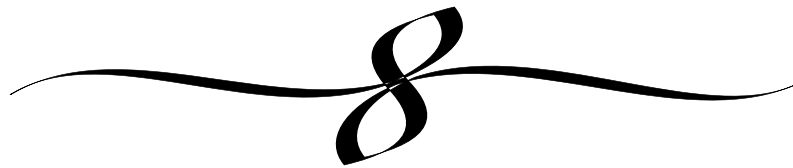


**PRESBYTERY OF
WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA**



**MINUTES
SEVENTY-SIXTH
STATED MEETING
APRIL 29, 2008**

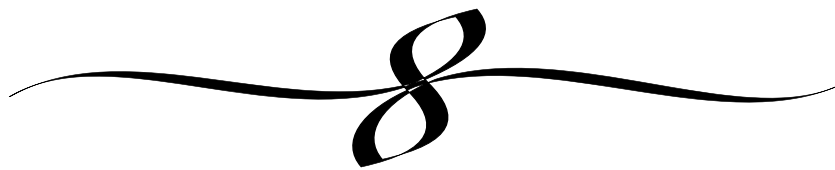


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**The Presbytery of Western North Carolina
Seventy-Sixth Stated Meeting
April 29, 2008
at Montreat Conference Center, Montreat, North Carolina**

CONSTITUTION

The Moderator, Elder William Kantonen, convened the Seventy-Sixth Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at 9:03 a.m., at the Montreat Conference Center, Upper Anderson Auditorium, Montreat, North Carolina, and led in a prayer hymn by Brian Wren.

John Richardson, Vice-President, Montreat Conference Center, welcomed the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. Mr. Richardson's welcoming comments illustrated the over 100 years of Presbyterian history involved in the 2400 acres that we know as "Montreat."

ATTENDANCE

The Stated Clerk, the Rev. Dr. James Aydelotte, declared that a quorum was present.

The following MINISTERS WERE ENROLLED (P = Present; E = Excused; A = Absent without excuse):

Robert M. Abel	P	Ann Aighinger	P	Frank Aichanger	P
Wyatt Aiken, Jr.	P	Blan C. Aldridge	E	Charles C. Alexander	E
George W. Alexander	E	State W. Alexander, Jr.	E	Terry Alexander	P
David Anderson	E	James G. Arnold	E	Wayne R. Aughinbaugh	E
Stephen M. Austin	P	James Aydelotte	P	Patricia Bacon	E
Michael Bailey	E	Tony Baker	P	Douglas Bartlett	E
Teddis Beasley, Jr.	E	Joseph Bennett	P	Stanley L. Bennett	E
James Bernhardt	P	Carter Blaisdell	E	Buren Blankenship	E
Randall Boggs	P	Ronald A. Botsford	E	Dewey Bowen	P
Adam Bowling	P	Richard Boyce	P	David Bradley	E
Troy Braswell	P	Ronald Brauer	E	Michael Brazelle	P
Edwin Brenegar, III	P	Hayden Britton	E	Beverly Brock	P
Jerry Bron	P	G. Thompson Brown	E	Jon Brown	E
Aimee Buchanan	P	Ralph Buchanan	E	William Buchanan	P
Monty Burnham	P	Sue Burton	P	Robert Busey	E
Joey Byrd	E	John Campbell	A	Kathy Campbell	P
William Campbell	A	Day Carper	E	Mary Faith Carson	E
Joel David Cherry	P	Calvin Chesnutt	P	William Christian	P

Carol Clark	P	Mark Clark	P	James Cockerham	E
James Cogswell	P	Hunter Coleman	E	Robert Collins	E
Priestley Conyers, III	E	Thomas C. Cook, Jr.	E	Drayton Cooper	E
Donald Cooper	P	Riley Covin	E	John W. Craven	P
James R. Crook	E	Curtis Crowther	E	Robert Bruce Cumming	P
Charles Davenport	P	Jack Davidson	P	Eddie Deas, III	P
Arthur DeJong	E	Charles Donnell	E	Ellen Dozier	E
Kathryn Dudley	E	Philip W. Dunford	E	John Ellington	P
Charles Elyea	E	Lee S. Feero, Jr.	E	David Fillpot	E
Ragland Fletcher	E	Kenneth Foreman, Jr.	E	Maynard Fountain, Jr.	P
McCoy Franklin	P	Kevin Frederick	P	John L. Frye	P
A. W. Gaines, Jr.	P	Denise Geiger	P	Gregory Grana	E
Theodore Grant	P	Robert Gruber	E	George Gunn	P
Samuel Hale	E	Michal H. Hall	E	Terry Hanna	P
Randall Hardy	P	Luke Harkey	P	Bill Heck	P
Robert Henderson	E	Robert Hewett	E	Fred Hill	E
Robert Hinman	P	Richard Hobson	E	Richard Holshouser	E
Samuel Hope	P	James Hornsby	E	David Hosick	P
William Hoyt, III	P	Allen Huff, Jr.	P	George Hutchins	P
Donald Jafvert	E	William Janes	E	William Jennings	E
Cecil Jividen	E	Wallace Johnson	P	Mike Johnston, IV.	A
Dong Uk Kang	P	David Kennedy	E	Ira Kennerly	P
Paul Kercher	E	Jeff Kesterson	E	William Kirk	P
Albert Kissling	E	Earl Kreisa	E	Lee Kruse	A
Gale Lammey	E	John LaMotte	P	John Laughlin	E
Margaret Lauterer	A	Ernest Lewis	E	Wendell Ligon	P
John Lindsay	P	Eugene Linton, Jr.	P	Brad Long	P
Laura Long	P	Dick Lonnee	P	Edward Loper	P
Billy T. Lowe	P	David Lytle	E	Joan Martin	E
Roberta Martin	E	Robert Martin, Jr.	E	Tyler Martin	E

Griffith Matthews	E	Layton Mauzé, III	E	John McCall	E
Sandra McClinton	A	Patricia McClurg	P	Robert McCully, Jr.	E
Deborah McEachran	P	Flemon McIntosh, Jr.	P	James McPherson	E
Robert Meachem	E	Lynn Michie	A	Beth Ann Miller	P
Robert Mills	A	Paul Moehlman	E	Charles Moore	E
Anne Morgan	P	David Morgan	P	Richard Morgan	E
Nancy Mugford	P	David Mulford	E	Donald Mullen	E
Carl Murray	E	David Nash	E	Elizabeth Newman	P
Karen Newsome	A	John Newton, Jr.	E	John Niles	P
Herman Nodine	E	Richard Nygren	E	O'Hyun Park	P
Yoon E. Park	A	Katherine Parker	P	Thomas Parker	P
Andrew Parkey	E	David Parks	E	Donald Patchel	E
Stratton Peacock	P	Albert G. Peery, Jr.	P	Margaret B. Peery	P
Patrick Perryman	P	Harry F. Petersen	E	Martha Jane Petersen	E
Lyle Peterson	E	Harry Philips	P	Carolyn Poteet	P
Michael Poulos	P	Donald Price	E	Edyth Pruitt	P
Tamara Puffer	P	Jay Rabuck	E	Mark Ramsey	P
Earl Rash	E	Wilson Rhoton, Jr.	E	Calvin Rice	E
Homer Rickabaugh	P	Don Robb, III	E	Jack Robinson	E
Steven Runholt	P	Richard Rustay	E	Donald Scofield, Jr.	P
Henry Scoggins	P	Julius Scott	E	William Serjak	P
Albert Shaw, Jr.	E	Richard Shelor	E	James Shroyer	P
Allan Sinclair	A	James Skelton, Jr.	E	Wirt Skinner	P
O'dell Smith	E	Paul Smith	A	John Somerville	E
Becky Stanley	P	Mark Stanley	P	Carol Steele	P
John David Stewart	E	Daniel Stitt	P	Cynthia Strickler	A
James Stuart	E	Walter Styles	E	Charles Swann	E
William Sweetser, Jr.	P	James Taylor, Jr.	E	Lee Thomas	A
Keith Thompson	P	Dan Thornton	P	Margaret Torrence	P
Ace Tubbs	E	Thomas Tweedie	E	Rockwell Ward	E

Samuel Warner	A	Morris Warren	E	Joseph Washburn	P
William Waterstradt	E	Mark Watson	P	George Webb	E
Lynn Webber	P	Bobbi White	P	Cynthia Williams	A
Lamar Williamson, Jr.	P	Parker Williamson	P	John Wilson	E
Otis Wilson, Jr.	E	Claude Wilson-Stayton	E	William Wing, Jr.	E
Eugene Witherspoon	P	Graham Wood, Jr.	P	Donaldson Woods	E
Rebecca Young	E				

The following COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS WERE ENROLLED at this meeting of Presbytery:

Philip Adams	A	Sharon Decker	A	Dwayne Durham	P
Robert Garrison	P	Joe Gernoske	P	Richard Hood	P
David Moore, Sr.	A	Randy Patterson	A	Betty Shaw	E
Bert Sigmon	P	Robert Simes	A	Dennis Stamper	A
John Stanley	A	Bert Wiley	E		

The following MEMBERS OF THE COORDINATING COUNCIL and COMMITTEE CHAIRS WERE ENROLLED at this meeting of Presbytery:

Mary V. Atkinson	P	Samuel Baraki	A	Mike Begley	P
Beth Bolin	A	Frela Beck	A	Arthur Burgess, Jr.	P
Patricia Clark	P	Philip Dammann	P	Edna Goshorn	P
Richard Graham	P	Jane Holt	P	William Kantonen	P
Gerry Levan	A	Len Pardue	P	Pat Queen	A
Jane Carswell Roberts	A	Jack Suddreth	P	Sarah Thornburg	A
Perrin Todd	A	J. D. Waldrop	P	Guy Wallace	P
Judith West	P	Barbara Phillips	P		

The following CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS WERE ENROLLED for this meeting of Presbytery:

Donna Ashley	P	Glenn Bannerman	A	Freida Caldwell	P
Dwight Christenbury	P	Robert Clemmer	P	Tina Cloer	A
Betty Davenport	P	Sara Dixon	A	Angela Drummond	A
Dianne Graeber	A	Chandler Guess	P	Susan Haney	A
Marylyn Huff	P	Sandy Jividen	E	Franklin Jones	A
Margaret Kennerly	A	Leslie McLeod	P	Kathy Parse	A

Mary Potter	A	Heath Rada	A	Peggy Rada	A
Bonnie Sanford	P	Ginny Soll	P	Patricia Tuttle	A
Robert Tuttle	P	Angela Washburn	A		

The following CHURCHES WERE ENROLLED by the attendance of their elder commissioners:

Arbor Dale (1)	Lisa Smith	
Asheville First (2)	Martha Jackson	Lucy Keil
Banner Elk (1)	Tony Fortune	
Belmont First (2)	Jerry Ragan	Bill Carstarphen
Bessemer City First (1)	A	
Bethel (1)	A	
Black Mountain (2)	Carey Jo Elam	
Brevard-Davidson River (2)	Judy Caldwell	
Bridgewater (1)	A	
Brittain (1)	Edward Norris	
Brittains Cove (1)	A	
Bryson City (1)	Adele Burrows	
Buladean (1)	A	
Burnsville First (1)	Jim Ludwig	
Calvary (2)	A	
Canton (1)	Margaret Roberts	
Cherryville First (1)	Marsha Farrell	
Clinchfield (1)	A	
Columbus (1)	A	
Conley Memorial (1)	Pat Davis	
Crossnore (1)	A	
Cullowhee (1)	A	
Dallas First (1)	Don Dills	
Dixon (1)	A	
Dorland Memorial (1)	E	

Dulatown (2)	Elmer Dula	Gary Norwood
Duncan's Creek (1)	Bette Gettys	
Ellenboro (2)	A	
Estatoa (2)	A	
Etowah (2)	Argyle Gash	Betty Gash
Fairview (2)	Teddie Bowen	Jason Myers
Fletcher (2)	LuAn Guignard	Tommy Burleson
Forest City First (2)	Gene Stark	Richard Luckenbach
Franklin First (2)	G. T.Fisher	D. L. Likens
Gastonia First (4)	Martha Eddins	Ibby Page
	Ellen Cinq-Mars	
Glen Alpine (2)	A	
Good Hope (3)	C. A. Allison	
Grace Covenant (3)	Susie Churchfield	Charlie Clogston
	Janet Hovis	
Grassy Creek (2)	A	
Green Mountain (2)	A	
Green Street (3)	A	A
Hayesville (2)	E	
Hendersonville First (3)	Pat Green	Elizabeth Yoder
	Doug Davidson	
Hickory First (3)	Linda Ellis	Krista Burns
Highlands First (2)	Suzanne Sloan	Bob Tietze
Ironton (2)	A	
Jack's Creek (2)	A	
John Knox (2)	A	
Kenilworth (2)	A	
Kings Mountain First (2)	A	
Korean Presbyterian Church of Asheville (3)	A	

Lenoir First (2)	Jim Harper	
Lincolnton First (2)	A	
Long Creek (2)	Clayton Ramsey	
Love's Chapel (3)	A	
Lowell (2)	Mac Robertson	
Marion First (1)	Earl Daniels	
Marshall (1)	A	
Micaville (1)	Ken Dawkins	
Mills River (1)	A	
Montreat (1)	Henry Neale	
Morganton First (2)	Roben Plyler	Scott Coley
Morrison (1)	Cathy Shook	
Mount Holly First (1)	A	
New Hope, Asheville (1)	Bill Fesperman	
New Hope, Gastonia (1)	Edwin Lewis	
Newdale (1)	A	
Newland (1)	Marie Gwyn	
Newton First (2)	Ed Nolley	
Northminster (1)	Chris Wilson	
Oak Forest (1)	Frank Moore	
Oakwood (1)	A	
Old Fort (1)	A	
Olney (1)	A	
Paint Gap (1)	A	
Pine Street (2)	A	
Pineola (1)	Stan Ferguson	
Quaker Meadows (1)	A	
Reems Creek-Beech (1)	A	

Riceville (1)	John Barbour	
Ridgeview (1)	Wayne Tipton	
Robinson Memorial (1)	A	
Rutherfordton (1)	Judie Shapiro	
Ryburn Memorial (2)	A	
Saluda (1)	Barbara Witherspoon	
Shelby (2)	Bud Worden	Sid Dixon
Sherrill's Ford (1)	Shirley Whisnant	
Shiloh, Grover (1)	E	
Siloam (1)	A	
Southminster (2)	Calvin Arrowood	
Spindale (1)	Sarah Kirk	
Spruce Pine First (1)	A	
Swannanoa First (1)	Lynn Holman	
Sweetwater (1)	Tom Flowers	
Sylva First (1)	A	
Third Street (2)	Stephen Werts	N. A. Smith
Trinity (1)	Jay Barr	
Tryon (1)	Don Lyons	
Union (1)	Jennifer Kendrick	
Union Mills (1)	E	
United (1)	Jean McFarland	
Unity (1)	Gene Hudgens	
Vians Valley (1)	A	
Waldensian (1)	Tammy Black	
Walnut (1)	Mark Pearson	
Walnut Grove (1)	E	
Warren Wilson (1)	Julia Richards	
Waynesville First (1)	Bob Lasater	
West Asheville (1)	Alan Cohlmeier	

West Avenue (1)	Dennis Godfrey	
Westminster (1)	Dot Descieux	

The Stated Clerk later reported that the attendance for this meeting was:

Ministers	118
Elders	83
Christian Educators	6
Council/Committee Chairs	11
Visitors	<u>68</u>
Total	286

It was later moved that four persons be recognized as corresponding members, which was approved. (See Stated Clerk's Report): Rev. Karen Haak, member of Lake Michigan Presbytery, serving as Interim Pastor at the Black Mountain Presbyterian Church; Rev. Bob Montgomery, Palisades Presbytery; Rev. George Ramsey, Trinity Presbytery; Rev. Dr. Fred Holbrook, Peaks Presbytery, Massanetta Springs Conference Center.

APPROVAL OF DOCKET

Stated Clerk Aydelotte moved the docket as distributed, which was approved.

- | | | | |
|-------------|--|--|---|
| 8:30 | Registration | (Lower Anderson Lobby) | |
| 8:30 | Prayer before Presbytery | (Lower Anderson Auditorium - Room #2) | |
| | Orientation for New Elders | (Lower Anderson Auditorium - Room #1) | |
| 9:00 | Convene with Prayer of Invocation | | William Kantonen, Moderator |
| | Welcome | | John Richardson
Montreat Presbyterian Church &
Conference Center |
| | Certification of Quorum | | James Aydelotte, Stated Clerk |
| | Approval of Docket | | James Aydelotte, Stated Clerk |
| | Appointment of Standing Committee | | William Kantonen, Moderator |
| | Resolution of Thanks | | |
| | Omnibus Motion | James Aydelotte | A |
| | <i>(Omnibus Motion is a consent motion. If a commissioner wishes to pull any item from the consent agenda for any reason, simply state the item you wish to remove from the Omnibus Motion and it will be dealt with as part of the committee report from which it was drawn.)</i> | | |
| | Stated Clerk's Report | James Aydelotte | B |
| 9:20 | Service of Worship, including the Celebration of the Lord's Supper | | |
| | Worship Leaders: Pat McClurg and Karen Haak | | |
| | Sermons: | | |
| | "Praise the Lord" | Psalm 146:1-10 | Tee Gatewood |
| | "Abiding with Him" | John 14:15-21 | Jason Bryant |

“Consider Your Call” 1 Corinthians 1:26-2:5

Mike Sears

10:35 Committee on Ministry

*(Introduction of new members, commissioning of CLP's,
Co-Organizing Pastors, report of the work of the committee,
including the Examinations Committee approval of candidates for ordination/installation.)*

**James Bernhardt
Bill Sweetser**

D

11:25 Christian Education

(Let's Celebrate ~ Side by Side; work of the committee)

**Beth Gunn
Adam Bowling**

11:35 Advocacy Committee for Women's Concerns

www.pcusa.org/acwc

Terry Alexander

11:40 Institutions and Agencies

**Grandfather Home for Children
Massanetta Springs
Lees-McRae
Presbyterian Women**

**Jim Swinkola
Fred Holbrook
Mae Weed
Patricia Clark**

11:55 Prayers of Intercession

(Please submit requested prayers of intercession to the Stated Clerk's table before 11:00 a.m.)

12:00 Lunch

(Assembly Inn)

1:30 Reconvene

(Upper Anderson Auditorium)

1:35 Speak Out

(Opportunity to address the Presbytery for one minute or less per speaker on any suitable topic. No new business may be introduced at this point, but announcements, concerns, or opinions may be shared.)

1:40 Report of the General Presbyter

Bobbi White

GP

1:45 Strategic Goals Committee

David Hosick

2:00 Good News from our Churches

2:15 Division of Outreach

**Hunger Committee
(Hunger Awareness)
Mission Committee**

Deborah McEachran

Kevin Frederick

2:35 Report from Commissioners to Synod

**Larry Poe
Sue Burton**

II

2:40 Nominating Committee

(Election of members for Presbytery committees and work of the committee.)

Dick Graham

I

2:50 Coordinating Council

(Work of the Council and New Standing Rules of Presbytery)

Phil Dammann

C

3:05 Resolution of Thanks

Benediction and Adjournment

Moderator

8. **THAT the following Session Records for 2007 were submitted and approved on March 8, 2008, at a Session Records Review held at the First Presbyterian Church, Morganton.**

Arbor Dale	Gastonia, First	Newton, First
Banner Elk	Green Street	Northminster
Buladean	Lenoir, First	Pineola
Burnsville, First	Marion, First	Quaker Meadows
Conley Memorial	Micaville	Siloam
Dulatown	Morganton, First	Spruce Pine, First
Fairview	Morrison	United
Fletcher	Newland	Waldensian
		Walnut Grove

9. **THAT the second reading of Session Records will be held on Saturday, May 17, 2008 beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Canton Presbyterian Church in Canton, NC. All the Clerks of Sessions of the congregations in Cluster A and in Buncombe, Henderson, Madison, and Transylvania counties, as well as those congregations which were due to submit their records on March 8, 2008, should attend and submit their 2007 Session records for review.**
10. **THAT the third reading of Session Records will be held on Saturday, June 7, 2008 beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Shelby Presbyterian Church in Shelby, NC. All Clerks of Session of the congregations in Cluster D and in Cleveland, Lincoln, Polk and Rutherford counties, as well as all congregations which have not previously submitted their 2007 Session Records for review should attend this meeting.**
11. **THAT a Leadership Training Event for Adults and Youth, "Let's Celebrate" ~ Side by Side, will be held on Saturday, August 9, 2008, at the First Presbyterian Church, Morganton.**
12. **THAT the Black Mountain Presbyterian Church will celebrate its 100th Anniversary in May 2008.**
13. **THAT the Newton Presbyterian Church will celebrate its 150th Anniversary in June 2008.**
14. **THAT the New Hope Presbyterian Church in Asheville will celebrate its 25th Anniversary in June 2008.**

Dr. Aydelotte moved items 3, 4, and 6 from the Stated Clerk's report. All were duly seconded and adopted. He then made the following announcements, (items 7 -14), especially the Presbytery's congratulations to three congregations observing significant anniversaries.

SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Worship was led by the Rev. Pat McClurg, moderator at the Montreat Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Karen Haak, interim pastor at the Black Mountain Presbyterian Church, with music led by Mike Barker of the Black Mountain Presbyterian Church. The Presbytery heard sermons from the following three candidates for the ministry:

Tee S. Gatewood, Pastor-elect for the Arbor Dale Presbyterian Church, preached on “Praise the Lord” with Scripture taken from Psalm 146:1-10. Jason Bryant, Pastor-elect for First Presbyterian Church, Mount Holly, preached on, “Abiding with Him” with Scripture taken from John 14:15-21. Mike Sears, Pastor-elect for Olney Presbyterian Church, preached on, “Consider Your Call,” with Scripture taken from I Corinthians 1:26-2:5.

The service of worship concluded with the celebration of the Lord’s Supper led by Pastors McClurg and Haak, with communion served by the elders of the Montreat Presbyterian Church.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
I. WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

The Rev. Dr. James Bernhardt, Moderator of the Committee on Ministry, reported on the actions taken by the Committee on Ministry on behalf of the Presbytery. (Appendix E) Dr. Bernhardt recognized Pastor Ronald Gilmer, who has moved to a new Presbytery, thanking him for his ministry in our Presbytery and praying God’s blessing on him in his future service in the Church. He also recognized the Rev. Ellen Dozier, who has requested honorable retirement, thanking her for her ministry in our Presbytery and in Guatemala and praying God’s blessing on her for the future.

Dr. Bernhardt, on behalf of the Committee on Ministry, recommended that the Rev. Jack Davidson, from the Presbyterian Church in America, be accepted as a member of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, and (pursuant to *BO: G-11.0404.a(2)*) that the Presbytery exempt him from the requirement for ordination examinations. The motion was passed by the required two-thirds majority and Pastor Davidson was welcomed to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
II. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Dr. Bernhardt introduced Jason D. Bryant, Pastor-elect of the First Presbyterian Church, Mt. Holly, coming to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina from the Presbytery of Charlotte. Following questions and answers, Dr. Bernhardt moved, on behalf of the Committee on Ministry, that he be ordained and installed by the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. The motion passed and Dr. Bernhardt offered prayer. Representatives from the First Presbyterian Church, Mt. Holly were recognized.

Chairman Bernhardt introduced Tee S. Gatewood, III, Pastor-elect of the Arbor Dale Presbyterian Church, coming to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina from the Flint River Presbytery. Following questions and answers, Dr. Bernhardt moved, on behalf of the Committee on Ministry, that he be ordained and installed by the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. The motion passed and Dr. Bernhardt offered prayer. Representatives from the Arbor Dale Presbyterian Church were recognized.

Dr. Bernhardt introduced Michael S. Sears, Pastor-elect of the Olney Presbyterian Church, from the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. Following questions and answers, Dr. Bernhardt moved, on behalf of the Committee on Ministry, that he be ordained and installed by the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. The motion passed and Dr. Bernhardt offered prayer. Representatives from the Olney Presbyterian Church were recognized.

The Rev. Bobbi White, General Presbyter, presented each of the approved candidates with a Guatemalan stole on behalf of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry as a welcome to the Presbytery.

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry, the Rev. Dr. Bill Sweetser, Jr., co-moderator of the Examinations Committee, introduced the following new ministers in the Presbytery. Each spoke briefly and signed the Book of Obligations. Their statements of faith and biographical statements were included in the report of

the Committee on Ministry. (Appendix E)

- John H. Niles, Honorably Retired
- William G. Heck, Honorably Retired
- Kathryn Dudley, Member-at-Large
- Ann Aichinger, Co-Organizing Pastor, Conover New Church Development
- Frank Aichinger, Co-Organizing Pastor, Conover New Church Development
- Denise Geiger, Honorably Retired
- Patricia McClurg, Honorably Retired

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

III. COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry, Chairman Bernhardt moved that the Presbytery approve that Dick Hood be commissioned as lay pastor to the John Knox Presbyterian Church, and Dwayne Durham be commissioned as lay pastor to the Riceville Presbyterian Church. Following questions and answers, the motion passed. Bill Kantonen, Moderator, led the commissioning service. The commissioning included for both, permission to celebrate the Lord's Supper, baptisms and weddings and moderate the Session. Representatives from the John Knox Presbyterian Church and the Riceville Presbyterian Church were recognized.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

IV. VALIDATION OF MINISTRIES

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry, Chairman Bernhardt moved that the Presbytery validate the ministries of the following:

- Brad Long, as Executive Director, Presbyterian Reformed Ministries, Intl., through April 29, 2009.
- Kathy Campbell, as Chaplain at Lees McRae College, through April 29, 2009.
- Dennis Stamper, as Chaplain with Blue Ridge Healthcare, through April 29, 2009.
- David Bradley, as Pastoral Counselor with Pastoral Counseling and Growth Center of Asheville, through April 29, 2009.
- Cynthia Strickler, as Director of Dunamis Fellowship, Intl., with Presbyterian Reformed Ministries, Intl.
- Jim Hornsby, as Missionary with Young Life International, Nicaragua, through April 29, 2009.
- John T. Campbell, as Pastoral Counselor for Eastatoe Trail Counseling and Consultation, LLC, through April 29, 2009.
- Joey T. Byrd, as Chaplain, U.S. Army, through April 29, 2009.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Beth Gunn, Associate for Youth, and Rev. Adam Bowling, Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Morganton, led the Presbytery in an energetic promotion, of "Let's Celebrate," a leadership training event for adults and youth that will be held on Saturday, August 9, 2008, at the First Presbyterian Church, Morganton.

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE FOR WOMEN'S CONCERNS

Rev. Terry Alexander, pastor of the Newland Presbyterian Church and a member of the General Assembly's Advocacy Committee for Women's Concerns, brought greetings from that Committee. The ACWC is funded and supported through the Office of the Executive Director of the General Assembly Council. Staff support is provided by the Racial Ethnic and Women's Ministries program area, PC(USA). Pastor Alexander shared the concerns of the committee about their work.

GRANDFATHER HOME FOR CHILDREN

Mr. Jim Swinkola, President, brought greetings from Grandfather Home for Children. He expressed his sincere thanks for the Presbytery's support, gifts, and prayers and asked the Presbytery to continue to pray for the children and the home.

MASSANETTA SPRINGS

The Rev. Dr. Fred Holbrook, Peaks Presbytery, brought greetings from Massanetta Springs Conference Center. He shared the mission and strategic plan for the conference center.

LEES-McRAE COLLEGE

Mrs. Mae Weed, Senior Assistant Director of Admissions and Church Relations, Lees-McRae College, brought greetings from the College. She expressed her thanks to the Presbytery for their support and prayers for the College.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Ms. Patricia Clark, elder at First Presbyterian Church, Morganton, and Coordinator of Presbyterian Women for the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, thanked the Presbytery for their support. She shared the mission of Presbyterian Women and highlighted events that the Presbyterian Women have actively participated in. She also shared dates for upcoming events.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Rev. Eddie Deas, pastor of Third Street Presbyterian Church, Gastonia, offered intercessory prayers for those in the Presbytery and beyond. He gave thanks for those in attendance and for our break for nourishment. The Presbytery recessed for lunch at 11:58 a.m.

RECONVENE

Presbytery reconvened at 1:30 p.m. with an opportunity for Presbyterians to address the Presbytery with announcements, concerns and opinions.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL PRESBYTER

The Rev. Bobbi White, General Presbyter, talked about how we, as a Presbytery, are a mission field, with similarities to the days of the early church. We have been called to tell people about the Good News and to show them Christ's love and grace. She stated that most people come to church because they are personally invited and that sometimes it may require persons being invited several times before they will attend. She shared her concerns regarding the fact that we have lost worship attendants and members over the past years. Although we have lost members, some of our churches are growing in other ways that demonstrate God's love and grace. (Appendix F)

Special thanks were extended to the Rev. David Hosick for his leadership and years of service within the Presbytery. He will be the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in St. Petersburg, Florida (Presbytery of Tampa Bay).

The Montreat Conference Center and Montreat Presbyterian Church were recognized and thanked for their generous hospitality and services in making this Presbytery meeting have the feeling of being guided by the Holy Spirit. She reported that the Montreat Presbyterian Church is growing and they recognize themselves as a church without walls.

STRATEGIC GOALS COMMITTEE

The Rev. Dr. David Hosick, chair of the Strategic Goals Committee, reflected on the time spent together at the October 2007 Presbytery meeting working on the four questions that were presented with commissioners asked to record their responses. The committee received 139 completed forms. Following a series of meetings among the committee, an analysis of the questionnaires was compiled. (Appendix G). The committee will continue its work by further refining the questionnaire data. The committee will present a workshop on August 9, 2008 that will focus on how local churches can become more faithful and vital in their congregational life. Following this workshop, the committee will make another report at the October 2008 Presbytery Meeting.

GOOD NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

The Rev. Terry Hanna, pastor at Bryson City Presbyterian Church, shared how that congregation of diverse people is sharing their faith in the community and their relationship with God. They are a congregation with deep roots and wings, and are an inclusive, friendly, loving and caring congregation.

The Rev. Dr. Wallace Johnson, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Hickory, shared that he is very grateful for a congregation that is open to new ministries and to the Presbytery for allowing him to share a slice of what they are doing in their church. Hickory, First has begun a third worship service on Sunday nights that is an outreach to homeless people and those seeking a new direction. Half of those attending the service are members of Hickory, First and the other half are seekers. During the summer, Hickory, First offers "Dinner and A Movie." This time of fellowship begins with a meal followed by reviewing movie clips and reflection from a theological aspect. Also, as a part of their outreach, the church sponsors a Soup Kitchen the second Sunday of each month, providing a hot meal for those who have no place to go for a hot meal.

HUNGER COMMITTEE

The Rev. Deborah McEachran, chair of the Hunger Committee, reported on the work of the committee. The Hunger Committee will be presenting Hunger Awareness Training Events within the clusters of the Presbytery during the fall. She encouraged all the churches to attend one of these events and become aware of hunger issues in the world.

Pastor McEachran and the Rev. Wirt Skinner presented a short skit that could also be given to a congregation to make more people aware of hunger issues.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

The Rev. Dr. Kevin Frederick, chair of the Missions Committee, announced that Ginnie Stevens, Associate for Missions, retired March 31, 2008 and acknowledged that the big challenge for the committee is to sustain the work of missions without Ginnie. Remarking that, "Ginnie is a hard act to follow," he urged the congregations to spread their mission giving through the year, rather than waiting until year's end.

Missionaries to Sudan, Del and Debbie Braaksma, will be visiting in Western North Carolina July 24-29, 2008. They will be speaking in various areas of the Presbytery and will be completing their visit with the Presbytery at our July 29 meeting.

Dr. Frederick introduced the Mission Team going to Malawi in May. Assisting with the commissioning of the Malawi Mission Team were Rev. Allen Huff and Rev. James Bernhardt. Pastor Huff charged the team to take with them the love and compassion of the Lord Jesus Christ, and reminded them to remember that each one had been called for this trip, that they were loved, and that the Presbytery would be praying for them as they traveled.

Dr. Frederick shared with the Presbytery that the Rev. Ellen Dozier will be retiring the end of May, 2008, and that the denomination will be searching for someone to replace her. He gave thanks to the 76 churches within this Presbytery for their support through money and prayer for the mission work of our denomination.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS TO SYNOD

The Rev. Dr. James Aydelotte, Stated Clerk, reported on highlights from the March 2008 meeting of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic. He referred the Presbytery to the written reports in their packets from Elder Larry Poe and the Rev. Sue Burton. The reports were accepted with appreciation. (Appendix H)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Elder Richard Graham, chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the following recommendation for Presbytery approval:

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT should there be a vacancy among the commissioners to the 2008 (218th) General Assembly, the Presbytery authorize its Nominating Committee to nominate, and its Coordinating Council to elect, on behalf of Presbytery, a new commissioner.

Following a brief explanation, the recommendation was approved.

Dr. Graham then presented the recommendation of the Rev. Dr. Martin “Luke” Harkey as a commissioner representative to the 218th General Assembly as a replacement for the Rev. David Hosick. Pastor Harkey was duly elected.

Dr. Graham then presented the recommendations for committee vacancies and moved the approval of the Nominating Committee Report. (Appendix I) All were duly elected.

COORDINATING COUNCIL

On behalf of the Coordinating Council, Elder Phil Dammann, presented for approval recommendations 1 through 3. James Aydelotte, Stated Clerk, gave a brief overview of recommendation 1. The recommendations were approved.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. THAT the proposed “Standing Rules,” which will be effective January 1, 2009, be approved. (1st of 2 decisions) (Appendix J)**
(Background: These “Standing Rules,” will replace the old “Organization Manual,” which is out-of-date. This change must be approved at two Presbytery meetings. This is the first reading for approval.)
- 2. THAT the changes in the Terms of Call for the Rev. Dr. James Aydelotte, Stated Clerk, be approved.**
THAT at the request of James Aydelotte, \$2,500 of his housing allowance be reallocated to auto allowance. This request in no way changes the total package received by the Stated Clerk, and this is no additional cost to the Presbytery.

Rev. James Aydelotte
Stated Clerk

Salary	\$16,876
Housing	14,376

Auto Allowance	2,500
FICA	5,166
Medical Reimbursement	4,325
TOTAL	\$43,243

3. **THAT the Presbytery receive the Report of the Administrative Commission for the New Church Development in Conover. (Appendix K)**

Elder Dammann then presented items 4 through 10 of the Coordinating Council Report as information.

FOR INFORMATION:

4. **THAT Ike Kennerly has retired from his work as part-time Interim Associate Presbyter, effective Feb. 29, 2008. Although, he will continue his work as Stated Supply at Etowah. Bobbi White will be looking to find a person(s) to fill that position. Ginnie Stevens retired as Associate for Missions effective March 31, 2008. She will continue to serve the Presbytery as Guatemala Partnership Coordinator.**
5. **THAT the Council approved a recommendation from the Peace and Justice Committee noting that half the work of communication is listening and that time be set aside at some Presbytery Meetings for this important work.**
6. **THAT the Council has endorsed the recommendation of the Conover Administrative Commission, calling Frank and Anne Aichinger as co-organizing pastors/evangelists to the Conover New Church Development and the action of the Committee on Ministry in appointing them to this position. Technically, NCD organizing pastors are employees of Presbytery, because a new church development is not an officially "organized church." The General Assembly has committed \$100,000 over a seven year period to help us fund the Conover New Church Development.**
7. **THAT the Missions Committee was granted permission to sponsor a special event entitled, "Bowling for Burleson," to raise funds for a school building in Nkhoma, Malawi. The event is scheduled for Friday, May 9, 2008 from 6 - 9 p.m. at the AMF Gastonia Lanes in Gastonia.**
8. **THAT the Coordinating Council approved writing a letter of greetings and solidarity to Sur Occidente Presbytery to be delivered by Judy Nebrig when she attends the meeting on April 19, 2008.**
9. **THAT a list of upcoming events of the Presbytery can be found on the back of the Presbytery Docket.**
10. **Attached are current prayer requests. (Appendix L)**

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

On behalf of the Resolution of Thanks Committee, Rev. George Ramsey, presented the following Resolution, which was adopted.

WE rejoice in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the power of the Holy Spirit which have been made manifest in our midst today.

WE give thanks for a Presbytery meeting marked by celebration and testimony.

As Elders, CLPs, DCEs, Ministers of Word and Sacrament and friends gathered in the beautiful cove of Montreat, we were warmly welcomed by the Montreat Presbyterian Church, which is growing in joy and grace, and the Montreat Conference Center, where over 12,000 folks come each year from across the country for growth in discipleship and fellowship.

WE were fed by Word and Sacrament in worship led by the Rev. Pat McClurg from Montreat Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Karen Haak and Mr. Mike Barber from Black Mountain Presbyterian Church.

WE are grateful for the moving testimony from those candidates (Mike Sears, Jason Bryant and Tee Gatewood), CLP's (Dick Hood and Dwayne Durham) and transferring ministers (Anne and Frank Aichinger) who demonstrated their commitment to serve with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love.

WE are grateful to the Moderator, the General Presbyter, the Stated Clerk, the Presbytery Staff, committee chairs and all those who provided leadership for this meeting.

WE celebrate the significant milestones of Christian witness of New Hope, Asheville (25 years), Black Mountain Presbyterian Church (100 years) and First Presbyterian Church, Newton (150 years).

WE celebrate the work and ministry of Grandfather Home for Children, Massanetta Springs, Lees McRae College, Presbyterian Women and the other institutions and agencies that serve our presbytery.

WE celebrate the opportunity to participate in "Let's Celebrate" ~ Side by Side Leadership Training for Adults and Youth on August 9, 2008 in Morganton.

WE celebrate the progress made on strategies for living out our presbytery mission to foster faithful and vital congregations.

WE celebrate what is happening in our churches in new ministries, in hunger and missions, and the commissioning of the mission team to Malawi.

WE celebrate the new church development at Conover and the calling of their new ministers, Anne and Frank Aichinger.

WE celebrate our connection with each other and with presbyterians and other Christians around the world as we participate in the Body of Christ.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

BENEDICTION AND ADJOURNMENT

With the business of the Seventy-Sixth Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina completed and adjournment voted, the Moderator asked Michael Sears to conclude our meeting with prayer at 3:05 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The Seventy-seventh Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Tuesday, July 29, 2008 at the Third Street Presbyterian Church in Gastonia, North Carolina.

These minutes were prepared by the following:

William Kantonen, Moderator

James E. Aydelotte, Stated Clerk

Robbin Buchanan, Assistant Stated Clerk

These minutes to be approved by Presbytery on July 29, 2008 at its meeting at the Third Street Presbyterian Church, Gastonia, NC.

APPENDICES

- A. Omnibus Motion
- B. Membership and Worship Statistics
- C. Annual Report of the Committee on Representation
- D. Minutes of the Ordination of Leila A. Evans
- E. Committee on Ministry
- F. Report of the General Presbyter
- G. Strategic Goals Committee
- H. Reports from Commissioners to Synod
- I. Nominating Committee
- J. Standing Rules of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina
- K. Report of the Administrative Commission for the New Church Development, Conover
- L. Prayer Requests

For a copy of the Appendices, please contact the Presbytery Office.
(828/438-4217 or rbuchanan@presbyterywnc.org)