

JOHN CALVIN PRESBYTERY
Administrative Commission Report
Southminster Presbyterian Church

Final Report of the Administrative Commission for Southminster Presbyterian Church in Springfield, Missouri:

On January 22, 2023 Southminster Presbyterian Church held their Annual Congregational Meeting and voted unanimously to:

- a. Cease to worship effective Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023;
- b. Request John Calvin Presbytery to close Southminster Presbyterian Church;
- c. Approved the Session presented proposal to distribute \$455,000 of their funds as follows:
 - a. Convoy of Hope \$100,000
 - b. Ukraine \$ 50,000
 - c. Ozarks Food Harvest \$ 50,000
 - d. Rare Breed \$ 25,000
 - e. Care Animal Rescue \$ 25,000
 - f. Abundant Blessings \$ 25,000
 - g. Drury University * \$ 60,000
 - h. Evangel University* \$ 60,000
 - i. Missouri State University Foundation* \$ 60,000

*For Southminster Scholarship Fund

The above checks were dated January 22, 2023, the same day as the meeting, and mailed on January 23, 2023, prior to any notification to John Calvin Presbytery and formation of the Administrative Commission. After the above distribution the bank balance was \$25,804.53.

On February 17, 2023, Moderator Reina Daleske, Committee on Ministry sent emails and registered letters to Rev. Marvin Groote with a copy to Clerk of Session Kathy Miller reminding and/or advising them of the Book of Order for retention of funds for use and benefit of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

The Administrative Commission was approved by John Calvin Presbytery at its stated meeting on February 25, 2023. Members elected are: Rev. Dixie Anders, Rev. Frank LeBlanc, Rev. Julie Mercer, RE Bill Marin and RE Dennis Pirkle.

The AC meet via Zoom and then the AC met with the Session on March 29, 2023 and the Session agreed not to distribute any further funds other than normal expenses without consulting with the AC. With the previous distribution of funds and low bank balance, the AC

did not believe it necessary to request "Original Jurisdiction" authority from John Calvin Presbytery.

Unknown to the AC, the Session had previously approved paying Rev. Marvin Groote his entire contract through the end of 2023 (an additional \$6,083.30) and also the pianist, Garrett Lee, what would have been his entire salary through the end of 2023 (an additional \$6,480.76).

The Session had already given notice to their landlord (Sanctuary of Praise associated with the Church of God in Christ) that they would be donating to them the Grand Piano in the Parlor. The AC worked with the Clerk of Session for disposal of other personal property. The AC did approve the gift of the Pulpit and Communion Table to the Sanctuary of Praise. St. Andrew Presbyterian Church @ Hideaway received the Baptismal Font. Sanctuary of Praise purchased the Southminster building and property and was using the Parlor for Sunday worship and office space at no charge.

After normal expense reimbursements, phone bill, per-capita, and other expenses, payroll taxes, etc. on September 9, 2023 the bank balance was \$4,041.18. Once again, without discussion with the AC a distribution was made in the amount of \$4,000 on September 9, 2023 to the Humane Society and the balance of only \$41.18 was sent to John Calvin Presbytery, closing the account.

An additional note: Southminster Presbyterian Church was the recipient of an annual amount of \$25,000 from the Jean Stokke Fund. Jean Stokke was a member of Southminster Presbyterian Church for many years before her passing. In accordance with the fund formation, should Southminster Presbyterian Church be "disband"ed, all additional funds would be distributed to "Crosslines to continue the Thanksgiving and Christmas basket program." Working with James Moore, RE at Southminster and Fund Administrator, contact was made and verified the above information from the fund lawyer.

9 boxes of records have been sorted and marked for storage and/or disposal in accordance with the Records Retention Policy of PCUSA working with the Stated Clerk, Rev. Becky Schwandt.

The motion from the Administrative Commission for Southminster Presbyterian Church, Springfield, Missouri is that the AC having completed its work, be disbanded effective immediately.

This report is respectfully submitted on behalf of the Administrative Commission for Southminster Presbyterian Church, Springfield, Missouri by:

Dennis Pirkle, RE & AC Moderator