PRESBYTERY OF LAKE MICHIGAN
CONSENT AGENDA of the STATED MEETING
November 17, 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), Elizabeth Hakken Candido (VM), Katherine Culpepper (Retired), Karen Fitz LaBarge (Rockford North Kent), Laurie Hartzell (Retired), Mackenzie Jager (Muskegon First), Calandra Nevenzel (Richland First), Sarah Schmidt-Lee (VM), Barb Schreur (MAL), Lorenzo Small (Battle Creek First), John Won (East Lansing Korean)

2. **To approve** the Minutes of the Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan, September 12, 2026, Online only.

3. **To file** the approved Minutes of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan Leadership Team on September 3, 2026, and October 1, 2026. Online only.

4. **To receive** the Treasurer's Report for November 17, 2026. Online Only.

5. **To elect** Rev. Michael Horlocker (Cadillac First) as Vice Moderator of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan (class of 2027) succeeding to Moderator of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan (class of 2028).

6. **To receive** the report of the roster of PJC members whose terms expired in the past six years:
   Class of 2020: Rev. Linda Knieriemen, Elder Charlotte Smith, Rev. David Stubbs
   Class of 2022: Rev. Doug Nettleton, Rev. Dave Milbourn, Elder Cal Bosman
   Class of 2024: Elder Stuart Demming, Elder James Justin,

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

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK
Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence
November 17, 2026

1. **REVIEW OF 2025 SESSION MINUTES:** The review of the 2025 session minutes has been completed. The 2025 Session Minutes for the following congregations were approved without exception. Battle Creek First, Battle Creek Pennfield, Benton Harbor Fairplain, Big Rapids United, Brooklyn, Buchanan First, Cadillac First, Cassopolis United, Concord First, Decatur First, Dimondale First, East Lansing Eastminster, Edwardsburg, Grand Haven First, Grand Rapids Forest Hills, Grand Rapids North Park, Grand Rapids Westminster, Gregory Unidilla, Hastings First, Hesperia, Holt First, Homer First, Ionia First, Jackson First, Jackson

Westminster, Jenison Parkwood, Jonesville First, Kalamazoo First, Lake City First, Lansing First, Lansing Delta, Lansing North Westminster, Lyons/Muir, Marshall First, Mason First, Muskegon First, Niles First, Okemos, Plainwell First, Portage Westminster, Richland First, Rockford North Kent, Schoolcraft First, Spring Lake, Sturgis First, and Three Rivers/Centerville First.

The 2025 Session Minute reviews for the following congregations were not approved: Battle Creek Westlake, Coldwater First, East Lansing Korean, Gobles Bethany, Holland First, Kalamazoo North, Paw Paw First

2. **FOR CLERKS OF SESSION - 2026 ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORTS:** The PCUSA 2026 Annual Statistical Reporting System will be open for entry on January 2, 2027. The system can be accessed online in the Clerk's Portal on the tab marked Statistics using the user login and password you have been assigned. Clerks of Session are advised to begin collecting data for the report now so that when the system opens, information can be entered. A reminder that reports must be approved by session before the information is submitted. The deadline for the submission of statistical reports is February 13, 2027. If you have any questions about the statistical report, please contact Rev. Annamarie Groenenboom, Associate Clerk.

3. **FOR CLERKS OF SESSION - 2026 MINUTE REVIEW DATES**

Please find below the schedule for the review of 2026 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. There will also be limited time at the Clerk of Session Retreat on June 26, 2027, for minute reviews.

The 2026 Minute Review Checklist is posted on the Presbytery website. Please contact Rev. Annamarie Groenenboom, Associate Clerk, with any questions you might have about the 2026 session minutes reviews.

Cluster 1 – June 3, 2027 at 6:30 p.m. – Annamarie Groenenboom
Location: First Presbyterian Church, 221 East Harris Street, Cadillac, MI 49601
Big Rapids United, Cadillac First, Hesperia, Lake City First,

Cluster 2 – May 11, 2027, at 7:00 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, Muskegon First, Rockford North Kent, Spring Lake

Cluster 3 – April 27, 2027, at 7:00 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 – April 13, 2027, at 7:00 p.m. – Annamarie Groenenboom
Location: First Presbyterian Church, 405 North M-37 Highway, Hastings, MI 49058
Allegan First, Benton Harbor First, Gobles Bethany, Hastings First, Kalamazoo First, Kalamazoo North, Lyons-Muir Federated, Paw Paw First, Paw Paw Pinestreet, Plainwell First, Portage Westminster, Richland First, Schoolcraft First, Three Rivers/Centreville First

Cluster 5 –June 1, 2027, at 7:00 p.m. - Bruce Archer/Annamarie Groenenboom
Location: First Presbyterian Church, 313 East Maple, Mason, Michigan 48854
East Lansing Eastminster, East Lansing Peoples, Lansing Delta, Lansing First, Lansing North Westminster, Mason First, Okemos, Stockbridge First, Gregory Unadilla

Cluster 6 – May 25, 2027, at 7:00 p.m. – Nancy Corner/Annamarie Groenenboom
Location: First Presbyterian Church, 2021 N Aurelius Rd., Holt, MI 48842
Battle Creek First, Battle Creek Pennfield, Battle Creek Westlake, Brooklyn, Coldwater First, Concord First, Dimondale First, Holt First,Homer First, Jackson First, Jackson Westminster, Jonesville First, Marshall First

4. **2025 Presbytery of Lake Michigan Minute Review:** The 2025 minutes of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan were reviewed and approved without exception by the Synod of the Covenant on October 27, 2026.

5. **BOUNDARY AND ETHICS TRAINING:** The PCUSA Constitution in the *Book of Order* mandates all councils (this includes sessions) to adopt and implement sexual misconduct policies "which shall include requirements for training which includes the topics 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. Annamarie Groenenboom, Associate Clerk, or Rev. Dr. Fran Lane-Lawrence, Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk, for information about how to complete the training.

   Upcoming 2026 Boundary Trainings:

   December 5 - 9:30 - 1:30 Saturday Morning

   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 topics of sexual misconduct and child sexual abuse prevention training so satisfy the requirements of the *Book of Order* found in G-3.0106.

6. **REQUEST FOR EXCUSED ABSENCES FOR PRESBYTERY MEETINGS:**
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*
   b. Tuesday, June 9, 2026 – *MUSKEGON*
   c. Saturday, September 12, 2026 - *RICHLAND*
   d. Tuesday, November 10, 2026 - *HASTINGS*

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

8. **DATES FOR STATED MEETINGS IN 2027**: The dates for stated meetings of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan for 2027 are as follows:

   a. Tuesday, February 9, 2027, 6 PM – *ZOOM*
   b. Saturday, June 12, 2027, 9:30 AM – *BROOKLYN*
   c. Tuesday, September 14, 2027, 9:30 AM -*BENTON HARBOR FIRST*
   d. Saturday, November 13, 2027, 9:30 AM - *STURGIS*

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

9. **REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS**:

First Presbyterian Church of Allegan, MI
Presbytery of Lake Michigan
Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church of Allegan, MI
November 17, 2026

We remind commissioners that members of The Gun Lake Tribe viewed the property on May 09, 2026, and expressed interest in receiving the property. The Tribal Council viewed the property again on September 01, 2026. Subsequently, they informed the AC that they needed to pause the process to obtain more information on repairs required for the building, as well as more information on occupancy expenses. The AC last reported to the September 12, 2026, Stated Meeting. Since that time, the following has transpired: the Gun Lake Tribe Council elected three new members who need time to process information and be

brought up to speed. The Council suggested that it might be early in 2027 before they could obtain the information needed for their decision.

On October 28, 2026, the AC communicated the following to the Tribal Council:

> Today the Administrative Commission (AC) for Allegan First Presbyterian Church met and reviewed your communication dated Monday, October 26, 2026.
>
> Thank you for the sensitivity regarding the interests and concerns within the Presbytery as both buildings stand empty but require utilities and check-ins.
>
> Thanks for making time today for a phone call to answer a few questions and enlighten the AC regarding the Tribal Council's desire for a building inspector and for solicitation of bids to address the findings of the building inspector.
>
> Following the conversation with you, the AC continued its meeting and considered the complicating factors for all the parties involved.
>
> The AC's decisions can be summarized as follows:
>
> 1. We will work with you to provide access to the building for the building inspector that you hire.
>
> 2. We will work with you to provide access to the building for firms that will provide you with quotes to address the needs identified by the building inspector.
>
> 3. The AC believes that the information provided to the Tribal Council should facilitate an answer by March 30, 2027.
>
> 4. The AC has chosen not to list the building for sale currently as we await your decision by March 30, 2027.
>
> 5. The AC will communicate these decisions to the Presbytery at its quarterly meeting on November 17, 2026.
>
> Blessings to you as together we work on finding the best way forward.

Wednesday, November 04,2026, the Tribal Council inspector and contractors met at the Allegan properties to begin this phase of the process.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruling Elder Jud Ross (Grand Rapids, Forest Hills)
Rev. John Best (HR)
Rev. Sheth LaRue (Benton Harbor First)

This concludes the reports of the Administrative Commissions.

This concludes the Clerk's Report

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

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON MINISTRY STATED MEETING
of the PRESBYTERY of LAKE MICHIGAN

Since the last Presbytery meeting, the COM Plenary has met once (November 10, 2026), and the Eastern and Western 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 August 11, 2026.
2. **A motion prevailed** to approve the minutes of the COM Regions since the August 11, 2026, Plenary meeting.
3. **A motion prevailed** to approve Rev. Janice Jasperse (Retired) be added to the pulpit supply list.
4. **A motion prevailed** to add Elder David Habicht (Buchanan First) to the pulpit supply list.
5. **A motion prevailed** to dismiss Rev. Dr. Philomena Ofori-Nipaah to the Presbytery of Hudson River effective September 1, 2026.
6. **A motion prevailed** to add the following language to the Pulpit Supply Policy: While completion of the Synod of the Covenant Cultivating the Gifts of Preaching Initiative is helpful in the development of preaching skills necessary for ruling elders to occasionally preach in their home congregation or to supply occasionally in another local congregation, it is not considered adequate credentialing for inclusion on the Presbytery of Lake Michigan Pulpit Supply List.
7. Battle Creek Westlake: **A motion prevailed** to recommend to the Presbytery to appoint an administrative commission of three to five members, of ruling elders and teaching elders in numbers as nearly equal as possible, to the Westlake Presbyterian Church of Battle Creek, MI. The recommendation for the purpose and scope will be included on the docket for the stated meeting of the Presbytery of Lake Michigan on November 17, 2026.
8. Brooklyn: **A motion prevailed** to approve the covenant agreement between

Brooklyn Presbyterian Church and Rev. Dr. David Weber as Interim Pastor effective September 1, 2026 - September 1, 2027.

Cash Salary	$43,852
Housing Allowance	$23,613
Total Effective Salary	$67,465
SECA Offset	$5,588
Board of Pensions	$18,552.87
Professional Development	$1,000
Professional Expenses	$1,000
Books	$500
Travel	IRS Rate
Vacation	1 week per quarter
Study Leave	2 weeks, including 2 Sundays

9. Coldwater First: **A motion prevailed** to accept the self-study as information only.

10. Jonesville First: **A motion prevailed** to ratify the action taken by email on August 22, 2026, to approve the covenant agreement between First Presbyterian Church of Jonesville, Michigan, and Rev. Charlotte Ellison as part-time (19 hours) interim pastor effective September 1, 2026 - August 31, 2027.

Cash Salary	$0
Housing Allowance	$29,176
Mileage	IRS Rate
Professional Development	$800
Books	$300
Vacation	30 days, including 4 Sundays
Professional Development	14 days, including 2 Sundays

11. Hesperia: **A motion prevailed** to approve the covenant agreement between Hesperia Presbyterian Church and Rev. Dr. Scott Paul-Bonham as part-time temporary stated supply pastor effective January 1, 2027 - December 31, 2027.

$225/Sunday service	
$25/hour for Pastoral Care Services	
$75/meeting moderated	
Mileage	IRS Rate

12. Kalamazoo First: **A motion prevailed** to approve the covenant agreement between First Presbyterian Church of Kalamazoo, MI, and Rev. Joshua Bode as full-time Interim pastor effective November 1, 2026 - October 31, 2027.

Cash Salary	$85,000
Housing Allowance	$25,000
SECA	$8,415

Benefits	$32,958
Professional Expenses	$3,100
Professional Development	$2,500
Mileage	$2,000
Professional Development	14 days, including 2 Sundays
Vacation	30 days, including 4 Sundays
Spiritual Renewal	1 week, including 1 Sunday

13. Marshall First: **A motion prevailed** to approve the Covenant Agreement between the First Presbyterian Church of Marshall, Michigan, and Rev. David Sieplinga (RCA) as part-time (17 hours) temporary stated supply pastor effective November 1, 2026 - October 31, 2027.

Cash Salary	$25,000
Housing Allowance	$10,000
Total Effective Salary	$35,000
Transportation benefit	$1,200
Professional Expenses	$200
Professional Development	$600
Vacation	4 weeks, including 4 Sundays
Professional Development	2 weeks, including 2 Sundays

A motion prevailed to appoint Rev. David Sieplinga as moderator effective November 10, 2026.

14. Okemos: **A motion prevailed** to approve the adjusted terms of call between Okemos Presbyterian Church and Associate Pastor Rev. Aaron Punt effective September 20, 2026.

Cash Salary	$31,00
Housing Allowance	$42,000
Total Effective Salary	$73,000
Retirement	$8,987
Health Insurance	$27,708
Death and Long Term Disability	$1,889
Short Term Disability	$ 785
Dental + Vision	$1,790
Continuing Education	$1,850
Ministry Expenses	$1,000
Mileage	$1,000
Cell Phone	$600
Vacation	30 days, including 4 Sundays
Professional Development	14 days, including 2 Sundays

Service to the greater church	7 days, including 1 Sunday

Rev. Aaron Punt's Installation Service is scheduled for November 22, 2026, at 2:00 pm at the Presbyterian Church of Okemos. **A motion prevailed** to approve the following Installation Commission: Elder Laurin Gierman (Okemos), Rev. Lisa Schrott (Okemos), Rev. Ben Rumbaugh (Lansing First), Rev. Kristin Stroble (East Lansing Eastminster), Elder Ben Boerkoel (Grand Rapids Westminster), and Elder Monte Shuck (Mason First).

15. Paw Paw Pine Street: **A motion prevailed** to approve the formation of a Pastor Nominating Committee at Pine Street Presbyterian Church, Paw Paw, MI. **A motion prevailed** to approve the revised covenant agreement between Pine Street Presbyterian Church and Rev. Gail Monsma as part-time (30 hours) interim pastor, effective September 9, 2026 - July 31, 2027.

Cash Salary	$49,389
Housing Allowance	$10,000
SECA	$4,543
Benefits	$7,127
Professional Expenses	$800
Professional Development	$1,200
Mileage Estimate	$1,500
Phone Reimbursement	$600
Professional Development	2 Weeks, including 2 Sundays
Vacation	4 Weeks, including 4 Sundays
Spiritual Renewal	1 Week, including 1 Sunday

16. Schoolcraft First: **A motion prevailed** to approve the covenant agreement between First Presbyterian Church of Schoolcraft, MI, and Rev. Tom Kragt as part-time (25 hours) temporary stated supply pastor effective August 1, 2026 - December 31, 2026.

Cash Salary	$13,440.24
Housing	Free use of manse
Retirement Contributions	$875
Mileage	IRS Rate
Professional Development	$800
Book Allowance	$300
Vacation	2 weeks, including 2 Sundays
Professional Development	7 days, including 1 Sunday

17. Spring Lake: **A motion prevailed** to approve the self-study.
18. Stockbridge First: **A motion prevailed** to not approve Mx. Christian Powell to fill the pulpit once per month. **A motion prevailed** to appoint Rev. Scott Scheel (Edwardsburg) to serve as moderator effective November 11, 2026.

19. Three Rivers/Centreville First: **A motion prevailed** to approve the formation of a Pastor Nominating Committee at First Presbyterian Church of Three Rivers/Centreville, MI.

This concludes the report of the Commission on Ministry.

PRESBYTERY OF LAKE MICHIGAN
REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY
November 17, 2026

The Commission met two times since the last Stated Meeting of the Presbytery. The Commission had monthly meetings on September 22 and October 27, 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 minutes of the Commission on the Preparation for Ministry from the meetings on August 25 and September 22, 2026.

2. **A motion prevailed,** to move Elder Steve Zeoli (Ionia First) to candidacy and to receive him at the Stated Meeting of the Presbytery on November 17, 2026.

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

This concludes the Consent Agenda.