First Presbyterian Church, Leavenworth, Kansas

Called Congregational Meeting, December 21, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. in the sanctuary by the Moderator, the Rev. Tim Gray. He then asked the Clerk of Session, Rick Nichols, if a quorum was present. Rick replied that a quorum was indeed present.

The Moderator offered up a short prayer, then invited Elder Ann Keeling, the Moderator of the Nominating Committee, to come forward and give her report. She proceeded to inform the congregation that the committee was nominating Linda Barry to serve on the Board of Deacons as a member of the Class of 2026, Annette Allen, Carolyn Tillotson and Cathy Corley to serve as Deacons with the Class of 2028, Dick Gibson to serve on the Session as a member of the Class of 2026, and Jim Garrett, Cindy Scircle and Rick Nichols to serve on the Session with the Class of 2028.

The Moderator asked those present if there were any questions for the committee. There were none. He then asked the members of the committee to stand. After the committee members present had stood, they received a round of applause.

The Moderator then asked the nominees to stand. Next, he asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none.

The Moderator proceeded to mention the note he had received from Rick Nichols in which he tendered his resignation as a member of the Board of Deacons effective December 31, 2025. He also afforded those present an opportunity for discussion prior to the election of the new Elders and Deacons. No discussion ensued.

The Moderator asked those present to raise their hands if they were in favor of the slate of nominees. Many hands went up. He then asked those present to raise their hands if they were opposed to the slate of nominees. No hands went up.

The nominees present received a round of applause.

The Moderator then proceeded to mention the difficulty the Nominating Committee had had in finding enough nominees to fill the available openings on the Session and the Board of Deacons. He also mentioned the need for both bodies to keep their memberships at or above the minimum level dictated by the church by-laws if they were to be able to meet.

Congregant Linda Huggins made a comment in which she expressed her total support for the church's Session members and Deacons, then asked about the possibility of lowering the number of Elders and Deacons that would constitute each body. The Moderator responded to her inquiry by pointing out that if the minimum membership level for the Session and the Deacons were to be reduced, the workload of those serving on these bodies would be increased.

Elder Carol Page made a comment to the effect that she thought the current Deacons needed to be recognized by those present. The Moderator responded by first asking the Session members to stand, then asking the Deacons to stand.

The meeting closed with the singing of two verses of "Canticle of the Turning." The meeting ended at 11:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Rick Nichols, Clerk of Session Rev. Tim Gray, Moderator