

**REGULAR STATED MEETING  
 JULY 14, 2009  
 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE MASTER, COON RAPIDS, MINNESOTA**

The regular Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of The Twin Cities Area was held in the sanctuary of the Presbyterian Church of The Master, 789 Northdale Boulevard NW, Coon Rapids, Minnesota, 55448. The meeting was called to order with prayer, at 4:00 p.m. by the Moderator, The Rev. Jin S. Kim. The theme of the Presbytery meeting, following plans developed by Presbytery Council for the year July, 2009 through May, 2010, was The First Great End of the Church, *“The proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind.”* (Book of Order G-1.0200)

The opening scripture was the Reading of Psalm 24. The call to worship, Deuteronomy 30:14, was followed by the singing of the hymn, “I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art”, adapted from the *Geneva Psalter*, attributed to John Calvin.

Prior to the meeting, an orientation session was held for new clergy and elders attending Presbytery meeting for the first time. The session was led by the Stated Clerk.

The Docket for the Day was approved as presented.

The Forming of the Roll was accomplished by the registration forms signed in the narthex area. A quorum was declared, as there were three clergy, and three elders, each representing a different church, present. (Book of Order G-11.0202) Minutes of the meeting of May 12, 2009, were approved as circulated. The roll of members is as follows:

**PRESBYTERY ROLL**

**MINISTERS**

	John W. Ackerman (HR)
	Larry Alderink (HR)
	Brenda K. Alexander
	Todd R. Allen
	Roger R. Anderson (HR)
X	Stephanie Anthony
	Bebe L. Baldwin (HR)
	James S. Barge (HR)
	Erwin C. Barron
	Mark A. Bayert (HR)
	Frederick J. Beebe (HR)
	Joan B. Beebe (HR)
	Louise L. Bender
	Patricia F. Berg (HR)
	Lindsay Louise Biddle
X	David L. Bierschwale
	Robert R. Boehlke (HR)
	John N. Bratt (HR)
	Robert Brightman (HR)
X	Bruce Brooks
	David R. Bruneau (HR)
	Richard D. Buller

	John W. Butt (HR)
	John R. Buzza (HR)
	Kenneth B. Byerly (HR)
	April M. Davis Campbell
	Paul E. Capetz
	Christopher C. Carlson
	Edna Mae Carlson (HR)
	Julia A. Carlson
	Myra A. Carroll-Pezzella
	J. Scott Cartwright
X	William R. Chadwick
	Robert L. Chalmers (HR)
X	Dwight Chamberlain (HR)
	Carl A. Christensen (HR)
	Julia O. Christensen
X	Walter Chuquimia
	Andries J. Coetzee
	Brent B. Coffin
X	David D Colby
X	Katherine Estes Collins
	Camille Cook
	James Cook (HR)

X	Calvin L. Cooper
X	Neil Craigan
	Donald E. Crannell (HR)
	John F. Crosby
X	Anita M. Cummings (HR)
	Robert T. Cuthill (HR)
	Jean Daugherty (HR)
	Richard A. Davis
	William Davnie
	William E. Day, Jr.
	Peter Della Santina
	Deborah S. DeMeester
	Robert W. Dickson (HR)
	Calvin W. Didier (HR)
	Kristen C. DiNardo
	Mary Carolyn Dorfman (HR)
	Howard Dotson
	Richard G. Douse (HR)
	David J. Droog
X	Denise Dunbar-Perkins
	Will Eisenhower
X	Gary L. Elg
X	James G. Ellison (HR)
X	Leah D. Elrod
	Bruce D. Ervin
	Thomas Ewald
	Roger D. Ezell (HR)
	C. Ray Fenton (HR)
X	Amy E. Flack
X	Rebecca Fletcher
	Lucy A. Forster-Smith
X	Thomas W. Forster-Smith
	Harold C. Freeman, Jr. (HR)
	Herbert Frey
	Meghan K. Gage-Finn
	Alika P. Galloway
	Jon W. Galloway
	Ralph E. Galloway
X	Julie GebbenGreen
X	Philip GebbenGreen
	Don Genereux
	Paul E. Gilmore
	John W. Goertz
	Jonathan B. Good
	Peggy B. Good
	Kimberly A. Goodman
	Conrad B. Goodwin (HR)
X	Daniel Graham (HR)
	Sandra S. Gray (HR)
	Jean E. Greenwood
	O. Carl Grosse
	Sheila C. Gustafson (HR)
	Gary L. Hanson
	F. Nile Harper (HR)
	Jane Harper
	Robert F. Hart (HR)
	Elizabeth Hart-Andersen
	Timothy D. Hart-Andersen
	LeRoy Haynes (HR)

	Richard H. Headen (HR)
	Marion E. Hedberg (HR)
	Joshua D. Heikkila
X	Timothy W. Held
	Elizabeth D. Heller (HR)
	Leta J. Herrington
	Wayne A. Herstad (HR)
	Larry L. Hickle (HR)
	Gary Hickok (HR)
	Sally L. Hill (HR)
	Bruce K. Hillyer
X	William Hoffman
X	T. Ewen Holmes
	Kristine M. Holmgren (HR)
	David H. Hopper (HR)
	Robert K. Hudnut (HR)
X	Dayton D. Hultgren (HR)
	Suzan K. Ireland
	R. Alan James (HR)
	Vaughn R. Jefferson, Jr.
	Bernard E. Johnson (HR)
	Daniel W. Johnson
	Matthew Johnson
	Paul M. Johnson
	Stanley M. Johnson (HR)
	Timothy M. Johnson
X	Joe M. Jones
X	Michael Ngeru Kamau
X	Barbara Anne Keely
	Karen Kennerly (HR)
	Deborah E. Kielsmeier
X	Jin S. Kim
X	Joo Kim
X	Judith A. Kim
	Douglas W. King (HR)
	Kenneth L. Kleidon (HR)
	George S. Knieriemen (HR)
	C. Richard Knowles (HR)
	Robert A. Koenig (HR)
	Richard C. Kroeger (HR)
X	Newell D. Krogmann
X	John Lee
	Mary J. Leisman (HR)
	David P. Lenz
	Harry J. Lichy, Jr. (HR)
X	David M. Liddle (HR)
X	JoonHyuk Lim
	Andrew M. Lindahl
	John T. Lindquist
	Deborah D. Lind-Schmitz
	Ethel Kay Livingston (HR)
	William A. Livingston (HR)
	Robert G. Long (HR)
	Linda Loving (HR)
	Robert E. Lucas (HR)
	Richard A. Lundy (HR)
	John M. MacFarlane (HR)
	Kathleen D. Macosko
	Clarence Maeng

	David M. Maghakian
	Harry H. Maghakian (HR)
	Max R. Maguire (HR)
	Robert C. Malcolm (HR)
	Julie A. Mall
	Elisabeth Jane Marlow
	L. Edwin Martin
	Paul E. Martin
	Stanley Martin
X	Susan J. Marvin
	Richard P. Massaro (HR)
	Margaret M. McCray
X	Mary B. McMillan (HR)
	Donald R. McNair
	Mary McNamara
	Linda M. Hustad-Mell (HR)
X	Katherine S. Michael
	Donald S. Milloy (HR)
	W. Douglas Mitchell
	Beverly Modlin
	Sharon L. Mook
X	Paul H. Moore
X	Stephen M. Muhia
X	David Mwhia
X	Kook Jin Nam
	Charles H. Nelson (HR)
	Julie E. Neraas
	Dwight D. Netzer
X	Margaret G. Newswanger
X	Richard Newswanger
	Michael E. Olmsted
	Anneleise Opitz (HR)
	Eugene H. Orr
X	Kayton R. Palmer (HR)
	Eun-hyey Park
	Ji Yong Park
	Sung Chul Park
	Clint Patterson
	Donald D. Patterson
	JoAnn E. Phenow
	Richard P. Phenow
	Glenn E. Polzine (HR)
	Linda Gillon Post
	Douglas R. Potter (HR)
	Gwin Pratt
X	Elizabeth J. Raitt (HR)
	Cynthia L. Ray
	Judith S. Ray (HR)
	Carol L. Reed
	David A. Reiter
	Kenneth J. Ribe
X	Steven Rice
	Tammy J. Rider
	Roger J. Ring
	Judith C. Ritchie
	Gregory H. Ritter
	Gale W. Robb
X	Matthew Robbins-Ghormley
	Teresa Roberts

	Theresa M. Roos
	Kara Root
	Jay P. Rowland
X	H. Lyle Rozeboom (HR)
X	Chaz Ruark
	Janet Ruark
	Jay C. Rusthoven (HR)
	James F. Sanders
X	Paula Sanders
	Jack B. Schaffer
	Lyndon L. Schendel (HR)
	Jamie Lynn Schultz
X	Dean J. Seal
	John B. Severson (HR)
	Carol Shaffer
	James D. Shannon (HR)
	Janet B. Shannon
	David S. Shields (HR)
	John H. Sinclair (HR)
	Gene R. Sipprell
	Matthew Skinner
	Kathryn C. Smith
	M. Joy Smith
	Neal R. Solomonson
	Angella Pak Son
	Scott O. Stapleton
	David J. Stark
	Melvin J. Steinbron (HR)
X	Darlene A. Stensby
	Gordon C. Stewart (HR)
X	H. David Stewart
	Merle E. Strohbehn (HR)
	Annika Lister Stroope
	Charles A. Talcott
	H. Allan Talley (HR)
	Jack M. Terry (HR)
X	Margaret J. Thomas (HR)
X	Byron T. Thompson
	L. Douglas Throckmorton (HR)
X	Gary Titusdahl
	George K. Tjaden (HR)
	Paul C. Truran (HR)
	Paul B.K. Tshihamba
	David W. Tucker (HR)
	Umo Udo
	David Van Dyke
	Frank B. Vardeman
	Heidi H. Vardeman
	John P. Ward
	H. G. Wardlaw, Jr.
X	Lisa A. P. Watson
X	Thomas K. Watson
X	Richard D. Weis
	John F. Westfall
X	Susan E. Whiteman
	David L. Williamson (HR)
	Robert E. Willis (HR)
X	Ronald D. Wilson
X	Zachary O. Wilson

	Aron W. Wilterding (HR)
	Peter T. Wyckoff (HR)
X	William C. Yeager (HR)
	Byung Chun Yoo (HR)
X	James York
X	J. William Young
X	Medhat Yowkem
	<b>COMM. LAY PASTORS</b>
	Lowell Busman
	Simon Tot Dhol
	Joseph Kammel
X	Mauro Souza

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## ELDER COMMISSIONERS

Albert Lea, First (4)  
Apple Valley, Spirit of Life (2)  
Austin, Westminster (3)  
Baldwin, First (2)  
Belle Plaine, First (2)  
Bloomington, Oak Grove (4)  
Brooklyn Center, Korean (2)  
Buffalo, Buffalo (2)  
Burnsville, Church /Apostles (2)  
Chaska, Shepherd of the Hill (2)  
Claremont, First (2)  
Columbia Hgts, Church of All Nations (2)  
Coon Rapids, Church/Master (3)  
Eden Prairie, Eden Prairie (2)  
Edina, Christ (12)  
Ellsworth, First (2)  
Farmington, First (2)  
Golden Valley, Valley Com (2)  
Hager City, Laurel (2)  
Hastings, First (2)  
Hayfield, First (2)  
Howard Lake, First (2)  
Hudson, First (2)  
Kasson, First (2)  
LeRoy, First (2)  
LeSueur, LeSueur (2)  
Long Lake, Calvin (2)  
Maple Plain, First (2)

### Minneapolis:

Aldrich Avenue (2)  
Andrew-Riverside (2)  
Bryn Mawr (2)  
Grace-Trinity (2)  
Knox (2)  
Kwanzaa Community (3)  
Lake Nokomis (2)  
Stadium Village (2)  
Westminster (8)  
Minnetonka, Faith (4)  
North St. Paul, North (2)  
Oronoco, Oronoco (2)  
Owatonna, Associated (2)  
Pine City, First (2)  
Plainview, Community (2)  
Plymouth, Plymouth (2)  
Red Wing, First (2)  
Richfield, Hope (5)

Rochester, Community (2)  
Rochester, First (4)  
Rockford, United (2)  
Roseville, North Como (2)  
St. Croix Falls, First (2)  
St. Louis Park, Peace (2)

### St. Paul:

Arlington Hills (2)  
Central (2)  
Cherokee Park United (2)  
Dayton Avenue (2)  
Edgcumbe (3)  
Knox (2)

Steve Hull, Phil Park  
Thomas Bartholomew  
Jim Stanko, Frank Uvodich, Roger Parker  
Young Kim  
Michael Quady

Hae Chang  
Florian Gutzmer, Louise Woodberry

David Herum

Linda Wold, Richard Konecki

Albert Lorentz  
Clara Weyland

Bonnie Boylan, Don Boylan  
Pat Hasse, Carol Anderson

Barb Day, Bill Fischer  
Ian Elrod, Margaret Taylor  
Eric Adams, David Braden

Ed Jones

Jerry Ganfield, John Bergen  
Anne Farmer

Anna Belle Barnes, Michael Hawley

Kathy Van Schooten, Louise Sorenson, Joyce Camp, Bette  
Buelow, Robert Bratnober

Elizabeth Remfert

Edward Galle, Genevieve Galle  
Arlene Patterson

Connie Oppelt  
Mary Miller

Grace Muenyi, Lois Rhoades

Genevieve Tyykila, Longky Chandra

Macalester Plymouth (3)  
Randolph Heights (2)  
The House of Hope (6)

Warrendale (2)  
Shakopee, First (2)  
Shoreview, Church/Way (3)  
South St. Paul, First (3)  
Stillwater, First (4)  
Wayzata, St. Luke (3)  
White Bear Lake, First (2)  
Woodbury, Trinity (2)

Nancy Colby

Sherwood Pomeroy, Janice Dickinson, Larry Lee, Nancy Brasel,  
Mary Cardinal Peterson  
Richard Sturm

John Ivers, Ward Sessing, Chase Davies  
Rochelle LeTourneau  
Jean Emmons, Nancy Stalland, Susan Rutford  
Paul Winslow, Nicole Egan  
Rita Gehrenbeck, Lisa Meyer  
Ann Allen

## **ELDER MEMBERS OF PRESBYTERY**

Kirsten Berry, Hope, Richfield, MN  
Gordon Doshier, Plymouth, Plymouth, MN  
Vince Gin, First, Hudson, WI  
Nancy Grittman, Stated Clerk, Buffalo Presbyterian, Buffalo, MN  
Sandra Hawley, Plymouth, Plymouth, MN  
James Payne, First, Stillwater, MN  
JoAnn Simser, Moderator, Macalester-Plymouth, St. Paul, MN  
Janet Youel, White Bear Lake, MN

## **ELDER OBSERVERS**

Robert Cross, Valley, Golden Valley, MN  
Ron Grittman, Buffalo Presbyterian, Buffalo, MN

## **CANDIDATES/INQUIRERS**

Karen Larsen, St. Luke, Wayzata, MN  
Jennifer Miles, House of Hope, St. Paul, MN  
John Nelson, CAN, Columbia Heights, MN  
Joa Sevlie, Church of the Master, Coon Rapids, MN  
Steve Tyykila, Knox, St. Paul, MN  
Kathleen Whipple, Church of the Master, Coon Rapids, MN

## **CORRESPONDING MEMBERS**

## **VISITORS/OBSERVERS**

Risa Anderson, Presbytery Staff  
Dana Caraway, CAN, Columbia Heights, MN  
Maggie Chandler, CAN, Columbia Heights, MN  
Jeremiah Knabe, CAN, Columbia Heights, MN  
Linda Moore, Church of Christ, White Bear Lake, MN  
Charles Moore, Church of Christ, White Bear Lake, MN  
Hikari Nakane, CAN, Columbia Heights, MN  
Martha Rockenstein, First, Hudson, WI  
Jermaine, Ross, CAN, Columbia Heights, MN  
Dennis Sanders, Presbytery Staff  
Catherine Smith, Church of Christ, White Bear Lake, MN

Clergy new to the Presbytery and elder commissioners attending for the first time, were introduced and welcomed. There were no corresponding members.

The Rev. Rebecca Fletcher led the Presbyters in the Prayer of Confession and offered the Assurance of Pardon. The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ was exchanged among the Presbyters.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: The Rev. Betty Raitt**

The following committee members were elected having been nominated by the Nominating Committee and no additional nominations from the floor:

**PRESBYTERY COUNCIL:**

5/10=1 Elder Carol Anderson, First Presbyterian, Maple Plain – Member-at-Large

**CHURCH DEVELOPMENT TEAM:**

5/10=1 The Rev. Stephen Muhia, Minister - Member-at-Large

**COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY:**

5/12=3 The Rev. Joy Smith, Minister, Burnsville Church of the Apostles

**COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION:**

5/12=3 Jose Chipoco, Member, Familia de Fe

5/12=3 LeRoy Haynes, Minister, Honorably Retired

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER: The Rev. Chaz Ruark**

Rev. Ruark reminded us of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of John Calvin. Even as we look back we are aware we need to change as we move forward, seeking how we can best carry out the great ends of the church in the world today. Rev. Ruark has been visiting with different congregations in the Presbytery, and encouraged us to tell him when congregations have special events so he can take part. He also reminded us of next year's General Assembly, and the excitement of that family reunion.

**REPORT OF THE MODERATOR: The Rev. Jin S. Kim**

Rev. Kim presented a written report. He also spoke of the importance of us to learn from one another in our Presbytery. We have many vibrant congregations, and when we gather we should be learning from one another the best practices for how we do God's work in our communities. He reminded us that our denomination is shrinking, and that we need to do new things to revitalize our Church.

**REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK: Elder Nancy Grittman**

1. Remedial case Bierschwale, Lenz and Shanholtzer v. Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area has now been appealed to the Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly.
2. A Request for Review, in accordance with *Book of Order* D-10.0303, has been received by the office of the stated clerk in regards to a disciplinary case involving a member of

the Presbytery, in which the Investigating Committee reported to the office of the stated clerk that no charges will be filed.

3. A remedial complaint, involving a member session of the Presbytery, has been filed with the office of the stated clerk, and is in process.

The following administrative commission, elected to install The Rev. Don Genereux as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Belle Plain, MN, was dismissed with thanks, as they finished their work on July 12, 2009:

Ministers: The Rev. Margaret Newswanger  
The Rev. Newell Krogmann  
The Rev. Denise Dunbar-Perkins  
Elders: Bonnie Boylan, Calvin Long Lake  
Thomas Bartholomew, Belle Plain

#### **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS, GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2010: Elder Sandra Hawley**

The Executive Coordinator of the 2010 General Assembly is The Rev. Paula Sanders. Committee members are needed for the committees of COLA.

#### **REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE ON DISABILITIES: Elder Linda Wold**

Linda spoke of the plans for workshops to be offered on the subject of Mental Illness, and how the church needs to be involved. The first workshop will be Saturday, September 19, 2009, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at Presbyterian Church of The Way, Shoreview, Minnesota.

#### **REPORT OF THE CHURCH DEVELOPMENT TEAM: Rev. Newell Krogman**

Newell introduced MissionInsite, a new tool for researching community demographics. CDT will offer a Pre-Presbytery introduction, individual church coaching, and individual training. Information will be sent to churches with password information to enable logging on online.

#### **REPORT OF THE TREASURER: Elder James Payne**

The figures for the end of the month can be found online. The Presbytery's finances are still in a healthy shape. This is Elder Payne's sixth year as treasurer, so a new treasurer will need to be elected next spring.

#### **WELCOME BY HOST PASTOR, AND DINNER INSTRUCTIONS: The Rev. David Bierschwale**

The Rev. David Bierschwale welcomed the Presbyters to Presbyterian Church of The Master, sharing a bit of the history of the congregation. Instructions for dinner service and the meal blessing were offered by The Rev. Bierschwale.

#### **REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERY COUNCIL: Elder JoAnn Simser, Council Chair**

Since the Annual Stated Meeting of Presbytery on May 14, 2009, Council has met twice: May 30, in Retreat at Eagle Crest Presbyterian Homes, Roseville, MN, and for the regular meeting on July 25, also at Eagle Crest.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. At the May Presbytery meeting the following Bylaws revision was presented for first reading. It is now to be put for a vote:

Amend Article VI, Presbytery Council as follows:

Membership of Council shall be nominated by the Nominating committee and elected by the Presbytery at its Annual Meeting or as terms expire. The Council shall be comprised of the following: (Sections in italics shall be added).

Six Members at large, chosen from diverse geographical areas  
Council Chair, may be the immediate past Moderator of the Presbytery  
Representative from Committee on Ministry  
Representative from Committee on Preparation for Ministry  
Representative from Board of Trustees  
Representative from Nominating Committee  
Representative from Church Development Team  
Representative from Personnel Committee  
*Representative from Mission and Witness Committee*  
Moderator of Presbytery  
Vice Moderator of Presbytery  
Treasurer  
Stated Clerk, who shall serve as secretary  
Executive Presbytery (without vote)  
Any Associate Executive Presbyters (without vote)

***Rationale:***

The Mission and Witness Committee, which has been working toward formal organization since the Work Groups were disbanded, is now ready to be elected, recognized, and to assume its role as described in the Manual of Operations.

Amend first paragraph of Article VII as follows by inserting the italicized words:

The Presbytery shall consist of the following committees: Presbytery Council, Nominating Committee, Committee on Ministry, Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Committee on Representation, Permanent Judicial Commission, as mandated by Book of Order [Form of Government G-9.0902]. The Presbytery shall also elect the following committees: Bills and Overtures, Board of Trustees, Church Development Team, Advocates for Integrity in Ministry, Commissioned Lay Pastors, *Mission and Witness Committee*, Personnel Committee, Self Development of People, and other ad hoc task forces as are deemed necessary.

2. The following amendment to the Manual of operations is now put to a vote;

The Mission Outreach Team shall be known as the Mission and Witness Committee.

## **Meetings:**

**Membership:** The committee shall consist of five lay members (as amended), four ministers, elected by Presbytery. One will be nominated as chair. The Executive Presbytery will be ex officio.

**Purpose:** The mission of the Mission and Witness Committee is to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ by facilitating partnerships that support the mission of the Church. Partnerships may be with other churches or denominations within the Twin Cities Area, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), partner churches around the world, ecumenical partners, or appropriate community agencies that witness to that love.

## **Responsibilities:**

1. The Mission and Witness Committee will oversee all mission oriented task forces, and administer the disbursement and distribution of funds as designated in the budget. This will include the Presbytery portion of the Peacemaking Offering.
2. The Mission and Witness Committee designs processes for partnership development, identifies areas of potential ministry, communicates partnership opportunities, facilitates enactments of partnerships, and interpretation of mission.

Presbytery **VOTED** to approve as amended: Line one *elders lay members*. Delete line 3, 4 and 5.

3. That the Presbytery of The Twin Cities Area approve the per capita assessment for the Presbytery portion payable in 2010 at \$19.06. This represents no change from 2009. Synod and General Assembly portions will also remain the same, making the total per capita \$30.01.

Presbytery **VOTED** to approve.

## **REPORT:**

**Synod of Lakes and Prairies** The synod approved \$213,000 in grants for campus ministries and \$30,000 for an Iowa Hispanic ministry. Plans are in place for a second Collegiate Ministries conference. A summary of the April 26-28, 2009 meeting is on the web at <http://www.lakesandprairies.org/PDFFiles/SYNSUMMARY-SPRING09.pdf>. To find out more about what the Synod does go to <http://www.lakesandprairies.org/mission.html>

**Presbyfest 2009** - Celebrating John Calvin and Five Centuries of Lay Leadership, Saturday, November 14 at Oak Grove Presbyterian Church, Bloomington, MN. This event will feature keynote speaker, Dr. Cynthia Rigby, and many workshops designed to strengthen congregational lay leaders. Registration will be open in late summer. The Presbyfest Planning Team is seeking 2-3 persons to join the team to assist with organizing and implementing this event. It's a creative, energetic and fun group to work with! If interested, contact [presbyfest@ptcaweb.org](mailto:presbyfest@ptcaweb.org).

**Council Goals 2009-2010** Council chose to use “Affirm Local Congregations” as the overall theme, with the goal to “**Build Spiritual Energy through Nurture**” Specific goals for council, suggested for the year, were as follows:

- **Affirm local congregations\* - Major overall theme**
- **Create opportunities for small group dialogue (other than dinner) at Presbytery meetings (leading to Presbytery goals)—include 30 minutes for group discussion at each Presbytery meeting**
- **Focus on the six Great Ends of The Church as themes of the six Presbytery meetings and the purpose of the Presbytery (as per the Book of Order).**
- **Talk with congregations about how they are meeting these goals.**
- **Council becomes nomadic; five-10 meetings per year in congregations, listening to their stories.**
- **Mission and Witness will present goals for priority and funding**
- **Offer two new lay leadership initiatives annually, such as officer training, evangelism and faith training**

July theme: The First Great End of the Church: “**The proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind**”

The purpose of this conversation is to build connections among congregations and to support a network among congregations in the PTCA.

In small groups, as assigned:

- Each group should appoint a recorder who will report the main topics or themes on the sheet of paper provided, entitled Best Practices, Proclaiming the Gospel and make sure that it is left in the box provided by the end of today’s meeting.
- Address the question: What is your congregation’s “Best Practice” in proclaiming the gospel that you would want to share with other congregations?

The PTCA officers and council will review the reports and create Blogs on [www.ptcaweb.org](http://www.ptcaweb.org) to allow for further conversation and dialog and hopefully clusters or affinity groups of congregations that would be in partnerships around those emerging topics.

The Presbyters were invited to break up into small groups for a thirty-minute discussion on the theme of the day. “Report-out” sheets were collected, and the shared ideas will be posted on the website blogs.

**PRESBYTERY RECESSED FOR DINNER at 6:00 p.m.**

**PRESBYTERY RECONVENED at 6:45 p.m.**, being welcomed with music offered by the Praise Team of Presbyterian Church of The Master. Janet Youel read the gospel lesson from Matthew 28. The Rev. Bierschwale shared the testimony of the church: How the Spirit is Moving at Presbyterian Church of the Master.

Presbyters, accepting the Invitation to the Eucharist, celebrated the Sacrament of The Lord's Supper. The Rev. Chaz Ruark, Vice Moderator Vince Gin, The Rev. Jin Kim, the Chancel choir and the African Choir led the worshippers.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY: Elder Kirsten Berry**

***CONSENT AGENDA (Items 1-10)***

**1. The Reverend Byron T. Thompson and Westminster Presbyterian Church: Request for Dissolution of Associate Pastoral Relationship and Honorable Retirement**

- a. To **recommend** to Presbytery that, upon the mutual request of the Reverend Byron T. Thompson and Westminster Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, MN, the full-time associate pastor relationship between the Reverend Byron T. Thompson and Westminster Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, MN, be dissolved as of July 14, 2009.
- b. To **recommend** to Presbytery that the request of the Reverend Byron T. Thompson to be designated "Honorably Retired" be granted as of July 14, 2009.
- c. To **report** to Presbytery that the Reverend Byron T. Thompson has been approved for the 2009 Pulpit Supply List.

**2. The House of Hope Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, MN: Request for Dissolution of Associate Pastoral Relationship**

To **recommend** to Presbytery that, based upon the mutual request of The House of Hope Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, MN, and the Reverend Darlene Stensby, the full-time associate pastoral relationship between The House of Hope Presbyterian Church and the Reverend Darlene Stensby has been dissolved as of June 30, 2009, with mutually agreed-upon terms,

AND

To **recommend** to Presbytery that the request of the Reverend Darlene Stensby to be designated "Honorably Retired" be granted as of July 1, 2009.

**3. The House of Hope Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, MN: Abolish Associate Pastor Position**

1. To **recommend** to Presbytery that the position of full-time associate pastor position previously held by the Reverend Darlene Stensby at The House of Hope Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, MN, be abolished as of July 1, 2009.
2. To **recommend** to Presbytery that it direct the stated clerk to communicate the above action to the Board of Pensions

**4. Calvin Presbyterian Church of Orono, Long Lake, MN: Reverend Carol Reed, Designated Pastor, Converted to Pastor**

- a. To **approve** the request of the session of Calvin Presbyterian Church of Orono, Long Lake, MN, that the Reverend Carol Reed, currently serving as designated pastor, be elected by the congregation and installed as pastor for an indefinite term.

- b. To **note** that AAEEEO requirements were fulfilled by COM in the original search as required by Book of Order G-14.0501g.
- c. To **report** to Presbytery that, at a duly called meeting on May 31, 2009, the congregation voted by written ballot to call Carol Reed as Pastor
- d. To **recommend** to Presbytery that the call of Calvin Presbyterian Church of Orono, Long Lake, MN, to the Reverend Carol Reed as full-time pastor for an indefinite term be approved effective June 1, 2009, according to the following terms:

Cash Salary	\$55,000 (Includes Housing/Utility Allowance)
Automobile Allowance	\$IRS rate, vouchered up to \$1,200
Continuing Ed. Allowance	\$1,200 per year (cumulative over 3 years to \$3,600)
Prof. Expenses	\$300/year (vouchered)
Continuing Ed. Leave	Four weeks per year, not to exceed two Sundays. <i>This will revert to two weeks, upon completion of the Pastor's Doctorate of Ministry program</i> (cumulative over 3 years to 6 weeks)
Vacation	31 days
Pension	Full
Sabbatical	Yes
Length of leave <u>3 months</u> ; years of service required: <u>6 years</u> ; ( <i>Presbytery guideline is 3 months after 6 years of service</i> ). Session approval of dates and plan required.	

AND

that the Reverend Carol Reed continue as moderator of the session of Calvin Presbyterian Church of Orono, Long Lake, MN.

**5. First Presbyterian Church, Rochester, MN: Interim Pastor Contract Ended with David Droog**

- 1. To **report** to Presbytery that the full-time interim pastor relationship between the Reverend David Droog and First Presbyterian Church, Rochester, Minnesota, ended as of June 30, 2009.
- 2. To **recommend** to Presbytery that the Reverend David Droog be transferred to the member at large roll of presbytery.

**6. Westminster Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, MN: Dissolution of Parish Associate Relationship with David Liddle**

To **recommend** to Presbytery that the parish associate relationship currently existing between the Reverend David Liddle and Westminster Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, MN, be dissolved effective July 14, 2009, by action of the session on May 28, 2009.

7. **The Reverend Jay Collins: Transfer Ecclesiastical Membership to the Presbytery of Heartland**  
To **recommend** to Presbytery that it dismiss Jay Collins to Heartland Presbytery based upon the action of the Heartland Presbytery, to receive him as a member at its February 21, 2009 stated meeting.
8. **Warrendale Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, MN: Timothy Held, Reappointment as Stated Supply**  
To **recommend** to Presbytery that, with the concurrence of the session of Warrendale Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, MN, the Reverend Timothy Held be reappointed to a one-year term as half-time stated supply pastor, from August 1, 2009, to July 31, 2010, with no change in the terms of call.
9. **Suzan Ireland: Permission to Labor Outside the Jurisdiction**  
To **recommend** to Presbytery that, from May 12, 2009, to May 11, 2010, the Reverend Suzan Ireland be granted permission to labor outside the jurisdiction of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area as full-time interim pastor of First Congregational United Church of Christ, Winona, MN. It is noted that, under the provisions of G-11.0401, "such permission and consent shall be reviewed and renewed annually."
10. **Church of All Nations, Columbia Heights, MN: Establish a Parish Associate Position with the Reverend John Lee**  
To **recommend** to Presbytery that the invitation of the session of Church of All Nations, Columbia Heights, MN, to the Reverend John Lee to serve in a parish associate relationship, without remuneration, be approved for one year, effective July 15, 2009, to July 14, 2010.

Presbytery **VOTED TO APPROVE** the Consent Agenda, with the exception of Items 1. and 2., which were held out for separate consideration.

Item No. 1: Presbytery **VOTED TO APPROVE** the change in status for The Rev. Byron Thompson to Honorably Retired, and to dissolve the relationship between Byron and Westminster Church, Minneapolis, MN, effective July 14, 2009.

Item No. 2: Presbytery **VOTED TO APPROVE** the change in status for The Rev. Darlene Stensby to Honorably Retired, and to dissolve the relationship between Darlene and The house of Hope Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, MN, effective July 1, 2009.

Byron and Darlene were then honored by the Presbytery for their years of service leading up to their retirement.

***REGULAR AGENDA (Item 11)***

11. **The Reverend Grace Young Lee: Request Transfer of Ecclesiastical Membership from Presbytery of Greater Atlanta**  
(See Appendix 1, page 8)

Subject to the successful completion of the background check:

To **recommend** to Presbytery that it concur with the Committee on Ministry's examination (G-11.0402) of the Reverend Grace Young Lee on her "Christian faith and views in theology, the sacraments, and the government of this church."

To **recommend** to Presbytery that the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta be requested to dismiss the Reverend Grace Young Lee to the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area,  
AND  
that, upon receipt of her credentials, the Reverend Grace Young Lee be enrolled as a member-at-large of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area.

To **report** to Presbytery that the Reverend Grace Young Lee has been approved for the 2009 Pulpit Supply List.]

Presbytery **VOTED TO CONCUR** with the decision of the Committee on Ministry to invite The Rev. Grace Lee into membership. Grace could not be present at the meeting, but will be introduced and welcomed at the September meeting.

**REPORTS (Items 12-25)**

**12. First Presbyterian Church, Claremont, MN: Renewal of Half-time Interim Pastor Contract: Joe Jones**

To **report** to Presbytery that the Committee on Ministry has concurred with the action of the session of First Presbyterian Church, Claremont, Minnesota, to continue the half-time interim pastor relationship between the Reverend Joe Jones and First Presbyterian Church, Claremont, Minnesota, for the period September 1, 2009, to August 31, 2010, with the following change in terms:

Salary & Housing	\$20,993
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**13. Westminster Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, MN: Interim Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Terms of Call, Reverend David Liddle**

a. To **report** to presbytery that the Committee on Ministry has concurred in the invitation of the session of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, MN, to the Reverend David Liddle to serve as full-time interim associate pastor for pastoral care, effective July 15, 2009, to July 14, 2010, according to the following terms:

Cash Salary	\$60,000 (includes housing/utility allowance)
Auto Allowance	IRS rate
Cont. Ed. Allowance	\$1,500 per year
Cont. Ed. Leave	Two weeks per year
Professional Expenses	Reimbursed to \$ 1,200
Vacation	One month
Pension	Full
Supplemental Insurance	\$50,000

14. **Reverend Eugene Orr Appointed Moderator of Arlington Hills Presbyterian Church**  
To **report** to Presbytery that the Reverend Eugene Orr was appointed moderator of Arlington Hills Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, MN, effective May 1, 2009.
15. **Background Checks Completed: Mary McNamara and Sheila Gustafson**  
To **report** that the background checks have been satisfactorily completed for Mary McNamara and Sheila Gustafson.
16. **Exit Interview Completed: William Eisenhower**  
To **report** that an exit interview for The Rev. William Eisenhower, interim pastor for First Presbyterian Church, White Bear Lake, MN was completed on May 6, 2009, by Ann Allen, Transitions Committee.
17. **Oak Grove Presbyterian Church, Bloomington, MN: Report on Congregational Meeting to Elect Pastor**  
To **report** to Presbytery that, at a duly called meeting of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church, Bloomington, MN, on April 26, 2009, the congregation voted by written ballot to call The Reverend William R. Chadwick as Pastor, Head of Staff.
18. **Westminster Presbyterian Church, Austin, Minnesota: Report that Allison R. Cobb has resigned as Commissioned Lay Pastor**  
To **report** to Presbytery that Allison R. Cobb has resigned from her commission as lay pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Austin, MN, as of April 16, 2009.
19. **Knox Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, MN: Report of Triennial Session Visit**  
To **report** to Presbytery that a session visitation, as required by G-11.0502c, was held with Knox Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, MN, on May 19, 2009.
20. **Administrative Commission for Installation: Neil Craigan, First Presbyterian Church, White Bear Lake, Minnesota**  
To **report** to Presbytery that the following arrangements were approved for the installation of the Reverend Neil Craigan as full-time pastor of First Presbyterian Church, White Bear Lake, Minnesota.

Date: August 2, 2009

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Place: First Presbyterian Church, White Bear Lake, MN

AND

That the following persons be appointed as members of the Administrative Commission:

Ministers: William "Buck" Day, Associate Pastor, Faith Presbyterian Church, Minnetonka, MN	Elders: Jack Reddan, First Presbyterian Church, White Bear Lake, MN Kathy Van Schooten, Hope
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Deborah Kielsmeier, Associate Pastor, Christ Presbyterian Church, Edina, MN Carl Grosse, Member at large, Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, Farmington, MN	Presbyterian Church, Richfield, MN
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AND

That the moderator of the Presbytery, the Reverend Jin S. Kim, preside and propound the Constitutional questions.

**21. Edgumbe Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, MN: Reappoint Temporary Supply: Philip GebbenGreen and Julie GebbenGreen**

To **report** to Presbytery that, with the concurrence of the session of Edgumbe Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, MN, the Reverends Philip and Julie GebbenGreen have been reappointed to a one-year term as 75% of full-time temporary supply pastors (25 hours per week for Philip, 11.3 hours per week for Julie), from August 1, 2009, to July 31, 2010, with the following changes in the terms of call:

Salary and Housing	\$35,175
Medical/Dental Supplement	Vouchered up to \$1,000

**22. Administrative Commission for Installation: Donald Genereux, First Presbyterian Church, Belle Plaine, Minnesota**

To **report** to Presbytery that the following arrangements were approved for the installation of the Reverend Donald Genereux as half-time pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Belle Plaine, Minnesota.

Date: July 12, 2009

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Place: First Presbyterian Church, Belle Plaine, MN

AND

That the following persons be appointed as members of the Administrative Commission:

Ministers: Meg Newswanger, First Presbyterian Church, Maple Plain, MN Newell Krogmann, Presbyterian Church of Le Sueur, Le Sueur, MN Judith Ritchie, Hope Presbyterian Church, Richfield, MN Richard Phenow, Christ Presbyterian Church, Edina, MN	Elders: Bonnie Boylan, Calvin Presbyterian Church of Orono, Long Lake, MN Thomas Bartholomew, First Presbyterian Church, Belle Plaine, MN
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AND

That the moderator of the Presbytery, the Reverend Jin Kim, preside and propound the Constitutional questions.

**23. Report of Pastors' Salaries and Allowances for 2009**

To **report** to Presbytery that the Committee on Ministry will bring the report of Pastors' Salaries and Allowances for 2009 to the September Presbytery meeting.

**24. Commissioned Lay Pastor Training Program Reviewed by Committee on Ministry**

To **report** to Presbytery that the Committee on Ministry reviewed and received the Commissioned Lay Pastor Training Program paper from the Commissioned Lay Pastor Committee.

**25. Vacant Positions Report**

The Committee on Ministry **reports** to Presbytery that the following positions are vacant and receiving dossiers for installed positions:

Buffalo, MN, **Buffalo Presbyterian Church**, (Pastor)

Claremont, MN, **First Presbyterian Church**, (Pastor)

Rochester, MN, **First Presbyterian Church**, (Pastor, Head of Staff)

Wayzata, MN, **St. Luke Presbyterian Church**, (Associate Pastor)

## **Appendix 1**

*Replies to Questions for Membership in the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area*

### **The Reverend Grace Young Lee**

**1. Please tell us briefly about yourself, including the date of your ordination and the name of the ordaining presbytery.**

I am a Korean-American, born and raised in Dallas, Texas. I received a Bachelor's of Business Administration from the University of Texas at Austin. I worked for a few years as a financial analyst and database consultant. Then I did a year-long missions trip through the PC(USA), and subsequently received my Master's of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary. I was married in June 2001. My son was born in 2003, and my daughter was born in 2006. I was ordained by the Greater Atlanta Presbytery in March of 2006. I served as the College Ministry Pastor at the Korean Community Presbyterian Church of Atlanta for about 5 years. Juggling full-time ministry while raising very young children, particularly in the context in which I was, was not what I wanted. So, when my family moved to Minnesota in January 2007, so my husband, who is also a Minister, could intern at the Church of All Nations, I decided to be a stay-at-home mom. However, due to financial circumstances, I went back to work as a business analyst in November 2007, which is the job I currently maintain.

**2. How have your understandings grown since ordination with respect to your theology and practice of ministry?**

My theology and practice of ministry has changed from being more achievement oriented to something more organic, natural and free-flowing. I used to be more plan-driven – have the next several years mapped out. Now, I try to trust in God more, one day at a time. I view the practice of ministry not so much as a profession, but rather an attempt to daily live faithfully.

**3. Tell us something about your spiritual journey—how you've grown in your relationship with Christ and your life in the Spirit—and how that relates to your call.**

I still desire to be faithful to God in my daily life. However, I now see how such faithful living might take on a variety of forms. From the context in which I grew up, most people in ministry were either a pastor or a

pastor's wife. Options for one going into ministry seemed very limited. Now, I am in the process of discerning my passions and interests and how that relates to my call.

**4. d. As a minister currently without a call, what is your theological assessment of your current circumstances, and what are your hopes or plans for the future exercise of your ministry?**

There are seasons in life. We cannot always do what we think we want to do, when we want to do it. Right now I have young children and a husband who's serving as a full-time minister. Plus, I need to further discern my gifts and passions. So, for now, I am attempting to be a more faithful mother, wife, co-worker and citizen.

I have considered writing children's bible story books and starting a non-profit. However, until I discover what I am truly passionate about, I am at peace with seeking to be faithful where I am now. My hope is that whatever I do, God would be glorified; and that as I seek to be more faithful in the here and now, God will open my eyes to future possibilities.

**5. What, in your view, are some of the theological challenges facing the church/presbytery today, and how would you respond to those challenges?**

Challenges:

- America's cultural paradigm is very individualistic.
- Christian religion and spirituality has become very compartmentalized.
- The church has become consumer driven, catering to felt needs.

Response: The church must focus on being Christian community, not just on one's personal relationship with Jesus Christ – even that phraseology is individualistic and self-centered.

**6. How would you like to serve/be served by the presbytery?**

To serve: I would need more information about the presbytery's activities in order to answer this question.

Be served: receive information about Presbytery events.

**7. Can you continue to affirm the Constitutional Questions asked of you at ordination (W-4.4003 a. – i.)? Yes**

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY: The Rev. Denise Dunbar-Perkins**

***REPORTS:***

**Annual Consultation**

The committee held annual consultation(s) with the following candidates/inquirers, who have filed their annual written report with the Presbytery as required by the Presbytery's manual. The committee **VOTED** to continue on the rolls:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>CHURCH</u>
Bob Lundberg	Candidate	Christ Presbyterian Church, Edina
Jeff Foels	Inquirer	First Pres. Stillwater
Faith Kelly	Candidate	FPC, Red Wing
Michael Gyura	Inquirer	FPC, Rochester
Kathleen Whipple	Inquirer	Church of the Master, Coon Rapids
John Nelson	Inquirer	Church of All Nations, Columbia Heights
Kerri Allen	Inquirer	Dayton Ave PC, St Paul
Anna Kendig	Inquirer	Westminster PC, Minneapolis

**Ordination exams**

1. The committee **reports** that it has given the following persons permission to take the following ordination exams:

- a. Kerri Allen to take all four ordination exams.
  - b. Jennifer Miles to take the Worship/Sacrament, Polity, and to re-take Theology ordination exams.
2. The committee **reports** that it has voted to approve a new policy concerning permission to take ordination exams:

M/S/C: That ordination examinations, (not including the Bible Content exam) should ordinarily be taken by candidates who have completed congregationally-based fieldwork, and who are beginning their final year of seminary. CPM may allow an inquirer, who has been approved by his/her subcommittee for candidacy to register to take ordination exams prior to his/her actual examination by CPM and /or Presbytery for candidacy.

### ***RECOMMENDATIONS:***

#### **Inquirer**

1. Cody Oaks, having fulfilled the constitutional requirements of G-14.0403 (active member of a particular church for at least six months) and the Presbytery's policy (endorsement by the session; interview with the committee of Presbytery to consider the application to be enrolled as an inquirer) is now presented to the Presbytery to be enrolled as an inquirer: Cody Oaks, Church of All Nations. See Attachment A for his statement of what it means to be an inquirer.

The committee **recommends** that he be enrolled as an Inquirer by the Presbytery.

Presbytery **VOTED TO ENROLL** Cody Oaks, Church of All Nations, as an Inquirer.

#### **Candidates**

1. Steve Tyykila, who is on the roll of Inquirers of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, having satisfactorily demonstrated adequate promise for ministry by presenting the statements specified in the Presbytery's policy (G-14.0402), met with the session of Knox Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, and with the Presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry, is presented to the Presbytery to be examined "with respect to his Christian faith, forms of Christian service undertaken and motives for seeking the ministry," and to be received as a candidate for the ministry of the Word and Sacrament. (See Attachment B)

The committee **recommends** that Steve Tyykila be enrolled as a candidate for the Ministry of the Word and Sacrament and that the moderator ask him the questions specified in the Presbytery's policy.

Presbytery **VOTED TO ENROLL** Steve Tyykila, Knox Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, MN, as a candidate.

2. Jennifer Miles, who is on the roll of Inquirers of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, having satisfactorily demonstrated adequate promise for ministry by presenting the statements specified in the Presbytery's policy (G-14.0402), met with the session of the House of Hope Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, and with the Presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry, is presented to the Presbytery to be examined "with respect to

her Christian faith, forms of Christian service undertaken and motives for seeking the ministry," and to be received as a candidate for the ministry of the Word and Sacrament. (See Attachment C)

The committee **recommends** that Jennifer Miles be enrolled as a candidate for the Ministry of the Word and Sacrament and that the moderator ask her the questions specified in the Presbytery's policy.

Presbytery **VOTED TO ENROLL** Jennifer Miles, The House of Hope Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, MN, as a candidate.

### **Attachment A – Cody Oaks**

*Describe briefly (less than one page) your understanding of what it means to you to be an inquirer. Please include the most important events, experiences, and persons that have prompted you to become an inquirer.*

To be an inquirer, for me, is to test a call under the guidance and leadership of the Church. It is recognition of the need to have a call confirmed not individualistically, but within the community of the Church. It is for me, an act of submission, a holding out of empty hands, to see if God might be pleased to use my gifts in this capacity. It is through the mentorship of my Pastor where I have discovered that any work done for the Church must be done for the *people* of the Church and this requires a transparency and vulnerability which comes through the accountability of being an Inquirer in my home church.

### **Attachment B – Steven Tyykila**

#### **Statement of Motivation**

When I was eleven, my father died of cancer. One of the last things he told me while in the hospital was that I should read my Bible. It would be many years before I took his advice. I still went to church, although we changed from Lutheran to United Methodist. I participated as an acolyte, went to youth group and was confirmed. I remember one time sitting in church and hearing the pastor talk about people joining the ministry. I remember feeling a sense of God telling me I should consider that path. I shook it off thinking to myself that I was not enough of a religious person for that.

I went to college and didn't have much to do with organized religion. I eventually married and moved back up to the Twin Cities. About a year later we had our first child and purchased our first home and my wife said we had to find a church nearby. We finally found Knox Presbyterian Church just down the street from our house. I did not plan on doing more than singing in the choir, but after a year I was asked if I would become an Elder in charge of house and grounds. I tried to decline because I am not a mechanically inclined person, but they told me all I would have to do was go to a monthly meeting. Well it turned out to be a lot more than that. I became more and more active in church leadership including acting as a bridge between the Anglo-European members of the church and the new Indonesian members and found that it felt good and somehow "right".

One day my pastor asked me if I would be willing to lead the service while he was gone. I had been a member of Toastmasters (an organization that focuses on public speaking), for seven years so I said I would be glad to do it. When I was in the pulpit speaking I got that feeling of rightness again. I felt that God was telling me this was my path. It took a second time substituting in the pulpit for me to believe this was the path God wanted me to follow. I talked to my wife about it and she said, "Maybe you should consider going to seminary". When I said we did not have the money she replied, "If it is meant to be God will provide a way". Through scholarships and financial aid and still working full time I have been able to go to seminary half time. I knew this was the right path, but still had some concerns about my ability to do all the things that a minister needs to do.

I am almost halfway finished with my education at seminary. I have learned a lot more about the Bible and the Church. I have truly begun to understand what it means to say that Jesus Christ is my savior. I have integrated the new knowledge from my seminary experience so far, with the skills I had before coming to seminary. I have found my sense of call to be a minister has been affirmed as I have continued to learn and grow over the last three years. One of the biggest things I have learned is that as a minister I can't have the answer to every question.

I also have learned that the skills I was most concerned about are areas that I have a lot of strength in, specifically regarding my ability to do pastoral care. I have taken a class on Pastoral care and I recently finished doing my clinical pastoral education at UMMC and Fairview Riverside Hospitals. I know I can be a spiritual presence for people in need. I specifically recall the first time I was on-call for 24 hours. I was called in at 10:30 that night to be with a family of a thirty something year old man who had fast growing brain tumors. His father and two brothers were still dealing with the loss of the man's mother who died three weeks earlier from breast cancer, and now they were taking him off life support. As I was there for that family, and did a blessing for the man's journey, I could feel God's presence with me, and working through me. I know I want to continue to have God working through me. I feel my call is leading me to become a parish minister.

### **Attachment C – Jennifer Miles**

#### **Statement of Motivation for Ordination**

I strongly believe that I have been called to be a Minister of Word and Sacrament. But it did take me quite a while to realize this. The call was always there, poking at me, nudging me, but I was oblivious to it until a few years ago. I think that I had to mature more, collect some real life experience and turn my focus outward.

I was working as a Country Club manager when I decided to respond to God's call. I had been very unsatisfied with many aspects of my career. It seemed to lack any real purpose and meaning. My superiors were demanding that I treat employees with such disrespect and callousness. Hypocrisy and injustice seemed to dominate the atmosphere. I had experienced this same reversal of value and ethics before in other work places, but I had reached my limit. I was sad and angry and kept asking why I was being forced to go against what I knew was right in the eyes of God. Why should loving my neighbor go against company policy? It came upon me like a revelation. I was meant to serve God and my neighbor in a much more faithful position, one in which I could love people and work to change oppressive and unjust situations. I could bring hope and meaning into people's lives through the Word of God.

After speaking to my pastor and an admissions director at United seminary, this dream became real. When I committed to the decision to pursue the ministry I felt a huge weight lifted from my soul. I was filled with great joy and excitement. It was almost as if a presence near me laughed and said, "Finally!"

Since that decision, I have put great effort into my seminary education and my spiritual enlightenment. Every semester I have said the same thing, with sincerity, "This is the best semester yet!" I continually discover new gifts which are perfectly suited for the ministry. I reevaluate old gifts as to how they were really given for this vocation. I have never felt so alive and driven.

I am currently a chaplain in an internship setting. This has allowed me to bring to the world some of what I have learned. It is an incredible blessing to do work which focuses on the well being of others. While pastoral care is a vital part of the ministry, chaplaincy does not offer all that I feel called to do.

Parish ministry has a much more diverse set of responsibilities and opportunities. I have been able to lead and assist with worship in different settings. The experience of designing liturgy, preaching the Word and offering prayers feels at once thrilling and natural. I am at home in the pulpit. The feeling of the Spirit flowing through me during a service is humbling and fulfilling.

I look forward to mission and outreach programs. I aspire to be obedient to God's will by working to stop oppression and strive for the well-being of God's children in all their various forms. I want to lead by example while encouraging and empowering others to follow their calls of mission.

I am excited to use my teaching skills to educate others about God's Word. I believe that I have much to offer all ages, from small children up to adults. People are hungry to learn about theology and the Bible. I have the creativity and passion to present topics in interesting, vibrant and approachable manners.

I want to serve God and my brothers and sisters in this capacity. I want to give my whole being to the preaching, teaching and proclaiming of God's Word. This is my purpose, my call and my greatest desire.

#### **FINAL REPORT OF STATED CLERK: Nancy Grittman**

The stated clerk presented the attendance as follows:

Category	Present	Not Present	Total
Ministers	67	220	287

Commissioned Lay Pastors	1	3	4
Elder Commissioners Elected by Sessions	66	113	179
Elder Members of Presbytery	8	5	13
Elder Observers	2	--	--
Candidates and Inquirers	6		34
Corresponding Members	0	--	--
Visitors	11	--	--
Total	161		
Churches	37	32	69

Child Care Reimbursement   \$     0  
 Mileage Expense:           \$103.88  
 Unsold Meals Expense:     \$ 91.00  
                                       \$194.88

The Closing Hymn, “*Be Thou My Vision*”, (Traditional Irish Ballad) was sung, followed by the adjourning prayer.

The next Regular Stated Meeting will be Saturday, September 12, 2009, at 9:30 a.m., at First Presbyterian Church of Shakopee, Minnesota.

Nancy E. Gritman, Stated Clerk

Approved: