

Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys Stated Meeting
April 13, 2024
Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, Renville, Minnesota

PMV Mission Statement: “We are congregations who seek to be a collective expression of the Body of Christ joyfully participating in Christ’s on-going life and work.”

Prior to the Presbytery meeting Teaching Elder (TE) Leanne Thompson (Willmar) led a Commissioner Briefing. TE Bob Bartlett (retired) served as chaplain of the day.

Worship part 1

The Presbytery gathered for worship where TE Scott Prouty (Redwood Falls) preached on Luke 12:23-31; the sermon was entitled “Don’t Worry, God Cares.”

Call to Order/Introduction to the Day/Prayer

Moderator TE Douglas Dent (Fergus Falls) called meeting to order at 10:25 AM

Agenda/Establishing the Roll/Quorum

Stated Clerk TE Pamela Prouty (Windom) presented the agenda. PRESBYTERY VOTED to approve agenda.

A quorum was present as indicated in the roll below. PRESBYTERY VOTED to seat the Rev. Sarah Hoogendoorn from the Christian Reformed Church as a corresponding member. PRESBYTERY VOTED to grant voice to Sara Sutter, Director at Lakeshore Center, Erin Anderson Director at Clearwater Forest, Jill Emery, Foley and Kent Heronimus, Luverne. First time Commissioners and guests were introduced.

2024 Presbytery Attendance	Apr 13	Oct 12	Dec 12
Candace Adams	X		
Aaron Alfred			
Karen Anderson-Dent			
Jon Armajani			
SanDawna Ashley			
Robert Bartlett	X		
Kathy Blair			
Levi Bollerud			
Steven Boots			
Elaine Boyd			
Beverly Brock	X		
Beth Buckwalter-Miller	X		
Jeffrey Bullock			
Chris Conlin			
Beverly Crute	X		
Andrew Davis	X		
Sue DeNio			
Douglas Dent	X		
Jerry Dirks			
Daniel Duggan			

Mark Ford	X		
Tom Gard			
Cory Germain			
Edward Godshall			
Richard Harrison	X		
Michael Hartwell			
Rollin Haynes			
Sarah Hoogendoorn	X		
Allen Jergenson	X		
Dwight Johnson			
Brian Jones	X		
Randall Knuth	X		
Jeanne Kumbalek			
Raymond Larson			
David Lick			
John Lindholm			
Robert Maharry			
Lynne Matthews			
Laura Messer	X		
Ed Morgan			
Tony Oltmann			
Don Ottenhoff			
Pamela Prouty	X		
Scott Prouty	X		
Aaron Punt			
Wayne Purintun			
Herbert Rotunda	X		
Bonnie Sue Roys	X		
Michael Roys			
Patricia Schick			
Darin Seaman	X		
Galen Smith			
Paul Snyder	X		
Robert Springer			
Norma Spurgin			
Tim Sutton			
Penny Temple-Johnson			
Leanne Thompson	X		
Scott Thompson			

Elizabeth Tot			
Anne Veldhuisen			
Tom Voigt			
Steve Voris	X		
Barbara Whipple			
Anna Williamson	X		
William Yueill			
Commissioned Ruling Elders			
Jill Emery	X		
Sue Goebel	X		
Deb Klaassen			
Dennis Peterson			
Kathy Terpstra	X		
By Virtue of Office			
COL – Michael Hartwell			
COL – Louella Voigt	X		
CPL – Leanne Thompson	X		
COO – Patty Brandts			
COO – Le Roy Ennenga	X		
COO – Brian Jones	X		
CN – Galen Smith			
CN – Beverly Brock	X		
PW Moderator – Gloria Rust			
Moderator – Douglas Dent	X		
Vice Mod – Sue Goebel	X		
Past Mod – Leanne Thompson	X		

Ruling Elder Commissioners

Amboy – EXCUSE
 Ashby – EXCUSE
 Baxter – EXCUSE
 Beaver Creek – EXCUSE
 Blue Earth – EXCUSE
 Brewster – EXCUSE
 Browns Valley – EXCUSE
 Cambria – Ronelva Dauer
 Canby – Randy Lopau
 Crosslake – EXCUSE
 Dawson – EXCUSE
 Doran – EXCUSE
 Edgerton – EXCUSE
 Ellsworth – EXCUSE
 Fergus Falls – Connie Seltz
 Foley – Nancy Stiles
 Fulda – EXCUSE
 Holland – EXCUSE

Iona – EXCUSE
Kasota – EXCUSE
Lake Crystal – EXCUSE
Lismore – EXCUSE
Litchfield – EXCUSE
Luverne – Bill Stegemann
Madelia – EXCUSE
Maine – EXCUSE
Mankato – EXCUSE
Marshall – EXCUSE
Maynard – EXCUSE
Milroy – EXCUSE
Mountain Lake – EXCUSE
Osakis – Keven Withers
Pipestone – EXCUSE
Randall – EXCUSE
Redwood Falls – Sonya Alexander
Renville – Pam Kjersten
Round Lake – EXCUSE
Rushmore – EXCUSE
Russell – EXCUSE
Saint Cloud – EXCUSE
Saint James – EXCUSE
Saint Peter – Marge Johnson
Silver Lake – EXCUSE
Slayton – EXCUSE
Spicer Harrison – Lori Klose
Spicer Hope – Jody Leason
Willmar – Betty Knutson
Windom – Mary Klosterbuer
Winnebago – Cheryl Goraczkowski
Worthington – Le Roy Ennenga

Visitors

Karen Lange, Presbytery staff
Sara Sutter – Lakeshore Center at Okoboji
Erin Anderson – Clearwater Forest
Budd McCulloch – COL member
Terrie Gulden – Luverne
Linda Gulden – Luverne
Gayle Stegemann – Luverne
Martha Morse – Luverne
Phil Voigt – Luverne
Colette Meidinger – Winnebago
Becky Voris – Luverne
Kent Heronimus – Luverne
Elena Heronimus – Luverne
John Heronimus – Luverne
Cheryl Heronimus – Luverne
Missy Fick – Luverne
Dorothy Klosterbuer – Luverne

Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda was presented as follows. PRESBYTERY VOTED to approve the consent agenda

1. Approve the minutes from the October 21, 2023, Stated Meeting and the December 4, 2023, Special meeting minutes.
 2. Receive the Stated Clerk's Report
 3. Receive the Executive Presbyter's report
 4. Receive Administrative Commission reports from Brooten and Jackson
 5. Receive the Commission on Presbytery Life report
 6. Receive the Commission on Presbytery Leadership reports #1 and #2 with one recommendation.
 7. Receive the Commission on Presbytery Operations report
- Receive the Committee for Congregational Nurture report

Stated Clerk's Report

Stated Clerk Pamela Prouty presented the report:

1. The Permanent Judicial Commission roster of Former members per D-5.0206b: Rev. Bob Bartlett (class of 2019), Ruling Elder Deb Hess, Ruling Elder Stan Menning, and Ruling Elder Judy Oldemeyer (Class of 2021).
2. I have reviewed the numbers of ruling elders and teaching elders for Presbytery membership. We have 50 ruling elder commissioners, 3 commissioned ruling elders, three ruling elders who chair a Presbytery commission and a ruling elder vice Moderator which is a total of 57 ruling elders who have voice and vote at a presbytery meeting. As of today, we have 66 Teaching Elders on our rolls; eight (all retired) of whom live outside our bounds which totals 61 Teaching Elders who have voice and vote at a presbytery meeting. According to our Operating Procedures, Article 3, the numbers are acceptable.
3. The minister identification cards will be available after March 1, 2024. They will be mailed out to each Presbyterian minister member.
4. The General Assembly Statistical reports have been submitted. As of December 31, 2023, the Presbytery membership is 4938
5. The Middle Governing Body forms have been submitted to the General Assembly.
6. The official documents of the Presbytery: Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and Operating Procedures are all current and available on the website or by contacting me.
7. What has the clerk been up to? She regularly attends the COL meetings, takes their minutes and COL Leadership weekly meetings. She meets regularly with the Moderator Muses and the Leadership Team (Commission/committee chairs), and other Presbytery commissions and committees as requested. COL Leadership has been working hard on updating and editing the COL Manual. I attended a Mighty Clerks of the Synod meeting. I meet weekly with Cohort Q. I answer many a question from Presbytery members, clerks of sessions and others. I keep up on all the official paperwork of the Presbytery. And this being a General Assembly year, I have been asked to be a parliamentarian of a GA committee, so I've attended the Leadership Briefing in Louisville in April and have been reviewing GA work. And then I've also served as the Synod Stated Clerk and pastor to the good folks of Windom.

In addition to that she also made comment regarding minister ID cards being available. General Assembly will be meeting this summer in Salt Lake City, Utah. She encouraged people to view the proceedings via livestream.

<https://ga-pcusa.org/> In May the Presbytery's minutes will be reviewed.

Executive Presbyter Report

In addition to her written report, TE Beth Buckwalter-Miller made comments in regard to God sightings she been encouraged by of the call of pastors in ministry in our area of Minnesota Valleys. She encouraged churches to continue to search for future pastors and CREs within the congregations of the Presbytery. She is encouraged by ecumenical relationships happening and Matthew 25 Missional Partners and challenging the Presbytery how we might strengthen those ministries to those marginalized in our midst.

Commission on Leadership (COL) Report (Attachment C)

Ruling Elder (RE) co-chair Louella Voigt brought the Presbytery Membership Roll for action. PRESBYTERY VOTED to approve the Membership Roll.

TE Darin Seaman (St. Cloud) came forward to present Commissioned Ruling Elder Candidate Jill Emory (G-2.10). She presented her biographical sketch and statement of faith. The floor was opened for examination. Many questions were asked. PRESBYTERY VOTED to close the floor for examination. Jill left the room accompanied by Anna Williamson. The Presbytery discussed her commissioning. PRESBYTERY VOTED to commission RE Jill Emory to the First Presbyterian Church, Winnebago. Her terms of call are attached. She will be commissioned officially after lunch today.

Then Darin presented the Rev. Dr. Sarah Hoogendoorn for action on transfer of minister member of another denomination (G-2.0505). She will be transferring from the Christian Reformed Church to the PCUSA. Since she has been ordained for more than five years, the Presbytery waived the requirement for her to take the ordination exams except for the polity exam. She successfully passed the polity ordination exam.

Sarah read her statement of faith and shared her biographical information. The floor was opened for examination. Several questions were asked. PRESBYTERY VOTED to close the floor to examination. Sarah left the floor accompanied. PRESBYTERY VOTED to transfer the Rev. Dr. Sarah Hoogendoorn to the PCUSA. She presently served as a chaplain at the Veteran's Hospital in St. Cloud.

TE Scott Prouty (Redwood Falls) presented the TE Steve Voris who is presently the interim pastor in Luverne. COL is recommending that he become the called/installed pastor (G-2.0504). RE Kent Heronimus (Luverne) who served as the Pastoral Nominating Committee chair shared comments on the reasoning from the PNC's standpoint on Rev. Voris becoming the installed pastor. The Presbytery had more discussion. Steve left the room. PRESBYTERY VOTED by standing 37 affirmative votes, 0 negative votes.

Prayers for Steve, Jill, and Sarah were offered by the Presbytery

Commission on Presbytery Life (PLife) Report (Attachment D)

TE Leanne Thompson (Willmar) chair of PLife in addition to the written report brought the following action. The presbytery decided to hold both elections at the same time.

The following nominations were presented:

Elder Louella Voigt, Luverne to serve as the ruling elder alternate commissioner for the General Assembly.

TE Andy Davis to the Commission on Representation, term 2026 and appoint him as chair.

Presbytery Moderator Doug Dent opened the floor for additional nominations. PRESBYTERY VOTED to cease nominations and cast a unanimous vote.

Presbytery convened for lunch with RE Connie Seltz (Fergus Falls) offering the prayer at 12:00 pm.

Presbytery was reconvened after lunch by Rev. Leanne Thompson offering the prayer.

Worship Part #2

The Presbytery sang the hymn "We Lift Our Voices." RE Keven Withers (Osakis) shared information on the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. \$521.00 was received. Along with care baskets of cards were collected for the Compassionate Way 1001 Worshipping Community. During the offering the 2023 Necrology report was shared via a power point presentation.

Following the offering, RE Jill Emory was commissioned to serve as a Commissioned Ruling Elder for the First Presbyterian Church, Winnebago, MN. Then the General Assembly Commissioners and Advisory Delegates were commissioned: TE Commissioner David Lick, alternate TE Commissioner Laura Messer, Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD) Julia Prouty, RE Commissioner, Sonya Alexander and RE alternate commissioner Louella Voight, Executive Presbyter Beth Buckwalter-Miller and Stated Clerk Pamela Prouty were commissioned to serve. Then the

Presbytery sang the hymn “Called and Gifted for Christ’s Service.” Then the Presbytery welcomed new pastors to the presbytery: TE Sarah Hoogendoorn, TE Richard Harrison (retired), TE Ernie Freund (retired) Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) Jill Emery. They were each presented with a gift, a book of Reformed Prayers.

Reports

Lakeshore Center – Sara Sutter, director shared information on upcoming programming.

Clearwater Forest – Erin Anderson, director shared information on upcoming programming.

The Compassionate Way – TE Candace Adams presented a report regarding “The Compassionate Way” ministry in the Brainerd/Baxter area.

Speak Out and Committee Highlights and other announcements were shared.

There was no new business.

Worship #3 with the observance of Holy Communion

The Presbytery sang “Spirit of the Living God” Vice Moderator, CRE Sue Goebel (Cambria) led the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The Presbytery sang “Let Us Break Bread Together during communion. Following Communion the Presbytery sang “Jesu, Jesu Fill Us with Your Love.”

Adjournment

The Presbytery adjourned at 3:00 p.m. with prayer.

The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys will be October 12, 2024, at Fergus Falls, MN.

Respectfully Submitted,

Randall Knuth, Recording Clerk

Executive Presbyter Report
Beth Buckwalter-Miller
April, 2024

It is hard to believe that our Presbytery has not officially met since the beginning of December! A lot has happened since that time!

Minnesota Council of Churches: On December 7th I attended the Minnesota Council of Churches Board meeting in St. Paul. I am proud to be a part of this diverse, ecumenical organization that makes such a difference in our state.

Nuer Professionals Meet and Greet: On December 9th I returned to Minneapolis to attend this event hosted by our Matthew 25 Missional Partner, Mr. Thijin Gatwech, and his organization – NPN. South Sudanese people from throughout the region gathered to listen to gifted speakers and enjoy being together as a Nuer community. NPN is committed to helping the South Sudanese with financial stability, housing and mental health education.

COL manual review: I have been working diligently with Pam Prouty, Michael Hartwell and Louella Voigt with the goal of completing the review and updates needed to the COL manual. Many hours have gone into this project with many more to come, but we are hopeful of having a revised manual in your hands soon!

Monthly EP Forum: I attend the zoom EP forum hosted by our Synod Executive, Ruling Elder Elona Street Stewart, every month. This is a great opportunity for EP's to network, brainstorm and support one another in ministry, and Elona is an inspiring and caring leader.

Matthew 25 Summit: I attended this first ever Matthew 25 summit in Atlanta in January. It was a tremendous event and helped me to meet colleagues in our denomination who are now actively supporting our work as a Matthew 25 Presbytery. Events like this help me appreciate in new ways what it means to be a part of a Connectional Church.

Presbytery Training Day: I helped to organize our Presbytery Training Day on January 27. It was good to gather to launch our committees for the new year, and also to learn together. Rev. Dr. Beth McCaw was our keynote speaker. Beth is a professor at Dubuque Seminary, and serves as yet another reminder of how great it is to be a part of a Connectional Church with ministry partners that stand ready to teach, encourage and support.

Church visits: Much of my time is spent visiting churches. Since our last Presbytery meeting, I have visited Litchfield on a number of occasions, and also spent time in Renville, Spicer, Mankato, Osakis, Windom, Worthington-Round-Lake-Iona-Brewster-Reading (shared service in Reading), Amboy, and Good Courage Farm (ecumenical Easter vigil). I have put 42,000 miles on my car since beginning this job not even two years ago and have logged many "windshield hours." I have found that nothing compares to being with a congregation in person, and I repeatedly come away knowing it was time well spent. I am also aware of how many congregations I would like to spend more time with! Please don't hesitate to reach out if you would like to schedule a date for me to come to your church. In addition to visiting the above churches in person I've been able to offer support to Pipestone via zoom and worshipped with the Willmar congregation via Facebook Live on a snowy Sunday. I am thankful for this alternative that helps with availability when miles or weather become an obstacle.

Zoom Meetings: As your EP I am an ex-officio member of every committee, and very rarely miss a meeting. Most are on Zoom, which makes this possible, and I am consistently grateful for our strong leaders who chair our committees and commissions and lead us forward in the work we do together.

Valley Bridge: I continue to write a weekly article for the Valley Bridge and to contribute to this publication in other ways to help us all be aware of the many resources and opportunities available to encourage us in ministry. I am grateful to Karen Lange, our Presbytery Administrator, who has ultimate oversight of this publication every week and has assumed responsibility for much of its content. I am also grateful to others who participate with monthly columns and informative articles, photos and prayer requests. You help us feel connected as a Presbytery family.

Vision Forming for our Future

There are two ways that I experience the Spirit leading us forward right now:

1. **Matthew 25 Missional Partners:** I believe we have been uniquely blessed to have wonderful leaders within the boundaries of our own Presbytery who are doing some incredible work with marginalized people.
 - a. Rev. Dr. Candace Adams: Candace is in the jails, in recovery/rehab houses, and in group homes for people with intellectual and physical disabilities sharing the love and compassion of God.
 - b. Pastor Elizabeth Tot: Pastor Elizabeth is a South Sudanese Presbyterian pastor who leads a small South Sudanese Fellowship in St. Cloud. She has such a heart for her people here, and for her people who are still living in S. Sudan and refugee camps in Ethiopia. She hopes to return to Africa for a couple of months this summer to attend to the needs there, and then will be back in St. Cloud engaging in ministry here.
 - c. Mr Thijin Gatwech: Thijin is a South Sudanese man with a degree in business. He has started the Nuer Professionals Network, a non-profit that is devoted to community development by educating the community about financial literacy and mental wellness. He is well networked with Presbyterian South Sudanese pastors, and will travel with his mother, Pastor Elizabeth Tot, back to South Sudan this summer.

I believe that we are being called to support our Matthew 25 Missional Partners through our ongoing giving. Donations for the work of Candace Adams are being received by our Baxter Church. Donations for the work of Elizabeth Tot and Thijin Gatwech are being received by our St. Cloud Church. These churches have graciously offered to be the fiscal agents for our Matthew 25 partners. We are actively exploring other ways the Presbytery might provide greater support for these Missional Partners.

I also believe that there are more Matthew 25 Missional Partners in our Presbytery, yet to be discovered! How can we support the work of those who serve marginalized people? These amazing Missional Partners, because of their unique life story, background and training, are able to go places we may not be able to go. It falls to us to stand behind them with our support and encouragement for the work they do.

2. **Ecumenical Partnerships:** One of the things I particularly enjoyed during Lent was attending ecumenical worship services in our communities. I worshipped in the Methodist Church in both Litchfield and Amboy, where our local congregations gathered during Lent. Good Courage Farm in Hutchison is also an ecumenical ministry, hosting an Easter vigil the Litchfield church will attend. In Reading I worshipped with five different churches, including one that is no longer a part of our denomination. Watching churches work together across denominational lines is a beautiful witness to the work of Christ in our world. Over and over again I come back to that basic biblical truth: God so loved the WORLD. That's why God gave God's son. Not to promote division, but to bring us together with the strong bond of love. Some of our churches are exploring possible long-term ecumenical partnerships. Others have already formed shared ministry agreements. I celebrate whenever this happens. To have one strong mainline church in a community, with enough members to embrace the work at hand with energy and enthusiasm is a powerful thing! Nothing to fear! Compromise and yes, grief, can be a part of the journey to forming these partnerships when we must face that our church is no longer able to continue on its own. But when we get to the other side of that sadness there is great joy to be found.

Vision never forms in isolation. Your Presbytery Council – referred to as The Presbytery Leaders – meet every month we do not have a Presbytery meeting. They are tasked with setting vision for the Presbytery, coordinating our shared work, and helping us keep in step with the Spirit together. Many are pastors who are serving their own congregations and working very hard. Others are elders who may have jobs in the “real world” and travel great distances or inconvenience their workday schedules to participate in the life of our Council. I am grateful to all of them for stepping up to this plate because it is only as we work together that we can live into the future to which God calls.

Have I told you recently how much I love my job? I really do! Thank you for calling me to this great work.

Together in Christ, With Courage, Devotion and Good Spirit as a Colleague, Rev. Beth Buckwalter-Miller

Attachment B

Administrative Commission Reports
To the Presbytery of MN Valleys
April 13, 2024

Jackson

The building has officially been sold. we are waiting on the lawyer to finish up the official paperwork. Once this is done, the AC will request dissolution.

Galen Smith, Chair

Brooten

We continue to wait on the lawyer about figuring out what to do with cemetery.

Stan Menning, Chair

Commission on Leadership Report
To the Presbytery of MN Valleys
April 13, 2024

This report includes three recommendations, all of which will come to the floor of the Presbytery. Another report will be emailed from COL after their April 4, 2024, meeting.

Actions taken at the January 27, 2024 meeting

1. COL VOTED to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:
 - a. Approve Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP) from Browns Valley, Amboy and Harrison, Spicer.
 - b. Approve Ruling Elder Gordy Pennertz to officiate at the Sacrament of Holy Communion at the First Presbyterian Church, Willmar on February 4. Gordy has been trained.
 - c. Approve Ruling Elder Ron Moffit to continue to moderate the Session at the First Presbyterian Church, Holland, MN from January 1, 2024- December 31, 2024.
2. COL VOTED to **recommend to the Presbytery** the 2024 Membership Roll.
3. COL VOTED ask Commission on Presbytery Operations to support \$1,200 (not including transportation and other incidentals which the Presbytery will also cover) from designated account #2310 Congregational Transformation for Heath Serzhon (a member at the Federated Church) to create a “commercial” of the Presbytery for churches seeking pastoral leadership to use.

Actions taken at the March 7, 2024 meeting

1. COL VOTED to approve the Consent Agenda including the co-chairs action of approved Ruling Elder Stan Menning (who has been trained) to officiate at the sacrament of Holy Communion at the FPC Pipestone on Maundy Thursday March 28, 2024. We received the Fitness and Suitability Report for the candidate for Mankato.
2. COL VOTED to move Interim pastor Steve Voris from part-time to full-time at the First Presbyterian Church, Luverne, MN effective February 11, 2024, at the request of the Session.

The terms of call are as follows:

Salary \$35,000

Housing \$32,100

Other vouchered expenses

Continuing Education \$1250. (cumulative over three years)

Medical allowance \$2600.

Travel expenses vouchered at IRS rate

Four weeks' vacation including 4 Sundays

Two weeks Continuing Education including 2 Sundays (cumulative over 2 years)

3. COL VOTED to **recommend to the Presbytery** to move the Rev. Steve Voris from interim pastor (temporary) to called and installed minister. A congregational meeting approved this recommendation according to G-2.0504b.
4. COL VOTED to **recommend to the Presbytery** transfer the Rev. Sarah Hoogendoorn from the Christian Reformed Church to the PCUSA and to place her on the validated minister roll as a Chaplain.

- a. At the October 2023, the Presbytery voted to waive the requirements of G-2.0505a except the Polity exam. Sarah has completed and successfully passed this exam.
 - b. A member of COL has met with Sarah to discuss the Book of Confessions.
 - c. Sarah is a member in good standing with the Christian Reformed Church
 - d. The Presbytery has received all her official documentation, and she has passed all the background checks
 - e. With this positive action, she will be placed on the Validated Minister Roll as a chaplain at the VA Hospital in St. Cloud
 - f. The statement of faith is attached.
5. COL VOTED to approve Ruling Elder Jill Emery from Foley as completing all the requirements to be commissioned and is eligible to be commissioned.
 6. COL VOTED to transfer the Rev. Richard Harrison, retired from the Presbytery of Santa Fe.
 7. COL VOTED to engage in conversations with the United Methodist Church about shared ministries in a number of places in the Presbytery.

Commission on Leadership Report #2
To the Presbytery of MN Valleys
April 13, 2024

Actions taken at the April 4, 2024

1. COL VOTED to approve the Consent Agenda including the co-chair's action of approving Sue Goebel to serve communion at the April 13 Presbytery meeting.
2. COL VOTED to **recommend to the** Presbytery to dissolve the Pastor Recruitment Grant program. **(This action will be part of the Consent Agenda)**
3. COL VOTED to transfer the membership of Rev. Ernie Freund, retired, from the Presbytery of Plains and Peaks to the Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys.
4. COL VOTED to **recommend to** the Presbytery that Commission Ruling Elder Candidate Jill Emery be examined for commissioning. She shall be commissioned as the Commissioned Ruling Elder at the Presbyterian Church of Winnebago. **(This action will come to the floor)**
5. COL VOTED to allow a Salary Exemption for the Rev Bev Crute who serves the First Presbyterian Church of Maynard

CORRECTION:

Action #3 under the actions of the March 7, 2024, needs to be corrected:

COL VOTED to **recommend to the Presbytery** to move the Rev. Steve Voris from interim pastor (temporary) to called and installed minister. A ~~congregational~~ Session meeting approved this recommendation according to G- 2.0504b.

MEMBERSHIP ROLLS OF MINNESOTA VALLEYS PRESBYTERY (G-3.0306)

April 13, 2024

Categories of membership G-20503

Italics means transition.

INSTALLED TEACHING ELDERS/ MINISTERS OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT (MSW) – G-2.0504A

Beverly Brock – Foley (start date July 9, 2019)
Andrew Davis – St. Peter
Douglas Dent – Fergus Falls, Federated
Mark Ford – Baxter
Michael Hartwell-Randall (start date July 2018)
Brian Jones-Spicer, Hope (start date August 2, 2021)
Jeanne Kumbalek – Kasota/Lake Crystal (start date November 15, 2021)
Randy Knuth – Emmanuel First, Rushmore and Zion, Ellsworth (start date June 1, 2022)
David Lick-St. James (start date March 2018)
Laura Messer – Silver Lake (start date September 26, 2021)
Scott Prouty – Redwood Falls
Herbert Rotunda (UCC) – Dawson
Darin Seaman – St. Cloud
Galen Smith – Brewster, Round Lake, Worthington (start date of 3 parish – January 1, 2024)
Paul Snyder – Ashby/Dalton (ELCA) – start date April 26, 2020
Penny Jo Temple-Johnson – Cambria
Leanne Thompson – Willmar
Scott Thompson – Willmar
Anne Veldhuisen – Marshall
Tom Voigt – Edgerton/Lismore (start date June 26, 2022)
Anna Williamson – Renville (start date January, 2019)

TEMPORARY TEACHING ELDERS/MSW: STATED SUPPLY G-2.0504B

Levi Bollerud, (ELCA) Canby (September 1, 2023)
Beverly Crute – Maynard
Mark Ford - Crosslake
Bob Kersten (UMC) – Maine Underwood (January 1, 2022)
Pamela Prouty – Windom (December 1, 2020)
Aaron Punt (RCA) – Slayton (January 1, 2022)
Penny Jo Temple-Johnson – Madelia
Anne Veldhuisen – Russell
Steve Voris – Interim at Luverne (August 4, 2023)

TEACHING ELDERS/MSW: VALIDATED MINISTRIES – G-2.0503A

Candace Adams, Missionary Leader, Church on Wheels, Baxter/Brainerd Area, MN

Karen Anderson – Christian Educator, Fergus Falls Federated
Jon Armajani – Assistant Professor of Theology, College of St. Benedict and St. John's University
SanDawna Ashley- Synod Executive, Synod of the Northeast
Beth Buckwalter-Miller – Executive Presbyter (June 1, 2022)
Jeff Bullock – University of Dubuque, IA President, Dubuque, IA
Beverly Crute – Hospital Chaplain, Centra Care Willmar, MN
Daniel Duggan – Chaplain, St. Cloud VA
Cory Germain – United Church of Christ Church in Fairmont, MN
Sarah Hoogendoorn – Chaplain, St. Cloud VA
Tony Oltmann - Associate for Vital Congregations for the General Assembly, Crosslake, MN
Pamela Prouty – Presbytery Stated Clerk and Synod of Lakes and Prairies Stated Clerk
Elizabeth Tot – pastor to Sudanese Fellowship and Parish Associate, St. Cloud G-2.0504b

TEACHING ELDERS/MSW: MEMBERS AT LARGE (G-2.0503b)

Aaron Alfred, Waunakee, WI
Edward Godshall – Laurel, MD
Barbara Whipple, Laurel, DE

RULING ELDERS COMMISSIONED TO A PARTICULAR SERVICE: (G-2.1001)

Sue Goebel – Cambria; (August 9, 2016) and at large (October 8, 2022)
Jill Emery – Winnebago (April 13, 2024)
Deb Klaassen – Iona
Dennis Peterson – At large (October 8, 2022)
Kathy Terpstra – at large (June 2, 2022)

RETIRED TEACHING ELDERS/MSW (G-2.0503c)

Bob Bartlett, Round Lake, MN (July 30, 2022)
Kathy Blair, Winnebago, MN (October 22, 2021)
Steve Boots, Madison Lake, MN (January 1, 2013)
Elaine Boyd, Willmar, MN (September 30, 2021)
Chris Conlin, St. Peter, MN (September 1, 2017)
Daniel Duggan, St. Cloud, MN (June 18, 2019)
Sue DeNio, Duluth, MN (December 4, 2015)
Jerry Dirks, Sauk Rapids, MN
Ernie Freund, Alexandria, MN (transferred April 7, 2024)
Tom Gard, Fergus Falls, MN (May 4, 2015)
Richard Harrison, Luverne, MN (transferred March 7, 2024)
Rollin Haynes, Slayton, MN (September 1, 2014)
Allen Jergenson, Foley, MN (June 30, 2017)
Dwight Johnson, Nisswa, MN
Ray Larson, Breezy Point, MN
John Lindholm, Fergus Falls, MN (September 1, 2018)
Robert Maharry, St. Peter, MN
Lynne Matthews, Edgerton, MN (January 1, 2023) (Pastor Emeritus-Holland, G-2.0504b)
C. Edward Morgan, Fergus Falls, MN (Pastor Emeritus – Federated, Fergus Falls, G-2.0504b)
Don Ottenhoff, St. Joseph, MN (September 21, 2021)
Wayne Purinton, Morrow, OH
Bonnie Roys, Winnebago, MN (January 1, 2020)
Michael Roys, Winnebago, MN (January 1, 2020)
Patricia Schick, ??????
Robert Springer, Hanska, MN
Norma Spurgin, Princeton, MN (August 6, 2013)
Timothy Sutton, Albuquerque, NM (October 31, 2015)
William Yueill, Zimmerman, MN

DELETIONS FROM THE ROLL – 2024

The Rev. Leslie Winters, Stillwater, MN passed away at the age of 85 on January 4, 2024.
The Rev. Mark Chamberlain, Willmar, MN passed away at the age of 69 March 11, 2024

Inquirers Under Care

Bailey DeVetter, Mankato

THE FOLLOWING IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY –
NOT A PART OF PRESBYTERY ROLLS

Moderators (Presbytery appointed):

Amboy – Rev. Michael Roys – (*Rev. Jeanne Kumbalek serving at request of Michael*)
Beaver Creek – CRE Deb Klaassen
Blue Earth – Rev. Cory Germain
Browns Valley- a member from the Presbytery of South Dakota
Doran – Rev. John Lindholm
Fulda – Rev. Rollin Haynes
Holland – Ruling Elder Ron Moffitt
Litchfield – Rev. Scott Thompson
Mankato – Rev. Andy Davis
Milroy – Rev. Pamela Prouty
Mountain Lake- Rev. David Lick
Osakis – Rev. Paul Snyder
Pipestone - CRE Kathy Terpstra
Spicer, Harrison – Rev. Leanne Thompson
Winnebago – Rev. David Lick

Ongoing pulpit supply – COL has approved

Ron Moffitt – Holland (title-Worship Leader)
Mari Rogers – Beaver Creek

Retired Commissioned Ruling Elders – this is only for information, not a Book of Order designation

Keith Carey – June 2018
Carol Chmielewski – May 2017
David Hollis – December 31, 2020
Karen Houtman – February 5, 2023
Gordy Pennertz – February 26, 2023
Kathy Terpstra – June 1, 2018
Betty Thorson – December 2018

Ruling Elders who have completed training as far as we know:

Jean Bauer, Hope, Spicer
Jill Emery, Foley
Diane Gravely, Russell
Tim Hunt, Fergus Falls
Kathy Knips, Lismore
Keith Lohse, Windom
John McKay, Mankato
Cindy Matthews Rosa, Milroy
Stan Menning, Dawson
Lou Perli, Holland
Dennis Peterson, Harrison, Spicer
Pat Postlewaite, summers in Crosslake
Bev Raske, Renville
Sheila Sjerven, Willmar

Ruling Elders who have taken some classes but not completed training

Steve Anderson, Crosslake
Deb Hess, Redwood Falls
Gloria VandeBrake, Foley

Ruling Elders approved and trained by the Presbytery to serve Communion

1. Pipestone
2. Browns Valley
3. Winnebago
4. RE Kathy Knips approved to serve communion at Round Lake and Brewster until May 1, 2024.

Ruling Elders whose terms have been extended

1. COL approved term limit waiver request from the First Presbyterian Church, Litchfield for Ruling Elder Sue Berg to term a third term as elder, class of 2025.
2. COL VOTED to grant permission to the First Presbyterian Church, Dawson to extend the term of elder Dan Lee for a third term, 2025.
3. COL VOTED to grant an exemption to G-2.0404 “terms of service” for Ruling Elder Jody Olson to serve an additional third year term, 2025. (Canby)
4. COL Voted to grant an exemption to Grace First Parish, Russell, MN to G-2.0404 “terms of service” for Ruling Elder David Cook to serve an additional third year term, 2025.
5. COL Voted to grant an exemption to Christ United Presbyterian Church, Marshall MN to G-2.0404 “terms of service” for Ruling Elder Dave Kabes to serve an additional third year term, 2025.
6. COL VOTED to grant an exemption to the First presbyterian Church of Blue Earth to G-2.0404 Terms of Service for Ruling Elder Connie Hedland to serve fill out the rest of an unfilled term through 2023 and serve another full term through 2026.

Chaplain the Rev. Sarah Hoogendoorn
Statement of Faith

As people who claim the name of Christ, we belong – body and soul, in life and death – to this faithful Savior. In Ephesians, Paul states that we are adopted as sons and daughters through the great sacrifice, the death and resurrection of Christ. As God lavishes us with undeserved love, he also gifts us with the Holy Spirit so that we are marked as his beloved, as his chosen people. We belong, utterly and totally, to God, freed from the shackles of evil, held instead in the hands calloused with love, grace, and mercy. Scripture proclaims this. It is sheer joy to belong, of course, to know that we are not left alone to our own devices in a world marred by sin, by death, by brokenness. As Paul states in Philippians, we maintain a citizenship in heaven, and our daily lives are marked by this truth. We, in turn, live this sense of comfort and hope-filled belonging out in the world with gratitude.

I work primarily in the Mental Health field – my patients are men and women who served in the various branches of the military and who now struggle with substance abuse disorder or mental health issues. It's usually a combination of the two. These are men and women who have seen and done unimaginable things. I have heard stories that reduce me to tears because they show me the depths of pain and suffering caused by war. I walk alongside men and women who do not believe they have any human dignity left because of the things their country has asked them to do. They wrestle, they question, they struggle, they try to find the answers in the depths of alcohol or the high of drugs, or sometimes, they try to escape the pain with suicide. I often find myself grieving the things I hear.

But I believe that just as I have received the comfort, hope, and joy of knowing I belong to Christ, I want to share that truth with others. In my particular ministry environment, this is not done through the proclamation of the word or the sharing of the sacraments. In fact, there are many rules around what I'm allowed to do as a government-employed chaplain. Yet, I regularly return to Romans 12:9-16 as a guide. Paul's powerful words state:

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

In my own work, this takes a variety of forms. I listen to the hospice patient tell the stories of his life, filled with details of both beautiful and ugly moments, and hold his family when he passes. I hold the hand of the combat Veteran while she meets with her medical provider, because I am the only person she has disclosed her military sexual trauma to, and she wants me to be there when she tells her medical providers and asks about what sort of help she can get to begin facing the trauma. I facilitate Step Five for Veterans who are going through the AA or NA process, listening without judgment as they "Admit to God, to themselves, and to another human being the exact nature of their wrongs." I reassure a war-hardened ranking officer that despite the fact that he cannot see his value and worth because of all he did while deployed, I can, and I will continue to do so until he finds a way to see it for himself, and I give him space to weep where no one can see him. I ask Veterans to find ways to be kind and compassionate to themselves because they have a large capacity to be kind to each other, to see the good in those around them, and to see only the darkness and evil inside themselves and are unable to see the bravery and courage it takes for them to confront their demons. I rejoice when a Veteran returns and shares that their reintegration into society has not yet resulted in relapse. I attempt to point my Veterans toward hope in the midst of their darkness, whatever their darkness may be.

A Veteran I work with recently made this remark in one of the groups I facilitate: "You can always tell the people who are in it because they care. There is something different. You can't sit here, day after day, listening to our crazy stuff, and not care. It's just not possible. You'd go crazy yourself." As I reflected on that comment, I realized just how profound a statement my Veteran made. I do, of course, care in very deep ways about the men and women I work with on a regular

basis. But my caring is not simply because I am called as a Chaplain to this particular line of work, nor is it only an outpouring of the gratitude I have for the working of salvation in my own life. No, my desire to extend the comfort, hope, and joy of the gospel message – whether in word or deed – to those around me is a product of the Holy Spirit’s residence in my heart. I could not do this job on my own – I probably *would* go crazy, because it is often difficult and there is regular and daily confrontation with the sin and brokenness of the world that is palpable and tangible.

The good news is that this work is not dependent on you or me. Any comfort we are able to give, any hope we are able to offer, any joy we are able to point toward is only a foretaste of the true comfort, the true hope, and the true joy offered by the gospel. Perhaps as we point toward God, the Spirit will prompt conversations of faith to take place. Or perhaps God will work in other ways in the person’s life that we do not necessarily see. We simply give what the Spirit equips us to give and point toward the great hope of belonging to God.

I myself feel a sense of belonging, comfort, hope, and joy when I come to the Table to celebrate the Lord’s Supper. When I eat the bread and drink from the cup with my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, my spiritual hunger is sated. I experience the sustaining power of the Spirit in a tangible way. I am reminded that God’s hands, calloused with mercy and grace, hold me. Similarly, when I see someone being baptized, I am reminded of my own baptism, that Christ has washed me clean with his blood so that I can stand in front of God as if I have never sinned nor been a sinner.

Working at the VA is a unique experience. It stretches my faith and my trust in God in ways I didn’t realize were possible sometimes. But the gospel is also unique, and the Spirit invites us into this unique place of belonging, comfort, hope, and joy so that we point others back to why we belong – the love of the Triune God.

Statement of Faith.

Jill Emery

I believe in the one triune God consisting of God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Though three distinct entities, they are one all-powerful, majestic and loving God. They were there before creation, brought the Heavens, the Earth and all that is seen and unseen into existence, and will be there throughout eternity. This omnipotent God looks to have a relationship with creation.

This triune God is the only God that deserves my worship, praise and service. I place my trust (both in life and in death) in God.

I believe that I, like all other humans, was created in the image of God with all of the attributes, gifts, and free choice that that entails. Like Adam and Eve, I am a sinner. I was born guilty through the actions of Adam and Eve and am a lost sinner on my own rite. But through the grace of my Lord, Jesus Christ, I am able to be saved.

I believe that Jesus was God incarnate. Jesus was given to the world to pay for my sins. Jesus came down from Heaven to be born as a human infant (fully God and fully human). He grew and lived as a human with all of the life experiences and temptations that are part of being human.

Yet, Jesus remained sinless. Though innocent (and because He was innocent), He offered Himself as a ransom to pay for my sins. Jesus' death and resurrection washed away my sins, paid my debt, and offered my salvation. This gift of grace is just that – an unearned gift. It is through grace alone and through my faith in Christ alone that I receive justification and salvation.

Jesus' incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection, and life and death in general, show His great love for each of us. I believe that Jesus is more than a Savior. He was and is a way maker for the lost, a friend, a comforter, an encourager, a healer, a protector, and much more. Jesus sits at the right hand of God and is a mediator between God and humans.

I believe in the Holy Spirit – who is God with us. The Holy Spirit guides us, intercedes for us, and connects us to all Christians in all of time and in all places. The Holy Spirit is God in every moment of my life, teaching me, guiding me, helping me, interceding for me and illuminating God's word to my understanding. The Holy Spirit gives me strength and helps me to live out the purpose that God has for my life.

I believe the scriptures to be the divinely inspired, infallible word of God. Scriptures should be studied and used as a road map for daily living. The scriptures, though written thousands of years ago, pertain to our daily life today. The Bible shows the big picture plan of God's to reestablish His presence in human's lives after the original sin. It shows us who God is, how we should respond to God, and how God's promise is fulfilled through the life, death, resurrection and the second coming of Jesus Christ.

I believe the Church to be the bride of Christ. Through the church, I am able to be closer to God – like Jesus said as recorded in Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them (NRSV)." That communion of believers takes on the tasks of showing God's love to the world and to each other. We work to be connected both to God and each other while we labor to do God's work in the church, the community and the world.

**A Brief Biographical Introduction
And Sense of Call
Jill Emery**

Faith, Family, Friends, fitness and fun summarize my life. I have been fortunate to grow up with a church family influencing my life — giving me a foundation of Christ to which I can utilize daily. My teaching career has been my mission work these past 30 plus years, but I have also felt a pull toward church leadership for the past 6 years. I have earned a Master of Education degree from Saint Mary's University, a Bachelor of Science in Health Education and a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education degrees as well as certificates of Coaching and Developmental Adaptive Physical Education from Saint Cloud State University. That schooling and my teaching experience have not only served me well in my teaching profession but have provided many tools that are also useful in church leadership. The Commissioned Ruling Elder courses that I completed through the Synod of Lakes and Prairies have provided skills and knowledge that help me feel prepared to take on the role of Commissioned Pastor.

I have been doing pulpit supply for Foley First Presbyterian Church since before finishing the Academy. And, I've been a pulpit supply person for Saint Cloud First Presbyterian Church for the past few years. I enjoy serving in that way and am excited at the prospect of leading worship each week.

I'm currently in my 30th year of teaching at Sauk Rapids Rice High School. As well as teaching approximately 150 different students each school day, I am the department chairperson, site manager for soccer and basketball sporting events (game/facility setup, lead event personnel, crowd supervision, problem solving, etc) and spent seven years as our district staff's Wellness Coordinator (creating and facilitating various activities and events for staff, coordinating leaders and workers, maintaining budgets and reports and more). Daily, I utilize various computer skills, problem solve and communicate with students and parents from a variety of backgrounds, counsel students and staff and assist administration with decision- making and implementation strategies. All are skills that will prove to be helpful in church leadership as well.

While I am currently well established in a teaching career, I feel pulled toward pastoral leadership. I am a faithful, flexible, energetic, hard-working, positive person who is passionate about showing God's love to others. All of the pieces of my life seem to be working toward having me be a Commissioned Pastor. I feel that God has used my past experience, knowledge, and leadership roles to prepare me to become a Commissioned Pastor.

Emery Terms of Call Attached

Cash Salary: \$ 52,000.00

SECA: \$ 3,978.00

Auto Expense – Mileage paid out: \$ 3,000.00

Professional Expense: \$ 2,000.00

Continuing Education: \$ 1,250.00

Medical Insurance: 40% PLUS \$ 7,000.00

Utilities & Homeowner's Insurance: \$ 5,000.00

Moving Cost: \$ 2,000.00

TOTAL COST TO THE CHURCH: \$ 76,228.00

**Presbytery Life Commission
April 2024**

The vision of the Presbytery Life Commission is to encourage and enhance our common life as the Body of Christ.

Per our mandate, Presbytery Life plans and coordinates upcoming presbytery meetings, interprets and invites participation in the denomination's special offerings, and reflects upon the vision, mission, and structure of the presbytery.

In addition, we have been investing in building relationships with Specialized Ministries/Mission Partners and prayerfully discerning how to support them in the important work they do. These partners include:

- ❖ Elizabeth Tot – South Sudanese fellowship (St. Cloud)
- ❖ Thijin Gatwech – providing mental health & community development to South Sudanese community (St. Cloud)
- ❖ Candace Adams – The Compassionate Way: Church on Wheels (Brainerd)

We are deeply appreciative of these individuals and their particular gifts serving in specialized ministries and desire to support them. The commission is actively seeking the best way to utilize available resources to support these ministries.

As we continue the larger task of discerning how to live into the covenant relationships, we hold with one another and make space for new and inventive ministries, we try not to lose sight of the very important smaller tasks that are the responsibility of our commission.

To that end, we bring to you the following motion: **Elect Andy Davis (TE, Saint Peter, Union Presbyterian) to COR and appoint him as chair.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Leanne Thompson

Presbytery Life Chair & Past Moderator

**Commission on Presbytery Operations - Budget and Finance Task Force Report to the
Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys
April 13, 2024**

We met via Zoom on October 26, November 30, and December 21, 2023, and February 29 and March 25, 2024.

Financial Review:

- Financial position is strong with investments continuing to perform well.
- Annual remittances from churches for special offerings and greater causes was almost \$76,000 with \$23,743 for One Great Hour of Sharing, \$11,194 for Disaster Relief and \$11,741 for the 2022 Christmas Joy Offering.
- During 2023, we collected over 99% of our Per Capita budget.

Approved scholarship/grant requests for the following:

- Zion Ellsworth – Technology – \$ 624.50
- Christ United Marshall – Technology – \$ 750.00
- Randall Randall – Technology – \$ 388.79
- First Windom – Technology – \$ 750.00
- Iona Iona – Technology – \$ 165.00
- Nyatot Children and Women Ministry of S Sudan First St. Cloud – Technology – \$ 650.00
- First Willmar – Technology – \$ 750.00

Commission on Operations reviewed a proposal from First Presbyterian Church of Lake Crystal to sell their manse. We determined that the criteria set forth in the Church Sale Policy were met and approved the following terms:

- Sale Price – \$215,000
- Legal Description – 721 E Blue Earth Street, Fairview Addition, Lot 4 & W 30.2 Ft of 003 003 00 Church

Commission on Operations reviewed a proposal from Westminster Presbyterian Church of Worthington to sell their church building (excluding the vacant lot and garage) and purchase another building. We determined that the criteria set forth in the Church Sale Policy were met and approved the following terms:

- **Sale Price – \$1,650,000**
- Buyer – Iglesia Unida Pentecostal Hispana
- Address – 230 Clary Street (Legal Description below)
- **Purchase Price – \$550,000**
- Seller – Iglesia Unida Pentecostal Hispana
- Address – 500 Stower Drive (Legal Description below)

Legal description of the property of the property being sold at 230 Clary St., Worthington, MN

REAL ESTATE LEGAL DESCRIPTION

That part of Block 4, Stangeland's Addition to the City of Worthington, Nobles County, Minnesota, described as follows:

Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Block 4; thence on an assumed bearing of North 89 degrees 10 minutes 27 seconds East, along the north line of said Block 4, a distance of 390.00 feet to an iron monument, said iron monument being the Point of Beginning of the tract to be described; thence South 0 degrees 17 minutes 03 seconds East a distance of 294.50 feet to the north line of the south 31 feet of said Block 4; thence North 88 degrees 57 minutes 06 seconds East, along said north line of the south 31 feet of said Block 4, a distance of 508.01 feet to the northeast corner of the south 31 feet of said Block 4; thence North 0 degrees 31 minutes 43 seconds West, along the east line of said Block 4, a distance of 235.20 feet to an ending point on said east line; thence North 45 degrees 11 minutes 40 seconds West, along the northeast line of said Block 4, a distance of 80.19 feet to the north line of said Block 4; thence South 89 degrees 10 minutes 27 seconds West, along said north line, a distance of 450.37 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 3.38 acres, subject to easements now of recording said county and state;

TOGETHER WITH A TEMPORARY EASEMENT OF ACCESS legally described as follows:

A 30.00 foot-wide easement of access over that part of Block 4, Stangeland's Addition to the City of Worthington, Nobles County, Minnesota, the west and south line of said easement is described as follows:

Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Block 4; thence on an assumed bearing of North 89 degrees 10 minutes 27 seconds East, along the north line of said Block 4, a distance of 255.00 feet to the Point of Beginning of the west and south line to be described; thence South 0 degrees 00 minutes West a distance of 50.00 feet; thence South 30 degrees 00 minutes East a distance of 50.00 feet; thence South 60 degrees 00 minutes East a distance of 50.00 feet; thence North 90 degrees 00 minutes East a distance of 67.28 feet, and said line there terminating.

Legal description of the property Westminster Presbyterian is purchasing at 500 Stower Dr, Worthington MN

REAL ESTATE LEGAL DESCRIPTION

That part of Lot 7 of the Auditor's Outlots 1 to 12, inclusive in the S1/2SW1/4 of Section 14,

Township 102N, Range 40W, City of Worthington, Nobles County, Minnesota, described as follows:
Commencing at the northwest corner of said Lot 7 of Auditor's Outlots 1 to 12, inclusive; thence on an assumed bearing of north 90°00'00" east, along the north line of Lot 7, also being the north line of a tract as recorded in Document No. 219705, a distance of 100.62 feet to an iron monument, said iron monument being the Point of Beginning of the tract to be described; thence continuing north 90°00'00" east, along said north line, a distance of 300.00 feet to the northeast corner of said tract; thence south 0°00'00" west, along the east line of said tract, a distance of 200.00 feet to an iron monument; thence south 90°00'00" west, a distance of 200.00 feet to an iron monument; thence north 26°33'54" west a distance of 223.61 feet to the Point of Beginning;

AND

That part of Lot 1 and Lot 7 of the Auditor's Outlots 1 to 12, inclusive in the S1/2SW1/4 of Section 14, Township 102N, Range 40W, City of Worthington, Nobles County, Minnesota, described as follows:
Commencing at the northwest corner of said Lot 7 of said Auditor's Outlots 1 to 12, inclusive, thence on an assumed bearing of north 89°09'45" east, along the north line of Lot 7, also being the north line of a tract as recorded in Document No. 219705, a distance of 100.62 feet to an iron monument located at the northwest corner of a tract as recorded in Document No. A349668; thence continuing north 89°09'45" east, along the north line of said Lot 7, a distance of 300.00 feet to the northeast corner of last said tract; thence south 00°50'15" east, along the east line of last said tract, a distance of 200.00 feet to the southeast corner of said tract, said southeast corner being the Point of Beginning of the tract to be described; thence continuing south 00°50'15" east a distance of 125.00 feet to an iron monument; thence north 75°57'34" west a distance of 130.00 feet to an iron monument; thence north 39°54'02" west a distance of 118.00 feet to the southwest corner of last said tract; thence north 89°09'45" east, along the south line of last said tract, a distance of 200.00 feet to the Point of Beginning

Committee on Congregational Nurture Report to the
Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys April 13, 2024

The Committee is short several members and so we have a large number of churches who do not have liaisons assigned yet.

As the Liaisons are contacting churches, they have been asked to ask ways the congregations are meeting the Matthew 25 vision in their community. We hope to be able to share this information with the rest of the presbytery. We are also seeking contact information from the churches which will help us find new members to possibly contact to be on other commissions in the presbytery.

The Ministry Leaders's Retreat is planned for September 15-19, 2024. It will be held again at Clearwater Forest. We are finalizing plans with the retreat leader. Look for sign up information soon.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Galen Smith
Co-chair Committee on Congregational Nurture