

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD
Rev. Dr. Don Scofield, Chair
July 29, 2014

The Administrative Board of the Presbytery makes the following recommendation:

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT the Presbytery of Western North Carolina approve the motion from the Administrative Commission for the First Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville. (Administrative Board Attachment 1)**

FOR INFORMATION:

2. **THAT the Administrative Board and the Personnel Committee received the resignation of Carol Thomas as the Director of the Jo Bales Gallagher Resource Center effective May 16, 2014. (Administrative Board Attachment 2)**
3. **THAT the Administrative Board approved establishing a policy regarding Legal Services and Contracts. (Administrative Board Attachment 3)**
4. **THAT the Administrative Board approved a request from the Hunger Committee to organize a Presbytery-wide participation event for November 16-22 for the SNAP Challenge.**
5. **THAT the Administrative Board concurred with the Committee on Ministry and the Administrative Commission to reinstate original jurisdiction to the First Presbyterian Church, Lincolnton upon its ordination/installation of a new session. With the restoration of original jurisdiction, the Administrative Commission will revert to an advisory body to the new Session and will act in such a capacity for the near future.**
6. **That the Administrative Board reviewed the visions for the future of the Westminster Presbyterian Church and granted permission for the sale of their property at 15 Overbrook Place, Asheville, NC 28805.**
7. **THAT the Administrative Board, after receiving the Summary of the Feasibility Study from OS Associates, LLC, approved recommendations from the Presbytery Mission Campaign Steering Committee.**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: A Feasibility Study for a Mission Campaign was reported to the Administrative Board by Sam Avery of OS Associates, LLC. Fifty individuals were interviewed. The Feasibility Study tested the feasibility of raising funds for four projects (church development/new worshiping communities, Camp Grier, the hospital and Ebenezer School in Malawi, and Guatemala Partnership new education initiatives). The study found favorable opinions of all four of the mission projects and

that \$750,000 to 2,500,000 could be raised in a mission campaign where churches and individuals participated.

The Study found that prior to a campaign, there would need to be a broad sharing of information and a process of education undertaken to give more specifics on the four projects and on the work of the presbytery overall and week in and week out. The recommendations included doing further exploratory and planning work before making a final decision. If undertaken, the planning, communicating, and implementation would be over a one year or two year time frame, probably two years. A successful campaign would depend on building stronger relationships in the presbytery.

- A. Form an Exploration Committee to develop a plan for a Mission Campaign. The plan will be presented to the Board at or before their October meeting with recommendations to go forward and implement the plan or discontinue the idea.
 - B. Ask the four mission areas outlined in the Mission Campaign to form detailed plans and/or descriptions of their requests. (At least two scenarios)
 - C. Form Communication Committee to focus on sharing the “good news” stories of the presbytery.
 - D. Ask Committees/subcommittees /working groups and churches to share “good news” stories of their work that can be shared with the Presbytery.
 - E. Form a Church Follow-up Task Force that will try to meet with many of the Sessions/pastors/appropriate people in the churches that will get feedback from the churches about their potential participation and passion for the mission campaign and four areas of mission. Each church should be given the opportunity to be part of the Mission Campaign.
8. **THAT a list of upcoming events of the Presbytery can be found on the back of the Presbytery Docket.**
 9. **THAT the Administrative Board reviewed and approved a tract of land (road frontage) at the Newdale Presbyterian Church to be sold to the NCDOT.**
 10. **THAT the following dates have been set for youth events in 2014 and 2015:**

July 17-23, 2014	Youth Mission Trip to Guatemala
September 13, 2014	Let's Celebrate...A Taste of Community
September 28, 2014	High School Rally - Montreat, NC
November 7-9, 2014	Middle School Retreat, Camp Grier
March 13-14, 2015	High School Mission Retreat, Black Mountain Home
April 19, 2015	Middle School Rally, Montreat
Summer 2015	Local Mission Trip
 11. **THAT the Administrative Board will welcome invitations from churches or institutions willing to host Presbytery meetings in 2015. The following dates have been set for Presbytery Meetings in 2015:**
 - January 31, 2015 ~ Gaston Area Presbyterians, Gastonia, NC
 - April 28, 2015 ~ Montreat Conference Center
 - July 28, 2015 ~ Trinity Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville, NC
 - October 31, 2015 ~ TBA

12. **THAT the following dates have been set for 2016 Presbytery Meetings:**
2016
 January 30, 2016 ~ TBA
 April 26, 2016 ~ Montreat Conference Center
 July 26, 2016 ~ Grandfather Home for Children
 October 25, 2016 ~ TBA
13. **THAT the Small Membership Church Committee reported on the meetings held with the Presbyterian Foundation for small membership churches. They encouraged all small membership churches to attend one of the next scheduled sessions that will be held on August 26 and August 28.**
 Tuesday, August 26, 2014 - First Presbyterian Church, Lincolnton
 Thursday, August 28, 2014 - First Presbyterian Church, Marion
14. **THAT the Presbyterian Women will be holding their Fall Gatherings on:**
 Saturday, September 6, 2014 - First Presbyterian Church, Morganton
 Saturday, September 13, 2014 - Canton Presbyterian Church, Canton
15. **THAT the Administrative Board reviewed and approved the following grant applications.**
Grants (Synod -Jubilee Fund)
 Calvary Presbyterian Church - Seminary Intern

Restricted Funds Grants (PCUSA)
 Marshall Presbyterian Church - Restricted Fund 51067
16. **THAT the Administrative Board reports approval of the following Nickel-A-Meal Hunger Grants:**
- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Black Mountain Garden | \$1,000 |
| Interfaith Asst. Hendersonville | \$4,000 |
| Dulatown Pantry | \$3,350 |
| Community Asst. Program | \$3,350 |
| Back-Pack Macon County | \$5,000 |
| Cherokee County | \$6,000 |
17. **THAT a training event for Adults and Youth, will be held on Saturday, September 13, 2014, at the First Presbyterian Church, Morganton. Keynote Presenter will be Dr. Rodger Nishioka, Benton Family Associate Professor of Christian Education. This year's Let's Celebrate event will focus on the challenging task of celebrating and building community in Christ. We will explore what community is and is not and how we can build, nurture, and sustain Christ's community so that all ages come to believe and belong.**
Let's Celebrate...Taste of Community
Saturday, September 13, 2014
First Presbyterian Church, Morganton
3:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Cost: Covered Dish

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD ATTACHMENT 1

HENDERSONVILLE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION

MOTION TO PRESBYTERY

Motion to Presbytery:

That effective July 29, 2014 the Presbytery of Western North Carolina delegates to the current Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church of Hendersonville its powers of G-3.03 in relation to First Presbyterian Church of Hendersonville, together with the powers of the Chapter 6, "Church Property" of the PCUS *Book of Church Order, 1982-83*.* Further, that the Presbytery of Western North Carolina delegates these powers with the understanding that these powers will be exercised if the Administrative Commission in its sole discretion determines that their exercise is required to bring the process of seeking dismissal to a timely conclusion.

- [Note: Following reunion in 1983, FPC-Hendersonville elected to be governed by the provisions of Chapter 6 of *The Book of Church Order, 1982-83* of the PCUS according to the provisions of G-4.0208.]

Rationale:

The reason for the request is simply that the process of negotiating a property agreement with the members seeking dismissal should not be allowed to go on until an October meeting of Presbytery. Whereas the Administrative Commission had hoped to bring the matter to Presbytery for final action at its, January meeting, again at its April meeting, and again at its July meeting, those hopes have gone unfulfilled. By giving these powers to the Administrative Commission, the Presbytery will have a way of proceeding in a reasonable time frame to bring the matter to conclusion before the October meeting of Presbytery, without the expense of a called meeting of Presbytery.

At its latest scheduled meeting on June 12, 2014 to work out a property agreement, the Administrative Commission (AC) for First Presbyterian Church of Hendersonville learned that members seeking dismissal (D members) would not be present since they had instructed their attorney to communicate that they desired to proceed by engaging a mediator. In subsequent communications from the D group, they indicated that they would make no further responses to the last proposal made by the Administrative Commission without the involvement of a mediator.

Recognizing the likely extended period of time this would add to the negotiations and remembering that it had recommended a mediator at the very beginning of the process which recommendation the D members declined, the Administrative Commission has proposed instead that the D members submit their response to its last proposal through their attorney to the attorney for the Administrative Commission. This would avoid the dynamics of a face to face negotiating session without unduly delaying the process.

What makes it urgent for the matter to be concluded is the delay both groups have endured since June 2013. The request of D members of FPC-Hendersonville to be dismissed to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church has been pending for more than a year. But of special concern to the Administrative Commission is the ecclesiastical limbo of the members desiring to continue as First Presbyterian Church of Hendersonville, PCUSA (C members). While the D members have been able to continue their church life and ministry in the existing church facility with installed ministerial leadership and a means of electing church officers, receiving new members, and participating in the

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD ATTACHMENT 1

life of Presbytery—none of these have been possible for the C members. Though Presbytery has been able to assist them in providing for pastoral and worship leadership from a member of the Administrative Commission, and though the C members have developed a vibrant worship life, educational ministries, presbytery contributions, and local outreach to newcomers, they are unable to receive new members, to baptize infants or new believers, to elect church officers, to send commissioners to Presbytery, to provide optimal physical space for their worship and ministry, or to seek permanent pastoral leadership. They have been patient with these severe constraints on their life and ministry for a full year. But Presbytery has both responsibility and authority to open the pathway to full congregational status for these loyal members sooner rather than later.

Delegating the requested powers to the Administrative Commission provides a vehicle for moving the matter to conclusion without having to wait until the October meeting of Presbytery for both C and D members to have closure on the process.

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD ATTACHMENT 2

Carol Todd Thomas
72 Wagon Trail
Black Mountain, NC 28711

May 3, 2014

Nancy McNeill

Jo Bales Gallagher

Dear Nancy and Jo:

It is with sadness that I submit my resignation to you as the Director of the Jo Bales Gallagher Resource Center, effective May 16, 2014. I have accepted a position as the Director of Administration for a law firm in Asheville and will begin my work there on May 19.

In order to assist in the transition, I wanted to suggest that until you hire and train a new director, I would be willing to come in on weekends or an evening each week to catalog and handle any administrative matters. We might wish to work with the Presbytery to leave me on the payroll for some period of time so that I might be able to help in this manner.

Our regular Task Force meeting on Monday, May 12 may need to be dedicated for discussion on how best to staff the resource center until a new director is hired.

Sincerely,

Carol Todd Thomas

Enclosure

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD ATTACHMENT 3

LEGAL SERVICES POLICY

“Acknowledging the occasional need for legal services in the course of the work of the Presbytery, it is imperative that the Presbytery establish and abide by the following rules:

1. Proposed contracts for legal services for the benefit of the Presbytery must be presented to the Administrative Board, the General Presbyter, and the Presbytery Controller for review and approval prior to authorization of communications with prospective legal services providers;
2. No obligations or expenditures for legal fees of any kind may be incurred for the use and benefit of the Presbytery without prior authorization of the Administrative Board by a majority vote, except in urgent situations, where the required majority shall be two-thirds;
3. No payment for legal services will be reimbursed by the Presbytery unless the terms of those services have been reduced to a binding contract for services;
4. Written contracts for legal services must clearly define the nature and scope of the proposed services and the fee schedules to be utilized in determining compensation due, as well as other terms or conditions required by the lawyer(s) that could generate expenses required by counsel and billable to the Presbytery;
5. Contracts for legal services must contain a provision requiring that payment for services is to be billed to the Presbytery on a monthly basis, unless the work cannot be effectively delivered on such terms and a request for modification of this requirement is approved by the Administrative Board prior to execution.”
6. All current legal services are subject to this policy.”