



Palo Duro Presbytery

October 14-15, 2011

Palo Duro Presbytery met on October 14-15, 2011, for its 120th Stated Meeting at First Presbyterian Church, Plainview. The following is a summary of the meeting.

The Rev. Ruth Clendenin (Littlefield) was installed as Stated Clerk of the presbytery.

The presbytery engaged in Bible study using Acts 11:11-18 and Acts 15:1-35 with a theme of Covenant Fellowship.

General Assembly commissioners were elected for the 2012 assembly in Pittsburgh, PA. Teaching Elder commissioners are Rev. Randy Branson (Graham) and Rev. Mary D'Alessio (Brownwood). Ruling elder commissioners are Ron Bender (Wichita Falls, First) and Sally Brantley (Canyon).

The presbytery unanimously endorsed Rev. Randy Branson (Graham) to stand for Moderator of the General Assembly.

Ruling Elder SarahLee Morris was endorsed as Moderator in nomination for the Synod of the Sun.

The Rev. Kenny Rigoulot (Pampa) was elected as Moderator of the Presbytery starting in February, 2012.

Dr. James Matthews, President of the Pan American School, reported on the continuing work and ministry of that institution.

New manuals of operation for the presbytery, the COM, the CPM, and Personnel were presented. The Standing rules and the CPM manual will come back to the next meeting for approval.

Burkhard Paetzold, a PCUSA mission co-worker, and coordinator for Eastern Europe reported on his work with the Roma people throughout Europe. Burkhard also preached the sermon on Friday evening during worship.

The work and ministry of the Rev. Mary Ferris in Romania

was celebrated. Mary is leaving the mission field after 10 years in Tulcea, Romania.

A document on standards of ethical conduct was discussed and approved by the presbytery. This will be used in the interview process with candidates and teaching elders coming into the presbytery.

A service of honorable retirement was held for the Rev. James Bankhead, whose retirement will be effective December 31, 2011. Jim was the pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Amarillo.

The Rev. David Smallegan, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Dalhart was received into the PCUSA. David has been a member of the Reformed Church of America. This will be effective January 1, 2012.

Ruling Elders Susan and Pat Osoinach were recognized for their work with the Cooperative Committee on Examinations over the past several years. This

committee writes and administers the ordination exams for the PCUSA.

The Rev. Anna Wilson, a minister of the Disciples of Christ Church has been called to serve the Jacksboro Parish starting December 1, 2011.

Candidate Meredith Kemp-Pappan will be ordained on Sunday, October 30 at 4:00 p.m at St. Luke Presbyterian Church, Amarillo.

The next presbytery meeting will be February 23-25, 2012 at Camp Chaparral in Iowa Park, Texas. Special guest for the retreat meeting will be Elder Barbara Wheeler, former President of Auburn Seminary in New York City. Commissioners are asked to arrive on Thursday evening for a full 1 ½ days of retreat. Cost will be \$100.00/person for two nights lodging and all meals. Trinity and Christ United Churches of Wichita Falls will be hosting the meeting.

