

Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois
Special Called Meeting
January 21, 2016 - 10:00 a.m.
First Presbyterian Church, Effingham
Teaching Elder Laurie Fields, Vice Moderator

Opening Prayer

Quorum & Adoption of the Agenda (**PAGES 1-2**)

Hymn

Business

Rantoul Administrative Commission Report

Presentation of Overtures for consideration of concurrence (see below) (**PAGES 2-16**)

Possible Committee on Ministry Business

Hymn

Closing Prayer & Adjournment

NEXT STATED MEETING: Sunday, February 21, 2016, 3:00pm at Greenville, First

NOTES TO TEACHING ELDERS AND RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS

PLEASE BRING THIS DOCKET AND OTHER PAPERS WITH YOU TO THE PRESBYTERY MEETING!

Motions and resolutions from the floor **MUST** be presented in writing.

REMINDER TO CHURCHES – If your elected commissioner or alternate is unable to attend a presbytery meeting, the Session may appoint another elder, either currently serving on the session or not, to serve as commissioner for that meeting. ALL visitors attending from your church need to either pre-register or sign in at the registration table at the meeting.

HOW TO PRE-REGISTER – Go to www.psei.net. Under the banner near the top of the page you will see *ministries* listed – put your cursor on that tab. On the drop-down menu, click on *Presbytery Meetings*. Here you will find the entire list of meeting documents. Read and print the ones you may want for the meeting.

You may pre-register for the meeting through the website. Please do so by close of business (4pm) on Monday, January 18th. Follow the above instructions and when you are on the *Presbytery Meetings* page, click on the *Pre-Register for Presbytery Meeting (form)*.

- Enter your name
- Select *Teaching Elder, Ruling Elder Commissioner, Other Presbyter* (GC or Ruling Elder Member, CRE, Corresponding Member, CCE, TP, Staff) or *Visitor (includes NTP)* from the drop-down menu
- Select *Attending Yes* or *No* from the drop-down menu
- Select *Lunch Yes* or *No* from the drop-down menu
- Enter complete church name (i.e.: Decatur First)
- PLEASE NOTE: If you need child care, please give us the name, age and allergies or special needs for each child.
- Click on submit.

Our office will receive notification of your pre-registration. If you are going to be absent, you still need to let us know by utilizing this form.

Alternate options to pre-register or notify us of your absence are to call the Presbytery office at 1-800-456-7734 or email us office@psei.net by **close of business (4pm) on Monday, January 18th** to tell us you will or will not be coming to the meeting. Tell us your name; whether you are a Teaching Elder, Ruling Elder Commissioner, Other Presbyter or Visitor;

your complete church name (i.e.: Decatur First). You may also give us the names of others that will be attending from your church.

When you arrive at the meeting, find the “pre-registered” table. There you will find your name tag and any additional papers for the day.

ADDITIONAL PAPERS

Guidelines for Covenant Behavior for Committee Conversation
Map
Child Care
2016 Updated Calendar
Camp Brochure Distribution Flyer
2016-2017 Planning Calendar Flyer

Special Note: Lunch will not be available at this meeting.

Ovt 014

On Amending G-3.0203 to Allow for Virtual Attendance in Session Meetings When Appropriate Technology is Available—From the Presbytery of Lake Erie.

The Presbytery of Lake Erie respectfully overtures the 222nd General Assembly (2016) to send to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes: Shall Book of Order G-3.0203 be amended by inserting, “A session may vote to allow virtual attendance and participation, including voting rights, in meetings when appropriate technology is available.”

Rationale

Technology exists to allow full participation virtually in all meetings.

Virtual session accommodations provide the home bound, those traveling for work, pleasure or family responsibilities and those with family situations requiring their presence at home a vehicle for full participation.

Virtual meetings allow those unable to be physically present at session meetings the opportunity to fulfill their call to discern and measure the congregation’s fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life.

The quality of session is greatly improved by membership from the diversity of its congregation.

Ovt 021

On Authorizing the Hiring of a Consultant to Assess the Relationship of OGA and PMA and the Need for Their Continued Existence as Two Separate Entities—From the Presbytery of St. Andrew.

The Presbytery of Saint Andrew overtures the 222nd General Assembly (2016) to:

1. Authorize the Moderators of the 222nd and 221st General Assemblies, the Moderator of the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly, and the Moderator of the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board, in consultation with the Stated Clerk and the Executive Director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, to hire a top tier national consultant with expertise in organizational analysis to assess and make recommendations on the nature, function, and relationship of the Office of the General Assembly and the Presbyterian Mission Agency to each other and to the presbyteries and congregations of the PC(USA), including the need for their continued existence as two distinct entities, and

2. **Direct the Advisory Committee on the Constitution to receive the report of the consultant and make recommendations regarding the implementation of the report’s recommendations to the 223rd General Assembly.**

Rationale

The charge given to the Mid-Council Commission appointed by the 220th General Assembly in 2012 (MCII), included the charge to: “Review the nature and function of the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) and the Office of the General Assembly (OGA) with respect to their relationship with and support of mid councils” (*Minutes*, 2012, Part I, pp. 21–22).

This portion of the charge was, presumably, the 220th General Assembly’s response to a section of the first Mid-Council Commission’s report that stated:

In addition, even the Office of the General Assembly and the General Assembly Mission Council need to be reviewed as to how their practices serve presbyteries in their mission to serve congregations. Over and again, stories were told about the pervasive distrust of General Assembly, about the amount of resources that go into our six-part structure, the lack of an effective and clear national strategy toward immigrant populations, and the ways in which the GAMC “competes” with presbyteries and synods for giving dollars. A flatter hierarchy with a focus on the congregation as the center of the mission of the church will not be complete until the church reconsiders the bureaucratic structures of GAMC and eliminates any competition for power or resources between the GAMC and OGA. These conditions foster a bureaucratic mentality at a time when we need to do get back to mission and ministry, doing “whatever it takes” to revitalize local congregations. It is not within the purview of Commission to make such recommendations, so we call on the 220th General Assembly to establish a task force to review the nature and functions of the General Assembly offices and departments in light of the charge given to us (MCC Final Report, pg. 38 ll. 8-21).

In response to its charge, MCII appointed a sub-committee to conduct an assessment of these entities from the perspective of presbyteries and synods. That sub-committee concluded that:

This admittedly limited review of the relationships that characterize the presbyteries and synods with the PMA and OGA respectively offers some insights even though it was neither broad enough nor deep enough to be definitive. Positively, the collected data do not reveal any acute or critical points of tension. Yet, the review did reflect a rather disquieting and widespread malaise concerning a sense of shared identity of the church as a whole. In the present moment, there was expressed a concern for whether the church can afford, financially and in terms of human resources, the continued existence of what are seen as two large and expensive national agencies, as well as two levels of mid council structures . . . (MCII Report, Section V.C.).

However, although MCII reached the conclusion that we *do* need “two levels of mid council structures” moving forward, it did not make any recommendations regarding the reported “concern for whether the church can afford, financially and in terms of human resources, the continued existence” of the two separate and distinct entities.

We believe that the time has come to step back and take a look at the big picture of the PC(USA)’s governance and structure for mission – which were created in an era that nearly everyone agrees is no longer our reality.

We further believe that an outside, objective assessment, while its results may need to then be interpreted in light of our Reformed faith and polity, is nevertheless not only warranted but necessary.

Ovt 022

On Directing COGA to Bring to the 223rd GA Proposals Regarding Changes in the Moderator's Election and Assembly Committee Meetings Process—From the Presbytery of St. Andrew.

The Presbytery of Saint Andrew overtures the 222nd General Assembly (2016) to direct the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA) to bring to the 223rd General Assembly a proposal for constitutional changes, revisions to the *Manual of the General Assembly*, and necessary implementation provisos that would:

- 1. Move the election of a General Assembly Moderator and Vice-Moderator to the *end* of the meeting of each General Assembly, with the result that the newly elected Moderator and Vice-Moderator, having demonstrated leadership through the week of the Assembly meeting, would be elected to serve as its ambassadors for the next two years, working to build the *next* assembly's agenda and business, over which they would then preside.**
- 2. Create a system by means of which General Assembly committees can convene at least six months prior to the Assembly at which they will serve as Commissioners to organize and begin their work, culminating in reports and action recommendations at their meetings once the General Assembly itself has convened. It is assumed that evolving electronic meeting technology will be employed to make this process possible.**

Rationale

In the current General Assembly process, Moderators are elected on the basis of a very brief time of “campaigning” at the beginning of each assembly, and a 90 minute period of questions and answers mostly on theoretical questions of what they would do if elected. Furthermore, once the Assembly adjourns, its Moderator and Vice-Moderator have essentially completed their work, save the tasks of *interpreting* the Assembly's actions to the church and serving as its ambassadors to both the PC(USA) membership, and the world.

This proposal would first give each Assembly the opportunity to experience its potential leaders in action, and then determine at the *end* of the Assembly week who should be elected to serve in these critically important roles at the *next* Assembly, and in the months leading up to it.

Second, the proposal would change the current process of coming together for a total of one week with the expectation that commissioners will reach good and well-reasoned decisions on a myriad of matters enumerated in thousands of pages of overtures, responses, reports, and recommendations. In an age in which not only can reports can be distributed electronically, but entire meetings can be conducted electronically in full compliance with *Robert's Rules of Order*, there is no reason that a system cannot be created to allow General Assembly committees to organize, meet, assign work groups, and accomplish much of their work before the Assembly week occurs.

In developing a process for implementing this proposal, the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA) should have the freedom to contemplate creative options – including shortening the length of Assembly meetings themselves – to create the possibility of individual in-person committee meetings well before the Assembly week for the purposes of group formation and organization, which could be held relatively inexpensively by utilizing the Presbyterian Center, Camp and Conference facilities and/or churches. This process would also give the Moderator and Vice-Moderator particular roles in facilitating and coordinating these meetings and work.

Ovt 024

On Adding Section G-2.1104, Administrative Personnel Association (APA)—From the Presbytery of Central Nebraska.

The Presbytery of Central Nebraska overtures the 222nd General Assembly to add to G.211 Certified Church Service the following:

G. 2.1104 Administrative Personnel Association (APA)

a. Skills and Training

Certified Administrative Personnel Assistants are persons certified and called to service in the ministry of church administration in congregations and councils. They shall have skills and training in church polity, church history, reformed theology, spiritual growth and discipline, office administration, Directory for Worship, Book of Confessions, and General Assembly Entities.

b. Councils Responsibility

The presbytery shall affirm the skill and dedication of these certified persons by providing for recognition at presbytery at the time of their certification and by inviting these employees to presbytery meetings, granting them the privilege of the floor with voice only at all presbytery meetings, and in the case of Certified APA members who are ruling elders, the privilege of voice and vote at all its meetings.

Names of those who have earned certification through APA shall be transmitted to the Presbyterian Mission Agency, which will forward them to the Office of the General Assembly and to the Stated Clerk of the presbyteries in which those persons labor.

Rationale

A request from twelve women attending a business administration course at the Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, VA laid the groundwork for a professional organization to be created. In 1976 the Administrative Personnel Association was founded by Joyce Bauer and in almost 40 years APA has expanded to 9 regions which includes all 50 states with a membership of 367 representing churches of all sizes, including those denominations we are with communion, presbyteries, synods, and the different agencies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

APA defines its active members as all persons engaged in administrative work in any local church or church-related institution, governing body or agency of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), or those denominations with which we have communion.

APA is ruled by the body but lead by the Executive Board and Council. Our Executive Board is made up of elected officials to include the president, president-elect, immediate past-president, certification chair, membership chair, secretary and treasurer. The Council is composed of the following: The National Executive Board, all Regional Presidents, Bylaws Chair, Nominating Chair, Finance Chair, Council on Accreditation Chair, Membership Chair, and National Conference Planning Chair.

The mission of APA is to offer the opportunity for professional development and personal growth for those called by God to serve as support staff of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and those denominations we are with communion. The mission is accomplished by providing continuing education events for certification and occasions for fellowship, worship and spiritual nurture and prayer at both National and Regional meetings as well as APA sponsored training events.

We offer three levels of certification with the opportunity to receive recognition for every 50 hours of continuing education beyond level 3. Our members may also receive an additional certificate in Concentrated Studies in Polity, Communications, Administration and Facilities Management, Theology, Church History and Finance after completing another 25 hours in each of these areas of studies. Approved instructors are required to teach the requested amount of time for the class. Approval is given by our Certification Chair. The Certification Committee reviews the classes to ensure the classes being taught are current with what is happening in the church and office administration. Elective hours include conflict management, designing for communication, technology classes, financial matters, and other classes that provide professional growth and understanding of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Below explains the breakdown for each level.

LEVEL I

Core Courses

Church History (Part 1)	2.5 hours
Church History (Part 2)	2.5 hours
Polity 1 (Part 1)	2.5 hours
Polity 1 (Part 2)	2.5 hours
**Office Administration	2.5 hours
*Spiritual Growth and Discipline	2.5 hours
Theology – Christian Perspectives of the Church (Part 1)	2.5 hours
Theology (Part 2)	2.5 hours
Total Core Hours	20 hours
Total Elective Hours	20 hours
Total Hours Required	40 hours

LEVEL II

Core Courses

Directory for Worship	2.5 hours
Legal Matters	2.5 hours
PC(USA) History Since Reunion (Part 1)	2.5 hours
PC(USA) History Since Reunion (Part 2)	2.5 hours
Polity II	2.5 hours
**Office Administration	2.5 hours
*Spiritual Growth and Discipline	2.5 hours
Total Core Hours	17.5 hours
Total Elective Hours	27.5 hours
Total Hours Required	45 hours

LEVEL III

Core Courses

Book of Confessions	2.5 hours
GA Entities	2.5 hours
Polity III	2.5 hours
**Office Administration	2.5 hours
*Spiritual Growth and Discipline	2.5 hours
Total Core Hours	12.5 hours
Total Elective Hours	37.5 hours
Total Hours Required	50 hours

Prior to the changes made to the form of government, APA had been recognized previously by General Assembly, and under the former section G- 14.0740 we had been affiliated with the Office of Vocation and had a PCUSA staff liaison. We had also been listed in the directory and Book II. However, after NFOG was approved we were lost in translation and have struggled since to be specifically identified by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for our service and dedication to the larger church. Therefore, it is time after almost 40 years of service and dedication, that the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) specifically recognizes the Administrative Personnel Association (APA) and its certified members in the Book of Order.

Ovt 026

On Adding the Category “Multi-Racial” to the Listing of Racial Classifications in the Annual Report from Congregations—From the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta.

The Presbytery of Greater Atlanta overtures the 222nd General Assembly (2016) to do the following:

1. Add the category "multi-racial" to its listing of racial classifications in its Annual Report that congregations use to report their annual statistics to the General Assembly each year."

2. Proclaim that

- We recognize that each person has the right to define their racial classification in the way that best fits their sense of self.
- The United States is becoming an increasingly diverse community, with many individuals having heritages from diverse races and cultures.
- Asking people to choose a racial category that they believe does not encompass their full, rich and unique background dishonors their unique heritage.
- Asking people with a diverse racial background to choose "other" as a racial category can convey a sense of diminished worth and value for their personhood/humanity.

3. Call

- on our churches to use language in their membership forms, annual reports, services, meetings and community work that expresses its appreciation for the rich and complex diversity of all humanity.

4. Uphold

- that all people, regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, class; or any other category that the world may place on them, are first and foremost children of God, all members of God's family, and all to be treated with equal respect, care and love.

Ovt 027

On Amending G-2.0509 to Clarify the Relationship to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) of a Person Who has Renounced the Jurisdiction of the Church—From the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta.

The Presbytery of Greater Atlanta respectfully overtures the 222nd General Assembly (2016)

1. To direct the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:

Shall G-2.0509 be amended by adding the words "*and as long as the former teaching elder remains outside of the membership and jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.),*" so that the sentence reads

Whenever a former teaching elder has renounced jurisdiction in the midst of a disciplinary proceeding as the accused, *and as long as the former teaching elder remains outside of the membership and jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.),* that former teaching elder shall not be permitted to perform any work, paid or volunteer, in any congregation or entity under the jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

2. To direct General Assembly agencies to include in their personnel, sexual misconduct, and child protection policies a question about renunciation of jurisdiction; and to encourage other councils to do the same.

Rationale

For reasons of order and safety, all persons engaged in work under the auspices of the church should be accountable to the church. Renunciation of jurisdiction is an explicit declaration by an individual that he or she refuses to be subject to the discipline of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and is therefore deliberately unaccountable.

Renunciation of jurisdiction is a serious matter, and any teaching elder who chooses that course must be aware of the consequences. As the 218th General Assembly (2008) declared:

The Advisory Committee on the Constitution recommends to the 218th General Assembly (2008) that renunciation of membership in a congregation or of church office is a serious action that carries significant implications. In the case of both officers and members, there are other, less disruptive ways by which a person may relinquish standing in the church ... Renunciation of jurisdiction, on the other hand, carries with it a sense of fracture of relationship and injury to the body of Christ ... In the case of an officer, renunciation carries with it the requirement of the immediate termination of the exercise of office as well as removal from the membership roll (G-6.0701) ... [Item 04-21]

However, the church is dependent upon grace, and always holds out hope for repentance and reconciliation.

The same Item 04-21 from the 218th General Assembly explains:

A person who has renounced membership and/or church office in a PC(USA) congregation may, at some subsequent point, seek admission to membership in another PC(USA) congregation by reaffirmation of faith. Membership may not be denied “for any ... reason not related to profession of faith” (G-10.0102b). It is the session’s responsibility to receive such persons, and to determine if their reaffirmation of faith is consistent with the requirements for a profession of faith in W-4.2003a–c. In such determinations, sessions may wish to pay particular attention to whether the applicant declares “intent to participate actively and responsibly in the worship and mission of the church” (W-4.2003c, emphasis added), and whether the person will fulfill the obligations of church membership as defined in G-5.0102, especially G-5.0102f—“demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church”—and G-5.0102h—“living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life.” In its examination, the session may also inquire about the faith journey of the person requesting membership, and the nature of relationships between that person and prior congregations from which he or she has renounced membership. The session may wish to emphasize that the act of professing faith is itself a form of renunciation: the person requesting membership “renounces evil” and affirms reliance on God’s grace.

A person who has renounced jurisdiction while in the midst of a disciplinary proceeding as the accused should be aware that

Section D-3.0106 is clear that “jurisdiction in judicial process ends when a church officer or a member renounces jurisdiction of the church.” There is no provision in either the Form of Government or the Rules of Discipline that ... makes provision for the resumption of proceedings against a member or officer who renounces jurisdiction to avoid prosecution and then is admitted to membership in another PC(USA) congregation. However, a person who is accused of sexual abuse as defined in D-10.0401c and who renounces jurisdiction to avoid prosecution on those charges, becomes liable to those charges again when he or she comes under the jurisdiction of another governing body of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) (D-10.0102a) by being received into congregational membership. To the extent that it is aware of prior renunciations of jurisdiction, a governing body has both the right and the obligation to inquire into the circumstances of any such renunciation in its examination of an officer. [Item 04-21]

If a former teaching elder who has renounced jurisdiction in the midst of a disciplinary proceeding as the accused wishes to work under the auspices of the PC(USA), he or she has the option of demonstrating willingness to be accountable, by submitting again to the jurisdiction of the church.

Ovt 028

On Celebrating the Completion of the Six-Year Discernment on Peacemaking—From the Presbytery of Mission.

At its Stated Meeting on October 24, 2015, at Presbyterian Pan American School in Kingsville, Texas, Mission Presbytery approved the following overture to be sent to the 222nd General Assembly (2016) for its consideration and approval:

“The Presbytery of Mission overtures the 222nd General Assembly (2016) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to:

- 1. Celebrate with gratitude and joy the completion of the six-year discernment process initiated by the 219th General Assembly in 2010 to ‘seek clarity as to God’s call to the church to embrace nonviolence as its fundamental response to the challenges of violence, terror, and war’ and to ‘identify, explore, and nurture new approaches to active peacemaking and nonviolence;**
- 2. Call upon Presbyterians at all levels of the church to employ the understandings and insights gained by this process to meet the challenge of the 219th General Assembly to respond to and prevent violence on the local level, the national level, and the international level through prayer, direct action, and advocacy; and to address sexism, racism and other patterns of oppression as tasks of peacemaking and justice seeking;**
- 3. Recognizing that discerning God’s will is an ongoing task, commit to continue to seek clarity as to God’s call to the church to embrace nonviolence as its fundamental response to the challenges of violence, terror, and**

war; and to continue to explore and nurture new approaches to active peacemaking and nonviolence as the peacemaking witness and ministry of the church grows.

Rationale

In response to several overtures on peacemaking, the 219th General Assembly (2010) initiated a six-year process of church-wide discernment on peacemaking. Congregations, presbyteries, seminaries, colleges, and conferences have participated and responded. His overture asks the 222nd General Assembly to continue the process of discernment and innovation as an ongoing and essential part of peacemaking programs at all levels of the church.”

Ovt 037

On Advocating for the Safety and Wellbeing of Children of Palestine and Israel—From the Synod of the Covenant.

The Synod of the Covenant overtures the 222nd General Assembly (2016) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to:

1. Affirm the support of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child as expressed by the 202nd General Assembly (1990), and for the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child as expressed by the 211st General Assembly (2014).

2. Calls, once again, upon the United States Senate to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and directs the Stated Clerk to communicate this call to all the members of the United States Senate, the President, and Vice President.

3. Directs the Presbyterian Mission Agency through the Office of Public Witness to advocate and witness for the human rights of the children of Palestine and Israel until there is an ammendment in the practices of the state of Israel so that they are in compliance with international humanitarian laws, specifically the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. In particular, mobilize Presbyterians everywhere to communicate with their Senators, Congresspersons and the President of the United States their concern for the safety and well being of the children of Palestine who suffer widespread and systematic patterns of ill treatment and torture within the Israeli military detention system, including but not limited to

- the use of physical violence (beatings, blindfolding, position abuse are examples) and psychological pressure (solitary confinement, threats of sexual assault and rape, verbal abuse, strip searching, threats, denial of food, water, and access to a toilet) to compel children and youth to give testimony, confess guilt, or to provide otherwise incriminating statements against their family, friends, and communities;
- denial of due process guarantees, including denial of the right to prompt access to legal counsel and other appropriate assistance, particularly the presence of a parent or family member during interrogation;
- psychosocial effects and obstacles to reintegration when released from the Israeli military prisons, loss of educational opportunities while in detentions, and access to education following their release from custodial detention;
- the discriminatory legal framework in force in the Occupied Palestinian Territory involving separate laws governing children based on religion or ethnicity (no Israeli child comes into contact with the military court system); and
- violent late-night raids and arrests by heavily armed soldiers who invade their homes while they and their family members are asleep.

4. Call on the government of Israel to change its Military Detention system to

- Stop night arrests;
- Stop blindfolds and restraints;

- Stop separation from parents and legal counsel;
- Stop physical abuse and verbal threats; and
- Stop isolation and coerced confessions.

Rationale

According to Addameer, (Arabic for conscience), the Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association (www.addameer.org), “approximately 700 Palestinian children under the age of 18 from the occupied West Bank are prosecuted every year through the Israeli military courts after being arrested, interrogated, and detained by the Israeli army. The most common charge levied against children is throwing stones, a crime that is punishable under military law by up to 20 years in prison. Since the year 2000, more than 8,000 Palestinian children have been detained.”ⁱⁱ

In practice, there are no special interrogation procedures for children detained by the Israeli military, nor are there provisions for an attorney or even a family member to be present when a child is questioned. The majority of children report being subjected to ill treatment and having forced confessions extracted from them during interrogations.ⁱⁱ

United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), Defense for Children International – Palestine (DCI-Palestine), the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories, and the U. S. Department of State Reports on Human Rights Practices have “repeatedly condemned Israel” for its widespread and systematic ill treatment of Palestinian children under Israel’s military detention system.ⁱⁱⁱ “During 2013, 76.5 percent of Palestinian children detained by the Israeli military in the occupied West Bank endured some form of physical violence during arrest, transfer or interrogation, a slight increase from 2012.”^{iv} The tabulation below indicates some but not all common violations collected by DCI-Palestine during 2013

Below are common violations raised in the affidavits collected by DCI-Palestine during 2013:

Table 1: Common complaints and areas of concern between 1 January to 31 December 2013

Complaints and areas of concern		West Bank	
		Number of cases	Percentage
	Total affidavits collected	98	
1	Hand ties	98	100.0%
2	No lawyer present during interrogation	94	95.9%
3	Not informed of right to silence	91	92.9%
4	Blindfolds	92	93.9%
5	Not informed of reason for arrest	96	98.0%
6	Physical violence	75	76.5%
7	Verbal abuse, humiliation and intimidation	73	74.5%
8	Strip searched	78	79.6%
9	Denial of adequate food and water	76	77.6%
10	Threats or inducement	39	39.8%
11	Denial of access to toilet	68	69.4%
12	Night arrest	55	56.1%
13	Position abuse	32	32.7%
14	Transfer on vehicle floor	49	50.0%
15	Shown or signed paper in Hebrew	21	21.4%
16	Solitary confinement for more than two days	21	21.4%
17	Detained with adults	3	3.1%
19	Threat of sexual assault	2	2.0%
20	Electric shock	1	1.0%

The Israeli military uses a procedure called “administrative detention” to imprison Palestinians both children and adults indefinitely on secret information without charging them or allowing them to stand trial.

Israeli children living in the occupied Palestinian territories live under Israeli civil laws and are treated very differently than Palestinian children. Excerpts from a Christian Science Monitor article^v demonstrate the disparity between the treatment of Israeli and Palestinian children in the Israeli justice system. The article tells the story of two 15-year old boys who lived “just a few minutes away from one another in the West Bank”.

Both were accused of throwing stones at vehicles, one day after the other.

But there was a crucial difference that helped to shape each boy's fate: One was Israeli, and the other Palestinian.

The tale of the two teens provides a stark example of the vast disparities of Israel's justice system in the West Bank.

The results can ripple for years.

"Jail destroyed his life," said the Palestinian boy's father.

Critics accuse Israel of dismissing Israeli crimes as youthful indiscretions, while treating Palestinian youths like hardened criminals.

Both boys engaged in stone throwing in separate incidents where there was some property damage but no injuries.

On Feb. 20, 2012, the Israeli boy joined a group of youths pelting a bus with rocks at the entrance to Bat Ayin, according to police reports. The settlement, located in the southern West Bank between Jerusalem and the biblical city of Hebron, is known for its hardline population.

Police said they targeted the bus because the driver was Arab. The rocks damaged the bus but did not harm the driver.

The boy, whose name cannot be published under local law because he is a minor, was brought to the Hebron region police station at 9 p.m., with his father by his side. In his interrogation, the boy invoked his right to remain silent. He spent a night in the station and four days under house arrest. Then he was freed without charge.

The following day, according to police reports, the Palestinian boy lobbed rocks at Israeli cars zipping past his hometown of Beit Umar, a farming town of 14,000 people perched near an Israeli military tower.

The rocks shattered the front windshield of a white Mazda and damaged three other vehicles on a busy highway. There were no injuries.

Two weeks later, at 3:30 a.m., Israeli soldiers kicked down the door to the Palestinian boy's bedroom, carried him to a jeep, blindfolded him and tied his hands behind his back with plastic handcuffs. He was slapped by soldiers, kept awake all night and placed in a military jail cell with 10 other Palestinian youths, he said.

It would be more than nine months before he could go free.

An Israeli psychological exam conducted in prison found the boy showed signs of anxiety and depression. He told the prison's clinical psychologist and social worker that he looked at a photo of his family to help him sleep, and had nightmares about soldiers killing his relatives. The exam also found he was short-breathed and had a cough, which he said was from soldiers hitting him in the chest during his arrest.

Another story is that of a Palestinian-American from Tampa, Florida who was visiting his relatives in Jerusalem. Earlier in the week his cousin, “16-year-old Muhammad Abu Khudair, was kidnapped from the occupied East Jerusalem

neighborhood of Shuafat burned alive by Israelis who have yet to be convicted for the slaying more than a year later".^{vi} The story relates the brutal beating of the Tampa teen and the US rebuke of Israel for the light sentence received by the officer responsible for the beating which was 45 days of community service.

There are numerous other sources of relevant information. Those listed below are but a few.

- Defense for Children International Palestine, *Solitary Confinement for Palestinian Children in Israeli Military Detention*, May 2014, http://www.dci-palestine.org/sites/default/files/report_doc_solitary_confinement_report_2013_final_29apr2014.pdf.
- Defense for Children International Palestine, *Palestinian Children in the Israeli Military Court System*, June 2013, http://www.dci-palestine.org/sites/default/files/un_sp_doc_opt_detention_2012_final_25jun2013.pdfDCI-Palestine.
 - Defense for Children International Palestine, *Bound, Blindfolded and Convicted: Children Held in Military Custody*, April 2012, http://www.dci-palestine.org/sites/default/files/report_0.pdf.
 - UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding observations on the second to fourth periodic reports of Israel*, July 4, 2013, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/docs/co/CRC-C-ISR-CO-2-4.pdf>.
- Delegation of independent UK lawyers, *Children in Military Custody*, June 2012, <http://www.childreninmilitarycustody.org/>.
- UNICEF, *Children in Israeli Military Detention: Observations and Recommendations*, March 2013, http://www.unicef.org/oPt/UNICEF_oPt_Children_in_Israeli_Military_Detention_Observations_and_Recommendations_-_6_March_2013.pdf.
- Amnesty International, *Trigger-Happy: Israel's Use of Excessive Force in the West Bank*, Feb. 2014, <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/MDE15/002/2014/en/349188ef-e14a-418f-ac20-6c9e5c8d9f88/mde150022014en.pdf>.
- B'Tselem, *No Minor Matter: Violation of the Rights of Palestinian Minors Arrested by Israel on Suspicion of Stone-Throwing*, July 2011, http://www.btselem.org/download/201107_no_minor_matter_eng.pdf.
- Human Rights Watch, *Separate and Unequal, Israel's Discriminatory Treatment of Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territories*, Dec. 2010, <http://www.hrw.org/reports/2010/12/19/separate-and-unequal>.
- Yesh Din, *Backyard Proceedings: The Implementation of Due Process Rights in the Military Courts in the Occupied Territories*, Jan. 2007, <http://www.yesh-din.org/userfiles/file/Reports-English/BackyardProceedingsfullreportEng.pdf>.

International Law

- Convention on the Rights of the Child, G.A. Res. 44/25, U.N. Doc. A/RES/44/25 (Nov. 20, 1989), <http://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx>.
- Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, G.A. Res. 54/263, U.N. Doc. A/RES/54/263, (May 25, 2000), <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/OPACCRC.aspx>.
- UN Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Punishment or Treatment, G.A. Res. 39/46, U.N. Doc. A/RES/39/46, (Dec. 10, 1984), <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/39/a39r046.htm>.
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, G.A. Res. 2200A (XXI), U.N. Doc. A/6316, (Dec. 16, 1966), <http://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/ccpr.aspx>.
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), *Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Geneva Convention)*, (Aug. 12, 1949), 75 UNTS 287, <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b36d2.html>.

- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), *Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I)*, 8 June 1977, 1125 UNTS 3, <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b36b4.html>.

- International Court of Justice, *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*, (Jul. 9, 2004), <http://www.icj-cij.org/docket/files/131/1671.pdf>

- UN **Other Resources** (available on the web)

Israeli Military Law

- Military Order 1651 - General Provisions
 - Military Order 1591 - Administrative Detention
 - Military Order 1644 - Juvenile Courts
 - Military Order 1676 - Age of Majority
 - Israeli High Court of Justice - human shields
 - Israeli High Court of Justice – torture
- Israeli High Court of Justice - transfer of prisoners (Art. 76)

Palestinian Law

- Palestinian Child Law (OPT)

United Nations Agencies and Offices:

- Committee on the Rights of the Child
- Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG-CAAC)
- Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children (OSRSG-VAC)
- Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA-OPT)
- UNICEF
- UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA)

International Organizations:

- Defense for Children International – International Secretariat
- Child Rights Information Network - CRIN
- NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Human Rights Watch
- Amnesty International
- Save the Children International

Palestinian and Israeli NGOs:

- Al-Haq
- Addameer

- Al-Mezan Centre for Human Rights
- Defense for Children International Palestine
- Palestinian Centre for Human Rights
- Public Committee Against Torture in Israel – PCATI
- B’Tselem - Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories
- Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions – ICAHD
- Adalah
- Association for Civil Rights in Israel – ACRI
- Peace Now
- Breaking the Silence
- Yesh Din

ⁱ Refer to the Addameer web site at: http://www.addameer.org/the_prisoners/children. Web. 19 Oct. 2015.

ⁱⁱ Ibid.

ⁱⁱⁱ See UNICEF: Children in Israeli Military Detention: Observations and Recommendations (2013), http://www.unicef.org/oPt/UNICEF_oPt_Children_in_Israeli_Military_Detention_Observations_and_Recommendations_-_6_March_2013.pdf; Defense for Children International-Palestine: Bound, Blindfolded and Convicted Children held in military detention (2012), http://www.dci-palestine.org/sites/default/files/report_0.pdf; The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, *Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967*, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/25/67 (Jan. 13, 2014), <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G14/101/98/PDF/G1410198.pdf>; and U. S. Department of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2013: Israel and the Occupied Territories (2014), <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/220568.pdf>.

^{iv} See Defense of Children International-Palestine, *Palestinian Children Detained in the Israeli Military Court System* (2013), https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/dcipalestine/pages/339/attachments/original/1437406651/solitary_confinement_report_2013_DCIP_final_29apr2014.pdf?1437406651.

^v Estrin, Daniel and Federman, Josef. Do West Bank Israelis, Palestinians live under different set of laws: A tale of two rock throwing teens, highlights disparities in Israeli justice system in the West Bank, where Israelis live under civilian rule and Palestinians are governed by military law. *Christian Science Monitor*, April 20, 2014.

^{vi} Khalek, Rania. US rebukes Israel over light sentence for officer who attacked Tampa Teen. *Electronic Intifada*, November 20, 2015. Accessed at: https://electronicintifada.net/blogs/rania-khalek/us-rebuked-israel-over-light-sentence-officer-who-attacked-tampa-teen?utm_source=EI+readers&utm_campaign=77272c6083-RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_e802a7602d-77272c6083-299153561.

Ovt 038

On Supporting the Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Regarding Protecting Individuals from Violence and Discrimination—From the Synod of the Covenant.

The Synod of the Covenant overtures the 222nd General Assembly (2016) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to:

- **Express its appreciation for the Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, “Discrimination and violence against individuals based on their sexual orientation and gender identity” (May 4, 2015), and commend this report to congregations and presbyteries for study and action.**
- **Commit the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to support the goals expressed in the Report:**
 - A. To protect individuals from violence**

-
- B. To prevent torture and ill-treatment**
 - C. To decriminalize homosexuality and to repeal other laws used to punish individuals on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity**
 - D. To protect individuals from discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity**
 - E. To protect rights to freedom of expression, association, and assembly and to take part in the conduct of public affairs**
 - **Direct the Office of Public Witness to identify and encourage legislation to accomplish the above goals in the United States and U.S. territories, giving attention to the strategies enumerated in the report.**
 - **Direct the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations to pursue ways to advocate for these goals within the United Nations system, giving attention to the strategies enumerated in the report.**
 - **Communicate these goals to World Mission personnel, as well as other PCUSA-related organizations engaging in global mission activities.**
 - **Direct the Presbyterian Mission Agency to consider context-sensitive ways to help mission co-workers address issues of safety and respect for LGBT persons.**
 - **Direct the Stated Clerk to communicate this action to the Ecumenical Agencies to which the General Assembly belongs and our ecumenical partners, encouraging consideration and adoption of similar actions.**
 - **Direct the Office of Immigration Issues to develop resources that are responsive to the particular needs of LGBT immigrants, and to provide support to congregations wishing to welcome LGBT persons seeking asylum.**

Rationale

In 2011, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights submitted a report to the U.N. Human Rights Council, describing a pattern of discrimination and violence against people in all regions on the basis of their sexual orientation and gender identity.

An updated report dated May 4, 2015 included approaches to overcoming violence and discrimination, applying existing international human rights law and standards. The full report is available at http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/HRC/29/23&referer=/english/&Lang=E.

The goals listed in the May 4, 2015 report are consistent with the PC(USA)'s longstanding commitment to civil rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons. These goals should guide the PC(USA) in its ministries.

Specific strategies enumerated in the report are:

- A. To encourage all nations to address violence by:
 - (a) Enacting hate crime laws that establish homophobia and transphobia as aggravating factors for purposes of sentencing;
 - (b) Conducting prompt, thorough investigations of incidents of hate-motivated violence against and torture of LGBT persons, holding perpetrators to account, and providing redress to victims;
 - (c) Collecting and publishing data on the number and types of incidents, while providing for the security of those reporting;
 - (d) Prohibiting incitement of hatred and violence on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, and holding to account those responsible for related hate speech;
 - (e) Training law enforcement personnel and judges in gender-sensitive approaches to addressing violations related to sexual orientation and gender identity;
 - (f) Ensuring that police and prison officers are trained to protect the safety of LGBT detainees, and holding to account State officials involved or complicit in incidents of violence;

(g) Banning “conversion” therapy, involuntary treatment, forced sterilization and forced genital and anal examinations;

(h) Prohibiting medically unnecessary procedures on intersex children;

(i) Ensuring that no one fleeing persecution on grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity is returned to a territory where his or her life or freedom would be threatened, that asylum laws and policies recognize that persecution on account of sexual orientation or gender identity may be a valid basis for an asylum claim; and eliminating intrusive, inappropriate questioning on asylum applicants’ sexual histories, and sensitizing refugee and asylum personnel.

G. To encourage all nations to address discrimination by:

(a) Revising criminal laws to remove offenses relating to consensual same-sex conduct and other offenses used to arrest and punish persons on the basis of their sexual orientation and gender identity or expression; ordering an immediate moratorium on related prosecution; and expunging the criminal records of individuals convicted of such offenses;

(b) Repealing so-called “anti-propaganda” and other laws that impose discriminatory restrictions on freedom of expression, association and assembly;

(c) Ensuring that anti-discrimination legislation includes sexual orientation and gender identity among prohibited grounds, and also protects intersex persons from discrimination;

(d) Integrating analysis of violations based on sexual orientation and gender identity in national plans of action, thereby ensuring coordination and adequate resourcing of related activities, accountability for perpetrators, and redress for victims;

(e) Sensitizing health-care workers to the health needs of LGBT and intersex persons, including in the areas of sexual and reproductive health and rights, suicide prevention, HIV/AIDS, and trauma counselling;

(f) Establishing national standards on non-discrimination in education; developing anti-bullying programs and establishing helplines and other services to support LGBT and gender-non-conforming youth; and providing comprehensive, age-appropriate sexuality education;

(g) Ensuring that housing policies do not discriminate against tenants based on sexual orientation and gender identity; and establishing shelters for homeless LGBT persons, with specific attention to youth, older persons and those in emergency situations;

(h) Providing legal recognition to same-sex couples and their children, ensuring that benefits traditionally accorded married partners – including those related to benefits, pensions, and taxation and inheritance – are accorded on a non-discriminatory basis;

(i) Issuing legal identity documents, upon request, that reflect preferred gender, eliminating abusive preconditions, such as sterilization, forced treatment and divorce;

(j) Supporting public education campaigns to counter homophobic and transphobic attitudes, and addressing negative, stereotypical portrayals of LGBT persons in the media;

(k) Ensuring that LGBT and intersex persons and organizations are consulted with regard to legislation and policies that have an impact on their rights.

Presbyterians are not of one mind about the teaching of Scripture concerning same-sex relationships, but all can agree that every human being should be afforded respect, dignity, and safety.

Report of the Rantoul Administrative Commission
Called Meeting of the Presbytery of Southeastern IL
First Presbyterian Church, Effingham, IL
January 21, 2016

It is RECOMMENDED that the Presbytery approve the transfer of property of the Rantoul Presbyterian Church which is now under the auspices of the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois since their closure to the Rantoul Historical Society, noting that the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program will write-off the Church Mortgage Grant owed (estimated at \$83,000 with interest) if we give the property to another not-for-profit organization, with the following terms:

The Presbyterian Church of Rantoul Illinois (incorporated April 3, 1960) has decided to donate and transfer this property to the Rantoul Historical Society on or before January 31, 2016. Both entities are tax-exempt under Section 501©(3) of the Internal Revenue code.

This transfer is subject to approval of the church's regional body-the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois. A meeting has not been set as of this date, but it is anticipated to be held in January 2016. Upon approval, closing will be held as soon as possible.

Any personal property not removed by the church by closing date shall become the property of the Rantoul Historical Society. The Rantoul Historical Society accepts both properties - 1004 Prairieview and 1040 Klein - in as-is condition.

Security deposit of \$500 for 1004 Prairieview will be transferred to the Historical Society at closing. January rent will be prorated as of the closing date.

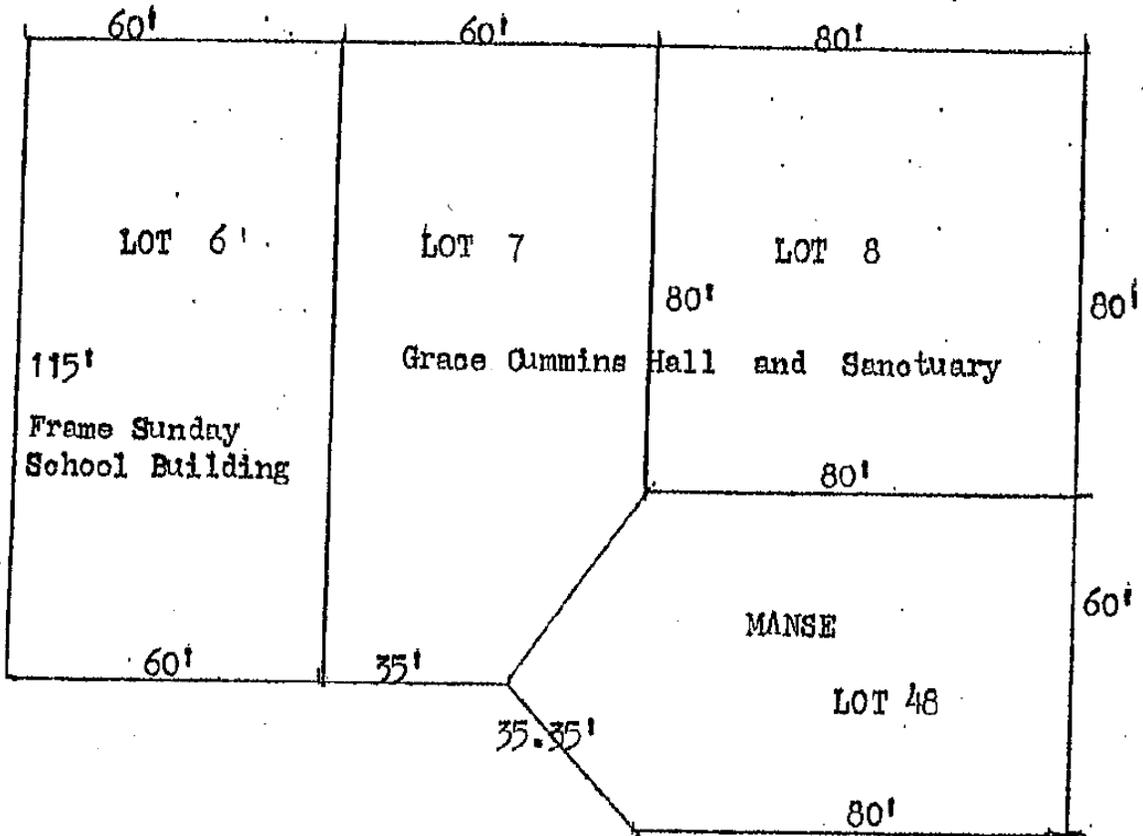
The parties further agree to the following:

- 1) Both properties will have a termite inspection prior to closing. If active termites are found, both parties will negotiate cost of treatment and/or any necessary repairs.
- 2) Real estate taxes (\$1639.96-2014 tax amount) for the house, 1004 Prairieview, for 2015 will be due in 2016. There will be no proration; Historical Society will be responsible to pay for all of 2015 taxes due in 2016. The church property is exempt from real estate taxes.
- 3) The Rantoul Historical Society may store its items (display cases, etc.) in the church any time prior to closing. The Historical Society must provide their own insurance to cover any items stored on church property.
- 4) The Rantoul Historical Society will pay for the following closing costs :
 - a) Termite inspection of 1004 Prairieview and 1040 Klein - Cost \$120.00 (if Carso used)
 - b) Title company costs - Search fee \$90; Illinois Policy fee \$3; owner's title policy \$57 for a total cost of \$150. (Note: If closing occurs at the title company a fee of \$150 is charged in addition to a fee-\$50- for a closing protection letter. If held at seller's attorney's office, there is no fee.) No. cost involved to update title work.
 - c) Transfer tax stamp document - no cost involved.
 - d) Record deed - both parties - \$70.
 - e) Attorney's fee for closing - None anticipated if transaction is routine real estate closing. If additional legal fees are incurred, payment will be negotiated between the RHS and church.
 - f) Total anticipated closing costs for transferring properties - \$340.00

It is RECOMMENDED that the Presbytery dismiss the Rantoul Administrative Commission with thanks.

Highway 136

Highway 136



Subdivision of Property

Winding Lane

The Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois Called Meeting
Committee on Ministry Report
First Presbyterian Church, Effingham, IL
January 21, 2016

For Information:

Board of Pensions Liaison

It was VOTED to appoint Jason Schiller to be the Board of Pensions liaison for the Presbytery.

New Haven – Modertor – Butler

It was VOTED to appoint Ruling Elder Mac Butler moderator of the New Haven session and congregation effective January 8, 2016.

Argenta – Moderator – Spangler

It was VOTED to appoint Teaching Elder Paul Spangler moderator of the Argenta session and congregation effective January 8, 2016.

Effingham – Moderator – Clark, M.

It was VOTED to appoint Teaching Elder Maureen Clark moderator of the Effingham session and congregation effective February 1, 2016.

Eldorado – Moderator - Neal

It was VOTED to appoint Ruling Elder Lynn Neal moderator of the Eldorado session and congregation effective January 8, 2016.

Lawrenceville – Moderator - Brown

It was VOTED to appoint Teaching Elder Beau Brown moderator of the Lawrenceville session and congregation effective January 8, 2016.

Centralia – Moderator – Bean, Wakeland

It was VOTED to appoint Teaching Elder Cindy Bean moderator of the Centralia session and congregation effective January 8, 2016 and then to appoint Teaching Elder Mike Wakeland moderator of the Centralia session and congregation when his is physically able.

Shelbyville – Moderator – Froeschle

It was VOTED to appoint Teaching Elder Matthew Froeschle moderator of the Shelbyville session and congregation effective January 8, 2016.

Arcola – Moderator – Froeschle

It was VOTED to appoint Teaching Elder Matthew Froeschle moderator of the Arcola session and congregation effective January 8, 2016.

Supervising Moderator – Denise Burke - Salem

It was VOTED to appoint Teaching Elder Beau Brown as moderator of record for the Salem, First session and congregation and supervisor for Commissioned Ruling Elder Denise Burke effective January 8, 2016.

For Action:

Foskey – Pinckneyville and Murphysboro – Temporary

It is RECOMMENDED that the Presbytery approve the Temporary Pastor agreement between the session of the Pinckneyville and Murphysboro congregations and the Rev. Sam Foskey for a total of 5 units beginning January 1, 2016 and ending February 20, 2016 with the following terms:

Salary	\$20,000	Pension/medical	through UCC
Housing	\$6,400	Continuing Education	\$500
Auto reimb.	At IRS rate	Vacation	4 weeks
Study Leave	2 weeks/year		

It is RECOMMENDED that the Presbytery give Sam permission to moderate the sessions.

It is RECOMMENDED that the Presbytery grant Corresponding membership in PSEI with voice and vote while he serves as Temporary Pastor in Pinckneyville and Murphysboro. Sam Foskey is an Ordained Minister in good standing in the Illinois South Conference of the UCC.

Foskey – Pinckneyville and Murphysboro – Temporary

It is RECOMMENDED that the Presbytery approve the Temporary Pastor agreement between the session of the Pinckneyville and Murphysboro congregations and the Rev. Sam Foskey for a total of 5 units beginning February 21, 2016 and ending February 20, 2017 with the following terms:

Salary	\$20,000	Pension/medical	through UCC
Housing	\$6,400	Continuing Education	\$500
Auto reimb.	At IRS rate	Vacation	4 weeks
Study Leave	2 weeks/year		

It is RECOMMENDED that the Presbytery give Sam permission to moderate the sessions.

It is RECOMMENDED that the Presbytery grant Corresponding membership in PSEI with voice and vote while he serves as Temporary Pastor in Pinckneyville and Murphysboro. Sam Foskey is an Ordained Minister in good standing in the Illinois South Conference of the UCC.

Dissolution – Holloway – Effingham

It is RECOMMENDED that the Presbytery at the mutual request of Rev. Drew Holloway and the Effingham congregation to dissolve the pastoral relationship effective January 31, 2016 with the following terms:

Salary, housing, deferred compensation, SECA	6 months
Pension/medical	6 months

Banning – Decatur Bethlehem – Temporary

It is RECOMMENDED that the Presbytery approve the Temporary Pastor agreement between the session of the Bethlehem, Decatur congregation and the Rev. Charles Banning for a total of 7-9 units beginning February 20, 2016 and ending February 19, 2017 with the following terms:

Salary	\$32,000	Auto reimbursed at IRS rate	
Vacation	28 days	Study leave	2 weeks

Russell – Palestine – Pastor

It is RECOMMENDED that the Presbytery find in order and for the good of the whole Church the call of the First Presbyterian Church, Palestine for the services as Pastor of the Rev. Karen Russell, effective January 17, 2016, for a full-time call with the following terms:

Salary	\$29,154.00	moving costs	full
Manse	provided	auto reimburse @	IRS rate
Housing Allow.	\$7000	Prof. Exp. Reimb.	\$250
Book Reimb.	\$200	Cont. Ed Reimb	\$800
Vacation	30 days inc. 4 Sundays	Study Leave	2 weeks cumulative to 6 weeks
Annual subscription to the Robinson Daily news			

The Committee advised the Presbytery that the Constitutional provisions contained in F-1.0403 have been complied with and that the AA/EEO requirements have been met.

that Ms. Russell, having been examined for membership by the Committee on her Christian faith and views in theology, the Sacraments and government of the Church, be received as an active member, upon receipt of her Letter of Dismission from the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky.

that Ms. Russell be appointed moderator of the First Presbyterian Church, Palestine on receipt of her Letter of Dismission from the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky.

Kay – Decatur, First - Interim

It is RECOMMENDED that the Presbytery approve the Interim Pastor Agreement between the session of the Decatur, First church and the Rev. John S. Kay for full-time beginning January 2, 2016 and ending September 30, 2016, with the following terms:

Salary	\$58,500	Auto Reimburse	\$6,000
Housing allow.	\$13,000	Professional Expenses	\$1,200
SECA	\$3,500	Continuing Ed	\$2,800
Vacation	30 days/year	Study Leave	2 weeks/year
Pension/Med	\$8,580 (12% E.S.)		