

The Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys
March 7, 2026
Zoom Meeting

The Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys met via Zoom on Saturday, March 7th, 2026. The meeting was scheduled to take place at Amboy but due to icy road conditions it was decided best to move the meeting to Zoom (a video conferencing program).

Call to Order and Worship

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Sue Goebel with prayer at 10 AM.

She welcomed Rev. Dr. Matt Sauer (TE, Winnebago Presbytery) who led worship with TE Laura Messer (Silver Lake) assisting as liturgist. The service was based on the theme of Mr. Rogers neighborhood, which called each of us to consider how we might be good neighbors in a strife torn time that our nation was experiencing. The hymns “When the Poor Ones” and “Jesus, Teach us to Be Neighbors” were sung.

Agenda, Roll, Quorum

Stated Clerk, TE Pamela Prouty presented the agenda for the meeting. There were no additions. PRESBYTERY VOTED to approve the agenda.

Stated Clerk Pamela Prouty presented the roll. There was a quorum present with those indicating presence on the following report:

Teaching Elder Attendance	Mar 7	Sep 12	Dec 1
Candace Adams	X		
Aaron Alfred			
Karen Anderson-Dent			
Jon Armajani			
Robert Bartlett			
Kathy Blair			
Levi Bollerud			
Steven Boots			
Elaine Boyd	X		
Beverly Brock			
Beth Buckwalter-Miller	X		
Jeffrey Bullock			
Chris Conlin			
Beverly Crute	X		
Andrew Davis	X		

Sue DeNio			
Douglas Dent	X		
Jerry Dirks			
Robert Drake			
Daniel Duggan			
Mark Ford			
Thomas Gard			
Eric Garner	X		
Cory Germain			
Edward Godshall			
Richard Harrison			
Michael Hartwell	X		
Rollin Haynes			
Sarah Hoogendoorn			
Allen Jergenson			
Dwight Johnson			
Brian Jones	X		
Bob Kersten			
Randall Knuth	X		
Jeanne Kumbalek	X		
Raymond Larson			
David Lick	X		
John Lindholm			
Robert Maharry			
Lynne Matthews			
Laura Messer	X		
Ed Morgan			
Tim Olsen			
Tony Oltmann			
Don Ottenhoff			
Pamela Prouty	X		
Scott Prouty	X		
Aaron Punt	X		
Wayne Purintun			
Herbert Rotunda	X		
Bonnie Sue Roys			
Michael Roys			
Patricia Schick			

Darin Seaman			
Galen Smith	X		
Paul Snyder	X		
Robert Springer			
Norma Spurgin			
Tim Sutton			
Penny Temple-Johnson	X		
Leanne Thompson	X		
Scott Thompson	X		
Elizabeth Tot			
Anne Veldhuisen			
Tom Voigt			
Steve Voris	X		
Anna Williamson	X		
Commissioned Ruling Elders			
Jill Emery	X		
Sue Goebel	X		
Velda Maine			
Dennis Peterson	X		
Kathy Terpstra			
By Virtue of Office			
COL – Andy Davis	X		
COL – Louella Voigt	X		
COO – Patty Brandts	X		
COO – Brian Jones	X		
Representation – Andy Davis	X		
PW Moderator – Gloria Rust			
Co-Moderator – Bill Stegemann	X		
Co-Moderator – Sue Goebel	X		
Vice Mod – Laura Messer	X		
Past Mod – Douglas Dent	X		

Ruling Elder Commissioners

Amboy – Debi Larson
Ashby –
Baxter –
Beaver Creek –

Blue Earth –
Brewster –
Browns Valley –
Cambria – Ronelva Dauer

Canby –
Crosslake –
Dawson – Stan Menning
Doran –
Edgerton –
Ellsworth –
Fergus Falls –
Foley –
Fulda –
Iona –
Kasota – Dan Honetschlager
Lake Crystal – Melanie Miller
Lismore –
Litchfield –
Luverne – Greg Antoine
Madelia – Carolyn Schultz
Maine –
Mankato –
Marshall –
Maynard –
Milroy –

Mountain Lake –
Osakis – Keven Withers
Pipestone –
Randall – Terry Coffin
Redwood Falls – Sonya Alexander
Renville – Christina Hebrink
Round Lake –
Rushmore –
Russell –
Saint Cloud –
Saint James – Bob Lick
Saint Peter – Marge Johnson
Silver Lake – Brittany McCleskey
Slayton – Luanne Parker
Spicer Harrison –
Spicer Hope –
Willmar – Tammy Douglas
Windom – David Easler
Winnebago – Edward Mace
Worthington –

Visitors

Tina Halvorson, Presbytery Staff
Joy Peterson (Renville)
Barb Antonie (Luverne)
Barb Dewey (Ashby)
Quentin Markfort (Renville)
Colette Meidinger (Winnebago)
Erin Anderson (Clearwater)
Sara Sutter (Lakeshore)
Matt Sauer (Guest Speaker)

PRESBYTERY VOTED to seat as corresponding members and grant voice to the following:

Corresponding members: Rev. Matthew Sauer, Presbytery of Winnebago

Voice: Camp Directors of Clearwater Forest, Erin Anderson and of Lakeshore Center, Sara Sutter. Quentin Markfort, a Synodically Authorized Minister from Renville.

First time Commissioners and guests were recognized.

Tokens of Office Exchanged

Presbytery Co-Moderator Sue Goebel (CRE, Cambria) led a prayer for Co-Moderator Bill Stegemann (RE, Luverne) and Vice-moderator Laura Messer (TE, Silver Lake). Tokens of office were exchanged, stoles for co-moderators and a cross necklace for the vice-moderator.

Words of Welcome were offered.

The Consent Agenda

Stated Clerk Pamela Prouty (TE, Windom) presented the Consent Agenda as follows:

1. Approve the minutes from the Stated Meeting December 2, 2025
2. Receive the Stated Clerk's Report
3. Receive the Executive Presbyter's report (attachment 1)
4. Receive Administrative Commission reports from Brooten – they have not met
5. Receive the Commission on Presbytery Leadership (attachment 2)
6. Receive the Mod Squad (Presbytery Moderators) Commission Report (attachment 3)

Commissioners were offered the opportunity to remove items from the Consent Agenda. PRESBYTERY VOTED to approve the Consent Agenda.

The Stated Clerk's Report

Stated Clerk Pamela Prouty (TE, Windom) presented the Stated Clerk's Report as follows:

1. The Permanent Judicial Commission roster of Former members per D-5.0206b: 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 49 ruling elder commissioners, four commissioned ruling elders, two ruling elders who chair a Presbytery commission and two ruling elders who serve as officers of the Presbytery (co-moderator and vice-moderator) which is a total of 57 ruling elders who have voice and vote at a presbytery meeting. As of today, we have 70 Teaching Elders on our rolls; five (all retired) of whom live outside the bounds which totals 65 Teaching Elders who have voice and vote at a presbytery meeting. According to our Operating Procedures, Article 3, the numbers are not perfect but acceptable.
3. The General Assembly Statistical reports have been submitted.
4. The annual Middle Governing Body forms have been submitted to the General Assembly.
5. 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.
6. Session records have been read and approved for the Canby, Dawson, and St. Cloud church.
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 Mod Squad and the Leadership Team (Commission/committee chairs), and other Presbytery commissions and committees as requested. 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 then I also serve as the Synod Stated Clerk and pastor to the good folks of Windom.

Executive Presbyter Report (attachment 1)

Executive Presbyter Beth Buckwalter-Miller shared about her time spent visiting churches and meeting with pastors and Presbytery commissions.

Commission on Leadership (attachment 2)

Andy Davis (TE, St. Peter) presented the COL report. He presented the Presbytery Membership Roll as found in attachment #2. PRESBYTERY VOTED to approve the membership roll.

Then he talked about the moderator fee which has not been changed in over 20 years. COL is recommending increasing the moderator fee from from \$50 to \$ 75 per meeting plus IRS mileage. PRESBYTERY VOTED to approve this request.

Andy talked about congregational liaisons. COL has appointed a COL member to each congregation. The hope is that it will help build relationships between the congregation and the presbytery. The liaison is to visit with pastoral leaders, clerks of session, sessions, and congregational members as appropriate. The assignments can be found in attachment #2.

Finally, we had the rare chance to say farewell to Rev. Paul Snyder who is moving to Wisconsin Dells to serve the United Presbyterian Church, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin. He was serving the Ashby church who is in a shared ministry with Dalton Lutheran Church.

Committee on Representation (attachment 4)

Chair Andy Davis (TE, St. Peter) brought forth action from the Committee on Representation to nominate to the Presbytery Committee on Operations, Budget and Finance, Jerry Nuss, RE of Fergus Falls to fill out the term of 2026. The floor was opened for additional nominations. PRESBYTERY VOTED to cease nominations and approve this nomination.

Mod Squad Commission (attachment 3)

Presbytery co-moderator Sue Goebel (CRE, Cambria) presented two policies for the Presbytery to consider: the Anti-Racism Policy and the Harassment Policy. PRESBYTERY VOTED to approve.

Presbytery past-moderator Doug Dent (TE, Fergus Falls) presented two names to serve on the Committee on Representation each for three-year terms Al Jergenson (TE, retired) to serve as chair and Jill Emery (CRE, Winnebago). They both will be filling out terms for 2026. The floor was opened for additional nominations. PRESBYTERY VOTED to cease nominations and approve this nomination.

Offering (attachment 7)

Call for Offering was presented by Debi Larson. During this time, the 2025 Necrology Report (attachment 8) was presented via slideshow. The prayer of dedication was offered by Presbytery Vice-Moderator Laura Messer (TE, Silver Lake)

Reports

Lakeshore Center report was offered by Sara Sutter They are busy trying to plan a full summer of activities and camps. Ilovelakeshore.org website will provide more information as well as registration information.

Clearwater Forest report was offered by Andy Davis. They are in the midst of a capital campaign and shared a video. They are also busy planning a summer full of activities.

Special Offerings Update Video was shared which is available to each congregation.

Speak Out and Announcements

Ministry Leaders Retreat This will held the week after Easter at Clearwater Forest April 19 – 23, Give early RSVP to Laura Messer

Synod School, last week of July 26-31

Scott Prouty's Installation Service: April 19th at 4 PM in Round Lake - Scott Prouty's Installation to Brewster/Round Lake/Worthington

New Business

There was no new business.

The Presbytery sang Hymn "What Wondrous Love Is This"

Celebration of The Lord's Supper

Eric Garner (TE, Mankato) lead the service of communion. A solo was shared by Susan Grover "Broken and Beautiful" by Brain Doerksen

Hymn "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

The Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys stated meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm. with a prayer and benediction by Presbytery co-moderator Bill Stegemann (RE, Luverne)

The next meeting of the Presbytery of MN Valleys will be Saturday, September 12, 2026, at the First Presbyterian Church, St. Cloud.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stated Clerk Pamela Prouty and

Rev. Randall B. Knuth, recording clerk

ATTACHMENT 1

Executive Presbyter Report March 7, 2026, Presbytery Meeting

Church Visits: Since we last met in December, I have visited our churches in: Brown's Valley, Ashby, Spicer, Willmar, Osakis, Litchfield, Redwood Falls, St. James, Maine, and Winnebago.

Committees and Commissions: I continue to attend our meetings. Thanks all of you who volunteer your time to serve on a committee or commission! A snowstorm meant rescheduling our training day to launch the year – now scheduled for February 21st and featuring Rev. Jerad Morey from the MN Council of Churches to lead us in "Respectful Conversations" as we think about what it means to be a Matthew 25 Presbytery.

Responding to Need in our Communities: We have several pastors and church members throughout the Presbytery who are actively involved in feeding people who have been fearful of leaving their homes, in attending protests to stand up for the rights of immigrant neighbors, and other forms of involvement in all that is going on in Minnesota and our nation. I am engaged in conversation throughout the Synod to consider funding needs for some of these communities and ways of supporting one another in this significant work. Please reach out to me if you are involved in this work or know of needs in your community.

Special Zoom Invites: I hosted a zoom Lunch & Learn with guests from the VA in St. Cloud to help us think about suicide prevention, postvention and moral injury. The VA is a strong resource in this area if you have need. I also hosted a weekly prayer group over zoom for five weeks. Using the Book of Common Worship, we prayed for needs in our own lives, in our churches and in our communities. Some mornings I had one person join me, and other mornings it was just me praying on my own – but even so, it was worthwhile.

Planning our Next Lunch & Learn: I am planning our next Lunch & Learn for April 9th! Rev. Dr. April Davis Campbell, from Omaha Seminary, will be our guest, along with Rev. Dr. Michael Hartwell, our Presbytery liaison to The Academy. April is the Director of Education for Omaha Seminary, and they are now working with The Academy to offer classes, including a Certificate in Proclamation. I have heard great things about the classes. They are good for continuing education for Ministers of Word and Sacrament, and also helpful to those preparing to become Commissioned Ruling Elders.

**Commission on Leadership
Report
To the
Presbytery of MN Valleys**

Two recommendations to the Presbytery are in this report; they will both come to the floor.

Actions Taken at the December 4, 2026, Meeting

1. COL VOTED to approve the following Co-chair Actions:
 - a. Authorized Ruling Elder Betsy Johnson and Ruling Elder Gordy Pennertz to serve communion at Harrison Presbyterian Church, Spicer from January 1 - December 31, 2026.
 - b. Received the Sustainability and Suitability interview report for the Rev. Tim Olsen.
 - c. Authorized Ruling Elder Stan Menning to serve communion at Renville on December 7, 2025.
2. COL VOTED to Authorize Ruling Elder Keven Withers to moderate Session meetings at Osakis.
3. COL VOTED to approve the request from Kasota church to extend Session Elder term Brad Wobbrock to serve another two-year term 2028.
4. COL VOTED to approve the request from the Dawson church to extend Session Elder term Danny Lee to serve another three-year term 2029.
5. COL VOTED to approve the relationship between the Ashby Presbyterian Church and Synodically Authorized Minister Elereth Arntson for two months December 2025 - January 2026. He will preach 3 times a month, teach Confirmation and cover funerals and will be in the office 1 time a week. His salary will be \$2,083/month.

Actions Taken at the February 5, 2026, Meeting

6. COL VOTED to approve the following Co-chair actions:
 - a. Appointed Rev. Steve Voris to be a mentor for Velda Maine.
 - b. Granted permission to Ruling Elders Cheri Landwig, Gordy Pennertz and Betsy Johnson (who have all been trained) to serve communion at Harrison Presbyterian Church, Spicer, MN from January 1 - December 31, 2026.
 - c. Appointed Tom Voigt as moderator at Iona.
 - d. Ruling Elder Carol Chmielewski appointed moderator for a congregational meeting on December 14, 2025, at Faith Presbyterian Church, Silver Lake, MN.
 - e. An emergency grant was granted to a pastoral leader.
 - f. Appointed Doug Dent to be moderator at First Presbyterian Church, Ashby, MN.
 - g. Appointed Michael Hartwell as liaison to the Underwood Presbyterian Church, Maine, MN.
 - h. Received the Redwood Falls exit interview reports.
7. COL VOTED to set the 2026 meetings: February 21, March 26, May 7 (in person), July 9, August 6, September 3 (in person), October 1, November 5 & December 3.
8. We will assign liaisons at the February 21 meeting.
9. COL VOTED to **recommend to the Presbytery** the 2026 membership roll.
10. COL VOTED to **recommend to Presbytery** to raise the moderator fee to \$75 plus IRS (.72.5/mile).
11. COL VOTED to validate the ministry of the Rev. Tim Olsen with the Evangelical Environmental Network, Upper Midwest Coordinator.
12. COL VOTED to appoint CRE Sue Goebel to install/ordain officers on February 15, 2026, at Randall Presbyterian Church.
13. COL VOTED to dissolve the pastoral relationship between the First Presbyterian Church, Redwood Falls and the Rev. Scott Prouty (congregational meeting January 18, 2026) effective January 31, 2026.

14. COL VOTED to extend the part-time contract between Ebenezer Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Anna Williamson for one more year 2026.
15. COL VOTED to dissolve the pastoral relationship between First Presbyterian Church, Iona, and the commissioned ruling elder Deb Klaassen effective December 31, 2025.
16. COL VOTED to dissolve the pastoral relationship between First Presbyterian Church, Ashby, and the Rev. Paul Snyder effective February 15, 2026 (congregational meeting February 1, 2026).
17. COL VOTED to approve the request from the Iona church to ask their former CRE Deb Klaassen back for a celebration of her retirement.

MEMBERSHIP ROLLS OF MINNESOTA VALLEYS PRESBYTERY (G-3.0306)

February 5, 2026,
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 – Brainerd/Baxter
Eric Garner – Mankato (start date June 16, 2024)
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 – Brewster, Round Lake & Worthington (start date February 1, 2026)
Herbert Rotunda (UCC) – Dawson
Darin Seaman – St. Cloud
Penny Jo Temple-Johnson – Cambria
Leanne Thompson – Willmar
Scott Thompson – Willmar
Anne Veldhuisen – Marshall
Tom Voigt – Edgerton/Lismore (start date June 26, 2022)
Steve Voris – Luverne (start date April 13, 2024)

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
Anna Williamson (retired) – Renville

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 Emeritus Dubuque, IA
Beverly Crute – Hospital Chaplain, Centra Care Willmar, MN
Robert Drake – Interim at Faith Lutheran, Staples and Bethany, Cushing, MN
Daniel Duggan (retired) – Chaplain, St. Cloud VA
Cory Germain – First Congregational United Church of Christ in Fairmont, MN
Sarah Hoogendoorn – Chaplain, St. Cloud VA
Pamela Prouty – Presbytery Stated Clerk and Synod of Lakes and Prairies Stated Clerk
Tim Olsen - Evangelical Environmental Network
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
Tony Oltmann- Crosslake, MN
Paul Snyder – Ashby, MN
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) (mentor Penny Johnson)
Jill Emery – Winnebago (April 13, 2024) (mentor David Lick)
Dennis Peterson – At Large (October 8, 2022)
Kathy Terpstra – At Large (April 3, 2027)

OTHER PASTORAL LEADERS

Jerod Jordan – Member of Presbytery of SD CRE at Browns Valley, MN & Sisseton, SD (August 1, 2025)
Velda Maine – Methodist Lay Pastor serving Pipestone (start date 7/1/24) – Velda is a Presbytery Member

RETIRED TEACHING ELDERS/MSW (G-2.0503c)

Bob Bartlett, Worthington, 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)
Michael Hartwell-Little Falls (February 28, 2025)
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 Purintun, Morrow, OH
Bonnie Roys, Winnebago, MN (January 1, 2020)
Michael Roys, Winnebago, MN (January 1, 2020)
Patricia Schick, ??????
Galen Smith, Worthington, MN (October 31, 2025)
Robert Springer, Hanska, MN
Norma Spurgin, Princeton, MN (August 6, 2013)
Timothy Sutton, Albuquerque, NM (October 31, 2015)
Anna Williamson – Renville, MN (December 31, 2025)

DELETIONS FROM THE ROLL – 2026

SanDawna Ashley transferred to the Presbytery of Albany

Inquirers Under Care

Bailey DeVetter, Mankato
Paige Kappes, Willmar

Commission on Leadership Report #2

COL VOTED to appoint committee members as congregational liaisons as attached.

COL VOTED to appoint a Task Force of 5-7 people to work with the Compassionate Way.

COL VOTED to approve a waiver for term limits for a deacon request from the Lakes Area Presbyterian Church, Baxter, MN for Effie Elg for the term ending 2028.

Congregational Liaisons 2026

Town	Church Name	Pastoral Leader	Membership	Worship Attendance	COL liaison	Other notes
Amboy	First	Moderator: Jeanne Kumbalek	100	35	Cory Germain	On CLC
Ashby	First	Moderator: Doug Dent	92	30	Budd McCulloch	
Baxter	Lakes Area	Mark Ford	35	32	Michael Hartwell	
Crosslake	Crosslake	Mark Ford	39	20	Michael Hartwell	Stated Supply
Beaver Creek	First	Moderator: Steve Voris	62		Steve Voris	Pulpit Supply
Blue Earth	First	Moderator: Cory Germain	29	19	Cory Germain	Pulpit Supply
Brewster	First	Scott Prouty	26	11	Louella Voigt Kathy Knips	
Round Lake	First	Scott Prouty	68		Louella Voigt Kathy Knips	

Worthington	Westminster	Scott Prouty	140	39	Louella Voigt Kathy Knips	
Browns Valley	United Methodist Presbyterian	CRE Jerod Jordan- SD member	42	35	Michael Hartwell	Shared ministry with Sisseton, SD

Canby	First	Levi Bollerud (ELCA pastor)	55	20	Sonya Alexander	Levi is parttime
Cambria	Cambria	Penny TempleJohnson	100	28	Cory Germain	
Madelia	First	Penny TempleJohnson	105	21	Cory Germain	Stated Supply
Dawson	First	Herb Rotunda	44	11	Anna Williamson	Appleton UCC Pastor
Doran	First	John Lindholm, Moderator	15		Budd McCulloch	Pulpit Supply
Edgerton	First	Tom Voigt	107	65	Steve Voris	
Lismore	First	Tom Voigt	35	15	Steve Voris	
Ellsworth	Zion	Randy Knuth	93	46	Kathy Knips	
Rushmore	First Emmanuel	Randy Knuth	56	31	Kathy Knips	
Fergus Falls	Federated Church	Doug Dent	260	97	Darin Seaman	UCC and Presbyterian
Foley	First	Bev Brock	128	68	Mark Ford	
Fulda	First	Moderator Rollin Haynes	97	40	Kathy Knips	Pulpit Supply
Iona	First	Moderator Tom Voigt	45	28	Galen Smith	

Kasota	First	Jeanne Kumbalek	89	15	Laura Messer	
Lake Crystal	First	Jeanne Kumbalek	164	24	Laura Messer	
Litchfield	First	Moderator Laura Messer	41	20	Laura Messer	Pulpit Supply
Luverne	First	Steve Voris	262	90	Darin Seaman	

Mankato	First	Eric Garner	276	79	David Lick	
Marshall	Christ United	Anne Veldhuisen	71	31	Steve Voris	
Russell	Grace First Parish	Anne Veldhuisen	62		Steve Voris	Stated Supply ELCA/ Presbyterian
Maynard	First	Bev Crute	12	8	Leanne Thompson	¼ time Stated Supply
Milroy	First	Moderator Pam Prouty	8		Sonya Alexander	Pulpit Supply
Mt. Lake	First	Moderator David Lick	21	15	Galen Smith	Pulpit Supply and livestream with St. James
Osakis	First	Moderator-RE Keven Withers	21	21	Budd McColloch	Pulpit supply
Pipestone	First	Velda Maine Methodist lay pastor	189	42	Sonya Alexander	
Slayton	First	Aaron Punt	62	20	David Lick	Shared ministry with Slayton RCA, Aaron is an RCA minister
Randall	Randall	Moderator Bev Brock	68	35	“Search” liaison Bev Brock	Pulpit Supply

Redwood Falls	First	Moderator Anna Williamson	132	45	Anna Williamson	
Renville	Ebenezer	Anna Williamson	82	52	Sonya Alexander	Part time
Silver Lake	Faith	Laura Messer	64	35	Darin Seaman	

Spicer, Harrison		Moderator Leanne Thompson	44	16	“Search” liaison Scott Thompson	Shared relationship with Zion Lutheran.
Spicer	Hope	Brian Jones	152	93	Laura Messer	
St. Cloud	First	Darin Seaman	295	117	Michael Hartwell	
St. James	First	David Lick	183	50	Galen Smith	
St. Peter	Union	Andy Davis	158	100	Laura Messer	
Underwood/Maine	Maine	Robert Kersten	37	29	Michael Hartwell	Stated Supply part time
Willmar	First	Scott & Leanne Thompson	204	64	Anna Williamson	Both 50% time
Winnebago	First	Jill Emery CRE	134	52	David Lick	David Lick, Mentor
Windom	First	Pam Prouty	89	43	Galen Smith	½ time position
New Worshipping Communities					Leanne Thompson	
South Sudanese Fellowship Nuer Professionals Network Compassionate Way	Elizabeth Tot Thijin Gatwech Candace Adams					

ATTACHMENT 3

Mod-Squad Commission (Presbytery Moderators) Report

To the Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys

March 12, 2026

The Mod Squad is made up of the Presbytery Co-Moderators Rev. Doug Dent and Elder Sue Goebel, the Presbytery Vice Moderator Elder Bill Stegeman and Past Moderator Rev. Leanne Thompson. Presbytery staff Executive Presbyter Rev. Beth Buckwalter-Miller and Stated Clerk Rev. Pamela Prouty also attend these meetings.

1. Recommend to Presbytery the Anti-Racism and Harassment policies.
2. The Mod Squad Commission will be nominating two people to COR. Andy Davis has resigned and there is an open seat. The Mod Squad will nominate TE Al Jergenson, retired, and CRE Jill Emery, Winnebago, to the class of 2026 and then each will be eligible for another three-year term.

ATTACHMENT 4

Committee on Representation

1. RE John Williamson has resigned from the Commission on Operations. COR will nominate RE Jerry Nuss, Federated Fergus Falls, to fill out his term (2026). He will then be eligible for another three-year term.

ATTACHMENT 5

PRESBYTERY OF MINNESOTA VALLEYS ANTI-RACISM POLICY

I. POLICY RATIONALE

The Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys developed this Anti-Racism Policy to create accountability relevant to becoming anti-racist in the workplace, in our mission, in our values, and in our service and programs.

The Presbytery stands against racism and will engage in concrete actions that dismantles racist systems of privilege while it also builds respect for the growing diversity of our churches and communities. The unity of believers in Christ is reflected in the rich diversity of the Church's membership. The Book of Order acknowledges, (F-1.0403) "In Christ, by the power of the Spirit, God unites persons through baptism regardless of race, ethnicity, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, geography, or theological conviction."

There is no place in the life of the Church for discrimination against any person. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) declared it shall embrace full opportunity for participation and representation in its worship, governance, and emerging life to all persons or groups within its membership, and so shall the Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys.

The General Assembly of the PCUSA in G-3.0106 requires that the Presbytery, like all councils, shall adopt an anti-racism policy.

As stated in the PC(USA)'s Anti-Racism Policy*, Racism is an affliction of power and control. It is the opposite of what God intends for humanity. It is the rejection of the other, which is entirely contrary to the Word of God incarnate in Jesus Christ. Racism is a lie about our fellow human beings, for it says that some are less than others. Some people in the United States of America continue to reap the benefits of white supremacy, even when they individually believe in the equality of all people. Because of our biblical understanding of who God is and what God intends for humanity, the PCUSA must stand against, speak against and work against racism with a sense of urgency. We must listen to diverse voices regarding how racism functions in our society. The appropriate response is confession and repentance of this sinfulness

* "Facing Racism: A Vision of the Intercultural Community Churchwide Anti-Racism Policy"

This policy is to ensure accountability to be anti-racist in our mission, governance, and leadership. These principles were developed to create an environment where people feel valued, respected and have equitable opportunity to contribute

II. THIS POLICY APPLIES TO -

- All personnel
- Commissioners, commission, committee and task force members, and volunteers.
- Programs, services, trainings, and conferences prepared or offered by the Presbytery.
- Social media, graphics or online communication, publications, and images.

III. COMMITMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

Antiracism behavior is not achieved in a single act. It requires an ongoing process sustained over time by moral presence and practice. Training, prayer, and action are required for respectful and positive conditions that value accessibility, equity, and inclusion. The Presbytery will:

- Strive for racial equity in recruitment, hiring, and retention of employees as an Equal Opportunity Employer
- Offer restorative actions in response to injustices produced by racism.
- Manage investments and budget decisions in ways that increase our witness to racial equity and justice.
- Welcome and affirm people in the way they identify themselves and express their cultural values.
- Identify and eliminate other forms of discrimination based on gender, age or ability, economic status, spiritual beliefs, and nationality often associated with racism

IV. ACCOUNTABILITY

When the behavior of an individual or activity during an event is suspected to violate this policy, it shall be brought to the attention of the Presbytery Moderator, Stated Clerk or Executive.

The response to the violation may follow the guidelines of the Disciplinary Process described in the Rules of Discipline in the Book of Order.

It may involve

- Calling the behavior to the attention of the person or entity who displayed it
- Engaging a mediator to facilitate a discussion to remediate what was unacceptable
- Ensuring protective measures to prevent further harm, intimidation, or exclusion
- Submitting a report to an appropriate authority for other negotiated agreements
- Pursuing additional disciplinary action, counseling, or employee referrals
 - Expressing an apology, a symbolic act of restitution or repair as necessary
 - Evaluating when and if the corrective action has been satisfactorily completed.
- Preparing training models or professional development to restore trust, respect, and justice

Policy adopted: March 12, 2026, Presbytery meeting.

This policy is adapted from the Synod of Lakes and Prairies Anti-Racism policy.

ATTACHMENT 6

Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys Harassment Policy

The Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys is committed to maintaining an environment that is free from harassment. Harassment in any form is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This policy is designed to comply with the laws of the state of Minnesota and to promote a safe and respectful community for all staff, volunteers, visitors, and meeting participants.

Scope:

This policy applies to all members, staff, volunteers, visitors, and participants of Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys, regardless of their position or relationship to the presbytery. It covers all forms of harassment, including but not limited to racial harassment, ethnic harassment, religious harassment, and any other form of harassment prohibited by Minnesota law (Statute 609.749 Harassment; Stalking; Penalties).

Definition of Harassment:

Harassment is defined as unwelcome conduct, whether verbal, written, physical, or visual, that is based on a protected characteristic and creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment, or interferes with an individual's participation in presbytery's activities. Protected characteristics include, but are not limited to, race, color, national origin, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, or any other protected status under Minnesota law.

Examples of harassment may include, but are not limited to:

1. Offensive comments, jokes, or slurs based on a protected characteristic.
2. Displaying or circulating offensive or discriminatory material.
3. Bullying, intimidating, or hostile behavior based on a protected characteristic.
4. Persistent or unwelcome conduct that interferes with an individual's participation in church activities or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

Reporting Procedure:

The Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys encourages the reporting of all incidents of harassment promptly. If a member, staff, volunteer, visitor, or participant believes they have been subjected to harassment or witnessed harassment, they should follow these steps:

1. **Report the incident:** The individual should report the incident immediately to the Stated Clerk, Presbytery Moderator or Executive Presbyter. If the complaint involves the Stated Clerk, the complaint should be made to the Chair of the Personnel Committee.
2. **Investigation:** The Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys will promptly and thoroughly investigate all complaints of harassment. The investigation will be conducted in a confidential, sensitive, and impartial manner. All parties involved will be provided an opportunity to present relevant information.
3. **Remedial Action:** If an investigation reveals that harassment has occurred, appropriate remedial action will be taken. This may include counseling, education, mediation, or other appropriate measures. In cases where the conduct violates the law or presbytery policies, disciplinary action, up to and including

removal from leadership positions, termination of employment or membership, may be taken. The Presbytery of

Minnesota Valleys will also take steps to prevent further harassment and ensure that the victim is protected from retaliation.

Non-Retaliation:

The Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys prohibits retaliation against any individual who reports harassment or participates in an investigation. Retaliation includes any adverse action taken against the individual, such as exclusion from presbytery activities, removal from leadership positions, or any other negative consequence within the presbytery community. Any act of retaliation should be reported immediately and will be treated as a separate violation of this policy.

Approval:

This policy used the Presbytery of Winnebago as a template.

ATTACHMENT 7

Special Offerings Thank You! The changes to the Special Offerings was shared.

Thank you for granting us the time to tell you about the changes to the Churchwide Special Offerings today, we hope this information will help as you plan and prepare to participate this year. Your presbytery has been strong supporters of the Special Offerings throughout the years, and we're so grateful for your generous participation. In fact, your congregations have one of the highest participation rates among all presbyteries of the PC(USA) – 80% of your congregations received at least one Special Offering in 2025! Thank you for the many ways you all support the mission and ministries of the PC(USA), but especially for your faithful commitment to the Churchwide Special Offerings.

I'd also like to celebrate the 9 dedicated congregations who received all four Offerings in 2025; thank you so much to Cambria Presbyterian Church in New Ulm, Ebenezer Presbyterian Church in Renville, First Presbyterian Church of Madelia, First Presbyterian Church of Maynard, First Presbyterian

Church of Willman, First Presbyterian Church of Windom, First Presbyterian Church of Iona, Hope Presbyterian Church in Spicer, and Westminster Presbyterian Church in Worthington. As you hear about the new slate of Offerings, I hope you can prayerfully consider becoming a Three for Three church in 2026 by receiving all three Offerings.

Like you'll hear in our video presentation, our team welcomes your questions and feedback! Please feel free to reach out to us anytime at special.offerings@pcusa.org or (800)-728-7228 ext. 5047. I'd also encourage your congregation to sign up for our email list (there's a QR code in the video presentation, or you can find it online at pcusa.org/special-offerings), which is the best way to keep up with all the news on Special Offerings, including more information on the World Communion Offering Grant as it becomes available. Thank you again for your time and attention today, and please be in touch with any further needs or questions you may have!

Peace be with you,

Sarah McDowell, Annual Giving Officer, PC(USA)

2025 NECROLOGY REPORT

Teaching Elders

Rev. Bill Yueill

Ashby

Shelby Carol Stonestrom

Brewster

Darlene Plantz

Cambria

Mervin Enoch "Butch" Jones

Dawson

Bonnie Miller
Elton Falness

Kasota

George Warrant

Lake Crystal

Marlyn Buss

Luverne

Robert Edmund Bailey
Lois A. Meyer Ahrendt
Edwin "Ed" Dale Elbers

Madelia

Barbara Carol Sorenson
Robert Louis Stevensen

Redwood Falls

Sue Tiffany

Saint Cloud

Dr. Carol Gay Brink
Alan Dean Espelien, M.D.
Patricia Hontos

Saint James

Gus M. Zender
Harold Loewen
Gladys Lewis

Spicer Harrison

Ardyce Jean Hegstrom

Spicer Hope

Sharlotte Williams

Underwood, Maine

James Crouse
Judy Hangartner
Ethelynn Snyder

Willmar

Wilson Salter

Windom

Audrey Knuth

Worthington

Donald Viessman
Russell Rickers
Bernice Camery
Garnet Burns