

## JOHN CALVIN PRESBYTERY REPORT OF SYNOD COMMISSIONER

### Overview of the October 6, 2022 Synod Assembly

The stated assembly meeting of the Mid-America Synod was held on Thursday, October 6, 2022 from 9am to 3pm at Central Presbyterian Church, Kansas City, Missouri. The Reverend Jennifer Dawson, Moderator, called the meeting to order with prayer and worship, including reflection on Luke 7:9-17. John Calvin Presbytery was represented by the Reverend Jennifer Dawson, the Reverend Charles Spencer, Ruling Elder Bob Wilson and myself. This was the first in-person meeting of the Synod Assembly since the pandemic. It was exciting to meet other commissioners and guests in person!

#### Highlights:

- John Calvin minutes were approved without exception.
- Synod's 2022 Missional Priorities will remain the same for 2023.
- The proposed records retention policy was adopted.
- The proposed Policy on Travel Expense Reimbursement was adopted.
- The Synod Assembly received the Synod's Financial Statements for the period ending August 31, 2022. The Assembly will retain the 2021 and 2022 4.5% spending formula for invested funds in 2023. The Assembly will retain the 2020-2022 Synod per capita rate of \$2.90 in 2023.
- A final audit report, delayed due to the pandemic, is expected very soon and will be reviewed by the finance committee members before submitting the findings to the Synod Assembly via email for the formal action to receive the documents.
- Election of officers included the request for help with the presbyteries to give suggestions and ideas on how to better seek diversity on the Synod committees.
- Officers elected: The Rev. Dr. Dixie Voss Anders will serve for Permanent Judicial Commission, effective immediately through December 31, 2024.
- The Synod's Transitional Executive Ruling Elder Tony De La Rosa led the Assembly through a timeline process to identify the Synod's values, trust, and highlighting the high and low points of Synod.
- During the working lunch, the Assembly was sorted into separate groups to review the timeline process and to share in a discussion on ideas for the future of Synod.
- The small groups shared their ideas with the entire Assembly. More information will follow as the Committee on Governance will compile the information received, and then share this information with the Assembly to affirm the statements were heard correctly.
- *2023 Assembly meeting dates were approved:*
  - Thursday, March 23, 10 a.m. by Zoom*
  - Saturday, October 14, 9 a.m. in person in the Kansas City area.*
- Closing worship included the installation of Ruling Elder Debbie Farrell as Moderator, Ruling Elder Harold Frye as Vice Moderator, effective January 1, 2023. Communion was shared. The Synod's current moderator, the Reverence Jennifer Dawson was thanked for her leadership!

Submitted by:  
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Committee on Finance