

**Presbytery of North Central Iowa
222nd Stated Presbytery Meeting
Bethany Presbyterian Church, Grundy Center, Iowa
March 5, 2019**

The 222nd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of North Central Iowa was held at Bethany Presbyterian Church, Grundy Center, Iowa, on November 4, 2019, and was called to order by Elder Judy Klepfer, Moderator, at 2:30 p.m. Prior to the meeting, clergy received boundaries training from Synod Leadership Director Deb DeMeester. Then the commissioners had worship together, with Rev. Johnny Janssen of Cedar Heights Community Presbyterian Church preaching. At the culmination of worship the commissioners celebrated the Lord's Supper, with Rev. Brad Braley and Rev. Sara Sutter leading the celebration.

After worship, the commissioners enjoyed a fellowship meal in the church dining area. The commissioners stayed in the dining area for the business meeting, which followed the meal.

The Moderator, Elder Judy Klepfer, called the meeting back to order at 1:00 p.m. Sated Clerk, Rev. Dr. Glenn Wilson, gave his report. He declared a quorum was present, as shown by the roll.

Church	Teaching Elder/ CP	Present/Absent/ Excused	Ruling Elder
Ackley, East Friesland	CP Lynn Arends	P	
Ackley, First	CP Diane Martin	P	Retha Starek
Albion, First	CP Charles Flick	P	
Ames, Collegiate	Rev. Dr. Brett Becker Rev. Betsy Thompson Rev. Julie Erkel Hagee	P E P	Peter Hallock
Ames, Northminster	Rev. James DuBois	P	
Boone, First	Rev. M. Denise Group	P	
Burt	CP Walt Reemtsma	E	
Cedar Falls, Cedar Heights	Rev. Dr. David Kivett Rev. Johnny Janssen	P P	Barbara Dowd
Cedar Falls, First	Rev. Brad Braley	P	
Clarion, United	Rev. Bill Kem	P	
Conrad, First	Rev. Kerry Carson	P	
Dows, First	Rev. Shawn Hill	A	
Fort Dodge, First	Rev. Dr. Austin Hill Rev. Sara Hill	E E	Steven Hulsebus
Garner, United	CP Justin Asche	A	
Goldfield, United	Rev. Sara Sutter	P	Syl Funnell

Greater Greene County Grand Junction, First Jefferson, First Paton, First	Rev. L. Roger Todd Rev. Barbara Todd CP Wendy Pittman	P P P	
Greene, First	Rev. Catherine Belles	P	John Duffield
Grundy Center, Bethany	Rev. Al Polito, Jr.	P	
Grundy Center, First			Pat Hauser
Jesup, First	Rev. John White	P	Barbara Meister
Kamrar, First	Rev. Dr. H. Paul Fischer	P	Gerald Huisman
Kossuth County Parish Algona, First Irvington, First Lakota, First Lone Rock	CP Walter Reemtsma CP Judy Junkermeier CP Kent Madison	E P A	
LeRoy, First	Rev. Dr. John Kerr	P	Duane Wheeler
Lincoln, Salem	Rev. Barbara Muhs	A	
Marshalltown, First	Rev. Dr. Richard King	A	
Mason City, First	Rev. Paul Collier	P	Nancy Beenken
Maxwell, First	Rev. Ian McMullen	P	
McCallsburg	Rev. Thomas Poppe	A	
Nevada, Central	Rev. John Molacek	P	Nancy Rasmusson
Reinbeck, Amity	CP Darryl Widmayer	P	
Reinbeck, First			
Rudd, Eden	Rev. Catherine Belles	P	Nina Bates
State Center, First	Rev. Dr. Tom Bower	P	
Steamboat Rock, First	CP Lynn Arends	P	
Toledo, First	Rev. Dr. Tom Bower	P	Sylvia Johnson
Traer, United	Rev. Brice Hoyt	P	Greg Cluts
Washburn, St. Paul's	Rev. Dr. Clemens Bartollas	A	
Waterloo, Barclay	CP Larry Fuson	E	
Waterloo, First	Rev. Amy Wiles Rev. Pat Gadelmann	P P	
Waterloo, Unity	Rev. Christine Kaplunas	P	Craig Walton
Waterloo, Westminster	Rev. Dr Patricia Jacobs Rev. Dan Voigt	P P	
Woden, First			ACP Diane Wilson

Other Ministers on the Roll of Presbytery	Present/Absent/Excused
Rev. David Feltman, Pastor to the Presbytery	P
Rev. Dr. S. Glenn Wilson, Stated Clerk	P
Honorably Retired	
Rev. Daniel Emmert	P
Bruce Baillie	P
LaVern Seth	P
Gordon Moen	P
Specialized Ministry	
CP Beth Ehlers, Lakeshore Center at Okoboji	P
At-Large	
Rev. LeAnne Clausen de Montes	P
Council Members	
Judy Klepfer, Moderator	P
Corresponding Members	
Deb DeMeester, Twin Cities Area, Synod of Lakes and Prairies	P
Visitors	
Donna Steven, Lakota	P

First time Commissioners and clergy were introduced. Guests were introduced.

The proposed docket for the 222nd Stated Meeting was approved.

It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes of the 221st Stated Meeting of November 4, 2018. The motion carried.

The Pastor to the Presbytery, Rev. David Feltman, gave his report.

In New Business, motions from the General Council were entertained:

- It is moved to authorize the Presbytery Council to set the 2020 per capita for the presbytery. The motion carried.
- It is moved to authorize the Presbytery Council to set the amounts for Unified Mission Giving for 2020. The motion carried.
- It is moved to authorize the Presbytery Council to set salary minimums for 2020. The motion carried.
- It is moved to dissolve the Ballard Community Ministry Commission with thanks. The motion carried.
- It is moved to dissolve the J Street Property Commission as soon as Life and Hope property is no longer in the name of the church, with thanks. The motion carried.
- It is moved to change the time Rev. David Feltman devotes to the Des Moines Presbytery from one-third to one-fourth, with the Des Moines Presbytery paying one-fourth of Rev. Feltman's package, effective February 1, 2019. The motion carried.
- It is moved to dissolve the relationship between the Pastor to the Presbytery, Rev. David Feltman, and the Presbytery of North Central Iowa effective July 15, 2019. The motion carried.

Voting on Amendments to the Book of Order as proposed by the 223rd General Assembly.

The Stated Clerk, Rev. Dr. Glenn Wilson, read each proposed amendment and then placed the item before the commissioners in the form of a motion. Following are the amendments and the outcome of the vote:

- Election of Ruling Elders and Deacons - G-2.0401 – YES
- Renunciation of Jurisdiction – On Amending G-2.0509 – YES
- Renunciation of Jurisdiction – On Amending D-10.0401d – YES
- On Stating Political Opinions – G-3.0104 – NO
- Membership in the Presbytery – G-3.0306 – YES
- On Communication – G-3.0307 – YES
- Directory for Worship – W-4.0202 – YES
- Rules of Discipline – D-2.0203b – YES
- Rules of Discipline – D-10.0401b – YES
- Rules of Discipline – D-10.0401(c)(1) - YES

PRESENTATIONS

A. Transition Task Force - Elder Beth Ehlers, CP

The Transition Task Force is making progress. A job description for the Interim Executive Presbyter has been developed and soon PIFs will be looked at and a candidate will be contacted and hired.

B. Commission on Ministry - Rev. Sara Sutter

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 term 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.

Respectfully,
Rev. Sara Sutter

C. Mission and Ministry – Rev. Denise Group

Originally, the committee had planned to meet after the Clergy/Ruling Elder Workshop at Iowa Falls, but the weather kept several members away, and a quorum could not be declared. The committee again met via Zoom on March 1, 6:00 p.m. Present: Denise Group, moderator; Bruce Jefferson, Angie Risius, Angie Jewett, and Doris Goering.

Absent: Sylvia Johnson, John Kerr, Barb Huisman. Sylvia had attended the meeting in Iowa Falls. David Feltman sent word that he could not be present.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. Denise Group opened the meeting with prayer.

The following items of business were discussed.

- 1) Tour: The committee plans to meet in Marshalltown on April 27. Habitat for Humanity will be hosting a Blitz Build (April 23-27), and the committee members expressed an interest in helping with the build AND opening up the possibility of others in the presbytery joining us for that endeavor. We will meet in Marshalltown on April 27 at 9:00 a.m. Anyone interested in helping that day should contact Denise Group (515-298-3464 or mdenisegroup@gamil.com). She will handle the registration. Limit: 25 people.
- 2) Partnership Grant Consultation: The Partnership Grant Application Consultation will take place on October 19 at Northminster-Ames. Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. The consultation will begin at 9:30 a.m.
- 3) Partnership Grant Applications: Application forms will be sent out to the churches before Easter. The committee members talked at length about the application, especially the length of time churches can request funds for the same project. We have not had enough money in the presbytery budget to fund all of the projects for the past two years, and the presbytery has found money elsewhere so that all projects received the full amount they requested. We will not ask for additional funding for 2020, and the following was decided: churches requesting renewal grants (same project, more than 3 years in a row) may request grants not to exceed \$1,500. Grants written solely for the purpose of providing travel expenses to and from the proposed mission site will not be allowed. Churches with multiple grant application requests should rank order their mission requests, so the church itself determines which request is most in need of funding
- 4) Campus Ministry/Cana: We discussed the two campus ministries sponsored by First-Cedar Falls (UNI) and Collegiate-Ames (ISU), and also Cana (which has an association of sorts with First-Ft. Dodge). We recognize the good work done by the campus ministries and Cana, but we are undecided about how we should handle funds for these. Should we see these as on-going renewal projects (and thus cap their funds at \$1,500), or should we see these as “protected projects” as long as the Sessions of their sponsoring congregations request funds for them?

The meeting was closed with prayer at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully
Denise Group, Moderator

D. Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of North Central Iowa Report – Melissa Muzzy

In our presbytery, Wings of Refuge (in Iowa Falls) received a \$120,000 grant from the PW Birthday Offering. Wings of Refuge is a restoration home for women victimized by human trafficking. The grant will help fund a larger long-term safe home in Ames.

The annual PW Spring Gathering for women in our presbytery will be Saturday morning, April 13, 2019, at First Presbyterian Church in Cedar Falls. Guest speakers will be from Wings of Refuge and House of Hope (Waterloo).

The triennial PW Synod Gathering is June 20-23, 2019 in Ames at the Gateway Hotel and Conference Center. The registration booklet is available online, from a link to it on the Synod's PW page. Full registration cost is \$200, which includes all meals during the event. Hotel cost is extra. Our PW of the Presbytery will provide \$100 to all attendees from North Central Iowa Presbytery, with an extra \$100 (\$200 total) to first-time attendees.

Upcoming events: April 13, 2019 – PW Presbytery Spring Gathering, First Presbyterian, Cedar Falls, 8:30 a.m. Registration, 9:00-12:00 Program, 12:00 Luncheon; June 20-23, 2019 – PW Synod Gathering, Gateway Conference Center, Ames.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Muzzy, Moderator

PW Member Pat Hauser also spoke to the meeting, emphasizing the dates of upcoming meetings.

E. Theological Education Fund – Rev. Gordon Moen

The Theological Education Fund needs our continued support. The Theological Education Fund combines gifts from Presbyterians for students at Presbyterian seminaries through the U.S.

F. Iowa Presbytery Task Force – Rev. Ian McMullen

The Iowa Presbytery Task Force continues to meet and look for ways presbyteries can work together, such as the combined emphasis on Mental Health issues.

G. Presbytery Mission Trip - Rev. David Feltman

H. Lakeshore Center at Okoboji - Elder Beth Ehlers, CP

Lakeshore Center is doing well. A new camping season will begin this summer.

I. Nominating – Rev. Kerry Carson

The Nominating Committee continues to fill vacancies in committees.

J. Personnel – Rev. Brad Braley

The Personnel Committee continues to monitor the Presbytery employees. It looks forward to the retirement service and celebration of the ministry of Rev. David Feltman.

K. Stewardship and Finance – Rev. Al Polito

Presbytery finances are in good shape. Much thanks for the good work of Treasurer Karen Kaiser.

Presbytery of North Central Iowa Financial Dashboard - Dec 31, 2018:

Investment Account State Street: \$285,512

Investment Account Jacobson: \$152,083

Net Assets: \$528,921

L. The Academy and Mental health Initiative – Rev. Dan Emmert

M. Council Moderator – Rev. Sara Hill

On January 6th I participated in the Administrative Commission to install Rev. Sara Sutter as pastor of United Presbyterian Church in Goldfield, IA. I delivered the charge to the congregation.

On January 27th I participated in the Administrative Commission to commission Walt Reemtsma as commissioned pastor of Burt Presbyterian Church in Burt, IA. I delivered the charge to the pastor.

On January 30th I moderated the Council meeting via our remote meeting dashboard.

I continue to attend the All-Iowa Presbyteries conversations in Ames, IA, most recently on November 19, 2018, and via ZOOM on January 28th. We are excited to debut our videos today at this Presbytery meeting that will help pastors, Presbytery elder commissioners, and church members alike understand the proposed way forward for our leadership at the Presbytery level.

Rev. Sara Hill
Moderator, Presbytery Council

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. June 22 – Farewell for Rev. David Feltman to be held in Ackley.

B. November 1-2 – All Iowa Event in Des Moines.

The closing prayer was led by Elder Judy Klepfer, the Moderator of the Presbytery. She then declared the meeting adjourned.

The next scheduled meeting of the Presbytery will be held at Cedar Heights Community Presbyterian Church in Cedar Falls, Iowa on November 3, 2019 at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Dr. Glenn Wilson
Stated Clerk