

On the Wind

A publication of the
Presbytery of Southern Kansas
April 2022

www.pbysk.org



Dear friends, presbyters, pastors, and all!

The time of transition comes with struggle, pain, loss, disagreements, and also growth, joy, discovery and possibility. In the next month leading up to our May 7th Presbytery meeting (at UPC, Sterling and Zoom online) many are busy preparing information and data for inclusion in that meeting. Here is a brief and non-exhaustive list of those items plus other administrative adjustments:

1. Hiring of 1/2 time Administrative Assistant (start date April 11)
2. Completion of FAQ on the potential sale of Presbytery office and move to remote working.
3. Finalizing MOO and sending to editor for refinement and FINALLY first read in August.
4. New phones and internet service to save money and increase workability in office and on the road.
5. Continue to visit churches across the Presbytery including (St. Mark's Haysville, Great Bend, Mayfield, WRCC and First, Wichita. Upcoming visits to Wellington and Korean Church (Wichita).
6. Admin Commission is being established to journey with WRCC and their becoming a PCUSA congregation.
7. Homegoing service for Don Owens on April 4, 2022.
8. Increasing efforts to align our daily activities with the main mission of the Presbytery which is to support, encourage, advise and contribute to the ongoing vitality of our 49 congregations....with God's help.
9. Continued refinement of job description and duties for a Mission Ministry Coordinator.

I pray that Covid and its new variant will be weak and our responses to the above challenges and efforts will be resilient and enthusiastic. There is much for which to be grateful.

Peace, Grace and Mercy,
Rev. Gail Doering, Transitional Executive Leader

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Marvel's Latest Superheroes? Or good helpers on cleaning day? Thanks to Elizabeth Norris for this amazing photo from FPC Cleaning Day.

Exciting news from the First Presbyterian Church of Syracuse!!

On March 27th, Rev. Doris Evens of the Garden City Presbyterian Church, was at the Presbyterian Church in Syracuse to conduct the Ordination of Dalin Melcher & Installation of Toni Miller as ruling elders for the Class of 2024 on Session.



She also conducted the Baptisms for Rosemary Eddy and Juxton Elliot, 2 new babies in our congregation, Bronwyn & Brooklyn Lewis, and ClaraDavis, 3 children from the congregation and Johnny Elliot, 1 adult.

It was a very moving and wonderful service!!

Patrice Cummings to Serve on Moving Forward/Vision 2020 Committee at GA 225



I am honored to serve as Moderator for the Moving Forward/Vision 2020 committee at the 225th General Assembly.

When the invitation came to apply for a committee leadership assignment, I knew right away that I wanted to respond. I have many years of experience facilitating discussions and learning sessions involving participants from very diverse demographic groups. From this experience and my own training, I developed a passion for making sure every voice is heard and every person is recognized as having value to add to the group.

As moderators, we are given the opportunity to model and manage this behavior so that business is conducted in an equitable and respectful manner. As I prayed for wisdom during this process, I felt God reassure me that He called me to serve and use the gifts and talents He blessed me with. I'm even more blessed to serve on a committee that will discuss issues that are deeply important to me. I'm excited and grateful for this opportunity to serve.

In Memoriam:

Donald Owens, H.R., former Executive Presbyter of Southern Kansas, passed away on Thursday, March 24, 2022. Services were held on April 4th at Westwood Presbyterian Church

Rev. Owens' obituary and memorial contributions information can be found here:

<https://www.cochranmortuary.com/obituary/donald-owens>



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