



Presbytery of Great Rivers
STATED MEETING MINUTES
April 29, 2023
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Springfield, IL
& Zoom Hybrid

The Mission of the Presbytery:
*“We are called to share Christ’s love
By partnering in service,
United in worship,
And risking in ministry.”*

SHARING CHRIST’S LOVE

The Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Great Rivers was called to order by Moderator Rev. Katie Stryt at 10:00 am central time zone both in person and over zoom. The purpose of the meeting was to worship. Moderator Rev. Katie Stryt led the assembly in worship and the business of the Presbytery. The offering collected for today’s assembly is for the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF NATIVE LANDS

Stated Clerk, Rev. Elissa Bailey, gave the acknowledgment of the Native American Heritage for the lands of which our Presbytery currently resides. We acknowledge the Kiikaapoi, Peoria, Sauk, Meskwaki, Miami, and Oceti Sakowin.

WELCOME AND INSTRUCTIONS

A time of welcome and instructions were given by the moderator. As we were on zoom as well as in person, we recognized we needed to adjust the manner in which we were voting. It was determined for the last assembly and appeared to be successful, that the best way forward for voting would be for every voting member would have access to a green card and a red card (or the green or red button on zoom). At each vote, members will vote green for yes or red for no at the same time. Robert’s Rules will allow for a consensus to move forward with a change in this type of voting as long as there is no objection. If there is an objection, we would then need to go to a vote. There was no objection. The moderator then spoke to other ways to communicate over zoom.

QUORUM

The Stated Clerk advised the Moderator that a quorum was present and the Moderator declared the requirements for quorum had been met and the meeting continued.

Quorum & Roll

The roll was established by registration. "A" = absent. "E" = excused

City & Church		TE or CE serving church	RE commissioner
Adair, West Prairie	A	Mr. Jeremy Westlake	N/A
Aledo, College Ave	A	Rev. Wayne Furr	Lance Slavish
Aledo, Sunbeam		Rev. Maura McGrath Nagle (1 st listing)	Bill Harfst
Alexis, Norwood	A	CRE Gary Pullen	N/A
Athens, Indian Point		CRE Sandi Woodard	N/A
Bartonville, Trinity	A	Mr. Steve Barch	N/A
Biggsville, United		VACANT	
Bloomington, Saint Luke		Rev. Andrew Gifford	John Otto
Bloomington, Second	A	Rev. Trey Haddon	
Bushnell, First	A	Rev. Mark Merrill	N/A
Canton, First		Rev. Edwin Brinklow	Terry Frame
Carlinville, Federated	A	Rev. William Mitchell	
Carrollton, First	A	CRE Kirby Ballard (1 st listing)	N/A
Carthage, First		VACANT	N/A
Chatham, Chatham		VACANT	N/A
Chenoa, First		VACANT	N/A
Clayton, First		VACANT	N/A
Clinton, Clinton		Rev. Paul Stroup	Dennis Tomkinson
Coal Valley, First	A	Rev. Tim Snart	N/A
Danvers, First	A	Rev. Cathy Allen	Kent Wurmnest
Delavan, First		VACANT	Carrol Lewis
Divernon, First		VACANT	N/A
E. Moline, First		Rev. Rebecca Sherwood	Ella Layer
Edwards, Korean		Rev. Hyaekwang Kim	N/A
Elmwood, First		Rev. Marla Bauler (1 st listing)	Calie Stalter
Eureka, Eureka		CRE Bob Montgomery	Mark Cordes
Farmington, First		Rev. Cindy Bean	
Fountain Green, FGU	A	Mr. Mark Hanson	N/A
Galesburg, First	A	Rev. Scott Carnes	Debbie Strauch
Geneseo, First		Rev. Tim Doty	Melanie Curran
Greenview, United		VACANT	N/A
Hamilton, Bethel		VACANT	N/A
Ipava, United		Rev. Charles Walden (1 st listing)	Dean Bidney
Jacksonville, First		Rev. Jonathan Warren	Dave Truesdall
Kirkwood, Westminster	A	CRE Pam Moore	Janet Shauman
Knoxville, First	A	Rev. Ken Shedenhelm	Candace Rosene
LeRoy, First		Rev. Bill McLean	Martha Dean
Lewistown, First		CRE Penny Frame	Rick Hoffman

Lincoln, First		Rev. Adam Quine	N/A
Macomb, First	E	Rev. Rene Whitaker	N/A
Macomb, ST		Rev. Charles Walden (2 nd listing)	
Mason City, United	A	Rev. Charlotte Poetschner	N/A
Media, Community		VACANT	N/A
Middletown, First		VACANT	N/A
Milan, First		Rev. Katie Styr	Patty Cook
Monmouth, Faith	A	Rev. Brandon Ouellette	Vicki Young
Monmouth, Sugar Tree		VACANT	N/A
Morton, First		CRE Mike Claver	N/A
Mt. Sterling, Mt. S	A	Mr. Richard Young	N/A
New Windsor, United	A	Rev. Hwa Sung Ryu	N/A
Niota, Appanoose Faith	A	Mr. David Poland	N/A
Normal, First		Rev. Matt Wilcox	Matt Litwiller
		Rev. Karol Schilling	
	A	Rev. Chris Schilling	
Normal, New Covenant		VACANT	N/A
Oneida, United		Rev. Linda Baldwin	Larry Lawson
Orion, Beulah	A	Rev. Tim Snart (2 nd listing)	N/A
Pekin, First		Rev. Charles Cunningham	N/A
Peoria, First Fed	A	VACANT	N/A
Peoria, United	A	Rev. Debra Avery	Nicole Morrow
Peoria, Westminster		Rev. Denise Clark Jones	N/A
Perry, Perry	A	Rev. John Nelson	N/A
Petersburg, Central		VACANT	N/A
Pleasant Plains, Farmingdale	A	Rev. Steve Smith	N/A
Quincy, Ellington	A	Mr. Ron Cox	N/A
Reynolds, Hamlet Perryton			
Rio, Rio		Rev. Maura McGrath Nagle (2 nd listing)	N/A
Rock Island, Grace		VACANT	N/A
Rushville, First		VACANT	N/A
Seaton, Center		VACANT	N/A
Springfield, First		Rev. Susan Phillips	Tom Owen Mike Orr
Springfield, Hope		Rev. Chuck Goodman	LaCleta Hall
Springfield, Korean		Rev. Jaechul Kim	N/A
Springfield, Third		VACANT	N/A
Springfield, Westminster		Rev. Blythe Kieffer	Mary Ray
		Rev. Christian Choi	Roy Wehrle
Stronghurst, Stronghurst	A	Mr. Phillip Cooper (2 nd listing)	N/A
Tallula, Rock Creek	A	Rev. Joanne Hinds	N/A
Viola, United	A	Rev. Matt Downey	N/A
Virden, First		VACANT	N/A
Virginia, First		VACANT	N/A
Virginia, Sangamon		Rev. Timothy Bauler	
Warsaw, First		CRE Diane Ludington	N/A

Washington, Washington	A	Rev. John Napoli	Doug Hathaway
White Hall, First	A	CRE Kirby Ballard (2 nd listing)	N/A
Woodhull, United		Rev. Cheyanna Losey	Matt Losey
Woodson, Unity	A	Rev. Robert Kerr	N/A
Yates City, Faith		Rev. Marla Bauler (2 nd listing)	Mary Watts

Total: Ministers of Word and Sacrament:26 Ruling Elders: 35

Validated, At large, Honorably retired, other ministers present Total: 12

Rev. Drew Nagle, HR	Rev. Kay Daniel, M@L
Rev. Frosty Krummel, HR	Rev. Susan Baller-Sherard, VM
Rev. Dr. Laura Reason, HR	Rev. Jessica Hawkinson Dorow, M@L
Rev. Kathy Mitchell, HR	Rev. Joyce Chamberlin, HR
Rev. Elissa Bailey, SC	Rev. Cheryl Lunday, HR
Rev. Andy Sonneborn, VM	Rev. Chris Williams, VM

Administration, Personnel, & Visioning Team Members, Committee Chairs Total: 2

Elder Julio Garcia, Admin	Elder Gary Terpstra, Nom Com Chair
---------------------------	------------------------------------

Moderator/Moderator-Elect Total: 0

Corresponding Members Total: 5

Rev. John Rickard, Blackhawk Presbytery, Bridge EP
Rev. Sara Dingman, White Water Valley, Synod Exec
Rev. Wade Meranda, Southeastern Illinois
Rev. Ann Schwartz, Southeastern Illinois, hired LP
Rev. Sheri Finke, Giddings-Lovejoy, Presbyterian Foundation

Others Present – committee members with voice but no vote, Total: 4

Elder Julie Bruninga, COM	Elder Gary Davis, Nom Com
Elder Merle Fox, AC	Elder Susan Sawers, CPM

Others Present – ruling elders, visitors, inquirers/candidates, no voice/vote Total: 3

Michael Paddock, Visitor	Margaret Paddock, Visitor
Krista Steller, Visitor	

Presbytery Staff Total: 0

Total Attendance: 87

INTRODUCTIONS

- Corresponding Members
 - MSA to seat the following corresponding members.
 - Rev. John Rickard, Blackhawk Presbytery, Bridge EP

- Rev. Sara Dingman, White Water Valley, Synod Exec
- Rev. Wade Meranda, Southeastern Illinois
- Rev. Ann Schwartz, Southeastern Illinois
- Rev. Sheri Finke, Giddings-Lovejoy, Presbyterian Foundation

- New Teaching Elders:
 - There were no new teaching elders who were introduced
- New Ruling Elder Commissioners
 - Welcome to Matt Litwiller, from First, Normal.

RISKING IN MINISTRY

Current Business

- **MSA** the docket with no corrections or changes. (Appendix S)

UNITED IN WORSHIP

- The assembly moved to a time of worship as was led by Rev. Blythe Denham Kieffer, Rev. Chuck Goodman (preacher), liturgists, and a pianist and soloist.
 - The Scriptures used for worship were: Psalm 23 and John 10:1-10
 - The Sermon was preached by Rev. Chuck Goodman
 - Chuck spoke about the next day being Good Shephard Sunday.
 - “Between us and the gatepost”
 - The Pharisees want to get Jesus moved away before they get to the gate.
 - What does it mean to be a shepherd leading the sheep through the gate in the correct way?
 - Do what is right – do what is right by them???
 - Jesus is the gate – what does that mean?
 - A gate keeps in and keeps out.
 - Are we gatekeepers? Of the church? How we think we are ethical gatekeepers...
 - Do we think we are gatekeepers?
 - Who is in? Who is out?
 - We aren’t the gate – we say we are the gatekeepers of heaven!
 - Oh what position of power!!!!
 - We need a Gatekeepers Anonymous!
 - Violence, threats, division – this is all part of our “diets”
 - Church has been a part of this and people on the outside of the church have seen this.
 - We have struggled as a presbytery.
 - But Jesus takes the gatekeeper role.

- Because we stand between the gate too!
 - We have to keep praying for shepherds among us.
 - Sometimes we have to be okay being the sheepies.
 - A post is simply a wooden stake... it holds something up... like a cross...
- The host Senior Pastor, Rev. Blythe Denham Kieffer, and the preacher, Rev. Chuck Goodman, administered over the sacrament of Holy Communion for which the assembly was invited to participate both in person and over zoom.
 - The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program was spoken about and the amazing work they do in the variety of ways they do it. The assembly was invited to participate in the offering through donating funds online (directions in the docket) or in the offering baskets on the table)

RISKING IN MINISTRY

- **MSA** the Omnibus motion which includes:
 - A motion to enter all written reports into the permanent minutes including the: Administration Team Report (Appendix A), Budget Narrative Report (Appendix B), Statement of Support and Revenues and Expenses Report (Appendix C & D), Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets (Appendix E), COM Report (Appendix F), CPM Report (Appendix G), Highlights from Synod Meeting (Appendix H), Kemmerer Village Board Letter (Appendix I), Presbyterian Foundation Account History (Appendix J)
- The Lead Presbyter Nominating Committee Report presented by Revs. Maura McGrath Nagle and Adam Quine (Appendix K)
 - The Lead Presbyter Nominating Committee presented their report by stating how their timeline looked and how they worked through the process.
 - **MA:** The Lead Presbyter Nominating Committee moves that the Reverend Ann Mills Schwartz be hired as the Lead Presbyter of the Presbytery of Great Rivers and be received as a member of the Presbytery of Great Rivers. Information regarding Rev. Ann Schwartz found on Appendix L.
 - Questions were asked of Rev. Ann Schwartz. After it was clear no more questions were going to be asked, Rev. Ann, her husband, and one additional member of the committee, left the room.
 - An additional time was opened up for questions of the team. No questions were asked.
 - The voting procedures continued and the motion passed unanimously.
 - **MA:** The Lead Presbytery Nominating Committee moves that the terms of the contract for the Lead Presbyter be approved. (Appendix M)
 - At this time, Rev. Ann, her husband, Rev. Wade Meranda, and the other team member were brought back to the singing on the doxology.
 - **MA:** The Lead Presbyter Nominating Committee moves that, upon the successful completion of our work, the committee be dismissed with

thanks by the Assembly. Members of the committee are glad to be among those the Rev. Ann Mills Schwartz can call on for support in her work with us.

- Thanks were given to the tremendous work of the committee.
 - Gifts were given to Rev. Ann as she prepares for her ministry at Great Rivers.
 - Gifts were given to Rev. Sara Dingman for her work with the committee as she plans to go on a sabbatical soon.
 - A time of prayer was offered for all.
- A time of food and fellowship was offered and enjoyed.
- Nominating Committee Report presented by Elder Gary Terpstra and Rev. Cheyanna Losey (Appendix N), Coverage Map (Appendix O), Spreadsheet (Appendix P), Nomination Form (Appendix Q),
 - **MA:** The Nominating Committee nominates to service:
 - Committee on Ministry: RE Kent Wurmnest, Class of 2024, Term 1
 - There were no additional nominations from the floor.
 - The committee asks for nomination forms to be looked at, prayed over, filled out, and sent in!
- Visioning Team presented by Rev. Jessica Dorow
 - There was no written report but Jessica wanted the Assembly to be aware that there is a meeting coming for grant writing and other events that are in the works. Please keep an eye out for this information soon!
- CRE/CLP Coordinator report presented by Rev. Cheyanna Losey (Appendix R)
 - The CRE/CLP Coordinator report was presented and Rev. Cheyanna spoke about the work she does and the opportunities for individuals to consider training to become as a CRE.
- **New Business:**
 - Personnel Committee presented by Rev. Joyce Chamberlain:
 - The Stated Clerk, Rev. Elissa Bailey, is presented for a two-year term as Stated Clerk. This would be Rev. Elissa's third term. The first term was five years, the second term was two years according to the ByLaws. Rev. Elissa left the meeting for voting purposes.
 - **MSA**
 - Rev. Elissa returned to the meeting to the singing of the doxology.
 - CPM Committee presented by Rev. Maura McGrath Nagle
 - The CPM brings an additional motion to the Assembly.
 - The CPM motions that Candidate Mackenzie Jager's time as a candidate, required by the Book of Order to be a year, be waived by a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the Assembly.
 - Mackenzie has received time requirement waivers according to the Book of Order procedures because

Mackenzie entered the PCUSA system after first seeking ordination in another denomination.

- **MSA**

SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE

- **Sharing of Good News:**
 - The Assembly gave thanks to Rev. John Rickard and all of the ways he said yes to Great Rivers Presbytery. We are thankful for his leadership in the last 18 months and helping us through this transitional time. Gifts were given.
 - Co-Moderator Rev. Shavon Starling-Louis will be visiting Peoria on Wednesday, May 18th. Presbytery members are invited to join her for dinner at United Pres in Peoria at 6pm. At 7pm, there will be a zoom conversation where Moderator Shavon will present the Co-Moderator's work and vision as well as answer questions. All are welcome.
 - The visioning and admin teams are working together to review the governance structure of the presbytery and make sure it aligns with our mission. This is a regular part of both committee's current duties according to our manual of operations, and is being done through the work of a joint task force. If the team suggests any changes to our structure, they will come before this body to be evaluated together.
 - All of the Book of Order amendments have passed including Family Leave!

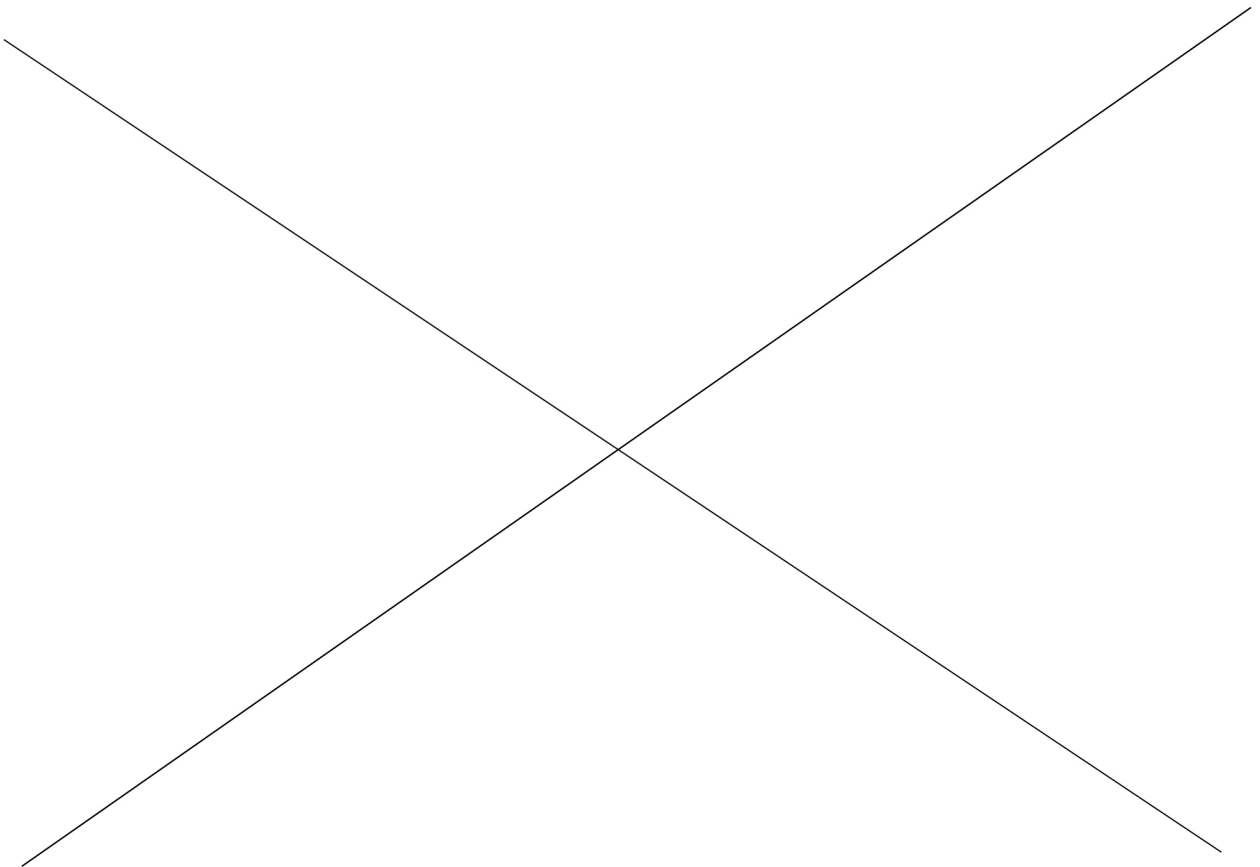
- **Announcements:**
 - Prayers for Stated Clerk Rev. J. Herbert Nelson, his family, and COGA as they seek an acting Stated Clerk and others as Stated Clerk Nelson's resignation is set for June 30th.
 - Jacksonville, First is excited about a Lilly Grant that was received and a pulpit supply that will be taking place with a pastor from Scotland. The pastor will be preaching the first two Sundays in July.
 - BloNo Go in Bloomington and Normal. First, Normal hosts this event that invites the congregation to go out and partner with area organizations to work in the community.
 - First, Springfield, group of mission partners with Cuba. The only partnership from our presbytery with Cuba.
 - Crystal doing a great job with the Good News! We need to be opening it and reading it!
 - Prayers for all of the flooding in Davenport and surrounding areas.

- A Benediction and Closing Prayer was offered and adjournment was declared by Moderator-Elect Rev. Frosty Krummel at 12:54 PM.

- The next meeting will be on Saturday, August 26th, 2023 from 10am to 3pm at United PC, Peoria.

Respectfully submitted,

Stated Clerk, Rev. Elissa Bailey



PRESBYTERY OF GREAT RIVERS
STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND NET ASSETS - CASH BASIS
CURRENT TO PRIOR YEAR COMPARATIVE
AS OF March 31, 2023

Assets	March 2022	March 2023	Increase/ (Decrease)
Cash			
Checking and CDs	\$ 203,216	\$ 244,021 *	\$ 40,805
Investments	771,799	726,487	(45,312)
Lease Deposit	-	-	-
Fixed Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation	<u>2,480</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,480)</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 977,495</u>	<u>\$ 970,508</u>	<u>\$ (6,987)</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets			
Liabilities			
Liabilities Payable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Pass Thru Liabilities	2,541	2,984	443
Prepaid Mission & Per Capita	-	-	-
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 2,541</u>	<u>\$ 2,984</u>	<u>\$ 443</u>
Net Assets			
Unrestricted	<u>\$ 877,270</u>	<u>\$ 835,904</u>	<u>\$ (41,366)</u>
Designated			
Presbytery Leaders Support	-	-	-
Presbyter Relocation/Presbyter Search	10,000	10,000	-
Total Designated	<u>\$ 10,000</u>	<u>\$ 10,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Temporarily Restricted			
Preparation for Ministry	\$ 9,129	\$ 8,662	\$ (467)
Peacemaking	19,786	22,930	3,144
Synod Pastor Support Grants	1,701	1,701	-
Synod Transformation Grant	52,652	50,364	(2,288)
Ministers Temporary Disability	3,110	3,110	-
Hands & Feet Scholarships	107	107	-
Pastor Compassion Funds	600	600	-
CLP Coordinator	600	600	-
Church Support for Family Leave	-	11,325	11,325
Sherrard Pres Restricted Funds	-	22,222	22,222
Total Temporarily Restricted	<u>\$ 87,684</u>	<u>\$ 121,620</u>	<u>\$ 33,936</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 974,954</u>	<u>\$ 967,524</u>	<u>\$ (7,430)</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 977,495</u>	<u>\$ 970,508</u>	<u>\$ (6,987)</u>

* \$100,000 in CDs

\$50k at 2.5% maturing in 7 months

\$50k at 3.25% maturing in 11 months

PRESBYTERY OF GREAT RIVERS
STATEMENT OF SUPPORT AND REVENUES AND EXPENSES - CASH BASIS
ACTUAL TO BUDGET COMPARATIVE
YEAR TO DATE March 31, 2023

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>(Over)Under Budget</u>	<u>Percent of Budget Used</u>
Support and Revenue				
Budgeted				
Congregational Support				
Per Capita - current yr	\$ 47,638	\$ 176,308	\$ 128,670	27%
Per Capita - prior yr pd late	\$ 3,904			
Mission	17,231	60,000	42,769	29%
Trust Clause Payments	3,726	12,216	8,490	30%
Total Congregational Support	<u>\$ 72,499</u>	<u>\$ 248,524</u>	<u>\$ 171,439</u>	<u>29%</u>
Investment Income	35,984	31,500	(4,484)	114%
Total Budgeted Receipts	<u>\$ 108,483</u>	<u>\$ 280,024</u>	<u>\$ 166,956</u>	<u>39%</u>
Transfer to/from Designated Funds	<u>(320)</u>			
Unbudgeted Receipts				
Preparation for Ministry Support	\$ -			
Presbytery Peacemaking Support	320			
Total Unbudgeted Receipts	<u>\$ 320</u>			
Total Support and Revenue	<u>\$ 108,483</u>			
Expenses				
Budgeted				
Salaries, Benefits, Training & Taxes				
General Presbyter	\$ 245	\$ 119,085	\$ 118,840	0%
Stated Clerk	7,802	30,745	22,943	25%
Bookkeeper	6,386	25,500	19,114	25%
PT Admin Asst (Virtual) & CW	4,830	18,720	13,890	26%
CLP Coordinator	2,579	10,811	8,233	24%
Bridge Presbyter Salary	15,840	-	(15,840)	
Workers Compensation Insurance	780	900	120	87%
Total Salaries and Related Expenses	<u>\$ 38,461</u>	<u>\$ 205,761</u>	<u>\$ 167,300</u>	<u>19%</u>
Presbytery Office				
Occupancy	\$ 1,050	\$ 4,263	\$ 3,213	25%
Office Operations and Supplies	6,396	14,525	8,129	44%
Total Presbytery Office Expenses	<u>\$ 7,446</u>	<u>\$ 18,788</u>	<u>\$ 11,342</u>	<u>40%</u>

PRESBYTERY OF GREAT RIVERS
STATEMENT OF SUPPORT AND REVENUES AND EXPENSES - CASH BASIS
ACTUAL TO BUDGET COMPARATIVE
YEAR TO DATE March 31, 2023

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>(Over)Under Budget</u>	<u>Percent of Budget Used</u>
Expenses (continued)				
Presbytery Administration				
Liability Insurance	-	2,800	2,800	0%
Moderator Training	-	1,250	\$ 1,250	0%
Assembly Meetings (PGR)	440	1,200	\$ 761	37%
Per Capita Shortfall	-	18,650	18,650	0%
Payroll Service	422	1,900	1,478	22%
Legal Fees	-	100	100	0%
PGR Training (Elder/Deacon, Ldrshp)	46	750	704	6%
Presbyter Search	-	-	-	
Presbytery Events	-	500	500	0%
Total Presbytery Administration Expenses	<u>\$ 907</u>	<u>\$ 27,150</u>	<u>\$ 26,243</u>	<u>3%</u>
Meeting Expense - All Teams	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,250</u>	<u>\$ 1,250</u>	<u>0%</u>
Program Expenses				
Committee on Ministry	\$ 76	\$ 7,750	\$ 7,674	1%
Committee on Preparation for Ministry	-	250	250	0%
Visioning Grants	7,500	40,000	32,500	19%
Continuing Education Grants	-	2,500	2,500	0%
Pastoral Care/Compassion Fund	-	750	750	0%
Illinois Conference of Churches	-	500	500	0%
Disaster Relief	-	-	-	-
Total Program Expenses	<u>\$ 7,576</u>	<u>\$ 51,750</u>	<u>\$ 44,174</u>	<u>15%</u>
Other Expenses				
Bank Fees & Expenses	-	100	100	0%
Depreciation Expense	-	-	-	
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 100</u>	<u>\$ 100</u>	<u>0%</u>
Total Budgeted Expenses	<u>\$ 54,391</u>	<u>\$ 304,799</u>	<u>\$ 250,408</u>	<u>18%</u>
Unbudgeted Expenses Funded by Restricted Funds				
Pastor Support Grants	-	-	-	
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 54,391</u>	<u>\$ 304,799</u>	<u>\$ 250,408</u>	
Excess of Support and Revenue Over Expenses	<u>\$ 54,092</u>	<u>\$ (24,775)</u>	<u>(78,867)</u>	
Impact on cashflow	<u>\$ 18,108</u>			

Budget Narrative for April 29, 2023, Assembly Meeting

Investments

The Presbyterian Foundation Account History shows the closing amounts each month in the New Covenant funds; the value of our investments has risen 5.2% thus far this year. I added a new 6-months' rolling average curve to smooth the peaks and valleys, showing a more general trend of the account. It shows the big upswing in 2021, the downward trend in 2022, and the slight uptick in 2023.

Balance Sheet

Our investments are down compared to a year ago (shown on the Account History curve discussed above). Our checking balance went up due to two influxes of money:

1. Visioning established a "Church Support for Family Leaves." This fund is to support churches whose pastors are on family leave and the church must pay for pulpit supply and session moderators. This money came from the unused Visioning Funds in 2022.
2. The remaining funds came from the Sherrard Presbyterian which closed last year. These funds are managed by Visioning and will be used for grants as well.

The checking balance also contains two sets of CDs. One \$50,000 set maturing in 7 months at 2.5% and one \$50,000 set maturing in 11 months at 3.25%. We will either re-invest these in CDs upon maturation or allow the money to go into the checking account – depending on need.

Income Statement

Support & Revenue

Total Congregational Support is slightly ahead of the 25% target for first quarter and our investments are up almost \$36,000, yielding a total Budgeted income of \$108,483.

Expenses

Until we have our Lead Presbyter, Personnel expenses will continue to fall below budget.

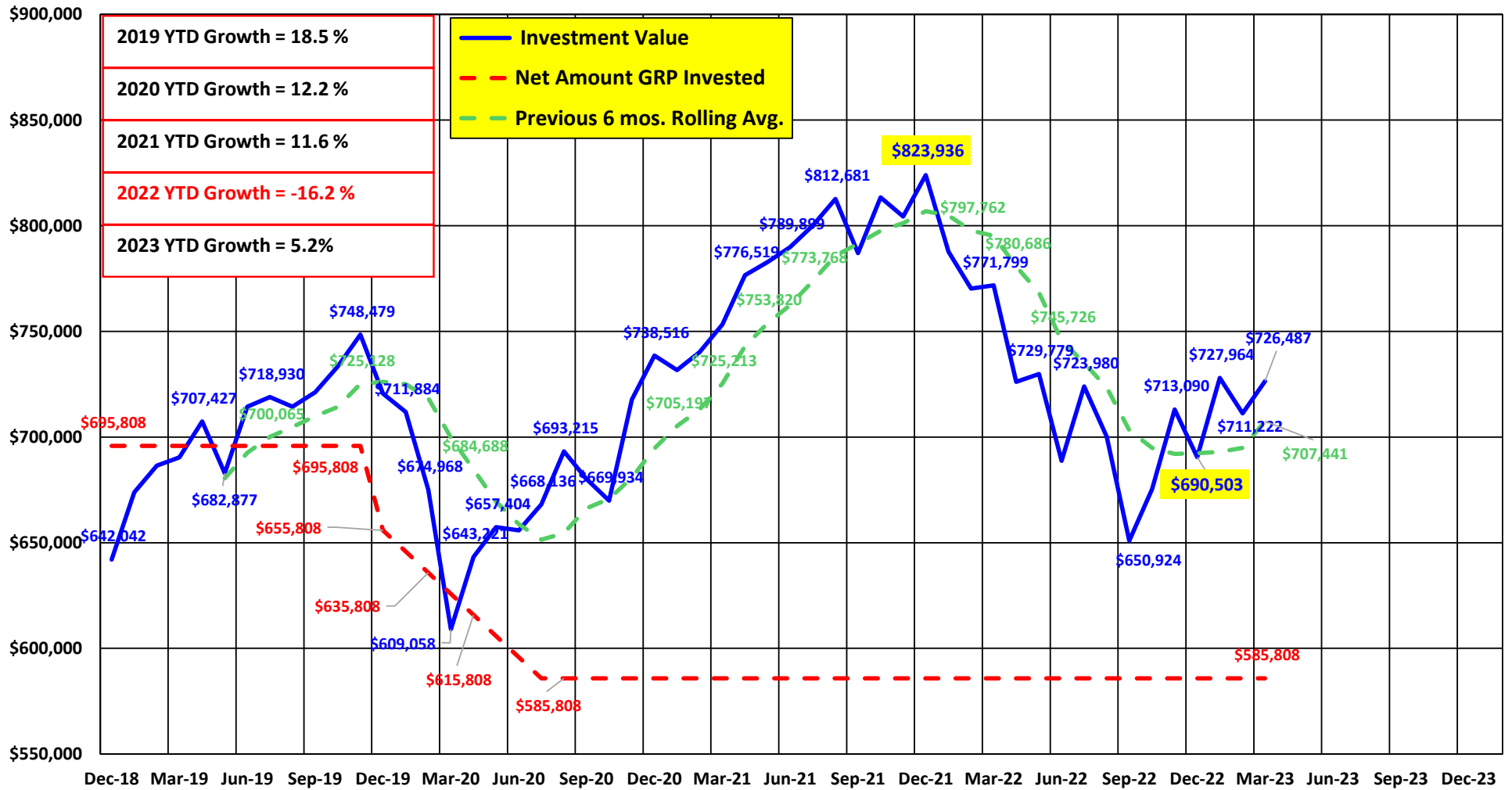
Our Office Operation costs are high due to first quarter Service Contract expenses, which won't recur during the year. The bulk of that expense was the contract we had with Amy Garner for treasurer training.

Administrative and Program expenses are below budget. Visioning grants are ahead of their normal yearly outlay.

Overall, our Income exceeded our expenses by \$54,092. However, if we discount our investment gains, the impact on our cash flow is +\$18,108.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Strawbridge

PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION ACCOUNT HISTORY - End of Month Values



Administration Team April 29, 2023 Assembly Report

Since the last Assembly the Admin Team has completed the following tasks.

E-Votes

- a. Final approval of loan application for First Presbyterian Church Springfield**
- b. Approval of February 2023 assembly minutes**
- c. Approval of funds distribution concerning the new Lead Presbyter of Great Rivers**
- b. The team received a very in depth briefing concerning presbyteries investments and budget by Bill Strawbridge**
- c. Admin is asking all churches in our presbytery to please nominate candidates for our Nominating Committee.**
- d. Dates for Admin meeting in 2023:**
 - a. July 29, 2023**
 - b. October 21, 2023**

Any questions please feel free to contact Julio Garcia @ julieman6@yahoo.com or 309-235-3999

Presbytery of Great Rivers
Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report
April 29, 2023

UPDATES:

- The winter exam results show that Mackenzie Jager has completed both the Polity and Biblical Exegesis exams satisfactorily.
- The committee met in a special meeting on Tuesday, February 14th to examine Bryan Burris, a Disciples of Christ pastor who wishes to become a PCUSA minister of word and sacrament. The Committee on Ministry had asked that we assess his qualifications and give our recommendation of next steps in the process. It was MSA that by examination the Committee on Ministry is satisfied with Brian Burris' qualifications to transfer his ordination to the PC(USA) and so recommend that to the Committee on Ministry.
- The committee met in-person on Thursday, March 16th in Bloomington, Illinois to conduct the interview for readiness to receive a call with candidate Mackenzie Jager. A sermon was successfully given and interview done to ascertain progress on her process. She continues to work at 2nd Bloomington and participate in the Clinical Pastoral Education Program she began in the fall. Completion of that program is expected by the end of May with a report sent to the committee assessing her work there.
- The remaining dates for regularly scheduled Committee on Preparation for Ministry meetings in 2023 are Wednesday, June 21 and Wednesday, October 18 at 9:30 a.m.

Page 17 of 31
Welcome

Presbytery of Great Rivers

April 29, 2023



REV. ANN SCHWARTZ

Lead Presbyter

*Presbytery of Great
Rivers*



Meet Ann...

The Rev. Ann Schwartz has been Pastor/Head of Staff of First Presbyterian Church in Danville, Illinois since 2016. Prior to that she was a staff Chaplain at Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana, Illinois (2014-2016) and Co-Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Hoopeston, Illinois (1999-2012).

During her 24 years in the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois, she has served in a variety of ministries, including the Commission on Ministry, General Council, the Committee on Representation, and the Permanent Judicial Commission. She recently completed two terms as the commissioner to the Synod of Lincoln Trails and was a commissioner to the 223rd General Assembly in St. Louis.

Ann is eager to connect with folks in the Presbytery of Great Rivers. She feels called to partner with others to build beloved community based on our common identity and mission; to give encouragement, support, and hope to leaders and congregations; and to help prepare and equip the church for an uncertain future – **always trusting in the transformative power of God to make all things new.**



Ann earned a Master of Divinity from McCormick Theological Seminary and an undergraduate degree in English and Secondary Education from Central Michigan University.



Ann is married to the Rev. Wade Meranda, also a PCUSA pastor, who served First Presbyterian Church in Hoopeston (1999-2023) and recently began as Business Administrator of Wesleyan United Methodist Church in Bloomington. They have two adult daughters.



She loves traveling and exploring new places, reading, writing, walking, cooking, spending time outside, and most recently, birdwatching.

HERE'S WHAT THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE IS SAYING ABOUT ANN...



“I am grateful to have spent some time with the Rev. Ann Schwartz during our time together on April 13th & 14th. I was impressed with her friendliness and wanting to get to know each of us during our meal together. I believe she has a great sense of vision for our Presbytery.”

“Ann has a true pastoral presence and during our time with her, I found myself feeling a renewed sense of hope for our Presbytery. Ann communicated well her vision for the future. I am excited to work with Ann as we re-imagine how the congregations in Great Rivers Presbytery can be the church together.”

“Ann is someone who exhibits wise discernment, and the ability to apply her Christian faith to challenging matters that confront our churches today.”

“Ann is one who immediately engages with you and is an active listener. She has the heart of a pastor and the skills of an administrator who brings vision to her work.”

“Impressions: attention to detail, entering into conversation, listening, asking questions, seeing the possibilities.”

“Ann has the heart of a very caring pastor, her participation at all levels within the PCUSA will bring to us the knowledge and skills necessary to meet the needs of our presbytery in the short and long term.”



PGR Commissioned Pastor Coordinator Report to the Assembly
April 29, 2023

The purpose of this report is to give the Assembly a summary of the work I have conducted so far as the Commissioned Pastor Coordinator.

During the month of March I had the privilege of attending a day long training at the Presbytery of Wabash Valley. This training is part of their two-year training process with ruling elders feeling called to serve in pastoral leadership. This is the training our CPM agreed in 2022 our interested ruling elders could participate in as the training process. Much to my surprise retired synod executive Rev. Carol MacDonald was one of the leaders, it was a delight learn from her again. She sends her love and prayers for all of us. The training that day was focused on the process of writing to give some new techniques and practices for those who will be writing sermons and crafting worship services soon. It was a delightful training. If you would like to learn more please let me know.

Since our last assembly meeting I have expanded my inquiries with other presbyteries to learn about how the support, train, and continue to train their ruling elders to serve commissions. There are really great programs throughout our denomination, and lots of ways we can partner with them. I am learning that many presbyteries are finding they need to have more trained ruling elders as seminary graduation rates decline. There is a lot of creativity and faithfulness in serving. I continue to seek ways we can increase our partnerships. It is my hope to begin scheduling fellowship Zoom times in partnership with my counter-part in other presbyteries for all our CP. I think increasing these connections would go far in offering support and increasing our learning from each other. I will keep you all updated as this develops.

I continue to be in regular contact with our commissioned pastors as we continue to partner together to serve the congregations in our presbytery. We continue to meet monthly for fellowship via Zoom. I also send a monthly email with news specific to our group. I have also had the joy of meeting with a number of our CP in-person this year. As you probably expect, we spend a lot of time talking and the time goes quickly. I have also been working to schedule in-person gatherings groups of our CPs. Work, family, and travel schedules make it difficult for us to gather as a whole group, so these smaller groups seem to be the next best option. We also will be meeting (met) before today's assembly meeting. Thank you to Westminster Presbyterian Church for giving us space for that meeting.

The other big project I have been working on since the spring of 2022 is an updated Commissioned Pastor Handbook that combines the work of CPM and COM. The handbook is in draft form and is working through the committees. I anticipate being able to present it to the assembly before the end of 2023.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the ministry formation training, please contact me. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) has scholarships available.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

In Christ's Service.

Rev. Dr. Cheyanna L. Losey

cheyannalosey@gmail.com

309-299-4790

<p>Gary Davis – 21 217-737-3359 gwdavis44@comcast.net</p>	<p>Julio Garcia – 21 309-235-3999 julieman6@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Cheyanna Losey – 21 309-299-4790 cheyannalosey@gmail.com</p>	<p>Gary Terpstra – 21 217-415-2090 g.terpstra@comcast.net</p>
<p>Bloomington, Second Bloomington, St Luke Union Chenoa, First Clinton, Clinton Presbyterian Danvers, First Delavan, First Greenview, United LeRoy, First United Lincoln, First Mason City, United Middletown, First Morton, First Normal, First Normal, New Covenant Pekin, First Peoria, First Federated Peoria, United Peoria, Westminster Petersburg, Central Tallula, Rock Creek Presbyterian Washington, Washington Pres</p>	<p>Aledo, College Avenue Aledo, Sunbeam Alexis, Norwood Biggsville, United Coal Valley, First East Moline, First Geneseo, First Hamilton, Bethel Media, Community Milan, First New Windsor, New Windsor Pres Niota, Appanoose Faith Oneida, United Orion, Beulah Reynolds, Hamlet-Perryton Rio, Rio Presbyterian Rock Island, Grace Seaton, Center Stronghurst, Stronghurst Pres. Viola, United Warsaw, First</p>	<p>Adair, West Prairie Bartonville, Trinity Bushnell, First Canton, First Carthage, First Carthage, Fountain Green Edwards, Korean Elmwood, First Eureka, Eureka Presbyterian Farmington, First Galesburg, First Ipava, Ipava Presbyterian Kirkwood, Westminster Knoxville, First United Lewistown, First Macomb, First Macomb, Scotland Trinity Monmouth, Faith United Monmouth, Sugar Tree Grove Woodhull, United Yates City, Faith United</p>	<p>Athens, Indian Point Carrollton, First Chatam, Chatham Presbyterian Clayton, First Federated Divernon, First Jacksonville, First Mt. Sterling, Mt. Sterling Pres. Perry, Perry Presbyterian Pleasant Plains, Farmingdale Quincy, Ellington Memorial Rushville, First Springfield, First Springfield, Hope Springfield, Korean United Springfield, Third Springfield, Westminster Virden, First Virginia, First Virginia, Sangamon Valley White Hall, First Woodson, Unity</p>

Bold congregation names = have at least one person serving on a presbytery committee.

If you see a mistake we have made please let Gary Terpstra or Cheyanna Losey know so we can update our records. Thank you.

This list provides information for each congregation as to which Nominating Committee member to contact when you have a recommendation, questions, or would like help filling out your “eligible ruling elder” list. We are looking forward to strengthening our connections with each other.

PGR Nominating Committee Report, April 29 2023

The full Nominating Committee (NC) met via Zoom March 10, 2023 and April 21, 2023. The co-chairs also communicated regularly via email, phone, and text as we continue the work for 2023. We bring the following motion before the assembly for consideration.

MOTION #1.

The Nominating Committee nominates to service:

Committee on Ministry – RE Kent Wurmnest, Class of 2024

A reminder . . .

The NC would appreciate receiving the list about eligible ruling elders we asked each clerk of session to fill out. Forms can be emailed Gary Terpstra or Cheyanna Losey or mailed to PO Box 383 Woodhull, IL 61490.

In other news . . .

We have begun our work to find nominees for the Class of 2026. We have a number of committee chairs rotating off at the end of 2023 and want to begin the process of determining their replacements to minimize the interruption of the work of our committees. If you have an interest in serving, please contact one of the NC members.

In Christ's Service,

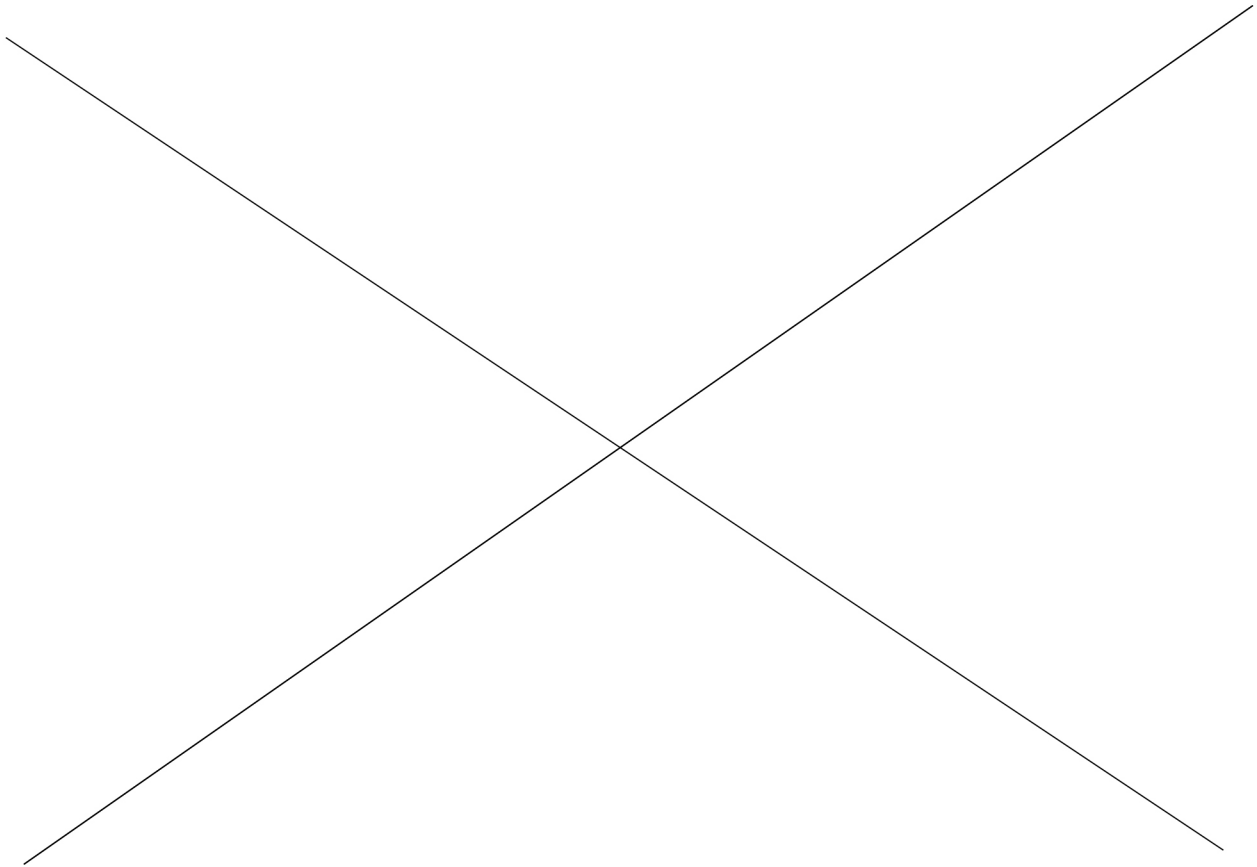
The Nominating Committee, nominating@greatriverspby.org

Co-Chair RE Gary Terpstra, g.terpstra@comcast.net

Co-Chair TE Cheyanna Losey, cheyannalosey@gmail.com

RE Gary Davis, RE Julio Garcia, RE Larry Lawson

The Nominating Committee is beginning our work for the next class of officers and appreciate all the help we can get. The Nominating Committee has received from a few congregations contact information for available ruling elders to be considered for committee work in the presbytery. We have created the following form, with a few examples. If the pastor or clerk of session would fill out this form and return it to co-chairs are Terpstra, 217-415-2090, g.terpstra@comcast.net, or Cheyanna Losey 309-299-4790, cheyannalosey@gmail.com, as soon as possible, we would appreciate it.



	Name	Cell Phone Number	Notes
1	Cheyanna Losey	309-299-4790	Retired, active elder
2	Gary Terpstra	217-415-2090	Works full-time, nurse, active elder
3			Works full-time, caterer
4			Retired
5			College student, PGR Visioning Team
6			Farmer
7			In the Navy
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			
26			
27			
28			
29			
30			
31			
32			
33			
34			
35			
36			

	Name	Cell Phone Number	Notes
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			
26			
27			
28			
29			
30			
31			
32			
33			
34			
35			
36			

Presbytery of Great Rivers
COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM

I would like to suggest and endorse (name) _____

for consideration for the committee, council, board or assembly checked below.

From (church name & city) _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Name of person making nomination _____

- Committee on Ministry:** (24 members including the Chair)
This Committee meets monthly and conducts some business by email between meetings. The Committee has the oversight for all relations between the presbytery and its' congregations and the presbytery and its minister members. Three year term, 2 term limit.
- Committee on Preparation for Ministry:** (10 members including the Chair)
This committee meets three times each year. The committee oversees the preparation of those who feel called to ministry as Ministers of Word and Sacrament in the PCUSA, and those seeking to serve as commissioned pastors . Each member of the committee also acts as a liaison with one or more candidates and inquirers, keeping in touch with them and being available to them at all times. Three year term, 2 term limit.
- Administration Team:** (12 members including the Chair)
This committee meets four times each year. The committee acts as the Trustees of the Presbytery, and oversees the budget, investments and all other financial business of the presbytery. Three year term, 2 term limit.
- Visioning Team:** (12 members including the Chair)
This committee meets six times each year. They oversee the Mission Initiative Grants of the presbytery, plan presbytery meetings and educational events for pastors and lay members, and set the vision and strategy for the presbytery. Three year term, 2 term limit.

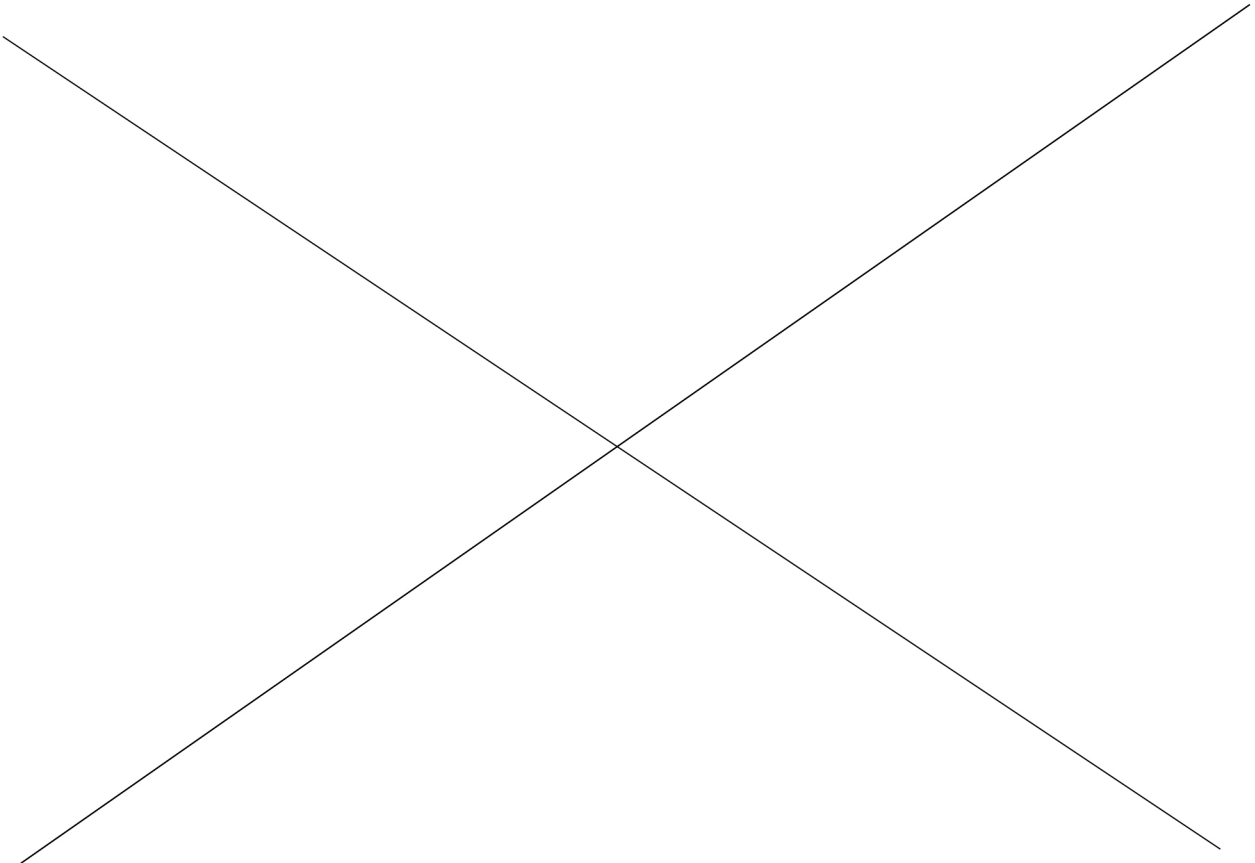
Lay members of most committees must be elders. Meetings are held remotely via Zoom, and are mostly 2 hours or less.

Other committees are also in need of participation: These include the Presbytery Personnel Committee, Illinois Presbyterian Home in Springfield, and Synod of Lincoln Trails. More information on these positions, as well as on the committees described here, is available from the Presbytery office.

Presbytery of Great Rivers
Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report
April 29, 2023

UPDATES:

- The winter exam results show that Mackenzie Jager has completed both the Polity and Biblical Exegesis exams satisfactorily.
- The committee met in a special meeting on Tuesday, February 14th to examine Bryan Burris, a Disciples of Christ pastor who wishes to become a PCUSA minister of word and sacrament. The Committee on Ministry had asked that we assess his qualifications and give our recommendation of next steps in the process. It was MSA that by examination the Committee on Ministry is satisfied with Brian Burris' qualifications to transfer his ordination to the PC(USA) and so recommend that to the Committee on Ministry.
- The committee met in-person on Thursday, March 16th in Bloomington, Illinois to conduct the interview for readiness to receive a call with candidate Mackenzie Jager. A sermon was successfully given and interview done to ascertain progress on her process. She continues to work at 2nd Bloomington and participate in the Clinical Pastoral Education Program she began in the fall. Completion of that program is expected by the end of May with a report sent to the committee assessing her work there.
- The remaining dates for regularly scheduled Committee on Preparation for Ministry meetings in 2023 are Wednesday, June 21 and Wednesday, October 18 at 9:30 a.m.





Highlights from the March 24, 2023, Stated Meeting of the Synod of Lincoln Trails

Seeking Mission Initiative Grant. These are one-time grants of “seed” money from the Synod to help begin new congregation-based missional activities. The grants are for amounts up to \$1,500 and are awarded to PCUSA congregations in Illinois and Indiana. The Standing Committee on Leadership Development reported on three reports from recent grantees and one new applicant. Learn more: lincolntrails.org/missions-initiative-grant/

The Synod’s investment portfolio remains robust and is well-positioned to ride out the period of market volatility. At the time of the most recent Board meeting in December, the value of the Synod’s investments was \$6.9 million, up from \$6.4 million at the end of the third quarter of 2022. Wabash Capital is the Synod’s Investment Advisor.

Synod’s Rise Up Grant Program. There will be a special synod meeting in June regarding the Rise Up Grant Program. This grant comes from 4% of the Synod’s investment proceeds and has been given to its member Presbyteries to help address specific adaptive challenges that involve imagination, innovation, and ministry experimentation. More details to come this summer!

Covenant with Kemmerer Village. [Kemmerer Village](#) is a residential treatment, education, and foster care services facility in Assumption, Illinois. A covenant among Kemmerer Village, Presbytery of Great Rivers, Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois and the Synod has been in effect since 1993. The Synod voted to approve an updated covenant, which continues to provide that Kemmerer Village will submit reports and updates about its activities to the Synod, and it will remain a validated mission agency.

Installation of new Synod Moderator, the Rev. Dan Robertson, Presbytery of Blackhawk. We thank Rev. Jana Blazek, Presbytery of Chicago who served as moderator this last year.

New Monthly Synod Newsletter. We encourage all Illinois and Indiana members and churches to sign-up for the online newsletter, which shares news, stories and job openings from around the Synod. [Click here to sign up now.](#)

Synod of Lincoln Trails Contact Information. 317-923-3681 (office), 1100 W. 42nd Street, Suite 210, Indianapolis IN 46208. Find helpful resources for nurturing and supporting the leaders at lincolntrails.org/what-we-do/



Kemmerer Village
"Helping Today's Child"

March 31st, 2023

To: Reverend Katie Styr, Moderator for the Presbytery of Great Rivers
Reverend Elissa Bailey, Stated Clerk for the Presbytery of Great Rivers
Jean Wollenberg, Moderator for the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois
Dr. Rebecca Blair, Stated Clerk for the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois
Sara Dingman, Executive Synod of Lincoln Trail
Blake Wood, Stated Clerk for the Synod of Lincoln Trail

The Kemmerer Village Board of Directors approved in March 2023 that the following nominees as directors, commencing September 11, 2023. The nominated directors shall be elected to the Board at the Annual Meeting of the Corporation on Monday, May 8th, 2023, unless there are written objections on behalf of member Presbyteries regarding nominees from the particular Presbytery. Objections must be received in this office prior to May 1, 2023.

Class of 2023

1st Term

Christian Choi, GR
Glen Berry, PSEI
Bob McNabb, PSEI

2nd Term

Brian Miller, At Large

Kemmerer Village will have a total of 16 Directors on the Board beginning September 2023.

Thank you for your assistance and for your continued interest in Kemmerer Village.

Sincerely,

Schäles Nagle, LCSW
Kemmerer Village, Inc.
Executive Director





STATED MEETING of the Presbytery of Great Rivers
COMPLETE DOCKET
April 29th, 2023

The Mission of the Presbytery:
*"We are called to share Christ's love
 by partnering in service, uniting in worship, and risking in ministry"*

To access the meeting, you must pre-register by following the link below (see full instructions for virtual meeting etiquette under papers for this meeting on the presbytery website.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZMlduyqrz4pHNF6Ky3vOntZ3mN0wMF500yC#/registration>

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

- 9:30 Sign-in to Zoom/Meeting site opens
- 10:00 Call to Order with Prayer Moderator MWS Katie Styr
- 10:05 Acknowledging Native American Heritage of Gathering Sites MWS Elissa Bailey
- 10:10 Welcome and Instructions Moderator MWS Katie Styr
- Meeting Etiquette and Voting Procedure
 - **If you need tech help, contact Brandon at 309-368-2671.**
 - Establish the Roll and Seat Corresponding Members
 - Establishment of quorum
 - Introduction and seating of first-time Teaching Elder commissioners
 - Introduction of first-time Ruling Elder Commissioners
 - Introduction of Corresponding Members
- 10:15 Adoption of the Docket

UNITING IN WORSHIP

10:20 Worship Service

Voluntary "May Song" by Felix Mendelssohn Dale Rogers, piano

*Call to Worship Rev. Dr. Blythe Denham Kieffer

Leader: In life and in death we belong to God.

People: Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit, God is faithful.

Leader: Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

People: With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

Leader: Let us worship in gratitude and joy.

*Hymn 749 "Come! Live in the Light! We are Called"

*Prayer of Confession

Holy and Loving God, who calls us to live in the light, to act with justice, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with you. We confess we have strayed from your paths of right relationship and peace, and have dishonored you, ourselves, and your creation. Forgive us, we pray, as we learn to forgive others, and guide our feet into the way of peace. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

*Declaration of Pardon

Scripture Readings Psalm 23, John 10:1-10

Meditation "Between Us and the Gatepost" Rev. Chuck Goodman

Offertory "Feed My Lambs" by John Angotti Adam Miller, Tenor
Our offering today benefits Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. To donate remotely, please go to <https://pma.pcusa.org/donate/make-a-gift/gift-info/DR000148/> or text "PDA" to 41444.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion Music "On Eagle's Wings" Michael Joncas

*Hymn 187 "Savior, Like a Shepherd" Bradbury

*Charge and Benediction

PARTNERING IN MISSION, RISKING IN MINISTRY

11:00 Omnibus Motion:

- Enter Administration Report, Finance Report, and all other written reports into the permanent minutes

11:05 Lead Presbyter Nominating Committee MWS Maura McGrath Nagle
& MWS Adam Quine

Motion to approve candidate for Lead Presbyter

12:00 Meal Instructions & Lunch MWS Blythe Kieffer

12:45	Nominating See report for motions regarding nominations	MWS Cheyanna Losey & RE Gary Terpstra
12:55	Visioning	MWS Jessica Hawkinson Dorow
1:00	CRE/CLP Coordinator	MWS Cheyanna Losey
1:05	Presbyterian Foundation	Sherri Finke

SHARING IN CHRIST'S LOVE

1:10 **NEW BUSINESS** - This is not a time for announcements, but for introducing other business not previously docketed before the assembly.

1:15 Sharing Good News
Please go to a microphone in person or raise your virtual hand to be recognized, then unmute and briefly share your ministry's good news!

1:20 Announcements

1:25 Adjournment and Closing Prayer

Mod-Elect MWS Frosty Krummel

Mod-Elect MWS Frosty Krummel

-
- The next Assembly is 10am-3pm on August 26th, 2023 at United PC, Peoria