

Fall Stated Cimarron Presbytery Meeting Minutes
Due to the continuing pandemic, this was an on-line meeting via Zoom
October 13, 2020

9:00 AM Roll Call (Clerk: Mark Southard - in lieu of Sign up sheets)

Attendees:

Teaching Elders: Rev. Andrew Long (Enid); Rev. Linda Sherry (Ponca); Rev. Leah Hrachovec (Stillwater); Rev. Jenny Hardin (Stillwater); Rev. Karen Rogers (Woodward); Gordon Edwards (General Presbyter); Rev. Deborah Meinke (HR); Rev. Rick Mills (HR)

Ruling Elders: Mike Dvorak (CP, Blackwell); Billie DeBoard (Blackwell), Christianne Chase (Moderator, Enid); Jennifer Bozarth (Guthrie); Nancy Dale (Guymon); Mark Southard (CP Newkirk, Stated Clerk); Ann Hight (Perry); Bill Salmons (Ponca); Katherine Thomas (Stillwater) Cathy Fairbanks (Stillwater); Ed Arquitt (Nominations Committee Moderator, Stillwater);

Corresponding: Rev. Josh Kerr (Claremore, INP); Joel Gill (Dir. Ferncliff Camp); Rev. Lemuel Garcia-Aroyo (PMA); Rev. Mitch Miller (Synod of the Sun Moderator)

Guests: Rev. Robert Montgomery (Supply Perry); Allison Longman (Supply, Guthrie); Ann Salmons (Ponca);

Excused: Elder Ida Evans (Alva); Rev. Verne Arens (Pastoral Associate, Stillwater); Don Tapp (CP, Tonkawa);

Opening - Moderator, Elder Christianne Chase

Opened the meeting with a reading from Psalm 146 and a prayer by Rev. Steve Garness-Holmes
A Quorum was then declared by the Moderator.

Seating of Corresponding Members

Recognition of Visitors (See Attendance above)

9:15 AM **Worship** – lead by Rev. Lemuel Garcia-Arroyo (Presbyterian Mission Engagement)
Liturgy by Moderator Christianne Chase, Andrew Long and Brett Wilenzick (Song leader)

Ferncliff Update – Featuring the “Advent in a Box” program, Joe Gill, Ferncliff Executive Director Resources from Ferncliff presented their “Advent in a box” program. He reminded us that Cimarron presbytery is offering a \$425/box Scholarship. Each box contains 4 weeks of activities on the themes of faith, hope love, joy; with ornament making, games, recipes and activities. They are offered in child(family) and adult versions. They will be going out the week of Nov 20th. Rev Andrew Long will pick up boxes the boxes for our Presbytery to save postage. Order by this week Thursday at noon.

Other items:

- Ferncliff is offering free R&R to Presbytery leaders - 2 night retreat. Call the office to arrange.
- Ferncliff houses a Disaster assistance center 10,000 Church world service warehouse can support center. Sending Hurricane relief now.

A brief Break was called in the meeting following the Ferncliff presentation.

9:55 AM A Matthew 25 initiative invitation - Rev. Lemuel Garcia-Arroyo (Presbyterian Mission Engagement)

Rev. Garcia-Arroyo extended greetings from PMA and then began his presentation which is briefly summarized here:

Matthew 25 - invitation to be actively engaged in the world - A vision being shared with the church. Directed by the 222nd GA (2016) , enhanced in 2018 and embraced again in 2020. It advocates Faith coming alive in the world - PMA Purpose: To inspire, equip and connect all Presbyterians in mission and ministry:

Work for the elimination of Systemic poverty - root causes; Structural racism (laws policies, practices,...)

Outcomes - Clarify, connect and celebrate. Programs are Locally driven.

Questions - How do we call out leaders and systems, How can we stand with and learn from the poor and marginalized? What are practical ways to approach congregational vitality? Jesus' message calls us to active engagement to the reign of God vs the systems of this world. All based on the scripture passage Matthew 25:35-40.

Website:PCUSA.org/matthew25, with many resources available. Want to see this as a movement not just a program. We were invited to share experiences. 605 Churches; 48 mid councils; already singed up.

Elder Jennifer Bozarth briefly described the Guthrie congregations experience: The Guthrie church had a Matthew 25 Sunday - with Outreach service in fellowship hall with 5 mission stations and now has a continuing ministry with the Sheriff and county jail - letter writing and devotionals

Jena Campbell shared about the Stillwater congregation - Stillwater youth are doing 12 week long mission study systemic poverty and systemic racism. Will present suggestions to the session in the spring.

Rev. Gordon Edwards asked what is process for becoming a Matthew25 presbytery? Council recommendation? Or as a Presbytery agenda item? - Rev. Garcia replied that their is a link on the website to add our name if so led.

Motion - Rev. Jenny Hardin moved and Rev. Karen Rogers 2nd: that Cimarron Presbytery become a Matthew 25 Presbytery - Motion Passed!

A brief Break was called in the meeting until 10:30am

Presbytery Business Meeting:

The meeting agenda was adopted by consent.

The minutes from the May 12th Stated Meeting (via Zoom) were Approved as Submitted.

(Moved By Rev. Gordon Edwards, seconded by Rev. Karen Rogers, Motion passed)

Reports:

Report of the Nominations Committee – Elder Ed Arquitt (see attached written report)

The report of the Nominating Committee was presented. The following errors were pointed out on the floor: Elder Sherri Schieffer's name misspelled - General Presbyter Gordon Edwards - to be elected for 3 years not 5

The moderator asked for Nominations from the floor - none were made.

The proposed Slate was elected unanimously.

Treasurers Report – Rev. Andrew Long, Report on Presbytery Finances, Presentation of proposed 2021 Budget, and Discussion of 2020 surplus disposition – see Treasurer's report pages appended to these minutes.

Balance sheet at end of September \$143,000. The Budget comparison Sheet shows - \$4700 behind in giving with more coming in. Many items show annual accruals. The Restricted funds reviewed -various savings accounts such as youth trienium, Middle East mission etc. fund #8306 - revitalization fund to be used for Advent in a box funding.

Treasurer Reports submitted for approval moved and seconded - Motion passed.

Rev. Long presented the 2021 budget (see attachments), the only changes are GA per Capita which increases by 3 cents. The proposed budget forecasts a \$370 surplus.

There being no questions, **the Assembly voted to received the budget as presented.**

Motion from Council Regarding the 2020 budget surplus: - Motion was made to offer \$10,000 to churches and programs extra that will not hamper the presbytery expenses - ask congregations to submit grant requests to use this money.

Discussion:

Churches asked to use as seed money for new Matthew 25 initiatives.

Jenny Harden - How will we decide - a deadline? - suggestion by 1st Sunday of Advent - Adopted Send Proposals to clerk for submission to council.

Deb Meinke - Use some for GA Native American church initiative? Thru OPN? Signal our commitment to our native siblings

Rick Mills - council - wants congregations to request funds

Karen Rogers asked parameters around what type of mission - Answer: no particular restrictions

South Louisiana Presbytery was previously sent \$2000 for hurricane relief.

Allison Longman - Native American communities heavily affected by COVID - could some assistance help - Gordon will check with EOP on their efforts.

Motion from Council - motion passes unanimously.

Council Report – Elder Christianne Chase, Moderator (5 min)

- Opened Nominations from the floor for the Nominating Committee - there being none, Linda Sherry was elected as presented on the nominating committee report.
- Reiterated \$2000 grant to S. Louisiana Presbytery.
- **Motion to grant retroactive permission to the First Presbyterian Church of Beaver to sell their manse. Motion passed.**

Executive Presbyter and OPN report – Rev. Gordon Edwards

Planning is underway for Tri-Presbytery - two tracks being considered: one for in person or Online. Dates are set for June 4-5th. The GA Co-moderators and J Herbert Nelson (Stated Clerk) all planning to attend - with Synod Imagine event previous 2 days on Wednesday evening and at the Greenwood AME church. Proposed program items: Nathaniel Johnson presentation on the Greenwood District; Fear + less dialog group presentation, and Tulsa Faith Leader panel discussion.

Holy land trip still being planned \$3500 + airfare - info available from Gordon - September 2021

Thursday check-in Zoom conversations are ongoing at 1:00pm all are invited.

Thanks to Jenny for Anti Racism book studies - James Cone's - "The Cross and the Lynching tree" is currently being discussed. Very dynamic book.

Dwight mission board - Decided to begin discussions to donate back original Dwight mission property, originally donated by the Cherokee nation back to them and possibly the sell them the rest as well. Any surplus funds above expenses and PILP loan will go to OPN. Negotiations also to provide access for Camping for Oklahoma presbyteries. All three Presbyteries will need to agree on final terms.

Discussion; Jenna. - about \$400,000 loan? - loan will be paid from proceeds of any sale - Josh Kerr Also \$780,000 life annuity still pending - those funds will also eventually go to camp and conference work.

Deb Meinke - How will Dwight board is disbanded? - Josh - Dwight Mission Inc. Board will remain active for now. Will become more of a fund raising and camping program planning group.

Synod of the Sun Report – Rev. Mitch Miller (Synod Moderator) - Greetings from the Synod, Schedule changed by pandemic - lots of Zoom Meetings. Hope churches celebrated Synod Sunday at the end of August. Plans for 100th anniversary of Tulsa Race Massacre - Synod Imagine event is being planned - Prayers for South Louisiana and Pines Presbytery too, for recent storms and flooding. Grateful for participation of Cimarron in the Synod. Synod Leader Valerie Young is still on Sabbatical.

Commission on Ministry and Preparation Report – Rev. Leah Hrachovec, Moderator

A joy to celebrate - 2 congregations have qualified for the Pension Board's "Pathways for Renewal" - Alva and Guthrie

Met on Sept 1st - included a checkin conversation with Rev. Jenny Hardin,

Voted to mandate for training Sexual misconduct training - required within the first year and repeated every 3 years. September 30th: interviewed candidate for one of our PNC's
Sexual Misconduct Prevention training available: Friday November 20th at 9am with EOP Other training is available

Christianne Chase - Exam reading week 70% pass rate

Stated Clerk Report – Elder Mark Southard

Submitted 2019 Minutes package for Review by the Synod. Have been hosting weekly checkin calls via Zoom. Continue to serve as the COM&P Liaison with the Perry PNC.

11:00 AM Time for Conversation, Looking Ahead and Reflection

Continuing the Conversation to Dismantle Racism – led by Rev. Jenny Hardin and Rev. Gordon Edwards

Jenny Hardin - Asking how our congregations are addressing racism - what can we do ?
Responses - due to no in person meetings, conversations may not be happening as usual - need to be more intentional. How can we support you in this work? Rev. Andrew Long : Enid is holding a Bible study - “Racism Study pack” from the Thoughtful Christian - Hybrid meeting. All are white, heterosexual, economically homogenous group - makes the conversation difficult. Inviting others of color to attend. Good honesty in conversations. Had attendees from outside of just church membership and even out of town, but also had 2 members quit over the study.

Elder Christianne Chase - Can we put together a reading and watching list to share?

Leah - Encouragement to empower church members - want to avoid being staff driven. 2 Stillwater members are now leading book studies. Also involve other community members.

Discussion of worship and spiritual nourishment during the pandemic – led by Rev. Leah Hrachovec.

Leah - we are beyond our adrenaline rush these days -

From a recent Survey:

32% of formally active have not attended since pandemic (on line or in person)

50% of millennials have not participated online

1 in 7 have switched congregations

18% are watching more than 1 service

Questions: What changes have brought sadness or lament?

Responses: No singing! Not being able to see each other, no communion, not being able to visit in homes, efforts to keep up with others, missing other activities, celebrating lives at death, worship has become work with the effort to prerecord.

What gifts has God given your faith community during this time?

Responses: A taste of change that wasn't as frightening as first thought, feels good to see members that had moved away. Awaken us to electronic ministry. Outdoor worship and session meetings, dismantling some boundaries vs regular church lives. Midweek devotion time including people outside the congregation

New insights about worship?

Reminder that worship doesn't have to be in a sanctuary - no stained glass required. Fruitful use of electronics - not evil.

Installation of newly elected Presbytery moderator for 2021:

Katherine Thomas - newly elected moderator Constitutional was installed as Cimarron Presbytery moderator. Constitutional questions were presented by outgoing Moderator, Elder Christianne Chase.

A time of prayer and reflection – led by Elder Christianne Chase

Consider Joys and concerns, hopes and fears

Christianne presented a Reading from Is 11:6 and Poetry by Steve Garness-Holmes

Closing Prayer led by Christianne Chase

Meeting adjourned By Christianne Chase.

Respectfully Submitted

Mark Southard

Stated Clerk, Cimarron Presbytery

Nominations Committee Report - Cimarron Presbytery 2021 Slate of Offices

(As corrected on the floor)

Nominations Committee

Linda Sherry, TE, 2023

General Presbyter

Gordon Edwards (3 year term)

Presbytery Moderator

Kathy Thomas (1 year)

Presbytery Council

Rick Mills, TE, 2023

Kara Sawyer, RE, 2021

Commission on Ministry and Preparation

Linda Sherry, TE, 2023

Bill Salmons, RE, 2023

Ordination Exam Readers

Phyllis Taylor, RE

Deborah Green, TE

Thad Leffingwell, RE, Alternate Reader

Committee on Representation

Brad Newcomb, RE, 2023

Agency Dwight Mission

Sherry Schieffer, RE, 2021

Karen Rogers, TE, 2022

Preston Bobo, RE, 2023

Synod Permanent Judicial Commission

Christiana Chase, RE, (already appointed)

Presbytery Permanent Judicial Commission

Zack Hall, RE, 2024

Mike Vanderburg, RE, 2026

Karen Rogers, TE, 2026

Balance Sheet-Presbytery of Cimarron
Fund: PRESBYTERY OF CIMARRON
October 2020

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Accounts		Assets	
CURRENT ASSETS			
CASH			
001010 - Checking-Presbytery	\$56,273.19		
Total CASH	\$56,273.19		
INVESTMENTS			
001104 - Stock Portfolio - TPF	\$86,312.74		
Total INVESTMENTS	\$86,312.74		
Total CURRENT ASSETS		\$142,585.93	
Total Assets		\$142,585.93	
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Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds			
Liabilities			
Fund Principal			
002996 - Fund Balance-Presbytery of Cimarron	\$24,936.14		
Excess Cash Received	(\$4,709.76)		
Total Fund Principal and Excess Cash Received		\$20,226.38	
Restricted Funds			
Total TEMPORARY RESTRICTED	\$34,472.54		
Total PERMANENT RESTRICTED	\$87,887.01		
Total Restricted Funds		\$122,359.55	
Total Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds		\$142,585.93	

Date : 10/07/2020
Time : 3:57:34 PM

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Detail
Fund: PRESBYTERY OF CIMARRON
October 2020

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Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	MTD Budget (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Budget (This Year)	Annual Budget (This Year)	Annual Budget Remaining (This Year)
Revenues						
PLEDGES AND SUPPORT						
004030 - Presbytery Per Capita (\$36.05)	\$0.00	\$4,028.59	\$27,515.20	\$40,285.90	\$48,343.05	\$20,827.85
004031 - Presbytery Other Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$224.24	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$224.24)
004032 - G.A. Per Capita (\$8.95)	\$0.00	\$1,000.16	\$6,831.14	\$10,001.60	\$12,001.95	\$5,170.81
004033 - Synod Per Capita (\$2.00)	\$0.00	\$223.50	\$1,526.50	\$2,235.00	\$2,682.00	\$1,155.50
Total PLEDGES AND SUPPORT	\$0.00	\$5,252.25	\$36,097.08	\$52,522.50	\$63,027.00	\$26,929.92
OTHER RECEIPTS						
006054 - Investment Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total OTHER RECEIPTS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Revenues	\$0.00	\$5,252.25	\$36,097.08	\$52,522.50	\$63,027.00	\$26,929.92
Expenses						
CHURCH ADMIN/OPERATION						
005400 - Council	\$0.00	\$166.67	\$2,202.82	\$1,666.70	\$2,000.00	(\$202.82)
005401 - Executive Presbyter	\$0.00	\$416.67	\$368.12	\$4,166.70	\$5,000.00	\$4,631.88
005402 - Stated Clerk Salary	\$0.00	\$833.33	\$7,500.00	\$8,333.32	\$10,000.00	\$2,500.00
005403 - Stated Clerk Expense	\$0.00	\$666.67	\$0.00	\$6,666.70	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
005404 - Treasurer	\$0.00	\$41.67	\$134.55	\$416.70	\$500.00	\$365.45
005405 - Insurance	\$0.00	\$133.33	\$1,242.00	\$1,333.30	\$1,600.00	\$358.00
005406 - Communication Exp/Website	\$0.00	\$33.33	\$0.00	\$333.30	\$400.00	\$400.00
005407 - G.A. Commissioner/Overture Advocate	\$0.00	\$83.33	\$1,000.00	\$833.30	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
005408 - Treasurer Transition	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total CHURCH ADMIN/OPERATION	\$0.00	\$2,375.00	\$12,447.49	\$23,750.02	\$28,500.00	\$16,052.51
PROGRAMS						
005200 - Camp and Conference	\$0.00	\$750.00	\$9,000.00	\$7,500.00	\$9,000.00	\$0.00
005201 - Youth Triennium	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00
005202 - Ecumenical Relations	\$0.00	\$116.67	\$1,400.00	\$1,166.70	\$1,400.00	\$0.00
005203 - Presbyterian Women	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
005204 - Oklahoma Presbyterian Network	\$0.00	\$83.33	\$1,000.00	\$833.30	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Total PROGRAMS	\$0.00	\$1,100.00	\$13,200.00	\$11,000.00	\$13,200.00	\$0.00
MISSIONS						
005819 - Ministry and Preparation	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$891.40	\$5,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$5,108.60
005820 - COR	\$0.00	\$16.67	\$0.00	\$166.70	\$200.00	\$200.00
005821 - G.A. Per Capita (\$8.95)	\$0.00	\$1,000.16	\$12,001.95	\$10,001.60	\$12,001.95	\$0.00
005822 - Synod Per Capita (\$2)	\$0.00	\$223.50	\$2,682.00	\$2,235.00	\$2,682.00	\$0.00
005823 - Offering Match	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$416.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$416.00
Total MISSIONS	\$0.00	\$1,740.33	\$15,159.35	\$17,403.30	\$20,883.95	\$5,724.60
Total Expenses	\$0.00	\$5,215.33	\$40,806.84	\$52,153.32	\$62,583.95	\$21,777.11
Net Total	\$0.00	\$36.92	(\$4,709.76)	\$369.18	\$443.05	\$5,152.81

Presbytery of Cimarron Restricted Accounts
Fund: PRESBYTERY OF CIMARRON
January to October 2020

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Accounts	Beginning Balance	Restricted Revenue	Restricted Expenses	Credit Adjustments	Debit Adjustments	Ending Balance
TEMPORARY RESTRICTED						
PRESBYTERY SPECIAL MISSIONS						
008301 - Peace & Global Witness Offering/P	\$332.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$332.25
008302 - Christmas Joy Offering/GA	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,480.15	\$0.00	\$1,480.15
008303 - Disaster Relief Fund	\$4,983.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,475.00	\$4,650.00	\$1,808.00
008304 - Theological Education Fund/GA	\$381.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,950.00	\$0.00	\$2,331.00
008305 - Hunger Fund	\$1,761.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,426.31	\$0.00	\$3,187.62
008306 - Revitalization Fund (Youngblood)	\$4,857.39	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$663.88	\$0.00	\$5,521.27
008307 - Dwight Mission-Operating Funds	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$1,500.00
008311 - Middle East Mission	\$4,372.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$6,372.00
008312 - One Great Hour of Sharing/GA	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$808.29	\$0.00	\$808.29
008313 - Pentecost	\$263.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$263.40
008314 - G.A. Commissioner	\$1,394.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$741.76	\$1,653.09
008315 - Youth Triennium	\$3,035.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$4,835.25
008317 - G.A. Undesignated Missions	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,250.00	\$0.00	\$2,250.00
008318 - Synod Undesignated Missions	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$375.00	\$0.00	\$375.00
008320 - Peace & Global Witness Offering/GA	\$1,755.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,755.22
Total PRESBYTERY SPECIAL MISSIONS	\$26,135.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$17,228.63	\$8,891.76	\$34,472.54
Total TEMPORARY RESTRICTED	\$26,135.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$17,228.63	\$8,891.76	\$34,472.54
PERMANENT RESTRICTED						
008316 - Cimarron Sem Student (Struthers)	\$1,574.27	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,574.27
Other Funds						
008129 - Presbytery of Cimarron / TPF	\$87,784.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,850.78	\$11,322.34	\$86,312.74
Total Other Funds	\$87,784.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,850.78	\$11,322.34	\$86,312.74
Total PERMANENT RESTRICTED	\$89,358.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,850.78	\$11,322.34	\$87,887.01

Date : 10/07/2020
Time : 2:35:15 PM

PRESBYTERY OF CIMARRON
Presbytery of Cimarron Budget 2021
Fund: PRESBYTERY OF CIMARRON
January to December 2021

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Accounts	Annual Budget (This Year)
Revenues	
PLEDGES AND SUPPORT	
004030 - Presbytery Per Capita (\$36.05)	\$48,270.95
004032 - G.A. Per Capita (\$8.95)	\$12,024.22
004033 - Synod Per Capita (\$2.00)	\$2,678.00
Total PLEDGES AND SUPPORT	\$62,973.17
Total Revenues	\$62,973.17
Expenses	
CHURCH ADMIN/OPERATION	
005400 - Council	\$2,000.00
005401 - Executive Presbyter	\$5,000.00
005402 - Stated Clerk Salary	\$10,000.00
005403 - Stated Clerk Expense	\$8,000.00
005404 - Treasurer	\$500.00
005405 - Insurance	\$1,600.00
005406 - Communication Exp/Website	\$400.00
005407 - G.A. Commissioner/Overture Advocate	\$1,000.00
Total CHURCH ADMIN/OPERATION	\$28,500.00
PROGRAMS	
005200 - Camp and Conference	\$9,000.00
005201 - Youth Triennium	\$1,800.00
005202 - Ecumenical Relations	\$1,400.00
005204 - Oklahoma Presbyterian Network	\$1,000.00
Total PROGRAMS	\$13,200.00
MISSIONS	
005819 - Ministry and Preparation	\$6,000.00
005820 - COR	\$200.00
005821 - G.A. Per Capita (\$8.95)	\$12,024.22
005822 - Synod Per Capita (\$2)	\$2,678.00
Total MISSIONS	\$20,902.22
Total Expenses	\$62,602.22
Net Total	\$370.95