

COMMISSIONER REPORT
229th Stated Meeting of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic
March 19-20, 2012
Richmond, Virginia

The 229th meeting of the Synod was convened in Richmond, Virginia at Paisley Hall on the campus of Union Presbyterian Seminary. Commissioners representing the Presbytery of Western North Carolina were Eddie Deas, III and Martha Rockett. The commissioners of the Synod began their gathering with lunch and afterwards we broke up into the standing committees of Synod to do the work of the Synod. The designated Committees of Synod are: Administration, Finance, Presbytery Initiatives and Grants and Awards. I served on the Presbytery Initiatives' Committee. At 4:00 p.m. on Monday, the meeting was called to order by the Moderator, William Kantonen. Committee reports were acted upon by the Assembly. Some of the highlighted actions of the assembly were:

- Elected Rev. Tanya Wade as the moderator of the Synod from the Presbytery of Baltimore.
- Reached an agreement for the sale of the Synod Building to the Presbytery of the James for \$220,000.000 with 68% going to the Synod (about \$150,000 - \$160,000) and 26% to the Seminary.
- Discussed staffing needs in light of anticipated action on Mid-Councils coming to the 220th Assembly. This matter was referred to the Administration Committee for further study and future recommendation.
- Future Assemblies are scheduled for September 17-18, 2012 at the Ginter Park Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA. 2013 Assemblies are March 18-19, 2013 and September 16-17, 2013.
- Approved Budget Reports for the Synod, and heard from Mr. Jeff Chapman of RBC Wealth Management.
- Approved renaming and merging Shared Ministries Fund, Shared Ministries Reserve, and Visionary Fund into fund called Presbytery Initiatives Fund.
- Approved a grant of \$2,500.00 to Presbyterian Women for a Stop Hunger Now project.
- Approved New and Small Church Grants totaling \$14,000.00 to five Churches.
- Approved two grant from the Visionary Fund to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina for moving the Resource Center to Montreat and for "Such A Time As This" program.
- Awarded grants totaling \$17,500.00 to five students from the Euler Scholarship Fund.

Worship with Communion was held on Monday night with the Synod Executive David McKee delivering the message from Exodus 17:1-7, with an emphasis on the question in verse 7, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

The Synod was adjourned on Tuesday, March 20, 2012 at 11:30 a.m. by the Moderator, Bill Kantonen.

Submitted by

Eddie Deas, III,
Commissioner to 229th Assembly of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic

COMMISSIONER REPORT OF SYNOD OF THE MID-ATLANTIC 229th ASSEMBLY ON MARCH 19-20, 2012

Meeting was held on the campus of Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, VA, and was attended by approximately twenty-five commissioners as well as several employees from the Synod office and the Synod Moderator (Bill Kantonen from Asheville, NC).

David McKee, Synod Executive and Stated Clerk, presided at the opening gathering and was present at sessions which were attended by all commissioners. He also presented interesting information regarding anticipated changes within the Synods of our General Assembly and his willingness to consider a reduction in his worked hours and salary.

The four designated committees (Administration, Finance, Presbytery Initiatives and Grants/Awards) each met following lunch on March 19. Permanent committee reports/minutes were received and distributed. The Grants/Awards committee, on which I am serving, met twice to determine distribution of awards to churches which had submitted requests for funding as follows:

- 1) A total of \$17,500 (\$2,500 each to seven churches throughout the Synod) was approved for miscellaneous repairs and improvements.
- 2) A Peacemaking Grant was approved for the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship. Request was approved by Baltimore Presbytery.
- 3) Two Visionary Grants totaling \$8,600 were approved for the Presbytery of WNC to be utilized for relocating the Resource Center and funding for "Such a Time as This."
- 4) Euler Scholarships of \$3,500 each were approved for five returning Seminary students and \$3,000 each to seven new Seminary students.
- 5) A Stultz Scholarship of \$3,300 was awarded to one student who will be attending Seminary.

A worship and communion service was held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday. The outgoing Synod Moderator, William Kantonen was recognized and the incoming Moderator, Tanya Wade of Baltimore Presbytery was installed.

Tuesday's meeting convened at 9:00 a.m. with prayer. Jeff Chapman with RBC Wealth Management gave an interesting presentation on the Synod's Portfolio Review with revealed Market Value growth.

Nominating Committee report of nominations was presented and nominees were elected.

All business discussions were conducted in a cooperative manner which contributed to a very positive and pleasant atmosphere.

Submitted by
Elder Martha Rockett
First Presbyterian Church, Gastonia