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*We Have a Winner

Donna Cammarata was the first one to identify all 3 people in the picture from Lake Erie. Where's Waldo? Or actually 'Where's Lake Erie Presbytery?' The picture includes many of the representatives of the Synod of the Trinity at General Assembly. The first person who identifies the three people in the picture from Lake Erie (Doug Lee, Ruling Elder Commissioner; Ben Fugate, Young Adult Advisory Delegate and David Oyler, General Presbyter) and



"Empowered and guided by the Holy Spirit through Scripture, our confessions, and conscience the Presbytery of Lake Erie journeys with congregations, ruling elders and teaching elders as we live, grow, fellowship and witness to the work of God through Jesus Christ in today's changing world. Recognizing that we are called to serve all of God's children, we do this through shared prayer, worship, training, evangelism, and mission to strengthen the dynamic Body of Christ."

Greetings from St. Louis!

General Assembly Update, Wednesday, June 20

Monday and Tuesday begins with Bible study. While it is not possible to have a conversational Bible study when hundreds of people are involved, it is an opportunity to hear from Christian scholars on a significant Scripture passage. Tuesday's study on Matthew 14:1-12 was led by Raj Nadella of Columbia Theological Seminary. He brought to the passage his perspective of having grown up in the Indian culture where there was a strong tradition of kingly power.

Tuesday also provided the opportunity for public witness. Many of the commissioners, and others, marched from the convention center to the court house in comment/protest the unfairness of the cash bail system. An offering was given to help people make bail who have been placed at an unfair disadvantage in the bail bond system. More can be read on this topic at pcusa.org.

Tuesday is the third day of committee meetings. That makes Tuesday an 'interesting' day. There are thirteen committees, all of whom will have reports to present in the plenary sessions scheduled Wednesday through Saturday. By early Tuesday afternoon some of the committees have already completed their work. Other committees – the ones that are dealing with particularly complex topics – work through the afternoon and into the evening. All their reports need to be finalized by Tuesday evening. Tuesday is also a day when some commissioners may grow a bit weary. They have dealt with a large range of issues. Some of the discussions have become quite intricate. Wordsmithing is necessary, which is not easy to accomplish in a committee of 50 or 60 members. Their hard work will be presented for vote over the coming days.

One particular committee that has worked long and hard is 'The Way

contacts the presbytery office wins a prize!! (Emily Zeig Lindsey was not in the picture because her committee was meeting at that time.) This Image has been attached to the email.



Forward' Committee. They were asked to deal with highly complex issues around The Corporation of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Legal minds had differing perspectives on the best way to have the Presbyterian Mission Agency and the Office of the General Assembly to be legally connected. The decision has implications for the overall structure of the PCUSA, which has implications for future restructuring and efficiency – all undertaken to help build the Kingdom of God.

Your three commissioners also gathered for dinner on Tuesday evening. It was a privilege to hear of their insights and perspectives. They also planned for the June 26 presbytery meeting in which you will be encouraged to hear from them (3:00 PM, Wayside Church, Erie). They will lead worship as well as providing a report on the actions taken by General Assembly.

Continue to pray with your commissioners as they listen for the voice of God over these next few days!

Rev. David Oyler
General Presbyter

Please remember to visit our website at:

<http://www.pbylakeerie.org>



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