

Highlights of Heartland Presbytery Stated Meeting  
Tuesday, November 12, 2013  
First Presbyterian Church, Lee's Summit, MO

The two hundred and seventeenth meeting of Heartland Presbytery was hosted by First Presbyterian Church, Lee's Summit, MO. Moderator Bob Stikeleather open the meeting with prayer and Interim Pastor Mary Wright welcomed the presbytery. Highlights of the meeting include:

- Recognized the Ordination Anniversaries of 70 Ministers of Word and Sacrament from 5 years to 65 years of ministry for 2012 & 2013.
- Elected an Administrative Commission to work on reconciliation with First Presbyterian Church, Olathe, KS.
- Approved the Audit for 2012.
- Celebrated the retirement and ministries of TE Andy Cullen and TE Kerry Clements.
- Received into membership the following persons:
  - TE John Borden, HR
  - TE Michael McCall – First Presbyterian Church, Lee's Summit, MO
  - Candidate Elizabeth Meador – Trinity Presbyterian Church, Independence, MO
- Approved the Terms of Call for 2013 for Teaching Elders.
- Jan Zimmerman reported for Congregational Ministries Division about the following activities:
  - Oasis – APCE Regional Conference was held October 20 – 22, 2013 with approximately 80 participants from 6 states;
  - Festival of Sharing – Fall Youth Fest was held on October 18 – 19, 2013 with 40 youth and adults who worshiped together and rotated through different mission projects;
  - Embracing Hope Conference – The theme “Delight Yourself in the Lord – Bringing Play to Worship” will be held on January 25, 2014 at Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church with a variety of workshops and a Youth Rally.
- Malinda Spencer, Resource Center Director for Christian Education showed the Presbytery Resource Center's website.
- Ky Weekley reported that the January 2014 Maya Quiche' trip was full and another trip is being planned after Easter in late April of 2014.
- Executive Presbyter, Charles Spencer shared concerns regarding several congregations in the presbytery are in a discernment process of seeking dismissal from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Also the presbytery has been recognized and honored by the General Assembly Presbyterian Mission Agency in the “Top 10 in Basic Mission Support”. He said that Heartland Presbytery was # 9 and challenged the presbytery to be # 2 next year.
- The Rev. Charles Hardwick, Director of Theology, Worship & Education for the Presbyterian Mission Agency thanked the presbytery for their giving to Basic Mission Support and challenged the presbytery to be # 1. He also thanked the churches that had contributed to the Theological Fund and reminded other congregations that they could still give to this fund.
- Following prayer requests the presbytery was led in worship. Rev. Hardwick preached the sermon on “The Holy Spirit on the Move” and assisted TE Mary Wright in the Sacrament of Communion. The service began with songs of praise from “Sounds of Summit” a choral group from Lee's Summit High School.

- Thawke Village presented a slide show of the Spring Mission Trip to Kenya. Executive Presbyter, Charles Spencer signed the Partnership Document between Kikuyu Presbytery (P.C.E.A.) and Heartland Presbytery PC (U.S.A.).
- Church Orders and Listening presented 2 overtures from the session of Central Presbyterian Church, KC, MO. Both overtures were approved by the presbytery to be sent forward for consideration at 221<sup>st</sup> meeting of the General Assembly. The two overtures were:
  - Marriage Equality – Amending *W-4.900*; and
  - On Issuing an Authoritative Interpretation of *W-4.900* to Affirm Pastoral Discretion in Performing Marriage Ceremonies.
- Pat Jackson shared information gathered during the reading of session minutes and the status of completing the Manual of Operation.
- The following persons were elected as Commissioners and Young Adult Advisory Delegate to the 221<sup>st</sup> meeting of the General Assembly, June 14 – 21, 2014:
  - TE – Jason Carle, Pat Jackson and Sandra Stogsdill
  - RE – Maggie Blankers, Don Frankland and Nancy Smith
  - YAAD – Caroline Barnett
- The following persons were elected as Commissioners to the Synod of Mid-America for 2014
  - TE - Carla Gentry, Chad Herring and Tamara Miller
  - RE – Avis Odenbaugh, Jack Schrimsher and Bob Stikeleather
- RE Vera Phillips was elected as Heartland Presbytery Moderator-elect for 2015.
- The presbytery elected individuals to serve on the presbytery's commissions, committees and divisions.
- The Commission on Preparation for Ministry announced that they had enrolled as Inquirers:
  - Amanda Mackey – Village, PV, KS
  - Laurie Anderson – Southminster, PV, KS
- Moderator Stikeleather thanked the church for their warm welcome and closed the meeting with prayer.

**Next Stated Meeting of Heartland Presbytery**  
**Saturday, February 22, 2014**  
**Central Presbyterian Church**  
**3501 Campbell, Kansas City, MO**