

**EASTERN OKLAHOMA PRESBYTERY  
STATED MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 19-20, 2008  
DWIGHT MISSION PRESBYTERIAN CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER,  
VIAN**

Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held a Stated Meeting on September 19-20, 2008, at Dwight Mission Presbyterian Camp and Conference Center in Vian, Oklahoma. The Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. with prayer by Moderator Richard Carter. Attendees were reminded to register. It was declared that a quorum was present. Julia Thorne and Kris Valerius were granted the privilege of the floor. New Commissioners were introduced.

**WORSHIP**

The Friday evening worship service included the celebration of the Lord's Supper and a Necrology Report. The closing worship on Saturday was led by members of Youth Council.

**MOTIONS**

The following motions were made, seconded, and approved unless otherwise stated:

1. That the Presbytery elect Greg Coulter as Clerk Pro-Tem for this meeting.
2. That the Presbytery adopt the Agenda as amended. (**APPENDIX A**)
3. That those persons requesting excused absences be excused.
4. That the Report of the Stated Clerk be received. (**APPENDIX B**)
5. That the Omnibus Motion be approved. Those motions are located under the appropriate committee.

**COMMITTEES**

**COUNCIL**

1. That the Presbytery approve the following dates and locations for 2009 and 2010 Stated Meetings:

2009

Tuesday, March 3, Goodland Academy, Hugo  
Friday-Saturday, June 5-6, Tri Presbytery, University of Tulsa  
Friday-Saturday, September 18-19, Dwight Mission  
Tuesday, December 1, Brookside Churches (Saint Andrews, Saint  
Giles, Southminister), Tulsa

2010

Tuesday, March 2, To Be Announced  
Saturday, June 12, First Church, McAlester  
Friday-Saturday, September 17-18, Dwight Mission  
Tuesday, December 7, To Be Announced.

2. General Presbyter Greg Coulter reported on the Kirk of the Hills Church Case. The motion that the Presbytery accept the Settlement Proposal passed unanimously. (APPENDIX C)

#### DEVELOPING CONGREGATIONS AND EVANGELISM

1. That the Presbytery approve the General Assembly grant application for The Journey. Space has been leased in Owasso for this new church development.
2. That the Presbytery transfer \$270 from Restricted Fund 008100 to fully fund the 2008 Evangelism Initiative Grants.

#### FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

That the Presbytery receive the June 30, 2008, Treasurer's Report. (APPENDIX D)

#### MINISTRY

1. That the Presbytery commission Sandy Bach (Elder Member of John Calvin Church, Tulsa) as half-time Commissioned Lay Pastor for First Church, Cleveland, effective June 9, 2008, through December 31, 2008, with the following terms:

Salary	\$0	Continuing Education	\$500
Housing	\$15,375	Vacation	4 Weeks
Travel	\$ 1,500	Study	2 Weeks
FICA	\$ 1,176	Cumulative to 6 Weeks	
Books	\$ 200	Sick Time	2 Weeks
Pension	As Set by BOP.		

Authorizations include Lord's Supper, Baptism, Moderate Session, Voice and Vote at Presbytery Meetings, and Weddings. All appropriate reference and background checks were performed. She has previously been examined and certified as a Lay Preacher for the Presbytery.

2. That the Presbytery commission David Dearing (Elder Member of First Church, Hugo) as a Commissioned Lay Pastor for First Church, Hugo, effective July 1, 2008 through December 31, 2010. The Session has approved his work at Goodland Academy as a specialized ministry and asks that he be commissioned with authority to officiate at the Lord's Table (at Goodland Academy) and to have Voice and Vote at Presbytery Meetings. He is employed as Executive Director by Goodland Academy; therefore, no additional compensation is requested. All background checks are maintained by Goodland Academy. This authority as a Commissioned Lay Pastor will allow him to serve more effectively in a chaplaincy role in his work with students and staff.
3. That the Presbytery concur in the request of the Pastor and the Congregation in the dissolution of the Associate Pastor relationship between John Knox Church, Tulsa, and Steve Frazier, effective July 10, 2008, and that the Presbytery transfer him to New Covenant Presbytery upon their request in order that he might accept a call as Pastor of First Church, Lufkin, Texas.
4. That the Presbytery concur in the request of the Pastor and the Congregation that Rodgers Spencer be named Pastor Emeritus of First Church, Okmulgee.

5. That the Presbytery approve the call of Cheryl Finch as Associate Pastor for Saint James Church, Jenks, pending her ordination, effective October 5, 2008, with the following terms:

Salary	\$20,000	Continuing Education	\$750
Housing	\$12,000	Cumulative to	\$2,250
Travel	\$ 1,000	Vacation	4 Weeks
Pension	Full	Study	2 Weeks
Moving	Full	Cumulative to	6 Weeks.

All appropriate clearance and background checks were performed. Because Sacramento Presbytery (her presbytery of care) will examine her on September 20, the Committee moves that she be granted permission to labor within our bounds until she can be examined at our December 2, 2008, Stated Meeting. At that time, the Committee recommends that she be enrolled as a Member of the Presbytery, pending her release from Sacramento Presbytery.

6. That the Presbytery approve the call of Rebecca Montgomery as Pastor at Bristow Church, Bristow, pending her ordination, effective November 24, 2008, and that she be enrolled as a Member of the Presbytery, pending her release by Chicago Presbytery, with the following terms:

Salary	\$36,000	Professional Expense	\$2,000
Housing	included	Continuing Education	\$1,000
Travel	\$ 500	Cumulative to	\$3,000
Moving	\$ 2,000	Vacation	4 Weeks
Pension	Full	Study	2 Weeks
		Cumulative to	6 Weeks.

All appropriate clearance and background checks were performed.

7. That the Presbytery concur with the request of the Pastor and the Congregation that the pastoral relationship between First Church, Claremore, and Dennis Ritchie be dissolved effective August 31, 2008, and that he be transferred to Arkansas Presbytery, pending their request, in order that he might accept a call as Pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Bella Vista.
8. That the Presbytery transfer the membership of Coleman Coates, Honorably Retired, to Middle Tennessee Presbytery, pending their request. He has moved to Nashville.
9. That the Presbytery approve the 2009 Minimum Terms of Call and Recommended Cost-of-Living Adjustment. (**APPENDIX E**)
10. That the Presbytery amend its permission for Judy Henderson to labor outside our bounds to include service as Associate Pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Livingstonia, Malawi. The Presbytery has already granted permission for her to serve as visiting teacher at the University of Livingstonia, College of Education, from July 25, 2008, to December 10, 2008.
11. Pending successful examination by the Committee, that the Presbytery enroll Leigh McCaslin as a Member of the Presbytery, pending his release from East Tennessee Presbytery. He is living in Park Hill and will be listed as a Member-at-Large of the Presbytery.

## NOMINATING

1. That the Presbytery accept the following resignations:
 

Coleman Coates	Representation (2010)		
Steve Frazier	Resourcing Congregations (2009)		
Dennis Ritchie	Trustees (2010).		
2. That the Presbytery elect the following people to serve as indicated:
 

Presbytery Moderator			
2009	Joyce Ludwig	Minister	Broken Bow First
Presbytery Vice Moderator (Moderator Elect)			
2009	Dan Milford	Minister	Sand Springs First
Council Moderator			
2009	Richard Carter	Elder	Broken Arrow First
Council Member-at-Large			
2011	Arlene Phillips	Elder	John Calvin Tulsa
Connecting Congregations			
2009	Moderator	Robbie Burke	Elder First Tulsa
Class of 2009			
	Mary Carter	Elder	First Broken Arrow
Class of 2011			
	Paul Merrill	Minister	Collinsville The Journey
	David VanDonkelaar	Minister	At-Large
	Cindy Rehanek	Elder	Jenks Saint James
	Sue Willis	Member	Oka Achukma Broken Bow
Developing Congregations and Evangelism			
2009	Moderator	Sandy Bach	Elder John Calvin Tulsa
Class of 2011			
	Ann Brizendine	Minister	First Muskogee
	Pat Bustle	Minister	Honorably Retired
	Ken Woodhams	Minister	Ecumenical Parish Pawhuska
Finance and Administration			
2009	Moderator	Charles Freeland	Minister Honorable Retired
Class of 2009			
	Liz Beck	Member	Sandy Creek Coleman
	Ollie Briggs	Elder	First Fort Gibson
	Bill Burton	Elder	First Claremore
	Charles Freeland	Minister	Honorably Retired
Ministry			
2009	Moderator	Andy Odom	Minister First Bartlesville
Class of 2011			
	Duane Bidwell	Minister	At-Large
	Clayt Evans	Elder	Good Shepherd Bartlesville
	Sandy Harrison	Elder	First Poteau
	Judy Henderson	Minister	Honorably Retired
	Jan Keene	Elder	First Tulsa
	Lynn Simpson	Minister	John Calvin Tulsa

## Mission

2009	Moderator	Jody Flippo	Elder	College Hill	Tulsa
Class of 2011					
		Jerry Adams	Elder	First	Tahlequah
		Darry Carlston	Elder	First	Tahlequah
		Darlene Cusher	Elder	Big Lick	Smithville
		Angelika Mitchell	Elder	Saint James	Jenks

## Malawi Partnership Subcommittee

2009	Moderator	Judy Henderson		Minister	Honorably Retired
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## Social Concerns Subcommittee

2009	Moderator	Mary McAnally		Minister	Honorably Retired (pending approval as a subcommittee)
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## Nominating

2009	Moderator	Martha Dale Wettstain	Elder	First	Hugo
Class of 2009					

## Class of 2011

		Martha Barber	Member	First	McAlester
		Fran Callaway	Minister	Honorably Retired	

## Pastoral Care Team

2009	Moderator	Natalie Ford-Cowling	Minister	First	Owasso
Class of 2011					
		Duane Bidwell	Minister	At-Large	
		Natalie Ford-Cowling	Minister	First	Owasso
		Rosemary Priest	Member	First	Tulsa
		Randy Schreurs	Minister	First	Hugo

## Permanent Judicial Commission

## Class of 2014

		Richard Carter	Elder	First	Broken Arrow
		Jeff Francis	Minister	At-Large	
		Nancy Taylor	Minister	First	Sapulpa

## Personnel

2009	Moderator	Deb Meinke	Minister	At-Large	
Class of 2011					

		Rider Allen	Elder	College Hill	Tulsa
		Joanne Kirven	Elder	First	Durant

## Preparation for Ministry

2009	Moderator	Heather Bartlow	Minister	First	Okmulgee
Class of 2011					

		Bill Bailey	Elder	First	Fort Gibson
		John Blue	Minister	Honorably Retired	
		Linda Priest	Elder	First	Pawhuska

## Representation

2009	Moderator	Bonnie Smith	Elder	First	Tahlequah
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## Class of 2010

## Class of 2011

	Michael East	Member	First	Sapulpa
Resourcing Congregations				
2009 Moderator	Karen Kriner	Elder	Saint Andrews	Tulsa
Class of 2009				
	Hannah Bennett	Member	First	Tulsa
Class of 2011				
	Allen Beck	Elder	Sandy Creek	Coleman
	Todd Freeman	Minister	College Hill	Tulsa
	Kristy Rodgers	Elder	First	Bartlesville
Youth Council				
2009 Moderator	Jennifer Coulter	Elder	John Knox	Tulsa
Trustees				
2009 Moderator	Pam Deatherage	Elder	Southminster	Tulsa
Class of 2010				
	Emerson Parker	Elder	Saint Andrews	Tulsa
Class of 2011				
	Bill Eagleton	Member	First	Tulsa
	Bill Stuckert	Elder	First	Sand Springs
Commissioners to Synod				
Class of 2010				
	Ryan Moore	Minister	First	Tulsa
Class of 2011				
	Moderator-Elect Jane Huffstetler	Minister	Saint James	Jenks
Dwight Mission Agency				
Class of 2011				
	Annette Haskins	Elder	First	Tablequah
Dwight Mission, Incorporated				
Class of 2011				
	Royce Kelly	Elder	First	Tulsa.

## PERSONNEL

That the Presbytery approve the closing of the office on Fridays.

## PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

1. That the Presbytery approve alternative ordination examinations in the areas of Worship and Sacraments and Theological Competence for Robert McElwaine. He did undergo additional tutoring in the areas of Worship and Sacraments and Reformed Theology; the tutors communicated with the Committee that they believe he has the ability and knowledge to demonstrate competence in the areas of examination. On July 24, 2008, Members of the Committee met with him to conduct oral examinations in those areas. The Committee Members present were



All appropriate reference and background checks were performed. The Committee also approved a Stated Supply Contract between the Session and Rev. Dancer with the same terms effective January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009.

2. The Committee approved a 4/5's-time Interim Pastor Contract between the Session of Grace Church, Grove, and Archie Lawrence, effective June 15, 2008, with the following terms:

Salary	\$ 6,000	Pension	As Set by BOP
Housing	\$19,200	Travel	\$7,200
Utilities	\$ 3,600	Vacation	1 Week per Quarter.

All appropriate reference and background checks were performed.

3. The Committee approved the Interim Pastor Contract between the Session of First Church, Sapulpa, and Nancy Taylor, effective July 2, 2008, with the following terms:

Salary	\$32,385	Social Security	\$3,750
Housing	\$13,300	Medical Reimbursement	\$2,000
Auto	\$ 2,450	Christian Education/Books	\$2,500
Pension	Full	Past Expense	\$1,500
Moving	\$ 1,500	Vacation (Per Quarter)	1 Week
Cell Phone	\$ 600	Study	2 Weeks.

All appropriate reference and background checks were performed

4. The Committee concurred with the actions of the Session of Saint James Church, Jenks, in accepting the resignations of Jill Clupper and Neal Dancer as Parish Associates, effective June 30, 2008. These resignations were offered in order to make room for the new associate pastor.
5. The Committee concurred with the action of the Session of Saint Andrews Church, Tulsa, in accepting the resignation of Rodgers Spencer as Parish Associate, effective July 27, 2008.
6. The Committee concurred with the action of the Session of Bristow Church, Bristow, to accept the resignation of Diana Hartman as Interim Pastor, effective October 8, 2008. She will be asked to continue to moderate the Session until the new pastor arrives.
7. Pending successful examination by the Committee, the Committee approved the Interim Associate Pastor Contract between the Session of John Knox Church, Tulsa, and Diana Hartman, effective October 9, 2008, with the following terms:
- |         |          |                        |          |
|---------|----------|------------------------|----------|
| Salary  | \$25,797 | Professional Expense   | \$1,000  |
| Housing | \$25,797 | Continuing Education   | Included |
| Auto    | \$ 800   | Vacation (Per Quarter) | 1 Week   |
| Pension | Full     | Study (Per Year)       | 2 Weeks. |

All appropriate reference and background checks were performed.

8. The Committee named the following people to ordain and install Ryan Moore, First Church, Tulsa, at 11:00 a.m. on September 14, 2008:
- Clergy: Michael Homan, Jim Miller, and Warren Muller  
 Elders: Richard Carter, Moderator, Broken Arrow, First Church; Clayt Evans, Good Shepherd Church, Bartlesville; Sandy Freeland, John Knox Church, Tulsa; and Janie Long, First Church, Tulsa.

9. The Committee appointed Charles Freeland as Moderator for First Church, Claremore, effective August 18, 2008.
10. The Committee approved the revised Pulpit Supply List. (**APPENDIX F**)

#### MISSION

1. The Committee invited all to the Mission Fair.
2. Peacemaker Maria "Nini" Castanheira will be itinerating in our Presbytery October 17-19, 2008.

#### PERSONNEL

1. Proposed Changes to the Personnel Policies were presented for a first reading.
2. It is time for a Review of the General Presbyter. Forms were in the packet.

#### RESOURCING CONGREGATIONS

1. A \$1,000 Young Adult Ministry Grant was presented to First Church, Muskogee to provide marriage enrichment and parenting classes.
2. Allison Beavers reported on activities at Dwight Mission.
3. Julie Burton presented information about the Resource Center.
4. Upcoming Presbytery-Wide Youth Events include:
  - Junior and Senior High Mission Event on November 15, 2008
  - Senior High Retreat at Dwight Mission on March 6-8, 2008
  - Junior High Retreat at Dwight Mission on May 8-10, 2008.

#### TRUSTEES

The Trustees are in the process of selling some property. Information will be reported at the December Stated Meeting.

#### SYNOD OF THE SUN

A report was presented about the Synod of the Sun Foundation Scholarship Program.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY

General Assembly Commissioners reported on their experiences at the 218<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.

#### WORKSHOPS

The following workshops were offered:

- Kirk of the Hills Listening Session
- Information from the 218<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Commissioners
- Clerks of Session Training on Rolls and Registers by Kris Valerius
- Immigration Issues Facing the Church by Julia Thorne
- Mission Fair.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Jeannie Kvatch offered the winning bid of \$100.00 on the Bicycle for Malawi.
2. The Hispanic Ministry at College Hill Church, Tulsa, held its first separate worship service.

ATTENDANCE

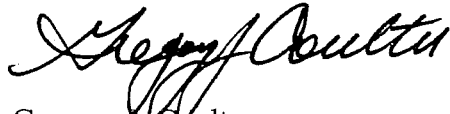
There were 110 people in attendance at this meeting. (**APPENDIX G**)

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

Jan Dittmar offered the Resolution of Thanks and closing prayer. (**APPENDIX H**)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Moderator Richard Carter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory J. Coulter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "G".

Gregory J. Coulter  
Clerk Pro-Tem