

**Presbytery of Transylvania
Coordinating Council Minutes
August 24, 2006**

Opening

The meeting of the Coordinating Council was held at the Presbytery Office on Thursday, August 24, 2006. The meeting was opened with prayer at 4:30 p.m. by Moderator Bill Owens. A time of sharing and discernment ensued.

Roll

Those present included members Bill Owens, Tyler Ward, Hannah McIntyre, Jon Martin, Susan Alley, Richard Smith, Betty Jean Donaldson, David Duggan, Winn Hutchcraft, Sioux Finney, Mary Reed, Marilyn Daniel, Catesby Woodford, John White, Mike Ward. Also present: Linda Crawford, Associate General Presbyter, Robyn Justus, Business Manager, and James Rucker, Stated Clerk.

Minutes

The minutes of the June 10, 2006, meeting of the council was presented and announced that they had been approved by the Presbytery. The minutes were received.

Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk reported the following items:

I COMMUNICATIONS AND RESPONSES

- (1) Correspondence with The Rev. Cullen Story, being an announcement of his renunciation of jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church;
- (2) Correspondence from Truman Geeslin, sharing the concerns of the Session of the Whites Memorial Church in regard to the adoption of the PUP report by the most recent General Assembly.
- (3) An Investigating Committee appointed at the September 13, 2005 meeting of the Presbytery has completed its work and no disciplinary charges are to be filed, which concludes the matter.
- (4) Overtures forwarded by the Presbytery to the recent meeting of the General Assembly were received by the Assembly and both considered by the appropriate committees which recommended no action on the overtures which concludes these issues.

II RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- (1) That the Coordinating Committee recommend to Presbytery that Presbytery authorize the transfer of all records held on behalf of the Presbytery, i.e., Presbytery minutes and the records of dissolved churches, be transferred to the John Bulow Campbell Library at Columbia Theological Seminary. (The alternative is to do nothing and in time these records will be transferred to the Historical Society in Philadelphia. *It was moved, seconded and carried that the recommendation be forwarded to the Presbytery.*

- (2) That the Coordinating Committee recommend to Presbytery that in response to the recommendation of the Committee on Ministry and in accordance with G=9.0504b, an Administrative Commission of seven members be appointed to proceed with the dissolution of the Camp Nelson Church; and that the following persons be appointed to said commission:

1.The Rev. Betsy Steiner, Honorably Retired (Chair)

2.Elder Bob Garvin, Carlisle Presbyterian Church

3.Elder Betty Jean Donaldson

4.

5.

6.

7.

- (3) That the Administrative Commission named in III-(2) be charged to
- a. Investigate the request for dissolution
 - b. Recommend to Presbytery whether or not the church should be dissolved
 - c. If dissolution is recommended:
 - i. Attempt to locate any official records of the church and turn them over to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery for proper preservation
 - ii. After consulting with the Trustees of Presbytery recommend to Presbytery the disposition of any and all church property and carry out said disposition following approval by the Presbytery.
 - iii. Arrange for certificates of transfer to other churches for current members, if any,
 - iv. Prepare and conduct a service of recognition of the life and ministry of the Camp Nelson Church at a Stated meeting of the Presbytery.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the recommendation be forwarded to the Presbytery.

- (4) Following discussion of the need to be intentional in examinations ***the matter was on motion with second referred to the Committee on Judicial Business*** with the suggestion that the committee include at least one member of the Committee on Ministry and one member of the Committee on Preparation for ministry in the discussion.

- (5)And finally, the Stated Clerk recommends that all Committee and Council chairs remind members of the committees and councils that if they wish to resign from said committee or council the proper way to do this is in writing to the Stated Clerk who will convey the request to the Presbytery. Resignations are accepted only by the Presbytery since the Presbytery is the electing body.

Administration and Finance

The report of the committee was made by Elder Catesby Woodford, noting current balances and anticipated income for the year. A lengthy discussion of the finances of the Presbytery followed. No action was taken.

Dinner

At 5:45 p.m. the Council took a recess to eat dinner. During dinner Moderator elect Marilyn Daniel presented a paper to the council outlining a proposed program of worship and study by the Presbytery for the year 2007. (Appendix A) Following discussion of the proposal *it was moved, seconded and carried that the proposed program be adopted and that the council meet on September 21 and October 26 to implement the plan.*

Staff Services

Mike Ward reported for the committee and presented proposed changes for the Guidelines which will be presented to the Presbytery.

Church Development & Evangelism

John White reported that the committee continues to work on proposals for the Gleneagles property and that a report with plans will be ready for presentation to the December meeting of the Presbytery.

Presbytery Docket September 12, 2006 Meeting

A draft docket was presented and following discussion was approved as amended to be the docket for the September 12, 2006 meeting of the Presbytery. It was noted that the Social Witness and Mission committee will use approximately 30 minutes of Docket time for hearing reports from the committee, from visiting missionaries and from Bellewood. Associate General Presbyter Linda Crawford and The Rev. Erin Rouse were asked by the Moderator to arrange for opening worship with candidate for ordination Vicki Poole who will preach.

December 1 and 2, 2006 meeting

A brief discussion of the December meeting was held. It was reported that General Assembly Stated Clerk Cliff Kirkpatrick has agreed to visit. It was suggested that perhaps he and The Rev. Bill McAtee might participate in a joint presentation to the Presbytery. Associate General Presbyter Linda Crawford was asked to explore this possibility with both and to report to the November Council meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was on motion adjourned at 7:30 p.m. with prayer offered by The Rev. Mike Ward.

Respectfully submitted

James H. Rucker, Stated Clerk

2007 Presbytery Meetings

Thoughts:

1. Form a Worship Committee. Suggestions: Mary Reed, Woody Berry, Erin Rouse, Clif Cason
2. Worship music: use choirs, smaller singing groups, youth, soloists, instrumentals (guitar, bagpipe, harpsichord, trumpet, violin)
3. Use responsive litanies created for the worship theme.
4. Create four banners for Grace, Faith, Hope and Love. Introduce them one at a time, but use them cumulatively in processions. Always use the Presbytery banner in a procession.
5. Identify key scriptures for the year ahead. Encourage reading and studying the scriptures before the meetings.
6. Identify and use Creedal statements on Grace, Faith, Hope and Love.
7. For each meeting, have 20 people write answers (50 words or less) to the "emphasis" questions. Distribute before the meeting and use in discussion groups at the meeting.
8. Identify a "Presbytery lay contact" in every congregation to serve for the whole year. Compile an e-mail list of them and use it to communicate.
9. Compile an e-mail list of all ordained members of Presbytery.
10. Moderator to write 5 letters to each congregation during the year: January, and one month before each meeting.
11. Moderator to visit at least 20 congregations or sessions during the year.
12. Each church which has not been participating in Presbytery shall be contacted and/or visited.
13. Assign each congregation to a small group for the year; the small groups shall meet during each Presbytery meeting.
14. Begin the process of matching "sister" churches. Define the purpose.
15. Plan pulpit and pew exchanges.
16. Canvas churches to select 4 mission priorities for 2008: local, state, national, international. Have congregations submit proposals for the local mission priority. Use Living Waters for the World as the International priority. Define how every congregation could support each priority.
17. Plan two Presbytery-wide mission activities.
18. At each meeting, have the host church provide spoken and written information about its history, its members and its life.
19. Pick one of the meetings and make special efforts to get youth to attend and participate.
20. Identify the individuals needed to accomplish each of the activities; contact them; monitor planning.

	THE TIES THAT BIND: Grace,	2007 Presbytery Meetings		
		Faith, Hope and Love		
Theme	GRACE	FAITH	HOPE	LOVE
Date	Tuesday, March 13, 2007	Saturday, June 9, 2007	Tuesday, September 11, 2007	Friday/Saturday, Nov. 30/Dec. 1, 2007
Place		Buckhorn Lake Area Church	Versailles Church	
Emphasis	What does "grace" mean to us?	What do we mean by "faith?" What are the marks of the "faithful?"	What is our "hope?" How do we live with "hope?"	What does it mean to "love" our neighbor in the 21st century?
Scripture	Ephesians 2: 8 "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God..." Ephesians 4: 7 "But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift." Hebrews 11: 1 "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."	Matt. 4: 40 "Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?" Ephesians 3: 17 "...and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have power...to know the love of Christ..." Hebrews 11: 1 "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."	"Kingdom of God" passages in synoptic gospels. ("Kingdom of heaven" in Matthew.)	1 Cor. 13: 13 "So, faith, hope, love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love." Romans 5:5 "...God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us." Matt. 22: 37-39 "... You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind... You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Matt. 5: 44 "... Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."
Hymns	Amazing Grace Lord, You Give the Great Commission	Faith of Our Fathers Great Is Thy Faithfulness		Spirit Help Us Accept Each Other
Special Music	bagpipes			
Small group discussion topic			Centrality of "the kingdom of God" in Jesus' ministry - what does it mean?	
Activity		Each congregation will identify a "person of extraordinary faith" from its history and submit a picture and story before the meeting. These will be placed on placards and carried during a "host of witnesses" procession in worship, and displayed afterwards.		Displays and pictures of congregational mission work. Feature: Living Waters for the World. Identify 2008 Presbytery Mission Focus at 4 levels: local, state, national and international.