

Abingdon Presbytery

Called Meeting

Brief Summary

Abingdon Presbytery met in a called meeting on July 28, 2011 at the Galena Presbyterian Church. Worship was led by Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) John Davis, a member of the Galena Church and CRE of the Damascus and Rock Spring churches. CRE Davis preached from Luke 10:25-37 on Right Relationships. The presbytery was welcomed by the Reverend Cindy Privette and wonderfully hosted on short notice by the members of the Galena Church.

The purpose of the meeting was to address the difficulties at the former Indian Valley Presbyterian Church who on July 3, 2011, voted to disassociate themselves from the Presbyterian Church (USA) to form an independent congregation. The presbytery in response to this action and a summons served on the Stated Clerk, Bruce Ford, concerning a civil action filed by the former Indian Valley Presbyterian Church in the Floyd County Circuit Court against the presbytery approved the following motions included in the docket.

1. An Administrative Commission was established consisting of the following presbyters:
 - Rev. Kevin Campbell- Hillsville- Moderator
 - Elder John DiYorio- Wytheville
 - Rev. Alan Gray- Royal Oak, Elder Sara Hutton Tallman- Glade Spring
 - Elder Alison Bolen - Galax
2. The Presbytery empowered the Administrative Commission to do what is necessary to resolve the difficulties (G-3.0109b(5) at the Indian Valley Presbyterian Church. (G-3.0109b, G-3.0301, G-3.0303e).

The Presbytery then approved the following motions made from the floor.

1. That the Indian Valley Presbyterian Church and its session be dissolved immediately with notice sent to the clerk of session.
2. That the Administrative Commission be empowered to immediately assume original jurisdiction over the former Indian Valley Presbyterian Church and financial assets with notice to the clerk and treasurer of said church.
3. That the stated clerk of the presbytery send an official certified letter to Gary Marshall that he is banned from the premises.
4. That the presbytery authorize the Council and Budget Committee to provide the financial support necessary to secure legal representation to aid in the dispute with the former Indian Valley Presbyterian Church and its representatives and that financial support be made available to the Administrative Commission.