

# PROVISIONAL MINUTES

Twelfth Meeting of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest  
October 8, 2021

Centerville Presbyterian Church  
4360 Central Ave., Fremont, CA 94536

## 12-1 Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Moderator, RE Jim Conners, called the twelfth meeting of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest (POPS) to order at 9:00 am, opened the meeting with prayer and welcomed the members and commissioners.

## 12-2 Declaration of Quorum

Stated Clerk, RE Mark Eshoff, declared a quorum was present as evidenced by the following record of attendance:

### MEMBERS

Centerpoint Community Church – Roseville, CA

TE James Barstow                      Excused

TE Nancy Duff                              Present

TE Bryan Yeo                                Excused

Centerville Presbyterian Church – Fremont, CA

TE Sam Knottnerus                      Present

Christ Church, Berkeley, CA

TE Jonathan St. Clair                      Excused

TE Andrew Ong                              Excused

Clayton Community Church – Clayton, CA

TE Shawn Robinson                      Present

TE Ron Musch                                Unexcused

Community Presbyterian Church – Danville, CA

TE Tyler Scott                                Unexcused

TE Cathy Burkholder                      Present

TE Bill Haslim                                Unexcused

TE Heidi Johnson                         Present

TE Ryan Suzuki                              Present

Covenant Community Church – Vacaville, CA

Vacant

Covenant Presbyterian Church – Orange, CA

TE Scott Larson                              Unexcused

Covenant Presbyterian Church – Reno, NV

TE James (Jay) Hull                        Present

Covenant Presbyterian Church – San Diego, CA

TE Patrick King                                Present

Easton Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA

### RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS

Connie Badgley, Sharon Wurst

Chris Christie, Tony Perez, Cordelia Shieh

Pat Serpan, Rhea Serpan, Brian Shepherd

Rebecca Duvall

Steve Morris

Dianne Billharz, Janet Goodman, Bill Myers, Christopher Rhodes

TE David Abdo	Present	Freda Kaprielian
Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church – Fair Oaks, CA		
TE Josh Hall	Excused	Carl Kuhn
TE Chris Eatough	Excused	
TE Clifford Graves	Excused	
First Armenian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE Greg Haroutunian	Present	
First Presbyterian Church – Bakersfield, CA		
TE Jeff Chandler	Excused	
TE David Constance	Present	
TE Scott Dickson	Excused	
First Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE Jeremy Vaccaro	Present	Scott Norvell
TE Meagan Bergem	Excused	
First Presbyterian Church – Hanford, CA		
Vacant		
Fowler Presbyterian Church – Fowler, CA		
TE Erik Buhl	Present	
Fremont Presbyterian Church – Sacramento, CA		
TE David Burke	Present	Bobby Cobbs, Patty Howard
TE David Pack	Excused	
Heritage EPC – Santa Maria, CA		
RE CP Jim Brown	Not Present	
Hope Presbyterian Church – Folsom, CA		
TE David Huusko	Excused	Marty Brown, Mary Pipkin
Kingman Presbyterian Church – Kingman, AZ		
TE George Carey	Excused	
Millbrook Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
Vacant		
Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church – Moraga, CA		
TE David Ricketts	Present	
TE Tommy Branagh	Excused	
New Life Community Church – Covelo, CA		
Vacant		
Sanger Community Church – Sanger, CA		
Ralph “Joe” Mazzela	Present	Monty Carpenter
San Ramon Presbyterian Church – San Ramon, CA		
TE Mark Wollan	Excused	
Sierra Presbyterian Church – Nevada City, CA		
TE Michael Griffin	Present	Jessica Richey, Ruth Ann Riese
TE Greg Flagg	Present	

St. John's Assyrian Presbyterian Church – Turlock, CA  
TE Edward Eissabake Unexcused

The Table – San Francisco, CA  
TE Troy Wilson Present Allen Kato

Valley Community Church – San Jacinto, CA  
TE Guy Boyer Excused

Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA  
Vacant Conor Kobayashi, Rody Yoshinaka

Woodlake Presbyterian Church – Woodlake, CA  
TE Jonathan Dennis Present Diane Mulick

OFFICERS OF THE PRESBYTERY

RE Jim Conners, Moderator Present  
RE Mark Eshoff, Stated Clerk Present

MILITARY CHAPLAINS ON ACTIVE DUTY  
None

INSTITUTIONAL CHAPLAINS

TE Karen Bolte Present  
TE Marty Carpenter Present

EVANGELISTS

TE Scott Downing Excused  
TE Jose Figueroa Unexcused

MISSIONARIES

TE Samuel Kim Present

SERVING OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARIES

TE David Brogren Unexcused  
TE Joe Cole Unexcused  
TE Greg Ehlert Excused  
TE David Flaig Unexcused  
TE Melaku Mekuria Unexcused  
TE Mgrdich Melkonian Unexcused  
TE Rick Nylund Unexcused

MEMBERS SERVING AS ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBERS

TE David Fenska Present

MEMBERS WITHOUT A CALL

TE Mark Almlie Unexcused  
TE Sam Fielder Unexcused  
TE Rob Perkins Excused  
TE Fred Tanizaki Unexcused  
TE Dennis Tarr Unexcused  
TE Steve Tyra Unexcused  
TE Patrick Vaughn Excused  
TE Quinn Vaughn Excused  
TE Tony Winterowd Excused  
TE Jason Yum Unexcused

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – Outside Boundaries

TE Kurt Teng Not Present

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – ACTIVE

TE Donald Baird Excused  
TE Scott Farmer Unexcused  
TE Paul Bergquam Unexcused  
TE Kirk Bottomly Unexcused

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – Retired

TE Samuel Adamson Not Present  
TE Jerry Autry Not Present  
TE Robert (Bob) Badgley Not Present  
TE Ed Blake Not Present  
TE Steve Frank Not Present  
TE Anton Hoffmann Not Present  
TE Robin Kelley Not Present  
TE Linda Line Not Present  
TE Greg Livingstone Not Present  
TE Tom Naylor Not Present  
TE Ron Owens Not Present  
TE Penny Proschold Not Present  
TE Lana Roberts Present  
TE Greg Roth Not Present  
TE Marsha Roth Not Present  
TE Chaluay Ruangchan Not Present  
TE Richard Sanner Not Present  
TE Jerry Voss Not Present

GUESTS/OBSERVERS/CANDIDATES/MINISTERS TO BE EXAMINED

Pierre Belanger Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA  
Michael Chau Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA  
Alex Chiang Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA  
Pam Conners First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA  
Laura Constance First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA  
Cheryl Eshoff Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, CA  
Mindy Fenska EPC World Outreach, San Diego, CA  
Lauri Howard Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA  
Larry Hsu Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA  
Denell Hull Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno, NV  
Matthew Jue Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA  
Pat Lum Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA  
Susan Masamitsu Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA  
Thomas Masamitsu Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA  
Irene Mena Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA  
Norma Moore Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA  
Josh Newsham World Outreach and Avant Ministries, Malaga, Spain  
Katya Newsham World Outreach and Avant Ministries, Malaga, Spain  
Jacob Robling Covenant Presbyterian Church, San Diego, CA  
David Schipul Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA  
Steve Simpson Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno, NV  
Shawn Steward EPC World Outreach, Black Mountain, NC  
Kristen Stockamp First Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA  
Nathan Stockamp First Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA  
Deanna Teramoto Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA  
Ryan Teramoto Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA  
Mark Vanderput EPC World Outreach, Rockford, MI  
Dean Weaver EPC General Assembly Stated Clerk, Orlando, FL

NUMERICAL ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

	Present	Excused	Unexcused	Total/Parity
Teaching Elders (Full Members)	24	22	17	63
Teaching Elders (Associate - Active)	0	1	3	
Teaching Elders (Associate-Retired)	1			
Ruling Elders	29			
Officers of the Presbytery	2			
Commissioned Pastors	0			
Received Pending Dismissal	0			
Transitional Members	0			
Candidates/Guests/Observers	28			
TOTAL IN ATTENDANCE	82			
Associate & Retired Members (Not Present)	18			
Inactive Members (Not Present)	0			

**12-3 Stated Clerk’s Report**

Stated Clerk Eshoff reviewed the protocol for participation and voting for the virtual meeting. He also noted attendance expectations and the voting guidelines for the Presbytery, as well as those teaching elders that were absent without excuse at the previous Presbytery meeting held on May 14, 2021. He encouraged the members of the Presbytery to use the meeting registration form to register their need to miss the meeting. He introduced Cheryl Eshoff, who served as assistant for the meeting in the absence of Presbytery assistant, Cathy Cole.

**12-4 Approval of the Docket**

Stated Clerk Eshoff presented changes to the proposed docket and recommended the docket to the Presbytery for approval.

**Motion was sustained to adopt the docket as modified.**

**12-5 Worship and Prayer**

Moderator Conners led the Presbytery in a Call to Worship from Psalm 34. The Centerville Worship Team led the Presbytery in musical worship. Moderator Conners then led a time of prayer focused on several passages of Scripture.

**12-6 Sermon**

The sermon was given by Dr. Dean Weaver, General Assembly Stated Clerk. HE preached on Joshua 1:1-9.

**12-7 Interview with Dean Weaver**

Stated Clerk Eshoff interviewed the GA Stated Clerk on a variety of topics including his family, the theme of the recent Pastors Retreat at which he spoke, and the state of the denomination. Moderator Conners then prayed for Dean, his ministry as Stated Clerk, and the denomination.

**12-8 Update from the GA Office**

The Presbytery viewed a video update on denominational initiatives from the GA Office.

**12-9 Report from the National Leadership Team**

TE Patrick King, member of the National Leadership Team (NLT), gave a report on the recommendation of the NLT to transition to a “1% of budget” calculation for GA Per Member Asking. He made himself available during the ensuing lunch break for anyone to ask questions. TE Nancy Duff prayed for the work of the National Leadership Team.

#### **12-10 Session Minutes Review Committee**

RE Goodman reported on the reviews from the May 2021 meeting and updated the Presbytery on how Session Minutes Reviews would occur in the future.

Minutes were submitted from the following churches:

Covenant Presbyterian Church, Orange, CA  
Covenant Presbyterian Church, San Diego, CA  
Easton Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA  
First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA  
First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA  
Heritage EPC, Santa Maria, CA  
Kingman Presbyterian Church, Kingman, AZ  
The Table, San Francisco, CA  
Valley Community Church, San Jacinto, CA  
Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA  
Woodlake Presbyterian Church, Woodlake, CA  
First Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA (from May 2021)

Minutes were still outstanding from St. John’s Assyrian Church, Turlock, CA. The following members of the Session Minutes Review Standing Committee were selected and met during lunch for orientation:

Jonathan Dennis, Woodlake Presbyterian Church, Woodlake, CA  
Greg Flagg, Sierra Presbyterian Church, Nevada City, CA  
Jay Hull, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno, NV  
Marty Brown, Hope Presbyterian Church, Folsom, CA  
Patty Howard, Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, CA  
Conner Kobayashi, Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA  
Chris Rhodes, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno, NV  
Linda Marshall, New Life Community Church, Covelo, CA  
Freda Kaprielain, Easton Presbyterian Church, Easton, CA  
Bobby Cobbs, Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, CA  
Heidi Johnson, Community Presbyterian Church, Danville, CA  
Sharon Wurst, Centerpoint Community Church, Roseville, CA

RE Goodman closed her report in prayer and gave thanks to God for the lunch and those who prepared it.

#### **12-11 E2025 Home Team Chair**

**Motion was sustained to affirm the recommendation from the POPS Mission Committee to appoint TE Sam Knottnerus as POPS E2025 Home Team Chair.**

**12-12 Mission Committee Report**

TE Sam Knottnerus opened in prayer and introduced World Outreach (WO) representatives Mark V. and Shawn S., who gave an update on current WO initiatives. WO Liaison TE Dave Fenska closed the report in prayer.

**12-13 Community of Churches**

TE David Burke opened in prayer and shared an update on the ministry of Fremont Presbyterian Church in Sacramento, CA. He shared the both the joys of ministry and the challenges he and the church have experienced because of the pandemic. TE Mike Griffin prayed for David and the ministry of the church.

**12-14 Treasurer's Report**

RE Connie Badgley, Treasurer, opened in prayer and gave the financial report, which included the 2021 year-to-date POPS Askings Report and the 2021 Year-to-date POPS Financials (see addendum).

**12-15 2022 POPS Budget**

RE Badgley then presented the 2022 Proposed Budget recommended by the POPS Presbytery Council.

**Motion was sustained to approve 2022 POPS Budget, including the Per Member Asking amount of \$15 per member.**

**12-16 Pacific Women's Link**

RE Badgley reported on the meeting of the Pacific Women's Link that was held on the Thursday evening before the Presbytery meeting.

**12-17 Report from the POPS Church Revitalization Liaison**

Mike Griffin shared an update on how God has been working in his church, as well as recommendations on how we can encourage our churches to strengthen their health as they emerge from the pandemic. His report was followed by discussion around the tables on ways churches can support each other.

**12-18 Ministerial Committee Report - Examination of Ryan Teramoto**

TE David Abdo, Chair of the Ministerial Committee, opened in prayer and introduced Ryan Teramoto who was called as Associate Pastor of Assimilation and Outreach at Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA. Ryan signed his Ministerial Obligation Form and Ethical Affirmation Form. His current Terms of Call were reviewed and approved by the Ministerial Committee. He will participate in the next Discovery Workshop, and had been examined by the members of the Ministerial Committee. He was recommended to the floor of the Presbytery for approval.

Ryan's examination began with a sermon on Galatians 2:19-21, a passage assigned by the Ministerial Committee. The Presbytery examined him on his views on 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. He had no exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

**Motion was sustained to arrest the examination.**

Candidate Teramoto was dismissed during the Presbytery discussion.

RE's Connor Kobayashi and Rody Yoshinaka spoke on Ryan's behalf.

**Motion was sustained to approve the examination of Ryan Teramoto 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 Jason Chang, Connor Kobayashi and Tom Tengan from Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA, RE Marty Brown from Hope Presbyterian Church, Folsom, CA, and TE's Dave Brogren (Active-Retired) and Scott Larson from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Orange, CA to ordain and install Ryan Teramoto as Associate Pastor for Assimilation and Outreach at Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA on October 24, 2021 at 10:20 am.**

Ryan was invited back into the main session and was greeted with a standing ovation. Moderator Connors prayed for Ryan in his new call.

**12-19 Ministerial Committee Report (continued)**

**Motion was sustained to dismiss TE Tommy Branagh, Associate Pastor of Family Ministry at Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church to the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO) Bluewater Presbytery, contingent upon his approval by that body.**

**Motion was sustained to approve TE Scott Larson as Moderator of the Session of Wintersburg Presbyterian Church effective October 8, 2021.**

**Motion was sustained to approve the addition to POPS Policy and Procedures giving the POPS Ministerial Committee authority to examine and approve Stated Supply Pastors. (see addendum)**

**12-20 Prayer for TE's Ordained/Installed May 202 to Present**

Eight teaching elders had been received into the Presbytery during meetings that were held virtually due to the pandemic. Moderator-Elect TE Lana Roberts invited the Presbytery to lay hands on those TE's and prayed for each of them and their ministries.

**12-21 POPS Nominating Committee Report – Moderator**

RE Bill Myers, Chair, opened in prayer and presented several motions for members of the Presbytery Council and committees.

**Motion was sustained to approve TE Lana Roberts as Moderator of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and member of the Presbytery Council for 2022.**

Moderator Connors prayed for Lana in this new role in the Presbytery.

**Motion was sustained to approve Jim Connors as Past Moderator and member of the Presbytery Council for a two-year term beginning in 2022.**



**Motion was sustained to approve the following nominees for committee assignments on POPS committees (Class of 2024):**

***Ministerial Committee***

TE Guy Boyer, Valley Community Church, San Jacinto, CA  
RE Chris Larsen – Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, Fair Oaks, CA

***Candidates Care Committee***

TE Jonathan Dennis, Woodlake Presbyterian Church, Woodlake, CA  
RE Stephen Morris, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Orange, CA  
RE Scott Norvell, First Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA

***Mission Committee***

TE Greg Haroutunian, First Armenian Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA

***Nominating Committee***

RE Christine Deane, Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, Moraga, CA

**12-22 Response to the GA Presbytery Review Committee**

**Motion was sustained to approve the response to the GA Presbytery Review Committee regarding its noted exception to the ninth meeting of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest.**

**12-23 Descending Overtures from the 41<sup>st</sup> General Assembly**

Stated Clerk Eshoff presented the four overtures from the General Assembly meeting in June 2021. The overtures were provided for reading only and will be on the docket for a vote at the January 2022 Presbytery Meeting.

**12-24 Omnibus Motion**

Moderator Connors presented the Omnibus/Consent motion:

1. That the Minutes of the Eleventh Stated Meeting of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest, May 14, 2021 be approved as posted (these minutes are available on the website).
2. That the Administrative Commission to install Greg Flagg as Associate Pastor of Caring and Discipleship at Sierra Presbyterian Church, Nevada City, 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 install Andrew Ong as Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Care at Christ Church East Bay, Berkeley, 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. That the Administrative Commission to install Meagan Bergem as Assistant Pastor for Children and Youth at First Presbyterian Church, Fresno, 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.
5. To accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to extend the call of TE Cliff Graves as Associate Pastor of Congregational Care at Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church for one year through October 25, 2022.

6. To accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to appoint TE Scott Larson as Interim Moderator of Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, effective August 17, 2021.
7. To accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to approve Lou Paradise as Stated Supply Pastor for First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA, effective July 1, 2021 for 6 months.
8. To renew the call of TE Chris Eatough as Assistant Pastor for Families and Groups at Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, Fair Oaks, CA for 1 year.

**Motion was sustained to approve the Omnibus/Consent motion.**

**12-25 New Business**

Moderator Connors noted the following upcoming dates:

January 21-22, 2022	Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#13) First Armenian Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA
May 12-13, 2022	Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#14) Sierra Presbyterian Church, Nevada City, CA
June 21-24, 2022	EPC General Assembly Ward Presbyterian Church, Northville, MI (Detroit area)
October 4-6, 2022	POPS Pastor’s Retreat Mt. Hermon Christian Conference Center, Felton, CA
October 7-8, 2022	Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#15) Location TBD

**Hosting Opportunities**

Moderator Connors 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 in 2022 and to contact the Stated Clerk if you are interested in offering an invitation.

**12-26 Appreciation to the Host Church**

Moderator Connors expressed appreciation to the host church and gratitude for the many volunteers who assisted with food, logistics, direction and support for the meeting.

**12-27 Closing Prayer and Adjournment**

Moderator Connors adjourned the twelfth meeting of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest in prayer at 5:20 pm.

The meeting was followed by dinner provided by the Centerville Presbyterian Church and a worship service led by TE Sam Knottnerus and the Centerville Music Ministry. Communion was served and an offering was received for the POPS Pastor’s Care and Support Fund.

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RE Jim Connors, Moderator

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RE Mark Eshoff, Stated Clerk