

Presbytery of Santa Barbara

Report of the Stated Clerk and Consent Agenda February 6, 2021

Consent Agenda

NOTE: All items on the Consent Agenda will be presented for approval on one motion; however, any item may be removed for discussion and separate vote. Other Consent Agenda items may be distributed at the meeting.

The Stated Clerk:

- Recommends **approval** by Presbytery of the November 10, 2020 Minutes of the 467th meeting of the Presbytery of Santa Barbara.
- Minister Transactions:
 - The Committee on Ministry recommends Presbytery **approval** of the Dismissal of Rev. Dennis Falasco (HR) to East Tennessee Presbytery, pursuant to their request.

Stated Clerk Report

- **Notice of Special Called Presbytery Meeting, 3/9/21:** Presbytery Council has set a Special Called Presbytery Meeting for **Tuesday, March 9, 2021, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**, to be held by Zoom meeting platform. The purpose of the meeting is for a Presbytery-wide discussion on strategic use of Presbytery reserves.
- The **Notice of Call for Nominations for Presbytery Moderator-Elect** is included with the documents and reports for this meeting. Presbytery will elect the Presbytery Moderator Elect (2021-2022) at the Saturday, May 15, 2021 Presbytery Meeting. Presbytery Standing Rules (S.R.) 3.22 provides for 90-days notice for the Call for this election. The deadline to submit nominations forms to the Stated Clerk is May 1, 2021.
- **225th General Assembly (2022) News:** Last month, the PC(USA) Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA) approved a hybrid General Assembly in 2022 that will include both in-person and online meetings. The in-person location was changed from Columbus, Ohio to Louisville, Kentucky, site of the PC(USA) national office. The Assembly's 12 committees will hold committee meetings, to be held in Louisville. Three committees will meet on June 20–22, three on June 23–25, three on June 27–29, and three on June 30–July 2. All plenaries will be held online with the exception of an initial quorum gathering. Plenary dates are still to be determined.
- **PC(USA) Year of Leader Formation: Investing in Ruling Elders and Deacons.** The PC(USA) Office of General Assembly has launched a year-long initiative in 2021 that will focus on Deacons and Ruling Elders. The initiative, "Year of Leader Formation: Investing in

Ruling Elders and Deacons” brings together new training resources, a series of articles, a webinar series, and other tools to help participants grow in the role.

- Resources are available at www.pcusa.org/leader-formation/
 - *Coming Alive In Christ: Training For PC(USA) Ruling Elders And Deacons Based on The Constitutional Questions*. A multi-session resource delivered through an online training site, EQUIP. Study guides will be provided for leaders to use in a monthly and retreat format. Now available at <https://equip.pcusa.org/>
- The Agenda, Reports, Minutes and other documents for this Meeting are posted on the Presbytery Website: www.sbpres.org

Report of the Presbytery Council

Presbytery Council usually meets monthly on the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00AM, by Zoom. The meetings are open, and Presbytery members are encouraged to attend for all or part of the meetings. If you would like to attend a Council meeting, please contact Sandy Thoits, Stated Clerk, stated-clerk@sbpres.org, for the dates and times for the upcoming Council meetings. If you have concerns or recommendations, please contact the Moderator (Tom Stephen), Chair of Council (Janet Loughry), or Stated Clerk (Sandy Thoits).

December 2, 2020 Meeting by Zoom

- Approved the 11/10/20 Presbytery Meeting Minutes.
- Heard a report of positive results from the Front Porch Campus Ministry virtual fundraiser.
- Received a status report from the UMB Property Management Task Force on finalization of a property management contract for 2021.
- Planning for undertaking a Presbytery wide survey on possible uses for Presbytery reserves, as follow up to a motion approved by Presbytery at the November 10, 2020 Presbytery Meeting.
- Heard an update on planning and registrations for the *Rising to the Moment* (Tracey Stringer) program on five Sundays in January.
- Heard a report from the Clergy Support Committee on a survey emailed to pastors inquiring about ideas and pastoral needs.
- Authorized the Church Development Committee to distribute the \$3,750 remaining Synod COVID-19 grant funds to Presbytery new worshipping communities.
- Heard a report from the Stated Clerk on a virtual Zoom meeting on clerking topics hosted by the Stated Clerk for all church Clerks of Session.
- Approved holding the February 6, 2021 Presbytery Meeting by Zoom.

January 6, 2021 Meeting by Zoom

- Reviewed and received the November 30, 2020 financial report from the Treasurer.
- Planning for undertaking a Presbytery wide survey on the use of Presbytery reserves, as related to the Designated GP position and other possible uses. Council reviewed and approved a survey format. The survey to go out by email link (ie. Survey Monkey)

concurrent or after the 2/6/21 Presbytery Meeting. Council will set a date for a Special Presbytery Meeting in March, 2021, after the survey results are available, for discussion on the strategic use of Presbytery reserves.

- Meeting Follow Up: Subsequent to the 1/6/21 meeting, Council approved the following Motions by vote by email on January 15, 2021.
 - Motion to Approve the Tentative Agenda for the February 6, 2021 Presbytery Meeting. Approved.
 - Motion to set a Special Called Presbytery Meeting by Zoom on Tuesday, March 9, at 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; the purpose of the meeting is for a Presbytery wide discussion on strategic use of Presbytery reserves. Approved
- Heard a report from COPE and discussed planning for the February 6, 2021 Presbytery Meeting.
- Heard a report on the status of the PRT dismissal process for City View Community Church, Lompoc.
- Heard a report from Rev. David Anderson, CPM Chair, about two possible candidates to come under care.
- Approved holding the May 15, 2021 Presbytery Meeting by Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Thoits, Stated Clerk