

**Heartland Presbytery Council Meeting
June 23, 2014**

The following members were PRESENT: RE Maggie Blankers, RE Judy Cooper, RE Gail Cunningham, TE Ron Galvin, RE Fran Haney, RE Karen Hanover, RE Don Haring, RE Mary Jane Houston, TE Kevin Jones, RE Susan Leitzia, RE Terry Miller, RE Vera Phillips, RE Bob Stikeleather, RE Larry Williams.

The following persons were EXCUSED: RE Teresa Clark, TE Cynthia Holder Rich, TE George McCall, TE Jonathan Mitchell, TE Dick Pierson, TE Paul Rock, TE Glenda Watts, TE Ky Weekley and RE Jan Zimmerman.

The following persons were ABSENT: RE Cheryl Couch-Thomas, RE Shirley Nichols, TE Sandra Stogsdill, RE David Warm and TE Kimby Young.

The following staff were present: TE Leigh Gillis, RE Sally Hinchman and TE Charles Spencer.

Moderator RE Bob Stikeleather opened the meeting with prayer. The docket was approved with the addition of reports from Mission and Social Justice and Nominating Committee.

Report of the Stated Clerk RE Sally Hinchman

Action Items Approved:

- Minutes of the Presbytery Council Meeting on April 7, 2014 were approved and to incorporate them in the May 3, 2014 stated meeting of presbytery.
- Minutes of the May 3, 2014 stated meeting of presbytery were approved.
- Approved New Horizon Presbyterian Church, Odessa, MO to host presbytery on June 13, 2015.

Communications/Information:

- The Remedial Complaint filed against the presbytery was dismissed by the Synod PJC moderator and clerk. The Complainant filed a challenge against this action. A PJC Hearing will be held with the Synod PJC on Friday, August 8, 2014 at 11:00 AM.
- Hosts are still needed for the following presbytery meetings – February 21, April 21, September 22 and November 14, 2015.

Business Affairs – RE Don Haring

The year to date financials were reviewed. The 2015 Budget was presented noting a \$5.00 increase for per capita for the presbytery to help with the unpaid per capita line item. It was noted that the General Assembly per capita for 2015 will increase 5 cents. The Shared Mission Budget includes only the requests from the committees, divisions and commissions. With the renovation of the Harold Thomas Center and the new arrangement with LAMP the costs for the presbytery are unknown at this time. The motion to present the 2015 Budget for a 1st reading at presbytery was approved.

Personnel Committee – TE Ron Galvin

During the weeks ahead as the staff prepares to relocate, Ron asked the Presbytery Council to help interpret to congregations and members of the presbytery to be patient as the staff is packing and preparing to move.

Trustees

Acting as an Administrative Commission the Trustees approved recommending that Heartland Presbytery approve a commercial loan and allow the congregation of Shawnee Presbyterian Church, Shawnee, KS to move forward with the purchase of a residence for the use of TE Craig Gibson and his

family, but only if subject to all of the following conditions:

1. The Shawnee session will consult with the Heartland Presbytery lawyers to insure that all aspects of these transactions are in full compliance with all legal requirements.
2. The Shawnee session will make an application for tax exemption of the residence with the assistance of the lawyers from Polsinelli.
3. The Shawnee session will work with and gain approval from the Heartland Presbytery Commission on Ministry in regards to making revisions to the terms of call for TE Craig Gibson. The revised terms will then be submitted to the congregation for approval.
4. The Shawnee session will work with and gain approval from Heartland Presbytery prior to any sale of the residence. In this effort the Board of Trustees will be advised and consulted from the outset of the process.

Motion was approved.

Recommend to Heartland Presbytery approval of the sale of the two properties owned by the First United Presbyterian Church, Paola, KS with the following conditions:

1. The sale is contingent on an affirmative vote at the June 1, 2014 congregational meeting. The minutes from the meeting will be provided to the Heartland Presbytery Board of Trustees.
2. The session at Paola will provide to the Heartland Presbytery Board of Trustees all appropriate paperwork relating to the sale of the residences upon the completion of that process.

Motion was approved.

Recommend to Heartland Presbytery approval that Trinity Presbyterian, St. Joseph, MO be permitted to sell their existing building. Motion was approved.

Recommend to Heartland Presbytery approval that Trinity Presbyterian, St. Joseph, MO be permitted to worship at the Holiday Inn Express & Suites of St. Joseph, MO located at 3600 N. Village Dr. until such time as a new location is identified. Motion approved.

Recommend to Heartland Presbytery that First Presbyterian Church, Gardner, KS to enter into a "shared space" agreement with the Methodist New Church Development congregation (First Light) with the proviso that all ancillary issues are addressed. Motion was approved.

Church Order and Listening – RE Fran Haney

There were four sites for reading minutes of 53 sessions. A makeup session is scheduled at the September 30th stated meeting of presbytery. One congregation will participate in a 'pilot' project. Fran noted that many of the smaller membership churches had not attended. It was suggested to have the COM liaisons encourage them to attend.

Congregational Ministries Division

Permission was granted to serve communion at 'Oasis' scheduled on October 19 – 21, 2014.

Worship and Fellowship

The preacher for the July 12, 2014 stated meeting will be Tex Sample. The following portions for the offering were approved:

Covenant Presbyterian Church – for scholarship assistance for their young people to attend Heartland Presbyterian Center summer camp and for the Presbytery – for the Heartland Presbyterian Center new swimming pools fund.

Mission and Social Justice – RE Maggie Blankers

A Speakers Bureau is being developed for churches to use for minutes for mission.

Nominating Committee – RE Gail Cunningham

Recommend to presbytery that 4.4.1c3 in the Manual of Operations be set aside to allow RE Ann Keeling to serve as moderator of Worship and Fellowship for the remainder of 2014. Motion was approved.

Report of Executive Presbyter – TE Charles Spencer

Asked for prayers for Moderator George McCall and family in regards to the recent surgery for their son Donavon. Also for the staff as they sort through what goes into storage and what is moved as the offices will be relocated in July. He shared that General Assembly was over on Saturday, June 21. Several actions of the assembly will be received by various individuals differently. Q & A's regarding marriage and the Middle East are posted in Heartland Connections.

Report of Associate Executive Presbyter – TE Leigh Gillis

The following congregations: Linwood, Bethel, Lexington, South Broadland and Calvary, Independence have enrolled in the New Beginnings program. The assessments will be done July 21 – 23 and leadership training will be September 5 – 6, 2014.

She announced that she has accepted a new position as Interim Pastor in North Carolina effective August 1, 2014.

Presbytery Docket

The proposed docket was approved with minor corrections.

Adjournment

Moderator Bob Stikeleather asked for joys and concerns before offering the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Sally J. Hinchman, Stated Clerk