Brooklyn Presbyterian Church (BPC) Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP) Narratives

1. **How would you describe the congregation's specific vision for ministry? How will this vision impact the community? Is the congregation part of a ministry vision or program?** *[response is 2044 characters including spaces]*

Our congregation's vision for ministry is to discern both congregational and community needs by reaching out to community leaders, local schools, and service organizations, to faithfully apply our collective resources—spiritual, relational, and material—to meet those needs. Rooted in Christ's commandments and guided by the Spirit, we welcome all to join us on a shared journey of worship, nurture, and service. We see ourselves as everyday missionaries, carrying the Word of God into our community and the wider world through compassionate action, inclusive fellowship, and intentional outreach.

This vision directly shapes our community impact. Our barrier-free building ensures accessibility for all who come through our doors. We offer dynamic programs such as our 2025 Vacation Bible School, which served 51 children supported by 20 youth leaders and 20 adult volunteers, and our Summer Sewing Camp, which formed intergenerational connections among participants and volunteers. Our vibrant music ministry—featuring chancel, bell, and children's choirs along with dedicated organists, pianists, and guest musicians—enriches both worship and community life.

Our commitment to care extends through ministries such as Stephen Ministry, the Prayer Shawl Ministry, and the Prayer Committee. Members generously contribute time, talent, and financial resources to support underserved neighbors. Locally, we help sustain the community food pantry, provide elementary school shoes and backpack food support, contribute to Toys for Tots, supply winter clothing through our Giving Tree, and assist domestic violence shelters, homeless shelters, and the Homeless Mat Program. Nationally and globally, we send youth and adults on mission trips, including disaster relief efforts, and participate in CWS CROP Walk and other PC(USA) initiatives.

Through these programs and partnerships, our congregation actively participates in a larger ministry vision within the Presbyterian Church (USA), extending the love of Christ from our neighborhood to the world.

2. **What is the nature and context of the community in which your congregation lives out its mission/vision? How will you address the emerging needs that are impacting your community?** *[response is 1454 characters including spaces]*

BPC, located in the Irish Hills is in the midst of a resort area. Surrounded by lake communities, state and local parks, the Michigan International Speedway, and within an hour of several larger cities (Jackson, Ann Arbor, Adrian, Lansing, Toledo, OH) we reflect a hybrid of resort, farming and rural communities. The Village of Brooklyn swells from its population of 1,300 exponentially with events at the speedway, and with seasonal lake residents. BPC has a strong and faithful heart for mission work and outreach. The number of families/individuals needing assistance in our communities has grown in the last several years. BPC is committed to providing programs and activities for fellowship and spiritual growth in a safe, barrier-free, and inclusive environment. These include Faith Alive (a program for adults with special needs), men and women's Bible studies, youth groups, after-school and summer programming for

children. We respond to the needs of older adults in our congregation and community by providing transportation services and other fellowship opportunities. Our 'blessing box' is regularly used to provide non-perishable food items to neighbors in need. Deacons provide care for shut-ins, and we use technology and social media to provide virtual worship. We seek ways to expand our mission/outreach and ecumenical efforts to address needs in our communities, including working with area churches, schools, and local government.

3. **How will this call help complement the responsibilities of other staff/volunteer positions, and the life of the congregation so that you may accomplish your short and long term goals for ministry?** *[response is 651 characters with spaces]*

a. This call will work with other staff and with our Session, using their experience to provide guidance and insight as we continue the programs we are called to provide in our congregation and community. They will provide leadership for worship services, including biblically founded messages consistent with the Reformed tradition. They will preside over the sacraments including Communion and Baptism, and preside over occasional services such as marriages, funerals, ordination, installation and commissioning activities, etc. They will assist and guide Stephen Ministers, Deacons and volunteers in visitation and congregational care activities.

4. **Provide a description of the skills, gifts and training the person you hope will become a part of your ministry must have, to lead the congregation towards the vision and mission established.** *[response is 354 characters including spaces]*

a. Strong communication skills, including listening and interpersonal skills
b. The ability to connect with all ages through sermons, prayer, and personal interaction
c. Experience in administrative and staff oversight, and leadership for the daily activities of the church
d. Experience in Presbyterian church leadership training, including Elders, Deacons, and Staff

5. **What areas of ministry do you expect the person called to be responsible for? Share specific tasks, assignments, and programs.** *[response is 838 characters with spaces]*

a. Leading worship, including biblically based messages consistent with the Reformed tradition
b. Presiding over the Sacraments, and Occasional services (marriages, funerals, etc.)
c. Strong communication with Staff and Session, including leadership as Head of Staff and Session meetings
d. Guidance, direction and support of Deacons, Stephen Ministers, and volunteers to ensure visitation of shut-ins, and those needing care and support (hospital, hospice, etc.)
e. Provide leadership and support of Christian Education classes, Bible Studies, New Member and Church Officer training and confirmation classes
f. Support of the outreach of the church through online media channels, newsletters, weekly 'e-blast' information, and other means to reach and relate to congregation and friends
g. Liaison between Presbytery and denominational leaders and the congregation
h.

Our Vision
Guided by the love of Jesus Christ and the truth of God's Word, our church seeks to be a welcoming, Christ-centered community that nurtures faith, equips disciples, and serves our neighbors with compassion. We envision a congregation where worship inspires action, prayer shapes our hearts, and the Holy Spirit leads us to share the Gospel in both word and deed. Together, we strive to grow in grace and mercy, extend Christ's hospitality to all, and be a light of hope and renewal in our community and beyond

Our Mission
We are servants of God and messengers of Jesus Christ, led by the Holy Spirit. Our mission is to love, nurture, witness and reach out to all.

Our Values
We value loving, caring, sharing, and living our faith. We value that all are welcome to come as they are to worship God.

List any links that support the answers to your narratives or highlights ministries within your church/organization

Helpful Links

Brooklyn Presbyterian Church https://www.brooklynpres.org/

Irish Hills Chamber of Commerce https://www.irishhills.com/

Columbia schools https://www.myeagles.org/

Village of Brooklyn https://www.villageofbrooklyn.com/

MIS https://www.mispeedway.com/

Cambridge Township https://www.cambridgetownshipmi.gov/

Village of Napoleon https://www.napoleontownship.us/

City of Jackson https://www.cityofjackson.org/