



STATED MEETING OF ALBANY PRESBYTERY

PRE-MEETING PACKET

Saturday, November 12th, 2011

Registration and Fellowship begin at 8:30am

Call to Worship and Business Meeting begin at 9:30am

Meal Tickets for lunch are \$6 per person

Please make checks payable to: Korean Presbyterian Church

Lunch will be served at 12:00pm

Presbyters with dietary restrictions are invited
to bring their own lunch

Hosted by the Korean Presbyterian Church of Schenectady

7 Knox Drive, Schenectady, NY 12303

Telephone: 355-1564

website: www.kpcalbany.org

Disable Access: Wheelchair accessible



Handicap accessible restroom

CHILD CARE is provided without cost to you. It is, however, essential that you make a reservation for your child. Please call the Korean Church office at 518-355-1564 or email them at: namseogpark@hotmail.com no later than Wednesday, November 9th, giving number of children, ages and any special needs. If your plans change after that date, please call to cancel the reservation or to ask if space is available. In the interest of the health of all children and their families who are brought for childcare during Presbytery meetings, please do not bring your child if he or she is showing signs of illness.

DIRECTIONS

- From North: Take 890 East and take exit 9A for NY-7/Curry Rd. Turn right onto NY W/ Curry Rd. Take the 1st right onto Hamburg St. Take the 1st right onto Knox Dr.
- From East or West: Take 90 and take exit 25 to merge onto I-890 W toward NY-7/ NY-146/ Schenectady. Take exit 9 for Curry Rd toward NY-7 W/ Curry Rd. Take the 1st right onto Hamburg St. Take the 1st right onto Knox Dr.
- There is main parking area in front of church building
- Both sides of "Knox Drive" can also be used for parking

THE PRESBYTERY OF ALBANY Stated Meeting – November 12, 2011

Presbytery telephone 273-4991- Stated Clerk Telephone 273-3390
Korean Presbyterian Church, Schenectady Church Telephone 355-1564

DOCKET

Notes: New Business must be presented in writing to the Moderator prior to the meal.
Standing Rules & Basic Parliamentary Procedures are available at the Clerk's desk.

8:30 a.m. Gathering and Registration

We Gather in God's Name and Worship God Together

9:30 a.m. Call to Order & Opening Prayer Kirianne Riehl, Moderator
Announcements
Greetings from Host Church

We Present our Offerings of Mission and Ministry

Report of the Stated Clerk Dan Rogers
Compile Roll, Seat Corresponding Members, Welcome First Time Attendees
Approval of Meeting Docket
Approval of Minutes of September 19-20, 2011, Stated Meeting as distributed
Adoption of the Consent Agenda – Consent items are included in the following
committee reports: COM; Council; Trustees.

10:00 a.m. General Presbyter's Report Cass Shaw

10:10 a.m. Committee on Ministry (COM) Report – Part 1 Tom Gregg
Examination of Marti Montovani for transfer of membership
Action on Overture Concurrence (Hugh Nevin to present)

10:30 a.m. "Flipping the Presbytery" Task Force Presentation and Open Space Discussions
How do we become a more missional, learning community?
What might we do to support/encourage youth and family ministries?
Presbyters are invited to suggest other topics for discussion

At 10:30 we will spend 10 minutes describing the topics that will be discussed. At that time any presbyter may propose an issue or topic which he or she considers relevant to the life of the presbytery, and ask whether others are interested in participating in a conversation. If others do express an interest a room is assigned to the group. The person who suggested the topic is only responsible for attending that small group and opening up the conversation.

PLEASE BRING YOUR IDEAS FOR TOPICS AND ISSUES YOU WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS

12:00 noon **We Share God's Good Gifts** – Lunch

We Continue our Offerings of Mission and Ministry

1:00 p.m. Speak Out (Opportunity to express views or make announcements in 1 minute or less)

- 1:10 p.m. Worship with sermon by Kirianne Riehl
- 1:40 p.m. Presentation on Fellowship Event in Minneapolis Harry Heintz
- 1:50 p.m. Council Report
2012 Budget for Second Reading and Action Paul Randall
Other items?
- 2:10 p.m. Congregational Health & Transformation Report on Social Media Tim Coombs
- 2:40 p.m. COM Report – Part 2
Joint COM/Trustees Recommendation (see pg. 13)
Recognize Steven Cronn retirement (Larry Greenwold to speak.)
Other items?
- Joint CLP/CPM Recommendation, if the way be clear (*CPM meets Nov. 3, and the recommendation will posted on the presbytery's website on Nov. 4 if it's ready to be introduced. It will also be in the meeting packet*)
Recognition of Norma Brown
- 3:00 p.m. Nominating Committee Diane Calvanese
Election of Vice Moderator
Election of Committee Members
- 3:10 p.m. Board of Trustees Report
- 3:20 p.m. Unfinished Business / New Business / Miscellaneous Business
- 3:30 p.m. Worship with Communion and Installation of Moderator and Vice Moderator
- 4:00 p.m. **We Go Out in God's Name & Adjourn as the Church Sent Into the World**

Stated Clerk Report – Pre-Meeting Packet for November 12, 2011

The following is presented for information:

1. The following are the Presbytery stated meeting dates for 2012:

Saturday – January 28, 2012, at 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday – April 17, 2012, at 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday - June 19, 2012, at 9:30 a.m.

Monday and Tuesday – September 17 and 18, 2012, (Meeting/Retreat)

Saturday - November 17, 2012, at 9:30 a.m.

Host churches with certain program-related facilities are being recruited by Council for these meetings. Council is investigating the possibility of changing the 2-day meeting/retreat from September until a Friday and Saturday in June.

2. The Administrative Commission appointed by COM for the installation of the Rev. Drew Paton as pastor of St. Peter's Presbyterian Church in Spencertown, NY, met on October 2, 2011, and completed its work.
3. The Rev. Lynne Hardy has been transferred by the Presbytery of Northern New England to Albany Presbytery.

Committee on Ministry Report – Pre-Meeting Packet for November 12, 2011

The following items are presented to the Presbytery for information:

1. COM met on October 12, 2011, at the Roessleville Presbyterian Church in Albany with five interim pastors serving within Albany Presbytery. COM will meet next on November 9, 2011.
2. COM ACTED without objections to accept Teaching Elder Lucy Harris' resignation from the committee.
3. COM APPROVED a grant from the Presbytery's Pensions and Ministerial Assistance Reserve Fund (Item 9009) to Ruling Elder Bob Kendall for \$1,000 to assist with emergency medical expenses. Ruling Elder Kendall serves the Breakabeen-North Blenheim Church.
4. COM ACTED to provide \$350 in financial assistance to the Rev. Laura Mitchell to attend interim pastor training.
5. COM ACTED retroactively to approve the following to serve on the Administrative Commission for installation of the Rev. Drew Paton as pastor at St. Peter's PC in Spencertown: Teaching Elders Kirianne Riehl (moderator), Chris Garrison, Kathi Jones, David Moore, and Cass Shaw; and Ruling Elders Lynn Brown and Bill Morris.
6. On November 12, 2011, COM will formally recognize the Honorable Retirement for the Rev. Steven Cronn that became effective on November 1, 2011.

The following recommendations are presented as part of the Consent Agenda for Presbytery action:

1. Recommend to Presbytery approval for the Rev. Danny Wheeler, HR, to moderate the session and congregation of the New Covenant PC while Katy Stenta is on maternity leave.
2. Recommend to Presbytery that the Rev. Alexandra Lusak, HR, be appointed to serve as moderator of the First Presbyterian Church of Watervliet effective November 1, 2011.
3. Recommend to Presbytery that the Rev. Rich Patterson be appointed to serve as moderator of the Hudson Presbyterian Church until the end of January 2012.
4. Recommend to Presbytery that the Rev. Donna Elia be appointed to moderate the meeting of the session at the Rensselaerville Church on November 12, 2012.
5. Recommend that Presbytery act to extend the contract between the Rev. Bebb Wheeler Stone and the session of the Schoharie Presbyterian Church for 6 months from November 1, 2011, until April 30, 2012, at the current terms. COM also ACTED to provide a grant of \$3,040 to the Schoharie Church and the Rev. Stone to be taken from reserves to match a similar amount approved by the Board of Trustees to cover housing allowance for 6 months.

The following recommendations are presented for Presbytery discussion and action:

PLEASE NOTE: The “appendix” of the presbytery policy on examinations, along with the statement of faith and biographical information for the Rev. Marti Montovani are included at the end of this Committee on Ministry report.

PLEASE ALSO NOTE: The Committee on Ministry strongly encourages all presbyters to read the teaching elder’s statement of faith carefully as the statement WILL NOT BE READ aloud during the examinations. There will be questions posed by COM as well as an opportunity for questions from the floor.

The candidate being examined for membership will answer these questions:

What have been the highlights of your ministry to date, and what are the particular challenges and joys you anticipate in your ministry in Albany Presbytery?

1. Following a successful Clearance Interview by COM members, COM RECOMMENDS that Presbytery examine the Rev. Martha Montovani, Presbytery of East Iowa, for transfer of membership so that she may enter into an agreement with the Session of the Stillwater Presbyterian Church of Lake George to be its Interim Pastor effective August 15, 2011, through August 15, 2012, and to be its Moderator upon transfer of membership with the following terms: full-time; salary \$31,860; housing allowance \$9,558; additional medical reimbursement \$414; total effective salary \$41,832; pension and medical dues \$13,177; social security offset \$3,200; books and journal reimbursement (vouchered) \$626; study reimbursement \$1,590; mileage reimbursement (vouchered) \$1,500; total financial benefits \$61,925. Moving expenses - \$5,000. Study leave and vacation in accordance with Presbytery policy. If the Rev. Montovani is accepted for membership in the Presbytery, COM RECOMMENDS that Presbytery extend thanks to the Rev. James Mosher and the Rev. Jerry McKinney for serving as moderators at the Stillwater Church.
2. COM ACTED to recommend to Presbytery approval of the following Concurrence with Overture with Rationale:

Concurrence with Overture from the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky, to the 220th General Assembly of the PC(USA) [please see overture in separate attachment]

Albany Presbytery respectfully concurs with the Overture from the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky, which seeks to respond faithfully to concerns regarding the for-profit health care industry, and the resultant denial of health care to millions of people. We believe that upon receipt of a substantive report from Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI), the General Assembly Mission Council (GAMC) should take action, which may include divestment from for-profit health insurance companies, without undue delay, and that the GAMC should report to the 221st General Assembly (2014) the findings of the MRTI report and what actions have been taken.

Rationale:

It is important that the PC(USA)’s practical response to significant social issues be consistent with our statements and positions on those issues. The Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky has provided ample background to demonstrate that our denomination’s prior General Assemblies have been very clear on several points: a) endorsement of a single-payer universal health care reform; b) the conviction that access to health care is a basic right and not a privilege reserved for the wealthy; and c) that the for-profit health insurance industry impedes the provision of health care to all citizens by denying coverage and/or care to patients and by interfering in the doctor patient relationship.

One of the ways in which the PC(USA) can stand against the injustices perpetrated by the for-profit health insurance industry is to refuse to participate financially in that system, which may include divestment from such companies and the encouragement to individuals and congregations to follow suit. This is consistent with practices of past General Assemblies in seeking to redress unjust situations.

EXAMINATION GUIDELINES

The following guidelines govern examinations in Albany Presbytery:

1) Examinations are to be conducted respectfully and prayerfully. Examinations are intended to give the prospective member an opportunity to demonstrate the qualities of mind and spirit that qualify him or her for membership and service in the Presbytery.

2) It is the right and duty of the Presbytery to determine whether the prospective member adheres to basic Christian doctrines as interpreted by Reformed traditions in the Confessions and whether he or she has sufficient preparation and ability to carry out the functions of office in a particular setting. At the same time, the Presbytery values theological diversity within Reformed bounds among its members and does not apply theological litmus tests for membership.

3) Questions should focus on the prospective member's faith, as expressed in the statement of faith, and on the ways the prospective member lives out that faith.

4) Because the Church trusts the Holy Spirit to guide, form, inform and renew the body each time it meets, Presbyterians have no single written list of fundamental doctrines or essential tenets to which all ministers must subscribe. Key themes of Reformed theology, however, occur regularly in the Confessions and are noted in the *Book of Order* in G-2.0500. Central to this tradition is the affirmation of the majesty, holiness, and providence of God, who creates, sustains, rules, and redeems the world in the freedom of sovereign righteousness and love. Related to the central affirmation of God's sovereignty are other great themes of the Reformed tradition:

(1) The election of the people of God for service as well as for salvation; (2) Covenant life marked by a disciplined concern for order in the church according to the Word of God; (3) A faithful stewardship that shuns ostentation and seeks proper use of the gifts of God's creation; (4) The recognition of the human tendency to idolatry and tyranny, which calls the people of God to work for the transformation of society by seeking justice and living in obedience to the Word of God."

It is appropriate to question the prospective member on these themes if they are not adequately treated in the statement of faith.

5) By decision of Presbyterian church courts, probing personal questions about a prospective member's health, finances or life arrangements are appropriate only if: (1) the prospective member invites them by offering written or spoken comments on personal matters; (2) the same questions are asked of all prospective members; or (3) there is "plain, palpable and obvious" evidence available to the Presbytery that some element of a prospective member's manner of life may be an obstacle to ministry.

6) Both Minister Members and Elder Commissioners to Presbytery are strongly urged to participate in the questioning.

7) The 217th General Assembly (2006) affirmed the constitutional right of prospective members of presbytery to identify ways in which their conscience, as formed by Scripture, compels them to depart from one or more ordination standards. It is then the right and duty of the presbytery to decide whether the departure involves an essential of Reformed faith and practice. If a prospective member of Albany Presbytery declares such a departure, the Council will seek to prepare the Presbytery to discern whether an essential of faith or practice is involved. There is no list of essentials, though there are guides, such as the list of themes cited above, that may help the Presbytery to discern them on a case-by-case basis.

8) If a departure is declared for the first time on the floor of Presbytery, without prior notice to the Committee on Ministry and the Council, the Moderator will ask the body whether it wishes to postpone further discussion until Council has had an opportunity to prepare resources for the discussion.

9) The Presbytery has the right to say “Yes,” “No,” or “Wait” to any prospective member. This includes those whose departure from ordination standards is deemed not to involve Reformed essentials.

Faith Journey and Call to Ministry

Martha R. Montovani

Growing up in an ecumenical family (Jewish and Catholic parents and Protestant siblings), I learned early in life to respect various traditions. I followed my older sister and brother and attended Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and church at the Southwick Congregational Church (United Church of Christ) in Southwick, MA. During my high school years I was on the debate team and practiced my communication skills not only in interscholastic speech tournaments but also while delivering sermons on Youth Sundays. The congregation affirmed my gifts in preaching and, I believe, planted a seed for me to ponder becoming a minister later in life.

While I was working on my Ph.D. degree at Ohio University, I became a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Athens and was elected and ordained an elder. Once again I had opportunities to preach and lead worship. This congregation not only affirmed my gifts for ministry but urged me to attend seminary. I jokingly say that I put God on “call waiting” for many years (wanting to pay off my graduate school debts before incurring seminary debts!) but knew in my heart that I had to leave the community and people I loved in Ohio and follow God’s call to prepare for a career change.

San Francisco Theological Seminary prefers that its students experience a full year’s internship between the second and third years of their academic preparation. I returned to Ohio and became the equivalent of an interim pastor for two yoked churches in Oak Hill that had been served for 42 years by the same pastor, a minister who would not leave town once he retired. Many times during the year I spoke with the former pastor in pastorally, sensitive ways and explained why his behavior was inappropriate and crossed ethical boundaries. I believe the challenging nature of my internship year only served to strengthen my call to ministry. There is something reassuring about having one’s call “tested” and being able to say it’s still valid.

Each of the churches I have served since ordination as a minister of the Word and Sacrament has had its own set of opportunities and challenges. In the summer and fall of 2008 I experienced what it is like leading a congregation through trauma. Following Cedar Rapids, Iowa’s flood, the Olivet Presbyterian Church was displaced from its building for five months. I could not live in the manse for over six months while repairs were being made. Throughout this difficult time I felt the prayer support of the Franciscan sisters who administer Prairiewoods Spirituality Center where I rented a small room.

Other grace notes during this time were that I got to know my clergy colleague from Calvin Sinclair Presbyterian Church better than I ever would have had the Olivet Church not nested at Calvin Sinclair during the flood displacement time. Kent Leydens is one of my references listed on my PIF! In the midst of ministry is God’s grace—the grace that calls us, the grace that equips us, the grace that keeps us going towards the task to which we are called.

After many years of employment in college teaching and ministry, I could consider retirement. However, I am following in my father’s footsteps. While I may not live to be 101 years old as my pop did, I hope to have the vim and vigor needed to work well into my 70s. I am a high-energy pastor who

has too many ideas to share with others to go out to pasture! If the way be made clear, I look forward to serving as the interim pastor of the Stillwater United Church and working with the creative and dedicated people who are in this particular Body of Christ.

Statement of Faith

Martha R. Montovani

I believe in a **creating God**, the one Jesus called Abba, God beyond us, beyond all that is. The Creator made people and the world and called them good. Each of us is made in the image and likeness of God and each of us is a face of God in the world to be tenderly treasured. We were created to live in loving relationships with God and each other, to live responsibly and in harmony with the rest of God's creatures and with the earth. However, we live in a world where relationships are not always good and beautiful. Sin indicates a violation of relationships, resulting in a state of alienation from God, one another, and ourselves. While we ourselves have fallen short of God's intention and blurred God's gracious image, in such times we ask for forgiveness, we trust in God's mercy, and we rededicate ourselves to the vision of redemption upon which our faith is founded.

I believe in a **redeeming God**, Jesus Christ, God among us, the God who became flesh and dwelled among us. In merciful response to our sin, God became incarnate in Jesus Christ—fully human, fully divine. Throughout his life Jesus proclaimed God's love and demonstrated how to live in response to this good news. Jesus came into the world bearing a message of reconciliation, inviting us to discard our divisions and find new unity in a new society. Each of us has opportunities every day to share the love of Christ with someone else—within our family and friendships, within a community, within the church.

I believe in a **sustaining God**, the Holy Spirit, the God who is within us, the God intimately present in our lives. The indwelling God is a living, breathing, moving, energizing presence of boundless love and compassion. The Spirit binds us to one another and directs us toward the reconciling work of God.

I believe the Spirit was at work in the lives of those who first recorded the story of God's people. **Scripture** is the historical narrative and poetry that is the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ. Analysis, interpretation, and application of Scripture are both privilege and responsibility. I envision the sermon as shared story where a place is made for each of our stories to make contact with and to be integrated into the stories of the Bible and of other people. Faithful preaching connects the human story with The Story.

I believe the context of pastoral ministry is the ordinary. **Pastoral care** involves being attentive to, immersed in, and appreciative of the everyday texture of people's lives. The pastor's role in the spiritual nurture of the congregation guides my practice of ministry. By connecting my own questions, struggles, doubts, fears, and experiences in what faith is about I enter with others into the search for truth and meaning. By telling my own stories of faith I encourage others to share their own struggles and experiences of faith.

I believe the **church** is a baptized community called to respond to God's grace by distributing the necessities of life to others. The church's mission is to help create a community of reconciliation and the realm of God on earth as mandated by Jesus Christ. We are drawn together in the love of God and sent forth to be reconcilers to a world that is broken and oppressed by prejudices and injustice.

I believe the **sacraments**, the celebrations of the church, are visible signs of invisible grace. In **baptism**, children of believers and adult believers are brought into the nurture and community of the church. Baptism is God's blessing, a conferring of Christian identity, and entry into a covenant community.

Baptized children are raised in the knowledge of Christ, that they may come to a decision of faith in maturity. Baptism acknowledges our intention to live as God's people and to be active members in Christ's body, the community of faith. Baptism calls us to care for others. In **communion** we are joined with the church universal through all ages as we experience the presence of Christ in the symbols of bread and wine. The Eucharist celebration recalls Christ's sacrifice, the wonder and promise of Christ's resurrection for our salvation and for the redemption of all humanity, and Christ's continuing presence. Believers are nurtured and empowered by communion with Christ and his body, the church. Communion shared within our faith community reminds us that in all of life, the Christ is with us to bring hope and healing to God's world.

Committee on Nominations Report – Pre-Meeting Packet for November 12, 2011

The Committee on Nominations presents the following for election to serve as Presbytery Vice Moderator and on Presbytery committees for 2012:

Vice Moderator: Elder Lois Hessberg

Committee on Ministry:

Rev. Rich Patterson	Class of 2014
Rev. Pam Woodman	Class of 2014
Rev. David Bennett	Class of 2014
Elder Allen Day	Class of 2014

Committee on Preparation for Ministry:

Rev. Rich Hoffman	Class of 2014
Rev. Laura Mitchell	Class of 2014

Committee on Representation:

Rev. Nadeem Sadiq	Class of 2013
Darren Cirillo	Class of 2014
Sadaf Sadiq*	Class of 2014

*Nominating Committee asks the Presbytery to waive the Standing Rules to grant an extension to allow Sadaf Sadiq to be elected to the Class of 2014

Rev. Alexandra Lusak	Class of 2014
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Council:

Elder Cara Molyneaux	Class of 2014
Rev. Shannon Meacham	Class of 2014

Permanent Judicial Commission:

Rev. Michael Burkley	Class of 2017
Elder Chandlee Gill	Class of 2017

Board of Trustees:

Elder Dorothy Rice	Class of 2012
Elder Sue Wilder	Class of 2014
Rev. Don Stake	Class of 2014

Capital Region Ecumenical Organization Board:

Rev. Donna Elia	Class of 2013
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SEEKING NOMINEES:

GA Teaching Elder Commissioner

GA Ruling Elder Commissioner

Young Adult Advisory Delegate to GA (Must be at least 17 years old but not more than \ 23 years old on June 30, 2012)

Synod Commissioner

ARE YOU INTERESTED, or is there someone you would like to nominate???

CONTACT: Diane Calvanese, Chair of Nominating Committee

E Mail: D.Cal@frontiernet.com Telephone: 518 696 2179

**Lois B. Hessberg
Biographical Information**

Lois is married, and resides with her husband Lee, an attorney, in Delmar. They have two grown sons, and a granddaughter, all of whom live in North Carolina. Lois has a degree from the University of Maryland in psychology, and subsequent course work from SUNYA and Russell Sage. She was employed by Memorial Hospital as a social worker on her arrival in Albany in 1973. She was subsequently hired by Rosen Michaels New Home Sales in Clifton Park, from which she was recruited to Merrill Lynch, and finally Kidder Peabody, from which she retired in 1986 to raise her young sons.

She was extremely active in the late 1970's and early 1980's in various community volunteer organizations, including the Junior League of Albany, in which she held several board and executive board positions, the board of Volunteer Services of Albany, and Foundations and Grants oversight for the American Red Cross in Albany. From a brief stint as a columnist/reporter for the local magazine 'Northeast Women', she graduated to PTA, reader of Beatrix Potter to first graders, book binder, chauffeur, cook and general house mother in 1986.

The Hessbergs joined the Delmar Presbyterian Church in 1992, following which Lois served on the Welcoming Committee for a year, and was then ordained as an elder in 1994, serving three years as chair of Welcoming, during which time she helped create a "super" committee—Congregational Life—an umbrella for the Welcoming, Fellowship, and Membership subcommittees, all of which revolve around parishioners' lives in the church, and which is still in effect today. Currently, she has served on Session for nearly twelve years, beginning in 2000 as Congregational Life chair, completing the final two years of a three year term, followed by an additional three year term, overlapping by six months her election as Clerk of Session in May of 2005, a job which she still holds today, along with continuing on two of the three CLC subcommittees. She also lends her contralto voice to the church choir.

Lois was first elected permanent Elder Commissioner to the Albany Presbytery following the death of long-time church member and Commissioner Marian Sheridan, and has continued to attend regularly since 2004. During this time, she initiated writing regular Presbytery reports for Session, an activity she will gladly delegate to another should you accept her as your Vice Moderator.

When she is not busy with church work, Lois enjoys reading, working puzzles, walking a couple of miles a day (a habit she developed with the family dog and can't seem to shake), and between terms on Session, managed to write four fictional espionage thrillers which she hopes someday to have published. "I am humbled by the faith you have shown in nominating me, but if this be God's will, then I am content that He will guide me on the path which He has chosen and that I will be of service to Him and to this body of Christ."

Council Report – Pre-Meeting Packet for November 12, 2011

The following recommendations are presented as part of the Consent Agenda for Presbytery action:

1. Council recommends the carry-over of unspent funds from 2011 to 2012 for the following accounts:

Miss/Eccle	Line #	Committee	Description	Carry to	Description
Eccle	5031	Personnel	Stated Clerk Prof Reimbursement	New	Stated Clerk Prof Reimb Carried Over
Mission	5124	Council	New Initiatives	9011	New Initiatives Fund
Mission	5141	CLP	CLP Program	9007	Commissioned Ruling Elder
Mission	5059	COM	Pastoral Care Incentives	9002	COM Past Care Carried Over
Mission	5118	COM	Strat Grp/Pby Event/Speaker	9020	COM Training Carried Over
Mission	5154	COM	Strat Grp/ Training/Conf	9020	COM Training Carried Over
Mission	5155	COM	Strat Grp/ Congre Coaching/Tng	9020	COM Training Carried Over
Mission	5156	COM	Strat Grp/ Pastorial Coaching	9020	COM Training Carried Over
Mission	5123	COM	Discretionary Fund	New	COM Discretionary Fund
Mission	5117	COM	Pakistani-American Fellowship	9001	Pakistani-American Fellowship
Mission	5067	Guat Partner	Presbytero Mam Relationship	9005	Presbytero Mam Relationship

Note: The amounts to be carried over will be the unspent balance after all 2011 charges are taken into account.

The following are presented to the Presbytery for information:

1. The Council met on October 11, 2011, at the West End PC in Albany. The Council will meet next on November 8, 2011, from 12:00 noon until 3:30 p.m. at the West End PC.
2. Council ACTED to approve any applications from youth to fund attendance at Christmas Camp at Holmes Center as long as funds are available.
3. Council ACTED to create a receiving line item (to be defined at the next Council meeting) for donations to support disaster relief; to publicize the creation of the line item and how the funds will be used; and to empower the Disaster Response Team to decide how and to whom the funds will be distributed.
4. Council authorized the General Presbyter to oversee routine administrative functions of staff and contract positions without Personnel Committee approval through June 2012 in

order to free up Personnel Committee time and energy for a 6-8 month Discernment Time.

5. Council ACTED to investigate having a 2-day meeting/retreat on a Friday/Saturday with optional Thursday night program in June 2012 (rather than in September) at Silver Bay subject to availability and reasonable cost.
6. Council ACTED TO APPROVE a Rural Initiative Funding Request from the West Charlton United Presbyterian Church for \$1,000 to assist in the purchase of a digital projector for worship.
7. Council ACTED to provide the information on the "Flipping" expenses for 2011 and 2012 as requested at the September Presbytery meeting as follows:

"Flipping" Expenses

	as of 9.30.11	Amount
Expenditures in 2011		
Silver Bay		6,006.52
Speakers (Sakenfeld and Whittsitt)		293.10
Roadshow Expenses		561.85
Books		413.25
Leadership Training		332.88
Misc. Expenses		184.04
Mentoring Training		10,600.00
Covenant Groups		2,880.00
Additional Roadshow exp (est)		500.00
Total		21,771.64

		Amount
Anticipated Expenditures in 2012		
Presbyters' initiatives rising out of		
Open Space conversations:		8,000.00
Special Speakers:		
Joe Small		1,500.00
Todd Bollinger		1,500.00
Presbytery Meetings:		
Silver Bay		11,000.00
Special Music		2,500.00
Hands on Mission Projects		1,000.00
Leadership Development		
Company of Elders		2,000.00
Road Show Honoraria		2,500.00
Total		30,000.00

The following is presented for Presbytery action:

1. Council ACTED to present to Presbytery for a second reading and recommend approval of the 2012 Ecclesiastical Budget without any changes from the first reading.

Trustees Report – Pre-Meeting Packet for November 12, 2011

The following items are presented to the Presbytery for action:

A) Sale of the West End Presbyterian Church Building

The Trustees concur with the request of the congregation of the West End Presbyterian Church of Albany to sell their property to Christian Life International, CLI, DBA City Harvest Family Church and recommend that Albany Presbytery approve the sale for the following terms (the full contract is available upon request, and copies will be on the clerk's desk at the presbytery meeting):

Purchase price:	\$437,000
Deposit w/contract:	10,000
Cash at closing:	90,000
WEPC Lease Payment at closing:	<u>76,800</u>
Mortgage through 3 rd party:	\$260,200

The Trustees make this recommendation with a request for an opportunity to confer with the West End Session regarding the use of the funds from the sale of the building and their future ministry plan.

B) First Presbyterian Church of Gloversville

The Trustees ask the Presbytery to direct the Session of the Gloversville Church to meet (G-3.0203 – current; G-10.0201 – old) with representatives of COM and Trustees no later than December 15, 2011, to discuss their plans for the disposition of their financial and capital assets.

C) Joint COM & Trustee Recommendation

COM and the Trustees recommend to the presbytery that we create a fund to resource congregations striving to steward their property for the use of mission not just maintenance. At this point we ask approval of the concept, and we will come back with specific details included in a second reading.

- a) Set aside some of the monies realized from presbytery property sales into designated accounts with:
 - a. a specified portion invested to perpetuate the fund for developing their properties for use of mission and further ministry.
 - b. a specified portion available for congregations to apply for grants
 - c. a specified portion available for loans for developing their properties for use of mission and further ministry.
- b) Trustees will oversee the investment of the funds as well as the grant or loan proposal and award process.