

2009 SPRING STATED MEETING OF THE ALASKA PRESBYTERY
Northern Light United Church
Juneau, Alaska
April 17 - 19, 2009

ROLL CALL

Church	Minister	Elder(s)
Angoon	<i>Vacant</i>	Randall Gamble
Auke Bay Chapel By the Lake	The Rev. Dr. Doug Dye <i>Rev. Dye was absent excused</i> The Rev. Tracee D. Hackel	David Massey <i>(Elder Massey was late excused)</i> Julie Morris
Craig & Klawock	<i>Vacant</i>	Paul E. Dawson
Haines	The Rev. Ron Horn	Al Badgley
Hoonah	<i>Vacant</i>	J. Diane Woitte
Hydaburg	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Absent unexcused</i>
Kake	<i>Vacant</i>	Mary Ann Kondro
Ketchikan	The Rev. George Pasley	Karl A. Luck
Metlakatla	<i>Served by a non-resident interim</i>	<i>Absent excused</i>
Northern Light Juneau	The Rev. Jesse Perry	Linda Miller Patricia Adkisson
Petersburg	The Rev. Robert Carter	Joyce Schultz
Sitka	The Rev. Randy Russom	Cathy Russom
Skagway	The Rev. Ryan Mandeville	John Tronrud
Wrangell	The Rev. Janice Stamper <i>(Stated Supply)</i>	Sandra Churchill
Yakutat	The Rev. Linda Wescott	Inga M. Hanlon

OTHER MINISTERS ON THE ROLL OF PRESBYTERY

Present:

The Rev. Dr. David Dobler, Pastor to the Presbytery
The Rev. Dr. Walter Soboleff, Honorably Retired
The Rev. Dr. John Zimmerman, Honorably Retired
The Rev. Bob Cameron, Honorably Retired

Absent: (All Excused)

The Rev. Dr. Paul Beran, Honorably Retired
The Rev. Dr. Charles Bovee, Honorably Retired
The Rev. Dr. Henry Fawcett, Honorably Retired

PRESBYTERY STAFF AND OFFICERS WITH VOTE

Elder Fred Baxter, Moderator
Elder Guy Warren, Stated Clerk
Elder Teddy Williams, Recording Clerk

VOTING MEMBERS FROM THE PRESBYTERY COUNCIL

Elder Sheryl Dennis, Finance
Elder Isabella G. Brady, NACC coordinator
Elder Bonnie Sharnbroich, NW M&M Representative
Elder Adeline deCastro, Presbyterian Women

Total Ministers on the roll attending: 13
Total Elder Commissioners attending: 15
Other Voting Elders Present 7
Total Voting Members Present 35

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS PRESENT

The Rev. Eric Chavis, Presbyterian Foundation,
North Puget Sound Presbytery
The Rev. Deva McQueen, Metlakatla Interim Pastor,
Peace River Presbytery
The Rev. Paul McQueen, HR, Peace River Presbytery

OTHER GUESTS, INCLUDING FAMILY MEMBERS

Spouses of Ministers
Miriam Cameron, Haines
Gladys Carter, Petersburg
Others
Elder Crystal Badgley, Haines, CLP Candidate and preaching class
Elder Sue Erickson, COM member, Craig
Cynthia Gleason, Auke Bay, Presbytery Office Manager
Dean Mielke, Exec. Director Mission Development Certificate Program
Elder Harriet Schirmer, Lay Pastor Education Committee
Jan Marie Tronrud, Skagway
Elder Doris Ward, Haines
Venus Zink, Presbytery Treasurer

Friday, April 17, 2009

Call to Order The Moderator, Elder Fred Baxter, called the 2009 Fall Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Alaska to order on October 17, 2009 at 2:05 PM with prayer.

Opening remarks The Rev. Dr. Walter Soboleff gave the opening remarks.

Roll Call and Declaration of a Quorum The Stated Clerk, Elder Guy Warren, conducted the roll call of those attending the meeting. The full listing of the roll is given above. With a sufficient number of elders and ministers present, the Stated Clerk declared that a quorum was present.

Docket Presbytery VOTED to approve the docket as printed.

Temporary Committees The Moderator announced the following temporary committee appointments.

**Temporary
Committees
Continued**

Temporary Clerks:
The Rev. Randy Russom
The Rev. Jesse Perry
Resolutions Committee:
The Rev. George Pasley
The Rev. Ryan Mandeville
Leaves and Absences Committee:
The Rev. Linda Wescott
Elder Adeline DeCastro
Travel Committee:
The Rev. Ron Horn
Elder Julie Morris

- Privilege of the Floor** Presbytery VOTED to grant the privilege of the floor to corresponding members and guests.
- Approval of the Fall 2008 minutes** Presbytery VOTED to approve the minutes of the Fall 2008 meeting as distributed.
- Review of Action Items** Presbytery reviewed the action items to be considered at the meeting.
- Stated Clerk Report** The Stated Clerk, Elder Guy Warren, introduced those attending their first Presbytery Meeting.
- Elder Warren thanked all the churches that submitted their annual report electronically and on time.
- Elder Warren reported that the Rev. Dixie Anders has been dismissed to the Presbytery of Peaks and Prairies and the Rev. Robert Masciola was dismissed to Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery. The Rev. Henry Fawcett was received from Seattle Presbytery. The paperwork for these changes has been processed by the Office of the General Assembly. Rev. Anders departure has left a vacancy on the Presbytery's Committee of Ministry which needs to be filled.
- The Stated Clerk has worked with the Rev. Dr. David Dobler on developing the changes needed for a simplified Presbytery structure.
- Elder Warren reported that the Presbytery needs churches to host Presbytery meetings in 2010. They are again thinking about a teleconference or video conference meeting. Information concerning the communication facilities, particularly broadband internet, available in each community will assist in making this decision.

Stated Clerk Report Elder Warren reminded the Presbytery that his last meeting as
Continued Stated Clerk will be the Fall 2010 meeting. His term expires with that meeting and he will not be available for another term.

Suspension of the Rules on Book of Order Amendment 08-B. The Presbytery **VOTED** to suspend the standard rules of debate concerning Book of Order Amendment 08-B. The adopted rules called for the Presbytery to discuss the amendment at the time specified in the docket on Friday, April 17th. No vote will be taken at that time. The standard rules as laid out in *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, will be followed in this discussion. Voting on the matter will be conducted at 4:00 PM, Saturday, April 18th, with no additional debate or discussion prior to the vote. The vote will be taken by secret ballot. Prior to the distribution of ballots, the Moderator will call for a prayer for discernment. If the votes against concurrence exceed those for concurrence the Presbytery will be shown as voting against concurrence. If the vote is tied, the Presbytery will be shown as taking no action on the matter.

Pastor to the Presbytery The Rev. Dr. David Dobler, Pastor to the Presbytery, read a selection from the Book of Ephesians from a Bible he received as a 6th grader in the Congregational Church in Boston.

Rev. Dobler reported that the General Assembly Council is cutting their budget which means they will probably implement the changes in September. Things are going to need to be done differently in the whole church, and things will also be different in our Presbytery. He reported that much of the mission funding we have received in the past will be cut.

He reported that leadership is a great challenge. The day where every church has an ordained Minister of the Word and Sacrament is gone. Our Presbytery is in need of local leadership and we do not now have the numbers of mature elders to govern, trained treasurers to steward resources, nor teachers to instruct that we need for our churches to continue.

Sheldon Jackson College In his role as the President of Sheldon Jackson College, Rev. Dobler reported that the college's Trustees are working on selling land that is not integral to the school's educational programs to pay the large debt the college has incurred. They have been talking to Dubuque Theological Seminary about helping to rejuvenate the school.

PCUSA Board of Pensions Rev. Dobler spoke on the denomination's Board of Pensions program. There is now an open enrollment period for the program's Long Term Care Insurance. The open enrollment period will continue until the end of May.

**Pastor to the
Presbytery
Continued
Presbytery Finances**

The Presbytery Treasurer, Venus Zink, presented a review of our 2008 Financial Report. It was noted that we had a shortfall of income funds in 2008. This included a loss on our investment account of \$104,000. Zink reported that the Finance Committee decided to close the Merrill Lynch investment account and place the funds in a six month CD. *A full copy of the 2008 Financial Report is given as an appendix to these minutes.*

With the assistance of Treasurer Zink, Rev. Dobler then gave a felt-board demonstration showing the income the Presbytery could expect in the future and the expenses we are currently incurring. The net result of the figures they presented is that the Presbytery will have to reduce its expenditures in the future. Fortunately, funds currently held in reserve can cover the gap for a couple of years, but if used entirely for that purpose, in about three years the Presbytery will still have the gap and no reserves.

In terms of leadership, Dobler noted that the Presbytery has less than 1000 active members and the Presbytery needs to look at expanding its Elder leadership and the need to train new elders. The Presbytery is also challenged by the number of pastors it can recruit and pay for.

With regards to the property used by our churches, Rev. Dobler observed that God provides for the work he wants done. He noted that the property the presbytery owns is in need of maintenance and we do not have the capital resources to respond to many of these needs. The congregations are not able to keep up with maintenance, major repairs seem impossible, and some of our properties are vacant. He believes that the Presbytery cannot ignore the maintenance needs nor the looming liabilities they represent.

He concluded by reporting that the General Council will present a budget to the Presbytery at the Fall meeting using the \$150,000 in income we can anticipate in 2009 and most likely some from the reserves.

**Mission
Development
Certificate (MDC)
Program**

Dean Mielke, Executive Director of the Mission Development Certificate (MDC) Loan Program, spoke to the Presbytery. Mielke reported that the MDC program is still going strong. They have made many loans to churches for repairs. He noted that both the Chapel by the Lake and Northern Light United Church have both borrowed money from the program and both have recently completed payments on their loans.

- MDC Program** Mielke presented copies of their original notes and gave representatives from each church a small gift honoring them for the repayment of their loans.
- Continued**
- General Council** The Rev. Randy Russom, coordinator of the General Council, reported that the Council had met once since the last meeting of Presbytery and had prepared changes to the Presbytery By Laws and had approved a recommendation that the Presbytery create a Stated Clerk Search Committee. Presbytery consideration of all of these matters was scheduled for Saturday afternoon. Rev. Russom recommended that all of the members review the printed materials.
- Presbyterian Foundation** The Rev. Eric Chavis, Development Officer for Presbyterian Foundation, spoke to the Presbytery. He noted that the Foundation includes the New Covenant Fund and New Covenant Trust Company. They practice socially responsible investing.
- The Foundation is in the process of rebalancing their portfolio of \$1.7 million. Rev. Chavis reported that as of March the fund is ahead of most national investment indices. He has information on the investment and giving opportunities available from the Foundation, and encouraged anyone with questions about the Foundation to speak with him.
- Book of Order Amendment 08-B Discussion** Presbytery discussed Book of Order Amendment 08-B *Ordained Officers: On Amending G-6.0106b, G-14.0240 and G-14.0450 (Item 05-09)*. Per the previously adopted procedure, vote on the Amendment was held until Saturday afternoon.
- Break for Dinner & Reconvene** Presbytery recessed at 5:30 pm with prayer for the meeting and the meal led by the Rev. Dr. John Zimmerman. Following dinner the Presbytery reconvened at 7:00 pm.
- Elders' Reports Part 1** The Elders' Reports from Angoon, Chapel by the Lake, Craig and Haines were given. *The details of these reports are given at the end of these minutes.*
- Evening Worship with Necrology** The Presbytery was led in worship by attendees of the preaching class held prior to Presbytery. Prayer and music was led by Elder Paul Dawson of Craig/Klawock. The scripture reading from Luke 15 was given by Elder Sheryl Dennis of Skagway and the sermon was given by Elder Adeline deCastro of Craig/Klawock.

- Necrology Report** The service included the reading of the Presbytery's Elder/Minister Necrology report. Those remembered included:
Elder Frances Marvin, NLUC, died 11/1/2008
Elder Annabell Revels, NLUC, died 8/8/2008
The Rev. Inez Ellard, died 4/22/2008
Elder Violet 'Connie' Conard, Skagway, died 3/25/2008
Elder Martha Nelson, Angoon, died 11/18/2007
- Recessed for the evening** Presbytery was recessed for the evening at 8:05 pm with prayer led by the Rev. Bob Cameron.

Saturday, April 18, 2009

- Morning Devotion** Presbytery reconvened at 8:30 am, Saturday, April 18, 2009 with prayer led by Elder Harriet Schirmer. The Presbytery was then led in worship by attendees at the Lay Pastor Training class held prior to Presbytery. The scripture reading from Luke 15 was given by Eric Leegard of Auke Bay and the sermon was given by Elder Crystal Badgley of Haines.
- Elders' Reports Part II** The Elders' Reports from Northern Light United Church, Kake, Ketchikan, Metlakatla and Petersburg were given. *The details of these reports are given at the end of these minutes*
- Lutheran Boat Ministry** The Rev. Stan Berntson and Sharon Geldaker, skipper and first mate of the M/V Christian, spoke of their ministry in Southeast Alaska. The vessel is owned by the Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots (LAMP). LAMP serves Native American congregations throughout the United States and seeks to encourage Native leaders. They reported that the program has been in Southeast Alaska for 20 years. They both are long time Ketchikan residents.
- Last year they helped lead a Vacation Bible School in Kake. They have gone to many logging camps. This is a cross cultural ministry. They minister to a variety of people, not just Natives. They are now seeking a partnership with our Presbytery for our small, isolated congregations. Already they have worked with the church in Hydaburg helping with their Vacation Bible School. Last January they were in Angoon and passed out blankets and quilts to the new babies in the community. They have been in most of the small communities in Southern Southeast Alaska. In January they put the boat in dry dock and they are now looking at returning the boat to the water.
- Prayers for Rev. Stan Berntson and Sharon Geldaker were given by the Rev. George Pasley.

Mission & Ministry Groups and Break The plenary session recessed at 9:45 am to permit the three Mission and Ministry groups to meet. Following these meetings the full presbytery reconvened at 11:15 am.

Presbyterian Women Elder Adeline deCastro presented the report for the Presbyterian Women (PW). She noted that she has attended many women's meetings. She described these meetings as part handiwork, food, Bible study, and fellowship. In the past, PW trained the younger women. Now with so many women working outside the home it is getting harder for women to attend meetings. They have conducted meetings over the internet. She echoed the opinion that any woman that attends a Presbyterian Church is a Presbyterian Woman. She expressed thanks for the work done by Elder Janell Privett of Wrangell. Elder deCastro noted she does not like to see the decline of the meetings. However, she noted that some will persevere and with God's help will continue to meet needs.

Rainbow Glacier Camp The Rainbow Glacier Camp report was given by the Rev. Randy Russom. He reported that the Camp has hired Bill Daniels from Montana as the new Camp Administrator. Amy Junkin, the Camp's Program Director, will remain on the staff. University Presbyterian Church in Seattle is once again working on providing camp counselors. There will be a shorter season this year due to the need to upgrade the water and septic systems. A new well is planned. Next year they hope to have a full camping season.

Nominations Elder Crystal Bagley reported for the Nominations Committee. The Nominations Committee nominated the Rev. Bob Carter to fill a vacancy on the Committee on Ministry. The term expires December 31, 2010.

Following a period for additional nominations, Presbytery **VOTED** to close the nominations and elect Rev. Carter to fill the vacancy on the Committee on Ministry.

The Rev. Randy Russom, on behalf of the General Council, nominated the Rev. Tracee Hackel to fill the vacancy on the Nominations Committee. The term expires December 31, 2011.

Following a period for additional nominations, Presbytery **VOTED** to close the nominations and elect Rev. Tracee Hackel to fill the vacancy on the Nominations Committee.

The Stated Clerk, Elder Guy Warren, reported that there would be a number of additional positions to fill at the Presbytery's Fall Meeting. He urged the members to assist Nominations in finding individuals who could serve the Presbytery.

Committee on Representation The Coordinator of the Presbytery Representation Committee, the Rev. Bob Carter, reported that the committee had met by teleconference. He reported that there are currently 47 elected positions in this Presbytery; 20 of these are filled by Ministers, and 27 filled are filled by laypersons. 21 are filled by women, and 26 by men. Only one position is filled by a Native man, with 4 positions filled by Native women. He noted that the Presbytery needs to encourage people to accept nominations. He observed that we have no youth and no people with disabilities in any of our positions. Rev. Carter urged the members to let the Representation Committee know if they have concerns about the nominations.

Elders' Reports Part III The Elders' Reports from Sitka, Skagway, Wrangell and Yakutat were given. *The details of these reports are given at the end of these minutes.*

Break for Lunch and Reconvene Presbytery recessed at 12:06 pm for lunch with prayer for the meeting and the meal led by the Rev. Dr. David Dobler. Following lunch, Presbytery reconvened at 1:00 pm.

Hoonah/IRS Issue The Moderator, Elder Fred Baxter, reported that the Presbytery Trustees have received word that the Internal Revenue Service has filed claims for payroll taxes not paid in Hoonah. It appears that, without full disclosure to the Session and the Presbytery, a program not directly related to the work of the church was operated by the Hoonah church. The program hired workers, and in at least some cases, failed to pay all of the required employer/employee taxes. The IRS has filed a claim for payment. The Hoonah records are not complete and it is hard to verify all the information, so there are questions as to what exact tax liabilities have been filed, paid, or still due and owing. The Trustees have been working with an accounting firm on this matter and, at this point, a liability of about \$22,000 has been identified. There may be other undetermined tax amounts owed as well to IRS and or the State of Alaska for prior or subsequent filing periods. The Trustees recommended and the General Council agreed that the Presbytery proceed with payment of the known tax liabilities (taxes, interest and penalty).

Committee on Ministry
CLP Crystal Badgley The Rev. Ron Horn reported for the Committee on Ministry. He reported that the Haines Session had requested that Elder Crystal Badgley be commissioned as a Lay Pastor for Worship and Congregational Care. Rev. Horn would be her mentor and she will be under the authority of the Haines Session. *A full listing of her responsibilities and her terms of call is included as an appendix to these minutes.*

**Committee on
Ministry**
*CLP Crystal Badgley
Continued*

Following an examination by the Presbytery, the Presbytery **VOTED** to approve the commissioning of Elder Crystal Badgley as a Lay Pastor for Worship and Congregational Care effective June 1, 2009, for a period of two years, for the church at Haines with the responsibilities as given in the original request.

Rev Horn then asked Elder Badgley the constitutionally mandated questions. The Rev. Dr. John Zimmerman led the Presbytery in prayer and in a laying on of hands for Elder Badgley.

COM Actions Rev. Horn reported that the COM had met the day before Presbytery and had approved the Church Information Form for the Kake church with a few edits which should be completed in a few days.

In a written report, these COM actions were reported.

COM had accepted the transfer of the Rev. Dr. Henry Fawcett from Seattle Presbytery into Alaska Presbytery and had given him blanket approval to preach outside the bounds of Alaska Presbytery.

COM had approved the dismissal of the Rev. Bob Masciola to the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse.

COM approved the formation of a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) at the Kake Church and had appointed Elder Joyce Schultz as the COM liaison with the Kake PNC. The Rev. Bob Carter has been appointed the Moderator of the Kake Session.

COM approved the Interim Pastor Covenant between the Rev. Deva McQueen and the Metlakatla Church.

COM approved the Commission to install the Rev Dr. Doug Dye as the Pastor at Chapel by the Lake. The installation took place on November 16, 2008 at 5:00 pm at the Chapel by the Lake. The members of the commission were the Rev. Dr. David Dobler, the Rev. Tracee Hackel and Elders Joe Orsi (Chapel by the Lake), Gail O'Dell (Northern Light) and Randy Gamble (Angoon).

COM approved the Rev. Ron Horn's request to labor outside the bounds of Alaska Presbytery to do a funeral in Seattle.

COM approved the Stated Supply Covenant between the Rev. Janice Stamper and the Wrangell Church.

COM appointed the Rev. George Pasley as the interim Moderator of the Hydaburg and Craig Sessions.

**Committee on
Ministry
COM Actions
Continued**

COM approved the Rev. Ryan Mandeville laboring outside the bounds of the Presbytery to lead a wedding in Hawaii.

COM approved the dismissal of the Rev. Dixie Anders to the Presbytery of Plains and Peaks.

COM approved the current terms of call for all pastors and found them to be within our required parameters.

COM appointed the Rev. George Pasley as the Presbytery's representative to the Board of Pensions.

COM appointed Elder Sue Erickson to be the Moderator of the Craig/Klawock session and to moderate the congregational meeting at which a PNC was elected. COM approved having Elder Betty Isaacs serve communion for one year, after appropriate training by the Rev. George Pasley.

Due to funding concerns and a lack of desired interest, the COM has withdrawn the Presbytery's Designated Pastor Church Information Form.

**Hoonah Administrative
Commission**

Rev. Horn reported that the COM had learned that:

The session of the Hoonah Presbyterian Church ("HPC") has not met in several months;

There are only 2 elders who remain as possible session members so a quorum is not possible; and

The congregation of the HPC has not met for worship as a Presbyterian Church in several months.

The Alaska Mission for Christ of the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church has been using the church and manse. The Lutheran Pastor was dismissed by the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church and as a result the lease with the Lutherans was terminated.

At the recommendation of the COM and pursuant to G-9.0500 of the *Book of Order*, Presbytery **VOTED** to appoint an Administrative Commission to investigate and determine whether a viable Presbyterian Church continues to exist in Hoonah, Alaska and to take appropriate action based upon its investigation.

The Commission is authorized and empowered to:

Act as the session of Hoonah Presbyterian Church (HPC);

Assume all authority and responsibility for HPC, its congregation and its property;

**Committee on
Ministry**
*Hoonah Administrative
Commission
Continued*

Inquire and investigate the viability of HPC as a church within this Presbytery;

Exercise its discretion to determine whether HPC should continue to be a church within this Presbytery;

In the event the Commission determines that HPC should continue as a church, the Commission may take any and all action to organize, rebuild, and reconstitute HPC, including without limitation, to (a) hire or otherwise provide for temporary pulpit supply, (b) call congregational meetings for the purpose of electing a session and/or pastor nominating committee, (c) act as the pastor nominating committee, (d) accept new members of the congregation, and (e) continue to act as the session until a new session is elected and installed. In the event the Commission determines that HPC should not continue as a church, the Commission may take any and all action to close HPC, including but not limited to dismissing and transferring members to other congregations and disposing of any church property.

The Commission shall report its decisions and final actions to the Presbytery.

As part of this action and at the recommendation of the COM the following persons **were elected** to serve on the Commission: The Rev. Dr. David Dobler, The Rev. Dr. Henry Fawcett, The Rev. Dr. Walter Soboleff, The Rev. Dr. John Zimmerman, Elder Gail O'Dell, Elder Kathy Ruddy, Elder Sheryl Dennis and Elder Joey George. Elder Gail O'Dell was elected to serve as Moderator.

As part of this action and at the recommendation of the COM, the Presbytery **VOTED** that in the event any of the elected members of the Commission should decline his or her election, resign, or is unable to act on the Commission, that the Moderator of Presbytery be authorized to appoint a replacement in order to keep at least seven persons on the Commission.

Presbytery requested that prior to its final report that the Commission periodically report back to the Presbytery.

Prayer for the commission and the people of Hoonah was given by Elder Mary Ann Kondro.

Announcements
Soboleff coffee mugs

Elder Kathy Ruddy reported that there were still mugs honoring the Rev. Dr. Walter Soboleff available for purchase. A portion of the proceeds from the sale is being given to support mission in the Presbytery.

Announcements The Rev. Janice Stamper announced that the Episcopal church *Wrangell Episcopal Gathering* would be hosting a convocation in Wrangell in September on integrating culture and practical ministry. The Rev. Dr. Martin Brokenleg will be speaking. Housing will be available.

Lay Pastor Education Task Force Elder Dr. Harriet Schirmer reported on behalf of the Lay Pastor Education Task Force. She noted that eleven people were involved in the Preaching class this week that was taught by the Rev. John Zimmerman. She reminded the presbytery that the standard practice for these courses is that the Presbytery pays 60% of the cost, the home church pays 20% and the student pays 20%. The Task Force encourages people who think they might like to become Lay Pastors to talk to members of the Task Force.

Schirmer noted that there are other needs in the churches of the Presbytery beyond simply lay pastors. For that reason they were proposing a change to their name and their mission statement.

It is their hope that in the next year they could offer a new series for Elders on 'How to make a small church work.' They would be offering this on paper, on DVD and a couple of teleconferences.

They also are looking at a series on inter-cultural relationships and small church administration.

Per a recommendation from the Task Force, the Presbytery **VOTED** to change the name of the Task Force to the 'Leadership Equipping Center'.

Per a recommendation from the Task Force the Presbytery **VOTED** to change the mission of this task force to read as follows:

"The mission of the Leadership Equipping Center is to develop and deliver training modules to enrich the ministries of elders and lay leaders in the churches of Alaska Presbytery."

Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) The Rev. Tracee Hackel, coordinator of the Presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry, reported on the status of the Presbytery's current inquirers and candidates for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament.

Rev. Hackel reported that Candidates Keith and Laura Hudson are finishing an internship and have been given permission to begin circulating their Pastor Information Forms. They will be eligible to accept a call in October, which will be the one year point from their being moved into Candidacy status.

CPM Continued Rev. Hackel reported that Inquirer Dale Bucich is in the middle of his second year at Dubuque Seminary and will be interning at a church in Iowa during the summer.

**Announcement
Princeton Hall Trip** Those in Juneau on Sunday were invited to sign up for a short trip on board the Princeton Hall. Those interested were urged to contact Elder Kathy Ruddy.

**Personnel and Staff
Support Committee** The Rev. Linda Wescott reported on behalf of the Personnel and Staff Support Committee. The Committee has three new members. They have been reviewing the Presbytery's staffing needs in light of the likely reduced funding amounts. However, the Committee believes that an immediate reduction in staff would not be a good idea.

Per a recommendation from the Committee, the Presbytery **VOTED** to recommend when drafting the 2010 budget that the General Council be asked that the Presbytery's current three part-time positions be kept in place for 2010.

Trustees The Rev. Jesse Perry reported for the Presbytery Trustees. The Trustees presented a new proposed Presbytery Sexual Misconduct Policy.

Following an amendment from the floor, the Presbytery **VOTED** to adopt the Proposed Sexual Misconduct Policy. *The full text of the policy as amended is included as an appendix to these minutes.*

Rev. Perry reported that about \$35,000 was given out to various churches for upkeep in the past year.

At the request of the Sitka session and at the recommendation of the Presbytery Trustees, the Presbytery **VOTED** to approve the Presbytery loaning the Sitka church \$20,000. They will begin paying back the loan on June 1, 2009. The repayment will consist of ten equal payments.

Healing Robe It was reported that the Healing Robe given to the Presbytery last Fall was being loaned to Metlakatla for use during the memorial service for the Rev. Dr. Walter Soboleff's wife Stella.

Break Presbytery recessed at 2:50 pm. Following the recess, the moderator called the meeting back to order at 3:15 pm.

**Native American
Consulting
Committee
(NACC)** Elder Isabella Brady reported for the Native American Consulting Committee. They too are also feeling the reduction in funding and are dependent on what they can do with the money restrictions. The spirit of fellowship and friendship is evident at times and other times not. Lacking right now is the singing.

NACC Elder Brady noted that she believes that one problem with the
Continued Presbyterian Church is that it doesn't fully understand the history of the Natives. She noted that the first mission in Alaska was to the Natives. Elder Brady then introduced individual members who spoke on various matters.

Elder Randy Gamble from Angoon spoke on the alcoholism and drug problems in Angoon. This problem is difficult to deal with as Alaska Natives. He noted that they are trying to reach out to the alcoholics. They are explaining to the people who stumble into their church who God is and sometimes they come back the next day. Some people have admitted that they have used drugs in the past, but found the Lord and are no longer using.

Elder Patricia Adkisson from Northern Light United Church (NLUC) observed that Native traditions are a part of a vibrant church at NLUC. They enjoy the privilege of their identity and enjoy doing that in the house of the Lord. They have been encouraged to stretch and they value who they are. They are finding their gifts as members of the church and Presbytery. They are trying to address some of the issues they were born into. They are now committed to helping with the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) conference next spring. They will work on the healing part of the conference and work with other churches.

Elder Sandy Churchill of Wrangell noted that she feels they are fortunate to have a lot of culture in their church. She was once asked what she would like to see in her church and she said she like to see more Native culture in the church and it has been happening.

Elder Adeline deCastro of Craig/Klawock reported that she is concerned about the subsistence lifestyle that many Natives are used to. She feels she is too old to maintain a subsistence lifestyle. Therefore, she needs younger people to remember the elders and to share their meat, berries and other subsistence items with the elders. She too is concerned about alcohol abuse in her community. They also have issues with registered sex offenders in their community. She noted that she is very careful where her granddaughter goes and stated we need to work to protect our youth. She concluded by urging people to contact the Presbytery office to use the Healing Robe. She gave thanks to Elders Isabella Brady and Rosie Fay who came up with the idea and help create the Healing Robe.

NACC Continued Elder Brady concluded by expressing her concerns about Sheldon Jackson College and what is happening to it. She has some concerns about the property held by the College being sold. She noted that the school means a lot to the Natives.

Finance Report Coordinator Elder Sheryl Dennis reported for the Finance Committee. She introduced the new members of the Committee. They had a review of the Presbytery's financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2008 conducted by the accounting firm of Altman, Rogers & Company. The firm concluded that "Based upon our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles."

Elder Dennis noted that this is a good report. Elder Dennis thanked the Presbytery Treasurer, Venus Zink, for help in getting our financial records together.

Voting on Amendment O8-B Following a prayer for discernment led by the Rev. Bob Carter, the Presbytery VOTED by a secret ballot to NOT CONCUR with Book of Order Amendment O8-B. *Ordained Officers: On Amending G-6.0106b, G-14.0240 and G-14.0450 (Item 05-09).* The vote on the amendment was 12 votes for concurrence and 21 against.

General Council Actions Upon the recommendation of the General Council, Presbytery VOTED to amend the By-Laws as proposed by the General Council. *The full text of the amendments is given as an appendix to these minutes.*

Upon the recommendation of the General Council, Presbytery VOTED to request that the Presbytery ask the Presbytery Moderator to appoint a Stated Clerk Search Committee, with the committee presenting a nominee no later than the Spring 2010 meeting of Presbytery.

Upon the approval of this action, Moderator Baxter announced that he had appointed the Rev. Ron Horn, Elder Joyce Schultz and Elder Linda Miller to serve on the search committee.

Book of Order Amendments By an omnibus motion and per a recommendation from the Presbytery's Committee on Bills and Overtures, the Presbytery VOTED to CONCUR with the following amendments to the Book of Order and Ecumenical Statements.

08-A. *Vows of Membership: On Amending G-5.0200 (Item 04-02)*

**Book of Order
Amendments
Continued**

08-C. *Replacing the Word “Sympathy” with the Word “Compassion” On Amending G-6.0202b and G-6.0401 (Item 04-01)*

08-D. *General Assembly Mission Council Name Change: On Amending Throughout the Book of Order (Item 08-05)*

08-E. *Non-Geographic Presbyteries: On Amending G-11.0102 and G-12.0102k (Item 03-07)*

08-F. *Presbytery Membership of Certified Christian Educators: On Amending G-11.0407 and G-14.0730 (Item 04-23)*

08-G. *Synod Membership on Permanent Committees: On Amending G-13.0107, G-13.0108, and G-13.0202a (Item 04-18)*

08-H. *Five Ordination Examinations: On Amending G-14.0431 (Item 14-01)*

08-I. *Certified Christian Educators: On Amending G-14.0730 (Item 04-17)*

08-J *Alternative Forms of Resolution: On Amending D-2.0103 and D-10.0202h (Item 04-15)*

08-K *Ecumenical Statement with the Roman Catholic Church: On Ratifying a Common Agreement on Baptism (Item 07-08)*

08-L *Ecumenical Statement with the Episcopal Church: On Adopting an Agreement (Item 07-11)*

08-M *Ecumenical Statement with the Korean Presbyterian Church in America On Adopting a Covenant Relationship Agreement (Item 07-04)*

08-N *Ecumenical Statement with the Moravian Church: On Adopting a Covenant Partnership Agreement (Item 07-10)*

New Business The Stated Clerk reported that no additional new business had been given for presbytery consideration.

In response to a question concerning the grant obtained by the Company of Pastors, the Stated Clerk reported that if the grant is still available it would still be usable as the By-Law changes adopted earlier do not go into effect until January 1, 2010.

Leaves and Absences The Rev. Linda Wescott and Elder Adeline deCastro reported on behalf of the Leaves and Absences Committee. At the recommendation of the Committee the Presbytery **VOTED** to consider the late arrival of the Chapel elder, and the absence of the Metlakatla excused. The Hydaburg Elder will be shown as unexcused.

Leaves and Absences Continued As part of the same action, Presbytery **VOTED** to show the Reverends Doug Dye, Paul Beran, Charles Bovee and Henry Fawcett as excused. The following early departures were also shown as excused: The Rev Dr. Walter Soboleff, the Rev. Tracee Hackel and Elders Julie Morris, Paul Dawson and Inga Hanlon.

Session Records It was reported that the records from the Kake church had been received and would be reviewed. The other churches were urged to submit copies of their records to the office so that they could be forwarded to the Sessions Records committee for review.

Recess Presbytery meeting recessed at 4:20 with prayer led by the Rev. Janice Stamper.

SUNDAY – April 19, 2009

Worship with the Northern Light United Church At 11:00 am, Presbytery joined in Sunday worship with the congregation of the Northern Light United Church in Juneau. The Reverends George Pasley and Ryan Mandeville presented the Resolutions Committee report, thanking the NLUC congregation for hosting the meeting. The Rev. Jesse Perry presented the worship message. The Spring 2009 Presbytery meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm with the benediction for the service given by Rev. Perry.

ELDERS' REPORTS

The following Elders Reports were presented throughout the meeting as described above. They are included in a single section to provide for continuity.

Frances Johnson Memorial Church (Angoon)

Elder Randy Gamble presented the report for the Angoon church. He noted that Elder Joey George is involved with the lay pastor program and is leading services. They average about \$1500 after paying bills. Several VBS groups are coming to Angoon this summer. One group is from Philadelphia and two are from the Northwest. The kids always respond actively to those leading these programs. One of the groups from Washington will include Rick Hansen, who leads a basketball camp. The Princeton Hall transports people from Juneau to Angoon to help the church there. The M/V Christian docks in Angoon and the children are very responsive when they see it. This ship takes people on short trips and they have activities for the kids to do. Elder Gamble reported that Carol Martin and Cynthia Frank are hoping to attend seminary. Easter brought 25 people to church; they average 15-20 each Sunday. Elder Gamble gave thanks for the Chapel by the Lake and the Partnership they have with the Angoon Church.

Prayer for Angoon was given by the Rev. Tracee Hackel.

Chapel by the Lake (Auke Bay)

The report for the Chapel by the Lake was given by Elder Dave Massey. He reported that things are going well at the Chapel, mainly because Pastor Doug Dye has joined them. Elder Massey noted it is a great relief to have a permanent pastor in place. The Chapel's Christmas activities were the highlight of the year. The Chapel's long range planning team is working on a number of options, especially replacing the church roof. The Chapel is also looking at rebuilding their main entrance and expanding the size of their fellowship hall. Chapel members have been on mission trips to the West Bank in the Middle East, Senegal, and many have been involved with local mission. The Rev. Kenneth Bailey was the guest speaker at their annual renewal program. Elder Massey invited people to attend their renewal program next year. It will be held on March 5-7. Marva Dawn will be the guest speaker. He noted that much has been accomplished this year at the Chapel. They are joyful for their staff and all that they are doing.

Prayer for Chapel by the Lake was given by the Rev. Ryan Mandeville.

First Presbyterian Church of Craig and Klawock

The report for the church in Craig/Klawock was given by Elder Paul Dawson. He reported that their pastor, the Rev. Dixie Anders, had been called to another church this year. Elder Sue Erickson is helping lead the church during the time without a pastor. The Elders are leading worship and delivering the sermons. They continue to nurture their congregation and many people have picked up the jobs that need to be done around the church. Three of their elders are participating in the Presbytery Preaching class. Sunday school has 3-5 youth and 3 adults attending. During advent they held a crafts event which was well attended by the children. They have just formed their PNC and are looking for a new pastor. Dave Johnson died this year quite suddenly. Elder Dawson concluded his report by playing *Taps* on his harmonica in memory of Johnson, who was a veteran.

Prayer for Craig/Klawock was given by Crystal Badgley.

Haines Presbyterian Church

Elder Al Badgley presented the Elders' Report for the Church in Haines. Elder Crystal Badgley is requesting to become a Commissioned Lay Pastor for Worship and Congregational Care. The church is going increase their monetary support and become more involved with Rainbow Glacier Camp. The congregation has helped supply food and heating fuel to local residents. A group of eleven went to Mexico on a mission trip where they made about 1000 quesadillas for needy residents, handed out grocery bags to two hundred families, two hundred pounds of clothes, soccer balls, three hundred Spanish New Testaments, and crayons and coloring sheets with Bible stories. They have insulated the manse and installed a more fuel efficient heating system and this spring there are plans to install fuel efficient boilers in the Church. Their VBS has increased to almost 90 children.

Prayer for Haines was given by the Rev. Dr. John Zimmerman.

Hoonah Presbyterian Church

There was no report written or oral presented for the church in Hoonah.

Hydaburg Presbyterian Church

A written report was submitted by Elder Pam Penrose for the church in Hydaburg. They continue to grow despite the fact they are without a minister. They have been the beneficiaries of many acts of kindness from the Presbytery, including pastors from other churches in the Presbytery preaching in the Hydaburg church, They were able to meet their budget. An auto accident claimed the life of a local seventeen year old girl and put a seventeen year old male in the Hospital. The financial support offered by the Presbytery has allowed them to give to the grieving families in their time of need. They held two evening memorial services at the church where Elder Tim Young officiated. They planned an "outreach" Easter service.

Northern Light United Church (Juneau)

Elder Patricia Adkisson presented the report for Northern Light United Church (NLUC). NLUC provided a kitchen and fellowship hall for the preparation of meals, for the Glory Hole (a local homeless shelter) while its kitchen was being remodeled. Other groups using their kitchen include service organizations, a co-op pre-school, deacon fund raisers, the local ecumenical Lenten lunch series, and music and educational events. NLUC's Youth Group is active and the Youth Director and Pastor are conducting a nine week confirmation course for youth. Their mission work includes: the Glory Hole, a prison ministry, and they served as a co-sponsor of the Southeast Alaska Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder conference. They partner with Juneau People for Peace & Justice, support a Library in Tanzania and sponsor a camp for children of incarcerated parents. They are considering their resources and how they should be distributed. They are working to increase their outreach providing Glory Hole dinners, more Prison Ministry, and outreach to Hoonah. NLUC is the home to the Tlingit Gospel Singers who also volunteer around the community. NLUC recently paid off their building repair loan to the Synod. However, more repairs need to be done to the building.

Prayer for Northern Light United Church was given by the Rev. Ron Horn.

Kake Memorial Presbyterian Church

The report for Kake was given by Elder Mary Ann Kondro. She gave thanks for the long history of assistance given the Kake church by the Rev. Dr. Chuck Bovee and the Rev. Dr. David Dobler. Rev. Dobler came to Kake and lead worship, conducted a communion service for the congregation, and performed three baptisms. They had a full church on Easter with Rev. Dobler preaching. The Rev. Bob Carter is serving as the moderator of the Session. Elder Kondro also gave thanks for the help Elder Tom Henderson provided in dealing the problems in their manse including heating and water problems. Thanks to the Northeast Mission and Ministry group who gave \$12,000 for maintenance projects: which allowed them to install

new kitchen and bathroom floors, a small propane heater in the kitchen, and repaired holes in the crawl space under the floor. Elder Kondro gave thanks to the Native American Consulting Committee and the Presbytery for sharing the Healing Blanket with Kake. Since January 2009, they have had four deaths in their community in the past few months. The blanket helped provide peace and comfort to those who were grieving. She also thanked Lake City Presbyterian Church for the gifts they sent at Christmas. An Alabama church also sent some gifts. Work groups will be returning to Kake. A group from Coopertown, Pennsylvania will lead a Vacation Bible School and do some other work around the church. A work group from Graham Washington will be coming. Two other groups will use the church for housing as they do some basketball camps. They continue to work on their church information form and it is almost completed. As part of this effort they have developed a Mission Statement. God has given them strength that they did not know they had. They are looking forward to their 100th anniversary in 2012.

Prayer for Kake was given by the Rev. Linda Wescott.

Ketchikan Presbyterian Church

The Ketchikan report was given by Elder Karl Luck. He asked for prayers for his wife Lori, who, for health reasons, was unable to travel to this meeting. He reported that right now they are debt free and hope to stay debt free once they complete their two year building project which put a roof on the building, an elevator and ADA compliant bathrooms. Their numbers have been steady or declining which is a concern. However, their vision is that if they continue successful ministries to the community and improve their building to ADA compliance that they will start to grow. Their weekly Food Pantry ministry has been serving a group of families in need of assistance. Once a month they continue to cook, serve and clean up at the Lord's Table, again for the homeless, friendless and lonely to get a hot meal on the weekend. Their church was the largest financial contributor to Love Inc. in Ketchikan. They have dedicated their Souper Bowl donations to the local Love Inc program. Their Single Moms Ministry was adjusted because several of the normal attendees moved away from Ketchikan. Their participation in the M&M Group resulted in trips to Metlakatla, Hydaburg, and Craig. They have an active Fellowship Dinner Group meeting monthly. The men meet weekly for breakfast and the Women meet for Christian study. Their building renovations continue at a fast pace.

Prayer for Ketchikan was given by the Rev. Jesse Perry.

Metlakatla Presbyterian Church

The Interim Pastor, the Rev. Deva McQueen, reported for the church at Metlakatla. She gave thanks for the cultural enrichment she has gained during her time serving as the Metlakatla interim pastor. They have a strong group of women for mission and their church. A Bible class was started for the adults. Attendance is up. They enjoyed a candlelight service at Christmas as well as an infant baptism. In January they baptized an adult and infant. Rev. McQueen met with Rainbow Glacier Camp working on ways to raise money for the camp and get the kids to camp. The fundraising campaign included a candy sale. Elder Ellen Ryan suffered a stroke and

was hospitalized for a time and is still recovering. She had been the Clerk of Session, Church Treasurer and was a big help to the new minister. They have had a lot of support from Presbytery Staff during the time Ellen was in the hospital. The local Presbyterian Women put on a dinner to honor three men in the congregation. Wednesday Night Bible study has about six attending. By the end of April they will have had nine infant baptisms and one adult baptism. During Easter they had palm fronds for the Palm Sunday processional, they enjoyed a Maundy Thursday evening and a Good Friday noon service. They enjoyed the Easter celebration with sunrise service (with the Tsimshian drumbeats announcing sunrise), breakfast and worship. They are completing the skirting around the church building.

Prayer for Metlakatla was given by the Rev. Randy Russom.

First Presbyterian Church of Petersburg

The report for Petersburg was given by Elder Joyce Schultz. She observed that over the last thirty years that she has attended church in Petersburg that it seems everyone is 30 years older, some are gone, some are in long term care, and not many of the adult children still live in Petersburg. However, they have just about maintained their numbers. They are a family sized church and the church has a good feeling about it. On Easter Sunday their traditional potluck breakfast, Easter Egg hunt and worship were all joyful. They also had visitors for worship. The Maundy Thursday Seder service was sparsely attended. The roof is completed and paid for as is the foundation. They need a cover over the entrance to the furnace room. Sunday School has 3-8 kids and Rev. Carter cooks pancakes for them. They enjoyed a swim party and lock-in in December with 21 kids attending, at which time the furnace went out. The kids have been using the pool for swimming and learning to kayak. They have two new members and they had an Elder become active again in the church. They actually had little trouble finding all of the nominees they needed to fill their various church offices. They seem to be just meeting their budget but are able to continue their mission.

Prayer for Petersburg was given by the Rev. Deva McQueen.

First Presbyterian Church of Sitka

Elder Kathy Russom presented the report from the church in Sitka. Elder Russom brought greetings from The Rev. Chuck Bovee and his wife Edie. Edie is continuing to recover from her recent surgery. Elder Russom asked for continued prayers for their church buildings and for all the buildings of our Presbytery. Like many others they have had roof issues. The windows and roof projects have been completed and the amount of fuel they used this year is down from last year. They are committed to not simply keeping the doors open, but to finding ways that the church building can be a blessing to the members and the community. The Sitka Young Life group occupies space in the classroom wing and they lease space to a pre-school at below market rate as an outreach. They are providing a weekly lunch to Jericho House, a shelter with a ministry to inebriant men who are seeking sobriety. There is another congregation considering using their church as a meeting place. This summer they will have a work group from Rochester, Minnesota in July doing work

projects around the church as well as assisting some of their members. The Session is planning its annual retreat on August 30.

Prayer for Sitka was given by the Rev. Ron Horn.

First Presbyterian Church of Skagway

Elder John Tronrud presented the Skagway report. He noted that this is his 6th year as Elder in Skagway and his 3rd year as Clerk of Session. They are short an Elder, but there is a group within the church that is committed to fulfilling the needs of their church. With Pastor Mandeville's leadership their membership is growing. They have completed a membership class and seven new members were welcomed on March 15. Their Sunday School has a great number of volunteers working and have a long term commitment. Many children from the community are attending the Sunday School. They are looking to increase the youth activities; the Boy Scouts have begun to meet in the church again. The abilities and energy of their pastor is appreciated by the church and the community. Rev. Mandeville has actively worked at spreading the message of Christ to those outside the church. He has opened the doors of his home to several young men that need a place to sleep and gives them guidance. There are several couples that the pastor is reaching out to with guidance. Skagway in the summer has an influx of people working in the community and they usually provide a second church service in the evening, with many participating. Several people are returning to Skagway to work. They are expecting a group from Rev. Mandeville's home church in Bozeman, Montana in July to help with VBS and paint the church. They also need to improve the steps to their sanctuary entrance and hope to apply soon for Historic Landmark status to honor the pioneer ministry of the Gold Rush.

Prayer for Skagway was given by the Rev. Bob Carter.

First Presbyterian Church of Wrangell

Elder Sandra Churchill presented the report for the Wrangell Church. The Wrangell Church is blessed to have Rev. Janice Stamper and her musical talents for over two years. The Christmas Eve service with a Native Nativity theme in which quite a few children participated was special. They do not have a children's Sunday School at this time, but they do have an adult Sunday School with 5-6 attending and Men's Breakfast continues with up to 20 people attending. Building and Grounds have a ten year plan of improvement. Their roof also is leaking, especially the manse. They have two new Elders and two new Deacons. The Hostel is getting ready to open. The Porch picnics at the Manse will start up again soon. They celebrated Maundy Thursday Communion and a Good Friday Service. The Sunrise Service was good, and the Easter Service packed the church. The Gifts of Women in the church was celebrated and brought people back to the church to celebrate their ancestors that were active in the church and the women that are still active in the church. The Women's rummage sale and Bazaar did very well. Because of the good acoustics in the sanctuary, the Community Choir will be using the church for their Spring Concert.

Prayer for Wrangell was given by the Rev. George Pasley.

Yakutat Presbyterian Church

The Yakutat Presbyterian Church was presented by Elder Inga Hanlon. Yakutat is a very small congregation of people who are faithful members in Christ. They have gifts in their church, everybody participates. One member has returned and brought a spirit of enthusiasm to some of their projects. They collected socks for the homeless shelter in Anchorage. They support orphans in Bosnia and Africa. The Church is hosting a yoga class. Their Bible study is looking at the buildings and locations in the Bible and is using pictures and artifacts. Their Advent teas keep growing each year. Everyone wears beautiful and fanciful hats. They were busy in December decorating the church and preparing for the coming of the Christ Child. They celebrated Advent with the weekly lighting of the Advent Wreath. They took their Christmas Eve candlelight service to the Alaska Native Brotherhood Hall and distributed "Happy Birthday Jesus" gifts to the children of the community. The Nativity Play involved the Tlingit language and they enjoyed singing Silent Night in eight different languages. The congregation was delighted to see the Rev. Dr. David and Laura Dobler return to Yakutat to deliver a sermon and reacquaint themselves with the community. They had a special New Year's worship with communion. In February they received another box of gifts from Community Presbyterian Church in St Maries, Idaho. They held their annual Ash Wednesday Service. They prayed for the Rev. Linda Wescott and Elder Cathy Wassalie as they embarked on their journey to the Holy Land and for their safe return. When Rev. Wescott came back from the Holy Land, they put up pictures around the church. She brought back rocks from the church of the Holy Sepulchre and hyssop leaves. This all made it a very special service for Easter. The wine used in communion came from Canaan. A young child was baptized with water from the Jordan River, the Sea of Galilee, the Nile and water from the Dead Sea. The church is open to all and they have a special prayer ministry for those that have alcohol and substance abuse problems. She gave thanks for Rev. Wescott and her husband Paul. Rev. Wescott has served the church in Yakutat for eleven years. They are always looking for work groups. There is still a need for a mission church in Yakutat. Elder Hanlon believes the Presbyterian church is a very important part of Yakutat. She remembers its long history and remembers hearing Rev. Dr. Soboleff preaching.

Prayer for Yakutat was given by the Rev. Dr. David Dobler.

Guy Warren
Stated Clerk

Teddy Williams
Recording Clerk