



The Presbytery of Tres Rios
84th Stated Meeting - February 20, 2009
Grace Presbyterian Church

The 84th Stated Meeting of Tres Rios Presbytery was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Moderator Pat Hunter. The presbytery was recessed for worship, communion and the reading of the necrology. Actions taken during the meeting were:

Nominating Committee

- Elected Dick McFarlin to serve on the Committee on Training and Nurture (Class of 2009) and Dan Holbrook to serve on the Church Development Committee (Class of 2009).

Committee on Ministry

- Examined and received Rev. Dick McFarlin (Honorably Retired) from Cimmaron Presbytery.
- Examined and received for ordination Amy Robinson to serve as coordinator of Pasos de Fe.
- Commissioned Linda Martinez to serve as Commissioned Lay Pastor for Divine Savior Church, El Paso.
- Named Rev. Flynn Long as Pastor Emeritus of First Presbyterian Church, Big Spring.

Presbytery Council

- Approved the 2009 presbytery budget.

Worship and Meetings Sub-Committee

- Approved the following meeting sites for 2009 Presbytery Meetings: June 19, 2009 (First, Sanderson), October 16-17, 2009 (Trinity, El Paso)

Financial Services Sub-Committee

- Received the Treasurer's Report.
- The first call of the Builders Fellowship was issued to St Andrews Mission in Midland for general maintenance and repairs including new carpet for each of the three children's classrooms and a new front door to the facility.

- The Deliverance Temple property sale was approved at the called meeting of presbytery held on December 19, 2008. Sale was completed in January, 2009 in the amount of \$72,131.73.
- The financial review of the presbytery accounts was completed and reviewed by the committee.

Church Development Committee

- Approved the assistance of \$28,800 to St. Mark Presbyterian Church to help St. Mark in their transformation process.

Committee on Mission

- Costa Rica Mission Trip will be held May 23-30, 2009.
- Colombia Mission Trip will be held June 1-8, 2009.
- Youth Mission Trip to Port Arthur, Texas will be held June 19-27, 2009.
- Mission Worker Offering collected in fall 2008 totaled \$3436.
- The Commitment to Peacemaking Certificate was presented to Andrews Presbyterian Church.

Committee on Training and Nurture

- The committee will be offering a chartered bus for travel to Synod Youth Workshop to be held July 13-17, 2009. Cost will be \$110 per person.
- The committee will be working on updating the manual for use in church officer training.
- A task force was appointed to begin planning for a presbytery wide education event to be held in February, 2010.
- Approved proposal for an alternative to the Pastor and Spouse Retreat for 2009.

Other Items of Business

- Joyce Bronough, Moderator presented a report for the Tres Rios Presbyterian Women.
- Elected Jimmy Stevens to serve a three year term as Presbytery Treasurer.
- Voted on Amendments to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and Ecumenical Statements.

News Release for Tres Rios Presbytery

On Friday, February 20, 2009, Tres Rios Presbytery voted on amendments to the Book of Order passed by the Presbyterian General Assembly in June, 2008. Of the eleven amendments, the one that held the most interest for the presbytery was proposed wording for ordination requirements of deacons, elders, and ministers of the word and sacrament. The proposed wording would no longer single out one standard to be included in the Book of Order. It requires those charged with selecting officers and ministers of the word and sacraments to evaluate the entire person.

In order for the proposed wording to be adopted into the Book of Order, a majority of the 173 presbyteries across the country must vote in favor of it. If a majority does not vote in favor of the change, the current wording will stand as it is. The final outcome will not be known until May or June. Tres Rios Presbytery voted in favor of the proposed amendment. Selection of officers is made by each local congregation. Ministers of the word and sacrament are called by a local congregation, then examined and installed by the presbytery.

Votes totals for the amendments follow:

Amendment	In Favor	Opposed
Vows of Membership (G-5.0200)	13	58
Ordained Officers (G-6.0106b, G-14.1240, G-14.0450)	37	34
Replacing Sympathy with Compassion (G-6.0202b, G-6.0401)	28	43
General Assembly Council Name Change	48	22
Nongeographic Presbyteries (G-11-0102, G-12.0102k)	30	42
Presbytery Membership of Certified Christian Educators (G-11.0407, G-14.0730)	17	55
Synod Membership on Permanent Committees (G-13.0107, G-13.0108, G-13.0202a)	12	59
Five Ordination Examinations (G-14-0431)	15	59
Certified Christian Educators (G-14.0730)	14	58
Alternative Forms of Resolution (D-2.0103, D-10.0202h)	62	9
Ecumenical Statement with the Roman Catholic Church	70	3
Ecumenical Statement with the Episcopal Church	70	3
Ecumenical Statement with the Korean Presbyterian Church in America	71	1
Ecumenical Statement with the Moravian Church	69	2