

## Presbytery of Wabash Valley

### God Calls

Summary of Assembly, November 23, 2010

Sounds of singing with the “Back Pew Band,” herald’s trumpet, laughter and tears, applause and dissents, consensus and close votes marked the gathering of commissioners from the congregations and ministries of Wabash Valley as Presbytery. In our ambitious agenda for the day, we:

- Celebrated the installation of General Presbyter Frank Vardeman with song, humor, renewed vows of mutual commitment, and sermon by Moderator John Ritchie exploring lessons in “How we are to live” that come out of God’s genuine love expressed in Romans 12: 14-21.
- Gathered lots of diapers and cash in support of the Kokomo Bible Study Fellowship’s ministry and nearly \$600 for the Christmas Joy offering.
- Installed Elder Pam Camren as Assembly Moderator, who in turn installed Rev. Laura Reason as Vice Moderator and Rev. John Ritchie as Council moderator.
- Voted to approve the proposed New Form of Government as an amendment to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church USA, with one recorded dissent.
- Approved restated Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and Standing Rules for our Presbytery with one recorded dissent, then allocated those present serving into leadership roles for the new teams and committees and elected a slate of additional leaders.
- Approved terms of settlement of litigation brought by First Presbyterian Church of Kokomo against the Presbytery in December, 2008.
- Shared faith stories of the ministry of Christ Presbyterian Church, Winfield and Peace River Presbytery.
- Shared prayers for special needs, for celebration and gratitude, prayers of sorrow and comfort, and of the Great Thanksgiving as we partook of the Lord’s Supper.
- Recognized the years of ministry of Rev. Carol McDonald to our Presbytery, most recently her three years of moderator leadership, with photo gifts of the four seasons by Pam Camren.
- Approved the operating and mission budgets of Presbytery for 2011, and reviewed first reading of the Geneva Center budget.
- Heard how Frank spent his first 23 days getting acquainted with us: driving 3000+ miles to attend 14 meetings, one session, one PNC, five visits with pastors, and worship services in four congregations.
- Approved recommendation of the Administrative Commission for Ladoga Presbyterian Church without dissent after more than two years of work and final consultation with the congregation, to immediately close worship, and to continue to ministry of the preschool while exploring other options for ministry in that community.