

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF SOUTH DAKOTA

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

June 29-30, 2018

The Presbytery of South Dakota of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held its Annual Meeting at First Presbyterian Church in Miller, SD on Friday and Saturday, June 29-30, 2018.

CONVENING THE PRESBYTERY

The Presbytery was called to order by Presbytery Moderator, Rev. Diane Janssen Hemmen, at 1:04 P.M. and opened the meeting with prayer.

ROLL

The roll for this meeting of the Presbytery was constituted by registration with the enrollment clerk.

The following Teaching Elders and Ruling Elders were enrolled and present as commissioners:

Teaching Elders: Steven Allman, John Armstrong, Donald Barbalace, Kennen Barber-Ensz, Kristie Berglund, Lisa Danielson, Jessica Daum, Terence Drew, Chad Ensz, Sarah Hagen, David Halleen, Pat Hammond, Bob Jacobs, Diane Janssen Hemmen, Brian Jones, Rolly Kemink, Mike McCallum, Judy Mulock, Neil Mulock, Yeongsik Nam, Denzel Nonhof, Abigail Ozanne, Janice Palmer, John Pehrson, Richard Poppen, Peter Reynen, Carolyn Visser, Steve Voris, Nina Westfall.

Commissioned Ruling Elders: Lee Green, Gayle Janzen, Jil Jennewein, Steve Johnson, Jerry Lutkemeier, Carolyn Petik

Commissioners: Judy Barnard – Bonilla, Susan Smith – Brookings, Dianne Larson – DeSmet, Joann Walker – Hot Springs, Louise Van Poll – Huron, Jerry Petik – Keldron, Dave Gilbert – Madison, Benton Visser – Marion, Richard Palmer – Miller, Bob Sprang – Mitchell, Doug Marsh – Onida, Jane Alberda – Platte, Paula Zavitz – Rapid City First Presbyterian,, Ron Wilges – Rapid City Westminster, Claire Gillaspay – Sioux Falls First Presbyterian, Linda Jones – Sioux Falls Westminster, Cathryn Jaragoske – Sioux Falls Wild Flower,, Judith Symens – Sisseton, Grace Gleason – Veblen, Roger Orton – Wentworth, Jerold Zerfoss – Wessington, Ron Berger – Whitewood, Alana Hansen – Wilmot, Gary Pribyl – Wolsey.

Other Voting Members: Larry Froistad, Jim Hulbert, Don Nolting.

Others in Attendance: Paula Barber, Andrew Bellisle, Mary Ann Berger, Penny Culver, Cheryl Jenner, Marlin Jenner, Crystal Knock, Verla Lindblad, Clarie Marsh, Wesley McClure, Cheryl Melby, Mrs. Yeongsik Nam, Nina Pribyl, Kathy Saxbury, Shirley Scotter, Herman Seymens, JoLayne Symens, Sharon Symens, Brenda Tibbetts, Cheryl Van Asperen, Mary Van Buskirk, Steven Voris, Cindy Warkenthien, Marlin Warkenthien, Kevin Wilson.

QUORUM

Moderator Janssen Hemmen declared the presence of a quorum with:

Teaching Elders: 29

Commissioned Ruling Elders: 6

Commissioners: 24

Other Members of Presbytery: 3

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: 62

AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the Presbytery Agenda as amended on the floor with all business conducted on the first day, if practical. This was due to unexpected changes in Diana Butler Bass's travel arrangements.

Amended agenda adopted.

INTRODUCTIONS

Teaching elders present for the first time: Steve Voris, Canton; Kathy Saxbury, Onida; Neil and Judy Mulock, Sioux Falls.

Ruling elders present for the first time: Louise Van Poll, Huron; Ron Wilges, Andrew Bellisle – Rapid City Westminster; Susan Smith, Brookings.

MILEAGE COMMITTEE

Moderator Janssen Hemmen appointed the following to the mileage committee: Rev. Kennen Ensz and CRE Gayle Janzen.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moderator Janssen Hemmen presented the Consent Agenda. **Presbytery adopted the following:**

1. That all lay persons and ministers of other denominations serving Presbyterian congregations in the Presbytery of South Dakota who are not temporary members of the presbytery be granted the privilege of the floor for this meeting with voice.
2. Approve the minutes of the February 23, 2018 stated meeting.

The following motions are coming from Congregational and Pastoral Care (CPC):

3. CPC recommends to the Presbytery that the **Administrative Commission** for the Aberdeen Church be **dissolved** with thanks, effective June 1, 2018 (*Consent Agenda*)
4. CPC recommends that Spencer Memorial Presbyterian Church of Lemmon be granted **Relief of Conscience** regarding its contribution of medical dues to the Board of Pensions which may be used to fund abortions. (*Consent Agenda*)

MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION (initial report)

CRE Commissioning

Ministry Development and Education presented the new class of Commissioned Ruling Elders (CRE) who have completed their training. The list of names presented are: Shirley Scotter (Wolsey), Cheryl VanAsperen (Wessington), Crystal Knock (Willow Lake), Cheryl Jenner (Sisseton), Paula Zavitz (Rapid City), Mary VanBuskirk (Wolsey), and Gary Pribyl who will each be commissioned for one year. Scott Kenner (Rapid City) will be commissioned in October. The following CRE's are recommended to be recommissioned: Gale Filipek, Mary Filipek, Carolyn Hansen, Gayle Janzen, Jerod Jordan, Jerry Lutkemeier, Michelle Mehlberg, Steven Johnson, Lee Green, Paul Penn, Ann Spitzenberger, Mark Werner, Lynn Hall, Carolyn Petik, Deb Trullinger, and Elizabeth Lenerville. Florence Hoff is being recommended for a commission of one year. A motion was made to approve the above-named individuals for commissioning and recommissioning. **Motion approved.**

WORSHIP AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

Scripture: Isaiah 43:18-21; Luke 13:1-9

Sermon: The Times, They Are A Changin' by Abigail Ozanne

COMMISSIONING OF COMMISSIONED RULING ELDERS

The CRE Task Force, upon request of Moderator Janssen Hemmen, commissioned the CREs approved prior to worship.

OFFERING

An offering was taken to support Help Hands, a local ministry within Miller. The amount collected was \$497.

REPORTS FROM PRESBYTERY OFFICERS AND STAFF

MODERATOR'S REPORT

It is with gratitude for where we have been, excitement about where we are, and sure hope of where we are going that I write to thank the presbytery for the opportunity to serve as Moderator for 2017-2018.

Over the past eleven months, I have seen

- presbytery ministry groups take up their revised duties in such a way that the Transition Taskforce met less and less frequently, and now has only a few remaining matters to address in our behalf before concluding their work!
- us embrace different modes of gathering that allow us to be together (through sight and sound) more frequently and at much less cost to the presbytery.
- sisters and brothers of different opinion on certain matters remain engaged in conversation and move forward with difficult decisions and faithful service.
- our staff embrace ideas from our ministry teams and adjust their work to meet changes and to maintain our shared ministry with integrity and efficiency.
- us work graciously and patiently with our congregations to face challenges, both those foreseen and those that have arisen unbidden in their journey together.
- us work graciously and patiently with our synod and General Assembly to ensure their services and our wider mission efforts could be interpreted to our members and our congregations.
- our communication efforts, both for our own connectivity and our witness and outreach to others, expanded and placed upon the cusp of continued growth.
- our matching gifts campaign met with enthusiasm and engagement.
- our commissions and taskforces go above and beyond with their time, talents, and energy in service to the presbytery as well as to those specific areas of focus in our behalf.
- us welcome new members and bid farewell to others.

But best of all, you have let me see among you all a shared calling to be God's people, every day, all the time. And indeed it is with great joy that I have seen

- us make plans and have hopes and strive with our best energies to be faithful to the gracious claim of God upon our lives as followers of Jesus – and may the work of making more vibrant, and more grateful, and more abundant our response to that claim bind us together in days yet to come!

Thank you for YOUR service to our congregations and to our church!

STATED CLERK AND TRANSITIONAL MISSION COORDINATOR REPORT

In addition to the ongoing work of supporting our congregations and working with ministry teams to help carry out their actions I have also been working on the following:

Matching Gifts Campaign for Ministries

I am thrilled to announce that the Matching Gifts campaign is off to a great start. So far we have collected over \$3,000 that will be matched by the presbytery. Please continue to spread the word and participate in this tremendous opportunity to more closely engage with our vital ministries.

Synod Forum

I attended the Synod Forum in April. This is a gathering of the designated staff person for each Presbytery within our Synod, most often Exec. Presbyters or Stated Clerks, and it offered a wonderful opportunity for us to support each other in ministry, seek guidance and/or offer insights, and to continually find new ways to support the ministries within each presbytery.

Synod Financial Services

The struggles and transition at the synod financial services office has been rough the past few months and I have spent a considerable amount of time navigating this transition and assisting people as best I can through this turbulent time. Jim Koon, the new financial services manager, has been working diligently to right the ship and I have complete confidence that we will soon be receiving regular and *accurate* financial statements on a monthly basis.

Coaching Event with Laurie Ferguson

I was honored to coordinate and attend the coaching event with Laurie Ferguson on May 21-22 in Sioux Falls. Due to the success of this event I am in communication with Laurie to see if it is feasible to host a reprise of the event this Fall for those who missed this first opportunity.

Leadership Coaching

Laurie Ferguson has agreed to be my personal leadership coach as a way of helping to expand my capabilities and effectiveness within my role in the presbytery. My first session is scheduled for June 26.

General Assembly Commissioner Orientation

I hosted an orientation / meet and greet via video conference for our General Assembly Commissioners, and have continued to support them leading up to their journey to GA. We should all be very proud of the people who will be representing us in St. Louis!

Minutes Review

The 2017 minutes of the Presbytery of South Dakota have been reviewed by the synod and have been approved with 3 minor exceptions which were caused by not recording 3 actions of ministry teams taken on behalf of presbytery.

Clerk of Session Training

I will be offering a training / networking workshop for Clerks of Session on October 27 in Sturgis. This will be the day after the October Presbytery Meeting.

Presbytery of SD Membership

Total membership of active members, based on 2017 statistics, within the Presbytery of South Dakota is 6,094. We gained 162 members, lost 143 to death or certificate transfer, and 222 listed as "other" losses. The "other" category is traditionally used for churches cleaning their rolls. With that in mind, the difference in actual membership may more accurately be presented as positive gain of 19 members *in the year 2017*.

Minister Transactions

The following minister transactions have been initiated, or will be upon conclusion of this presbytery meeting, with the Office of General Assembly: Val Putnam to Homestead Presbytery; John Barkett to status of Honorably Retired and transferred to Southern Kansas; Barbara West received from Twin Cities Area; Ruth Clendenon received from Palo Duro; Steve Voris received from Sierra Blanco; Katherine Saxbury received from Plains and Peaks; Barry Dawson to status of Member-at-Large; removed James Foster from our rolls according to G-2.0507.

Synod Minutes Review

I attended the annual synod minutes review for all of the stated clerks within the Synod of Lakes and Prairies. The minutes of the Presbytery of SD have been approved with 2 exceptions, which have been corrected.

ADMINISTRATION AND COORDINATION MINISTRY

A motion was made to place Diane Janssen Hemmen and Jerry Lutkemeier on all bank accounts and to serve as interim treasurers until a new one has been named. **Motion Passed.**

A motion was made to set aside \$7,000.00 for rebranding and website content strategy, and to assemble a task force to work with Caitlin Pisha through this process. Funding will come from Emerging Needs Fund. **Motion Passed.**

A motion was made to task the A&C moderator to appoint a task force of 4-6 people to work in the rebranding and website strategy with Catlin Pisha. **Motion Passed.**

The personnel sub-committee recommends that A&C approve the following as the additional staff vacations days for 2018: Veterans Day (Nov. 12) and Christmas Eve Day (Dec. 24). **Motion Passed.**

A motion was made to increase Cindy's salary be raised by \$.50/hr., effective May 15, 2018. This brings her salary to \$16.25 per hr. **Motion Passed.**

A motion was made to hire Kristie Berglund as our new Presbytery Communicator, effective May 1, 2018. **Motion Passed.**

A motion was made to close the CDs housed at CorTrust and Wells Fargo. Money will be deposited in our Wells Fargo savings account. **Motion Passed.**

A motion was made to match the special offering and memorials taken from the Sturgis church. This accepted on a one-time basis. The intent was not to match congregational offerings. **Motion Passed.**

A motion was made to approve update qualifications for all staff positions. Appendix A. **Motion Passed.**

A motion was made to consolidate our designated funds from 30 funds down to 10. Appendix B. **Motion Passed.**

A motion was made to authorize the acting treasurers to work with the ministry team moderators to agree upon budget adjustments within each of their 2018 budgets in an effort to offer relief to the exiting budget shortfalls. **Motion Passed.**

For Presbytery Action

1. Motion to adopt the following updated language regarding ex-officio staff and officers within the Manual of Operations. **Motion passed.**

P3.9-1. EX-OFFICIO STAFF AND OFFICERS

The Moderator of the Presbytery of South Dakota shall be a member ex-officio of the standing committees, any special committees **or commissions**, and Administration and Coordination without vote, **but** shall not be an ex-officio member of **Ministry Resource**.

The **mission coordinator**, stated clerk, **and treasurer** shall be members ex-officio of Administration and Coordination of the Presbytery of South Dakota without vote. The **mission coordinator**, stated clerk **and treasurer may not be voting members of any standing committee or commission of the Presbytery of South Dakota, but** shall be welcome at such **meetings**. Persons in those positions may serve as voting members of administrative commissions, if appointed.

2. Motion to update the position qualifications for all staff within the Manual of Operations. Appendix A. **Motion Passed.**
3. Motion to approve the creation of a commission for Commissioned Ruling Elders. This motion will be included in the By-laws and Manual of Operations. **Motion Passed.**

Paragraph B7-1 is modified by addition of item F, Commission for Commissioned Ruling Elders.

B7-1. STANDING MINISTRIES (adopted Oct. 28, 2016)

Presbytery mission and ministry shall be implemented by the following standing ministries:

- A. Administration and Coordination
- B. Commission for Camping and Faith Formation
- C. Congregational and Pastoral Care
- D. Ministry Resource
- E. Mission Development and Education
- F. Commission for Commissioned Ruling Elders (adopted June 29, 2018)

Introduction

Perceiving a well-established need to select and train ruling elders to serve as Ruling Elders Commissioned to Pastoral Service (CREs), the Presbytery establishes a standing commission consisting of six (6) members appointed by the moderator of presbytery. The commission may co-opt other persons as needed.

The presbytery shall provide by rule and budget sufficient funds to pay for lodging during training sessions, for purchase of books and materials for training, compensation for instructors, and for mileage for meetings of the commission and participation by instructors and students.

Members of the CRE Commission may serve simultaneously on other standing committees.

CRE Training

The commission shall:

- Design or approve curricula for training of CREs
- Provide instructors who have proper academic credentials and experience
- Arrange for places of instruction

- Schedule and conduct classes for instruction of CRE candidates
- Maintain records of training and participation
- Evaluate CRE candidates upon completion of their training
- Certify to presbytery those who are adequately prepared for commissioning or recommissioning
- Implement an application process including a call evaluation

Supervision of CREs

The commission shall provide for mentoring of CREs after commissioning and shall provide administrative oversight for assignment of CREs to pastoral and pulpit supply opportunities, serving as a point of contact for congregations seeking a CRE.

Annual Review

The commission shall annually conduct a review of each active CRE. The review shall include the CRE's effectiveness, participation in pastoral ministry, and acceptance by congregations who have utilized his or her services in the past year.

The initial membership of the commission shall be the six persons currently serving on the CRE Task Force, and who will continue to serve without term limit until their resignation. Thereafter, the moderator shall annually appoint replacement members as needed for 3-year terms. The current members are The Reverends Dick Poppen, Carolyn Visser, and Janice Palmer, and Ruling Elders Steven Johnson, Lee Green, and Jerry Lutkemeier. (not included in By-Laws)

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4. Motion is made to nominate Tami McGuire from Rapid City as Presbytery Treasurer. **Motion Passed.**
 5. Affirm motion to hire Rev. Kristie Berglund as our new Presbytery Communicator, effective May 1, 2018. **Motion Passed.**
 6. Motion to extend the role of Transitional Mission Coordinator to no later than December 31, 2019 or until a decision is made regarding the final staffing structure for the presbytery and the position(s) are filled. **Motion Passed.**

CAMPING AND FAITH FORMATION

Those in attendance at the February Presbytery meeting in Wilmot will recall, that after a presentation by Deb DeMeester, who had been facilitating our visioning process; we conducted a survey to discover the membership's thoughts regarding camping and retreating. Because many were unable to attend due to the weather, we made the survey available to a broader group in the weeks that followed. There are diverse opinions in the details, but the vast majority are in agreement that we should continue to provide facilities that offer everyone an opportunity to encounter God in His incredible creation!

To that end, we have decided to create a masterplan for redevelopment of Camp Rimrock. Earlier this spring, Camping and Faith Formation applied for and received a grant from the Synod to finance the conceptual part of this plan. We signed an agreement with the team at FourFront Design in mid-May and held our initial meeting to share our thoughts on May 31st. A follow up session is being held on June 15th to review the working concepts and receive additional input.

We are on an accelerated schedule, but it is our intent to have preliminary maps, design plans and associated costs available at the Presbytery meeting in Miller! We look forward to presenting this exciting information to you!

CONGREGATIONAL AND PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY TEAM

On behalf of the Presbytery, the CPC has taken the following actions:

- Voted to allow **James Foster** to set aside his ordination.
- Voted for **Kristi Holler and Paul Penn** to share interim duties at Marion.
- To transfer The **Rev. Val Putnam** to Homestead Presbytery while she serves at Interim Pastor at Westminster PC in Lincoln, NE.
- To transfer the **Rev. John Barkett** to the Presbytery of Southern Kansas, effective on his moving date.
- Approved the following transfers into the Presbytery:
 - The Rev Barbara West** from Twin Cities Area, to serve as pastor at Lemmon (June 1 start date);
 - The Rev. Ruth Clendenen** from Palo Duro, to serve as pastor at Aberdeen (Aug. 1 start date);
 - The Rev. Steve Voris**, from Sierra Blanco, a member-at-large; and
- Moved to grant Honorable Retirement status to the **Rev. Barry Dawson**, a missionary minister from POSD serving in the Philippines, effective date not known.
- Approved **Ann Spitzenberger**, if the way be clear through the ELCA, to also serve the Midway Lutheran Church, a country church midway between Flandreau and Brookings.

Actions for the Presbytery

The CPC recommends to the Presbytery that the **Administrative Commission** for the Aberdeen Church be **dissolved**, effective June 1, 2018 (*Consent Agenda*)

The CLC recommends that Spencer Memorial Presbyterian Church of Lemmon be granted **Relief of Conscience** regarding its contribution of medical dues to the Board of Pensions which may be used to fund abortions. (*Consent Agenda*)

The CPC brings **Katherine Saxbury** a candidate under the care of the Presbytery of Plains and Peaks, to be examined for Ordination by the Presbytery of South Dakota, as her first call is to the First Presbyterian Church of Onida. Following a successful examination, CPC moves that **Katherine Saxbury** be transferred from Plains and Peaks, to serve as pastor at Onida following ordination on July 1 in Colorado. **Motion Passed.**

MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

For Presbytery Information

Church Development Fund

Co-Moderator Steven Johnson provided information on the proposed Church Development Guidelines, Church Development Application form, and the Consideration for Decision-making of Applications form. The Church Development fund has limitations in that the funds are not to be used for annual support of a congregation and the new guidelines clarify that understanding. MDE has approved these guidelines and the forms can be found on the Presbytery Website under Church Resources.

Charter for Korean Fellowship

Ministry Development and Education, in concurrence with the Korean Steering Committee, requests approval for a congregational charter for the Korean Fellowship of the Presbytery of South Dakota. Part of this motion is to waive our New Church Development policy's mandate for a full 2-years of a steering committee prior to the request for charter. **Motion passed.**

REPORT OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONERS

Ruling elder, Jim Hulbert, and teaching elder, Chad Ensz, wish to express their sincere appreciation for the Presbytery of South Dakota allowing them to represent it at the 223rd General Assembly in St. Louis, Missouri.

They left home Friday, June 16 excited to be a part of this assembly and returned Saturday June 23rd exhausted. The mornings were early and the evenings long.

This year there were 538 commissioners from 170 presbyteries and 142 Youth Advisory delegates, 16 Theological Advisory delegates, 14 Mission Advisory delegates and 8 Evangelical Advisory delegates.

So how do you handle business with almost 900 people? You tackle it first in committees. Business was divided up based on which committee it most appropriately fit. Then those committees spent two days wrestling with the issues before them through intense discussions and with the aid of resource people who could speak to the matters with clarity, detail, and at times personal stories.

Chad was on the Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations committee. This committee happened to not have many items of business dealing with weighty matters, so they were able to finish their business in one day – which meant they had a day to sit in on other committees to hear their discussions in preparation for the work ahead in plenary.

Jim was appointed to the Social Justice Issues committee, which had many weighty items of business. So even though they started right away in the morning each day, they still worked until 9:30 one evening session and 10:30 the other session.

The Advisory delegates had voice and vote in committee but only voice and an advisory vote in plenary. The commissioners very much appreciated their voice in committee and then advisory vote in plenary. Chad and Jim were grateful to have the hard-working and competent Young Adult Advisory Delegate, Morgan Small, work alongside them in St. Louis.

The business portion of the plenary session started on Wednesday. This meant that all the commissioners and all advisory delegates (almost 900 people) convened to begin handling items of business. This business ranged from technicalities in the Book of Order to working to find peace in the Middle East. In all, 213 items of business were tackled.

Commissioners elected as General Assembly co-moderators Cindy Kohlman and Vilmarie Cintron-Olivieri after four rounds of balloting.

The Way Forward report was adopted (95% affirmative) following extensive debate with the vote to change the structure of the denomination's corporate entity, and strive for 'cost equity' among the agencies of GA. A Moving Forward Implementation Commission was charged with making course corrections that will be necessary to implement these changes between now and the next assembly in two years. We also voted (91% affirmative) to strengthen the role of the stated clerk to speak as the chief ecclesiastical officer of the denomination. A Corp (the corporate entity of the denomination) was changed (97% affirmative vote) to include members of all agencies of General Assembly and 3 commissioners to GA. The per capita was also changed from \$7.35 to \$8.95.

A hot topic for the week was whether to divest from the fossil fuel industry. After more than three hours of debate (not including the time spent in committee) commissioners voted and it was found 65% percent were in favor of NOT divesting from the fossil fuel industry. Instead of divesting, a decision was made to further pressure the big companies in the fossil fuel industry where the PC(USA) has investments. This pressure will be implemented through the PC(USA)'s continued work through MRTI (Mission Responsibility Through Investment). The hope is that specific metrics will further push the industry to create better environmental policies and practices.

Commissioners also debated establishing a minimum policy for paid family leave throughout the denomination. Ultimately, the body did not establish any kind of a paid family leave policy, and instead a task force was established to look at this matter in detail and in consultation with the Board of Pensions that they might find a solution that supports pastors needing to take leave, but also supports small congregations that struggle to cover their bills month to month.

Before the assembly met there was a proposed increase of per capita to \$11.46 (a 35% increase). It was later changed to \$10.71, and a proposal from committee set it at \$8.50. Throughout the assembly the body continued adopting task forces and additional committees, which all had financial implications. In the end nearly \$1 million in new spending was adopted. The final vote on per capita was \$8.95 (increase of 15%) which covered the additional new spending adopted.

There were many solid and important reasons for adding task forces and committees. Some of the issues dealt with were the same issues found in almost all daily newspapers; among them racial equality, women's rights concerns, sexual misconduct (specifically sexual misconduct by clergy), gun violence and how to address it, the movement to end gun violence, the movement to racist nationalism (putting America First at any cost), responding to suicide, putting healing before punishment in drug policies, and many more.

As Friday night approached, there remained a good number of weighty items of business left to discuss. Fortunately, this year there was a great deal of consensus regarding the PC(USA)'s efforts to support peace in the Middle East, as it only took us 38 minutes to move through all these related items of business. Primarily, the church was called upon to celebrate whenever and wherever Israelis and Palestinians come together; and the mission agency was called upon to provide information to synods, presbyteries, and congregations about grassroots organizations working for the peaceful coexistence of Israel and Palestine.

Business finally concluded at 12:38am on Friday evening... except for the business that was deferred until Saturday morning. It was truly remarkable how efficiently so many commissioners worked together debating serious and weighty issues. As stated earlier, 213 items of business were tackled in plenary session. 89 of these business items were handled via a consent agenda, which meant 124 items of business were debated on the floor of plenary. It took over 26 hours debating these items, which sounds like a lot (and it felt like a lot!), but actually averages out to about 12.56 minutes of discussion per item of business.

Chad expressed that the overwhelming feeling he had while at General Assembly was pride for the great work our denomination is doing. The PC(USA) called for change, proclaimed the inclusive and welcoming nature of God's kingdom, admitted its failures, took steps toward reconciliation where needed, and made efforts to help those parts of the Church that are struggling unnecessarily.

Especially, Chad expressed strongest feelings of pride in regards to the events of Tuesday at General Assembly. The PC(USA) General Assembly leadership partnered with local activists in St. Louis, raised over \$47,000 and marched from the convention center down the streets to The Justice Center.

In too many cities around the country when underprivileged people get arrested for minor crimes, they are unable to pay their bail and end up sitting in jail for long periods of time (at times even years), due to backlogged courts. The money raised was donated to The Bail Project, which identifies people in these

situations and bails them out so that they don't have to sit in jail until they can have their day in court (and over half of the people have been proven innocent or had their charges dropped).

The efforts of the denomination at General Assembly sent a symbolic message, but also literally set a couple dozen captives free. There is much about the PC(USA) to be proud of – a denomination that actively seeks ways to boldly proclaim the gospel, and in ways that make a real difference in peoples' lives.

MINISTRY RESOURCE

The Ministry Resource Committee submits the following **bold face** nominations for the positions and classes indicated. **Docket of nominations approved.**

Nominee	Class	Notes
Administration and Coordination, 15 members (Trustees)		
Diane Jansen-Hemmen*		TE Past moderator of POSD
Gary Pribyl	2021-2	RE
Lisa Danielson	2021-2	TE
Janice Palmer	2021-1	TE
Susan Wismer	2020-2	RE
Jeff Nelson	2020-1	RE
Martha Gesick	2020-1	RE
Jerry Lutkemeier	2020-1	RE (Past moderator)
Carolyn Visser	2020-1	TE CFF rep
Trudiann Nelson	2019-2	RE (PW liaison with vote)
Don Barbalace	2019-1	TE
Rolly Kemink	2019-1	TE
Jim Hulbert	2019-1	RE
Brian Jones	2019-2	TE
Gayle Janzen	2019-2	RE
John Armstrong	2018	TE Ex Officio, Moderator of POSD

Camping and Faith Formation, (9 members)

Three terms are allowed.

Paula Zavitz	2021-3	RE
Dick Poppen	2021-2	TE
Carolyn Visser	2021-1	TE
Dick Palmer	2020-2	RE
Jeffrey Kintner	2020-1	TE
Denise Lutkemeier	2020-1	RE
Kennen Barber-Ensz	2019-1	TE
Don Nolting*	2019-3	RE
Abigail Ozanne	2019-1	RE

Congregational and Pastoral Care Committee, 14 members

Vacancy	2021-1	TE To be filled in October
Bill Cooper	2021-1	TE
Steve Allman	2021-2	TE
Gale Filipek	2021-2	RE
Nathan Esser	2021-2	TE

Carolyn Petik	2020-2	RE
Terence Drew	2020-2	TE
Dianne Larson	2020-1	RE
Paul Penn	2020-1	RE
Kay (Boots) Johnson	2020-1	RE
John Pehrson*	2019-1	TE
Sara Hagen	2019-1	TE
Shari West-Twitero	2019-2	RE
Ann Spitzenberger	2019-2	CRE

Ministry Development and Education (12 member)

Nina Westfall	2021-1	TE
Linda Jones	2021-2	RE
David Halleen	2021-1	TE
Peggy Davidson	2021-2	RE
Steve Johnson*	2020-2	CRE
Larry Froistad	2020-1	RE
Dick Poppen	2020-1	TE
Bob Jacobs	2020-1	TE
Andrew Crandall	2020-1	TE
Eric Noyes	2019-1	RE
Lynn Hall	2019-1	RE
Pat Hammond	2019-1	TE

Response Coordination Team, 6 members

Member terms are 3 years, number of terms is unlimited (P3.5.2-2.5).

Pat Hammond*	2020-3	TE
Peri Erdmann	2020-1	CRE
Lon Greenfield	2021	RE
Rod Parry	2021-3	RE
Steve Allman	2019-1	TE
Connie Klautt	2019-2	CRE

Permanent Judicial Commission, 9 members, 6-year term

Tacey Braithwaite	2020	RE	Clerk of PJC
Meleta DeJong	2020	RE	
Maurice Jones	2020	RE	
Don Barbalace*	2022	TE	
Terry Drew	2022	TE	
Carolyn Visser	2022	TE	
Kristi Berglund	2024	TE	
Jim Hulbert	2024	RE	
Peter Reynen	2024	TE	

Readers for Examination of Candidates

Terence Drew	2021-1	TE
Claire Gillaspey	2019-2	RE
Bob Sprang	Alternate	RE

POSD Moderator
John Armstrong 2018 TE

POSD Vice-Moderator
Steve Johnson 2019 RE

INSTALLATION OF PRESBYTERY MODERATOR

Moderator Janssen Hemmen led a service of installation to install Rev. John Armstrong as Moderator of the Presbytery of South Dakota.

MILEAGE COMMITTEE

Gayle Janzen gave the mileage committee report. The following report was **approved**:

Total Miles Driven: 12,030
Mileage subtotal: \$ 1,772.88
Donated to POSD: \$ 305.58
Final Cost: \$ 1,467.30

NEXT MEETING

Moderator John Armstrong announced the next stated meeting of presbytery is Friday, October 26, 2018 at First Presbyterian in Sturgis.

ADJOURNMENT

Moderator Armstrong **adjourned** presbytery at 5:41 PM with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kevin Veldhuisen
 Stated Clerk and Transitional Mission Coordinator

APPENDIX A

Position Qualifications (to be updated in Manual of Operations)

Stated Clerk

The stated clerk may be either a minister of word and sacrament (TE) or ruling elder (RE).

Knowledge and Skills: A bachelor's degree or higher level of education is preferred for the Stated Clerk. It is desired that the Stated Clerk have excellent writing skills and proficiency in utilizing technology. Attention to detail in maintaining the records of the Presbytery is also essential.

Experience: The candidate must have experience actively serving on committees of a presbytery or higher council within the Presbyterian Church (USA). The candidate must also have a working knowledge of the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and Robert's Rules of Order, as well as an understanding of the complexity of issues, sometimes legal, of the church within the wider society. The candidate should also be a person who is willing to ask questions and seek guidance from other Stated Clerks within similar and higher governing bodies within the Presbyterian Church (USA).

A background check and credit report on the applicants for this position will be obtained.

Mission Coordinator

The mission coordinator may be either a minister of word and sacrament (TE) or ruling elder (RE). A bachelor's degree or higher level of education is preferred for the Mission Coordinator.

It is desired that the candidate for the position of Mission Coordinator be a life-long learner, eager to become knowledgeable of the Presbytery's history, its congregations, their unique and ever-changing contexts. The candidate must have excellent interpersonal skills, be able to discern the complexity of problems and be willing to engage those who disagree in ways that reconcile conflicting interests and priorities, resolve conflicts, promote new understandings, and foster healthy relationships. The candidate must have experience actively serving on committees of a presbytery or higher governing body within the Presbyterian Church (USA). This person must have a keen working knowledge of the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and a clear understanding of the roles, relationships, responsibilities and resources of the denomination's distinct levels of government. The candidate should be a person who is willing to look forward, engage others with imagination, and dare to cast a vision, inviting all to step forward in faith.

A background check and credit report on the applicants for this position will be obtained.

Administrative Assistant

An Associate Degree or the equivalent in secretarial science, accounting, bookkeeping, or administration is preferred. The person serving as the Presbytery's Administrative Assistant must have excellent communication and organizational skills, utilizing technology efficiently, and be able to work independently. This person must also be willing to attain an understanding of church systems and governance of the Presbyterian Church (USA), the Manual of Operations of the Presbytery of South Dakota, and the Presbytery's committee structure.

A background check and credit report on the applicants for this position will be obtained.

Treasurer

The person serving as the Treasurer of the Presbytery of South Dakota must have experience in accounting, bookkeeping or financial administration. The Treasurer must have knowledge of funds accounting and accounting principles including those that specifically apply to non-profit organizations. They must also keep orderly records of all financial transactions, file clear and timely reports, and be willing to communicate concerns to the Mission Coordinator, the Moderator of Presbytery and the Administration and Coordination Committee. The Treasurer must understand the structure of the Presbytery of South Dakota and abide by the decisions made by the Presbytery and its committees.

A background check and credit report on the applicants for this position will be obtained.

Presbytery Communicator

1. Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal
2. Previous training, work, or volunteer experience in the following areas:
 - a. Creating, sending, and managing mass email campaigns through MailChimp or similar program
 - b. Designing and editing print newsletters using Canva, Adobe InDesign, Microsoft Publisher, or similar program
 - c. Maintaining a consistent social media presence (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, blog) for a church or other organization
 - d. Adding, deleting, editing, and otherwise overseeing written and visual content on a WordPress website or similar platform
3. Ability to work well with others and build networks within the presbytery so that stories are told and shared effectively