

PRESBYTERY OF ALBANY
TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY THIRD STATED MEETING

Korean Presbyterian Church of Albany, Schenectady, NY

November 12, 2011

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME / WE WORSHIP AND SERVE GOD

The Presbytery of Albany met in stated session on Saturday, November 12, 2011, at the Korean Presbyterian Church of Albany in Schenectady, NY.

The Rev. Kirianne Riehl, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held in the Sanctuary and was opened with a sharing of joys and concerns and prayer. Ruling Elder Nam Park from the host church greeted and welcomed the Presbytery.

WE PRESENT OUR OFFERINGS OF MISSION AND MINISTRY

The roll was compiled. Stated Clerk Ruling Elder H. Daniel Rogers announced a quorum was present and noted the number of those from whom he had received requests to be excused (23) and those who needed to arrive late (1) or leave early (7). Voting delegates present for all or portions of the meeting included 44 Teaching Elders, and 31 Ruling Elders: 26 Ruling Elders representing 25 Congregations, and 5 who are members of the Presbytery Council or chair committees or task forces. An additional 9 people signed in as visitors. Those attending their first Presbytery Meeting were introduced and welcomed.

TEACHING ELDERS ENROLLED

Michael Burkley	Chris Garrison	Laura Lovell Mitchell	Sam Shinn, HR
Holly Cameron	Kathy Gorman-Coombs	David Moore	Al Siegel, HR
Cheryl Colt	Larry Greenwold	Hugh Nevin, HR	Don Stake, HR
Timothy Coombs	Tom Gregg	Elizabeth Shen O'Connor	Bebb Wheeler Stone
Steven Cronn, HR	Lucy Harris	Rick Otty	Susan Strang
Lois Dodge, HR	Earl Johnson, HR	Paul Randall, HR	Nick TeBordo
William Dodge, HR	Kate Kotfila	Jim Reisner	Jim Thompson, HR
John "Jay" Ekman	Ruth Kuo	Kirianne Riehl	Lois Wolff, HR
Barbara Floryshak, HR	Alexandra Lusak, HR	Rob Rose	Elaine Woroby
Robert Foltz-Morrison	Linda Martin	Frances Wattman Rosenau	
Donna Frischknecht-Jackson	Roland "Mac" McDonald	Hwa Sung Ryu	
	Jerry McKinney	Cass Shaw	

TEACHING ELDERS EXCUSED OR HONORABLY RETIRED

Rolf Ahlers	Robert Garvin, HR	Shannon Meacham	Michael Plank
Ken Applegate	Doug Gray, HR	Bruce Miller, HR	Susan Rambo
John Barclay	Robin Greene	James Miller, HR	William Rambo, HR
David Bennett	Rupert "Bo" Harris, HR	Margaret "Peg" Miller, HR	Joe Shook, HR
Alan Brokaw, HR	Harry Heintz	Ed Morren, HR	David Simmons, HR
Viki Brooks	Scott Hicks, HR	James Mosher, HR	Robert Smith, HR
Ted Brothers, HR	Rich Hoffman	Shirley Mosholder, HR	Katy Stenta
Kathleen Chesnut	Beth Illingworth	Harvey Noordsy, HR	Charles Stratton, HR
Bob Criswell, HR	Kathi Jones	Bonnie Orth	Helenmarie Sunkenberg, HR
Marsha Cutting, HR	Stark Jones, HR	David Park	Dick Symes, HR
James C. Davis	Vincent Kumjian, HR	Tom Parsons, HR	Greg Town
Larry Deyss, HR	Robert Lamar, HR	Rich Patterson	Rebecca Town
Peter Durkee, HR	Glenn Leupold	Mary-Jo Pattison	Danny Wheeler, HR
Donna Elia	Miriam Lawrence Leupold	Stewart Pattison	Mary Woodman
Leif Erickson, HR	Dennis Maher, HR	Don Pepper, HR	Pam Woodman
Eric Fagans, HR	David McMillan, HR	Jackie Pinkowski	

TEACHING ELDERS ABSENT

John Aldridge
Patricia Davies
Sue Goodin
Lynne Hardy

John McCauley
Bert Mayne
Jeff Palmer
Drew Paton

Cheryl Peaslee
Nadeem Sadiq
Kathryn Shaffer
Allen Siebold

Ali Trowbridge

TEACHING ELDERS LIVING OUTSIDE THE BOUNDS (EXCUSED)

Fergus Cochran, HR
Rick Hill
Andy Little

Mary-Lynn Morrison
Albert Newman, HR
Paul Wilson, HR

Jane Watt, HR

COMMISSIONED RULING ELDER OR RULING ELDERS ON PRESBYTERY COUNCIL OR CHAIRING COMMITTEES OR TASK FORCES

Corlin Bauhofer (CRE, Excused)
Norma Brown
Gale Bury (Excused)
Diane Calvanese (Lake Luzerne)

Barbara Cervenka
Gloria Ghirarduzzi (Excused)
Don Hyman (Excused)
Peter McKinney

Cara Molyneaux (Excused)
H. Daniel Rogers
Irving Smith, Jr. (Excused)
Sal Scechitano (Excused)

CONGREGATIONS REPRESENTED BY RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS

Albany, First
Albany, West End
Amsterdam
Charlton Freehold
Delmar
Glens Falls Chapel
Hamilton Union
Hoosick Falls
Hudson Falls
Johnstown
Lake George, Caldwell
Loudonville
Lansingburgh
New Scotland

Carolyn Snyder Lemmon
Susan Beale
Laurie Bargstedt
Ted Eighmie
Lois B. Hessberg
Carol Henderson
Bill Ramage
Elaine Sprunger
Michael Barron
Ruth Carey
John Boucher
Elsie Jean Rew
Mary Ann Whelden
Ryan Dwyer

New Scotland
Northville
Saratoga
Schenectady, Christ Ch.
Schenectady, Korean
Schoharie
Shushan
Tribes Hill
Troy, First United
Troy, Oakwood
West Charlton
West Hebron

Bill Morrison
Clifford Wray
Terry Diggory
Cheri Koetzner
Nam Park
Marguerite Stanley
Carol Brownell
Julie Robbins
Peggy Drew
Linda O'Malley
Fred Lachtrupp
Don Campbell

CHURCHES NOT REPRESENTED BY RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS

Albany, New Covenant
Albany, Roessleville
Albany, Westminster
Ballston Spa
Breakabeen-North
Blenheim
Broadalbin
Brunswick
Cambridge
Carlisle
Cohoes

Corinth
East Hebron
Esperance
Glens Falls First
Gloversville
Granville
Greenwich
Hudson
Jewett
Lake George, Bay Rd.
Malta

Mayfield
Mechanicville
Menands
Poultney
Putnam Station
Rensselaer
Rensselaerville
Salem
Schaghticoke
Schenectady, State St.
Schenectady, Union

Scotia
Spencertown
Stephentown
Stillwater
Troy, Third
Valatie
Warrensburg
Waterford
Watervliet, First
West Galway
Whitehall

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

1. Upon motion duly made and seconded, Presbytery **ACTED** by voice vote without objections to seat Teaching Elder Leslie Foltz-Morrison (Elizabeth Presbytery) and Teaching Elder Marti Montovani (Presbytery of East Iowa) as Corresponding Members.
2. Upon motion duly made and seconded, Presbytery **ACTED** by voice vote without objections to approve the docket for the meeting as distributed with the Meeting Packet.

3. Upon motion duly made and seconded, Presbytery **ACTED** by voice vote without objections to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2011, Stated Meeting as distributed with the addition of Teaching Elder Robert Foltz-Morrison and Teaching Elder Drew Paton to the list of enrolled Teaching Elders and several editorial corrections.

4. The Stated Clerk moved, and it was seconded, that the items on the consent agenda in the Committee on Ministry (COM) Reports, the Council Report, and the Board of Trustees Report be approved. The Moderator asked if any commissioner requested any item on the consent agenda be removed. There were none. All items on the consent agenda were **APPROVED** by a voice vote without objections. These items are recorded under the relevant committee's section of these minutes.

The following were presented for information:

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

Saturday – January 28, 2012, at 9:30 a.m. at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Albany.

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. See action related to this under the Council Report later in these minutes.

2. The Administrative Commission appointed by COM for the installation of Teaching Elder Drew Paton as pastor of St. Peter's Presbyterian Church in Spencertown, NY, met on October 2, 2011, and completed its work.

3. Teaching Elder Lynne Hardy has been transferred by the Presbytery of Northern New England to Albany Presbytery.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT – PART I – OAKWOOD RESOLUTION

Donald Stake, Co-Chair of the Board of Trustees presented the following resolution and recommended its approval on behalf of the Board:

Whereas:

1. Some members of the Oakwood Presbyterian Church are eager to continue service to their community by means of the use of the Oakwood Church building; and
2. Efforts are ongoing to improve and repair the facility for multiple uses; and
3. An arrangement is being made with a non-profit organization, the Oakwood Community Center, (including the Troy Larger Parish Food Pantry, AA and neighborhood groups, and speaker events) for a contract to lease the facility; and
4. Others using the facility include two worshipping communities (Capital District Christian Church and Iglesia Puerto del Cielo), a community music group, Swordpaw Music; and
5. The church will cover liability and property insurance under existing policies; and
6. Tenants are encouraged to carry their own renter's insurance; and
7. Other groups using the church will make donations to support the cost of the facility; and
8. During this period property options will be explored that will work both for the Community Center and the Presbytery.

Therefore,

The Board of Trustees recommends that the Presbytery of Albany

1. Amend the action of Presbytery on April 12, 2011, to change the date of dissolution of the Oakwood Presbyterian Church from December 31, 2011, until December 31, 2012, if the way be clear and the congregation acts to affirm this recommendation before December 31, 2011, (G-11.0103 i.); and

2. Authorize the use of the church sanctuary for worship by the Capital District Christian Church and Iglesia Puerto del Cielo; and
3. Appoint an administrative commission to assume the power and responsibilities of the Session of Oakwood Presbyterian Church as listed in G-10.0102; and
4. Recognize that the Administrative Commission will be exploring architectural, structural and grounds changes that might be needed, and may apply to Presbytery for assistance if necessary.

Several commissioners spoke in favor of this resolution and affirmed it as a good model for other churches to consider when their buildings are strangling their ministry and mission. It was pointed out that the purpose of the Administrative Commission is primarily to be a care taker for the property and the congregation, since the current session is not willing to continue to serve.

Presbytery **ACTED** to approve the resolution by a voice vote without objections. The Moderator will appoint the members of the Administrative Commission and report the membership to Presbytery at its next stated meeting.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORT – PART I

The following items were 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.
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 Teaching Elder 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 Teaching Elder Steven Cronn that became effective on November 1, 2011.
7. COM met on November 9, 2011, at the Roessleville Presbyterian Church in Albany with the Rev. Kathy Gorman Coombs from the Flipping the Presbytery Task Force. COM will meet next on November 30, 2011, and on December 14, 2011, with representatives from the Triennial Visit Task Force.
8. COM ACTED to concur with the request from the Board of Trustees to direct the Session of the Gloversville Church to meet with representatives of COM and the Trustees.
9. COM ACTED to support the joint COM/Trustees proposal on capital loans/grants. See subsequent action related to this later in these minutes.
10. As directed by action of Presbytery on September 19, 2011, representatives from COM have met with Teaching Elder Lynne Hardy and together they have developed and begun to implement a process to determine Lynne's readiness for professional ministry in Albany Presbytery. The process includes appointment of a mentor, who is an experienced teaching elder, to walk beside Lynne

through this process to help clarify and interpret each step along the way and to support her throughout the process.

11. COM received a report on participation by teaching elders in Boundary Awareness Training in 2011 and will be making follow-up calls as needed to those who did not participate in the required training.
12. COM encourages all church treasurers and teaching elder to be aware of changes in the dues percentages being implemented by the Board of Pensions for 2012 and 2013 and IRS requirements as detailed in the attached "News from the Board of Pensions."

The following recommendations were presented as part of the Consent Agenda and were APPROVED by Presbytery:

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 the pastor's housing allowance for 6 months.
6. Recommends to Presbytery approval for the Rev. William Dodge, HR, to moderate the session and congregation of the Korean Presbyterian Church of Albany in Schenectady effective December 1, 2011.
7. Recommends that Presbytery act to extend the contract between the Rev. Susan Goodin and the session of the Caldwell Presbyterian Church for 3 months from January 1, 2012, until March 31, 2012, at three-quarters of the current compensation terms to reflect a reduction in employment from full-time to three-quarter time. Compensation terms will be increased as required by action of Presbytery for minimum calls. The number of paid vacation, study leave, and sick leave days will be adjusted to 25 percent of the current contract to reflect three months of service.
8. Recommends that Presbytery act to extend the contract between the Rev. Jackie Pinkowski and the session of the First United Presbyterian Church of Troy for 3 months from December 1, 2011, until February 29, 2012, at the current terms, if the way be clear and the Rev. Pinkowski accepts the 3-month extension. COM understands that controversy exists with this contract and is facilitating a congregational conversation on November 13, 2011.
9. Recommends that Presbytery act to approve the request from the congregation of the Schoharie United Presbyterian Church for a waiver as provided by G-14.0226 in the former Book of Order to allow Ruling Elder Linda Mencucci to be nominated to serve another 3-year term on the session. Rationale: Linda is completing six continuous years of service on the session, but due to all the current circumstances at the church caused by the August 28, 2011, storm, many potential nominees to serve on session are unable to consider a call to this service, and Linda brings much needed experience to the session at this difficult time.

10. Recommends that Presbytery act to approve increasing the minimum honorarium for Visiting Supply Preachers from \$130 to \$135 for 2012 plus mileage reimbursement at the current IRS rate (55.5 cents per mile as of July 1, 2011) and to approve increasing the minimum honorarium for Visiting Moderators from \$62.50 to \$65 for 2012 plus mileage and expenses.
11. Recommends that Presbytery act to approve the attached Articles of Agreement between the West End Presbyterian Church, Albany and the First Presbyterian Church in Greenbush, Rensselaer and the attached Terms of Call for the Rev. David P. Moore for 2012, if the way be clear and they are approved by the sessions of the two churches.
12. Recommends that Presbytery act to waive the Standing Rules to allow a teaching elder to be nominated to fill up to one ruling elder vacancy position on the Committee on Ministry for a 1-year term in each class if the Nominating Committee cannot find a ruling elder to fill the vacancy.

The following recommendations were presented for Presbytery discussion and action:

Teaching Elder Tom Gregg, COM Chair, introduced **Teaching Elder Martha Montovani** to be examined for transfer of membership. Tom directed the attention of Presbytery to the statement of faith and biographical information that had been provided for her in the pre-meeting packet and noted that this examination was postponed from the September Stated Meeting because the Rev. Montovani was unable to travel to that meeting due to health concerns. He also reviewed the examination process that will be used which included the following questions to be answered by the Rev. Montovani:

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?

Details of the terms of call for the contract for the Rev. Montovani follow:

Following a successful Clearance Interview by COM members, COM RECOMMENDED 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 Stillwater, NY, 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.

The Rev. Montovani responded to the questions prepared by COM. The floor was opened to questions and answers following the new examination process. A motion to arrest the examinations for transfer of membership for the Rev. Montovani was made, seconded and **APPROVED** by a voice vote.

The Rev. Montovani was excused.

By motion made and seconded, the examination for transfer of membership was **SUSTAINED** and the contract terms for the Rev. Montovani were **APPROVED** by voice vote without exceptions.

The Rev. Montovani was called back to the sanctuary and received congratulations from the Presbytery.

Since the Rev. Montovani was accepted for membership in the Presbytery, Presbytery **ACTED** by voice vote without exceptions to extend thanks to the Rev. James Mosher and the Rev. Jerry McKinney for serving as moderators at the Stillwater Church.

Tom presented the following **Concurrence with Overture with Rationale** and recommended on behalf of COM that it be approved:

Concurrence with Overture from the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky, to the 220th General Assembly of the PC(USA)

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.

Teaching Elder Hugh Nevin spoke in favor of the Concurrence on behalf of COM. Several other commissioners spoke in favor of the Concurrence, while others spoke against it. The Presbytery **ACTED** to approve the Concurrence and forward it to General Assembly by a voice vote.

"FLIPPING THE PRESBYTERY" TASK FORCE - PRESENTATION AND OPEN SPACE DISCUSSIONS

Cass Shaw introduced members of the "Flipping the Presbytery" Task Force.

Task Force Member Kari Stiansen reviewed the mission statement of the task force which is to seek ways to change the Presbytery from being administrative to missional.

Member Kathy Gorman-Coombs reviewed some related history.

Member Chris Garrison reviewed some Basic Concepts and provided meanings for certain relevant words: "Flipping" – from administrative to missional; "Missional" – the church sent out; "Fiduciary" – business; "Strategic"; and "Generative."

Member Frances Wattman Rosenau discussed some of the things that the Task Force does and gave some examples of new things that have been or could be done.

Cass Shaw then invited commissioners to suggest Open Space discussion topics and shared some guidelines to be used for the discussions. The following topics and leaders were suggested:

1. Spiritual energy of the "Occupy Movement". Linda O'Malley and Bebb Stone.
2. Ecumenical/interfaith liaisons. Alexandra Lusak.
3. What can we learn from the exam at Silver Bay? Tom Gregg.
4. Every TE should have a monthly conversation with 20-somethings about their spiritual life. Mac McDonald.
5. Culture and climate. Elizabeth Shen O'Connor.
6. Shared leadership and shared ministry. Rob Rose.
7. Disaster ministry. Leslie Foltz-Morrison.

Commissioners were invited to participate in Open Space discussions with these groups for about 45 minutes until lunch. Each group was asked to identify one participant to report back to Presbytery on what was discussed during Speak Out time following lunch.

LUNCH

Presbytery recessed from about noon until 1:00 p.m. for lunch.

SPEAK OUT

Commissioners were given the opportunity to make announcements or express views in 1 minute or less. These included the following reports from the Open Space discussion groups:

1. Spiritual energy of the "Occupy Movement". Linda O'Malley reported that they considered scriptural references including the parable of Nathan and David.
2. Ecumenical/interfaith liaisons. Alexandra Lusak reported that we need to work on what we agree on.
3. What can we learn from the exam at Silver Bay? Tom Gregg reported that the group discussed how we can improve clearance interviews and presentations and the possible need to point out reservations when appropriate.
4. Spiritual discussions. Terry Diggory reported the need to use virtual sites and cyber space, which is more of a home to these people than church. The group suggested a need to hear from college chaplains about this.
5. Culture and climate. Elizabeth Shen O'Connor highlighted the importance of socializing to bring new people in.
6. Shared leadership and shared ministry. Rob Rose reported that they considered several models including a multiple campus model.
7. Disaster ministry. Cliff Wray spoke about the need to create a Presbytery Disaster Relief Committee.

Linda Martin asked for help for the Broadalbin Church to host a REACH work camp in July 2012.

Tim Coombs promoted upcoming Youth of Albany Presbytery events.

Bebb Stone extended thanks for all the help provided to the Schoharie Church following the storm at the end of August 2011.

Hwa Sung Ryu asked for help to identify places where the Korean Church youth musical group might be invited to perform.

WORSHIP

The meeting continued with worship including a sermon by Moderator Kirianne Riehl and music provided by the Musicians of Ma'alwyck.

GENERAL PRESBYTER'S REPORT

Using a resource prepared by Joseph Small, Cass discussed changes in the Church's language that have resulted from the recent changes in the Form of Government.

PRESBYTERY COUNCIL REPORT

1. The Presbytery Council met on October 11, 2011, at the West End PC in Albany.
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. See related action below.
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. The Presbytery Council met on November 8, 2011, at the West End PC in Albany. The Council will meet next on December 13, 2011, from 12:00 noon until 3:30 p.m. at the West End PC.
8. Upon recommendation from its Mission Review Committee, Council ACTED to approve distribution of special mission gifts from the Hamilton Union and Johnstown Churches to Rural/Migrant Ministries (\$1,500) and Troy Area United Ministries (\$3,000).
9. Upon recommendation from the Mission Review Committee, the Financial Manager will send a mission packet to all churches both electronically and by hard copy immediately after the Presbytery passes the annual budget, and the packet will be an independent mailing.
10. Council ACTED to approve the attached Campership Policy.
11. Council ACTED to elect the following to serve on Council committees;
 - Budget and Finance: TE Rob Rose (Class of 2014) and RE Phil Garvey (Class of 2013)
 - Mission Review: TE Jim Reisner (Class of 2014) and RE Sue Laz (Class of 2013)
 - Personnel: RE Barbara Wheeler (Class of 2014)

The following was presented and approved by Presbytery under the Consent Agenda

Council RECOMMENDS approval for the carry-over of unspent funds from 2011 to 2012 for the following accounts (note some accounts have been added to the list included in the Pre-Meeting Packet):

<u>Miss/Eccle</u>	<u>Line #</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Carry to</u>	<u>Description</u>
Eccle	5031	Personnel	Stated Clerk Prof Reimb.	New	Stated Clerk Prof Reimb Carry Over
Mission	5112	Council	Committee Tng	New	Committee Tng
Mission	5124	Council	New Initiatives 9011	New	Initiatives Fund
Mission	5126	Council	"Flipping the Presbytery"	New	\$13,480 to cover Mentoring & Covenant Grps
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/ Cong 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 except line 5126, which will carry over \$13,480.

The following were presented for Presbytery action:

Presbytery Council ACTED to present to Presbytery for a second reading and recommend approval of the 2012 Mission Budget with increases in payments to the six mission partners shared equally to eliminate the \$3,109 surplus in the first reading of the budget as directed by Presbytery and to present to Presbytery for a second reading and recommend approval of the 2012 Ecclesiastical Budget without any changes from the first reading. Rob Rose directed the attention of the Presbytery to the following note related to the proposed Per Capita Assessment that is reflected in the propose 2012 Ecclesiastical Budget: **“After considering many options and with the recognition that our churches are struggling in this economy, Council moved to lower per capita by 5% to \$42 (\$2.50 less than 2010). The Council elected to recommend that this 5% reduction be borne equally by Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly, as a shared sacrifice.”** Rob Rose, David Moore, and Bill Ramage were available to answer questions. Presbytery **ACTED** to approve the 2012 Mission and Ecclesiastical Budgets as presented by voice vote. These budgets as approved are included in the appendices to these minutes.

Presbytery Council ACTED to present the attached Revised Standing Rules to Presbytery for a first reading. Rationale: Most changes are required to comply with the new Form of Government. Changes in the Constituency of Presbytery Council are recommended to improve coordination with the Personnel Committee. Changes in Appendix 3- Ecclesiastical Apportionment are recommended by the Committee on Ministry. Presbytery **ACTED** by a voice vote to receive the Revised Standing Rules for a first reading and **ACTED** by a voice vote to direct the Presbytery Council to create a task force to consider the proposed and any additional revisions to the Standing Rules.

Presbytery ACTED to recommend that the previously approved date for the June 2012 stated meeting be changed from Tuesday, June 19 to a 2-day meeting/retreat on Friday and Saturday, June 8 & 9 at Silver Bay, and that the previously approved dates for the September 2012 stated meeting be changed from a 2-day meeting/retreat on September 17 & 18 to a 1-day meeting on September 18 at a time to be determined. Rationale: This is an attempt to respond to some complaints received about holding a 2-day meeting/retreat on week days in September near the beginning of the church program year when June might be a better time for some and June is when this 2-day meeting/retreat had been held in the past. And it is hoped that participation will be increased by including a Saturday as one of the days in the schedule.

After much discussion and action to disapprove a substitute motion, Presbytery **ACTED** by a voice vote to approve the changes in the stated meeting schedule for 2012 as recommended by Presbytery Council.

Council ACTED to nominate Elder Mickey Nieman to serve in the Class of 2014 of the Presbytery Committee on Nominations. There were no nominations from the floor. Presbytery ACTED by a voice vote to elect Elder Mickey Nieman to serve on the Presbytery Committee on Nominations,

CONGREGATIONAL HEALTH AND TRANSFORMATION REPORT

Tim Coombs made a presentation on Social Media.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORT – PART 2

On behalf of COM, Tom Gregg presented the following recommendation, and Don Stake spoke to the recommendation on behalf of the Board of Trustees:

COM and the Board of 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.

Presbytery **ACTED** by voice vote to affirm the concept.

Presbytery recognized the Honorable Retirement of the Steven Cronn that became effective on November 1, 2011. Larry Greenwold spoke on behalf of Steven.

Following a successful Clearance Interview by COM, COM **RECOMMENDED** and Presbytery **ACTED** by a voice vote to approve the following contract between the Rev. Laura Mitchell and the Session of the West Hebron Presbyterian Church to be its Interim Pastor and Moderator effective January 1, 2012, through December 31, 2012, with the following annual terms: full time; salary \$41,537; housing allowance \$3,500; medical allowance \$450; manse amount \$13,646; total effective salary \$59,133; pension and medical dues \$0; social security offset \$3,481; continuing education reimbursable expenses \$1,590; professional reimbursable expenses \$626; total financial benefits \$64,830. Full moving expenses. Study leave and vacation in accordance with Presbytery policy.

COM **RECOMMENDED** and Presbytery **ACTED** by voice vote to extend thanks to the Rev. Kate Kotfila for serving as moderator at the West Hebron Church since October 1, 2011.

COM recommended and Presbytery **ACTED** by a voice vote without objection that a 3.5 percent Cost Of Living Adjustment increase be made in Presbytery minimums for full-time calls to teaching elders for 2012, and to recommend to churches that a 3.5 percent COLA increase be made for existing calls that are above the minimums for 2012. Rationale: The consumer price index over all has increased 4% in the last year. This 3.5% raise will help our teaching elders meet the increased cost of living, and falls in line with the COLA raise for those on Social Security, hopefully without overburdening our congregations. We also recognize that the BOP medical dues are going up, and though that is not related to COLA calculations it is another pressure that we all have to deal with.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION OF MINISTRY

Acting jointly with the Commissioned Lay Pastor Task Force, Cheryl Colt (CPM) and Terry Diggory (CLP) presented the attached Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) Preparation Program for a first reading. It was reported that there are currently four candidates in the CLP program, and they will be allowed to continue to follow the current program. If the CRE preparation program is approved by Presbytery after a second reading, all new candidates will follow the new program.

Terry Diggory and Cass Shaw recognized the service of Norma Brown as dean of the CLP program. On behalf of the Presbytery, Cass presented gifts to Norma and offered prayer.

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS REPORT

Diane Calvanese, chair of the Committee on Nominations presented Ruling Elder Lois Hessberg for election to serve as Presbytery Vice Moderator. There were no nominations from the floor, and Presbytery ACTED to elect Ruling Elder Hessberg.

Diane Calvanese presented the following for election to serve on Presbytery committees for 2012:

Committee on Ministry:

Rev. Rich Patterson	Class of 2014
Rev. Pam Woodman	Class of 2014
Rev. David Bennett	Class of 2014
Ruling 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

Council:

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

Permanent Judicial Commission:

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

Board of Trustees:

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

Self-Development of People Committee:

Ruling Elder Shirely Simon	Class of 2012
Stan Slamet	Class of 2014
Marian Potterfield	Class of 2014
Vince Kittle	Class of 2014

Capital Region Ecumenical Organization Board:

Rev. Donna Elia	Class of 2013
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There were no nominations from the floor. Presbytery **ACTED** by voice vote to elect the nominees presented by the Committee on Nominations listed above, and this included the requested waiver in the Standing Rules.

Diane directed the body's attention to the following announcement:
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

IF INTERESTED, please CONTACT: Diane Calvanese, Chair of Nominating Committee
E Mail: D.Cal@frontiernet.com
Telephone: 518 696 2179

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT – PART 2

The following was presented and approved by Presbytery under the Consent Agenda

The Presbytery of Albany (a “Corporation”) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) having received and reviewed the loan application of the First Presbyterian or Congregational Society at Rensselaerville Presbyterian Church a member in good standing of this Presbytery, approved the loan application and guarantees the repayment of principal and interest on the loan from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), A Corporation (“CLP”), in the amount of \$155,000. The officers of the Presbytery Corporation as listed on the attached Affidavit/Certificate of Incumbency marked Exhibit A are authorized to sign a Guaranty Agreement for this loan as agents of the Presbytery Corporation.

Sale of the West End Presbyterian Church Building

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Don Stake presented the following request and three representatives of the West End Presbyterian Church spoke to their journey to reach this point and the importance that the sale will have on their ministry and mission:

At the request of the congregation of the West End Presbyterian Church of Albany and with the concurrence of the Board of Trustees and the Committee on Ministry, Presbytery **ACTED** by voice vote without objections to grant permission to the West End Presbyterian Church to sell their entire property to and lease back portions of the property from Christian Life International, CLI, DBA City Harvest Family Church if the way be clear pending approval of the Courts of the State of New York according to the following terms:

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

Presbytery also **ACTED** by voice vote without objections to approve a request from the Board of Trustees 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 plans.

First Presbyterian Church of Gloversville

At the request of the Board of Trustees, Presbytery **ACTED** by voice vote 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.

INSTALLATION OF 2010-2011 MODERATOR AND VICE-MODERATOR

Retiring Moderator Kirianne Riehl **INSTALLED** the Rev. Dr. Paul Randall as Moderator and the Ruling Elder Lois Hessberg as Vice Moderator, asking of them the constitutional questions, which they answered in the affirmative. The Rev. Riehl presented symbols of the office of Moderator to the Rev. Randall.

WE WORSHIP GOD TOGETHER AND THEN ADJOURN
AS THE CHURCH SENT INTO THE WORLD

The Presbytery **ACTED** to express appreciation to the Korean Presbyterian Church for hosting the meeting; to authorize payment of all bills of the Presbytery incidental to the meeting; and to adjourn at 4:20 p.m. following closing worship with the celebration of the Lord's Supper by the Rev. Dr. Bebb Stone and the benediction.

The Presbytery will meet next in stated session on Saturday, January 28, 2012, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Albany, NY unless previously convened in a constitutional manner.

ATTEST: _____
H. Daniel Rogers
Stated Clerk