

**The Synod of the Trinity
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
2008 Summer Conference Meeting**
Westminster College
New Wilmington, Pennsylvania
The Presbytery of Shenango
Business Meeting Docket
Docket Updated: May 19, 2008

- 7:00 PM Call to Order and Opening Prayer: Moderator Mary Speedy
Introduction of Commissioners and Guests
- 7:25 Greetings from the Presbytery of Shenango: Moderator Alice Otto
- 7:30 Stated Clerk Report: Lesley Shoup
- 7:40 Synod Treasurer Report: Chantal Atnip
- 7:50 Synod Executive Report: Bruce Stevens
- 8:05 Personnel Committee Report: Gary Close
- 8:30 Nominating Committee Report: David Bailey
- 8:40 BREAK
New business needs to be given to the Stated Clerk at this time.
- 8:50 2008 Summer Conference Planning Team: Mary Speedy
2009 Summer Conference Planning Team: Joy Kaufmann
- 9:00 Synod Leadership Team Report:
Mary Speedy, Bruce Stevens, Gary Lyon

9:10 Vice-Moderator Gary Lyon

FROM SYNOD REVIEW TEAM REPORT OF OCTOBER 2007

Recommendation #6 We recommend that Synod, in order to enhance the missional concept, provide an expanded role for Synod commissioners at Synod meetings.

The Synod commissioners attend two meetings in a year plus a third meeting in conjunction with an Annual Conference. However, since they are not required to be members of committees, teams or networks, their contribution as a resource for ministry has been underutilized. Perhaps this has led in some cases to less of an investment in Synod ministry.

Since the 'missional' concept brings resources together to aid congregations and presbyteries, the synod commissioners could easily provide an additional stream of insight and information through a designated consultative role.

At the Synod meeting an amount of time could be devoted intentionally to commissioners working and discussing together, for example, as focus groups, on designated issues or needs in addition to their defined governance duties.

Implementation step: the leadership team or planning groups will implement this recommendation.

RESPONSE BY SYNOD LEADERSHIP TEAM IN REPORT OF FEBRUARY 2008

Synod Leadership Team Response: The Leadership Team is considering a number of ways the role of Commissioners may be expanded. Recognizing the importance of Commissioner involvement in the mission of the Synod beyond Synod meetings, the proposal of the Leadership Team includes several instances in which Commissioners' roles may be expanded through participation in Committees and Networks. Further work needs to be undertaken to identify other feasible ways of enhancing the Commissioner role at meetings.

Anticipated Time Frame:

Initial reporting June 2008, final reporting Oct. 2008

Expected Result: By the end of 2008, all Commissioners will have opportunities to engage more fully in the work of the Synod.

JUNE 2008 REPORT ON EXPANDED ROLES OF COMMISSIONERS

From November 2007 through May 2008, the Leadership Team has engaged in the discussion of Commissioners' expanded roles. The Leadership Team believes that Commissioner roles have been expanded through the January 2008 Table Talks, February 2008 Synod meeting, the

April 2008 Conference Call Conversations, as well as the structure of and the calling of a special Synod meeting in May 2008. The openness of possible participation on the Task Forces, Work Groups, and/or Actions Teams which will be coordinated by the new Leadership Development Coordinating Team further expands the Commissioners' roles. Future Table Talks and Conference Call Conversations, as well as active work sessions at stated Synod meetings will continue to engage the Commissioners in the active development of the Synod's mission. Synod Standing Committees may consult with others in the course of their work, including Executive Presbyters and Synod Commissioners.

Ongoing

- 9:25 Beginning a Conversation about Grants and Scholarship Committee: Treasurer Chantal Atnip
- 9:35 New Business
- 9:45 PM Closing Prayer: Moderator Speedy

The next meetings of the Synod are:

*2008 Fall Synod Meeting, October 16-17, 2008,
Lewisburg, Pennsylvania (The Presbytery of Northumberland)*

*2009 Winter Synod Meeting, February 19-20, 2008
Allentown/Bethlehem, Pennsylvania (The Presbytery of Lehigh)*

*2009 Summer Conference Meeting, June 10-11-12, 2009
Wilson College in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania (The Presbytery of Carlisle)*

2009 Fall Synod Meeting, October 15-16, 2009