

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) EASTERN OKLAHOMA PRESBYTERY SYNOD OF
STATED MEETING THE SUN
MARCH 3, 2009
GOODLAND ACADEMY, HUGO**

Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held a Stated Meeting on March 3, 2009, at Goodland Academy in Hugo. The Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. with prayer by Moderator Joyce Ludwig. D. C. Adams welcomed the body and provided logistical information. The Stated Clerk reminded attendees to register and declared a quorum present. Jack Barden, New Covenant Presbytery, and John Williams, Grace Presbytery, were introduced as corresponding members with the privilege of the floor. Missionary Nancy Collins was also introduced and given the privilege of the floor. New commissioners were introduced.

WORSHIP

The sermon at the worship service was delivered by Nancy Collins. The offering of \$635.00 was presented to Goodland Academy.

MOTIONS

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

1. That the Presbytery adopt the Agenda as amended. (**APPENDIX A**)
2. That those requesting excused absences be excused.
3. That the Report of the Stated Clerk be received. (**APPENDIX B**)
4. That the Omnibus Motion be approved. Those motions are located under the appropriate committee.

COMMITTEES

COUNCIL

1. That the Presbytery approve the distribution of the proceeds from the sale of the Kirk of the Hills Church. (**APPENDIX C**)
2. That the Presbytery approve the 2009 Presbytery Mission Budget. (**APPENDIX D**)

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

That the Presbytery receive the December 31, 2008, Treasurer's Report. (**APPENDIX E**)

DEVELOPING CONGREGATIONS AND EVANGELISM

That the Presbytery approve the serving of Communion at the October 2009 Middle America Wee Kirk Conference if officiated by a Presbyterian church (U.S.A.) Minister of Word and Sacrament.

MINISTRY

1. That the Presbytery approve the Commissioned Lay Pastor contract between the Session of First Church of Antlers and Patricia Bernard, effective January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009, with the following terms and authorizations:

Salary	\$4,800 (Part-time service mostly Sundays)
Moderate meetings	\$50 per meeting
Travel	included.

She was previously examined by the Presbytery and approved as a Lay Preacher. She is authorized to administer the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, moderate the Session, and have voice and vote at Presbytery meetings. The Committee has completed the required clearance and background checks.
2. That the Presbytery approve the enrollment of Martha Dale Wettstain as a Lay Preacher after her successful examination.
3. That the Presbytery restore Rev. Ann Lindsey from the inactive roll to the active roll as a member-at-large. The Stated Clerk received her request for annual validation.
4. That the Presbytery receive William Ratliff as a member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and enroll him as a member of the Presbytery after his successful examination. He has been serving as the Temporary Supply Pastor for First Church, Sallisaw. Appropriate background checks have been completed. He has satisfied the educational requirements to be received. His standing in the American Baptist Church has been verified. He responded satisfactorily to the ordination questions required of all candidates for service in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
5. That the Presbytery concur with the request of the Federated Church of Checotah to dissolve the pastoral relationship between the congregation and Rev. Golda McClelland (Disciples of Christ), effective February 1, 2009, with a continuation of 90 days of compensation. As this is a Federated (Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and Disciples of Christ) congregation, the congregation met with both Greg Coulter and Leslie Dotson (Regional Minister for the Disciples of Christ) to confirm the decision according to both denominations' requirements. Reverends Coulter and Dotson will return to the Congregation to review the work of the governing board of the congregation and to discuss next steps regarding pastoral leadership.
6. That the Presbytery approve closing the position of Associate Pastor at First Church, Bartlesville. The duties of the previous Associate Pastor are being fulfilled by other members of the staff and the Congregation does not anticipate seeking an Associate Pastor in the near future.
7. That the Presbytery approve the serving of Communion at the University of Tulsa when officiated by Dr. Jeff Frances, Sharp Chaplain.

NOMINATING

1. That the Presbytery accept the following resignations:

John Campbell	Ministry 2009
Marilee Story	Synod Elder Commissioner 2009

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| John Blue | Preparation for Ministry 2011 |
| Dewey Shaffer | Mission 2010. |
2. That the Presbytery elect the following persons to the indicated positions:
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| _____ | Ministry Class of 2009 |
| _____ | Mission Class of 2010 |
| _____ | Preparation for Ministry Class of 2011 |
| Edna Mitchell | Commissioner to Synod Class of 2009 |
| | Elder Bristow Bristow. |

PERSONNEL

That the Presbytery approve 13 weeks of sabbatical leave during 2009 for General Presbyter Greg Coulter.

PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

1. That the Presbytery continue Heather Grantham, Angelika Mitchell, and Robert Quiring in the Inquiry phase and Brian Coulter in the Candidate phase of the process of ordination.
2. That the Presbytery enroll James Estes as a Candidate in the process of ordination.
3. That the Presbytery certify Brian Coulter ready to receive a call pending successful completion of Clinical Pastoral Education and graduation from Columbia Theological Seminary.
4. That the Presbytery record the enrollment of David (D. C.) Adams, member of First Church, Hugo, as an Inquirer by the Committee at its January 17, 2009, meeting.

RESOURCING CONGREGATIONS

1. That the Presbytery approve the serving of Communion at 2009 Dwight Mission and Youth Council events when officiated by a Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Minister of Word and Sacrament or by a Lay Preacher certified by the Presbytery.
2. That the Presbytery approve the serving of Communion at 2009 Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery Cursillo events when officiated by a Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Minister of Word and Sacrament or by a Lay Preacher certified by the Presbytery.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

That the Presbytery approve the serving of Communion during the 2009 Spring Gathering and the Women's Retreat when officiated by a Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Minister of Word and Sacrament or a Lay Preacher certified by the Presbytery.

REPORTS

COUNCIL

The Minutes of the December 2, 2008, Stated Meeting were approved by the Council.

CONNECTING CONGREGATIONS

1. Session minutes and rolls and registers are being reviewed prior to stated meetings this year.
2. The new Presbytery webpage (www.eokpresbytery.org) was highlighted, and David Dearing was recognized for his work on the webpage.
3. A new Disaster Relief Plan will be presented at the June Stated Meeting.
4. Anniversaries were celebrated.

DEVELOPING CONGREGATIONS AND EVANGELISM

1. Information was provided on Evangelism Initiative Grants. They will be presented at the September Stated Meeting.
2. Information was provided on Maintenance Assistance Grants.
3. Information was provided on The Journey New Church Development.
4. Information was provided on the Acts 16:5 Evangelism Initiative.

MINISTRY

1. Cheryl Finch was installed January 18, 2009, at 11:00 a.m. at Saint James Church in Jenks. The Installation Commission was composed of:

Ministers

Jane Huffstetler, Moderator
Jill Clupper
Greg Coulter
Craig Gibson

Elders

Eileen Grantham, First Church, Cleveland
Ralph Kitch, First Church, Tulsa
Karen McMillan, Saint James Church, Jenks.

2. Rebecca Montgomery was installed January 25, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. at Bristow Church in Bristow. The Installation Commission was composed of:

Ministers

Joyce Ludwig, Moderator
Fran Callaway
Jeff Francis
Diana Hartman

Elders

Levan Kelly, First Church, Tulsa
Karen McMillan, Saint James Church, Jenks
Bill Mitchell, Bristow Church, Bristow.

3. Heather Bartlow was installed February 8, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. at John Calvin Church, Tulsa. The Installation Commission was composed of:

Ministers

Dan Milford, Moderator
Jill Clupper
Natalie Ford-Cowling
Jeff London

Elders

Sandy Freeland, John Knox Church, Tulsa
 Rebecca Howard, College Hill Church, Tulsa
 Teri Johnson, John Calvin Church, Tulsa
 Michael Vanderburg, First Church, Okmulgee.

4. The Committee approved the Lay Preacher certification of Mary Alice Sipes, First Church, Broken Bow. She has previously been examined and approved as a Lay Preacher while a member of First Church, Idabel.
5. The Committee approved an Interim Pastor Contract between the Session of First Church, Okmulgee, and Lynn Simpson effective February 1, 2009, with the following terms;

Salary	\$16,000
Housing	\$12,000
Continuing Education	\$ 500
Medical Reimbursement	\$ 5,000
Travel/Professional Expense	\$15,398
Pension	Full
Moving	Not Applicable
Vacation	1 week for each 3 months of service
Study Leave	1 week for each 6 months of service.

All appropriate background and clearance checks were performed.
6. The Committee concurred in the resignation of Dewey Shaffer as Temporary Supply Pastor for Bryan County Parish.
7. Pending final congregational action, the Committee affirmed the call of Mark Newman (Disciples of Christ Minister) as Pastor for the First Christian-Presbyterian Church of Pryor. He has been serving as Interim Pastor and was called to continue his service in the installed position as approved by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Regional Body. He was previously granted temporary membership in the Presbytery when he began serving the Congregation.
8. Pending her concurrence, the Committee appointed Wanda Johnson as Moderator of Bryan County Parish effective February 1, 2009.
9. The Committee approved the renewal of the Commissioned Lay Pastor Contract for Allen Beck, Indian Parish.
10. The Committee approved the renewal of permission for Henry Battiest to serve the Lord's Supper for Saint Matthew Church, Broken Bow.
11. Pending receipt of the written contract, the Committee approved the renewal of the Parish Associate relationship between Gerald Voie and First Church, Muskogee.
12. Pending receipt of the written contract, the Committee approved the renewal of the Parish Associate relationship between Kimberly Merrill and Good Shepherd Church, Bartlesville.
13. The Committee approved the revisions to the Pulpit Supply List. (APPENDIX F)

MISSION

Judy Henderson reported on her teaching mission in Malawi.

PERSONNEL

1. The Committee has received reviews on the work of the General Presbyter.
2. The Committee is requesting that reviews on the work of the Stated Clerk be submitted to them.
3. The Committee plans to recommend a third five-year term for the General Presbyter at the June Stated Meeting.

RESOURCING CONGREGATIONS

The Committee is encouraging development of an educators network.

SYNOD

A report was presented on what is happening in the Synod of the Sun.

MINISTRY PARTNER PRESENTATIONS

1. D. C. Adams reported on activities at Goodland Academy.
2. Jack Barden reported on Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary.
3. John Williams reported on Austin College.

CLOSING**ATTENDANCE**

There were 103 people attending this meeting. (**APPENDIX G**)

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

A Resolution of Thanks and closing prayer was offered by Randy Schreurs.
(**APPENDIX H**)

Dana W. Bailey
Stated Clerk