

Minutes
Presbytery of Santa Barbara
“Joining Together. Worshipping God. Loving People”
460th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery Of Santa Barbara
9:30am Saturday, February 9, 2019
Moorpark Presbyterian Church

The Mission of the Presbytery of Santa Barbara:

We, the PCUSA churches and ministries of Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo counties, join together to foster vibrant worshipping communities who proclaim and live out the love of Jesus Christ for one another and our neighbors.

The 460th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Santa Barbara, Presbyterian Church (USA) was convened on February 9, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. at Moorpark Presbyterian Church, Moorpark, California, by Moderator Ruling Elder Tamara Skov who opened the meeting with prayer.

Stated Clerk Sandy Thoits confirmed a quorum was present.

Roll was taken by cards. 52 persons indicated attendance with 44 registered voters: 17 Teaching Elders, 24 Ruling Elders & Commissioned Ruling Elders (representing 11 churches). Presbytery Council members: 3. Corresponding Members: 4. Visitor cards: 4

CHURCH/TEACHING ELDERS

- Carpinteria
 Jarrett Johnson
- Goleta
- Grover Beach (Coastal Community)
- Lompoc (Cityview)
- Moorpark
 Bonnie Boe (CRE)
- Newbury Park
 Matt Elam
 Tom Stephen
 CRE Mickey Fenn (The Way Station NWC)
- Nipomo

**RULING ELDER
COMMISSIONERS**

- Patty Stetson
Cliff Jones
- Brenda Kermode
Kim Yancey
Kathy Paul
Debbie Lee
- Mary Nelson
Cindy Vodraska
- Toni Destro

- Ojai
Gail Lopez
- Oxnard
Ted Brandt
Debbie Oberlander
David Baumgartner
- Paso Robles (Highlands)
- Pismo Beach
- Port Hueneme (Living Hope)
Ron Urzua (also FP Santa Paula)
Patrick Sutherland
- San Luis Obispo
Dennis Falasco
Jim Seeber
- Santa Barbara (First Pres.)
Erik Wiebe
Heather Giles
Fred Marsh
- Santa Barbara (St. Andrew's)
Scott Eschbach
Dana Monk
Mona Wise
- Santa Paula
Penny L. Carlson
- Simi Valley (Stonebridge)
Neal Nybo
Jonathan Lusche
Cynthia Purvis
Andy Thompson
Ashley Chelonis
- Summerland
- Thousand Oaks (Emmanuel)
David Anderson
Craig Williams
Joyce Maxwell

Other Teaching Elder Members: Jeffrey Cheadle, James Witty, Katherine Wiebe

Corresponding Members: Rev. Mike Harbert, San Fernando Presbytery, Rev. Jennifer Witten, San Fernando Presbytery; Rev. Mark Hong, Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk, Synod of Southern California and Hawaii; Rev. Clayton Cobb, Pacific Presbytery, Board of Pensions

Ruling Elder Members of Presbytery Council present: Diane Kirkpatrick, Tamara Skov, Sandy Thoits

Others Visitors present: Vera P. Rimes (Moorpark Pres.), Derek Castellano (Stonebridge), Chris Harris, CPA; Chung Cam, CPA (Damitz, Brooks, Nightingale, Turner & Morrisset)

Introduction of First Time Ruling Elder Commissioners: Mary Nelson (Monte Vista), Heather Giles (First Pres. Santa Barbara), Patrick Sutherland, Port Hueneme (Living Hope), Kim Yancey (Moorpark), Debbie Lee (Moorpark.)

Motion to grant privilege of floor to Corresponding Members and Committee Members. **Approved**

Motion to Adopt the Agenda as distributed. **Approved**

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda (attached) **Approved**

Rev. Mike Harbert, Interim Pastor, Moorpark Presbyterian Church, welcomed the Presbytery. Moderator Tamara Skov expressed gratitude to the Moorpark Church for hosting the meeting.

Presbytery Adjourned to Celebration of Worship, with message given by Rev. Mike Harbert. Rev. Jennifer Witten and CRE Bonnie Boe assisted in worship.

Presbytery reconvened.

Treasurer's Report. Bonnie Boe, Treasurer.

-- *2018 Financial Report:* The Treasurer reviewed several items from the Presbytery Profit & Loss Financial Report, January – December 2018. Front Porch Campus Ministry met its end of year fundraising goals. A fundraising team has been established for Front Porch. The Treasurer reported that all GA and Synod Per Capita from churches that is received by the Presbytery are being all being passed through quarterly to the designated organizations.

Motion to receive the report, Profit & Loss Financial Report, January – December 2018, seconded. **Approved**

-- *2019 Corrected Budget:* The 2019 budget approved at the November 13, 2018 Presbytery meeting includes an incorrect calculation, which has now been corrected, and presented to Presbytery for approval at this meeting. Motion to approve the revised corrected 2019 Budget, seconded. **Approved**

-- *2015 and 2016 Presbytery of Santa Barbara Audit:* Treasurer Bonnie Boe welcomed Chris Harris and Chung Cam, Auditors, who reviewed some items from the Audit report. **Motion** to receive the Presbytery of Santa Barbara Financial Statements Audit (2015 and

2016) and Independent Auditor Report, Damitz, Brooks, Nightingale, Turner & Morrisset. **Approved.**

-- *Highlands (Paso Robles) Mortgage:* Treasurer Bonnie Boe reported that the 2015, 2016 the Audit lists an item of \$271,000 in Accounts Receivable, which the Presbytery had previously booked as a receivable of Highlands Church. It has been on the Presbytery books for a long time. Presbytery holds a loan to the Highlands Church property and Presbytery owns the property. Highlands Session is asking that the Presbytery forgive the receivable. Research did not identify documentation of the intention of the receivable or terms for any repayment by Highlands Church to the Presbytery. Highlands is current on all mortgage payments.

A Motion was made and seconded as follows: That the Presbytery of Santa Barbara recognizes that the receivable discovered during the 2015, 2016 Audit be considered a missional gift by the Presbytery of Santa Barbara to Highlands Church.

Motion to Amend was made and seconded: To amend the main motion by adding at the end “and that the Presbytery assumes the obligation for the \$271,000 receivable.”

Motion to Amend – Approved

Motion as Amended: That the Presbytery of Santa Barbara recognizes that the receivable discovered during the 2015, 2016 Audit be considered a missional gift by the Presbytery of Santa Barbara to Highlands Church, and that the Presbytery assumes the obligation for the \$271,000 receivable.

Chris Harris, CPA explained that if approved, this will be recorded in the Presbytery books as a contribution by the Presbytery to Highlands Church.

Motion as Amended – Approved

Report of Presbytery Council. Rev. Dennis Falasco, Council Chair

-- *Introduction of Committee Chairs.* Rev. Dennis Falasco introduced new members of Presbytery Council and new Committee Chairs: Elder Scott Eschbach (Property & Finance) and Rev. David Anderson (Committee on Preparation for Ministry).

-- *Board of Pensions.* Rev. Clayton Cobb, Church Consultant with the Board of Pensions, shared about three 3 new programs - (1) Healthy Pastors, Healthy Congregations: provides clergy up to \$10,000 in grants for financial need. (2) Minister Educational Debt Assistance Grants. (3) Pathways to Renewal, which reduces minister participation dues for ministers under age 40 who accept a call at a church with under 200 members which has been without an installed pastor for over 2 years.

-- *Update on Dismissal Process for Lompoc Presbyterian Church.* Rev. Dennis Falasco, Chair of the Presbytery Discernment Team (PTD) for Lompoc reported on the status. The PDT met in open forum with the congregation, completed the discernment assessment and reported to Presbytery Council. The Lompoc Session notified the Presbytery by letter of Session’s approval of a request to leave the denomination and request dismissal to ECO. The PDT process is complete. The next step is advancing to

the dismissal (PRT) process, with Council to appoint the Presbytery Response Team (PRT).

- *Planning Team Update.* Rev. Tom Stephen reported for the Planning Team. The Planning Team has been addressing the topics identified in the Vision Team Report: Committee functioning, vibrant worshipping communities, sharing and celebrating “Bright Spots” of churches. Planning team members are visiting church Sessions as listening teams to reach out and listen to sessions. Presbytery leadership: sharing time at “table talks” today during lunch.
- *Celebrating the Bright Spots.* Beginning in February 2019 and continuing through the end of December 2020, at each Presbytery meeting, the Planning Team will ask two churches to give a 7-10 minute presentation that celebrates an area of success in the church’s ministry. The purpose of this program is three fold: help churches know one another; equip churches to learn from what is working in their church; inspire pastors and elders to learn from each other’s best practices. Rev. Tom Stephen announced that today one church will be highlighted and he called up Rev. Mike Harbert from Moorpark Presbyterian Church. Mike shared an outline of Moorpark’s emphasis in ministries and introduced Tim Leonhardi, who shared about his journey bringing him to be Moorpark and his joy in being part of the congregation.

Lunch. The Presbytery dismissed for lunch at 12:00pm and reconvened at 1:05pm.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION PC(USA)

The Proposed Amendments approved by the 223rd General Assembly (2018) were distributed by to all minister members and Clerks of Session. In addition, the Proposed Amendments were posted on the Presbytery’s website.

Motions on each of the Proposed Amendments were moved and seconded from the floor.

Following discussion on the Proposed Amendments,

IT WAS VOTED to respond in the affirmative to Amendment 18-A, by voice vote.

IT WAS VOTED to respond in the affirmative to Amendment 18-B1, by voice vote.

IT WAS VOTED to respond in the affirmative to Amendment 18-B2, by voice vote.

IT WAS VOTED to respond in the negative to Amendment 18-C, by voice vote.

IT WAS VOTED to respond in the affirmative to Amendment 18-D, by voice vote.

IT WAS VOTED to respond in the affirmative to Amendment 18-E, by voice vote.

IT WAS VOTED to respond in the affirmative to Amendment 18-F, by voice vote.

IT WAS VOTED to respond in the affirmative to Amendment 18-G, by voice vote.

IT WAS VOTED to respond in the affirmative to Amendment 18-H1, by voice vote.

IT WAS VOTED to respond in the affirmative to Amendment 18-H2, by voice vote.

Committee Reports and Motions.

-- **Committee on Preparation for Ministry.** Rev. David Anderson, CPM Chair, reported on the status of current candidates under care. Mickey Fenn (CRE) is currently under care and is advancing in her seminary education at the New Theological Seminary of the West (NTSW), with excellent grades and has already passed the Bible Content exam. NTSW is currently in the process of accreditation by ATS. CPM approved an accommodation for Mickey Fenn on the accreditation, and brings this recommended motion to the Presbytery for approval.

- **MOTION** from the Committee - To provide an accommodation for Mickey Fenn's seminary education from New Theological Seminary of the West (NTSW), a Seminary that has not yet been accredited by ATS.

Approved by Unanimous vote

-- **Committee on Ministry.** Rev. Jarrett Johnson

- Rev. Jarrett Johnson, Vice Chair, presented the Committee's recommendation to examine **Rev. Neal Nybo** for membership in the Presbytery of Santa Barbara, as Interim Pastor at Stonebridge Community Church in Simi Valley. Rev. Nybo is currently a minister member in good standing at Los Ranchos Presbytery. Rev. Nybo read his Statement of Faith and responded to questions from the Presbytery. Neal was excused from the room. A **motion** from the committee was made that Rev. Neal Nybo be enrolled as an active member of the Presbytery of Santa Barbara upon his dismissal from the Los Ranchos Presbytery. **Approved**
- Rev. Jarrett Johnson presented a **Motion** from the Committee to grant **Rev. Jeff Cheadle** (Stonebridge) to Honorable Retirement status as of December 31, 2018. **Approved.** Rev. Jonathan Lusche spoke and expressed gratitude for Jeff's ministry and his honor to serve together in ministry at Stonebridge.
- Rev. Johnson reported that **Rev. Stephen E. Jacobsen** has been approved by COM to serve as Interim Pastor at St. Andrew's (Santa Barbara). Steve is currently an At Large Member of the Presbytery of Santa Barbara; examination isn't need. **Motion** to approved Rev. Stephen E. Jacobsen as Interim Pastor at St. Andrew's. **Approved.**

-- **Property and Finance.** Moderator Tamara Skov reported that Presbytery is asked to review the written report and Minutes from the Property and Finance Committee, as distributed.

Church Development Committee. Rev. Matt Elam, Chair, reported that approval from PC(USA) 1001 Worshipping Community of grants has recently been received for The Way Station NWC (Camarillo) and Resurrection Church NWC (Coastal Community Church, Grover Beach).

-- **CORN. Committee on Representation and Nominations.** Rev. Tom Stephen, Chair reported that nominations will be requested for Commissioners to the 224th General Assembly (2020), 1 TE, 1 RE, 1 YAAD. Nomination Forms to go out to Presbytery and churches. Synod is seeking nominations for a Synod Vice-Moderator. Ruling Elders are needed for Presbytery CPM and COM.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with prayer at 2:05 p.m.

The 461st Meeting of the Presbytery of Santa Barbara will be held on Saturday, May 18, 2019, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Pismo Beach Community Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Thoits
Stated Clerk

**Consent Agenda
February 9, 2019
Presbytery Meeting**

Report of the Stated Clerk – Consent Agenda

- **Approve** the November 13, 2018 Minutes of the 459th meeting of the Presbytery of Santa Barbara as distributed.
- **Approve** the current allocation of ruling elder commissioners to Presbytery shall remain in effect through the May 18, 2019 Presbytery meeting, at which time it will be adjusted in keeping with the number of minister members in the presbytery as of 12/31/18 and membership as reported by the churches as of 12/31/18.
- **Approve - Proposed Amendment to Presbytery Standing Rules, adding 6.55.** (Presented for 1st reading at the November 13, 2018, Presbytery Meeting and 2nd reading and vote at the February 9, 2019 Presbytery Meeting)

- **Presbytery Council recommends that the Presbytery approve the adoption of the following Amendment to the Presbytery Standing Rules, to provide a rule for appointment of an investigating committee, in compliance with D – 10.0201b of the Book of Order:**
 - *The following provision shall be added as Paragraph 6.55 to the Standing Rules of the Presbytery of Santa Barbara:*
 - *6.55 Investigating Committee (D – 10.0201b): The Stated Clerk, in consultation with the Presbytery Moderator and Chair of Presbytery Council, is authorized to appoint an Investigating Committee in accordance with Book of Order D-10.0200.*

- Ministerial Changes:
 - Reports that Rev. Deborah Kehle was dismissed to the Grand Canyon Presbytery as of September 25, 2018.
 - Reports that Rev. James Butin Shirley was dismissed to the Presbytery of San Diego, as of February 10, 2018.
 - Reports that Rev. Diane White was dismissed to the Yellowstone Presbytery as of March 1, 2018.
 - Church Triumphant. Rev. Dale Paulsen, deceased November 18, 2018.

- Dates and sites for the 2019 Presbytery meetings:
 - Saturday, 2/9/19 – Moorpark
 - Saturday, 5/18/19 – Pismo Beach
 - Saturday, 9/21/19 – Summerland
 - Tuesday, 11/12/19 – Newbury Park

Report of the Presbytery Council

December 5, 2018 Meeting:

- Approved a motion that Council recommend to Presbytery to remove the Highlands Notes Receivable from the corporate financial books.
- Regarding repayment of the past Special Offerings, as listed on the Audit Report, the Treasurer reported to Council that the past Special Offerings are currently being paid to the PC(USA).
- Heard a report from the Disaster Response Task Force that the Presbytery applied for and received a \$7,500 grant from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for response to the Borderline Bar and Grill Shooting. Two PDA National Response Teams came and met with pastors and leaders.
- Heard a status report from the PDT for Lompoc Presbyterian Church.
- Heard a report from the Personnel Committee regarding staffing and set the Presbytery Office hours as Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:00AM – 3:00PM.

- Heard a report from the Planning Team about listening team visits to church Sessions.
- Heard a report from the Church Development Committee regarding a NWC grants received from the PC(USA) and status of church Mission Studies

January 23, 2019 Meeting:

- Welcomed new Council members and committee chairs Rev. David Anderson (CPM) and RE Scott Eschbach (Property & Finance). Thanks given for outgoing chairs CRE Katy Griffin (CPM) and RE Terry Holland (P&F).
- Received and reviewed the 2018 end of year financial report from the Treasurer.
- Heard a report from the Presbytery Discernment Team (PDT) for the Lompoc request for dismissal to ECO, completion of the PDT process and next steps.
- Heard about the status and process for background checks and safe conduct training and new laws regarding anti-harassment training. Council approved a motion to require all minister members of Presbytery and all Presbytery employees to complete anti-harassment online training by December 31, 2019. Stated Clerk to follow up on process through Insurance Board (Praesidium).
- Heard a report from the Planning Team on the visitations to churches and plans for “Celebrating the Bright Spots” sharing by churches during Presbytery meetings in 2019.

Attachments

Call to Presbytery – Docket

Agenda

Clerks Report and Consent Agenda

Moderator’s Letter, January 28, 2019

November 13, 2018 Presbytery Minutes (for approval)

2019 Corrected Budget

Presbytery Profit & Loss Financial Report, January – December 2018

Presbytery of Santa Barbara Financial Statements (2015 and 2016) and
Independent Auditor Report, Damitz, Brooks, Nightingale, Turner &
Morrisset

Committee on Preparation for Ministry Minutes, January 17, 2019

Church Development Committee Minutes, January 16, 2019

Disaster Force Task Force Report, January 23, 2019

Property & Finance Minutes, January 26, 2019

Celebrating the Bright Spots

Statement of Faith, Neal Nybo