

Pastoral Leadership Options Exploration Team (PLOET)
Blackhawk Presbytery Assembly Meeting
June 2, 2020

The PLOETs have been meeting every Tuesday for at least an hour to continue their work on exploring how our Presbytery can help congregations continue to keep their doors open. Our top priority is to help churches continue to worship in some format. Our next priority is to help congregations receive pastoral care. Our third priority is to keep in mind how our Presbytery can help congregations find vitality in their mission & ministry and overall life of their church. This third priority is something we are envisioning we can help with once the first two areas are addressed with struggling congregations, and in such, ideas we come up with are being placed in a 'parking lot' to revisit down the road. Along the way, we are working on figuring out how to best reach out to congregations to work with them in analyzing their needs and to work with them in this process. We have also begun to try to determine available pastoral leaders within our presbytery to work with congregations.

For now, we have been putting our emphasis into turning our envisioned 'toolbox' into real tools that we can offer to congregations. These 'tools', and how to utilize them, is slowly being turned into a manual that will be utilized by COM. It is foreseen that COM will become the owners of the work we complete, to enable them to reach out to congregations-in-need effectively. We are currently working to solidify the 'Rotation Model' and the 'Subscription Model' as we have congregations who currently could utilize these tools.

The PLOETs are committed to continue to meet weekly or as needed until this process is complete.

If your congregation is in need of exploring your future, perhaps we can help you and you can help us. It's easier to build these tools using real life situations. Feel free to contact me at revselburg@gmail.com or COM Moderator Catherine Martin at pastorcath@gmail.com.

Attached is an explanation in matrix and paragraph form of the seven tools in our tool kit. In addition to the seven models, we will engage in developing an 'at home' worship model. We are also investigating if it is feasible to create some form of chaplaincy program for churches without pastoral leadership.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Dr. Mike Selburg
Pastor, The First Presbyterian Church of Morrison, IL
PLOET Moderator