

John Calvin Presbytery
Minutes of Committee on Ministry Meeting
By Zoom Videoconference
April 8, 2021

Members Present: Rev. Kira Anderson, Rev. Diane Cooke, Elder Reina Daleske, Rev. Dan Davis, Elder Dale Hill, Rev. Kent Hollingsworth, Elder Carole Hudgings, Rev. Will Lee, Elder Warren Lovinger, Elder Alan Marso, Elder Marga Pogue, Elder Toni Spieth, Rev. Dennis Winzenried

Members Excused: Rev. Greg Esselman, Elder Susan Leonard, Rev. Peggy Wobbema

Ex-officio Members Present: Elder Beth Kick, Stated Clerk; Elder Malinda Spencer, Pastoral Presbyter

Reina Daleske, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Beth Kick declared the presence of a quorum. After sharing joy and concerns, Reina opened the meeting in prayer.

The Rev. Kent Hollingsworth led worship, reading the story “Water All Around” from Does God Have a Big Toe?: Stories about Stories in the Bible by Marc Gellman. In the story a fish explains that God must be everywhere like water is everywhere in the fish’s world.

Report of Stated Clerk: Beth Kick
For Information:

1. The motion was made, seconded, and approved by email (3/18/21): Reina Daleske moved **that COM allow the Rev. Chandler Jackson, the Episcopal priest whose congregation (St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church) worships in the sanctuary of Ozark Presbyterian Church at 9 a.m. on Sundays, to preach for Ozark Presbyterian Church on April 11, 2021.**
2. We are in the process of gradually updating the website: www.icpresbytery.com (Note: hovering mouse over a tab gives different options from clicking on a tab.)
3. A **COM meeting is scheduled with Board of Pensions representative**, the Rev. Kevin Keaton, by Zoom at **10 a.m. on April 22** to explain changes to the benefits plan. (Zoom call will be recorded.)
4. Reminder: Boundaries Training for pastors is scheduled April 14 @ Shell Knob (10-12) and Aug. 17 in Iola.

For Action:

1. Carole Hudgings moved **that the minutes of the February 18, 2021 COM stated meeting be approved.**—seconded and approved

Report of Pastoral Presbyter: Malinda Spencer

Malinda Spencer led a discussion about the stipulation in the COM Manual “that any person preaching more than two consecutive Sundays in the same congregation/pulpit shall have the prior approval of the COM,” emphasizing the connections within the presbytery which nurture the work of our churches.

1. Dennis Winzenried moved **to approve Willard Mt. Zion’s pulpit supply schedule for April and May—Seconded and approved.**
2. The COM selected a subcommittee comprised of Dennis Winzenried, Dale Hill, Marga Pogue, and Malinda Spencer to visit with the Rev. Kimberly Cunningham before acting on the rest of Willard Mt. Zion’s pulpit supply schedule.

Report of COM Moderator: Reina Daleske

Reina reminded the committee that two subcommittees are engaged on their behalf: The Child Protection Policy subcommittee (Greg Carter, Jennifer Dawson, Bill Havens, Patty Orchard, Robert Reed; Beth Kick) and the Liaison Work subcommittee (Reina Daleske, Dan Davis, Dale Hill, Jane Huffstetler, Susan Leonard, Toni Spieth, Malinda Spencer) tasked with clarifying the liaison’s role and the support provided to the liaisons. (When is it appropriate to take care of something as a liaison and when is it appropriate to bring it before COM?)

Diane Cooke agreed to contact the presbytery’s members-at-large again. Kent Hollingsworth and Dennis Winzenried agreed to contact the retired members whom they contacted last year.

The next Synod meeting is April 15 at 11 a.m. by Zoom. Preregistration is required. Malinda Spencer is Executive-Presbyter-of-the-Month for the Synod this month.

Report of Transitional Project Committee: Reina Daleske (Committee members: Reina Daleske, Kent Hollingsworth, Susan Leonard, & Dennis Winzenried)

Reina reported that Community Presbyterian in Forsyth has dropped out of the Transitional Project and will soon interview an interim pastor candidate. St. Andrew Presbyterian Church at Kimberling City and Carthage Presbyterian Church are currently engaged in the project. St. Andrew is eagerly working through The Neighborhood Church with Elder Greg Emery.

Report of CPM: Diane Cooke, Moderator, and Warren Lovinger

Diane reported that communication is ongoing with Bill Agnew in anticipation of renewing his commission to Crocker Presbyterian Church and with Jonathan Kimball who is completing his work with Dubuque Seminary soon.

Toni Spieth moved **that COM provide a scholarship to Laura Agee (from the restricted Candidates Fund) for \$650 toward her course in Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE).**—Seconded and approved

Board of Pensions Report

The Rev. Kevin Keaton briefly joined us to introduce changes and updates to the Benefits Plan which he will detail on April 22 at 10 a.m. by Zoom including:

- Termination of Employment
- Continuation of Benefits
- Clarification of Minister's Choice and Pastor's Participation benefits packages
- Eligibility for Non-PCUSA Ministers
- Clarification of "Effective Salary"

The presentation will be recorded and a link made available to COM members who are unable to attend.

Liaison Reports

Reina reminded the COM that the liaisons are connections which maintain communication between the churches and the COM and requested that the liaisons help their pastors / clerks of session learn that they are the primary point of contact for COM questions / business.

Carthage - Will Lee reported the session's desire to gain permission for some of the elders to celebrate Communion when a Presbyterian pastor is not available. COM noted other alternatives and questioned the necessity of the request. If necessity is shown, particular Ruling Elders would need to be trained and then authorized each time they need to serve at Table (G-3.0301b).

In answer to another query from the Carthage session, Malinda Spencer clarified that the hope of the Transitional Project Committee is that the church will fulfill their interim tasks through their work as part of the Transitional Project.

Chanute - Dan Davis

Crane - Dennis Winzenried

Forsyth - Reina Daleske moved **that Kira Anderson, Greg Esselman, Dennis Pirkle, Reina Daleske, and Malinda Spencer serve as a subcommittee to conduct a fit interview for an interim pastor candidate May 1 at 1 p.m.—**

Seconded and approved

Golden City—Dale Hill

Hollister—Reina Daleske

Kimberling City--St. Andrew – Carole Hudgings attended a session meeting by Zoom and found St. Andrew a vibrant, hardworking church. The elders are very eager about their interactions with Greg Emery.

Lockwood – Toni Spieth reported that she is still waiting on the attorney. The church assures her they have a buyer. The utilities are continuing to be paid.

Mulberry—Toni Spieth

Neosho—Kira Anderson reported that the congregation wants to sell their manse. Malinda has provided the steps they need to take.

Nevada—Dale Hill

Pittsburg – Toni Spieth wants to attend an upcoming session meeting and provide them the "Calling a New Pastor" flow chart.

Sarcoxie - Will Lee reported speaking with member Ralph Brooks. The church has six members and has not met in six months due to the pandemic.

Scammon – Toni Spieth

Springfield—Southminster—Marvin Groote’s contract will be forwarded to the Administrative Commission with the report that he attended Boundaries Training in January. COM recommends that the AC insist that the contract include the correct dates.

Springfield—Trinity—Marga Pogue reported that Trinity has signed a new five-year access agreement with Brentwood Christian Church.

Willard – Dale Hill (See Report of Exit Interview with John Becker; See “Calling a New Pastor” flow chart.)—Reina Daleske moved **that Dennis Winzenried, Kent Hollingsworth, and Marga Pogue serve as a subcommittee to review the Willard Mt. Zion MIF and to report their suggestions to Liaison Dale Hill who will communicate with the PNC.**—Seconded and approved

Temperature Check: Malinda Spencer

Malinda led the group in a discussion of continuing education and what distinguishes Presbyterian pastors from many other pastors (education).

Reina Daleske closed the meeting in prayer at 11:52 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, April 22, 2021 @ 10 a.m. by Zoom – Board of Pensions presentation

Next stated meeting: Thursday, May 6, 2021 @ 10 a.m. by Zoom

Worship:

May 6 – Susan Leonard

June 3 – Reina Daleske

July 8 – Dale Hill

August 12 – Dennis Winzenried

Minutes submitted by Beth Kick