

August 28, 2023

## To the Chicago Mission Center

As you gather in the spirit of loving community as an expression of Community of Christ, I hope your time together is meaningful and spiritually uplifting. May your time of sharing in fellowship, worship and the business of the mission center offer you opportunities to share and hear the stories of how mission is alive in the church wherever the people are present. Let this be a time of celebration and gratitude for what God is up to in your midst.

As part of the business of the mission center, the Presidency and Presiding Bishopric are pleased to recommend for your consideration Blake Smith to serve as your Mission Center President and Mission Center Financial Officer. We are grateful for Blake's willingness to serve in this essential position to support your congregations in their missional call and to uphold generosity and whole-life stewardship, which are important principles in living the mission of Christ.

We now ask for your prayerful consideration to sustain Blake to serve as the appointed Mission Center President and Financial Officer. May you continue to hold Blake in your prayers.

In the spirit of peace,

THE FIRST PRESIDENCY

K. Scott Murphy

PRESIDING BISHOPRIC

Ronald D. Harmon Jr.

cc: Robin Linkhart, Apostle Willem F. van Klinken, Presiding Bishopric

Carla Long, Presiding Bishopric

KSM/kat