



# Presbytery Gathering Highlights

*September 29, 2020*

*Digital Presbytery Gathering via Zoom*



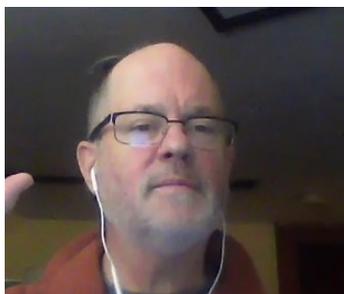
## THE GATHERING

The Milwaukee Presbytery held its second video conference business meeting on September 29, 2020. After a short navigation and voting recap, Moderator Judy Jaggard got the meeting underway.

## BUSINESS RECAP

The Presbytery took the bold step of becoming a Matthew 25 Presbytery, affirming our call to eradicate systemic poverty, build congregational vitality, and dismantle structural racism. It adopted a new family leave policy, but a motion to change minimums for continuing education and professional expenses was withdrawn after concerns were raised about the equity of the change. We gladly renewed our commitments to faith partners, with Common Ground and Presbyterian Homes of Wisconsin answering questions and sharing a common vision for ministry.

We welcomed new minister members Glen Reichelderfer, Kim Trimboli, Teresa Larson, and Scott Samuelson, who shared memories about tasty grits, eggplant parmigiana, fries, and home cooking.



## EDUCATION

With the adoption of the Matthew 25 vision, the Presbytery embarks on a six-Gathering study of the intersection of racism and poverty, and how the church must respond. We start on the topic of Medical Care. Vice Moderator Nicole Farley and Presbytery Council Moderator Jean Dow offered a challenge to the Presbytery to help repay medical debt for those in poverty. Council has committed the first \$1500, relieving \$150,000 of crushing debt.

Between now and our November 12 Presbytery Gathering, we are encouraged to jump into why quality, affordable healthcare is not available to all. Check out the Presbytery's website for more on our [Medical Care challenge](#) and the [remaining Matthew 25 topics!](#)

### What is the Matthew 25 initiative?

An invitation and vision from our General Assembly and Mission Agency for mid-councils and churches to commit to working towards:

- Building Congregational Vitality
- Dismantling Structural Racism
- Eradicating Systemic Poverty



**MEDICAL CARE CHALLENGE**



## WORSHIP

Recognizing our collective pain and weariness, worship began in lament. Ministry stories from Rev. Traci Houts and Bread of Health Clinic challenged us to respond to medical care needs of our communities. We shared real – not virtual – communion and experienced healing through God's grace, healing that moves us to action.



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## PRESBYTERIANS IN MINISTRY AND FELLOWSHIP

