

**JOHN CALVIN PRESBYTERY
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

For Action: (Items with an * are included in the consent agenda.)

1. *That Presbytery grant a waiver to the constitutional limitation on terms of service for First Presbyterian Church, Webb City, so that one of their ruling elders can serve an additional three-year term.
2. *That the Southminster Administrative Commission be dissolved (at their request).
3. That Presbytery approve revised terms of call for the Rev. Jennifer Dawson and First Presbyterian Church, Parsons, Kansas:

Salary	\$50,000
Housing allowance	\$12,000
Total Effective Salary	\$62,000
Board of Pensions Dues	\$22,940
Continuing Education Allowance	\$1,500
Automobile/Mileage	\$2,880
Professional Expenses	\$1,100
Social Security Tax supplemental income	\$5,146
Other	\$500
Total Cost to Church Budget	\$96,066 Divided in half with First Christian Church, Parsons=\$48,033 (Savings to First Presbyterian Church=\$35,128)
Continuing Education leave	2 weeks
Vacation leave	4 weeks

(See also contract with First Christian Church, Parsons, Kansas, in Supplemental Information below.)

4. That Presbytery enroll Elder Lori Williamson as an Inquirer.

For Information (Actions Taken):

1. Received presentation by Melonee Tubb (Presbyterian Mission Agency) about student loan forgiveness program for church workers.
2. Received liaison reports.
3. Approved the Rev. Charles Spencer to labor outside the bounds to participate in a memorial service in Indiana.
4. Held fit interviews.
5. Examined elder Lori Williamson to become an Inquirer.
6. Advised Transitional Project Consultant of recommended terms for consultation with a church.
7. Approved changing date of stated COM meeting to October 11, at 1 p.m.
8. Created subcommittee to review presbytery minimum terms of call for 2023.
9. Created subcommittee to review Ministry Information Forms from Crane and St. Andrew @ Hideaway.

10. Granted permission for Community Presbyterian Church, Forsyth, to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee.
11. Approved Fort Scott Ministry Information Form which is now active.
12. Formed a subcommittee to meet with a church session.
13. Approved the revised 2022 terms of call between Jennifer Dawson and First Presbyterian Church of Parsons.
14. Approved a subcommittee to suggest names to COM for an email vote to create an Administrative Commission for First, Parsons, as they consider selling their building.
15. Created a subcommittee to review the Rolla Ministry Information Form.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

SOUTHMINSTER ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION REPORT TO PRESBYTERY

During the process, the Administrative Commission offered suggestions as to the development of a building usage agreement with the Church (Sanctuary of Praise) the building was sold to. The AC was satisfied with the contract and amendments which were offered to complete the sale for the sum of \$500,000.

Southminster has an active mission program whereby they seek to serve the surrounding community. The AC was supportive of their community outreach and shared resources through which the Church might seek assistance and participate in.

The AC also provided information to assist Southminster as they look to future pastoral leadership.

Via email on July 25, 2022, a motion was made to approve the resolution requesting dissolution of the AC by Jim Holt and seconded by Rev. Dan Davis. The motion was approved unanimously.

Contract between Rev. Jennifer Dawson and First Christian Church, Parsons

PASTORAL CONTRACT

This agreement has been developed to call Rev. Jennifer Dawson, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Parsons, as a half-time Stated Supply for the First Christian Church (DOC). The Christian Church agrees to pay 50% of her salary to the First Presbyterian Church, with our portion of both salary and benefits not to exceed \$49,000 on an annualized basis, effective as of July 1, 2022. This contract will be established for one year, with the possibility of unlimited extensions. An exit clause is included to allow Rev. Dawson or the First Christian Church to cancel the contract with a 60 day advance notice from either party.

It is understood she is a Stated Supply, not an interim pastor, and that she will serve the Christian Church on Sunday mornings, two days per week, and for special activities as

necessary. All other aspects of her contract will follow her agreement with the Presbyterian Church in regards to sick leave, vacations, etc.

As agreed to and signed this day, 6/26/2022, by Rev. Dawson, First Christian Church board Moderator, Janie Barcus, and First Christian Church Trustee Chairman Dean Cramer.

Elder Lori Williamson

Statement of Personal Faith Journey, Sense of Call, & Brief Biography

I. Brief Bio

Born: July 1968, Houston, MO

Parents: Monty and Georgia (Beltz) Williamson; Mountain View, MO

Sibling: Lisa (Williamson) Durnell; Willow Springs, MO

Spouses:

- Steve Kruse (married 10 years; deceased 2001);
- Jimmy Dean (married 16 years; separated)

Child: Olivia Dean (10 years old)

Lived:

- Mountain View MO (1968 - 1986)
- Columbia MO (1986 - 1990)
- Ann Arbor MI (1990 - 1991)
- Little Rock AR (1992 – 1993)
- Columbia MO (1993 – 1995)
- Mountain View MO (1995 – 1997)
- Willow Springs MO (1997 – 2004)
- Oklahoma City & Meeker OK (2004 – 2012)
- Little Rock, AR (2012 – 2017)
- Willow Springs MO (2017 – present)

Baptized: Summer 1975, South Prong, Jacks Fork River, Mountain View, MO

Relevant Education:

- Master's of Science in Human Genetics and Genetic Counseling
- 4 units (1200+ hours) of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)
- Education for Ministry, University of the South

For 30+ years, I have worked as a genetic counselor in an academic medicine setting (16 years in clinical practice; 15+ years in graduate education; and 18 years in public health genetics). Currently, I am an Assistant Professor at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, teaching and mentoring in the Master's of Science Genetic Counseling Program. At this point in my career, I am able to teach remotely, traveling to campuses about once per month; conduct research; serve at a national level; and direct a federally-funded public health genetics program.

Personal Faith Journey and Sense of Call

Raised on a farm in southern Texas County of Missouri, our family life centered on the farm, family, school events, and church. The church of my upbringing was Oak Lawn Church of God (Church of God of Anderson, IN), and my family was there any time the doors were open (Sunday morning, Sunday night, Wednesday night, revivals, Camp Meeting, monthly Youth Rally, Vacation Bible School, and any other church event that occurred).

As a child, I heard the words that God loved me, but the messages I internalized were of an angry God, unworthiness, fear, and shame, among others. Internalizing these messages led me to hold an enormous amount of shame and fear as a child. I also could not figure out why everyone else seemed to be doing fine with this message yet I struggled. With God as unquestionable authority and the shame I felt, I never discussed my confusion or theological dilemma with anyone.

Not feeling safe to question or discuss theology, I stuffed down my questions. During my college years, the questions that were stuffed down for so long began to emerge. By the time I was in graduate school, the eating disorder that I had secretly wrestled with as long as I could remember, was in full bloom.

Questioning my religious beliefs, combined with the eating disorder, led me to “sit out” of church for a bit after graduate school. Thankfully, the 12-step programs provided a guide and a safe place to sort out all of the above. My relationship with God thrived. Returning home in 1995, I sought a local church community and found the First Presbyterian Church in Mountain View.

Rejoining church life was exhilarating! I joined the choir, helped with the gardens, and became a ruling elder. Life was active and rich. Then, in 2000, my husband was diagnosed with a neurodegenerative disorder. Over the next year, the degeneration rapidly progressed culminating in his death one year later. The events of that year provided fertile ground for learning about suffering; caregiving; love; ministry; friendships; and how others behave around those who are sick, as well as around the widow and were key in developing my call.

Other key events that formed my call into ministry began as early as 12 years old with an overwhelming desire to serve God through some sort of ministry, followed by working with chaplains personally when my husband was ill and, later, professionally. Although I believe that we can serve God through any vocation, the passion that I felt for genetic counseling matched the overwhelming desire to serve God, and I believe that I have ministered through the call to care for patients in crisis as well as to train the future generations of genetic counselors. When I had the opportunity to learn more about chaplaincy and shadow a chaplain, the fire in my belly re-ignited. There was no doubt that everything in my life had led up to this next call.

Space opened in my life and career to pursue Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at the University of Oklahoma Medical Center. For two years and 1600+ hours, I devoured the incredible educational opportunity. Training included experiences in trauma (chaplains were part of the trauma team), risk management, decedent affairs (chaplains attended every death across the medical center, contacted the coroner and the funeral home and released the bodies), and held chapel service every Sunday. Those were the two best years of my life. Currently, I volunteer one weekend each month as a hospital chaplain at a regional hospital. The volunteer experience has only affirmed the calling.

Professionally, my goal is to become a board certified chaplain, work in a health care setting, and provide pastoral support to churches, as needed. While I do not perceive a call to lead a church, I enjoy the intellectual and spiritual stimulation of preparing a sermon, and I have the skill set to lead. My pastoral approach promotes self-reflection, pragmatic, and utilizes a teaching and/or counseling style, as appropriate, which is perhaps more suited for workshops, spiritual direction, and the occasional sermon.