

PRESBYTERY OF PHILADELPHIA

MINUTES IN BRIEF - REVISED

The May Meeting of the Presbytery of Philadelphia was held on Tuesday, May 25th at The Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. After morning worship during which the elected commissioners to the 219th were commissioned, the Rev. Bruce Barstow, Stated Clerk, presented the Consent Agenda.

Elder Judy Trigg, Director of Camp Kirkwood, made a presentation on the upcoming summer season and ministry opportunities available at Camp Kirkwood. The Rev. Kevin Porter made the report of the Missional Urban Ministry Team, including an announcement on the Urban-Suburban Pulpit Exchange coming up on September 26th. Reports were given by The Rev. Christie Bruce, Associate for the Care of Ministers, the Nominations Committee, and the Financial Management Committee before the Presbytery went to lunch.

Following the lunch break, Elders Joan Bergsteinsson and Phoebe Sheftel presented the report from COMO, including information regarding the search for an Interim Executive Presbyter. Presbytery approved that COMO would lead a search for an Interim Executive Presbyter, the Executive Presbyter Search Committee be dissolved, and the position description for the Interim Executive Presbyter.

Three Overtures regarding Peace in the Middle East were presented by the Peacemaking Committee and one by the Rev. Bill Borrer and the Media Session. The Presbytery voted by ballot. The three overtures were defeated and one was sustained from the Presbytery of San Joaquin to the 219th General Assembly. A letter of support for the San Joaquin overture will be sent to that Presbytery.

During the Committee on Ministry report, Elder Catherine Nazzaro and Rev. John Sweet announced that Rev. James A. Belle of Holy Trinity-Bethlehem, a commissioner to the 219th General Assembly, is a candidate for the position of Moderator of the 219th General Assembly. The Presbytery unanimously and enthusiastically endorsed the candidacy of the Rev. James A. Belle for Moderator of the 219th General Assembly.

Following a report on the Presbyterian Foundation Legacy program from the Stewardship committee and the Presbytery Staff report from Elder Albert DerMovsesian, Acting General Presbyter, the microphone was open for joys and concerns and the meeting was closed with prayer by Presbytery Moderator Elder Catherine Adams.