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Executive Director of Presbytery Mission: Rev. Dr. SanDawna Ashley
Stated Clerk: Rev. Pamela Prouty
Associate for Administration: Karen Lange

Tuesday, August 7

OFFICIAL CALL

This is your official call to presbytery's next stated meeting on **Tuesday, August 21**, at the First Presbyterian Church, 512 8th Street South, Brainerd. **Registration starts at 9:00 a.m. and the business meeting starts at 10:00 a.m.** The Executive Director of Presbytery Mission, Stated Clerk and Moderator of Presbytery will be in conversation by noon on Monday, August 20, to decide whether to postpone due to bad weather, call the presbytery number 320-235-7910 to check.

These presbytery packet notifications are sent to active and retired teaching elders of the presbytery, commissioned ruling elders, and clerks of sessions for each congregation by email. If you are not the commissioner from your congregation for this presbytery meeting, please pass the information to access the presbytery packet to the person who will be serving in this capacity. The password for the minutes is Pminutes, they are located under the "Minutes" tab on the home page; and the password for the directories is Pvalleys.

Please call or email Karen at the presbytery office (karen@minnesotavalleys.org) **by Tuesday, August 14** to indicate:

- If you will be in attendance and would like a meal reserved (**Note dietary restrictions**)
- If you request to be excused
- If childcare will be needed

The presbytery [minutes](#) are available on the presbytery website.

FIRST-TIME COMMISSIONERS

There will be an orientation at 9:15 a.m. for first-time commissioners. Stop at the registration table for the location of the orientation session

MEALS

Visitors are charged \$8 for the noon meal, payable at the registration table.

PRESBYTERY OF MINNESOTA VALLEYS
STATED MEETING
Proposed Agenda
August 21, 2018
First Presbyterian Church – Brainerd

Chaplain for the day:

**Those that are able are invited to stand in body or spirit
New business must be presented to the Moderator and Stated Clerk by noon*

Commissioner Briefing *Galen Smith*

9:00 a.m. Registration/Refreshments/Preparation/Resourcing

10:00 a.m. Workshop on Evangelism and Prayer Walk
by the Rev. Ray Jones Associate Director/Acting Director Theology, Formation and Evangelism

11:45-12:30 p.m. Lunch

12:30 p.m. Call to Order/Introduction to the Day/Prayer *Stan Menning*

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church, Brainerd *Mark Ford*

Presentation of Agenda *Pamela Prouty*

Establishing the Roll *Pamela Prouty*

*Declaration of Quorum
Seating of Corresponding Members/Granting Voice
Recognition of First-time Commissioners and Guests*

Consent Agenda *Pamela Prouty*

Stated Clerk's Report *Pamela Prouty*

Action: Session Records Report

Executive Director of Presbytery Mission Report *SanDawna Ashley*

Spotlight on Randall Presbyterian Church

What Does Jesus Mean to Me? *Darin Seaman*

Report from General Assembly

Commission on Operations *Scott Prouty*

Preliminary 2019 budget (handout)
Dissolution of Westbrook church

Commission on Leadership *Lynn Olson/Paul Snyder*

Action: Compensation Policy
Introduction/Commission new pastoral leaders: Eunice Woodberry and Michael Hartwell
Honoring the retirement of Teaching Elder John Lindholm and Commissioned Ruling Elder
Kathy Terpstra and Keith Carey

Commission on Representation *Sara McKay*

Commission on Presbytery Life *Andy Davis/Steve Tyykila*

Commission on Congregational Transformation and Development

Darin Seaman/Anne Veldhuisen

Committee on Congregational Nurture

Bob Bartlett

Resolution of Thanks

Stan Menning

New Business

Speak Out and Announcements

Triennium – Mark Giese

2:00 Worship

Call to Worship

Pamela Prouty

Opening Prayer

***Hymn**

Call to Confession

Unison Confession

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of Peace

Choir Anthem

Scripture - Romans 10:14-15

Sermon “Beautiful Feet”

Rev. Ray Jones Associate Director/ Acting Director Theology, Formation and Evangelism

Choir Anthem

The Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Receiving Peace and Global Witness Offering

Al Jergenson

Offertory Music – Lakes Area Music Festival

*Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Ray Jones and Pamela Prouty

***Hymn**

Benediction

Decommissioning of First Presbyterian Church, Brainerd building (tentative)

3:00 p.m. Adjourn

The Consent Agenda contains routine items. Any Ruling Elder or Teaching Elder commissioner can remove any item on the Consent Agenda by standing and making that request. The item would then be placed in the agenda and discussed. Questions for clarity about a particular item are welcome. To remove an item, no second is needed and no discussion.

**CONSENT AGENDA
FOR THE
PRESBYTERY OF MINNESOTA VALLEYS
August 21, 2018**

1. Approve the minutes from the May 22, 2018 Stated Meeting as posted on the website
2. Receive the Stated Clerk's Report (p. 4)
3. Receive the Executive Director of Presbytery Mission report (p. 7)
4. Receive Administrative Commission reports from Pipestone, Brooten and Crosslake (p. 9)
5. Receive the Commission on Presbytery Life report (p. 9)
6. Receive the Commission on Presbytery Leadership report (p. 10)
7. Receive the Commission on Congregational Transformation and Development report (p. 15)
8. Receive the Commission on Presbytery Operations report including one action (p. 17)
9. Receive the Committee for Congregational Nurture report

**Stated Clerk's Report to the
Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys
August 21, 2018**

1. Attached is the Session Record Reviews which were over the past two months; if your congregation needs their records read please let me know. (**Action is needed to receive this report**)
2. On Wednesday, August 29 at the Randall church there will be another Ruling Elder and Deacon training from 6:00 -8:00 p.m. A light supper will be served at 6:00 p.m. Please let the Presbytery office know your attendance plans.
3. On Tuesday, September 4 at the Presbytery office will be an orientation for new clergy to the Presbytery.
4. The dates for the 2019 Presbytery meetings will be (if the action from Operations is approved):
 - a. Saturday, February 2
 - b. Tuesday, May 14 (a hybrid meeting)
 - c. Tuesday, August 20
 - d. Saturday, November 2 (a hybrid meeting)

**Session Records Report to the Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys
August 21, 2018**

City/Church Name	With No Exceptions	With Noted Exceptions	Not Read
Amboy, First Presbyterian	X		
Ashby, First Presbyterian	X		
Beaver Creek, First Presbyterian	X		
Blue Earth, First Presbyterian	X		
Brainerd, First Presbyterian	X		
Brewster, First Presbyterian	X		
Browns Valley, United Methodist-Presbyterian	X		
Cambria, Cambria Presbyterian	X		
Canby, First Presbyterian	X		
Crosslake, Crosslake Presbyterian			X
Dawson, First Presbyterian	X		
Doran, First Presbyterian			X
Edgerton, First Presbyterian	X		
Ellsworth, Zion Presbyterian	X		
Fergus Falls, Federated	X		
Fergus Falls, Western Presbyterian	closing		
Foley, First Presbyterian	X		
Fulda, First Presbyterian	X		
Holland, First Presbyterian	X		
Iona, First Presbyterian	X		
Jackson, First Presbyterian	X		
Kasota, First Presbyterian	X		
Lake Crystal, First Presbyterian	X		
Lismore, First Presbyterian	X		
Litchfield, First Presbyterian	X		
Luverne, First Presbyterian	X		
Madelia, First Presbyterian	X		
Mankato, First Presbyterian	X		
Marshall, Christ United Presbyterian			X
Maynard, First Presbyterian	X		

Milroy, Ashford Presbyterian		X	
Mountain Lake, First Presbyterian	X		
Osakis, First Presbyterian	X		
Pipestone, First Presbyterian	X		
Randall, Randall Presbyterian	X		
Redwood Falls, First Presbyterian	X		
Renville, Ebenezer Presbyterian	X		
Round Lake, First Presbyterian	X		
Rushmore, Emmanuel Presbyterian		X	
Rushmore, First Presbyterian	X		
Russell, Grace First Parish			
Saint Cloud, First Presbyterian	X		
Saint James, First Presbyterian	X		
Saint Peter, Union Presbyterian	X		
Silver Lake, Faith Presbyterian		X	
Slayton, First Presbyterian			X
Spicer, Harrison Presbyterian	X		
Spicer, Hope Presbyterian	X		
Underwood, Maine Presbyterian	X		
Willmar, First Presbyterian	X		
Windom, First Presbyterian	X		
Winnebago, First Presbyterian	X		
Worthington, Westminster Presbyterian		X	

Executive Director of Presbytery Mission Rev. SanDawna Gaulman Ashley YEAR ONE REVIEW

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE PAST YEAR

- Building relationships with the congregations and pastors of the presbytery were my primary goals. To this end, I have visited 23 congregations in which I have led worship or brought greetings on behalf of the presbytery. I have also visited and resourced six sessions. Broadening the presbytery's reach to pastors and congregations that are isolated by geography and theology is an ongoing task of high priority. Through visits, I have attempted to increase the celebration of ministry and express the presbytery's gratitude for the stewardship of congregations and its members.
- Conflict Intervention is an essential part of this role. Working with the Commission on Leadership (COL) to resolve conflicts between pastors, sessions and congregations have been ongoing. This work collaborates with the Stated Clerk and COL leaders. Working jointly on conflict interventions have assisted me in building relationships with the leadership. In this short period, I have come to trust my colleagues. We are taking great effort to address conflicts with the goal of proper process and reconciliation. To develop the capacity of pastors and congregations to manage conflicts in healthier manners, I have introduced "Third Way Thinking" and Polarity Management. Currently, we are identifying individuals to serve on a Conflict Mediation Team. Four pastors' events held (Coffee with SanDawna September 2017, New Pastors' Orientation April 2018, Pastors' Retreat June 2018). I continue to provide counsel to pastors (teaching elders, retirees, and lay pastors).
- Coaching the Presbytery's Ministry Plan at times coaching the ministry plan has included midcourse evaluations. I've introduced two evaluation processes to the leadership—using electronic surveys and establishing benchmark metrics. Through training and dialogue, each commission is tasked with establishing benchmark indicators and core values for their ministry areas. The objective is to ensure proper process, creativity, and accountability. The presbytery will work toward creating a narrative budget and new narratives of the presbytery's mission and witness in the region. Additionally, I have initiated the invitation of special speakers to provide training for the presbytery Rhonda Kruse (mission), Ray Jones (evangelism), and transformation specialists who co-led the Going Beyond Change Event.
- Resourcing the presbytery around issues of leadership development, change management, stewardship, and transformation are significant accomplishments. I have established quarterly book discussions for all congregational leaders. In-person training included the January 13th Leadership Retreat and the April 5-7, 2018 Transformation Event. The presbytery is working toward establishing cohort groups focusing on topics of transformation, prayer, and mission. I initiated new officers training led by the Stated Clerk and others.
- Resourcing Search Committees has been an essential part of my work with congregations in transition. I have provided in-person training to seven PNCs giving guidance in the use of the CLC Call System, leadership discernment, writing MIFs and best practices for search processes.

- New procedures for Presbytery Reference Checks are established. The new guidelines clarify what information can be shared about candidates and what information is confidential. The Greenlight, Yellow light, and Red light code system indicates whether a potential candidate meets the fittest standards for minister members of the presbytery.
- Training for the Commission on Leadership (COL). I have led two training sessions for COL. The training has clarified processes, worked to increase the knowledge of liaisons and ensured that all those supporting congregations in transition are sharing the same information.
- Good working relationships are being established with staff. We are taking a team approach to resourcing the presbytery and resolving administrative matters.
- In consultation with congregations and commissions, I have provided an honest evaluation of past and present challenges.

WHAT'S NEXT? The work here will continue in providing spiritual leadership, governance, coaching the vision, and supporting pastors and congregations. I look forward to bringing new programming to the presbytery. I have proposed the following new programs:

- Small Church Residency that would provide congregations the opportunity to call a pastor that will walk the congregation through a transformation process. The pastors will engage in a cohort group, be assigned a mentor and a possible coach. I have suggested the program to the Synod and will work with other synod leaders to develop the plan.
- Seminary Internship Program I have cultivated relationships with seminaries to obtain interns. Congregations can apply to be an internship site for seminary students.
- Military Chaplains/Bi-vocational Pastors. Through this program, congregations will partner with the Military Chaplains to identify pastors who could serve bi-vocationally within the region. Congregations will also be invited to be a residency site for seminary students wanting to be military chaplains.

The administrative work of the presbytery is ongoing. A continual assessment of processes and procedures is necessary. Additionally, broadening the ways in which the presbytery staff resources its members will be ongoing.

SERVICE TO THE LARGER CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

- Liaison to the Synod of Lakes and Prairies Program Committee
- Transitional Ministry Network Faculty
- Minnesota Council of Churches Executive Board

SUMMARY

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you. I have built relationships and learned from you. I am impressed by your spirit as a presbytery. The best part of my work is visiting congregations during significant times and working with the commissions to envision new ministry possibilities. I have enjoyed watching ruling elders engage in training. As I am out among the presbytery my message is one of possibility and faith. Through my leadership, I hope to inspire forward-thinking. Grace and peace as we begin another year of ministry together. May God do great things among us. May our needs be met. May we dream big and find our faith increased to do the unimaginable in the name of Christ Jesus.

**Administrative Commission Reports to the Presbytery
August 21, 2018**

Brooten: We have nothing new to report. Stan Menning, Chair

Pipestone: We have nothing new to report. Galen Smith, Chair

**Crosslake Administrative Commission Report to the
Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys
August 21, 2018**

Since receiving our charge from the Presbytery Commission on Operations in April of this year, the Crosslake AC has met for three face to face meetings, had four zoom meetings, attended five session meetings, held a hearing for the session, conducted a congregational listening session, and heard from three past pastors of Crosslake Presbyterian Church. In May our AC was given authorization to assume original jurisdiction, but have just now given vote as well as voice to AC members at session meetings.

The Crosslake AC secured most of the session and congregational minutes since the first of the year, but there appear to be a few gaps within the minutes. Financial records have been received, but must be made more clear for the session with regard to pastor's salary and reserves for such.

Rev. Murphy Ashley and Rev. Darin Seaman have agreed to conduct polity courses for Crosslake Session members beginning in September when dates and times are coordinated with the session. Great news is the approval of Crosslake's MIF last week by COL and this week by the Crosslake Session.

Pray for Crosslake Presbyterian Church, that they may find peace.

Humbly submitted,
Ross Stone – Crosslake Administrative Commission Chair

**Commission on Presbytery Life Report to the
Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys
August 21, 2018**

The Commission for Presbytery Life is continuing to organize for next year's Triennium youth conference. More information will be coming shortly.

We are also going to be looking at the results from the Survey Monkey that was sent to sessions and commissioners.

**Commission on Leadership Report to the
Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys
August 21, 2018**

Actions taken at the June 7, 2018 zoom meeting

1. COL VOTED to approve the agenda and the minutes of May 22, 2018 Face-to-Face Meeting at Renville
2. COL VOTED to affirm the actions of the Co-chairs:
 - a. Crosslake – Ruling Elder Ross Stone, Chair of Crosslake Administrative Commission, appointed Moderator in response to resignation of Teaching Elder Mark Ford.
 - b. Harrison – Ruling Elder Jean Bauer (who has been trained) approved to serve communion on June 3, 2018 as per request of Dennis Peterson, Clerk of Session.
 - c. Kasota – Appointed Teaching Elder Dawn Carder as Temporary Moderator, as per request of Marleen Goettl, Clerk of Session, as Teaching Elder Dennis Secrease is on Sick Leave.
3. COL adjourned at 10:20 a.m. with prayer.

Actions taken at the July 12, 2018 zoom meeting

1. COL VOTED to approve the agenda as amended. COL VOTED to approve the minutes from June 7, 2018.
2. COL VOTED to receive the following actions by the co-chairs:
 - a. Mankato – Teaching Elder Andy Davis appointed Moderator for June 19, 2018 Session Meeting. Part-time Bridge Pastor position description approved. (Attached)
 - b. Harrison – Ruling Elders (both trained) Jean Bauer and Carol Chmielewski authorized to serve communion during July, August and September.
 - c. Lake Crystal – John McKay granted permission to provide pulpit supply and communion through September, 2018, with an extension option. (Attached)
3. COL VOTED to add Barbara Little, from Willmar, to the Pulpit Supply List.
4. COL VOTED to approve a compensation waiver for Mt. Lake and their Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE).
5. COL VOTED to receive the resignation of CRE Keith Carey effective June 18, 2018 from Westbrook.

Actions taken at the August 2, 2018 zoom meeting

1. COL VOTED to approve the minutes from the July 12, 2018 meeting via Zoom. COL VOTED to approve the agenda.
2. COL VOTED to affirm the following Co-chair actions:
 - a. Lake Crystal – Approved MIF for $\frac{3}{4}$ time Interim.
 - b. Randall – Mark Ford appointed as Mentor for Michael Hartwell.

- c. Crosslake – Approved MIF for full-time Designated Pastor.
3. COL VOTED to receive the resignation of Commissioned Ruling Elder David Hollis from the Slayton congregation effective December 31, 2019. COL VOTED to appoint Paul Snyder as the liaison for the Slayton church.
 4. COL VOTED to approve the installation Commission for Michael Hartwell on September 16, 2018 at 4:00 PM; members of the commission include Teaching Elder, Presbytery Vice-Moderator Mark Ford, Teaching Elder Darin Seaman, Ruling Elder Terry Coffin, Randall, Ruling Elder Lynne Osteraas, St. Cloud and Richard Lawrence, St. Cloud.
 5. COL VOTED to appoint Bob Maharry as the COL liaison for the Kasota church.
 6. COL VOTED to approve to move forward with the contract with Russell Steele as a visitation pastor for the Blue Earth church, looking for clarification that serving the Sacraments is not part of the contract. COL would like to see the final contract before it is approved completely.

Action on the 2019 Compensation Policy will come to the floor of the Presbytery meeting for approval.

PRESBYTERY OF MINNESOTA VALLEYS
TEACHING ELDER COMPENSATION POLICY – 2019

Policies and procedures of the Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys are to assist sessions in their responsibility as employers.

All policies will be guided by the Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys, Board of Pensions compensation handbook, and additional guidance from the Synod and General Assembly.

The policy includes a Teaching Elder Minimum Compensation Policy, using the Churchwide Median Annual Effective Salary in determining a process for minimum compensation. The Median Annual Effective Salary for teaching elders serving in full-time positions in 2018 (as reported to the Board of Pensions) is \$59,100.00 for cash salary and housing. This is an increase of 1.9%.

The minimum compensation for teaching elders, including associate teaching elders, serving in full-time positions in the Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys shall range from 10% below the Churchwide Median Compensation for newly ordained teaching elders to 0% below the Churchwide Median Compensation for teaching elders with more than ten years of full-time experience since ordination. Commissioned ruling elder minimums continue to be 75% of the teaching elder minimums shown below.

Exceptions to the minimum compensation shall be approved by the Commission on Leadership and are subject to annual review and renewed approval.

Years Experience Ordained Service	% Below Churchwide Median	Total Compensation	*Cash Salary (div by 1.3) When a manse is provided
Less Than One	10.00%	\$53,190	\$40,915
More Than One	9.00%	\$53,781	\$41,370
More Than Two	8.00%	\$54,372	\$41,825
More Than Three	7.00%	\$54,963	\$45,462
More Than Four	6.00%	\$55,554	\$42,734
More Than Five	5.00%	\$56,145	\$43,188
More Than Six	4.00%	\$56,736	\$43,643
More Than Seven	3.00%	\$57,327	\$44,098
More Than Eight	2.00%	\$57,918	\$44,552
More Than Nine	1.00%	\$58,509	\$45,007
More Than Ten	0.00%	\$59,100	\$45,462

*For churches providing manses and the church pays utilities directly, this may be used to adjust minimum compensation.

The above figures are minimum requirements, not salary recommendations. In addition to cash salary and utilities, all teaching elders serving in full-time positions are to be provided with housing (either manse or housing allowance), continuing education allowance, full pension

benefits, an auto expense reimbursement, four weeks vacation and two weeks study leave. Teaching elders serving in part-time positions may be provided with benefits, allocated according to time served. All such items (except vacation time) are forfeited if unused prior to the dissolution of the pastoral relationship.

When the church does not provide rent-free, church-owned housing, the teaching elder may designate any appropriate amount with confirming action by the session prior to the beginning of the year. (See following for requirements for establishing housing allowance.)

When a manse is provided, the teaching elder may designate a utilities and furnishing allowance (see following for requirements).

Guidelines:

- The annual terms of call must be approved by the congregational before a change in the terms of call.
- Housing plus utilities must be in accordance with guidelines used by the Board of Pensions to compute effective salary (guidelines to effective salary, January 2014 or newer edition).
- Continuing education - minimum of \$750.00 per year, plus two weeks (including two Sundays, beginning January 1), vouchered. Continuing education benefits are cumulative for three years. Continuing education time and expense must be approved by the Session. At the time of termination of employment (either voluntary or involuntary) a teaching elder/commissioned ruling elder shall have no claim for pay in lieu of unused continuing education time or expense.
- Auto expenses - vouchered monthly at the current IRS allowance (as of January 2018 this rate is 54.5 cents per mile).
- Vacation - four weeks to include four Sundays per year, available January 1. For interim teaching elders, this will be prorated based on the portion of the year served.
- Maternity leave and paternity leave - Presbytery policy provides for four weeks paid maternity leave, additional time off can be negotiated and suggests equal consideration be given to paternity leave.
- Health and Medical Leave - Teaching elder members/commissioned ruling elders are entitled to up to ten working days of paid sick leave each calendar year cumulative up to ninety days. At the time of termination of employment (either voluntary or involuntary) a teaching elder/commissioned ruling elder shall have no claim for pay in lieu of unused sick leave. Teaching elders are expected to report used sick time to the Session.
- Emergency Leave - A maximum of five paid days per year shall be allowed for emergency leave arising out of the death of an immediate member of the family. In the

event of serious illness or other emergency related to an immediate member of the family, such leave may be allowed by action of the Session.

- Sabbatical Leave: After six years of service to a church, Presbytery recommends sessions of congregations grant at least three months of a compensated sabbatical to their Teaching Elders to be spiritually, emotionally and physically renewed through continuing education and spiritual reflection.
- Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys requires that teaching elders be paid full salary and Board of Pension dues by the congregation for up to 90 days of disability. Beginning with day 91, teaching elders may be placed on disability through the Board of Pensions.
- Full time shall be defined as 40 - 45 hours per week. Part time parameters are as follows:
 - ¼ time = 10 hours per week: provides a weekly sermon and monthly moderating of Session and Congregational meetings
 - ½ time = 20 hours per week: in addition to above, provides a few hours for other ministry
 - ¾ time = 30 hours per week: in addition to above, provides additional time for other ministry
- Teaching elders are encouraged to take two days off per week, with at least one full, uninterrupted day off per week. When there has been an unusually heavy work week, teaching elders are encouraged to take an extra day off during the next week to compensate. This is not considered a vacation day.

Housing Allowance:

The housing allowance is based on the out-of-pocket cost of providing a home and furnishing the home. It includes mortgage payments, home insurance, rent, utilities, furnishings and supplies. The Internal Revenue Code of 2002 and Congress have placed a three-part test for limiting the housing allowance exclusion. The lesser of:

1. The amount designated by the council (session) **or**
2. The amount actually spent to provide primary residence **or**
3. The fair market rental value, furnished, including appurtenances & actual utilities cost.

The annual housing allowance must be designated prior to the first payment.

Cost of Living Index Information

According to [statistics](#) from the Bureau of Labor Consumer Price Index the cost of living has increased approximately 2.9% for the 12 months ending June 2018.

**Commission on Congregational Transformation and Development
Report to Presbytery, August 21, 2018**

Class of 2018 Rick Hauge Darin Seaman Anne Veldhuisen	Class of 2019 Randall Knuth Darlene Scherbing Tom Voigt	Class of 2020 Richard Lawrence Kathy Terpstra
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The Commission on Congregational Transformation and Development met via Zoom May 17, June 21, July 19 of 2018.



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Kathy Terpstra, on behalf of the commission, has been working hard to coordinate an exciting event. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance will be coming to Redwood Falls on Saturday, September 15th.

The day will consist of three parts:

- 1 - What is PDA
- 2 - Ways we can be engaged in preparedness and response
- 3 - Refugee and Immigrant Ministry.

The event will be free for participants, with lunch served for \$10 a person. Keep your eyes peeled for registration opportunities. Let's learn how to bring hope out of chaos.

The Commission on Congregational Transformation and Development is honored to provide funds and scholarships on behalf of the presbytery. Follows is the disbursement of funds year-to-date:

Camp Scholarships

64 at \$75 each - \$4,800 total

- Grace Ouellette – Fulda (3/19)
- Abigail Thompson – Willmar (3/19)
- Michael Goldenstein – Willmar (3/19)
- Jay Goldenstein – Willmar (3/19)
- Johnnie Fransen – Fulda (3/28)

- Cecelia Maldonado – Canby (5/30)
- Allen Maldonado – Canby (5/30)
- Nayeli Maldonado – Canby (5/30)
- Morgan Tyykila – Canby (5/30)
- Nik Lentner – Foley (5/30)
- Iman Lentner – Foley (5/30)
- Addy Schmitz – Foley (5/30)
- Aiden Watercott – Foley (5/30)
- Henry Miller – Foley (5/30)

- Halle Bundy - Hope, Spicer (6/12)
- Samantha Okuly - Hope, Spicer (6/12)
- Carter Taatjes - Hope, Spicer (6/12)
- Isaac Taatjes - Hope, Spicer (6/12)
- Austin Okuly - Hope, Spicer (6/12)
- Evelyn Titus - Hope, Spicer (6/12)
- Skyla Sampson - Hope, Spicer (6/12)
- Shayla Sampson - Hope, Spicer (6/12)
- Blake Sampson - Hope, Spicer (6/12)
- Marianne Rincon - Blue Earth (6/12)
- Hayle Jahnke - Blue Earth (6/12)

- Missy Leuthold - Hope Spicer (6/21)
- Makiya Cavalier – FF Federated (6/21)
- Beatrice Schierer – Fergus Falls Fed (6/21)
- Dove Schierer – FF Federated (6/21)

Leo Schierer – FF Federated (6/21)
Reno Schierer – FF Federated (6/21)
Ella Sundheim – FF Federated (6/21)
Lily Sundheim – FF Federated (6/21)
Willow Sundheim – FF Federated (6/21)
McKenzi Krohe – Luverne (6/21)
Christian Krohe – Luverne (6/21)
Lily Krohe – Luverne (6/21)
Ian Bumgardner – Luverne (6/21)
Evan Bumgardner – Luverne (6/21)
Pierce Cunningham – Luverne (6/21)
Joe Schoneman – Luverne (6/21)
Matti Carson – Pipestone (6/21)
Brandon Gortor – Pipestone (6/21)
Haden Mulvihill – Pipestone (6/21)
Dylan Spaethe – Pipestone (6/21)
Katelyn Spaethe – Pipestone (6/21)
Dakota Staples – Pipestone (6/21)

Synod School Scholarships

11 at \$100 each - \$1,100 total

Deb Klassen – Iona
Morgan Tyykila – Canby (5/30)
Genevieve Tyykila – Canby (5/30)
Anne Veldhuisen – Marshall (5/30)
Kevin Veldhuisen – Marshall (5/30)
Martin Veldhuisen – Marshall (5/30)
August Veldhuisen – Marshal (5/30)

Transformation Event - \$1,913.80 total

Leah Elrod - \$278 (3/26)
Deb Hess - \$114.50 (3/28)
Becky Brune - \$121.30 (4/4)
Presbytery - \$1,400 (4/19)

Kaleidoscope Scholarships

3 at \$500 each - \$1,500 total

Doris Jasebek – Silver Lake (7/19)
Murphey Ashley Jr. – Silver Lake (7/19)
Margie Nelson – Silver Lake (7/19)

Payton Swanson – Marshall (6/21)
Cody Rauch – Marshall (6/21)
Roy Rauch – Marshall (6/21)
Lauren Miller – Redwood Falls (6/21)
Claire Stephens - Redwood Falls (6/21)
Asher Caraway - Redwood Falls (6/21)
Lindsey Caraway - Redwood Falls (6/21)
Charrie Milhausen - Redwood Falls (6/21)
Nadia Meyers - Redwood Falls (6/21)
Shelby Longie – Osakis (6/21)
Hennessey Longie – Osakis (6/21)

Breana Winzenburg – Ebenezer (7/19)
Dylan Gerhke – Hope, Spicer (7/19)
Matthew Gerhke – Hope, Spicer (7/19)
Aki Rebek – St. Cloud (7/19)
Addysen Hamstad – Willmar (7/19)
Kate Marquardt – Willmar (7/19)
Karen Lange - Presbytery Office (6/12)
Elizabeth Prouty – Redwood Falls (6/21)
Julia Prouty – Redwood Falls (6/21)
Matthew Prouty – Redwood Falls (6/21)

Technology Grants - \$1,126.50 total

Presbytery - \$204 (1/31)
Luverne - \$422.50 (4/4)
Clearwater Forest - \$500 (5/30)

Respectfully submitted, Darin Seaman and Anne Veldhuisen, co-chairs

**Commission on Operations Report to the
Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys
August 21, 2018**

Actions taken at the May 22, 2018 meeting

1. MSC – Items regarding the Closing of the Western Presbyterian Church, Fergus Falls, Minnesota the Commission is asking the Presbytery to agree to the following. 1. Permission to demolish the building 2. That the Presbytery transfers the property to the Western Presbyterian Cemetery Association so that the property where the building currently stands can become a parking lot and a memorial garden for the cemetery. 3. That the remaining current assets also be transferred to the Western Presbyterian Cemetery 4. That the church donates to the Presbytery 2 years of per capita. 5. That the final report be received by August 12, 2018.
2. MSC to allow Karen Lange to attend an Administrative Assistants Conference in Minneapolis May 29 – June 1, 2018 at a cost of @\$360.00 and to attend the Regional Personnel Conference in Michigan from October 11-13 using funds from her Educational Allowance.
3. MSC – Have all Commissions keep track of their expenses and put it in the minutes. (A letter will be sent to all Chairs)
4. MSC – Contact all churches to send per capita and mission monies to the Presbytery office for deposit (rather than the Synod) to allow us a record of giving.

Action taken at the June 8, 2018 meeting

After hearing from Ross Stone, moderator of Crosslake Administrative Commission, action was taken to change the charge of the Crosslake Administrative Commission in order for the AC to take original jurisdiction if they deem it necessary after conducting a hearing with the Session.

Actions taken at the July 19, 2018 meeting

1. MSC – **to recommend to the Presbytery** that the title of the Executive Director of Presbytery Mission (EDPM) be changed to Executive Presbyter. Director of Missions was causing confusing with other entities.
2. MSC – to raise the EDPM's salary 1.2% for September thru December 2018 after a positive review.
3. MSC – to re-carpet the Presbytery offices up to \$15,000 using funds from account #5815.
4. MSC- to form an administrative commission to dissolve the Westbrook congregation; the charge is attached.

The following action will come to the floor of the Presbytery meeting:

MSC – to recommend to the Presbytery to change the Operating Procedures to read as follows:

Presently it states:

Article IV: Organization (*Bylaws, Article IV*)

- A. Stated meetings of presbytery shall be four times a year with the following dates:
 - 1. The first Saturday of February, when the Lord’s Supper shall be celebrated
 - 2. The second Tuesday of May
 - 3. The second Tuesday of August
 - 4. The first Saturday of November

For the past two years Presbytery has been asked to set aside the Operating Procedures to change the Presbytery meeting dates, so we are proposing to change the wording as follows:

Article IV: Organization (*Bylaws, Article IV*)

- B. Stated meetings of presbytery shall be four times a year ~~with~~ *ordinarily on* the following dates:
 - 5. The first Saturday of February, when the Lord’s Supper shall be celebrated
 - 6. The ~~second~~ *third* Tuesday of May
 - 7. The ~~second~~ *third* Tuesday of August
 - 8. The first Saturday of November

Resolution for the Appointment of an Administrative Commission for the First Presbyterian Church, Westbrook, MN by the Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys

WHEREAS the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of MN Valleys received a letter from the Westbrook Session asking for help in dissolving the congregation;

WHEREAS under such circumstances the Book of Order at G-3.0109b authorizes the Presbytery to appoint an administrative commission for the First Presbyterian Church, Westbrook and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Administrative Commission shall be empowered to consider and conclude all matters referred to it by this Presbytery, including specifically the following charge:

1. To obtain all Session records, member roll books, other entities records (i.e. Presbyterian Women and others) and other official documents and send them to the Presbytery Stated Clerk in their original form.
2. To assist the Session in closing out the affairs of the church including the transfer of members. Those members who have not transferred their membership elsewhere will be transferred to the Presbytery of MN Valleys. The Presbytery authorizes the Stated Clerk to dismiss members whose names are still on the roll after three years of the actual date of closure
3. To take possession of all real and personal property (G-4.0203), and financial records and arrange for transfer of title to the Presbytery of all accounts and real property known to be in the possession of the First Presbyterian Church, Westbrook, MN. It is suggested that an inventory of property and equipment be conducted
4. To consult with the Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Westbrook regarding requests the congregation may have relating to the disposition of equipment and memorials and other property of the First Presbyterian Church, Westbrook
5. To recommend to the Presbytery the disposition of property or to arrange for its retention and storage for future use at direction of the Presbytery.
6. To assert claim of the Presbytery to any property of the First Presbyterian Church, Westbrook, MN not known at this time, which may come to the First Presbyterian Church, Westbrook, MN as the beneficiary of a will or trust not known at this time.
7. To appoint someone to be clerk of the Commission who will record all minutes, submit them to the Stated Clerk and when the commission has completed its work will submit all records to the Stated Clerk.
8. To regularly report and submit its record to the Presbytery and officers (G-3.0109). 10. To conduct and fulfill such additional responsibilities that may be assigned to it as a commission by the Presbytery.