

Docket
Meeting of the Presbytery of Central Nebraska
June 26, 2021

As approved by the Presbytery at the December 5, 2000, meeting, the meetings of Presbytery shall be set in the worshipful context of thanksgiving. We ask that cell phones be turned either to off or vibrate during the meeting and that people receive their calls outside of the meeting.

THE PRESBYTERY GATHERS

8:30 a.m.	Registration	
9:00 a.m.	The Call to Order & Welcome	Kirwin Stewart
	Announcements	
	Report of the Stated Clerk	Polly Deppen-Williams
	Enrollment/Quorum	
	The Presentation of the Docket and Seating of Corresponding Members	
	Introduction of First Time Commissioners	
	Approval of the Minutes of the March 27, 2021 meeting	pages 3-7

THE PRESBYTERY HEARS GOD'S WORD

Worship
Our preacher this morning is the Reverend Dr. Clint Cozier.
Our offering will go to the Ratcliff Family.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Report of the Executive Presbyter	Polly Deppen-Williams page 8
Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation	Audrey Richert
Report from the May Meeting of the Synod of Lakes & Prairies	Sharon Rees Sue Medsker
Presbyterian Women	Annabelle Wells page 9
Council Report	Jon Beggs
Business and Budget	Don Anthony pages 10-12
Personnel	Eddie Mariel

Nominating Committee

Committee on Preparation

Greg Allen-Pickett

Youth Committee

Logan Ellis
page 13

Committee on Ministry

Joyce Dean
page 14

New Business

Prayers of the People

THE PRESBYTERY IS SENT FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

Adjourn with Prayer

Kirwin Stewart

**MINUTES PRESBYTERY OF CENTRAL NEBRASKA
MARCH 27, 2021
MEETING HELD BY ZOOM**

PRESBYTERY ATTENDANCE

Church	Ruling Elder Commissioner
Atkinson, First	
Aurora, Presbyterian UCC	
Axtell, First	Betty Dimon
Beaver City, First	
Benkelman, First	
Broken Bow, First	
Campbell, Westminster United	
Central City, United	
Cozad First	Judy Howard
Danbury, First	
Edgar, Church of the Plains	
Ewing, Bethany	Tim Lambert
Ewing, UMPC (USA)	
Fairfield, Community	
Fullerton, First	
Gothenburg, First	Mark Bartels
Grand Island, First	
Hastings, First	Mary Seller
Hastings, Second	
Holdrege, First	Elizabeth Piening
Kearney, First	Bob Scriven
Kenesaw, First	
Keystone	
Lebanon, Community	
Lexington, First	Fran Acosta-Carlson
Lexington, Buffalo Grove	
Minden, Westminster United	Linda Soundy
North Platte, First	Dan Ridgway
O'Neill, First	
Orleans, First	
St. Paul, First	
Stuart, Community	
Superior, First	
Sutherland, First	
Valentine	
Wood River, First	

Minister of Word & Sacrament	Attendance
Greg Allen–Pickett	Present
David Boyd	Present
Jill Boyd	Present
Don Canady – HR	Excused
Ivan Dean	Present
Steve Deines – HR	Excused
Polly Deppen–Williams	Present
Rebecca Dobitsch	Excused
Logan Ellis	Present
Lisa Ewald	Absent
John Gallentine	Absent
Kevin Geurink	Excused
Kristin Hamner	Absent
Guy Helms	Absent
Cheryl Lamb	Absent
Robert Thom – HR	Excused
Berke Landrum	Absent
Eddie Mariel	Present
David Matheke – HR	Excused
David McCarthy	Present
Joan McCarthy	Excused
Doug McHargue	Absent
Frank Medsker – HR	Excused
Roger Nelson – HR	Excused
William Nottage–Tacey – HR	Excused
Charles Olsen – HR	Excused
Will Ratcliff	Absent
Sharon Rees	Present
Kirwin Stewart	Present
H. Eldin Wells – HR	Excused
Karen Woo	Present
Gui–Jie Zhang	Absent

Commissioned Pastors	Attendance
Joyce Dean	Present
Mark Diehl	Absent
Dave Irwin	Absent
Brad Jepsen	Absent
Linda Lambert	Present
Emily McCreery (ELCA PMA)	Present
Wayne Owens	Absent
Gary Smith	Absent
Penny Schulz (Disciples of Christ)	Absent

CHAIRPERSONS OF COMMITTEES

Gregg Allen-Picket, Preparation for Ministry; Don Anthony, Business & Budget; Jon Beggs, Council; David Boyd, Personnel; Joyce Dean, Committee on Ministry; Eddie Mariel, Personnel; Gregg Kirwin Stewart, Moderator.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Allen Hinton

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Karen Woo

VISITORS

Judy Howard, William McConnell, Audrey Richert, Judy Rothenberger

The stated meeting of the Presbytery of Central Nebraska convened at 9:00 a.m. via ZOOM at the First Presbyterian Church, Holdrege, Nebraska, on Saturday, March 27, 2021. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by Moderator Kirwin Stewart.

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

Stated Clerk Polly Deppen-Williams established that there was a quorum present. She stated because this was a ZOOM meeting, voting on motions would be by dissention or exception only.

The Docket was presented and approved.

Corresponding Members Audrey Richert of the Nebraska Presbytery Foundation, guest speaker the Rev. Dr. Allen Hinton were introduced, and Bill McConnell, Mission Engagement Advisor – Central Region for the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

First Time Commissioner Bob Scriven was introduced.

It was moved, seconded, and approved to approve the Minutes of the October 24, 2020, Presbytery meeting with no additions or corrections.

WORSHIP

Moderator Kirwin Stewart led the worship service.

The offering from this worship service was to go to the Rev. Will Ratcliff and his family.

The Rev. Dr. Allen Hinton was the guest speaker.

Communion was conducted via ZOOM by Kirwin Stewart.

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER'S REPORT

Polly Deppen-Williams reported that she grieves over the large number of lives lost to Covid-19 and for those who loved them. She also continues to hope for the future when we can come together again in person for worship and fellowship in our churches and as a presbytery.

Her work continues with phone calls, Zoom meetings and seeing folks. She hopes to resume visiting churches in person this summer.

Polly will be having surgery in late March. During her recuperation in April, Joyce Dean will be available for immediate needs. Judy will be in the presbytery office to answer any questions.

REPORT FROM THE PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY

Bill McConnell, Mission Engagement Advisor – Central Region, gave a report from the Presbyterian Mission Agency. He based his comments on Matthew 25: 31-46. He spoke of dismantling structural racism/white privilege and systemic poverty.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Joyce Dean reported for the committee. Clint Cozier is the new pastor at Kearney. Guy Helms has moved from Valentine to Cheyenne. Kevin Geurink is the new pastor in Grand Island.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to dismiss the Installation Commissions for Dr. Cozier and the Rev. Geurink.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Annabelle Wells presented the report. There will not be a Spring Gathering this year, but it is hoped to have a Fall Gathering. Members are encouraged to continue the work of Presbyterian Women by serving God in their community.

COUNCIL

Jon Beggs, Chair, gave the report. The Council met March 9, 2021. Polly gave a brief report including that the Lilly Grant Endowment is being offered again and will pursue CNP involvement in this. Job descriptions for Council and CNP Committee need to be developed. Personnel reviewed the work of Judy Rothenberger.

Business & Budget reported CNP received PPP funds; money designated for technical grants is depleted; churches may apply for funds for church development.

Council approved mailing a letter to CNP churches requesting support for the Rev. Will Ratcliff and family.

Rev. Clint Cozier has been installed in Kearney. Rev. Kevin Geurink was to be installed in Grand Island March 21.

The Youth Committee is contacting churches to determine which have active youth groups.

Council approved March 27, 2021, Presbytery Docket and that worship offering be designated for the Will Ratcliff family.

BUSINESS AND BUDGET

Don Anthony, chairman, presented the report. The committee is seeking information on the Johnson-Crawford Fund. The Presbytery worker's compensation insurance policy has changed carriers. Now the entire denomination has the same insurance master plan. The premiums are slightly higher through the new carrier. The Stuckey Fund has been invested and is making money.

PERSONNEL

Chairman Eddie Mariel gave the report. The Committee has reviewed the work of Judy Rothenberger and reported that will she continue in her position. The Committee encouraged individuals to offer their thanks and appreciation to Judy for her work and dedication. He offered prayers and blessings for Polly's upcoming surgery and recovery.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The work of the Nominating Committee will now be performed by the Council. There are no names in nomination at this time.

PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY COMMITTEE

Greg Allen-Picket, Chairman, reported the Committee has two candidates under care in the traditional ordination process. The candidates are Kailen Soncksen and Sarah Babcock. Janet Rasmussen is under care in the Commissioned Ruling Elder/Commissioned Lay Pastor ordination process.

YOUTH COMMITTEE

Logan Ellis, chair, reported that the committee has been contacting all churches to see which have youth groups and trying to connect the youth groups to Presbytery.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Kirwin Stewart led the prayers of the people including prayers for Polly Deppen-Williams, Will and Bonnie Ratcliff, Health Service Departments in surrounding communities and many unspoken prayers.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

Sharon Rees offered the closing prayer.

**Executive Presbyter & Stated Clerk Report to the Presbytery
June 26, 2021**

Dear Friends,

Today is the 55th anniversary of my baptism. I was baptized on June 26, 1966, at Oakhurst Presbyterian Church in Charleston, West Virginia when I was just over two months old. The minister who baptized me was very tall, 6 foot 6, and after he baptized me, he took me in one hand and raised me over his head to present me to the congregation – Polly Kinser, child of the covenant, you have been sealed by the holy spirit in the waters of baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. (Needless to say, my mom freaked out.)

Today we gather as a presbytery in person for the first time since October 2019, although we will still have some folks join us virtually by Zoom. Restrictions have been lifting around the state and people are venturing out more in groups. Two Rivers Health Department, in which Kearney is located has been in the green on the risk dial for COVID-19 for a few weeks now. Is life back to normal or is this a new normal?

Being together as a presbytery or as a congregation is integral to our life as people of faith. So many important times in our lives are held in a church – baptisms, weddings, funerals. I give thanks to God that we have had the technology of Zoom and Facebook Live to keep us connected to one another, but being able to sit in the sanctuary once again and worship with one another in person is truly a joy. I will be travelling more this summer and hope to worship with you all again very soon.

On a personal note, I want to thank the Personnel Committee, the Council, and the Presbytery for all the support I received after my surgery on March 31st in Omaha. I ended up having to be in the hospital for a week due to some complications and then I was home through the month of April for my recovery. Knowing that I had such support helped me to focus on my healing and building strength.

I continue to pray for you all as we navigate our ever-changing world. Please do not hesitate to call 308-520-8216 or email polly@centralnepresby.org if you have any questions or would just like to say hi.

Grace & peace,
Polly Deppen-Williams
Executive Presbyter & Stated Clerk

Central Nebraska
Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering
September 18, 2021
In Person

It's A Party!
Come and celebrate together.

Where: Westminster United Presbyterian Church
109 North Colorado Ave
Minden, Ne 308 832 -2170

When: September 18, 2021 Registration 8:30 a.m.
9:00a.m. Opening Worship

Cost: \$10.00 (includes lunch)

Registration deadline : September 14, 2021
Call 308 832-2170
mindenwupc@gmail.com
Westminster United Presbyterian Church
Att: Stephanie Sinsel
109 N. Colorado Ave
Minden, NE 68959

We hope to be finished after lunch.

	Ytd	YTD Budget	Variance	% Annual Budget
Presbytery Income				
UMS Presbytery	22894	25000	2106	31%
Per Capita	46678	41819	4859	37%
Synod support	333	3333	3000	3%
Peacemaking	110			
Other Income	<u>107</u>	<u>11861</u>	11754	0%
Total Income	70122	82014	11892	29%
Presbytery Expenses				
Operations (incl Per Capi <i>Committees</i>)	28134	28116	18	33%
Council	500	2033	1533	8%
B&B	0	1067	1067	0%
Personnel	0	183	183	0%
COM	-324	1433	1757	-8%
CPM	0	933	933	0%
Nominating	0	67	67	0%
Perm Judicial	0	33	33	0%
Youth	0	2000	2000	0%
Presby Mtg & Comm	<u>0</u>	<u>567</u>	567	0%
<i>Total Committees</i>	176	8317	8141	1%
Mission	12771	6467	6304	66%
Staff Exp	37565	44252	6687	28%
Other operating	<u>833</u>	<u>833</u>	0	33%
Total Operating Exp	<u>79479</u>	<u>87985</u>	-8506	30%
Total Operating Income minus Expenses	18172	5971	24143	
Assets	12/31/2020	4/30/2021		
Operating funds	59550	81882		
Invested funds	<u>984338</u>	<u>1028585</u>		
	1043888	1110467		
Liabilities				
Operating Payables	62444	90126		
Pass through Payables	<u>-3485</u>	<u>-2589</u>		
	58959	87537		

Central Nebraska Presbytery Church Remittance Reporting												1/1/2021	to	4/30/2021			
		Per Capita (total)	Mission GA	Mission SYN	Mission Presb.	One Great Hour	GA Peace	Pres Peace	Christmas Joy	Tri- ennium	Pente- cost	Desig. Mission*	Hunger Relief	Theo. Edu.	Disaster Relief	Camp	
	Income GL	4101p	4001p	4002p	4003p	4121p	4136p	4138p	4126p	2570p	4131p	4151p	4171p	4150p	4170p	4620p	
	Expense GL		9001p	9002p		9121p	9136p		9126p		9131p	9151p	2110p	9150p	2100p		
	A/P GL		2050p	2055p		2121p	2136p		2126p		2131p	2151p	9137p	2150p	9152p		
Totals:		46,678.27	4,961.16	4,845.18	22,893.59	5,331.69	223.61	110.14	2,872.00		115.00			260.35			88,290.99
Atkinson	4419	295.50	31.25	21.25	72.50				15.00								435.50
Aurora	4503	647.50															647.50
Axtell	4504		125.00	85.00	290.00												500.00
Beaver City	4505	3,216.00	625.00	425.00	1,450.00	23.69											5,739.69
Benkelman	7154																
Broken Bow	4506	1,507.52															1,507.52
Campbell	4507																
Central City	4508																
Cozad	4509	1,641.50	1,275.00	867.00	2,958.00	525.00			900.00								8,166.50
Danbury	526																
Edgar	9204						6.70	3.30	140.00								150.00
Ewing	1495																
Ewing Bethany	4428																
Fairfield	7237																
Fullerton	4513	3,517.50	486.88	331.08	1,129.55												5,465.01
Gothenburg	4516	1,381.90	185.10	128.14	1,110.51	831.00											3,636.65
Grand Island	4517	3,112.00	835.00	567.80	1,937.20	1,483.00			525.00								8,460.00
Hastings Second	4515					405.00											405.00
Hastings First	4519	5,024.00		1,336.00	8,336.00	165.00	83.75	41.25	535.00		115.00						15,636.00
Holdrege	4520	2,596.25															2,596.25
Kearney	4521	1,817.40	125.01	84.99	290.01												2,317.41
Kenesaw	4522	837.50															837.50
Keystone	4523	234.50	75.00	51.00	174.00	1,694.00								260.35			2,488.85
Lebanon	4524																
Lexington First	4526	6,728.32	416.67	416.67	3,333.32												10,894.98
Lexington BG	4527	1,105.50															1,105.50
Minden	9666	4,154.00	250.00	170.00	580.00												5,154.00
North Platte	4535	1,457.25	281.25	191.25	652.50		133.16	65.59									2,781.00
O'Neill	4435	2,562.63				205.00											2,767.63
Orleans	4537																
St. Paul	4541																
Stapleton	4545																

June 4, 2021

Here is Committee Report from the Youth Committee (it is a little short):

The Youth Committee has continued its mission to connect to the various youth groups of the Presbytery and will soon start the process of connecting churches in partnerships to promote mission in the local communities we are planted in.

COM REPORT
JUNE 26, 2021

Approved Moderators

- Beaver City – Kirwin Stewart
- Sutherland – Polly Deppen-Williams
- Keystone Presbyterian Church quarterly – Eddie Mariel (meets in Paxton)
- Buffalo Grove – Eddie Mariel
- Superior- Ivan and Joyce Dean

Reporting - At a Congregational Meeting on April 25, First Presbyterian Church, North Platte voted to resend the call of Rev. Will Ratchiff.

Approved Terms of Call for Temporary Supply Emily McCreery with First Presbyterian, North Platte

Effective salary

Cash/Housing \$51,000

Reimbursable expenses (Vouchered)

Automobile Expense (\$0.570)	\$1,500
Business/Professional Expense	2,500
SECA Supplement	(Reimburse at the rate of 7.65%)
TOTAL	\$55,000

Approved and Interim Pastor Covenant with Pastor Vernon Olson with the Fullerton Church.

Approved Gary Smith to serve as Pulpit Supply and moderate Session at First Presbyterian Church, Valentine.

Approved Beth Fotinos, lay pastor to officiate communion each month at the Villa Assisted Living Samaritan's Village in Hastings.

Reviewed the COM liaison duties in the Manual of Operations.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Dean, COM Chair