

APPROVED

**Minutes of the Leadership Team
Presbytery of Lake Michigan via Zoom
1511 Helen Avenue, Portage, MI 49002
March 7, 2024**

Attendance Roll: Chris Dorn (Ionia/DST), Cindy Green (Portage Westminster/LT MAL), Troy Hauser Brydon (Grand Haven/PLM Vice Moderator), Stan Jenkins (Lansing First/LT MAL), Paul Karsten (Westminster GR/LTModerator), Gail Monsma (Paw Paw/PLM Moderator) Amber Nettleton (MAL/N&R Moderator), Lynette Sparks (GR Westminster/M&O),

Staff: Fran Lane-Lawrence (Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk), Chrissy Westbury (Associate Presbyter), Cal Bremer (Asst. to Exec), Annamarie Groenenboom (Asst. Clerk)

Absent: Katie Hurnwell (MAL/CST)

Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Elder Paul Karsten, moderator, called the meeting to order with prayer at 12:32 p.m. A quorum was present. Rev. Chris Dorn led those gathered in a time of devotion.

Welcome

Elder Paul Karsten extended a welcome to new members of the Leadership Team.

Adoption of the Agenda:

A motion prevailed to approve the agenda.

Approval of the Consent Agenda:

A motion prevailed to approve the Consent Agenda including the following items:

- A. **To approve** the Leadership Team Meeting Minutes of January 4, 2024.
- A. **To receive** the Team Facilitators' Reports.
- A. **To receive** the January 4, 2024, and the March 7, 2024, Report of the EP/Associate Presbyters.

Unfinished Business

- A. **Administrative Commission for Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Grand Rapids**
The Administrative Commission (AC) continues its work. The preschool plans to move to Shawnee Park Christian Reformed Church using a different name. The AC is waiting for a response from the Presbyterian Foundation regarding investments of approximately \$42,000. Rev. Laurie Hartzell (Eastminster GR) continues to offer pastoral care and follow up on administrative concerns.

- B. **Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church, Marshall**

Rev. Cal Bremer offered background information about dynamics at FPC-Marshall. The members of the Administrative Commission (AC) have received orientation. The AC began its work and has scheduled regular meetings each week. Members of the AC will meet with the session on Sunday, April 7, 2024.

C. Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church, White Pigeon

The Administrative Commission (AC) met with the session on January 19, 2024. The session members and officers of the congregation resigned at the meeting. The AC continues to gather records that were previously stored at the homes of session members. Patriot Reality is working to sell the building and has listed it at \$199,900.

New Business

A. GA Overture for Concurrence Request from Portage Westminster - Christian Education Overture

Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence described the overture. The members of the LT were informed that the overture is on the docket for discussion and vote at the presbytery meeting. Eileen Best, Certified Christian Educator (Portage Westminster) will speak on behalf of the overture at the meeting.

B. GA Overture for Concurrence Request from Lansing First - Gun Violence

Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence described the overture. The members of the LT were informed that the overture is on the docket for discussion and vote at the presbytery meeting. Rev. Lisa Schrott (Okemos) will speak on behalf of the overture at the meeting.

A motion prevailed to endorse both overtures and recommend concurrence to the Presbytery.

C. Review of the Anti-Harassment Policy

Each council is required to adopt an Anti-Harassment Policy (G-3.0106). Members of the LT reviewed the proposed Presbytery of Lake Michigan Anti-Harassment Policy, which will be introduced to the Presbytery as a first-read at the June 11, 2024, stated meeting.

D. Ruling Elder Boundary Training for Leadership Team Members

Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence reviewed the need for ruling elder boundary training. There are 6 opportunities to receive boundary training through LeaderWise:

Ruling Elder and Teaching Elder Training:

April 9 & 10, 2024, 1:30 pm-4:30 pm

September 28, 2024, 9:30 am-4:30 pm

October 15 & 16, 2024, 6 pm-9 pm

November 7, 2024, 9:30 am-4:30 pm

Ruling Elders Only Training:

April 13, 2024, 9:30 am-4:30 pm

June 1, 2024, 9:30 am-4:30 pm

Possible resources for boundary training for ruling elders serving in congregations were discussed.

E. New Worshiping Community Grant Application (Rainmakers)

Rev. Chrissy Westbury reported on the status of the Rainmakers New Worshiping Community Grant Application. The application was submitted by a candidate under the care of Heartland Presbytery, who now resides within the bounds of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan. Rainmakers cannot be supported as a New Worshiping Community at this time.

F. New Worshiping Community Grant Application (Emmaus)

Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence reported on the status of the Emmaus New Worshiping Community Grant Application. Emmaus is a group with RCA affiliation. Emmaus does not fit the criteria of a PC(USA) New Worshiping Community due to not having a PC(USA) partner church.

Discussion of the Business and Worship at Stated Meetings of the Presbytery

2024 - Living into hope with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love. Discussion of Themes for this year.

B. Saturday, March 9, 2024: Kalamazoo First

1. The Theme: Living into Love
2. Offering: PCUSA Theological Education Fund
3. Preacher and Keynote: Rev. Dr. Jonathan Lee Walton
4. Celebration of the Lord's Supper
5. Report of EP - Fran Lane-Lawrence (5 minutes)
 1. Boundary Training
6. Synod of the Covenant Report - Matt Aragon Bruce(10 minutes)
7. B&F - Financial Report - (10 minutes)
8. Nominating Committee Report - Fred Welch (10 minutes)
9. GA Overture for Concurrence - CE Overture - Eileen Best (10 minutes)
10. GA Overture for Concurrence - Gun Violence - Lisa Schrott (10 minutes)

Adjournment and Closing Prayer: Closed in prayer at 1:39pm with prayer.

The meeting was adjourned in prayer by Elder Paul Karsten at 1:18pm.

Next meeting: April 4, 2024, at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom

Devotion: Lynette Sparks