"Welcome Roots & Bridges with Rev. Dr. James Currie"

154th Stated Meeting of Palo Duro Presbytery
Docket & Ministry Team Reports
VIA ZOOM
Friday, February 3, 2023, 4:30 PM

(Have your Communion Service ready at your screen)

Prayer Requests

(Please fill in the names of people, places, joys, concerns, etc. to be shared in worship at the presbytery meeting……)

Email your prayer requests early and directly to Scott at scott@paloduropresbytery.org .

Docket

riday, February 3, 2023

4:30 PM	Zoom Set-up Assistance (Call the PDP Office If Needed) Palo Duro Presbytery is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83170056729?pwd=T0xHL2FxQ2NoLzBwYWtQQkRuT1VBdz09 Meeting ID: 831 7005 6729 Passcode: 786987	Rev. Dr. Scott Campbell
5:00 PM	Call to Order and Opening Prayer	Elder Moderator Gene Deason
	Declaration of Quorum	Elder Moderator Gene Deason
	Welcome	Elder Moderator Gene Deason
	Announcements	Elder Moderator Gene Deason
	Approval of Docket – Action vote	Elder Moderator Gene Deason
	Appointment of Committees	Elder Moderator Gene Deason
	• Minutes Review • Leave of Absence	Elder Moderator Gene Deason
5:15PM	Introduction of New Commissioners/Ministers/ New Attendees	Elder Moderator Gene Deason
5:20 PM	Seating of Corresponding Members	Elder Moderator Gene Deason
5:25 PM	GA225: Report by Palo Duro Presbytery Commissioners	Rev. Becky Fox Elder Bill Core
	CONSENT AGENDA: APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PCUSA: ○ 22-A F-1.0302c THE CATHOLICITY OF THE CHURCH (POL-16 1a) ○ 22-AA W-5.0204 PASTORAL CARE (TWE-05 7) ○ 22-B F-1.0404 OPENNESS (POL-16 1b) ○ 22-BB W-5.0204 PASTORAL CARE (TWE-05 8) ○ 22-C G-1.0501 MEETINGS (ROD-06 2) ○ 22-CC D-3.0106 WHEN JURISDICTION ENDS (ROD-05) ○ 22-D G-1.0503 BUSINESS PROPER TO CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS (ROD-06 1) ○ 22-DD D-10.0302 IF CHARGES ARE TO BE FILED (ROD-04 3)	

	○ 22-DD	D-10.0302 IF CHARGES ARE TO BE FILED (ROD-04 3)
	○ 22-E	G-2.0503 CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP (POL-07)
	○ 22-EE	D-10.0303 PETITION FOR REVIEW (ROD-04 1)
	○ 22-F	G-2.0505a(1) TRANSFER OF MINISTERS OF OTHER DENOMINATIONS (POL-15)
	○ 22-FF	AMENDING THE USE OF "THE ACCUSED" IN THE CURRENT RULES OF DISCIPLINE (ROD-04
	○ 22-G	G-2.0603 PURPOSE OF INQUIRY (HSB-05 2)
	○ 22-GG	REPLACING THE CURRENT "RULES OF DISCIPLINE" WITH A NEW "CHURCH DISCIPLINE" SE
	○ 22-H	G-2.0605 OVERSIGHT (HSB-05 1)
	○ 22-I	G-2.0804 TERMS OF CALL (HSB-06)
	○ 22-J	G-2.1001 FUNCTIONS (MC-08) [Stated Clerk's Note: This Amendment regarding CPs was **una** PDP 153]
	○ 22-K	G-2.1002 TRAINING, EXAMINING, AND COMMISSIONING (HSB-05 3)
	○ 22-L	G-2.1103 CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS (HSB-05 4)
	○ 22-M	G-3.0104 OFFICERS (MC-05)
	○ 22-N	G-3.0105 MEETINGS (ROD-06 3)
	○ 22-O	G-3.0106 ADMINISTRATION OF MISSION (HSB-05 9)
	○ 22-P	G-3.0106 ADMINISTRATION OF MISSION (POL-10)
	○ 22-Q	G-3.0303c RELATIONS WITH SESSIONS (MC-03)
	○ 22-R	G-3.0401 COMPOSITION AND RESPONSIBILITIES (MC-06)
	○ 22-S	G-4.0301 TRUST AND CONFIDENTIALITY (ROD-07)
	○ 22-T	W-3.0205 CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (TWE-05 1)
	○ 22-U	W-3.0409 THEOLOGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (TWE-05 2)
	○ 22-V	W-3.0414 COMMUNION (TWE-05 4)
	○ 22-W	W-4.0403 ORDER OF WORSHIP (TWE-06)
	○ 22-X	W-5.0104 HOUSEHOLD WORSHIP (TWE-05 5)
	○ 22-Y	W-5.0104 HOUSEHOLD WORSHIP (TWE-05 6)
	○ 22-Z	W-5.0201 THE CHURCH'S MINISTRY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH (TWE-05 9, 1 & 2
	CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS Discussion and consideration of any proposed amendments not approved by Consent Docket above	Elder David Kemp, Stated Clerk

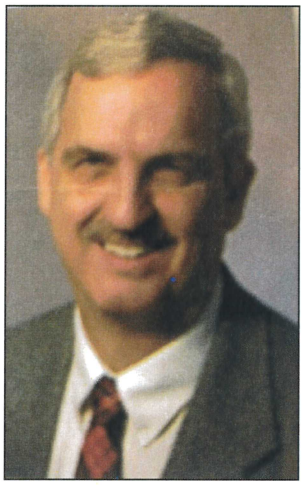
	LITURGIST LITURGIST ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD	Elder Stacy Clopton, St. Luke Presbyterian Chu Rev. Don Stribling, New Hope Presbyterian Ch Elder Moderator Gene Deason
	SERMON "Welcome Roots & Bridges with Rev. Dr. James Currie"	Rev. Dr. James Currie
	COMMITTEE REPORTS Preparations Ministry Committee on Ministry Common Life Resources Ministry Nominating Ministry	 Elder Nancy Hutchinson Pastor Joe Gambill Elder Phyllis Baum Rev. Doug House Pastor Kathy Monroe
	FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BAIRD, TEXAS: To approve the dismissal of First Presbyterian Church, Baird, Texas, to ECO.	Elder David Kemp, Stated Clerk
	STATED CLERK'S REPORT 154th Meeting of Palo Duro Presbytery Report February 3, 2023, VIA ZOOM, Lubbock, Texas	Elder David Kemp, Stated Clerk
	STATED CLERK'S REPORT 153rd Meeting of Palo Duro Presbytery Minutes September 30-October 1, 2022, Sweetwater, Texas	Elder David Kemp, Stated Clerk
	Closing Comments Leave of Absence Report:	Elder Moderator Gene Deason
	Closing Prayer	Rev. Becky Fox

Future Stated Meetings of Palo Duro Presbytery

155th Stated Meeting, April 28 -29, 2023 — New Hope, Wichita Falls

156th Stated Meeting, September 2023 — Invitation needed

"Welcome Roots & Bridges"



By: Rev. James S. Currie, Ph.D.

Born in Dallas, Texas. Life-long Presbyterian. Married to Jo Ann Caldwell; together we have four children and five grandchildren. We are retired and live in Austin, Texas.

Education: B.A., The University of Texas at Austin (Plan II) M.A., Indiana University at Bloomington (German) M.Div., Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary Th.M., Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary Ph.D., Rice University

(Church History)

Pastorates: 1979-1983 – North Lincoln Westminster Parish (Silex, Whiteside, and Auburn Presbyterian Churches in Missouri Union Presbytery)
1983-1989 – First Presbyterian Church, Killeen, Texas
1992-1994 – New Church Development in Warrenton, Missouri 1995-2005 – Westminster Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas [2005-2010 – Director, Houston Extension Program for Austin
Presbyterian Theological Seminary]
2010-2018 – First Presbyterian Church, Pasadena, Texas

Books: ***"Doing Justice, Loving Kindness, and Walking Humbly: The Witness of Some Southern Presbyterian Pastors for the Cause of Racial Harmony in the 1950s and 1960s"***

Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary: Completing a Century of Service
(Eakin Press, 2002)

Planting Trees: A History of Presbyterian Pan American School
(Nortex Press, 2011)

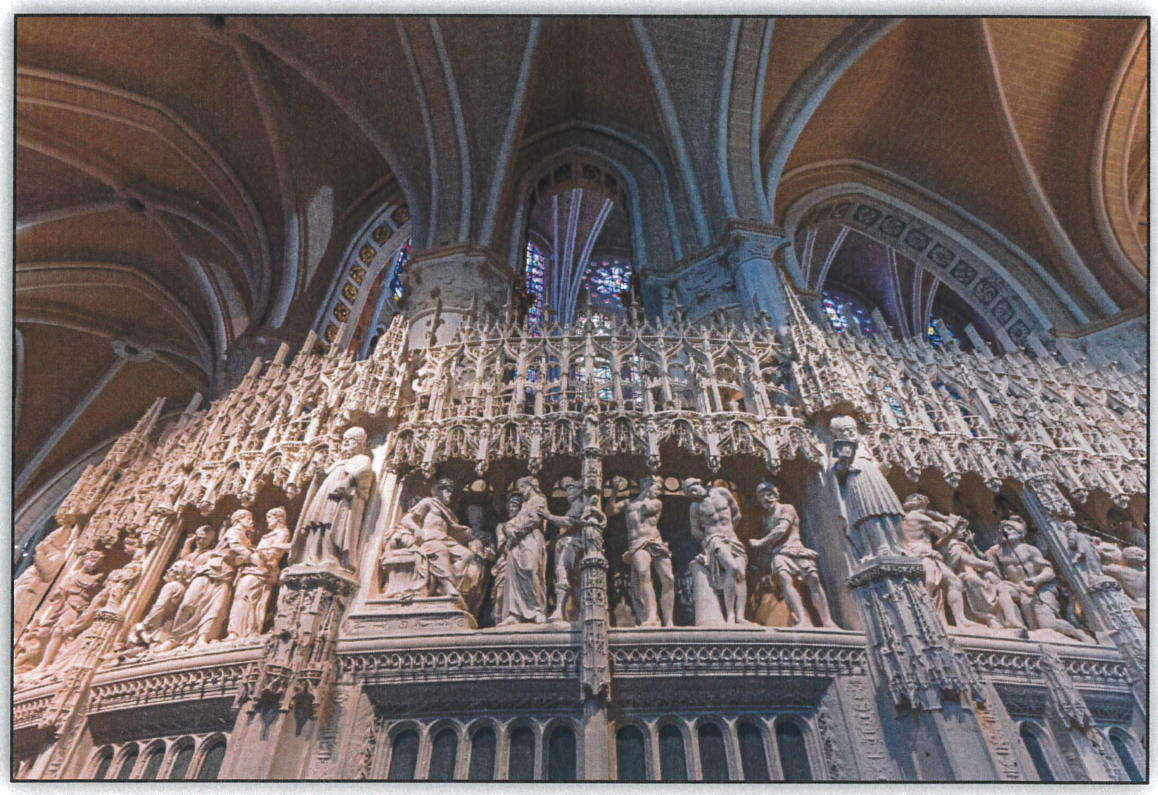
The Kingdom of God Is Like...Baseball
(Cascade Books, 2011)

The Church Beyond the Wall: Life and Ministry in the Former East Germany
(Wipf & Stock, 2019)

Translations: Rudolf Schnackenburg, *All Things Are Possible to Believers: Reflections on the* ***Lord's Prayer and the Sermon on the Mount*** *(*Westminster John Knox Press, 1995)

Klaus Berger, ***Jesus and the Dead Sea Scrolls: The Truth Under Lock and Key?*** (Westminster John Knox Press, 1995)

Werner Krusche, ***And God Spoke with His People: Sermons from the 1980s by an East German Pastor*** (Parson's Porch Books, 2021)



Palo Duro Presbytery
Order for the Worship of God
February 3, 2023, via Zoom

(Have your Communion Service ready at your screen)

Liturgists:

Elder Stacy Clopton of St. Luke Presbyterian Church, Amarillo, Texas

Rev. Don Stribling of New Hope Presbyterian Church, Wichita Falls, Texas

Call to Worship:

This evening is a time of community and of worship.
May our eyes be clear to see it.
This evening is a time of meaning.
May our minds be open to receiving it.
Let us worship God, who supplies our every need.
God above we worship you with our whole selves even by distance.

Opening Prayer: O God, we praise you for the resources of the Christian community, that we can gather outside the church walls to offer our thankful praise; thank you that we have the freedom to choose to tell our stories of love and grace through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn: "As the Deer Thirsts" (Glory to God #626)

Call to Confession: The grace of God is a free gift; there is nothing we can do to earn it. We receive it through faith, by believing in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Trusting in Christ's mercy, let us pray:
Gracious God, you know what kind of people we are. We judge others harshly and fail to see our own sin. We look with suspicion, fear, and neglect to show hospitality, especially to the stranger. We treasure things that are worthless; we ignore eternal things. Forgive us. (A time of silent prayer)

Assurance of pardon: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. And by the power of the Spirit at work within us, we are continually transformed into faithful and mature disciples of Christ. **Together we proclaim the wonderful news of the Gospel:**

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Gloria Patri read aloud this evening.

Solo: "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God," sung by Serayah Peters, Choir Member of First Central Presbyterian, Abilene, Texas

Prayer for Illumination and Scripture: Isaiah 51:1-5, Psalm 48:12-14, Hebrews 12:1-2

Sermon: "Roots and Bridges" with Rev. Dr. James Currie, Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest Executive Secretary

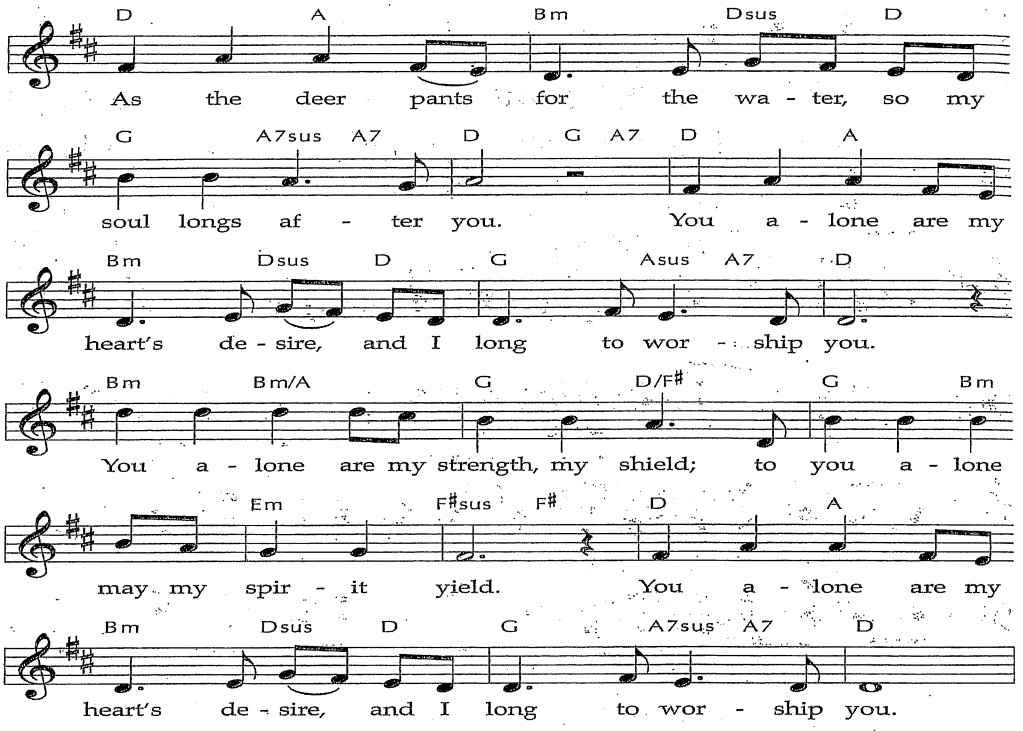
A note on tithes and offerings offered tonight for The PDP Celebration Scholarship

The Table Service of Bread and Cup is offered to all.

Pastoral Prayer and Benediction

Photo and reflection: Chartres Cathedral, Chartres, France, sculpture on the choir screen, 16th, and 18th century, in Cathedral of Our Lady of Chartres; one of the stained-glass windows depicts the Gospel writers standing on the shoulders of the four major prophets. Quote from John of Salisbury, bishop of Chartres (1115-1180): "Bernard of Chartres used to say that we are like dwarves perched on the shoulders of giants, and thus we are able to see more and farther than the latter. And this is not at all because of the acuteness of our sight or the stature of our body, but because we are carried aloft and elevated by the magnitude of the giants."

626 As the Deer



This praise chorus begins as a paraphrase of Psalm 42:1 and later incorporates parts of Psalm 28:7. In some early Christian communities, people chanted or sang Psalm 42 on their way to be baptized, and many early Christian baptisteries were decorated with deer drinking water.

TEXT and MUSIC: Martin J. Nystrom, 1984
Text and Music © 1984 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing

AS THE DEE
Irregula

Palo Duro Presbytery
Preparation Committee
154th Stated Meeting of Palo Duro Presbytery

The Preparation Ministry met by Zoom twice on November 14, 2022, and November 18, 2022, with the following persons present: RE: Nancy Hutchinson, Chair; RE: Nancy Diggs; RE: Anna Mae Fischli; Rev. Robin Gantz; RE: Sally Osoinach; Rev. Tim Tam; RE: Gene Deason, Moderator of Palo Duro Presbytery; Rev. Dr. Scott Campbell, Executive Presbyter; RE: David Kemp, Stated Clerk.

NOVEMBER 14, 2022:

The meeting was call to order at 10:00 A.M. by moderator Nancy Hutchinson and opened with prayer by Gene Deason.

The moderator introduced Rev. Kyle Segars as a new member to the committee.

1. REVISION OF PREPARATION MINISTRY MANUAL: Rev. Dr. Scott Campbell led a discussion of the proposed revisions to the ministry's manual. Out of that discussion, the following actions were taken:

2. Psychological examination for CLPs: Moved, Robin Gantz, 2nd, Time Tam, that CLPs be required to undergo the same psychological testing as candidates for MWS. Motion carried.

3. Mentoring: Moved, Robin Gantz, with 2nd, that a liaison with a candidate be approved when the candidate is admitted as an inquirer. Motion carried.

The business of the meeting having been completed, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Elder Phyllis Baum.

November 18, 2022:

Guests: Grace Sosa; Rev. Dr. Janice Six. The meeting was call to order at 10:02 A.M. by moderator Nancy Hutchinson and opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Scott Campbell.

4. Examination of Grace Sosa: Grace Sosa appeared before the committee and after Rev. Robin Gantz offered a prayer on her behalf, she was examined as to her statement of faith. The committee also examined her on her sample exegesis and sermon. After the examination, she was excused. **Moved,** Rev. Janice Six, 2nd, RE Nancy Diggs, that Grace Sosa be released to seek a call, work on a PIF, and be presented to presbytery. Motion carried.

The business of the meeting having been completed, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Elder Nancy Hutchinson.

Respectfully submitted,
Elder David Kemp, Stated Clerk, Palo Duro Presbytery, Secretary
Elder Nancy Hutchinson, Moderator, Palo Duro Presbytery

Palo Duro Presbytery
Committee on Ministry
Report to the 154th Stated Meeting of Presbytery
February 3, 2023

SUBMITTED FOR PRESBYTERY ACTION
We The congregation of First, Baird and many years of consideration and after discussion and work with the COM voted 32-0 at a duly called congregational meeting to leave the PCUSA and request dismissal to ECO. We give thanks to The Rev. Dr. Janice Six for her invaluable work with the Baird congregation over many years and to Bill Core for his work in leading the transition team. After the congregation left the PC(USA), the members gave a $25,000.00 tithing gift to PDP.

Opening and Closing Prayers

October 13, 2022 – Mitchell Davenport/Mitchell Davenport
November 1, 2022 – Joe Gambill/Joe Gambill
January 24, 2023 – Rev. Dr. Scott Campbell/Joe Gambill

ONGOING WORK
We have five active working PNCs. Dumas, Lamesa, Lubbock 1st, Montague County, Pampa.

ACTIONS TAKEN BY COM ON BEHALF OF PRESBYTERY
Since the Last Presbytery Meeting (September 30-January 24, 2023).

Approved Validated Ministry for The Rev. Scott Hill as chaplain for Giving Home Healthcare of Amarillo. Giving Home Healthcare provides care for each qualified individual to have a custom in-home care plan that alleviates debilitating injuries and diseases, provides professional medical care, attends spiritual needs, surrounds them with loved ones and keeps them in the comfort of their own home. This is similar to hospice care but is unique to nuclear workers (in this case Pantex employees).

Approved Ordination Commission for Kristen Harris to include Ruling Elders SarahLee Morris, C.C.E., Dee Rice, Pat Osoinach, David Kemp, and Gene Deason and Teaching Elders Janice Six, Scott Campbell, Cliff Stewart, Jonathan Scanlon and Dana Mayfield.

Approved a Temporary Supple Agreement between Rev. Scot Hill and First Tulia.

Approved an Interim Agreement between the Rev. Dr. Ken McIntosh and First Pampa.

Appointed The Rev. Janell Blair as moderator of the Session at St. Luke, in Amarillo.

Approved First, Lubbock to increase their minimum effective salary on their MIF by $2,000 which will put them at $62,000.

Approved the transfer of membership of The Rev. Kati Collins from Palo Duro to Cimarron Presbytery.

Approved the transfer of membership of The Rev. Marie Mickey from Palo Duro to New Hope Presbytery.

With the agreement of the two sessions, we approved a covenant agreement between Commissioned Pastor Steve Sullwold to serve the United Presbyterian Church of Montague County and we approved a covenant agreement between Commissioned Pastor Sullwold and Trinity Presbyterian Church in Wichita Falls. Steve will be serving both congregations with the majority of time being spent with UPCMC.

Granted permission for St. Luke, Amarillo to elect a PNC without having to have an interim pastor. EP Scott Campbell was voted unanimously as PNC liaison.

Approved First Central, Abilene's request to form an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee for two roles.

Appointed The Rev. Dr. Scott Campbell to initiate the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee for First Central, Abilene and for Bill Core to serve as Liaison.

Appointed the Rev. Don Stribling as Liaison to Trinity, Wichita Falls. in preparation for dissolution of services.

Approve First, Clarendon's request for an exemption to the maximum term limits for ruling elders to serve on Session due to the limited number of members.

On November 6, 2022, Rev. Katie Collins left her role at St. Luke Presbyterian Church in Amarillo to accept a call at First Presbyterian Church in Stillwater, OK, as "Interim Pastor Head of Staff". The Session is in communications with the COM.

All Ministers and Pastors have been asked to attend this type of training, on-line **Safe Gatherings Ethics and Congregational Boundaries**, by the end of April 2023.

The tool is also offered to the Presbytery for whoever may want to take it, Sessions, or Volunteers. The cost is $29 per person relying on the Palo Duro Presbytery Account agreement. The link is:
http://safegatherings.com/app/registration-invitation/d83448fb4b23089185def3882a7fb37308c24f82a2fcf0bf83d4d03f220a16a8

Respectfully submitted,
CP Joe Gambill

Report of the Common Life Committee for the February 3, 2023, Presbytery meeting:

The Common Life Committee of Palo Duro Presbytery was opened with a scripture reading and prayer by Phyllis Baum.

We discussed the success of the September in person meeting, which worked out very well at First Presbyterian in Sweetwater. Everyone was excited to meet in person again.

We also held a Training for the Critical Response team that our presbytery is organizing at the church before the Presbytery meeting. This was a 3-day training for those interested in becoming a member of the Palo Duro Presbytery Critical Incident Care Team. We had about 10 people involved in the training.

Our committee also gave out grants for enhancing the ministry of churches in our Presbytery. Those churches receiving grants were as follows:

- Central Presbyterian, Stamford, for Meals on Wheels at the VIP Center.
- New Hope Presbyterian, Wichita Falls, for worship live stream technology.
- First Presbyterian, Hereford, for food pantry, and electrical repairs.
- First Presbyterian Pampa, for Snack Pak for Kids serving hungry school-age children.
- St. Luke Presbyterian, Amarillo, for Laundry Love, help those who struggle to do laundry.
- Days of Grace Presbyterian, Colorado City, for their church-led daycare in a low-income area.
- First Presbyterian, Dumas, for an upgrade to the office equipment for the running of their church mission.
- First Presbyterian, Sweetwater, for The Blessing Box, emergency food for drive by pick up to people on the edge.
- Grace Presbyterian, Lubbock, for their youth intern to build ministry.
- First Central Presbyterian, Abilene, for the tenured pantry run by church members.

PDP 154: The theme of the first meeting of 2023 will be Isaiah 51: Roots & Routes. Dr. James Currie, of the Southwest Presbyterian Historical Society will deliver the sermon.

1. Buffalo Gap: The committee discussed the Buffalo Gap Covenant for the future.
2. Committee Moderator for 2023: Moved, by Cliff Stewart, 2nd by Phyllis Baum, that SarahLee Morris be elected as moderator of the committee for 2023. Motion carried.

The business of the meeting having been completed; the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Cliff Stewart at 4:30 PM.

FINAL NOTE: IF YOU ACCIDENTALLY TOOK HOME A CURSILLO SONG BOOK FROM THE SWEETWATER MEETING, PLEASE RETURN IT TO THE PRESBYTERY OFFICE OR FIRST CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN ABILENE. THANK YOU!

Phyllis Baum
Common Life Committee Moderator, Palo Duro Presbytery, Telephone: 325.669.5805 Email:
pdbaum@icloud.com

Palo Duro Presbytery PDP 154 Packet Resources Ministry Report

Mark NRSVUE The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry

14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good
news of God 15 and saying, **"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."**

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

16 As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. 17 And Jesus said to them, **"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people."** 18 And immediately they left their nets and followed him. 19 As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. 20 Immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

The Presbytery meeting in Sweetwater several months back was refreshing for me, to be able to gather IN PERSON as a presbytery for the first time in ages. Pondering the Old Testament and the Bible, I recall how many different people and participants are listed. Some of the chapters have lists of genealogy—names of the participants. Their presence is deemed important and significant.

Our Presbytery has been working for some time on the **You Are The Presbytery Task Force** to identify what our call is from here, what are our ministry needs, and how are we going to make these goals happen, as in how are we going to fund them. There is a color-coded page in this packet that lists these Strategic Priorities of the Palo Duro Presbytery. It occurs to me that we could liken these to our New Year's Resolutions. Of course, what bites here in this cartoon is the last response, "**And to never take resolutions seriously."**

As Jesus begins his ministry his words to the world include, "**. . . repent, and believe in the good news**." I take "repent" to mean to see things and life in new and different ways and to act in new ways. CHANGE. A few years ago we were forced into a kind of CHANGE/repentance because of COVID. We were forced to segregate and isolate. Most of our Task Force has been done, as a result, via Zoom. Committee meetings now are more times than not done via Zoom. Our Presbytery meetings have been done and the February meeting is planned via Zoom.

Dr. William Willimon was the featured speaker at First Presbyterian Church of Abilene's Festival of Faith this year. I was there. I enjoyed various IN PERSON encounters with Presbyterians I have not seen IN PERSON that much in the past few years. I enjoyed that. As I write this report the weekend is on my mind. We are going to visit family in Kansas City. We did not get to do that for Thanksgiving or for Christmas. There is something special to meeting IN PERSON. . . something special that happens IN PERSON that from my experience just cannot be replicated via phone, FACETIME, nor Zoom. I find myself going into the Zoom meetings with the awareness that we have a set time, it is close to a virtual thing, we may or may not accomplish what we are after, and then, like some TV episode, it will be over and we will be on to the next item.

If you surmise that I am suggesting that I find the Zoom meetings insufficient and inadequate, BINGO, you are absolutely correct. They may have been a necessary substitute for a period of time, but I am ready to suggest that IN PERSON is better and I think necessary for the next stage of our Task Force. I do not perceive that we can do the step of assessing how we are going to fund this via Zoom meetings.

I have pointed out before the tendency for us to think of our "resources" and the Resources Ministry as dealing with MONEY, and, hence, equate "resources" and "money." Yes, money can be a resource. However, just recently, dah, what happened? THE "Resource" chose to shock and surprise everyone by being born as a baby! "THE Resource" here is Jesus, of course. The text earlier of Mark 1 has this RESOURCE warning or alerting the world that CHANGE is due and needed. And, this RESOURCE goes about calling disciples IN PERSON.

The strategy/strategies we have used for the last decade+ for funding and finance are not going to be adequate to fulfill the Strategic Priorities we have listed. I do not perceive that a few (or many) two hour Zoom meetings are going to birth, create, or develop the NEW and IMPROVED approach(es) that will be necessary. Perhaps we need to gather with the understanding that we do not leave until we get it worked out. And/or we plan for three days planned to work out the details, with the understanding that if we do not get it done THIS time, we will have another 3-day session next month. And the next month, until we figure it out.

This might be inconvenient! Uncomfortable! Jesus did not ASK the disciples to consider joining, nor did he regard their comfort and the maintenance of the established status quo to be restraints to his agenda. It was a directive: Follow me.

Jesus, THE RESOURCE, called the disciples into ministry that they might become like him, REOURCES to the world. The coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost was an IN PERSON experience to witness that transformation. This is the model we had been utilizing pre-COVID and that we need once again. . . in my opinion.

I invite our plans to do more IN PERSON meetings, even abolishing Zoom presbytery meetings except in emergency situations, in the interest of fellowship and cultivation of BEING the RESOURCES of the Presbytery, and thereby developing the means to funding our Strategic Priorities. Status quo approaches have failed for over a decade to cause a CHANGE and REPENTANCE. Let's meet IN PERSON in 2023 and get it done.

Grace to you and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Doug House, Resources Moderator

Description of Strategic Priorities for Palo Duro Presbytery

Mission: Sharing the good news of Jesus Christ by nurturing, supporting, and facilitating our communities of faith.

UPDATED: 01.18.2023

Strategic Priority:	We will do this so that:	We will do this by:	Specific initiatives may include:	Cost:
Nurture church leadership for today & tomorrow: **Scott Campbell** **SarahLee Morris** **Jon Scanlon**	•All PDP congregations can access trained, qualified pastors •Health, longevity, and effectiveness of PDP pastors and church professionals is enhanced •Congregational leaders are better equipped for their roles •The next generation of leaders is prepared to serve our congregations	•Providing targeted training and scholarship support •Expanding efforts to recruit Commissioned Pastors •Creating peer networks for mutual support and learning •Offering targeted training based on identified needs in PDP •Sharing denominational resources more effectively •Strengthening the summer camp experience for children/youth	•Share, promote, and encourage the training of future Commissioned Pastors in PDP, no financial implications. Plan on a CP specific annual gathering for spiritual enrichment •Plan, record, zoom or meet in peson for broad officer training for PDP churches, no financial implications •Ask the PDP to fund two significant annual scholarships for PDP seminarians	•$0 cost • $0 cost •Two-$6,000.00 each yr/three yrs, $108,000.00/$36,000.00 each yr
Support missions in our own back yard: **Bob Field** **Doug House** **Dee Rice**	•Local congregations are strengthened •Our communities are positively impacted with the love of Christ	•Providing local/regional mission opportunities in which congregations can collaborate •Organizing efforts for mutual assistance of PDP congregations •Creating resources that congregations can use to increase mission involvement	•Look for each church's backyard mission to promote, and share time and talent survey •911 response to emergencies within churches and within communities with "emergency deacons" •Support NOROC Mission Co-worker, donation can be $100/year, or 5K/year •Expand Kenyan Borehole Water Well Project with PCEA	•Donation can be $100/yr, or 5K/yr
Facilitate technology and communications: **Cliff Stewart** **Robbie Collins** **Gene Deason** **Chris Hunnewell** **David Kemp** **Bill Minter** **Kelley Cooper Cameron** **Kristen Harris**	•Our congregations can better reach all people, especially the next generations •Individuals in PDP have a greater awareness of and appreciation for PDP's work	•Providing training, support, and funding for congregations to improve their technology •Expanding the reach of PDP's communications	•Survey the churches, to see tech needs and in the use of communication technology •Provide grant money that will help a church get started with a communication technology project and enlist a roving tech consultant committee ongoing for daily needs. Ongoing technology classes •Develop a webpage with a list of best practices which would include healthy internet practices •Ongoing shared curriculum such as church officer training and confirmation training & electronic church membership online	

Presbytery Report: Nominations and Representation Ministry
Monday, January 23, 2023, Email Meeting

The Nominations and Representation Ministry asked and received agreement from these to serve on Ministries:

Reverend Becky Fox – class of 2024- Trustee

Elder Joyce Records-class of 2025- Common Life Ministry

The Nominations and Recommendation Ministry recommends that Palo Duro Presbytery allow the Ministry to fill any vacancies that are open between now and our next scheduled meeting (April Presbytery meeting).

Respectfully submitted,
Rev Kathy Monroe, Moderator

Palo Duro Presbytery

PO Box 16267 4820 W. 1 9 th Street Lubbock, Texas 79490 Toll Free (833-706-6387) Lubbock, Texas 79407 Telephone 806-797-2417 http://www.paloduropresbytery.org Fax 806-797-2419

STATED CLERK'S REPORT
To The 154th Palo Duro Presbytery
February 3, 2023

As Stated Clerk of the presbytery, I call the following items to your attention:

1) Action Required: Approval of Minutes. I request approval of the minutes of the 153rd Stated Presbytery Meeting, September 30-October 1, 2022, as recommended by the review committee of RE Dee Rice and RE Jeff Allen.

2) Information Items:

   a) **Insurance Coverage:** The following items are noted for the minutes, pursuant to Book of Order G-3.0112.
      i) The Presbytery has the following insurance coverage:
         (1) Worker's Compensation Policy #EWC0596739-P000400524, issued by Cincinnati Casualty Company, effective from January 1, 2023, thru January 4, 2024.
         (2) Casualty Insurance Policy #PKP008188306, issued by Insurance Board, effective January 1, 2023, thru January 1, 2024.
   b) **Permanent Judicial Commission:** There was no activity by the Permanent Judicial Commission in 2022. No remedial or disciplinary actions have been processed.

Book of Order D-5.0206b requires an annual report of the names of the current members and former members of the Permanent Judicial Commission. The former member list provides a resource to provide a quorum be constituted in certain circumstances.

Current Members:

Class of 2024		
RE Dorothy Hulsey	RE Leslie Atkins	RE Valerie Deason
Class of 2026		
Ruling Elder Sue Lucas	Reverend Chris Turner	Reverend Robert Field
Class of 2028		
RE Sue Jones	RE Kirk Stroman	RE Bryan Camp

Past Members:
Reverend Beverly Cook, Class of 2018
Ruling Elder Ben Davidson, Class of 2018
Reverend Becky Fox, Class of 2020

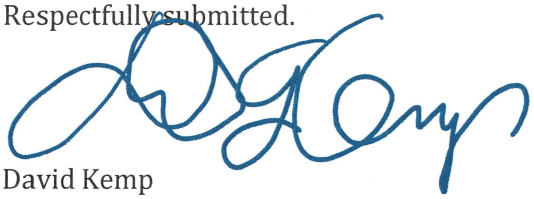
Ruling Elder John Leonard, Class of 2020
Reverend Scott Campbell, Class of 2020 (Not eligible while serving as Executive Presbyter)
Reverend Cliff Stewart, Class of 2020
Rev. Andy Blair, Class of 2022
Rev. Davis Price, Class of 2022
RE Julie Johnson, Class of 2022

c) **Minister Transactions:** The following ministerial changes were recorded in 2022:

Ordinations:	Kristen Grace Harris
Deceased:	Henry Norwell Chisholm
	Georgia Ann King
	John Morris Noah
Received:	Jonathan Tribin Scanlon (Grand Canyon Presbytery)
Dismissed:	Clover Bailey (Denver)
	Kathryn Collins (Cimarron)
	Marie Isabelle Mickey (New Hope)

d) **Statistics Reports:** Here is a last-minute reminder that annual reports are due to the presbytery office by February 16, 2023.

Respectfully submitted.



David Kemp
Stated Clerk, Palo Duro Presbytery

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

153rd Meeting of Palo Duro Presbytery
Minutes
September 30 – October 1, 2022
First Presbyterian Church
Sweetwater, Texas

Friday, September 30, 2022

1. OPENING PRAYER; WORSHIP MUSIC; DINNER FELLOWSHIP
    a. The meeting opened at 5:00 p.m. by Moderator Gene Deason. Pastor Kathy Monroe, First Presbyterian Sweetwater, offered the opening prayer.
    b. The Cursillo Band provided the opening worship music.
2. CALL TO ORDER; DECLARATION OF QUORUM
    a. At 6:00 p.m., Moderator of Palo Duro Presbytery, Ruling Elder Gene Deason, Union Presbyterian Brownwood, called the meeting to order and offered prayer.
    b. At 6:10 p.m., the moderator declared a quorum, consisting of at least three (3) Teaching Elders (TE) and three (3) Ruling Elders (RE).
3. ANNOUNCEMENTS
    a. The moderator introduced Pastor Joe Gambill who introduced the Palo Duro Presbytery Crisis Response Team. He encouraged others who were interested in the project to contact him.
    b. The moderator reminded the body to submit prayer requests for tomorrow's prayer.
4. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND NEW COMMISSIONERS

Rev. Cliff Stewart introduced Grace Sosa and Carlo Sosa, candidates under the care of presbytery.
Rev. Cliff Stewart introduced Anca Pacararu, commissioner from First Central Presbyterian Church, Abilene
Rev. Dana Mayfield introduced M'Leah Alexander, interning at Grace Presbyterian Church, Lubbock, and RE Juliet Owour, first-time commissioner.
Pastor Sara Core introduce first-time commissioner RE Brenda Kuss from First Snyder.
Rev. Doug House introduced first-time commissioner Linda House, Union Presbyterian Church, Brownwood.
RE Dee Rice introduced Rev. Dr. Jonathan Scanlon, First Presbyterian Church, Plainview.
Rev. Dr. Scott Campbell, Executive Presbyter, introduced Jerry Chastain & Janet Chastain, serving First Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana.
RE Fred White, First Central Presbyterian Church, introduced Professor Petru Solca, NOROC
RE Pat Osoinach introduced Sally Osoinach, first-time commissioner from New Hope Presbyterian Church, Wichita Falls.

EP Scott Campbell introduced Mary Lou Reyes, new office administrator for Palo Duro Presbytery.

5. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Moderator Gene Deason appointed the following committees:

a. Leave of Absence Committee: Pastor Sara Mackey, RE Mike Alexander

Pastor Sara Mackey delivered the report of the Leave of Absence Committee, recommending recognizing excused absences for the following persons:

Rev. Suzanne Castle	Pastor Nancy Ruff
Rev. Robert Fortney	Rev. Kyle Segars
Rev. Joan Gaines	Pastor Steven Sullwold

Action **approved.**

The Committee recommended extending grace to those not able to attend. Action **approved.**

B, Minutes Review Committee: RE Dee Rice, RE Jeff Allen

6. SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS
On motion by Rev. Doug House, with valid second, Valerie Young, Synod of the Sun Executive and Stated Clerk, was seated as a corresponding member.

7. COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES
Moderator Gene Deason yielded the floor to Vice Moderator Rev. Janell Blair.
She then called on RE Gene Deason, in his role as moderator of the Council of Ministries, to present the following recommendation:

Moved: Palo Duro Presbytery will enter into a partnership agreement with the NOROC Board of Directors to establish an evangelism/mission co-worker position and jointly hire an ordained minister of the Word and Sacrament at the presbytery's minimum terms of call beginning October 16, 2022, for a minimum of two years, and that the position be designated as a validated ministry (G-2.0503a).

The action was **approved.**

8. COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY. Report by Pastor Joe Gambill, FPC Seymour
   a. The committee moved that "Honorably Retired" status be granted to the Rev. Robert Field and the Rev. Dr. Janice Six. Action **approved.**
   b. Recommendation: The COM recommends the approval of employment contract with Pale Duro Presbytery and the NOROC Board of Directors for Kristen Harris at the following terms:
      a. Total Effective Salary of $58,288.00 (includes salary & housing)
      b. Pension/Medical 37% of sum at $21,544.66
      c. Car Allowance reimbursable of a minimum of 10,000 miles $0.62.5 per mile or $6,250.00
      d. Continuing Education of $1000.00 and two weeks
      e. Vacation time of 4 weeks.
      f. Sabbatical of three months after five years in role

g. Travel time and expenses agreed upon with NOROC BOD
h. Emergency trip as needed back to the US
i. Employment beginning Oct 16, 2022, for a minimum of two years.

Action **approved.**

c. Recommendation: The COM recommends approving Kristen Harris for ordination as minister of the Word and Sacrament pending the successful completion of her examination. Action **approved.**

9. EXAMINATION OF KRISTEN HARRIS. RE Nancy Hutchinson, moderator of Preparations ministry, called on Rev. Janice Six to conduct examination of Kristen Harris.

After a period of questioning and response from Kristen, it was moved, by Rev. Rich Schempp, with 2nd, by RE Pat Osoinach, that the examination be sustained and that the body move to consider approval of the ordination. Action **approved.**

Moved, and seconded, that the ordination of Kristen Harris be approved. Action **approved.**

Rev. Janell Blair, then returned the gavel to Moderator Gene Deason, who declared the meeting to be in recess at 7:05 p.m. until 8:00 am the next morning. The body then gathered for worship in the sanctuary.

10. WORSHIP

Ruling Elder Dr. Fred White, Pastor Kathy Monroe, Pastor Jerry Chastain, and Rev. Rich Schempp

- Special Comments and prayer with Moderator Ruling Elder Gene Deason with Mission Co-Worker Carol Schempp, Rev. Janice Six HR, Rev. Robert Field (HR).
- Music by Kirk Stohman and Pastor Jerry Chastain and Janet Chastain.
- Sermon was delivered by RE Dr. Fred White
- Pastor Kathy Monroe presided over the communion service.

After worship, the meeting was in recess until Saturday morning.

Saturday, October 1, 2022

11. The meeting reconvened at 8:30 a.m. by Moderator Gene Deason. RE Pat Osoinach provided the opening prayer.

Guest Petru Solcă, president of NOROC, Tulcea, Romania, offered words of appreciation to the presbytery for its support of NOROC.

12. INTERVIEW WITH RE CAROLYN WHITE, FCPC ABILENE AND NOROC. EP Scott Campbell conducted the interview.

13. ROUND TABLE BIBLE STUDY OF PROVERBS 29:18 AND PSALM 78.

Led by CCE SarahLee Morris, Grace Presbyterian, Lubbock, each table group developed concrete actions churches could adopt to support NOROC. These actions were submitted:

Table Group Concrete Action Step Ideas Re: NOROC

1. Become intentional in promoting NOROC by designated liturgy and other aids throughout the year, e.g., Epiphany*
2. Dedicate 25% of special offering proceeds to NOROC (Peacemaking and Pentecost Offerings): referred to Resources Ministry
3. Take NOROC back to our churches
4. Bring ideas from congregations back to presbytery meetings
5. Link on church website to NOROC
6. Pick up pennies! Encourage individuals to contribute what is needed.
7. Use the 5th Sunday as Mission Project Day
8. Use newsletters to spread the word of NOROC (*discussion of both congregational and NOROC's newsletters)
9. Find connections to staff and congregations: Petru explained the Romanian custom of "Name Days"
10. Therapy dogs for the NOROC orphanages/facilities

Following the Bible Study, the following motion was offered:

Motion, Rev. Dana Mayfield, 2nd, Rev. Dr. Jonathan Scanlon, that PDP dedicate 25% of offerings collected at PDP meetings to NOROC. This motion was withdrawn.

Motion, RE Ben Davidson, with a valid second, the proposal to dedicate a portion of PDP offerings was referred to Resources Ministry for study. Action **approved.**

14. COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY (Continued).
Pastor Joe Gambill, FPC Seymour, continued the report of the committee from last night.
    a. The COM recommended that the 2023 Minimum Compensation for Ministers in Palo Duro Presbytery COM increase to $60,000. Action **approved.**
    b. The COM recommended that sessions offer full-time Ministers of Word and Sacrament an increase to their total effective salary of $1800.00, per year for cost-of-living increase and for existing Commissioned Pastors (recommended to) give a $1,000.00 bonus for increased cost-of-living. Action **approved.**

15. NOMINATIONS AND REPRESENTATION MINISTRY. Pastor Kathy Monroe, FPC Sweetwater, moderator of the committee, gave the report.

    a. The ministry recommends the following slate of nominees for these Ministry Teams:

        i. Those agreeing to a second term, with the full endorsement of Nominations and Representations Ministry are:

        Trustee: RE Ben Davidson, Class of 2025
        Commissioner to Synod: RE Ben Davidson, Class of 2024

        Permanent Judicial Commission:
        1. RE Sue Jones, Union Brownwood, Class of 2028
        2. RE Kirk Stroman, First Sweetwater, Class of 2028
        3. RE Bryan Camp, Covenant PC, Lubbock, Class of 2028

        Committee on Ministry:
        1. Pastor Joseph Gambill, Class of2025
        2. RE Doug Tanner, Class of2025
        3. Rev. Don Stribling, Class of2025
        4. RE Carol McClellan, Class of2025

        Preparation Ministry:
        1. RE Nancy Hutchins, First Lubbock, Class of2025
        2. RE Nancy Diggs, First Central Abilene, Class of 2025

        Resources Ministry:
        1. Rev. Doug House, Union Brownwood, Class of2025

        ii. New Faces for Ministry Teams

        Common Life Ministry:
        1. CLP Steve Sullwold, Trinity Wichita Falls, Class of 2025
        2. Rev. Lindsey Reed, Interim Hospice Hendricks, Abilene, Class of 2025
        4. Sally Brantley, First, Canyon, Class of2023 (filling an unexpired term)

        Committee On Ministry:

l. RE Phyllis Baum, First Central Abilene, Class of 2025
2. Rev. Becky Fox, Covenant Lubbock, Class of 2025
3. RE Mona Statser, Trinity, Wichita Falls, Class of2025
4. Rev. Dr. Jon Scanlan, First Plainview- Class of2024 (unexpired term)

Preparation Ministry:
I. Rev. Dr. Cliff Stewart, First Central Abilene, Class of 2025

Nominations and Representation Ministry:
1. RE Valerie Sorelle, Grace, Class of 2025

The recommendations were **approved.**

b. Motion: The Nominations and Representation Ministry recommends that Palo Duro Presbytery allow the Ministry to fill any vacancies that come open between now (September Presbytery Meeting) and our next scheduled meeting in January of 2023.
Action **approved.**

16. COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR THE MINISTRY. RE Nancy Hutchins, moderator of the committee, continued the report begun during last night's session.
The committee recommended that Carlo Sosa-Ortiz be released to seek a call under the guidance of the Committee on Ministry. Action **approved.**

17. RESOURCES MINISTRY. Rev. Doug House, Union Presbyterian Brownwood, moderator of the committee, reported on behalf of the committee.

a. The committee recommended approval of the proposed Budget for 2023. Action **approved.** A copy of the approved Budget is attached to these minutes as an appendix.

b. Rev. House also presented a report on the Strategic Priorities of PDP as developed by the committee. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes as an appendix.

18. COMMON LIFE MINISTRY. RE Phyllis Baum, FCPC Abilene, reported on behalf of the committee.

19. STATED CLERK'S REPORT. Stated Clerk David Kemp gave the report. The full report is attached to these minutes as an appendix.
    a. Action Items:
        i. Approval of Minutes
            1. Approval of the minutes of the 152nd Presbytery Meeting, April 30, 2021, as recommended by the review committee of Rev. Dana Mayfield and RE Linda House. Action **approved.**
            2. Approval of the minutes of the Special Meeting, May 31, 2022 (Concerning the sale of church property of First Cisco), and the Special Meeting, June 10, 2022 (Concerning the sale of church property of First Cisco). After motion and second, the minutes were **approved.**
        ii. To consider and act upon approving an amendment to the Book of Order, described in

overture MC-08 ("On Clarifying the Intent of G-2.1001 Regarding Use of Commissioned Pastors.") as recommended by the 225th General Assembly. Motion to approve, EP Scott Campbell, 2nd RE Pat Osoinach. **Approved.**

iii. A written request was received from Rev. Davis Price, moderator of the session of First Littlefield, to waive the limitation of terms for elders serving on the session pursuant to Book of Order G-2.0204. On motion and second, the request was **approved.**

20. NOROC FILM AND CALL TO ACTION – EP Scott Campbell and Carolyn White Addressed the body regarding the funding of NOROC. Every church in Palo Duro is challenged to support the mission of NOROC and Kristen Harris, mission co-worker.

21. CLOSING PRAYER, BENEDICTION AND ADJOURNMENT. Moderator Gene Deason offered thanks to FPC Sweetwater for hosting this meeting. A summary of the actions of the GA was given, and Moderator Gene Deason recognized and extended thanks to GA commissioners Rev. Becky Fox, RE Bill Core and YAAD Zuzu Shelton.

The next stated meeting of the presbytery will be by Zoom in January. An invitation is still being sought for the in-person stated meeting to be held in April 2023.

Stated Clerk David Kemp offered the closing prayer.

The benediction was given by Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest Representative RE Sue Jones, Union Presbyterian Brownwood.

All business of the body having been accomplished, it was moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn. Motion **carried** and the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David G. Kemp
Stated Clerk, Palo Duro Presbytery

[1] No idea as to accuracy, but here is an interesting (personal account) piece on the observance of Epiphany in Romania: https://exploringromania.com/epiphany-day.html
**From Wikipedia: Name Days in Romania
Name days (onomastica) in Romania are associated with the Orthodox Christian saint's celebrations. The celebrations are made very much in the same way as in Greece (see above). Name days are as important as birthdays, and those who have the name of that saint get celebrated on that day. Some of the more important Name days are January 1: Sf. Vasile (St. Basil), January 7: Sf. Ioan (St. John), April 23: Sf. Gheorghe (St. George), May 21: Sf. Constantin şi Elena (St. Constantine and Helen), June 29: Sf. Petru şi Pavel (St. Peter and Paul), July 20: Sf. Ilie (St. Elias), August 15 and September 8: Sf. Maria (St. Mary), September 9: Sf. Ana (St. Ann), October 14: Sf. Parascheva (St. Paraskeva), October 26: Sf. Dumitru (St. Demetrios), November 8: Sf. Mihail şi Gavril (St. Michael and Gabriel), November 25: Sf. Ecaterina (St. Catherine), November 30: Sf. Andrei (St. Andrew), December 6: Sf. Nicolae (St. Nicholas), December 27: Sf. Stefan (St. Stephen).[13]
A special mention for persons (especially women) who have no saint name or with flower name, who celebrate their name day on Palm Sunday ("Floriile" in Romanian, which translates as the Flowers Day). This Name Day is unfixed and gets celebrated each year on the last Sunday before Orthodox Easter.

Church Name/City _____ **Date** _____

MISSIONAL OPERATING

2023 PC (USA) and Palo Duro
MISSION CONTRIBUTIONS – HOW WE FUND

A. Per Capita Amount – 100% to PC(USA), Louisville, KY $_____

- **$9.85** / Member based on Clerk's Report
- Palo Duro collects and forwards 100% to the PC(USA)
- Presbytery pays for those churches who do not pay out of our deficit spending

B. Palo Duro Presbytery General Mission Amount $_____

For every dollar collected, PDP divides your amount by this ratio:

• **Presbytery**	**85% - source of PDP office and mission**
• **Synod of the Sun**	**10% - our region of 11 presbyteries and mission**
• **General Assembly**	**5% - goes to General Assembly**

A+B Total Remittance **100%** $ _____

C. Other: Note: These offerings are sent to these missions directly. PDP does not participate with Presbytery funds.

OTHER MISSION

1. A. NOROC (*Romania Mission + Ukrainian Refugees Mission + Co-Worker*)
   _____ $ _____
2. Celebration Scholarship _____ $ _____
   (*$4,000.00 guarantees another undergraduate scholarship*)
3. Theological Education _____ $ _____
   (*Support of Seminaries)*
4. Buffalo Gap _____ $ _____
5. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance _____ $ _____
6. Other _____ $ _____
   (Palo Duro Additional, Joy, Peace, OGHS, any other ministry, enter name and amount)
   We collect these funds and distribute on your behalf.

A+B+C Total Remittance $ _____

Please remit to: Palo Duro Presbytery, Your Presbytery
P.O. Box 16267 Lubbock, TX 79490