

Littlefield Administrative Commission Report  
February 25, 2023  
Final Report

The Littlefield Administrative Commission was formed at the February Meeting of Presbytery, consisting of

- a. Trustee Ken Hollowell
- b. Elder Wendy Back
- c. Rev. Tim Marvel
- d. Rev. Kenneth Kaibel, chairperson

We learned that the Littlefield congregation had already voted to dissolve in January of 2022. They had previously vacated their building due to the discovery of black mold. They chose not to merge with another congregation because that would burden their new congregation with the building.

Before they voted to dissolve, they paid their ongoing bills through June of 2022 and paid staff-members a severance pay equaling their salaries through August of 2022. With the money left, a non-profit agency was started as the "Littlefield Action 4 Social Justice" to continue their commitment to the mission projects they had started.

Since there was no active session, the AC assumed Original Jurisdiction as instructed by the Presbytery of Detroit at the May 2022 meeting.

We met with members and friends of the church on May 22, 2022 at the Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church and heard their concerns over the dissolution of the congregation. We encouraged them to transfer to other Presbyterian Churches and offered our assistance.

On September 27, 2022, the Presbytery of Detroit dissolved the congregation at the AC's recommendation.

The AC has completed the following projects:

We secured the building to prevent vandalism.

We kept the trash picked up and snow removed and continued the grass mowing service through the summer.

Thinking the building would likely be demolished, we authorized Care Village Outreach to retrieve tables, chairs, doors, etc. to use for building churches in Africa.

We listed the building for sale through MiRealSource, and, with Trustee approval, It sold for \$400,000.

All ongoing contracts have been paid and cancelled and the corporation dissolved.

The ministry and mission of the Littlefield congregation was celebrated at the November meeting of presbytery.

We forwarded the session and membership records to the Presbyterian Historical Society.

Today, believing our assigned task to be successfully completed, we make the following motions:

**MOTION:** The Littlefield AC moves that \$100,000 of the proceeds of the sale of the Littlefield Presbyterian Church Building will be paid to Littlefield Action 4 Social Justice, a non-profit organization for promoting peace and social justice.

**MOTION:** The Littlefield AC moves that \$100,000 of the proceeds of the sale of the Littlefield Presbyterian Church Building be administered by Presbytery's Congregational Development and Transformation Committee "to equip congregations and their leadership to live into the new thing that God is doing there with Resources that include grants and learning opportunities." We encourage the Committee to consider using these funds, according to the desires of the former members of Littlefield, to support activities such as a music ministry or a special mission project for smaller congregations that could not support the activity themselves."

**MOTION:** The Littlefield AC moves that \$50,000 of the proceeds of the sale of the Littlefield Presbyterian Church Building be administered by the session of the Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church. We encourage the session to consult with the former members of Littlefield PC who have joined that congregation in deciding the appropriate use for this money.

**MOTION:** The Littlefield AC moves that any remaining funds for the proceeds of the sale of the Littlefield Presbyterian Church Building after all applicable debts are satisfied, be administered by Presbytery's New Church Development Committee. It seemed fitting to us that, from the grievous loss of one beloved congregation of the Presbytery, seeds for a new congregation might be planted.

**MOTION:** The Littlefield AC moves that the Littlefield Administrative Commission be dissolved as of today's date, February 25, 2023.

Kenneth Kaibel (TE),  
Chairperson