Minnesota Valleys Presbytery

2020 Narrative Budget

Who We Are

We are congregations who seek to be a collective expression of the Body of Christ joyfully participating in Christ’s on-going life and work.

Our Vision

Our vision reshapes the Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys from working for congregations to being with congregations as they serve Christ in the world.

What We Value

Nurture

Outreach

Order
Connected in Theology, Witness and Mission

Each Per Capita contribution and mission pledge supports the witness and mission of our 52 congregations in this region. Our congregations provide a Reformed witness of the Gospel. At the core of Presbyterian identity is a secure hope in the grace of God in Jesus Christ. We are distinct in two significant ways—our Reformed theology and form of government that stresses the active, representational leadership of both ministers and church members.

We are a connectional church that, similar to the Church in Acts, shared their monetary gifts in a joint mission. Mutual sharing allows for those with much to share of their good gifts, and those with little to have the support needed for ministry.

Our faith calls us to a practical faith. Worship is an activity of common life. Our Confessions boldly proclaim “we believe statements” where our positions are public and represent our interpretation of Scripture jointly in daily life. Through mission, justice-making, stewardship and mutual empowerment and forbearance, we express the reality of God’s power to create and sustain community in the midst of a sinful world.

“What are human beings created to do? Reformed theology says that human beings are to “know God and enjoy [God] forever.”

How the Presbytery Lives Into Its Mission

The Commission on Presbytery Life

- Plans engaging, informative and celebratory Presbytery meetings, including the Commissioner Briefing and receiving the four church wide offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Peace and Global Witness, and Christmas Joy
- Provides vision and strategy for the ongoing life of the presbytery
- Promotes, encourages, and enables congregational participation in, and support of, Presbyterian mission, social justice concerns, and peacemaking initiatives, including but not limited to the presbytery’s current mission connections:
  - Presbyterian Clearwater Forest
  - Lakeshore Center at Okoboji
  - Occidenté Partnership Task Force
  - Ethiopia-South Sudan Ministry Network
  - The Academy (Commissioned Pastor Training)
- Develops presbytery-sponsored events, both regionally and presbytery-wide, to enrich the lives and enhance the ministries of our congregations.

Total Cost of Ministry: $44,375.00
The Commission on Presbytery Operations

Ensures accountability to the councils of the church.

- Between the meetings of the Presbytery, Operations uses delegated authority to take actions on behalf of the Presbytery as necessary.
- Provides oversight for the Presbytery's budgeted and designated finances.
- Provides oversight for the Presbytery's property.
- Acts as Trustees of the Presbytery in accordance with the Presbytery's Fiscal Accountability Policies.
- Provides oversight of the Presbytery staff and implement the presbytery's approved personnel policies.
- Nominates members to serve on the Committee on Representation.
- Maintains communications with the Synod of Lake and Prairies and the General Assembly.
- Receives proposed changes to Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Operating Procedures and recommend action to presbytery.

Total Cost of Ministry: $129,744.00

Commission on Presbytery Life $ 1,200.00
Presbytery Meeting and Moderator Expenses $ 5,000.00
Ministries of the Presbytery (Education Events, Youth Triennium) $ 4,500.00
Mission Connections (Ethiopia-South Sudan, Occidenté, Camps at Clearwater and Okoboji, The Academy, Minnesota Council of Churches) $ 19,075.00
Unified Mission Support (GA and Synod) $ 14,000.00
Commission on Presbytery Operations, Administrative Commissions, Legal Expenses $ 4,000.00
Per Capita Apportionments $ 87,105.00
Financial Services $ 6,860.00
Presbytery Office Building/Utilities $ 24,550.00
Staff Services and Support

Presbytery staff includes three employees — the Executive Presbyter, Stated Clerk and Associate for Administration. Each person provides distinct service to the presbytery through resourcing, governance, communication, administration, and supporting pastors and congregations.

The Executive Presbyter (EP) serves full-time as the presbytery leader with administrative and spiritual responsibility for the pastors and congregations of the presbytery. In ministry with other leaders, the EP works to build relationships with congregations and pastors, being the public face of the presbytery the executive sets a positive tone for ministry and mission. Additionally, the EP resources commissions, collaborates with ecumenical partners, coaches the ministry plan, provides guidance on fiduciary, operational, and strategic direction, and supervises staff. On a monthly basis the EP time can be divided as a third on direct ministry to pastors and congregations. Another third on strategic planning and coaching the ministry plan and her remaining time managing the office, serving on ecumenical boards, writing, and serving the PC(USA) at large.

The Stated Clerk serves as the part-time Ecclesiastical Officer of the presbytery. The Clerk performs all duties prescribed by the Book of Order and the Presbytery By-Laws. Additionally, the clerk preserves and records official records and minutes of the presbytery, resource the Permanent Judicial Commission, administrative commissions, Commissions on Presbytery Life, and Operations; arrange for facilities for each presbytery meeting; serve as parliamentarian, and recruits and trains members to serve as Recording Clerks.

The Associate for Administration manages the daily operations of the presbytery office. She serves the presbytery through communications, processing financial transactions, distributing resources, working with denominational agencies, website management and assists commissions and supports the presbytery through administrative support.

Total Cost of Ministry $248,275 (including salaries, benefits, and reimbursables)
Mission, learning together, service to others

Committee on Congregational Transformation and Development

Our vision is to be a catalyst to our congregations, as they discern their passions and live out God’s call to ministry and mission.

- Encourages and equips our congregations, individually, and as networks
- Connects congregations with appropriate resources for their ministries
- Challenges congregations in the development of new collaborative mission and ministry initiatives.
- Acts on grant requests from congregations seeking support:
  - for new, collaborative mission and ministry initiatives
  - for well-articulated growth-oriented goals (Isaiah 43:19)
  - for upgrading technologies
  - for conferences, workshops, other learning opportunities

Total Cost of Ministry: $ 5,600

Committee on Representation

Our vision is to prayerfully discern God's call to those who might serve

- Fulfills the constitutional responsibilities assigned to it in the Book of Order, G-3.0103.
- Serves as the nominating committee of the Presbytery, striving to fulfill Presbytery's mandate of diversity and inclusivity.

Total Cost of Ministry: $ 500

Committee on Congregational Nurture

Our vision is to foster the well-being of all congregations of the presbytery.

- Develops relationships with and among the presbytery’s congregations with a strong commitment to their overall health and well-being
- Conducts regular visits to each congregation
- Communicates the particular needs or concerns of the congregations to the appropriate presbytery entity.

Total Cost of Ministry: $ 500
Pastors and Ministry Partners

How beautiful are the feet of those who spread Good News

Commission on Leadership

- Provides support, resources, and care for pastors
- Works with congregations and pastors in the all areas of their relationships, including pastoral transitions
- Acts on grant requests from individuals seeking support for conferences, workshops, other learning opportunities
- Works with inquirers and candidates on behalf of the Presbytery as they move through the process of preparation for ministry as outlined in the Advisory Handbook on Preparation for Ministry from the General Assembly
- Provides for the training, examination, and nurture of Ruling Elders seeking to be commissioned to pastoral service
- Works with congregations in exploring non-traditional staffing models

Total Cost of Ministry: $ 12,000
Transformation Going Beyond Change

We have held several training events this year:

- January 22: Hopeful Conversations about Human to Human Relationships with Rev. Samuel Son
- March 19: Removing Internal Barriers to Success and Implementation with Rev. Felicia LaBoy
- May 2: Building a Congregational Immune System with Rev. Peter Steinke
- June 4: Resiliency: Building Spiritual Fortitude for Leading with Dr. Laurie Ferguson
- September 10: Making the Ask: Stewardship, Funds Development, and Talking about Money with Shirley Carter
- October 3: Preaching in Times of Transition with Rev. Gerald Liu

We are thrilled to have received grants totaling $53,000.00 from the Presbyterian Mission Agency and the Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation, which will help us continue our work.

2020 Proposed Regional Transformation Events and Projects:

- Leadership Retreat, Overnight Event with keynote speaker and workshop tracks in January 2020
- Elder and Deacon Training
- New Commissioner Orientation
- Cultural Competency Training February
- Four-part Webinar Series, Preaching in Times of Transition Quarterly
- Pastor’s Retreat in March
- Commission on Leadership Group Coaching Training in May
- Equipping for Mission/Community Engagement Webinar Two-part Series in June and October
- Regional Transformation Training in September
- Leadership assessments will be available for pastors participating in the Transformation Going Beyond Change Initiative
- Pilot Small Church Residency Program for two congregations
- Coaching and Conflict Intervention Task Force
**Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys 2020**

**Income**

- GA and Synod Unified Mission, $14,000
- Congregational Mission Support, $87,500
- General Assembly and Synod Per Capita, $87,105
- Synod Support: Salary/Benefit, $10,000
- Transfer of Assets, $58,404
- Investment Income, $19,000
- Presbytery Per Capita, $162,756

**Expenses**

- Presbytery Staff, $245,275
- MISSIONS AND PROGRAMS, $34,675
- CONNECTING WITH THE LARGER CHURCH, $107,605
- COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES, $18,800
- BUILDING AND OPERATIONS, $32,410