



*The Presbytery of Tres Rios*  
*116<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting – March 6, 2020*  
*First Presbyterian Church – Odessa, Texas*

The 116<sup>th</sup> stated meeting of The Presbytery of Tres Rios, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) was called to order with prayer by Moderator John Nelsen on Friday, March 6, 2020 at First Presbyterian Church, Odessa, Texas. Meeting was called to order with worship which included the installation service of presbytery staff The Revs Hailey Malcolm (Pastoral Presbyter), Matt Miles (Vision and Outreach Presbyter) and Ruling Elder Kay Long (Administrative Presbyter/Stated Clerk). Churches were encouraged to bring school supplies for Casa Hogar.

#### **Vision and Outreach Team**

- The team has established a timeline for responsibilities of the team with plans to meet with every congregation within a three-year time frame to have conversations with churches regarding vision and outreach. The team has scheduled 3 visits so far for 2020.
- Vision and Outreach Presbyter Matt Miles is in the process of visiting all of the mission projects of Tres Rios Presbytery.
- The team is working with Pasos de Fe regarding the refugee crisis.
- Presbytery “Big Event” will be held on Friday, October 9, 2020 at Project Vida. Team has begun planning the event.

#### **Pastoral Team**

- Tim Davenport-Herbst was elected moderator.
- TRYC Youth Retreat was held on February 14-16, 2020 at Prude Ranch with a total of 65 participants. Theme for the retreat was “Wrestling with Faith”. Grace Presbytery “Crossroads College Ministry” led the retreat which included 8 members of the presbytery youth task force. Group prepared 20 Clean-up Buckets, 100 School Bags and 150 Hygiene Kits for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.
- Synod Youth Workshop will be held July 13-18, 2020.
- Scholarship applications and information for summer youth camps are included in the packet and will be sent to all churches.
- Received supply pastor reports from Dennis Haralson and Jim Blischke.
- Received CRE reports from Bea Torres and Ann Hurt.
- “Sermon Preparation” course for CRE/Supply Preachers will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2020 in the presbytery office.
- Memorial service for Rev Rodney Peacock was held January 2, 2020.

#### **Administrative Team**

- Approved the contract extension between Westminster Presbyterian Church and the Rev Ed Williamson.
- Approved the Ministry Information form of Westminster, Odessa.
- Dismissed Rev Brenda Church to Grace Presbytery.

- Appointed Mary Beth Anton to serve on the Leadership and Recruitment Team.
- Approved Ruling Elders authorized to administer the Lord’s Supper in 2020: Bob Alexander, Jim Blischke, Bernie Coffee, Gary Elmquist, Randy Farmer, Dennis Haralson, Ann Hurt, T.C. Kincaid, Tom Koger, Bill Rose, Peggy Tharp, Bea Torres.
- Approved amendment to Article IX. (Meetings and Quorum) of the Bylaws which enables presbytery to meet electronically for Called Meetings.
- Approved amendment to the Manual of Operations (Section 8) which adds Personnel Team as a new team.
- Concurred with the overture to the 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly from Mission Presbytery regarding the Treatment of Refugees.
- Concurred with the overture to the 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly from the Presbytery of Chicago to encourage churches to counter polarization in our society.
- Concurred with the overture to the 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly from Palo Duro Presbytery to respond to the violence and civil unrest in Cameroon.
- Authorized the Administration Team/Trustees to retain the law firm of ScottHulse PC, El Paso, TX to: 1) determine if a separate 501(c)3 tax-exempt nonprofit organization is advisable in conducting the presbytery’s ministry and financial support of domestic and foreign mission programs along the Texas/Mexico border or in other foreign countries, and if so 2) assist in filing the Certificate of Formation for such an organization with the State of Texas; 3) assist in the application to the Internal Revenue Service for the organization’s tax-exempt status; and 4) advise, as needed, in developing covenant agreements with ministry partners or any other associated legal matters.”
- Approved changes in terms of call for pastors.
- Approved the 2020 Presbytery Budget.

#### **Leadership Recruitment & Representation Sub Team**

Elected the following to serve on the Permanent Judicial Commission:  
Class of 2022 – Donna Crafton  
Class of 2024 – Judia Foreman, Mary Beth Anton and Gary Dill

#### **Other Business**

- John Nelsen led the commissioning service for presbytery commissioners to the 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. Tracy Spencer-Brown (Minister Commissioner), Bill Rose (Elder Commissioner) and Tai Spain (Young Adult Advisory Delegate).
  - Heard the report of the Stated Clerk, Pastoral Presbyter and Vision and Outreach Presbyter.
  - Heard report from the Presbyterian Children’s Home.
  - Heard report from Valerie Young (Synod of the Sun)

The 117<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Tres Rios will be held on Thursday, October 9, 2020 at Divine Savior Presbyterian Church, El Paso followed by the “Big Event” held on Friday, October 10, 2020 at Project Vida.