

COM Report for Presbytery Meeting

November-December of 2018

- Proactively approved the Honorable Retirement of the Rev. Dr. Craig Palmer and approved his dismissal to the Des Moines Presbytery when requested
- Approved a change in terms of call for the Rev. Christine Kaplunas at Unity Presbyterian Church, Waterloo
- COM met with and approved candidates Roger and Barbara Todd as temporary supply interims for the Greater Greene County Presbyterian Ministry
- COM approved the Greater Greene County Presbyterian Ministry's election of a Pastor Nominating Committee
- The following people were appointed moderators of the following sessions: Rev. Dr. David Kivett (Grundy Center First), Rev. Bruce Baillie (Reinbeck First), Rev. Sara Hill (Algona and Irvington), Rev. Dr. Austin Hill (Burt)
- Approved the terms of call for CP Diane Martin in Ackley
- The Rev. John Molacek completed his turn as Moderator of COM and thanked the committee for their work and said it had been an honor to serve

January

- Rev. Sara Sutter began her role as moderator of the newly named Commission on Ministry, the coming together of Committee on Ministry and Committee on Preparation for Ministry
- COM approved the commissioning of CP Walt Reemtsma to Burt Presbyterian Church, which then took place on Sunday, January 27
- COM approved the dismissal of Rev. Dr. Loren Shellabarger to John Knox Presbytery and approved his terms of call with Westminster Presbyterian Church in Dubuque
- COM approved the MIF for the new Associate Pastor position at First Presbyterian Church, Fort Dodge

February

- COM met online with thanks to Jeannie Stolee setting up a zoom meeting room
- Liaisons were assigned to churches, academy students, and our candidate for ministry
- COM approved the MIFs for Grundy Center First, Reinbeck First, and the Greater Greene County Presbyterian Ministry
- COM approved Rev. Tamara EnTin's request to consider her ministry with Bristow Reformed Church a specialized ministry for the Presbytery
- The sub-committee looking at policies for sabbaticals and family medical leave shared progress in their discussion.

As we continue to adapt and respond to God's work in and through our presbytery, I find joy in assuming the role of Moderator for our Commission on Ministry. With help from faithful commission members, I look forward to COM continuing to offer support and maintaining good relationships with our pastors, churches, and prospective pastors. We can always use your prayers for the churches going through the search process. May the Spirit bring us faithful ministers to fill the open pulpits. We also request your help to discern the call to ministry for people in our pews and presbytery.

Sara Sutter