

**Winnebago Presbytery  
Stated Meeting  
February 13, 2010  
First United Presbyterian Church, DePere, WI**

**Convening the Meeting**

The Moderator, the Rev. Marcia Thomas, and Esmeralda the Goose, declared a quorum present and the meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. with prayer in the sanctuary of First United Presbyterian Church, DePere, Wisconsin..

<b>Roll Call</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Craig Alwin	X		
Randal Argall		X	
Darryl Baker	X		
Thomas Beck			X
John Billings	X		
Sid Bouldin	X		
Marion Conditt	X		
C. Nelson Craig	X		
Edward Esler		X	
Robert Everhard		X	
Timothy Fulop		X	
Clifford Haskins		X	
Donald Heeringa		X	
Richard Hill		X	
Don Houdeshell	X		
Paul Huxtable			X
Roy N. Johnson		X	
William Kamke		X	
Donald King	X		
Cynthia Little	X		
Michael Lukens	X		
John Lyford		X	
Richard Manny	X		
Richard Marcy	X		
Craig Mansur			X
Peter Markey		X	
Paul Martin	X		
Patricia Matthew		X	
Julie Meadows	X		
Richard Moore	X		
Sarah Moore-Nokes	X		
Joy Nelson-Jeffers	X		
Barbara Peterson		X	
Mary Ann Petro	X		
Susan Phillips	X		
William Plank		X	
Rebecca Proefrock		X	
Mara Liz Rivera	X		
Lucille Rupe	X		
Matthew Sauer	X		
JoAnn Schoblaski	X		
Rachel Reeves Schwab		X	
Edward Slusser	X		
Greg Smith	X		
Ted Spurduto		X	
Lois Swanson	X		
Wilfred Tabb	X		
Marcia Thomas	X		
Ted Tromble	X		
Charles Valenti-Hein	X		

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<u>Roll Call</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Sara Ver Burg	X		
Colin Webster		X	
Tom Willadsen	X		
Tom Williams	X		
Janet Wolfe	X		
Wright, Stephen A.H.		X	
Margaret Zedan		X	
Susan Zencka	X		

**10/01 It was VOTED to excuse those so listed.**

**Churches Represented**

Abbotsford	Robert Johanek
Amberg	Not Represented
Aniwa	Not Represented
Appleton	Beth Lepinski
Arpin	Not Represented
Athelstane	Not Represented
Crivitz	Not Represented
De Pere	Beth Paulson and Lora Warner
Fond du Lac	Roy K. Johnson
Gleason	Calvin Patterson
Green Bay First	Jean Maes
Green Bay Preble Park	Judy Nighorn
Green Bay Wequiock	Not Represented
Kiel	Not Represented
Kimberly	Not Represented
Lakewood	Mary Scheuerman
Laona	Linda Mentz
Manitowoc	Théo Lynne Hoffman
Marinette	Not Represented
Marshfield	Don Zais
Melnik	Ruth Prochazka
Merrill	Kay Smith
Neenah	Howard Kidd and Gina Struensee
New Franken	Not Represented
Oconto	Margaret Dakins
Omro	Lisa Baltes
Oshkosh	Barbara Goldthwaite
Pembine	Not Represented
Pickett	Not Represented
Schofield	Not Represented
Shawano	Not Represented
Sheboygan	Robin Sheldon
Stevens Point	David Arey
Wabeno	Pam Schroeder
Wausau	Mary Anderson
Wausaukee	Richard Willan
Weyauwega	Nancy Brown
White Lake	Not Represented
Wild Rose	Not Represented
Winneconne	Rosemary Shade

**10/02 It was VOTED to excuse those so listed.**

<b><u>Commissioned Lay Pastors:</u></b>	Richard Kreager, Cheryl Lepak, Dennis Mannering, Wendy Mannering, and Lin Wittmann
CLPs Excused:	Max Ballard, George Buchanan, Warren Kraft, and Jess Wakefield
<b><u>Trained Lay Pastor:</u></b>	Jean Hamersky and Jim York

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**Lay Pastor Student:** Jessica Harrison

**Council Members:** Bette Hoytink, Barbara Jordanger, Jan Nelson, Jeanne Nymoen, and Jean Schneider

**Presbytery Committee Members:** Terri Zillges, Anne Dropp

**Visitors:**

Appleton	Ginny Baker and Beverly Craig
Green Bay Preble	Ken Sann
Melnik	Donna Musil
Wausau	Jack Anderson
Waupaca	Bonnie Conditt
Weyauwega	Lucie Erickson, Robert Erickson, Jerald Hurst, Sharon Koenigs, Christine Rasmussen

**Presbytery Staff:** Nancy Barczak

[Attendance Summary: Elders/25; Ministers/35; CLPs/5; Council Elders/5; Visitors/11; Staff/1; Others/5]

**Early Leave:**

**10/03 It was VOTED to grant early leave to the Rev. Wil Tabb and the Rev. JoAnn Schoblaski.**

**Corresponding Members**

**10/04 It was VOTED to seat the Rev. Sherwood McKay, Yellowstone Presbytery, and the Rev. Paula Sanders, Twin Cities Area Presbytery, as Corresponding Members.**

**Privilege of the Floor:**

**10/05 It was VOTED to grant privilege of the floor to the Rev. Amy Bertschausen, Disciples of Christ, and Ms. Cathleen Wille, United Church of Christ. Both women were in attendance representing the Samaritan Counseling Center of the Fox Valley.**

**Adoption of the Docket:**

**10/06 It was VOTED to adopt the docket as distributed.**

**Report on Arrangements:** The Rev. Ted Tromble welcomed everyone to the church and noted the arrangements for the day.

**Introduction of New Elders and Visitors**

First time elder commissioners were introduced from Abbotsford and DePere. Presbytery also welcomed visitors from Melnik, Weyauwega, as well as new minister members the Rev. Mary Ann Petro, the Rev. Greg Smith, and the Rev. Darryl Baker and his wife, Ginny Baker.

**STATED CLERK'S REPORT**

**10/07 It was VOTED to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2009 Called Special Meeting.**

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**10/08** It was VOTED to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2009 Presbytery Meeting with the correction that Elder Mike Mentz was in attendance, representing the Laona Church.

**Correspondence**

- A letter from the General Assembly thanking Winnebago Presbytery for payment in full of its 2009 per capita apportionment.
- Greetings from the Presbytery of Urabá.
- Greetings from the Episcopal Diocese of Fond du Lac
- Letter from Elder Mary Sperduto, Wausau, expressing her appreciation for the opportunity to represent Winnebago Presbytery at the December 2009 Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin Council of Churches.

The Clerk reported correspondence as required in G-11.0401a with presbyteries wherein minister-members of this Presbytery labor with approval: the Rev. Timothy Fulop (Northern Kansas Presbytery) and the Rev. Rachel Reeves Schwab (Pacific Presbytery).

Annual Statistical Reports are due by 11:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>.

The Presbytery is not currently involved in any judicial cases.

Congregational minutes should be approved and recorded by Session at the meeting following a congregational meeting. They may be reviewed and corrected at the next congregational meeting, if necessary.

**10/09** It was VOTED to dismiss the Committee of Counsel with gratitude for their service. Members of the Committee were: Elder David Arey, the Rev. John Billings, Elder Duane Patterson, the Rev. Margaret Zedan, and the Rev. Phil Barrett, Stated Clerk of Des Moines Presbytery, ex officio.

**FIRST READING of Proposed Changes in the Manual of Operations and the Standing Rules**

**Standing Rule and Manual of Administration Operations  
Revisions  
February 13, 2010**

**1. Motion: to amend the Standing Rules of the Presbytery by adding the following section to the list of duties of the Moderator:**

*5.1.8. appoint an investigating committee from the pool of persons elected by the Presbytery upon notice from the Stated Clerk of receipt of an allegation, according to the provision of the Rules of Discipline (D-10.0201.b.).*

**2. Motion: to amend the Manual of Administrative Operations in Section VI (Committees Formed by Winnebago Presbytery) by adding a new sub-section F to establish a committee to establish a pool of persons available for appointment by the Moderator to serve on an investigating committee as required by the Rules of Discipline, D-10.0200., so that the new sub-section would read:**

*VI. F. Investigating Committee Pool*

*Membership: The pool will consist of 6 elected persons, in three classes of two persons serving for no more than two three-year terms.*

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*Purpose: This group of persons provides personnel available for appointment by the Moderator to deal with allegations according to the provisions of the Rules of Discipline D-10.0200.*

Rationale: An investigating committee pool provides an available group from which the Moderator can quickly initiate the process for pursuing an allegation, without having to wait for the next meeting of Presbytery. These elected individuals will also provide a range of representation that provides options to the Moderator in making such appointments. This mechanism is presently operative within Presbytery but has not been formally adopted by rule as required in the Rules of Discipline (D-10.0201.b.).

**10/10 It was VOTED to amend the Manual of Administrative Operations by adding to the membership of Presbytery Council the moderator of the Session Records Review Committee, so that the section would read:**

**V. B. (Paragraph 4):**

***Moderators of Committees Formed by Winnebago Presbytery: Finance Committee, Resource & Program Coordinating Team, Personnel Committee, and the Session Records Review Committee.***

**and by deleting the final phrase of the last sentence in VI. E. 1., so that it would read:**

***E. Session Records Review Committee***

***1. Membership: The Session Records Review Committee shall be composed of three (3) elected members serving in three classes for no more than two three-year terms. The Stated Clerk serves ex officio on this committee and represents it on Council***

## **WORSHIP**

The Moderator, the Rev. Marcia Thomas, noted that, during this year of discernment about the future, the Presbytery will be doing some things in new ways. She provided a brief introduction regarding worship.

Worship was then led by the Rev. Marcia Thomas, Elder Jeanne Nymoer, Elder Dennis Mannering, and the Rev. Ted Tromble. Worship included the celebration of Holy Communion.

## **BREAK**

There was a brief break as presbyters moved from the sanctuary to the Family Life Center to continue the meeting around tables.

## **“TOWARD HEALTH AND WHOLENESS”**

The Vice Moderator, Elder Jeanne Nymoer, briefly summarized the work before the Presbytery in the year ahead and noted that healthy systems deal with change better than unhealthy systems. She introduced Amy Bertschausen and Cathy Wille who made the first of four presentations regarding healthy congregations. The remainder of the morning was spent in presentation and small group work and sharing learnings.

## **RECESS FOR LUNCH**

Following prayer by Vice Moderator Nymoer, Presbytery recessed for a delicious lunch prepared by the Presbyterian Women of the church at 12:30 p.m.

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**SPEAK OUT**

- The Rev. Tom Willadsen, Oshkosh, announced he was pleased to have a piece of satire published in the Institute for Wisconsin's Future newsletter on tax policy. He was also pleased to return a sweater to the Rev. Marion Conditt that had been left in Oshkosh after the February meeting last year.
- Elder Beth Lepinski, Appleton, announced that Art Simon, Bread for the World, will be in Appleton on April 11, 2010, at First English Lutheran Church North on Ballard Road.
- CLP Wendy Mannering, Forest Larger Parish, announced that an Alpha class was started at the Thrift Store to reach unchurched people, and that 24 persons participated and are about to complete the program.
- The Rev. Mara Rivera, Winneconne, announced that Stated Clerk Michael Lukens will be conducting an adult education class at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, February 21, on "How Presbyterians Agree to Disagree."
- Elder Lora Warner, DePere, promoted the church's green magazine exchange program and news that they will be starting a community garden on an adjacent piece of land this spring.
- The Rev. Sarah Moore-Nokes, Associate Executive, announced that Amy Jill Levine will be in Green Bay May 14-16. She will be appearing at several different venues. Watch for more information.
- The gifts for hygiene kits today netted 158 completed kits, 86 partial kits, and \$162 in monetary donations. The unused items will be donated to local shelters and pantries; the monetary donations will be used to complete the partial kits and for shipping costs.
- The Rev. Susan Phillips, Shawano, announced that remodeling of their sanctuary is underway with much of the labor donated by members of the church and community. She also expressed pleasure at being invited to be a worship planner for the national homiletics conference. She noted that a transformation conference is being held in Des Moines Presbytery, April 16-18.
- The Rev. Ed Slusser, Omro, announced that they are celebrating the 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the commitment of common witness with the local Roman Catholic Church.
- Elder Jan Nelson, DePere, announced that the morning offering designated for the One Great Hour of Sharing totaled \$678.80.
- Elder Lisa Baltes, Omro, announced the Families First program that offers fellowship for churched and unchurched families in the Omro area.
- The Rev. Michael Lukens announced the birth of two grandsons, twins Hunter and Hudson, to Paul and Dawn Harris.
- The Rev. Marion Conditt, Honorably Retired, asked if anyone needed a used sweater.

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### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY PREVIEW**

The Rev. Paula Sanders, Coordinator for the Committee on Local Arrangements (COLA) for the General Assembly July 3-10 in Minneapolis came personally to invite everyone to attend some portion of the Assembly.

COLA is looking for people who can volunteer in 4 hour shifts; there are 1500 volunteer slots. Persons 14 and older are invited to volunteer for a variety of jobs at the convention center, as airport and hotel greeters, worship/communion ushers and a host of other activities. Volunteers can sign up on line beginning March 9.

The Moderator's Reception will be held July 4th on Nicollet Island in the Mississippi River, the perfect site for viewing the fireworks.

### **PRESBYTERY COUNCIL**

The Moderator turned the gavel over to the Vice Moderator, Jeanne Nymoen, in order to report that Council had reviewed the portion of the Child Protection Policy relating to electronic communications, an item that had been referred back to the Council. No further action was taken or recommended regarding the Presbytery's Policy. However, local churches are encouraged to review their own policies and make the best determination.

Ms. Thomas reported that Council has accepted a leadership responsibility as the Presbytery looks to the future. The goal is to have some transitional plan in place for the beginning of 2011.

### **DIRECTIONAL TASK FORCE**

Ms. Thomas resumed moderating the meeting and called on Elder Barbara Jordanger for the report.

Ms. Jordanger thanked presbyters for the feedback given at the November meeting. The Task Force was grateful to learn we will move forward working with the Samaritan Center.

### **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

Elder Jan Nelson noted that the "centsability" cups found on each table encourages presbyters to put their 2 cents into the cups. The money goes to the Presbyterian Hunger Program.

The Spring Gathering will be hosted by the Oconto Presbyterian Women on April 24. The featured speaker will be Tommy Logan or his designate from the Clean Water Project.

The Synod Gathering will be held at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa, June 16-19. The keynote speaker will be Marjorie Thompson, author of *Soul Feast*. Ms. Nelson indicated there are some scholarships available. If interested, contact any member of the Presbyterian Coordinating Team.

### **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

Elders Wendy Mannering and Bette Hoytink presented the report.

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The Committee took the following actions on behalf of the Presbytery since the November meeting:

- **Triennial Visit was completed with the Preble Park Church, Green Bay.**
- **Committee dismissed the Rev. Robert Goebel to Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery effective January 21, 2010.**
- **Committee received the Rev. Mary Ann Petro as a Non-Parish Pastor serving as Chaplain with Aseracare Hospice in Wausau, effective January 21, 2010. She was received from Milwaukee Presbytery. (Faith and Bio attached.)**
- **Committee received the Rev. Greg Smith, Northeast Association of the United Church of Christ, into membership, effective January 21, 2010. (Faith and Bio attached.)**

**Mr. Smith began serving as one-half time Temporary Supply Pastor at Preble Park, Green Bay, effective January 1, 2010 for a period of 12 months. Terms of the Supply Contract are:** (Presbytery policy prohibits posting of this information. Full minutes are available upon request from the presbytery office.)

The new members, the Rev. Mary Ann Petro, the Rev. Darryl Baker, and the Rev. Greg Smith were officially introduced to Presbytery and given the opportunity to share a bit about themselves.

**10/11 It was VOTED to authorize Elder Sheri Reindl, Weyauwega First, to celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion with homebound members of the church for a period of one year, effective February 13, 2010.**

**10/12 It was VOTED to extend the Commissioned Lay Pastor contract between Elder Max Ballard and the Melnik Church through April 30, 2010.**

**10/13 It was VOTED grant permission for trained lay pastors who have been certified by this Presbytery to celebrate Communion within the bounds of Winnebago Presbytery, when invited, for a period of one year, effective February 13, 2010.**

Moderator Thomas requested Vice Moderator Nymoen to moderate during the discussion and action related to the following item.

**10/14 It was VOTED to approve the change in the Terms of Call for the Rev. Marcia Thomas, Designated Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Abbotsford, effective May 1, 2010. The revised terms are:** (Presbytery policy prohibits posting of this information. Full minutes are available upon request from the presbytery office.)

Moderator Thomas resumed her position at the podium.

**10/15 It was VOTED to approve the change in the Terms of Contract for Commissioned Lay Pastor Lin Wittmann at Wausaukee First and Athelstane First. The revised terms of the 30 hour/week position are effective March 1, 2010:** (Presbytery policy prohibits posting of this information. Full minutes are available upon request from the presbytery office.)

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**10/16** It was VOTED to concur with the Call of the Rev. Sherwood McKay as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Weyauwega, Wisconsin, effective March 1, 2010; and to approve the terms of Call between Mr. McKay and First Presbyterian Church: (Presbytery policy prohibits posting of this information. Full minutes are available upon request from the presbytery office.)

Elders Lucie Erickson and Sharon Koenigs reported that the congregational meeting was held on Thursday, February 11. The call was approved unanimously.

**It was MOVED to enroll the Rev. Sherwood McKay as a member of Winnebago Presbytery, effective February 13, 2010.**

Mr. McKay was invited forward to share briefly about his faith journey and speak briefly regarding his faith statement.

Presbytery proceeded to examine Mr. McKay for membership.

**10/17** It was VOTED to cease the examination. Mr. McKay was excused while the presbytery deliberated.

Mr. McKay was invited back for additional questions and again excused for the deliberation.

**10/18** It was VOTED to enroll the Rev. Sherwood McKay, effective February 13, 2010.

**10/19** It was VOTED to grant the Rev. Alfred Merwald, John Knox Presbytery, permission to labor inside the bounds of Winnebago Presbytery as a chaplain at Aspirus Hospital, Wausau, WI.

**10/20** It was VOTED to endorse the Rev. Mary Ann Petro as a candidate for Board Certification through the Association of Professional Chaplains.

### **RESOURCE AND PROGRAM COORDINATING TEAM**

Elder Pam Schroder encouraged presbyters to consider referring persons who might like to be involved with the Grants Allocation Committee as it considers local mission grant applications.

Elder Gina Struensee invited presbyters to attend the Presbyterians in Education (PIE) event on February 27 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Neenah First. They will be discussing “Sharing Faith Through Children’s Sermons.”

Elder Judy Nighorn encouraged presbyters to attend this year’s Synod School in Storm Lake, Iowa, July 25-30, 2010.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The Rev. Richard Manny called attention to the year-end financial report, noting that per capita apportionments were paid in full and mission pledges were all met. The year ended with a \$24,000 deficit.

**10/21** It was VOTED to grant permission for First Presbyterian Church, Kiel and First Presbyterian Church, Shawano to make their per capita payments on a quarterly basis.

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10/22 It was VOTED to concur with the request of the Covenant Community Presbyterian Church of Schofield to refinance the mortgage of the church properties described as: CSM No. 4047, Vol. 15, page 45, in order to fund additions and renovations of the church building.

Terms: \$1,250,045.29, at an interest rate of 6% for a term of 25 years through River Valley Bank, Wausau.

Renegotiable after three years: February 3, 2010 – February 3, 2013.

Mr. Manny noted that average per member giving in Winnebago Presbytery based on actual 2009 dollars received was \$52.00.

Certificates of appreciation were presented to the following churches for exceeding that amount:

Neenah First - \$128

Appleton Memorial - \$88

Sheboygan First - \$83

Marshfield First - \$73

Green Bay First - \$65

Oshkosh First - \$64

Merrill First - \$62

Fond du Lac First - \$58

White Lake Hope - \$58

Manitowoc First - \$57

Wausau First - \$53

In November, Presbytery asked congregations to increase their 2010 mission pledges by 2%. Certificates of appreciation for meeting that request were presented to: Fond du Lac, Laona, Merrill, Oconto, Sheboygan, Stevens Point, and White Lake.

Certificates were presented to those congregations that increased their pledges by 3% or more: Green Bay First-7%, Kimberly-5%, Lakewood-54%, Neenah-4.5%, Pembine-3%, Schofield-7%, and Winneconne-5%.

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

The Rev. Ted Tromble reported that the annual consultation with Inquirer Julie Goranson was conducted on January 30, 2010.

### **EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER REPORT**

The Rev. Lucy Rupe noted that in our local congregations there is often anxiety about the future as well as anticipation. It is good also to rejoice in the moment of what is. Ms. Rupe told presbyters she has been visiting congregations lately. Sometimes she is introduced and sometimes not. She has found that on Sundays many people speak only to those they know. She encourages everyone to take a moment to greet the stranger in your midst . . . it could be the Executive Presbyter.

### **ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER REPORT**

The Rev. Sarah Moore-Nokes asked presbyters to take information about mission back to their congregations. She noted presbytery staff often receives the question, "Where do our mission dollars go?", and staff has shared information in many different forms, both written and oral.

She observed that people often complain of information overload as a new phenomenon, but some experts would argue that information overload began with the Gutenberg press. More

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information became available than a person could read in a lifetime. So rather than information overload, what we are experiencing is "filter failure."

Staff is more than willing to answer questions about mission, but people must also be willing to seek out information through other sources as well.

**SYNOD COMMISSIONER REPORT**

Elder Jim York reported on the winter Synod meeting and called attention to the printed summary report. He noted that a new Moderator and Vice Moderator were elected.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**10/23** It was VOTED to receive the Personnel Committee report noting that the annual review for the Associate for Administration was successfully completed on December 17, 2009.

**NEW AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

**10/24** It was VOTED that the Stated Clerk send formal greetings from the Presbytery to the judicatories of other denominations within the bounds with whom we are in correspondence.

**ADJOURNMENT WITH PRAYER AND BENEDICTION**

**10/25** It was VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 3:20 p.m. following prayer and benediction by the Moderator.

Respectfully submitted,

**Nancy Barczak  
Associate for Administration**

**Michael B. Lukens  
Stated Clerk**

**Appendices: Council Minutes January 12, 2010  
2009-10 Mission Pledge Report  
December 2009 Financial Statement  
Faith Statements of newly enrolled Members**