



PRESBYTERY MEETING SUMMARY December 1, 2010

[Whitewater Valley Presbytery](#) 1100 W. 42nd St., Indianapolis IN 46208

“Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living waters.” John 7:38

STREAMS OF LIVING WATER – A GRACIOUS WELCOME

The season of Advent embraced commissioners in the beautifully decorated sanctuary of New Hope Presbyterian Church, Fishers. Rev. Steve Ebling welcomed Whitewater Valley Presbyterians, who were delighted when the pre-school children added their own singing welcome. Thank you, New Hope, for an uplifting day and for hosting our meeting with grace and generosity. Commissioners picked up their traditional cookies, distributed by [Pyoca Camp, Conference and Retreat Center](#) to announce their 2011 camp season and retreat schedule. Pyoca’s new staff member, Ms. Ingrid Swanson, Program and Hospitality Coordinator, was introduced. We remembered our own baptisms by announcing and celebrating adult baptisms in our churches.

STREAMS OF LIVING WATER – NURTURING THE ROOTS

A joyful and important task of the Presbytery is to examine Ministers of Word and Sacrament when they receive their first call to ministry. The Presbytery sustained two examinations: Mr. Michael Evanchak, a candidate from Zionsville Presbyterian Church who will serve Hemenway Memorial Presbyterian Church, Booneville, Indiana and Ms. Jessica Konker, Second Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, a Lake Fellow in validated ministry.

We also celebrated new beginnings for two retiring pastors in the Presbytery. Rev. Curtis Page, First Meridian Heights Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis. Curtis served First Meridian Heights Presbyterian Church seventeen years and was ordained in 1971. Rev. Alan McCraine, validated ministry chaplain, New Castle Correctional Facility, also served Bethel Presbyterian Church, Knightstown and the Westminster Community Center, New Castle and was ordained in 1971. God’s richest blessings to these pastors as new ministries begin and continuing ministries evolve.

New ministers to the Presbytery were introduced: Rev. Jan Dykstra, retired; Rev. Youngsoo An, associate pastor and Rev. Ann Pitman, interim associate, First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne; Rev. Robert Agnew, interim head of staff, First Meridian Heights.

STREAMS OF LIVING WATER – SUSTAINING THOSE ON EARTH

Mr. Tyler Orem, First Presbyterian Church, Shelbyville, shared his experiences as a missionary in India. Mr. Orem plans to attend seminary and will continue to explore his passion for mission.

STREAMS OF LIVING WATERS – FLOWING WITH GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT

Thank you for your \$818.50 contributions of hope and heart to the [Christmas Joy Offering](#). The special offerings of the PC(USA) are a prime expression of our Presbyterian connectionalism. 50 percent of the receipts to the Christmas Joy Offering are distributed to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs that provide support to retired and active church workers and their spouses and families. The other fifty percent supports Presbyterian-related racial ethnic education through the General Assembly Council. Through this special offering Whitewater Valley Presbytery’s Committee on Ministry is able to provide matching grants for pastors.

STREAMS OF LIVING WATER – A DENOMINATION INVITING THE FUTURE

The PC(USA)’s Big Tent event - Grow Christ’s Church Deep and Wide, was introduced by Mr. Kerry Rice from the General Assembly. He was accompanied by Ms. Karen Russell and Ms. Kris Valerius. Whitewater Valley Presbytery will host the Big Tent event, scheduled in Indianapolis June 30-July 2, 2011. Commissioners were encouraged to begin publicizing this event with their congregations. Ms. Jen Knebel, Zionsville Presbyterian Church, is the local coordinator. Please reserve June 30-July 2 as days to join and host 3,000 other Presbyterians from across the denomination as we worship and celebrate our mission and heritage. Watch for more information and read more at [Big Tent Event](#).

THE CALMING WATERS OF EVERYDAY MINISTRY AND WORK

Rev. Robert Heimach, Irvington Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, was thanked for his service as the 2010 Presbytery moderator. The Presbytery welcomed new leadership and installed: Elder Judi Trabue, St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis 2011 Presbytery moderator; Rev. Dena Vittorio, First Presbyterian Church, Rushville, Presbytery vice moderator. Rev. Rachel Wann was thanked for her service as the 2010 Coordinating Council moderator and Rev. Joe Fields was installed as the 2011 moderator. Rev. Mark Morningstar was installed to serve as the Coordinating Council vice moderator 2011. All committee moderators were thanked for their leadership and service: Rev. Hal Thomas, Committee on Ministry; Rev. Steve Matthies, Committee on Preparation for Ministry; Rev. David Layman, Nominating Committee; Rev. Galen Schwarz, Board of Directors; Rev. Steve Ebling, Personnel Committee; Elder Sonya Gill, Finance Committee; Elder John Current, Session Records Review; and Rev. David Chaddock, Sexual Misconduct Response Team.

The Coordinating Council introduced a model for General Assembly amendments. The process will include interpretive materials that will be available electronically, a time for study during the February 26, 2011 Presbytery meeting, and by Presbytery approval, a special called meeting of Presbytery for the purpose of discussing and voting on the amendments: Saturday, March 19, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m., Muncie-First.

The Presbytery approved the Nominating Committee’s slate for 2011 committee leadership, received reports from the Hispanic Ministry Lead Team, the Finance Committee, the Coordinating Council and the Committee on Ministry.