

Winter Stated Cimarron Presbytery Meeting Draft Minutes
First Presbyterian Church, Ponca City, OK; February 13, 2018

Teaching Elders Present: Sarah Chivington-Buck, Alva; Gordon Edwards, HR and EP; Leah Hrachovec, Stillwater; Joshua Kerr, Perry; Deborah Meinke, Stated Clerk; Rick Mills, HR; Linda Sherry, Guymon

Ruling Elders Present: Nancy Dale, Guymon; Margaret Smith, Ponca City; Christianne Chase, Enid; Mike Dvorak, Perry; Billie DeBoard, Blackwell; Mark Southard, Newkirk; Linda Good, Stillwater; Kathy Thomas, Stillwater; Jenna Campbell, Certified Christian Educator, Stillwater; Kathy Stokesberry, Tonkawa; Virginia Lowrey, Woodward; Jan Harris, Guthrie; Ida Evans, Alva; Barbara Younger, Presbyterian Women, Ponca City

Teaching Elders Excused: Andrew Long, Enid; Glen Bays, HR; Gay Cocheres, At Large; Deborah Green, At Large; Everett Miller, At Large; Cynthia Rigby, At Large; Karen Rogers, At Large

Ruling Elders Excused: Beaver

Staff Excused: Laura McVay, Treasurer, Ponca City

Seating of Corresponding Members – Rick Young, Texas Presbyterian Foundation, Grace Presbytery; Valerie Young, Synod of the Sun Executive; Central Presbyterian Church, Waxahachie, TX; Rob Duncan, Dwight Mission Inc.; Rev. Amy Rogers, Supply Pastor, FUPC, Guthrie

Recognition of Visitors – Sherry Schieffer, Perry; Jon Prange, The Church Insurance Board

Registration and fellowship time began at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall. Commissioners and guests went to the chapel for the morning session at 9:30 AM. Mark Southard, Moderator, opened the meeting with prayer and Rev. Robert Montgomery welcomed us to the host church. The clerk declared that a quorum (5 TE, 5 RE, 5 churches) was present. Visitors were recognized and corresponding members were seated. The Moderator called for volunteers to appoint Committees on Attendance and Offering (1 ruling and 1 teaching elder). Attendance will be Leah Hrachovec, Stillwater and Virginia Lowrey, Woodward. Offering will be counted by Josh Kerr, Perry and Ida Evans, Alva. The Moderator entertained a motion to adopt the meeting agenda, which was adopted with the requested change to receive the COM&P report after lunch. Minutes from the October 2017 Stated Meeting in Guymon were APPROVED by voice vote.

The presbytery worshipped together and celebrated the Sacrament of Communion by intinction. Rev. Sarah Chivington-Buck preached and Rev. Robert Montgomery assisted in worship. Ann Salmons, Music Director at FPC, Ponca City, provided beautiful piano music. Ruling Elder Mike Dvorak, Perry, was commissioned in service to Cimarron Presbytery following his completion of the Certificate in Ministry program at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. The offering was designated for the Ponca Emergency Resource Center.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Following a short stretch break, members reassembled in the chapel to hear reports from committees and other entities.

Synod of the Sun – Rick Mills, Synod Commissioner and Valerie Young, Synod Executive

Rick reported on Valerie Young's election as stated clerk and synod executive. Her installation will take place on March 12th at the Spring Synod Assembly. Rick has been appointed to the Stewardship Committee. Rick was impressed with the information available through the Presbyterian Historical Society and how pleased with the IMAGINE Mission event.

Valerie Young offered a Thank You to Cimarron Presbytery for faithful support; Tom Riggs has been hired as communication coordinator with presbyteries and the synod; Synod Sunday will be on Aug. 26th (watch for mission stories and worship bulletins); 3rd IMAGINE Mission Connection event is planned for Nov. 2018 in OKC; Valerie is promoting the use of ZOOM videoconferencing for synod and presbytery purposes.

Presbyterian Women – Barbara Younger, Moderator

Reported on Fall bible study meeting, promoted the upcoming Spring Gathering on human trafficking; Leslie Sweatt and Margaret Smith will be attending the PW Churchwide Gathering this summer; Financial – bday offering, mission giving to pby, thank offering, grant opportunities, \$500 grant to Blackwell "Solemates" program

Council Report – Mark Southard, Moderator

Mark reported the following items from the Jan 11th meeting of the presbytery council

- 1) May Presbytery meeting in Newkirk – Cindy Rigby will be presenting to us
- 2) *Action Item* Nominations for Nominating Committee – Sarah Chivington-Buck and Mike Dvorak APPROVED by voice vote
- 3) *Action Item: Vote on concurrence with New Covenant Presbytery's overture to the 223rd General Assembly* – APPROVED by voice vote

Executive Presbyter Report – Gordon Edwards

Gordon invited Cimarron Presbyterians to consider attending General Assembly in St. Louis; Margaret Smith, Ponca City and Deb Meinke, Stated Clerk and Stillwater, are voting commissioners.

Gordon reported on the activities of the Oklahoma Presbyterian Network (OPN) designed to increase collaboration and shared ministry among Oklahoma Presbyterians. 3 meetings have been held and EOP has approved its team of participants. Watch for more information about the post-GA meeting Sat. July 14 in OKC. Jill Duffield, Editor of *Presbyterian Outlook* is to be keynote speaker. Gordon challenged each congregation to send 2 elders to the post-GA gathering.

Action item – Move that Cimarron Pby elect Gordon Edwards, Josh Kerr, Deb Meinke, Jenna Campbell and Mark Southard to represent Cimarron in OPN. – APPROVED by voice vote

Kay Co. Officer training was quite successful and well attended (25) in Jan. – good model for OPN. Woodward (plus Enid, Guymon) are interested in hosting another officer training.

Gordon will be traveling to Lebanon (and possibly Syria) in April, 2018, taking the \$1066 received from Presbyterian Women to distribute to various refugee relief efforts.

Gordon's next tour to Palestine and Israel (1/3 pilgrimage to holy sites, 2/3 observing and discussing conditions and issues in Israel/Palestine) will take place Sept. 3 – 16, 2018

Stated Clerk's Report – Deborah Meinke

Additions to the written report: Park Nelson, FPC, Ponca City is passing along an invitation for Cimarron to send a representative to the Southwest Presbyterian Historical Society. As of the end of January 2018, the Presbytery Resource Center has been dismantled and unclaimed resources distributed or recycled.

The clerk has received 2017 minutes from Tonkawa, Alva, and Guymon for review.

Treasurer's Report – Laura McVay, Treasurer

Deb offered a summary of Laura's written reports.

Committee on Nominations – Ed Arquitt, Moderator (Josh report)

The committee is still seeking a presbytery treasurer.

Thanks for election of Mike Dvoark and Sarah Chivington-Buck to the Nominating Committee.

Action Item: The Committee on Nominations recommends to the presbytery that Preston Bobo, Stillwater, be elected to Dwight Presbyterian Mission, Inc. Board – APPROVED by voice vote

Committee reports will continue after lunch. Grace was offered by Mike Dvorak, then we moved to lunch in Fellowship Hall served by the Presbyterian Women of Ponca City.

Commission on Ministry and Preparation - Christianne Chase, Moderator

Installed pastor terms of call were presented and APPROVED by voice vote.

The presbytery was then asked to concur with COM&P that Gay Cocheres be granted status of Honorably Retired, effective March 15, 2018 – APPROVED by voice vote

Dwight Mission Agency – Rob Duncan, Executive Director

Rob Duncan reported and showed photos of the many renovations and 'upgrades' happening at Dwight Mission. The financial support from our 3 presbyteries was sufficient to cover the Presbyterian Program director's salary and benefits package. Annual Fund support was sufficient to cover the maintenance budget. Goals are to develop more adult lodging and retreat space, increased camp use in off-season, continue developing collaborations with the Cherokee Nation in performing music, drama, art. A partnership is beginning with Ferncliff to offer a "Peace and Justice" camp experiment this summer.

Rob reminded the presbytery members and guests to TAKE HOME YOUR SUMMER CAMP PACKET

Being Cimarron Presbytery means...

Being Christian
Being Confessional
Being Connectional
Being Compassionate

Table conversation centered around these topics and how we are doing in our congregations and as a presbytery.

Other Business

Attendance and Offering

\$411 was received for the Ponca City Food Resource Center
7 Teaching Elders, 14 Ruling Elders from 11 churches, 6 visitors and corresponding members were in attendance.

Joys and Concerns – Barbara Ware, Jan Harris (Raymond), Karen Rogers' brother in CA, Thanks to Sarah for worship, and to our Ponca City hosts for their hospitality
Gordon Edwards, Executive Presbyter adjourned us with prayer at 2:50 PM.

Upcoming Meetings and Deadlines

Statistics of the Church online entry ends Feb. 15, 2018
Synod of the Sun Spring Assembly, Mar. 12-13, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Mansfield, TX
Commission on Ministry and Preparation, March 7, May 1, FPC, Enid
Cimarron Presbytery Council, April 10, 2018 – Location TBA
General Assembly commissioner training, April 16, 2018 – First Presbyterian Church, Stillwater
Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering, April 28, 2018, First United Presbyterian Church, Guthrie
Cimarron Presbytery Spring Stated Meeting, May 8, 2018 – FPC, Newkirk
223rd General Assembly, St. Louis, MO, June 16-23
Oklahoma Presbyterian Network (OPN) Post-General Assembly gathering with Jill Duffield, editor of *The Presbyterian Outlook* on July 14, 2018, OKC (Westminster PC?)
Presbyterian Women Churchwide Gathering, Louisville, KY, August 2-5
Synod Sunday, August 26, 2018

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS for our
Spring Presbytery Meeting, May 8, 2018
First Presbyterian Church, Newkirk
Rev Dr. Cynthia Rigby, Austin Seminary will be leading us in
theological reflection based on her forthcoming book
 *Holding Faith***

