

(Preliminary minutes – subject to approval by Presbytery of Lake Huron)

**PRESBYTERY OF LAKE HURON**  
Stated Meeting – December 5, 2006

The Presbytery of Lake Huron was called to order with prayer by the Moderator, Elder Kay Adair, at 9:30 a.m., on Tuesday, December 5, 2006, at the Countryside Trinity Church, Saginaw, Michigan.

The roll was taken, and the clerk announced that a quorum was present.

Ministers present were: Daniel Ahn, John Becker, Karen Blatt, Louise Brokaw, Roger Browne, Theresa Cutler, Melissa DeRosia, Annie Duncan, Robert Emrich, Mary Anne Evans-Justin, Valerie Fargo, William Findlay, Glenn Grant, Carol Gregg, Peter Haas, Martin Han, William Hennessy, Kenneth Hetzel, Rhashell Hunter, David Jackson, Young Kwon, Robert Lakey, Michael Loenshal, Wallace Mayton, Theodore McCulloch, Lawrence McMellen, Mark Morningstar, John Musgrave, James Neumann, James Offrink, Kenneth Parker, David Pierce, Rodney Shoemaker, Stephen Shugert, Parker Smith, Herb Swanson, Dale Swihart, Richard Vogeley, Jeffrey Weenink, David Young and Nancy Young.

Ministers not present were: Kenneth Anderson, George Baird, David Blackburn, Alexander Brooks, Robert Brown, Janice Chambers, Bert Clark, Tom Cundiff, Charles Darocy, Lucy Der-Garabedian, Wesley Dykstra, Robert Fox, Gary Jamison, Paul Jenkins, Stacey Jones, William Jones, Beverly Kelly, Laura Kelsey, Richard Lawther, Charles Marquardt, John McDowell, Carol Miller, Donald Neville, Robert Osborne, Dong Won Park, Eugene Pattison, Jesse Perry, Peter Russell, Todd Smith, Elizabeth Stilwell, Brian Stratton, Tim Sutton, Robert Taylor and Joseph Walser.

The following churches were represented: Warren Smith, Bay City-First; Jon Essex, Bay City-Memorial; Walt Whitney, Bay City-Westminster; Sally Abbotts, Beaverton; Keith Bishop, Caro; Sally Pomeroy, Crosswell; Giles Morris, Davison; Gary Young, Fenton-First; Ivan Render, Fenton-Tyrone; Pat Rice, Flint-Bethany; Barbara Shackelford, Flint-Christ the Liberator; Sue Smith, Flint-Community; Linda Smith and Alice Murphy, Flint-First; Sharon Galbreath, Grand Blanc-Kirkridge; Eileen Ingles, Harbor Beach; Walter Brown, Holly; Vera Grayhek, Lapeer; Judy Hudson, Marlette-First; Dorothy Wood, Marlette-Second; Ernie Caldwell, Midland-Chapel Lane; Judith McDowell, Elsie Misner and Steve Grace, Midland-Memorial; Lois Kerr, Mt. Pleasant; Carl Jacobson, Saginaw-Countryside Trinity; Soon Lee, Saginaw-Korean; Hans Schmidt, Saginaw-Second; Walter Fales, Tawas and Earl Begg, Vassar.

Churches without representation were: Alma-Eastminster, Alma-First, Birch Run, Breckenridge, Burton, Cass City-First, Cass City-Fraser, Deckerville, Fairgrove, Flint-Unity, Flushing, Grand Blanc-Korean American, Houghton Lake, Ithaca-First, Ithaca-Lafayette, Kinde-Chandler, Kinde-First, Linden, Rosebush, Saginaw-First, Saginaw-Warren Ave., Sandusky, Swartz Creek, Twining, Uby and Yale.

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Elder members of presbytery present were: Andrea Drapp, Presbytery Treasurer; Roger Scovill, Administrative Team moderator; CJ Merriman, Committee on Ministry moderator; Karen Banaszak, Certified Christian Educator; Commissioned Lay Pastors Kay Adair, Susan Loenshal, Gloria Watson and Chris Wolf.

Elder members of presbytery not present were: Commissioned Lay Pastors Sam McKim, Charles Moerdyk, Julianne Princinsky and Dave Schreiber.

Total Ministers present: 41

Total Church Commissioners present: 30

Total Elder Members of presbytery present: 8 (4 Commissioned Lay Pastors)

Total corresponding members present: 3

Total Visitors present: 16

Introductions of new members of the presbytery were made.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to seat the Rev. James Black of the Presbytery of St. Augustine; Elder Nancy Kinch and the Rev. Charles Herrick, of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan as corresponding members.

Welcome by the host pastor was given by the Rev. Ken Parker.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve the docket.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2006 meeting of presbytery.

Elder Chris Wolf led the presbytery in a discussion of the book “Becoming a Blessed Church” by N. Graham Standish.

The **GENERAL ASSEMBLY COUNCIL** report was given by Elder Ann Moe who reported on the Committee on Theological Education meeting she recently attended at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. One of the main topics discussed was a study of recent graduates and what they have found to be the easiest and most challenging aspects of being a minister.

The **OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY** report was given by Elder Steve Grace who gave a brief overview of the types of work that the OGA does. The OGA is the support staff for the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly. Some of the items they are responsible for are: assisting with the planning for General Assembly and communication with the Synods and Presbyteries.

The **SYNOD COUNCIL** report was given by the Rev. Dale Swihart who reported that he attended the Synod meeting in October and would like to be able to take back to the Synod any questions or concerns members of the presbytery may have.

**WORSHIP** was led by the Rev. Roger Browne and Elder John Essex.

Presbytery recessed for lunch at 12:15 p.m. following prayer led by the Moderator.

Presbytery was reconvened at 1:00 p.m. by the Moderator.

The report of the **TALENT NOMINATING COMMITTEE** was given by the Rev. Mark Morningstar. The following people were placed into nomination and MOTIONS WERE SUSTAINED:

1. elect to serve as Moderator and Vice-Moderator for one year:

Moderator:           The Rev. Ken Hetzel  
Vice-moderator:    Elder CJ Merriman, Lapeer

2. elect to serve as members of Standing Units for the terms listed:

**Visioning Team**

Elder Kay Adair

**Committee on Ministry**

**Class of '09**

The Rev. David Pierce  
The Rev. David Jackson  
The Rev. Richard Lawther  
The Rev. Elizabeth Stilwell  
Elder Karen Banaszak - Midland Memorial

**Class of '08**

The Rev. William Findley  
The Rev. Melissa DeRosia  
Elder Gloria Watson

**Administrative Team**

**Class of '09**

The Rev. Robert Emrich  
The Rev. Wally Mayton  
Elder Sam McKim - Lapeer

**Class of '08**

The Rev. Richard Vogeley

**Church Growth Committee**

**Class of '09**

The Rev. Laura Kelsey

The Rev. Mark Morningstar

Elder Sally Abbotts – Beaverton

Elder Delores Generes – Flint-Bethany

The report of the **ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM** was given by Elders Roger Scovill and Johanna Jozwiak. The team requested and **MOTIONS WERE SUSTAINED** that presbytery:

1. grant the requests of First Church, Kinde; Chandler Church, Kinde; and First Church, Harbor Beach, to participate in the Presbytery's Cafeteria Plan, and approve the following resolutions:

RESOLVED, that the Presbytery of Lake Huron permits First Church, Kinde; Chandler Church, Kinde and First Church, Harbor Beach, to become Participating Organizations in the Presbytery of Lake Huron Cafeteria Plan, effective, January 1, 2007; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the proper officers of the Presbytery of Lake Huron are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to implement the foregoing resolutions.

2. approve the new terms of call and/or employment of the presbytery staff for 2007. (The full terms will be included in the permanent minutes of this meeting).
3. approve the 2007 Unified Budget. (The full budget information will be included in the permanent minutes of this meeting).

The **DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES TEAM** report was given by the Rev. Karen Blatt. The committee requested and **MOTIONS WERE SUSTAINED** that presbytery:

1. renew of the covenant between the Presbytery of Lake Michigan and the Presbytery of Lake Huron with regard to their shared summer camping program. (The covenant will be included in the permanent minutes of this meeting).
2. approve the following change in percentage of the distribution of the Two-Coins-A-Meal offering:

<u>Current</u>		<u>Effective 1/1/07</u>
25%	Local	25%
25%	National	20%
50%	IEPC	55%

The **COMMITTEE ON THE PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY** report was given by the Rev. Peter Haas. The committee presented for a first reading the Indebtedness Policy. (The policy will be included in the permanent minutes of this meeting). The policy will be voted on at the February 10, 2007 stated meeting.

The **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY** report was given by Elder CJ Merriman. The committee reported that at a congregational meeting held on November 11, 2006, the congregations of: Harbor Beach, Kinde-First, Kinde-Chandler Presbyterian Churches, voted to extend a call to the Rev. Ronald Grimes to be their Pastor effective January 1, 2007. Upon recommendation of the Committee **MOTIONS WERE SUSTAINED**, that presbytery:

1. commend the churches in fulfilling the provisions of the presbytery's Affirmative Action Equal Employment Opportunity Program for the Calling of Pastors.
2. approve the call of the Rev. Ronald Grimes to be Pastor of Harbor Beach, Kinde-First, Kinde-Chandler Presbyterian Churches effective January 1, 2007. The terms are as follows:

**Harbor Beach:**

Salary	\$14,095.32
Housing	Manse at Kinde-First
Utilities	Paid based upon shared percentages (gas and electricity)
Travel Reimbursement	IRS Rate (Shared % with other 2 churches)
Study Allowance	\$280.14
Vacation	28 days (shared)
Study Leave	14 days (shared)
Moving Costs	33-1/3% (shared)

**Kinde-First:**

Salary	\$ 9,499.02
Housing	Manse
Utilities	Paid based upon shared percentages (gas and electricity)
Travel Reimbursement	IRS Rate (Shared % with other 2 churches)
Study Allowance	\$188.79

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Vacation	28 days (shared)
Study Leave	14 days (shared)
Moving Costs	33-1/3% (shared)

**Kinde-Chandler:**

Salary	\$ 7,047.66
Housing	Manse at Kinde-First
Utilities	Paid based upon shared percentages (gas and electricity)
Travel Reimbursement	IRS Rate (Shared % with other 2 churches)
Study Allowance	\$140.07
Vacation	28 days (shared)
Study Leave	14 days (shared)
Moving Costs	33-1/3% (shared)

3. direct the Stated Clerk to transfer the membership of Mr. Grimes from the Presbytery of Great Rivers.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to direct the moderator to appoint an Administrative Commission to ordain Karen Francis on behalf of the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky at Flushing Presbyterian Church in January.

The team reported the following FOR INFORMATION that it:

1. approved a grant to Elder Charles Moerdyk in the Amount of \$500.
2. approved a grant to the Rev. Todd Smith in the amount of \$3,000.
3. approved the contract renewal between the Rev. Herb Swanson and Holly Presbyterian Church effective January 1, 2007. The terms are as follows:

Salary	\$12,874.92
Housing	\$ 7,500.00
SECA	\$ 1,659.48
Pension and Medical	\$ 6,724.70
Medical Deduct & Vision	\$ 867.70
Life Insurance	\$ 220.00
Continuing Education	\$ 304.50
Book Allowance	\$ 200.00
Car Allowance	\$ 166.55
Professional Expenses	\$ 1,250.00
Total	\$31,767.85

Vacation Time      \*Stated under **other terms**

Reimbursable items: (included above)

Travel Reimbursement     IRS Rate  
Reimbursement of church-related phone calls made from home,  
when applicable  
Study Leave allowance  
Moving expensed, when applicable  
Professional expenses (specified)

In the event that the Interim Pastor has not secured a new position by the time service to this church is concluded, this church will:

- a) Provide full compensation for an additional one month or until service in a new position begins, whichever occurs first,
- b) Provide full pension dues for 90 days or until service in a new position begins, whichever comes first.

Other terms: Two months paid vacation to be taken in July and August of 2007 and the option for a third month assuming 1) that he has not found a position, and 2) that we have not called a new minister. Pension and medical will be paid for all three months regardless, unless Herb has a new position by then. For this two to three month period Herb will not be paid other allowances that he is currently being paid.

This agreement is for a period of six months commencing on January 1, 2007 and ending on June 30, 2007 after which it may be extended on recommendation of the Committee on Ministry and approval by the presbytery. This agreement may be terminated by either party on 30 days written notice.

A mutual evaluation of the relationship between the Interim Pastor and Holly Presbyterian Church will occur after three months of service. An appropriate committee of Session will represent the Session in the evaluation process.

The Interim Pastor cannot be considered a candidate for the installed position.

4. approved the Temporary Supply contract between the Rev. Dwight Hillstrom and Alma-First effective October 16, 2006. The Temporary Supply agrees to provide part time (3/4) pastoral leadership. This would be approximately 36-40 hours per week but negotiable. The terms are as follows:

Cash Salary	\$22,500.00
Housing Allowance	\$22,500.00
Pension	\$ 5,400.00
Travel Reimbursement	\$ 1,500.00
	[45 cents per mile (IRS specified)]
Study Leave	2 weeks (one week after 6 months and a 2 <sup>nd</sup> week after 2 <sup>nd</sup> 6 months)

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Vacation Time	4 weeks annually (one week per quarter including a Sunday)
Professional Expenses	\$ 1,000.00
Continuing Education	\$ 800.00

This agreement is for a period of 12 months commencing on October 16, 2006, after which it may be extended on a recommendation of the Committee on Ministry and approval by the presbytery. This agreement may be terminated by either party upon reasonable notice.

5. approved the extension of the commission and the contract of Elders Julianne Princinsky and Chris Wolf to Deckerville for the period of January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007. The terms are as follows: increase in hours (to 1,040) and an increase in salary (to \$23,549 at Michigan inflation rate of 3.3%); book allowance, mileage, etc., to stay the same.
6. approved the extension of the commission and the contract of Elder Dave Schreiber to Yale for the period of January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007. The terms will remain the same.
7. approved the extension the commission of Elder Sue Loenshal at Alma-Eastminster until December 31, 2009.
8. granted the Rev. Robert Brown permission to labor outside the bounds in the Presbytery of Detroit, effective December 1, 2006. (He'll be serving as Interim Pastor of the First Congregational Church in Port Huron.)
9. appointed the Rev. Ken Hetzel as Moderator of Marlette-First and Marlette-Second.

The **STATED CLERK** recommended and MOTIONS WERE SUSTAINED to:

1. accept the resignations of the Rev. Todd Smith and Elder Sharon Oriel from the Committee on Ministry and Elder Elizabeth Wilson from the Committee on Preparation for Ministry effective immediately.
2. grant the request of the congregation of the Presbyterian Kirk of the Lakes, Houghton Lake, Michigan, under the provisions of the Book of Order, G-14.0202a(2), to waive the requirements of G-14.0201a for a period of three years - allowing the congregation to elect for further service as members of the session elders who have completed six consecutive years service on the session.
3. the following actions be taken with regard to the review of session minutes and

registers (which took place on October 14, 2006 at Sandusky, Flushing, Bay City-Westminster, and Mount Pleasant-First and on October 21, 2006 at Cass City-First, and Grand Blanc-Kirkridge):

- a. the minutes of the following churches be approved without exception: Bay City-First, Bay City-Memorial, Bay City-Westminster, Birch Run, Breckenridge, Burton, Cass City-Fraser, Croswell, Davison, Fenton-Tyrone, Flint-Bethany, Flint-Christ The Liberator, Flint-Community, Flint-First, Flushing, Grand Blanc-Kirkridge, Harbor Beach, Holly, Ithaca-First, Kinde-Chandler, Kinde-First, Lapeer, Linden, Marlette-First, Marlette-Second, Midland-Chapel Lane, Midland-Memorial, Saginaw-Countryside Trinity, Saginaw-First, Saginaw-Second, Saginaw-Warren Ave., Sandusky, Swartz Creek, Tawas, Twining, Vassar and Yale.
- b. the minutes of the following churches be approved with exception: Alma-Eastminster, Alma-First, Caro, Cass City-First, Fenton-First, Flint-Unity, Grand Blanc-Korean American, Houghton Lake, Ithaca-Lafayette, Mt. Pleasant and Saginaw-Korean.
- c. the church registers for the following churches be approved without exception: Bay City-First, Bay City-Memorial, Bay City-Westminster, Birch Run, Breckenridge, Burton, Caro, Cass City-Fraser, Croswell, Davison, Fenton-First, Fenton-Tyrone, Flint-Bethany, Flint-Christ The Liberator, Flint-Community, Flint-First, Flint-Unity, Flushing, Grand Blanc-Kirkridge, Grand Blanc-Korean American, Harbor Beach, Holly, Houghton Lake, Ithaca-First, Ithaca-Lafayette, Kinde-Chandler, Kinde-First, Lapeer, Linden, Marlette-First, Marlette-Second, Midland-Chapel Lane, Midland-Memorial, Mt. Pleasant, Saginaw-Countryside Trinity, Saginaw-First, Saginaw-Korean, Saginaw-Second, Saginaw-Warren Ave., Sandusky, Swartz Creek, Tawas, Twining, Vassar, and Yale.
- d. the church registers for the following churches be approved with exception: Alma-Eastminster, Alma-First and Cass City-First.

The records of Beaverton, Deckerville, Fairgrove, Rosebush and Ubyly were not presented for review.

4. on behalf of the VISIONING TEAM the clerk brings a recommendation that By-Law B 11.2.e be changed by substituting the word "December" with the words "the June of the year preceding its meeting". The sentence would then read, "Nominate persons for election by the Presbytery to be commissioners, alternates, and youth advisory delegates to General Assembly (the June of the year preceding its meeting) and the Synod of the Covenant (August)."
5. suspend Standing Rule S 2.1 (a) which refers to the dates of presbytery meetings, so that the February meeting could be held on Saturday, the 10th at

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Bay City- Westminster and the April meeting could be held on Friday the 20th or Saturday, the 21st at Flint- First (in conjunction with the "The Blessed Church" conference).

The clerk presented the following items FOR INFORMATION:

1. the following dates are scheduled for the 2007 stated meetings of the presbytery:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
February 10	Bay City-Westminster	9:30 am
April 20	Flint-First	2:00 pm
June 5	Tawas	9:30 am
August 7	Lapeer	1:30 pm
October 2	Grand Blanc-Kirkridge	9:30 am
December 4	Midland-Memorial	9:30 am

2. the next stated meeting of the presbytery will occur at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 10, 2007 at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Bay City.
3. the following transfers are now complete
  - The Rev. Jerry Pitman to the Presbytery of Cincinnati
4. the following invitations have been received to host presbytery stated meetings in 2008:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
February 5		9:30 am
April 1		9:30 am
June 3	Alma College	9:30 am
August 5		1:30 pm
October 7	Caro	9:30 am
December 2		9:30 am

Invitations are still needed for the remaining 2008 dated meetings.

5. Books of Amendments to the Book of Order will be available at both the December and February stated meetings, with the presbytery voting in April.

The **PRESBYTERY STAFF REPORT** was given by the Rev. Louise Brokaw and addressed the appreciation that the presbytery has for its many volunteers on various committees and in other capacities.

A service for the **INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS** was led by Elder Kay Adair.

A MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to adjourn, following a prayer by the moderator, at 2:45 p.m.

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The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Lake Huron will be held Saturday, February 10, 2007, at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Bay City beginning at 9:30 a.m.

The Rev. Michael Loenshal  
Stated Clerk