

## PROVISIONAL MINUTES

### Seventeenth Meeting of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest

May 18-19, 2023

First Presbyterian Church

1540 M Street, Fresno, CA 93721

#### 17-1 Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Moderator, TE Lana Roberts, called the seventeenth meeting of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest (POPS) to order at 1:05 pm, opened the meeting with prayer, and welcomed the members and commissioners.

#### 17-2 Declaration of Quorum

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

##### TE MEMBERS

Centerpoint Community Church – Roseville, CA  
TE Bryan Yeo Present

Centerville Presbyterian Church – Fremont, CA  
TE Sam Knottnerus Present

Christ Church, Berkeley, CA  
TE Jonathan St. Clair Present  
TE Andrew Ong Present

Christ Community Church – Carmichael, CA  
Dustin DeVriend Present

Clayton Community Church – Clayton, CA  
TE Shawn Robinson Present  
TE Ron Musch Excused

Community Presbyterian Church – Danville, CA  
TE Tyler Scott Excused  
TE Cathy Burkholder Excused  
TE Bill Haslim Excused  
TE Ryan Suzuki Present

Cornerstone Woodlake Presbyterian Church – Woodlake, CA  
Vacant

Covenant Community Church – Vacaville, CA  
TE Nancy Duff Present

Covenant Presbyterian Church – Orange, CA  
TE Scott Larson Excused  
TE Matt Young Present

Covenant Presbyterian Church – Reno, NV  
TE James (Jay) Hull Present

##### RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS

Connie Badgley, Jennifer Harrington, Russ Ream

Marilyn Khalaji, Patricia Lum, Linette Young

Bill Barnes

Bob Balzhiser, Anna Wold

Grace Babayan, Keith Parker

Ryan Nickelson, Pat Serpan, Rhea Serpan

Sandra Crawford, Al George

Rebecca Duvall, Bruce Mohagen

Stephen Morris

Dianne Billharz, Gerry Dunlap, Janet Goodman,

Covenant Presbyterian Church – San Diego, CA		
TE Patrick King	Unexcused	
TE Kennerly King	Excused	
Easton Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE David Abdo	Present	
Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church – Fair Oaks, CA		
TE Greg Alderman	Present	
TE Clifford Graves	Excused	Lynne Pinkerton, Michael Shumaker
First Armenian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE Greg Haroutunian	Present	
First Presbyterian Church – Bakersfield, CA		
TE Jeff Chandler	Present	Jim Conners, Daniel Cornquist, Lisa Elliott, Kendra Green,
TE David Constance	Present	Sally Herald, Tracie Monroe, John Stovall, Esmeralda Tully
TE Scott Dickson	Present	
First Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE Jeremy Vaccaro	Present	Bert Aguilar, Mindy Franklin, Deborah Hughes,
TE Meagan Kroeker	Present	Charity Whitney
First Presbyterian Church – Hanford, CA		
Vacant		Gail Forsythe, Michael Ginn, Annette Rajskup
		Deborah Revious
Fowler Presbyterian Church – Fowler, CA		
TE Erik Buhl	Present	
TE Paul Irwin	Present	
Fremont Presbyterian Church – Sacramento, CA		
TE David Burke	Excused	Carol Wyatt
TE David Pack	Excused	
TE Matthew McCleary	Excused	
Heritage EPC – Santa Maria, CA		
TE Mark Wright	Present	
Hope Presbyterian Church – Folsom, CA		
TE David Huusko	Excused	Marty Brown
Kingman Presbyterian Church – Kingman, AZ		
TE George Carey	Present	Sharon Spencer
Millbrook Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
Vacant		
Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church – Moraga, CA		
TE Brandon Morrow	Present	Christine Deane, Deidre Wiley, Jim Wiley
TE David Ricketts	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 Present

Sierra Presbyterian Church – Nevada City, CA  
TE Michael Griffin Present Bev Holl, Jessica Richey  
TE Greg Flagg Present

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

The Table – San Francisco, CA  
TE Troy Wilson Excused

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

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

#### OFFICERS OF THE PRESBYTERY

TE Lana Roberts, Moderator Present  
RE Mark Eshoff, Stated Clerk Present

#### PRESBYTERY COUNCIL

RE Carl Kuhn Present

#### MILITARY CHAPLAINS ON ACTIVE DUTY

None

#### INSTITUTIONAL CHAPLAINS

TE Karen Bolte Excused  
TE Marty Carpenter Present

#### EVANGELISTS

TE Scott Downing Present  
TE Jose Figueroa Unexcused

#### MISSIONARIES

#### SERVING OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARIES

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

#### MEMBERS SERVING AS ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBERS

TE David Fenska Present

#### MEMBERS WITHOUT A CALL

TE Sam Fielder Unexcused  
TE Josh Hall Unexcused  
TE Rob Perkins Present  
TE Dennis Tarr Unexcused

TE Steve Tyra	Unexcused
TE Patrick Vaughn	Excused
TE Quinn Vaughn	Excused
TE Jason Yum	Excused

#### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – ACTIVE

TE Donald Baird	Excused
TE Paul Bergquam	Unexcused
TE Kirk Bottomly	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 Scott Farmer	Not Present
TE Steve Frank	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	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

#### GUESTS/OBSERVERS/CANDIDATES/MINISTERS TO BE EXAMINED

Bill Azbell	United World Mission, Colorado Springs, CO
Sharon Azbell	United World Mission, Colorado Springs, CO
Ryan Bogert	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Tim Brown	First Presbyterian Church, Hanford
Geraud Brumfield	First Presbyterian Church, Fresno
Nita Carey	Kingman Presbyterian Church, Kingman, AZ
Cathy Cole	Presbyterian of the Pacific SW, Sacramento, CA
Rowena Curiel	First Presbyterian Church, Hanford
Rhonda Dickson	First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield
Janet Downing	Rural Compassion, Sparks, NV
Janet Dunlap	Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno, NV
Cheryl Eshoff	Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento
Mindy Fenska	EPC World Outreach, San Diego
Bob Green	First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield
Jeff Hooker	Centerpoint Community Church, Roseville
Jon Jo	First Presbyterian Church, Fresno
Chuck Kinney	First Presbyterian Church, Hanford
Harriet Kuhn	Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, Fair Oaks
Joel Landis	Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento
Marianne Lee	First Presbyterian Church, Fresno
Houri Melkonian	AMAA, Armenia
Shanon Mohagen	Covenant Community Church, Vacaville
Juanita Owens	Easton Presbyterian Church, Fresno
Lou Paradise	First Presbyterian Church, Hanford

Lita Sample	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Rick Sample	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Sophia Steele	First Presbyterian Church, Hanford
Brian Vaccaro	Cornerstone Woodlake, Woodlake
Judi Vaccaro	Cornerstone Woodlake, Woodlake
Brian Wyatt	Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento
Michael Yraceburn	First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield

#### NUMERICAL ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

	Present	Excused	Unexcused	Total/Parity
Teaching Elders (Full Members)	33	22	11	66
Teaching Elders (Associate - Active)	0	1	2	
Teaching Elders (Associate-Retired)	1			
Ruling Elders	52			
Officers of the Presbytery	2			
Presbytery Council	1			
Commissioned Pastors	0			
Received Pending Dismissal	0			
Transitional Members	0			
Candidates/Guests/Observers	31			
TOTAL IN ATTENDANCE	120			
Associate & Retired Members (Not Present)	20			
Inactive Members (Not Present)	0			

#### 17-3 Welcome

TE Jeremy Vaccaro, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA, welcomed the Presbytery and shared a brief update on the ministry of the church.

#### 17-4 Introduction of New Commissioners and Guests

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

#### 17-5 Worship

Moderator Roberts led the Presbytery in a Call to Worship from Psalm 11. The Worship Team from FPC Fresno led the Presbytery in musical worship. The sermon was given by Tim Brown, candidate for Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA. He preached on Acts 16:25-34, a passage assigned to him by the Ministerial Committee.

#### 17-6 Moderator's Time of Prayer

Moderator Roberts then led a time of prayer focused on Isaiah 45:22-25. Members, commissioners and guests prayed the scripture in groups around their tables.

#### 17-7 Stated Clerk's Report

Stated Clerk Eshoff reviewed the protocol for participation and voting for the 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 27-28, 2023. He also reminded the TE members about completing and returning the TE Annual Reports, which were sent in February, and challenged the commissioners to invite one ruling elder from each church to the next POPS meeting. He then welcomed TE Tony Winterowd, who was able to attend the Presbytery meeting for the first time since a serious illness.

**17-8 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.**

**17-9 Ministerial Committee Report - Examination of Tim Brown**

TE David Abdo, Chair of the Ministerial Committee, opened in prayer and acknowledged Tim Brown, candidate for Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA. Tim was seeking ordination in the EPC. He had signed his Ministerial Obligation Form and Ethical Affirmations Form, been examined by the members of the Ministerial Committee, and his Terms of Call had been reviewed and approved by the Committee. He was recommended to the Presbytery for approval.

Tim's examination began with a sermon on a passage assigned by the Ministerial Committee. 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 Bible, and his spiritual journey. Tim had no exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

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

Tim was dismissed during the Presbytery discussion. Two ruling elders from FPC Hanford spoke in support of Tim.

**Motion was sustained to approve the examination of Tim Brown 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 Lana Roberts and Ron Owens and RE's Mike Ginn, Janica Mills, and Annette Rajskup from First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA, and Pricilla Dack from Easton Presbyterian Church to ordain and install Tim Brown as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA on June 4, 2023 at 10:00 am.**

Tim was invited back into the main session and was greeted with a standing ovation. TE Tony Winterowd prayed for Tim.

**17-10 Change of Status – TE Ryan Suzuki**

TE Abdo shared that TE Ryan Suzuki had been called as Associate Pastor of 3Crosses Church, a non-denominational church in Castro Valley, CA. He was seeking to maintain his relationship with the Presbytery, but change his status to Working Outside the Bounds of the Presbytery. The congregation of Community Presbyterian Church, Danville, CA approved the dissolution of the relationship between Ryan and the church.

**Motion was sustained to dissolve the pastoral relationship between Community Presbyterian Church, Danville, CA and TE Ryan Suzuki effective April 17, 2023.**

**Motion was sustained to approve the change in status of TE Ryan Suzuki to Working Outside the Bounds at 3Crosses Church in Castro Valley, CA.**

TE Abdo prayed for Ryan and his new call.

**17-11 Change of Status – TE Ron Musch**

The congregation of Clayton Community Church had requested that the Presbytery dissolve the relationship between TE Ron Musch and the church due to budget constraints. Ron and the congregation came to an agreement on a severance package, and the Ministerial Committee recommended this action.

**Motion was sustained to dissolve the pastoral relationship of Clayton Community Church and TE Ron Musch effective April 30, 2023.**

TE Shawn Robinson prayed for Ron.

**17-12 Ministry Update – First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA**

TE Jeff Chandler shared an update on the ministry of First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA. He also shared with the Presbytery about his upcoming call to Sequim Community Church in Sequim, WA in mid-June.

TE Abdo prayed for Jeff and the church.

**17-13 Session Minutes Review Committee**

RE Janet Goodman, Chair of the Session Review Committee, opened in prayer, reported on the reviews from the January 2023 meeting, and updated the Presbytery on how to improve the effectiveness of Session Minutes. She also communicated the need for additional members of her standing committee for the current year.

Minutes were submitted from the following churches for the Spring review cycle:

- Clayton Community Church, Clayton, CA
- Community Presbyterian Church, Danville, CA
- First Armenian Presbyterian, Fresno, CA
- First Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA
- Fowler Presbyterian Church, Fowler, CA
- Millbrook Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA
- New Life Community Church, Covelo, CA
- St. John's Assyrian Presbyterian Church, Turlock, CA
- San Ramon Presbyterian Church, San Ramon, CA
- Sanger Community Church, Sanger, CA

Minutes from Christ Community Church, Carmichael, CA (Winter cycle) were also submitted.

The following members and commissioners served on the Minutes Review Committee:

- TE Cathy Burkholder, Community Presbyterian Church, Danville, CA
- TE Marty Carpenter, Chaplain, Sanger, CA
- TE Greg Roth, Associate-Retired
- TE Ryan Teramoto, Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA
- RE Christopher Rhodes, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno, NV
- RE Linette Young, Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA
- RE Scott Norvell, First Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA
- RE Annette Rajskup, First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA
- RE Sargon Eddy, St. Johns Assyrian Presbyterian Church, Turlock, CA

RE Goodman closed her report in prayer.

**17-14 Treasurer's Report**

RE Connie Badgley, Treasurer, opened in prayer and gave the financial report, which included the year-to-date POPS Financials and Askings Reports. She focused on the importance of Per Member Askings for the Presbytery and the denomination, as well as the Presbytery's designated funds, including the POPS Chaplain Travel Fund, which was the recipient of the offering at the worship service later in the evening.

**17-15 Ministry Update**

TE Greg Alderman gave an update on his current service as Supply Pastor for Fair Oaks Church and on his non-profit work, One Voice Board (OVB), which is a resource to Sessions and elder boards for healthy and biblically based leadership.

**17-16 Church Health Report**

TE Mike Griffin, Church Health Coordinator, updated the Presbytery on the revitalization efforts occurring in several of the POPS churches. TE Erik Buhl, Pastor of Fowler Presbyterian Church, shared the impact of the church health work at his church. TE Griffin also shared the need for regional church health coaches to join the POPS Church Health Team.

**17-17 Mission Committee Report**

TE Dave Fenska, World Outreach Mission Mobilizer, introduced Bill and Sharon Azbell, who were recently appointed to serve our Presbytery as mission mobilizers. TE Sam Knottnerus shared news about progress reaching our E2025 people group, including an upcoming Pashtun Conference in Fremont, CA. TE Jeremy Vaccaro then gave a report on the S family, which was sent out through World Outreach by this Presbytery.

**17-18 Special Report – The Pink House**

TE Vaccaro introduced Geraud Brumfield, Director of the Pink House, a local ministry supported by First Presbyterian Church, Fresno. Geraud shared about the many ways God was working to address the needs of those in the downtown area of the city.

**17-19 Retirement Recognition – TE George Carey**

George Carey has served in the EPC since 1990. He came into the Presbytery of The Far West that later merged with Presbytery of The West. His background (saved and called to Pastoral ministry) was with the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination in his home state of Tennessee. Broadcasting (radio, tv) and newspaper journalism was George's background preparing him to serve in broadcast missions with The U.S. Center For World Mission and Frontiers. Before serving Kingman Presbyterian Church the past 7½ years, George was employed two terms (six years) as EPC's Director of World Outreach. He also served with Project Mercy, a ministry to rural Muslim farmers in Ethiopia. George is a graduate of University of Memphis and Memphis Theological Seminary (Presbyterian).

RE Sharon Spencer from Kingman Presbyterian Church shared of George's impact. He was presented with a special recognition gift on behalf of the Presbytery, and TE Dave Fenska prayed for George and his wife, Nita, in their new season.

**Motion was sustained to approve the change in status of TE George Carey from Pastor of Kingman Presbyterian Church, Kingman, AZ to Associate-Retired, effective June 30, 2023, with great appreciation for his service to the church, the denomination, and the Presbytery.**



**17-20 Recess**

The meeting was recessed until the following morning at 9:00 am. Dinner was prepared and served by the volunteers from First Presbyterian Church, Fresno.

**17-21 Worship**

TE Jeremy Vaccaro led the Presbytery in worship, along with the worship leaders from First Presbyterian Church. TE Vaccaro preached on Matthew 13:31-33. Communion was served and an offering was received for the POPS Chaplains Travel Fund.

**17-22 Call to Order and Prayer**

Moderator Roberts called the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest back to order at 9:08 am on Friday, May 19, 2023 and opened with prayer.

**17-23 Appreciations to the Host Church**

Moderator Roberts expressed deep appreciation to First Presbyterian Church, TE Jeremy Vaccaro, and all the volunteers for their hospitality and support.

**17-24 Worship**

Moderator Roberts led the Presbytery in a Call to Worship from Psalm 145. The Worship Team from FPC Fresno led the Presbytery in musical worship. A sermon on \_\_\_\_\_ was given by TE Dave Constance, Assistant Pastor for Young Families and Adult Discipleship at First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA.

**17-25 Moderator's Time of Prayer**

Moderator Roberts then led a time of prayer focused on Philippians 3:7-14. Members, commissioners and guests prayed the scripture in groups around their tables.

**17-26 Ministerial Committee Report (continued) – Change of Status – TE Dave Constance**

The congregation of First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA had called TE Dave Constance to the position of Associate Pastor for Young Families and Adult Discipleship. He currently served as Assistant Pastor in this role at the church. The Session of the church and the Ministerial Committee both approved the call by more than the 75% required majority.

**Motion was sustained to approve the change in status of TE Dave Constance from Assistant Pastor for Young Families and Adult Discipleship to Associate Pastor for Young Families and Adult Discipleship at First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA effective June 1, 2023.**

**Motion was sustained to approve the Administrative Commission consisting of TE's Jeff Chandler from First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA and Bob Badgley (Associate Retired), and RE's Connie Badgley and Marlena Sprague from Centerpoint Community Church, Roseville, CA, and John Bair and Tracie Monroe from First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA, to install Dave Constance as Associate Pastor for Young Families and Adult Discipleship at First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA on July 9, 2023 at 9:00 am.**

TE Nancy Duff prayer for Dave in his new call.

**17-27 Church Planting Update**

TE Shawn Robinson was introduced as the new Church Planting Coordinator for the Presbytery. He shared his excitement to be in the role and challenged the Presbytery to engage in discernment over where God might be calling our churches to plant a new church. He then introduced the opportunity for churches to gather in regional groups to continue discussions initiated at the January 2023 POPS meeting regarding church planting.

**17-28 Regional Group Meetings**

The Presbytery then divided into four regional groups to discuss the opportunities and challenges for church planting in their region and to determine ways in which churches could work together to pursue those opportunities, in addition to other points of collaboration.

**17-29 Retirement Recognition – TE Scott Dickson**

TE Scott Dickson had served Presbyterian churches including Ventura, La Canada, Rancho Bernardo, Los Alamitos, and La Habra in various roles as an intern to associate pastor. He then served churches in Dublin (CA) and Nevada City as the Senior Pastor before returning to an Associate role in Bakersfield at First Presbyterian Church. All told, Scott's ministry career spanned 47 years - 42 years as an ordained Presbyterian pastor. He hopes to continue serving the Lord and the EPC as a Transitional Pastor in the future.

RE Bob Lerude and Dan Cronquist from First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield shared of Scott's impact. He was presented with a special recognition gift on behalf of the Presbytery, and TE Jeff Chandler prayed for Scott and his wife, Rhonda, in their new season.

**Motion was sustained to approve the change in status of TE Scott Dickson from Associate Pastor for Congregational Life at First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA to Associate-Retired, effective June 1, 2023, with great appreciation for his service to the church and to the Presbytery.**

**17-30 Lunch / Clerk of Session Training**

Lunch was served by the volunteers from First Presbyterian Church. During lunch, Janet Goodman, Chair of the Session Minutes Review Committee and RE Jim Conners, Past Moderator, led a training session for church Clerks of Session.

**17-31 Ministerial Committee Report (continued) – Change in Status – TE Andrew Ong**

The congregation of Christ Church East Bay, Berkeley, CA had called TE Andrew Ong to the position of Associate Pastor for Care and Discipleship. He was currently Assistant Pastor for Care and Discipleship at the church. The Session of the church and the Ministerial Committee both approved the call by more than the 75% required majority.

**Motion was sustained to approve the change in status of TE Andrew Ong from Assistant Pastor for Care and Discipleship to Associate Pastor for Care and Discipleship at Christ Church East Bay, Berkeley, CA, effective August 13, 2023.**

**Motion was sustained to approve the Administrative Commission consisting of TE's Jonathan St. Clair from Christ Church East Bay and Sam Knottnerus from Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont, CA, and RE's Karen Wesolowski, Tonia Roby, and Bill Barnes from Christ Church East Bay, and Rebecca Duvall from Covenant Community Church, Vacaville, CA to install Andrew Ong as Associate Pastor for Care and Discipleship at Christ Church East Bay on August 13, 2023 at 10:30 am.**

**17-32 Special Presentation – *Being Salt and Light in a Polarized Culture***

Joel Landis presented a fascinating talk on the current political climate in America and the importance of Christians to base their decisions and view of others on their primary identity as followers of Christ. Joel is a political scientist specializing in political parties and the history of political thought. He has taught a variety of courses in Political Theory and American Politics at UC Davis, where he received his Ph.D. in 2019. He also serves as a deacon at Fremont Presbyterian Church in Sacramento, CA. His presentation was extremely well received and resulted in numerous requests for video copies of the talk.

**17-33 Care of Candidates Committee Report - Examination of Jeff Hooker**

TE Jay Hull, Chair of the Care of Candidates Committee, opened in prayer and introduced Jeff Hooker, who was ready to come under the care of the Presbytery. Jeff was currently under the care of the Session of Centerpoint Community Church, Roseville, CA, who recommended him to the Presbytery as a Candidate Under Care. Jeff had met with the Care of Candidates Committee, who recommended him for approval. 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.**

Jeff was dismissed to a soundproof breakout room. RE Russ Ream from Centerpoint Community Church spoke on behalf of the Session in support of Jeff.

**Motion was sustained to approve Jeff Hooker to come under care of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and approve TE Matt Young as advisor to Candidate Hooker.**

Jeff was invited back into the room and was greeted with a standing ovation. Moderator Roberts asked him the constitutional questions, to which he responded affirmatively, and declared that the candidate was added to the Candidate's Roll. RE Jennifer Harrington from Centerpoint Community Church prayed for him and TE Bryan Yeo gave him a charge.

**17-34 Care of Candidates Report – Update on Candidates Roll**

Several candidates had requested to be removed as current Candidates under Care.

**Motion was sustained to approve the request of the Care of Candidates Committee to remove the following from the Candidates Under Care Roll: Linda Buettner, Alex Chiang, Tim Dakin, Christopher Maggitti, Beth Paz, Jarrod Puffenbarger, Jeremiah Ramer, Colin Redemer, and Bobbi Trask**

**17-35 Care of Candidates Report – Extraordinary Circumstances – Rachel Dorsey**

Rachel Dorsey was currently a Candidate Under Care of the Presbytery. The Care of Candidates Committee recommended that she be classified as a Candidate Under Extraordinary Circumstances and be referred to the General Assembly Ministerial Vocation Committee for review of her educational background and requirements.

**Motion was sustained to refer candidate Rachel Dorsey to the GA Ministerial Vocation Committee as a Candidate Under Extraordinary Circumstances for the purpose of receiving a recommendation from them regarding requirements for her ordination in the EPC.**

TE Jay Hull prayed for Rachel and the process.

## **17-36 Omnibus/Consent Motion**

Moderator Roberts presented the Omnibus/Consent motion.

1. That the Minutes of the Sixteenth Stated Meeting of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest, January 27-28, 2023, be approved as posted (these minutes are available on the website).
2. That the Administrative Commission to install Ryan Pearce as Associate Pastor of Care Ministries at Community Presbyterian Church, Danville, 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 Brandon Morrow as Pastor of Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, Moraga, 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 Greg Flagg as Associate Pastor for 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.

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

## **17-37 Important Upcoming Dates**

Moderator Roberts noted the following upcoming dates:

June 20-22, 2023	EPC General Assembly Cherry Hills Community Church, Highlands Ranch, CO
October 10-12, 2023	POPS Pastor's Retreat Mission Springs Conference Center, Scotts Valley, CA
October 13-14, 2023	Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#18) Covenant Community Church, Vacaville, CA
January 26-27, 2024	Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#19) Location TBA
May 16-17, 2024	Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#20) Location TBA

TE Nancy Duff gave a special invitation to the Presbytery to attend the October 2023 meeting at her church in Vacaville, CA. Moderator Roberts also noted that an opportunity was available to host the Presbytery at its future meetings and Discovery workshops as well. She recommended that churches contact the Stated Clerk if interested in offering an invitation.

## **17-38 Adjournment and Closing Prayer**

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

Moderator Roberts closed the seventeenth meeting of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest at 4:50 pm by leading the Presbytery in prayer.

---

RE Lana Roberts, Moderator

---

RE Mark Eshoff, Stated Clerk