

**PRESBYTERY OF BLACKHAWK
STATED MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 14, 2017
STRONGHOLD CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER, OREGON, ILLINOIS**

The Presbytery of Blackhawk convened Tuesday, November 14, 2017, in a Stated Meeting at Stronghold Camp and Retreat Center, Oregon, 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/Balance of Ministers of Word and Sacrament and Ruling Elders	
9:45	Nominating Report	Martha Logeson
10:10	Worship/Installation of Moderator/Commissioning of Committee Members/Communion	
11:10	Break	
11:30	Mission Reports	
11:40	Council: Vision and Values Discussion	
12:15	Lunch and Networks & Partnerships Center	
1:00	Team Building	
1:10	Life Together (Business Plenary Session)	
	Assembly Meeting Guidelines	Matt Robinson
	Presbyterian Women	Bev Scharlau
	Committee on Preparation for Ministry	Jan Chandler
	Commission on Ministry	Jim McCrea
	Synod Report	Kim Hulén
	Committees of Council	
	Council Report	Mike Selburg
	Personnel –	Anita Stuart-Steva
	Business Affairs Committee/2018 Budget	Bill Ward
	Treasurer	Frank Finch
	Stronghold	Kathie Luke
	Mission	Laurie Walker
	Assembly Planning Committee	Mike Selburg
2:45	New and Unfinished Business	
3:00	Adjourn Ecclesiastical Assembly/Convene Meeting of the Corporation/Trustees	
	Administrative Commission, Washburn	Mike Selburg
3:15	Adjourn with Prayer	

Next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery will be February 13, 2018 at First Presbyterian Church, 221 N. Main Street, Belvidere, 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 September 12, 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 Rev. Dr. Rickard gave the following report:

2018 Stated Meeting Locations:

February 13 – First Presbyterian, Belvidere
April 10 - Fox Valley Presbyterian, Geneva
June 12 - Stronghold, Oregon
September 11 - First Presbyterian, Morrison
November 13 - Westminster, Joliet

Continue assisting sister Presbytery in disciplinary case. (Pending any appeal)
Reviewed Session Records (see below) and a thank you to Loreen Stravers, John Huff,
Jim McCrea, and Jim Friedmeyer for their assistance.

General Presbyter Report:

Advised/counseled/coached/pastored sessions and pastors concerning various issues.
Member Illinois Conference of Churches Public Policy Committee.
Worshiped with Elmira Presbyterian Church for their 165th anniversary and dedication of lift.
Worshiped with First Presbyterian Church, Elgin, for their 125th anniversary.
Attended the Association of Stated Clerks and Association of Mid Council Leaders annual meeting.
Trained PNC
Staff the Commission on Ministry, Nominating Committee, Mission, Business Affairs Committee, and Council.
Assisted Pastor Nominating Committees in their search processes.
Assisted church searching for interim/transitional pastors, performed computer matching for Pastor Nominating Committees 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.
Assisted with Stronghold's Old English Faire.

Report of the Review of Session Minutes & Records was received with 48 churches presenting their records to date.

Rev. Dr. John Rickard made the motion, it was seconded and **approved** in Establishing Balance of Ministers of Word and Sacrament and Ruling Elder Commissioners to Presbytery for 2018, the following is the proposed number of Ruling Elder Commissioners assigned to each congregation for 2018: One Ruling Elder for each congregation with these exceptions: Geneva (2), Joliet, 1st (3), Morris (2), Oswego (2), Rochelle (2), Westminster, Rockford (2) .

In addition:

Enroll these Ruling Elders Serving on Presbytery Committee:

Laurel Walker, Mission Committee

Martha Logeson, Nominating

Enroll these Commissioned Pastors:

Chrystal Abbott, Manteno

Jeff Barrett, Montgomery

Jack Berghorst, New Lenox

Jack Briggs, Franklin Grove

Dale Tolly, Braidwood

Delmer Keilman, Earlville

Dorothy Morrizo, Schapville Zion

Carrie Kapral, Elwood

Melinda Stephenson, Sparland

Gretchen Hammeke, Westminster, Rockford

Tanya Muzzarelli, Westminster, Rockford, Marengo

Ray Lantz, Kankakee

NOMINATING REPORT

Moderator Martha Logeson made the motion and it was seconded for the following slate:

PRESBYTERY MODERATOR

MWS Matt Robinson

PRESBYTERY VICE-MODERATOR

Ruling Elder Dale Prindiville

COUNCIL MODERATOR

MWS Mike Selburg

COMMITTEE MODERATORS:

MISSION

CRE Laurie Walker

PERSONNEL

MWS Anita Stuart-Steva

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

MWS Bill Ward

STRONGHOLD

MWS Kathie Luke

COM

MWS Jim McCrea

CPM

MWS Jan Chandler

MISSION COMMITTEE

2020 CM

Kate Hartman

2020 MWS

Dan DeWitt

2020 CM

Gene Archer

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

2020 MWS

John Huff

STRONGHOLD

2020 MWS

Jim Friedmeyer

2020 CM

Gail Dancey

2020 CM

Julie Leber

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

2019 RE

2020 MWS

2020 MWS

2020 MWS

2020 MWS

2020 RE

2020 RE

Claire Brennecka

Skip Shaffer

Blake Richter

Kit Stanich

Christina Berry

Joni Bratney

Del Keilman

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION

2019 MWS

2020 MWS

2020 MWS

2020 RE

Joel Stevenor

Susan Presley

Jan Chandler

Ron Barkby

PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION

2023 MWS

2023 MWS

2023 RE

Dale Dykstra

Doug Forsberg

James Culp

SYNOD COMMISSIONERS

2020 MWS

Kim Hulen

GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONERS

2018 MWS

2018 MWS

2018 MWS ALTERNATE #1

2018 MWS ALTERNATE #2

2018 RE

2018 RE

2018 RE ALTERNATE #1

2018 RE ALTERNATE #2

John Walker

John Rickard

Bob Kopp

Paul Nelson

Claire Brennecka - Harvard

Kathy Pearson- Galena

Jeanne Ohms- Hanover

Kewanee

MWS – Minister of Word and Sacrament

RE – Ruling Elder

CM – Congregation Member

Committee/Commission Moderators must be ordained elders.

Mission, Personnel, Business Affairs and Stronghold committee lay members are not required to be ordained elders.

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.

Rev. Stephanie Anthony made a motion and it was tabled until the afternoon session. The motion was: **“That Presbytery asks the Presbytery Council to re-consider the Presbytery policy of nominating commissioners to serve for General Assembly (and Synod if those nominations are also made by a**

rotation method), in order to align with principles of representation according to gender, age, geography, etc.”

WORSHIP/INSTALLATION OF MODERATOR/COMMISSIONING OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS/COMMUNION

The Service of Worship for the day was presented. Presbytery was led in worship by Ryan Anderson, Rev. Judith Hardie, Rev. Kathie Luke, Dr. Danny Pierce, Dale Prindiville, Rev. Matt Robinson, Rev. Mike Selburg, and Laurie Walker. The Rev. Mike Selburg shared his message entitled “From There to Here”. The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper was observed by intinction.

The Service of Installation of the new Moderator for 2018, Rev. Matt Robinson, was conducted, with Rev. Mike Selburg asking the constitutional questions and being answered in the affirmative. Rev. Selburg presented him with the gavel, a stole that was a gift from Kenya, and the two symbolic crosses worn by Moderators. Those whose service on Boards and Committees were coming to an end were honored for their service and asked to stand and received the Presbytery’s thanks. Members proposed for the Presbytery’s Board and Committees were then installed by Moderator Matt Robinson.

Moderator Rev. Matt Robinson then presided over the meeting.

MISSION REPORTS

Rev. Kathie Luke, Freeport, United introduced Elder Becky Aupperle from Freeport, and a slide presentation was given on the mission projects in their community that they are involved in such as SoJour House, Sleezer Home, and a Bus Ministry that will provide transportation to worship services, VBS, etc.

Rev. Jim McCrea reported on an International Peacemaker from Italy, Paola Schellenbaum, that came to speak at Galena First, DeKalb Westminster, and Ridgefield-Crystal Lake Churches. By sharing the cost the three churches were able to afford having Paola come and give a presentation on peacemaking, highlighting the refugees coming to Italy from the Middle East.

COUNCIL: VISION AND VALUES DISCUSSION

Rev. Mike Selburg reported on the Council’s work on evaluating and revising “Our Vision and Values”. After multiple meetings and numerous hours, the Council presents these revised statements for your review and consideration. The Council then read, in unison, “Our Vision and Values” --

“Grounded in the biblical image for human community, as disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ, we challenge and support congregations to be thriving faith communities by facilitating competent leadership and resourcing to energize ministry and mission.

As Christians, guided by the principles of trust, open communication, and genuine relationships, we value each other as sisters and brothers in faith in all our varied theological understandings. Therefore, we relish respectful discussions of differing opinions as a necessary part of discerning the will of God.”

There was a question and answer time for members of the Presbytery with some suggestions made for changes. The Council will come back in the afternoon session to report and vote on the statement.

LUNCH INSTRUCTIONS AND NETWORKS & PARTNERSHIPS CENTER

The Presbytery was given lunch instructions and prayer was offered by Rev. Matt Robinson

The Presbytery reconvened with prayer by Moderator Rev. Matt Robinson who presided over the meeting.

TEAM BUILDING

Kassandra Leber explained to the members that there were pieces of paper on each table to spell out just one word. After an exciting time of watching people figure out what the word was, they were informed that they were to spell out “Just one word”.

LIFE TOGETHER (BUSINESS PLENARY SESSION)

ASSEMBLY MEETING GUIDELINES

Moderator Rev. Matt Robinson had the Presbytery read the “Our Vision and Values” in unison and reviewed the following Guidelines: “Who We Are” – “Christians in the Body of Christ” – “Meeting Courtesies” – “Meeting Basic Rules” – and “Roberts Rules of Order”.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Moderator Bev Scharlau thanked everybody for the Church World Service Kits and gave the count of how many were donated: School Kits – 1502; Hygiene Kits – 622; and Clean-up Buckets – 264. They are still looking for a church or churches to issue a challenge for 2018. She also highlighted on the following:

- 2017 Thank Offering of Presbyterian Women
- 2018 Spring Gathering at Princeton First Presbyterian Church, Princeton, IL on Friday, April 27th, 2018. Barbara Baker from Chicago Presbytery will be our guest speaker.
- August 2-5, 2018, The Triennium Gathering at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

Moderator Rev. Janet Chandler reported on the committee’s work and their minutes that were included on the Presbytery website.

Moderator Rev. Chandler made the motion, it was seconded and **approved** that Blackhawk Presbytery examine Deb Swets for Ordination for the Office of Minister of Word and Sacrament. Deb was introduced to the Presbytery and her Statement of Faith was included on the Presbytery website.

Presbytery then asked questions and the candidate answered. Motion was made, seconded and **approved** to arrest the examination, and to have Deb leave the room. It was moved and then **approved** for the Ordination of Deb Swets for the Office of Minister of Word and Sacrament. Deb has received a call from Plainfield, Wheatland. Motion was made, seconded and **approved** to sustain ordination and request Milwaukee Presbytery to ordain on our behalf.

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

Moderator Rev. Jim McCrea made the motions and they were **approved** for the following:

ITEMS FOR PRESBYTERY ACTION:

- ***The honorable retirement status for Rev. Hope Sibson as of December 1, 2017. Her request was approved at a congregational meeting at Plainfield Wheatland on November 5, 2017.***
- ***The call of Deb J. Swets as Pastor at Plainfield Wheatland effective December 1, 2017, pending successful examination before Presbytery leading to her ordination.***

- *For Rev. Sam Young Kim of Midwest Korean American Presbytery as interim pastor for Rockford Korean pending receipt of the terms of call.*
- *To approve contract with Rev. Tom Allen of the Christian and Missionary Alliance as interim pastor at Harvard First effective January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018.*
- *To Extend the commission of CRE Claire Brennecka to administer sacraments at Harvard First for the year 2018.*
- *To Commission CRE Laurie Walker to preach and administer sacraments at Yorkville Au Sable Grove starting November 14, 2017 for one year.*
- *To Commission CRE Donna Gericke to lead worship and serve communion the first Sunday of each month during 2018 at Shannon Prairie Dell.*
- *To permit Rev. Blake Severson to labor outside the bounds of the Presbytery. (This motion was pulled out separately from the group to be addressed by the Presbytery and answer questions pertaining to the motion.)*
- *The Rev. Sue Krummel is leaving her interim position at Princeton First to become Executive Presbyter of Chicago Presbytery. Her last day at Princeton will be December 31, 2017. Also, the transfer to Chicago Presbytery pending their request.*
- *The transfer Rev Cathy Allen to Great Rivers Presbytery as of May 23, 2017.*
- *The transfer of Rev. Jack Lilly to Mission Presbytery as of October 2, 2017.*
- *The transfer of Rev. Ryan Pixton to Pittsburgh Presbytery as of October 15, 2017.*
- *The transfer of Rev. Brian Hall to the Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy pending their request.*
- *To dismiss with thanks the Administration Commission created for the installation of Rev. Joel Stevenor on September 16, 2017.*

REPORTING ON ACTIONS TAKEN BY COM:

Terms of Call

Deb Swets to serve as Pastor at Plainfield Wheatland.

Salary	\$	25,700.00
Housing allowance		14,300.00

Professional Expenses		4,100.00
SECA Supplement		2,500.00
Continuing Education		1,500.00
Medical Reimbursement		<u>2,550.00</u>
Vacation/Study Leave – Four weeks vacation/ two weeks study leave		
Grand Total	\$	50,650.00

The Rev. Tom Allen to serve as Interim Pastor at Harvard First.		
Salary+Travel+Books+Study Leave	\$	64,047.50
Housing allowance		15,000.00
Travel reimbursement		<u>2,500.00</u>
Vacation/Study Leave – Four weeks vacation/ two weeks study leave		
Vacation/Study Leave – Five weeks vacation/ three weeks study leave		
Grand Total	\$	81,547.50

Approve the Terms of Call for The Rev. Sam Young Kim as Interim Pastor at Rockford Korean pending receipt.

Miscellaneous

Fox Valley Geneva would like to pose a question to the Presbytery. Is it permissible to ordain someone to an interim position? Some presbyteries permit this; others do not. It's not clear what the stance of Blackhawk Presbytery is on this question, so the Commission on Ministry moves that we authorize interim ministry as a validated call.

A motion was made to allow Interim Pastor to be a validated call – the motion was withdrawn pending more information.

Moderator Rev. Jim McCrea asked members of the Presbytery to email him or Committee on Ministry topics that they would like discussed at the Small Ministry Retreat for Pastors and Lay members.

SYNOD REPORT

Kim Hulen reported on the Synod work which included the following topics:

- Synod Meeting
- Work on Church Leaders role on race
- \$6,000 of grants given to churches – go to SOLT for applications
- Youth Minister Coaching Program Cohort – one year long
- Kim is the Moderator-elect of SOLT.

COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

COUNCIL REPORT

Rev. Mike Selburg introduced Rev. Anita Stuart-Steva who gave the Revised “Our Vision and Values” Statement to include the word “love”. The new statement reads:

***“Grounded in the biblical image for human community, as disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ, we challenge and support congregations to be thriving faith communities by facilitating competent leadership and resourcing to energize ministry and mission.*”**

As Christians, guided by the principles of love, trust, open communication, and genuine relationships, we value each other as sisters and brothers in faith in all our varied theological understandings. Therefore, we relish respectful discussions of differing opinions as a necessary part of discerning the will of God."

Rev. Anita Stuart-Steva made the motion and it was approved to adopt "Our Vision and Values" Statement.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE/2018 BUDGET

Rev. Bill Ward made the motion, and it was approved for the 2018 Proposed Unified Budget.

Rev. Jim McCrea shared a short film entitled "The Gift of Per Capita" that is available in copies for use in your church.

TREASURER

Frank Finch reported on the Financial Reports as of October 31, 2017. Presbytery is in the black right now for \$247.21. Stronghold is down by \$3,679.92, but will be receiving an extra \$6,000 for the next year.

STRONGHOLD

Moderator Rev. Kathie Luke made the motion, and it was approved to accept the **COVENANT** between the Presbytery of Blackhawk ("Blackhawk Presbytery" or "BP"), Inc. and the Stronghold Committee, which is to become Stronghold Center, Inc. ("SC, Inc.").

Rev. Luke thanked the members of the Stronghold Committee who were ending their service.

Terry Mohaupt from the Separation Task Force, gave an update on the work being done with the help of an attorney.

Moderator Rev. Kathie Luke presented for the first reading the Stronghold 2018 Proposed Budget, to be voted on at the February 13, 2018 Presbytery Meeting.

Dr. Danny Pierce, spoke of the work on the 501(c)3 and moving forward with the separation of Stronghold and Blackhawk Presbytery.

Rev. Judith Hardie spoke of the "Light Up Stronghold" event that will take place at the June 12 Presbytery Meeting at Stronghold. We need your help with Stronghold switching over to LED light bulbs. We are asking members to please bring LED bulbs to the meeting. They are in need of Normal Bulbs, Interior Flood Lights, Candelabra style bulbs, T8 LED tubes, and accessories. For more information on the lights, please contact Stronghold.

MISSION

Moderator Laurie Walker reported on the following:

- The approval of the Westminster Joliet Mission Grant Application for \$1500 to help defray the cost of after-school tutors for their new "Homeword Hotspot" being set up at their church.

- Ridgefield Crystal Lake, Westminster (DeKalb), First (Galena) will report during the Presbytery meeting on the visit of their peacemaker, Paola Schellenbaum from Italy.
- Submissions are being solicited for the electronic Mission Yearbook. Contact Jacqueline Carter, Production Specialist Presbyterian Mission, jackie.carter@pcusa.org for more information.
- A reminder that all churches funding for Mission Grants and Peacemaking Grants is available for partial start-up funding for new initiatives. Applications are available on Blackhawk's website.
- Youth Volunteer Opportunities (YAV) applications are now available for 2018-2019 year at the following website: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/yav/>.

ASSEMBLY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Rev. Mike Selburg reported on tentative plans for future Blackhawk Presbytery Assembly Meetings in 2018:

Feb. 13, 2018 – Belvidere – They are hoping to host David Gambrell (PMA/Theology and Worship) to present a short preview, followed by a one day seminar in June, on using the Church Year and/or new Directory for Worship to enhance worship and church activities.

April 10, 2018 – Geneva Fox Valley – We will have a condensed business and worship in the morning to allow for an afternoon of Boundary training.

June 11, 2018 – Stronghold Camp and Retreat Center – Seminar at Stronghold, hopefully a continuation of February's learning opportunity.

June 12, 2018 – Stronghold Camp and Retreat Center – Camp themed Presbytery Assembly Meeting.

Sept. 11, 2018 – Morrison, IL TBD

Nov. 13, 2018 - TBD

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Rev. Anita Stuart-Steva announced that her Church, Winnebago Middle Creek, is sponsoring a mission trip to Texas to Rev. Steve Shullanberger's Church, which is near Corpus Christi, to help with the hurricane clean-up. If anyone would like to go, please contact the Church. The trip is planned for May or June, 2018.

Rev. Bill Ward reminded members of the Biblical Leadership in the 21st Century Conference on January 20, 2018 at the Rochelle First Presbyterian Church.

The tabled motion from the morning session, ***"The Presbytery asks the Presbytery Council to reconsider the Presbytery Policy of nominating commissioners to serve for General Assembly (and Synod if those nominations are also made by a rotation method) in order to align with principles of representation according to gender, age, geography, etc."*** was seconded. Discussion followed.

Rev. Dr. Bob Kopp withdrew his name as alternate #1 for the 2018 General Assembly.

After the discussion period the motion was **approved**.

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

A motion was made, seconded, and **approved** to adjourn the meeting at 2:55 p.m. The Moderator Matt Robinson, gave the closing prayer.

The next meeting of the Presbytery will be at First Presbyterian Church, Belvidere, IL, on Tuesday, February 13, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. John Rickard, Stated Clerk
Karen McClenthen, Recording Clerk

**ADJOURN ECCLESIASTICAL ASSEMBLY/CONVENE MEETING OF THE CORPORATION/TRUSTEES
ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION, WASHBURN**

The Presbytery of Blackhawk convened Tuesday, November 14, 2017, in a Stated Meeting at Stronghold Camp and Retreat Center, Oregon, Illinois, with prayer by Rev. Mile Selburg.

Rev. Mike Selburg stated that there was no business report from the Trustees or Administrative Commission, Washburn.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made, seconded and **approved** to adjourn the meeting at 3:05 p.m. The Rev. Mike Selburg gave the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. John Rickard, Stated Clerk
Karen McClenthen, Recording Clerk