

# Minutes for the Special Meeting of Session of the Clinton Presbyterian Church

*September 29, 2009*

Approved November 17, 2009

The special meeting was called for the purpose of:

- I. Reviewing the results of the REVEAL on-line survey conducted in and around February 2009.
- II. Guide the Peacemaker team as they prepare to present their findings to the congregation in two town meetings scheduled for October 4 and October 11, 2009.

**7:00:** Elders met in the sanctuary, opening with prayer by Rev. Becci Curtis.

## **Roll Call**

- a) **Elders Present:** Carol Kotopoulis, Liz Scannell, Steve Hovey, Dave Boyer, Ino Sowder, Dave Kelly, Tim McKinnon, Bill Kreutel, Dorothy Battaglia, Lisa Miller, Kevin Spangler, Gwili Marsh, Gary Lindgren, Dave Boyer, Arleen Buchanan, Lori Hannon,
- b) **Elders Excused:**
- c) **Elders Absent:** Bill Barr
- d) **Pastors:** Rev. Becci Curtis (Moderator)
- e) **Professional Staff:** Matthew Bradley
- f) **Guests at the second part of the meeting:** Member of Long Range Planning Ministry, Reid Heine and members of the PeaceMaker team: Marilyn Modak, Jenny Kunzman, Jeff Hazelette, Laurel and Dave Kelly, Lorraine Meehan.

## **I. Presentation of REVEAL results**

Reed led the session through a PowerPoint presentation of the findings of the online survey taken by 94 members of the congregation earlier in the year. A follow-up survey in 18-24 months will allow tracking of trends, but our analysis of these findings is through the lens of our mission statement. Results also must be analyzed in terms of the context of activities during the earlier part of the year. Still lessons can be learned and broad concepts about our church are highlighted and important for all to be aware of.

As a result of feedback from the congregation, the overall recommendations were:

- Address how to support congregants in time of emotional need
- Church leaders to model how we grow in Christ
- Session reconcile to being “Christ Centered” (i.e. salvation through grace)

- Continue with “Peacemakers”
- Encourage small groups
- Share results of the survey with congregation

Some of the conclusions of the survey are that compared to the 150,000 others who have taken the survey, we are:

- Chronologically older as a congregation
- Predominantly white
- Relatively wealthy
- Not giving any where near what our demographic would indicate that we should
- Not strong spiritually

## II. Peacemakers Discussion

Session reconvened in the upstairs classroom and welcomed the members of the Peacemaker Team who will be hosting the upcoming “Town Hall Meetings” on October 4 and 11. Lunch will be served to those attending the Town Hall Meetings. The format for these meetings will be a short presentation followed by a Question and Answer period. There will be a few copies of the full report available and an additional handout was reviewed, commented upon and approved for distribution at the meeting. There was some concern that the Session had not had time to fully digest the report and endorse the action plan, but following discussion and editing of the handout concluded that the Town Hall Meetings should move forward. Session will devote an entire meeting to a discussion of the Peacemaker’s report.

**Motion:** to accept and approve as amended the agenda for the presentation to the congregation of the findings revealed in the Peacemaker’s Report. Moved by Kevin Spangler, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Liz Scannell, passed unanimously.

## Adjournment with Prayer

- a) The meeting was adjourned in prayer at 9:30

**REMINDER:** The next Session meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Arleen Buchanan  
Clerk of Session