

## **Greetings to the Saints of Mission Presbytery!**

One of the things I love most about my current call is the wide variety of ministry in which you have called me to take part. There is never a dull moment!

In the space of one week – actually, a few days – I will have gone north to Austin and Taylor, south to McAllen, and west to Kerrville. (Victoria, I'm coming east in a couple of weeks!) There were denominational meetings in St. Louis, the installation of a new President at Schreiner University, conversations with folks from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, conversations with call committees and candidates, waving at staff while we passed like ships in the night... ah well...

My traveling this weekend is giving me a chance to see the height, depth and breadth of Mission Presbytery. And I like what I see. There's visionary mission going on. Good spirits. Hope and anticipation for the future. And a very-much-alive sense of God's presence. Earlier this week at the Mid Council meetings in Louisville, I heard our Stated Clerk J. Herbert Nelson admonish us to "get up off of our blessed assurances and be about the work that God is calling us to!" I'm glad to report that Mission Presbytery is already doing just that.

I also want to let you know that our dear Kathy Anderson, Director of John Knox Ranch, has announced her resignation, effective October 31. Kathy has done INCREDIBLE work with the Ranch through terribly hard times and less-than-perfect circumstances. But I am glad to say that our loss is going to be someone else's gain. I'm hoping against hope that Kathy will be staying in Mission Presbytery to serve in another capacity! We will soon be hearing the announcement of a new Director for the Ranch, and also a date for an afternoon reception to celebrate and thank Kathy as she moves on. Stay tuned for more details. In the meantime, Kathy, thank you. It's been an honor to serve alongside you.

### **PRESBYTER SIGHTINGS**

- October 21** - Memorial services for Gail Snodgrass and Abraham Torres
- October 22** - Installation for Kathy Escandell, McAllen First
- October 24** - PCHAS Fall Luncheon, San Antonio
- October 27-28** - Meeting of Mission Presbytery, Corpus Christi Parkway
- October 29** - Lead a class and worship with the Convencion gathering, Brownsville
- October 31** - Happy 500th Anniversary of the Reformation!
- November 1** – Happy birthday to My Beloved, Paul Watson!
- November 2-4** – Synod EP Forum, Stated Meeting of the Synod, and Imagine
- November 5** – Preach for Presbyterian Church of Lake Travis, 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary!
- November 7** – Breakfast with HR pastors in San Antonio
- November 8** – Meet with Fiscal Oversight Committee
- November 9** – Lunch with San Antonio region pastors
- November 10** – Meet with Committee on Preparation for Ministry
- November 11** – Ordination/installation for Jennifer Mitchell, Karnes City First
- November 12** – Preach for Austin Faith anniversary service