

Presbytery of Great Rivers
Assembly Meeting, 2-26-22

Motions from the Congregations of Broadway PC; Gloria Dei PC; Good Shepherd PC; and South Park PC

Move to approve in principle a vision for the future for the four Presbyterian congregations in Rock Island: Broadway PC; Gloria Dei PC; Good Shepherd PC; and South Park PC.

1. To come together as one congregation
2. To have a focus on Worship, Discipleship and Mission
3. To come together looking to what can be and not just preserving the past
4. This new congregation to be a positive moving forward and not an attempt at mere survival.
5. To be good stewards and reduce the duplication and cost of property (plan to reduce to one building where now there are four.
6. To be good stewards of human resources

The plan to include the following agreed upon elements (already approved by the 4 churches):

- 1) Dissolution of the congregations.
- 2) Constituting a new congregation with new by-laws, new manual of operations, new financial structures and consider which non-pastoral staff will be carried forward. The expectation is that the pastor at Good Shepherd PC, the Rev. James Benson and the pastor at South Park PC, the Rev. Blake Severson would be the pastors of the new church.
- 3) The new congregation will be housed on the campus of what is currently known as Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church.
- 4) Use the principles of good stewardship to dispose of all unneeded physical properties owned by the congregations.
- 5) Request of the Presbytery of Great Rivers that all assets of the existing congregations be transferred to the new congregation.

Move to form an Administrative Commission for the Presbyterian congregations in Rock Island: Broadway PC; Gloria Dei PC; Good Shepherd PC; and South Park PC

1. To assist the Sessions, Leadership group and congregations in discerning its current and future ministry and mission.
2. To assist in finalizing a plan to present to all the congregations to become one congregation and to act on behalf of the Presbytery in approving and implementing the plan.
3. To organize one new congregation in Rock Island from the four existing congregations by dissolution and forming a new congregation by the process in G-1.02
4. To assist and approve "in securing pastoral leadership" G-1.02 including contracting with organizing pastors who could at a later date be elected by the congregation in called and installed role.
5. To exercise the Presbytery's authority to approve "control the location of new congregations and of congregations desiring to move as well as to divide, dismiss, or dissolve the congregation in consultation with their members;" (G-3.0303b) and to approve a shared ministry agreement with another congregation.
6. To have Presbytery authority with Administration Team "consider and act upon requests from congregations for permission to take the actions regarding real property as described in G-4.0206" (G-3.0303 f.)
7. To report its work and all actions to the Presbytery for ratification.
8. To form a "provisional Session" from the four congregations to work side by side with in completing the tasks. (G-1.0201)

9. To assist the provisional Session in drafting by-laws and constitution for the new church.

The Presbytery Moderator nominates to serve on this Administrative Commission:

Background Information:

1. Representatives of the four congregations have been meeting and working on a vision to move forward together in ministry and mission since January 2020.
2. The four congregations invited and reached out to the Presbyterian Foundation and their Project Regeneration program, which operate in conjunction with the office of the General Assembly, to help shepherd the congregations through this discernment process
3. “There is incredible, Spirit driven, energy behind the vision of a merged body focused on Worship, Discipleship, and mission, in tandem with an absolute minimum focus on administration and physical plan.
4. With a target date of June 5, 2022 (Pentecost Sunday) to constitute the new congregation, an Administrative Commission it is necessary to have a Commission working alongside the sessions/congregations with Presbytery authority to complete the work.
5. In January, 2022, all four congregations in Meeting of their Congregation approved the plan and the elements as listed above and to request that Presbytery elect an Administrative Commission.
6. PGR Administration Team has already approved all liquid and real assets of the four congregations would go forward to new congregation.