

**Presbytery of Mackinac Coordinating Council  
Proposed Minutes for the May 19, 2020, Meeting  
via Zoom video-conferencing call**

1 The Coordinating Council of the Presbytery of Mackinac met Tuesday, May 19, 2020, via Zoom video-conferencing. Coordinating Council Chair, Rev. Dr. William C. Myers, called to order a special meeting of the Coordinating Council of the Presbytery of Mackinac at 10:00 a.m. and opened the meeting with scripture (Psalm 121 and selected verses from John 14) and prayer. The Coordinating Council Chair advised that the meeting was called to check in with each other and then address any other business.

1.1 The Coordinating Council Chair ascertained that a quorum was present.

**2 THE ROLL**

2.1 Coordinating Council Members present were the following:

2.1.1 Coordinating Council Chair, Rev. Dr. William C. Myers (Traverse City);

2.1.2 Presbytery Moderator, Ruling Elder William Clark (Elk Rapids);

2.1.3 Presbytery Vice Moderator, Rev. Dr. Anne Hebert (Beulah);

2.1.4 Budget and Financial Services Chair, Ruling Elder Edward Fines (Spruce);

2.1.5 Education and Leadership Development Chair,

Rev. Dr. Kenneth P. Murphy (Harbor Springs);

2.1.6 Ministry Chair, Ruling Elder Susanne Fantini (Petoskey);

2.1.7 Mission Chair, Rev. Sandra Murray, Honorably Retired;

2.1.8 Personnel Chair, Rev. William J. Rayment (Alpena);

2.1.9 Representation and Nominations

Co-Chair, Rev. Karen Zurakowski (Rogers City);

2.1.10 Presbyterian Women Communicator,

Ruling Elder Florence Morrison, ex officio (Traverse City);

2.1.11 Presbytery Commissioners to Synod Assembly,

Rev. Dr. Lois Aroian, Honorably Retired), and

Ruling Elder Michael Stoll (Hessel);

2.1.12 Office Administrator, Ms. Raeann Dunlop, ex officio (Petoskey);

2.1.13 Treasurer, Ruling Elder John Fought (Petoskey);

2.1.14 Stated Clerk, Ruling Elder Kay Morrill (Rogers City).

2.2 On motion duly made and seconded, Coordinating Council **VOTED** to excuse the following:

2.2.1 Session Records Chair, Ruling Elder Cynthia Couchene, ex officio, (Iron River);

- 2.2.2 Representation and Nominations
  - Co-Chair, Rev. David Henderson, Honorably Retired;
- 2.2.3 Worshiping Communities Chair,
  - Commissioned Lay Pastor Dawn Robbins (Iron River);
- 2.2.4 Presbytery Point Camp and Conference Center Board President,
  - Ruling Elder Andrea Sarto, ex-officio (Mackinaw City).
- 2.2.5 The Coordinating Council Chair, Rev. Dr. William Myers, set the agenda for Coordinating Council members to check in with each other during this time of pandemic and address other business.
- 3 Coordinating Council members shared their personal joys and concerns as well as how their congregations are proceeding with plans for continuing worship in this unprecedented time of corona virus/COVID-19 pandemic. Coordinating Council Chair led the Coordinating Council in prayer.

## REPORTS

- 4 Office Manager Raeann Dunlop reported verbally.
  - 4.1 She is working on revising the website.
  - 4.2 She is working with the Committee on Budget and Financial Services by putting together some Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) resources.
  - 4.3 She reported that this is the year for redoing and revising manuals. She has sent out an email to the chairs of the Committee on Ministry, the Committee on Personnel, and Committee on Session Records to review their respective manuals.
  - 4.4 First Presbyterian Church of Petoskey has started moving their furniture into the Presbytery office. They have donated a desk for the Office Manager and a portion of a desk for the Treasurer. The Office Manager's desk and a couple of chairs in the former General Presbyter's office will be donated.
  - 4.5 She has been receiving phone calls from churches asking about reopening. Discussion followed. In addition to all of the resources listed on the Presbytery's website, the Chair of Budget and Financial Services recommended that churches check with their local health departments as well as their liability insurance carriers and that each church have a written *Preparedness and Response Plan*. The decision to reopen the church for in-person worship services is the sole decision of the session of each congregation.

The Coordinating Council Chair advised that he, the Presbytery Moderator, and the Presbytery Vice Moderator will put together a

communication to send out to the Presbytery's churches regarding reopening. The Coordinating Council Chair invited anyone who wished to be a part of the conversation to let him know before 12:30 p.m. today because he will be setting up a meeting.

- 4.6 Coordinating Council Chair further advised that in August we can hopefully create a task force to focus on the Manual of Operation. The Stated Clerk will address Bylaws issues.

5 **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

Committee on Ministry Chair, Ruling Elder Susanne Fantini, reported they were having a ZOOM meeting with a candidate the next day.

6 **COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL**

No report.

7 **COMMITTEE ON BUDGET AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

No report.

8 **COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

No report.

9 **COMMITTEE ON MISSION**

No report.

10 **COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION AND NOMINATIONS**

No report.

11 **PRESBYTERY REPRESENTATIVES TO SYNOD ASSEMBLY**

No report.

12 **TREASURER**

Presbytery Treasurer, Ruling Elder John Fought, submitted a written report. APPENDIX A, Treasurer's Report ending April 30, 2020.

13 **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

Presbyterian Women Communicator, Ruling Elder Florence Morrison, announced that the Presbytery's Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering and the Synod's Presbyterian Women gathering in July have been

anceled.

#### 14 **STATED CLERK'S REPORT**

14.1 Stated Clerk, Ruling Elder Kay Morrill, reported verbally.

14.1.1 Presbytery's commissioners to General Assembly and the Young Adult Advisory Delegate will need two screens for the meeting that will be held virtually for the first time ever, one screen for PC-Biz for the business of the Assembly and one for ZOOM which is how the meeting will be held.

##### 14.1.2 **Communication**

An email from Rev. Rayford J. Ray, the Episcopal Bishop in the Diocese of Northern Michigan, Marquette, inviting Presbyterians to join faith communities across the Upper Peninsula to alleviate hunger in the Upper Peninsula by raising money to provide food for two (2) mobile food pantries. He stated, "We have been in conversation with and have received commitments of participation from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Marquette, ELCA Northern Great Lakes Synod, Michigan United Methodist Church District, and the Jewish Community. "In the Upper Peninsula, 1 in 8 residents faces food insecurity. The rate for children is 1 in 5. Given the economic impact of COVID-19 virus, these statistics are likely to worsen," he stated.

This item was referred to the Committee on Mission.

14.2 The Stated Clerk submitted a written report.

##### 14.2.1 **Matthew 25 Congregations**

The Presbyterian Mission Agency has advised that the Presbytery of Mackinac has three Matthew 25 congregations, as follows:

First, Petoskey	August 2019
First, Marquette	November 21, 2019
The Presbyterian Church, Traverse City	December 2, 2019

In our commitment to become a Matthew 25 church, we are called to act boldly and compassionately to serve people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned and poor. By joining on this journey, these churches have united in common mission with Presbyterians to become a more relevant presence in the world.

##### 14.2.2 **2019 Presbytery Statistical Report**

The **2019 Presbytery Statistical Report** is a compilation of statistics reported annually to the Office of the General Assembly from the 39 churches in the Presbytery of Mackinac. APPENDIX B, 2019 Presbytery Statistical Report.

The Presbytery showed an overall loss of 182 members in 2019 compared

to a loss of 217 in 2018.

### 14.2.3 Composition/Numerical Parity

In accordance with G-3.0301 in the *Book of Order*, year-end 2019 shows the numerical parity of Teaching Elders and Ruling Elders as follows:

<b>Teaching Elders</b>		<b>Ruling Elders</b>	
Validated Ministry	18	Elder Commissioners	40
Members at Large	3	Elder Members Council	10
Honorably Retired	40	Commissioned Ruling Elders	
Minus non residents	<u>8</u>	(CREs/CLPs)	<u>3</u>
<b>TOTAL Teaching Elders</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>TOTAL Ruling Elders</b>	<b>53</b>

Attendance at Presbytery meetings during 2019—

	<b>Teaching Elders</b>	<b>Ruling Elders</b>
February 23, 2019 (Stated)	19	23
May 18, 2019 (Stated)	22	19
September 20-21, 2019 (Stated)	14	14

### 14.2.4 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2020)

Presbyters from Mackinac elected Minister Commissioner, the **Rev. Dr. Anne Hebert** (St. Andrews, Beulah), **Ruling Elder Commissioner Cyndi Couchene** (First of Iron County, Iron River), and **Young Adult Advisory Delegate, Henry Sale** (First, Marquette).

The Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA) has canceled plans to hold the in-person Assembly in Baltimore June 20-27 and to conduct the Assembly virtually on June 19, 26, and 27. An abbreviated Assembly, COGA will focus on addressing critical issues during those few days, recommending that other issues be considered at the 225<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2022). Assembly Committee on Business Referral will be the only committee for this Assembly. General Assembly will be held on PC-BIZ and Zoom. GA will host a mandatory training for Commissioners and YAADs.

The list of critical items to be considered at the Assembly gathering in June will include the following:

Standing Rules changes (suspending, approving temporary rules)

Moderator and Stated Clerk elections

General Assembly Nominating Committee (GANC) nominations

Critical business with legal and financial implications

Actions taken by the 224<sup>th</sup> Assembly will be reaffirmed by the 225<sup>th</sup> Assembly in 2022.

The official website to see and follow the business of the General

Assembly is [www.pc-biz.org](http://www.pc-biz.org).

#### 14.2.5 **Synod of the Covenant**

The Interim Synod Executive, the Rev. Dr. Charles “Chip” B. Hardwick, has been meeting with and familiarizing himself with the Synod’s eleven presbyteries. On May 5, Mackinac’s elected officers and office staff person met with him via Zoom to given him an overview of the Presbytery, the highlights and lowlights of the presbytery’s ministry and mission, and how he and the Synod can serve Mackinac Presbytery.

#### 15 **ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER**

There being no other business to come before the Coordinating Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m. with prayer by the Rev. William Rayment. The next meeting of the Coordinating Council of the Presbytery of Mackinac will be on Tuesday, August 11, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.

Kay Morrill  
Stated Clerk

#### **APPENDICES**

- APPENDIX A**      Treasurer’s Report ending April 30, 2020
- APPENDIX B**      2019 Presbytery Statistical Report

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