

APPROVED: February 15, 2012

**MINUTES OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MISSION COUNCIL  
OF THE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)  
Ninety-third Stated Meeting  
Louisville, Kentucky  
September 21–23, 2011**

**As Recorded by the Staff of the  
Office of the General Assembly  
100 Witherspoon Street  
Louisville, KY 40202**

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**Minutes of the  
General Assembly Mission Council  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
September 21–23, 2011**

The ninety-third stated business meeting of the General Assembly Mission Council (GAMC) was held September 21–23, 2011, at the Brown Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky. Pre-meeting events, held September 20–21, 2011, are noted for information.

**Tuesday, September 20**

The Audit Committee met from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Gallery Boardroom of the Brown Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Wednesday, September 21**

The GAMC Executive Committee met from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Gallery Boardroom of the Brown Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Convene**

The General Assembly Mission Council convened at 3:04 p.m. in the Crystal Ballroom of the Brown Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky. Michael Kruse, chair of the General Assembly Mission Council (GAMC), called the meeting to order. Clark Cowden led the Council in a service of opening worship. Kruse led the council in the recitation of the GAMC covenant.

**ACTION 1–911 Approve Agenda**

The General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** to approve the agenda (Appendix 1).

**Roll Call**

Kerry Clements, Associate Stated Clerk, Office of the General Assembly, called the roll by naming the absentees and reporting requests to be excused.

The Following Members of the General Assembly Council Present for All or Part of the Time Were: Elder Steve Aeschbacher, Elder Clarence Antioquia, The Reverend Arthur Canada, Elder Nancy Caudel, The Reverend Clark Cowden, Elder Jean Demmler, The Reverend Melissa DeRosia, Elder Jan Dowlearn, The Reverend Susan J. Ezell, Elder Alan D. Ford, The Reverend Roger Gench, The Reverend Jack Hodges, The Reverend Aleida Jernigan, Elder LaVert W. Jones, The Reverend Rachel Mihee Kim–Kort, Elder Michael W. Kruse, Elder Jacquelin J. Lyman, Elder Janet Martin, Elder Carolyn M. McLarnan, Elder Darcy Metcalfe, The Reverend Cruz Negron-Torres, The Reverend Reginald V. Parsons, Elder Cathryn C. Piekarski, Elder Kears Pollock, Elder Ethan R-C Powell, Elder Heath Rada, The Reverend Bruce Reyes-Chow, Elder Marta Rodriguez, The Reverend Carmen Rosario, Elder Noelle Royer, The Reverend Matthew Schramm, Elder Joyce A. Smith, Elder Glen Snider, Elder Charles Talley, and Elder Connie Tubb.

Corresponding: Elder Gloria Albrecht, Elder Vilmarie Cintron-Olivieri, The Reverend Stephen Hsieh, The Reverend Jay Hudson, Elder Leah Johnson, Elder Marc Lewis, The Reverend Gradye

Parsons, Elder James Rea, Elder Belinda Rice, Elder VilMarie Cintron-Olivieri, and Elder Linda B. Valentine.

The Following Deputy Executive Directors Present for All or Part of the Time Were: Elder Joey Bailey, The Reverend Roger Dermody, and Elder Karen L. Schmidt.

The Following Members of the General Assembly Council Staff (Offices of the Executive Director and the Executive Administrator) Present for All or Part of the Time Were: Susan Abraham (Ms.), Martha Clark (Ms.), Dana Dages (Ms.), Elder April Davenport, Debbie Gardiner (Ms.), Elder Courtney Hoekstra, Elder Michael Kirk, and Elder Vince Patton.

The Following Invited Participants, Guests, Observers, and Staff Present for All of Part of the Time Were: Terri Bate (Ms.), Elder Marie Bowen, The Reverend Ed Brogan, Elder Rob Bullock, Monica Cabell (Ms.), The Reverend Molly Casteel, The Reverend Kerry Clements, Barry Creech (Mr.), The Reverend David Crittenden, The Reverend Brian Ellison, The Reverend Hunter Farrell, Elder Brian Frick, Angela Gowdy (Ms.), Denise Hampton (Ms.), The Reverend Thomas Hay, Elder Debra Helper, The Reverend Lee Hinson-Hasty, The Reverend Eric Hoey, The Reverend Jill Hudson, The Reverend Rhashell Hunter, The Reverend Chris Iosso, Paula Kinkaid (Ms.), The Reverend Carmen Fowler LaBerge, The Reverend Joyce Lieberman, Elder Sara Lisherness, Elder Alma-jean Marion, The Reverend Carol Howard Merritt, The Reverend Sterling Morse, The Reverend Marcia Clark Myers, The Reverend KT Ockels, Dianna Ott (Ms.), Elder Dosie Powell, Elder Jim Rissler, Lisa Robbins (Ms.), The Reverend Bill Somplatsky-Jarman, Leslie Scanlon (Ms.), Elder Bob Schminkey, The Reverend Paul Seebeck, Elder Jack Shelver, Elder Valerie Small, Dottie Smith (Ms.), Becca Snipp (Ms.), The Reverend Charles Talley, Elder Kathy Trott, Elder Rick Ufford-Chase, The Reverend Jerry Van Marter, and The Reverend Charles Wiley.

#### **ACTION 2-911 Approve Excused Absences**

Excuses were offered on behalf of the following persons and, upon motion from the floor, the General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** to excuse the following members from this meeting: Elder Cynthia Bolbach, Elder Robert Brink, Elder William Capel, and The Reverend Thomas W. Gillespie; and ecumenical advisory members: The Reverend Philip Hougen and The Reverend Michael Kinnamon.

Elders Teresa Bruce and Olando Carr were absent.

#### **Quorum**

A quorum was declared present for the transaction of business.

#### **ACTION 3-911 Approve March 2011 Minutes**

The General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 30–April 1, 2011, as presented.

#### **Greetings from the Stated Clerk**

Gradye Parsons, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, brought greetings from the Office of the General Assembly.

### **Greetings from the Moderator**

Cynthia Bolbach, moderator of the 219th General Assembly (2010), could not be present but sent a copy of her remarks, which were read by Kruse.

### **Report of the Chair**

Michael Kruse reflected on his service as chair of the GAMC and introduced Charles Talley, who serves as the new representative from Presbyterian Men.

### **Report of the GAMC Executive Director**

Linda Valentine, Executive Director of the General Assembly Mission Council, outlined the work of the staff since the last GAMC meeting.

### **ACWC Presentation**

Belinda Rice, Darcy Metcalfe, and Jan Martin presented the work of the Advocacy Committee on Women's Concerns.

### **ACREC Presentation**

Stephen Hsieh and Carmen Rosario presented the work of the Advocacy Committee on Racial Ethnic Concerns.

### **Report From Mid-Council/Six Agency Meeting**

Matthew Schramm and Roger Dermody reported on the Mid-Council/Six Agency meeting following the Big Tent II gathering in Indianapolis in July. The meeting was planned by the Mid-Council/GAMC advisory group established in 2008. As a result of feedback from 2009 event, much time was left for conversations at this meeting between agency staff and mid-council representatives.

### **Prayer around the Tables**

The Council gathered in small groups for prayer. Once reconstituted, the meeting was recessed with prayer offered by Kruse.

### **Recess**

The Council recessed at 5:20 p.m. and shared dinner in committees.

### **Thursday, September 22**

GAMC members met in assigned committees from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. followed by lunch in the Bluegrass Room of the Brown Hotel.

### **Reconvene**

The Council reconvened at 1:30 p.m. in the Crystal Ballroom with an opening prayer and devotion led by Roger Gench.

Vilmarie Cintron-Olivieri, a representative from the Committee on Theological Education, was introduced.

### **Leadership and the Church in the 21st Century**

Carol Howard Merritt and Lee Hinson-Hasty made presentations on the nature of the church in the 21st century. Following the presentations, questions were posed to Merritt from council members. Following the time of questions, the council met in assigned small groups for discussion.

### **Break/Reconvene**

The Council recessed for a break at 3:15 p.m. and reconvened at 3:30 p.m.

### **Feedback**

Merritt offered some additional thoughts on the nature of the church.

### ***Journey in the Wilderness* by Gil Rendle**

Michael Kruse and Steve Aeschbacher each made presentations reflecting on the book by Gil Rendle. Following the presentations, the council met in assigned small groups for discussion.

### **Recess**

The General Assembly Mission Council recessed at 5:30 p.m. following a time of reflection and prayer led by Art Canada.

### **Dinner and Conversations**

The Council gathered for a group dinner at 6:30 p.m. in the Bluegrass Room and at 8:00 p.m. for “Cashews and Conversations” in Secretariat A.

### **Friday, September 23**

The General Assembly Mission Council reconvened in the Crystal Ballroom of the Brown Hotel on Friday, April 1, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Michael Kruse, chair of the GAMC.

### **ACTION 4-911 Convene as Board of PCUSA, A Corporation**

At 8:40 a.m., the General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** to convene as the Board of Directors of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), A Corporation, and Its Constituent Corporations until 8:50 a.m.

### **Audit Committee Report**

Reginald Parsons presented the report of the committee. Parsons outlined the following items of information received by the committee:

- The Administrative record of March 29, 2011;
- The audit report for the Department of History;
- The audit report for the National Mission Partnership Fund;
- The audit report for the Corporate Credit Card audits for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2010 and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarters of 2011;
- The progress of the I-9 audit;
- The Risk Assessment and Audit Plan for 2011 – 2012; and
- An update on Ghost Ranch

### **ACTION 5–911 Receive and Forward Audited Financial Statements**

The General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** to receive and forward to the General Assembly the audit report of the Presbyterian Church (USA), A Corporation, Consolidated Financial Statements, December 31, 2010 (see Appendix 3).

The report of the Audit Committee is found in Appendix 2. The Consolidated Financial Statements (December 31, 2010) are found in Appendix 3.

### **Discipleship Committee Report**

Steve Aeschbacher presented the report of the committee.

### **ACTION 6–911 Approve Special Days and Programmatic Emphases for 2013**

The General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** to approve the listing of Special Days and Programmatic Emphases for 2013. (See Appendix 4, pages 2-4).

Aeschbacher highlighted the following items of information from the committee:

- Received an update on Congregational Ministries Publishing from Clare Lewis;
- Heard presentations related to the theme “Leadership and the Church in the 21st Century” from Rhashell Hunter, Director of Racial Ethnic and Women’s Ministries/PW, on the Racial Ethnic and Women’s Ministries/PW Leadership Institutes, and Barry Ensign-George, Associate for Theology in Theology Worship and Education, on Communities of Theological Friendship;
- Heard a presentation updating the progress on the development of the new Presbyterian Hymnal from David Eicher, Hymnal Editor with Presbyterian Publishing Corporation, and David Gambrell, Associate for Worship in Theology Worship and Education; and
- Received a report on Inclusive and Expansive Language from SanDawna Ashley, Associate for Gender and Racial Justice with the Racial Ethnic and Women’s Ministries/PW.

The report of the Discipleship Committee is found in Appendix 4.

### **Evangelism Committee Report**

Matthew Schramm presented the report of the committee.

Schramm highlighted the following items of information:

- The committee heard a report from Ray Jones, Coordinator for Evangelism, that included updates on referred business and the re-establishment of the Office of Collegiate Ministries;
- The committee heard a progress report from Doug Welch, Associate Director for World Mission, on referred business on global issues such as poverty and reconciliation; and
- The committee challenged each council member to engage presbyteries in conversation regarding the shared funding of mission co-workers.



**ACTION 7-911 Approve Revised Constitution of Southern Presbyterian Mission in Japan**

The General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** to approve the revised Constitution of the Southern Presbyterian Mission in Japan (Appendix 5, pages 4-5).

The report of the Evangelism Committee is found in Appendix 5.

**Justice Committee Report**

Roger Gench presented the report of the committee.

**ACTION 8-911 Approve Consent Agenda (Justice Committee Report)**

The General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** to

- 1) a. Approve and forward to the Board of National Missions for action the re-nomination of Patrick O'Connor to serve on the Jarvie Commonweal Service Committee for a three year term, beginning January 2012.
- b. Approve and forward to the Board of National Missions for action the nomination of Jon Brown to serve on the Jarvie Commonweal Service Committee for a three year term, beginning January 2012. (See pages 2-4 of this appendix.)
- 2) Approve adding the Faith Advocates for Jobs Campaign to the Approved Affiliates List. That the Office of Public Witness (OPW) and other program areas be given permission to work with this coalition on issues of employment, living wages, and safe and healthy workplaces. (See pages 5-7 of this appendix.)

**ACTION 9-911 Designate Internet Journal as Successor of Church & Society**

The General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** to designate the internet journal, currently named Unbound: An Interactive Journal of Christian Social Justice, developed by the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy (ACSWP) as the online successor of Church & Society magazine (Library of Congress # ISSN 0037-7805).

**ACTION 10-911 Authorize ACSWP Assets of Church & Society Magazine**

The General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** to authorize ACSWP to steward, promote, and manage the past print, microfilm and digital assets of Church & Society magazine on behalf of the General Assembly Mission Council, with ownership and copyright to be owned by Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), A Corporation. (See pages 8-9 of this appendix.)

Gench highlighted the following items of information. The committee:

- Received verbal updates from Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy, Advocacy Committee on Women's Concerns, Advocacy Committee on Racial Ethnic Concerns, Presbyterian Health, Education and Welfare, Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Advisory Committee; and

- Heard from GAMC staff and PC(USA) representatives regarding Leadership Development activities and activities related to General Assembly Referrals, specifically:
  - 2008 Referral: Item 11-12. On Preventing the Trafficking of Women, Internationally and Nationally;
  - 2010 Referral: Item 11-06. Gun Violence, Gospel Values: Mobilizing in Response to God's Call; and
  - 2010 Referral: Item 14-03 - MRTI Report of Its Engagement with Corporations Involved in Israel, Gaza, East Jerusalem, and the West Bank.

The report of the Justice Committee is found in Appendix 6.

### **Stewardship Committee Report**

Alan Ford presented the report of the committee.

#### **ACTION 11-911 Approve Consent Agenda (Stewardship Committee Report)**

The General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Approve the revised 2012 Mission Program Budget to \$85,266,858 (pages 3-6 of this appendix)
- Ratify and affirm an allocation of \$700,000 (for requests from Information Technology) from the Capital Reserve Fund (pages 7-8 of this appendix)
- Ratify and affirm an emergency allocation of \$26,000 (for request from Building Services) from the Capital Reserve Fund (page 9 of this appendix)
- Approve an allocation of \$205,000 (for requests from Legal Risk Management Services and Building Services) from the Capital Reserve Fund (page 10 of this appendix)
- Approve that the General Assembly Mission Council create a task force as follows: (pages 11-12 of this appendix)
  - a) The task force will be comprised of four members selected by the Chair of the General Assembly Mission Council, two members each from the Stewardship and Evangelism Committees, and will be supported by GAMC staff.
  - b) The task force will study the missional alignment, viability, financial sustainability, and management performance of Stony Point Conference Center.
  - c) The task force will bring to the February 2012 General Assembly Mission Council meeting a report and recommendation concerning all of the elements in subsection (b).

The report of the Stewardship Committee is found in Appendix 7.

### **Vocation Committee Report**

Clark Cowden presented the report of the committee.

Cowden highlighted the following items of information. The committee:

- Discussed the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church leaving the Presbyterian Council of Chaplains and Military Personnel;
- Discussed Presbyterian Church of Mexico eliminating their relationship with the PCUSA because of 10-A;
- Received a verbal presentation on Leadership Initiatives of Racial Ethnic and Women's Ministries/PW from Rhashell Hunter;
- Engaged in Generative Discussion around:
  - Video and report presentation on For Such A Time As This from Marcia Myers and Joyce Lieberman.
  - Committee on Theological Education (COTE) Pentecost 2011 Letter presented by VilMarie Cintron-Olivieri and Lee Hinson-Hasty; and
- Received a report on Preparation for Ministry Update from Tim Cargal.

The report of the Vocation Committee is found in Appendix 8.

### **Executive Committee Report**

McLarnan assumed the chair. Kruse presented the report of the committee.

#### **ACTION 12-911 Approve Consent Agenda (Executive Committee Report)**

The General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Approve the report of the Restricted Funds Oversight Subcommittee (pages 5-6 of Appendix 10); and
- Approve the meeting schedule of the GAMC for 2012-2014 (pages 7-9 of Appendix 10).

#### **ACTION 13-911 Elect Cowden, Hodges, and Smith to GAMC Nominating Committee**

The General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** to elect the following persons to serve on the GAMC Nominating Committee, Class of 2013, effective October 1, 2011:

Clark Cowden (WMC);  
Jack Hodges (WMC); and  
Joyce Smith (BFE).

#### **ACTION 14-911 Approved Revision to Meeting Schedule with Mid-Council Staff**

The General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** to revise its meeting schedule (established in 2006) by replacing its annual meeting with Mid-Council staff with a biennial meeting between Mid-Council staff, the GAMC Executive Committee, and select members of the GAMC staff.

#### **ACTION 15-911 Approve Proposed Changes to Manual of Operations**

The General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** to approve the proposed changes to the GAMC Manual of Operations (pages 10-78 of Appendix 10).

Kruse assumed the chair.

### **Closed Session**

The Council **VOTED** to convene in closed session to discuss a personnel matter with only voting members of the General Assembly Council, at-large members of Stewardship Committee, Audit Committee members, corresponding members, Linda Valentine, and Kerry Clements invited to attend the closed session.

### **Recess/Reconvene**

The council recessed for a break at 9:40 a.m. and reconvened at 9:55 a.m.

### **ACTION 16-911 Approve the Annual Review of the Executive Director**

Kruse announced that in closed session, the General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** to receive the report of the annual review of the executive director.

The reports of the Executive Committee are found in Appendices 9 and 10.

### **Report of the Domestic Mission Task Force**

Clay Antioquia presented a progress report on the work of the task force.

### **Strategic Issues for General Assembly**

The Council engaged in a process to identify which strategic issues the GAMC will take to the General Assembly meeting.

### **ACTION 17-911 Approve GAMC Name Change**

The General Assembly Mission Council **VOTED** that, through appropriate revisions in the *Organization for Mission* and the *GAMC Manual of Operations*, request the approval of the 220th General Assembly (2012) for changing the name of the General Assembly Mission Council, as follows:

from General Assembly Mission Council (organization) to Presbyterian Mission Agency; and  
from General Assembly Mission Council (elected) to Presbyterian Mission Agency Board.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m. following a service of closing worship led by Clark Cowden.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kerry S. Clements  
Associate Stated Clerk