in partial payment of his March 2007 rent. (He had also secured assistance from Creative Visions and Salvation Army for the remainder of the rent money.) This explained how he had acquired our checking account and routing number to be used to steal money from the CROSS Ministries checking account. In a second phone call with MidAmerican Energy, I learned that Robert T. Jones had asked for a form to have an automatic payment from the CROSS checking account made to pay for his utilities every month. He was told that he would

have to provide a blank check with VOID written across in order to establish a monthly bill payment. He did not have this.

I called Liberty Bank, explained the situation, and then went to the bank to sign papers stating that we had not authorized this payment from our account. I also opened a new checking account and ordered new checks. The old account could not be closed until all of the outstanding checks had returned to the bank. The bank stated that we would eventually receive the \$679.29 back. It was their intent to contact MidAmerican and request the return of the funds. I also called the police department, reported the theft, and was issued case #07-16984 from Officer Steve Mickelson. Later the same day, we contacted several of the local social service agencies and warned them of the theft.

A little over a week later, the \$679.29 was returned to our old checking account. At that point I transferred the money into the new checking account and closed the original account (all outstanding checks had returned at this point). It is my hope that Robert T. Jones will be prosecuted for this theft although I was told that MidAmerican does not always follow through on cases such as this.

### **“Crazy in America: The Hidden Tragedy of Our Criminalized Mentally Ill”**

#### **by Mary Beth Pfeiffer:**

Mary Beth Pfeiffer, a New York investigative reporter who has written numerous articles on prison conditions and the treatment of mentally ill inmates, has released a new book titled, *Crazy in America*. The book draws on six case studies to illustrate the failure of the mental health system in the US which all too often leads to both homelessness and incarceration. The first case study describes a young, seriously mentally ill woman suffering from schizophrenia, named Shayne Eggen, who was incarcerated at the Iowa Correctional Institute for Women in Mitchellville, Iowa. Shayne eventually blinded herself when she heard voices inside her head reciting the Bible verse, “And if thine eye offend thee pluck it out.” Shayne removed her first eye following her release from Mitchellville in which no follow up treatment had been provided. She had simply been given a bus ticket and a bottle of medicine. She removed her second eye shortly following her second incarceration in Mitchellville while in solitary confinement. I was interviewed for the book about two years ago because I had volunteered my time over several years to work with Shayne by providing art therapy counseling whenever Shayne was not held in isolation. In the book, Pfeiffer describes the “unjust and punitive” treatment of the correctional officers stating that “many express outright disdain for their charges, whom they see as human beings caged for the sole purpose of punishment. It is an environment of tension, conflict, and control, ideally suited to pick at the inmates’ scabs of paranoia, depression, anxiety, and delusion.” Pfeiffer contrasted those disparaging thoughts with the positive effect of the art therapy classes that I had provided. She wrote:

*At Mitchellville, Shayne thrived in one respect: she attended an art therapy class in which she produced beautiful pastel-colored drawings of green, snow-capped mountains, golden teepees, prowling wolves, and quivers filled with feathered arrows. In one picture, a rainbow arches gloriously over the head of an Indian maiden who sits atop a richly patterned blanket on a chestnut horse, her long hair tucked demurely behind one ear. The pictures reflect a certain kind of knowledge, of art or life, the kind of knowledge that family friends saw in the youngster that was Shayne. She seemed to know things, they said. Her art therapist, Roberta Victor, delighted in Shayne’s skills and in her persona. She was smart, intuitive, and talented. Her art bared her soul.*

Pfeiffer continued by describing how Shayne's artwork expressed her feelings of powerlessness over her circumstances and her sanity. I cared very much for Shayne and the hundreds of women I worked with over my ten years leading groups with the mentally ill at Mitchellville. Through those years I greatly appreciated the couple hours a week that Cottage Grove Church and CROSS Ministries allowed me in order to offer mental health counseling to the "least" of God's children such as Shayne.

### **Summary of Meetings Attended and Presentations Made:**

- Mental Health Workgroup monthly meeting
- Provided a workshop at Wesley Woods Retreat Center for the AIDS Project of Central Iowa
- Provided the sermon for worship at Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church on May 20
- Facilitated a memorial candle event during worship on May 27 at Cottage Grove
- Presentation for the Soroptimist Club at Plymouth Congregational Church
- Interview with Kristen Senty of Making Connections for an e-bulletin article
- Polk County Housing Continuum monthly meeting
- World Refugee Day planning meeting
- Presbytery Meeting at Central Presbyterian Church
- Social Service Providers monthly meeting

### **Advocacy Report:**

While I worked with 96 families during the month of May, I would like to feature three unusual situations in which CROSS was able to assist through resources and referrals. Each scenario illustrates a difficult situation exacerbated by a "slum" landlord. The first case study speaks to a one time crisis, while the second points to a larger problem involving legal matters, and the third to mental health concerns.

- A mother with two young children came to ask for help with a portion of their May rent. The family is renting an old house that is infested with rodents, spiders, and various other creepy critters. The mother experienced a significant spider bite on her eye for which she had to seek medical attention. She contacted the landlord who essentially told her that it was her problem to deal with or she could simply move out. She explained to me that because there "isn't any give in the budget," any extra expenses will cause her to fall behind in her monthly bills. While she had a little bit of money set aside for an emergency, she was still unable to meet all of the extra costs associated with this one time crisis. The young mother had to seek medical treatment, purchase medicine, and then was unable to work for a few days since her job is in food service and they would not allow her to work with an infected eye. The final expense was to engage the services of a pest control service to rid the residence of the spiders and rodents. She showed me a note from her place of employment attesting to the fact that she could not return to work until her eye had healed, as well as receipts from the doctor's office, cost of medicine, and the pest control service. CROSS made a gift of the final portion of her May's rent.
- A chronically homeless woman who spent several weeks last summer living in her van in the CG church parking lot came to me to seek help with personal hygiene items, a laundry voucher, and to inform me of her difficult situation. The good news was that after years of being homeless, this 51 year old woman had finally acquired a Section 8 housing certificate and a small amount of disability income. The bad news was that although she had only been in the apartment for a short time, she had already fallen behind since she still owed money toward her first month's rent that was not included in the Section 8 housing certificate. Her landlord is Matthew Dorris, a

Drake neighborhood landlord who spends much of his time out of state. We have had difficulties with this man in the past including several situations in which he physically threatened Rev. David Madsen. The client reported to me that Matt Dorris told her that until she paid him what she owed, he would not return her Section 8 paperwork or allow her to have access to her mail. He also refused to fill out the landlord statement which is required for her to seek General Assistance money from the county. He said he just wanted her out of the apartment. Since she had an adult daughter with her in my office, I asked the daughter if the mother would be able to stay with her until a new apartment could be located. The daughter said she was living in a tent at a local campground since she could not pay her enormous utility bill from last winter. I called Legal Aid and asked for this woman to speak to a lawyer since Matt Dorris was engaging in criminal acts by refusing to give the woman access to her mail and withholding her Section 8 housing certificate paperwork. I told her that once she located another housing situation I would look at assisting with her rent. The woman turned to her daughter and said, "See, God sent me where I needed to go." I also assisted with personal hygiene items and a laundry voucher which had been the presenting request.

- A single man came to CROSS Ministries in need of help with rent at the Randolph Hotel (low income rental apartments for singles). He has a severe mental illness which contributed to his five week imprisonment at the county jail from which he was newly released. He usually receives social security disability each month but it had been discontinued when he became incarcerated. Upon his release his father paid a week's rent at the Randolph and helped him to file his paperwork to reinstate his disability benefits due to his mental illness. Unfortunately, the payments would not begin until the beginning of the following month. Without a means to pay his rent, he was locked out of his apartment at the Randolph until money could be raised. Unfortunately, his medication was also locked in his room and they would not allow him access to these meds. Without them, his illness worsened and his behavior was fairly erratic by the time he arrived in my office. Another client warned me this man had acted out at General Assistance when he was denied help due to a lack of employment (which was impossible due to his illness). The man has been sleeping under the bridge for the last few nights. I understood the reason for his being locked out of his apartment *but not for the withholding of his medication!* I assisted with rent money for another couple of weeks, gave him personal hygiene items, and a packet of bus tokens. I called the Randolph and asked if the check would allow him immediate access to his room and therefore his medicine. I explained that life would be better for all of us if he could take the medicine. They agreed to provide immediate access to his room.

**During the month of May 2007** there were 96 families representing 237 individuals who received assistance with basic survival needs. Many of the families received assistance in more than one area but were counted only once. The breakdown is as follows:

- Rent/Mortgage and Rent Deposits: 34 families / 86 individuals
- Utilities: 14 families / 44 individuals
- Laundry Vouchers: 15 families / 30 individuals
- Other\*: 33 families / 77 individuals

\*Other assistance includes personal hygiene items, storage expense, cleaning supplies, baby items, bus tokens, birth certificates, etc.

## **CROSSwords article for August Cottage Grove Church Newsletter** **by Roberta Victor**

I often speak about the level of desperation exhibited by the families that come to CROSS Ministries to ask for financial help, but I had a very salient example of this last week that I would like to share with you.

Tuesday morning was typical in the sense that the library waiting room was filled to the brim with families requesting assistance with rent, utilities, and other basic survival needs. Included in the group was an expectant mother with two young daughters, ages 10 and 12 years old. The two girls, particularly the oldest daughter, wore worried expressions as they watched their mother's every move. Because the mother was in the process of learning English, the eldest daughter translated their request for rent help. Ann signed them in, and they were the sixth family on the list of nine households that I would be meeting with that morning.

In my haste to see each client and spend time with them assessing their needs, I did not take any particular notice of this family as I escorted each household, one at a time, to my second floor office. By 11:00 a.m. it became apparent that the young mother was experiencing severe contractions and was in active labor! I soon discovered that she had been in labor since 2:00 a.m. Her husband had dropped her off at the church around 7:00 a.m. for our 9:15 opening on his way to work at a garage on the other side of the city. The expectant mother was desperate to secure the financial help for their rent before being admitted to the hospital.

I asked the girls to call their father to come to the church immediately. But their father was out on a job and couldn't be reached. With more desperate families still in need of assistance I turned to our pastor David, who, after explaining that he did not wish to deliver a baby, was more than willing to transport the expectant mother and her young daughters to the hospital. I assisted the last two families of the morning and then Ann and I hurried to the hospital to find out about the progress. We were told that the baby was breach and would need to be delivered by Caesarean section. It took two more hours for a medical translator to be secured so the surgery could occur. Around 3:00 p.m., a healthy 6 lb. 12 oz. little boy was delivered. Because of the financial help provided by CROSS Ministries to pay the rent, this little newborn and his exhausted but happy mother, father, and two sisters continued to have a place to call their home.

**ALSO THIS WEEK:** I received a thank you note from a single woman in her late fifties who had recently been downsized after several years of employment at the same job. She has had difficulty securing new employment. After exhausting her unemployment benefits and savings, she came to CROSS to ask for help with her rent. We assisted, and she responded a few days later with the following thank you note:

*Dear Roberta,*

*I wanted to thank you for the financial assistance I recently received. Thank you for making this confusing and difficult situation more manageable. I appreciate the work you and your church do and the concern you show. God bless.*

On behalf of these families and all who are helped due to your donations, thank you!

***Roberta Victor***  
***Director of CROSS Ministries***

## CROSS MINISTRIES 2007

<b>Direct Assistance Checking</b>							
	<b>January</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>July</b>
Beginning Balance	1,516.95	1,154.59	1,500.59	954.34	863.33		
Deposit/Control Account	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00		
Deposit/Other	608.43				275.00		
<b>Total Deposits</b>	<b>5,608.43</b>		<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>5,275.00</b>		
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>7,125.38</b>	<b>6,154.59</b>	<b>6,500.59</b>	<b>5,954.34</b>	<b>6,138.33</b>		
<b>School Give Away</b>							
<b>Direct Assistance</b>							
Rent/Mortgage/Deposit	5,422.50	3,952.00	5,294.50	2,833.68	3,893.00		
Electric & Gas	200.00			1,896.13	944.94		
Water	137.91		51.75	226.20	113.54		
License/I.D., etc.							
Special Needs							
Auto Gas							
Auto Repair							
Laundry		300.00			100.00		
Storage		162.00	200.00	129.70			
Bus Tokens	120.00	240.00					
<b>Adminstrative Expense</b>							
Postage	78.63				41.00		
Supplies	11.75				21.05		
MISC							
Bank Fees				5.30			
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>5,970.79</b>	<b>4,654.00</b>	<b>5,546.25</b>	<b>5,085.71</b>	<b>5,113.53</b>		
<b>Balance on Hand</b>	<b>1,154.59</b>	<b>1,500.59</b>	<b>954.34</b>	<b>863.33</b>	<b>1,024.80</b>		