One Hundred Sixty-eighth Stated Meeting of Homestead Presbytery

May 19, 2016 Moderator – Teaching elder Ellen Davis Niobrara-Verdel Presbyterian Church Niobrara, Nebraska

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. and opened with prayer by teaching elder Ellen Davis.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken by online and written registration and showed the following members present or excused with cause:

Attendance Key: A, Absent; P, Present; E, Excused; R, Retired; M, Military Service; VM, Validated Ministry

Continuing Members

P - Steve Piper P - Jon Ashley R/E - James Goble P – Martha Atkins A - James Goodenberger P - Charity Potter A-- Mary Avidano (UCC) R/E- Gary Fugman R/E - Richard Preston A - Gail Axen (UCC) A - Joel Gajardo R/E - Rebecca Rising R/E - Don Ball R/E - Dennis Hett R/E - Keith Roumpf P – Katie Barrett Todd P – Michael Hill P - Jimmy L. Shelbourn A - Darin Bentzinger R/E - Kenneth C. Hipple R/E - Robert Snell E - Greg Bolt R/E - Samuel W. Hofer P – Jim Splitt E - Heidi Bolt M/E - Dennis E. Hysom P - Kathleen Splitt R/E - Don Botic A -- Kara Hillhouse R/E - Don R. Steiner R/E - Robert W. Jeambey A - Connie Stone P - Alan Brehm E - Steve Breazier P - Brian Johnson P – Jen Strickland R/E - Stephen J. Brownlee P- Melodie Jones Pointon A -- Annika Stroope R/P - Ronald L. Bump R/E - Burton A. Knudsen R/E -- Roxie Sullivan P - Robert Burdett A - Sungjae Lee R/E - Gary A. Thomson P - Leanne Masters R/E - Richard Tiggelaar P - Sue Coller A - Nanette Tomlinson-R/E - Gail Cross E - Rachelle McCalla R/P - Ellen Davis R/E - Timothy McClain Knoell R/P - Lynn Davis E - Andrew L. McDonald P – Mason Todd R/E - Noel DeKalb P - James K. McNeal R/E Earl Underwood Jr. R/P - John Duling P – Heidi Wallace P - Raymond Meester P - Thomas Dummermuth VM/E - Karen Moritz R/E - Arlys Wilbur E - Tino Naranjo A - Jeff Warrick E - Michael Eickhoff P - Duncan Nichol P - Duane Westing R/E - Lonnie Eschliman VM/E - Carl Eskridge R/E - Tom Osborne P - Richard Wyatt P - Greg Gahan A - Jock Tut Paleak

RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS

Churches	Elders	Churches	Elders	
Akron	No commissioner	Lincoln, Korean	No commissioner	
Alexander	No commissioner	Lincoln, Southern Heights	Dave Barnhouse	
Auburn	No commissioner	Lincoln, Westminster	Christy Dempsey	
Bancroft, First	No commissioner	Lincoln, Westminster. 2	Marge Tomlison	
Beatrice, First	No commissioner	Lincoln, Westminster 3	No commissioner	
Belden, Union	Kathie Keifer	Lyons, First	No commissioner	
Cedar Bluffs, First	No commissioner	Nebraska City, First	No commissioner	
Clarkson, New Zion	No commissioner	Niobrara-Verdel	Mona Weatherwax	
Columbus, Federated	No commissioner	Norfolk, First	Dave Gerharter	
Craig, First	No commissioner	North Bend, United	Kristi Hill	
Dunbar	No commissioner	Palmyra	No commissioner	
Fairbury, First	No commissioner	Panama	No commissioner	
Falls City, First	No commissioner	Pawnee City, First United	No commissioner	
Fremont (1)	No commissioner	Pender, United	No commissioner	
Fremont (2)	No commissioner	Primrose, First	No commissioner	
Gresham	No commissioner	Schuyler, First	No commissioner	
Hebron, First	No commissioner	Steele City	No commissioner	
Hickman	Bruce Kuster	Tecumseh, First United	No commissioner	
Humboldt	No commissioner	Tekamah, First	No commissioner	
Laurel, United	No commissioner	Thurston, John Huss	No commissioner	
Liberty, Mission Creek	No commissioner	Unadilla, Hopewell	No commissioner	
Lincoln, Eastridge (1)	Nancy Hall	Wahoo, Czech	No commissioner	
Lincoln, Eastridge (2)	No commissioner	Wahoo, First	No commissioner	
Lincoln, First	Jim Wagner	Wakefield	No commissioner	
Lincoln, Fourth	Virginia Metcalf	Walthill, Faith	No commissioner	
Lincoln, Good Shepherd	Maggie Horak	Wayne, First	Jim Curtiss	
Lincoln, Heritage	Jay Weyers	Wymore, United	No commissioner	
		York	No commissioner	
loderator		P – Teaching elder Ellen Members)	Davis(See Continuing	
ice Moderator		P – Ruling elder Steve Pointon		
tated Clerk		P – Teaching elder Rayn Continuing Members)		

Executive Presbyter P – Teaching elder Richard Wyatt (See

Continuing Members)

P – Ruling elder Cheryl Rennick Treasurer P – Ruling elder Steve Pointon Moderator of Council

P – Teaching elder Steve Piper (See Continuing Moderator, Committee on Ministry

Members)

P – Teaching elder Jon Ashley (See Continuing Moderator, Nominating Committee

Members)

P – Teaching elder Melodie Jones Pointon (See Moderator, Committee on Preparation

Continuing Members)

P – Ruling elder Scott Eveland Moderator, Business and Finance

Moderator, Program and Grants P – Ruling elder Katie Barrett Todd (See

Continuing Members)

E – Teaching elder Carl Eskridge (See Continuing Moderator of Personnel

Members)

P – Ruling elder Maggie Horak Moderator, Presbyterian Women

P – Commissioned Ruling elder John Nellessen Vice Moderator, Calvin Crest Committee

Moderator, Permanent Judicial Commission Vacant

Member at Large of Council P – Ruling elder David Barnhouse

Member at Large of Council E – Kylie Peterson

General Assembly teaching elder Commissioner E – Teaching elder Greg Bolt (See Continuing

Members)

P – Teaching elder Jen Strickland(See Continuing General Assembly teaching elder Commissioner

Members)

P – Ruling elder Cheryl Rennick General Assembly ruling elder Commissioner General Assembly ruling elder Commissioner E – Ruling elder Pam Carrier

General Assembly YAAD A - Eric Hall

Synod Clergy Commissioner P – Teaching elder Annika Lister-Stroope (See

Continuing Members)

P – Ruling elder Joan Berglund Synod ruling elder Commissioner

Synod Youth Advisory Delegate A - Lyn Hansen

P – Ruling elder Kris Peterson The Homesteader, Editor A – Ruling elder Lana Likens Certified Lay Pastor P – Ruling elder Steve Pointon Commissioned Ruling elder

QUORUM The stated clerk declared a quorum was present.

DOCKET Motion carried to adopt the docket as amended.

CORRESPONDING

Teaching elder Sally Carlson, member of Missouri River Presbytery, and interim pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Wayne, Nebraska, **MEMBERS**

was seated as a corresponding member.

FIRST TIME First time commissioners were introduced.

INTRODCUTIONS

WELCOME Ruling elder Mona Weatherwax, clerk of session of the Niobrara-

Verdel Presbyterian Church, welcomed the presbytery.

WORSHIP Teaching elder Sally Carlson was the preacher and Rev. Martha

Atkins and Rev. Greg Gahan officiated at the Lord's Supper. An

offering was received for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

EDUCATIONAL HOUR

Three workshops were presented. "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow:

Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska Reaches Needs in our Community, by Jerry Albright; The Sights and Sounds of the Niobrara Natural Habitat, by Mark Rettig; and Farm Living as It

Impacts Ministry, by teaching elder Charity Potter.

RECESS FOR LUNCH The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:30 p.m.

RECONVENED The meeting reconvened at 1:30 p.m. with prayer by teaching elder

Ellen Davis.

PRESBYTERY OFFICERS AND STAFF Treasurer ruling elder Cheryl Rennick reminded the presbytery to please pay their per capita and reminded committees to get their budgets requests in for 2017. It was reported that the presbytery received \$363 for PDA at this morning's worship and at lunch \$32.14 was collected at the lunch tables which will go to the Knox County Food Bank.

Moderator teaching elder Ellen Davis reported.

Executive presbyter teaching elder Richard Wyatt reminded the presbytery that he and Kris Peterson will be unavailable while on the Scotland Ireland Pilgrimage and please not to call them. The new online directory should be available soon.

Congregational Resource Coordinator ruling elder Kris Peterson gave an update on the social media used by presbytery.

Stated clerk teaching elder Raymond Meester reported that the required annual fineline, minister summary, church summary reports, and the supplemental forms reporting the salaries & benefits of presbytery staff for 2015, the per capita for 2016, and the meeting dates for 2016 were sent to the General Assembly.

The report of the session records review is included as Attachment A.

The 2015 statistical report for Homestead Presbytery is included as Attachment B.

The membership of Homestead Presbytery is also included as Attachment C.

The 2015 minutes of Homestead Presbytery were reviewed by the Synod committee on April 28 and 29, 2016. There were two exceptions: 1) The merger of the Niobrara and Verdel Churches was not recorded, and 2) the record of the minimum compensation standards was not recorded.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Moderator teaching elder Jon Ashley called attention to the current committee vacancies. (See Attachment D.)

The Nominating Committee moved that the following nominees be elected:

Synod Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD):

Lynn Hanson, Wahoo (Class of 2016-2017)

Synod Commissioner:

Ruling elder Joan Berglund, Lincoln First (Class of 2018-2019)

Calvin Crest Board of Directors:

Ann Paulson, North Bend (Class of 2017)

Teaching elder Kathleen Splitt, Wahoo (Class of 2018)

Teaching elder John Duling, Eastridge (Class of 2018)

Moderator of Committee on Business and Finance Ruling elder Scott Eveland, North Bend (Class of 2018)

Committee on Business and Finance:

Ruling elder Sally Wilhelm, Falls City (Class of 2018)

Committee on Ministry:

Teaching elder Sue Coller, Lincoln First (Class of 2017)

After an opportunity for nominations from the floor, the nominees were duly elected.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Teaching elder Steve Piper introduced new teaching elders: Jock Paleak, who will be serving the Sudanese Church at First Presbyterian Church, Lincoln; and Heidi Wallace, an ELCA pastor, who is serving the Presbyterian Church in Lyons, yoked with a local ELCA church in the community.

The presbytery honored teaching elder Jimmy Shelbourn, who is retiring as the pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Beatrice.

Presbytery approved the pastoral relation between teaching elder Cathy Allen and the New Zion Presbyterian Church, Clarkson, NE, be dissolved effective May 15, 2016.

Presbytery approved transferring the membership of teaching elders Cathy Allen and Neal Allen to Blackhawk Presbytery, effective May 16, 2016.

The congregation of First Presbyterian Church, Tecumseh, Nebraska,

at is meeting on Sunday, May 15, 2016, requests that Homestead Presbytery dissolve them as a church. Homestead Presbytery approved the dissolution of First Presbyterian Church, Tecumseh, Nebraska, effective May 19, 2016.

Presbytery approved teaching elder Ellen Davis appoint the Administrative Commission for the closure of the Tecumseh Church. The duties of the Administrative Commission shall be:

- 1. Organize itself with a moderator and a clerk;
- 2. Assume original jurisdiction of the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Tecumseh, Nebraska;
- 3. Conclude the affairs of the church, seeing to:
 - a. the transfer of its remaining members to other Christian bodies of their choosing for one year, and;
 - b. a worship service celebrating the years of faithful ministry in the Presbyterian Church (USA) of this congregation, thanking God for the ministry of the congregation;
- 4. Authorize the Stated Clerk to receive the session records, including the session minutes and the register, and other important records, and to deposit these records with the Presbyterian Historical Society for the preservation of the records:
- 5. Under the Form of Government, (G-4.0203) all property of First Presbyterian Church, Tecumseh, Nebraska, is held in trust for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Administrative Commission of Homestead Presbytery is authorized to take possession of all real and personal property, financial records, inventories of equipment, and arrange for transfer of title to the Presbytery of all accounts and real property known to be in the possession of First Presbyterian Church., Tecumseh, Nebraska;
- 6. Approve the disposition of property and assets, or to arrange for its retention and storage for future use at the direction of Homestead Presbytery;
- 7. Authorize the Commission to consult with the session regarding requests the congregation may have relating to the disposition of equipment and memorials and other property of the First Presbyterian Church, Tecumseh, Nebraska, and from the date of the action to approve the disposition of property or to arrange for its retention and storage for future use at the direction of the presbytery;
- 8. To assert claim of the presbytery to any property of First Presbyterian Church, Tecumseh, Nebraska, not known at this time or property which may come to First Presbyterian Church, Tecumseh, Nebraska, as the beneficiary of a will or trust not known at this time;
- 9. Take all actions necessary to effect this commission's duties.

The committee moved to grant an exception (*Book of Order*, G-2.0504c) to permit teaching elder Sue Coller, the current interim pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Lincoln, to serve as their installed pastor. By paper ballot, the presbytery approved the exception by more than a ³/₄ vote: 37 yes and 4 no (90% in favor and 10% opposed).

Presbytery approved the terms of call.

- 1. Cash salary \$45,000
- 2. Housing allowance \$35,000
- 3. Mileage at IRS rate, included in Professional Expenses
- 4. Professional expenses \$2,000 pro-rated for remainder of 2016
- 5. Continuing education \$1,500, pro-rated for the remainder of 2016; \$2,250 for 2017
- 6. Moving costs up to \$12,000
- 7. Full family, medical, pension, disability, and death benefits under the Board of Pensions
- 8. Paid vacation: 22 working days, including 4 Sundays
- 9. Three-month sabbatical in her seventh year.
- 10. Paid continuing education: two weeks, including two Sundays. Money and time can be carried over for three years.
- 11. In addition, the church will pay the cost of the pastor attending Stephen Ministry Leader Training within the first 18 months of service.

Presbytery appointed the following people to the administrative commission to install teaching elder Sue Coller:

Teaching elder Ellen Davis

Teaching elder Andrew McDonald

Teaching elder Leanne Masters

Ruling elder Beth Bimstihl, Eastridge, Lincoln

Ruling elder Jim Wagner, First, Lincoln

The installation will be on June 26, 2016, 3:00 P.M.

PC(USA) candidate Edward Yang was examined by the presbytery. (His statement of faith is included in Attachment E.) It was moved to conclude the examination. Dr. Yang was excused. Presbytery sustained the examination and approved his being ordained. Presbytery approved the call extended by the Columbus Federated church to Edward Yang. His terms of call are as follows:

- 1. Cash Salary \$27,000
- 2. Housing Allowance 18,000
- 3. Automobile expense IRS rate, total of \$1,700 shared with senior pastor
- 4. Business/professional expenses \$1,000
- 5. SECA supplement \$3,442.50
- 6. Continuing education \$750
- 7. Moving costs up to \$5,000

- 8. Full medical, pension, disability and death benefits under the Board of Pensions
- 9. Paid vacation: 4 weeks, including 4 Sundays.
- 10. Paid continuing education: 2 weeks, including two Sundays. Money and time for continuing education can be carried over for three years.
- 11. Three-month clergy renewal leave in the fifth year of service.

The following actions were done by the Committee on behalf of the presbytery:

- 1. The Rev. Jock Tut Paleak was examined on February 15, 2016, by a subcommittee. He was examined for transfer from the Cumberland Presbyterian Church to serve as pastor of the Sudanese fellowship at Lincoln First. The examination was sustained and he was approved for transfer. Nashville Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church approved Jock's request to transfer his ordination credentials at their April 26 presbytery meeting.
- 2. The Rev. Martha Atkins, ELCA, was examined by a subcommittee on February 25. The examination was sustained. She will be serving Niobrara-Verdel Presbyterian Church and the local ELCA congregation, starting April 17, 2016
- 3. Voted to receive Rev. Martha Atkins into temporary membership in Homestead Presbytery.
- 4. The Presbyterian Church of Freemont's mission study was approved by an e-mail vote on March 3, 2016.
- 5. Teaching elder Sue Coller was examined by a subcommittee on April 11, 2016 with regard to the call extended to her to serve Lincoln First Presbyterian as installed pastor. The examination was sustained.
- 6. PC(USA) candidate Edward Yang was examined on April 28 by a subcommittee. The examination was sustained and Edward will be recommended for ordination. He has accepted a call to serve as associate pastor at the Federated Church of Columbus.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Ruling elder Maggie Horak, moderator of Presbyterian Women of Homestead Presbytery reported on their activities. There were three spring gatherings. The hands on mission project was putting together 221 cleaning kits for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

PROGRAM AND GRANTS

Teaching elder Katie Barrett Todd, moderator, reminded the presbytery that committee budget requests for 2017 need to be in now.

COUNCIL

Ruling elder Steve Pointon reported. Council nominates teaching elder James McNeal to fill a vacancy for the class of 2016 on the Nominating Committee. Opportunity was given for nominations from the floor. There were none, and he was duly elected.

The Council moved, and presbytery approved, that Southern Heights Presbyterian Church, Lincoln obtain a loan of up to \$103,000, for their parking lot project. Presbytery had approved a line of credit at the February 2016 stated meeting. The loan is for ten years. Rental income from the bell tower and contributions to the building find will be used to pay the monthly loan payment and the Southern Heights Presbyterian Church endowment fund is the collateral for the loan.

LEAVES AND ABSENCES

Excused:

All Honorably Retired

All who are serving in a non-parish validated ministry All who are serving as military chaplains on active duty

Teaching elder Greg Bolt

Teaching elder Heidi Bolt

Teaching elder Steve Breazier

Teaching elder Michael Eickhoff

Teaching elder Andrew McDonald

Teaching elder Rachelle McCalla

Teaching elder Tino Naranjo

Late Arrival:

Teaching elder Melodie Jones Pointon Teaching elder Connie Stone

Teaching elder Steve Piper

Early Leave:

Teaching elder Jim McNeal Teaching elder Charity Potter

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:53 P.M., with the closing prayer led by teaching elder Ellen Davis

NEXT STATED MEETING OF
HOMESTEAD PRESBYTERY
ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY NINE
AUGUST 19-20, 2016 6:00 P.M.
CALVIN CREST CAMP, CONFERENCE,
AND RETREAT CENTER
FREMONT, NEBRASKA

Teaching elder Raymond Meester, Stated Clerk	Approved	
		(Date)
Signed		
		(Stated Clerk)

Attachment A

York

Session Records Review

1. The following churches submitted their session records for review:

Church **Exception** Alexandria None Bancroft Minor Beatrice None Belden Minor Clarkson Minor Minor Craig Fairbury None Falls City None Fremont None Gresham None Hebron None Hickman None Lincoln, Eastridge None Lincoln, First Minor Lincoln, Fourth None Lincoln, Good Shepherd Minor Lincoln, Heritage Minor Lincoln, Southern Heights None Lincoln, Westminster Minor Lyons Minor Mission Creek None Nebraska City None Niobrara/Verdel Minor North Bend Minor Palmyra None Pender Minor Schuyler Minor Tecumseh None Tekamah Minor Thurston Minor Wakefield Minor Minor Wayne Wymore None

Minor

The following churches did not provide their records for review:

Akron Auburn Cedar Bluffs Columbus Humboldt Laurel

Lincoln, Korean

Norfolk
Panama
Pawnee City
Primrose
Steele City
Wahoo, First
Wahoo, Czech
Walthill



ATTACHMENT B Presbytery Report 2015

Age Distribution of	Active Members	Male	Female		
25 & Under	930	374	430		
26 - 45	1299	549	683		
46 - 55	756	292	396		
56 - 65	1052	449	513		
Over 65	2097	772	1187		
Total Distribution	6134	2436	3209		
People with Disabilities					
Hearing	292				
Sight	118				
Mobility	259				
Other	95				
Christian Education	1				
Birth 3	187		Grade 7	92	
Age 4	102		Grade 8	91	
Kindergarten	99		Grade 9	95	
Grade 1	76		Grade 10	87	
Grade 2	103		Grade 11	50	
Grade 3	122		Grade 12	85	
Grade 4	126		Young Adults	96	
Grade 5	86		Over 25	536	
Grade 6	110		Teachers/Officers	251	
Total	2394				
Racial Ethnic Breakdown	Membership	Elders	Deacons	Male	Female
Asian	12			7	5
Black	9	1	1	7	2
African American	36			17	19
African	59	2		27	32
Middle Eastern					
Hispanic	23	1	1	5	17
Native American	7			6	1
White	6393	284	177	2609	3441
	3				3

Totals	6542	288	179	2678	3520
Potential Giving Units	4,409				
Budgeted Income	5,372,839				
Budgeted Expense	6,777,275				
Receipts					
Regular Contributions	5,771,665	Bequests	2,529,458		
Capital Building Fund	392,084	Other Income	575,477		
Investment Income	409,147	Subsidy or Aid			
Expenditures					
Local Program	4,734,981	Per Capital Apprt	247,538		
Local Mission	273,035	Validated Mission	109,088		
Capital Expenditures	548,161	Theological Fund	16,858		
Investment Expenditures	972,487	Other Mission	342,700		

Attachment C HOMESTEAD PRESBYTERY MEMBERSHIP January 1, 2016

101 Pastor or Co-Pastor

Cathy Allen Jon Ashley Darin Bentzinger **Gregory Bolt** Steven Breazier Alan Brehm Michael Eickhoff Michael Hill Brian Johnson Sungjae Lee Leanne Masters Andrew McDonald James McNeal Raymond Meester Duncan Nichol Steven Piper

Melodie Jones Pointon

Charity Potter
Jimmy Shelbourn
Kathleen Splitt
Annika Lister Stroope

101 Pastor or Co-Pastor Continued

Jeff Warrick Duane Westing

103 Associate Pastor Jennifer Strickland Thomas Dummermuth

Mason Todd

105 Interim Pastor or Interim Associate

Steven Neal Allen Bob Burdett Sue Coller Nan DeVries

James Goodenberger

107 Ruling Elder Commissioned to Particular Pastoral Service

Lana Likens John Nellessen Stephen/ Pointon

108 Temporary Relationship

Heidi Bolt

Lonnie Eschliman (299)

Tim McClain Connie Stone

109 Pastor Emeritus/Emerita

Ronald Bump Ellen Davis Samuel Hofer William E Pfeffer

158 Other Denomination Temporary Relationship

Ray Avidano Greg Gahan Mary Ellen Gaither-Marburg Gary Panko

299 Honorably Retired Member

Steven Neal Allen (105 for Schuyler)

Don Ball

Joe Barr

Donald Botic

Stephen Brownlee

Ron Bump

Gail Cross (105 for Fairbury & Steele City)

Ellen Davis Lynn Davis

Noel DeKalb

Lonnie Eschliman (108 for Wahoo, Czech)

Gary Fugman James Goble

Dennis Hett

Ken Hipple

C 111 C

Samuel Hofer

Robert W. Jeambey

Burton Knudsen

Gail Neal

Tom Osborne

Richard Preston

Harold Rainey

Rebecca (Kincaid) Rising

R. Keith Roumpf

299 Honorably Retired Member (Continued)

Robert Snell

James Splitt

Don Steiner

Roxie Sullivan

Gary Thomson

Rich Tiggelaar

Earl F. Underwood Jr.

Arlys Wilbur

302 Executive Presbyter

Richard Wyatt

303 Presbytery Stated Clerk

Raymond Meester (101 for Lincoln Heritage)

405 GA Agencies, Field Staff

Karen Moritz

503 Serving Another Denomination,

Associate Pastor

Kara Hillhouse

641 Pastor/Chaplain Educational Institution

Katie Barrett Todd

751 Military Chaplain

Dennis Hysom

791 Other validated

Carl Eskridge

792 Ruling Elder Commissioned to Validated Ministry

Jose Antonio Garcia Andrade

797 Member at Large

Joel Gajardo

Juventino Naranjo

Rachelle McCalla

Nanette Tomlinson-Knoell

Attachment D

Committee Vacancies

Vacancies in Homestead Presbytery Committees

Calvin Crest Board of Directors

*2017 Member

*2018 Member

*2018 Member

Synod Commissioner Youth Advisory (YAD)

*2016 YAD

Business & Finance Committee

*2018 Moderator

*2018 Member

Committee on Ministry

2016 Member

*2017 Member

2017 Member

2018 Member

Nominating Committee

*2018 Member

Preparation for Ministry

2017 Member

Council

2018 At Large

New Worshiping Communities/Church Development and Redevelopment

2016 Member

2016 Member

2016 Member

2017 Member

2017 Member

2018 Member

2018 Member

Attachment E

Statement of Faith

S. Edward Yang

I believe in the triune God. The first person of the Trinity is the Father who cares for God's children like their mother. God is sovereign in spite of my lack of understanding of how it can be when things do not seem to be going well. I trust that God works all things for ultimate good. The second person is Jesus Christ who is fully God and became fully human in order to reconcile humanity with God. Christ embodies God's love in seeking to be in relationship with people. He redeems us through his life, death and resurrection. The third person is the Holy Spirit who guides and empowers God's people. It is encouraging to know that the Spirit is

^{*}These vacancies were filled at this meeting.

working in me for my service to God.

I believe God has a plan for humanity. Although sin has distorted the image of God, Christ restores that image and provides the path for intimately knowing the divine. It is by grace that God offers a renewed, whole life to be received with gratitude. By faith, I confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Christ has saved me for eternal life. And Christ is Lord over all of life. In response to evil in the world, Christians are called to stand for justice, sit with the brokenhearted, proclaim the gospel, and work for the goodness of God's intended creation.

I believe the Holy Scriptures to be the written Word of God that points to Christ, the incarnate Word of God. The Bible is living and active in that God continues to speak to humanity through it. The Bible is inspired by the Holy Spirit as God's Word. As such, the Holy Spirit - who continues to work in the world - guides our understanding of the Bible.

I believe the Church is called to be God's people. While God is perfect, people are not. Each church is a community of broken people who seek to follow God and care for one another. Like a family, there will be challenges to unity. Yet, a church can grow together as diverse members share in one another's stories of joy and sorrow.

We are called to corporate worship to experience God's transforming presence and activity. In worship, our focus is on the primary means of grace: preaching of God's Word and celebrating the sacraments (baptism and the Lord's Supper). Through the preached Word, a church hears God's message for them in their specific time and place. Baptism marks one's initiation into the Church through identification with Christ's death and resurrection. In the Lord's Supper, the Spirit works with cultural objects (i.e., bread & wine) to bring people together with the risen Lord.

In worship, God calls and forms the church as the Body of Christ. We are collectively shaped through the activities and place of worship. The Holy Spirit sanctifies each church for God's mission: the world's pain is brought before God, and in turn, we offer Christ's peace to the world.

This is what I believe: The love of Christ compels me to pursue holiness in relation to God and to seek justice for my neighbors, through the power of the Holy Spirit.