

Presbytery of Great Rivers
Committee on Ministry Report
30 August 2022

The Committee on Ministry has had two meetings since the last Assembly meeting in May 2022. We continue to meet by Zoom and foresee this practice continuing.

All subcommittee meetings are held in the weeks leading to our committee meeting. In July we created a new email address for the receipt of all reports and documents for the COM Dropbox: greatriverscom@gmail.com. Materials to be sent to this email includes but is not limited to: Ministry Partner reports, MIFs, Contracts and Terms of Call, Dissolutions, Pastoral Call Forms, AC reports, T & F interviews and so forth. Since this mailbox is for the gathering of reports and accessed by several persons, emails for the personal attention of the COM Moderator should be sent directly to her attention at revlaura1911@hotmail.com.

It is anticipated that on 8/30, the Assembly will elect as COM Moderator through 12/31/2022 the Rev. Dr. Laura Reason. In July, COM elected the following leadership: Vice Moderator: Rev. Dr. Forrest (Frosty) Krummel, Recording Secretary: Rev. Edwin Brinklow and Chair of Training and Resources: Rev. Paul Stroup. Rev. Drew Nagle continues as Transitions chair and Rev. Kay Daniel as Ministry Services chair. We also updated the assignment of ministry partners for all our congregations, as four of our committee members moved out of state in June and July .

Actions taken

The committee has approved all Terms of Call and Contracts submitted by 8/4 and is providing to the Assembly this month the annual report of same. Please see the separate report for this information.

The Training and Resources subcommittee is updating the curriculum for training Ruling Elders for serving communion in their home congregations when there is no established pastoral leadership. They are creating a plan to offer such training throughout the presbytery. If there are elders in your congregation that have had the training and now need recommissioning for such service, please contact your ministry partner.

The Clerk has done an extensive updating of the pulpit supply listing and it is posted to the website for your use.

We have welcomed to the presbytery:

Rev. John J. Napoli, from Ohio Valley Presbytery, to serve at Washington
Rev. Dr. Hwa Sung Ryu, from Lake Erie Presbytery, as the interim in New Windsor
Rev. Cathy Allen, from Southeastern Illinois Presbytery, as the interim in Danvers

Dismissed to new calls outside the presbytery:

Rev. James Benson

Rev. Sterrett Collins

Rev. Joy Ridge Edeker

Rev. Blake Severson

And granted permission to labor outside the bounds in short term ministries to:

Rev. Joyce Chamberlin

Rev. Anna Clock Saxon

COM granted the status of Honorably Retired to Rev. Almut Spalding, effective 6/30/2020.

Administrative Commission Report

The Administrative Commission (AC) for Pleasant Plains-Farmingdale has completed the charge to complete the dissolution of the call of the pastor and negotiated the severance package and had it signed by all parties. The AC is now working with the Session in their interim pastor search process.

Motion for August 30, 2022 Assembly

Move to recommend to the Assembly an increase of 3% in the minimum salaries for 2023.

Rationale: A study by Move.org of the Consumer Price Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics found that between March 2021 and March 2022, the average inflation on prices for all items increased by 8.5%, a significant increase compared to the year before when the increase was only 2.6%. In light of this, COM not only recommends the increases in the minimums, COM invites all congregations to consider the same increase for persons currently serving at above the minimum.

2022 Level 1 (<4 years exp.)	2022 Level 2 (4+ years exp.)	2022 Full Time CLP
46,497.00	50,063.00	37,195.00
3% increase +1,395.00	3% increase +1,502.00	3% increase +1116.00
2023 Level 1 47,892.00	2023 Level 2 51,565.00	2023 FT CLP 38,311.00

Note: Effective salary for a call or contract with an ordained pastor must meet current presbytery minimums.

Rev. Dr. Laura Reason

Moderator Pro Tem, COM