

**WYOMING PRESBYTERY SYNOPSIS**  
**Stated Meeting of Presbytery**  
**February 12-13, 2016**  
**United Presbyterian Church, Riverton, WY**

The meeting was called to order by moderator, CRE Joseph Norris at 8:30 a.m. on February 12, 2016 at United Presbyterian Church, Riverton, Wyoming.

**Friday February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Morning worship was led by Rev. Steven Niccolls. "Rejoice in the Lord ALWAYS, and again I say Rejoice".

Jordan Yeager, Deacon at Riverton gave a brief talk of his work serving the Lord in the local church.

Ed Brenegar, of Jackson, led the day's workshop on God's constancy in the midst of change. The topics included:

- 1) We are all in Transition
- 2) Let's Give Thanks (5 actions of Gratitude)
  - a) Say Thanks
  - b) Give Back
  - c) Make Welcome
  - d) Honor Others
  - e) Create Goodness
- 3) What is the Impact upon your church and community from the people, programs and events for which you are grateful?
- 4) Opportunities for God to bless his church

The clerk reviewed the status of the various overtures being proposed to this year's General Assembly and led a discussion of the merits of several of the items including the overture recommended for concurrence by council.

Friday Evening worship and Holy Communion were led by CRE and Moderator Joe Norris and the Rev. Thea McKee.

**Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**

Presbytery reconvened at 8:30 a.m. at United Presbyterian Church, Riverton WY with morning worship led by the Rev. Larry Turpin.

Announcements included:

- Introduction of the Camp Story Commission
- Review of the changes in place, intent and format for the May Presbytery Meeting
- \$613.00 in the offering from the worship service, Feb 12, 2016 donated to CATS a local Riverton children's museum.
- Mid hi Retreat plans for late February
- Camp Skyline service of remembrance scheduled for May 30 at the old camp property
- Camp Story is looking for a host of a VBS test run of new program model
- Passing of Georgia Matti for the Gillette Church, longtime clerk of session

A Special Prayer was lifted up for Shayla Graham and the New Worshiping Community ministry.

Presbytery was treated to a viewing of a video from 1001 New Worshiping Communities featuring the Ministry of The Table and participated in Prayer for that ministry.

Presbyters then broke into small groups to discuss the consent agenda and what items to pull for further discussion focusing notably on the proposed Overture OVT-032 to the General Assembly.

That Presbytery took the following actions:

1. Approved the minutes of the September 18-19, 2015 presbytery meeting.
2. Inscribed into the minutes the minutes of the council meeting of September 17&18, and November 10-12, 2015.
3. Inscribed into the minutes the latest financial statement.
4. Voted to concur with the Overture OVT-32 “On an Alternative to Divestment from the Fossil Fuel Industry” as recommended by Council.
5. Inscribe into the minutes reported actions taken on behalf of presbytery by the Committee on Ministry. Com also reported on:
  - a. June 5-8 CRE Retreat Camp Story
  - b. Terms of Call forms sent out to Pastors and Clerks – please return
6. Approved the release of Becky Anderson to another Presbytery.
7. Approved the recommendations of the Nominating Committee.
8. Voted to approve the recommendation of Arron Mckee as a candidate as CRE.
9. Vickie Murdock addressed P and was examined on her sense of call as a Teaching Elder. Presbytery voted to approve the preparation for ordination of Vickie Murdock and confirmed that she is ready to receive a call.
10. Celebrated the Honorable Retirement of Samuel “Skip” Murdock.
11. George Barns reported on behalf of the Synod of the Rockies making note of the slow progress on mandate to merge/downsize which will be a topic at GA222.
12. Presbyterian Women reported on the upcoming activities including the retreat at Mountain View, and the Synod Gathering at LCCC in Cheyenne.
13. Report from Council made by Eric on the work being done on the Child Protection policy. During discussion the issue of the legality of concealed weapons in places of worship was addressed.
14. The Stated Clerk reported on the thanks he feels with the great patience by all as he learns on the job. The clerk also reported on the results of the sale of Skyline camp.
15. The General Presbyter Steve reflected on:
  - a. His goals for 2016 as approved by the personnel committee, encouraged all, not just Pastors, to become engaged with spiritual practices and make use of spiritual directors.
  - b. Sabbath at the Table event in late February 26-27
  - c. The Presbyterian Women’s conference opportunity in Lebanon – July 2016 on refugees. Cost is expected \$2,700 to \$2,900 inclusive.
16. Inscribed into the minutes the report of the Administrative Commissions to ordain Shayla Graham as Minister of the Word and Sacrament and Install her as Organizing Pastor for New Worshiping Communities, November 8, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned with Prayer at 11:42am