

Minutes in Seconds
Digest of Actions Taken at Stated Meeting of
The Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley
First Presbyterian Church of Gilbertsville, November 3, 2007

- The meeting theme was “**The Incarnation**” and included worship with original music by the Rev **Cynthia Huling Hummel** (Waverly) along with readings from “**Water Power**” by Rebecca VanDerHeide (Nineveh). 50% of the offering was designated for Ethiopia and 50% for the Storehouse (East Worcester). The session moderator and COM liaison the **Rev. Dale Francis** welcomed us, and the Gilbertsville church provided lite refreshments at breakfast time and a nourishing lunch. Tables from **SERVV** were also filled with handcrafted items, and the proceeds went to the Ethiopian Partnership.
- **Synod Co-Executive Clint McCoy** was seated as a corresponding member also addressed the meeting using a powerpoint presentation during the report of the Staffing Rationale Task Force led by Rev. **Allen Presby**. Time was taken during the Assembly for Surveys to be filled out.
- Presbytery elected a slate brought by the Nominating Committee:
Moderator of Presbytery for 2008 Elder **Deborah Fleming** (West Delhi; CLP at Cabin Hill)
Vice-Moderator of Presbytery 2008 Rev. **Pat Raube** (Designated Pastor, Endicott Union)
Commissioners to General Assembly (San Jose, CA, June 2008):
Rev. **Douglas Horne** (Chaplain, United Methodist Homes)
Elder **Laura Lawson** (Charlotte Valley)
Youth Advisory Delegate **Michael Hoskins** (Conklin)
Alternate GA Commissioners: Elder **John Schwartz** (Ithaca); Rev. **Janet Abel** (Immanuel; Chaplain, United Methodist Homes)
Synod of the Northeast:
Minister Commissioner class of 2009(2010) Rev. **Dale Francis** (East Guilford/Unadilla)
Alternate Minister Commissioner: **class of 2009(2010)** Rev. **Gilbert McKenzie** (Cortland UP)
Elder Commissioner 2008(2009) **Laura Lawson** (Charlotte Valley)
Youth Advisory Delegate (**to correct class year**) **Christina Espy-Sundt 2008(2009)**
[important note – these class years for Synod end with the beginning of the fall Synod Assembly in the year indicated in parenthesis, just before the Assembly convenes]
Committee on Lay Preaching:
2008 Rev. **Andrew Stehlik** (West) **2008** Rev. **Carol Wilson** (Charlotte Valley)
2010 Elder **Don Law** (Binghamton First)
Committee on Ministry:
2008 Elder **Fraser Williams** (Northminster) **2008** Elder **Judith Wildenstein** (Walton)
2009 Elder **Dale Barber**(Waverly) **2009** Elder **Joan Wise-Hostetter**(Owego)
2010 Rev **Tom Ballard** (Walton) **2010** Elder **Shirley Davis**(Margaretville/New Kingston)
2010 Rev **Lisa Heckman** (Delhi, United Ministry) **2010** Rev **James Hicks** (Honorably Retd)
2010 Rev **Arthur Suggs** (First UCC, Binghamton) **2010** Elder **Bonnie Wheeler** (West)
Committee on Preparation for Ministry: **2008** Rev. **Andrew Stehlik** (West)
Presbytery Council (at-large members):
2010 Rev **Janet Abel** (Immanuel; Chaplain United Methodist Homes)
2010 Elder **John Folmer** (Christ, Cortlandvile) **2010** Rev **Robert Peak**(Johnson City)
Permanent Judicial Commission:
2009 Rev **Matthew Medford** (Cortland UP) **2009** Elder **Nancy Walter** (Binghamton First)
Committee on Representation: **2010** Elder Henry K. Hammond (**Union, Endicott**)
Presbytery Nominating Committee:
2009 Elder **Bruce Brent** (Northminster) **2009** Rev **Ronald Thomas** (Hon. Retired)

At the recommendation of the **Christian Nurture Team**, Rev. **Diarmuid O'Hara** was appointed as contact person for the Presbytery **Resource Center** and **Craig Kunkle** was appointed as POINT person for curriculum.

Persons Elected by Council:

Finance sub-committee: 2010 Elder **Roger Hammond** (Johnson City)

Personnel sub-committee: 2009 Elder **Charles Brink** (Binghamton First), Rev. **Allen Presby**

Worship sub-committee: 2010 Elder **Lynn Reeves** (Afton)

- The report of Interim Executive Presbyter for Transition and Transformation, Rev. **Cheryl Ann Elfond** was themed around Phillipians 2:2-4 and recognized the service of people who have completed service on many Presbytery committees.
- Presbytery approved the report of the **Administrative Commission for South Hills** including a recommendation to establish a fund of \$90,000 for seed money for creative ministries to be administered by the Council; sending \$75,000 to the Samaritan Counseling Center and the remainder, some \$8532.84, to the Ethiopian Partnership. The commission was dissolved with thanks.
- Flood Relief Program Coordinator Rev. **Doug Horne** gave a report on the work completed by the "Noah's Dove" Cluster/Team and many other volunteers. It was moved to include this report with the minutes and to send it to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance with the request that PDA consider an article in 'Presbyterians Today' or other publications to celebrate this Spirit-inspired accomplishment and witness.
- A motion from the Session of **West Presbyterian** church was amended and adopted *charging Council to design a process for reviewing and amending the mission statement.*
- Presbytery **approved** an overture to be sent to the General Assembly requesting that the GA endorse the '**Amman Call**' for peace in the Middle East.
- The Justice in Mission Team report reminded us of the visit of Doug Tilton during Mission Challenge '07, the **No2Torture** campaign and Hunger Action Enabler **Joyce Donohue** (Conklin) spoke about several hunger related issues including the 'Cents-ability' program.
- The Rev. **Gilbert McKenzie** was honored with a ceremony of Honorable Retirement. Gilbert is now serving part-time as Interim Pastor at **Cortland United**.
- **Laura Lawson** (Charlotte Valley) gave a report on the Synod Assembly. The next Feb 5 Partnership Group meeting will be March 29, 2008, and the Synod gathering in October 2008.
- At the recommendation of the **Christian Nurture** team **Craig Kunkle**(Northminster) was made a POINT person for curriculum resources and Rev. **Diarmuid O'Hara** was appointed as contact person for the **Presbytery Resource Center**.
- A winter youth retreat on "Forgiveness" sponsored by the Christian Nurture Team is being held at VanderKamp Nov 16-18. Information at youth.susvalpresby.org.
- Presbytery installed the new moderator Elder **Deborah Fleming** and the vice-moderator Rev. **Pat Raube**. Outgoing moderator Rev. **Jim Hicks** and Council chair Elder **Fraser Williams** were recognized for their service.

There were 32 elders, 27 ministers and 12 visitors registered as present at this meeting.

The **next** meeting of Council at the Mission Support Center is **February 20, 2008** and the next meeting of Presbytery will be **March 1, 2008** at Camp Brace (four miles south of Masonville on Route 8), sponsored by the Deposit and Masonville Churches, with a theme of "The Redeemer."