

*Page 3 of Appendix A, and Appendices C, D, and H are not posted with these minutes but are available with the Presbytery papers that were posted for the meeting. Appendix E (Auditor's Letter) is on file at the Presbytery office.*

The Presbytery of Whitewater Valley held its 153<sup>rd</sup> Stated Meeting at First Presbyterian Church, Anderson, Indiana, beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 8, 2007. After registration and fellowship, Moderator Betty-Alice Almeida called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and gave the opening prayer, followed by a hymn. Rev. Kim Leech, Stated Clerk, confirmed that there was a quorum of voting presbyters and commissioners (10% of the total eligible minister and elder commissioners).

Elders and ministers attending a meeting of this Presbytery for the first time were introduced. The Moderator reported the following ordination services since the last Presbytery meeting: The ordination of Lori Neff at First Presbyterian Church, Franklin, Indiana, and the ordination of Marc DeJeu at Southport Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis. Rev. Robert Shaw, Moderator of the Synod of Lincoln Trails and member of Ohio Valley Presbytery was seated as a corresponding member. The roll of the Presbytery was established by registration as follows – all persons were present except those marked with \*. The number in parenthesis ( ) indicates the number of elder commissioners allowed to vote from that congregation:

### ATTENDANCE

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>CLERGY</u>	<u>COMMISSIONERS</u>
Anderson, First (4)	Rick Kimmer Donna Madewell, CLP	Jack Eflin * Richard Harrison Betty Knapp Carol Wolfe
Avon, Whitelick (2)	Joy Goehring	Jim Hill
Bluffton, First (3)	Bob Madsen	Lin Harrold *
Boggestown (1)	Sandra Martin, CLP *	William T. Johnson *
Brookville, Mt. Carmel (1)	+Bill Arthur	John Hoffman
Clayton (1)	David McDonald *	
College Corner, First United (1)	Jason Bantz	Jerry Welborn *
Connersville, First (2)	Martha Williams Jordan	Fred Sess
Decatur, First (1)	Laura Sherwood	Judy Mettler *
Edinburgh, First (1)	Rachel Wann	William Schaffer, Jr. *
Elwood, First (1)	Linda Philabaun	Emily Leavell Wanda Helm, Alt.
Fishers, New Hope (5)	Steve Ebling *	Don Cleveland * Gary Meek *
Fort Wayne, Calvary Third (4)	T. Alan Thames * Joseph Fields *	Lois Johnson
Fort Wayne, First (6)	Vacant John Stephen Park * Jeanie Barnes Byeong Cheol Han *	Richard Cook * Carolyn Ford Henry Ford Beth L. White
Fort Wayne, Grace (3)	Barbara Kenley	Wilbur Searer Betty Werling Jim Wolfe Nancy Current, Alt.
Fort Wayne, Trinity (2)	Kevin Boyd *	David Freeman

Fort Wayne, United Faith (1)	Hal Thomas *	Maggie Slack
Franklin, First (3)	Peter Jessen	David Rook Marge Rook
Franklin, Hopewell (3)	David Lee	Leona Burton * Moyne Tackett *
Greenfield, First (1)	John Paulson, CLP	Jill Lyon
Greensburg, First (3)	Kathleen Splitt * Jim Splitt *	Judy Rust
Greensburg, Kingston (1)	David Crowley	Mary Marg Karty
Greensburg, Springhill (1)	David Crowley	Scott McCoy *
Greenwood, Center Grove (4)	Stephen Oglesbee Sally Earl, CLP	Joe Dotzlaf Tom Dunham Marge Slauter * Ed Williams *
Greenwood (3)	Cheryl Montgomery *	Allan Fish * Clarence Grell * Larry Todrank *
Hartford City, First (1)	David R. Smith	Tom Brown
Indianapolis, Fairview (3)	John Koppitch	Kaye Hirt Eggleston Robin Miner * David Mueller Catherine Wallace
Indianapolis, Faith (5)	W. Glen Bell L. Vern Farnum	Lynne Boone Nelda Buckardt David Percy
Indianapolis, First-Meridian Heights (4)	Curtis Page Trish Lisa *	Ann D. Emhardt
Indianapolis, Immanuel (1)	Betty Gilbert Griffin *	Wanda Walker-Wagner *
Indianapolis, Irvington (5)	Robert Heimach * Galen Schwarz *	Melissa Jester * Kathy Moorhead *
Indianapolis, John Knox (4)	Frank Mansell Lisa Crismore, CLP	Vivian Hale Gary Shaw Sandra Crawford
Indianapolis, Korean (1)	Soon Kang *	
Indianapolis, Northminster (5)	Teri Thomas * Ruth C. Moore Larry Moslener	Mae Leech Lisa Longo John Plunkett *
Indianapolis, Orchard Park (6)	Gary Ziegler * Michael Ireland *	Ron Bowman * Don Frazer Jamie Stevens

Indianapolis, Second (10)	Lewis Galloway Joan Malick Joyce Hunn * James Riley David Berry * Tassie Green * Kenneth Green * Karen Lang	Natalie Auberry John Cronin * Robert Everitt Mark Huesing Rhonda Kittle * John Miller Howard Pelham Linda Rinker William Roberts Larry Robertson * Nancy Kriplen
Indianapolis, Southminster (2)	Greg Glover Katherine Rieder	Roger Walter Joseph Woods
Indianapolis, Southport (6)	James Capps * Kevin Bausman * June Barrow * Steve Matthies *	Paul Angrick * Donald Burdsall Thomas Hague * Jeanne Hollingsworth * Ann Hunt * Patricia McClain Skip Booher
Indianapolis, St. Andrew (2)	Gretchen Schneider *	Sheri Hilton * Phil Votaw
Indianapolis, Tabernacle (5)	Vacant	Philip Freiburger * Ann Reynolds * Dan Schroeder * Thomas Wirt
Indianapolis, Wallace Street (2)	Douglas Barnes *	Helen Holmes * Hamilton McMillan *
Indianapolis, Westminster (1)	Vacant	Charles Scott *
Indianapolis, Witherspoon (3)	L. Bryant Parker	Bettye Dee Faye McDaniel Judy Trabue
Jonesboro, First of Grant County (1)	Lyle Ewing	Herman Shirar * Anita Donaldson
Knightstown, Bethel (1)	Peter Zinn	William Sitler
Lewisville, Ebenezer (1)	Peter Zinn	George Pierce
Lewisville, First (1)	Peter Zinn	Dwight Sweet *
Liberty, First (1)	Dawn Gold *	Kristy Richards* Joan Smith, Alt.
Marion, Westminster (4)	David Comstock	Sally Todd *
McCordsville, Christ (2)	Alan Pareis *	Eunice Leininger
Muncie, First (5)	Ronald L. Naylor * David Jewett Carrie Jo Miller, CLP	Norman Beck * John Linder Sandra Sexton * Julia Wadsworth * Pat Zeabart
Muncie, St. Andrew (1)	Melodie Wager *	Richard Artes *

New Castle, First (4)	Rex Espiritu	Bonnie Freeburg * Todd Myers * James Overmyer *
Noblesville, First (4)	Eric Gale	Moffett Craig Fred Nelson Robert Sauer * Jim Story
Ossian (3)	Erik Spencer	William Milholland * Doug Nyffeler * John Osborne *
Plainfield, Hope United (2)	Daniel Sutherin	Brenda Blue * Garry Shelton *
Portland, First (2)	Vacant	Beverly Priest Julia Schwomeyer Sidney Austin, Alt.
Richmond, First (3)	David Layman +John Hollis *	Elaine Goodwin Guy Guthrie * Bill Stackhouse
Richmond, Reid Memorial (1)	David Good *	Lynn S. Mayer Richard Helton, Alt.
Rushville, First (1)	Dean Vittorio	Tutti Martz *
Rushville, Trinity (1)	Mick Saunders, CLP	June Wayt *
Shelbyville, First (3)	Jerry Kuyk	Frank Learned * Holly Simpson * Mike Whitfield
Tipton, First (1)	Linda Philabaun	Robert Moore
Union City, First (1)	+Roberta Hart *	
Westfield, CrossRoads (1)	Eric Lohe *	
Winchester, First (1)	William Carr	Emma Barker *
Zionsville (6)	Glenn McDonald Robert Jordan Scott Shelton * William Azbell R. Patrick Smith Donna Pollard, CLP *	Jim Dougherty Jennifer Knebel Fabio Socarraz Chuck Vogt

### **MINISTERS ON THE ROLL**

#### **ACTIVE ROLL, VALIDATED MINISTRY**

Eleanor (Bunny) Alexander *	Robert L. Hunter	Sergei Petrov *
Richard Baker *	Carol Johnston *	Mike Samson
Bill Barrett *	George F. LaMaster *	Tim S. Shapiro *
David A. Chaddock	Myung Ku Lee *	Fabio Socarraz (CLP)
Hezekiah Corppetts *	Deborah S. Mansell	Robert Wauzzinski
John Hage *	Alan J. McCraine *	Reggie Weaver
Scott Hauser *	Leonel Pech *	

MINISTERS AT LARGE

Sharon Azbell \*  
Ashley Beaty-Perry \*  
Robert K. Brown \*  
Merrill Cook \*

Theodore Dorman \*  
F. James Friedewald \*  
Gary Huffman \*  
Robert B. McAulay, Jr.

Peggy McDonald  
Scott Solether  
John Thomas \*  
James B. Wooten, Jr. \*

HONORABLY RETIRED

Robert Amon \*  
David Bae \*  
Frank Bean \*  
Don Boebinger \*  
Raymond Bowden \*  
George Boyle \*  
Bruce Brown \*  
John Burhorn \*  
Robert Clark \*  
F.W. Clemenson \*  
John Constant  
Judith Cook \*  
Henry Date \*  
Roger Dean \*  
Donald Durrett \*  
Herbert Eggleston  
William Enright \*  
Robert Eversull \*  
Carol Farr  
William Fogg \*  
Jack Glenn \*

Julilan Gresham \*  
William Harris \*  
William Hudnut \*  
George Jackson \*  
Marc Kendall \*  
Thelma Sue King  
Robert Leas \*  
Loran Lewis \*  
Howard Lindquist \*  
Don MacPherson \*  
Keith Main \*  
Ray Marquette \*  
Jack Masters \*  
Robert McGinnis \*  
Ralph Mitchell  
Elsworth (Bud) Morack \*  
Harrison Neal \*  
David Noble \*  
Patricia Reid  
W.W. Ridenour

Robert Rooker \*  
Anne Rose \*  
Barbara Sloop  
Quentin Small \*  
Elbert Smith \*  
L. Wayne Smith \*  
Richard Smith \*  
James Snyder \*  
Richard Stenner \*  
John Stevens  
Robert Stewart  
Paul Stone \*  
Gerald Thomas \*  
Edgar Towne  
Glen Traver \*  
Byung Van \*  
William Weber \*  
Arthur Whitaker \*  
Jack Wineman \*  
James Wolfe \*

INACTIVE ROLL

Barry Belknap \*

PRESBYTERY STAFF

Robert C. Anderson  
Felipe Martinez  
S. Kim Leech

ELDER COUNCIL MEMBERS

Betty-Alice Almeida  
Steve Crane  
John Current \*  
John Eichinger \*  
Ed Friel  
Jim Hill

William Howell  
De Middleton \*  
Evelyn Miller \*  
Toni Morris \*  
Tonya Paddock

Mary Payne \*  
Sandra Reid  
Bill Smiley  
Rich Swartwood  
Pat Zeabart

VISITORS

Mae Leech  
Charlie Hill  
Charlotte Anokwa  
Bea Schibley  
Martha McDonald  
Ileen Mitchell

Miki Bean  
Woody Collins  
Dr. Richard Harrison  
Jean Dodds  
Sharyl Stevens  
Charles Clark

Laura Smith  
Mary Ruth Snyder  
Stacy Smith  
Jennifer Loeb (Inquirer)  
Paula Mann (Candidate)  
Katie Snipes (Candidate)

WELCOME

Rev. Rick Kimmer, Pastor, welcomed the Presbytery on behalf of First Presbyterian Church of Anderson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Rev. Pat Reid, Honorably Retired, announced the Spirit & Place Festival, a project of The Polis Center, IU School of Liberal Arts, IUPUI, a civic collaboration of the arts, humanities, and religion, to be held from November 2-18, 2007. She highlighted specific programs offered by Northminster Presbyterian Church and Second Presbyterian Church.

- Rev. Jim Riley gave details about the Magnetic Church evangelism program to be held at Second Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, on October 5-6, 2007.
- Mick Saunders, CLP at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Rushville, announced an organ concert will be held on September 22<sup>nd</sup> as a fundraiser.
- Steve Crane, Director of Westminster Neighborhood Ministries, told of the successful outreach mission and summer youth program currently serving fifty children on the east side of Indianapolis.
- Rev. Joy Goehring emphasized the importance for all churches to encourage their minister(s) to attend the Pastors' Retreat to be held at Geneva Center on November 4-6. It will be a time for renewal and fellowship. Rev. Glenn McDonald, Senior Pastor of Zionsville Presbyterian Church, will be the keynote speaker on the topic, "Finding Rest in the Race."
- Rev. Barbara Kenley, pastor of the Grace Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne, informed the Presbytery of the death of a former pastor of North Highlands Presbyterian Church (now Grace Presbyterian) in Fort Wayne, Robert Gouwens. Rev. Gouwens died in August in Michigan, and a memorial service is planned at Grace Presbyterian, Fort Wayne, on Friday, November 23, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. with a reception to follow. All persons from the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley are invited.
- Rev. John Koppitch, pastor of the Fairview Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, announced the church's Open House Sunday on October 7<sup>th</sup> celebrating the completion of their remodeling project and invited persons interested in a travel seminar to Greece in June to contact him.
- Miki Bean, wife of Rev. Frank Bean, is retiring at the end of November and closing her retail craft store. She invited churches and individuals who are in need of craft items to visit the store in the next few weeks as she has many items on sale.

### **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Rev. Robert Anderson, Interim Executive Presbyter, requested joys and concerns of the Presbytery. Concerns included: Rev. Frank Bean, pneumonia; Rev. Kevin Boyd, healing from rotator cuff surgery; Rev. Robert Anderson, recent death of his mother; Rev. Scott Hauser's wife, recent surgery.

Joys included: First Presbyterian Church of Grant County in Jonesboro – second year to hold Vacation Bible School with the Quaker church in Jonesboro; Rev. Felipe Martinez became a United States citizen on Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>; numerous adult baptisms in five different churches since the last Presbytery meeting were reported. Rev. Anderson then led the Presbytery in prayer.

### **DOCKET**

Rev. Kim Leech, Stated Clerk, announced a sequence change in the Treasurer's Report with Bill Howell presenting the 2008 First Draft Budget after Eric Herzog's finance report. The docket was adopted with those changes.

The proposed docket follows:

PROPOSED DOCKET  
**Whitewater Valley Presbytery – Stated Meeting – 10:00 a.m. Saturday, September 8, 2007**

First Presbyterian Church, 230 W. Ninth Street, Anderson, IN 46016  
PHONE: 765-642-0219

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### **THESE ITEMS NEED YOUR ATTENTION**

1. **ONLINE PAPERS**

All action items are incorporated within the docket. However, all relevant documentation and complete reports are posted as reflected on the Index page. ***It is your choice whether or not to print the reports and bring them to the meeting with you.***

2. **MEALS** Meals are **\$6.00 per person.**

3. **ELECTRONIC PRESENTATIONS AT THE PRESBYTERY MEETING**

Please note that the time prior to the Call to Order and during the lunch break is reserved for scrolling **announcements** and other previously approved presentations.

4. **MAJOR ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

5. **WHAT'S NEW ON THE WEB HOME PAGE** [www.whitewatervalley.org](http://www.whitewatervalley.org)

## DOCKET

- 9:30 AM Registration
- 10:00 AM Call To Order – Moderator, Elder Betty-Alice Almeida

***Opening Hymn******Presbytery Meeting***

Establishment of Roll by registration and establishment of quorum  
 Introduction of new pastors by COM, Rev. Alan Thames  
 Introduction of new Elder Commissioners  
 Seating of Corresponding Members  
 Moderator's Report on Installation/Ordinations  
 Welcome by host church & Church History  
 Announcements  
 Joys & Concerns of the Presbytery

**ACTION APPROVAL OF DOCKET**

- 10:15 Mission Support Report – Felipe Martinez
- 10:20 Robert Shaw – Synod of Lincoln Trails
- 10:30 Interim Executive Presbyter's Report – Bob Anderson

10:35 Coordinating Council Report

(The Coordinating Council has the powers stipulated by the Standing Rules of the Presbytery. It has general oversight of the programmatic and mission work of the Presbytery and recommends each year's budget. It nominates the Nominating Committee for election by the Presbytery, assures an orderly review of Session records and establishes teams, networks, task forces, partnerships and committees.)

Mission Alive! – Shared Mission – Debbie Mansell

Mission Directions Team – Donna Madewell

Personnel – Bill Smiley

The Council approved an 11-month extension of the Interim Executive Presbyter Contract with Rev. Robert Anderson with the same terms, except allowing Cost of Living increases as determined by the Personnel Committee for all staff.

Treasurer's Report – Eric Herzog

- Review 2008 First Reading of Budget
- Review Finance Reports

**ACTION - Standing Rules –Second Reading**11:05 Committee on Ministry

(This is an ecclesiastical committee of Presbytery authorized to act regularly on behalf of the Presbytery in all matters permitted by G-14.0500 and G-11.0502h relating to calling, examining, receiving, and dismissing members; and on matters relating to the dissolution of pastoral relationships and honorable retirement, G-14.0600, G-11.0412)

**ACTION - Ordination Examination – Stacy Smith**

Indianapolis-Second Lake Fellow

**ACTION - Report 2008 Minimum Terms of Call**

[Pastors' Retreat Announcement - LINK](#) (November 4-6, Geneva Center)

- 11:20 Recognition – Martha McDonald, Christian Education Certification  
 Presenter: Rev. David Lee  
 Martha is a member of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis

11:25 WORSHIP – Hispanic Ministry Lead Team  
Peacemaking Offering

12:15 **LUNCH** - \$6.00 per person

***Executive Committee of Coordinating Council – Meet during lunch in the Library***

1:15 Youth Triennium – Rev. David Comstock, Craig Shaw

1:30 Stated Clerk's Report

**ACTION** – That the Presbytery make the provisions of the current Book of Order regarding COM and CPM matters presbytery policy until the presbytery develops manuals for COM and CPM that address the changes in the newly adopted amendment to the Book of Order (Overtures 06-A and 06-B1, approved by the General Assembly)."

#### **Stated Clerk's Report**

1:35 Pyoca Camp & Conference Report – Rich Swartwood, Director

1:40 Nominating Committee Report – David Crowley

1:45 Committee on Preparation for Ministry

(This is an ecclesiastical committee of Presbytery authorized to act regularly on behalf of Presbytery in matters permitted by the Book of Order that include the care of inquirers and candidates for ordination to the office of minister of the Word and Sacrament.)

**ACTION** – To concur that Mr. Jeff Rasley be removed from the roll of candidates.

2:00 Closing Hymn, Benediction & Adjournment

#### **THE NEXT STATED MEETING OF PRESBYTERY WILL BE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5**

Center Grove Presbyterian Church, Greenwood

----- End of Docket -----

### **MISSION SUPPORT REPORT**

Rev. Felipe Martinez, Associate Executive Presbytery, presented the Mission Support Report. A new database is forthcoming to allow persons/churches to search what other churches in the presbytery are doing in mission. The database should be available in October.

Also in October there will be a Focus on Mission with three regional events being offered: October 13, Fort Wayne; October 20, Muncie; October 27, Indianapolis. Registration can be done online. The events are designed to highlight the mission of local congregations. Churches will be invited to learn from and work with fellow churches to grow their mission outreach.

Bill Yoder, a Presbyterian missionary serving in Thailand, will visit our Presbytery for a week in October. His visit is part of the denomination's challenge to our congregations to support our missionaries with prayers, correspondence, and/or financial backing. Nine of our churches have contributed \$58,000 this year to our missionaries: Center Grove, Anderson; First, Richmond; First, College Corner; Zionsville, and Indianapolis churches Irvington, Northminster, Southminster, and Southport. The goal is to have 100% participation.

Peacemaking Mission Partnership Grants are available from our peacemaking offering in the form of matching grants.

### **SYNOD OF LINCOLN TRAILS**

Rev. Robert Shaw, Moderator of the Synod of Lincoln Trails, made a powerpoint presentation of what the Synod's resources and programs for pastors and local churches. Some of the areas where Synod can be of great assistance are Mission Development Resource Grants (New Church Developments, pastoral support and nurture), training key Presbytery leaders (Wee Kirk, CLPs, leadership events, youth leadership development), Mission Funds Development (stewardship training), and Connectional Commitments (PJC, Synod meetings, communications).

Our Synod representatives include: William Clark, Lucy Matthews, Mary Margaret Karty, Rev. Trish Lisa, and Rev. Ruth Chadwick Moore.

### **INTERIM EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER REPORT**

Rev. Bob Anderson, Interim Executive Presbyter, expressed thanks to the Coordinating Council for their growing leadership role. The Coordinating Council's Mission Directions document challenges us to build our faith community by developing interest networks that can be regional or presbytery-wide. Members of Council are committed to leading us to become increasingly generous givers to all Christian mission and particularly the mission work of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Council members will be visiting their own sessions this fall to share our vision to spread our Good News to all of the world. The challenge this year will be for each congregation to increase its mission giving and to increase, or begin pledging to, our Presbyterian "shared mission" offerings. The networks, based on church size, will continue to exist and will elect representatives to Council.

### **COORDINATING COUNCIL REPORT**

Rev. Glen Bell, Moderator of Council, presented the Coordinating Council report:

#### **MISSION ALIVE!!**

Rev. Debbie Mansell presented the Mission Alive program encouraging all churches to participate in the shared mission giving. **[See Appendix A for the packet distributed to all churches]**

#### **MISSION DIRECTIONS TEAM**

Donna Madewell, CLP and Vice-Moderator of Presbytery, presented the Mission Directions Team report. Members of the Mission Directions Team are: Elder Evelyn Miller (Rushville-First), Rev. Laura Sherwood (Decatur-First), Rev. Bob Madsen (Bluffton-First), Rev. Bob McAulay (Minister-at-Large), and Donna Madewell (CLP, Anderson-First).

**[See Appendix B for the full report]**

#### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT**

Elder Bill Smiley, Moderator of the Personnel Committee, reported that Rev. Robert Anderson, Interim Executive Presbyter, had received high marks for his execution of duties and responsibilities during his performance review. The committee approved Bob's contract for another eleven months with the same terms, except for a cost of living increase as determined by the Personnel Committee for all staff.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Elder Eric Herzog, Treasurer, presented the Finance reports for this quarter. **[See Appendix C]**

Bill Howell, chair of the Finance Committee, presented the first draft of the 2008 budget. **[See Appendix D]**

Mr. Howell reported that the 2006 Audit is completed and that expenditures were below the budget.

**[See Appendix E for the auditor's letter.]**

### **COORDINATING COUNCIL'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION**

#### **Standing Rules Revisions – Second Reading and Action**

The Standing Rules with revisions to reflect the Presbytery's new staffing patterns were presented for the second reading for action to approve. **[See Appendix F]**

Proposed Amendments to the Second Reading of the Standing Rules before this assembly for vote today (additions to the text shown in italic; deletions shown in strike-through):

ARTICLE VI-THE COORDINATING COUNCIL,

Section C. ~~Duties of the Coordinating Council shall include all of the general and specific powers provide for in the Constitution (G-11.0103(v)), and it shall be understood that these Standing Rule grant the Coordinating Council these powers.~~ Pursuant to G-11.0103(v) the Coordinating Council shall have the following ~~additional~~ duties, functions and powers, but shall not be limited to the following:

Section F. 2. In the event Presbytery becomes a respondent or complainant in a remedial case, the Executive Committee is empowered to designate a committee of counsel (*D-6.0302, D-6.0302a*); and if a disciplinary case is filed against a minister member of the Presbytery, the Executive Committee is empowered to designate an investigating committee (*D-10.0201*), on behalf of the Presbytery, reporting its action at the next meeting of Presbytery through the Coordinating Council (~~*D-6.0700*~~).

#### ARTICLE VIII – ECCLESIASTICAL COMMITTEES

##### A. Committee on Ministry (COM) – Twenty-seven elected members

The Committee on Ministry is an ~~administrative commission of Presbytery~~ authorized to act regularly on behalf of the Presbytery in all matters permitted by G-14.0500 and G-11.0502h relating to calling, examining, receiving, and dismissing members; and on matters relating to *the dissolution of pastoral relationships and honorable retirement*, ~~G-14.0507e, G-14.0600, G-11.0412~~).

Stated Clerk, Rev. Kim Leech, moved that Article VI, Section C, be approved as amended. The motion passed by voice vote.

Rev. Leech explained that the amendment for Section F.2. was not appropriate as he had located the wording necessary for disciplinary cases in Article IX of the original document. Article IX needs to be incorporated with Article VI, Section F and made number 3. Rev. Leech recommended that Presbytery not act today on the amendment for F.2., but that the Presbytery request the Stated Clerk to come back with the recommendation for the proper wording to the December meeting. It was agreed upon by common consent.

Rev. Leech moved the approval of the proposed standing rules and of the amendment relating to COM in Article VIII, Section A. The motion passed by voice vote.

The full report of the actions of Council on August 1, 2007, follows:

#### REPORTED ACTIONS OF THE COORDINATING COUNCIL AUGUST 1, 2007

##### 1. MINUTES APPROVAL

The **Coordinating Council Minutes of May 2, 2007 were APPROVED.**  
The **Presbytery Minutes of June 6, 2007 were APPROVED.**

##### 2. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Approved an **extension of the Interim Executive Presbyter contract with Rev. Robert Anderson through July 31, 2008 with the same terms except to allow a cost of living increase as determined by the Personnel Committee for all staff.**

##### 3. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

By recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council **APPROVED the following:**

- a. The Missions Directions Team document which will be presented to the Presbytery on September 8. **[See Appendix B]**
- b. The Theological Rationale for the Sale of Property **[See Appendix G]**

##### 4. FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Council **APPROVED:**

- a. That the Finance Committee, working with a team of Council and Finance Committee representatives (Council representatives Laura Sherwood, Rik Spencer and Finance representatives Don Craft and Greg Maiers), was given authority to:
  - 1) Prepare recommendations for the First Reading of the Presbytery's 2008 Budget at the September 8, 2007 Presbytery Meeting:
    - a) 2008 Per Capita apportionment
    - b) Any possible reductions in 2008 budgeted expenses

- 2) Prepare recommendations on the following for discussion at the November 2007 Council meeting:
- a) Allocation of income from Presbytery investments to various funds. (e.g. allow interest income to go directly back to the originating fund as opposed to current practice of all interest income going to the Corporate fund.)
  - b) Allocation of Mission Operations investments (expenses) to be partially funded from Mission Focus resources (income) in recognition of staff time spent in Mission Focus areas.
- b. That a team consisting of Bob Anderson, Eric Herzog, Bill Howell and Kristy Quinn will prepare an interpretive packet of information on shared mission and that each Council member will make a presentation to their session in August, September or October.
5. YOUTH TRIENNIUM  
The Coordinating Council approved up to \$4,000 from the Promise of Tomorrow fund to pay 1/3 of the registration fees for youth who register for the Youth Triennium.
6. PARTNERSHIP GRANTS  
The Mission Support Unit reported the approval of two one-time partnership grants submitted by Faith Presbyterian church for Congo Helping Hands: \$1,000 and \$400.
7. TEAM APPOINTED TO EXPLORE COUNCIL MODERATOR TERM  
The Council moderator will appoint a team to explore the term of service for the moderator of the Coordinating Council. Those invited to serve will be: Frank Bean, Jean Dodds, Jim Hill, Rachel Wann.

-----End of Coordinating Council Report-----

## COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Rev. John Koppitch, member of the Committee on Ministry, presented candidate Stacy Smith, Grace Presbytery, from Dallas, Texas, to be examined for ordination. Stacy is a certified candidate who graduated from Boston College and Union Seminary in New York City. Stacy has accepted a call as a Lake Fellow at Second Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis. Following a presentation of her Faith Statement and examination by the Presbytery, a motion to arrest the examination was made and passed. After some discussion, it was M/S/P to sustain the examination of Stacy as Minister of Word and Sacrament and that she be approved for ordination. Representatives from Second Presbyterian Church then joined Stacy, with the Rev. Lewis Galloway, pastor of Second Presbyterian Church, leading the Presbytery in prayer.

Rev. Koppitch moved that the Minimum Terms of Call for 2008 be approved. The motion passed by voice vote.

The Minimum Terms of Call for 2008 follows:

### MINIMUM FOR A CALL – 2008 Full-time Pastorates

#### MANDATORY

	<u>With Manse Provided</u>	<u>No Manse Provided</u>
Minimum Effective Salary (3% COLA) .....	(\$28,757) <b>\$29,620</b>	(\$37,384) <b>\$38,506<sup>1</sup></b>
Manse Value Maximum .....	(\$8,627) <b>\$8,886</b>	
Travel Reimbursement ( <u>Minimum</u> ) (Vouchered @ IRS approved rate--presently \$.485) .....	\$2,500 (Est.)	\$2,500 (Est.)
Professional Development Allowance (Vouchered, per year; cumulative to 4 years).....	\$1,000	\$1,000
Four Weeks Vacation (4 Sundays) -- 5 weeks (5 Sundays) with 15+ yrs exp.		
Two weeks professional development leave per year (cumulative to 8 weeks)		
Full pension ( <b>2008 = 31.5%</b> ) {Based on EFFECTIVE SALARY = Salary + Housing + Utilities + Deferred Comp}.		
Full moving expenses [If applicable].....		

<sup>1</sup> This represents a 3.0% Cost of Living for 2008.

(See recommendations below for additional considerations)

**MEAN AVERAGE FOR WHITEWATER VALLEY WAS \$52,440 in 2007.**  
(BASED ON THOSE REPORTING)

RECOMMENDED AND STRONGLY ENCOURAGED EFFECTIVE SALARY RANGES FOR 2008

The Committee on Ministry, after reviewing our table of salary ranges, determined that churches and pastors would be better served by providing the median salary for pastors in our three networks. By selecting median salaries, the information allows for variations between pastors and associate pastors; ministers with a few years' experience and those with 20 or 30; and cost of living variations between rural and city. Hence, the following median salaries from 2007: (BASED ON THOSE REPORTING)

Large Church Network: .....	\$82,355
Associates: .....	\$49,583
Medium Church Network:.....	\$48,701
Small Church Network: .....	\$36,116
(Only full time factored)	

1. Fair Rental Value of church-owned housing must be determined by a qualified real estate appraisal and normally is not to be valued at more than 30% of Mandatory Minimum Cash Salary without clear evidence of actual value. Board of Pensions determines manse value as 30% of (Cash + Utilities & housing expenses + 403b) – or Fair Market Value.
2. Mileage Reimbursement is an expense of the church and not compensation; it is vouchered (at the current IRS approved rate/ \$.485 in 2008) for actual mileage **and actual mileage must be paid.**
3. Pension dues (31.5% in 2008) are the responsibility of the employing congregation.
4. A pastor is liable for 15.3% of effective salary for Social Security and Medicare Taxes and may be liable for up to 5% of Effective Salary for out-of-pocket medical/pharmacy expenses.

THUS:

The Presbytery recommends employing congregations, in addition to salary, provide an amount equal to **4%** of Effective Salary to reimburse ministers for a portion of medical costs not covered by the Board of Pensions (including dental and eye care). (Vouchered.) The Presbytery's position is that this is NOT part of Effective Salary.

5. The Presbytery recommends employing congregations pay up to ½ the social security tax as an "offset". This is not included in calculating "effective salary" for the Board of Pensions but is considered taxable income by the IRS; it is intended to help equalize the difference created by being taxed for Social Security at the IRS "Self-Employed" rate.
6. Vacation and Continuing Education are not pro-rated for Part-Time positions.
7. There is no longer a Board of Pensions "cap" on Effective Salary for Pension purposes.  
Medical dues (19%) are paid on up to 200% of median salary. Pension dues (12%) are paid on full effective salary.
8. The Committee On Ministry strongly encourages congregations and pastors to create a matching fund for a 403b Retirement Savings Plan (available through the Board of Pensions).

**[THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE FOR CONGREGATIONS WHICH PROVIDE A MANSE  
AS THE PASTOR IS NOT ACCUMULATING EQUITY ON A HOME]**

"**EFFECTIVE SALARY**" = Salary + Housing + (Utilities) + Deferred (not "vouchered") Compensation [tax deferred—e.g. 403b, insurance annuity, etc.] The Presbytery's position is that "Medical Reimbursable" amounts are not reported as part of "Effective Salary" for Board of Pension purposes.

*"The terms of the call shall always provide for compensation that meets or exceeds any minimum requirements of the presbytery in effect when the call is made and shall thereafter be adjusted annually as required to conform to such requirement." G-14.0506e and "...to find in order, approve, and record in the presbytery minutes the full terms of all calls, and changes of calls approved by the presbytery." G-11.0103n [Responsibilities of Presbytery]*

Attendance was encouraged for the Pastors' Retreat, which will be at Geneva Center on November 4-6, 2007.

The full report on Committee on Ministry actions follows:

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORTED ACTIONS – May 30, 2007**

**QUORUM**

The Committee on Ministry met May 30, 2007 at the Presbytery office, Indianapolis, Indiana. A quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The COM **APPROVED** the April 25, 2007 minutes.

**Overture 06A and 06B**

The COM **APPROVED a motion, with one negative vote recorded**, that, pending an affirmative vote of the PC(USA) regarding Overtures 06A and 06B, a recommendation be made to the Presbytery that the Book of Order provisions will be our polity until manuals are developed.

**MATTERS CONCERNING MINISTERS/COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS/CHURCHES**

There were no interviews or pastor's terms of call to approve.

**Crismore, Elder Lisa** – Indianapolis-John Knox Commissioned Lay Pastor

By recommendation of the Special Parish Ministries sub-committee, the COM **APPROVED a motion, pending the receipt of a renewed contract, to renew Elder Lisa Crismore's commission through July 31, 2010** and authorize her to perform all the functions in the Book or Order G-14.-0800.c.

**LaMaster, Rev. George**

The COM **APPROVED Rev. George LaMaster's validated ministry status through December 31, 2007.**

**Neff, Lori** Ordination Examination

Lori Neff, a candidate of Whitewater Valley Presbytery who is Certified Ready to Receive a Call, will be examined for ordination by Presbytery June 6, 2007. The COM **APPROVED the following motions:**

1. To call a special meeting of the COM on June 6, 2007 at noon, prior to Lori's Neff's ordination examination, for the purpose of examining her for membership. John Koppitch will moderate the meeting.
2. That, when the way be clear, Lori Neff will be transferred to New Brunswick Presbytery so that she may accept a call to Princeton Theological Seminary as the Field Education Coordinator.

**Solether, Scott V.** – Portland-First

The COM reviewed the terms of the Severance Agreement between Rev. Scott V. Solether and Portland-First. The COM **APPROVED the dissolution agreement between Rev. Scott Solether and the First Presbyterian Church, Portland, Indiana.** Rev. Laura Sherwood was appointed moderator.

**Union City Administrative Commission**

COM **APPROVED a motion to recommend to the Presbytery June 6, 2007 that the Scope of Powers of the current Administrative Commission be expanded.**

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, UNION CITY  
SCOPE OF POWERS

The administrative commission approved and recommends to Presbytery this re-defining of the scope of powers for the Union Church shall have this scope of powers. Upon motion by Rev. Koppitch, the motion carried.

1. To work in a collegial and collaborative manner with the session and the pastor on matters pertaining to the closing of the church.
2. To have full authority to identify, implement, and resolve all legal and ecclesiastical issues regarding the closing of the church and the sale of the property, building, and its contents.

3. To work in a collegial and collaborative manner with the session and the pastor in designing an appropriate final worship service that expresses the rich history, heritage, and ministries of the church over the years.
4. To consult with and recommend to the Presbytery the use and dispensation of all monies resulting from the sale of the church property.
5. Pursuant to G-10.0302b(2), make provisions for the records of the church and the continuing pastoral care of the church's members.
6. To make regular reports to the Presbytery about the work of the commission.

--- END OF MAY 30, 2007 REPORT ---

### COMMIITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORTED ACTIONS – June 26, 2007

#### QUORUM

The Committee on Ministry met June 26, 2007 at the Presbytery office, Indianapolis, Indiana. A quorum was present.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The COM **APPROVED** the **May 30, 2007 minutes**.

#### MATTERS CONCERNING MINISTERS/COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS/CHURCHES

Bell, Rev. Glen Indianapolis-Second Associate Pastor

Rev. Bell is a member in good standing of Whitewater Valley Presbytery. The **COM M/S/P to authorize the Session to call a meeting of the congregation on August 12, 2007 to act upon the report of the Pastor Nominating Committee and the COM APPROVED a recommendation to:**

1. Confirm the suitability of the call
2. Find that the AA/EEO requirements have been met
3. Find the call to be in order and for the good of the whole church;
4. Appoint an Administrative Commission, with COM approval, to install as associate pastor of the Second Presbyterian

Church, Indianapolis, IN with date and members of commission to be determined;

The call is to be effective October 1, 2007 with the following terms:

Salary	\$80,000
Housing	\$25,000
Full Pension	\$31,281
Auto. Expenses	\$2,500 (vouchered at IRS rate)
Professional Dev. Allow.	\$2,000
Business Expenses	\$3,000
Vacation	five weeks (to include five Sundays)
Study Leave	two weeks (cumulative to 8 weeks)
Medical Deductible Reimburse	\$805
Health Club Membership Reimburse	
Two month sabbatical after 7 years	

Crismore, Lisa - Indianapolis-John Knox CLP

The COM approved the Commissioned Lay Pastor Contract between Lisa Crismore and the Session of John Knox Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, effective June 1, 2007 with the following terms:

Salary	\$16,232.
Housing	\$16,232
Auto Allowance	\$1,000 (vouchered at IRS rate)
Prof. Dev. Allowance	\$500
Other	\$500 (books, journals)
Vacation	one month to include four Sundays
Study Leave	two weeks to include two Sundays

Kuyk, Rev. Gerard Shelbyville-First Interim

The COM **interviewed and APPROVED Rev. Kuyk for membership in the Presbytery and APPROVED the Interim Pastor contract between the Session and Rev. Gerard Kuyk, effective August 1, 2007 for one year with the following terms.**

Salary	\$24,000
Housing	\$16,800
Board of Pensions	\$16,947
Deferred Income	\$12,000
Automobile expenses	\$9,400 (vouchered at IRS rate)
Professional Development	\$2,000
Medical Supplement	\$1,000
Vacation	five weeks (to include five Sundays)
Professional Development Leave	two weeks (to include two Sundays)

McDonald, Rev. David Clayton - Designated Pastor

Rev. David McDonald is a member in good standing of Whitewater Valley Presbytery in a validated ministry as the Director of Development at Jameson Camp in Indianapolis. The COM **APPROVED the Designated Pastoral Call between Rev. David L. McDonald and the Clayton Presbyterian Church**, Clayton, Indiana, effective July 9, 2007 with part time, 20 hours per week terms effective for two years:

Salary	\$24,000
Automobile expenses	\$1,500 (vouchered at IRS rate)
Board of Pensions	\$7,560
Vacation	five weeks
Continuing Education	\$1,000
Continuing Education Leave	two weeks

Rev. McDonald will continue his service at Jameson Camp.

Petrov, Rev. Sergei ACPE Supervisor Supervisor, St. Vincent Hospital, Indianapolis

Rev. Sergei Petrov, ACPE Supervisor, St. Vincent Hospital, Indianapolis, Indiana, was interviewed for membership. The COM **APPROVED a recommendation by the Validated Ministries sub-committee that Rev. Sergei Petrov's ministry be validated and that he be received as a member** of Whitewater Valley Presbytery, upon transfer from Grace Presbytery.

INSTALLATION-ORDINATION COMMISSIONS

Marc DeJeu

When the way be clear and pending a successful ordination examination by Lake Erie Presbytery July 10, 2007 the COM **approved the following as an administrative commission to ordain Marc DeJeu July 22, 4:00 p.m., Southport Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis and will transfer Mr. DeJeu to Lake Erie Presbytery so that he may accept a call to the Rocky Grove Presbyterian Church, Franklin, PA; and that the commission be dismissed upon completion of its work.**

Moderator: Betty-Alice Almeida  
 Pastors: Rev. Jim Capps - Southport Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis  
 Rev. David Lee - Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Franklin  
 Elders: Sharon Curbox - Southport Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis  
 Paula Mann - Northminster Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis  
 Ecumenical Representative to be seated as a corresponding member:  
 Rev. Bob Preusz - Pastor of Converse United Methodist Church  
 Other participant: Nathan Barrow - Special music

Neff, Lori

The COM, at a special called meeting June 6, 2007 and moderated by Rev. John Koppitch at Second Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, interviewed Candidate Lori Neff for membership in the Presbytery and **APPROVED a motion that, when the way be clear following a successful ordination examination by the Presbytery that same day, Lori Neff would be granted membership in Whitewater Valley Presbytery and her membership would be transferred to New Brunswick Presbytery so that she may accept a position as the Associate Director of Field Education at Princeton Theological Seminary.** Her ordination examination was sustained by the Presbytery.

The COM **approved an administrative commission to ordain Lori Neff on July 15, 1:30 pm, July 2007 at First Presbyterian Church, Franklin, with the commission to be dismissed upon completion of its work.**

Moderator: Betty-Alice Almeida  
 Ministers: Rev. Peter Jessen  
 Rev. David Comstock  
 Elders: Mary Ruth Snyder, Indianapolis-Southport  
 Susan Griffith, Franklin-First

Other persons to be seated as corresponding members:  
Rev. Robert Winters Ater, Milwaukee Presbytery  
Timothy Marvel, Newton Presbytery  
Ecumenical Representative:  
David Smith, St. John's Lutheran Church

#### Richmond-Reid Memorial

The COM met with Rev. David Good, at his request, regarding the future of the Reid Memorial congregation. Rev. Good reviewed the history of the church, the conversations and work the church has done regarding their future. A significant part of the congregation's task is to determine how the endowment will continue to work positively toward mission in the Richmond area. Rev. Good requested that the COM approve a motion for a congregational meeting July 15 to authorize the transformation of the Reid Memorial congregation to a fellowship. The executive committee met during lunch to review the request.

Subsequently the COM **approved two recommended actions from the Executive Committee:**

1. **that the COM not approve the request for a congregational meeting July 15 as the request was out of order;**
2. **that the COM recommend that a Session meeting be called for the purpose of meeting with a COM congregational support team.**

--- END OF JUNE 26, 2007 Report ---

#### **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORTED ACTIONS – July 23, 2007**

#### QUORUM

The Committee on Ministry met July 23, 2007 at the Presbytery office, Indianapolis, Indiana. A quorum was present.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The June COM minutes will be approved at the August meeting.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

The COM APPROVED the following actions regarding ministers by Consent Agenda:

**Brown, Rev. Robert**, transfer to Wyoming Presbytery, accepted call as Interim Pastor to First Presbyterian Church, Wyoming

**Hrachovec, Rev. Leah** – transfer to Cimarron Presbytery, where she has accepted associate pastor position, First Presbyterian, Stillwater, OK

#### MATTERS CONCERNING MINISTERS/COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS/CHURCHES

##### Winchester-First

The COM **APPROVED a request by the Session, per provision by Book of Order G-14.0202b, to waive the terms for two active elders** and allow them to extend their service beyond their original six year term.

#### INSTALLATION COMMISSION

Parker, Rev. L. Bryant – Installation September 30, 2007 4:00 PM

The **COM approved an administrative commission pending clarification** of a moderator, adding an elder from a church other than Witherspoon, and clarification regarding Rev. Walter Dixon's affiliation; the commission will be dismissed upon completion of its work.

Moderator: Betty-Alice Almeida  
Elder: Pat Payne, Witherspoon; Charles Harry, Witherspoon  
Ministers: Rev. Gretchen Schneider, Indianapolis-St. Andrew  
Rev. Betty Gilbert Griffin, Indianapolis-Immanuel  
Corresponding members:  
Rev. Lutrell Ramey, Dayton-Trinity, Miami Presbytery  
Rev. Walter Dixon  
Ecumenical Rep: Rev. Edward Wheeler, Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis

--- END OF JULY 23, 2007 Report ---

-----End of COM Report-----

**RECOGNITION OF MARTHA MCDONALD**

Rev. David Lee recognized and congratulated Martha McDonald, Director of Children and Family Ministries, upon her recently earned certification as a Christian Educator.

The order of the day was upheld and the worship service led by with the Hispanic Ministry Lead Team was delayed until after lunch.

**LUNCH**

Presbytery recessed for lunch at 12:15 p.m., with the Rev. Felipe Martinez giving the prayer for the meal.

**RECONVENE**

Presbytery reconvened in the sanctuary at 1:15 p.m.

**WORSHIP**

A joyful worship service using music from the Bilingual VBS program was led by the Hispanic Ministry Lead Team. Presentations by Elder Larry Larew, Rev. Steve Oglesbee, Rev. David R. Smith, and Fabio Socarraz, CLP, informed the Presbytery of missions accomplished in their relationships with Northern Quintana Roo and the Hispanic Ministry program in our Presbytery.

After worship, Moderator Betty-Alice Almeida yielded the chair to Vice-Moderator, Donna Madewell, CLP.

**YOUTH TRIENNIUM**

Youth Triennium was held at Purdue University in July. An informative report on inspiring and meaningful experiences was given by Craig Shaw and Rev. David Comstock, adult advisors, and youth participants Chip Davis (First Presbyterian Church in Fort Wayne) and Kelsey Raver (Westminster Presbyterian Church in Marion).

**STATED CLERK'S REPORT**

Stated Clerk Kim Leech presented the following report.

**Ordination Anniversaries**

September through November [See Appendix H] Ordination anniversaries inadvertently omitted from the printed report: Kim Leech, 10/16/66; Cheryl Montgomery, 11/11/84; Gretchen Schneider, 11/10/91; L. Bryant Parker, 10/17/95; Dave Jewett, 9/30/06.

**Investigating Committee**

The Stated Clerk is in receipt of a disciplinary complaint filed against a minister member of the Presbytery (Disciplinary Case 07-1). Pursuant to D-10.0201 the Presbytery Council's Executive Committee has presented names of persons to be elected by Presbytery to serve on the investigating committee:

Elder Jean Dodds and Rev. Joy Goehring

Vice Moderator Donna Madewell asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, Elder Jean Dodds and Rev. Joy Goehring were elected to the investigating committee by voice vote.

**Action Item**

The following motion by the Stated Clerk required action by the Presbytery:

That the Presbytery make the provisions of the current Book of Order regarding COM and CPM matters presbytery policy until the presbytery develops manuals for COM and CPM that address the changes in the newly adopted amendment to the Book of Order (Overtures 06-A and 06-B1, approved by the General Assembly)."

Rev. Leech spoke to the motion, explaining that the General Assembly encouraged presbyteries to have more flexibility to develop their own manuals for COM and CPM. It is necessary to adopt the Book of Order to be our standards to have some Presbyterian law in the meantime.

Upon second, the motion passed by voice vote.

The full Stated Clerk's report follows:

### **Items of Information**

1. Polity note: sessions are reminded about actions regarding the lease of church property: "A particular church shall not lease its real property used for purposes of worship, or lease for more than five years any of its other real property, without the written permission of the presbytery transmitted through the session of the particular church." (G-8.0502)
2. Sessions and clerks of session can now access the State of Indiana's required annual filing of a church's corporation and not-for-profit status through the Presbytery's Website [www.whitewatervalley.org](http://www.whitewatervalley.org). The site process is: Presbytery Business; Clerk of Session forms; Not-for-Profit; Indiana Business Entity Report.
3. The annual report to Presbytery of minister's terms of call is past due.

-----End of Stated Clerk's Report-----

### **PYOCA CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER REPORT**

Rich Swartwood, Director of Pyoca Camp, Conference and Retreat Center, reported on the success of the summer camping program which served 647 youth from grades 2 through 12. There are several new day camps for children of inmates and children at risk. Rich highlighted retreats and events coming up over the next few months and especially invited everyone to the Open House on Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. So far the Capital Campaign members have visited 16-17 churches and 13% of the \$2,000,000 goal has been pledged.

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Rev. David Crowley, Moderator of the Nominating Committee, presented the following Nominating Committee report. The committee nominates to serve the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley:

#### **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

Class of 2008 (Vacancy)

(M) Rex Espiritu, First Presbyterian Church, New Castle

#### **WESTMINSTER NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRIES – BOARD OF DIRECTORS** (Presbytery Representatives)

Class of 2008 (Vacancy)

(M) Pat Reid, Honorably Retired

Class of 2009 (Vacancy)

(M) Ray Bowden, Honorably Retired

After an opportunity for nominations from the floor, it was moved and seconded to close nominations and elect the nominees. The motion passed and all were elected.

### **COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY**

Rev. Peggy McDonald, Moderator of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, informed the Presbytery of the members of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry and commended them for their diligent work. The committee is asking the Presbytery to concur with their decision to remove candidate Jeff Rasley from the rolls as a Candidate for Ministry of Word and Sacrament. Peggy made the following motion:

That the Presbytery concur with the action of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry to remove Jeff Rasley from the rolls as a Candidate.

The following rationale and background was given:

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) recommends that the Presbytery concur with its action to remove Jeff Rasley from the rolls as a Candidate of the Preparation for Ministry Committee.

Rationale: When a candidate has failed to meet the requirements of the denomination as put forth in the Book of Order 14.0300 and following, it is the responsibility of the CPM to "remove an individual's name from the roll of inquirers and candidates, reporting that action and the reasons to the session, to the individual..." (Book of Order 14.0312) Historically, the committee acts on behalf of the presbytery in such action. July 9, 2007, the CPM acted to remove candidate Jeff Rasley from our rolls, having determined that we would not certify him to seek a call in the PCUSA. The candidate in question requests that the presbytery as a whole review the committee's decision. In order to honor the candidate's request, the committee submits this rationale and history of our action, for the presbytery to review and affirm or refute our conclusions regarding the candidate.

Background: Responsible for the oversight of nearly 30 Inquirers and Candidates, the CPM guides and instructs those under our care as they strive to fulfill academic, practical ministry and additional denominational requirements, while discerning the calling of the Holy Spirit, mindful of the needs of our churches and the teachings of the reformed faith. Occasionally we differ with one of the students, but rarely do we stay at odds. Most often these times are formative for the individual as well as the committee members as we discover God's purposes being worked out. The candidate fulfilled all academic requirements well, but we have not been able to discover where God is leading this candidate.

The committee has met with Jeff Rasley upon two different occasions to determine whether or not to certify him to seek a call, to discuss his faith using the statements of faith he prepared as a springboard for discussion. During the first such meeting, the discussion between the committee and the candidate resulted in the candidate demonstrating an unwillingness or inability to be transparent in expressing his faith. The committee did not certify him to seek a call at that time because we were unsure of his understanding of the trinity and could not determine that his faith is consistent with the reformed faith. In addition, his behavior during the meeting was somewhat combative and even arrogant. Subsequent informal conversations resulted in his decision to write another statement and meet again with the committee, at the encouragement of the committee. The committee met with the candidate again this year to discuss his statement of faith and again, he did not express a depth of understanding of the essentials of the reformed faith. It became more evident that the candidate lacks an attribute we call 'pastoral insight', unaware of what is appropriate professionally and pastorally in particular situations.

After the second attempt to certify the candidate failed, the committee received written feedback from him in which he insulted individual members of the committee regarding personal attributes and maligned the committee as a whole. Subsequently, the committee learned from several personal contacts of his that he communicated by email on more than two occasions insulting the committee and soliciting personal backing for him, seeking letters of support to sway the committee, particularly among fellow parishioners. The CPM believes those actions defy our ordination vows that officers of the church will 'be governed by our polity, abide by its discipline, be a friend among colleagues in ministry...', and 'further the peace unity, and purity of the church.'

The Stated Clerk has found the committee's process, correspondence and record keeping related to these actions in order. As with all our committee's work, minutes and formal correspondence may be reviewed by any member of presbytery.

The committee includes the following 12 members of this presbytery:

- Rev. Dave Comstock, Interim Pastor, Westminster, Marion
- Rev. David Crowley, Kingston and Springhill churches
- Elder Ed Friel, Second, Indianapolis
- Elder Charlie Hill, Calvary Third, Ft. Wayne
- Rev. Carol Johnston, PhD, Christian Theological Seminary
- Rev. Barb Kenley, Grace, Ft. Wayne
- Elder Emily Leavell, Elwood, former GA Commissioner
- Rev. Steve Matthies, PhD, Southport PC
- Rev. Peggy McDonald, Moderator
- Elder Carrie Jo Miller, Commissioned Lay Pastor, First, Muncie
- Elder Mary Ruth Snyder, PhD, Orchard Park, Indianapolis
- Elder Bob Weetman, MD, John Knox, Indianapolis
- Rev. Dr. Bob Anderson, Interim Executive Presbyter, Ex-officio member

Respectfully submitted,  
Peggy McDonald  
Moderator, Committee on Preparation for Ministry

In the floor papers, Jeff Rasley presented a rebuttal, along with numerous letters of support, as part of the Presbytery papers. **(See Appendix I for Mr. Rasley's rebuttal.)**

After discussion which clarified the implications of the vote and numerous persons speaking for and against the motion, a motion was made to close debate. Vice Moderator Madewell ruled that the motion to close debate passed by voice vote. A division of the house was called and the vote was taken by a show of hands. The motion to close debate passed.

The main motion was then voted upon by voice vote. The motion passed and Jeff Rasley is removed from the rolls as a Candidate for Minister of Word and Sacrament.

**ADJOURNMENT**

After singing the closing hymn, the 153<sup>rd</sup> stated meeting of the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley was adjourned at 3:15 p.m. and Vice-Moderator Donna Madewell closed the meeting with prayer.

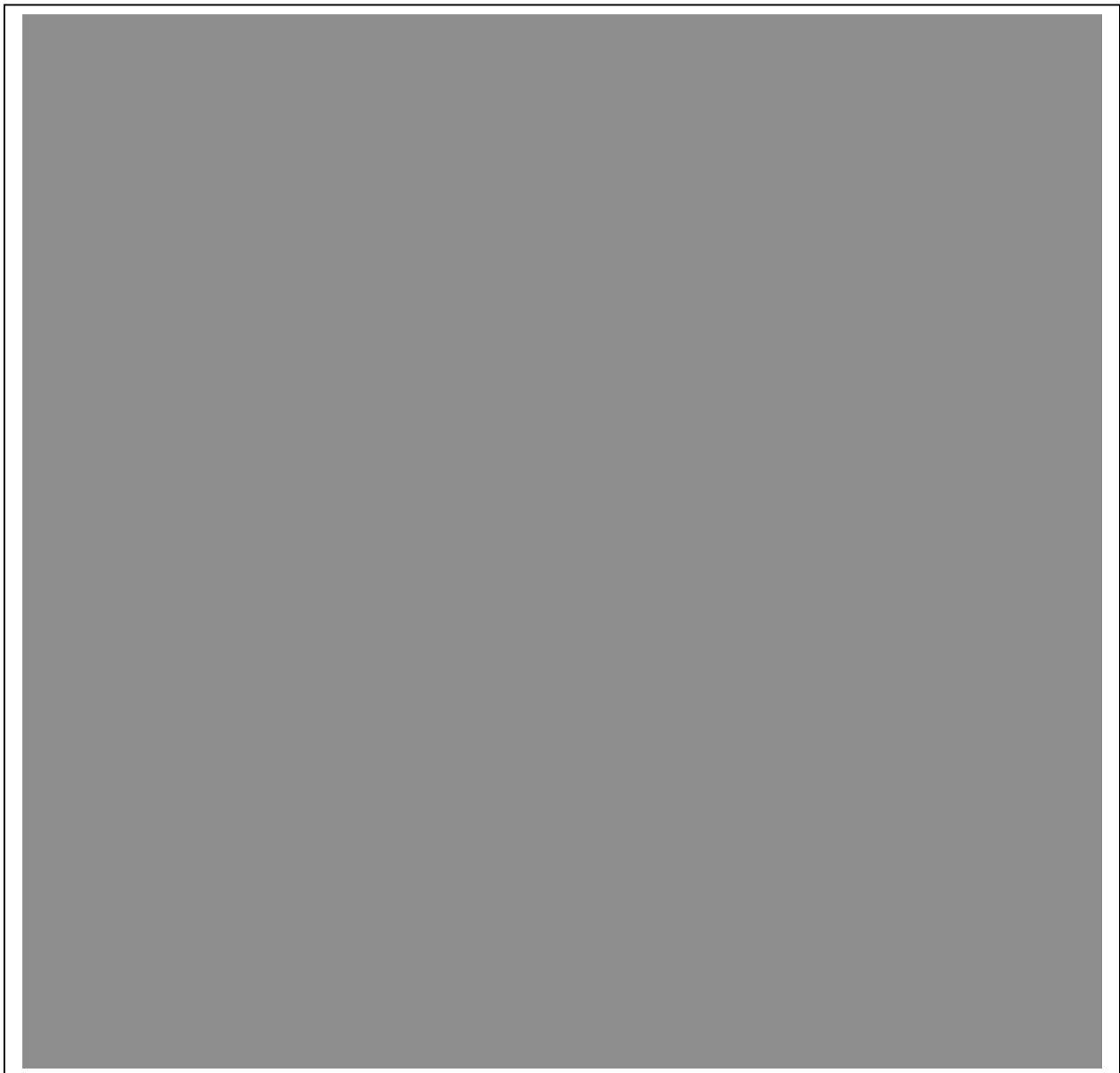
**NEXT MEETING**

The next stated meeting of the Presbytery will be Wednesday, December 5, 2007, at Center Grove Presbyterian Church, Greenwood, Indiana, at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. Kim Leech, Stated Clerk

Ruth Ann MacPherson, Recording Clerk

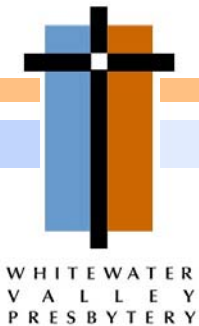


**APPENDIX A  
MISSION ALIVE!  
Page 1 of 3**

*And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance,  
so that by always having enough of everything,  
you may share abundantly in every good work. (2 Corinthians 9:8)*

*Christ calls the Church into being, giving it all that is necessary for its mission to the world,  
for its building up, and for its service to God. (Book of Order, G-1.0100b).*

*We envision the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley as congregations who partner with one  
another as we grow into God's future. (Paraphrase of current "mission statement").*



Dear Friends,

Your Presbytery Coordinating Council, whose current membership represents 30 churches in our Presbytery, met August 1, 2007. We spent time envisioning "God's new future" as we move into what we expect will be our final year of transitional leadership before we call a new Executive Presbyter. As partners who support mission in our Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), we want to share information about our "Shared Mission." Your pledge form will be included in your annual packet and we encourage each Session to contribute to Shared Mission for 2008. The challenge is to share our abundance with what may be your first time Shared Mission pledge, or to increase your Shared Mission pledge for next year.

***What is Shared Mission?***

*Shared Mission is our Presbyterian way of manifesting our unity in proclaiming the Gospel around the world. Shared Mission contributions support the ministry of our Presbytery of Whitewater Valley. We then share our contributions with our Synod of Lincoln Trails, who supports the common mission interests of eight combined presbyteries in Indiana and Illinois and, globally, with our Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) which oversees our church's worldwide mission. Each year your Session has the opportunity to make a pledge to this Shared Mission and support the whole mission of our church.*

*Shared Mission is not your congregation's per capita apportionment. The per capita offerings are based on membership and are used to support the basic ministries of our Presbytery, Synod and Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).*

*Shared Mission is not your congregation's designated or directed giving. Designated giving is for a specific program identified by your church. Some congregations send designated gifts directly to the program while others flow their gifts through the Presbytery. While designated gifts may support some of the same projects that Shared Mission supports (Pyoca Camp and Conference Center, for example), it does not help support other ministries of our Presbytery, Synod, or the global mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) There are many projects and mission workers that are worthy of our help and depend on the Shared Mission contributions for support. Designated gifts support specific ministries, while Shared Mission supports all of the ministries of our church.*

***What Is Our Challenge for Today and the Future?***

Whitewater Valley Presbytery's trend has been toward designated giving. That trend is reducing the funds that support other local, regional, and global Presbyterian ministries. Despite a scaling back of many budget items, our Presbytery is finding it necessary to draw on reserves to meet current expenses. Because of the challenges that lie before us, an ever stronger witness to Jesus Christ is needed for the challenging times in which we live.

This fall, prayerfully consider pledging to Shared Mission if your congregation has not done so recently. Each dollar will be prayerfully transformed into a child fed, a student mentored, a third world mother able to care for her family, and new Christians studying scripture for the first time. ***Sharing the abundance of God's gifts and mercy is a gift that changes people. That abundance changes the world.***

If your congregation has pledged to Shared Mission in the past, you are asked to prayerfully consider increasing your pledge by whatever percentage you want to bless others. These increases will begin a new trend whereby we can plan new ministry, expand current outreach and touch the world in transforming ways.

May God's blessings of abundance, peace, love, and grace continue upon all of you,

Coordinating Council of Whitewater Valley Presbytery

**APPENDIX A  
MISSION ALIVE!  
Page 2 of 3**

**CHURCHES REPRESENTED BY MEMBERS ON  
2007 COORDINATING COUNCIL**

Anderson-First	Donna Madewell
Avon-Whitelick	John Eichinger & Jim Hill
Bluffton-First	Bob Madsen
College Corner	Tonya Paddock
Connersville-First	Martha Williams Jordan
Decatur-First	Laura Sherwood
Edinburgh-First	Rachel Wann
Fort Wayne-First	Betty-Alice Almeida & Jeanie Barnes
Fort Wayne-Grace	John Current
Indianapolis-Fairview	Bob McAulay
Indianapolis-Faith	Glen Bell
Indianapolis-Immanuel	De Middleton
Indianapolis-Irvington	Toni Morris
Indianapolis-John Knox	Lisa Crismore & Debbie Mansell
Indianapolis-Orchard Park	Bill Howell
Indianapolis-Second	Ed Friel
Indianapolis-Southminster	Mary Payne
Indianapolis-Southport	June Barrow
Indianapolis-St. Andrew	Gretchen Schneider
Indianapolis-Witherspoon	Sandra Reid
Knightstown, Bethel	
Lewisville-First	Peter Zinn
Lewisville-Ebenezer	
Marion-Westminster	Dave Comstock
Muncie-First	Ron Naylor & Pat Zeabart
Ossian-First	Rik Spencer
Richmond-Reid Memorial	David Good
Rushville-First	Evelyn Miller & Bill Smiley
Rushville-Trinity	Mick Saunders
Winchester-First	Bill Carr

**APPENDIX A  
MISSION ALIVE!  
Page 3 of 3**

What does your Shared Mission Pledge Support?  
GOES HERE

**APPENDIX B**  
**MISSION DIRECTIONS TEAM**  
**Page 1 of 7**

**Purpose:**

To give mission direction with several specific initiatives that reflects the presbyteries hopes and plans for the next few years. **Our hope is this will be a living document and a source of conversation within congregations and the presbytery for the next several years.**

**Resources used:**

The Team gathered information from the recent conversation clusters as well as statistical information from General Assembly. The team met together on a number of occasions to share thoughts and discern mission initiatives for the presbytery.

**Assumptions made:**

The team used the Missions Statement stated below and the philosophy of discerning God's direction from the congregations up rather than top down to guide its discussions.

A basic understanding of the team was the mission of the presbytery is articulated primarily through its congregations.

**Mission Statement:**

The mission of the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), is to partner with congregations as we grow into God's future.

**Mission Strategy for the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley**

The vision for mission will be implemented by:

- Fostering technology and contemporary means of communication.
- Equipping leaders to recognize and meet emerging challenges.
- Assisting congregations to understand their environment and find ways to respond to it.
- Modeling and encouraging creative worship and fostering spiritual growth.
- Partnering with congregations for mission.
- Brokering with congregations for resources, leaders, programs and training.
- Providing a marketplace for the exchange of ideas, solutions and assets between pastors and congregations through networks.
- Initiating and delivering support for professional church workers, clergy and their families.
- Translating the fundamentals of Presbyterian reformed traditions into answers for tomorrow's challenges.

**APPENDIX B**  
**MISSION DIRECTIONS TEAM**  
**Page 2 of 7**

**Areas of Mission focus for the Presbytery:**

Healthy Congregations The mission of the presbytery is articulated primarily through its congregations. The strength and health of the presbytery is expressed through the strength and health of its churches, pastors, and leaders.

The presbytery will work to fulfill this value by

- A. Organizing a **minister**'s retreat on an annual basis.
- B. Continuing the work of the *Transforming Congregations* program.
- C. Develop and support ministry and mission networks throughout the presbytery.  
(see below)

Leadership Development: The call to service as an officer in the church is a high and holy calling. The Presbytery will work to encourage and equip leaders for ministry in the church and mission to the world.

The presbytery will work to fulfill this value by

- A. Scheduling a time for theological discussion in the areas of bible, theology and worship as a part of at least two presbytery meetings a year and embracing opportunities for theological dialogue and formation on other occasions.
- B. Provide leadership training events at least twice a year for officers, members of congregations, and clergy and use the resources of the Center for Congregations and nearby seminaries to help plan these events.
- C. Provide an orientation to the presbytery for pastors new to the presbytery.

Caring Community: The presbytery will foster caring relationships that are open to diverse ideas, and expressions of faith in order to learn and grow as the body of Christ using all the creative gifts of the members of the presbytery.

The presbytery will work to fulfill this value by

- A. Developing a talent and resource directory to connect congregations and individuals with common mission and ministry goals to resource and support one another.
- B. Provide for opportunities for dialogue on theological and ministry concerns throughout the presbytery on an annual basis.

Mission: the Presbytery will foster and empower the mission of God, spreading the joy of the gospel and bringing the grace, love, hope, and peace of God to the needs of our communities and the world through multiple expressions of mission.

The presbytery will work to fulfill this value by

- A. Continuing to support and develop the missions of NQR, Hispanic Ministries Team and Congo mission and making room for further ministries
- B. Forming an ad hoc task force to determine the areas to be considered for the establishment of new congregations.

**APPENDIX B**  
**MISSION DIRECTIONS TEAM**  
**Page 3 of 7**

Being Connected: One of the unique characteristics of the Presbyterian Church is its connectional nature. The Presbytery will develop strong support and lively communication between and among ministers, congregations, sessions and presbytery commissioners.

The presbytery will work to fulfill this value by

- A. Continuing to develop the presbytery website to make it the technological hub for gathering and dissemination information, resources and connecting networks.
- B. Develop public relations materials to proclaim and celebrate the mission and ministry of the presbytery for use by congregations to strengthen stewardship and evangelism.
- C. Encourage gatherings of pastors for support.

**Mission and Ministry networks:**

The team recommends to the presbytery that the networks be reorganized from church size to the development and support of mission and ministry networks. The purpose of networks would be to provide the opportunity for congregations and members to be engaged with one another in ways that will mutually support and nurture each other.

These networks could gather around:

Mission, Bible Study, Worship, Theological Study, Youth Activities, Christian Education, Pastor support, etc.

The presbytery would resource and support the networks.



**APPENDIX B**  
**MISSION DIRECTIONS TEAM**  
**Page 4 of 7**

**Appendix A of Mission Directions Team Report**

Executive Summary of Statistical Information

The following information is drawn from statistical data provided by Research Services of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. It is reflective of data submitted to the denomination by member congregations that filed annual statistical reports. Between the years 1996 and 2005 (the period covered by the Research Services data) there is not a year in which every congregation of the Presbytery filed a statistical report. The margin of difference between the number of congregations in the Presbytery and the number reporting statistical data ranges from a high of 14 (1998) to a low of three (2001). In the most recent year for which data were provided (2005) 61 out of 69 congregations filed reports.

For the purposes of this analysis, no attempt to reconcile those discrepancies will be made. The data provided by Research Services will be treated as reflective of the Presbytery's general make up. It should also be noted that a church was dissolved in two years (1996 and 2005) for which data are provided. Therefore, the number of churches reported in each of those years is one greater than the number of churches filing reports. Also, percentages reported do not always total 100 percent.

An examination of the statistical data for the 10-year period 1996-2005 shows the following:

- The number of congregations has fallen by 14.
- The majority of congregations have been chartered at least 41 years.
- Membership has declined by 1,643.
- Membership peaked at 26,069 in 1998.
- The membership of the Presbytery is overwhelmingly White/non-Hispanic.
- Worship attendance has risen by 476.
- Worship attendance peaked at 13,137 in 2001.
- Contributions have risen.
- Expenditures for local program and local mission have risen.
- Expenditures for local program have fallen as a percentage of overall receipts.
- Expenditures for local mission have risen as a percentage of overall receipts.

Though there are fluctuations in the number of congregations in the period covered, the overall trends show that the number of congregations dropped from 75 to 69. That reduction may be traced to mergers and dissolutions. There were no dismissals.

Congregation size	1996	2005
100 or less	22	19
101 to 300	32	30
301 to 500	10	8
Greater than 500	10	<b>11</b>

**APPENDIX B**  
**MISSION DIRECTIONS TEAM**  
**Page 5 of 7**

The majority of the Presbytery's congregations are more than 41 years old.

	1996		2005	
Chartered 5 years or less	3	4.0%	3	4.3%
Chartered 6-10 years	1	1.3%	5	7.2%
Chartered 11-20 years	2	2.7%	2	2.9%
Chartered 21-40 years	10	13.3%	4	5.8%
Chartered 41 years or more	56	78.7%	53	79.8%

While membership declined overall, worship attendance rose:

	1996	1998	2001	2005
Membership	25,032	<b>26,069</b>	24,700	23,389
Worship Attendance	10,984	11,633	<b>13,137</b>	11,460

Membership changes break down as follows:

	1996	2005	10-yr. avg.
Profession - 17 or younger	216	279	258
Profession – 18 or older	594	538	582
Certificate gains	490	341	434
Other gains	151	103	136
Certificate losses	343	233	314
Losses to death	393	366	396
Other losses	848	894	973

Although membership declined overall, it rose slightly as a percentage of the general population within the Presbytery's boundaries.

	1996	2005
Presbytery Membership	25,032	23,389
General Population	2,377,008	2,558,779

**APPENDIX B**  
**MISSION DIRECTIONS TEAM**  
**Page 6 of 7**

Membership according to ethnic groupings is overwhelmingly White, non-Hispanic.

	1996		2005	
African-American	569	2.3%	500	2.1%
Asian	348	1.4%	307	1.3%
Hispanic	34	0.1%	78	0.3%
Native American	2		3	
White, non-Hispanic	23,756	96%	22,485	96.1%

The Presbytery's largely White/non-Hispanic membership is reflective of the general population within the Presbytery's boundaries. However, Racial/Ethnic groups form a larger percentage of the general population than they do the Presbytery's membership.

	1996		2005	
Presbytery membership	991	4.0%	904	3.9%
General Population	307,800	12.9%	350,432	13.7%

Contributions to member congregations rose.

	1996		2005	
Total contributions	16,991,809		24,714,805	
Contributions per member	684.63		1,122.84	
Capital/Building Funds	2,360,677	9.7%	8,344,943	19.9%
Investment income	3,052,612	12.5%	4,209,866	10%
Bequests	702,736	2.8%	665,318	1.6%
Other income	1,232,701	5.1%	4,050,019	9.6%
Total Receipts	24,340,535		41,984,951	

Expenditures for local program and mission rose. Expenditures for local program fell as a percentage of total receipts, while expenditures for local mission rose as a percentage of overall receipts.

	1996		2005	
Local Program	15,841,238	65.1%	23,654,191	56.3%
Local Mission	1,495,681	6.1%	2,797,835	6.7%

**APPENDIX B**  
**MISSION DIRECTIONS TEAM**  
**Page 7 of 7**

From 1996 to 2003, Validated Mission Giving and Other Mission Giving grew, as did contributions to Upper Governing Bodies. After 2003, contributions to Upper Governing Bodies have been included in Validated Mission Giving. That change makes it difficult to interpret trends beyond 2002.

	1996	2003	2005
Validated Mission	1,131,788	1,951,414	1,385,059
Presbytery Mission	418,628	616,332	
Synod Mission	100,661	146,773	
GA Mission	538,119	819,135	
Other Mission	439,384	680,768	1,160,775

Giving in those areas fluctuated over the years, peaking at the times at amounts shown below.

	Peak Amount	Peak Year
Validated Mission	2,139,703	2002
Presbytery Mission	1,231,859	2000
Synod Mission	150,920	2001
GA Mission	839,080	2001
Other Mission	1,160,775	2005



**APPENDIX C  
TREASURER'S REPORT  
Page 1 of 3**

**Mission Operations Statement of Revenues & Expenditures go here.**

**APPENDIX C  
TREASURER'S REPORT  
Page 2 of 3**

**Mission Focus Units Fund Report goes here**

**APPENDIX C  
TREASURER'S REPORT  
Page 3 of 3**

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT GOES HERE**

**APPENDIX D**  
**2008 BUDGET – FIRST DRAFT**  
**Page 1 of 2**

**Mission Operations Budget goes here**

**APPENDIX D  
2008 BUDGET – FIRST DRAFT  
Page 2 of 2**

**MISSION FOCUS UNITS BUDGET GOES HERE**

**APPENDIX E**  
**AUDITOR'S LETTER**  
**Page 1 of 1**

**AUDITOR'S LETTER**  
**GOES HERE**

**APPENDIX F  
STANDING RULES – SECOND READING  
Page 1 of 16**

**STANDING RULES  
OF  
THE PRESBYTERY OF WHITEWATER VALLEY**

**FIRST READING: JUNE 6, 2007  
SECOND READING and ACTION TO APPROVE: SEPTEMBER 8, 2007**

**COUNCIL MEETING MAY 2, 2007**

The Presbytery Council reviewed this document.  
Major changes, where words were added and/or portions significantly  
changed, are ***bolded AND italicized.***

Grammatical and editing/consistency revisions are not highlighted  
per direction of the Council.

**APPENDIX F**  
**STANDING RULES – SECOND READING**  
**Page 2 of 16**

**STANDING RULES**  
**PRESBYTERY OF WHITEWATER VALLEY**

**ARTICLE I - GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- A. This document shall be known as the Standing Rules of the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
- B. These Standing Rules are created by the action of the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley as authorized by the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Should any provision of the Standing Rules be in conflict with that Constitution, the Constitution shall prevail. It is the purpose and intent of these Standing Rules to avoid repetition of the provisions of the Constitution, and to provide such additional governance as may be required or appropriate. The Presbytery may delegate any power permitted by the Constitution.

The meetings of the Presbytery and its related organizations shall be conducted in accordance with the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised except in those cases where the Constitution or these Standing Rules provide otherwise. (G-9.0302)

- C. The Presbytery shall include all particular churches of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) within the following counties of the State of Indiana:

Adams	Franklin	Jay	Shelby
Allen	Grant	Johnson	Tipton
Blackford	Hamilton	Madison	Union
Decatur	Hancock	Marion	Wayne
Delaware	Hendricks	Randolph	Wells
Fayette	Henry	Rush	

1. And the Zionsville Presbyterian Church within Boone County as of January 1, 1999 per General Assembly action in 1998.
  2. **All networks, organizations, committees, and governing units of the Presbytery shall seek (wherever practical, feasible, and appropriate) geographic diversity from within the Presbytery.**
- D. Members of Presbytery:
1. Membership shall be as provided for in the Constitution (G-11.0101)
  2. An elder representing a church shall become a **commissioner** member of Presbytery when a certificate, signed by the Moderator of Session or Clerk of Session, and bearing the date of election, is presented to the Stated Clerk of Presbytery. Such elder shall continue to be a member of Presbytery until another elder is so certified to the Stated Clerk. Such certificate should also bear the name of elected alternates who may be enrolled if a principal is absent. Churches may elect "*rotating commissioners*" (different Elder for each meeting), but must so indicate when signing in for each specific meeting of Presbytery.
  3. The Moderators of Presbyterian Men and Presbyterian Women

**APPENDIX F**  
**STANDING RULES – SECOND READING**  
**Page 3 of 16**

4. Elders elected to the Coordinating Council shall be at-large commissioners to Presbytery.
  5. The most recently elected Coordinating Council and At Large members of the Board of Directors elected by the Council shall constitute the membership of the Corporation of the ***Presbytery of Whitewater Valley, Inc.***
- E. Priorities of Presbytery. ***The Coordinating Council shall engage the Presbytery once every three years in the process of defining the three major priorities for Presbytery.*** These priorities shall guide the Coordinating Council in defining programmatic and mission emphases during that period.
- F. Effective Date  
All officers, members, and commissioners shall serve on a calendar year basis.

## **ARTICLE II - MEETINGS**

- A. By September 30<sup>th</sup> of each year, the Presbytery shall establish the dates, times, and places for stated meetings of Presbytery during the coming year. Details of, and docket for, Presbytery meetings shall be determined by the Coordinating Council (or its designated representatives) and the Stated Clerk. There shall be at least two stated meetings per year.
- Special Meetings may be called according to the provisions of the Book of Order or by the Coordinating Council in a manner consistent with G-11.0201
- B. A member of Presbytery is either present at a meeting or absent. No list of excused absences shall be kept for attendance at Presbytery meetings.
- C. The Presbytery may give a non-member the privilege of the floor by a (simple) majority vote, provided such privilege does not restrict the rights of members to participate in debate or voting.
- D. Consistent with G-11.0202, a quorum for meetings of Presbytery shall be 10% of the total of eligible Ministers and Elder Commissioners. The quorum must be registered and present. (Dec. 2000)

## **ARTICLE III - OFFICERS**

- A. Presbytery shall have the following officers, with the indicated duties and terms of service. ***The terms of office will begin upon their installation, ordinarily the last stated Presbytery meeting of the calendar year.*** If the Moderator is a minister, the Vice-Moderator shall be an elder; if the Moderator is an elder, the Vice-Moderator shall be a minister ***or Commissioned Lay Pastor with an active Commission.*** The Vice-Moderator shall Moderate Presbytery in the absence or incapacity of the Moderator.

**APPENDIX F**  
**STANDING RULES – SECOND READING**  
**Page 4 of 16**

1. Moderator  
The term shall be for one year. In addition to the duties provided in the Constitution, the Moderator shall be the Vice-Moderator of the Coordinating Council.
2. Immediate Past Moderator  
The term shall be one year following service as Moderator. The Immediate Past Moderator shall moderate the Coordinating Council.
3. Vice-Moderator  
The term shall be one year.
4. Stated Clerk  
The duties shall be those indicated in the **Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA)**, the Standing Rules and the Presbytery-approved **position** description. The Presbytery shall elect the Stated Clerk for a three-year term and the Stated Clerk may be re-elected for additional terms at Presbytery's pleasure. The Stated Clerk may appoint one or more assistants as needed.

Recording Clerk: The Stated Clerk may appoint a Recording Clerk whose term shall run concurrently with the Stated Clerk. This clerk shall take the minutes of the meetings of Presbytery and of the Presbytery Council and provide a copy of them to the Stated Clerk as soon as possible following each meeting. This person is not a member of Council. This person may be an Administrative Assistant on the staff of the Presbytery.

5. Treasurer  
The Treasurer shall be responsible for seeing that an accurate record is kept of all income and disbursements, that all bills are paid in a timely fashion once authorized by a properly-executed voucher, and for submitting timely financial reports to the Presbytery. The Treasurer (or the Treasurer's appointed representative) shall serve as staff to the Board of Directors and the Finance Committee.

Financial Assistance for the Treasurer

***The Presbytery may contract for additional financial management personnel and resources. The Coordinating Council shall determine such need, create a position description, establish compensation and, through the Personnel Committee, employ/terminate an individual to fulfill this position.***

6. Board of Directors  
The Board of Directors shall consist of two members of the Coordinating Council (appointed by the Moderator of Council, one designated as President and one as Vice-President) and four at-large members nominated by the Nominating Committee of Presbytery and elected by the Coordinating Council at the first meeting of Council after January 1, or as vacancies occur, convened as the Corporation for the purpose of elections. For legal purposes, at-large members shall become members of the Corporation but not of the Council. At Large Directors shall be elected for staggered four-year terms and are not eligible for reelection. The Moderator of Council shall be an advisory member of the Board.

**APPENDIX F**  
**STANDING RULES – SECOND READING**  
**Page 5 of 16**

***The Board shall elect from its membership a Secretary of the Corporation who will work in consultation with the Stated Clerk as needed. The Secretary of the Board of Directors may direct the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery to serve in her/his stead in his/her absence.***

***The Treasurer shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors but without vote. The Board of Directors is a Mission Focus Unit and its responsibilities are outlined in Article VII A.3.***

- B. Officers and Directors shall hold office for the designated term or until their successor is elected.

**ARTICLE IV - STAFF**

The Personnel Committee shall, from time to time, recommend to the Presbytery, through the Coordinating Council, the need for specific administrative, executive and contract staff positions. When doing so, they shall present a staffing rationale and a position description for specific positions. Once approved by Presbytery, these positions shall continue until such time as the Personnel Committee recommends abolition of the position.

***Temporary Contract Staff positions may be created by the Coordinating Council's Executive Committee and Personnel Committee. These actions shall be reported to the Coordinating Council between meetings.***

**ARTICLE V - MEMBERSHIP NETWORKS**

- A. The Presbytery shall be divided into three "Membership Networks." Congregations shall be grouped into such networks based on a combination of factors, such as membership, worship attendance, and potential for development/redevelopment. The churches in the Presbytery shall be divided into a Large Membership Network, a Medium Membership Network, and a Small Membership Network as shall from time to time be defined by the Coordinating Council. Networks shall be responsible:
1. For clarifying the needs and opportunities of churches of their particular size and for developing mission and programmatic goals for responding to those needs and taking advantage of those opportunities.  
  
To provide opportunities for Service Delivery Teams to respond to the needs and goals of each Membership Network.
  2. For assisting in New Church Development.
  3. For assisting in creating, managing, validating and engaging in Mission Partnerships.
  4. For electing representatives to the Coordinating Council.  
Each year, each Membership Network shall elect one Elder and one Minister to a single four-year term to the Coordinating Council and shall elect replacements as necessary.

**APPENDIX F**  
**STANDING RULES – SECOND READING**  
**Page 6 of 16**

- B. Membership Networks shall meet at least once yearly and may organize themselves in any manner they believe will best enable them to broker the services needed by their congregations. This includes, among others, when, where and how often they meet, number of representatives from each congregation, whether to have officers (and if so, what kind).

**ARTICLE VI - THE COORDINATING COUNCIL**

- A. The Presbytery Coordinating Council membership, with vote, shall be composed of the following:
1. The Moderator of Presbytery (who is Vice-Moderator of Council).
  2. The Vice-Moderator of Presbytery.
  3. The Immediate Past Moderator of Presbytery (who is Moderator of Council).
  4. Thirty-two (32) members. Each member shall serve one, four-year term and is not eligible for reelection until at least two years have intervened. There shall be four "classes" of members, each with 8 members. Each Membership Network shall elect four Ministers and four Elders to serve on the Coordinating Council, one minister and one elder to each class. In addition, the Nominating Committee shall nominate one minister and one elder to each class; paying special attention to maintain diversity on the Council consistent with G-4.0403 and with the Presbytery's commitment to geographic representation within the Presbytery. New Council members take office effective at the close of the Membership Network Meeting or Presbytery Meeting at which they are elected.
  5. The executive staff of Presbytery, including the executive directors and program staff, as approved by Coordinating Council **annually**.
  6. ***The Chair of the Finance Committee, if not otherwise a member of Council, shall become a member of Council.***
- B. ***Ex-Officio without vote***
1. ***Chairs of ecclesiastical committees, at the discretion of the Coordinating Council.***
  2. ***Any person serving any entity of the General Assembly at the discretion of the Coordinating Council.***
- C. Duties of the Coordinating Council shall include all of the general and specific powers provided for in the Constitution {G-11.0103(v)}, and it shall be understood that these Standing Rules grant the Coordinating Council all of these powers. The Coordinating Council shall have the following additional duties, functions and powers, but shall not be limited to the following:

**APPENDIX F**  
**STANDING RULES – SECOND READING**  
**Page 7 of 16**

1. Referred Business  
To consider and act upon such business as has been referred to it by the Presbytery and the Membership Networks, including but not limited to, the reading and approval of the Minutes of Presbytery meetings.
  2. Meetings  
To meet at times and places designated in an annual schedule recommended by the Executive Committee or for special meetings as determined by the Executive Committee.
  3. General Oversight  
To have general oversight of the programmatic and mission work of the Presbytery including implementing priorities, goals, strategies, and programs to enable the Presbytery and Networks to fulfill their mission.
  4. Recommendations  
***To submit recommendations to Presbytery on matters requiring the Presbytery's attention.***
  5. Budget Recommendations  
To present to the stated meeting of Presbytery in September a per capita budget for the following calendar year, the rate of per capita apportionment required to support it, and a Presbytery mission budget for the following year to be supported by voluntary giving by each church.
  6. Session Records  
To assure the annual examination of session records by the Session Records Committee and their approval by Presbytery
  7. Service Teams (including Development) and Mission Partnerships  
To establish and dissolve teams, task forces, partnerships, and committees that fulfill the presbytery's priorities, responsibilities and goals as determined by the Presbytery and its Membership Networks. Additional individuals may be co-opted to serve on these teams, task forces, partnerships, and committees.
  8. Nominate the Nominating Committee  
To nominate members for the Nominating Committee of Presbytery.
- D. MEETINGS  
The Coordinating Council shall meet at least four times each year.
- E. QUORUM  
A quorum for meetings of the Coordinating Council shall be 12 members (provided each Membership Network is represented by at least one person and there is one Member At Large)

**APPENDIX F**  
**STANDING RULES – SECOND READING**  
**Page 8 of 16**

**F. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COORDINATING COUNCIL**

1. The Executive Committee of the Coordinating Council shall ***be elected at the Council's first meeting*** and consist of the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Moderator of Council, Executive Staff, members elected by and from the Coordinating Council (one from each class with election being held at Orientation and Planning Retreat in January of each year) with due consideration given to G-4.0403 & 9.0104a.

The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of any three members of the Executive Committee. It shall expedite the work of the Presbytery and Coordinating Council and act for them on matters for which a Presbytery Coordinating Council meeting is not expedient (or when action is required between meetings of the Presbytery or Council)--provided that any decision made or action taken be reported at the next Council meeting. ***The Executive Committee shall communicate to the Coordinating Council any actions it has taken in their stead between meetings.***

2. In the event Presbytery becomes a respondent or complainant in a remedial case, the Executive Committee is empowered to designate a committee of counsel on behalf of Presbytery, reporting its action at the next meeting of Presbytery through the Coordinating Council. (D-6.0700)
3. The Executive Committee shall develop the docket of meetings for Presbytery.
4. ***Administrative Commissions are elected by the Presbytery. When expedience is required, the Executive Committee of the Coordinating Council may nominate persons to an administrative commission. The nominees shall be elected at the next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery along with the approval of the Administrative Commission's scope of Powers (G-90502).***

**G. POLICY MANUAL**

The Coordinating Council shall maintain a Policy Manual which shall include all policies established by all sub-units of the Presbytery. Such policies must be approved by the Coordinating Council before they may be included in the Manual. The Stated Clerk shall keep such manual current and provide copies as requested.

**ARTICLE VII - MISSION FOCUS UNITS**

The Coordinating Council shall be composed of three "Mission Focus Units" for the purpose of fulfilling the Council's responsibilities.

**A. Mission Operations Focus (7 Council Members)**

Shall be responsible for the ecclesiastically or organizationally mandated operational/"maintenance" functions of the Presbytery. Council members (including the Coordinating Council Moderator, are assigned by the Moderator of Council; members are appointed by the Presbytery Moderator, with the concurrence of the Coordinating Council.

**APPENDIX F**  
**STANDING RULES – SECOND READING**  
**Page 9 of 16**

1. Personnel Committee

- a. The Personnel Committee shall consist of two members of Council and four classes of one member each. The chair must be a member of Coordinating Council and shall be Presbytery's representative to Synod's equivalent Committee.
- b. The Personnel Committee shall review, recommend to Coordinating Council, and implement all personnel and administrative policies pertaining to employees of the Presbytery. This duty shall include, but not be limited to, oversight (in appropriate consultation with representatives of other governing bodies) of new or revised job descriptions, changes in annual salaries, performance reviews, and changes in employment status of all applicants or currently employed Presbytery personnel. The Committee shall be available to the elected officers of Presbytery and the Executive staff for consultation and advice on the personnel aspects of their responsibilities.
- c. The Personnel Committee shall maintain the Personnel Policies of the Presbytery, submitting any changes to the Coordinating Council for the Council's approval.

2. Session Records Review Committee

The Session Records Committee shall consist of two members of Council and four classes of one member each and the Chair shall be a member of the Coordinating Council. The Session Records Review Committee will be responsible for reviewing the records of the sessions of congregations within the Presbytery and for reporting on its review and recommendations of Session records to the Coordinating Council and to the Presbytery.

3. Finance Committee

- a. The Finance Committee shall consist of two members of Council and four classes of one member each. The Chair, ***if not a member of Council, shall become a member of the Coordinating Council.*** No member of the Finance Committee shall have had a business relationship with the Presbytery during the previous 4 years and may not have any business relationship with the Presbytery during and for 4 years following their term of office.
- b. Responsibilities include:
  - 1) Budget preparation, budget management, investment management, counsel to the Treasurer.
  - 2) Prepare of and recommend to Coordinating Council the annual Mission and Per Capita Budgets--and recommend the level of per capita required to support the Operating Budget.
  - 3) Determine with the Treasurer how financial information shall be displayed and reported.

**APPENDIX F**  
**STANDING RULES – SECOND READING**  
**Page 10 of 16**

- 4) Advise the Treasurer regarding the management of all Presbytery financial holdings/investments.
  - 5) Provide oversight and advice regarding management of the Operating and mission Budgets and Accounts.
  - 6) Create, monitor, and maintain a written set of accounting policies and operating procedures (including internal controls)
  - 7) Maintain an understanding of all restricted contributions and ensure expenditures are made appropriately.
  - 8) Monitor the status of all loan guarantees [approved by Board of Directors
  - 9) Develop and provide oversight for the “whistleblower policy” in the Presbytery’s Personnel Manual.
- c. The Finance Committee shall be the “Audit Committee” of the Presbytery.
- d. Provide for an annual, independent audit of the Presbytery's financial records.
4. Bills and Overtures  
Bills and Overtures is considered a Committee of the Mission Operations focus of the Coordinating Council, but its membership and duties are defined in **Article X.3 in this document.**
5. Board of Directors  
The Board of Directors is a body of the Mission Operations focus of the Coordinating Council and its membership is defined in Article III.6
- Duties of the Board of Directors shall be:
- a. To maintain the Corporation of the Whitewater Valley Presbytery under the laws of the State of Indiana;
  - b. To hold title to all property of Presbytery and to serve as agent for receiving and disposing of property (including enforcement of G-8.0201);
  - c. To be the official agent of Presbytery in all corporate matters;
  - d. To examine, and make recommendations on all instruments involving legal transactions where Presbytery approval is required.

**APPENDIX F**  
**STANDING RULES – SECOND READING**  
**Page 11 of 16**

B. Mission Support Focus (10 Council members)

Responsible for the Mission efforts and outreach of the Presbytery

1. Mission Partnerships

Congregations, clusters of congregations, or ecumenical clusters of congregations (involving at least one congregation of this Presbytery), may apply to the Presbytery for a “partnership”. Partnerships may involve ecclesiastical, financial, leadership, or other forms of support by the Presbytery with the congregation(s) providing the initiative, people, and oversight of the actual project. Normally, Partnerships will only be directly supported up to three years.

2. Presbytery Mission

Certain Mission undertakings will involve all (or nearly all) congregations of the Presbytery—both for support and participation. These projects must be validated as such by the Council and may be funded on a regular, year-to-year basis. The Council may initiate such Missions as they may emerge from Networks or congregations.

C. Mission Delivery Focus (15 Council Members)

Responsible for programmatic efforts, strategic planning, and service delivery to Networks and congregations.

1. The Mission Delivery Focus shall be responsible for implementing Presbytery and Membership Network priorities and goals, new church development, congregational redevelopment, awareness of and services involving communication and technology, and provide oversight of special ongoing task groups (e.g. “*Peacemaking*” and “*Self-Development of People*”). These tasks will normally be carried out by Service Delivery Teams, constituted for a specific, time defined task, and then dissolved when the task is completed.

2. Certain Task Groups may from time to time be created by the Coordinating Council to carry out ongoing responsibilities of the Presbytery. The Chair of such groups shall be appointed by the Coordinating Council and ad hoc members recruited based on interests, skills, and commitment. Such ad hoc members may serve indefinite terms. Examples: providing Mission Studies when a church is without a pastor; providing ongoing support to a New Church Development until it is chartered; providing technical, computer, communication support to congregations.

D. Electronic Meetings

Mission Focus Units and their Committees/Sub-Committees/Task Forces/or their other properly constituted sub-group, may conduct any or all meetings by electronic means (teleconference, video conference, email, or any other commonly available means of electronic communication), provided.

1. Documentation of all decisions is made and is circulated to all members and the decisions summarized for the constituting body;

**APPENDIX F**  
**STANDING RULES – SECOND READING**  
**Page 12 of 16**

2. That in groups with fewer than 9 members, any one individual may request a face to face meeting and no action may be taken until such meeting is held. In groups of 9 or more, 2 members must request a face-to-face meeting (with no action taken until such meeting is held).
3. Options are (made) available for those without access to the electronic form of communication being used.
4. Robert's Rules applies regarding voting, with a favorable vote by the majority of the group's actual membership being required for action.

**ARTICLE VIII - ECCLESIASTICAL COMMITTEES**

Ecclesiastical Committees are those mandated by the Book of Order, elected by the Presbytery, and are directly accountable to Presbytery.

A. Committee on Ministry (COM) – Twenty-seven elected members

1. The Committee on Ministry shall be responsible for carrying out those responsibilities delegated to it by the Book of Order.

The Committee on Ministry is an administrative commission of Presbytery authorized to act regularly on behalf of the presbytery in all matters permitted by G-14.0500 and G-11.0502h relating to calling, examining, receiving, and dismissing members, and on matters relating to retirement. (G-14.0507c & G-11.0412)

2. Quorum. A quorum for the Commission on Ministry shall be at least 1/3 of the members with not fewer than five elders.

B. Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) - 12 elected members

1. This committee is responsible for the care of persons received as inquirers and candidates for ordination to the office of minister of the Word. The responsibilities of the committee are listed in the Book of Order (G-11.0103L G-14.0300 - 14.0400) and the committee is granted commission powers relating to enrolling Inquirers (G-14.0303(e)).
2. This committee shall also be responsible for the care of persons seeking certification as Certified Christian Educators in the Presbyterian Church(U.S.A.).

C. Committee on Nominations and Representation - 6 elected members  
1/3 laywomen, 1/3 laymen, 1/3 ministers

1. This committee's membership criteria and responsibilities are listed in the Book of Order (G-9.0800).
2. All nominations shall be made at the year's final **stated** meeting of Presbytery, except that, when vacancies occur, nominations shall be made at the next succeeding stated meeting.

**APPENDIX F**  
**STANDING RULES – SECOND READING**  
**Page 13 of 16**

3. As far as is practical and possible, the committee shall nominate persons representing the diversity of the Presbytery (including geographical considerations).
  4. The Nominating Committee shall be one name only for each office, except for commissioners to General Assembly, for which two names are to be presented for each available position. {see Policies for additional guidelines}. Printed biographical material in lieu of nominating speeches shall be presented for Commissioners to General Assembly and for the office of Moderator and for the office of Vice-Moderator.
  5. Nominations from the floor are always in order, but shall include prior agreement that the individual will serve and prior arrangement for distribution of biographical material to members of Presbytery.
- D. Committee on Representation (COR)  
The function of this committee is to advise the Presbytery with respect to the principles of participation and inclusiveness to ensure fair and effective representation in the decision-making process (as provided for in Book of Order).

***The Nominating Committee of the Presbytery shall reserve time to act as the Committee on Representation with all responsibilities and duties charged to a "Committee On Representation" by the Book of Order G-9.0105 and shall provide specific information on representation when requested by the Council or Presbytery.***

**ARTICLE IX - THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION**

There shall be a Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC) composed of four elders and five ministers charged with the responsibilities defined in the Rules of Discipline. In even-numbered years the Permanent Judicial Commission shall meet at the Presbytery's last stated meeting of the year for the purpose of electing a moderator and clerk, and conducting any other business necessary.

A. Investigating Committees

1. The Moderator of Presbytery shall normally nominate persons for the Investigating Committee (D-10.0103 and .0200) and Presbytery or Council (or its Executive Committee) shall elect them.
2. When the Presbytery, (normally) through the Stated Clerk, receives information upon which there is reason to believe that an offense may have occurred which should be investigated for the purpose of possible discipline as provided for in the Rules of Discipline, and no meeting of the Presbytery is scheduled within 21 days, then the Coordinating Council (or its Executive Committee if the Council does not meet within 21 days) is authorized to appoint an Investigating Committee, with the full powers provided for in the Rules of Discipline, and to report such action to the next meeting of Presbytery or Council.

**APPENDIX F**  
**STANDING RULES – SECOND READING**  
**Page 14 of 16**

**ARTICLE X - COMMISSIONERS TO HIGHER GOVERNING BODIES**

A. Commissioners to General Assembly

1. Commissioners shall be elected at Presbytery's last stated meeting of the year ***in the year immediately preceding a General Assembly meeting*** and according to the policies & procedures established by the Presbytery. Such election shall be contingent upon the individuals completing an orientation for commissioners including the duties and privileges of commissioners, organization of General Assembly, familiarity with the documents of General Assembly and knowledge of the representative form of government. Elected persons who have completed such orientation are deemed to be adequately prepared to fulfill the commission, and the Moderator and/or Stated Clerk are authorized to sign the commissions by order of the Presbytery.
2. Commissioners shall report on actions of the General Assembly at the first stated meeting of Presbytery following the adjournment of the Assembly.
3. Commissioners to the General Assembly shall be Presbytery's Committee on Bills and Overtures. They shall serve in this capacity from the close of the Assembly to which they were elected until the beginning of the next stated meeting of the Assembly. They shall meet, normally before leaving the Assembly, and elect a chairperson and a secretary, and announce the names of those persons to the meeting of the Presbytery at which they present their report of the actions of the Assembly.

The Committee shall be placed organizationally in "Mission Operations" of the Coordinating Council but is accountable only to Presbytery.

4. All overtures to and from the General Assembly shall be referred to this Committee for its advice and recommendation and normally reported at the Presbytery's last stated meeting of the year.

**ARTICLE XI - RESIGNATIONS**

Presbytery representatives to Synod, and members of Coordinating Council (and Council Committees), and Ecclesiastical committees who are absent three consecutive meetings (four total if a group meets more than six times per year) may be asked to resign ***in consultation with the Stated Clerk and the Presbytery/Council and will fill the vacancy through the Nominating Committee process.***

**ARTICLE XII - PROCEDURES AND POLICIES**

- A. The Presbytery and Coordinating Council may develop policies and principles of operation and procedure. They shall be presented to Presbytery and adopted by a majority vote and preserved by the Stated Clerk in a "Policy Manual" of the Presbytery. They may be changed by Presbytery at any time, provided that the Coordinating Council has had an opportunity to study the proposed changes and Presbytery has heard the Council's recommendation.

**APPENDIX F**  
**STANDING RULES – SECOND READING**  
**Page 15 of 16**

- B. Ecclesiastical Committees may develop their own principles of operation and procedure in consultation with, and with the approval of, the Coordinating Council. If these are to become policies of Presbytery, they must be adopted by Presbytery by a majority vote, Presbytery having first heard the recommendation of the Coordinating Council. Changes in such policy may be made at any meeting of Presbytery provided that the Committee and the Coordinating Council have studied the proposed changes and Presbytery has heard the recommendation of each.

**ARTICLE XIII - AMENDMENTS**

These Standing Rules may be amended according to the following procedure:

- A. Any commissioner to this presbytery, congregation of this presbytery, or group constituted by this Presbytery or these Standing Rules, may present a proposed amendment at any stated or adjourned meeting of Presbytery, or at any meeting specifically called for that purpose. Upon receiving a second, questions and answers are in order, but it shall not be debated at that meeting, but shall immediately be referred to the Coordinating Council for study and recommendation. The text of the proposed change(s) shall be included with the call for the next meeting of the Presbytery.
- B. At its next stated meeting the Presbytery shall hear the report of the Coordinating Council, together with its recommendation either for or against adoption.
- C. Amendments to the language of the proposed amendment shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.
- D. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Ministers and Elder Commissioners registered at that meeting shall be necessary for adoption.

**ARTICLE XIV - SUSPENSION OF STANDING RULES**

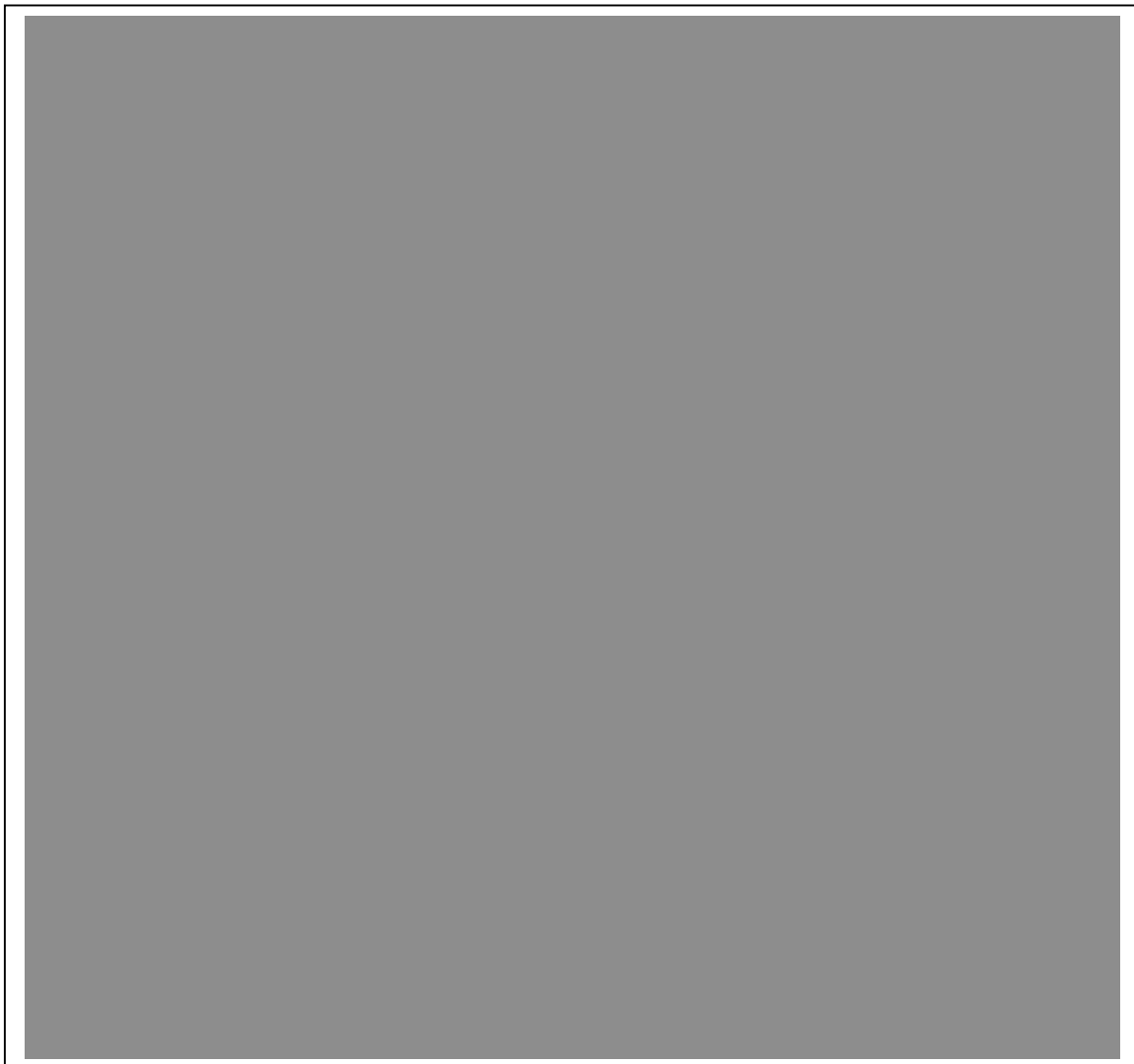
- A. Any of these Standing Rules except this one may be suspended for a particular purpose stated in the motion at any meeting of Presbytery by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Ministers and Elder Commissioners registered at that meeting.
- B. Presbytery may suspend two readings of proposed Amendments to the Standing Rules only if such action is proposed by the Council and the motion to suspend the second reading is approved by three-fourth's of those registered at that Presbytery meeting.



**APPENDIX F**  
**STANDING RULES – SECOND READING**  
**Page 16 of 16**

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Appendix of Book of Order notation:

The Work of the Council: (G.....v.) to establish and superintend the agencies necessary for its work, including a presbytery council, providing for the regular review of the functional relationship between presbytery's structure and its mission. The presbytery may, by its own established rules, assign to its council responsibility for action between meetings of presbytery on such specific areas of its responsibilities as it shall deem appropriate, assign to its committee on ministry those powers specified in G-11.0502h, and assign to its committee on preparation for ministry authority to dismiss candidates, enroll inquirers, and certify candidates as ready for examination for ordination; with the provision that all such actions be reported to the next stated meeting of the presbytery (G-9.0403, G-14.0310a; G-14.0507)



**APPENDIX G**  
**THEOLOGICAL RATIONALE FOR SALE OF PROPERTY**  
**Page 1 of 1**

**Theological Rationale for Distribution of Funds from the Sale of Property**

**PREFACE**

In the April 10, 2007 Board of Directors minutes it was agreed by consent to ask Council to form a group to create a theological rationale for distribution of funds from the sale of property

We have guidelines for churches when they sell property and continue to be active congregation, but it is unclear how the presbytery is to act when property is sold and the congregations is no longer active.

In the April 11, 2007 Executive Committee of Coordinating Council minutes it was agreed by consensus, Sandra Reid will recruit two people to work with her to create the rationale for presentation to the July 11 Executive meeting. This action was presented and approved by Coordinating Council at the May 2, 2007 meeting.

The question raised by the Board of Directors is how is the presbytery to act when a church chooses to sell their property vs. when a church is dissolved. The first is addressed in CURRENT POLICY MANUAL, section F.i,ii and the second is addressed constitutionally in the *Book of Order*, G-8.0401.

**This *Theological Rationale for the Distribution of Funds from the Sale of Property* was created by June Barrow, Sandra Reid and Martha Jordan-Williams is to give guidance as to how the presbytery is to act based from a theological perspective.**

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**Theological Rationale**  
**For the Distribution of Funds from the Sale of Property**

***God's provision for Christ's Church***

God is the creator of all things in heaven, earth, sea and under the sea. It is God that has made us and not we ourselves and **the Lord** alone provides for the welfare of all that God has created. God has covenanted with humankind to (1) bless, (2) prosper and (3) make us to be a blessing to others (Gen. 17:7).

It is through the family, living in community, that God performs the role as Giver, Nourisher, and Protector (Psalm 68:5-6). Christ's Church, "fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God" (Eph. 2:19) are beneficiaries of God's blessings and favor. Therefore, as children of God (John 1:12) it is the role of the church, the "Body of Christ", to Love, Nurture, and Protect one another.

***Christ's teachings and example***

The cross of Christ is the ultimate picture of generosity and self-giving love. There Jesus "emptied himself" for us (Philippians 2:7). In teaching his disciples, Jesus urged them to be generous: "Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you" (Luke 6:38). Always Jesus chose and helped the poor, the excluded, and the suffering. In the parable of the talents, Jesus urged wise and discerning stewardship in the use of all that God gives (Luke 19:11-27). Following Christ's example and obeying his teaching, we seek to be discerning and generous in finding uses for these funds.

**Our responsibilities as stewards for the common good**

Stewardship is about making choices, as individuals and as part of the community. We often speak of it as part of a fundraising plan, but it is more than just giving to the church. To be a good steward, we are called to be faithful disciples, caring for and managing all that God has given us. In response to God's grace and goodness, we are required to consider how our choices affect us, those around us and the future generations to come. When we make decisions, we must consider how we can best serve God as disciples.

Therefore, we need to be wise and discerning with what God has entrusted to us based on Luke 19:11-27. We must invest in Christian endeavors that will multiply the spiritual faith and encourage spiritual growth rather than just keep it to ourselves.

**APPENDIX H**  
**ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES**  
**Page 1 of 1**

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES FOR SEPT THRU NOV GO HERE

**APPENDIX I**  
**JEFF RASLEY'S REBUTTAL**  
**Page 1 of 2**

It is my request that, if my candidacy is to be terminated, that it be recorded as done so in good standing. It is my hope that the termination of my candidacy will not preclude the possibility of applying to another presbytery should I change residences in the future. It is also my intent to end the conflict that has arisen between the CPM and me. Finally, I would like to be of service to the Presbytery and the CPM by presenting my understanding of what went wrong in my relationship with the CPM.

The "Rationale" for the "Request for Action", regarding my candidacy, and passed by vote of the Presbytery at its March 5, 2005 meeting, states that:

"Jeff Rasley fulfilled all the requirements of Inquirers and Candidates as a seminary student, graduating with highest honors ... passing all ordination exams ... completing a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education under the supervision of Ed Dykstra and Fred Matthias and performing a field education ministry in collaboration with Second Presbyterian and Westminster Presbyterian Churches. ... His recently returned Midwest Ministry Center psychological evaluation gives very positive feedback and the expectation of a successful ministry for him. Jeff has given his part time internship at Fairview Presbyterian Church ... Previously earned excellent grades and passing marks on the Standard Ordination Exams give every indication he is more than sufficiently prepared for the academic aspects of parish ministry."

The Motion which passed was that my "period of candidacy begin ... September 13, 2004 and continue for one year, allowing him to be Certified Ready to Receive a Call, effective September, 2005." That was the track I thought I was on.

My relationship with the CPM, as I perceived it, was warm and encouraging, until what was to be my final meeting with the CPM in September 2005. I was told that, at the meeting I was to preach a sermon, present an exegesis paper and statement of faith. I did not receive any written instructions from the CPM as to rules or guidelines with respect to the sermon, paper or statement. However, I had preached the sermon to a church two weeks before the meeting, and it was very well received. I circulated the statement of faith and exegesis among several ordained members of the Presbytery, my pastor, liaison member and moderator of the CPM. Some comments were offered about making the statement "more standard," but I looked forward to a warm, collegial and interesting theological discussion with Committee members about the exegesis and statement of faith.

Unfortunately, the meeting did not go well. It turned, in my perception, from encouraging and cooperative to adversarial. I fault myself because the sermon I preached lasted 35 minutes, and the statement did not directly address the sacraments at all. The first comment by a Committee member on my statement of faith was that "it was unacceptable, because it was not single-spaced on one page." I felt like I'd been hit in the solar plexus. I had not been informed of such a requirement. Some heated words were exchanged. After that moment, it seemed to me that the tone and substance of communications between the CPM and me changed dramatically. It felt like I was no longer being guided but judged, and not judged fairly. Members of the CPM, I am told, thought I had behaved arrogantly and insensitively toward them.

It seems in retrospect, that had an effort to conciliate and guide the relationship forward occurred at that time, my candidacy would have gotten back on track. But no such effort was made by the Committee or me. The Moderator (Peggy McDonald) did call and inform me that I should apologize to the Committee. She also instructed me to re-read the ordination vows, and she told me to ask myself what I would teach kids going through a confirmation class. I was told to re-write the statement of faith and to let the Committee know if and when I was ready to meet with the Committee again to complete the "examination" of me as to my statement of faith. Both of our voices were raised during this phone conversation. I was angry and defensive. It should have been clear that our relationship was no longer one of "guidance" as required by the Book of Order.

Over the course of the next year I complied with the instructions given me by Peggy, as I understood them. As before, I received no written instructions as to additional expectations of me. I received no copies of annual reports, as required by the Book of Order, during the two years I have been under care. (Neither did my Session.) A final request made of me before the next meeting in March 2007 was that I meet with Carol Johnston to seek her approval of the revised statement. I tried to do so, but received no replies from Carol. Since the statement had been critiqued by Bob Anderson, several ordained members of the Presbytery, and my pastor, and all controversial points were removed; I again looked forward to having an encouraging and interesting discussion with the Committee. However, once again, the CPM voted not to certify me ready to receive a call.

**APPENDIX I**  
**JEFF RASLEY'S REBUTTAL**  
**Page 2 of 2**

I met with Bob Anderson and Carol Johnston a few days after the meeting and was informed by Carol that I had failed to demonstrate sufficient "knowledge of, commitment to, and passion about Reformed theology" at the meeting, and so the Committee voted not to certify. I tried to engage her in a discussion of theology, faith, and my history of commitment to the Presbyterian Church-USA, but there was no interest in such a discussion. Carol did offer to engage in a course of study with me of Guthrie's Christian Doctrine, and that, if she considered that I had gained sufficient knowledge, commitment and passion to Reformed theology, she would confer further with the CPM about my qualifications. I rejected this offer in an email to Carol and Bob, which was a *cri de coeur*, and asserted that the CPM had acted Pharisaical in its judgment; that they had ignored my faith as demonstrated through my life, and had ignored the evidence of my theological competence demonstrated through scholarly achievement.

After that and over my protest the CPM voted to remove my candidacy from the active rolls. I met with the Moderator privately to try to better understand the thinking and action of the Committee. Peggy and another member of the CPM met with the pastors of my church and me to further explain the decision. And I received a formal letter from Peggy dated July 9, 2007 advising that I am to be removed from the rolls as a candidate for Ministry of Word and Sacrament. In these series of communications it was explained that the Committee did not think I was theologically competent and that I had not behaved pastorally toward the CPM.

One of the criticisms of the CPM reported to me by Carol and Bob was that I had not called upon my pastor or congregation to indicate its support of my candidacy, and to testify as to my theological and pastoral ability. I had not been informed that such expressions were expected, but I then requested some of the people who know of my sense of call to send messages to the CPM. I tried to redirect the CPM's attention to looking at evidence of my faith and competence as demonstrated in life, if they had truly become convinced that something had changed since the Action of the Presbytery in March of 2005. Over 40 messages from "supporters" were sent to the CPM.

Messages were sent from seminary professors at CTS (Ed Towne & Gerry Janzen), pastors from Second (Bill Enright & Ray Bowden) and First Meridian Heights, staff at Fairview, Session members from First Meridian Heights and Fairview, members from several other churches for whom I've led services, friends and colleagues, and family. A "petition" signed by members of First Meridian who attend our Classic Service (for which I served as liturgist for 18 months) is the last addenda copied below. These messages describe personal experiences of my pastoral abilities, theological understanding, and sense of call to ministry. I have copied or attached a sampling of such messages. I have also copied my Curriculum Vitae below. It may be noted that I graduated first in my class at CTS, received the Hebrew Studies Award, and that two years ago I was honored as a lifetime Fellow of Phi Beta Kappa (given for contribution to the scholarship and civic mission of Phi Beta Kappa; only a few Hoosiers have been so recognized, including Father Hesburgh and Senator Lugar).

If one reads these materials, it would seem to present a picture of a candidate ready to seek a call as an ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament. I was encouraged to enter ministry and mentored by wonderful pastors, such as Howard Stone, Fred Matthias, George Boyle, Bill Enright, Ed Towne, Gerry Janzen, and Bob Stewart. It is difficult to accept that I may not fulfill their shared vision for me of "speaking a good word for the Master."

At the beginning of my candidacy, several of my clergy friends counseled me as to the CPM to "tell them whatever they want to hear in whatever way they want to hear it (in accordance with your own conscience, of course)." Is that how we really want candidates to approach the CPM? While my own contribution to my problems with the CPM may rightfully be criticized, surely the primary burden of trying to develop a nurturing and guiding relationship lies with the CPM, or at least the liaison member. I met with my liaison twice; when Peggy introduced us, and once for lunch at my request (after the first rejection by the Committee). Clear expectations set forth in writing would be helpful, and I am told that such have been provided to other candidates. And when a candidate is having problems or not meeting expectation, of whatever sort, personal counsel and guidance from the liaison is essential.

Finally, is "examination" by the CPM as to one's faith statement the appropriate final test to determine whether one is ready to seek a call? It is required that one be examined by the presbytery after receiving a call and before ordination. But the Book of Order does not require an examination by the CPM as to one's statement of faith. The examinations required prior to certification are the five written ones. The final meeting with the CPM, as described by the Book of Order is, rather, an "assessment" not an examination. G-14.0310(a). This implies to me a discussion about whether the candidate is ready to seek a call rather than an examination about one's faith. That one's faith is within the Reformed tradition should have been established during the inquirer phase.

Thank you for your consideration. God's peace to all of you, to Peggy and the members of the CPM,  
Jeff Rasley