Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Stated Meeting

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

DOCKET of the STATED MEETING
Presbytery of Lake Michigan
June 9, 2026 9:30 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church

Muskegon, MI

The Presbytery of Lake Michigan forms and partners with faith communities to challenge, encourage, equip, and hold one another accountable as Christ's disciples.

8:30 a.m. Registration opens: Please sign the Roll of the Presbytery

Orientation for first-time Elder Commissioners and new pastors took place via Zoom on Monday, June 1, 2026, and was led by Rev. Annamarie Groenenboom.

9:30 a.m. **LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE** – Elder Ben Boerkoel (Westminster GR)

OPENING OF THE STATED MEETING
Call to Order and Opening Prayer
Declaration of Quorum

9:35 a.m. **BUSINESS PLENARY I**

Appointment of Temporary Clerks	**[ACTION]**
Seating of Corresponding Members	**[ACTION]**
Approval of the Docket	**[ACTION]**
Welcome	
First-Time Elders and Christian Educators	
Guests and Visitors	
Greetings from the Host Church - Rev. MacKenzie Jager	
Approval of the Consent Agenda	**[ACTION]**

10:00 a.m. WORSHIP – (See insert)

Matt Aragon Bruce, Director of the SOC Cultivating the Gifts of Preaching Initiative
Sermon Texts: Luke 15
Sermon Title: (mistitled) Parable of the Prodigal Son

Today's offerings are designated for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

11:00 a.m. BREAK (15 minutes)

11:15 a.m. KEYNOTE - Matt Aragon-Bruce, Director of SOC Cultivating the Gifts of Preaching

BUSINESS PLENARY II

12:00 noon Leadership Team - Troy Hauser Brydon (10 minutes) **[ACTION]**

Nominations to the Nominating Committee

Elder Linda Bieze (Westminster GR), Class of 2027
Rev. Jay Ayers (HR), Class of 2028
Elder Brian Koon (Lansing First), Class of 2028

Report of the Synod of the Covenant - Ruth-Aimée Belonni Rosarío (10 minutes)

Commission on Ministry - Rev. Ben Rumbaugh (10 minutes)

Celebration of Retirement - Revs. Jerry and Janet Duggins
Recognition of Pastor's New to the Presbytery
Request for Dissolution of AC for Westlake

Richland Administrative Commission - Stuart Deming (10 minutes)

Report of the Budget and Finance Committee – Elder Beth Dyer (10 minutes)

MAPS

Decatur-Paw Paw Merger Administrative Commission - Cathy Hoop (10 minutes)

Report of the Youth Strategies Cohort - Jen Blackwell (10 Minutes)

Presbyterian Investment and Loan -

Linda Sharp-Jayaweera, Relationship Manager (10 minutes)

1:30 p.m. ADJOURNMENT/EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLE – Elder Ben Boerkoel

1:30 p.m. LUNCH

The next Presbytery meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 12, 2026 at First Presbyterian Church of Richland, MI

Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

June 9, 2026
We Gather to Worship

Prelude

Call to Worship **Elder Deb Flietstra (GR Westminster)**

We come together as people of the cross and resurrection.
We come as children of our Creator
Reconciled by grace through our Redeemer
And filled with God's love through our Sustainer.
Let us worship God together
Alleluia, let us worship God!

***Hymn #475 (GTG)** **"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"**

Call to Confession **Elder Brian Koon (Lansing First)**

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession

Triune God, You gather, protect, and care for us, your beloved, through Word and Spirit. This you have done from the beginning of the world and will do to the end. Have mercy upon us and forgive us for sinning against you. We have not loved one another as we should. We have not sown the seeds of gospel hope. We have supported the enmity and hatred in the world instead of being a visible sign of unity and love. Restore us, Lord. May we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another, that we may truly share one faith, have one calling, and be of one soul and one mind for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. [1]

Silence

Assurance of God's Love and Sharing in Christ's Peace

Friends, trust in God, who raised Jesus, breaking the power of sin and evil. God's Spirit frees us to accept ourselves, and to love God and neighbor. Binding us together as the body of the Risen Christ in the covenant of love we inherit, God remains faithful still.
We belong to God! With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

[1] Adapted from the Belhar Confession, Sections 1&2

The same Spirit who inspired prophets and apostles feeds us with the bread of life. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to witness among all people as we work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. May the peace of Christ be with you! [2]

And also with you!

We Hear the Word

Prayer for Illumination **Rev. Mary Austin (VM)**

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today.

Scripture Reading **Luke 15:1-32** **Rev. Mary Austin (VM)**
Elder Lori MacMillan Ladd (Brooklyn)

Message **"The Compassionate Father and the Two Lost Sons"**
Dr. Matt Aragon Bruce (Synod of the Covenant)

We Respond to the Word

***Hymn #753 (GTG)** **"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"**

Offering **Rev. Sheth LaRue (Benton Harbor First)**

The offering today is designated to support Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Offertory

***Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication **Rev. Sheth LaRue (Benton Harbor First)**

God of all mercies, we give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all people. Give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory now and forever. Amen.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper **Rev. Mackenzie Jager (Muskegon First)**

[2] Adapted from a Brief Statement of Faith

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you,
and also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The prayer continues…

…Until we see you face-to-face and sit at the great banquet table with all your beloved people, we pray in the way you taught us, saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, they will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Words of Institution

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes.

Great is the mystery of faith: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Prayer After Communion

Holy God, may the love we've found at this table be reflected in our lives. May the nourishment we've received at this table make us into peacemakers and healers. And may your Holy Spirit—who is always with us—give us the courage and the language to share the good news in everything we say and everything we do. Amen!

***Hymn #765 (GTG)** **"Song of Hope"**

Charge and Benediction **Dr. Matt Aragon Bruce**

Postlude

Thank you to all those who participated in leading worship today.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATING and REPRESENTATION
JUNE 9, 2026
STATED MEETING of the PRESBYTERY of LAKE MICHIGAN (PLM)

TO REPORT RESIGNATIONS:

- TE Seth Weeldreyer; Kalamazoo – First, PLM Permanent Judicial Commission (Class of 2028)

TO REPORT NOMINATIONS TO THE NAMED POSITIONS, COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, or TEAMS
None

REPRESENTATION

One of the responsibilities for the Nominating and Representation (N & R) Committee is to "Determine achievable representation within the Presbytery and serve as an advocate for the representation of all races, ethnicities, genders, ages, and sexual identities, and abilities." As part our commitment to meeting this responsibility, we analyzed the statistical reports submitted by churches for the 2025 calendar year with respect to church size and racial/ethnic background. Based upon these self-reported data, the following is a demographic snapshot of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan as February 23, 2026

- Number of Churches = 52 submitted statistical reports
- Number of Members = 7359
- Church Size (# of members)
  - Over 1000: 1 church (2%)
  - Over 300: 3 churches (6%; note 35% of presbytery members come from the 4 largest churches)
  - Between 200 – 299: 7 churches (13%)
  - 100- 200: 9 churches (17%)
  - 50 – 100: 16 churches (31%)
  - Under 50: 16 churches (31%)
- Racial Make-up
  - White = 95.4%
  - Black, African-American = 1.6%
  - Asian = 1%
  - Hispanic = 0.8%
  - Multi-racial = 0.6 %
  - Middle Eastern, North African = 0.5%
  - Native populations = 0.1%

The N & R Committee is dedicated to increasing representation from people of color and underrepresented ethnic groups on Presbytery committees/commissions. The goal of a greater degree of representation by underserved populations is important so their perspectives may be included across the breadth of the PLM work. In addition, N & R seeks to distribute nominations across churches in the Presbytery such that decision making is not clustered within a few churches. We recognize that this may lead smaller churches to feel like they are carrying a larger load than the larger churches.

Nominating Urgent Need: Commission on Ministry (COM) West Region.
Are you a Ruling Elder with a willingness to serve the connectional church? Are you a Teaching Elder who knows a Ruling Elder with a willingness to serve the connectional church? The Nominating & Representation Committee is seeking applicants to serve on COM for the Western region of the Presbytery. Below is more information on the position. The majority of the meetings will be via Zoom, with occasional in person meetings. If you are interested or know a good candidate, please contact one of the members of the Nominating & Representation Committee (contact information at end of the report).

> **Focus:** To develop and maintain mechanisms and processes to serve as pastor counselor to teaching elders, ruling elders commissioned to pastoral service, and certified Christian educators of the presbytery; to facilitate the relations between the presbytery and its congregations, teaching elders, ruling elders commissioned to pastoral service, and certified Christian educators; and to settle difficulties on behalf of the presbytery where possible and expedient.
> **Gifts Needed:** Able to understand various policies and procedures established by the COM and the congregations within the presbytery.
> **Meetings**: 4th Wednesdays at 4pm via Zoom

RESOURCES
Please note that the PLM website now has a page devoted to Immigration and Refugee Resources for Churches. It can be found at https://lakemichiganpresbytery.org/churches/immigration-and-refugee-resources/

It joins the Anti-Racism Resources found at this link:
https://lakemichiganpresbytery.org/churches/antiracism-resources/

If you have resources that have been helpful in the work of anti-racism or immigration and refugee issues, please send those along to EP Rev. Dr. Fran Lane Lawrence .

NOMINATING AND REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Rev. Lisa Schrott 318-286-3816 pastorlisa@okemospres.org
- Elder Willye Bryan 517-449-8279 entpeople@yahoo.com
- Rev. Dr. Ruth Lowry 616-915-8221 pastor.ruth.pcusa@gmail.org
- Rev. Dr. Fran Lane Lawrence 269-240-8155 flanelawrenceplm@gmail.com
  269-381-6337 ext. 802

	Pastor	Type of Service	Dates of Terms of Call or Covenant Agreement	Hours/Week	Cash Salary	Housing Allowance	Manse Amount	Bonuses/Gifts/ Non Vouchered Expenses	403(b)/Annuity/Equity	Total Effective Salary	Dues Package	Board of Pensions Dues	Travel Expenses	Professional Development Funds	SECA Offset	Books/Professional Expenses	Other Vouchered Expenses or plans	Vacation	Professional Development
Presbytery Minimum Terms of Call			**2026**	**Full Time**						**$58,352 (w/ HA); $44,869 (w/ Manse); $85,000 (total compensation package including salary, HA, BOP, & Professional Expenses)**		**47% of TES or 27.5% TES**	**IRS Rate**	**$800 or $1,100 with Professional Expenses/Books included**		**$300**		**30 days including 4 Sundays**	**2 weeks including 2 Sundays**
Battle Creek First	Lorenzo Small Sr.	Installed-Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$47,709.00	$39,200.00				$86,909.00	Transitional Pastors Particip	$40,847.00	IRS Rate		$6,622.00			5 weeks including 5 Sundays	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Battle Creek Pennfield	Bert Nelson	Temporary (Interim)	01/01/2026-01/01/2027	19 hours	$44,000.00	$0.00				$44,000.00	n/a	n/a	IRS Rate	Full payment for Interim Ministry Training		Included in Cash Salary		1 week per quarter	1 week per six weeks
Battle Creek Westlake	Vacant																		
Benton Harbor First	Sheth LaRue	Installed-Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$40,000.00	$20,000.00				$60,000.00	Transitional Pastors Participation	$28,200.00	IRS Rate		$4,800.00	$3,150.00		37 days including 5 Sundays	2 weeks including 2 Sundays Silent Retreat: 12 days including 1 Sunday
Big Rapids United	Amy Ruhl-Brian	Installed - Head of Staff	10/01/2025-12/31/2026	Full Time	$30,000.00	$30,000.00		$300 (Dental and Medical Allowance)	$5,100.00	$65,400.00	Congregational Package	$15,600.00	IRS Rate		$800.00	$4,500.00	$9,700.00	Moving Expenses Paid in Full	30 days including 4 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Brooklyn	David Weber	Temporary - Interim	09/01/2024/5-09/01/2026	Full Time	$43,852.00	$23,813.00				$67,465.00	Congregational Package	$18,552.86	IRS Rate		$1,000.00	$5,588.00	$1,500.00	4 weeks including 4 Sundays	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Buchanan First	Vacant																		
Cadillac First	Michael Horelocker	Installed-Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$50,000.00	$24,000.00				$74,000.00	Congregational Package	$20,350.00	$500.00		$2,000.00	$5,661.00	$1,000.00	5 weeks including 5 Sundays	3 weeks including 3 Sundays
Cassopolis United	Brian Madison	Temporary - Stated Supply*	09/01/2025-08/31/2026	20 hours	$13,470.00	$14,900.00				$28,370.00	Covenant Package	$2,837.00	$100.00		$800.00		$400.00	44 days including 6 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Coldwater First	Vacant																		
Concord First/Homer First	Stephen Kazar	Installed-Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$44,869.00	$0.00	$13,461.00			$58,330.00	Retirement Package	$7,000.00	IRS Rate		$800.00		$600.00	37 days including 4 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Decatur First/Paw Paw First	Gail Monsma	Temporary - Interim	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$49,193.00	$30,000.00				$79,193.00	Congregational Package	$20,509.00	$1,500.00		$1,200.00	$6,058.00	$800.00	$600 (Phone)	2 weeks including 5 Sundays 4 weeks including 4 Sundays
Dimondale First/Lansing Delta	Ben Rumbaugh	Installed - Designated	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$51,678.82	$20,000.00		$3,200 (Medical Reimbursment)	$4,493.85	$76,172.82	Congregational Package	$21,040.71	IRS Rate		$800.00		$500.00	$21 (Vision Insurance) $72.24 (Supplemental Death)	30 days including 4 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
East Lansing Eastminster	Kristin Stroble	Installed - Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$53,828.00	$25,000.00				$78,828.00	Congregational Package	$27,678.00	$1,300.00		$1,500.00	$6,030.00	$1,000.00	5 weeks including 5 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
East Lansing Korean	John Won	Temporary - Stated Supply*	01/01/2026-12/31/2026																
East Lansing Peoples	UCC/UMC Pastors	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Edwardsburg	Scott Scheel	Installed - Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$25,514.00	$23,924.00			$6,000.00	$55,438.00		$21,162.96	IRS Rate		$800.00		$300.00		5 weeks including 5 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Gobles Bethany	Vacant																		
Grand Haven First	Troy Hauser Brydon	Installed-Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$68,189.00	$41,200.00				$109,389.00	Transitional Pastors Participation	$52,467.00	IRS Rate		$1,200.00	$8,368.00	$1,800.00	$100 (Vision and Dental Plan)	30 days including 4 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Grand Haven First	Kristine Aragon Bruce	Installed - Associate	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$36,708.00	$35,020.00				$71,728.00	Transitional Pastors Participation	$36,291.00	IRS Rate		$1,200.00	$5,487.00	$1,800.00	$1,776 (Vision and Dental Plan)	30 days including 4 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Grand Rapids Forest Hills	James Pollard	Installed - Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$52,131.00	$40,200.00			$5,000.00	$97,331.00	Congregational Package	$24,753.00	$2,000.00		$800.00	$7,651.00	$1,200.00		35 days including 5 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Grand Rapids North Park	Vacant																		
Grand Rapids Westminster	Lynette Sparks	Installed-Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$58,504.00	$56,166.00			$4,453.00	$119,123.00	Congregational Package	$42,662.00	IRS Rate		$8,000.00	$8,517.00	N/A		1 month including 5 Sundays	3 weeks including 3 Sundays
Grand Rapids Westminster	Jan Porter	Installed-Associate	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$49,306.00	$29,705.00				$79,011.00	Transitional Pastors Participation	$37,135.00	IRS Rate		$5,800.00	$6,044.00	N/A		1 month including 5 Sundays	3 weeks including 3 Sundays
Gregory Unadilla	Vacant																		
Hastings First	Nick Marlatt	Installed-Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$54,153.00	$35,072.00		$47 (FSA Fee)		$90,834.00	Congregational Package	$34,929.00	IRS Rate		$2,934.00	$6,949.00	$1,750.00	$1,609 (Dental Coverage)	30 days including 4 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Hesperia	Vacant																		
Holland First	Cathy Caldwell Hoop	Installed-Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$45,983.00	$35,000.00				$80,983.00	Congregational Package	$34,520.00			$800.00	$6,195.00	$800.00	$1,000 (Cell Phone)	30 days including 4 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Holland First	Paul Van Kempen	Installed-Associate	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$51,342.00	$21,000.00		$6,420 (Opt-Out Payment)		$72,342.00	Congregational Package	$19,894.00			$800.00	$5,534.00	$800.00	$600 (Cell Phone)	30 days including 4 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Holt First	Kirk Miller	Installed-Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$47,599.00	$38,000.00		$1,500 (Medical Reimbursement)		$87,099.00	Transitional Pastors Participation	$40,936.00	$1,000.00		$1,300.00	$6,548.00	$800.00	$ 181 (Vision Plan)	30 days including 4 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Ionia First	Chris Dorn	Temporiary-Stated Supply*	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	20 hours						$54,102.00	Congregational Package	$17,862.84	$1,100.00		$1,100.00		$300.00		30 days including 4 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Jackson First	David Schell	Installed - Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$20,000.00	$40,000.00			$2,400 (matching)	$60,000.00	Transitional Pastors Participation	$28,200.00	$1,000.00		$1,000.00	$1,530.00	$700.00		30 days including 4 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays 7 days including 1 Sunday for spiritual retreat
Jackson Westminster	Judy Goodrow	Temporary - Stated Supply	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$47,370.00	$15,000.00				$62,370.00	UCC Pension Program	$10,153.00	IRS Rate		$2,000.00		n/a	2 Weeks of Sick Leave	4 weeks including 4 Sundays	2 weeks including 4 Sundays
Jenison Parkwood	Sarah Jurol	Installed-Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full time	$30,352.00	$28,000.00				$58,352.00	Congregational Package	$16,046.00	IRS Rate		$800.00	$4,819.00	$1,300.00		5 weeks including 5 Sundays	2 weeks, including 2 Sundays
Jonesville First	Vacant																		
Kalamazoo First	Chrissy Westbury	Temporiary-Stated Supply	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full time	$55,400.00	$20,000.00				$75,400.00	Covenant Package	$32,405.20	$2,000.00		$2,500.00		$2,500.00		4 weeks including 4 Sundays	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Kalamazoo North	Charles Moredyke	CRE*	01/1/2026-12/31/2028	10 hours	$5,100.00	$5,100.00				$10,200.00	n/a		IRS Rate		$500.00				4 weeks including 4 Sundays	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Lake City First	Vacant																		
Lansing First	Vacant																		
Lansing North Westminster	Laura Miller-Purrenhage	Temporary - Interim*	04/01/2026-03/31/2027	20 hours	$9,968.00	$23,208.00				$33,176.00	UCC Pension Program	$5,143.00	$1,000.00		$1,000.00	$2,538.00	$1,000.00	$2,500 (Medical Expenses) New Laptop	4 weeks including 4 Sundays	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Lyons/Muir Federated	UMC Pastor	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A
Marshall First	Vacant																		
Mason First	Bill Pinches	Installed - Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$63,682.33	$18,000.00		$3,400 (FSA)	$3,000.00	$89,349.89	Transitional Pastors Participation	$41,994.45	$800.00		$1,400.00	$6,835.27	$1,000.00	$1,161.48 (Dental Insurance) $106.08 (Eye Insurance)	1 month including 5 Sundays	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Muskegon First	Mackenzie Jager	Installed - Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$34,621.00	$29,500.00		$2,020 (Medical/Dental Reimbursement)		$66,141.00	Congregational Package	$18,146.00	$1,000.00		$1,000.00	$3,975.00	$1,300.00		30 days including 4 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Niles First	Christopher Mergener	Installed - Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$44,984.00	$34,151.00				$79,135.00	Congregational Package	$32,298.00	$1,500.00		$1,500.00	$8,054.00	$300.00		30 days including 4 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Okemos	Lisa Schrott	Installed - Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full time	$53,314.00	$35,000.00		$800 (Dental and Vision Reimbursement)		$89,114.00	Congregational Package	$36,756.00	$1,500.00		$2,000.00	$6,817.00	$1,000.00	$600 (Cell Phone)	30 days including 4 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Plainwell First	Vacant																		
Portage Westminster	Janet Duggins	Installed-Copastor	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	32 hours	$28,133.61	$17,222.52		$1,000 (FSA)		$46,356.13	Congregational Package	$12,940.46	IRS Rate		$1,200.00		$400.00	$990.24 (Dental Insurance)	6 weeks including 8 Sundays	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Portage Westminster	Jerry Duggins	Installed-Copastor	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	33 hours	$28,133.61	$17,222.52		$1,000 (FSA)		$46,356.13	Congregational Package	$13,055.21	IRS Rate		$1,200.00		$400.00		6 weeks including 8 Sundays	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Presbytery of Lake Michigan	Annamarie Groenenboom	Validated Ministry	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$13,704.00	$48,000.00				$61,704.00	Transitional Pastors Participation	$29,000.00	IRS Rate		$1,500.00		$300.00		30 days including 4 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Presbytery of Lake Michigan	Fran Lane-Lawrence	Validated Ministry - Installed	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$40,223.00	$60,000.00			$12,000.00	$112,233.00		$11,234.00	IRS Rate		$4,500.00	50%	$1,000.00	Reimbursed Portion of Family Plan	40 days including 6 Sundays	14 days of Personal Spiritual Renewal including 2 Sundays; 21 days of professional development including 4 Sundays.
Richland First	Calandra Nevenzel	Temporary - Interim Pastor	05/17/2025-06/30/2026	Full Time	$55,000.00	$15,000.00		$7,000 (Medical Allowance)		$70,000.00	UCC Pension Plan	$10,850.00	IRS Rate		$800.00		$300.00		4 weeks including 4 Sundays	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Rockford North Kent	Karen Fitz-LaBarge	Installed-Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$28,352.00	$30,000.00				$58,352.00	Congregational Package	$16,046.60	IRS Rate		$800.00		$300.00		5 weeks including 5 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Schoolcraft First	Thomas Kragt	Temporiary - Stated Supply*	02/01/2026-07/31/2026	25 hours	$15,273.00	$0.00	$13,587.00		$1,050.00	$28,201.06	n/a		IRS Rate		$800.00		$300.00		2 weeks including 2 Sunday	1 week including 1 Sunday
Spring Lake	Daniel Griswold	Temporary - Interim Pastor	02/01/2026-01/26/2027	Full Time	$62,200.00	$25,000.00				$87,200.00		$26,260	$35,860.00	$1,000.00	$2,100.00	$6,700.00	$2,500.00		4 weeks including 4 Sundays	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Stockbridge First	Deb Smith	Temporiary - Stated Supply*																	
Sturgis First	Craig Kunkle	Installed - Head of Staff	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	Full Time	$39,500.00	$30,000.00		$500 (Dental Allowance)		$70,000.00	Congregational Package	$19,250.00	IRS Rate		$1,600.00	$5,355.00	$2,600.00		30 days including 4 Sundays	14 days including 2 Sundays
Three Rivers-Centreville First	Clint Cozier	Temporary - Interim	11/01/2025-10/31/2026	Full Time	$32,000.00	$35,000.00		$7,500 (Medical FSA)	$5,000.00	$79,500.00	Retirest Package	$9,540.00	$1,000.00		$2,000.00	$5,962.50			4 weeks including 4 Sundays	2 weeks including 2 Sundays

*Contributions to 403(b) and vouchered expenses for furniture and medical reimbursement are considered part of Total Effective Salary

*Designates Part-time

Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Balance Sheet at 3/31/2026

ASSETS:	
Cash	84,803.72
General Investments:	
Investments - New Covenant Trust Mgmt. Fund	3,083,937.77
Investments - John Knox Memorial Fund	937,323.33
Investments - Investment & Loan Program	51,071.37
	4,072,332.47
Other Investments:	
Investments - Presbyterian Foundation - Sp. Assistance	50,740.27
Endowment - Presbyterian Foundation - Niger	74,414.42
Endowment - Presbyterian Foundation - Nicaragua	74,414.42
Escrow Account - Westminster of Jackson	303,838.12
	503,407.23
Total Cash & Investments	4,660,543.42
Accounts Receivable Per Capita	155,156.74
Prepaid Expense / Retreats & Meetings	338.23
Total Fixed Assets - Original Cost less Depreciation	3,912.67
Total Assets:	4,819,951.06
LIABILITIES:	
Accounts Payable	28,026.52
Escrow Account - Westminster of Jackson	303,838.12
NET ASSETS:	4,488,086.42
TOTAL LIAB & NET ASSETS:	4,819,951.06
*Fund Balances:	
Unrestricted:	
Non-Designated:	
Operating Surpluses Prior Years:	785,081.24
Operating Surpluses YTD:	109,088.29
John Knox Memorial Fund	589,574.95
Church Dissolutions	1,368,204.53
Undesignated Funds	674,815.31
Presbtery Operating Cash Reserve	200,000.00
Total Non-Designated:	3,726,764.32
Designated:	
Congregational Vitality & Justice	68,448.63
Triennium Reserve Fund	110,091.91
Designated Church Dissolution Grants:	
Creative Ministries Grants	150,000.00
Church Dissolutions Grants	70,000.00
Mergers/Unions/Joint Witness Grants	43,000.00
John Knox Disaster Relief	41,732.00
Mental Health Ministry Grant	4,781.07
Misc. Designated	(3,144.39)
Total Designated:	484,909.22
Total Unrestricted:	4,211,673.54
Restricted:	
John Knox- Nicaragua	64,876.58
John Knox- Niger	64,876.58
Special Assistance Endowment Fund	46,371.26
Other Temporarily Restricted	100,288.46
Total Restricted:	276,412.88
Total Net Assets:	4,488,086.42

Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Summary of Operating, Designated and Restricted Funds
For the Year-To-Date Ended March 31, 2026

PLM Operating Fund:				**Annual Budget**
Support and Revenue		**3/31/2026**		**2026**
Per Capita	$	349,923	$	349,923
Presbytery Shared Mission	$	24,163	$	130,750
Investment and Other Income/Receipts	$	(47,124)	$	157,821
Current Year Uncollectible	$	-	$	(15,000)
Transfer In	$	-	$	230,087
Total Support and Revenue:	**$**	**326,962**	**$**	**853,581**
Expenses:				
ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT TEAM	$	-	$	12,700
BUDGET & FINANCE	$	-	$	9,000
CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT TEAM:				
Administration	$	-	$	500
Commission on Ministry	$	417	$	17,500
Cong Initiative and NWC	$	1,030	$	5,000
Mathew 25 Initiative	$	-	$	33,500
Mediation Committee	$	9,350	$	3,000
Ministry Connections	$	-	$	-
Response Committee	$	-	$	100
DYNAMIC LEADERS TEAM:				
Administration	$	-	$	750
Encouragement Project	$	-	$	100
Justice Ministries Group	$	-	$	5,000
Leadership Development	$	-	$	5,100
LeaderWise Partnership-Synod	$	-	$	9,200
Liturgy Development Workshops	$	-	$	1,000
Presbytery Worship Team	$	1,191	$	6,500
Preparation for Ministry Commission	$	1,710	$	11,500
Resource Center	$	-	$	4,200
Scholarships for Continuing Education	$	-	$	3,000
Service to Retirees	$	-	$	300
Youth Activities/Montreat/Plunge/etc.	$	-	$	17,000
LEADERSHIP TEAM	$	(165)	$	7,000
MISSION & OUTREACH TEAM:				
Administration	$	-	$	500
Campus Ministries	$	20,000	$	80,000
NOMINATING/REPRESENTATION	$	-	$	300
PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION	$	-	$	300
Officers and Staff	$	91,571	$	399,500
Office Operations	$	24,249	$	100,100

Summary of Operating, Designated and Restricted Funds
For the Year-To-Date Ended March 31, 2026

PLM Operating Fund:				**Annual Budget**
Other Expense	$	-	$	-
Per Capita - General Assembly	$	52,614	$	92,884
Per Capita - Synod of the Covenant	$	15,907	$	28,047
Total Expenses:	**$**	**217,874**	**$**	**853,581**
Operating Revenue (Deficit) Over Expenses:	**$**	**109,088**	**$**	**-**

Other Assemblies' Shared Mission Receipts:				
GA Shared and Other Missions	$	53,527	$	85,500
Synod Shared Mission	$	696	$	2,250
Total Other Assemblies' Shared Mission Receipts:	**$**	**54,224**	**$**	**87,750**
Other Assemblies' Shared Mission Disbursements:				
GA Shared and Other Missions	$	53,527	$	85,500
Synod Mission	$	696	$	2,250
Total Other Assemblies' Shared Mission Disbursements:	**$**	**54,224**	**$**	**87,750**
Designated & Restricted Fund Activity:				
Revenue				
Candidates Scholarship Offerings	$	457	$	-
Church Dissolutions	$	68,752	$	-
Congregational Vitality & Justice	$	-	$	-
Disaster Relief - John Knox Memorial Fund	$	1,732	$	-
J. Knox Missionaries - Nicaragua & Niger	$	1,266	$	-
Offerings - Presbytery Mtgs.	$	1,019	$	-
Peacemaking Offering-Presbytery	$	933	$	-
Planning Clndrs/BksOrder/Outlook	$	113	$	-
Special Assistance Endowment Fund	$	432	$	-
Grants	$	-	$	-
Two Cents A Meal	$	327	$	-
Youth Activities	$	-	$	-
Various Other	$	-	$	-
Total Designated & Restricted Revenue:	**$**	**75,032**	**$**	**-**
Expenditures:				
Candidates' Scholarships	$	-	$	-
Church Dissolutions	$	4,603	$	-
Congregational Vitality & Justice Grants	$	3,000	$	-
Disaster Relief - John Knox Memorial Fund	$	5,000	$	-
GA Grants	$	-	$	-
J. Knox Missionaries - Nicaragua & Niger	$	1,266	$	-
Nicaragua & Ghana Partnerships	$	-	$	-
Offerings - Presbytery Meetings	$	-	$	-
Planning Clndrs/BksOrder/Outlook	$	-	$	-
Special Assistance Endowment Fund	$	1,726	$	-
Total Designated & Restricted Expense:	**$**	**15,594**	**$**	**-**

Summary of Operating, Designated and Restricted Funds
For the Year-To-Date Ended March 31, 2026

PLM Operating Fund:		Annual Budget
Total All Revenue/Receipts:	$ 456,218	$ 941,331
Total All Expenditures/Disbursements:	$ 287,692	$ 941,331
Total Rev Over/Under Expenses:	$ 168,526	$ -

*Presbytery financial statements are based on modified fund accounting. Per capita revenues are accrued and uncollectible amounts are netted against the accrued per capita revenue.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Trustees
Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Portage, Michigan

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2025, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan as of December 31, 2025, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Presbytery of Lake Michigan, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Presbytery's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Presbytery's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Presbytery's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Prior Period Financial Statements

The 2024 financial statements were reviewed by us, and our report thereon, dated March 27, 2025, stated we were not aware of any material modifications that should be made to those financial statements for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. However, a review is substantially less in scope than an audit and does not provide a basis for the expression of an opinion on the financial statements.

Siegfried Crandall P.C.

March 11, 2026

PRESBYTERY OF LAKE MICHIGAN
CONSENT AGENDA of the STATED MEETING
June 9, 2026

1. **To excuse** these members and elder commissioners at their request and to add those who will continue to request an excused absence up to the actual meeting: Kristine Aragon Bruce (Grand Haven First), Jessica Bratt Carle (VM), Peggy Casteel-Huston (VM), Katherine Culpepper (VM), Jessica Hauser-Brydon (MAL), Sarah Juist (Jenison Parkwood), Karen Kelley (Retired), Kathleen Robertson King (MAL), Brian Madison, Nick Marlatt (Hastings First), Kirk Miller (Holt First), Linda Rubingh (VM), Sarah Schmidt-Lee, Lorenzo Small, Lisa Schrott (Okemos), Small (Battle Creek First), Lynette Sparks (GR Westminster)

2. **To approve** the Minutes of the Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan, March 14, 2026, Online only.

3. **To file** the approved Minutes of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan Leadership Team on March 5, 2026 and May 7, 2026. Online only.

4. **To approve** the following recommendation of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan Commission on Ministry that Rev. Janet Duggins (Portage Westminster) be granted the status of Retired effective June 30, 2026, and to celebrate her ministry at the June 9, 2026, stated meeting.

5. **To approve** the following recommendation of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan Commission on Ministry that Rev. Jerry Duggins (Portage Westminster) be granted the status of Retired effective June 30, 2026, and to celebrate his ministry at the June 9, 2026, stated meeting.

6. **To approve** the following recommendation of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan Commission on Ministry that Rev. Gail Monsma be granted the status of Retired effective July 31, 2026.

7. **To grant** voice to Elder Jennifer Blackwell (Jackson First) during the Youth Strategies Report.

8. **To approve** the following recommendation of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan Commission on Ministry that Ruling Elder David Habicht (Buchanan First) be commissioned to serve communion once per month at the First Presbyterian Church of Marshall, MI, effective March 26, 2026.

9. **To ratify** the action taken by the Board of Trustees on April 14, 2026, to approve a Presbytery Investment and Loan Program loan to the First Presbyterian Church of Holt in the amount of $450,000 to be repaid over 5 years to be used in the boiler replacement and installation of solar array at the church property located at 2021 N. Aurelius Road,

Holt, Michigan.

10. To receive the 2025 Audit completed by Siegfried Crandall PC. Online only.

11. To receive the 2026 Terms of Call Report. Online only.

12. To receive the Report of the Stated Clerk for today, as follows:

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK
Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence
June 9, 2026

1. **FOR CLERKS OF SESSION - REVIEW OF 2025 SESSION MINUTES:** Planning for the review of 2025 Session Minutes continues. Please find below the schedule for the review of 2025 minutes for each Cluster. Please know that if your schedule does not allow you to attend the minute review in your own cluster, you may attend a minute review in another cluster. Clerks may also contact Rev. Annamarie Groenenboom, Associate Clerk, to make an appointment to bring the congregation's minutes and register books to the Presbytery office for review.

   The 2025 Minute Review Checklist is posted on the Presbytery website. Please contact Rev. Annamarie Groenenboom, Associate Clerk, with any questions you might have about the 2025 session minutes reviews.

   Cluster 1 – June 9, 2026 at 1 p.m. – Vic Prowant/Annamarie Groenenboom
   Location: First Presbyterian Church, 2577 Wickham Drive, Muskegon, MI 49441
   Big Rapids United, Cadillac First, Hesperia, Lake City First, Muskegon First

   Cluster 2 – May 16, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. – Lynne Ploeg/Annamarie Groenenboom
   Location: Parkwood Presbyterian Church, 7998 28th Avenue, Jenison, MI 49428
   Grand Haven First, GR Forest Hills, GR North Park, GR Westminster, Holland First, Ionia First, Jenison Parkwood, Rockford North Kent, Spring Lake

   Cluster 3 – April 11, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. – Linda Freeze/Annamarie Groenenboom
   Location: First Presbyterian Church, 13 South 4th Street, Niles, MI 49120
   Buchanan First, Cassopolis United, Decatur First, Edwardsburg, Niles First, Sturgis First

   Cluster 4 – June 13, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. – Annamarie Groenenboom
   Location: Presbytery Office, 1511 Helen Avenue, Portage, MI 49002
   Allegan First, Benton Harbor First, Gobles Bethany, Hastings First, Kalamazoo First, Kalamazoo North, Lyons-Muir Federated, Paw Paw First, Plainwell First, Portage Westminster, Richland First, Schoolcraft First, Three Rivers/Centreville First

   Cluster 5 –April 18, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. - Bruce Archer/Annamarie Groenenboom
   Location: First Presbyterian Church, 313 East Maple, Mason, Michigan 48854

East Lansing Eastminster, East Lansing Peoples, Holt First, Lansing Delta, Lansing First, Lansing North Westminster, Mason First, Okemos, Stockbridge First, Gregory Unadilla

Cluster 6 – May 30, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. – Russell Jacobson/Annamarie Groenenboom
Location: First Presbyterian Church, 743 W Michigan Ave, Jackson, MI 49201
Battle Creek First, Battle Creek Pennfield, Battle Creek Westlake, Brooklyn, Coldwater First, Concord First, Dimondale First, Homer First, Jackson First, Jackson Westminster, Jonesville First, Marshall First

2. **BOUNDARY AND ETHICS TRAINING:** The PC(USA) Constitution in the *Book of Order* mandates that all councils (this includes sessions) adopt and implement sexual misconduct policies "which shall include requirements for training which includes the topic of sexual misconduct and child sexual abuse prevention . . . at least every 36 months." (G-3.0106) The Presbytery of Lake Michigan also mandates sexual misconduct/boundary training every 36 months for teaching elders, including retired ministers, commissioned ruling elders, ruling elders, and Christian educators who are active in the ministry of the Presbytery. If members of your session have not yet completed Boundary Training, please contact Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence, Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk or Mx. Emily Franson, Communications and Technology Manager, for information about how to complete the training.

   Upcoming Dates:
   October 21, 2026 - 4:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
   November 2, 2026 - 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
   December 5, 2026 - 9:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

   The Boundary Trainings are all via Zoom and led by Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence. They are for both Ruling Elders and Teaching Elders and include the topic of sexual misconduct and child sexual abuse prevention training thus satisfy the requirements of the Book of Order in G-3.0106.

3. **REQUEST FOR EXCUSED ABSENCES FOR PRESBYTERY MEETINGS:** The The Stated Clerk asks that all requests for excused absences be made through the online system available on the Presbytery website or by using this link: https://lakemichiganpresbytery.breezechms.com/form/6ce58f. ***Requests for excused absences not requested through the online system may not be recorded correctly.***

4. **DATES FOR STATED MEETINGS IN 2026**: The dates for stated meetings of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan for 2026 are as follows:

   a. Saturday, March 14, 2026 – *DIMONDALE FIRST*
   b. Tuesday, June 9, 2026 – *MUSKEGON FIRST*
   c. Saturday, September 12, 2026 -*RICHLAND FIRST*
   d. Tuesday, November 17, 2026 - *HASTINGS FIRST*

Thank you to these congregations for generously hosting a meeting of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan.

5. **REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS**:

Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church of Marshall, MI
Final Report and Request for Dissolution of Administrative Commission
June 9, 2026

In December 2023, the Presbytery of Lake Michigan approved the appointment of an Administrative Commission (AC) for First Presbyterian Church, Marshall, MI. The Commission on Ministry's recommendation established the AC with the following stated purpose:

> *The Administrative Commission of three to five members, appointed by the Moderator of the Presbytery in consultation with the Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk, was charged with the following:*

- Seeking a thorough understanding of reported disorder through individual and small group conversations with members of the congregation and session.
- Working with the session toward ordered ministry by providing education in PCUSA polity and Reformed theology as appropriate.
- Supporting the session in providing for worship and pastoral care throughout the pastoral transition.
- Supporting the congregation in clarifying their expectations and the skills most important to seek in their next pastor.
- Addressing any additional disorder discovered during the course of the AC's work.

Because the AC's work touched many of these areas simultaneously, the following summary is organized thematically to demonstrate how each goal was addressed. On this basis, the AC respectfully requests dissolution, with continued follow-up by the Commission on Ministry Liaison.

Commission Membership and Support

- The AC was originally composed of Rev. Annamarie Groenenboom (Associate Clerk, PLM), Brad Sparks (Grand Rapids Westminster), and Nancy Toth (Jackson First). Over the course of the commission's work, Rev. Amber Nettleton (MAL) succeeded Rev. Groenenboom, and Rev. Sarah Schmidt-Lee (VM, Kalamazoo First Congregational) later succeeded Rev. Nettleton. Presbytery support and consultation was generously provided by Rev. Dr. Calvin Bremer, Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence, and Rev. Kristin Stroble.
- The AC received orientation and training from Presbytery staff at the outset of its work.
- AC members attended all Session and congregational meetings—both in person and via Zoom—and met as a commission nearly every week over the past two and a half years to provide consistent support and clear communication.

Initial Assessment and Listening

- The AC conducted a thorough review of Marshall First's governing documents, including by-laws, policies and procedures, session and committee meeting minutes spanning several years, reports from a prior Administrative Commission, and exit interviews from two former pastors.
- From March through July 2024, the AC conducted interviews with two former pastors, the stated supply pastor, COM liaisons, current and former session members, a former long-time Clerk of Session, and various members and former members of the congregation. Open listening sessions were also offered to any congregants, friends, or former members who wished to attend. A consistent set of questions was used to ensure comparability while allowing space for open conversation.
- The AC provided the session and congregation with a clear, balanced report of the strengths identified through these interviews alongside the concerns surfaced through document review and conversation.

Pastoral Care and Congregational Healing

- The AC offered a worship service of healing to help the congregation process the grief and loss associated with the conclusion of a recent pastorate.
- The AC facilitated an agreement with a Commissioned Ruling Elder to preach once a month and administer communion, ensuring the congregation continued to receive regular worship leadership and the sacraments throughout the transition.
- Session members were encouraged to attend the Small Church Summit event offered by PLM, providing an opportunity for broader connection and encouragement.
- The AC provided information on the Pastoral Transition Cohort meetings and encouraged participation to support session members through the transition process.

Education, Polity, and Governance

- The AC led a retreat focused on ordered ministry and the connectional and confessional nature of the PCUSA, including training in PCUSA polity and procedure and Robert's Rules of Order.
- Copies of the Book of Order were provided to all session members.
- Rather than simply refreshing an outdated Mission Study, the AC provided the training and hands-on assistance needed to guide the congregation through a comprehensive rewrite—a process that took nearly a year and resulted in a document that genuinely reflects their identity and calling.
- The AC reviewed the congregation's by-laws and proposed revisions that were subsequently approved at a Congregational Meeting.
- The AC ensured that all currently required policies were in place, and assisted the session in correcting deficiencies identified during the PLM Annual Minute Review, providing specific language to bring their records into compliance.
- Volunteer support was coordinated to help the congregation complete the Presbytery-required financial review.

Pastoral Transition and Polity Oversight

- After careful discernment, the AC chose not to renew the contract of the Stated Supply Pastor, and arranged for Rev. Steven Kaszar (Concord First/Homer First) to moderate session meetings beginning in October 2025.
- Following the resignation of three session members and the election of a newly constituted session, the working relationship between the congregation, session, and AC improved meaningfully. Notably, one of the members who had resigned later returned to the session and has been a constructive presence in that body.

Current Health and Readiness for the Future

- The AC assisted the session in completing their Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP). The MDP has since been approved and uploaded to Church Leadership Connection, and the congregation is actively searching for a half-time interim pastor.
- Presbyterian Foundation resources were shared to assess congregational finances and discern future pathways, and Dr. Stephen Keizer from the Foundation has begun collaborating directly with the congregation.
- The Nominating Committee has been restored, and a slate of elders with staggered class terms was elected at a Congregational Meeting—a sign of healthy, forward-looking governance.
- Session members are actively reaching out to the AC with questions, elders are appropriately seeking session approval before acting, and the session temporarily adopted a bi-weekly meeting schedule to work through a backlog of previously neglected business.
- The Session is demonstrating capable and appropriate leadership: scheduling pulpit supply and communion, supporting Deacons in communion visits, preparing agendas, improving staff communication, resuming annual staff reviews, reviewing the budget, clarifying spending limits, and updating policies as needed.

The AC is grateful for the privilege of accompanying First Presbyterian Church, Marshall through this season. We have witnessed real growth: the congregation and session are increasingly operating in compliance with PCUSA polity and PLM requirements; communication among the session, the congregation, and the Presbytery has improved considerably; and the church is being well-served by its current moderator. With the continued support of the Commission on Ministry Liaison, we are confident that this congregation is well-positioned for the next chapter of its life and ministry.

For these reasons, the Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church of Marshall, MI requests that it be dismissed effective June 10, 2026. We are deeply grateful for the dedication of all of the AC members who have faithfully served this commission over two and a half years, and for the congregation and session of First Presbyterian Church, Marshall, who have demonstrated courage and perseverance through a challenging season of transition. Please join us in giving thanks to God for the work accomplished here, and in praying for God's continued blessing on this congregation as they discern the path forward.

Respectfully Submitted

by the Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church of Marshall, MI

Rev. Sarah Schmidt-Lee (VM, Kalamazoo First Congregational)
Brad Sparks (Grand Rapids Westminster)
Nancy Toth (Jackson First)

Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church of Allegan, MI
June 9, 2026

No update. The Committee continues to work on matters related to property.

Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church of Richland, MI
Report to Presbytery of Actions and Request for Dismissal
June 9, 2026

At its September 14, 2024, Stated Meeting the Presbytery of Lake Michigan approved a recommendation from the Commission on Ministry (COM) to form an Administrative Commission (AC) to work with leadership of the First Presbyterian Church of Richland to correct issues of dysfunction. The directive of the Presbytery was as follows:

1) To inquire further into the financial practices of FPC-Richland and to support the session in correcting disordered practices, including:

a. Appropriate signatories on church accounts

b. Monies donated to the pastor over and above amounts specified in terms of call to ensure appropriate reporting to the Internal Revenue Service.

c. Support the new treasurer by providing training as to best financial practices.

2) To inquire into the composition of the session to ensure that it is representative of the congregation as required by the Book of Order and support the session in correcting disorder if any exists.

3) To inquire into Mx. O'Sullivan's participation in the life of the congregation and decision-making processes and to ensure the session and congregation understand what are appropriate interactions and participation.

4) Inquire into disabilities described by Rev. Jennings in his letter, and his request for accommodations to determine if he can perform the core functions of a pastoral call.

5) To report to the presbytery other areas of disorder that may be discovered as the administration commission inquires into the areas of disorder listed in items 1-4, and to work with the session to correct additional areas of disorder if discovered.

Scope of Authorities:

1. This Administrative Commission has the full authority of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan, except where limited by provisions of the PC(USA) Book of Order, as regards the correction of the reported disorder listed in items 1-5 under Purpose.

2. In working with the session to correct the reported disorder, if it is determined that the Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Richland, MI, is unable or unwilling to correct disorder that exists in a timely manner or to manage wisely its affairs, the Administrative Commission of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan has the authority to assume original jurisdiction with full powers of the Session, in which case the Session of the FPC Richland will cease to act until such time as the Presbytery shall otherwise direct. (G-3.0303e).

3. The First Presbyterian Church of Richland, MI will be responsible for fees incurred should a consultant be required to help resolve any areas of disorder. Presbytery Authorities Granted by the PCUSA Constitution in the Book of Order G-3.0109b– Administrative Commissions are designated to consider and conclude matters not involving ecclesiastical judicial process, except that in the discharge of their assigned responsibility they may discover and report to the designating council matters that may require judicial action by the council. (5) by presbyteries visiting particular congregations over which they have immediate jurisdiction reported to be affected with disorder, and inquiring into and settling difficulties therein, except that no commission of presbytery shall be empowered to dissolve a pastoral relationship without the specific authorization by the designating body. (G-3.0901)

The AC was created with Elder Stuart Deming Esq. acting as Moderator and Reverends David Milbourn and Daniel Anderson (both retired) as members. The Rev. Dr. Calvin Bremer, Assistant to the Executive Presbyter has served as the AC liaison to presbytery leadership and regularly attended our meetings as well as the meetings of the Richland Session.

Beginning on October 14, 2024, the AC met regularly, typically weekly, with officers of the presbytery seeking to understand the issues creating dysfunction within the Richland congregation. Then, the AC met with the Richland Session. During its work the AC received concerns from past and active members of the Richland Congregation which helped define issues for correction.

With AC input and encouragement, the Richland Session:

1. Addressed concerns regarding financial practices
2. Took steps to ensure that the composition of the Session is representative of the congregation.
3. Took steps to ensure that Mx. O'Sullivan no longer participates in inappropriate decision making in the life of First Presbyterian Richland.
4. Noted that Rev. Mark Jennings retired just prior to the work of the AC.

The AC notes that the AC working in concert with the Commission on Ministry, approved the Rev. Calandra Nevenzel, a UCC pastor, to serve this congregation as Interim Pastor. She began part-time in the spring of 2025 and has been working full-time since July 2025. We are grateful for her service.

The AC has found our sisters and brothers on the Richland Session to be genuinely open to hearing and discussing our concerns. Together, with guidance from the Commission on Ministry and the Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk and the Assistant to Executive Presbyter we worked to develop strategies to correct challenges faced by the congregation, the most complex and latest to be addressed is regarding perceived conflicts of interests among leadership within the church.

A document entitled, "First Presbyterian Church of Richland Conflict of Interest Policy" was developed and approved by the Richland Session at its meeting of May 13, 2026. (See Attached)

This policy will continue to provide guidance for Richand's leadership moving forward. It addresses what we believe to be one of the underlying problems communicated to the AC and with its approval by the Richland Session we believe the work of this commission is substantially concluded.

Therefore, we request that the Presbytery of Lake Michigan accept this final report and approve the dismissal of the Administrative Commission effective June 10, 2026.

Respectfully,

Ruling Elder Stuart Deming, Esq. Moderator
Teaching Elder, Reverend David Milbourn
Teaching Elder, Reverend Daniel Anderson

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF RICHLAND

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Effective May 13, 2026*

ARTICLE I
PURPOSE

Avoidance of conflicts of interest, whether real or apparent, is indispensable to the health and welfare of the First Presbyterian Church ("Church") of Richland.

ARTICLE II
DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this policy, a conflict of interest shall be deemed to exist any time one's loyalty to the Church, its interests, and/or its mission is compromised or could be compromised by one's personal interests. For purposes of this policy:

A. Relatives. "Relatives" shall be broadly interpreted as including spouses or domestic partners, parents, children, siblings, cousins, nieces and nephews, grandparents or grandchildren, and similarly situated in-laws and/or any person residing in the same household.

B. Governing Committees or Commissions. "Governing Committees or

Commissions" shall include but not be limited to the Session, the nominating committee, a pastoral search committee, finance committee, or any form of decision-making body of a similar nature that may make critical decisions in terms of the governance of the Church or as otherwise required by the Book of Order.[†]

C. Recusal. "Recusal" shall require the person with the conflict of interest being absent from the meeting during discussion and deliberation and abstaining from voting. Such recusal shall be recorded where minutes are taken.

ARTICLE III
GENERAL PROHIBITIONS

No pastor, officer, elder, trustee, deacon, member, staff, or volunteer of the Church shall use his or her position, or the knowledge gained from it, in any way that may be averse to the interests of the Church or its mission.

[*] As of May 13, 2026, individuals currently serving on governing committees in whatever capacity will be able to complete their current term.

[†] A commission is a committee authorized by the Session to undertake specified action on its behalf.

A. Relatives. Only one relative shall serve on a Governing Committee or Commission at the same time. If necessary, a vacant position shall remain unfilled until such time as a qualified member of the congregation who is not a relative is identified and approved.

B. Employment. No one shall participate in decisions involving the employment of a relative. In such situations, prompt disclosure, recusal and abstention shall be required.

C. Accepting Gifts of Services or Things of Value. Other than acceptance of minor courtesies, acceptance of any gifts or favors from anyone seeking to do business with the Church shall be prohibited.

D. Doing Business with the Church. Prompt disclosure and recusal is required whenever decisions are made involving anyone subject to this policy who is also financially involved with vendors, contractors, or others doing business with the Church.

E. Seeking Financial Support. Prompt disclosure and recusal shall be required from decisions when anyone subject to this policy is seeking financial support for themselves or for a relative.

ARTICLE IV
ADDRESSING CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS

Inherent in a church with a smaller congregation is the greater likelihood of conflicts of interest that are not easily overcome. Special efforts are therefore essential to promptly disclose

conflicts and take necessary measures.

A. Acknowledgment. The Clerk of Session shall have primary responsibility for ensuring that all new Session members sign a statement affirming that they have read and understand this policy, they agree to abide by it; and they will promptly disclose any potential conflicts. In addition, the Clerk of Session shall ensure that the Session annually reviews this policy and that an acknowledgment of the review is reflected in the minutes of the Session.

B. Prompt Disclosure and Recusal. Prompt disclosure and recusal shall be required for any decisions that may be perceived to be a conflict of interest.

C. Monitoring and Enforcement. The Session shall have primary responsibility for monitoring and ensuring consistent and ongoing enforcement of this policy.

D. Nominating Committee: Only one relative shall serve on the Session at any one time. A relative shall not be nominated if it would result in more than one relative serving on the Session at the same time. If necessary, a position on the Session shall remain vacant until someone who is not a relative is identified and elected by the congregation. The nominating committee shall not cease its work until the vacant position is filled.

E. Sanctions. Failure to comply with this policy may result in the violation being noted in minutes of the Session that the person has been notified of the conflict and counseled to rectify the situation or, if not possible, avoid the conflict in the future. For Ruling Elders, this may involve removal from Session in accordance with the Book of Order Church Discipline.

Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Administrative Commission for Delta Presbyterian Church of Lansing, MI
and the First Presbyterian Church of Dimondale
June 9, 2026

The Administrative Commission (AC) for Delta Presbyterian Church (Lansing) and the First Presbyterian Church of Dimondale has been working with both Sessions and congregations as they contemplate a possible consolidation of the two congregations, which are the only two PC(USA) churches in Eaton County. Both congregations are currently worshiping together, and rotating their worship services between the two church buildings on an approximately monthly basis. During the month of May the congregations have been worshiping separately to remind everybody what it felt like before the two congregations began worshiping together. Combined worship will resume in June 2026.

Members of the AC have been in attendance at separate Session meetings for each congregation, and at joint Session meetings for both congregations. Members of the AC have also been attending worship periodically, have made themselves available to members of both congregations, and have been responding to questions from congregation members by email.

The Sessions of the two congregations created four task forces that are addressing, hypothetically, if the two congregations were to consolidate, what would need to happen regarding (1) church finances, (2) church administration (including review of the Bylaws, policies, and organizational structures of both congregations), (3) property (including accessibility, technology, and possible sale of one building), and (4) community connections (including building usage by outside groups and the possible impact that a consolidation might have on the surrounding communities). Each task force includes a representative from Session and at least one additional member from each congregation. The AC has offered to assist the task forces as needed, and one member of the AC has been present at most meetings of the property task force.

The findings of these task forces will be presented to both congregations at the end of May. Members of the congregations will have an opportunity to prayerfully consider the matter over the summer. A Town Hall meeting for both congregations will be held in September for further discussion. Congregational meetings are planned for October to vote on the possible consolidation.

We continue to invite your prayers for these congregations and their leaders as they wrestle with difficult questions and consider significant changes to their important and life-giving ministries.

Respectfully Submitted by

The AC for Delta Presbyterian Church (Lansing) and the First Presbyterian Church of Dimondale

Rev. Bill Pinches

Ruling Elder Heather Myer

Ruling Elder Tom Schaberg

This concludes the reports of the Administrative Commissions.
This concludes the Clerk's Report.

13. To receive the following report from the Commission on Ministry:

REPORT of the COMMISSION ON MINISTRY
STATED MEETING of the PRESBYTERY of LAKE MICHIGAN
June 9, 2026

Since the last Presbytery meeting, the COM Plenary has met once (May 12, 2026) for training and a meeting, and the East and West Regions have met as needed. The following report deals with actions that the Commission has recommended to the Presbytery, actions taken by the Commission and its Regions on behalf of the Presbytery, and other matters of a general nature.

REPORT ON ACTIONS REGARDING CALLS, INSTALLATIONS, and RELATED MATTERS:

1. **A motion prevailed** to approve the minutes of the COM Plenary meeting of February 2, 2026.
2. **A motion prevailed** to approve the minutes of the East and West Regions since the November 18, 2026, Plenary meeting.
3. **A motion prevailed** to approve the May 12, 2026, Regional Action Report.
4. **A motion prevailed** to recommend to the Presbytery of Lake Michigan to grant Rev. Janet Duggins (Portage Westminster) the status of Retired, effective June 30, 2026, and to celebrate her ministry at the June 9, 2026, stated meeting.
5. **A motion prevailed** to recommend to the Presbytery of Lake Michigan to grant Rev. Jerry Duggins (Portage Westminster) the status of Retired, effective June 30, 2026, and to celebrate his ministry at the June 9, 2026, stated meeting.
6. **A motion prevailed** to recommend to the Presbytery of Lake Michigan to commission Ruling Elder David Habicht (Buchanan First) to serve communion once per month at First Presbyterian Church of Marshall, MI, effective March 26, 2026.
7. **A motion prevailed** to accept Rev. Viktoria Berlik as a Member at Large of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan from Genessee Valley Presbytery effective April 23, 2026.
8. **A motion prevailed** to approve Mx. Susan Fennema (candidate under care of the RCA) and Rev. Chad Andrew Herring (Heartland Presbytery) be added to the pulpit supply list.
9. **A motion prevailed** to approve the current pulpit supply list.
10. **A motion prevailed** to approve the 2026 Terms of Call and Covenant Report with any necessary updates or corrections.
11. Battle Creek Westlake: **A motion prevailed** to recommend to the Presbytery that the Administrative Commission be dissolved and to have COM focus on the specified points of disorder.
12. Buchanan: **A motion prevailed** to approve the self-study. **A motion prevailed** to allow the formation of a PNC.

13. Coldwater First: **A motion prevailed** to appoint Rev. Steve Kaszar as moderator of their session effective February 26, 2026. **A motion prevailed** to appoint Rev. Annamarie Groenenboom to moderate the First Presbyterian Church of Coldwater, MI's Annual Congregational Meeting following the worship service on May 17, 2026.

14. Decatur First/Paw Paw First: **A motion prevailed** to write a letter of support to the Board of Pensions on behalf of Rev. Gail Monsma which would allow her to begin drawing monies from her Pension fund.

15. Grand Rapids North Park: **A motion prevailed** to request that Presbytery dissolve the pastoral relationship between North Park Presbyterian Church of Grand Rapids, MI, and Rev. Dr. Philomena Oforri-Nipaah effective March 8, 2026. Rev. Kristin Stroble and Rev. Jim Pollard completed an exit interview with the session on April 8, 2026. The Session requested to work with the Mediation Committee. Rev. Amber Nettleton, Rev. Stroble, and Rev. Ben Rumbaugh completed an exit interview with Rev. Oforri-Nipaah.

16. Kalamazoo First: **A motion prevailed** to approve the Interim Pastor MDP. Exit interviews with Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldreyer and the session were completed on February 25, 2026, by Rev. Cathy Hoop and Rev. Ben Rumbaugh. The Covenant of Closure was reviewed and signed.

17. Gregory Unadilla: **A motion prevailed** to appoint Rev. Dr. David Weber (Brooklyn) as moderator effective April 23, 2026.

18. Ionia First: **A motion prevailed** to approve the Covenant agreement between Rev. Dr. Chris Dorn and Ionia First as part-time (20 hour) pastor effective January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2026, pending the designation of a housing allowance.

Effective Salary:	$54,102
BOP Pension:	$5,951
Death & Disability:	$541
BOP Medical:	$11,370.84
Mileage:	$1,500
Professional Development:	$1,100
Professional Expenses:	$300

Thirty (30) days vacation including four (4) Sundays
Two (2) weeks professional development, including two (2) Sundays
Follow PLM Family and Medical Leave policy

19. Jackson Westminster: **A motion prevailed** to appoint Rev. Ben Rumbaugh as moderator of the May 13, 2026, session meeting of Jackson Westminster. **A motion prevailed** to appoint Rev. John Best (HR) as moderator for Jackson Westminster's Annual Congregational meeting on June 21, 2026.

20. Jonesville First: **A motion prevailed** to approve their MDP for a full time Interim

Pastor.

21. Kalamazoo First: **A motion prevailed** to approve the MDP for an Interim Pastor.
22. Lake City First: **A motion prevailed** to approve the MDP for an Interim Pastor.
23. Lansing Delta: **A motion prevailed** to appoint Rev. Bill Pinches as the moderator of Lansing Delta's congregational meeting on March 22, 2026. Rev. Ben Rumbaugh abstained from that vote. **A motion prevailed** to approve the extension of the pastoral relationship between First Presbyterian Church of Dimondale and Delta Presbyterian Church and Rev. Ben Rumbaugh as full time designated pastor through June 1, 2027, with the following terms of call. Rev. Rumbaugh abstained from the vote.

Cash Salary:	$56,173
Housing:	$20,000
Pension Benefit:	$7,617
Medical Coverage	$13,330
Medical Reimbursement:	$3,200
Professional Development	$800
Professional Reimbursement:	$500
Mileage:	$200

30 days Vacation including 4 Sunday
14 days Professional Development, including 2 Sundays

24. Lansing First: **A motion prevailed** to approve the position description for a designated pastor.
25. Lansing North Westminster: **A motion prevailed** to appoint Rev. Laura Miller-Purrenhage as moderator of session effective March 18, 2026. **A motion prevailed** to approve the covenant agreement between North Westminster Presbyterian Church of Lansing, MI, and Rev. Laura Miller-Purrenhage as part-time (20 hours) Interim Pastor effective April 1, 2026 - March 31, 2027.

Cash Salary:	$9,968
Housing Allowance:	$23,208
Total Effective Salary:	$33,176
Pension Benefits:	$4,645
Life and Disability Insurance:	$498
SECA Allowance:	$2,538
Mileage:	$1,000
Professional Development:	$1,000
Books & Professional Expenses	$1,000
Medical Expenses:	$2,500

Laptop with camera and mouse
Four (4) weeks of paid vacation including four (4) Sundays

Two (2) weeks of Continuing Education/Professional Development including (2) Sundays, and is cumulative for three (3) years.
Six (6) sick days
Follow PLM Policy of Family and Medical Leave

26. Okemos: **A motion prevailed** to approve the Pastoral Relationship between the Presbyterian Church of Okemos and Rev. Aaron Punt as full time Associate Pastor installed for an indefinite period effective July 15, 2026, should the way be clear. A housing allowance must be designated in the terms of call as well as an amount for reimbursed moving expenses.

Cash Salary:	$31,000
Housing Allowance:	$42,000
Total Effective Salary:	$73,000
SECA Allowance:	$5,585
Pension:	$7,300
Medical (member + family)	$34,975
Dental & Vision (member + family):	$1,343
Continuing Education:	$1,850
Ministry Expenses:	$1,000
Mileage:	$1,000
Moving Expenses	
Cell Phone	$600

30 days of paid vacation to include 4 Sundays
14 days of professional development to include 2 Sundays
7 days of service to the greater church including 1 Sunday
Follow PCO and PLM Family Leave Policy
Sabbatical: 3 months after 7 years

The COM recommends coaching and will help contribute to the cost for reliable, certified clergy coaching, acceptable by presbytery terms.

27. Paw Paw First/Decatur First: A motion prevailed to write a letter of support to the Board of Pensions on behalf of Rev. Gail Monsma to allow her to access a portion of her pension monies.

28. Plainwell First: **A motion prevailed** to appoint Rev. Pat Weatherwax (HR) as moderator for the July meeting of the session if she is willing and able.

29. Portage Westminster: **A motion prevailed** to approve the MDP with the note that they should work on their references by adding a reference who is not a pastor.

This concludes the report of the Commission on Ministry.

14. To receive the following report from the Commission on Preparation for Ministry:

REPORT of the COMMISSION ON PREPARATION for MINISTRY
STATED MEETING of the PRESBYTERY of LAKE MICHIGAN
June 9, 2026

The Commission met three times since the last Stated Meeting of the Presbytery. The Commission had regular stated meetings on March 24, 2026, and April 28, 2026, and May 26, 2026. The following report deals with actions that the Commission has recommended to the Presbytery, actions taken by the Commission on behalf of the Presbytery, and other matters of a general nature.

1. **A motion prevailed** to approve the agenda and the February 24, 2026 minutes.
2. **A motion prevailed** to approve Mx. Joanna (previously J) Townley to take three ordination exams this spring.
3. **A motion prevailed** to accept Elder Steve Zeoli's forms 1b and 4.
4. **A motion prevailed** to approve the agenda and the minutes of March 24, 2026
5. **A motion prevailed** to approve the agenda and the minutes of April 28, 2026
6. CPM provided Mx. Joanna Townley with $1,500 from the budget to help offset the cost of her summer Greek course.
7. CPM has started the practice of assigning two liaisons to each candidate/inquirer which has helped both the liaisons and the candidates/inquirers feel more supported and equipped.

This concludes the report of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry

This concludes the Consent Agenda

DRAFT

MINUTES of the STATED MEETING
Presbytery of Lake Michigan
March 8, 2025 - 9:30 a.m.
First Presbyterian Church
162 Bridge Street
Dimondale, Michigan 48821

The Presbytery of Lake Michigan forms and partners with faith communities to challenge, encourage, equip, and hold one another accountable as Christ's disciples.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE AND OPENING OF THE STATED MEETING
Elder Ben Boerkoel (GR Westminster), Moderator, called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m. with the lighting of the Christ candle and opening prayer. A quorum was present.

APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY CLERK
A motion prevailed to appoint Elder Deb Flietstra (GR Westminster), Elder Paul Hershberger (Coldwater), Rev. Patricia Weatherwax (HR), and Rev. Dr. Clint Cozier (Three Rivers/Centreville First) as temporary clerks.

SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS
A motion prevailed to seat Dr. Stephen Keizer (PC(USA) Foundation), Rev. Luke Choi (Board of Pensions), and Rev. Viktoria Berlik (Genesee Valley Presbytery) as corresponding members.

APPROVAL OF THE DOCKET
A motion prevailed to approve the docket as presented.

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME OF FIRST-TIME RULING ELDERS AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS
Elder Ben Boerkoel welcomed first-time elder commissioners and Christian educators.

WELCOME TO GUESTS AND VISITORS
Elder Ben Boerkoel welcomed guests and visitors.

GREETINGS FROM FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DIMONDALE, MI
Rev. Ben Rumbaugh offered greetings and thanksgiving on behalf of the First Presbyterian Church of Dimondale, MI,, giving thanks for their work with the community, including providing a food pantry and providing space for an Alcoholics Anonymous group. He highlighted the unique and exciting relationship between the First Presbyterian Church of Dimondale, MI and Delta Presbyterian Church of Lansing, MI as they explore possibilities for joint ministries. . First Presbyterian Church of Dimondale, MI recently celebrated its 150th anniversary.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA
A motion prevailed to approve the Consent Agenda with the following items:

PRESBYTERY OF LAKE MICHIGAN
CONSENT AGENDA of the STATED MEETING
March 14, 2026

1. **To excuse** these members and elder commissioners at their request and to add those who will continue to request an excused absence up to the actual meeting: Mary Austin (VM), Joanna Bailey (VM), Elizabeth Hakken Candido (VM), Cal Bremer (VM), Timothy Chon (VM), Katherine Culpepper (MAL), Janet Duggins (Portage Westminster), Karen Fitz LaBarge (Rockford North Kent), Laurie Hartzel (Retired), Kirk Miller (Holt First), Philomena Ofori-Nipaah (GR North Park), Jim Pollard (GR Forest Hills), Kathleen Robertson King (MAL), Barb Schruer (MAL), David Stubbs (VM), Paul Van Kempen (Holland First)

2. **To approve** the Minutes of the Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan, December 02, 2025, Online only.

3. **To file** the approved Minutes of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan Leadership Team on December 4, 2025, and February 5, 2026. Online only.

4. **To grant** Rev. David Edwin Braak (VM, Faith Hospice) the status of Retired effective March 14, 2026.

5. **To approve** the recommendation of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan Trustees as follows:

Background:

June 10, 2025, a motion prevailed to receive a "Plan for Union and Merger" from the Sessions of First Presbyterian of Decatur, MI, and First Presbyterian of Paw Paw, MI. The plan outlined specific actions to be taken by the congregations as well as assumptions regarding the buildings of each congregation. The merged congregation would use the Paw Paw building. The Decatur building, which is much older and evidenced deferred maintenance, was to be sold.

The property was listed on September 05, 2025, for $199,900 by Patriot Realty. It generated an offer for $80,000. There were eight other viewings in the first weeks with no viable offers. Some wished for seller financing, others are concerned with possible leaks or issues with mold. In the weeks that followed, the price was dropped multiple times. With each price drop there would be a flurry of interest/viewings. But the consistent feedback was that viewers decided that the maintenance issues and perceived costs for repair were greater than they wished to face.

In the end, the Trustees were faced with a choice between an offer of $80,000, but with several conditions, or the cash offer for $76,000 with no conditions.

The Presbytery Trustees recommend:

1) That the Presbytery of Lake Michigan approve the sale of the properties described below to Fred Reeder for Seventy-Six Thousand dollars ($76,000), if the way be clear, of land situated in Decatur, Van Buren County, Michigan, and described as follows:

688 20-4-14 * Lot 4 Block B Original Plat of Decatur + 667 20-4-14
*Lot 3 also W 1⁄2 of Lot 2 Block B Original Plat of Decatur

Tax codes 80-43-040-254-00 & 80-43-040-255-00

If provided above, any address and tax parcel number are solely for informational purposes, without warranty as to accuracy or completeness. If inconsistent in any way with the legal description above, the legal description shall control.

2) That the Presbytery of Lake Michigan authorizes the Stated Clerk, the Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence; the Treasurer, Kirk Truesdell; or the President of the Corporation, Beth Dyer, jointly or individually, to execute all documents necessary to implement this decision.

3) That the Presbytery of Lake Michigan join with the First Presbyterian Church of Decatur and give thanks for the way in which God has provided a timely buyer for this property.

6. **To receive** the Report of the Stated Clerk for today, as follows:

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK
Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence
March 14, 2026

1. **BALANCING OF THE PRESBYTERY ROLLS:** The policy of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan is to balance teaching elders and ruling elders for voting. For purposes of balancing, only those Honorably Retired/Retired members who are active in ministry within the Presbytery are counted. In order to balance the number of teaching elders and ruling elders, the Presbytery will continue with the Roll of Balancing Ruling Elders in 2026, giving voice and vote to ruling elders who are on the Presbytery staff, the Commission on Ministry, the Commission on the Preparation for Ministry, the Leadership Team, the Nominating & Representation Committee, the Budget & Finance Committee, the Permanent Judicial Commission and ruling elders who are GA Commissioners, past Moderators, Christian Educators, and Commissioned Ruling Elders (CREs).

2. **ASSIGNED RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS:** The assignment for 2026 is as follows: Grand Rapids Westminster and Grand Haven First with four (4) ruling elders commissioners; Grand Rapids Forest Hills, Holland First, Kalamazoo First, and Okemos with three (3) ruling elder commissioners; and Battle Creek First, Brooklyn, Holt First, Lansing First, Niles First, and Spring Lake First with two (2) ruling elder

commissioners to have voice and vote at stated meetings of the presbytery. All other congregations have one (1) ruling elder commissioner.

3. **ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORTING OF CONGREGATIONS:** The online statistical reporting system for the PC(USA) 2025 Session Annual Statistical Report became available on January 1, 2026. The Session Annual Statistical Report for each congregation was to be approved by the session prior to submission. The deadline for submission of the Session Annual Statistical Report was February 13, 2026. The Associate Clerk helped several congregations with corrections and submission of statistical data prior to and after the February 13, 2026, deadline. All fifty-six (56) congregations of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan submitted their statistical information.

4. **FOR CLERKS OF SESSION - REVIEW OF 2025 SESSION MINUTES:** Planning for the review of 2025 Session Minutes continues. Please find below the schedule for the review of 2025 minutes for each Cluster. Please know that if your schedule does not allow you to attend the minute review in your own cluster, you may attend a minute review in another cluster. Clerks may also contact Rev. Annamarie Groenenboom, Associate Clerk, to make an appointment to bring the congregation's minutes and register books to the Presbytery office for review.

   The 2025 Minute Review Checklist is posted on the Presbytery website. Please contact Rev. Annamarie Groenenboom, Associate Clerk, with any questions you might have about the 2025 session minutes reviews.

   Cluster 1 – June 9, 2026 at 1 p.m. – Vic Prowant/Annamarie Groenenboom
   Location: First Presbyterian Church, 2577 Wickham Drive, Muskegon, MI 49441
   Big Rapids United, Cadillac First, Hesperia, Lake City First, Muskegon First

   Cluster 2 – May 16, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. – Lynne Ploeg/Annamarie Groenenboom
   Location: Parkwood Presbyterian Church, 7998 28th Avenue, Jenison, MI 49428
   Grand Haven First, GR Forest Hills, GR North Park, GR Westminster, Holland First, Ionia First, Jenison Parkwood, Rockford North Kent, Spring Lake

   Cluster 3 – April 11, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. – Linda Freeze/Annamarie Groenenboom
   Location: First Presbyterian Church, 13 South 4th Street, Niles, MI 49120
   Buchanan First, Cassopolis United, Decatur First, Edwardsburg, Niles First, Sturgis First

   Cluster 4 – June 13, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. – Annamarie Groenenboom
   Location: Presbytery Office, 1511 Helen Avenue, Portage, MI 49002
   Allegan First, Benton Harbor First, Gobles Bethany, Hastings First, Kalamazoo First, Kalamazoo North, Lyons-Muir Federated, Paw Paw First, Plainwell First, Portage Westminster, Richland First, Schoolcraft First, Three Rivers/Centreville First

Cluster 5 –April 18, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. - Bruce Archer/Annamarie Groenenboom
Location: First Presbyterian Church, 313 East Maple, Mason, Michigan 48854
East Lansing Eastminster, East Lansing Peoples, Holt First, Lansing Delta, Lansing First, Lansing North Westminster, Mason First, Okemos, Stockbridge First, Gregory Unadilla

Cluster 6 – May 30, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. – Russell Jacobson/Annamarie Groenenboom
Location: First Presbyterian Church, 743 W Michigan Ave, Jackson, MI 49201
Battle Creek First, Battle Creek Pennfield, Battle Creek Westlake, Brooklyn, Coldwater First, Concord First, Dimondale First, Homer First, Jackson First, Jackson Westminster, Jonesville First, Marshall First

5. **BOUNDARY AND ETHICS TRAINING:** The PC(USA) Constitution in the *Book of Order* mandates that all councils (this includes sessions) adopt and implement sexual misconduct policies "which shall include requirements for training which includes the topic of sexual misconduct and child sexual abuse prevention . . . at least every 36 months." (G-3.0106) The Presbytery of Lake Michigan also mandates sexual misconduct/boundary training every 36 months for teaching elders, including retired ministers, commissioned ruling elders, ruling elders, and Christian educators who are active in the ministry of the Presbytery. If members of your session have not yet completed Boundary Training, please contact Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence, Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk or Mx. Emily Franson, Communications and Technology Manager, for information about how to complete the training.

   Upcoming Dates:
   March 21, 2026 - 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
   April 13, 2026 - 4:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
   May 17, 2026 - 1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
   June 5, 2026 - 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
   October 21, 2026 - 4:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
   November 2, 2026 - 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
   December 5, 2026 - 9:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

   The Boundary Trainings are all via Zoom and led by Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence. They are for both Ruling Elders and Teaching Elders and include the topic of sexual misconduct and child sexual abuse prevention training so satisfy the requirements of the PCUSA Book of Order in G-3.0106.

6. **REQUEST FOR EXCUSED ABSENCES FOR PRESBYTERY MEETINGS:** The The Stated Clerk asks that all requests for excused absences be made through the online system available on the Presbytery website or by using this link: https://lakemichiganpresbytery.breezechms.com/form/6ce58f. ***Requests for excused absences not requested through the online system may not be recorded correctly.***

7. **DATES FOR STATED MEETINGS IN 2026**: The dates for stated meetings of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan for 2026 are as follows:

a. Saturday, March 14, 2026 – *DIMONDALE FIRST*
b. Tuesday, June 9, 2026 – *MUSKEGON FIRST*
c. Saturday, September 12, 2026 -*RICHLAND FIRST*
d. Tuesday, November 17, 2026 - *HASTINGS FIRST*

Thank you to these congregations for generously hosting a meeting of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan.

8. **REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS FOR ORDINATION/ INSTALLATION:**

An Administrative Commission appointed by the Presbytery of Lake Michigan met at 2:51 p.m. on January 18, 2026, at First Presbyterian Church of Sturgis, MI, to ordain and install the Rev. Craig Kunkle as Solo Pastor for an Indefinite period. With a quorum being present, the meeting was called to order with prayer by the moderator, Elder Ben Boerkoel (GR Westminster). Present were Teaching Elders Rev. Brenda Deily (Retired), Rev. Annamarie Groenenboom (VM), and Rev. Dr. David Weber (Brooklyn), and Ruling Elders Pattie Bender (Three Rivers/Centreville First) and Eileen Best (Portage Westminster). Seated as Corresponding Members were Rev. John Best (HR), Deacon Norman Hollabaugh (Baptist General Association of Virginia), Rev. Roderik P. Frohman (HR, Genesee Valley Presbytery), Rev. Abraham D. Allende (Northeastern Ohio Synod, ELCA), Rev. Dr. Kris Veldheer (Episcopal Diocese of Michigan), and Rev. Susan Babb (Michigan Conference, UMC). Rev. Annamarie Groenenboom was appointed to serve as Clerk of the Commission. The Commission proceeded to the service. The meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m. with the benediction by the newly ordained and installed Rev. Craig Kunkle at the close of the service.

9. **REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS**:

Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church of Decatur, MI
and First Presbyterian Church of Paw Paw, MI
March 14, 2026

The Administrative Commission (AC) met via Zoom on Thursday, February 19, 2026, at 4:00 PM.

Members present: Elder Shannon Allen (Decatur First), Rev. Scott Scheel (Edwardsburg), Rev. Cathy Hoop (Holland First)

PLM Staff members present: Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence (Stated Clerk/Executive Presbyter), Rev. Dr. Cal Bremer (Assistant to the Executive Presbyter)

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Fran Lane-Lawrence.

Actions:

1. The AC concurred with the PLM Trustees regarding the sale of the FPC Decatur property.
2. A unanimous motion prevailed to approve the by-laws for Pine Street Presbyterian Church (online only).
3. A unanimous motion prevailed to approve the Addendum to the Plan of Merger, adopted May 2025.

Rev. Lane-Lawrence reviewed the next steps of the process.

Recommendation to Presbytery:
The Administrative Commission for Paw Paw First/Decatur First recommends the following:

That the Presbytery of Lake Michigan

1. Approve the Addendum to the Plan of Merger (online only)

2. Amendment of the date of dissolution for each congregation from March 15, 2026, to September 30, 2026, to provide flexibility in the process as needed. The change in the specific merger step is as follows:

   The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Paw Paw, MI needs to call a congregational meeting to approve the dissolution of the congregation "when the way be clear," but not later than September 30, 2026.

   The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Decatur, MI needs to call a congregational meeting to approve the dissolution of the congregation "when the way be clear," but not later than September 30, 2026.

The meeting was closed in prayer by Rev. Scott Scheel at 4:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
The Administrative Commission of Paw Paw First and Decatur First
Rev. Cathy Hoop (Holland First)
Rev. Scott Scheel (Edwardsburg)
Elder Shannon Allen (Decatur First)

Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Administrative Commission for Delta Presbyterian Church of Lansing, MI
and First Presbyterian Church of Dimondale, MI
March 14, 2026

The Administrative Commission (AC) for Delta Presbyterian Church of Lansing, MI, and the First Presbyterian Church of Dimondale, MI, has been working with both Sessions and congregations as they contemplate a possible consolidation of the two congregations, which are the only two PC(USA) churches in Eaton County. Both congregations are currently worshiping together, and rotating their worship services between the two church buildings on an approximately monthly basis. Members of the AC have been in attendance at separate Session meetings for each congregation, and at joint Session meetings for both congregations. A member of the AC also gave a brief presentation in worship about the purpose of the AC and emphasized that the AC's role is not to determine the futures of the congregations, but rather to help both congregations in a process that will hopefully discern the best possible outcome for all parties.

In January, Rev. Jeff O'Neill (HR) resigned from the AC due to personal reasons. Ruling Elder Tom Schaberg (Okemos) was appointed to the AC.

The AC conducted a Town Hall meeting on Sunday, February 8, 2026, engaging members of both congregations and allowing every member an opportunity to ask questions, make comments, or raise concerns. These were recorded. On Sunday, February 15, 2026, at a joint Session meeting, the AC and the Sessions processed the feedback, created four task forces, and developed a timeline for the process of discernment.

The task forces will address, hypothetically, if the two congregations were to consolidate, what would need to happen regarding (1) church finances, (2) church administration (including review of the Bylaws, policies, and organizational structures of both congregations), (3) property (including accessibility, technology, and possible sale of one building), and (4) community connections (including building usage by outside groups and the possible impact that a consolidation might have on the surrounding communities). Each task force will include a representative from both Sessions and at least one additional member from each congregation.

The task forces will have approximately three months to conduct their work. Their findings will be presented to both congregations at the end of May 2026. Members of the congregations will have an opportunity to prayerfully consider the matter over the summer. A Town Hall meeting for both congregations will be held in September 2026 for further discussion. Congregational meetings are planned for October 2026 to vote on the possible consolidation.

We would invite your prayers for these congregations and their leaders as they wrestle with difficult questions and consider significant changes to their important and life-giving ministries.

Respectfully Submitted by

The AC for Delta Presbyterian Church of Lansing, MI, and the First Presbyterian Church of Dimondale, MI

Rev. Bill Pinches (Mason First)
Ruling Elder Heather Myer (East Lansing Eastminster)
Ruling Elder Tom Schaberg (Okemos)

Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church of Marshall, MI
March 14, 2026

The Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church of Marshall, MI, has observed and celebrated significant strides toward health and order by the session of Marshall First. A Nominating Committee was restored this fall, and a slate of elders with staggered class terms was elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting on January 25, 2026. The session has been demonstrating appropriate leadership in scheduling pulpit supply and communion, providing opportunities for communion visits with the Deacons, and preparing session agendas. They are moving forward with plans for better communication with staff, resuming annual staff reviews, examining the budget, and clarifying spending limits above which the session must approve spending. Policies have been reviewed and updated or created as needed. The Ministry Discernment Profile for Marshall First has been approved by the session and COM and the Session is actively searching for a part-time interim pastor.

The AC appointed a moderator for the Annual Congregational Meeting who was prevented by inclement weather from attending. The session took action together to reach out to their appointed Session Moderator, Rev. Steve Kaszar (Concord First/Homer First), who was available and willing to moderate. While this was not strictly in order, the AC agreed that the session acted in good faith and took appropriate action in a difficult situation.

The AC members have been especially encouraged to observe the session take leadership for problem-solving, vision-casting, mission discernment, and conflict resolution. At this stage, the AC is focused on helping the Marshall Session maintain ordered functions until they have found the interim pastoral leadership they need.

Official Actions that have been taken by the AC:

- The AC met on 12/18/25, 01/07/26, 01/14/26, 01/28/26, 02/04/26, and 02/18/26
- 12/15/2025: Elder Nancy Toth and Rev. Sarah Schmidt-Lee attended the Marshall, First Session meeting.
- 12/18/2026: The AC appointed Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence (Stated Clerk/Executive Presbyter) to serve as moderator of the Annual Congregational Meeting on January 25,

2026.

- 01/12/2026: Rev. Kristin Stroble (COM Support Staff) and Rev. Sarah Schmidt-Lee attended the Marshall Session meeting in person and Elder Nancy Toth attended by zoom. They shared Presbyterian Foundation Resources for assessing church finances and discerning future pathways. Rev. Stroble and Rev. Schmidt-Lee also met with Elder Jeff Karns who resigned in the summer of 2025, but expressed willingness to accept a nomination to serve on session again in 2026. In this meeting, they confirmed that this nomination would be in order and would be consistent with the AC's goals.
- 02/18/2026: Trustee Brad Sparks and Rev. Sarah Schmidt-Lee attended the Marshall Session meeting in person; Elder Nancy Toth attended by zoom. Minutes from the Annual Congregational Meeting were reviewed to ensure that in the absence of the appointed moderator, the meeting was moderated appropriately and business was conducted in order.

Please join us in praying for God's blessing on this congregation and Session as they search for their interim pastor.

Respectfully Submitted by
The AC for First Presbyterian Church of Marshall, MI
Rev. Sarah Schmidt-Lee (Validated Ministry, First Congregational Church UCC Kalamazoo)
Elder Nancy Toth (Jackson First)
Trustee Brad Sparks (GR Westminster)

First Presbyterian Church of Richland, MI
Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church of Richland, MI
March 14, 2026

The Administrative Commission continues its work. Since the last Stated Meeting on December 02, 2025, the AC representatives met with the Richland Session on December 10, 2025, January 14, 2026, and February 11, 2026, either in person or by Zoom.

The Richland AC normally meets weekly by Zoom to discuss progress, identify issues to address, and identify resources to provide to the Richland Session and other congregational leaders. Rev. Dr. Calvin Bremer (Assistant to Executive Presbyter) and Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence (Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk), Rev Kristin Stroble (COM Staff Support) often attend our weekly Zoom meetings. Interim Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Rev. Calandra Nevenzel, meets once a month with the AC by Zoom.

Interim Pastor, Rev. Nevenzel, and the Session spend profitable time each month discussing the book *"Creating a Healthier Church"* by Ronald W. Richardson. This study and discussion have provided many helpful insights.

The AC reminds the Richland Session and congregation that time spent with an Interim Pastor is for working through difficult issues and understanding their church dynamics and history. The AC's work is vital in preparing the Richland Church for the eventual forming of a PNC, preparing a Mission Study, and the calling of a new installed Pastor.

The AC works closely with the Commission on Ministry (COM). Rev. Stroble was present at the January 14, 2026, Session meeting to outline the process and likely timelines in the search for a new pastor.

At the January 2026 Congregational Meeting, Elder Andy Sanford, Elder Jerrod Heck, and Elder Nicki Valentine were elected as elders.

The Richland Session continues to make additional progress in reviewing, updating, and clarifying their church policies and procedures as they relate to committees, staff, and finances. They are also working on developing a conflict of interest policy and encouraging maximal participation by members of the congregation. The Richland AC is prepared to work with the Session in crafting a policy that takes into consideration the realities of a smaller congregation.

The AC members are grateful for the cooperative spirit that characterizes the relationship between the AC and the Richland Session and congregation. We request your continuing prayers for all involved.

Respectfully,
Elder Stuart Deming (Kalamazoo First)
Rev. David Milbourn (HR)
Rev. Dan Anderson (HR)

This concludes the reports of the Administrative Commissions.

This concludes the Clerk's Report

7. **To receive** the following report from the Commission on Ministry:

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON MINISTRY STATED MEETING of the PRESBYTERY of LAKE MICHIGAN
March 14, 2026

Since the last Presbytery meeting, the COM Plenary has met once (February 3, 2026) for training and a meeting, and the East and West Regions have met as needed. The following report deals with actions that the Commission has recommended to the Presbytery, actions taken by the Commission and its Regions on behalf of the Presbytery, and other matters of a general nature.

REPORT ON ACTIONS REGARDING CALLS, INSTALLATIONS, AND RELATED MATTERS:

1. **A motion prevailed** to approve the minutes of the COM Plenary meeting of

November 18, 2025.

2. **A motion prevailed** to approve the February 2, 2026, Regional Action Report.
3. **A motion prevailed** to recommend to the Presbytery of Lake Michigan to grant Rev. David Braak (VM, Faith Hospice) the status of Retired, effective March 14, 2026.
4. **A motion prevailed** to add Rev. Pat Weatherwax (HR) to the Pulpit Supply List.
5. **A motion prevailed** to add Elder Jose Soto (Portage Westminster) to the Pulpit Supply List.
6. Battle Creek, Pennfield: **A motion prevailed** to approve the Covenant Agreement between Pennfield Presbyterian Church of Battle Creek, MI, and Rev. Bert Nelson as Part-Time (20 hours) Interim Pastor effective January 1, 2026- January 1, 2027.

Cash Salary	$44,000
Vacation	1 week per quarter
Continuing Education	1 week every six months
Full cost of Interim Training	
Professional Expenses are included in the cash salary	

7. Brooklyn: **A motion prevailed** to approve their Mission Discernment Profile.
8. Buchanan: **A motion prevailed** to appoint Rev. Jan Van Leer (HR) as the moderator of Session effective November 19, 2025.
9. Coldwater First: Rev. Susan Reichenberg accepted a new call, and her last worship service was on February 18, 2026. **A motion prevailed** to dissolve the pastoral relationship between Rev. Susan Reichenberg and First Presbyterian Church of Coldwater, effective February 18, 2026.
10. **A motion prevailed** to appoint Rev. Steve Kaszar as moderator for the session meeting on February 19, 2026. Elder Mike Bryan will also attend the session meeting.
11. Decatur First/Paw Paw First: **A motion prevailed** to approve the covenant agreement between First.
12. Presbyterian Church of Paw Paw, MI, First Presbyterian Church of Decatur, MI, and Rev. Gail Monsma as full-time Interim Pastor effective January 1, 2026-December 31, 2026, with several revisions.

Cash Salary	$49,193
Housing Allowance	$30,000
Total Effective Salary	$79,193
BOP	$20,590

SECA	$6,058
Professional Expenses	$800
Professional Development	$1,200
Phone Reimbursement	$600
Mileage	$1,500
Vacation	4 weeks ,including 4 Sundays
Professional Development	2 weeks, including 2 Sundays
Spiritual Renewal	1 week , including 1 Sunday

13. Grand Rapids North Park: **A motion prevailed** to appoint Rev. Ruth Lowry (MAL) as moderator during Rev. Philomena Ofori-Nipaah's absence, effective December 1, 2025.

14. Kalamazoo First: Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldryer accepted another call. His final Sunday was March 1, 2026. **A motion prevailed** to dissolve the pastoral relationship between Rev. Dr. Seth Weeldryer and First Presbyterian Church of Kalamazoo, MI, effective April 12, 2026. **A motion prevailed** to approve the covenant agreement between First Presbyterian Church of Kalamazoo, MI, and Rev. Chrissy Westbury as full-time Associate Pastor (Temporary Stated Supply) effective January 1, 2026-December 31, 2026. Rev. Amber Nettleton and Elder Pam Zandt absented themselves from the discussion and abstained from the vote.

Cash Salary	$55,400
Housing Allowance	$20,000
Total Effective Salary	$75,400
Professional Expenses	$2,500
Professional Development	$2,500
Mileage	$2,000
Vacation	4 weeks ,including 4 Sundays
Professional Development	2 weeks, including 2 Sundays

15. Kalamazoo North: **A motion prevailed** to approve the Covenant Agreement between North Presbyterian Church of Kalamazoo, MI, and Elder Charles Moerdyk as part time (9-12 hours) Commissioned Ruling Elder effective January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2028. **A motion prevailed** to extend Elder Charles Moerdyk's commission to serve North Presbyterian Church of Kalamazoo, MI, effective January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2028.

Salary:	$5,100
Housing Allowance:	$5,100
Expenses:	$500 (including mileage at IRS rate)

Books/Continuing Education: $500
Two (2) weeks of continuing education
Four (4) weeks of vacation

16. Lansing First: Rev. Barbara Edema's final Sunday was January 11, 2026. **A motion prevailed** to approve the MDP pending changing the position from "permanent pastor" to "installed pastor." Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence (Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk) and Rev. Kristin Stroble (COM Support Staff) will lead Officer Training on February 21, 2026.

17. Lansing North Westminster: Exit Interviews and the Covenant of Closure between North Westminster and Rev. Timothy Chon (VM) have been completed. Rev. Chon's last Sunday was January 4, 2026. The Session will begin Project Regeneration with the Presbyterian Foundation in January 2026. Rev. Kristin Stroble provided officer training on January 10, 2026. **A motion prevailed** to ratify the action taken on the Covenant Agreement between North Westminster Presbyterian Church of Lansing, MI, and Rev. Laura Miller-Purrenhage as part -time (20 hours) Bridge Pastor effective January 1, 2026 - March 31, 2026.

Cash Salary:	$2,942
Housing:	$5,802
Pension Benefits:	$1,161.25
Life & Disability Insurance:	$124.50
SECA Allowance:	$634.50
Mileage:	$250
Professional Development:	$250
Books/Prof. Expenses:	$250
Medical Reimbursements:	$625

One (1) week of paid vacation including one (1) Sunday
One (1) week of Continuing Education including one (1) Sunday
Follow PLM Policy of Family and Medical Leave
Two (2) sick days

A motion prevailed to appoint Rev. Laura Miller-Purrenhage as moderator of their Annual meeting on February 1, 2026.

18. Marshall First: **A motion prevailed** to approve Mx. Shane Morgan to preach at Marshall First during the month of December 2025. **A motion prevailed** to approve Marshall First's Ministry Discernment Profile for an interim pastor

19. Schoolcraft: The congregation's MDP is now active on the CLC. **A motion prevailed** to approve the Covenant Agreement between First Presbyterian Church of Schoolcraft, MI, and Rev. Tom Kragt as Part-time (25 hours) Interim (Stated Supply) Pastor effective February 2, 2026 - July 31, 2026.

Salary: $15,273
Free Use of Manse and Payment of Actual Utilities
Contributions to Retirement Account: $175/month

Mileage reimbursed at IRS rate
Continuing Education: $800
Book Allowance: $300
Two (2) weeks of vacation, including two (2) Sundays
One (1) week of professional development
Follow PLM Family Leave Policy

20. Spring Lake: The church secretary, Mx. Ruth Sorenson, contacted the COM to inform them they had an individual attending the church who forged checks and signatures totalling $8,000. They are working with the bank and the police to resolve the matter. They do not know how that individual got their bank information. The COM suggested that the church review their security and policies to make sure their financial information is secure. **A motion prevailed** to approve the Covenant Agreement between Spring Lake Presbyterian Church and Rev. Dan Griswold (RCA) as full-time Interim Pastor effective February 1, 2026 - January 26, 2027.

Salary:	$62,200
Housing	$25,000
Total Effective Salary	$75,400
Pension	$9,600
Medical Benefits	$26,260
SECA	$6,700
Mileage	$1,000
Professional Expenses	$2,500
Professional Development	$2,100
Vacation	4 weeks ,including 4 Sundays
Professional Development	2 weeks, including 2 Sundays
Follow PLM Family Leave Policy	

A motion prevailed to approve Rev. Doug Brower as moderator of the congregation's session on December 15, 2025. **A motion prevailed** to approve Rev. Dale Swihart (HR Lake Huron Presbytery) to moderate the congregational meeting on December 21, 2025, and the annual meeting on February 2, 2026.

21. Sturgis First: Permission from the Presbytery of Genesee Valley for Rev. Viktoria Berlik to labor outside the bounds was granted. **A motion prevailed** to allow Rev. Viktoria Berlik to labor within the bounds of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan to serve communion at Sturgis on December 24, 2025. Rev. Craig Kunkle was ordained and installed on January 18, 2026. **A motion prevailed** to approve the Administrative Commission to ordain and install Mx. Kunkle at First Presbyterian Church of Sturgis, MI, on January 18, 2026, at 3pm.

Rev. Brenda Deily (HR)
Elder Pattie Bender (Three Rivers/Centreville First)
Rev. Dr. David Weber (Brooklyn)

Elder Eileen Best (Portage Westminster)
Elder Ben Boerkoel (GR Westminster)
Rev. Annamarie Groenenboom (VM)

This concludes the report of the Commission on Ministry.

PRESBYTERY OF LAKE MICHIGAN
REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY
March 14, 2026

The Commission met two times since the last Stated Meeting of the Presbytery. We had regular stated meetings on December 16, 2025, January 27, 2026, and February 24, 2026. The following report deals with actions that the Commission has recommended to the Presbytery, actions taken by the Commission on behalf of the Presbytery, and other matters of a general nature.

1. On December 16, 2025, a **motion prevailed** to approve the minutes of the Commission on the Preparation for Ministry from October and November of 2025.

2. On January 27, 2026, a **motion prevailed** to approve the minutes of the Commission on the Preparation for Ministry from December of 2025.

3. On February 24, 2026, a **motion prevailed** to approve the minutes of the Commission on the Preparation for Ministry from January of 2026.

4. On February 24, 2026, a **motion prevailed** to enthusiastically recommend to COM that Elder Jose Soto (Portage Westminster) is certified ready to serve as a Commissioned Ruling Elder pending completion of his Midwest Vocational Assessment and 6 months of membership at Westminster Portage.

5. On February 24, 2026, a **motion prevailed** to approve the CPM Commission Description with suggested revisions.

This concludes the report of the Committee on the Preparation for Ministry.

This concludes the Consent Agenda

WORSHIP

Dr. Stephen Keizer, along with several members of the Presbytery led the service of worship. Dr. Keizer read Judges 5:2-6, 12-13 and 1 Corinthians 9:22. He preached a sermon entitled: "Patient Leadership." During the sermon, Dr. Keizer offered greetings on behalf of the PC(USA) Foundation. He described how leadership requires patience and adaptability. He used the Apostle Paul as an example and called members of the Presbytery to be leaders by adapting to contexts, listening well, being sensitive to cultural context, and humbling ourselves. He encouraged the members of the Presbytery to serve with compassion and respect. Dr. Keizer ended his sermon with a time of prayer for patient leadership. The offering was designated to support immigration ministries in Michigan, and $1,019.47 was received. The Presbytery commissioned Rev. Kristin Stroble (East Lansing Eastminster), Rev. Steve Kaszar (Homer First/ Concord First), Elder Heather Myer (East Lansing Eastminster), and Elder Ben Boerkoel (GR Westminster) to be the commissioners to the 227th General Assembly. The Presbytery celebrated the Lord's Supper with the Rev. Ben Rumbaugh presiding at the table.

The Presbytery recessed for a 16-minute break at 10:43 a.m. The meeting was reconvened at 10:59 a.m.

KEYNOTE SPEECH

Dr. Stephen Keizer presented a keynote speech. He offered thanks to Presbytery staff and those who led worship. He recognized Rev. Kyle Nolan (VM) and Rev. Gail Monsma (Decatur First/Paw Paw First) for their various roles within the PC(USA) Foundation. Dr. Keizer led a discussion on Adaptive Leadership and encouraged the Presbytery to consider how to view changes through a lens of theology and to meet people where they are in life. He encouraged those present to think differently, not just act differently.

Dr. Stephen Keizer led a workshop about church finances. He reviewed typical revenue streams for congregations and giving trends. He described generational differences in giving. He encouraged focus on relationships to bring about transformative giving. He discussed different philosophies regarding clergy knowledge about giving practices. He encouraged congregations to engage with experts and to develop a planned giving program. Dr. Keizer inspired church leaders to lean into God and God's power so that congregations and leaders can be transformative.

NOMINATING & REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE REPORT
Rev. Lisa Schrott (Okemos) presented the report from the Nominating and Representation Committee. Rev. Schrott reported the following resignation:

COM East Region
Rev. Dr. Rob Carlson (HR) effective January 13, 2026

Rev. Schrott recognized and presented the following slate of nominees for consideration:

PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION
Rev. Charlotte Ellison, HR, for 6 year term (Class of 2030)

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY EAST
RE Monte Shuck, Mason – First, for a 3 year term (Class of 2028)

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY WEST
RE Pam Zandt, Kalamazoo-First for a 3 year term (Class of 2028)

Elder Ben Boerkoel opened the floor for nominations, and there were none. **A motion prevailed** to close nominations from the floor. **A motion prevailed** to elect the presented slate of nominees.

Rev. Lisa Schrott emphasized the need for Ruling Elders to serve on COM. She also described the resources available to congregations regarding immigration on the Presbytery website.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION FOR FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ALLEGAN, MI REPORT

The members of the Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church of Allegan, MI, Rev. Sheth LaRue (Benton Harbor First), Rev. Dr. John Best (HR), and Elder Jud Ross (GR Forest Hills) presented the following information as part of their report.

Recommendation:
After many meetings, conversations, and research, all surrounded by prayer and thoughtful discernment, **the Administrative Commission for the First Presbyterian Church of Allegan, Michigan, established by the Presbytery of Lake Michigan, recommends that the Presbytery of Lake Michigan dissolve the First Presbyterian Church of Allegan, Michigan, effective March 14, 2026.** The Book of Order (G-3.0303b) requires that this action be done in consultation with the church's members. The Administrative Commission has been in ongoing consultation with members of the congregation. We have discerned that the congregation no longer has the financial vitality or leadership capacity to sustain ongoing worship, mission, or ministry within Presbyterian order.

Rational:
The Administrative Commission in this recommendation seeks to honor and protect the stewardship of the Presbytery's time, energy, and the congregation's remaining resources. The congregation has a history of strained pastoral relations going back to the 1960's. Most pastorates have ended with a divided congregation. We are the third Administrative Commission appointed to the First Presbyterian Church of Allegan, Michigan since 2012. The most recent pastorate of Elder Sheri Harris, CRE, ended with pressure by the six or seven active members; several who are relatively new members and who have little understanding or inclination to abide by Presbyterian polity. COM liaisons and Presbytery staff have provided Presbyterian orientation and support. Cooperation for requested information has been difficult, elaborated more fully below. A former Administrative Commission acted with the help of the Presbytery's attorney to release endowed funds restricted for upkeep of the building for church general operations. This allowed the call of Rev. Kathy Nealand and then Elder Sheri Harris to grow the congregation. During which time it was difficult to find members willing to serve on the session, and outreach efforts were items of conflict. The congregation has been struggling with a lack of financial vitality and a lack of leadership capacity since approximately 2012. The Presbytery of Lake Michigan (PLM) has worked with the session and congregation off and on at their request during that time period, both directly through Administrative Commissions, and through the Commission on Ministry (COM). Presbytery and

COM records indicate that the Presbytery has worked regularly and diligently to strengthen the capacity and vitality of the congregation.

Background:
In January 2025, all members of the session of the First Presbyterian Church of Allegan, MI, resigned. This was the second time in the span of as many years that the First Presbyterian Church of Allegan, MI was unable to maintain numbers sufficient to form a session. Upon the resignation of the members of session, the Commission on Ministry (COM), which had been working with the session for many months, recommended that the PLM appoint an Administrative Commission (AC) for the purposes and scope that appear below.

Purpose:

The Commission on Ministry recommends to the Presbytery of Lake Michigan that an Administrative Commission of three to five members be appointed by the Moderator of the Presbytery, in consultation with the Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk, for the following purpose:

1. To assume original jurisdiction of the session so that all PCUSA constitutional and State of Michigan corporate requirements are fulfilled.
2. To determine if the congregation has the capacity to engage in future mission and ministry or to recommend dissolution of the congregation.
3. If it is determined that the congregation has the capacity to engage in future mission and ministry, to assist the congregation in determining that engagement.

Scope of Authorities

1. This Administrative Commission has the full authority of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan, except where limited by provisions of the PC(USA) Book of Order, as regards the correction of the reported disorder listed in items 1-3 under Purpose.
2. In the assumption of original jurisdiction, the Administrative Commission will act with the full power and authority of the session.
3. The First Presbyterian Church of Allegan, MI, will be responsible for all fees incurred should a consultant be required to help resolve any areas of disorder, and for all costs of dissolution and sale of the property in the event the congregation is dissolved.

The Work of the Administrative Commission

The Administrative Commission has been meeting most weeks since mid-October 2025, by Zoom, joined by Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence (Stated Clerk/Executive Presbyter), Rev. Dr. Cal Bremer (Assistant to the Executive Presbyter), and Rev. Kristin Stroble (COM Support Staff) (on occasion). Members of the AC met in person with the church's three employees, and corresponded with all congregational members listed on the membership rolls by the U.S. Postal Service on November 23, 2025. The purpose of the communication was to invite each member to meet in person with the AC to provide feedback. The AC met individually with four members who responded to the AC's invitation. The AC used the feedback in its discernment process relative to the congregation's vitality and energy for future worship, mission, and ministry.

Research of **Session Records** found that the last Session minutes to be included in the Session Minutes Book was in 2022. The clerk of session for 2023-24 was in name only and knew little about the Session records. Rev. Sherri Harris took the Session minutes. Session minutes for 2023 and 2024

were later provided by Rev. Harris upon request. The Church registry had not been updated for three or four years. We found 11 members whose deaths had not been recorded. We identified 13 active members of which one has since died, four are homebound, two live elsewhere, one of whom financially gives two-thirds of the church's reported contributions, one member is neurodivergent, and the remaining six are senior citizens.

Worship: The church averages six at worship, occasionally with pulpit supply worship leaders. At other times they tune into the streamed services of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Grand Rapids, MI, and a church in Nashville, TN, they know about and like. Their long-tenured organist resigned midyear 2025 with so few attending. A guitarist from the Folk Festival leads music when they have a worship leader.

Mission/Building Use: The church is used for a variety of community services. A Folk Musical Group has held concerts in the sanctuary for years, but due to funding has been less active recently. "Friends on Wednesday," a lifelong learning program utilizes the fellowship hall weekly for educational gatherings. In January 2026, the church hosted a warming center while a permanent location was being prepared. A man experiencing homelessness is living in the manse without Administrative Commission approval.

Finances: 2025 Income: $47,786, of which, $34,115 were contributions. 2025 Expenses: $136,585 of which $67,387 was for steeple, roof, and manse repair, $34,120 in payroll. Bank and Investment Balance December 31, 2025: $207,737. Liabilities: $6,353. Total Equity and Liability as of December 31, 2025: $201,384.

Administration: One of the purposes for which the PLM appointed the AC was to assume original jurisdiction since no session exists. The PC(USA) *Book of Order* provides in G-4.0102, *"The ruling elders on the session of a congregation, who are eligible under the civil law, shall be the trustees of the corporation . . ."* The AC, acting as the session, sought to put in order State of Michigan corporate requirements to name the AC as the current officers/trustees. But in spite of multiple requests for the login username and password to the Michigan State Licensing and Regulatory Affairs website, this information has not been provided as of the date this report was written. The AC needs that information to address legal matters related to the corporation. The AC also requested keys to the church and manse, bank account information, usernames, and passwords for various online accounts. The church secretary, who is also a member, contacted members of the congregation and responded with an email of outrage with church members' names attached. Some information has subsequently been shared, but access to office computers and keys to the manse have yet to be shared. The AC is working to gain access to bank accounts and the login to the MI Licensing and Regulatory Affairs website.

Conversations with the Congregation: The AC met with the congregation following worship on February 1, 2026, to discuss the AC's findings and decision to recommend to the Presbytery to dissolve the congregation. The meeting was attended by seven members and eight friends of the church, most new within the last 2-3 weeks. The news was received with immediate pushback and a plea for one more chance with Presbytery help. We discussed next steps and what will happen with the church's real estate and finances. After 45 minutes of discussion the conversation concluded with an appeal to reconsider.

After the February 1, 2026, meeting, the AC met and again resolved to recommend to the Presbytery that the First Presbyterian Church of Allegan, MI be dissolved. Rev. Dr. John Best and

Elder Jud Ross met with the congregation on February 10, 2026, to affirm the AC's decision. Questions were asked about the church's real estate and finances. According to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., Part II, The Book of Order, G-4.0203, "All property held by or for a congregation, a presbytery, a synod, the General Assembly, or the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), whether legal title is lodged in a corporation, a trustee or trustees, or an unincorporated association, and whether the property is used in programs of a congregation or of a higher council or retained for the production of income, is held in trust nevertheless for the use and benefit of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)."

The AC continues to move toward our plan to hold a final regular worship service on March 8, 2026, and a celebratory service later in the spring.

After a time of discussion, **a motion prevailed** to dissolve the First Presbyterian Church of Allegan, Michigan, effective March 14, 2026.

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY
Rev. Ben Rumbaugh welcomed Rev. Dr. Daniel Griswold (Spring Lake) to the Presbytery of Lake Michigan.

JUSTICE MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY
Rev. Sarah Schmidt-Lee (VM) invited members of the Presbytery to participate in the Palm Sunday Path on March 29, 2026, in response to Christian Nationalism. The Palm Sunday Path is a nationwide movement to voice the values of the Christian faith based on Matthew 25. On March 29, 2026, Christians will gather in Lansing, MI and march to the capital. Rev. Schmidt-Lee encouraged all members of the Presbytery to register and volunteer.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER
Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence highlighted several exciting opportunities in the Presbytery, including several grants to assist with creative ministry, mergers/unions, and closures.

REPORT OF THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Elder Beth Dyer (Kalamazoo First) offered a report from the Budget and Finance Committee. Elder Dyer reported the income and expenses summary for 2025. The information was provided prior to the annual financial review. The 2025 Operating Revenue was $367,117. The 2025 Operating Expenses were $193,974. The 2025 Investment gains were $528,563.23. The total unrestricted fund balance as of December 31, 2025, was $4,090,707.38.

PRESENTATION FROM THE BOARD OF PENSIONS
Rev. Luke Choi, Representative of the Board of Pensions, offered an update from the Board of Pensions. He encouraged members of the Presbytery to consider the Minister's Debt Relief and the new Childcare Assistance Program. He also invited all present to the Regional Benefits Summit at GR Westminster on April 15, 2026. He also invited all retired pastors to attend a lunch at Lansing First on October 21, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 12:53 p.m. Elder Ben Boerkoel closed the meeting with prayer and the extinguishing of the Christ Candle.

The next Presbytery meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 9, 2026
at First Presbyterian Church
2577 Wickham Drive
Muskegon, MI 49441

Leadership Team Meeting Minutes
Presbytery of Lake Michigan via Zoom
1511 Helen Avenue, Portage, MI 49002
March 5, 2026 12:30 p.m.

Present: Ben Boerkoel (RE-Westminster GR/PLM Moderator), Beth Dyer (RE-Kalamazoo First/B&F Moderator), Linda Hardenbergh (RE-Eastminster EL/PLM Vice-Moderator), Troy Hauser-Brydon (TE-Grand Haven/LT Moderator), Jeanette Holton (RE-Benton Harbor First/AST), Nick Marlatt (TE-Hastings/LT MAL), Lynette Sparks (TE-Westminster GR/M&O)

Staff: Fran Lane-Lawrence (Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk), Cal Bremer (Asst. to Exec), Kristin Stroble (COM Resource Staff)

Excused: Chris Dorn (TE-Ionia/DST), Lisa Schrott (TE-/N&R Moderator)

Call to Order, Opening Prayer, and Quorum
Rev. Troy Hauser-Brydon called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m. and invited Rev. Lynette Sparks to open the meeting with Prayer. A quorum was present.

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 item.

A. **To approve** the Leadership Team Meeting Minutes of February 5, 2026

Unfinished Business:

A. Nomination of 2 male ruling elders and 1 female ruling elder to serve on the Nominating Committee.

   Rick Taylor K'zoo First), Donna Paul-Bonham (Benton Harbor), Linda Bieze (Westminster GR), Laurie Tupper (K'zoo First), Sarah Schamberger (GH), Sherriell Vore (Westminster GR), Ted Hartzell (Westminster GR), Susan Jennings (Westminster GR)

B. The Leadership Team received updates about each of the Administrative Commissions for the following congregations: Allegan, Decatur/Paw Paw, Delta/Dimondale, Marshall, Richland, Westlake.

C. The Leadership Team clarified that the spokesperson for the Presbytery is the Stated Clerk.

D. Members Appointment of three volunteers toward the discernment of a remote Presbytery Office - Troy

E. Final Approval of the Docket

New Business:

A. Potential Preaching Workshop - Kristin

Discussion of the Business and Worship at Stated Meetings of the Presbytery: Fran Lane-Lawrence

A. **Saturday, March 14, 2026 - Dimondale**
   1. Worship
      a. Celebration of the Lord's Supper
      b. Commissioning of Commissioners to GA
      c. Offering - Immigrant Ministries
      d. Preacher - Steve Keizer
   2. Nominating Committee Report - Lisa Schrott (10 Minutes) **[ACTION]**
   3. AC for FPC - Allegan, MI - Rev. Dr. John Best (30 minutes) **[ACTION]**
   4. COM Welcome of New Pastors - Ben Rumbaugh (10 Minutes)
   5. Report of EP - Fran Lane-Lawrence (5 minutes)
      a. Creative Ministries/Vulnerable Congregation Grant
      b. Dissolution Discernment Grant
      c. Mergers/Unions/Joint Ministry Grant
   6. Report of B&F - Beth Dyer (10 Minutes)
   7. Board of Pension - Luke Choi (10 minutes)
   8. Justice Ministries Invitation - Sarah Schmidt-Lee (5 minutes)

B. **Tuesday, June 9, 2026 - Muskegon**
   1. Worship
      a. Celebration of the Lord's Supper
      b. Offering -
      c. Preacher -
   2. Synod of the Covenant Report (10 minutes)
   3. Report of B&F
   4. Report of EP - Fran Lane-Lawrence (5 minutes)
   5. Nominating Committee Report -
   6. COM - Ben Rumbaugh

C. **Saturday, September 12, 2026 - Richland**
   1. Worship
      a. Celebration of the Lord's Supper
      b. Offering -
      c. Preacher -
   2. Synod of the Covenant Report (10 minutes)
   3. Report of B&F
      a. First Read of the Proposed Budget for 2027
   4. Report of EP - Fran Lane-Lawrence (5 minutes)

5. Nominating Committee Report -
6. COM - Ben Rumbaugh

D. **Tuesday, November 17, 2026 - Hastings (?)**
1. Worship
    a. Celebration of the Lord's Supper
    b. Celebration of Saints
    c. Installation of Moderator/Vice Moderator
    e. Offering - PLM Candidates and Inquirers
    f. Preacher - Rodger Nishioka
2. Synod of the Covenant Report (10 minutes)
3. Report of B&F -
    a. Vote on Proposed Budget
4. Report of EP - Fran Lane-Lawrence (5 minutes)
5. Nominating Committee Report - (10 minutes)
6. COM - Ben Rumbaugh

Adjournment and Closing Prayer: The meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m**.** Rev. Troy Hauser Brydon closed the meeting with prayer.

Next meeting: April 2, 2026
Via Zoom

Devotion: Chris Dorn

Leadership Team
Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Minutes
May 7, 2026 12:30 p.m.
Via Zoom

Attendance Roll: Ben Boerkoel (RE-Westminster GR/PLM Moderator), Chris Dorn (TE-Ionia/DST), Beth Dyer (RE-Kalamazoo First/B&F Moderator), Linda Hardenbergh (RE-Eastminster EL/PLM Vice-Moderator), Troy Hauser-Brydon (TE-Grand Haven/LT Moderator), Jeanette Holton (RE-Benton Harbor First/AST), Lisa Schrott (TE-/N&R Moderator), Lynette Sparks (TE-Westminster GR/M&O)

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

Excused: Kristin Stroble (COM Resource Staff)

Absent: Nick Marlatt (TE-Hastings/LT MAL)

Call to Order, Opening Prayer, and Quorum:
Troy Hauser-Brydon, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m. Rev. Hauser-Brydon invited Lisa Schrott to open the meeting with prayer. A quorum was present.

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 February 5, 2026, and March 5, 2026.
B. **To receive** the resignation of Rev. Lisa Schrott from the Nominating Committee effective June 30, 2026.

Unfinished Business:

A. Nominations for Nominating Committee

A motion prevailed to recommend the following nominees to serve on the Nominating Committee to the Presbytery at the stated meeting on June 9, 2026.

Elder Linda Bieze (Westminster GR), Class of 2027
Rev. Jay Ayers (HR), Class of 2028

The Leadership Team needs to identify one more nominee - 1 male ruling elder to serve on the Nominating Committee to fill a vacancy in the Class of 2028.

B. **Updates regarding Administrative Commissions**
Members of the Leadership Team received updates regarding the work of Administrative Commissions for the following congregations: Allegan, Decatur-Paw Paw Merger, Delta-Dimondale, Marshall, Richland, and Westlake.

New Business:

A. **Discussion of the Business and Worship at Stated Meetings of the Presbytery:**
A motion prevailed to approve the docket and to commission the stated clerk to make adjustments or additions.

A. **Tuesday, June 9, 2026 - Muskegon**
1. Worship
    a. Celebration of the Lord's Supper
    b. Offering -
    c. Preacher -
    d. Inquirer to Candidate
2. Nominating Committee Report - Lisa Schrott (10 Minutes) **[ACTION]**
3. Leadership Team Nominations for Nominating Committee (5 Minutes) **[ACTION]**
4. COM Celebration of Retirement - Ben Rumbaugh (10 Minutes)
5. Report of EP - Fran Lane-Lawrence (5 minutes)
6. Report of B&F - Beth Dyer (10 Minutes)
   MAP
   Audit
7. Decatur - Paw Paw Merger AC (10 minutes)
8. Richland AC -Dismiss ? (10 minutes) **[ACTION]**
8. Keynote -

Adjournment and Closing Prayer: A motion prevailed to adjourn the meeting at 1:04 p.m. Rev. Hauser Brydon closed the meeting with prayer.

Next meeting: June 4, 2026
Via Zoom

Devotion: Ben Boerkoel