COMMISSION ON MINISTRY AND MINISTRY PREPARATION
Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2024

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., February 28, 2024, following devotions and prayer by Dawn Russell.

Members present: Robbie Carnes, Linda Gibbs, Janette Gonzales, Al Hosler, Christina Jensen, Linda Kennan, Rob Minard, Dawn Russell, Ed Savage, Kim Strunz, Cassie Todd and Jane Young.

Members excused: Jon Baker, Lynn Franko and Brant Piper.

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

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve the agenda.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2024 stated meeting.

The **STATED CLERK** report was given by Ted McCulloch. There will be numerous changes to the Board of Pensions plans. He and Jessica Schira, the presbytery's Financial Secretary, will be attending a conference hosted by the Board of Pensions in late April regarding this.

The **ADMINSTRATIVE TEAM** report was given by Dawn Russell.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve the following contracts:

1. The Pastoral Partnership Agreement between the Rev. Denny Irish, Vassar-First and First United Methodist Church of Vassar effective January 1, 2024 for a period of one year. Time expectations to Vassar-First is part-time (20 hours/week). As a Methodist minister, Rev. Irish be enrolled as a Temporary Member of Presbytery for the duration of his ministry at Vassar-First. The following are the terms for Vassar-First's portion of his salary and funds will be paid to Vassar-First United Methodist on a monthly basis.

Salary	$36,700/annum ($3,058/month) (Vassar-First's portion; Total is $73,400/annum)
Housing	Included in salary paid to V-FUMC
Medical	Included in salary paid to V-FUMC
Continuing Education	Included in salary paid to V-FUMC
Travel Reimbursement	Included in salary paid to V-FUMC
Vacation Time	4 weeks including 4 Sundays
Study Leave	2 weeks including 2 Sundays

2. The part-time (35 hours/month) Temporary Relationship Covenant between the Rev. Chris Thomas and Holly effective March 15, 2024 for a period of one year. Terms are as follows:

Housing	$1,000/month
Travel Reimbursement	At current IRS Rate
Vacation Time	4 weeks including 4 Sundays
Study Leave Time	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Family Leave	Twelve weeks
Study Leave Allowance	$650/year
Professional Expenses	$500/year

3. The part-time CRE contract between Elder Jon Essex and Beaverton effective March 1, 2024 for a period of six months. Terms are as follows:

Salary	$375/Sunday service
Moderate Session Mtgs	$50/meeting
Vacation Allowance	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Family Leave	Up to 12 weeks

   - Moderate session and congregational meetings
   - Administer the sacraments
   - Conduct weddings, funerals and baptisms as needed

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to appoint Brant Piper as Moderator of Session and congregational meetings for Caro-First.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to appoint Dawn Russell as Moderator of Session for Twining-Maple Ridge.

Discussion was held regarding the status of COMMP liaisons.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to appoint the Transition Team to act as the liaisons for COMMP and that a letter will be sent to all Clerks of Session with their contact information. Staci Percy will also be listed as a contact for the presbytery staff.

The **TRANSITION/INTERVIEW TEAM** report was given by Linda Kennan. It was reported that the team interviewed Chris Thomas and have an interview scheduled with Jon Essex.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED if the way be clear pending an interview with the Transition Team to approve Elder Jon Essex as Commissioned Ruling Elder of Beaverton.

An update on Saginaw-Countryside was given.

The **COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION** report was given by Robbie Carnes. It was noted that Nikelle Johnson will be presented at the March stated meeting of presbytery to move from Inquirer to Candidate status and that Wes Smith is working on his ordination service.

Discussion was held regarding the Synod's preaching grant. It is geared towards CREs and pulpit supply but also new clergy who may want to work on their preaching skills. It is a two-year program that the Synod would like 3-4 people from each presbytery to participate. A representative will give a detailed presentation at the March stated meeting of presbytery.

An update on CRE training was given.

It was noted that both Nikelle Johnson and Nathaniel Asperger plan to take their ordination exams this spring.

Members were reminded that the March meeting has been moved up a week to March 20th to avoid meeting during Holy Week.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to adjourn at 10:45am following closing prayer by Dawn Russell. The next scheduled meeting of the Commission on Ministry and Ministry Preparation will be held Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 10:00am via Zoom. Brant Piper will lead devotions.

Staci Percy
Communications Manager/Recording Clerk