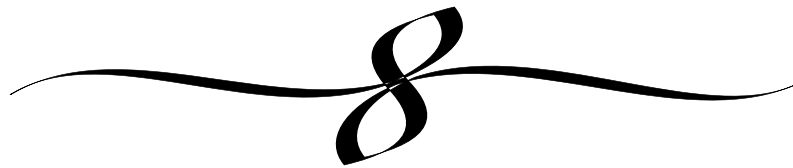


**PRESBYTERY OF
WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA**



**MINUTES
SEVENTY-THIRD
STATED MEETING
JULY 31, 2007**

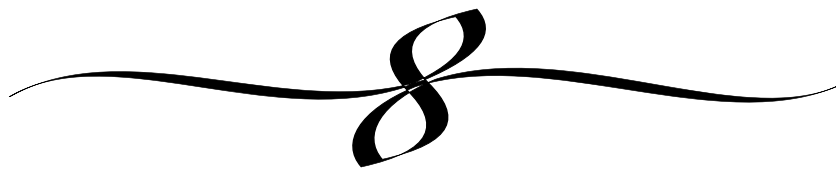


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**The Presbytery of Western North Carolina
Seventy-Third Stated Meeting
July 31, 2007
at Southminster Presbyterian Church, Gastonia, NC**

CONSTITUTION

The Moderator, the Rev. Margaret P. Lauterer, convened with prayer and song, the Seventy-Third Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at 9:05 a.m. in Southminster Presbyterian Church, Gastonia, NC. The meeting was co-hosted by Southminster Presbyterian Church and Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church.

The Rev. Jerry D. Bron, welcomed the Presbytery of Western North Carolina to Southminster Presbyterian Church.

ATTENDANCE

The Stated Clerk, the Rev. Dr. James Aydelotte, declared that a quorum was present.
July 2007

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

Robert M. Abel	P	Wyatt Aiken, Jr.	P	Blan C. Aldridge	E
Charles C. Alexander	E	George W. Alexander	P	State W. Alexander, Jr.	E
Terry Alexander	P	W. Kirk Allen, Jr.	E	David Anderson	E
James G. Arnold	E	Wayne R. Aughinbaugh	E	Stephen M. Austin	A
James Aydelotte	P	Patricia Bacon	E	Michael Bailey	E
Tony Baker	P	Douglas Bartlett	E	J. Edward Bates	E
Teddis Beasley, Jr.	E	Joseph Bennett	P	Stanley Bennett	P
James Bernhardt	P	Carter Blaisdell	E	Buren Blankenship	P
Randall Boggs	P	Ronald Botsford	E	Dewey Bowen	A
Richard Boyce	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	E	Ralph Buchanan	E
William Buchanan	A	Monty Burnham	E	Sue Burton	E
Robert Busey	E	Joey Byrd	E	John Campbell	P
Kathy Campbell	E	William Campbell	P	Day Carper	E
Mary Faith Carson	E	Joel David Cherry	P	Calvin Chesnutt	P
Kenneth Chivers	A	William Christian	P	Carol Clark	P

Mark Clark	P	James Cockerham	P	James Cogswell	E
Joshua Cole	P	Hunter Coleman	E	Robert Collins	E
Priestley Conyers, III	E	Thomas Cook, Jr.	P	Drayton Cooper	E
Donald Cooper	P	Riley Covin	P	John Craven	E
James Crook	E	Curtis Crowther	E	Charles Davenport	P
Eddie Deas	P	Arthur DeJong	E	Charles Donnell	E
Ellen Dozier	E	Philip Dunford	E	Hugh Eichelberger	E
John Ellington	E	Charles Elyea	E	Lee Feero, Jr.	E
David Fillport	E	Ragland Fletcher	E	Kenneth Foreman, Jr.	E
Maynard Fountain, Jr.	E	Kevin Frederick	P	John Frye	P
A. W. Gaines, Jr.	P	Ronald Gilmer	E	Gregory Grana	E
Theodore Grant	P	Robert Gruber	E	George Gunn	P
Samuel Hale	E	Michal Hall	P	Terry Hanna	P
Martin L. Harkey, III	P	Robert Henderson	E	Robert Hewett	E
Fred Hill	E	Robert Hinman	P	Richard Hobson	P
Timothy Holland	E	Richard Holshouser	E	Samuel Hope	P
James Hornsby	E	David Hosick	P	William Hoyt, III	E
Allen Huff, Jr.	P	James Huskins	P	George Hutchins	E
Donald Jafvert	E	William Janes	E	William Jennings	P
Cecil Jividen	E	Wallace Johnson	P	Rufus M. Johnston, IV	A
Dong Uk Kang	A	David Kennedy	E	Ira Kennerly	P
Paul Kercher	E	Jeff Kesterson	E	William Kirk	E
Albert Kissling	E	Earl Kreisa	E	Lee Kruse	A
Gale Lammey	E	John LaMotte	P	John Laughlin	E
Margaret Lauterer	P	Ernest Lewis	E	Wendell Ligon	P
John Lindsay	P	Eugene Linton, Jr.	E	Brad Long	A
Laura Long	P	Dick Lonnee	P	Edward Loper	A
Pressly Love	E	Billy Lowe	P	David Lytle	P
Joan Martin	P	Roberta Martin	E	Robert Martin, Jr.	E
Tyler Martin	E	Griffith Matthews	E	Layton Mauze, III	E

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

Samuel Warner	P	Morris Warren	E	Joseph Washburn	P
William Waterstradt	A	Mark Watson	P	George Webb	E
Lynn Webber	P	Barbara White	P	Alan Wildsmith	P
James Wilken	A	Cynthia Williams	P	Lamar Williamson, Jr.	P
Parker Williamson	E	John C. Wilson	E	Otis Wilson, Jr.	P
Claude Wilson-Stayton	P	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	Leila Evans	P
Robert Garrison	P	Joe Gernoske	P	Richard Hood	P
Joe Morin	P	Randy Patterson	A	Betty Shaw	P
Bert Sigmon	P	Robert Simes	A	Dennis Stamper	A
John Stanley	A	Bert Wiley	P		

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

Mike Begley	A	Beth Bolin	A	Kathryn Brinkley	P
Arthur Burgess	P	Patricia Clark	P	Willard Cottrell	A
Philip Dammann	P	Richard Graham	P	Sally Gunn	P
Jane Holt	A	William Kantonen	P	Charlita Lytle	A
David Moore	P	Lalla Overby	A	Barbara Phillips	P
Larry Poe	P	Jack Suddreth	P	Sarah Thornburg	A
J. D. Waldrop	P	Judith West	P	Carolyn White	P

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

Donna Ashley	P	Mary V. Atkinson	A	Glenn Bannerman	A
Freida Caldwell	A	Robert Clemmer	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	Margaret Kennerly	A	Leslie McLeod	P

Kathy Parse	P	Mary Potter	A	Heath Rada	A
Peggy Rada	A	Bonnie Sanford	P	Ginny Soll	A
Patricia Tuttle	A	Robert Tuttle	A		

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

Arbor Dale (2)	Mary Archer Vann	Nancy Alexander
Asheville First (3)	John Jackson	
Banner Elk (2)	Donna Dicks	Debi Tornow
Belmont First (3)	Wayne Coggins	Jerry Ragan
	Porter Rhoton	
Bessemer City First (2)	Steve Dameron	
Bethel (2)	Marion Phillips	
Black Mountain (3)	Anne Lindsay	
Brevard-Davidson River (3)	A	
Bridgewater (2)	A	
Brittain (2)	Edward Taylor	Edward Norris
Brittains Cove (2)	A	
Bryson City (2)	Lois Groth	Karen Ledford
Buladean (2)	A	
Burnsville First (2)	Robert McFerren	Pat Skinner
Calvary (3)	E	
Canton (2)	Ronald Stockton	
Cherryville First (2)	Roy Daggerhart	Norman Ryan
Clinchfield (2)	A	
Columbus (2)	Carl Rosenblad	
Conley Memorial (2)	John Childers	

Crossnore (2)	Barbara Ross	
Cullowhee (2)	A	
Dallas First (2)	Ned Denton	Nina Greene
Dixon (2)	A	
Dorland Memorial (2)	Emma Kate Davis	
Dulatown (3)	Gary Norwood	Elmer Dula
Duncan's Creek (2)	Beth Gettys	Jewel Greene
Ellenboro (1)	E	
Estatoa (1)	A	
Etowah (1)	Wanda Cook	
Fairview (1)	E	
Fletcher (1)	Roger Wise	
Forest City First (1)	Gene Stark	
Franklin First (1)	Nancy Parcels	
Gastonia First (3)	David Rogers	Barbara Voorhees
	Bob Blake	
Glen Alpine (1)	A	
Good Hope (2)	Allene Sellars	James Tate
Grace Covenant (2)	Susie Churchfield	Charlie Clogston
Grassy Creek (1)	A	
Green Mountain (1)	A	
Green Street (2)	A	
Hayesville (1)	A	
Hendersonville First (2)	Doug Davidson	Mimi Jamieson
Hickory First (2)	Linda Ellis	Christy Taylor
Highlands First (1)	Bob Tietze	
Ironton (1)	Peggy Bartholomew	
Jack's Creek (1)	A	
John Knox (1)	Dale McMurray	

Kenilworth (1)	Bob Craddock	
Kings Mountain First (1)	A	
Korean Presbyterian Church of Asheville (2)	A	
Lenoir First (1)	Linda Morgan	
Lincolnton First (1)	Judy Arrowood	
Long Creek (1)	Mary Lingerfeldt	
Love's Chapel (2)	A	
Lowell (1)	Anne Massey	
Marion First (1)	A	
Marshall (1)	A	
Micaville (1)	Ruth Peake	
Mills River (1)	A	
Montreat (1)	Kay Layman	
Morganton First (2)	Sylvia McBane	Elsie Barlett
Morrison (1)	Linda Ligon	
Mount Holly First (1)	Jim Guin	
Murphy (1)	Linda Sandidge	
New Hope, Asheville (1)	Bill Fesperman	
New Hope, Gastonia (1)	James Holler	
Newdale (1)	A	
Newland (1)	Tommy Williams	
Newton First (2)	Karen McDougal	
Northminster (1)	Edward McFadden	
Oak Forest (1)	A	
Oakwood (1)	A	
Old Fort (1)	A	
Olney (1)	Phyllis Hallman	
Paint Gap (1)	A	
Pine Street (2)	A	
Pineola (1)	A	

Quaker Meadows (1)	Lelia Bruder	
Reems Creek-Beech (1)	Elizabeth Barbee	
Riceville (1)	Joan Wilson	
Ridgeview (1)	Wayne Tipton	
Robinson Memorial (1)	Betty Blume	
Rutherfordton (1)	Lorna Putnam	
Ryburn Memorial (2)	A	
Saluda (1)	Barbara Witherspoon	
Shelby (2)	Jessi Ogburn	
Sherrill's Ford (1)	Jennifer White	
Shiloh, Grover (1)	Patsy Rountree	
Siloam (1)	A	
Southminster (2)	Dan Weiss	
Spindale (1)	E	
Spruce Pine First (1)	A	
Swannanoa First (1)	Lynn Holman	
Sweetwater (1)	Elsie Combs	
Sylva First (1)	Judy McManus	
Third Street (2)	Stephen Werts	N. A. Smith
Trinity (1)	A	
Tryon (1)	A	
Union (1)	Martha Simmons	
Union Mills (1)	Elizabeth Hendrix	
United (1)	John Muldoon	
Unity (1)	A	
Vians Valley (1)	A	
Waldensian (2)	Wes Garrou	David Fletcher
Walnut (1)	A	
Walnut Grove (1)	A	
Warren Wilson (1)	Gay Currie Fox	
Waynesville First (1)	Beth Galloway	

West Asheville (1)	Karen Hawkins	
West Avenue (1)	Charles Sellers	
Westminster (1)	Dave Craig	

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

Ministers	102
Elders	92
Christian Educators	7
Council/Committee Chairs	14
Visitors	<u>56</u>
Total	271

Corresponding member(s): The Rev. Meg Peery McLaughlin, Presbytery of Heartland; the Rev. Robert Cumming, Presbytery of New Castle; The Rev. Art Lindsay, Presbytery of Charleston-Atlantic; Helen Locklear, Board of Pensions; and Elder Tom Patterson, General Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church.

It was moved that these persons be approved as corresponding members. Motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF DOCKET

Stated Clerk Aydelotte moved the proposed docket without any change. The docket was approved.

8:30	Registration		
	Prayer before Presbytery	(Parlor)	Bert Wiley
	Orientation for New Elders	(Classroom 7)	Charles Davenport
		(Educational Wing)	
9:00	Convene with Prayer of Invocation		Margaret P. Lauterer, Moderator
	Welcome		Jerry Bron, Pastor
			Southminster Presbyterian Church
	Certification of Quorum		James Aydelotte
	<i>(Introduction of any Corresponding Members)</i>		
	Approval of Docket		James Aydelotte
	Appointment of Standing Committee		Margaret P. Lauterer
	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
9:30	Service of Worship	Jerry Bron	
	<i>(Including the Celebration of the Lord's Supper)</i>	John Stanley	

10:15	Division of Outreach		P
	Missions Committee <i>(Got Mission?)</i>	Kevin Frederick	
	Peace & Justice <i>(Peacemaking Offering, "Movie Series")</i>	Judith West	
	Christian Education <i>(Let's Celebrate ~ All Together Now)</i>	Kathy Parse	
	Nominating Committee (10 min) <i>(Election of members for Presbytery committees and Commissioners to General Assembly)</i>	Dick Graham	I
	Report of the General Presbyter	Bobbi White	GP
10:50	Strategic Goals Committee <i>(Mission/Vision Statement)</i>	David Hosick	H
	Coordinating Council <i>(Approval of Interim Associates)</i>	Jim Cockerham	C
	Committee on Preparation for Ministry <i>(Recommendation of inquirer for candidacy to ministry)</i>	Michael Poulos	K
	Greetings from Colleagues Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church William Black Lodge Board of Pensions	Tom Patterson, ARP Moderator Sue Cox, Director Helen Locklear, Regional Representative	
11:50	Prayers of Intercession <i>(Please submit requested prayers of intercession to the Stated Clerk's table before 11:00 a.m.)</i>	Moderator	
12:00	Lunch (Gym)		
1:15	Reconvene		
	Committee on Ministry - Part I <i>(Introduction of new members, report of the work of the committee, including the Examinations Committee, Candidate Sermon)</i>	Don Scofield Luke Harkey	D
1:45	Care of Church Professionals <i>(Recognition of ministers with 25 and 50 years in ministry, ministers retiring)</i>	Leila Evans	
	<u>Honorably Retired</u> <i>Samuel W. Hale</i> <i>Michal H. Hall</i> <i>Jay K. Rabuck</i>	<u>50 Years in Ministry</u> <i>Charles D. Elyea</i> <i>William M. Janes</i> <i>John H. LaMotte</i> <i>John C. Laughlin</i> <i>Wilson P. Rhoton, Jr.</i> <i>Homer T. Rickabaugh</i> <i>Eugene D. Witherspoon</i> <i>D. Richard Hobson</i>	
	<u>25 Years in Ministry</u> <i>Sue Burton</i>		

School for the Laity/Commissioned Lay Pastors

(Recognition of SL/CLP Graduates)

Joe Gernoske

OO

*Linda Amos
Jo Ella Bennett
Tim Clippard
Rob Ledbetter*

*Tom Rogers
Ken Unnasch
Sue Unnasch*

Small Church Division

(Good Things Happening)

Joel Cherry

2:20 Committee on Ministry - Part II

(Request from the Murphy Presbyterian Church)

Don Scofield

D

Resolution of Thanks

Benediction and Adjournment

Moderator

APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Moderator Lauterer appointed the following committees:

- **Resolution of Thanks:** The Rev. Bart Shaw, retired and Elder Gary Amos, Fairview Presbyterian Church.
- **Tellers:** Members of Southminster Presbyterian Church, Judy Long, Linda Bron, Joanne Mitchell and Cindy Withers.
- **Time Keepers:** Scott Mason, Southminster and Debbie Keller, Southminster.

OMNIBUS MOTION

Stated Clerk Aydelotte explained the rules for the Omnibus Motion and then moved that all items and its addendum be approved. It was duly seconded. (Appendix A) The Presbytery approved all items in this motion. Items included in this motion are marked by “OM” in the margin.

STATED CLERK’S REPORT

Dr. Aydelotte stated that recommendations 1, 2, and 3 had previously been approved in the Omnibus Motion. He then presented recommendations 4 and 5. Each motion was seconded and approved. He referred to items 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 from the report to Presbytery as information.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

OM	1. THAT the minutes of the April 24, 2007 Stated Meeting of Presbytery be approved as submitted.
OM	2. THAT James Aydelotte, Margaret Lauterer and Robbin Buchanan be requested to prepare the minutes of this Presbytery meeting for approval at the October 24-25, 2007 Presbytery meeting.
OM	3. THAT the minutes of the ordination and/or installation of the following be placed into the record of Presbytery: Tony Baker Terry Alexander Eddie Deas
	4. THAT the past membership roster of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina Permanent Judicial Commission, as stated in BO D-5.0206, be reported and become a part of the permanent record of Presbytery. (Appendix B)

- 5. THAT the Committee on Representation, having met and completing their annual report on Saturday, May 5, 2007 and submitting it to the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic requests that it become a part of the permanent record of Presbytery. (Appendix C)**

FOR INFORMATION:

- 6. The seventy-fourth stated meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Friday and Saturday, October 26-27, 2007, at Lake Junaluska Conference Center in Lake Junaluska, NC.**
- 7. A Leadership Training Event for Adults and Youth, "Let's Celebrate! ~ All Together Now," will be held on Saturday, August 18, 2007, at the First Presbyterian Church, Morganton.**
- 8. The following Session Records for 2006 were submitted and approved on Saturday, May 5, 2007, at a Session Record Review, held at Shelby Presbyterian Church:**
- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Banner Elk | Lincolnton, First | Southminster |
| Belmont, First | Long Creek | Spindale |
| Bessemer City, First | Marion, First | Sweetwater |
| Brittain | Marshall | Swannanoa, First |
| Cherryville, First | Newton, First | Third Street |
| Columbus | Olney | Union |
| Dallas, First | Paint Gap | Union Mills |
| Duncan's Creek | Rutherfordton | Unity |
| Forest City, First | Ryburn Memorial | Waldensian |
| Gastonia, First | Saluda | West Avenue |
| Ironton | Shelby | |
| John Knox | Sherrills Ford | |
| Kings Mountain, First | Siloam | |
- 9. The following Session Records for 2006 were submitted and approved on Saturday, July 21, 2007, at a Session Record Review, held at First Presbyterian Church, Morganton.**
- | | | |
|--------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Dixon | Kenilworth | Robinson Memorial |
| Good Hope | New Hope, Gastonia | Shiloh, Grover |
| Green Street | Pineola | Tryon |
| Jack's Creek | | |
- 10. The following Session Records for 2006 have not been reviewed and are delinquent in meeting the requirements of the *Book of Order* (G-9.0407.d).**
- | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Bridgewater | Green Mountain | New Hope, Asheville |
| Brittains Cove | Korean Pres Church | Oakwood |
| Buladean | Love's Chapel | Old Fort |
| Ellenboro | Lowell | Pine Street |
| Estatoa | Mills River | Ridgeview |
| Glen Alpine | Montreat | Vians Valley |
- 11. The 2005 and 2006 Minutes of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina were approved by the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic at the 219th Stated Meeting of the Synod on July 24-25, 2007.**

- 12. At the April 24, 2007 Presbytery Meeting, the Stated Clerk reported that an Investigating Committee had been appointed by the Committee on Ministry and he now reports that that committee has completed its work and has been dissolved.**

SERVICE OF WORSHIP, INCLUDING THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Rev. Jerry Bron, Pastor at Southminster Presbyterian Church and John Stanley Commissioned Lay Pastor at Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church and Southminster's musicians, led the service of worship.

In Pastor Bron's sermon, "Why I Could Not Find a Title for My Sermon," he challenged presbyters by suggesting ways to grow or not grow our churches. He showed us how too often we mean the former but do the latter.

The Rev. Jerry Bron and CLP John Stanley, led the congregation in the celebration of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. They were assisted by elders from Southminster Presbyterian Church and Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Kevin Frederick, Chair of the Missions Committee, asked "Got Mission?" "Got Mission" is a campaign to have every congregation in Presbytery directly linked in support of at least one (PC(USA) missionary by the end of the year 2007. He reported that there are 48 churches supporting missionaries within our Presbytery indicating that we are at 50% of our goal. The goal is nothing less than 100 % by the October 2007 Presbytery Meeting. He encouraged all churches to put mission into their 2008 budget.

Dr. Frederick encouraged everyone to be in prayer for: (1) David Honeycutt, member of Sweetwater Presbyterian Church, who was diagnosed with a rare blood disease and to give the gift of life by donating blood in his honor; (2) Frank and Nancy Dimmock, our missionaries in Africa, who while on home assignment had all of their personal possessions stolen from a storage container; (3) Dr. Barbara Nagy, our missionary in Malawi, that all necessary adoption paperwork for "Happy," a Malawian toddler that Barbara is adopting, move along quickly; and (4) for Becca Young, our missionary to Indonesia as she leaves to begin her academic year at seminary and her continued need to raise additional funds for her assignment.

PEACE AND JUSTICE

Elder Judith West, Chair of the Peace and Justice Committee, thanked the Presbytery for securing housing so that 16 members from this Presbytery could attend a Peace Conference held early in the month. She encouraged all churches to participate in the 2007 Peacemaking Offering on October 7, 2007. The Presbytery was informed that a portion of the offering will go to Camp Grier to support a portion of the Global Village and the other portion of Presbytery's share will go to a faith based support system in North Carolina.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Elder Kathy Parse, Chair of the Christian Education Committee, promoted the "Let's Celebrate" educational training event for August 18 through a skit by the Task Force. Kathy encouraged everyone to register and attend this event. The Christian Education Committee will be holding its annual retreat for Christian Educators at the William Black Lodge in January 2008.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Elder Dick Graham, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the recommendations for committee vacancies and then moved the approval of the Nominating Committee Report. (Appendix D) All were duly elected.

Dr. Graham then presented the recommendations for commissioner representatives to the 2008 General Assembly and moved the approval. All were duly elected. Commissioners to the 2008 General Assembly in San Jose, CA will be the Revs. David Hosick, Maggie Lauterer, and Laura Long and Elders Kathy Parse, Lois Camp and J. D. Waldrop.

Following the approval of Nominating Committee recommendations, Elder Graham made a plea from all commissioners in attendance to take the time to complete a form from the committee requesting names of volunteers to serve on Presbytery committees.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL PRESBYTER

The Rev. Bobbi White, General Presbyter, reflected on what God is calling us to do, goals to improve communications within the Presbytery and ways to partner with churches to help them grow into faithful and vital churches. She praised churches within our Presbytery for their working together in mission, education and fund-raising. (Appendix E)

STRATEGIC GOALS

The Rev. David Hosick, Chair of the Strategic Goals Committee, called attention to the Mission/Vision Statement of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina that had been adopted by the Presbytery. He then asked how our churches define their mission and whether their statement is congruent with the mission/vision statement of the Presbytery? Following a power point presentation of a collection of Mission Statements from our churches, commissioners were asked to take four questions back to their sessions and be prepared to discuss these questions at the October Presbytery Meeting on October 26-27, 2007 at Lake Junaluska.

COORDINATING COUNCIL

The Rev. Jim Cockerham, Moderator of Coordinating Council, presented for adoption the following recommendations stating that recommendation 1 had previously been approved. He then asked for a motion that the remaining recommendations 2 through 8 be acted upon one at a time. Motion was made and approved.

- OM
- 1. THAT the Presbytery concur with the Coordinating Council in the election of Elder Larry Poe as the Synod Representative for the Presbytery.** (Background: The two Presbytery elected elders could not attend the meeting as scheduled. Since the Synod meeting in July was to be so critical and the meeting would be before another scheduled Presbytery meeting, the Coordinating Council elected Larry Poe, who as a member of the Synod Council had to be there anyway.)
 - 2. THAT the Presbytery approve the Covenant with the Presbyterian Hunger Program, including the support for the Hunger Action Enabler position.** (Background: This is the annual renewal with the General Assembly Hunger Program which helps fund the work of the Hunger Action Enabler, which is a part of the Associate Presbyter for Missions' responsibility.)

3. **THAT the Presbytery grant permission to the Hunger Committee to use up to the full 5% of the Nickel a Meal funds designated for administrative use in 2007 for regional grants.**
4. **THAT the Presbytery of Western North Carolina concur with the hiring of the Rev. Dr. Charles Davenport, as Interim Associate Presbyter (10 hours per week) and Dr. Robert Garrison, CLP, as Interim Associate Presbyter (19 hours per week). (Both interim positions had an effective start date of July 1, 2007.)**
5. **THAT the Presbytery grant to the Chair of Coordinating Council, the Chair of the Committee on Ministry, the Division Chairs, the General Presbyter and the Stated Clerk flexibility in meeting the many requirements of the current Organizational Manual for one year. During this time, a Task Force appointed by the Coordinating Council will be reviewing the manual and making recommendations for revisions. This flexibility shall stay within the intent and spirit of the current manual.**

6. **THAT the following names be elected to serve on the Nominating Committee:**
(4 vacancies for the class of 2010. In order to balance clergy and lay representation, the committee needs 2 ministers and 2 lay persons from clusters B, C, D (2), and F.)

Mr. Carl Rosenblad (Columbus)	(C)	Class of 2010
Mrs. Martha Rockett (Gastonia, First)	(D)	Class of 2010
Mrs. Mary Aiken (Morganton, First)	(E)	Class of 2010

(1 vacancy remains for the class of 2010. In order to balance clergy and lay representation, the committee needs 1 minister.)

7. **THAT permission be granted to the North Carolina Presbyterian Pilgrimage to celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper at the Pilgrimage Weekend #79 at Camp Harrison, NC. This will be administered by Presbyterian ministers for the Presbytery of WNC and surrounding Presbyteries.**
8. **THAT the Presbytery of Western North Carolina approve the following special arrangements at this meeting for the discussion and action on the request of the Murphy Presbyterian Church for dismissal:**

- A. The entire process will last not more than two hours.
- B. Only commissioners may speak (see below for Presbytery's policy on commissioners).
- C. There will be no photography, audio or video taping.
- D. The process will follow this format:

<u>Minutes</u>	<u>Topic</u>
15	Committee on Ministry Presentation
10	Murphy Presbyterian Church Response
20	General Discussion (No Motions)
15	Further Discussion (Motions Allowed)

PRAYER AND FIRST VOTE

(other business may be transacted at this time)

<u>Minutes</u>	<u>Topic</u>
15	Committee on Ministry Explanation

10	Murphy Presbyterian Church Response
20	General Discussion (No Motions)
15	Further Discussion (Motions Allowed)

PRAYER AND SECOND VOTE

- E. Commissioners may speak only once during each General Discussion (for a maximum of two minutes), and only once during each Further Discussion (for a maximum of one minute). *Individual commissioners are kindly requested to refrain from speaking too often.*
- F. There will be written ballots for each of the two main motions (dismissal & property). Other voting will, at the discretion of the Moderator, be either by voice or by standing (with counting as necessary).

9. THAT the Presbytery postpone action on the Task Force recommendation for the Murphy Presbyterian Church until further work can be done on Presbytery's disposition of the property and the potential for PC(USA) new church development in Murphy, with the expectation of a report at the October 2007 (or at latest, the January 2008) meeting of Presbytery.

Background: Coordinating Council commends the Task Force on fulfilling its assignment with a focus on peace and reconciliation. It truly appreciates the hours of diligent work involved and the prayerful consideration given to develop a recommendation for handling a church's request to withdraw from our denomination. However, the Council feels that it is important to have more information about the value and condition of the Murphy Church property before accepting a recommendation that it be passed to the church members wishing to join another denomination.

The *Book of Order* states in G-8.0301 "Whenever property ... ceases to be used by that church as a particular church of the Presbyterian Church (USA)...such property shall be held, used, applied, transferred, or sold as provided by the presbytery." The Council heard that funds for any large settlement for the property was not available from the small group which would move to the EPC. They also heard that there probably would be considerable capital expenses for needed repairs which Presbytery would face if it retained the property for a continuing church in the PC(USA). However, Council felt that the Task Force was at a disadvantage without having access to an appraisal of the Murphy Church property. The true value of the land and building were not available to the Task Force. It was noted that Presbytery invested approximately \$5000 a year, over 7 years, (\$35,000) a decade ago, to assist the Murphy Church in operations and that payment to Presbytery of \$2000 a year over the next 5 years (\$10,000) could not be justified when one considers the probable value of the property and the relatively recent investment in the church.

In all likelihood, in 2007, the remnant of the Murphy Presbyterian Church which proposes to join the EPC cannot afford to buy their current property from PWNC. However, it is possible and even likely that PWNC may wish now or in future years to focus on new church development in the Murphy area. Like several other locations in North Carolina, Murphy offers opportunity for baby boomers and others to invest in attractive mountain land for residential development. As the population grows and changes, it may become incumbent on the PWNC to provide funds for another church. If that need develops, the present church property or funds from the present church property

may be necessary. Without additional information, the Coordinating Council could not vote to recommend the Task Force report to Presbytery and expect that we are fulfilling our responsibility to uphold the *Book of Order's* requirement that church property be "held in trust ...for the use and benefit of the Presbyterian Church (USA)." (BO G.8.0201)

"Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. Acts 4:32-33 NRSV

***PRESBYTERY'S POLICY ON COMMISSIONERS**

1. **BO G-11.0100 (a)** When a presbytery meets, each church shall be represented by an elder commissioned by the session with the following additional provisions:
 Churches with membership over 500 shall be represented as follows:
 501-1000 - 2 elders 1001-1500 - 3 elders 1501-2000 - 4 elders
THAT the disparity in numbers between elder and minister commissioners be corrected in the following manner:
2. Each racial ethnic congregation is asked to elect two (2) commissioners.
3. All elders who were elected by the Presbytery to serve as committee or division chairs or be on Council have voice and vote.
4. All Christian Educators who are elders have voice and vote.
5. All Commissioned Lay Pastors have voice and vote.
6. That elder commissioners to General Assembly have voice and vote for a period of two years beginning with the date of the Assembly they attended.
7. That the following churches (Churches A-D) be requested to send one additional elder commissioner for the year 2007. (In 2004, Churches E-L were given this responsibility, in 2005, Churches M-R and in 2006, Churches S-Z.)

Arbor Dale	Bridgewater	Columbus
Armstrong Memorial	Brittain	Conley Memorial
Asheville, First	Bryson City	Crossnore
Banner Elk	Buladean	Culowhee
Belmont, First	Burnsville, First	Dallas, First
Bessemer City, First	Calvary	Dixon
Bethel	Canton	Dorland Memorial
Black Mountain	Cherryville, First	Dulatown
Brevard-Davidson River	Clinchfield	Duncan's Creek

FOR INFORMATION:

10. THAT the Coordinating Council reports approval of the following Nickel A Meal Grants:

Angel Food Y.U.M.M. – Valdese, NC	\$3,000
Food Distribution Group – Newland, NC	\$4,500
Loving Food Resources – Asheville, NC	\$2,500
Clay County Food Pantry – Hayesville, NC	\$3,000
The Community Kitchen – Canton, NC	\$5,000

11. THAT the Coordinating Council reports approval for the General Presbyter, Bobbi White, if needed, to take up to \$10,000 from Presbytery Reserves for staffing needs for 2007.

12. **THAT the Coordinating Council reports the hiring of Lisa Pressley, effective June 4, 2007, as Accountant/Technology Coordinator for the Presbytery of WNC.**
13. **THAT the Coordinating Council reports approval of the revised position description of the Stated Clerk, as approved by the Personnel Committee. (Copy available upon request.)**

Items 2 through 8 were approved as recommended with item 9 to be considered with the Committee on Ministry report. Items 10 through 13 were reported to Presbytery for information.

PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

On behalf of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, the Rev. Dr. Bill Lowe recommended the following,

RECOMMENDATION:

- | |
|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">I. THAT Robert S. Moore, a member of the Green Mountain Presbyterian Church, and a student at Union-PSCE in Richmond, be enrolled as a candidate following the required examination by Presbytery. |
|---|

After candidate Robert S. Moore shared his faith journey and his call to the ministry, Moderator Lauterer opened the floor for questions. Following additional sharings and there being no further questions for the candidate, the Presbytery approved the enrollment of Robert Moore as a candidate. The Moderator then asked the questions in the Book of Order, G-14.0305f, which were answered affirmatively. The Rev. Bobbi White charged Mr. Moore and Robert Moore, Sr., offered prayer. Those who had come in support of Mr. Moore were invited to come forward and share in the prayers.

GREETINGS FROM COLLEAGUES

Elder Tom Patterson a member of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church and former Moderator of its General Synod brought greetings from the APR General Synod. Mr. Patterson explained the history of the ARP and how they had grown over the past 20 years stating that they have approximately 40,000 members and 10 presbyteries. They are still heavily concentrated in the south and southeast. Stated Clerk Aydelotte informed Presbytery that the ARP denomination was in the process of buying that property of the former Hephzipah Church, so that there will once again be a Presbyterian congregation there.

Elder Sue Cox, Director of William Black Lodge, extended greetings from the lodge in Montreat and encouraged everyone to visit the lodge. The lodge, founded in 1915 as the North Carolina Home for Religious Workers and Christian Educators, still provides service for all religious workers.

Helen Locklear, Regional Representative of the Board of Pension, brought greetings from the Board of Pensions and assured everyone that the pension plan is very secure. She shared updates about the Board of Pensions changes that will be occurring with the plans.

LUNCH

Moderator Lauterer offered intercessory prayers and thanks for our break for nourishment.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

The Rev. Dr. Don Scofield, Chair of the Committee on Ministry, reported on the actions taken by the Committee on Ministry on behalf of the Presbytery. (Appendix F) Recommendations II.A.2, II.B.2, II.C.2, II.D.2, III. A.2 were earlier approved in the Omnibus Motion. (Appendix A) He recognized Pastors Robert Ratchford and Kenneth Chivers, both of whom are moving to new Presbyteries, thanking them for their ministries in our Presbytery and praying God's blessing on them in their future service in the Church.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

On behalf of the Examinations Committee and the Committee on Ministry, the Rev. Dr. Luke Harkey, co-moderator of the Examinations Committee, introduced the following new ministers in the Presbytery. Each answered questions and signed the Book of Obligations. (i.e. their ordination vows) Their statements of faith and biographical statements were included in the report of the Committee on Ministry. (Appendix F)

Terry Alexander, Newland Presbyterian Church
Eddie Deas, Third Street Presbyterian Church
Ira K. Kennerly, Member-At-Large
Calvin Chesnutt, Honorably Retired
Sam Hope, Honorably Retired
Hank Scoggins, Reems Creek-Beech
John Frye, First Presbyterian Church, Gastonia

Dr. Luke Harkey introduced Adam Bowling, Associate Pastor-elect of the First Presbyterian Church, Morganton, coming to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina from the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia. Mr Bowling's sermon entitled, "Join the Party," was based on the scripture Genesis 33:1-11 and Luke 15:11-32. Following the preaching of his sermon and answering questions, Dr. Harkey moved, on behalf of the Committee on Ministry, that his sermon be approved and that he be ordained by the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia. The motion passed and Dr. Harkey offered prayer. The Rev. Dr. Bill Lowe presented Adam Bowling with a Guatemalan stole on behalf of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry as a welcome to this Presbytery.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY MURPHY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH REQUEST FOR DISMISSAL

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry, Dr. Scofield presented this recommendation to the Presbytery:

- A. That the Murphy Congregation be reluctantly and with sadness dismissed to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church with the blessing of this Presbytery;
- B. That the Stated Clerk of this Presbytery contact every known member of the Murphy Congregation and give them an opportunity to choose between being transferred to the EPC or remaining in the PCUSA (or be transferred to a congregation in another denomination recognized by the PCUSA);
- C. That the Murphy Congregation, in honor of the trust obligations in BO:G-8.0201, be permitted to buy all its property for \$10,000 payable at \$2,000 a year for five years, without interest; and that this Presbytery shall use that money to support its mission initiative;
- D. That the Murphy Congregation not be officially dismissed until the above provisions for membership have been completed and a covenant for the property has been executed.

On behalf of the Coordinating Council, chairman Jim Cockerham moved Recommendation 9 from the Coordinating Council Report. After considerable discussion, and some related motions, this motion to postpone was defeated: 51 for, 96 against.

Items A and B (and the first part of item D) above were eventually approved: 130 for, 20 against. Item C (and the second part of D) above was later approved: 95 for, 53 against.

It was then moved, seconded and passed that an item E be added: "That this decision shall not be cited as a precedent for any future action of Presbytery since such decisions need to be made on a case-by-case basis."

The Rev. Eddie Deas moved that the Presbytery adopt the following, which was duly seconded"

"That in the future, should there be any recommendation concerning the dismissal of a congregation with its property, an appraisal of the property in question be obtained prior to the Presbytery's consideration of that recommendation."

Presbytery adopted this motion.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY VALIDATION OF MINISTRIES

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

- David Lytle, Chaplain At Presbyterian Healthcare, through April 24, 2008
- Joey T. Byrd, Chaplain, U.S. Army, through April 24, 2008
- Kathleen Campbell, Chaplian at Lees McRae College, through April 24, 2008
- Lynn Michie, Chaplain at WNC Women's Correctional Center, through April 24, 2008
- Donaldson Woods, Missionary to Mongolia, through April 24, 2008
- O'Hyun Park, part-time instructor in religion at Applachian State University, through April 24, 2008
- John T. Campbell, Pastoral Counselor for Eastatoe Trail Counseling and Consultation, LLC, through April 24, 2008
- Robert A. McCully, Jr., Counselor at the Charlotte Rescue Mission, through July 31, 2008
- James "Skip" W. Taylor, Jr. Seminar Instructor for Life Change Seminars, through July 31, 2008
- Rufus "Mike" Johnston, IV, as Director of Spiritual Care at Gaston Memorial Hospital, through July 31, 2008
- Monty B. Burnham, Executive Ministries, Campus Crusade for Christ, through July 31, 2008
- Joseph D. Bennett, Chaplain for Hospice of Yancey County, through July 31, 2008

Action on the ministry of Steven G. P. Stickler was deferred to the next meeting of Presbytery.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS

Chairman Scofield moved that Presbytery adopt the following decision, which was passed.

The Presbytery agrees that, it a congregation pursues the "Guidelines for Congregations Considering a Request to Presbytery to be Dismissed," but fails to obtain a 75% vote in the second congregational meeting, an administrative commission shall be immediately appointed by the chair of the Coordinating Council, the chair of the Committee on Ministry and the General Presbyter, acting together pursuant to *BO: G-9.0503-5*, to attempt to bring pastoral healing to that congregation on the understanding that this commission may, if it deems it best for the peace of this part of

Christ's Church, assume original jurisdiction pursuant to *BO: G-11.0101.s*, with whatever responsibilities and powers of the Session (*BO: G-10.0102*) it deems appropriate.

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
MARION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Committee on Ministry Chair Scofield called the attention of Presbytery to a special Notice concerning the Marion Presbyterian Church (Appendix G) The Presbytery thereupon endorsed the actions listed in the Notice, which included the creation of an administrative commission to "inquire into and settle the difficulties" in the Marion congregation, working always for reconciliation within Christ's Church.

CARE OF CHURCH PROFESSIONALS

CLP Leila Evans, Chair of the Care of Church Professionals Committee, encouraged pastors and educators who have not attended the Pastor's Institute program to sign-up. Also they were encouraged to attend the annual event, Journey to Bethlehem, on October 1-2, 2007, which gives pastors and educators an opportunity to be spiritually refreshed and prepare for Advent.

Ms. Evans then led a short service recognizing and honoring the ministries of Samuel W. Hale, Michal H. Hall, and Jay K. Raybuck on the occasion of their retirement.

The following ministers were also recognized for their service as ministers for 25 and 50 years.

<u>25 Years in Ministry</u>	<u>50 Years in Ministry</u>	
Sue Burton	Charles D. Elyea Richard Hobson William M. Janes John H. LaMotte	John C. Laughlin Wilson P. Rhoton, Jr. Homer T. Rickabaugh Eugene D. Witherspoon

SCHOOL FOR THE LAITY/COMMISSION LAY PASTORS

Dean of the SL/CLP, Joe Gernoske, reported on the SL/CLP program and the enthusiastic endorsement of the program by all who have attended. He then recognized the 2007 graduates. (Appendix H)

Linda Amos, Fairview	Tom Rogers, Lincolnton, First
Jo Ella Bennet, Black Mountain	Ken Unnasch, Long Creek
Tim Clippard, Mount Holly, First	Sue Unnasch, Long Creek
Rob Ledbetter, Charlotte Pres.	

Robert Garrison, Interim Associate Presbyter, presented a letter of appreciation and thank you to Joe Gernoske for his dedication and service as Dean of the School for the Laity/Commissioned Lay Pastor Program.

SMALL CHURCH

The Rev. Joel Cherry, co-chair of the Division of Small Membership Churches, reported on highlights of several small churches and the struggles and rejoicings of small churches in our Presbytery. He stated that the small churches in our Presbytery are connected to one another and are doing the work of the Lord. The First Presbyterian Church in Burnsville will be highlighted in the 2007-2008 Planning Calendar. This is a church that was considered to be a dying congregation but which has experienced tremendous growth during the past 5 years.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

The Rev. Bart Shaw, retired pastor, and Elder Gary Amos, Fairview Presbyterian Church, presented the following Resolution, which was adopted.

WHEREAS, the Presbytery of Western North Carolina has called us into service and ministry, and

WHEREAS, the Presbytery has met in its 73rd Stated Meeting, July 31, 2007, at Southminster Presbytery Church, and

WHEREAS, sincere thanks must be given to the following for their service:

- The Rev. Jerry Bron and John Stanley, CLP who led us in worship and a service of Holy Communion;
- The musicians who uplifted our hearts through music;
- The Southminster Presbyterian Church and the Robinson Memorial Church for hosting the Presbytery and to the members and staff for their gracious hospitality;
- The entire staff and leadership of the Presbytery office;
- Our Moderator, who guided us carefully and prayerfully through a long day;
- All those in attendance, especially those attending for the first time;
- Our SL/CLP graduates;
- All ministers and elders, both currently serving and those called to serve in the future;

THEREFORE, we resolve to thank and praise our almighty God for his love, tolerance, faithfulness, support, justice and grace. We thank him for our freedom of choice. May we always use it within the desires of the Lord.

MODERATOR

Moderator Lauterer called on Bill Kantonen, Asheville First, Moderator-elect, and passed the gavel from her hand to his. Presbytery applauded the passing and gave thanks to Maggie for her service as Moderator.

ADJOURNMENT & BENEDICTION

With the business of the Seventy-Third Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina completed and adjournment voted, the meeting concluded with prayer by the Moderator at 4:40 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The Seventy-Fourth Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Friday and Saturday, October 26-27, 2007 at the Lake Junaluska Conference Center, Lake Junaluska, NC.

These minutes were prepared by the following:

Margaret P. Lauterer, Moderator

James E. Aydelotte, Stated Clerk

Robbin Buchanan, Assistant to the Stated Clerk

These minutes were approved by Presbytery on October 26, 2007 at its meeting in Lake Junaluska, NC.

APPENDICES

- A. Omnibus Motion
- B. Minutes of the Commissions to Ordain and/or Install Rev. Tony Baker, Rev. Terry Alexander and Rev. Eddie Deas.
- C. 2007 Annual Report of the Committee on Representation
- D. Nominating Committee Report
- E. Report of the General Presbyter
- F. Committee on Ministry Report
- G. Notice to Presbytery - Marion Presbyterian Church
- H. Report of the School for the Laity/Commissioned Lay Pastors