



## Presbytery of Des Moines

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

July 27, 2009

**TO:** Commissioners to the 476<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting (May 19, 2009)  
**FROM:** Philip W. Barrett, Stated Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Minutes

You will find the *Minutes of the 476<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting* of the Presbytery of Des Moines held on May 19, 2009, at the **Park Avenue Presbyterian Church in 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 talked about the process of calling a pastor, saw the “Just Neighbors” banner presented to the Knox Church, wrestled with a significant budget deficit, commissioned Scott Valentine as a Lay Pastor at the Heartland Church in Clive, heard a presentation from the Regional Representative of the Board of Pensions, bid farewell to the Rev. David Ewing and welcomed the Rev. Stuart Ritter, and worshiped both in the Sanctuary and around meal tables. There are other things that you will remember as you read through these minutes.

If you are attending the August 15 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 August 15 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 476<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting at the Park Avenue Presbyterian Church in Des Moines, Iowa, on May 19, 2009. The meeting was convened at 2:00 p.m. with prayer by Moderator David Endriss.

### **FORMATION OF THE ROLL**

The following commissioners and members were registered for this meeting (**P**resent, **A**bsent, **E**xcused):

| <b>CHURCH</b>                    | <b>MINISTER</b>         | <b>P/A/E</b> | <b>COMMISSIONER</b> |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Adair, First                     | Char Rief               | A            | A                   |
| Allerton, United                 | Ross Blount             | E            | A                   |
| Ankeny                           | David Braak             | P            | Sue Nelson          |
| Atlantic, First United           | Don Seeger              | P            | Bettie Siggins      |
| Audubon, First                   | Kay E. Steddom          | P            | Paul Walther        |
| Bedford, United                  | Randy S. Allman         | P            | Dana Allman         |
| Brooklyn, First                  | John Reynolds           | P            | A                   |
| Carlisle, Scotch Ridge           | Doug Bolsem, CLP        | E            | A                   |
| Centerville, First               | Suzanne Gorhau          | P            | A                   |
| Chariton, First                  | Linda O'Connell         | P            | S. Kay Montgomery   |
| Clive, Heartland                 | D. Mark Davis           | P            | Ed Butler           |
| Clive, Heartland                 | Barbara Nish            | A            | -                   |
| Clive, Heartland                 | Martie Larsen, CLP      | P            | -                   |
| Corning, First                   | Ken Rummer              | P            | Dolores Parcher     |
| Creston, First                   | D. Scott Vandenheuvel   | A            | Nancy J. Bauman     |
| Dallas Center, First             | David Ewing             | P            | Gary Wilson         |
| Deep River, United               | Ben Wilson              | A            | A                   |
| Des Moines, Central (2)          | James Wallace           | P            | Mary Jean Paschen   |
| Des Moines, Central              | -                       | -            | Stephen W. Roberts  |
| Des Moines, Clifton Heights      | Maurice Dyer, Moderator | P            | Bill Newton         |
| Des Moines, Cottage Grove Avenue | David Madsen            | P            | Roberta Victor      |
| Des Moines, Douglas Avenue       | Richard Harbart         | P            | Darrell Hibbs       |
| Des Moines, First                | Ken Stuber              | E            | Jean Mullen         |
| Des Moines, Fort Des Moines      | Donald Elly             | E            | Linda Francisco     |
| Des Moines, Highland Park        | Robert Cook, HR         | P            | A                   |
| Des Moines, Knox United          | Bill LeMosy             | P            | Louise Newsom       |
| Des Moines, Park Avenue          | David Stipp-Bethune     | P            | Peggy Sanders       |
| Des Moines, Union Park           | Marcy Campbell          | P            | Joyce Rash          |
| Des Moines, Westminster (3)      | W. Stuart Ritter        | P            | Ted Coppock         |
| Des Moines, Westminster          | Ken Arentson            | P            | Jan Davison         |
| Des Moines, Westminster          | Dick Kiefer, HR         | E            | Skip Petts          |
| Des Moines, Westminster          | Bill Ekhardt            | A            | -                   |
| Dexter, First                    | David Kincaide          | P            | Nancy Kuhn          |
| Diagonal, United                 | Bruce Giese             | P            | Sandra Taylor       |
| Earlham, First                   | Robert Waldron, CLP     | P            | A                   |
| Gibson, First                    | Mike Conn, CLP          | A            | A                   |
| Gibson, White Oak                | Mike Conn, CLP          | A            | A                   |
| Greenfield, First                | David Kincaide          | P            | Maynard Heinbach    |
| Grimes, First                    | Lynn Williams           | E            | Donna Lewis         |
| Grinnell, First                  | Kirsten Klepfer         | P            | Dennis Day          |

| CHURCH                     | MINISTER               | P/A/E | COMMISSIONER       |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-------|--------------------|
| Guthrie Center, First      | Calvin Hsu             | P     | A                  |
| Hartford, Community United | Nathan Lamb            | P     | Charles Casson     |
| Indianola, Trinity United  | David Endriss          | P     | Margaret Blair     |
| Johnston, St. Paul         | John Gilmore           | P     | A                  |
| Knoxville, First           | Robert J. DeYoung      | P     | Linda Moser        |
| Lenox, United              | Tim Maxa               | P     | David Walter       |
| Leon, First                | Jack DePond            | P     | Delaine Ploessel   |
| LeRoy, First               | Dale O'Connell, HR     | P     | A                  |
| Lucas, First               | Linda O'Connell        | P     | Pat Bahr           |
| Malcom, First United       | John Reynolds          | P     | Sue Helleso        |
| Monroe                     | Ann Johnson            | E     | A                  |
| Montezuma, First United    | George Salnave         | P     | David Miller       |
| Mount Ayr, United          | Mike Maddy             | A     | A                  |
| New Sharon, First          | VACANT                 | -     | A                  |
| Newton, First              | Tiare Mathison         | E     | Leland Smith       |
| Newton, First              | Sara Hopkins, CLP      | A     | -                  |
| Newton, United             | Donald Freeman         | P     | A                  |
| Oskaloosa, First           | Dennis Morey           | P     | Charles Argo       |
| Oskaloosa, First           | Hans Cornelder         | E     | -                  |
| Ottumwa, East End          | VACANT                 | -     | A                  |
| Ottumwa, First             | Neal Allen             | P     | Charles Montgomery |
| Ottumwa, Westminster       | VACANT                 | -     | Liz Stufflebeem    |
| Perry, First               | Joan White             | P     | Jim Mace           |
| Pitzer, United             | Donna Vaughan, CLP     | P     | A                  |
| Platte Center              | Bruce Giese            | P     | Marilyn Francis    |
| Sharpsburg                 | Tim Maxa               | P     | Kiley Sherwood     |
| Sigourney, First           | Julie Sterling         | P     | A                  |
| Tingley, United            | Bruce Giese            | P     | Mildred Boyd       |
| West Des Moines, Covenant  | Jan Scott              | P     | A                  |
| Windsor Heights, Windsor   | Shamaine Chambers King | P     | A                  |
| Winterset, First United    | Jim Howland            | P     | Connie Kinser      |

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

**Present:** Philip Barrett, General Presbyter/Stated Clerk; Robert Burnett (HR); Goanar Chol; M. Denise Group; Elizabeth Knott (HR); Claude Jones (HR); Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy; Jeffrey Means; Sara Speer Palmer (HR); Marvin Potter (HR); Sarai Schnucker Rice; Patricia Summers (HR); Russell Tomlinson (HR).

**Excused:** Harold Butz (HR); Tom Conrey (HR); Carl Cooper (HR); Glen Dilley (HR); Ane Fitzgerald; Aaron Koskamp (HR); Ray Martin (HR); Jane Martinez; John McElroy; Gus Nelson (HR); Sue Tomlinson; Erasmo Vélez (HR); Hume Ward (HR); and Francis Younkin (HR).

**Absent:** Peter Brantner; Stephen Bowie; John Gallentine; Christopher (Kip) Harris; Adam Nardini.

### **LAY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

**Present:** Vice Moderator Becky Diebold; Coordinating Council Moderator Ray Peters; Budget and Finance Committee Moderator Pat Aksamit; Presbytery Hunger Action Enabler and Social Ministries Task Force Moderator Elder Nancy Lister-Settle; Two Rivers Regional Partnership Facilitator Elder

Sarah Mapes; Professional Care Development Moderator Leland Smith; and Moderator Presbyterian Women Rev. Linda O'Connell.

### **VISITORS**

Chad Schwickerath, Julie Cloud and Sandy Wagener (Ankeny); Lila J. Jensen (Audubon, First); Scott Valentine, and Leanne Valentine, Jennifer Hines, Kathryn Roblee, and Bill Fischer (Clive, Heartland); Dennis Britson (Dallas Center, First); Paul Stanfield, Chuck Howieson (Des Moines, Knox United); Virginia Cole, Jeanne Burnett, Sheryl Parker, Mary Lou Briles and Lisa Whitmarsh Peterson (Des Moines, Park Avenue); Jan Davison (Des Moines, Westminster); Jo Rainer (Grimes, First); Mary Ellen Stanley (Leon, First); Norma Francis (Platte Center); Kathy Mahler, El Salvador Mission Co-Worker (Clive, Heartland); Kim Coulter, Presbytery staff (Des Moines, Westminster); and Betty Dyer, Presbytery staff (Indianola, Trinity United).

### **MINISTERS (87 on roll)**

Present: 56  
Excused: 23  
Absent: 13

### **ELDER COMMISSIONERS AND OTHERS**

Present: 75  
Excused: 0  
Absent: 21

### **CORRESPONDING MEMBERS**

The Rev. Doug Kelley, Regional Representative, Board of Pensions.

### **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 one change:

The order of the Budget and Finance Committee and Stewardship and Mission Interpretation Committee reports will be reversed.

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the Consent Agenda as printed and distributed.

### **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. Doug Kelley, Regional Representative of the Board of Pensions, who is a member of the Presbytery of Southern Kansas, as a Corresponding Member for this meeting.

### **INTRODUCTION OF FIRSTIMERS AND GUESTS**

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

### **APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARIAN**

Moderator David Endriss announced that he had appointed the Rev. David Madsen, Pastor of the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church in Des Moines, as Parliamentarian for this meeting.

**APPOINTMENT OF RECORDING CLERK**

Phil Barrett, Stated Clerk, reported that Elder Mary Lou Briles, a member of the Park Avenue Presbyterian Church, in Des Moines had been appointed Recording Clerk for this meeting.

**WELCOME BY HOST CHURCH**

The Rev. David Stipp-Bethune, pastor of the Park Avenue Presbyterian Church in Des Moines, welcomed the Presbytery.

**APPROVAL OF JANUARY STATED MEETING MINUTES**

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the Minutes of the January 17, 2009 Stated Meeting as printed and distributed.

**REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK**

I-I-7 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. All correspondence received on behalf of the Presbytery has been assigned, referred or answered. This includes the required Annual Reports of the Presbytery to the General Assembly and the report to the General Assembly of the results of the Presbytery's voting on the Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of our denomination.

I-I-8 Phil reported that he has submitted the Presbytery's Report of a Nonprofit Corporation to the Secretary of State of the State of Iowa.

I-I-9 The Presbytery received a letter from the Des Moines Area Religious Council thanking us for a contribution to the Emergency Food Pantry by the Two Rivers Regional Partnership from the Partnership's Seder meal Offering.

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

I-R-4 That the following churches be granted permission to pay their 2009 Per Capita Assessment in monthly, quarterly or other installments:

Atlantic, First United  
Des Moines, First  
Earlham, First

Greenfield, First  
Newton, First

Windsor Heights, Windsor  
Winterset, First United

I-R-5 The Report of the Commission to Install the Rev. Richard Harbart as Pastor of the Douglas Avenue Presbyterian Church, Des Moines. I recommend that the Commission be dismissed with our thanks.

I-R-6 That the Presbytery accept the invitation from the First Presbyterian Church of Earlham to hold its November 10, 2009, Stated Meeting at that church.

I-R-7 That the Presbytery received the 2008 Report of the Presbytery Committee on Representation made to the Synod of Lakes and Prairies.

I-R-8 The Synod of Lakes and Prairies reviewed the following Stated Meeting Minutes of our Presbytery:

January 19, 2008; May 20, 2008; August 16, 2008; and November 11, 2008, (Pages 2,222-2,346) and approved them with one exception:

The Stated Clerk's Annual Report on Ministers Laboring Outside the Bounds of the Presbytery was not recorded.

I recommend that the Presbytery respond to this omission by watching to see that this Report is made to the August 15, 2009, Stated Meeting of the Presbytery, and if it is not, to prepare appropriate punishment (such as tar and feathers) for the Stated Clerk.

I-R-9 That the Session Records of the Ankeny Presbyterian Church be approved with exception.

### **COORDINATING COUNCIL**

Elder Ray Peters, Moderator of the council, presented the report.

The Council took the following actions:

- E-A-5 Reviewed the January 12, 2009, Stated Meeting of the Presbytery.
- E-A-6 Planned the May 19, 2009, Stated Meeting of the Presbytery to include a focus on the pastoral call process, some models and opportunities for churches as pastors come and go.
- E-A-7 Made initial plans for the August 15, 2009, Stated Meeting of the Presbytery with reports from the summer camping programs and a presentation from the Stewardship and Mission Interpretation Committee.
- E-A-8 Tasked the Stewardship and Mission Interpretation and Budget and Finance Committees with developing a plan to address the Presbytery's budget situation, to implement such a plan and keep the Council informed about the plan and its progress.

The Council presented the following recommendation to the Presbytery:

E-R-1 That the following persons be elected as Moderator of the listed entities for 2009:

#### **SOCIAL MINISTRIES**

Elder Nancy Lister-Settle (Dallas Center, First)

#### **CROSS MINISTRIES TASK FORCE**

Elder Mary Kay Barker (West Des Moines, Covenant)

The Council presented the following item for information:

- E-I-2 The Council received the resignation of the Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy as Moderator of the Worship Task Group for the rest of 2009. She will remain a member of the committee. The Council is currently discerning and recruiting candidates for the position.

### **PROFESSIONAL CARE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

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

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

- B-A-4 Granted permission to the Rev. George Salnave to labor Outside the Bounds of the Presbytery.
- B-A-5 Approved the Terms of Dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. David Ewing and the First Presbyterian Church of Dallas Center. (The specific terms appear in the report of the Congregational Care and Development Committee.)

### **DESIGNATED MISSION CO-WORKER TO EL SALVADOR**

Elder Kathy Mahler, our Presbytery's Designated Mission Co-Worker to El Salvador, shared information about her work with our sister parish in El Salvador. She talked about the living conditions, the kind of work she does, and the continuing need for financial support and partnerships.

### **BOARD OF PENSIONS REPRESENTATIVE**

The Rev. Doug Kelley, Regional Representative for the Board of Pensions, presented information about several programs or features of the board of Pensions process. He also answered several questions and responded to some expressed concerns.

Vice Moderator Becky Diebold assumed the Chair.

### **SOCIAL MINISTRIES TASK FORCE**

Elder Nancy Lister-Settle, Moderator of the Task Force, presented a written report. (This Report appears as **Appendix A** at the end of these Minutes.)

Nancy highlighted items on the written report from the Task Force, including the work of the Companeros in El Salvador and the class Kathy Mahler will be teaching at Synod School in July.

The Task Force then presented the "Just Neighbors" banner to the Knox United Presbyterian Church of Des Moines for its service to the community and the Presbytery.

### **BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Elder Pat Aksamit, Moderator of the Committee, presented the report.

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

- D-A-4 Approved the sale by the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, Des Moines, of a part of its parking lot for \$35,000. The legal description of this area is:

Lots One hundred fifty-four (154) and One hundred fifty-five (155) in Subdivision of Lots Two (2) and Four (4) of Official Plat of Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of Section five (5), Township seventy-eight (78), Range Twenty-four North (24N), west of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M" now included in and forming a part of the City of Des Moines, Iowa.

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

- D-R-1 That the application of the First Presbyterian Church, Corning, Iowa, for \$864 from General Assembly Restricted Funds to assist with economic needs of people be approved.

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

- D-I-4 The Loan Guaranty for the loan of the Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Indianola, Iowa with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Investment and Loan Program, previously approved by the Presbytery, was signed by Stated Clerk Phil Barrett.
- D-I-5 The Presbytery is facing a significant budget deficit due to three different happenings coming together in a short period of time:
1. The discovery that the Personnel Committee's Budget Proposal for 2009 only included an amount for staff salaries, and did not include benefits.
  2. The decision by the Presbytery of Missouri River Valley to withdraw from its partnership with us in Sudanese Ministries, which included their paying ½ of the salary for Rev. Goanar Chol, Coordinator of Sudanese Ministries. This decision was only **communicated** to us with less than three month's notice, not the year's notice that was part of the understanding between the two presbyteries at the time of entering into the partnership.
  3. A significantly lower amount of General Mission Pledge amounts from our congregations than expected.

This has resulted in a deficit of \$57,445.00

- D-R-2 The Presbytery VOTED to approve a revised and corrected Budget for 2009. (This Budget appears as **Appendix B** at the end of these Minutes. Also in this appendix is the report of the Restricted Funds of the Presbytery as of March 31, 2009.)

### **STEWARDSHIP AND MISSION INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE**

Elder Sandy Wagener, Moderator of the Committee presented the report.

Sandy gave an introduction to a Power Point presentation about the budget deficit and presbytery mission. The Power Point was then shared, and copies were given to every congregation present. Those not present received their copies via mail.

### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

The Rev. Robert Burnett, Moderator of the Committee, presented a written report. (This report appears as **Appendix C** at the end of these Minutes.)

Bob reported on the Annual Reviews the Committee had held with members of the staff, and on the Comprehensive Review held with the Rev. Phil Barrett, General Presbyter, noting that the Committee is looking forward to continuing ministry with Phil.

### **KHADAMAT SUDANIYA REPORT**

The Rev. Phil Barrett, Convener for the group, presented a verbal report.

Phil reported on some of the activities of the Khadamat and parts of the Sudanese community in Des Moines. He also encouraged the Presbytery to invite our Sudanese Ministry Resource Person Rev. Goanar Chol, to their congregations to make use of his knowledge.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Among the items presented during the time of announcements were: Roberta Victor (Executive Director of CROSS Ministries) about the upcoming Back to School Giveaway Program; The Rev. Randy Allman telling about the new home of the United Christian Presbyterian Church in Bedford; the Rev. David

Madsen (Des Moines, Cottage Grove Avenue) on continuing a pulpit exchange with churches; the Rev. Claude Jones (HR) on items of interest regarding University of Dubuque Theological Seminary; Elder Steve Roberts (Des Moines, Central) regarding our connections within the Presbytery; Elder Maurice Dyer (Indianola, Trinity United) inviting folks to various activities at Calvin Community in Des Moines; Elder Ted Coppock (Des Moines, Westminster) reporting on the final outcome of voting on Proposed Amendment B to our denomination's Constitution.

### **CALL PROCESS CONVERSATIONS**

The Rev. Tim Maxa, Moderator of the Congregational Care and Development Committee, provided instructions to the Presbytery as it divided into smaller groups for conversations around the process for calling a pastor, experiences people have had and ideas to share.

### **CAMPING/YOUTH MINISTRY TASK FORCE**

Elder Dennis Britson, Moderator of the Task Force, and the Rev. David Ewing (Dallas Center, First), a member of the Task Force, presented the report.

Dennis and David shared information about the upcoming summer camps in our Presbytery's program, and suggested reasons to attend.

### **GENERAL PRESBYTER REPORT**

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

Phil highlighted several items from his written report and shared reflections on developments in our denomination and presbytery.

At this point the Presbytery moved to the Sanctuary for several reports and worship.

### **COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY**

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

The Committee presented the following items for information:

- C-I-4      Upon recommendation from the Session of the Ankeny Presbyterian Church, the committee has enrolled Chad Schwickerath as an Inquirer under the care of the presbytery.
- C-I-5      The committee has met with and will complete its Annual Conversation with Inquirer Laurie Berry (Ankeny) upon receipt of her paperwork.
- C-I-6      The Special Committee to conduct alternate examinations in Theology and Biblical Exegesis for Candidate Cindy Ray elected by the Presbytery at its January Stated Meeting has met, and is currently scheduled to administer the Theology portion of the exam next month.
- C-I-7      The Committee is pleased to announce that Candidate Cyndy Ripperger (Creston, First) has graduated from the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. She has been certified "ready for examination for ordination, pending a call," and is actively seeking that call.

- C-I-8 The University of Dubuque Theological Seminary has recently received a \$30 million gift from an individual. In this era of economic worry, it is comforting to know that some people are still able to share generously.

The Committee reported the following action taken:

- C-A-1 The Committee, having provided care and oversight for Scott Valentine (Clive, Heartland) in his preparation training through the Center/Learn Program, certifies that he has received the instruction deemed necessary by our Presbytery to function in the role of Commissioned Lay Pastor. Scott has met with our committee and submitted a statement of faith that has been reviewed and approved; and now stands ready for commissioning – with the approval of the Congregational Care and Development Committee.

At this point, the Rev. Tim Maxa, Moderator of the Congregational Care and Development reported that this Committee had approved Scott Valentine as a Commissioned Lay Pastor for the Heartland Presbyterian Church, and approved the duties as assigned by that church and that he be commissioned at the August Stated Meeting of the Presbytery.

The Presbytery then VOTED to approve the following recommendation from the Committee:

- C-R-2 That Elder Scott Valentine be authorized and commissioned to perform the functions described in Section G-15.0562, paragraphs a, b, d and e of the *Book of Order*, and if the vote is in the affirmative, that we move immediately to a service of commissioning for Scott.

### **COMMISSIONING SERVICE**

The Presbytery entered into a Service of Commissioning for Scott Valentine to serve as a Commissioned Lay Pastor at the Heartland Presbyterian Church of Clive, Iowa. The Revs. David Stipp-Bethune and Tim Maxa led the service. Presbytery Moderator Rev. David Endriss asked the Constitutional Questions of Scott. The Rev. Mark Davis delivered the Charge to Scott emphasizing the trust required in such a relationship.

The Presbytery then welcomed Scott to this ministry.

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

The Rev. Tim Maxa, Moderator of the Committee, presented the report.

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

- A-A-7 Appointed the Rev. Lynn Williams and Elder Mary Ellen Stanley to serve as representatives of the Committee on the final ordination examination committee that will work with Cindy Ray.
- A-A-8 Approved an e-mail voting policy for some work of the Committee.
- A-A-9 Approved the contract for interim ministry between the Rev. Neal Allen and the First Presbyterian Church of Ottumwa, IA with the following terms:

|                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Cash Salary           | \$23,266 |
| Housing and Utilities | 9,600    |
| SECA Set Aside        | 2,050    |

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Books and Magazines            | 500  |
| Continuing Education Allowance | 1,000  |
| Professional Expenses          | 1,633  |
| Medical/Dental Expenses        | 3,877  |
| Mileage Allowance              | 4,947 plus \$10,600 from salary for commuting  |
| Full Pension                   | Medical, Death and Disability dues             |
| Vacation                       | 2½ days per month for four weeks annually      |
| Study Leave                    | 2½ days every two weeks for two weeks annually |

A-A-10 Approved the membership of the Rev. Neal Allen into the Presbytery and appointed him as Moderator of the First, East End and Westminster Presbyterian Churches of Ottumwa.

A-A-11 Approved the Installation Commission for the Rev. Rich Harbart as Pastor of the Douglas Avenue Presbyterian Church of Des Moines as follows:

The Rev. David Endriss (Indianola, Trinity United), Moderator  
 The Rev. Shamaine Chambers King (Windsor Heights, Windsor)  
 The Rev. Gus Nelson (HR)  
 The Rev. David Madsen (Des Moines, Cottage Grove Avenue)  
 Elder Lisa Whitmarsh Peterson (Des Moines, Park Avenue)  
 Elder Joyce Rash (Des Moines, Union Park)  
 Elder Joyce Patrice (Des Moines, Douglas Avenue)  
 The Rev. Charles Briem, a minister member of the United Church of Christ,  
 served as a Corresponding Member of the Commission

A-A-12 Approved the contract for interim ministry between the Rev. Stuart Ritter and the Westminster Presbyterian Church of Des Moines as follows:

|  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Cash Salary  | \$50,000                           |
| Housing Allowance  | 30,000                             |
| FICA Offset  | 6,120                              |
| Accountable Expenses (Professional Expenses,<br>continuing education, mileage at IRS rate) | 4,000                              |
| Dental Insurance   | 675                                |
| Full Pension,  | Medical, Death and Disability Dues |
| Study Leave  | Two weeks including two Sundays    |
| Vacation   | Four weeks including four Sundays  |
| Actual Moving Expenses   |                                    |
| Travel costs for one round trip to procure housing and a one way trip to complete the move |                                    |

Rev. Ritter was then introduced to the Presbytery.

A-A-13 Approved Scott Valentine as Commissioned Lay Pastor at Heartland Presbyterian Church in Clive, Iowa and approved the duties as assigned by the Heartland Church and that he will be commissioned at the May 19 Presbytery Stated meeting.

A-A-14 Approved the dissolution of the yoke between the First Presbyterian Church and Disciples of Christ Church in Perry, Iowa, and that the Rev. Joan While will remain as Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church with the same terms of call.

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

- A-R-2 That the Congregational Care and Development Committee, in cooperation with the Professional Care and Development Committee, appoint a task force to research how other churches and judicatories do conflict transformation and made a proposal to the Presbytery of Des Moines toward the goal of the Presbytery having a procedure, process and plan, including the budget to carry out this plan, for dealing with conflict resolution in our churches.
- A-R-1 That the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. David Ewing and the First Presbyterian Church of Dallas Center, Iowa.

An opportunity for those present to share thoughts on David's service, celebrations and gratitude was offered. Presbytery Moderator David Endriss then led the Presbytery in prayer.

The Committee presented the following items for information:

- A-I-2 Biennial visits with churches were done and are continuing.
- A-I-3 A joint meeting was held with the Congregational and Professional Care and Development Committees on May 2, 2009, at the First United Presbyterian Church in Winterset.

### **WORSHIP**

The Presbytery entered into a time of worship that began in the Sanctuary, and later moved to the meal tables where the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated prior to the evening meal. Officiants were the Rev. David Stipp-Bethune (Des Moines Park Avenue); Elder Polk Davison (Des Moines, Westminster); Elder Betty Dyer (Indianola, Trinity United); and the Rev. Dennis Morey (Oskaloosa, First). Elder Julie Cloud (Ankeny) was the preacher for the day. In her sermon entitled "Are You Called?" Julie focused on the call journey, the concept of ministry and the affirmation of peoples' call to ministry. The Lord's Supper was administered by the Rev. David Stipp-Bethune. Musicians for the day were Dean Zingg and Peggy Sanders (Des Moines, Park Avenue) and Elder Mary Ellen Stanley (Leon, First).

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

The Presbytery VOTED to express its gratitude to the Park Avenue Presbyterian Church for its generous hospitality in hosting this meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT AND BENEDICTION**

The Presbytery VOTED to adjourn. Presbytery Moderator David Endriss offered the closing prayer using the closing prayer from the 2008 General Assembly of our denomination.

Respectfully Submitted,

Philip W. Barrett, Stated Clerk  
Mary Lou Briles, Recording Clerk

## APPENDIX A

**K – SOCIAL MINISTRIES TASK FORCE**

May 19, 2009

**Just Neighbors:** The Just Neighbors awards for 2009 are being presented to congregations who are taking their ministry out the church doors and into the community. Recipients of the award in January were members of **United Presbyterian Church of Allerton**. Their story is featured on the denomination's web site at [www.pcusa.org/smallchurch/](http://www.pcusa.org/smallchurch/).

**Compañeros:** Over 150 supporters of the El Salvador mission attended the annual fundraiser on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Tickets for the pork chop dinner at St. Boniface church in Waukee brought in over \$5,000 to help fund our mission partnership. **Designated Mission Co-worker Kathy Mahler** and members of the Pastoral Team were present via webcam and talked with a steady stream of attendees. The fundraiser augments mission dollars from partner congregations and individual lowans.

Kathy Mahler will be itinerating in the Presbytery from July 22 through August 7. She will be at Synod School from July 26 to 31, and that will be an opportunity for many to hear from her. Make your request for a visit from Kathy today or by e-mail at, [kathymahler111@msn.com](mailto:kathymahler111@msn.com). Or contact Nancy Lister-Settle at, 515-992-3639 or [NeithertheCat@aol.com](mailto:NeithertheCat@aol.com).

**Joining Hands – Egypt:** The Des Moines Presbytery Joining Hands team is sponsoring a BIG READ event in July! They are encouraging congregations to sign a request for full funding of the Millennium Development Goals to be presented to our elected representative to Congress—and the Big Read book with stories from across the globe and from right here in Iowa will be circulating around the presbytery.

Moderator Nancy Lister-Settle will spend two and a half weeks in Egypt in late June exploring the possibility of adding Egyptian artisan groups to the list of producers supplying crafts to Partners for Just Trade, a fair trade organization and outlet associated with the Presbyterian Hunger Program.

**Rural Partnership Offering:** Materials are now available to download for the 2009 Rural Partnership Offering at [www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org/mission.htm](http://www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org/mission.htm) (hard copies will be mailed on request). Envelopes can be picked up today or at the Presbytery Office as needed. This special offering of our Presbytery provides grants to rural projects here in Iowa—a 2008 grant was awarded to Iowa Farm Disaster Relief for aid to Iowa farmers affected by last spring's floods—and supports our international partnerships with Casa Pastoral Comunitaria/Our Sister Parish in El Salvador and with Together for Family Development in Egypt.

**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 ([pbymesmoines@presbyteryofdesmoines.org](mailto:pbymesmoines@presbyteryofdesmoines.org)), or write (2400 86<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 20, Urbandale, IA 50322-4306).

Respectfully submitted,

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

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**H – REPORT OF PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**  
**May 19, 2009**

**APPENDIX B**

The Personnel Committee and Synod of Lakes and Prairies Executive Phil Brown, conducted a five-year comprehensive review with our General Presbyter Phil Barrett. This was the third comprehensive review with Phil over his 15 years with the presbytery. After a lengthy visit with Phil and after reviewing numerous comments and input from members of presbytery, synod and ecumenical groups, we are pleased that we can count on Phil's leadership, guidance and inspiration in the months and years ahead.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Burnett,  
Moderator

## APPENDIX C

## D – BUDGET &amp; FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Presbytery of Des Moines  
Income StatementJanuary 1, 2009 through March 31, 2009

|                                       | Current Month      | Current Year-to-Date | Annual Budget       | % of Budget  | Prior Year-to-Date  |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| <b>Income</b>                         |                    |                      |                     |              |                     |
| Total Per Capita                      | \$18,715.26        | \$167,243.32         | \$250,000.00        | 66.90        | \$167,898.00        |
| Total Past Years Per Capita           | \$521.00           | \$6,753.44           | \$7,500.00          | 90.05        | \$0.00              |
| Presbytery General Mission            | \$11,450.77        | \$30,360.51          | \$146,026.00        | 14.92        | (\$21,361.00)       |
| Synod Support Staff Salaries          | \$6,666.66         | \$9,999.99           | \$40,000.00         | 25.00        | \$6,667.00          |
| Hunger Action Enabler Income          | \$0.00             | \$2,000.00           | \$2,000.00          | 100.00       | \$2,000.00          |
| Grant Income                          | \$9,000.03         | \$9,000.03           | \$37,500.00         | 24.00        | \$0.00              |
| Interest Income                       | \$15.12            | \$21.96              | \$500.00            | 4.39         | \$263.00            |
| Miscellaneous Income                  | \$625.85           | \$677.85             | \$500.00            | 135.57       | \$8,465.00          |
| <b>Total Income</b>                   | <b>\$46,994.69</b> | <b>\$226,057.10</b>  | <b>\$484,026.00</b> | <b>41.75</b> | <b>\$163,932.00</b> |
| <b>Expenses</b>                       |                    |                      |                     |              |                     |
| <b>Governance Expense</b>             |                    |                      |                     |              |                     |
| Miscellaneous Expense                 | \$0.00             | (\$588.37)           | \$900.00            | (65.37)      | \$9,311.00          |
| Committee Preparation Ministry        | \$331.36           | \$331.36             | \$2,700.00          | 12.27        | \$241.00            |
| Stewardship & Mission Interpretation  | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$1,890.00          | 0.00         | (\$142.00)          |
| Permanent Judicial Commission         | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$900.00            | 0.00         | \$28.00             |
| Budget & Finance Committee            | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$90.00             | 0.00         | \$0.00              |
| Nominating Committee                  | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$90.00             | 0.00         | \$0.00              |
| Personnel Committee                   | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$68.00             | 0.00         | \$0.00              |
| Sexual Misconduct Response Team       | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$45.00             | 0.00         | \$0.00              |
| General Assembly Per Capita           | \$0.00             | \$58,357.35          | \$58,357.00         | 100.00       | \$56,875.00         |
| Synod Per Capita                      | \$0.00             | \$45,547.20          | \$45,547.00         | 100.00       | \$46,070.00         |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                       | <b>\$331.36</b>    | <b>\$103,647.54</b>  | <b>\$110,587.00</b> | <b>93.72</b> | <b>\$112,383.00</b> |
| <b>Administrative Expense</b>         |                    |                      |                     |              |                     |
| Moderator's Expense/Task Groups       | \$148.50           | \$148.50             | \$270.00            | 55.00        | \$0.00              |
| Administrative Commissions            | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$225.00            | 0.00         | \$0.00              |
| Presbytery Meetings                   | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$360.00            | 0.00         | \$317.00            |
| General Presbyter to General Assembly | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$0.00              | 0.00         | \$0.00              |
| Commissioner Orientation              | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$0.00              | 0.00         | \$0.00              |
| Stated Clerk's Expense                | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$45.00             | 0.00         | \$0.00              |
| Communication                         | \$140.20           | \$420.70             | \$954.00            | 44.10        | \$50.00             |
| Insurance                             | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$5,500.00          | 0.00         | \$0.00              |
| Legal fees                            | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$1,350.00          | 0.00         | \$0.00              |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                       | <b>\$288.70</b>    | <b>\$569.20</b>      | <b>\$8,704.00</b>   | <b>6.54</b>  | <b>\$367.00</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>              |                    |                      |                      |              |                      |
| <i>Transformation Team*</i>                 | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$8,000.00           | 0.00         | \$0.00               |
| Social Ministries Task Force                | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$1,500.00           | 0.00         | \$0.00               |
| El Salvador Mission Assoc-Benefits          | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$8,000.00           | 0.00         | \$0.00               |
| Hunger Action Enabler Travel                | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$500.00             | 0.00         | \$500.00             |
| Broken Bread                                | \$0.00             | \$285.18             | \$990.00             | 28.81        | \$344.93             |
| Khadamat Sudaniya Committee Expense         | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$90.00              | 0.00         | \$0.00               |
| Khadamat Sudaniya Program Expense           | \$9,000.03         | \$9,000.03           | \$37,500.00          | 24.00        | \$0.00               |
| CROSS Ministries                            | \$4,725.00         | \$14,175.00          | \$56,700.00          | 25.00        | \$20,000.00          |
| Older Adult Ministries Task Force           | \$0.00             | \$250.00             | \$800.00             | 31.25        | \$250.00             |
| Camping                                     | \$0.00             | \$2,600.00           | \$4,500.00           | 57.78        | (\$1,880.00)         |
| Youth                                       | \$0.00             | (\$1,012.50)         | \$900.00             | (112.50)     | \$0.00               |
| Resources                                   | (\$127.50)         | (\$262.35)           | \$450.00             | (58.30)      | (\$796.00)           |
| Women's Advocacy Task Force                 | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$90.00              | 0.00         | \$0.00               |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                             | <b>\$13,597.53</b> | <b>\$25,035.36</b>   | <b>\$112,020.00</b>  | <b>22.35</b> | <b>\$18,418.93</b>   |
| <b>Support of Local Ministries</b>          |                    |                      |                      |              |                      |
| Congregational Care & Development Committee | \$70.00            | \$225.00             | \$2,250.00           | 10.00        | \$541.00             |
| Resourcing Workshops                        | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$450.00             | 0.00         | \$0.00               |
| Professional Care & Development Committee   | \$0.00             | \$1,428.51           | \$3,465.00           | 41.23        | \$379.00             |
| <b>Regional Partnerships</b>                |                    |                      |                      |              |                      |
| Southeast                                   | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$450.00             | 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                                   | \$0.00             | \$2,000.00           | \$5,000.00           | 40.00        | \$0.00               |
| West  | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$750.00             | 0.00         | \$0.00               |
| South Central                               | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$180.00             | 0.00         | \$0.00               |
| DM Two Rivers                               | \$0.00             | \$83.90              | \$3,700.00           | 2.27         | \$154.00             |
| Coordinating Council                        | \$0.00             | \$37.38              | \$135.00             | 27.69        | \$0.00               |
| Worship Task Group                          | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$90.00              | 0.00         | \$0.00               |
| Bills & Overtures                           | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$45.00              | 0.00         | \$0.00               |
| Emergency Contingency                       | \$0.00             | \$0.00               | \$450.00             | 0.00         | \$0.00               |
| Presbytery Office                           | \$2,244.47         | \$4,697.24           | \$45,750.00          | 10.27        | \$6,355.00           |
| Presbytery Staff Salaries/Benefits          | \$19,178.31        | \$37,252.26          | \$247,445.00         | 15.05        | \$37,273.00          |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                             | <b>\$21,492.78</b> | <b>\$45,724.29</b>   | <b>\$310,160.00</b>  | <b>14.74</b> | <b>\$44,702.00</b>   |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                       | <b>\$35,710.37</b> | <b>\$174,976.39</b>  | <b>\$541,471.00</b>  | <b>32.32</b> | <b>\$175,870.93</b>  |
| <b>Net Income</b>                           | <b>\$11,284.32</b> | <b>\$51,080.71</b>   | <b>(\$57,445.00)</b> |              | <b>(\$11,938.93)</b> |

*\*Transformation Team expenses are not included in totals*

**D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT continued...****PRESBYTERY OF DES MOINES****Restricted Funds  
as of March 31, 2009****New Covenant Funds****McCahon Fund**

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Annual income to be used for grants for small churches (under 150) for one-time needs. Unused income to be reinvested each year in the trust. | \$29,730.51 |
|---|-------------|

**Swan Fund**

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Interest earnings used for seminary student's assistance. | \$14,723.86 |
|---|-------------|

**Albia Sale**

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| To be used for the assistance of small churches in the Presbytery. | \$21,193.71 |
|--|-------------|

**Camping Fund – Knox Knolls**

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| $\frac{3}{4}$ of interest earnings used for the camping program. | \$241,346.20 |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ 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. | \$14,133.26 |
|---|-------------|

**Colfax Fund**

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| To be used for church development with interest to be placed in Colfax Fund Money Market. | \$34,586.92 |
|---|-------------|

**First American Bank – Urbandale****Pastor Emergency Fund Savings**

|                               |            |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Short term loans for pastors. | \$1,206.66 |
|-------------------------------|------------|

**Colfax Fund Money Market**

|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| To be used for church development | \$6,689.30 |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

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

**PRESBYTERY OF DES MOINES**  
**Budget 2009 Rework**

|   | 2009<br>Requested<br>Budget | 2009<br>Approved<br>Budget | 2009<br>Adjusted<br>Budget |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>   |                             |                            |                            |
| Total Per Capita                                      | \$250,000.00                | \$250,000.00               | \$250,000.00               |
| Total Per Capita - Past Years                         |                             |                            | \$7,500.00                 |
| Presbytery General Mission                            | \$151,817.00                | \$151,817.00               | \$146,026.00               |
| Synod Support Staff Salaries                          | \$40,000.00                 | \$40,000.00                | \$40,000.00                |
| Hunger Action Enabler Income                          | \$5,000.00                  | \$5,000.00                 | \$2,000.00                 |
| Grant Income  | \$37,500.00                 | \$37,500.00                | \$37,500.00                |
| Interest Income                                       | \$500.00                    | \$500.00                   | \$500.00                   |
| Miscellaneous Income                                  | \$500.00                    | \$500.00                   | \$500.00                   |
| <b>Total Income</b>                                   | <b>\$485,317.00</b>         | <b>\$485,317.00</b>        | <b>\$484,026.00</b>        |
| <b>EXPENSE</b>  |                             |                            |                            |
| <b>Governance Expenses</b>                            |                             |                            |                            |
| Miscellaneous Expense                                 | \$1,000.00                  | \$900.00                   | \$900.00                   |
| Committee on Preparation for Ministry                 | \$3,000.00                  | \$2,700.00                 | \$2,700.00                 |
| Stewardship & Mission Committee                       | \$2,100.00                  | \$1,890.00                 | \$1,890.00                 |
| Permanent Judicial Commission                         | \$1,000.00                  | \$900.00                   | \$900.00                   |
| Committee on Representation                           | \$0.00                      | \$0.00                     | \$0.00                     |
| Budget & Finance Committee                            | \$100.00                    | \$90.00                    | \$90.00                    |
| Nominating Committee                                  | \$150.00                    | \$90.00                    | \$90.00                    |
| Personnel Committee                                   | \$75.00                     | \$67.50                    | \$67.50                    |
| Sexual Misconduct Team                                | \$50.00                     | \$45.00                    | \$45.00                    |
| General Assembly Per Capita                           | \$58,357.35                 | \$58,357.35                | \$58,357.35                |
| Synod Per Capita                                      | \$45,547.20                 | \$45,547.20                | \$45,547.20                |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                                       | <b>\$111,379.55</b>         | <b>\$110,587.05</b>        | <b>\$110,587.05</b>        |
| <b>Administrative</b>                                 |                             |                            |                            |
| Moderator/Task Forces                                 | \$300.00                    | \$270.00                   | \$270.00                   |
| Administrative Commissions                            | \$250.00                    | \$225.00                   | \$225.00                   |
| Presbytery Meetings                                   | \$400.00                    | \$360.00                   | \$360.00                   |
| General Presbyter/Stated Clerk<br>to General Assembly | \$0.00                      | \$0.00                     | \$0.00                     |
| Commissioner Orientation                              | \$0.00                      | \$0.00                     | \$0.00                     |
| Stated Clerk Expense                                  | \$50.00                     | \$45.00                    | \$45.00                    |
| Communication   | \$1,060.00                  | \$954.00                   | \$954.00                   |
| Insurance   | \$5,500.00                  | \$5,500.00                 | \$5,500.00                 |
| Attorney  | \$1,500.00                  | \$1,350.00                 | \$1,350.00                 |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                                       | <b>\$9,060.00</b>           | <b>\$8,704.00</b>          | <b>\$8,704.00</b>          |

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

|   | 2009<br>Requested<br>Budget | 2009<br>Approved<br>Budget | 2009<br>Adjusted<br>Budget |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Extension of Ministries</b>              |                             |                            |                            |
| <i>Transformation Team*</i>                 | <b>\$8,000.00</b>           | <b>\$8,000.00</b>          | <b>\$8,000.00</b>          |
| Social Ministries Task Force                | \$2,500.00                  | \$2,000.00                 | \$1,500.00                 |
| Mission Co-Worker Pension & Insurance       | \$8,000.00                  | \$8,000.00                 | \$8,000.00                 |
| Hunger Action Enabler Expense               | \$500.00                    | \$500.00                   | \$500.00                   |
| Broken Bread                                | \$1,100.00                  | \$990.00                   | \$990.00                   |
| Khadamat Sundaniya -Committee Expense       | \$100.00                    | \$90.00                    | \$90.00                    |
| Khadamat Sundaniya - Program Expense        | \$37,500.00                 | \$37,500.00                | \$37,500.00                |
| CROSS Ministries                            | \$63,000.00                 | \$56,700.00                | \$56,700.00                |
| Older Adult Ministries Task Force           | \$1,155.00                  | \$800.00                   | \$800.00                   |
| Camping                                     | \$5,000.00                  | \$4,500.00                 | \$4,500.00                 |
| Youth                                       | \$1,000.00                  | \$900.00                   | \$900.00                   |
| Resources                                   | \$500.00                    | \$450.00                   | \$450.00                   |
| Women's Advocacy Task Force                 | \$100.00                    | \$90.00                    | \$90.00                    |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                             | <b>\$120,455.00</b>         | <b>\$112,520.00</b>        | <b>\$112,020.00</b>        |
| <b>Support of Local Ministries</b>          |                             |                            |                            |
| Congregational Care & Development Committee | \$2,500.00                  | \$2,250.00                 | \$2,250.00                 |
| Resourcing Workshops                        | \$500.00                    | \$450.00                   | \$450.00                   |
| Professional Care & Development Committee   | \$3,850.00                  | \$3,465.00                 | \$3,465.00                 |
| <b>Regional Partnerships</b>                |                             |                            |                            |
| Southeast                                   | \$500.00                    | \$450.00                   | \$450.00                   |
| East  | \$0.00                      | \$0.00                     | \$0.00                     |
| DM West/Northwest                           | \$0.00                      | \$0.00                     | \$0.00                     |
| Southwest                                   | \$6,000.00                  | \$5,000.00                 | \$5,000.00                 |
| West  | \$1,000.00                  | \$750.00                   | \$750.00                   |
| South Central                               | \$200.00                    | \$180.00                   | \$180.00                   |
| DM Two Rivers                               | \$4,350.00                  | \$3,700.00                 | \$3,700.00                 |
| Coordinating Council                        | \$150.00                    | \$135.00                   | \$135.00                   |
| Worship Task Group                          | \$100.00                    | \$90.00                    | \$90.00                    |
| Bills & Overtures                           | \$50.00                     | \$45.00                    | \$45.00                    |
| Emergency Contingency                       | \$500.00                    | \$450.00                   | \$450.00                   |
| Presbytery Office                           | \$45,750.00                 | \$45,750.00                | \$45,750.00                |
| Presbytery Staff Salaries/Benefits          | \$206,000.00                | \$190,000.00               | \$247,445.00               |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                             | <b>\$271,450.00</b>         | <b>\$252,715.00</b>        | <b>\$310,160.00</b>        |
| <b>Total of All Expense</b>                 | <b>\$512,344.55</b>         | <b>\$484,526.05</b>        | <b>\$541,471.05</b>        |
| <b>Budget Surplus/Deficit</b>               | <b>(\$27,027.55)</b>        | <b>\$790.95</b>            | <b>(\$57,445.05)</b>       |

\* Funds taken from Colfax Money Market

\* Transformation Team Expenses are not added in to totals.

**APPENDIX D****J – REPORT OF THE GENERAL PRESBYTER****May 19, 2009**

A regular topic of conversation or concern in our congregations is the loss of members. While it is of little comfort that we know we Presbyterians are not the only ones losing members (the Roman Catholic Church has lost the most), we tend to wonder what is going on and what we can do to either maintain or attract new people to our congregations.

The Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life recently released the results of a survey April 27, 2009, that gives us some helpful insights into membership loss and attraction. The main learnings from this survey are that “...about half of American adults have changed religious affiliation at least once during their lives. Most people who change their religion leave their childhood faith before age 24, and many of those who change religion do so more than once.” Also, of those who change their religion or leave altogether, “The group that has grown the most in recent years due to religious change is the unaffiliated population... half of former Protestants who have become unaffiliated say they left their childhood faith because they stopped believing in its teachings.” What this tells us is that, while some folks may leave our churches and join another one, more and more of these folks don’t go to any other church.

Why do these folks leave religion altogether? Many did “...because they think of religious people as hypocritical or judgmental, because religious organizations focus too much on rules or because religious leaders are too focused on power and money.” Other reasons include because they did not attend worship regularly as a child and even less as a teenager. Only 30% of the people surveyed indicated that their faith was strong before leaving. Seventy percent said that they just gradually drifted away. Most of us could write volumes of observations from just the information in this paragraph. What jumped out at me is the clear indication of how important regular worship attendance is for providing a strong religious foundation in our children and youth.

Among those who changed within the Protestant faith, 60% say they did so because they found another faith they liked more. The majority of the rest said they were spiritually unfulfilled in their previous faith. Among those who left religion and then returned, 74% did so because of the attraction of religious services and styles of worship, 51% did so because they had been spiritually unfulfilled while they were away from religion, and 55% felt they were called back by God.

At the risk of over-simplifying all this information, I would like to highlight three basic learnings:

- The importance of worship as foundational for children and youth and as integral for those seeking a place of faith
- That a place to be fed and grow spiritually is crucial for both those staying within a church and for those looking for a new place for faith practice
- That how we as individuals treat each other and how our faith traditions impact and relate to their members make a big difference in people staying or leaving

You can draw your own conclusions – and I hope you will. We all can learn a lot from the results of the survey. Go to <http://pewforum.org/docs/?DocID=409>, to see charts, summaries, or even the whole report. I would welcome the chance to kick around some thoughts and observations you might have with you.

OVER

Since we last met, I have had the privilege of either being with you or representing you in the following places and ways:

- ◀ Along with Commissioner Jo Rainer (Grimes, First), attended the January Synod Assembly in Farmington, MN, where I resource the Personnel Committee
- ◀ Participated in several conference calls of the Leadership Team of the Association of Executive Presbyters
- ◀ Along with several others, attended the Synod COM/CPM training event in Buffalo, MN. I was also musician for the event.
- ◀ Preached at the Clifton Heights Presbyterian Church in Des Moines.
- ◀ Preached and gave a presentation at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Des Moines
- ◀ Guided Synod Associate Executive Diana Barber to the three presentations she gave around the presbytery on proposed changes in our denomination's Form of Government
- ◀ Attended the Installation of the Rev. Rich Harbart as Pastor of the Douglas Avenue Presbyterian Church in Des Moines
- ◀ Met with several pastors and elders
- ◀ Attended the funeral of Hal DeGood, former Clerk of Session at the Windsor Presbyterian Church in Windsor Heights
- ◀ Along with several other presbytery folks, met with representatives from Senator Harkin's office regarding implications and possibilities of faith-based initiatives in the new administration in Washington, D.C.
- ◀ Moderated a congregational meeting at First Presbyterian Church in Perry
- ◀ Attended the PC(USA) Stewardship Kaleidoscope Event in Kansas City
- ◀ Attended several meetings of the Leadership Team of the Sacred Practices Leadership Series and shared in leadership at the first event held in the Dubuque area
- ◀ Attended the Synod EP/GP Forum in Minneapolis
- ◀ Met with the Personnel Committee of the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Des Moines
- ◀ Gave a presentation at a luncheon with our retired pastors
- ◀ Attended a Board of Pensions Consultation in Kansas City

If you'd like to learn more about any of these or talk about them, please feel free to get in touch with me.

I am daily thankful for all that each of you does and for the opportunity to serve with you.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Philip W. Barrett,  
General Presbyter