

PRESBYTERY OF TSHWANE

Minutes: Special Meeting to deal with the resignation of Ruth Armstrong,
Held on 11 Jan 2007 at Saints Presbyterian

1. Approval of the Moderator's Action in Calling the Meeting.
Those present agreed to the Moderator's action in calling the meeting.
2. Welcome and Constitution
The Moderator welcomed those present and opened the meeting in prayer.
3. Present: Glynis Goyns (Moderator), Andries Combrink, Graham Duncan, Susan Hodgson (Administrator), Sello Mamabolo, Violet Mashao, Chris Moore, Margie Thompson, Theo Groeneveld (Clerk)
Apologies: Ruth Armstrong, Pat Marshall, Elanor vd Merwe, Gary Sinclair, Tobie Steyn, Charmaine Johnstone, Allan Cameron, Eddie Stopforth, Eugene Klopper, Sue Hay, Dennis vd Spuy, Maputle Tleane, Sisanda Mpafi, Wonke Buqa, David Nanyane
4. Overview:
As Theo had had the most contact. Glynis asked him to explain what had happened. Theo briefly explained that:
 1. Ruth's husband Warren had been offered a job in Jhb at very short notice.
 2. Ruth decided to follow him but could therefore only give the congregation short notice
 3. The Session and Congregation were sad but understanding.
 4. The elders could not attend the meeting because of the distance and time of the meeting, but were standing by if the meeting wanted to talk to them telephonically.
5. Process according to Manual:
 1. Minister informs Session, Congregation and then Clerk of Presbytery. *Done.*
 2. Moderator visits as Pastor Pastorum. *This was felt not to be necessary.*
 3. A special congregational meeting of the congregation can be held but can be waived. *It was agreed to waive this requirement.*
 4. Presbytery sets a date to hold a meeting to deal with the matter. *Done.*
 5. Presbytery must either:
 1. ~~Persuade the minister to withdraw the resignation.~~
 2. Let the resignation run its course and set a severance date
 3. ~~Find that the minister has moved to a position that they are no longer suitable for the Denomination and apply their resignation to the Denomination as well.~~
 4. ~~Initiate a judicial process because of scandalous behaviour.~~
 6. If 3 or 4 above then no credentials are issued.
 7. If 2 then they become a minister without charge subject to the Presbytery but without a seat. A certificate of credentials is issued.
 8. Setting of Severance Date. *This was done retroactively to 31 Dec 2006.*
 9. Inform Clerk and MinComm of GA. *Theo to do*

10. Forward Ruth to care and discipline of the Highveld Presbytery. *Theo to do.*
 11. Appoint Chris Moore as Interim Moderator for Rustenburg
 12. Waive/Uphold a consultation at Rustenburg. *It was agreed that a wide range consultation (including thoughts of Integration and Co-operation with nearby congregations and outstations.)
The Congregation Integration and Church Growth and Mission Comm to set up the Consultation.*
6. The Moderator closed the meeting in prayer.

Confirmation of the Minutes

Confirmed this day _____ of _____ 2006

Clerk

Moderator