

**Winnebago Presbytery
Stated Meeting
November 15, 2008
First Presbyterian Church, Green Bay, WI**

CONVENING THE MEETING

The meeting convened with worship, including Holy Communion, in the sanctuary of the First Presbyterian Church in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Worship participants included the Rev. Randy Argall, the Rev. Gail Irwin, the Rev. Rebecca Proefrock, the Rev. Ted Tromble, Commissioned Lay Pastor Max Ballard, and Trained Lay Pastor Jean Hamersky.

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	
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		
Mara Liz Rivera	X		

Roll Call	Present	Excused	Absent
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		
Richard Warch			X
Colin Webster		X	
Tom Willadsen	X		
Tom Williams	X		
Janet Wolfe	X		
Wright, Stephen A.H.	X		
Margaret Zedan	X		
Susan Zencka	X		

08/62 It was VOTED to excuse those so listed.

Churches Represented

Abbotsford	Jim York
Amberg	Not Represented
Aniwa	Not Represented
Appleton	Not Represented
Arpin	Not Represented
Athelstane	Farrel Maule
Crivitz	Not Represented
De Pere	Terri McCracken
Fond du Lac	Jean Morgan and Mary Wolfe
Gleason	Not Represented
Green Bay First	David Wilson
Green Bay Preble Park	Ken Sann
Green Bay Wequiock	Not Represented
Kiel	Not Represented
Kimberly	Not Represented
Lakewood	James Mathe
Laona	Mike Mentz
Manitowoc	Excused
Marinette	Not Represented
Marshfield	Bruce Lautenschlager
Melnik	Ruth Prochazka
Merrill	Not Represented
Neenah	Guenter Petermann
New Franken	Not Represented
Oconto	Nancy Nick
Omro	Terri Groth
Oshkosh	Harriet Martin
Pembine	Not Represented
Pickett	Gladys Olson
Schofield	Excused
Shawano	Edward Moede
Sheboygan	Keith Rowe
Stevens Point	David Arey
Wabeno	Joanne Sisler
Wausau	Mary Sperduto and Rick Builer
Wausaukee	Not Represented
Weyauwega	Not Represented

White Lake	Not Represented
Wild Rose	Not Represented
Winneconne	Rosemary Shade

08/66 It was VOTED to excuse those so listed.

Commissioned Lay Pastors: Max Ballard, George Buchanan, Richard Kreager, Dennis Mannering
Excused: Warren Kraft and Alyson Janke

Trained Lay Pastors: Cheryl Lepak, Jean Hamersky

Lay Pastor Students: Tamara Cox-Burnett, Wendy Mannering, and Lina Wittman

Visitors:

Athelstane	Bonney Reese
DePere	Anneliese Waggoner
Fond du Lac	Jennifer Zander
Green Bay First	Nancy Siewert, Barbara Lasnoski
Merrill	Jim Burnett

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

Presbytery Staff: Nancy Barczak

Corresponding Members

08/67 It was VOTED to seat the Rev. Donovan Houdeshell, Grand Canyon Presbytery, and Ms. K.T. Ockels, World Mission, General Assembly Council, as Corresponding Members.

Early Leave

08/68 It was VOTED to grant early leave to the Rev. Tom Williams and the Rev. Craig Alwin.

Adoption of the Docket

08/69 It was VOTED to amend the docket by inserting the Committee on Preparation for Ministry report in the 10:45 slot and moving the 2:00 p.m. Order of the Day to 2:30 p.m. and to adopt the docket as amended.

Report on Arrangements

The Rev. Randy Argall welcomed presbyters to First Presbyterian and provided general information about the facilities and meal arrangements.

Introduction of New Elders and Visitors

First time elder commissioners and visitors from DePere, Green Bay Preble Park, Omro, and Marshfield were introduced. The Rev. Sara Ver Burg, Associate Pastor, was introduced since this was her first meeting since being received into membership.

STATED CLERK'S REPORT (Dr. Michael Lukens)

08/70 It was VOTED to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2008 Presbytery meeting.

The Clerk reported the resignation of Meghan Keller as a Synod Youth Advisory Delegate. She was recently elected, but discovered her class schedule would not facilitate her attendance.

The Clerk has received notice that the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission will hear the case of Wolfe vs. Winnebago in trial on January 14, 2009, in Minneapolis.

Statistical Report booklets were available at the meeting. Those remaining after the meeting will be mailed to Clerks of Session. Deadline for online reports is 24 February, 2009.

Amendment Booklets were distributed today. Presbytery will vote on the proposed amendments at the February (2009) Presbytery stated meeting. Discussion of the proposed amendments have been scheduled as follows:

- January 17, 2009 - 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Frame Memorial, Stevens Point
- January 20, 2009 – 6 – 8 p.m. at First Church, Manitowoc
- January 31, 2009 – 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at First Church, Shawano.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY (The Rev. Stephen Wright)

08/71 It was VOTED that the Presbytery’s relationship with candidate Lisa Valenti-Jordan be transferred to the Presbytery of San Francisco, in accordance with G-24.0461. This is at Ms. Valenti-Jordan’s request, and is approved by the Presbytery of San Francisco and by the Session of First Church, Berkeley, where she will become a member.

08/72 It was VOTED that the following people be elected as readers/graders for ordination exams for 2009: The Rev. Margaret Zedan, interim pastor at Trinity UCC, Brookfield, WI; Elder Nick Smith, First Church Wausau; the Rev. Susan Phillips, First Church, Shawano, as alternate.

RESOURCE AND PROGRAM COORDINATING TEAM (Ms. Judy Nighorn)

08/73 It was VOTED that upon approval of the 2009 Presbytery Operating Budget, the Local Mission Grants line item (\$\$47,806), be allocated as follows:

Local Mission Project	Sponsoring Church	2009 Allocation
First Presbyterian Food Pantry	Wausau First	\$ 8,000
Harbor House Parenting Support Group	Appleton Memorial	1,000
Kids Klub	Shawano First	4,000
LEAVEN’s Needy Children’s Fund	Neenah First	5,000
Presbyterian Pantry	Green Bay First	7,000
Project Bridges Day Care	Appleton Memorial	2,000
Red River Riders	Shawano First	4,000
Safe Haven	Shawano First	2,000
Soles for Souls of Manitowoc County	Manitowoc First	5,000
Soup or Socks	Marshfield First	3,000
Sunday Community Suppers	Wausau First	2,000
WINR Donated Wheels	Oshkosh First	4,806
TOTAL LOCAL MISSION GRANTS		\$47,806

08/74 It was VOTED that Presbytery allocate \$2,000 from the Peacemaking Offering Fund to Safe Haven, sponsored by First Church, Shawano.

08/75 It was VOTED that the following allocations be made from the Genesis Fund:

Genesis Project	Sponsoring Church	2009	2010	2011
Outreach Ministry	Winneconne First	\$5,000	\$4,220	\$2,580
Curriculum	Frame Stevens Point	2,000	1,000	1,000
Previously Approved for Payment:				
Childcare/Support Member Leadership Participation	Green Bay Preble Park	1,000		
TOTAL GENESIS GRANTS		\$8,000	\$5,220	\$3,580

The Rev. Joe Ripley and several others reported on the successful fall youth camp held over Halloween. As part of the event, participants learned about the Reformation and nailed their own “theses” to the door on display at the front of the sanctuary.

The Rev. Richard Manny reported briefly on the delegation’s trip to Urabá Presbytery at the end of October. A full report will be given at the February 7, 2009 meeting. He reported the second 5-year partnership covenant was signed in Apartado. The delegation was also presented with a plaque representing the key to the Colegio Americano and commending the delegation for their valuable presence in Urabá Presbytery.

Mr. Manny read a proposed letter to be sent to the Urabá Presbytery prior to their December Presbytery meeting.

08/76 It was VOTED to send a letter of greetings and encouragement to Urabá Presbytery in their meeting in December, expressing gratitude for our continued partnership.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Ms. Barbara Goldthwaite)

08/77 It was VOTED to adopt Standing Rule changes regarding a change in the terms of office, effective with the 4th quarter elections in 2009. [First Reading in September Minutes]

A. Elect and install the Moderator, Vice Moderator, Treasurer and Stated Clerk at the 4th quarter Presbytery meeting. Terms begin upon installation.

B. Elect committee moderators and committee members at the 4th quarter Presbytery meeting. Terms begin January 1.

So that the Standing Rules would read as follows:

5.6.1. nominations for each office of Presbytery to be vacated shall be made by the Nominating Committee and election and installation shall be at the 4th quarter stated meeting.

7.1.6. **Committee Moderators:** Committee moderators shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee and elected by Presbytery at its 4th quarter meeting for one-year terms beginning January 1st.

7.1.7. **Commencement of Terms for Committee Members:** All terms of office for members of committees shall begin January 1st following election at the 4th quarter Presbytery meeting.

Ms. Goldthwaite placed the slate of nominees for Committee Chairpersons and Presbytery Officers before the Presbytery. The Moderator, the Rev. Tom Willadsen, called for nominations from the floor. None were received.

08/78 It was VOTED to elect the following persons for one year terms:

Committee Chairpersons

RPCT – Judy Nighorn - (E) Green Bay Preble Park
Committee on Ministry – Wendy Mannering (E) Wabeno
Committee on Preparation for Ministry-Rebecca Proefrock (Non Parish) Green Bay
Finance – Richard Manny (M) Sheboygan
Personnel – Barbara Jordanger (E) Stevens Point
Session Record Review – Stephen Wright (M) Wausau

Officers

Moderator – Dennis Mannering – (CLP) Wabeno
Vice Moderator – Marcia Thomas (M) Abbotsford.

Nominees for committee vacancies were placed before the Presbytery; the Moderator called for additional nominations. None were received.

08/79 It was VOTED to elect the following slate:

Resource and Program Coordinating Team

(12-2) Matthew Sauer (M) Manitowoc
(12-2) Jennifer Zander (L) Fond du Lac
(10-1) Craig Alwin (M) Oconto
(12) Vacant

Committee on Ministry

(12-2) Mike Mentz (E) Laona
(12-2) Kay Smith (E) Merrill
(12-2) Jeanne Nymoen (E) Appleton
(12-2) Marcia Thomas (M) Abbotsford
(12-1) Randy Argall (M) Green Bay
(11-1) Dave Grinsel (E) Neenah

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

(12-2) Jean Hamersky (E) DePere
(12-1) Bob Goebel (M) Wausaukee/Athelstane

Finance Committee

(12-2) Robert Merriam (E) Neenah
(12) Vacant

Personnel Committee

(12-2) John Billings (M-HR) Stevens Point
(12-1) Barbara Jordanger (E) Stevens Point
(10-1) Tom Williams (E) Appleton

Session Record Review

(12-2) Patty Earnest (E) Lakewood

Permanent Judicial Commission

(15-1) Ted Tromble (M) DePere
(15-1) Susan Zencka (M) Stevens Point

Judicial Investigative Pool

(12-1) Warren Kraft (CLP) Neenah
(12-1) Betty Lockhart (E) Appleton

WORLD MISSION OF THE PC (U.S.A.)

Executive Presbyter Lucy Rupe introduced Ms. K.T. Ockels, Manager of Projects and Operations in the World Mission Office. Ms. Ockels provided information about the Young Adult Volunteer Program, the addition of 12 new mission personnel who are currently in orientation and the costs involved. Ms. Ockels shared stories of several Mission Co-workers working in various projects around the world. She highlighted presbyteries and local congregations working in partnership with churches around the world. Indeed, the Presbyterian Church is doing great things locally and globally. There was an opportunity for questions following her presentation.

RECESS FOR LUNCH

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Randy Argall prior to the recess for lunch prepared by members of First Church and served in the church hall.

SPEAK OUT

The Rev. Mara Rivera announced that the ecumenical Hispanic congregation, Senda de Amor, would be conducting a bi-lingual service at 9 a.m. on Sunday, November 23.

Ms. Jennifer Zander announced that the Christian Educator Task Group has been formed in the Presbytery. They plan to meet quarterly for resourcing and networking.

The Rev. Gail Irwin announced that Preble Park Church raised more than \$400 at a brat fry. This was added to other funds and sent to East Iowa Presbytery for flood relief efforts.

Dr. Michael Lukens announced that Presbytery is working with the Washington IMPACT Office toward a seminar February 22-25 in Washington, D.C. regarding Colombia/U.S. Relations. The focus will be on education and discussion, followed by sessions on Capitol Hill with Wisconsin Congressmen and Senators regarding various issues related to Colombia. Details will be available online through the Presbytery website.

The Rev. Susan Phillips thanked presbyters for their concern about members of the Shawano congregation following recent news reports related to threats to Shawano citizens from a local cult.

The Rev. Joe Ripley lifted up the great experience of being involved (at any age) in the recent fall youth camp.

Dr. Lukens reminded pastors and sessions that 2009 pastoral housing allowances must be approved annually before the beginning of the next taxable year.

PRESBYTERY COUNCIL (The Rev. Tom Willadsen)

Mr. Willadsen turned the gavel over to the Vice Moderator, CLP Dennis Mannering, in order to present the report (Appendix A). He announced that Council had approved Elder Barbara Goldthwaite and the Rev. Susan Zencka as delegates to the Wisconsin Council of Churches annual meeting in December.

Council designated the 2009 ecumenical portion of the Genesis Grants distribution as follows: \$2650 to Urabá Presbytery and \$2,650 to assist the Meija Family.

Council approved the times for 2009 Presbytery meetings at 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The meetings and sites are scheduled as follows:

Saturday, February 7, 2009 – Oshkosh First
Tuesday, May 12, 2009 – Manitowoc First
Tuesday, September 15, 2009 – Wabeno First
Saturday, November 14, 2009 – Merrill First.

Mr. Willadsen presented the slate of nominees to serve on the Presbytery Nominating Committee. The Vice Moderator called for additional nominations from the floor; none were received.

08/80 It was VOTED to elect the following people:
(12-2) Barbara Goldthwaite, (E) Oshkosh
(12-2) Richard Moore (M) Neenah
(12-1) Jim York (E) Abbotsford

The name of Barbara Goldthwaite was placed in nomination to serve as Committee Chair for a period of one year. The Vice Moderator called for other nominations; none were received.

08/81 It was VOTED to elect Elder Barbara Goldthwaite, Chair of the Nominating Committee for a one year period.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY (The Rev. Sid Bouldin)

Mr. Bouldin reported several actions that were taken by the Committee on Ministry on behalf of the Presbytery:

1. Mr. Bouldin introduced the Rev. Sara Ver Burg, Associate Pastor, Memorial Presbyterian Church, who was receiving into membership August 26, 2008 and began her ministry on September 14, 2008.
2. The Rev. Tom Williams, Interim Pastor, First Church Fond du Lac was introduced. He was received into membership on October 16, 2008 and began on November 1, 2008.

3. Committee approved the terms of the Interim Contract : [The Terms have been omitted for privacy purposes. The information is available to presbyters from the Presbytery Office and are included in the permanent minutes of the Presbytery.]
3. Triennial Visits were completed with Appleton Memorial and Melnik.
4. Committee approved extension of the Stated Supply Contract between the Arpin Church and the Rev. Cyndy Little until the January 20, 2009 COM meeting.
5. Committee approved extension of the Interim Contract between Pioneer Church, Marinette, and the Rev. Craig Mansur through February 7, 2009.
6. There are currently five students enrolled in the Lay Pastor Training Program and one person is approved pending completion of psychological evaluation.

08/82 It was VOTED to approve the Installation of Associate Pastor Sara Ver Burg at Memorial Presbyterian Church, Appleton, on November 23, 2008, and that the following persons be appointed to the Administrative Commission for the service: the Rev. Tom Willadsen (Moderator), the Rev. JoAnn Schoblaski, the Rev. Joe Ripley, the Rev. Chuck Valenti-Hein, Elder Gina Struensee (Neenah First), Elder Tracey Hornung (Appleton Memorial), Elder Steven F. Cook (First Presbyterian Church, Sturgis, Michigan, Lake Michigan Presbytery) and Elder Diane Wick, Manitowoc First.

08/83 It was VOTED that Elder Steven F. Cook, First Presbyterian Church, Sturgis Michigan (Lake Michigan Presbytery), be seated as a corresponding member of the Commission.

08/84 It was VOTED that Elder Lina Wittmann (Athelstane), Elder Tamara Cox-Burnett (Merrill), and Elder Wendy Mannering (DePere), 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 October 16, 2008, be certified as Trained Lay Pastor (TLP).

The Moderator conducted a brief certification service for the three Trained Lay Pastors; each was congratulated and presented with a certificate and the gift of a home communion set.

08/85 It was VOTED that Elder Wendy Mannering (DePere) be commissioned, effective this date, to serve the Forest Larger Parish as Commissioned Lay Pastor. Her commission grants all rights to perform weddings, celebrate the sacraments of Communion and Baptism, and moderate the sessions with the same terms as her current contract as a Trained Elder.

08/86 It was VOTED that TLP Elder Cheryl Lepak (Omro) be commissioned to serve the First Presbyterian Church, Kiel, and the Salem Plankroad United Church of Christ, Plymouth, as Commissioned Lay Pastor for a period of one year, beginning October 19, 2008. The terms of the contract (which represent ½ of the financial obligations to Ms. Lepak) are: [The Terms have been omitted for privacy purposes. The information is available to presbyters from the Presbytery Office and are included in the permanent minutes of the Presbytery.]

It was MOVED that the Rev. Dr. Richard Warch, whose current status is Inactive, be removed from the Presbytery rolls.

08/87 It was VOTED to AMEND the motion to include: “and that he be dismissed to a congregation of his choice.”

08/88 It was VOTED that the Rev. Dr. Richard Warch, whose current status is Inactive, be removed from the Presbytery rolls, and that he be dismissed to a congregation of his choice.

Mr. Bouldin introduced the Rev. Donovan Houdeshell. Mr. Houdeshell has contracted with the Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Marshfield, to serve as its Interim Pastor, effective December 1, 2008.

08/89 It was VOTED to approve the Terms of the Interim Contract between the Rev. Donovan Houdeshell and Marshfield First church, effective December 1, 2008. [The Terms have been omitted for privacy purposes. The information is available to presbyters from the Presbytery Office and are included in the permanent minutes of the Presbytery.]

Presbytery examined the Rev. Mr. Houdeshell for membership.

08/90 It was VOTED to arrest the examination. Mr. Houdeshell was excused for the discussion.

08/91 It was VOTED to receive the Rev. Donovan Houdeshell into membership, effective November 15, 2008.

FINANCE COMMITTEE (The Rev. Richard Manny)

Mr. Manny presented the 2009 Presbytery Operations Budget for approval.

08/92 It was VOTED to approve the 2009 Presbytery Operations Budget as presented. (Appendix B)

STAFF REPORTS

Executive Presbyter (The Rev. Lucy Rupe)

Ms. Rupe encouraged people in this season of stewardship and thanksgiving to encourage others to tell their stories of faith.

Associate Executive Presbyter (The Rev. Sarah Moore-Nokes)

Ms. Moore-Nokes thanked the presbytery for its generous support of the Fall Youth Camp.

EXECUTIVE SESSION 2:30 p.m. Order of the Day

The Moderator turned the gavel over to the Vice Moderator for this portion of the meeting.

08/93 It was VOTED to move to Executive Session for the purpose of hearing a report and recommendation from the Committee on Ministry and that only voting members and Presbytery staff remain in the meeting.

[Actions 08/94 – 08/98 are recorded as part of the permanent minutes of this meeting.]

08/99 It was VOTED to close the Executive Session of the meeting.

08/100 It was VOTED to adjourn the meeting with prayer at 3:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT WITH PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

Vice Moderator Dennis Mannering closed the meeting with prayer, lifting up the concerns and prayers expressed throughout the day.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Barczak
Associate for Administration

Michael B. Lukens
Stated Clerk

Appendix A: Presbytery Council Minutes – October 21, 2008
Appendix B: 2009 Presbytery Operations Budget

These Minutes approved on _____ (Ref. ???).