

Snake River Presbytery Stated Meeting Highlights

March 2026

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by moderator, Ruth Goldthwaite. A Meditation was presented by slide show and with gentle music playing. It was a calm and relaxing presentation to begin the meeting in the right frame of mind after working all day. Ruth then offered an opening prayer. A quorum was declared, and the Consent Agenda approved.

The following actions were taken

- *Voted to approve the Rule of Parity for 2026. There was an appendix sent with the packet for the meeting that further explained this.
- * Approved a change to the bylaws of by adding the bracketed words: "Article IV A. The officers of the corporation are the Moderator, [the Vice Moderator, the Treasurer,] and the Stated Clerk."
- *An Administrative Commission was formed to respond to the request of the Presbyterian Church of the Redeemer, Weiser, ID, to dissolve the congregation. The following were elected as members of the Administrative Commission. RE Sarah Berkowitz (member of Executive Commission); TE Elizabeth Ryder (Validated ministry); TE Kevin Starcher (pastor, Covenant Presbyterian Church); RE Pat Thompson (Church of the Redeemer, Clerk of Session); and, RE Karen Thompson (Church of the Redeemer, member).
- * The set of Personnel Policies to be included in the Manual of Operations as Chapter XII, sections A - L, were approved.
- * \$7000 Mission Support for 2026 for the ecumenical campus ministry at Boise State was approved
- * \$7000 Mission Support for 2026 for campus ministry at College of Idaho was approved.
- * Aaron Berkowitz (TE), Jackie Benjamin (RE), Melissa Norton (RE), and Nathan Sobers (CRE) were elected to Nominating Committee.
- * Melissa Norton (RE) was elected to be on the Committee on Representation.
- * Rick Spielman was appointed as the Connections Committee's liaison to the Camp Sawtooth Board.
- * Grants have been awarded and future requests will be addressed as they emerge.
- * Members of the Connections Committee will visit with each session to acquaint them with our mission and to listen for particular needs they have.
- * Mark Smith was introduced. He is retiring, and there were many complementary comments about his work as a pastor. We wished him well and sent him off with yahoos and hearts (on zoom).
- * Requests from the Commission on Ministry for renewal of commissions of Ruling Elders, until March 2029 were approved.
- * Granted requested exceptions to the six year consecutive service limit for church officers:
- * COM appointed Liaisons for congregations in transitions/discernment
- * The relationships between the current Commissioned Ruling Elders and congregations were renewed for 3 years until March 2029
- * The relationships of Janne Goldbeck and Rick Spielman, commissioned to the Presbytery were renewed for 3 years until March of 2029
- * The Ruling Elder relationship between Rachel Yates and the Snake River Presbytery was renewed for 1 yr. until March 2027
- * The meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer by Ruth Goldthwaite.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S SPRING GATHERING

BOONE MEMORIAL

14th and Dearborn, Caldwell

Saturday, April 18, 2026

9:00 am

Worship: Deanna Watson

Speaker: Pam Traughber

Topic: Into Africa with the Peace Corps

Breakfast refreshments prior to gathering.

Worship and Business Meeting prior to Speaker

**Offering will support one PW woman to attend
2027 Churchwide**

**After the speaker, a salad lunch will be served for a
suggested donation of \$10.**



STATED MEETING IN PERSON CAMP SAWTOOTH May 24 - May 25, 2026

Details are still being worked out, but this is going to be a great relationship building experience. Presbytery will pay for all minister members and church commissioners. Cost for each other person will be \$50. Candie will be working on a registration form in the next week, and will be sending it to each church.

There will be an opportunity to go to the camp prior to the meeting to help prepare the camp for the summer campers. This is done through the Camp Sawtooth internet site or by contacting Keven Dutcher, the camp director.

<https://campsawtooth.org>
208-726-1155