



## Presbytery of Des Moines

REV. PHILIP W. BARRETT, GENERAL PRESBYTER & STATED CLERK  
EMAIL: PBARRETT@DMPRESBYTERY.ORG

July 11, 2014

**TO:** Commissioners to the 496<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting (May 20, 2014)

**FROM:** Philip W. Barrett, Stated Clerk

**SUBJECT:** Minutes

You will find the Minutes of the 496<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Des Moines held on May 20, 2014 at the Community Center in Lucas, Iowa following this letter. Most members are receiving the Minutes by going on line to download them from the Presbytery website.

Please read through these Minutes to both remind yourself of what occurred and to check them for accuracy. Please send any corrections directly to me, preferably in writing. This includes the use of email. ([pbarrett@dmpresbytery.org](mailto:pbarrett@dmpresbytery.org))

The meeting was hosted by the First Presbyterian Church of Lucas with the help and support of area churches and individuals. Worship featured the old hymn, "The Old Rugged Cross," because the composer of the hymn was from the Lucas area and this is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the writing of the hymn. We heard a very helpful report from the Budget and Finance Committee, followed by small group discussions about what we learned from the presentation. We received the Final Report from the Cottage Grove Church Administrative Commission and called a special meeting to act on the report and its recommendations. We commissioned our Commissioners to the General Assembly that will be held in June. We learned about a different kind of MOM. We learned more about the work of our newly formed Ministry Task forces. You may remember some other things as well.

If you are attending the August 16, 2014 Stated Presbytery Meeting as a commissioner, please remember to bring this Minutes packet with you. Extra copies are not provided for those who neglect to bring them. If you are not attending as a commissioner, please pass this packet on to the person who is.

Thanks to all of you for your participation and service.

**REMEMBER** – The Call for the August 16, 2014 Stated Presbytery Meeting will be posted on the Presbytery's Website at [www.dmpresbytery.org](http://www.dmpresbytery.org) about 10 days prior to the meeting.

The Presbytery of Des Moines of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held its 496<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting at the Lucas Community Center, hosted by the First Presbyterian Church of Lucas, Iowa, on May 20, 2014. The meeting was convened at 9:30 a.m. with prayer by Moderator Ruling Elder Nancy Lister-Settle.

### FORMATION OF THE ROLL

The following commissioners and members were registered for this meeting (Present, Absent, Excused):

CHURCH	MINISTER	P/A/E	COMMISSIONER
Adair, First	Char Rief	A	A
Allerton, United	Ross Blount	P	A
Ankeny	James Koopman	E	Julie Cloud
Ankeny	Sue Tomlinson	P	-
Atlantic, First United	Holly Smith	P	Dick Bolton
Audubon, First	Roger Claxton	P	Mary Ellen Fischer
Bedford, United	Randy S. Allman	E	A
Brooklyn, First	John Reynolds, Jr.	P	Brad Mullen
Carlisle, Scotch Ridge	Christopher (Kip) Harris	P	Mitch Lacquemont
Centerville, First	Suzanne Gorhau	P	Rose Heartley
Chariton, First	VACANT	-	Ev Brightman
Clive, Heartland	VACANT	-	A
Clive, Heartland	Barbara Nish	A	-
Corning, First	Ken Rummer	P	Cindy Peterson
Creston, First	James Woodworth	E	A
Creston, Platte Center	Dolores Doench	P	Marilyn Francis
Dallas Center, First	Adam Smith	P	Ryan Coon
Deep River, United	Michelle Williamson	A	A
Des Moines, Central (2)	Judy Winkelpleck	P	Susan Stroope
Des Moines, Central	-	-	Louise Gately
Des Moines, Cottage Grove Avenue	David Madsen	P	Roberta Victor
Des Moines, Douglas Avenue	Richard Harbart	P	Harold Eklund
Des Moines, First	Ken Stuber	E	Midge Slater
Des Moines, Fort Des Moines	Greg Smith (HR)	E	A
Des Moines, Highland Park	VACANT	-	A
Des Moines, Park Avenue	Claude J. Jones (HR)	E	Dan Danes
Des Moines, Union Park	John W. Gilmore	P	Joyce Rash
Des Moines, Westminster (3)	Scott Paczkowski	P	Ted Coppock
Des Moines, Westminster	Ken Arentson	E	Jack Ratekin
Des Moines, Westminster	Dick Kiefer (HR)	E	Polk Davison
Des Moines, Westminster	Bill Ekhardt	A	-
Dexter, First	David Kincaide	P	Patricia Norris
Diagonal, United	Ed Shields	A	A
Earlham, First	Robert Waldron, CRE	P	Frank Smith
Gibson, First	Hans Cornelder	P	A
Gibson, White Oak	Hans Cornelder	P	A
Greenfield, First	David Kincaide	P	Marilyn Ehram
Grimes, First	Jessica Wietzke	P	Don Hart
Grinnell, First	Kirsten Klepfer	P	Susan McIntyre
Guthrie Center, First	Denis R. James, Sr.	P	George Hemmen
Hartford, Community United	Nathan Lamb	P	Ruth Willis

<b>CHURCH</b>	<b>MINISTER</b>	<b>P/A/E</b>	<b>COMMISSIONER</b>
Indianola, Trinity United	David Endriss	P	Owen Duncan
Johnston, St. Paul	Bill O'Connell	P	Lois Kiester
Knoxville, First	Ramona Wink	E	A
Lenox, United	Tim Maxa	P	David Walter
Leon, First	VACANT	-	A
LeRoy, First	Dale O'Connell (HR)	P	A
Lucas, First	Marcy Campbell	P	Becky Allen
Malcom, First United	John Reynolds, Jr.	P	Liz Manatt
Monroe	Ann Johnson	P	Howard Clark
Mount Ayr, United	Mike Maddy	A	A
New Sharon, First	VACANT	-	A
Newton, First	Linda Curtis-Stolper	P	Gary Parsons
Newton, First	Sara Hopkins	A	-
Newton, United	Donald Freeman	P	Verle Summers
Oskaloosa, First	Dennis Morey	P	Sharon Falck
Ottumwa, East End	Jane Martinez	P	A
Ottumwa, First	David Klanderma	P	A
Ottumwa, Westminster	Jane Martinez	P	Liz Stufflebeem
Perry, First	Joan White	E	Brian M. Parker
Sharpsburg	Tim Maxa	P	A
Sigourney, First	Kim Alten	E	A
West Des Moines, Covenant	Jan Scott	P	Hal S. Harris
Windsor Heights, Windsor	Shamaine Chambers King	P	Ron Grohe
Winterset, First United	Jim Howland	P	A

### **OTHER MEMBERS OF PRESBYTERY (MINISTERS)**

**Present:** Philip Barrett, General Presbyter/Stated Clerk; Jay Basler (HR); John Beran (HR); Robert Burnett (HR); Tom Conrey (HR); Jack DePond (HR); Bruce Giese; Elizabeth Knott (HR); Linda O'Connell (HR); Michelle Parsons; Elizabeth Sandy (HR); Patricia Summers (HR); and Bob Zirkelbach.

**Excused:** Goanar Chol; Robert Cook (HR); Carl Cooper (HR); Donald Elly (HR); Ane Fitzgerald; Nancy Gorsuch (HR); Calvin Hsu (HR); Aaron Koskamp (HR); Bill LeMosy (HR); Dawn Linder; Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy; Ray Martin (HR); John McElroy; Sara Speer Palmer (HR); Katherine Pater; Marvin Potter (HR); Sarai Schnucker Rice; Kay E. Steddom (HR); Russell Tomlinson (HR); Ron Van Heukelom (HR); Erasmo Vélez (HR); Lynn Williams (HR); and Francis Younkin (HR).

**Absent:** David Braak; Pete Brantner; Jeffrey Means; and Jim Wallace.

### **LAY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

**Present:** Maurice Dyer (Indianola, Trinity United) and Nancy Lister-Settle (Dallas Center, First)

### **VISITORS**

Sandy Wagener (Ankeny); Mary Lou Aspengren (DM, First); Patti Spencer Burdette (DM, Fort Des Moines); Jeanne Burnett, (DM, Park Avenue); Jan Davison (DM, Westminster); Dan Allen, Helen Allen, Teresa Dixson, Kim Francisco, Marsha Francisco, Janice Goering and Shirley Kent (Lucas, First); Mickey Van Baale (Newton, First); Cindy Ray, Dwight Tomes and Richard Woods (Windsor Heights, Windsor); Betty Dyer, Presbytery staff (Indianola, Trinity United).

**MINISTERS (90 on roll)**

Present: 46  
Excused: 34  
Absent: 11

**ELDER COMMISSIONERS AND OTHERS**

Present: 59  
Excused: 0  
Absent: 21

**QUORUM STATEMENT**

A quorum was present and declares so by the Moderator.

**ADOPTION OF DOCKET**

The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the Proposed Docket as printed and distributed with the following change:

- Addition of Transformation Team Report following the report of the Cottage Grove Administrative Commission

**WORSHIP**

The Presbytery entered into a time of worship. Worship began with a procession of a rugged cross as the presbytery sang “The Old Rugged Cross.” The reason for this was that the author of the hymn, George Bennard, was born in Lucas, and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the hymn was in 2013. Using Galatians 6:14-16 as scriptural basis Teaching Elder Marcy Campbell, of the Lucas Church, preached a sermon on “Living In the Shadow of the Cross.” She talked about the debate going on related to knowing Christ and the importance of circumcision. What we gain from this is being aware of what God is doing and what we are all about as congregations. The Presbytery was encouraged to do something new and not be bound by the old. Teaching Elders Dale and Linda O’Connell officiated at the administration of the Lord’s Supper. Worship Leaders were RE Nancy Lister-Settle (Dallas Center, First), RE Ted Coppock (Des Moines, Westminster), RE Sandy Wagener (Ankeny), and TE Michelle Parsons (At Large). Ruling Elders Dan and Becky Allen, Teresa Dixon, Kim Francisco, Keith Kent, and Shirley Kent shared in the distribution of the communion elements. RE Cindy Ray (Windsor Heights, Windsor) and TE Adam Smith (Dallas Center, First) were musicians for the day.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the Consent Agenda as printed and distributed with the Call to this meeting.

**APPROVAL OF EXCUSED ABSENCES**

The Presbytery VOTED to grant excused absences to those requesting them.

**INTRODUCTION OF FIRST TIMERS AND GUESTS**

Those who were attending a Presbytery meeting for the first time were introduced.

**APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARIAN**

Moderator RE Nancy Lister-Settle announced that she had appointed TE David Madsen, Pastor of the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church in Des Moines, as Parliamentarian for this meeting.

**APPOINTMENT OF RECORDING CLERK**

Stated Clerk TE Phil Barrett announced that RE Becky Allen, Clerk of Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Lucas, would be serving as Recording Clerk for this meeting.

**WELCOME BY HOST CHURCH**

RE Becky Allen, Clerk of Session of the Lucas Church, welcomed the Presbytery. She gave a brief history of the church, as well as that of the Community Building in which we were meeting. She also told us a bit about John L. Lewis, who was born in Lucas.

**BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE PRESENTATION**

TE Kirsten Klepfer, a member of the Committee, presented the report.

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the following actions taken by the Committee:

- D-A-2 The Committee met on April 22, 2014, and voted to approve the recommendation from the First Presbyterian Church of Leon, Iowa, to contract with DeCarlo Demolition of Des Moines to demolish the present church building structure after all possible salvageable/recyclable items have been salvaged and removed.
- D-A-3 The Committee voted to approve the request from the First United Presbyterian Church of Gibson, Iowa seeking permission to sell the manse located at 202 East Grinnell Street in Gibson, Iowa.
- D-A-4 The Committee voted to approve the request from the First Presbyterian Church of Knoxville, Iowa seeking permission to sell the manse.

The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the following recommendation from the Committee:

- D-R-2 That the Presbytery approve the 2014 Income and Expense Reports, the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position as of March 31, 2014, and the Restricted Funds Report as of March 31, 2014. (These Reports appear as **Appendix A** at the end of these Minutes.)

Kirsten then shared a presentation on the processes the Committee follows in preparing the budget for the Presbytery. She talked about what the Committee does and how it carries out the budgeting process. (The description of this process appears as **Appendix B** at the end of these Minutes.)

Kirsten described the challenges facing the committee and the presbytery:

- Communication – We must have a helpful way for the Presbytery to hear and receive information at a meeting so it may understand what is happening and what it might do.
- Decisions based on past income – We need to get more and timely information from congregations so that a more accurate budget may be proposed.
- Trends in the Presbytery – Mission dollars are going down while expenses tend to go up. Per Capita was raised this year and restricted funds were used to cover the deficit. The 2015 budget will only be balanced by making significant spending cuts.

**DIALOGUE GROUPS**

The Presbytery divided into small groups for a time of discussion regarding budgeting procedures and decisions, both current and future, of the Presbytery.

**LUNCH**

The Presbytery recessed for a delicious lunch provided by the folks from the Lucas Church. TE Marcy Campbell offered a blessing for the meal.

### **VISITS WITH COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES**

The Presbytery entered into a time of informal conversations with various Presbytery committees, commissions, task forces, related organizations, staff members and each other.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Presbytery reconvened with a time for announcements. Among these were: TE Nathan Lamb (Hartford, Community United) about a *Book of Common Worship* app for phones; RE Roberta Victor (Des Moines, Cottage Grove Avenue) announcing the “Back to School Giveaway” to be held on July 31; TE Linda O’Connell (HR) sharing the history of the First Presbyterian Church of Leon and a celebration as that congregation closes its building on June 1 at 10:30 a.m. It was requested that this history be included in these Minutes. It is as follows:

*The Presbyterian Church of Leon was organized in 1857 with 14 members, but disbanded during the Civil War. It was re-organized as the First Presbyterian Church of Leon in 1866. Five years later a brick building was built (at the current location) for \$7,000. In 1917 it was replaced by the present brick building (seating 200) for \$23,000. The historic Hinners tracker organ was added the following year. The manse was built a short time later, ordered from a catalogue.*

*The present church has not only served as a place of worship for 97 years, but also opened its doors to the community – organized the first Boy Scout troop in Leon, shared the worship facility with the Leon Lutheran Church and the Mormon Church, has been the church for the Leon High School Baccalaureate services, was the first Leon Congregate Meal Site, and hosted organ recitals and various other concerts.*

*The highest membership was 144 in 1916, but today (2014) only 35 members (mostly elderly) are on the roll, with an average of 11 worshipers each Sunday morning. Expenses are greater than income and the budget cannot support a minister or complete much needed expensive repairs on the building.*

*It was with heavy hearts, but a realistic view of the future that the members of the congregation voted to close the church and hold the final worship service on June 1, 2014 at 10:30 a.m. The fate of the building is still undecided, but the congregation wants the church building to be demolished and Presbytery has given its approval. We do not want it to become abandoned and an eyesore in the community. Final demolition expenses are of great concern, for money is not available as of now.*

*On June 15, members who want to do so, will participated in a “Nesting Service” into the Leon United Methodist Church.*

*With Paul, we can say, “We have fought the good fight, we have finished the race, we have kept the faith...” II Timothy 4:7.*

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

TE John Gilmore, Moderator of the Committee, presented the report.

The Committee presented the following nomination for the position noted:

#### **PRESBYTERY STATED CLERK**

**Class of 2016**

TE Philip W. Barrett

An opportunity for nominations from the floor was presented. There being none, the Presbytery VOTED to close debate and instructed the Clerk to cast an electing ballot.

### **REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK**

Stated Clerk Phil Barrett presented the report.

Phil presented the following items of information to the Presbytery:

I-I-2 All reports have been filed with the Synod of Lakes and Prairies and the General Assembly as of this date, including Annual Reports to the General Assembly, and all correspondence received on behalf of the Presbytery has been assigned, referred or answered.

I-I-3 In accordance with Section D-5.0206b of the Rules of Discipline of the *Book of Order*, the following members of the Permanent Judicial Commission constitute the roll of those available to serve on the commission if necessary to constitute a quorum:

Class of 2012

TE Ross Blount (Allerton, United)

TE Barbara Nish (Clive, Heartland)

TE Ken Rummer (Corning, First)

Class of 2010

TE Hans Cornelder (Gibson, First; Keswick, White Oak)

Class of 2008

RE T. Polk Davison (Des Moines, Westminster)

I-I-4 The Presbytery has the following insurance coverage for 2014 through a Master Policy with GuideOne Insurance Company:

Property	Each enrolled church and the Presbytery Office are covered by a specific amount
General Liability	\$3,000,000 General Limit
	3,000,000 Products Aggregate
	1,000,000 Each Occurrence
	1,000,000 Personal Limit
	1,000,000 Rented Damage
Medical	5,000
Violent Incident Response	3,000,000 Aggregate Limit
Individual Counseling Expense	2,500 Each Person Limit
Medical Expenses	50,000 Each Person Limit
Individual Expenses	200,000 Individual Limit
Organizational Expenses	100,000 Aggregate Limit
Legal Expense Reimbursement	15,000 Each Incident Limit
	45,000 Aggregate Limit
Employee Benefits Liability	1,000,000 Each Employee Limit
	3,000,000 Aggregate Limit
Sexual Misconduct Liability	250,000 Each Claim
	500,000 Aggregate
	10,000 Medical Limit
Director and Officer Liability	1,000,000 Each Claim Limit
	1,000,000 Each Occurrence

Employment Practices Liability	500,000	Each Occurrence
Crime		
Employee/Officers Dishonesty	10,000	
Forgery	10,000	
Theft	5,000	
Ministers Personal Business Property	5,000	
Shared Umbrella Policy	5,000,000	Each Occurrence
	5,000,000	Aggregate Limit
Workers Compensation		
Bodily Injury	100,000	Each Accident
Bodily Injury by Disease	500,000	Policy Limit
	100,000	Each Employee
Presbytery Office		
Building Limit	131,000	
Personal Property	65,400	

I-I-5 The Synod of Lakes and Prairies has reviewed the 2013 Records of the Presbytery – January 19 (Pages 2877-2909), May 21 (Pages 2910-2935), August 17 (Pages 2936-2991) and November 12 (Pages 2992-3017), as well as the Presbytery Roll Book, and approved all of these without exception. Since this is the case, other than thunderous applause, no presbytery action is required.

The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the following Recommendation from the Stated Clerk:

I-R-4 The *Form of Government* (G-3.0301) is significantly less prescriptive than previous editions regarding determination of the balance of ruling elders and teaching elders as members of a presbytery. It simply states that the number of elders should be “as equal as possible.” As part of this, ruling elders who are officers of the presbytery are members and that presbyteries may provide for enrollment of ruling elders who are moderators of committees and commissions, as well as those serving as Commissioned Ruling Elders in congregations. Following these broad guidelines, I find that we have 77 teaching elders and 76 ruling elders who are members of the presbytery. This is very close to an exactly equal number of ruling and teaching elders in service, so I recommend that the Presbytery affirm that it meets the “as equal as possible” requirement of the *Book of Order*.

### **COTTAGE GROVE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION REPORT**

TE Rich Harbart, Moderator of the Commission, presented the report.

Rich gave a history of the work of the Commission’s work, the implications of the vision the Commission has and its impact on people, a sense of what the commission is about, and what it hopes to accomplish. (The written report and recommendations appear as *Appendix C* at the end of these Minutes.)

The Commission then presented the following Recommendation to the Presbytery for adoption:

O-R-1 That the Presbytery of Des Moines call a Special Meeting on June 7, 2014, to be held at the Trinity United Presbyterian Church in Indianola, Iowa from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for the purpose of receiving, discussing, and acting on the report of the Cottage Grove Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission.



The Presbytery VOTED to adopt this Recommendation.

### **TRANSFORMATION TEAM REPORT**

TE Suzanne Gorhau, a member of the Team, presented information about workshops on transformation that are being offered by the Team.

RE Jeanne Burnett shared about one of these workshops that was held at the Park Avenue Church in Des Moines.

### **COMMISSIONING OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONERS**

Presbytery Moderator Nancy Lister-Settle led the Presbytery in commissioning RE Ted Coppock (Des Moines, Westminster) and TE Ann Johnson (Monroe) who had been elected to serve as Commissioners to the 221<sup>st</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Young Adult Advisory Delegate Holly Albers (Ankeny) was unable to attend. This Assembly will be held in Detroit, Michigan June 13-21. (This service appears as *Appendix D* at the end of these Minutes.)

### **MODERATORS TASK FORCE REPORT**

Introduced by the theme song from the “Ghostbusters” movie, TE David Endriss, Moderator of the Moderators Task Force, presented information about who to call when there are questions about anything related to congregational pieces.

### **CHURCH PROFESSIONALS TASK FORCE REPORT**

TE Tom Conrey, a member of the Task Force, presented the report.

The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the following Recommendations from the Task Force:

A-3-R-1 Pursuant to action taken by the former Professional Care and Development Committee on December 13, 2013 but not brought to the Presbytery for action, that the Rev. Adam Nardini be removed from the rolls of the Presbytery. Rev. Nardini has been informed of this recommendation.

A-3-R-2 That the Salary Change Report for 2014 be approved. [Several editorial changes were made.](This Report appears as *Appendix E* at the end of these Minutes.)

Tom also shared information related to upcoming changes related to the Board of Pensions including the “Call to Health” program. The Board has initiated this as a way for members to pay better attention to their health with a financial incentive to do so, and that the Annual Medical Deductible will increase 1.5% in 2015.

### **CONGREGATIONAL HEALTH TASK FORCE REPORT**

TE Jan Scott, Moderator of the Task Force, presented a written report. (This Report appears as *Appendix F* at the end of these Minutes.)

Task Force Member TE Dennis Morey presented information regarding a Lenten Devotional that the Task Force is preparing. He requested contributions from folks around the Presbytery focusing on stories of faithfulness in congregations. Isaiah 53 will be the scriptural focus of this devotional. It will be published on paper and on the Presbytery’s website.

### **CONGREGATIONAL TRANSITION TASK FORCE REPORT**

RE Joyce Rash, Moderator of the Task Force, presented a written report showing several actions taken by the Task Force. (This Report appears as *Appendix G* at the end of these Minutes.) These actions were approved in the Consent Agenda actions at the beginning of the meeting.

Joyce also provided an explanation of the process the Task Force Follows in dealing with new calls to the presbytery.

### **LEADERSHIP COUNCIL REPORT**

TE Jim Howland, Moderator of the Council, presented the report.

In a written report, the Council presented the following items of information and actions to the Presbytery:

- E-I-1 Received reports on conversations with the presbytery of North Central Iowa about sharing services.
- E-I-2 Received updates on the work of the Cottage Grove Administrative Commission and Congregation Task Forces.
- E-I-3 The Council consulted with the Budget and Finance Committee about the Committee's presentation and small group conversations for the May 20 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery.
- E-A-8 Assigned Council contacts to some of the Presbytery committees.
- E-A-9 Dismissed the Easter Lake Commission. Jim shared information about the situation with the Easter Lake Commission and what led to the decision to dismiss the Commission.

### **COMPASSION, PEACE AND JUSTICE TASK FORCE REPORT**

TE Michelle Parsons, Moderator of the Task Force, presented a printed report. (This Report appears as *Appendix H* at the end of these Minutes.)

On behalf of the Task force, Michelle presented the "Just Neighbors Award" to the St. Paul Presbyterian Church in Johnston for the Johnston Community Garden, an activity coordinated by the church. Fresh produce from this garden is provided to the Johnston Food Pantry, which is across the street from the church.

### **COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY REPORT**

TE Sue Tomlinson, Moderator of the Committee, presented the report.

The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the following recommendation from the Committee:

- C-R-3 That Jenny Peak (Grinnell, First) be enrolled as an Inquirer of the Presbytery of Des Moines. Ms. Peak will begin her studies at Yale Divinity School in the fall of 2014.

The Committee presented the following items of information to the Presbytery:

- C-I-2 The Committee would like to ask for names of those who would like to be considered as ordination exam readers. You must have access to a computer. Training is provided.

Reading exams still takes place over a week's time, but no longer requires travel. All exams are read and graded on personal computers.

- C-I-3 The Committee has prepared bookmarks to aid the Presbytery in praying for each person under care. Please use these for your personal and corporate prayers. Extras are available upon request.

### **GENERAL PRESBYTER REPORT**

General Presbyter TE Phil Barrett presented a written report. (This report appears as *Appendix I* at the end of these Minutes.)

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **BILLS AND OVERTURES TASK FORCE REPORT**

The Presbytery VOTED to adopt the following recommendation from the Task Force:

- L-R-1 That the Presbytery grant permission for the celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to be observed at events sponsored by the Task Force in 2014.

### **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF THE PRESBYTERY REPORT**

The Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery provided a written report. (This Report appears as *Appendix J* at the end of these Minutes.)

The Presbytery VOTED to express their gratitude to the congregations hosting the meeting for their model of cooperation in sharing responsibilities for the hosting of the meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT AND PRAYER**

The Presbytery VOTED to adjourn. Moderator Nancy Lister-Settle offered the closing prayer.

The next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Des Moines will be on Saturday, August 16, 2014 at the First Presbyterian Church of Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Philip W. Barrett  
Stated Clerk

Becky Allen  
Recording Clerk

**APPENDIX A****D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT****Presbytery of Des Moines****2014 Income Report  
as of March 31, 2014**

	<b>2014 Budget</b>	<b>2014 Year to Date</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Carryover from 2013	\$5,266.33	\$5,266.33
Total Per Capita (@ \$37.00)	\$265,000.00	\$117,648.28
Total Past Years Per Capita	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
Presbytery General Mission	\$86,948.36	\$21,074.88
Synod Support Staff Salaries	\$25,000.00	\$6,249.99
Hunger Action Enabler Income	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Khadamat Sudaniya Grant Income	\$10,000.00	\$3,500.00
Montezuma funds	\$79,697.88	
Funds needed to balance	\$10,502.42	
Interest Income	\$200.00	\$35.35
Miscellaneous Income	\$800.00	\$527.19
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$488,414.99</b>	<b>\$157,302.02</b>
<b>2014 Expenses</b>	<b>\$488,414.99</b>	<b>\$159,561.58</b>
<b>Surplus(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>(\$2,259.56)</b>

**D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT continued...****Presbytery of Des Moines****2014 Expense Report  
as of March 31, 2014**

	2014 Budget	2014 Year to Date
<b>Governance Expense</b>		
Committee Preparation Ministry	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Stewardship & Mission Interpretation Committee	\$2,200.00	\$0.00
Permanent Judicial Commission	\$500.00	\$0.00
Committee of Representation	\$50.00	\$0.00
Budget & Finance Committee	\$0.00	\$0.00
Nominating Committee	\$90.00	\$0.00
Personnel Committee	\$100.00	\$0.00
Sexual Misconduct Response Team	\$50.00	\$0.00
General Assembly Per Capita	\$54,082.08	\$54,082.08
Synod Per Capita	\$38,520.00	\$38,520.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$96,592.08</b>	<b>\$92,602.08</b>
<b>Administrative Expense</b>		
Moderator Expense/Task Groups	\$150.00	\$0.00
Administrative Commissions	\$500.00	\$0.00
Presbytery Meetings	\$300.00	\$0.00
Commissioner Orientation	\$300.00	\$0.00
Stated Clerk Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00
Insurance	\$6,000.00	(\$202.00)
Legal fees	\$500.00	\$0.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$7,750.00</b>	<b>(\$202.00)</b>
<b>Extension of Ministries</b>		
Compassion Peace & Justice Task Force	\$5,000.00	\$400.00
Hunger Action Enabler Travel & Con Ed	\$1,500.00	\$630.00
Broken Bread & Postage	\$500.00	\$153.40
Khadamat Sudaniya Committee Expense	\$50.00	\$0.00
Khadamat Sudaniya Grant Expense	\$10,000.00	\$3,500.00
Cross Ministries	\$50,000.00	\$12,500.10
Older Adult Ministries Task Force	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Camping	\$3,500.00	\$0.00
Youth	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
Resources	\$500.00	(\$60.45)
Women's Advocacy Task Force	\$50.00	\$0.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$73,600.00</b>	<b>\$17,123.05</b>

<b>Page 2 – Expense Report as of March 31, 2014</b>	<b>2014 Budget</b>	<b>2014 Year to Date</b>
<b>Support of Local Ministries</b>		
Moderators Task Force	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Congregational Health Task Force	\$1,000.00	\$21.80
Congregational Transition Task Force	\$1,000.00	\$191.00
Congregational Challenge Task Force	\$1,000.00	\$340.20
Church Professional Task Force	\$1,000.00	\$61.31
<b>Regional Partnerships</b>		
Southeast	\$0.00	\$0.00
East	\$0.00	\$0.00
DM West/NW	\$0.00	\$0.00
Southwest	\$6,000.00	\$1,500.00
West	\$0.00	\$0.00
South Central	\$0.00	\$0.00
DM Two Rivers	\$5,050.00	\$349.23
Leadership Council	\$700.00	\$176.38
Worship Task Group	\$50.00	\$0.00
Bills & Overtures	\$50.00	\$0.00
Emergency Contingency	\$500.00	\$0.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$17,350.00</b>	<b>\$2,639.92</b>
<b>Office Expense</b>		
Condo dues	\$2,700.00	\$675.00
Rent-copier lease	\$4,725.00	\$1,385.15
Office supplies	\$4,725.00	\$504.30
Postage	\$3,150.00	\$561.45
Telephone & Internet	\$6,000.00	\$1,006.22
Utilities	\$2,100.00	\$294.42
Janitorial Services	\$3,780.00	\$915.11
New Equipment	\$3,000.00	\$795.54
Equipment Maintenance/Tech Services	\$3,000.00	\$322.94
Books & Subscriptions	\$250.00	\$44.00
Office Travel	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Audit	\$7,000.00	\$0.00
Church & Staff Appreciation	\$200.00	\$0.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$41,630.00</b>	<b>\$6,504.13</b>
<b>Personnel</b>		
General Presbyter Salary	\$75,433.00	\$12,572.20
General Presbyter Benefits	\$26,401.55	\$4,400.26
General Presbyter Prof Expense	\$600.00	\$0.00
General Presbyter Con Ed	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
General Presbyter Travel	\$10,000.00	\$1,776.80
Office Manager Salary	\$39,254.00	\$6,542.36
Office Manager Benefits	\$13,738.90	\$2,395.08
Office Manager ConEd	\$750.00	\$0.00
Office Manager FICA	\$3,003.00	\$484.84
Hunger Action Enabler Salary	\$7,500.00	\$1,250.00
Hunger Action Enabler Benefits	\$7,488.00	\$1,248.00
Hunger Action Enabler FICA	\$574.00	\$95.63
Sudanese Ministry RP Salary	\$23,533.00	\$3,922.20
Sudanese Ministry RP Benefits	\$12,483.96	\$2,080.66
Sudanese Ministry RP Con Ed	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
Sudanese Ministry RP Expenses	\$3,000.00	\$939.35
Mission Co-Worker Benefits	\$15,260.00	\$1,958.00
Communications Coordinator Salary	\$7,800.00	\$992.21
Communications FICA	\$597.00	\$57.38
Part-Time Office Worker	\$1,000.00	\$173.05
Part-time Office Worker FICA	\$76.50	\$6.38
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$251,492.91</b>	<b>\$40,894.40</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$488,414.99</b>	<b>\$159,561.58</b>

**D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT continued...****Presbytery of Des Moines****Consolidated Statement of Financial Position  
as of March 31, 2014**

ASSETS			LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
<b>Current Assets</b>			<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
	Cash in Bank	\$79,887.67	2342.02	Presbytery Designated	\$2,347.80
1112.01	Savings Account	\$3,848.64	2411.01	Pastor Emergency Fund	\$3,848.58
1114.08	Colfax Fund MM	\$2,642.83	2525.02	Sudanese Ministry Resources	\$2,566.73
1115.06	Easter Lake MM	\$78,332.54	2530.02	Sudanese Undesignated-Khad Sud	\$5,906.41
1116.01	Montezuma CD Acct	\$78,904.22	2535.02	Sudanese Water Project	\$1,052.00
1117.02	Walther Fund	\$23,801.03	2540.02	Sudanese Designated	\$3,000.00
1118.06	Easter Lake Mortgage MM	\$70,764.52	2700.03	Hunger-Cents-a-bility	\$251.55
1120.06	Easter Lake DayCare Acct	\$6,664.00	2701.03	Peacemaking Task Force	\$329.62
1122.01	McCahon Fund	\$46,320.04	2702.03	Rural Partnership Offering	\$1,811.97
1122.02	Knox Knolls Fund	\$341,387.09	2703.03	Joining Hands Task Force	\$6,765.40
1123.01	Albia Fund	\$20,607.04	2705.03	El Sal-Water Filter Project	\$6,256.50
1126.02	Life Inc Char Int-Restricted	\$1,029.00	2706.03	El Salvador-Undesignated Funds	\$10,199.60
1132.05	Swan Fund	\$28,320.33	2707.03	El Salvador Designated Funds	\$1,132.10
1133.07	Pastors Seminar Fund	\$17,204.50	2708.03	Compañeros	\$1,706.60
1134.08	Colfax Fund	\$23,255.09	2709.03	Coffee	(\$412.11)
1211.01	Accounts Receivable	\$61.31	2712.03	El Salvador Scholarship Fund	\$1,200.00
1211.02	Accounts Receivable	(\$61.31)	2713.03	Two Riv. Synod S. Scholarship	\$550.00
1212.06	Knox Contract Principal	\$762,275.64	2714.03	Two Rivers - Special Offerings	\$636.50
			4871.06	Easter Lake Mortgage	\$77,427.76
	<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$1,585,244.18</b>	4872.06	Easter Lake Daycare Deposit	\$0.76
				<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$126,577.77</b>
<b>Property and Equipment</b>			<b>Long-Term Liabilities</b>		
1511.01	Office Equipment	\$25,391.70			
1512.01	Accumulated Depreciation	(\$46,364.24)	2114.06	Real Estate Note Payable	\$203,800.76
1512.06	Accumulated Depreciation	(\$1,045.45)			
1611.01	Real Estate - Presby Office	\$97,500.00			
1611.06	Real Estate - Easter Lake	\$162,222.76		<b>Total Long-Term Liabilities</b>	<b>\$203,800.76</b>
1612.06	Real Estate - Land	\$54,432.00			
				<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$330,378.53</b>
	<b>Total Property and Equipment</b>	<b>\$292,136.77</b>			
			<b>Net Assets</b>		
			3910.01	Net Assets	\$5,583.86
			3910.02	Net Assets-Program Fund	\$516,983.17
			3910.03	Net Assets - In & Out Fund	\$5,350.70
			3910.05	Net Assets - Swan Fund	\$22,013.31
			3910.06	Net Assets - Commissions	\$918,169.48
			3910.07	Fund Balance - Endowment Fund	\$16,280.57
			3910.08	Net Assets-Colfax Fund	\$25,842.75
	<b>Other Assets</b>	<b>0.00</b>		Surplus/(Deficit)	\$36,778.58
	<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>		<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$1,547,002.42</b>
	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$1,877,380.95</b>		<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>\$1,877,380.95</b>

**D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT continued...****Presbytery of Des Moines****Restricted Funds  
as of March 31, 2014*****New Covenant Funds***

McCahon Fund	<i>Annual income to be used for grants for small churches (under 150) for one-time needs. Unused income to be reinvested each year in the trust.</i>	\$46,320.04
Swan Fund	<i>Interest earnings to be used for seminary students' assistance.</i>	\$28,320.33
Albia/Pitzer Fund	<i>To be used for the assistance of small churches in the Presbytery.</i>	\$20,607.04
Knox Knolls-Camping Fund	<i>3/4 of interest to be used for camping program. 1/4 of interest to be used for Presbytery causes.</i>	\$341,387.09
Walther Fund	<i>To be used for scholarship aid for physically or mentally-challenged youth and/or children in need.</i>	\$23,801.03
Colfax Fund	<i>To be used for church development with interest to be placed in Colfax Fund Money Market.</i>	\$23,255.09
<b>Total of Funds</b>		<b>\$483,690.62</b>

***First American Bank***

Pastor Emergency Fund	<i>To be used for short-term loans for pastors.</i>	\$3,848.64
Colfax Fund Money Market	<i>To be used for church development.</i>	\$2,632.23
Easter Lake Money Market	<i>Income from Color My World Childcare Center &amp; Expense to maintain the property &amp; building.</i>	\$78,333.18
Easter Lake Mortgage Money Market	<i>Fund from which monthly mortgage is paid.</i>	\$70,764.52
Easter Lake/Color My World Money Market	<i>Deposit paid when CMW began relationship with church.</i>	\$6,664.00
Montezuma CD	<i>Funds from settlement with church.</i>	\$78,933.97
<b>Total of Funds</b>		<b>\$241,176.54</b>



**D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT****May 20, 2014****Current Presbytery Budgeting Process****A. September:**

- The office manager solicits committees and task forces for budget requests for following year.

**B. October: Budget and Finance meet**

- The figures received are plugged into the budget. If we haven't received a request, we either use last year's amount or base next year's number on what it looks like they will actually use in the current year.
- We plug in the salary recommendations from personnel.
- We estimate what mission giving from the local churches will be for the coming year, based on the current year and overall trends.
- We then look at the difference between estimated income and what we have in the budget for expenses. If expenses are more than income we do a couple of things:
  1. We adjust what the committees have requested and reduce the amount if we think we can.
  2. We try to identify other revenue sources that would help to bridge the gap.
- Looking at our income needs, we decide what to recommend to Presbytery for the following year's per capita.
- Based on all that information, we finalize an expense budget and per capita amount to propose to Presbytery in November.

**C. November: Presbytery meets**

- We present the expense budget to Presbytery.
- We share for informational purposes what our estimated income budget is.

**D. December:**

- The General Mission pledge forms are sent to all churches with a deadline in December for them to be returned to the office.

**E. January: Budget and Finance meets**

- Using the mission pledges that have come in, and using estimates for the ones that have not, we look again at our income budget and adjust as necessary based on these numbers.

**F. February: Presbytery meets**

- We present the income budget to Presbytery for approval.

**APPENDIX C****O-3 – COTTAGE GROVE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION REPORT****May 20, 2014****FINAL REPORT****PHILOSOPHY, VALUES AND BELIEFS**

Our mission is defined first and properly by our given name: an Administrative Commission. Our hope from the very beginning is that we honor God, the deep history of the Des Moines Presbytery and the ministry of the members and all associated with Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church (CGAPC).

- To honor that history we desire to affirm and continue the presence of God's love in this world and in this time and place.
- To commit to the future, we wish to build for the next generation of mission and ministry.

Therefore, we have come to embrace the following:

- I. We are a gathered people whose first and final purpose is to give glory to God and serve the Human Family.
- II. We reconfirm we are a missional and connectional Presbytery as evidenced by:
  - The Mission of the Church as expressed in the Book of Order (F-1.01-F-3.04)
  - Fifty-seven congregations engaged in ministry
  - Historical acts of mission and ministry over the years in many places
- III. As a Commission, we cannot emphasize strongly enough the deep appreciation and gratitude we have for the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian congregation and the heroic commitment of all who have long labored. Today we honor Rev. Dr. David Madsen and Dr. Roberta Victor along with Rev. Dr. Bob Cook and Sharon Baker, as well as other current and past ministers, staff and members who have contributed to the amazing ministries of Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church.
- IV. We believe this local church has given birth to significant and imperative ministries, and those ministries, embedded in Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, are a unique and critical mission field of the Presbytery.
  - The gathered community of worship and mission (originating and Sudanese)
  - CROSS Ministries
  - El Salvador ministry
  - Other acts of love and support for the poor, marginalized and underserved that happen as a matter of course in the daily activity of this congregation and our shared Christian presence.
- V. We acknowledge and celebrate the commitment that has brought General Assembly agencies, the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, Presbytery of Des Moines and many of its congregations and

individual members, ecumenical partners, non-profit organizations, and philanthropists together to labor in common interest.

## **OUR RECOMMENDATION FOR THE WAY FORWARD**

The Administrative Commission for Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church recommends reshaping and reforming the structure so the ministries and mission can continue in this building.

We envision the church building becoming **Cottage Grove Presbyterian Mission Center** that may be home for:

- Worshiping communities,
- CROSS Ministries,
- Church offices,
- Offices for Presbytery of Des Moines,
- Ecumenical and community agency administrative offices,
- Social and health service agencies,
- Other agencies with like agendas.

## **TO ACT ON THAT RECOMMENDATION AND ACHIEVE THAT VISION:**

### **1. Continue the Mission**

**We invite** the Presbytery of Des Moines to engage formally as intentional partners in support of the work God is doing at Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church. *The church participates in God's mission to the world through its ministry and worship.* [BOO, W-7.1001]

In this way the Presbytery can more purposefully join Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church as it continues to be a vehicle of grace to the world – in this case a neighborhood in need of hospitality, healing, and hope - a place claimed and loved as home by not only the Sudanese but other newcomers to the Des Moines area, as well as the faithful remnant.

### **2. The Building**

**We recommend** that the building located at 24th and Cottage Grove in Des Moines be repurposed as a mission center for the Presbytery of Des Moines and be transitioned to become the Cottage Grove Presbyterian Mission Center. **We recommend** that the Presbytery of Des Moines assume control of the building. The Presbytery of Des Moines will create and subsequently partner with a Covenant Council (see #3 below) to plan, fundraise and rehabilitate the building to make it a safe, clean, and reliable structure. *The property of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), of its councils and entities, and of its congregations, is a tool for the accomplishment of the mission of Jesus Christ in the world.* [BOO, G-4.0201]

The commission recognizes that there is nothing currently being done at Cottage Grove that could not be done elsewhere. However, the building which currently houses the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church has many attractive features, including location within walking distance for many Sudanese and CROSS clients, historical significance, and recognized as a place of hospitality for refugees locally, nationally, and internationally and as the “home” for many Sudanese who have lost their original homes through war and strife.

Volunteer architects, building contractors, and preservationists have determined the building is structurally sound, though in need of many repairs. Through the generosity of Presbyterians and others, the boiler and roof have been replaced and repaired in recent years. We encourage the Presbytery to pursue National Register of Historic Places status for the building, already determined to be eligible by the state Historic Preservation Office. This recognition could lead to grants for building improvement projects.

### 3. The Covenant Council

**We recommend** that a Covenant Council for the Cottage Grove Presbyterian Mission Center be appointed under the auspices of the Presbytery. The Covenant Council will create the functional apparatus that brings the new mission center and its operations into existence. They will design and develop the shape and direction of that mission and ultimately lead it to become financially self-sustaining. Realizing that fundraising is an immediate need, the Covenant Council should quickly take responsibility for fundraising. The Covenant Council will report to Presbytery.

It may draw upon as many and varied leadership resources as needed to do its work. It should be made up of representatives from Presbytery, the session, CROSS, ecumenical partners, building tenants, community leaders, and other stakeholders.

### 4. Continue a Worshipping Community

This worshipping community has existed for one hundred and twenty four years (construction for the current building began 100 years ago) and **we recommend** that a worshipping community continue in that place. The Cottage Grove tradition has been to welcome and embrace all who walk through its doors. Currently, three language groups worship within the building: English, Mabaan and Arabic. **We recommend** that the session be reformed to include lay leadership that reflects the fullness of that diversity: ethnicity, gender, age, etc.

Our plan includes relieving the congregation of the financial responsibility of the building (see #2) and the current pastoral leadership (see #7) so they can move into the future that God has planned for them.

### 5. Presbytery Offices

**Key to our recommendation** is that the Presbytery of Des Moines move its offices into the building to underscore its commitment to *partner with congregations and clergy to minister in a changing world*.<sup>1</sup> As a powerful symbol of the Presbytery's commitment to mission, it would lead to greater awareness of a need for rural and urban congregations to work together in a variety of mission fields.

The move would be financially sound, and provide a home for the Presbytery's offices. Personnel, equipment, and supplies could be shared, resulting in more savings. The site is centrally located and easily accessible via Martin Luther King, Jr., Parkway and I-235.

### 6. CROSS Ministries

**We recommend** that CROSS (Christians Reaching Out, Seeking to Serve) Ministries become a ministry of the Presbytery of Des Moines. The Commission believes that the services CROSS offers are vital and should be continued. It would do so most efficiently under its current director, Dr. Roberta J. Victor. The Commission envisions CROSS Ministries as under the care of Des Moines Presbytery, but independently operated under its own Board so as to avail itself of

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<sup>1</sup> Presbytery of Des Moines Mission Statement

funding from within the Presbyterian Church as well as from without. To accomplish this goal, the federal and state 501(c)3 non-profit status of CROSS will need to be moved legally from Cottage Grove to the Presbytery. This must be done in a timely fashion so that current grants CROSS is receiving are not endangered. CROSS Ministries, as a social outreach program committee of the Cottage Grove Session, has been serving the homeless and near homeless since 1975.

CROSS has been supported by the Presbytery of Des Moines, the faith community, social service organizations, fundraisers, grants and caring individuals. It is one of only a very few non-profit organizations in Des Moines that perform such emergency functions. It is a ministry that was originally created to meet the emergency survival needs of those being served.

In 2010 Cottage Grove Church, through CROSS Ministries and the Des Moines Area Religious Council, added the services of an emergency food pantry, open on a weekday afternoon and Saturday mornings, to serve the needs of people who were unable to avail themselves of such services during workday hours. Since 1989 CROSS has sponsored a Back to School Backpack Giveaway serving up to 1500 children each fall.

## **7. Pastoral Leadership**

### **Rev. David Madsen**

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery, and Rev. Madsen have given the Sudanese their lives back by accepting them and helping them as refugees. It is now time for them to take charge of their own future.

Rev. David Madsen is a wonderful ambassador for the Sudanese and the love and respect that he has for them is mutual and obvious. The Commission celebrates and respects Rev. Madsen's work and ministry.

Rev. Sam Atiemo, PC(USA) Associate for African Emerging Ministries, visited with the Commission and the congregation. After his five-day visit, he observed that "The Sudanese at Cottage Grove started out as a mission, but they are evolving as a ministry." In order for this worshipping community to survive and thrive, Rev. Atiemo believes the Sudanese need to have a period of transition (it could take a while) where they determine their own needs, formulate their own plan and then eventually call leadership of their choosing. He stressed that, on the outset of this effort, the Sudanese worshipping community will absolutely need outside financial and logistical support, but they need to develop their own program themselves and then they will be able to operate independently.

Along with property upkeep and maintenance as well as other day-to-day expenses, the congregation no longer has the resources to fund pastoral leadership in the manner in which it has been provided. We recommend changing pastoral leadership to reflect the congregation's actual ability to fund such a position. We regretfully recommend the pastoral relationship between Rev. Dr. David Madsen and Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church be dissolved when the Presbytery funding of his salary package ceases on June 30, 2014.

[The amount of money authorized for the allocation to Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church by the Presbytery of Des Moines to enable it to continue operations through June 30, 2014 was \$61,418. To date, as of May 15, 2014, the amount expended totals \$46,103. A detailed accounting of the total expended by Presbytery will be provided shortly after June 30, 2014.]

**Rev. Goanar Chol**

The Rev. Goanar Chol is an employee of the Presbytery of Des Moines. Considering the recommendations and changes suggested in this report, we recommend that the Presbytery Personnel Committee reassess his position. In order for the next generation of leadership among the Sudanese to develop and for them to determine their own leadership needs, we recommend that Rev. Chol's gifts be used in other ways than in serving with the Sudanese at Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church.

We have observed that the interpretive arena seems to be a particular passion and skill for Rev. Chol. He especially excels at conveying the suffering of his people after many years of war and conflict in South Sudan. He has proved instrumental in mediating among the differing tribes in his country, and has been recognized internationally for these efforts. He has raised funds for vital projects, such as water purification, in South Sudan. His strength is in the national and international domain and is recognized for his work at the Synod and General Assembly level. Therefore, we recommend that our Presbytery continue to encourage Rev. Chol to pursue this passion and vocation and assist him to further focus and participate where his gifts will be best utilized.

**8. Ecumenical Partners**

**We recommend** that we continue the involvement of ecumenical partners and interested stakeholders from the private sector.

- Additional partners could include churches that have historically provided financial and volunteer resources to Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, as well as the Muslim and Jewish communities with connections to Cottage Grove and the Sudanese.
- The interested stakeholders include the parties that currently or may potentially utilize the Cottage Grove building. They include the Sudanese worshippers, the present congregation, Presbytery (building landlord), African Council, CROSS Ministries, Drake Neighborhood Association, Drake University, and social service agencies. These are entities that will likely see the value in a Cottage Grove Presbyterian Mission Center.
- There will be opportunities to enlist the support of other faith communities outside the Presbyterian Church that have a relationship with the Sudanese. Although the majority of Sudanese who live in Des Moines worship and congregate at Cottage Grove Church, a small portion of them worship in other churches throughout the Des Moines area. Sudanese are attending worship services in eight metro Des Moines area churches and one mosque. The other churches are Catholic, Episcopalian, and Lutheran and, like the Presbyterians, reflect their missionary presence in Sudan since the early 1900s. From previous research we know these churches recognize and affirm the valuable role Cottage Grove has played as "home" to the Sudanese.

The following requests will be made of each entity:

1. An affirmation of the vision of Cottage Grove Presbyterian Mission Center as an ecumenical center for the community, as detailed in this report.
2. A commitment to participate as a stakeholder in the formation, development, and management of the center.
3. A commitment to provide resources determined appropriate by the particular stakeholder.
4. A commitment to provide a representative to serve on the Covenant Council.

## **9. Transition**

**We recommend** that Presbytery immediately form the Covenant Council and it be given the responsibility and authority of administering the transition.

*In conclusion, the Commission would like to dearly thank all of the many people of the Des Moines Presbytery and the Larger Church who gave freely and lovingly of their time, wisdom and knowledge to assist us in our work, who care for the life and mission of Christ's Church and have created the supportive environment out of which this report is given. We are certain that due to the enormity of our task, there may be things we have missed, so...*

**Please help us with your thoughts.**

*We invite you to send them via email: [cgpccom@gmail.com](mailto:cgpccom@gmail.com)*

### **Members of the Commission:**

Harold Eklund  
Ronald Grohe  
Virginia Hancock  
Richard Harbart  
Shamaine Chambers King  
Elizabeth Knott  
Joanne Page

### **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:**

Louise Gately  
Jack Ratekin

Respectfully Submitted,  
Richard Harbart, moderator

**APPENDIX D**

**SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING OF  
COMMISSIONERS AND ADVISORY DELEGATES TO  
221st GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**May 20, 2014**

**Moderator:** Brothers and Sisters in Christ, you have been chosen by this presbytery to serve our Lord Jesus Christ in this 221<sup>st</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Your privilege and task is to seek to discern God's will regarding the mission and ministries of this church in the world today. You are called to seek the guidance of God's Spirit in your deliberations and in relationships built.

As many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.  
Galatians 3:27

**People:** There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer male or female; for all of you are one in Jesus Christ.  
Galatians 3:28

**Moderator:** So, lead a life that is worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.  
Ephesians 4:1-4

**People:** There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to the one hope of our calling, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in all.  
Ephesians 4:4-6

**Moderator:** Do you Ted, Ann, and Holly - accept the call of your presbytery, and of the Church, to this service, and commit yourselves to prayerful and considerate discernment and deliberation about the matters that will build up the Body of Christ?

**Commissioners &  
Advisory Delegates:** With the help of the spirit of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we do.

**Moderator:** Let us join in a prayer of dedication.  
Faithful God, in baptism you claimed us and we are yours; renew that covenantal promise we pray by your Spirit, we discern that you are working in our lives, empowering us to live a life worthy of our calling. We thank you for calling these commissioners and advisory delegates to serve you. Establish them in your truth, and guide them by your Spirit, that, together with all your people, they may exercise faith, hope, and love, and be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and Holy Spirit be honor, and glory, now and forever.



**Commissioners &  
Advisory Delegates:**

Be with us throughout the General Assembly, we pray. Help us welcome new things you are doing in the world, and to respect old things you have instituted and sustained. Save us from empty slogans or senseless controversy. Give us occasions of Sabbath rest amid our responsibilities. In our deciding, Lord, bring about what is good for all your people. May your Spirit rule, so that your church may be joined in love and faithful service to Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**All:**

Amen.

**Moderator:**

You are now commissioned to service in the 221<sup>st</sup> General Assembly. Whatever you do in word and deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, giving thanks to God in everything!

**A-3 – CHURCH PROFESSIONAL TASK FORCE REPORT**

**Presbytery of Des Moines  
2013 SALARY CHANGES**

**May 20, 2014**

Report available upon request.

## A-3 - CONGREGATIONAL HEALTH TASK FORCE

May 20, 2014

*Working to affirm and support the health of our 57 congregations and to strengthen their mission of serving our Lord.*

- **Permanent liaisons assigned to the congregations**
- **Assembling resources for the churches to promote ministry health**
- **Building trust in our connectional system**
- **Referring when needed to other task forces or other presbytery groups**
- **Conducting biennial visits**
- **Ensuring regular contacts and communication**
- **Coordinating special fund requests**

A-3-I-1 **Feel free to contact any member of the task force** with your questions, needs or suggestions. Interested in joining our task force? Contact John Gilmore, Nominating Committee.

### **Task Force Members:**

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A-3- I-2 ***Coming Next Year - 2015 Presbytery Lenten Devotional***  
 40 days of learning, contemplating and praying for the ministries of our congregations.  
**Created from the stories of faithfulness of our congregations.**  
 To be published mid-January, 2015  
*Presentation by Dennis Morey at May Presbytery Meeting.*

Respectfully submitted,  
 Jan Scott, moderator

**APPENDIX G****A-4 – CONGREGATIONAL TRANSITION TASK FORCE REPORT****May 20, 2014**

The Task Force has taken the following actions:

A-4-A-1 Approved Rev. Marcy Campbell as moderator of the Session of the Highland Park Presbyterian Church

A-4-A-2 Approved Rev. Dr. Judy Winkelpleck to serve as Interim Pastor at Central Presbyterian Church. Terms to begin March 1, 2014 are:

Cash Salary	\$52,000
Housing	\$28,000
Medical, Dental	\$6,000
Car, Business allowance	\$2,000
Continuing Education	\$1,500
Cell phone reimbursement	\$1,000
Paid vacation	5 weeks

A-4-A-3 Co-opted Rev. John Reynolds to lead the First Presbyterian Church, Oskaloosa, through the transition process

A-4-A-4 Approved Rev. David Klanderman to moderate the Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Oskaloosa

A-4-A-5 Approved Ramona Wink, CRE, to serve as Temporary Supply Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Knoxville. Terms of this half-time position, with 20 hours per week will begin on April 1, 2014 for one year as follows:

Cash Salary	\$22,000
Continuing Education	\$1,500
Mileage	\$200 per month
Vacation	4 weeks

A-4-A-6 Approved Rev. Christopher “Kip” Harris to serve as Stated Supply Pastor at Scotch Ridge Presbyterian Church. Terms at 16-20 hours per week to begin April 20, 2014 for one year are:

Cash Salary	\$14,500
Mileage	\$150 per month
Continuing Education	\$1,500
Housing Allowance	\$600 per month or use of manse
Personal Time Off	4 Weeks
Study Leave	2 Weeks

A-4-A-7 Approved Rev. Dr. John Cole to serve as Interim Pastor of the Heartland Presbyterian Church, Clive with terms to begin June 1, 2014 for one year:

Salary	\$53,000
Housing and Utilities	\$24,000
Board of Pensions	\$28,260.58
SECA	\$7,489
Continuing Education, Cell phone reimbursement, Mileage, parking	\$3,000
Moving Expenses	\$2,000
Vacation	4 weeks
Study Leave	2 weeks
Full Pension, Major Medical, Death and Disability Dues	

A-4-A-8 Approved Rev. Jessica Wietzke to serve as Interim Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Grimes with terms as full-time position to begin May 4, 2014:

Salary	\$44,000
Automobile Allowance	IRS Rate
Continuing Education	\$1,500
Study Leave	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joyce Rash, moderator

## K – COMPASSION, PEACE & JUSTICE TASK FORCE REPORT

May 20, 2014

### JUST NEIGHBORS AWARD

Do you know of a congregation, small group or church member within our Presbytery engaged in compassion, peace and justice ministry? Make a nomination for the Just Neighbors Award! At each meeting of the Des Moines Presbytery, the Compassion, Peace and Justice Task Force recognizes a group or individual doing good work on behalf of others. Nomination forms can be found online at: [presbyteryofdesmoines.org/missions/social-justice.html](http://presbyteryofdesmoines.org/missions/social-justice.html). Recipients have included a diverse array of programs and people. Each receives a certificate, is recognized and lifted up at a Presbytery meeting, and takes home the traveling banner until the next meeting.

This meeting's recipient of the Just Neighbors Award is the **Johnston Community Garden**, coordinated by the **St. Paul Presbyterian Church of Johnston, Iowa Mission Committee**. Congratulations and blessings for a successful growing season dedicated to feeding hungry people!

### RURAL PARTNERSHIP OFFERING

For over three decades, the Presbytery of Des Moines has answered the call of rural congregations and communities and global neighbors with our own special offering. Since this offering was established in 1978, Presbyterians have supported some very creative ministries with a rural focus within the Presbytery and around the world.

- One-third of the offering supports our Presbytery's partnership with Joining Hands-Egypt, as they seek solutions to the causes of poverty in Egypt.
- One-third of the offering supports the Presbytery's partnership in El Salvador, making it possible for our Mission Co-worker Rev. Katherine Pater to coordinate this partnership from La Casa Pastoral in Berlin, El Salvador.
- One third of the offering supports programs and projects in rural and small-town Iowa. Particular emphasis has been on lifting up struggling farmers and farming communities, and for agricultural education.

Our latest grant recipient in Iowa was the United Christian-Presbyterian Church in Bedford, Iowa, which has created a partnership with other community organizations to carry out the Food Backpack Project to provide food and hygiene supplies to local school children in need. Grant requests are considered throughout the year at meetings of the CPJ Task Force. Applications are welcome and can be downloaded and submitted at any time.

Because of congregations and individuals who give to the Rural Partnership Offering, we are able to support great projects like the one in Bedford as well as our global partners working in rural communities overseas.

A limited amount of printed resources are available for the 2014 Rural Partnership Offering at the CPJ Task Force display. Digital materials can be downloaded from the Presbytery's website, [www.dmpresbytery.org/missions/social-justice.html](http://www.dmpresbytery.org/missions/social-justice.html). Please promote the RPO and encourage your congregations to give generously so that, together, we can make a greater impact at home and around the world!

Respectfully Submitted, Michelle Parsons, moderator

## J – GENERAL PRESBYTER REPORT

May 20, 2013

Our culture is one full of comparisons. Whether it's school districts, friends, town size, houses of neighbors, families, cars, sports teams (of course) or even churches, we compare them to others. Making these comparisons is not necessarily bad. We can learn from making them. However, we often fall into the trap of suggesting that, because one of these comparisons seems to indicate that because the item to which we're comparing is bigger, more successful, better, more powerful, the right way to do something, or many other things, we decide that how these things are done is the way we ought to do them. In this time of radical change and challenge in our churches, especially due to the difficulties with gaining and/or losing members, looking at churches that have more members, more money, full-time pastors, better programs, etc., leads to envy and discouragement.

Tim Cool is a consultant on building size, usage and location. In a recent article entitled *Uniqueness and Origin Stories*, he shares some fascinating and interesting thoughts:

“Every church is unique.

“Every church has some context, personality, passion, vision and story that make it unique.’

“Period!”

“However, too often we see a ministry that we aspire to emulate and try to mimic how they do things. We look at their size or their multi-site initiatives or preaching and music style and think that if we can just be like them, we could impact our community in the same way!

“Rick Warren was a big church...can we all agree on that? In a recent devotional on Your Vision, Pastor Warren tells this analogy:

**In my home, the most important light is not the large chandelier in our dining room but the little night-light that keeps me from stubbing my toe when I get up at night. There is no correlation between size and significance. Every ministry matters because we are all dependent on each other to function.**

“Recently, our pastor was teaching on Romans 4:18-21. This is an inspirational passage from Paul about the steadfastness of the father of our faith, Abraham. Read verses 19-21:

*Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead – since he was about a hundred years old – and that Sarah's womb was also dead. Yet he did not waiver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.*

“Wow...I love that...and yet, when read the actual account in Genesis 15-17 about Abraham, we see a flawed man who wavered in his faith constantly. Here are some examples:

1. He sleeps with his wife’s secretary when he and his wife lose faith that God will provide a son.
2. Later in Chapter 16, he deflects responsibility of his actions (of getting his wife’s secretary pregnant) and casts it back on his wife to deal with. Kind of cowardly if you ask me.
3. In Genesis 17:17, Abraham fell out laughing at God. Really...laugh at God. He had lost faith (I am sure I would have, too) that a 99-year-old man and a 90-year-old woman could conceive a child. HMMM...does not sound much like the father of our faith.

“To read Paul’s account of Abraham sounds great and something that we should all aspire to...and we should. But we need to understand the back-story of what a person like Abraham had to endure to get to the point that he could be steadfast. What did he have to live through and witness to be fully persuaded that God had the power to do what He promised?

Seth Godin calls this the ‘Origin stories.’ Think about Hewlett Packard starting in a garage or that Superman was raised by the Kent family or that Jesus himself was the son of a carpenter. Think about all the free throws that Larry Bird would take in the snow in Indiana or the failures of Thomas Edison before he invented the light bulb. All *Origin Stories*.

Godin goes on to say:

**We hear origin stories all the time. They’re magnetic enough that we write books and make movies about them. Here’s the thing: The only thing they have in common is that they are all different.**

**You can’t reverse engineer success by researching origin stories. You can’t follow the same path as those you admire and expect you’ll end up in the same place. Everything worthwhile has an origin, but those origins aren’t the reason that they are worthwhile.**

So, before you covet your neighbor’s church or the church you see on the Internet, remember that there is likely an Origin Story that you have not yet experienced. Once you learn that what those origin stories entail, you may think twice about whether or not you have the same drive or the willingness to make comparable sacrifices to reach the end result.

“Also, remember that the night-light may be the most productive light in your “house.”

May these words give us perspective during the anxious times in which we find ourselves.

Here are some of the places I’ve been and events I’ve attended since our last time together:

- ◆ Participated in several conference calls with other presbytery leaders in our state or synod
- ◆ Met with task force leaders
- ◆ Participated in the Leadership Council Retreat
- ◆ Attended the Mortgage Burning Service at the Ankeny church
- ◆ Met with several pastors



- ◆ Met with pastors interested in serving in our presbytery
- ◆ Attended the Stewardship Kaleidoscope and Synod EP/GP Forum in St. Louis
- ◆ Hosted ecumenical leaders in Iowa
- ◆ Attended several interviews of pastors for positions in our presbytery
- ◆ Preached at 1<sup>st</sup> Church, Knoxville
- ◆ Helped lead orientation of General Assembly Commissioners from North Central Iowa and Des Moines Presbyteries – held in Ames
- ◆ Met with Retired Pastors
- ◆ Attended meetings of Heartland Resource Network and Synod EP/GP Forum in Chicago
- ◆ Had lunch with administrators at Calvin Community
- ◆ Along with Jim Howland, met with the Cottage Grove Administrative Commission

As always, I am happy to share more about any of these activities with you.

During this season of celebrating out Lord's resurrection, I give thanks for all he has done, including bring us together to serve him in south central Iowa. I count it a privilege to be with you in this time and place.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Phil Barrett

**APPENDIX J****R – PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN of the PRESBYTERY (PWP) REPORT****May 20, 2014**

The Spring Connection was held at St. Paul Presbyterian Church in Johnston on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Lois Watson and the women of the church did a wonderful job of hosting the day. Sixty-nine women were present. Worship was led by Rev. Betty Sandy (Indianola, Trinity United). The theme was “*Pass It On.*” Speakers for the day were Ruth Hardin from Crossroads in Iowa, a ministry for women leaving prison. Our offering of \$442.72 will benefit this organization greatly in its start up. The Birthday Offering was also collected that day.

Two workshops were offered in the morning: Margaret Magill (Atlantic, First United) led one on making Alzheimer lap quilts and Denise England (Audubon, First) and Deanne Herr (Indianola, Trinity United) showed women how to make crocheted necklaces that Denise will take when she attends the 2014 Global Exchange to the Caribbean. She is representing our synod on this exchange in November. PW Resources were available on tables, along with some Fair Trade items from El Salvador and Egypt. Mary Lou Briles (Des Moines, Park Avenue), Rev. Linda O’Connell (HR) and Denise shared information about a caravan of women attending the Dakota Presbytery PW meeting in August, from 7 a.m. on August 8 until 10:00 on August 10. The Coordinating Team has designated a scholarship of \$100 per person, making the cost of the trip \$60. Deanne has applications with the deadline being June 6<sup>th</sup>. A meeting will be held for those going.

Marcia and Mark McAdoo (Ankeny) spoke on the topic, “*Helping Others: Going beyond Giving Handouts.*” They stressed the importance of working *for* and *with* others, not just doing things for them; “being the heart, hands, and feet of Jesus.”

A second Mini-Connection will be held on July 19<sup>th</sup> at Trinity United Presbyterian Church in the morning. Rev. Sara Palmer (HR) will provide instruction for leaders of the new Horizon’s Bible Study, “Reconciling Paul.” The workshop is from 9:30-11:30 AM. There will be coffee and light refreshment. Bring your own copies of the new study book, please.

New Coordinating Team members were installed at the Connection: Susan Tinder – Horizons and Resources (Indianola, Trinity United); Marilyn Finney – Search Committee Chair (Clive, Heartland); Pam Deichmann – Search Committee (Winterset, First United); Marilyn Ehram – Area #1 Coordinator (Greenfield, First); and Vivian Thatcher – Area #2 Coordinator (Des Moines, Westminster). Installed in absentia were Angie Williams – Treasurer (Audubon, First) and Darlene Shepherd – Historian (Oskaloosa, First). Special thanks and appreciation were expressed towards outgoing Coordinating Team members Margaret Magill (Atlantic, First United) and Lila Jean Jensen (Audubon, First) for their faithful service.

Sue Kimball (Indianola, Trinity United) attended the synod coordinating team meeting in Windham, Minnesota on April 10-12 and presented training on leadership. She also went to the North Central Iowa Presbytery Spring Gathering in Boone, IA on April 26<sup>th</sup> and presented a talk about leadership. A coordinating team planning meeting will take place on June 21<sup>st</sup> at Windsor Presbyterian Church for the Fall Connection scheduled on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

*We are blessed to have active, motivated, hard-working women in our presbytery! Praise God!*

Respectfully Submitted, Sue Kimball, moderator