

# APPROVED MINUTES



**21<sup>st</sup> Stated Meeting of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest  
October 11-12, 2024  
Community Presbyterian Church  
222 W El Pintado Road, Danville, CA 94526**

## 21-1 Call to Order and Opening Prayer

After a breakfast served by the Community Presbyterian Church (CPC) volunteers, Moderator RE Brian Wyatt called the 21<sup>st</sup> stated meeting of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest (POPS) to order at 9:02 am, opened the meeting with prayer, and welcomed the members and commissioners.

## 21-2 Declaration of Quorum

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

| TE MEMBERS  |         | RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS                             |
|---|---------|--|
| Centerpoint Community Church – Roseville, CA            |         |  |
| TE Bryan Yeo  | Present | Jennifer Harrington                                    |
| TE Rachel Dorsey  | Present |  |
| TE Jeff Hooker  | Present |  |
| Centerville Presbyterian Church – Fremont, CA           |         |  |
| TE Sam Knottnerus                                       | Present | Chris Christie, Marilyn Khalaji, Patricia Lum          |
| TE Ryan Bogert  | Present |  |
| Christ Church, Berkeley, CA                             |         |  |
| TE Jonathan St. Clair                                   | Present |  |
| TE Andrew Ong   | Present |  |
| Christ Community Church – Carmichael, CA                |         |  |
| Dustin DeVriend   | Present | Ken Shepard  |
| Clayton Community Church – Clayton, CA                  |         |  |
| TE Shawn Robinson                                       | Present |  |
| Community Presbyterian Church – Danville, CA            |         |  |
| TE Tyler Scott  | Present | Paul Bianchi, Wendy Bjeldanes, Leanne Drozdowicz,      |
| TE Cathy Burkholder                                     | Present | Kolisa Larue, Geoff LaTendresse, Eva Moon, Pat Serpan, |
| TE Bill Haslim  | Present | Rhea Serpan, Christopher Sherry                        |
| TE Ryan Pearce  | Present |  |
| Cornerstone Woodlake Presbyterian Church – Woodlake, CA |         |  |
| RE Rick Dorr,   | Present | Brian Vaccaro  |
| Commissioned Pastor                                     |         |  |
| Covenant Community Church – Vacaville, CA               |         |  |
| TE Nancy Duff   | Excused | Barbara Cantrell, Rebecca Duvall                       |
| Covenant Presbyterian Church – Orange, CA               |         |  |
| TE Scott Larson   | Excused | Ken Adams, Stephen Morris                              |
| TE Matt Young   | Present |  |
| Covenant Presbyterian Church – Reno, NV                 |         |  |
| TE James (Jay) Hull                                     | Present | Dianne Billharz, Gerry Dunlap, Chris Rhodes            |

|  |           |                                  |
|--|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Covenant Presbyterian Church – San Diego, CA   |           |                                  |
| TE Patrick King                                | Present   |                                  |
| TE Kennerly King                               | Unexcused |                                  |
| Easton Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA        |           |                                  |
| TE David Abdo                                  | Present   |                                  |
| Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church – Fair Oaks, CA  |           |                                  |
| TE Donny Butkus                                | Present   | Karina Fielden, Yvonne Robertson |
| First Armenian Church – Fresno, CA             |           |                                  |
| TE Greg Haroutunian                            | Excused   |                                  |
| First Presbyterian Church – Bakersfield, CA    |           |                                  |
| TE Marcos Ortega                               | Present   | Jane Galbreath                   |
| TE David Constance                             | Present   |                                  |
| First Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA         |           |                                  |
| TE Jeremy Vaccaro                              | Excused   | Lisa Goodell                     |
| TE Meagan Kroeker                              | Present   |                                  |
| First Presbyterian Church – Hanford, CA        |           |                                  |
| TE Tim Brown                                   | Excused   |                                  |
| Fowler Presbyterian Church – Fowler, CA        |           |                                  |
| TE Erik Buhl                                   | Present   |                                  |
| TE Paul Irwin                                  | Excused   |                                  |
| Fremont Presbyterian Church – Sacramento, CA   |           |                                  |
| TE David Pack                                  | Present   | Melissa Hightower                |
| TE Matthew McCleary                            | Present   |                                  |
| Heritage EPC – Santa Maria, CA                 |           |                                  |
| TE Mark Wright                                 | Excused   |                                  |
| Hope Presbyterian Church – Folsom, CA          |           |                                  |
| TE David Huusko                                | Excused   | Gordon Pipkin                    |
| Kingman Presbyterian Church – Kingman, AZ      |           |                                  |
| TE Joe Tolin                                   | Excused   |                                  |
| Millbrook Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA     |           |                                  |
| Vacant   |           |                                  |
| Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church – Moraga, CA |           |                                  |
| TE Brandon Morrow                              | Present   |                                  |
| TE David Ricketts                              | Present   |                                  |
| New Life Community Church – Covelo, CA         |           |                                  |
| Vacant   |           |                                  |
| Sanger Community Church – Sanger, CA           |           |                                  |
| Vacant   | Excused   |                                  |
| San Ramon Presbyterian Church – San Ramon, CA  |           |                                  |
| Vacant   |           |                                  |
| Sierra Presbyterian Church – Nevada City, CA   |           |                                  |
| TE Michael Griffin                             | Present   | Jessica Richey                   |
| 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

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

Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA  
TE Justin Kim Excused  
TE Ryan Teramoto Excused

#### OFFICERS OF THE PRESBYTERY

TE Lana Roberts, Past Moderator Excused  
RE Brian Wyatt, Moderator Present  
RE Mark Eshoff, Stated Clerk Present

#### PRESBYTERY COUNCIL

Christine Deane Present  
TE David Fenska Present  
RE Janet Goodman Present  
David Sylvester Present

#### MILITARY CHAPLAINS ON ACTIVE DUTY

None

#### INSTITUTIONAL CHAPLAINS

TE Karen Bolte Excused  
TE Marty Carpenter Excused

#### EVANGELISTS

TE Scott Downing Excused  
TE Jose Figueroa Unexcused

#### MISSIONARIES

#### SERVING OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARIES

TE Eric Amundson Excused  
TE Joe Cole Unexcused  
TE Greg Ehlert Excused  
TE Melaku Mekuria Unexcused  
TE Mgrdich Melkonian Unexcused  
TE Rick Nylund Unexcused  
TE Ryan Suzuki Present  
TE Fred Tanizaki Unexcused  
TE Tony Winterowd Unexcused

#### MEMBERS SERVING AS ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBERS

#### MEMBERS WITHOUT A CALL

TE Greg Alderman Present  
TE David Burke Present  
TE Sam Fielder Unexcused  
TE Josh Hall Unexcused  
Ralph "Joe" Mazzela Present  
TE Ron Musch Excused  
TE Rob Perkins Present  
TE Steve Tyra Unexcused  
TE Patrick Vaughn Excused

|                 |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| TE Quinn Vaughn | Excused |
| TE Jason Yum    | Present |

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – ACTIVE

|                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| TE Donald Baird  | Excused   |
| TE Paul Bergquam | Unexcused |

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – Outside Boundaries

|              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| TE Kurt Teng | Not Present |
|--------------|-------------|

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – Retired

|                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| TE Samuel Adamson       | Not Present |
| TE Jerry Autry          | Not Present |
| TE Robert (Bob) Badgley | Not Present |
| TE Jim Barstow          | Not Present |
| TE Ed Blake             | Not Present |
| TE Kirk Bottomly        | Not Present |
| TE Scott Dickson        | Not Present |
| TE Scott Farmer         | Not Present |
| TE Steve Frank          | Not Present |
| TE Clifford Graves      | Not Present |
| TE Anton Hoffmann       | Not Present |
| TE Heidi Johnson        | 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 Greg Roth            | Not Present |
| TE Marsha Roth          | Not Present |
| TE Chaluay Ruangchan    | Not Present |
| TE Richard Sanner       | Not Present |
| TE Jerry Voss           | Not Present |
| TE Mark Wollan          | Present     |

GUESTS/OBSERVERS/CANDIDATES/MINISTERS TO BE EXAMINED

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| David Adamson     | World Outreach, Colorado Springs, CO        |
| Wendy Adamson     | World Outreach, Colorado Springs, CO        |
| Bill Azbell       | World Outreach, Colorado Springs, CO        |
| Sharon Azbell     | World Outreach, Colorado Springs, CO        |
| Andrea Craddock   | EPC World Outreach                          |
| Jamie Davis       | Clayton Community Church, Clayton           |
| Cheryl Eshoff     | Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento     |
| Mindy Fenska      | EPC World Outreach, San Diego               |
| Ken Ferguson      | San Ramon Presbyterian Church, San Ramon    |
| Steve Gold        | Covenant Community Church, Vacaville        |
| Sue Kim-Ahn       | Community Presbyterian Church, Danville     |
| Joel Landis       | UC Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz                   |
| Julie Lekki       | Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, Moraga   |
| Mike Mann         | San Ramon Presbyterian Church, San Ramon    |
| Dave Matthews     | Reflejo – Mission to Pashtuns, Grafton, WI  |
| Sarah Matthews    | Reflejo – Mission to Pashtuns, Grafton, WI  |
| David Nystrom     | Western Seminary, Sacramento                |
| Joanna Reeder     | POPS Home Team                              |
| Tom Ricks         | Office of the General Assembly, Orlando, FL |
| Ruth Ann Thompson | Community Presbyterian Church, Danville     |
| Judi Vaccaro      | Cornerstone, Woodlake                       |

NUMERICAL ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

|   | Present | Excused | Unexcused | Total/Parity |
|---|---------|---------|-----------|--------------|
| Teaching Elders (Full Members)            | 35      | 20      | 13        | 68           |
| Teaching Elders (Associate - Active)      | 0       | 2       | 1         |              |
| Teaching Elders (Associate-Retired)       | 1       |         |           |              |
| Ruling Elders                             | 30      |         |           |              |
| Officers of the Presbytery                | 2       |         |           |              |
| Presbytery Council                        | 3       |         |           |              |
| Commissioned Pastors                      | 1       |         |           |              |
| Received Pending Dismissal                | 0       |         |           |              |
| Transitional Members                      | 0       |         |           |              |
| Candidates/Guests/Observers               | 21      |         |           |              |
| TOTAL IN ATTENDANCE                       | 93      |         |           |              |
| Associate & Retired Members (Not Present) | 23      |         |           |              |
| Inactive Members (Not Present)            | 0       |         |           |              |

**21-3 Welcome**

TE Tyler Scott, Pastor of Community Presbyterian Church, welcomed the Presbytery and shared a brief update on the ministry of the church.

**21-4 Introduction of New Commissioners and Guests**

Moderator Wyatt welcomed all commissioners and guests. Personal introductions were given to commissioners who were attending a Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest meeting for the first time.

**21-5 Worship**

Moderator Wyatt led the Presbytery in a Call to Worship from Psalm 145. The Worship Team from CPC led the Presbytery in musical worship. The sermon on 2 Corinthians 4:1-6 was given by Dr. Ron Pyle, Professor Emeritus of Communication at Whitworth University in Spokane, WA who spoke at the Pastors Retreat earlier in the week. Ron earned graduate degrees in Theology and Communication. He retired in 2021 after 34 years of teaching at Whitworth. Ron taught courses related to human relationships, theories of communication, social influence, preaching, and small group ministry. Ron leads retreats and seminars on topics including biblical approaches to healthy relationships, marriage and family relationships, effective preaching, and conflict management in the church.

**21-6 Moderator’s Time of Prayer**

Moderator Wyatt then led a time of prayer focused on Matthew 7:24-29. Members, commissioners and guests prayed the scripture in small groups.

**21-7 Stated Clerk’s Report**

Stated Clerk Eshoff reviewed the protocol for participation and voting for the meeting. He also noted attendance expectations, the voting guidelines for the Presbytery, and those Teaching Elders that were absent without excuse at the previous Presbytery Meeting held May 16-17, 2024. He noted the resources available from the General Assembly office, including updates on the Gospel Priorities and opportunities for various GA-sponsored retreats. He also reminded the Presbytery about opportunities to host future POPS meetings and requested prayer for Cathy Cole, Presbytery Assistant who was not present due to the death of her mother and for Moderator Wyatt’s father who recently underwent heart surgery.

**21-8 Approval of the Docket**

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

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

**21-9 Mission Committee Report**

TE Dave Fenska, Chair, opened in prayer and introduced World Outreach workers who were present at the meeting. TE Sam Knottnerus, chair of the E2025 Home Team introduced Dave Matthews who serves with Reflejo, a partner mission agency that has a burden to reach the Pashtuns, the POPS sponsored people group. RE Chris Rhodes from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno, NV, shared their recent positive experience of hosting a mission worker from Reflejo. TE Knottnerus reminded the Presbytery of the POPS Pashtun website and closed the report in prayer.

**21-10 Church Planting Report**

TE Shawn Robinson, POPS Church Planting Coordinator, introduced TE Troy Wilson who opened in prayer and shared an update on the Table Church in San Francisco, CA, which began as an EPC church plant. TE Robinson shared an update on a possible new POPS church plant and the process of identifying and assessing a church planter. He introduced TE Joe Mazella, who will be participating in a church planter assessment process to possibly serve in the new church plant. TE Marcos Ortega and TE Dave Constance from FPC Bakersfield spoke of their enthusiasm to support the effort. TE Robinson then encouraged the Presbytery to participate in providing initial donations to fund the assessment effort and introduced Tom Ricks, EPC National Director of Church Planting, who encouraged the Presbytery to join in the support. TE Rick closed the report in prayer.

**21-11 Session Minutes Review Report**

RE Janet Goodman, Chair of the Session Minutes Review Committee, opened in prayer and reported on the reviews from the May 2024 meeting and updated the Presbytery on how to improve the effectiveness of Session Minutes.

Churches scheduled for Session Minutes Reviews at the October 2024 meeting were:

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

RE Goodman closed her report in prayer.

**21-12 Ministry Update – Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno, NV**

TE Jay Hull shared an update on the ministry of Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno, NV, including the joys and challenges of ministry and the recent workshop featuring Andrew Brunson, which was a rich experience for all who attended. TE Greg Flagg prayed for Jay and the church.

**21-13 Special Panel Presentation – “Navigating a Divisive Election – Perspective and Care for Our Congregations”**

Following lunch prepared by the CPC volunteers, the Presbytery engaged in a panel discussion to help leaders of churches provide encouragement, perspective, and a Christian filter for their people in processing the dynamics of the election, given the angst and concern that the election is creating. Featured on the panel were Dr. Joel Landis, Professor of Political Science at UC Santa Cruz, Dr. David Nystrom, Professor of New Testament at Western Seminary and former Provost and Sr. Vice President of Biola University, and Dr. David Burke, POPS Chaplain and Pastor to Pastors with Standing Stone Ministry. After brief presentations the panelists addressed questions posed by the presbytery attendees. Moderator Wyatt closed the presentation in prayer.

**21-14 Treasurer’s Report**

RE David Sylvester, POPS Treasurer, opened in prayer and shared the POPS financial update for the month ended August 2024 (attached). He noted that Percentage of Income giving continued to lag behind expectations and was likely affected by the significant increased insurance expenses that many California churches are facing. He commented that a brief survey is being prepared to inquire of POPS churches what kind of assistance the Presbytery might provide in navigating financial challenges. RE Sylvester closed his report in prayer.

**21-15 Ministerial Committee Report**

TE David Abdo, Chair of the Ministerial Committee, opened in prayer and introduced Will Carreras.

**Examination of Will Carreras**

Will Carreras had been called as Assistant Pastor for Missions and Mercy Ministry by the Session of Covenant Presbyterian Church, San Diego, CA. He was seeking ordination in the EPC and had signed his Ministerial Obligation Form and Ethical Affirmation Form. He had been examined by the members of the Ministerial Committee and his current Terms of Call were reviewed and approved by the Committee. He was recommended to the Presbytery for approval.

Will’s examination began with a sermon on Acts 4:8-12, a passage assigned by the Ministerial Committee. The Presbytery examined him on his knowledge of theology and sacraments, faith in Christ, calling to the ministry, the nature of the office of a minister of the Word, polity, the Reformed tradition, the Bible, and his spiritual journey. Will had no exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

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

Will was dismissed during the Presbytery discussion. TE Patrick King from Covenant Presbyterian Church, San Diego, CA spoke in support of Will.

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

**Motion was sustained to approve the Administrative Commission of TE’s David Fenska (Active-Retired) and Patrick King from Covenant Presbyterian Church, San Diego, CA and RE’s Alicia Luschei, Rick Priebisus, Bo Harvey from Covenant Presbyterian Church, San Diego, CA and Stephen Morris from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Orange, CA to ordain and install Will Carreras as Assistant Pastor for Missions and Mercy Ministry at Covenant Presbyterian Church, San Diego, CA on November 10, 2024 at 12:00 pm for a term of 3 years.**

Will was invited back into the main session and was greeted with a standing ovation. TE Patrick King prayed for Will.

**21-16 Dissolution of Call – TE Joe Mazzela**

The congregation of Sanger Community Church and TE Joe Mazzela had agreed to dissolve their relationship effective August 31, 2024.

**Motion was sustained to approve the dissolution of the relationship between TE Joe Mazzela and Sanger Community Church effective August 31, 2024, and change his status to Without Call.**

TE David Burke prayed for Joe and the church.

**21-17 Change in Status – TE Jeff Hooker**

The congregation of Centerpoint Community Church, Roseville, CA had called TE Jeff Hooker to the position of Associate Pastor of Spiritual Formation. He was currently the Assistant Pastor of Spiritual Formation at the church. This change had been reviewed by the Ministerial Committee and was recommended to the Presbytery for approval.

**Motion was sustained to approve the Change in Status of TE Jeff Hooker from Assistant Pastor of Spiritual Formation to Associate Pastor of Spiritual Formation at Centerpoint Community Church, Roseville, CA.**

**Motion was sustained to approve the Administrative Commission consisting of TE's Bryan Yeo and Rachel Dorsey from Centerpoint Community Church and RE's Sharon Wurst, Tim Kovar, Joe Watkins from Centerpoint Community Church and Vicki Meyer from Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, CA to install TE Jeff Hooker as Associate Pastor of Spiritual Formation at Centerpoint Community Church on October 20, 2024, at 11:35 am.**

TE Matthew McCleary prayed for Jeff and the church.

**21-18 Change of Call – TE Eric Amundson**

TE Eric Amundson had completed his service as Transitional Pastor at Hope Church, Kent, WA and had been called to Hope Church, Carbondale, IL as Transitional Pastor. He had requested that POPS affirm his Outside the Bounds call. He will remain a member of POPS.

**Motion was sustained to approve the call of TE Eric Amundson to work Outside the Bounds of the Pacific Southwest Presbytery at Hope Church, Carbondale, IL beginning September 22, 2024.**

**21-19 Transfer of Ordination – TE Greg Ehlert**

TE Greg Ehlert was currently serving an Outside the Bounds call with Restoration Project in San Diego, CA. He had been called to Renew Community in San Diego, a Reformed Church of America congregation and had requested a transfer to the City Classis of the RCA.

**Motion was sustained to approve the transfer of TE Greg Ehlert to the Reformed Church in America City Classis effective October 17, 2024, contingent on his acceptance by the Classis.**

TE David Abdo prayed for both Eric and Greg in their new calls.



## **21-20 Nominating Committee Report**

RE Christine Deane opened in prayer and introduced RE Chris Rhodes, a member of the Nominating Committee, who recommended nominees for several POPS committees and an officer.

**Motion was sustained to approve the nomination of TE Jay Hull from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno, NV as a member of the Nominating Committee – Class of 2027.**

**Motion was sustained to approve the nomination of TE Joe Tolin from Kingman Presbyterian Church, Kingman, AZ as a member of the Care of Candidates Committee – Class of 2027.**

**Motion was sustained to approve the nomination of TE Lana Roberts (Active-Retired) as a member of the Ministerial Committee – Class of 2027.**

**Motion was sustained to approve the second term of RE Brian Wyatt as POPS Moderator for 2025.**

RE Deane closed her report in prayer.

## **21-21 Ministry Update – Christ Church East Bay**

TE Jonathan St. Clair shared an update on the ministry of Christ Church East Bay, Berkeley, CA, including the joys and challenges of ministry and several prayer requests. TE Dave Ricketts prayed for Jonathan and the church.

## **21-22 Change in POPS Bylaws**

Stated Clerk Eshoff presented the reasoning behind the recommendation of the POPS Council to change the POPS Bylaws to allow the Ministerial Committee Chair to serve unlimited terms.

**Motion was sustained to modify the POPS Bylaws Section 6.04 to establish unlimited 3-year terms for the Ministerial Committee Chair.**

**Motion was sustained to approve the nomination of TE David Abdo as Ministerial Committee Chair – for a three-year term through 2027.**

## **21-23 Descending Overtures from the 44<sup>th</sup> General Assembly – First Reading**

Stated Clerk Eshoff presented the two (2) descending overtures from the recent 44<sup>th</sup> General Assembly meeting in June. These overtures were provided for reading only in anticipation of a formal vote at the January 2025 POPS Meeting.

## **21-24 Meeting Recess and Dinner**

The meeting was recessed until the following morning at 9:00 am. Dinner was served by the CPC volunteers.

## **21-25 Presbytery Worship Service**

The POPS Worship Service was led by TE Cathy Burkholder and the staff and leaders from Community Presbyterian Church. Caleb Bonifay, a member of the staff at CPC, preached the sermon. Communion was served and an offering was received for the POPS Church Planting Fund.

## **21-26 Call to Order and Opening Prayer**

Following a breakfast served by CPC volunteers, Moderator Wyatt called the meeting back to order at 9:05 am on Saturday, October 12, 2024, and opened in prayer.

**21-27 Appreciation to the Volunteers and Staff of the Host Church**

Moderator Wyatt expressed deep appreciation to Community Presbyterian Church, their pastors and staff, and the volunteers that served the Presbytery in hosting the meeting. The volunteers were given a standing ovation.

**21-28 Worship**

Moderator Wyatt led the Presbytery in a Call to Worship from Psalm 9:1-2. The Worship Team from CPC led the Presbytery in musical worship. The sermon on 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 was given by Ken Ferguson, Candidate for Pastor at San Ramon Presbyterian Church, San Ramon, CA.

**21-29 Moderator's Time of Prayer**

Moderator Wyatt then led a time of prayer focused on Matthew 10:26-33. Members, commissioners and guests prayed the scripture in small groups.

**21-30 Ministerial Committee Report (continued)**

TE Abdo opened in prayer and introduced TE Ken Ferguson, candidate for Pastor at San Ramon Presbyterian Church.

**Examination of Ken Ferguson**

Ken had been called as Pastor by the congregation of San Ramon Presbyterian Church, San Ramon, CA. He had signed his Ministerial Obligation Form and Ethical Affirmation Form. He was examined by the members of the Ministerial Committee and his current Terms of Call were reviewed and approved by the Committee. He was seeking to transfer from the EPC Presbytery of the Great Plains and was recommended to the Presbytery for approval.

Ken's examination began with a sermon on a passage assigned by the Ministerial Committee. The Presbytery examined him on his views of theology and sacraments, his faith in Christ, his calling to the ministry, the nature of the office of a minister of the Word, polity, the Reformed tradition, the Bible, and his spiritual journey. Ken had no exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

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

Ken was dismissed during the Presbytery discussion. RE's Doug Fry and Mark Miller from San Ramon Presbyterian Church spoke in support of Ken.

**Motion was sustained to approve the examination of Ken Ferguson and receive him into full membership in the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest, pending his transfer from the EPC Presbytery of the Great Plains.**

**Motion was sustained to approve the Administrative Commission of TE's Bill Haslim from Community Presbyterian Church, Danville, CA and Shawn Robinson from Clayton Community Church, and RE's Doug Fry, Steve Liao and Mike Goldsmith from San Ramon Presbyterian Church and Rhea Serpan from Community Presbyterian Church, Danville, CA to install Ken Ferguson as Pastor of San Ramon Presbyterian Church on November 3, 2024, at 7:00 pm.**

Ken was invited back into the main session and was greeted with a standing ovation. TE Bill Haslim prayed for Ken and the church.

### **21-31 Church Health Report**

TE Mike Griffin, POPS Church Health Coordinator, opened in prayer and reminded the Presbytery of the threefold priorities of the Church Health Team: Transitional Pastor training, evangelism workshops, and church revitalization processes, including mission vision and alignment. He led a brief time of one-on-one interaction and encouraged members of the Presbytery to share a strength, challenge, and opportunity they would identify for their church.

### **21-32 Ministry Update – TE Ryan Suzuki**

TE Ryan Suzuki was serving in an Outside the Bounds call at 3Crosses Church in Castro Valley, CA. He updated the Presbytery on the joys and challenges of his ministry and shared ways that the Presbytery could pray for him. TE Cathy Burkholder prayed for Ryan.

### **21-33 Care of Candidates Report**

TE Matt Young, Chair of the Care of Candidates Committee, opened in prayer and encouraged churches to identify potential candidates for ministry to consider ordained ministry. He then reported that some Candidates Under Care decide to remove themselves from the candidate care process while others do not progress adequately enough to continue in the process. The original motion read: To remove Yungfeng Huang and Grace Babayan from the POPS Candidate Care process.

**Motion was made, seconded and sustained to amend the original motion by removing Grace Babayan from the motion.**

**Motion was sustained to remove Yungfeng Huang from the POPS Candidate Care process.**

TE Young prayed for Yungfeng.

### **21-34 Omnibus Motion**

Moderator Wyatt introduced the Omnibus Motion which included the following:

- 1. That the Minutes of the Twentieth Stated Meeting of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest on May 16-17, 2024, be approved as posted (these minutes are available on the POPS website).**
- 2. That the minutes of the Called Meeting of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest, July 13, 2024, be approved as posted (these minutes are available on the POPS website).**
- 3. That the Administrative Commission to install Rachel Dorsey as Assistant Pastor of Outreach and Mission at Centerpoint Community Church, Roseville, 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 Justin Kim as Pastor of Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, 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. That the Administrative Commission to install Marcos Ortega as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, 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.**
- 6. That the Administrative Commission to install Matthew McCleary as Associate Pastor for Congregational Life of Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, 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.

7. To extend the call of TE Meagan Kroeker as Assistant Pastor of at First Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA for an additional 3 years through June 2027.
8. To approve a 1 year extension of the Outside the Bounds calls of TE Ryan Suzuki at 3Crosses Church in Castro Valley, CA, TE Kurt Teng at Bakersfield Reformed Gospel Church, TE Mgrdich Melkonian at the Evangelical Church of Armenia, Fresno, CA, TE Melaku Mekuria at Maranatha Ethiopian Christian Fellowship, San Diego, CA, and TE Tony Winterowd at Hanford Christian Reformed Church, Hanford, CA.
9. To accept the report of the Ministerial Committee that changes in the Terms of Call for POPS teaching elders were reviewed and approved by the Committee.

**Motion was sustained to approve the Omnibus actions**

**21-35 Important Upcoming Dates**

Moderator Wyatt reminded the Presbytery of the following dates:

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| January 24-25, 2025 | Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#22)<br>Location: Centerpoint Community Church, Roseville, CA |
| May 15-16, 2025     | Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#23)<br><b>Location (TBD)</b>                                 |
| October 10-11, 2025 | Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#24)<br><b>Location (TBD)</b>                                 |
| January 23-24, 2026 | Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#25)<br>Location: First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA  |

**Hosting Opportunities**

Moderator Wyatt reminded the member churches that opportunities were available to host the Presbytery at its 2025 meetings and to host Discovery Workshops in 2025 as well.

**21-36 Pashtun Ministry Donations**

TE Sam Knottnerus announced the availability of a matching grant of \$25,000 to support ministry to the Pashtun people group. He encouraged individuals and churches to donate.

**21-37 Adjournment and Closing Prayer**

**Motion was sustained to adjourn the meeting.**

Moderator Wyatt closed the 21<sup>st</sup> stated meeting of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest at 11:25 am and led the Presbytery in prayer.



Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest  
**Income and Expenses**  
 August 31, 2024

| CATEGORY                              | CURRENT MONTH    |                 |                  | YEAR-TO-DATE     |                  |                  | ANNUAL BUDGET    |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                                       | ACTUAL           | BUDGET          | VARIANCE         | ACTUAL           | BUDGET           | VARIANCE         |                  |
| <b>INCOME</b>                         |                  |                 |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| POPS Church Support                   | \$8,233          | \$12,667        | (\$4,434)        | \$88,836         | \$101,333        | (\$12,498)       | \$152,000        |
| Other Income -Church Planting Subsidy | 0                | 250             | (250)            | 0                | 2,000            | (2,000)          | 3,000            |
| Other Income- Church Health Subsidy   | 3,000            | 1,000           | 2,000            | 6,000            | 8,000            | (2,000)          | 12,000           |
| Other Income - Miscellaneous          | 0                | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                |
| <b>Total Income</b>                   | <b>11,233</b>    | <b>13,917</b>   | <b>(2,684)</b>   | <b>94,836</b>    | <b>111,333</b>   | <b>(16,498)</b>  | <b>167,000</b>   |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                       |                  |                 |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| Personnel                             | \$10,094         | \$9,983         | (\$110)          | \$77,978         | \$79,867         | \$1,888          | \$119,800        |
| Travel                                | 1,578            | 1,617           | 38               | 11,560           | 12,933           | 1,373            | 19,400           |
| Presbytery Office                     | 78               | 225             | 147              | 1,586            | 1,800            | 214              | 2,700            |
| Moderator                             | 0                | 17              | 17               | 0                | 133              | 133              | 200              |
| Care of Candidates                    | 0                | 67              | 67               | 202              | 533              | 332              | 800              |
| Church Planting                       | 0                | 17              | 17               | 0                | 133              | 133              | 200              |
| Church Health                         | 0                | 0               | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                |
| Mission                               | 0                | 583             | 583              | 2,529            | 4,667            | 2,137            | 7,000            |
| Nominating Committee                  | 0                | 42              | 42               | 0                | 333              | 333              | 500              |
| Session Minutes Review Committee      | 0                | 42              | 42               | 0                | 333              | 333              | 500              |
| Presbytery Meetings                   | 930              | 792             | (138)            | 5,740            | 6,333            | 593              | 9,500            |
| Leadership and Training               | 0                | 233             | 233              | 0                | 1,867            | 1,867            | 2,800            |
| Accounting and Finance                | 270              | 300             | 30               | 4,270            | 2,400            | (1,870)          | 3,600            |
| <b>Total All Expenses</b>             | <b>\$12,950</b>  | <b>\$13,917</b> | <b>\$967</b>     | <b>\$103,865</b> | <b>\$111,333</b> | <b>\$7,468</b>   | <b>\$167,000</b> |
| <b>NET INCOME</b>                     | <b>(\$1,717)</b> | <b>(\$0)</b>    | <b>(\$1,717)</b> | <b>(\$9,030)</b> | <b>\$0</b>       | <b>(\$9,030)</b> | <b>\$0</b>       |



Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest

**Balance Sheet**

8/31/2024

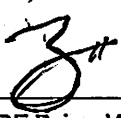
| DESCRIPTION                       | BALANCE at<br>8/31/24 | BALANCE at<br>12/31/23 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                     |                       |                        |
| Cash                              | \$44,651              | \$131,079              |
| Investments                       | 75,000                | 0                      |
| Other Assets                      | 0                     | 0                      |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>               | <b>\$119,651</b>      | <b>\$131,079</b>       |
| <b>FUNDS</b>                      |                       |                        |
| <b>Designated Funds</b>           |                       |                        |
| Pastor's Care & Support           | \$3,875               | \$5,780                |
| Church Planting                   | 1,733                 | 2,538                  |
| Educational Assistance Fund       | 3,945                 | 2,842                  |
| Chaplains Travel                  | 2,308                 | 2,308                  |
| World Outreach E2025              | 3,766                 | 3,116                  |
| Pastors Retreat                   | 2,804                 | 1,249                  |
| Church Health                     | 7,220                 | 7,220                  |
| Women's Ministries                | 2,896                 | 3,066                  |
| <b>Total Designated Funds</b>     | <b>28,546</b>         | <b>28,119</b>          |
| <b>Reserve/Undesignated Funds</b> | <b>100,134</b>        | <b>84,065</b>          |
| <b>Current Income (Loss)</b>      | <b>(9,030)</b>        | <b>18,895</b>          |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                | <b>\$119,650</b>      | <b>\$131,079</b>       |



Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest  
**Percentage of Income (POI)**  
 August 2024

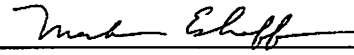
| CHURCH                       | REPORTED<br>2022<br>INCOME | REQUESTED<br>POI | ACTUAL<br>GIVING | % of<br>TOTAL |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Centerpoint                  | \$2,495,179                | \$12,476         | \$0              | 0%            |
| Centerville PC               | 1,504,686                  | 7,523            | 2,618            | 35%           |
| Christ Church East Bay       | 1,483,879                  | 7,419            | 0                | 0%            |
| Christ Community Church      | 2,586,263                  | 12,931           | 9,370            | 72%           |
| Clayton Community            | 703,198                    | 3,516            | 0                | 0%            |
| CPC Danville                 | 6,193,415                  | 30,967           | 20,648           | 67%           |
| Cornerstone Woodlake         | 138,061                    | 690              | 690              | 100%          |
| Covenant PC - Orange         | 471,556                    | 2,358            | 3,596            | 153%          |
| Covenant PC - Reno           | 421,358                    | 2,107            | 1,877            | 89%           |
| Covenant PC - San Diego      | 659,485                    | 3,297            | 2,288            | 69%           |
| Covenant Community Vacaville | 504,929                    | 2,525            | 1,572            | 62%           |
| Easton PC                    | 232,000                    | 1,160            | 1,160            | 100%          |
| Fair Oaks                    | 2,642,304                  | 13,212           | 6,329            | 48%           |
| First Armenian PC            | 623,434                    | 3,117            | 1,163            | 37%           |
| First PC - Bakersfield       | 1,438,643                  | 7,193            | 4,556            | 63%           |
| First PC - Fresno            | 1,428,390                  | 7,142            | 7,193            | 101%          |
| First PC - Hanford           | 227,875                    | 1,139            | 759              | 67%           |
| Fowler PC                    | 394,677                    | 1,973            | 0                | 0%            |
| Fremont PC**                 | 2,175,527                  | 8,478            | 8,000            | 94%           |
| Heritage EPC                 | 65,222                     | 326              | 188              | 57%           |
| Hope PC                      | 318,705                    | 1,594            | 1,594            | 100%          |
| Kingman PC                   | 195,781                    | 979              | 734              | 75%           |
| Millbrook PC                 | 87,353                     | 437              | 0                | 0%            |
| Moraga Valley PC             | 2,042,000                  | 10,210           | 7,658            | 75%           |
| New Life, Covelo             | 20,096                     | 100              | 100              | 100%          |
| San Ramon PC                 | 880,627                    | 4,403            | 3,585            | 81%           |
| Sanger Community             | 207,000                    | 1,035            | 0                | 0%            |
| Sierra PC                    | 561,967                    | 2,810            | 1,868            | 66%           |
| St. John's Assyrian PC       | 112,851                    | 564              | 0                | 0%            |
| The Table                    | 138,112                    | 691              | 691              | 100%          |
| Valley Community             | 111,004                    | 555              | 600              | 108%          |
| Wintersburg PC               | 1,691,770                  | 8,459            | 0                | 0%            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                 | <b>\$32,757,347</b>        | <b>\$161,387</b> | <b>\$88,836</b>  | <b>55%</b>    |

\*\*Presbytery Office



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RE Brian Wyatt, Moderator



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RE Mark Eshoff, Stated Clerk