

**Winnebago Presbytery
Stated Meeting
February 7, 2009
First Presbyterian Church, Oshkosh, WI**

CONVENING THE MEETING

The meeting convened with worship, including Holy Communion, in the sanctuary of the First Presbyterian Church in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Worship participants included the Rev. Tom Willadsen, the Rev. Cyndy Little, Commissioned Lay Pastor Dick Kreager, and Lay Pastor Student Joann Cross.

The Rev. Tom Willadsen declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Roll Call	Present	Excused	Absent
Craig Alwin	X		
Randal Argall	X		
Thomas Beck			X
Gisele Berninghaus			X
John Billings	X		
Sid Bouldin		X	
Barbara Carmichael		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	
Donovan Houdeshell	X		
Thomas Hutt		X	
Paul Huxtable	X		
Gail Irwin	X		
Roy N. Johnson		X	
William Kamke			X
Donald King	X		
Curtis Larson			X
Cynthia Little	X		
Michael Lukens	X		
John Lyford		X	
Richard Manny	X		
Richard Marcy	X		
Craig Mansur			X
Peter Markey		X	
Scott Marrese-Wheeler			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		
Joseph Ripley	X		

Roll Call	Present	Excused	Absent
Mara Liz Rivera	X		
Lucille Rupe	X		
Matthew Sauer	X		
JoAnn Schoblaski		X	
Rachel Reeves Schwab		X	
Edward Slusser	X		
Ted Sperduto	X		
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	

09/01 It was VOTED to excuse those so listed.

Churches Represented

Abbotsford	Jim York
Amberg	Not Represented
Aniwa	Not Represented
Appleton	Jim Baumbach
Arpin	Not Represented
Athelstane	Farrel Maule
Crivitz	Jerry Reiss
De Pere	George Cornell and Jon Allcox
Fond du Lac	Mary Wolfe and Lewis Smith
Gleason	Calvin Patterson
Green Bay First	Brian Hulse
Green Bay Preble Park	Ken Sann
Green Bay Wequiock	Not Represented
Kiel	Excused
Kimberly	Not Represented
Lakewood	Mary Ellen Keller
Laona	Mike Mentz
Manitowoc	Theo Lynne Hoffman
Marinette	Not Represented
Marshfield	Don Zais
Melnik	Ruth Prochazka
Merrill	Kay Smith
Neenah	Virginia Hayes and Guenter Petermann
New Franken	Not Represented
Oconto	Charles Nick
Omro	Terri Groth
Oshkosh	Not Represented
Pembine	Not Represented
Pickett	Not Represented
Schofield	Jess Wakefield
Shawano	Edward Moede
Sheboygan	Robin Sheldon
Stevens Point	David Arey
Wabeno	Joanne Sisler
Wausau	Mary Sperduto and Rick Builer
Wausaukee	Linda Hogan -Stream
Weyauwega	Lucie Erickson

White Lake Not Represented
Wild Rose Not Represented
Winneconne Rosemary Shade

09/02 It was VOTED to excuse those so listed.

Commissioned Lay Pastors: Richard Kreager, Dennis Mannering, and Wendy Mannering
Excused: Max Ballard, Warren Kraft, Cheryl Lepak, and Alyson Janke

Trained Lay Pastors: Lina Wittman

Visitors:

Appleton	Alice Baumbach
Athelstane	Carol Fick
Crivitz	Don Denis
DePere	Anneliese Waggoner
Green Bay First	Nancy Siewert
Green Bay, Union UCC	Hayden Groy
Marshfield	Dorothy Shields
Neenah	Gina Struensee
Waupaca	Bonnie Conditt
Wausaukee	Richard Willan
Weyauwega	Robert Erickson

Council Members: Margaret Dakins, Anne Dropp, Barbara Goldthwaite, Barbara Jordanger,
and Judy Nighorn

Presbytery Committees: Bette Hoytink

Presbytery Staff: Nancy Barczak

Corresponding Members

09/03 It was VOTED to seat the Rev. Douglas Kelly, Board of Pensions (Southern Kansas Presbytery) and the Rev. Claude Jones, University of Dubuque Theological Seminary (Des Moines Presbytery) as corresponding members.

Early Leave

09/04 It was VOTED to grant early leave to the Rev. Mara Rivera, the Rev. Paul Huxtable and Elder Barbara Goldthwaite.

Adoption of the Docket

09/05 It was VOTED to adopt the docket as printed and distributed.

Report on Arrangements

The Rev. Tom Willadsen welcomed presbyters to the Oshkosh First Church and provided general information about the facilities and meal arrangements.

Introduction of New Elders and Visitors

First time elder commissioners and visitors from Crivitz, Green Bay First, Marshfield, Oconto, Sheboygan, Weyauwega and Winneconne were introduced. .

STATED CLERK'S REPORT (Dr. Michael Lukens)

09/06 It was VOTED to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2008 Presbytery meeting with the correction of Item 08/71 to read, "... in accordance with G-14.0461."

The Clerk reported the Decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies on January 14, 2009 in the remedial case of Wolfe vs. Winnebago. The SPJC found that CoM has the authority to approve the tasks of ministry and to place restrictions on ministers and that the COM acted in good faith in conversations with Dr. Wolfe.

It was ordered that both parties explore training for the Reverend Dr. Wolfe to address her lack of pastoral skills as identified by the CoM. The Committee on Ministry has appointed a task force to work with Dr. Wolfe.

09/07 It was VOTED that the full PJC decision be placed in the permanent minutes and that an extract be sent to the Synod. [Appendix A]

Dr. Lukens reported that the Annual Statistical Reports and the Clerk's Questionnaire are due by February 24th. Clerks were reminded that the web site becomes very busy as the deadline nears.

The Clerk announced that the Presbytery will consider the proposed revisions to the Form of Government in May. A small task group has been formed to review suggestions and report to the May meeting. If anyone is interested in participating, please contact the Clerk.

Dr. Lukens announced that ID cards are available for ministers who wish to have it.

The Clerk announced that a written allegation against a minister member of Presbytery by another minister member was received; an Investigating Committee has been appointed. Dr. Lukens noted that names and nature of the allegation remain confidential until such time as the Investigating may file charges. Absent charges, no further information will be forthcoming.

GUEST SPEAKER

The Rev. Sarah Moore-Nokes introduced the speaker for the day, Dr. Kristine Krumenauer, Associate Professor of Art, Marian University. The topic was, "The Arts and the Sacred." Dr. Krumenauer presented information about enhancing the worship experience for all types of persons, using the various senses – not just the spoken word. She offered suggestions for making small and larger changes in worship preparation and presentation.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda was presented for consideration; Committee on Ministry item# 1 was removed.

**09/08 It was VOTED to adopt the consent agenda, including the following items:
Committee on Ministry:**

2. To grant permission for lay pastors who have been certified by Winnebago Presbytery to celebrate Communion within the bounds of Winnebago Presbytery, when invited, for a one year period (February 2009 – February 2010).

3. To grant permission for the Rev. Linda Kuhn, John Knox Presbytery, to labor inside the bounds in order to serve as Interim Pastor at Emmanuel United Church of Christ in Oshkosh, effective November 1, 2008.

4. That Elders Max Ballard and Dennis Mannering, who are commissioned to serve the homebound members of the former Grace Presbyterian Church in Green Bay, receive the same annual percentage increase in salary as Presbytery staff.

Finance Committee:

1. That Presbytery grant permission for the following congregations to make quarterly per capita payments in 2009: Kiel, Shawano, Sheboygan, and Weyauwega.

2. That Presbytery approve a structure change to allow the creation of a Grants Allocation Committee that would report directly to the presbytery.

Recommendation:

All Grants except the Genesis Ecumenical Partnerships should be handled by one Grants Allocation Committee with representatives from the following areas: Program, Finance, Staff, members of the Presbytery.

Proposal:

Change the structure of the Presbytery to allow the creation of a Grants Allocation Committee that would report directly to the presbytery and be made up of:

1 representative from Resource and Program Coordinating Team (will serve as chair of the Grants Team)

1 representative from Finance Committee

The Associate Executive Presbyter

A minimum of 5 Members at Large (ministers or lay leaders) with no more than two representatives from any particular congregation

This would be a standing committee responsible for overseeing the following:

Local Mission Grants –
Emerging Mission Needs –
Genesis Ministry Projects –
Small Church Grants-

The new committee would use the grant guidelines already in place for each individual grant and be responsible for updating guidelines as necessary.

3. That Presbytery approve the necessary changes to the Manual of Administrative Operations.

The proposed change would require “E. Session Record Review Committee” to become section “F. Session Record Review Committee.”

A new section “E” would be added as follows:

E. GRANTS ALLOCATION COMMITTEE

1. *Membership: The Grants Allocation Committee shall be composed of a minimum of five members-at-large (minister or lay leaders) with no more than two representatives from a particular congregation. Additionally, one member of the Finance Committee, and one member of the Resource and Program Coordinating Team (RPCT) will serve. The RPCT representative serves as Committee chair. The Associate Executive Presbyter shall serve as staff resource.*

2. *Purpose: The Committee shall recommend the allocation of the dollars available from various special funds of the Presbytery, particularly the local mission grants*

and local emerging mission grants (Operations Budget), the Genesis Fund (Ministry Projects), and the Small Church Grant Fund.

- 3. Responsibilities: *Committee responsibilities are to:***
 - a. Establish procedures as needed***
 - b. Promote funds availability***
 - c. Review applications***
 - d. Recommend allocation of the available dollars***

- 4. Accountability: *The Committee is accountable to the Presbytery.***

INTRODUCTION OF AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

The Moderator introduced the Rev. Douglas Kelly, Board of Pensions, and the Rev. Claude Jones, University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. Both representatives were present for the day and available to speak with presbyters.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY (The Rev. Paul Huxtable)

Mr. Huxtable reported that the Committee had taken several actions on behalf of the Presbytery since the November 15, 2008 stated meeting.

- 1. Committee approved extension of the Designated Pastor agreement between the Rev. Marcia Thomas and Abbotsford First Church through November 2009.**
- 2. Committee approved extension of the Stated Supply contract between the Rev. Cyndy Little and Arpin First Church through July 21, 2009.**
- 3. Committee concurred with the request to dissolve the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Robert Goebel and Athelstane and Wausaukee First Churches effective March 31, 2009.**
- 4. Committee appointed the Rev. Lucy Rupe to moderate the congregational meetings at Athelstane and Wausaukee on January 25, 2009 and the session meetings on February 5, 2009.**
- 5. Committee appointed a consulting team to work with the Rev. Dr. Janet Wolfe as ordered by the Decision and Order of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission on January 14, 2009. The Rev. Sid Bouldin will serve as convener. Other members are Elder Barbara Jordanger (Wausau) and the Rev. Tom Willadsen (Oshkosh).**
- 6. Committee concurred with the request of the Melnik Church to grant permission for Elder Phil Kinzel to celebrate Communion for a one year period, effective February 7, 2009, when a Minister of the Word and Sacrament is unavailable.**
- 7. Committee granted an exception from the pastoral care requirement for Lay Pastor student Rosangela Berbert, Oshkosh.**
- 8. Committee noted that the Rev. Nelson Craig will complete his service as Moderator at Melnik July 31, 2009.**

9. Committee noted that the Parish Associate relationship between the Rev. Julie Meadows and Frame Memorial, Stevens Point, ended December 20, 2008.
10. Committee has completed Triennial Visits with Merrill, Gleason, Marshfield and Winneconne since the November Presbytery meeting.
11. Committee reviewed Interim Pastor reports from Fond du Lac and Marshfield.
12. Committee has set the annual lay pastor continuing education event for May 30, 2009. The Rev. Dr. Randy Argall will teach.

Calling attention to action #3, Mr. Huxtable invited representatives from the Athelstane and Wausaukee Churches to attest to the fact that the congregation had acted in the affirmative to concur with the request to dissolve the pastoral relationship with Mr. Goebel. Elders Linda Hogan-Stream and Lina Wittman attested to the meetings.

Mr. Huxtable withdrew Motion #1 regarding the status of the Rev. Curtis Larson at this time.

09/09 It was VOTED to commission Trained Lay Pastor Lina Wittman (Athelstane) to serve as transitional pastoral leadership at the Wausaukee and Athelstane Churches for a period of one year, effective February 7, 2009. Her commission grants all rights to perform weddings, celebrate the sacraments of Communion and Baptism, and to moderate the sessions.

09/10 It was VOTED to approve the terms of the contract between Lina Wittman and the Wausaukee and Athelstane Churches as follows:

[The Terms have been omitted for privacy purposes. The information is available to presbyters from the Presbytery Office and is included in the permanent minutes of the Presbytery.]

FINANCE COMMITTEE (The Rev. Richard Manny)

09/11 It was VOTED to concur with the request of the Pioneer Presbyterian Church, pending a congregational meeting on February 15, 2009, to sell 1013.7 square feet of church property to Lawrence and Gail Melgary, neighbors, and members of the church, for an appraised sum of \$1,500. The purpose of the transaction is to fix a property line over which the Melgary's garage overlaps the church property. The problem existed before the church owned the property, and there have been several owners over the years. The Melgary's paid for the appraisal, surveying and deed, with the understanding that the money would go toward the roof replacement on the Christian education building this summer.

The property is described as:

All that part of Lot 13 of the Subdivision of Section 6, Town 30 North-Range 24 East, City of Marinette, Marinette County, Wisconsin, being bounded and described as follows:

From an existing 1¼ " diameter iron pipe at the Northeasterly Corner of Certified Survey Map No. 3296 (Document No. 723242), measure N29°40'38"W, 99.22 feet to an existing 1¼" diameter iron pipe at the Northeasterly Corner of lands described in Jacket 4448, Image 28; thence S53°30'00"W, 106.42 feet along the Northwesterly Line of said lands, to the point of beginning of

the parcel described herein;

thence continue S53°30'00"W, 154.42 feet along said line, to an existing 5/8 inch diameter iron rod; thence N33°28'03"E, 20.43 feet to a capped 5/8" diameter steel rebar; thence N53°30'00"E, 135.22 feet to a capped 5/8" diameter steel rebar; thence S36°30'00"E, 7.00 feet to the point of beginning, containing 1,013.71 square feet.

RECESS FOR LUNCH

09/12 It was VOTED to reconvene in Executive Session at 12:45 p.m. following lunch.

The Moderator recessed the meeting with prayer offered before lunch.

RECONVENED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOTE: Actions numbered 09/13 through 09/15 were taken during Executive Session. Presbytery moved to open session.

SPEAK OUT

Michael Lukens announced that 7 people will be attending the Colombia Advocacy event in Washington, D.C., later this month.

Don Zais extended gratitude on behalf of the Marshfield Church to the Committee on Ministry and staff for the significant and relevant support during their recent difficulties.

Lew Smith announced the Model Train Show (all gauges) will be held at the Fond du Lac Church April 18-19.

Susan Phillips announced that 23 people have recently volunteered to play an instrument or sing during worship services. She is delighted that 10% of the congregation is offering to share these gifts.

Joanne Sisler, Wabeno, announced that the accessibility remodeling is finally completed and the congregation is looking forward to hosting Presbytery in September.

Tom Williams, Interim Pastor Fond du Lac, announced an event in Milwaukee on February 23 to help congregations know how to welcome home veterans.

WE HAVE HEARTS FOR MISSION

Associate Executive Presbyter Sarah Moore-Nokes noted that we often say we are "the finest presbytery in this sovereign republic", but she recently found some information that points in that direction. She conducted a brief quiz where presbyters learned Winnebago is the fourth smallest presbytery of the 16 in the Synod of Lakes and Prairies. Winnebago gives the most dollars to Synod support, and we are projected to give a total of \$406,000 in mission this year.

Each presbyter received a "bumper sticker" with the above information and "We have hearts for mission." The hearts were chocolates.

RESOURCE AND PROGRAM COORDINATING TEAM

Presbyters heard a report from the fall delegation (The Rev. Richard Manny, Elder Nancy Siewert, the Rev. Lucy Rupe, Elder Anneliese Waggoner, the Rev. Susan Zencka, and Elder Jim Baumbach) that traveled to Urabá Presbytery in Colombia. The report included slides and information about the people, churches, ministries, and economics of the region. The Council there formally accepted the 5-year extension of our partnership covenant until 2014.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (Elder Anne Dropp)

It was reported that the annual review for the Administrative Assistant was successfully completed in December.

Ms. Dropp reported that the annual reviews for the Executive Presbyter, Associate Executive and the Stated Clerk will be conducted on April 21st. Anyone wishing to submit comments, may send them to Barbara Jordanger, incoming Personnel Committee Moderator.

09/16 It was **VOTED** to change the Terms of Call for the Rev. Sarah Moore-Nokes, effective February 7, 2009, to increase the housing allowance from \$15,000 to \$18,500.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY (The Rev. Rebecca Proefrock)

The Committee met January 24, 2009, for the annual consultation with Inquirer Julie Wald and voted to continue her in that status.

PRESBYTERY COUNCIL (The Rev. Tom Willadsen)

Mr. Willadsen announced that Council has appointed a task force to examine the future directions of the Presbytery, including Elder Barbara Jordanger (Personnel), the Rev. Richard Manny (Finance), Elder Barry Johnson (Treasurer), the Rev. Ted Sperduto (Resource and Program), and CLP Dennis Mannering (Presbytery Moderator).

Mr. Willadsen recognized the service of outgoing committee moderators Stephen Wright, Anne Dropp, and Paul Huxtable. They were presented with gifts.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (Elder Margaret Dakins)

Ms. Dakins announced the dates and plans for the Spring Gathering and the Fall Retreat.

AMENDMENTS FROM THE 218TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 09/17** It was **VOTED** to concur with Amendment 08-A on amending G-5.0200.
- 09/18** It was **VOTED** to concur with Amendment 08-B on amending G-6.0106b, G-14.0240, and G-14.0450, by balloted vote: 55 yes and 20 no.
- 09/19** It was **VOTED** to concur with Amendment 08-C on amending G-6.0202b and G-6.0401.
- 09/20** It was **VOTED** to concur with Amendment 08-D on amending the General Assembly Mission Council name change throughout the Book of Order.
- 09/21** It was **VOTED** to concur with Amendment 08-E on amending G-11.0102 and G-12.0102k.

- 09/22** It was VOTED to concur with Amendment 08-F on amending G-11.407 and G-14.0730.
- 09/23** It was VOTED to concur with Amendment 08-G on amending G-13.0107, G-13.0108, and G-13.0202a.
- 09/24** It was VOTED to concur with Amendment 08-H on amending G-14.0431.
- 09/25** It was VOTED to concur with Amendment 08-I on amending G-14.0730.
- 09/26** It was VOTED NOT TO CONCUR with Amendment 08-J on amending D-2.0103 and D-10.0202h.
- 09/27** It was VOTED to concur with the Ecumenical Statement 08-K on ratifying a common agreement on baptism with the Roman Catholic Church.
- 09/28** It was VOTED to concur with the Ecumenical Statement 08-L on adopting an agreement with the Episcopal Church.
- 09/29** It was VOTED to concur with the Ecumenical Statement 08-M on adopting a covenant relationship agreement with the Korean Presbyterian Church in America.
- 09/30** It was VOTED to concur with the Ecumenical Statement 08-N on adopting a covenant partnership agreement with the Moravian Church.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The Moderator invited CLP Dennis Mannering and the Rev. Marcia Thomas forward to be installed as Moderator and Vice Moderator. Past Moderators present at the meeting were invited forward to stand with them.

Mr. Willadsen conducted the Installation Service and presented the officers with the Moderator and Vice Moderator crosses. Mr. Mannering was also presented with the Moderator’s stole and gavel.

Moderator Mannering then thanked Ms. Willadsen for his leadership during the past year and presented him with a gift from the Presbytery.

- 09/31** It was VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m. following the closing prayer and benediction.

Mr. Mannering announced that the May Presbytery meeting will be held at First Presbyterian Church, Manitowoc on Tuesday, May 12, 2009, convening at 9:30 a.m.

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Barczak
Associate for Administration

Michael B. Lukens
Stated Clerk

Appendices:

- A. Decision (Wolfe v. Winnebago) of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, January 14, 2009.
- B. Minutes of Presbytery Council: 6 January 2009