John Calvin Presbytery

Called General Council Meeting (by Zoom)

October 1, 2020

Minutes

Members present: Bill Agnew, Diane Cooke, Reina Daleske, Jim Holt, Chris Miller (Moderator), Joan Russell, Toni Spieth, Lorraine Whittington

Member excused: Lou Ellen Hartley

Ex-officio present: Beth Kick, Stated Clerk; Malinda Spencer, Pastoral Presbyter;

 Dennis Winzenried, Treasurer

Moderator Chris Miller opened the stated meeting of the General Council in prayer at 3:02 p.m. on Thursday, October 1, 2020, and noted that a quorum was present. The meeting was held by Zoom videoconference during the coronavirus pandemic.

Pastoral Presbyter Malinda Spencer gave the devotions based on Acts 21, inviting us to consider why many 20-somethings and 30-somethings don’t know that the Church needs them. She led us in prayer.

**REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK**

Chris Miller asked for corrections to the minutes. Hearing none, **the following minutes of the General Council were approved** by unanimous consent:

**July 9, 2020 Stated Meeting of General Council**

**July 28, 2020 Called Meeting of General Council**

**July 29, 2020 Called Meeting of General Council**

**August 4, 2020 Called Meeting of General Council**

**August 6, 2020 Called Meeting of General Council**

Beth Kick presented a draft docket for the upcoming presbytery meeting on October 24, 2020, and the Council discussed details of the meeting. A practice session for the meeting is planned for October 15 at 10 a.m.

Bill Agnew moved **that the docket be revised as suggested by Council today and approved with more details to come.—** seconded and approved

**REVISED DOCKET**

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| Document | **Informal Fellowship / Zoom Practice** |  |
| 9:00 a.m. | **Call to Order** | Moderator, Elder Toni Spieth |
|  | **Opening Prayer & Greeting from Host Church;****Mission & Ministry of Crocker Presbyterian**  | Commissioned Ruling Elder, Dr. Bill Agnew |
| A | **Orientation to Videoconference Meeting / Attendance** | Stated Clerk Beth Kick |
|  | **Introduction of Elders and Ministers New to the Presbytery**  | Moderator, Elder Toni Spieth |
| BCDE | **Report of Stated Clerk*** **Declaration of a quorum**
* **Approval of docket**
* **Seating of corresponding members**
* **Adoption of consent agenda**
* **Guidance for annual congregational meetings**
* **Celebrating our History**
 | Elder Beth KickThe Reverend Julie Mercer |
|  | **Preparation for Worship**  | Moderator, Elder Toni Spieth The Reverend Becky Schwandt |
|  | **Service of Morning Worship****Psalm 139:21-24; “The Hunger for Home”** | The Reverend Dr. Alton Pollard III, preaching |
|  | **Education Time**  | The Reverend Becky Schwandt |
|  | **Break**  |  |
|  | **Report of Pastoral Presbyter** | Elder Malinda Spencer |
|  | **Farewell from Synod Executive** | The Reverend Landon Whitsitt |
|  | **Report of Synod Commissioner** | Elder Reina Daleske |
|  | **Report of the Moderator**  | Elder Toni Spieth |
| F | **Report of Administrative Ministries Committee** | The Reverend Bob Dahlgren |
|  | **Report of the Treasurer**  | The Reverend Dennis Winzenried |
| G | **Report of Committee on Ministry** | Elder Reina Daleske |
| H | **Report of Committee on Representation**  | Elder Lorraine Whittington |
|  | **Report of COVID-19 Administrative Commission**  | The Reverend Dennis Winzenried |
| I | **Report of General Council** | The Reverend Chris Miller |
| J | **Report of Presbyterian Women --See written report.** | Elder Joan Russell |
|  | **Resolution of Thanks and Closing Prayer** | The Reverend Susan Rosenbaum |
|  | **We Go Out as a Worshipping Community** |  |

**REPORT OF THE PASTORAL PRESBYTER**

1. Malinda Spencer requested help in telling the stories of the Matthew 25 ministries occurring in John Calvin Presbytery. Diane Cooke volunteered, when provided information by Malinda, to talk with the churches and write articles about their work to be shared in the Notices and sent to the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Chris Miller volunteered to write an article about Trinity (Springfield).

2. **Lorraine Whittington moved:**

* **That the Class of 2021 serve until the end of December 2021**
* **That, beginning in 2021, John Calvin Presbytery elect and install officers and committee members at its last stated meeting of the year, and**
* **That the new officers and committee members take office on January 1 of the following year.**

 --seconded and approved

**REPORT OF SYNOD COMMISSIONER** given by Reina Daleske

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Administrative Ministries Committee—CFO figures will be available Oct. 15. AMC will meet to review the financials and submit a report for the Presbytery meeting.

Anti-Racism Subcommittee—No report.

Committee on Ministry –Reina Daleske reported action items COM will bring to the floor of the Presbytery October 24:

1. Examine the Rev. Vicki Evans for membership as an Honorably Retired member
2. Motion to dissolve the pastoral relationship between the Rev. K.O. Noonoo and Pittsburg Presbyterian Church effective September 30, 2020 with severance terms
3. The consent agenda will include transferring the Rev. Dixie Voss Anders to Heartland Presbytery and setting up an Administrative Commission to install the co-pastors of First Presbyterian Church, Joplin.

Sub-Committee on Preparation for Ministry – Diane Cooke – No report.

Committee on Representation – Lorraine Whittington reported that COR will recommend that the Presbytery elect the Rev. John Nipper to fill an unexpired term on the Administrative Ministries Committee (Class of 2021).

COVID-19 Administrative Commission– Dennis Winzenried reported that the

Administrative Commission awarded $7,000 in grants during the first cycle, supporting churches in doing worship and technology, and another $7,000 in reaching out to the community. Since the budgeted funds for the first quarter ($33,000) exceeded the requests, the AC increased the minimum grant to $2,500.

 Second quarter grants were designed to address projects outside the faith community. The AC has received no requests, but expects a big bubble of needs in the future.

Mission and Nurture Committee – No report. Watch the Notices for details about the disaster bucket collection.

Presbyterian Women – Joan Russell reported that Presbyterian Women continue to work and find different ways to get together. The quarterly newsletter will be distributed next week. PW are invited to attend the “Second Saturday Synod Sircles” by Zoom (September 12, October 10, November 14).

Presbytery Moderator – Toni Spieth – Sheth LaRue will be ordained and installed at 4 p.m. on October 18 at First Presbyterian Church, Aurora. Kira and John Anderson will be installed at 4 p.m. on November 15 at First Presbyterian Church, Joplin.

Report of the General Council Moderator – Chris Miller discussed the weight clergy feel during the pandemic and the need for their sessions and congregations to care for their pastors. He will write a letter to the churches to be co-signed by the Pastoral Presbyter.

A **called meeting was set for 10 a.m. October 15** to practice the technology for the upcoming Presbytery meeting. Additional business added to the call for this meeting includes: approving dates and hosts for 2021 Presbytery meetings, approving dates for 2021 General Council Stated meetings, 2021 budget, 2021 per capita, any other business necessary before the Presbytery meeting.

Additional discussion, including joys and concerns, ensued. Chris Miller closed the meeting in prayer at 4:43 p.m.

Submitted by Beth Kick, Stated Clerk