

**Winnebago Presbytery  
Stated Meeting  
May 12, 2009  
First Presbyterian Church, Manitowoc, WI**

**CONVENING THE MEETING**

The meeting convened in the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. The Moderator, Commissioned Lay Pastor Dennis Mannering, declared a quorum present and opened the meeting with prayer at 9:30 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	
Donovan Houdeshell		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	
Mara Liz Rivera	X		
Lucille Rupe	X		
Matthew Sauer	X		
JoAnn Schoblaski		X	
Rachel Reeves Schwab		X	
Edward Slusser	X		

<b>Roll Call</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
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		

**09/32 It was VOTED to excuse those so listed.**

**Churches Represented**

Abbotsford	Darlene Brown
Amberg	Not Represented
Aniwa	Not Represented
Appleton	Not Represented
Arpin	Not Represented
Athelstane	Not Represented
Crivitz	Not Represented
De Pere	Alan Gemer and Jodi Buntin
Fond du Lac	Jim Hubbard
Gleason	Not Represented
Green Bay First	Brian Hulse
Green Bay Preble Park	Judy Nighorn
Green Bay Wequiock	Not Represented
Kiel	Joanne Pritchard
Kimberly	Not Represented
Lakewood	James Mathe
Laona	Not Represented
Manitowoc	Jeanne Wilcox
Marinette	Not Represented
Marshfield	Excused
Melnik	Ruth Prochazka
Merrill	Kay Smith
Neenah	Anne Bennett and Howard Kidd
New Franken	Not Represented
Oconto	Not Represented
Omro	Not Represented
Oshkosh	Harriet Martin
Pembine	Not Represented
Pickett	Not Represented
Schofield	Joan Bouldin
Shawano	Edward Moede
Sheboygan	Keith Rowe
Stevens Point	David Arey
Wabeno	Louie Spaude
Wausau	Allen Roberts
Wausaukee	Not Represented
Weyauwega	Excused
White Lake	Not Represented
Wild Rose	Not Represented
Winneconne	Rosemary Shade

**09/33 It was VOTED to excuse those so listed.**

**Commissioned Lay Pastors:** Max Ballard, Richard Kreager, Cheryl Lepak, Dennis Mannering, Wendy Mannering, and Fred Wadsworth

Excused: Warren Kraft and Lin Wittmann

**Trained Lay Pastors:** Jean Hamersky

**Lay Pastor Students:** Jess Wakefield

**Visitors:**

DePere	Diane Betz and Susan Leiber
Fond du Lac	Jennifer Zander (Christian Educator)
Manitowoc	Winnie Drape and Ruth Perry
Neenah	Gina Struensee (Christian Educator)
Schofield	Deb Wakefield
Sheboygan	Gert Walsh
Wausau	Mary Sperduto

**Council Members:** Barbara Jordanger, Jan Nelson, and Jim York

**Presbytery Committees:** Barb Boehler and Anne Dropp

**Presbytery Staff:** Nancy Barczak

**Corresponding Members**

**09/34** It was VOTED to seat, as corresponding members, the Rev. Leland M. Laack, Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley, and Ms. Karen Krum, Regional Representative of the Presbyterian Foundation, member of Prairie Dell Presbyterian Church, Blackhawk Presbytery.

**Early Leave**

**09/35** It was VOTED to grant early leave to CLP Cheryl Lepak and Elder Joanne Pritchard.

**Adoption of the Docket**

**09/36** It was VOTED to adopt the docket as printed and distributed.

**Report on Arrangements**

The Rev. Matthew Sauer welcomed presbyters to the Manitowoc 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 Abbotsford, DePere, Fond du Lac, Neenah, Schofield, and Wausau were introduced.

**STATED CLERK'S REPORT** (Dr. Michael Lukens)

**09/36** It was VOTED to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2009 Presbytery meeting.

The Clerk reported that Presbytery has received notice of appeal of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission Decision (14 January 2009) in the remedial case of Wolfe vs. Winnebago Presbytery. The Synod PCJ rendered in favor of Presbytery. That decision has been appealed to the General Assembly and the appeal will be heard by the GAPJC on August 7 in Louisville.

Dr. Lukens presented the Annual Statistical Reports and highlighted several items.

PRESBYTERY OF WINNEBAGO  
Office of Stated Clerk  
MINISTERIAL STATISTICAL REPORT: 2008

Number of Churches in Presbytery	40
Minister Members on Roll, <u>December 31, 2007</u> :	55
Ministers Received:	8
Craig Alwin (North Central Iowa)	
Randal Argall* (Northern Plains)	
Robert G. Goebel (South Dakota)	
Joseph Ripley (UCC/NEA)	
Russell Tillotson*	
Sara Ver Burg (Greater Atlanta)	
Thomas L. Williams (Milwaukee)	
Donovan G. Houdeshell (Grand Canyon)	
Ministers Died:	1
Ronald L. McDuffie	
Ministers Dismissed:	4
Kathleen J. Dooley (Chicago)	
LeRoy Haynes (Twin Cities Area)	
Judith Holmes-Jensen (Milwaukee)	
Mary Pol (Northern Waters)	
Ministers Moved to Inactive:	0
[Ministers on Inactive Status	1]
Ministers Temporarily Excluded	0
Ministers Removed:	2
Dennis L. Cobb (Renunciation)	
Richard Warch (Dismissed to local congregation)	
Ministers Restored:	0
Ministers on Roll: December 31, 2008	56
[total gains=8; losses=7]	
Commissioned Lay Pastors enrolled 2008	3
Tamara Cox-Burnett	
Wendy Mannering	
Lina Wittmann	
Commissioned Lay Pastors Total	16
Pastoral Dissolutions	1
Pastoral Installations	4
Honorable Retirement	1
Barbara Carmichael	
Candidates Taken Under Care: 2008	0
Candidates Presently Under Care	0
Inquirers Enrolled: 2008	0
Inquirers Total	2

\* Randal Argall and Russell Tillotson were pending *in transitu* in 2008.



Church Membership Changes/2008

Churches increasing in membership = 11  
Churches decreasing in membership = 19  
Churches remaining the same in membership = 10

Total Male Elders = 167  
Total Female Elders = 183  
Total Male Deacons = 50  
Total Female Deacons = 219

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WINNEBAGO PRESBYTERY

**2008 Summary of Church Statistics**

[submitted to the Office of the General Assembly]  
24 February, 2009

Total Active Membership at beginning of 2008 = 7795  
2008 Gains = 374  
2008 Losses = 606

**Total Active Membership at beginning of 2009 = 7563**

Female members = 4006  
Inactive members = 936  
Baptized members [not counted within active members] = 1217

Total Adherents = 9716 [increase from 2008: 9685]

Baptisms [children 92; adults 8] = 100

Average Church Attendance [across the Presbytery]: 3163

Christian Education = 2733

Children = 1616  
Adults = 657  
Teachers = 460

Congregational Composition

Asian = 46  
Afr.American = 20  
Nat.American = 26  
Hispanic = 19  
White = 7437  
Other = 15

## Summary Financial Data 2008

### Receipts

Giving Units	= 4944
Budgeted Income	= \$ 6,409,989.
Budgeted Expenses	= \$ 6,948,630.
Regular Contributions	= \$ 5,122,336.
Capital Funds	= \$ 589,898.
Investment Income	= \$ 1,160,860.
Bequests	= \$ 582,624.
Other Income	= \$ 299,852.
Subsidy/Aid	= \$ 33,527.
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>= \$ 7,789,097.</b>

### Expenditures

Local Program	= \$ 5,175,192.
Local Mission	= \$ 306,926.
Capital	= \$ 895,678.
Investment	= \$ 180,035.
Apportionment	= \$ 202,264.
Validated Mission	= \$ 470,181.
Other Mission	= \$ 109,646.
Theological Fund	= \$ 12,383.
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>= \$ 7,352,305.</b>

**09/37 It was VOTED to receive the report of the Investigating Committee re: alleged misconduct against a minister member of Presbytery (received 27 January 2009) with its decision not to file a charge and to place the report in the sealed files of Presbytery.**

**09/38 It was VOTED to receive the report of the Minutes Review Committee of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies re: the 2008 Minutes of Winnebago Presbytery, reviewed on 16 March 2009 and approved with one exception: no record in Minutes of Presbytery review of insurance coverage. [Clerk's note: Finance Committee did review Presbytery's coverage but the Minutes are silent on this fact.]**

The Clerk presented the 2008 Necrology report by reading the names of ministers and elders who died during year.

### Winnebago Presbytery Necrology Report – 2008

Name	Church	Ordination	Death
<i>Ministers:</i>			
Ronald L. McDuffie			08-17-08
<i>Elders:</i>			
Barbara Abelman	Wausau, First	05-22-94	08-03-08
Ada Mae Ahrens	Melnik	12-15-70	05-08-08
John Anderson	Shawano, First	04-04-54	08-08-08
William Bendrick	Wausau, First	1958	11-13-08
Oscar Bensen	Fond du Lac, First	02-02-75	05-11-08
Emily Bierbrauer	Wausau, First	01-05-69	06-17-08
Frank J. Cerny	Fond du Lac, First	1963	05-14-08
Marjorie Cook	Wild Rose	01-11-76	10-23-08
Walter Dean	Weyauwega, First	01-07-68	01-15-08
Donald Dunst	Gleason, Riverside	02-05-89	12-23-08

Name	Church	Ordination	Death
Anita Hedke	Winneconne, First	01-1976	08-02-08
Gerald Hellwig	Omro, First	01-21-62	03-27-08
Sherri Hoffman	Gleason, Riverside	02-11-01	08-09-08
Eleanor Hoyt	Wausau, First	01-06-74	03-06-08
David P. Jahnke	Wausau, First	01-11-70	07-28-08
Harold Krueger	Green Bay, First	1970	10-11-08
Edith LaBelle	Winneconne, First	01-1964	04-08-08
Louis Larsen	Wabeno, First		04-01-07
Harley Loker	Neenah, First	06-14-87	11-14-08
Eleanor Lovell	Omro, First	01-25-70	10-26-08
Elaine Lubbers	Sheboygan, First	02-02-64	10-02-08
Pauline Lundeen	Laona, First		05-06-08
Elizabeth Mac Donald	Neenah, First	06-14-87	11-08-08
John McElrath	Wausau, First	01-05-69	01-27-08
David Manske	Stevens Point, Frame Memorial		03-11-08
Peter Moody	Sheboygan, First	01-24-82	09-05-08
Carol Nelson	Marshfield, First	1968	08-01-08
John Nelson	DePere, First United		06-18-08
Allan Peterson	Shawano, First	04-04-54	12-19-08
Russell Petran	Wausau, First	01-03-71	03-09-08
Jack Martin Rudolph	Appleton, Memorial	01-20-63	01-19-08
Jacob Schilleman	Wabeno, First	01-15-61	01-24-08
Rene Schneider	Stevens Point, Frame Memorial		04-04-08
Allen Shepherd	Wausau, First	1962	07-17-08
John H. Slayton	Wausau, First	1962	01-10-08
Richard Troemel	White Lake, Hope	01-29-95	12-24-08
Marian Urban	Wausau First	12-11-66	10-01-08
Carole Vasarella	Marinette, Pioneer	01-16-94	10-07-08
Edward Vruwink	Arpin, First	01-1992	08-13-08
Nathan Wauda	Neenah, First	12-12-65	03-12-08
Marian Wiesman	Marshfield, First	02-19-84	07-29-08
Glenn Wilson	White Lake, Hope	02-03-96	06-03-08
Mary Wesoloski	Crivitz, Faith	01-06-85	11-6-08
Shelly Wojtysiak	Crivitz, Faith	01-02-03	03-31-08
Ruth Ann Zahn	Winneconne, First	12-2005	12-02-08

Following the reading, the Clerk noted that the Rev. Tom Hutt, Honorably Retired, died April 23, 2009, and had requested no services be held. The Rev. Chuck Valenti-Hein was invited to share some brief comments about the life and ministry of Mr. Hutt.

The report was concluded with presbyters singing, *For All the Saints*.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The Moderator presented the consent agenda for consideration.

**09/39 It was VOTED to approve the CONSENT AGENDA as presented. The following items were included in that motion:**

#### **Committee on Representation**

- Committee recommends that Presbytery receive its report for 2009 and that it be forwarded to the Synod of Lakes and Prairies. (Appendix A)

### **Committee on Preparation for Ministry**

- The Committee recommends that the Presbytery adopt the proposed wording in the Lay Pastor manual which reflects the shift from COM to CPM for the educational component of the program. (Proposed changes are attached to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report.

### **Presbytery Council**

- Council recommends the following dates for meetings of Presbytery in 2010:

February 13 (Saturday)  
September 14 (Tuesday)

May 11 (Tuesday)  
November 13 (Saturday)

### **Finance Committee**

- Committee recommends that Presbytery receive the 2008 Financial Review as prepared by our auditors, Erickson and Associates, Appleton. (Appendix B)
- Committee recommends that the 2009 Certificate of Insurance for Winnebago Presbytery be made a part of the permanent minutes. (Appendix C)

### **Committee on Ministry**

- Committee recommends that the Stated Supply relationships between the Rev. Donald King and Gleason/Merrill; the Rev. Wil Tabb and Kimberly; and the Rev. William Kamke and Robinsonville/Wequiock be renewed for a one year period effective June 1, 2009.
- Committee recommends that the Stated Supply relationship between the Rev. Cyndy Little and Arpin be renewed for a one year period through July 21, 2010.
- Committee recommends that Presbytery receive and approve the Annual Ministerial Report.

#### **ANNUAL MINISTERIAL REPORT TO PRESBYTERY May 2009**

#### **Validated Ministry within Congregations of This Church**

Craig Alwin	Richard Manny	JoAnn Schoblaski
Randy Argall	Craig Mansur	Edward Slusser
Sid Bouldin	Richard Marcy	Marcia Thomas
Donovan Houdeshell	Richard Moore	Ted Tromble
Paul Huxtable	Joy Nelson-Jeffers	Charles Valenti-Hein
Gail Irwin	Susan Phillips	Sara Ver Burg
William Kamke	Joseph Ripley	Tom Willadsen
Donald King	Mara Liz Rivera	Tom Williams
Cyndy Little	Matthew Sauer	Stephen Wright
		Susan Zencka

#### **Validated Ministry in Other Service to This Church**

Michael Lukens	Sarah Moore-Nokes	Lucille Rupe
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**Validated Ministry in Service Beyond the Jurisdiction of This Church**

Timothy Fulop

Rachel Reeves Schwab  
Wil Tabb

Margaret Zedan

**Honorably Retired**

John Billings  
Marion Conditt  
Nelson Craig  
Edward Esler  
Robert Everhard  
Cliff Haskins

Donald Heeringa  
Richard Hill  
Tom Hutt  
Roy Johnson  
John Lyford  
Peter Markey

Paul Martin  
Barbara Peterson  
Bill Plank  
Russ Tillotson  
Colin Webster  
Janet Wolfe

**Members At-Large**

Tom Beck  
Bob Goebel  
Scott Marrese-Wheeler

Tricia Matthew  
Julie Meadows  
Rebecca Proefrock

Ted Sperduto  
Lois Swanson

**Inactive Members**

Curtis Larson

**Commissioned Lay Pastors**

Max Ballard – Former Grace Homebound  
George Buchanan – White Lake

Alyson Janke – Wild Rose  
Warren Kraft - Bay-Lakes Council BSA  
Dick Kreager - Winneconne

Cheryl Lepak – Kiel & Salem Plankroad UCC  
Dennis Mannering – Former Grace  
Homebound & Forest Larger Parish  
Wendy Mannering – Forest Larger Parish  
Fred Wadsworth – Amberg & Pembine  
Lin Wittmann – Athelstane & Wausaukee

**Trained Lay Pastors**  
**(Certified/Not Serving)**

Charles Brownlow  
Tamara Cox-Burnett  
Ned Grossnickle

Jean Hamersky  
Bonnie Weideman  
Jim York

**Lay Pastor Students**  
**(Enrolled in CLP Program)**

Rosangela Berbert  
Joann Cross  
Jessica Harrison

Phil Kinzel  
Elizabeth Murphy  
Jess Wakefield

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- Committee recommends that the contracts between Commissioned Lay Pastor Alyson Janke and the Wild Rose Presbyterian Church and Commissioned Lay Pastor Warren Kraft and the Bay Lakes Council of the Boy Scouts of America be extended through May 11, 2012.

- Committee recommends that the contract between Commissioned Lay Pastors Dennis and Wendy Mannering and the Forest Larger Parish be extended through December 31, 2011.
- Committee recommends that Presbytery grant permission for the Rev. Timothy Fulop to continue laboring outside the bounds in Heartland Presbytery as Dean of the College and Vice President for Academic Affairs at William Jewell College in Liberty, MO.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE** (Elder Barbara Boehler)

Ms. Boehler presented the slate of nominees to fill current committee vacancies. The Moderator called for additional nominations from the floor; there were none.

**09/40 It was VOTED to elect:**

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

**(09-1) Gail Irwin (M) Green Bay Preble Park**  
**(11-1) Charles Valenti-Hein (M) Appleton Memorial**

Finance Committee

**(11-1) Susan Zencka (M) Stevens Point, Frame Memorial**

Resource and Program Coordinating Team (RPCT)

**(11-1) Nancy Siewert (E) Green Bay First**

**RESOURCE AND PROGRAM COORDINATING TEAM** (Elder Judy Nighorn)

Ms. Nighorn reminded presbyters the deadline for Genesis and Local Mission Grants, as well as Synod School Scholarships is June 1.

**Task Group Reports**

Dr. Michael Lukens presented a report from the Presbytery's February 22-25 **education and advocacy seminar on Colombia-U.S. Relations in Washington, D.C.** The overall seminar purpose was framed by the continuing relationship between Winnebago Presbytery and Urabá Presbytery and the extension of our understanding of the effect of U.S. policies on the contemporary struggle of the Colombian people.

Six people participated: Michael Lukens, Richard Manny, Lucy Rupe, Marian Seagren Hall, Annaliese Waggoner, and Gertrude (Gert) Walsh.

There were two specific goals. First, the group sought discussions with representatives of church and special interest groups related to the distinctive situation in Colombia and efforts to improve both civil and church communities, particularly from the perspective of the Colombians. Secondly, the seminar focused on discussion with congressional officials and staff, reflecting our concerns, based on our experience, about civil rights and the social and economic development interests of our colleagues and partners in Colombia. The group met with staff from the offices of Senators Kohl and Feingold and Representatives David Obey, Thomas Petri, and Stave Kagen.

The full report is appended to these minutes as Appendix D.

A second task group report was presented by five of the ten women who attended the **Women's Lambing Weekend** at the Heifer International Ranch in Perryville, Arkansas. The women shared brief reflections on their experiences and learning from the event. It was agreed they had all returned energized about ways to implement care of the earth and sustainable lifestyles into their personal lives and the lives of their church communities.

The women, grateful for the financial support provided by the Presbytery, presented a framed print, *Rwanda Sunrise*, to presbytery staff for display in the Presbytery office.

#### **SYNOD COMMISSIONER REPORT** (Elder Jim York)

Mr. York called attention to the printed summary report (also online) and noted that Synod has approved maintaining the 2010 per capita apportionment at \$4.80, the same level as 2009. Commissioners participated in an educational session related to sexual misconduct policies and their implementation.

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

Ms. Proefrock reported that the Committee has reviewed and revised the Presbytery's Academic Debt Reduction Policy to bring it more in line with the Board of Pensions Seminary Debt Assistance Program guidelines.

The Lay Pastor Program Policies and Procedures have been revised to move the responsibility for lay pastor training to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM). Both CPM and the Committee on Ministry (COM) will examine students for certification. Once approved, the lay pastors will become the responsibility of the COM.

#### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE** (Elder Barbara Jordanger)

Ms. Jordanger reported that the annual reviews for the Executive Presbyter, Associate Executive Presbyter, and the Stated Clerk were successfully completed on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Jordanger commented on the quality staff in Winnebago Presbytery, and presbyters responded with a standing ovation.

#### **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** (Elder Jan Nelson)

Ms. Nelson reported on the successful spring gathering held at Stevens Point. She noted that plans are underway for the fall retreat to be held at Pine Lake. The featured presenter will be Judy Bond, Choir Director at Frame Memorial and a Board member of the Presbyterian Association of Musicians.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE** (The Rev. Richard Manny)

Mr. Manny encouraged committees, as they prepare their 2010 budget requests, to be cognizant of the fact of declining membership and that mission giving has been flat or declining.

Requests for church certificates of insurance have been made; the committee will be reviewing those and reporting to Presbytery in September.

The first quarter financial statement was presented, and is attached as Appendix E.

**09/41** It was VOTED to grant permission for First Presbyterian Church, Winneconne, to seek financing through General Assembly for an amount not to exceed \$50,000 at a 5% rate for twenty years in order to purchase the property at 16 South Third Avenue, Winneconne, WI for no more than \$115,000. The property is described as:

Lot Eight (8) and the South Forty (40) feet of Lot Nine (9) of Block Eleven (11) in the plat of WINNECONNE, in the Village of Winneconne, Winnebago County, Wisconsin, excepting therefrom the West Forty-six (46) feet of said Lot Nine (9) and also excepting therefrom the South Twenty-six and Two Hundred Seventy-eight Thousandths (26.278) feet of said Lot Eight (8). Tax Key Number: 191-0131.

### **WORSHIP**

The business portion of the meeting was recessed for worship in the sanctuary, followed by lunch.

The Rev. Matthew Sauer conducted the service, including Holy Communion. The Pentecost Offering was received, totaling \$457.20.

### **RECONVENING THE MEETING**

The Moderator reconvened the meeting at 12:45 p.m. Presbyters thanked the members of the church for the fine lunch with a round of applause.

### **SPEAK OUT**

- Presbyters sang *Happy Birthday* to David Arey.
- Marcia Thomas noted that Abbotsford First is exploring a church partnership with Peace UCC in Dorchester.
- Jim Hubbard announced that the Church Information Form has been posted on-line and that the church recently hosted two Fair Trade artisans from Peru.
- Dick Kreager announced that as part of their evangelism program Winneconne has hosted its first dinner for the Winneconne area firefighters and first responders. It was well received.
- Gert Walsh, Sheboygan First, promoted the Sheboygan County Interfaith Organization Bicycle Ride Fund Raiser on June 28.
- Ed Slusser announced that they have begun a community garden and will be conducting a multicultural worship service with Senda de Amor in the near future. Since he missed morning introductions, he announced that the Elder Commissioner from Omro is Darwin Lovell, a former Presbytery Moderator.
- Susan Phillips, Shawano First, asked any Presbytermergent people to be in contact with her.
- Cyndy Little announced that Arpin First will be installing its first sound system in the sanctuary.
- Susan Zencka, Frame Memorial, shared information about the Wisconsin Interfaith Energy and Climate Campaign, as well as the Earth-keeping Conference in October.
- Gail Irwin, Preble Park, announced that she had just returned from a CREDO event for clergy and encouraged congregations whose pastors are invited to participate to make sure they do.
- Craig Alwin, Oconto First, reported that members of the congregation who attended last year's Synod School are still talking about it. He also indicated he has a drama group interested in worship participation. He is looking for ideas and thoughts in this area.
- Ruth Prochazka announced the Melnik Chicken Dinner will be held next week.

- Allan Roberts, Wausau First, announced the congregation is trying to start a WISDOM group. The name they have chosen is NAOMI. He is looking for some contacts on how to get started.
- Randy Argall reported on an 8-yr old boy from DePere who wanted to invite his entire class to a party, but only wanted food gifts that were then donated to the Presbyterian Food Pantry at Green Bay First. The story was reported on Channel 5.
- Margaret Zedan shared several ways the church she serves Brookfield UCC is reaching out to the local community.
- Tom Williams, Fond du Lac, encouraged congregations to be supportive of our troops and to contact him for a list of ways to welcome returning veterans back into the church and community.
- Louis Spaude, Wabeno, congratulated Dennis Mannering on the fine way he moves church meetings along. He said it's now a pleasure to serve on Session.
- Lucy Rupe reported there are now 21 elders involved in the Lay Pastor program, including those who are currently taking the required classes.
- Dennis Mannering reported that Sid Bouldin, Wendy and he had attended the Pastor Sabbath in April. He encouraged others to consider it as a continuing education event.

### **INTEGRATING TECHNOLOGY INTO THE LIFE OF YOUR CONGREGATION**

The Rev. Matt Sauer gave a presentation regarding using technology to make work lighter and to encourage participation of all generations. Mr. Sauer engaged presbyters in a conversation regarding the many ways they are using technology to enhance the ministry of their congregation.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

**Associate for Administration** Nancy Barczak reminded presbyters they could be receiving the weekly e-newsletter from Presbytery via email. She also reported on the decision to not issue checks to individuals in amounts less than \$30.00. Presbyters may submit expenses as they occur, or they may hold the expenses until they accumulate to at least that amount.

**Executive Presbyter** Lucy Rupe reported that staff has decided to try to coordinate some events with Milwaukee Presbytery. The Executive staff of both presbyteries has agreed to once a month conference calls to discuss ideas and plans. In October, the two presbytery Committees on Ministry will meet together at Pilgrim Center for training in the morning, and will meet separately in the afternoon.

**Associate Executive Presbyter** Sarah Moore-Nokes shared a media presentation about the Synod of Living Waters' project Living Waters for the World.

### **PRESBYTERY COUNCIL** (The Rev. Marcia Thomas)

The Vice Moderator reported since she had moderated the April Council meeting in the Moderator's absence. She called upon Executive Presbyter Lucy Rupe to talk a bit about the ecumenical relationship with the Hispanic congregation in the Fox Valley – Senda de Amor. Ms. Rupe reported that the relationship which includes Episcopalians, Lutherans, UCCs, and Presbyterians was initiated in March 2007. The congregation has grown, met with the ecumenical representatives and requested a decreasing amount of financial support through the year 2012, although they would like the relationship itself to continue until April 2014.

**09/42 It was VOTED that the partnership agreement with Senda de Amor Ecumenical Hispanic Ministry be extended through April 2014.**

**Directional Task Force** (Elder Barbara Jordanger, Secretary)

Ms. Jordanger reported that Council had appointed the task force in January and that it has met once. They have been given the responsibility of looking ahead for the presbytery, considering what kind of office is needed, what staff will be required. They are to consider the fact that presbytery has been using reserves to balance the budget for the past few years.

The group has decided that each member will invite one more person to participate. They have developed a survey which will be mailed to each Session Clerk (for session completion) and to each Minister member of presbytery to determine how the staff and presbytery office are currently utilized. She encouraged presbyters to complete and return it in a timely fashion. The next task force meeting is scheduled for June 2.

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY** (Elder Wendy Mannering)

Ms. Mannering reported on several actions that the Committee has taken since the previous Presbytery meeting in February.

- 1. Transferred the Rev. Barbara Carmichael (Honorably Retired) to Chicago Presbytery effective April 30, 2009 at their request. Ms. Carmichael has already been received by that Presbytery.**
- 2. Triennial visits have been completed with Manitowoc, Marshfield, Schofield, Athelstane and Wausaukee.**
- 3. Six-month clergy check-ins were conducted with the Rev. Sara Ver Burg (Associate, Memorial, Appleton) and the Rev. Craig Alwin (Pastor, First, Oconto).**
- 4. Exit interviews were conducted with the Rev. Robert Goebel and the Sessions of Wausaukee and Athelstane.**
- 5. The following churches have not submitted Child Protection and/or Sexual Offender Policies to the Presbytery: Amberg, Appleton, Kiel, and Pembine.**
- 6. Committee has reviewed the annual reports from the Honorably Retired and Non-Parish Pastor members of Presbytery.**
- 7. Committee has reviewed the annual reports from the Commissioned and Trained Lay Pastors.**

**No report was received from Commissioned Lay Pastor Fred Wadsworth or Trained Lay Pastor Bonnie Weideman.**

- 8. Committee granted permission for Commissioned Lay Pastor Warren Kraft (Neenah) to officiate at a wedding at First Presbyterian, Neenah, on August 8, 2009.**
- 9. Committee granted permission for the Rev. Ted Tromble to apply for board certification with the Association of Professional Chaplains.**

**09/43** It was VOTED that the Rev. Curtis Larson, whose current status is Inactive, be removed from the Presbytery rolls, and that he be dismissed to a congregation of his choice.

Ms. Mannering reported that Elder Jess Wakefield, Covenant Community in Schofield, has completed the requirements for becoming a Trained Lay Pastor. He was examined by the Committee on Ministry on April 30, 2009.

She introduced Mr. Wakefield who spoke briefly about his journey to certification.

**09/43** It was VOTED that Elder Jess Wakefield (Covenant Community, Schofield), having satisfied all the requirements set forth by the Form of Government of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and having been examined by the Committee on Ministry on April 30, 2009, be certified as a Trained Lay Pastor (TLP).

The Moderator Dennis Mannering conducted a certification service in which Mr. Wakefield was asked the constitutional questions. Following the service Mr. Wakefield invited his wife, Deb, forward to thank her publicly for all of her support in his efforts. The Moderator presented the certificate and a traveling communion set to Mr. Wakefield.

**09/44** It was VOTED that Elder Jess Wakefield be commissioned, effective this date, for a three year period until May 12, 2012, to serve the Covenant Community Presbyterian Church, Schofield as Commissioned Lay Pastor, to assist Pastor Sid Bouldin. His commission grants all rights to perform weddings, celebrate the sacraments of Communion and Baptism, and moderate the session in the absence of the pastor.

**09/45** It was VOTED to approve the terms of the Commission: 12-15 hours per week at \$16.80/hr, vacation, study leave, sick days, and mileage are being negotiated.

Committee recommendation # 11 was withdrawn at this time.

### **SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY REVIEW**

The Clerk emphasized several points found in the policy.

**09/46** It was VOTED in Section F. 2, to strike the *Book of Order* reference D-7.800 and add the reference D-10.0200, so that the sentence would read: "..., such as the roles of the Committee on Ministry and an Investigating Committee (see G-11.0502 and ~~D7.0800~~ D-10.0200)...."

**09/47** It was VOTED in Section G.2, to strike the first *Book of Order* reference D-10.0202 and add the reference D-10.0201 b., so that the sentence would read: "... and convene an Investigating Committee from those persons appointed by the Moderator from the pool of elected persons (~~D-10.202~~ D-10.0201 b.)...."

**09/48** It was VOTED in Section G.3, to delete the Book of Order reference to G-11.0103 o. and add the reference G-11.0103, so that the sentence would read: "The Presbytery may proceed in its judgment under ~~G-11.0103-o.~~ G-11.0103 or its Personnel Policy."

It was MOVED to amend Section D.2. by adding a second sentence to read, "An Alternative Form of Resolution is deemed equivalent to a conviction."

**A friendly amendment to the amendment was accepted, and it was MOVED to amend Section D.2. so that the section would read, "...church or secular court, or an individual who has been a party to an Alternative Form of Resolution regarding an allegation of sexual misconduct."**

**MOTION FAILED.**

**09/49 It was VOTED to readopt the Sexual Misconduct Policy with the appropriate Book of Order references amended. (Appendix F)**

### **CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

The Rev. Sarah Moore-Nokes presented the revised Child Protection Policy as a First Reading. She stated that this policy is leaner than the current one which includes more detailed steps and several forms. That policy and appendices are available on the presbytery website.

Ms. Moore-Nokes asked presbyters to submit comments or suggestions before the September meeting when the policy will be presented for adoption.

### **STUDY GROUP REPORT ON THE PROPOSED REVISED FORM OF GOVERNMENT**

The Rev. Susan Zencka reported the concerns of the Study Group which have been submitted to the General Assembly Task Group on the *Form of Government*.

1. Concern that the ease of changing a Session or Presbytery Administrative Procedural Manual
  - creates the possibility of ill-conceived changes, resulting in bad or unnecessary local rules
  - makes for changes that are too easy to make versus the greater consideration involved in amending the FoG
  - could excessively focus a governing body on ecclesial rather than missional matters
  - could create such differentiation between governing bodies that the unity of the church is strained, broken, or meaningless
  - could erode continuing clarity and consistency in the practice of the church, diminishing institutional memory of the PC (USA).
2. Concern, in a time of increasing change and stress in presbytery staffing, that it would be pastorally wise to maintain the mandated structure of present CoM and CPM provisions.
3. Concern that, over time, differentiation among presbyteries will lead to balkanization of the church and a loss of consistency, unity and identity.
4. Concern that enhanced local options could increase interpretive and juridical complaints over constitutional legitimacy.

Finally, the Study Group fully supports separating the *Foundations of Presbyterian Polity* into a distinctive document and replacing the current FoG Chapters 1-3 with it. (Appendix G)

**09/50 It was VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 3:25 p.m. following prayer and benediction.**

The Moderator expressed his compliments to presbyters for the caring way in which we conduct difficult discussions. He noted the next meeting will take place on September 15, 2009 at First Presbyterian Church, Wabeno.

He 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: Report of the Committee on Representation  
Appendix B: 2008 Financial Review by Erickson and Associates  
Appendix C: 2009 Certificate of Insurance for Winnebago Presbytery  
Appendix D: Report of Presbytery Seminar on Colombia-US Relations  
Appendix E: March 31, 2009 Financial Report  
Appendix F: Sexual Misconduct Policy (Readopted 12 May 2008)  
Appendix G: Revised Form of Government Study Group Report  
Appendix H: Minutes of Presbytery Council (April, 2009)

[These Minutes reviewed & approved by Presbytery on 15 September 2009/ Minutes Ref. 09/ ??]