

## Commission on Ministry Report to Presbytery

February 10, 2026

### ITEM FOR PRESBYTERY ACTION:

#### **MOTION 1:**

Approve the revised Minimum Terms of Call Policy approved at the November 2025 Presbytery Assembly.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

COM presented a draft, revised policy for Minimum Terms of Call Policy at our September 2025 Presbytery Assembly meeting and asked that any comments be made to COM. Based on comments received and minor text edits, a revised policy was meant to be presented at the November Presbytery Assembly meeting. The text presented, however, was the same version submitted at the September meeting. The final revised policy dated September 22 is attached and should be approved.

#### **MOTION 2:**

Approve the revised Sabbatical Policy.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The former Sabbatical Policy has fallen out of use because of its complexity and unrealistic timelines. It also did not allow for Commissioned Pastors qualifying for a sabbatical. The revised Sabbatical Policy is inclusive of Commissioned Pastors and is concise and informative.

#### **MOTION 3:**

Move to approve the following Administrative Commission (AC) for Central Presbyterian Church of New Lenox.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The session of the Central Presbyterian Church of New Lenox on January 11, 2026 voted to dissolve the congregation April 26, 2026 or as soon as practical after that date. The current pastor and moderator, Chrystal Abbott, thus requests the Presbytery form an Administrative Commission to work with the congregation. To support this request, the Commission on Ministry is asking the Presbytery Assembly to establish an Administrative Commission to take all action needed to work with the session and congregation of the Central Presbyterian Church of New Lenox to determine the dissolution of the congregation. A charge to this Administrative Commission is attached.

### ACTIONS TAKEN BY COM:

#### **New Calls**

1. Approved covenant, if the way be clear, between Ridgefield-Crystal Lake and Maggie Goodwin (MSW) effective February 2, 2026

Effective Salary	\$ 80,000.00
SECA (7.65%)	\$ 6,120.00
Reimbursable Expenses	\$ 17,900.00
Medical Coverage	\$ 14,000.00
Spouse Coverage	\$ 12,250.00
Pension	\$ 6,800.00

Death & Disability	\$ 800.00
Temporary Disability	\$ 400.00
Total Terms of Call	\$138,270.00
Business/Professional Expenses	\$ 3,000.00
Continuing Education	\$ 1,500.00
Medical Reimbursement (6%)	\$ 4,800.00
Moving Cost	\$ 8,600.00
Total Reimbursable Expenses	\$ 17,900.00

2. Approved covenant, if the way be clear, between Utica, Waltham and Kathleen Luke (MSW) effective January 12, 2026

Cash Salary	\$ 42,154.00
Fair Rental Value of Manse	\$ 13,846.20
Furnishing Allowance	\$ 4,000.00
Effective Salary	\$ 60,000.20
Utilities	\$ 3,141.00
Equivalent Salary	\$ 63,141.20
SECA	\$ 4,830.30
Medical Coverage	\$ 10,500.04
Pension	\$ 6,000.02
Total Terms of Call	\$ 84,471.56
Automobile Expense	\$ 2,000.00
Business/Professional Expenses	\$ 3,000.00
Medical Reimbursement	\$ 3,600.01
Moving Cost	\$ TBD
Total Reimbursable Expenses	\$ 8,600.01

New Commissions/Covenants\*

3. Approved covenant between Wilmington, First and Mike Engle (CP) effective November 30, 2025 – November 30, 2026.

Supply Pastor \$ 150.00/service

Renewal of Covenants and Contracts:

4. Approved renewed covenant between Rockford, Westminster, and Gretchen Hammeke (CP) effective January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026.

Full-time- 40 hours/week	
Cash Salary/ Total Effective Salary	\$65,000.00/year
Housing	\$15,000.00
Total Effective Salary	\$80,000.00
Automobile Expenses	per WPC policy
Professional Expenses	\$ 2,500.00
Continuing Education (2 weeks)	\$ 1,500.00
Vacation: 4 weeks (including 4 Sundays)	

5. Approved renewed covenant between Elwood, Community and Mike Engle (CP) effective December 1, 2025 – November 30, 2026.

Cash Salary	\$23,000.00/year
Housing	\$17,000.00
Total Effective Salary	\$40,000.00
SECA Supplement	\$ 2,947.00
Health Insurance	\$ 3,600.00
Health Care Reimbursement	\$ 2,311.00
Automobile Expenses	\$ 2,400.00
Continuing Education	\$ 500.00

Vacation: 4 weeks (including 6 Sundays)

6. Approved renewed covenant between Plainfield, Wheatland, and Chuck Johnson (CP) effective December 1, 2025 – November 30, 2026.

Part-time- 15 hours/week

Cash Salary	\$. 400.00/week
Total Effective Salary	\$ 20,800.00/year

Vacation: 4 weeks (including 4 Sundays)

7. Approved renewed covenant between Joliet, Westminster, and Karen Williams (CP) effective January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026.

Part-time- 30 hours/week

Cash Salary	\$16,836.04/year
Housing	\$16,559.92
Total Effective Salary	\$33,395.96/year
SECA Supplement	\$ 3,006.00
Health Care Reimbursement	\$ 1,900.00
Automobile Expenses	\$ 1,200.00
Professional Expenses	\$ 2,000.00
Continuing Education (2 weeks)	\$ 1,200.00

Vacation: 3 weeks (including 3 Sundays)

8. Approved renewed covenant between Manteno, Community, and Paul Koch (CP) effective December 18, 2025 – May 17, 2026.

Part-time- 30 hours/week

Cash Salary	\$ 220.00/week
Mileage (current IRS rate)	
Bible Studies, meetings, etc.	\$ 75.00/each

Vacation: 2 weeks (including 2 Sundays)

9. Approved renewed covenant between Caledonia, Willow Creek, and Tanya Muzzarelli (CP) effective January 6, 2026 – February 2, 2027.

As needed in pastor's absence Pulpit Supply \$150

10. Approved renewed covenant between Joliet, Westminster, and Karen Williams (CP) effective January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026.

Part-time- 30 hours/week

Cash Salary	\$31,535.04/year
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Medicare Supplement	\$ 3,418.48
Total Effective Salary	\$33,395.96/year
Automobile Expenses	\$ 2,250.00
Professional Expenses	\$ 1,500.00
Continuing Education	\$ 1,500.00

Approved Moderators:

11. Mendota, First for congregational meeting January 25, - Eric Heinekamp (MWS)
12. Ridgefield Crystal Lake, for congregational meeting February 1 – Ruling elder and clerk, Jim Pracht.
13. Rochelle, First for congregational meeting February 1 – Ruling elder, Lydia Roberts.

Miscellaneous:

14. Earlville, United request approved for a waiver of term limits for Jennifer Miller, Lisa Karlson, and Al Matison to serve a third term as elder because of the lack of others willing to serve.
15. Earlville, United and Mendota, First request approved Elder, Dale Keilman to serve communion at Earlville, in the absence of Laurie Walker (CP).

**OTHER INFORMATION**

- Pastor Supply List is notably a very short list. COM and CPM are working to supplement this list.
- A big welcome to Ridgefield-Crystal Lake pastor, Maggie Goodwin (MSW).
- A big welcome back to Utica, Waltham pastor, Kathleen Luke (MSW).
- A reminder: The PCUSA 1001 Worshipping Communities is offering \$10k with matching grants available for any small group that wants to start something new outside of an existing church body. Please contact our New Communities Committee with ideas or for more information.
- **A Presbytery Liaison is meant to be assigned to every church in the Presbytery. Their job is to build a supportive relationship with the church and serve as a go-to person for questions or assistance about church ministry. Please let the new moderator of the Liaison Committee, Katie Ricks (MWS) or me know if you are interested in serving as a liaison. Elders are perfect for this special calling.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurie Walker (CP)  
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