



Date: October 20, 2025

To: Presbytery of East Iowa

Attn: Stated Clerk, Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Transitional Executive Presbyter

From: Julia Meyer

Clerk of Session, First Presbyterian Church of Davenport

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I write to share that the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport has voted unanimously to send the following Motion to the Presbytery of East Iowa at its November 2025 meeting:

**The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport unanimously recommends that the Presbytery of East Iowa formally endorse the Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer to stand as a candidate for Co-Moderator of the 227th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), which will convene in Milwaukee, WI in the summer of 2026.**

Rationale:

This recommendation is the culmination of a season of prayer, discernment, and conversation between Dr. Schondelmeyer and our Session, along with other key leaders within the congregation. Over the past year, Dr. Schondelmeyer has felt a growing sense of call to stand alongside his colleague and friend, Rev. Marta Pumroy Cordero, as candidates for Co-Moderator. Together, they share a vision rooted in the image from Revelation 22—of the tree of life whose *leaves are for the healing of the nations*. Their theme, “Be the Leaves,” calls the church to embody God’s healing and reconciling work in a world longing for compassion, hope, and renewal.

The role of the Co-Moderators of the General Assembly is far more than administrative—it is profoundly pastoral and prophetic. In a shift from previous practice, the Co-Moderators will now be elected at the close of the 2026 General Assembly. Elected by commissioners from across the denomination, they will serve together for the next two years as spiritual leaders and ambassadors of the 227th General Assembly, traveling to congregations, presbyteries, and mission partners to preach, listen, encourage, and celebrate the work of Christ’s church in all its rich diversity. Their term will culminate as they preside over the next General Assembly in 2028, guiding the church once again in discernment and worship.



True to our Presbyterian way, this is not a call that Dr. Schondelmeyer has discerned alone. With their unanimous vote of support, the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport is affirming this sense of call. Session members spoke of the gifts of leadership and compassion that Dr. Schondelmeyer has demonstrated in his ministry here, and we believe God has touched his heart.

If the Presbytery chooses to endorse this candidacy, we want to be clear that we have discussed how this will no doubt affect his call as Pastor and Head of Staff at First Presbyterian Church of Davenport. But we are committed to stepping up and journeying with Dr. Schondelmeyer in this way. The Session has entered into a covenant with Dr. Schondelmeyer that ensures the ministry and mission of FPC-Davenport will continue to thrive. Any additional responsibilities associated with the Co-Moderator role will be balanced with transparency, accountability, and the support of a dedicated program and administrative staff, parish associate, and strong Session and Deacon leadership. And, we are prepared to partner with him in providing opportunities for guest preachers when he would need to be away.

Faithfully,

Julia Meyer  
Clerk of Session, First Presbyterian Church of Davenport