

**STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF SACRAMENTO**  
**Saturday, September 21, 2013**  
**St. Andrews Presbyterian Church**  
**Yuba City, CA**

The meeting was called to order by Moderator RE Roger Newquist at 9:00 a.m. and opened with prayer. Thanks were offered to St. Andrews Church for hosting the meeting.

Moderator Newquist called for the introduction of first-time ruling elder commissioners followed by the seating of corresponding members: TE Nancy Clegg (Stockton Presbytery), Rich Hinkle (North Puget Sound), Steven Brewer (Cascades), Steve Frank (Inland Northwest), Carl Stoldt (Great Rivers), Sherrie McAllister (North Georgia), RE John Turner, Presbyterian Foundation.

A credential report was provided with 20 Teaching Elders (TEs) and 32 Ruling Elders (REs) present for a total of 52 with 13 congregations represented. Moderator Newquist declared a quorum present and the meeting in order.

**Adoption of the Docket**

The following changes were made to the Consent Agenda: Report of the Committee of Representation was deleted; an additional item from Budget and Finance to be added. It was **VOTED** to approve the docket as revised. TE Ron Hattie welcomed the Presbytery.

**Report of the Stated Clerk—TE Nancy Clegg**

The following consent agenda was presented:

1. Clarification of the Budget and Finance addition to the docket: Faith Presbyterian Church requests an increase of their line of credit with the Synod of the Pacific from \$400,000 to \$1,200,000.
2. Contract for Supply Pastor (half time) between Woodland Presbyterian Church and TE Jim Kitchens with the following terms effective August 1, 2013 for a period of three months and renewable in increments of 3 months: Salary \$164.00/mo; Housing \$2,600/mo; Pension/Medical/Disability \$79.52/mo; Vacation 2 days/month; Continuing Ed \$40/month and 2 days/mo; Auto/Ministry Expenses \$100/mo reimbursed as used.
3. Renewal of contract for Supply Pastor (quarter time) between Grace Presbyterian Church, Sacramento and TE Warren Barnes, with the following terms effective October 1, 2013 and continuing through September 30, 2014: Salary and Housing Allowance of \$12,500; Auto/Travel of \$575; Study Leave Expenses of \$1,000; Pension/Health – Waived; to total package of \$14,075.
4. Approve Installation Commission for TE Jason Eberhart-Phillips: RE Roger Newquist, Journey Church, Folsom (Moderator); TE Mary Lynn Tobin, Member at Large; TE Donna Waterman (HR); TE Brian Spangler, Peace Presbyterian, Elk Grove; RE David Rue, Davis Community; RE Jim van Andel, Walnut Grove Community for Sunday, September 29, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. at Walnut Grove Community Presbyterian Church.
5. Transfer TE Daniel Willson to Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians as per agreement with the dismissal of Fremont Presbyterian Church and effective the date of dismissal from the Sacramento Presbytery.

6. Support the request of Journey Church, Folsom to seek “relief of conscience” with respect to Board of Pensions medical dues, to transfer amount available for use for abortion procedures to adoption assistance grants for benefits plan members.

The Consent Agenda was **Approved**.

#### **Continued Report of the Stated Clerk—TE Nancy Clegg**

1. Minutes of the Stated Meeting of Presbytery May 14, 2013 were approved by Council on June 26, 2013.
2. Session Minutes Review was conducted to bring into compliance the following, all with SOME exceptions: First Presbyterian Church, Colusa; Shepherd of the Sierra Presbyterian Church, Loomis; and Walnut Grove Community Presbyterian Church.
3. Minutes of the Presbytery were reviewed at the annual Presbytery Stated Clerks of the Synod meeting on August 27-28 with SOME exceptions.
4. Nominations for General Assembly Commissioners and Young Adult Advisory Delegate will be received and acted upon at the November 12 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery. Five persons will be elected: 2 TEs, 2 REs, 1 YAAD.
5. Churches were invited to contact the Stated Clerk if they are willing to host presbytery meetings.

#### **Report of the Committee on Ministry—TE Tom Tripp**

1. Prayer was offered for Dan Willson who, this day, was approved for transfer to the ECO.
2. Statements of Faith were made available on-line prior to the presbytery meeting for the following candidates: TE Steven Brewer (Interim, Davis CC), TE Sung Yun Cho (Member at Large), TE Steve Frank (HR), TE Rich Hinkle, (Marysville), TE Sherrie McAllister (Burney) and TE Carl Stoldt (HR). Candidates were invited to share their insights on one of the “I Am” statements from the Gospel of John. Commissioners examined each of the candidates. Hearing no objection, the examination was arrested. It was **VOTED**, individually, to approve all candidates for membership in the Sacramento Presbytery.
3. It was **VOTED** to approve the Terms of Call of the Interim Contract between TE Steven Brewer and Davis Community Church with an effective date of July 15, 2013: Salary of \$43,750; Housing of \$43,750; BoP dues as required; Auto/Travel of \$1,500; Professional Expenses of \$800; Study Leave Expenses of \$1,000.
4. It was **VOTED** to approve Terms of Call for TE Rich Hinkle with First Presbyterian Church, Marysville with an effective June 9, 2013: Salary of \$20,462; Housing of \$24,000; ½ SECA of \$3,420; BoP dues of \$15,150; Dental premiums of \$1,446; Health Reimbursement Acct. of \$1,400; Auto/Travel of \$3,000; Professional Expenses of \$1,000; Study Leave Expenses of \$1,000; Health Reimbursement Account Administrative Fee of \$95.00.
5. It was **VOTED** to approve the following Installation Commission for TE Rich Hinkle: RE Roger Newquist, Journey Church, Folsom (Moderator); TE Pamela Anderson, Esparto; RE Steven Howard, St. Andrew, Yuba City; RE Nancy VanSant, Woodland; RE Susan Baker, Marysville; TE Jeanie Shaw, Rancho Cordova for Sunday, October 13, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, Marysville.
6. It was **VOTED** to approve Terms of Call (half time) of TE Sherrie McAllister with Burney Presbyterian Church with an effective date of September 22, 2013: Salary of \$8,071.00, Housing Allowance of \$12,500, BoP dues of \$10,020.00, Travel of \$1,200.00, Professional Expenses negotiated as needed, Vacation of 4 weeks (2 weeks per 6 months), Study Leave of 2 weeks and First Call of \$500 and 1 additional week of study leave.

## Break

The presbytery reconvened and an updated credential report was provided: 33 TEs, 42 REs for a total of 75, representing 18 congregations.

## Report of the Committee on Ministry--Continued

1. It was **VOTED** to add the requirements of the Sabbatical Policy and Separation/Ethics Policy to the Terms of Call. The policies are included with these minutes as an attachment.
2. A motion to approve the Leave Policy was presented. It was moved and seconded to amend the policy to clarify that the three days bereavement leave could include one Sunday. The amendment was **VOTED**. It was **VOTED** to approve the Leave Policy as amended. The policy is included with these minutes as an attachment.
3. It was **VOTED** to add the requirements of the Leave Policy to the Terms of Call.
4. It was **VOTED** to accept the recommendation of COM that the minimum effective salary of Teaching Elders' Terms of Call be raised by 3% effective 2014. Further, it was recommended that pastor's salaries for 2014 be adjusted at least in keeping with the Consumer Price Index.

<u>Current Minimums</u>	<u>Approved Minimums for 2014</u>
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Less than 5 years with manse	
\$32,599	\$33,576.97
w/o manse	
\$40,142	\$41,345.26
More than 5 years with manse	
\$41,994	\$43,253.82
w/o manse	
\$49,715	\$51,206.45

An updated credential report was provided: 35 TEs, 43 REs for a total of 77 representing 18 congregations.

5. It was **VOTED** to approve the Dismissal Agreement with McCloud Community Presbyterian Church. The Dismissal Agreement is included in the minutes as an attachment. The presbytery was led in prayer by RE Joe Harrop.
6. Report from the Corning Church - The former treasurer of the church embezzled funds from the church and upon the discovery of her actions, took her own life. Judy Turner, a member of the church, spoke to the presbytery about the situation. Contributions to the church are being received from other churches in the presbytery. TE Tripp offered prayer for the Corning church.

**Worship** - The presbytery was led in worship by the 2013 Triennium Delegation.

## Pastoral Support Committee—TE Pamela Anderson

1. The next preaching conference will be held Oct. 20 -22.
2. A grant for \$150,000 has been submitted which will provide conferences for the western five synods.
3. Vouchers for spiritual direction and counseling are available for TEs.

### **Report of Mission Support Ministry Team – TE John Stevens**

1. Following the Passion Summit that identified mission as a high priority, the following change has been made in staffing and Mission Support: The “Hunger Action Enabler” position has been renamed “Mission Advocate” with the position including broader resource support for mission.
2. The Mission Support Ministry Team is exploring a future partnership with congregations and the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan.
3. Two years of mission trips have been sponsored by the presbytery. The 2013 mission trip participants to Alaska (Annette Island and the Metlakatla Presbyterian Church) were introduced and the team presented a report of their activities. Thirty people representing seven churches, led by TE Jeanie Shaw of the Sacramento Presbytery were members of the team.
4. An adult PDA 2014 Mission Trip will be to Jamaica, NY to help address the effects of Hurricane Sandy, and a return trip to Metlakatla, Alaska with youth and adults will be offered.

### **Budget and Finance—Dave Radcliffe**

TE Radcliffe reported disbursement of the \$350,000 from the Fremont Dismissal agreement: 1) payment of all past due, current year, and 2014 per capita and 2) the balance set aside for the University Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, established on the Fremont EPC campus.

### **Adjournment for lunch The presbytery reconvened at 12:45 pm**

An updated credential report was presented with 35 TEs, 44 REs for a total of 79 with 18 congregations represented.

It was **VOTED** to approve the Installation Commission for TE Sherrie McAllister: RE Roger Newquist, Journey Church, Folsom (Moderator); TE Shannon Christopher, Bidwell Church, Chico; TE Jeanie Shaw, River Valley, Rancho Cordova; TE Richard Wylie, HR; RE Michael Kerns, Burney Church, Burney; RE Judi Angell, Placerville Federated, Placerville for Sunday, October 27, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. (tentatively) at Burney Presbyterian Church.

### **Nomination Committee—RE Dave Yagel**

A list of vacancies to be filled in November 2013 was distributed.

### **Congregational Support Ministry Team – TE Ivan Herman**

1. Triennium 2013: 30 youth, 5 adults and 1 work team person were sent.
2. Alternative Energy Night—a presbytery-wide event will be held in January 2014
3. Mutual support gatherings for youth pastors and youth directors are being held.
4. An educational opportunity named “Digital Pentecost” will be held October 26, 2013 at Westminster. All are invited to attend. Interested parties can register on-line.
5. A workshop in developing safe environments for youth/children and those vulnerable in their communities will be held Nov. 5 @ Carmichael Presbyterian Church. Templates for safety policies will be available. The team is also considering ways to create “safe place” for offenders as churches seek to welcome them back into the church.

6. TE Ken Winters reported on the Administrative Commission working with the 1001 New Worshipping Communities initiative. Information is available on the Presbytery website.
7. TE Peggy Cross reported on the “New Beginnings” assessment recently completed by St. Stephens Presbyterian Church, North Highlands. Upon session’s reviewing all the information gathered and having completed conversations with the congregation, the decision was been made to close the church on January 26, 2014. The next few months will be spent in planning how closure will take place, ensuring that time to remember the 60 years of ministry of the church will be honored. The church will also be discerning the distribution of their assets. TE Cross shared that this is a time of hope for the future of God’s ministry and celebration of all that God has done through the church. She requested that those in the presbytery participate in this celebration by sending notes to the church and sharing memories for inclusion in their closing worship. Finally, TE Cross encouraged other churches to engage in the “New Beginnings” assessment process as it can be an affirmation of the path a church’s ministry is taking and provide for “course correction” that improves the health of a congregation and its relationship with the community it serves. TE Herman prayed for the St. Stephen’s congregation. He also noted that Trinity Church in Oroville is in the “New Beginnings” assessment process.

#### **Report of Presbytery Council – TE Lori Sprinkle**

Moderator-Elect TE Sprinkle presented three proposed changes to the by-laws. The first was the second reading of proposed changes to section 3.000 that adds 3.001 and 3.002 Electronic Meetings and Email Voting –It was **Voted** to approve the proposed change to the By-Laws.

1. Proposed Amendment on Electronic Meetings and Email Voting for Presbytery of Sacramento’s BYLAWS—new additions are indicated with **bold** and *italicized* font.

#### **3.000 MEETINGS**

The presbytery shall meet in stated session four times a year and in special meetings when called according to the provisions in the Book of Order G-3.0304. A quorum for a meeting of presbytery shall be three teaching elders and three ruling elder commissioners, provided that at least three congregations are represented by elders.

#### ***3.001 Electronic Meetings***

***Committees, commissions, boards and other official entities of the Presbytery of Sacramento may, from time to time when physical meetings are impractical, arrange to meet and conduct business via electronic video and/or audio teleconference. Reasonable notice of the date, time, and set-up procedures of electronic meetings will be given by the group's chairperson or moderator. The conduct of electronic meetings will conform as closely as possible to the procedures for physical committee meetings set out in the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order, including (but not limited to) those for quorums and the recording of minutes. Actions taken in teleconference meetings shall be reported in the same manner as any other actions are reported. Minutes of teleconference meetings shall be treated as official minutes, must be approved by the entity at its next physical or electronic meeting, and shall be kept and forwarded in the same way as minutes of physical meetings.***

#### ***3.002 Email Voting***

***Committees, commissions, boards and other official entities of the Presbytery of Sacramento may, from time to time cast binding votes through email or other commonly used but individually addressed electronic tool. Email voting is limited to action items believed to be routine and not controversial. In such cases the chair or moderator of the***

*entity will make a motion (a second is not required) by sending the motion's text and any significant background material to all members of the body. The group's moderator, chairperson, or designated staff member will also include an announcement which clearly indicates the deadline for receipt of responses and offers any and all members the opportunity to stop the email vote and call for an electronic or physical meeting to consider the matter. Members of the group voting will use the "respond all" facility of email or otherwise respond in a way by which all participants can see all the votes. Email voting produces a valid action when the number of voters responding meets or exceeds the group's normal quorum, and the measure being voted on receives positive responses from at least 3/4 of those members who respond. The Chairperson or Moderator will report the result of the email vote, and it will be recorded in the minutes of the next meeting.*

The next two proposed changes were presented in this first reading. TP Wilkins spoke to the rationale for the changes. Action will be taken at the November Stated Meeting of the Presbytery. Proposed changes are indicated by **bold** and *italicized* font.

2. First reading of the proposed change to the Bylaws 5.001 regarding the membership of Council:

**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.***

3. New Vision Statement of the Sacramento Presbytery

Background (not included in the vision statement): This proposed vision statement seeks to encapsulate the cumulative efforts of the Visioning Task Force and reflect the desires of the Presbytery as expressed at the Visioning Summit, namely, to re-establish trusting and caring relationships with each other and to take on a more missional posture, which includes equipping for ministry. It also announces that we are in a new season in the life of our Presbytery. The statement is written within a theological framework that first establishes

that it is the Triune God who initiates and sustains whatever we do. It ends with an affirmation that whatever we do is only possible by the power of God within the eschatological framework of God's ultimate purposes for the cosmos.

First reading of the proposed change to the Bylaws to be voted on November 12, 2013:

***“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 Kingdom.”***

TE Sprinkle invited the presbytery to submit questions or thoughts each may have to Council members prior to October 2.

#### **Report of Personnel Committee – RE Al Bare**

1. RE Al Bare explained the history of the current contract with TE Jay Wilkins and the reasons that the Personnel Committee brought to Council the recommendation to present him for election as the General Presbyter (GP) with a permanent contract. Council concurred with the recommendation. Thus, it was moved to elect TE Jay Wilkins to the position of GP effective January 1, 2014 with the following Terms of Call: Salary of \$52,000; Housing Allowance of \$28,000; BoP, \$28,000; Professional Expenses of \$12,000; SECA Supplement (up to 50%) of \$6,120; Continuing Education of \$3,000 and 2 weeks; Other Allowances of \$1,584; Vacation 4 weeks. It was moved to postpone the motion until November Stated Meeting. The motion was **DEFEATED**. The original motion was **VOTED**. Installation plans will follow. TE Wilkins responded with thanks to God for the presbytery, the experience of serving it and the invitation to be a part of its continued healing and its mission to share the Good News.
2. Shelly Mitchell was introduced as the new office manager.

#### **Announcements**

Next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Sacramento will be November 12, 2013, beginning at 4:30 p.m. at Bethany Presbyterian Church, Sacramento

The Presbytery meeting was adjourned at 1:39 p.m. with prayer by TE Dave Huusko.

Respectfully submitted,

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TE Nancy Clegg, Stated Clerk

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RE Claire Pisor, Recording Clerk