

Docket
Meeting of the Presbytery of Central Nebraska
July 16, 2022
Westminster United Presbyterian Church, Minden, NE

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	Sharon Rees
	Announcements	
	Enrollment/Quorum	
	The Presentation of the Docket and Seating of Corresponding Members	
	Introduction of First Time Commissioners	
	Approval of the Minutes from 3/12/2022 & 6/14/2022 meetings	pages 3-8

THE PRESBYTERY HEARS GOD'S WORD

Worship

- Our preacher this morning is the Reverend Shelli Latham, President, Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation.
- The offering will go the Pastoral Leadership Revitalization program with the Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Report of the Executive Presbyter	Polly Deppen-Williams pages 9-10
Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation	Shelli Latham
Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation	Audrey Richert
Report from Commissioner to 225 th General Assembly	Kevin Geurink
Council Report	Kirwin Stewart pages 11-12
Business and Budget	Don Anthony page 13
Personnel	Eddie Mariel

Nominating Committee	Kirwin Stewart
Committee on Preparation	Greg Allen-Pickett page 14
Youth Committee	Logan Ellis
Committee on Ministry	Joyce Dean
Presbyterian Women	Stephanie Sinsel
New Business	
Prayers of the People	Sharon Rees
THE PRESBYTERY IS SENT FORTH IN GOD'S NAME	
Adjourn with Prayer	Sharon Rees

Next meeting: Saturday, October 29, 2022, First Presbyterian Church, Broken Bow

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Presbytery of Central Nebraska
 Saturday, March 12, 2022
 Meeting held by Zoom**

Attendance

Church	Ruling Elder Commissioner
Atkinson, First	
Aurora, Presbyterian UCC	
Axtell, First	
Beaver City, First	
Benkelman, First	
Broken Bow, First	
Campbell, Westminster United	
Central City, United	
Cozad First	
Danbury, First	
Edgar, Church of the Plains	
Ewing, Bethany	
Ewing, UMPC (USA)	
Fairfield, Community	
Fullerton, First	
Gothenburg, First	
Grand Island, First	
Hastings, First	Brian Johnson
Hastings, Second	
Holdrege, First	
Kearney, First	Bob Scriven
Kenesaw, First	
Keystone	
Lebanon, Community	
Lexington, First	
Lexington, Buffalo Grove	
Minden, Westminster United	Lauren Petersen
North Platte, First	
O'Neill, First	Melanie Banks
Orleans, First	
St. Paul, First	
Stuart, Community	
Superior, First	Rodney Deuel
Sutherland, First	
Valentine	
Wood River, First	

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

CHAIRPERSON OF COMMITTEES

Don Anthony, Business & Budget; Joyce Dean, Committee on Ministry; Eddie Mariel, Personnel; Sharon Rees, Moderator; Jill Boyd, Vice Moderator; Kirwin Stewart, Council

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Ken Green

MEMBER AT LARGE

VISITORS

Annabelle Wells, Judy Rothenberger

The stated meeting of the Presbytery of Central Nebraska convened at 9:00 A.M. via ZOOM on Saturday, March 12, 2022. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by Moderator Sharon Rees.

The moderator presented a motion to use the technology of Zoom to vote by exception, count votes, and verify attendance. Motion was seconded and the presbytery voted to APPROVE this motion.

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

Stated Clerk Polly Deppen-Williams established that there was a quorum present. She stated because the meeting was being held via ZOOM, voting on motions would be by dissention or exception only. The docket was presented and approved.

The Stated Clerk's Report as presented in the Docket lists the pastoral and judicial commission membership in the Presbytery. The Stated Clerk stated it was her opinion that no remedial action was necessary to address any imbalance in the number of ruling elder commissioners and ruling elder members entitled to attend and vote at any meeting.

The Minutes of the October 23, 2021 meeting were approved as corrected. The correction was to add Stephanie Sinsel as the commissioner from Westminster United Presbyterian Church, Minden.

WORSHIP

The Worship Service was led by the Rev. Eddie Mariel. His sermon was entitled "The Embodiment of the Triune God".

The offering was to be donated to a ministry of the donor's choice.

Special music was provided by Eddie Mariel, guitar, Holly Rickertsen, piano, and their beautiful voices. Communion was celebrated and served virtually by Eddie Mariel and Sharon Rees.

BOARD OF PENSIONS REPORT

Ken Green reviewed benefits available to pastors and Presbyterian lay employees. Those with questions are encouraged to contact him at 215-587-7384.

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER’S REPORT

Polly Deppen-Williams reported that Safe Gatherings boundary training is nearly complete for pastors in the Presbytery. She is back to traveling and enjoying visiting Presbytery churches once again. She continues to attend many meetings via ZOOM. She announced that Rev. Logan Ellis and his wife Erin are the proud parents of a new daughter, Taelyn Renee.

COUNCIL REPORT

Kirwin Stewart presented the Council Report. The next Presbytery meeting will be held July 16, 2022 at Westminster United Presbyterian Church, Minden.

BUSINESS AND BUDGET REPORT

Don Anthony, Chairman of the Business and Budget Committee presented the report of that committee. He discussed the reports which were presented in the packet for the meeting.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Eddie Mariel, Chairman of the Personnel Committee, shared that the committee has no report or concerns at this time.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Kirwin Stewart, on behalf of the Council, nominated Ann Sukraw-Lutz, RE, Grand Island to serve on the Business and Budget Committee. Presbytery voted to APPROVE this nomination.

YOUTH COMMITTEE

Polly Deppen-Williams reported that Triennium, 2022 has been cancelled. The Presbytery Youth Committee is planning to host a youth event in Hastings on June 11, 2022. Additional details will follow.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Joyce Dean, Chairman, reported on the Committee on Ministry. The Commission for the Installation of Rev. Joy Church includes Rev. Sharon Rees, Moderator; Rev. Doug McHargue, Rev. Ivan Dean, Elder Lisa Lassek, and CP Joyce Dean. Rev. Church’s installation as Pastor of the Fullerton First Presbyterian Church is scheduled for Sunday, March 27 at 4 PM.

Following the COM Report, Rev. Church was given the opportunity to introduce herself.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

A report was attached to the ZOOM invite. They will be hosting a Spring Gathering on April 23, 2022 at First Presbyterian Church, Hastings beginning at 9 A.M.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

A report was included in the Presbytery packet. The Committee currently has one candidate, Sarah Babcock, under care as an Inquirer.

Janet Rasmussen is under care in the Commissioned Ruling Pastor training process.

The Committee has assigned liaisons to each of the candidates under care.

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharon Rees led the prayers of the people.

It was moved, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting.

Sharon Rees adjourned the meeting with prayer at 10:30 AM.

Presbytery Meeting Minutes

June 14, 2022

Teaching Elders Present:

Polly Deppen-Williams, Kirwin Stewart, David Boyd, Eddie Mariel, Kevin Guerink, Jill Boyd, Sharon Rees, Logan Ellis, Greg Allen-Pickett

Ruling Elders Present:

Judy Rothenberger, Gary Feind, Lauren Petersen, Sandy Warner, Bob Scriven, Don Anthony, Jon Beggs, Sue Medsker

Moderator Sharon Rees opened the zoom meeting at 1:02 PM with prayer.

Sharon explained that this is a *special Presbytery meeting* called for the sole purpose of approving the nomination of Rev. Kevin Guerink as Teaching Elder Commissioner at the 225th General Assembly.

- Motion was made and seconded
- Vote was **UNANIMOUS**

Rev. Kevin Guerink will represent the Presbytery of Central Nebraska at PCUSA General Assembly.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:08 PM.

Sharon closed with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Judy Rothenberger

Executive Presbyter & Stated Clerk Report to the Presbytery for the meeting on July 16, 2022

Since our last meeting, I wanted to share some of what I have been doing as your Executive Presbyter & Stated Clerk:

Meetings with Pastors & Others:

- 3-9-22 Meeting with a Pastor
- 3-23-22 Appointment with professional coach Lorna Kuyk
- 3-24-22 Presbytery Pastors' Lunch Bunch at Good Evans
- 4-4-22 Meet with Cammie Krill re: presbytery website
- 4-5-22 Lunch with a Pastor
- 4-19-22 Call with mentor Ken Baker
- 5-11-22 Meet with Nick re: office lease
- 5-26-22 Call with mentor Ken Baker
- 5-26-22 Presbytery Lunch Bunch at Good Evans
- 5-31-22 Lunch with a Pastor

Churches Visited:

- 3-13-22 Worship at FPC Beaver City & Moderate Session Meeting
- 3-20-22 Preach at Second Pres Hastings
- 3-27-22 Rev. Joy Church's Installation at Fullerton Community Church
- 4-10-22 & 4-17-22 Worship at FPC Kearney
- 4-14-22 Maundy Thursday worship at WUPC Minden
- 5-15-22 Worship at FPC Lexington
- 5-29-22 Worship at FPC Hastings followed by lunch with folks
- 6-5-22 Preach at FPC Grand Island
- 6-7-22 Moderate Sutherland Session Meeting
- 6-26-22 150th Anniversary Worship at FPC Wood River
- 6-26-22 Craig Mead Commissioning at FPC Beaver City

Presbytery Related Meetings:

- 3-8-22 COM
- 3-8-22 OPSF Executive Committee
- 3-12-22 Presbytery Meeting by Zoom
- 3-14-22 PLR Steering Committee
- 3-22-22 Nebraska Ecumenical Leaders
- 3-31-22 Dinner with OPSF Leaders
- 4-1-22 OPSF Quarterly Board Meeting
- 4-7-22 Nebraska Ecumenical Leaders
- 5-10-22 COM
- 5-31-22 Council
- 6-7-22 COM
- 6-8-22 Synod EP Call
- 6-9-22 Business & Budget
- 6-13-22 OPSF Nominating Committee
- 6-13-22 PLR Steering Committee
- 6-14-22 OPSF Executive Committee

- 6-14-22 Presbytery Meeting followed by Council
- 6-15-22 Nebraska Ecumenical Partners Lunch & Meeting in Lincoln

Synod & Denomination Meetings:

- 3-9-22 Synod EP Call
- 3-9-22 AMCL Zoom Call
- 3-31-22 PLF Zoom Meeting
- 4-13-22 Synod EP Call
- 4-20-22 Synod Communications Committee
- 4-27-22 AMCL Zoom Call
- 4-30-22 to 5-6-22 PLF Retreat at Archbishop Brunett Center in Federal Way, WA
- 5-22-22 to 5-24-22 Synod Minutes Review at Lakeshore Center, Wahpeton, IA
- 5-25-22 AMCL Zoom Call

Other projects:

- Getting minutes and roll book ready for Synod minutes review
- General Assembly viewing beginning June 18th

Vacation:

- Thursday, May 19

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

Council Meeting Minutes

June 14, 2022

Council Attendance

Council Chair	Kirwin Stewart	Present
Moderator	Sharon Rees	Present
Vice Moderator	Jill Boyd	Present
COM Chair	Joyce Dean	Excused
CPM Chair	Greg Allen-Pickett	Present
NOM Chair	Council	Present
Personnel Chair	Eddie Mariel	Present
Business & Budget Chair	Don Anthony	Present
PYC Chair	Logan Ellis	Present
Synod Commissioner	Sue Medsker	Present
Presbytery Women Chair	Stephanie Sinsel	Excused
Member-at-Large	Bob Scriven	Present
Member-at-Large	Jon Beggs	Present
Executive Presbyter	Polly Deppen-Williams	Present

Kirwin Stewart opened the zoom meeting at 1:09 PM with prayer.

Council minutes from February 8, 2022 and May 31, 2022 were **APPROVED** as presented.

Polly reported that she recently attended the Synod Minutes Review at Lakeshore Center, Wahpeton, IA. She reviewed the Executive Presbyter and Stated Clerk Report for the July 16, 2022 Presbytery meeting. She also reported that the PLR is searching for a new director.

Reports of Council Committees:

- Personnel – no report.
- Business & Budget – Don reviewed the following:
 - Business & Budget recommends that Council approve an extension of the office lease with Johnson Imperial Home Company through June 30th, 2025. The monthly rent will increase to \$1,475.00. Council **APPROVED** this recommendation.
 - Per Capita – Synod portion will remain at \$5.50. GA is recommending an increase; exact amount will not be known until after General Assembly meets.
 - Business & Budget approved a \$2500.00 technology grant for First Presbyterian Church, Valentine.
- Nominating – Presbytery met prior to this Council meeting to approve the nomination of Rev. Kevin Guerink as Teaching Elder Commissioner at the 225th General Assembly.

Reports of Presbytery Committees:

- COM – reviewed the following:
 - Craig Mead will be installed as Commissioned Pastor at First Presbyterial Church, Beaver City on June 26. Craig is now a member of First Presbyterian Church, Holdrege.
 - There will be a Commissioning Service in September for Doodle Harris, Chaplain at Hastings College. This service will include representation from First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Hastings College, and The Presbytery of Central Nebraska.
- CPM – Greg reviewed the following:
 - Sara Babcock is under care in the traditional ordination track. She has completed her second year of seminary at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. This summer she is doing her hospital chaplaincy internship.
 - Janet Rasmussen is under care as a Commissioned Ruling Elder. She is taking classes at University of Dubuque.

- Youth – Logan reviewed the following:
 - Youth event planned for June 11, 2022 in Hastings was cancelled due to lack of interest.
 - Committee is looking forward to planning an event to be held in 2023.

Presbytery Women had no report.

Synod Report – Sue reported that a meeting was held in May and that committees are working.

Presbytery will meet in Minden at Westminster United Presbyterian Church on Saturday, July 16, 2022 at 8:30 am.

- This meeting will be In-Person Only!
- A motion was made for the offering to go to the Pastoral Leadership Revitalization (PLR) with the Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation. Motion was **APPROVED**.
- Preacher will be Rev. Shelli Latham. President, Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation.
- Bob Scriven and Kevin Guerink will report on General Assembly.
- Proposed Docket was **APPROVED** with recommended changes.

New Business:

- An invitation from First Presbyterian Church, Broken Bow to host Presbytery on October 29, 2022 has been received. Council **APPROVED** this invite.
- Polly announced that Council will meet for a special in-person meeting in Kearney on August 16, 2022. Lunch will be served.

Next meeting will be on September 13, 2022 at 1 PM on zoom.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:52 PM.

Polly closed with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Judy Rothenberger

Business and Budget Report

Approved a \$2500.00 grant to Valentine for technology upgrades.

Per capita will be discussed after General Assembly sets its rates.

As of May 31

Income		Budget	Pledged
UMS	29112	75000	77687
Per Capita	58837	112259	99158
Synod Support	4167	10000	
Other	789	60	
Total Receipts	92905	197319	
Expenses			
Per Capita	20235	48523	
Operations	10578	30719	
Committees	(951)	37350	
Mission projects	197	29550	
Other operating	1042	2500	
Total Expenses	31101	147832	
Personnel	48343	135811	
Income minus Expenses	13461	(87135)	
Investments	June 24, 2022	\$925,203	
	Year to date	(\$216242)	

Report for Committee for Preparation on Ministry:

We have one candidate under care in the traditional ordination track:
Sara Babcock completed her second year of seminary at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. This summer she is doing her hospital chaplaincy internship, which is called Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)

We have one candidate under care as a Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE):
Janet Rasmussen continues to classes one at a time from University of Dubuque to complete her CRE training.