

## **COMMISSION ON MINISTRY REPORT**

### **For February 22, 2024, Presbytery of Missouri River Valley Stated Meeting**

*The Commission took the following actions on behalf of the Presbytery at meetings held on November 28, 2023; January 23, 2024:*

**A-1.** Approved Temporary Pastoral Relationship between Rev. Cindy Harvey and Presbyterian Church of the Master from January 1, 2024-December 31, 2024. Terms: 20 hours/week. Effective Salary: Cash-\$28,800; Pulpit Supply rate per Sunday-\$180. Professional allowance-\$1000. Paid Continuing education leave of two weeks annually (including Sundays). The agreement may be terminated upon thirty day written notice by either party or by the Missouri River Valley Presbytery at their discretion.

**A-2.** Approved the Pastoral Call between Peace Presbyterian Church, Omaha, NE and Rev. Murice (Brian) Long of New Covenant Presbytery commencing January 15, 2024. Terms: Full-time. Salary: Cash-\$40,000; Housing Allowance-\$35,000; Effective Salary \$75,000. Full medical pension, disability, and death benefit coverage-\$29,250. 12 weeks of Family Medical Leave. Continuing Education-\$2,000 annually. Professional Expenses which includes Mileage reimbursement-\$2,000. Paid vacation leave of four weeks annually, which includes four Sundays. Paid continuing education leave of two weeks annually, which includes two Sundays (cumulative to six weeks. Moving expenses up to \$10,000 with proof of receipt. The call was issued on November 19, 2023. The congregational meeting issuing the call was moderated by Rev. Jon Sloan.

**A-3.** Approved Presbyterian Church of the Cross Mission Discernment Profile (MDP) for an Associate Pastor and allow posting of the MDP.

**A-4.** Approved the dissolution of the call between Faith United Church, Sidney, Iowa, and Rev. Leah Elrod effective December 31, 2023. Rev. Elrod will receive salary at current level, Board of Pension benefits, and use of the manse January 1-March 31, 2023.

**A-5.** Approved the forming of an Administrative Commission to assist in the sale of church property of Shelby Presbyterian. The congregation will retain all proceeds of the sale; the congregation is not dissolving. COM will offer names to the Moderator of Presbytery to be appointed to the Commission and the calling of a special meeting to approve the Commission and its tasks.

**A-6.** Approved Commissioning of Elder James Carroll to serve the Lord's Supper for Crossroad Connection should a Minister of Word and Sacrament not be available.

**A-7.** Approved the dismissal of Rev. Matthew Johnstone to Donegal Presbytery.

**A-8.** Accepted the Interim Pastor Exit Report of Rev. Gary Eller/Presbyterian Church of the Master.

**A-9.** Approved Temporary Pastoral Relationship between Rev. Nancy Ross-Hullinger and Bethany Presbyterian Church/Council Bluffs, Iowa, from January 1, 2024-December 31, 2024. Terms: 19 hours/week. Effective Salary: Cash-\$29,244; Contribution to Fidelity Fund -\$12,000 Effective Salary \$41,244. Professional reimbursements Travel at IRS rate-\$500; Continuing Education reimbursement \$1200. Paid vacation of four (4) weeks and two (2) weeks study leave annually (including Sundays). In 2024-2 months, Sabbatical Leave from July 8-September 7, 2024. A Sabbatical Leave Contract was included with the Temporary Pastoral Relationship. The agreement may be terminated upon thirty days written notice by either party or by the Missouri River Valley Presbytery at their discretion.

**A-10.** Approved Temporary Pastoral Relationship between Pastor Marcia Cline and Trinity Presbyterian Church/Clarinda, Iowa, from January 1, 2024-December. 31, 2024. Terms: Full-time. Effective Cash Salary-\$45,093.84; Effective Salary \$45,093.84. Retirement-\$5174.75. Professional reimbursements: Travel at IRS rate-\$1000; Continuing Education reimbursement \$1000. Books \$200. Paid vacation of four (4) weeks annually (including Sundays) plus 2 extra Sundays. Paid continuing education leave of two weeks annually (including Sundays) The agreement may be terminated upon thirty day written notice by either party or by the Missouri River Valley Presbytery at their discretion.

**A-11.** Approved Temporary Pastoral Relationship between Rev. Carolyn Grice and New Life Presbyterian Church from February 1, 2024-December. 31, 2024. Terms: 19 hours/week. Cash Salary-\$1200; Housing Allowance-\$25640; Deferred Compensation \$7,183,80; Effective Salary \$26,840. Professional reimbursements: Travel at IRS rate-\$1200; Continuing Education reimbursement \$671. Paid vacation of four (4) weeks annually (including Sundays). Paid Continuing Education leave of two weeks annually (including Sundays). The agreement may be terminated upon thirty days written notice by either party or by the Missouri River Valley Presbytery at their discretion.

**A-12.** Approved Installation Commission for Rev. Murice "Brian" Long which includes: Rev. Matt Coplen, Rev. Jon Sloan, Elder David Friedli (Murray), Elder Judi Crick (Faith/LaVista), and Elder Steve Brosz (Peace/Elkhorn). Installation date and location: Saturday, February 10, 2024. 10 a.m. at Peace Presbyterian Church, Elkhorn, Nebraska.

**A-13.** Approved Kathy Padilla (West Hills) as a Ruling Elder eligible for Commissioning, per Commission on Preparation for Ministry recommendation.

**A-14.** Approved moving Rev. Dwight Williams to Retired status effective January 31, 2024.

**A-15.** Affirmed validated ministries of Rev. Sarah James, Chaplain, Children's Hospital/Omaha; Rev. Robert Rose, Air Force Chaplain; Rev. Shelli Latham, Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation and Rev. Tricia Dillon Thomas, Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation, and Rev. Martha Slocombe, Creighton University for 2024.

**A-16.** Approved serving of the Lord's Supper during Presbyterian Pilgrimage events, Calvin Crest retreats, worship at Crossroads Connection when officiated by a PC(USA) minister or Commissioned Ruling Elder, Protestant Worship at Creighton University, and Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation retreats.

**A-17.** Approved appointment of an Administrative Commission at the Shelby Presbyterian Church to oversee the sale of the church property.

**A-18.** Approved the transfer of Rev. Jon Noble from Homestead Presbytery, if the way be clear.

**A-19.** Authorized the election of a Pastor Nominating Committee for First Presbyterian/Omaha upon the request from them and pending receipt of the results of Holy Cow discernment.

**A-20.** Approved Rev. Aaron White for membership in Presbytery of Missouri River Valley, if the way be clear.

**A-21.** Approved Temporary Pastoral Relationship between Rev. Suzanne Gorhau and Riverside Parish (Oakland-Sharon and Carson Presbyterian Churches) from February 1, 2024-December. 31, 2024. Terms: 30 hours/week. Cash Salary-\$3,600; Housing Allowance-\$40,400; Effective Salary \$44,000. Board of Pensions: pension, disability, death benefit only, \$4,400. Professional reimbursements: Travel at IRS rate-\$1000; Continuing Education reimbursement \$5,000. Paid vacation of four (4) weeks annually (including Sundays). Paid Continuing Education leave of two weeks annually (including Sundays). The agreement may be terminated upon thirty days written notice by either party or by the Missouri River Valley Presbytery at their discretion.

- A-22.** Approved Elder Brian Morhardt, Underwood Hills, for placement on the Pulpit Supply list.
- A-23.** Approved the removal of Rev. Steven Niles from the Pulpit Supply list at his request.