

# DIGEST

## NINETY-FIFTH STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF EASTERN VIRGINIA

April 23, 2013  
Community Presbyterian Church  
Portsmouth, Virginia

**Moderator:** Roxie Holder  
**Vice Moderator:** Jeff Bell  
**Stated Clerk:** Donald F. Bickhart  
**Journal Clerk:** Linda M. Smith

### WORSHIP

- General Presbyter Rev. **Richard Short** preached the sermon on "How Do We Live When the Temple Is No More?" based on scripture from Isaiah 43:16-21 and Luke 21:5-19. The Revs. **Wilbur Douglass and Caroline Jinkins** led the celebration of the Lord's Supper. The offering for the Makemie Woods Scholarship Fund was \$883.00.

### VISION IMPLEMENTATION TEAM (VIT)

- The VIT Moderator reviewed the action from the January 2013 Stated Meeting to:

- a. Organize a Transition Team of 9 members with responsibilities to include:
  - Searching for an Intentional Interim General Presbyter (IGP) and presenting a recommendation to the VIT including the proposed Interim Covenant Agreement
  - Nurturing and supporting the IGP until her or his work in this presbytery is complete
  - b. To enter into a covenant agreement with the recommended individual on behalf of presbytery.
- He then described the following plan for the time between the General Presbyter leaving and the Interim General Presbyter arriving as "in-between" phase:
  - Donald Bickhart will serve as Stated Clerk/Acting General Presbyter;
  - SC/AGP will be assisted by pastors in the area of pastor-to-pastor relations and other ways as needed;
  - Any compensation will fit within the amount budgeted per month for a general presbyter.
- The recommendation that the relationship between **J. Richard Short** and the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia be dissolved effective April 30, 2013 was approved.

### COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

- Approved the request of **Richard J. Keever** to be placed on the Honorably Retired Roll effective March 1, 2013.

- Approved the request of **J. Richard Short** to be placed on the Honorably Retired Roll effective May 1, 2013.

- Candidate **Lindsey Santamaria** preached a sermon on "Give Us an Answer!" based on John 1. She was then examined for ordination and was approved to be ordained and received as a member of this presbytery.

- Approved Annual Terms of Call for installed pastors for 2013 except for Wythe Church.

### PASTORAL RELATIONSHIPS

- Dissolved the pastoral relationship between **J. William Moore** and Belle Haven Church effective 02/02/13.

- Received Navy Chaplain **Brandon K. Hood** from Grand Canyon Presbytery.

- Received **Dorothy F. Hood** from Presbytery of New Hope as A Member-At-Large and Parish Associate at First Church (Norfolk).

- Received **Garrett B. Bugg** from Transylvania Presbytery to serve as Designated Pastor at Wycliffe Church.

- Approved Temporary Relationship Agreement between **Steve Frazier** and Bethany Church for the period 1/1/13 to 12/31/13.

- Approved Temporary Relationship Agreement between **Robert White** and Community (Hampton)/LaCrosse Memorial Churches for the period 1/1/13 to 12/31/13.

- Approved Temporary Relationship Agreement between **Robert Close** and Makemie/Naomi Makemie Churches for the period 1/1/13 to 12/31/13.

- Approved Temporary Relationship Agreement between **George Oehler** and Faith Church for the period 1/1/13 to 4/30/13.

- Approved Covenant of a Stated Supply for Pastoral Care between **Harold McKeithen** and Williamsburg Church for the period 1/1/13 to 12/31/13.

- Renewed Parish Associate Agreement between **Young Bae** and First Church (Norfolk).

- Renewed Parish Associate Agreement between **Frank Drake** and First Church (Norfolk).

## 2012 STATISTICS

- PEVA submitted its annual statistical report to the Office of the General Assembly and the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic for the year ending 12/31/12. The 59 particular churches had 16,156 total active members, a decrease of 501 members from 2011. Regular church contributions of \$16,495,803 and expenditures for local programs and local mission of \$15,434,672 were reported. Church giving to Validated Missions was \$964,429 and to the Theological Education Fund was \$17,532. The Presbytery had 8,020 reported potential giving units and an average Sunday worship attendance of 7,091 (down from 7,356 in 2011). There were reported 133 Asian members (0.80%), 884 Black, African, and African American members (5.47%), 47 Hispanic members (0.29%), 11 Native American members (.07%), 11 Middle Eastern members (0.07%), 15,051 White members (93.16%), and 19 members (0.11%) listed as "other". Of the 744 reported membership gain, 156 were 17 and under (20.9%), 344 were 18 and over (46.23%), 190 were received by certificate of transfer (25.53%) and 54 other (7.25%). The reported age makeup was 52.7% for age 55 and under and 47.3% for age 56 and older. There were reported 1,392 Baptized members and 114 affiliate members for a total of 17,548 adherents with 290 male and 301 female ruling elders, 102 male and 126 female deacons and 9,514 female members (58.9%). The Presbytery began with 132 teaching elder members as of January 1, 2012 with 10 losses (2 deaths and 8 dismissed to other presbyteries) and 4 gains (2 ordained, 1 received from another presbytery, and 1 received from another denomination) for a total of 126 teaching elder members as of December 31, 2012. There were six candidates and two inquirers on the rolls as of December 31, 2012. At least a portion of the requested data was received from all churches.

### MAKEMIE WOODS MANAGEMENT TEAM

- Update provided by **Clint Mitchell** and request for donations to the operating of the Camp was made by **Eugene Johnson**.

### PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

- PDA representative **Dan Grimes** gave an update on the PDA program for New Jersey

areas damaged by Hurricane Sandy. Teams are scheduled to go in April and in July/August time frames.

## RETIREMENT

- A Service for Recognizing Retirement was held for **Richard J. Keever** who retired on 3/01/13 and **J. Richard Short** who will retire on 5/01/13. Rev. John Monroe made a tribute to Dick Keever. Tributes to Richard Short will be made at a reception on 4/28/13. A Certificate of Retirement was presented to Rev. Keever and to Rev. Short.

## PRESBYTERY PROGRAMS/ACTIONS

- Approved the report of the Sessional Records Review Committee.  
- Received report of the General Presbyter.  
- Received oral/written reports from Stewardship, Nominations, Hunger Ministry Teams, Makemie Woods Management Team, University Presbyterian Ministry at ODU, Vision Implementation Team, Commission on Ministry, Commission on Preparation for Ministry, Presbyterian Women, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, International Partnership Ministries, and the Stated Clerk.

## DISSOLUTION OF CALL TO RICHARD SHORT

- The meeting concluded with a Dissolution Service for **Richard Short** as General Presbyter of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia since June 1, 2001. This was followed by the singing of "We Gather Here to Bid Farewell." The Charge and Blessing were then pronounced by the General Presbyter and the meeting adjourned by the PEVA Moderator.

## TEMPORARY CLERKS

- Revs. **Garrett Bugg** and **Constance Dorn** served as Temporary Clerks.

## ENROLLMENT REPORT

51 Teaching Elders  
48 Ruling Elder  
99 Total voting members  
13 Visitors  
112 Total Registered

## NEXT MEETING

- Tuesday, July 23, 2013 at 1 p.m. at Williamsburg Presbyterian Church, 215 Richmond Road, Williamsburg, Virginia.