

November 9, 2010

QUICKLINE

United Presbyterian Church, Cuyahoga Falls

A brief summary of the meeting of Eastminster Presbytery

Eastminster Presbytery held its stated meeting at the United Presbyterian Church, Cuyahoga Falls, on November 9, 2010, at 5:00 p.m. Moderator Marilyn Stroble opened the meeting with prayer. The Rev. Ross Slaughter, host pastor, welcomed the presbytery.

General Presbyter Dan Schomer asked for prayers for Richard Ramsey, father of Rev. Christy Ramsey; Dorothy Stroble, mother of Elder Bob Stroble, Cecil Monroe undergoing treatment for cancer; and Fady Amin, his family, and his congregation in Bagdad, following a terrorist attack. Celebrations included the 90th anniversary of the Pleasant Grove Church and the birth of a new grandson to Elder Jane Meyers.

The Consent Agenda included a recommendation that the November 9 offering be designated to the Young Adult Volunteers of the PC(USA).

Stated Clerk Dale Riley reminded the presbytery that voting on amendment 10-A concerning ordination standards and a discussion of the new Form of Government proposed for the Book of Order from the 219th General Assembly would take place at the January 11, 2011, meeting of Eastminster Presbytery.

Congregational Resources Committee member Marian Bauer shared the results of the Upside Down Workshop sponsored by the committee on October 10.

Resource Center Coordinator Lorraine Jones presented a new video series, *Basic*, by the producers of the *Nooma* series, that is sure to initiate a deep and spirited discussion.

Presbyterian Women Moderator Carmen Ferris reflected on the most recent P.W. Fall Gathering on Oct. 25 which included a presentation by Fady Amin, the ecumenical visitor from Iraq to the New Lisbon Church through the Mission to the USA program of the Synod of the Covenant.

Nominating Committee Moderator Peggy Richmond announced the resignations of Rose Marie Roth from the Self-Development of People Committee, John Schippert from the Congregational Resources Committee, and Jeannie Monroe from the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. The Manual of Operations was set aside so that Rev. Jim Ray could serve an additional year on the Self Development of People Committee. Officers who were elected for 2011 are Moderator Rev. Carolyn Griffeth, Vice Moderator Elder Robert "Bo" Schneider, and Enrolling Clerk Elder Stan Christensen. The following persons were elected to councils/committees/commissions: Presbytery Meeting Coordinating Council—Rev. David Black; Committee on Ministry—Rev. Matt Medford, Elder Carole Rummell, Elder Judi Bender, Rev. Marvin Barney, Rev. David Gilbert; Congregational Resources—Rev. Steve Fortenberry; J.B.M. Committee—Elder John Schippert, Elder Jean Garrett; Communication and Nurture—Elder Trella Johnson; Committee on Mission—Elder Bo Schneider, Rev. Harold Walker; Personnel Committee—Rev. Richard Fruit, Rev. Nick Mager; Permanent Judicial Commission—Rev. David Black, Rev. William Winch; Commission on Evangelism and Growth—Rev. Victor Wan-Tatah; Committee on Preparation for Ministry—Elder Ruth Cole, Rev. Joe Atkins; Trustees—Rev. Jeanine Haven, Rev. Rusty Cowden, Elder Jennifer Annadono; Self-Development of People—Rev. Sue Ann Schmidt, Rev. Jim Ray, Romeo Protacia, Carmen Ferris; and Synod Commissioner—Elder Trella Johnson.

Presbytery Meeting Coordinating Council placed in nomination and the presbytery elected Rev. Alan Hutchison and Elder Peggy Richmond to serve on the Nominating Committee of Eastminster Presbytery.

Lay Ministry Subcommittee member Rev. Henry Pearce called to the attention of the presbytery the 2011 Ministry Workshop on Saturday, February 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with Dr. John Burgess of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary presenting *The Theology and Practice of the Sacraments*. All are invited and a lunch will be available for \$7.00. Reservations for the lunch should be made by contacting the Presbytery Office.

Presbytery Worship included a celebration of the lives of ministers and elders who had joined the Church Triumphant over the past year, the Moderator's sermon, and the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Moderator Marilyn Stroble and daughter Kristin Stroble presented a dialogue sermon, and Rev. Ross Slaughter served as celebrant of the Lord's Supper. Music was provided by organist Terry Harsney and the Cathedral Choir under the direction of Anthony Bianchi.

A delicious meal was served by the church. Following the meal a discussion of Amendment 10-A took place under the direction of G.A. commissioners Rev. Mark Ruppert, Rev. Elmarie Parker, Elder Jean Garrett, and YAAD Sarah Bender.

Synod of the Covenant Commissioner Rev. Joe Atkins described the most recent Synod Assembly in Maumee, Ohio. Elder Trella Johnson, a member of the Synod Transitional Executive Search Committee, shared her excitement about the call of Rev. Raafat L. Zaki to the position.

Personnel Committee member Rev. Janet Lowery presented and the presbytery approved a position description for a new presbytery staff position—Presbytery Associate. It was noted that the new position will not require an increase in the budget because the person filling the position will serve churches on a contract basis and will be volunteering services in supporting pastors.

Committee on Ministry Moderator Carole Rummell recommended and the presbytery approved:

- The installation service and commission for the Rev. Stephanie Crossland as installed pastor of the Northminster Presbyterian Church on Nov. 28 at 3:00 p.m.
- The revision of the covenant contract between Student Supply Mike Parker and the First United Presbyterian Church, East Palestine.
- That the position of Presbytery Associate be considered an ordainable position.
- That Presbytery approve the validation of the ministries of Rev. David Shriver and Rev. Victor Wan-Tatah.
- That the Presbytery concur with the First Presbyterian Church, Akron, to seek a new location for its ministry in Copley while seeking to continue a ministry presence in the Middlebury area.
- That Presbytery adopt the revised policy *Termination of a Pastoral Relationship*.
- That Rev. Karen Ballard, Director of Chaplaincy at Akron Children's Hospital in Akron, be granted permission to celebrate the Lord's Supper at the Firestone Park Church during Pastor Amy Starr Redwine's maternity leave.
- That the Westminster Church in Akron be given permission to form an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.
- Changes in the terms of the covenant contract between Interim Pastor Susan Curtis and the Sebring Church.
- Waiving the requirement of the Hungarian Church to rotate officers for a three-year period.
- Extending the covenant contract between Interim Pastor Carolyn Griffeth and the Heritage Church
- The transfer of the credentials of Rev. Larry Myers to Erie Presbytery.
- That the position of Staff Chaplain be considered as an ordainable position.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry introduced Candidate Joe Hrach to be examined for ordination. Following examination, the Presbytery approved his ordination. Once ordained, candidate Hrach will serve as the new Presbytery Associate.

Mission Committee member Rev. Ross Slaughter and General Presbyter Dan Schomer shared the details of the ten-day itineration of the six visitors from Levante Presbytery, Spain, to interact with the churches of Eastminster Presbytery and learn more about our communities.

Trustees President Rusty Cowden presented (1) a new breakdown of mission dollars—25% for G.A., 5% for Synod, and 70% for Presbytery; (2) per capita for 2011; and (3) the Preliminary Budget for 2011. All were approved.

The meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator at 8:55 p.m.

The next stated meeting of Eastminster Presbytery will be held on January 11, 2011, at the Kent Presbyterian Church.
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