

**Winnebago Presbytery  
Stated Meeting  
November 14, 2009  
First Presbyterian Church, Merrill, WI**

**Convening the Meeting**

The meeting convened with worship in the sanctuary of the First Presbyterian Church in Merrill, Wisconsin. Worship was led by the Rev. Donald King. Tamara Cox-Burnett served as liturgist. Worship included the celebration of Holy Communion.

Following worship, the Moderator, CLP Dennis Mannering, declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

<b>Roll Call</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Craig Alwin		X	
Randal Argall	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	
Robert Goebel		X	
Clifford Haskins		X	
Donald Heeringa		X	
Richard Hill		X	
Don Houdeshell	X		
Paul Huxtable	X		
Gail Irwin	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	
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	
Ted Sperduto	X		

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<u>Roll Call</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Lois Swanson		X	
Wilfred Tabb			X
Marcia Thomas	X		
Ted Tromble	X		
Charles Valenti-Hein			X
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		

09/71 It was VOTED to excuse those so listed.

**Churches Represented**

Abbotsford	Tinneke Boshma
Amberg	Not Represented
Aniwa	Not Represented
Appleton	Jeanne Nymoen
Arpin	Not Represented
Athelstane	Not Represented
Crivitz	Not Represented
De Pere	Sandra Ballard and Anne Dropp
Fond du Lac	Excused
Gleason	Not Represented
Green Bay First	Jennifer Solper
Green Bay Preble Park	Judy Nighorn
Green Bay Wequiock	Not Represented
Kiel	Excused
Kimberly	Not Represented
Lakewood	James Mathe
Laona	Not Represented
Manitowoc	Excused
Marinette	Not Represented
Marshfield	Not Represented
Melnik	Excused
Merrill	Tamara Cox-Burnett
Neenah	Howard Kidd and Gina Struensee
New Franken	Not Represented
Oconto	Not Represented
Omro	Not Represented
Oshkosh	Not Represented
Pembine	Not Represented
Pickett	Not Represented
Schofield	Not Represented
Shawano	Not Represented
Sheboygan	Keith Rowe
Stevens Point	David Arey
Wabeno	Pam Schroeder
Wausau	Rick Builer
Wausaukee	Linda Hogan-Stream
Weyauwega	Excused
White Lake	Not Represented
Wild Rose	Not Represented
Winneconne	Rosemary Shade

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**09/72 It was VOTED to excuse those so listed.**

**Commissioned Lay Pastors:** Max Ballard, Richard Kreager, Dennis Mannering, Wendy Mannering, and Lin Wittmann

CLPs Excused: Warren Kraft, Cheryl Lepak, and Jess Wakefield

**Trained Lay Pastor:** Jim York

**Lay Pastor Student:** Jessica Harrison

**Council Members:** Barbara Goldthwaite, Barent Johnson, Barbara Jordanger, and Jan Nelson

**Presbytery Committee Members:** Kay Smith

**Visitors:**

Wausau Jack and Mary Anderson  
Waupaca Bonnie Conditt

**Presbytery Staff:** Nancy Barczak

**Corresponding Members**

**09/73 It was VOTED to seat Commissioned Lay Pastor Alyson Janke, John Knox Presbytery, the Rev. Phil Brown (Synod Executive) Northern Waters Presbytery, Elder Jay Wilkinson (Synod Stated Clerk) Twin Cities Area Presbytery, and Elder Karen Krum (Presbyterian Foundation), Blackhawk Presbytery, as Corresponding Members.**

**Early Leave**

**09/74 It was VOTED to grant early leave to the Rev. Margaret Zedan and Commissioned Lay Pastor Richard Kreager.**

**09/75 It was VOTED to adopt the docket as distributed.**

**Report on Arrangements**

The Rev. Don King had made the report during announcements before worship.

**Introduction of New Elders and Visitors**

There were no new elders or visitors to introduce.

**STATED CLERK'S REPORT AND REFERRAL OF PAPERS**

**09/76 It was VOTED to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2009 meeting as distributed.**

- The Clerk reported the Order of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies Permanent Judicial Commission on 14 September 2009 in the case of Wolfe v. Winnebago, as stipulated in the 10 August 2009 Decision and Order of the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission. [See Appendices]
- The Clerk related the continuing appeal filed by Dr. Wolfe before the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission re: the Synod PJC Preliminary Order of its officers to dismiss Dr. Wolfe's (second) complaint about the meeting of Presbytery on 15 November 2008. The appeal now goes before the full Synod Commission.

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- The Clerk reported on the Special Called Meeting held November 13, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in compliance with the GAPJC Decision and Order and the Synod PJC Order. Although the minutes are not yet available for the meeting, Dr. Lukens reported that the Committee on Ministry made its recommendations. There was extensive discussion and reasonable occasion for all parties to present information. The final vote to approve the COM recommendations was 29 yes, 7 no, and one abstention.
- The Clerk reported that the Permanent Judicial Commissions and Investigative Pool members from the Presbyteries of John Knox, Milwaukee, and Winnebago met for training in Beaver Dam, WI on October 24.
- The annual statistical report booklets were distributed at the meeting this date.

**09/77 It was VOTED that the Order of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission dated 14 September 2009 be included in the Permanent Minutes of the Presbytery.**

**09/78 It was VOTED that the Clerk be instructed to send appropriate excerpts from the minutes to the Synod and General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commissions in confirmation that the Orders and Decisions were received and reported to Presbytery.**

There was a question as to when Presbytery might hear about the complaint that is still on file with the Synod. The Synod Stated Clerk, Jay Wilkinson, reported that in a conversation by phone with Ms. Wolfe's attorney, he was informed that the complaint would be withdrawn. Dr. Lukens reported that any further remedial complaint would need to be filed within 90 days.

Dr. Lukens reported on the receipt of formal greetings from Urabá Presbytery; the Rev. Mara Rivera translated the letter from the Spanish text. Urabá thanked Winnebago for its continued support, prayers and personal contacts. They look forward to future visits.

**09/79 It was VOTED to direct the Moderator and Stated Clerk to send a letter to Urabá Presbytery with our greetings and solicitations, our gratitude for their work and ministries, and our continued commitment to a common fellowship in and witness to Jesus Christ.**

#### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTIONAL TASK FORCE**

The Rev. Ted Sperduto reported for the Task Force. He gave a brief background regarding the charge to the Task Force and presented the options for small group discussion this morning.

Presbytery broke into small groups, with members of the Task Force acting as facilitators, and spent 45 minutes discussing the presented options and offering other possibilities for consideration. The seven groups gave summary reports of their discussions.

#### **RECESS FOR LUNCH**

Prior to offering grace before lunch, the Moderator invited Elders Barry Johnson and Barbara Goldthwaite forward and presented them with thank you gifts as they complete their service as Presbytery Treasurer and Nominating Committee Moderator, respectively.

The Moderator reminded presbyters that the meeting will reconvene with Speak Out at 1:00 p.m.

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### SPEAK OUT

- Winneconne invited presbyters to the Family Fun Night/Chili Supper on Wednesday November 18, 4-7 p.m.
- Preble Park, Green Bay, will host a World AIDS Day remembrance on December 1.
- Susan Phillips announced she had recently attended an Emergent Church Convention and a New Church Development Pastor Discernment program. She has been invited to teach a class on the Emergent church at Synod School next year.
- Tom Willadsen presented CLP Alyson Janke with a plaque commemorating her service in the "Finest Presbytery in this Sovereign Republic" while maintaining her membership in and serving as the Stated Clerk in John Knox Presbytery. She was also presented with a Welsh Dragon.
- Keith Rowe invited presbyters to a Chili Supper/Fundraiser in Sheboygan, 15 November.
- Pam Schroeder announced that Forest Larger Parish will host a hunter's dinner on November 20.
- Anne Dropp suggested others might consider having an alternative Christmas market. The DePere Church conducted one, offering items from SERRV and sold shares for Heifer Project animals. It raised \$650.
- Randy Argall invited presbyters to the Ken Medema concert on December 6. He also shared a letter from the Synod of Lakes and Prairies that he received as Vice President of the Board of Directors for UWGB Ecumenical Center, announcing a grant of \$10,000 for the next two-year funding cycle.

### CONSENT AGENDA

The Moderator presented the consent agenda for consideration. There were no requests to remove any items.

**09/80 It was VOTED to approve the consent agenda as presented:**  
**Committee on Ministry**

- 1. Approve the extension of the Commissioned Lay Pastor contract between the Wausaukee First and Athelstane Presbyterian Churches and Lin Wittmann from February 6, 2010 through February 6, 2013.**
- 2. Grant permission for Trained Elder Carlos Rivera, a member of Winneconne First and a teaching elder of the Ecumenical Hispanic Ministry, to officiate at Holy Communion for Senda de Amor for a period of one year, effective November 14, 2009.**

### COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Moderator Wendy Mannering reported the Committee took the following actions on behalf of the Presbytery since the September 15, 2009 meeting:

- 1. COM approved the Interim Contract between the Rev. Darryl Baker and Memorial Presbyterian Church for a period of one year, effective December 1, 2009.**

The terms of the contract are:

**\$45,000      Cash Salary**

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15,000	Housing Allowance
18,900	Full Pension
4,590	SECA Allowance
1,000	Continuing Education (as vouchered)
2,500	Travel and Professional Expenses

Two weeks study leave (one week every six months)

Six weeks vacation

Ten sick days per year, cumulative to a maximum of 90 days.

Auto allowance (IRS rate, currently \$.55/mile, as vouchered from Travel line

Moving Expenses: Not to exceed \$5,000, including mileage allowance \$.24/mi

- Contract may be terminated in first 12 months only by mutual consent.
- Contract may otherwise be terminated by Session upon 60 days notice. Church shall pay full benefits, including salary, housing and pension/medical benefits from the date of notice until the expiration of the 60 day notice period, unless extended by mutual consent of the parties.
- Contract may be terminated by the Interim Pastor with 30 day notice; in which case, payment beyond 30 day period will be forfeited.
- Vacation and study leave compensation, if accrued, to be paid in full at time of termination of work. Registration fees or related expenses for study leave will not be paid after the Interim Pastor leaves the pulpit.

2. COM received the Rev. Darryl Baker, Charlotte Presbytery, into membership on October 15, 2009. His faith statement and biographical statement are attached as pages 3-4 of this report.
3. COM appointed the Rev. Lucy Rupe Moderator of Memorial Presbyterian Church for the month of November 2009.
4. COM approved the extension of the Interim Contract between the Rev. Tom Williams and First Presbyterian, Fond du Lac, through May 13, 2010.
5. COM concurred with the request to dissolve the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Gail Irwin and Preble Park Presbyterian, effective December 31, 2009. Elder Judy Nighorn spoke to the action of the congregational meeting and thanked Ms. Irwin for her ministry.
6. COM granted permission for the Rev. William Brown, Honorably Retired member of Great Rivers Presbytery who resides in Eagle River, WI, to labor inside the bounds in order to serve as Interim Pastor at St. Germaine UCC Community Church beginning October 16, 2009.
7. COM granted permission for the Rev. Robert Goebel to labor outside the bounds in Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery as a chaplain with Valley Hospice in Wheeling, W. V.
8. TLP Jean Hamersky (DePere) has been appointed Moderator at Preble Park Church, effective January 1, 2010.

09/81 It was VOTED to approve the extension of the Interim contract between the Rev. Don Houdeshell and Marshfield First for a period of one year, effective December 1, 2009.

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**09/82** It was VOTED to designate the entire 2010 compensation for the Stated Clerk as housing allowance.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The Rev. Richard Manny presented the 2010 proposed budget, noting the Finance Committee gave serious consideration to various methods of reducing the deficit. Mr. Manny noted that in addition to recommended per capita increases and a shift in mission percentages, a more balanced budget is dependent upon congregations increasing their total mission dollars by 2% over the 2009 amount.

**09/83** It was VOTED to close debate.

**09/84** It was VOTED that the 2010 recommended Mission Percentages be: Presbytery – 58%, Synod – 18%, and General Assembly – 24%.

**09/85** It was VOTED that the 2010 Per Capita be set at a total of \$29.00: Presbytery \$18.05, Synod \$4.80, and General Assembly \$6.15.

Personnel Moderator Elder Barbara Jordanger proposed a change in the Personnel budget that would result in a \$1353 savings.

**09/86** It was VOTED to amend the 2010 Personnel budget at follows:

- Executive Presbyter: Salary/Benefits remain at 2009 level
- Stated Clerk: Salary remain at 2009 level
- Associate Executive Presbyter: Increase salary \$1500, BOP - \$551 = \$2051
- Associate for Administration: Increase salary \$910, BOP - \$287, FICA \$69 = \$1266.

**09/87** It was VOTED to adopt the 2010 budget as amended (Appendix A).

**09/88** It was VOTED that Council carefully consider a process for a budget hearing for the formation of budgets of presbytery.

### **RECOGNITION OF STATED CLERK'S SERVICE**

The Personnel Moderator, Elder Barbara Jordanger, invited the Stated Clerk, Dr. Michael Lukens to take a seat before the assembly in preparation for recognition of his 35 years of service as Stated Clerk in Winnebago Presbytery.

Elder Alyson Janke, Stated Clerk of John Knox Presbytery, told the fable about the Land of Stated Clerks and recognized the fact Dr. Lukens is this year's recipient of the C. Fred Jenkins Constitutional Services Award.

Synod Executive the Rev. Phil Brown thanked Michael for his service to the Synod of Lakes and Prairies when called upon for a difficult situation.

Stated Clerk of the Synod, Elder Jay Wilkinson, addressed Dr. Lukens' service and his kindness in welcoming him as Synod Stated Clerk.

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Video greetings from the Rev. Mark Tammen, Director of Constitutional Services, and the Rev. Gradye Parsons, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, thanked Michael for his service to the wider church.

The Rev. Bill Plank, Honorably Retired, shared a story of Michael's collegial and personal friendship over the years.

Moderator Dennis Mannering presented Dr. Lukens with a card that played, "Hail to the Chief" and a certificate indicating that \$500 is being donated in his honor to the Reformed University of Colombia for renovations to the library.

Dr. Lukens thanked the Presbytery for the honor and kind words, which he found quite humbling.

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

Richard Manny presented Global Partnership Task Force plans for the coming year and distributed an informational page about the Mission Network.

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Elder Barbara Goldthwaite presented the slate of nominees for Committee Moderators to serve one year terms. Moderator Mannering called for additional nominations from the floor. None were received.

**90/89** It was VOTED to elect the following as committee moderators:  
**Committee on Ministry: Co-Moderator Wendy Mannering, (CLP) Forest Larger Parish, and Bette Hoytink, (E) Winneconne**  
**Committee on Preparation for Ministry: Rebecca Proefrock (M) Non-Parish**  
**Finance Committee: Richard Manny (M) Sheboygan**  
**Personnel: Barbara Jordanger (E) Stevens Point**  
**Resource and Program Coordinating Team: Judy Nighorn (E) Preble Park**  
**Session Record Review: Stephen Wright (M) Wausau.**

**Ms. Goldthwaite presented the slate of nominees for three-year terms on the Committee on Ministry and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. The Moderator called for additional nominees; none were received.**

**90/90** It was VOTED to elect Julie Meadows (M) Non-Parish, Donovan Houdeshell (M) Marshfield, Ginger Selle (E) Omro, and Terri Zillges (E) Oshkosh to first terms and Cyndy Little (M) Arpin to a second term on the Committee on Ministry; and Ted Tromble (M) DePere and Laurie McCulloch (E) Appleton to first terms on the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, all in the class of 2012.

**Ms. Goldthwaite presented the slate of nominees for three-year terms on the Finance, Personnel Committees and the Resource and Program Coordinating Team. The Moderator called for additional nominees; none were received.**

**90/91** It was VOTED to elect Paul Huxtable (M) Neenah and Lew Smith (E) Fond du Lac to first terms on the Finance Committee, Max Ballard (CLP) Melnik and Ed Slusser (M) Omro to first terms on the Personnel Committee, and Craig Alwin (M) Oconto, Pam Schroeder (E) Wabeno, and Jess Wakefield (CLP) Schofield to second terms on the Resource and Program Coordinating Team, all in the class of 2012.

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### **PRESBYTERY COUNCIL** (Appendix B)

The Vice Moderator Marcia Thomas took the gavel for the report from the Council. Moderator Dennis Mannering presented the nominee for Moderator of the Presbytery Nominating Committee. Ms. Thomas called for additional nominations from the floor; there were none.

**90/92 It was VOTED to elect Jean Schneider (E) DePere moderator of the Nominating Committee for a one year term.**

**90/93 It was VOTED to designate the portion of the Genesis Fund available for ecumenical partnership in 2010 (\$4100) be designated for Uraba Presbytery to cover nursing home expenses for two retired pastors.**

### **STAFF REPORTS**

Associate Executive Presbyter Sarah Moore-Nokes thanked presbyters for their support that helped to underwrite the costs for the Fall Camp. Campers are responsible for their own registration but programming and other costs are underwritten by the presbytery.

Executive Presbyter Lucy Rupe reminded presbyters to rejoice in the present even as we remember the past and consider the future—interim pastors, pastors, lay pastors, elders, congregations seeking to carry out the love and justice of Jesus Christ.

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

Moderator Rebecca Proefrock reported the Committee has conducted annual evaluations with lay pastor students Joanne Cross and Elizabeth Murphy. The Committee is developing a file of sample faith statements to be made available to candidates and lay pastor students. It is anticipated that Inquirer Brita Hansen will be seeking candidacy in February.

### **SYNOD COMMISSIONER REPORT**

Synod Commissioner James York reported the highlights of the most recent Synod meeting.

### **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

Moderator Jan Nelson reported on a successful fall retreat in October and the spring gathering to be held April 24, 2010 at Oconto First. Tommy Logan will be the featured speaker from the shallow well program.

The Synod PW Gathering will be June 2010 at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, IA. The theme is "The Wonder of God's Promise."

Ms. Nelson noted that subscription rates for Horizon magazine are going up in January; so, renew now to save. She also directed attention to the 2010 Mission Yearbook for Prayer and Study noting the feature on Presbyterian Women.

### **SESSION RECORD REVIEW**

Moderator Stephen Wright reported that approximately two-thirds of the session records were reviewed during the month of October. The written report is attached [Appendix C].

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The schedule of review clusters will be announced in the spring; the Committee is developing some training pieces based on questions received during the past round of cluster meetings.

**NEW AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS** – There was none.

**MODERATOR INSTALLATION**

The Moderator Dennis Mannering invited all former Moderators present to come forward to join the recently elected Moderator, the Rev. Marcia Thomas and Vice Moderator, Elder Jeanne Nymoen. Installation was conducted by asking the constitutional questions.

This was followed by the exchange of symbols of the office – presenting the Moderator and Vice Moderator Crosses to the new officers and transferring the Moderator stole and gavel to the new Moderator. The Moderator offered prayer and congratulations extended.

**ADJOURNMENT WITH PRAYER**

The newly installed Moderator Marcia Thomas noted the next meeting of Presbytery will be Saturday, February 13, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. at DePere First United Church.

**90/94      It was VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 3:10 p.m. following the benediction.**

Ms. Thomas closed the meeting with prayer, lifting up the joys and concerns expressed throughout the day.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Barczak  
Associate for Administration

Michael B. Lukens  
Stated Clerk

Appendix A: 2010 Amended and Approved Operating Budget  
Appendix B: Presbytery Council Minutes – October 20, 2009  
Appendix C: Session Record Review Report  
Appendix D: Committee on Ministry Minutes