

Presbytery Meeting Highlights

The Boise Presbytery held its February 4, 2023, stated meeting at Collister United Methodist Church, Boise, and by Zoom.

Worshipful Work Wait, what? We met at a Methodist Church? As part of our ongoing theme of tearing down walls, we stepped out of our traditional gathering spaces for the purpose of learning about a unique housing ministry at Collister UMC. A panel of housing experts from [CATCH](#), [Jesse Tree](#), [LEAP Housing](#), and [Boise City/Ada County Housing Authorities](#) shared about the crisis of affordable housing in the Treasure Valley. Since 2020, rental rates have increased 40%. In January alone, the Housing Authorities processed 120 new applications for housing assistance *every single day*. With federal COVID funding ending soon, these organizations will be unable to assist the thousands of seniors, single-income families, and next-door neighbors who cannot continue to afford homeownership or rents. Because of the urgency of the situation, we invited the public to attend this discussion. Channel 2 News and Channel 6 News both ran stories featuring the panel discussion, which allowed the Presbytery to highlight the crisis and the good work of these groups. The panel suggested **ways we can help**: be a Section 8 landlord; donate sleeping bags, socks, and coats (especially extra large sizes); get the word out; donate money; lease or sell excess land to LEAP for construction of affordable housing. The Presbytery received your **offering of \$1000** at the meeting toward these efforts.



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News from Peru

Thanks to Bethany's connections, we welcomed Presbyterian mission co-worker Chenoa Stock, serving in Peru. She shared about its current political instability and unrest, as well as the justice ministries of our Peruvian partners. Learn more [here](http://www.presbyterianmission.org) (www.presbyterianmission.org) about her work and how you can connect.



Actions Taken



During our meeting, TJ Remaley was installed as Vice-Moderator and then immediately approved to act as meeting moderator in Randy Marshall's absence. We gave thanks to JoAnn Thiry for her service as Moderator and commissioned her to rest. The Presbytery approved proposed amendments to the Book of Order coming from the last General Assembly, including the replacement of the Rules of Discipline section. At COM's recommendation, the Presbytery approved an increase to our minimum terms of call by \$3000/year for three years. For 2023, the minimum terms of call are now \$43,000 for full-time work; part-time contracts shall be prorated.

The Emmett Visioning Team reported that the sale of the former First Presbyterian Church property in Emmett is nearly completed. Many congregations came to receive useful items from the church. The Presbytery approved the Team's motion to match up to \$5000 in donations at an event on February 11, to give away remaining items and to accept donations for the Emmett Valley Friendship Coalition's purchase of a refrigerated truck. EVFC is a local food bank that First Emmett supported for many years. The matching gift will come from existing Emmett funds.

We were grateful to hear from Rev. Paul Phillips on his request to transfer to the Boise Presbytery. After examination, the request was approved, and we welcomed him as an Honorably Retired minister member. Rev. Phillips gave our benediction to close the meeting.

We express our hearty appreciation for the folks of First Pres. (Boise), who acted as our hosts away from home, providing breakfast and lunch, the sacrament of communion, piano accompaniment for worship, and technical services! Many thanks as well for Rev. Joe Bankard and Collister UMC for their hospitality.

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