

Docket
Meeting of the Presbytery of Central Nebraska
Saturday, February 1, 2025 at 9:00am
Zoom Meeting

As approved by the Presbytery at the December 5, 2000, meeting, the meetings of Presbytery shall be set in the worshipful context of thanksgiving. We ask that cell phones be turned either to off or vibrate during the meeting and that people receive their calls outside of the meeting.

THE PRESBYTERY GATHERS

8:30 a.m.	Fellowship and preparation for the meeting.	
9:00 a.m.	The Call to Order Land Acknowledgement Welcome Announcements Enrollment/Quorum The Presentation of the Docket and Seating of Corresponding Members Introduction of First Time Commissioners Approval of the Minutes from 10/26/2024 Presbytery Meeting New Business to be Presented at the End of the Meeting	Logan Ellis pages 3-8

THE PRESBYTERY HEARS GOD'S WORD

Worship

- Our devotion this morning will be given by Kirwin Stewart.
- For our offering we will be matching up to \$500 to First Presbyterian Church in Black Mountain for the Hurricane Helene Relief.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

10:00 a.m.	Report of the Executive Presbyter & Stated Clerk	Polly Deppen-Williams pages 9-10
	Report from the Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation	Audrey Richert
	Synod Report	Becky Dobitsch
	General Assembly Commissioners Report	
	Council Report	Gary Smith pages 11-12
	Nominating Committee	Gary Smith

Business and Budget	Sharon Rees pages 13-15
Personnel	Eddie Mariel
Commission on Ministry	Joyce Dean page 16
Commission on Preparation	Jill Boyd page 17
New Business	
Installation of Vice Moderator Becky Dobitsch	

THE PRESBYTERY IS SENT FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

Adjourn with Prayer	Logan Ellis
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2025 Presbytery Dates & Locations:

- February 1, 2025 – Zoom
- April 26, 2025 – First Presbyterian, Axtell
 - We will be voting on the Proposed Amendments to the Constitution and the Episcopal- Presbyterian Agreement on Local Sharing of Ministries.
 - These amendments to the *Book of Order* and the agreement were approved by the 226th General Assembly (2024) and recommended to the presbyteries for their vote.
 - The booklet containing the amendments can be found at:
<https://www.pcusa.org/resource/proposed-amendments-constitution>
- **SPECIAL EVENT June 15, 2025 at 6:00pm**
 - Dinner with Stated Clerk of the PC(USA) Jihyun OH at Barret Alumni Center, Hastings College
 - Contact Doodle Harris for more information
- October 25, 2025 – First Presbyterian Church, Kearney
 - Our guest preacher and presenter will be Dr. Corey Schlosser-Hall, Deputy Executive Director for Vision, Innovation, & Rebuilding at the Presbyterian Church (USA).

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF CENTRAL NEBRASKA
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2024
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, NORTH PLATTE, NE

PRESBYTERY ATTENDANCE

CHURCH	RULING ELDER COMMISSIONER
Atkinson, First	
Aurora, Presbyterian UCC	
Axtell, First	
Beaver City, First	
Benkelman, First	
Broken Bow, First	
Campbell, Westminster United	
Central City, United	
Cozad First	
Danbury, First	
Edgar, Church of the Plains	
Ewing, Bethany	
Ewing, UMPC (USA)	
Fairfield, Community	
Fullerton, First	
Gothenburg, First	Carol Skinner
Grand Island, First	
Hastings, First	Brian Johnson
Hastings, Second	
Holdrege, First	
Kearney, First	Scott Matteson
Kenesaw, First	
Keystone	Mary Lou Crofutt
Lexington, First	
Lexington, Buffalo Grove	
Minden, Westminster United	Lisa Clapper
North Platte, First	Ned Mack
O'Neill, First	
Orleans, First	
St. Paul, First	
Stuart, Community	
Superior, First	
Sutherland, First	
Valentine	
Wood River, First	

MINISTERS OF WORD & SACRAMENT	ATTENDANCE
Greg Allen–Pickett	Present
David Boyd	Present
Jill Boyd	Excused
Clint Cozier	Present
Joy Church	Present
Ivan Dean	Present
Steve Deines – Retired	Excused
Polly Deppen-Williams	Present
Rebecca Dobitsch	Excused
Logan Ellis	Present
Lisa Ewald	
John Gallentine	
Kevin Geurink	Excused
Kristin Hamner	Excused
Doodle Harris	Excused
Lori Kitzing	Present
Cheryl Lamb	
Denzel Nonhof – Retired	Present
Robert Thom – Retired	Excused
Berke Landrum	Present
Eddie Mariel	Present
David McCarthy	Excused
Joan McCarthy - Retired	Excused
Doug McHargue	Present
Roger Nelson – Retired	Excused
William Nottage–Tacey – Retired	Excused
Charles Olsen – Retired	Excused
Sharon Rees	Present
Kirwin Stewart	Present
H. Eldin Wells – Retired	Excused
Karen Woo – Retired	Excused
Gui–Jie Zhang	

COMMISSIONED PASTORS	ATTENDANCE
Joyce Dean	Present
Mark Diehl	
Dave Irwin	
Brad Jepsen	
Emily McCreery	Present
Craig Mead	Present
Wayne Owens	
Penny Schulz (Disciples of Christ)	
Janet Rasmussen	Present
Janene Reynolds (UMC)	Present
Gary Smith	Present
Kasey Summerer	Present

VISITORS

Carol Beggs, Jon Beggs, Anthony McCreery, David Peterson, Steve Reynolds

STAFF

Judy Rothenberger

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

None present

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Logan Ellis, Presbytery Vice-Moderator
Brian Johnson, RE Synod Commissioner
Eddie Mariel, Personnel
Gary Smith, Presbytery Moderator

THE PRESBYTERY GATHERS

The stated meeting of the Presbytery of Central Nebraska convened at 9:02a.m. on Saturday, October 26, 2024. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by Moderator Gary Smith. The land acknowledgement was given by Gary Smith.

Stated Clerk Polly Deppen-Williams established that there was a quorum present.

The docket was presented and approved.

There were no corresponding members present.

First-time commissioners were introduced. Kasey Summerer from FPC O'Neil and Ewing Bethany, and Rev. Denzel Nonhof who is a retired pastor who has moved back to Central Nebraska for retirement.

The Minutes of the March 10, 2024, and April 27, 2024, meetings were approved.

THE PRESBYTERY HEARS GOD'S WORD

The Presbytery gathered for worship with the Rev. Polly Deppen-Williams as the guest preacher. The Rev. Polly Deppen-Williams and Emily McCreery presided at the table as the Lord's Supper was celebrated. The offering will go to the Grace Ministries Food Pantry, a ministry of First Presbyterian Church, North Platte.

STATED CLERK'S & EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER'S REPORT

Polly Deppen-Williams gave the report on her position as Executive and the Annual Stated Clerk's Report

COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

The report is contained in the presbytery materials.

COUNCIL REPORT

Bruce Henrickson Education Debt/Scholarship Fund was presented. It will be presented at the February Presbytery meeting for discussion and approval by the Presbytery.

The dates for 2025 meetings of the presbytery were presented:

- February 1, 2025 – Zoom
- April 26, 2025 – place to be determined
- October 25, 2025 – place to be determined

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The following names were placed in nomination for the following committees/commissions:

- Commission on Preparation for Ministry
 - Rev. Becky Dobitsch, Class of 2025
 - Rev. Logan Ellis, Class of 2027
- Commission on Ministry – Joyce Dean, additional three-year term as Moderator
- Business & Budget – Rev. Sharon Rees, Moderator, Class of 2026

BUSINESS & BUDGET COMMITTEE

The budget for 2025 was presented and adopted by the presbytery.

Motion was made to keep Per Capita at \$35 per member for 2025. The motion was approved.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Eddie Mariel presented salary information for Office Administrator, Judy Rothenberger, and EP/Stated Clerk Rev. Polly Deppen-Williams.

Judy’s hourly rate will be increased to \$25 per hour for up to 20 hours per week.

Rev. Polly Deppen-Williams’ salary package was approved.

EP & STATED CLERK SALARY	\$ 44,861.79
EP & STATED CLERK HOUSING	\$ 26,400.00
EP & STATED CLERK PENSION & BENEFITS	\$ 20,945.19
EP & STATED CLERK SOCIAL SECURITY REIMB.	\$ 5,451.53
EP & STATED CLERK TRAVEL (VOUCHERED)	\$ 4,500.00
EP & STATED CLERK PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES	\$ 3,500.00
EP & STATED CLERK DENOMINATIONAL EXPENSES	\$ 5,000.00
TOTAL EP & STATED CLERK EXPENSE	\$ 110,658.51

Polly’s salary package reflects a reduction over last year due to the new Board of Pensions dues structure and not covering her husband’s medical insurance. The salary reflects a \$2400 increase to cover her husband’s insurance provided by his employer.

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

Joyce Dean presented the report.

She introduced the Rev. Denzel Nonhof, Retired, who has transferred from the Presbytery of South Dakota.

Motion made to increase pulpit supply rate to \$100. Motion was approved.

Minium Effective Salary will remain the same for 2025 at \$52,078. The motion was approved.

The Rev. Kirwin Stewart presented the report from the Administrative Commission to close Community Presbyterian Church in Lebanon, Nebraska.

Report of the Administrative Commission to Close the Lebanon Community Presbyterian Church

Report given by Rev. Kirwin Stewart, Chair of the Administrative Commission for Community Presbyterian Church in Lebanon, Nebraska

The administrative Commission made up of Elder Craig Mead, CLP of FPC Beaver City, Elder Virginia Grafton Elder of the Lebanon Presbyterian Church and Rev. Kirwin Stewart MWS FPC Holdrege.

The commission met on October 5th and 26th in order to discuss and decide upon the following issues:

- A. Issue of the transfer of remaining membership of Lebanon
- B. Cost of selling church building and adject lot owned by church.
- C. What shall happen with remaining funds in church bank account
- D. Future dates for a service to be held to close Lebanon Community Presbyterian Church.

It was quickly determined that the remaining 12 members of the Lebanon Community Presbyterian Church, did not wish to close the church. But rather simply wish to no longer be Presbyterian.

1. The congregation felt that they were no longer able to financial support the larger of the church.
2. The congregation had become so small, and the age of its existing members made it difficult to actively participate in the activities of the Presbytery.
3. Virginia Grafton explained on behalf of the church that the desire was that she be allowed to buy the building, and once the church was "closed" by the Presbytery of Central Nebraska, they wished to continue as just the community Church of Lebanon, using the remaining funds to continue doing pulpit supply until the money ran out. This would be done without being a formal congregation. That means no boards, Sessions, Elders or other officers.

It was explained at great length the polity of the PCUSA and that the membership would have to be transferred to another affiliated congregation, or the membership could be held with the Presbytery of Central Nebraska.

4. Through a series of letters, the remaining members have asked that their membership be held by Central Nebraska Presbytery until such time as each member determines where they would desire to become a permeanant member. Those voting to do so were Charlene Springer, Karen Brown, Virginia Grafton, Ronald Grafton, Peggy Grafton, Linda Fitzsimmons, James Fitzsimmons, Steve and LaDonna Harrison and Shawn Bollehon.

5. In consultation Rev. Polly Deppen-Williams has suggested the cost of per capita per member (12 members) for 5 years. It is important to cover legal fees. This arrangement would bring the cost of the church to \$2010.00. A counteroffer was presented by Virgina Grafton of \$1000.00. This offer was accepted.

A Congregational meeting was held December 10, 2023, following worship and moderated by Rev. Stewart. There were 8 voting members present. The congregation voted unanimously to the following actions:

1. The Lebanon Community Presbyterian Church officially vote to close the church (at least as far as its connection to the PCUSA)

2. The Lebanon Community Presbyterian Church officially vote to authorize the selling of the building to Virginia Grafton.

Through Rev. Polly Deppen-Williams leadership, she was able to secure a Quit Claim Deed through an attorney in Kearney. The title of the church was then transferred to Virginia Grafton.

With the cooperation of the church's local bank in McCook, Ne. and the Commission, the church treasurer was able to file the paperwork with the IRS to secure a new tax ID number and transfer the remaining account to the new name of The Community church of Lebanon.

Respectfully submitted by
Rev. Kirwin Stewart, chair Lebanon Administrative commission.

The presbytery received the report from the Administrative Commission and voted to officially close the church.

The presbytery offered a "Litany of Praise" for the many years of ministry of Community Presbyterian Church in Lebanon, Nebraska.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was presented.

INSTALLATION OF MODERATOR AND VICE MODERATOR FOR 2025

The Rev. Logan Ellis was installed as Moderator for the Presbytery of Central Nebraska for 2025. The Rev. Becky Dobitsch was not able to be at the meeting and will be installed at our February 1, 2025, presbytery meeting.

THE PRESBYTERY IS SENT FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

The presbytery adjourned with prayer at 11:02 a.m. and moved to a discussion led by the Rev. Sharon Rees on "Creating a Hopeful Future".

The next meeting of the Presbytery of Central Nebraska will be by Zoom on Saturday, February 1, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

The presbytery then began a discussion on "Creating a Hopeful Future" led by the Rev. Sharon Rees.

Executive Presbyter & Stated Clerk Report January 15, 2025

Since our last meeting, I wanted to share some of what I have been doing as your Executive Presbyter & Stated Clerk:

Meetings with Pastors & Others:

- 10/1 – Call with a pastor and personnel chair about changes to Board of Pensions
- 10/3 – Breakfast with a pastor
- 10/24 – Presbytery Pastors' Lunch at Hastings College with Elona Street-Stewart
- 10/25 – Dinner before Presbytery meeting in North Platte
- 12/5 – Presbytery Pastors' Lunch at Good Evans
- 12/12 – meeting with Don Anthony & Sharon Rees about Business & Budget committee leadership transition
- 12/18 – Lunch with pastor
- 1/9 – breakfast with a pastor

Churches Visited:

- 10/6 – Worship at FPC Grand Island
- 10/20 – Preach at FPC Cozad
- 11/3 – Preach at FPC Cozad
- 11/10 – Preach at FPC Axtell
- 11/12 – Moderate Sutherland Session meeting
- 12/1 – Preach at WUPC Minden
- 12/8 – Worship at FPC Gothenburg
- 1/5 – Scheduled to preach at FPC Broken Bow, cancelled due to weather
- 1/12 – Preach at FPC Broken Bow
- 1/19 – Preach at FPC Wood River and attend session meeting following worship

Presbytery Related Meetings:

- 10/1 – Call from Safe Gatherings about new services
- 10/8 – Commission on Ministry
- 11/12 – Commission on Ministry
- 12/4 – Business & Budget
- 12/9 – Zoom with Jill Boyd, CPM Moderator, and Joyce Dean, COM Moderator
- 12/12 – Meeting with Don Anthony and Sharon Rees
- 12/15 – Meeting at FPC Wood River regarding working with UMC
- 12/17 – Presbytery Council Meeting
- 1/14 – Commission on Ministry

Synod & Denomination Meetings:

- 10/9 – Monthly Zoom call with Elona Street-Stewart and other Synod EPs
- 10/9 – AMCL Annual Meeting by Zoom
- 10/10 – OPSF Executive Committee in Omaha
- 10/18 – OPSF Board Meeting in Omaha
- 11/13 – Monthly Zoom call with Elona Street-Stewart and other Synod EPs
- 11/13 – AMCL monthly Zoom meeting
- 12/11 – Monthly Zoom call with Elona Street-Stewart and other Synod EPOs
- 12/11 – AMCL monthly Zoom meeting

- 12/11 – Zoom call with Louisville regarding possible upcoming immigration issues
- 1/8 – Monthly Zoom call with Elona Street-Stewart and other Synod Eps
- 1/8 – OPSF Executive Committee Meeting by Zoom
- 1/8 – AMCL monthly Zoom meeting

Other projects:

- Annual Statistical Reports
- Letter to pastors for Christmas
- Letter to Clerks of Session regarding statistics
- Safe Gatherings Renewals
- Presbytery Statistics

Vacation:

I was on vacation from Sunday, November 17 – Monday, November 25. Matt and I had a wonderful trip to Prague with my mom for her 80th birthday!

Grace & peace,

Polly

Polly Deppen-Williams

Council Meeting Minutes

December 17, 2024

Council Attendance

Council Chair	Jill Boyd	Present
Moderator	Gary Smith	Present
Vice Moderator	Logan Ellis	Present
COM Chair	Joyce Dean	Present
CPM Chair	Jill Boyd	Present
NOM Chair	Council	
Personnel Chair	Eddie Mariel	Absent
Business & Budget Chair	Sharon Rees	Present
PYC Chair	Vacant	
PW Chair	Sue Medsker	Present
Synod Commissioner	Becky Dobitsch	Present
Member-at-Large	Bob Scriven	Absent
Member-at-Large	Jon Beggs	Present
Member-at-Large	Brian Johnson	Present
Executive Presbyter	Polly Deppen-Williams	Present

Jill Boyd opened the zoom meeting at 1:03 PM with devotion and prayer.

Council minutes from September 10, 2024 were **APPROVED** as presented.

Communications:

- There were none.

Polly shared her Executive Presbyter & Stated Clerk report.

Reports of Council Committees:

Personnel – no report

Business and Budget- Sharon reported the following:

- Presented changes to the Hendrickson fund guidelines and application for debt repayment/advanced degree funding. Council **APPROVED** as recommended by the Committee.
- Bob Butz has served 2 terms but would like to continue serving on Business and Budget. The Committee recommends he be approved for an additional term. Council **APPROVED**.
- Business and Budget met with Jim Hitson, New Covenant Trust. He reviewed the Presbytery's investments and suggested a follow-up review at the beginning of 3rd quarter.

Nominating - Council discussed the following:

- CPM needs:
 - An individual with strong organizational skills and an interest in chairing the committee following Jill.
- Business and Budget needs:
 - An individual who is dedicated to serving.

Reports of Presbytery Committees:

COM – Joyce reported the following:

- Brad Jepsen, Wood River, is retiring at the end of 2024. Kevin Geurink will serve as moderator.
- Stuart Davis is now serving as pastor at Church of the Plains, Edgar.

CPM – Jill reported the following:

- 5 people are now under care

Youth Committee – no report.

PW – no report.

Synod – Becky reported the following:

- Synod recently met. She will have a report in February.

The next Presbytery meeting will be on February 1, 2025 on Zoom.

- Docket
 - Voting will be postponed until April when paper ballots can be used. There are issues to vote on that would be best handled confidentially.
 - No sermon or communion will be shared. Instead, a devotion and prayer will be given. Council **APPROVED**.
 - Donations will be given to:
 - Black Mountain Presbyterian Church, Black Mountain, North Carolina for Hurricane Helene Relief. Council **APPROVED**.
 - Council will review the Docket at the next meeting, January 21.

New business:

- 2025 Presbytery dates and locations:
 - February 1, 2025 – Zoom
 - April 26, 2025 – need host.
 - October 25, 2025 - First Presbyterian Church, Kearney. Corey Schlosser-Hall will be the guest speaker.
- Council Meeting Dates for 2025:
 - January 21
 - March 18
 - September 16
 - December 16
- Dinner with Jihyun OH 6/15/2024 – 6 pm, Barret Alumni Center, Hastings College.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm and closed with prayer given by Jill.

Next Stated Meeting:

- Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 1:00 pm by zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,
Judy Rothenberger

Business and Budget Committee

Presbytery of Central Nebraska Meeting

February 1, 2025

Current members of the Business and Budget Committee include Ann Sukraw-Lutz, Bob Scriven, Bob Butz, Craig Mead, and Sharon Rees (chair) Ex-officio members include Gary Smith, Logan Ellis, and Becky Dobitsch.

The Committee met on Zoom December 4, 2025.

The Bruce Hendrickson Education Debt/Scholarship Fund guidelines and application were discussed, and subsequently approved by the Committee. It was then approved by the Council and awaits approval by the Presbytery. We received these funds prior to 2024 and are eager to put them to good use.

The Committee proposed an exception for Bob Butz to serve another term on the Business and Budget Committee as he is able to take a more active role at this time. The Committee continues to look for more members.

The Committee is extremely grateful to Don Anthony, who served faithfully as chair of this Committee for seven years. He assured that the Presbytery was well-funded for its mission.

In 2025, we look forward to completing an audit of the Presbytery's finances and accounting, exploring avenues to increase the use of the available grants, and honing our investment strategy.

We anticipate the year-end financials will be available by the Presbytery meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Rees, Chair

Bruce Hendrickson Educational Debt/Scholarship Fund

Purpose: Bruce Hendrickson gifted money from his estate to the Presbytery of Central Nebraska for scholarships and emergencies. The goal of this fund is to help Ministers of Word and Sacrament in Central Nebraska with debt from undergraduate or seminary education.

Structure: Up to \$5000 per Minister of Word and Sacrament will be available to help with educational debt from seminary or undergraduate study.

The first category is for new Ministers of Word and Sacrament in the presbytery, the first \$3000 will be paid after three years of service in Central Nebraska Presbytery. The remaining \$2000 will be paid after an additional two years of service in Central Nebraska Presbytery.

For current Ministers of Word and Sacrament in the presbytery, the amount paid will be determined by years of service in Central Nebraska Presbytery.

- 1 year = \$1000
- 2 years = \$2000
- 3 years = \$3000
- 4 years = \$4000
- 5 years = \$5000

The second category is for Ministers of Word and Sacrament wanting to work on an advanced degree can also apply for scholarship under the same guidelines: \$3000 in scholarship funds after three years and an additional \$2000 after five years of service in the presbytery.

Each Minister of Word and Sacrament can apply for only one of the categories of educational debt repayment or advanced degree scholarship at a time.

Payment: Payment will be made to the loan provider or educational institution in the name of the Minister of Word and Sacrament.

Notes:

- When the money from the fund is depleted, the program will cease to exist.
- Uncommitted funds will also be available to the Council for emergency needs including subsidizing the Emergency Fund of the Commission of Ministry.

12/4/2024

Approved by Business & Budget Committee

Application for Bruce Hendrickson Educational Debt/Scholarship Fund

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Church _____

Check one: Minister of Word & Sacrament _____ Commissioned Pastor _____

Starting Date at your church: _____

Educational Debt Repayment:

How much educational debt do you have? _____

Scholarship for Advanced Degree:

- For which degree will you be preparing? _____
 - Where will you be attending? _____
 - What will be the cost of the degree program? _____
-

If the grant is awarded, we will ask for the loan provider and your account number. All funds will be paid directly to the loan provider. If it is a scholarship for an advanced degree, we will ask for the name of the educational institution and your student identification number.

COM PRESBYTERY REPORT
February 2025

Church Moderators:

- Sutherland – Polly Deppen-Williams
- Keystone Presbyterian Church quarterly –Eddie Mariel (meets in Paxton)
- Buffalo Grove – Eddie Mariel
- Benkelman – Polly Deppen-Williams
- First Presbyterian, O’Neill and Bethany Presbyterian – Wayne Owens
- Wood River Presbyterian – Kevin Geurink
- Second Presbyterian, Hastings – Ivan & Joyce Dean
- Axtell – Sharon Rees

Approved

After a Fit Interview on November 12, 2024, COM approved Pastor Stuart Davis to serve Church of the Plains Presbyterian Church in Edgar, Nebraska. He was granted permission to moderate Session and officiate at the Sacraments. Pastor Davis comes to us from the UCC denomination. Edgar is part of the Heartland Shared Ministries.

2025 Liaisons

Jon Beggs – Buffalo Grove, Cozad, Gothenburg, Lexington, Minden, Valentine

David Boyd – Broken Bow, Keystone, North Platte, Sutherland, Kearney, Holdrege, Atkinson, Stuart, O’Neill, Bethany

Joyce Dean – Beaver City, Benkelman, Danbury, Orleans

Kevin Geurink – Campbell, Edgar, Fairfield, Superior, St. Paul, Central City Fullerton, Aurora

Kirwin Stewart – Hastings, Hastings 2nd, Kenesaw, Wood River, Axtell, Grand Island.

*This is subject to change as we add COM members.

ARE YOU CALLED TO SERVE?

The Committee on Ministry (COM) meets on the second Tuesday of the month. We meet ON ZOOM. If, however, there is a need to meet in person, all members are notified.

The Committee on Ministry (COM) serves as pastor and counselor to Teaching Elders; facilitates relationships between congregations, Teaching Elders, and Presbytery; mediates difficulties on behalf of Presbytery; and serves as an Administrative Commission of Presbytery for the purpose of: ordaining and installing Teaching Elders and Commissioned Ruling Elders to particular pastoral service, approving terms of calls and contracts; and, examining and receiving Teaching Elders by transfer from other presbyteries for the purpose of accepting valid calls to ministry in Presbytery of Central Nebraska.

*If you are a Ruling Elder and feel called to serve on COM, please contact Joyce Dean 308 655 -0689.

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Dean, COM Chair

Commission on Preparation for Ministry
Presbytery of Central Nebraska Meeting
February 1, 2025

Current members of the CPM include Joy Church, Mary Lou Clark, Becky Dobitsch, Logan Ellis, Julia Thomsen, and Jill Boyd (chair).

The CPM met in December to wrap things up for 2024, schedule our 2025 meeting dates, and make decisions about the remaining funds in our 2024 budget. Recognizing that ministry preparation is expensive, we unanimously agreed to issue checks to the four individuals who are still taking classes and under our care. Those individuals include Brian Johnson, Rosalie Koepp, Emily McCreery, and Roxanne Converse-Whiting.

Sara Babcock continues to be an Inquirer but has been inactive in the process this past year. The CPM is working with her to help explore options.

It's our Presbytery's turn to assist with the reading of upcoming ordination exams. Reading Week is scheduled for May 5th – 9th and the deadline for reporting readers is March 31st. If there are any members of the presbytery who would like to volunteer to serve in this capacity, please let a CPM member know.

We remain available to those who are under care and consider it a privilege to serve on the CPM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jill Boyd, Chair