

MISSION PRESBYTERY STATED MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 20-21, 2025
ST MARK, BOERNE

Friday, June 20, 1015

Moderator Dan Milford opened the Stated Meeting of Mission Presbytery to order at 4:00 p.m. by reading our mission statement: *As Mission Presbytery, we connect diverse leaders and congregations by providing opportunities for worship, learning, and service so that we can flourish through God's grace.*

A quorum was present. A Mission Presbytery quorum consists of 12 minister members and 12 ruling elders from 12 different churches.

Dan began the meeting with prayer and a land acknowledgement.

"We acknowledge that gathering in Boerne, TX, in Kendall County, we are on the ancestral lands and waters of the Lipan Apache and Comanches, who were caretakers here. We acknowledge their displacement, genocide, and forced assimilation. We honor their enduring connection to this land and strive to be mindful of the ongoing injustices faced by Indigenous communities. By acknowledging this history and present-day realities, we commit to fostering a more just and equitable environment for all."

Approve the docket

The Commission on Ministry brought last-minute business to the presbytery. COM will present Candidate Allen Roberts for examination for ordination to Minister of Word and Sacrament in its report on Saturday. With this change, **a motion and a second were made to approve the updated docket. There was no discussion. The motion was approved.**

First-time presbytery commissioners were called upon to introduce themselves and the churches they represent.

Introduction of Corresponding Members

❖ Rev. Mitch Miller, Synod of the Sun Leader and Stated Clerk

A motion and a second were made to give corresponding members voice, but no vote, for this presbytery meeting. The motion was approved.

The Rev. Ann Marie Quigley-Swanson welcomed Mission Presbytery to St. Mark, Boerne.

Mission Presbytery joined together in a liturgy to welcome the Rev. Bobby Musengwa as our new Transitional General Presbyter.

Human Resources Report, Nancy Reeves

Nancy thanked the Mission Presbytery staff for their work while the Transitional General Presbyter Nominating Committee searched for a candidate.

Transitional General Presbyter's Report, Bobby Musengwa

Dear Friends, Over these past three weeks, as your new Transitional General Presbytery, I've had the privilege of meeting with some of you.

Some of you stopped by to visit me in my new fancy Presbytery office, others I have met you in your churches, some of you we met over a meal, and yes, I have even met some of you at the Round Rock Express baseball game. Sorry, I did not bring the good luck to lift the team's fortunes. Maybe next time! When Véronique and I sat down on the seats of the Dell Diamond stadium, I looked to my right and knew instantly that the white-haired, gentle lady was going to be my friend. I asked her, "What is your name?" and she answered, "Laurel." Laurel and I spent the rest of the game talking up a storm. We were like old friends as I listened to her incredible stories about her life, her congregation, and her joys and concerns. It was a lot of fun! In this fast-moving technological world, sometimes it is rewarding to just put our devices down, look into one another's eyes, and have a heart-to-heart human chat. As I travel around the Presbytery and listen to your stories, learning your names, traditions, cultures, and subcultures, I encourage you to do the same for one another. Today, my heart is especially full as we celebrate multiple joys in our Presbytery family.

Commissioning our young people to go to Triennium is a great privilege. We bless them and send them out to go and meet the Lord in the eyes of other young people in worship and fellowship. We pray that their lives will be transformed by the Spirit of the Lord, so they can grow up to change the world for the better. Amen!

With that Spirit in mind, let us pray for Henry and all the staff at **John Knox Ranch**.

Summer camps are very exciting, but also a lot of work for the adults in charge.

We pray that the Spirit of the Lord will bless our young people to grow in wisdom so they can navigate this complex world with a sense of God's love, justice, and peace.

Amen!

Another celebration is that tomorrow, **Emmanuel Presbyterian Church** in San Antonio's south side will be celebrating 80 years of faithful ministry.

¡Felicidades y bendiciones!

Since 1945, Emmanuel has been a beacon of hope, a testament to God's faithfulness, and a vivid example of how the Presbyterian Church can embrace and celebrate cultural and linguistic diversity. For eight decades, this predominantly Mexican American congregation has proclaimed the gospel in both Spanish and English, proving that God's love transcends all boundaries. Their story reminds us that when we ask, "What is your name?" the answer can be beautifully complex – we can be both Mexican and American, Spanish-speaking and English-speaking, traditionally Presbyterian and vibrantly Latino. And, guess where I heard about Emmanuel's forthcoming celebration?

At the baseball game, of course! Rev. Frank Vasquez was there at the game. He reached out and invited me to attend this joyful feast. I remembered Frank because our mutual friend, Libby Janes, had already introduced us to each other in March. She had told me, you need to become friends with Frank. Hey Frank, we are friends now! How about that? So, if you want to enjoy worship, fellowship, food from the food truck, and a great deal of Mariachi band, come join us as we worship and praise the Lord for God's faithfulness to this congregation and to Mission Presbytery!

Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report. Doug Dalglish

- ❖ **Doug moved that Mission Presbytery approve the following to be enrolled as Inquirers:**

- **Anabell Rosales; Covenant, San Antonio**
- **Nico Carrillo; San Pedro, San Antonio**
- **Morgan Reeves; Shepherd of the Hills, Austin**
- **Tara Litton; Faith, Austin**
- **Awrish Javed; Hope, Austin**

No second was required since it came from the committee. There was no discussion. The motion was approved.

- ❖ **Doug moved that Mission Presbytery approve the following to be enrolled as Certified Ruling Elder Candidates:**

- **Jim Booth; First, Rockport**
- **Danita Nelson; New Covenant Fellowship, Austin**

No second was required since it came from the committee. There was no discussion. The motion was approved.

- ❖ **Doug moved that Mission Presbytery approve Inquirer Colton Hedrick, Hope, Austin, to be enrolled as a Candidate. No second was required since it came from the committee.**

Colton made a statement of faith.

The presbytery was welcome to ask Colton questions about his Christian faith, the forms of Christian service he undertook, and the motives for seeking the ministry. Questions are limited to these areas. After this, **the motion was approved.**

Moderator Milford asked Colton the following questions:

Do you believe yourself to be called by God to the ministry of Teaching Elder?

Do you promise, in reliance upon the grace of God, to maintain a Christian character and conduct, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for this ministry?

Do you accept the proper supervision of the presbytery in matters that concern your preparation for this ministry?

Do you desire now to be received by this presbytery as a candidate for the ministry of teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church (USA)?

Those who were present to support Colton surrounded him as Josh Robinson prayed for him.

- ❖ **Doug moved that Mission Presbytery approve Inquirer Boram Choi, University of Austin, to be enrolled as a Candidate. No second was required since it came from the committee.**

Boram made a statement of faith.

The presbytery was welcome to ask Boram questions about her Christian faith, the forms of Christian service she undertook, and the motives for seeking the ministry. Questions are limited to these areas. After this, **the motion was approved.**

Moderator Milford asked Boram the following questions:

Do you believe yourself to be called by God to the ministry of Teaching Elder?

Do you promise, in reliance upon the grace of God, to maintain a Christian character and conduct, and to be diligent and faithful in making full preparation for this ministry?

Do you accept the proper supervision of the presbytery in matters that concern your preparation for this ministry?

Do you desire now to be received by this presbytery as a candidate for the ministry of teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church (USA)?

Those who were present to support Boram surrounded her as Emily Owen prayed for her.

Connect Committee led conversations by region; Caitlin Supcoff and Emily Owen

This is a distillation of “what we’d like to see”:

- Hill Country
HC church list with contact information; regional newsletter
- Victoria
“We need ministers.” It’s challenging to attract ministers to Victoria.
- Austin 1
Divide regions into smaller groups; do mission projects together; interested in the issue of affordable housing
- Austin 2
They’d really like I-35 construction to be finished. More and better relationships in the region; an ecumenical network of affirming churches; connecting artists and musicians
- Rio Grande Valley
More help with youth activities, bilingual liturgies, and interfaith activities like Rise Against Hunger
- Corpus Christi
This region stays connected with regular gatherings. More region members to attend presbytery meetings; more spiritual and energetic leaders; financial help; more youth
- San Antonio 1
Studies in Greek, Hebrew, and the Reformation; reinvigorate Habitat for Humanity service work; youth collaborations; unify choirs
- San Antonio 2
Quarterly youth events, intergenerational mission projects; spend a

day at John Knox Ranch

Learn Committee Report, Tom Tickner

Tom announced a preaching workshop called "Preaching from the Heart in Conflicted Times," presented by Rev. Dr. Carolyn Helsel. It will be held at APTS on Friday, August 29, 2025. The cost will be \$25. Learn will cover most of the expenses, including on-campus housing and meals. For those interested, the Faithful Preaching Project will take place on Saturday, August 30, 2025. A flyer with registration information is available in the packet for today's meeting.

Texas Presbyterian Foundation, Jake Wilson

TPF is celebrating its 100th anniversary. Jake showed a brief video about TPF and presented Mission Presbytery with a \$500 gift. TGP Bobby Musengwa accepted the gift on behalf of the presbytery.

Mission Presbytery recessed for the night and will resume at 9:00 a.m. Saturday morning, June 21, 2025.

Saturday, June 21, 2025

Mission Presbytery resumed its stated meeting with worship.

Transitional General Presbyter Bobby Musengwa preached.

The offering was designated for Mission Presbytery youth service projects.

The youth and adults attending Presbyterian Youth Triennium were commissioned.

Ann Marie Quigley-Swanson and Bobby Musengwa officiated the Table.

Youth Connection Task Force Report, Caitlin Supcoff

The youth will focus on Triennium training for the rest of the morning. They took part in worship this morning. 39 youth will attend, which includes six from the Presbyterian Pan American School, Kingsville. Four adults will accompany them. Main Event will take place from September 26-29, 2025, at John Knox Ranch. Mid-Winters will be in January at Mo-Ranch. Stay tuned for details.

Synod of the Sun Leader and Stated Clerk, Mitch Miller

Stated Clerk's Report, Laurie Palmer

Laurie moved that Mission Presbytery approve the excused absences for this meeting. The motion was approved.

For information from the Stated Clerk's report:

1. Since the March 2025 stated presbytery meeting, an accusation was made against a minister member of Mission Presbytery. An Investigating Committee (IC) was convened. The IC determined that no action would be taken. The IC was dismissed with gratitude for its work.
2. I have received several sets of 2024 session minutes. Thank you to those who sent them. There's still time to send yours if you haven't. Please let me know if I can

assist you. 2024 session minutes will be reviewed before the October presbytery meeting. Clerks of Session will receive letters indicating that their reviews have been completed.

3. Synod has reviewed the 2023 Mission Presbytery meeting minutes.

4. FYI: I am planning to take July 21-August 1 off and will be unavailable via email during this time. If you have an urgent need, please contact Melody Gonzalez, missionpby@missionpby.org, and/or Bobby Musengwa, presbyter@missionpby.org. 210-826-3296.

General Council Report, Sheri Dittman

On behalf of the Committee on Representation and Participation, Sheri moved the following nominations:

Commission on Ministry

Class of 2027 RE Becky Hooper

Class of 2027 TE Caryn Thurman

Moderator Dan Milford asked if there were nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he called for the vote. **The motion was approved.**

Commission on Ministry Report, Jack Barden, Kathy Escandell, and Josh Robinson

ACTIONS FOR MISSION PRESBYTERY

- Jack asked that pastors send their updated terms of calls and contracts to Laurie Palmer.
- Kathy introduced two new minister members in Mission Presbytery:
 - ❖ Alex Pappas, Pastor, FPC, Georgetown
 - ❖ David Coello, Pastor, Treasure Hills, HarlingenEach made introductory remarks to Mission Presbytery.
- Josh presented Allen Roberts for examination for ordination to Minister of Word and Sacrament. He asked the first question. Dan asked for questions from the floor. **Josh moved that Mission Presbytery sustain the examination of Allen Roberts. A second was not required. The motion was approved.** Josh prayed for Allen.
- **Jack: COM moved that Mission Presbytery vote on the Westminster, Austin, request that Rev. Charlotte Trafton be called as Associate Pastor without an active search.**
A ballot vote will be taken as required by Mission Presbytery's Manual of Operations, II. Meetings of Mission Presbytery #6. *All votes requiring more than a simple majority shall be cast by paper ballot.*
A second was not required. The motion was approved. 119 voted; yes=116, no=3.
- **Jack: COM moves approval on the Sinton PC, Sinton request for a waiver to session rotation per the Book of Order, G-2.0404, "...Election shall be to**

classes as nearly equal in number as possible, with the term of only one class ending each year. The presbytery may, upon written request and by majority vote, grant a congregation a waiver of this limitation on terms.” **A second was not required. The motion was approved.**

3. **COM moves that Mission Presbytery vote to dissolve New Covenant Fellowship, Austin, as of June 8, 2025, at its request. A second was not required. The motion was approved.**

FOR INFORMATION

- ❖ Rev. Dr. Frank Garcia-Treto died on March 6, 2025. His memorial service was at University, San Antonio, on Saturday, March 29, 2025.
- ❖ Rev. Emily Beghin, Pastor at Round Rock, Round Rock, gave birth to a son, Teddy, on March 14, 2025.

AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION, ACTION TAKEN SINCE THE MARCH 7-8, 2025, STATED MEETING OF MISSION PRESBYTERY

Dates () are when actions were approved.

Permission to Labor Inside or Outside the Bounds of Mission Presbytery

- ❖ Frank Vasquez, to perform a wedding in Pueblo Presbytery in October 2025 (06/02/2025)
- ❖ Scott Campbell, General Presbyter, Palo Duro, to serve Communion at FPC, Austin on May 25, 2025 (06/02/2025)
- ❖ Cheryl Homsher, to conduct a funeral in Odessa, TX, Tres Rios Presbytery, on June 21, 2025 (06/02/2025)
- ❖ Jim Currie to preach at FPC, Pasadena, TX, on October 12, 2025 (06/02/2025)

E-votes

- ❖ COM sustained the examination of Dillon E. Vanderford and approved him as Commissioned Ruling Elder in service to First Presbyterian Church, San Benito. (02/27/2025)
- ❖ COM sustained the examination of Rev. Bobby Musengwa and will enroll him as a member of Mission Presbytery serving in a Validated Ministry as Transitional General Presbyter, pending the vote of the General Council. (02/27/2025)
- ❖ COM sustained the examination of the Rev. Dr. Adam Smith, New Braunfels, New Braunfels. (05/2/2025)
- ❖ COM gave Holy Trinity, SA, permission to form a Pastor Nominating Committee. (02/20/2025)

Retirement

- ❖ Dave Dierksen, effective April 30, 2025. (04/07/2025)

Approve and dismiss Administrative Commissions to ordain/install pastors

- ❖ Ordination of Sam Innanen at Shepherd of the Hills, Austin, on Sunday, March 2, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. Sam is a Chaplain with Silvarado Hospice, Austin.
Rev. Dan Milford, Moderator, constitutional questions for the candidate and the congregation; RE Karen Sinclair-Sprouse, ordination prayer; Rev. Tina Broadway, charge the pastor; Rev. Britta Dukes, preach; Rev. Leon Bloder, RE Carolyn Scruggs, RE Lex Gallion; Guests of the AC: Rev. Jacob Naron, Morgan Reeves, Britt Hicks, Simone Saucedo (04/07/2025)
- ❖ Installation of Rev. Dr. Dongwoo Lee, Chaplain, Schreiner University, Kerrville
March 25, 2025, 10:00 a.m., at Schreiner University
Rev. David Evans, statement on the mission of the church; RE Mary Ellen Summerlin, constitutional questions for Schreiner University; Rev. Dan Milford, constitutional questions for the candidate; Rev. Kristi Blankman, Presbytery of New Covenant, preach; Rev. Dr. John Williams,

Chaplain and Director of Church Relations at Austin College, charge the pastor; Rev. Dr. Eunbee Ham, prayer of installation; Guests of the AC: Rev. Jasiel Hernandez-Garcia; RE Carlos Baladez, RE Fred Gamble, Rev. Laurie Palmer. Rev. Dr. Sam Junkin, RE Tim Huchton (04/07/2025)

❖ Installation of Rev Lora East, University, San Antonio

Sunday, June 1, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.

Rev. Monica Smith, to preside over the AC and ask constitutional questions; Rev. Catherine Robinson, Albuquerque, New Mexico, to preach the sermon; Rev. Bobby Musengwa to lead the installation prayer; RE Marc Raney, UPC, SA, to ask the congregation constitutional questions; RE Caitlin Supcoff, Mission Presbytery; RE Davy Goff, St. Andrew, SA; Guests of the AC: Rev. Eunbee Ham, charge the pastor; Rev. Carla Mathews, charge the congregation (06/02/2025)

COM approved two updated documents

COM Manual of Operations, COM Dissolution Policy (06/02/2025)

Westminster, Austin

COM approved sending Westminster's request that the Rev. Charlotte Trafton be called as Associate Pastor without an active search, to the June 20-21, 2025, Stated Meeting of Mission Presbytery for a vote. (06/02/2025) A ballot vote will be taken as required by Mission Presbytery's Manual of Operations, II. Meetings of Mission Presbytery #6. *All votes requiring more than a simple majority shall be cast by paper ballot.*

Permission granted to form a Pastor Nominating Committee

FPC, Beeville (06/02/2025)

Session rotation waiver

COM voted to send the request of Sinton PC, Sinton, a waiver to session rotation per the Book of Order, G-2.0404, to the Stated Meeting of Mission Presbytery on June 20-21, 2025, for a vote.

G-2.0404: *...Election shall be to classes as nearly equal in number as possible, with the term of only one class ending each year. The presbytery may, upon written request and by majority vote, grant a congregation a waiver of this limitation on terms.* (06/02/2025)

Ruling Elder permitted to serve Communion

When FPC, Del Rio, had an Administrative Commission working with them, one of their Ruling Elders, Abner Martinez, was given permission to serve Communion. With the departure of Rev. Maria Vargas, the church is requesting that he be granted permission to serve communion again. Any pastors who fill the pulpit will take priority in serving Communion.

Ministers transferred to other presbyteries

- ❖ Martha Langford to Blackhawk Presbytery to serve Second First Church, Rockford, IL
- ❖ Kris Crawford to Grace Presbytery, member-at-large
- ❖ Naomi Ingram to Grace Presbytery, retired
- ❖ Katy Walters to Grace Presbytery, Chaplain Resident at UT Southwestern Clements University Hospital, Dallas, TX
- ❖ Andries Coetzee to Albany Presbytery

Ministers transferred to Mission Presbytery

- ❖ Bobby Musengwa from Tampa Bay Presbytery to serve Mission Presbytery as Transitional General Presbyter
- ❖ Adam Smith from Redwoods Presbytery to serve New Braunfels, New Braunfels
- ❖ Lora East from the Presbytery of the Pacific to serve UPC, SA

Terms of Call, installed pastors, numbers rounded

Two weeks of Continuing Education and four weeks of vacation unless otherwise noted.

Shepherd of the Hills, Austin, and Leon Bloder, full-time

Salary	57,722	½ SECA	9,955	
Housing	67,454	Other	5,000	403b match
BOP	37,968	Prof Allow	15,000	

First, Kerrville, and Jasiel Hernandez Garcia, full-time

Salary	55,000	Study Leave	2,000
Housing	51,000	Prof Allowance	3,250
BOP	39,981	Other	2,250
½ SECA	7,880		

Westminster, Austin, and Bill Clark, full-time

Salary	52,403	½ SECA	10,145
Housing	70,067	Pro Allowance	4,250
BOP	31,842		

St. Andrew, San Antonio, and Doug Dalglish, full-time

Salary	25,100	BOP	26,988
Housing	25,000	½ SECA	4,801
EOC	12,664	Pro Allowance	5,000

Round Rock, Round Rock, and Emily Beghin, full-time

Salary	4,405	½ SECA	6,461
Housing	72,532	Study Leave	2,000
EOC	7,523	Auto Allow	2,000
BOP	30,910		

First, Austin, and Elizabeth McLean, full-time

Salary	77,247	Pro Allow	1,000
Housing	32,000	Auto Allow	2,000
BOP	48,578	Study Leave	3,000
½ SECA	8,358		

St. Mark, Boerne, and Ann Marie Quigley-Swanson

Salary	64,304	Auto Allow	2,000
Housing	23,566	Study Leave	2,000
BOP	22,103	Pro Allow	2,500
½ SECA	6,666	Other	1,250

Boldtville, San Antonio, and Suzy Royston, full-time

Salary	13,200	½ SECA	4,452
Housing	45,000	Study Leave	1,000
BOP	1,302		

University, San Antonio, and Lora East, full-time

Salary	65,000	Auto Allowance	1,500
Housing	30,000	Study Leave	3,000
BOP	8,075	Pro Allowance	1,500
½ SECA	9,265		

Del Rio, First, and Maria Vargas, full-time

Salary	30,000	½ SECA	3,825
Housing	20,000	Pro Allowance	1,500
BOP	In full	Study Leave	1,000

Rev. Vargas's call was dissolved on May 25, 2025.

First, San Marcos, Amy Sutherlun, Co-Pastor, part-time, 30 hours

Salary	30,975	½ SECA	4,093
Housing	19,532	Study Leave	1,600
Additional Comp	3,000	Pro Allowance	1,600
BOP	4,388	Other	1,800
½ SECA	4,093		

First, San Marcos, Joshua Sutherlun, Co-Pastor, part-time, 30 hours

Salary	30,975	½ SECA	4,093
Housing	19,532	Study Leave	1,600
Additional Comp	3,000	Pro Allowance	1,600
BOP	23,008	Other	1,800

New Braunfels, New Braunfels, and Adam Smith beginning August 15, 2025

Salary	58,500	½ SECA	8,950
Housing	58,500	Auto Allowance	2,500
BOP	49,300	Study Leave	2,100
Dental	1,284		

One time moving allowance, 20,000, and ½ SECA 1,530

San Antonio, Eunbee Ham, and Madison Square, updated

Salary	44,805	½ SECA	6,855
Housing	44,805	Pro Allowance	4,000
BOP	34,948	Study Leave	2,000
EOC	3,584	Other	400 (cell phone)
½ SECA	6,855		

Interim Contracts

Seguin, FPC, and Caryn Thurman, updated

Salary	33,700	BOP	5,598
Housing	18,000	½ SECA	4,283
EOC	15,480	Study Leave	1,000

El Campo, First, and Jim DeMent, Interim, full-time

Salary	47,500
Housing	30,000
½ SECA	5,929

Five weeks vacation; two weeks study leave

Gonzales, The Presbyterian Church of Gonzales, and Cheryl Homsher, Interim, p/t, 30 hours/week

Salary	47,650	Auto Allowance	1,776
BOP	5,718	Study Leave	1,750
½ SECA	3,645	Pro Allowance	1,875

San Antonio, Alamo Heights, and Dave Diercksen, Interim, full-time			
Salary	52,000	½ SECA	6,311
Housing	30,000	Pro Allowance	2,000
BOP	9,900 post-retirement		
BOP	26,200 supplemental Medicare and family medical		

Other Contracts

Westminster, Austin, and Charlotte Trafton, Minister for Children and Families, part-time			
Housing	29,790	½ SECA	2,468
BOP	2,979	Pro Allowance	2,125

New Braunfels, New Braunfels, and Carl McCauley, Parish Associate, part-time
Housing, 9,000; Retirement benefits 4,200

Austin, UPC, and Allen Roberts, Candidate, Mission Presbytery
Temporary contract, 10 hours/week
Salary 12,500; ½ SECA 956; Study Leave 1,000; Professional Allowance 1,000

Fiscal Oversight Committee Report, Sandy Nicholson

Sandy had a good budget meeting with commission, committee, and task force chairs before the presbytery meeting today. They talked about priorities. The financial statement is in the packet for today's meeting. She encouraged churches to give to Mission Presbytery with time, talent, and resources.

Serve Committee Report, Patrick Dennis

Patrick thanked the 47 people who participated in the Rise Against Hunger mission event that morning. They put together 10,150 meals for international saints in need of food. He encouraged anyone who'd like to join the Serve Committee to let him know. In the next year, Serve will be looking at the border and the ministry there. Serve Grant applications will be ready soon.

Hispanic Ministries Mission Network Report, Carlos Baladez

Carlos reported that no Hispanic church in the Synod of the Sun (Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas) has an installed minister. People want to serve, but they don't know how to lead. HMMN has offered leadership training, raising leaders in Hispanic churches. HMMN received a Better Together Grant, which helped him build a program. They've received \$16,000 in other grants. Monica Smith has offered a workshop on how to prepare a sermon. Ruling elders want to learn how to preach. Carlos sees a reframing from scarcity to abundance. Isolation of many Hispanic churches is an issue. Presbyteries can offer practical help and resources. HMMN has a proposal of \$108,000 to the Synod of the Sun for a three-year project: Regional reimagining of Hispanic ministries.

John Knox Ranch Report, Henry Owen, Director

As of this morning, the third week of camp wrapped up. Henry showed a video of camp activities from this summer. He encouraged the gathered to have lunch at the camp this

summer, just give him notice so that enough food can be made. Camps are mostly full, except for some openings in day camps.

Connect Committee Report: 2025 Better Together Grants Awarded

Erica Knisley and Jo Ann Currie

- ❖ Austin Area Youth Group Gatherings: Shepherd of the Hills, in collaboration with Westminster Presbyterian in Austin, will utilize grant funds to help offset the costs of greater Austin area youth group gatherings.
- ❖ Basics for All: Central Presbyterian Church, Austin, and First Presbyterian Church of Austin will collaborate to use their grant to purchase new underwear and hygiene supplies for unhoused individuals, helping them maintain personal hygiene and a sense of self-respect.
- ❖ Big Heroes: First Presbyterian Church of Brownsville, in collaboration with Big Heroes, will utilize grant funds to support its food pantry as it works toward sustaining operations and acquiring a dedicated facility.
- ❖ Bilingual Family Camp: Divine Redeemer Presbyterian Church in San Antonio, in collaboration with El Buen Pastor Austin, El Divino Salvador Corpus Christi, and John Knox Ranch, will use funds to offset the cost of overnight lodging for participants in the bilingual family camp.
- ❖ Book Buddy Event: Faith Presbyterian Church, in collaboration with Shepherd of the Hills Presbyterian Church, will use grant funds to fulfill personalized book lists for children served by Presbyterian Children's Home and Services.
- ❖ Connecting with Our Communities: The First Korean Presbyterian Church of McAllen, in collaboration with Puentes de Cristo in Hidalgo, will utilize grant funds to foster cultural exchange and appreciation between the Korean and Hispanic Church communities in the RGV.
- ❖ Feed My Sheep: El Divino Salvador, Corpus Christi, in collaboration with Sinton and Jackson Woods Presbyterian, will utilize grant funds to expand its outreach by establishing a food pantry to support the community's needs. Many community members suffer varying degrees of food insecurity, along with other basic needs.
- ❖ RGV Men's Gospel Choir: Treasure Hills Presbyterian, collaborating with Second Presbyterian Church, Harlingen, and Loaves and Fishes of the Rio Grande Valley, will use grant funds to support performances that fundraise for Loaves and Fishes.
- ❖ Serve San Marcos: First Presbyterian Church of San Marcos, in collaboration with the United Campus Ministry at Texas State, will utilize grant funds to connect college students with church members to volunteer together with local nonprofits.
- ❖ Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Build: First Austin, in collaboration with Faith Presbyterian, will utilize grant funds to purchase necessary supplies for building beds for children on the waiting list for a bed with Sleep in Heavenly Peace. The organization's goal is to ensure that no child ever sleeps on the floor.

There was a motion and a second to adjourn the stated presbytery meeting with prayer, which Dan did. Minutes submitted by the Stated Clerk, Laurie Palmer.

