

Presbytery of Great Rivers
SPECIAL CALLED ASSEMBLY
January 28, 2023
10 AM
ZOOM Only

The Mission of the Presbytery:
*“We are called to share Christ’s love
By partnering in service,
United in worship,
And risking in ministry.”*

SHARING CHRIST’S LOVE

The Special Called Assembly of the Presbytery of Great Rivers was called to order by Moderator Rev. Katie Styrts at 10:00 am central time zone over zoom. The purpose of the meeting was to worship. Moderator Rev. Katie Styrts led the assembly in worship and the two items of business dictated in the call of the special assembly. The moderator opened the meeting with a word of prayer.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF NATIVE LANDS

Stated Clerk, Rev. Elissa Bailey, gave the acknowledgment of the Native American Heritage for the lands of which our Presbytery currently resides. We acknowledge the Kiikaapoi, Peoria, Sauk, Meskwaki, Miami, and Oceti Sakowin.

WELCOME AND INSTRUCTIONS

A time of welcome and instructions were given by the moderator. The moderator explained that most of the voting would be done through polls. If during the poll voting, an individual was not able to vote using the poll, they should send their vote to the Stated Clerk. If there was more than one voting member on one call, they should send their votes to the Stated Clerk. For the other few votes, we would use the raised hands feature for voting.

QUORUM

The Stated Clerk advised the Moderator that a quorum was present and the Moderator declared the requirements for quorum had been met and the meeting continued.

Quorum & Roll

The roll was established by registration. “A” = absent. “E” = excused

City & Church		TE or CE serving church	RE commissioner
Adair, West Prairie	A	Mr. Jeremy Westlake	N/A
Aledo, College Ave	A	Rev. Wayne Furr	Lance Slavish
Aledo, Sunbeam		Rev. Maura McGrath Nagle (1 st listing)	N/A
Alexis, Norwood	A	CLP Gary Pullen	N/A

Athens, Indian Point	A	CLP Sandi Woodard	N/A
Bartonville, Trinity		Rev. Steve Barch	N/A
Biggsville, United		VACANT	N/A
Bloomington, Saint Luke		Rev. Andrew Gifford	John Otto
Bloomington, Second		Rev. Trey Haddon	N/A
Bushnell, First		Rev. Mark Merrill	N/A
Canton, First	A	Rev. Edwin Brinklow	N/A
Carlinville, Federated	A	Rev. William Mitchell	N/A
Carrollton, First	A	CLP Kirby Ballard (1 st listing)	N/A
Carthage, First		VACANT	N/A
Chatham, Chatham		VACANT	N/A
Chenoa, First		VACANT	N/A
Clayton, First		VACANT	N/A
Clinton, Clinton		Rev. Paul Stroup	N/A
Coal Valley, First	A	Rev. Tim Snart	N/A
Danvers, First	A	Rev. Cathy Allen	N/A
Delavan, First		VACANT	N/A
Divernon, First	A	Rev. Steve Smith	N/A
E. Moline, First	E	Rev. Rebecca Sherwood	Ella Layer
Edwards, Korean	A	Rev. Hyaekwang Kim	N/A
Elmwood, First		Rev. Marla Bauler (1 st listing)	N/A
Eureka, Eureka		CRE Bob Montgomery	Mark Cordes
Farmington, First	A	Rev. Cindy Bean	Ryan Stobaugh
Fountain Green, FGU	A	Mr. Mark Hanson	N/A
Galesburg, First	E	Rev. Kay Daniel	Debbie Strauch
Geneseo, First		Rev. Tim Doty	Steve Durian
Greenview, United		VACANT	N/A
Hamilton, Bethel		VACANT	N/A
Ipava, United	A	Rev. Charles Walden (1 st listing)	N/A
Jacksonville, First		Rev. Jonathan Warren	Dave Truesdell
Kirkwood, Westminster	A	CRE Pam Moore	N/A
Knoxville, First	A	Rev. Ken Shedenhelm	Candace Rosene
LeRoy, First	E	Rev. Bill McLean	Martha Dean
Lewistown, First		CRE Penny Frame	N/A
Lincoln, First	A	Rev. Adam Quine	N/A
Macomb, First	A	Rev. Rene Whitaker	N/A
Macomb, ST	A	Rev. Charles Walden (2 nd listing)	N/A
Mason City, United	A	Rev. Charlotte Poetschner	N/A
Media, Community		VACANT	N/A
Middletown, First		VACANT	N/A
Milan, First		Rev. Katie Styr	Patty Cook
Monmouth, Faith	A	Rev. Brandon Ouellette	N/A
Monmouth, Sugar Tree		VACANT	N/A
Morton, First	A	CRE Mike Claver	N/A
Mt. Sterling, Mt. S	A	Mr. Richard Young	N/A
New Windsor, United	A	Rev. Hwa Sung Ryu	N/A

Niota, Appanoose Faith	A	Mr. David Poland	N/A
Normal, First		Rev. Matt Wilcox	N/A
	A	Rev. Karol Schilling	
	A	Rev. Chris Schilling	
Normal, New Covenant		VACANT	N/A
Oneida, United	A	Rev. Linda Baldwin	Larry Lawson
Orion, Beulah	A	Rev. Tim Snart (2 nd listing)	N/A
Pekin, First	A	Rev. Charles Cunningham	N/A
Peoria, First Fed	A	VACANT	N/A
Peoria, United	E	Rev. Debra Avery	N/A
Peoria, Westminster		Rev. Denise Clark Jones	N/A
Perry, Perry	A	Rev. John Nelson	N/A
Petersburg, Central		VACANT	N/A
Pleasant Plains, Farmingdale		VACANT	N/A
Quincy, Ellington	A	Mr. Ron Cox	N/A
Reynolds, Hamlet Perryton		Rev. Harry Losey	N/A
Rio, Rio		Rev. Maura McGrath Nagle (2 nd listing)	N/A
Rock Island, Grace		VACANT	N/A
Rushville, First		VACANT	N/A
Seaton, Center		VACANT	N/A
Springfield, First		Rev. Susan Phillips	Tom Owen
Springfield, Hope		Rev. Chuck Goodman	LaCleta Hall
Springfield, Korean		Rev. Jaechul Kim	N/A
Springfield, Third	A	Rev. John Shear	N/A
Springfield, Westminster	A	Rev. Blythe Kieffer	N/A
	A	Rev. Christian Choi	
Stronghurst, Stronghurst	A	Mr. Phillip Cooper (2 nd listing)	N/A
Tallula, Rock Creek		Rev. Joanne Hinds	N/A
Viola, United	A	Rev. Matt Downey	N/A
Virden, First		VACANT	N/A
Virginia, First		VACANT	N/A
Virginia, Sangamon		Rev. Timothy Bauler	N/A
Warsaw, First	A	CRE Diane Ludington	N/A
Washington, Washington	A	Rev. John Napoli	Susan Proffitt
White Hall, First	A	CRE Kirby Ballard (2 nd listing)	N/A
Woodhull, United		Rev. Cheyanna Losey	N/A
Woodson, Unity	A	Rev. Robert Kerr	N/A
Yates City, Faith		Rev. Marla Bauler (2 nd listing)	Mary Watts

Total: Ministers of Word and Sacrament: 18 Ruling Elders: 17

Validated, At large, Honorably retired, other ministers present Total: 9

Rev. Drew Nagle, HR	Rev. Jessica Hawkinson Dorow, VM
Rev. Dr. Laura Reason, HR	Rev. Andy Sonneborn, VM
Rev. Gordon Page, HR	Rev. Carolyn Weber, HR
Rev. Elissa Bailey, VM	Rev. Joyce Chamberlin, HR
Rev. Forrest Krummel, HR	

Administration, Personnel, & Visioning Team Members, Committee Chairs	Total: 3
Elder Gary Terpstra, Nom Com Elder Bill Strawbridge, Treasurer	Elder Mike Orr, Personnel
Moderator/Moderator-Elect	Total: 0
Corresponding Members	Total: 1
Rev. John Rickard, Blackhawk Presbytery, Bridge EP	
Others Present – committee members with voice but no vote,	Total: 2
Julie Bruninga, COM	Sheila Sheer
Others Present – ruling elders, visitors, inquirers/candidates, no voice/vote	Total: 2
Vicki Young – Visitor	Elder Merle Fox - Visitor
Presbytery Staff	Total: 0

Total Attendance: 51

INTRODUCTIONS

- Corresponding Members
 - **MSA** to seat the following corresponding member.
 - Rev. John Rickard, Blackhawk Presbytery, Bridge EP
- New Teaching Elders
- New Ruling Elder Commissioners

RISKING IN MINISTRY

Current Business

- As the meeting was a called meeting, the docket could not be altered. Below is the call to the meeting:
 - The Leadership Team of Great Rivers Presbytery has called a Special Called Assembly for January 28th, 2023 at 10am over zoom. You must register for the assembly. The calling of this meeting has been amended by Leadership vote to have two purposes: voting on the 33 General Assembly Amendments and changes to the Administrative Commission of First United PC of Bushnell.
- **MSA** the following change to the Bushnell, First United AC:
 7. To have Presbytery authority in any sale of buildings working with PGR Admin Team in the standard practice. and

8. To work with the session/congregation in providing pastoral leadership.

This charge is being updated because the congregation's original hope to become a federated or union church with their United Methodist Church neighbor has stalled out as the UMC undergoes denominational change. The session would like to explore other options, such as finding another pastor or selling some of their property as they wait to figure out potential partnerships. There are no changes in the membership of the AC, and we're grateful for their continued dedication and support for Bushnell.

- The Assembly entered into a time of voting on the proposed 33 minutes to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The results are recorded as: yes/no/abstain
 - **Amendments to the Book of Order from the 225th General Assembly**
 - Foundations of Polity:
 - 22-A; F-1.0302c THE CATHOLICITY OF THE CHURCH (POL-16 1a): Expands inclusive language with reference to gender identity
 - Passed: 38/6/1
 - 22-B; F-1.0404 OPENNESS (POL-16 1b): Expands inclusive language with reference to gender identity
 - Passed: 42/1/1
 - Form of Government:
 - 22-R; G-3.0401 COMPOSITION AND RESPONSIBILITIES (MC-06): Authorizes synods to enroll those serving terms in elected offices of the synod as additional members of the synod as a way to fulfill principles of participation and representation
 - Passed: 42/1/1
 - 22-C; G-1.0501 MEETINGS (ROD-06 2): Establishes Robert's Rules of Order (RONR) as the default parliamentary authority for congregational meetings, and authorizes electronic congregational meetings
 - Passed: 45/0/0
 - 22-N; G-3.0105 MEETINGS (ROD-06 3): Adds provision that all councils and their commissions and committees may meet electronically
 - Passed: 46/0/0
 - 22-M; G-3.0104 OFFICERS (MC-05): Adds language that "it is appropriate" to adopt procedures for electronic session meetings
 - Passed: 45/1/0
 - 22-D; G-1.0503 BUSINESS PROPER TO CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS (ROD-06 1): Adds receiving a disciplinary decision against a church member (as opposed to a minister) to the list of proper business at a congregational meeting
 - Passed: 41/2/4
 - 22-G; G-2.0603 PURPOSE OF INQUIRY (HSB-05 2): Adds the requirement of

boundary training during the inquiry phase of preparation for ordination as a minister of the Word and Sacrament

- Passed: 44/1/0
- 22-H; G-2.0605 OVERSIGHT (HSB-05 1): Adds a requirement of sessions to “report to the presbytery of any matters of sexual misconduct” of their members who are enrolled as inquirers or candidates
 - Passed: 44/0/1
- 22-K; G-2.1002 TRAINING, EXAMINING, AND COMMISSIONING (HSB-05 3): Adds the requirement of boundary training for those elders seeking to be Commissioned Pastors
 - Passed: 44/2/0
- 22-L; G-2.1103 CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS (HSB-05 4): Adds the requirement of boundary training for those elders seeking to be certified as Christian Educators
 - Passed: 41/2/1
- 22-O; G-3.0106 ADMINISTRATION OF MISSION (HSB-05 9): Adds language regarding boundary training, including sexual abuse to the requirement for sexual misconduct policies required of councils
 - Passed: 42/2/1
- 22-P; G-3.0106 ADMINISTRATION OF MISSION (POL-10): Adds the requirement of an antiracism policy to the required policies of councils, and clarifies other language in that list
 - Passed: 39/2/3
- 22-S; G-4.0301 TRUST AND CONFIDENTIALITY (ROD-07): Expands and clarifies “confidentiality” requirements for ministers and commissioned pastors
 - Passed: 41/0/3
- 22-F; G-2.0505a(1) TRANSFER OF MINISTERS OF OTHER DENOMINATIONS (POL-15): Adds the requirement to consult with the other denomination when receiving immigrant pastors without otherwise acceptable PC(USA) ordination educational requirements
 - Passed: 42/1/0
- 22-E; G-2.0503 CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP (POL-07): Removes “honorably” before “retired” as the category for retired ministers
 - Passed: 33/7/2
- 22-J; G-2.1001 FUNCTIONS (MC-08): Adds language allowing Commissioned Pastors to be commissioned to more than one validated ministry at a time
 - Passed: 39/2/0
- 22-Q; G-3.0303c RELATIONS WITH SESSIONS (MC-03): Authorizes presbyteries to establish minimum requirements for severance packages in terms of call
 - Passed: 37/4/2
- 22-I; G-2.0804 TERMS OF CALL (HSB-06): Adds the requirement of a minimum of twelve weeks of paid family leave in terms of call for all installed pastors/associate pastors
 - Passed: 39/3/1
 - Directory for Worship:
- 22-T; W-3.0205 CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (TWE-05 1): Adds

administration of the sacrament of Baptism to the list of appropriate actions following the proclamation of forgiveness in a service of worship

- Passed: 35/1/4
- 22-W; W-4.0403 ORDER OF WORSHIP (TWE-06): Adds a sentence about “signs and symbols of blessing” to the section on ordination and installation services
 - Passed: 38/0/3
- 22-U; W-3.0409 THEOLOGY OF THE LORD’S SUPPER (TWE-05 2): Adds “when appropriate” to the recommended act of providing an invitation to baptismal preparation for those who come to the table who are unbaptized
 - Passed: 36/4/2
- 22-V; W-3.0414 COMMUNION (TWE-05 4): Removes the current requirement that a minister of the Word and Sacrament lead the prayer of thanksgiving that concludes the Lord’s Supper liturgy
 - Passed: 38/1/2
- 22-X; W-5.0104 HOUSEHOLD WORSHIP (TWE-05 5): Adds a sentence on the importance of household worship in faith formation in the Reformed tradition
 - Passed: 42/0/1
- 22-Y; W-5.0104 HOUSEHOLD WORSHIP (TWE-05 6): Adds an additional paragraph to the existing section on household worship
 - Passed: 39/0/1
- 22-Z; W-5.0201 THE CHURCH’S MINISTRY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH (TWE-05 9, 1 & 2): Adds “discipleship” to a list of the Church’s ministries that are connected to its worship, and adds references to statements in the Foundations of Presbyterian Polity
 - Passed: 42/0/0
- 22-AA; W-5.0204 PASTORAL CARE (TWE-05 7): Adds “particular specialized pastoral care” rather than adding to an existing list of such specialties
 - Passed: 41/0/0
- 22-BB; W-5.0204 PASTORAL CARE (TWE-05 8): Adds clarifying language in a section on “services of wholeness” to better express a Reformed understanding of those services
 - Passed: 36/1/4
 - Rules of Discipline:
- 22-FF; AMENDING THE USE OF “THE ACCUSED” IN THE CURRENT RULES OF DISCIPLINE (ROD-04 2): Changes “the accused” to “the person accused” wherever it occurs in the current rules of Discipline
 - Passed: 33/1/2
- 22-CC; D-3.0106 WHEN JURISDICTION ENDS (ROD-05): Allows a disciplinary process to continue after an accused has renounced jurisdiction
 - Passed: 30/5/2
- 22-EE; D-10.0303 PETITION FOR REVIEW (ROD-04 1): Amends the current Rules of Discipline to include notifying the person accused if no charges will be filed (instead of just the person(s) who made the accusation)
 - Passed: 35/1/1
- 22-DD; D-10.0302 IF CHARGES ARE TO BE FILED (ROD-04 3): Grammatical

change to an existing provision of the Rules of Discipline

- Passed: 33/1/2
- 22-GG; REPLACING THE CURRENT “RULES OF DISCIPLINE” WITH A NEW “CHURCH DISCIPLINE” SECTION (ROD-03): Proposed a complete revision of the Rules of Discipline.
 - Passed: 32/4/1
- A very special thank you to our GA commissioners to all of their hard work.
- A Benediction and Closing Prayer was offered by Moderator Rev. Katie Styr and adjournment was declared 12:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stated Clerk, Rev. Elissa Bailey