

Your Presbytery Link

The Presbytery of Cincinnati met at Mt. Washington Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati, OH on February 10, 2004. Here is a *summary* of what we did.

Worshipped led by Elder Lynne Wells (CLP, Bond Hill) and the Rev. Jean Holmes (Stated Supply, Christ). The offering will go to hunger ministries designated by Grace Community and Pleasant Ridge.

Considered a proposed overture from Administrative Commission 02-01 and four recommendations contained in the AC's report. The presbytery took the following actions (The entire text of the proposed overture and the report is posted in the Document Center at www.presbyteryofcincinnati.org).

- Did not approve the proposed overture to the General Assembly on Adding a New Section G-11.0600 to Create Provisional Status for Congregations. This action answered Recommendation #2 of the report and, in effect, made it mute.
- Adopted Recommendation #3: Establish and facilitate a Presbytery-wide "Year of Exchange" during which delegations from congregations within our Presbytery would visit one another, share their varying points of view, arrange pulpit exchanges, and form collaborative prayer groups and mission projects. [suggested by both Mt. Auburn's Session and an elder from College Hill at the Hearing held at Kennedy Heights PC, September 23, 2003]
- Adopted Recommendation #4: Establish a three-year moratorium whereby member churches of the Presbytery voluntarily comply to refrain from legal or procedural challenges to one another in issues related to inclusiveness, with reference to the Book of Order Section G-6.0106b.
- Following these actions, the AC withdrew Recommendation #1 which would have initiated a process by which the presbytery would consider placing the Mt. Auburn congregation in provisional status.

Dismissed AC 02-01 with thanks. Members included the Rev. Glenn Baaten (Pastor, Harrison First), Elder Patricia Brown (Kennedy Heights), Elder Marybelle Chapman (College Hill), the Rev. Ruth Dunn (Stated Supply, Sardinia First), the Rev. Erwin Goedicke (Pastor, North), Elder Paul Russell (Williamsburg), Elder Nancy Schmidt (Pleasant Ridge), and the Rev. Marsha Webster (Temporary Supply, Dayton First).

Received a report about the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission's decision in *Remedial Case 2003-1: the Rev. A. Stephen Van Kuiken, Complainant, v. Presbytery of Cincinnati, Respondent*, and read the decision into the meeting's minutes. The SPJC sustained all four of the specifications of error contained in the complaint and ordered "that the declaration of the Presbytery of Cincinnati that the Rev. A. Stephen Van Kuiken has renounced jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) be vacated and that his name be restored to the rolls of the Presbytery." The entire text of the decision is posted at www.synodofthecovenant.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEB 22: Interfaith Panel Discussion on the new Mel Gibson movie *The Passion*. At Wyoming Church 3-5pm. Featuring Dr. Michael Cook (Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion), Dr. Arthur Dewey (Xavier University), the Rev. Dr. David Hawley (Pastor, Indian Hill Episcopal-Presbyterian Church), and the Rev. Dr. Edward McNulty, HR (author and film critic). For more info, contact Beth McHenry, 513-821-8735 ext 108.

FEB 27: Caring for Persons with Dementia. At Twin Towers Retirement Community, 8am-4pm. For registration information, call 513-853-2746.

MAR 5 & 6: The New Order of Jesus: Towards a Domination-Free Society. Featuring Walter and June Wink. At Indian Hill Church.

Mar 20 & 27: Justice for Women Lenten Series. At the presbytery office. Pre-register, call Dawn Hayes, 513-759-0396.