

**The Presbytery of Prospect Hill  
Stated Meeting of the Presbytery  
Saturday, April 6, 2019  
Memorial Presbyterian Church, Cherokee, Iowa**

The Presbytery of Prospect Hill met for a regularly called meeting on Saturday, April 6, 2019, at Memorial Presbyterian Church, Cherokee, Iowa.

The meeting was called to order with prayer by Moderator Donna Gray at 9:31 a.m. The Presbytery was welcomed to Memorial Presbyterian Church by Pastor Eric Wright.

A quorum was present as shown by the roll. Jennifer Olson, Cambria Kaltwasser, Suzanne Wobig, Tom Murray, Missy Brown and Ken Meissner requested to be excused.

Church	Teaching Elder/ CP	Occupation Code	Present/Absent/ Excused	Ruling Elder
Alta, First	Denise Parrello	151	P	Mike Pedersen
Armstrong, First	Suzanne Wobig	101	E	
Auburn, United	Rikki Sorensen	101	P	
Battle Creek, First	Kevin Freese	101	P	Marilyn Bond
Breda, Wheatland	Vacant			
Bronson, Elliott Creek	Vacant			
Carnarvon, Emmanuel	Lue Baker	107	P	
Carroll, First	Rikki Sorensen	101	P	Michelle Scranton
Cherokee, Memorial	Eric Wright	101	P	Ryan White
Cleghorn, First	Vacant			Cheryl Plagman
Denison, United	Jennifer Olson	101	E	
Estherville, First	Dave Ullom	101	P	
George, Ebenezer	John Pea	101	P	Larry L.Petersen
George, Zoar	John Pea	101	P	James Ackerman
Glidden, First	Vacant			Elaine Crawford
Hawarden, Associated	Erma Wolf	151	A	
Ida Grove, Westminster	Shari O'Bannon	107	P	Carolyn Jamieson
Lake City, Union	Randy Russom	101	P	Darlene Nicholson
Lake Park, First	Tim Harmon	101	P	Marcia Schumacher

Lawton, Community	Vacant			
LeMars, Plymouth	Vacant			
LeMars, Presbyterian UCC	Jan Christensen	101	P	Eva Mouw
Manilla, United	Vicki Fisher	151	A	
Manning, First	Nancy Anderson	101	P	Gwen Detlefsen
Odebolt, First	Bill Crawford	107	P	Marne Barker
Paullina, First	Angel de la Cruz	101	A	Lauri Struve
Ringsted, First	Suzanne Wobig	101	E	
Rockwell City, St. Paul's	Jim Mossman	151	A	
Sac City, First	Missy Brown (UMC)		E	Krista Ketcham
Sanborn, First	Gregg Johnson	151	A	
Schaller, First	Michael Sydnor	101	P	Cathy Sydnor
Sioux City, Faith United	David Koehler	101	P	
Sioux City, First	Tom Murray	101	E	
Sioux City, Westlawn	Paul Speidel	107	A	
Sioux City, Westminster	Erica MacCreaigh	101	P	Mary Forbes
So. Sioux City, First	Vacant			
Spirit Lake, First	Clint Loveall	101	A	
Spirit Lake, First	Michael Gewecke	103	P	
Storm Lake, Lakeside	Vacant			
Vail, United	Bob Cook	105	P	Faylenne Slechta
Wall Lake, Trinity	Lue Baker	107	P	
Westside, United	Bob Cook	105	P	

<b>Other Ministers on the Roll of Presbytery</b>				
<b>Specialized Ministry and At-Large</b>				

Richard Francis, Stated Clerk			P	
Donna Gray, At-Large			P	
<b>Honorably Retired</b>				
Marshall Brown			P	
Dale Lint			P	
<b>Presbytery Committee Members Present</b>			P	
Kathy Francis	South Sudan Task Force		P	
Rebecca Brown	All-Iowa Task Force		P	
Mason Goodenow	Moderator, Budget and Finance		P	
Stephen Chambang, Lakeside, Storm Lake	South Sudan Task Force		P	
<b>Corresponding Members</b>			P	
David Feltman	Presbytery of North Central Iowa		P	
<b>Visitors</b>				
Jeff Anderson	Manning		P	
Lesleigh Wiese	Lake Park		P	
Cassie Gabe	Lakeshore Center at Okoboji		P	
Shawn Harmon	Lake Park		P	
Heather Harmon	Lake Park		P	

First time commissioners were introduced. New pastor Randy Russom was also introduced.

David Feltman, Pastor to the Presbytery for the Presbytery of North Central Iowa, was seated as a Corresponding Member.

No new business was introduced.

Jan Christensen presented the first part of the report of the Nominating Committee. On behalf of the Committee, she nominated Rev. Kevin Freese as Vice-Moderator of the Presbytery for 2019. Following an opportunity for nominations from the floor, it was Moved, Seconded, and Carried (M/S/C) to cast a unanimous ballot for Kevin Freese.

The Presbytery moved to worship with Holy Communion at 9:39 a.m. Participating in the service were Nancy Anderson, Ryan White, and Dianne Gordon. An offering of \$520.70 was taken to establish a fund for mental health issues in the Presbytery. Moderator Donna Gray led the Presbytery in a service of installation for Ruling Elder Bill Crawford as Moderator and Teaching Elder Kevin Freese as Vice-Moderator.

Moderator Bill Crawford called the business meeting to order with prayer at 10:43 a.m. The Agenda was approved as distributed with one change: the South Sudan Task Force will make their presentation following the Consent Agenda. It was moved, seconded, and carried (M/S/C) to approve the Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes of October 27, 2018 Presbytery Meeting
2. Moderator's Report for 2018

Moderated the October 27, 2018 Presbytery meeting at Lakeshore Center at Okoboji. Participated in the installation of Denise Parrello at First Presbyterian Church, Alta, on November 25, 2018.

I will be installing Moderator Bill Crawford and Vice Moderator Kevin Freese at the April 6, 2019, Presbytery meeting in Cherokee.

I have been honored to serve as Moderator of Prospect Hill this past year. It was a quiet year with little activity which required my participation.

Blessings,  
Donna Gray

2. Stated Clerk's Report

Since the last Stated Meeting, October 27, 2018, I have

- Filed the Presbytery's Biennial Report for an Iowa Nonprofit Corporation as required by Iowa Code Chapter 504
- Reported the dissolution of Shared Ministries of Rolfe
- Transferred the membership of the Rev. Randy Russom from the Presbytery of North Central Iowa to the Presbytery of Prospect Hill
- Added the Rev. Denise Parrello as a Temporary Member of the Presbytery
- Removed the Rev. John McKinley from the roll of pastors due to his death on November 24, 2018
- Participated in the memorial service for the Rev. John McKinley on November 29, 2018
- Completed the year-end reporting for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.):
  - Church information
  - Summary of Church Changes

- Minister Transactions
- Minister Summary
- Attended meetings of the Committee on Ministry and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry
- Met with the All-Iowa Presbyteries working group
- Met with the Presbytery Forum for leaders in the Synod via video conferencing
- Met with the Stated Clerks in the Synod via video conferencing to help develop training materials
- Met with the Moderator Team
- Met with the South Sudan Task Force
- Held training sessions for Clerks of Session and Session Records Reviews at three locations. The minutes listed have been reviewed and found to be in order with either no or minor exceptions:

March 9, Sac City

- First, Sac City
- United, Denison
- First, Manning
- First, Alta
- Union, Lake City
- United, Auburn
- Trinity, Wall Lake
- First, Cleghorn

March 16, Lakeshore Center

- First, Schaller
- Lakeside, Storm Lake
- Zoar, George
- Ebenezer, George
- First, Lake Park
- Memorial, Cherokee
- First, Ringsted
- First, Spirit Lake

March 23, Sioux City First

- Elliott Creek, Bronson
- First, Battle Creek
- Presbyterian United Church of Christ, LeMars
- Plymouth, LeMars
- First, Sioux City
- Westminster, Sioux City
- Faith United, Sioux City
- Associated, Hawarden
- Community, Lawton
- First, South Sioux City

## State of the Presbytery Report:

Last year, I wrote, “The Presbytery of Prospect Hill is in transition.” I find I could pretty much repeat that, and everything that followed, this year, but I believe we are closer to where we want to be than we were last year. Instead of just thinking about a Transitional General Presbyter, we will soon be calling one, in partnership with the Presbytery of North Central Iowa. We have a better idea today of our finances, current and reserve, than we did a year ago. And even though we continue to struggle to find pastoral leadership for our churches, we are exploring creative solutions to that ongoing problem. We have begun, in common with the other Iowa Presbyteries, to think about our role as a Church in the mental health crisis, and we will also consider today a proposal that will help us meet needs half a world away, even as our thoughts are with those closer to us who are affected by the floods of the last two weeks.

Ongoing needs include revising and updating our Manual of Operations (last revised in 2008) and developing a new Sexual Misconduct Policy as mandated by the Book of Order G-3.0106. I also hope to help congregations comply with these mandates in the coming year.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Richard Francis, Stated Clerk

3. Synod Commissioners
4. Presbyterian Women
5. Lakeshore Center: Cassie Gabe and David Feltman
6. Moderator Team

Denise Parrello and Stephen Chambang presented a proposal to form a Task Force for scholarship assistance in South Sudan.

We propose the creation of a Task Force of the Presbytery of Prospect Hill to raise funds for scholarship assistance for refugees in South Sudan. This work began as a ministry of Stephen Chambang, a Deacon at Lakeside Presbyterian Church in Storm Lake.

The goal is to provide \$450 per year in tuition to as many students as possible who will be studying health care at a college in the area. These students will then be able to work in the refugee camps in South Sudan, one of the poorest and most disrupted nations in the world.

The goals of the Task Force will be education and fund-raising in the congregations of the Presbytery of Prospect Hill. There will be no impact on the Presbytery budget.

Members of the Task Force:

Deacon Stephen Chambang, Lakeside Presbyterian Church, Storm Lake  
Ruling Elder Kathy Francis, First Presbyterian Church, Carroll  
Rev. Denise Parrello, First Presbyterian Church, Alta  
Rev. Jennifer Olson, United Presbyterian Church, Denison  
Richard Francis, Presbytery Staff

M/S/C to authorize the Task Force.

Dave Ullom reported on behalf of the Presbytery Leader Search Committee.

Rebecca Brown and Randy Russom reported on behalf of the Joint Presbytery Leadership Group.

The Presbytery adjourned for lunch at 11:48 am. Bill Crawford led the Presbytery in prayer for the meal.

The Presbytery reconvened following lunch at 1:00 p.m.

Jan Christensen led a breakout session on the Mental Health Initiative.

George Wittgraf of Memorial Presbyterian Church of Cherokee presented a Mission Spotlight on the ecumenical “Sermons a la Carte” program held annually during Lent in Cherokee.

The Bills and Overtures Committee reported on proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Stated Clerk of the General Assembly advises that “Presbyteries must report to the Office of the General Assembly a separate vote on each proposed amendment. A presbytery may vote on the amendments in a consent agenda or omnibus motion, as long as each proposed amendment is identified separately.”

The Proposed Amendments were available on the Presbytery website.

18-A	Recommend concurrence
18-B -1	Recommend concurrence
18-B-2	Recommend concurrence
18-C	Recommend concurrence
18-D	Recommend concurrence
18-E	Recommend concurrence
18-F	Recommend concurrence
18-G	Recommend concurrence
18-H	Recommend concurrence

Bills and Overtures Task Force:

Tom Murray  
Kevin Freese  
Elaine Doorenbos  
Carolyn Jamieson

It was moved and seconded to vote on the Amendments as an Omnibus Motion, and to concur with all Amendments. Opportunity was given to remove any of the Amendments from the Omnibus Motion. The motion passed.

Committee Reports began at 2:21 p.m.

1. Committee on Ministry (COM)

FOR INFORMATION:

The Installation service to install the Rev. Randy Russom to active ministry with Lake City Union Church is to be held on April 29, 2019, at 3:00 p.m. The following teaching elders and ruling elders are authorized to serve on the Installation Commission:

Nancy Anderson- Minister of Word and Sacrament - First Presbyterian Church, Manning  
Marshall Brown- Minister of Word and Sacrament - Honorably Retired  
Richard Francis- Minister of Word and Sacrament and Stated Clerk, Prospect Hill  
Bill Crawford- Commissioned Ruling Elder at First Presbyterian Church, Odeboldt,  
Presbytery Moderator  
Jan Block - Ruling Elder - Union Church, Lake City  
Phil Hesnard- Ruling Elder - First Presbyterian Church, Sac City

The COM has approved the Validated Ministries Outside of Congregations for 2019 for Rev. Ken Meissner, Chaplain at Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, and Rev. Dr. Cambria Kaltwasser, Associate Professor of Religious Studies at Northwestern College, Orange City.

The COM approved the transfer of Member-at-Large Rev. Dr. Chuck Valenti-Hein to the Presbytery of Winnebago.

The COM has traditionally held Triennial visits with all its member congregations and pastors, and we will continue to do so. But in an effort to strengthen the connectional nature of our relationship as Presbytery and Congregation, we are moving to a yearly report to be submitted by the session and pastor, summarizing how ministry is being lived out, what challenges are being faced by congregations and pastors, what strengths are being built upon, what Continuing Education the pastor has accomplished, whether the pastor is practicing good self-care and is healthy spiritually, emotionally, and physically. This will assist the COM in keeping abreast of issues our congregations are facing. These reports can be submitted to the COM liaison by the end of the year. The liaisons will be visiting with the congregations and pastors more about this as the year unfolds.



We are sending the following to The Leadership Summit, April 23-25, 2019, in Buffalo Center, MN: Rev. David Koehler-Moderator, Rev. Michael Sydnor, and Rev. John Pea. This gathering is what used to be known as COM/CPM Training. The Synod affords each Presbytery three spots from COM and CPM, and the COM has money for training in its budget to cover the costs.

Please keep the following churches in transition in prayer: Community Presbyterian-Lawton, Elliott Creek-Bronson; First PC-South Sioux City, NE; Lakeside PC-Storm Lake; Wheatland PC-Breda; First PC-Glidden.

**ACTION ITEM(S):**

The COM moves that the relationship between First Presbyterian Church, Manning and the Rev. Nancy Anderson be dissolved, effective April 30, 2019.

The severance package between First Presbyterian Church-Manning and the Rev. Nancy Anderson is as follows:

Full Compensation to include cash salary: \$1345.17- May, June, July

½ Medicare and FICA-\$277.79 est/month, paid quarterly

Board of Pensions Contribution, Paid in full: May, June, July August

Pension, Medical, Dental, Vision, Death Benefits, Disability Benefits

Permission to Live in Manse Rent Free and Utilities Paid: May, June, July

Opportunity to extend permission to live in manse for August, if needed, at the rental agreement of \$600 and utilities to be paid by renter, at the request of Rev. Anderson and agreement of First Presbyterian-Manning session, provided the manse is not needed for interim pastor.

The motion passed.

The COM moves that the original Plan for Union Agreement between First Presbyterian Church of Manilla and Manilla United Methodist Church be amended to allow for two successive UMC pastors to serve as pastor of the Union. Previously the agreement called for an alternating of denominations, but the session has asked that the change be made to allow the new pastor of the Manilla Methodist Church be allowed to move into the position that will end when the Rev. Vicki Fisher is moved to the UMC in Spirit Lake.

The motion passed.

The COM moves that the Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church of Cleghorn be dismissed with thanks.

The motion passed.

## 2. Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)

Moderator: Rev. Michael Gewecke  
Members: Rev. Nancy Anderson  
Elder John Mayne  
Rev. Cambria Kaltwasser  
Rev. Tom Murray CRE: NA  
Elder Karen Roed  
Elder Jan Cessford  
Elder David Ullom  
Elder Gwen Detlefsen

Certified Ready: Robert Brown

Candidate: Shawn Harmon

Action Item for Presbytery: Examination of Shawn Harmon to be Certified Ready to Receive a Call.

Having fulfilled all the other requirements set out by the committee, the CPM presents Shawn Harmon for examination and approval by the Presbytery to be considered certified ready to receive a call for ordination as a teaching elder in the PC(USA) pending the final completion of his Seminary degree.

### Shawn Harmon Statement of Faith

I believe God is one in essence and complete in loving relationship eternally expressed as three persons Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Each person of the trinity is co-equal and co-eternal in power, wisdom, holiness, authority, and grace. God is a missionary in nature marked by sending and being sent to accomplish God's purposes. Humanity was created perfectly in God's image, but through turning to ourselves and away from God we have become captive to idolatry, dead in sin, and separated from God, each other, and all creation.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's Son made flesh. He was sent from the Father by the Spirit's power on mission to a broken world to fulfill the covenant promises of Israel and reconcile humanity to God. Jesus lived a perfect life on our behalf and proclaimed the coming kingdom of God by word and deed. He willingly died as a substitute for a sinful humanity on the cross. He forgives us of sin, ascribes us his righteousness, and takes on our punishment of eternal death and separation from God. Jesus remained dead three days and rose in the power of the Holy Spirit defeating sin, death, and evil. Jesus Christ reigns as Lord over all the earth from his heavenly throne. He will return as judge and bring the kingdom of God to fulfillment. God's chosen people in Christ are called to him in faith to repent, follow, and believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. In doing so, we are united to Christ and his benefits of salvation from sin, reconciliation with God, new and eternal life, and adoption as God's daughters and sons.

I believe God the Holy Spirit brings new and transformed life. By the Spirit's power we are regenerated and united to Christ. The Holy Spirit lives within us who trust in Christ and conforms us into Christ's image. The Spirit reveals God's will and word in our lives. The Holy Spirit provides the church with different gifts to build up and unify Christ's body. The Spirit sends and empowers the church on mission. God's Spirit willingly works in life-giving ways beyond the church in the world.

I believe the two sacraments of the church, baptism and communion, signify the inward and spiritual work of Christ applied to us by the Holy Spirit. They confirm God's word and revelation in Christ in our lives, which strengthens us in faith and unity. By participation in the sacraments we receive common means by which God renews his covenant in our lives. I believe Scripture is God's written revelation and the ultimate authority in our life and faith. Scripture reveals God's purposes and character. Scripture invites God's people to participate in God's mission in the world from Genesis to Revelation.

I believe the church is the community marked by our identity as followers of Christ created by the work of the Holy Spirit. The church is a family made up of persons from all nations, tribes, tongues, and denominations reconciled in Christ. The global church is called to represent the coming kingdom of God in all it does. God calls the church to participate in God's mission, proclaiming and showing the whole gospel to the whole world.

Christians are called to a life of discipleship in community marked by humility and sacrifice as we follow and love Christ. Discipleship is a lifelong journey marked by God's transformative grace and active participation in God's redeeming work.

The Presbytery examined Shawn Harmon on his readiness to receive a call. M/S/C to conclude the examination. Shawn was escorted from the room while the Presbytery discussed his readiness to receive a call. On motion from the Committee, the Presbytery voted to approve Shawn ready to receive a call. Shawn was brought back into the room and Bill Crawford led the Presbytery in a service of acceptance.

3. Jan Christensen presented the report of the Nominating Committee. (In the list that follows, TE=Teaching Elder/Minister of Word and Sacrament; RE=Ruling Elder.)

#### Budget & Finance

Class of 2019:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

Class of 2020:

1. Suzanne Wobig (TE)

Committee on Ministry

Class of 2019:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

Class of 2020

1. Lesleigh Weise (RE)

Committee on Representation

Class of 2020

1. Phil Havens (RE)

Class of 2021

1. Kathy Francis (RE)

Permanent Judicial Commission

Class of 2025 (elected to 6 year terms)

1. Jennifer Olson (TE)
2. Kim Fara (RE)

Personnel Committee

Class of 2019 (2nd term)

1. Jennifer Olson (TE)

Class of 2020

1. Jeff Stanley (RE)

Opportunity was given for nominations from the floor. There being none, the Presbytery voted to approve the Nominating Committee report and to cast a unanimous ballot as presented by the Committee.

Dave Koehler offered a prayer for Nancy Anderson and First Presbyterian Church of Manning as her ministry at the Manning Church comes to an end.

No further business appearing, the meeting adjourned with prayer by the Moderator at 3:04 p.m.

The next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Prospect Hill will be Saturday, July 13, 2019 at United Presbyterian Church, Denison, 9:30 a.m. The Presbytery is reminded that lunch reservations will be required.

The final stated meeting for 2019 will be held October 26 at Lakeshore Center at Okoboji.