

The Presbytery of Stockton
Minutes of the Stated Meeting
Teleconference Meeting via Zoom
Saturday, May 2, 2020

The Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Stockton was convened at 9:08 a.m. with prayer by Moderator RE David Weisenberger. The Stated Clerk, MWS Nancy Clegg welcomed everyone, and introduced the Zoom "Co-hosts" of the meeting. MWS Jim Kitchens and MWS Deborah Wright gave a brief tutorial on the use of Zoom for this meeting.

| Attending | Ministers of Word and Sacrament | Ruling Elders |
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| Ceres, Harvest Lodi, Grace | Steve Netniss | John Arthur Bill Stigle |
| Manteca Modesto, Geneva | Joshua Trautmann | Barbara Meyer Leroy Campbell Gary Rowe |
| Patterson, Federated Stockton, First | Eun-Joo Myung Ashley Love | Doug Hunt Kim Roider Evelyn Agdoma Robert Opie Nancy Morgan Link |
| Stockton, Trinity Tracy, First | Doug Abel | Candace Peterson Pat Wallace |
| Turlock, Cortez Turlock, First | Craig Wright | |

Other Ministers of Word and Sacrament: Nancy Clegg, Lee Heim, David Hill, Kim Nelson, Wendy Warner
John Russell-Curry

Corresponding Members: Jim Kitchens; PneuMatrix Exec Services (Sacramento), Deborah Wright; PneuMatrix Exec Services (San Francisco), Mary Westfall; Transitional Presbyter (Sacramento), Ivan Herman; Moderator (Sacramento), Larry Thorson; Temporary Pastor Manteca (San Francisco)

Ruling Elder Officers and Chairpersons:
 David Weisenberger, Moderator and Chair of Healthy Congregations
 Marcy Wright, Chair of Mission
 Sharon Miller, Presbyterian Women
 Pete Ludwigsen, Chair of Personnel

Others Present: Peggy Larimer (Manteca)

Total number of Ministers of the Word present: 12; Total number of Ruling Elder Commissioners present: 16; Total number of congregations present: 7

The Stated Clerk declared that a quorum was present according to the Book of Order G-11.0202.

Introductions and Seating of Corresponding Members: MWS Jim Kitchens (Co-director of PneuMatrix; Executive Services), MWS Deborah Wright (Co-director of PneuMatrix; Executive Services), MWS Mary Westfall (Transitional Presbyter for Sacramento Presbytery), MWS Ivan Herman (Moderator of Sacramento Presbytery), and MWS Larry Thorson (Temporary Pastor at Manteca) were introduced and by declaration were seated with voice.

Consent Agenda: The Consent Agenda was approved without objection.

- Approval of the Minutes of the Stated Meeting held on February 8, 2020
- Treasurer's Report

Adoption of the docket: The docket was approved without objection.

Worship: Worship was led by MWS Craig Wright, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Turlock with video music and sermon. Scripture from Genesis 2 and Eccl 3 was shared on the theme of Sabbath rest, and the good news of Sabbath that brings life through letting go of self to more self-giving. The current pandemic gives us time to put others first, which in turn also is life-giving for us.

Stated Clerk Report: MWS Nancy Clegg

- The 224th General Assembly will be held electronically via a teleconference platform over three days, June 19, 26-27, 2020. The Synod Overture for the combining of our presbytery and Sacramento Presbytery to form North Central California Presbytery will most likely be given to an Administrative Commission to approve on behalf of the General Assembly.
- Administrative Commission to Cortez - RE Marcy Wright
 - After summarizing the changes over the last several months with the lack of a formal partnership with an immigrant support organization, and county changes with the zoning laws, the AC recommended the formation of a Spanish-speaking faith community with regular Sunday worship to keep the church open. There is a new family living in the manse, that is also maintaining the church property. Worship can begin again when churches can reopen. Questions and suggestions were offered, including a possible connection with the Spanish-speaking ELCA church in nearby Livingston. It was MSC to support this recommendation from the Administrative Commission to form a Spanish-speaking faith community at the Cortez church.
- Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Center – Nancy gave a brief report on the financial crisis that the conference center is facing. She acknowledged the presbytery members that serve on the current Zephyr Point Board of Directors. The Synod of the Pacific (and Synod of Southern California and Hawaii) have oversight. A special committee of the ZP Board is tasked with addressing these financial issues. RE Robert Opie serves on this special committee. A motion was put in writing and presented for a vote. It was MSC to empower the Joint Council and Joint Finance Committee (current Stockton and Sacramento Presbyteries Councils and Committees) to determine presbytery support, and if funds are available to assist Zephyr Point prior to May 15, 2020, and report to the Stated Meeting of the North Central California Presbytery Stated Meeting on September 12, 2020. Current serving ZP Board members from both Stockton and Sacramento Presbyteries will be invited to this meeting. Special thanks were given to the Board Members for their leadership during this difficult time, also acknowledging the recent resignation of Executive Director Bedford Holmes and other challenges facing the conference center in adapting and planning for the future health and sustainability of the Center, its programs and personnel.

Committee on Ministry: MWS David Hill

- Commissioning RE Sharon Miller to service at Manteca Presbyterian Church - David introduced Sharon and both shared about her preparation and certification through the CRE program oversight of San Francisco Presbytery. The COM has been kept informed of her progress and was part of her final examination. Now Sharon is ready to receive a Commission. The presbytery was given the job description and terms of commission and Statement of Faith. Sharon was asked to

read her Statement of Faith. The presbytery asked questions about congregational approval (not required) and Sharon's current service as the Clerk of Session, which will end as soon as a replacement is elected. The Manteca Presbyterian Church Session has agreed to a job description as CRE with Term of Commission as follows: \$300/month; 6 month evaluation with Session and the Committee on Ministry; possible renewal after 3 years; effective May 2, 2020. It was MSC to commission RE Sharon Miller (Manteca), having completed all required coursework, examination, certification (San Francisco Presbytery CRE Training) and approval of the Committee on Ministry and the Session of Manteca Presbyterian Church, to serve as defined by the job description for the Manteca Presbyterian Church with the stated Terms of Commission. MWS David Hill gave a commissioning prayer.

Council: MWS Wendy Warner

- Joint Council Meetings with Sacramento Presbytery have occurred twice, with common focus toward the formation of the new presbytery. Wendy assured the presbytery that is not about a large presbytery "swallowing up" a small presbytery, but a true sharing and combination of presbyteries and mutual best practices.
- Manteca Task Force – The church is not pursuing any sale or purchase at this time, so the Task Force that was formed does not need to be in place. It was MSC to dismiss the Manteca Task Force with thanks.
- The Sacramento Nominating Committee and remaining members of our Nominating Committee are beginning to fill necessary vacancies. It was MSC to empower the Joint Nominating Committee to begin filling the vacancies for the new presbytery.

Executive Services: MWS Deborah Wright, MWS Jim Kitchens, MWS Mary Westfall

- Deborah gave an overview of recent pandemic challenges with our churches, and what to anticipate. She notices a 4 stage process: 1. Get through Easter; 2. Look at churches financially, emotionally, and spiritually; i.e. Deborah led a Zoom seminar on financial assistance; 3. Re-entry – when and how, and she referenced a resource from the Wisconsin Council of Churches; 4. Moving forward – what to keep and what to let go.
- Mary shared that both presbyteries are on track with merger details and ways we are communicating by combining similar committees and getting to know one another.
- Mary shared about the formation of a Special Task Force to work together with existing Finance Committees to put together the 2021 Budget – 3 people from each presbytery will be asked to serve on this task force.
- There is a Weekly, soon to be Biweekly Newsletter with updates and resources – please send any church highlights to share.
- The September 12, 2020 Stockton Presbytery Meeting will be a time of closure, and on the same day join with Sacramento Presbytery for the first official North Central California Presbytery Meeting.
- Support our pastors during this time! One way is with the Employee Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, and other resources are available. Jim will gather pastors who just began their ministry before this pandemic.

New and Unfinished Business/Friendly One Minute Announcements

1. Executive Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Colombia sent a heartfelt thank you for the support of their pastors during this pandemic and consequent financial crisis for the churches.

2. RE Cecilia Moran has been elected as the co-moderator for Synod Presbyterian Women.
3. Compliment the congregations on adapting and providing connections through all kinds of virtual means.
4. MWS Jim Stochl is recording worship and sends his greetings to the presbytery.'
5. Committee on Preparation for Ministry will be enrolling RE Sandy Mahurin (Grace, Lodi) as an Inquirer; and CPM will be joining with Sacramento Presbytery soon in a get-acquainted meeting.

Adjournment and Closing Prayer – RE David Weisenberger

David closed the meeting with prayer at 10:48 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

MWS Nancy Clegg
Stated Clerk

DRAFT