

DIGEST

NINETY-SEVENTH STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF EASTERN VIRGINIA

October 22, 2013
Royster Memorial Presbyterian Church
Norfolk, Virginia

Moderator: Roxie O. Holder
Vice Moderator: Jeffrey S. Bell
Stated Clerk: Donald F. Bickhart
Journal Clerk: Linda M. Smith

WORSHIP

- Candidate **Lou Cassman Ventura** preached the sermon on "Pride and Humility" based on scripture from 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 and Luke 18:9-14.
- The Revs. **Rebecca Lesley and John Monroe** led the celebration of the Lord's Supper.
- The offering for the Church Professional Assistance Fund was \$623.00.

TRANSITIONAL GENERAL PRESBYTER

- The Rev. **Elizabeth "Liza" Hendricks**, currently the General Presbyter of Western Reserve Presbytery, was introduced as the Transitional General Presbyter of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia for a two-year term effective 12/01/13.

VISION IMPLEMENTATION TEAM (VIT)

- Recommendation that Ruling Elder **John Tamm** serve as Acting Stated Clerk for one year was approved.
- Recommendation that the Presbytery continue to support the Makemie Woods Camp and Conference Ministry with financial support in 2014 limited to \$50,000.00 and that the Makemie Woods Management Team make appropriate recommendation for future ministry as well as the facility at the October 2014 Presbytery meeting was approved.

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

- Sustained the examination of **Lou Cassman Ventura** to be ordained and received as a member on the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia upon her ordination on November 17, 2013 at 11 a.m. at Franklin Presbyterian Church in Franklin, VA.

ORDINATION HONOREES

- Commission on Ministry each year honors teaching elders at the 10, 25, 40, 50 and 50 + 5 year mark of ordained service. Honored this year were the following teaching elders for their ordination service:

65 years

- **Edward L. Long**, ordained 5/14/1948

60 years

- **Stuart C. Saul**, ordained 7/12/1953

55 years

- **Calvin C. Fahrion**, ordained 7/11/1958
- **Edward A. Hanawalt**, ordained 7/11/1958

50 years

- **J. Allen Johnson**, ordained 6/16/1963

40 years

- **Robert W. Gustafson**, ordained 2/18/1973

25 years

- **Ronald T. Blade**, ordained 3/6/1988
- **Vernon G. Murray**, ordained 9/11/1988
- **Barbara B. Shefelton**, 10/2/1988

10 years

- **Mark T. Jernigan**, ordained 7/24/2003
- **T. Clinton Mitchell**, ordained 10/5/2003
- **Linda K. Rainey**, ordained 3/23/2003

PASTORAL RELATIONSHIPS

- Dissolved the pastoral relationship between **Kent Leydens** and Franklin Presbyterian Church and dismissed him to Sierra Blanca Presbytery to serve as pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Roswell, New Mexico effective 9/1/13.
- Dismissed **Constance A. Dorn** to Shenandoah Presbytery to pastor Broadway Presbyterian Church of Broadway, Virginia effective 8/25/13.

- Dismissed **Julie Thro** to Transylvania Presbytery effective 10/1/2013.
- Dissolved the pastoral relationship between **J. William Moore** and Powelton Presbyterian Church effective 7/31/13. Rev. Moore retired from Shenandoah Presbytery effective 2/1/10.
- Dissolved the associate pastoral relationship between **Kim Wagner** and Green Acres Presbyterian Church effective 8/15/13.
- Approved Temporary Supply Agreement between **Edward Hanawalt** and Lafayette Presbyterian Church for the period 10/1/13 to 3/31/14.
- Sustained the examination of **Lou Ventura** to proceed to examination by the presbytery on 10/22/13 and if the way be clear to ordination.
- Approve the Temporary Supply Agreement and Covenant between **Lou Ventura** and Franklin Presbyterian Church for the period 9/4/13 to 9/3/14.
- Appointed **J. William Moore** to serve as moderator at Powelton Presbyterian Church.
- Received notice that **Robert M. Close** will not be renewing his temporary relationship (stated supply) agreement with Makemie and Naomi Makemie Presbyterian Churches for 2014.

NOMINATIONS

- Elected Teaching Elder **Jeff Bell** as Presbytery Moderator and Ruling Elder **Ken Wheeler** as Presbytery Vice Moderator effective following the January 2014 Presbytery meeting.
- Elected teaching elders and ruling elders to various commissions/committees and agencies.

PRESBYTERY PROGRAMS/ACTIONS

- Approved Hunger Action Enabler Covenant between the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia and the Presbyterian Hunger Program of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
- Approved 2014 housing allowance for **"Mike" Burcher**.
- Approved the report of the Sessional Records Review Committee.
- Received oral/written reports from Stewardship, Nominations, and Hunger Ministry Teams, Makemie Woods Management Team, University Presbyterian Ministry at ODU, Vision Implementation Team, Commission on Ministry, Commission on Preparation for Ministry, International Partnership Ministries, Resource Center,

Youth Ministries, Theological education Fund, Presbyterian Women, Wesley-Westminster Foundation Campus Ministry at Norfolk State University, Christopher Newport Campus Ministry, Acting General Presbyter, and the Stated Clerk.

CONGREGATIONAL TRANSFORMATION

- Approved the Plan of Union to unite Denbigh Presbyterian Church and Second Presbyterian Church (Newport News) to form Denbigh United Presbyterian Church.

FAREWELL

This is my final edition of the Digest as I leave the position of stated clerk on December 31, 2013. It has been a wonderful 13 years and I leave with mixed emotions. My thanks to all the members of this presbytery for your help and support. It was great getting to know so many of you, to worshipping with you, and working with each of you. May you continue to prosper in the future under your new leadership of Liza Hendricks and John Tamm. The best to each of you.

Don Bickhart, Stated Clerk

TEMPORARY CLERKS

- The Revs. **John Morgan** and **Veronica Thomas** served as Temporary Clerks.

ENROLLMENT REPORT

52	Teaching Elders
49	Ruling Elder
101	Total voting members
34	Visitors
135	Total Registered

NEXT MEETING

- Saturday, January 25, 2014 at 1 p.m. at First United Presbyterian Church, 745 E. 29th Street, Norfolk, Virginia.