

STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF SACRAMENTO
Tuesday, November 12, 2013
Bethany Presbyterian Church
Sacramento, CA

The meeting was called to order by Moderator RE Roger Newquist at 4:30 p.m. and opened with prayer. Moderator Newquist called for the introduction of first-time ruling elder commissioners followed by the seating of corresponding members: TE Nancy Clegg (Stockton Presbytery), TE Rachael Yates (Denver) and Mark Frey, Board of Pensions.

A credential report was provided with 33 Teaching Elders (TEs) and 42 Ruling Elders (REs) present for a total of 75 with 23 congregations represented. Moderator Newquist declared a quorum present and the meeting in order.

Adoption of the Docket

The following changes were made: Addition of the report of the Committee on Representation and the AC report from River Valley. It was **VOTED** to approve the revised docket.

TE Lorie Sprinkle welcomed the Presbytery and gave a brief history of Bethany church that is preparing for its centennial celebration in 2014. She announced the annual Messiah Sing-a-Long to be held December 8.

Report of the Stated Clerk—TE Nancy Clegg

1. The minutes of the September 21, 2013 stated meeting of the Sacramento Presbytery were approved by the Council at its October 2013 meeting.
2. The minutes of the Special Presbytery meeting of August 17, 2013 were approved by Council at its October 2013 meeting.
3. TE Clegg reported on the Installation Commissions for TEs Richard Hinkle, Sherrie McAllister and Jason Eberhart-Philips.
4. TE Clegg attended the 2013 Annual Polity Conference and the conference of the Association of Stated Clerks. PCbiz on the PCUSA website will track the business of the 2014 General Assembly.
5. Parity for 2014: TE Clegg will be making adjustments prior to the first presbytery meeting of 2014 to ensure parity of TEs and REs.

Report from the Board of Pensions—TE Mark Frey

TE Frey reported that the pension fund is fully funded and had excellent returns: 2012 had a 13.9% return; 2013 had a 11.4% return. A new dues model for the medical plans will go into effect 2015 that ensures solvency, fairness, and a degree of flexibility for churches and those covered. There will be a 2% dues increase for 2014; 2015 will only cover the active employee with dependents to be added for an additional 1 ½%. Costs can be shared with the church, paid only by the pastor or paid for by the church. Express Scripts will end in December with Catamaran to be used in 2014. New cards will be distributed in mid-December. Most of the same pharmacies are included. "The Call to Health", a program that can reduce deductibles, will be instituted in 2015. The Credo program now includes a focus on new pastors. Presbyters and commissioners were encouraged to check out the new website for Board of Pensions.

Report of Council—TE Bob Yule

1. New Vision Statement of the Sacramento Presbytery
 It was moved by the Council that this, the second reading of this proposed change (in **bold**) to the Vision Statement, be included in the Bylaws. It was m/s/c to change the word “Kingdom” to “Realm”. The motion was **APPROVED**. The vision statement now reads: ***“Beloved by God, redeemed by Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, the Presbytery of Sacramento is called to build bridges and connect deeply with each other as we worship and serve together in the name of Christ; nurture mature leaders and healthy congregations to proclaim the Gospel to all people; entrust ourselves and each other to the goodness and sovereignty of God as we live into the hope of God’s Realm.”***
2. It was moved by Council that this, the second reading of the following proposed changes to the by-laws (in **bold**), be included in the Bylaws:
 - 5.001 The Presbytery’s Council is responsible for**
 - a. reviewing, evaluating, and planning as guided by the presbytery’s vision statement;**
 - b. coordinating the mission, programs, and relationships of the presbytery;**
 - c. communicating the programs of the presbytery to the congregations;**
 - d. overseeing the human, financial, and material resources of the presbytery**
 - 5.002 The Presbytery’s Council shall be made up of the following voting members, while seeking to maintain a balance in the number of ruling elders and teaching elders:**
 - a. Immediate past moderator of Presbytery, who shall serve as Moderator of Council;
 - b. Moderator of Presbytery;
 - c. Moderator-elect of Presbytery;
 - d. Three at-large members elected to three year terms, one elected each year;**
 - e. The chair or a representative from each of the following committees: Congregational Support, Pastoral Support, Mission Support, and Committee on Ministry;**
 - f. Voice, but no vote, shall be given when requested to the chair or a representative from each of these committees: Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Committee on Representation, Budget & Finance, Personnel, and Nominating – so as to facilitate the planning of presbytery programs and meetings;**
 - g. The Stated Clerk is the secretary and, along with the Treasurer, Presbyter, and other staff, has voice, but no vote**

After discussion the vote was called. The motion was **APPROVED**.
3. Council approved forgiving the per capita and mission pledges past due to the presbytery by the Corning Church. It also approved payment of per capita (due in arrears) through 2013 to GA and Synod out of presbytery reserve funds.
4. Council approved the following dates for Stated Presbytery meetings in 2014: February 8, May 1, September 13 and November 6 with all meetings starting at 0900 and ending at 1500. Locations are yet to be determined.
5. Council moved the following slate for members of the Nominating Committee: Class of 2015--TE Keith DeVries (Carmichael), and CRE Susan Tassef (Placerville Federated), Class of 2014—TE Skip Herbert (HR).

Report of the Synod Commissioners—TE Grace Suwabe, TE Yubang Lee and RE Jan Klein

Grace Suwabe is the new Moderator of the Synod. She reported on the Savings and Loans Program and the Synod's approval of releasing \$25,000 (\$10,000 in May and \$15,000 in October) to each of 11 presbyteries from Synod Unrestricted Reserve overages. Commissioner

Yu-Bang Lee is a member of the Mission Partnership Committee and shared about the three kinds of mission grants: Opportunity Grant, Emerging Needs Grant, and Hilda Thompson Medical Ministry Grant. Our presbytery received \$5,000 Emerging Needs fund for Preaching Pastors Conference in 2012, a total of \$16,000 from the Hilda Thompson Medical grants for three projects from our presbytery in 2013: \$4,000 for Partners in Care, \$5,000 to Carmichael Church and \$5,000 to Westminster church. Commissioner Jan Klein reported on monies given to Corning Church (\$10,000) and the Professional Boundaries workshop (\$1800) as well on the new computer reporting system and involvement with the Synod office personnel (HR).

Report of the Committee on Ministry—TE Tom Tripp

1. The COM moved for ordination and membership as a Presbytery Evangelist, Jeff Richards who currently serves The WordHouse Worshiping Community. His Statement of Faith was provided online in advance of the meeting. After completion of the examination, the motion was **APPROVED**.
2. The COM moved for membership as an “at-large” member of the presbytery, the Rev. Dr. Stephen Moon. His Statement of Faith was provided online in advance of the meeting. After completion of the examination, the motion was **APPROVED**.
3. The COM moved approval as Installed Pastor of Woodland Presbyterian Church, TE Christin J. Norman. Her Statement of Faith was provided online in advance of the meeting. After completion of the examination, the motion was **APPROVED**.
4. The COM moved approval as Installed Pastor of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, TE Garrett Andrew. His Statement of Faith was provided online in advance of the meeting. After completion of the examination, the motion was **APPROVED**.
5. The COM moved the call of Jeff Richards as Presbytery Evangelist (Contract as an attachment). The motion was **APPROVED**.
6. The COM moved the following Ordination and Installation Commission for TE Jeff Richards for Sunday, December 8, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. at Faith Presbyterian Church, Sacramento: TEs Jim Zazzera (Faith), Ivan Herman (Carmichael), Jeanie Shaw (River Valley), RE Sabrina Boltz (Community, Vacaville), RE Jennie Read (Faith), RE Kathy McKenzie (Marysville), RE Roger Newquist (Moderator),(Journey, Folsom) after which the commission will be dissolved. The motion was **APPROVED**.
7. The COM moved the terms of call for TE Christin J. Norman, Woodland Presbyterian Church, January 1, 2014 as follows: Cash Salary--\$30,000; Housing Allowance--\$23,200; Travel/Professional Expenses--\$2,300; Continuing Education--\$1,000; Other--\$1,200; Moving Costs (up to)--\$12,000; full medical, pension, disability, and death benefit coverage under the Board of Pensions; Paid Vacation--4 weeks; Paid Continuing Education--3 weeks, including First Call program. The motion was **APPROVED**. Her installation will occur after the regular stated meeting of the presbytery that will be held in February 2014.
8. The COM moved the terms of call for TE Garrett Andrew, St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, effective January 1, 2014 as follows: Cash Salary--\$45,000; Housing Allowance--\$25,000; Travel/Professional Expenses: \$4,000; SECA Supplement (up to 50%)--\$5,000; Continuing Education--\$2,000; Moving Costs (up to): \$9,000; full medical, pension, disability, and death benefit coverage under the Board of Pensions; paid vacation—4 weeks; Paid Continuing Education—3 weeks in 2014, 2 weeks thereafter. The motion was **APPROVED**. His installation will occur after the regular stated meeting of the presbytery that will be held in

February 2014. Prayer was offered for the new members of the Presbytery and their ministries.

9. The COM requests that the Presbytery of Sacramento at its November 12, 2013 meeting form an Administrative Commission consisting of 5 members of the Presbytery for the purpose of coming along side of and working with the Session and pastor of St. Stephens to identify, manage, and complete all of the aspects of the dissolutions of the pastoral relationship, the congregation and corporation. The members will include TE Jim Zazzera, Chair, (Faith), TE David Ratcliff (Loomis), TE Bob Fernandez (HR), RE Sue Bennett (Davis), and RE Dianne Willson (St. Stephens). At least one of the Ruling Elder members on the AC shall be from St Stephens.

The AC will have the responsibility and authority to:

- Upon recommendation of the congregation, will recommend the dissolution of the pastoral relationship and the terms of that dissolution;
- Upon recommendation of the congregation, will recommend the dissolution of the congregation;
- Assure that arrangements have been made to complete all financial decisions made by the Session and/or the congregation and that all accounts have been closed;
- Assure that all legal matters regarding the dissolution of the corporation and denominational matters regarding the dissolution of the congregation have been completed in a timely manner;
- Work with members of the congregation, the pastor, and the Presbytery moderator to plan and publicize the Presbytery's celebration of the work and ministry of St. Stephens, to be held during the February 8, 2014 Presbytery meeting;
- Verify that all members who have not yet transferred their membership to another congregation have been notified of the process and timeline to do so following the dissolution;
- Assure that all official records of the congregation are delivered to the appropriate places, including records to be archived, financial and personnel records that need to be kept for 3-7 years, and the membership roll.
- Assure that any personal property belonging to St. Stephens that remains after the dissolution of the congregation is disposed of, according to the direction of the Session.

The AC shall report to the Presbytery of Sacramento at the Feb. 8, 2014 Stated Meeting. Sharon Brundage from St. Stephens spoke to the presbytery regarding the work of the church as it works to complete the dissolution of this church.

The motion was **APPROVED**.

The COM commends TE Peggy Cross and the Session of St. Stephens for their resolution and faithfulness in this process.

10. The COM acknowledged those serving in validated ministries after which they were lifted in prayer. Their names are included in these minutes by attachment.
11. The COM moved the policy for "Eligibility of Temporary and Associate Pastors (based on BOO G-2.0504C) be added to the Standing Rules of the Sacramento Presbytery. An amendment was moved and seconded to add the words "when prior to applying for the pastoral position, such person requests permission from the presbytery to be eligible for calling". After hearing the intention that COM has established procedures to ensure a good process, and after hearing no objection, the amendment was withdrawn. The motion was **APPROVED**. The policy is hereby included with the minutes as an attachment.

12. The COM moved the contract extension for CRE Howard Sanborn with the Corning Church with the following terms effective January 1, 2014 – June 30, 2014 prorated at ½ time (20 hours per week): Medical Coverage--\$3870.00; Housing Allowance--\$6960.00; Transportation Allowance-- \$3,600.00 - Rate @ 55.5 cents per mile; Pastor Business Expenses--\$120.00 - Books, postage, retreats for a total of \$12,750 with vacation at 4 ½-time weeks. The motion was **APPROVED**.
13. The COM moved a 3-month extension to the contract of TE Jim Kitchens with all terms remaining the same and prorated for 3 months. The motion was **APPROVED**.
14. The Vacaville Community Church has voted to transfer to the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO). A negotiating team will be appointed.

Budget and Finance—Dave Ratcliff

1. The Budget and Finance Committee moved the approval for two loans to add solar energy systems to the Shepherd of the Sierra (Loomis) campus and upgrade some appliances and lighting: a first loan is a \$110,000 line of credit with the Synod of the Pacific and the second loan is a Muzzy green loan for \$90,000. The motion was **APPROVED**.
2. The Budget and Finance committee moved the approval of Per Capita for 2014 as follows: GA--\$7.02, Synod--\$5.22, Presbytery--\$11.76, NCD--\$1.00 for a total of \$25.00. The motion was **APPROVED**.
3. The Budget and Finance committee moved the adoption of the Ecclesiastical and Mission Budgets for 2014. The motion was **APPROVED**. (See Attachments)

Pastoral Support Committee—TE Pamela Anderson

1. Jen Keller, a trainer for a business program called “Crucial Conversations”, will be opening this training to nine pastors for \$20 that will cover lunch and supplies. The dates for the training are February 22 and March 1.
2. Fifty-five pastors attended the most recent preaching conference. Out of this came a relationship with an attendee from Uganda who has extended an invitation to Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderson to speak at the Megawomen’s conference in Uganda in 2014.

**Adjournment for dinner at 6:20 pm
The presbytery reconvened at 7:05 pm**

An updated credential report was presented with 50 TEs, 56 REs for a total of 106 with 23 congregations represented.

Two items of unfinished business were conducted:

- Council moved the slate of TE Skip Herbert, CRE Susan Tassef and TE Keith DeVries as members of the Nominating Committee. With no objections, the slate was elected.
- It was moved and seconded to extend the meeting 30 minutes, if needed. The motion was **APPROVED**.

Report of the Committee on Representation—TE Aart Van Beek

The purpose of the COR is to help make sure people of color and disabilities are represented on presbytery committees. In May 2014, the worship service at the presbytery will honor and recognize those with disabilities who will share their gifts during that service. Commissioners were asked to give names of potential participants to the committee.

Report of the Nominating Committee—RE Dave Yagel

Election of the 2014 Moderator

The Nominating Committee moved the election of the candidate for Moderator, TE Lori Sprinkle. Nominations were opened from the floor and hearing none, were closed. The motion was **APPROVED**.

Election of the 2015 Moderator-Elect

The Nominating Committee moved the election of the candidate for 2015 Moderator-Elect, RE Peg Vanderkar (El Dorado Federated) Nominations were opened from the floor and hearing none, were closed. The motion was **APPROVED**.

Election of Committee Members

Permanent Judicial Commission

Class of 2017: TE Ezra Kim (Capital Korean)

Class of 2019: Dianne Jessee (St. Andrew) and Anna Nieman Perrine (Trinity, West Sac)

Hearing no objections, nominations were closed. The motion was **APPROVED**.

Committee on Ministry

Class of 2016: TE Sherrie McAllister (Burney), Melanie Kerns (Burney), TE Ed Fedor (At-Large), TE Richard Hutchinson (HR), and TE Mary Carruth (Community)

Hearing no objections, nominations were closed. The motion was **APPROVED**.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Class of 2014: TE Mary Lynn Tobin (Davis) and RE Jan Sharpless (Westminster)

Class of 2015: TE Jim Kitchens (Woodland)

Class of 2016: TE Kathy McIntosh-Smith (At-Large); TE Ross Raymond (At-Large)

Hearing no objections, nominations were closed. The motion was **APPROVED**.

Congregational Support Ministry Group

Class of 2016: RE Karen Halbo (University)

Hearing no objections, nominations were closed. The motion was **APPROVED**.

Pastoral Development and Support Ministry Group

Class of 2014: RE Robert Richeal (Countryside)

Class of 2016: TE Pamela Anderson (Countryside) and RE David Mauerman (Carmichael)

Hearing no objections, nominations were closed. The motion was **APPROVED**.

Mission Support Ministry Group

Class of 2014: TE Jason Eberhart-Phillips (Walnut Grove)

Class of 2016: RE Donna Mason (Davis) and TE John Stevens (HR)

Hearing no objections, nominations were closed. The motion was **APPROVED**.

Personnel

Class of 2015: RE Jan Klein (Bethany) and RE Al Bare (Celtic Cross)

Hearing no objections, nominations were closed. The motion was **APPROVED**.

Committee on Representation

Class of 2016: RE Judi Angell (El Dorado Federated)

Hearing no objections, nominations were closed. The motion was **APPROVED**.

Election of GA Commissioners

The nominations for GA Commissioners were presented:

- a. Ruling Elders: Dianne Willson (St. Stephens), Anna Nieman Perrine (Trinity West Sac), Julia Edwards (Auburn), Mary Hartwell (River Valley)
- b. Teaching Elders: Peggy Cross (St. Stephens) and Ed Fedor (At Large)
- c. YAAD: Francisco Ruiz (Marysville) and Rachel Prow (Federated Placerville)

Nominations were opened to the floor. Hearing none, the nominations were closed.

Each candidate was given 2 minutes to speak to his/her nomination after which the written ballot was completed. The results of the election were announced with the votes and elected persons in **bold**:

Ruling Elders: **Anna Nieman Perrine: 41; Julia Edwards: 39;** Dianne Willson: **32;** Mary Hartwell: **28**

Teaching Elders: **Ed Fedor: 66; Margaret Cross: 62**

YAADs: **Francisco Ruiz: 38; Rachael Prow: 28**

Report of the Administrative Commission for River Valley, Rancho Cordova—

TE Tobin, Chair, reported. TE Rick Hull, RE Dave Studer, RE Kathy Trott, RE Hazel Watson are the members. They have had 8 meetings since their appointment. In their role as “acting session”, they have met with and received new members, acted on backlogged motions and addressed financial issues. They have conducted 8 interviews with Ruling Elders of River Valley as well as with TE Shaw. At this time the AC is still in process. They have extended the contract of Rev. Shaw until a decision is made about the relationship between her and the church.

Congregational Support Ministry Team – TE Stan Henderson

1. “New Beginnings” report from Trinity Church, Oroville.

TE Henderson reported that the church was stagnated and looking to develop a new vision for itself. They engaged in the “New Beginnings” program that included an in-depth assessment of the church, as well as the demographics of Oroville. A 65-page report was received from the assessment group and was followed up with small group meetings. About 1/3 of the congregation participated in the groups. New ideas emerged: 1) They want more in the area of small groups, 2) They desire to establish goals for senior ministry, and 3) They are interested in starting a tutoring program. The congregation is now working on the new vision statement with a new level of excitement in ministry. The presbytery paid for ½ of the cost and thanks were expressed for that kindness and support.

Report of Mission Support Ministry Team – TE John Stevens

Partnership with South Sudan—Rachael Yates (Presbyterian World Mission): Mission Support Committee is exploring what to do in partnership with South Sudan. Rachael Yates is helping conduct a discernment process. World Mission has three global initiatives: 1) alleviation of poverty, 2) sharing the good news and 3) reconciliation of violence between cultures. Presbytery of Sacramento is invited to engage in the work of the greater denomination in South Sudan.

Worship—A Celebration of Ministry

The worship service celebrated the validated ministries of the Sacramento Presbytery, with a sermon by TE Jay Wilkins, and included the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper and the Installation of Moderator TE Lori Sprinkle with an effective date of January 1, 2014.

Announcements

Next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Sacramento will be February 8, 2014 beginning at 9:00 a.m. at a location to be determined.

The Presbytery meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. with prayer.

TE Nancy Clegg, Stated Clerk

RE Claire Pisor, Recording Clerk