

**EASTERN OKLAHOMA PRESBYTERY
STATED MEETING
JUNE 5-6, 2009
TULSA UNIVERSITY, TULSA**

Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) hosted Indian Nations Presbytery and Cimarron Presbytery on June 5-6, 2009, at Tulsa University in Tulsa for a Tri-Presbytery Meeting. Stated Meetings were held separately; however, many portions of the meeting were enjoyed jointly. The Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. with prayer by Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery Moderator Joyce Ludwig. Jeff Francis, Chaplain of Tulsa University's Sharp Chapel, welcomed the body and presented logistical information. The Stated Clerk reminded attendees to register and declared a quorum present. The following people were introduced and given privilege of the floor: Byron Wade, Vice Moderator of the 218th General Assembly, New Hope Presbytery; Raafat Zaki, Stated Clerk, Synod of the Sun; Rick Young, Board of Pensions, Grace Presbytery; Jim Currie, Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest, New Covenant Presbytery; Melinda Hunt, Texas Presbyterian Foundation, Grace Presbytery; Bob Biederman, Literacy and Evangelism Council, Philadelphia Presbytery; Dawn Scarborough, University of the Ozarks; Rose Niles, Theological Education Fund; Jack Barden, Austin Theological Seminary; Eldon Sheffer, Schreiner University; and Annette Shoemaker, Presbyterian Foundation. New commissioners were introduced. The Theme for the Meeting was "Equipping Disciples for Faithful Service."

WORSHIP

1. The Opening Worship service, led by Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery, included the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Byron Wade, Vice Moderator of the 218th General Assembly, delivered the sermon. The offering of \$1,156.00 was given to "Solar Under the Sun," a new Synod of the Sun initiative.
2. A Bible Study, led by Indian Nations Presbytery, began the day on Saturday.
3. The Closing Meditation was led by Christianne Chase, Cimarron Presbytery, Moderator of the Synod of the Sun

MOTIONS

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

1. That the Presbytery adopt the Agenda. (**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

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

That the Presbytery receive the March 31, 2009, Treasurer's Report. (**APPENDIX C**)

MINISTRY

1. That the Presbytery approve the call of Craig Gibson as Pastor for First Presbyterian Church of Sapulpa effective June 1, 2009 with the following terms:

Salary	\$26,000
Housing	\$20,000
Annuity	\$ 4,800
Medical Reimbursement	\$ 3,000
Travel/Professional Expense	\$ 3,500
Continuing Education/Books	\$ 1,500
Pension	Full
Moving (not applicable)	
Vacation	4 weeks (including 4 Sundays)
Study Leave	2 weeks (including 2 Sundays)
Continuing Education and Study Leave cumulative up to 3 years allowance (if unused).	

The Pastor Nominating Committee followed guidelines prescribed under AA/EEO. The Committee on Ministry has completed the required clearance and background checks. The Presbytery is not required to examine Rev. Gibson for membership because he is already a member (currently serving in a validated ministry as a Chaplain for Saint John's Hospice).

2. That the Presbytery approve the part-time Commissioned Lay Pastor Contract between the Session of First Church, Sallisaw, and Bill Sampson effective March 29, 2009, through December 31, 2009, to fill the remainder of the Temporary Supply Contract previously approved between the Session and Bill Ratliff. Mr. Sampson was previously examined by the presbytery and approved as a Lay Pastor. The Committee on Ministry has completed the required clearance and background checks. He has the following authorizations:

Administer the Sacraments of the Lord's Supper and Baptism
Moderate Session
Have voice and vote at Presbytery Meetings
Officiate at Weddings.

3. That the Presbytery transfer Will Robinson to the Presbytery of the Peaks so that he may accept the call as Pastor to Salem Presbyterian Church in Salem, Virginia.
4. That the Presbytery approve the Summary Report on the 2009 Terms of Call.
(APPENDIX D)

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

That the Presbytery receive the March 31, 2009, Treasurer's Report. (APPENDIX E)

NOMINATING

1. That the Presbytery accept the following resignations:

Jessie Finch	Connecting Congregations (2010)
Angelika Mitchell	Mission (2011)
Ryan Moore	Synod Clergy Commissioner (2010)
Patricia Bernard	Synod Elder Commissioner (2010)

2. That the Presbytery elect the following persons to the indicated positions:
- Connecting Congregations
 - Class of 2010 Eileen Grantham Elder First Cleveland
 - Ministry
 - Class of 2010 _____
 - Mission
 - Class of 2010 Lynda Ward Elder First Skiatook
 - Class of 2011 Rebecca Montgomery Minister Bristow Bristow
 - Preparation for Ministry
 - Class of 2011 Jill Clupper Minister At-Large
 - General Assembly Commissioners 2010
 - Clergy _____
 - Clergy Alternate _____
 - Clergy _____
 - Clergy Alternate _____
 - Elder _____
 - Elder Alternate _____
 - Elder _____
 - Elder Alternate _____
 - Youth Advisory Delegate _____
 - Youth Advisory Delegate Alternate _____
 - Synod Commissioners 2010
 - Elder Sammie Jo Adams Elder First Caddo
 - Clergy Diana Hartman Minister John Knox Tulsa

PERSONNEL

That the Presbytery elect General Presbyter Greg Coulter to another 5-year term effective July 1, 20i09.

PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

1. That the Presbytery enroll Olivia Lane, First Church, Tulsa, as an Inquirer effective with the Committee’s action on May 23, 2009.
2. That the Presbytery remove Angelika Mitchell, Saint James Church, Jenks, from the Roll of Inquirers per her request.
3. That the Presbytery enroll Robert Quiring as a Candidate in the process of ordination.

REPORTS

COUNCIL

1. The Council approved the Minutes of the March Stated Meeting.
2. The Council asked the Resourcing Congregations Committee to develop a task group to study communications.

CONNECTING CONGREGATIONS

Diana Hartman presented the “Disaster Relief Plan. Copies are available.

DEVELOPING CONGREGATIONS AND EVANGELISM

1. “The Journey” New Church Development offered the Alpha Course and a knitting class. Rev. Len Tang of the Sherwood Presbyterian Church is now coaching Paul Merrill. An advertising campaign is planned for the fall.
2. Evangelism Grants will be awarded at the September Stated Meeting.
3. Information was provided on the Hispanic outreach at College Hill Church, Tulsa.

MINISTRY

1. The Committee concurred with the request of Gerald Voie and the Session of First Church, Muskogee, to conclude his Parish Associate Contract effective May 31, 2009. He is moving to Tulsa June 1, 2009.
2. The Committee and the Stated Clerk certified that Bristow Church, Bristow, qualified for the Board of Pensions’ Seminary Debt Reduction Program. Rev. Montgomery thus qualifies for up to \$2,500 annually for four years to reduce her seminary loans. Further information regarding this program is available from the Presbytery Office.
3. The Committee renewed Pam Crawford’s status as a Lay Preacher. She was previously examined by the Presbytery. She temporarily moved to Houston, but she has now returned. The Committee concurs with Good Shepherd Church Session, Bartlesville, in welcoming her back and renewing her status as a Lay Preacher.
4. Mervin Redwine continues as Moderator for Bryan County Parish.
5. Bill Sampson is Moderator for First Church, Sallisaw, effective March 29, 2009, as part of his Commissioned Lay Pastor Contract.
6. The Committee approved revisions to the Pulpit Supply List. (**APPENDIX F**)

MISSION

1. Debbie Chase, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Mission Co-Worker in Malawi, Africa, will be in the United States from January 1 through June 13, 2010. She will need housing and a car. She will be available for speaking engagements.
2. A draft was available of a Statement for the Social Concerns Subcommittee.
3. Information was available from the Tulsa Interfaith Alliance regarding religious and civil liberties in relation to American Indians.
4. The Crop Walk will be in October.
5. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) World Mission Challenge 09 on October 16-17-18-19, 2009, needs hosts.
6. Judy Henderson provided information regarding our relationship with the Synod of Livingstonia in Malawi.

NOMINATING

Information was provided on nomination procedures for General Assembly and Synod of the Sun Commissioners.

PERSONNEL

1. The Committee is completing its end-of-term review of Dana Bailey as Stated Clerk.
2. The Committee is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Stated Clerk for the term January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2012. Dana Bailey has indicated a willingness to serve another term if elected. The Committee will present a nominee at the September Stated Meeting
3. The Committee approved leave time for the General Presbyter for the remainder of 2009 (including Sabbatical, Study, and Vacation Leave). He will also be at Synod of the Sun and General Assembly conferences as noted:
 - May 10-30
 - June 11-14
 - June 15-August 1
 - August 10-13 Synod Leadership Conference
 - August 25-September 5
 - September 20-October 3
 - October 3-7 Fall Polity Conference and Association of Executive Presbyters Annual Meeting
 - October 25-31
 - November 18-25.

RESOURCING CONGREGATIONS

Jennifer Coulter provided information about youth activities.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women of the Synod of the Sun will be meeting July 16-18, 2010, at the First Presbyterian Church in Oklahoma City.

ASSOCIATE GENERAL PRESBYTER

Marcus Barber, Associate General Presbyter, presented his Annual Report.

SYNOD OF THE SUN

Raafat Zaki, Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Sun, reported regarding current activities in the Synod.

SPECIAL REPORTS

1. Byron Wade, Vice Moderator of the 218th General Assembly, was the plenary speaker.
2. Jeff Francis, Sharp Chaplain, reported on activities at the University of Tulsa.
3. Allison Beavers reported on the renovation of the Heritage Center and on the planned lodge at Dwight Mission Camp and Conference Center in Vian.
4. D. C. Adams reported on activities at Goodland Academy in Hugo, the oldest agency in the Synod of the Sun at 160 years.
5. Jim Currie provided information about the Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest.

6. Marvin Kroeker, Oklahoma Historical Society, brought us up-to-date on the book, "Divided Hearts," that will be released in October about early Presbyterian history in Oklahoma.
7. Rose Niles represented the Theological Education Fund.
8. Jack Barden represented Austin Theological Seminary.
9. Eldon Sheffer represented Schreiner University.
10. Dawn Scarborough represented the University of the Ozarks.
11. Bob Biederman represented the Literacy and Evangelism Council.
12. Rick Young represented the Board of Pensions.
13. Ed Bernard provided information about the Wee Kirk Conference at Western Hills Lodge this fall.
14. Melinda Hunt, Grace Presbytery, represented the Texas Presbyterian Foundation.
15. Annette Shoemaker represented the Presbyterian Foundation.
16. There was a display from Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery's Resource Center.
17. There was a display of Fair Trade Products.
18. Cokesbury provided coupons for their book stores in Tulsa and Oklahoma City.

CLOSING

ATTENDANCE

There were 109 people in attendance at this meeting from Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery in addition to those attending from Indian Nations Presbytery and Cimarron Presbytery.

(APPENDIX G)

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

Sandy Bach offered a Resolution of Thanks and prayer to close the Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery Stated Meeting.

Dana W. Bailey
Stated Clerk