

PMRV Committee/Commission Reports to Presbytery For April 29, 2023 Presbytery of Missouri River Valley Stated Meeting

Social Justice and Peacemaking – Rev. Carolyn Grice, Chair

Present: Greg Carlson, Bob Keefer, Steve Burgess, Kevin Bushnell, Carolyn Grice. Nicole Geiler and Shelli Latham were excused. The administrative covenant was read. Bob Keefer opened with prayer.

The committee discussed gun violence. It was the sentiment to do something as opposed to just sharing information. There was a consensus to do a prayer service inviting ELCA colleagues to participate with us. Carolyn will look for a church to host the service. We are looking at some time the first couple of weeks in May.

The committee would like to host an opportunity to view a film recommended by the PCUSA Mission Agency. It was discussed asking churches to send a representative or provide a church contact person to receive information not only on gun violence but social justice and peacemaking news.

Carolyn will investigate finding likeminded groups that we can partner with in NE and IA to address gun violence.

Kevin provided an update on Palestinian issues.

- Israel's Cabinet advanced on full-fledged apartheid in the West Bank
- American rabbis, contending with new Israeli government, weigh different approaches.
- Ban lifted on Israelis' return to evacuated West Bank settlements.
- A crisis looms for Israel as attacks on Christians become more frequent.
- Israeli law professors say, "Israel practices apartheid."

The meeting adjourned with prayer by Greg Carlson.

Self-Development of People (SDOP) – Rev. Carolyn Grice, Chair

No Report

Calvin Crest Camp, Conference and Retreat Center – Craig Huffman, Director

Since the last Board meeting on March 11, the Calvin Crest board has been continuing to work with the leadership of Homestead Presbytery to finalize draft versions of the property transfer paperwork and to create a covenant agreement that parallels the legal document. In addition, there are required changes to by-laws as this process progresses. My hope is that these documents will be completed in time to submit them to the presbytery for an initial reading and possible time for questions during the April 29 meeting.

In addition to this important work, the board and staff have been preparing diligently for summer camp, retreats and hosting groups throughout the spring, summer, and fall. And, making plans and preparations for the Family Fun Day on August 19 and Instadium 2.0 on August 19-20.

Faith Education Leadership Development (FELD) – Rev. Becky Balestri, Chair

FELD did not meet in March. FELD will meet every other month. The Clergy Spouse event may be cancelled due to lack of registrations. A grant was given to Hope Church for the mental health events that they are having this summer. We are currently considering a grant for one of our ministers to attend a conference.

Administrative Team (AT) – Sarah Dickinson, Sally Carlson, Gregg Miller, Pat Shipley

4/18/23 Meeting

From: Admin Team (AT): Nancy Ross-Hullinger, Sally Carlson, Gregg Miller, Pat Shipley, Sarah Dickinson/notetaker

Moderator Team (MT): Suzanne Gorhau, Marcia Cline & Matt Coplen

We honor the 2023 theme: The Joy of being a Team!

Here are some highlights from when Admin Team met jointly with the Moderator Team 4/10/23... Remarkably, most of us seemed to still have operating brain cells the Monday after Easter. Our meeting opened with checking in with one another, recalling the PMRV Covenant, 4 callings and prayer. We had a super full meeting and good discussion!

Discussion included

- **Debriefing** about:
 - March LT meeting
 - April 3 Special PMRV meeting – pulled off a good 5 min meeting the Monday of Holy Week
- **Planning** about:
 - 4/18 LT mtg
 - Looking at taking June off – LT Sabbath
 - 4/24 **Pre-Presbytery Zoom** about GA & Operations Manual
 - This lingo could go out with the Thursday News or however the 4/24 event gets promoted
 - If you can't make the pre-presbytery Zoom and have questions, you can always reach out anytime
 - Overall questions: Stated Clerk, Pat Shipley
 - For different sections of the Book of Order amendments
 - Foundations (F): Suzanne Gorhau
 - Government (G): Sally Carlson, Marcia Cline, Nancy Ross-Hullinger
 - Worship (W): Suzanne Gorhau; Discipline (D): Bob Keefer
 - For PMRV Manual of Operations: Pat or other members of the Leadership Team
 - 4/29 **Presbytery meeting** at Hope; Clarifying docket items
- **Updates** about:
 - **Digitizing:** Pat & Nicole meeting with denominational person 4/11/23
 - **New Worshiping Communities:** Suzanne, Sally, Nancy and Sarah are a preliminary task force discerning specific and general approaches to NWC within our bounds.
 - **Homestead/Central NE:** Pat will reach out to their stated clerks at the May Synod meeting to connect and see how we develop our relationships with these neighbors.
 - **Nominating Committee set up:** Sally following up on some leads
- **Conversations & Work included:**
 - **Presbyterian Women & Communications:** It's too bad that a PW event got scheduled at the same time as the April Presbytery meeting. Presbytery meetings are for the whole presbytery since they include worship and many elements that help us bond and grow as the Body of Christ. (ie meetings aren't just business for commissioners). We have a plan for making some connections.
 - **Admin then met separately just briefly** -More discernment and coordination.

- **OPSF:** We clarified how from PMRV's perspective, PMRV & OPSF connect. Sally & Linda R from COM connect with Tricia/coaching program. Nancy from AT is available for lunches and schmoozing. (ha, ha) Depending on OPSF's other needs PMRV has a deep bench of administrative and other helps. The AT can be a hub for discerning where to direct OPSF as needs arise for them.
- **AT/MT meets next:** 5/8/23 1:30 PM via Zoom

Other Administrative Reference

- August 2023 Presbytery meeting – Friday 8/11 Pastor/Educator Retreat **Sat 8/12** Meeting w/ Retreat Learning Component. Candace Adams will be Friday/Saturday retreat/trainer again. Topic: The Joy of Being a Team
- **Vision & Hub 2023** (approved by LT December 20, 2022 and in the PMRV mtg materials for Feb. 2023 mtg) We won't forget about the commitments we made since we strive to be good stewards.

Stewardship of Resources (SOR) – Rev. Gregg Miller, Chair

The report is the Financial Report provided to Presbytery.

Commission on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) – Rev. Jay Cline, Moderator

No report.

Personnel Committee – Kathy Moore, Elder, Chair

No report.

Worship and Spirituality Committee – Rev. Suzanne Gorhau, Chair

The Worship & Spirituality Committee met on March 16. They discussed feedback about the Theology of Hymnody event and planned the worship service for the April Presbytery meeting at Hope Presbyterian Church. The Committee also discussed the proposed GA amendments to the Book of Order in the area of worship.

Mission and Evangelism – Rev. Matt Coplen, Chair

The Committee did not meet. No report.