

The Presbytery of Prospect Hill
Stated Meeting – February 1, 2014 10:00 am
First Presbyterian Church – Schaller, Iowa

The Presbytery of Prospect Hill met for a regularly called meeting on Saturday, February 2, 2014 at First Presbyterian Church, Schaller, Iowa. Vice-Moderator Randy Russom called the meeting to order with prayer at 10:00 am.

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	101	Craig Lee	P				Diane Lee	4
Alton	108	Harlan DeJong	A					1
Armstrong	101	Suzanne Wobig	A					2
Ashton	101	Dale Lint	P				Larry Hulstein	1
Auburn	106	Don Gibson	P				Jim Dreesen	5
							Karen	
Battle Creek	101	Kevin Freese	P				Krayenhagen	5
Boyden	105	Rollin Haynes	A					1
Breda	106	Don Gibson	P				Charles Hundling	5
Bronson	101	Cyndy Ripperger	P				Wayne Scholtman	3
Carnarvon	117	Carl Lee, CRE	E					5
Carroll	101	Rikki Sorenson	A					5
Cherokee	101	Ethan Saylor	E					4
Cleghorn	101	Peggy Hegeman	A					3
Denison	101	Paul Seefeldt	P					5
Estherville	101	C. Ensz/K. Ensz	A					2
George, Ebenzer	101	Paul Soderquist	P				Larry Petersen	1
George, Lyon	101	Paul Fischer	P				Harold Chadwick	1
George, Zoar	101	Dale Lint	P				Darren Lint	1
Glidden	101	Brian Camara	P					5
Hawarden	151	Dan Lozer	A					1
Ida Grove	117	Shari O'Bannon CRE	E				Orlan Ehler	5
Lake City	101	Beth Harbaugh	E					5
Lake Park	101	Tim Harmon	E				Lesleigh Wiese	2
Lawton	101	Cyndy Ripperger	P				Bev Logsdon	3
LeMars PLY		Vacant						3
LeMars PUCC	101	Jan Christensen	E				Evelyn Kendall	3
Manilla	136/108	Loomis/Daiker	A					5
Manning	101	Marshall Brown	P				Rebecca Brown	5
Milford	117	Beth Ehlers	P					2
Odebolt	101	Vacant					Marne Barker	5
Paullina	101	Vacant					Marj Feltman	1
Pocahontas		Vacant						4

Ringsted	101	Suzanne Wobig	A					2
Rockwell City	126	Mossman/BJ Ukena	A					4
Rolfe		Vacant						4
Sac City	101	Randy Russom	P				Bobbie Wells	4
Sanborn	156	Gregg Johnson	A					1
Schaller	101	Ken Fells	P				Jerry Gosch	4
SC First	101	Harold Tongen	P				Jane Hey	3
Ass't		Kathleen Whipple	P					
SC Morn	101	Dave Koehler	P				Connie Sponder	3
SC Third	107	Cathie Bishop	P					3
SC Westlawn	107	Paul Speidel	A					3
SC Westminster	101	John Pehrson	P				Gene Linkvis	3
SSC First	101	Stephen Niles	P					3
Spirit Lake	101	Clint Loveall	A					2
	103	Michael Gewecke	E					
Storm Lake	101	Chuck V-Hein	P					4
SL-SEA	117	Paul Maychen, CRE	A					4
Vail	101	Richard Francis	P				Kathy Francis	5
Wall Lake	117	Carl Lee, CRE	E					5
Westside	101	Richard Francis	P					5

Other Ministers on the Roll of the Presbytery

bold = present

italics=excused

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

Officers of the Presbytery

2014 Moderator	Randy Russom
Vice Moderator	Dennis Sohl
Past Moderator	Shari O'Bannon
Stated Clerk	John Pehrson
Treasurer	Dick Drahota
Recording Clerk	Richard Francis
Elder Committee Members	
Budget:	Rebecca Brown
Camp:	Beth Ehlers
COM:	Lorna Peters
CPM:	
MCT:	Paul Campbell
MT:	
Nominating:	
PW:	Evelyn Kendall

Visitors: Terrie Barta, Kathy Vonnahme, Jack Grosvenor, M. McDonough

Corresponding Members:

The Presbytery was welcomed by Rev. Ken Fells, Interim Pastor.

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

Marshall Brown led an installation service for Moderator-elect Randy Russom and Vice-moderator elect Dennis Sohl.

First-time Commissioners were introduced.

Rev. Harold Tongen, Interim Pastor at Sioux City First, was introduced.

There were no Corresponding Members to be seated.

The Presbytery shared joys and concerns for prayer. Moderator Russom led the Presbytery in prayer.

No new business was introduced.

Cyndy Ripperger gave the report of the Nominating Committee. She placed the following names in nomination:

Cyndy Ripperger for Committee on Representation class of 2016.

Rhett Leonard for Camp Board class of 2016.

There were no nominations from the floor. M/S/C to elect.

M/S/C to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2013 meeting.

Officer and Staff Reports:

- Outgoing **Moderator** Shari O'Bannon's report was included in the packet.
- **Stated Clerk** John Pehrson called attention to his written report.
 - There are currently 48 churches on the roll. Two churches have 2 Teaching Elders (TE) making a possible 50 Ruling Elder (RE) commissioners. There are 58 ministers (TE) and 8 Commissioned Ruling Elders (CRE) on the roll. 13 ministers are Honorably Retired and 3 At-Large members live out of state. 5 of the HR pastors are not able to be active in the Presbytery. This makes the actual potential for TEs at a Presbytery meeting to be 50, plus 8 CREs. Therefore, the Clerk reports that there is NO IMBALANCE between TEs and REs at Presbytery meetings.
 - Sara (Lamb)Sutter, a member of Memorial Presbyterian Church in Cherokee and a student at DTS, has been nominated to be the DTS TSAD Delegate to the 221st GA. PPH needs to take action to endorse Sara as a TSAD. **M/S/C to endorse.**
 - **M/S/C** to give Vice-moderator Dennis Sohl permission to serve the sacraments in any church in the Presbytery during his tenure as Vice-moderator and Moderator.
 - Richard Francis reported that the United Presbyterian Church of Vail has sold two lots in the town of Vail (Legal description Block 40, lots 9 & 10, Adams and Hoffman addition) for \$3,000. Permission to sell was given at the November 12, 2013 meeting of the Presbytery. The money from the sale has been invested in the church's endowment fund.
- **Mission Coordinator** Paul Campbell called attention to his written report and announced upcoming events.
- **Budget and Finance Committee Moderator** Rebecca Brown called attention to the written report of the committee as well as the Compilation Report from 2013. She presented the following action item:

- First Presbyterian Church of Auburn would like to sell the manse property. Legal description as found in court records: The North 45 feet of Lot 10 Block 7 in the Original Town of Auburn, Sac County, Iowa. **The Presbytery approved the sale.**

Lakeshore Center Director Beth Ehlers presented a promotional video from the Center. She also reviewed continuing developments at the Center and plans for upcoming programming.

Paul Campbell presented a report for the **Mission Coordinating Team**. He presented a video ad, “One Body, Many Parts.”

The Presbytery moved into Worship at 11:00 a.m. Rev. Ken Fells preached and led the Presbytery in a service of Holy Communion. Other participants in the service were Richard Francis, Cyndy Ripperger, and Paul Soderquist. Communion was served by elders from the Schaller Church. The offering, designated for Sudanese Relief Aid through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, was \$466.79.

The Presbytery recessed for the noon meal at 11:57 a.m. Ken Fells led the Presbytery in a prayer of thanksgiving for the meal.

The Presbytery reconvened at 12:45 p.m. with prayer by Beth Ehlers.

A time of sharing mission joys and work in the churches of the Presbytery.

Administrative Commission Reports

Dale Lint presented the report of the Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church of Boyden.

Paul Fischer presented the written report of the Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church Ashton, Iowa. **M/S/C to concur** with the requests of the Congregation:

1. By unanimous vote the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church, Ashton, Iowa requests that the Presbytery of Prospect Hill concur with its decision of November 17, 2013 to dissolve the ministry with the last worship service being held on November 24, 2013. It also requests that the Presbytery of Prospect Hill concur with the congregation's following request in reference to the distribution of the final assets.
2. The congregation requests that on January 1, 2014 the memberships of those in good standing of the First Presbyterian Church of Ashton, Iowa be transferred to Zoar Presbyterian Church George, Iowa.
3. The congregation also requests approval to terminate the pastoral relationship with Rev. Dale Lint as of December 31, 2013.
4. The distribution of current financial assets will take place in the following manner:
 1. The Martha M. Backer Fund: \$6534.84 This is a 50 year limited fund which expires in 2037 or at the time of the congregation's dissolution, which will be 2/1/2014. Therefore this fund will revert to the Presbyterian Foundation to be used to support church growth.
 2. That the balance of the general fund in the amount of 50,350.11 be distributed in the following manner:
 1. A cash gift of \$10,000 will be given to the Presbyterian camp to be used for summer camp scholarships.
 2. A cash gift of \$15,000 will be given to Zoar Presbyterian Church to provide for those members and friends of the church being transferred.

3. Rev. Lint is paid severance from January 2014 through June of 2104 in the amount of \$4,516.68.
4. Rev. Lint's Pension expenses are paid for Jan. and Feb. 2014. \$894.00
5. The 2013 Presbytery mission pledge for 19 members will be paid in full. (\$359.48).
6. The 2104 Presbytery mission pledge for 18 members will be paid in full. (\$340.56)
7. The balance of the funds will be divided equally between The Ashton Library, The Ashton First responders, The Ashton Museum, The Ashton Fire Department, The Ashton community building committee for upkeep and The Ashton Town and Country committee, \$3,200 each.
8. The remaining balance of \$39.39 will then be given to the Prospect Hill presbytery office to pay shipping costs on the church records.

M/S/C to dissolve the Administrative Commission with thanks.

Evelyn Kendall presented a report from **Presbyterian Women**.

Lorna Peters presented the report of the **Committee on Ministry (COM)**. COM asks that all minister members-at-large and CREs (as required by G-2.0503 and G-2.1001 respectively) submit ministry reports annually for review and validation of their on-going ministry.

John Pehrson presented a revised version of an **Overture Regarding Synods**. The Overture was previously approved by the Presbytery in September and was returned with corrected language. It has since become an Overture from Homestead Presbytery. **M/S/C** to concur the revised version of the Overture, now Overture 28.

Overture from the Presbytery of Homestead to the 221st General Assembly (2014) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Presbytery of Homestead overtures the 221st General Assembly (2014) to respond to any plan for comprehensive reorganization of synod or presbytery boundaries by encouraging presbyteries, either individually or jointly to consult with their synod and surrounding presbyteries regarding what functions are appropriate within their respective synod and whether boundaries of their synod or any of the affected presbyteries should change to meet the needs of congregations in the affected region, pursuant to G-3.0403c and G-3.0404.

Rationale: There appears to be widespread recognition that the needs of presbyteries and congregations across the nation varies greatly and that "one size does not fit all." The functions ascribed to synods are necessary to the efficient and effective functioning of the whole system of governance, and if a particular synod's functions are reduced or eliminated, it is the affected presbyteries in that synod that must "take up the slack". Hence, it is those same presbyteries who should initiate any needed change in their region, not the General Assembly determining one solution for the whole church.

It was presbyteries and not the General Assembly that first created synods and it is reasonable that decisions regarding the appropriate functions, operations, and boundaries of synods are best left to the affected presbyteries and their synod(s).

The current Form of Government allows for considerable flexibility in synod function and structure within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), up to and including the reduction of function to only judicial process and administrative review of presbyteries (G-3.0404). This Form of Government has been in effect since 20 II and has not had a chance to be tested by mid councils

as they discern the best way to meet their needs and the needs of their congregations. It is obvious from recent actions (with reference particularly to the Synod of Alaska Northwest) that synods and presbyteries can use the current Form of Government to reduce the functions of a synod when they feel it is appropriate, and are able to accomplish it without a directive from the General Assembly.

The Form of Government allows presbyteries and/or synods to overture the General Assembly to divide, unite, or otherwise combine synods (G-3.0S02d) if those councils believe it is in their best interest to do so.

The Form of Government allows two or more synods to form a shared permanent judicial commission (D-5.0101) when those bodies believe it is in their best interest to do so.

On behalf of the **Nominating Committee**, Cyndy Ripperger nominated Kevin Freese as Teaching Elder for a six-year term on the Permanent Judicial Commission. **M/S/C** to elect Kevin.

Randy Russom led the Presbytery in a prayer of thanksgiving for the witness of the Ashton Church over the years.

Brian Camara presented the report of the **Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)**.

- Brian introduced Beverly Logsdon, RE at Community Presbyterian Church in Lawton, to be enrolled as a candidate in preparation to be a Commissioned Ruling Elder. She is scheduled to begin classes in the Lay Academy. **M/S/C** to affirm the CPM's recommendation that Bev be enrolled. Bev's pastor, Cyndy Ripperger, led the Presbytery in prayer.
- Brian presented the recommendation of the CPM that Inquirer Katy Shevel be moved into the Candidacy phase of her preparation. She is a member of Lakeside Presbyterian Church in Storm Lake and is currently a student at Princeton Seminary. Katy spoke to the Presbytery via a phone link concerning her sense of call and her preparation to this point. Katy answered questions from the Presbytery. Katy's pastor, Chuck Valenti-Hein, noted that the Session of the Lakeside Church has voted to affirm her request to be moved into the Candidacy phase. **The Presbytery voted to concur** in the recommendation of the CPM, and Katy Shevel is enrolled as a Candidate. Brian then led the Presbytery in prayer for Katy and for her continued preparation.

John Pehrson called attention to the report of the Committee on Representation that was included in the packet.

No further business appearing, **M/S/C** to adjourn the meeting at 1:30 pm. Paul Seefeldt led the Presbytery in the closing prayer.

The next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Prospect Hill will be held at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, May 13, 2014, at Lakeside Presbyterian Church, Storm Lake, Iowa.