



Presbytery of Great Rivers
STATED MEETING MINUTES
August 26, 2023
 United Presbyterian Church
 Peoria, IL
 & Zoom Hybrid

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 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Great Rivers was called to order by Moderator Rev. Katie Stryt at 10:05 am central time zone both in person and over zoom. The purpose of the meeting was to worship. Moderator Rev. Katie Stryt led the assembly in worship and the business of the Presbytery. The offering collected for today’s assembly is for the Kemmerer Village.

ANNOUNCEMENT AND ELECTION OF SECRETARY PRO TEM

The Moderator announced the Stated Clerk was unwell with kidney stones and unable to be at today’s assembly. Therefore, the moderator entertained a motion to elect Rev. Maura McGrath Nagle as the Secretary Pro Tem for today’s Assembly. The motion was **moved, seconded, and approved** with no discussion.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF NATIVE LANDS

Rev. Deb Avery, 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. As we were on zoom as well as in person, we recognized we needed to adjust the manner in which we were voting. It was determined for the last assembly and appeared to be successful, that the best way forward for voting would be for every voting member to have access to a green card and a red card (or

the green or red button on zoom). At each vote, members will vote green for yes or red for no at the same time. Robert's Rules will allow for a consensus to move forward with a change in this type of voting as long as there is no objection. If there is an objection, we would then need to go to a vote. There was no objection. The moderator then spoke to other ways to communicate over zoom.

QUORUM

The Secretary Pro Tem 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	CRE Gary Pullen	N/A
Athens, Indian Point		CRE Sandi Woodard	N/A
Bartonville, Trinity	A	Mr. Steve Barch	N/A
Biggsville, United		VACANT	N/A
Bloomington, Saint Luke		Rev. Andrew Gifford	John Otto
Bloomington, Second		Rev. Trey Haddon	Bill Cummings Barb Meek
Bushnell, First		VACANT	N/A
Canton, First		Rev. Edwin Brinklow	Terry Frame
Carlinville, Federated	A	Rev. William Mitchell	Nate Rush
Carrollton, First	A	CRE 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		VACANT	N/A
Delavan, First		VACANT	Carrol Lewis
Divernon, First		VACANT	N/A
E. Moline, First		Rev. Rebecca Sherwood	Ella Layer
Edwards, Korean		Rev. Hyaekwang Kim	N/A
Elmwood, First	A	Rev. Marla Bauler (1 st listing)	N/A
Eureka, Eureka		CRE Bob Montgomery	Mark Cordes
Farmington, First	A	Rev. Cindy Bean	Alissa Holder
Fountain Green, FGU	A	Mr. Mark Hanson	N/A
Galesburg, First		Rev. Scott Carnes	Debbie Strauch
Geneseo, First		Rev. Barry Wynveen	Steve Durian
Greenview, United		VACANT	N/A

Hamilton, Bethel		VACANT	N/A
Ipava, United		Rev. Charles Walden (1 st listing)	Dean Bidney
Jacksonville, First	A	Rev. Jonathan Warren	N/A
Kirkwood, Westminster	A	CRE Pam Moore	N/A
Knoxville, First	A	Rev. Ken Shedenhelm	Candace Rosene
LeRoy, First		Rev. Bill McLean	Martha Dean
Lewistown, First		CRE Penny Frame	Rick Hoffman
Lincoln, First		Rev. Adam Quine	N/A
Macomb, First		Rev. Rene Whitaker	N/A
Macomb, ST		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	N/A
Monmouth, Faith		Rev. Brandon Ouellette	Vicki Young
Monmouth, Sugar Tree		VACANT	N/A
Morton, First		CRE Mike Claver	N/A
Mt. Sterling, Mt. S	A	Mr. Richard Young	N/A
New Windsor, United		Rev. Hwa Sung Ryu	N/A
Niota, Appanoose Faith	A	Mr. David Poland	N/A
Normal, First		Rev. Matt Wilcox	Christy Bartel
	A	Rev. Karol Schilling	Todd Smith
		Rev. Chris Schilling	
Normal, New Covenant		Rev. Lori Kyle	N/A
Oneida, United	E	Rev. Linda Baldwin	Larry Lawson
Orion, Beulah	A	Rev. Tim Snart (2 nd listing)	N/A
Pekin, First		Rev. Charles Cunningham	N/A
Peoria, First Fed		Rev. Ed Wegele	N/A
Peoria, United		Rev. Debra Avery	N/A
Peoria, Westminster		VACANT	N/A
Perry, Perry	A	Rev. John Nelson	N/A
Petersburg, Central		VACANT	David Drake
Pleasant Plains, Farmingdale	A	Rev. Steve Smith	N/A
Quincy, Ellington	A	Mr. Ron Cox	N/A
Reynolds, Hamlet Perryton		VACANT	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
			Mike Orr
Springfield, Hope		Rev. Chuck Goodman	LaCleta Hall
Springfield, Korean		Rev. Jaechul Kim	N/A
Springfield, Third		VACANT	N/A
Springfield, Westminster		Rev. Blythe Kieffer	N/A
		Rev. Christian Choi	

Stronghurst, Stronghurst	A	Mr. Phillip Cooper (2 nd listing)	Don Fry
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	A	Rev. Timothy Bauler	N/A
Warsaw, First		CRE Diane Ludington	N/A
Washington, Washington		Rev. John Napoli	N/A
White Hall, First	A	CRE Kirby Ballard (2 nd listing)	N/A
Woodhull, United		VACANT	Keith Clement
Woodson, Unity	A	VACANT	N/A
Yates City, Faith	A	Rev. Marla Bauler (2 nd listing)	Mary Watts

Total: Ministers of Word and Sacrament:28 Ruling Elders: 32

Validated, At large, Honorably retired, other ministers present Total: 14

Rev. Drew Nagle, HR	Rev. Kay Daniel, M@L
Rev. Tim Doty, HR	Rev. Susan Baller-Sherard, VM
Rev. Dr. Laura Reason, HR	Rev. Lonna Lee, M@L
Rev. Kathy Mitchell, HR	Rev. Joyce Chamberlin, HR
Rev. Ann Schwartz, LP	Rev. Cheryl Lunday, HR
Rev. Andy Sonneborn, VM	Rev. Chris Williams, VM
Rev. Carolyn Weber, HR	Rev. Nicole Wegele, M@L

Administration, Personnel, & Visioning Team Members, Committee Chairs Total: 3

Elder Julio Garcia, Admin	Elder Gary Terpstra, Nom Com Chair
Elder Bill Strawbridge, Treasurer	

Moderator/Moderator-Elect Total: 0

Corresponding Members Total: 0

Others Present – committee members with voice but no vote, Total: 3

Elder Julie Bruninga, COM	Elder Gary Davis, Nom Com
Elder Susan Sawers, CPM	

Others Present – ruling elders, visitors, inquirers/candidates, no voice/vote Total: 4

Lorna Blackford, Candidate	Rev. Bryan Burris, Candidate
Vicky Carlson, Visitor	Alison Meuth, Tech

Presbytery Staff Total: 1

Sabrina McGrath, Bookkeeper	
-----------------------------	--

Total Attendance: 85

INTRODUCTIONS

- Corresponding Members
 - There were no corresponding members.
- New Teaching Elders:
 - The following new teaching elders were introduced:
 - Rev. Barry Wynveen, serving Geneseo, First
 - Rev. Edward Wegele, serving Peoria, First Fed
 - Rev. Nicole Wegele, member at Large
- New Ruling Elder Commissioners
 - The following new teaching elder was introduced:
 - Christy Bartel, Normal, First

RISKING IN MINISTRY

Current Business

- **MSA** the docket with no corrections or changes. (Appendix O)
- **MSA** the Omnibus motion which includes:
 - A motion to enter all written reports into the permanent minutes including the: Administration Team Report (Appendix A), Budget Narrative Report August 2023 (Appendix B), Treasurer Balance Sheet and Treasurer Income Statement (Appendix C & D), Per Capita and Mission Giving (Appendix E), CLP/CRE Coordinator Report (Appendix F), Bushnell AC Final Report (Appendix G), Visioning Team Report (Appendix H), Stated Clerk Report (Appendix I), Lead Presbyter Report (Appendix J), Nominating Committee Report (Appendix K), 2023 COM Contracts (Appendix L), COM Report (Appendix M), CPM Report (Appendix N)
- The Lead Presbyter Report: presented by Rev. Ann Schwartz, LP (Appendix J)
 - Rev. Ann spoke about the work she has been doing in the couple of months she has been a part of PGR.
- Committee on Ministry Report: presented by Rev. Laura Reason (Appendix M)
 - **MA** to grant Rev. Lori Kyle (UU) voice at PGR assemblies for the duration of her pastorate as Bloomington, NCC.
 - **MA** to grant the Rev. Dr. Scott Carnes ordination status within the PCUSA through transfer of ordination from the United Methodist Church and install Rev. Carnes as the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Galesburg. This required a $\frac{3}{4}$ super majority vote.
 - The Rev. Carnes was previously granted an exemption of the theology standard ordination exam and instead given an oral theology exam by a team of 4 members of the Presbytery.
 - By crediting his vast Biblical knowledge from his years in ministry in place of an acceptable result on the Bible Content exam.

- Rationale:
 - On 11/19/22, the PGR Assembly examined and approved the Rev. Dr. Scott Carnes to be received as a PC(USA) pastor and to be installed as pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Galesburg upon completion of a Qualification Plan.
 - He has successfully completed the Qualification Plan with two exceptions (waivers detailed above)
 - Members of COM and CPM conducted an oral alternative Theological exam on 7/25/23. The results were satisfactory.
 - Rev. Dr. Scott Carnes has met the standard equivalent to the Senior Standard Ordination Exam in Theology through the oral alternative exam.
 - The proposed modifications of the original Qualification plan are due to external factors beyond his control when he took the two exams and the time delay for when the exams are offered again.
- **MA** to transfer the ordination of Rev. Bryan Burris of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).
 - Rev. Burris was examined on the floor of the assembly. **MSA** to arrest the examination. After discussion, **MSA** to sustain the examination and transfer Rev. Burris' ordination to the PCUSA.
 - **MA** to enroll Rev. Burris as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PCUSA.
- **MA** to increase the minimum salaries for 2024 by 3%.

UNITED IN WORSHIP

- The assembly moved to a time of worship. In addition to the joy of hearing the Rev. Ann Schwartz preach on Isaiah 51:1-6 and Romans 12:1-8 in a sermon titled "The Body of Christ", the assembly was able to gather in a time of affirmation for the ministry of Rev. Ann Schwartz in our presbytery as the Lead Presbyter.
 - An offering was collected for Kemmerer Village.
 - The Sacrament of Holy Communion was celebrated.
 - The Scriptures used for worship were: Psalm 23 and John 10:1-10
- Following a time of worship, the Assembly gathered together for fellowship and food.

RISKING IN MINISTRY

- Treasurer's Report presented by Bill Strawbridge (Appendices B, C, D, & E)
 - Bill presented the current finances of the Presbytery included the narrative budget.
 - GA has promised to decrease their per capita by 5¢ for 2024 from \$9.85 to \$9.80. We believe Synod plans to maintain their per capita at \$3.81. Admin has suggested we raise our per capita by \$1.05 to make the total per capita that churches pay for 2024 \$37.25, up \$1.00 from 2023.
 - **MSA** to raise PGR total per capita to \$37.25.
 - **The 2024 budget was approved as a part of the omnibus motion.**
- The Committee on Preparation for Ministry report was presented by Rev. Maura McGrath Nagle (Appendix O).
 - Thank you was expressed to all who have already signed the stole for Mackenzie, or wrote words of encouragement, or a scripture passage. This is a new tradition that the Committee on Preparation for Ministry has decided to institute for anyone who comes under care with our presbytery as they are ordained, so that we may in this way continue to journey with them in their ministry. This stole will be presented to Mackenzie at her ordination.
- Nominating Committee Report presented by Elder Gary Terpstra (Appendix K).
 - Gary and Cheyanna spoke to the continual search for elders and ministers in our presbytery to serve on our committees. If anyone has any nominations, they are to let a member of the nominating committee know.
- Bushnell AC Report: (Appendix G).
 - The final report of the Administrative Commission for the First United Presbyterian Church of Bushnell was presented.
 - **MSA** to dismiss the AC with thanksgiving and gratitude for their work.
- **New Business: None**

SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE

- Sharing of Good News:
 - Lance Slavish spoke to an increase in campers at the Christian Wilderness Camp.
 - Mike Claver reported that the Morton Church has partnered with the park district to have use of the building. Otherwise, they would have closed without the support of the community. They are thankful to Julio Garcia and others on the Admin team for their help during the process.
 - First, Milan is celebrating an Eagle Scout Ceremony
 - Cheryl Lunday feels hopeful that growth can happen.
 - Carolyn Weber is celebrating 34 years of being an ordained minister of the Word and Sacrament.

- Andy Sonneborn has received a call as a chaplain at a hospital in Appleton, WI and will be moving soon.
- Announcements:
 - There is an All Presbytery Wide Trivia Night on Sunday, October 22nd at 5pm. More details to come
 - Evaluation Forms are found in person or emailed to commissioners.
- A Benediction and Closing Prayer was offered and adjournment was declared by the Moderator Rev. Katie Styr at 1:37 PM.
- The next meeting will be on Saturday, November 11th, 2023 from 10am to 3pm at Faith United PC, Monmouth.

Respectfully submitted,

Stated Clerk, Rev. Elissa Bailey

Appendix A

Administration Team August 26, 2023 Assembly Report

Since the last Assembly the Admin Team has completed the following tasks.

- a. E-Votes
 - a. Final approval of loan application for PEORIA - FIRST FEDERATED
 - b. Approval of April 2023 Assembly minutes
 - c. Approval of 2024 Proposed Budget for August Assembly

- b. Admin is asking all churches in our presbytery to please nominate candidates for our Nominating Committee.

- c. Dates for Admin meeting in 2023:
 - a. October 21, 2023

Any questions please feel free to contact Julio Garcia @ julieman6@yahoo.com or 309-235-3999

Appendix B

2024 Budget Narrative

By Bill Strawbridge, Treasurer

INCOME

1. Per Capita
 - a. GA has promised to decrease their per capita by **5¢** for 2024 from \$9.85 to \$9.80. We believe Synod plans to maintain their per capita at \$3.81. Admin has suggested we raise our per capita by **\$1.05** to make the **total** per capita that churches pay for 2024 **\$37.25**, up **\$1.00** from 2023.
 - b. 2024 Membership from stats was 8,677, down 505 from last year. The percentage of membership covered by actual per capita giving was averaging 85% up until 2022, when it fell to 82%. We estimate that our 2023 coverage will be 83% and that is the number we are using for 2024. Assuming 83% of our members are covered by per capita payments, our expected headcount for GRP income is 7,202 giving a per capita income of \$170,255 (7202 x \$23.64 [GRP portion of \$37.25]).
2. Interest income
 - a. We have \$100,000 in laddered CDs, some of which will be maturing in 2024 giving an expected interest income of around \$4,000. We will assess the health of our checking account as these CDs mature to determine if we need to transfer their monies back into checking.
3. Mission income.
 - a. Mission income was budgeted at \$61,600 for 2022 and came in at \$67,126. We budgeted \$60,000 in 2023 and we expected to exceed that number slightly. We are budgeting the same amount for 2024: \$60,000.
4. Dividends and Unrealized gains – from our investment account.
 - a. As will be seen from the investment “roller coaster” chart during my presentation, our New Covenant funds were down 16% in 2022 and have thus far bounced back up 10% for 2023 but remain more than \$60,000 below the peak we experienced in 2022. The Finance Committee felt we should budget 4% of our account balance as of the end of June, making our unrealized gains for 2024 \$30,000.
5. Trust clause payments.
 - a. The trust clause payments from Northminster Presbyterian Church for their succession from PCUSA terminate in 2023. We will continue to receive a little over \$600 for the next 3 years from other trust clause payments.

Total budgeted income for 2024 is expected to be \$264,855.

Expenses

1. Presbytery Office Expenses – the total is up \$1,408 from 2023.
 - a. Our 3-year office lease increases 2% each year of the lease contract.
 - b. Service Agreements are higher due to increases in our service agreements and the inclusion of \$1800 for Treasurer’s Training.
 - c. The remaining costs have been adjusted for actual previous year’s costs.
2. Meeting Expenses – down from 2023 by \$250.
 - a. These expenses are adjusted for actuals from previous years.

- b. We added in the cost of room rent for when committees meet in person in the Garden Room of FFC, which costs \$50 per session.
- 3. Administration Expense – up more than \$15,000 from 2023.
 - a. Our financial manual calls out we do an audit of our books every third year. The last time we had it done in 2021 the cost was \$7500. Given that fewer companies are now doing audits and the auditor would have to go from our 2021 previous audit, we expect the cost to be at least \$8,000, more than half of the Admin Expense increase. We are considering alternatives to “every-third-year” audits to help save money while maintaining the integrity of our finances. Admin will recommend.
 - b. Our payroll processing fees and insurance costs remain about the same.
 - c. Based on recent “hybrid” assembly costs, we estimate about \$2500 will be needed to cover 4 Assemblies in 2024. Recall that when we had Assemblies at 5-Points, they cost \$2500 each! We are asking people to pay the cost of their meals for lunch at the Assemblies.
 - d. GA will be meeting in 2024. GA pays for attendees to share a room together. We have budgeted \$2000 to cover the costs of allowing attendees to have their own rooms.
 - e. The unpaid per capita for 2023 will likely exceed \$22,000 due to fewer members being covered in per capita payments. (83% instead of 85% mentioned above) With the drop in membership, that 83% would equilibrate to \$21,300 in 2024.
 - f. Presbytery events has been increased to cover some of the engagement work that our Lead Presbyter plans with pastors across the presbytery.
- 4. Mission Programs – Visioning grants continue to be reduced towards the goal of 10% of total costs. Next year’s available grants total \$37,000.
- 5. Committee on Ministry (COM) and CPM costs have been established based on actual usage.
- 6. Personnel Costs: \$206,462.
 - a. In 2018 our Personnel costs were \$276,000. Since then, we have gone to a virtual assistant, a bookkeeper and payroll company instead of CPA, and a part time stated clerk we share with East Iowa. Our expected costs for 2024 are just over \$206,000 – a \$70,000 reduction compared to 6 years ago.
 - b. The Lead Presbyter package includes Board of Pension dues at 39% (\$28,000) based on an effective salary of \$72,000 (\$42,000 cash salary, \$30,000 housing allowance).
 - c. While we pay for our clerk’s full salary, we are reimbursed by East Iowa for their half and our budget covers only GRP contributions to her pay.
 - d. Virtual Ministries has agreed not to increase their costs in 2024 for the second year in a row. The \$600 increase that is shown is for the FFC admin to cover our mail for the year.

Total Budgeted Expenses are \$314,358 resulting in a deficit of just under \$50,000.

The actual estimated impact of the 2024 budget on the cash flow to the checking account is (\$79,603) because we do not sell off our investments to realize the gains shown. Of this amount \$56,000 is from churches not paying 100% of their per capita.

Presbytery of Great Rivers: 2024 Budget

	Actual 2022	Budget 2023	Actuals thru Jun-23	Budget 2024	Change Bud '24 - Bud '23
Receipts					
Presbytery Per Capita	\$ 182,155	\$ 176,308	\$ 103,433	\$ 170,255	\$ (6,053)
Interest Income		-	723	4,000	4,000
Mission	67,126	60,000	33,573	60,000	-
Dividends & Unrealized Gain (Loss)	(133,427)	31,500	57,850	30,000	(1,500)
Trust Clause Payments	12,216	12,216	7,451	600	(11,616)
TOTAL Budgeted RECEIPTS	\$ 128,070	\$ 280,024	\$ 203,031	\$ 264,855	\$ (15,169)
Membership					
"effective membership"		9,182		8,677	(505)
		7,805		7,202	(603)
Presbytery Per Capita	\$ 22.46	\$ 22.59		\$ 23.64	1.05
Synod of Lincoln Trails Per Capita	3.81	3.81		3.81	
General Assembly Per Capita	8.98	\$ 9.85		\$ 9.80	(0.05)
	\$ 35.25	\$ 36.25		\$ 37.25	\$ 1.00
Expenses					
<u>Presbytery Office</u>					
Rent	6,073	\$ 4,263	2,121	\$ 4,348	\$ 85
Telephone/All Communications	2,437	1,900	966	1,900	-
Service Agreements *	9,231	9,900	7,084	12,073	2,173
Postage	634	1,100	606	1,000	(100)
Office Supplies	1,302	1,000	188	500	(500)
Gifts and Celebrations	148	125	100	125	-
Equipment Purchase/Replacement	134	500	83	250	(250)
Bank Fees & Expenses	3	100		100	-
Depreciation	2,480	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 22,442	\$ 18,888	\$ 11,147	\$ 20,296	\$ 1,408
<u>Committees Meeting Expenses</u>					
Transportation for meetings **	\$ 458	\$ 1,000		\$ 500	\$ (500)
Meals	-	150		150	-
Lodging	-	-		-	-
Miscellaneous	140	100		100	-
Meeting Fees (room rentals)	-		50	250	\$ 250
Total	\$ 598	\$ 1,250	\$ 50	\$ 1,000	\$ (250)
<u>Administration Expenses</u>					
Audit Fee	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000
Payroll service	1,715	1,900	929	2,000	100
Insurance and Bonds	2,729	2,800	2,253	2,400	(400)
Assembly (PGR)	1,499	1,200	2,111	2,500	1,300
Moderator Training	956	1,250	-	1,250	-
PGR Training (Elder/Deacon, Ldrshp, ACs)	-	750	76	750	-
Legal Fees/ IC	-	100	-	100	-
General Assembly (attendance)	115	-	-	2,000	2,000
Synod		-		-	-

	Actual 2022	Budget 2023	Actuals thru Jun-23	Budget 2024	Change Bud '24 - Bud '23
Unpaid Per Capita	17,479	18,650	8,001	21,300	2,650
Presbytery Events	333	500	-	2,000	1,500
Presbyter search	510		7,254		-
Total	\$ 25,336	\$ 27,150	\$ 20,624	\$ 42,300	\$ 15,150
<u>Mission Programs</u>					
Illinois Conference of Churches	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -
Pastoral Care/Compassion Fund	-	750	-	500	(250)
Presbytery Visioning	46,000	40,000	7,500	37,000	(3,000)
Triennium (2025 next occurrence)	-	-	-	-	-
Misc	-	100	-	100	-
Total	\$ 46,500	\$ 41,350	\$ 8,000	\$ 38,100	\$ (3,250)
<u>Committee on Ministry</u>					
Clergy/CLP Continuing Education Grants	\$ -	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ (1,000)
Clergy Background Checks	275	500	155	300	(200)
Crisis/Conflict/Counseling	-	2,500	-	1,000	(1,500)
Misc	240	250	-	250	-
Leaderwise	1,138	4,500	2,996	3,000	(1,500)
Total	\$ 1,653	\$ 10,250	\$ 3,151	\$ 6,050	\$ (4,200)
<u>Committee on Preparation for Ministry</u>					
Program Expense	\$ -	\$ 250		\$ 250	\$ -
Total	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ -
<u>Personnel</u>					
Workers comp.	\$ 805	\$ 900	\$ 780	\$ 600	(300)
Exec. Presbyter Salary/Benefits/Expenses	5,112	119,085	4,952	115,105	(3,980)
Bridge Prsbyter	57,073		26,068		
Stated Clerk Salary, Benefits and Expenses	28,440	30,745	16,197	34,246	3,501
Virtual Assistant	20,878	18,720	8,100	19,320	600
Bookkeeper	23,761	25,500	12,667	26,379	879
CLP Coordinator	9,537	10,811	5,112	10,811	\$ 0
Total	\$ 145,606	\$ 205,761	\$ 73,876	\$ 206,462	\$ 701
TOTAL Budgeted EXPENSES	\$ 242,135	\$ 304,899	\$ 116,848	\$ 314,458	\$ 9,559
Revenues in Excess of Expenses	\$ (114,065)	\$ (24,875)	\$ 86,182	\$ (49,603)	\$ (24,728)
Impact on cash flow: w/o investments	\$ 19,362	\$ (56,375)	\$ 28,332	\$ (79,603)	\$ (23,228)

Appendix C

PRESBYTERY OF GREAT RIVERS
STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND NET ASSETS - CASH BASIS
CURRENT TO PRIOR YEAR COMPARATIVE
AS OF June 30, 2023

Assets	June 2022	June 2023	Increase/ (Decrease)
Cash			
Checking and CDs	\$ 202,660	\$ 257,011	\$ 54,352
Investments	688,737	748,354	59,617
Lease Deposit	-	-	-
Fixed Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation	<u>2,480</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,480)</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 893,876</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,005,365</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 111,489</u></u>
 Liabilities and Net Assets			
Liabilities			
Liabilities Payable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Pass Thru Liabilities	6,293	5,577	(716)
Prepaid Mission & Per Capita	-	-	-
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 6,293</u>	<u>\$ 5,577</u>	<u>\$ (716)</u>
Net Assets			
Unrestricted	<u>\$ 790,537</u>	<u>\$ 868,168</u>	<u>\$ 77,631</u>
Designated			
Presbytery Leaders Support	-	-	-
Presbyter Relocation/Presbyter Search	10,000	10,000	-
Total Designated	<u>\$ 10,000</u>	<u>\$ 10,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Temporarily Restricted			
Preparation for Ministry	\$ 9,129	\$ 8,662	\$ (467)
Peacemaking	19,786	22,930	3,144
Synod Pastor Support Grants	1,701	1,701	-
Synod Transformation Grant	52,014	50,364	(1,650)
Ministers Temporary Disability	3,110	3,110	-
Hands & Feet Scholarships	107	107	-
Pastor Compassion Funds	600	600	-
CLP Coordinator	600	600	-
Church Support for Family Leave	-	11,325	11,325
Sherrard Pres Restricted Funds	-	22,222	22,222
Total Temporarily Restricted	<u>\$ 87,046</u>	<u>\$ 121,620</u>	<u>\$ 34,574</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 887,583</u>	<u>\$ 999,788</u>	<u>\$ 112,205</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u><u>\$ 893,876</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,005,365</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 111,489</u></u>

Appendix D
PRESBYTERY OF GREAT RIVERS
STATEMENT OF SUPPORT AND REVENUES AND EXPENSES - CASH BASIS
ACTUAL TO BUDGET COMPARATIVE
YEAR TO DATE June 30, 2023

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>(Over)Under Budget</u>	<u>Percent of Budget Used</u>
Support and Revenue				
Budgeted				
Congregational Support				
Per Capita - current yr	\$ 97,912	\$ 176,308	\$ 78,396	56%
Per Capita - prior yr pd late	\$ 5,522			
Mission	33,573	60,000	26,427	56%
Trust Clause Payments	7,451	12,216	4,765	61%
Total Congregational Support	<u>\$ 144,457</u>	<u>\$ 248,524</u>	<u>\$ 104,823</u>	<u>58%</u>
Investment Income	57,850	31,500	(26,350)	184%
Interest Income	723	-	(723)	
Total Budgeted Receipts	<u>\$ 203,031</u>	<u>\$ 280,024</u>	<u>\$ 77,750</u>	<u>73%</u>
Transfer to/from Designated Funds	<u>(360)</u>			
Unbudgeted Receipts				
Preparation for Ministry Support	\$ -			
Presbytery Peacemaking Support	360			
Total Unbudgeted Receipts	<u>\$ 360</u>			
Total Support and Revenue	<u>\$ 203,031</u>			
Expenses				
Budgeted				
Salaries, Benefits, Training & Taxes				
General Presbyter	\$ 4,952	\$ 119,085	\$ 114,133	4%
Stated Clerk	16,197	30,745	14,547	53%
Bookkeeper	12,667	25,500	12,833	50%
PT Admin Asst (Virtual) & CW	8,100	18,720	10,620	43%
CLP Coordinator	5,112	10,811	5,700	47%
Bridge Presbyter Salary	26,068	-	(26,068)	
Workers Compensation Insurance	780	900	120	87%
Total Salaries and Related Expenses	<u>\$ 73,876</u>	<u>\$ 205,761</u>	<u>\$ 131,885</u>	<u>36%</u>
Presbytery Office				
Occupancy	\$ 2,121	\$ 4,263	\$ 2,142	50%
Office Operations and Supplies	9,026	14,525	5,499	62%
Total Presbytery Office Expenses	<u>\$ 11,147</u>	<u>\$ 18,788</u>	<u>\$ 7,641</u>	<u>59%</u>

PRESBYTERY OF GREAT RIVERS
STATEMENT OF SUPPORT AND REVENUES AND EXPENSES - CASH BASIS
ACTUAL TO BUDGET COMPARATIVE
YEAR TO DATE June 30, 2023

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>(Over)Under Budget</u>	<u>Percent of Budget Used</u>
Expenses (continued)				
Presbytery Administration				
Liability Insurance	2,253	2,800	547	80%
Moderator Training	-	1,250	\$ 1,250	0%
Assembly Meetings (PGR)	2,111	1,200	\$ (911)	176%
Per Capita Shortfall	8,001	18,650	10,649	43%
Payroll Service	929	1,900	971	49%
Legal Fees	-	100	100	0%
PGR Training (Elder/Deacon, Ldrshp)	76	750	674	10%
Presbyter Search	7,274	-	(7,274)	
Presbytery Events	-	500	500	0%
Total Presbytery Administration Expenses	<u>\$ 20,645</u>	<u>\$ 27,150</u>	<u>\$ 6,505</u>	<u>76%</u>
Meeting Expense - All Teams	<u>\$ 50</u>	<u>\$ 1,250</u>	<u>\$ 1,200</u>	<u>4%</u>
Program Expenses				
Committee on Ministry	\$ 3,151	\$ 7,750	\$ 4,600	41%
Committee on Preparation for Ministry	-	250	250	0%
Visioning Grants	7,500	40,000	32,500	19%
Continuing Education Grants	-	2,500	2,500	0%
Pastoral Care/Compassion Fund	-	750	750	0%
Illinois Conference of Churches	500	500	-	100%
Disaster Relief	-	-	-	-
Total Program Expenses	<u>\$ 11,151</u>	<u>\$ 51,750</u>	<u>\$ 40,600</u>	<u>22%</u>
Other Expenses				
Bank Fees & Expenses	-	100	100	0%
Depreciation Expense	-	-	-	
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 100</u>	<u>\$ 100</u>	<u>0%</u>
Total Budgeted Expenses	<u>\$ 116,869</u>	<u>\$ 304,799</u>	<u>\$ 187,930</u>	<u>38%</u>
Unbudgeted Expenses Funded by Restricted Funds				
Pastor Support Grants	-	-	-	
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 116,869</u>	<u>\$ 304,799</u>	<u>\$ 187,930</u>	
Excess of Support and Revenue Over Expenses	<u>\$ 86,162</u>	<u>\$ (24,775)</u>	<u>(110,937)</u>	

Appendix E

**PRESBYTERY OF GREAT RIVERS
SHARED MISSION AND PER CAPITA SUPPORT BY CHURCH
YTD THROUGH July 30 2023**

Paid in Full

PIN	CHURCH	MISSION			PER CAPITA			Percentage Paid
		2023	2023	PAYMENTS (OVER) UNDER PLEDGE	2023	2023	BALANCE REMAINING	
		PLEGGED	PAID		DUE	PAID		
1912	ADAIR - WEST PRAIRIE			-	507.50		507.50	0%
1873	ALEDO - COLLEGE AVENUE			-	3,480.00	1,740.00	1,740.00	50%
9753	ALEDO - SUNBEAM	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	398.75	398.75	-	100%
1876	ALEXIS - NORWOOD		1,500.00	(1,500.00)	1,885.00	1,885.00	-	100%
1951	ATHENS - INDIAN POINT		600.00	(600.00)	1,087.50	1,087.50	-	100%
1872	BARTONVILLE - TRINITY		2,000.00	(2,000.00)	1,268.75	1,268.75	-	100%
4333	BIGGSVILLE - UNITED			-	2,283.75		2,283.75	0%
1502	BLOOMINGTON - SECOND			-	24,867.50	4,327.00	20,540.50	17%
10326	BLOOMINGTON - ST LUKE UNION			-	3,842.50		3,842.50	0%
1917	BUSHNELL - FIRST			-	2,066.25		2,066.25	0%
1838	CANTON - FIRST			-	3,262.50		3,262.50	0%
1446	CARLINVILLE - FEDERATED	500.00		500.00	1,595.00	1,595.00	-	100%
1448	CARROLLTON - FIRST			-	1,558.75	1,339.50	219.25	86%
1918	CARTHAGE - FIRST			-	2,718.75	2,718.75	-	100%
1955	CHATHAM			-	4,023.75	4,023.75	-	100%
1507	CHENOA - FIRST	2,500.00		2,500.00	652.50	652.50	-	100%
1919	CLAYTON - FEDERATED			-	290.00	290.00	-	100%
1508	CLINTON	2,500.00	2,500.00	-	4,241.25	1,687.65	2,553.60	40%
1881	COAL VALLEY - FIRST			-	6,090.00		6,090.00	0%
1510	DANVERS - FIRST			-	5,328.75		5,328.75	0%
1839	DELAVAN - FIRST		1,500.00	(1,500.00)	1,631.25	1,269.00	362.25	78%
1960	DIVERNON - FIRST			-	1,522.50		1,522.50	0%
1884	EAST MOLINE - FIRST	1,500.00	1,500.00	-	4,313.75	4,313.75	-	100%
10906	EDWARDS - KOREAN			-	1,015.00		1,015.00	0%
1841	ELMWOOD - FIRST			-	2,827.50		2,827.50	0%
1842	EUREKA			-	797.50	797.50	-	100%
1843	FARMINGTON - FIRST UNITED	600.00	350.00	250.00	3,516.25	992.45	2,523.80	28%
1922	FOUNTAIN GREEN - CARTHAGE UNITED			-	2,211.25		2,211.25	0%
1844	GALESBURG - FIRST			-	7,721.25	1,123.75	6,597.50	15%
1888	GENESEO - FIRST		1,880.00	(1,880.00)	3,081.25	770.31	2,310.94	25%
4616	GREENVIEW - UNITED			-	1,232.50	1,232.50	-	100%
1923	HAMILTON - BETHEL			-	1,848.75		1,848.75	0%
1850	IPAVA - UNITED			-	1,667.50	1,667.50	-	100%
1965	JACKSONVILLE - FIRST	16,000.00	9,333.38	6,666.62	12,361.25	7,210.70	5,150.55	58%
1925	KIRKWOOD - WESTMINSTER			-	1,558.75		1,558.75	0%
1851	KNOXVILLE - FIRST	1,275.00	1,275.00	-	1,921.25	1,921.25	-	100%
1522	LEROY - FIRST			-	5,183.75	1,295.94	3,887.81	25%
1853	LEWISTOWN - FIRST			-	2,211.25		2,211.25	0%
4960	LINCOLN - FIRST		2,000.00	(2,000.00)	4,386.25		4,386.25	0%
1927	MACOMB - FIRST		3,500.00	(3,500.00)	9,135.00	5,333.95	3,801.05	58%
11382	MACOMB - SCOTLAND TRINITY			-	2,030.00	350.00	1,680.00	17%
1971	MASON CITY - UNITED	500.00	500.00	-	2,138.75	2,138.75	-	100%
228	MEDIA - U P COMMUNITY			-	326.25	326.25	-	100%
1972	MIDDLETOWN - FIRST			-	507.50		507.50	0%
1892	MILAN - FIRST			-	4,640.00	4,640.00	-	100%
1486	MONMOUTH - FAITH UNITED			-	7,793.75	3,896.87	3,896.88	50%
1088	MONMOUTH - SUGAR TREE GROVE			-	1,087.50	543.76	543.74	50%
9572	MORTON - FIRST			-	725.00	725.00	-	100%
10635	MT STERLING - P C OF CHRIST			-	1,015.00	1,015.00	-	100%
1897	NEW WINDSOR - UNITED		1,850.00	(1,850.00)	4,495.00	4,495.00	-	100%
3436	NIOTA - APPANOOSE FAITH			-	2,283.75		2,283.75	0%
1525	NORMAL - FIRST	25,000.00	14,583.35	10,416.65	15,515.00	15,515.01	(0.01)	100%
11527	NORMAL - NEW COVENANT COMMUNITY			-	652.50	652.50	-	100%
1855	ONEIDA-FIRST			-	688.75		688.75	0%
9563	ORION - BEULAH		50.00	(50.00)	2,066.25	2,066.25	-	100%
1856	PEKIN - FIRST			-	2,030.00	2,030.00	-	100%
1858	PEORIA - FIRST FEDERATED			-	11,926.25	11,926.25	-	100%
12072	PEORIA - UNITED			-	12,361.25	6,881.91	5,479.34	56%
1863	PEORIA - WESTMINSTER			-	4,350.00		4,350.00	0%
1935	PERRY			-	435.00		435.00	0%
1980	PETERSBURG - CENTRAL		3,500.00	(3,500.00)	3,516.25	3,516.25	-	100%
1962	PLEASANT PLAINS - FARMINGDALE		500.00	(500.00)	3,226.25	806.55	2,419.70	25%
1939	QUINCY - ELLINGTON MEMORIAL		300.00	(300.00)	2,791.25	2,791.25	-	100%
11433	REYNOLDS - HAMLET PERRYTON			-	1,776.25	1,776.25	-	100%
1866	RIO			-	3,480.00		3,480.00	0%
1900	ROCK ISLAND - BROADWAY **PAID**			-	1,341.25	1,327.56	13.69	99%
4899	ROCK ISLAND - GLORIA DEI ** PAID**			-	797.50	789.36	8.14	99%
11547	ROCK ISLAND - GOOD SHEPHERD ** PAID**			-	6,126.25	6,126.25	-	100%
1902	ROCK ISLAND - SOUTH PARK ** PAID**			-	6,126.25	6,063.72	62.53	99%
15225	ROCK ISLAND - GRACE			-	-	36.25	(36.25)	#DIV/0!
1940	RUSHVILLE - FIRST			-	1,196.25		1,196.25	0%
1903	SEATON - CENTER			-	1,885.00		1,885.00	0%
1982	SPRINGFIELD - FIRST		2,000.00	(2,000.00)	9,968.75	6,645.84	3,322.91	67%
5119	SPRINGFIELD - HOPE	3,300.00	3,300.00	-	4,458.75		4,458.75	0%
10705	SPRINGFIELD - KOREAN UNITED			-	1,196.25		1,196.25	0%
1983	SPRINGFIELD - THIRD	1,000.00	500.00	500.00	6,633.75	3,316.88	3,316.87	50%
1988	SPRINGFIELD - WESTMINSTER	17,000.00	9,915.00	7,085.00	36,938.75	23,506.75	13,432.00	64%
4917	STRONGHURST			-	543.75	543.75	-	100%
1991	TALLULA - ROCK CREEK			-	2,646.25		2,646.25	0%
9752	VIOLA - UNITED		3,320.00	(3,320.00)	1,993.75	1,993.75	-	100%
1488	VIRDEN - FIRST			-	688.75		688.75	0%
1993	VIRGINIA - FIRST			-	2,030.00		2,030.00	0%
1994	VIRGINIA - SANGAMON VALLEY			-	1,486.25	1,486.25	-	100%
1942	WARSAW - FIRST	3,081.25		3,081.25	3,081.25	3,066.75	14.50	100%
1867	WASHINGTON			-	2,863.75	2,863.75	-	100%
1490	WHITE HALL - FIRST			-	1,015.00	63.25	951.75	6%
9657	WOODHULL - UNITED	4,000.00		4,000.00	4,676.25	1,200.00	3,476.25	26%
1995	WOODSON - UNITY			-	326.25		326.25	0%
9199	YATES CITY - FAITH UNITED	800.00	400.00	400.00	1,377.50	1,377.50	-	100%
Totals		80,556.25	69,656.73	10,899.52	332,847.50	177,443.21	155,404.29	

Appendix F

PGR Commissioned Pastor Coordinator Report to the Assembly August 26, 2023

The purpose of this report is to give the Assembly a summary of the work I have conducted so far as the Commissioned Pastor Coordinator.

Since our last assembly meeting CRE Diane Ludington was commissioned to a third congregation, First Presbyterian Church, Carthage. It was a meaningful service with a Commission made up of individuals for two presbyteries and two denominations. It was a joy to celebrate this new partnership.

The big project I have been working on since the spring of 2022 is an updated Commissioned Pastor Handbook that combines the work of CPM and COM. The handbook is in draft form, has been approved by CPM, and is currently working through COM. I anticipate being able to present it to the assembly before the end of 2023.

I am not in attendance at this assembly meeting because I have the joy of serving in the Ministry Formation Training in Wabash Valley Presbytery. This is the program our CPM approved for our REs to join if they would like to be trained. I look forward to sharing more about this experience.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the ministry formation training, please contact me. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) has scholarships available.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

In Christ's Service.

Rev. Dr. Cheyanna L. Losey
309-299-4790
cheyanalosey@gmail.com

Appendix G

Summary of Administrative Commission – First Presbyterian Church, Bushnell, IL
August 17, 2023

Submitted by Rev. Dr. René Whitaker, Chair

Stated Supply: Rev. Mark Merrill (ministry concluded July, 2023)

COM Rep.: Rev. Kay Daniel

Committee Members: Dean Bidney, Larry Lawson, Edwin Brinklow, Pam Moore

In March 2022, I was asked to be part of the Administrative Commission (AC) for FPB, Bushnell. Initially, we hoped to assist them in doing ministry with the Bushnell Methodist Church. This seems like a good possibility until the Methodist's General Meeting later that Spring which pointed the United Methodist denomination in the direction of division over whether LBGT persons could become ordained clergy. As this was developing we did meet with the Methodist pastor who was very supportive of this proposal. It became apparent by early Summer 2022 that this was not going to be a viable option.

In February, 2023, the area of authority for the Commission was expanded because it was reported that the Congregation had not been able to find people to serve as Elders. At their March, 2023 after a time of Fellowship and Visioning a Congregational Meeting was held and three Elders were elected to join the Session to make a Session of five Elders. They were subsequently installed at that same meeting.

Appendix H

Presbytery of Great Rivers
Visioning Report – August 2023

Visioning Grant Information

The Visioning Team continues to invite creative, think-outside-the-box, open-ended, and energetic grant applications that help fulfill the Presbytery's 2020 Visioning Statement and Matthew 25 goals. Grants can support new or existing programs and/or partnerships. Grants are renewable each year for recipients that complete an end-of-year program report. Detailed application instructions available on the Great Rivers website under the Mission tab:

<http://www.greatriverspby.org/mission.html>

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis throughout the year and Visioning Team members are available to assist with application completion.

Grant Writing Webinar: A recording of a live grant writing webinar held in May 2023 is available on the Presbytery's Mission website.

Sabbatical grants and Family Leave grants will continue to be reviewed separately, and additional grants for a variety of purposes are available through the Presbytery and Synod.

Grants for 2023 should be submitted prior to this year's remaining Visioning Team meetings:
Tuesday, October 24
Tuesday, November 28

Appendix I
Stated Clerk's Report
August 26, 2023

The following are reported to the Assembly:

Disciplinary Reports:

- N/A

The following MWSs have been received:

- TE Ed Wegele from Des Moines Presbytery
 - To serve as Pastor of First Federated, Peoria
- TE Nicole Wegele from Des Moines Presbytery
- TE Ann Schwartz from Southeastern Illinois Presbytery
 - To serve as Lead Presbyter of Great Rivers Presbytery

The following have been ordained and listed as a member of the Presbytery:

- N/A

The following have been temporarily transferred from other denominations while serving churches in the Presbytery of Great Rivers:

- Rev. Steve Smith, UMC (was currently serving a PCUSA congregation but changed congregations within our presbytery), now serving Pleasant Plains, Farmingdale and Third, Springfield
- Rev. Barry Wynveen, RCA as he serves Geneseo, First.

The following MWSs have been listed as Honorably Retired:

- TE Denise Clark-Jones

The following MWSs have been dismissed:

- TE Cathy Allen to Southeastern Illinois Presbytery
- TE Denise Clark-Jones to Western Reserve Presbytery
- TE Richard Johnson to East Iowa Presbyter

The following have been removed from the rolls:

- N/A

The following MWSs have been transferred to the church triumphant in their deaths:

- TE John Shear on February 24, 2023
- TE Henry Hein on July 30, 2023

The following congregations have completed and passed the 2023 Session Record Review thus far:

- Aledo, Sunbeam
- Athens, Indian Point
- Bloomington, St. Luke Union
- Bloomington, Second
- Carlinville, Federated
- Carthage, Fountain Green
- Clinton, Clinton
- Danvers, First
- Eureka, Eureka
- Jacksonville, First
- Le Roy, First
- Lincoln, First
- New Windsor, New Windsor
- Normal, First
- Peoria, United
- Peoria, Westminster
- Quincy, Ellington
- Reynolds, Hamlet Perryton
- Rio, Rio
- Seaton, Center
- Springfield, Westminster
- Viola, First
- Washington, Washington

Respectfully submitted,

TE Elissa Bailey, Stated Clerk

Appendix J

Report of the Lead Presbyter
Rev. Ann Schwartz
August 26, 2023

Thank you for your warm welcome to the Presbytery of Great Rivers. As I have participated in committee meetings, worked with staff, visited with pastors, and worshiped with congregations, you all have received me with a most gracious spirit.

Nearly three months into my tenure as Lead Presbyter, I am focused on making connections, strengthening communication, and building trusting relationships. My goal is to initiate contact with each of our 85 congregations by the end of the year. Obviously, in-person visits will take longer. It has been a privilege to step into the role of being a pastor to pastors, providing support and care to church leaders, both active and retired. And I appreciate the overtures you all have made—the invitations to preach, attend special events, and speak to church groups.

I have been struck by a few consistent themes that have arisen during conversations with leaders and members. Folks are genuinely eager to talk about their church's mission—and with good reason. Through food pantries and health clinics, backpacks filled with food and school supplies for students and meals for hungry neighbors, BBQs and ice cream socials, opportunities for youth to explore their creativity and partnerships with local agencies and organizations, the churches of PGR are impacting their communities in big ways. Most say they would like to be able to do more.

At the same time, folks are discouraged by the declining number of members in their congregations and churches in the presbytery. They are concerned about the health, strength, vitality, and future of the PC(USA) and what that means for us and our communities. They worry that they have not “bounced back” from the worst of the pandemic, observing that pews, bank accounts, and energy levels not nearly as robust as they once were.

There also is a keen awareness of the urgent need for transformation, not once-and-done but continual change, not simply in our structures and policies, not only with the embrace of bigger and better technology. We need to reassess what the church is and what the church's purpose and mission are today. We need to broaden our understanding of how to *be* and *do* church. Unfortunately, the answers to all the questions are not immediately evident.

And so, we have work to do—the work of listening, discerning, connecting, partnering, and building community, within and beyond the confines of PGR. Colleagues and friends, we were called to such a time as this. May we move forward in faith, hope, and love, trusting in God's presence and transformative power.

Rev. Ann Schwartz, Lead Presbyter

Appendix K

PGR Nominating Committee Report, August 26, 2023

The full Nominating Committee (NC) met via Zoom June 23, 2023, July 21, 2023 and August 25, 2023. The co-chairs also communicated regularly via email, phone, and text as we continue the work for 2023. We have no motions to bring before the assembly for consideration.

The committee accepted with appreciation for work done, the resignation of member RE Larry Lawson, Oneida.

A reminder . . .

The NC would appreciate receiving the list about eligible ruling elders we asked each clerk of session to fill out. Forms can be emailed Gary Terpstra or Cheyanna Losey or mailed to 1299 Day Street, Galesburg, IL 61401 or emailed to either Gary or Cheyanna.

In other news . . .

We have begun our work to find nominees for the Class of 2026. We have a number of committee chairs rotating off at the end of 2023 and want to begin the process of determining their replacements to minimize the interruption of the work of our committees. If you have an interest in serving, please contact one of the NC members.

Co-Chair RE Gary Terpstra, g.terpstra@comcast.net

Co-Chair TE Cheyanna Losey, cheyannalosey@gmail.com

RE Gary Davis, RE Julio Garcia, RE Larry Lawson

Appendix L

City	Church	Pastor	TOC/Contr	% Time	Effective Salary
Aledo	College Ave.	Fisher, Harry, RE	Contract	weekly	\$ 210.00
Aledo	College Ave.	Furr, Wayne – Cumberland	Contract	50	\$ 26,776.00
Aledo	Sunbeam	TE - McGrath Nagle, Maura	Contract	25	\$ 19,100.00
Athens	Indian Point	CLP-Woodward,Sandi	Contract	40	\$ 15,685.00
Bartonville	Trinity	Stephen Barch - UCC	Contract	50	\$ 26,767.00
Bloomington	Second	TE - Haddon, Treighton	TOC	FT	\$ 85,000.00
Bloomington	St. Luke Union	TE - Gifford, Dr. Andrew	TOC	FT	\$ 92,014.00
Canton	First	TE - Brinklow, Edwin	TOC	FT	\$ 56,779.00
Carlinville	Federated	Mitchell, William - ABC	Contract	50	\$ 30,300.00
Carthage	First United	CLP - Luddington, Diane	Contract	30	\$ 17,500.00
Clinton	Clinton	TE - Stroup, Paul	TOC	FT	\$ 74,243.00
Coal Valley	First	TE - Snart, Tim	TOC	70	\$ 55,565.00
East Moline	First	TE - Sherwood, Rebecca	TOC	FT	On Leave
Elmwood	First	TE - Bauler, Marla	TOC	FT	\$ 52,812.00
Eureka	Eureka	CLP - Montgomery, Robert	Contract	60	\$ 22,536.00
Farmington	First	TE - Bean, Cindy	Contract	50	\$ 46,800.00
Galesburg	First	Carnes, Scott – UMC	Contract	FT	\$ 70,000.00
Geneseo	First	TE - Wynveen, Berry	Contract	70	\$ 40,000.00
Ipava	Ipava United	TE - Walden, Charles	TOC	30	\$ 15,470.00
Jacksonville	First	TE - Warren, Jonathan	TOC	FT	\$ 75,362.76
Kirkwood	Westminster	CLP - Moore, Pamela	Contract	33	\$ 17,280.00
Knoxville	First United	TE - Shedenhelm, Kenn	Contract	27	\$ 15,250.00
LeRoy	First United	TE - McLean, William (Bill)	Contract	FT	\$ 51,565.00
Lincoln	First	TE - Quine, Adam	TOC	FT	\$ 64,823.00
Macomb	First	TE - Whitaker, A. Rene'	Contract	FT	\$ 53,207.90
Macomb	Scotland Trinity	TE - Walden, Charles	TOC	70	\$ 36,036.00
Mason City	United	TE - Poetschner, Charlotte	Contract	15	\$ 9,450.00
Milan	First	TE - Styr, Katie	TOC	FT	\$ 53,837.36
Monmouth	Faith United	TE - Ouellette, Brandon	TOC	FT	\$ 52,515.80
Morton	First	CLP - Claver, Michael	Contract	50	\$ 31,584.00
Mt Sterling	Pres Ch of Christ	CLP - Young, Richard	TOC	25	\$ 12,000.00
New Windsor	New Windsor	TE - Ryu, Hwa Sung	Contract	FT	\$ 51,610.00
Normal	First	TE - Wilcox, Matt	TOC	FT	\$ 80,953.00
Normal	First	Schilling, Christopher - DOC	Contract	50	\$ 35,192.00
Normal	First	TE - Karol Farris Schilling	Contract	50	\$ 37,899.00
Normal	New Covenant	Burris, Bryan – DOC	Contract	FT	\$ 55,900.00
Orion	Beulah	TE - Snart, Tim	TOC	30	\$ 18,643.77
Peoria	First Federated	TE - Wegele, Edward	TOC	FT	\$ 85,000.00
Peoria	United	TE - Avery, Debra	TOC	FT	\$ 90,513.00
Peoria	Westminster	TE - Clark-Jones, Denise	TOC	FT	\$ 82,911.00
Petersburg	Central	Edgecombe, Ryan – Independent	Contract	50	\$ 36,000.00
Pleasant Plains	Farmingdale	Smith, J. Steven – UMC	Contract	50	\$ 30,000.00
Quincy	Ellington	CLP - Ron Cox	Contract	50	\$ 33,547.00
Reynolds	Hamlet Perryton	TE - Losey, Harold	Contract	47.5	\$ 30,000.00
Rio	Rio	TE - McGrathNagle, Maura	Contract	50	\$ 25,782.50
Springfield	First	TE - Phillips, Susan	TOC	FT	\$ 142,210.66

Springfield	Hope	TE - Goodman, Chuck	TOC	FT	\$	70,604.00
Springfield	Third	Smith, J. Steven - UMC	Contract	62	\$	31,971.00
Springfield	Westminster	TE - Choi, Christian	TOC	FT	\$	72,522.00
Springfield	Westminster	TE - Kieffer, Dr.Blythe	TOC	FT	\$	112,682.00
Tallula	Rock Creek	TE - Hinds, Joanne	Contract	48	\$	37,000.00
Viola	Viola United	TE - Downey, Matthew	Contract	50	\$	30,900.00
Virginia	First	Elmore, David – Am. Baptist	Contract	31	\$	15,600.00
Virginia	Sangamon Valley	TE - Bauler, Dr Timothy	Contract	25	\$	18,000.00
Warsaw	First	CLP - Luddington, Diane	Contract	50	\$	24,690.00
Washington	Washington	TE - Napoli, John Joseph	TOC	FT	\$	59,850.00
White Hall	First	CLP - Ballard, Kirby	Contract	26	\$	10,000.00
Woodhull	United	TE - Losey, Cheyanna	TOC	FT	\$	51,735.00
Yates City	Faith United	TE - Bauler, Marla	Contract	15	\$	18,000.00

Churches without current Contract on file with the COM/Presbytery of Great Rivers

Adair	West Prairie	Jeremy Westlake, Ch of Brothern
Alexis	Norwood	Pullen, Gary
Biggsville -	United	open
Bushnell	First	open
Carrollton	First	CLP – Ballard, Kirby
Carthage	Fountain Green	open
Chatham	Chatham	TE - Daniel, Kay as Supply
Clayton	Federated	rotating supply speakers
Danvers	First	open
Delevan	First	open
Divernon	First	open
Edwards	Korean	TE - Kim, Hyaekwang (Dan)
Greenview	United	open
Hamilton	Bethel	CLP - Hanson, Mark
Lewiston	First	CLP – Frame, Penny
Media	Community	open
Middletown	Middletown	TE - Quine, Adam as Supply
Monmouth	Sugar Tree Grove	open
Niota	Appznoose Faith	TE - Poland, David
Oneida	United	Baldwin,Linda
Pekin	First	pulpit supply
Perry	Perry	open
Rushville	First	open
Seaton	Center	open
Springfield	Korean	TE - Kim, Jaechul
Stronghurst	Stronghurst	open
Virden	First	open
Woodson	Unity	Kerr, Robert

Appendix M

COM Report to the 8.26.23 Presbytery Assembly.

The Committee on Ministry has met four times since the last Assembly on Zoom with the exception of a hybrid option in July to meet Lead Presbyter Ann Schwartz.

September 9th, Petersburg Central is hosting an in person Communion Training for REs from 9 to noon. Look for full details of how Sessions can register elders by sending an email to greatriverscom@gmail.com by September 3rd. Through the generosity of the Synod, we are offering two identical sessions of the **required annual boundaries training for all ministers, lay pastors and Christian Educators on the rolls of the presbytery** on Zoom August 29-30 and October 31-November 1. The registration link is in the Good News.

On August 31st, the transition to the new CLC should be complete. Our congregations seeking new pastoral leaders either had new Ministry Discernment Profiles (MDP) in the updated Church Leadership Connection (CLC) by 8.1.23 or were close to entering them. The basic new forms (MDPs and PDPs) and basic introductory materials are on the PGR website under COM Forms. CLC continues to routinely add new instructions, so the most up to date information is always available to you at oga.pcusa.org/section/mid-council-ministries/clc/ Questions? Email greatriverscom@gmail.com with questions or seeking assistance. CLC staff will be attending our 9/7 COM meeting to orient all COM members to the new system.

We congratulate Third Presbyterian Church of Springfield on becoming a Matthew 25 church in May.

The 2023-2025 Book of Order went into effect on 7.9.23. After the action items today, TE Christian Choi will make a presentation on the change to G-2.0804, Terms of Call, on the provision for a minimum of twelve weeks paid family medical leave.

Actions taken since the 4.29.23 Assembly

The committee has approved all Terms of Call and Contracts submitted by 7.27.23.

The annual report on effective salaries provided each August appears at the end of this report.

Transitions

Granted the status of honorably retired to:

TE Kathryn Daniel, effective 3.1.2023

TE Denise Clark-Jones, effective 6.11.2023

We have welcomed to the presbytery:

TE Ann Schwartz from Southeastern Illinois Presbytery to serve as PGR Lead Presbyter

TE Edward P. Wegele from Des Moines Presbytery to serve at Peoria FFC.

TE Nicole Wegele from Des Moines Presbytery as a member at large

We have transferred to other presbyteries:

TE Cathy Allen to the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois
 TE Denise Clark-Jones to the Presbytery of Western Reserve
 TE Richard L. Johnson to the Presbytery of East Iowa

Granted permission to labor outside the bounds to:

TE Cheyanna Losey to labor in Blackhawk Presbytery effective 9/1/2023

Noted the death of TE Henry Hein, HR on 7.30.23

We have trained and certified the following ruling elders to serve communion in worship within their own congregations under G-3.0301b and W-3.0410

Congregation	Elder	Term
Reynolds, Hamlet Perryton	Faye Eckhardt	5.22.23-5.22.26
	Scott Jenkins	5.22.23-5.22.26
	Pam Krantz	5.22.23-5.22.26
Danvers First	Jo Samara	7.1.23-6.3.26

Administrative Commission report

RE Diane Ludington was commissioned to serve as the Commissioned Pastor at Carthage First on July 19, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Other updates

Bloomington New Covenant Community (PCUSA/DOC/UCC) installed Rev. Lori Kyle, a Unitarian Universalist minister, as their pastor on 7.2.23.

Action items for the Assembly:

1. To recommend to the Presbytery that Rev. Lori Kyle (UU) be granted voice at Assemblies for the time she is pastor at Bloomington NCC.

Rationale:

The Plan of Union/Constitution and By-laws of New Covenant Community, Part IX. Minister(s), Section D, Ministerial Standing says: "The pastor(s) shall seek appropriate ministerial standing in each denomination with which New Covenant Community is affiliated." COM recommends granting voice during her tenure as the way to recognize Rev. Kyle's role within one of our congregations.

2. To request the Presbytery modify the requirements for the Rev. Dr. Scott Carnes in previous action (November, 2022) to be received as a member of the PC(USA) and to be installed as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Galesburg.

By replacing the Theology Standard Ordination exam with an oral theology exam by a team of 4 members of the Presbytery.

By crediting his vast Biblical knowledge from his years in ministry in place of an acceptable result on the Bible Content exam. (This motion was approved July 6, 2023 by COM)

Background:

On 11.19.22, PGR Assembly examined and approved the Rev. Dr. Scott Carnes to be received as a PC(USA) pastor and to be installed as pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Galesburg upon completion of a Qualification Plan.

- a. He has successfully completed the Qualification Plan with two exceptions (see above)
- b. Members of COM and CPM conducted an oral alternative Theological exam 7.25.23. The results were satisfactory.
- c. Rev. Dr. Scott Carnes has met the standard equivalent to the Senior Standard Ordination Exam in Theology through the oral alternative exam.
- d. The proposed modifications of the original Qualification plan are due to external factors beyond his control when he took the two exams and the time delay for when the exams are offered again.

The motion requires a three fourths majority vote.

3. To recommend to the Assembly approval of the following actions with Rev. Bryan Burris, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
 - Examine, arrest and sustain the examination of the pastor (see his Statement of Faith after this COM report)
 - And enroll him as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PC(USA). Upon enrollment, Rev. Burris shall furnish to the Presbytery evidence of having surrendered membership in any and all other Christian churches with which he has previously been associated. (G-0205.b)

Rationale and Background:*Book of Order*

A minister of another Reformed church who has been ordained for five or more years may be granted an exemption for some or all of the examinations required of candidates for ordination by a two-thirds vote of the presbytery (G-0205.a(2))

Rev. Burris' previous membership in the Presbytery

Rev. Burris served as the interim pastor of NCC (then in Normal) and was a temporary member of the presbytery during that time of service (temporary members complete a course in worship and the sacraments and polity conducted by COM)

Recommended unanimously by CPM and COM

Rev. Burris met with Committee on Preparation (CPM) on 2.14.23 as reported to the 4.29.23 Assembly for an assessment of his qualifications to transfer. CPM is satisfied with his qualifications to transfer his ordination to the PC(USA) and recommended that to the Committee on Ministry. The decision was unanimous.

Rev. Burris met with the Committee on Ministry (COM) on 7.6.23 and his Theological exam was approved. COM granted Rev. Burris permission to prepare his Personal Discernment Profile (PDP) and enter it into the Church

Leadership Connection (CLC). The decision was unanimous.

The motion requires a two thirds majority vote

4. Recommend to the Assembly an increase of 3% in the minimum salaries for 2024.

Rationale:

From the Bureau of Labor Statistics (Bls.gov April 2023 Economic News Release): Food prices increased 8.5 percent over the last 12 months. Prices for food at home rose 8.4 percent. Prices for major grocery store foods increased, ranging from 2.5 percent (fruits and vegetables) to 13.6 percent (cereals and bakery products). Prices for food away from home rose 8.8 percent over the last year.

Within the energy category, gasoline prices decreased 17.4 percent over the past 12 months. In contrast, electricity prices rose 10.2 percent over the last year. Prices for all items not including food and energy rose 5.6 percent over the 12 months ended March 2023. Shelter prices increased 8.2 percent over the last year, accounting for over 60 percent of the total increase in all items less food and energy.

Since March 2021, consumer prices were up 14.0 percent, overall. Food prices increased 18.0 percent, and energy prices, 23.6 percent. Prices for all items not including food and energy were 12.4 higher in March 2023 compared with 2 years ago.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic 3 years ago in March 2020 consumer prices increased 16.9, overall. Food prices increased 22.1 percent, while energy prices were 39.8 percent higher. Prices for all items less food and energy increased 14.3 percent over the past 3 years.

By way of contrast, recognizing the restraints of congregations, in the past two years, Pastor's Salary minimums have increased 5%, and some pastors have not seen any increase.

In light of this, COM not only recommends the increases in the minimums, COM invites all congregations to consider the same increase for persons currently serving at above the minimum.

2023 Level 1 (<4 years exp.)	2023 Level 2 (4+ years exp.)	2023 Full Time CLP
47,892.00	51,565.00	38,311.00
3% increase +1,437.00	3% increase +1,547.00	3% increase +1,150.00
2024 Level 1 49329.00	2024 Level 2 53,112.00	2024 FT CLP 39,461.00
Monthly increase +119.75	Monthly increase +129.00	Monthly increase +96.00

Note: Effective salary for a call or contract with an ordained pastor must meet current presbytery minimums.

Reported by TE Laura B. Reason, Moderator of Committee on Ministry

STATEMENT OF FAITH – BRYAN BURRIS

I believe in a triune God as creator, sustainer, and redeemer of our world. Through the revelation of God in scripture, in the life and ministry of Jesus, and in the work of the Holy Spirit, we see that God is continually seeking the movement of the world toward justice and love as we are bound to one another in God.

I believe that Jesus is the fullest manifestation of the divine in human form. In his ministry, Jesus taught and demonstrated what it means to live in the kingdom of God, a kingdom that is both here and to come, a kingdom which proclaims good news to the poor, justice for the oppressed, and the power of self-giving love for the healing of the world.

I believe the Holy Spirit works in us to draw us closer to God, empowers us to continue the ministry of Jesus, binds us to one another in God, reveals God's purposes for our lives, illuminates the presence of God in our world and in one another, inspires, encourages, and strengthens us in our spiritual journeys.

I believe the Bible authoritatively witnesses to God's self-revelation. Through the Scriptures, we learn of the interplay between God and humanity in history, the purposes to which God is moving the world, and the nature of who God is. Through the Holy Spirit, the Scriptures continue to speak God's words to us today.

I believe the Church is the body of Christ charged with continuing the ministry of Jesus, bringing healing, hope, love, and justice to a hurting world. The church is connected to one another and to God in Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

In gratitude for God's grace, the church responds with service. In worship, we confess our faith, engage with the Word, and encounter Christ anew in the Sacraments. In our congregations, we seek to be the hands and feet of Christ, support one another in growing as disciples, and provide sanctuary to those in need of refuge.

I believe that through the cross, Jesus demonstrated the power of God's love to bring new life, that through the power of that love our hearts can be changed and we can be reconciled to God. I believe that through the cross and the grace of God we can experience salvation from the sin which separates us from living into the fullness of God's desire for our lives.

I believe heaven is a union with God's presence, a union that we will experience most fully in the life to come. I believe hell is a separation from God, a rejection of the love that God offers, an experience that can begin in this life and continue in the next.

I believe that communion is a means of remembering the life and ministry of Jesus through experiencing the presence of Jesus in the elements, a means of empowering those who take it to continue the work Jesus began, a reminder of our need to follow in the example of Jesus, and a demonstration of the connection which exists between Christ, the church and one another.

I believe baptism is an expression of our intention to live a life of commitment to God's purposes, a reminder of God's grace, an expression of commitment to a community of faith, the emergence of new life in Christ, and an expression of the presence of the Holy Spirit in the life of the person baptized.

COM 2023 Report of Terms of Call and Contracts for Presbytery of Great Rivers

City	Church	Pastor	TOC/Contract	Time %	Effective Salary
Aledo	College Ave.	Fisher, Harry, RE	Contract	weekly	\$ 210.00
Aledo	College Ave.	Furr, Wayne – Cumberland	Contract	50	\$ 26,776.00
Aledo	Sunbeam	TE - McGrath Nagle, Maura	Contract	25	\$ 19,100.00
Athens	Indian Point	CLP-Woodward, Sandi	Contract	40	\$ 15,685.00
Bartonville	Trinity	Stephen Barch - UCC	Contract	50	\$ 26,767.00
Bloomington	Second	TE - Haddon, Treighton	TOC	FT	\$ 85,000.00
Bloomington	St. Luke Union	TE - Gifford, Dr. Andrew	TOC	FT	\$ 92,014.00
Canton	First	TE - Brinklow, Edwin	TOC	FT	\$ 56,779.00
Carlinville	Federated	Mitchell, William - ABC	Contract	50	\$ 30,300.00
Carthage	First United	CLP - Ludington, Diane	Contract	30	\$ 17,500.00
Clinton	Clinton	TE - Stroup, Paul	TOC	FT	\$ 74,243.00
Coal Valley	First	TE - Snart, Tim	TOC	70	\$ 55,565.00
East Moline	First	TE - Sherwood, Rebecca	TOC	FT	On Leave
Elmwood	First	TE - Bauler, Marla	TOC	FT	\$ 52,812.00
Eureka	Eureka	CLP - Montgomery, Robert	Contract	60	\$ 22,536.00
Farmington	First	TE - Bean, Cindy	Contract	50	\$ 46,800.00
Galesburg	First	Carnes, Scott – UMC	Contract	FT	\$ 70,000.00
Geneseo	First	Wynveen, Barry - RCA	Contract	70	\$ 40,000.00
Ipava	Ipava United	TE - Walden, Charles	TOC	30	\$ 15,470.00
Jacksonville	First	TE - Warren, Jonathan	TOC	FT	\$ 75,362.76
Kirkwood	Westminster	CLP - Moore, Pamela	Contract	33	\$ 17,280.00
Knoxville	First United	TE - Shedenhelm, Kenn	Contract	27	\$ 15,250.00
LeRoy	First United	TE - McLean, William (Bill)	Contract	FT	\$ 51,565.00
Lincoln	First	TE - Quine, Adam	TOC	FT	\$ 64,823.00
Macomb	First	TE - Whitaker, A. Rene'	Contract	FT	\$ 53,207.90
Macomb	Scotland Trinity	TE - Walden, Charles	TOC	70	\$ 36,036.00
Mason City	United	TE - Poetschner, Charlotte	Contract	15	\$ 9,450.00
Milan	First	TE - Styrt, Katie	TOC	FT	\$ 53,837.36
Monmouth	Faith United	TE - Ouellette, Brandon	TOC	FT	\$ 52,515.80
Morton	First	CLP - Claver, Michael	Contract	50	\$ 31,584.00
Mt Sterling	Pres Ch of Christ	CLP - Young, Richard	Contract	25	\$ 12,000.00
NewWindsor	New Windsor	TE - Ryu, Hwa Sung	Contract	FT	\$ 51,610.00
Normal	First	TE - Wilcox, Matt	TOC	FT	\$ 80,953.00
Normal	First	Schilling, Christopher - DOC	Contract	50	\$ 35,192.00
Normal	First	TE - Karol Farris Schilling	Contract	50	\$ 37,899.00
Normal	New Covenant	Burris, Bryan – DOC	Contract	FT	\$ 55,900.00
Orion	Beulah	TE - Snart, Tim	TOC	30	\$ 18,643.77
Peoria	First Federated	TE - Wegele, Edward	TOC	FT	\$ 85,000.00
Peoria	United	TE - Avery, Debra	TOC	FT	\$ 90,513.00
Peoria	Westminster	TE - Clark-Jones, Denise	TOC	FT	\$ 82,911.00

Petersburg	Central	Edgecombe, Ryan – Ind. DOC	Contract	50	\$	36,000.00
Pleas.Plains	Farmingdale	Smith, J. Steven – UMC	Contract	50	\$	30,000.00
Quincy	Ellington	CLP - Ron Cox	Contract	50	\$	33,547.00
Reynolds	Hamlet Perryton	TE - Losey, Harold	Contract	47.5	\$	30,000.00
Rio	Rio	TE - McGrath Nagle, Maura	Contract	50	\$	25,782.50
Springfield	First	TE - Phillips, Susan	TOC	FT	\$	142,210.66
Springfield	Hope	TE - Goodman, Chuck	TOC	FT	\$	70,604.00
Springfield	Third	Smith, J. Steven - UMC	Contract	62	\$	31,971.00
Springfield	Westminster	TE - Choi, Christian	TOC	FT	\$	72,522.00
Springfield	Westminster	TE - Kieffer, Dr. Blythe	TOC	FT	\$	112,682.00
Tallula	Rock Creek	TE - Hinds, Joanne	Contract	48	\$	37,000.00
Viola	Viola United	TE - Downey, Matthew	Contract	50	\$	30,900.00
Virginia	First	Elmore, David – Am. Baptist	Contract	31	\$	15,600.00
Virginia	SangamonValley	TE - Bauler, Dr Timothy	Contract	25	\$	18,000.00
Warsaw	First	CLP - Ludington, Diane	Contract	50	\$	24,690.00
Washington	Washington	TE - Napoli, John Joseph	TOC	FT	\$	59,850.00
White Hall	First	CLP - Ballard, Kirby	Contract	26	\$	10,000.00
Woodhull	United	TE - Losey, Cheyanna	TOC	FT	\$	51,735.00
Yates City	Faith United	TE - Bauler, Marla	Contract	15	\$	18,000.00

Churches without current Contract on file with the COM/Presbytery of Great Rivers

Adair	West Prairie	Westlake, Jeremy, Ch. Brethren
Alexis	Norwood	CLP Pullen, Gary
Biggsville -	United	open
Bushnell	First	open
Carrollton	First	CLP – Ballard, Kirby
Carthage	Fountain Green	open
Chatham	Chatham	TE - Daniel, Kay as Supply
Clayton	Federated	rotating supply speakers
Danvers	First	open
Delevan	First	open
Divernon	First	open
Edwards	Korean	TE - Kim, Hyaekwang (Dan)
Greenview	United	open
Hamilton	Bethel	CLP - Hanson, Mark
Lewiston	First	CLP – Frame, Penny
Media	Community	open
Middletown	Middletown	TE - Quine, Adam as Supply
Monmouth	Sugar Tree Gr	open
Niota	AppanooseFaith	Poland, David
Oneida	United	TE - Baldwin, Linda
Pekin	First	pulpit supply
Perry	Perry	open

Rushville	First	open
Seaton	Center	open
Springfield	Korean	TE - Kim, Jaechul
Stronghurst	Stronghurst	open
Virden	First	open
Woodson	Unity	Kerr, Robert

Appendix N

Presbytery of Great Rivers Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report August 26, 2023

UPDATES:

- Lorna Blackford met with the committee for her Annual Consultation on June 21st. We reviewed her responses to form 3 and gave feedback on her first draft Statement of Faith. A Scholarship from the Presbytery of Great Rivers in the amount of \$1,000 was MSA for the 2023/2024 school year.
- Mackenzie Jager has accepted a position at First Presbyterian Church in Muskegon and will be examined for Ordination by the Lake Michigan Presbytery at their next assembly.
- The committee on preparation for ministry made a decision at their June meeting to begin a new tradition of giving a stole to candidates as they are ordained whether in our presbytery or another presbytery. This stole will be signed by committee members and presbytery members who may add words of encouragement or scripture references on the back of the stole with fabric markers. In this way we will continue to travel with them on their ministry journey. We will bring the stole purchased for Mackenzie to the assembly.
- The remaining date for the regularly scheduled Committee on Preparation for Ministry meetings in 2023 is Wednesday, October 18 at 9:30 a.m.

Appendix O



STATED MEETING of the Presbytery of Great Rivers
COMPLETE DOCKET
August 26th, 2023

The Mission of the Presbytery:
*"We are called to share Christ's love
 by partnering in service, uniting in worship, and risking in ministry"*

Please pre-register at <http://www.greatriverspby.org/assembly.html>

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

9:30 Sign-in to Zoom/Meeting site opens

10:00 Call to Order with Prayer

Moderator MWS Katie Styr

10:05 Acknowledging Native American Heritage of Gathering Sites

MWS Elissa Bailey

10:10 Welcome and Instructions

Moderator MWS Katie Styr

- Establish the Roll and Seat Corresponding Members
- Establishment of quorum
- Introduction and seating of new Teaching Elder commissioners
- Introduction of new Ruling Elder Commissioners
- Introduction of Corresponding Members

10:15 Adoption of the Docket

PARTNERING IN MISSION, RISKING IN MINISTRY

10:20 Omnibus Motion:

- Enter all written reports into the permanent minutes

10:25 Lead Presbyter

MWS Ann Schwartz

10:30 Committee On Ministry

MWS Laura Reason

Motions (Please see COM report for rationales and background information)

1. To recommend to the Presbytery that Rev. Lori Kyle (UU) be granted voice at Assemblies for the time she is pastor at Bloomington NCC.

2. To request the Presbytery modify the requirements for the Rev. Dr. Scott Carnes in previous action (November, 2022) to be received as a member of the PC(USA) and to be installed as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Galesburg

- By replacing the Theology Standard Ordination exam with an oral theology exam by a team of 4 members of the Presbytery.
- By crediting his vast Biblical knowledge from his years in ministry in place of an acceptable result on the Bible Content exam. (This motion was approved July 6, 2023 by COM.)

3. To recommend to the Assembly approval of the following actions with Rev. Bryan Burris, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

- Examine, arrest and sustain the examination of the pastor (see his Statement of Faith after this COM report)
- Enroll him as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PC(USA). Upon enrollment, Rev. Burris shall furnish to the Presbytery evidence of having surrendered membership in any and all other Christian churches with which he has previously been associated. (G-0205.b)

4. Recommend to the Assembly an increase of 3% in the minimum salaries for 2024.

UNITING IN WORSHIP

11:00am Gathering Music

Call to Worship

One: Welcome to worship! Let us gather together in this community, formed and sustained by God's strong and never-ending love.

All: We gather as long-time members and newcomers, friends and colleagues, to celebrate God's call.

One: Welcome to worship all who are working to build God's new thing. We join our hearts in praise of the one who already sees what is possible.

All: We gather in faith, trusting that the Spirit will inspire us and sustain our work as we break bread and hear God's word of hope and forgiveness proclaimed.

Worship in Song #455, v. 1, 5, 6 All Creatures of Our God and King D. Witkowski, arr.

*All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam, Thou silver moon with softer gleam, Alleluia!*

*And everyone of tender heart, forgiving others, take your part. O sing ye! Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, praise God and cast on God your care! Alleluia!*

*All creatures, your Creator bless, and worship God in humbleness. O sing ye! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One! Alleluia!*

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

All: Merciful God, we confess that we often wander from your way of truth and life. You call us to share all that we have, but we continue to worry and store up treasures for ourselves. You challenge us to work together for the common good, yet as we pursue our ways of doing church. You call us to set the captives free and seek justice for the oppressed, but we live in fear and hide ourselves from one another. Forgive us, God of grace. Set us free from all that holds us captive so that we may serve you with gladness.

(In the silence, please take a moment to offer your own confession to God.)

One: In the name of Christ we pray. **All: Amen.**

Assurance of Grace

One: God abides in you! God is breathing, living, forgiving, restoring you in this moment, and in the days to come. This is the good news for all of us!

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Alleluia!

Response

Glory to God

Vasile

*Glory to God whose goodness shines on me
And to the Son whose grace has pardoned me
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

Affirmation of the Ministry of the Rev. Ann Schwartz as Lead Presbytery in the Presbytery of Great Rivers

Sentences of Scripture

One: As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ,

All: There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all are one in Christ Jesus.

One: Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to the one hope of our calling,

All: One Lord, one faith, one baptism, on God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Call to Discipleship

One: We are called by God to be the church of Jesus Christ, a sign in the world today of what God intends for all humankind.

All: The great ends of the church are the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth; the promotion of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.

One: The call of Christ is to willing, dedicated discipleship. Our discipleship is a manifestation of the new life we enter through baptism. It is a gift and a commitment, an offering and a responsibility. Rev. Ann Schwartz has been called to serve the Presbytery of Great Rivers as

Lead Presbyter. As we begin our ministry together, we invite her to affirm her baptismal vows and her commitment to taking up the responsibilities of her new position.

Questions for Ann

Questions for the Assembly

One: Do you, the members of the Presbytery of Great Rivers, confirm the call of God to Ann as Lead Presbyter in the service of Jesus Christ? If so, respond: We do

Will you support and encourage her in this ministry? If so, respond: We will.

Prayer

Blessing and Charge

Scripture

Isaiah 51:1-6; Romans 12:1-8

Sermon

“The Body of Christ”

Rev. Ann Schwartz

Song

Jesus, Be with Us (A hymn for Matthew 25 churches)

Gambrell

Jesus, be with us. Help us each day to follow the gospel and live as we pray.

Send us your Spirit and show us your way. Jesus, be with us today.

Where there is hunger and thirst in the land, scatter the systems of greed.

Jesus, be with us; make use of our hands. Lift up your people in need.

Jesus, be with us. Help us each day to follow the gospel and live as we pray.

Send us your Spirit and show us your way. Jesus, be with us today.

Where there are valleys of bones, dry as dust, build up the body of Christ.

Jesus, be with us, and help us to trust. Teach us a new way of life.

Invitation to the Offering

Communion helps us connect to and give thanks for the ultimate offering - God's love with us and for us. As you prepare to receive the bread and the cup, consider how you can make your life an offering in response to God's love. Today's monetary offering will benefit Kemmerer Village.

Donate in person or online at: <https://www.kemmerervillage.org/donate>

The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

One: The pattern of God's mercy is clear enough:

All: God gives, and we receive.

One: The abundance of God's grace is more than we can ask or imagine,

All: God gives, and we receive.

One: Life and breath, deliverance and healing, renewal and hope are ready for us.

All: God gives, and we receive.

One: At this table, the presence of God in Christ is made real in our lives.

All: God gives, and we receive.

One: This is the table where God intends for all of us to be well fed. No exceptions, no restrictions, no barriers. This is the table where every wall is broken down. This is the table where we celebrate the abundance of the whole creation. This is the way Christ comes to

renew his people. So come, all you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, a richer life, a fairer world.

All: Christ has come. Christ will come again and again to feed us in the wilderness.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

Sharing the Feast

All are welcome to receive communion.

When you are ready, come forward to receive a piece of gluten free bread and a cup of juice. If you wish, you may carry the elements back to your seats or you may take communion as you are served. Children are welcome to commune with their parents' permission.

Prayer of Gratitude

Sending Song

Sing, Sing Out

*Sing, sing out! Sing a new song. Sing oh people as one voice!
Sing, Sing out! Sing a new song. Sing of God. Each heart rejoice!
Sing! Hallelujah! Hallelujah, as one voice! Sing! Hallelujah! Hallelujah, all rejoice!*

*Sing, sing out! Sing a new song. Sing oh people for rebirth!
Sing, sing out! Sing a new song. Sing of God in all the earth!
Sing! Hallelujah! Hallelujah, for rebirth! Sing! Hallelujah! Hallelujah, all the earth!*

12:00 Meal Instructions & Lunch

MWS Debra Avery

SHARING IN CHRIST'S LOVE

1:00 Financial Report

RE Bill Strawbridge

Motion: Approve the 2023 budget as presented with a \$1.05 increase in GRP per capita for a total per capita of \$37.25.

1:30 Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)

MWS Maura McGrath Nagle

1:35 Nominating

MWS Cheyanna Losey & RE Gary Terpstra

1:45 Motion to dismiss the Administrative Commission of First Presbyterian Church in Bushnell, with our thanks.

1:50 New Business

1:55 Sharing Good News

2:00 Announcements

2:05 Adjournment and Closing Prayer

-
- The next Assembly is 10am-2pm on November 11th, 2023 at Faith United PC, Monmouth