

Report and Motion from the Church Planting and Revitalization Division

CPR has been working in 2018 to equip Heartland Presbytery to be a place where new churches/worshipping communities can be started and flourish. As we have been researching and pulling the best ideas/advice we can find from around the country, it's become apparent that Heartland Presbytery needs to establish a fund for the specific work of starting new churches/worshipping communities. This fund, which we've named the "Planting and Resurrection Fund" has been seeded by the recent gift from Trinity Presbyterian Church, a 10% tithe equaling \$29,500 from the sale of Calvary Presbyterian Church. We are hopeful for the future growth and development of this fund, that we might be able to say "yes" to God's continued movement within Heartland.

During this time of research and discernment, we've discovered several designated funds within the Heartland Presbytery budget that fall under purview of the Church Planting and Revitalization Committee. Sally Wright and Paul Rock have worked with Brian Hathhorn to track the origin/purpose of these. There is only one, at this time, in which information has been discoverable: the Olathe New Church fund in the amount of \$95,000 from the trust of Edgar Moore. At present, this fund is to be used for the sole purpose of starting new churches in the city of Olathe. It has not grown any interest (at least not for Heartland Presbytery, that we are aware of), and has not been used in part in the past. We are of the mind that geographically restricted funds do not benefit a non-geographically restricted Spirit, and would like this money to be redesigned and moved to the "Planting and Resurrection Fund" in order to help in planting new churches anywhere within Heartland Presbytery.

Sally Wright has been in conversation with Terri McCurdy of the Presbyterian Foundation, where this money is being held. Per Terri's explanation/our understanding, this fund can be reallocated after official presbytery action is submitted stating why the fund must be moved. Hallie Hottle has been in conversation with our only existing church within Olathe, Rev. Claire Lozano of Heritage Presbyterian Church, who has affirmed there is no known work currently underway for a new PCUSA church in the Olathe area, nor any work known in the near future, that would call on these funds to be used exclusively in Olathe for church planting. Our motion for the moving of these funds is attached, and it's our desire for this to be acted on by presbytery at the June 5 meeting, per approval of Council.

Please contact CPR chair, Hallie Hottle, for any questions/clarifications.

Motion:

The Church Planting and Revitalization Committee (CPR) recommends that Heartland Presbytery move funds from the CPR restricted fund 'Olathe New Church Development' (Edgar Moore) to CPR's newly created restricted fund for 'Planting and Resurrection' which will be drawn upon to support the seeding and growth of new churches and new worshipping communities throughout Heartland Presbytery.

Rational:

Our PCUSA denomination and Heartland's Church Planting and Revitalization Committee have seen great success in new models of church planting, such as The Presbyterian Mission Agency's 1001 New Worshipping Community initiative and Cyclical Inc's work in Southern California. Presbyteries in places like Los Angeles and Pittsburgh have found ways to significantly partner with local churches and PMA to support and cultivate new churches. These models have shifted the traditional paradigm from inserting a pastor into a location to plant a church toward empowering communities where people are already

beginning to gather around shared passions, worship and service. With this shift, Church Planting and Revitalization sees an opportunity to use existing, dormant, CPR restricted funds to seed a number of new worshipping communities in our region, including, but not limited to Olathe, KS.

In conversation with a representative at the Presbyterian Foundation it was noted the trust states, “. . . it being the Settlor’s desire (but not direction) that such an amount be used by the Heartland Presbytery for new church development in the Olathe, Kansas area.” CPR believes that the flexibility of this language provides further support to our desire to re-categorize these funds and use them to seed new worshipping communities more broadly throughout Heartland Presbytery.

Therefore, it is our desire that Presbytery approve the shift of funds from CPR’s restricted Edgar Moore Trust into CPR’s new Planting and Resurrection Fund