

Personnel Team Report
Great Rivers Presbytery
May 17, 2022

One of the hallmarks of Presbyterian theology is the connectional nature of our polity. We are all a part of the work of Jesus Christ, connected in our faith, and in support of our siblings across PCUSA. Here at Great Rivers we are now living this in a significant way! Beginning in May we are sharing an important resource with our neighboring Presbytery across the river in East Iowa. We are sharing our Stated Clerk!

Rev. Elissa Bailey has been serving us in this capacity since 2012 and has helped us in numerous ways to meet our goals and seek our way in the midst of change. When East Iowa Presbytery needed a clerk, they contacted Elissa to see if she would assist them for 15 hours per week. After some discussion and exploration, they then came to us to see if we could work out an arrangement. It would require our two Presbyteries to provide Board of Pensions benefits to Elissa and her family. What we came to realize is that to share General Assembly and Continuing Education expenses with East Iowa would allow us to provide our share of this benefit in a way that kept our costs relatively steady. It also allows Elissa to do this thing she loves and to serve another group of Christ's servant churches.

The Personnel Committee is proud to announce this sharing arrangement. We are so proud of Elissa and know that she will be a wonderful gift to East Iowa-- as she has been to us! In addition, we believe this sharing will help us to learn and grow, as well. Elissa will continue to gain new skills and insights as Stated Clerk. We will learn from her experiences in East Iowa, just as they will gain similar benefits as Elissa brings our best practices to them. Congratulations Rev. Elissa Bailey!

By Joyce Chamberlin, Chair of Personnel