



Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy
STATED MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
November 13, 2004



Worship

The meeting convened at 9:30 with worship at Cote Brilliante Presbyterian Church, St. Louis. Cote Brilliante is an historic African-American congregation founded in 1956 on the north side of the city. Rev. William Gillespie recently celebrated 48 years as pastor of the church, which has 610 members.

Cote Brilliante is deeply committed to the revitalization of its neighborhood. In 2002 the church, in partnership with St. Andrews Resources for Seniors, opened Gillespie Village, 38 independent living apartments across the street from the church. As the church looks to the future it plans to build a new sanctuary and expand office and classroom facilities.



Elder Virginia Toliver, a member of Cote Brilliante, served as Moderator of Presbytery in 2004. Virginia's message was titled "Is You Is or Is You Ain't My Baby?" Virginia recalled with joy her travels during the year, presiding over installations and ordinations at Potosi, Farmington, Cape Girardeau, Perryville, Ladue, Union, and St. Louis.

The Cote Brilliante Children's Choir sang during the service and Rev. Gillespie and Elder Toliver presided at the Lord's Supper.

Education—The Challenge of Leadership

The Leadership in Ministry Team hosted the Rev. Cynthia Rigby, associate professor of theology at Austin Theological Seminary. Dr. Rigby addressed issues of theology and leadership in a lively and informative discussion.

Business

Presbytery approved a 2005 budget and received the auditors' report for 2003.

The commission that implemented the closing of Brandt Memorial and Clifton Heights Presbyterian Churches was dismissed with the thanks of presbytery.

Candidate John Goodwin was examined and approved for ordination. Mr. Goodwin has received a call as pastor of Hunter Memorial First Presbyterian Church, Sikeston.

The following were elected readers for ordination exams in 2005: Elder Steve Collier (Dardenne), Rev. Pam Laing, and Rev. Lewis Trotter.

Virginia Gilbert (First of St. Louis, University City) and Kelly Standing Regnier (Southminster, Crestwood) were enrolled inquirers. Both are students at Eden Seminary.

Presbytery approved the sale of the manse owned by First Presbyterian, Ironton.

Congregations pledging toward the renovation of the presbytery office were recognized with certificates of appreciation. The construction contracts have been signed and work began in November. The largest contract was won in competitive bidding by a minority owned business.

Dates to Remember:

November 28—Ordination of John Goodwin & Installation as pastor of Hunter Memorial 1st, Sikeston, 3:00

December 12—Installation of Mark Strothmann as pastor of Pacific, 3:00

January 29—Lay Pastor Inquiry Day at Woodlawn Chapel, 9-3

February 19—Stated Meeting, First of St. Louis, University City, 9:30-4:00



Hillside Presbyterian Church Chartered

One hundred thirty seven persons petitioned the presbytery to charter the Hillside New Church Development as a new church. The congregation and presbytery dedicated a new building in House Springs, Missouri, on Highway 30, earlier this year.

The new congregation will elect, ordain, and install officers in December. Rev. Carol DeVaughan is pastor of the church.

Hillside is the first new church established by the presbytery in a decade.



Candidates Received

Presbytery affirmed in a circle of care the reception of Britta Martin (First, Ironton) and Holly Davis (Bonhomme) as candidates for Ministry of Word and Sacrament.

Jewish Dialogue Begins

A meeting of area Jewish leaders and Commissioners to the 216th General Assembly, Stanley Martin, Virginia Toliver, and Linda Shugert, along with Paul Reiter, Terry Epling, Ben Martin, and Bernice Thompson was held in October to discuss the actions of the GA in regard to Israel and Palestine. A follow-up meeting is scheduled in December.

For more information visit <http://www.pcusa.org/interfaith/>.

Officers Installed

Presbytery elected and installed Rev. Linda Shugert (Rock Hill-South Webster) as Moderator of Presbytery, Elder Virginia Toliver (Cote Brilliante) as Moderator of Council, and Elder Jim Cook (Calvary) as Vice-Moderator of Presbytery and Council.

In addition, 12 ministry area representatives were elected to Council. Members of standing committees and the four ministry teams were also elected.



(Left to Right) Moderator of Council, Elder Virginia Toliver, Stated Clerk, Rev. Terry Epling, Executive Presbyter, Rev. Paul Reiter, Presbytery Moderator, Rev. Linda Shugert, Vice-Moderator, Elder Jim Cook

Comings & Goings

Rev. Nancy Rowland was transferred to New Castle Presbytery to become pastor of New Castle Presbyterian Church. Nancy served as pastor of Glendale for 14 years.

Rev. John Shear has become pastor of John Calvin Church. John was co-pastor of New Providence.

Rev. Don Pierson (HR) was transferred to Blackhawk Presbytery at his request.

Rev. Nancy Wagner has become temporary supply to New Creation New Church Development.

Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy
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Strategic Plan 2005 & Beyond Proposed

Mission Council presented a proposed strategic plan for the presbytery for 2005 and beyond. The plan builds on previous planning efforts and expands the areas of transforming congregations and new church development, resourcing and equipping congregations for effectiveness, dismantling racism and privilege, and building a presbytery structure for the future.

Council proposed that presbytery affirm that evangelism is a primary concern and that each ministry area will need to prayerfully discern what this means for each part of our presbytery.

Council welcomes comments and advice from Presbyterians before the final plan is presented for adoption on February 19th.

The full plan is on-line as a PDF document at www.glpby.org/strategy.pdf

Proposed Mission Statement

Our Mission is to lead congregations in life-transforming ministries so that they will embrace the fullness of the Kingdom of God.

Mission Council 2005

Moderator	Elder Virginia Toliver, Cote Brilliante
Vice Moderator	Elder Jim Cook, Calvary, Mehlville
Treasurer	Rev. David Marshall, Honorably Retired
Clerk	Rev. Terry Epling, Stated Clerk
Ministry Area 1	Rev. Grant Gillard, First, Jackson
Ministry Area 2	Elder Judy Schmelzle, St. Genevieve
Ministry Area 3	Elder Barbara Stupp, Grace, Crystal City
Ministry Area 4	Elder Carole Dean, First, Cuba
Ministry Area 5	Rev. William Vincent, Washington
Ministry Area 6	Rev. Jim Chi, Taiwanese, Ballwin
Ministry Area 7	Elder Don Michal, Home Heights, St. John
Ministry Area 8	Elder Bernice Thompson, Third, St. Louis
Ministry Area 9	Elder Val Jonsson, St. Andrew, St. Louis
Ministry Area 10	Rev. Lew Kimmel, Dardenne
Ministry Area 11	Elder Barb Spurgeon, Florissant
Ministry Area 12	Rev. Stanley Martin, First, Jerseyville
Presbyterian Women Leadership	Elder Mary Beth Reynolds, Glendale
Equipping	Rev. Ann Pitman, First, Sullivan
Missional Outreach	Rev. Nancy Wagner, New Creation
Church Development	Elder Jim Cook, Calvary
Executive	Rev. Carleton Stock, Northminster, Dellwood
	Rev. Paul Reiter, Executive Presbyter

Next Presbytery Meeting—

Saturday, February 19, 2005, 9:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church of St. Louis, University City
