

FINAL REPORT FROM THE ROCK ISLAND AC

MOVING TO THE FUTURE, BETTER TOGETHER: The four Presbyterian congregations in Rock Island have moved forward and completed the extraordinary task of becoming one church (GRACE PCUSA). Initially, congregations worshiped at each of the four congregations in May. The worship was to be a time of celebration and giving praise to God for the ministry that had been, and for what would soon be. On June 5, Pentecost Sunday, the four churches joined together as a brand new congregation.

For the past two and a half years, with the assistance of the Presbytery Foundation and GRP AC, a provisional session made up of 2 members of each church has concluded the extraordinary task of consolidating four churches into one. Some of the major tasks were as follows:

- 1- The education and lengthy discussion within each church as to why the consolidation should occur.
- 2- The naming of the church.
- 3- The selling of 3 of the 4 churches
- 4- The administrative tasks such as (these are just a few of the many)
 - a. Closing on all the sales
 - b. Closing and transferring all 4 churches financial accounts into one
 - c. Renaming property deeds
 - d. Insurance change over
 - e. Establishing all the traditional presbytery church committees
- 5- While all this was going on, the provisional session and the new congregation had to deal with the reality that by the end of July 2022, the existing pastors had moved on to other callings. With the assistance of the AC, and the Quad Cities church community, they have been able to fill their pulpit every Sunday, including special services.
- 6- On January 9th of 2023, the congregation had their first congregational meeting, where they selected their new session, deacons, nominating committee and PNC. Now, with the assistance of COM, they are moving on with the task of finding a permanent pastor.
- 7- On behalf of all the members of the AC we want to state that it has been an honor and privilege to have been part of this great birth of a new church and we know for a fact that God was with us all the way. Every time we hit a wall, we prayed, and guess what, he showed us the way.