

Highlights

of the 132nd Stated Meeting
of the Presbytery of Southern New England
February 9, 2008

Christ is Life Presbyterian Church, Fall River, MA

There were 47 ministers, 55 elder commissioners, and 5 Council members present and voting. Twenty-five of the Presbytery's 35 sessions were represented. There were 6 corresponding members and 29 observers at the meeting.

Council Report

- Presbytery **VOTED** to approve the dismissal of the Covenant Presbyterian Church (CPC) of Simsbury, CT, with its real property, to the New Wineskins EPC Presbytery of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC) which is a Reformed denomination in correspondence with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The dismissal shall be effective upon receipt by the PSNE Stated Clerk of official notice from the New Wineskins EPC Presbytery of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church that it has accepted the CPC into its membership. The full and final release of PSNE's interest in the CPC's real property is conditioned upon payment by the CPC to the PSNE of \$105,000 over a period of eight years.
- Presbytery **VOTED** to overture the 218th General Assembly (2008) to receive the report and recommendations of the Form of Government (FOG) Task Force and to postpone final consideration of a substitute Form of Government .
- Presbytery **VOTED** to overture the 218th General Assembly (2008) to:
 - recognize, support, and applaud the efforts of all United States government employees now assisting Iraqi refugees and displaced persons ...
 - strongly advocate the United States government to more quickly provide haven in the United States for threatened Iraqi refugees and displaced persons ...
 - strongly advocate the United States government to provide adequate staff, resources, and simplified procedures to rapidly implement an improved Iraqi refugee resettlement program
 - encourage churches and presbyteries to welcome Iraqi refugees within their region, sponsoring and assisting in their resettlement.

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Were You There ...?

- **Were you there** ... when we worshipped with hymns and songs of praise in three languages?
- **Were you there** ... for what the Bible teaches about immigrants in messages by Elder Gerson Roca, Rev. Joseph Kimatu, and Elder Zachary Sharpe?
- **Were you there** ... for the music and songs by musicians of Christ is Life and Ghana Choir?
- **Were you there** ... for the small group discussions around Matthew 14:13-21 and the message from Rev. Chris Foster?
- **Were you there** ... when Rev. Dana Lindsley asked if you had signed up to receive the weekly "**Getting Connected**"?
- **If you weren't there** ... you missed a lot!

Elections

The following were elected to serve on the:

- Church Development Committee: **Elder Amanda Doescher**, Westerly: Dunn's Corners, Class of 2009
- Commissioners to the 218th General Assembly
 - **Rev. Joan Withers-Priest**
 - **Rev. Paul Terry**
 - **Elder Lisa Baker**, Springfield: MLK
 - **Elder Janet Houser**, Waterford : Crossroads
 - **YAD Kwame Gyampo**, Providence
- Alternate Commissioners to the 218th General assembly:
 - **Rev. Steven Thayer**
 - **Elder Joe Jackson**, Groton: St. Andrew
- Officers of Presbytery
 - **Rev. Steven Thayer**, Moderator
 - **Elder Judy Babcock**, Vice Moderator, Providence
- Synod Nominating Committee
 - **Elder Bill Thomas**, Brookfield: Valley

Council Report - continued

- Presbytery **VOTED** not to overture the 218th General Assembly (2008) to delete the current text of G-60106b.
- Presbytery **VOTED** not to overture the 218th General Assembly (2008) to change the definition of marriage in W-4.9000.
- Presbytery **VOTED** to elect Elder Jane Mosher, Groton: St. Andrew, to the Nominating Committee, Class of 2009

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

On November 27th 2007, the committee met with:

- The committee voted to continue **Yonder Gillihan** as a candidate. Yonder has completed his PhD and is teaching at Boston College.
- The committee voted to continue **Nancy McLaren** as a candidate. Nancy has been living in Boston, working at Fourth Church.
- The committee contacted **Jennifer Battaglioli** by teleconference. Jennifer was certified ready for examination in 1997.
- The committee contacted **Hee Kyu Park** by videoconference. Heidi was certified ready for examination in 2005.

On January 22, 2008, the committee met with:

- The committee voted to continue **Justin Ray** as a candidate for his annual consultation. Justin has completed his M. Div. at Yale Divinity School and is currently working with hospice.
- The committee voted to continue **Kathy Cooper** as an inquirer. Kathy is working with InterVarsity, completing her M. Div. at Regent, and preparing for the PC USA ordination requirements.
- The committee contacted **Carleton Badger** by teleconference. Carleton was certified ready for examination in 1989. The purpose of our conversation was to restore contact and offer encouragement. He is a member of Greenwich: First. He is living in Durham, NC.
- The committee contacted **Bruce Incze** by teleconference. Bruce was certified ready for examination in 2003.

The next Stated Meeting of Presbytery

will be held on **May 3, 2008** at
First Presbyterian Church
Greenwich, CT

Committee on Ministry

- Presbytery **VOTED** to receive **Rev. Denise Soares** as temporary stated supply at Fall River: Calvary.
- Presbytery **VOTED** to receive **Rev. Jim Mahan** into membership as pastor of Turn of River: Stamford, if the way be clear, upon his dismissal by the Presbytery of Lake Michigan.
- Presbytery **VOTED** to receive **Rev. Tom Speers** into membership as member at large, if the way be clear, upon his dismissal by the Presbytery of Philadelphia.
- Presbytery **VOTED** to receive **Rev. Tracy Mehr-Muska** into membership as member at large, if the way be clear, upon her dismissal by the Presbytery of Newton.
- Presbytery **VOTED** to receive **Rev. George Pomeroy** into membership as Honorably Retired, if the way be clear, upon his dismissal by the Presbytery of Northern New England.
- Presbytery **VOTED** to receive **Rev. Robert Lantz** into membership as Honorably Retired, if the way be clear, upon his dismissal by the Presbytery of East Virginia.
- Presbytery **VOTED** to receive **Rev. Joseph Kimatu** into membership as an active member with co-membership in the Presbyterian Church of East Africa, as provided for by the Book of Order, G-11-0404f. Joseph is pastor of the Tumaini Fellowship in Springfield.
- Presbytery **VOTED** to restore Rev. Cynthia Robbins to active membership as a member at large.

Trustees

Rev. Paul Terry reported that only **Connecticut Korean Presbyterian Church of New Haven** was without the Presbytery's mandated sexual misconduct and directors' & officers' liability insurance coverage

Stewardship & Mission

Rev. Glenn Ramsey reminded Presbytery that the Northeast Ecumenical Stewardship Council is sponsoring a Spirituality and Stewardship event in Worcester, MA on April 4-5. Scholarship money is available from PSNE's Stewardship & Mission Committee.