

# Highlights

of the 130<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting  
of the Presbytery of Southern New England  
September 15, 2007  
First Presbyterian Church, Fairfield, CT

There were 52 ministers, 57 elder commissioners, and 7 Council members present and voting. Twenty-six of the Presbytery's 35 sessions were represented. There were 5 corresponding members and 18 observers at the meeting.

## Committee on Ministry

- Presbytery VOTED to receive **Rev. Johanna McCune Wagner** into membership as Chaplain at the Williston Northampton School, if the way be clear, upon her dismissal by the Presbytery of Kiskiminetas.
- Presbytery VOTED to receive **Rev. Johanna Johns Jung** into membership as an Honorably Retired member, if the way be clear, upon her dismissal by the Presbytery of Long Island.
- Presbytery VOTED to receive **Rev. Frank H. Poole** into membership as an Honorably Retired member, if the way be clear, upon his dismissal by the Presbytery of Utica.
- Presbytery VOTED to receive **Rev. Susan M. Pfeil** into membership as an interim pastor serving another denomination, if the way be clear, upon her dismissal by the Presbytery of Hudson River.
- Presbytery VOTED to receive **Rev. gretchen Sausville** into membership as Associate Pastor at West Hartford: Westminster, if the way be clear, upon her dismissal by the Presbytery of New Brunswick.
- Presbytery examined and VOTED to approve **Candidate Robert Birch** for ordination. He has received a call from Leacock Presbyterian Church, Paradise, PA (Donegal Presbytery).
- Presbytery VOTED to approve the **Rev. Sean Martin**, a minister of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, as Temporary Stated Supply at Simsbury: Covenant. The Rev. Sean Martin will be permitted to administer the Sacraments at Simsbury: Covenant.

## Were You There ...?

**Were you there** ... when youth from the Youth Triennium and Stamford: First's Hurricane Katrina Mission Team led the worship?

**Were you there** ... when Rev. Dana Lindsley commented on the three underlying themes for the course of the meeting?

- The interim report from the Review Team stated that the process is not complete. There are difficult discussions that require patience and forbearance. There is a commitment for spiritual discernment and we are confident that God has a way for us.
- The budget for 2008 will require us to re-think the way we are to be Christ's people in the world.
- We have three churches moving forward in partnership for re-development and a new Kenyan Fellowship.

**Were you there** ... when Rev. Bill Gestal explained the process used by PCOG as they explored a possible 'merger' with a non-denominational church that included due diligence, 90 days of prayer, and a consultant?

**Were you there** ... when Elder Dan Cunningham presented a Church Development check to Rev. Kimatu for the Kenyan Fellowship?

**Were you there** .... when Rev. Gerson Annunciacao reported on the progress of Christ is Life Church?

**Were you there** ... when the Immigration Task Force outlined their next steps?

**If you weren't there** ... you missed a lot!

### Committee on Ministry (Cont'd)

- The Committee approved the part-time pastor position CIF for Springfield: MLK
- The Committee approved the half-time pastor position CIF for Fall River: Calvary
- The Committee approved the following Ministerial Relief Fund Loan policy:

At the request of the Trustees, it is recommended that when a member of presbytery is given a loan from the presbytery's Ministerial Relief Fund, a letter of agreement with a schedule of repayments accompany the loan.

- Presbytery VOTED to adopt the following policy: *"When a church does not have a pastor, or while the pastor is unable to perform her or his duties, the session shall obtain the services of a minister of this denomination in a temporary pastoral relation, absent extraordinary circumstances."*

### Trustees

The board reported that several churches either have not replied to our inquiry or have refused to add sexual misconduct and/or directors and officers' liability insurance coverage to their church policies.

The board reminds all churches that this coverage is required.

### Nominations

Elder Stephanie Brackett asked "Do you know the way to San Jose?" for the 218<sup>th</sup> General Assembly?

Nominations for commissioners, alternates and YADs need to be submitted by November 16, 2007 to the Presbytery office in Old Saybrook.

### Stewardship & Mission

Elder Shirley Dudley presented the Mission Grant Application form to the commissioners. Copies of the application are available from the Presbytery office.

### Committee on Preparation for Ministry

- Presbytery VOTED to receive Inquirer **Elizabeth Anderson** (Darien: Noroton) as Candidate.
- Presbytery VOTED to receive Inquirer **Jennifer Dillinger** (Stamford: First) as Candidate.
- Presbytery VOTED to receive Inquirer **Timothy Luddy** (Enfield: Calvary) as Candidate.
- Presbytery VOTED to receive Inquirer **Adele Crawford** (Stamford: First) as Candidate.

### Elections

The following were elected to serve on the:

- **Committee on Church Development:** Elder Judy Lewis, (Ashaway: Babcock), class of 2010.
- **Committee on Social Justice:** Elder Addie Sandler, (Brookfield: Valley), class of 2009.
- **Board of Trustees:** Rev. David Rockness (Specialized Clergy), class of 2010.
- **Committee on Ministry:** Elder Charlene Roberson (Greenwich: First), class of 2010.
- **Commissioner to the Synod of the Northeast:** Rev. John Ferguson, class 2009.
- **Personnel Committee:** Rev. Terry Davis, class of 2009.

### The next Stated Meeting of Presbytery

**will be held on November 17, 2007 at**

**Noroton Presbyterian Church,  
Darien, CT**