



Presbytery Center
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Together Transforming
Lives, Congregations, Communities, World
Connected to the Spirit of the Northeast and Presbyterian Church (USA)

Highlights of the Stated Meeting of the
Presbytery of Newark
Elmwood United Presbyterian Church
Saturday, March 21, 2009

It was with great joy and thanksgivings to God that we gathered for the March meeting of the Presbytery of Newark. Many thanks go to the Reverend **Robert Burkins**, Clerk of Session **Karen H. Jackson**, and members volunteers of Elmwood Church for serving as our host for this meeting.

The Presbytery entered into a worship service for the Lord's Day. The **Reverend Richard Boyer**, Pastor of Prospect Church Maplewood, preached on the topic "What God Has Made Us". Worship leaders were Stated Clerk Elder **Warren McNeill** and Elder **William Brown**(Elmwood Church). Music was provided by Minister of Music Ms. **Jean James** and Mr. **Hugh Davis**, Director of G-fy-G Glorify God Mass Youth Choir.

Former Moderator, Reverend **Denise Kennedy** served as Moderator for this meeting due to the illness of Moderator Elder **Connie Cosgrove**.

The Reverend **Philip Gehman**, our regional representative from the Board of Pensions, presented an overview of changes in benefits for 2009.

General Presbyter Rev. Dr. **Kevin Yoho** addressed the body on how the Presbytery can be a resource in the current world-wide economic downturn, resources are more precious than ever inviting the church to lead in generosity.

The Presbytery examined and approved for membership the **Reverend Dr. Gregory A. Horn** (Upper Montclair Church) from Elizabeth Presbytery. Rev. Horn formerly served as Head of staff of the Cranford Church. Presbytery took the following actions on pastoral relationships; approved the Rev. **Larry Bauerband** to be Stated Supply of the St. Cloud Church, West Orange. Dissolved the Associated Pastor relationship between Elmwood United Church and Rev. **Curtis A. Jones**.

The Reverend **Thomas Malek-Jones** was awarded a certificate on 25th anniversary of his ordination.

Elder **Barbara Turnbull**, Presbyterian Women addressed the body on activities of PW over last few months.

The Stated Clerk was required to read the March 3, 2009 decision of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) on the appeal of Remedial Case 219-06.

Moderator **Denise Kennedy** led the body in prayer for the morning deliberations on the proposed amendments to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Stated Clerk, Elder **Warren McNeill** presented a brief overview and the analysis from the Association of Stated Clerks.

The Reverend **Charles Thompson** and the Reverend **Laurie McNeill** spoke for 3 minutes each in favor of approval of Amendment 08-B. The Reverend **Patricia Fish** spoke against passing the amendment. Time was give for comments from the floor of Presbytery. The results of the vote on Amendment 08-B was: **42 AFFIRMATIVE VOTES; 8 NEGATIVE VOTES.**

The results of Presbytery of Newark's voting on each of the amendments has been reported to the Office of General Assembly as follows:

<u>Amendment #</u>	<u>Result</u>
08-A	YES
08-B	YES
08-C	YES
08-D	YES
08-E	YES
08-F	NO
08-G	YES
08-H	YES
08- I	NO
08-J	YES
08-K	YES
08-L	YES
08-M	YES
08-N	YES

Attendance Report: 29 Ministers; 43 Elders; 9 Visitors; 4 Mission Council Members; 1 Correspond Minister Member; 1 Commissioned Lay Pastor; Total in attendance: 87; Churches represented: 21

The Presbytery of Newark was adjourned at 12:05 PM with a Benediction and closing prayer by Reverend **Richard Boyer**, to meet again at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, May 26, 2009 TBD.