

**Meeting Packet
for the 496th Stated Meeting
of the Presbytery of Des Moines**



May 20, 2014

**Hosted by
First Presbyterian Church
Held at
Lucas Community Center
Lucas, Iowa**

A-3 – CHURCH PROFESSIONAL TASK FORCE REPORT

May 20, 2014

The Task Force presents the following recommendations to the Presbytery for adoption:

A-3-R-1 Pursuant to an action taken by the former Professional Care and Development Committee on December 13, 2013 but not brought to the Presbytery for action, that the Rev. Adam Nardini be removed from the Rolls of the Presbytery. Rev. Nardini has been informed of this recommendation.

A-3-R-2 That the Salary Change Report for 2014 be approved.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Lou Aspengren, moderator

A-3 – CHURCH PROFESSIONAL TASK FORCE REPORT continued...

**Presbytery of Des Moines
2013 SALARY CHANGES**

May 20, 2014

Report available upon request.

A-4 – CONGREGATIONAL TRANSITION TASK FORCE REPORT**May 20, 2014****Continued from the report in the Call (2nd page was left off)**

A-4-A-7 Approved Rev. Dr. John Cole to serve as Interim Pastor of the Heartland Presbyterian Church, Clive with terms to begin June 1, 2014 for one year:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Salary | \$53,000 |
| Housing and Utilities | \$24,000 |
| Board of Pensions | \$28,260.58 |
| SECA | \$7,489 |
| Continuing Education, Cell phone reimbursement, Mileage, parking | \$3,000 |
| Moving Expenses | \$2,000 |
| Vacation | 4 weeks |
| Study Leave | 2 weeks |
| Full Pension, Major Medical, Death and Disability Dues | |

A-4-A-8 Approved Rev. Jessica Wietzke to serve as Interim Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Grimes with terms as full-time position to begin May 4, 2014:

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Salary | \$44,000 |
| Automobile Allowance | IRS Rate |
| Continuing Education | \$1,500 |
| Study Leave | 2 weeks |
| Vacation | 4 weeks |

Respectfully Submitted,
Joyce Rash, moderator

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C – COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY REPORT

May 20, 2014

The committee presents the following recommendations to the Presbytery:

- C-R-3 On Feb. 21, the committee voted unanimously to recommend that Jenny Peek (Grinnell, First) be enrolled as an inquirer of the Presbytery of Des Moines. Miss Peek will begin her studies at Yale Divinity School in the fall of 2014.

The committee presents the following information items:

- C-I-2 The committee would like to ask for names of those who would like to be considered as ordination exam readers. You must have access to a computer; training is provided. Reading exams still takes places over a week's time, but no longer requires travel. All exams are read and graded on personal computers.
- C-I-3 The committee has prepared bookmarks to aid the presbytery in praying for each person under care. Please use these for your personal and corporate prayers. Extras are available upon request.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sue Tomlinson, moderator

D – BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

May 20, 2014

Current Presbytery Budgeting Process

A. September:

- The office manager solicits committees and task forces for budget requests for following year.

B. October: Budget and Finance meet

- The figures received are plugged into the budget. If we haven't received a request, we either use last year's amount or base next year's number on what it looks like they will actually use in the current year.
- We plug in the salary recommendations from personnel.
- We estimate what mission giving from the local churches will be for the coming year, based on the current year and overall trends.
- We then look at the difference between estimated income and what we have in the budget for expenses. If expenses are more than income we do a couple of things:
 1. We adjust what the committees have requested and reduce the amount if we think we can.
 2. We try to identify other revenue sources that would help to bridge the gap.
- Looking at our income needs, we decide what to recommend to Presbytery for the following year's per capita.
- Based on all that information, we finalize an expense budget and per capita amount to propose to Presbytery in November.

C. November: Presbytery meets

- We present the expense budget to Presbytery.
- We share for informational purposes what our estimated income budget is.

D. December:

- The General Mission pledge forms are sent to all churches with a deadline in December for them to be returned to the office.

E. January: Budget and Finance meets

- Using the mission pledges that have come in, and using estimates for the ones that have not, we look again at our income budget and adjust as necessary based on these numbers.

F. February: Presbytery meets

- We present the income budget to Presbytery for approval.

J – GENERAL PRESBYTER REPORT

May 20, 2013

Our culture is one full of comparisons. Whether it's school districts, friends, town size, houses of neighbors, families, cars, sports teams (of course) or even churches, we compare them to others. Making these comparisons is not necessarily bad. We can learn from making them. However, we often fall into the trap of suggesting that, because one of these comparisons seems to indicate that because the item to which we're comparing is bigger, more successful, better, more powerful, the right way to do something, or many other things, we decide that how these things are done is the way we ought to do them. In this time of radical change and challenge in our churches, especially due to the difficulties with gaining and/or losing members, looking at churches that have more members, more money, full-time pastors, better programs, etc., leads to envy and discouragement.

Tim Cool is a consultant on building size, usage and location. In a recent article entitled *Uniqueness and Origin Stories*, he shares some fascinating and interesting thoughts:

“Every church is unique.

“Every church has some context, personality, passion, vision and story that make it unique.”

“Period!”

“However, too often we see a ministry that we aspire to emulate and try to mimic how they do things. We look at their size or their multi-site initiatives or preaching and music style and think that if we can just be like them, we could impact our community in the same way!

“Rick Warren was a big church...can we all agree on that? In a recent devotional on Your Vision, Pastor Warren tells this analogy:

In my home, the most important light is not the large chandelier in our dining room but the little night-light that keeps me from stubbing my toe when I get up at night. There is no correlation between size and significance. Every ministry matters because we are all dependent on each other to function.

“Recently, our pastor was teaching on Romans 4:18-21. This is an inspirational passage from Paul about the steadfastness of the father of our faith, Abraham. Read verses 19-21:

Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead – since he was about a hundred years old – and that Sarah's womb was also dead. Yet he did not waiver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.

“Wow...I love that...and yet, when read the actual account in Genesis 15-17 about Abraham, we see a flawed man who wavered in his faith constantly. Here are some examples:

1. He sleeps with his wife's secretary when he and his wife lose faith that God will provide a son.
2. Later in Chapter 16, he deflects responsibility of his actions (of getting his wife's secretary pregnant) and casts it back on his wife to deal with. Kind of cowardly if you ask me.
3. In Genesis 17:17, Abraham fell out laughing at God. Really...laugh at God. He had lost faith (I am sure I would have, too) that a 99-year-old man and a 90-year-old woman could conceive a child. HMMM...does not sound much like the father of our faith.

“To read Paul's account of Abraham sounds great and something that we should all aspire to...and we should. But we need to understand the back-story of what a person like Abraham had to endure to get to the point that he could be steadfast. What did he have to live through and witness to be fully persuaded that God had the power to do what He promised?

Seth Godin calls this the ‘Origin stories.’ Think about Hewlett Packard starting in a garage or that Superman was raised by the Kent family or that Jesus himself was the son of a carpenter. Think about all the free throws that Larry Bird would take in the snow in Indiana or the failures of Thomas Edison before he invented the light bulb. All *Origin Stories*.

Godin goes on to say:

We hear origin stories all the time. They're magnetic enough that we write books and make movies about them. Here's the thing: The only thing they have in common is that they are all different.

You can't reverse engineer success by researching origin stories. You can't follow the same path as those you admire and expect you'll end up in the same place. Everything worthwhile has an origin, but those origins aren't the reason that they are worthwhile.

So, before you covet your neighbor's church or the church you see on the Internet, remember that there is likely an Origin Story that you have not yet experienced. Once you learn that what those origin stories entail, you may think twice about whether or not you have the same drive or the willingness to make comparable sacrifices to reach the end result.

“Also, remember that the night-light may be the most productive light in your “house.”

May these words give us perspective during the anxious times in which we find ourselves.

Here are some of the places I've been and events I've attended since our last time together:

- ◆ Participated in several conference calls with other presbytery leaders in our state or synod
- ◆ Met with task force leaders
- ◆ Participated in the Leadership Council Retreat
- ◆ Attended the Mortgage Burning Service at the Ankeny church
- ◆ Met with several pastors
- ◆ Met with pastors interested in serving in our presbytery
- ◆ Attended the Stewardship Kaleidoscope and Synod EP/GP Forum in St. Louis

- ◆ Hosted ecumenical leaders in Iowa
- ◆ Attended several interviews of pastors for positions in our presbytery
- ◆ Preached at 1st Church, Knoxville
- ◆ Helped lead orientation of General Assembly Commissioners from North Central Iowa and Des Moines Presbyteries – held in Ames
- ◆ Met with Retired Pastors
- ◆ Attended meetings of Heartland Resource Network and Synod EP/GP Forum in Chicago
- ◆ Had lunch with administrators at Calvin Community
- ◆ Along with Jim Howland, met with the Cottage Grove Administrative Commission

As always, I am happy to share more about any of these activities with you.

During this season of celebrating our Lord's resurrection, I give thanks for all he has done, including bring us together to serve him in south central Iowa. I count it a privilege to be with you in this time and place.

Respectfully Submitted,
Phil Barrett

L – CAMPING/YOUTH MINISTRIES TASK FORCE REPORT

MAY 20, 2014

The Task Force presents the following recommendation to the Presbytery for adoption:

L-R-1 That the Presbytery grant permission for the celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to be observed at events sponsored by the Task Force in 2014.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dennis Britson, moderator

O-3 – COTTAGE GROVE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION REPORT

May 20, 2014

FINAL REPORT

PHILOSOPHY, VALUES AND BELIEFS

Our mission is defined first and properly by our given name: an Administrative Commission. Our hope from the very beginning is that we honor God, the deep history of the Des Moines Presbytery and the ministry of the members and all associated with Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church (CGAPC).

- To honor that history we desire to affirm and continue the presence of God's love in this world and in this time and place.
- To commit to the future, we wish to build for the next generation of mission and ministry.

Therefore, we have come to embrace the following:

- I. We are a gathered people whose first and final purpose is to give glory to God and serve the Human Family.
- II. We reconfirm we are a missional and connectional Presbytery as evidenced by:
 - The Mission of the Church as expressed in the Book of Order (F-1.01-F-3.04)
 - Fifty-seven congregations engaged in ministry
 - Historical acts of mission and ministry over the years in many places
- III. As a Commission, we cannot emphasize strongly enough the deep appreciation and gratitude we have for the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian congregation and the heroic commitment of all who have long labored. Today we honor Rev. Dr. David Madsen and Dr. Roberta Victor along with Rev. Dr. Bob Cook and Sharon Baker, as well as other current and past ministers, staff and members who have contributed to the amazing ministries of Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church.
- IV. We believe this local church has given birth to significant and imperative ministries, and those ministries, embedded in Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, are a unique and critical mission field of the Presbytery.
 - The gathered community of worship and mission (originating and Sudanese)
 - CROSS Ministries
 - El Salvador ministry
 - Other acts of love and support for the poor, marginalized and underserved that happen as a matter of course in the daily activity of this congregation and our shared Christian presence.
- V. We acknowledge and celebrate the commitment that has brought General Assembly agencies, the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, Presbytery of Des Moines and many of its congregations and individual members, ecumenical partners, non-profit organizations, and philanthropists together to labor in common interest.

OUR RECOMMENDATION FOR THE WAY FORWARD

The Administrative Commission for Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church recommends reshaping and reforming the structure so the ministries and mission can continue in this building.

We envision the church building becoming **Cottage Grove Presbyterian Mission Center** that may be home for:

- Worshiping communities,
- CROSS Ministries,
- Church offices,
- Offices for Presbytery of Des Moines,
- Ecumenical and community agency administrative offices,
- Social and health service agencies,
- Other agencies with like agendas.

TO ACT ON THAT RECOMMENDATION AND ACHIEVE THAT VISION:

1. Continue the Mission

We invite the Presbytery of Des Moines to engage formally as intentional partners in support of the work God is doing at Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church. *The church participates in God's mission to the world through its ministry and worship.* [BOO, W-7.1001]

In this way the Presbytery can more purposefully join Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church as it continues to be a vehicle of grace to the world – in this case a neighborhood in need of hospitality, healing, and hope - a place claimed and loved as home by not only the Sudanese but other newcomers to the Des Moines area, as well as the faithful remnant.

2. The Building

We recommend that the building located at 24th and Cottage Grove in Des Moines be repurposed as a mission center for the Presbytery of Des Moines and be transitioned to become the Cottage Grove Presbyterian Mission Center. **We recommend** that the Presbytery of Des Moines assume control of the building. The Presbytery of Des Moines will create and subsequently partner with a Covenant Council (see #3 below) to plan, fundraise and rehabilitate the building to make it a safe, clean, and reliable structure. *The property of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), of its councils and entities, and of its congregations, is a tool for the accomplishment of the mission of Jesus Christ in the world.* [BOO, G-4.0201]

The commission recognizes that there is nothing currently being done at Cottage Grove that could not be done elsewhere. However, the building which currently houses the Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church has many attractive features, including location within walking distance for many Sudanese and CROSS clients, historical significance, and recognized as a place of hospitality for refugees locally, nationally, and internationally and as the “home” for many Sudanese who have lost their original homes through war and strife.

Volunteer architects, building contractors, and preservationists have determined the building is structurally sound, though in need of many repairs. Through the generosity of Presbyterians and others, the boiler and roof have been replaced and repaired in recent years. We encourage the Presbytery to pursue National Register of Historic Places status for the building, already

determined to be eligible by the state Historic Preservation Office. This recognition could lead to grants for building improvement projects.

3. The Covenant Council

We recommend that a Covenant Council for the Cottage Grove Presbyterian Mission Center be appointed under the auspices of the Presbytery. The Covenant Council will create the functional apparatus that brings the new mission center and its operations into existence. They will design and develop the shape and direction of that mission and ultimately lead it to become financially self-sustaining. Realizing that fundraising is an immediate need, the Covenant Council should quickly take responsibility for fundraising. The Covenant Council will report to Presbytery.

It may draw upon as many and varied leadership resources as needed to do its work. It should be made up of representatives from Presbytery, the session, CROSS, ecumenical partners, building tenants, community leaders, and other stakeholders.

4. Continue a Worshipping Community

This worshipping community has existed for one hundred and twenty four years (construction for the current building began 100 years ago) and **we recommend** that a worshipping community continue in that place. The Cottage Grove tradition has been to welcome and embrace all who walk through its doors. Currently, three language groups worship within the building: English, Mabaan and Arabic. **We recommend** that the session be reformed to include lay leadership that reflects the fullness of that diversity: ethnicity, gender, age, etc.

Our plan includes relieving the congregation of the financial responsibility of the building (see #2) and the current pastoral leadership (see #7) so they can move into the future that God has planned for them.

5. Presbytery Offices

Key to our recommendation is that the Presbytery of Des Moines move its offices into the building to underscore its commitment to *partner with congregations and clergy to minister in a changing world*.¹ As a powerful symbol of the Presbytery's commitment to mission, it would lead to greater awareness of a need for rural and urban congregations to work together in a variety of mission fields.

The move would be financially sound, and provide a home for the Presbytery's offices. Personnel, equipment, and supplies could be shared, resulting in more savings. The site is centrally located and easily accessible via Martin Luther King, Jr., Parkway and I-235.

6. CROSS Ministries

We recommend that CROSS (Christians Reaching Out, Seeking to Serve) Ministries become a ministry of the Presbytery of Des Moines. The Commission believes that the services CROSS offers are vital and should be continued. It would do so most efficiently under its current director, Dr. Roberta J. Victor. The Commission envisions CROSS Ministries as under the care of Des Moines Presbytery, but independently operated under its own Board so as to avail itself of funding from within the Presbyterian Church as well as from without. To accomplish this goal, the federal and state 501(c)3 non-profit status of CROSS will need to be moved legally from Cottage Grove to the Presbytery. This must be done in a timely fashion so that current grants CROSS is receiving are not endangered. CROSS Ministries, as a social outreach program

¹ Presbytery of Des Moines Mission Statement
Presbytery of Des Moines, PC(USA)

committee of the Cottage Grove Session, has been serving the homeless and near homeless since 1975.

CROSS has been supported by the Presbytery of Des Moines, the faith community, social service organizations, fundraisers, grants and caring individuals. It is one of only a very few non-profit organizations in Des Moines that perform such emergency functions. It is a ministry that was originally created to meet the emergency survival needs of those being served.

In 2010 Cottage Grove Church, through CROSS Ministries and the Des Moines Area Religious Council, added the services of an emergency food pantry, open on a weekday afternoon and Saturday mornings, to serve the needs of people who were unable to avail themselves of such services during workday hours. Since 1989 CROSS has sponsored a Back to School Backpack Giveaway serving up to 1500 children each fall.

7. Pastoral Leadership

Rev. David Madsen

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery, and Rev. Madsen have given the Sudanese their lives back by accepting them and helping them as refugees. It is now time for them to take charge of their own future.

Rev. David Madsen is a wonderful ambassador for the Sudanese and the love and respect that he has for them is mutual and obvious. The Commission celebrates and respects Rev. Madsen's work and ministry.

Rev. Sam Atiemo, PC(USA) Associate for African Emerging Ministries, visited with the Commission and the congregation. After his five-day visit, he observed that "The Sudanese at Cottage Grove started out as a mission, but they are evolving as a ministry." In order for this worshipping community to survive and thrive, Rev. Atiemo believes the Sudanese need to have a period of transition (it could take a while) where they determine their own needs, formulate their own plan and then eventually call leadership of their choosing. He stressed that, on the outset of this effort, the Sudanese worshipping community will absolutely need outside financial and logistical support, but they need to develop their own program themselves and then they will be able to operate independently.

Along with property upkeep and maintenance as well as other day-to-day expenses, the congregation no longer has the resources to fund pastoral leadership in the manner in which it has been provided. We recommend changing pastoral leadership to reflect the congregation's actual ability to fund such a position. We regretfully recommend the pastoral relationship between Rev. Dr. David Madsen and Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church be dissolved when the Presbytery funding of his salary package ceases on June 30, 2014.

[The amount of money authorized for the allocation to Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church by the Presbytery of Des Moines to enable it to continue operations through June 30, 2014 was \$61,418. To date, as of May 15, 2014, the amount expended totals \$46,103. A detailed accounting of the total expended by Presbytery will be provided shortly after June 30, 2014.]

Rev. Goanar Chol

The Rev. Goanar Chol is an employee of the Presbytery of Des Moines. Considering the recommendations and changes suggested in this report, we recommend that the Presbytery Personnel Committee reassess his position. In order for the next generation of leadership among the Sudanese to develop and for them to determine their own leadership needs, we recommend

that Rev. Chol's gifts be used in other ways than in serving with the Sudanese at Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church.

We have observed that the interpretive arena seems to be a particular passion and skill for Rev. Chol. He especially excels at conveying the suffering of his people after many years of war and conflict in South Sudan. He has proved instrumental in mediating among the differing tribes in his country, and has been recognized internationally for these efforts. He has raised funds for vital projects, such as water purification, in South Sudan. His strength is in the national and international domain and is recognized for his work at the Synod and General Assembly level. Therefore, we recommend that our Presbytery continue to encourage Rev. Chol to pursue this passion and vocation and assist him to further focus and participate where his gifts will be best utilized.

8. Ecumenical Partners

We recommend that we continue the involvement of ecumenical partners and interested stakeholders from the private sector.

- Additional partners could include churches that have historically provided financial and volunteer resources to Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church, as well as the Muslim and Jewish communities with connections to Cottage Grove and the Sudanese.
- The interested stakeholders include the parties that currently or may potentially utilize the Cottage Grove building. They include the Sudanese worshippers, the present congregation, Presbytery (building landlord), African Council, CROSS Ministries, Drake Neighborhood Association, Drake University, and social service agencies. These are entities that will likely see the value in a Cottage Grove Presbyterian Mission Center.
- There will be opportunities to enlist the support of other faith communities outside the Presbyterian Church that have a relationship with the Sudanese. Although the majority of Sudanese who live in Des Moines worship and congregate at Cottage Grove Church, a small portion of them worship in other churches throughout the Des Moines area. Sudanese are attending worship services in eight metro Des Moines area churches and one mosque. The other churches are Catholic, Episcopalian, and Lutheran and, like the Presbyterians, reflect their missionary presence in Sudan since the early 1900s. From previous research we know these churches recognize and affirm the valuable role Cottage Grove has played as "home" to the Sudanese.

The following requests will be made of each entity:

1. An affirmation of the vision of Cottage Grove Presbyterian Mission Center as an ecumenical center for the community, as detailed in this report.
2. A commitment to participate as a stakeholder in the formation, development, and management of the center.
3. A commitment to provide resources determined appropriate by the particular stakeholder.
4. A commitment to provide a representative to serve on the Covenant Council.

9. Transition

We recommend that Presbytery immediately form the Covenant Council and it be given the responsibility and authority of administering the transition.

In conclusion, the Commission would like to dearly thank all of the many people of the Des Moines Presbytery and the Larger Church who gave freely and lovingly of their time, wisdom and knowledge to assist us in our work, who care for the life and mission of Christ's Church and have created the supportive environment out of which this report is given. We are certain that due to the enormity of our task, there may be things we have missed, so...

Please help us with your thoughts.

We invite you to send them via email: cgpccom@gmail.com

Members of the Commission:

Harold Eklund
Ronald Grohe
Virginia Hancock
Richard Harbart
Shamaine Chambers King
Elizabeth Knott
Joanne Page

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

Louise Gately
Jack Ratekin

Respectfully Submitted,
Richard Harbart, moderator

**SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING OF
COMMISSIONERS AND ADVISORY DELEGATES TO
221st GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

May 20, 2014

Moderator: Brothers and Sisters in Christ, you have been chosen by this presbytery to serve our Lord Jesus Christ in this 221st General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Your privilege and task is to seek to discern God's will regarding the mission and ministries of this church in the world today. You are called to seek the guidance of God's Spirit in your deliberations and in relationships built.

As many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Galatians 3:27

People: There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer male or female; for all of you are one in Jesus Christ.

Galatians 3:28

Moderator: So, lead a life that is worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:1-4

People: There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to the one hope of our calling, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in all.

Ephesians 4:4-6

Moderator: Do you Ted, Ann, and Holly - accept the call of your presbytery, and of the Church, to this service, and commit yourselves to prayerful and considerate discernment and deliberation about the matters that will build up the Body of Christ?

**Commissioners &
Advisory Delegates:**

With the help of the spirit of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we do.

Moderator: Let us join in a prayer of dedication.
Faithful God, in baptism you claimed us and we are yours; renew that covenantal promise we pray by your Spirit, we discern that you are working in our lives, empowering us to live a life worthy of our calling. We thank you for calling these commissioners and advisory delegates to serve you. Establish them in your truth, and guide them by your Spirit, that, together with all your people, they may exercise faith, hope, and love, and be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and Holy Spirit be honor, and glory, now and forever.

Advisory Delegates: Be with us throughout the General Assembly, we pray. Help us welcome new things you are doing in the world, and to respect old things you have instituted and sustained. Save us from empty slogans or senseless controversy. Give us occasions of Sabbath rest amid our responsibilities. In our deciding, Lord, bring about what is good for all your people. May your Spirit rule, so that your church may be joined in love and faithful service to Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

Moderator: You are now commissioned to service in the 221st General Assembly. Whatever you do in word and deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, giving thanks to God in everything!