

COUNCIL BRIEF

by Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick, Vice-Moderator of Presbytery

Our work began on Tuesday, October 23rd with prayer lifting up the family of Dan LeMonnier and the Westminster, Munster Congregation as well as Laura Reason on the passing of her sister Ellie the week prior.

Written reports from staff, officers, committees and commissions were reviewed with the following actions taken:

- Council acted to initiate a Presbytery wide discernment process on the Presbytery's Mission and Ministry. This effort will be led by the council and will seek to incorporate the entire Presbytery in its work.
- The Council acted on a recommendation from the Geneva Center Planning Committee to move forward with capital improvements requiring a significant Capital Campaign for Geneva Center. Council will be bringing this matter before the Presbytery in November so that we might affirm it together as a community.
- Council decided that our December meeting will be held at First Presbyterian Church in Goshen as we experiment with taking Council out to the churches.
- Approved a policy for Presbytery meetings requiring that all documents and items for action be submitted to the Stated Clerk no later than 7 days prior to the meeting. Any items submitted after that deadline will need approval from the Assembly for their consideration at that Presbytery meeting.
- Approved the renewal of our contract with the Center For Parish Development as recommended by the Transformation Ministry Team. Also from that Team we received the 2013 Presbytery wide Bible study that will be used for all meetings in the coming year.
- Recommendation from T.M.T. approved by Council a Congregational Leaders Event for the spring of 2013 with Alan Griffin, Bill Hudson, Frank Vardeman and Vicki Dreibelbis as organizers.
- Approved a recommendation from the Stewardship Ministry Team that the Presbytery move from a first read/second read budget process to a single read approval process at the May meeting of Presbytery each year.
- Council received a report from University Church as they move ahead with capital improvements and initiate their own capital campaign.
- Approved action from the Property Task Force to sell the former South Bend Ridgedale Presbyterian Church building and property at an absolute auction so as to limit the continuing expenses that particular property draws from the Presbytery.
- Approved the repair of a pipe in the basement of the Ladoga Church at the request of the Ladoga Administrative Commission.

Meeting was closed with prayer for our work together. Next meeting of PWV Council will be Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at First Presbyterian Church, Goshen at 10:00 a.m. (ET).