

STATED CLERK'S REPORT TO PRESBYTERY
October 14, 2011

Since our last Presbytery meeting I have processed the paperwork to receive Diane Wonnemberg as a member of our Presbytery, upon her installation at First Sitka.

Tom Sutherland was called to pastor Metlakatla Presbyterian Church. Tom is a candidate under care of the Presbytery of Inland Northwest, certified by his committee as ready to be ordained. Under the old Book of Order, once Tom was called by Metlakatla and approved by our COM, Inland Northwest would have examined him and ordained him. However, after Tom was called by Metlakatla but before he was ordained, the rules governing ordinations were changed by the New Form of Government.

After consulting with the Stated Clerk of Presbytery of Inland Northwest, all were in agreement: it is the duty of Presbytery of Alaska to examine Tom for ordination, and ordain him if the examination is sustained. Tom has been serving at Metlakatla pending his examination.

The Rev. Janice Stamper moved to Transylvania Presbytery in Kentucky. She received permission of our COM to labor outside of our bounds, and upon approval by Transylvania has been serving as pulpit supply. Their COM approved her entry into membership of their presbytery but Transylvania has not yet taken action on the matter, though we anticipate their action soon.

Adoption by our denomination of the new Form of Government has resulted in the need for congregations and presbyteries to examine their by-laws and adapt them to new circumstances. Our General Council, led by Dr. Dobler, has proposed revisions to our Manual of Operations and I was consulted on these revisions. The proposed changes are on the docket for the presbytery's approval at this meeting.

Dr. Dobler and I will be attending a polity conference in Pittsburg immediately following this presbytery meeting, hoping to become more familiar with the new Form of Government and with the changes in our denomination that may be coming down the pike.

George R. Pasley, Stated Clerk