

PRESBYTERY OF CAYUGA-SYRACUSE STATED MEETING 13 OCTOBER 2012

At Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church  
DeWitt, New York

Present were Teaching Elders: Harold Abram, Garrett Anderson, Mary Anderson, Lorrie Day Anson, Earl Arnold, Karen Dimon, Dennis Doerr, Robert French, Karen Green, Bill Grossman, Edwin Kang, Craig Lindsey, Roger Martin, Tracie Martin, Andrew McTyre, Sarah McTyre, David Nethercott, Janet Newman, Shawn Reyburn, Howard Rose, Harold Sanderson, Jerald Shave, Caroline Simmons, Patricia Simmons, Debra Thomas, Kathleen Waters, Barbara Wright, Steven Thomas

Excused: Ebbe Arvidson, Lawrence Black, Brigid Boyle, Donald Byers, Jon Chapman, Thomas Drake, Kathleen Griffin, Stuart Hayes, James Hughes, Betty Jones, Gerald Platz, Roger Pohl, Jon Regier, Marianne Rhebergen, Lester Staton, Saunda Thomas, Alcides Torres, Harold Wheat, Philip Windsor, Allen Wollenberg

Ruling Elder Commissioners: Robert Armstrong (Amboy Belle Isle), Ann Wiley (First, Auburn), Ellen Schaffer (Aurora, United Ministry), Scott Campbell (First, Cazenovia), Rich Curtis (First, Chittenango), Beth Krauss (Fayetteville United), Neil Rotach (First, King Ferry), Karen Fay (First, Liverpool), Susan Silliman Smith (First, Mexico), Frank McDowell, Robert Richardson (Northminster), Leslie King (Faith United, Oswego), Patricia Bardwell (Otisco), Lillian Harter (New Hope), Jeanne Herst (Scipioville), Gail Banks (Robinson Memorial), Karen Wolff (Isaiah's Table)

Leadership Team Ruling Elders: David Graham, Jean Harshaw, Sandra Kreplin, Karen McDonough, Sharye Skinner, Craig Williams  
Excused: Gordon Howard, Charlie Smith

Corresponding Members: Anne Jones, Nancy Wind [Isaiah's Table], Donna Mitchell [King Ferry], Allison Seed [Heartland Presbytery, Board of Pensions], Harry Young [Utica], Sandra Arnold [Pebble Hill], Margaret Charters, Alex Charters [both of Park Central], Ruth G. Haase [Northminster].

Visitors: Rev. Gi-Yong Choi, Moderator of Pyongyang Presbytery  
Rev. Yoon-Soo Lee, former moderator of Pyongyang Presbytery; member of Pyongyang Presbytery's World Mission Committee  
Rev. Woo-Cheol Kim, member of Pyongyang Presbytery's Ecumenical Relations Committee and member of Pyongyang Presbytery's Executive Committee  
Linda Russell of the C-S Korean Partnership

The meeting began with prayer at 9:30.

The chair of the Leadership Team led in worship accompanied by a jazz ensemble from CNY Jazz.

After worship, Kathleen Waters announced that the Synod of the Northeast and Princeton Theological Seminary will be offering two Interim/Transitional Ministry Educational events in 2013. One will be March 4-8 in New York City and the other October 14-18 at the seminary. For more information, contact Kathleen or go to the Princeton Seminary web site.

Leadership Team Report: Part 1 –

Bill Grossman introduced Allison Seed who is the regional representative for the Board of Pensions. She said if anyone had any questions for her, she could always be reached at [ASeed@pensions.org](mailto:ASeed@pensions.org)

She commended the CoM and Pastor-to-Pastors for sponsoring a retirees' luncheon in Canestota the previous day [10/12]. This was a joint effort between Cayuga-Syracuse and Utica Presbyteries.

She said she was thankful for leaders in time of change. She compared the near future with Mr. Toad's Wild Ride. By 2014, there is a potential \$28 million dollar shortfall in the money available for paying out medical benefits.

She offered two brochures for planned seminars in the spring. March 12-13, 2013 will be a two-day seminar for those pastors who are pre-retirement. The following day is a one-day event for those post-retirement.

Leadership Team presentation based on Isaiah 41:10. "In God's Hands"

The Leadership Team reminded us that WE ARE the Presbytery and that we are moving from "rules and regulations" to "permission-giving grace." The Leadership Team will be acting in a different manner than the former council will be relying more on modern communications. Several people in the presbytery have been trained in communications, and are willing to help individual churches set up web pages, etc.

The Leadership Team members were introduced individually.

Everyone present was invited to 'listening stations' in the foyer to ask questions, offer suggestions and discuss various topics of interest.

At 12:00 pm, we adjourned for a soup-and-salad lunch provided by Pebble Hill, and cooked by Dave Forrest from Robinson Memorial. There was no charge for the lunch, but a free-will donation was sought to help fund local food pantries.

At 1:00, the business meeting convened with prayer.

A quorum was declared.

Corresponding members were seated by acclaim, given voice but not vote.

Neil Rotach is Acting Journal Clerk, and Harry Young of Utica Presbytery is Parliamentarian. Dave Graham is the Acting Stated Clerk.

Betty Jones has attended worship at St. Camillus and will be in prayer during the Presbytery meeting.

The moderator acted to remove items from the consent agenda. The docket was approved as amended.

A motion was offered to thank the Rev. Pete Shidemantle and the Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church for their hospitality.

The minutes of the June 5 Presbytery Meeting at Cazenovia were presented. Motion was made and seconded to approve. Passed by acclamation.

Bill Grossman of the Ministry Work Group [formerly Committee on Ministry] presented the Rev. and Mrs. Dennis Doerr. Dennis will be retiring at the end of December in order to devote more time to family. Several people gave tribute to Dennis and Linda, praising their dedication and love for each other, their congregation and the presbytery.

Linda Russell introduced the visiting members of Pyongyang Presbytery, who presented gifts and greetings to Pete Shidemantle, Chair of the Leadership Team and Steve Thomas, Moderator.

Report from Frank McDowell who said that the Theological Education Fund needs money in order to continue making grants and loans. He also offered information on applying to seminary to all who were interested.

Report from General Assembly Commissioners: Teaching Elder Bob French, Ruling Elder Roberta Richardson, and Young Adult Advisory Delegate Pearl Fisher. Despite controversy and widely differing opinions, all three stated it was a life-changing event.

Leadership Team Report: Part 2 –

We covet your prayers and a time of grace.

Consent Agenda items removed for action.

David Graham will serve as Acting Stated Clerk.

Reports from various Work Groups:

MINISTRY – Deb Thomas is back on the Pulpit Supply List.

PROPERTY AND FINANCE - Per Capita for 2013 will remain at [or less than] \$40.00. They hope to lower that figure as the budget changes.

HUMAN RESOURCES – Questions were raised about the Stated Clerk and Web Spinner positions and actions taken at the June 5 presbytery meeting. A discussion ensued about what had been done by the Leadership Team in changing the direction taken at the June meeting. The matter was referred back to the Leadership Team. Those with issues need to be in touch with the Leadership Team. Their next meeting is Wednesday, November 14 from 5 – 7pm at Pebble Hill.

The Leadership Team recommends 1.75 % increase in Minimum Terms of Call. Motion was made and seconded; passed by acclaim.

Leadership Team recommends the following slate:

- Elect to the Nominating Committee the following people: Ruling Elder Margaret Charters, former Moderator, to serve as Chair; Ruling Elder Liz Buonocore and the Rev. David Nethercott to serve as members of the former Council; the Rev. Patricia Simmons from the Presbytery at large. Motion made and seconded to accept this slate, passed by acclaim.
- Elect Ruling Elder Wynetta Devore as Commissioner to Synod Assembly. Moved, seconded, passed by acclaim.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 2:45 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Neil Rotach, Acting Journal Clerk  
David Graham, Acting Stated Clerk

[Approved without exception by Presbytery, 18 May 2013]