

Committee on Nominations Report
March 1, 2011

If you have suggestions of persons who could serve on any of the presbytery committees, please contact Cheryl Finch at cheryl@stjamesjenks.org or 918-299-9988.

RESIGNATIONS:

Paul Merrill Connecting Congregations (2011)

NOMINATIONS:

Names preceded by an asterisk () will be serving a 2nd term and may not be re-elected
Moderators may only serve 3 years - each completed year is denoted with a (+)*

CARE OF CHURCH PROFESSIONALS (12)

Class of 2012 _____

CONNECTING CONGREGATIONS (9)

Class of 2013 _____

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION (9)

Class of 2011 _____

Class of 2012 _____

PERSONNEL (6)

Class of 2011 _____

PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY (9)

Class of 2013 _____

RESOURCING CONGREGATIONS (9)

Class of 2013 _____

TRUSTEES (6)

Class of 2011 _____

Class of 2013 _____

DWIGHT INC (3)

Class of 2012 _____

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (9) (Nominated by Council)

Class of 2011

Class of 2013

REPRESENTATION (3)

(Nominated by Council)

Class of 2011

Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery
NOMINATION FORM

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Please type or print.

Name of person being nominated: _____

Telephone Number: Home _____ Office _____

Mailing Address: _____

Church Membership (for lay persons) - please include both name of church and city:

Gender: _____ Male _____ Female

Age: _____ 25 & under _____ 26-45 _____ 46-65 _____ 65 & up

Racial/Ethnic Identification: _____ (A)sian, (B)lack, (H)ispanic, (N)ative American, (W)hite, (O)ther

Is the nominee: _____ an Elder? _____ a Certified Educator?
_____ a person with disabilities (we seek to include all people)

Endorsement for EOP Committee:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Care of Church Professionals | <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent Judicial Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Connecting Congregations | <input type="checkbox"/> Personnel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Developing Cong's & Evangelism | <input type="checkbox"/> Preparation for Ministry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance & Administration | <input type="checkbox"/> Representation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Resourcing Congregations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mission | <input type="checkbox"/> Trustees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nominations | <input type="checkbox"/> Council (at-large member) |

Endorsement for other positions recommended by EOP Nominating Committee:

- Dwight Mission Agency Representative
- Dwight Inc. Representative
- Synod Commissioner (2011-12)
- General Assembly Commissioner (2012) (include letter of recommendation from Session)
- GA Young Adult Advisory Delegate (2012) (include letter of recommendation from Session)

Comments: _____

Nomination submitted by _____ Date _____ Phone _____

Please submit this form to: Nominating Committee
c/o Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery
700 S Boston, Suite 200
Tulsa OK 74119

6/1/10

DESCRIPTION OF COMMITTEES & AGENCIES
OF EASTERN OKLAHOMA PRESBYTERY
JUNE 2010

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Presbytery Assembly:

- The presbytery is the governing body, responsible for mission, program, oversight and policy for the congregations in Eastern Oklahoma
- Meets quarterly (typically in March, June, September, December)

Presbytery Council:

- Comprised of moderators of standing committees and three persons elected at large
- Serves as the coordinating council for the presbytery
- At-large members serve as the presbytery meeting planning team
- Meets quarterly, about four weeks prior to each presbytery meeting

Care of Church Professionals Committee:

- Responsible for pastoral care and support of pastors and church professionals
- Meets quarterly, on Committee Days

Connecting Congregations Committee:

- Responsible for ministries linking congregations to the presbytery, the Presbyterian Church (USA), and the world
- Meets quarterly, on Committee Days

Developing Congregations Committee:

- Responsible for ministries and strategies in support of congregational development and vitality in the presbytery and its congregations
- Meets quarterly, on Committee Days

Finance & Administration Committee:

- Oversees the presbytery budget and investments, including its monthly expenses
- Meets quarterly, on Committee Days

Ministry Committee:

- Oversees and provides models for pastoral leadership within the presbytery
- Meets 9-12 times per year (not on Committee Days)

Mission Committee:

- Responsible for developing and implementing a mission strategy for the presbytery, interpreting and promoting presbytery mission causes, and assisting congregations in mission
- Meets quarterly, on Committee Days (subcommittees meet as needed)
- Subcommittees: Malawi Partnership; Social Concerns

Nominating Committee:

- Provides nominees for presbytery officers, committees, and moderators of committees, as well as Dwight Agency, Synod and General Assembly
- Meets quarterly, on Committee Days

Permanent Judicial Commission:

- Serves as ecclesiastical court for matters referred in accord with *Rules of Discipline*
- Meets as needed

Personnel Committee:

- Oversees presbytery staff and develops/applies personnel policies
- Meets quarterly, on Committee Days

Preparation for Ministry Committee:

- Oversees inquirers and candidates for ministry
- Meets 6-8 times per year, including Committee Days

Representation Committee:

- Encourages full participation by all constituent groups in the life and work of the presbytery
- Meets quarterly, on Committee Days

Resourcing Congregations Committee:

- Responsible for ministries and resources in support of congregations and their programs
- Meets quarterly, on Committee Days
- Subcommittees: Youth Council

Trustees:

- Oversees the real property of the presbytery and serves as liaison between the presbytery and its congregations in matters of their real property
- Meets quarterly, on Committee Days

Dwight Mission Agency Board:

- Oversees program and facilities of Dwight Mission Camp & Conference Center
- Meets 4-6 times per year, not on Committee Days (meetings rotate between all 3 presbyteries)

Dwight Mission, Inc:

- Oversees investments and real properties of Dwight Mission
- Meets at least annually, not on Committee Days

Commissioner and Young Adult Advisory Delegate to General Assembly:

- Serves as commissioner to week-long General Assembly (usually in June or July)
- Elected for two-year terms (elected in Sept or Dec of odd years for even-year Assembly meeting)
- Must be able to attend orientation prior to GA and report to presbytery after return (June or Sept)
- Lay persons must also submit a letter of recommendation from Session
- Young Adult Advisory Delegate must be 18-23 years old on the day General Assembly convenes

Commissioner to Synod:

- Serves as commissioner to Synod meetings (typically three 2-day meetings per year)
- Elected to two-year terms (new class elected each year)

Immigration^{I-1}

An issue as old as humanity...

Adam and Eve, evicted from the garden

Abraham, who left his country for a land promised to him by God

Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon

God teaches us to care for immigrants

Do not mistreat or oppress a foreigner, for you were foreigners in Egypt. -Ex 22:21

I was a stranger and you welcomed me. - Matt 25:35

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing so some have entertained angels unawares. - Heb 13:2

How do we live our faith today?

The Mission Committee of the Presbytery has chosen Immigration as our emphasis for the 2011 ministry year. As we respond to Jesus' commission that we make disciples of all nations, it is crucial that we consider our witness to and for the people of those nations who live in our neighborhoods, who attend school with our children, and who seek a life for their families alongside ours.

We would like to begin the conversation by inviting you to consider two resources:

One is a six-week devotional and study guide called Strangers in the Land from Sojourners. Check it out: <http://store.sojo.net/ProductDetails.asp?ProductCode=SG%5FSITL&CartID=1>. With arguments based on scripture, the authors remind us that every Christian is an "undocumented foreigner"—in the world, but not of it. They ask: How does this inform the church's voice in the contemporary battle over U.S. immigration laws?

A second resource is an article from Baylor University's Christian Reflection Series in Faith and Ethics, the issue on "Immigration." It's called "Waves of Blessing, Waves of Change." See what you think. <http://www.baylor.edu/content/services/document.php/66502.pdf>.

A study guide for the Baylor article asks:

1. From what countries do immigrants in your communities come from?
2. What brings newcomers to your area?
3. In what ways have recent Christian immigrants been a blessing to your congregation or to other North American congregations you know about?
4. How are immigrants transforming North American secular society in a positive way?

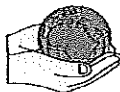
Join us as we pray

Journeying God, travel with those who move from one place to another. Provide strength and courage and reminders of your presence. Lead people around the world to extend hospitality to immigrants and in so doing encounter sisters and brothers. Guide those who make and enforce immigration policy to do so wisely and well. We pray in the name of Jesus, whose parents fled to Egypt to keep him safe. Amen.

Submitted By: The Rev. W. Mark Koenig

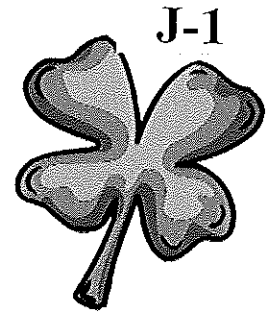
Associate for Resources and Publications, Presbyterian Peacemaking Program

For more information or resources, contact Julie Burton in the EOP Resource Center (eop-rc@sbcglobal.net).



Resource Sharings

Spring 2011



There is so much to tell you about!!!

I recently attended the annual Association of Presbyterian Church Educators (APCE) meeting in Albuquerque. It was c-c-c-old there – one day the morning temperature was -25! It was all worth it though. I've been to APCE many times, but this was one of the best ever.

New curriculum

Feasting on the Word (www.feastingontheword.net/curriculum)

The new curriculum that corresponds with the Feasting on the Word lectionary commentaries is outstanding! It is available this fall for all ages except preschool. The bulk of the studies will focus on the Gospel reading, as research showed that's what most pastors' use in sermons. March 20 has been designated as Sample Sunday. Go to their web site (www.feastingontheword.net/curriculum) and download a sample. Use it on March 20, and then send them your feedback. Congregations that do this will receive a discount on the curriculum when they order it. Participating churches will also get a chance to win FREE CURRICULUM FOR A YEAR!!

Dwell (www.faihaliveresources.org)

This new curriculum from Faith Alive invites children and leaders to pause and wonder...imagine...marvel...and dive into God's story. It was developed out of a desire to provide kids with less noise and more time to experience God. Four age levels: Imagine (K-1); Wonder (Grades 2-3); Marvel (Grades 4-5) and Dive (Grades 6-7-8.)

Also available from Faith Alive for small groups:

Infuse Bible Studies

Infuse Bible Studies aim to help people discover where faith and life meet. Learn what the Bible has to say by asking questions and seeking answers from the passage studied. Great for lively discussion by busy small groups or individuals—no previous Bible learning required!

In the Works Series

This brand-new five-session series explores how Christians can be part of God's mission in the world. Each title includes five inspiring daily readings for each week; five easy-to-use discussion guides (with activities, Bible study, and discussion activities); and follow-up action options to apply the study to real-world life

And that's not all!! -> -> ->

Seasons of the Spirit (www.spiritseasons.com)

Moderate changes have been made to their resources.

SeasonsFUSION

...for Congregational Life

Now your congregation can combine time, space, adults and children to create **new energy** through weekly **Christian practice in community and worship experience**. Based on the semi-continuous stream of the *Revised Common Lectionary*, these adaptable resources will fit your congregation, no matter how you are “doing church.”

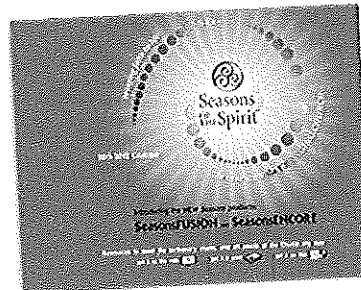
NEW! SeasonsFUSION includes the *Seasons of the Spirit...*
in tune with the changing church!

The church is changing. We can see it with our eyes and we often sense it deep within our spirits. While change is seldom easy, at *Seasons of the Spirit* we know that all change carries within it the seeds of opportunity and the possibility of new life.

2011-2012 Catalogue Now Available!

[CLICK TO VIEW](#)

Nine years ago, the *Seasons of the Spirit* development team made a twofold commitment: to *listen* to feedback from congregations and to pay attention to emerging trends in congregational life. For the past nine years this practice of *listening and learning* has helped *Seasons of the Spirit* respond to the needs of faith communities of all types.



Read about the exciting changes coming to *Seasons of the Spirit!*

As *Seasons of the Spirit* moves into its tenth year, our determination to respond to the needs of congregations by offering outstanding, quality resources is as strong as ever.

There's more!!!

We can now make resource purchases from the PC(USA) web page from ours! On the EOP web site Home page, scroll down to the bottom of the page. Click on the Support the Church button; you will be directed to the Church Store page. EOP will receive a 10% rebate on purchases made this way! And, purchases will be tracked so that I can get the resources on topics you are interested in. It's a win-win all the way around!

Let's get together and explore these new resources and see what works best for your congregation! Contact Julie at eop-rc@sbcglobal.net, (918) 582-3077 or (800) 533-1324.

TRUSTEE REPORT**March 1, 2011**

1. The Trustees move that the Presbytery renew our insurance with Hanover through Wilcox and McGrath.
2. The Trustees recommend that the office phone system be replaced using funds from the Reserve Account.
3. Trustees recommend the following distribution of the funds received due to the dissolution of East Side Church (and in consultation with their request):

Goodland Academy	\$55,000	50%
Dwight Mission	\$33,000	30%
Congregational Development/Redevelopment	\$22,000	20%.

The property was donated to the "Big Five" in Bryan County for various assistance groups. There is a reversionary clause in the deed that the property will come back to the Presbytery when no longer used by them.
4. The Trustees are working on a policy for a church that might want/need to consider closing. The experience of East Side Church, Durant, is one possible model for closing.

GENERAL REFLECTIONS
of the General Presbyter
March 2011

O-1

I have started and stopped writing this report at least three times since the first of the year. First, there was the tragic shooting of Representative Giffords and the aftermath which brought cries for civility in the public arena. I have to say that this may well be the single most alarming trend in public discourse over the last 10-20 years: the loss of any sense of decency and propriety when it comes to talking or writing about “the other.” Since when are public officials shouted down during a public address? Since when is it okay to replace logical arguments for your stated position with vilifications of anyone who chooses to disagree with you? Since when is it okay to knowingly stream false information over the airwaves and internet without any sense of accountability or decency? We need to be on our knees, praying for Rep. Giffords, but also for our country during a time in which threats, fear and intimidation seem to be winning the day.

Well, I’ll stop that train of thought, because we move on to the next crisis. Our prayers are certainly needed for our brothers and sisters throughout the Middle East. In particular, Christian voices are being lost in the waves of protest and socio-political revolution which have inundated Egypt, Tunisia, and many of their neighbors. We stand by almost paralyzed by the magnitude of what we are seeing - what is the proper response to social revolution? What is the correct position for the elected leaders of the United States? What should Christians be thinking and doing as we watch from a distance? But again, there is a loss of moral boundaries as journalists have been assaulted and even killed. Revolutions need demons to fight and its always easiest to make anyone other than yourself (and those who agree with you) the demon. There is much work to be done in the Middle East. We need to pray for healing again, for peoples long oppressed and for emerging leaders who need the wisdom of Solomon as they attempt to chart a way forward.

And then THE LETTER! (If you haven’t seen it and don’t know what I am talking about, go to http://www.cpconline.org/index.php?content=fellowship_pcusa.) Yes, I’ve read the letter, and I’ve read almost every response to the letter. And I have to say that the immediate response has been disappointing, pointing me back to my concerns over public discourse. Let me say up front that the letter from “Fellowship PC(USA)” was clearly one of those projects like the camel (as in what happens when a committee tries to design a horse? - you get a camel). I know several of those who signed the original letter and several of those who have signed it since. They are not of one mind and not of one purpose.

I don’t think it serves us well to try to dissect the letter (or its signatories) while we each go off into our studies to formulate our individual or group responses. Some of the primary writers have clear and obvious opinions as to the future utility of denominations. Others have some honest questions arising out of the intersection of their person theologies and their congregations’ public ministries. I will say that I have more respect for and am more interested in dialogue with those who have maintained some sense of communication about these concerns locally. It is easy to write a “global” letter; the hard work is the local dialogue where we have to work with brothers and sisters in the faith. I appreciate the courage of those doing that hard work. We have nothing to fear from listening to one another.

However, the main point I want to make is that this provides us an opportunity to talk, openly and honestly, about what we are looking for when we talk about the connectional nature of the Church in the 21st century. I think we risk losing that opportunity if we stay in our camps and continue to hurl stones across the divide. I look forward to conversations with Eastern Oklahoma pastors and church leaders this year in which we talk about what our congregations and church leaders are looking for in a renewed denomination. In many ways, our “social revolution” may have us at the gates of even greater change than the people of Egypt. It is our choice whether or not to embrace the opportunity before us, setting aside pride and fear and anger.

Glory be to God!

EVALUATION OF **MARCH 1, 2011**, STATED MEETING

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The Presbytery Planning Committee and the Presbytery Council review your comments after each presbytery meeting. To help us plan more effective meetings, please take a moment to respond to the following questions.

What comments do you have about this presbytery meeting?

What suggestions do you have for future presbytery meetings (ideas for speakers, workshops, reports, meeting format, etc)?

So that we might respond, when appropriate, please provide the following optional information:

Name: _____

Congregation & City: _____

When completed, please leave on the registration table or mail it to the presbytery office. Thank you for helping us to improve the quality of our time together.

EOP Night

With

The Tulsa Drillers



For all EOP families

Friday, June 3rd 7:00pm

(rain date Fri, June 17th 7pm)

Tell Natalie you're coming 918-272-1063

More info to come on eokpresbytery.org

February 8, 2011

O-4

TO: All Clerks of Sessions
Pastors and Associate Pastors

FROM: EOP Developing Congregations and Evangelism

RE: Developing Congregations and Evangelism Grants Applications

The Developing Congregations and Evangelism Committee is offering grants to help Congregations in EOP with new ideas for evangelism and/or developing programs needed at their church to bring new people to Christ in their community. Over the past several years, more than 50 churches have received funds to begin new evangelism and development initiatives through this program.

Application Process

1. Sessions interested in submitting an application have until July 1 to do so. Send applications to:
Ken Woodhams, 101 E 12th St, Pawhuska, OK 74056.
2. The Committee will review every grant request and all applicants will be notified of the results of that review in early August. The Presbytery will award grants at its meeting on September 16-17, 2011 at Dwight Mission.
3. The funds will be available after the approval of grants by Presbytery and will be released as soon as needed prior to December 31, 2011.

Notes:

Congregations receiving grants will be expected to assess the effectiveness of their project and report at the Committee's request so we may continue to assess the on-going value of this program.

These grants are a great way to develop new ways to share and connect with each other and our communities.

We welcome applications from the same church for the same idea as a previous year, but first time requests will receive priority.

If your Church has an idea, return the attached form by July 1, 2011. Questions may be directed to Ken Woodhams, (918) 287-4040 or kwoodhamsster@gmail.com.

2011 Developing Congregations & Evangelism Grants

O-5

Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery

Deadline: July 1, 2011

1. Basic Information

a. Church _____ City _____

b. Pastor/Commissioned Lay Pastor _____

c. Who will answer questions about your application?

Name _____

Day Phone _____

Evening Phone _____

2. Overview

Please describe your proposed outreach. Who are you trying to reach? What type of program you want to offer. Why do you feel your proposed ministry will reach the people you want to reach? When and where (day of week and time) will the program happen? (Please type.)

3. When do you plan to begin your program? _____

(Note: Grants will be awarded in September.)

4. Describe the audience you are seeking to reach.

5. On a separate piece of paper, describe the kind of program you will use (no more than 1 page, please). List 3-4 resources being used to develop the program.

6. Please list who will be responsible for developing this program (names of individuals, special committees of the Session with chairperson, etc.)

7. What publicity vehicles will you use?

O-6

8. What specifically will an Evangelism Grant pay for?

9. How (by what standards) will you evaluate your program?
(Please be as specific as you can.)

10. Please be prepared to report on your progress one year from the receipt of funds at the September Presbytery Meeting at Dwight Mission.

11. Session Approval

On _____ the Session of _____ Presbyterian Church of _____, Oklahoma approved this application. The Session understands that it will keep thorough records of the program and share those records with the Presbytery's Developing Congregations & Evangelism upon request.

Clerk of Session

Moderator

Send completed forms to:
Ken Woodhams, Moderator
101 E 12th St
Pawhuska, OK 74056

LOOKING FORWARD... OUR JUNE PRESBYTERY MEETING

Date and Place: June 10-11 - Tri-Presbytery
First Presbyterian Church, Stillwater

Theme: Empowering Leaders

Speaker: Cynthia Bolbach
Moderator of the 219th General Assembly

We are most fortunate that the Moderator will be able to join us. Her passion is leadership in the Church, in particular the leadership of Elders. The Moderator will be speaking in plenary and leading us in worship.

Come and hear where the Spirit is leading our denomination and the role Elders have in determining that course.

Registration: As this is a Tri-Presbytery event (every two years all three Oklahoma presbyteries gather for joint worship and discussion), you will need to register in advance and make motel reservations. Look for information to come to our congregations in April. But make plans now to attend on Friday and Saturday, June 10-11.

Who from your congregation might be interested in coming to our June Presbytery meeting? Start now to make sure they hear about what we're planning! Want more information? Call (918-582-3077) or write (eop@sbcglobal.net).

Sponsors:

The Indian Nations Presbytery

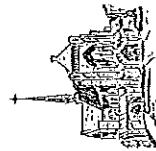


First Presbyterian Church of Edmond

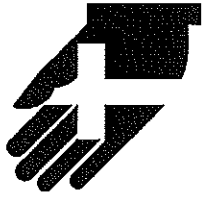


and the

First Presbyterian Church of OKC.



Engaging Evangelism



An Evangelism Workshop

Friday, March 25th (evening)

and

Saturday, March 26th

Held at First Presbyterian Church of OKC
(NW25th and Western)

\$10 per person

For more information, contact:

Rev. Dr. Carl F. Bosteels

405.525.6584

Guest Facilitator:

Ray Jones, Coordinator for Evangelism, PCUSA

Goal:

"What we are hoping to do is to help churches engage the gospel, discipleship and their communities. Evangelism has to be part of disciple making. What we are finding is that people outside the church want to know that the good news of the gospel is actually good news to those of us who are in the church. Every gathering on evangelism must start with helping people in the church claim their own stories of transformation in Christ."
Ray Jones, Coordinator for Evangelism, PCUSA

Who should attend: Adults (including senior high students) interested in how faith sharing and serving are connected with discipleship...members...elders...deacons... pastors...any friends outside the church. It's for any person with a heart to reach their community and reach out to their friends.

Engaging our culture:

We will look at what it means that the culture has changed. How does the church begin to respond to a very different cultural context? Many people in our culture believe the church to be irrelevant.

Engaging the Gospel:

We will look at our own stories of transformation and the story of God's mission we find in scripture. We will learn how to share our own faith stories and the story we find ourselves in through scripture.

Engaging the community:

We will look at how God is calling the church to serve our communities and recognize our own spheres of influence.

Engaging discipleship:

We will examine what it means to be a disciple making community. It is through discipleship that social justice and evangelism are seen as part of the same ministry and mission.

Registration Form - Engaging Evangelism

Friday: March 25 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Saturday: March 26 from 9:00 to 4:30

Must be received by First Presbyterian Church, OKC
1001 NW 25th
Oklahoma City, OK 73106

by Friday, March 18, 2011 (\$10 per person is to be enclosed)

Name(s): (please print)

Contact Number:

Email:

Make checks to First Presbyterian Church (note "Evangelism" on memo line)