

**BLACKHAWK MISSION COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting May 26, 2020**

The BMC **approved \$1,000 for Project Orange** of a grant application from Sterling and Fox Valley to host a virtual interfaith gathering on National Gun Violence Awareness Day, June 5. They will be hosting Reverend Sharon Risher who is an outspoken gun violence prevention advocate and a survivor who lost her mother and two cousins in the shooting at the Charleston AME Emanuel church. She is also the author of *For Such a Time as This: Hope and Forgiveness after the Charleston Massacre*.

The **Pastoral Leadership Options Exploration Team** moderated by Mike Selburg, continues to meet and work on creating a resource offering seven alternative leadership models. The draft of this resource is being used with some churches now in leadership transition.

**“Six for Six” Award** – On behalf of Blackhawk Presbytery we recognize the 12 churches who

- paid their per capita in full,
- contributed to all four churchwide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
- supported Blackhawk Presbytery with a Mission pledge and giving.

For 2018 and 2019: Ridgefield-Crystal Lake, DeKalb Westminster, Galena First, Galena Westminster, Geneva Fox Valley, Henry First United, Joliet Westminster, Sterling First.

New for 2019: Dixon First, Morris First, Rockford 2<sup>nd</sup> Congregational /1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian, and Rockford Westminster.

BMC continues to encourage churches to share their mission success stories at a presbytery meeting. To do so, contact the Blackhawk Presbytery office.

The BMC reminds all churches that local funding for **Mission Grants and Peacemaking Grants** is available for partial start-up funding for new initiatives. Applications are available on Blackhawk’s website. Further grant **Applications & resources may be obtained from the Mission Program Grants website at**

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/1001-2/mission-program-grants/>

Blackhawk Mission Committee’s next regular meeting is **August 18**.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Walker