

**WYOMING PRESBYTERY SYNOPSIS**  
**Stated Meeting of Presbytery**  
**September 27-28, 2019**  
**United Presbyterian Church, Guernsey**  
**Community Presbyterian Church, Ft. Laramie**

**Friday, September 27, 2019 – United Presbyterian Church, Guernsey, WY**

The meeting began with worship Friday morning at 8:15 AM, led by Rev. Ben Pascal. The sermon was entitled “At Home in the World” and the words of assurance were from Matthew 11:28-30.

The meeting was called to order by Presbytery Moderator, Rev. Susan Reichenburg at 8:49 AM.

Susan introduced Jason Moore, a presenter from Ohio, who conducted a workshop titled “5 Things Your Visitors Are Thinking but Won’t Ask”, accompanied by a set of handouts.

Elizabeth Thompson, of Eremus Consulting Group in Denver, conducted a boundary training session for pastors and elders. This training is mandatory for teaching elders.

Rev. Mark Frey from the Board of Pensions spoke regarding benefits offered by the Board of Pensions and how they can help navigate the medical system in Wyoming.

Evening Worship was led by Rev. Karl Heimbeck. The scripture reading was from Luke 16:19-31 and the message was “Our Deep Interconnectedness”. Communion was served by Rev. Karl Heimbeck and Rev. John Taylor.

**Saturday, September 28, 2019 – Community Presbyterian, Ft. Laramie, WY**

Rev. Michelle Bacon opened the day by leading morning worship at 8:00 AM. Her sermon was titled, “Institution or Imagination”. The scripture reading was from Mark 7:1-8.

Moderator, Susan Reichenberg, convened the Saturday work session at 8:38 AM, with prayer.

The following **Consent Agenda items** were approved:

From Council: That Presbytery:

1. approve Council to receive applications and select the YAAD for the 2020 General Assembly.
2. approve Council to receive applications and select the Teaching Elder Alternate for the 2020 General Assembly .
3. raise the Presbytery portion of per capita \$1.18.
4. affirm Jason Harshberger’s election as Teaching Elder Commissioner for General Assembly in 2020.
5. elect Rev. Kellie Thomson as Stated Clerk for the Wyoming Presbytery for a term of 5 years, per our standing rules (2.03). Term ending 2024 (G-3.0104)
6. elect Trena Wiesshaar as Treasurer for the Wyoming Presbytery for a term of 5 years, per our standing rules (2.03). Term ending 2024.
7. approve the April Presbytery stated meeting be held April 24-25, 2019, at The Table, in Casper.
8. approve the offering from the Friday evening worship service of the Presbytery be given to PDA for Hurricane Dorian relief. (A total of \$1400 was received).

**Action Agenda Items for Presbytery:**

From Council:

**Presbytery approved:**

1. The Rule of Life with the five practices: Reading and Engaging Scripture, Prayer, Creative and Innovative Worship, Service, Generosity, for use by the Presbytery and its Committees.
2. To extend the current lease with Camp Story until September 30, 2025.
3. The 2020 administrative and mission budgets as presented with the decrease in Synod portion of per capita.

**Presbytery voted NOT to approve:**

1. The meeting structure as outlined in the Rule of Life document to be implemented.

It was **MSC** to ask Council to collect more information and revise their recommendation and bring it to the April 2020 Presbytery Stated meeting.

COUNCIL on behalf of Presbytery reported it:

- Approved Jeremy Baxendell, RE, for 2021 term on PNC.
- Approved a pay raise for administrative assistant Jan DeBeer to reflect true hours
- Approved a group of to travel to Lebanon and Syria May 18-28, 2020, with the Outreach Foundation.
- Approved Sabbath Center events Nov 14-16, 2019 and Feb 17-29, 2020.
- Approved Steve Shive to lead a pilgrimage work of Camino de Santiago, June 1-14, 2020.

From COM:

**Presbytery voted to:**

1. validate the ministry of Ed Brengar; and designate the ministries of Ken Walkley and Beth Wilson as at large.
2. move Donavon Voigt, Vonne Blessman Yardley, and Gordon King to the Presbytery inactive roll and note this is the first year of this action.
3. move Robert Bye to the roll of Honorably Retired.
4. the Terms of Call from the churches and the Presbytery effective minimum Terms of Call for teaching elders.

COM on behalf of Presbytery reported it:

- Approved Terms of Call for Karl Heimback to serve First, Sheridan
- Granted the Rev. William Colwell the status Pastor Emeritus for Presbyterian churches in Yoder and Rock Springs, no longer in existence.
- Approved Temporary Supply contract between Sara Shields and Union Evanston
- Approved Terms of Call for Michelle Bacon to serve United, Laramie
- Approved John Taylor's supply contract with Guernsey and Ft Laramie
- Approved Temporary Supply contract between Sara Shields and Mountainview
- Approved the Interim agreement between Star Valley United Church and Rev. Joseph P. Tagliaferre.
- Approved the Honorable Retirement of Paul Hayden effective June 30, 2019.

From Nominating Committee—the following were elected to office:

<b>Council</b>	2020 TE Ben Pascal 2022 RE Sonja Collamer (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
<b>COM</b>	2021 TE Lynn Williamson, Moderator for 2019-2020 2022 TE Michelle Bacon 2022 TE Shayla Graham (2 <sup>nd</sup> term) 2022 RE Warren VanGenderen
<b>B&amp;F</b>	2022 TE Steve Niccolls (2 <sup>nd</sup> term), Moderator for 2019-2020 2022 RE Marion Yoder
<b>CPM</b>	2022 TE Karl Heimback (2 <sup>nd</sup> term), Moderator for 2019-2020 2022 RE Craig Frederick (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
<b>PJC</b>	2020 TE Shayla Graham

2020 RE Mable Frederick  
2022 RE Vacant Walt George was nominated from floor  
2024 TE Lynn Williamson  
2024 RE Tom Jordan  
**ROCCS** 2022 CJ Clem, Moderator for 2019-2020  
2022 TE Monte Reichenberg (2<sup>nd</sup> term)  
2022 RE Mark Estes  
2022 Liz Collins  
**ECDL** 2022 TE Susan Reichenberg (2<sup>nd</sup> term)  
**Vice-Moderator, Presbytery**, TE Diana Hartman

Announcements & Information:

1. There are still funds left from monies reserved for tech grants. The deadline to request a grant is Nov. 1st. Contact Rev. Bob Thomson for more information.
2. Steve Shive is working to create a cohort of four churches represented by the Pastors and CREs, and three to four elders. It will be funded by the Omaha Seminary Foundation and Council is currently looking for four churches to be part of this process.
3. General Assembly applications for the Teaching Elder alternate for 2020 (Commission for 2022) are available. Deadline to submit is October 31. YAAD (Young Adult Advisory Delegates, ages 17-24) applications for 2020 are also due by October 31.
4. Per Capita Presbytery portion will increase by \$1.18 and Synod portion will decrease by \$.50 for a total of \$44.95 for 2020.
5. ECDL and NWC are doing well and several people shared creative things they are trying in worship and service.
6. The Synod/Denomination is encouraging participation in the Matthew 25 program and the Giving Catalogs are available.
7. Camp Story had a successful summer with 102 children participating and 11 rentals.
8. ROCCS also had a successful summer. The dates for the Sr. High Retreat are November 15 - 17 in Casper. Wyoming Camping Scholarship forms are available.
9. Gerald Van Campen will be leading a 4 week series on Syria Lebanon Partnership Network. It will be by ZOOM on Oct 16, 30 and Nov 13, 20. Contact Gerald or the presbytery to get connected.
10. Please make sure your information is updated for the 2020 Directory. Call 307-472-4717.

Rev. Susan Reichenberg, Presbytery Moderator, gave a summary of her year and was thanked by the Presbytery for her service.

Celebrations & Installations:

The Honorable Retirement of Rev. Paul Hayden.

The Installation of RE Barry Johnson as Presbytery Moderator.

The Installation of TE Rev. Diana Hartman as Presbytery Vice-Moderator.

The Installation of Rev. Kellie Thomson as Presbytery Stated Clerk.

The meeting was adjourned with Prayer by the Moderator at 12:17 pm.

**Note: the next Stated Meeting the Presbytery of Wyoming will be April 24-25, 2020 hosted by New Worshipping Community, The Table, in Casper, WY.**