

**JOHN CALVIN PRESBYTERY  
REPORT OF GENERAL COUNCIL**

**FOR ACTION:** (\* items are included in the consent agenda.)

1. \* That the following dates for the 2024 Stated Meetings of John Calvin Presbytery be approved:

- Saturday, February 24th, 2024
- Thursday, May 16th, 2024
- Thursday, August 1st, 2024
- Saturday, November 2nd, 2024

All meetings in 2024 are all scheduled to be In-Person Meetings.

2. That the following amount be approved as the Per Capita apportionment for 2024: (Please note the only change for 2024 is in the Synod of Mid-America which increased by \$0.25. This is the first change from the Synod in many years.)

|                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| General Assembly       | \$9.85         |
| Synod of Mid-America   | \$3.15         |
| John Calvin Presbytery | \$27.25        |
| <b>2023 Per Capita</b> | <b>\$40.25</b> |

3. That pursuant to our presbytery policy Steps for the Sale of Property, General Council makes a motion that John Calvin Presbytery appoint an Administrative Commission to work with First Presbyterian Church in Joplin, MO. This Administrative Commission shall be delegated the power of John Calvin Presbytery to determine whether or not to give written permission to sell, mortgage or otherwise encumber its property pursuant to G-4.0206a to the session of the congregation after careful consideration of the congregation's decision to sell, mortgage or otherwise encumber its property and the intended mission of the proceeds. Furthermore, we move that the following people be named to this Commission: The Rev. Chris Miller, Elder Dick Pogue, and Elder Mert Barrows.

4. Please see Supplemental Document 1 for this motion

5. In response to a request from the session of Hollister Presbyterian Church, we make a motion that John Calvin Presbytery appoint an Administrative Commission with the Rev. Barry Williams, Elder Deb Field, and Elder Sue Wright to walk alongside Hollister Presbyterian Church in Hollister, MO in selling their property and discerning whether the congregation may need to be dissolved. This Administrative Commission shall be delegated the following powers of John Calvin Presbytery:

- A. To determine whether or not to give written permission to sell, mortgage or otherwise encumber its property pursuant to G-4.0206a to the session of the congregation after

careful consideration of the congregation's decision to sell, mortgage or otherwise encumber its property and the intended mission of the proceeds

B.To hire appropriate professional help as needed such as legal counsel, appraisers, real estate broker, etc.

C.To make recommendation to the Presbytery on use or disposition of property, real or personal.

D. To assume original jurisdiction over the existing session after thorough investigation and after full opportunity to be heard has been accorded to the session, when it should become evident to the Administrative Commission that the session of Hollister Presbyterian Church is unable or unwilling to exercise its authority or is unable or unwilling to manage wisely its affairs.

E. In consultation with the members and elders of Hollister Presbyterian Church, to determine the date of last worship service, the date of dissolution, and the best way to give thanks to God for the ministry of the congregation;

F. To receive Access to all church records, including but not limited to:

- a. membership rolls,
- b. minutes of Session and all boards and committees,
- c. financial records
- d. membership directories
- e. newsletters
- f. and materials distributed for congregational information. To call a congregational meeting (G-1.0503) and to obtain current and accurate membership lists from the church for this purpose.

G. To provide for worship and for the continuing pastoral care of all members of the congregation, in the manner of Christ;

H.To receive and act on request from members to be transferred to another congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) or deleted from the rolls;

I.To dissolve any pastoral relationship, fully observing the due process requirements of the Constitution, G-2.0901 and G-2.0904, and/or dissolve any temporary pastoral relationship fully observing the due process requirements in presbytery policies;

J.Under Form of Government, Chapter Four, The Church and Civil Authority of the Book of Order, G-4.0203 and G-4.0205 all property of Hollister Presbyterian Church is held in trust for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Administrative Commission of John Calvin Presbytery, appointed on this date, is authorized to take possession of all real and personal property, financial records, inventories of equipment, and arrange for transfer of title to the

Presbytery of all accounts and real property known to be in the possession of Hollister Presbyterian Church. Including but not limited to:

- a. bank accounts,
- b. stocks,
- c. trusts,
- d. real property - to consult with the session regarding requests the congregation may have relating to the disposition of equipment and memorials and other property of Hollister Presbyterian Church.

K. To consult with the session regarding requests the congregation may have relating to the disposition of equipment and memorials and other property of Hollister Presbyterian Church.

L. To assert claim of the presbytery to any property of Hollister Presbyterian Church not known at this time or property which may come to Hollister Presbyterian Church as the beneficiary of a will or trust not known at this time.

M. To dissolve the corporation when appropriate.

N. To assure continuation of insurance on all properties of the congregation.

O. To share with the presbytery the history of the congregation, giving thanks for the ministry

P. To report back to the presbytery the process and actions taken.

6. That the proposed budget for 2024 for John Calvin Presbytery be approved.

7. That the Rev. Diane Cooke be elected as moderator of the Committee on Representation, in the class of 2025, and that the following be elected as members of the Committee on Representation in the Class of 2026, with terms beginning January 1, 2024:

Jane Huffstetler, WFTE, Honorably Retired, Springfield, MO

Debbie Stanley-Gautney, WFRE, First Presbyterian Church, Aurora, MO

Dennis Pirkle, WMRE, St. Andrew Presbyterian Church Hideaway, Galena, MO

For Information:

1. Several Grants were approved and will be presented at the November 4th, 2023 John Calvin Presbytery Meeting:

- A. Ash Grove United Methodists/Presbyterian Church– to receive \$600 to purchase Feminine Hygiene Products to be distributed at the Diaper Pantry that operates from the church.

- B. First Presbyterian Mt. Vernon – to receive \$600 to purchase Feminine Hygiene Products to be distributed at the Community Diaper Pantry that operates from the church.
  - C. Ozark Presbyterian Church- to receive \$175 to cover pulpit supply while pastor was attending 2 meetings related to her work as JCP clerk on October 9-14. (Expense for pulpit supply couldn't come from the pastor's expense account to attend these meeting).
  - D. First Presbyterian Church Nevada- to receive \$800 to provide nursery care for after school volunteer's younger children and purchase of additional games and playground equipment.
  - E. Hillcrest Presbyterian – to receive \$800 towards purchase of iPads to enhance the engagement of children and youth in Faith Formation during Christian Education time and during worship.
  - F. Although not requesting any additional money at this time, St. Andrew Presbyterian in Kimberling City has asked that some of the money that was shared with them last year for audio visual updates (not spent yet), be shifted towards an immediate need for replacing siding on the building where squirrels are entering the building. The church will match this dollar for dollar.
2. General Council approved a motion to modify all church grant applications to include a section for all churches requesting funds to indicate if they have given (or are in process of giving quarterly) their Per Capita for the current year. There will also be a place for churches to indicate if they participate in the giving of a voluntary gift to Shared Mission.
3. Treasurer Dennis Winzenried will remind those churches who receive grants that John Calvin Presbytery requests a report of how the grant money was used and an evaluation of the effectiveness of the grant the following year.