



Highlights from the March 24, 2023, Stated Meeting of the Synod of Lincoln Trails

Seeking Mission Initiative Grant. These are one-time grants of “seed” money from the Synod to help begin new congregation-based missional activities. The grants are for amounts up to \$1,500 and are awarded to PCUSA congregations in Illinois and Indiana. The Standing Committee on Leadership Development reported on three reports from recent grantees and one new applicant. Learn more: lincolntrails.org/missions-initiative-grant/

The Synod’s investment portfolio remains robust and is well-positioned to ride out the period of market volatility. At the time of the most recent Board meeting in December, the value of the Synod’s investments was \$6.9 million, up from \$6.4 million at the end of the third quarter of 2022. Wabash Capital is the Synod’s Investment Advisor.

Synod’s Rise Up Grant Program. There will be a special synod meeting in June regarding the Rise Up Grant Program. This grant comes from 4% of the Synod’s investment proceeds and has been given to its member Presbyteries to help address specific adaptive challenges that involve imagination, innovation, and ministry experimentation. More details to come this summer!

Covenant with Kemmerer Village. [Kemmerer Village](#) is a residential treatment, education, and foster care services facility in Assumption, Illinois. A covenant among Kemmerer Village, Presbytery of Great Rivers, Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois and the Synod has been in effect since 1993. The Synod voted to approve an updated covenant, which continues to provide that Kemmerer Village will submit reports and updates about its activities to the Synod, and it will remain a validated mission agency.

Installation of new Synod Moderator, the Rev. Dan Robertson, Presbytery of Blackhawk. We thank Rev. Jana Blazek, Presbytery of Chicago who served as moderator this last year.

New Monthly Synod Newsletter. We encourage all Illinois and Indiana members and churches to sign-up for the online newsletter, which shares news, stories and job openings from around the Synod. [Click here to sign up now.](#)

Synod of Lincoln Trails Contact Information. 317-923-3681 (office), 1100 W. 42nd Street, Suite 210, Indianapolis IN 46208. Find helpful resources for nurturing and supporting the leaders at lincolntrails.org/what-we-do/