

**PRESBYTERY OF BLACKHAWK
STATED MEETING FOR JUNE 14, 2016
FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PONTIAC, ILLINOIS**

The Presbytery of Blackhawk convened Tuesday, June 14, 2016, in a Stated Meeting at First United Presbyterian Church, Pontiac, Illinois. Vice Moderator Dottie Morizzo called the meeting to order with Scripture and 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. He highlighted the day's activities and the Network and Partnerships Center. 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/Stated Clerk's Report /Adoption of Docket/Approval of Minutes/Orientation to the Meeting/New Elders and Pastors Introduced
- 9:45 Worship
- 10:30 Break
- 10:45 Learning Opportunities:
 - Moment for Mission Interpretation: Rev. Dr. César Carhuachin, a mission co-worker serving as Professor of Bible and Theology at the Reformed University of Columbia.
- 10:55 New Beginnings Report
- 11:15 Moment for Mission Interpretation: Rev. Tom Goetz, Mission Volunteer at Hokusei Gakuen University, Sapporo, Japan. Member Milwaukee Presbytery.
- 11:30 Restructure Proposal, 2nd reading, discussion, action – Ad Hoc Structure Team
- 12:00 Instructions for lunch
- 12:15 Lunch and Networks & Partnerships Center
- 1:00 Life Together
 - Church Paper Swap – At the April Presbytery meeting we did a “church paper swap” in an effort to get to know one another and each other's churches better. You are invited to bring back the paper item that was gifted to you in April and return it to the individual or church home from whence it came with your comments, prayers, and correspondence.
 - (Business Plenary Session) –
 - Treasurer/Trustees, Stronghold, Nominating, Administrative Commissions (Washburn, Westminster Aurora, Bethany), CPM, Mission Strategies and Resources Board, COM, Personnel, Business Affairs Committee.
- 2:00 New and Unfinished Business
- 2:15 Adjourn with Prayer

A motion was made, seconded and **approved** to accept the minutes of the April 12, 2016, 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 Members:
Rev. Eric Heinekamp – Presbytery of Chicago
Rev. Tom Goetz – Presbytery of Milwaukee, Mission Volunteer in Japan
Rev. Dr. César Carhuachin – Presbytery of Charlotte, Mission Co-worker in Columbia
Dr. Danny Pierce – Executive Director of Stronghold, Highland Park Presbyterian Church

The Presbytery received the Stated Clerk's Report.

WORSHIP

The Service of Worship for the day included the following participants: Rev. Cathy Allen, Waltham at Utica; Rev. Jeri Baker, First Morris; Pastor Carrie Kapral, CRE, Elwood Community; Elder Adelaide Kern, First Henry; Elder Mary Sundberg, Waltham Utica; Pastor Dale Tolly, CRE, First Braidwood; Rev. Dr. Rick Tindall, First United Pontiac; and Rev. Mark Hughey, New Hope Coal City, who preached a sermon entitled "Standing at the Crossroads".

Moderator Rev. Julie Raffety presided over a Commissioning Service with Prayer for Presbytery representatives going to General Assembly. Those in attendance were Rev. Blake Richter, Elder Loreen Stravers, and Elder Charles Johnson.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Moment for Mission Interpretation: Rev. David Jones introduced Rev. Dr. César Carhuachin, Mission Co-worker in Colombia spoke of his ministry in Columbia. Rev. Carhuachin teaches at the Reformed University of Colombia, which is the country's first Protestant University. It received official government accreditation in 2002. Rev. Carhuachin has been called to teach biblical studies and theology in the University's School of Theology, which has its roots in the Presbyterian Theological Seminary of the Gran Colombia. In addition to his duties as professor, he frequently preaches at local churches.

César reported that the two biggest problems in Columbia are drugs and guerrillas. Columbia is in second place in the world for having misplaced people. He thanked the Presbytery for their support in Missions.

NEW BEGINNINGS REPORT

Rev. Kathie Luke reported on the New Beginnings Program – Six churches finished – they were Willow Creek in Caledonia, First Pontiac, Ridgefield-Crystal Lake, Westminster Joliet, Park Streater, and United Freeport. Consultants spent a day at each church and then made their reports. The leaders thought that the New Beginnings Program was a good experience and worth the money.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Moment for Mission Interpretation: Rev. Matt Robinson introduced Rev. Tom Goetz, Mission Volunteer at Hokusei Gakuen University, Sapporo, Japan. Member of Milwaukee Presbytery, Rev. Goetz is a long-term mission volunteer in Japan, serving as professor of English in the Faculty of Social Welfare at Hokusei Gakuen University in Sapporo, Japan. He is also English language coordinator at Hokkaido Christian Center. Hokusei Gakuen University is a four-year liberal arts school founded more than 100 years ago by Presbyterian missionary Sarah Smith. Rev. Goetz gave a power point presentation of his mission work in Japan, where he has been for 27 years. He encouraged members to continue giving support to the work of missions.

Moderator Rev. Julie Raffety then presided over the meeting.

RESTRUCTURE PROPOSAL, 2nd Reading, Discussion, Action – Ad Hoc Structure Team

Members of the Ad Hoc Structure Team reported on their work with the Restructure Proposal.

Rev. Dale Ambler spoke on Part I – Visioning & Administrative Board Description and Part III –No Change in Structure. Rev. Jeff Borgerson spoke on Part II – Stronghold. Team member Rev. Conley Zomermaand also spoke in favor of the restructuring.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the Proposed Restructuring of Blackhawk Presbytery.

Rev. Judith Hardie made a motion and it was seconded to separate the Stronghold – Part II portion from the Part I Visioning & Administrative, and Part III – No Change in Structure.

Rev. Karen Schlack requested that the vote be done by standing up.

The Motion to separate Part II from Part I and III was **approved**.

The Main Motion is now to approve Part I and Part III only.

Rev. Blake Richter made the motion, it was seconded to postpone the voting on Part I and Part III until the next Presbytery Meeting.

Motion was made, seconded and **approved** to close debate and call for the question.

A division of the house was called.

The motion to postpone the voting on Part I and III until the next Presbytery Meeting was **approved** by a vote of 41 yes, 22 no.

The Presbytery was then dismissed for lunch.

LUNCH INSTRUCTIONS AND NETWORKS & PARTNERSHIPS CENTER

The Presbytery was given lunch instructions and prayer was offered by Rev. Rick Tindall.

The Presbytery reconvened with prayer by Moderator Rev. Julie Raffety who presided over the meeting.

CHURCH PAPER SWAP

The Moderator, Rev. Julie Raffety encourage members to go ahead with the Church Paper Swap at their convenience after the afternoon session.

RESTRUCTURE PROPOSAL – CONT. – Stronghold – Part II

Rev. Judith Hardie made a Substitute Motion to become the Main Motion, and it was seconded that the current Stronghold Committee, together with the Executive Director and the Board of Trustees work together, with staffing support provided by the General Presbyter, to explore populating a 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.

Motion was made, seconded and **approved** to close debate and call for the question.

The Main Motion was then **approved**.

Rev. Anita Stuart-Steva made a motion and it was seconded to have members of the Ad Hoc Committee for Restructuring to arrange with various areas of our Presbytery to have town hall meetings with informational discussion on Part I and III before the next Presbytery meeting.

After discussion, the motion was **approved** by a vote of 31 yes and 25 no.

Vice Moderator Dottie Morizzo then presided over the meeting.

BUSINESS PLENARY SESSION

TREASURER/TRUSTEES

Treasurer Lou Ann Breckenridge reported on the Financial Reports and the concerns about cash drains happening. Lou Ann made the motions for the Board of Trustees to approve the requests below which were seconded and **approved**:

- Romeoville – For the Session of the United Presbyterian Church of Romeoville recommendation to sell the Manse at 14 Belmont Dr., Romeoville to the Area Historical Society. Also, pending Congregational approval, to sell the house at 14 Belmont Dr. The Manse has been vacant for over 20 years. This sale will not only provide housing for the Historical Society (a benefit to community) but will save the cost of property taxes, insurance, utilities, lawn service on a house that is not being used. (All approvals are in place.)
- Oswego – The Oswego Presbyterian Church has been located at 1976 Route 25 in Oswego for fifty years. The initial gift of property that allowed the church to move here included a small house on a large lot at 6 Glendale Ave. on the far northern portion of the property. It has been used for a variety of purposes. It presently is in need of some repair. The congregation is also pursuing ways to decrease indebtedness incurred with the building expansion completed in 2010. Session has discussed the sale of the Glendale house and property for the purpose of reducing indebtedness. As the Glendale house is presently serving as collateral on loans, the only purpose for which the bank would allow the sale of the property is to pay down debt. That is our intention.

For information only - Stronghold has purchased a van from fund-raising for the Traveling Day Camp.

The Presbytery received the Treasurer/Trustees Report.

STRONGHOLD

Moderator Rev. Judith Hardie presented the report. She then introduced Dr. Danny Pierce, the new Executive Director of Stronghold, and he shared with Presbytery his call to Stronghold.

The Presbytery received the Stronghold Report.

NOMINATING

Moderator Rev. Bob Kopp made the motion and it was seconded for the following slate:

Committee on Ministry

Dave Perry, Ruling Elder – Class of 2018, 1st Term, Area 4
Carrie Kapral, CRE – Class of 2018, 1st Term, Area 4
Frank Chandler – Ruling Elder – Class of 2018, 1st Term, Area 4
Jim Friedmeyer, Teaching Elder – Class of 2018, 1st Term, Area 3

Missions Strategies and Resources Board

Nancy Webb, Ruling Elder from Oswego – Class of 2018, 1st Term

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.

The Presbytery received the Nominating Report.

Moderator Rev. Julie Raffety then presided over the meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS (Washburn, Westminster Aurora, Bethany)

Washburn – Trying to get legal control of property and then will try to sell it.

Westminster Aurora – Craig Herr reported that the commission is meeting to draft a separation policy by the September Presbytery Meeting.

Bethany – Kathie Luke reported that the commission has met and are working together for a resolution - they have not met with Bethany yet – will report to Presbytery in September.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

Ron Barkby, Elgin, made the following motion and it was **approved**:

- The enrollment of Barbara D’Souza as a CRE in training.

For Information Only:

1. Laurel Walker has completed the requirements for CRE and is ready to be commissioned.
2. We need one more Teaching Elder for the next round of Ordination exam reading.
3. Rev. Jennifer Olson was a guest at our June 3, 2016 meeting.

The Presbytery received the CPM Report.

MISSION STRATEGIES AND RESOURCE BOARD

Moderator Laurie Walker made the motions, they were **approved**:

- For the July 9-16, 2016 Living Waters for the World trip and the January 10-24, 2017 Kenya Partnership trip.
- The request from Illinois Conference of Churches to support the Charter for Compassion Call for Action.

The Presbytery received the MSRB Report.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Moderator Suzanne Finefield made the following motions, and they were approved:

■ **Moderators**

Rev. Mark Hughey for St. Anne, effective June 1, 2016 (sub for Roy Backus)
 Rev. Bo Mircea for New Lenox Central effective June 1, 2016 (sub for Roy Backus)
 Rev. Gavin Finefield for First Presbyterian, Princeton, effective July 31, 2016.
 Rev. Jan Chandler for First Presbyterian, Morris, effective June 1, 2016 (sub for Roy Backus)
 Rev. Jeff Borgerson for Second Presbyterian, Aurora, effective June 14, 2016

■ **Dissolutions**

*The dissolution of call between Rev. Brian Hall and First Presbyterian, Princeton, Effective July 31, 2016.

■ **Laboring Outside Bounds**

Request from Rev. Brian Hall to labor outside the bounds of Blackhawk Presbytery.

■ **Contract**

The Interim Contract between Rev. Cathy Allen and Waltham Presbyterian effective May 15, 2016.

Salary	\$	30,000
Housing		1,000
Manse Value at 30% of Salary		<u>9,300</u>
Effective Salary	\$	40,300
SECA		2,821
Pension		4,836
Medical for Family (24.5% of Effective)		10,780
Professional Expenses		3,900
Mileage		3,500
Study Leave		1,500
Medical Reimbursement (6.2% of Effective)		2,500
Other:		
Estimated Utilities paid by Church		3,000
4 weeks vacation and 2 weeks study leave		
Moving Expenses		<u>3,000</u>
Total Compensation	\$	<u>73,137</u>

■ **Transfer**

Rev. Charles (Ed) Lanier, Honorably Retired, has requested transfer from Chicago Presbytery to Blackhawk Presbytery.

■ **Membership**

Rev. Wynn Alley (UCC), Interim at Wilmington, requests enrollment in Blackhawk Presbytery for the duration of his call, and is granted dual status.

Miscellaneous Actions Taken by COM

- *MIF's have been approved for: Fulton, Oswego, Pontiac, and Streator
- *The Stated Clerk has been notified that Rev. David Tellinghuisen, Streator, has requested the reallocation of monies from salary to housing (\$25/month).
- *CRE in training, Ray Lantz (Gibson City), has been placed on the Pulpit Supply list.
- *PNC's have been approved for Pontiac and Waltham and Streator.
- *Rev. Roy Backus on Sabbatical 5/30/2016 to 9/5/2016.

The Presbytery received the COM Report.

PERSONNEL

Moderator Rev. Anita Stuart-Steva thanked those members who have already sent in the Annual Personnel Review for General Presbyter and encouraged those who have not, to do so as soon as possible.

The Presbytery received the Personnel Report.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Rev. Karen Schlack encouraged members to give more for per capita or missions and to pray for the Presbytery.

Rev. Cathy Allen, Waltham, Utica's new Interim Pastor – introduced herself to the Presbytery.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made, seconded, and **approved** to adjourn the meeting at 2:25 p.m. The Moderator gave the closing prayer.

The next meeting of the Presbytery will be at First Presbyterian Church, Joliet, IL, at 9:00 a.m. on September 13, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. John Rickard, Stated Clerk

Karen McClethen, Recording Clerk