

BLACKHAWK PRESBYTERY / ILLINOIS PRAIRIE PRESBYTERY
REVISIONS TO ECCLESIASTICAL ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL

February 2026

MOTION: To approve the Ecclesiastical Administrative Manual revised February 2, 2026

The following changes and clarifications are included in this revision:

1. Globally replaced the name Blackhawk Presbytery with Illinois Prairie Presbytery with the assumption the name change will be approved on March 13, 2026.
2. Modified boundaries of the presbytery for Ford County to only include Piper City (page 1)
3. Split Visioning and Assembly Planning Committee of Council into two separate committees: 1) Visioning and 2) Assembly Planning (pages 8, 11)
4. Reduced the size of the Mission Committee from 9 to 6 elected members (page 9)
5. Removed specifics of 6 subcommittees under Commission on Ministry (COM) and refers detail of how COM operates to the COM Manual (in development) (page 11)
6. Changed name of Committee on Preparation for Ministry to Commission on Preparation for Ministry since it is a commission of the Presbytery Assembly (page 12)
7. Added position of Associate Stated Clerk under officers and staff (pages 4, 15)
8. Clarified the composition of committees and commissions that may include at-large, ruling elder, or member of congregations. Committees are generally comprised of ministers of the Word and Sacrament and members of congregations. Commissions are generally comprised of ministers of the Word and Sacrament and ruling elders (page 6 and throughout document)
9. Made changes to clarify wording, remove redundant language, or correct inconsistencies.
10. Eliminated the list of policies since every time new policy is approved, we would need to update the manual.