



PROVISIONAL MINUTES

Eighth Meeting of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Friday, May 15, 2020

via Zoom Technology

8-1 Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Moderator, RE Jim Conners, called the eighth meeting of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest (POPS) to order at 9:05 am and opened the meeting with prayer. He welcomed the Presbytery to the virtual meeting.

8-2 Declaration of Quorum

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

TEACHING ELDERS

Centerpoint Community Church – Roseville, CA

TE James Barstow	Excused
TE Nancy Duff	Present
TE Bryan Yeo	Present

Centerville Presbyterian Church – Fremont, CA

TE Dennis Tarr	Present
TE Dennis Yim	Present

Christ Church, Berkeley, CA

TE Brian Kay	Unexcused
TE Jonathan St. Clair	Present
TE Patrick Vaughn	Excused
TE Quinn Vaughn	Excused

Clayton Community Church – Clayton, CA

TE Shawn Robinson	Present
TE Ron Musch	Present

Community Presbyterian Church – Danville, CA

TE Tyler Scott	Present
TE Cathy Burkholder	Present
TE Bill Haslim	Present
TE Heidi Johnson	Present

Covenant Community Church – Vacaville, CA

TE Julia Leeth	Present
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Covenant Presbyterian Church – Orange, CA

TE Scott Larson	Unexcused
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Covenant Presbyterian Church – Reno, NV

TE James (Jay) Hull	Present
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RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS

Connie Badgley, Jennifer Harrington, Brian Peterson

Tammy Berquist, Larry Hsu, Marilyn Khalaji, Norma Moore, Ken Schroeder

Kristin Anderson, Michelle Bleasdel, Kim Cory, Alex Powers, Pat Serpan, Rhea Serpan, Bern Thompson, Cheryl Thompson, Jamie Van Randwyk

Barbara Cantrell, Rebecca Duvall

Bill Myers

Covenant Presbyterian Church – San Diego, CA		
TE Patrick King	Excused	
Easton Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE David Abdo	Present	
Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church – Fair Oaks, CA		
TE Josh Hall	Present	Ashley Franke, Chris Larsen
TE Chris Eatough	Present	
TE Clifford Graves	Present	
First Armenian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE Greg Haroutunian	Present	
First Presbyterian Church – Bakersfield, CA		
TE Jeff Chandler	Present	John Bair, Rick Hood
TE David Constance	Present	
TE Scott Dickson	Present	
First Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE Jeremy Vaccaro	Present	Scott Norvell, Ben Wiele
First Presbyterian Church – Hanford, CA		
Vacant		
Fowler Presbyterian Church – Fowler, CA		
Vacant		
Fremont Presbyterian Church – Sacramento, CA		
TE David Burke	Present	Greg Flagg, Vicki Meyer
TE David Pack	Excused	
Heritage EPC – Santa Maria, CA		
RE CP Jim Brown	Present	Ruth Brown
Hope Presbyterian Church – Folsom, CA		
TE David Huusko	Present	Marty Brown, Bill Hutto, Mary Pipkin
Kingman Presbyterian Church – Kingman, AZ		
TE George Carey	Present	Joan Johns
Millbrook Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
Vacant		
Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church – Moraga, CA		
TE Scott Farmer	Unexcused	Lucy Carter, Christine Deane, Jay Groover, Kika Grupe
TE David Ricketts	Present	
TE Tommy Branagh	Present	
New Life Community Church – Covelo, CA		
Vacant		
Sanger Community Church – Sanger, CA		
Vacant		Rob Cairns, Terry Lewis, John Walker, Gordon Wolf
San Ramon Presbyterian Church – San Ramon, CA		
TE Mark Wollan	Present	Doug Fry
Sierra Presbyterian Church – Nevada City, CA		
TE Michael Griffin	Present	Mary Reeve
St. John's Assyrian Presbyterian Church – Turlock, CA		
TE Edward Eissabake	Present	

The Table – San Francisco, CA

TE Troy Wilson Present

Valley Community Church – San Jacinto, CA

TE Guy Boyer Present

Woodlake Presbyterian Church – Woodlake, CA

TE Jonathan Dennis Present Jeff Johnson

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 Jose Figueroa Present

TE Robin Kelley Unexcused

SERVING OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARIES

TE David Brogren Present

TE Joe Cole Unexcused

TE Greg Ehlert Present

TE David Flaig Excused

TE Melaku Mekuria Present

TE Mgrdich Melkonian Unexcused

TE Rick Nylund Excused

MEMBERS SERVING AS ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBERS

TE David Fenska Present

TE Greg Livingstone Present

MEMBERS WITHOUT A CALL

TE Mark Almie Excused

TE Scott Downing Unexcused

TE Sam Fielder Unexcused

TE Bart Garrett Unexcused

TE Samuel Kim Present

TE Rob Perkins Unexcused

TE Chris Popadich Unexcused

TE Steve Tyra Unexcused

TE Tony Winterowd Excused

TE Jason Yum Present

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – Outside Boundaries

TE Kurt Teng Not Present

RETIRED MEMBERS – ACTIVE

TE Donald Baird Present

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 Present

TE Anton Hoffmann Not Present

TE Linda Line	Not Present
TE Tom Naylor	Not Present
TE Ron Owens	Not Present
TE Penny Proschold	Not Present
TE Lana Roberts	Not Present
TE Greg Roth	Present
TE Marsha Roth	Present
TE Chaluay Ruangchan	Not Present
TE Richard Sanner	Not Present
TE Jerry Voss	Not Present

GUESTS/OBSERVERS/CANDIDATES/MINISTERS TO BE EXAMINED

Larry Ballenger	Arcadia Community Church, Arcadia, CA
Meagan Bergem	First Presbyterian Church, Fresno
Cady Baukien	Arcadia Community Church, Arcadia, CA
Cathy Cole	Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest
Janet Downing	Rural Compassion, Danville
Lynette Erickson	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA
Jayne George	Christ Church, Oakland, CA
Janet Goodman	Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno
Sam Knottnerus	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA
Conner Kobayashi	Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA
Carl Kuhn	Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, Fair Oaks, CA
Andrew Ong	Christ Church East Bay, Berkeley
Joe Mazzela	Sanger Community Church, Sanger, CA
Ned Rendell	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA
Phyllis Rendell	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA
Tammy Sawyer	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA
Julie Sept	Christ Church, Berkeley, CA
Celeste Stinson	Christ Church, Berkeley, CA

NUMERICAL ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

	Present	Excused	Unexcused	Total/Parity
Teaching Elders (Full Members)	43	8	15	68
Teaching Elders (Retired - Active)	1	0	2	
Teaching Elders (Associate-Retired)	3			
Ruling Elders	44			
Officers of the Presbytery	2			
Commissioned Pastors	1			
Received Pending Dismissal	0			
Transitional Members	0			
Candidates/Guests/Observers	18			
TOTAL IN ATTENDANCE	112			
Associate & Retired Members (Not Present)	13			
Inactive Members (Not Present)	0			

8-3 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, and those teaching elders that were absent without excuse at the previous Presbytery meeting held on January 25-25, 2020:

TE Jose Figueroa	TE Chris Popadich
TE Mgrdich Melkonian	TE Steve Tyra
TE Mark Almlie	TE Kirk Bottomly
TE Sam Fielder	

8-4 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 modified docket.

8-5 Worship and Prayer

Moderator Conners led the Presbytery in a Call to Worship from Psalm 100 and a time of prayer focused on Colossians 1:15-20.

8-6 Sermon

The sermon was given by Sam Knottnerus, candidate for Pastor at Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA. He preached on Philippians 2:12-13, a passage assigned to him by the Ministerial Committee.

8-7 Ministerial Committee Report

TE David Abdo, Chair of the Ministerial Committee, opened in prayer and introduced Sam Knottnerus, a candidate for ordination who has been called as Pastor of Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA. He signed his Ministerial Obligation Form and his current Terms of Call were reviewed and approved by the Ministerial Committee. He had been a Candidate Under Care in this Presbytery, completed the Discovery Workshop, and had been examined by the members of the Ministerial Committee. He was recommended to the floor of the Presbytery for approval.

Sam's examination began with a sermon on Philippians 2:12-13, 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. He had no exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

Motion was sustained to arrest the examination.

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

RE's Tammy Bergquist and Ken Schroeder from Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA spoke on behalf of the Session and congregation in support of Sam.

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

Motion was sustained to approve the Administrative Commission consisting of TE's Shawn Robinson from Clayton Community Church, Clayton, CA and Julia Leeth from Covenant Community Church, Vacaville, CA, and RE's Tammy Bergquist, Ken Schroeder and Larry Hsu from Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA and Stephen Morris from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Orange, CA to ordain Sam Knottnerus and install him as Pastor at Centerville Presbyterian Church on August 9, 2020 at 5:00 pm.

Sam was released back into the main session and was greeted with a virtual standing ovation. TE Shawn Robinson prayed for Sam in his new call.

8-8 GA Nominating Committee Report

TE Dave Ricketts opened in prayer and presented the nomination of TE Patrick King to the EPC National Leadership Team, which required the endorsement of the Presbytery.

Motion was sustained to approve the nomination of TE Patrick King as a member of the EPC National Leadership Team

8-9 Care of Candidates Committee Report

TE Jay Hull, Chair, opened in prayer and introduced Andrew Ong, who was ready to come under the care of this Presbytery. Andrew was under care of the Session of Christ Church East Bay, Berkeley, CA and had been a member 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, and his call to the ministry.

Motion was sustained to arrest the examination

The Candidate was excused from the room. TE Jonathan St. Clair from Christ Church East Bay, Berkeley, CA spoke in support of Andrew.

Motion was sustained to approve Andrew Ong to come under care of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and approve TE Julia Leeth 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. RE Jayne George from Christ Church East Bay prayed for the candidate and TE Dennis Yim from Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA gave the candidate a charge from Ephesians 2:1-10.

8-10 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 would occur over the course of the following weeks.

Minutes were submitted from the following churches:

- Christ Church East Bay, Berkeley, CA
- Clayton Community Church, Clayton, CA
- Community Presbyterian Church, Danville, CA
- First Armenian Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA
- First Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA
- Millbrook Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA
- New Life Community Church, Covelo, CA
- San Ramon Presbyterian Church, San Ramon, CA
- Sanger Community Church, Sanger, CA

RE Goodman closed her report in prayer.

8-11 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).

8-12 Mission Committee Report

RE Carl Kuhn, Chair of the Mission Committee, introduced RE Janet Goodman who prayed for missionaries and those who support them during the difficulties caused by the current pandemic. TE Dave Fenska, World Outreach Missions Associate then reported on the changes to planned WO mission programs caused by the pandemic and other training opportunities that are planned instead. TE George Carey then reported on the activities of the POPS E2025 Home Team and the POPS adopted people group, the Pashtuns.

8-13 Ministerial Committee Report (continued)

TE David Abdo, Chair, introduced Joe Mazzela, who was called as Pastor to Sanger Community Church, Sanger, CA. His current Terms of Call were reviewed and approved by the Ministerial Committee. He was currently ordained in the PCUSA, had been examined by the members of the Ministerial Committee, and will complete a Discovery Workshop when it is next offered. He was recommended to the floor of the Presbytery for approval.

Joe's examination began with a sermon on John 1:29-31, 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. Joe had no exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

Motion was sustained to arrest the examination

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

RE Terry Lewis and RE Rob Cairns spoke in support of Joe's call on behalf of the Session and congregation of the church.

Motion was sustained to approve the examination of Joe Mazzela and receive him into full membership in the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest from the PCUSA Presbytery of Riverside.

Motion was sustained to approve the Administrative Commission consisting of TE's Marty Carpenter, Chaplain and Ron Owens (Associate Retired), and RE's Rob Cairns, Terry Lewis and Jimmy Martin from Sanger Community Church, Sanger, CA and Mark Lanford from Easton Presbyterian Church, Easton, CA to install Joe Mazzela as Pastor of Sanger Community Church on August 9, 2020 at 2:00 pm.

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

TE Abdo commended Sanger Community Church and Centerville Presbyterian Church for completing the call process in the midst of the difficult limitations caused by the pandemic.

8-14 Omnibus/Consent Motion

These motions were considered to be routine and were considered for action as one motion:

1. **That the Minutes of the Seventh Stated Meeting of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest, January 24-25, 2020 be approved as posted (these minutes are available on the website).** (A minor correction to the minutes was noted)
2. **That the Administrative Commission to ordain Marty Carpenter as Chaplain be dismissed with appreciation for their service to the Presbytery, to the chaplain and to the congregation. The commission's minutes are on file with the Stated Clerk.**
3. **That the Administrative Commission to ordain and install Dennis Yim as Associate Pastor for Spiritual Formation at 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.**
4. **Accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to dissolve the pastoral relationship between First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA, and TE Tony Winterowd, effective January 31, 2020.**
5. **Accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to dissolve the pastoral relationship between Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, Moraga, CA, and TE Rob Perkins, effective February 23, 2020.**
6. **That the Administrative Commission to commission and install Jim Brown as Commissioned Pastor of Heritage Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Santa Maria, CA be dismissed with appreciation for their service to the Presbytery, to the commissioned pastor and to the congregation. The commission's minutes are on file with the Stated Clerk.**

Motion was sustained to approve the Omnibus/Consent Motion

8-15 New Business

Stated Clerk Eshoff noted information that would be released soon in a Presbytery Update regarding Guidance on Reopening Churches, Virtual Congregational Meetings, EPC Small Church Workshops and other issues.

TE David Abdo gave the Presbytery an update on the health condition of TE Tony Winterowd and offered prayer for him

Moderator Connors noted the following upcoming dates:

September 17-18, 2020	EPC General Assembly (In-person and virtual) Hope Presbyterian Church Cordova, TN (Memphis area)
October 6-8, 2020	Pastor's Retreat at Mt. Hermon Conference Center Santa Cruz, CA
October 9-10, 2020	Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#9) Christ Church East Bay, Berkeley, CA
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 in 2020 and to contact the Stated Clerk if you are interested in offering an invitation.

8-16**Closing Prayer and Adjournment**

Moderator Conners adjourned the eighth meeting of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest in prayer at 12:45 pm.

RE Jim Conners, Moderator

RE Mark Eshoff, Stated Clerk