

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

Recommended action to the floor of Presbytery:

THAT THE STATED CLERK'S REPORT BE ENTERED INTO THE MINUTES AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS THEREIN BE ADOPTED.

1. MEMBERS TO BE RECEIVED, DISMISSED, HONORABLY RETIRED, REMOVED, OR DECEASED

THAT the following minister(s) be received:

N/A

THAT the following minister(s) be listed as Honorably Retired:

N/A

THAT the following minister(s) be Dismissed:

Rev. Steve Knudson
Rev. Paul DeJong
Rev. Julie Peterson
Rev. Stacia Thetard

THAT the following minister(s) be Removed from Rolls:

Rev. Ian Goslin

Deceased:

N/A

2. CURRENT ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS

THAT the following commissions be dismissed, having completed its work:

The administrative commission appointed by the Committee on Ministry to Install Rev. John Zingaro as Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian church in Peoria, Illinois, on February 3, 2010.

The administrative commission appointed by the Committee on Ministry to Install Rev. Troy Agema at First Presbyterian Church in Princeville, Illinois on November 29, 2009.

The administrative commission appointed by the Committee on Ministry to install Rev. Mark Bedford as Pastor of the New Windsor Presbyterian Church of New Windsor, IL on November 22, 2009.

The administrative commission appointed by the Committee on Ministry to oversee the commissioning of Nollan Harwood as Commissioned Lay Pastor of Eureka Presbyterian Church in Eureka, Illinois on November 15, 2009.

The administrative commission appointed by the Committee on Ministry to oversee the commissioning of Michael Claver as co-Commissioned Lay Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Morton, IL on November 8, 2009.

3. SYNOD OF LINCOLN TRAILS

Synopsis of the January 2010 Meeting of the Synod of Lincoln Trails. (see attached)

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Request from Bethel Presbyterian Church in Peoria, for waiver/exempt from term limits for elders.
(G-14.0226c)

Request from United Church of Oneida for waiver/exempt from rotation of officer terms.
(G-14.0226c)

Request from Knox Presbyterian Church in Springfield for waiver regarding the composition of Board of Deacons. They currently have no men on their new board. (G-14.0226c)

5. BILLS & OVERTURES

See Attached

I. An overture suggesting an addition to the installation service for Ministers of Word and Sacrament

The Presbytery of Great Rivers respectfully overtures the 219th General Assembly (2010) of the PCUSA to amend the Directory for Worship as follows:

That section W-4.4006 be amended by adding section c. as follows and re-lettering items c-g.

W-4.4006 c. Following the affirmative answers of the questions asked to the person being installed and to the members of the congregation, the moderator of the commission shall face the members of the presbytery and its constituent congregations who are present and shall ask them the following questions:

1. While N. was a candidate for ministry, his/her presbytery of care pledged to exercise responsibility for his/her spiritual growth, to support him/her with an understanding and sympathetic interest, and to help him/her to seek guidance for study. Do we, members and commissioners of the Presbytery of N and its constituent congregations, pledge to continue to care for N. with sympathy, understanding and support?
2. Will we be friends with this colleague in ministry, working together, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?
3. Do we agree to encourage him/her, to solicit his/her opinions in matters before the presbytery, to work side by side as colleagues in ministry, serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church?
4. Do we who are members and commissioners of the presbytery promise to oversee his/her call, ensuring that it meets standards for equitable pay and benefits; to assist this congregation in providing for his/her welfare as he/she works among us; to stand by him/her and this congregation in times of trouble and to share in their joy?

Rationale:

There are three parties to each call of a Minister of Word and Sacrament to serve as pastor, co-pastor, designated pastor or associate pastor of a congregation. Currently, the Directory for Worship only directs questions to two of those parties—the one being installed and the members of the congregation. These questions would include the presbytery, as the third party to the call, to make its own affirmations during the installation service.

The Bills and Overtures Committee **recommends** that this overture be forwarded to the General Assembly and that the **Reverend Daniel DeBeer** serve as Overture Advocate for this overture.

II. An overture addressing the issue of Moderatorial appointments of special committees

The Presbytery of Great Rivers respectfully overtures the 219th General Assembly (2010) of the PCUSA to direct the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly to forward to the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly for its submission to the General Assembly, the following amendment to the Manual of the General Assembly:

To add to section K.1.b. "Special Committees and Commissions should be appointed only in very rare and exceptional circumstances, i.e. national or denominational crisis."

Rationale:

The General Assembly has a procedure for nominating members of standing committees and other entities which is detailed both in the Book of Order and in the Manual of the General Assembly. This process is designed to provide for balance among the members of the committees and entities with regard to geography, ethnicity, age, and so on. The process for nomination to and election by the General Assembly also gives the whole church, through its elected commissioners, a voice in naming the members of groups that recommend policy to the whole church. Only in very rare circumstances should this careful procedure for nomination and open method of election, with the possibility of nominations from the body at large, be set aside in favor of some time-sensitive or emergency decision to be made.

The Bills and Overtures Committee **recommends** that this overture be forwarded to the General Assembly and that the **Reverend Doug Hucke** serve as Overture Advocate for this overture.

III. **An overture addressing the issue of General Assembly Mission Council staff with regard to congregational participation**

The Presbytery of Great Rivers respectfully overtures the 219th General Assembly (2010) of the PCUSA to amend the Manual of the General Assembly Mission Council with regard to personnel as follows:

That section IV. 2.b.(6) (b) be amended to include the following.

“That all General Assembly Mission Council personnel who serve as Executive Director or Deputy Executive Directors or who staff committees that recommend policy to the Council and the General Assembly, shall actively participate in the work and worship of a PCUSA congregation. It shall be a part of the annual review of this staff member by the Personnel Committee or by his or her supervisor to evaluate this participation.”

Rationale:

The General Assembly and its Mission Council “constitute the bond of union, community, and mission among all its congregations and governing bodies.” (G-13.0103). These are the bodies that set the direction of the denomination and represent its public face to the world. The staff who serve the church at this level have important ministries in providing support, information, and insight for the committees and other entities who formulate the policy of the denomination. From time to time, these policies and pronouncements create situations for local congregations that cause consternation or worse. It is important not only for the members of the committees to take into account the ramifications of the decisions made by the national church, but it is also important for their staff to be cognizant of the struggles often faced at a session table, in a Sunday School class or as a member of a congregation in a local community after the national church has taken a stand on a particular issue. Participation by these staff members in a local congregation can help the staff member to evaluate the impact of proposals made by the committees and entities they staff.

The General Assembly may submit changes to the Manual of the General Assembly Mission Council according to the Manual, Appendix 12, Section II. C.

The Bills and Overtures Committee **recommends** that this overture be forwarded to the General Assembly and that the **Reverend Forrest Krummel** serve as Overture Advocate for this overture.



Synopsis of the January 2010 Meeting of the Synod of Lincoln Trails

New Commissioners

New commissioners are: Marian DeWall and Johanna Sommers, Blackhawk; Jennifer Burns Lewis and Jack Wilson, Chicago; Maura McGrath Nagle, Great Rivers; Mike Beaver, Ohio Valley; Laura Johnston and John Swick, Southeastern Illinois; Cheryl Montgomery, Whitewater Valley. Re-elected commissioners are Bruce Haapalainen, Wabash Valley and Veltri Taylor, Ohio Valley.

Stated Clerk

Stated Clerk Kim Leech reported. The synod approved the proposed revision of the guidelines for reviewing presbytery minutes.

Nominating Committee

Katherine Rieder reported for the nominating committee and presented the committee's slate of nominees: Eddie Knox, moderator; Katherine Rieder, vice-moderator; Victoria Curtiss and Phyllis Mueller, PJC; William Frazier, board of directors and Pauline Rowles, personnel standing committee. The entire slate was elected.

Worship and the Lord's Supper

Worship included the installation of the new synod moderator and vice-moderator. Eddie Knox preached on "How Profound is Our Connection?"

Administrative Commission for Presbytery of Midwest Hanmi

John Braden reported for the commission. Details of the commission's activities will be included in the minutes of the synod meeting.

Standing Committee on Mission Coordination and Administration

Jan Wilkerson reported for the committee.

- Laurie Williams was elected vice moderator for the committee.
- Jack Wilson and Jan Wilkerson will serve on the leadership development fund subcommittee.
- Veltri Taylor and MaryMarg Karty will serve on the congregational development subcommittee. Harriet Wilkins will also participate
- The committee approved themes relating to the synod's connectedness for 2010 meetings: GA (April), presbyteries (July), congregations (Oct.).
- The committee created a subcommittee for communications and appointed Nate Rush to the committee. Marta Kramer will staff the committee. Additional members with expertise in communications will be sought.

Standing Committee on Leadership Development

Nick Shargo reported for the committee.

- The committee will offer a \$500 scholarship to the PC(USA) Youth Triennium to each presbytery in the synod.
 - The committee requested and received synod approval to offer the Lord's Supper at 13 leadership development events in 2010.
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Annual Meeting of the Corporation

The synod meeting was adjourned temporarily to allow the annual meeting to convene. Joy Haning reported for the board of directors.

The board nominated Marylynn Boatright as president of the corporation, Jim Mann as vice president and Dave Crittenden as secretary/treasurer. The nominees were elected.

In its January 22 meeting, the board reviewed the 2009 general ledger financial reports. Budgeted income was almost \$111,844 less than expected and budgeted expense was \$72,487 less than expected, leaving budgeted expense over income of \$15,382.