

PRESBYTERY OF THE TWIN CITIES AREA
Committee on Preparation for Ministry
Report to Presbytery
September 12, 2009

REPORTS TO THE PRESBYTERY

Remove from Rolls: Kate Lounsbury Kirk

The requirements of G-14.0463 having been met, the committee **VOTED** to remove the name of Kate Lounsbury Kirk Candidate, Certified Ready to receive a Call, Christ Presbyterian Church, Edina from the Roll of Candidates, upon her own written request.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PRESBYTERY

Enroll as Inquirer: Hae Chang Souza

Hae Chang Souza, 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 inquirer: Hae Chang Souza, Church of All Nations. See Attachment A for her statement of what it means to be an inquirer.

The committee **recommends** that Hae Chang Souza be enrolled as an Inquirer by the Presbytery.

Enroll as a Candidate: Kerri Allen

Kerri Allen, 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 Dayton Avenue 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 B)

The committee **recommends** that Kerri Allen 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.

Ordination Administrative Commission: David Berge

The committee **RECOMMENDS** to Presbytery that the following arrangements be approved for the ordination of David Berge:

Date: Sunday, October 18, 2009

Time: 4:00 pm

Place: Aldrich Avenue Presbyterian Church. Minneapolis

AND

that these persons be appointed as members of the Administrative Commission:

Ministers

The Reverend Kristen C. DiNardo,
Hope Presbyterian Church

The Reverend Peter Dela Santina,
Knox Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis

The Reverend Matt Johnson,
Aldrich Avenue Presbyterian Church

AND

that the Moderator-elect Vincent Gin as designated by the Moderator, preside and propound the Constitutional questions,

AND

that upon ordination the name of The Reverend David Berge be removed from the Roll of Candidates and be transferred to the Presbytery of Santa Barbara.

Ordination Administrative Commission Kathryn Campbell:

The committee **RECOMMENDS** to Presbytery that the following arrangements be approved for the ordination of Kathryn Campbell.

Date: Sunday, August 9, 2009

Time: 3:00 pm

Place: Westminster Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota

AND

that these persons be appointed as members of the Administrative Commission:

Ministers

The Reverend Katie Estes-Collins,
First Presbyterian Church, South Saint Paul

The Reverend Byron Thompson,
Member at Large (HR)

The Reverend Annika Lister Stroope,
Westminster Presbyterian Church

(Corresponding Member)

The Reverend John Odom, Pastor, Starmount Presbyterian Church,

AND

that the Rev. Jin Kim, Moderator, preside and propound the Constitutional questions,

AND

that upon ordination the name of The Reverend Kathryn Campbell be removed from the Roll of Candidates and be transferred to Salem Presbytery

Elders

Elder Marsha Babcock,
Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

Elder Cathy Broady,
Aldrich Avenue Presbyterian Church

Elders

Elder Trish Laedtke,
Presbyterian Church of the Way

Elder Bill Fischer,
Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church

Elder Joey Rockenstein,
Westminster Presbyterian Church

ATTACHMENT A

Hae Chang Souza

To be an inquirer for me is an opening of possibility to widen my horizons in ministry becoming a Minister of Word and Sacrament of the PCUSA, a place where I feel most comfortable. I am right now at the Church of All Nations as an elder and pastor for the Seara Brazilian Ministry, and I am serving the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area as a member of the Church Development Team.

First I intended to go through CLP considering my Baptist Seminary and ordination in an Independent Church, but talking to the Rev. Chaz Ruark, Elder Kirsten Berry and Rev. Denise Dunbar-Perkins, I realize that the process to go through CPM is possible.

ATTACHMENT B

Statement of Motivation

Kerri Allen, March, 2009

My journey of faith is lifelong and, at times, complicated and painful. It's taken me from a childhood of growing up in the Unitarian Church (the only place our interracial family was accepted from the 60s through the 80s), to attending Catholic school, and finally finding a home in the Presbyterian Church USA. The Rev. Frederick Buechner describes vocational call as "The place where God Calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." In addition to this personal sense of call that Buechner describes, I believe in a Reformed understanding that call is discerned and affirmed in community. Both a personal and communal affirmed sense of call have led to me seeking ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament.

My passion from childhood was in advocacy and I found an outlet in politics. I've felt that evolve into a deeper understanding that speaking truth to power should be done in love and with grace, as we're all created being who are good, yet broken. I hold tight to a Reformed understanding that it is not I who can save and transform, but through God's grace I can participate in God's redeeming love in our world. I view that participation as a Minister of Word and Sacrament.

I can first identify a sense of call at 18 years of age. At that time the idea seemed a little crazy and I ignored the internal tugging for many years. It was through the ten years following that others would frequently comment on the connections of my passion, compassion, and Christian faith. Many wondered out loud why I was not in ministry. Finally I was in a conversation with a Lutheran minister from Minneapolis and he was describing his own unusual path into the ministry and I heard many parallels to my own story. I heard God speaking through this minister.

I went to discuss my feelings with my pastor, Rev. David Stewart, who started laughing as I told him my story. My first reaction was that this was not a good sign and I responded to Rev. Stewart that I thought it was a pretty serious matter. He replied, "I'm not laughing at you, I'm

laughing because I was just sitting here thinking that you should go to seminary.”

A year following that conversation I began my seminary education, and what I viewed as a continuation of my discernment process. Since attending Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary (LPTS) I feel that my sense of call has continued to be affirmed, by my family, church family, and seminary community.

The past two years have been the most challenging in my life. The murder of my nephew and sustained illness and death of my mother are the most difficult and painful personal experiences I have endured. In spite of these events my faith has deepened and strengthened. God has provided me with the grace to endure much loss, while finding forgiveness in God’s broken individuals and institutions. On a practical level, it is only the grace of God that has kept me on track with my seminary education; including returning to LPTS this fall and completing the second half of the spring semester that I missed while caring for my dying mother, while taking 15 hours of fall credit hours.

During difficult times this past summer, I found joy in ministering to others, preaching, and leading worship during my church internship. That vocational pull, joy, or deep gladness, continues in the midst of my studies, particularly looking at the ethical issues affecting our world and ways in which the church can theologically and practically serve God’s creation.