

(Preliminary minutes – subject to approval by Presbytery of Lake Huron)

PRESBYTERY OF LAKE HURON
Stated Meeting – September 16, 2025

The Presbytery of Lake Huron was called to order with prayer by the Moderator, Beth Asperger, at 9:45 a.m., on Tuesday, September 16, 2025 at Fairgrove Presbyterian Church, Fairgrove, Michigan.

The roll was taken, and the moderator announced that a quorum was present.
[ATTACHMENT A]

Welcoming of new commissioners was held.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to seat Chip Hardwick (Miami Valley) as a Corresponding Member.

Beth Asperger gave a welcome from the church.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS was requested.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to refer to Council the request that the General Assembly Co-Moderators and Stated Clerk be invited to a future meeting of presbytery.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to adopt the docket as amended.

WORSHIP was led by the Presbytery's Pastors To Pastors, Brenna Overland and Joseph Novak.

The **OFFERING** taken will be given to Ministerial Alliance of Fairgrove.

A short break was taken after worship.

The **COMMISSION ON MINISTRY AND MINISTRY PREPARATION** was given by Dawn Russell and Robbie Carnes.

The Commission on Ministry and Ministry Preparation presented the following items and presbytery approved.

1. In regard to Nikelle Johnson:

- a. On behalf of Blackhawk Presbytery, the Commission presented Nikelle Johnson to be examined for ordination. She was examined on the floor of presbytery and MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve her as Ready To Be Ordained.

- b. Following a successful examination of Ms. Johnson and on behalf of Blackhawk Presbytery, MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve an Administrative Commission for Ordination for 3 PM Sunday, September 21, 2025 at Bay City Westminster Presbyterian Church. Members of the Commission are:

Moderator and Elder Beth Asperger, Fairgrove, chair

Rev. Jamie Milton

Rev. Matthew Schramm

Rev. Christina Jensen

Elder Faith Sneller, Bay City Westminster

Elder Ed Savage, Birch Run Taymouth

Elder Ann Moe, Midland Memorial

2. That the Presbytery Minimum Terms of Call for 2026 be set as 75% of the 2025 Board of Pensions Median effective salary of \$70,000. Minimum Terms of Call for 2026 for the presbytery would be \$52,500 ($70,000 \times 0.75$). [ATTACHMENT B]

The commission reported that it took the following actions on behalf of the presbytery:

3. Enrolled Justice Cuddie as an Inquirer Under Care of the Presbytery.
4. Directed the Stated Clerk to transfer the membership of Cathy Chang to North Central California Presbytery.
5. Dissolved the call of Kate Morrison as Pastor of Flint-Trinity United and to end her contract with Grand Blanc-Kirkridge as of October 15, 2025 and to direct the Stated Clerk to transfer her membership when requested.
6. Appointed Ted McCulloch as Moderator of Saginaw-Second.
7. Appointed Mark Morningstar as Moderator of Breckenridge-Emerson.
8. Appointed Mark Morningstar as the Moderator of Uby-First's annual congregational meeting.

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9. Approved the CRE Covenant renewal between Elder Shaun Hardimon and Swartz Creek-Mundy for a period of one year effective August 11, 2025. Terms of call are as follows:

Cash Salary	\$150/preaching session and \$50/moderating session meeting
Travel Reimbursement	At IRS rate
Vacation Time	4 Weeks including 4 Sundays
Study Leave Time	2 Weeks including 2 Sundays
The Rev. Robbie Carnes will continue to serve as his mentor.	

10. Approved the contract renewal between Elder Bonnie Rapson and Deckerville-First effective September 11, 2025 for a period of one year. Terms are as follows:

Cash Salary	\$850/month (35 hours per month)
Travel Reimbursement	At IRS rate
Other	\$300
Continuing Education	\$1000
Book Allowance	\$500
Vacation Time	4 weeks including 4 Sundays
Study Leave Time	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Family Medical Leave	12 weeks
The Rev. Christina Jensen will continue to serve as her mentor.	

Kate Morrison was thanked for her ministry to Flint-Trinity United, Grand Blanc-Kirkridge and the presbytery. She has accepted a new call that will begin in November.

The **STATED CLERK'S REPORT** was given by Ted McCulloch. The Stated Clerk recommended, and presbytery approved:

1. The minutes of the June 3, 2025 Presbytery meeting

The Stated Clerk presented the following items for information:

2. Schedule of the remaining 2025 Presbytery meetings:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Host</u>
December 2, 2025**	Flushing

**Invitations are being accepted for 2026. Check with the Stated Clerk about the proposed dates for meetings. A reminder that the March Presbytery meeting is by Zoom and so would need a virtual host. We encourage invitations from churches that otherwise would not be able to host Presbytery.

March 7	Zoom only meeting. Virtual host needed
June 2	Linden Presbyterian Church
September 15	OPEN
December 1	OPEN

3. Sexual Misconduct Boundary Training will be provided in-person on Tuesday, September 30 at Bay City First OR on Wednesday, October 1 at Mt. Pleasant First from 10 AM to 2 PM. Attendance is needed for only one day, not both. Led by Rev. Fran Lane-Lawrence, the Synod of the Covenant Stated Clerk and Stated Clerk and Presbytery Leader for Lake Michigan Presbytery, this will satisfy the required Book of Order training for sexual misconduct. Also very suitable for church staff members as well as elders in our congregations. Register on the Presbytery website here: <http://www.presbylh.org/registrations/sexual-misconduct-training-registration/>
4. Session Minutes Reviews are being scheduled. The dates and locations are as follows:
 - Monday, October 13: 9 AM until Noon at the Presbytery Office***
 - Saturday, October 18: 9 AM until Noon at Flushing Presbyterian (no sign up needed)
 - Monday, October 27: 9 AM until Noon at the Presbytery Office***
 - Saturday, November 1: 9 AM until Noon at Elkton-Chandler (no sign up needed)

*** Registration is required. Please sign up on Presbytery website for a time slot here: <http://www.presbylh.org/registrations/records-review/>

A report on the **NEXT CHURCH NATIONAL GATHERING** in November was given by Staci Percy. Everyone was invited to attend the event being held in Grand Rapids, November 11-14. Council is giving anyone who registers a \$200 discount. Contact Staci Percy for the code to use at registration.

The **SYNOD OF THE COVENANT** report was given by Chip Hardwick, Synod Executive.

A break for **LUNCH** was taken following prayer by Chip Hardwick.

The Vice Moderator, Paul Pfeuffer, assumed the chair.

The **NOMINATING TEAM** report was given by Linda Graham.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to elect the following:

2026 Moderator of the Presbytery	Rev. Paul Pfeuffer
2026 Vice Moderator of the Presbytery	Elder Linda Kennan (Midland Memorial)

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to elect the following:

Clergy Commissioner to the 2026 General Assembly	Rev. Andrew Miller
Elder Commissioner to the 2026 General Assembly	Elder Linda Kennan (Midland Memorial)

The **PRESBYTERY COUNCIL** report was given by Matt Schramm.

Council presented and presbytery approved the following items:

1. Regarding the Presbytery Office:
 - a. Move the office of the Presbytery to a virtual office beginning on January 1, 2026.
 - b. Grant the Trustees the permission to reach an agreement with the Nanum Presbyterian Church on possible needed building modifications and possible financial transitional support for 2026. Said agreement would be brought to the Presbytery at its December 2, 2025 meeting. If approved, funds would be used from the Designated Use Account #21487 Presbytery Office Maintenance Fund.

Members of the Virtual Office Task Force were Rev. Ted McCulloch, Stated Clerk; Rev. Andrew Miller, Mt. Pleasant First; Rev. Kate Morrison, Flint Trinity/Grand Blanc Kirkridge. After several meetings, the Task Force proposed that the current Presbytery office in the Nanum Presbyterian Church, Saginaw, be closed and the Presbytery operate a virtual office.

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- Set the Presbytery portion of the 2026 Per Capita assessment at \$20.34 per active member. This would make the Presbytery of Lake Huron overall Per Capita rate to be as follows:

	<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>	
Presbytery	\$20.34	\$16.45	+\$3.89
Synod	\$ 3.40	\$ 3.40	Unchanged
<u>General Assembly</u>	<u>\$11.26</u>	<u>\$10.84</u>	<u>+ \$0.42</u>
TOTAL	\$35.00	\$30.69	+ \$4.31

The Presbytery does not set the rates for Synod and General Assembly.

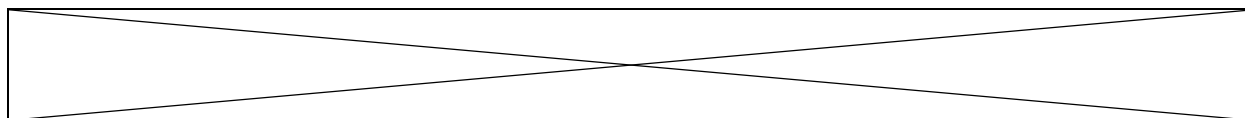
Council reported the following for information:

- Report of the Presbytery Funding Work Group: Members are Elder Beth Asperger, Fairgrove & Presbytery Moderator; Rev. Glenn Grant; Elder Trish Martin, Midland Memorial; Rev. Mark Morningstar; Rev. Dawn Russell. Ex Officio Members: Rev. Ted McCulloch; Rev. Dr. Joseph Novak; Jessica Schira, Financial Secretary; Elder Roger Scovill, Saginaw Countryside Trinity. Future plans will be brought to the Presbytery.
- Designation of the meeting offering will be for the Ministerial Alliance of Fairgrove, an ecumenical group of clergy that provides emergency assistance in a variety of ways.
- Available \$200 discount to each clergy and ruling elder to attend the NEXT Church National Gathering to be held on November 11-14, 2025 in Grand Rapids, MI. Approximately 20 persons may attend. Funds from Designated Use Account Leadership Training will be used to cover costs.

The meeting was adjourned following prayer by Paul Pfueffer at 1:05pm. The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Lake Huron is scheduled to be held on December 2, 2025 at Flushing Presbyterian Church, Flushing, Michigan beginning at 9:30 a.m.

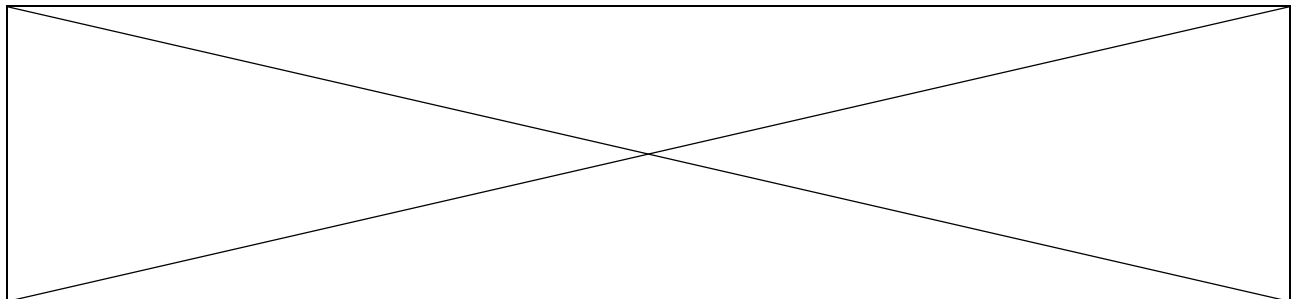
Respectfully Submitted,

Ted McCulloch
Stated Clerk



ATTACHMENT A – Attendance

NAME OF MINISTER	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>	NAME OF MINISTER	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Ahn, Daniel (HR)		1		Morningstar, Mark (HR)	1		
Asperger, Nathaniel	1			Morrison, Kate	1		
Becker, John (HR)		1		Neumann, Jim (HR)	1		
Blackburn, David (HR)		1		Neuville, Donald (HR)		1	
Blatt, Karen (HR)	1			Novak, Joseph	1		
Borycz, Edward (HR)		1		Overland, Brenna	1		
Browne, Roger (HR)		1		Park, Dong Won (HR)		1	
Carnes, Lindsey		1		Parker, Kenneth (HR)		1	
Carnes, Robbie	1			Pekich-Bundy, Katrina		1	
Chambers, Janice (HR)		1		Pfeuffer, Paul	1		
Chang, Catherine		1		Pickrell, Brooke		1	
Cunningham, Bruce (HR)		1		Piper, Brant (HR)		1	
Emrich, Robert (HR)		1		Piper, Leslie (HR)		1	
Eshelman, David (HR)		1		Russell, Dawn	1		
Estell, Ruth		1		Saperstein, Dan (HR)		1	
Evans-Justin, Mary Anne (HR)		1		Schramm, Matt	1		
Graham, Linda	1			Shafer, Hal	1		
Grant, Glenn (HR)	1			Shugert, Stephen (HR)		1	
Grimes, Ronald (HR)		1		Sickelka, Susan		1	
Hand, Sue	1			Smith, Wesley		1	
Irish, Dennis		1		Snyder, Noel		1	
Jensen, Christina	1			Stilwell, Elizabeth		1	
Kim, Do Hyeong		1		Strunz, Kim	1		
Kroener, Scott	1			Swihart, Dale (HR)		1	
Lawther, Rich (HR)		1		Taylor, Robert (HR)		1	
Lee, Hoon Koo		1		Thomas, Chris		1	
Ludwig, Michael	1			Todd, Cassie	1		
Marquardt, Charles (HR)		1		Williams, Linda		1	
Mayton, Wally		1		Wright, William		1	
McCulloch, Ted	1			Young, Jane		1	
Miller, Andrew	1			Ytterock, Paul	1		
Milton, Jamie	1						
Moody, Chris		1					
Moon, Hakbae		1					
				Total Present	24		
				Total Excused	41		
				Total Absent	0		



ATTACHMENT A – Attendance (Continued)

NAME OF CHURCH	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Elder Commissioner(s) Present</u>
Alma-First	1		Sue Malone
Bay City-First		1	
Bay City-Westminster	1		Patrick Duggan
Beaverton		1	
Birch Run	1		Edward Savage
Breckenridge		1	
Caro	1		Frederick Overdier
Cass City-First	1		Suzy Rockwell
Cass City-Fraser	1		Mark Battel
Croswell		1	
Davison		1	
Deckerville		1	
Elkton-Chandler	1		Pat Duever
Fairgrove	1		Beth Asperger
Fenton-First		1	
Fenton-Tyrone		1	
Flint-First	1	1	Linda Gibbs
Flint-Trinity United	1		Georgia McCall
Flint-Unity		1	
Flushing	1		Michael Keeler
Grand Blanc-Kirkridge		1	
Harbor Beach		1	
Holly	1		Jim Lyles
Houghton Lake		1	
Ithaca-First		1	
Ithaca-Lafayette		1	
Kinde-First	1		Bill Malett
Lapeer		1	
Linden		1	
Marlette-First		1	
Marlette-Second		1	
Midland-Memorial	1	1	Trish Martin
Mt. Pleasant		1	
Rosebush		1	
Saginaw-Countryside Trinity	1		Roger Scovill
Saginaw-First	1		Janie Gugino
Saginaw-Michigan Nanum		1	
Saginaw-Second	1		Kathryn Myers
Sandusky		1	
Swartz Creek		1	
Tawas	1		Elaine Brown
Twining		1	
Ubley		1	
Vassar		1	
Yale		1	
Total Present	18		
Total Represented	18		
Total Not Represented	27		

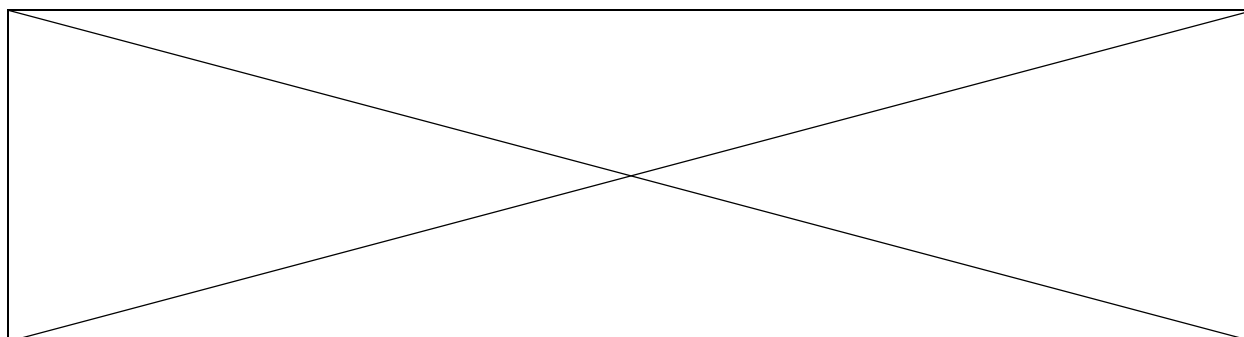
ATTACHMENT A – Attendance (Continued)

ELDER MEMBERS	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Beth Asperger (Presby Mod) ***			
Adam Engel (Trustee)			1
Janie Gugino (Council) ***			
Chuck Hewitt (Trustee)			1
Sue McClary (Trustee)			1
Martha Miller (CCE)			1
Ed Savage (Council) ***			
Roger Scovill (Treasurer) ***			
Tim Rutzen (Trustee)			1
Total Elder Members	0	0	5

*** Signed in as Elder Commissioner, did not count here

COMMISSIONED RULING ELDERS	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Jon Baker			1
Jon Essex			1
Mark Garavaglia	1		
Shaun Hardimon			1
Bonnie Rapson	1		
Chris Wolf	1		
CRE Attending	3		
CRE Not Attending	0		
CRE Excused	3		

CATEGORY	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Members of Presbytery	24	0	41
Corresponding Members	1		
Commissioned Ruling Elders	3	0	3
Church Commissioners	18	27	
Elder Members	0	0	5
Visitors (Including LHP Staff)	5		
Total People in Attendance	51		
Churches represented	18		
Churches not represented	27		



ATTACHMENT B –2026 Proposed Minimum Terms of Call

MINIMUM TERMS OF CALL 2026

For 2026, the minimum terms of call for the Presbytery of Lake Huron will include an effective salary of at least \$52,500. This is 75% of the 2025 Church Wide Median of \$70,000.

Minimum Terms of Call shall also include 4 weeks of vacation including 4 Sundays; 2 weeks of Study Leave including 2 Sundays and up to 12 weeks of family leave. All of these various times off apply whether full-time or part-time, whether installed, temporary or CRE status.

For family leave, the congregation and/or pastor can contact COMMP for both planning and to access possible assistance with the costs to the congregation for family leave.

Medical and Pension Benefits

It is a long-standing value of the Presbyterian Church USA and our Presbytery that those who serve as ministers or pastors have their entire households, including spouses and dependents, provided with medical insurance. In 2025, it is the expectation of Presbytery that this continue to be one of our core values. No pastor should have to worry about whether their spouse and/or dependents are covered from medical events that can strike any one, at any time.

That coverage can be provided in a variety of ways.

For those in an installed call, either full-time or part-time: Participation in the Board of Pensions' Pastor Participation Plan is still required by the Book of Order in the following manner:

Pension and Income Assistance Programs - 10% of effective salary

Medical Coverage (installed pastor only) 17.5% of effective salary

TOTAL for Full-time Installed Pastor **only** 27.5% of effective salary

** for 2026 and 2027, participation in the Traditional Plan is available as a percentage of effective salary and covers pastor, spouse, and dependents. For 2026, for pension and medical, that totals 47% of effective salary. That effective salary percentage increases at a minimum, to 51% in 2027. It could be higher.

For those in a full-time, temporary position (interims/stated supply)

Pension and Income Assistance Programs 10% of effective salary

Medical Coverage (for pastor only) Coverage provided either through a Board of Pensions program or marketplace equivalent, with the concurrence of COMMP.

For the spouse and dependents of all full-time clergy, installed or temporary

Medical Coverage for spouse and dependents shall be provided by the congregation either through a Board of Pensions program or equivalent (whether government sponsored like Medicare or provided by a spouse's employer or purchased on the open market) with the concurrence of COMMP.

For part-time, non-installed service or those serving as Commissioned Pastors, there is not a coverage requirement. But various options are available through the Board of Pensions and the marketplace. Talk with our Board of Pensions representative Luke Choi; or Jessica Schira, Presbytery Financial Secretary; or Ted McCulloch, Presbytery Stated Clerk on some of the different options available.