

Special Presbytery Meeting
September 27, 2021
First Presbyterian Church, Willmar (Presbytery Office)

The Special Presbytery Meeting has been called by two teaching elders (Paul Snyder and Lindsay Jacaruso) and two ruling elders (Kathy Terpstra, Harrison Spicer and Barb Wawrzyniak, Silver Lake) for the purpose of examining for ordination candidate Laura Messer who is under care of the Presbytery of Northern Kansas and is being called as pastor to the Faith Presbyterian Church, Silver Lake, MN.

Presbytery Moderator the Rev. David Lick called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. at the Presbytery Office at the First Presbyterian Church, Willmar, MN with prayer.

PRESBYTERY VOTED to approve the agenda. A quorum was present as can be seen in the roll of attendance:

Teaching Elders:

Beverly Brock
David Choate
Douglas Dent
Mark Ford
Lindsay Jacaruso
Brian Jones
David Lick
Pamela Prouty
Scott Prouty
Galen Smith
Paul Snyder
Leanne Thompson
Scott Thompson
Anne Veldhuisen
Anna Williamson

Commissioned Ruling Elders:

Gordy Pennertz
Kathy Terpstra

By Virtue of Office:

Deb Hess

Le Roy Ennenga

Nancy Skoog

Ruling Elders:

Baxter: Budd McCulloch
Randall: Terry Coffin
Redwood Falls: Deb Hess
Silver Lake: Deb Jensen
Spicer Hope: Tim Block
Willmar: Betty Knutson

Visitors:

Karen Lange
Barb Wawrzyniak
Dorothy Merrill
Donna Holm
Laura Messer
Donna Morang
Duncan Morang
Laura Pieper
Pat Horstmann
Jackie Rossi

Paul Snyder brought forth a report from the Small Church Residency program. Laura is the first candidate who will be participating in the Small Church Residency Program.

Bev Brock, co-chair of Commission on Leadership shared that the COL has reviewed and approved the terms of call (attached). Also COL asked the members of the Small Church Residency Program to review Laura's documents and examine her for ordination.

Barb Wawrzyniak, chair of the Pastoral Nominating Committee from Silver Lake gave a report; Laura has made two visits in person to Silver Lake. At the congregational meeting to call her, the vote was unanimous. They have already formed a ministry team of church members who will support Laura over the next two years.

Laura gave a sermon based on Luke 10 and then shared her faith statement. The Moderator opened the floor for questions.

PRESBYTERY VOTED to call the question and to end the questioning.

PRESBYTERY VOTED via a ballot vote (22 yes and 2 abstained) to approve Candidate Laura Messer for ordination.

PRESBYTERY VOTED to approve the administrative commission to ordain Laura Messer on Sunday, October 17 at 3:00 p.m. at the Faith Presbyterian Church in Silver Lake, MN. Those on the commission include: the Rev. David Lick, Presbytery Moderator, the Rev. Paul Snyder, the Rev. Bev Brock and Ruling Elder Barb Wawrzyniak, Silver Lake, Ruling Elder Kathy Terpstra, Spicer, Harrison. Ruling Elder Barbara Messer from the Presbytery of Northern Kansas will be seated as a corresponding member.

PRESBYTERY VOTED to adjourn at 3:30 p.m. with prayer.

The next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys will be Saturday, November 6, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela R. Prouty

Stated Clerk

Report of the Commission on Leadership (COL) to
The Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys
September 27, 2021

At a special called meeting of COL on September 14, 2021, COL VOTED to recommend to the Presbytery the ordination of Laura Messer. She had met with the Small Church Residency program task force. They had received her sermon, statement of faith and the responses to the ordination questions. Laura has provided a seminary transcript indicating graduation from Austin Theological Presbyterian Seminary and a transcript showing her passing all five of the ordination exams. She has been under care of the Presbytery of Northern Kansas who have declared her ready to receive a call.

COL VOTED to approve the terms of call between candidate Laura Messer and the Faith Presbyterian Church, Silver Lake, MN. She will be examined for ordination at a special presbytery meeting. She will become moderator and able to officiate at the Sacraments upon ordination. She will be part of the Presbytery's Small Church Residency Program. This is a two year designated call from September 26, 2021-September 26, 2023. The terms of call are as follows:

Annual Cash Salary	\$42,500
Manse- full use	
Utilities	\$3,500
SECA @ 7.65% of Cash Salary, Manse and Utilities	\$4,495
Full Board of Pensions	
<u>Other allowances (reimbursable)</u>	
Mileage Allowance at IRS rates	\$2,500
Continuing Education - Cumulative to three years	\$1,000
Professional Expense	\$1,000
Moving Expenses (actual cost up to \$7,000)	
Paid vacation leave of 4 weeks annually, including Sundays (4 weeks minimum).	
Paid Continuing Education leave of 2 weeks annually including Sundays (2 weeks minimum), cumulative for 3 years maximum.	
Sabbatical leave of 13 weeks will be granted after completion of 6 years of service to these congregations.	
Paid maternity leave of 6 weeks.	
In case of disability, full salary, and Board of Pensions dues to be paid for up to 90 days, beginning with day 91 may be placed on disability through Board of Pensions.	
Health and medical leave of 10 working days of sick leave each calendar year cumulative up to ninety days.	
Emergency leave of 5 working days per year arising out of death or illness of member of immediate family.	