

Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area

**Stated Meeting
Thursday, September 10, 2026
4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**Associated Church
800 Havana Road
Owatonna, MN 55060**

“There’s a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it’s the Spirit of the Lord; there are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord. Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with your love; and for those blessings we lift our hearts in praise; without a doubt we’ll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.”

Verse One, There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit, text and music: Doris Akers, 1962.

Hymn #408 in Glory To God: The Presbyterian Hymnal

*This meeting is a **hybrid** meeting. The Presbytery will gather at Associated Church in Owatonna, Minnesota; Presbyters may attend the meeting either in person or over Zoom.*

This meeting begins promptly at 4 pm. The registration table will be open at 3:30 pm. This meeting will begin with a worship service coordinated by the Pastoral Leader Care Team and supported by musicians from Associated, Owatonna.

This meeting also includes a meal, provided by the hospitality of Associated, Owatonna. Vegetarian options, along with gluten free options, are available upon request.

*To be inclusive of all people: **please do not bring any peanut or tree nut products to this meeting.** This includes almonds, cashews, walnuts, pistachios, hazelnuts.*

Please be mindful of products such as creamers in coffee, lotion, etc.

DOCKET***The Presbytery Gathers for the Stated Meeting***

3:30 p.m. Registration Table opens.

Please sign your name at the registration table and make a nametag for yourself. Please include the following: TE or RE, Name, Affiliation (Church, Organization, or Agency). Pronouns stickers are also provided.

3:30 p.m. Zoom opens – no formal activities until 4:00 p.m.

Please rename yourself to include the following: (RE or TE, Name, Affiliation Church, Organization, or Agency), and Pronouns.

As you log in, please make sure that your audio is working. Please familiarize yourself with the Zoom Community Norms document.

The Presbytery Worships together

4:00 p.m. Call to Order and Opening Prayer TE Paul Moore, Moderator

4:00 p.m. Word of Welcome TE Paul Moore, Moderator

Welcome and Instructions to in-person Presbyters to fully participate in today's meeting.

Welcome Zoom Participants Zoom chat host

Welcome and instructions to Zoom Presbyters to fully participate in today's meeting.

Welcome by the Host Church TE Steve Tyykila, Associated, Owatonna

Land Acknowledgement

4:10 p.m. Worship

Worship will include the 2025 Necrology Reading for Ruling and Teaching Elders. Today's worship service was planned and coordinated by members of the Pastoral Leader Care Team. Today's musicians are part of the Associated, Owatonna music and worship team.

The Presbytery conducts Business

4:45 p.m. Opening Business TE Paul Moore, Moderator

Forming the Roll

Declaration of a Quorum

Introduction of new Ministry Members

Introduction of First-Time Commissioners

Seating of Corresponding Members

Recognition of Visitors

Approval of the Docket

including the OMNIBUS/Consent Agenda, the 2026-05-05 Stated Meeting Minutes and the 2026-07-09 Called Meeting Minutes.

5:00 p.m.	Report: Presbytery Leadership Team	RE Elsa Kendig, chair
5:05 p.m.	Report: Board of Trustees	TE Cader Howard
5:15 p.m.	Report: Stated Clerk	TE John Curtiss, Stated Clerk

Including a report on updating the Bylaws.

5:20 p.m.	Report: Committee on the Preparation for Ministry	
		RE Sally Narr, co-chair

Including information about Sacred Circles – a new program that supports the work of developing leaders – including pastors and commissioned ruling elders.

5:40 p.m.	Report: Commission on Ministry	TE Chris Chatelaine-Samsen, chair
		<i>Including recognizing the retirement of TE Cindy Ray.</i>

6 :05 p.m.	Report: Antiracism Task Force	TE Brain Entz
		TE Kendra Gram, co-chairs

Including highlights from the Antiracism policy.

6 :15 p.m.	Report: Acting Co Executive Presbyters	TE Anna Kendig Flores
		TE Zach Wilson

6:25 p.m.	Report: Mission, Scholarships and Grants Committee	RE Rocky Rockenstein, chair
6:30 p.m.	Report: Stated Clerk/Attendance	TE John Curtiss

This concludes the business portion of the Presbytery meeting.

The Presbytery enjoys Food and Fellowship

6:30 p.m.	Prayer	TE Paul Moore
	Dinner Instructions	TE Steve Tyykila
	Food and Fellowship	
7:00 p.m.	Ice Cream Social	<i>Sponsored by the PLT</i>
	Community Shout outs: Summer Updates Edition	
		RE Sue Goodspeed, Vice Moderator

Including Clearwater Forest, Synod School, General Assembly.

Presbyters are encouraged to share a community shout out or a summer update.

Click [HERE](#) to view the Combined May & July 2026 Meeting Minutes

Click [HERE](#) to view the BOT purchase agreement attachment

OMNIBUS MOTION/CONSENT AGENDA

I. **Presbytery Leadership Team (PLT)**

The Presbytery Leadership Team **reports**:

A. From the June 1, 2026, meeting:

1. **Changing** the date of the Stated Meeting/Annual Meeting from November 21st, 2026, **to November 14th, 2026**, in order that RE Sue Goodspeed, Vice Moderator, can attend the Moderator's Conference in Louisville, Kentucky.
2. **Setting** the 2027 Stated Meeting dates as follows:
 Saturday, February 6, 2027, from 9 am – 12 noon, lunch following

 Thursday, May 13, 2027, from 4-8 pm, including a meal.

 Tuesday, September 14, 2027, from 4-8 pm, including a meal.

 Saturday, November 13, 2027, from 9 am – 12 noon, lunch following. *This is the Annual Meeting of the Presbytery.*
3. **Calling** a special meeting of the Presbytery on **Thursday, July 9th, 2026, at 7 pm over Zoom only** for the purpose of approving the sale of the church property (New Life Presbyterian Church, 965 Larpenteur Avenue W, Roseville, MN, 55113), as described in the purchase agreement, including Appendix A and Appendix B, for the purchase price of \$3,600,000.00 and as recommended by the Board of Trustees.
4. **Adjusting** the amount of per capita owed by Associated, Owatonna by 50% (effectively billing them for ½ of what had been previously billed) due to extenuating circumstances and a misreporting of past membership.

B. From the August 3, 2026, meeting:

1. **Setting** the 2027 Per Capita rate (PTCA) as \$28.71
 This brings the **total 2027 per capita rate to: \$47.25**

 This amount includes: \$13.04 (2027 General Assembly per capita)
 \$ 5.50 (2027 Synod of Lakes and Prairies per capita)
 \$28.71 (2027 PTCA per capita)

 This reflects an increase of \$3.50 from the 2026 per capita (\$43.75).

 The PTCA increase is \$1.72, the General Assembly increase is \$1.78.

2. **Budget Stewardship and Visioning Team**

The Budget Stewardship & Visioning Team reconvened from February to May 2026 and concluded its work together.

a) Goals:

1. To clarify the values and purpose of Presbytery funds in ways that do not just duplicate the ways individual churches work – but support them.
2. To clarify and stabilize the budget and funding of the PTCA within the next 3-5 years

b) Key Outcomes:

1. A *wider assessment and more balanced strategy for per capita in the PTCA*, given the denomination's ongoing discernment about the role of per capita in the PC(USA)
2. An assessment of the *budget and accounting* of the PTCA, resulting in streamlined accounting reports and replenishing of key funds with a 2-5 year horizon. Many of the votes on this work happened at the December 2025 PTCA stated meeting.
3. An assessment of the *investment strategy* of the PTCA, including several recommendations made to BOT for further study. The net goal of the recommendations were to consider a future strategy that takes seriously the per capita impact on congregations and plans for new and healthy stewardship models.
4. Developing *Gospel-centered values* for the stewardship of financial and other resources of the PTCA. This felt especially timely given the uncertainty and complexity facing the Church in the 21st Century, and included values like bearing steadfast witness to the historical context of the PTCA and of MN/WI, acting with perseverance, and moving with courageous faith and trust.

c) Next Steps:

1. A routine "2027 Budget Task Force" will convene in Sept and November 2026 to set a final 2027 Budget for approval
2. BOT will report on ongoing projects or outcomes/decisions resulting from any recommendations from the Budget Visioning Team.
3. The Values document drafted by the Budget Visioning Team will also be shared with BOT as well as the wider PTCA for discussion and engagement, in hopes of expanding our discussion over time and offering this as a resource for discussion within congregations as well.

The Presbytery Leadership Team **announces:**

The Presbytery Leadership Team *normally* meets on the first Monday of each month. *However, because the PLT met on Monday, August 31, 2026, the next PLT meeting will be on Monday, October 5, 2026, from 2-4 pm over Zoom.*

Members of the Presbytery Leadership Team include:

TE John Curtiss, Stated Clerk

TE Becca Fletcher

RE Sue Goodspeed, PTCA Vice Moderator

TE Heather Grantham

RE Elsa Kendig, PLT Chair

RE Jim Koon, Treasurer

TE Paul Moore, PTCA Moderator

RE Rocky Rockenstein

II. Board of Trustees (BOT)

The Board of Trustees ***recommends:***

A. From the June 16, 2026, meeting:

1. ***Approving*** the Option Agreement (to purchase) between the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area and Homestead Community Church. [LINK](#)

Stated Clerk's note: Homestead Community Church currently leases the church property (First Presbyterian Church, Hastings) from the Presbytery. The lease agreement is for three years with an option to be extended one-year. This Option Agreement is available on request. It provides the option for Homestead Community Church to purchase the church property (First Presbyterian Church, Hastings) for \$350,000.00 at any point during the time of the lease agreement.

B. The Board of Trustees ***reports:***

1. From the June 16, 2026, meeting:

2. **Beginning** a conversation about developing guidelines around the practice of restorative giving. Conversation partners include members of the Race and Equity Report Implementation Team (RERIT).
 3. **Amending** the PTCA's Investment Policy (1.12 Social Objective Objective) to align with the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) guidelines.
- The new investment policy reads:

"1.12 Social Witness Objective

The Presbytery commits to practical implementation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) policies and to furthering the MRTI Mission. To this end:

- Equity and fixed income portfolios should be comprised of interests in entities who products, services, investments, and practices align with MRTI guidelines (Adhere to General Assembly Divestment/Proscription Lists);
- Wherever practicable, investment selection should employ "positive" screens that seek out entities for investment based on their approach to environmental responsibility, fair employment and customer practices, and efforts to support international human rights standards; and
- Wherever practicable, investment funds or portfolio management accountabilities should be placed with fiduciary agencies that strengthen MRTI corporate engagement and shareholder advocacy efforts to encourage companies to protect the most vulnerable, care for the environment, and promote peace."

C. From the August 11, 2026, meeting:

1. **Approving** the motion to change the financial management of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities investment portfolio to the New Covenant Trust company as soon as is prudent and practical.
2. **Receiving** notification that the House of Hope, St. Paul, has paid-in-full their 2023 loan from the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (PILP) of \$5,500,000.00.
3. **Receiving** the resignation of RE Rick Martens from the Board of Trustees due to personal/health related issues.

The Board of Trustees **announces:**

1. The Board of Trustees normally meets on the third Tuesday of even months (February, April, June, August, October, and December) over Zoom.
2. The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 4:00 pm over Zoom.

Board of Trustees members are:

RE Scott Barraclough	RE Sally Mortenson
RE Richard Bauer	TE Cader Howard
TE Richard Buller, chair	RE Tom Radio
RE Steve Lewis	TE Margaret Fox
	RE John Zwier

III. Stated Clerk Report

A. The Stated Clerk *reports*:

1. **Attending** the May 2026, gathering of the Stated Clerks of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies (SLAP) - a.k.a "The Mighty Clerks of the SLAP" to have the 2026 Presbytery Meeting Minutes read. The Minutes were "*approved with minor exceptions*" on May 12, 2026.

I learned that the Mighty Clerks is a commission of the General Assembly.

2. **Attending** the 227th General Assembly (GA) of the PC(USA) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin as an observer and to resource the commissioners, delegates, and other attendees from the PTCA. The theme of this GA was "Persevering Towards Wholeness." The assembly elected as Co-Moderators TE Marta Pumroy-Cordero and TE Kristopher Schondelmeyer and determined that the next General Assembly will be held in Puerto Rico in 2028.

3. **Consulting** with the Commission on Ministry (COM) to determine that, per G-2.0508 (text below), the following Teaching Elders (TE) no longer are engaged in a validated ministry and/or do not fulfill the criteria for membership-at-large:

TE John Nelson
TE Dana Caraway

G-2.0508 Failure to Engage in Validated Ministry: "A minister of Word and Sacrament whom the presbytery determines no longer to be engaged in a validated ministry (G-2.0503a) or to fulfill the criteria for membership-at-large (G-2.0503b), and who is not retired (G-2.0503c), shall not have voice or vote in meetings of the presbytery except when the matter under consideration pertains to his or her relationship to the presbytery. Names of such persons shall be reported annually to the presbytery by the stated clerk. If after three years the minister of the Word and Sacrament does not meet the criteria for validated ministry or membership-at-large, the presbytery may delete that person's name from the roll of membership and, upon request of a session, dismiss that person to a congregation."

4. Informing the Commission on Ministry on May 18, 2026 and reporting to the PTCA the following:

TE Michael Olmsted has renounced the jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and has transferred his membership to the Evangelical Order of Presbyterians (ECO).

TE Alison Bucklin has renounced the jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and has transferred her membership to the Evangelical Order of Presbyterians.

5. Updating the Bylaws of the PTCA in two places, as allowed by the following:

"The Stated Clerk is authorized to make conforming changes to the Presbytery's Bylaws and Manuals of Operation as may be necessary to reflect actions of the General Assembly or the Intent of The Presbytery in connection to and compliance with the Book of Order." (From Article XI: Amendments and Suspensions of the Bylaws)

Update #1: Article III – Members

"...all Minister members of The Presbytery, whether active, inactive, or ~~honorably~~ retired;..."

Rationale: The Book of Order changed the "honorably retired" status of membership to "retired." There is no longer a category of membership called "honorably retired."

Update #2: Article IX – Committees and Commissions of the Presbytery

Add the following to the end of the list of Committees and Commissions:

Committee on Representation and Ethics (CORE) (*Book of Order, G-3.0103*)

Rationale: The Presbytery added the CORE back into the PTCA structure recently.

With gratitude –

John H.G. Curtiss

Stated Clerk

statedclerk@ptcaweb.org

IV. Commission on Ministry (COM)

The Commission on Ministry *reports:*

A. From the April 27, 2026, COM meeting:

1. **Appointing** TE Libby Shannon, member-at-large, as Moderator of session at Macalester Plymouth, Saint Paul, for the duration of her service as temporary (sabbatical) pastor. Shannon will be serving during the sabbatical of Pastor Adam Blon.
2. **Appointing** TE Zach Wilson as Moderator of the congregational meeting at Community, Plainview, on April 19, 2026.
3. **Approving** the following Annual Renewal of Validated Ministries:

TE J Scott Cartwright (Spiritual Care Director, Benectine)

TE April Davis Campbell (Director of Education, Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation)

TE Benjamin Masters (Intentional Interim Minister, First Christian Church, Disciples of Christ, Minneapolis)

TE Kathryn Taber (Director of Spiritual Formation, Plymouth Church of Christ)

TE Luke Roske-Metcalfe (Chaplain, Hennepin Healthcare)

TE Matthew Skinner (Professor of New Testament, Luther Seminary)

TE Paul Johnson (University Minister, International Christian University)

TE Gene Sipprell (Campus Pastor, Presbyterian Homes and Services)

TE John Lee (Spiritual Director and Reflective Pastoral Supervisor, Leaderwise and Self-employed, Ministry Consultant and Musician).

TE Lisa Watson, Lis. Marriage and Family Therapist, Self-employed.

TE Katherine Lankford, Pastoral Staff for Christian Education and Christian Enrichment, Liberty, Minneapolis.

4. **Approving** the applications for Member-at-Large of the following:

TE Amy Kosari (since November, 2020)

TE Bill Chadwick (since 2019)

5. **Approving** the following individuals to the Pulpit Supply list, pending successful background check and compliance with Boundary Training requirements:

TE April Davis Campbell

TE Ben Masters

TE Luke Roske-Metcalfe

TE Gene Sipprell

6. **Noting** that the following individuals expressed a willingness to serve as Session Moderators, if asked:

TE April Davis Campbell

TE Ben Masters

7. **Approving** the membership transfer of TE Adam Copeland to the Presbytery of Scioto Valley. Copeland and his family moved to the Cleveland, Ohio area earlier this year.

8. **Approving** the Terms of Call between TE Elizabeth Shannon and Macalester-Plymouth, St Paul to serve as temporary (sabbatical) pastor.
 9. **Approving** the Transition Grant application request from Peace, St. Louis Park for \$3530.
- B. From the May 18, 2026 COM meeting:
10. **Appointing** TE John Gay, member-at-large, as Moderator of the Session at First, St. Croix Falls.
 11. **Appointing** TE Zach Wilson as Moderator of the Session at First, Howard Lake, effective May 13, 2026.
 12. **Granting** the status of Retired to TE Brain Heron.
 13. **Approving** the application to annually renew a validated ministry from TE Deb DeMeester. DeMeester serves on staff at the Synod of Lakes and Prairies.
 14. **Concurring** with the request of TE Michael Olmsted, retired, to have his ordination status and membership standing transferred to the Upper Midwest Presbytery of the Evangelical Order of Presbyterians (ECO).
 15. **Granting** the status of Retired to TE Steve Robertson, effective January 31, 2026.
 16. **Granting** the status of Retired to TE David Mahagian, effective May 1, 2026.
 17. **Approving** the request of TE John Gay to labor outside the bounds of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area and to labor inside the bounds of Northern Waters Presbytery, pending clarification that the Stated Supply Contract meets or exceeds PTCA minimums.
- C. From the June 16, 2026 COM Meeting:
18. **Appointing** TE Brian Heron as Moderator of the Session at Presbyterian Church of Oronoco, Oronoco.
 19. **Approving** the following applications for Annual Renewal of Validated Ministry:

TE Jeff Japinga, as Transitional Pastor of Kenilworth Union Church (Independent)

and laboring outside the bounds of the PTCA.

TE Stephanie Friant, as Spiritual Care Director at Benedictine Living Communities.

20. **Approving** the Member-at-Large application for:

TE Lora Burge

21. **Adding** the following to the Pulpit Supply list, pending successful background check and compliance with Boundary Training requirements:

TE Deb DeMeester and TE Stephanie Friant

22. **Noting** that the following are willing to serve as session Moderators, if asked:

TE Deb DeMeester

23. **Concurring** with the judgement of the Pastor Nominating Committee of Community, Plainview and Community, Rochester, that TE Pornchai (Paul) Banchasawan is suitable for the position of pastor.

24. **Noting** that the position was widely advertised and **Reviewing** the EEO form (available upon request).

25. **Reporting** that the Pastor Nominating Committee of Community, Plainview and Community, Rochester has implemented its search process in conformance with the provisions of Equal Employment Opportunity for teaching elders and has considered candidates without regard to race, ethnic origin, gender, age, disability, or marital status.

26. **Approving**, with the concurrence of the congregational action on April 19, 2026, the call of Community, Plainview and Community, Rochester as fulltime shared pastor be approved effective July 1, 2026, according to the following terms:

Cash Salary and Housing Allowance	\$58,400
Continuing Education Allowance	\$1800
Continuing Education Leave	2 Weeks, cumulative over 3 years.
Vacation	4 weeks, including 4 Sundays
Social Security Offset	\$4468

Medical/Dental Supplemental	No
Retirement (403b) Contribution	No
Sabbatical	Yes
<i>3 months leave after 7 years of service</i>	
Moving Expenses	Full
Transportation Allowance	Mileage reimbursed
Professional Expenses	None
Pension	Full
Medical	Full Family
Family Medical Leave:	Yes
<i>PTCA policy of up to 12 weeks per calendar year</i>	

27. **Enrolling** TE Pornchai (Paul) Banchasawan as an active member of the PTCA.
28. **Appointing** TE Pornchai (Paul) Banchasawan as Moderator of the Session of Community, Plainview and Community, Rochester, effective July 1, 2026.
29. **Reporting** that TE Denise Dunbar Perkins will complete their service as Moderator of the Session of Community, Plainview, effective June 30, 2026.
30. **Reporting** that TE Doug Walters will complete their service as Moderator of the Session of Community, Rochester, effective June 30, 2026.

D. From the July 21, 2026, COM Meeting:

31. **Approving** the Transitional Grant Program Application for St Luke, Minnetonka for \$2984.
32. **Approving** the Terms of Call between First, Shakopee and TE Medhat Yaokiem as part-time (50%) Stated Supply, effective July 2, 2026 – July 1, 2027.
33. **Approving** the Member-at-Large 2026 Annual Report* for TE Amanda Boss.

E. From the August 18, 2026, COM Meeting:

34. **Approving** the following applications for Annual Renewal of Validated Ministry:

TE Robert Lundberg. Lundberg serves as chaplain at Presbyterian Homes and Services.

35. **Approving** the Member-at-Large 2026 Annual Report for the following:

TE Susan Li and TE Becca Fletcher

36. **Adding** the following to the Pulpit Supply list, pending successful background check and compliance with Boundary Training requirements:

TE Robert Lundberg and TE Susan Li

37. **Concurring** with the judgement of the Pastor Nominating Committee of First, Red Wing, that TE Stephen Robertson is suitable for the position of pastor.

38. **Noting** that the position was widely advertised.

39. **Reporting** that the Pastor Nominating Committee of Community, Plainview and Community, Rochester has implemented its search process in conformance with the provisions of Equal Employment Opportunity for teaching elders and has considered candidates without regard to race, ethnic origin, gender, age, disability, or marital status.

40. **Approving**, with the concurrence of the congregational action on July 19, 2026, the terms of call between TE Stephen Robertson and First, Red Wing as pastor be approved effective August 10, 2026, according to the following terms:

Cash Salary and Housing Allowance	\$70,000
Continuing Education Allowance	\$1800
Continuing Education Leave	2 Weeks, cumulative over 3 years.
Vacation	4 weeks, including 4 Sundays
Social Security Offset	7.65% of effective salary
Medical/Dental Supplemental	No
Retirement (403b) Contribution	No
Sabbatical	Yes
<i>3 months leave after 6 years of service</i>	
Moving Expenses	Up to \$7500
Transportation Allowance	\$500
Professional Expenses	\$2000
Pension	Full
Medical	Full Family

Family Medical Leave: Yes

PTCA policy of up to 12 weeks per calendar year

41. **Enrolling** TE Stephen Robertson as an active member of the PTCA, pending receipt of a membership application.
42. **Appointing** TE Stephen Robertson as Moderator of the Session of First, Red Wing, effective August 10, 2026.
43. **Reporting** that Pastor Casey vanderBent will complete their service as Moderator of the Session of First, Red Wing effective August 9, 2026.
44. **Approving** the following Administrative Commission for the purpose of installing TE Phil Romine as Associate Pastor, House of Hope, Saint Paul:
 - TE Mary Koon, Oak Grove, Bloomington
 - RE Elona Street-Stewart, Garden Community, Falcon Heights
 - RE Milissa Carter, Oak Grove, Bloomington
 - TE Riz Prakasim, Garden Community, Falcon Heights
 - RE Elsa Kendig, Westminster, Minneapolis, as Moderator
45. **Noting** that this installation will take place during worship at House of Hope, Saint Paul, on Sunday, September 27th, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.
46. **Granting** permission to TE John Gay to labor outside the bounds of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area as Transitional Pastor at First, Saint Cloud and within the bounds of the Minnesota Valley Presbytery, effective September 1, 2026.

F. The Commission on Ministry announces:

1. The Commission on Ministry have begun to meet on the third Tuesday of each month, from 1-3 pm over Zoom. They meet with the Pastoral Positions Team for an opening devotional, split into subgroups for 45 minutes, and then meet as a committee of the whole.
2. Members of the Commission on Ministry are:
 - TE Sarah Brouwer
 - TE Chris Chatelaine-Samsen, chair (chriscs@centralforgood.org)
 - TE Jim Cochrane

TE Gregg Dana
 RE Rochelle LeTourneau
 TE Cindy Ray
 RE Sue Rutford
 3. Members of the Pastoral Positions Team are:
 TE John Gay
 RE Rochelle LeTourneau, co-chair
 TE TJ Shirley, co-chair
 TE Steve Tyykila
 TE Dan Voigt

V. Mission, Scholarship & Grants Committee (MSGC)

The Mission, Scholarship, and Grants Committee and the Presbytery Leadership Team continue to put the Presbytery's grant and scholarship resources to work by getting them out of the bank and into ministry and mission. Through August 31, 2026, the following amounts were awarded by the Committee and the PLT in the following areas:

• Congregational Support	\$ 65,000
• Leadership Development	25,300
• Mission & Community Outreach	<u>71,300</u>
	\$ 161,600

In addition to making awards, the Committee reports on the Clergy Assistance Grants given by the Presbytery's Officers after receiving need-based applications and on the Board of Pension Costs Transitional Grants given by the Commission on Ministry after receiving congregational applications. Through August 31, 2026, those amounts were:

• Bd. Of Pensions Costs Transitional Grants	\$ 0
• Clergy Assistance Grants	0
• Emergency Grants	<u>50,000</u>
	\$ 50,000

Through August 2026, the total of grants and scholarships awarded was \$ 211,600. In *Exhibit A: Grants And Scholarships Awarded From January Through August 2026* attached to this Report, we list all the grants and scholarships awarded in that period and briefly describe each award's purpose.

Grants are available now in all the above areas except Congregational Development Grants, which has been put on hold. Please consider how these funds might assist your congregation or church leaders and make an application.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter H. Rockenstein II, Chair

On behalf of the Committee

SEE THE FOLLOWING PAGE FOR EXHIBIT A.

THE OMNIBUS MOTION/CONSENT AGENDA CONCLUDES WITH THE END OF EXHIBIT A.

**EXHIBIT A: GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED
FROM JANUARY THROUGH AUGUST 2026**

Grant Type And Recipient	Purpose	Amount*
Congregational Support		
<i>Congregational Dev. Grants</i>		
On hold in 2026		
<i>CDG Subtotal</i>		\$ 0
<i>Ministry Imagination Grants</i>		
First Presbyterian Church of Maple Plain	Accessibility improvements for church building as part of building upgrades	\$ 5,000
Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church	Modernizing sanctuary electrical and communication systems to support new form of hybrid worship	5,000
Plainview Community Presbyterian Church	Community movie night out program	5,000
<i>MIG Subtotal</i>		\$ 15,000
<i>Presbytery Direct Grants</i>		
Kenyan Christian Fellowship Grant	Support the Kenyan Christian Fellowship worshipping community	\$ 25,000
Liberty Community Church	Support Liberty Community Presbyterian Church's ministry	25,000
<i>PDG Subtotal</i>		\$ 50,000
Congregational Support Subtotal		\$ 65,000
Leadership Development		
<i>Livingston Leadership Development Scholarships</i>		
Clearwater Forest Camp and Retreat Center	Ministry Leadership Retreat for clergy and ministry leaders	\$ 3,000
Cochrane, James	Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising from Lily School of Philanthropy at Indiana University	1,000
First Presbyterian Church of Stillwater	Send group to Presbyterian Peace Fellowship gathering	4,660

Grant Type And Recipient	Purpose	Amount*
GebbenGreen, Luna and Phil	Attend Hymn Society Annual Conf., Iona Community Time and Space Week, and Holy Relationship Retreat and Voice Liberation**	4,000
Greene, Elizabth	Join Presbyterian Ministry delegation to the 2026 United Nations High Level Political Forum	2,000
Harkness, Mandy	Attend 2026 Synod Leadership School	260
Helmick, Jamie	Attend Flipping Tables : Ministry in a Topsy-Turvy Worl conference at Montreat Conference Center	650
Nelson, Ann	Five day preaching workshop at Ghost Ranch	1,725
<i>LDG Subtotal</i>		<i>\$ 17,300</i>
<i>Theological Education Scholarships</i>		
Goodman, Kimberly	Two semesters of Doctorate in Educational Ministry at Columbia Theological Seminary	\$ 4,000
Root, Kara	Two semesters of Ph.D. program in Practical Theology at Aberdeen University**	\$ 4,000
<i>TES Subtotal</i>		<i>\$ 8,000</i>
Leadership Development Subtotal		\$ 25,300
Mission And Community Outreach		
<i>Anti-racism BIPOC Seed Funding Grants</i>		
None awarded to date in 2026		\$ 10,000
<i>Anti-racism Subtotal</i>		<i>\$ 10,000</i>
<i>Community Partners Grants</i>		
First Presbyterian Church of Hudson	Building community through storytelling in partnership with four community organizations	\$ 10,000
First Presbyterian Church of South St. Paul	Continue joining with Laundry Love to provide affordable laundry services to local persons in need	10,000

Grant Type And Recipient	Purpose	Amount*
Presbytery Leadership Team members, First Presbyterian Church of Shakopee, and Valley Community Presbyterian Church	Funding for First Pres. Ch. of Shakopee and Valley Comm. Pres. Ch. to assist local immigrant communities in response to Operation Metro Surge	10,000
<i>MCG Subtotal</i>		<i>\$ 30,000</i>
Mission Partner Grants		
Clearwater Forest	Support Clearwater Forest's work	\$ 21,750
Joint Religious Legislative Coalition	Support JRLC's advocacy work	1,000
Metro Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing	Support MICAH's work	1,000
Ministry Lab	Support ML's work	7,000
Presbyterian Health, Education, and Welfare Association	Support PHEWA's disability work	550
<i>MPG Subtotal</i>		<i>\$ 31,300</i>
Peace & Global Witness Offering Grants		
To be awarded later this year		
<i>PGWOG Subtotal</i>		<i>\$ 0</i>
Self-Development of People Grants		
To be awarded later this year		
<i>SDOPG Subtotal</i>		<i>\$ 0</i>
Mission and Community Outreach Subtotal		\$ 71,300
BOP Costs Transition Grants		
None reported to date in 2026		\$ 0
BOP Costs Transition Grants Subtotal		\$ 0
Clergy Assistance Grants		
None reported to date in 2026		\$ 0
Clergy Assistance Grants Subtotal		\$ 0
Emergency Grants		
Metro Surge Emergency Grants	To local organizations and congregations to address community needs occasioned by Metro Surge	\$ 50,000

Grant Type And Recipient	Purpose	Amount*
Emergency Grants Subtotal		\$ 50,000
Grants & Scholarships Total		\$ 211,600

*All Subtotals and Totals are rounded to hundreds.

**Grant funds are for overseas program costs only; recipients cannot use grant funds for overseas travel.

NECROLOGY REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 2025

“We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Thessalonians 1:3 (NIV)
The deaths of the following servants of the church have been reported to the office of the Stated Clerk and we remember them with celebration, and gratitude for their service.

Teaching Elders:

Nile F. Harper	James Shannon
Lisa Johnson	
Mary Leisman	
Margaret McCray	

CHURCH	ELDER/DEACON	ORDINATION	DATE OF DEATH
Buffalo Presbyterian	Larry Pattee, Elder		11/2/2025
Oak Grove PC, Bloomington	Doodee Backstrom, Elder	1986	1/8/2025
	Arlyn Grussing, Elder & Deacon	2002; 1/8/2013	3/8/2025
	Lila Netten, Deacon	12/11/1977	3/13/2025
	Jim McCarl, Elder & Deacon	1970; 12/11/1983	8/22/2025
	Barb Johnson, Deacon	1/13/2008	9/8/2025
	Sue Cavanaugh, Deacon	1/8/2023	9/11/2025
	Karolyn Lee, Elder & Deacon	1/17/1999; 12/9/1990	9/16/2025
	Isabelle Wideman, Deacon		9/17/2025
	Gordon Goodwin, Elder & Deacon	Unknown; 1/9/1994	12/14/2025
Korean Presbyterian Church of MIN, Brooklyn Center	Sung Sook Kim, Deacon	2/21/1988	2/12/2025
	Soon Jha Lee	3/8/1981	11/10/2025
	Chomsun Chung	1/2/2000	12/6/2025
Valley Community, Golden Valley	Carolyn Kaehr, Deacon	2016-2018	6/2/2025
	Dr. William Dudley, Elder	1973-1975; 1992-1994	7/6/2025
	Janet Biggs, Elder & Deacon	1991-1993; 2017-2019	7/8/2025
	Margaret Sandberg, Deacon	2011-2013	8/17/2025
	Diane McCunn, Elder & Deacon	1990-1992, 1994-1999; 2012-2014	12/13/2025
First Presbyterian, Hayfield	Ted Tendick, Elder & Deacon		10/16/2025
First Presbyterian, Howard Lake	Susan Grangroth, Elder		5/30/2025

First Presbyterian, Hudson WI	Renee Snow, Deacon	5/2/1999	12/7/2025
First Presbyterian, Maple Plain	Zoe Ann Palmer, Elder Janelle Melenich, Elder & Deacon	Jan. 1967 Feb-91	3/7/2025 12/14/2025
Grace-Trinity Community, Minneapolis	Beth Trout, Elder & Deacon Edith Shumaker, Deacon	3/1/1964; 1980 11/18/1987	4/12/2025 6/3/2025
St Luke Presbyterian, Minnetonka	Bruce Grostephan, Elder Ann Hommeyer, Elder Chuck Hommeyer, Elder Judy Nelson, Elder & Deacon Anne Olmsted, Deacon Larry Stickler, Elder	1/30/2000 8/25/1985 2/1/1981 1/15/1989; 9/16/2001 2/22/2004 5/20/1975	9/7/2025 2/14/2025 8/1/2025 8/28/2025 5/22/2025 12/24/2025
North Presbyterian, North St. Paul	Mary Leisman, Elder Roy Ginn, Elder Stanley Meyer, Deacon Mary Seyforth, Deacon Gary Havran, Elder	2/23/1975 1/28/1979 2/23/1964 4/17/1994 1/15/1989	1/2/2025 4/2/2025 2/22/2025 10/7/2025 11/12/2025
Presbyterian Church of Oronoco	Pastor Lisa Johnson Hadley Thompson Nancy Tiedeman	Dec. 2012	6/1/2025 5/16/2025 11/9/2025
Associated Church, Owatonna	Kathleen Lee, Elder Shirley Ann Lohmann, Elder	1/28/1995 2/3/2019	2/18/2025 10/9/2025
Plymouth Presbyterian	Sally Ackerman, Elder	1/10/2010	5/16/2025
New Life Presbyterian, Roseville	John Miller, Deacon Donald Liebenstein, Elder & Deacon Lorraine Bangle, Deacon	2/7/1965 2/13/1966; 1/10/1999 1/25/2004	2/3/2025 8/28/2025 11/20/2025
House of Hope, St Paul	Joan Frank, Elder & Deacon Judy Day, Deacon Lee Jamison, Elder & Deacon Russ Koebrick, Deacon Bob McKinnell, Elder Becky Moose, Deacon Lee Nelson, Elder & Deacon John Overbye, Elder & Deacon	12/11/1994; 11/25/1979 1/10/2010 11/9/2003; 1/27/1985 11/25/1979 1/15/1984 11/12/2000 5/21/2017; 11/13/2005 2/10/1963; 2/22/1970	6/21/2025 2/9/2025 8/26/2025 6/12/2025 6/21/2025 8/13/2025 8/14/2025 5/4/2025

	Armie Svendsen, Deacon	12/13/1995	3/16/2025
	Don Vandenberg, Elder & Deacon	11/9/2003; 1/27/1985	5/8/2025
Macalester-Plymouth, St Paul	Barbara Kittinger		5/10/2025
	Pat Dawson		2025, date unknown
Central Presbyterian, St Paul	Janet Engeswick, Elder	1972	6/12/2025
First Presbyterian, South St. Paul	Marianne Froelke, Deacon	2012	5/25/2025
First Presbyterian, Stillwater	Pat Wilson, Elder	2/28/1988	3/11/2025
	Pat Albertson, Elder	12/1/1973	5/16/2025
	Chuck Speaks, Elder	3/3/1991	5/14/2025
	Lyle Anderson, Deacon	2/6/1966	3/28/2025
	Gene Ecker, Deacon		6/6/2025
Presbyterian Church of the Way, Shoreview	Carol Merrill, Deacon	1988	10/30/2025
	Glen Merrill, Deacon	1987 and 2009	10/11/2025

PTCA Treasurer's Report

August 25, 2026

Attached are year-to-date financial reports through July 31 and the 2027 Committee Budget Inputs sheet that was distributed in July for completion at this juncture.

Statement of Position on pages 1-2

Statement of Activities on pages 3-6

Funds Summary on page 6

2027 Committee Budget Inputs on page 7.

Updates

The Trustees approved a change on August 11, moving investment portfolio management from Compass Partners to New Covenant Trust Company (NCTC), in line with enhanced social witness aims which had been approved at their June 16 meeting. On September 4, a working session will occur between a group of PTCA trustees and the NCTC's Investment Division as the next phase of this move. During this session, we'll define investment goals, strategies, and account structures for PTCA's individual portfolios. The assets are projected to transfer to NCTC in the weeks subsequent to the session.

Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area							7/31/2026
Statement of Financial Position				1/1/2026	7/31/2026	YTD Unallocated	Notes
Assets	Financial Assets	10000	US Bank Checking	\$60,123	\$27,779		Financial assets reflect the ledger balances associated with specific external checking, CDs, and investment accounts. Balances in the checking account are updated monthly, balances in investment accounts are updated quarterly.
		12300	PILP Certificate 9056	\$230,556	\$233,426		
		12310	PILP Certificate 9057	\$609,810	\$617,401		
		12320	PILP Certificate 9074	\$20,288	\$20,668		
		12410	Schwab 5237 Reserve	\$278,793	\$279,409		
		12420	Schwab 8650 Cong. Dev.	\$2,585,045	\$2,540,197		
		12430	Schwab 7068 Strategic Ministry	\$3,004,136	\$2,590,061		
		Other Assets	13100	Other Current Assets	\$390	\$390	
	14121		Contract for Deed - Dayton	\$333,551	\$333,551		
	14901		Land for Dev. - Blaine	\$559,046	\$559,046		
	Total Assets		\$7,681,738	\$7,201,928			
Liabilities	Payables & Loans	20000	Accounts Payable	\$14,061			
		20100	Accounts Payable - GA	\$1,000			
		20110	Accounts Payable - Synod	\$9,562			
		20500	US Bank Credit Card	\$3,046			
		20800	Loan Payable - Synod (Blaine)	\$47,404	\$47,404		
	Donor Restricted Accts.	21230	Acct. Payable PCUSA Per Capita				Restricted accounts are funded from endowments at the Presb. Foundation. Receipts and distributions are reflected in the Funds Summary Report, not in the Statement of Activities.
		22110	Res. Acct. Bossman	\$24,052	\$26,696		
		22115	Res. Acct. Erlandson	\$881	\$1,207		
		22120	Res. Acct. Tilton	\$10,577	\$11,390		
		22130	Res. Acct. Livingston	\$70,841	\$63,147		
		22140	Res. Acct. Heller	\$10,319	\$10,937		
		Dedicated Accts.	22150	Ded. Acct. Missions (Endow)		\$4,391	
	21210		Bachman for PILP		\$1,016		
	22180		Ded Acct Peace & GW PTCA share	\$12,077	\$12,077		
	22200		Ded. Acct. Ethiopian Ministry	\$110,019	\$83,819		
	22210		Ded. Acct. Andrew Riverside	\$43,534	\$29,156		
	22220		Ded. Acct. Finance Review	\$50,000	\$50,160		
	22230		Ded. Acct. Triennium	\$13,233	\$13,550		
	22250		Ded. Acct. BoP Transition	\$70,294	\$66,764		
	22280		Ded. Acct. Ministry Imagine	\$49,010	\$34,010		
	22270		Ded. Acct. Community Partners	\$150,000	\$117,775		
	22280		Ded. Acct. BIPOC Seed Fund	\$99,873	\$89,873		
	22290		Ded. Acct. Leadership Grants	\$21,450	\$18,190		
	22300		Ded. Acct. Jubilee Grants				
	22310		Ded. Acct. Comm. Care Grants		\$6,173		
	22320		Ded. Acct. Individual Emergenc	\$6,800	\$7,227		
	22330	Ded. Acct. Strategic Min Grant					
	Replenished Accts.	23020	Replen. Acct. KCOC	\$50,000	\$42,754		Replenishment accounts were funded at the beginning of the year from Bucket 2, representing two years of funding. Distributions are debited directly and reflected in the Funds Summary Report. Future replenishment can be budgeted.
		23030	Replen. Acct. Liberty	\$50,000	\$31,250		
		23040	Replen. Acct. Ministry Lab	\$14,000	\$8,750		
		23050	Replen. Acct. Clearwater	\$43,500	\$21,750		
		23070	Replen. Acct. A. Riverside Prog	\$40,000	\$40,000		
		23080	Replen. Acct. RestoreActn. Sup	\$20,000	\$20,000		

Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area							7/31/2026
Statement of Financial Position				1/1/2026	7/31/2026	YTD Unallocated	Notes
Pass-through Accts.	25010	Pass-thru. Unif. Mission GA	(\$439)	\$1,537			Pass-through balances (if any) reflect yet undistributed remittances received. Receipts are credited directly to these accounts and payments are debited directly from them. Sources of these funds are shown in the Remittance Report and overall activity is shown in the Funds Summary Report (not the Statement of Financial Activities).
	25020	Pass-thru. Unif. Mission SYN	\$9	\$1,537			
	25030	Pass-thru. Desig. Giving ECO					
	25040	Pass-thru. One Great Hour	(\$100)	\$650			
	25050	Pass-thru. World Communion	\$0	\$0			
	25080	Pass-thru. Pres. Disaster Asst					
	25090	Pass-thru. Christmas Joy					
	25100	Pass-thru. Hunger					
	25110	Pass-thru. Theological Educ.		\$200			
		Liabilities & Ded. Accts.	\$1,035,002	\$863,390			
Net Assets		32000	YTD Surplus		(\$308,198)		From the Statement of Activities.
	33000	General Net Assets	\$729,014	\$729,014	\$196,478		Net Asset Balances are unchanged until year-end when allocations are made to increase or reduce them. Year-end allocations pending to date are reflected in "YTD Unallocated" column. They include pro-rata share of investment gains (losses) and transfers in or transfers out.
	33100	Presbytery Reserve Fund	\$2,268,509	\$2,268,509	(\$362,227)		
	33200	Congregational Dev. Fund	\$2,585,045	\$2,585,045	(\$44,847)		
	33300	Strategic Ministry Grant Fund	\$164,491	\$164,491	(\$58,155)		
	33400	Jubilee Fund	\$800,000	\$800,000	(\$37,796)		
	33500	Partnership Grant Fund	\$100,000	\$100,000	(\$1,651)		
	39002	Beginning Balance Equity	(\$322)	(\$322)			
		Total Net Assets	\$6,646,736	\$6,338,538			
		Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$7,681,738	\$7,201,928			This balances to Total Assets.

Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area**Statement of Financial Activities**

7/31/2026

		0	MTD Actual (This Yr)	YTD Actual (This Yr)	YTD Budget (This Yr)	Annual Budget (This Yr)
		7	7/31/2026	7/31/2026	7/31/2026	12/31/2026
Presbytery Operations and Missions						
Revenues	40100	Per Capita	\$20,269	\$282,904	\$268,535	\$460,346
	40110	Per Capita - Prior Year	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	40300	Unified Mission (Presb. Share)	\$5,967	\$51,148	\$58,333	\$100,000
	40400	Contributions	\$0	\$617	\$0	\$0
	40420	Ordination/Install Offering	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	40500	Fee and Registration Income	\$0	\$42	\$0	\$0
	40510	Triennium Registration Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	40800	Foundation Income - General Op	\$175	\$723	\$642	\$1,100
	40900	Interest Income - General	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	40910	Interest - PILP 9056	\$0	\$2,870	\$0	\$0
	40920	Interest- PILP 9057	\$0	\$7,591	\$0	\$0
	40930	Interest- PILP 9074	\$253	\$379	\$0	\$0
	41300	Synod Grant Income 2025	\$833	\$5,833	\$5,833	\$10,000
	44000	Endow Inc. for Mission	\$0	\$1,421	\$3,208	\$5,500
	44010	Budgeted Transfer Income	\$30,000	\$330,000	\$193,443	\$331,617
		Total Operating Revenues	\$57,498	\$683,530	\$529,995	\$908,563
Expenses	50100	Per Capita GA	\$10,393	\$72,751	\$72,751	\$124,716
	50110	Per Capita SYN	\$5,077	\$35,536	\$35,536	\$60,918
	50200	ADM Office	\$87	\$883	\$1,750	\$3,000
	50210	ADM Postage	\$21	\$342	\$408	\$700
	50215	ADM Financial Review	\$0	\$0	\$20,417	\$35,000
	50220	ADM Communications	\$0	\$4,245	\$4,083	\$7,000
	50225	ADM Accounting Svcs.	\$0	\$3,101	\$1,750	\$3,000
	50230	ADM Rent	\$2,387	\$16,709	\$16,709	\$28,644
	50235	ADM Legal	\$0	\$0	\$5,833	\$10,000
	50240	ADM Telecom.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	50250	ADM Tech Support	\$170	\$1,404	\$1,750	\$3,000
	50255	ADM Bank Fees	\$0	\$0	\$58	\$100
	50260	ADM Website	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	50265	ADM-Insurance	\$3,946	\$3,987	\$2,917	\$5,000
	50266	ADM-Small Equip & Software	\$354	\$9,786	\$5,833	\$10,000
	50268	ADM-Equip Lease & Maint.	\$337	\$2,153	\$2,625	\$4,500
	50273	ADM-Building Expense Utility	\$0	(\$42)	\$0	\$0
	50296	ADM-Andrew Riv Legal	\$0	\$24,012	\$29,167	\$50,000
	50300	MSG Committee Expenses	\$0	\$201	\$58	\$100
	50310	MSG Disability Task Force	\$0	\$0	\$58	\$100
	50370	MSG Gr. Mpls Comm Connections	\$0	\$1,000	\$583	\$1,000
	50380	MSG Interfaith Coun. St. Paul	\$0	\$1,000	\$583	\$1,000
	50390	MSG MN Council of Churches	\$2,750	\$8,250	\$6,417	\$11,000
	50395	MSG Transfer to 22150	\$0	\$1,421	\$0	\$0
	50400	COM Committee Expen.	\$446	\$1,032	\$583	\$1,000
	50410	COM Background Checks	\$18	\$52	\$117	\$200
	50420	COM Congret. Crisis Support	\$0	\$11,000	\$2,917	\$5,000
	50530	COM Education	\$0	\$0	\$2,042	\$3,500
	50540	COM Spec. Ministry Supp.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area						
Statement of Financial Activities			0			
7/31/2026	7		MTD Actual (This Yr)	YTD Actual (This Yr)	YTD Budget (This Yr)	Annual Budget (This Yr)
	50550	COM Indiv. Emer. Grant Funding	\$0	\$0	\$1,167	\$2,000
	50560	COM Mission/Insite Demographic	\$250	\$1,750	\$2,246	\$3,850
	50800	CPM Committee expense	\$0	\$464	\$583	\$1,000
	50610	CPM Inquirer & Candidate	\$0	\$0	\$583	\$1,000
	50820	CPM Vocational Testing	\$0	\$3,716	\$875	\$1,500
	50830	CPM Synod Academy Dues	\$0	\$0	\$1,458	\$2,500
	50640	CPM Synod Academy Dues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	50700	PLT Committee expense	\$0	\$2,288	\$583	\$1,000
	50710	PLT Moderator Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$583	\$1,000
	50720	PLT Meeting Expenses	\$0	\$3,379	\$2,917	\$5,000
	50730	PLT Anti-Racism Task Force	\$0	\$339	\$1,167	\$2,000
	50740	PLT Anti-Racism Assessment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	50750	PLT Race & Equity Implement.	\$0	\$29	\$1,750	\$3,000
	50760	PLT General Assembly Expense	\$4,796	\$5,280	\$1,167	\$2,000
	50770	PLT Anti-Racism Capacity Build	\$0	\$185	\$8,750	\$15,000
	50780	PLT Clergy/Leader Retreats	\$448	\$1,999	\$0	\$0
	50800	PER Committee Expense	\$0	\$0	\$292	\$500
	50810	PER Staff Recognition	\$0	\$0	\$292	\$500
	50820	PER Staff Search	\$0	\$0	\$14,588	\$25,000
	50830	PER Consultation & Support	\$0	\$0	\$2,333	\$4,000
	50900	BOT Committee Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	50910	BOT Blaine Property	\$1,460	\$10,223	\$1,458	\$2,500
	50960	OTR Other Committee Expenses	\$0	\$400	\$292	\$500
	50970	OTR Books of Order	\$0	\$0	\$58	\$100
	50980	OTR Nominating & Dev. Leaders	\$0	\$0	\$292	\$500
	50990	OTR Comm on Representation	\$0	\$0	\$175	\$300
	55000	Pass-thru Payments	\$0	\$530	\$0	\$0
	57010	HR-Staffed Clerk-Salary	\$3,310	\$23,170	\$23,170	\$39,720
	57011	HR-Staffed Clerk-FICA/SECA	\$253	\$1,773	\$1,773	\$3,039
	57012	HR-Staffed Clerk-Benefits	\$1,873	\$13,259	\$12,981	\$22,253
	57013	HR-Staffed Clerk-Travel & Prof	\$35	\$720	\$1,458	\$2,500
	57014	HR-Staffed Clerk-Cont. Ed.	\$0	\$0	\$875	\$1,500
	57020	HR-Office Mgr-Salary	\$5,987	\$41,909	\$41,908	\$71,843
	57021	HR-Office Mgr-FICA/SECA	\$445	\$3,061	\$3,206	\$5,496
	57022	HR-Office Mgr-Benefits	\$2,106	\$14,750	\$14,649	\$25,113
	57023	HR-Office Mgr-Travel & Prof	\$64	\$534	\$438	\$750
	57040	HR-Co Exec-Salary	\$5,794	\$40,556	\$40,556	\$69,525
	57041	HR-Co Exec-FICA/SECA	\$443	\$3,103	\$3,103	\$5,319
	57042	HR-Co Exec-Benefits	\$2,732	\$19,177	\$19,349	\$33,170
	57043	HR-Co Exec-Travel & Prof	(\$129)	\$2,509	\$2,917	\$5,000
	57044	HR-Co Exec-Cont. Ed	\$118	\$505	\$1,167	\$2,000
	57050	HR-Treasurer-Salary	\$0	\$1,304	\$9,100	\$15,600
	57051	HR-Treasurer-FICA/SECA	\$0	\$0	\$696	\$1,193
	57052	HR-Treasurer-Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$60	\$103
	57053	HR-Treasurer-Travel & Prof	\$0	\$0	\$700	\$1,200
	57060	HR-Anti Racism-Salary	\$7,725	\$54,075	\$54,075	\$92,700
	57061	HR-Anti Racism-FICA/SECA	\$591	\$4,137	\$4,137	\$7,092

Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area							
Statement of Financial Activities				0	d	e	
7/31/2026	7			MTD Actual (This Yr)	YTD Actual (This Yr)	YTD Budget (This Yr)	Annual Budget (This Yr)
	57062	HR-Anti Racism-Benefits		\$1,975	\$13,824	\$14,208	\$24,357
	57063	HR-Anti Racism-Travel & Prof		\$368	\$1,355	\$2,917	\$5,000
	57064	HR-Anti Racism-COnt. Ed		\$0	\$0	\$700	\$1,200
	57070	HR-Accountant-Salary		\$860	\$11,450	\$11,667	\$20,000
	57071	HR-Accountant-FICA/SECA		\$66	\$876	\$893	\$1,530
	57072	HR-Accountant-Benefits		\$2	\$25	\$77	\$132
	57083	HR-Treas. Consulting		\$0	\$0	\$1,458	\$2,500
	57085	HR- Immigrant Fellowship Coord		\$500	\$3,500	\$0	\$0
		Total Operating Expenses		\$68,112	\$487,051	\$526,787	\$903,063
		Operating Net (Including transfers)		(\$10,614)	\$196,478	\$3,208	\$5,500
Portfolio Appreciation (net of fees)							
	46000	Gains - Reserve Portfolio		\$0	\$616	\$0	\$0
	46100	Gains - Cong. Dev. Portfolio		\$0	(\$44,847)	\$0	\$0
	46200	Gains - Strat. Miss. Portfolio		\$0	(\$49,075)	\$0	\$0
		Totals		\$0	(\$93,307)	\$0	\$0
Net Fund Transfers							
	58100	Net Asset Reserve Transfer		\$30,000	\$330,000	\$193,443	\$331,617
	58200	Net Asset Cong. Dev. Transfer		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	58300	Net Asset Strat. Min. Transfer		\$0	\$56,370	\$0	\$0
	58400	Net Asset Jubilee Transfer		\$0	\$25,000	\$0	\$0
		Totals		\$30,000	\$411,370	\$193,443	\$331,617
Consolidated Results							
		Operating Surplus (incl. transfers)		(\$10,614)	\$196,478	\$3,208	\$5,500
		Portfolio Net Appreciation		\$0	(\$93,307)	\$0	\$0
		Net Funds Transfers		(\$30,000)	(\$411,370)	(\$193,443)	(\$331,617)
		Total Surplus (Deficit)		(\$40,614)	(\$308,198)	(\$190,235)	(\$326,117)

Dedicated Account and Fund Summary

7/31/2026

		<u>Beginning Balance 1/1/2026</u>	<u>YTD Receipts or Transfers</u>	<u>YTD Disburse- ments</u>	<u>Current Balance 7/31/2026</u>	<u>Annualized Pace of Inflows</u>	<u>Annualized Pace of Outflows</u>	<u>YTD Unallocated Surplus/(Deficit)</u>
<u>Dedicated Accounts</u>								
22200	Ded. Acct. Ethiopian Ministry	\$110,019		\$26,200	\$83,819		\$44,914	
22210	Ded. Acct. Andrew Riverside	\$43,534		\$14,378	\$29,156		\$24,648	
22220	Ded. Acct. Finance Review	\$50,000	\$160		\$50,160	\$274		
22230	Ded. Acct. Triennium	\$13,233	\$317		\$13,550	\$544		
22240	Ded. Acct. Clearwater Capital							
22250	Ded. Acct. BoP Transition	\$70,294	\$3,530	\$7,060	\$66,764	\$6,051	\$12,103	
22260	Ded. Acct. Ministry Imagine	\$49,010		\$15,000	\$34,010		\$25,714	
22270	Ded. Acct. Community Partners	\$150,000		\$32,225	\$117,775		\$55,243	
22280	Ded. Acct. BIPOC Seed Fund	\$99,873	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$89,873	\$17,143	\$34,286	
22290	Ded. Acct. Leadership Grants	\$21,450		\$3,260	\$18,190		\$5,589	
22300	Ded. Acct. Jubilee Grants		\$25,000	\$25,000		\$42,857	\$42,857	
22310	Ded. Acct. Comm. Care Grants		\$11,949	\$5,777	\$6,173	\$20,484	\$9,903	
22320	Ded. Acct. Individual Emergenc	\$6,800	\$1,427	\$1,000	\$7,227	\$2,447	\$1,714	
22330	Ded. Acct. Strategic Mln Grant		\$56,370	\$56,370		\$96,634	\$96,634	
23020	Replen. Acct. KCOC	\$50,000	\$17,492	\$24,738	\$42,754	\$29,987	\$42,408	
23030	Replen. Acct. Liberty	\$50,000		\$18,750	\$31,250		\$32,143	
23040	Replen. Acct. Ministry Lab	\$14,000		\$5,250	\$8,750		\$9,000	
23050	Replen. Acct. Clearwater	\$43,500		\$21,750	\$21,750		\$37,286	
23070	Replen. Acct. A. Riverside Prog	\$40,000			\$40,000			
23080	Replen. Acct. RestoreActn. Sup	\$20,000			\$20,000			
		\$1,006,483	\$136,719	\$286,133	\$857,280	\$234,375	\$490,513	
<u>Pass-through Accounts</u>								
25010	Pass-thru. Unif. Mission GA	(\$439)	\$13,614	\$11,638	\$1,537			
25020	Pass-thru. Unif. Mission SYN	\$9	\$13,175	\$11,647	\$1,537			
25030	Pass-thru. Desig. Giving ECO		\$19,573	\$19,573				
25040	Pass-thru. One Great Hour	(\$100)	\$18,112	\$17,361	\$650			
25050	Pass-thru. World Communion	\$0	\$1,471	\$1,471	\$0			
25060	Pass-thru. Pres. Disaster Asst		\$5,000	\$5,000				
25090	Pass-thru. Christmas Joy		\$9,773	\$9,773				
25100	Pass-thru. Hunger							
25110	Pass-thru. Theological Educ.		\$1,200	\$1,000	\$200			
		(\$530)	\$81,917	\$77,462	\$3,924			
<u>Net Assets</u>								
33000	General Net Assets	\$729,014			\$729,014			\$196,478
33100	Presbytery Reserve Fund	\$2,268,509			\$2,268,509			-\$362,227
33200	Congregational Dev. Fund	\$2,585,045			\$2,585,045			-\$44,847
33300	Strategic Ministry Grant Fund	\$164,491			\$164,491			-\$58,155
33400	Jubilee Fund	\$800,000			\$800,000			-\$37,796
33500	Partnership Grant Fund	\$100,000			\$100,000			-\$1,651
		\$6,647,058			\$6,647,058			-\$308,198

Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area
2027 Committee Budget Inputs

Sept. 10, 2026

Please fill in the shaded cells for your individual committee. Inputs can be changed by committee as plans and needs are refined.

Budgeted Expenses											YTD Actual June 2026	Annual Budget 2026	Anticipated Budget Needed for 2027	Dedicated Accounts				Committee	Beginning Balance Jan 1 2026	Year-to-Date Receipts or Transfers	Year-to-Date Distributions	June 30 Balance	Annual Pace of Receipts or Transfers	Annual Pace of Distributions	Committee Inputs Anticipated 2027																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
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Requests for New Expense Lines, Dedicated Accounts, or Name Changes

Committee

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Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area
Committee on Preparation of Ministry

Report to Presbytery

August 22, 2026

The Committee of Preparation for Ministry reports:

From the 2026-05-11 meeting,

- a. **Reports** that Co-Moderator, TE Stephanie Friant asked for a leave of absence from the CPM committee for personal/family reasons. Her requests was granted with full support from the committee.
- b. **Reports** that CRE candidate, Roderick Oji, North Presbyterian Church, has been approved to move to the COM for commissioning with 3 requirements to fulfill: boundary training (Sept. 25th), CPM to see transcripts, take Polity within 3 months. All other requirements have been fulfilled.
- c. **Reports** that Melissa Briles, CRE candidate from First Presbyterian, Stillwater, has completed her classes in full, was elected a Ruling Elder of First Presbyterian of Stillwater, and will be moved to COM for commissioning.
- d. **Reports** that Stephanie Savoy, CRE candidate from Howard Lake Presbyterian church, is ready for commissioning as her educational requirements are fulfilled. Due to the possible closing of the church, it is uncertain, where God is calling Stephanie to serve in ministry. The CPM supports her future commissioning and stands by her faithfulness to serve, and continues to discern with her next steps.
- e. **Reports** that many of the CRE's are nearing the fulfillment of their learning goals and requirements. In the future, the CPM would like all CRE's to complete their educational goals before being commissioned to create an egalitarian platform for assessment.

New Procedural Inclusions to CPM

- a. **Reports:** A letter of welcome will be sent to each congregation that has a “new” or “current” TE candidate or CRE candidate.
- b. **Reports:** A letter and reminder of financial responsibility for LeaderWise fee commitments will be sent after LeaderWise assessments and counseling is completed for individuals receiving this required service. FORMULA: 50% is PTCA funded, 40% is Congregational donation, 10% is Candidate responsibility.

From the 2026-06-08 meeting,

- a. **Reports** that Chelsea Witbrook, after interviewing and completion of official documents, was accepted into the official process of **Inquirer** as a **Teaching Elder**. Chelsea is from Edgumbe Presbyterian Church, St. Paul, and is registered at United Theological Seminary in St. Paul. She was accompanied by TE Luna GebbenGreen and Session Elder LaGretta Lunde.

Chelsea is a Ruling Elder, took anti-racism training, certified in Enneagram training, experienced in youth work and believes now is the time to follow her call to ministry.

- b. **Reports** that Mads Benishek was moved to the COM for ordination track.
- c. **Reports** that the COM and CPM are meeting on June 16th for a joint meeting to share ‘who does what’ in regards to churches engaging in CRE inquiries and developing protocols that meet the needs of congregations, COM, CPM, and Candidates.
- d. **Reports** that TE Alexandra Mauney, CPM team member, researched multiple Presbyterian schools and the Synod, offering educational opportunities for CRE training. Each school has a different name for the education track/training and Alexandra collated the entities and tracks for easier identification for CPM and CRE candidates.

e. Announces: New Procedural Inclusions:

A document was created for TE and CRE candidates to understand the role of liaisons, the importance of annual reviews and institutional reports, and how the CPM is a partner in their discernment process, and communication is key.

The document to use for track individual CRE classes was updated.

f. Reports: A New Opportunity for the PTCA:

The CPM has accepted the new project proposal, Sacred Circles, as a wrap-around service/ministry/training for CRE's and happy to engage with Rev. Kim Goodman and assigned facilitators for the project. *Please see the Sacred Circles report in the Presbytery packet.*

NEW PROJECT: CONSULTATION SERVICES FOR LEADERS
SACRED CIRCLES

Targeted Audience: Certified Ruling Elders, Certified Lay Pastors, Synod Authorized Ministers

*Created by TE Kim Goodman, ACPE Clinical Pastoral Educator
Rev. Dr. Alitz, Assistant to the Bishop in the St. Paul Area Synod of the ELCA
and Rev. Dr. Verlyn D. Hemmen, Retired Reformed Church of America, CPE
Educator, as well as consultations with CPM members*

To include: Seeking Potential Mission Grant Funds of \$4-6,000 a year.

Participants to pay: \$165 a month or approximately \$2,000 a year.

CPM will be looking into ways of funding this ministry opportunity that will have a meaningful and significant impact on the ways in which those called to ministry are supported throughout the process.

- g. **Reports:** Inquirers are rocking in leadership as they served the church with Jimmy Hoke leading and teaching at Montreat, Cole Norgaarden being quoted in an August issue of Presbyterian Church (USA) PC (USA) Daily News, and Alex Bolz being both quoted and photographed as he spoke out as a youth delegate to General Assembly! The PTCA has awesome people serving the church in a variety of styles and capacities. Amen!

The Committee on the Preparation for Ministry announces:

The CPM did not meet in the month of July. We needed a vacation! We literally worked almost two years without a team break.

Due to the lack of members gone on vacation in August, the CPM did not meet as we did not have a quorum to conduct business. This brings us to the reality that the CPM needs at least 2-3 more team members to do the work of the committee as we continue to make significant changes in our work meeting the needs of our growing Presbytery!

Respectfully submitted,
Sally R. Narr, MARL
Co-Moderator of CPM

Sacred Circles

Consultation for Ministry Leaders

Executive Summary

Sacred Circles are a peer-supported, professionally facilitated small group consultation model designed to strengthen the emotional, spiritual, and organizational health of people working in ministry. The program provides recurring, confidential circles where pastors, certified lay pastors and leaders, ministry staff, and chaplains can process challenges, gain insight, deepen in spiritual formation, and develop sustainable leadership practices.

The goal is simple: increase pastoral and spiritual resilience, reduce burnout, and cultivate healthier ministry ecosystems.

Program Overview

Purpose

The Sacred Circles exist to:

- Provide a structured space for peer learning and mutual support
- Strengthen leaders' capacity for discernment, conflict navigation, and adaptive leadership
- Reduce isolation by building trusted relational networks
- Offer practical tools for sustainable ministry rhythms

Each circle is facilitated by a trained consultant with expertise in ministry systems, group dynamics, and pastoral care.

Target Participants - Designated Sacred Circles for cohorts of:

- Pastors, spiritual leaders, clergy
- **Certified lay pastors/ Certified Ruling Elders / Synod Authorized Ministers**
- Ministry directors and staff
- Chaplains
- Lay leaders with significant responsibility
- Leaders in transition or discerning vocational shifts
- Leaders navigating parenting, aging parents, life-stages

Program Structure

Circle Format

- 6-8 participants per circle
- 3.5 hour sessions, once per month, 1 year covenant

- Hybrid or in-person options
- Confidential, covenant-based participation
- Consistent attendance is expected

Session Flow

1. Opening grounding practice
2. Check-in round
3. Education/teaching/didactic session toward skill-building (45-60 minutes)

Year 1 (suggested topics)

- Family Systems Theory/triangles
- Pastoral Identity and Formation
- Somatic Experience/polyvagal theory/nervous system
- Internal Family Systems (self-awareness, self-compassion)
- Social & Cultural Identity and Location
- Communication Skills (Tri-modal, etc.)
- Confrontation, Carefrontation skills
- Interpersonal and Intrapersonal boundaries & power (professional and personal)
- Conflict styles and management skills
- Pastoral Theology and praxis

Year 2

- Addiction
 - Mental Health
 - Non-Violent Communication
 - Self-compassion
 - Crucial Conversations
 - System Boundaries (power, authority, reparative approaches)
 - Self-Led Leadership (Here I Stand: Leading from Values)
 - Pastoral Imagination
 - Anti-racism systems assessments, policy review
4. Focused small-group case consultation, participants bring content and seek feedback (case studies, interpersonal interactions, system dynamics, etc.)
 5. Collective discernment and feedback to facilitators
 6. Closing reflection

Value Proposition

For Individual Leaders

- Reduced burnout and isolation
- Increased clarity in decision-making

- Stronger emotional and spiritual resilience
- Access to diverse perspectives and wisdom
- Ecumenical peer groups for emotional safety and increased perspectives
- Accountability for healthy rhythms

For Churches & Organizations

- Healthier, more grounded leaders
- Supervision and consultation by experienced clergy
- Improved staff cohesion and communication
- Reduced turnover
- Stronger alignment between mission and practice
- Early identification of systemic challenges

Cohort-Based Enrollment (Pilot Program pricing)

- \$200 per participant per month for a 1 year commitment, cohort of 5-7 people (no retreats) (\$2,400 per person per year)
- \$400 per participant per month if opening and closing overnight retreats are added to program (\$4,800 per person per year)
- Recommend judicatories and congregations share the cost to support pastors and lay pastors
- Includes one group session per month, resources, and optional individual coaching add-ons

Facilitator Qualifications

Facilitators bring:

- Background in congregational ministry and/or Clinical Pastoral Education educators
- Training in systems theory, spiritual and pastoral formation, professional development, group facilitation, and conflict transformation
- Experience supporting leaders through transitions, crises, and organizational change

Implementation Timelines

Phase 1: Launch (June-Aug or Sept-Dec)

- Recruitment of participants - by invitation with judicatories
- Orientation session
- Formation of circles

Phase 2: Active Circles (Months 1-12, September-August or Jan-Dec)

- Monthly sessions
- Quarterly feedback surveys
- Optional leadership development workshops and individual consultation sessions

Phase 3: Evaluation & Renewal (Month 12)

- Impact assessment
- Renewal invitations for second year
- Expansion planning, offering new cohorts

Expected Outcomes

- Increased leader well-being, pastoral capacity, and retention
- Stronger relational networks across ministries
- Improved conflict navigation and communication
- More sustainable ministry practices
- Healthier congregational systems

Facilitators:

- Rev. Dr. Alitz currently serves as an Assistant to the Bishop in the Saint Paul Area Synod of the ELCA. Her expertise is in the area of adult faith formation, coaching, and program coordination. She served at Luther Seminary for ten years as the Director of Coaching at Faith+Lead and the Managing Director of the Festival of Homiletics. She has over twenty years of experience in congregational leadership in both mission-start and established congregations. She has ACC credentialing with the International Coaching Federation (currently processing PCC credentialing) and training with the Global Team Coaching Institute, Positive Intelligence, ADD Coaching Academy, and Red Team Thinking, focusing on agile coaching for churches and non-profits. She is well-known within ELCA and ecumenical circles for her work with adaptive leadership, developing online learning opportunities, and collaborating with various networks of educational and synodical professionals.
- Rev. Kimberly Goodman is an ACPE Clinical Pastoral Educator and the program supervisor for North Memorial Health. She has 20 years of experience in CPE. She trained and previously served with the Allina Health System. She is committed to process and group education with focus on holistic adult education, pastoral and spiritual formation, family systems theory, internal family systems, trauma-informed care, clinical ethics and values, and pastoral imagination. Kim was board certified in chaplaincy (APC) with experience in oncology, palliative care, hospice, mental health, heart failure and transplant, and eating disorders. As a parent and educator, Kim is committed to the unique experiences and diverse identities of learners including neurotypes and emotional sensitivities, gender and sexuality, spirituality, race, ethnicity, culture, and values. She is a certified Healthcare Ethics Consultant (ASBH) and developed the Clinical Ethics program while at Abbott Northwestern Hospital. Kim is working toward her Doctor of Educational Ministry in de-colonial and anti-colonial education at Columbia Theological Seminary. Kim is ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA).
- Rev. Dr. Verlyn D. Hemmen is a retired Reformed Church in America pastor and CPE Educator. Verlyn served three churches as solo, senior, co, and associate pastor over 20 years. After completing his D. Min. with emphasis on marriage and family counseling. He trained and served as a CPE Educator in the Twin Cities area for over 20 years. He has expertise in metaphor, clean language, healing the inner child, insights in space, family systems, crucial conversations and communication skills, conflict management, Self-led leadership and internal family systems. Verlyn worships at Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis. He and his wife, Kay, have been married for 52

Sept. 10, 2026

years and have two married children who live in the area and four grandchildren. Verlyn⁴³ loves folk music, several sports, and riding his Harley.

5/20/2026

kim.goodman@icloud.com

612-600-8408

**Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area
Acting Co-Executive Presbyters
Report to Presbytery
September 10, 2026**

It's been a little over a year that there have been "Co-EPs" in the PTCA, an experiment in a staffing model. While the job descriptions were shared with the PTCA, we wanted to name again some of the ways that we have both shared the work, as we meet weekly to connect on emerging issues, consult, and collaborate.

Anna's main body of work is staff, antiracist system change, and strategic planning. She staffs the justice teams (ARTF, CORE, RERIT, and DCM*) as well as CPM, Nominating (NDL), Personnel, and the Andrew Riverside AC. She is also taking on supporting validated ministers in the PTCA since that's her ministry background; and works with our immigrant fellowships (Foundation of Life Ethiopian and Kenyan Christian Outreach Community). She also offers programmatic support to congregations (e.g., RE and TE boundaries training development in late 2024-2026, Snapshot series in collaboration with the Synod, embodied antiracism series with Rachel Svanoe-Moynihan, free for PTCA congregations), integrating outcomes with the Antiracism Coordinator body of work and its goals.

Zach's main focus is on supporting congregations and leaders, particularly parish pastoral leaders and at-large ministers. He staffs COM, BOT, MSG, and the Pastoral Leader Care Team (PLCT). He technically works three-quarter time currently, though we all know that is tricky to balance in parishes and midcouncils alike.

At this close-to-one-year mark of shared staffing (Anna started Feb 1, 2025, Zach in early June 2025), we wanted to each share a bit about some of the projects and work we have been doing.

Zach, Congregations and Leaders

On September 11, 2001 I was examined on the floor of Presbytery to approve my ordination, my membership in the Presbytery, and my call to serve as Interim Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church of White Bear Lake. So, today I'm one day shy of being part of this Presbytery for twenty-five years. It has been a blessing to be your colleague in ministry for these years and a special blessing to serve on Presbytery Staff for the past year. I give thanks to God that my relationships with many of you in the Presbytery has broadened and deepened considerably in this time

Before I arrived, my colleagues in the Presbytery office Anna, Jennifer (Administrator), John (Stated Clerk), and Steve (Treasurer, now retired) discerned key values for our staff: *Purpose, Relationships, Dependability, Innovation, Justice, and Joy*. These have really guided my work this past year.

One of the things I've spent a great deal of my time at is working to expand and strengthen interpersonal relationships in the Presbytery. I've done this by visiting and/or preaching in many of our congregations, making sure I show up for important meetings and events in both the Presbytery and our congregations, and having one-on-one meetings with teaching elders. And I've also learned that developing and cultivating relationships is more challenging than I expected.

We live in a fairly transactional world, and this is true in our life together as well. The way this is often demonstrated generally is that a congregation or pastor will draw my attention to the *per capita* a congregation has “paid” to the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly, and then express frustration with the perceived value of what they have received in return for this payment. And I get it. If we look at our relationships within the Body of Christ through the transactional lens our society conditions us to use, it’s easy to see why we’re disappointed. Especially when many Presbyterians’ only experience of our larger church is the *per capita* line item in their congregation’s annual report. At times in my twenty-five years in this Presbytery, I have been a Teaching Elder who has not particularly engaged with my colleagues in ministry, and the work of care and governance our ordination vows obligate us to live out.

This Summer I attended Synod School at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa for the first time. I learned shape-note singing, about the intersection of Christian Contemplative Practice and Native American Spirituality, and learned more about how to live in a conflicted world. But more importantly, I got to eat meals and hang out with so many people from our Presbytery and with so many other Presbyterians from across the nation and the world. And I relearned something I knew but failed to live out—if we show up for each other God does amazing things. And there are so many opportunities to show up for each other. Here are a few:

1. If you are a Teaching Elder, I invite you to come to one of our Teaching Elder lunches—if you’re reading this before the Presbytery meeting you can still sign up for the Rochester and Eagan lunches on September 10th and 23rd respectively.
2. Clearwater Forest’s Ministry Leadership Retreat from September 20-23. Please let me know if the cost is prohibitive.
3. Boundary Training: September 25th from 9:30am - 3:30 pm at Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church, Apple Valley. This isn’t just an event to check things off the list of requirements—it is a great opportunity to build relationships.

Also take a moment to look at the websites of the PC(USA) and or Synod to see all the way we can build our relational connections.

In these ways I pray we can begin to see our relationships, within this little part of the church of Jesus Christ, embody grace-filled relationships rather than a tally of transactions that either do or don’t benefit us and our congregations. If we do this with our communities, even a little, God will slip in and do things we have not yet imagined.

Anna, Head of Staff and Strategic Planning

For the past year, even in the middle of ongoing crises, I’ve so admired the way the entire staff have stayed committed, as often as possible, to working on the “nitty gritty” in the PTCA. We’ve been developing processes and agreed-upon procedures for common tasks: how we organize and run the stated meetings, how we collect and steward the records of the Presbytery when so many are responsible for its work, the tools we use to communicate with one another, and more.

All of this has been done in service of the staff’s core values, developed in spring 2025: *Service, Purpose, Relationships, Dependability, Innovation, Justice, and Joy*. Each of these values have shared definitions and meanings and have been guiding the core tasks of our work even as we keep

deepening our understanding of their implications and their connections to our wider PTCA mission and vision.

The goal in all this effort is to acknowledge the core reality of being a mainline denomination in the 21st Century: *change is (now) the norm*. So our goal in working together in this PTCA co-op cannot be stasis, nor can it be some imagined “salvation” where we become immune to the waves of cultural change which have actually shaped and reshaped the Church for hundreds of years - though which always feel more anxious and complex in real time.

With that acknowledgment, it follows that the goals of our wider strategic planning work become:

Adaptable resourcing, partnership & support for congregations: Many of the *needs* of congregations have not changed -- pastoral leadership transitions, HR, legal and property advice and support-- but what *has* changed is the container: changing communities, reduced social pressure to participate in religious spaces, intense time pressure on families/older adults and stressed finances for congregations and individuals alike. This means fresh, flexible approaches and creative responses as often as possible, and the work of the Budget Visioning Team over the last year has clarified the capacity, resources, commitment and values that might drive this response in terms of staffing and other financial resources.

Greater resilience to staffing changes and staff/system capacity changes: Operation Metro Surge and the various ACs of the past few years have made it clear that our cooperative's functioning changes radically based on dynamics often not in our control or running on our “schedule.” How we staff, communicate and retain clear but adaptable procedures for common tasks will partially determine how much (extra) upheaval any given change creates.

Greater capacity to prepare for the future: The staff team have been making time for yearly retreats and monthly “extended” staff meetings to take a more comprehensive view of our work, our tools, and the wider picture of our cooperative ministry. What the PTCA will look like in 5 years, 10 years, or more, needs to matter to us now - not to control, predict, or decide, but to practice the skills we will need to have at the ready in a future where flexibility, grace, clarity, cooperation and robust clarity about our values and goals as drivers of daily action will be needed more than ever.

As we pursue these goals, dovetailing the conversations with intersectional antiracism commitments, both as staff and as a wider network of officers, committee members, and other leaders, I acknowledge these are all areas in need of development. And that will take time, but whether it's the new MAZE system to streamline our hybrid meetings, clarifications about how to share information within the PTCA, or new tools to connect and share information within our committees, we hope you have been experiencing or will begin to see and feel some of the ways that the work of staff and our other leaders are helping us all in this time.

I look forward to the way this work will take shape in the coming months and beyond, and to that end have also been supporting the EP Search Team's process to allow it to restart this fall.

Lots of pieces in motion, but I have been so impressed by how we show up, both in our presbytery and in our communities, in 2026 in particular. The work is challenging, but I see so many powerful things growing among us. Looking forward to what is emerging.

Submitted by TE Anna Kendig Flores and TE Zach Wilson

*Antiracism Task Force (ARTF), Committee on Representation and Ethics (CORE), Race & Equity Report Implementation Team (RERIT, pronounced “rewrite”) and the Disability Concerns Ministries Team (DCM).

August 25, 2026

To: Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area

From: Rochelle LeTourneau, Ruling Elder, First Presbyterian Church in South St Paul

Commissioner delegate to the 227th General Assembly (GA) held in Milwaukee, WI. June 28-July 3, 2026

Theme: Persevering Toward Wholeness

It all begins before you ever get to the GA location. I remember being somewhat surprised in my excitement to experience it all, by how long it took to begin receiving concrete information about how this would all come about. But then it began with, finally, a letter communicating which of the 11 standing committees I was assigned to ... Racial Justice. I was excited because it's something I have a keen interest in, having taken training that was offered in the last few years and having been closely involved in my congregation with designing and sharing a Twenty-One-Day Racial Equity training for folks when this area began to experience significant unrest, then in developing a Land Acknowledgement Statement, and more. This committee, like others, met by Zoom for three days in preparation for GA. We had some experienced people who had been to GA before and were there as helpers to move the committee along, some were staff and some resource folks. Which is a very good thing!

The three days were full days, we worshipped and worked, stopped for lunch, and did the same thing all over again. It was great preparation for GA and plenary sessions, and I was pleased to be part of a worship team to design and lead the worship services. We had initiatives ready to bring to the assembly. It was helpful to meet and begin to get to know other committee members before meeting in person at GA.

Having relatives who lived in Milwaukee in the past, I felt somewhat familiar with the city. Being summer I shouldn't have been surprised by all the street and road closures and how difficult it was to get into the city, but I did make it in. My hotel – again not of my choosing but of the random lottery, happened to be across the street from the Baird Center where many of the meetings were held. Perfect, as it was so hot while we were there, I wouldn't have wanted to spend a lot of time outdoors. Also, perfect because it

provided a decent breakfast each morning. It was a concrete and real help to not have to go looking for breakfast in a restaurant early in the morning.

Then, work we did! Following worship of course. The work was well organized; leadership was strong for the most part. About 60 items of business came in from committees and were approved at the beginning by unanimous consent. That meant some were left for debate, and it was real and spirited debate. Much of this work felt familiar to me as it was in a way, much like the work I had done with legislative bodies in my career. We began each morning with worship, worked until lunch break; started the afternoon with worship, broke for dinner, came back and worked into the evening – one evening until 9:30 p.m. That's how the work gets done. Commissioners and advisory delegates deliberated, listened, debated, prayed, discerned, voted, worked on difficult questions. It wasn't always easy as a topic went on for long periods of time. Still there was a lot of willingness to listen to each other, clarify what was said, a few times some people felt harmed and always apologies were given. I was involved in helping diffuse one situation that didn't impact me on a personal level, but I saw the impact on others. The apology to those who felt harm was beautifully and sincerely given on the assembly floor. This and some other tense situations were resolved and brought real meaning to the theme of the assembly, *Persevering Toward Wholeness*.

Many of the decisions made at GA are final. However, those that change the Book of Order, even though agreed on, aren't final but go to all presbyteries for a vote and do not become Book of Order until approved by a majority. Those items will be brought to this Presbytery in due order. Although that isn't the focus for this report, issues included establishing a special committee to study African American Ecclesial Repair; voted to restore Racial Equity and Intercultural Congregational Support ministries; we declared White Christian Nationalism a "theological error"; formation of a committee to complete a serious study of Artificial Intelligence uses; approved a committee to study a proposed new confession; updated the paths candidates can take to ordination; backed gender-affirming healthcare; and so much more. In other words, we named and discussed out loud the hard issues of our times. And while GA is over, the work still must be done. Over the next two years, until the next GA, committees, staff, and commissions will take care of the business items that were approved.

We had a choice of several churches to visit, and I had chosen to attend Sunday worship at Southminster Presbyterian Church in Waukesha. I was surprised to find that the current moderators gave the sermon. It was a great choice. It was beautiful worship, and I made some new friends.

It was sad to say goodbye to the outgoing co-moderators who had done such a fabulous job; it was exciting to welcome the co-moderators we had elected.

The length and breadth of the resolutions and discussion was such that there is no way I can even begin to summarize it in this paper. I tried to be fully informed on the issues, and every vote I made I tried to make with both faith and reason.

We were asked to listen for what the Spirit was saying to us, and we did. We worked together. We prayed together. We sang together. Broke bread together. Made new friends. Nothing compares to working closely, shoulder to shoulder and sharing mostly common goals with 600+ people for four days; worshiping together knowing that we worship the same God and can get through the differences we have because of that. It is hope inspiring and awe-filling.

I thank this Presbytery for sending me to be a representative to the 227th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA.

Report to Presbytery

September 10, 2026

General Assembly Commissioner

Ruling Elder Karen Finney

“When the river makes noise it carries water”

Rev Marta Pumroy Cordero

2026-2028 PCUSA Co-Moderator

I would like to first thank the Presbytery Nominating Committee for selecting me as a 2026 Commissioner and to the Synod of Lakes and Prairies for their on site support and special GA survival gift bags.

Although this was my first GA, it was not overwhelming because I saw so many friends from previous national committees I have served on, knew polices from being Human Resources Director at Ghost Ranch and the meeting was held in Milwaukee where I used to live! It was especially meaningful to worship at our former church, Christ Presbyterian and witness the service being lead by a young lady I watched grow up and the preacher for the day being a young man we knew from when he got his call. The Rev Dr Danny Murphy, General Presbyter and Stated clerk of Trinity Presbytery was the preacher.

As I reflect on GA 2026 these are my key take aways:

PCUSA is truly a connectional reformed church that is continuing to reform.

This GA was nearly paperless! Committee reports were shared digitally. All voting was done electronically via laptops, tablets or computers which each Commissioner was responsible to have.

Each day began with worship and prayer.

We were privileged to hear from preachers from other denominations as well as words from preachers from reformed churches around the world.

PCUSA is living out justice, compassion and the words of Jesus Christ per the Overtures passed.

The ethic and gender inclusiveness of Commissioners and PCUSA leadership was very evident and affirming.

All Commissioners are selected to be a member of a Committee and told there are no options to change their designated committee. I was selected to serve on the Financial Stewardship and Witness Committee. Although this would not have been my choice it ended up being a good place for me! The Committee Co Moderators were excellent as they guided our decision making around PCUSA money/budgetary issues.

I commend our out going Moderators for the graceful way they guided us through tense and weary moments with songs and dances such as Head, Shoulders. Knees and Toes and the Wobble and always with prayer.

As a proud PCUSA member I urge all to consider going to GA 2028 for the spiritual uplifting, affirmation of your faith and the beauty of Puerto Rico.

I would like to leave you with these words:

“ LEAF”

“ Love Everyone And Flourish”

Rev CeCe Armstrong

PCUSA Co Moderator 2024-2026