

Worshipping Communities Committee Report, September 28-29, 2018

New appointment to the Worshipping Communities:

Dawn Robbins was invited to participate in the Committee deliberations. She is being nominated by David Henderson, Chair of nominations.

New Leaders for Marquette Campus Ministry:

Tom and Christine Ault have been hired to direct the Campus Ministry in Marquette. Faye Elder has been working with them during a time of transition. Faye is looking forward to becoming a full-time grandma extraordinaire. She will continue as a member of the Worshipping Communities Committee. Please extend a hand of appreciation to Faye for her outstanding leadership. Please keep Tom and Christine in your prayers and do whatever you can to support them.

Campus Ministry Questionnaire:

Faye Elder sent out the Campus Ministry Questionnaires the first week of September. She gave 5 weeks to return the information.

Regarding committee visits to churches:

Al Beamish reported that he had informal discussions with Rev. Mark Gabbard of the Sault Ste. Marie Church and Rev. Jessica Paulsen of the Pickford Church. Robert Hunter reported that he talked with the leadership of Stalwart. Ken Visser reported that there was considerable storm damage to the Houghton Area, but the Portage Lake Church did not suffer any damage. The Presbyterian Disaster Relief Committee has been assisting.

Request of Spruce Church:

Regarding the request for assistance for the repair of the fieldstone of the Spruce Church, the Presbytery Coordinating Council has determined that initial contact for repair of any church structure must be made first to the General Assembly. However, it has been determined that the General Assembly only provides loans for current structure repair. This will be the topic of further discussion at Council.

Nominations:

Ken Visser reported that he had a discussion with Rev. David Henderson regarding the appropriate size of the Committee on Worshipping Communities. Ken believes that six members is appropriate if each member participates regularly. Ken has told the Council that he would like to be relieved as the liaison to the Angel Free Mission Store in Calumet (now a project of the Portage Lake Church). The Mission Team should provide the liaison.

Vital Congregations:

The Iron River Church has submitted, through the Presbytery of Mackinac, its intent to be involved in church revitalization. Dawn Robbins CRE and Rev. Robert Faulman will become trained facilitators if this application is accepted. The application is on behalf of the Presbytery. If approved Mackinaw would be one of ten Presbyteries nationwide. **I request that Dawn Robbins be permitted to speak about speak about Vital Congregations.** Iron River Church completed the original application.