

Presbytery of Great Rivers  
**ASSEMBLY MINUTES**  
November 14, 2020

**STATED MEETING**

The Presbytery of Great Rivers met in Stated Meeting November 14, 2020 on ZOOM at 9:30 AM. The meeting was called to order, opened with prayer by Moderator Rev. Maura McGrath Nagle. The purpose of the meeting was for worship. Moderator Rev. Maura McGrath Nagle led the meeting in worship and the transaction of business. The Lord's Supper was celebrated and everyone was invited to bring to the table the bread and the cup they had prepared as we were celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion over zoom. An offering was collected for the PC(USA) Special Offering: Christmas Joy Offering

Acknowledgment of Native American Heritage of the Assembly Site: We meet today on the land of the Illiniwek, Peoria, Meskwaki, and Sauk.

We were welcomed to the Assembly meeting via Zoom by Moderator Rev. Maura McGrath Nagle. We were also given additional instructions in our meeting format.

**QUORUM**

The roll was established by registration. The Moderator declared that a quorum was present with the roll established per registrations as follows:

Rev. Debra Avery, United Presbyterian Church of Peoria  
Rev. Marla Bauler, Elmwood First  
Rev. Mark Bedford, Winsor  
Rev. James Benson, Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Edwin Brinklow, Canton - First Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Christian Choi, Springfield  
CLP Daniel Colvin, Scotland Trinity, and Ipava Presbyterian Churches  
Rev. Kay Daniel, First Federated Church of Clayton  
Rev. Tim Doty, Geneseo first  
Rev. David Ezekiel, First Federated Peoria  
CLP. Penny Frame, Lewistown, First  
Rev. Andrew Gifford, St Luke Union Church  
Rev. Chuck Goodman, Springfield - Hope Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Trey Haddon, Second Presbyterian Church, Bloomington  
Rev. Warren Jonathan, First Pres, Jacksonville  
Rev. Hyaekwang kim, Korean presbyterian, Edwards  
Rev. Jaechul Kim, Korean Church in Springfield  
Rev. Cheyanna Losey, United Church of Woodhull  
Rev. Harry Losey, Hamlet-Perryton Presbyterian Church  
CLP Diane Ludington, Warsaw Presbyterian, PGR  
Rev. Erin Marth, pastor Macomb-First  
CLP Stephanie McCullough, Central Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Maura McGrath-Nagle, Rio  
Rev. Annie McMillan, First United Presbyterian Church LeRoy  
Rev. Mark Merrill, Bushnell  
Rev. Kathy Mitchell, First Presbyterian Danvers  
CLP Bob Montgomery, Eureka Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Drew Nagle, Gloria Dei Presbyterian RI  
Rev. Susan Phillips, First Presbyterian, Springfield  
Rev. Adam Quine, First Pres, Lincoln  
Rev. Joy Ridge, Carthage  
Rev. Susan Ryder, New Covenant Community  
Rev. Robert Ryder, New Covenant Community

Rev. Blake Severson, South Park Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Becky Sherwood, First, East Moline  
Rev. Jean Sparks, First Presbyterian Church, Delavan  
Rev. Paul Stroup, Clinton presbyterian church  
Rev. McGill Trajan, Westminster Springfield  
CLP Kathie Whitson, Biggsville UPC & COM chair  
Rev. Matt Wilcox, First Presbyterian Church of Normal  
Elder Commissioner Ken Flack, Gloria Dei-Rock Island  
Elder Commissioner Norma Foley, Eureka  
Elder Commissioner Terry Frame, First-Canton  
Elder Commissioner Donald Fry, Stronghurst  
Elder Commissioner Julio Garcia, First-Milan  
Elder Commissioner John Hawkins, Buffalo Hart  
Elder Commissioner Teresa Herbert, First-Normal  
Elder Commissioner Jim Kincaid, Westminster-Springfield  
Elder Commissioner Larry Lawson, United-Oneida  
Elder Commissioner Carrol Lewis, First-Delavan  
Elder Commissioner Carlson Mary, Woodhull  
Elder Commissioner Denise Maxwell, First-East Moline  
Elder Commissioner Mike Orr, First-Springfield  
Elder Commissioner John Otto, St. Luke-Bloomington  
Elder Commissioner Susan Rinehart, First-Galesburg  
Elder Commissioner Candace Rosene, First-Knoxville  
Elder Commissioner Gabor Ruth, Second-Bloomington  
Elder Commissioner Gant Shelly, Second-Bloomington  
Elder Commissioner Marilyn Simmons, United-Biggsville  
Elder Commissioner Lance slavish, Aledo-College Ave.  
Elder Commissioner Dorian Steve, First-Geneseo  
Elder Commissioner Bill Strawbridge, Washington  
Elder Commissioner Gary Terpstra, Hope-Springfield  
Elder Commissioner Steve Territo, Central-Petersburg  
Elder Commissioner Dave Truesdell, First-Jacksonville  
Elder Commissioner Marilea White, First-Normal  
Elder Commissioner Joe Woodrow, Green Valley  
Elder Commissioner Leland Wright, Clinton  
Rev. Ryan Landino, Presbytery of Great Rivers  
Rev. Tim Bauler, Honorably Retired  
Rev. Forrest Krummel, Honorably Retired  
Rev. Cheryl Lunday, Honorably Retired  
Rev. Kathy Stoner-Lasala, Honorably Retired  
Rev. Carolyn Weber, Honorably Retired  
Rev. Jessica Hawkinson, Validated Ministry  
Rev. Teri Ott, Monmouth College, Validated Ministry  
Rev. Elissa Bailey, Member at Large  
Rev. Sterrett Collins, Member at Large  
Mr. Merle Fox, Committee Member  
Mr. Ken Green, BOP Rep, Corresponding Member  
Ms. Sara Dingman, Synod of Lincoln Trails, Corresponding Member  
Mr. Danny Elenz, Special Guest from Leaderwise, Visitor  
Ms. Fiona McGrath Nagle, Gloria Dei, Visitor  
Ms. Sue Myer, Visitor

Introduction of new Minister Members of the Presbytery.  
- Introduction of new Ruling Elder Commissioners.

**MSA** to seat corresponding members:

- Rev. Sara Dingman, Presbytery of Whitewater Valley, Synod Executive.
- Rev. Ken Green, Board of Pensions Representative

### **OPENING BUSINESS**

- The Assembly **MSA** the Docket with the following change:
- Add Lead Presbyter for Transformation Report to Omnibus Motion
- Add Rev. Ryan Landino to the following in the docket: Solidarity, remembrance, Scripture following new business
- **MSA** that all written reports be entered into the permanent minutes.
- Omnibus Motion: **MSA** to approve the omnibus motion that included the Stated Clerk's report and the Visioning Team Report, Lead Presbyter for Transformation Report, Financial Report, and the Leadership Team Report.
- Solidarity Time: What are you carrying?
- Participants were divided into breakout rooms to discuss what they are carrying around with them today in light of the global pandemic we are experiencing.

### **KEYNOTE**

- Dr. Danny Elenz, PsyD, LP from Leaderwise led the Assembly in a conversation titled: "Coping with turbulent times: Connecting and committing to my health."

### **REMEMBRANCE SERVICE**

- The Assembly was invited to participate in a time of remembering all those who have died during this time.
- Rev. Ryan Landino led us in a time of remembrance of those who have died in these last 8 months in which we have not been able to fully celebrate and mourn because of the pandemic.
- Participants were invited to put names in the chat.

### **CELEBRATING**

- Celebrating the Green Valley Congregation
- A litany of Thanksgiving for the Green Valley Congregation was led as the church was celebrated.
- Celebrating the Nauvoo Congregation
- A litany of Thanksgiving for the Nauvoo Congregation was led as the church was celebrated.
- Celebrating Ordination Anniversaries
- Those celebrating ordination anniversaries in 2020:
 

07/11/2015	5	Rev. Kathryn Daniel
03/22/2015	5	Rev. Trajan McGill
01/04/2015	5	Rev. Annie McMillan
10/17/2010	10	Rev. Ryan Landino
09/26/2010	10	Rev. Sarah Iliff McGill
10/21/2005	15	Rev. Denise Clark-Jones
05/14/2005	15	Rev. Robert Kerr
01/09/2005	15	Rev. Jennifer Sakata
09/24/1995	25	Rev. Linda Baldwin
03/21/1995	25	Rev. Beunghoon Choi
02/12/1995	25	Rev. Marcia Forman
09/24/1995	25	Rev. Maura McGrath Nagle
09/30/1990	30	Rev. Charles Cunningham
01/21/1990	30	Rev. Donna Harris
05/01/1990	30	Rev. Steve Smith
12/02/1990	30	Rev. David Terrinoni
03/10/1985	35	Rev. David Ezekiel
07/28/1985	35	Rev. Martha Anne Jones
10/13/1985	35	Rev. James Reitz
03/02/1980	40	Rev. Dr. Forrest Krummel
05/04/1980	40	Rev. Drew Nagle
06/15/1970	50	Rev. Randall Paine

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORT** (APPENDIX A)

- **MA** to form an Administrative Commission for Knox Presbyterian Church of Springfield, IL for the purpose of closure.
- To dissolve the Knox Presbyterian, Springfield at the request of the congregation.
- To provide for the continuing spiritual and pastoral care of the remaining members of the Knox Presbyterian, Springfield after dissolution.
- To transfer members of the Knox Presbyterian, Springfield to other congregations and to provide for pastoral care for those who do not wish to or are unable to transfer their membership.
- To grant letters of dismissal to members for those who have not found a new church after a period of one year.
- To take possession of all real and personal property of the Knox Presbyterian, Springfield along with all records of the congregation and to oversee transfer of all real property and accounts to the Presbytery at the time of dissolution.
- To consult with the Session or its representatives regarding requests the congregation may have relating to the disposition of equipment, memorials, and other property, honoring them where possible and to retain such for future use at the discretion of the Presbytery.
- To assert the claim of the Presbytery of Great Rivers to any property of the Knox Presbyterian, Springfield, whether known or not known at this time, or property which may come, as beneficiary of a will or trust, not known at this time.
- To transfer to the Stated Clerk for forwarding to the Presbyterian Historical Society all official records of the congregation. Other historical records shall be transferred to the stated clerk for storage or transfer to PHS at the clerk's direction.
- To complete any additional tasks necessary to close the corporation of the church.
- To see that the long life and faithful history of the Knox Presbyterian, Springfield is suitably celebrated in a service of worship and at a meeting of the Presbytery.
- In understanding these actions, the Administrative Commission shall be sensitive to the memory, heritage, and concerns of the members of the Knox Presbyterian, Springfield.
- The Administrative Commission shall invite members of the Knox Presbyterian, Springfield to participate in its work with voice but without vote.
- It is requested that the Moderator nominate members to serve on this Administrative Commission, in accordance with the Book of Order (G-3.0109b).
- **MA** for the following waivers for extended terms:  
Farmingdale Presbyterian Church: Elder Carol Kirby  
Sunbeam United Presbyterian Church: Elder Pat Armstrong  
Sunbeam United Presbyterian Church: Elder Jean Harfst  
Washington Presbyterian Church: Elder Bill Strawbridge  
Washington Presbyterian Church: Elder Susan Cox Proffitt  
Central Presbyterian Church: Elder Jane Stephenson
- **MA** the call of Rev. Matt Wilcox to First Presbyterian Church, Normal. Rev. Matt Wilcox is the Associate Pastor and has been called as the Senior Pastor. This was approved by a super majority  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote in favor.
- **MA** to recognize Rev. D. HyaeKwang Kim's ordination in the Korean Presbyterian Church, transfer his membership to the Presbyterian Church (USA), receive him as a member of Great River's Presbytery, and install him as pastor at Korean Presbyterian Church of Edwards/Peoria, IL.
- Questions were asked of Rev. Kim and his current work with thanks given to the COM.
- Motion to arrest the examination **MSA**
- Move to sustain the motion **MSA**

**MODERATOR'S REPORT**

Nomination of members to the Administrative Commission for Springfield-Knox: **MSA**

Rev. Marla Bauler  
Elder Merle Fox  
Rev. Christian Choi  
Elder Mike Orr

Elder Marcia Jungmeyer

**ADMINISTRATION TEAM REPORT** (APPENDIX B)

The Rev. Dick Johnson has been named as the chair of the Nominating Team.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT** (APPENDIX C)

The Nominating Committee brings the following names for the approval of the assembly to serve in the following capacities: (There were no additional nominations from the floor)

Moderator - Elder Diane Lundington, class of 2021

Moderator-Elect - Rev. Chuck Goodman, class of 2021

Treasurer - Elder Bill Strawbridge

**Administration Team**

- Elder Bill Harfst, Term 2, class of 2023
- Elder Julio Garcia, Term 2, class of 2023

**Committee on Ministry**

- Rev. Christian Choi, Term 2, class of 2023
- Rev. Sterrett Collins, Term 2, class of 2023
- Rev. Frosty Krummel, Term 2, class of 2023

**Committee on Preparation for Ministry**

- Elder Sue Sawers, Term 2, class of 2023
- Elder Carol Sleeth, Term 2, class of 2023
- Rev. Matt Wilcox, Chair, Term 2, class of 2023
- Rev. Beth Hamilton, Term 1, class of 2023
- Rev. Cheyanna Losey, Term 1, class of 2023
- Rev. Rebecca Sherwood, Term 1, class of 2023

**Visioning Team**

- Rev. Cherly Lunday, Term 2, class of 2023
- Elder Carol Sleeth, Term 2, class of 2023
- Rev. Blake Severson, Term 2, class of 2023
- Rev. Erin Marth, Chair, Term 2, class of 2021
- Rev. Jessica Hawkinson, Term 1, class of 2023
- Rev. Charlotte Poetschner, Term 1, class of 2023

Synod Commissioner - Rev. Jonathan Warren, Term 1, class of 2023

Permanent Judicial Commission - Elder Gary Terpstra, class of 2026

**Installation of Moderator and Moderator-Elect**

The Assembly celebrated in installing Elder Diane Lundington as the Moderator and Rev. Chuck Goodman as the Moderator-Elect.

We give thanks for the work they have done in the Presbytery and will continue to do so in the year to come. A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to Rev. Maura McGrath Nagle for all of her amazing work as Moderator during this incredibly difficult time. A job well done!

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**CLOSING WORSHIP**

Rev. Ryan Landino closed worship with the Message translation of Psalm 23 and a reflective question.

The Moderator-Elect Rev. Chuck Goodman, closed the meeting with a blessing and prayer. The assembly concluded at 12:45 PM and was declared adjourned.

The next Stated Presbytery Assembly meeting will take place on Saturday, February 13, 2021. We will meet again via Zoom.

Appendix A  
COM Report

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORT

Committee on Ministry has had two meetings since the last Assembly meeting in August 2020 with a third yet to happen on November 10. We continue to meet by Zoom conference meetings and will do so throughout 2020.

We have continued our practice of worshipping at the start of our meetings. Habitually praying for our transitional churches by name and those individuals who are in need of prayer continues as the standard end of all our meetings.

The work of COM has continued as we have found ways to support our pastors in the following ways:

- Look at ways to assist our pastors who have specific needs for ministry.
- Reviewed and approved Terms of Call and Contracts.
- Assisted our churches in their searches as they look forward to what their future ministries hold
- Work through the weekly newsletter to encourage Sessions to support their pastors.
- Support churches in with “normal operations” during COVID-19 for annual meetings, installation of officers and installation/commissioning services for pastors.

COM has also worked with local churches in the following regards:

- Celebrate with First Federated Church, Peoria, IL as Rev. Forrest “Frosty” Krummel has announced his retirement. Rejoicing with them as they have called Rev. David Ezekiel as their interim pastor.
- Welcome and celebrate with Rev. David Ezekiel as a new member of Great Rivers Presbytery.
- Supported First United Presbyterian Church of Green Valley, IL in their decision with the PGR appointed AC to close effective October 9, 2020.
- Assisted churches and their pastors during illness and supported the continued Ministries and function of the churches.

**Motion for PGR Assembly:**

- Recommend to PGR to form an Administrative Commission for Knox Presbyterian Church of Springfield, IL for the purpose of closure.
- COM presents Rev Hyaekwang Kim to the floor of GRP Assembly for theological examination for the purpose of joining the Presbyterian Church USA.
- The COM brings the following request from these churches:
- Farmingdale Presbyterian Church asks for a term limit wavier for Carol Kirby to serve another term on session
- Sunbeam United Presbyterian Church asks for a term limit waiver for Pat Armstrong and Jean Harfst to serve another term on session

This concludes the primary report for the Committee on Ministry for the November Assembly. We hold to the possibility of submitting a supplemental report after the November 10 meeting.

Respectfully submitted

Kathie Whitson, Elder/CLP COM Chair

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

Committee on Ministry met on scheduled on November 10, 2020. The following is the report for that meeting for GRP Assembly Supplemental Papers.

The work of COM has continued as we have found ways to support our pastors in the following ways:

- Opened the meeting with worship
- Look at ways to assist our pastors who have specific needs for ministry.
- Reviewed and approved Terms of Call and Contracts.
- Assisted our churches in their searches as they look forward to what their future ministries hold

COM has also worked with local churches in the following regards:

- Assisted churches and their pastors during illness and supported the continued Ministries and function of the churches.
- Lifted the numerous congregations and pastors currently struggling with the sad effects of the pandemic.
- Celebrate with Biggsville United, Biggsville and Center, Seaton in their new partnership covenant agreement in ministry.

At this time, COM would like to thank and celebrate the diligent and tireless work of our fellow co-laborers: RE Merle Fox and Rev. Denise Clark-Jones. As John Heywood wrote "Many hands make light work". For their dedication to our Great River churches, we most sincerely thank you!

#### **Motion for GRP Assembly:**

To recommend to the Presbytery to approve the call of the Rev. Matt Wilcox to serve as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Normal. According to the with the exception G-2.0504 c.: c. Exceptions A presbytery may determine that its mission strategy permits a minister of the Word and Sacrament currently called as an Associate Pastor to be eligible to serve as the next installed pastor or co-pastor, or a minister of the Word and Sacrament employed in a temporary pastoral relationship to be eligible to serve as the next installed pastor, co-pastor, or associate pastor. Presbyteries that permit this eligibility shall establish such relationships only by a three-fourths vote of the members of presbytery present and voting

The COM brings the following request from these churches:

- Washington Presbyterian Church asks for a term limit wavier for Susan Cox Proffitt and Bill Strawbridge to serve another term on session
- Central Presbyterian Church, Petersburg asks for a term limit waiver for Jane Stephenson to serve another term on session

This concludes the supplemental report for the Committee on Ministry for the November Assembly.  
Respectfully submitted

Kathie Whitson, Elder/CLP COM Chair

#### **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

The unity of believers in Christ is reflected in the rich diversity of the Church's membership. In Christ, by the power of the Spirit, God unites persons through baptism regardless of race, ethnicity, age, sex, disability, geography, or theological conviction. There is therefore, no place in the life of the Church for discrimination against any person. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) shall guarantee full participation and representation in its worship, governance, and emerging life to all persons or groups within its membership. No member shall be denied participation or representation for any reason other than stated in this Constitution. (F-1.0403)

Appendix B  
Administration Team Report  
Financials

Administration Team Report

The Administration Team of Great Rivers Presbytery since that last Assembly had its scheduled via Zoom on October 1st with the following members present: Julio Garcia (Chair), Bill Strawbridge (Treasurer), Tom Young, Pam Moore, Mark Merrill, Kathy Stoner Lasala, Elissa Bailey, Diane Ludington, Maura McGrath Nagle and Joyce Chamberlin. Also joining us from Presbyterian Foundation were David English, Regina Kinbrough and Brad Masters.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Joyce Chamberlin. Minutes were approved.

Bill introduced David, Regina, and Brad from the Presbytery Foundation New Covenant Trust Fund. David shared the following with our Team:

- After a drop in the market (and our funds) following the Covid shutdown, they are rallying back.
- There is a lot of optimism around vaccine expectations, and the government stimulus funds received by people and businesses have helped to keep markets more stable.
- They continue to work at rebalancing our invested funds in accord with our criteria. In July they moved to a more defensive position.
- There is an annual review of investments done annually.
- A 3rd Party does performance reviews. We began the fund in July of 2018 and the account has grown by 8% net of fees. We have withdrawn \$70,000 this year, but over the report period we have put in more than we have taken out.
- The advisory fee is 1% which is taken quarterly.
- A Van Guard Study looked at historic election results and expect no major movement of the market from the election regardless of who claims victory. The pandemic is the bigger question.

Following that report and the exit of the three Foundation representatives:

- Personnel is meeting with other Presbyteries and the Synod to review how they are developing staff.
- A report on the Sale of Green Valley church was presented by Julio. A closing will soon be taking place. Julio reported that because that church's bylaws were destroyed in a fire, the Title Company needed substantial written minutes to be able to do their part to facilitate this sale. It required re-establishing minutes and documentation from the congregation and eventually using Presbytery bylaws which gave us authority to act on behalf of the congregation after their closing. Julio and Gary Davis are planning to put together a report that will hopefully help other congregations to be better prepared.
- Julio reported that the property letter that our committee sent to ask congregations to get their bylaws updated, was well received.
- As the Nauvoo church closes, they have informed Presbytery that a small gift would be forthcoming. It will go towards our Clergy Assistance fund.
- The Treasurer's report was presented by Bill Strawbridge. Some notes from that presentation: 1.) Presbytery Assembly approved the per capita increase of \$1 for Presbytery. General Assembly will also increase by \$.03. 2.) At the beginning of the year we were transferring \$10,000 per month from our investments into our budget. In July, due to lower expenses we halted those disbursements. We have a \$70,000 CD that matures in October. It is Bill's plan to cash it and place it in a money market account to be used as needed. This means we should not need to pull from our investment account through the remainder of this year. 3.) Largely due to the pandemic our Income Statement shows that we have spent \$4,800 less than budgeted.
- The Presbytery PW group has announced it will dissolve. They have approximately \$1,000 invested in Oiko Credit International, a program that offers low interest loans to 3rd world women. The team



voted to transfer those funds into the name of Presbytery, but to leave them there for the good work being done. It was suggested that an article be written for the Presbytery newsletter to inform our members about this gift. Julio will ask his wife, Carolyn to work with PGR's PW moderator to write that article.

- Julio reported that the Staffing Task Force and Vision Team are both working to devise a way forward for Presbytery. Vision team is developing the needs and vision and the Staffing Task Force will work to develop a model that can reflect those elements. Staffing Task Force members are brainstorming to create different models in preparation for that work.
- We reviewed potential names of Female Elders for the Nominating Committee. The following were suggested and approved by our team: (All will be the class of 2023) Kathy was given the task to call and ask them.
- Dianne Ludington made a suggestion to our group about inviting churches who might be closing to consider donating some of their existing funds to go to New Church development or revitalization for existing churches. We all liked the idea, and Julio asked her to present it to Leadership Team.

Prayerfully submitted Julio Garcia and Joyce Chamberlin

**PRESBYTERY OF GREAT RIVERS**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND NET ASSETS - CASH BASIS**  
**CURRENT TO PRIOR YEAR COMPARATIVE**  
**AS OF September 30, 2020**

<b>Assets</b>	<b>September 2019</b>	<b>September 2020</b>	<b>Increase/ (Decrease)</b>
Cash			
Checking and CDs	\$ 213,895	\$ 276,088	\$ 62,193
Investments	721,271	680,129	(41,142)
Lease Deposit	-	-	-
Fixed Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation	5,045	-	(5,045)
Total Assets	<u>\$ 940,210</u>	<u>\$ 956,217</u>	<u>\$ 16,007</u>
 <b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>			
Liabilities			
Liabilities Payable	\$ (29)	\$ 1,127	\$ 1,156
Pass Thru Liabilities	7,163	5,647	(1,516)
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 7,134</u>	<u>\$ 6,774</u>	<u>\$ (359)</u>
Net Assets			
Unrestricted	<u>\$ 818,932</u>	<u>\$ 841,102</u>	<u>\$ 22,170</u>
Designated			
Presbytery Leaders Support	8,876	-	(8,876)
Presbyter Relocation	10,000	10,000	-
Total Designated	<u>\$18,876</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$(8,876)</u>
Temporarily Restricted			
Preparation for Ministry	\$ 3,369	\$ 9,495	\$ 6,125
Peacemaking	10,076	13,441	3,365
Synod Pastor Support Grants	8,003	4,253	(3,750)
Synod Transformation Grant	70,604	67,935	(2,668)
Ministers Temporary Disability	3,110	3,110	0
Hands & Feet Scholarships	107	107	-
Total Temporarily Total Temporarily Restricted	<u>\$95,268</u>	<u>\$98,341</u>	<u>\$ 3,073</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 933,076</u>	<u>\$ 949,443</u>	<u>\$ 16,367</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 940,210</u>	<u>\$ 956,217</u>	<u>\$ 16,007</u>

**PRESBYTERY OF GREAT RIVERS**  
**STATEMENT OF SUPPORT AND REVENUES AND EXPENSES - CASH BASIS**  
**ACTUAL TO BUDGET COMPARATIVE**  
**YEAR TO DATE September 30, 2020**

	Actual	Annual Budget	(Over)Under Budget	Percent of Budget Used
<b>Support and Revenue</b>				
Budgeted				
Congregational Support				
Per Capita	\$150,036	\$192,390	\$ 42,354	78%
Mission	49,480	75,850	26,370	65%
Trust Clause				
Payments	11,540	12,200	660	95%
Total				
Congregational				
Support	\$211,056	\$280,440	\$ 68,724	75%
Investment Income	29,679	32,600	2,921	91%
Total Budgeted				
Receipts	\$240,735	\$313,040	\$ 71,645	77%
Transfer to/from				
Designated Funds	44			
Unbudgeted Receipts				
Preparation for Ministry				
Support	\$ 637			
Presbytery Peacemaking				
Support	519			
Other Receipts	-	-		
Other Receipts - COID				
payroll tax allowance	2,459			
Total				
Unbudgeted				
Receipts	\$ 3,615			
Total Support				
and Revenue	\$244,394			
<b>Expenses</b>				
Budgeted				
Salaries, Benefits, Training				
& Taxes				
General Presbyter	\$ 80,066	\$119,155	\$ 39,089	67%
Stated Clerk	7,478	16,150	8,672	46%
Senior Administrative				
Assistant	46,204	63,072	16,868	73%

Bookkeeper	14,511	20,800	6,289	70%
CLP Coordinator	-	8,180	8,180	0%
Workers Compensation Insurance	845	700	(145)	121%
<b>Total Salaries and Related Expenses</b>	<b>\$149,104</b>	<b>\$228,057</b>	<b>\$ 78,953</b>	<b>65%</b>
Presbytery Office				
Occupancy	\$ 13,835	\$ 18,446	\$ 4,611	75%
Office Operations and Supplies	12,822	17,850	5,028	72%
<b>Total Presbytery Office Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 26,657</b>	<b>\$ 36,296</b>	<b>\$ 9,639</b>	<b>73%</b>

**Expenses (continued)**

Presbytery Administration				
Liability Insurance	3,107	3,100	(7)	100%
Audit Fee	-	7,350	7,350	0%
Moderator Training	-	1,250	\$ 1,250	0%
Assembly Meetings	752	2,200	\$ 1,448	34%
Per Capita Shortfall General Assembly Delegates	7,432	21,386	13,954	35%
Payroll Service	1,187	1,450	263	82%
Legal Fees	-	100	100	0%
<b>Total Presbytery Administration Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 12,477</b>	<b>\$ 40,836</b>	<b>\$ 28,359</b>	<b>31%</b>

Meeting Expense - All Teams	\$ 361	\$ 3,300	\$ 2,939	11%
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Program Expenses				
Committee on Ministry	\$ 822	\$ 13,700	\$ 12,878	6%
Committee on Preparation for Ministry	-	500	500	0%
Visioning Grants	18,108	59,000	40,892	31%
Peacemaking Grants	*	-	-	-
Continuing Education Grants	500	5,000	4,500	10%
Presbytery Events	-	1,000	1,000	0%
Pastoral Care/Compassion Fund	850	1,000	150	85%
Illinois Conference of Churches	-	500	500	0%

Springfield 5th Disposition Donation	*	-	-	-
Interfaith Working Group	*	-	-	-
Transitional Training	*	-	-	-
Disaster Relief		50	-	(50)
Total Program Expenses		<u>\$ 20,330</u>	<u>\$ 80,700</u>	<u>\$ 60,370</u> <u>25%</u>
Other Expenses				
Bank Fees & Expenses		75	200	125      38%
Depreciation Expense		-	3,000	3,000      0%
		<u>\$ 75</u>	<u>\$ 3,200</u>	<u>\$ 3,125</u> <u>2%</u>
Total Budgeted Expenses		<u>\$209,004</u>	<u>\$392,389</u>	<u>\$180,260</u> <u>53%</u>
Unbudgeted Expenses Funded by Restricted Funds				
Pastor Support Grants		1,200	-	
		<u>\$ 1,200</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	
Total Expenses		<u>\$210,204</u>	<u>\$392,389</u>	<u>\$182,185</u>
Excess of Support and Revenue Over Expenses		<u>\$ 34,189</u>	<u>\$ (79,349)</u>	<u>(113,538)</u>

**PRESBYTERY OF GREAT RIVERS  
SHARED MISSION AND PER CAPITA SUPPORT BY CHURCH**

**YTD THROUGH October 31 2020**

	<i>MISSION</i>			<i>PER CAPITA</i>		
		<i>2020</i>			<i>2020</i>	
<i>CHURCH</i>	<i>PLEGDED</i>	<i>PAID</i>	<i>PAYMENTS (OVER) UNDER PLEDGE</i>	<i>DUE</i>	<i>PAID</i>	<i>BALANCE REMAINING</i>
Adair-West Prairie			-	718.62		718.62
Aledo-College Avenue			-	3,798.42	2,848.83	949.59
Aledo-Sunbeam		800	(800.00)	787.06	787.06	-
Alexis-Norwood		1,500.00	(1,500.00)	2,121.64	2,121.64	-
Athens-Indian Point		600.00	(600.00)	1,163.48	1,163.48	-
Bartonville-Trinity		2,000.00	(2,000.00)	1,574.12	1,574.12	-
Biggsville-United			-	2,361.18		2,361.18
Bloomington-Second	-		-	28,094.62	20,506.35	7,588.27
Bloomington-St Luke Union	-		-	4,003.74	2,001.88	2,001.86
Buffalo-Buffalo Hart	2,000.00	4,000.00	(2,000.00)	2,703.38	2,703.38	-
Bushnell-First			-	2,498.06	2,498.06	-
Canton-First		2,360.60	(2,360.60)	3,764.20	1,403.60	2,360.60
Carlinville-Federated			-	1,642.56	1,642.56	-
Carrollton-First			-	1,300.36	1,300.36	-
Carthage-First			-	2,737.60	2,737.60	-
Chatham			-	6,262.26		6,262.26
Chenoa-First	250.00		250.00	1,060.82	1,060.82	-
Clayton-Federated			-	239.54	239.54	-
Clinton	2,500.00	2,500.00	-	3,661.54	3,661.54	-
Coal Valley-First		50.00	(50.00)	5,612.08	5,612.08	-
Cooksville-Union Federated			-	410.64		410.64
Danvers-First			-	5,372.54	2,686.27	2,686.27
Delavan-First		2,000.00	(2,000.00)	1,916.32	2,016.00	(99.68)
Divernon-First			-	1,437.24		1,437.24
East Moline-First		1,500.00	(1,500.00)	4,517.04	4,529.23	(12.19)
Edwards-Korean			-	1,711.00	1,727.25	(16.25)
Elmwood-First			-	3,627.32		3,627.32
Eureka			-	992.38	992.38	-
Farmington-First United		1,000.00	(1,000.00)	3,798.42	1,505.60	2,292.82
Fountain Green-Carthage United			-	2,258.52	1,667.82	590.70
Galesburg-First United			-	9,170.96	2,463.84	6,707.12

<b>CHURCH</b>	<b>PLEGGED</b>	<b>PAID</b>	<b>PAYMENTS (OVER) UNDER PLEGGE</b>	<b>DUE</b>	<b>PAID</b>	<b>BALANCE REMAINING</b>
Geneseo-First	3,760.00	2,820.00	940.00	3,148.24	2,361.75	786.49
Green Valley-First			-	1,300.36		1,300.36
Greenview-United			-	1,676.78	1,676.78	-
Hamilton-Bethel			-	1,745.22		1,745.22
Ipava-United			-	1,574.12	1,574.12	-
Jacksonville-First		13,333.40	(13,333.40)	14,269.74	10,403.40	3,866.34
Kirkwood- Westminster			-	1,711.00		1,711.00
Knoxville-First	-	1,275.00	(1,275.00)	1,813.66	1,813.66	-
Leroy-First			-	6,399.14	3,199.50	3,199.64
Lewistown-First			-	2,053.20	2,053.20	-
Lincoln-First		3,000.00	(3,000.00)	5,064.56	5,064.56	-
Macomb-First	6,000.00	6,175.23	(175.23)	9,273.62	6,953.13	2,320.49
Macomb-Scotland Trinity			-	2,155.86	500.00	1,655.86
Mason City-United	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	2,634.94	2,634.94	-
Media-U P Community	-		-	410.64	410.64	-
Middletown-First			-	513.30	513.30	-
Milan-First	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	4,996.12	4,996.12	-
Monmouth-Faith United			-	8,075.92		8,075.92
Monmouth-Sugar Tree Grove		200.00	(200.00)	958.16	718.62	239.54
Morton-First			-	787.06	787.06	-
Mt Sterling-P C Of Christ			-	1,163.48	1,163.48	-
Nauvoo-First			-	581.74		581.74
New Windsor- United		3,227.00	(3,227.00)	5,372.54	4,003.74	1,368.80
Niota-Appanoose Faith			-	2,155.86		2,155.86
Normal-First	25,000.00	18,750.05	6,249.95	16,528.26	13,755.60	2,772.66
Normal-New Covenant Community		400.00	(400.00)	718.62	719.00	(0.38)
Oneida-Oneida- First			-	650.18		650.18
Orion-Beulah		500.00	(500.00)	1,984.76	1,984.76	-
Pekin-First			-	2,874.48	2,874.46	0.02
Peoria-First Federated			-	11,361.04	9,467.56	1,893.48
Peoria-United		2,623.00	(2,623.00)	16,699.36	9,897.05	6,802.31
Peoria-Westminster	6,760.00	7,560.00	(800.00)	4,688.14	2,344.00	2,344.14
Perry			-	410.64	410.64	-
Petersburg-Central	4,500.00	3,510.00	990.00	3,285.12	3,285.12	-
Pleasant Plains- Farmingdale		1,333.32	(1,333.32)	3,079.80	2,575.06	504.74
Quincy-Ellington Memorial		3,000.00	(3,000.00)	3,114.02	3,079.80	34.22

<i><b>CHURCH</b></i>	<i><b>PLEDGED</b></i>	<i><b>PAID</b></i>	<i><b>PAYMENTS (OVER) UNDER PLEDGE</b></i>	<i><b>DUE</b></i>	<i><b>PAID</b></i>	<i><b>BALANCE REMAINING</b></i>
Reynolds-Hamlet Perryton			-	2,190.08	2,190.08	-
Rio			-	3,216.68		3,216.68
Rock Island- Broadway			-	1,882.10	1,883.00	(0.90)
Rock Island-Gloria Dei			-	752.84	312.88	439.96
Rock Island-Good Shepherd		3,065.00	(3,065.00)	6,433.36	6,433.36	-
Rock Island-South Park			-	5,783.18	2,891.59	2,891.59
Rushville-First			-	1,129.26		1,129.26
Seaton-Center			-	2,053.20	692.00	1,361.20
Sherrard- Community ***Closed***			-	1,095.04	-	1,095.04
Springfield-First			-	9,376.28	9,342.06	34.22
Springfield-Hope	3,300.00	3,300.00	-	3,661.54		3,661.54
Springfield-Knox			-	1,129.26	1,129.26	-
Springfield-Korean United			-	718.62	718.62	-
Springfield-Third	1,000.00	750.00	250.00	6,433.36	4,825.02	1,608.34
Springfield- Westminster	17,000.00	14,166.00	2,834.00	36,067.88	32,789.38	3,278.50
Stronghurst			-	581.74	581.74	-
Tallula-Rock Creek			-	2,600.72		2,600.72
Viola-United			-	2,155.86	2,155.86	-
Virden-First			-	752.84		752.84
Virginia-First			-	3,079.80		3,079.80
Virginia-Sangamon Valley			-	1,471.46	1,471.46	-
Warsaw-First	2,500.00	6.22	2,493.78	2,977.14	2,977.14	-
Washington			-	4,243.28	4,243.28	-
White Hall-First			-	992.38		992.38
Woodhull-United	4,000.00		4,000.00	4,585.48	1,200.00	3,385.48
Woodson-Unity			-	307.98		307.98
Yates City-Faith United	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	1,916.32	1,916.32	-
	<b>81,570.00</b>	<b>110,304.82</b>	<b>(28,734.82)</b>	<b>364,135.02</b>	<b>250,425.39</b>	<b>113,709.63</b>



## FINANCING AND STAFF TASK FORCE REPORT

Our task force was created by the Moderator and tasked to explore financially sustainable models for the future functioning of our Presbytery. It consists of Elder Mike Orr, Elder Julio Garcia, Elder Bill Strawbridge, Rev. Laura Reason and is co-chaired by Rev. Blake Severson and Rev. Joyce Chamberlin. Rev. Ryan Landino and Rev. Elissa Bailey serve as Resource Staff. We have met 5 times via zoom to think about our task and put together a plan for accomplishing it. We hope to make a recommendation that will serve as a starting place for Presbytery discussion as we, together, consider, plan, and pray our way forward as the collection of PCUSA churches here in west central Illinois.

We view our role as helping to put initial wheels to the vision that this Presbytery will soon be lifting. The Visioning team is working on creating a first draft of this vision, and soon it will be coming to Sessions and to all members of the Presbytery so that all can add their thoughts and dreams. Once that vision becomes clear, our Task force will work to create a model that can then be explored, altered or rearranged so that it enables and equips the hopes and the dreams of our members. You will have multiple opportunities to help shape this model in such a way that it can fit our needs and can allow our churches, pastors and members to proclaim the good news of Christ in our communities and in the world.

As our taskforce has been preparing to receive this vision, we have been busy reviewing how other Presbyteries are organizing themselves in the midst of similar struggles. We've been brainstorming potential models from which we might pull different pieces to create a plan that we can submit for Presbytery's consideration and alteration. We've actually created a spread sheet of 20 possible models from which we can cut and paste a plan for going forward. They range from very little change to more dramatic alterations of how we might function together. We're excited to see where the Spirit can lead us, and we hope to bring a recommendation of a sustainable model that aligns with our resources, our mission, and the needs of our presbytery.

Originally our instructions were to have this work completed by this meeting. We were unable to fulfill that mandate, but we request that the newly installed Moderator extend our mandate so that we may continue this work as soon as the Visioning Team has had a chance to engage the congregations of the presbytery in partnership with their Visioning work.

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of these exciting new possibilities. We believe God is leading us toward something good and joyful and life-giving. We invite your prayers and your participation in this process. Watch for the Visioning Team's communication which should be coming soon. Your input is vital. Together, and with your participation, the Spirit is leading our Presbytery forward.

Submitted by Rev. Joyce Chamberlin and Rev. Blake Severson, Task Force Co-Chairs

Appendix C  
Nominating Committee Report

Nominating Committee Report

Since the August 29 assembly, the Nominating Committee met on September 9, October 13, and November 3.

The chair is treating this as a sort of year-end report on the work of the Nominating Committee. We began 2020 with many unfilled committee slots. We understand that it is our responsibility to identify openings and find the members of the presbytery and elders in our churches to fill them. Our team chairs rely on the nominating process to supply the people they need to participate in their work, to fulfill their tasks in their field of service on behalf of our Lord and Savior and the presbytery. In that regard I must report that at the end of the year we continue to have many openings, though have had the blessing of able leadership in each team.

A factor in our situation was the clear consensus from very early in the year that we need to fundamentally re-form the nominating process of the presbytery. In place of the premise that our nominating mission is simply to fill open slots with willing volunteers, what we sometimes conversationally describe as a “warm body” approach, we need to be very much more “strategic” in discovering the passions and interests of potential candidates while considering the needs of the teams for the work they are expected to accomplish, and then matching up the two.

The shift was first expressed to the larger presbytery in the series of videos recorded mid-year by the team chairs, describing the work of their committee and the way in which it reflects their own journey of faith. Those videos are now on the presbytery website and have been highlighted in presbytery newsletters. We have continued the nominating renovation by beginning to identify the core competencies needed of team members.

As important as we believe this work is, it can't be hurried and is very much a work in progress that will developed further in 2021. Meanwhile, we struggle to raise committee participation.

The following requires action by the assembly.

The Nominating Committee recommends election:

2021 Moderator:  
Elder Diane Ludington

2021 Moderator Elect:  
- Rev. Chuck Goodman

Treasurer:  
- Elder Bill Strawbridge

Administration Team:  
- Elder Bill Harfst, (2023), Term 2  
- Elder Julio Garcia, Chair (2023), Term 2

Committee on Ministry:  
- Rev. Christian Choi, (2023), Term 2  
- Rev. Sterrett Collins, (2023), Term 2  
- Rev. Frosty Krummel, (2023), Term 2

Committee on Preparation for Ministry:

- CLP Sue Sawers , (2023), Term 2
- Elder Roy Wehrle, (2023), Term 2
- Rev. Matt Wilcox, Chair, (2023), Term 2
- Rev. Beth Hamilton, (2023), Term 1
- Rev. Cheyanna Losey, (2023), Term 1
- Rev. Rebecca Sherwood , (2023), Term 1

Visioning Team:

- Rev. Cheryl Lunday (2023), Term 2
- Elder Carol Sleeth (2023), Term 2
- Rev. Blake Severson (2023), Term 2
- Rev. Erin Marth, Chair (2023), Term 1
- Rev. Jessica Hawkinson, (2023), Term 1
- Rev. Charlotte Poetschner, (2023), Term 1

Synod Commissioner:

- Rev. Jonathan Warren (2023)

Presbyterian Judicial Commission:

- Elder Gary Terpstra (2026)

Appendix D  
Omnibus Motion  
- Lead Presbyter Report  
- Stated Clerk Report  
- Visioning Team Report

Lead Presbyter for Transformation Report

*This report is going to overview work engaged from August 19 until November 6, 2020.*

This has been a very busy two months on the transformation front!

At the August 29 meeting, the moderator established a **Finance and Staffing Moderator's Taskforce**, which was tasked with coming up with different staffing model possibilities that can be more responsive of our current mission and more reflective of our finances, with an ambitious goal for a report by the November 2020 assembly. It has been repeatedly shared that our current model of doing ministry as a presbytery will not be financially sustainable a few years down the road, so for any changes we need to make, we should begin moving in that direction now so any disruption to our ministries can be minimized. It was important to me to make sure that our current staff are aware of these efforts, that there are no surprises, and any changes that may affect the staff will be made known far in advance so we can all make appropriate preparations. The taskforce, co-chaired by Joyce Chamberlain and Blake Severson, and supported by myself and Stated Clerk Elissa Bailey as Resource Staff, will have met five times before this November Assembly with the goal of having begun the work of brainstorming different possibilities.

Immediately apparent was the need to partner with the Visioning Team in order to make sure that the models we recommend later are aligned with the current needs and mission of the presbytery. We have been careful not to "put the cart before the horse," focusing on form at the expense of function, which meant giving the Visioning Team time to consolidate a **2020 Vision** that can take us into the future. Here is where the townhalls came in.

Guided by the work of the Visioning Team, on September 16, 17, and 19, three **townhalls** were offered online to all members of the presbytery, following up on the February 2020 Visioning Discussion but going further. Visioning Team members met afterwards to review the recordings, debrief what was experienced, and begin articulating the needs and aspirations expressed in the townhalls. A few observations shared at the Visioning Team were this:

1. First, participants quite directly expressed the kind of presbytery they wanted to be, both by spoken word and by implicitly through the support they showed to each other in real time—all of this was data that helped make a claim on who we are and what we wanted to be more explicitly moving ahead. Participants were honest, open, and as present as they could be. This is a very different world than it was just a year ago and coming alongside each other through these changes is a gift and a blessing. We are so grateful for all who shared.
2. Second, we experienced surprise at discovering that the circumstances of the pandemic did not really reveal any drastically different needs different from what would be fully appropriate to ask of a pre-pandemic presbytery; needs such as solidarity, support, resourcing, inspiration, and networking, all corroborated the same kinds of needs named in the February 2020 Visioning Discussion held in person. However, these needs were articulated with much clearer focus and deeper appreciation for their value, which we attribute to the perspective gained from the pandemic disruption. In other words, the pandemic has not actually presented challenges that are entirely NEW to the church but did in fact overwhelmingly amplify challenges that already exist. Having both pre- and mid-pandemic reflection was quick valuable to this exercise to confirm we are on the right track.

3. Third, we believe that the townhalls and the discussions that built up to them have given us everything we need to move forward with confidence. With great care, a one page 2020 Vision Statement has been drafted, and we are about to invite you into collaboration with it so you can help us further develop the statement and make it our own. We have been refining it through a process we are calling “rubber-banding.” Meaning, the first draft was composed, then stretched out a small Visioning Team group that (re)reviewed the townhalls, then snapped it back to include their feedback, then we stretched out to Visioning Team as a whole to collect their feedback, then snapped it back to incorporate their feedback, and after the assembly, it will be stretched out to the sessions of the presbytery so they can review it and make suggestions of their own, so that it can be snapped back to the Visioning Team where it can be further refined (See? Rubber-banding).

We hope this process can help to gain the broadest possible coalition in our shared ownership of a 2020 Vision, so that it can authentically express who we collectively are and where we want to be as we move into 2021 and 2022, without any individual or faction having outsized influence on the creation of this document. By broadening the voices in this discussion, we hope to be accountable to each other as we move forward. We hope too that we can move the invitation into this work beyond simply the committee membership and out where the rest of the presbytery is as well. **After the assembly, look for this document at your next session meeting, and be prepared to offer feedback for the Visioning Team.** We will hope to receive your feedback before Jan. 2021. Then, we hope to be able to align the work of the Staffing and Finance Taskforce with the Visioning Team in order to find the best way forward for our presbytery.

In the meantime, we are still striving with our goals to be more responsive, adaptable, and transformational across all of the arenas where the work of the presbytery is being done. We have invited partnership from the synod and collaboration with our partners from the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois in order to clarify and strengthen our **Personnel** review process. The **Nominating Committee** has been doing some outstanding work in moving beyond the role of recruitment to further embrace their work to create space for members of the presbytery to exercise their discipleship in new and exciting ways. (Be sure to look for communication from the Nominating Committee about how we can seek new news of blessing our spiritual walks together!) We are continuing to use the **newsletter** as a primary way of communicating resources, stories, and expressions of ministry especially as they adapt to this pandemic. **If you have images of your congregation safely purposing its mission, please email them to me so we can find ways of highlighting the excellent work you are doing!**

On a personal note, some of you may have heard I have recently been experiencing a relapse of health issues stemming from my Lyme Disease diagnosis two years ago. These have to do with my body's autoimmune response to sickness (I have so far been testing negative for COVID-19) that creates a gradual inflammation of the outer pericardium of my heart, which can be painful, fatiguing, and can limit my breath. Fortunately, as of this writing, I have been able to manage those symptoms well, and I appreciate your forbearance with me as I have taken increased moments of rest these few weeks. Unfortunately, because of this condition, it can be very dangerous for me to be exposed to the coronavirus, so I am grateful for your understanding as I continue to work from home and remain strictly selective about the kinds of gatherings I engage. I know I am not alone with those with other vulnerabilities, and this presbytery is to be commended on the ways you have collaborated and responded to the personal and communal challenges of this pandemic.

In spite of these recent health flareups, it has not slowed our transformational efforts in this presbytery, and I have continued to honor my commitment to larger service to the denomination on the national level. I continue to serve on the PCUSA Special Committee on Racism Truth and Reconciliation, and with one of my colleagues on the special committee, I was a keynote speaker on racism in the PCUSA for the Presbytery of Wabash Valley on October 6, and also with the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley on November 4 (both in Indiana). I join several others of you in your commitments to sustained anti-racism efforts in your community. And **I offer an open invitation for me to speak with your congregation, session, or bible study (by Zoom) about the work of the special committee and racism in the PCUSA.**

I am honored to serve you in this time. Even in this season of doubt and uncertainty, with rising polarization, mass resistance to the unmasking of idolatries, and, as of this moment, uncertain election results, I affirm that GOD IS ALIVE amongst us, and the value of our work has never been clearer in our lifetimes. I don't know what the months ahead are going to look like. This will be a new kind of Advent and Christmas season that we have never witnessed before. But I believe in the good people of this presbytery to persevere, and to proclaim the goodness of God through it.

In this together,  
Rev. Ryan J. Landino, Lead Presbyter for Transformation of Great Rivers Presbytery  
Cell: 309-251-9958, rlandino@greatriverspby.org

## Stated Clerk's Report

Recommended action to the floor of Presbytery:

THAT THE STATED CLERK'S REPORT BE ENTERED INTO THE MINUTES AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS THEREIN BE ADOPTED.

1. MEMBERS TO BE RECEIVED, DISMISSED, HONORABLY RETIRED, REMOVED, OR DECEASED

THAT the following minister(s) be received:

Rev. David Ezekiel from Chicago Presbytery

THAT the following minister(s) be listed as Honorably Retired:

N/A

THAT the following minister(s) be Dismissed:

N/A

THAT the following minister(s) be Removed from Rolls:

NONE

Deceased:

Rev. Norman E. Myer, 10/15/20

2. CURRENT ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS

THAT the following commissions be dismissed, having completed its work:

N/A

3. PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION

N/A

4. CORRESPONDENCE

- Request from Aledo, Sunbeam Presbyterian Church for waiver/exempt from rotation of officer terms for Pat Armstrong & Jean Harfst.
- Request from Pleasant Plains, Farmingdale Presbyterian Church for waiver/exempt from rotation of officer terms for Carol Kirby
- Request from Washington Presbyterian Church asks for a term limit waiver for Susan Cox Proffitt and Bill Strawbridge to serve another term on session.
- Request from Central Presbyterian Church, Petersburg asks for a term limit waiver for Jane Stephenson to serve another term on session.

## Visioning Team Report

### NEW VISION STATEMENT SHAPED FROM TOWN HALLS

After carefully reviewing the town halls and listening for identity and aspirational desires for our presbytery, a draft Vision Statement was created. We discovered that the pandemic has made this visioning work more relevant and helped to sharpen our focus in understanding our needs. We will present this vision statement at the November Assembly. Following the Assembly, we will send letters to clerks of session and we ask sessions to review and share feedback to the Presbytery by Dec. 31, 2020 [office@greatriverspby.org](mailto:office@greatriverspby.org). We want everyone to have an opportunity to be part of this process. Thanks to all those who participated in the visioning process this year at the February Assembly and in September Zoom Town Halls.

### SHARED MISSION GRANTS AWARDED

There is still more time to get grants in! The following were reviewed and approved:

- **Bucks for Blessings** - \$1,000 – First, Knoxville for Christmas Food and Toiletries.
- **Bucks for Blessings** - \$ 1,000 – Knox, Springfield for Sewing clothes and masks
- **Sabbatical** - \$2,500 – Rev. Adam Quine and First Lincoln – “Returning to Center” for 17 weeks focused on contemplation, celebration, recreation and inspiration beginning August 1, 2021. Includes time spent at Abbey of Gethsemani in Trappist, Kentucky, the Emmaus Center in Dublin, Ireland, and the Abbey of Iona, in Scotland, and with friends and family – he will share reflections through an online blog.
- **Mission Initiative Funding (MIFA)** – \$4,000 (60% matching grant) – Third, Springfield for a Neighborhood Outreach Project which includes Family Fun Night for a COVID safe monthly activity and a Clubs Program for the summer of 2021 to outreach into the surrounding neighborhood of the church; and a partnership with a non-profit called Creative Re-use Marketplace [www.creativereusemarketplace.org](http://www.creativereusemarketplace.org) with Sunday morning collections.

*For those who received a MIFA first year grant, an update on the project and an application for years two and three are to be sent to the Presbytery Visioning Team for approval.*

### APPRECIATION FOR OUR MINISTRY LEADERS

The Visioning Team wants to acknowledge and give thanks for all those serving churches and ministries within our Presbytery. We are praying for you and your families during this pandemic. We especially give thanks to those serving validated ministries during a time such as this: associate pastors, chaplains, CLPs and CREs, interim pastors, parish associates, pastors, retired pastors. An elder of our team, motioned a surprise for those serving in validated ministries. We also ask churches to help give its leaders time for self-care and find creative ways to share generosity and appreciation for its church leaders.

### PRESBYTERY E-NEWSLETTER

We encourage all staff, active elders, clerks and church members in the Presbytery to sign up for the e-Newsletter and follow the Presbytery of Great Rivers [Facebook](#) page. Please include the following sentence in your bulletin announcements:

God is doing great things in Presbyterian churches all around us. Sign-up for the Presbytery of Great Rivers e-Newsletter at [www.greatriverspby.org/newsletter](http://www.greatriverspby.org/newsletter)

### SHARED MISSION GRANTS

The Presbytery of Great Rivers Visioning Team is excited about how God is working in congregations across the Presbytery. There are several shared mission grants available for your church. Please help by sharing this page with your church staff, session, deacons, etc.

### NEW! OUTSIDE THE BOX SEED GRANT:

If you have ever had a mission-minded ministry that does not fit the current Presbytery grant criteria, then this is the grant for your church. We are limiting the restrictions; however, it should be a new ministry that is outward-focused and mission-minded. *Since we are in an unprecedented time. The challenges of the Coronavirus are impacting all aspects of our community life. As Christians and as leaders within our presbytery, we need to use our God-given "energy, intelligence, imagination, and love" to re-envision how to be the Church in this rapidly changing context. So, what does that look like for your church and our*



*presbytery? How can we be responsive to the developing needs of our local communities and our world? How might God be using these challenging times to teach and refine us as followers of Christ? Our visioning team is dedicating 1/3 of our Visioning Grant budget toward these outside the box seed grants!*

Worship Initiative Grant: (Uniting in Worship) The Visioning Team wants to encourage churches to take worship to the community and find ways to worship outside their buildings. To that end, a \$500 grant is offered to churches that develop a plan to take worship outside the church.

Mission Initiative Grant: The new Mission Initiative Funding Application (MIFA) is for projects and programs that represent a mission initiative for a church, and may be granted for \$5,000 for the 1st year. The project may be funded for a lesser amount for two additional years as explained in the guidelines.

Bucks for Blessings Grant: (Partnering in Mission) A Bucks for Blessings is available for up to \$1,000 for each PGR member church who partners with another congregation to do something that is a blessing for their community. The partner church does not need to be a PGR member. If the partner is PGR, and the project budget warrants, then the PGR partner may also apply for a grant, too.

Church Consulting Grant: (Risking in Ministry) The Visioning Team wants to encourage churches to engage the services of church consultants that will help congregations identify and live into their mission, vision, and values and/or identify a transformation process. To that end, a grant of up to \$2,500 is offered to churches who employ an approved church consultant.

Sabbatical Grant: The Presbytery of Great Rivers' Visioning Team has approved a new Sabbatical Grant program aimed at helping pastors and churches with the cost of a sabbatical. The PGR Sabbatical Grant is available to PGR pastors currently serving a church who are planning a Session approved sabbatical. Pastors may request up to \$2000 to help with sabbatical related expenses, and up to \$500 to help the church with expenses related to the pastor's absence during the sabbatical.

For grant applications: [www.greatriverspby.org/mission](http://www.greatriverspby.org/mission)

Please send grant applications by January 12, which is one week prior to the next Visioning Team meeting.

We want to help you through the grant process. If you have any questions, please contact: Presbytery office (309) 683-6980 [office@greatriverspby.org](mailto:office@greatriverspby.org)  
Or Visioning Team Vice-Chair, Carol Sleeth (309) 692-2595 [cisleeth@comcast.net](mailto:cisleeth@comcast.net)