

(Preliminary minutes – subject to approval by Presbytery of Lake Huron)

## **PRESBYTERY OF LAKE HURON**

Stated Meeting – June 8, 2021

The Presbytery of Lake Huron was called to order with prayer by the Moderator, Elder Linda Langrill, at 9:00 a.m., on Tuesday, June 8, 2021, and was held via Zoom. Highlighted congregation was First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, Michigan.

The Executive Presbyter acknowledged the native land in the presbytery. Welcoming of tribe members was held.

The Stated Clerk gave a short introduction on using Zoom and how to vote using this platform.

The roll was taken, and the moderator announced that a quorum was present.  
[ATTACHMENT A]

A video introducing the highlighted congregation, Ithaca-First, was shown.

An introduction of the special guests leading Equipping Time was given. Guests are: The Revs. Irv Porter and Jenny Saperstein and Elder Delphine Moore.

An introduction of new elders was given.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to seat the following as a Corresponding Member: The Revs. Chip Hardwick (Miami Valley) and Doug Portz (Pittsburgh).

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to adopt the docket.

A video regarding Camp Westminster, the recipient of the meeting's offering, was shown.

**WORSHIP** included a sermon via video by the Rev. Christina Jensen and an **OFFERING** to Camp Westminster.

A short **BREAK** was taken prior to the Equipping for Ministry workshop.

The Moderator reconvened the presbytery.

The Executive Presbyter introduced the Equipping Time leaders.

**EQUIPPING TIME** was led by the Revs. Christina Jensen, Andrew Pomerville and Matt Schramm and Elder Chris Wolf. The focus was on ministry in a post-COVID world.

A short **BREAK** was taken prior to the business portion of the meeting.

The Moderator reconvened the presbytery.

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MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve the Consent Agenda which included to:

1. Approve the minutes of the March 13, 2021 Presbytery meeting and the May 25, 2021 special Presbytery meeting.
2. Elect Allen Hosler, Elder, Croswell, to the Commission on Ministry and Ministry Preparation, Class of 2022 and Dan Johnson, Elder, Vassar-First, to the Presbytery Council, Class of 2021.
3. Approve the following actions with regard to the review of Session minutes and Church Registers: that the minutes of the following church be approved without exception: Marlette-First

Glenn Grant gave the report of the **MIDLAND-CHAPEL LANE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION**.

The Administrative Commission requested and Presbytery approved the following recommendations.

1. Midland Chapel Lane be dissolved as an ecclesiastical entity as of a date to be determined by the Administrative Commission acting on behalf of the Presbytery, with its current members being encouraged to move their membership to Midland Memorial.
2. Upon dissolution of the ecclesiastical entity, the Presbytery of Lake Huron assume original jurisdiction of the session to act as trustees of the civil corporation to facilitate the disposition of the remaining assets and property.
3. The Administrative Commission be continued and be appointed trustees on behalf of the civil corporation of Midland-Chapel Lane to deal with the distribution of assets in consultation with the Presbytery Board of Trustees and the session of Midland-Memorial; with report made not later than the December 2021 meeting of Presbytery.
4. A Service of Celebration be held prior to the dissolution of Midland-Chapel Lane honoring their sixty years of mission and ministry.

The **TRUSTEES** report given by Bob Emrich.

The Trustees presented the following items for information:

1. Recommend that the Holy Communion Gospel Center, 1245 E. Genesee Ave, Saginaw, MI 48607, will demonstrate their ability to fulfil the terms of the proposed purchase-donation agreement by having \$175,000 available for repair costs. If not, this is not a viable offer.

Trustees will proceed to re-market the Warren property, located 612 Millard, Saginaw, MI, until July 15, 2021 to ascertain other buyers.

By July 31, 2021, the Trustees will decide on a plan of action which will include issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) to area demolition companies in coordination with the Land Bank.

2. Trustees authorized retention of Chris Radke, Smith Bovill Law Firm, to serve as Presbytery attorney to conduct any and all legal and financial matters relating to the sale/transfer of the Warren Avenue Presbyterian Church building, 612 Millard St, Saginaw, MI 48607 to Holy Communion Gospel Center, 1245 E Genesee, Saginaw, MI 48607.

The Vice Moderator assumed the chair.

The **BOARD OF PENSIONS** report was given by Doug Portz.

The **MISSION COORDINATION COMMITTEE** report was given by Karen Blatt.

MOTION WAS SUSTAINED to approve the revised Description/Responsibilities of the standing Mission Coordination Committee [ATTACHMENT B].

The **EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER** report was given by the Rev. Dr. Dan Saperstein. It was noted that the Presbytery Office is operating under summer hours until Labor Day and that he is available for Pulpit Supply.

The **COMMISSION ON MINISTRY AND MINISTRY PREPARATION** report was given by Elder Linda Kennan. A thank you was given to the Interim Pastors who have recently ended their service. They include: Timm High, Joy Smith and Leslie Piper. A brief update was given on the churches in transition. It was noted that there will soon be a preaching class through Alma College for Ruling Elders.

The Commission on Ministry and Ministry Preparation reported that it took the following actions on behalf of presbytery:

1. Appointed Ted McCulloch as Moderator of Session of Midland-Chapel Lane effective April 1, 2021.
2. Appointed Elder Jon Baker as Moderator of Alma-First for June, July and August.
3. Appointed Robbie Carnes as Moderator of Session for Holly's June 27, 2021 congregational meeting.

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4. Approved the Administrative Commission to Ordain Kim Strunz at 3:00pm on May 16, 2021 at First Presbyterian Church of Cass City. Members are: Elders Linda Langrill (Moderator; Midland-Chapel Lane), CJ Merriman (Lapeer-First) and Liz Leitch (Cass City-Fraser) and the Reverends Ted McCulloch and Scott Kroener.
5. Approved an extension of the contract between Alma-First and Joy Smith through May 15, 2021 at the current terms.
6. Approved the part-time CRE contract between Elder Mark Garavaglia and Sandusky and Yale-First congregations effective December 1, 2020 for a period of one year. Terms are as follows:

Salary	\$350/week
Social Security/Medicare	N/A
Continuing Education	N/A
Travel Reimbursement	At current IRS Rate
Vacation Allowance	None listed
Study Leave	None listed
Other	May be absent one Sunday per month for family worship.

A mentor was not listed or assigned.

- May administer the sacraments
- Preside at weddings
- Moderate session meetings

7. Approved the renewal of the part-time Temporary Supply contract between the Rev. Karen Blatt and Houghton Lake-Kirk of the Lakes effective October 1, 2020. Terms are as follows:

Cash Salary	\$10,850
Travel	\$3,020 at IRS Rate
Vacation Time	4 weeks including 4 Sundays
Study Leave	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Study Leave Allowance	\$130

8. Approved the full-time Pastoral Call between the Rev. Brenna Hesch and Bay City-First effective July 1, 2021. Terms are as follows:

Salary	\$46,500
Housing Allowance	\$36,000
Social Security/Medicare	\$6,311
Continuing Education	\$2,000
Professional Expenses	\$3,000
Travel Reimbursement	IRS rate
Moving Costs	Reimburse actual costs
Vacation Allowance	4 weeks including 4 Sundays
Study Leave	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Maternity Leave	8 weeks of paid leave and up to an additional 4 weeks unpaid
Sabbatical	3 weeks paid sabbatical starting with seventh year of service
Other (cell phone)	\$100/month
Other (technology/computers)	To be provided with agreement form pastor

9. Moved the following minister members to Member-At-Large status: Rhaskell Hunter moved to effective May 1, 2021 and Timm High moved effective April 15, 2021.

10. Approved technology grants for: Linden and Alma-First.

The **TRANSITIONAL SYNOD EXECUTIVE** report was given by the Rev. Dr. Chip Hardwick.

The **PERSONNEL TEAM** report was given by Andrew Miller.

The Personnel Team presented the following items for information:

1. That Tracy Carr has resigned her position as Financial Secretary. A Separation Agreement was agreed upon with her. We wish her well in her new job.
2. Jessica Schira has been hired as the temporary Financial Secretary until a full search is completed. Jessica has served in this role for the Presbytery before.

The **PRESBYTERY COUNCIL** report was given by the Rev. Philomena Ofori-Nipaah.

The Presbytery Council recommended and presbytery approved:

1. To co-opt Mary Ann Parker, Moderator, Nominating Committee to Presbytery Council, Class of 2021.
2. Approved of the Bylaw changes as presented from a first reading at the March 13, 2021 Presbytery meeting. Changes take effect at the end of today's meeting. [ATTACHMENT C]

The Presbytery Council presented the following items for information:

3. Designated the June Presbytery Meeting offering be given to support camper scholarships at Camp Westminster on Higgins Lake.
4. Approved the transfer of \$25,000 from unrestricted funds (account #69000) to Church Transformation and Growth Grants/Scholarships (COM) (account #21170) to accommodate congregational needs.

The **STATED CLERK'S REPORT** was given by the Rev. Ted McCulloch. It was noted that at this time, the plan is to hold an in-person meeting in September. We are in need of hosts for 2022 meetings.

The Stated Clerk reported the following items for information:

1. Schedule of Presbytery Meetings:

September 14, 2021	Mt. Pleasant-First
December 7, 2021	Saginaw-Michigan Nanum

Please note that the September and December meetings are planned to be in-person. People will still be able to attend virtually. Also, meeting hosts for our 2022 meetings are needed as well. Contact the Stated Clerk, Ted McCulloch, for dates in 2022 if you are interested in hosting.

2. An allegation of offense against a minister member of the Presbytery has been received by the Stated Clerk.

The Stated Clerk recommended and presbytery approved:

1. The request of the current Investigating Committee of the Presbytery that the Synod of the Covenant assume original jurisdiction of the Presbytery of Lake Huron for this investigation and this matter only.

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The meeting adjourned following prayer by the Vice Moderator at 12:40 pm.

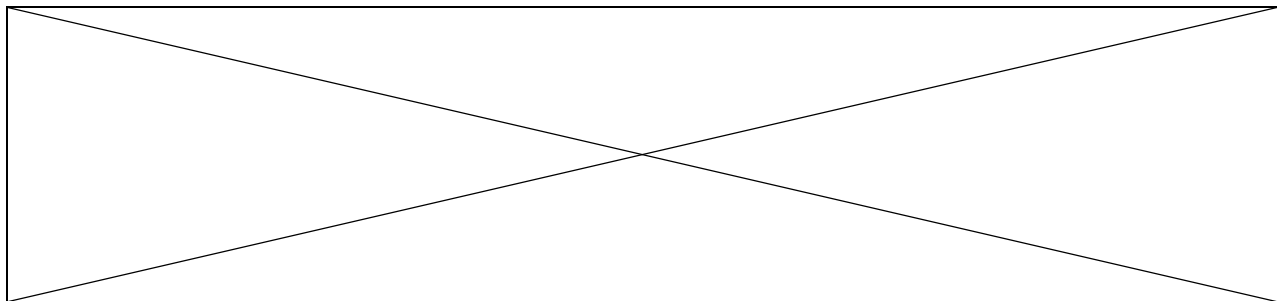
The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Lake Huron is scheduled to be held Tuesday, September 14, 2021 beginning at 9:00 a.m. with First Presbyterian Church, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, as the highlighted church.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ted McCulloch  
Stated Clerk

**ATTACHMENT A – Attendance**

<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<b>NAME OF MINISTER</b>			<b>NAME OF MINISTER</b>		
	1		Miller, Andrew	1	
	1		Milton, Jamie	1	
	1		Moody, Chris		1
1			Moon, Hakbae		1
	1		Neumann, Jim (HR)	1	
	1		Neuville, Donald (HR)		1
	1		Novak, Joseph	1	
1			Offrink, James (HR)		1
1			Ofori-Nipaah, Philomena	1	
	1		Pak, Shimon		1
	1		Park, Dong Won (HR)		1
1			Parker, Kenneth (HR)		1
	1		Piper, Brant	1	
	1		Piper, Leslie		1
1			Pomerville, Andrew	1	
	1		Russell, Dawn	1	
	1		Russell, Peter (HR)		1
	1		Saperstein, Dan	1	
1			Schacher, Tom		1
1			Schramm, Matthew	1	
	1		Shugert, Stephen (HR)		1
	1		Smith, Joy		1
	1		Snyder, Noel		1
1			Stilwell, Elizabeth		1
1			Swihart, Dale (HR)		1
	1		Taylor, Robert (HR)		1
	1		Todd, Cassie	1	
1			Vredeveld, Ron		1
	1		Walser, Joseph (HR)		1
	1		Ytterrock, Paul		1
			<b>Total Present</b>	24	
			<b>Total Excused</b>	42	
			<b>Total Absent</b>	0	





**ATTACHMENT A – Attendance (Continued)**

<b>NAME OF CHURCH</b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Absent</u></b>	<b><u>Elder Commissioner(s) Present</u></b>
Alma-First		1	
Bay City-First	1		Janet Olson
Bay City-Westminster	1		Bonnie Marsh
Beaverton-First		1	
Birch Run-Taymouth	1		Lil Ostrom
Breckenridge		1	
Caro		1	
Cass City-First		1	
Cass City-Fraser	1		Liz Leitch
Croswell		1	
Davison-St. Andrews	1		Phidge Howe
Deckerville		1	
Elkton-Chandler		1	
Fairgrove		1	
Fenton-First		1	
Fenton-Tyrone		1	
Flint-First		2	
Flint-Trinity United		1	
Flint-Unity		1	
Flushing	1		Carol Dulin
Grand Blanc-Kirkridge	1		Patricia Rockafellow
Harbor Beach		1	
Holly	1		Jim Lyles
Houghton Lake		1	
Ithaca-First		1	
Ithaca-Lafayette		1	
Kinde-First		1	
Lapeer-First	1		Sharon Galbreath
Linden		1	
Marlette-First		1	
Marlette-Second		1	
Midland-Chapel Lane	1		Ann Moe
Midland-Memorial	2		David Ramaker, Sally Bowen
Mt. Pleasant-First		1	
Rosebush		1	
Saginaw-Countryside Trinity		1	
Saginaw-First	1		Janie Gugino
Saginaw-Korean		1	
Saginaw-Second	1		Andrea Drapp
Sandusky		1	
Swartz Creek-Mundy	1		Jim Graham
Tawas	1		Kristy Prentiss
Twining		1	
Ubly		1	
Vassar		1	
Yale		1	
<b>Total Present</b>	<b>16</b>		
<b>Total Represented</b>	<b>15</b>		
<b>Total Not Represented</b>	<b>31</b>		

**ATTACHMENT A – Attendance (Continued)**

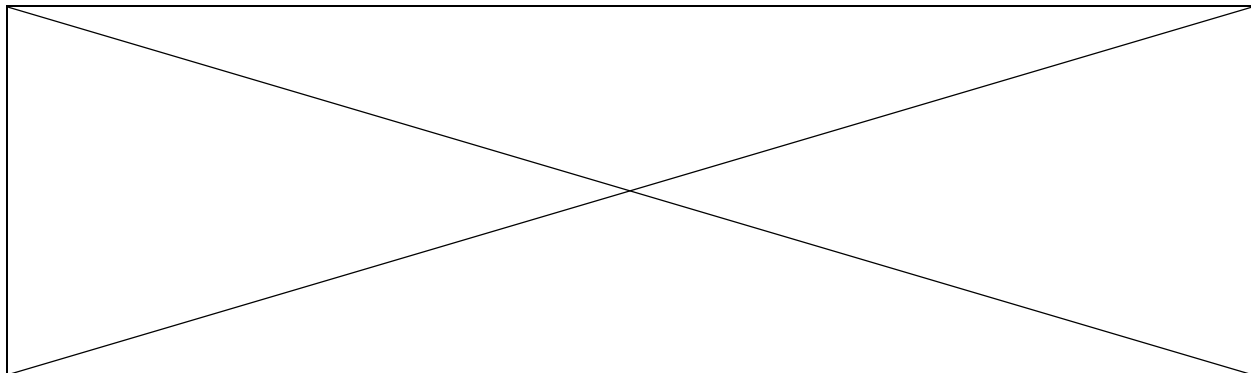
<b>ELDER MEMBERS</b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Absent</u></b>	<b><u>Excused</u></b>
Andrea Drapp (Trustee) ***			
Adam Engel (Presbytery Council)			1
Sarah Martin-Fanone (Presby Council)			1
Linda Kennan (COMMP Moderator)	1		
Linda Langrill (Moderator)	1		
Georgia McCall (PW Moderator)			1
Delphine Moore (Presbytery Council)			1
Roger Scovill (Treasurer)			1
<b>Total Elder Members</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>

\*\*\* Signed in as Elder Commissioner, did not count here

<b>COMMISSIONED RULING ELDERS</b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Absent</u></b>	<b><u>Excused</u></b>
Baker, Jon			1
Essex, Jon			1
Shaun Hardimon			1
Liz Long			1
Kathleen Rowe	1		
Chris Wolf	1		
<b>CRE Attending</b>	<b>2</b>		
<b>CRE Not Attending</b>	<b>0</b>		
<b>CRE Excused</b>	<b>4</b>		

**MEETING ATTENDANCE TOTALS**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Absent</u></b>	<b><u>Excused</u></b>
Members of Presbytery	24	0	41
Corresponding Members	2		
Commissioned Ruling Elders	2	0	4
Church Commissioners	16	31	0
Elder Members	2	0	5
Visitors (Including LHP Staff)	7		
<b>Total People in Attendance</b>	<b>53</b>		
Churches represented	15		
Churches not represented		31	



**ATTACHMENT B - MCC**  
**Description/Responsibilities of the Standing Mission Coordination Committee**  
**Presbytery of Lake Huron**  
**May 10, 2021**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Presbytery of Lake Huron's Mission involvement is best summed up in the sixth Great End of the Church: "The Exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world." (BOO, F-1.0304) Participation in the mission of God's church is an opportunity given to us by God to witness by our action, not just by our words, to the reconciling love of God to all people. With gratitude, and in response for all that God in Jesus Christ has done for us:

- we will strive to go into the world and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- we will strive to reinforce the Presbytery's commitment to be a Matthew 25 Presbytery.
- we will strive to increase awareness and involvement by encouraging congregational support, vitality, and engagement.
- we will strive to acknowledge and participate in the ministry taking place outside the walls of the church and promote mission opportunities locally and globally as we serve alongside community organizations, interfaith groups as well as intentionally seek out ecumenical partnerships to address issues related to systemic poverty.
- we will strive to create a presbytery which supports a culture of inclusiveness, addressing "isms" of all sorts; one that will confront established values of power, inequality and ethnic, religious, and economic separatism which dominate our society.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Initially six people in three classes of two, one of whom shall be elected as moderator by the committee. In addition, the Moderator of Presbyterian Women (or their designee) shall serve with voice and vote. Special attention shall be given to ensuring the racial-ethnic and regional diversity of this committee.

**RESPONSIBILITIES**

The responsibilities of the Mission Coordination Committee are as follows:

1. To live into our commitment as a Matthew 25 presbytery by viewing the Presbytery mission through the lens of our Matthew 25 mission:
  - to Increase Congregational Vitality
  - to Eradicate Systemic Poverty
  - to Dismantle Structural Racism
2. Develop networks/partnerships between the congregations of the Presbytery of Lake Huron who share a common vision for mission and outreach. The Mission Team will periodically review and update the mission efforts across the presbytery and compile a resource for congregations to identify, connect and combine their outreach efforts. They will contact each congregation by means of survey or a similar tool in order to receive the most current ways in which congregations are participating both inside and outside the walls of the church. |
3. Develop Stronger Relationships with Presbytery Congregations
  - Members of the Mission Team will visit and participate in mission activities in and around the presbytery. They will provide ongoing information and ways for others to get involved in hands-on service opportunities.

**ATTACHMENT B - MCC**

- They will provide regular updates at presbytery meetings and through timely articles in the Bi-Weekly Brief.
4. Develop Local and Global Mission Partnerships
    - In an effort to form stronger partnerships within the Presbytery, as well as within our communities, we will also seek to support local non-profit agencies and faith-based organizations in order to educate our congregations about the needs in our area.
    - We will explore and recommend to the Presbytery such partnerships beyond the Presbytery, both within and outside the PC(U.S.A.) that may advance and express our commitment to God's mission.
    - We will seek to create ways to impact the lives of those with needs as well as collaborate and assist programs and organizations in need of both financial and human resources.
  5. Develop a Culture of Inclusiveness

We will provide on-going educational opportunities to break down walls which divide us as a people in order to better understand “the other” and serve with respect in order to be a light to the nations. The Mission Coordination Committee shall also function as the Committee on Representation for the Presbytery.
  6. Promote Presbyterian Mission

We will interpret the mission work of the PC(U.S.A.) to and with the presbytery, arrange for missionary and peacemaker visits, and promote denominational offerings and mission support.
  7. Coordinate with Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery on an as needed basis.
  8. Oversee the work of the Presbytery Disaster Preparedness Team, coordinating with the Presbytery Council, Presbytery Disaster Assistance, and other outside organizations as needed.
  9. Review and administer mission grants, scholarships, and other resources as may be delegated to it by the Presbytery or Council.

**ATTACHMENT C – Proposed Bylaw Changes**

For approval following a first reading at the March 13, 2021 stated meeting, the following amendments to sections B 6.1 and CR 6.1 and 6.3 of the Presbytery Bylaws:

B 6.1 The Board of Trustees shall consist of five people elected by the presbytery. The Board shall elect its own officers. ~~including the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees who shall serve as~~ **In addition, the Executive Presbyter\* (if any), the Stated Clerk, and Treasurer of the Presbytery shall serve as members with voice but not vote.**

CR 6.1 - Membership

The Board of Trustees is the agent for the Presbytery of Lake Huron of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), a Michigan ecclesiastical corporation, and shall be subject to the Presbytery of Lake Huron's authority and direction, except as specified below in CR 6.6. The Board shall consist of five persons elected by Presbytery as specified in the Bylaw B 6.1. The Executive Presbyter **(if any), the Stated Clerk,** and the Treasurer of the Presbytery shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees without vote.

CR 6.3 - Officers

The Board of Trustees shall elect a president and a vice-president from its own membership. The Treasurer of the Presbytery shall ~~be both~~ **serve as the Treasurer of the Corporation.** ~~and The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery shall serve as~~ the Secretary of the Corporation.