

Elders, ministers, and guests of Presbytery of Wabash Valley gathered this week at Geneva Center led by Moderator Pam Camren to worship, sing, pray, teach, listen, study, debate, discern, vote, reconsider, and share ideas and fellowship:

- Wes Tillett, PCUSA mission co-worker in Lebanon, contrasted our typical stereotypes of Lebanon and the Middle East through slides sharing experiences of his family during their first months teaching in Lebanon. He invited action-- prayer, learning, giving, and direct visits and partnerships with Lebanese Christians-- and invited children to contribute money to purchase books for a library in the school where Rita and Wes teach in Zahle, Lebanon.
- Paul Anderson reviewed the Belhar Confession and the specific historic context it addresses. The Assembly discussed at tables, then voted to approve its addition to the PC(USA) Book of Confessions, 63 to 27. Paul also preached a message from Matthew, encouraging Christ's disciples to speak out and live out their faith through good and faithful service.
- Bill Hudson reviewed several proposed amendments to the PC(USA) Book of Order, and the Assembly voted to approve all.
- Marylynn Boatright moved nomination of thirteen candidates who were elected to teams, committees and commissions to carry out the collective work of presbytery.
- Chuck Compton introduced Inquirer Mark Hults who shared his faith story and sense of call with the Assembly before being approved as a Candidate under the care of the Presbytery.
- Marcia Smith-Woods invited all to the Lord's Table, and led serving and prayers, assisted by several ministers and elders.
- Assembly charged the Administrative Commission for the Ladoga Presbyterian Church to continue its work and thanked those who serve on behalf of the Presbytery.
- Frank Vardeman reminded congregations and their sessions that he and others welcome invitations for conversations about the effects of likely changes in the language of the gifts and requirements for ordination and how this is carried out through our presbytery teams and congregational PNCs.
- Frank also urged us to form a presbytery team to respond to the rash of natural disasters. PDA is setting up hospitality sites for volunteer teams to assist with massive clean-up operations, repairs and spiritual care for those impacted by the disasters. Assembly contributed more than \$706 in support of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.
- Linda Long highlighted need for sessions to anticipate necessary transitions between current Book of Order and the proposed New Form of Government if it is approved by presbyteries and it goes into effect this summer. Assembly approved a transition resolution for our Presbytery.
- Stan Wilson surveyed those gathered for feedback and ideas for programs to offer at Geneva Center, and urged registration of campers.
- Ann Bingaman reminded the Assembly of our Synod's Ministerial Excellence Fund from a grant by the Lilly Foundation. There is a grant program to reduce debt of pastors and a program to provide training for congregations in creating cultures of generosity offered through partnership with Lake Institute for Faith and Giving.

Finally, the Assembly prayed throughout the day for joys and concerns, including 75th wedding anniversary of Ann Williams' parents, for those dealing with cancers,

those suffering around the world from disasters and violence, and those who discern and live out Christ's message with hearts of gratitude for abundant blessings among us.