

Heartland Presbytery Meeting Highlights April 28, 2009

The Presbytery gathered with prayer at the Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church of Kansas City, MO, under the leadership of Moderator Elder Jack Schrimsher from the Parkville Presbyterian Church.

Beginning with worship, the **218th General Assembly Moderator Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow** preached an inspiring and insightful sermon “Do We Still Have Faith to Dream?” based on Matthew 14:22-36. The presbytery’s offering which benefited the General Assembly’s Pentecost Offering was \$960. 40% of the offering stays in the presbytery and was designated by Presbytery Council to benefit the Front Porch Alliance, one of the missions housed in the Harold Thomas Center. The Pentecost Offering supports programs for youth and young adults ministry and mission.

The Presbytery approved the **Equalization Formula** which balances the presbytery membership between elders and ministers. There were no changes in the number of elders each church may send to presbytery meetings. This is effective June 1, 2009 through May 31, 2010.

The Social Justice Ministries Division invited the presbytery to participate in either the July or November 2009 mission trips to **Guatemala**. Josef Walker, representing **CROP Walk** thanked the 22 churches that participated in the CROP Walk in October 2008 and challenged the presbytery to increase the number of congregations participating in 2009. Dave Howery and Randy Sharp from **Inter-Serve** (St. Joseph, MO) shared their story of mission and ministry with the homeless and underprivileged of northwest Missouri.

The presbytery approved the job description for the **Associate Executive Presbyter**. It will now be posted online at www.pcusa.org for viewing by prospective interviewees.

Through the Committee on Ministry, the presbytery examined for membership and welcomed into the presbytery three new pastors. **Rev. Mark Hughes** will be the pastor of St. Luke Presbyterian Church (KCMO); **Rev. Jonathan Mitchell** will be First, Maryville, MO; and **Rev. Dr. John Ross** is the interim pastor at Second, KCMO.

**Next Stated Meeting:
Saturday, June 20th at the Tarkio Presbyterian Church**

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