

## Merger Coordination Task Group

August 23, 2025

The Merger Coordination Task Group (MCTG) is pleased to recommend for approval at our August 23, 2025 joint meeting the Plan of Merger for Kendall and Boise Presbyteries. The Plan is set forth in your meeting papers.

This Plan is the result of a year's effort. Last August, we jointly approved making a request to the Synod of the Pacific to allow us to prepare the Plan of Merger. We also approved the formation of the MCTG, which in turn organized or worked with several subteams: Policy, Legal, Community Building, Personnel, Finance, and Committee on Ministry. Each team met regularly, sometimes weekly, to build the Plan. In total, these teams included about 35 people divided between our two presbyteries.

The two Moderators of our presbyteries (Melissa Norton and Susan Knights) traveled to our congregations over their term this year, speaking during worship about the merger and hosting question-and-answer sessions. At each of our presbytery meetings, we offered "Minutes for Merger" to give updates on our progress; we distributed draft documents in July; and this month we held three open house meetings by Zoom to field input on the Plan of Merger. We regularly solicited input from the Synod and General Assembly leadership. Members of the MCTG met with the Camp Sawtooth Board and Board of Managers for the Hilda Thompson Ranch to discuss structural and reporting changes.

The work to think through and prepare the elements of our plan was tedious, time-consuming, and yet joyful. We have exhibited genuine collegiality across all teams, with an easy collaboration. We were inspired by our guiding Scripture in Isaiah 43:1-3a, 18-19 to hold very loosely the former things and ways of being a presbytery and to seek instead the new thing that God is doing in our midst. We have begun acting as if we are already the Snake River Presbytery. Though we will undoubtedly learn more about each other and grapple with changes in the coming year, we feel confident that our Plan of Merger puts us on solid footing as we merge.

We wholeheartedly recommend approval of the motion to request the Synod of the Pacific to petition the General Assembly to approve the Plan of Merger between Kendall Presbytery and Boise Presbytery.

Melissa Norton (Kendall Moderator)  
Susan Knights (Boise Moderator)  
Nathan Sobers (Kendall past  
Moderator)  
TJ Remaley (Boise past Moderator)  
Rick Spielman (Kendall COM)  
Charlie Conway (member at large)

Betsy Loxterman (Kendall Board of Trustees)  
Andrew Kukla (Boise Financial Mgm't Committee)  
Carleen Clayville (Kendall Presbyterian Women)  
Jackie Benjamin (Boise Presbyterian Women)  
Cathy Chisholm (Kendall Transitional Presbyter/  
Stated Clerk)  
Rachel Yates (Boise Transitional Presbyter/Stated  
Clerk)