

**Fall Stated Cimarron Presbytery Meeting MINUTES**  
***First Presbyterian Church, Blackwell, OK; October 16, 2018***

Teaching Elders Present: Gordon Edwards, HR and Executive Presbyter; Andrew Long, Enid; Joshua Kerr, Perry; Deborah Meinke, Stated Clerk; Linda Sherry, Guymon

Ruling Elders Present: Don Tapp, Tonkawa; Christianne Chase, Enid; Mike Dvorak, Perry; Billie DeBoard, Blackwell; Mark Southard, Newkirk; Ed Arquitt, Stillwater; Kathy Thomas, Stillwater; Ty Albers, Woodward; Ida Evans, Alva; Barbara Younger, Presbyterian Women; Harold Younger, Ponca City;

Teaching Elders Excused: Leah Hrachovec, Stillwater; Rick Mills, HR; Glen Bays, HR; Gay Cocheres, HR; Deborah Green, At Large; Everett Miller, At Large; Karen Rogers, At Large; Cynthia Rigby, At Large, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

Ruling Elders Excused: Beaver, Guymon, Guthrie

Seating of Corresponding Members – Rev. Robert Montgomery, Supply Pastor, Ponca City; Rob Duncan, Dwight Mission Inc.; Rev. Vern Arens, HR, United Church of Christ, Parish Associate, Stillwater

Recognition of Visitors – Jenny Hardin, Great Rivers Presbytery, Illinois; Abbey Hardin, IL

Registration and fellowship time began at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall. Commissioners and guests went to the sanctuary for the morning session at 9:30 AM. Mark Southard, Moderator, opened the meeting with prayer and thanked Blackwell for hosting. The clerk declared that a quorum (5 TE, 5 RE, 5 churches) was present. New commissioners and visitors were recognized and corresponding members were seated. The Moderator called for volunteers for Committees on Attendance and Offering (1 ruling and 1 teaching elder). Attendance will be reviewed by Gordon Edwards, EP and Christianne Chase, Enid. Offering will be counted by Barbara Younger, Ponca City, and Andrew Long, Enid. The Moderator entertained a motion to adopt the meeting agenda, which was adopted as presented. Minutes from the May 2018 Stated Meeting in Newkirk were APPROVED by voice vote.

Ed Arquitt, Stillwater, was called forward to give the Nominations Committee Report. The Nominations Committee moves that Rev. Andrew Long, Enid, be elected Treasurer for a 3 yr. term. The motion was APPROVED by voice vote.

The Nominations Committee moves that Rev. Joshua Kerr, Perry, be elected as Moderator of the Commission on Ministry and Preparation for 2019. The motion was APPROVED by voice vote. Remaining Nominations for presbytery offices were brought forward (see written slate) and nominations from the floor were solicited. Nominees were APPROVED by voice vote.

The presbytery moved into worship. Jennifer Hardin, Candidate for Ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, Great Rivers Presbytery preached the Word. Outgoing moderator Mark Southard led the installation of Christianne Chase, Enid, as the 2019 Moderator of Cimarron Presbytery. The offering collected will go to Associated Charities, a local Blackwell

food pantry and help center. Communion was celebrated by Intinction. Rev. Andrew Long, Enid, was the musician for the service.

Following a short break, the presbytery gathered to hear committee reports.

**Treasurer's Report - Rev. Andrew Long** (written reports attached)

Andrew explained the new report formats and the line item changes.

**Council Report** – Mark Southard, Moderator

The February presbytery meeting will be in Stillwater, Tri-Presbytery at Westminster PC, OKC, May 31-June 1; A host church is still needed for the October 2019 meeting.

**Presentation of the 2019 Budget** – Andrew Long (see attached report)

*Action Item:* The Presbytery Council moves that the 2019 Budget for Cimarron Presbytery be adopted as presented.- APPROVED by voice vote

**Executive Presbyter Report** – Rev. Gordon Edwards

We hope to have Shaun Kang from 1001 New Worshipping Communities as our guest speaker at the Feb 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, possible workshop late Monday afternoon. Tri-Pres May 31-June 1. Cindy Kohlmann will be preaching and speaking, will preach on Sun. June 2 somewhere in Cimarron. Gordon's next Middle East trip is planned for March 2019, taking reservations now.

**Stated Clerk Report** – Rev. Deborah Meinke (written report)

**Presbyterian Women** – Barbara Younger (written report)

The decision has been made to disband Cimarron Presbyterian Women in December 2019, which will allow the current members to assist in hosting the Synod Gathering in Tulsa in July, 2019.

**Dwight Mission** – Rev. Rob Duncan, Executive Director

25 beds now available in adult lodging. See handouts for events.

Heritage Center project is advancing

Mission Week – camp for those who can't afford it. Need support for 10 campers (\$60/day; \$360/wk)

At noon we moved to Fellowship hall to enjoy a home-cooked lunch thanks to our Blackwell hosts.

**Commission on Ministry and Preparation Report** – Christianne Chase, Moderator

*Action Item:* The Commission on Ministry and Preparation moves that Jenna Campbell, Stillwater, be approved as certification advisor for Certified Christian Educators. – APPROVED by voice vote.

*Action Item:* The Commission on Ministry and Preparation moves to dismiss Rev. Sarah Chivington-Buck from Cimarron Presbytery and transfer her membership to Santa Fe Presbytery. – APPROVED by voice vote

Christianne reported that Katrina Richardson, Candidate and graduate from Dubuque Seminary in 2018, was examined by COM&P and certified ready to receive a call in July of

2018. Katrina is meeting with John Knox Presbytery leadership about becoming ordained to a call.

*Action Item:* The Commission on Ministry and Preparation moves to grant Rev. Karen Rogers permission to labor outside the bounds of Cimarron while in South Louisiana presbytery doing a chaplaincy internship.- APPROVED by voice vote

*Action Item:* The Commission on Ministry and Preparation moves to grant Rev. Deborah Meinke Honorable Retirement status effective December 31, 2018. She will continue in her role as part-time Stated Clerk through 2019. – APPROVED by voice vote

Christianne then thanked the COM&P members for their service while she has been Moderator. Christianne invited Candidate Jenny Hardin to come forward and she was introduced to the membership. Jenny's examination for ordination took place. A motion was made by Christianne Chase and seconded to suspend the examination of Jennifer Hardin, Stillwater candidate for ordination. Jenny and Abby were escorted out for discussion and voting to take place. After discussion, Christianne moved and seconded to sustain the examination of Jennifer Hardin, Candidate for Ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, approve her membership in Cimarron Presbytery and concur in her call as Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Stillwater, terms of call as presented. - APPROVED by voice vote. Gordon Edwards made a motion to request that Great Rivers Presbytery ordain Jenny to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament on behalf of Cimarron Presbytery. – APPROVED by voice vote

Andrew Long made a motion to release funds for a member of Cimarron Presbytery to travel to Jenny's ordination if such support is needed. – APPROVED by voice vote

The members welcomed Jenny and Abby back to the sanctuary to hear the results and prayer was offered by Deborah Meinke, Stated Clerk in support of her ministry.

**Report of Commissioners from the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly** – Mike Dvorak and Deb Meinke spoke about their experiences at General Assembly and the business conducted.

### **Congregational Conversation – ministry highlights of 2018**

Blackwell – Billie DeBoard reported on 'Worship in the Park', and the congregation's gratitude to Mike Dvorak for his regular preaching.

Ponca City – is grateful for Robert Montgomery, still seeking a pastor, focused on reducing building use, grateful for a number of Cimarron churches celebrating 125 years of ministry including Ponca City, Czech Republic report was given on Sun. Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> and there will be a return trip in summer 2019.

Alva – Ida Evans noted that they are between pastors, working on interim pastor call Woodward – Ty Albers reported that they had a recent setback in their pastor search with a candidate taking another call. Ty is now working at the church 20 hrs/wk as secretary and sexton; Ty hopes to move the congregation toward better earth stewardship, especially the Styrofoam challenge from New Covenant Presbytery.

Enid – Andrew Long reported on the recent 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration; \$150K repair on sanctuary roof. He is challenged by politically purple congregation and raised the issue of how we are 'following Jesus and living in the empire.' Also energized by the Styrofoam challenge, He invited us to their Epiphany Messiah Sing-a-Long on Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>, 5 pm

Guymon – Linda Sherry described the congregation’s expanding mission of preschool in its second year. They have increased from 2 to 3 days/week, and age range expanded, esp. for children with ESL (27 languages are spoken in Guymon’s public schools)

Newkirk – Mark described success, fun and fellowship at their Weds family movie nights watching some worthwhile Pixar films.

Attendance Report – 10 churches and ruling elders, 5 TE

Offering Report - \$302

Joys and Concerns- Ty’s mother in law moved in, hospice care. Cindy Pfeiffer-Hill (Alva), Phyllis Fisher (Alva), Rick Mills 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination

It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 2:30 pm. Gordon Edwards offered closing prayer.

**Mark Your Calendars! - First Presbyterian Church, Stillwater, has offered to host the presbytery February 12, 2019**

### **Upcoming Meetings and Deadlines**

Indian Nations Presbytery Pastor Retreat, Oct. 29-30, St. Crispin’s Conference Center, Shawnee, OK

IMAGINE Mission Connection, Synod of the Sun, Nov. 2-3, First Presbyterian Church, Norman, OK

Commission on Ministry and Preparation, Nov. 6, 2018

Oklahoma Conference of Churches Annual Dinner, Nov. 8, 2018, Embassy Suites, Norman, OK

Statistics of the Church entry begins Dec.7, 2018 and ends Feb. 15, 2019.

Commission on Ministry and Preparation, Jan. 8, 2019

Oklahoma Presbyterian Network, Stillwater, Jan. 15, 2019

Cimarron Presbytery Winter Stated Meeting, Feb. 12, 2019 – First Presbyterian Church, Stillwater

Respectfully Submitted

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Rev. Deborah Meinke, Stated Clerk

Mark Southard, Moderator