



Presbytery of Des Moines

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

April 26, 2007

TO: Commissioners to the 467th Stated Meeting (January 20, 2007)
FROM: Philip W. Barrett, Stated Clerk
SUBJECT: Minutes

You will find the Minutes of the 467th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Des Moines held on Jan. 20, 2007, 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.

You will note that **Appendix F** is not included. This is the chart listing Changes in Terms of Pastoral Calls. At the request of some minister members for limited release of these figures, this appendix will only be sent to a minister member of the Presbytery or a commissioner. You may request a copy by contacting me at the Presbytery Office.

We took important actions regarding two of our congregations. One was to sustain the finding of the Administrative Commission working with the Windsor Presbyterian Church of Windsor Heights that a group of members there are loyal to the denomination and that group should continue to hold title to the church and its property. The other was to hear the final report of the Administrative Commission to close the First Presbyterian Church of Colfax. We approved a preliminary budget for 2007. We received Cyndy Ripperger and Brian Diebold as Candidates under the care of the Presbytery. We celebrated the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and reaffirmed our baptismal vows. We received the annual report of C.R.O.S.S. Ministries. These are just some of the highlights.

If you are attending the May 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 and Consent Agenda for the May 15 Presbytery Meeting will be posted on the Presbytery's Web site at www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org, approximately 10 days prior to the meeting. Paper copies will only be sent to those who inform us that they do not have Internet access.

The Presbytery of Des Moines of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held its 467th Stated Meeting at the First Presbyterian Church of Dallas Center, Iowa, on January 20, 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 (**P**resent, **A**bsent, **E**xcuse):

CHURCH	MINISTER	P/A/E	COMMISSIONER
Adair, First	Char Rief	P	Roberta Caltrider
Allerton, United	Ross Blount	P	Keith Garber
Ankeny	Ray Fancher	A	Sue Nelson
Atlantic, First United	Don Seeger	P	Mike Henningsen
Audubon, First	Kay E. Steddom	P	Bernard E. Neary
Bedford, United	Randy S. Allman	P	Barbara Hannon
Brooklyn, First	John Reynolds	P	Lowell Sherwood
Carlisle, Scotch Ridge	Doug Bolsem	P	A
Centerville, First	Giles Card	P	Marilyn Vanderlinden
Chariton, First	M. Denise Group	P	S. Kay Montgomery
Clive, Heartland	D. Mark Davis	P	Jennifer Hines
Clive, Heartland	Barbara Nish	A	
Corning, First	Ken Rummer	P	Dennis Hill
Creston, First	Barry Anderson	A	Jerry Nurnberg
Dallas Center, First	David Ewing	P	Jon Kimple
Deep River, United	Boyd Sparks	A	A
Des Moines, Central	James Wallace	E	David Boyd
Des Moines, Clifton Heights	Eric Keller	E	Kimberly Wilhelm
Des Moines, Cottage Grove Avenue	David Madsen	P	Roberta Victor
Des Moines, Douglas Avenue	Claude Jones	E	Jim Kreitzinger
Des Moines, First	Ken Stuber	P	Jean Mullen
Des Moines, Fort Des Moines	Donald Elly	A	A
Des Moines, Highland Park	VACANT		Jim Puffett
Des Moines, Knox United	Bill LeMosy	P	Louise Newsom
Des Moines, Park Avenue	David Stipp-Bethune	P	Jeanne R. Burnett
Des Moines, Union Park	LeRoy Kelderman	P	Joyce Rash
Des Moines, Westminster (4)	Amy Miracle	A	Polk Davison
Des Moines, Westminster (4)	Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy	P	Ted Coppock
Des Moines, Westminster (4)	Ken Arentson	A	Dorothy Tuttle
Des Moines, Westminster (4)	Dick Kiefer	E	Mary Weber
Dexter, First	David Kincaide	P	A
Diagonal, United	John Beran	E	A
Earlham, First	Robert Waldron	P	A
Ewart	Aaron Koskamp	P	A
Gibson, First	Mike Conn	P	A
Gibson, White Oak	Mike Conn	P	A
Greenfield, First	David Kincaide	P	A
Grimes, First	Lynn Williams	P	Susan Bollard

Grinnell, First	Kirsten Klepfer	P	Shane B. Cook
Guthrie Center, First	VACANT		Brenda Dinkla
Hartford, Community United	Richard Harbart	P	Gerald Hammond
Indianola, Trinity United	David Endriss	P	Kathie Farris
Johnston, St. Paul	John W. Gilmore	P	A
Knoxville, First	Kirk Erwin	P	A
Lenox, United	Tim Maxa	P	A
Leon, First	Jack DePond	P	Mary Ellen Stanley
LeRoy, First	Cathy Allen	E	A
Lucas, First	Linda O'Connell	P	Pat Bahr
Malcom, First United	John Reynolds	P	Jeff Gropper
Monroe	Ann Rouse	P	Howard Clark
Montezuma, First United	George Salnave	E	A
Mount Ayr, United	David Miller	A	A
New Sharon, First	VACANT		A
Newton, First (2)	Steven Mathison-Bowie	P	Sara Hopkins
Newton, First (2)	Tiara Mathison-Bowie	P	
Newton, United	Donald Freeman	A	A
Oskaloosa, First (2)	Dennis Morey	P	Darlene Shepherd
Oskaloosa, First (2)	Hans Cornelder	P	
Ottumwa, East End	Kate Stangl	P	A
Ottumwa, First	Sue Babovec	P	John McKeown
Ottumwa, Westminster	Milton Forbes	A	A
Perry, First	Joan White	P	Jim Mace
Pitzer, United	Donna Vaughan	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	Bev Countryman
Windsor Heights, Windsor	Terry Amann	A	Ron Grohe
Winterset, First United	Jim Howland	P	Laura Silverthorn

OTHER MEMBERS OF PRESBYTERY (MINISTERS)

Present: Philip Barrett, General Presbyter/Stated Clerk; Pete Brantner; Robert Burnett (HR); Giles Card (HR); Beverly Leonard (HR); Gus Nelson (HR); Dale O'Connell (HR); Marvin Potter (HR); Patricia Summers; Russell Tomlinson (HR).

Excused: John Beran (HR); Harold Butz (HR); Robert Cook (HR); Carl Cooper (HR); Glen Dilley (HR); Ane Fitzgerald; Harold Gilleney (HR); Dick Kiefer (HR); Ray Martin (HR); John McElroy; Sara Speer Palmer (HR); Jane Tetsuka; Erasmo Vélez (HR); Hume Ward (HR); Francis Younkin (HR).

Absent: Goanar Chol; John Gallentine; Kip Harris; Jeffrey Means.

LAY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Present: Lila Jean Jensen, Moderator of Coordinating Council; Ray Peters, Vice-Moderator of Presbytery.

VISITORS

Mary Lou Aspengren, (Des Moines, First); John Sprole, (West Des Moines, Covenant); Paul Stanfield, Pat Aksamit, (Des Moines, Knox United); Lisa Whitmarsh Peterson (Des Moines, Park Avenue); Elizabeth Smith, Wendall Harms (Des Moines, Central); Leila Christensen, Linda Powell (Guthrie Center, First); John Wilhelm (Des Moines, Clifton Heights); Craig Johnstone (Malcom, First United); Becky Diebold, Dave Diebold, Brian Diebold (Ottumwa, First); Leland Smith (Newton, First); Nancy Bauman, Pat Hall, Jorene Sobotka, Cyndy Ripperger, (Creston, First); Leon Sanderson, Lucy Sanderson, LaVon Keese, Nancy Baker, Keith Baker, (Windsor Heights, Windsor); Sandy Hammond, (Hartford, Community United); Jo Rainer, (Grimes, First); Sara Lamb (Winterset, First United); Gary Badgett (Corning, First); Dennis Britson, Nancy Wilson (Dallas Center, First); Nancy Lister-Settle, Presbytery Staff (Dallas Center, First); Kim Coulter, Presbytery Staff (Des Moines, Westminster); Betty Dyer, Presbytery Staff (Indianola, Trinity United).

MINISTERS (85 on roll)

Present: 51
Excused: 20
Absent: 14

ELDER COMMISSIONERS AND OTHERS

Present: 78
Excused: 0
Absent: 24

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.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the Consent Agenda and all the items on it with the addition of item A-Congregational Care and Development Committee: A-A-1, A-A-2, A-A-3.

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 this meeting.

APPOINTMENT OF RECORDING CLERK

Stated Clerk Phil Barrett reported that Elder Nancy Wilson, Clerk of Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Dallas Center, had been appointed as Recording Clerk for this meeting.

WELCOME BY HOST CHURCH

The Rev. David Ewing, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Dallas Center, welcomed the Presbytery. He also gave a brief history of the church and the various locations where it has been located and information about some of the activities carried on in the congregation.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER STATED MEETING MINUTES

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the Minutes of the Stated Meeting held on November 14, 2007 as printed and distributed with the following corrections:

Page 4 – Report of the Stated Clerk, 4th paragraph – The Minutes of the First Presbyterian Church, Oskaloosa, should be noted as being approved without exception, instead of with exception.

Page 10 – 4th paragraph – First Presbyterian Church, Dexter – The amount should read \$1,550.

Page 14 – 1st paragraph – Other Business – The Social Ministries Task Force should appear as a delineated separate item of business prior to Other Business, not as part of Other Business.

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK

I-I-1 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 that all correspondence received on behalf of the Presbytery has been assigned, referred or answered.

I-I-2 The Stated Clerk reported that resignations of the Rev. Steve Mathison-Bowie as Moderator of the Camping and Youth Ministry Task Force, and of the Rev. Christopher (Kip) Harris as Moderator and member of the Worship Task Group and as a member of the Coordinating Council had been received and referred to the Coordinating Council.

I-I-3 Phil reported that, as required by Section G-11.0101b of the *Book of Order*, he has ascertained the number of resident ministers who are members of the Presbytery and the number of elders which churches are entitled to send to a Presbytery Meeting or who are members of the Presbytery by virtue of their office or elected position. He also followed the criteria set out in Section G-11.04021b of the *Book of Order*, which allows presbyteries to elect additional elders to keep a proper balance between elders and ministers when Honorably Retired ministers are active in a presbytery. Some of the Honorably Retired minister members of this Presbytery do not live within the bounds of the Presbytery, and of those who do, some are not active in the Presbytery. A count of ministers and elders shows that there are 78 resident or active retired minister members and 83 elders eligible to attend presbytery meetings as commissioners or members. Therefore, it will not be necessary to assign particular churches to provide extra elders to correct any imbalance for 2007.

I-I-4 The Stated Clerk reported that, in accordance with Section D-5-0206b of the Rules of Discipline in the *Book of Order*, the following former members of the Permanent Judicial Commission constitute the roll of those available to serve on the Commission if necessary to constitute a quorum:

Class of 2006 – Rev. Harold Butz (Honorably Retired)
Rev. Claude Jones (Des Moines, Douglas Avenue)

Class of 2004 – Rev. Sara Speer Palmer (Honorably Retired)
Rev. Lynn Williams (Grimes, First)

Class of 2002 – Elder Richard Shaffer (Des Moines, Westminster)

I-I-5 Stated Clerk Phil Barrett reported that the Presbytery has the following insurance coverage through a Master Policy with the GuideOne Insurance Company:

Property (Each church and the Presbytery Office are covered by a specific amount)		
General Liability	\$3,000,000	General Limit
	1,000,000	Each Occurrence
	1,000,000	Personal Liability
	1,000,000	Legal Liability
Medical	5,000	
Sexual Misconduct Liability	250,000	Each Occurrence
Employee Benefits Liability	1,000,000	Each Claim
	3,000,000	Annual Aggregate
Directors', Officers', and Trustees' Liability	1,000,000	Each Occurrence
Employment Practices Liability	1,000,000	
Crime		
Employee/Officers Dishonesty	10,000	
Forgery	10,000	
Theft	5,000	
Ministers Business Personal Property	5,000	
Shared Umbrella Policy	5,000,000	
Workers Compensation		
Bodily Injury	100,000	Each Accident
Bodily Injury by Disease	100,000	Each Employee

I-I-6 Phil reported that the offering received at the November Stated Meeting totaled \$532.50.

I-R-1 The Presbytery VOTED to grant permission to the following churches to pay their 2007 Per Capita Assessment in monthly, quarterly or other regular installments:

Chariton – First
 Des Moines – First
 – Knox United
 – Park Avenue
 – Westminster
 Grimes – First
 Johnston – St. Paul

And to the Clifton Heights Presbyterian Church, Des Moines, permission to delay by one month their request regarding how payments would be paid.

I-R-2 The Presbytery VOTED to approve the Session Records of the First Presbyterian Church, Centerville, with exceptions.

I-R-3 The Presbytery VOTED to transfer the Rev. John Nipper (Honorably Retired) to the Presbytery of John Calvin at their request.

SOCIAL MINISTRIES TASK FORCE

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

Nancy emphasized hunger issues both world-wide and in Iowa.

The First Presbyterian Church of Guthrie Center was recognized as the recipient of the “Just Neighbors” award for this meeting. Representatives of the church received a certificate and also get to display the “Just Neighbors” banner until the May meeting of the Presbytery.

CAMPING/YOUTH MINISTRY TASK FORCE

Elder Dennis Britson, moderator of the task force, presented the report.

Dennis called the attention of the Presbytery to information in the Presbytery meeting *NEWSheet* and the written report of the task force regarding their work and activities. He also provided information about the upcoming Spring Connection and noted that materials will be coming to churches soon.

The Presbytery’s Triennium Registrar Lisa Whitmarsh Peterson, and a member of the task force, shared information about our denomination’s national Presbyterian Youth Triennium being held this summer. She noted a special need for adult advisors and work crew members.

WORSHIP – PART I

The Presbytery entered into a time of worship. Leaders for this portion of worship were the Rev. Dennis Morey (Oskaloosa, First), Elder Mary Ellen Stanley (Leon, First), Elder Betty Dyer (Indianola, Trinity) the Rev. Mary Beth Mardis LeCroy (Des Moines, Westminster), and the Rev. Ken Rummer (Corning, First). The Rev. Sue Babovec (Ottumwa, First) was the preacher for the day. She presented thoughts on the theme of how our call as Christians is tough. Musician for the morning was Nancy Wilson.

WINDSOR ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION REPORT

Elder John Sprole, moderator of the commission, along with other members of the commission presented the report.

The Commission highlighted what has not happened – at this point no one has left the Windsor Presbyterian Church of Windsor Heights yet, they did not get into theological issues in the process, decisions were not made about who is right and who is wrong, and there was no interest at any point in taking property. They also reminded the Presbytery action at its November Stated Meeting declaring that a schism exists in the Windsor Presbyterian Church. The Commission further offered a history of the process to this point.

O1-A-1 The Presbytery VOTED to approve the following action of the Commission: The Commission finds that there is a true church within the meaning of the *Book of Order* Section G-8.0601. The true church has first claim to all property and assets of the Windsor Presbyterian Church.

O1-R-1 The Presbytery VOTED to give the Commission original jurisdiction at the Windsor Presbyterian Church replacing the session of the Windsor Presbyterian Church until such time as members remaining at Windsor Presbyterian Church who are identified as members of the true church can constitutionally nominate, elect, train and ordain/install elders to serve as a session.

The Rev. Kirk Erwin (Knoxville, First), and Elder Kimberly Wilhelm (Des Moines, Clifton Heights), requested that their names be noted as abstaining from this vote.

The Commission reached this conclusion because the Presbytery agreed at its November 14, 2006, Stated Meeting that there was indeed a schism at the Windsor Presbyterian Church within the *Book of Order* meaning. A substantial minority of the members have been working on plans for months now to leave the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) one way or another. The Commission has established that there is a core group of 25 to 30 persons who have committed to staying at the Windsor Presbyterian Church and in the PC(USA).

Despite all of our efforts at reconciliation, the schism has deepened and widened, to the point that the discussion at the Windsor Presbyterian Church among those wanting to leave the PC(USA) is now about how and when they are leaving, not whether. Even if the present session (which almost entirely backs the movement to leave) does not resign, we believe it is impossible, without these drastic steps we are recommending, to make a future for the Windsor Presbyterian Church while the present session persists in actions to leave the denomination.

SYNOD NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Elder David Boyd (Des Moines, Central), a member of the Nominating Committee of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, presented the report.

David shared some of the work of the Committee, provided information about the various positions available in the Synod structure and encouraged people with interests in serving at the Synod level to contact him.

LUNCH

The Presbytery recessed to enjoy a delicious lunch prepared by members of the Dallas Center church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Presbytery reconvened with a time for announcements. Among the items shared during this time were the following: The Rev. Mark Davis requesting help at this summer's Synod School with the senior high age group; Elder John McKeown announcing an opportunity to hear youth bell choirs from the First Presbyterian Church in Ottumwa; the Rev. Jack DePond informing the Presbytery of the 150th Anniversary celebration of the First Presbyterian Church in Leon on April 22.

REPORT OF THE BILLS AND OVERTURES TASK GROUP

The Rev. Sue Babovec (Ottumwa, First) and Elder Ray Peters (Ankeny), members of the Task Group, presented the report. (The report of the task group appears as **Appendix A** at the end of these minutes.)

In an omnibus motion, the Presbytery VOTED in the affirmative for the following Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.):

06-A – Revision of the *Form of Government*, Chapter XIV with Additional Amendments to the *Book of Order* Preface and G-6.0500, G-6.0600, G-6.0700, G-9.0405, G-11.0405, G-11.0408 and G-11.0405.

06-B.1. – Moving Ordination, Installation and Commissioning Questions and Service Information to the *Directory for Worship* – On Amending G-14.0206-.0209, G-14.0405, G-14.0510-.0511, G-14.0801g & h, and W-4.400.

06-B.2. – Adding Licensure of Candidates – On Amending G-14.0309

06-B.3. – Removing Synod Approval of Extraordinary Exam Process – On amending G-14.0313b.

In an omnibus motion, the Presbytery VOTED in the affirmative for the following Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.):

06-C. – Enabling New General Assembly Council Structure – On Amending G-9.0703, G-13.0107, G-13.0201 and G-13.0202.

06-D. – Opening Committee on Ministry to Access by Commissioned Lay Pastors

06-E. – Members of the Synod – On Amending G-12.0101.

06-. – Naming Certified Christian Educators as Mandated Reporters – On Amending G-14.0701.

CROSS MINISTRIES ANNUAL REPORT

Elder Roberta Victor, Director of C.R.O.S.S. Ministries, presented the report. (This report appears as **Appendix B** at the end of these minutes.) Roberta highlighted the dire situation of the homeless, the majority of which in Iowa are children. She also reported on her work with families.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

Pat presented the Financial Statement for the Presbytery for the year 2006 as information. (This report appears as **Appendix C** at the end of these minutes.)

Elder Aksamit then presented the Proposed Presbytery Budget for 2007. (This report appears as **Appendix D** at the end of these minutes). It was noted that the deficit number is different than what the Coordinating Council has considered, so a final budget will be presented at the May Stated Meeting of the Presbytery. The Presbytery then VOTED to approve the Proposed Budget for 2007.

WORSHIP – PART II

The Presbytery continued in its worship as it observed the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and Renewal of Baptismal Vows. The Revs. David Ewing (Dallas Center, First) and Linda O'Connell (Lucas, First) officiated at the Sacrament. Other worship leaders for the afternoon included the Revs. Aaron Koskamp (HR) and Dale O'Connell (HR). Musician for the afternoon was Jeani Shepherd.

PEACE, UNITY AND PURITY TASK FORCE REPORT

The Rev. Hans Cornelder (Oskaloosa, First), the Rev. Ross Blount (Allerton, First) and Elder Ted Coppock (Des Moines, Westminster), all members of the Commission, presented the report.

The Commission recommends that each congregation in our Presbytery participate in "A Season of Discernment"...

- Through prayers, study, fellowship and worship...in the pattern experienced by the General Assembly Task Force on Peace, Unity and Purity during their four years of deliberation...

- As a beginning point for discovering ways that our church can live more faithfully in the face of our deep disagreements...
- Toward a deeper appreciation of the roots of our reformed faith regarding the Person of Christ (Christology), biblical authority and interpretation, and sexuality and ordination.

Hans, Ross and Ted also shared the process the Presbytery Peace Unity and Purity Task Force has followed, and the actual General Assembly action on the Report for the Theological Task Force on Peace, Unity, and Purity of the Church of the General Assembly.

COORDINATING COUNCIL

Elder Lila Jean Jensen, moderator of the council, presented the report.

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

- E-A-1 Reviewed the November 14, 2006, Stated Meeting of the Presbytery.
- E-A-2 Accepted the offer of the Transformation Team to lead the council through the futuring process in 2007.
- E-A-3 Planned the January 20, 2007, Stated Meeting to include a report from the Administrative Commission working with the Windsor Presbyterian Church, a report from the Peace, Unity and Purity Task Force of the Presbytery and action on the proposed amendments to the Constitution of our denomination.
- E-A-4 Made initial plans for the May 15, 2007, Stated Meeting of the Presbytery with a possible emphasis on session personnel policies and practices, and another report from the Peace, Unity and Purity Task Force of the Presbytery.
- E-A-5 Elected Elder Mary Ellen Stanley (Leon, First) as moderator of the Worship Task Group. Other persons were suggested for membership and will be contacted by members of the Council.
- E-A-6 Worked with the Budget and Finance Committee to develop a proposed Presbytery budget for 2007.

The Council nominated the following persons for the positions noted:

SOCIAL MINISTRIES TASK FORCE MODERATOR – 2007
Elder Nancy Lister-Settle (Dallas Center, First)

CAMPING / YOUTH MINISTRIES TASK FORCE MODERATOR – 2007
Elder Dennis Britson (Dallas Center, First)

An opportunity for nominations from the floor was provided. None appearing, the Presbytery VOTED to close nominations and instruct the Clerk to cast an electing ballot.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL PRESBYTER

General Presbyter Phil Barrett presented a written report (The report appears as **Appendix E** at the end of these minutes.). He introduced the Presbytery staff and highlighted their great work. He also

mentioned the importance of meeting publishing deadlines for presbytery items. Phil then reminded pastors about the National Pastors' Sabbath in June.

Setting out his plan for emphasizing change in his 2007 reports, Phil shared some excerpts from "Transforming Congregational Culture" by Anthony B. Robinson.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

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

David reported that Pamela Rohde, a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Oskaloosa, had been enrolled as an inquirer. She is currently a student at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary.

He also reported that the Committee completed its annual consultation with Candidate Beth Seeger-Troy.

David introduced Inquirer Cyndy Ripperger, a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Creston and provided a brief history of her time with the committee. Cyndy then gave an update on what she is doing now as a student at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary and her experience in Russia. The Presbytery then VOTED to enroll Cyndy as a candidate under the care of the Presbytery. Presbytery Moderator Rev. Kate Stangl asked Cyndy the constitutional questions. The Rev. David Kincaide (Greenfield, First and Dexter, First), presented the charge to Cyndy and offered prayer.

David then introduced Inquirer Brian Diebold, a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Ottumwa and told about Brian's time with the committee. Brian shared the steps he has taken in preparing for ministry and the field work experiences he has had. The Presbytery VOTED to enroll Brian as a candidate under the care of the Presbytery. Presbytery Moderator Rev. Kate Stangl asked Brian the constitutional questions. The Rev. Sue Babovec (Ottumwa, First) presented the charge to Brian. David and Becky Diebold, Brian's parents, offered prayer.

The Committee recommended that the Rev. Lynn Williams (Grimes, First) be elected as an additional alternate reader of the reading of our denomination's Standard Ordination Examinations in March. An opportunity for nominations from the floor was provided. There being none, the Presbytery VOTED to close nominations and instruct the clerk to cast an electing ballot.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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

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

A-A-1 Placed the following persons on the approved Pulpit Supply List:

- Shamine Chambers-King – A candidate under the care of Grace Presbytery who is living in Des Moines.
- Rev. Jim Morris – A retired United Methodist pastor living in the Creston area
- Jean Beckwith – A member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) living in the Mitchellville area.

A-A-2 Approved continuation of the contract for Interim Pastor Services between the Rev. Barry Anderson and the First Presbyterian Church, Creston, as follows:

Cash Salary	\$ 11,530
Housing	\$ 6,675
Reimbursable Expenses	\$ 9,458
Continuing Education Allowance	\$ 450
Full pension, major medical, death and disability benefits	

A-A-3 Approved a contract for Interim Pastor Services between the Rev. LeRoy Kelderman and the Union Park Church, Des Moines, as follows:

Cash Salary	\$ 47,000
Pension	\$ 14,805
Continuing Education Allowance	\$ 1,000
Travel Expenses	\$ 900
Vacation	Four Weeks
Study Leave	Two Weeks

The Committee presents the following items for information:

A-I-1 The Rev. Ray Fancher is leaving his position as Interim Pastor at the Ankeny Presbyterian Church to accept a position as Executive Presbyter in the Presbytery of Wabash Valley.

A-I-2 The Rev. Mel Roblee is leaving his position as Interim Pastor at the First Presbyterian Church, Guthrie Center, due to medical reasons.

PROFESSIONAL CARE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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

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

B-A-1 Transferred the Rev. Dan Ogata to the Presbytery of Great Rivers.

B-A-2 Transferred the Rev. Tom Bower to the Presbytery of North Central Iowa.

B-A-3 Gave permission to the Rev. David Endriss to labor outside the bounds of the Presbytery to officiate at a wedding in Alexandria, Minnesota, on June 22, 2007.

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

B-R-1 Remove the Rev. John Zieman from the Active Member Roll of the Presbytery.

B-R-2 Approve changes in call for pastors in 2007 (This list appears as **Appendix F** at the end of these minutes.).

OTHER BUSINESS

Elder Leland Smith (Newton, First) presented the final report of the Administrative Commission to close the First Presbyterian Church of Colfax. (This report appears as **Appendix G** at the end of these minutes.)

The Presbytery VOTED to dismiss the Commission with thanks for its work.

The Presbytery VOTED to express its gratitude to the members and staff of the Dallas Center for their gracious hospitality.

ADJOURNMENT AND BENEDICTION

The Presbytery VOTED to adjourn. The Rev. John Reynolds (Brooklyn, First and Malcom) offered the closing prayer.

The next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery will be held on Tuesday, May 15, 2007, at the Covenant Presbyterian Church in West Des Moines.

Respectfully Submitted,

Philip W. Barrett,
Stated Clerk

Nancy Wilson,
Recording Clerk

APPENDIX A

E1 – BILLS AND OVERTURES TASK GROUP REPORT

January 20, 2007

The Bills and Overtures Task Group met on January 4, 2007, at the Presbytery Office.

The Bills and Overtures Task Group recommends the following actions on the Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.):

(The Proposed Amendments in A and B will each be handled in a single or omnibus motion, as will Proposed Amendments C through F.)

- | | | |
|--------------|---|------------|
| 06-A. | Revision of <i>Form of Government</i>, Chapter XIV with Additional Amendments to <i>Book of Order</i> Preface and G-6.0500, G-6.0600, G-6.0700, G-9.0405, G-11.0405, G-11.0408 and G-11.0405 | YES |
|--------------|---|------------|

Background

The 216th General Assembly (2004) directed the Office of the General Assembly (OGA) to engage in consultations across the denomination about the desire for revisions to the *Form of Government*. These consultations led to a recommendation by the 217th General Assembly (2006) that a task force be appointed to draft a proposal for a simplified *Form of Government*, a proposal for an immediate simplification of Chapter XIV, which is Amendment 06-A.1, related amendments to other parts of the *Form of Government*, which are Amendment 06-A.2, and a proposal for six other amendments to Chapter XIV, which are Amendment 06-B.

Brief Description

Amendment 06-A.1 proposes a simplification of Chapter XIV of the *Form of Government* to provide more flexibility to presbyteries in candidacy and minister placements. It is not intended to make any substantive change in Chapter XIV or the practices that have grown up under it. Amendments 06-A.2.a adds provisions relating to advisory handbooks “to guide synods and presbyteries in procedures related to the oversight of ministry.” These are to be developed by GA agencies, in consultation with the OGA and middle governing bodies. Their use is commended, but not mandatory.

Amendment 06-A.2.b moves language relating to dissolution of the relationship of elder or deacon to a new section G-6.0500.

Amendment 06-A.2.c moves provisions relating to release from the exercise of ordained office to a new section G-6.0600.

Amendment 06-A.d moves provisions relating to employment of a minister of another denomination in a temporary relationship to a new section G-11.0405c.

Amendment 06-A.2.e makes existing section G-11.0408 subsection a of G-11.0408 and moves provisions relating to a call to a validated ministry to new subsections b and c of G-11.0408.

2. This amendment allows presbyteries to allow qualified candidates to administer the sacraments (even if the candidate is not an ordained elder (see W-3.3616d). This will allow candidates to pastor small congregations, where they may remain for a few years even after they are ordained.
3. Larger membership congregations would be able to mentor a candidate in a large congregation setting, which many candidates will not be able to experience otherwise.

**06-B.3. Removing Synod Approval of Extraordinary Exam Process – On Amending YES
G-14.0313b**

Brief Description

Amendment 06-B.3 removes the requirement of synod approval of a presbytery's alternate examination procedures for candidates who have failed one or more examinations twice or have a documented disability.

Rationale for Recommendation

1. The amendment restores final approval of alternate ordination exams to presbyteries, where it belongs.
2. Synods often simply approve such processes without careful scrutiny. Presbyteries are very able to judge the adequacy of the alternate process for themselves.
3. The requirement of synod approval creates a bureaucratic delay in a candidate's process, without being a safeguard of the process.

**06-C. Enabling New General Assembly Council Structure – On Amending YES
G-9.0703, G013.0107, G-13.0201 and G-13.0202**

Brief Description

The General Assembly Council (GAC) completed a self-evaluation in 2003, reaching the conclusion that the GAC needed a closer relationship with middle governing bodies and congregations and that its size was too large. In addition, the move to biennial assemblies has changed terms of office and altered the functions of the GAC. This amendment proposes changes in the structure of the GAC that are responsive to the conclusions of the self-evaluation.

Background

The amendment seeks to make the GAC more responsive to middle governing bodies and congregations by reducing its size and emphasizing cooperation and communication with presbytery and synod executives. The new structure also is intended to support the four goal areas that are now the structure of the General Assembly's *Mission Work Plan*. It removes from the GAC its oversight and coordination responsibilities and redirects it toward providing resources to support the work of middle governing bodies.

Specifically, G-9.0703 is amended to remove the requirement that the GAC concur in the election of executives of General Assembly agencies; G-13.0201 is amended to provide that each synod will name a member of the GAC and all the GA permanent committees and to eliminate GAC responsibility for coordinating the work of GA agencies and lower governing bodies, GAC review of the work of GA agencies and bodies, budget preparation, and matters relating to administrative staff, compensation, and personnel policies at the GA and middle governing body levels. It amends G-13.0202 to grant to the General Assembly responsibility for the membership, terms of office, and officers of the GAC,

eliminating the specification of voting members previously in this section and moving them to a GAC *Manual of Operations*.

Rationale for Recommendation

1. The amendment realigns the GAC's role consistently with the move away from a top-heavy denominational structure toward a structure centered in the presbyteries.
2. Even though this is not a finished product, it is a major step in a positive direction as the reduced size of the GAC will enable it to work more efficiently and with greater accountability.
3. The amendment eliminates the role of the GAC in the election of executives of General Assembly agencies, as well as its responsibilities for administrative staff, compensation, and personnel policies.
4. Biennial assemblies have changed terms of office and altered the functions of the GAC over a two-year period.
5. It is important to have a structure that fits with the new *Mission Work Plan*.
6. A smaller council and a commitment to meet annually with presbytery and synod executives will encourage communication and mutual learning to happen.

06-D. Opening Committee on Ministry to Access by Commissioned Lay Pastors YES

Brief Description

Commission Lay Pastors (CLP) serve the function of a minister to a particular congregation. The CLP, although an elder, may not be a member of the session of the church he or she is serving. The amendment provides access by the CLP to the committee on ministry on the same basis as elders who are members of session and ministers.

Rationale for Recommendation

1. The amendments corrects and oversight that was made when CLP provisions were added to the *Book of Order*.
2. It is appropriate for the Committee on Ministry to have the same relationship with commissioned lay pastors and with ministers serving particular congregations.

06-E. Members of the Synod – On Amending G-12.0101 YES

Background

The *Book of Order* permits presbyteries to enroll officers, committee chair-persons and council members as members during their respective terms of office. The synods have lacked this authority. This amendment allows persons in the specified positions to have voice and vote at synod meetings.

Rationale for Recommendation

1. The amendment grants authority to synods to enroll officers, committee chairpersons and council members as voting members of the synod during their terms of office.
2. This measure gives voice and vote to a group of ministers and elders who are actively engaged in the work of the synod.

06-F. Naming Certified Christian Educators as Mandated Reporters – On YES
Amending G-14.0701

Brief Description

Amendment 06-F would mandate certified Christian educators and certified associate Christian educators in the course of their service to report to ecclesiastical and civil authorities harm or risk of harm, abuse, or neglect of a minor or of an adult who lacks mental capacity, “when such information is gained outside of a privileged communication” or when the reporting person “reasonably believes there is risk of future physical harm or abuse.”

Background

In the shadow of public revelations of clergy abuse in the national media, the 216th General Assembly (2004) approved, as did a majority of presbyteries, the inclusion in *Form of Government* Chapter VI sentences mandating ministers of Word and Sacrament, elders and deacons to report abuse or neglect of a minor or of an adult who lack mental capacity. Amendment 06-F would extend that mandated reporting responsibility to certified Christian educators and certified associate Christian educators. The inclusion of certified Christian educators and certified associate Christian educators as mandated reporters recognizes that it is ethically consistent for them to adhere to the same reporting standards as church officers in that they serve in the same environment and often have more contact and supervision of the children, minors and adults who lack mental capacity than many church officers.

Rationale for Recommendation

1. Once the tragic damage that can flow from abuse and neglect by even one person was more widely seen, the church through amendment of its Constitution responded by mandating minister of Word and Sacrament, elders and deacons to report “...harm, or risk of harm, related to the physical abuse, neglect, and/or sexual molestation or abuse of a minor or an adult who lacks mental capacity when (1) such information is gained outside of privileged communication; or (2) he or she reasonably believes that there is risk of future physical harm or abuse.” This reporting responsibility should be extended by amendment 06-F to include Certified Christian Educators and Certified Associate Christian educators for the same reasons.
2. The church’s ministry of love in Christ’s name minimally includes the protection from harm of children and others who are at risk of abuse and neglect in the community.
3. This amendment gives structure and responsibility to persons called and employed in congregations and governing bodies to report suspected wrongful behaviors thus extending the care of the church to the most vulnerable of God’s children and making the church’s intent to do so more visible.
4. If we entrust people who are vulnerable into the care and ministry of those who are specifically accredited to provide Christian education in our church, then extending this standard of practice regarding mandated reporting will have both symbolic and practical value in order to demonstrate our commitment to the spiritual well-being of all the people of Jesus Christ.

The “Analysis of Amendments to the constitution Proposed by the 217th General Assembly (2006) provided by the Association of Stated Clerks has been very helpful in preparing this report.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Babovec
Ray Peters



CROSS Ministries

2006 Annual Report

Presbytery Meeting

January 20, 2007

CROSS Ministries

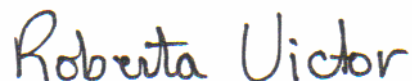
Achievements: Top 6 for '06

1. Provided basic survival needs of rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to more than 1,100 individuals.
2. Provided car gas, laundry vouchers, personal hygiene items, cleaning supplies, baby items, licenses, identification, storage costs to families in transition, birth certificates, and hats, mittens and scarves to more than 1,500 individuals.
3. Provided 729 school children with a backpack filled with the grade appropriate school supplies necessary to begin their school year.
4. Advocated for change of social, economic, and political systems through community networking, partnerships, and outreach on behalf of the working poor, the unemployed, the disabled, the mentally ill, and people in cultural transition.
5. Offered informational lectures, sermons, and workshops to more than twenty different church, academic, and community groups.
6. Increased the amount of time spent with each family so that they know we understand their personal situation and that we are concerned about them as people.

CROSS Ministries wishes to THANK YOU for your continuing support of this outreach ministry to the poor.

This work has been made possible because of your gifts!

In peace,



Roberta Victor, MA, ATR

Director of CROSS Ministries

CROSS MINISTRIES

2006 Annual Report

CROSS Ministries is a social outreach ministry of Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church with funding from Cottage Grove, the Presbytery of Des Moines, various grants, fundraisers, churches, and private donors.

CROSS Ministries provides direct financial assistance to low and no income households, works to change the systems that perpetuate poverty and oppression, advocates for justice, and educates the faith community and others on factors impacting homelessness such as the lack of living wage jobs, lack of affordable housing, substance abuse, and mental illness.

The CROSS Ministries Committee meets monthly to receive reports, make decisions regarding the ministry, and to provide support for the Director. In addition, monthly reports are given to the Session and to the Presbytery of Des Moines. The membership of the committee is made up of 6 members from Cottage Grove Presbyterian Church, the Rev. Dr. David Madsen of Cottage Grove, and representatives from Covenant, Central, Douglas Avenue, Windsor, Heartland, Union Park, and Knox Presbyterian churches.

The CROSS staff is made up of a Director Roberta Victor and part-time Administrative Assistant Ann McGowan.

The Director's responsibilities include but are not limited to: meeting with low and no income clients to provide direct financial assistance; advocating for positive social change; writing grants; overseeing fundraisers; preparing for the Annual Back to School Giveaway; serving as pulpit supply to other churches; providing presentations to religious, civic, and social groups; coordinating volunteers; maintaining client records, preparing reports; and maintaining the CROSS Personal Hygiene Pantry.

The Administrative Assistant's responsibilities for CROSS include but are not limited to: providing the initial screening of CROSS clients to determine if they have the appropriate paperwork to apply for assistance, addressing client questions over the phone and in person, entering client data into Service Point, data entry of donations, and assisting with the CROSS Personal Hygiene Pantry.

Direct Assistance

In 2006 CROSS Ministries assisted more than 800 families, 1,800 individuals, with emergency assistance to pay for mortgage, rent, or rent deposits, storage costs for families in transition, and electric, gas, or water bills. Other assistance included transportation needs such as car gas, bus tokens, or car repairs, Laundromat vouchers, birth certificates, identification, personal hygiene items, paper products, cleaning supplies, sleeping bags, blankets, gloves, hats and scarves, and baby items such as diapers, baby clothes, and blankets.

Following is a sampling of a few of the families we were able to assist during 2006:

- A 54-year-old woman named Emily came to CROSS Ministries seeking financial help to pay her month's rent. It was the first time she had ever had to ask an agency for financial help. Emily had been working as a waitress at a local family restaurant for many years. She is also the sole support of her three grandchildren, ages 6, 7, and 8 years old, for whom she has custody. Stepping out of the bathtub one evening, Emily slipped on the floor and broke her ankle. Because she did not have health insurance and needed the income to support her family, Emily returned to her job as a waitress, taking orders and carrying trays of food while experiencing a broken ankle. After a month had passed, Emily knew that the situation had become intolerable and she would have to go to the doctor. Surgery was required to repair the ankle, but then she was told she could not return to work for 6 to 8 weeks. CROSS assisted Emily with the rent money needed for her and the children to remain in her apartment.
- Earlier this year, a family came to CROSS to ask for assistance because they had been living without water for two weeks. In general, they had a very stable existence. The family had lived in their own home for ten years. The husband worked for a local pizza delivery business and had been employed there for several years. Still, with the high fuel costs, the family had trouble staying on their budget and ran into financial difficulties that resulted in a disconnection of their water. Without water, they faced considerable new challenges including an inability to flush toilets, wash clothes, cook food, wash dishes, bathe, or brush their teeth. The family had been relying on water obtained from the husband's mother's apartment, two blocks away, in order to survive. They would fill buckets and other containers and carry them down the street to their apartment. With a check from CROSS Ministries, we were able to restore the family's water service and get the family back on track with their finances. When I handed the mother the check, she promptly burst into tears of gratitude and gave me a huge hug.
- Another family that I met with in 2006 consisted of a mother, father, and their four children ranging in ages from 2 to 8 years old. The father was a construction worker while the mother worked part time as a nurse in a care facility. A couple of months earlier, the father had been laid off from his job, which just happened to coincide with the time that the mother needed to renew her nursing license. With four young children to care for, they struggled to meet their most basic needs consisting of food, rent, utilities, car gas, and insurance. Like many in construction, the father was not eligible for unemployment benefits. By the time the mother came to my office, they had fallen behind on their rent and her nursing license had expired since she had not been able to come up with the \$99 to have it renewed. Now there was an additional penalty fee of \$50. To make matters worse, she could not work with an expired license. Fortunately, the father had just started a new job but he had not yet received his first paycheck. In addition, the nursing home had agreed to hold the mother's job until she could get the matter resolved. When I told her that CROSS Ministries would pay to reinstate her nursing license, she was thrilled! With the first smile that I had seen from her, she excitedly told me that with her nursing license she could earn enough money to pay their rent by the end of the next week. I made a check out to the Iowa Board of Nursing for the 149 dollars.

Back to School Giveaway

The 14th Annual Back to School Giveaway was held on July 27 and 28 at Cottage Grove Presbyterian Church. Six hundred and one (601) children from low-income households, from Head Start through high school, were given a backpack filled with the supplies needed to begin the school year. These supplies included paper, pencils, pens, notebooks, crayons, markers, rulers, glue, scissors, as well as many other items. In previous years, leftover backpacks and supplies were stored away immediately following the giveaway. This year I continued to provide backpacks to parents who had been unable to come to the giveaway and were now arriving at CROSS in need of assistance with other basic needs such as rent or utilities. Therefore, an additional 128 supply packets were given out *bringing our total to 729 children*. More importantly, no child in need was turned away!

Special thanks go to Kate Nelson for all of her hard work on the giveaway and Dennis Victor for shopping the internet for the best deals and ordering many of the supplies in bulk quantities.

Fundraisers

- **Luncheon for the 465th Meeting of the Presbytery of Des Moines:** Pastors, commissioners, and visitors from approximately 60 churches throughout the Presbytery of Des Moines attended the Presbytery meeting at CG Church on August 19, 2006. Under the leadership of Mary Kay Barker, Joyce Hoffman, and Rhonda Heggen, the luncheon provided by CROSS was a rave success! Special thanks to Ron Grohe, Terry McGowan, and many others in the faith community for the weeks they spent this summer painting and working on the church in preparation for the meeting. A special offering was taken for CROSS during the Presbytery meeting and the proceeds from the luncheon went to the CROSS general fund.
- **Homeless Blues Benefit Concert:** The Homeless Blues Benefit Concert was our primary fundraiser during 2006. With the help of Dennis Victor, three local blues bands and several Iowa Blues Hall of Fame members were contacted and asked to volunteer their time and talents to perform at the concert. Staff and committee members spent many hours in preparations that included contacting television, newspaper, and radio stations, creating and distributing posters, preparing concert brochures, and attaching labels to 1,000 harmonica tickets. The end result was that we (1) made some money to help our families in crisis, (2) raised public awareness of the work of CROSS Ministries and the crisis of homelessness, and (3) provided a truly fun evening of entertainment that will not soon be forgotten.

Community Outreach and Advocacy

Following are a sampling of the some of the community outreach and advocacy groups in which CROSS has representation:

- **Polk County Housing Continuum** - The mission of the Polk County Housing Continuum is 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 lack of affordable housing. This includes fostering open communication and facilitating collaboration among existing affordable housing delivery systems. Housing Continuum members include agencies, organizations, and groups that provide services including: permanent supportive

housing, transitional housing, emergency shelter housing, and outreach to meet basic needs such as housing, healthcare, and food. The group meets the third Wednesday of each month.

- **Healthy Polk 2010** – Healthy Polk 2010 is a movement of individuals and community organizations with a mission to improve health status, longevity and quality of life for persons living in Polk County, Iowa. This mission is accomplished by providing greater access to health care, health promotion information, appropriate health protection and disease prevention services, and healthier physical and social environments. Healthy Polk meets on the second Friday of every other month at the United Way building. The group explores ways in which community resources can be leveraged to make measurable progress towards improved health and quality of life in specific categories of: access to health care, general health, healthy weight, mental health, social engagement, spirituality, and substance abuse.
- **Mental Health Workgroup** – The Mental Health Workgroup (MHW) is a subgroup of Healthy Polk 2010 that meets the second Tuesday of every month at Mercy Franklin. MHW is a collaboration of mental health professionals from public and private organizations in Polk County. The group is very active and seeks to provide a range of low or no-cost outreach services to the community. In September, the workgroup hosted a one-day conference at Four Oaks Treatment Facility in West Des Moines. The purpose of the conference was to present basic information regarding depression and its damaging effects. In October the group provided free depression screenings at a wide range of locations throughout Des Moines and the surrounding communities including Cottage Grove Presbyterian Church. Public service announcements were made regarding the times and locations via television, newspaper, and radio broadcast.
- **Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council** – The purpose of the Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council is to bring together interfaith, voluntary and governmental organizations active in disaster services to foster a more effective response and recovery for the people and animals of Iowa in times of disaster by the following means: 1) cooperation – creating a climate for cooperation, information sharing and meeting together; 2) coordination – fostering a common understanding with public offices; 3) communication – increasing mutual awareness and understanding of each organization; 4) collaboration – arranging meetings, conferences, and training as necessary; 5) legislation – encouraging effective disaster relief legislation and policy. CROSS’ particular focus of involvement is regarding the effects of a disaster on “Special Needs” populations.
- **Iowa Crisis Response Team** – The Iowa Crisis Response Team, under the division of the Iowa Attorney General’s Crime Victim Assistance Division, responds to Iowa communities that experience a crime-related, human, or natural disaster. Its goals are to assist local caregivers to plan and implement immediate and long-range response after a catastrophe or disaster; provide emotional and respite support to local caregivers; provide focused training on immediate crisis response and long-term reduction of traumatic stress; and provide group-debriefing sessions to critical population groups in cooperation with local caregivers. Occasionally the team is called to respond nationally in the event of a major disaster such as 9-11.
- **Friends of Iowa Women Prisoners** – Criminal justice issues have long been a concern of mine particularly within the intersection of early dysfunctional family life, mental health issues, self medication, homelessness, and eventual incarceration. The Friends of Iowa Women Prisoners is a group that advocates for statewide humanitarian attitudes to support the goal of rehabilitation and adequate funding for rehabilitation programs.

- **Service Providers Group** – This is a network of “front-line” social workers in the community who gather the third Thursday of every month to share information, network, and serve as a sounding board for ideas to coordinate the needs of low-income clients.

Summary of Presentations/Sermons Made during 2006:

One of the goals of CROSS Ministries is to create a vision of justice and educate the public by witnessing to issues impacting low and no income households. Therefore, I provided numerous presentations to church and community groups, academic institutions, and conferences/ workshops. Following is a sampling of some of those presentations during 2006:

Faith Community:

- Presentation to the Indianola Ministerial Alliance, Scotch Ridge Presbyterian Church in Carlisle
- Led worship at St. Paul Presbyterian Church, Johnston
- Presentation during a Presbytery of Des Moines Meeting held at Windsor Heights Presbyterian Church
- Led worship at Fort Des Moines Presbyterian Church
- Presentation to the First Presbyterian Church Confirmation Class in Grinnell
- Presentation to the First Presbyterian Church Confirmation Class in Dallas Center
- Led worship at Union Park Presbyterian Church of Des Moines
- Presentation to Westminster Presbyterian Church Sunday School Class in Des Moines
- Led worship at Knox Presbyterian Church in Des Moines
- Led an all-church presentation on mission and assisted with worship at Park Avenue Presbyterian Church in Des Moines
- Led worship at Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church in Des Moines
- Presentation to the Highland Park Presbyterian Women in Des Moines
- Presentation to the Tuesday Fellowship Group, Westminster Presbyterian Church in Des Moines

Academic Institutions:

- Presentation to the Des Moines Public School System Success Program
- Presentation to the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City
- Presentation to Iowa State University, Ames
- Presentation for Grinnell Regional Medical Center, Senior Seminars Series

Conferences/ Workshops and Community Groups:

- Presentation at the World Refugee Day Event, Des Moines
- Presentation to a PEO group, West Des Moines
- Presentation for the 2006 Iowa Disaster Preparedness Conference sponsored by the Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council and Homeland Security on crisis response with “Special Needs” clients.

Additional Areas of Involvement:

Trailer Park Evictions: One situation that came to my attention in early spring was a crisis that was forming in relation to a mass eviction of the tenants of the Andrews Trailer Park. The property owner felt that the land was more valuable when sold than it was to maintain it as a rental property for low income residents. Exacerbating the problem were factors such as underground pipes that needed to be replaced, building code violations, and trailers that were in such disrepair that they could not be moved. In spite of the fact that the tenants were given a 60-day notice, many families did not leave because they were lacking in resources and simply did not know where to go or what to do. CROSS Ministries, in cooperation with a group of community organizations and social service agencies held an emergency meeting and organized an informational relocation fair that was held at United Church of Christ in Urbandale. Our group included Legal Aid, Home Inc., Des Moines Citizens for Community Improvement (CCI), Regents Bank, Catholic Charities, and St. Vincent de Paul. Because of the cooperative efforts of CROSS and the other agencies, a successful outcome was reached. A continuing concern is that during the next ten years the majority of the area trailer parks are scheduled to close.

Birth Certificates: A more recent concern that CROSS addressed involved the medical need for birth certificates. Due to new governmental regulations, individuals attempting to acquire their medicine from Broadlawns Medical Center, the county hospital, are now required to show not only a picture I.D., but a birth certificate as well. This is a problem for many low and no income individuals who do not have possession of their birth certificate or the money to purchase one. It is even more problematic for individuals who were born out of state or out of the country. Several of the CROSS clients had been without the medicine necessary to treat serious medical conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, migraine headaches, and more. In a meeting with Primary Healthcare, we were able to obtain the information needed to steer clients to their services to access medicine immediately while CROSS paid for the cost of a new birth certificate.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to the Rev. Dr. David Madsen, Ann McGowan, the members of the CROSS Committee, and the numerous volunteers for their dedication and support of this ministry. I would also like to thank the Presbytery of Des Moines and the faith community for generously providing the funds to operate this outreach to the poor in our midst. It is due to the combined efforts of ALL that this program continues to meet the needs of so many in crisis.

In peace,

Roberta Victor
Director of CROSS Ministries

January – December 2006

CROSS Ministries Advocacy Breakdown

Total Number Assisted – 807 Families / 1,829 Individuals

Rent/Shelter – 433, Utilities – 66, Other – 308

January:	Families	72	July:	Families	56
	Individuals	136		Individuals	126
	Rent/Shelter	33		Rent/Shelter	28
	Utilities	3		Utilities	4
	Other	36		Other	24
February:	Families	83	August:	Families	73
	Individuals	159		Individuals	172
	Rent/Shelter	36		Rent/Shelter	30
	Utilities	3		Utilities	5
	Other	44		Other	38
March:	Families	68	September:	Families	57
	Individuals	147		Individuals	146
	Rent/Shelter	33		Rent/Shelter	28
	Utilities	5		Utilities	12
	Other	30		Other	17
April:	Families	71	October:	Families	54
	Individuals	150		Individuals	139
	Rent/Shelter	33		Rent/Shelter	34
	Utilities	5		Utilities	8
	Other	33		Other	12
May:	Families	68	November:	Families	57
	Individuals	162		Individuals	136
	Rent/Shelter	46		Rent/Shelter	41
	Utilities	8		Utilities	4
	Other	14		Other	12
June:	Families	65	December:	Families	83
	Individuals	176		Individuals	180
	Rent/Shelter	37		Rent/Shelter	54
	Utilities	1		Utilities	8
	Other	27		Other	21

Back to School Giveaway, July 27 & 28:

In addition to the assistance reported above, **729 school children** received a backpack filled with grade appropriate school supplies necessary to begin their school year.

- “Other” includes car gas, laundry vouchers, personal hygiene items, cleaning supplies, baby items, licenses, storage costs, birth certificates, identification, licenses for employment, etc.
- Most families receiving assistance were helped in more than one area but were only counted once.

CROSS Ministries

2006 Year-End Budget Comparison

Income	Budget	Actual
C.G Building Subsidy	12,000	12,000
Cottage Grove Church	3,000	1,026
Prairie Meadows	10,000	10,000
Polk County	5,000	5,000
Homeless Assistance Grant	8,000	8,000
Homeless Blues Concert	2,200	2,577
Other Fund Raisers	3,200	822
Gifts	25,500	39,200
Back-to-School Giveaway		3,309
B-to-S Value of Supplies		1,400
Gifts-Donated Goods	11,000	11,000
Des Moines Presbytery	55,000	55,000
TOTAL INCOME	134,900	149,334
Expenses		
Direct Assistance-cash	56,000	57,021
Direct Assistance-Pantry	11,000	11,000
Back-to-School Giveaway		2,393
B-to-S Value of Supplies		1,400
Total Assistance	67,000	71,814
Director		
Salary	38,133	38,133
Car	1,200	1,200
Pension Fund	11,821	8,815
Education	1,000	1,000
Social Security	2,917	2,917
Total	55,071	52,065
Additional Expense		
CG Overhead	12,000	12,000
Miscellaneous Expense	500	222
Administrative/Secretary	6,598	3,486
Total Additional Expense	19,098	15,708
TOTAL EXPENSES	141,169	139,587

APPENDIX C

D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**Presbytery of Des Moines****Income Statement****For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2006**

	Current Month	Current Year-to-Date	Annual Budget	% of Budget	Prior Year-to-Date
Income					
Total Per Capita	\$10,887.53	\$249,500.32	\$262,325.00	95.11	\$148,525.00
Presbytery General Mission	\$16,902.92	\$127,511.80	\$142,000.00	89.80	\$173,102.00
Synod Support Staff Salaries	\$3,333.33	\$39,999.96	\$40,000.00	100.00	\$40,000.00
H.A.E. Income	\$0.00	\$2,990.00	\$4,000.00	74.75	\$2,990.00
Interest Income	\$64.73	\$1,240.96	\$1,000.00	124.10	\$22,516.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$550.00	\$75,320.31	\$0.00	0.00	\$6,011.00
Total Revenues	\$31,738.51	\$496,563.35	\$449,325.00	110.51	\$393,144.00
Expenses					
<u>Governance Expense</u>					
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$0.00	\$3,032.31	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$3,015.84	\$4,523.78	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$0.00	\$61.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
Committee Preparation for Ministry	\$427.75	\$1,499.14	\$2,000.00	74.96	\$1,912.00
Committee Representation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	0.00	\$0.00
Budget & Finance Committee	\$44.75	\$44.75	\$100.00	44.75	\$0.00
Nominating Committee	\$0.00	\$146.00	\$150.00	97.33	\$124.00
Personnel Committee	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	0.00	\$46.00
Sexual Misconduct Response Team	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	0.00	\$0.00
GA Per Capita	\$0.00	\$59,599.00	\$59,599.00	100.00	\$0.00
Synod Per Capita	\$0.00	\$48,471.00	\$48,471.00	100.00	\$0.00
Depreciation Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$6,512.00
Depreciation Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$1,328.00
Subtotal	\$3,488.34	\$117,376.98	\$110,920.00	105.82	\$9,922.00
<u>Administrative Expense</u>					
Moderator's Expense/Task Groups	\$173.89	\$628.29	\$350.00	179.51	\$731.00
Administrative Commissions	\$0.00	\$178.86	\$250.00	71.54	\$0.00
Presbytery Meetings	\$0.00	\$164.30	\$100.00	164.30	\$24.00
GP to General Assembly	\$0.00	\$1,339.47	\$2,000.00	66.97	\$0.00
Commissioner Orientation	\$0.00	\$79.62	\$100.00	79.62	\$0.00
Stated Clerk's Expense	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$50.00	60.00	\$0.00
Communication	\$0.00	\$298.95	\$500.00	59.79	\$734.00
Insurance	(\$1,011.00)	\$5,155.00	\$4,200.00	122.74	\$3,495.00
Legal Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal	(\$837.11)	\$7,874.49	\$8,550.00	92.10	\$4,984.00

D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT continued...

	Current Month	Current Year-to-Date	Annual Budget	% of Budget	Prior Year-to-Date
Extension of Ministries					
New Church Development Task Force	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	0.00	\$0.00
NCD Loan Interest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$700.00	0.00	\$366.00
Transformation Conference	\$20,063.25	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00	300.00	\$0.00
Church Development Support	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$1,000.00
Social Ministries Task Force	(\$15.00)	\$2,916.11	\$10,000.00	29.16	\$10,336.00
El Salvador Mission Assoc-Benefits	\$0.00	\$5,642.19	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
CROSS Ministries	\$0.00	\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00	100.00	\$55,000.00
Special Events Task Force	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$303.00
Camping	\$2,185.99	\$2,556.12	\$4,000.00	63.90	\$7,954.00
Youth	\$251.75	\$223.63	\$500.00	44.73	\$146.00
Resources	(\$916.98)	\$339.03	\$300.00	113.01	\$211.00
Women's Advocacy Task Force	\$0.00	\$303.44	\$300.00	101.15	\$185.00
Subtotal	\$21,569.01	\$69,980.52	\$72,300.00	96.79	\$75,501.00
Support of Local Ministries					
Congregational Care & Development Committee	\$0.00	\$2,864.68	\$5,000.00	57.29	\$10,630.00
Initiative Grants	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	100.00	\$0.00
Des Moines Cottage Grove Avenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$4,000.00
Chariton First Presbyterian	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$5,000.00
Conflict Management Resourcing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	0.00	\$0.00
Resourcing Workshops	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	0.00	\$0.00
Professional Care & Development Committee	\$315.37	\$2,219.19	\$2,500.00	88.77	\$1,901.00
EMI	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$6,000.00
Regional Partners					
Southeast	\$0.00	\$185.00	\$500.00	37.00	\$0.00
East	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	0.00	\$0.00
DM West/NW	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$500.00	30.00	\$0.00
Southwest	\$0.00	\$4,850.00	\$4,000.00	121.25	\$4,000.00
West	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$3,000.00	16.67	\$2,360.00
South Central	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	0.00	\$108.00
DM Two Rivers	\$505.41	\$2,245.82	\$3,500.00	64.17	\$3,338.00
Coordinating Council	\$77.75	\$313.53	\$300.00	104.51	\$437.00
Worship Task Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	0.00	\$0.00
Bills & Overtures Task Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	0.00	\$0.00
Contingency	\$0.00	\$495.00	\$1,000.00	49.50	\$0.00
Presbytery Office	\$1,656.33	\$33,211.85	\$27,826.00	119.36	\$28,813.00
Presbytery Staff	\$18,654.69	\$214,798.08	\$196,222.00	109.47	\$195,473.00
Subtotal	\$21,209.55	\$271,833.15	\$261,323.00	104.02	\$262,060.00
Total Expenses	\$45,429.79	\$467,065.14	\$453,093.00	103.08	\$352,467.00
Net Income	(\$13,691.28)	\$29,498.21	(\$3,768.00)	(782.86)	\$40,677.00

01/09/2007; 4:00 p.m.

D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

January 20, 2007
Presbytery of Des Moines

Restricted Funds
As of December 31, 2006

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. \$46,792.94

Swan Fund

Interest earnings used for seminary student's assistance. \$19,430.18

Albia Sale

Restricted until 2006 for congregational development in the Albia area. After 2006 can be used for the assistance of small churches in the Presbytery. \$27,330.82

Camping Fund – Knox Knolls

$\frac{3}{4}$ of interest earnings used for the camping program. \$345,818.93
 $\frac{1}{4}$ of interest earnings used for Presbytery causes.

Walther/Anderson Fund

Scholarship aid for underprivileged and handicapped campers. \$20,633.11

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

Short term loans for pastors. \$372.61

APPENDIX D

D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

January 20, 2007
Presbytery of Des Moines
Proposed Budget 2007

	2006 Actual	2007 Requested
	\$14.90/10,700	\$16.60/10,493
INCOME		
Per Capita	\$159,430.00	\$155,415.00
General Mission	\$142,000.00	\$141,680.00
Synod Support Staff Salaries	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
Carryover Previous Year	\$0.00	
Income Restricted Funds	\$4,000.00	\$18,150.00
Interest Income	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Bad Debt Estimate	(\$5,000.00)	(\$5,000.00)
Total Income	\$341,430.00	\$351,245.00
EXPENSE		
Governance		
CPM	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Steward/Mission Interpret Committee		\$800.00
Perm. Judicial Committee	-0	0
Committee On Representation	\$100.00	
Budget & Finance	\$100.00	\$100.00
Nominating Committee	\$150.00	\$150.00
Personnel	\$100.00	\$75.00
Sexual Misconduct Team	\$400.00	0
Subtotal	\$2,850.00	\$2,725.00
Administrative		
Moderator/Task Forces	\$350.00	\$350.00
Admin Commissions	\$250.00	\$250.00
Presbytery Meetings	\$100.00	\$200.00
GP/Stated Clerk to GA	\$2,000.00	
Commissioner Orientation	\$100.00	\$100.00
Stated Clerk Expense	\$50.00	\$50.00
Communication	\$500.00	\$400.00
Insurance	\$4,200.00	\$4,200.00
Attorney	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
Subtotal	\$8,550.00	\$7,050.00

	2006 Actual	2007 Requested
EXPENSE continued	\$14.90/10,700	\$16.60/10,493
Extension of Ministries		
Church Development		
Task Force	\$500.00	\$0.00
GA Loan int./Principal	\$700.00	\$0.00
Church Transformation	\$1,000.00	\$8,000.00
Social Ministries	\$10,000.00	\$8,600.00
CROSS Ministries		\$8,400.00
Special Events	\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00
Camping	\$4,000.00	\$5,000.00
Youth	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
Resources	\$300.00	\$300.00
Advocacy for Women	\$300.00	\$100.00
Subtotal	\$72,300.00	\$86,400.00
Support of Local Ministries		
Congregational Care & Development	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Incentive Grants	\$10,000.00	\$7,500.00
Conflict Mgmt Resourcing	\$2,000.00	
Resourcing Workshops	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00
Professional Care & Development	\$2,500.00	\$3,300.00
Regional Partners		
Southeast	\$500.00	\$300.00
East	\$1,500.00	
DM West/Northwest	\$500.00	
Southwest	\$4,000.00	\$5,000.00
West	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00
South Central	\$300.00	\$200.00
DM Two Rivers	\$3,500.00	\$3,000.00
Coordinating Council	\$300.00	\$300.00
Worship Task Group	\$100.00	\$100.00
Bills & Overtures	\$75.00	\$75.00
Emergency Contingency	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Presbytery Office	\$40,000.00	\$40,046.00
Staff Salaries/Benefits	\$190,839.00	\$198,279.00
Subtotal	\$268,114.00	\$266,600.00
TOTAL OF ALL EXPENSE	\$351,814.00	\$362,775.00
BUDGET SURPLUS/DEFICIT	(\$10,384.00)	(\$11,530.00)

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

APPENDIX E

J – GENERAL PRESBYTER REPORT
January 20, 2007

Now we're about 2/3rds of the way through January, so most of the hoopla about resolutions for a new year has died down. At the same time, we are still early in the new year, so we still have the opportunity to consider some thoughts for the rest of the year.

As I have been thinking about what might lie ahead for us as individuals, congregations and a presbytery, it seems to me that we all need to re-discover the amazing love God has for us, to grasp it and to share it. As individuals, we are in dire need of God's love in Christ, and the world in which we have been placed needs it as well. All the hatred, hostility, divisiveness and mean-spiritedness bombarding us on a daily basis seem to drown out the Good News that came in the form of a child. While reflecting on this situation, I came across a paraphrase of *I Corinthians 13* written by George Gunn, and Honorable Retired minister member of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina Presbytery. It's entitled "Love's Habitat."

"Come in and sit a spell and I will tell you about One who did not have a place to lay his head.

"Tho' I speak with a down home dialect or choose to use high-flown phrases, bit I welcome you without demonstrating love for you, it will just be double talk and sounds echoing in an empty space.

"And if I have the power to anticipate your needs and to know what you want from me; and even if I have faith to move mountains of objections in order to offer you a home and resting place, but do it without your finding true neighborly love, I fail you.

"If I sacrifice my own comfort and deliver on every promised perk, but share without love, I gain nothing and give nothing of lasting value.

"Love that welcomes a stranger is patient with differences and kind in its judgments. It is not jealous of another's gifts and does not play games of one-up; it is not arrogant in its giving nor condescending in its conduct.

"Love that offers shelter is not insistent on its own life-style, is not irritated easily nor resentful of being needed; it does not rejoice in stumbling starts but rejoices in each successful step taken.

"Love that recognizes a neighbor shares the burden of past failures, believes in promises made, hopes for a homecoming, endures as long as it takes.

"Love never gives up. As for projections of failure or success, they will prove futile. As for stated expectations, they will cease to be cited. As for becoming deserving, it will slip between our fingers.

"For certainty eludes us, even our own, and our dreams die; but when self-giving love for a neighbor claims us, our imperfect mercy will be overwhelmed.

"When I began my faith journey, I thought I knew how to show hospitality. I spoke in theory of human rights. I thought of all families as having a roof over their heads. I reasoned that people being homeless was not my problem.

"When I grew up into my place in a world where each child of God deserves a home, I gave up my immature assumptions.

"For now we see our own limited vision reflected in society's values, but we yearn for a new vision of a human family sheltered and at home.

“Now I know only partially what it means that God has come to dwell in our midst, but I am coming to know more fully as I joint to make a habitat for humanity.

“So we dwell in the house of the Lord forever, with faith in the One who has prepared a place for us; with hope in an eternal homecoming, and above all with love for those who have not a place to lay their head. These three abide, but the greatest of these is the welcoming love of God.”

May these thoughts stimulate all of us as we receive God’s love and in turn share it with others. After all, this is our call.

Since we were last together, I have been a variety of places and done a variety of things. Here they are:

- Met with several pastors
- Met with the Windsor Administrative Commission and attended its Open Hearing
- Preached at First Presbyterian Church, Winterset
- Met with a session task force at First Presbyterian Church, Creston
- Attended a meeting of the “Prairie Think Tank,” a group of folks looking at different ways of doing regional governance
- Attended the Western Area Staff Conference in Burlingame, California
- Met with the Pastor Nominating Committee for the Trinity Parish (LeRoy and Humeston)
- Attended the Winter Synod Assembly in Farmington, Minnesota

As always, if you want to know more about any of these, please contact me.

And now, one more thing. When deadlines are set of receipt of information or publication, we need your help in meeting these. We are unable to provide copies of a new Presbytery Directory today because half of our churches have still not sent us the necessary information, and the deadline for this was December 1. Now, once we get all the needed information – and I hope this is soon since there have been many changes in persons and addresses – we will have to mail a copy to churches and presbytery members instead of distributing them at a meeting. If additional copies are desired, they will have to be picked up from the Presbytery Office or downloaded from the web site and copied. We are sorry for this delay, a delay out of our control. Our job in the Presbytery Office is to serve you in any way we can. In order to serve you in the area of communication, we need you to get the information to us in a timely manner so we can get it out to others who need or want it. We will greatly appreciate your assistance in getting this done.

As 2007 marches on, I look forward to the many opportunities for ministry we will have together, and I wish god’s richest blessings for you.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Phil Barrett, General Presbyter

APPENDIX F**PRESBYTERY OF DES MOINES
2007 SALARY CHANGES**

*You will note that **Appendix F** is not included. This is the chart listing Changes in Terms of Pastoral Calls. At the request of some minister members for limited release of these figures, this appendix will only be sent to a minister member of the Presbytery or a commissioner. You may request a copy by contacting the Presbytery Office.*

APPENDIX G

O3 – COLFAX ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION REPORT
January 20, 2007

The First Presbyterian church of Colfax started holding services in 1868 and was incorporated May 10, 1868. It served the Colfax community for 136 years but in March 2004 it held its last service and the congregation elected to close the church.

When the church was closed, the Presbytery appointed an administrative commission consisting of Elder Leland Smith (Newton, First), Moderator; Elder Richard (Dick) Henry (Des Moines, Westminster); Rev. Jan Scott (Des Moines, Central); Rev. Ann Rouse (Monroe); Elder Mary Lou Aspengren (Des Moines, First); Rev. Robert Burnett (Honorably Retired); and Elder Lowell Colburn (Monroe) to close the church, dispose of properties and determine disposition of any fund gained from sale of property.

An inventory was taken on all items in the church and manse. The manse and church were then placed with a realtor for sale.

Items in the church were opened to Presbyterian churches for purchase or for use in churches. Items that could not be sold were given to various church ministries, Teen Challenge in Colfax, and the Salvation Army. Books and hymnals were given to various organizations. Items belonging to members and memorials were returned to the owners. Church records will be turned over to the Presbytery office and the Colfax Historical Society.

The manse was sold for \$45,211.98 after all expenses were paid.

The church was sold for \$30,000 in October, 2005.

After all expenses were paid the committee turned \$73,698 over to the Presbytery. The Commission determined that the funds be distributed as follows: \$50,000 invested in New Covenant Funds with the Presbyterian Foundation; the remainder \$23,698 be placed in a money market for easy access. A special fund (The Colfax Church Development Fund) will be established. The Money Market funds and interest from the New Covenant funds will be used for church development and transformation.

Respectfully submitted,
Leland Smith, Moderator

A word of warning to all churches: Review your Articles of Incorporation. Make sure they are up to date and that all statements are correct. It could save a great deal of time and money later if it becomes necessary for your church to make any property changes.

APPENDIX H

K – SOCIAL MINISTRIES TASK FORCE REPORT**January 20, 2007**

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 pbcommunication@qwest.net, or write to: *Broken Bread*, Presbytery of Des Moines, 2400 – 86th Street, Suite 20, Urbandale, IA 50322-4306).

Just Neighbors – The Just Neighbors traveling banner was displayed in three churches of Des Moines Presbytery in 2006: First Presbyterian Church of Newton, Westminster Presbyterian Church of Des Moines, and Trinity United Presbyterian Church of Indianola. These congregations were recognized for their justice ministries related to issues of diversity. We have elected to celebrate ministries involving **hunger action** in 2007. Each church is asked to complete a “Hunger Related Activities” survey (available today). The Social Ministries Task Force will honor a different congregation at each Meeting of Presbytery, so contact Moderator Nancy Lister-Settle (515-992-3639; NeithertheCat@aol.com; P.O. Box 333, Dallas Center, IA 50063) with suggestions for future honorees.

El Salvador Mission – Interim Mission Co-worker Bill Fischer (Heartland, Clive) has been busy working with the Pastoral Team and preparing for delegations. His reflections can be found at www.oursisterparish.org. The Search Committee for Mission Co-worker is sending the first candidate to Berlin to interview with the Pastoral Team in February.

Joining Hands – The Together for Family Development network in Egypt held five media events across the country to educate government, community and school leaders about changes they intend to propose to the legislature on behalf of children with disabilities. The events were a great success and the legislation has been drafted. Des Moines Presbytery’s Joining Hands team is working on an “offering of letters” in support of this dramatic work, and encourage congregations to participate in this effort in 2007.

Des Moines Presbytery’s International Missions – The steering committees for both of Des Moines Presbytery’s international partnerships—Compañeros with El Salvador, and the Joining Hands Coordinating Team with Egypt—have come together to offer educational workshops to members of the presbytery. Social Ministries Task Force will host three regional sessions and congregations are asked to send the appropriate representative(s) to one. You will learn about the missions, the people they serve, and how you can support the work. **Watch for your invitation!**

SMTF Members – The task force is looking for members from across the Presbytery who might have a special interest in rural issues, justice reform, peacemaking, or community based action. Does this sound like you or someone you know? We meet the first Saturday morning of even numbered months—contact Moderator Nancy Lister-Settle for the location and join us!