



Personnel Committee Report

Personnel Committee – Team Description

This committee develops and interprets personnel policies, deals with staff needs, and prepares compensation proposals. Members meet annually with each staff member.

Interests and Gifts

A commitment to Christ, a concern for Christ's whole church and for the particular ministry of this synod are essential. In addition, members of this group will likely have ability to work with people, to listen carefully, to act as good stewards of this synod's human and financial resources. It is helpful to have some members who have experience in personnel work or management.

The committee meets three to four times per year, currently on weekdays. One of these is a full day set aside for interviews with staff team members.

Report

The past year has been eventful and active for the Personnel Committee. Bishop Jon Anderson has again led the committee with his wisdom and spiritual guidance in bringing together this committee for the Southwestern Minnesota Synod personnel needs.

The Personnel Committee has been apprised of and consulted in the workings of the staffing of the Synod office throughout the year. Bishop Anderson was on sabbatical for a portion of the year; and, the leadership and joyful service of Pastor Linda Pedersen, Synod Pastor/Assistant to the Bishop, terminated with her retirement. We wish her Godspeed as she moves on to a new path in the journey of her life and service in the Kingdom of God.

A search team was appointed to interview and recommend a candidate for the position of Synod Pastor vacated by Pastor Linda Pedersen. The search team, consisting of Bishop Anderson, Gwen Arneson (Synod Vice President), Dale Holmes (Executive Committee), Roseann Nagel (Personnel Committee) and Carla Klawitter (synod staff representative), met on numerous occasions throughout the summer. Applications were reviewed, interviews conducted and reference checks completed resulting in the Synod Council placing a call to Pastor Stephen Cook. We welcome Pastor Cook to the Southwestern Minnesota Synod as our new Synod Minister and are thankful to God for his service—past, present and future.

The Personnel Committee met with each staff member to assist the Personnel Committee in getting to know the staff team better. Building relationships is one reason we annually have conversations with Personnel Committee members and staff. A relationship between the Committee and staff allows for a better understanding of personnel committee agenda topics while placing a personal element in the decisions and recommendations coming from the Committee. The Synod is very blessed with a dedicated, gifted and faithful team of staff!

As Chair of the Personnel Committee, I want to express my gratitude to the members of the committee: Gwen Arneson, Cottonwood; Pastor Mindy Czycalla, Litchfield; Pastor Jon Dahl (Secretary), Willmar; Phil Larson, Hector; and, Greg Spath, Luverne.

Respectfully submitted,
Roseann Nagel (Chair), Arlington