

HOMESTEAD PRESBYTERY
ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-THIRD STATED MEETING

November 16, 2017

First Presbyterian Church
Nebraska City, NE

Moderator — Ruling Elder Steve Pointon

All Times Approximate Except Lunch which is Order of the Day

- 10:00 A.M. PRESBYTERY CONVENES:Ruling Elder Steve Pointon
Call to Order
Opening Prayer
Declaration of Quorum,
Adoption of Docket, **COUNCIL MOTION**
Seating of corresponding members
Welcome of first time commissioners
Presentation of Consent Agenda;
Welcome by the host **HOST LETTER**
- 10:20 A.M. WORSHIP.....
- 11:20 A.M. EDUCATIONAL HOUR Teenage Life from Israel to Nebraska, Maria Muallim
Suicide: Personal, Pastoral, Congregational, and Theological, Jerry Albright
What Would Jesus Do to Respond to Climate Change, Kenneth Winston
- 12:20 P.M. RECESS FOR LUNCH. A reminder that at each table will be a can for the
“Two-Cents-A-Meal” (Cents-ability) hunger program of the PC(U.S.A.)
CONSENT AGENDA **CONSENT AGENDA**
- 1:20 P.M. GOOD NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES
- 1:30 P.M. PRESBYTERY RECONVENES: Prayer
OUTSTANDING HOMESTEADER AWARD
- 1:40 P.M. OFFICERS AND STAFF REPORT
Moderator
Treasurer
Executive Presbyter
Stated Clerk **REPORT**
Synod Commissioner **REPORT**
- 1:55 P.M. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE..... Andy McDonald
ELECTION OF STATED CLERK
- 2:05 P.M. BUSINESS AND BUDGET **BUDGET** Scott Eveland
- 2:20 P.M. COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY **REPORT** Steve Piper
- 2:30 P.M. COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY **REPORT** Brian Johnson
- 2:40 P.M. NEW WORSHIPING COMMUNITIESKylie Meter
- 2:50 P.M. NOMINATING COMMITTEE..... Duncan Nichol
- 3:00 P.M. PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN Terri Sherman

3:05 P.M. PROGRAMS AND GRANTS
3:15 P.M. NEW BUSINESS
3:20 P.M. INSTALLATION OF MODERATOR LEANNE MASTERS
3:35 P.M. ADJOURN WITH PRAYER



Date: November 16, 2017

COUNCIL MOTION

Recommendation: amend the motion previously adopted, “that Homestead Presbytery set aside a portion of the Thursday, November 16, 2017 presbytery meeting to hold a ‘town hall’ meeting, led by presbytery council.” The amendment is to replace the words “Thursday, November 16, 2017,” with the words, “Thursday, May 17, 2018.”

The amended motion then is “that Homestead Presbytery set aside a portion of the Thursday, May 17, 2018, meeting to hold a ‘town hall’ meeting led by the presbytery council.”

Background: Council felt it would be best to utilize an independent facilitator to help process feedback and discern goals.



First Presbyterian Church

1005 FIRST CORSO
NEBRASKA CITY, NE 6841-2324
PHONE (402) 873-5306

Nebraska City, NE 68410-2324

October 5, 2017

Following our Vision Statement (below) we reach out to welcome the members of Homestead Presbytery. We are actively seeking a designated pastor to fill our pulpit soon. We look forward to worshipping with Homestead Presbytery during the fall harvest season in Nebraska City. Once the meeting is complete, you may want to visit a local orchard to take apples and other treats home with you.

Sincerely,

Julie Hopp

Julie Hopp, Clerk of Session

Striving to reflect the light of Christ, we seek to plant new seeds envisioning a harvest of God's fruits of faith, hope, and love.

Our passionate, loving, and faithful members reach out, nurturing an environment recognizing everyone's God-given gifts and skills. We create an atmosphere of trust by valuing diversity and openness, accepting and welcoming all as beloved children of God.

Illuminated by the Holy Spirit, we serve by providing for the needs of those outside our walls, supporting and ministering to those within our walls, and taking action exhibiting the kingdom of God together with our neighbors.





CONSENT AGENDA

Date of Meeting: November 16, 2017

From the Committee on Ministry:

1. That the request of the Rev. Duncan Nichol to be Honorably Retired effective January 31, 2018, be approved.
2. That the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Duncan Nichol and Tekamah First Presbyterian Church be dissolved effective January 31, 2018.
3. That the request of Eastridge Presbyterian Church to eliminate the position of Associate Pastor for Youth and Families be approved.

From the stated clerk:

1. Shall Homestead Presbytery concur with the overture from the Presbytery of Central Nebraska to add to the *Book of Order*, G.211 Certified Church Service, the Administrative Personnel Association.



STATED CLERK

REPORT TO PRESBYTERY

Date of Meeting: November 16, 2017

1. The memberships of James A Atkins and Sandra K Atkins, members of the Bethany Presbyterian Church, Carroll, Nebraska, were transferred to Montgomery Presbyterian Church, Savannah, GA. The Bethany Church was dissolved in 2011.
2. The online reporting of the annual statistical report will be open on December 1, 2017. Deadline for these reports is February 1, 2018. Please remind your session clerks to complete these reports. Each church's per capita is based on this report.
3. Session records reviews have been conducted in North Bend, Wayne, and Auburn. There will be two more reviews on Saturday, November 18: Heritage Presbyterian Church, Lincoln, 10:00 AM, and First Presbyterian Church, Beatrice, 2:00 PM. If your church records have not yet been reviewed, Beatrice is your last chance!
4. The Presbytery of Central Nebraska has asked Homestead Presbytery to concur on their overture to add the Administrative Personnel Association as a certified church service in the *Book of Order*, G-2.11.

September 12, 2017
Rev Richard O Wyatt, Executive
Homestead Presbytery
850 S 17th St
Lincoln, NE 68508-3411

Re: Concurrence of G. 2.1104 Administrative Personnel Association (APA) Overture

Attachment: G.2.1104 Administrative Personnel Association (APA) Overture

Dear Rev Wyatt,

On June 24, 2017, the Presbytery of Central Nebraska approved during its stated meeting to present the enclosed Overture to the 223rd General Assembly developed by the Administrative Personnel Association (PCUSA).

The mission of APA is to offer the opportunity for professional development and personal growth for those called by God to serve as support staff of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and those denominations with whom we are in with full communion. The mission is accomplished by providing continuing education events for certification, and occasions for fellowship, worship and spiritual nurture and prayer at both National and Regional meetings, as well as APA, sponsored training events.

Before the changes made to the form of government, the Administrative Personnel Association had been recognized previously by General Assembly, and under the former section G- 14.0740 APA had been affiliated with the Office of Vocation and had a PCUSA staff liaison. APA had also been listed in the directory and Book II. However, after NFOG was approved APA was lost in translation and continue to struggle to be specifically identified by the Presbyterian Church (USA) for their service and dedication to the larger church.

Concurrence from other PCUSA entities strengthens the hearing that a presbytery overture will receive by the General Assembly; therefore, we ask Homestead to concur before the deadline, February 16, 2018. This Overture has been offered to bring recognition to the Administrative Personnel Association (APA) for their 42 years of service and dedication to the larger church and to visibly identify them as a certified body in the Book of Order.

We thank you for your time to communicate this information, and the Presbytery of Central Nebraska would like to thank the Homestead for their consideration for concurring with the G.2.1104 Administrative Personnel Association (APA) overture.

Sincerely,

Ray Meester
Temporary Stated Clerk
Presbytery of Central Nebraska

Angie Palmer
National President-Elect
Administrative Personnel Association

The Presbytery of Central Nebraska overtures the 223rd General Assembly to add to G.211 Certified Church Service the following:

G. 2.1104 Administrative Personnel Association (APA)

Administrative Personnel Association (APA) certified persons have been called to service within particular churches, governing bodies, and church-related entities. These individuals endeavor to reflect their faith through their work and to strengthen the church through their dedication with the purpose to improve the quality of professionalism and to affirm the ministry of the lay church professional.

Members of the Administrative Personnel Association (APA) include secretaries, administrative assistants, bookkeepers, and support staff in church-related settings.

Certification is overseen and granted by the Administrative Personnel Association; the requirements for certification are reported to the appropriate body of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. A formal liaison relationship will be developed between the Presbyterian Mission Agency and the Administrative Personnel Association.

a. Skills and Training

Certified Administrative Personnel Assistants are persons certified and called to service in the ministry of church administration in congregations and councils. They shall have skills and training in church polity, church history, reformed theology, spiritual growth and discipline, office administration, Directory for Worship, Book of Confessions, General Assembly Entities and other areas of professional development beneficial to the church.

b. Councils Responsibility

The presbytery shall affirm the skill and dedication of these certified persons by providing for recognition at presbytery at the time of their certification and by inviting certified employees to presbytery meetings, granting them the privilege of the floor with voice only at all presbytery meetings, and in the case of Certified APA members who are ruling elders, the privilege of voice and vote at all its meetings.

Names of those who have earned certification through APA shall be transmitted to the Presbyterian Mission Agency, which will forward them to the Office of the General Assembly and to the Stated Clerk of the presbyteries in which those persons labor.

RATIONALE

A request from twelve women attending a business administration course at the Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, VA laid the groundwork for a professional organization to be created. In 1976 the Administrative Personnel Association was founded by Joyce Bauer and in almost 42 years APA has expanded to 8 regions which include all 50 states with a membership of 254 representing churches of all sizes, including those denominations we are with communion, presbyteries, synods, and the different agencies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

APA defines its active members as all persons engaged in administrative work in any local church or church-related institution, governing body or agency of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), or those denominations with which we have communion.

APA is ruled by the body but leads by the Executive Board and Council. Our Executive Board is made up of elected officials to include the president, president-elect, immediate past-president, certification chair, membership chair, secretary, and treasurer. The Council is composed of the following: The National Executive Board, all Regional Presidents, and National Conference Planning Chair.

The mission of APA is to offer the opportunity for professional development and personal growth for those called by God to serve as support staff of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and those denominations we are with communion. The mission is accomplished by providing continuing education events for certification, and occasions for fellowship, worship and spiritual nurture and prayer at both National and Regional meetings, as well as, APA sponsored training events.

We offer three levels of certification with the opportunity to receive recognition for every 50 hours of continuing education beyond level 3. Our members may also receive an additional certificate in Concentrated Studies in Polity, Communications, Administration and Facilities Management, Theology, Church History, and Finance after completing another 25 hours in each of these areas of studies. Approved instructors are required to teach the requested amount of time for the class. Approval is given by our Certification Chair. The Council on Accreditation and Standards reviews the levels to ensure the classes being taught are current with what is happening in the church and office administration. Elective hours include conflict management, designing for communication, technology classes, financial matters, and other classes that provide professional growth and understanding of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Below explains the breakdown for each level.

LEVEL I Core Courses

Church History (Part 1)	2.5 hours
Church History (Part 2)	2.5 hours
Polity 1 (Part 1)	2.5 hours
Polity 1 (Part 2)	2.5 hours
Office Administration	2.5 hours
Spiritual Growth and Discipline	2.5 hours
Theology – Christian Perspectives of the Church (Part 1)	2.5 hours
Theology (Part 2)	2.5 hours
Total Core Hours	20 hours
Total Elective Hours	20 hours
Total Hours Required	40 hours

LEVEL II Core Courses

Directory for Worship	2.5 hours
Legal Matters	2.5 hours
PC(USA) History Since Reunion (Part 1)	2.5 hours
PC(USA) History Since Reunion (Part 2)	2.5 hours

Polity II	2.5 hours
Office Administration	2.5 hours
Spiritual Growth and Discipline	2.5 hours
Total Core Hours	17.5 hours
Total Elective Hours	27.5 hours
Total Hours Required	45 hours

LEVEL III Core Courses

Book of Confessions	2.5 hours
GA Entities	2.5 hours
Polity III	2.5 hours
Office Administration	2.5 hours
Spiritual Growth and Discipline	2.5 hours
Total Core Hours	12.5 hours
Total Elective Hours	37.5 hours
Total Hours Required	50 hours

The current reading of the Book of Order is too vague and places us in a category of “other”. Before the changes made to the form of government, APA had been recognized previously by General Assembly, and under the former section G- 14.0740 we had been affiliated with the Office of Vocation and had a PCUSA staff liaison. We had also been listed in the directory and Book II. However, after NFOG was approved, we were lost in translation and had struggled since to be specifically identified by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for our service and dedication to the larger church.

The Administrative Personnel Association continues to struggle with being identified as a Presbyterian Church U.S.A. organization because there is no defined line connecting us to the larger church. Even though we are currently recognized as a certified body by the larger church, it still does not identify that we are PCUSA. As a result, this continues to put into question the status of our 501c3 status.

The lack of support and recognition from our leaders within the larger church that do not know or choose not to recognize our existence has also impacted the long lasting relationship between APA and the PCUSA church.

Therefore, we ask that after 42 years of service to the church that we are again specifically named and recognized in the Book of Order for our support and commitment to belonging to the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.



SYNOD COMMISSIONER

REPORT TO PRESBYTERY

Date of Meeting: November 16, 2017

Our fall meeting was held October 1-3, at Camp Olivet in MN. The Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson II was our guest speaker. “He doesn’t have a message of despair for Presbyterians. He says the Church is not dead, dying or despairing but it is reforming. But because the church is reforming, the work is challenging.” Nelson is not one to retreat from a challenge and not one to allow others to retreat. Congregations need to look to their strengths and their resources. Nelson said, “The question is **“how can we use what we have for what’s best for the kingdom?”**”

We installed Rev. April Davis Cambell from the Twin Cities Presbytery to be Moderator and Rev. Dan Davis of Central NE to be Vice Moderator.

The Ecclesiastical Relations Committee approved grants for Pres House in Madison, WI Hillcrest Family Services in Dubuque, IA and Clearwater Forest. See the Synod Website for additional details.

The synod’s 2018 budget is slightly less than its revised 2017 budget. The 2018 budget approved by synod commissioners this month totals \$1.47 million in expenses, including nearly \$557,000 in partnership ministries, and ecumenical and institutional ministries. The revised budget for the current year totals \$1.49 million. The 2018 budget includes \$395,049 for council partnership funding, including \$246,030 in comprehensive presbytery support – or slightly more than \$16,000 for each of 15 presbyteries – and \$19,690 for Dakota Presbytery. **For more details go to the website under Committees.**

Membership continues decline The number of members of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in the Synod of Lakes and Prairies has continued its decline through 2016 and at the end of the year stood at 105,557 — a decline of 4.6 percent from the total at the end of 2015. Membership in the synod stood at 110,646 as of Dec.31, 2015. The number of churches within is 788. There were 808 churches at the end of 2015.

Synod School 2018 features Santos, Childers

When Synod School set a participation record in July — 686 was the mark — plans were already being developed for the 2018 midsummer ministry of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies. Next summer’s Synod School runs July 22-27 at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa. Jason Santos, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s coordinator for Christian formation and national director of UKirk, the denomination’s collegiate ministries network, will be convocation speaker. Noted for receiving rave reviews for leading seminars, Santos will explore what it means to dwell in holy rhythms, speaking on the theme, “Dance Joyfully Where’er You May Be.” The Rev. Dr. Jana L. Childers, dean of the seminary and vice president for academic affairs at San Francisco Theological Seminary, will lead evening worship. Childers, also a professor of

homiletics and speech communication, is a Presbyterian minister who served congregations in Kansas and New Jersey. A popular conference speaker who preaches often in national and international settings, Childers has been featured on the Hallmark channel's "Great Preachers" series. Santos will lead morning Taize prayers.

Synod moves into strategic planning Noting the completion of extensive revisions to the synod's policies and procedures, which make up the synod's Administrative Manual, Synod Executive Elona Street-Stewart told commissioners, "We move to the next chapter as we continue to develop a greater understanding of our calling as a synod ...in this region." That "next chapter" is the strategic planning process. "You're all a part of that," she said. "What factors make up the various layers and interconnections of our Presbyterian witness in the synod? What roles and responsibilities do each of us have that help the churches and presbyteries in our synod be more inviting, where leadership grows, mission thrives and strength grows as we build on change?" An important part of the process, Street-Stewart said, will be the collection of information "in order for the synod to be "in sync" with other institutions of the church, including priorities of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), other synods and presbyteries. She said, "We are very early in our process and have no predetermined end, but we do anticipate assembling diverse teams" to address processes, clarification of purpose, financial sustainability and administrative and personnel capacity.

Synod's online in more than 1 place You can find the Synod of Lakes and Prairies online at <http://www.lakesandprairies.org>. You can also find the synod on Facebook by going to Facebook.com — <http://www.facebook.com> and search for Synod of Lakes and Prairies. And if you tweet, the synod does @lakesprairies. You can read the synod's tweets at <http://www.twitter.com/lakesprairies>.

Joan Berglund, Commissioner to Synod .

September 21, 2017

BUSINESS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The committee met September 21, 2017, at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Lincoln, NE. Those attending were: Scott Eveland, moderator, Dick James, and Sally Wilhelm, Sec. Connie Stone was excused. Cheryl Rennick (Homestead treasurer) and Richard 'Doc' Wyatt (Homestead Executive Presbyter) were also in attendance.

The meeting was opened with prayer.

The budget amounts were discussed along with the fact the budget was not passed at the August Presbytery meeting. Some of the attending members insisted that the budget subject of Personnel be itemized with their amounts. The voting of the 2018 budget will not be passed until the November meeting. They did pass the per capita amount of \$40.00 per 2016 member reported to GA.

The Board of Camp Calvin Crest changed their insurance from Guide One Insurance to Brotherhood Insurance. It was also mentioned that the Camp Calvin Crest audit for the last two years needs to be included in the Presbytery minutes.

The Homestead Presbytery in-depth Review for 2016 will be included in the November Presbytery minutes.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

The next scheduled meeting is January 25, 2018, at 2 pm.

Dick James – Class of 2017 – 2nd term
Connie Stone – Class of 2019 – 2nd term
Sally Wilhelm- Class of 2018 - 2nd term

HOMESTEAD PRESBYTERY Unified Budget 2018

	2017 Approved Budget	2018 Recommended Budget	2018 PER CAPITA: \$40.00 PER MEMBER	
REVENUES		2017		
1-400100 Presbytery Per capita	\$ 205,266.82	197,924.42		
GA/Synod Per Capita	\$ 97,389.93	96,715.58		
1-400550 Synod Block Grant	\$ 20,250.00	16,402.00	2018	
1-400900 Interest	\$ 1,100.00	1,100.00	Membership 12/31/2016	7,366 Per Capita basis
2-410100 Unified Mission Receipts	\$ 134,688.00	124,000.00	GA	\$ 7.73 56,939.18
Total Revenues	\$ 458,695.64	436,142.00	Synod	\$ 5.40 39,776.40
			Presbytery	\$ 26.87 197,924.42
			Total per member	\$ 40.00 \$ 294,640.00
			Total	\$ 294,640.00
Personnel	\$ 186,948.25	193,493.14		
Total Personnel	\$ 186,948.25	193,493.14		
Operating Expenses				
Presbytery Operations				
Equipment Maintenance				
1-500210 Presbytery Equipment (office)	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 900.00		
1-500220 Presbytery Supplies (office)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 800.00		
1-500310 Telephone	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,800.00	Membership 12/31/2015	7,711 Per Capita basis
1-500320 Postage	\$ 300.00	\$ 150.00	GA	\$ 7.33 56,521.63
1-500330 Printed Material	\$ 150.00	\$ 200.00	Synod	\$ 5.30 40,868.30
1-500410 Pastoral Care	\$ 150.00	\$ -	Presbytery	\$ 26.62 205,266.82
1-500510 Professional Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 200.00	\$ 150.00	Total per member	\$ 39.25 \$ 302,656.75
1-500550 Bank Fees	\$ 420.00	\$ 300.00	Total	\$ 302,656.75
Credit card fees		\$ 50.00		
1-500610 Resource for Churches	\$ 950.00	\$ 150.00		
1-500620 Resources Subscriptions	\$ 60.00	\$ 100.00		
1-500800 - GA Commissioner Exp	\$ -	\$ 300.00		
1-510110 Council	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 500.00		
1-510112 Council & Committee Mileage Pool	\$ 600.00	\$ 750.00		
Child Care at Presbytery meeting		\$ 600.00		
1-510115 Presbytery Mtg Meal Expense	\$ 150.00	\$ 600.00		
1-618110 Communications - website	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,000.00		
Total Presbytery Operations	\$ 13,980.00	\$ 11,350.00		
Moderator				
1-501110 Moderator Conferences	\$ 1,500.00	1,500.00		
1-501120 Operations/Mileage	\$ 200.00	200.00		
Total Moderator	\$ 1,700.00	1,700.00		
Committee on Ministry				
1-510220 Committee Meetings	\$ 500.00	500.00		
1-510230 Liaison/Service to Churches	\$ 500.00	500.00		
1-510240 Training	\$ 200.00	200.00		
1-510250 Emergency Assistance Fund	\$ 1,000.00	1,000.00		
1-510260 Miscellaneous	\$ 100.00	100.00		
Total Committee on Ministry	\$ 2,300.00	2,300.00		
1-515110 Preparation for Ministry	\$ 8,000.00	7,000.00		
1-520110 Nominating	\$ -	-		
1-530110 PJC	\$ 1,000.00	1,000.00		
Total Other	\$ 9,000.00	8,000.00		
Business & Finance				
1-535110 Business & Finance	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		
1-535120 Presbytery Insurance	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00		
1-535130 Audit	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,700.00		
Bookkeeping/Records	\$ 3,600.00	-		
Total Business & Finance	\$ 20,150.00	16,750.00		
Per Capita				
1-600100 Synod Per Capita	\$ 40,868.30	39,776.40		
1-600110 GA Per Capita	\$ 56,521.63	56,939.18		
Total Per Capita	\$ 97,389.93	96,715.58		
Mission Support				
2-610100 GA Mission Support	\$ 6,075.00	6,200.00		
2-610120 Synod Mission Support	\$ 6,075.00	6,200.00		
2-611100 Calvin Crest Support	\$ 60,000.00	59,000.00		
2-614110 IMN Base Budget	\$ -	\$ 500.00		
G.A.I.N	\$ -	\$ -		
RURAL RESPONSE	\$ -	\$ 500.00		
2-614220 Pastors Winter School	\$ 1,500.00	-		
2-612510 Triennium	\$ 6,000.00	6,000.00		
Total	\$ 79,650.00	78,400.00		
Program & Grant Committee	\$ 32,000.00	30,000.00		

Total Expenses	\$ 443,118.18	438,708.72
NET GAIN(LOSS)	\$ 363.57	(2,566.72)



COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

REPORT TO PRESBYTERY

Date of Meeting: November 16, 2017

Reported by: Steve Piper, Moderator

SECTION A: Information background:

SECTION B: Actions taken/Decisions made:

1. Minimum effective salary for 2018 is \$46,400. This is set according to HP policy at 80% of the Board of Pensions denominational median salary for 2018 which will be \$58,000.
2. Approved the request of the Revs. Katie Barrett Todd and Mason Todd to be dismissed to Salem Presbytery effective August 24, 2017.
3. Approved request of Rev. Duncan Nichol to be Honorably Retired effective January 31, 2018. This will be recommended to Presbytery for approval.
4. Approved request of Eastridge Presbyterian Church to eliminate the position of Associate Pastor for Youth and Families. This will be recommended to Presbytery for approval.
5. Approved the terms of call for the Rev. Tom Osborne as stated supply for Steele City.
6. Approved the renewal of Lana Likens' commission with Alexandria.
7. Approved the continuation of the temporary relationship (stated supply) between the Rev. Lonnie Eschliman and Wahoo Czech.
8. Approved the appointment of the Rev. Martha Atkins to moderate the session of First and Bethany in O'Neill, NE, Presbytery of Central Nebraska.
9. Session moderator appointments since the March 29 COM meeting: Auburn – Duane Westing, Dunbar – Steve Piper, Humboldt – Duane Westing, Don Botic – Wahoo Czech.
10. The Rev. S. Stephen Niles, candidate for pastor Clarkson New Zion, was examined on April 30. His examination was sustained.
11. The following were approved by COM via e-mail since the March 29 COM meeting:
 - a. Approved on April 7 by electronic vote the separation agreement between the Rev. Mason Todd and Eastridge Presbyterian Church.
 - b. Approved on May 20 by electronic vote the terms of call for the Rev. S. Stephen Niles as pastor of Clarkson New Zion effective July 1.
 - c. Approved on June 1 by electronic vote the mission study of Beatrice First.
 - d. Approved with changes on August 26 by electronic vote the terms of call for the Rev. Tom Osborne as stated supply for Fairbury First United.
 - e. Approved on September 11 by electronic vote the MIF for Beatrice First.
 - f. Approved on October 9 by electronic vote the designated pastor MIF for Nebraska City First.
 - g. Approved on October 19 by electronic vote the request of the Rev. Duncan Nichol to dissolve his relationship with Tekamah First effective January 31, 2018. This will be recommended to Presbytery for approval.

12. For the record, below are the details of the previously approved 2017 terms of call for the Rev. S. Stephen Niles.

The New Zion Presbyterian Church of Clarkson belonging to Homestead Presbytery, being well satisfied with your qualification for ministry and confident that we have been led to you by the Holy Spirit as one whose service will be profitable to the spiritual interests of our church and fruitful for the Kingdom of our Lord, earnestly and solemnly calls you,

S. Stephen Niles
(name)
to undertake the office of
Pastor

of this congregation, beginning July 1, 2017 promising you in the discharge of your duty all proper support encouragement and allegiance in the Lord.

That you may be free to devote full-time part-time (circle one) to the ministry of Word and Sacrament among us, we promise and obligate ourselves to pay you in regular monthly payments the following effective salary and following vouchered expenses (fill in those which are agreed to):

Effective salary

Reimbursable expenses (by voucher)

Cash Salary	\$ <u>35,262</u>	Automobile expense (\$0.535per mile)	\$ <u>2,500</u>
Fair rental value of manse	\$ <u>10,578</u>	Business/professional expenses	\$ <u>600</u>
Housing Allowance	\$ _____	SECA Supplement (up to 50%)	\$ _____
Utilities Allowance	\$ _____	Continuing Education	\$ <u>500</u>
Deferred Compensation	\$ _____	Other allowances	\$ _____
Other allowances	\$ _____		
Total	\$ <u>45,840</u>	Moving Costs (up to)	\$ <u>2,000</u>

Full medical, pension, disability, and death benefit coverage under the Board of Pensions

Paid Vacation 30 days including regular days off and Sundays

Paid Continuing Education 2 weeks including Sundays

We further promise and obligate ourselves to review with you annually the adequacy of this compensation.

Homestead Presbytery minimum for continuing Education is \$500, and 2 weeks including Sundays. The money and the time can be carried over for 3 years. The minimum salary for HP is posted on the website.

In the seventh year of service, the congregation will provide for a three-month Clergy Renewal Leave, continuing the salary and benefits for that period, and providing for pulpit supply in the pastor's absence.

SECTION C: Number of recommendations requiring Presbytery action: 4

1. Retirement of the Rev. Tino Naranjo.
2. Retirement of the Rev. Duncan Nichol.
3. Dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Duncan Nichol and Tekamah First.
4. Elimination of vacant associate pastor position at Eastridge Presbyterian Church.



Motion Sheet

COM Motion#1

Subject: Committee on Ministry_____

Date: November 16, 2017

Recommendation: That the request of the Rev. Duncan Nichol to be Honorably Retired effective January 31, 2018, be approved.



Motion Sheet

COM Motion#2

Subject: Committee on Ministry_____

Date: November 16, 2017

Recommendation: That the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Duncan Nichol and Tekamah First Presbyterian Church be dissolved effective January 31, 2018.

Background: Rev. Nichol intends to retire effective January 31, 2018. The congregational vote to dissolve the relationship took place on October 1.



Motion Sheet

COM Motion#3

Subject: Committee on Ministry_____

Date: November 16, 2017

Recommendation: That the request of Eastridge Presbyterian Church to eliminate the position of Associate Pastor for Youth and Families be approved.

Background: The session has determined that the position, which is vacant, is no longer needed.

Related Issues:



COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

REPORT TO PRESBYTERY

Date of Meeting: Presbytery meeting, November 16, 2017

Reported by: Kathleen Splitt and Brian Johnson, co-Moderators

SECTION A: Information background: CPM interviewed Gina Meester for her annual evaluation and found her to be progressing well in her program. CPM also discussed the CRE programs for Denise Lagueux and Marton Novak as they approach completion of their course requirements. CPM also discussed a request from inquirer Cory Patterson regarding the CRE program.

Currently under care of Homestead Presbytery: Denise Lagueux (CRE), Marton Novak (CRE), Dave Fritz (CRE), Chris Hansen (CRE), Christy Dempsey (Candidate), Gina Meester (Inquirer), Cory Patterson (Inquirer), Steve Pointon (Inquirer).

SECTION B: Actions taken/Decisions made: CPM unanimously affirmed Gina Meester's continuance under care of Homestead Presbytery.

SECTION C: Number of recommendations requiring Presbytery action: __0__

Theological Education Fund and Homestead Presbytery 2008-2016

Thirty-three congregations have made at least one contribution in the past nine years. For the period 2008-2016 the largest total contributions were from Lincoln Eastridge (\$50,200), Norfolk (\$24,600), Lincoln Southern Heights (\$18,085), Lincoln First (\$9261), and Hickman (\$8050). The median total contribution was \$2318. The contribution from the entire Presbytery over this period was \$180,900.63.

For the period 2008-2016 the largest per member (based on congregational membership in December 2016) contributions were from Hebron (\$142.86), Lincoln Southern Heights (\$121.38), Norfolk (\$117.70), John Hus (\$88.63), and Wymore and Gresham (\$69.05 each). The median per member contribution was about \$23.

During the year 2016 twenty-one congregations participated and the largest contributions were from Lincoln Eastridge (\$8900), Lincoln Southern Heights (\$3125), Norfolk (\$3000), Hickman (\$2500), and Lincoln First (\$2400). The median contribution was \$500. Total contribution from all congregations in 2016 was \$27,227.78.

During the year 2016 the largest per member contributions were from Hebron (\$23.81), Lincoln Southern Heights (\$20.97), Norfolk (\$14.35), John Hus (\$10.53), Lincoln Eastridge (\$10.24), and Hickman (\$9.40). The median per member contribution was \$5.41.

Comments...

Every year I have prepared a report similar to the four paragraphs above and mailed it to the congregations who have contributed to TEF during the previous year. In addition I have mailed these annual reports to several larger congregations who have not contributed. I rarely receive any responses.

This year I sent the report above to all the congregations in the Presbytery, thanking those who contributed in 2016, encouraging those who had contributed before 2016, and urging those who do not contribute to consider adding TEF to their next budget.

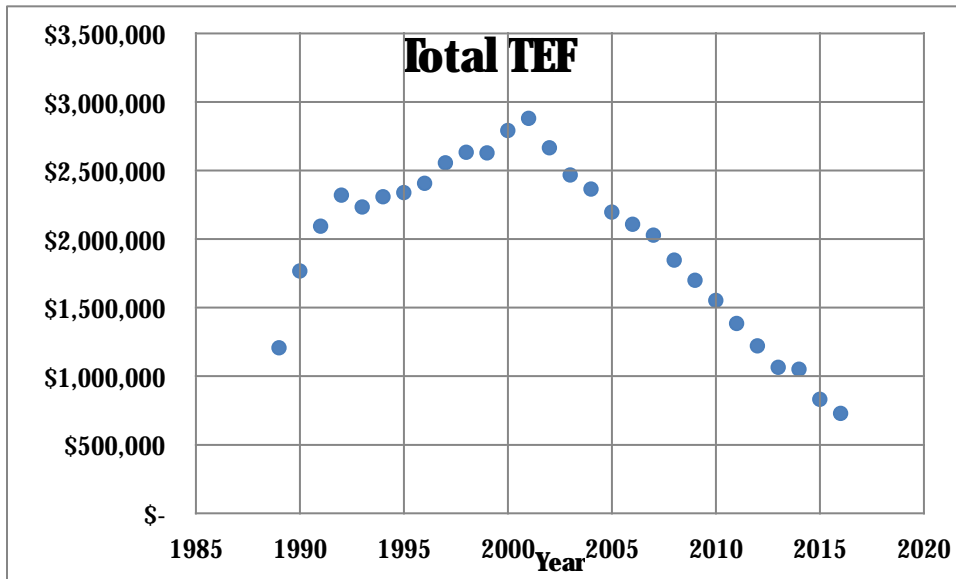
A summary of congregational giving can be found on the attached spreadsheet "2008-2016".

Frustrations...

- It is not clear to me to whom or to what Presbytery committee I am accountable.
- I often experience some delay from the Presbytery fulfilling my request for a report of giving by congregations during the previous year.
- I requested a list of congregational contributions in 2016 from the Presbytery treasurer, and later from the TEF office. When the report from Presbytery finally arrived I found it very different from the report I received from Louisville (see attached spreadsheet "comparison 2016") . I discovered that at least one congregation (Eastridge) had made their contribution directly to the Louisville office, so it was not listed on the report from the Presbytery office. And

no contribution that was posted after August 2016 in the Presbytery report appeared in the Louisville report. Therefore I merged the two reports for my analysis. This is not the first time I have encountered discrepancies between reports from Louisville and reports from Homestead. I suspect that the differences are primarily due to contributions processed in the latter part of the year.

- The steady decline in total giving to the Theological Education Fund (see graph below) suggests that the denomination will need to develop some other system for supporting its seminaries...very soon.



Respectfully submitted,

William M. Wehrbein [wmw@NebrWesleyan.edu, (402) 840-1442]

20 October 2017

2016 TEF Contributions (Louisville office)

2016 TEF Contributions (Lincoln office)

Name	Preferred City	Gift Date	Gift Amount	date processed	gift
Akron Presbyterian Church	Albion			9/28/2016	\$20.00
Presbyterian Church	Alexandria			12/21/2016	\$272.22
First Presbyterian Church	Beatrice	9/23/2016	\$500.00	4/19/2016	\$500.00
New Zion Presbyterian Church	Clarkson	9/23/2016	\$652.17	various	\$1,118.02
Federated Church	Columbus			9/28/2016	\$926.00
First Presbyterian Church	Fairbury			12/31/2016	\$300.00
First Presbyterian Church	Falls City	9/23/2016	\$200.00	3/14/2016	\$200.00
Presbyterian Church	Gresham			12/15/2016	\$385.00
First Presbyterian Church	Hebron	9/23/2016	\$500.00	1/29/2017	\$500.00
Presbyterian Church	Hickman			10/14/2016	\$2,500.00
Eastridge Presbyterian Church	Lincoln e	12/29/2016	\$3,000.00		
Eastridge Presbyterian Church	Lincoln e	2/24/2016	\$5,900.00		
First Presbyterian Church	Lincoln f	9/23/2016	\$1,400.00	various	\$2,400.00
Southern Heights Presbyterian Church	Lincoln s	9/23/2016	\$1,875.00	various	\$3,125.00
Westminster Presbyterian Church	Lincoln w	9/23/2016	\$345.00	various	\$995.00
First Presbyterian Church	Nebraska City	9/23/2016	\$533.36	various	\$800.04
First Presbyterian Church	Norfolk	9/23/2016	\$2,000.00	various	\$3,000.00
United Presbyterian Church	North Bend			9/14/2016	\$500.00
John Huss Presbyterian Church	Thurston	9/23/2016	\$200.00	1/15/2016	\$200.00
Czech Presbyterian Church	Wahoo	10/14/2016	\$150.00		
First Presbyterian Church	Wahoo			12/31/2016	\$136.50
United Presbyterian Church	Wymore	9/23/2016	\$300.00		\$300.00
			Total: \$17,555.53		\$18,177.78

**Theological Education Fund
Homestead Presbytery 2008 - 2016**

9/18/2017											2008-2016	memb	per mem	per mem
Congregation	Address	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	total	Dec 2016	2016	2008-16
Akron	Albion	\$25.00				\$25.00	\$25.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$135.00	22	\$0.91	\$6.14
Alexandria	Alexandria	\$464.57	\$262.70		\$295.40	\$299.40	\$0.00	\$282.90	\$282.90	\$272.22	\$2,160.09	64	\$4.25	\$33.75
First	Auburn			\$250.00							\$250.00	32		\$7.81
First	Bancroft											33		
First	Beatrice	\$300.00	\$1,300.00		\$1,300.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$4,800.00	199	\$2.51	\$24.12
Union	Belden					\$500.00					\$500.00	27		\$18.52
First	Cedar Bluffs	\$400.00		\$500.00		\$250.00	\$500.00	\$500.00			\$2,150.00	48		\$44.79
New Zion	Clarkson	\$835.56	\$947.00	\$770.00		\$1,012.00	\$789.21	\$1,140.77	\$1,162.88	\$1,118.02	\$7,775.44	171	\$6.54	\$45.47
Federated	Columbus	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$700.00	\$926.00	\$6,626.00	289	\$3.20	\$22.93
Craig/Alder Grove	Craig											46		
Dunbar	Dunbar											20		
First United	Fairbury	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$2,700.00	280	\$1.07	\$9.64
First	Falls City	\$340.00	\$340.00	\$340.00		\$308.00	\$270.00	\$270.00	\$250.00	\$200.00	\$2,318.00	37	\$5.41	\$62.65
Fremont	Fremont										\$0.00	468	\$0.00	
Gresham	Gresham	\$296.00	\$315.00	\$320.00	\$320.00	\$265.00	\$295.00	\$382.00	\$391.00	\$385.00	\$2,969.00	43	\$8.95	\$69.05
First	Hebron	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$3,300.00	21	\$23.81	\$157.14
Hickman	Hickman			\$1,750.00		\$1,800.00		\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$8,050.00	266	\$9.40	\$30.26
First	Humboldt											10		
United	Laurel											79		
Mission Creek	Liberty	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00		\$700.00	32		\$21.88
Eastridge	Lincoln e	\$5,900.00	\$5,900.00	\$5,900.00	\$5,900.00	\$5,900.00	\$5,900.00	\$5,900.00		\$8,900.00	\$50,200.00	869	\$10.24	\$57.77
First	Lincoln fi	\$800.00	\$594.00	\$500.00	\$166.70	\$1,200.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,200.00	\$2,400.00	\$9,260.70	389	\$6.17	\$23.81
Fourth	Lincoln fo											60		
Good Shep.	Lincoln g		\$300.00	\$100.00		\$230.00					\$630.00	203		\$3.10
Heritage	Lincoln h		\$1,800.00	\$500.00							\$2,300.00	140		\$16.43
Korean	Lincoln k											12		
Southern Heights	Lincoln s	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	\$1,260.00		\$2,000.00	\$1,250.00	\$4,375.00	\$1,875.00	\$3,125.00	\$18,085.00	149	\$20.97	\$121.38
Westminster	Lincoln w	\$936.00	\$1,376.00	\$847.00	\$250.00	\$430.00	\$1,037.50	\$900.00	\$425.00	\$995.00	\$7,196.50	1265	\$0.79	\$5.69
First	Lyons		\$500.00	\$500.00							\$1,000.00	66		\$15.15
First	Nebraska City	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$400.00	\$200.00	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$1,000.00	\$800.00	\$800.04	\$6,400.04	166	\$4.82	\$38.55
First	Niobrara											59		
First	Norfolk	\$2,548.37	\$2,780.04	\$2,569.87	\$932.68	\$3,756.00	\$3,443.00	\$2,750.00	\$2,820.00	\$3,000.00	\$24,599.96	209	\$14.35	\$117.70
United	North Bend		\$500.00	\$500.00		\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$3,500.00	158	\$3.16	\$22.15
Palmyra	Palmyra	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$202.00		\$400.00					\$1,402.00	81		\$17.31
Panama	Panama		\$234.15	\$0.00							\$234.15	93		\$2.52
United	Pawnee City		\$250.00	\$250.00		\$21.00					\$521.00	61		\$8.54
United	Pender											44		
First	Primrose											14		
First	Schuyler		\$350.00	\$102.00	\$400.00	\$400.00					\$1,252.00	151		\$8.29
Steele City	Steele City											32		
First	Tecumseh											0		
First	Tekamah											139		
John Hus	Thurston		\$175.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$309.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$1,684.00	19	\$10.53	\$88.63
Hopewell	Unadilla	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00		\$35.00	\$35.00				\$175.00			

Verdel Czech First Wakefield Faith United First United First	Verdel Wahoo Wahoo Wakefield Walthill Wayne Wymore York	\$400.00	\$102.00							\$150.00	\$652.00	28	\$5.36	\$23.29
							\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00		\$136.50	\$4,636.50	253	\$0.54	\$18.33
												26		
												23		
												138		
		\$600.00	\$300.00	\$338.25	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$3,038.25	44	\$6.82	\$69.05
			\$500.00								\$500.00	288		\$1.74
	Totals =	\$18,480.50	\$23,158.89	\$18,936.12	\$11,964.78	\$22,531.40	\$18,244.71	\$26,329.67	\$14,826.78	\$27,227.78	\$181,700.63	7366		