

Presbytery of Wabash Valley
Summary of Council Meeting
March 23, 2010
Linda L. Long

With nearly all members present, Council moved forward on many fronts:

- Provided unanimous support for continuing the work of the University Church Task Force who is consulting with Presbytery teams, regional congregations, Synod and the University Church board about possibilities of its campus ministry affiliating with our Presbytery.
- Considered presentation by Financial Consultant Eric Herzog regarding finances and Basic Mission budgeting, as part of building budgets for 2011 and 2012 to help team and committee moderators name priorities that may not be captured in our historic accounting categories. The intent is that the September Assembly will finalize our Presbytery budget, in order to give congregations reliable information for their fall budgeting for basic mission pledges and operational per capita giving.
- Reviewed the preliminary work of the SMARTER Goals Task Force and named additional goals connected to ongoing work like Missional Transformation and new efforts like envisioning a team to partner with congregations on Christian education and youth ministry, new avenues for leadership development, and using technology more effectively to share information, reach out with new ministry, and accomplish work with less travel.
- Heard progress reports from the Standing Rules Task Force, the General Presbyter Nominating Committee, the Geneva Center Long-range Visioning Task Force and Acting Director of Geneva Center, Larry Kalas.
- Approved recommendation to the April Assembly that our Presbytery concur with two overtures to the 219th General Assembly regarding Synods and name Rev. William McLean, one of our elected Presbytery GA commissioners, as overture advocate.
- Approved a litigation response team to work with our Presbytery attorney to determine and prepare strategy for the duration of the litigation filed against our Presbytery by First Presbyterian Church of Kokomo.
- Considered options for bridging staffing needs between the time our Interim Presbyter's contract ends and the new General Presbyter is installed.
- Approved first round of consulting contract to reconfigure Presbytery computers and to assess overall needs in order to build a comprehensive plan for investments in technology.
- Reviewed first draft of operating budget for Presbytery and reports from ACs, Church Development Ministry Team, Missional Transformation Coordinating Team, and others.
- Allocated up to \$2000 of designated peacemaking funds for supplemental scholarship grants for Michigan All People's Church and support team to attend conference in Chicago in May on multicultural ministry.