

Report of the Burnamwood Director Search Committee
Woody Berry, Chair; Chris Brown, Fred Hood, Peggy Tudor, Susan Weston
August 29, 2008

The Burnamwood Director Search Committee was appointed in December of 2007 to find and recommend a candidate to Transylvania Presbytery to be called as Director. We presented the job description to the Presbytery in February, 2008, and have provided updates at subsequent meetings.

We posted the opening on the Presbytery website, with the PCUSA offices in Louisville, and on the website of Presbyterian Church Camp and Conference Association. We have processed 36 excellent candidates for this position. They have come to us from across the U.S., Maine to California. There were applicants from women and men, from various ethnic communities, from a variety of ages, both lay and ordained. We took each one seriously and prayed throughout the process for God's guidance. We narrowed our search to three finalists and interviewed them at the Presbytery Office in Lexington. We conducted background checks and carried out reference checks. We interviewed our final two candidates at Burnamwood and with a definite sense of the guidance of the Spirit, recommend unanimously to you that Peter David Jones be called as Director.

After carrying out a national search, we were surprised and yet heartened, that the best candidate was one from our own Presbytery, one whom we have seen grow up before us at Burnamwood. He was practically raised at Burnamwood, having attended his first camp there as a fourth grader, having served as a Staff Counselor in the summers of 1999 and 2000, having been a member of the Burnamwood Committee, and finally having served as Acting Co-Director these past eight months. He understands Burnamwood as the heart of our Presbytery; he loves the place; he is spirited in his work with children and youth; he has first hand experience from a variety of perspectives in running a camp; as a child of the manse, he knows well the reality of ministry; and as one of us, he understands the great strengths that come in the diversity of our Presbytery.

Pete is a graduate of Dickinson College in Pennsylvania with a B.A. in Religion and a minor in Political Science, 2002. He is a graduate of Lexington Theological Seminary, 2008. He is a candidate under care of Transylvania Presbytery and has been cleared by the Committee on Preparation for Ministry as ready to receive a call. Before beginning Seminary he was the Branch Manager of Fastenal Industrial Supplies, so he understands the business world. He completed his clinical pastoral education with Hospice of the Bluegrass. He served as student pastor at Millersburg Presbyterian Church and as Director of Ministry with Children and Youth at Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church. He currently lives in Lawrenceburg.

Reflecting on his time as Acting Co-Director with Barrett Milner, Pete said he came to three important conclusions.

“First and foremost, Burnamwood Camp and Conference Center is a truly unique and special place, with incredible potential, that must be preserved for years to come. This camp is a place where the children and youth of Kentucky meet God in significant

ways. I do not pretend to understand exactly why, but I seek to cultivate that experience in every moment at camp.”

“Second, for far too long, with no single person at fault, Burnamwood Camp and Conference Center has been stagnant. There is a need for renovation, growth, updating, and instilled professionalism. There is a need for accountability, transparency, honesty, and realism. Great strides have been made toward this end in the past eight months, but much more work is left to be done.”

“Third, I am *unexpectedly* called to this ministry at this time in my life. The most important aspect of my life has always been family and that remains the case. My wife and three beautiful daughters remain my focus in life and my greatest joy. Yet, in just eight months, I have been convinced that God has brought me to this juncture for a reason. The success that Barrett and I have had, coupled with the words of encouragement from co-workers, committee members, and volunteers, have made my decision much easier. Quite simply, I love Burnamwood and for that reason I cannot turn my back on this calling when the camp is in such great need and my skills are so well suited.”

Having experienced the turn-around that has happened this year at Burnamwood, having worked closely with Pete and seen his leadership, his faith, and his joy for life, it is with complete confidence that we recommend that you call Pete Jones to the position of Burnamwood Director.



Position Description
Presbytery of Transylvania
Executive Director of Burnamwood Camp and Conference Center
Exempt, full-time position, elected by Presbytery

RESPONSIBILITIES:

As Minister of Word and Sacrament:

- Proclaim God's Word through sermon, teaching, and by example in occasions of worship and Christian growth at Burnamwood Camp and Conference Center, and, upon request of Sessions, in the churches of Transylvania Presbytery.
- Administer the sacraments at Burnamwood Camp and Conference Center as approved by the presbytery, and in local churches as approved and invited by the Session.
- Provide counsel and training for camp staff and those who lead camps and conferences at Burnamwood.

As Administrator of Burnamwood Camp and Conference Center:

- Develop, administer, and oversee year-round programs and facilities of the Burnamwood Camp and Conference Center, in consultation with the Burnamwood Camp and Conference Center Committee, which will provide opportunities for the Christian education, nurture and fellowship of members of the churches of the Presbytery of Transylvania.
- Oversee all camp and conference center staff.
- Develop a relationship with congregations in Transylvania Presbytery, which serves to strengthen and enrich congregational life and ministries, and to promote opportunities available at Burnamwood.
- Develop and implement a marketing strategy each year that will increase the usage of camp facilities by people of all ages. This marketing should not be limited to members of Transylvania Presbytery.
- Manage the budget, finances, and recordkeeping necessary to Burnamwood operations.

Review:

An annual review will be conducted by the General Presbyter in consultation with the Burnamwood Committee and Staff Services Committee of the Presbytery. A comprehensive review will be conducted every five years.

Accountability:

The Executive Director of the Burnamwood Camp and Conference Center is accountable to the General Presbyter and the Burnamwood Camp and Conference Committee.