

2009 FALL STATED MEETING OF THE ALASKA PRESBYTERY
First Presbyterian Church
Ketchikan, Alaska
October 9 - 11, 2009

ROLL CALL

Church	Minister	Elder(s)
Angoon	<i>Vacant</i>	Randall Gamble
Chapel By the Lake Auke Bay	The Rev. Douglas Dye The Rev. Tracee D. Hackel	Julie Orsi Joe Orsi
Craig & Klawock	<i>Served by Corresponding Member</i>	Adeline deCastro
Haines	The Rev. Ron Horn	Bonnie Sharnbroich
Hoonah	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Absent, excused</i>
Hydaburg	<i>Vacant</i>	Tim Young
Kake	<i>Vacant</i>	Roselyn Fay
Ketchikan	The Rev. George Pasley	Vincent C. Gilmartin, Jr.
Metlakatla	<i>Served by Corresponding Member</i>	John Major
Northern Light Juneau	<i>Served by Corresponding Member</i>	Gail O'Dell
Petersburg	The Rev. Robert Carter	Joy Davis Greene
Sitka	<i>Vacant</i>	Melissa Dunn
Skagway	The Rev. Ryan Mandeville	John Tronrud
Wrangell	The Rev. Janice Stamper, <i>Supply Pastor</i>	LeAnn Rinehart
Yakutat	The Rev. Linda Wescott	Cathy Wassillie

OTHER MINISTERS ON THE ROLL OF PRESBYTERY

Present:

The Rev. Dr. David Dobler, Pastor to the Presbyter
The Rev. Dr. John Zimmerman, HR
The Rev. Dr. Henry Fawcett, HR
The Rev. Dr. Chuck Bovee, HR

Absent: (All Excused)

The Rev. Dr. Walter Soboleff, HR
The Rev. Dr. Paul Beran, HR

PRESBYTERY STAFF AND OFFICERS WITH VOTE

Elder Fred Baxter, Presbytery Moderator, Auke Bay
Elder Guy Warren, Stated Clerk, Auke Bay
Elder Teddy Williams, Recording Clerk, Wrangell

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT FROM THE PRESBYTERY COUNCIL

Elder Sheryl Dennis, Finance Coordinator, Skagway
Elder Isabella G. Brady, NACC Coordinator, Sitka

Total Ministers on the roll attending: 12
Total Elder Commissioners attending: 15
Other Voting Elders Present: 5
Total Voting Members Present: 32

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS PRESENT

The Rev. Mark T Frey, Board of Pensions,
Cascades Presbytery
The Rev. Dr. Cleo LaRue, Princeton Seminary
The Rev. M. Kimberly Poole, Northern Light Interim,
Alaska Conference, United Methodist Church
The Rev. Deva McQueen, Metlakatla Supply,
Peace River Presbytery
The Rev. Paul McQueen, Craig/Klawock Supply,
Peace River Presbytery

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Elder Harriet Schirmer, Leadership Equipping
Center, Wrangell
Elder Steve Kinney, Nominating Committee,
Ketchikan

OTHER GUESTS, INCLUDING FAMILY MEMBERS

Spouses of Ministers

VeNita Fawcett Martha Zimmerman
Jacque Horn Edie Bovee

Family of Elders

Rick Green, Petersburg Fran Major, Metlakatla

Others

Cynthia Gleason, Presbytery Office Manager
Venus Zink, Presbytery Treasurer
Luke VanMarter, Haines, YAV
Kristy Miller, Sitka
Ruth James, Hoonah
Anita Lafferty, Juneau

Friday, October 9, 2009

Call to Order The Moderator, Elder Fred Baxter, called the 2009 Fall Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Alaska to order on October 9, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. with prayer.

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 set forth, changing the name of the "Lay Pastor Committee" to "Leadership Equipping Center".

Temporary Committees The Moderator announced the following temporary committee appointments.

Temporary Clerks:

Elder Joy Davis Green of Petersburg

Resolutions Committee:

The Rev. Bob Carter of Petersburg

The Rev. Linda Wescott of Yakutat

Leaves and Absences Committee:

Elder Julie Orsi of Auke Bay

Elder Joe Orsi of Auke Bay

Travel Committee:

The Rev. Ron Horn of Haines

Elder John Tronrud of Skagway

Privilege of the Floor Presbytery VOTED to grant the privilege of the floor to corresponding members and guests.

Approval of the Spring 2009 minutes Presbytery VOTED to approve the minutes of the Spring 2009 meeting, rewording the Yakutat Elder's report and noting that Elder Bonnie Sharnbroich was the representative of the Northeast M&M group, not Northwest.

Review of Action Items Presbytery reviewed the action items to be considered at the meeting.

Stated Clerk Report Elder Guy Warren, the Presbytery Stated Clerk, began his report by noting the recent death of the Rev Bob Cameron. Warren noted that he will be missed.

Warren urged all churches to complete their annual reports early and put the information on the Presbyterian Church GA web site as quickly as possible as the computers get very busy near the end of the reporting period. The forms will be coming out in December.

Stated Clerk Warren requested all elders attending their first
Continued meeting to rise and thanked them for their
service to the church.

Warren reported that he has reported to the Office of the General Assembly about the death of the Rev. Bob Cameron and that the paperwork dismissing the Rev. Jesse Perry to the Presbytery of East Iowa, and the Rev Randy Russom to Prospect Hill Presbytery has been processed.

Warren noted he has reviewed the Presbytery By Laws and Manual of Administrative Operations and presented several changes to the General Council, who will be presenting them for Presbytery consideration later in the meeting.

Warren concluded by urging that we seek to be faithful together, following the guidelines in the document *Seeking to be Faithful Together: Guidelines for Presbyterians During Time of Disagreement*.

Board of Pensions The Rev. Mark Frey, regional representative for the Board of Pensions, reported for the PCUSA Board of Pensions. He noted that while 2008 saw their worst financial performance in many years the plan was still sound. He noted that 28.6% of their portfolio's value was lost. He reported that the applied benefit plan remains secure

The plan has the cash available to meet their obligations for the next two years. The Plan does have good long term asset allocation and they have good partnerships with various investors.

2009 is going much better with the plan showing gains of about 13.6%, which is allowing them to build reserves. They had significant reserves going into 2008. There will be a 3.8% increase in pension payments for 2009.

Rev. Frey reported there will be no dues increase in 2010. He briefly described the benefit changes being implemented in 2010.

Benefits Connect allows members to go to the web site to access their account. He concluded by describing the Board's Shared Grant Program.

Word from the Rev. Dr. David Dobler The Rev. Dr. David Dobler, Pastor to the Presbytery presented his report.

Rev. Dobler talked about The Young Adult Volunteers Program, with Luke VanMarter in Haines and Christine Miller and Melissa Dunn in Sitka. The Youth Triennium is one of the premier youth meetings in the United States and is held every three years. The next meeting is to be held in 2010 at Purdue University in Indiana.

Financial Report: We are self governing, self supporting, and self propagating which means we are not a mission outreach for anyone and this is where we are at this time.

There are three things we need to do to maintain our churches and our Presbytery: 1) Training Elders as leaders, half of our churches do not have pastors, the elders are going to need to fill these spots; 2) Study of the Word, we need lay people that can provide Bible study; 3) Church property, Presbytery does not have the resources to take care of all our properties. We need to find better ways to repair and take care of the church properties. Presbytery can no longer afford to take care of all the properties.

Budget & Financial Presentation Presbytery Treasurer Venus Zink and Elder Sheryl Dennis, Chair of Finance Committee presented the Presbytery Financial Report and the draft 2010 Presbytery Budget.

Budget: Difficult decisions are built into the new budget. We have a deficit budget this year and we need to become self supporting in the future.

Treasurer Zink presented the Presbytery's Financial Reports. She stated that we are expecting more income that will come in the fourth quarter of this year from outside sources. She is requesting that we amend the budget for 2010 to include a review of the 2009 books.

Elder Sheryl Dennis presented the Draft Budget for 2010. She noted that it was difficult to put together a budget that will work for our Presbytery. Proposed expenses have been reduced significantly, including Mission support churches, Rainbow Glacier Camp, Trustees, NACC,

Budget and Financial Presentation Continued Presbytery meetings, and office staff funding. We are still scheduled to receive some mission funds from the Synod. In 2010, \$75,000 and in 2011, 37,500. 2011 will be the final year to receive mission funds from Synod.

Stated Clerk Warren reported on the procedures required for amending and approving the budget. Amendments must be in writing and delivered to the Stated Clerk or Elder Dennis by the end of lunch on Saturday. Consideration of those amendments and final approval of the budget will be taken up late Saturday afternoon.

Rev Dobler reiterated that no block grants will be available after 2011. The Presbytery cannot spend its reserves down to nothing. Right now they are about \$300,000. We need about \$150,000 going into each year for first of the year expenses. Our expenditures need to move in the direction of much less staff and where we can cut expenses. The Budget Committee is anticipating no line item for executive services after this year. We need to consider how we can manage our budget going into the future.

Recessed Recessed for the evening at 8:48 p.m. with prayer by the Rev. Linda Wescott.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2009

Reconvened Presbytery reconvened at 8:45 a.m. with prayer by the Moderator, Elder Fred Baxter.

Morning Devotion The Presbytery's morning devotional included music by the Rev. Janice Stamper and Elder Gail O'Dell. The message, "Why Bother," based upon Acts 17:16-21, was given by the Rev. Dr. Cleo LaRue.

Rev. LaRue as Corresponding Member The Presbytery VOTED to enroll the Rev. Dr. Cleo LaRue as a corresponding member.

Elder Reports (Part I) The Elder Reports from Angoon, Chapel By The Lake, Craig/Klawock and Haines were presented. *Details on these reports are given at the end of these minutes.*

**Hoonah
Administrative
Commission**

The Hoonah Administrative Commission reported. Those serving on the Commission include: Elder Gail O'Dell (Coordinator), Elder Sheryl Dennis, the Rev. Dr. David Dobler, the Rev. Dr. Henry Fawcett, Elder Joey George, Elder Kathy Ruddy, the Rev. Dr. Walter Soboleff and the Rev. Dr. John Zimmerman. Elder O'Dell noted that they were charged and requested by the Presbytery to take action regarding the Hoonah church.

She reported that a Missouri Synod Lutheran congregation had been using the church building and this had not worked well for either denomination. The Vicar the Lutherans had sent was dismissed by the Lutherans and no replacements were forthcoming. This ended the Missouri Synod mission in Hoonah.

The Commission also learned that in the years prior to the Lutheran's arrival that the church had failed to meet a variety of federal tax reporting requirements, and thus was also embroiled in legal and IRS problems. With the help of the Presbytery, these problems have been resolved. The Commission also discovered severe problems with the church roof that led to severe water leak problems. The church now has a new roof with a 50 year guarantee.

The Commission has held regular meetings and has conducted several visits to Hoonah. The primary questions the Commission is currently exploring are: Where are the Alaska Native people that used to attend the Hoonah church and can a church be re-established in Hoonah? This effort is going to take them into the new year. Ruth James, a deacon and an active Hoonah Christian, was introduced to the Presbytery.

Prayer for the Hoonah Church and the Hoonah Commission was led by the Rev. Dr. David Dobler.

**Recess for
Mission &
Ministry
Group
Meetings**

The main Presbytery meeting recessed at 10:00 a.m. to permit the three Mission and Ministry groups to meet. Following these meetings, the Presbytery meeting was reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

Elder Reports (Part II) The Elder Reports from Hydaburg, Northern Light, Kake, Ketchikan, and Metlakatla were heard. *Details on these reports are given at the end of these minutes.*

Docket Revision It was agreed that the Presbytery would recess between 2:00 p.m. & 3:00 p.m. today. During the recess the Company of Pastors would meet and an Elder training session would be conducted.

Synod Commissioners & Staff The Rev. Linda Wescott reported on the 2009 Synod Meeting. The meeting was held at Whitworth College. Westcott reported that the Synod talked about mission partnerships and how we are getting less in Mission Funding Support. Attending the Synod meeting made it real to her that we are getting less mission money.

Elder Paul Wescott was on the Synod's communication task force. They discussed web hosting. It was reported that there are grants through the Synod for creating web sites. (Paul Wescott is working to get a better internet connection for the Yakutat church and trying to setup a church web site.)

The Synod visited a new church in Latah Valley, Washington. This church is being innovative and creative in reaching out to the people around them. They attended a Mission Fair. Rev. Wescott noted that there are grants available for our churches, but that soon Synod will no longer be the source of assets and funding.

General Council The General Council report was given by the Council Coordinator, Elder Fred Baxter. He reported that the Council had approved a draft budget for consideration by the Presbytery. The Council would be presenting several action items for the Presbytery's consideration including changes to permit our holding future Presbytery meetings by teleconference. In particular, the Council is currently planning on conducting the Spring 2010 meeting in that fashion. The Council also has selected individuals they will be nominating to serve on the Presbytery Nominations Committee.

General Council Continued The Council heard recommendations from the Stated Clerk on By Law revisions to the text concerning Presbytery Staff participation on various Presbytery Committees.

The Council heard recommendations from the Finance Committee, Personnel and Staff Support Committee and the Stated Clerk proposing updates to the Manual of Administrative Operations. They will be recommending that the Presbytery adopt all of these changes. The Council also heard reports from the Hoonah Commission and the Stated Clerk Search Committee. All of these reports will be presented at the Presbytery meeting.

Break for Lunch & Reconvene Presbytery recessed for lunch with prayer for the meeting and the meal led by the Rev Dr. John Zimmerman at 12:00 Noon. Presbytery reconvened after lunch at 1:00 p.m.

Elder Reports Part III Elder reports from Petersburg, Sitka, Skagway, Yakutat, and Wrangell were heard. *Details on these reports are given at the end of the Minutes.*

Rainbow Glacier Camp The Rainbow Glacier Report was given by the Rev. Ron Horn. He brought greetings from the camp, which is now operated as an independent not-for-profit corporation with its own board of directors. The current board consists of the Rev. Randy Russom, the Rev. George Pasley, the Rev. Randy Mandeville, two Elders from the Presbytery of Alaska, an Elder from Kittiwick Presbyterian Church and a representative from Seattle's University Presbyterian Church.

The camp has put in a new sewer and water system at an expense greater than they expected, but they got it done.

The camp served 125 children this summer and will be back to full strength next summer. Next summer applications for camp need to be in at least a week early. They are looking for chaperones for the ferries to accompany the youth to the camp. The new camp director, Bill Daniels, sends his greetings to Presbytery. Rev. Horn reported that Daniels has given a great vision to this camp.

**Committee on
Ministry**

The report for the Committee on Ministry was given by the Coordinator, the Rev. Ron Horn. The report began with COM member, Elder Gail O'Dell calling up the other members of the Committee to thank Rev. Horn for his work on the COM. (His term ends this year.)

The Rev. Tracee Hackel reported that Elder Kathy Ruddy and her husband, Bill, who own the former Presbyterian Mission Boat, the Princeton Hall, had once again sold mugs celebrating the boat with proceeds going to various missions within the Presbytery. In 2009, the proceeds were given to the church in Metlakatla to use as they see fit.

COM actions since the last meeting of Presbytery included:

Approving the dismissal of the Rev. Jesse Perry to the Presbytery of East Iowa, subject to the decision of Northern Light United Church congregation vote to dissolve the relationship and subject to the Stated Clerk's paperwork and acceptance by East Iowa.

Approving the request from the Craig/Klawock church to have the Rev. Paul McQueen serve there as part time supply pastor. The COM approved the Covenant between the Craig church and the Rev. Paul McQueen, authorizing him to labor within the bounds of this Presbytery pursuant to the terms of the Covenant. The Covenant is for a 3 month period and the Rev. Paul McQueen will be in Craig one week per month.

Appointing a Presbytery Commission to install Crystal Badgley as Commissioned Lay Pastor to Haines Presbyterian Church on June 7, 2009. Appointed were: The Rev. Dr. David Dobler, Elder Harriet Schirmer from Wrangell, Elder Lola Knutson from Haines, the Rev. Bob Cameron and the Rev. Ron Horn from Haines.

Approving the dismissal of the Rev. Randy Russom to the Presbytery of Prospect Hill subject to Stated Clerk's paperwork and acceptance by Presbytery of Prospect Hill.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry The Report for the Committee on Preparation for Ministry was given by the Rev. Tracee Hackel. She reported that Dale Bucich is studying at Dubuque Theological Seminary and is in his second year of study. The Chapel by the Lake is his sponsor. Keith and Laura Hudson are also under the care of our Presbytery and are currently seeking a pastorate.

Leadership Equipping Center The report of the Leadership Equipping Center (LEC) was given by Elder Harriet Schirmer. LEC used to be Lay Pastor Committee. As they broadened their horizons, they needed to change their name to reflect what they are doing now. They are challenged to train and equip leaders for our future needs. They have four lay pastor students. A class on Polity and making the constitution work in their church will be conducted following Presbytery. Everyone is invited to attend and learn something. The LEC has been working on a workbook for church treasurers. When it is done it will be offered as a course. They will have a quick source answer sheet. There is some money in the Presbytery to develop this booklet. They are also going to do one for the Clerks of Session.

The Rev. Dr. John Zimmerman reported that he will be teaching the next course to be offered by the LEC. The course will help in understanding the peoples who were here long before the church came to Alaska. They have asked Russian Orthodox Father Michael Oleksa to help with this course. The television station KTOO has a CD series on the subject of the People who populated the North through the centuries. The LEC is going to use the KTOO series as the core on their cross cultural education. Paul Bird is writing a workbook for this course. They will ultimately have a teleconference at the end of each two weeks for each of the four sections. Only ten people can take this course at a time. The only cost for participants will be their time and commitment. It will begin toward the middle of January.

Leadership Equipping Center Continued Elder Harriet Schirmer will be advertising the course. Another thing coming up is a course in Evangelism. A grant from the Synod has been sought to help pay for the course. The Rev. Dr. David Dobler came back from a meeting he attended with information and the LEC is talking about a course on a basic introduction to the Bible.

Elder Training Presbytery recessed at 2:05 p.m. to permit a gathering of the Company of Pastors and for a training session for the elders in attendance. The main meeting reconvened at 3:10 p.m.

Presbyterian Women The report of the Presbyterian Women (PW) was given by Elder Adeline deCastro. She reported that they are active but have not held a face to face meeting. They have met over the internet and everyone is busy working for our churches and communities. She reported that there is not one church in the Presbytery that does not have a functioning Presbyterian Women's group. PW do many things that are not noticed. They make sure the Shoe Boxes get to the children in need along with other mission projects.

Native American Consulting Committee The report for the Native American Consulting Committee (NACC) was given by Elder Isabella Brady. She reported that at the Sitka church, one of their members has cancer and is fighting it; she needs to be in our prayers. The Sitka church celebrated Native American Sunday in September.

Travel for meetings takes quite a bit of the administrative budget. They had eight members at their meeting today. They discussed the use of the Healing Robe. They feel we need to use it more. They are involved in the discussions to have Sheldon Jackson become part of Dubuque University. They met the Dubuque delegation at the airport in the Native way. They were honored at the Synod meeting. Elder Brady reported that Native American education is a national tragedy. The NACC had \$1000 left in their 2009 budget, which they gave to churches in the Presbytery.

They are sending a letter to the churches and schools that they consider Native Culture as part of the church and its curriculum.

Native American Consulting Committee Continued The Synod appropriated funds to develop appropriate information for NACC.

Brady noted that we need to remember that ANB and ANS are very important to the whole Native movement. At their recent gathering they held a memorial for the twelve founding fathers; it was very good. We need to learn to revere our Elders. Brady noted that prejudice still exists against the Natives in our day and age. We need to clear up some misunderstandings.

Representation There was no report from the Representation Committee.

Trustees The Trustees report was given by the Trustee President, the Rev Chuck Bovee. The Trustees have discussed the fact that the Presbytery's Liability and Property insurer CPIP, is unable to continue business. The Presbytery is now being insured by United Church of Christ Insurance Board. The cost for insurance will be about the same as last year. We were also informed by CPIP that there are outstanding claims and insufficient funds to meet this need. There have been meetings and correspondence to address this issue. CPIP began about 10 years ago insuring all churches in a Presbytery as a group.

The Presbytery has been reviewing the situation with the Kasaan property. Kasaan was the first preaching site for the Presbytery. The property is owned by the Presbytery. The village organization would like to build on this property for the use of city office and community building. The Trustees are turning this information over to the General Council for their consideration.

The congregation of the Sitka First Presbyterian met and voted to sell their Manse. The Council has approved this action.

The Trustees have been responsible for the summer work programs. Paul Spangler has volunteered to oversee this process. All work groups coming into the Presbytery need to work through the Presbytery process.

Break Presbytery recessed at 4:00 p.m. The meeting was called back to order at 4:15 p.m.

Nominations The Nominations Committee placed the following names into nomination for the offices listed.

219th General Assembly Commissioners
The Rev. Ron Horn of Haines
Elder Carol Martin of Angoon
219th General Assembly Commissioner Alternate
The Rev. Janice Stamper of Wrangell
219th General Assembly Youth Advisory Delegate
Ian Wanamaker of Auke Bay
Synod Commissioner (2012)
The Rev. Linda Wescott
Synod Commissioner Alternates
The Rev. Doug Dye of Auke Bay
Elder Steve Kinney of Ketchikan
Presbytery Moderator Elect:
Elder Barbara Searles of Northern Light
General Council (terms to be determined)
Personnel: The Rev. Linda Wescott
Finance: Elder Sheryl Dennis of Skagway
Members at Large:
Elder Cynthia Whittington of Sitka
The Rev. Ron Horn
Permanent Judicial Commission
(term ends on year given)
2015 The Rev. Dr. John Zimmerman
2015 Elder Jennifer Scott of Kake
2011 The Rev. Ryan Mandeville
2013 Elder Fred Baxter of Chapel by the Lake
Representation Committee
2011 Elder Lorie Luck of Ketchikan
Committee on Ministry (2012)
The Rev. Ryan Mandeville
Elder Gail O'Dell of NLUC
Elder John Jackson of Skagway
Nominations Committee
2012 Elder Peter Shultz of Petersburg
Committee Coordinators for 2010:
COM: Elder Gail O'Dell of Northern Light
Representation: The Rev. Bob Carter
Nominations: Elder Crystal Badgley of Haines

The following individuals were nominated from the floor:

219th General Assembly Alternate
Elder Bonnie Sharnbroich of Haines
General Council Property Representative
(Term To be determined)
Elder Fred Baxter of Auke Bay

Nominations Continued Following a period for additional nominations, the Presbytery VOTED to close the nominations and elect the nominated individuals.

The General Council made the following nominations for the Nominating Committee:

2010 Coordinator - Elder Crystal Badgley of Haines
2012 Elder Peter Schultz from Petersburg

Following a period for additional nominations, the Presbytery VOTED to close nominations and elect the nominated individuals.

Stated Clerk Search Committee The report of the Stated Clerk Search Committee was given by the Rev. Ron Horn. He reported on the process they had used to obtain a nominee and announced that they were nominating the Rev. George Pasley to be Presbytery Stated Clerk. The term will commence with the ending of the Fall 2010 Presbytery meeting and will run through the Fall 2012 Presbytery meeting.

Following a period for additional nominations from the floor, the Presbytery VOTED to close nominations and elected Rev. Pasley to the specified term as Stated Clerk. With its work complete, the Stated Clerk Search Committee was dissolved.

Finance The report of the Presbytery Finance Committee was given by Elder Sheryl Dennis. She reported that they have been working on streamlining and making the Finance section of the Presbytery's Manual of Administrative Operations more user friendly.

Per recommendations from the Finance Committee, the Presbytery VOTED to replace:

The existing Part F: "Financial and Travel Policy" of the Manual of Administrative Operations.

The existing Part B, Section D. "Description of the Finance Committee" of the Manual of Administrative Operations.

The new text for these changes are given as an appendix to these minutes.

Personnel & Staff Support The report of the Presbytery's Personnel & Staff Support Committee was given by the Rev. Linda Wescott. She reported that they looked at the job descriptions for the Presbytery Treasurer (Venus Zink) and the Presbytery Office Manager (Cyndi Gleason).

Zink is currently working to get our finances organized so that they will not take so much time to maintain. Gleason is also working to pare down her job so it will not take so much time.

The Personnel Committee has drafted a revised committee description as they will be a subcommittee of the General Council. They also drafted a new job description listing the duties of Moderators and Task Force committees.

Per recommendations from the Personnel & Staff Support Committee, the Presbytery VOTED to make the following revisions to the Presbytery's Manual of Administrative Operations:

Remove the job description of General Presbyter;

Add the job description of Office Manager to the Manual of Administrative Operations;

Add a job description for Presbytery Committee and Task Force Coordinators;

Replace the existing Treasurer/Bookkeeper job description;

Replace the existing text in Part B, Section E, "Personnel and Staff Committee description" with new text.

The new text for actions adding or revising text in the Manual of Administrative Operations is given as an appendix to these minutes.

Rev. Wescott reported that the Rev. Dr. David Dobler will be able to be serve us as the Pastor to the Presbytery for another year.

New Business General Council Items Per recommendations from the General Council, the Presbytery VOTED:

To revise By-Law Article 4, Section A, thereby permitting the Presbytery to conduct meetings of the Presbytery by teleconference.

New Business
General
Council Items
Continued

To revise By-Law Article 6 Section A regarding the General Presbyter.

To add a Preface to the Manual of Administrative Operations correcting sections which contain offices or committees no longer a part of the Presbytery's structure.

The specific text of all of these changes are given as an appendix to these minutes.

Proposals
from the
Floor

Per a motion made from the floor, the Presbytery VOTED that all session moderators do everything in their power to have their church's annual statistical reports submitted in a timely fashion and that the Stated Clerk be instructed to report all non-compliant churches at the Spring 2010 meeting of the Presbytery.

Per a motion made from the floor, the Presbytery VOTED that the Stated Clerk prepare a report of the last time each church had its records reviewed by the Presbytery and present that report to the 2010 Spring Presbytery meeting.

Budget
Approval

Following the consideration and approval of several amendments proposed at this meeting, the Presbytery VOTED to adopt the 2010 Presbytery Budget as amended. As part of this action, the Presbytery set its portion of the per capita rate at \$34.92. When the General Assembly and Synod portions are added in the total per capita rate for 2010 will be \$46.53.

The full text of the budget as approved is included as an appendix to these minutes.

Old Business

The Stated Clerk reported there was no old business for the Presbytery to consider, nor was there any unfinished business.

Session
Records

The Rev. George Pasley reported on behalf of the Session Records, Bills & Overtures Committee. Records from the churches in Skagway, Petersburg and Kake have been received and will be reviewed.

Rev. Pasley noted that the Kake church should be commended for their changes and the work on their minutes.

Leaves & Absences, Closing Items Elder Julie Orsi reported on behalf of the Leaves & Absences Committee.

Based upon the recommendations of the Committee:
The Presbytery VOTED to excuse:

The late arrivals of Hydaburg Elder Tim Young and Northern Light Elder Gail O'Dell;

The absence of the Hoonah Elder;

The absence of the Rev. Dr. Walter Soboleff;

The absence of the Rev. Dr. Paul Beran;

The early departures of the following participants -- The Rev. Ron Horn, Elders Bonnie Sharnbroich, Joe Orsi, Julie Orsi and Teddy Williams.

Prayer Concerns Prayer was asked for Presbytery Moderator, Elder Fred Baxter Jr. and the rest of his family, as his father, Fred Baxter Sr., was dying. Prayer was also asked for the Cameron family, particularly Miriam Cameron, as the Rev. Bob Cameron had passed away earlier this year. Prayers were also asked for Bobbe Palmer and the rest of the Palmer family, as the Rev. Bob Palmer, along with the Palmer's daughter had also passed away. Both Rev. Cameron and Rev. Palmer had long served the Presbytery of Alaska.

Report Distribution The Moderator noted that most of the written reports from this meeting had been sent via email, with the churches creating hardcopies when needed. He entertained comments from the Presbytery as to how this had worked.

Among the comments made were the following:

Having the reports available on the internet and available to read there is useful as many now have access to the internet.

The use of Word 2007 for these documents is problematic, as those with older versions of Word cannot always read them.

Printing is expensive for some churches.

Presbyters need to get reports earlier.

The churches need to get their Elder reports turned in for distribution in a timely manner.

**Report
Distribution
Continued**

Reports should be sent in smaller files so they will not bog down emails.

Send the reports on CD and/or post on a web site.

Announcements The schedule for Saturday evening and Sunday was given to the members of the Presbytery.

Dinner The Presbytery meeting recessed for dinner and rest of the evening at 5:23 p.m. Prayer for the meeting and the meal was offered by the Rev. Dr. Henry Fawcett.

SUNDAY - October 11, 2009

Worship with the Ketchikan Presbyterian Church Presbytery joined in Sunday worship with the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church in Ketchikan. The Resolutions Committee read the resolution report, thanking the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church in Ketchikan for hosting the meeting. The Rev. Dr. Cleo LaRue presented the worship message, "What Are You Afraid Of?" based upon Matthew Chapter 25 verses 14-26.

The Moderator's Stole and Cross was transferred to the Rev. Dr. John Zimmerman by the Rev. Dr. Henry Fawcett, who explained the history of both. The outgoing moderator, Elder Fred Baxter, had left before worship to be with his dying father.

Adjournment The Fall 2009 Meeting of the Presbytery of Alaska was adjourned at 12:50 p.m., with the benediction of the worship service. The benediction was given by the Rev. Dr. John Zimmerman.

ELDER'S 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)

The report for Angoon was given by Elder Randy Gamble. They had four new members join their church. They are a good addition. It is a blessing to see more people coming. It is also a blessing for the Chapel by the Lake (CBTL) to help. They sent the Rev. Tracee Hackel to lead worship services. Five VBS groups came to Angoon from far and wide in America. They were all beneficial to their community. Randy was given an iPod with 3000 sermons and scriptures and four Bibles from the various groups. People from the group from Philadelphia are coming back to do some videotaping. They will be getting more people next year.

The M/V Sheldon Jackson brought people from the CBTL and after the service they went to Kake. Elder Gamble recalled how Joey George's father, who had helped build the M/V Sheldon Jackson, went with the people to Kake and played the guitar for them on the way to Kake. They had a potluck in Kake after the service. People that were sick are doing better through answered prayer. They have been working on their church and there is still work to be done. Rev. Hackel said it has been a privilege to be Moderator of the Session in Angoon

Prayer for the Angoon Church 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 Joe Orsi. He expressed thanks to their Pastor, the Rev. Doug Dye, for coming to lead the church. Rev. Dye challenges them with some hard questions and presented sermons on these questions. The men's prayer breakfast has grown. The Angoon partnership has been a good fit. Last month they started some classes and a Wednesday evening Bible Study that have been good. They have a good fellowship program for the youth.

He brought a sad note asking for prayer and comfort for the families of the recently deceased Jeremiah Martin and Jerry McCauley. The Chapel is asking for wisdom and

discernment on the repair and expansion of their buildings.

Next Spring they will once again hold their annual Renewal by the Lake, which will feature presentations by Marva Dawn.

Prayer for Chapel by the Lake was given by the Rev. Ron Horn.

First Presbyterian Church of Craig and Klawock

The report for the church in Craig and Klawock was given by Elder Adeline deCastro. She said living where she does it is hard to get the teaching that would feed her thirst for knowledge. She is a member of the women's group for international concerns. Their church is functioning well and they meet every Sunday even through the busy summer months. The Rev. Paul McQueen comes to their church twice a month. They appreciate that he serves them communion. They appreciate his time there. They are still seeking a pastor and are confident that the Lord will send them the right one. They are working on Christmas Shoe Boxes for children around the world.

Prayer for Craig/Klawock was given by the Rev. George Pasley.

Haines Presbyterian Church

The report for the Haines Presbyterian Church was given by Elder Bonnie Sharnbroich. She brought greetings from Haines. She noted that we are all connected in Southeast Alaska. The Lord brought Crystal Badgley to Haines as a young person and she married a man from their town. Crystal now has been commissioned as their lay pastor. Several years ago, when he was their interim pastor, the Rev. Dr. John Zimmerman and his wife Martha shared stories of their mission in Kenya. This touched the heart of a local 12 year old boy who wanted to go to Africa on Mission. While too young to go at that point, at 13, he and 5 other boys planned a trip to Africa. This boy also started a study group so they would all be on the same page spiritually. The Zimmermans continue to mentor this group who are continuing to work towards this trip.

The Haines Church enjoyed a work group from Louisiana who returned for a second visit in 2009. On the top of the Haines Church priority list is Rainbow Glacier Camp Ministry, Youth "Africa Team Kenya 2010," and their Young Adult Volunteer, Luke VanMarter.

Their church is doing well and Elder Sharnbroich prays that all of us will continue to listen to Gods voice and support ministries that are to come.

Prayer for Haines was given by Elder Julie Orsi.

Hoonah Presbyterian Church

No elder from Hoonah was present. The main minutes contain the details of the report of the Hoonah Administrative Commission.

Hydaburg Presbyterian Church

The report for the Hydaburg Presbyterian Church was given by the Rev. Janice Stamper. They continue to have services on Sunday with singing and praying. If you want someone praying for you, call them. A VBS was held in Hydaburg this summer. It was led by the Lutheran LAMP. They had a wedding this summer that was great. Many people are trying out the church and need prayers for those in the community to not drink on Saturday night so they can attend church on Sunday. They feel especially blessed for all the help from Presbytery for assistance with funding insurance, fuel, a handicapped access ramp, and window replacement. The Southern M&M group has been providing pastors for Hydaburg. Rev. Stamper asked for prayers as she travels to Hydaburg October 20.

Prayer for Hydaburg was given by the Rev. Douglas Dye.

Northern Light United Church (Juneau)

The report for Northern Light United Church was given by Elder Gail O'Dell. Their pastor, the Rev. Jesse Perry has accepted a call in Iowa. They are being led by their Interim Pastor, the Rev. Kim Poole. Their focus has been on healing, reconciliation, and conflict resolution. Rev. Poole has been helping them do these things.

They are finishing up a year with Paul Spangler working with the youth and doing good things with them.

They are doing something different with their Budget. They are taking items from the general budget and doing special fund raisers for these activities. A new choir formed and it is going well. They are still hosting Holy Trinity Episcopal. Holy Trinity's church burned about three years ago.

It was discovered that some people coming to services at Northern Light cannot hear, so they installed systems for these people to hear the service. Elder O'Dell

introduced a member of their Native Ministries Group, Anita Lafferty, who is a visitor to Presbytery.

Prayer for Northern Light United Church was given by Martha Zimmerman.

Kake Memorial Presbyterian Church

The report of the Kake church was given by Elder Rosie Fay. She noted that she took a leave of absence for the first six months of the year for health and the Lord brought her through. Mary Ann Kondro, has a saying printed at the top of their bulletin "they are a continuing presence in the community, reaching out as the power of the spirit of our Lord."

In July they had a lot of different things going on, several groups came into town. They had lots of Bible studies, VBS and a basketball camp. Many of the Salvation Army people could not stay at the Salvation Army church and they came over to the Kake Church. Work on the church building was not complete this summer and so a second group took it upon themselves to complete the shower and drain in the kitchen. Also, a lot of piling was being destroyed under the church and some were repaired. Some furnace ducts had holes, so the ducts were fixed. The Manse bathroom has been renewed. Another group from Grand Isle Nebraska helped them out also.

A lot of services in Kake are headed by Mary Ann Kondro and Rosie Fay. The group from Evergreen Presbyterian in Washington brought them a van which was loaded with everything needed for VBS and left the van for the church.

Robert Stack Martin was moved from Kake to Petersburg and it is breaking his heart that he cannot be with his people, he does not understand.

When they have rummage sales, they share half with the youth group. A group from Washington sent up school supplies. Elder Fay acknowledged those that came to Kake on the Princeton Hall. There are only a few holding the church together and they ask for our prayers.

In May they had a Head Start Graduation at their church, a wedding on the grass in front of the church, and several community projects. Two Kake youth attended Rainbow Glacier Camp this summer. Elder Fay gave thanks to the Rev. Bob Carter for being their moderator and to the Rev. Dr. David Dobler for coming to preach. They have completed their Church Information Form. The manse and

church have been cold and some people cannot attend church because it is so cold. Elder Fay asked for prayers for the PNC and all the things they have on their list.

Prayer for Kake was given by the Rev. Dr. Chuck Bovee.

Ketchikan Presbyterian Church

The report for the Ketchikan Presbyterian Church was given by the Rev. George Pasley. He presented a slide show reflecting all the repairs made to their church buildings. They now have an elevator, moved the bathrooms, and built a new kitchen. They just completed all their repairs last week. A group from Mississippi came up and helped with the renovations. The Mississippi group took the Ketchikan youth out for a walk and fishing in the rain.

Prayer for Ketchikan was given by the Rev. Ryan Mandeville.

Metlakatla Presbyterian Church

The report for the Metlakatla Presbyterian Church was given by Elder John Major. He gave thanks to the Ketchikan church for hosting Presbytery and to the Rev. Dr. David Dobler for his help in Metlakatla. When the Rev. Deva McQueen got there she blessed the fleet. God answered prayers, as not one of their fishermen got hurt this year. All came home safe. Elder Major noted that this is a special occasion for him, as it is his first Presbytery meeting.

The Metlakata church is sending greetings to one of their own, the Rev. Dr. Henry Fawcett and thanks God for his recovery. They have had a busy schedule since Spring Presbytery: Blessing of the fleet, Wednesday Bible Study which went on through mid September, Presbyterian Women, which is meeting on Tuesdays.

On Mother's Day and Father's Day they had special things for these groups. The women are planning a Christmas Bazaar. They have a memorial tree to purchase ribbons to remember loved ones. In June their kids go to Rainbow Glacier Camp and they were blessed by the pastor this year seeing them off.

The former Clerk was able to take on a couple of tasks. They are celebrating communion each first Sunday of the month and also provided for shut-ins. After communion they form a big circle and say the Lord's Prayer. In August a new physician's wife started playing her

keyboard for worship and is sometimes accompanied by her husband with a Dobro guitar or harmonica. She also leads a children's choir.

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

First Presbyterian Church of Petersburg

The report for Petersburg was given by Elder Joy Davis Green. She noted that it is wonderful to be here, and gave thanks to Ketchikan for hosting us.

They have been received of lots of love in Petersburg with visitors and VBS. They have had dinners after church each Sunday and they are hoping to continue this relationship. For World Communion Sunday they served breads from around the world. The Christian education program has had a swimming party and their Sunday School is increasing. They are enjoying a Bible study. Rev. Carter is an excellent pancake flipper on Sunday. He also hosts a noon Bible Study. They continue to host the Head Start Program. They like to encourage one another. Elder Green spoke of two of their members, Dorothy, who had helped tirelessly at the hospital and was the grand master of the Fourth of July parade and Mildred, who had recently passed away. Mildred came to Alaska years ago in a row boat. They were both very active in the church. Elder Green reported that the Petersburg congregation is inviting Presbytery to Petersburg in Fall 2010.

Prayer for Petersburg was given by the Rev. Kim Poole.

First Presbyterian Church of Sitka

The report for Sitka was given by Elder Melissa Dunn. They have gone through a lot of change, their pastor left for a pastorate in Iowa. They were left with the challenge of what to do. They also need to deal with the physical structure of their church. They had workers this summer from a church in Minnesota that Sheldon Jackson also founded. They brought a lot of energy and did some smaller construction problems, taking down a chimney no longer in use and building a stairway. They appreciate the challenge of what they are facing.

The Sitka congregation is doing fund raising activities, theme dinners, a concert, and a silent auction to raise money for all the projects. They were without a pastor and when their pastor left he left a big hole because he was doing a lot. They had a time of working out who they are and what they want for their church. The Elders needed to learn to fill in. They have enjoyed music

worship once a month with history of songs. They are working on mission groups coming to the community. They are doing well and they all say hi.

Prayer for Sitka was given by Elder Steve Kinney.

First Presbyterian Church of Skagway

The report for the church in Skagway was given by Elder John Tronrud. He brought greetings from Skagway. Their pastor, the Rev. Ryan Mandeville, has been active and busy as they work on getting new members; holding classes and talking to people. They have gained seven new members. The church will be holding a week long retreat in a couple weeks. Summer was great, as they had a work group from Ryan's home church in Montana. The work group enjoyed Alaska and have a web site showing their activities in Skagway. The biggest success of that week was the VBS, which between 20 & 30 young children attended. Some of these children are starting to attend Sunday School and they are reaching out to these families.

They ask for prayers for their mission of reaching out to these young families. Their building is also old and needs work. Between fishing, Fourth of July, exploring, prep and clean-up for meals they managed to paint the exterior of the church. The estate of a former member would like them to apply for some grants and work on the 100 year old church. Some of the older members are starting to struggle with their health and sometimes it is tough, but so are the people. These older people are appreciated. During the past year three of their past ministers have passed away: The Rev. Karen Parson, the Rev. Bob Cameron, and the Rev. Bob Palmer.

Prayer for Skagway was given by Elder Bonnie Sharnbroich.

First Presbyterian Church of Wrangell

The report for Wrangell was given Elder LeAnn Rinehart. This is her first time at Presbytery. As a mission they run a Hostel in the summer and their Hostel manager, Nancy, comes from Las Vegas every year. Building and grounds received a grant for upgrading their back door to meet ADA standards. They give thanks to the Rev. Janice Stamper for being their minister. They share her with other communities.

The school lunch program started in their town. The Presbyterian Women's group is getting ready for the Bazaar and continues their Knit for Kids program and made

some lap robes. They celebrated Native Awareness Sunday. They celebrated their children on Children's Sunday. Pennies for Madagascar, "the boys" as they have been titled in Wrangell, had a wonderful surprise when the hostel manager found a bucket of pennies under the church kitchen sink!

They are looking closely at their budget and making decisions about their priorities. This church is still alive and still here and will continue. They ask for prayers for their church that it continues serving God.

Prayer for Wrangell was given by Elder Melissa Dunn.

Yakutat Presbyterian Church

The report for the church in Yakutat was given by Elder Cathy Wassillie. Kristy Sappington finished a baptismal font she had made from a tree trunk, with grasses from the beaches and mud for the clay bowls from Lost River. She even carved the twelve oxen heads like the ones holding up the molten sea used for ceremonial washing in the temple of the Old Testament. They held a beautiful service and dedication for the new font. They continue to host the yoga classes started by the Healthy Community Coalition. They also hosted the Summer Food Program for the children in town. They are doing a lot of fund raising and filling the pulpit when the pastor is gone. They had the Healing Robe / Prayer Blanket in Yakutat and used it to pray over people in their town. Thanks to the Rev. Linda Wescott for her service to Presbytery and their church. Without her they would not be where they are today.

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

Guy Warren
Stated Clerk

Teddy Williams
Recording Clerk