

**PRESBYTERY OF NORTHERN KANSAS  
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS  
April 30, 2019**

The Presbytery of Northern Kansas met on Tuesday, April 30, 2019 at **First Presbyterian Church** in **Ellsworth, Kansas**. Following are the highlights of the meeting.

**Gathered 90 Cleanup Buckets** prepared by congregations across the presbytery. The buckets were delivered to Nebraska for distribution to flood victims.

**Heard** from **Kailen Soncksen**, PNK Young Adult Volunteer, serving at Casa Marianella in Austin, TX. She spoke about her evolving sense of God's call in her life.

**Convened** as the corporation and approved the election of the members of the presbytery council to serve as the Trustees of the Presbytery of Northern Kansas.

**Approved** the recommendation of the Presbytery Council that the stated clerk continue work on new standing rules to be presented to for the presbytery's consideration when completed.

**Approved** the recommendation of the Finance Committee to continue with the 2019 Provisional Budget while the Finance Committee works to align the budget with the new PNK Missional Priorities.

**Concurred** with recommendation of the Property Committee to approve these property sales: **Minneapolis-First** sale of manse to be removed from property; **Hoxie-First** to offer manse for sale; Wamego-First to offer for sale of a piece of property; to offer for sale the former **Topeka-Eastminster** property.

**Adopted** a recommendation to grant authority to the Presbytery Council acting as the Board of Trustees upon recommendation from the Property Committee to approve the sale, mortgage or otherwise encumber church or presbytery property.

**Received** from the Finance Committee the year to date Financial Reports and Giving Reports.

**Heard a final report** from the **Madison Administrative Commission** regarding the distribution of final assets. 10% will go to the PNK Endowment Fund, \$8,608 will go to legacy projects in Madison and the remainder to high priority programs as determined by the Finance Committee. The commission was dismissed with thanks for their work.

**Heard an initial report** from the **Abilene Administrative Commission**.

**Approved the commission** of Ruling Elder Patrick Yancey to limited pastoral service with Topeka-First.

**Validated the ministries** of the following continuing members of the presbytery in specialized ministries for 2019: Patty Brown-Barnett, Marc Giedinghagen, Shelly Holle, Jennine Money Groene, Brad Walker and Carolynn Winters-Hazelton.

**Authorized Ruling Elders** in these congregations who have received training to administer the Lord's Supper: Auburn-First, Blue Rapids-United, Frankfurt-First, Marysville-Memorial, Washington-First United, Riley-Fairview and Riley-First.

**Heard** the exciting news of churches across the presbytery participating in **Project Regeneration** a joint effort with the Presbyterian Foundation to help churches take a closer look at their ministry and consider their buildings as a ministry resource.

**Chose** Rev. Bill Vincent who serves the First Presbyterian Church of Wamego as the winner of the Pastor's Appreciation Weekend.

**Learned** that Kevin Ireland has been enrolled as inquirer in the Preparation 4 Ministry program and will begin course work at Austin Theological Seminary this fall.

**Announced** Ruling Elder Rod Seel (Topeka Potwin) has been transferred to candidate status in the Commissioned Ruling Elder Program.

**Challenged to consider** our calls to ministry with a program: "**Called to Serve . . . with Energy, Intelligence, Imagination and Love.**" Which featured six persons speaking about their sense of call. The speakers were: **Glenn Brunkow**, elder, Wamego-First; **Rev. Laura Frazey**, pastor, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Wichita, KS, former member of Hoxie-First; **Melanie Hancock**, elder, General Presbyter, Presbytery of Northern Kansas; **Kailen Soncksen**, Young Adult Volunteer, serving in Austin, TX; **Rev. Landon Whitsitt**, Executive/Stated Clerk, Synod of Mid-America; and **Alan Reynolds**, CRE serving Osage City -First and member of Topeka-St. Andrews

**Celebrated the 2018 Top Ten Mission Giving Congregations** in the Presbytery:

10. Wakarusa Presbyterian Church \$73.53 per member
9. First Presbyterian Church, Wilson \$75.00 per member
8. First Presbyterian Church, Cottonwood Falls \$88.24 per member
7. Rossville Presbyterian Church \$92.00 per member
6. West Side Presbyterian Church, Lawrence \$92.11 per member
5. First Presbyterian Church, Riley \$102.65 per member
4. Oak Hill Presbyterian Church \$108.70 per member
3. First Presbyterian Church, Salina \$112.30 per member
2. First Presbyterian Church, Hill City \$123.04 per member
1. First Presbyterian Church, Hoxie \$131.58 per member

**Prayed for the churches and pastors** of the Presbytery of Northern Kansas

**Worshiped:** **Landon Whitsett**, Synod of Mid America Executive and Stated Clerk, preached the sermon. Ruling Elder **Kim Kramer (Oak Hill)** served as liturgist and Teaching Elder **Amy Jo Hawley (Ellsworth)** presided at the celebration of the Lord's Supper. The **necrology report** was scrolled on the screens during communion as we remembered Ruling Elders whose deaths were reported in 2018. Ruling Elder **Patrick Yancey** was commissioned to pastoral service at Topeka First. Ruling Elder **Melanie Hancock** was installed as General Presbyter in the Presbytery of Northern Kansas.

**Received** an offering of \$1,758.00 for **Presbyterian Disaster Service** for victims of recent flooding in the Missouri River Basin, including Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas..

Following adjournment, the presbyters **celebrated the installation of Melanie Hancock** with a reception in the fellowship hall of First Presbyterian Church of Ellsworth.

Next Presbytery Meeting: Saturday, **July 20 – First Presbyterian Church, Junction City**