COMMISSION ON MINISTRY AND MINISTRY PREPARATION
Meeting Minutes
October 27, 2021

The meeting of the Commission on Ministry and Ministry Preparation was held via Zoom and called to order by Linda Kennan at 11:00 a.m., October 27, 2021, following devotions and prayer by Ted McCulloch.

Members present: Bill Bowen, Robbie Carnes, Carol Dulin, Janette Gonzales, Al Hosler, Christina Jensen, Linda Kennan, Scott Kroener, Georgia McCall, Ann Moe, Brant Piper, Philomena Ofori-Nipaah, Dawn Russell, Ed Savage, Matt Schramm and Paul Ytterock.

Presbytery staff present: Dan Saperstein, Executive Presbyter; Ted McCulloch, Stated Clerk; and Staci Percy, Communications Manager/Recording Clerk.

Members excused: Jon Baker, Hakbae Moon and Andrew Pomerville.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve the agenda and amended.

Check-in was held.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2021 stated meeting as amended.

Ted McCulloch gave the **STATED CLERK REPORT.**

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to move Timm High to Honorably Retired Status effective November 1, 2021.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED if the way be clear to transfer Ken Hetzel's membership to Lake Michigan Presbytery upon request.

- It was reported that the Rev. Alec Brooks passed away on October 21, 2021 at the age of 101.
- It was noted that dates have been set for Records Review and that information was sent to all Clerks of Session and posted on the presbytery's website.
- Members were reminded about the upcoming Boundaries Training through the Synod of the Covenant.

Dan Saperstein gave the **EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER REPORT**. It was noted that he has been moderating Fairgrove's session and has preached in several churches recently.

The **COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY** report was given by Robbie Carnes.

- Working with liaisons to the Inquirers and Candidates to make sure all the forms are complete.
- The Synod is working on setting up CRE training. There have been some requests from elders to enroll in a program.
- Dawn Russell volunteered to be mentor to Kim Strunz.

The **INTERVIEW TEAM** report was given by Scott Kroener. Interview statuses:

- Exit interview with Christina Jensen is scheduled for November 3rd
- Intake interview with Flint-Trinity scheduled for November 13th
- Exit interview with Brant Piper needs to be scheduled

The **TRANSITION TEAM REPORT** was given by Dawn Russell.

- Moderator for Ithaca-First needed; Andrew Miller was asked, but hasn't responded yet
- Update given on the interest expressed in re-starting the Thumb Ministry Group
- Update on Kinde-First/Elkton-Chandler/Cass City-Fraser
    - Possibly creating a 3 church parish; all churches are onboard with the idea and excited about the possibility; they are getting creative on how to do a combined ministry
- Vassar update was given by Ted McCulloch
    - Moving along nicely with negotiations with the Methodist minister; expects to have terms by the next COMMP meeting; churches plan to hold town hall meetings soon

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED with one abstention to permit Saginaw-Countryside Trinity to form a PNC.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED if the way be clear to approve Saginaw-Second's MIF. Vote was 9 Yes, 5 No.

The **ADMINSTRATIVE TEAM** report was given by Ted McCulloch.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve the part-time (approximately 20-25 hours per week) Temporary Supply contract renewal between the Rev. Jane Young and Saginaw-Countryside for a period of six months effective October 5, 2021. Terms per month are as follows:

Cash Salary	$2,700
Housing Allowance	N/A

BoP coverage	N/A
Travel Reimbursement	IRS Rate
Phone Calls Reimbursement	$100
Study Leave	3 days every 3 months; 2 weeks/year
Vacation Time	4 Weeks including 4 Sundays (Extra week of vacation if call goes a year)

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve the renewal of the part-time Temporary Supply contract between the Rev. Karen Blatt and Houghton Lake-Kirk of the Lakes effective October 1, 2020 through November 20, 2022. Service will end with Rev. Blatt's retirement. Terms for the entire period are as follows:

Cash Salary	$12,360
Travel Reimbursement	$3,440.33 at IRS rate
Vacation Time	4 weeks including 4 Sundays
Study Leave	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Study Leave Allowance	$148.05

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve a technology grant to Birch Run-Taymouth in the amount of $1,400.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve a one time grant to Cathy Chang in the amount of $600 for continuing education. The commission invites the Mission Coordinating Committee to consider contributing to her CE.

Discussion was held regarding the 2022 Minimum Terms of Call.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to recommend to presbytery that the 2022 Minimum Terms of Call be set based on 75% of the Churchwide Median making the minimum effective salary $45,900.

The **LISTENING TEAM** report was given by Linda Kennan.

- Saginaw-Second is complete
- Ithaca-First is complete
- Discussions regarding regional listening sessions and clergy mentors will take place at the November COMMP meeting

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED if the way be clear to appoint an Administrative Commission to Install the Rev. Brenna Overland as Pastor of Bay City-First on November 7, 2021 at 4:00pm. Members are: The Revs. Jamie Milton and Ted McCulloch and Elder Linda Langrill (Moderator) with additional members to be appointed by the Moderator.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to adjourn at 12:45pm following closing prayer by Ted McCulloch. The next scheduled meeting of the Commission on Ministry and Ministry Preparation will be held Wednesday, November 17, 2021, at 11:00am via Zoom. Scott Kroener will lead devotions.

Staci Percy
Communications Manager/Recording Clerk