

The Session
Westminster Reformed Presbyterian Church
16670 W Easton Ave
Prairie View, IL 60069
2/17/2026

Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Dear Brethren:

Westminster RPC has faithfully ministered the Prairie View area for over 30 years. Changes in the last five years that have led us to consider relocating to areas north of our current location.

- Our church building was built in 1906 and the costs of keeping and maintaining our current church building and manse are putting increasing straining on our budget. See tables A through D in the attached proposal.
- Our members were once distributed widely over the Chicago metro area and Wisconsin with many having over an hour commute. Our membership distribution has tightened to an area from Vernon Hills, IL to Racine, WI within the last three years. See Map A in the attached proposal. We currently have one household in Chicago who are also looking into moving north to the Waukegan area.
- The immediate neighborhoods and towns around WRPC has undergone a significant transformation over the last 25 years and is not as open to gospel ministry as it was previously. We conclude this after three and a half years of outreach effort, seeing no tangible fruit from our labors. The Lord Jesus Christ says in Matthew 10:14, "And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet." We believe that in His providence, He is calling us to depart from this city and shake off the dust from our feet.
- The cost of living in the area around Prairie View are prohibitively high. Several individuals who expressed interest in our ministry were deterred by the high cost of living in our area.
- Our current budget will only allow us to compensate a pastor around \$35,000 per year.

The plan to relocate as outlined in the attached proposal can be summarized in the following five points.

1. Sell the church property
2. Hold Lord's day services at rented meeting or conference rooms in the Kenosha/Pleasant Prairie WI or Zion/Waukegan IL area

3. Continue evangelistic efforts in northeast Illinois and southeast Wisconsin
4. Purchase housing for a prospective pastor in Kenosha/Pleasant Prairie, WI or Zion/Waukegan IL area using proceeds from the sale of the church property
5. Eventually, as the Lord prospers, purchase a church building in the Kenosha/Pleasant Prairie WI or Zion/Waukegan IL area

We believe the Kenosha/Pleasant Prairie WI or Zion/Waukegan IL area is more fertile ground for church growth and better situated to serve our members. We held an informal discussion with our congregation on February 15, and there were no objections and much encouragement to moving forward with plan contained in the proposal.

Currently, we are recruiting realtors and developers to ascertain the potential value our church property. One possible option is to sell our property to a developer. In this scenario the church building would be demolished and in addition to the sale of the property, we would have the opportunity to procure the salvage value of the early 20th century tin that covers the walls of the sanctuary and the first cut southern white pine which forms the internal structure of the church building. Naturally, the church building would be unusable once salvage operations ensue. We expect the proceeds from the sale of the church property to be sufficient to purchase new living quarters for a prospective pastor in the Kenosha/Pleasant Prairie, WI or Zion/Waukegan, IL area.

Our current pastor has submitted his resignation, which if accepted at this presbytery meeting, would be effective July 12th, 2026. While we are sad at his leaving, it opens a window where the manse will not be needed. This appears to be the optimal time to execute the sale of the church property and affect our relocation. We have identified a hotel conference room in Kenosha, WI that is centrally located with respect to the geographic distribution of most of our church members. The management seems eager to have us meet their hotel and is willing to accommodate our needs. We understand that the sale of the current property and a relocation to a new area requires presbytery approval.

Presently, timing is the most crucial and uncertain element in our relocation. We may want to include a Lord's day service in Kenosha, WI as part of our outreach efforts. Provisionally, we want to have all the details of the sale of the church property ready for the June presbytery meeting. In the meantime, we want the flexibility of meeting in Kenosha, WI or nearby locations if the need presents itself. Therefore, we petition the presbytery to allow WRPC to meet at alternative locations in the Kenosha/Pleasant Prairie, WI or Zion/Waukegan IL area.

In Christ

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WRPC Proposal

1. Current Situation

1.1 Church Building

The church building was built in 1906. WRPC purchased the building in the late 1980s. Immediate repairs included a new roof, new carpet, renovating the first floor and painting the walls in the sanctuary. In the last three years, maintenance cost have increased considerably. Maintenance and total costs for the church building in the last five years are shown in Table A below:

Table A

Year	Church Maintenance Cost (\$)	Total Church Building Costs (\$)
2021	842.00	18852.76
2022	2180.04	19235.38
2023	18581.61	36984.49
2024	14075.00	31501.73
2025	9131.11	30002.68

1.2 Manse

The manse was built shortly after the church. As with the church building, the manse requires considerable work. At one time the manse was condemned. Total costs for the manse in last five years are in Table B below:

Table B

Year	Total Manse Costs (\$)
2021	4860.58
2022	5218.11
2023	5024.67
2024	6440.24
2025	4217.92

1.3 Cost Analysis

Table C shows physical plant costs, total expenses and physical plant cost as a percentage of total expenses in the last five years. Table D shows total physical plant costs, total giving, regular giving (total giving with special giving removed), physical plant costs as a percentage of total giving and physical plant costs as a percentage of regular giving.

Table C

Year	Physical Plant Costs	Total Expenses	Percent of Total Expenses
2021	\$23,713.34	\$63,859.40	37.13%
2022	\$24,453.49	\$72,359.11	33.79%
2023	\$42,009.16	\$84,552.49	49.68%
2024	\$37,941.97	\$90,094.21	42.11%
2025	\$34,220.60	\$85,793.94	39.89%

Table D

Year	Physical Plant Costs	Total Giving	Regular Giving	Percent of Total Giving	Percent of Regular Giving
2021	\$23,713.34	\$76,751.16	\$76,751.16	30.90%	30.90%
2022	\$24,453.49	\$51,458.00	\$51,458.00	47.52%	47.52%
2023	\$42,009.16	\$73,132.05	\$73,132.05	57.44%	57.44%
2024	\$37,941.97	\$89,349.00	\$70,148.00	42.46%	54.09%
2025	\$34,220.60	\$87,662.07	\$80,162.07	39.04%	42.69%

1.4 Geographic Distribution

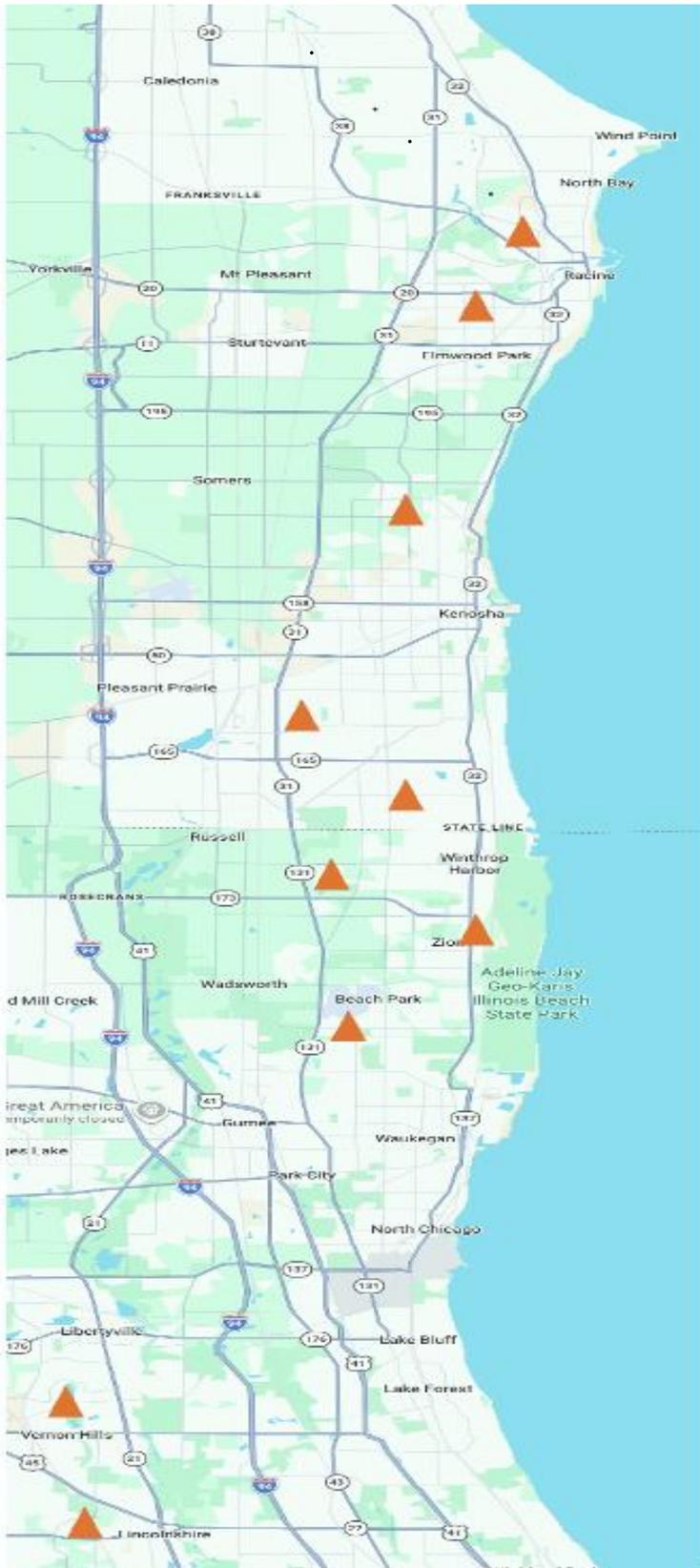
The Table E shows the geographic distribution of households and members by specific location.

Table E

Location	Number of Households	Number of Members
Racine, WI	2	4
Kenosha, WI	1	2
Pleasant Prairie, WI	2	2
Zion, IL	2	3
Waukegan, IL	1	2
Vernon Hills, IL	1	2
Prairie View, IL	1	5
Chicago, IL	1	2

The Map A shows the geographic distribution of households by location. The orange triangles show locations of households. The household in Chicago is not shown.

Map A



2. Proposal

The proposal involves the following:

- (1) Sell the church property
- (2) Hold Lord's day services at rented meeting or conference rooms in the Kenosha/Pleasant Prairie WI or Zion/Waukegan IL area
- (3) Continue evangelistic efforts in northeast Illinois and southeast Wisconsin
- (4) Purchase a housing for a prospective pastor in Kenosha/Pleasant Prairie, WI or Zion/Waukegan IL area
- (5) Eventually purchase a church building in the Kenosha/Pleasant Prairie WI or Zion/Waukegan IL area

2.1. Sell the church property

Selling the church property involves building relationships with developers and realtors.

The current list price of the church property on various websites are listed below. The price of the church property tends to be lower in the winter than in the spring and summer.

Zillow and Trulia: Current list price on 2/4/2026 is \$743100. The list price in spring of 2025 was \$972100.

2.2. Hold Lord's day services at rented meeting or conference rooms in the Kenosha/Pleasant Prairie WI or Zion/Waukegan IL area

Double Tree, Pleasant Prairie, WI \$325.00/week

Country Inn & Suites, Kenosha, WI \$100.00/week

*We have contacted other locations and are waiting for a call back

2.3. Continue evangelistic efforts in northeast Illinois and southeast Wisconsin

2.4. Purchase a housing to a prospective pastor in Kenosha/Pleasant Prairie, WI or Zion/Waukegan IL area

2.5. Eventually purchase a church in the Kenosha/Pleasant Prairie WI or Zion/Waukegan IL area