



## Presbytery of Des Moines

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May 11, 2016

### 504<sup>th</sup> STATED MEETING

#### Additional Information

On the following pages you will find the information from the Interim General Presbyter Search Committee.

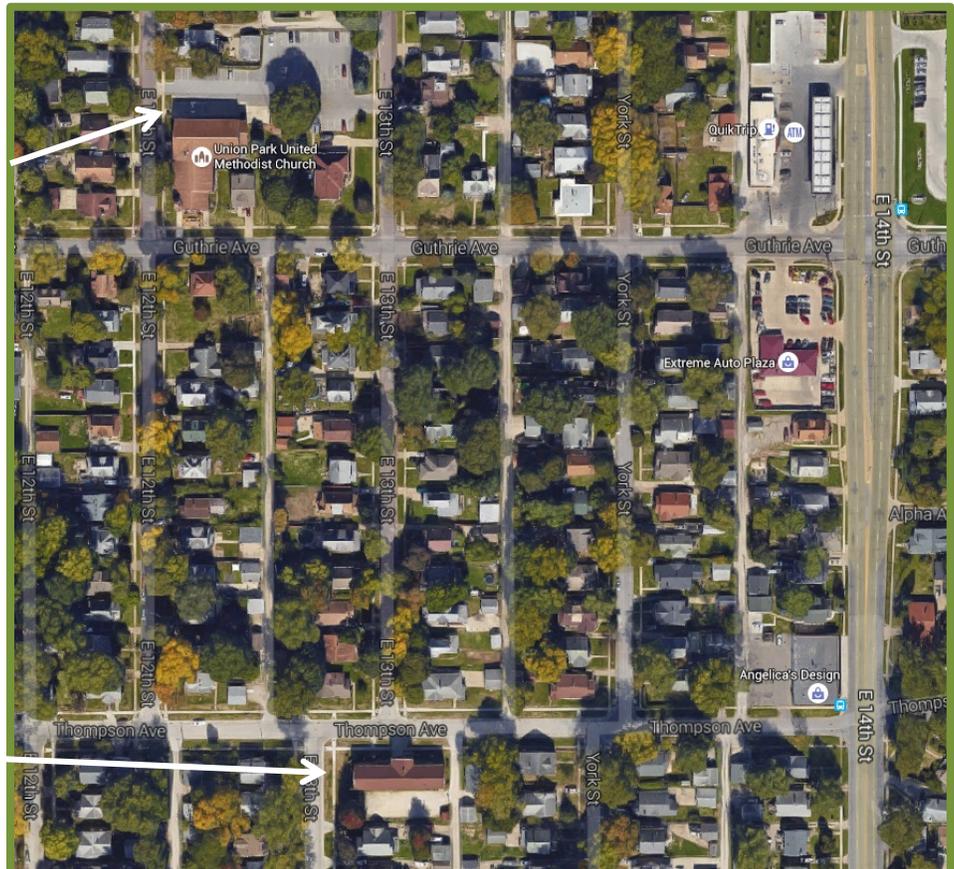
#### Additional Parking Information for Meeting:

From the Union Park folks:

*“Because there are only a few parking spaces available at Union Park Presbyterian Church in the back of the church, we’re saving those spots for those who need the handicapped-accessible entrance since that entrance is on the back side of the church. We are using the Union Park Methodist Church’s parking lot, which is one block north of UPPC on E. 13<sup>th</sup> St., and will have a couple of vans to shuttle people back and forth. Otherwise, street parking is available.”*

Union Park  
Methodist Church

Union Park  
Presbyterian Church



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## **H-1 – INTERIM GENERAL PRESBYTER SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT**

**May 17, 2016**

**Rev. James Koopman**

Date of Ordination: Minister of Word and Sacrament, 1986, at Shepherd of the Hills, Austin, TX, PCUSA  
 Ecclesiastical Standing: Active Minister of Word and Sacrament, Reformed Church of America.

### **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

- Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan, BA in History – 1982
- Graduate *Seminary Consortium for Urban Pastoral Education*, Chicago, Illinois (SCUPE) - 1984
- Clinical Pastoral Education through *SCUPE* – 1984
- Conflict Mediation through *SCUPE* and the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center, Lombard, Illinois 1984
- Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, Michigan, M-Div. – 1986

### **SUMMARY OF MINISTRY EXPERIENCES AND OUTCOMES**

**NEW CHURCH DEVELOPER, MULTIPLIER, AND COACH** – Austin, TX: 1986-1998. Founded Sunrise Community CRC (from 0 to 400); Daughtered N. Austin Community Church (70 to 125) and Chapel of the Hills (15 to 225); trained and coached five Interns/Residents who went on to start new churches.

**DIRECTOR OF MISSION AND OUTREACH** – at Meredith Drive RCA (MDRC) in Des Moines, IA: 1998-2000. Assisted this 1,000-member congregation through the restructure of its governance and teams, and the addition of a second campus; 30% increase of attenders and members.

**FOUNDING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** – of Serve Our Youth (SOY) Network of Iowa in Des Moines, IA: 1999-2002. Incubated SOY out of Meredith Drive Reformed Church. Trained and mobilized hundreds of volunteers from over 40 congregations and 18 denominations to offer God's love to hundreds of high-risk children and youth in Iowa's shelters and detention centers.

**REGIONAL MINISTER** – with the Reformed Church of America Synod of the Heartland in Iowa and Texas: FT 2002-2012, PT 2013-2015. Serving two Classes (similar to presbyteries) comprised of 42 congregations which birthed 11 new or redevelopment churches in Iowa and Texas. The role was to assess, coach, and resource:

- Pastors, New Church and Redevelopment Pastors, Intentional Interim Ministers; Leadership Teams, and Congregations
- Middle Judicatory Executive Teams and Commissions in the areas of visioning and strategic planning, transitions and pastor search teams, leadership development and pastor networks, revitalization and health, church planting and multiplication, conflict resolution and mediation.

**PART TIME INTENTIONAL INTERIM MINISTER** – at Ankeny Presbyterian Church in Ankeny, IA: 01/13-06/15. Healing and unity; added 57 new members, average attendance rose modestly, in a one-time offering, they eliminated their \$165,000 debt setting the stage for their new pastor to come in and focus on their mission.

**PART TIME INTENTIONAL INTERIM MINISTER** – at Living Life Reformed Church of America, Lincoln, NE: 08/15 to present. Following a process of listening and discernment, bringing unity for them around their vision. They overcame an 18-year dispute over building an addition, raising the \$65,000 needed as seed money from the board, and broke ground on the building. Also coached their Search Team to a call. *“God has allowed me to serve in diverse and multi-cultural ministries in these contexts: Urban/Inner City, Cross and Multi-Cultural, Transitional, Suburban, Regional, Town, Bedroom, and Rural in Anglo, African American, Hispanic, and pluralistic communities. I would seek transferring my ordination credentials from the Reformed Church of America to PCUSA.”*

### **PERSONAL CALLING STATEMENT**

(Crafted in 1999)

To provide executive level leadership to a regional body comprised of pastors, leaders, congregations, and judicatory teams by resourcing and coaching them to gain clarity of their mission and vision, and assist them in developing the infra-structure necessary for them achieve their full Kingdom potential in the arenas God is calling them.

### **STATEMENT OF FAITH**

I believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; one God in three persons who live in perfect unity, equality, and collaboration with one another; each distinct in their relationship not only with each other but with our world and especially each of us. Though a mystery, this relationship represents the kind of community that we – the church - are called to imitate as members of Christ’s body.

I believe our heavenly Father - the creator and giver of life, creates us in God’s image. That makes each of us special, but not more special than anyone else. We are all God’s children, created to love and enjoy God and to care for and protect God’s creation as stewards. How we – the church - treat others and our world matters deeply to God and bears witness to our faith as Christians.

I believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our Savior and Lord. He took on our flesh and dwelt among us. Through His teachings and His sinless life, Jesus revealed to us the extent of the love our God has for all of God’s children. As our Savior, He suffered and died on the cross, for our sins, not His own. Through His death, resurrection, and ascension; Christ conquered for us the power of sin, death, and the forces of evil. What a gift, one that we – the bride of Christ - are compelled out of gratitude to share in all of our words and deeds with all the world. Christ’s mission is now our mission.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the “breath of life,” sent by our God the Father, to testify to Jesus and draw us to Christ and our God. The Spirit is always calling us to join in the transformational work already in us, around us, and ahead of us. The Spirit is our comfort and guide, but is also the one who troubles us and challenges us – Christ’s church - to live our faith boldly with each other and the world. The fruit and gifts of the Spirit should be evident to all.

I believe the Bible is God's inspired Word, one that is always pointing us to God the Father through Christ. Scripture on one hand feels like God's love letter to me and at other times, like a gadfly that exposes God's unfinished work in me. I am amazed at the simplicity, mystery, and power in the sacraments to also reveal Jesus and His means of grace for us. I am fortunate to have witnessed through the Word and sacraments my own changes in life, but also changed lives, changed congregations, and changed communities around the world.

I believe in the Church, especially when she lives and loves like Jesus. Though imperfect, she still is the voice, hands, and heart that points the way to Jesus. When the Church gets it and realizes that it's not about them, when the Church dares greatly and gives herself away – there is nothing greater. And when I get to be a part of that, I know I am so blessed.

### **TERMS OF CALL**

An exempt, salaried 2/3 call of 33 hours a week to serve at the will of the Presbytery of Des Moines as the Part-Time Interim General Presbyter with an effective date of May 18, 2016. A sixty-day probation time with review by the Personnel Committee will be conducted and reported to the presbytery. A six-month ministry assessment will be held, with a one-year review at the effective date. An annual review will be conducted if the call continues beyond one year. Dissolution of the call is by majority vote of the presbytery. A sixty-day notification of ending the call by the Interim General Presbyter or the presbytery.

### **TERMS OF SERVICE:**

Effective Salary (includes housing allowance)	\$50,000.00
Board of Pensions (Medical, Life, Disability, Pension)	\$19,398.00
Travel (reimbursed)	\$6,600.00
Continuing Education (reimbursed)	\$1,500.00
Professional Expense (reimbursed)	\$400.00
Total	\$77,898.00

Four weeks (4) of paid vacation and two weeks (2) paid study leave. A week is equivalent to 33 hours.