

Docket
Meeting of the Presbytery of Central Nebraska
Saturday, February 7, 2026 at 9:00am
Meeting by Zoom

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 the 10/25/2025 Presbytery Meeting New Business to be Presented at the End of the Meeting	Becky Dobitsch pages 3-10

THE PRESBYTERY HEARS GOD'S WORD

- Devotion will be given by Logan Ellis.
- For the offering we ask folks to give to a cause/organization of your choice.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Presentation on New Offerings for the PC(USA)	Sarah McDowell
Report of the Executive Presbyter & Stated Clerk	Polly Deppen-Williams pages 11-12
Council Report	pages 13-14
Nominating Committee	
Business and Budget	Sharon Rees pages 15-24
Personnel	Ivan Dean

Synod Report	Becky Dobitsch
Commission on Preparation	Jill Boyd page 25
Youth Committee	Eddie Mariel page 26
Commission on Ministry	Joyce Dean page 27
New Business	
• Overtures tabled at the 10/25/2025 presbytery meeting	pages 28-36
• Overtures from Homestead Presbytery	pages 37-40
Prayers of the People	
THE PRESBYTERY IS SENT FORTH IN GOD’S NAME	
Adjourn with Prayer	Becky Dobitsch

2026 Presbytery Dates & Locations:

- Saturday, April 25, 2026, at Ewing UMC & PCUSA Church, Ewing, NE
- Saturday, October 24, 2026, at First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, NE

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF CENTRAL NEBRASKA
SATURDAY, October 25, 2025
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, KEARNEY, NEBRASKA

PRESBYTERY ATTENDANCE

CHURCH	RULING ELDER COMMISSIONER
Atkinson, First	
Aurora, Presbyterian UCC	
Axtell, First	Bette Dimon
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	Sue Medsker
Hastings, Second	
Holdrege, First	
Kearney, First	John McKirahan
Kenesaw, First	
Keystone	
Lexington, First	Julie Rickertsen
Lexington, Buffalo Grove	
Minden, Westminster United	
North Platte, First	Jon Beggs
O'Neill, First	
Orleans, First	
St. Paul, First	
Stuart, Community	
Superior, First	
Sutherland, First	
Valentine	
Wood River, First	Pam Dubbs

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

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

VISITORS

Laurie Johnson, Annabelle Wells, Donna Messerer

STAFF

Judy Rothenberger

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Brian Johnson

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Corey Schlosser-Hall

THE PRESBYTERY GATHERS

The stated meeting of the Presbytery of Central Nebraska convened at 9:09a.m. on Saturday, October 25, 2025. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by Moderator Logan Ellis. The land acknowledgement was given by Logan Ellis.

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

The docket was presented and approved.

Corey Schlosser-Hall was seated as a Corresponding member.

First-time commissioners were introduced:

The Minutes of the April 26, 2025, meeting were approved with one correction.

THE PRESBYTERY HEARS GOD'S WORD

The Presbytery gathered for worship with Dr. Corey Schlosser-Hall preaching. The Rev. Logan Ellis presided at the table as the Lord's Supper was celebrated. The offering will go to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to help those affected by the Texas Hill Country Flooding.

STATED CLERK'S & EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER'S REPORT

Polly presented her report as Executive Presbyter and discussed what she has been doing since our last meeting. She also presented the Stated Clerk's report.

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

October 25, 2025

The Stated Clerk determines that the number of Teaching Elders/Ministers of Word and Sacrament having membership in good standing and temporary members in the Presbytery of Central Nebraska totals 32; of these a total of 24 currently reside within the bounds of the Presbytery. The number of Ruling Elder commissioners and Ruling Elder members entitled to attend and vote at any meeting is 45*.

Therefore, it is the opinion of the Stated Clerk that NO REMEDIAL ACTION is needed to redress any imbalance in voting as required.

The following is the current roster of those members of the permanent judicial commission whose terms have expired within the past six years (D-5.0206b):

Class of 2027	Class of 2025	Class of 2023	Class of 2021	Class of 2019
Jon Beggs	Ivan Dean	Bill Nottage-Tacey	Dave Irwin	Joan McCarthy
Kirwin Stewart	Mac Martin	Carol Skinner		

The following is the list of the membership of the Presbytery of Central Nebraska as of October 1, 2025:

101 – Pastor or Co-pastor

Greg Allen-Pickett	Joy Church	Eddie Mariel
David Boyd	Ivan Dean	Kirwin Stewart
Jill Boyd	Becky Dobitsch	
Clint Cozier	Kevin Geurink	

107 – Ruling Elder Commissioned to a Church (CRE/CP)

Joyce Dean	Emily McCreery	Keith Theobald
Mark Diehl	Penny Schulz	Wayne Owens
Dave Irwin	Gary Smith	

108 – Temporary Relationship

Lynda (Doodle) Harris	Denzel Nonhof
Doug McHargue	Sharon Rees

151 – Member of Another Denomination (Temporary Membership) - Pastor

Lori Kitzing (ELCA)

153 – Member of Another Denomination (Temporary Membership) – Associate Pastor

Damen Heitmann (UCC)

299 – Honorably Retired

Bruce Bradley**	Roger Nelson	Robert Thom**
Steve Deines	Denzel Nonhof	H. Eldin Wells
David McCarthy	William Nottage-Tacey**	Karen Woo**
Joan McCarthy	Charles Olsen	

304 – Executive & Stated Clerk of a Synod or Presbytery

Polly Deppen-Williams

565 – Ecumenical/Non-denominational Agency

Logan Ellis

641 – Educational Institute – Pastor/Chaplain
Lynda (Doodle) Harris

701- Chaplain Serving Other Institutions
Lisa Ewald

791 – Presbytery Validated Ministry
Kristin Hamner**

797 – Member at Large
John Gallentine**
Cheryl Lamb**

Berke Landrum**
Gui-Jie Zhang

Churches in the Presbytery of Central Nebraska:

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Atkinson, First | 31. Stuart, Community |
| 2. Aurora, PUCC | 32. Superior, First |
| 3. Axtell, First | 33. Sutherland, First |
| 4. Beaver City, First | 34. Valentine |
| 5. Benkelman, First | 35. Wood River |
| 6. Broken Bow, First | |
| 7. Campbell, Westminster United | |
| 8. Central City, United | |
| 9. Cozad, First | |
| 10. Danbury, First | |
| 11. Edgar, Church of the Plains
(Heartland Shared Ministries) | |
| 12. Ewing, Bethany | |
| 13. Ewing, UMC-PCUSA | |
| 14. Fairfield, Community | |
| 15. Fullerton, Fullerton Community
UMC/PCUSA | |
| 16. Gothenburg, First | |
| 17. Grand Island, First | |
| 18. Hastings, First | |
| 19. Hastings, Second | |
| 20. Holdrege, First | |
| 21. Kearney, First | |
| 22. Kenesaw, First | |
| 23. Keystone | |
| 24. Lexington, First | |
| 25. Lexington, Buffalo Grove | |
| 26. Minden, Westminster United | |
| 27. North Platte, First | |
| 28. O'Neill, First | |
| 29. Orleans, First | |
| 30. St. Paul, First | |

Additional Information:

- The presbytery has obtained insurance and worker's compensation coverage from The Insurance Board.
 - 2024 Statistical Reports were completed and sent to the General Assembly.
 - A report of pastoral compensation was done at the beginning of the year.
 - Session Minute review is in process as of this report.
 - A financial compilation of year 2023 was conducted by Serakos, LTD, Certified Public Accountants, and reported to the presbytery in January 2025.
 - The Presbytery Minutes were reviewed by the Synod of Lakes & Prairies in May 2025. The following silences were noted:
 - No report of the review of Session minutes
 - No report of the review of Commissioned Pastors.
 - No report of a full financial review.
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*Taken from the Presbytery Manual Standing Rules:

2.20 In addition to Ruling Elder commissioners from sessions, Presbytery shall enroll for the term of service the Executive Presbyter, Stated Clerk, Moderator of Presbytery, Vice Moderator of Presbytery, the Moderators of the Commission on Ministry, Commission on Preparation for Ministry, Youth Committee, Council and Council's Committees, and the Ruling Elder Commissioner to Synod, whether or not the elder serves as a commissioner for his/her session.

**Does not reside within the bounds of the Presbytery.

REPORT FROM HASTINGS COLLEGE

Doodle Harris presented a report from Hastings College. Co-Moderator of the 226th General Assembly Rev. Tony Larson will be at Hastings College during the first week of November. He will be available for lunch on Wednesday, November 5th and then preach at the chapel.

She shared information about The Compelling Preaching Conference, June 1-6, 2026, and the Hastings Youth Conference, June 15-19, 2026.

COUNCIL REPORT

Presbytery meeting dates for 2026 are:

- Saturday, February 7, 2026, by Zoom
- Saturday, April 25, 2026, at Ewing UMC & PCUSA Church, Ewing, NE
- Saturday, October 24, 2026, at First Presbyterian Church, Hastings

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

MOTION Council placed the following names in nomination:

- Commission on Ministry
 - Doodle Harris
 - Becky Dobitsch
- Business & Budget
 - Judy Rothenberger
 - Greg Allen-Pickett
 - Bob Butz
- 2026 General Assembly Commissioners
 - Teaching Elder Greg Allen-Pickett
 - Ruling Elder Dan Deffenbaugh
- 2026 Presbytery Moderator
 - Becky Dobitsch, Moderator
 - Sue Medsker, Co-Moderator

MOTION to approve the nominations from Council was approved.

BUSINESS & BUDGET COMMITTEE

- Janet Rasmussen shared a report on the digital Hymn Project.
- Greg Allen-Pickett shared how a grant from presbytery Peacemaking Funds
- Doodle Harris also received a grant from presbytery Peacemaking Funds to take a group of Hastings College students on a listening trip to the US/Mexico border.
- Sharon reviewed the statement of financial position for the presbytery.
- Grants
 - 2026 \$1000 replacement grant
 - Expansion of grants from the presbytery
- Reviewed the 2026 Budget
- **MOTION to approve the 2026 Budget was approved.**

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Polly Deppen-Williams' salary reflects a 2% increase for 2026 which amounts to \$1400. Her total package is:

Cash	\$ 40,687.00
Housing	\$ 32,000.00
Board of Pensions	\$ 22,192.92
Social Security Reimb.	\$ 5,451.53
Travel (vouchered)	\$ 4,500.00
Professional Expenses	\$ 3,500.00
Denominational Expenses	<u>\$ 5000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$113,331.45

Judy Rothenberger will receive an increase of \$1 per hour for 2026. This brings her hourly rate to \$26.00 per hour for up to 20 hours per week.

COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

Becky Dobitsch presented the report for Jill Boyd who is attending CREDO in Arkansas.

The following people are under care:

- Brian Johnson
- Rosalie Koepp
- Emily McCreary

Roxanne Converse-Whiting finished her training and is now a Trained Ruling Elder. She has been referred to the Commission on Ministry to discuss opportunities for a commission.

SYNOD REPORT

Becky Dobitsch gave a report on The Synod of Lakes and Prairies' spring meeting at Mt. Olivet Conference & Retreat Center in Farmington, MN on April 27-29, 2025. Rev. Polly Deppen-Williams, Brian Johnson, and Becky attended the meeting. The 2026 Synod Meeting dates were announced. The Synod will gather in person at Mt. Olivet on April 26-28, 2026 and then on Zoom September 27-28.

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

- Session Moderators
- Sutherland – Elder Jon Beggs
- Keystone – Eddie Mariel (meets in Paxton)
- Benkelman – Polly Deppen-Williams
- Buffalo Grove – Eddie Mariel
- 2nd Presbyterian, Hastings – Ivan & Joyce Dean
- Kenesaw – Zac Wolfe (he is a Minister of Word & Sacrament from Homestead Presbytery)
- Beaver City – Polly Deppen-Williams
- Kearney – Polly Deppen-Williams

Clint Cozier transferred to the Presbytery of Lake Michigan to serve as Transitional Pastor of Three Rivers Presbyterian Church in Centreville, Michigan.

MOTION to increase the effective salary by 2%, amounting to \$53,120.00, was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- Three overtures focused on the restructuring of World Mission with the PC (USA) were presented by Greg Allen-Pickett. These will be discussed at the February 7, 2026, Presbytery Meeting which will give commissioners time to read the overtures and where there will be more time for discussion.
- **MOTION to endorse the Reverend Greg Allen Pickett to stand for Co-Moderator of the 227th General Assembly in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in June of 2026 was approved.**

MODERATOR & VICE MODERATOR INSTALLATION

The Reverend Becky Dobitsch, 2026 Moderator of the Presbytery of Central Nebraska, and Ruling Elder Sue Medsker, 2026 Vice Moderator of the Presbytery of Central Nebraska, were installed.

THE PRESBYTERY IS SENT FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

The meeting was closed with prayer by Moderator Becky Dobitsch and adjourned at 11:11am.

Dr. Corey Schlosser-Hall gave a presentation to the presbytery.

Executive Presbyter & Stated Clerk Report February 7, 2026

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:

- 11/5/2025 – Lunch in Hastings with Co/Moderator Rev. Tony Larson and pastors followed by Chapel at Hastings College
- 11/6/2025 – Coffee with Chuck Olsen at my office
- 12/11/2025 – Presbytery Pastors' Lunch at Good Evans
- 1/22/2026 – Presbytery Pastors' Lunch at Good Evans

Churches Visited:

- 10/26/2025 – Preach at FPC Cozad
- 11/2/2025 – Preach at FPC Kearney
- 11/11/2025 – Moderate FPC Kearney Session
- 11/30/2025 – Worship at FPC Kearney
- 12/6 to 12/7/2025 – Preach at United Presbyterian in Benkelman
- 12/14/2025 – Preach at 2nd Presbyterian in Hastings
- 12/16/2025 – Moderate FPC Kearney Session
- 12/17/2025 – Moderate Beaver City Session
- 1/4/2026 – Barbara Stevenson Funeral at FPC Kearney
- 1/4/2026 – Preach at FPC Kearney
- 1/7/2026 – Meet with Aurora PCUCC Council
- 1/11/2026 – Preach at FPC Broken Bow
- 1/18/2026 – Preach at FPC Cozad
- 1/20/2026 – Moderate FPC Kearney Session
- 1/27/2026 – FPC Kearney Budget Meeting with Session
- 2/1/2026 – Preach at FPC Kenesaw

Presbytery Related Meetings:

- 11/5/2025 – Attend youth group at First Lutheran in Kearney for discussion about different Presbyterian denominations
- 11/11/2025 – COM Meeting by Zoom
- 12/10/2025 – Business & Budget Meeting by Zoom
- 12/16/2025 – Presbytery Council Meeting by Zoom
- 1/13/2026 – COM Meeting by Zoom
- 1/20/2026 – Presbytery Council Meeting by Zoom

Synod & Denomination Meetings:

- 11/12/2025 – Association of MidCouncil Leaders (AMCL) Monthly Zoom Meeting
- 11/18 to 11/21/2025 – Attended the MidCouncil Financial Conference sponsored by Presbyterian Foundation in Chicago with Sharon Rees
- 12/10/2025 – Monthly Zoom Call with Synod Executive Elona Street/Stewart and other Synod Eps
- 12/10/2025 – AMCL Monthly Zoom Meeting
- 1/13/2026 – Synod of Lakes & Prairies Communications Committee by Zoom
- 1/14/2026 – Monthly Zoom Call with Synod Executive Elona Street/Stewart and other Synod Eps

- 1/14/2026 - AMCL Monthly Zoom Meeting
- 1/21/2026 – Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation Executive Committee Meeting by Zoom
- 2/5/2026 - Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation Board Meeting by Zoom

Other projects:

- Session minutes review
- Yearend updates & statistics

Vacation & Study Leave:

- 11/9 to 11/10/2025 – Celebrating Matt’s 60th Birthday with dinner and concert in Des Moines
- 12/11/2025 – Attend lecture series at Creighton University in Omaha to hear the Rt. Rev. Mariann Budde, Bishop of Washington, sponsored by the Nebraska Episcopal Diocese

Grace & peace,

Polly

Polly Deppen/Williams

Council Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2026

Council Attendance

Moderator	Polly Deppen-Williams	Present
Vice Moderator	Sue Medsker	Present
COM Chair	Joyce Dean	Present
CPM Chair	Jill Boyd	Excused
NOM Chair	Council	
Personnel Chair	Ivan Dean	Present
Business & Budget Chair	Sharon Rees	Present
PYC Chair	Eddie Mariel	Present
Synod Commissioner	Becky Dobitsch	Excused
Member-at-Large	Vacant	
Member-at-Large	Vacant	
Member-at-Large	Brian Johnson	Present
Executive Presbyter	Polly Deppen-Williams	Present

Polly opened the zoom meeting at 1:02 PM with prayer.

Council minutes from December 16, 2025 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:

- Committee met on December 10 and finances continue to be fine.
- An application for Technology, Church Development and Mission Development has been updated and approved. This will soon be posted on the PCN website.

Nominating – Polly reported that:

- PCN has a full slate willing to serve as delegates to the 227th General Assembly. Polly will also be attending.
- COM needs another person who will fully commit to serving.
- CPM needs several new members with the skill to serve.
- Council needs 1 At Large member

Reports of Presbytery Committees:

COM – Joyce reported that they meet regularly. Liaisons for 2026 have been assigned. A letter will soon be mailed to churches and clerks.

CPM – no report

Youth Committee – Eddie reported:

- A Jr. High Retreat (grades 6,7,8) is planned for February 13 -14,2026 at the Crossing Retreat Center, Lexington. A High School Retreat (grades 9-12) is being planned for November 6-7,2026. Details will follow.

PW – no report.

Synod – no report.

Presbytery Meeting on Saturday, February 7, 2026 by Zoom.

- Logan Ellis will be doing the devotional instead of Jill.
- A presentation about the Special Offerings changes will be given.
- Three overtures presented at our last presbytery meeting will be discussed plus two additional overtures from Homestead Presbytery will be acted upon. Polly will send these out to Council members for review prior to the meeting.

New Business:

- Council briefly discussed mileage reimbursement for folks going to presbytery meetings. It is currently 25 cents per mile. Due to the low number of participants requesting reimbursement, no change was recommended.
- Cost of hotel accommodation for presbytery participants was discussed. After discussion, it was proposed that Presbytery would pay up to half of the hotel costs if not reimbursed in another way. This recommendation was **APPROVED**.
- Ideas for a program following the April 25 meeting are requested!
- Programming for the October 24, 2026 meeting needs to be changed as professors from Columbia Seminary are no longer available.

Old Business: there was none.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:50 pm and Logan closed with prayer.

The next stated meeting will be March 17, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. on zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,
Judy Rothenberger

- Meeting Schedule for 2026
 - March 17, 2026
 - July 14, 2026 – midsummer touching base and post General Assembly
 - September 22, 2026
 - December 15, 2026 – year end issues

All meetings scheduled for Zoom at 1:00 pm

Presbytery meeting dates for 2026 are:

- Saturday, April 25, 2026 at Ewing UMC & PCUSA Church, Ewing, NE
- Saturday, October 24, 2026 at First Presbyterian Church, Hastings

Business and Budget Committee

Presbytery of Central Nebraska Meeting

February 7, 2026

Current members of the Business and Budget Committee include Ann Sukraw-Lutz, Bob Butz, Dan Olson, Judy Rothenberger, Greg Allen-Pickett, and Sharon Rees (chair) Ex-officio members include Polly Deppen-Williams, Logan Ellis, Becky Dobitsch, and Sue Medsker.

The Committee met on Zoom December 10, 2025.

No new grant requests were received.

The Committee approved a new Technology/Mission/Church Development grant application for the year 2026. The qualifications for the grant are included on the application to prevent misunderstandings about intended use of the grants. Applicants will describe how their need fits the qualifications for the grant. The new application includes the new offering of \$1000 to repair, replacement, or maintenance of existing assets, as well as expanding the mission and church development grants to cover existing ministries that are in danger of being eliminated for lack of funding. The new application will be on the website shortly.

Financially, the Presbytery numbers look good. As of the end of November, per capita giving was at 86% and Presbytery ministry giving was 81% of budgeted amounts. \$90,000 was used from investment gains. During this same time, the expenses for the Presbytery were 79% of budget.

The Presbytery funds are still plentiful and growing. At the end of 2025, we had \$78,721 in investment gains, over and above the \$90,000 used for expenses. As of January 21, the investments were up another \$23,619. End of year statements will be provided if received by February 7, 2026.

Missionally, I want to point out that the Presbytery, as of the end of November, gave 13.5% of its income to missional opportunities. When measured against the biblical tithe, we can rejoice!

The Committee will continue to monitor the monthly financial statements and take appropriate action regarding market trends.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Rees, Chair

Statement of Financial Position						12/31/2025	
Presbytery of Central Nebraska							
				12/31/2023	12/31/2024	12/31/2025	YTD Unallocated
Assets							
Operating Funds:	1001p	Checking Acct- F&M 115088	\$ 2,859	\$ 2,663	\$ 3,956		
	1010p	Money Mkt-F&M 903205	22,980	19,048	12,998		
		Total Operating Funds	\$ 25,939	\$ 21,710	\$ 16,954		
Investments and Reserves	1011p	NewCovTrst: Mission & Ministry	\$ 159,579	\$ 179,737	\$ 0		
	1012p	NewCovTrst: Leadership Devel	180,615	203,430	0		
	1015p	NewCovTrust: Stuckey/Next Gen	462,345	520,748	548,913		
	1016p	Pres Found - Crawford Fund	0	0	0		
	1017p	NewCovTrust CD: Reserves	65,677	68,738	235,313		
	1018p	NewCovTrstCo: General Fund	227,922	200,748	471,741		
		Total Investments and Reserves	\$ 1,096,139	\$ 1,173,401	\$ 1,255,966		
Non-Financial Assets:	1636p	Office Equipment	48,378	48,378	48,378		
	1736p	Accum Depr-Equipment	(48,378)	(48,378)	(48,378)		
		Total Non-Financial Assets	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0		
		Total Assets:	\$ 1,122,078	\$ 1,195,111	\$ 1,272,920		
Liabilities							
Operating Payables:	1201p	Due From (To) Synod	\$ 208	\$ 208	\$ 208		
	1201bp	Synod Bill Payments Payable	8,869	7,159	9,508		
	1201pc	Synod Per Capita Payable	1,536	1,498	1,390		
	1201pr	Synod Payroll Payable	9,602	9,716	8,394		
	2011p	PPP Loan Payable	0	0	0		
	2015p	APA Meeting Payables	0	0	0		
	2020p	GA Per Capita Payable	0	0	0		
	2010p	Accounts Payable	0	0	0		
		Total Operating Payables	\$ 20,215	\$ 18,582	\$ 20,446		
Pass-through Payables:	2050p	GA Mission Payable	\$ 282	\$ 157	\$ 197		
	2055p	UMS Synod Payable	445	359	137		
	2100p	Disaster Relief Payable	42	3,885	2,133		
	2121p	One Great Hour Offering Payabl	0	250	0		
	2126p	Christmas Joy Offering Payable	0	0	0		
	2131p	Pentecost Offering Payable	0	0	0		
	2136p	Peace Offering Payable to PMA	819	831	763		
	2150p	Theological Ed Fund Payable	0	0	0		
	2110p	Hunger Relief Payable	51	67	104		
	2151p	GA Designated Offering Payable	0	0	0		
	2060p	Nebraskans in Motion	395	395	0		
	2520p	Emergency Fund	1,500	1,500	1,500		
		Total Pass-through Payables	\$ 3,534	\$ 7,443	\$ 4,833		
		Total Liabilities:	\$ 23,749	\$ 26,025	\$ 25,280		

Statement of Financial Position						12/31/2025	
Presbytery of Central Nebraska							
				12/31/2023	12/31/2024	12/31/2025	YTD Unallocated
Net Assets							
Designated Accounts:	2510p	Peacemaking Fund	\$ 9,977	\$ 11,367	\$ 2,373		
	2540p	Mission & Ministry Fund	262,305	262,305	262,305		
	2542p	Stuckey/Next Gen Fund	386,125	457,659	516,062		\$85,664.81
	2544p	Leadership Development Fund	113,171	113,171	113,171		
	2550p	Johnson Scholarship Fund	3,568	3,849	4,238		
	2565p	Mission Development Fund	8,644	8,644	8,644		
	2570p	Youth Triennium Fund	0	0	0		
	3610p	Hendrickson Fund	0	65,677	68,738		(\$1,521.27)
		Total Designated Accounts	\$ 783,790	\$ 922,672	\$ 975,531		
Reserves:	3000p	Prior Surpluses or Deficits	\$ 54,194	\$ 126,354	\$ 133,869		\$23,996.44
		Year-to-date Surpluses or (Deficits)			\$89,439		
	3010p	Designated Reserve	50,692	50,692	50,692		(\$18,700.61)
		Total Reserves	\$ 104,886	\$ 177,046	\$ 274,000		
		Total Net Assets	\$ 888,676	\$ 1,099,718	\$ 1,249,532		
Asset Composition							
		Assets Covering Liabilities	\$ 23,749	\$ 26,025	\$ 25,280		
		Assets Supporting Dedicated Accounts	783,790	922,672	975,531		
		Non-Financial Assets	0	0	0		
		Year-to-Date Unallocated Income Net of Expense		0	89,439		
		Undesignated Operating Assets (excluding YTD)	314,538	0	182,670		
		Total Assets:	\$ 1,122,078	\$ 1,195,111	\$ 1,272,920		

Statement of Financial Activity												
Presbytery of Central Nebraska												
12/31/2025	12		Earlier Years		Prior Year		Current Year		Budget			
			YE 2022	YE 2023	YE 2024	YTD 2024	Current Month	YTD Cur. Year	YTD Budget	Full Yr. Budget	Variance to Budget	% of 2025 Budget
I. Operating Income & Expenses:												
Presbytery Income:	4003p	UMS Presbytery	\$ 64,121	\$ 66,237	\$ 57,405	\$ 57,405	\$ 1,183	\$ 57,754	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ (12,246)	83%
	4101p	Per Capita Income	111,482	103,771	95,696	95,696	2,688	93,531	106,120	106,120	(12,589)	88%
	4138p	Peacemaking Presbytery	1,340	670	1,390	1,390	376	1,007	0	0	1,007	
	4172p	Synod Staff Support	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	833	10,000	10,000	10,000	0	100%
	4185p	Donations	0	89,000	1,302	1,302	0	1	0	0	1	
	4190p	Interest Income	16	142	95	95	6	78	60	60	18	129%
	4195p	Op Transfer from Gen Fund	0	0	0	0	0	90,000	47,835	47,835	42,165	188%
	4199p	Earnings on Certificate	0	1,677	3,061	3,061	2,152	5,479	0	0	5,479	
	4610p	Hendrickson Receipts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	4630p	Johnson Scholarship Income	873	282	389	389	0	0	0	0	0	
	4632p	Crawford Endowment Income	see Investment section		204	204	0	207	0	0	207	
	4730p	Net Calendar Sales	(175)	74	215	215	0	64	0	0	64	
		Total Operating Income:	\$ 187,658	\$ 271,853	\$ 169,757	\$ 169,757	\$ 7,239	\$ 258,120	\$ 234,015	\$ 234,015	\$ 24,105	110%
Presbytery Expenses:	4900p	Insurance & Workers Comp	\$ 3,818	\$ 3,402	\$ 3,197	\$ 3,197	\$ 0	\$ 3,782	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,218	76%
	5101p	GA Per Capita	30,092	32,278	31,223	31,223	2,739	32,867	32,867	32,867	(0)	100%
	5102p	Synod Per Capita	18,431	18,436	17,979	17,979	1,390	16,676	16,676	16,676	(0)	100%
	5209p	Transaction Fees	0	39	7	7	0	1	0	0	(1)	
	5225p	Telephone	1,200	1,200	1,100	1,100	0	1,205	1,200	1,200	(5)	100%
	5230p	Office Supplies	171	1,211	969	969	150	1,194	1,200	1,200	6	99%
	5235p	Equipment Purchase/Lease	271	2,597	0	0	0	0	500	500	500	0%
	5221p	Rent/Utilities	17,550	17,700	17,700	17,700	1,520	17,970	17,700	17,700	(270)	102%
	5229p	Postage	205	253	344	344	0	305	500	500	195	61%
	5231p	Software & Maintenance	621	1,326	911	911	74	954	1,200	1,200	246	79%
	5232p	Copier Contract	1,331	475	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	5250p	Website & DSL Service	2,665	2,690	2,581	2,581	225	2,765	2,620	2,620	(145)	106%
		Operations Expense:	\$ 76,354	\$ 81,607	\$ 76,011	\$ 76,011	\$ 6,097	\$ 77,719	\$ 79,463	\$ 79,463	\$ 1,744	98%

Statement of Financial Activity												
Presbytery of Central Nebraska												
12/31/2025	12		Earlier Years		Prior Year		Current Year		Budget			
			YE 2022	YE 2023	YE 2024	YTD 2024	Current Month	YTD Cur. Year	YTD Budget	Full Yr. Budget	Variance to Budget	% of 2025 Budget
Committee Expense:												
Business & Budget	5301p	Business & Budget	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	0%
	5325p	Audit	0	0	0	0	0	1,800	0	0	(1,800)	
Council	5309p	Council	494	128	80	80	0	28	400	400	372	7%
	5321p	Personnel	0	0	0	0	500	600	200	200	(400)	300%
	5332p	Personnel Committee Gifts	250	250	250	250	0	0	250	250	250	0%
	5352p	Presbytery Enrichment Events	390	900	3,745	3,745	401	3,205	4,000	4,000	795	80%
	5208p	Sexual Misc Response Team	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	100	100	0%
	5215p	GA Commissioner Tr/Resources	0	0	190	190	0	0	0	0	0	
COM	5343p	COM Mtgs - Mileage	0	0	0	0	0	0	250	250	250	0%
	5430p	COM Resources and Training	0	0	0	0	0	195	250	250	55	78%
	5435p	Background Checks	9	43	39	39	0	0	150	150	150	0%
	5440p	C.O.M. Emergency Fund	0	2,349	20	20	0	(500)	3,000	3,000	3,500	-17%
	5460p	C.O.M. Visitations/Support	0	0	0	0	0	165	250	250	85	66%
PM & C	5323p	M & C Mileage	158	0	227	227	0	81	750	750	669	11%
	5328p	M & C Installations	0	0	0	0	0	0	200	200	200	0%
Permi. Judicial												
	5317p	PJC	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	100	100	0%
CPM	5910p	CPM Meetings	0	0	131	131	18	145	700	700	555	21%
	5915p	Candidate Assessments	0	0	1,087	1,087	0	691	1,650	1,650	959	42%
	5920p	Travel Reimb for Candidates	0	0	1,400	1,400	2,400	2,647	1,000	1,000	(1,647)	265%
	5930p	CP Training/Scholarships	0	0	0	0	0	54	500	500	446	11%
Youth	6550p	Youth Ministry Committee Mtgs	0	0	0	0	0	0	250	250	250	0%
	6551p	Youth Triennium	0	0	0	0	0	9,553	15,000	15,000	5,447	64%
	6552p	Camp Scholarships	270	3,103	655	655	0	1,766	2,000	2,000	235	88%
	6557p	Training	0	0	0	0	0	0	250	250	250	0%
		Total Committees Expense:	\$ 1,571	\$ 6,772	\$ 7,825	\$ 7,825	\$ 3,319	\$ 20,430	\$ 31,450	\$ 31,450	\$ 11,020	65%

Statement of Financial Activity												
Presbytery of Central Nebraska												
12/31/2025	12		Earlier Years		Prior Year		Current Year		Budget			
			YE 2022	YE 2023	YE 2024	YTD 2024	Current Month	YTD Cur. Year	YTD Budget	Full Yr. Budget	Variance to Budget	% of 2025 Budget
Mission Expenses:	6720p	Mission Wee Kirk Conference	350	350	2,400	2,400	0	0	350	350	350	0%
	6760p	Presbytery Mtg Offering Match	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	6775p	Calvin Crest	1,200	1,200	0	0	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	-	100%
	6790p	Leadership Dev Scholarships	0	951	500	500	0	4,000	3,000	3,000	(1,000)	133%
	6795p	Tech & Assistance Grants	5,000	2,500	5,000	5,000	0	5,510	25,000	25,000	19,490	22%
	9138p	Peacemaking Pby Transfer	1,340	670	1,390	1,390	376	1,007	0	0	(1,007)	
	5610p	Hendrickson Payouts	0	0	0	0	0	7,000	0	0	(7,000)	
		Mission Projects Expense:	\$ 7,890	\$ 5,671	\$ 9,290	\$ 9,290	\$ 1,576	\$ 18,717	\$ 29,550	\$ 29,550	\$ 10,833	63%
Personnel Expenses:	7000p	EP & Stated Clerk Compensation	\$ 70,249	\$ 72,676	\$ 74,130	\$ 74,130	\$ 6,393	\$ 76,713	\$ 76,713	\$ 76,713	\$ (0)	100%
	7004p	EP & SC Pension and Benefits	24,697	26,330	26,856	26,856	628	20,945	20,945	20,945	(0)	100%
	7009p	EP & SC Travel (vouchered)	1,849	4,621	3,450	3,450	864	4,152	4,500	4,500	348	92%
	7011p	EP & SC Professionl Exps,Meals	3,605	2,765	2,714	2,714	377	2,467	3,500	3,500	1,033	70%
	7013p	EP & SC Denominationl Expenses	2,602	4,446	3,944	3,944	835	3,753	5,000	5,000	1,247	75%
	7051p	Presbytery Admin. Salary	15,767	16,773	16,690	16,690	1,276	17,019	26,000	26,000	8,981	65%
	7057p	Admin Continuing Education	0	0	0	0	0	0	500	500	500	0%
	7058p	Admin Mileage	110	135	642	642	0	48	1,000	1,000	952	5%
	7055p	FICA	1,206	1,283	1,277	1,277	98	1,302	1,989	1,989	687	65%
		Personnel Expense:	\$ 120,681	\$ 129,560	\$ 129,853	\$ 129,853	\$ 10,469	\$ 126,401	\$ 140,148	\$ 140,148	\$ 13,746	90%
Other Expenses:	7910p	Synod Financial Services	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 208	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 0	100%
		Total Operating Expenses:	\$ 208,996	\$ 226,451	\$ 224,591	\$ 224,591	\$ 21,670	\$ 245,767	\$ 283,110	\$ 283,110	\$ 37,343	87%
		Total Operating Income Minus Expenses:	\$ (21,338)	\$ 45,402	\$ (54,834)	\$ (54,834)	\$ (14,431)	\$ 12,353	\$ (49,095)	\$ (49,095)	\$ 61,448	

Statement of Financial Activity												
Presbytery of Central Nebraska												
12/31/2025	12		Earlier Years		Prior Year		Current Year		Budget			
			YE 2022	YE 2023	YE 2024	YTD 2024	Current Month	YTD Cur. Year	YTD Budget	Full Yr. Budget	Variance to Budget	% of 2025 Budget
II. Pass-through Receipts & Distributions:												
Receipts:	4001p	UMS GA	\$ 11,626	\$ 7,967	\$ 4,198	\$ 4,198	\$ 197	\$ 4,683				
	4002p	UMS Synod	12,547	6,856	5,406	5,406	137	6,885				
	4121p	One Great Hour of Sharing	10,886	10,017	10,913	10,913	0	10,160				
	4170p	Disaster Relief Receipts	25,756	7,991	8,821	8,821	2,133	10,724				
	4171p	Hunger Relief Receipts	455	523	766	766	104	1,070				
	4126p	Christmas Joy Offering	6,673	7,125	8,008	8,008	0	9,499				
	4131p	Pentecost GA	2,602	1,851	1,299	1,299	0	1,485				
	4136p	Peacemaking GA	2,720	1,361	2,822	2,822	763	2,044				
	4150p	Theological Education Fund	1,360	1,226	284	284	0	302				
	4151p	GA Designated Gifts	150	150	1,495	1,495	0	0				
		Pass-through Receipts:	\$ 74,775	\$ 45,068	\$ 44,014	\$ 44,014	\$ 3,333	\$ 46,852				
Distributions:	9001p	UMS GA Expense	\$ 11,626	\$ 7,967	\$ 4,198	\$ 4,198	\$ 197	\$ 4,683				
	9002p	UMS Synod Expense	12,547	6,856	5,406	5,406	137	6,885				
	9121p	OGHS Expense	10,886	10,017	10,913	10,913	0	10,160				
	9152p	Disaster Relief Transfer	25,756	7,991	8,821	8,821	2,133	10,724				
	9137p	Hunger Relief Transfer	455	523	766	766	104	1,070				
	9126p	Christmas Joy Expense	6,673	7,125	8,008	8,008	0	9,499				
	9131p	Pentecost GA Expense	2,602	1,851	1,299	1,299	0	1,485				
	9136p	Peacemaking GA Expense	2,720	1,361	2,822	2,822	763	2,044				
	9150p	Theological Education Expense	1,360	1,226	284	284	0	302				
	9151p	GA Designated Expense	150	150	1,495	1,495	0	0				
		Pass-through Distributions:	\$ 74,775	\$ 45,068	\$ 44,014	\$ 44,014	\$ 3,333	\$ 46,852				
III. Unrealized Investment Gains and Fund Income:												
Fund Income:	4632p	Crawford Endowment Income	\$ 189	\$ 195		\$ 204	see Income section					
	4634p	Stuckey Fund Income	(83,667)	71,534	58,403	58,403	13,787	85,665	17,500	17,500	68,165	490%
	4635p	Mission Developmnt	(28,902)	24,690	20,158	20,158	0	4,748	10,000	10,000	(5,252)	47%
	4636p	Church Development	(32,712)	27,945	22,815	22,815	0	5,374	10,000	10,000	(4,626)	54%
	4640p	Unrealized Gain - Reserve Fund	(56,211)	39,887	22,826	22,826	11,925	71,299	0	0	71,299	
Fund Transfers:	9900p	Transfer for Operations	0	0	0	0	0	90,000	47,835	47,835	42,165	188%
	9992p	Stuckey Fund Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Net Fund Income:	\$ (201,303)	\$ 164,251	\$ 124,202	\$ 124,406	\$ 25,712	\$ 77,087	\$ (10,335)	\$ (10,335)	\$ 87,422	-746%
I. II. & III. Total Income:			(\$222,641)	\$209,653	\$69,367	\$69,571	\$11,281	\$89,439	(\$59,430)	(\$59,430)	\$148,870	-150%

Statement of Financial Activity												
Presbytery of Central Nebraska												
12/31/2025	12		Earlier Years		Prior Year		Current Year		Budget			
			YE 2022	YE 2023	YE 2024	YTD 2024	Current Month	YTD Cur. Year	YTD Budget	Full Yr. Budget	Variance to Budget	% of 2025 Budget
Income and Expense Summary												
Presbytery Income:		UMS Presbytery	\$ 64,121	\$ 66,237	\$ 57,405	\$ 57,405	\$ 1,183	\$ 57,754	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000	\$ (12,246)	83%
		Per Capita Income	111,482	103,771	95,696	95,696	2,688	93,531	106,120	106,120	(12,589)	88%
		Synod Staff Support	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	833	10,000	10,000	10,000	0	100%
		Income Transfers	0	0	0	0	-	90,000	47,835	47,835	42,165	188%
		Other Income	2,054	91,845	6,656	6,656	2,534	6,835	60	47,895	6,775	14%
			\$ 187,658	\$ 271,853	\$ 169,757	\$ 169,757	\$ 7,239	\$ 258,120	\$ 234,015	\$ 281,850	\$ 24,105	92%
Presbytery Expenses:		Operations (incl. Per Capita)	\$ 76,354	\$ 81,607	\$ 76,011	\$ 76,011	\$ 6,097	\$ 77,719	\$ 79,463	\$ 79,463	\$ 1,744	98%
		Committees										
		Council	\$ 1,134	\$ 1,278	\$ 4,265	\$ 4,265	901	3,833	4,950	4,950	1,117	77%
		COM	9	2,392	59	59	0	(139)	3,900	3,900	4,039	-4%
		Business & Budget	0	0	0	0	0	1,800	200	200	(1,600)	900%
		PM & C	158	0	227	227	0	81	950	950	869	9%
		Nomination	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Perm Judicial	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	100	100	0%
		CPM	0	0	2,619	2,619	2,418	3,537	3,850	3,850	313	92%
		Youth	270	3,103	655	655	0	11,318	17,500	17,500	6,182	65%
			\$ 1,571	\$ 6,772	\$ 7,825	\$ 7,825	\$ 3,319	\$ 20,430	\$ 31,450	\$ 31,450	\$ 11,020	65%
		Mission Projects	\$ 7,890	\$ 5,671	\$ 9,290	\$ 9,290	\$ 1,576	\$ 18,717	\$ 29,550	\$ 29,550	\$ 10,833	63%
		Personnel	\$ 120,681	\$ 129,560	\$ 129,853	\$ 129,853	\$ 10,469	\$ 126,401	\$ 140,148	\$ 140,148	\$ 13,746	90%
		Other Operating	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,840	\$ 1,612	\$ 1,612	\$ 208	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 0	100%
External Income:		Manse and Other										
Pass-throughs:		Pass-through Receipts	\$ 74,775	\$ 45,068	\$ 44,014	\$ 44,014	\$ 3,333	\$ 46,852				
		Pass-through Distributions	\$ 74,775	\$ 45,068	\$ 44,014	\$ 44,014	\$ 3,333	\$ 46,852				
Fund Income:		Investment Income (net)	\$ (201,303)	\$ 164,251	\$ 124,202	\$ 124,406	\$ 25,712	\$ 77,087	\$ (10,335)	\$ (10,335)	\$ -	-746%
Total Income minus Expense (all):			\$ (222,641)	\$ 209,993	\$ 68,480	\$ 68,684	\$ 11,281	\$ 89,439	\$ (59,430)	\$ (11,595)	\$ 148,870	

Central Nebraska Presbytery Church Remittance Reporting																
													1/1/2025	to	12/31/2025	
		Per Capita (total)	Mission GA	Mission SYN	Mission Presb.	One Great Hour	GA Peace	Pres Peace	Christmas Joy	Tri- ennium	Pente- cost	Desig. Mission*	Hunger Relief	Theo. Edu.	Disaster Relief	Camp
Income GL	4101p	4001p	4002p	4003p	4121p	4136p	4138p	4126p	2570p	4131p	4151p	4171p	4150p	4170p	4620p	
Expense GL		9001p	9002p		9121p	9136p		9126p		9131p	9151p	2110p	9150p	2100p		
A/P GL		2050p	2055p		2121p	2136p		2126p		2131p	2151p	9137p	2150p	9152p		
Totals:		93,530.87	4,683.32	6,884.68	57,754.07	10,159.93	2,043.67	1,006.59	9,499.00		1,484.51		1,070.10	302.20	10,724.49	199,143.43
Atkinson	4419															
Aurora	4503				50.00	33.50	16.50	50.00		50.00						200.00
Axtell	4504	2,240.00		250.00	340.00											2,830.00
Beaver City	4505	2,660.00	195.00	135.00	1,170.00											4,160.00
Benkelman	7154															
Broken Bow	4506	4,900.00			384.56			200.00						3,430.49		8,915.05
Campbell	4507	140.00			516.76											656.76
Central City	4508	1,925.00														1,925.00
Cozad	4509	1,505.00	1,275.00	1,275.00	2,550.00	485.00	317.58	156.42	1,035.00		255.00			795.00		9,649.00
Danbury	526	490.00														490.00
Edgar	9204	3,605.00	325.00	225.00	1,950.00	5.00	20.10	9.90								6,140.00
Ewing	1495															
Ewing Bethany	4428	1,855.00			70.00	67.00	33.00	520.00		125.00						2,670.00
Fairfield	7237	2,135.00	325.00	225.00	1,950.00			88.00								4,723.00
Fullerton	4513	2,835.00			195.00											3,030.00
Gothenburg	4516	3,710.04	482.28	333.96	2,893.80	1,264.00	708.53	348.98								9,741.59
Grand Island	4517	9,024.16	1,300.00	900.00	7,800.00	1,727.00	193.46	95.29	470.00		198.00					21,707.91
Hastings Second	4515	875.00	65.00	45.00	390.00	40.00			355.00							1,770.00
Hastings First	4519	16,185.67		3,250.00	19,504.03	1,293.00			2,667.00			1,070.10				43,969.80
Holdrege	4520	5,145.00			6,500.00	100.00			605.00							12,350.00
Kearney	4521	5,915.00	260.00	180.00	1,560.00	50.00								125.00		8,090.00
Kenesaw	4522	875.00														875.00
Keystone	4523	175.00	39.00	27.00	234.00	1,220.00							302.20			1,997.20
Lebanon	4524															
Lexington First	4526	5,075.00			5,000.00	335.50			1,947.00					218.00		12,575.50
Lexington BG	4527															
Minden	9666	3,920.00			2,100.00	1,161.00	569.50	280.50	900.00		600.00					9,531.00
North Platte	4535	5,603.00	352.04	243.72	2,112.24	655.48			202.00					432.00		9,600.48
O'Neill	4435	2,800.00				117.63	134.00	66.00	70.00		256.51					3,444.14
Orleans	4537	980.00			600.00											1,580.00
St. Paul	4541															
Stapleton	4545															
Stuart	4441	700.00				150.00								925.00		1,775.00

Central Nebraska Presbytery Church Remittance Reporting												1/1/2025	to	12/31/2025			
		Per Capita (total)	Mission GA	Mission SYN	Mission Presb.	One Great Hour	GA Peace	Pres Peace	Christmas Joy	Tri- ennium	Pente- cost	Desig. Mission*	Hunger Relief	Theo. Edu.	Disaster Relief	Camp	
Income GL		4101p	4001p	4002p	4003p	4121p	4136p	4138p	4126p	2570p	4131p	4151p	4171p	4150p	4170p	4620p	
Expense GL			9001p	9002p		9121p	9136p		9126p		9131p	9151p	2110p	9150p	2100p		
	A/P GL		2050p	2055p		2121p	2136p		2126p		2131p	2151p	9137p	2150p	9152p		
Superior	4547	2,100.00	65.00	45.00	390.00												2,600.00
Sutherland	4548	1,855.00			800.00				390.00								3,045.00
Valentine	4444	3,115.00															3,115.00
Wood River	4549	1,188.00															1,188.00
Presbytery	CNP														4,799.00		4,799.00
Payment to Gen. Assembly:		2,738.91															2,738.91
Payment to Mission Agency:			4,683.32			10,159.93	2,043.67		9,499.00		1,484.51		1,070.10		10,724.49		39,665.02
Payment to Foundation:														302.20			302.20
Payment to Synod:		1,389.67		6,884.68													8,274.35
		Disaster Giving Designations							GA Designated Giving Designations								
		<u>PIN</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Designations</u>				<u>PIN</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Designations</u>					
		CNP	Disaster	\$ 4,000.00	US Disaster Relief						\$ -						
		4506	Disaster	\$ 1,074.41	DR000148						\$ -						
		4441	Disaster	\$ 925.00	Alaska storms						\$ -						
		4506	Disaster	\$ 781.12	DR000148						\$ -						
		CNP	Disaster	\$ 358.00	DR000165 US wildfires						\$ -						
		CNP	Disaster	\$ 216.00	DR000165 - Texas						\$ -						
		4521	Disaster	\$ 125.00	DR000165						\$ -						
		CNP	Disaster	\$ 100.00	DR000165 - Texas						\$ -						
		4506	Disaster	\$ 83.34	DR000148						\$ -						
		4506	Disaster	\$ 83.33	DR000148												
		4506	Disaster	\$ 83.33	DR000148						\$ -						
		4506	Disaster	\$ 83.33	DR000148						\$ -						
		4506	Disaster	\$ 83.33	DR000148						\$ -						
		4506	Disaster	\$ 83.33	DR000148						\$ -						
		4506	Disaster	\$ 83.33	DR000148						\$ -						
		CNP	Disaster	\$ 50.00	DR000165 US wildfires						\$ -						
		CNP	Disaster	\$ 50.00	Alaska storms						\$ -						
		CNP	Disaster	\$ 25.00	DR000165 - Texas						\$ -						
				\$ -							\$ -						

Commission on Preparation for Ministry
Presbytery of Central Nebraska Meeting
February 7, 2026

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

The CPM met in December to wrap things up for 2025, schedule our 2026 meeting dates, and make decisions about the remaining funds in our 2025 budget. Recognizing that ministry preparation is expensive, we unanimously agreed to issue checks to the three individuals who are still taking classes and under our care. Those individuals include Brian Johnson, Rosalie Koepp, and Emily McCreery.

It's our Presbytery's turn to assist with the reading of upcoming ordination exams. Reading Week is scheduled for May 4th – 8th and the deadline for reporting readers is March 31st. Logan Ellis, Teaching Elder; Sue Medsker, Ruling Elder; and Becky Dobitsch, Alternate, volunteered to be readers. They were unanimously approved by the CPM and Jill enrolled them with GA. If anyone would like to serve as a reader in the future, please let a member of the CPM know and we will contact you the next time we are called.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Jill Boyd, Chair

THE CENTRAL NEBRASKA PRESBYTERY YOUTH COMMITTEE PRESENTS:

JR. HIGH RETREAT!

**FEB. 13-14
2026**

**THE
CROSSING**
LEXINGTON
NEBRASKA

**Cost is \$ 110 per person.
This helps cover food, Lodging,
and Travel expenses.**

*(Scholarships and group funding may differ between
churches; check with your leaders for details!)*

**24HRS OF FUN, FAITH, AND FELLOWSHIP!
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**For more information, contact Rose Koepp
rose@fpchastings.org - (402) 462-5147**



**COM PRESBYTERY REPORT
FEBRUARY 7, 2026**

Church moderators were reviewed and are as follows:

- Sutherland – Elder Jon Beggs
- Keystone – Eddie Mariel (meets in Paxton)
- Benkelman – Polly Deppen-Williams
- Buffalo Grove – Eddie Mariel
- 2nd Presbyterian, Hastings – Ivan & Joyce Dean
- Kenesaw – Zac Wolfe (he is from Homestead Presbytery)
- Beaver City – Polly Deppen-Williams
- Kearney – Polly Deppen-Williams

Approved:

- Ivan Dean plans to honorably retire December 31, 2025.
- Joyce announced that she plans to assume full time responsibilities as head of staff at Community Presbyterian Church, Fairfield on January 1, 2026. Ivan will continue to assist her on a volunteer basis. This change is fully supported by the Fairfield church. COM voted to **APPROVE** both parts of this request from the Dean's

2026 Liaison List

Jon Beggs	Buffalo Grove, Cozad, Gothenburg, Lexington, Valentine, Sutherland
David Boyd	Broken Bow, Keystone, North Platte, Kearney, Holdrege
Joyce Dean	Beaver City, Benkelman, Danbury, Orleans
Kevin Geurink	Campbell, Fairfield, Superior, Central City, Fullerton
Kirwin Stewart	Hastings, Kenesaw, Wood River, Axtell, Grand Island
Becky Dobitsch	Atkinson, Stuart, O'Neill, Bethany, Ewing PCUSA/UMC
Doodle Harris	St. Paul, Edgar, Minden, Hastings 2 nd

*Every Pastor and Clerk of Session will receive a letter with liaison contact information.

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Dean, COM Chair

On Prohibiting Non-Disclosure Covenants in Employee Relations of all agencies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Presbytery of Central Nebraska overtures the 227th General Assembly (2026) of the PC(USA):

- 1) To direct staff of all agencies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to rewrite employee policies concerning the use of non-disclosure covenants with all employees, and to re-establish the authority of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in hiring and employee relations, making clear that when state law contradicts the Constitution, the Constitution holds primary authority in employee relations with staff of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) at all levels;**
- 2) To report on revisions in employee policies to the 228th General Assembly (2028).**

Rationale

The 226th General Assembly approved an overture that was subsequently passed by the presbyteries, which operates to prohibit the use of non-disclosure agreements in pastoral calls (POL-08, On Dissolution of Pastoral Relationships). The rationale for that overture reminded commissioners of the vows people take at ordination to serve one another, God, and God's church with love, citing W-4.0404. The overture noted that non-disclosure agreements move people in congregations and other bodies of the church to the opposite of this, and to "engender speculation rather than truth-seeking", inviting "speculation that is typically a disservice to all parties".

Mission co-workers employed by PC(USA) World Mission found themselves in a like position to those who have served under non-disclosure agreements in and with the councils of the denomination. When the decision was made to terminate all mission co-worker positions in March 2025, those serving in these positions served under a non-disclosure covenant, which staff of the Interim Unified Agency (IUA) have labored since the plan to terminate mission co-workers was made public to define as *not* a non-disclosure agreement. However, mission co-workers who chose to share their sense of what was happening received threats and warnings from supervisory IUA staff, who reminded them of the covenant under which they served, and raised the possibility of losing severance if mission co-workers continued sharing about their experiences.

Additionally, the law of the state of Kentucky was brought to bear in the mission co-worker firing process. Mission co-workers served under appointment for a set term of years. So, they understood—as did the global partners with whom they served—that their employment was secure for at least the terms of their appointments. However, Kentucky has "at-will" employment, and this was referenced to mission co-workers who brought up the issue of their appointment terms. Mission co-workers were advised by IUA staff that they would not receive an answer to questions about why their positions

were being terminated, and the right to fire employees at will and without cause was also referenced.

It has become clear that non-disclosure covenants and non-disclosure agreements are an example of a distinction without a difference. It has also become increasingly clear that the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has the capacity to lead the denomination toward more faithful relationships between all in the church and the world, and between employer and employee, and should be thus used to do this faithful work. It is crucial, then, that those who serve the IUA and our global partners be accorded the respect and love outlined in the Constitution of the PC(USA). This overture seeks to employ and build upon the wisdom of the 226th General Assembly in prohibiting non-disclosure agreements to prohibit non-disclosure covenants as well, and to expand this prohibition in hiring, termination, and employee relations with all IUA staff (and the staff of any future agency leading the denomination), wherever they may serve in the world.

A Call for Investigation of the Restructure of PC(USA) World Mission

The Presbytery of Central Nebraska overtures the 227th General Assembly (2026) of the PC(USA):

1. To direct the Moderator or Co-Moderators to form a commission tasked with the following:
 - a. To investigate decision making processes employed and actions taken that resulted in the elimination of the PC(USA) World Mission and the termination of all appointed Mission Co-Worker positions of those who were serving in March 2025, and the formation of a new model of global engagement;
 - b. To determine the extent to which the decision making processes employed and actions taken by the Unification Commission and the Interim Unified Agency conformed to or violated policy mandates of the General Assembly including (but not limited to) *Presbyterians do Mission in Partnership*, *Gathering for God's Future*, CR-08 On Maintaining the International Presence of Global Mission Personnel to Embody Our Christian Witness, and Reformed theological understandings of church found in the Constitution of the PC(USA);
 - c. To review comments, advice, and guidance that the former Presbyterian Mission Agency, the Interim United Agency, and the Unification Commission solicited or received from global partners concerning the revision of the PC(USA)'s model of global engagement during the period 2018-2025 (including but not limited to the series of global partner consultations held in 2018-2019, the consultations held in connection with the development of "Reflecting, Reimagining, and Making Space for Rebuilding" prepared by CounterStories Consulting in September 2021, consultations with the Global Partner Roundtable, and responses to the survey the Interim Unified Agency sent to global partners in December 2024) and to assess the extent to which partner input was or was not accommodated;
 - d. To report to the 228th General Assembly the findings of the commission, and to recommend appropriate actions of acknowledgement, confession, repentance, and reparation.

Rationale

Citing its commitment to redress the "historical harms of missionaries" and "help the church better engage," the Interim Unified Agency (IUA) of the PC(USA) announced the dissolution of PC(USA) World Mission in February 2025 and terminated the ministries of all Mission Co-Workers the following month. Without posting new positions and specific skills sought, the IUA hired some Mission Go-Workers as global and domestic ecumenical liaisons, positions that have yet to be defined, to take part in a new model of global engagement that violates the missiological principles of prior GA actions,

causing division between those Mission Co-Workers who were offered a position in the new model and the majority of Mission Co-Workers, who were not.

For almost 200 years, Presbyterian World Mission provided the denomination, local congregations, and mid councils opportunities to connect with the global church, participate in God's mission around the world, learn from the faith and experiences of our siblings abroad, and receive leaders, such as the Rev. Syngman Rhee and the Rev. Jihyun Oh, and thus live out the church's calling to be connectional and apostolic. Stories about what God is doing among our siblings abroad, mission interpretation from mission co-workers, and the work of PC(USA) Mission Networks formed and informed the denomination's understanding of God, God's people, and God's world. The dissolution of PC(USA) World Mission has deprived the denomination of opportunities to connect with, to learn from, and to be led by the global church.

In its enthusiasm to cut costs, IUA's firing of the mission co-workers follows neither the mandate of the 226th General Assembly nor facilitates the denomination's global engagement. Instead, subcontracting our mission work to ecumenical agencies headquartered in Europe has weakened the bond between the General Assembly, local congregations and mid councils with our global partners.

By not communicating with local congregations, mid councils, and the Mission Networks engaged in many global regions, the IUA left much of the PC(USA) ignorant of decisions being made and how Presbyterians could respond. Congregations and mid councils who have faithfully donated funding for specific ministries, trusting PC(USA) World Mission as a reliable partner in mission, now find themselves betrayed by the denomination.

Ironically, in its eagerness to "decolonize" the denomination's "theology, missiology, and practical engagement," the IUA employed colonial, top-down strategies. 20 years of discernment in which global partners and Presbyterians engaged about mission theology and modalities was not consulted and the voices of our global partners were not heard. Surveys sent to global partners in December 2024, inquiring about the relevance of the current model of mission and the ministry of mission co-workers laboring with them, were responded to. But these were not received by the IUA before decisions were announced by the IUA about the withdrawal of all mission co-workers and a turn from incarnational ministries of appointed mission personnel living in community and solidarity with our partners. This created significant ministry disruption for many global partners and was received as completely insensitive to the relationship between the PC(USA) and our partner churches. Written communications sent to global partners announcing the termination of mission co-worker positions did not name those whose positions were eliminated, identify the ministries in which they were invited to take part, or thank the partners for hosting our mission co-workers. The decision to terminate mission co-workers was unilateral, and the communication about it proved to be paternalistic. By not consulting our global siblings and communicating very late, the IUA did not present itself as an equal ally, but as a

dominant partner in a position of power, speaking to subordinates whose opinions were not needed for decisions to be made.

The process of eliminating this critical aspect of the church's calling culminated in the termination of the position of Mission Co-Worker in March 2025. Mission co-workers not only lost their jobs but were restricted from openly grieving their loss to continue the ministry to which they felt called by God. By employing them, PC(USA) World Mission had affirmed their calling and gifts for this ministry. Congregations and mid councils also affirmed their calling and gifts, as did our global partners by inviting and hosting them. In response to their call, mission co-workers identified themselves with and advocated for the least of our siblings abroad. They joined our global partners and represented the denomination's commitment to justice, reconciliation, and holistic transformation.

This overture calls for the processes by which these decisions were made to be investigated, to determine how the decisions conform with or violate PC(USA) GA actions, to review the years of global consultations and study results, and to report to the 228th General Assembly with appropriate recommendations.

Calling for a New Missiological Statement for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Presbytery of Central Nebraska overtures the 227th General Assembly (2026) of the PC(USA):

1) To direct staff, accompanied by an advisory group to be named by the Moderator or Co-Moderators, to develop a new missiological statement on which the global engagement of the PC(USA) will be founded, answering at minimum these questions, and other questions as they emerge:

- a. What is the missiology of the PC(USA), and how does this guide the church to serve God and neighbor and inform the global engagement of the church?
- b. How does this missiology relate to past statements and mission work, and how does it serve the contexts of the mission of God undertaken by the PC(USA) nationally and internationally?
- c. Who engages in the global mission of the PC(USA), and how are each group or individual engaging?
- d. What new and renewed models are in place or emerging to serve God's mission through the PC(USA) and its members and member entities, agencies, networks, mid-councils, and congregations?
- e. What is the PC(USA) sending body framework or frameworks for mission, and what protections and safeguards for those sent and those with whom they serve are in place or need to be developed?
- f. What funding models are in place or need to be developed?

Staff and the advisory group are directed to ensure meaningful consultation with representatives of the following groups in their work:

1. Missiological scholars who are members of the PC(USA)
2. Former staff members of PC(USA) World Mission who have served internationally with and under the supervision of global partners
3. PC(USA) Mission Networks
4. PC(USA) mid councils engaged in global mission
5. Congregations engaging in global mission
6. PC(USA) global partners

2) To report to the 228th General Assembly

Rationale

The termination of Presbyterian World Mission (PWM) by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in 2025 exposes a profound lack of understanding by the denomination's leadership concerning a Reformed missiological framework. Since its inception, the Reformed theological tradition has distinguished itself as an ecumenical and transnational church, developing and funding partnerships at home and abroad as part

of its evangelical* mission. In the sixteenth century, Calvin's Geneva became a haven for Protestant refugees fleeing persecution throughout Catholic Europe. Himself a displaced political refugee, John Calvin's ministry in Geneva became a beacon for refugees throughout Europe, who came to Geneva to learn under Calvin to then replicate his successes back home. The Genevan church not only supported the repatriation of Protestant refugees in Europe, but it also funded the first Protestant mission in the New World with the establishment of a French Huguenot colony in Brazil in 1555.

However, not only is the closure of PWM a betrayal of the global scope of Presbyterian ministries, but it comes at the expense of our most foundational ecclesiological commitments. Protestant reformers in the sixteenth century were careful not to replace one clerical hierarchy with another, as evidenced by the representational church order described in the fourth book of John Calvin's *Institutes of the Christian Religion* (1559). Given every Christian is subject to Christ's lordship, from the lowliest laborer to the highest ruling monarch, the communion of saints (*communio sanctorum*) is ultimately an egalitarian fellowship (*koinōnia*), a shared life together in which all believers are responsible for and accountable to one another. This, above all else, is the basis on which ecclesiastical and civil polity is founded. Therefore, the kind of unilateral decision-making that led to the closure of PWM without adequate dialogue and consultation reflects a careless disregard for our most foundational Reformed theological commitments.

One of the reasons given by the Interim Unification Agency (IUA) to justify the closure of PWM was the inherent coloniality of missions. When we refer to the coloniality of missions, we are referring to a way of doing missions such that usually Western missionaries impose Western ideas of "gospel", "civilization," and "progress" onto local cultures. Historically, missions often marched in lockstep with colonial projects and for that reason the document, "Presbyterians Do Mission in Partnership," presented a model of partnership in which Presbyterian mission co-workers established partnerships with local communities, allowing themselves to be guided by their wisdom and guidance. Instead of perpetuating a colonial attitude marked by a one-sided relationship in which the missionary party holds the power and resources and could, therefore, dictate to the local mission partners what they should do, Presbyterian mission workers have followed this more egalitarian and contextual missiological model assiduously and, in the process, become valuable colleagues for local churches around the world.

If colonialism is marked by a one-sided relationship in which one party holds the power to dictate or compel the other party or parties, then the actions of the Interim Council fit that bill. If PC(USA) global partners were indeed partners, then they would've been consulted before engaging in the radical reconfiguring of PC(USA) World Mission. Based on the reactions of many global partners, it appears that this consultation did not happen, and the unilateral action came as a surprise to them. This not only violates the

missiology of “Presbyterians Do Mission in Partnership” but also treats our global partners like expendable mission co-workers who could be terminated unilaterally and without consultation in order to preserve the financial viability of the PC(USA).

Second, if the PC(USA) is not adhering to its official missiological statements, what missiology then drives this move to eliminate PC(USA) World Mission? In statements on the matter, the leadership has moved to transition PC(USA) World Mission into a ministry called Global Ecumenical Partners. The rationale given by IUA staff for this abrupt restructuring was a desire to increase interconnectedness in the global church while addressing the financial instability of the PC(USA). With regards to the former, interconnectedness does not reduce the need for mission. Conservative denominations are doubling down on their missionary work, filling the void where the PC(USA) has withdrawn, advancing theological, ecclesiological, and missiological ideas that differ from our own. Furthermore, the work of PC(USA) World Mission was already ecumenical on a local level. Many mission co-workers participated in ecumenical partnerships locally to engage justice issues. However, what the IUA is referring to is not these local ecumenical efforts but supranational organizations such as the World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC). There is no evidence that the PC(USA) will increase its financial support to the WCRC while it presses the WCRC to take over the work of PC(USA) World Mission, which makes the decisions by IUA leadership look like an effort to outsource world missions to the WCRC. In other words, leadership has failed to demonstrate how the move toward increasing the interconnectedness of the world church translates to the drastic action of eliminating PC(USA) World Mission.

Sadly, this leaves financial sustainability as the only plausible rationale for the elimination of PC(USA) World Mission. Financial sustainability motivated by the fear of a declining denomination cannot serve as a theological “state of exception” that allows the PC(USA) to violate its own theological/missiological statements. We worship the God who sends the church into the world, not the Mammon who seeks its own self-preservation. In the end, there was no justifiable missiological justification for the termination of PC(USA) World Mission and the unjust firings of its mission co-workers. Granted, the closure of PC(USA) World Mission comes at a time when global ministries are struggling to make up for funding deficits after the Trump administration cut funding for programs the US Agency for International Development (USAID). But the PC(USA)’s fiscal worries cannot be allowed to constitute a state of exception that allows the denomination to act against its own doctrinal and polity statements. Such a “missiology” is neither a theology of missions nor is it decolonial in any sense of the term. This theological lacuna, which has already unjustly upended the work of 79 mission co-workers and thrown a curveball at so many partnerships around the world, needs to be addressed in a properly Reformed manner. This overture aims to produce a missiological statement that can guide the PC(USA)’s mission policy now and in the future.

* The term “evangelical” is here used in the original sixteenth century meaning to refer to the Gospel-centered reformations that came to differentiated Protestantism from the Roman Catholic Church. In our day and age, the capitalized form of this term (“Evangelical”) is used to refer to various conservative religious movements in the United States informed by the publication of The Fundamentals (1910-1915), a series of tracts that provide "a new statement of the fundamentals of Christianity" in response to the Social Gospel and Protestant Liberalism.

OVERTURE
From
Homestead Presbytery
To
227th General Assembly (2026)

Recommendation to Amend D-7.09 and D-7.0901

RECOMMENDATION

The Homestead Presbytery overtures the 227th General Assembly (2026) to direct the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:

Shall D-7.09 and D-7.0901 be amended as follows:

(Text to be added is [in brackets and underlined]. Text to be deleted is ~~[in brackets and struck through]~~).

These sections would read as follows:

D-7.09: ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL [MISCONDUCT] ~~[ABUSE]~~

D-7.0901 - Sexual [misconduct] ~~[abuse]~~ as stated in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Sexual Misconduct Policy and Its Procedures (2013) is a violation of the role of anyone called upon to exercise integrity, sensitivity, and caring in a trust relationship, is a misuse of authority and power that breaches Christian ethical principles, and takes advantage of the vulnerability of persons who are less powerful to act. Sexual misconduct is, therefore, antithetical to the gospel call to work as God's servant and violates the mandate to protect the vulnerable from harm. Sexual Misconduct is a comprehensive term which includes but is not limited to (a) sexual abuse defined as any offense involving sexual conduct in relation to any person under the age of 18 years or anyone without the capacity to consent, or any person when the conduct includes force, threat, coercion, [or] intimidation ~~[or misuse of ordered ministry or position]~~, (b) sexual assault, (c) sexual harassment, and (d) sexual malfeasance. Sexual [misconduct] ~~[abuse]~~ is contrary to the Scriptures and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and is therefore always [a misuse of ordered ministry or position] and an offense for the purpose of discipline.

RATIONAL

Section D-7.09 (ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE) addresses the manner in which allegations of “sexual abuse” are to be addressed. Allowing “misuse of ordered ministry” to be the sole criteria in identifying a behavior as sexual abuse opens the door for behaviors that would be more appropriately classified as sexual misconduct to be labeled as sexual abuse – a damaging label for the accused and one which limits opportunity for negotiated agreements.

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) Sexual Misconduct Policy and Its Procedures (2013) defines “sexual abuse” by quoting the then current *Book of Order*, D-10.0401c (quoted wording identical to the *Book of Order* 2025-2027, D-7.0901). The Policy identifies “sexual abuse” as just one of several situations falling under the umbrella of sexual misconduct. Section II of the document lists and defines specific situations that fall under this umbrella including child sexual abuse, sexual abuse, sexual harassment, and sexual malfeasance.

Of concern is the manner in which D-7.0901 defines “sexual abuse”:

“. . . any offense involving sexual conduct in relation to any person under the age of 18 years or anyone without the capacity to consent, or any person when the conduct includes force, threat, coercion, intimidation, or misuse of ordered ministry or position.”

With this definition, “misuse of ordered ministry or position” may be used as the sole criteria to label a situation as “sexual abuse.” A definition for “sexual conduct” is not provided.

“Sexual abuse” is not a casual term. In the medical and legal realm, the term has a specific and dramatic meaning. 18 U.S. Code 2242 (<https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/2242>) gives this definition of sexual abuse –

Whoever . . . knowingly—

(1) causes another person to engage in a sexual act by threatening or placing that other person in fear (other than by threatening or placing that other person in fear that any person will be subjected to death, serious bodily injury, or kidnapping);

(2) engages in a sexual act with another person if that other person is—

(a) incapable of appraising the nature of the conduct; or

(b) physically incapable of declining participation in, or communicating unwillingness to engage in, that sexual act; or

(3) engages in a sexual act with another person without that other person’s consent, to include doing so through coercion;

or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title and imprisoned for any term of years or for life.

The American Psychological Association defines “sexual abuse” as:

“Any nonconsensual or exploitive sexual behavior or activity imposed on an individual without their consent. Although the term typically is used with reference to any sexual contact between adults and children, sexual abuse can also occur in any relationship of trust.” (American Psychological Association. <https://dictionary.apa.org/sexual-abuse>). 11-15-2023.

Sexual harassment and sexual malfeasance are forms of sexual misconduct that would not likely be legally defined as sexual abuse but would be examples of “misuse of ordered ministry” and therefore subject to disciplinary proceedings.

It is of interest to note that “misuse of ordered ministry” occurs nowhere else in the Book of Order (2025) other than as part of the definition of sexual abuse.

CONCERNS:

If the accused is found to be guilty of an allegation of sexual abuse, the verdict of “guilty of sexual abuse” becomes public to the Presbytery and is included in the Presbytery Minutes (D-9.0102b). To be identified as a sexual abuser has severe psychological, social and professional consequences that are damaging. This is of concern in situations when the only element of the behavior in question that satisfies the definition of “sexual abuse” as stated in D-7.0901 is “misuse of ordered ministry.”

Therefore, Homestead Presbytery overtures that the wording of D-7.09 be amended to read “Allegations of Sexual Misconduct and that D-7.0901 be amended to (a) identify sexual abuse as one condition under the more comprehensive term of Sexual Misconduct, (b) move “misuse of ordered ministry” from the definition of “sexual abuse” and include it as an offense under the comprehensive umbrella of sexual misconduct as a behavior “contrary to the Scriptures. . . and therefore an offense for the purpose of discipline.”

Perhaps the more comprehensive concepts of “sexual misconduct” and “misuse of ordered ministry” could also be incorporated into other sections of Church Discipline.

This approach is in keeping with D-1.01, “Preamble to Church Discipline,” that states:

The power that Jesus Christ has vested in his Church, a power manifested in the exercise of church discipline, is one for building up the body of Christ, not for destroying it, for redeeming, not for punishing. It should be exercised as a dispensation of mercy and not of wrath, so that the great ends of the Church may be achieved, that all children of God may be presented faultless in the day of Christ (D-1.01).

*** **

OVERTURE
From
Homestead Presbytery
To
227th General Assembly (2026)

Request for Authoritative Interpretation

RECOMMENDATION

The Homestead Presbytery respectfully overtures the 227th General Assembly (2026) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to issue an Authoritative Interpretation regarding the Church Discipline D-7.0901 on Allegations of Sexual Abuse:

What does the phrase “misuse of ordered ministry” include? Should it also be relevant to other forms of misconduct?

RATIONALE

In a recent disciplinary case, the Permanent Judicial Commission of Homestead Presbytery was called upon to reckon with a case of misuse of ordered ministry. Since “misuse of ordered ministry” was listed in D-7.0901 as a sole condition to support an allegation of sexual abuse, the PJC wrestled with this definition of sexual abuse given the circumstances of this particular case.

Homestead Presbytery has attempted to parse out this issue with our overture amending D-7.0901 of the Church Discipline.

The phrase “misuse of ordered ministry” is only used in the Book of Order in this one context of Allegations of Sexual Abuse; but is that the only context in which misuse of ordered ministry is relevant? Can it not be used for cases of financial abuse or abuse of power and authority or other actions contrary to the Scriptures and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)?

Therefore, we feel it important to seek formal clarification on what “misuse of ordered ministry or position” includes within our Church Discipline. We respectfully request an Authoritative Interpretation to guide our understanding.

*** **