

PROVISIONAL MINUTES



Nineteenth Stated Meeting of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest January 26-27, 2024 Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church

19-1 Call to Order and Opening Prayer

After a breakfast served by the Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church (MVPC) volunteers, Moderator, TE Lana Roberts, called the nineteenth stated meeting of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest (POPS) to order at 9:05 am, opened the meeting with prayer, and welcomed the members and commissioners.

19-2 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
TE Jeff Hooker

Centerville Presbyterian Church – Fremont, CA
TE Sam Knottnerus Present
TE Ryan Bogert

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

Christ Community Church – Carmichael, CA
TE Dustin DeVriend Excused

Clayton Community Church – Clayton, CA
TE Shawn Robinson Present

Community Presbyterian Church – Danville, CA
TE Tyler Scott Present
TE Cathy Burkholder Present
TE Bill Haslim Present
TE Ryan Pearce 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 Present
TE Matt Young Present

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

Covenant Presbyterian Church – San Diego, CA
TE Patrick King Present

RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS

Connie Badgley, Ann Jensen, Tom Hang, Cyndi Parks,
Marlena Sprague

Cydne Holte, Marilyn Khalaji, Pat Lum,
Yvonne Rhodes

Anne Marie Adams Wold, Ken Shepard,
Mike Stodghill

Grace Babayan, Keith Parker

Gregg Holbrook, Pat Serpan, Rhea Serpan

Ted Loney, Jason Marcus, Bruce Mohagen

Stephen Morris

Gerry Dunlap, Janet Goodman, Chris Rhodes

TE Kennerly King	Unexcused	
Easton Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE David Abdo	Present	
Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church – Fair Oaks, CA		
TE Donny Butkus	Present	David Araldi, Jim Clifton, Michael Shumaker
TE Clifford Graves	Excused	
First Armenian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE Greg Haroutunian	Excused	
First Presbyterian Church – Bakersfield, CA		
TE David Constance	Present	Jim Conners, Daniel Cronquist, Jane Galbreath, Steve Gold
First Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE Jeremy Vaccaro	Present	Steve Skibbie, Charity Whitney
TE Meagan Kroeker	Present	
First Presbyterian Church – Hanford, CA		
TE Tim Brown	Present	Annette Rajskup
Fowler Presbyterian Church – Fowler, CA		
TE Erik Buhl	Present	
TE Paul Irwin	Unexcused	
Fremont Presbyterian Church – Sacramento, CA		
TE David Pack	Present	
TE Matthew McCleary	Excused	
Heritage EPC – Santa Maria, CA		
TE Mark Wright	Present	
Hope Presbyterian Church – Folsom, CA		
TE David Huusko	Present	Mary Pipkin
Kingman Presbyterian Church – Kingman, AZ		
Vacant		
Millbrook Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
Vacant		
Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church – Moraga, CA		
TE Brandon Morrow	Present	Christine Deane
TE David Ricketts	Present	
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		
Vacant		
Sierra Presbyterian Church – Nevada City, CA		
TE Michael Griffin	Present	
TE Greg Flagg	Excused	
St. John’s Assyrian Presbyterian Church – Turlock, CA		

TE Edward Eissabake Unexcused

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 Present

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 Present

TE Marty Carpenter Present

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 Unexcused

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

TE David Fenska Present

MEMBERS WITHOUT A CALL

TE Greg Alderman Excused

TE David Burke

TE Sam Fielder Unexcused

TE Josh Hall Unexcused

TE Ron Musch Excused

TE Rob Perkins Excused

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 David Fenska	Present

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – Outside Boundaries

TE Kurt Teng	Not Present
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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	
TE Scott Dickson	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	Not Present
TE Penny Proschold	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
TE Mark Wollan	Present

GUESTS/OBSERVERS/CANDIDATES/MINISTERS TO BE EXAMINED

Pierre Belanger	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Valerie Bigelow	Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, Moraga
Christina Bogert	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Howard Bogert	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Ryan Bogert	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Sarah Bogert	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Hugh Carter	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Andrea Craddock	EPC World Outreach
Sue Curtzwiler	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Janet Dunlap	Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno
Ted Esaki	Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana
Cheryl Eshoff	Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento
Mindy Fenska	EPC World Outreach, San Diego
Glenroy Franklin	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Thomas Giovannini	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Jim Hall	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Becky Hooker	Centerpoint Community Church, Roseville
Jeff Hooker	Centerpoint Community Church, Roseville
Denell Hull	Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno
Mark Ingles	EPC GA Chaplain, Colorado
Matthew Jue	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Jasmine Mazzela	Sanger Community Church, Sanger
Anthony Perez	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Ceryl Perez	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Lynne Pinkerton	Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church, Fair Oaks
Tom Pool	Centerpoint Presbyterian Church, Roseville
Russell Ream	Centerpoint Presbyterian Church, Roseville

Ned Rendell	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Phyllis Rendell	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Tammy Sawyer	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Mike Schmidt	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Teresa Schmidt	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Denny Smith	San Ramon Presbyterian Church, San Ramon
Sallie Kay Stodghill	Christ Community Church, Carmichael
Carol Strong	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Shannon Vitro	Centerpoint Presbyterian Church, Roseville
Scott Winchell	Centerpoint Presbyterian Church, Roseville
Bob Wold	Christ Community Church, Carmichael
Leslie Young	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Linette Young	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Garry Zatarain	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont

NUMERICAL ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

	Present	Excused	Unexcused	Total/Parity
Teaching Elders (Full Members)	35	16	15	66
Teaching Elders (Associate - Active)	0	1	2	
Teaching Elders (Associate-Retired)	3			
Ruling Elders	41			
Officers of the Presbytery	2			
Presbytery Council	1			
Commissioned Pastors	0			
Received Pending Dismissal	0			
Transitional Members	0			
Candidates/Guests/Observers	41			
TOTAL IN ATTENDANCE	123			
Associate & Retired Members (Not Present)	19			
Inactive Members (Not Present)	0			

19-3 Welcome

TE Brandon Morrow, Pastor of Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, welcomed the Presbytery and shared a brief update on the ministry of the church.

19-4 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.

19-4 Installation of New Moderator

Moderator Roberts and Stated Clerk Eshoff, members of the POPS Presbytery Council, presented RE Brian Wyatt from Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, CA, Moderator-Elect with the chain of carabiners representing the 32 connected churches in the Presbytery, and the moderator's gavel, both of which he would be a trustee during his term as Moderator of the Presbytery. TE Roberts gave a charge to the new Moderator and Moderator Wyatt then shared his hopes for the Presbytery. Past Moderator RE Jim Conners prayed for RE Wyatt in his new role. Past Moderator Conners shared his thanks to God and the Presbytery, and TE Abdo prayed a prayer of thanks for him.

19-5 Recognition of Past Moderator

New Moderator Wyatt thanked TE Roberts for her service and invited her to share her thoughts regarding her term as Moderator. Stated Clerk Eshoff presented TE Roberts with a recognition gift and prayed a prayer of thanks for her as she transitions to the role of Past Moderator.

19-6 Worship

Moderator Wyatt led the Presbytery in a Call to Worship from Psalm 150. The Worship Team from MVPC led the Presbytery in musical worship. The sermon on 1 Kings 19:1-8 was given by TE Dave Ricketts Associate Pastor at MVPC.

19-7 Moderator’s Time of Prayer

Moderator Wyatt then led a time of prayer focused on Jude 1 Peter 5:1-11. Members, commissioners and guests prayed the scripture in small groups.

19-8 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 on October 13-14, 2023. He presented the 2024 Parity List and the job description for the new POPS Chaplain position. He encouraged the Presbytery churches to turn in their Annual Church Reports and asked the TE members of the Presbytery to respond quickly to the request for their TE Annual Reports. He noted the passing of TE member Dennis Tarr. TE Sam Knottnerus prayed for Dennis’ wife Christine and their family.

19-9 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.

19-10 Session Minutes Review Committee

RE Janet Goodman, Chair of the Session Minutes Review Committee, opened in prayer, reported on the reviews from the October 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.

The following minute reviews were completed for the Fall 2023 cycle:

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| Christ Community Church, Carmichael, CA | First Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA |
| Clayton Community Church, Clayton, CA | Fowler Presbyterian Church, Fowler, CA |
| Community Presbyterian Church, Danville, CA | New Life Community Church, Covelo, CA |
| First Armenian Presbyterian, Fresno, CA | San Ramon Presbyterian Church, San Ramon, CA |

Scheduled reviews for January 2024:

- | | |
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| Centerpoint Community Church, Roseville | Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church |
| Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont | Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento |
| Christ Church East Bay, Berkeley | Hope Presbyterian Church, Folsom |
| Christ Community Church, Carmichael | Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church |
| Covenant Community Church, Vacaville | Sierra Presbyterian Church, Nevada City, CA |
| Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno | |

The following minutes were scheduled for the Spring Cycle but will be reviewed in the Winter:

- Millbrook Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA
- Sanger Presbyterian Church
- St. John’s Assyrian Presbyterian Church (not received in May 2023)

- 19-11 Introduction of Breakout Session Topics and Leaders**
Presenters for each of the following Breakout Sessions gave a brief overview of the content of their presentations. Attendees were asked to choose 2 of the 5 offerings:
Ruling Elders in the EPC: Understanding & Maximizing Their Sacred Calling – RE Brian Wyatt
Attitudes and Actions in Shepherding a Small Church – TE Scott Downing
Anxiety, the Gospel, and Working for a Church – TE David Burke
Their Story, Your Story, God's Story: How to Share Your Faith – TE Mike Griffin
I Need to Train our New Officers? Resources to Assist You – Stated Clerk, Mark Eshoff
- The Presbytery was then dismissed to attend one of the Breakout Sessions.
- 19-12 Lunch Meetings**
Lunch was served by the MVPC volunteers. The Session Minutes Review Team met for an orientation during lunch and the Missions Team met and gave a presentation on the Pashtun Ministry in the Presbytery.
- 19-13 Church Planting Update**
TE Shawn Robinson, POPS Church Planting Coordinator, opened in prayer and gave an update on the progress of church planting in the four regions of the Presbytery. He noted that the Church Planting 101 E-book has been published by the GA Church Planting Committee. He then invited TE Troy Wilson and his wife, Caroline, to give an update on the ministry of The Table, our previous mission church and now local church in San Francisco, CA. They shared the personal challenges they have faced this past year. TE Robinson prayed for them.
- 19-14 Church Health Update**
TE Mike Griffin, POPS Church Health Coordinator, opened in prayer and gave an update on the various churches taking advantage of the Church Health resources provided by the Presbytery, which included Church Health, Evangelism and Transitional Pastor Training. He noted that workshops would also be presented at the upcoming GA in June. TE Griffin closed in prayer.
- 19-15 Treasurer's Report**
RE Connie Badgley, Treasurer opened in prayer and gave the financial report, which included the year-end POPS Financials, Askings Reports and Year-end Financial Review (attached). She noted that the calculation of Askings in 2024 has changed from Per Member to Percentage of Income for both the Presbytery and the denomination. A calculation of the POI amount for each church (attached) was included in the meeting docket. She highlighted the various Presbytery designated funds, including the POPS Educational Assistance Fund, which was the recipient of the offering at the worship service later in the evening. RE Badgley closed in prayer.
- 19-16 Retirement Recognition of Connie Badgley, Outgoing Treasurer**
Stated Clerk Eshoff led a time of recognition for Connie and thanked her for her continued service as Treasurer for both the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and the Presbytery of the Pacific Northwest for 12 years. After she shared briefly to the Presbytery, Stated Clerk Eshoff presented a gift to Connie, and TE Nancy Duff offered prayer for her in the season of her life and service.

- 19-17 Presentation by Patrick Coelho, GA Chief Financial Officer**
Pat Coelho, Chief Financial Officer for the General Assembly updated the Presbytery on the current activities of the GA, including EPC's Four Gospel Priorities.
- 19-18 Ministry Update – Community Presbyterian Church, Danville** TE Cathy Burkholder
TE Cathy Burkholder provided an update on ministry of Community Presbyterian Church. She shared a recently produced video and noted the impact, joys, challenges, and prayer needs of the church. RE Christine Deane prayer for Cathy and the church.
- 19-19 Care of Candidates Report** TE Matt Young, Chair
- Examination of Mao Shimizu**
Mao was ready to come under the care of this Presbytery. He was currently under care of the Session of Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA. The Session had recommended him to the Presbytery as a Candidate Under Care and he had met with the POPS Care of Candidates Committee.
- The Candidate briefly shared his spiritual journey, his sense of call and why he has chosen the EPC. The Presbytery then examined him on the following:
- Christian experience and growth
 - The motive for seeking ordination in the EPC
 - The candidate's call to the Ministry
- Motion was sustained to arrest the examination.**
- Rev. Ted Esaki, Stated Supply Pastor at Wintersburg Presbyterian Church, spoke on behalf of Mao.
- Motion was sustained to approve Mao Shimizu to come under care of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and approve TE Scott Larson as advisor to Candidate Shimizu**
- Moderator Wyatt then asked Candidate Shimizu the Constitutional Questions to which the candidate replied affirmatively. TE Jason Yum prayed for Candidate Shimizu and TE Scott Larson gave him a charge from 2 Timothy 4.
- 19-20 Examination of Rick Dorr**
Rick was considering a call at a church in our Presbytery but was not yet ordained and had not completed an MDiv. Degree. He had served as pastor of churches in several states and denominations for over 30 years. Per the Book of Order, Rick must enter candidacy status in order to pursue the Candidate's Educational Equivalency Program (CEEP) which, once completed, would then enable him to take the EPC ordination exams and be examined for ordination in the EPC. TE Young explained the CEEP process and the reason that Rev. Dorr needed to be received as a candidate in order to enter the process and receive a recommendation from the GA Ministerial Vocation Committee. The candidate had met with the POPS Care of Candidates committee and was recommended for approval.
- Rev. Dorr 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 candidate's call to the Ministry
- Motion was sustained to arrest the examination.**

TE David Abdo spoke on behalf of Rev. Dorr and further explained why he and the Ministerial Committee were supportive of Rick and the motion.

Motion was sustained to approve Rick Dorr to come under care of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and approve TE Guy Boyer as advisor to Candidate Dorr.

Motion was sustained to refer candidate Rick Dorr to the GA Ministerial Vocation Committee for the Candidate's Educational Equivalency Program for the purpose of receiving a recommendation from them regarding requirements for his ordination in the EPC.

TE Young prayed for Rick and the process that he was entering.

19-21 Descending Overtures from the 43rd General Assembly

Stated Clerk Eshoff presented the two overtures that were approved by the General Assembly in June 2023 to be sent to the EPC presbyteries for their approval.

Descending Overture 23-A

This amendment clarifies the authority of the Session alone over all financial matters of the Local Church and eliminates outdated, ambiguous, or confusing references to financial responsibility of the Board of Deacons.

Motion was sustained by a vote of 52-YES and 0-NO and 0-ABSTAIN to approve Descending Overture 23-A: That the Book of Government 17-5 be deleted, with the following sections renumbered, and the Book of Government 6-8D and 18-3H be amended.

Descending Overture 23-B

"Church Discipline is not designed to deal with criminal acts apart from the authority of the civil magistrates." (Westminster Chapter 23-4). This preface to our practice of Ecclesiastical Discipline does not replace our responsibility to obey civil authorities and to protect the victims of abuse. This amendment clarifies that responsibility.

Motion was sustained by a vote of 56-YES and 0-NO and 0-ABSTAIN to approve Descending Overture 23-B: That the Book of Discipline 1-1 be amended.

19-22 Retirement Recognition – TE Dave Fenska

Dave has been a part of the EPC since 1985. He served as either a pastor or transitional pastor for 30 years in Southern California and Arizona before stepping into service with EPC World Outreach. Dave and Mindy have worked side by side in World Outreach for the past 8½ years as Missions Mobilizers and Refugee Care Coaches for the Western U.S. Dave's undergraduate degree is from Biola University, and his M.Div. is from Bethel Seminary. He also earned an M.A. in Christian Education from Talbot Seminary. Dave and Mindy make their home in San Diego. They enjoy time spent with their family, especially their seven grandchildren.

Moderator Wyatt invited TE Dave Fenska and his wife, Mindy, onto the platform and introduced the ceremony. Stated Clerk Eshoff shared a summary of Dave's ministry and his service to the Presbytery. Shawn Stewart from GA World Outreach shared the impact of Dave's ministry. Dave then reflected on the joys of his ministry as well.

Motion was sustained to approve the change of status of TE Dave Fenska from Teaching Elder Administrator to Active-Retired, effective December 31, 2023, with great appreciation for his service to the church, to the Presbytery, and to the denomination.

Dave was presented with a recognition gift and members of the various churches where Dave had served were invited forward to lay hands on him. TE Sam Knottnerus prayed for Dave and Mindy in this new season.

19-23 Meeting Recess and Dinner

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

19-24 Presbytery Worship Service

The POPS Worship Service was led by TE Brandon Morrow and the staff and leaders from Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church. Communion was served, and an offering was received for the POPS Education Assistance Fund.

19-25 Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Following a breakfast served by MVPC volunteers, RE Brian Wyatt, Moderator called the meeting to order at 9:05 am on January 27, 2024 and opened in prayer.

19-26 Appreciation to the Volunteers and Staff of the Host Church

Moderator Roberts expressed deep appreciation to MVPC, their pastors and staff, and the volunteers that served the Presbytery in hosting the meeting.

19-27 Worship

Moderator Wyatt led the Presbytery in a Call to Worship from _____. The Worship Team from MVPC then led the Presbytery in musical worship. The sermon was given by TE Joe Tolin, Candidate for Pastor at Kingman Presbyterian Church, Kingman, AZ. He preached on Titus 3:3-7, a passage assigned to him by the Ministerial Committee.

19-28 Moderator's Time of Prayer

Moderator Wyatt then led a time of prayer focused on Isaiah 40. Members, commissioners, and guests prayed the scripture in groups.

19-29 Ministerial Committee Report

TE David Abdo, Chair of the Ministerial Committee, opened in prayer and welcomed TE Joe Tolin back to the platform.

Examination of TE Joe Tolin

Joe Tolin had been called as Pastor by the congregation of Kingman Presbyterian Church, Kingman, AZ. He 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 had been reviewed and approved by the Committee. He was seeking to transfer from the EPC Presbytery of Florida and the Caribbean and was recommended to the Presbytery for approval.

Joe'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 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.

TE Tolin was excused from the room during the discussion. TE Dave Fenska from Kingman Presbyterian Church spoke in support of TE Tolin.

Motion was sustained to approve the examination of TE Joe Tolin 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 Dave Fenska and Greg Alderman and RE's Sharon Spencer, Chris Beard, and Joan Johns from Kingman Presbyterian Church and Stephen Morris from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Orange, CA to install TE Joe Tolin as Pastor of Kingman Presbyterian Church on February 25, 2024 at 10:30 am.

TE Tolin was invited back into the room and received a standing ovation. Members of the Kingman Church were invited forward to lay on hands and TE Dave Fenska prayed for Joe and the church in Joe's new call.

19-30 Change in Status – TE David Burke

The congregation of Fremont Presbyterian Church had approved the request of TE David Burke to dissolve his relationship with the church. TE Burke was invited forward to share about his new call.

Motion was sustained to approve the dissolution of the relationship between TE David Burke and Fremont Presbyterian Church, and to change his status to Without Call effective January 14, 2024.

RE Melissa Hightower from Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, CA prayed for David in his new call.

19-31 Nominating Committee Report

RE Chris Rhodes, member of the POPS Nominating Committee, presented a motion to approve two members of the Mission Committee and the new POPS Treasurer.

Mission Committee

RE John McCormick, member of the Mission Committee, had moved out of town and was no longer attending FPC Bakersfield, CA. RE Carl Kuhn was called to replace him and RE Patti Hemsley was called to fill the final remaining position on the Committee.

Motion was sustained to approve RE Carl Kuhn from Fair Oaks Church, Fair Oaks, CA and RE Patti Hemsley from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno, NV as members of the Mission Committee (Class of 2024)

19-32 POPS Treasurer

With the retirement of Connie Badgley, RE Rhodes introduced RE David Sylvester from Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, who had agreed to assume the role of POPS Treasurer.

Motion sustained to approve RE David Sylvester from Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, Moraga, CA as POPS Treasurer and member of the POPS Council for a three-year term.

RE Connie Badgley, past Treasurer, prayed for David in his new call.

19-33 Ministry Update – Christ Church East Bay

TE Jonathan St. Clair shared an update on the impact and growth of Christ Church East Bay and the joys, challenges and prayer needs of the church. TE Brandon Morrow prayed for Jonathan and the church.

19-34 Mission Committee Report

TE Dave Fenska, Chair of the Mission Committee, opened in prayer and introduced Shawn Stewart from EPC World Outreach, who shared about the ministry of World Outreach. Dave then introduced TE Sam Knottnerus, E2025 Home Team Chair about the ministry to the Pashtuns in our Presbytery. TE Knottnerus closed the report in prayer.

19-35 Nomination of TE Karen Bolte to the GA Chaplain Care Committee

TE Karen Bolte had been nominated to serve on the General Assembly Chaplain Work and Care Committee. Approval of the Presbytery is required.

Motion was sustained to approve the nomination of TE Karen Bolte to the General Assembly Chaplain Work and Care Committee.

19-36 Response to Exception to 2022 POPS Minutes

The General Assembly Presbytery Minutes Review Committee noted one exception to the 2022 minutes of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest. The following motions resolved that exception.

Motion was sustained to approve the Response to the Exception to the 2022 POPS Minutes and add the following to the minutes of the 14th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest:

Motion was sustained to accept the report of the Ministerial Committee acting as a commission of the Presbytery to approve the Administrative Commission of TE's Dave Huusko from Hope Presbyterian Church, Folsom, CA and Nancy Duff and RE's Jim Conners from First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA and Jim Brown, Ruth Brown and Jason Walker from Heritage Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Santa Maria, CA to install TE Mark Wright as Pastor on March 20, 2022 at 9:45 am.

19-37 Omnibus Motion

Moderator Wyatt introduced the Omnibus Motion which included the following:

1. That the Minutes of the Eighteenth Stated Meeting of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest, October 13-14, 2023, be approved as posted (these minutes are available on the POPS website)
2. That the Administrative Commission to install Jeff Hooker as Assistant Pastor of Spiritual Formation 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
3. That the Administrative Commission to install Ryan Bogert as Associate Pastor of Family Life 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. That the Status of TE Kirk Bottomly be changed from Active-Retired to Associate-Retired, effective January 1, 2024.

Motion was sustained to approve the Omnibus actions

19-38 Retirement Recognition – TE Mark Wollan

Mark received his M.Div from Fuller Seminary 1985 and was ordained in 1987. In his 36 years of ministry, Mark has served four churches. For the past 8 years he has been the Senior Pastor of San Ramon Presbyterian Church.

Mark’s greatest joy is opening the scriptures as a teacher of God’s Word. His deep commitment is to bring integrity to the biblical text, trust in the work of the Holy Spirit and to apply the scriptures to daily life. Throughout his ministry, Mark has been entrusted with new initiatives such as a video-based worship venue (Video Cafe), multi-site ministry and pioneering new global mission efforts. The work of casting new vision and inviting the congregation to embrace God’s future is life-giving to him. Mark believes the highest privilege of being a Pastor and shepherd is to enter into the joys, struggles and challenges of a congregation and its people. Prayer and the ministry of “presence” is what Mark has sought to bring to the churches and people he has served. At a Presbytery level, Mark has been a resource to the Care of Candidates Committee, encouraging seminarians and young Pastors in their call. He looks forward to a growing role in church revitalization.

Moderator Wyatt invited TE Mark Wollan and his wife, Julie onto the platform and introduced the ceremony. TE David Abdo shared a summary of Dave’s ministry and his service to the Presbytery. RE Doug Fry from San Ramon Presbyterian Church shared the impact of Mark’s ministry there. Mark then reflected on the joys of his ministry as well.

Motion was sustained to approve the change of status of TE Mark Wollan from Pastor of San Ramon Presbyterian Church, San Ramon, CA to Associate-Retired, effective December 31, 2023, with great appreciation for his service to the church and to the Presbytery.

TE Abdo presented Mark with a recognition gift and invited members of the church and Presbytery colleagues forward to lay on hands. RE Dana Mentink from San Ramon Presbyterian Church prayed for Mark in this new season.

19-39 Important Upcoming Dates

Moderator Wyatt reminded the Presbytery of the following dates. TE Donny Butkus from Fair Oaks Church invited the Presbytery to the next meeting at his church.

- May 16-17, 2024 Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#20)
Location: Fair Oaks Church, Fair Oaks, CA
- June 18-20, 2024 44th EPC General Assembly
Location: Hope Church, Memphis, TN
- October 8-10, 2024 POPS Pastors Retreat
Location: TBD
- October 11-12, 2024 Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#21)
Location: Community Presbyterian Church, Danville, 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 2024.

19-40 Adjournment and Closing Prayer

Motion was sustained to adjourn the meeting.

Moderator Wyatt closed the nineteenth stated meeting of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest at ____ pm by leading the Presbytery in prayer.