

**Westminster Presbyterian Church
Session Meeting
February 28, 2007**

The clerk called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at Agudas Achim Congregation. Elder Frank Fraser opened the meeting with a devotional and prayer. The following members were present:

Louise Anderson	present	Paul Neureiter	present
Nancy Hall Berens	present	Elizabeth O'Brien	present
Linc Cummings	present	Karen Olson	present
Judy Curtis	present	Anne Pickett	present
Eileen Denne	present	Gopi Pitcher	absent
Spencer Dickerson	present	Betsy Preston	present
Katie Donley	excused	Christopher Ptomey	present
Don Fowler	present	David Roden	present
Frank Fraser	present	Carol Skiba	excused
Priscilla Goodwin	present	Cathy Smyles	present
Lanny Griffith	present	Larry Hayward, pastor	present
David Hill	present	Karen Blomberg, as. pastor	excused
Brian Laubscher	present	Patrick Hunnicutt, as. pastor	present
Robin McFarland	present	Paul Van de Water, clerk	present
Meredith Mitchell	absent	Carolyn Fraser, vice clerk	present
Stephen Moss	excused		

Also present were Nancy Bea, Joan Taylor Reid, and Joan Sutter. The moderator, the Rev. Larry Hayward, took the chair at 7:35 p.m.

CLERK'S REPORT

Carolyn Fraser distributed the prayer partners basket. Paul Van de Water gave the clerk's report, as follows.

At the 11:00 a.m. worship service on January 28, 2007, the following were ordained and installed as elders: **Karen Olson** (Class of 2007), **Judy Curtis, Frank Fraser, Stephen Moss, Elizabeth O'Brien, and Christopher Ptomey** (Class of 2009).

The following previously ordained elders were installed as members of the Session: **Louise Anderson** (Class of 2007), **Eileen Denne, Don Fowler, and Priscilla Goodwin** (Class of 2009).

The following were ordained and installed as deacons: **Martha Girard, Liz Moore** (Class of 2007), **Bill Eckert, Karin Edgell, Tamfu Fomuso, Wendy Lockard, Mary Mbu, and Barbara Wyman** (Class of 2009).

The following previously ordained deacons were installed on the Board of Deacons: **Catherine Linton and Carri Stoltz** (Class of 2009).

At the 8:30 a.m. worship service on February 18, 2007, the following previously ordained deacon was installed on the Board of Deacons: **Barbara Watts** (Class of 2009). The annual report on the composition of the Session (required by Section G-13.0301 of the Book of Order) is as follows:

	<u>Session</u>	<u>Congregation</u>
Men	10	320
Women	16	531
Age 25 and under	2	94
26 – 45	9	229
46 – 55	8	162
56 – 65	4	179
Over age 65	3	187
Nonhispanic white	25	835
Other	1	16
Total	26	851

Joan Lee Taylor Sutter (#2323) and **Herbert Meitzler Reid, Sr.** (non-member) were married on September 23, 2006, in Lusby, MD. The Rev. Gerald Howell officiated. **Henry Andrew Allen**, born May 22, 2006, son of Christiana M. Leslie (#2248) and David C. Allen (#2244), was baptized on Sunday, February 4, 2007, at the 11:00 a.m. service. The Rev. Larry Hayward officiated, and Elder Joseph Kelly assisted. As required by Section G-6.0405 of the Book of Order, the annual joint meeting of the Session and the Diaconate was held on Saturday, February 10, 2007, at Old Presbyterian Meeting House in conjunction with the officer intreat. **Guynell Brown** died on February 6, 2007. A memorial service was held on February 10, 2007, at the Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, the Rev. Patrick Hunnicutt officiating. **Allie Johnson** died on February 14, 2007. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 14, 2007, at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. There were no home Communion services in February.

CONSENT DOCKET

The consent docket was approved with one exception, as noted below.

Motion to approve the minutes of Session meeting of January 24, 2007, meeting to examine officers of January 28, 2007, and new member meeting of February 18, 2007.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Congregational meeting of February 10, 2007.

Motion to accept all committee minutes.

Motion to concur with the request of the Board of Trustees to hold its annual meeting in March 2007.

Motion to authorize the following people to sign checks on church bank accounts: Nancy Bea, Tara Cain, Karen Blomberg, Patrick Hunnicutt, and Carol Skiba.

Motion to approve serving communion at the men's retreat on February 4, 2007, the Rev. Patrick Hunnicutt officiating; to approve serving communion at Creation Station on February 25, 2007, the Rev. Karen Blomberg officiating; and to approve serving Communion the the middle school retreat at Shrine Mont on March 25, 2007, the Rev. Patrick Hunnicutt officiating.

Motion to concur with the recommendation of the Local Mission Committee and the request of the board of the Westminster Foundation to donate from Foundation Fund E \$3,000 designated for Hurricane Katrina relief to Sheetrock Ministry, a program of St. John's Episcopal Church in Pascagoula, Mississippi.

Motion to transfer the membership of the following member: **Sallye P. Brown** to Sardis Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, NC.

The following item was removed from the consent docket and approved separately.

MSC: To elect Nancy Hall Berens, Linc Cummings, and Christopher Ptomey as commissioners for the National Capital Presbytery meeting of March 27, 2006.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Capital Campaign Coalition. Larry Hayward reported that the first Sunday back in the church building will be April 1, 2007.

Encore Campaign. Larry Hayward reported that the encore capital campaign is on schedule. Further details are likely to be presented at the March Session meeting.

Inquirers Committee. Nancy Hall Berens reported that, in addition to herself, the following people will serve on the support team for Amey Upton: Eileen Denne, Terry Grindstaff, Kathy Harkness, David Hill, Paul Neureiter, and Paul Van de Water. Nancy also reported on the status of Amey's classes and plans for an internship.

Treasurer's Report. Lanny Griffith presented the treasurer's report.

2007 Year-to-Date through January

Income	\$ 86,510
Expenses	106,863
Net Income	-15,987

MC: To accept the treasurer's report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications. Brian Laubscher presented a report from the *ad hoc* advisory committee on technological dissemination of the worship service. The committee identified pros and cons of making all or part of the worship service available through video on the Web. After discussing the committee's report, the Session requested that the committee return at a subsequent meeting with specific recommendations.

Congregational Life. Nancy Hall Berens encouraged everyone to wear their green “Westminster on the Move” T-shirt on April 1. There will be no Palm Sunday breakfast or donkey processional that day.

National and International Mission. Paul Neureiter described the committee’s goal of planning, promoting, and organizing mission activities and keeping the congregation informed about them. He said that the committee is stepping up joint activities with Old Presbyterian Meeting House.

MC: To support the application by Westminster Presbyterian Church jointly with Old Presbyterian Meeting House for \$10,000 a year for each of three years, for a total of \$30,000, from the Second Alexandria Fund of National Capital Presbytery to be matched by equal contributions from each of the two churches (\$5,000 each a year for a total of three years), making a combined total of \$60,000, to fund construction of the academy portion of the United Orphanage and Academy in Moi’s Bridge, Kenya.

Administration and Finance. Lanny Griffith presented the motion shown below. The Session discussed the pros and cons of accepting challenge gifts.

MC: To approve a Lenten initiative to raise money for the Moi’s Bridge Orphanage and Academy through an anonymous dollar-for-dollar challenge gift of up to \$10,000.

Personnel. Spencer Dickerson presented the report of the committee.

MC: To approve the appointment of Rosa Fullerton to the Personnel Committee.

Spencer read a letter of resignation from Judy Hansen. Karen Olson will head a team to find a replacement.

MC: To accept the resignation of Judy Hansen as Coordinator for Local Mission, effective May 1, 2007.

Joan Taylor Reid read a letter announcing her retirement.

MSC: To accept the resignation of Joan Taylor Reid as Director of Children’s Ministries, effective June 30, 2007.

Spencer read a letter from Sandy Calhoun announcing her intention to retire in 2008.

MSC: To accept the resignation of Sandra Calhoun as Director of Seniors’ Ministries, effective June 30, 2008.

The moderator led the Session in a prayer of thanksgiving for the faithful service of those staff members who have recently announced their retirements.

Spencer announced that the Personnel Committee will be working with Building and Grounds to establish a facilities management position.

Stewardship. Priscilla Goodwin reported that the committee had met with Steve McSwain of Cargill Associates. The 2008 stewardship campaign will emphasize a “thank you” to the congregation for its faithful giving.

Worship and Music. David Roden presented the following motions.

MC : To modify the schedule for serving Communion in 2007, as follows:

- a. Change May 13 to April 29 (preaching about worship)
- b. Change September 9 (Welcome Back Sunday) to September 2 (Labor Day weekend)
- c. Change November 11 (Remembrance Sunday) to November 25 (Christ the King).

MC: To invite Amey Upton to preach at the 8:30 service on April 15, 2007, to help fulfill one of her requirements as a candidate for ministry.

MSC: To approve serving Communion at the officer intreat on February 10, 2007, at Old Presbyterian Meeting House, the Rev. Larry Hayward officiating.

Building and Grounds. Robin McFarland reported that two damaged or weakened trees will be removed next week.

Christian Education. Eileen Denne reported that the parent group to support Patrick Hunnicutt’s youth ministry has been reinvigorated. Summer activities for the youth are still under discussion and may include mission trips as well as attendance at youth conferences.

CLOSING

Elder Priscilla Goodwin closed the meeting with prayer. The moderator adjourned the meeting at about 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul N. Van de Water
Clerk