

**Process for Dismissal CHECKLIST – El Montecito Presbyterian Church**

**Montecito (Santa Barbara), CA**

**Initial Contact with Presbytery**

4-30-2018-Please note not all dates are sequential because of 2 GDP's.

<b>GDP ACTION OR PROCESS Required</b>	<b>DATE Completed and COMMENTS</b>
<p>General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission RULING, posted at PSB website.</p> <p>General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission RULING, posted at PSB website.</p> <p>Session notification acknowledge by Stated Clerk <i>Session meeting 10/22/2014</i></p>	<p>Tom Ruling 10/28/2012 McGee Ruling 5/4/2014</p> <p>First letter/emailed from session 10/23/2014 lost Second letter 1/29/2015 rec'd</p>
<p>Notification of Presbytery Council by Session (lines 175-176)</p>	<p>ELMO clerk letter 1/29/2015</p>
<p>Session notified PDT will be formed</p>	<p>The original PRT results from the first Gracious Dismissal Policy, dated 5/4/2013, which predates GDP dated 5/20/2018, calling for a PDT. PRT informed session that original PRT was formed 2/23/2015. After PRT referred ELMO to COM, the PRT was on hold and then renamed in full at Council dated 2/24/2016.</p>
<p>Presbytery notified (in Consent Agenda)</p>	<p>5/16/2015</p>
<p>Session notified about church records (G-3.0107)</p>	<p>2/2015</p>
<p>Presbytery Discernment Team formed, and Session notified</p>	<p>The original PRT results from the first Gracious Dismissal Policy, dated 5/4/2013, which predates GDP dated 5/20/2018, calling for a PDT. The original PRT did the work of the required PDT on 6/7/2017 Per the rewritten GDP, which was Approved at Presbytery meeting 5/20/2017.</p>
<p>Discernment Team training</p>	<p>4/29/2013, 10:30 a.m., at CPC, Ventura. The original GDP called for PRT's, not the PDT's. PDT's are a product of the GDP re-write of 5/20/2017.</p>

**PRESBYTERY DISCERNMENT TEAM**

**(8-12 weeks in duration; no more than 3 months)**

The Presbytery Discernment Team shall consist of the following three to five (3-5) members including, but not limited to: a member of the Committee on Ministry, a member of Presbytery Council, and possibility a member at large, a member of the specific region, and/or a teaching elder.

PDT MEMBERS: Rev. Janet Loughry, Ch; Rev. Ted Brandt, Elder Diane Kirkpatrick (Elder Larry Lindsay was a member of the original PRT, through March 21, 2017)

ACTION/PROCESS	DATE and COMMENTS
Determine overall spiritual health of the organization and leadership of the church	3/18/2015 – and referred to COM 6/29/2017 – PDT meets with Session and Transition pastors and 2 congregational Forums. PRT Summary of Discernment Phase Assessment is posted on PSB web, as well as Chronology and History Narrative Report
History of the church’s relationship with the Presbytery; Presbytery to make an informal inquiry and judgement as to the possibilities of reconciliation.	On file is the relationship with the Presbytery. Commissioners may contact Janet Loughry to review this material. 3/18/2015 PRT met with ELMO session. While PRT determined improbable reconciliation, PRT also determined “unresolved differences between session and Pastor Jeff Bridgeman”. PRT did refer the situation to COM for their action. After PRT referred ELMO to COM, the PRT was on hold and then renamed in full at Council dated 2/24/2016. PRT met again with ELMO session 3/14/2016 and re-started the process. Same determination as before regarding improbably for reconciliation. 1/3/2017 Presbytery Moderator Peter Buehler and Sandy Thoits met with ELMO dismissal team John McManigal, Barbara Mendelson and Carl Perry with hopes of reconciliation, to no avail.
Meet with pastors individually	PRT chair met with Jay Shirley: 1)when he was the associate; was thinking about returning to San Diego. 2) when he was interim pastor, at

	conclusion of interim he would return to San Diego
Meet with session as a whole with and without pastors	3/18/2015 and 6/29/2017
Meet with congregants in open forum for discussions and assessment (Lines 182-188) What or who is preventing reconciliation How many are determined to leave and how many determined to stay Does the congregation understand what is being asked to consider Have the implications of leaving the PC(USA) been fully and fairly explained Has the process been open and fair to all concerned	7/26 and 7/30/2017 -- "identical" forum meetings with congregants on these two dates, with PRT members and Moderator Sandy Thoits PRT Summary Discernment Phase Assessment is on PSB website.
Report to Session the PDT's understanding of the current state of health of the church and leadership as well as the church's history with the Presbytery	The Summary report given to Council 8/2/2017 and the report to Presbytery on 11/14/2017 are posted on the PSB website.
By a minimum of 2/3 (two-thirds) vote, the Session, with the pastors/moderator, votes to move into the Dismissal process	That session meeting was 10/22/2014, as stated.
Session notifies Presbytery (through the Stated Clerk), their decision	10/23/2014 and 1/29/2015. Letter giving results of session vote and requesting to be assigned to a PRT at 2/4/2015 Council.

**PROCESS OF DISMISSAL – name of church**

**PRESBYTERY RESPONSE TEAM**

**The Presbytery Response Team (PRT) members will be: a chairperson appointed by the Presbytery Council (in consultation with the Committee on Ministry skilled in conflict resolution; and at least two others chosen by Council: one teaching and one ruling elder. The PRT may include some from the PDT and will not include any member from the congregation seeking dismissal.**

**Members: Rev. Janet Loughry, ch; Rev. Ted Brandt, Elder Diane Kirkpatrick (Elder Larry Lindsay was a member of original PRT, through March 21, 2017.**

The Presbytery Council will appoint a PRT, and the PRT undergoes training (lines 223-229).	Training completed 4/29/2013
PRT Chair moderates meetings with Session	3/18/2015 and 6/29/2017
<p>Once action has been initiated to form a PRT, the Session shall provide the PRT with the membership roll. All deletions and additions of active members of the congregation shall be open to review by the PRT to determine the appropriateness of these changes.</p> <hr/> <p>Synod Commission of Assembly Recommendations and Rationale, a copy of which is posted at the PSB website.</p>	<p>April 2016 And received update month-end October 2017</p> <hr/> <p>5/10//2016</p>
Immediately the PRT will begin working with Session to review the property and financial records of the congregation.	Unfortunately PRT member charged with doing this work (financial member, Larry Lindsay) failed to do this between July 2016 and March 21, 2017. Subsequently, Dave Zimmerman has assisted and PRT confirms review to be complete.
<p>A. Session provides the PRT with copies of all executed documents concerning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the incorporation and by-laws</li> <li>b. Real property and other assets including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Current deeds of trust</li> <li>ii. Loan agreements (past and present)</li> <li>iii. Liens</li> <li>iv. Property and casualty insurance</li> <li>v. Statements of tangible and intangible assets</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Received July 2016</p> <p>The PRT has received extensive material documenting this requirement. Commissioners who would like to view this material may make an appointment to do so by contacting Janet Loughry.</p>
Session and PRT review the above documents to determine if the Presbytery, Synod, or PC(USA) body is named therein and/or exposed to any liability claims which exist or may arise under	The PRT has a copy of the Preliminary Title Report and other record, showing chain of title. Synod – under any name, is NOT

these documents	on title. There is a PILP loan with outstanding balance \$404,000, to be paid prior to dismissal.
B. PRT shall obtain a preliminary title report for all real property owned and used by the church (See lines 247-252 of GDP)  SYNOD Permanent Judicial Commission RULING, a copy of which is posted on the PSB website.	PRT received preliminary report which is dated 8/11/2016. Commissioners may contact Janet Loughry to view the prelim.  Locke Ruling 12/2/2016
C. PRT shall obtain from a title company a chain of title (along with copies of all recorded documents effecting title transfers (See GDP lines 253-257)	10-23-2017 – We have obtained copy of original deed of 1888, current copy of preliminary report, copies of the Minutes of the Meeting for Organization of the Church, dated November 13, 1887, including a list of Charter Members; by-laws, articles of incorporation, tax exemption receipt, employee handbook, proof of insurance. The only direct denominational support found was the PILP loan, which the church will pay off at dismissal.
D. PRT shall review past support provided by the Presbytery (see lines 258-260)	Outstanding PILP loan in the amount of \$404,000 (original amount was \$1,000,000, 5/2/2005). ELMO to payoff said loan on/prior to final dismissal. The PRT identified no other direct support from PSB to the church.
E. PRT shall review past support from the church for per capita, mission giving, and any other support given to the Presbytery, the Synod, or General Assembly.	ELMO has been current with per capita and mission giving. Please see Chronology and History Narrative for details.
F. PRT shall obtain a Fair Market Value (current use and best use) appraisal (lines 263-266)	In PRT's File and posted on SBP website are <u>2 appraisals</u> , together with a summary of <u>ISSUES REGARDING THE TWO APPRAISALS</u> , detailing reasons for obtaining two appraisals and a report of some of the sources of the differences between the two appraisals and compilation of some of the comments received. The first appraisal is in the amount of \$8,200,000. The

	<p>second appraisal is in the amount of \$5,000,000.</p> <p>Commissioners may make an appointment with Janet Loughry to view this material.</p>
<p>G. PRT shall obtain at least three (3) years of full financial statements, along with the most recent audit or financial review. The requirement was changed to five (5) years.</p>	<p>Received 2012-6/2017 = 6 years On file are SIX years of full financial statement. A Income and Expenses and Cash Position Summary is posted on the SBP web page. Commissioners may make an appointment with Janet Loughry to view full material.</p>
<p>H. PRT shall evaluate, in detail, any financial assets (in addition to the real property), all of which must be considered during negotiations.</p>	<p>Posted on the SBP website is the <u>INCOME AND EXPENSES AND CASH POSITION SUMMARY</u> of the past several years of ELMO financial statements. The value of the ELMO real property is described in the two appraisals and supporting documents; please see “F” above. The details of the endowment fund are described in “L” below. In addition, the most recent ELMO financial statements show fixtures and equipment with book value (without regard to accumulated depreciation) of \$123,167.87, including the parish hall organ, computer equipment, furniture and the Nehemiah Project. All of ELMO’s assets were considered in the financial negotiations.</p>
<p>I. Any indebtedness owed to or guaranteed by the Presbytery, Synod, of the PC(USA) must be paid in full prior to the finalization of dismissal process (see lines 272-275).</p>	<p>The unpaid balance of the PILP loan will be paid in full from funds borrowed from the Montecito Bank, “guaranteed” through personal accounts and management of the newly transferred endowment fund. This Montecito Bank account loan will not be secured by the church’s real property. ELMO also has</p>

	<p>what is called their Legacy Fund, into which all amounts from dismissal fund raised by the church are held.</p>
<p>J. Appropriate action must also be taken to amend any organizational documents, as necessary, and to ensure that adequate insurance coverage of all property and activities of the church is maintained until dismissal/dissolution is completed.</p>	<p>PRT has obtained copies of proof of insurance as well as line items on financial statements</p>
<p>K. PRT shall separately identify and evaluate any accounts being held by the Presbyterian Foundation (see lines 279-280).</p>	<p>There are no such accounts with the Presbytery Foundation</p>
<p>L. If the congregation has established a foundation or received grants or endowment(s), related documentation must be examined to identify any terms or restrictions affected by the proposed dismissal/dissolution or involving the Presbytery, the Synod, or the PC(USA), corrective action must be taken as appropriate.</p>	<p>None name Presbytery, Synod or PC(USA). PILP loan remaining balance is \$404,000, to be paid prior to dismissal. In 2000 the church received a total of \$1,700,000 from an estate upon the death of the trustor, to “establish an endowment fund from which the income but not the principal shall be used for the proper purposes of said Church. Without making it a legal requirement, the Trustor requests that a substantial portion of such income be used for the Evangelistic and Missionary Work of the Church.” These restricted funds are now deposited with Montecito Bank for management. Value as of 2/28/2018: \$1,374,925.56. A copy of the Endowment Documentation is posted on the PSB website.</p>
<p>M. Expenses incurred in taking the above stated actions will be paid by the congregation requesting dismissal/dissolution.</p>	<p>The only expenses incurred actions taken were the two appraisals payments, paid in full by ELMO.</p>
<p>N. PRT shall determine the amount of delinquent and future per capita and mission giving. As part of its fiduciary duty to PC(USA), a Presbytery must share any amount of per capita and mission giving (both past and future) paid by a church being dismissed</p>	<p>The church is and has remained current on all per capita amounts.</p>

proportionately with the Synod and G.A.	
O. PRT shall separately evaluate the value of all of the congregation's property (real and other assets) (lines 294-297)	The PRT took under consideration the value of the property, its contents, the early school. Replacement value is shown on the insurance documentation in the file. While the PRT had only one appraisal at the time of negotiations, but finally, the PRT was not able to determine an exact value for the real property, because of the differences between the two appraisals, as well as other factors, including a probable limited pool of buyers, recent fires and the Montecito mudslides. Please see the two appraisals, Appraisal Summary and Letter regarding the Appraisals from an ELMO dismissal member on the PSB website. Please see the Financial Due Diligence and Negotiation Report posted on the PSB website.
P. PRT shall prepare a dismissal report that takes into consideration the full impact of the loss of contributions, not just financial contributions, but any other benefits of having been part of the connectional organization. This will be done by receiving input from the various committees of the Presbytery. (Lines 299-305)	As stated previously, ELMO initially purchased the property in 1888 for \$2000, with church membership contributions. The PRT has found no evidence of financial contributions by Synod or Presbytery or Presbytery Foundation ("K") for development. The PILP loan as stated ("I") will be paid in full before dismissal. It is recognized and acknowledged by ELMO as well as the PRT that ELMO has benefitted over the generations simply by its affiliation with the PC(U.S.A.). Most recently, as a result of the Thomas fire, rains and mudslides, as a portion of the Presbytery Disaster Assistance grant funds were shared with the ELMO church's Early School. Please also refer to the other documentation posted at the PSB website.
Preliminary questions for Session sent to pastor/Clerk of Session	2/2015 PRT forwarded the questions to pastor and clerk of session.
Acknowledgement of preliminary questions	done
Answers to preliminary questions received by PRT	3/16/2015 Responses were received by PRT, and then reviewed with session on .



Property tax information, mission giving, membership/attendance information, Board of Pensions correspondence given to PRT	Received July 2016
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<b>ACTION OR PROCESS</b>	<b>DATE and COMMENTS</b>
<b>The Session and the Presbytery Response Team</b>	
Meeting of PRT prior to meeting with Session	PRT met through conference calls and prayer mtgs prior to each meeting, 3/18/2015, 4/14/2016 and 6/29/2017. At least one PRT member attended innumerable session meetings throughout this time period.
<b>PRT meeting with the session</b>	
When the PRT meets with the Session, such meetings will be moderated by the PRT Chairperson. On occasion, the PRT Chairperson may ask the pastor(s)/session moderator to excuse him or herself from a particular meeting.	3/18/2015, 3/14/2016 and 6/29/2017
The PRT will not determine the merits of the concerns raised by the Session, but will work to assure the issues have been addressed fairly and accurately.	In these 3 meetings with the session the PRT asked predetermined questions, listened and asked further.
PRT promptly reports the results of the initial meeting with the Session and its recommendations to the Presbytery Council.	3/25/2015 PRT reports to Council. Referred to COM; PRT process put ON HOLD until 1/2016
The PRT may then work with the Session to convene a congregational gathering for the purpose of hearing from the members and discerning how many members desire that the congregation be dismissed to another Reformed body with which the Presbytery deems itself to be in fellowship.	Initial Congregational Gathering is called for by PRT by letter to meet 5/1/2016; with appropriate 4 week verbal announcements

<b>ACTION OR PROCESS</b>	<b>DATE and COMMENTS</b>
<b>The Initial Meeting of the Congregation</b>	
The PRT expects that at least two-thirds (2/3) of the active membership will participate in this initial gathering meeting which will be moderated by a teaching or ruling elder appointed for this purpose by the Presbytery Council. The members of the PRT will attend this gathering and will be allowed sufficient time to speak on behalf of the PC(USA). During this gathering the PRT will ensure that the members of the congregation have been informed regarding the polity and practice of the Reformed body to which they may be going, including any practical implications this might mean for the congregation. (Lines 215-221)	Initial Congregational Gathering 5/1/2016. Current membership: 235; Per 5/4/2013 GDP 50% allowed, 1/2 = 118; actual Attendance: 138 2/3: 91 per 5/4/13 GDP; 3/4: 103 per 5/20/17 GDP Total votes = 131; yes=122; no=9 A second such meeting (which

	GDP of 5/20/2017 called for) was deemed unnecessary at Presbytery meeting 5/20/2017. Copy of motions and minutes of 5/20/2017 posted on PSB website.
If the PRT determines that a significant proportion (at least three-fourths (3/4)75%) of the attending members wish to be dismissed, a <b>second</b> gathering will be convened. (Lines 323-325)	Because of delays, neglect and new rulings... second gathering November 5, 2017, Third Gathering was March 18, 2018. PRT Summary of Congregation Gatherings is posted on PSB website.
<b>BETWEEN MEETINGS OF THE CONGREGATION</b>	
After the initial congregational gathering, at least three months will pass before this second gathering. This allows the PRT to carry out the following functions:	
1. Negotiate the terms of separation with the Session in accordance with the requirements of the Presbytery that reflect the most current fiscal and ecclesiastical PC(USA) directives. These agreed upon terms will be voted on at the second congregational gathering as an integral part of any request for dismissal.	Done in 2017 negotiations held between August and October 2017.
2. Meet with the members of the congregation who wish to remain within the PC(USA) to best strategize how to either maintain an existing mission presence, incorporate members into nearby Presbyterian congregations, or create a new entity.	5/29/2016; 3 congregants and 2 elders attended. Those who attended had questions but none desiring to remain PC(USA)
3. Meet with Teaching Elders currently called or employed by the congregation to determine whether they shall remain with the congregation and transfer their ministerial status to the new denomination, whether they shall remain within the PC(USA) and need to request permission from the Committee on Ministry to serve in another Reformed body, or whether they shall remain in the PC(USA) and have been enrolled as a member at large of the Presbytery. Teaching Elders shall be encouraged to review the Board of Pension policies. Reasonable steps shall be taken to provide support and care to those Teaching Elders wishing to stay in the PC(USA) and not desiring to serve in a congregation of the other Reformed body.	Met with Jay Shirley, Interim pastor. Jay desired to remain PC(USA) and is a member in good standing in the San Diego Presbytery. No associate pastor; no CRE. Transition pastors: Rev. Bob Ohman, HR, member in good standing with PSB; Rev. Barry Moller, HR, member in good standing with San Diego Presby.
4. Meet with any members of the congregation who are preparing for ministry and are under the care of Presbytery. Each member under care	There are no commissioned ruling elders. There is no one preparing

<p>together with his/her liaison from the Committee on Preparation for Ministry shall be advised immediately of the congregation's possible dismissal. The member under care will be given the option of being dismissed with the congregation or transferring their membership to another congregation within the PC(USA). If transfer to another congregation within the PC(USA) is requested, Presbytery and the CPM liaison will assist the member in seeking a waiver of the usual six-month requirement for church membership in order to maintain care status.</p>	<p>for ministry. No one is under care of presbytery.</p>
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ACTION OR PROCESS	DATE and COMMENTS
<b>The Second Gathering of the Congregation (Lines 358-361)</b>	
After the PRT has completed these functions, a second gathering will be convened. Written notice shall be given by mail to all members at least 30 days prior to the time of the gathering, as well as announced from the pulpit of the church at regular church services on four successive Sundays immediately prior to the meeting.	Written notice was sent 10/5/2017, for November 5, 2017; The verbal announcement was made from the pulpit at regular Sunday services on four successive Sundays.
The gathering shall take place after 3:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary to give the members of the PRT and those traveling from other places sufficient time to attend. A concerted effort should be made to maximize the participation of the congregation in this gathering.	3:00 was the call time; meeting began at 3:15p.m., to accommodate those still signing in.
There shall be at least three-fourths (3/4) of the current active membership in attendance. An affirmative vote of at least three-fourths (3/4) of those in attendance is required in order to further the dismissal process. The Session must provide to the Presbytery a list of members not wanting to leave the PC(USA) within 60 days of any vote by the Presbytery to dismiss the congregation.	Per motion at 5/20/2017 Presbytery meeting ELMO may keep to previous GDP of "...to at least 50% (fifty percent) of current active membership in attendance" 50% = 91
The PRT shall conduct the gathering, which is technically a meeting of the PRT, not a congregational meeting (since the Book of Order does not include seeking dismissal as a purpose for which a congregational meeting may be called). The PRT members shall again be allowed sufficient time to speak on behalf of the PC(USA). This meeting will be moderated by a member of the Committee on Ministry, the Executive Presbyter, or the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery in order to allow the members of the PRT to fulfill their advocacy role.	Elder Sandy Thoits moderated Rev. Janet Loughry, ch, spoke as to why this meeting; Rev. Ted Brandt spoke on Stay-PCUSA; Elder John McManigal spoke on behalf of session on history, decision, choices and dismissal financial terms.
The Session will outline in detail the terms of the proposed dismissal including the financial terms. A written copy of these terms shall be provided to all attendees at the meeting.	Elder John McManigal spoke on behalf of session; with overhead as well as the handout of the Financial terms at the Gathering.
The privilege of the floor is limited to persons who are appointed by the Presbytery, active members of the particular congregation and Teaching Elders currently called and or employed by the congregation. Others will not be heard or allowed to cast a ballot regarding the request for dismissal.	There was one question and one comment from the congregation; ballots were passed out.
After a full and fair discussion, in which each person with the privilege of the floor present who wishes to speak (for up to five minutes) has had an opportunity to do so, a secret ballot of the congregation members will be taken on the categorical question: "Shall the membership of the El Montecito Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) request dismissal as a body by the Presbytery of Santa Barbara to <i>Evangelical Covenant Order of Presbyterians</i> , another Reformed body in accordance with the terms,	Ballots were passed out and either collected and/or were placed in a Ballot box.

<p>including the financial terms as negotiated by the Presbytery and Session?" This motion may not be separated.</p>	
<p>The ballots shall be counted by two elders from the congregation and two representatives of the Presbytery. Only ballots clearly legible shall be counted. In case of ambiguity, the ballot will be counted as "No." Abstentions count as "No." votes. The ballots shall be counted twice and the results shall be announced at the meeting, and re results shall be communicated in writing by the PRT to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery.</p>	<p>2 ELMO elders: Mary Slater and Barbara Mendelson. 2 Presby reps: Rev. Ted Brandt and Rev. Janet Loughry. Ballots were counted twice. Moderator Sandy Thoits announced the results of: Current active membership = 181 Number of members present = 113 Need at least 3/4 (85). Total votes cast = 113; YES votes =110; NO votes = 3. Rev. Loughry wrote the email to Interim Stated Clerk 11/6/2017.</p>
<p>Within ten days of the second gathering of the PRT with the congregation, any person of the unsuccessful side may contest the regularity of the call for, or the conduct of, or the manner of the request made at the meeting by a written notice to the Presbytery.</p>	<p>This was announced at the end of the Second Congregational Gathering. NO CONTEST.</p>
<p>The Presbytery Council shall review the questions at issue and, if the contest is sustained, it shall direct the calling of a new meeting of the PRT with the congregation.</p>	<p>No Contest.</p>
<p>The congregation shall continue to be a member church of the PC(USA) until such time as the required meeting takes place and the Presbytery votes on any request for dismissal. Once the manner of the request is determined to be fair and regular, the decision of the Presbytery Council shall stand.</p>	<p>PRT called for A Third Congregational Gathering, which was authorized at the 2/10/2018 Presbytery meeting, for the purpose of completing the GDP requirements to assure that the congregation understood all of the terms of the dismissal, including the full written documents, the Dismissal Agreement and the Reversionary Deed. Letter to congregation was sent 2/14/2018. Meeting took place Sunday, 3/18/2018, 1:00, Sanctuary. The 5/20/2017 motion and 2/10/2018 presbytery motion/vote still stands for 50% of members to attend. PRT conducted the Third Congregational Gathering consistent with the Second Gathering requirements per May 20, 2017 GDP, Lines 356-406. Current membership: 180; requirement of 1/2 (per Presbytery motion and vote, to</p>

	<p>attend is 90; actual number attended was 116. First, the congregation approved removing the prepayment discount from the Dismissal Agreement. Per requirement of 3/4 (87) of attendees to vote in affirmative: 116 voted; 114 voted yes; 2 voted no, in favor of all final terms in the Dismissal Agreement and Reversionary Deed. There was no contesting from the congregation.</p>

ACTION OR PROCESS	DATE and COMMENTS
<b>THE MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY</b>	
<p>The Presbytery shall act in response to the congregation’s action. Following notice of any request for dismissal, the Moderator will follow the normal procedures for calling a meeting of Presbytery, provided that there is not already scheduled a stated meeting of Presbytery within 90 days of the congregational request for dismissal.</p>	
<p>Questions to Committees: (Lines 93-98)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. With respect to the work of your committee and the Santa Barbara Presbytery as a whole, how might the dismissal of the _____ church “affect the larger Mission and Ministry of the Presbytery?</li> <li>2. How does your committee envision that the Presbytery might possibly continue PC(USA) worship and/or undertake ministry at the _____ church property?</li> <li>3. How does your committee envision was that the “value” of the _____ church property could be used for the other new or continuing opportunities for ministry in the Presbytery?</li> </ol> <p>Summary of responses of the Committees of the Presbytery to questions to PRT.</p>	<p>PRT Report of Questions to Wider Presbytery Community with Responses is posted on the PSB web page.</p> <p>See PRT Report was given to ELMO Team for dissemination t</p> <p>Summary in report sent to Presbytery for first reading for November 14, 2017 Stated Presbytery meeting.</p>
<p>The PRT shall report to the Presbytery of results of its meeting with the congregation.</p> <p>Synod Permanent Judicial Commission RULING, a copy of which is available at the PSB website.</p> <p>Synod Permanent Judicial Commission RULING, a copy of which is available at the PSB website.</p>	<p>PRT chair gave verbal report at 11/14/2017 stated Presbytery meeting. Written material was also available, and was emailed.</p> <p>Regele Ruling 12/2/2017</p> <p>Spitzer/Idyllwild Ruling 12/29/2017</p>
<p>The PRT shall submit a written report to go out with the Call to the Presbytery at least 10 days before the next stated meeting. (Lines 410-432), The report shall include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. The results of its full fiduciary review including describing the efforts made to engage wider Presbytery committees in this assessment.</li> <li>B. The recommendations of the PRT regarding the request for</li> </ol>	<p>Said meeting with set dismissal vote was docketed for regular stated Presbytery meeting of 2/10/2018. In light of Thomas Fires, 12/2017, rain and resulting catastrophic and deadly mudslides, 1/9/2018, in Montecito (elder John McManigal died in</p>

<p>dismissal/dissolution, based on the guidelines above.</p> <p>C. The recommendations the PRT brings regarding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Any financial transactions to occur between the congregation, the Presbytery, the Synod and/or General Assembly entities;</li> <li>b. The provisions that have been made and will be made for those members who wish to remain within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and</li> <li>c. The provisions that will be made for any Teaching Elders, Christian Educators, inquirers, candidates, or Commissioned Ruling Elders associated with the congregation who request to remain within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)</li> </ul> <p>D. The PRT assessment regarding how the congregation's dismissal/dissolution may affect the larger mission and ministry of the Presbytery including describing the efforts made to engage wider Presbytery committees in this assessment.</p> <p>E. Acknowledge the involvement of any council of the connection all church in acquisition of the real property and growth of the church.</p>	<p>mudslides, son Connor critically injured; congregation unable to access church until 1/28/2018), the El Montecito Presbyterian Church session on 1/18/2018, voted to choose to postpone Presbytery dismissal vote until the next regularly scheduled Presbytery meeting (May 19, 2018).</p> <p>Elder Bart Clemens was voted to the ELMO dismissal team (other ELMO team members are Elders Carl Perry and Barbara Mendelson).</p> <p>The above was reported at the 2/10/2018 Stated Presbytery mtg. Presbytery authorized the dismissal vote to 5/19/2018; a Third Congregational Gathering to approve all final financial terms, Dismissal Agreement and Reversionary Deed; change in time from 3:00 to 1:00; 50% of active membership to attend.</p> <p>~ PRT shall work with ELMO Clerk of Session to reach those who have already self-selected another church; those who voted NO at each Gathering; those who may still have questions/concerns. These contacts could be face-to-face meeting(s), telephone calls. To that end: GDP Lines 102-106, Letter(s) mailed to address "true church": (1) 3/7/18 to members of ELMO to be sure PRT reached out to anyone having questions or concerns over possible dismissal... whether or not they attended any Gathering or voted yes or no. Meeting was scheduled for immediately following Third Gathering. Four people stayed for this PRT meeting. The questions were general in nature and for clarification. One person gave PRT members a letter to be passed on</p>
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	<p>the Council. This letter is made available on the PSB website. No other concerns.</p> <p>Further, PRT authorized ELMO to go back to 2015-2017 rolls for recipients of Letter (#2) 3/7/18 to people who have departed ELMO over concerns of possible dismissal. Whether already worshipping elsewhere or undecided and not worshipping anywhere. PRT expressed that we would like to answer questions, want to know they are with another church or if desired to assist in finding another church.</p> <p><b>TO DATE 3 people have contacted the PRT:</b> (1) a couple who have been long time Presbyterian and whose daughter is a Presby pastor. Decided to join First Pres of Santa Barbara over 4 years ago. (2) Former Elmo member for 30 plus years. Long time Presbyterian. Could not understand the fuss about the gay issue when PCUSA has given churches freedom with dealing with the problem. So why did Elmo want to separate? Feels Elmo leadership is exclusive and not inclusive. Concerned with way Jeff was treated and did not think Jay was qualified to the senior leadership role. (3) A couple responded in voice message saying attending and joining Santa Barbara Community Church. Thanked us for reaching out and very much engaged with another church.</p>
<p>The PRT shall report the results, and the Presbytery shall determine whether the process for requesting dismissal was fair and represents the will of the congregation.</p>	<p>Please refer to Chronology and History Narrative Report and PRT Final Report as posted on PSB website.</p>
<p>If the PRT and the Session of the Church seeking dismissal/dissolution have been unable to reach negotiated terms for dismissal/dissolution, the PRT may recommend to the Presbytery approval for the Administrative</p>	<p>n/a</p>

Commission to assume original jurisdiction of the Session in order to seek resolution of the situation. (G-3.0303)	
If so, the congregation shall be dismissed to another Reformed denomination, subject to any agreements that may be reached regarding the fair treatment of those members who do not wish to leave the denomination.	n/a
If the Presbytery determines that the request for dismissal was invalid, the request for dismissal should be denied, and the congregation shall remain a member of the PC(USA), and, ordinarily, no further action should be taken to reconsider the matter for at least 24 months.	n/a
The Presbytery affirms its fiduciary responsibility to review the terms negotiated by PRT and the congregation requesting dismissal/dissolution and reserves the right to modify said terms as it deems necessary.	Presbytery meeting set for May 19, 2018
After the vote, the Session shall provide to the Presbytery a list of members not wanting to leave the PC(USA) within 60 days of any vote by the Presbytery to dismiss the congregation.	
<b>OTHER PROVISIONS</b>	
If a congregation or its leadership preemptively files suit in a civil court against the Presbytery, the Presbytery of Santa Barbara may answer the suit. The Presbytery may seek to preserve its assets and assert its rights.	
If the staff or session of a congregation has initiated specific, concrete action to withdraw from this Presbytery or the PC(USA), without prior consultation with the Presbytery and the initiation of the above-described process, the Presbytery may initiate an administrative commission. Such actions could include, but are not limited to, calling a meeting of members of the congregation to discuss the church's withdrawal from the denomination or the session voting to move toward membership in another denomination. The Presbytery, at its next stated or called meeting, whichever occurs first, may appoint an administrative commission to address the situation at that church and attempt to modify the church's activities to follow the processes described above. The administrative commission may be granted any authority permitted in the Book of Order.	n/a