

## **PMRV Stated Clerk, Commission, and Committee Reports For Stated Meeting, May 7, 2026, at First Presbyterian Church of Omaha**

### **From the Stated Clerk – submitted by Rev. Nancy Ross-Hullinger**

See *Stated Clerk Report* in posted presbytery materials

### **Administrative Team (AT)/Moderator Team (MT) – submitted by Rev. Sarah Dickinson**

**Moderator Team** (Moderator: Ricky Holbert; Vice Moderator: Joyce Faltis Serenil; Chair of the LT: Matt Coplen) | **Admin Team:** Nancy Ross-Hullinger/Stated Clerk; Rick Sleyster, Carolyn Grice, Sarah Dickinson

The Moderator Team and Admin Team meet approximately once a month.

In each meeting they read aloud/affirm what the presbytery has delegated them to do:

- We uphold the Presbytery's Covenant
- For 2026 we are living into PMRV's vision:
  - We help PMRV Proclaim the Good News Life—
  - and be radically helpful for congregations. BOO G-3.0101
- Seeking to be faithful, as a presbytery MT & AT team we:
  - Help coordinate the administrative and communication needs and opportunities of the presbytery
  - Resource the Leadership Team

We all, Leadership Team, Moderator Team and Admin Team are respectful of the tasks that PMRV has asked of us. Some of this includes (from the PMRV Manual of Operations)

- VI. Leadership Team
  - A. Mission
    - The Leadership Team helps the Presbytery keep faithful to its mission. The team discerns matters together abiding by the Presbytery's covenant. They are stewards of the Presbytery's vision and its coordinated Administrative Hub.
  - B. Responsibilities
    - 1. Lead the Presbytery in the process of visioning for future; to look toward the future by working with churches and addressing their concerns.
    - 4. Assist in planning and approval of the docket for Presbytery meetings.
    - 5. Maintain communication with commissions and committees.
    - 6. Plan training for commissions and committees as well as its own continuing education
    - 9. Initiate or respond to requests to plan and implement Presbytery-sponsored programming.
    - 10. Evaluate the needs and functions of the Presbytery consistent with the Administrative Hub.
    - 11. Prepare and recommend to Presbytery a regular system of priority setting and response to new and emerging needs.
    - 12. Serve as the link between the Presbytery and other governing bodies and institutions, including ecumenical and interfaith relationships.

**What is the Administrative Hub?** It is a list of tasks generated by Personnel to ensure all the duties of a presbytery are covered. It also represents the culture we seek to have and build as a presbytery.

#### **Recent work of the Moderator and Admin Teams includes:**

- Debriefing about presbytery and leadership team meetings and planning ahead
- Discussing larger matters in a wholistic way
  - Such as the process for the use of building sale funds and the recommendation from the task force
  - And what will make it understandable to commissioners
  - Celebrating the awesome FELD event on Feb 28
  - BTW – here is the Administrative Hub (next page)



## Administrative Hub original 11/4/21 [Update: October 2025](#)

**Leadership Team stewards the whole hub.**

Year by year we develop different aspects of the hub.

Administrative Hub Responsibilities	Updates, Hindsight, Looking ahead
<b>Help PMRV embrace its call &amp; challenges faithfully</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Always being reformed by the Spirit.</li> <li>Listen, learn, and equip collegially</li> </ul>	Open to Adaptive Change, not just technical change
<b>Help PMRV follow its covenant &amp; mission</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Practice healthy Christian culture and ethics (covenant)</li> <li>Keep mission reviewed &amp; fresh</li> <li>Provide for inspiring &amp; faithful PMRV mtgs</li> </ul>	
<b>Help LT to be spiritual &amp; deliberative leaders</b> who help PMRV embrace its call & challenges. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop LT gifts &amp; collaboration</li> <li>Structure LT meetings based on shared vision</li> <li>Work through processes to realize change (such as: listening, relationship development, visioning, strategizing, experimenting, implementing, being open to constructive feedback)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keeping our 2026 Vision before us and incorporating into meetings.</li> <li>Keeping up cross-committee conversations and overall Leadership Team coordination</li> </ul>
<b>Provide special support and resources that help PMRV &amp; LT in its mission.</b> (spiritual care, address new & emerging needs, problem solving, conflict resolution, sharing examples, affirmation)	Being radically helpful (not red tape)
<b>Help church leaders embrace church ministry calls &amp; challenges faithfully,</b> ready for new ways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proclaiming Good News Life</li> <li>Safety for congregations in change</li> <li>2026 4 words - curriculum</li> </ul>
<b>Pastor &amp; Leader support</b> – across all kinds of needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>wise, compassionate, respectful, collegial, encouraging</li> <li>Facilitate collegial environment, empowering pastors to form own connections, resources &amp; support</li> </ul>	Understanding needs, coordinating a response through Leadership Team and committees
<b>Communication</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overall strategy, messaging, using of platforms</li> <li>Determine &amp; steward what material is significant to the presbytery's mission with consideration of the overall time, interest, energy &amp; emphasis</li> <li>Figure out which part of PMRV is impacted &amp; entrust/delegate</li> <li>Administrative information sharing</li> </ul>	Continue guidelines
<b>Guidance for significant committees, initiatives, tasks</b>	Working through collaboratively things that help congregations
<b>Hire, Support, Supervise staff</b>	2026 Virtual office
<b>Connect with Synod &amp; GA,</b> other presbyteries, other judicatories & entities [mid council, OGA...]	3 PMRV people serve on Synod
<b>Represent PMRV</b>	
<b>Share PMRV's witness</b> beyond PMRV	
<b>Keep PMRV, LT, MT &amp; AT in prayerful accountability</b> to its mission	
<b>Committees, Task Forces, Groups</b>	
<b>Stated Clerk (SC) duties</b> – see separate position description. Part of the Admin Team, specialist in polity, administrative connecting	
<b>Office &amp; Communications Coordinator</b> – see separate position description	

☞ This Hub reflects the overall ministry of a presbytery. [Personnel Note: I. Purpose II. Accountability & Evaluation III. Responsibilities]☞

**Calvin Crest Camp, Conference and Retreat Center – submitted by Craig Huffman, Executive Director**

As the leaves on the trees grow from tiny buds to full-on leaves and the grass turns green and the animals emerge from hibernation, so too does Calvin Crest emerge from a time of breathing and preparation. Transition is everywhere in the world today and religious institutions are not immune. Staffing changes, schedule changes, programming changes and more are par for the course.

The Board of Directors of Calvin Crest work hard to manage and navigate these changes. The retirement of long-time Maintenance Director, Bob Pokorny, at the end of April is a change that has been tempered with the hiring in January of Calvin Friedli to replace him—with a name like Calvin it seems like a good fit and as we have gotten to know him more, the fit goes beyond the name.

During the slower winter months, preparation and renovation occurs. Painting meeting spaces, sprucing up cabins, improving facilities all occur. The dining hall bathrooms received a good renovation with new partitions, sinks, ceiling panels and paint.

The number of groups that are looking for space away for retreat, for planning and for Christian fellowship is growing and our rental income is expected to exceed our budgeted expectation. And our camper numbers are lower than expected and the board is working to determine what and how to remedy that. One way we are supporting families interested in camp is by holding prices steady from last year despite the drastic increase in the cost of services.

We appreciate your prayers and support and look forward to hosting the stated meeting in August.

(See *2025 Calvin Crest Annual Report* posted with the other presbytery materials/reports.)

**Commission of Care (COC) – submitted by David Friedli, Moderator**

**David Friedli, Co-Moderator** df68409@gmail.com

**Brian Long, Co-Moderator** falcorre@aol.com

**Action Items**

1. Reviewed and accepted Triennial visit reports from Care Teams, and heard from Care Teams actively assisting Pastor Nominating Committees.
2. Received updates from Validated Ministries.
3. Received quarterly reports from Certified Ruling Elders (CREs).
4. Approved a PMRV member to labor outside the bounds of PMRV to officiate Communion at a church in Homestead Presbytery.
5. Approved Temporary Pastoral Relationships between pastors and congregations.
6. Accepted with regret the resignation of a member of the Commission
7. Removed from Presbytery membership Reverend Dan Graham (deceased)

**Business of interest**

1. Continuing support of churches who are active in the search process
  - Dundee Presbyterian Church (associate)
  - Ft Calhoun Presbyterian Church
  - Shenandoah-Essex Presbyterian Churches
  - Murray Presbyterian Church
2. Discussed potential relationships between churches discerning future of their congregation: merging, collaborating, sharing of pastor, closing.
3. Engaged in a series of review and orientation regarding the COM Manual: **Pastoral Relationships and Care Teams**
4. Received reports regarding those in the Preparation for Ministry process.
5. Our devotions center around the four PMRV focus areas for 2026: **Calling, Connection, Creativity and Courage.**

### **Faith Education Leadership Development (FELD) – submitted by Rev. Aaron White, chair**

Since the February 12, 2026 stated meeting of the Presbytery of Missouri River Valley, the Faith Education and Leadership Development (FELD) Committee has continued its work of equipping leaders, supporting faith formation, and fostering connection across the presbytery. A primary focus of the committee's work has been the Church Leader Training event held on February 28, 2026. This well-attended gathering brought together leaders from across the presbytery for a day of learning, collaboration, and encouragement. Feedback received from participants reflects a strong appreciation for the quality of leadership, the practical and applicable nature of the content, and the opportunity to connect with peers in ministry. The committee is currently reviewing this feedback as it begins planning for a 2027 training event, with a tentative date already identified.

FELD has also continued its support of faith formation through scholarship funding, approving multiple \$200 scholarships for participants attending summer camp at Calvin Crest and Synod School. The committee remains attentive to improving both the accessibility and communication of these scholarship opportunities, including encouraging earlier application timelines and expanding outreach through presbytery communication channels.

Planning is ongoing for upcoming events, including the August 2026 Ministry Leaders' Retreat at Calvin Crest, which will provide opportunities for spiritual renewal and leadership development. In addition, the committee is exploring potential new initiatives, such as a possible partnership event focused on creative and recreational ministry engagement.

The committee is also working to strengthen its communication strategies, with the goal of more effectively sharing information about training opportunities, scholarships, and resources for congregations across the presbytery.

### **JOINT REPORT | Mission and Evangelism – Rev. Matt Coplen, chair and Stewardship of Resources (SOR) – Rev. Jay Cline, secretary**

Below are two recommendations from the Leadership Team that both started at the Mission Committee level of the Presbytery.

Leadership Team, SOR and the Mission Committee bring these two items with the support of each.

**Motion: That the Presbytery approve the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee regarding the use of funds from the sale of the Presbytery building.**

Background is attached below.

**Motion: That the Presbytery approve the Mission Committee's request for \$19,300 to match grants received by congregations from the Komarek Trust in 2026.**

Funds will come from Presbytery reserves

#### **Komarek Trust Grant Match for 2026**

Early this year when we received applications for this year's Komarek Trust Grant allocations, we received 14 applications – twice as many as the average. After much discussion, the Mission Committee made a recommendation to the Komarek Trust that would allocate between \$750 and \$2,500 to the fourteen applicants. Afterwards, we went to SOR with a request – would the Presbytery be willing to match the amounts of the Komarek grants in order to help provide additional funding for what were 14 worthwhile projects. SOR said "Yes," passed the recommendation on to the Leadership Team, and today the Leadership Team brings that recommendation to a vote by the presbytery:

**The Recommendation:** To provide \$19,300 from Presbytery reserves to match this year's Komarek Trust grants for 14 PMRV congregations. The congregations are listed below.

**Komarek Trust 2026 Recipients**

- West Hills Church, Omaha, NE
- New Horizon Presbyterian Church, Council Bluffs, IA
- Faith Presbyterian Church, La Vista , NE
- First Presbyterian, Shenandoah, IA
- First Presbyterian, Bellevue, NE
- Fort Calhoun Presbyterian Church, Fort Calhoun, NE
- Riverside Presbyterian Parish, Carson, IA
- Presbyterian Church of the Master, Omaha, NE
- First Presbyterian Church, Omaha, NE
- Hope Presbyterian Church, Omaha, NE
- Peace Presbyterian Church, Omaha, NE
- First Presbyterian Church, Plattsmouth, NE
- Underwood Hills Presbyterian Church, Omaha, NE
- Mount View Presbyte Church, Omaha, NE

**SALE OF PRESBYTERY OFFICE ~ USE OF FUNDS RECOMMENDATION**

**TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE ALLOCATED      \$275,000**

**NUTS AND BOLTS      \$32,500**

- Moving Expenses      7,500 (reimbursements/virtual office needs)
- TE and candidate assistance (2095.11)      25,000

**ONE TIME GIFTS      \$57,500 (paid out following approval)**

- Calvin Crest      \$15,000 (local ministry partner)
- Synod (reparations)      \$12,500 (connection to the larger church)
- Marion Medical Mission      \$12,500 (an international project)
- RISE – social justice initiative      \$2,500
- Memories 4 Kids      \$2,500
- Angels Among Us      \$2,500
- Collective for Hope      \$2,500
- Completely Kids      \$2,500
- Urban Abbey      \$2,500
- Pottawattamie County Community      \$2,500 (two \$1,250 disbursements)
- The Women’s Fund
- Mental Health/Substance Abuse

**MISSION/MINISTRY OF PMRV**

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT      \$75,000**

- cont ed for pastors/cp’s/educators      50,000
- scholarship seminary/CP’s      25,000

**REFUGEE/IMMIGRANT      \$40,000**

- Housing assistance
- Lawyers/immigration services      \$500/case
- Medical Expenses

**LOCAL CONGREGATIONS      \$70,000**

- Parishioner financial emergency
- Food, clothing, necessities ministries
- Prison ministries
- Outreach ministries (new or renewed)

The section that is in green font color is so for a reason – we know that there are still things to be worked out; some of it may be as simple as extending the grant processes already in place; some of it will need more discussion at both the leadership team and presbytery levels.

As a whole, this recommendation represents an attempt to be radically helpful both within and without our current Presbytery partnerships, connections, and ministries while extending grace and resources to people in our communities seeking to help others in a variety of ways.

### **Recommendation: Mission Giving**

The Building Sale Task Force asked the Mission and Evangelism Team to put together a recommendation that could serve as a starting point for the leadership team and presbytery as we think about what to do with the funds from the sale of the presbytery office. The mission committee, along with Suzanne Gorhau, Judi Crick and Becky Balestri who have long experience in the presbytery and with the mission committee, kept the following in mind as we made these recommendations:

One, we received more money from the sale of the building than we anticipated.

Two, one of the presbytery's themes this year has been "radical helpfulness." We asked ourselves, "How can we be radically helpful to our presbytery but also to our neighbors?"

Three, SOR asked us not to just put this money in the bank but to make plans for its actual use. We believe that these recommendations allow the presbytery and our congregations to do some radically helpful things in our communities in ways that will further the kingdom of God.

Four, we felt very strongly that we should at the very least tithe from the proceeds of the sale. Including the Marian Medical Mission, the reparation program of the Synod, Calvin Crest and the 7 local non-profits, our giving beyond the presbytery would be about 21%.

#### **RISE ~ \$2500**

RISE is the largest nonprofit organization in Nebraska focused solely on rehabilitative programming in prisons and reentry support. At RISE, transformation starts pre-release and continues post-release. Our inside/out model bridges incarceration to the community and considers all the critical steps in that journey.

We prepare and train people for each phase through intensive character development, employment readiness, job creation through entrepreneurship, family programming and case management. We transform people in the community by building awareness and empathy that leads to support and opportunity. These connections heal families, create employment pathways and lower recidivism.

#### **Memories 4 Kids ~ \$2500**

Memories For Kids is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our mission is to create lifelong memories for children who have a parent with stage IV cancer. At Memories for Kids, our goal is to grant unforgettable family memories for children who have a parent with Stage IV cancer. If you feel moved to help us in our mission, please know that your generous donations go directly to help create memories for children.

#### **Angels Among Us ~ \$2500**

Angels Among Us provides financial and emotional support to pediatric cancer families living in or being treated in Nebraska. Our organization works with families of children with cancer being treated at Nebraska hospitals (even if these families reside in other states) as well as Nebraska residents receiving treatments out of state. We provide Hope, Help & Monetary Relief. We help families cover costs such as rent or mortgage, utilities, car payments, prescriptions and medical bills, and auto insurance.

### **Collective 4 Hope ~ \$2500**

Collective for Hope provides free, unlimited peer-based grief support and resources for children, teens and adults. Our diverse program offerings are available both in person and online, and they are tailored to individual, family and loss-specific needs in mind.

### **Completely Kids ~ \$2500**

Completely KIDS empowers KIDS, teens, and families through education, life skills, and support services. From after-school programs and teen employment to adult education, weekend food, and mental health services, we create a safe, connected community where everyone can thrive. Includes: After-school programs; adult programs; teen programs; mental health programs; and weekend food programs.

### **Pottawattamie Community Foundation ~ \$2500 in two funds**

The **Women's Fund** supports programming designed to improve the quality of life and well-being of women and their families. This fund serves the following counties in Iowa: Cass, Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattamie, and Shelby. The areas of focus may include, but are not limited to: Education initiatives for women of all ages; Access to affordable, quality childcare; Women's health, safety, and well-being; and Aging in Place.

The **Mental Health and Substance Abuse Fund** of Southwest Iowa is designed to increase and effectively manage available pools of funding to create long-term, sustainable and quantifiable positive impact through three focus areas: education; raising awareness; and providing learning and development opportunities for area service providers. The fund will serve the following counties in Iowa: Cass, Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattamie, and Shelby.

### **Urban Abbey ~ \$2500**

A space of inclusion and hospitality: Urban Abbey is a nonprofit, fair trade coffee shop, bookstore, and United Methodist church located in the heart of downtown Omaha's Old Market.

Our Mission: We believe the world should be different, and so we are a space of radical hospitality connecting people to God and one another in everyday life.

### **Nicaragua Partnership – submitted by Rev. Robert Keefer**

Go to Nicaragua with the team from the Presbytery of Missouri River Valley next January! We will visit our partners in La Concepción, worship with them, be part of the distribution of school uniforms and supplies and even take some time for recreation in Managua. We will stay in a local eco-hotel and, by the way, learn about sustainability and other activities that are part of its program.

**Dates:** January 11-18, 2027.

**Probable cost:** \$1500 a person (including airfare, lodging & meals, and ground transportation). The cost could be higher or lower when we actually purchase tickets. Also, we are conducting several fundraisers to help offset the cost for those who need assistance.

**Registration:** Deadline will be Monday, August 10. Registration will be online and will be available soon. A \$200 deposit is required. The first 20 to register will go, although we will keep a waiting list for two months.

For additional information contact Bob Keefer ([keefer.robert@gmail.com](mailto:keefer.robert@gmail.com)) or Josh Widman ([josh.widman@gmail.com](mailto:josh.widman@gmail.com)).

### **Nominating Committee – submitted by RE Al Zimmerman**

Nominating Committee will bring forward RE Eileen Adickes in the class of 2027 and RE Bill Coleman in the class of 2026.

### **Personnel Committee – Rev. Richard Meyer, chair**

Richard Meyer attended lunch on April 23 with Tina, Nicole, and Nancy. He asked how the “remote” working change has been going. Brought to Personnel’s attention is the need for an updated online software subscription for accounting purposes. We will pay for it out of miscellaneous office expense amount for this year and work it into the budget for 2027.

### **Self-Development of People – Rev. Carolyn Grice, chair**

No report

### **Social Justice and Peacemaking – submitted by Rev. Carolyn Grice, chair**

#### **February 3, 2026**

Pastor Bruce Williams of Hope of Glory Church in Omaha was the presented information on the First Responder Prayer Walks (FRPW).

First responders help to mobilize the body of Christ to timely onsite prayer walks at crisis events in our community with a message to victims and neighborhoods: “You are not alone!” We are from churches all over Omaha coming together to stand united against violence.

FRPW are a community response to violence. Family members are invited. Most family members find out about the prayer walk through media and the homicide captain investigating the crime.

FRPW encourages people in the neighborhoods to connect and get involved with local churches and organizations. This is done to help people get to know police better, communicate, build trust and work together to reduce violence.

Throughout the years First Responders has been able to collaborate with organizations that help with funeral expenses and arrangements, providing resources to help families during their time of need.

Organizations like North Omaha Community Partnership are a big help. NOCP meets the needs of many areas of concern (students/young people with mental health and family issues; probation and the court system); helping families help themselves. They also place families who don’t want to stay in their homes if a homicide has been committed there.

If you would like to be placed on the list for notification of prayer walks, please contact Bruce Williams through his email address [pastorbruce@hopeofglorychurch.net](mailto:pastorbruce@hopeofglorychurch.net).

Lt. Antwone Finch with the Omaha Police Dept talked about his work with youth and his program Before the Casket. This is a program to help juveniles understand that their actions impact family and community. The program provides a funeral setting, including a casket. It goes through what a family experiences. They have a family member form a recent homicide who share their feelings. The program also includes first responders who share what they experience when investigating the crime.

Lt. Finch is a recipient of the Aspire Award presented by the City of Omaha for his work to reduce gun violence among juveniles.

#### **March 2026**

Carolyn introduced James Hunter from YouTurn. It is a community violence intervention organization in North Omaha. YouTurn is a community-based “movement” committed to ending youth violence by using evidence-based strategies of Interruption, Suppression, Intervention, Prevention and Education. The participants are high risk individuals that are at the highest risk of shooting or killing someone. It offers support and resources to break the cycle of poverty and help families.

They work with the trauma units of Bergan Mercy, and Immanuel through ER situations. They partner with other community groups to assist families.

### **Their Mission**

YouTurn offers support and resources to break the cycle of poverty, reduce violence and trauma, and promote positive behavior change leading to resiliency, healthier families, and safer communities. Based on local data provided by the Omaha Police Department (homicides and gun shots) for the period 2014 to present, YouTurn services are designed to meet the needs of adolescents and young adults. We serve youth 12 to 25+ years of age that are negatively impacted by violence in the East/Northeast Sector of Douglas County in Omaha, Nebraska.

### **Target area:**

- Martin Avenue to the North
- Hamilton Street to the South
- 16th Street to the East
- 60th Street to the West

**The YouTurn Women’s Violence Prevention Program** focuses on meeting the needs of adolescent and young adult women impacted by domestic violence, intimate partner violence, sex-trafficking and youth/gang violence.

**Domestic Violence:** Violent or aggressive behavior **within the home**, typically involving the violent abuse of a spouse or partner.

**Intimate Partner Violence:** Any behavior **within an intimate relationship** that causes physical, psychological or sexual harm to those in the relationship.

**Sex-Trafficking:** The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act. In the United States, **any minor under the age of 18 engaged in commercial sex acts** is automatically considered a victim of sex trafficking under the law. Work in conjunction with Women’s Center for Advancement and Project Harmony.

**Youth/Gang Violence:** The intentional use of physical force or power to threaten or harm others. This physical force may include violent criminal acts perpetuated by members of a gang against other gangs, gang members, or innocent people.

### **Programs and Services**

At YouTurn, the foundation of our work is **outreach** – the act of raising awareness and extending services to highest risk adolescents and young adults that might not otherwise access the services. A key component of YouTurn’s outreach activities is that our team is not stationary, but mobile.

Our team works in the neighborhoods and schools most impacted by youth violence to provide the following programs and services:

- **Violence Interruption, Intervention and Prevention**

When violence occurs, YouTurn’s team works to reduce the possibility of further violence.

- **Mediation and Conflict Resolution**
- Sometimes, it just takes a third party to help resolve a conflict. YouTurn’s team members are approved State of Nebraska Mediators.
- **One-on-One Case Management**

YouTurn’s team supports youth in developing individual Risk Reduction/Violence Prevention Plans that guide their work together. The plan gives youth ownership of the process and the outcomes of their work with YouTurn. Community referrals are a huge part of how YouTurn supports behavior change.

- **Outreach to Adolescents in Schools**
- YouTurn’s team partners with area schools to provide mentoring and advocacy.

- **Hospital Trauma Response**

YouTurn's team works closely with two area hospitals (CHI Health and Nebraska Medicine) to provide support and information to families following an incident of youth violence.

- **Community Engagement**

YouTurn sponsors, organizes and participates in community events, violence prevention rallies and forums to promote a strong message of violence prevention. The YouTurn team distributes public education throughout the community to raise awareness and to convey the message that violence is not acceptable.

- **Education and Training**

The YouTurn team offers individual, family, group, community and service provider training, workshops and presentations.

- **Basic and Family Mediation/Youth Victim Conferencing**

In collaboration with the Concord Mediation Center, YouTurn team members provide basic and family mediation and victim youth conferencing mediations. A **Victim Youth Conference (VYC)** is one example of a Restorative Justice Practice. A VYC is a dialogue between a youth, victim (or victim surrogate), family and other support persons who come together during a joint conference to discuss how the crime affected all parties. This allows the victim to express themselves to the youth, and the youth to understand the full impact of their decision.

Kevin Bushnell updated the committee of the work of the Palestine Mission Network. They are looking for churches to host the event which is held on the first Monday of each month.

### **April 2026**

Bob Keefer and Karen Moritz shared their experiences attending area No Kings rallies.

Carolyn shared some highlights as a PCUSA delegate to the 70<sup>th</sup> UN Commission on the status of Women.

Kevin Bushnell gave an update on the Palestine Justice Network.

A conference will be held April 17-18, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 93<sup>rd</sup> & Dodge

Next First Monday meeting will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Omaha. It is being co-sponsored with the Episcopalian Church of the Resurrection.

### **Worship and Spirituality Committee – submitted by Rev. Mike Geiler, chair**

Over the past quarter, the Worship & Spirituality Committee has focused on planning meaningful presbytery worship, supporting church leaders, and strengthening connection across PMRV. The following highlights reflect our shared work:

#### **Worship Planning & Leadership**

- **February Presbytery Meeting Worship** Designed and led an interactive service centered on Luke 4:18–19, incorporating small-group discussion as a form of proclamation and reflection. This format encouraged shared discernment around how we embody “the year of the Lord’s favor.”
- **Service for Pastors & Church Workers (February 4)** Hosted an in-person gathering focused on worship, renewal, and connection for ministry leaders across the presbytery.
- **May Presbytery Meeting (Upcoming)** Finalized plans for a guided prayer service structured around four movements: connection with God, disconnect in the world, disconnect within the Church, and care for one another. This service is designed to hold both honesty and hope in a communal setting.
- **August Joint Presbytery Meeting with Homestead (In Progress)** Began collaborative planning for a shared worship experience centered on the theme of *creativity*, exploring fresh and imaginative expressions of worship.

### **Leadership Support & Resource Development**

- **Tech Arts / A/V Network Initiative** Conducted a presbytery-wide survey (17 responses) to identify individuals with expertise in worship technology and those seeking support. Next steps include connecting participants to build a collaborative support network.
- **Exploration of Existing A/V Community Resources** Continued conversations to identify and connect with existing tech ministry efforts within PMRV, ensuring coordination and avoiding duplication.

### **Committee Life & Direction**

- Meetings continue to be grounded in prayer, connection, and our shared covenant life.
- The committee remains committed to cultivating thoughtful, participatory worship and strengthening relationships across the presbytery.
- We are encouraged by the collaborative energy emerging in this work and look forward to continued growth in the months ahead.