Terms for Commissioned Ruling Elder Home Visitation and Pulpit Supply Margee Smith First Presbyterian Church and Yellowstone Presbytery

Commission Description

Following her departure from the Denton and Stanford churches, Margee will begin a Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) relationship with First Presbyterian Church of Lewistown, MT and Yellowstone Presbytery. The commission will be primarily for outreach and care to those unable to attend in-person worship at FPC. In coordination with our Deacons, Margee will provide visits to these individuals which will include conversation, prayer, and spiritual support as needed. Margee will be allowed to serve communion during these visits. At this time, there are no time expectations or minimums that Margee must adhere to, but visits will be coordinated with the Reverend Kimmy Briggs and the Deacons of FPC.

In addition, Margee will be allowed to provide pulpit supply and pastoral coverage to churches in Yellowstone Presbytery, with the authority to serve communion and perform baptisms (with the prior approval of the church session) and moderate session meetings (as affirmed by the Pastoral Ministry Team). Margee will also be permitted to officiate weddings and funerals when asked.

Compensation

At this time, given the limited responsibility to First Presbyterian Church, Lewistown, there will be no compensation provided for these responsibilities. If greater time and responsibility is asked of Margee, we will consider proper compensation. However, for services offered to the presbytery, including if these services are provided to First Presbyterian Church, Lewistown, compensation for pulpit supply, pastoral coverage, moderating session, and funerals will be paid by the respective churches or individuals making the request in line with suggested minimums provided by the Pastoral Ministry Team (PMT), including mileage (at the rate determined by the IRS for employees), lodging and meal expenses.

Terms of Service

This commission is for one year from July 1, 2023, through July 1, 2024, and can be renewed annually under the authority of PMT. Should the situation change, or a need arise in the presbytery, PMT has authority to change the details of this commission.

Supervision/Oversight

Margee will serve under the direction of the pastor and session of First Presbyterian Church in Lewistown, MT, with support and oversight from the Pastoral Ministry Team of Yellowstone Presbytery. Reverend Kimmy Briggs (Lewistown) will continue to serve as her mentor. Margee will comply with the polity of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and Yellowstone Presbytery, including completing the required boundaries training and abiding by the sexual misconduct policy.