

WYOMING PRESBYTERY SYNOPSIS
STATED Meeting of Presbytery
Friday & Saturday, April 16-17, 2021
Combination IN PERSON at First United Presbyterian Church in Torrington and ZOOM Meeting

FRIDAY

The meeting was called to order by Presbytery Moderator, Rev. Diana Hartman at 1:00 PM. There were 17 in person attendees (11 voting members) and 32 Zoom attendees (23 voting members). Rev. Roger McDaniel from the Cheyenne Highlands church led worship. Kurt Borgaard led the music.

The **Rule of Life focus** for all of Presbytery the next three months is **Romans 12:9-13**. Diana reviewed our **Vision** (*Cultivating transformational leaders; equipping Christ's followers to go into the neighborhood*) and **Values** (*faith, generosity, transformational leadership, team work, and engaged listening*).

PROGRAM Fresh Expressions

Matt Lake and Mitch Marcello presented an excellent program on Fresh Expressions which is an international movement of missionary disciples cultivating new kinds of church alongside existing congregations to more effectively engage our growing post-Christian society. A Fresh Expression is a form of church for our changing culture, established primarily for the benefit of those who are not yet part of any church. They equip Christians to start contextual expressions of church among the many segments, neighborhoods, and people groups of society. ***This portion of the meeting was recorded for the Presbytery to use. If you would like to watch the presentation, contact Rev. Kellie Thomson, Stated Clerk for a link. (klt@presby.org).***

The evening worship and Communion was led by Rev. Bruce McBurney, pastor of the Torrington church.

SATURDAY

The meeting was called to order by Presbytery Moderator, Rev. Diana Hartman 8:30 AM. There were 12 in person attendees (11 voting members) and 38 Zoom attendees (29 voting members). Rev. Sara Shields from the Mt. View and Evanston churches led the opening worship.

REPORTS & ACTION ITEMS:

Rev. Rob Hagan of the Presbyterian Foundation gave a report on what the Foundation is doing and resources they offer for stewardship and financial giving/planning, particularly during COVID. *The Stewardship Kaleidoscope Conference* will be a hybrid event on Sept 13-15 in Cincinnati, OH. Scholarships are available for that conference (Stewardship Kaleidoscope registration <https://stewardshipkaleidoscope.org/conference>).

For additional Foundation information:

Stewardship Navigator <https://stewardshipnavigator.com>

Church Financial Leadership Academy <https://churchfla.com>

For more information contact Rob at rob.hagan@presbyterianfoundation.org

Rev. Christine Long is our new **Board of Pensions** representative, taking over for Rev. Mark Frye who retired. She gave news and updates on BOP programs available to installed ministers and other employed clergy. For more information, contact Christine at CLong@pensions.org.

Rene Meyers, PCUSA Mission Engagement Officer, and Bryce Wiebe, PCUSA Director of Special Offerings introduced themselves and the work they do and are available to help with mission and special offering programs. They also wanted to celebrate our Presbytery for the generosity many of our congregations show in supporting the special offerings and highlighted Pine Ridge Ministries and the Cheyenne Korean congregation for their significant gifts through the Giving Catalog. Rene can be reached at Rene.Myers@pcusa.org.

Council Report: Council moderator, Rev. Bob Thomson called attention to the written report of Council that showed the actions taken by Council on behalf of Presbytery since the September 2020 meeting. He highlighted the work of the General Presbyter Search Committee, noting that they are currently searching for an Interim and will be forming a search committee for the permanent position soon. A lot of Council's work has been focused on covering the needs of the Presbytery since Steve Shive's leaving. Council is grateful for the many people who have taken on more tasks and responsibilities in this interim time. Council had no action items for the Presbytery.

CPM Report: Karl Heimback, moderator, reported that the committee will be meeting soon with Inquirer Aaron McKee and Candidate Grant Wright for their annual reviews. Rev. Steve Niccolls and RE/CRE Dave Cole will be exam readers for the denomination this year. *Karl also introduced (via zoom) his adorable 6 week old daughter Harper Jo!*

CRN (representation and nominations) Report: Elder George Barnes, moderator, gave information about **General Assembly in 2022**. Applications are now available and the deadline is June 30. Presbytery is in need of a Teaching Elder to attend in 2022 and alternate Teaching Elders and Ruling Elders who will attend in 2024. A YAAD (ages 17-23) is also needed for the 2022 assembly and applications are available and should be submitted to Bob Thomson for council to nominate.

ECDL Report: Rev. Bruce McBurney continued a presentation begun at the September meeting about becoming missional. This was part 2 of a lecture series and focused on the change we see in the church.

COM Report COM Moderator, Rev. Lynn Williamson, called attention to the COM written report and highlighted the calling of Rev. Liz Morgan to the Guernsey and Ft. Laramie churches to begin in May and *the COM liaisons to each church:*

Shayla Graham -Shepherd of the Hills, The Table, Sheridan	Sara Shields -Jackson, Star Valley
Jason Harshberger -Encampment, Guernsey, Ft. Laramie, Saratoga	Marion Yoder -Rawlins
Bruce Heimback -Lingle, Torrington, Korean in Cheyenne	Kathy Beagle -Powell, Cody, Gillette
Lynn Williamson -Shoshoni, Riverton, Evanston, Mtn. View	Sam Starnes -Greybull, Shell, Worland
Carolyn McBurney -Moorcroft, Pine Ridge, Laramie	Warren VanGenderen -Thermopolis
Michelle Bacon -Burns, First Cheyenne, Highlands in Cheyenne	

COM had one action item and Presbytery approved the 2021 Terms of Call as presented.

CAMP STORY: Director Alicia Ford reported that the camp had a successful fundraising season in the midst of the difficulties of COVID. There will be summer camp this year and registration is underway. A female counselor is still needed. A work day at the camp is being planned to get it ready for summer campers. If you can help, contact Alicia.

PW: Presbyterian Women will be having their Spring Retreat at Camp Story June 11-13. Registration information is available on the presbytery website www.presbywy.org.

Stated Clerk Report Rev. Kellie Thomson. The annual statistical report for 2020 shows Presbytery membership at 2,613 which is a decrease of 50 from 2019. Kellie thanked the Clerks of Session for submitting their statistical information. Kellie highlighted the Presbytery website which has many updates. Links are available on the site for presbytery forms and for the sexual misconduct forms and reports. The video training on the misconduct policy is also available there. Action Item: Presbytery voted to dismiss, with thanks, the Joint AC with Presbytery of Plains and Peaks.

The meeting adjourned at noon. The **next meeting** will be a HYBRID format on September 24 & 25 with the in person portion held at the Star Valley Church in Thayne. Please note: Requests for time on the Presbytery docket are **due by August 17** and written reports are due by **September 3rd**. Registration deadline is September 10.