



Presbytery of Des Moines

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

April 23, 2007

TO: Commissioners to the 461st Stated Meeting
FROM: Philip W. Barrett, Stated Clerk
SUBJECT: Minutes

You will find the Minutes of the 462nd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Des Moines held on November 8, 2005, following this letter. Most of you are receiving them on our website. Only those without Internet access receive printed copies. The meeting was held at the First Presbyterian Church in Corning.

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

Worship focus was on celebrating the gifts of women as elders. Also included was the Celebration of the Lord's Supper. Later in the meeting, a special observance of the anniversary of the ordination of women as elders was held. We heard reports about a possible partnership with a presbytery in Louisiana to assist in recovery and repair from the results of hurricanes and from the Omaha Seminary Foundation. New officers and committee members were elected, and several new minister members or ministers serving new positions were introduced and approved. The 2006 Budget was approved. A new Transformation Team was approved. These are just some of the highlights.

If you are attending the January Meeting as a Commissioner, please remember to bring these Minutes with you. Extra copies are not provided for those who neglect to bring them.

Thanks to all of you for your participation and service.

REMEMBER: The Call to the January Presbytery Meeting will be posted on the Presbytery's Web site: www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org. Paper copies will only be sent to those who inform us that they do not have Internet access.

PRESBYTERY OF DES MOINES
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

NOVEMBER 8, 2005
462nd Stated Meeting

The Presbytery of Des Moines of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held its 462nd Stated Meeting at the First Presbyterian Church of Corning, Iowa, on November 8, 2005. The meeting was convened at 9:30 a.m. with prayer by Moderator Tim Maxa.

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	A	A
Allerton	Ross Blount	P	A
Ankeny	Duane Miller	P	Laurie Berry
Atlantic, First	Don Seeger	P	Dwight Grantham
Audubon, First	Kay E. Steddom	P	Bernard E. Neary
Bedford, United	Randy S. Allman	P	Barbara Hannon
Brooklyn, First	John Reynolds	P	Marilyn Miller
Carlisle, Scotch Ridge	Doug Bolsem	P	A
Centerville, First	Beverly Leonard	P	A
Chariton, First	Denise Group	P	A
Clive, Heartland	D. Mark Davis	E	A
Corning, First	Ken Rummer	P	De Heaton
Creston, First	Barry Anderson	P	Nancy J. Bauman
Dallas Center, First	David Ewing	P	Jim Howard
Deep River, United	Boyd Sparks	A	A
Des Moines, Central (2)	James Wallace	P	A
Des Moines, Central (2)			A
Des Moines, Clifton Heights	Eric Keller	P	Mic Smith
Des Moines, Cottage Grove	David Madsen	P	Marge Lowry
Des Moines, Douglas Avenue	Claude Jones	P	Jim Kreitzinger
Des Moines, First	Ken Stuber	A	Mary Lou Aspengren
Des Moines, Fort Des Moines	Donald Elly	A	A
Des Moines, Highland Park	Kip Harris	E	A
Des Moines, Knox	Bill LeMosey	P	Church Howieson
Des Moines, Park Avenue	David Stipp-Bethune	P	Mary Lou Briles
Des Moines, Union Park	Mary Pope	P	Joyce Rash
Des Moines, Westminster (4)	Amy Miracle	P	Eleanor Blanks
Des Moines, Westminster (4)	MaryBeth Mardis-LeCroy	P	Julie Murphy
Des Moines, Westminster (4)	Ken Arentson	E	Ted Coppock
Dexter, First	David Kincaide	P	Richard Harris
Diagonal, United	John Beran	P	Carol Lee Bentley
Earlham, First	VACANT		Sheryl J. Bobst
Ewart	VACANT		Donna Winburn
Gibson, First	Mike Conn	P	A
Gibson, White Oak	Mike Conn	P	A
Greenfield, First	David Kincaide	P	Wayne L. Ray
Grimes, First	Lynn Williams	P	A

Grinnell, First	Kirsten Klepfer	P	Shane Cook
Guthrie Center, First	Melvin Roblee	E	A
Hartford, Community	VACANT		Charles Casson
Indianola, Trinity	David Endriss	P	Mary MacKenzie
Johnston, St. Paul	John W. Gilmore	P	Robert Hadsall
Knoxville, First	Kirk Erwin	A	A
Lenox, United	Tim Maxa	P	Robert Rhoades
Leon, First	Jack DePond	P	Dorcas Redman
LeRoy, First	Lynn Zimmerman	P	A
Lucas, First	VACANT		Dan P. Allen
Malcom, First	John Reynolds	P	Ron Arvidson
Monroe	Ann Rouse	P	Howard Clark
Montezuma, First	George Salnave	P	Helen Sheets
Mount Ayr, First	David Miller	A	A
New Sharon	VACANT		A
Newton, First	Steven Mathison-Bowie	P	Leland Smith
Newton, First	Tiara Mathison-Bowie	P	
Newton, United	Donald Freeman	P	Fred Swank
Oskaloosa, First	Dennis Morey	P	Dianne Van Gorp
Ottumwa, East End	Kate Stangl	P	A
Ottumwa, First	Sue Babovec	P	John McKeown
Ottumwa, Westminster	Milton Forbes	A	A
Perry, First	Tom Conrey	P	Jim Mace
Pitzer, United	Donna Vaughan	E	Matt Bobst
Platte Center	VACANT		Ruby M. Stephens
Sharpsburg	Tim Maxa	P	A
Sigourney, First	Kate Stangl	P	A
Tingley, United	VACANT		Mildred Boyd
West Des Moines, Covenant	John Gallentine	P	John Sprole
Windsor Heights, Windsor	Terry Amann	P	Ron Grohe
Winterset, First	Jim Howland	P	Connie Kinser

OTHER MEMBERS OF PRESBYTERY (MINISTERS)

Present: Philip Barrett, General Presbyter/Stated Clerk; John Beran (HR); Pete Brantner; Goanar Chol, Giles Card (HR); Hans Cornelder; Gustav Nelson (HR); Sara Speer Palmer (HR); Marvin Potter (HR).

LAY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Excused: David Boyd, Moderator of Coordinating Council;

Present: Lila Jean Jensen, Vice Moderator of Presbytery.

VISITORS

Carolyn Blohn, (Audubon, First); Paul Walther (Audubon, First); Pat Hall (Creston, First); Sandi Stuckey (Westminster, DM); Carolyn Beran (Lenox, United); Jean Muller (First, DM); Norma Francis (Platte Center); Eloise White (Platte Center); Marilyn Casson (Hartford, Community); Linda O'Connell (Heartland Presbytery); Mary Ellen Stanley (Leon, First); Robert Victor (Cottage Grove); Gwen Maynes (Lenox, Unted); Paul Stanfield (Knox, DM); LeRoy Swedlund (Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation); Kim Coulter, Presbytery Staff (Westminster, DM); Betty Dyer, Presbytery Staff (Indianola, Trinity).

MINISTERS (89 on roll)

Present: 42
Excused: 40
Absent: 14

ELDER COMMISSIONERS AND OTHERS

Present: 44
Excused: 0
Absent: 21

QUORUM

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

ADOPTION OF DOCKET

The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the Proposed Docket with the removal of the Presentation from the Board of Pensions, thus moving other reports up 10 minutes.

APPROVAL OF EXCUSED ABSENCES

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

SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

The Presbytery VOTED to seat the Rev. Linda O'Connell, a Minister Member of Heartland Presbytery, as a Corresponding Member for this meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF FIRST TIMERS AND GUESTS

Persons who were attending a presbytery meeting for the first time or who were guests were introduced. Included in these introductions was our new Office Manager, Betty Dyer, a member of the Trinity Presbyterian Church in Indianola.

APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARIAN

Presbytery Moderator Tim Maxa announced that he 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 Zach Morgan, a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Corning, had been appointed as Recording Clerk for this meeting.

WELCOME BY HOST CHURCH

The Rev. Ken Rummer, Pastor of the Corning Church, welcomed the Presbytery to this meeting. He told stories about the church being established by Sheldon Jackson and the church bell from an earlier building.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST STATED MEETING MINUTES

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the Minutes of the August 20, 2005, Stated Meeting of the Presbytery as printed and distributed with a minor editorial correction.

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK

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 had been assigned, referred or answered.

The Presbytery VOTED to dismiss with thanks the Commission to Install the Rev. Kirsten Klepfer as Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Grinnell, Iowa.

The Stated Clerk reported that a letter of resignation from the Rev. Jim Howland as Moderator and Member of the Congregational Care and Development Committee Class of 2006. This request has been referred to the Nominating Committee.

Phil also reported that the Synod of Lakes and Prairies has informed the Presbytery that Elder Chuck Bryan (Des Moines, Knox) has been elected to the Calvin Community Board.

The Presbytery VOTED to grant permission to the First United Presbyterian Church of Winterset to pay its 2006 Per Capita Assessment on a quarterly basis.

The Stated Clerk reported that the Annual Review of Session Records has basically been completed. As a result of this report, the Presbytery VOTED to approve the following Session Records without exception:

Adair – First; Atlantic - First; Audubon – First; Carlisle – Scotch Ridge; Centerville – First; Clive – Heartland; Corning – First; Creston – First; Dallas Center – First; Des Moines – Clifton Heights, Douglas Avenue, First, Highland Park, Park Avenue, Union Park, Westminster; Dexter-First; Ewart – First; Gibson – First; Greenfield – First; Grimes – First; Grinnell – First; Hartford – Community; Indianola – Trinity; Johnston – St. Paul; Knoxville – First; Lenox – United; Leon- First; Le Roy – First; Montezuma – First; Newton – First; Oskaloosa – First; Ottumwa – East End; Pitzer; Platte Center; Tingley; West Des Moines – Covenant; White Oak; Windsor Heights – Windsor; Winterset – First.

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the following Session Records be approved with exception:

Ankeny; Bedford – United Christian; Brooklyn – First; Chariton – First; Des Moines – Cottage Grove, Fort Des Moines; Diagonal – United; Guthrie Center – First; Malcom; Monroe; Mount Ayr – United; Ottumwa – Westminster; Sharpsburg; Sigourney – First.

Phil reported that most of the exceptions are minor and are easily corrected.

The Stated Clerk reported that the following churches have not yet submitted their records for review:

Deep River – United; Earlham – First; New Sharon – First; Ottumwa – First; Perry – First.

Phil reported that, pending approval of recommendation from the Coordinating Council, the 2006 Stated Meetings of the Presbytery will be held on the following dates in the places noted:

Saturday, January 21 – Windsor Heights, Windsor

Tuesday, May 16 – Chariton, First

Saturday, August 19 – Des Moines, Cottage Grove

Tuesday, November 14 – Des Moines, Highland Park

DISASTER RELIEF SERVICE PRESENTATION

The Rev. Randy Allman (Bedford, United Christian) shared some of his experiences in working in Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina, including enjoyment of MREs. He talked about work in a shelter, needs of people impacted by the hurricanes, loss of churches and congregations, and how to offer assistance.

The Rev. David Stipp-Bethune (Des Moines, Park Avenue) also shared the impact of the hurricanes on pastors and churches.

The Rev. Tim Maxa (Lenox, United and Sharpsburg) shared an invitation to partner with churches of the Presbytery of South Louisiana. He also highlighted the work of the Ankeny Church already having sent a work crew there.

WORSHIP

The Presbytery entered into a time of worship. Worship leadership was provided by the Rev. Ann Rouse and staff member and Deacon Kim Coulter. The preacher for the day was the Rev. Amy Miracle, pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Des Moines. Amy focused on how we see ourselves – either through the eyes of the world (condemnation) or the eyes of God (being blessed by God). She reminded us that all of us will have a day to answer to God, and that the judgment of God is freeing because we are not accountable to the standards of the world. The face of judgment is the face of love (God).

OBSERVANCE OF THE ORDINATION OF WOMEN AS ELDERS

Elder Dianne Van Gorp a member of the Women's Advocacy Task Force, presented the report.

Dianne shared information regarding the first woman ordained as an elder in our Presbytery – Elizabeth Parsons. Recognition was also given to all of the women first ordained in our congregations. Certificates have been prepared for these women.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Rev. David Kincaide, Moderator of the Committee, presented the report.

The following persons were nominated for the positions designated:

PRESBYTERY MODERATOR

Elder Lila Jean Jensen (Audubon, First)

PRESBYTERY VICE MODERATOR

Rev. Kate Stangl (Sigourney, First and Ottumwa, East End)

COORDINATING COUNCIL MODERATOR

Rev. Tim Maxa (Lenox, United and Sharpsburg)

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

2006 MODERATOR – Rev. Ann Rouse (Monroe)

CLASS OF 2007

Elder Julie Cloud (Ankeny)

Rev. Dennis Morey (Oskaloosa, First)

CLASS OF 2008

Elder Bev Bender (Sharpsburg)

Elder Shane Cook (Grinnell, First)

Rev. Don Elly (Des Moines, Fort Des Moines)

Rev. Christopher (Kip) Harris (Des Moines, Highland Park)

Rev. Amy Miracle (Des Moines, Westminster)

Elder Paul Walther (Audubon, First)

1 Vacancy

PROFESSIONAL CARE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

2006 MODERATOR – Rev. Ken Rummer (Corning, First)

CLASS OF 2008

Elder David Best (Atlantic, First)
Elder Emily Seeger (Atlantic, First)
Elder Leland Smith (Newton, First)

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

2006 MODERATOR – Rev. Terry Amann (Windsor Heights, Windsor)

CLASS OF 2008

Elder Pat Aksamit (Des Moines, Knox)
Rev. John Beran (HR)

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

2006 MODERATOR – Rev. Robert Burnett (HR)

CLASS OF 2008

1 Vacancy

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

2006 MODERATOR – Rev. David Ewing

CLASS OF 2008

Elder Becky Diebold (Ottumwa, First)
Rev. Eric Keller (Des Moines, Clifton Heights)

COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION

2006 MODERATOR – Rev. Gonar Chol (At Large)

CLASS OF 2008

Elder Willie Glanton (Des Moines, Westminster)
Rev. David Madsen (Des Moines, Cottage Grove)

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT RESPONSE TEAM

2006 MODERATOR – Elder Glenna Grohe, Windsor Heights, Windsor

CLASS OF 2008

Elder Bev Evans (Des Moines, Central)
Rev. Jeffrey Means (At Large)

MINISTER COMMISSIONER TO IOWA POST SECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION

CLASS OF 2007

Rev. Tim Maxa (Lenox, United and Sharpsburg)

ELDER COMMISSIONER TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Elder Ray Peters (Ankeny)

ALTERNATE ELDER TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Vacant

CLERGY COMMISSOINER TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Rev. Sue Babovec (Ottumwa, First)

ALTERNATE CLERGY COMMISSIONER TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Rev. Tiare Mathison-Bowie (Newton, First)

YOUTH ADVISORY DELEGATE TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Vacant

ALTERNATE YOUTH ADVISORY DELEGATE TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Vacant

YOUTH ADVISORY DELEGATE TO SYNOD (1 Year Term)

Meggie Wade (Des Moines, Central)

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

INSURANCE PRESENTATION

Tom Norton, representing the Lee Agency the Agency handling the Presbytery's Master Insurance Policy with GuideOne Insurance, presented information regarding various situations in

the insurance industry, including the impact of hurricanes in the Gulf Coast region. He also shared changes in billing and policy procedures that will take place on December 15, the effective renewal date of the policy.

LUNCH

The Presbytery recessed for a delicious lunch provided by the Creston Church. Rev. Ken Rummer offered the blessing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Presbytery reconvened with a time for announcements.

COORDINATING COUNCIL REPORT

Lila Jean Jensen (Presbytery Vice Moderator) presented the report on behalf of Council Moderator David Boyd.

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

- A-1 Reviewed the August 20 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery.
- A-2 Planned the November 8 Stated Meeting with focus being on presentations from the Omaha Seminary Foundation and Board of Pensions, election of officers and committees and recognition of the anniversary of the ordination of women as elders in our denomination.

- A-3 Made initial plans for the January 21, 2006, Stated Meeting with focus on possible conversation with a member of our denomination's Peace, Unity and Purity Task Force and presentation regarding Commissioned Lay Pastors.
- A-4 Heard a report from David Boyd and Phil Barrett about conversation with representatives from the Jewish community.

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

- R-1 That the Presbytery approve the establishment of a Presbytery Transformation Team to provide leadership and resources to the members of the Presbytery of Des Moines as they intentionally engage in the dynamics of transformation. This team would be established by the Council and would report to the Council.

The team will establish its purpose through the following methods and activities:

1. Modeling for the Presbytery the attitudes and visions that are necessary for positive transformation to occur.
2. Resourcing congregations and presbytery groups as they engage in intentional transformation.
3. Planning conferences, workshops and special speakers for the members of the Presbytery and the committees/task forces of the Presbytery.
4. Participating in national, regional and synod events that focus on transformation.
5. Becoming familiar with authors and other resources that provide insight in the dynamics of transformation and the application of those dynamics within the current status of the church.
6. Encouraging and supporting congregations, individuals, and presbytery entities as they engage in intentional transformation.
7. Working with other team members on strengthening our own discipleship.

Five Dynamics of Transformation

1. Creating Spiritual Energy
2. Congregational Identity: coming to terms with the past, present and future.
3. Congregational Leadership: building a ministry team.
4. Re-entering the Larger Community
5. Developing a Ministry Plan

- R-2 That the Presbytery grant permission for the administration of the Lord's Supper at the Fall Gatherings of the Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery on October 28 and 29.

- R-3 That the Presbytery approve designating the offering received during worship at the November Stated Meeting of the Presbytery to Hurricane Relief-Pastoral Compensation.

- R-4 That the Presbytery approve the renewal of the Covenant between the Presbytery and Hunger Action Enabler Nancy Lister-Settle.

- R-5 That the following persons be elected as Task Force Moderators for 2006:

- CROSS Ministries – Mary Kay Barker (West Des Moines, Covenant)
- Social Ministries – Nancy Lister-Settle (Dallas Center, First)
- Youth/Camping – Rev. Steve Mathison-Bowie (Newton, First)

There were no nominations from the floor.

CAMPING /YOUTH MINISTRY TASK FORCE

The Rev. Steve Mathison-Bowie, Moderator of the Task Force, presented the report.

Steve reported on plans for the camping program in the future and highlighted upcoming events for youth in the Presbytery.

OMAHA SEMINARY FOUNDATION PRESENTATION

Leroy Swedlund, Director of Relations and Development, brought greetings from the Omaha Seminary Foundation. He also presented a brief history of the Omaha Seminary, how the Foundation was formed, and the various ways the Foundation supports the training and education of church leaders.

PROFESSIONAL CARE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Rev. Ken Rummer, Moderator of the Committee, presented the report.

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

R-1 That the Rev. Roger Todd and the Rev. Barbara Tooker Todd be transferred to the Presbytery of Missouri River Valley at that Presbytery's request.

R-2 That the Rev. Mary Hansen, a member of the Presbytery of Missouri River Valley, be granted permission to labor within the bounds of this Presbytery while she is serving as Interim Pastor at the First Christian Church (UCC) of Atlantic, Iowa.

R-3 That the following housing allowances (including utilities) be approved:

- a. Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy (Des Moines, Westminster) – \$20,000
- b. Rev. Amy Miracle (Des Moines, Westminster) – Same as 2005
- c. Rev. Ken Arentson (Des Moines, Westminster) – Same as 2005
- d. Rev. John Reynolds (Brooklyn, First and Malcom) – \$18,300
- e. Rev. Tom Conrey (Perry, First) – \$12,670
- f. Rev. Ken Rummer (Corning, First) – \$7,300
- g. Rev. Sue Babovec (Ottumwa, First) – \$16,500

R-4 That the following terms of call for 2005 be approved for the Rev. John Reynolds (Brooklyn/Malcom Presbyterian Parish):

Cash Salary	\$29,000.00
Utilities Allowance	3,880.00
Housing – Manse Provided	
½ of Cell Phone	390.72
Educational Expense	900.00
Auto Allowance – Current IRS Rate	
Vacation – 4 Weeks (including 4 Sundays)	
Continuing Education Leave – 2 Weeks (including 2 Sundays), cumulative up to 3 years	
Full Board of Pensions Dues	

R-5 That the following terms of call for 2006 be approved for the Rev. John Reynolds (Brooklyn/Malcom Presbyterian Parish):

Cash Salary	\$24,000.00
Utilities Allowance	3,200.00 (include cable and phone)
Housing Allowance	15,100.00
Continuing Education	900.00
½ of Cell Phone	392.72
Continuing Education Leave – 2 Weeks (includes 2 Sundays)	

Vacation – 4 Weeks (including 2 Sundays)
 Auto Allowance – Current IRS Rate
 Full Board of Pensions Dues

R-6 That the following terms of call for 2006 be approved for the Rev. Beverly Leonard (Centerville, First). While the figures are on an annual basis, Rev. Leonard is planning retirement early in the year.

Cash Salary	\$13,000
Deferred Income (403[b])	800
Utilities	4,000
Household Furnishings	700
Housing – Manse Provided	
Social Security Allowance	700
Education Allowance	200
Full Pension Dues	
Dental/Life Insurance	390
Professional Expenses	350
Travel Expense – Current IRS Rate	

R-7 That the Presbytery receive the Annual Pastoral Status Reports from the Revs. Giles Card and Ane Fitzgerald, and approve their status as Member at Large (Rev. Fitzgerald) and Honorably Retired (Rev. Card).

GENERAL PRESBYTER REPORT

General Presbyter Phil Barrett presented a written report and shared some comments on the recent history of mission direction for the Presbytery. The report ended with a rousing rendition of “Desert Pete” sung by those present. (The written report appears as Appendix A at the end of these Minutes.)

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Rev. Pete Brantner, Moderator of the Committee, presented the report.

Pete reported the hiring of Betty Dyer, a member of the Trinity Church in Indianola, as our new Office Manager. She began her work with us on November 7. He also shared the Committee’s work on budget and salary matters, and reported on cooperative efforts of the Committee with the Professional and Congregational Care and Development Committees on some congregational matters.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Rev. Terry Amann, Moderator of the Committee, presented the report.

Terry reported that the Committee had granted permission to the East End Presbyterian Church to sell its Manse.

He then presented the Proposed Budget for 2006 for the Presbytery. Terry commented on the difficulty of dealing with significant deficits in projected income in relation to budget requests and what actions to Committee took to deal with these. He noted that a \$2.00 increase in the Per Capita Assessment was part of the proposal. Following comments from the floor, the Presbytery VOTED to approve the Proposed Budget for the Presbytery for 2006. (The Proposed Budget appears as Appendix B at the end of these Minutes.)

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

The Rev. David Ewing, Moderator of the Committee, presented the report.

David reported on the work being done with the various individuals under the care of the Committee.

The Presbytery VOTED to elect the following individuals to be readers of the Standard Ordination Examinations of our denomination for 2006:

Elder Becky Diebold
 Elder Jo Rainer
 Rev. Kip Harris
 Rev. David Stipp-Bethune

These persons will perform their duties at the March 2006 reading in Chicago. All have previous experience in reading examinations and in representing our Presbytery.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Rev. Jim Howland, Moderator of the Committee, presented the report.

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

A-1 Approved the Interim Pastor Contract between the Rev. Barry Anderson and First Presbyterian Church, Creston, effective October 11, 2005. This is a six month contract with the following terms:

Cash Salary	\$8,530
Housing Allowance	6,675
Reimbursable Expenses	7,628
Continuing Education	450
Full Pension/Medical Dues	
Vacation – 2 Weeks	
Continuing Education Leave – 1 Week	
Sick Leave – 1 day per month	

A-2 Approved the following Commission to Install the Rev. Kirsten Klepfer as Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Grinnell, on September 25, 2005, at 4:00 p.m.:

Rev. Tim Maxa (Lenox, United and Sharpsburg) – Moderator
 Rev. Tiare Mathison-Bowie (Newton, First)
 Rev. Ann Rouse (Monroe)
 Elder Shane Cook (Grinnell, First)
 Elder Jennifer Hines (Clive, Heartland)
 Elder Robert Ryan (Brooklyn, First)
 Also participating – Rev. Darrell Yeane (HR) – Presbytery of East Iowa

A-3 Approved the request of the Central Presbyterian Church, Des Moines, to eliminate the Associate Pastor position of the church.

A-4 Approved the Interim Pastor Contract between the Rev. Mel Roblee and the First Presbyterian Church, Guthrie Center, effective October 4, 2005. The position is part time with the following terms:

Cash Salary	\$11,150
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Housing/Utilities Allowance	11,000
Continuing Education	900
Travel Allowance – Current IRS Rate	
Continuing Education Leave – 2 Weeks	
Vacation – 4 Weeks	

- A-5 Voted to reduce the number of interviews conducted by the Committee with candidates from two to one.
- A-6 Granted permission for Elder Pam Nagel (Des Moines, Westminster) to officiate at the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at the Tingley and Platte Center Churches on October 2 and November 13, 2005.
- A-7 Received the Equal Employment Opportunity in Ministry Report from the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Des Moines, in regard to the process of searching for an Associate Pastor.
- A-8 Approved the Interim Pastor Contract between the Rev. Richard Harbart and the Community Presbyterian Church, Hartford, effective November 27, 2005. The terms are as follows:
- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Cash Salary | \$ 9,000 |
| Housing Allowance | 24,000 |
| Auto Reimbursement | 7,600 (at current IRS Rate) |
| Continuing Education | 900 |
| 403(b) Account | 12,000 |
| Vacation – 4 Weeks | |
| Continuing Education Leave – 2 Weeks (may accumulate for up to 3 years) | |
| All unused Reimbursement Account funds to be transferred to Cash Salary at the end of the year | |
- A-9 Approved the formation of a Parish Council to seek pastoral leadership for the United Church of Diagonal, Platte Center and Tingley Presbyterian Churches. Expenses for the pastoral compensation will be shared as follows:
- | | |
|----------------------|-----|
| United Church | 50% |
| Platte Center Church | 35% |
| Tingley Church | 15% |
- A-10 Received liaison reports from:
- Sharpsburg Presbyterian Church
 - United Church, Lenox
 - United Church, LeRoy
 - Ankeny Church
 - East End Church, Ottumwa
 - First Church, Oskaloosa
 - Tingley Church
 - First Church, Audubon
 - Douglas Ave. Church, Des Moines
 - First Church, Gibson
 - White Oak Church – Keswick
 - First Church, Newton
 - First Church, Des Moines
 - First Church, Knoxville

St. Paul Church, Johnston
 First Church, Chariton
 Heartland Church, Clive
 First Church, Winterset
 Highland Park Church, Des Moines
 First Church, Greenfield
 Covenant Church, West Des Moines

A-11 Received Biennial Visit Reports from the following churches:

Windsor Church, Windsor Heights
 Knox Church, Des Moines
 First Church, Audubon
 First Church, Dexter

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

R-1 Approve the Equal Employment in Ministry Report from the Westminster Presbyterian Church in regard to the search for an Associate Pastor.

The Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-Lecroy, newly called Associate Pastor of the Westminster Church was introduced. She shared the process of receiving the call to Westminster.

R-2 Approve the call of the First Presbyterian Church, Lucas, to the Rev. Linda O'Connell to serve as Pastor, effective December 1, 2005. This is a part time position with the following terms:

Cash Salary	\$20,440
Housing Allowance	4,220
Travel Allowance	2,000
Continuing Education Allowance	900
Full Medical/Pension Dues	
Full Moving Costs	
Vacation – 4 Weeks	
Continuing Education Leave – 2 Weeks (cumulative up to 6 weeks)	

R-3 Approve the Rev. Linda O'Connell as a member of the Presbytery of Des Moines.

The Rev. O'Connell was introduced to Presbytery and she shared what she is looking forward to in Lucas.

In concluding the report, Rev. Howland expressed his gratitude for the chance to serve as Moderator of the Committee. He has resigned from the Committee as of December 31 and will begin serving as Coach of the new Transformation Team of the Presbytery.

SOCIAL MINISTRIES TASK FORCE

Elder Nancy Lister-Settle, Moderator of the Task Force, was in Egypt with the Presbytery delegation from the Joining Hands Against Hunger Project. Lila Jean Jensen shared this information and offered a prayer for the delegation.

PASSING OF THE GAVEL

Outgoing Moderator Tim Maxa expressed his appreciation for the time to serve and how the two congregations he serves supported his moderatorial activities. He then passed the gavel to newly elected Moderator Lila Jean Jensen and offered prayer. Lila Jean then assumed the chair as Moderator.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Rev. David Kincaide, Moderator of the Nominating Committee, placed the name of Elder Mary Ellen Stanley in nomination for the Congregational Care and Development Committee, Class of 2008. An opportunity for nominations from the floor was presented. There being none, the Presbytery VOTED to close nominations and direct the Clerk to cast an electing ballot.

The Presbytery VOTED to express its gratitude to the staff and members of the Corning Church for their exemplary hospitality in welcoming and providing a place for the Presbytery Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT AND BENEDICTION

The Presbytery VOTED to adjourn. The closing prayer was offered by Moderator Lila Jean Jensen.

The next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery will be on Saturday, January 21, 2006, at the Windsor Presbyterian Church, Windsor Heights.

Respectfully Submitted,

Philip W. Barrett, Stated Clerk
Zack Morgan, Recording Clerk

REPORT OF THE GENERAL PRESBYTER

APPENDIX A

November 8, 2005

One of my favorite reflection books is a set entitled, “Lord, I Said.” It’s written by a Presbyterian minister – Hank Hartmann, who served in Oregon. One of the brief conversations goes like this:

“Lord, I said, I see a crossroad ahead: I do not know which way to go.

“Wait till you are there he said, then read the sign.”

It seems to me that our Presbytery is very close to a crossroad, and we will have to decide which way to go. One direction we can go is the same way we are now – churches continuing to struggle as they wonder which way to go, resulting in a decline in participation and support. This descent, at least in our area, is a gradual one, so it is a slow and painful road. People withdraw from others. An attitude of hoarding resources to simply survive or prepare for the coming “Judgment Day” results in the inability to do much of anything except the basics of breathing and eating.

Another direction we can go is one with a patient, persistent hope. This direction is characterized by committed movement in a direction that doesn’t have a known result but one to which we believe God calls us. Some struggles, some disappointments, some possibilities, some glimmers of a “New Jerusalem” characterize movement in this direction. Supporting each other in many ways is standard operating procedure for those involved in following the hopeful direction. Sharing is the order of the day, not hoarding for a bleak ending to a journey. Excitement, even a giddiness, joy and a pioneering vision define travelers on this road.

The crossroad we approach is one with more than two possible directions. These are descriptive of two basic directions. Other roads may veer off from these, weaving through off the road or “outside the box” territory. All of our churches are going in some direction, many in one of the two options I suggest, and some in others. As a Presbytery, however, we cannot be trying to go in several directions. We are being faced with the need to decide – as a Presbytery – which direction we will go. Will we simply hunker down in a basic survival mode, hanging on until the end, or will we step out together, moving toward that hope God has given us, helping each other move along in the journey?

As you might guess, my preference is for the second option because I firmly believe God has something wonderful in mind for us yet something not very clear to us at this point. Maybe that’s why there is some fear or reluctance to move ahead. Like frightened children stepping into an unlighted area at night, maybe we need to hold hands more tightly, stepping out together as we continue on an unknown journey. Maybe we need to hold onto Christ more tightly as well, following the Light of the World as our guide to new, surprising, exciting destinations.

My thoughts focusing on this area have come as a result of being with many of you since we last came together as a Presbytery. Here are places our paths have crossed:

- Attended 150th Anniversary Celebrations at 1st Church, Newton, and 1st Church, Sigourney
- Taught 2 courses at the Christian Church (Disciples) Annual Continuing Education Event
- Brought greetings and participated in the Mission Fair at 1st Church, Ottumwa

- Met with several pastors
- Participated in conversations with representatives of the Jewish Community
- Attended a meeting of Synod EP/GPs in Duluth
- Preached at 1st Church, Winterset, United in Newton, 1st Church, Grimes, Covenant Church in West Des Moines, Pitzer, 1st Church, Guthrie Center,
- Participated in the Bi-Presbytery Transformation Conference Planning Team
- Attended the Installation of the Rev. Kirsten Klepfer as Pastor of the 1st Church in Grinnell
- Met with Goanar Chol and Bart Brenner (EP OF Missouri River Valley Presbytery) about elevating awareness of Sudanese Ministry issues and programs
- Along with Tim Maxa and Ed Beardsley, represented the Presbytery at the Iowa Post Secondary Education Commission Meeting in Ames
- Met with several local church sessions and committees
- Along with Amy Miracle and Ann Rouse, met with an organization interested rejuvenation of rural congregations

What possible directions do you see at the crossroads? I'd enjoy sharing visions. I would also welcome opportunities to talk about anything in this report.

Thank you for all you have done to be part of our Presbytery's progress and for what you will bring to the journey into the future.

This is a great place to be and you are a wonderful group to travel with.

Respectfully Submitted,

Philip W. Barrett

PROPOSED BUDGET 2006
Presbytery of Des Moines

APPENDIX B

	2005 REVISED	2006 PROPOSED
Proposed per capita		\$ 14.90

INCOME

Per Capita 10,700 members	\$129,659.00	\$159,430.00
General Mission	\$166,982.00	\$142,000.00
SLAP - CPSS	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
Carryover previous year	\$ -	\$ -
Income restricted funds	\$ 14,238.00	\$ 4,000.00
Interest Income	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Bad Debt Estimate		\$ (5,000.00)
Total Income	\$351,879.00	\$341,430.00

EXPENSE GOVERNANCE

CPM	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Perm. Judicial Comm.	\$ -	\$ -
Comm. On Represent.	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Budget & Finance	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Nominating Committee	\$ -	\$ 150.00
Personnel	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Sexual Misconduct Tm.	\$ -	\$ 400.00
Subtotal	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 2,850.00

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Moderator/Task Forces	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
Admin Commissions	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Presbytery Meetings	\$ 25.00	\$ 100.00
GP/Stated Clerk to GA	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
Vice Moderator to GA	\$ -	\$ -
Commissioner Orientation	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Stated Clerk Expense	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Communication	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Insurance	\$ 3,900.00	\$ 4,200.00
Attorney	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Subtotal	\$ 6,075.00	\$ 8,550.00

continued on next page

	2005 REVISED	2006 PROPOSED
EXTENSION OF MINISTRIES		
Church Development		
Task Force	\$ -	\$ 500.00
GA Loan int./Principal	\$ 8,555.00	\$ 700.00
Church Transformation	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Social Ministries	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
CROSS Ministries	\$ 55,000.00	\$ 55,000.00
Special Events	\$ 303.00	\$ -
Camping	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Youth	\$ 450.00	\$ 500.00
Resources	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Advocacy for Women	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Subtotal	\$ 79,908.00	\$ 72,300.00
SUPPORT OF LOCAL MINISTRIES		
Congregational Care & Development	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Incentive Grants	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Conflict Mgmt Resourcing	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
Resourcing Workshops	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00
Professional Care & Development	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Ecumenical Ministries of Iowa	\$ 6,000.00	\$ -
Regional Partners		
Southeast	\$ -	\$ 500.00
East	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
DM West/Northwest	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Southwest	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
West	\$ 2,860.00	\$ 3,000.00
South Central	\$ 108.00	\$ 300.00
DM Two Rivers	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
Coordinating Council	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Worship Task Group	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Bills & Overtures	\$ -	\$ 75.00
Emergency Contingency	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
Presbytery Office	\$ 39,650.00	\$ 40,000.00
Presbytery Staff Salaries/Benefits	<u>\$183,878.00</u>	<u>\$190,839.00</u>
Subtotal	\$263,796.00	\$268,114.00
SUDANESE MINISTRY*		
TOTAL OF ALL EXPENSE	\$351,879.00	\$351,814.00

BUDGET SURPLUS/DEFICIT

*05 included in Presbytery Salaries