



## **VISION AND IDENTITY**

The Presbytery of East Iowa seeks to be a community in which God in Christ is present in our relationships, and the Spirit is apparent in our actions of welcome, hospitality, witness, leadership, and service.

## **CORE VALUES**

<b>Trust:</b>	Reflecting who God calls us to be, we commit ourselves to one another through transparent actions that keep faith with one another
<b>Acceptance:</b>	Appreciating the gifts and perspectives of everyone, but particularly those whose thoughts, preferences, and approaches differ from ours
<b>Community:</b>	Fostering connections in the communities in which we are located, in the ecumenical church, and in cultures around the globe to share God's love in concrete actions of ministry and mission
<b>Collaboration:</b>	Thinking, conversing, worshipping, discerning, and working together for the common good
<b>Imagination:</b>	Dreaming together of new areas of service, new ways to relate, and new dimensions of our collective identity as the body of Christ
<b>Energy:</b>	Displaying the vitality and passion of the Holy Spirit in our worship and our endeavors as servant leaders

**Justice:** Recognizing that God's creation includes fellow humans of all races, ethnicities, genders, classes, and stages of life, we minister beyond Presbytery boundaries to ensure justice for all people.

## **PRIORITIES**

Our Vision, Identity, and Core Values lead us to prioritize the following dimensions of our lives together:

### **Congregational Vitality**

Equipping congregations with resources and strategies that will enable them to effectively share God's love in the world and joyfully live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ as communities of faith, hope, love, and witness.

### **Leadership Development**

Developing effective servant leaders who can model discipleship as they engage in missional relationships with discernment, commitment, sensitivity and passion

### **Building Bridges and Enhancing Collaborative Opportunities**

Fostering congregational networks, ecumenical and interfaith partnerships, social justice networks and engagement with community agencies that enable us to meaningfully address issues affecting the communities we serve.

## **MISSION STATEMENT PRESBYTERY OF EAST IOWA**

**The mission of the Presbytery of East Iowa is to further the Realm of God by living and acting in covenant relationship with one another and with the whole of God's creation to embody the Great Ends of the Church through**

- **Challenging presbyters and churches to continual missional learning, growth, experimentation, and engagement**
- **Faithfully stewarding our shared theological traditions, essential values, and resources**
- **Cultivating internal and external missional relationships and partnerships**
- **Calling and nurturing effective missional leaders**
- **Fostering creativity and excellence in all of our endeavors**

## **PRESBYTERY OF EAST IOWA GUIDING VISION COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **Presbytery Coordinating Commission**

The PCC functions as the strategic leadership team that coordinates the ministry and mission for the Presbytery. This team is comprised of a teaching and ruling elder (one of which is the moderator) from each standing team and the Presbytery officers.

The PCC is commissioned to carry out aspects of the Presbytery's work in the following ways:

- Coordinate initiatives and activities among committees according to Presbytery strategic plan
- Work with the Committee on Preparation for Ministry to develop and implement regular plans for growth in leadership skills for those serving in various capacities within the Presbytery, including an annual retreat to train Presbytery leaders
- Work with all committees to develop opportunities to work cooperatively with other presbyteries and ecumenical entities to fulfill their particular responsibilities
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In partnership with Stated Clerk:

- coordinate agenda for business meetings of the Presbytery
- facilitate planning for education and spiritual growth meetings of the Presbytery
- propose a schedule (dates, times, & locations) for meetings of the Presbytery
- call special meetings of the Presbytery when appropriate
- communicate regularly with all committees to assure that work is done in a timely manner.

Members:

Moderator of Presbytery Vice-Moderator

Stated Clerk

Presbytery Team Moderators

### **Ministerial Relations Group**

#### **Commission on Ministry and Vitality**

The Commission on Ministry and Vitality provides loving support, helping equip congregations in building healthy and sustainable ministry, including initiatives to build new worshipping communities.

This Team is commissioned to:

- Appoint administrative commissions of Presbytery for the purpose of ordaining and installing Ministers and Commissioned Ruling Elders to particular pastoral service with the responsibility to report all such appointments at the next meeting of Presbytery
- Approve renewals of terms of call and contracts for Ministers and Commissioned Ruling Elders with the responsibility to report all such appointments at the next meeting of Presbytery

- Make recommendations to the Presbytery regarding new terms of call and contracts
- Recommend Presbytery examination of and reception of Ministers of Word and Sacrament by transfer from other presbyteries for the purpose of accepting valid calls to ministry and membership in the Presbytery; and for membership in the Presbytery as at-large and honorably retired minister members
- Approve and review annually the work of all teaching elders and CREs engaged in validated ministries
- Counsel with sessions concerning reported difficulties within a congregation, including: (1) advising the session as to appropriate actions to be taken to resolve the reported difficulties, (2) offering to help as a mediator, and (3) acting to correct the difficulties if requested to do so by the session or if the session is unable or unwilling to do so, following the procedural safeguards of the Rules of Discipline
- Recommend to the Presbytery the appointment of administrative commissions with authority to assume original jurisdiction in any situation in which it determines that a session cannot exercise its authority
- Propose annually the minimum compensation standards for pastoral calls and Certified Christian Educators and Certified Associate Christian Educators for approval by the Presbytery

Members:

Co-Chairs-Teaching Elder and Ruling Elder

9 members in three classes

### **Committee on Preparation for Ministry**

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry:

- Works with the PCC to develop and implement regular plans for growth in pastoral leadership
- Develops skills for those serving in various capacities within the Presbytery, including an annual retreat to train Presbytery leaders
- Proposes and administers the Presbytery's financial support for preparation for ministry
- Cares for and supervises candidates and inquirers for ordination as Teaching Elders and supervises the preparation of Commissioned Ruling Elders
- Perform annual consultations with inquirers and candidates

This Team makes recommendations to the Presbytery to

- Enroll inquirers in covenant relationship with the Presbytery
- Transfer inquirers and candidates to other presbyteries
- Receive inquirers and candidates by transfer from other presbyteries
- Certify candidates ready to receive a call and give candidates permission to circulate the Personal Information Form
- Remove an individual from Inquirer or Candidate status

Members:

Co-Chairs-Teaching Elder and Ruling Elder

9 members in three classes

### **Pastoral Care Team**

The Pastoral Care Team is organized by regions in the Presbytery so that pastors in need of care will be visited by neighboring colleagues. This ministry may be a vital one in which at-large and honorably retired minister members may serve. The team is distributed by region as follows:

North Region: 4 care team members (13 churches)

South Region: 5 care team members (20 churches)

West Region: 4 care team members (17 churches)

East Region: 4 care team members (14 churches)

### **Mission and Witness Group**

#### **Mission and Social Justice Team**

The Mission and Social Justice Team carries out aspects of the Presbytery's mission and social justice in the following ways:

- Encourages and supports ministry partnerships among congregations and ecumenical and interfaith organizations which fulfill the mission of church
- Promotes and supports ministries of social racial and environmental justice, peacemaking, and self-empowerment throughout the congregations and through other groups in the Presbytery
- Promotes and supports ministries of proclamation, evangelism, and discipleship throughout the congregations and through other groups in the Presbytery
- Proposes and administers the Presbytery's financial support for church mission

Members:

12 members in three classes

This Team will work in coordination with the **Peacemaking Task Force**. The purpose of the Peacemaking Task Force is to promote peace through education, prayer, and our personal lives.

## **Finance and Stewardship Work Group**

### **Board of Trustees**

The Presbytery shall have a board of seven trustees comprised of both ruling and teaching elders. Collectively these officers bear corporate responsibility for maintaining fiduciary trust, the legal duty to act solely in another party's interests. In this case, the Trustees act as a body to look after the financial and legal affairs of the Presbytery and its corporation with an obligation to act in a way that responsibly stewards the long-term interest of the larger church. The work of the Trustees involves attending to the affairs of the Presbytery corporation, oversight of special donations, financial accounts and restricted funds in accord with the Presbytery Financial Policy and managing the real property of the Presbytery and its constituent churches as necessary.

Members:

6 members in three classes

Presbytery Officers (Note: The Stated Clerk serves as Corporate Secretary)

### **Budget & Finance Team**

The Budget & Finance Team carries out aspects of the Presbytery's financial processes in the following ways:

- Prepares and proposes a budget for annual operating expenses to support the Presbytery's mission, ministry, and administrative operations
- Propose to the Presbytery the means to fund the operating budget
- Conduct a full financial review of all financial books and records every year, with professional external review at least every three years
- Present a financial report at each business meeting of the Presbytery
- Consult and coordinate with the Board of Trustees concerning financial issues impacting the Presbytery budget
- Consult and coordinate with the Personnel Committee concerning salary issues impacting the Presbytery budget

Members:

9 members in three classes

## **Administrative and Judicial Group**

### **Office of the Stated Clerk**

### **Personnel Team**

The Personnel Team provides counsel, guidance, care, and advocacy support for the continuing staff of the Presbytery as defined in the *Presbytery Employee Handbook*. The Team conducts an annual review of continuing professional and support staff of the Presbytery. The Team shall also make recommendations to the Presbytery, through the Presbytery Coordinating Commission, concerning

changes in the position descriptions and the compensation of professional and support staff.

Members:

6 members in three classes with the goal of at least one teaching elder and one ruling elder serving on the committee in rotating classes each for three (3) years.

### **Committee on Representation & Nomination**

The Committee on Representation & Nominations carries out aspects constitutional functions on behalf of the Presbytery as follows:

- Advise the Presbytery regarding the implementation of principles of unity and diversity
- Advocate for diversity in Presbytery leadership
- Consult with the Presbytery on the employment of personnel, in accordance with the principles of unity and diversity in F-1.0403
- Nominate persons to serve in positions requiring election by the Presbytery, ensuring that nominations are broadly representative of the Presbytery and in conformity with the church's commitment to unity in diversity (F-1.0403)

Members:

6 members in three classes

### **Permanent Judicial Commission**

The Presbytery shall elect a Permanent Judicial Commission and the Permanent Judicial Commission shall function in accordance with the Book of Order (D- 5.0100 and following D- 5.0000). The Permanent Judicial Commission shall be composed of seven (7) members: three teaching elders, three ruling elders, and a seventh member who is either a teaching or ruling elder. The members of the Permanent Judicial Commission shall each come from different constituent churches, and the Presbytery Moderator shall designate a member to serve as convener. The members shall be elected by the Presbytery and shall serve a six-year term, subject to the provision of D-5.0100. The Stated Clerk shall advise this commission.

Members

As stated in current *Book of Order*

**Communications Group** (internal and external communications)

**Communications** (Website, Social Media, Commission/Committee Communication)

**Stated Clerk** (Ecclesiastical/Corporate Communication/Commission/Committee Consultation)

