

Presbytery of Whitewater Valley

Stated Assembly Meeting Docket Wednesday, May 3, 2023

(requests for new business to be added to the docket need to be forwarded to Terry Epling, Stated Clerk in the chat feature prior to 10:30 a.m.)

Business Meeting

- **Convene and Call to Order** Moderator Muriel Treadwell
- **Opening Prayer** Moderator Muriel Treadwell
- **Approval of Docket** Moderator Muriel Treadwell
- **Welcome** Executive Presbyter Alan Thames
- **Seating of Corresponding Members** Executive Presbyter Alan Thames

- **Announcements**
- **Consent Agenda**
ACTION: Approval of Presbytery Assembly Minutes of February 4, 2023; Stated Clerk's Report on Session Records Review; Financial Reports; Highlights of Synod Assembly Meeting of March 24, 2023
- **Transitions within the Presbytery** Gretchen Schneider, Moderator of COM

Beginnings:

- Rev. Karen Herbst-Kim, Associate Pastor Northminster Presbyterian, Indianapolis
- Rev. Lucia Hutchison, Bridge Pastor Clayton Presbyterian, Clayton
- Rev. Maxwell (Max) Michaels, Resident Pastor First Presbyterian, Fort Wayne
- Rev. Gracie Payne, Associate Pastor/Director of Young Adult Engagement, Second Presbyterian, Indianapolis
- Rev. Katherine Rieder, Interim Pastor First Presbyterian, New Castle
- Rev. Gretchen Schneider, Interim Pastor First Presbyterian, Shelbyville
- Rev. Terri Thorn, Designated Associate Pastor, Tabernacle Presbyterian, Indianapolis

Conclusions:

- Rev. Gretchen Schneider, Pastor Christ Presbyterian Church, McCordsville

- Rev. Lyle Ewing, for Honorable Retirement Pastor First Presbyterian, Bluffton

Education

Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, Iowa (Bachelor of Arts, 1979)

Dubuque Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa (Master of Divinity, 1990)

Date of Ordination September 16, 1990

Positions Served

Lancaster United Methodist & Beetown United Methodist (2 years – student pastorate)

Ebenezer Presbyterian, Renville/First Presbyterian, Delhi, Minnesota - yoked churches (4 years)

First Presbyterian Church – Ossian, Indiana (11 years)

First Presbyterian Church of Grant County – Jonesboro, Indiana (4 years)

Auburn Presbyterian Church – Auburn, Indiana (7 years)

First Presbyterian Church – Monticello, Indiana (Interim Pastor – 1 ½ year)

First Presbyterian Church – Huntington, Indiana (Interim Pastor – 1 ½ year)

First Presbyterian Church – Bluffton, Indiana (Designated Pastor – 4 years)

Service to Denomination or Larger Church

General Assembly Commissioner for the PCUSA

Executive Presbyter Search Committee – Wabash Valley Presbytery

Stated Clerk Search Committee – Wabash Valley Presbytery

Nominating Committee – Wabash Valley Presbytery

Committee on Ministry – Minnesota Valley Presbytery

Committee on Ministry – Whitewater Valley Presbytery

Instructor at Synod School – Hanover College

Member of the Culley Fund Board

Administrative Commission – Wabash Valley

Moderate session at Troy Presbyterian Church – Wabash Valley Presbytery

Currently moderating session at United Faith – Whitewater Valley Presbytery

2023 Ordination Anniversaries (April through June)

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| ➤ David Moon Park | 25 years |
| ➤ Youngsoo An | 25 years |
| ➤ Sara Ann Dingman | 25 years |
| ➤ Eric Gale | 35 years |
| ➤ Taylor Alan Thames | 40 years |
| ➤ John Koppitch | 45 years |
| ➤ Joan Bradner Malick | 45 years |
| ➤ David E. Jackson | 50 years |
| ➤ Judith A. Cook | 50 years |
| ➤ Gary Lee Kornell | 50 years |
| ➤ Robert Hunter | 50 years |
| ➤ Henry S. Date | 70 years |

- **Voting on Amendments to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA)**
Recommendation from the Coordinating Council

Alan Thames, Executive Presbyter

The Coordinating Council of Whitewater Valley Presbytery recommends the following protocol for voting on amendments at the May 3 Presbytery Assembly meeting:

- ✓ **Motion to Limit Discussion/Debate to 10 minutes per proposed amendment**
 - ✓ **10 minutes to include 2-minute introduction from previously identified presenter with rationale followed by four 2-minute segments of debate alternating pro/con**
 - ✓ **Moderator has discretion to extend debate**
 - ✓ **Wording of amendments/status of denominational voting presented in docket**
- ACTION: Approve the Voting Protocol as recommended by the Coordinating Council**

Proposed Amendment 22-D (passed)

Shall G-1.0503 in the Form of Government be amended as follows: (added text in bold)

“G-1.0503 Business Proper to Congregational Meetings

Business to be transacted at meetings of the congregation shall be limited to the following:...

...**g. receiving a disciplinary decision against a member of the congregation as required by D-9.0102.”**

Proposed Amendment 22-E (passed)

Shall G-2.0503 in the Form of Government be amended as follows? (deleted text is in italics; added text is in bold)

“G-2.0503 Categories of Membership

A minister of the Word and Sacrament is a member of a presbytery and shall be engaged in a ministry validated by that presbytery, a member-at-large as determined by the presbytery, or *honorably* retired...

...*c. Honorably* Retired

Upon request of a member of presbytery, the presbytery may designate the member *honorably* retired *because of age or physical or mental disability.”*

Proposed Amendment 22-F

Shall G-20505a(1) be amended as follows? (added text is in bold)

“G-2.0505a(1) Transfer of Ministers of Other Denominations

“a...

- (1) In the case of ministers for immigrant fellowships and congregations, a presbytery may, if it determines that its strategy for mission with that group requires it, **and in consultation and partnership with that community**, recognize and receive as a member of presbytery a new immigrant minister who furnishes evidence of good standing in a denomination, *even though*. **If** at the time of enrollment that minister lacks the educational history required of candidates, **the presbytery should** provide such educational opportunities as seem necessary and prudent for that minister’s successful ministry in the presbytery.”

Proposed Amendment 22-I

Shall G-2.0804 in the Form of Government be amended as follows? (added text in bold)

“G-2.0804 Terms of Call

The terms of call shall always meet or exceed any minimum requirement of the presbytery in effect when the call is made. The session shall review annually the minister’s term of call and shall propose for congregational action (G-1.0501) such changes as the session deems appropriate, provided that they meet the presbytery’s minimum requirements. The call shall include **provision for a minimum of twelve weeks paid family medical leave and** participation in the benefits plan of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) including both pension and medical coverage, or any successor plan approved by the General Assembly.”

Proposed Amendment 22-P (passed)

Shall the fourth paragraph of G-3.0106 in the Form of Government be amended as follows? (deleted text in italics; added text in bold)

“G-3.0106 Administration of Mission...

...All councils shall adopt and implement *a sexual misconduct policy and a child and youth protection policy* **the following policies: a sexual misconduct policy, a harassment policy, a child and youth protection policy, and an antiracism policy.”**

Proposed Amendment 22-CC (passed)

Shall D-3.0106 in the current Rules of Discipline be amended as follows? (deleted text in italics; added text in bold)

“D-3.0106 *When Jurisdiction Ends* **Upon Renunciation of Jurisdiction**

Jurisdiction in the **The** judicial process *ends* **does not end** when a person in an ordered ministry or a member renounces the jurisdiction of the church. Should the accused in a disciplinary case renounce the

jurisdiction of the church as provided in G-2.0407 or G-2.0509, the clerk or stated clerk shall report to the council both the renunciation and the status of the matter at that time, including the name of the accused, **and** the date and fact of renunciation during an investigation or trial, *and the charges filed*. The judicial process shall then proceed per the Rules of Discipline.”

Proposed Amendment 22-DD (passed)

Shall D-10.0302 in the current Rules of Discipline be amended as follows:

“D-10.0302 If Charges are to be Filed

If the investigating committee has decided to file charges, it shall promptly inform the accused in writing of the charges it will make, including a summary of the facts it expects to prove at trial to support those charges. It shall ask the accused if *that person* **they wish** to plead guilty to the charges to avoid full trial and indicate the censure it will recommend to the session or permanent judicial commission.”

Proposed Amendment 22-EE (passed)

Shall the first paragraph of D-10.0303 in the current Rules of Discipline be amended as follows (deleted text in italics, added text in bold)

“D-10.0303 Petition for Review

If no charges are filed, the investigating committee shall file a written report of that fact alone with the clerk of session or stated clerk of the presbytery, and notify *the person who submitted the written statement*, **in writing, both the person who has been accused and the person making the accusation.**”

Proposed Amendment 22-FF (passed)

Further, that all other sections referring to ‘the accused’ in the current Rules of Discipline be modified to read **the person accused**.

Proposed Amendment 22—GG (passed)

Shall the current “Rules of Discipline” be replaced by “Church Discipline?”

- **Report from Coordinating Council Commission – Trish Lisa, Chair of Personnel**
 - Announcement from Alan Thames, Executive Presbyter regarding retirement
 - Presentation of Position Description for Transitional Lead Presbyter as recommended for approval by Coordinating Council
ACTION: Approve the Position Description for the Transitional Lead Presbyter
 - Presentation of Slate for Lead Transitional Presbyter Nominating Committee – Gretchen Schneider, Committee on Representation
 - ❖ Teaching Elder Youngsoo An, First Presbyterian, Fort Wayne
 - ❖ Teaching Elder Daren Hofmann, First Presbyterian, Muncie
 - ❖ Teaching Elder Charlotte Lohrenz, Faith Presbyterian, Indianapolis
 - ❖ Teaching Elder Gracie Payne, Second Presbyterian, Indianapolis
 - ❖ Ruling Elder Ted Smith, First Presbyterian, Bluffton
 - ❖ Ruling Elder Judi Trabue, Tabernacle Presbyterian, Indianapolis
 - ❖ Ruling Elder Mike Whitfield, First Presbyterian, Shelbyville
- ACTION: Approve the Slate for Transitional Lead Presbyter Nominating Committee**

WORSHIP

Opening Prayer

HYMN: “Here in This Place”

Confession and Assurance

- Invitation to Confession
- Prayer of Confession

*Most merciful God,
We confess that we have sinned against you,
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and what we have left undone.
We lay bare before you all that we are—
broken and brave, healing and hopeful—
that you might lead us by your light,
change us by your grace,
and sustain us by your living water;
Through Christ our Lord and Teacher we pray, Amen.*
- Assurance of God’s Grace

HYMN: “Hear the Good News of Salvation”

Prayer of Illumination

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT—Readings by Second Presbyterian Church pastors

- First Reading – Matthew 5:1-12 Rev. Tyler Brink
- Second Reading – Mt 5:13-20
- Third Reading – Mt 5:21-37 Rev. Ben Davison
- Fourth Reading – Mt 5:38-48 Rev. Gracie Payne

HYMN: “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

- Fifth Reading – Mt 6:1-6 Rev. Sara Dorrien-Christians
- Sixth Reading – Mt 6:7-15

HYMN: “This Is My Song”

- Seventh Reading – Mt 6:16-24 Tom Markey (*WVP Candidate*)
- Eighth Reading – Mt 6:25-34

MUSICAL OFFERING: “This Is My Father’s World”

- Ninth Reading – Mt 7:1-12 Rev. Rachel Klompmaker
- Tenth Reading – Mt 7:13-29

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

- Invitation and Prayer
- Breaking of the Bread
- Communion of the People
- Prayer After Communion and the Lord’s Prayer
*Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, Amen.*

Closing Prayer and Blessing

**Presbytery of Whitewater Valley
Stated Assembly Meeting, Saturday, February 4, 2023
MINUTES**

Convening the Meeting**Call to Order**

Whitewater Valley Presbytery met by video conference for a stated meeting on Saturday, February 4 2023. The Moderator, Ruling Elder Muriel Treadwell, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. from the Indiana Interchurch Center, Indianapolis.

Opening Prayer

The Moderator opened the meeting with prayer.

Adoption of the Docket

The Docket was provided electronically in advance of the meeting. The Moderator called for amendments to the proposed docket. There being no amendments, the docket was approved by consent.

New Business

The Moderator instructed presbyters to submit items of new business to the Stated Clerk by 10:30 a.m. for consideration later in the gathering.

Quorum

The Stated Clerk, Rev. Terry Epling, confirmed that a quorum was present. The attendance report is included at the end of these minutes.

Corresponding Members

The Rev. Alan Thames, Executive Presbyter, welcomed everyone and introduced Ruling Elder Jim Rissler (Harvey Browne Presbyterian Church, Louisville), CEO, Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (PILP). Rev. Thames recommended that he be seated as a corresponding member. Without objection, he was enrolled.

Stated Clerk's Report

The Moderator called on the Rev. Terry Epling for the Stated Clerk's report. Mr. Epling reported that Session Records Reviews would be held in-person in March for the first time since 2019. A schedule will be emailed to clerks with four locations and dates.

1. Disciplinary Process

In late 2021 the Stated Clerk reported the beginning of an investigation after a complaint was filed against a pastor of this presbytery. A thorough investigation was conducted, and a faithful attempt was made at mediating a resolution. When mediation stalled, the Investigating Committee filed two charges and requested a Pretrial Conference with the Permanent Judicial Commission.

All parties were notified of the two charges, and given a list of witnesses and records in support of the prosecution of the charges. The PJC ordered the parties to appear for a

Pretrial Conference. Before the Pretrial Conference, the person accused resigned the pastoral position, renounced the jurisdiction of the church, and did not appear for the Pretrial Conference.

As a result, in compliance with D-3.0106 the Stated Clerk reported that Commissioned Ruling Elder Rod Smith was removed from the rolls of membership and ordered ministry, and the pastoral relationship was dissolved.

The two charges filed against Mr. Smith were:

“In or about 1993, Rod Smith, did commit the offense of sexual abuse of a minor as defined by D-10.0400c1 in that he did sleep with and molest [the accuser*], a minor at the time.”

“In or about 1999, Rod Smith, did commit the offense of sexual abuse as defined in D- 10.0400c2 in that he engaged in sexual conduct with [the accuser] which was an abuse of position as Mr. Smith was [the accuser’s*] former Youth Pastor and [the accuser*] was a guest in his house.” [*name redacted]

Since Mr. Smith has renounced the jurisdiction of the church the judicial proceeding has concluded. It should be noted that there is no provision for restoration to ordered ministry when a person has renounced the jurisdiction of the church. Mr. Smith may no longer be engaged, for pay or as a volunteer, in any work within a Presbyterian church.

The goal of church discipline is always reconciliation. That is not always possible, and it was not achieved here. However, you should know that the person making the allegations was offered assistance with counseling and pastoral care. We continue to hold Mr. Smith in our prayers. And we pray especially for the congregation he served the past four years, and pray grace and peace for all involved.

Rev. Thames prayed for all those involved and for the health and healing for all affected by misconduct and abuse.

2. Administrative Commission to Install

The Administrative Commission to install the Rev. Brian Shivers as Pastor of Northminster Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, met at the church on November 20, 2022 at 3:15 p.m.

The Moderator, Ruling Elder Muriel Treadwell, declared that a quorum of the commission was present consisting of the following members: Elder Michael Whitfield (First, Shelbyville), Elder Anne Ricchiuto (Northminster), Rev. Madison Van Veelen (Second), Rev. Dr. Winterbourne Harrison-Jones (Witherspoon), Rev. Maureen Wilson (Irvington).

The commission seated the Rev. Carol McDonald (Wabash Valley Presbytery) as a corresponding member.

The commission seated as Interfaith Guests: Mr. George Kelly (Education Director, Congregation Beth-El Zedeck, Indianapolis), Dr. Aniat Joshi (Hindu Temple of Central Indiana), and Imam Ahmed Alamine (The Indianapolis Muslim Community Association, Masjid Al-Fajr, Indianapolis).

The congregation was called to worship. Dr. Harrison-Jones preached the sermon based on Rev. 21:1-8 and Joel 2:1. Rev. Shivers answered affirmatively all the constitutional questions required for installation. The congregation answered affirmatively all the constitutional questions required of the congregation.

The commission installed Rev. Shivers as Pastor with prayer and welcomed him along with other presbyters and the congregation.

Elder Ricchiuto charged the newly installed pastor. Rev. McDonald charged the congregation. An offering of thanksgiving was received in support of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry.

Rev. Shivers pronounced the benediction.

The commission having completed its work was adjourned and discharged with the conclusion of worship. Elder Whitfield submitted the minutes to the Stated Clerk for inclusion in the records of presbytery.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the November 2, 2022 stated meeting were provided in advance. There were no amendments to the minutes. The minutes were approved by consent.

Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (PILP)

Elder Jim Rissler, President and CEO of PILP, spoke about the program and presented rebate checks to Faith Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, Korean Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, and Orchard Park Presbyterian Church, Carmel.

Transitions Within the Presbytery

The Rev. Gretchen Schneider, Moderator of the Commission on Ministry, reported on pastoral transitions in the presbytery.

1. Beginnings

William Christians	Member at Large
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2. Honorable Retirement

Rev. Mark Morningstar	Honorably Retired
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3. Ordination Anniversaries

Sara Biggs Dorrien-Christians	10 Years
William Bennett Christians	10 Years
Christopher Henry	15 Years
Ruth Chadwick Moore	20 Years
Paul R. Stone	65 Years

Administrative Commission to Dissolve a Congregation

Presbytery approved by electronic ballot the recommendation of the Commission on Ministry to authorize the appointment of an Administrative Commission to dissolve Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis.

Rev. Schneider led in a prayer for the church's members and the commission as they work together faithfully to dissolve the congregation.

Ordination Examination

Rev. Gretchen Schneider introduced Maxwell Michaels, a Certified Candidate under care of Western North Carolina Presbytery. Mr. Michaels has been called as Resident Pastor

of First Presbyterian Church, Fort Wayne. He was examined for membership and goodness of fit by the Commission on Ministry. His statement of faith was distributed electronically with the call papers.

The Moderator opened the floor for examination for ordination and invited Rev. Schneider to ask the first question. There were eight questions from the floor.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to arrest the examination. Rev. Schneider escorted Mr. Michaels from the room.

The Moderator put the question, shall the examination be sustained and the candidate approved for ordination, and invited discussion. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by electronic ballot.

Mr. Michaels returned to the room and was welcomed with applause and congratulations. Having been approved for ordination he will be ordained by Western North Carolina Presbytery in his home congregation.

Coordinating Council

1. Constitutional Amendments

The Coordinating Council Commission recommended that presbytery approve the following amendments to the Constitution recommended by the 225th General Assembly in one vote as an omnibus motion by consent: Item 22-A F-1.0302c; Item 22-B F-1.0404; Item 22-C G1.0501; Item 22-D G-1.0503; Item 22-G G-2.0603; Item 22-H G-2.0605; Item 22-J G-2.1001; Item 22-K G-2.1002; Item 22-L G-2.1103; Item 22-M G-3.0104; Item 22-N G-3.0105; Item 22-O G3.0106; Item 22-Q G-3.0303c; Item 22-R G-3.0401; Item 22-S G-4.0301; Item 22-T W-3.0205; Item 22-U W-3.0409; Item 22-V W-3.0414; Item 22-W W-4.0403; Item 22-X W-5.0104; Item 22-Y W-5.0104; Item 22-Z W-5.0201; Item 22-AA W-5.0204; and Item 22-BB W-5.0204.

The Coordinating Council further recommended that the remaining recommended amendments be considered at the May stated assembly meeting: Item 22-E G-2.0503 regarding changing Honorably Retired to Retired; Item 22-F G-2.0505a(1) regarding receiving new immigrant pastors; Item 22-I G-2.0804 regarding 12 weeks paid family leave; Item 22-P G-3.0106 regarding council policies; and Items 22-CC through 22-GG related to the *Rules of Discipline* and the proposed *Church Discipline*.

The Moderator asked if there were other items any member or commissioner wanted to remove from the omnibus motion. There were none.

The Moderator asked if there was any objection to approval of the omnibus motion. Since there were no objections, the Moderator declared that the omnibus motion was approved by consent and the remaining constitutional amendment recommendations would be added to business for the May stated assembly.

2. Committee on Representation

The Rev. Jenni Heimach moved on behalf of the Coordinating Council the election of Ruling Elder Ted Smith (First, Bluffton) to the Committee on Representation. There were no nominations from the floor. Since there were no other nominations, the Moderator declared nominations closed asked if there was any objection to the election of the nominee. There being no objections, the election was approved by acclamation.

WORSHIP

There being no further business, the Moderator declared that the meeting would be adjourned with the closing benediction at the end of worship.

The next stated meeting was announced for May 4, 2023.

Worship leadership was provided by Moderator Muriel Treadwell (Witherspoon, Indianapolis), Mr. Maxwell Michaels (First, Fort Wayne), Ms. Sandra Garcia (First, Fort Wayne), Rev. Ann Pitman (HR and First, Fort Wayne), Rev. Martin Garcia (Amistad, Fort Wayne), Rev. Youngsoo An (First, Fort Wayne), Rev. Carrie Winebrenner (First, Fort Wayne). Worship was organized around the theme of Matthew 25. Rev. Garcia preached the sermon. Rev. An and Rev. Winebrenner presided at the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Mr. Michaels led in the responsive benediction.

The assembly was adjourned with the close of worship at 11:52 a.m.

Faithfully,

Rev. Terry L. Epling,
Stated Clerk
Whitewater Valley Presbytery

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Attendance February 4, 2023

Minister of Word and Sacrament				
	Youngsoo	An	Fort Wayne, First P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Glen	Bell	Other	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Beau	Brown	Other	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Kevin	Buchanan	Fort Wayne, Grace P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Shawn	Coons	Indianapolis, Fairview P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Jerry	Deck	Zionsville, Zionsville P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Sara	Dingman	Other	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Terry	Epling	Fort Wayne, Trinity P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Lyle	Ewing	Bluffton, First P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Eric	Gale	Noblesville, First P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Martin	Garcia	Fort Wayne, Amistad Cristiana	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Martin	Garcia	Fort Wayne Amistad P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	LydiaGrace	Gray	Richmond, First P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Winterbourne	Harrison-Jones	Indianapolis, Witherspoon P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Daren	Hofmann	Muncie, First P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Nancy	Howard	Other	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Kamper	Huber	Fishers, New Hope P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Jeffrey	Jahn	Other	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Peter	Jessen	Franklin, First P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	George	LaMaster	Indianapolis, Fairview P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Charlotte	Lohrenz	Indianapolis, Faith P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Bob	McAulay	Indianapolis, Irvington P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Aj	MILDENBERG	Other	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Deb	Mitchell	Other	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Mark	Morningstar	Other	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Maxwell	Muska	Shelbyville, First P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	David	Park	Indianapolis, Korean P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Maria	Rutland	Hartford City,	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Garrett	Schindler	Greensburg, First P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Marena	Schindler	Rushville, First P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Scott	Shelton	Zionsville, Zionsville P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Alan	Thames	WVP Staff	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Marena	Vittorio	Rushville, First P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Beth	Wagner	Indianapolis, John Knox P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Wally	Wilson	Other	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Laurie	Wolcott	Jonesboro, First P.C. of Grant Co.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Shelly	wood	Indianapolis, Orchard Park P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
	Peter	Zinn	Greenwood, Greenwood P.C.	Minister of Word and Sacrament
Alternate Ruling Elder Commissioner				
	Michelle	Kaitchuck	Muncie, First P.C.	Alternate Ruling Elder Commissioner
	Roslynn	Lancaster	Indianapolis, Northminster	Alternate Ruling Elder Commissioner
	Cheryl	Plunkett	Indianapolis, Northminster	Alternate Ruling Elder Commissioner
	Ashley	Stephen	Richmond, First P.C.	Alternate Ruling Elder Commissioner
	Mary	Swope	Connersville, First P.C.	Alternate Ruling Elder Commissioner

Elder Commissioner				
	Richard	Bogigian	Indianapolis, Fairview P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Cindy	Bowers	Fort Wayne, Grace P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Janet	Burkhart	Muncie, St. Andrew	Elder Commissioner
	Mary	Carter	Indianapolis, John Knox P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	James	Cochrane	Zionsville, Zionsville P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Kimberly	Cochrane	Zionsville, Zionsville P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Pat	Cowall-Hanover	Indianapolis, Orchard Park P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Susan Pfeil	Davidson	Indianapolis, Faith P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Annettea	Davis	Avon, White Lick P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Jennifer	Dzwonar	Indianapolis, Northminster	Elder Commissioner
	Tony	Dzwonar	Indianapolis, Northminster	Elder Commissioner
	Nancy	Frick	Indianapolis, Second P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Becky	Gattis	Shelbyville, First P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Nikki	Graham	Indianapolis, Witherspoon P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	EVANGELINE	GUNTER	Jonesboro, First P.C. of Grant Co.	Elder Commissioner
	Jerry	Hallett	Indianapolis, Second P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Jerry	Hallett	Indianapolis, Second P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Twila	Hengst	Indianapolis, Irvington P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Dan	Hursh	Indianapolis, Tabernacle P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Carolyn	Kendall	Fishers, New Hope P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Ross	King	McCordsville, Christ P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Carolyn	Krebs	Fort Wayne, First P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Michael	O'Banyel	Indianapolis, Tabernacle P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Tonya	Paddock	Liberty, First P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Girtha	Perkins	Indianapolis, Northminster	Elder Commissioner
	Sharon	Pierce	Zionsville, Zionsville P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Jon	Richwine	Richmond, First P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Marj	Sapp	Fort Wayne, First P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Gretchen	Schneider	McCordsville, Christ P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Heidi	Schulenberg	Fort Wayne, First P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Fred	Sess	Connersville, First P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Virginia	Sheets	Avon, White Lick P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Ron	Snow	Indianapolis, Second P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Patricia	Stone	Shelbyville, First P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Amanda	Stricker	Zionsville, Zionsville P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Geraldine	Sullivan-Clark	Greenwood, Greenwood P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Liz	Todd	Zionsville, Zionsville P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Lauren	Underwood	Greenwood, Greenwood P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Michael	Whitfield	Shelbyville, First P.C.	Elder Commissioner
	Robert	Wistendahl	Indianapolis, John Knox	Elder Commissioner
Coordinating Council Member				
	Reba	Curtis	Indianapolis, Fairview P.C.	Coordinating Council Member
	Ann	Hamel	Indianapolis, John Knox P.C.	Coordinating Council Member
	Jenni	Heimach	Indianapolis, Irvington P.C.	Coordinating Council Member
	Muriel	Treadwell	Indianapolis, Witherspoon P.C.	Coordinating Council Member
	Jill	Werling	Fort Wayne, Grace P.C.	Coordinating Council Member
	Dawn	Whitfield	Shelbyville, First P.C.	Coordinating Council Member

CRE				
	Lisa	Crismore	Indianapolis, John Knox P.C.	CRE
	Mae	Leech	Indianapolis, Second P.C.	CRE
	Jennifer	Linville	Noblesville, First P.C.	CRE
Honorably Retired				
	Kevin	Bausman	Other	Honorably Retired
	Janet	DeVries	Other	Honorably Retired
	Karel	Hanhart	Other	Honorably Retired
	Robert	Heimach	Other	Honorably Retired
	John	Koppitch	Other	Honorably Retired
	Kathleen	OConnell	Other	Honorably Retired
	Ronald	Rockey	Other	Honorably Retired
Inquirer				
	Sandy	Garcia	Fort Wayne, Amistad P.C.	Inquirer

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WHITEWATER VALLEY PRESBYTERY
Stated Clerk's Report
May 3, 2023

Session Records Review

The records of the following sessions were peer reviewed at regional gatherings in March 2023. Any deficiencies were noted and reported to the Clerk of Session. A copy of the review report was retained by the Stated Clerk.

Bethel, Knightstown
Clayton PC, Clayton
Cross Roads, Westfield
Fairview, Indianapolis
Faith, Indianapolis
First, Anderson
First, Bluffton
First, Connersville
First, Elwood
First, Fort Wayne
First, Franklin
First, Hartford City
First of Grant Co., Jonesboro
First, Lewisville
First, Muncie
First, New Castle
First, Portland
First, Shelbyville
First, Tipton

Grace, Fort Wayne
Irvington, Indianapolis
John Knox, Indianapolis
Kingston, Greensburg
Greenwood PC, Greenwood
Mt. Carmel, Brookville
Northminster, Indianapolis
Orchard Park, Carmel
St. Andrew, Muncie
Second, Indianapolis
Southminster, Indianapolis
Tabernacle, Indianapolis
Trinity, Fort Wayne
Trinity, Rushville
United Faith, Fort Wayne
Whitelick, Avon
Witherspoon, Indianapolis
Zionsville PC, Zionsville



Council Finance Committee Report

December 2022 Financial Reports

- Mission Operations Ministry Fund
 - Ended the calendar year with a surplus of \$10,468. Total fund resources at budget estimates, below prior year results (\$2,099).
 - Per capita gifts from our churches ended the year at 99% of the total apportionment, consistent with budget estimates and the prior year results.
 - Total operating expenses (before transfers) ended the year \$10,488 below budget estimates, (\$16,641) above the prior year (Leadership - PC/Council approved staff bonus \$10k, Office/Reimbursement \$5k).
 - The operating ministry fund ended the year with a balance of \$117,434 (target balance \$25k).

- Mission Focus Units Fund
 - Ended the calendar year with a surplus of \$6,797. The surplus was primarily attributable to bottom line decreases to budget as total mission resources for shared mission ended the year below budget by 6.5% (\$10,055) and below the prior year (\$16,467).
 - Mission partners and church grant support funded in full per budget. Council ministry team expenses and allocations below budget \$16,852.
 - The shared mission fund ended the year with a balance of \$86,460 (target balance \$50k).

- Presbytery **unrestricted** net assets total \$539,861 on December 31, 2022.

2024 Budget Development Timeline

	1st Read	2nd Read
Budget Request Mailing	05/11/2023	08/01/2023 *Mission Budget Request
Request Due to ECH	06/02/2023	10/02/2023
Finance Committee Meeting	06/22/2023	10/19/2023
Coordinating Council Meeting	07/26/2023	10/25/2023
Assembly Meeting	08/05/2023	11/01/2023

The 2022 membership report shows a decrease of -823 members after adjusting for non-active churches on the roles. This will result in an estimated (\$27k) reduction in total 2024 operating budget resources. The Finance Committee anticipated a decrease in resources and the impact of anticipated OGA per capita increases. It executed a plan to draw down the accrued operating fund balance to maintain/limit presbytery per capita rate increases to ameliorate the budgetary impact on the churches. The operating fund balance forecast is \$50k by the end of 2024.

Whitewater Valley Presbytery

2022 Per Capita Analysis As of December 31, 2022

GA (invoice)	GA Received	SOLT (invoice)	SOLT received	WWV (budget)	WWV received	Total per capita	Total Received
110,813	106,206	47,015	45,061	353,252	353,162	511,080	504,429
					12/31/2022	% Received	99%
					12/31/2021	Budget 499,807 % Received	Actual 497,256 99%

2022 Basic Mission Analysis As of December 31, 2022

WWV 2022 Budget	WWV 2022 Received	2022 Budget / Actual	12/31/2022	% Received	94%
155,712	145,657	(10,055)			
			12/31/2021	Budget 150,000 % Received	Actual 157,124 105%

Whitewater Valley Presbytery
Analysis of Res & Invest - Council_ECH
Fund: Mission Operations
January to December 2022

Accounts	YTD Actual	YTD Budget (This Year)	YTD Budget/Actual	Annual Budget (This Year)	% of Annual Budget Used	YTD Actual (Last Year)
RESOURCES						
MISSION OPERATIONS						
Per Capita-WVP	\$361,083.13	\$359,252.00	\$1,831.13	\$359,252.00	100.51 %	\$362,199.11
Per Capita - G/A & SOLT	\$151,267.21	\$153,155.00	(\$1,887.79)	\$153,155.00	98.77 %	\$153,962.73
Total MISSION OPERATIONS	\$512,350.34	\$512,407.00	(\$56.66)	\$512,407.00	99.99 %	\$516,161.84
OTHER RESOURCES						
Partnerships	\$16,500.00	\$16,744.00	(\$244.00)	\$16,744.00	98.54 %	\$16,500.00
Banking/Investments	\$3,623.36	\$4,000.00	(\$376.64)	\$4,000.00	90.58 %	\$2,320.60
Misc. Resources	\$409.27	\$675.00	(\$265.73)	\$675.00	60.63 %	\$0.00
Total OTHER RESOURCES	\$20,532.63	\$21,419.00	(\$886.37)	\$21,419.00	95.86 %	\$18,820.60
Total RESOURCES	\$532,882.97	\$533,826.00	(\$943.03)	\$533,826.00	99.82 %	\$534,982.44
INVESTMENTS						
Leadership	\$384,143.30	\$373,783.00	(\$10,360.30)	\$373,783.00	102.77 %	\$372,451.34
Office Services	\$46,240.25	\$53,505.00	\$7,264.75	\$53,505.00	86.42 %	\$44,094.18
Reimbursements/Misc. Per Capita	\$15,516.98	\$29,100.00	\$13,583.02	\$29,100.00	53.32 %	\$12,634.35
G/A Per Capita Disbursement	\$110,813.20	\$109,161.00	(\$1,652.20)	\$109,161.00	101.51 %	\$113,112.08
SOLT Per Capita Disbursement	\$47,015.00	\$47,015.00	\$0.00	\$47,015.00	100.00 %	\$47,991.00
Total Per Capita	\$157,828.20	\$156,176.00	(\$1,652.20)	\$156,176.00	101.06 %	\$161,103.08
Missions Allocations/Transfers	(\$81,313.81)	(\$81,639.00)	(\$325.19)	(\$81,639.00)	99.60 %	(\$79,081.54)
Total INVESTMENTS	\$522,414.92	\$530,925.00	\$8,510.08	\$530,925.00	98.40 %	\$511,201.41
Net Resources/Investments	\$10,468.05	\$2,901.00	\$7,567.05	\$2,901.00	360.84 %	\$23,781.03

Whitewater Valley Presbytery
Analysis of Res & Invest - Council_ECH
Fund: Mission Focus Units
January to December 2022

Accounts	YTD Actual	YTD Budget (This Year)	YTD Budget/Actual	Annual Budget (This Year)	% of Annual Budget Used	YTD Actual (Last Year)
RESOURCES						
MISSION FOCUS UNITS						
Basic Mission	\$145,656.57	\$155,712.00	(\$10,055.43)	\$155,712.00	93.54 %	\$157,124.47
Total MISSION FOCUS UNITS	\$145,656.57	\$155,712.00	(\$10,055.43)	\$155,712.00	93.54 %	\$157,124.47
Total RESOURCES	\$145,656.57	\$155,712.00	(\$10,055.43)	\$155,712.00	93.54 %	\$157,124.47
INVESTMENTS						
PRESBYTERY COUNCIL	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	0.00 %	\$0.00
COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL						
MISSION & PARTNERSHIP						
Local/Regional Mission						
Camp PYOCA	\$30,999.96	\$31,000.00	\$0.04	\$31,000.00	100.00 %	\$30,999.96
WNM	\$20,400.00	\$20,400.00	\$0.00	\$20,400.00	100.00 %	\$20,400.00
Hispanic Ministries	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$0.00	\$8,000.00	100.00 %	\$8,000.00
Total Local/Regional Mission	\$59,399.96	\$59,400.00	\$0.04	\$59,400.00	100.00 %	\$59,399.96
Domestic/International Mission						
Congo Helping Hands	\$2,370.00	\$2,370.00	\$0.00	\$2,370.00	100.00 %	\$2,370.00
Total Domestic/International Mission	\$2,370.00	\$2,370.00	\$0.00	\$2,370.00	100.00 %	\$2,370.00
Mission Grants	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$0.00	\$11,000.00	100.00 %	\$6,000.00
Total MISSION & PARTNERSHIP	\$72,769.96	\$72,770.00	\$0.04	\$72,770.00	100.00 %	\$67,769.96
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	\$5,148.35	\$7,500.00	\$2,351.65	\$7,500.00	68.64 %	\$4,500.00
Total COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL	\$77,918.31	\$80,270.00	\$2,351.69	\$80,270.00	97.07 %	\$72,269.96
MINISTRY SUPPORT						
Committee on Ministry	\$13,937.49	\$18,598.00	\$4,660.51	\$18,598.00	74.94 %	\$10,098.00
Preparation for Ministry	\$1,365.00	\$7,865.00	\$6,500.00	\$7,865.00	17.36 %	\$7,467.73
Total MINISTRY SUPPORT	\$15,302.49	\$26,463.00	\$11,160.51	\$26,463.00	57.83 %	\$17,565.73
Missions Allocations/Transfers	\$45,639.00	\$45,979.00	\$340.00	\$45,979.00	99.26 %	\$41,798.89
Total INVESTMENTS	\$138,859.80	\$155,712.00	\$16,852.20	\$155,712.00	89.18 %	\$131,634.58
Net Resources/Investments	\$6,796.77	\$0.00	\$6,796.77	\$0.00	0.00 %	\$25,489.89

Accounts

ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash/Checking		
WVP NBI (Sweep) #9492	\$484,235.39	
Related Ministry Checking		
028-10034-000 - CCDC NBI #0707	\$32,860.77	
Amistad PNC #7133	\$49,720.00	
Total Related Ministry Checking	\$82,580.77	
Other Cash	\$197.00	
Pyoca Checking	\$321,774.53	
Total Cash/Checking	\$888,787.69	
Savings/Money Markets		
PNC Money Market #XXXX2862	\$16,916.73	
PILP Mission MM #100004	\$796,111.14	
Total Savings/Money Markets	\$813,027.87	
Investments (> 1-year)		
New Covenant Funds (PCUSA)	\$52,553.60	
Vanguard Funds	\$244,188.69	
Presbyterian Foundation	\$13,456.38	
Edward Jones	\$0.30	
Total Investments (> 1-year)	\$310,198.97	
Other Current Assets	\$19,726.25	
Total Current Assets		\$2,031,740.78
Accounts/Notes Receivable		
001-11308-000 - CY Per Capita Receivable	\$9,599.83	
005-11311-000 - Trinity Ft. Wayne	\$5,005.43	
805-11326-000 - Due from PCCC Foundation	\$4,215.50	
Total Accounts/Notes Receivable		\$18,820.76
Fixed Assets		\$745,960.33
Total ASSETS		\$2,796,521.87

LIABILITIES, FUND BALANCE, & Restricted Funds

LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable (Trade)	\$1,208.15	
Payroll Withholding Payable	\$300.00	
Employee HRA/FSA	\$58,570.53	
Other Benefits Payable	\$10,306.17	
Total Current Liabilities		\$70,384.85
Passthrough		
001-20563-000 - Presby Women Passthru	\$18.97	
010-20503-100 - SOLT Shared Mission Passthru	\$150.00	
041-20506-000 - G/A Peacemaking Passthru	\$1,650.95	
Total Passthrough		\$1,819.92
Amistad Crstiana Passthroughs		\$902.08
Other Liabilities		
Due to Fund	\$42,895.71	
Other Liabilities		
001-29960-000 - Deferred Inc-SOLT Rise Up	\$11,700.00	
001-29965-000 - Tri-presbytery Smock Project	\$70,038.89	
001-29973-000 - General Assembly Meetings	\$12,416.11	
005-29970-000 - Deferred Income-Hope United AC	\$125,250.05	
010-29962-000 - Youth Triennium	\$18,885.65	

**Whitewater Valley Presbytery
Balance Sheet
December 2022**

Accounts

020-20508-000 - Rivera Maya-New Church Plants	\$10,700.00
020-29968-000 - HMLT DR National Meeting	\$1,200.00
020-29969-000 - Hispanic Leadership	\$69,021.20
020-29972-000 - HMLT Youth	\$16,600.00
020-29975-000 - HMLT Dorcus Baskets	\$3,745.00
020-29977-000 - Solar Oven Donations	\$258.51
900-29950-000 - PYOCA Retreat Deposits	\$4,195.00
900-29953-000 - PYOCA Day Camp Deposit	\$3,914.50
900-29957-000 - Conn-Dean Grant	\$70.29

\$347,995.20

Total Other Liabilities

Total Other Liabilities

\$390,890.91

Total LIABILITIES

\$463,997.76

FUND BALANCE

Unrestricted

001-30000-000 - MO Fund Balance	\$117,434.12
005-30000-000 - Corp. Fund Balance	\$335,966.57
010-30000-000 - MFU Fund Balance	\$86,460.49

\$539,861.18

Total Unrestricted

Donor Restricted

014-31000-000 - COM Smock Renewal Cking	\$30,000.00
015-31000-000 - Committee on Ministry Fund Balance	\$11,560.77
016-31000-000 - COM Smock Emergency Grant	\$5,175.56
017-31000-000 - New Ministry Initiative Fund Bal	\$20,255.01
020-31000-000 - Hispanic Ministries Fund Balance	\$101,769.31
026-31000-000 - Amistad Cristiana Fund Balance	(\$928.72)
028-31000-000 - CCDC Fund Balance	\$95,350.66
030-31000-000 - Church Development Fund Balance	\$1,099.59
031-31000-000 - Small Congregations Fund Balance	\$10,362.44
032-31000-000 - Campus Ministries Fund Balance	\$1,368.88
033-31000-000 - Mission in Congregations Balance	\$4,991.50
035-31000-000 - Technology Grants Fund Balance	\$1,000.00
036-31000-000 - Missional Transformation Balance	\$59,908.82
038-31000-000 - Candidates - CPM Fund Balance	\$17,448.47
039-31000-000 - Johnson Schships Fund Balance	\$934.19
040-31000-000 - Pentecost Fund Balance	\$19,053.13
041-31000-000 - Peacemaking Fund Balance	\$31,253.94
042-31000-000 - Hunger Fund Balance	\$8,033.76
044-31000-000 - Refugee Resettlment Fund Balance	\$1,700.00
050-31000-000 - POT Fund Balance	\$166,920.56
062-31000-000 - Spencer Mem Training Fund Balance	\$2,314.08
077-31000-000 - Amistad Foundation Fund Balance	\$72,513.14
805-31000-000 - PYOCA Capital Fund Balance	\$717,230.34
900-31000-000 - PYCOA C.C.C. Fund Balance	\$360,083.50

\$1,739,398.93

Total Donor Restricted

Permanently Restricted

100-32000-000 - Michael Fund Balance	\$387.50
101-32000-000 - Irene Johns Fund Balance	\$5,508.03
102-32000-000 - Johnson Fund Balance	\$10,500.00
103-32000-000 - Sanderson Paden Fund Balance	\$15,670.94
104-32000-000 - Forest Hill Fund Balance	\$21,197.53

\$53,264.00

Total Permanently Restricted

Total FUND BALANCE

\$2,332,524.11

Total LIABILITIES, FUND BALANCE, & Restricted Funds

\$2,796,521.87



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/

Proposed Amendments Pulled for Additional Discussion/Debate/Deliberation

The Coordinating Council of Whitewater Valley Presbytery recommends the following protocol for voting on amendments at the May 3 Presbytery Assembly meeting:

- ✓ Motion to Limit Discussion/Debate to 10 minutes per proposed amendment
- ✓ 10 minutes to include 2-minute introduction from previously identified presenter with rationale followed by four 2-minute segments of debate alternating pro/con
- ✓ Moderator has discretion to extend debate
- ✓ Summary of proposed amendments included below with rationale (some edited for length) from PC-BIZ
- ✓ 22-D G-1.0503 Adds to business proper for congregational meeting ‘receiving disciplinary decision against a member of the congregation as required by D-9.0102’

Alan Thames to provide the rationale.

Rationale: The proposed revision of the Rules of Discipline includes a new requirement for decisions with a finding of guilt in disciplinary processes against church members to be reported to the congregation of membership. This is to ensure that such findings are known to the body of membership as part of the overall goal of the restoration of trust in the community, and is a parallel to the requirement that disciplinary decisions against ministers of the Word and Sacrament be read to the entire presbytery of membership (current D-11.0700, and proposed D-9.0102b).

This provision is referenced in both proposed D-9.0102a (dealing with disciplinary decisions of sessions) and proposed D-9.0102c (dealing with disciplinary decisions of presbyteries against members of congregations). It should be noted that this meeting is also required when an Alternative Resolution is adopted, because of the requirement that such a resolution must be transmitted “to the clerk of session or the stated clerk, who shall report it according to the provisions of D-9.0102.”

The amendment is necessary because business at congregational meetings is limited to those matters specifically listed in G-1.0503.

- 22-E G-2.0503 Changing ‘Honorably Retired’ to ‘Retired.’ Also strikes ‘because of age or physical or mental disability.’
What might be the points for discussion/debate? What resources would be helpful for purposes of deliberation?

Rationale: The only designation of retirement for ministers of the Word and Sacrament allowed in the current *Book of Order* is “Honorably Retired.” That designation may be perfectly fitting for many Presbyterian ministers as they retire from active pastoral roles, but presbyteries sometimes face situations in which a minister’s service has been marked by difficulties and challenges that do not rise to the level of formal disciplinary charges and censure, but which are hardly worthy of the label “Honorable.”

An example of such a situation might be when a pastor has acted inappropriately but no disciplinary charges are brought because of the belief that the damage to a particular church or harmed person would be more devastating than just letting a pastor leave. Victims are then revictimized when that pastor is granted the status of “Honorably Retired.” Another factor might be that church members or

others mistrust or do not understand the processes to bring charges. A third example is when a pastor commits boundary violations after honorably serving and leaving a congregation to move to other endeavors. There may also be situations that occurred during a pastor's membership in a previous presbytery that could be unreported during a transfer process and only later come to light following retirement in a different presbytery.

The proposed amendment would maintain the "Retired" category but remove the mandatory designation of "Honorably" that now applies to all retirements. The new designation of "Retired" would be effective for retirements approved by presbyteries on or after the effective date of the amendment under G-6.04e of the *Book of Order*.

This proposed amendment would have no impact whatsoever on a minister of the Word and Sacrament's access to Board of Pension retirement benefits. That Board of Pensions process is separate from a presbytery granting "Retired" status to a minister on its rolls.

Martin Garcia served on the GA Committee that considered and recommended this proposed amendment. Martin will present the rationale for this amendment.

- **22-F G-2.0505a(1) Adds to existing ability for presbyteries to receive as a member a new immigrant minister lacking educational history required of other candidates, provided presbytery offers educational opportunities.**

Rationale: Often immigrant fellowship members come from cultures that recognize a pastor as the leader of the church from their home country. These pastors many times have theological education from Presbyterian institutions in their home countries and have been ordained by their denomination, which may also be in partnership with the PC(USA). However, these pastors, new immigrants themselves, may face cultural and linguistic challenges in the U.S. Therefore, taking and passing the ordination exams may be very difficult for them. Developing an educational and/or mentoring program for these pastors is paramount for their successful transition to the PC(USA).

Gretchen Schneider, Moderator of the Commission on Ministry, will present the rationale for this amendment.

- **22-I G-2.080 Adds a requirement that ministers' terms of call include at least twelve (12) weeks of paid family leave.**

What might be the points for discussion/debate? What resources would be helpful for purposes of deliberation?

Rationale: edited

Through its research and deliberations, the Family Leave Policy Task Force (FLPTF) has determined the most effective method of accomplishing this goal for called and installed ministers is through a constitutional mandate. The FLPTF recommends that "family leave" be interpreted as a dimension of wholeness, one that responds to the need for time away from work:

The FLPTF believes there are theological, developmental, and societal justifications for committing to a denomination-wide family leave policy, and while this specific recommendation provides for

called and installed pastors, the task force would urge the adoption of this same provision of care for all PC(USA) workers.

Specific to the welcoming of a new child to a family, family leave policies benefit children, parents, and employers in several ways. Research indicates that children whose mother returns to work within the first twelve weeks after birth are less likely to be breastfed, less likely to be up-to-date on immunizations and pediatric check-ups, and are more likely to present with externalizing behavior problems. In addition, mothers who are able to spend significant time with their child after birth experience fewer depressive symptoms than those who have to return to work earlier. Fathers who are able to have longer leaves remain more involved in child rearing activities even once they've returned to work (research taken from *Paid Leave in the States: A Critical Support for Low-wage Workers and Their Families*, by Sarah Fass, March 2009, http://www.nccp.org/publications/pub_864.html).

According to a 2012 study by the National Center for Children in Poverty, the U.S. is one of only four countries that have no guarantee of paid time off for new parents. The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) allows for job protection; however, there are limits to who this law applies to and it does not mandate that leave be paid. Some states have mandates to address the shortcomings of FMLA, but this issue remains a concern in many states as well as in our church. For many families, if their parental/family leave is not paid, then it is not an option.

Though this policy seeks to support ministers of Word and Sacrament, the FLPTF believes in our connectional nature and the importance of caring for the larger body and not only individuals. Family Leave does benefit the employer or congregation, not just the minister of Word and Sacrament. When similar policies have been introduced at the federal government level, reports show that employees who take paid time off for family care and bereavement are “better able to deal with the financial and personal strains caused by a family member’s medical needs or death.” The report found that even after the act’s implementation, employees used, on average, less than one-third of the sick leave available to them, quelling agency managers’ concerns about employee absences following the family definition expansion. In fact, the report found an overall positive impact on employee productivity and morale: “When an employer demonstrates support of its employees through this means, it fosters goodwill and creates a more compassionate family friendly workplace, resulting in a more productive workforce” <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/reference-materials/reports/federal-employees-family-friendly-leave-act/>.

The FLPTF considered several avenues of funding for this policy. After much consideration, it is our belief that as part of the vow taken during ordination/installation services “to pay them fairly and to provide for their welfare as they work among us; to stand by them in trouble and share their joys,” funding should be the responsibility of the individual entity/congregation employing the minister of Word and Sacrament. At the same time, as presbyteries are the ones most responsible for setting minimum terms of call for most congregations/entities, we believe it is incumbent upon each presbytery to set and enforce their policy (within the guidelines set forth and with the suggestion of the policy below), facilitating conversations around funding when churches need help.

- *Lydia Grace Espiritu-Gray served as GA Commissioner; she has also been a recipient of family leave recently. Lydia Grace will present the rationale for this amendment.*
- *Family Leave policy for WWVP*

- **22-P G-3.0106** All councils shall adopt and implement a sexual misconduct, harassment, child and youth protection, and antiracism policy.

Rationale: edited

Councils have adopted and enforced sexual misconduct policies and policies to protect vulnerable populations. Why have councils not been doing the work of “Facing Racism”? Why have councils responded differently? The responses regarding sexual misconduct and protecting vulnerable people have been directed by “shall,” while “Facing Racism” merely urges, makes available, encourages, and commends.

Jenni Heimach, Moderator of Coordinating Council and member of the Design Team for Anti-Racism, will present the rationale for this amendment

Share examples of potential policies

Presbyterian Church (USA) https://facing-racism.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/facing_racism/resources/facing-racism-policy.pdf

Cincinnati Presbytery: <https://presbyteryofcincinnati.org/matthew-25/>

- **22CC** Amends D-3.0106 Regarding Renunciation of Jurisdiction

Rationale: edited

The stated purposes of the Rules of Discipline are “to honor God by making clear the significance of membership in the body of Christ; to preserve the purity of the church by nourishing the individual within the life of the believing community; to achieve justice and compassion for all participants involved; to correct or restrain wrongdoing in order to bring members to repentance and restoration; to uphold the dignity of those who have been harmed by disciplinary offenses; to restore the unity of the church by removing the causes of discord and division; and to secure the just, speedy, and economical determination of proceedings” (D-1.0101).

Currently in D-3.0106 an accused person may choose to walk away from church nourishment, correction, and restoration by renouncing the jurisdiction of the church. That choice is the individual’s to make. The church cannot and should not prevent that choice. The church should document and report when that choice is made.

However, also currently in D-3.0106, when an accused person renounces the jurisdiction of the church, the accused individual(s) receives the power to deny the wider church full access to promised justice, dignity, and a just, speedy, and economical determination of disciplinary proceedings.

Under the current Rules of Discipline, when the accused renounces jurisdiction, the judicial process ends. Investigating committees stop. Victims are not heard. Documents are shelved. Actions—such as possible dismissal of the accusation, proposals for alternative forms of resolution, or recommendations to file charges—are not discerned and presented. No church council is given access to facts, documents, or testimonies from the accused, accuser(s), or other witnesses. A single individual, the accused, possesses the power to stop the judicial process for everyone involved, at any point, by renouncing jurisdiction.

Our polity is not intended to give any one person this much power. An accusation requires just, speedy, and economical determination of what happened and how to proceed toward resolution. Accusers, accused, and other victims harmed all deserve the dignity of being heard. The ripple effects in a disciplinary case extend beyond the accused and accuser(s) and can impact the wider church. All parties affected deserve an investigation and a council's discernment and wisdom to point beyond discord and division toward repentance and restoration, even if the accused chooses not to participate.

This overture seeks to give investigating committees, permanent judicial commissions, and councils the ability to proceed through the remainder of the judicial process, per the Rules of Discipline, while honoring obligations to the accused. The accused would be informed through every step of the continued process and would be invited to participate. All communication to the accused would still be required. Those who renounce jurisdiction would retain the option to fully participate, to observe but remain silent, or to not participate at all. They may choose to send an advocate to represent them in their absence.

However, the amendments recommended in this overture allow the church and the councils to also honor our obligations to the accusers or those in the wider church who may have suffered harm. The church would be able to present facts and testimonies and to discern what is best for others involved who remain under care and jurisdiction. The church is compelled to seek justice, speak truth, and show compassion for all participants through an accusation and investigation, and to uphold the dignity of those who have been harmed, even if the accused chooses to walk away from the community and the process they once vowed to uphold.

- **22DD** Amends D-10.0302 with a grammatical change from “that person” to “they”
- **22EE** Amends D-10.0303 with clarification that an accused person is also informed if an Investigating Committee files no charges

Rationale: edited

Accusations are extremely easy to make, whether made by an individual or by a person doing so on behalf of another. When the credibility of those accusations has been substantiated, the Constitution clearly and unambiguously states that an investigative committee “shall promptly inform the accused” if charges are to be made. However, it is silent about the accused’s right to be notified when no charges are to be filed, even though written notice of this outcome is provided to the accuser. When individuals in positions of trust have gone through the protracted ordeal of being forced to defend themselves against charges and accusations that can neither be substantiated by objective facts and/or are deemed to be completely untrue, equity requires they be expeditiously notified of this conclusion as well. This omission constitutes a procedural error and undermines the justice process.

- **22FF** Amending language changing “the accused” to “the accused person” throughout the Book of Discipline
- **22GG** Replaces the entire existing Rules of Discipline with a new section Church Discipline

To cover the topic related to proposed amendment 22GG, it is recommended that the presbytery offer a slide presentation of Church Discipline with Stated Clerk Terry Epling in recorded format, which could be viewed at any time, and as part of a Zoom, which would allow for an interactive format to discuss. The Zoom would be scheduled for Thursday, April 20 at 1:00 p.m.

Foundations of Presbyterian Polity

22-A — F-1.0302c (p. 3)

Because in Christ the Church is catholic, it strives everywhere to testify to Christ's embrace of *all people* of all times, places, races, nations, ages, *abilities genders*, conditions, and stations in life.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000928>

22-B — F-1.0404(p.5)

... a new openness in its own membership, becoming in fact as well as in faith a community *all people* of all ages, races, ethnicities, *abilities, genders*, and worldly conditions, made one in Christ by the power of the Spirit, as a visible sign of the new humanity.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000928>

Form of Government

22-C — G-1.0501(p7)

Adds new section (and renumbers subsequent sections) to update *Roberts Rules* and add provision for electronic meetings of congregations.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000910>

22-D — G-1.0503(p9)

Adds to business proper for congregational meeting "receiving disciplinary decision against a member of the congregation as required by D-9.0102."

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000910>

22-E — G-2.0503 (p11)

Changing "Honorably Retired" to "Retired". Also strikes "because of age or physical or mental disability."

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000877>

22-F — G-2.0505a(1) (p13)

Adds to existing ability for presbyteries to receive as a member a new immigrant minister lacking educational history required of other candidates, provided presbytery offers educational opportunities.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000836>

22-G — G-2.0603(p15)

Requires boundary trainings including, sexual abuse, child abuse prevention for Inquirers with recertification every 36 months.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/committee/3000084/business>

22-H — G-2.0605 (p17)

Session of Congregation of Care must report to Presbytery any sexual misconduct of Inquirer or Candidate.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/committee/3000084/business>

22-I — G-2.080 (p 19)

Adds a requirement that ministers' terms of call include at least twelve (12) weeks of paid family leave.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000845>

22-J — G-2.100 (p 22)

Clarifies that a Commissioned Ruling Elder may be commissioned to serve more than one congregation or validated ministry.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000916>

22-K — G-2.1002 (p 24)

Requires boundary training including sexual abuse and child abuse prevention for Commissioned Ruling Elders with recertification every 36 months.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000853>

22-L — G-2.1103 (26)

Requires boundary training including sexual abuse and child abuse prevention for Certified Christian Educators.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000853>

22-M — G-3.0104 (p 29)

Sessions may adopt procedures for electronic meetings.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000864>

22-N — G-3.0105 (p 31)

Adopts *Roberts Rules* guidelines on electronic meetings.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000910>

22-O — G-3.0106 (p 33)

Manual of Administration must require boundary training including sexual abuse and child abuse prevention with recertification every 36 months for all members of the council.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000853>

22-P — G-3.0106 (p 34)

All councils shall adopt and implement a sexual misconduct, harassment, child and youth protection, and antiracism policy.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000887>

22-Q — G-3.0303c (p36)

Requires provision for “dissolution terms” to Minimum Compensation Standards, and extends standards to cover pastors in temporary service and certified Christian educators.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000886>

22-R — G-3.0401 (p38)

Synods may add elder and minister commissioners, in addition to those elected by presbyteries, to accomplish diversity goals.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000867>

22-S — G-4.0301 (p 40)

Confidentiality is not an excuse to hold secret the knowledge or risk of harm.

Ministers and Commissioned Pastors must hold in confidence all information except when the person whose confidence is at issue gives permission, or when there is reasonable belief of imminent bodily harm.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3001037>

Directory for Worship

22-T — W-3.0205 (p 42)

Provides that baptism may occur following confession and declaration of forgiveness of sin.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000849>

22-U — W-3.0409 (p43)

Regarding those who come for communion, “If some of those who come have not yet been baptized, an invitation, when appropriate, to baptismal preparation and baptism should be graciously extended.” Adds the words “when appropriate.”

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000849>

22-V — W-3.0414 (p44)

Clarifies that the Prayer following communion may be given by other than a minister.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000849>

22-W — W-4.0403 (p 45)

Because ordination to office is not repeated, this adds, “Signs and symbols of blessing may be conferred on the newly installed or commissioned person.”

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000870>

22-X — W-5.0104 (p. 47)

Affirms household worship as a central and important Reformed practice and means of faith formation.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000849>

22-Y — W-5.0104 (p48)

Stresses the significance of mealtime prayers in household worship.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000849>

22-Z — W-5.0201 (p 49)

Adds language to emphasize communal discipleship in the church’s practice of ministry and mission.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000849>

22-AA — W-5.0204 (p51)

Expands the possible definitions of “pastoral care ministries.”

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000849>

22-BB — W-5.0204 (p 53)

Adds language regarding the nature of healing and wholeness to encompass body, mind, and spirit, and including physical recovery, life and death.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000849>

Rules of Discipline

22-CC — D-3.0106 (p55)

Amends current *Rules of Discipline* to allow a disciplinary process to continue after an accused has renounced jurisdiction.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000889>

22-DD — D-10.0302 (p 58)

Amends current *Rules of Discipline* with a grammatical change from “that person” to “they.”

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000871>

22-EE — D-10.0303 (p60)

Amends current *Rules of Discipline* to clarify that person accused is also informed if an Investigating Committee determines no charges will be filed.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000871>

22-FF — Amending “The Accused” (p62)

Changes “the accused” in current *Rules of Discipline* to “the person accused” throughout.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000871>

22-GG — New Church Discipline section (p 64)

Replaces the entire existing *Rules of Discipline* and with a new section *Church Discipline*.

<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000861>

WHITEWATER VALLEY PRESBYTERY
POSITION DESCRIPTION
TRANSITIONAL LEAD PRESBYTER

Pay Classification: Exempt, Full-time (40 hours/week)
Term: Designated 3-year contract with possibility for extension

Position Purpose:

- Lead strategic visionary oversight in guiding the Presbytery to where God is leading us in an ever-changing community and world.
- Equip and resource leaders to support pastors, sessions, and congregations.
- Facilitate connection and encourage all of the churches to participate with the Presbytery.

Qualifications:

- Christ-centered faith and spiritual wisdom.
- Ordained as a Ruling or Teaching Elder in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
- A Bachelor's degree or equivalent leadership experience.
- Maintain compassion and trustworthiness in leadership and models open communication.
- Endorse and cultivate diversity; is able to encourage discussion of issues with openness, grace, and respect for diverse opinions.
- Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
- Capacity to juggle multiple demands and administrative needs in a middle body setting.

Responsibilities:

- Serve as Head of Staff and is responsible for creating a healthy work environment.
- Assess Presbytery structure and align staffing needs.
- Provide ongoing assessment of the ministry and mission of the Presbytery, developing and facilitating plans to address challenges, cultivate accountability and build new strengths.
- Encourage congregations so they can impact our communities.
- Coach and foster developing connections in the work of the Presbytery by all of our churches.
- Participate in the life of the churches of the Presbytery, celebrating their successes and connecting them with the resources needed during times of conflict.
- Serve as staff resource to the Board of Directors, Coordinating Council, Committee on Ministry, Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Personnel Committee, Finance Committee, Committee on Representation, and Administrative Commission.

Compensation and Review:

- Compensation shall be set by the Presbytery upon recommendation of the Coordinating Council after consultation with the Finance and Personnel Committees.
- This position will be reviewed and evaluated at six months, and then annually by the Personnel Committee.
- Term may be extended upon recommendation of the Personnel Committee and approval of the Presbytery.

Selection: Transitional Lead Presbyter Search Committee
Accountability: Accountable to the Presbytery through the Personnel
Committee of the Coordinating Council

*Job descriptions are intended to be guidelines for position responsibilities. As such, the employee may be asked to perform tasks outside of the duties outlined in this document.