

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

PRESBYTERY OF LAKE HURON

Stated Meeting – June 5, 2007

The Presbytery of Lake Huron was called to order with prayer by the Moderator, the Rev. Ken Hetzel, at 9:30 a.m., on Tuesday, June 5, 2007, at Alma College, Alma, Michigan.

The roll was taken, and the moderator announced that a quorum was present. (See Attachment A for list.)

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to enroll the Rev. Thomas Brackbill (Cincinnati Presbytery) as a corresponding member.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to enroll the Rev. James Black (St. Augustine Presbytery) as a corresponding member.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to grant privilege of the floor to Elders Sharon Auger (Flint-Bethany) and Sandy Topham (Burton-Farnumwood).

Welcome by the host pastor was given by the Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg, Chaplain and Director of Spiritual Life at Alma College.

The **STATED CLERK'S** report was given by Douglas Tracy. The Clerk recommended and presbytery approved:

1. the minutes of the April 20, 2007 presbytery meeting as distributed.
2. to accept the resignation of the Rev. William Findlay from the Committee on Ministry team effective May 31, 2007.

The Clerk reported the following to presbytery for information:

3. With sorrow and sympathy to his family and friends, we report the death of the Rev. Gary Jamison on April 30, 2007 in Port Huron, Michigan.
4. That the minutes of presbytery for 2006 have been reviewed by the Synod of the Covenant and approved with two exceptions: there is no report of the Committee on Representation and no report that a consultation was held with persons in the process of preparation for ministry.
5. That the Clerk's office has filed the requests for the following transfers as ordered by previous actions of the presbytery.

The Stated Clerk's office has filed the request for transfer of membership for the following:

Stacey Jones	to the Presbytery of North Central Iowa
Tim Sutton	to the Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys
Laura Kelsey	to the Presbytery of Donegal
Ron Grimes	from the Presbytery of Great Rivers
Douglas Tracy	from the Presbytery of Detroit
Mary Amanda Adams	from the Presbytery of Detroit

The Stated Clerk's office has received confirmation that the transfer of membership is complete for:

Karen Francis	to the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky
Peter Haas	to the Mission Presbytery
Herb Swanson	to the Presbytery of Lake Michigan

6. The Clerk has received the following official correspondence:

From the Rev. George Baird, Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Covenant, a notice of the action concerning the 2006 minutes.

From the Synod of the Covenant's Regional Theological Education Fund (TEF) Representative thanking the presbytery for its donation of \$125.85 (received through a special offering). In addition, twelve churches have donated \$19,038.85 to the TEF during 2006.

The **CHURCH GROWTH COMMITTEE** report concerning the proposed Trinity United Presbyterian Church was given by the Rev. Glenn Grant.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to amend the Covenant of Merger.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED that:

Pursuant to the provisions of the Form of Government in G -11.0103h and under the terms of a "Covenant of Merger" approved by each of the congregations, Bethany Presbyterian Church of Flint, Christ the Liberator Presbyterian Church of Flint, and Farnumwood Presbyterian Church of Burton be merged into a single congregation to be known as Trinity United Presbyterian Church, effective June 5, 2007. (See Attachment B for the covenant.)

Elder Chris Wolf led the presbytery in a follow up to the Blessed Church event held in April. During this time the merger of the three Flint churches was discussed through a discernment process based on the Blessed Church book by Graham Standish.

A **WORSHIP SERVICE** celebrating the history of the three merging churches (Burton-Farnumwood, Flint-Bethany and Flint-Christ the Liberator) and the future of the newly formed Flint-Trinity United took place. Worship was led by the presbytery moderator and the sermon was given by the Rev. Young Kwon.

Presbytery recessed for lunch at 12:30 p.m. following prayer led by the Rev. Louise Brokaw.

The chair was assumed by Elder CJ Merriman, Vice Moderator and presbytery was reconvened at 1:15 p.m. by the Vice Moderator.

The **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY** report was given by Elder Sally Pomeroy. The Revs. Tom Brackbill and Amanda Adams addressed the presbytery relating why they felt called (to Alma-First and Fenton-First) to ministry and to these particular congregations.

The committee recommended and presbytery approved:

1. the call of the Rev. James Offrink as Designated Pastor of Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Flint for a term of three years, effective June 5, 2007. The terms of the call are as follows:

Salary	\$25,863
Housing	\$20,728
Benefits	Full cost of participation in the PC(USA) Pension, Disability and Major Medical Plan
Annuity	<u>\$ 1,200</u>
Total	\$47,791
Vacation	4 weeks
Study Leave	2 weeks
Reimbursable Expenses:	
Study Leave	\$ 1,000
Automobile	\$ 5,000
Medical	\$ 1,250

This action was taken with the concurrence of the three congregations involved in the merger creating Trinity United Presbyterian Church as an action integral to the plan for union as required by G -11.0103h.

2. the appointment of the Rev. Annie Duncan (a minister of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church) as a Temporary Supply (part time) for a term of three years to serve in the role of an associate pastor for Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Flint, effective June 5, 2007. The terms are as follows:

Salary	\$20,000
Benefits	-0-

Vacation	4 weeks
Study Leave	2 weeks

Reimbursable Expenses:

Study Leave	\$ 1,500
Automobile	\$ 1,500

This action was taken with the concurrence of the three congregations involved in the merger creating Trinity United Presbyterian Church as an action integral to the plan for union as required by G -11.0103h.

3. the call of the Rev. Thomas Brackbill as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Alma effective June 15, 2007 and directed the Stated Clerk to request the transfer of his membership from the Presbytery of Cincinnati to the Presbytery of Lake Huron. The terms are as follows:

Effective Salary	\$58,000 (Salary and Housing Allowance to be designated by Candidate)
Benefits	Full cost of participation in the PC(USA) Pension, Disability and Major Medical Plan
Social Security	(7.65% Social Security offset to be paid by the church on effective salary)
Vacation	4 weeks including 4 Sundays
Study Leave	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Reimbursable Allowances	\$2500 Education and Study (for books, study, conference expenses.)
Professional Expenses	\$1000 (stationary, club dues, etc.)
Mileage	Reimbursed at the current IRS Rate
Moving Expenses	Reasonable moving expenses from Cincinnati to Alma will be reimbursed

The call has been pursued in compliance with the AA/EEO policies of the Presbytery.

4. the Presbytery empower the Moderator of Presbytery to act on its behalf to appoint a Commission to install the Rev. Amanda Adams as Associate Pastor at Fenton-First. The date and commission members to be determined.

Actions taken by the Committee on Ministry on behalf of the Presbytery:

1. the call of the Rev. Mary Amanda Adams as Associate Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Fenton, effective June 1, 2007 and directed the Stated Clerk to request the transfer of her membership from the Presbytery of Detroit. The terms of call are as follows:

Salary	\$24,066
Housing	\$12,000
Benefits	Full cost of participation in the PC(USA) Pension, Disability and Major Medical Plan
Utilities	-0-
SECA	\$ 3,015
403b	-0-
Other	Dental Coverage
Vacation	4 weeks
Study Leave	2 weeks
Maternity Leave	8 weeks paid
Reimbursable Expenses:	
Study Leave	\$ 1,195
Books	\$ 400
Automobile/Prof	\$ 1,000
Moving Costs	Full
Other	Mortgage Down Payment Loan, if needed

The call has been pursued in compliance with the AA/EEO policies of the Presbytery.

2. the appointment of the Rev. James Offrink as the moderator of Session at Farnumwood Presbyterian Church, effective June 1, 2007.

The **ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM** report was given by the Rev. Dr. Robert Emrich. Dr. Emrich informed the presbytery that Burton-Farnumwood will be sold as of July 1, 2007 and that Flint-Christ the Liberator will be sold as of August 1, 2007. Flint-Bethany has not been sold to date. The groundbreaking for the new church is expected in mid-July with a completion date of November 15, 2007.

The Administrative Team recommended and presbytery approved:

1. to grant Lapeer-First an exception to the per capita deferment policy and allow it to make per capita payments throughout the year.

Actions taken by the Administrative Team (acting as Trustees) on behalf of the presbytery:

1. A land contract matter: Master's Court Ministries (congregation that purchased the former Grace Presbyterian Church in Saginaw) has requested that their land contract payments be reduced for the next 12 months from the scheduled payment of \$1,550 per month to \$1,000 per month (includes interest and principal). The Administrative Team voted affirmatively to accept this request.
2. Pertaining to the Flint merger: The Administrative Team affirmed and approved the naming of Richard Holland (Christ the Liberator Church) and Ron Shirley (Bethany Church) as Clerks of the Works for the building of the new church (Trinity UPC).
3. The Administrative Team approved obtaining a line of credit of up to \$500,000 from Citizens Bank for the building of the Trinity United Presbyterian Church and that the Presbytery will pay the costs and interest associated with the line of credit (construction loan) from its undesignated cash reserves. This will be the Presbytery's contribution to the building project.
4. The Administrative Team approved the management of any of the three church properties that are not sold by the time the congregation moves into the new facility. For example, it is anticipated that Bethany Church might not be sold by the time they are ready to move to the new church. When that time comes it is the responsibility of the Session to be in touch with the Administrative Team in order that the transition be made smoothly.

(In response to discussion of this item on the Administrative Team report, Vice-Moderator CJ Merriman, who was presiding at the time, instructed that the minutes note that a presbyter urged the presbytery to consider retaining the Bethany Church building as a center for neighborhood mission and that the Administrative Team reminded the presbytery that the sale of all three properties (previously approved by presbytery) is to provide the capital funding for the Trinity United Church building).

5. A Personnel matter: The Administrative Team authorized President Robert Emrich to sign a contract of employment with Douglas Tracy, newly elected Stated Clerk.

The team reports the following for information:

The audit of the 2006 financial records was done by Yeo and Yeo CPAs and was presented to the Administrative Team on May 17. It was a clean audit. Copies are available from the Presbytery Office for anyone who would like to see it.

The **DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES TEAM** report was given by the Rev. Mary Anne Evans-Justin. Ms. Evans-Justin reported that the team will be bringing in a staff member on July 21, 2007 at Midland-Memorial for training on international partnerships. She also reported that the Youth Triennium will be taking place in July.

The Team recommended and presbytery approved:

1. the renewal of the covenant relationship between Alma College and the presbytery for three years.

The **VISIONING TEAM** recommended and presbytery approved that:

1. The Rev. Jesse Perry be elected to the Nominating Committee for a three-year term (class of 2009).
2. Elder Pat Rice (Flint–Bethany) be elected to the Committee on Ministry for a three-year term (Class of 2009).

The **PRESBYTERY STAFF REPORT** was given by the Rev. Louise Brokaw. Ms. Brokaw discussed building new relationships. She then asked for the joys, concerns and other prayer request of the presbytery. The names were lifted up in prayer.

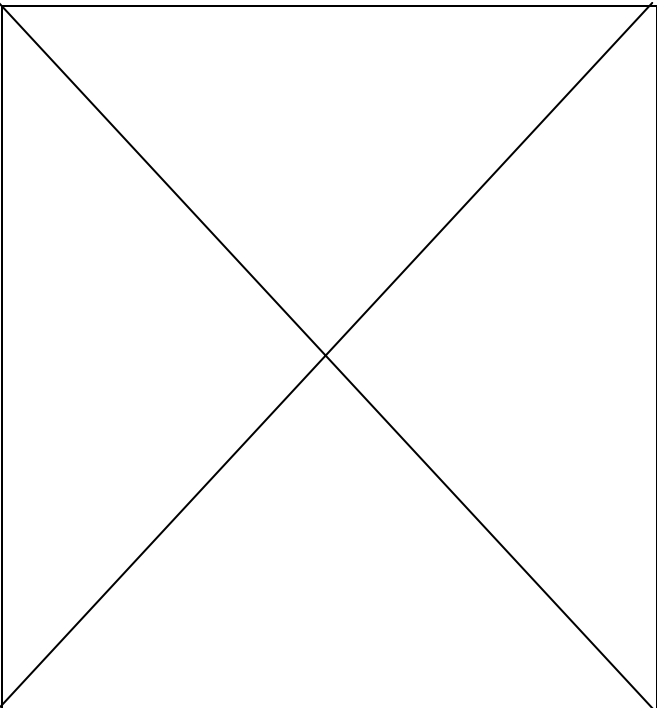
The meeting was adjourned following prayer by the Rev. Louise Brokaw at 2:15pm.

The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Lake Huron will be held Tuesday, August 7, 2007, at Memorial Presbyterian Church, Midland beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Douglas Tracy
Stated Clerk

ATTACHMENT A – Attendance

NAME OF MINISTER	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>	NAME OF MINISTER	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Adams, Amanda	1			Neuville, Donald (HR)		1	
Ahn, Daniel	1			Offrink, James	1		
Anderson, Kenneth (HR)		1		Osborne, Robert (HR)		1	
Baird, George (HR)		1		Park, Dong Won (HR)		1	
Becker, John	1			Parker, Kenneth	1		
Blackburn, David			1	Pattison, Eugene (HR)	1		
Blatt, Karen	1			Perry, Jesse			1
Brokaw, Louise	1			Pierce, David	1		
Brooks, Alexander (HR)		1		Russell, Peter (HR)		1	
Brown, Robert			1	Shoemaker, Rodney			1
Browne, Roger			1	Shugert, Stephen	1		
Chambers, Janice (HR)		1		Smith, Parker	1		
Clark, Bert (HR)		1		Smith, Todd			1
Cundiff, Thomas			1	Stratton, Brian			1
Cunningham, Bruce			1	Swihart, Dale	1		
Darocy, Charles (HR)		1		Taylor, Robert	1		
Der-Garabedian, Lucy		1		Tracy, Douglas	1		
DeRosia, Melissa	1			Vogeley, Richard			1
Duncan, Annie (TS)	1			Walser, Joseph (HR)		1	
Dykstra, Wesley (HR)		1		Weenink, Jeffrey	1		
Emrich, Robert	1			Young, David	1		
Evans-Justin, Mary Anne	1			Young, Nancy	1		
Fargo, Valerie	1						
Findlay, William		1		Total Present	34		
Fox, Robert (HM)		1		Total Excused	24		
Grant, Glenn	1			Total Absent	13		
Gregg, Carol	1						
Grimes, Ronald	1						
Han, Martin			1				
Hennessy, William			1				
Hetzel, Kenneth	1						
Hunter, Rhashell		1					
Jackson, David	1						
Jenkins, Paul (HR)		1					
Jones, William (HR)		1					
Kelly, Beverly		1					
Kwon, Young	1						
Lakey, Robert (HR)		1					
Lawther, Richard		1					
Loenshal, Michael		1					
Marquardt, Charles	1						
Mayton, Wally	1						
McCulloch, Ted			1				
McDowell, John (HR)		1					
McMellen, Larry (HR)	1						
Miller, Carol (HR)		1					
Morningstar, Mark	1						
Musgrave, John	1						
Neumann, James	1						



ATTACHMENT A – Attendance

<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>		<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	
		NAME OF CHURCH			
	1	Alma-Eastminster		1	
1		Alma-First		1	
	2	Bay City-First	1		
	1	Bay City-Memorial		1	
1		Bay City-Westminster			
1		Beaverton			
	1	Birch Run			
1		Breckenridge			
1		Burton			
	1	Caro			
	1	Cass City-First			
	1	Cass City-Fraser			
1		Croswell			
1		Davison			
	1	Deckerville			
	1	Elkton-Chandler			
	1	Fairgrove			
2		Fenton-First			
1		Fenton-Tyrone			
1		Flint-Bethany			
1		Flint-Christ the Liberator			
1		Flint-Community			
1	3	Flint-First			
	1	Flint-Unity			
1		Flushing			
1		Grand Blanc-Kirkridge			
1	1	Grand Blanc-Korean Amer			
1		Harbor Beach			
1		Holly			
	1	Houghton Lake			
	1	Ithaca-First			
	1	Ithaca-Lafayette			
1		Kinde-First			
2		Lapeer			
	1	Linden			
	1	Marlette-First			
1		Marlette-Second			
1		Midland-Chapel Lane			
3		Midland-Memorial			
1		Mt. Pleasant			
1		Rosebush			
1		Saginaw-Countryside Trinity			
	1	Saginaw-First			
1		Saginaw-Korean			
	1	Saginaw-Second			
	1	Saginaw-Warren Avenue			
	1	Sandusky			
	1	Swartz Creek			
1		Tawas			
		NAME OF CHURCH			
		Twining		1	
		Ubly		1	
		Vassar	1		
		Yale		1	
		Total Present	32		
		Total Represented	28		
		Total Not Represented	26		
		LAY COMMISSIONERS			
		CJ Merriman (Vice Moderator)	1		
		Sally Pomeroy (Mod-COM)	1		
		Andrea Drapp (Treasurer)	1		
		Nadine Baxter (Mod-PW)	1		
		Karen Banaszak (CE)	1		
		Total Lay Commissioners	5		
		COMMISIONED LAY PASTORS			
		Kay Adair	1		
		Susan Loenshal		1	
		Sam McKim		1	
		Charles Moerdyk		1	
		Julianne Princinsky		1	
		Dave Schrieber		1	
		Gloria Watson		1	
		Chris Wolf	1		
		CLP Attending	2		
		CLP Not Attending	6		
		MEETING ATTENDANCE TOTALS			
		CATEGORY	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>
		Members of Presbytery	34	24	13
		Corresponding Members	2		
		Commissioned Lay Pastors	2		6
		Commissioners	32		
		Elder Members present	5		
		Visitors (Including LHP Staff)	23		
		Total People in Attendance	98		
		Churches represented	28		
		Churches not represented			26
		Corresponding Members:			
		Rev. Jim Black (St. Augustine)	1		
		Rev. Tom Brackbil (Cincinnati)	1		

ATTACHMENT B – Covenant of Merger

COVENANT OF MERGER

Bethany Presbyterian Church, Christ the Liberator Presbyterian Church
and Farnumwood Presbyterian Church

- I. The following Covenant of Merger is adopted by the Bethany Presbyterian Church of Flint, Michigan, Christ the Liberator Presbyterian Church of Flint, Michigan, and Farnumwood Presbyterian Church of Burton, Michigan, effective as of the date when each of their congregations has approved the plan by a two-thirds majority of those present at a regularly called congregational meeting with such notice and quorum as is required by the By-Laws of each church, and when the Presbytery of Lake Huron has approved the particular merger and this Covenant of Merger.
- II. The purpose of this merger is provide for the worship of Almighty God, instruction in the Christian religion, and participation in the mission of the church in the world by a merged congregation, which will share the property, real and personal, of the merging churches and provide for the services of a minister or ministers for the merged church.
- III. The merged church shall be known as the Trinity United Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- IV. The merged church shall be subject to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church(U.S. A.).
- V. The membership of the merged church shall consist of those who were members of the Bethany Presbyterian Church, Christ the Liberator Presbyterian Church and Farnumwood Presbyterian Church, plus those received into membership by the Session of the merged church.
- VI. The merged church shall be governed by the Session. The Session will be a representative body elected by the congregation from among its members. Initially, the Session shall be comprised of four members from each of the merging churches of the merged church. The initial session shall serve for a period of three years. At the end of this initial term, the session shall be elected and serve according to the By-Laws of the merged church. The minister of the merged church shall serve as Moderator of the Session. Also, initially, the merged church shall have a Board of Deacons comprised of four members from each of the merging churches. The initial Board of Deacons shall serve for a period of three years.
- VII. The Session shall submit its record annually and whenever requested, to the Presbytery of Lake Huron.

ATTACHMENT B – Covenant of Merger

- VIII. Members of the Session of the merged church shall be eligible for membership and office in the higher governing bodies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
- IX. The session of the merged church shall report the total actual membership of the members to The Presbytery of Lake Huron. A similar report of church school members, baptisms, etc, and financial expenditures shall likewise be reported by the Session to the Presbytery of Lake Huron.
- X. The minister or ministers of the merged church shall be full and responsible members of The Presbytery of Lake Huron and shall be subject to discipline as provided below in paragraph XIX.
- XI. After the merger, the initial pastoral relationship with this merged church will be as Designated Pastor, as specified in the Book of Order G-14.0501e. Commencing on the establishment of the merged church by the Presbytery of Lake Huron, the Reverend James Offrink shall be the Designated Pastor for a term of three years and the Reverend Annie Duncan shall be Temporary Supply for a term of three years.
- XII. The merged church will be a corporation to be formed under the laws of the State of Michigan. The corporation shall include in its articles or charter the substance of paragraph IV above. The merged church shall cause By-Laws to be approved.
- XIII. All the property of the merging churches, real and personal, shall be the property of the survivor corporation and renamed church referred to in paragraph XII above. The merged corporation shall be the legal successor of the corporations, if any, of the merging churches, and it shall be bound to administer any trust property or moneys received in accordance with the provisions of the original establishment of any such trust. Pre-existing liabilities from each respective church shall not be causes to levy liens against the property and assets of the newly merged church.
- XIV. Trustees of the corporation shall be elected in harmony with civil law according to constitutional provisions outlined in paragraph IV above.
- XV. While recognizing the basic right of any giver to designate the cause or causes to which a personal gift shall go, the Session shall propose annually to the congregation a general mission or benevolence program.
- XVI. Per capita apportionments shall be paid to the Presbytery of Lake Huron on the basis of the total active membership of the merged church, subject to the expected calculations of the judicatory.
- XVII. All the members of the merged church shall be under the discipline of the Presbytery of Lake Huron according to rules agreed upon in harmony with Constitution of the Presbyterian Church(U.S.A.).

ATTACHMENT B – Covenant of Merger

- XVIII. Appeals or complaints against the actions of the Session shall be made to the Presbytery of Lake Huron.
- XIX. The minister or ministers shall be subject to the discipline of the Presbytery of Lake Huron. In the event of an appeal, the case shall be finally decided by the highest governing body to which the appeal is taken in the Presbyterian Church(U.S.A.).
- XX. The minister or ministers shall participate in the pension, health and disability plan of the Presbyterian Church(U.S.A.).
- XXI. Should it become necessary to amend this Covenant of Merger, the Session of the merged church shall call a congregational meeting of the merged congregation. A two-thirds vote of the congregation is required for amendment. Such amendments shall be sent to the Presbytery of Lake Huron.

As amended and approved by the Presbytery of Lake Huron at its stated meeting on June 5, 2007.