

PRESBYTERY OF BLACKHAWK
STATED MEETING FOR APRIL 4, 2017
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

The Presbytery of Blackhawk convened Tuesday, April 4, 2017, in a Stated Meeting at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Rockford, Illinois. Moderator Rev. Mike Selburg called the meeting to order with prayer at 9:30 a.m.

CLERK'S REPORT

Stated Clerk, Rev. Dr. John Rickard, declared that a quorum was present as indicated by the enrollment sheets at the registration tables. A motion was made, seconded, and voted to **approve** the Docket.

9:00	Registration and Networks and Partnerships Center	
9:15	First Time Commissioner Orientation	
9:30	Opening Prayer	Mike Selburg
	Stated Clerk's Report	John Rickard
	Adoption of Docket/Approval of Minutes/Orientation to the Meeting/ New Elders and Pastors Introduced	
9:45	Worship	
10:45	Break	
10:55	Assembly Meeting Guidelines	Mike Selburg
11:00	Kenya Mission Trip Presentation	Ken Mozingo
11:20	Small groups – Understanding Presbytery Financial Reports and Community Building	Crisis Team
12:00	Lunch and Networks & Partnerships Center	
1:00	Life Together (Business Plenary Session)	
	Presbyterian Women	Bev Scharlau
	Mission Strategies and Resources Board	Laurie Walker
	Personnel	Anita Stuart-Steva
	Treasurer	Lou Ann Breckenridge
	Trustees	Karen Krum
	Business Affairs Committee	
	Stronghold Committee	Kathie Luke
	Committee on Preparation for Ministry	Ryan Pixton
	Commission on Ministry	Jim McCrea
	Administrative Commissions: Washburn	
2:00	New and Unfinished Business	
2:15	Adjourn with Prayer	

Next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery will be **June 13, 2017** at Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, 7300 Belvidere Road, Caledonia, IL. Registration at 9:00 a.m., Meeting at 9:30 a.m.

A motion was made, seconded and **approved** to accept the minutes of the February 14, 2017, Stated Meeting without exception.

Ruling Elders and Teaching Elders attending for the first time were introduced.

It was moved, seconded and **approved** to seat the following Corresponding Member:
Rev. Eric Heinekamp – Presbytery of Chicago

Stated Clerk/General Presbyterian Rev. Dr. John Rickard gave the following report:

Stated Clerk Report:

Conducted new Clerk of Session Training
Continued assisting sister Presbytery in disciplinary case.

General Presbytery Report:

Advised/counseled/coached/pastored sessions and pastors concerning various issues.
Synod of Lincoln Trails Executive Collegium and Visioning Team.
Illinois Conference of Churches Public Policy Committee.
Led worship and moderated Waterman Congregational meeting.
Moderated Session 1st Winnebago
Led worship for Westminster, DeKalb while pastor attended funeral of family member.
Attended worship and offered prayer and support for Ottawa Presbyterian after tornado.
Participated in Installation service of Canessa Lagan at Pontiac.
Provide Staff support to the Crisis Management Team.
Staff the Commission on Ministry, Nominating Committee, Mission Strategies and Resources Board, Business Affairs Committee, and Board of Moderators.
Assisted Pastor Nominating Committees in their search processes.
Assisted church searching for interim/transitional pastors, performed computer matching for Pastor Nominating Committee to consider, conducted background checks on finalists and consulted with the PNCs and COM as needed.
I give background and reference checks when called by other Presbyteries.
Completed draft of Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) for Presbytery action.
Led two New to Blackhawk Presbytery Pastors orientations.
Assisting Stronghold in planning for Armed Forces recognition and WWII re-enactment.

Announcement: The Board of Pensions invites interested persons to its Benefit Connections Gathering, May 9, at the Yorkfield Presbyterian Church in Elmhurst, IL.

Purpose of day long gathering is to:

- Help employers better understand their pastor's Benefit Plan;
- Expand your network of colleagues with whom you can share ideas/challenges;
- Increase your understanding of the new options available for non-installed pastors and other employees;
- Give you an opportunity to address your questions to knowledgeable peers facing the same challenges you have in the area of employee compensation and benefits;
- Have a chance to direct questions or concerns to senior Board of Pensions leadership.

WORSHIP

The Service of Worship for the day was presented. Presbytery was led in worship by Westminster's Praise Team, Elder Karen Williams, Rev. Stephen Bowie, and Rev. Dr. Bill Ward who gave a message on "Humanity."

KENYA MISSION TRIP PRESENTATION

CRE Claire Brennecka reported on her experiences in the last 20 years with the Kenya Partnership. An experience that completely changed her life. She also highlighted the Coins for Kenya program.

Ken Mazingo gave a power point presentation on their last trip to Kenya which was in January, 2017. He thanked the Presbytery for the prayers and support given to the Imenti partnership.

Rev. Jim McCrea reported on the loss of membership in denominations. The Imenti Presbyteries have four million members. He encouraged churches to start and keep a partnership in Imenti.

SMALL GROUPS – UNDERSTANDING PRESBYTERY FINANCIAL REPORTS AND COMMUNITY BUILDING

Moderator Rev. Mike Selburg introduced Rev. Jim Friedmeyer of the Crisis Team who spoke on the Proposed Changes for the Ecclesiastical Administrative Manual, being mostly clarifying the language. Rev. Eric Heinekamp reported on the Financial Reports and the greater clarity for regular reports given to Presbytery. Rev. Laurie Walker reviewed the Frequently Asked Questions on the Culture, Structure, and Finance Plan.

It was announced that the Moderator of Personnel will be added to the Presbytery Council.

LUNCH INSTRUCTIONS AND NETWORKS & PARTNERSHIPS CENTER

The Presbytery was given lunch instructions and prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. Bill Ward

The Presbytery reconvened with prayer by Moderator Rev. Mike Selburg who presided over the meeting.

Ryan Anderson, Stronghold Program & Summer Camp Director did a warm-up exercise with the members of Presbytery for the Community Building.

Moderator Rev. Mike Selburg and Vice-Moderator, Rev. Matt Robinson, gave a short bio on themselves to Presbytery as a way of getting to know each other.

ASSEMBLY MEETING GUIDELINES

Moderator Rev. Selburg reviewed the Assembly Meeting Guidelines for Blackhawk Presbytery. He spoke on ***Our Vision, Our Values, Who We Are, Meeting Courtesies, Meeting Basic Rules, and Robert's Rules of Order Process.***

Rev. Jim Friedmeyer, member of the Crisis Management Team, made the motion, and it was **approved:**
“The Restated By-Laws and the Revised Ecclesiastical Administrative Manual, and that if the titles ‘Teaching Elder’ and ‘Ruling Elder’ change in the Book of Order, the Stated Clerk shall change that language in the Ecclesiastical Manual.”

BUSINESS PLENARY SESSION

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Bev Scharlau reported on the following scheduled events:

Spring Gathering – Saturday, April 22, 2017 at Braidwood First.

2017 Synod Triennium Gathering – Sabbath Keeping – June 24, 2017 at United Presbyterian Church, Peoria, IL

Fall Gathering – September 23, 2017 at Joliet Westminster Church, Joliet, IL

2018 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women – August 2-5, 2018 in Louisville, Kentucky

She also encouraged all churches to share the PW Newsletters with members of their congregation.

STRONGHOLD COMMITTEE

Moderator Rev. Kathie Luke reported on the following:

- **The Task Force to explore populating at Stronghold Board of Directors, creating bylaws and any necessary charter documents, and progressing through the process of becoming a 501(c)3 or a 501(c)3 and LLC organization, reporting back to the Presbytery assembly for necessary approvals** is continuing their work. They are working on a covenant that will spell out what the relationship between Blackhawk Presbytery and Stronghold will be going forward. The covenant deals with the relationship between the two entities and the duties and responsibilities of each. The separation process will be guided by the covenant. They hope to bring this document to the June Presbytery meeting for discussion.
- **Active, Green & Growing, A Transitional Path into the Future** by Danny Pierce, Stronghold Executive Director, was presented at the November, 2016, Presbytery meeting. This document the decreasing financial dependency on Blackhawk Presbytery as well as presenting plans as we move into the future. They are pleased that financial indicators are that income is up and expenses are down. Early registrations for summer camp are up and are about twice what they were this time last year.
- **The Stronghold kitchen is under new management.** They have contracted with CORD, a professional kitchen management service that works with camp and conference centers.
- **A thank you to Richard Simpson, who has resigned from his position as Director of Youth Ministry and Church Outreach and to Darlene Kenney, Stronghold Kitchen Coordinator who has also left.** The very successful Traveling Day Camp program will continue.

Dr. Danny Pierce, Stronghold Executive Director, spoke regarding the **WWII Battle Reenactment on May 20-21**. They are in need of volunteers.

Ryan Anderson, Stronghold Program & Summer Camp Director, reported that he has two thirds of his summer staff but still needs to hire more. You can go online for a job application.

Vice Moderator, Rev. Matt Robinson, then presided over the meeting.

MISSION STRATEGIES AND RESOURCES BOARD

Moderator Laurie Walker reported on the following:

MSRB voted to approve a \$1,000 for the First Presbyterian Church of Princeton's project Celebrating Diverse Gifts, a one-day event on April 30. First Presbyterian is committed to serving the needs of the developmentally disabled adults in their community. The church hosts a group that meets in the church building Monday through Friday during the morning hours that provides respite for the families of these adults and, more importantly, provides a social setting and an opportunity for occupational therapy. Celebrating Diverse Gifts will be a special day when Gateway staff, volunteers and their clients will be invited to attend worship and stay for a catered luncheon. The worship service will focus on the variety of gifts among God's children and the luncheon will be a celebration of the staff, volunteers and clients.

After the recent tornados in Ottawa, Rev. Dr. John Rickard and Ron Bottrell from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance National Response Team went to Ottawa First Presbyterian Church to offer support. At this time, no assistance has been requested, but remains available.

MSRB reminds all churches of the Church World Service Kit Challenge explained on the Blackhawk Presbytery website, blackhawkpresbytery.org, under Mission Opportunities. Winnebago and Fairbury PCs have issued a challenge for **25 school kits, 10 hygiene kits, and 10 clean-up kits**.

The Kenya Partnership Committee is working to support existing church partnerships and encourage new or reviving partnerships. The following churches have active partnerships:

Harvard, First	Oswego
Galena, First	Rochelle, First
Joliet, First	Rockford, Westminster
Joliet, Westminster	Sterling, First
Kewanee, First	Utica, Waltham
Oregon, First	Yorkville, AuSable Grove

As a result of the January, 2017 trip to Kenya, the following churches have applied for new partnerships:

Dixon, First	Crystal Lake, Ridgefield-Crystal Lake
Winnebago, Middle Creek	Manteno

The Kenya Partnership Committee is also working to help re-activate the following church partnerships:

Morrison, First
Coal City, New Hope

MSRB members reading ***Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race*** by Debby Irving - ***Waking Up White*** will discuss it at lunch before the next meeting. Rochelle PC is hosting a race and police discussion in June. As part of their discussion participants will watch the movie "Woodlawn".

MSRB began working to update the Mission Dollars at Work flyer. They are seeking pictures of the work of COM or CPM for the update.

BOARD OF MODERATORS

Moderator Rev. Mike Selburg made the motion and it was **approved** that Frank Finch be elected as the new Treasurer of Blackhawk Presbytery, effective May 1, 2017. (Lou Ann Breckenridge had submitted her resignation and it is to be effective April 30, 2017.)

Moderator Rev. Selburg made the motion and it was **approved** to nominate Stacy Cavanaugh to the Nominating Committee, Class of 2019.

PERSONNEL

Moderator Rev. Dr. Anita Stuart-Steva reported on the following:

- The Personnel Committee has been reviewing the Health Reimbursement Plan presented by the Board of Pensions. The plan is necessary to comply with IRS requirements.
- ***A first reading of the Presbytery draft will be presented at this Presbytery Meeting.*** A modified version will be offered to churches to help them design a plan for use with their teaching elders.
- It is with great regret that the Personnel Committee accept the resignation of Lou Ann Breckenridge, our Presbytery Treasurer. Lou Ann has been a faithful servant of the Lord in serving the Presbytery with regard to financial matters. She has helped us during a difficult time

and has advised us well over the years. She will be missed. The Board of Moderators is responsible to present a new candidate for the office of Treasurer.

The Committee presented the Health Reimbursement Arrangement Plan for Presbytery of Blackhawk for the first reading.

TREASURER

Lou Ann Breckenridge reported on the Treasurer's Report and Summary Financial Reports as of 2/28/17. She highlighted on the Operating Cash Position and Profit and Loss Position.

TRUSTEES

Lou Ann Breckenridge reported that they are working on the transfer of title for the Washburn Church.

Moderator Rev. Mike Selburg then presided over the meeting.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Moderator Martha Logeson made the motion and it was **approved** for the following nominations:

- ***Moderator of Business Affairs – Class of 2019 – Michael Selburg, Teaching Elder***
- ***Business Affairs, Class of 2019 – Doug Webb, Ruling Elder, Joliet Westminster***

The Moderator then called for nominations from the floor. Motion was made, seconded and **approved** to close nominations. Motion was then **approved** for the above slate.

Moderator Logeson announced that there are still openings for 2019.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Moderator Rev. Mike Selburg reported that a letter will be sent out to thank all congregations who submit 100% of their per capita. They will be discussing more about how to engage in conversation and build relationships with congregations who are not paying 100% of per capita.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

Rev. Ryan Pixton made the motion, and it was **approved** for Kathy Linn to start the inquirer process.

Rev. Pixton noted a change in the CPM Minutes that were distributed. In the sentence beginning ***"The Committee met for a regular meeting on Friday, March 3rd at Westminster Presbyterian Church in DeKalb, IL at 10:00 a.m."***

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

Moderator Rev. Jim McCrea made an omnibus motion, and they were **approved** for the following:

ITEMS FOR PRESBYTERY ACTION

- ***The dissolution of associate pastoral relationship between Julie Raffety and the Rockford Westminster congregation effective March 15, 2017. Congregation has approved this dissolution.***

- *The dissolution of pastoral relationship between Jeff Borgerson and the Harvard First congregation and grant Rev. Borgerson honorably retired status effective May 14, 2017. Congregation has approved this dissolution.*
- *The dissolution of pastoral relationship between Yong (Paul) Kim and the Rockford Korean congregation and grant Rev. Kim retired status effective July 31, 2017. Congregation has approved this dissolution.*
- *Re-Commission for six months (through 10/15/17) CRE Tanya Muzzarelli, CRE Gretchen Hammeke and CRE Barb D'Souza to share pastoral leadership for the Marengo First congregation. Also, rec-commission CRE Gretchen Hammeke for three years to provide pastoral services to the Rockford Westminster congregation.*
- *Re-Commission for three years CRE Jeff Barrett to serve as pastor to Montgomery Genesis Community and CRE Chrystal Abbott to serve as pastor to Manteno First.*
- *Commission CRE Claire Brennecka to administer sacraments at Harvard First from May 21 – August 31, 2017. Also, re-commission her to serve communion at Valley High Nursing Home (effective through 12/31/17).*
- *The 2017 Summary Terms of Call Report (attached to minutes)*

REPORTING ON ACTIONS TAKEN BY COM:

TERMS OF CALL:

Rev. Caleb T. Suydam to serve as pastor at Streator Presbyterian effective May 15, 2017.

<i>Cash Salary</i>	\$	40,000
<i>Housing Allowance</i>		12,000
<i>Business/professional expenses</i>		3,900
<i>SECA Supplement</i>		2,500
<i>Continuing Education allowance</i>		1,500
<i>Medical Reimbursement</i>		3,720
<i>Other Allowances (house down payment)</i>		10,000
<i>2017 Moving Costs (up to)</i>		<u>1,800</u>
<i>Total Terms of Call</i>	\$	75,420
<i>Vacation-4 weeks; Continuing education-2 weeks</i>		

Rev. Robert Joel Stevenor to serve as pastor at Utica Waltham Presbyterian effective June 1, 2017.

<i>Cash Salary</i>	\$	38,461.54
<i>Manse Value</i>		11,538.46
<i>Travel reimbursement @ .535/mile</i>		3,500.00
<i>Business/professional expense</i>		3,900.00

SECA Supplement		3,500.00
Manse Utilities		3,000.00
Continuing education allowance		1,500.00
Medical Reimbursement		3,000.00
2017 Moving Costs (up to)		2,000.00
Pension/Medical		<u>18,250.00</u>
Total Terms of Call	\$	88,650.00
Vacation-4 weeks, Continuing education-2 weeks		

Rev. Daniel Robertson to serve as pastor at Fairbury Presbyterian effective June 1, 2017.

Cash Salary	\$	43,000
Manse (fair rental value)		14,400
Manse utilities and furnishings		5,000
Utilities		7,700
SECA Supplement		3,672
Medical		15,912
Pension		6,864
Travel reimbursement @ .535/mile		2,000
Business/professional expense		1,500
Continuing education allowance		1,500
Medical Reimbursement		3,744
Housing equity fund		<u>3,000</u>
Total Terms of Call	\$	108,292
Vacation-4 weeks; Continuing education-2 weeks		

CRE Chrystal Abbott to serve as pastor at Manteno First Presbyterian effective January 15, 2017.
(Contract extension for 3 years.)

Cash Salary	\$	31,740.00
Business/professional expenses		4,080.00
SECA Supplement		1,771.00
Study Leave		1,920.00
Medical		14,876.28
Pension		3,504.60
Medical Reimbursement		<u>2,280.00</u>
Total Terms of Call	\$	60,171.88
Vacation-4 weeks; Continuing education-2 weeks		

Contract Extensions

The extension of contract between Marengo First and Rockford Westminster.

Miscellaneous

1. Approved agreement between CRE Donna Gericke and Shannon Prairie Dell for 14 Sundays of pulpit supply between now and the end of the year at \$125 per week.
2. Approved MIF for Plainfield Wheatland.
3. Approved the formation of an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee at Rockford Westminster.

4. Received with thanks the report of the Administrative Commission to install Rev. Dr. Richard Shaffer, Jr. as senior pastor of Oswego Presbyterian Church.
5. Received with thanks the report of the Administrative Commission to install Rev. Canessa Lagan as pastor of Pontiac First Presbyterian Church.
6. Reporting:
 - Rev. Michael Seed (member of another denomination) serves as part-time worship leader at St. Anne First Presbyterian effective March 15, 2017. The following numbers are provided on a monthly basis:

Cash Salary	\$	916.75
Manse Value		800.00
SECA Supplement		83.25
Cash		1,000.00
Manse Utilities		300.00
Travel reimbursement (max. six month total)		<u>900.00</u>
Total Terms of Call		2,100.00
Vacation-4 weeks; Continuing education-2 weeks		

Moderator Rev. Mike Selburg made the motion, it was seconded and **approved** to receive all the reports.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made, seconded, and **approved** to adjourn the meeting at 1:45 p.m. The Moderator gave the closing prayer.

The next meeting of the Presbytery will be at Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, Caledonia, IL, on Tuesday, June 13, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. John Rickard, Stated Clerk

Karen McClenthen, Recording Clerk