



Spirit Inspired
Worship



Who Me?

August 16, 2023

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Outside my window, I saw and heard geese on the move. It seemed early, but I'm told it's heavy migration season for shorebirds, too. With the changing of the season, I stop to ponder that V-shaped flying pattern of geese that lets them travel huge distances together. They rotate in the lead positions to conserve strength for the whole flock; everyone takes a turn at point. After reading below Lance Loveall's letter on behalf of the Presbytery's Nominating Committee, I'm hoping you might feel called to take a turn. Lance shares:

It is that time of year again. As the (insert favorite football team here) begin their preseason, kids start getting ready to head back to school, last minute vacations to Door County or "Up North" are wrapping up, and a Saturday of apple picking is just around the corner (I can almost smell the pumpkin lattes now), we begin to think of Fall. It may still be the middle of summer technically, but in my head, and in the church, Fall begins about now as we start preparing for the coming Sunday school year, start thinking about next year's budget, and (gasp) even start looking at Advent ideas. One of the ways you know it is Fall is that your phone might ring, or your email alert signal, with the sounds of the Nominating Committee contacting you to ask how you might feel comfortable serving the larger Church. Is it the sound of harps, or more like the notes of Beethoven's fifth symphony? Well, whatever it sounds like, we hope you answer the call because we have lots of opportunities for you to serve. I would like to highlight two, in particular.

The first is for Teaching AND Ruling Elders. The Commission on Transitional Ministries is in need of people who are gifted helping churches through transitions in leadership as well as helping congregations navigate unfamiliar situations. I would like to list characteristics it takes to be successful at this work, but quite frankly, their work takes people of all kinds of skill sets. It takes people who are good at process work and helping churches stick to a process that works. It takes people who are good at communication and interpersonal relationships. It takes people who are good at working in teams and using teams to discern the proper paths forward with congregations. If ANY of that sounds like you or someone you know, please consider a term on CTM. It is a very important part of the work of this presbytery.

The second position I would like to discuss is for Ruling Elders. We are in the process of looking for General Assembly Commissioners to serve as alternates for the 2024 meeting, and, if they are still willing and available, serve as the commissioners to GA in 2026. The 2024 meeting will be a hybrid of virtual committee meetings and an in-person plenary session in Salt Lake City. If this sounds interesting to you and you would like to serve as an alternate in 2024, and then as the 2026 Ruling Elder GA commissioner, please let us know. And if neither of these opportunities feels like a fit but you would like to serve in the connectional church (a.k.a. presbytery) please let us know. We're always looking for people to serve.

For questions or more information, or to put your hat in the ring for nomination, you can email Chris Halverson at chalverson@pbymilwaukee.org or me at k1stpres@yahoo.com. Thank you for considering the ways you can serve the larger church.

Blessings! Lance Loveall