

GENERAL COUNCIL MINUTES: November 111214

- Meeting opened at 9:05 am with lighting of the Christ Candle/joys/concerns and prayer by Moderator Schied.
- Rev. Gail Heimberger appointed as Stated Clerk Pro Tem.
- Devotions were given by Rev. Leah Ntuala.
- Quorum was declared.
- An action item regarding retired pastor's luncheon was added to agenda and agenda approved.
- Minutes of 10/14/14 were approved with one typographical correction.
- Motion for request from Lake St. Church for a one year extension of session terms for Barbara Dove and Janice Konkus was made by Elder Kris Alling, seconded and approved.
- Report given that Hedgesville AC met to discuss dissolution of Hedgesville congregation. Members of AC include RE Larry Bates (Bath), RE Jim Varner (Hornell) TE John Knight(Horseheads), RE Priscilla Andrews (Dundee), Connie McCarrick (Addison) and TE Elder, Jane Winters. Motion made, seconded and approved by Rev. Cheryl Peeples, to accept AC membership, Issues involving security and insurance for the building was discussed and Rev. Jim Yao will pursue insurance issues.
- Camp Whitman: No report. Some discussion ensued regarding financial feasibility of Day Camp.
- Administrative Assistant, Karen Jensen, discussed several administrative items.
- Personnel Member, Rev. Kirk Baker, discussed Personnel's recommendation for Karen Jensen's salary packet. Discussion pursued involving payroll service. Personnel moved; it was seconded to accept the recommendation of Personnel with some adjustments in payroll service. Discussion ensued and motion postponed until December meeting.
- Committee on Ministry shared with us the Minimum Salary package, which does not include a raise as BOP rates will be increasing. However, churches who can, are encouraged to give raises. It was, with regret, that we accepted the resignation of Rev. Amy Loving as the chairperson of COM and wish her well on her upcoming wedding and thanked her for her service. She will, however, continue to keep up the website. Exit interview was conducted with Rev. David VanWaegen and COM is trying to contact Karl Warrington to do one as well. Amy will send info for her reflection on Committee on Ministry .
- Discussion held regarding transfer of Rev. Daniel Zhao to National Capitol Presbytery. Jim will check with Daniel to encourage the transfer and also transfer of BOP payments from the Corning Chinese congregation.
- Upon the receipt of additional info, it was motioned, seconded and passed that Council rescind its July 8, 2014 action, which extended the end date of payment of Joelle Davis' compensation/benefits from December 24, 2014 to December 31, 2014 with the exception that the BOP benefit, having already been paid, will extend through December 31, 2014, this action subject to review by legal council.
- Conversation followed re: Restorative Justice.

- The following names have been placed into nomination for Nominations Committee

Chair: Cheryl Peeples (Trumansburg, FC)

Class of 2015

Leah Ntuala (Seneca Falls, FC)

Jon Knight (Horseheads, MC)

Betsey Crimmins (Elmira, First, FC)

Class of 2016

Cheryl Peeples (Trumansburg, FC)

Larry Bates (Bath, ME)

Class of 2017)

Jim Gerling (HR, MC)

Cynthia Huling Hummel (HR, FC)

Phobe Baker (Penn Yan)

- Rev. Nancy Meehan Yao shared information re: CRE Handbook
- Representatives from the SARC shared information regarding their review of the Presbytery. They will be sharing information at the Presbytery on 11/15/14. Discussion followed re: the role of Presbytery: “Purpose of Presbytery is to feed the Churches, not the churches fee the Presbytery.”
- Retired Pastor Luncheon will be May 12: Donna will help organize
- Discussed mortgage on Presbytery Office. Jim and Micah will look at refinancing and possible sale of property. Gail will contact Rev. Paul Malles in Penn Yan and Rev. Deb in Geneva to scout out possible space.
- Rev. Jim Yao discussed budget and following motions from Budget and Finance which were approved
 - To present the 2015 budget for a first read at the November 2014 meeting of the Presbytery
 - To remove approval of the final 2015 budget from the agenda of the January 2015 meeting of the Presbytery and add it to the agenda of March 2015 meeting of the presbytery.
 - To authorize the presbytery to pay necessary bills and payroll per the “first-read version of the 2015 budget with any payroll adjusted retroactively to January.
- Mercy Place was discussed.
- Continuing practices of healing in the Presbytery were discussed. David’s list will be shared at the Presbytery meeting.
- Dr. David Olsen will be contacted re: possible work within the Presbytery. We will check with Synod re: financial help with this.
- Next meeting will be December 9, 9:30 am
- Meeting closed at 2:45 pm with prayer by Rev. Leah Ntuala.

Respectively submitted, Rev. Gail Heimberger