

PRESBYTERY OF THE TWIN CITIES AREA  
Committee on Ministry Report  
January 9, 2010

*AGENDA (Items 1-5)*

1. **Howard Dotson; Transfer of Ecclesiastical Membership to the Presbytery of Missouri River Valley**  
To **recommend** to Presbytery that, based upon the request of the Reverend Howard Dotson and with the concurrence of the Presbytery of Missouri River Valley, the Reverend Howard Dotson be dismissed to the Presbytery of Missouri River Valley where he has accepted a call.
2. **Linda Gillon-Post; Transfer of Ecclesiastical Membership to the Presbytery of Baltimore**  
To **recommend** to Presbytery that, based upon the request of the Reverend Linda Gillon-Post and with the concurrence of the Presbytery of Baltimore, the Reverend Linda Gillon-Post be dismissed to the Presbytery of Baltimore where she has accepted a call.
3. **Shepherd of the Hill Presbyterian Church, Chaska, MN: Renewal of Stated Supply Contract with Gordon Stewart**  
To **recommend** to Presbytery that, with the concurrence of the session of Shepherd of the Hill Presbyterian Church, Chaska, MN, the Reverend Gordon Stewart be reappointed to a one-year term as half-time stated supply pastor, from March 1, 2010, to February 28, 2011, with no changes in the terms of call.
4. **Moderator Appointed for Presbyterian Church of the Master, Coon Rapids, MN**  
To **recommend** that the Presbytery concur with the appointment of the Reverend Richard Buller as moderator of Presbyterian Church of the Master, Coon Rapids, MN, as of November 1, 2009, until an interim or temporary pastor begins his/her service.
5. **Westminster Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, MN: Renewal of the Reverend Margaret McCray as Parish Associate**  
To **recommend** to Presbytery that, at the invitation of the session of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, MN, the parish associate relationship between the Reverend Margaret McCray and Westminster Presbyterian Church, MN, be continued for another year, without remuneration effective from November 17, 2009, to November 16, 2010.

*REGULAR AGENDA (Items 6-10 )*

6. **Transfer of Ecclesiastical Membership and Validation of Ministry: Reverend Stanley S. Kim**  
(See Appendix 1)

Subject to the successful completion of the background check:

- a. To **recommend** to Presbytery that it concur with the Committee on Ministry's examination (G-11.0402) of the Reverend Stanley S. Kim on his "Christian faith and views in theology, the sacraments, and the government of this church."
- b. To **recommend** to Presbytery that, under the provisions of G-11.0411, it validate as a ministry in service beyond the jurisdiction of the church the position of full-time Chaplain/Minister of Word and Sacrament and Clinical Pastoral Education Supervisor Trainee at The Ebenezer, Part of Fairview, of the Minneapolis Area Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Minneapolis, MN, for the Reverend Stanley S. Kim. Such service does comply, without exception, with the criteria enumerated in G-11.0403 for active membership in Presbytery. It should be noted that the Form of Government requires that "such permission shall be subject to review and renewal annually."
- c. To **recommend** to Presbytery that, upon concurrence with "b" above, it request the Atlantic Korean-American Presbytery to dismiss the Reverend Stanley S. Kim to the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area,  
AND  
that, upon receipt of his credentials, the Reverend Stanley S. Kim be enrolled as an active member of Presbytery.
- d. To **recommend** to Presbytery that, under the provision of W-2.4012, the Reverend Stanley S. Kim be authorized to administer the Sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper in his position as Chaplain/Minister of Word and Sacrament and Clinical Pastoral Education Supervisor Trainee at The Ebenezer, Part of Fairview, of the Minneapolis Area Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Minneapolis, MN.

7. **Buffalo Presbyterian Church, Buffalo, Minnesota: Terms of Call for the Reverend Joan Irminger McKenzie**

(See Appendix 2)

Subject to the successful completion of the background check:

- a. To **concur** with the judgment of the Pastor Nominating Committee of Buffalo Presbyterian Church, Buffalo, Minnesota, that the Reverend Joan Irminger McKenzie is suitable for the position of pastor.
- b. To **recommend** to Presbytery that it concur with the Committee on Ministry's examination (G-11.0402) of the Reverend Joan Irminger McKenzie "on her Christian faith and views in theology, the sacraments, and the government of this church."
- c. To **note** that the position was widely advertised:  
150 PIF forms were received,  
71 from women,

unknown from racial/ethnic persons,  
unknown from persons with disabilities;

10 persons were heard to preach; 3 were in person  
4 women; 1 in person  
unknown racial/ethnic persons  
unknown persons with disabilities;

26 person were interviewed; 5 were in person  
10 women, 2 were in person;

and that 1 person was offered the position; 1 accepted

- d. To **report** to Presbytery that the Pastor Nominating Committee of Buffalo Presbyterian Church, Buffalo, Minnesota, has implemented its search process in conformance with the provisions of Equal Employment Opportunity for ministers and has considered candidates without regard to race, ethnic origin, gender, age, disability, or marital status.
- e. To **recommend** to Presbytery that, with the concurrence of the congregation action on December 6, 2009, the call of Buffalo Presbyterian Church, Buffalo, Minnesota, to the Reverend Joan Irminger McKenzie as full-time pastor be approved effective February 1, 2010, according to the following terms:

Cash Salary	\$54,500 (includes housing allowance of \$30,000)
Automobile Allowance	IRS rate, vouchered up to \$ 1,000
Cont. Ed. Allowance	\$1,400 per year, cumulative over three years to \$4,200
Other Prof. Expenses	\$ 500, vouchered
Cont. Ed. Leave	Two weeks per year, cumulative over three years to six weeks
Vacation	One month
Pension	Full
Moving Expense	Full Cost, vouchered
Sabbatical	Yes; Length of leave 3 months; Years of service required: six years; Session approval of dates and plan required

AND

that the call be forwarded to the Presbytery of Chicago to be placed in the hands of the Reverend Joan Irminger McKenzie with the request that, if the way be clear, she be dismissed to the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area,

AND

that the Reverend Joan Irminger McKenzie be granted permission to labor within the bounds of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area as full-time pastor

of Buffalo Presbyterian Church, Buffalo, MN, until her credentials have been received

AND

that, upon receipt of her credentials, the Reverend Joan Irminger McKenzie be enrolled as an active member of Presbytery,

AND

that the Reverend Joan Irminger McKenzie be appointed moderator of the session of Buffalo Presbyterian Church, Buffalo, MN, effective February 1, 2010.

- f. To **report** to Presbytery that the Reverend Julia Carlson will complete her service as interim pastor and as moderator of the session of Buffalo Presbyterian Church, Buffalo, MN, effective January 31, 2010,

AND

to thank the moderator for her service to the Presbytery.

- g. To **recommend** to Presbytery that the Reverend Julia Carlson be transferred to the member-at-large roll of Presbytery.

- h. To **report** to Presbytery that the Reverend Julia Carlson has been approved for the 2010 Pulpit Supply List

8. **Transfer of Ecclesiastical Membership from Presbytery of Philadelphia and Validation of Ministry: Reverend Theresa Latini**  
(See Appendix 3)

Subject to the successful completion of the background check:

- a. To **recommend** to Presbytery that it concur with the Committee on Ministry's examination (G-11.0402) of the Reverend Theresa Latini on her "Christian faith and views in theology, the sacraments, and the government of this church."
- b. To **recommend** to Presbytery that, under the provisions of G-11.0411, it validate as a ministry in service beyond the jurisdiction of the church the position of full-time Assistant Professor of Congregational and Community Care at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN, for the Reverend Theresa Latini. Such service does comply, without exception, with the criteria enumerated in G-11.0403 for active membership in Presbytery. It should be noted that the Form of Government requires that "such permission shall be subject to review and renewal annually."
- c. To **recommend** to Presbytery that, upon concurrence with "b" above, it request the Presbytery of Philadelphia to dismiss the Reverend Theresa Latini to the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area,

AND

that, upon receipt of her credentials, the Reverend Theresa Latini be enrolled as

an active member of Presbytery.

**9. Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church: Appoints Reverend Theresa Latini As Parish Associate**

To **recommend** to Presbytery that the invitation of the session of Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, MN, to the Reverend Theresa Latini to serve in a parish associate relationship, without remuneration, be approved for one year, effective January 10, 2010, to January 9, 2011.

**10. St. Luke Presbyterian Church, Wayzata, Minnesota: Terms of Call for Mr. Donald Hanna as Associate Pastor**

Subject to the successful completion of the background check:

a. To **concur** with the judgment of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee of St. Luke Presbyterian Church, Wayzata, Minnesota, that Mr. Donald Hanna is suitable for the position of associate pastor.

b. To **note** that the position was widely advertised:

59 PIF forms were received, 30 from women, 6 from racial/ethnic persons;

7 phone interviews conducted, 4 with women;

1 person was heard to preach; and 1 person was offered the position; 1 accepted.

c. To **report** to Presbytery that the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee of St. Luke Presbyterian Church, Wayzata, Minnesota, has implemented its search process in conformance with the provisions of Equal Employment Opportunity for ministers and has considered candidates without regard to race, ethnic origin, gender, age, disability, or marital status.

d. To **recommend** to Presbytery that, with the concurrence of the action of the congregation taken on December 6, 2009, the call of St. Luke Presbyterian Church, Wayzata, Minnesota, to Mr. Donald Hanna as full-time associate pastor be approved, effective January 10, 2010, according to the following terms:

Cash Salary	\$52,500 (includes housing/utility allowance)
Auto Allowance	IRS rate, vouchered
Cont. Ed. Allowance	\$2,000 per year cumulative over three years to \$6,000
Other Prof. Expenses	\$ 500, vouchered
Cont. Ed. Leave	Two weeks per year, cumulative over three years to six weeks
Vacation	One month
Pension	Full
Moving Expense	Up to \$ 2,500 vouchered

Sabbatical                      Yes Length of leave 3 months;  
Years of service required 5 years;  
Session approval of dates and plan required

- e. To **recommend** to Presbytery that, upon ordination, the Reverend Donald Hanna be enrolled as an active member of Presbytery.

***REPORTS (Items 11-13)***

**11. Julia Carlson: Permission to Seek Call in Formula of Agreement Church**

To **report** to Presbytery that the Committee on Ministry has approved the request of the Reverend Julia Carlson, a member in good standing of this presbytery, to seek a call in a Formula of Agreement church.

**12. Triennial Session Visits Completed: Howard Lake Presbyterian Church, Howard Lake, MN, and Peace Presbyterian Church, St. Louis Park, MN:**

To **report** to Presbytery that session visits, as required by G-11.0502c, have been held with:

- Howard Lake Presbyterian Church, Howard Lake, MN, on November 18, 2009.
- Peace Presbyterian Church, St. Louis Park, MN, on November 17, 2009.

**13. Vacant Positions Report**

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

Rochester, MN, **First Presbyterian Church**, (Pastor, Head of Staff)  
St. Paul, MN, **Arlington Hills Presbyterian Church**, (Designated Pastor)  
St. Paul, MN, **The House of Hope Presbyterian Church**, (Associate Pastor)

## Appendix 1

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

#### **The Reverend Stanley S. Kim**

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

I am currently serving as a Chaplain in Ebenezer Minneapolis Campus, one long-term care facility with three low-income senior housing facilities nearby. I am also a Clinical Pastoral Education Supervisor in Training with Fairview Health System. I received Mdiv in 2004 at Union-PSCE. I have been a clinical chaplain since 2004 and served in parish ministry as a youth pastor earlier for 11 years. I am married to Rev. Sandra S. Kim and have a delightful daughter name Eleanor.

I was recently ordained in September 29, 2009 at Atlantic Korean-American Presbytery.

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

I recently led a memorial service for a resident who was known as an atheist who opposed every Christian practices that are deeply rooted in our tradition and very much part of our life here in Ebenezer, an ELCA organization. Most people didn't know his anger toward church and God were not that he didn't believe, but he was abused by a pastor who ignored him and that he experienced many tragedies in his life. Through out a year and half I provided him a non religious, non threatening ministry of presence, mostly listening and helping him to verbalize his anger and lament about our faith. In doing so, he was able to name his request for me to pray for him on his dying bedside and reading a scripture. He also gave permission for "our old Christian ladies" to have a memorial service for their sake. We didn't think too much of our conversation since he didn't have any health risk at that time. After a freak bicycle accident a year later we realized God's presence in our conversation. At his memorial service many of his "agnostic" friends as well as Christian "foes" experienced presence of God who was reconciling and healing our differences.

In Celtic tradition there is a term called "the thin place" where our spirit is awakened to the reality of both spiritual realm and worldly realm. Our memorial service for him was the thin place for all because God's presence pervaded into everyone present. Experiencing this I realized the importance of mundane encounters and conversations in ministry and God's mysterious presence that defies our own understanding.

***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.***

To say it briefly, my current spiritual journey is a round trip to Emmaus, particularly on the way back to Jerusalem. As a CPE supervisor in training, I am in a spiritual journey back to Jerusalem where my old dreams, theology, and understanding has died. After encountering Christ and resting at Emmaus I am going back to join my peers in ministry at the place where I thought the

death was the end. As a Chaplain and as a CPE supervisory student, I am equipping myself in order that I may join others who are somewhere along the round trip to Emmaus.

**4. Please respond to the question below that most nearly fits your reason for seeking membership in the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area. (Respond to just one of the following: a., b., c. or d.)**

**a. How do you view your theological, spiritual and leadership compatibility with the congregation to which you are, or anticipate, being called to serve?**

I believe I fit well into Chaplaincy as well as CPE supervisory role. I like intimate settings such as death and dying, tragedy, and difficult part of life where we pay more attention to God than any other times we are busy “living” what life can afford us. My intimate and non threatening presence is well suited to this type of ministry where one journeys along with others who are seeking God’s call in their life, wherever they may be.

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

Many of our congregation members are aging population who are facing inevitable questions about what life has meant and how will we live until death comes. As a pastor and as an educator who is specialized in aging population as well as spiritual care at the end of life, my goal is to continue to educate other pastors who come to experience and learn about the clinical side of ministry as well as end of life care.

As an Asian in our multi-ethnic and multi cultural body of Church that we are, I also continue to learn and teach the theology of culture that is effecting who we are today.

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

Since I am serving an ELCA organization, I would like to continue my ties to my heritage through the Presbytery by serving as a member and be served as a colleague.

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

YES!

## **Appendix 2**

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

#### **The Reverend Joan Irminger McKenzie**

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

I was ordained by the Heartland Presbytery (Kansas City area) in September, 1988, after graduating from Princeton Theological Seminary the previous June. I came to the ministry later than most seminarians after a difficult and lengthy discernment process, doing many other things to find the right work for my life. Since ordination, I have served in larger churches as associate pastor and in smaller churches as solo or interim pastor, I have lived in major metropolitan areas and in rural areas. In each I have found the joy of the Lord in serving and have always been glad that I could trust in God's direction when it was time to move on. I am married and we have a daughter who we adopted from China in 2007. She is preschool age and we are challenged to find appropriate assistance for the special needs that she faces. This too is a situation in which we trust God completely for direction and provision.

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

My understanding of God has only been enriched and deepened by involvement in the practice of ministry. A faithful God has allowed a full range of experiences in leadership as well as in relationships with God's people that continue to expand my love for God and for the Church. Even in difficulty, both in personal and in congregational life, God teaches me and, I believe, enhances my ministry to and for the Church. While there certainly have been challenges to my perceptions of God over the course of my lifetime, I have found God to be completely consistent with the truths of Scripture as they are made real for me by the Holy Spirit through study and the spiritual disciplines. I love God's Word and believe it to be God's revelation to and inspiration for us today as it was from the beginning.

***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 grew up in the church and welcomed Christ into my life as a teen. Since that time I have sought to let God's Holy Spirit direct my path both personally and vocationally. While there may have been obstacles in recognizing God's call to ministry, I know the God used the time and experiences gained in various work/educational settings to increase my ability to empathize with other brothers and sisters in Christ. I continue to believe that truth and rely on the promise that God will prosper the work of my hands as I say goodbye to my current congregation and prepare for the future of my ministry in a new one. God's faithfulness is sufficient for all of the circumstances I have face and will face.

***4. Please respond to the question below that most nearly fits your reason for seeking membership in the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area.***

***a. How do you view your theological, spiritual and leadership compatibility with the congregation to which you are, or anticipate, being called to serve?***

There is a trust issue in the determination of compatibility with a congregation when you have met only a sampling of individuals in it and you have had only a limited amount of time to explore the possibility of it with each other. And so, as in all other areas of my life, I am trusting that God will reveal any reason why there would not be compatibility ... to me, to the PNC, or to the COM ... regarding the call to the church in Buffalo. All I can say is that I have honestly answered the PNC's questions regarding my spiritual life as a person, my theological training and leanings, and my capabilities and limitations as a leader. In addition, I also asked questions of them regarding the health/status of the congregation, positive and negative, their hopes for the future of the church, and their perceptions of leadership. And I believe they have also answered honestly. Based on the information gleaned from these conversations – and prayer regarding all that we did not ask and do not yet know – we have both decided there is reason to believe that God has purposes for us together.

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

I believe that the greatest theological challenge facing the Church today in the United States is that of maintaining a Godly witness to a culture that is growing in secularism. We have become a decidedly unchristian nation and the church is perceived as having nothing to offer. This penetrates the very core of who we say we are ... our evangelism and church growth efforts must acknowledge that we have lost a vital witness to the culture that surrounds us. This will not be solved by instituting a program at the church but only by individuals who are allowing God to reshape and transform their lives and resultant witness to the world. I believe our work is to make biblical truth relevant in the 21st century without diminishing the demands of discipleship ... and this is a tender balance. I will respond to this challenge by teaching biblical truth in my sermons, by affirming the work and power of the Holy Spirit in a believer's life to accomplish a transformed life, and by equipping the gathered saints for the work of ministry to a dark world. The rest I trust to the mighty work of God and I will stand by to give the glory to God for all that might be accomplished in my service to the Church.

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

In terms of service to the presbytery, I can't say that I have anything astounding to offer ... I have served on various committees through the course of my ministry (Constitutional Procedures, Budget, Leadership Development, etc.) and I am willing to serve again as needed and appropriate. In terms of service from the presbytery, I would like to find ways to be more personally connected than I have been in the Chicago area.

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

I can absolutely continue to affirm the Constitutional Questions asked of me at ordination (W-4.4003 a. – i.).

## Appendix 3

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

#### **The Reverend Theresa Latini**

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

I was ordained in September 2002 to the position of Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Levittown, PA (Philadelphia Presbytery). I served in that position for three years while completing my PhD in Practical Theology at Princeton Theological Seminary. In 2005, I moved to Holland, MI, where I worked for 2.5 years as Assistant Professor of Pastoral and Congregational Care at Western Theological Seminary. In 2008, I began working as Assistant Professor of Congregational and Community Care at Luther Seminary in Saint Paul, MN. Prior to attending seminary, I worked as a Spiritual Care Coordinator for an agency serving developmentally disabled adults. I am married to Thomas van Deusen, and I have a step-daughter, Katy, who is serving in the Peace Corps in Kazakhstan.

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

As a result of my own pastoral and teaching experience, my theology of vocation includes greater emphasis on self-care among clergy as a matter of faithful stewardship of one's vocation. I believe that self-care flows from a Reformed understanding of the relationship between God's action and human action – i.e., Jesus Christ is the First and Primary Minister; we participate in his ministry, depend upon it, and receive from it.

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.

In recent years, my faith has taken a more distinctly Trinitarian shape. I have become more aware of how I am caught up in and shaped by the intra-Trinitarian life of love, creativity, communication, giving, surrender, and gratitude. God's relationality is revealed to me in Jesus Christ and mediated to me in Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit. I am joined to the Trinitarian life of God by the power of the Holy Spirit. I am joined simultaneously to Christ's Body, which also has a distinctly Trinitarian shape. Living into this reality and thus into communion and growth with the Church is a core aspect of my teaching, writing, and personal faith practices.

4. a) (In reference to the Parish Associate position) How do you view your theological, spiritual and leadership compatibility with the congregation to which you are, or anticipate, being called to serve? I will mention one compatible interest, value and commitment: *community building*. Lake Nokomis leadership has expressed interest in growing as a community of hospitality and care. This is at the heart of my teaching, writing and spiritual practice. I

believe that I can facilitate and support Lake Nokomis in growing as a compassionate community of faith, and I believe that they will teach me much about grounding my theology and practice in the complexities of congregational life.

b) (In reference to validated ministry at Luther Seminary) What do you see as the theological rationale for the validated ministry to which you are, or anticipate, being called to serve? Word and Sacrament go together – they are means through which Christ presents himself to us, nourishes us, and orders our life together – though in some instances, one may be emphasized in daily work more than the other. As a seminary professor, my responsibilities are related primarily to the Ministry of the Word and secondarily to the Ministry of Sacrament. Word and Sacrament come together most concretely in my leadership of chapel of Luther Seminary. Like other ministers of Word and Sacrament, I also am involved in pastoral care, spiritual formation, and oversight of students' certification for ministry.

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

How can we deal with difference and diversity in such a way that does not contradict our identity as one, holy, catholic, and apostolic body of Christ? I have responded to this challenge by receiving extensive training in Nonviolent Communication, a spiritual practice that fosters connection to God, others, and self. Though it is not a Christian practice *per se*, I interpret it theologically, so it becomes a healing and humanizing practice that honors the image of God in one another and ourselves. Of the four marks of the church, it is particularly helpful in living out our unity.

6. How would you like to serve/be served by the presbytery? I would like to explore how my teaching of Nonviolent Communication can assist congregations as well as the presbytery. Such opportunities would continue my own growth in this area as well.
7. Can you continue to affirm the Constitutional Questions asked of you at ordination (W-4.4003 a. – i.)? Yes.