COMMISSION ON MINISTRY AND MINISTRY PREPARATION
Meeting Minutes – March 22, 2023

The meeting of the Commission on Ministry and Ministry Preparation was held via Zoom and called to order by Linda Kennan at 10:00 a.m., March 22, 2023, following devotions and prayer by Philomena Ofori-Nipaah.

Members present: Bill Bowen, Robbie Carnes, Janette Gonzales, Al Hosler, Christina Jensen, Linda Kennan, Scott Kroener, Rob Minard, Brant Piper, Andrew Pomerville, Philomena Ofori-Nipaah, Ed Savage, Kim Strunz, John Tapley, Cassie Todd, Jane Young and Paul Ytterock.

Presbytery staff present: Ted McCulloch, Stated Clerk and Staci Percy, Communications Manager/Recording Clerk.

Members excused: Jon Baker and Lynn Franko.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve the agenda as amended.

The **INTERVIEW TEAM** report was given by Scott Kroener. An update was given on the status of interviews that need to be done.

- Completed interviews:
    - Philomena Ofori-Nipaah
    - Brooke Pickrell
- Interviews scheduled/need to be scheduled:
    - Glenn Grant (Scheduled)
    - Chris Thomas of Detroit Presbytery (Scheduled)
    - Leigh Holder (Trying to schedule)
    - Sessions of:
        - Grand Blanc-Kirkridge (Need to be scheduled)
        - Holly (Need to be scheduled)
        - Croswell-First (Need to be scheduled)

It was suggested that the team might want to meet with Nick Schmelter as well as the session of Caro-First.

Discussion was held regarding Brooke Pickrell and Holly.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2023 stated meeting.

The **STATED CLERK REPORT** was given by Ted McCulloch. An update on the status of GA Amendment voting by presbyteries was given. It appears that all will pass.

It was reported that the feedback from the presbytery meeting regarding the length of the meeting was very positive despite the meeting running 45 minutes past the anticipated end time. Attendees like the discussion regarding the amendment process and voting.

The **ADMINSTRATIVE TEAM** report was given by Ted McCulloch. Because the GA Amendments are all likely to pass, an in-depth discussion will need to be had regarding how to train sessions on boundary training and antiracism and what the consequences for clergy not completing training. A recommendation of a position description for COMMP Liaisons will be brought to the April meeting for discussion.

The **COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY** report was given by Robbie Carnes. It was noted that CPM approved a grant for Allison Muenzer. An update on the Inquirers and Candidates Under Care was given.

Discussion was held regarding CRE training. It was decided that a group would be formed to research and present training options for elders who are interested in becoming CREs. Robbie Carnes volunteered to be a part of that group. It was suggested that Chris Wolf be invited to either join or resource the group.

The **TRANSITION TEAM REPORT** was given by Linda Kennan. And update was given on:

- New CLC system changes
- Flint church partnership
- Thumb churches

GENERAL BUSINESS was given by Linda Kennan. It was noted that the new Pastors to Pastors, Brenna Overland and Joseph Novak, will sit in on COMMP meetings once a quarter. They have already been very busy contacting clergy.

It was noted that the motion held via email that was send out after the February meeting regarding appointing Glenn Grant to Moderator the congregational meeting of Ubly-First was approved.

It was noted that the Board of Pensions held a Zoom meeting to discuss coverage options for small churches.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to adjourn at 11:05pm following closing prayer Philomena Ofori-Nipaah. The next scheduled meeting of the Commission on Ministry and Ministry Preparation will be held Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at 10:00am via Zoom. John Tapley will lead devotions.

Staci Percy
Communications Manager/Recording Clerk