

9-8 Examination of Fred Tanizaki

TE Abdo introduced Fred Tanizaki, Executive Pastor at Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA. He signed his Ministerial Obligation Form and his current Terms of Call were reviewed and approved by the Ministerial Committee. Fred and the church were in the process of transferring into the Presbytery from the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO) Presbytery of Southern California. Fred had been examined by the members of the Ministerial Committee and was recommended to the floor of the Presbytery for approval.

Fred's examination began with a sermon on Colossians 2:9-12, a passage assigned by the Ministerial Committee. Following his sermon, the Presbytery examined him on his views of theology and sacraments, his faith in Christ, his calling to the ministry and the nature of the office of a minister of the Word, polity, the Reformed tradition, the English Bible, his spiritual journey. He had no exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

Motion was sustained to arrest the examination.

Candidate Tanizaki was dismissed into a soundproof breakout room on Zoom.

Paul Shiroma and Jim Tanizaki from Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA spoke on behalf of the congregation in support of Fred.

Motion was sustained to approve the examination of Fred Tanizaki and receive him into full membership in the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest from the ECO Presbytery of Southern California.

Fred was released back into the main session and was greeted with a virtual standing ovation. TE Guy Boyer prayed for Fred in his call.

9-9 Reception of Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Garden Grove, CA

The congregation of the Wintersburg Presbyterian Church in Santa Ana, CA had voted to request dismissal from the Southern California Presbytery of the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO) in March 2020 and to join the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest. The Session and the congregation had filed a Petition to be Received as a member of POPS. The ECO Presbytery voted to dismiss the congregation upon being received by the EPC Presbytery. The Ministerial Committee examined the elders of the church and found them to have adequate understanding of and commitment to EPC doctrine, polity and history.

Connor Kobayashi, Clerk of Session for the church, shared the mission and history of the church with the Presbytery.

Motion was sustained to receive Wintersburg Presbyterian Church of Santa Ana, CA, into membership in the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest from the ECO Presbytery of Southern California effective October 9, 2020.

Motion was sustained to approve an Installation Commission consisting of TE David Brogren (Active Retired) and TE David Abdo from Easton Presbyterian Church, Easton, CA and RE's Stephen Morris and Ken Adams from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Orange, CA, RE Mark Eshoff from Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, CA, and RE Tom Hunter from Valley Community Church, San Jacinto, CA to install the Session and the congregation of Wintersburg Presbyterian Church of Santa Ana, CA into the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and install Fred Tanizaki as Associate Pastor on November 1, 2020 at 10:20 am.

9-10

Recognition of Wintersburg Presbyterian Church

Moderator Conners spoke of the importance of the community of churches in the Presbytery and presented an honorary POPS carabiner to the church as a symbol of their connectedness to the Presbytery. The plaque quoted Ephesians 4:15-16. He added a new carabiner to the chain of carabiners that represented the churches in the Presbytery. The church and the many observers present at the meeting from the church were warmly greeted by the Presbytery with a standing ovation.

9-11

Change in Call – TE Jonathan St. Clair

The congregation of Christ Church East Bay, Berkeley, CA accepted the recommendation of their Pastor Search Committee to call TE Jonathan St. Clair as Pastor. Jonathan was currently the Associate Pastor for Spiritual Formation at this same church, with the approval to moderate Session given by the Ministerial Committee. 75% of the Session of the church and 75% of the Ministerial Committee were required to approve this change. The Session of Christ Church East Bay unanimously approved the consideration of Jonathan for this call and the Ministerial Committee unanimously approved the call as well. The Committee recommended the change in status of TE Jonathan St. Clair to the Presbytery for approval.

Motion was sustained to approve the Change in Status of TE Jonathan St. Clair from Associate Pastor for Spiritual Formation to Pastor of Christ Church East Bay, Berkeley, CA.

Motion was sustained to approve the Administrative Commission consisting of RE's Tommy Stinson, Stephen George and Tonia Roby from Christ Church East Bay, RE Chris Larsen from Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, Fair Oaks, CA, TE Tommy Branagh from Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, Moraga, CA and TE Bart Garrett (Without Call) to install TE Jonathan St. Clair as Pastor of Christ Church East Bay, Berkeley, CA on Sunday, November 8, 2020 at 10:30 am.

9-12

Session Minutes Review Committee

RE Janet Goodman, Chair, opened in prayer and gave an overview of the Committee's purpose and the process of reviewing Session minutes in the absence of an in-person committee meeting. Members of the Committee were identified prior to the meeting and the reviews will occur over the course of the following weeks. Members of the Committee were TE Marty Carpenter, Chaplain, TE Jonathan Dennis from Woodlake Presbyterian Church, TE Julia Leeth from Covenant Community Church, Vacaville, CA, RE Christine Deane from Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, RE Jennifer Harrington from Centerpoint Community Church, Roseville, CA, RE Marilyn Khalaji from Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA, RE Linda Marshall from New Life Community Church, Covelo, CA, RE Mary Reeve from Sierra Presbyterian Church, Nevada City, CA, and RE Janet Goodman from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno, NV.

Minutes were submitted from the following churches:

Covenant Presbyterian Church, Orange, CA	Heritage EPC, Santa Maria, CA
Covenant Presbyterian Church, San Diego, CA	Kingman Presbyterian Church, Kingman, AZ
Easton Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA	The Table, San Francisco, CA
First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA	Valley Community Church, San Jacinto, CA
First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA	Woodlake Presbyterian Church, Woodlake, CA

RE Goodman closed her report in prayer.

9-13 Treasurer's Report

RE Connie Badgley, Treasurer, opened in prayer and gave the financial report, which included the 2020 year-to-date POPS Askings Report and the 2020 YTD POPS Financials (see addendum).

9-14 Mission Committee Report

RE Carl Kuhn, Chair of the Mission Committee, opened in prayer and introduced several World Outreach appointees (names omitted) and a representative of Frontier Fellowship who shared updates on their mission work. TE George Carey, chair of the E2025 POPS Home Team, then shared an update on the work with the Pashtuns, the Presbytery's adopted people group. TE Sam Knottnerus prayed for the work of the missionaries and the Mission Committee.

9-15 Change to POPS Bylaws

Stated Clerk Eshoff presented a motion on behalf of the Presbytery Council to establish the Mission Committee in the POPS Bylaws as a permanent committee of the Presbytery. The proposal was initiated by the Mission Committee and approved by the Council. Other minor updates were included in the proposed changes (see addendum).

Motion was sustained to modify the language in the POPS Bylaws to add Section 6.06 to establish the Mission Committee as a Permanent Committee of the Presbytery and to make other updates as noted in the attached addendum.

9-16 General Assembly Report

Candidate for Ministry and RE Greg Flagg from Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, CA, updated the Presbytery on the actions and proceedings of the virtual 40th EPC General Assembly in September 2020. TE Nancy Duff then prayed for the denomination and its leadership.

9-17 Care of Candidates Committee Report

TE Jay Hull, Chair, opened in prayer and introduced Ryan Teramoto, who was ready to come under the care of this Presbytery. Ryan was under care of the Session of Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA, and had been a member there for over 6 months. The Session recommended him to the Presbytery as a Candidate Under Care.

The candidate briefly shared his spiritual journey, his sense of call and why he had chosen the EPC. The Presbytery then examined him on his Christian experience and growth, his motive for seeking ordination in the EPC, and his call to the ministry.

Motion was sustained to arrest the examination

The Candidate was excused from the room. Fred Tanizaki from Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA spoke in support of Ryan.

Motion was sustained to approve Ryan Teramoto to come under care of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and approve TE Scott Larson as advisor to Candidate Ong.

The candidate was invited back into the room and was greeted with a virtual standing ovation. Moderator Connors asked the candidate the constitutional questions, to which the candidate responded affirmatively, and declared that the candidate was added to the Candidate's Roll. Connor Kobayashi from Wintersburg Presbyterian Church prayed for the candidate and TE Scott Larson from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Orange, CA gave the candidate a charge.

9-18 Moderator Connors asked Past Moderator, TE Rob Perkins, to moderate the next portion of the Presbytery Meeting.

9-19 **Nominating Committee Report**

RE Bill Myers, Chair off the Nominating Committee, presented several motions for the approval of the Presbytery for committee chairs and members of the Presbytery Council. Members of the Council were placed in a virtual breakout room during the discussion and votes on these motions.

Motion was sustained to elect RE Jim Connors as Moderator of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and member of the Presbytery Council for the year 2021.

Motion was sustained to elect TE Julia Leeth as Moderator-Elect of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and member of the Presbytery Council for the year 2021.

Motion was sustained to elect RE Mark Eshoff as Stated Clerk of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and member of the Presbytery Council for a three-year term beginning in 2021.

Motion was sustained to elect RE Connie Badgley as Treasurer of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and member of the Presbytery Council for a three-year term beginning in 2021.

Motion was sustained to elect TE David Abdo as Chair of the Ministerial Committee of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and member of the Presbytery Council for a three-year term beginning in 2021.

Motion was sustained to elect TE Jay Hull as Chair of the Care of Candidates Committee of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and member of the Presbytery Council for a three-year term beginning in 2021.

Motion was sustained to elect RE Carl Kuhn as Chair of the Mission Committee of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and member of the Presbytery Council for a three-year term beginning in 2021.

9-20 RE Myers presented nominations for positions on the Presbytery committees. These motions were approved in one vote.

Motion was sustained to approve RE Chris Rhodes from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno, NV and RE Linda Marshall from New Life Community Church, Covelo, CA as members of the Care of Candidates Committee (Class of 2023).

Motion was sustained to approve TE Jonathan Dennis from Woodlake Presbyterian Church, Woodlake, CA to complete the term of TE Julia Leeth on the Care of Candidates Committee (Class of 2021).

Motion was sustained to approve TE Sam Knottnerus from Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA, RE Touradi Etezadi, from First Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA and RE Patti Hemsley from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno, NV as a members of Mission Committee (Class of 2023).

Motion was sustained to approve TE Jason Yum as a member of the Nominating Committee (Class of 2023).

Past Moderator TE Rob Perkins prayed for the work of the Presbytery and for the its leaders, and then ceded the gavel back to Moderator Connors.

9-21 Ministerial Committee Report – Examination of Tim Hoins

TE David Abdo, Chair introduced Tim Hoins, a candidate for ordination who has been called as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA. He signed his Ministerial Obligation Form and his current Terms of Call were reviewed and approved by the Ministerial Committee. He had been examined by the members of the Ministerial Committee. He was recommended to the floor of the Presbytery for approval.

Tim’s examination began with a sermon on 1 Peter 2:23-25, a passage assigned by the Ministerial Committee. Following his sermon, the Presbytery examined him on his knowledge of theology and sacraments, his faith in Christ, his calling to the ministry and the nature of the office of a minister of the Word, polity, the Reformed tradition, the English Bible, his spiritual journey. Tim had no exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

Motion was sustained to arrest the examination.

Candidate Hoins was dismissed into a soundproof breakout room on Zoom.

Jaime Cristoph and Annette Rajskup from First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA spoke on behalf of the search team and congregation in support of Tim.

Motion was sustained to approve the examination of Tim Hoins and receive him into full membership in the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest.

Motion was sustained to approve the Administrative Commission consisting of RE’s Paul Dixon, Jeff Jones and Debra Revious from First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA, RE Priscilla Dack from Easton Presbyterian Church, Easton CA, TE Ron Owens (Associate-Retired) and TE Lana Roberts (Associate -Retired) to ordain Tim Hoins and install him as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA on December 6 at 10:00 am.

Tim was released back into the main session and was greeted with a virtual standing ovation. TE Jonathan Dennis prayed for Tim in his new call.

9-22 Examination of Rev. Dave Miles

TE introduced Dave Miles, who had been invited by the Session of Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church as Interim Supply Pastor. He was currently participating in a renewal process at the church as a representative of Vital Church Ministries. The General Assembly office recommended that the Presbytery examine him as part of the Presbytery’s responsibility to the church, to assure that his knowledge of the doctrine and polity of the EPC was adequate, and to affirm its partnership in the ministry of Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church. TE Dave Ricketts had been assigned by the Ministerial Committee to moderate the Session and TE’s Dave Ricketts and Tommy Branagh would administer the sacraments. Dave had been examined by the Ministerial Committee and was recommended to the Presbytery for approval.

TE Abdo prayed for Dave, whose examination began with a short sermon on John 1:1-5, a passage assigned by the Ministerial Committee. Following his sermon, the Presbytery examined him on his views of theology and sacraments, his faith in Christ, his calling to the ministry and the nature of the office of a minister of the Word, polity, the Reformed tradition, the Bible, and his spiritual journey.

Motion was sustained to arrest the examination.

TE Nancy Duff and TE David Abdo spoke in support of Rev. Miles.

Motion was sustained to approve the invitation for Rev. Dave Miles to serve as Interim Supply Pastor for Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church with authority to preach the Word retroactive to July 1, 2020.

9-23 Interim Supply for Fowler Presbyterian Church

TE Paul Irwin, currently a member of the EPC Presbytery of the East, had been invited by the Session of Fowler Presbyterian Church to serve as Interim Supply Pastor. He had been examined by the Ministerial Committee and was presented to the Presbytery for approval.

Motion was sustained to approve the invitation for TE Paul Irwin to serve as Interim Supply Pastor for Fowler Presbyterian Church, Fowler, CA with authority to preach the Word, moderate the Session, and administer the sacraments retroactive to May 15, 2020.

9-24 TE Abdo updated the Presbytery on recent pastoral changes and on open positions in churches in the Presbytery.

9-25 Retirement of TE Greg Livingstone

Stated Clerk Eshoff led the recognition and celebration of TE Greg Livingstone upon his retirement as an active teaching elder. TE Dave Fenska, World Outreach Liaison shared the impact of Greg's longtime ministry. Stated Clerk Eshoff presented Greg with an engraved plaque in appreciation for his many years of ministry in Christ's church. Greg thanked the Presbytery and TE George Carey prayed for Greg in the new season of life.

With his wife, Sally, Greg has ministered among University students in Europe, Muslims in India, the Arab World, Malaysia, and Pakistanis in England since 1963. He has also served as Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church, Aspen, Colorado and (1974-1977) and Director of North Africa Mission (1977-1982). He founded the mission organization, Frontiers, in 1982, which presently has 1,400 adult missionaries in 43 countries planting churches among Muslims. He was ordained in EPC in 1990 by the Presbytery of the West, designed and helped implement the primary emphasis of EPC's World Outreach ENGAGE 2025: to see every Presbytery of the EPC, sponsor and adopt a new church planting, long-term team, to pioneer a Muslim people in a city where no churches of Muslim background believers with their own elders exists. He is encouraged that nearly every EPC Presbytery has adopted that goal, including the most recent adoption by POPS of the Pashtuns of Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Motion was sustained to approve the change in status of TE Greg Livingstone from Active Member to Associate-Retired, with grateful appreciation for his service to the Presbytery, the EPC, and to the greater Body of Christ, effective June 30, 2020.

9-26 Retirement of TE Jerry Voss

Stated Clerk Eshoff led the recognition and celebration of TE Jerry Voss upon his retirement as an active teaching elder. RE Matthew Gutierrez from Millbrook Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA, shared the impact of Jerry's ministry at the church, Stated Clerk Eshoff presented Jerry with an engraved plaque in appreciation for his many years of ministry in Christ's church. TE David Abdo prayed for Jerry in the new season of life.

Jerry has served what he describes as “twenty amazing years” at Millbrook Presbyterian Church in Fresno, CA. The church fought hard to advance a kingdom culture and it was satisfying for him to see Black and Hispanic elders and deacons being drawn together. He was excited that the Bread of Life and the Living Waters continued to be proclaimed. The church sought to make a “cross-cultural” impact through interactions with other churches, including many ethnic churches in Fresno. Jerry also cherishes some wonderful Presbytery encounters. In his words, “Changing to the EPC did not change the culture of the church. People left, and we became a church plant within a church.” Jerry and his wife, Ingrid, have a treasure of memories for a lifetime. Above all, they “praise the Lord for his faithfulness and providence, and like quoting Oral Roberts, ‘God is your source; you plant a seed, expect a miracle. If you plant and don’t expect a harvest, why plant?’”

Motion was sustained to approve the change in status of TE Jerry Voss from Active Member to Associate–Retired, with grateful appreciation for his service to the Presbytery, the EPC, and to the greater Body of Christ, effective December 31, 2019.

9-27 Omnibus/Consent Motion

1. That the Minutes of the Eighth Stated Meeting of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest, May 15, 2020 be approved as posted (these minutes are available on the website).
2. That the Administrative Commission to ordain and install Sam Knottnerus as Pastor of Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA be dismissed with appreciation for their service to the Presbytery, to the pastor and to the congregation. The commission’s minutes are on file with the Stated Clerk.
3. That the Administrative Commission to ordain and install Joe Mazzela as at Sanger Community Church, Sanger, CA be dismissed with appreciation for their service to the Presbytery, to the pastor, and to the congregation. The commission’s minutes are on file with the Stated Clerk.
4. Accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to dissolve the pastoral relationship between TE Dennis Tarr as Transitional Pastor, and Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA, effective August 9, 2020.
5. Accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to dissolve the pastoral relationship between Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA, and TE Dennis Yim, effective July 27, 2020.
6. Accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to dissolve the pastoral relationship between Christ Church East Bay and TE Patrick Vaughn effective August 1, 2020.
7. Accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to dissolve the pastoral relationship between Christ Church East Bay and TE Quinn Vaughn effective August 1, 2020.
8. That the call of TE David Constance as Assistant Pastor for Families and Adult Discipleship for First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA be renewed for a term of 3 years.
9. Accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to appoint TE Dave Ricketts as Acting Moderator of Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, Moraga, CA.
10. Accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to invite Rev. Mark Nazarian to serve as Interim Supply Pastor for First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA with authority to preach the Word and administer the sacraments retroactive to July 1, 2020.

Motion was sustained to approve the Omnibus/Consent Motion

9-28 New Business

Moderator Conners noted the following upcoming dates:

January 22-23, 2021	Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#10) First Armenian Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA
May 13-14, 2021	Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#11) Sierra Presbyterian Church, Nevada City, CA

Hosting Opportunities

Moderator Conners reminded the Presbytery that opportunities are available to host the Presbytery at its future meetings, and to contact the Stated Clerk if you are interested in offering an invitation. He also noted that opportunities are available to host Discovery Workshops and to contact the Stated Clerk if you are interested in offering an invitation.

9-29 Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Moderator Conners adjourned the eighth meeting of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest in prayer at 5:40 pm.

RE Jim Conners, Moderator

RE Mark Eshoff, Stated Clerk