

**JOHN CALVIN PRESBYTERY
CALLED MEETING**

JOHN CALVIN PRESBYTERY'S VISION STATEMENT

Joyful, holy community of Christian believers, diverse yet united.

Committed to serving Christ in the church and in the world.

Prepared by God through the Holy Spirit for mission and ministry.

The Called Meeting of John Calvin Presbytery was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by the Moderator-elect, the Reverend Kira Anderson. Kira welcomed all in attendance. The meeting was opened with prayer offered by the Reverend Dan Davis, followed by a reading from 2 Peter 3 by Executive Presbyter Malinda Spencer.

The purpose of this meeting was to examine a candidate for ministry.

Dixie Voss Anders was elected as stated clerk *pro tem* for the duration of this meeting.

There were no new elders or ministers to John Calvin Presbytery.

The clerk advised that a quorum was present for this called meeting of John Calvin Presbytery. (A quorum necessary to transact business at each stated meeting of the presbytery shall consist of not less than six (6) ministers and as many ruling elders as may be present providing that at least four (4) particular churches are represented by ruling elders.)

ATTENDANCE: The attendance for the Called Meeting of John Calvin Presbytery was XX and as follows:

- XX Teaching Elders serving a church**
- XX Teaching Elders, honorably retired**
- XX Teaching Elders, Member at large**
- XX Commissioned Ruling Elders, serving a church**
- XX Ruling Elders**
- XX Moderators of Presbytery, General Council and Committees**
- XX Staff of John Calvin Presbytery**
- XX Guests**
- XX Churches were represented by elder commissioners.**

PRESBYTERY MODERATORS & STAFF

Presbytery Executive Presbyter	Spencer, Malinda	Present
Presbytery Stated Clerk <i>pro tem</i>	Anders, Dixie Voss	Present
Presbytery moderator	Holt, Jim	excused
Presbytery moderator-elect	Anderson, Kira	Present
General Council moderator	Spieth, Toni	Present
Administrative Ministries moderator	Dahlgren, Bob	Present
Committee on Ministry moderator	Daleske, Reina	Present
Committee on Preparation for Ministry moderator	Vacant	
Committee on Representation moderator	Muegge, Sarah	Present
Mission and Nurture Committee	Schwandt, Becky	excused
Presbyterian Women moderator	Russell, Joan	excused
Treasurer	Winzenried, Dennis	
Recording Clerk	Wilson, Gail	Excused

GUESTS

Ward Rudolph, Presbytery of Arkansas, was seated as a corresponding member.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

ELDER REINA DALESKE

Moderator Kira Anderson invited the Committee on Ministry moderator, Reina Daleske, to bring her report.

Reina moved on behalf of the Committee on Ministry, that **Presbytery examine Ward Rudolph for membership, and for a call as installed pastor for the First Presbyterian Church of Carthage.** The statement of faith and biography for Ward Rudolph was available for the presbyters. Reina reported that the Pastor Nominating Committee of the Carthage church followed the Equal Employment Guidelines of John Calvin Presbytery during this search for a pastor. Reina introduced Ed Streich, chair of the Pastor Nominating Committee, to speak about the process of calling a pastor. Ward Rudolph was introduced. Reina began the examination by asking Ward the first question. Following his answer, the floor was opened for questions. After a time of questions and answers, the motion was made, seconded and approved **to arrest the examination.** Ward was escorted to the waiting room and the floor was opened for questions and discussion. **The motion was made to sustain the examination, for a call to the First Presbyterian Church of Carthage congregation.** Seconded. **The motion carried. The Committee on Ministry will approve Ward Rudolph for membership in John Calvin Presbytery, when a start date has been negotiated.**

Reina then moved **to approve the following terms of call for Ward Rudolph as pastor for the First Presbyterian Church of Carthage:**

Salary	46,000.00
Board of Pensions	17,940.00
Continuing Education Allowance	1,500.00
Professional Expenses	2000.00
Total Cost to the Church Budget	67,440
Continuing Education Leave	2 weeks
Vacation Leave	4 weeks

The motion was seconded and approved.

Ward was admitted back into the meeting and welcomed by those in attendance. The Reverend Chris Miller prayed for Ward and the congregation of the Carthage church.

SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENTS

Ward Rudolph – Statement of Faith

I believe in one triune God who creates, redeems, and sustains all things and all beings in God’s mysterious ways. God never ceases to create, amaze, and inspire us in ways that we may or may not understand. As children of God,

we strive to imitate our divine parent by creating our own small worlds, which sometimes keep us from God's ways. But God's love for us is so great that God saves us when we are wayward and keeps us in God's grace.

God so loved us that God even came to be with us physically, in the form of a Jewish teacher named Jesus. The holy incarnation of Jesus through his human mother is a sign that we too can incarnate God's ways through our human actions. We, however, revolted against our divine parent by persecuting the human Jesus. But God cannot be destroyed. Jesus was resurrected from death, reminding us that God will also deliver us from darkness and lead us into God's light. Our response to this grace is to sacrifice ourselves for the sake of Good.

God continues to be with us spiritually through the Holy Spirit. Through worship and through our daily lives, we constantly interact and are inspired by the Holy Spirit. The sacraments of baptism and communion are signs that God is with us and that we belong to God—individually and as one community of God. God alone decides who belongs to God, regardless of one's ability to profess one's faith. Therefore, we baptize people of all ages, including infants. At the communal event of baptism, we welcome the baptized into our spiritual family, and we reaffirm our own faith as well. During this time, we together renew our commitment to God. A person is baptized only once as one's belonging to God's family is eternal. The communion—the celebration of the Lord's Supper—refreshes and reminds us of God's covenant with us. For this reason, it is to be practiced as often as we can. It nourishes us spiritually and physically. The acts of breaking the bread to share and drinking from the same cup re-unites us as the inseparable family of God.

As we boldly commit to God, God guides, sustains, and comforts us through spiritual nourishment as well as human fellowship. God calls us according to our unique gifts and talents, which together reflect God's image, to serve the church and the world. Individually, we are only parts of a whole; together, we reflect a more complete image of God. We can better understand God by listening to and learning from each other and the world around us, as well as interacting with the Holy Scripture. Knowing and believing God is the greatest joy we can attain.

Ward Rudolph -- Biographical Statement

I was raised in Downers Grove, Illinois. Reflection now I realize now how blessed we were as kids. I pursued a career in cooking and hotel management. As much fun as this was I felt I should be doing something else. I started helping at my church's Junior high youth program. I went home one night after Youth and sat alone and prayed and reflected, and prayed and reflected some more. The next day I put in my notice. I spent the next two years working two jobs to eliminate all my debt. As well, I finished my undergrad degree. And got enrolled into the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. I graduated with honors. My first call was such a blessing for me as a First time Pastor. The congregation was warm and forgiving.

I enjoy cooking, reading, movie watching, and antiquing with my beloved wife. We have two cats.

The motion to adjourn, was made, seconded and approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p.m. with prayer offered by Elder Clancy Cherry.