

## **2009 Area Assembly Business Meeting Minutes September 19, 2009**

Moderator Doug Cripe called the meeting to order at 12:36.

James Brooks moved to approve the agenda as it was printed in the book. Sydney Kendall seconded and the motion passed.

Barbara Buxton moved to approve the rules of procedure. James Brooks seconded and the motion passed.

The certification committee announced that there were 156 people present, 84 of whom were voting members. (Immediately following this report, it was learned that there were 4 additional voting members present, bringing the total to 88.)

Terry Crank moved to approve the minutes from the 2007 Area Assembly. David Woodard seconded the motion which passed.

The Area Minister's report was received and Penny Ross-Corona highlighted a few points. There are 9 new pastors in the Area since the last Assembly. They are Jeff Moore, Sr. Minister at Webster Groves; Jenn Simmons, Associate Minister at Webster Groves, Darla Glynn, Associate Minister at Community; Brain Kirk, full-time Associate Minister at Union Avenue; John Morton at Hamilton; Jim Davis at Matthews; John Harwell at New Life United (in addition to Doniphan); Larry Colvin, Interim at Dexter; and Patrice Rosner at Bonne Terre. There have also been 6 ordinations in the Area since the last Assembly. They were Darla Glynn on November 4, 2007 at Webster Groves, Jenn Simmons on July 20, 2008 in Springfield, John Morton on August 31, 2008 at St. Charles, Wesley Knight on September 28, 2008 at Fredericktown, Lorrie Kovell on May 31, 2009 at Affton, and Amanda Gosik on June 7, 2009 at Festus. Penny went on to congratulate Fredericktown Christian Church on their 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary. She also mentioned her February 2009 trip to Haiti and the Dominican Republic, and the Board's decision to become a Global Mission Area. In conclusion she introduced Regional Minister Rev. Dr. Danny Stewart.

Danny brought greetings from the 277 congregations of the Mid-America Region. He said that, though it has been a tough year economically, God calls us not to bemoan but to rejoice. Work in the Region has been gloriously busy and he is looking forward to the 2010 Regional Assembly in next October. He concluded with the prayer that our ministry in the coming year be blessed in these difficult times.

Financial Coordinator Melissa Feldhaus presented the financial report. It was accepted unanimously. Steve Doan moved to empower the Board to pass a budget for 2011 when information, including the extent of use of Orchard Crest, becomes available. Marilyn Combs seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Margie Pride presented the Nominating Committee report. Those named were elected unanimously. Kay Marshall moved to empower the Board to fill the 2 empty positions as they are able. Sydney Kendall seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Doug Cripe presented the Moderator's report, highlighting our experimental participation in a Region-wide camping program for the summer of 2010. James Brooks moved to empower the Board to make decisions regarding the 2011 camping upon evaluating the success of the 2010 experiment and our other options at the time. Suzanne Webb seconded the motion which passed with 1 abstention.

Penny presented Doug with a plaque to express the Area's appreciation to him for his work as Area Moderator for the past 2 years.

Jacque Foster presented the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Moderator's report.

Approval for the 2011 Area Assembly being held at Central Christian Church in Granite City, Illinois was unanimous.

The Administration Division report was received in the absence of the chairperson, Joy Faires.

Mike Dixon presented the Ministry Division report.

Brian Kirk presented the Nurture Division report.

Larry Thomas presented the Mission Division report. He introduced Dietra Wise who, together with several Liberators, described the growth of Liberation Christian Church. He also gave Martha Ruhl and Devoree Crist of the Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism Task Force opportunity to highlight their work. Larry recognized Penny for her hard work in the area of mission.

Jenn Simmons and Darla Glynn, co-directors of Disciples at Eden gave a report (not included in the booklet). The purpose of the group is to support and nurture Disciples students at Eden Theological Seminary. There are currently eight students, though there have been as many as 28 in recent years. They assist students in attending various conferences and facilitate STOLE camp (February 26-27, 2010 at Affton CC) to help students prepare more fully for their roles as pastors. They also noted that all 6 of the ordinations that have taken place in SEGA since the last Assembly were Eden students.

With the business finished, the moderator gave all present the opportunity to make an announcement. Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> annual Jefferson County CROP Walk.

Friday-Saturday, October 9-10, SEGA Women's Retreat at Abbey Road

Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, Shop for a cause at Macys, Union Avenue Community Ministry with Pilgrim UCC and Westminster Presbyterian Churches.

Today, September 19, 2009 "This Run's for Vaughn" benefit for former Dexter minister Vaughn Wright as he lives with ALS.

Centennial Christian Church will be holding a "junk-tique" rummage sale.

Janice Walters updated the Assembly on the outreach efforts of Florissant Valley Christian Church.

Moderator Doug Cripe expressed appreciation to Area Minister Penny Ross-Corona for all she does. She then proceeded with the installation of the new Board and officers.

Jacqueline Dyer moved to adjourn. Janet Fowler seconded the motion which passed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:16.

Respectfully submitted

Susan Moore

SEGA Administrative Assistant