

**RESOLUTION
FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY
TO BE PRESENTED TO THE MARCH 11, 2008 MEETING
OF TRANSYLVANIA PRESBYTERY**

Whereas Candidate Jack Mong has fulfilled all requirements for certification of readiness to receive a call except a passing grade on the denomination's written examinations in theology and polity, and

Whereas Candidate Jack Mong has now failed in two attempts to pass the examinations in theology and polity, and

Whereas the Committee on Preparation for Ministry has worked with Candidate Mong through this process, has reviewed the previous examinations, and continues to be convinced of God's call to Candidate Mong and strongly persuaded of his gifts for ministry, and

Whereas Candidate Mong has received accolades from the faculty of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and the Committee has received letters of commendation on his varied student ministries, and

Whereas, after counseling with Candidate Mong and reviewing his work on the failed examinations, the Committee is convinced that Candidate Mong enters the examinations with such a high degree of emotional stress that, having failed twice, it is unlikely he will be successful in future attempts, and

Whereas the Book of Order (G-14.0472) provides a means whereby a presbytery by a ¾ vote of the members of the presbytery present may authorize an alternate means by which the presbytery will satisfy itself of competence in the areas of difficulty.

Therefore, be it resolved

First, that Transylvania Presbytery authorize an alternative form of examination for Candidate Jack Mong in the required areas of theological competence and church polity, and that the degree of difficulty be no less than that of the denomination's written examinations, and

Second, that an Examination Committee composed of the following persons be authorized to compose and administer an oral examination in these required areas to Candidate Mong:

Bill McAtee, minister member of presbytery who as an adjunct professor at Lexington Theological Seminary teaches the Presbyterian courses in Reformed theology and Presbyterian polity

Vernon Wiehe, elder, Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church, member of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry who has had seminary education

Joan Bush, elder, Second Presbyterian Church, Lexington

Janet Prewitt, minister member of presbytery

Tom Farmer, minister member of presbytery and co-chair of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, and

Third, that if the named committee is satisfied with Candidate Mong's competence in the areas of theology and polity, the Committee on Preparation for Ministry will receive their report and proceed to certify Candidate Mong as ready to receive a call, assuming all other criteria for such action are in hand.

Note: the presbytery should be aware that the denomination's five written examinations (ORDS) in Bible content, open book Bible exegesis, Theology, Worship and Sacraments and Church Polity are designed to indicate that an individual is competent to offer leadership to the church in these areas. A candidate may not enter into negotiation for ministerial service until the exams are passed and other requirements of candidacy are met and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry has certified the candidate's readiness to receive a call. When a candidate receives a call from a congregation or to another validated ministry, the presbytery conducts its own examination for ordination.