

## MINUTES

### Standing Committee on Leadership Development

July 24, 2010

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**PRESENT:** Christina Berry – Moderator Pro-Tem, David Jones, John Swick, Jan Albert, Maura McGrath Nagle, Gene Miller, Mike Beaver, Laura Aull Johnston, and Mitch Coggin. Staff: Carol McDonald - Co-Executive, Bill Lawser – Contract Staff for Leadership Development, and Kristi Miller - Executive Assistant.

**EXCUSED:** Nick Shargo, Jennifer Burns Lewis, Cheryl Montgomery, John Paulson, Marylynn Boatright, Laura Reason

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Pro-Tem, Christina Berry. Christina led the group in prayer, reflections and introductions.

### INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/DECISIONS:

#### New Pastor Support Program:

- Group 20 begins its 2<sup>nd</sup> year of its three-year cycle this fall. In September, Group 21 will begin with the following leadership: Alan Thames, Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Whitewater Valley; Joy Douglas Strome, Pastor, Lakeview Presbyterian Church, Chicago, IL; Peggy McDonald, vocations assessment specialist and member-at-large, Whitewater Valley Presbytery; and Carol McDonald, Synod Co-Executive. The leadership team for Group 21 will meet on July 26 to plan for the first year's retreats.

#### Interim Ministry Education:

- Interim Ministry Education will be held November 1-5, 2010, in St. Louis, MO, at Mercy Center. At this point 4 persons are enrolled for Week I and 2 for Week II. Interim Executive Training will begin November 5, 2010 and conclude on November 9. At this point 3 are enrolled.
- An excellent conversation ensued about interim and transitional ministry...and what the impact of nFOG might be on the transitional ministry education endeavor of the PCUSA.

#### Commissioned Lay Pastor Training:

- The 10+ students have now studied Vocational Assessment and Healthy Ministry, Reformed Theology, Bible I and Bible II. Each teacher is asked to grade each student's papers and other work – so that presbyteries will have a better idea of how students really are doing academically. The presbyteries have received the vocational assessment reports on their students and, following the September class will receive an update on each student – as provided by faculty members with additional reflections by Carol McDonald.

#### Supporting Commissioned Lay Pastors:

- The third event in our "Making the Great Connection" series– led by Laura Reason and Bill Lawser is planned for August 27-28. At this point 16 persons have registered. We are also providing scholarship assistance for the Montreat CLP Conference featuring John Bell; as of today, we have received 2 scholarship requests.
- The importance of providing opportunities for CLP continuing education was discussed.

**Youth Ministry:**

- Carol is still seeking a coordinator for the Mid-High Retreat – to be held at Wabash Avenue Presbyterian Church in Crawfordsville, IN – a congregation of Wabash Valley Presbytery. She has asked the Rev. Anna Parkinson of First Presbyterian Church, Goshen, IN, to consider this – and she will pursue this invitation.

**Leadership Development Team:**

- Bill Lawser is working with Alan Thames, Susan McGhee and Jeff Hutcheson and their presbyteries on the development of committee leadership. Bill has been having conversations with the Executive and General Presbyters about leadership development needs in their respective presbyteries.

**North Central Wee Kirk:**

- We still need a person to serve on the Planning Team – to represent us. John Paulson or Mitch Coggin will consider this responsibility. Is John or Mitch willing to do this?

**Heiserman Grant Application and Program:**

- Our application was approved by the Synod Executive Forum in April; we have received our money; and registration forms are now available. We have already received 3 registrations from within our Synod, all from Blackhawk Presbytery – for the spring 2011 events.
- The packet that has been sent to our presbyteries was shared with the committee and with the entire Synod.

**New Business:**

- Nick Shargo recently had a conversation with Julie Windsor-Mitchell (attachment), the campus pastor at United Christian Ministries at Northwestern University. Nick could not attend today's meeting. The committee will discuss the conversation at the October synod meeting. It was suggested that perhaps Julie be invited to visit with us at the October meeting of the Standing Committee.
- Budget for 2011 – we will present our budget at the October meeting.

**Other Business:**

- We discussed other learning opportunities that folks would appreciate: Community outreach for church camps/gatherings. How do we reach out without making people think we want their bodies in the pew, rather than Jesus telling us to reach out to spread the Word. John Swick mentioned the book The Fly in the Ointment which Southeastern Illinois' Transition Team is reading and studying; it sounds like an excellent resource.

**Dismissal with Prayer:**

- Mitch Coggin closed the meeting with prayer at 2:35pm.

Notes by Carol McDonald and Kristi Miller