

The Presbytery of Prospect Hill
 Stated Meeting – September 13, 2014, 9:30 am
 Lakeshore Center on Okoboji, Milford, IA

The Presbytery of Prospect Hill met for a regularly called meeting on Saturday, September 13, 2014 at the Lakeshore Center on Okoboji, Milford, Iowa. Moderator Randy Russom called the meeting to order with prayer at 9:32 a.m.

A quorum was present as shown by the following roll:

<u>Church</u>	<u>Occ Code</u>	<u>Teaching Elder</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>Ruling Elder</u>	<u>Cluster</u>
Alta		Vacant	P	E				4
Alton	105	Harlon DeJong	A	E	A			1
Armstrong	101	Suzanne Wobig	A	P	P			2
Ashton	101	Dale Lint	P	P	E			1
Auburn	106	Don Gibson	P	P	A			5
Battle Creek	101	Kevin Freese	P	E	P		Wanda Freese	5
Breda	106	Don Gibson	P	P	A			5
Bronson	101	Cyndy Ripperger	P	P	P		Wayne Scholtman	3
Carnarvon	117	Carl Lee, CRE	E	P	E			5
Carroll	101	Rikki Sorenson	A	P	P			5
Cherokee	101	Ethan Sayler	E	P	E		Nathan Leidahl	4
Cleghorn	101	Peggy Hegeman	A	P	P		Marlene Perkins	3
Denison	101	Paul Seefeldt	P	E	P			5
Estherville	101	C. Ensz/K. Ensz	A	P	P			2
George, Ebenzer	101	Paul Soderquist	P	P	P		Larry Petersen	1
George, Lyon	101	Paul Fischer	P	P	P			1
George, Zoar	101	Dale Lint	P	P	E			1
Glidden	101	Brian Camara	P	P	P			5
Hawarden	151	Dan Lozer	A	P	A			1
Ida Grove	117	Shari O'Bannon CRE	A	P	A		Orlan Ehler	5
Lake City	101	Beth Harbaugh	E	P	P		Virginia Sheffield	5
Lake Park	101	Tim Harmon	E	P	P		Lesleigh Wiese	2
Lawton	101	Cyndy Ripperger	P	P	P		Lorna Peters	3
LeMars PLY		Vacant					Karen Taylor Mortensen	3
LeMars PUCC	101	Jan Christensen	E	P	P		Evelyn Kendall	3
Manilla	151	Vicki Fisher	A	A	A			5
Manning	101	Marshall Brown	P	P	P		Lue Baker	5
Milford	117	Beth Ehlers	P	P	P			2
Odebolt	101	Vacant					Marne Barker	5
Paullina	101	Vacant					Jack Grovesnor	1
Pocahontas		Vacant						4
Ringsted	101	Suzanne Wobig	A	P	P			2

Rockwell City	126	Mossman/BJ Ukena	A	A	A			4
Rolfe		Vacant						4
Sac City	101	Randy Russom	P	P	P		Bob Coats	4
Sanborn	156	Gregg Johnson	A	A	A			1
Schaller	101	Ken Fells	P	P	P			4
SC First	101	Harold Tougen	P	P	A			3
Ass't		Kathleen Whipple	P	P	P			
SC Morn	101	Dave Koehler	P	P	P		John Daniels	3
SC Third	107	Cathie Bishop	P	A	P		Richard Mesmer	3
SC Westlawn	107	Paul Speidel	A	A	A			3
SC Westminster	101	John Pehrson	P	P	P		Pam Pfautsch	3
SSC First	101	Stephen Niles	P	P	P		Dick Anderson	3
Spirit Lake	101	Clint Loveall	A	P	P			2
	103	Michael Gewecke	E	P	P			
Storm Lake	101	Chuck V-Hein	P	P	A			4
SL-SEA	117	Paul Maychen, CRE	A	A	P			4
Vail	101	Richard Francis	P	P	P		Glenn Freese	5
Wall Lake	117	Carl Lee, CRE	E	P	E			5
Westside	101	Richard Francis	P	P	P		Mary Dixon	5

Other Ministers on the Roll of the Presbytery

bold = present

italics=excused

Armstrong, N	299	Meissner, Ken	641
Ayers, Jeffrey	797	Miller, Marvin	299
Beard, Clarence	299	Moore, William	299
Brinck, Peg	299	Peters, Lorna	107
Crawford, Bill	107	Queen, Duane	299
Dowell-Baum, M	797	Rozendaal, John	299
Fells, Kenneth	299	Saville, Stephen	797
Gibson, Donald	299	Shaffer, Richard	644
Gray, Donna	797	Stepanek, Harold	299
Hegeman, Peggy	797	Tollefson, Robert	299
Johnson, Don	299	Ukena, B.J.	299
McKinley, John	299	Wentzel, Rex	299
Mead, James	644		

Officers of the Presbytery

2014 Moderator Randy Russom

Vice Moderator Dennis Sohl

Past Moderator Shari O'Bannon

Stated Clerk John Pehrson

Treasurer Dick Drahotka

Recording Clerk Richard Francis

Elder Committee Members

Budget: Rebecca Brown

Camp: Beth Ehlers

COM: Lorna Peters

CPM:

MCT: Paul Campbell

MT: Dennis Sohl

Nominating:

PW: Evelyn Kendall

Visitors: Elaine Crawford, Judy Fells, Marj Feltman

Staff: Kay Lenhart

Corresponding Members: Edward Thompson, Rev. John Alfred, Dr. Francis Githuku

Beth Ehlers, Lakeshore Center Director, welcomed the Presbytery.

Moved, Seconded, and Carried (M/S/C) to approve the Agenda as printed.

First-time Commissioners were introduced.

M/S/C to seat the Rev. John Alfred and Dr. Francis Githuku from the Presbyterian Church of East Africa, and Edward Thompson (Heartland Presbytery) from the Board of Pensions as Corresponding Members.

The Presbytery shared Joys and Concerns. Moderator Russom offered prayers for the shared joys and concerns.

No New Business was introduced.

M/S/C to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2014 Meeting.

Skip Shaffer, Associate Dean of the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, brought greetings from the seminary and encouraged members of the Presbytery to take advantage of programs offered by the seminary.

Edward Thompson presented a report on the work of the Board of Pensions.

The Presbytery moved to Worship at 10:04 am. Participants in worship were John Pehrson, Steve Niles, Richard Francis, Cyndi Ripperger, and Marj Feltman, preaching. The offering of \$476.50 was designated for the Cherokee Food Pantry.

The Moderator called a ten-minute break following worship at 10:50 am.

The Presbytery reconvened at 11:03 a.m. for a presentation on Mission in Kenya by the Rev. John Alfred, Moderator of the Kali Presbytery, Presbyterian Church of East Africa, and Dr. Francis Githuku, Stated Clerk of the same Presbytery.

At 11:35 the Presbytery divided into groups to discuss the following questions:

What is your church doing to witness to God's love?

How can the Presbytery best serve your congregation?

The Presbytery adjourned for lunch at 12:04 p.m. Beth Ehlers led the Presbytery in singing grace.

The Presbytery reconvened at 1:00 p.m. with a prayer led by Tim Harmon.

Tim brought Dr. Francis Githuku forward. Dr. Francis presented a gift to Moderator Randy Russom as a memento of their time with the Presbytery.

The Presbytery held a Service of Honorable Retirement for the Rev. Marshall Brown, led by Tim Harmon. Members of the Presbytery were given the opportunity to express their appreciation of Marshall and his ministry, and several spoke.

The Business Meeting began at 1:14 pm

Stated Clerk

Stated Clerk John Pehrson called attention his report and also to the reports of the Administrative Commissions for Pocahontas and Rockwell City.

- June 3, Formed and trained the Pocahontas Administrative Commission
- June 16-19, attended General Assembly in Detroit
- Staffed COM meetings Jun 10, July 8, August 12, and Sept. 9
- July 29, Budget and Finance Meeting and Rockwell City Administrative Commission
- July 30, Lunch with Edward Thompson of the BOP
- August 12, Moderator Team meeting
- August 21, Synod Conference call
- Sept. 11-12, Conflict Transformation Workshop at Lakeshore Center
- Completed member transfers and attended to all other administrative matters regarding the business of the Presbytery.
- Answered polity questions when called or emailed
- Prepared September Presbytery Docket following Moderator Team meeting
- Reviewed and approved with exception the minutes of the First PC or Cleghorn.

Upcoming activities: Will be attending:

- Sept. 22-24, Synod-Presbyter Forum at Mt. Olivet, MN
- Sept. 28-29, Quad Presbytery gathering at Calvin Crest
- October 7, Moderator Team meeting
- October 14, COM training and Boundaries Training at Lakeshore Center
- Oct. 20-21 Stated Clerks' Fall Polity Conference in Louisville
- Oct. 22-24 Future of the Church Summit
- Nov. 4 COM meeting
- Nov. 11, Next Presbytery meeting – Morningside in Sioux City

Action Items: NONE

Information to Note: Dues to the Board of Pensions for 2015 are

35% of effective salary for **Member only**

36.5% of effective salary **for Member and family**

Effective salary includes: Salary, housing allowance, or rental value of the manse figured at 30% of Salary, and contributions to a 403(b) plan.

It DOES NOT include a SECA allowance up to 50% of amount due, Accountable plan reimbursement expenses (including travel), or accountable continuing education expenses.

Dr. Pehrson call attention to the written reports of the Personnel Committee, and the Administrative Commissions for Rockwell City and Pocahontas. There is no action at this time. The written reports are printed below:

The Personnel Committee met once since the last Presbytery meeting. We had Diana Barber of the Lakes and Prairies Synod come and instruct us on how to be a Personnel Committee. During that meeting we learned that the personnel policies for the presbytery were badly in need of updating. Another meeting was scheduled to review and rewrite policy. We also talked about the staff and how best to support them. It was decided that we would take turns by month of weekly touching base with Kay to see if there were any needs or issues and to offer support. No other action was taken.

Rockwell City Administrative Commission

Administrative Commission Members: Rev. Tim Harmon (TE—Lake Park), moderator; Rev. Rikki Sorenson (TE-Carroll); Mary Ann Irwin (RE-Denison); and Larry Williams (RE-Rolfe)
 Activities/Actions Taken since the Last Presbytery Meeting (Informational)

1. The AC was formed at the request of the Session at Rockwell City to close their congregation due to low numbers.
2. The AC met with Rev. Dr. John Pehrson, stated clerk, to review their responsibilities on July 29th at the Presbytery Office in Storm Lake.
3. The AC will be present at Session meetings at Rockwell City starting at the August 21st stated meeting.
There are no actions for Presbytery at this time.

Pocahontas Administrative Commission

The Administrative Commission of Prospect Hill Presbytery for the United Presbyterian Church of Pocahontas met on June 3, 2014, at 1800. Present were John Pehrson, Kennen Barber-Enz, B.J. Ukena, Marne Barker, Jim Craig, Roger Witt, Sarah Freeburg, and Margaret Rude.

John Pehrson opened the meeting with prayer. Pocahontas Session members shared good memories of their church including a strong history of faith, good music, and an active youth group.

The group voted to elect B.J. Ukena as moderator and Marne Barker as secretary.

Elder Jim Craig distributed a list of assets, a copy of the property deed, and a list of financial accounts. Records will be sent to the Presbyterian Historical Society. Members may be transferred to other churches. Tasks for closing the church were discussed.

In a congregational meeting held April 6 the members of United Presbyterian Church of Pocahontas voted to close their church.

B.J. closed the meeting with prayer at 1905. The next Administrative Commission meeting will be held September 9 at 4pm at the Pocahontas church. **There is no action to be taken at this time.**

Marne Barker, Recording Secretary

Mission Coordinator

Mission Coordinator Paul Campbell called attention to his written report as printed below:

May 1, 2014 – September 4, 2014, 2014

Pulpit Supplies

May 11th Westminster Ida Grove

June 8th Union Church – Lake City, IA

June 15th Plymouth Presbyterian – LeMars, IA

June 22nd - First Presbyterian Sac City, IA

June 29th - First Presbyterian Sac City, IA

July 27th - First Presbyterian Vail, IA

August 10th First Presbyterian – Glidden, IA

August 17th - First Presbyterian – Glidden, IA

1. May 3rd Presbyterian United – LeMars facilitating “Listening to the Spirit” survey with leadership and Leadership Retreat at Lakeshore Center

2. May 5th Lay Academy Task Force Meeting – Fort Dodge, IA

3. May 12th - Church Growth Summit meeting – Westminster Lincoln Nebraska.

4. May 13th Meet with Personnel Committee

5. May 13th – Presbytery Meeting Storm Lake

6. May 16th - Lakeshore Center Board Meeting – Fort Dodge, IA

7. May 30th - Cluster 5 Meeting Battle Creek, IA

8. June 25th - Phone Conference for Capital Campaign Lakeshore Center

9. July 16th - - Capital Campaign Camp Cabinet - Phone Conference

10. July 17th - Synod EP Phone Conference

11. July 20th - Attend Worship at First Presbyterian Spirit Lake, IA

12. July 27th – Aug 1st Synod School, Opening Welcome –Participated in Worship, Attended Church Revitalization Classes, GA Discussion, and Mid-Council Discussions. Met with Synod of Lakes and Prairies and Lincoln Trails Executives

13. August 4th - Vacation Bible School for the 3 Presbyterian Churches of Morningside –Sioux City, IA Have an Adult Spiritual Formation Program which can be used in other churches.
 14. August 6th - Phone Conference for Capital Campaign Lakeshore Center
 15. August 10th – Met with Richard Francis
 16. August 17th– Visited Beth Harbaugh Lake City Union Church
 17. August 18th - Church Growth Summit planning meeting Westminster Lincoln, NE
 18. September 4th - COAD meeting for possible storm damage assistance
 19. September 5th - Lakeshore Center Board meeting – Wahpeton, IA
- I have continued to act as treasurer for the Quad Presbytery Consortium and the Church Growth Summit. Planning on Attending Conflict Workshop at Lakeshore Center.
Personal Note for FYI: I have been working as a PRN Chaplain at St. Luke’s in Sioux City.

Lakeshore Center

Beth Ehlers presented the report of the Lakeshore Center as follows:

- **Activities/Actions since last Presbytery Meeting:**
- Capital Campaign is underway. We just received a \$150,000 gift from North Central Iowa presbytery which puts our pledge/gift total at \$546,000. We will be going public soon.
- Our Loan principle is now at \$626,000. By October it will be at \$576,000 and we will be refinancing the loan to reduce our monthly payments in half.
- Summer Camp was real! We encourage young people to be the people God is calling them to be. Total campers 340 compared to 393 in 2013.
- Summer Worship averaged about 40 people each Sunday.
- The elevator is in and working. Praise God!
- Hosted Okoboji Bible Conference guests, Roosevelt High School Choir from Sioux Falls, Algona Middle School, Northwestern College Campus Ministries, Northwestern College Summer of Service Leadership, Several family reunions, and many weddings this summer in addition to our summer camp.
- Just a reminder that our name has changed to Lakeshore Center at Okoboji. Please be sure to use our new name when talking about this sacred place.
- If you would like to have someone come and share our ministry with your congregation, call now! We can come in the fall or spring. Sundays go quickly!
- **Planned events:**
- September 26-28 Hobby and Artists Retreat
- October 4 – Fall Clean Up Work Day
- October 9-11 – “A Prayer Life that Fits” with Dr. Gary Hansen from UDTs.
- Saturday, December 6 is Christmas by the Lake from 1p.m.-4 p.m. Come the night before for a little get-away.
- January 16-18, 2015 Scrapbook Retreat
- March 6-12, 2015 – Quilt Retreat
- March 27-28 – Be Still Sabbath Retreat

Please continue to hold Lakeshore Center and the staff in your prayers. Pray for stamina, guidance, and that God will continue to work through all who come to this beautiful sacred space.
 If you have questions, please do not hesitate to ask Beth while at the meeting Beth led the Presbytery in prayer for the ministry of the Lakeshore Center.

Nominating Committee

Cyndy Ripperger presented the Nominating Committee Report. She placed the following people in

nomination:

For the Mission Coordinating Team:

Donna Gray, Teaching Elder (TE), Cluster 1, three-year term

Rikki Sorensen (TE), At large, three-year term

Lesleigh Wiese, Ruling Elder (RE), At large, one-year term

David Koehler (TE), At large, three-year term

For Ordination Readers

Paul Seefeldt (TE)

Lesleigh Wiese (RE)

Donna Gray (TE), alternate

Committee on Representation

Mary Dowel Baum (TE)

The Presbytery voted to elect the nominees.

Committee on Ministry (COM)

Tim Harmon presented the Committee on Ministry (COM) report. He called on Lue Baker, Moderator of the Commissioned Lay Pastor working group. Lue told the Presbytery about the Commissioned Ruling Elders (CREs) and the potential they have for working within the Presbytery in a variety of capacities.

Items for action from the COM:

1) Because of failure to maintain a validated ministry and as a result of consultations which show a mutual understanding of future ministry plans with Rev. Jeffrey Ayers, Member-at-Large, the COM recommends that according to G-2.0503b and G-2.0508 of the Book of Order, he be moved to inactive status. **The Presbytery voted to approve the recommendation.**

2) Because of failure to comply with COM requirements for a return to ministry and failure to communicate or work with the COM on her ministry status over the past three years, it is recommended that Heather Shoup, currently on the Inactive Status Roll, be removed from the rolls of membership in this Presbytery under G-2.0508 and that she be released from all ministry as a Teaching Elder in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

The floor was opened to questions and comments by members of the Presbytery. Tim noted that Heather could be reinstated if she fulfills the requirements for reinstatement and comes before the COM seeking reinstatement. She cannot be transferred to another Presbytery until she is reinstated by action of Prospect Hill Presbytery. **The Presbytery voted to approve the recommendation.**

Tim led the Presbytery in prayer for Jeffrey and Heather.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)

Jan Christensen presented the report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM). She presented Lue Baker's name as the Presbytery's representative to the Lay Academy Committee. **The Presbytery approved the recommendation.**

Jan introduced Sara Sutter, an Inquirer under care of the Presbytery, who has requested that she be moved to the status of Candidate. Sara introduced herself and shared her sense of call. Members of the Presbytery were invited to ask Sara questions about her sense of call. On behalf of the CPM, Jan moved that Sara be enrolled as a Candidate. Sara was excused while the Presbytery discussed the motion. **Voted to Approve** amending the scholarship application to read "Students who are under care of Prospect Hill Presbytery as an Inquirer or Candidate are eligible for a grant up to \$500 per semester or unit of Clinical Pastoral Education for financial assistance.

The Presbytery voted to approve the motion. After Sara returned to the meeting, Jan led the

Presbytery in a commissioning service for Sara, with Matthew Gewecke leading in prayer.

On behalf of the CPM, Jan moved that the Presbytery amend the scholarship application to expand the range of scholarships to include CPE for those who are under care of the presbytery as Inquirers or Candidates. Currently, scholarships are available only for seminary expenses. **Presbytery voted to approve the request.**

On behalf of the CPM, Jan moved that the Presbytery amend the scholarship application to read “Students who are under care of Prospect Hill Presbytery as an Inquirer or Candidate are eligible for a grant up to \$500 per semester or *unit of Clinical Pastoral Education* for financial assistance.” **Presbytery voted to approve the request.**

Budget and Finance

Rebecca Brown presented the report of the Budget and Finance Committee. She reported that the moderator team **reviewed the Presbytery insurance** and no changes are being made. **The Presbytery financial records have been audited.** She introduced the 2015 Budget for its first reading.

Presbyterian Women

Evelyn Kendall presented the report from Presbyterian Women.

General Assembly Commissioners

John Pehrson, Lorna Peters (RE Commissioner), Kevin Freese (TE Commissioner), and Sara Sutter (Theological Advisory Delegate) presented a report on the 221st General Assembly held from June 14 to 21, 2014 at the COBO Center in downtown Detroit, Michigan. Kevin thanked the Presbytery for the support he received when he was hospitalized during the Assembly. He called the Presbytery's attention to the written report of the General Assembly Commissioners.

Announcements, Closing Prayer, and Adjournment

M/S/C to adjourn at 2:30 p.m. Moderator Russom led the Presbytery in prayer.

The next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Prospect Hill will be held at 9:30 am on Tuesday, November 11, 2014 at Morningside Presbyterian Church, Sioux City, Iowa