

Presbytery of Wabash Valley
July 28, 2010
By Stated Clerk Linda L. Long

Summary from Council:

- Whispering Council Moderator Carol McDonald led Council in meditating upon the Presbytery scripture reading for July, Romans 12: 3-13 with colored paper and pens in hand, to draw out imaginations about what the “reign of God” might mean for Wabash Valley today.
- Approved Corporate Resolution of authority to include Vice Moderator Pam Camren to implement Council decisions.
- Approved sale of Ligonier Presbyterian Church’s manse and the dedicated fund in which proceeds are segregated.
- Appreciated Eric Herzog’s consultations with two congregations at their invitation to review and recommend revisions to their internal controls and financial practices.
- Reviewed financial statements showing traditional lag of congregations in submitting per capita support for Presbytery connectional work and pledges for mission partnerships. Presbytery passes through our per capita commitments to Synod and General Assembly early in the year, while churches frequently delay their contributions to our greater church for its work until late fall.
- Directed personal contact with churches with no financial contributions to our shared Presbytery work to date.
- Appreciated improvement toward balance in income and expenses for Geneva Center under Larry Kalas’s leadership.
- Named Robert Shaw, Pam Camren and Adi Veenendaal to consult with Tim Jones as Head of Staff to make recommendation to Council about the Geneva Center Director position in August
- Approved change in position description for Church Relations Coordinator Vicki Dreibelbis to include direct support for the Missional Transformation Coordinating Team and participating congregations.
- Approved hiring part-time contract consultant for technology implementation, as new computer and presentation contracts bring major need for training and integration expertise. Funding will come from dedicated “Presbytery Priorities” account.
- Heard enthusiastic report of Ann Bingaman concerning the General Presbyter Nominating Committee work. The highly qualified field has been narrowed to five ministers, who will be in rounds of final interviews next week. Recommended finalist will meet with Committee on Ministry September 2.
- Adjourned by reading as litany some segments of the Belhar Confession, referred by General Assembly 219 for Presbyteries’ approval.

Agenda for August Council consideration will be significant and includes:

- Recommendation from University Church Task Force
- Geneva Center Budget for 2011
- Presbytery 2011 Basic Mission and Operating Budgets
- Update on the Generosity Initiative with Wabash Valley congregations
- Standing Rules (and Bylaws) Task Force recommendation

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