

# PROVISIONAL MINUTES



## 25<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest

January 23-24, 2026

First Presbyterian Church

1705 – 17th Street

Bakersfield, CA 93301

### 25-1 Call to Order and Opening Prayer

After a breakfast served by the First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield volunteers, Moderator RE Brian Wyatt called the 25<sup>th</sup> stated meeting of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest (POPS) to order at 9:00 am, opened the meeting with prayer, and welcomed the members and commissioners.

### 25-2 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	Unexcused	
TE Rachel Dorsey	Unexcused	
TE Jeff Hooker	Present	
Centerville Presbyterian Church – Fremont, CA		
TE Sam Knottnerus	Present	Rachel Schmit
TE Ryan Bogert	Excused	
Christ Church, Berkeley, CA		
TE Jonathan St. Clair	Excused	
TE Andrew Ong	Present	
Christ Community Church – Carmichael, CA		
Ryan Balbi	Excused	Ken Shepherd
Dustin DeVriend	Present	
Clayton Community Church – Clayton, CA		
TE Shawn Robinson	Present	Keith Parker
Community Presbyterian Church – Danville, CA		
TE Tyler Scott	Excused	
TE Bill Haslim	Present	
TE Ryan Pearce	Excused	
Cornerstone Woodlake Church – Woodlake, CA		
RE Rick Dorr,	Present	Sandra Crawford, Al George, Jeff Johnson
Commissioned Pastor		
Covenant Community Church – Vacaville, CA		
TE Nancy Duff	Excused	Barbara Cantrell, Rebecca Duvall, Candy Clemmons
Covenant Presbyterian Church – Orange, CA		
TE Scott Larson	Present	Ken Adams, Stephen Morris, Shawn Smith
TE Matt Young	Present	
Covenant Presbyterian Church – Reno, NV		
TE James (Jay) Hull	Present	Diane Billharz, Janet Goodman, Chris Rhodes

Covenant Presbyterian Church – San Diego, CA		
TE Patrick King	Excused	
TE Kennerly King	Excused	
Will Carreras	Excused	
Easton Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE David Abdo	Present	Priscilla Dack, Marjorie Miller, Philip Ross
Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church – Fair Oaks, CA		
TE Donny Butkus	Present	Andrew Hatfield, Jerri Meier, Lynne Pinkerton, Michael Shumaker
First Armenian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE Greg Haroutunian	Present	
TE Chris Bower	Unexcused	
First Presbyterian Church – Bakersfield, CA		
TE Marcos Ortega	Present	Mitchell Coleman, Dan Cronquist, Sally Herald, Darrell Miller, Tracie Monroe
TE David Constance	Present	
First Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
TE Jeremy Vaccaro	Present	Stuart Conrad, Cliff Klein
TE Meagan Kroeker	Present	
First Presbyterian Church – Hanford, CA		
Vacant		Chuck Kinney, Annette Rajskup
Fowler Presbyterian Church – Fowler, CA		
TE Erik Buhl	Present	
Fremont Presbyterian Church – Sacramento, CA		
TE David Pack	Present	Patti Dusel, Melissa Hightower, Chris Jaime, Shawn Moore
TE Matthew McCleary	Present	
Heritage EPC – Santa Maria, CA		
TE Mark Wright	Present	
Hope Presbyterian Church – Folsom, CA		
Vacant		
Kingman Presbyterian Church – Kingman, AZ		
TE Joe Tolin	Excused	
Millbrook Presbyterian Church – Fresno, CA		
Vacant		
Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church – Moraga, CA		
TE Brandon Morrow	Excused	David Sylvester
New Life Community Church – Covelo, CA		
Vacant		Linda Marshall
San Ramon Presbyterian Church – San Ramon, CA		
Ken Ferguson	Present	
Sierra Presbyterian Church – Nevada City, CA		
TE Michael Griffin	Present	Diana Haines, Veronica Hofheinz
TE Greg Flagg	Present	
St. John's Assyrian Presbyterian Church – Turlock, CA		
TE Edward Eissabake	Unexcused	Sargon Eddy

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

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

OFFICERS OF THE PRESBYTERY

RE Brian Wyatt, Moderator    Present  
RE Mark Eshoff, Stated Clerk Present

PRESBYTERY COUNCIL

MILITARY CHAPLAINS ON ACTIVE DUTY  
None

INSTITUTIONAL CHAPLAINS

TE Karen Bolte                      Excused  
TE Marty Carpenter                Present

EVANGELISTS

TE Scott Downing                  Present  
TE Jeffrey Kreiser                  Present  
TE Joe Mazzela                      Present

MISSIONARIES

SERVING OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARIES

TE Eric Amundson                  Unexcused  
TE Melaku Mekuria                  Unexcused  
TE Mgrdich Melkonian              Unexcused  
TE Ryan Suzuki                      Excused

MEMBERS SERVING AS ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBERS

MEMBERS WITHOUT A CALL

TE David Burke                      Present  
TE Joe Cole                            Unexcused  
TE Sam Fielder                        Unexcused  
TE Jose Figueroa                      Unexcused  
TE Josh Hall                            Unexcused  
TE Ron Musch                         Excused  
TE Rob Perkins                        Excused  
TE Fred Tanizaki                      Unexcused  
TE Steve Tyra                         Unexcused  
TE Quinn Vaughn                      Excused  
TE Troy Wilson                        Excused  
TE Tony Winterowd                    Unexcused  
TE Jason Yum                         Excused

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – ACTIVE

TE Greg Alderman                  Present  
TE Donald Baird                      Present  
TE Paul Bergquam                    Unexcused  
TE David Fenska                      Present  
TE Lana Roberts                      Present

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – Outside Boundaries

TE Rick Nylund                        Not Present  
TE Kurt Teng                         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 Cathy Burkholder	Not Present
TE Scott Dickson	Present
TE Scott Farmer	Not Present
TE Steve Frank	Not Present
TE Clifford Graves	Not Present
TE Anton Hoffmann	Not Present
TE David Huusko	Not Present
TE Paul Irwin	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	Not Present

GUESTS/OBSERVERS/CANDIDATES/MINISTERS TO BE EXAMINED

Molly Anderson	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Noel Anderson	First Presbyterian Church, Hanford
Bill Azbell	EPC World Outreach, Colorado Springs, CO
Makaylah Bangura	First Presbyterian Church of Fresno/Coalition for Christian Outreach, Fresno
Isabella Berna	First Presbyterian of Fresno, Coalition for Christian Outreach, Fresno
Geraud Brumfield	First Presbyterian Church Fresno & CCO, Fresno
Joseph Cardoza	First Presbyterian Church, Fresno
Monty Carpenter	Church Plant ANG Church, Tejon
David Chesney	First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield
Jaime Christoph	First Presbyterian Church, Hanford
Cathy Cole	Presbytery of the Pacific SW, Sacramento
Jim Conners	First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield
Sandra Crawford	Cornerstone Woodlake EPC
Nicole Dorway	Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento
Paul Dorway	Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento
Janet Downing	Rural Compassion, Sparks, NV
Cindy Duncan	Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno NV
Lisa Elliott	First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield
Cheryl Eshoff	Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento
Mindy Fenska	EPC World Outreach- retired, San Diego
Noah Fiori	First Presbyterian Church, Fresno
Heather Gold	Covenant Community Church, Vacaville
Steve Gold	Covenant Community Church, Vacaville
JB Hay	First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield
Preston Henry	First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield
Cyndi Hogan	Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento
Denell Hull	Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno, NV
Dana Jaime	Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento
Phillip Jensen	First Armenian Presbyterian Church, Fresno
Samuel Kim	Presbytery of the Pacific NW, Fullerton
Evie Knottnerus	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont

Aaron Kroeker	First Presbyterian Church, Fresno
Eric Love	Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento
Marni Love	Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento
Jasmine Mazzela	All Nations Gateway, Tejon Ranch
Josh Morgan	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Nathan Moser	EPC World Outreach - ITEN
Peter Ndaita	Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento
Jennifer Pack	Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento
Faith Purbaugh	First Presbyterian Church of Fresno and Coalition for Christian Outreach, Fresno
Debbie Rattan	Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento
John Rodgers	First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield
Jim Schoon	Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont
Kalen Skinner	Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento
Diane Vaccaro	First Presbyterian Church, Fresno
Karah Varner	First Presbyterian Church Fresno & CCO, Fresno
Grover Waldon	First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield
Dean Weaver	EPC Office of the General Assembly, Orlando FL
Adam Willard	Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento
Michael Yraceburn	First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield

#### NUMERICAL ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

	Present	Excused	Unexcused	Total/Parity
Teaching Elders (Full Members)	31	19	16	66
Teaching Elders (Associate - Active)	4	0	1	
Teaching Elders (Associate-Retired)	1			
Ruling Elders	40			
Officers of the Presbytery	2			
Presbytery Council	0			
Commissioned Pastors	1			
Received Pending Dismissal	0			
Transitional Members	0			
Candidates/Guests/Observers	50			
<b>TOTAL IN ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>129</b>			
Associate & Retired Members (Not Present)	27			
Inactive Members (Not Present)	0			

### 25-3 Welcome

TE Marcos Ortega, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, welcomed the Presbytery and shared a brief update on the ministry of the church.

### 25-4 Introduction of New Commissioners and Guests

Moderator Wyatt welcomed all commissioners and guests including TE Dean Weaver, Stated Clerk of the EPC General Assembly, who warmly greeted the Presbytery. Personal introductions were given to commissioners who were attending a Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest meeting for the first time.

### 25-5 Installation of the New Moderator

TE Dave Constance was introduced by Moderator Brian Wyatt, who shared Dave's ministry background and presented him with the POPS Moderator's gavel. Stated Clerk Eshoff then presented the ring of carabineers that represented the 30 churches in the Presbytery and noted that Dave was now a trustee of those churches in his new role as Moderator. Brian shared a charge to Dave from Joshua 1:9. Dave then shared his hopes for the Presbytery under his leadership from Philippians 2:1-2. Past Moderator then prayed for Dave in his new role.

**25-6 Recognition of the Outgoing Moderator**

TE Constance thanked RE Brian Wyatt, the new Past Moderator, for his service to the Presbytery. Brian briefly shared his thanks for those supporting him in the ministry of the Presbytery and to God for His provision. He encouraged the Presbytery to take seriously the exhortation in Ephesians 5:18-21 to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Stated Clerk Eshoff presented Brian with a gift in recognition of his service and Dave prayed a prayer of thanks for Brian.

**25-7 Worship**

TE Marcos Ortega and the worship leaders from First Presbyterian Church led the Presbytery in worship. Communion was served.

**25-8 Moderator's Time of Prayer**

Moderator Constance led a time of prayer focused on Philippians 2:1-11. Members, commissioners, and guests prayed the scripture in small groups.

**25-9 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 January 24-25, 2026. He noted that the 2026 Parity List was available on the handout table and reminded the Presbytery of the 2026 Pastors Retreat.

**25-10 Approval of the Docket**

There were a number of corrections to the Proposed Docket. Stated Clerk Eshoff presented docket for approval.

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

**25-11 2026 Parity List**

Stated Clerk Eshoff presented the 2026 Parity List for approval (attached). The list balanced the number of commissioned ruling elders from POPS churches to the 2 to 1 ratio of ruling elders to teaching elders stated in the EPC Book of Order.

**Motion was sustained to approve the 2026 Parity List.**

**25-12 Mission Committee Report**

TE Dave Fenska, Chair of POPS Mission Committee opened in prayer and introduced members of the Mission Committee and then introduced Evie Knottnerus, World Outreach worker and TE Nathan Moser, World Outreach missionary to Nepal. He also introduced TE Sam Knottnerus, Engage Home Team Chair who reminded the Presbytery about the work of Andrea Craddock who was on a vision trip to Japan and noted that TE Samuel Kim is also discerning a call to Japan. Sam prayed for the various mission workers. He then updated the work of the POPS Home Team and their work with the Pashtun people group, including Capital City Athletics in the Sacramento area. Dave distributed the Mission Hot Sheet to representatives of each POPS church and introduced World Outreach worker Bill Azbel, who shared the importance of missions in light of the current level of global migration. Dave then invited the attendees to the Mission lunch where Nathan Moser would be sharing about his call to Nepal. Dave closed the report in prayer.

### **25-13 Session Minutes Review**

RE Janet Goodman opened in prayer, reminded the Presbytery about the Minutes Checklist, and reported that the following reviews from the October 2025 cycle were completed and all reviews were up to date:

Centerpoint Community Church  
Centerville Presbyterian Church, Fremont  
Christ Church East Bay, Berkeley  
Christ Community Church, Carmichael  
Covenant Community Church, Vacaville  
Covenant Presbyterian Church of Reno  
Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church  
Fremont Presbyterian Church  
Hope Presbyterian Church, Folsom  
Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church  
Sierra Presbyterian Church

#### Reviewers:

TE Rick Dorr, Cornerstone Woodlake  
TE Marcos Ortega, FPC Bakersfield  
TE Greg Roth (retired)  
TE Ryan Teramoto, Wintersburg  
TE Mark Wright, Heritage EPC  
RE Ken Adams, Covenant Orange PC  
RE Christine Deane, Moraga Valley PC  
RE Patty Howard, Fremont PC  
RE Marilyn Khalaji, Centerville PC Fremont  
RE Debra Revious, FPC Hanford  
RE Christopher Rhodes, Covenant PC Reno

RE Goodman closed her report in prayer.

### **25-14 Lunch**

The Presbytery was served lunch by the staff and volunteers from FPC Bakersfield. The Mission Committee sponsored a breakout lunch where Nathan Moser shared more about his call to missions in Nepal.

### **25-15 Treasurer's Report**

RE David Sylvester opened in prayer and briefed the Presbytery on the 2025 Year-end POPS Financials and Askings Report (attached).

### **25-16 2026 POPS Budget**

The POPS Council recommended a Proposed 2026 Budget for the consideration of the Presbytery.

#### **Motion was sustained to approve the 2026 POPS Budget**

### **25-17 Ministerial Committee Report**

TE David Abdo opened in prayer and introduced Noel Anderson, candidate for Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA.

#### **Examination of Noel Anderson**

Noel Anderson had been called by the congregation of First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA as Pastor. He was seeking to transfer from the PCUSA-Riverside Presbytery to the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest. 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 recommended to the Presbytery for approval.

Chris's examination began with a sermon on 2 Corinthians 5:16-21, a passage assigned by the Ministerial Committee. The Presbytery examined him on his views 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. Noel had no exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

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

Noel and his family were invited to leave the room during the discussion. RE Chuck Kinney and RE Jaime Cristoph spoke in support of Noel.

**Motion was sustained to approve the examination of Noel Anderson 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 Constance from First Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA and Lana Roberts (Active-Retired) and RE's Chuck Kinney and Jaime Cristoph from First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA and Bob Green and John Rodgers from First Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA to install Noel Anderson as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Hanford, CA on Sunday, February 1, 2026 at 10:00 am.**

Noel was invited back into the main session and was greeted with a standing ovation. TE Lana Roberts prayed for Noel and the church.

**25-18 Change of Status – TE Joe Tolin**

TE Joe Tolin had resigned his position as Pastor of Kingman Presbyterian Church, Kingman, AZ. The congregation of the church requested that the Presbytery approve the dissolution of his relationship with the church.

**Motion was sustained to dissolve the relationship between TE Joe Tolin, Pastor, and Kingman Presbyterian Church, Kingman, AZ effective December 31, 2025, and change his status to Without a Call.**

TE David Burke prayed for Joe and the church.

**25-19 Change of Status – TE Matt Young**

TE Matt Young, Associate Pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church, Orange, CA, had accepted a call as Pastor of Wabash Presbyterian Church in Wabash, WA. The congregation of Covenant Presbyterian Church requested that the Presbytery approve the dissolution of his relationship with the church.

**Motion was sustained to dissolve the relationship between TE Matt Young, Associate Pastor for Outreach and Assimilation, and Covenant Presbyterian Church, Orange, CA effective December 31, 2025, and approve his transfer to the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Northwest, contingent on their approval of the transfer.**

TE Dave Fenska prayed for Matt and his new call.

**25-20 Nominating Committee Report**

RE Chris Rhodes, chair of the POPS Nominating Committee, opened in prayer and introduced a motion for leadership of the Care of Candidates Committee.

**Motion was sustained to approve TE Jay Hull as Chair of the POPS Care of Candidates Committee and member of POPS Council to fill the current unexpired Class of 2026 Teaching Elder term.**

TE Matt Young prayed for Jay and for the outgoing Chair, Christine Deane.

**25-21 Care of Candidates Committee Report – Examination of Cameron McIntosh**

TE Matt Young, Chair, opened in prayer and presented Peter Ndaita as a candidate ready to come under care of the Presbytery. He was currently under the care of the Session of Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, CA. The Session recommended him to the Presbytery as a Candidate Under Care and he had met with and been approved by the POPS Care of Candidates Committee. The Committee also recommended that he be referred to the Ministerial Vocation Committee as a CEEP candidate.

Peter 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 call to the ministry, and his motive for seeking ordination in the EPC.

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

The candidate was invited to leave the room during discussion.

TE David Pack from Fremont Presbyterian Church spoke on behalf of the candidate.

**Motion was sustained to approve Peter Ndaita to come under care of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and approve TE David Burke as advisor to Candidate Ndaita.**

**Motion was sustained to approve the recommendation of the Care of Candidates Committee to refer Candidate Peter Ndaita to the EPC Ministerial Vocation Committee for a recommended course of action, including continuing education and reading requirements, as a CEEP candidate.**

Peter was invited back into the main session and was greeted with a standing ovation. Moderator Constance then asked him the Constitutional Questions to which he replied affirmatively. TE Justin Kim gave him a charge to receive before he could give from John 13:8. Justin then prayed for Candidate Ndaita.

**25-22 Church Planting Team Update**

TE Shawn Robinson, POPS Church Planting Coordinator, opened in prayer and reminded the Presbytery why we need to plant churches. He invited the Presbytery to the first West Coast Church Planting Retreat in San Diego, CA in March 2026. He introduced TE Ken Ferguson, Pastor of San Ramon Presbyterian Church, who shared that the opportunity to interact with church planters would benefit his desire to lead his church toward witnessing to Jesus. He also introduced Joe Mazzela, Evangelist, who is heading up the new church plant in Tejon Ranch, CA. Joe shared the current joys and challenges of the work and invited the Presbytery to a dinner and a time of worship and prayer at the Tejon Ranch church site. Shawn closed the report in prayer.

**25-23 Ministry Update – TE Jeff Kreiser, Evangelist**

TE Jeff Kreiser shared various ways in which POPS churches might take advantage of evangelism resources he can offer through his Life on Mission ministry. TE Joe Mazella prayed for Jeff and the ministry of evangelism in the Presbytery.

**25-24 Recommended Overture to the 46<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**

The Session of First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA had recommended that the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest consider an Overture to the next meeting of the EPC General Assembly in June 2026. The Presbytery was reminded that GA overtures are considered to be requests of a Presbytery for action upon a specific matter and must be approved by the Presbytery in order to be considered by the General Assembly.

This Overture had been provided at the October 2025 POPS meeting for reading only and encouraged civil government not to carry our law enforcement activities that take place on church property and encouraged officers of the church to practice prayerful non-violent disobedience in that instance. The Presbytery discussed and voted on the overture to the General Assembly.

**Motion to approve the overture to the 46<sup>th</sup> General Assembly regarding civil government law enforcement activities was not sustained.**

RE Brian Wyatt prayed for the division in our country.

**25-25 Church Health Report**

TE Mike Griffin, POPS Church Health Coordinator, opened in prayer and shared the importance of the health of pastoral leaders. He gave an update on the resources available from the Church Health Team for church revitalization, the training of transitional pastors, and evangelism training. He then presented the 5 stages of church revitalization and how mission, vision and values should align with the church's structure, programs and people. TE Griffin closed his report in prayer.

**25-26 Ministry Update – Next Gen Ministry**

TE Meagan Kroeker opened in prayer and introduced the Next Gen workers from churches in the Presbytery who had gathered during the meeting for connection, networking, and resourcing. Meagan closed the report in prayer.

**25-27 General Assembly Mission Committee Nomination**

Stated Clerk Eshoff noted that nomination of teaching elders to GA committees requires the approval of the Presbytery to which the TE belongs. TE Ken Ferguson, Pastor of San Ramon Presbyterian Church, had been nominated to the GA Mission Committee.

**Motion was sustained to approve the nomination of TE Ken Ferguson to the General Assembly Permanent Mission Committee.**

TE Dave Fenska prayed for Ken and the work of the GA Mission Committee

**25-28 Omnibus Motion**

1. **That the Minutes of the Twenty Fourth Stated Meeting of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest on October 10-11, 2025, be approved as posted (these minutes are available on the POPS website).**
2. **That the Administrative Commission to install Chris Bower as Associate Pastor for Administration at First Armenian Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA be dismissed with**

appreciation for their service to the Presbytery, to the pastor, and to the congregation. The commission's minutes are on file with the Stated Clerk.

3. To accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to approve Rev. Paul Thome as Stated Supply Pastor for Hope Presbyterian Church, Folsom, CA beginning November 1, 2025.
4. To accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to appoint TE Matthew McCleary as Interim Moderator of the Session of Hope Presbyterian Church, Folsom, CA.
5. To accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to appoint RE Miles Willard as Temporary Moderator of the Kingman Presbyterian Church Session and congregation.
6. To accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to change the status of TE Paul Bergquam from Active-Retired to Associate-Retired effective January 1, 2026

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

**25-29 Meeting Recess**

The meeting was recessed until the next day. About 60 members of the Presbytery travelled to Tejon Ranch for a pizza and salad dinner and a worship and prayer time at the church plant site.

**25-30 Call to Order and Opening Prayer**

Following breakfast served by the FPC volunteers, Moderator Constance called the meeting back to order at 9:05 am and opened in prayer.

**25-31 Appreciation to the Volunteers and Staff of the Host Church**

Moderator Constance expressed deep appreciation to First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, their pastor and staff, and the volunteers that served the Presbytery in hosting the meeting. The volunteers were given a standing ovation.

**25-32 Worship**

Moderator Constance led the Presbytery in a Call to Worship from \_\_\_\_\_. The Worship Team from FPC led the Presbytery in musical worship. TE Dean Weaver, General Assembly Stated Clerk, preached a sermon on Psalm 133.

**25-33 Moderator's Time of Prayer**

Following worship, Moderator Wyatt led a time of prayer focused on Philippians 2:2-18. Members, commissioners, and guests prayed the scripture in small groups.

**25-34 Q&A with Dean Weaver**

Stated Clerk Eshoff interviewed TE Dean Weaver regarding the current priorities of the General Assembly, the state of the denomination, and the upcoming General Assembly meeting in June 2026. Moderator Constance prayed for Dean and the General Assembly meeting.

**25-35 Ministerial Committee Report (continued)**

TE David Abdo opened in prayer and introduced Steve gold, candidate for Assistant Pastor for Next Generation Ministries at Covenant Community Church, Vacaville, CA.

**Examination of Steve Gold**

Steve Gold had been called by the congregation of Covenant Community Church, Vacaville, CA as Assistant Pastor for Next Generation Ministries. He was seeking ordination in the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest. 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 recommended to the Presbytery for approval.

Steve's examination began with a sermon on 1 Corinthians 6:6-16, 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. Steve had no exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

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

Steve and his family were invited to leave the room during the discussion. TE Nancy Duff and RE Barbara Cantrell spoke in support of Steve.

**Motion was sustained to approve the examination of Steve Gold 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 Nancy Duff from Covenant Community Church, Vacaville, CA, and Dave Constance from First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA, and RE's Jason Marcus and Toby Hanes from Covenant Community Church, Vacaville, CA, and Dan Cronquist and Jim Conners from First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA, to ordain and install Steve Gold as Assistant Pastor for Next Generation Ministries at Covenant Community Church, Vacaville, CA on Sunday, March 1, 2026 at 9:30 am for a term of 3 years.**

Steve was invited back into the main session and was greeted with a standing ovation. RE Rebecca Duvall prayed for Steve and the church.

25-36

**Change of Status – TE Dave Pack**

TE Dave Pack had been called by the congregation of Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, CA as Pastor. He had served for 11 years at the church as Associate Pastor for Discipleship. The Session of the church voted by the constitutional majority (75% or more) to allow him to be considered as a candidate for the position. The Ministerial Committee had examined him and voted by the constitutional majority (75% or more) to recommend that the Presbytery approve this Change in Status. As a current member of POPS, the Presbytery was not required to examine him, however, he shared his sense of call to the position and his vision for the church.

Dave and his family members were invited to leave the main hall during the discussion. Marni Love and Cyndi Hogan from Fremont Presbyterian Church spoke in support of Dave.

**Motion was sustained to approve the Change in Status of TE Dave Pack from Associate Pastor for Discipleship to Pastor of Fremont Presbyterian Church effective February 1, 2026.**

**Motion was sustained to approve the Administrative Commission of TE's Matthew McCleary from Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, CA and Greg Flagg from Sierra Presbyterian Church, Nevada City, CA, and RE's Patti Dusel, Mark Eshoff, and Shawn Moore from Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, CA, and Michael Shumaker from Fair Oaks Church, Fair Oaks, CA to install TE Dave Pack as Pastor of Fremont Presbyterian Church on Sunday, February 1, 2026 at 10:30 am**

Kalen Skinner from Fremont Presbyterian Church prayed for Dave and the church.

## **25-37 Care of Candidates Committee Report (continued)**

TE Matt Young, Chair of the Care of Candidates Committee, opened in prayer and introduced Adam Willard, who was ready to come under care of the Presbytery as a Candidate for Ministry.

### **Examination of Adam Willard**

Adam was currently under care of the Session of Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, CA. The Session had recommended him to the Presbytery as a Candidate Under Care and he met with the POPS Care of Candidates Committee who recommended him for approval.

Adam briefly shared his spiritual journey, his sense of call and why he had chosen the EPC. The Presbytery then examined the candidate on his Christian experience and growth, his call to the ministry, and his motive for seeking ordination in the EPC.

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

The candidate was invited to leave the room during discussion. TE Matthew McCleary from Fremont Presbyterian Church spoke in support of Adam.

### **Motion was sustained to approve Adam Willard to come under care of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and approve TE Dave Fenska as advisor to Candidate Willard.**

Adam was invited back into the main session and was greeted with a standing ovation. Moderator Constance then asked him the Constitutional Questions to which he replied affirmatively. RE Rick Dorr gave the Candidate a Charge and prayed for him.

## **25-38 Omnibus Motion**

Moderator Wyatt introduced the Omnibus Motion which included the following:

1. **That the Minutes of the Twenty Third Stated Meeting of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest on May 15-16, 2025, be approved as posted (these minutes are available on the POPS website).**
2. **That the Administrative Commission to install TE Rachel Dorsey as Associate Pastor for Missions and Outreach 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. **To accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to approve the Change in Status of TE Sam Fielder (Without a Call) to Associate Member.**
4. **To accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to approve the Change in Status of TE Tony Winterowd from serving Outside the Bounds to Without a Call.**
5. **To accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to approve the extension of the call of TE Kennerly King as Assistant Pastor for Spiritual Formation for Covenant Presbyterian Church, San Diego, CA for a period of 3 years.**
6. **To accept the report of the Ministerial Committee to approve the Terms of Call for those teaching elders who submitted 2025 TE Annual Reports.**
7. **To approve the 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, and TE Melaku Mekuria at Maranatha Ethiopian Christian Fellowship, San Diego, CA for one year.**

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

### 25-39 Important Upcoming Dates

Moderator Constance reminded the Presbytery of the following dates:

May 14-15, 2026	Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#26) Location: Covenant Presbyterian Church, Reno, NV
June 16-18, 2026	46 <sup>th</sup> EPC General Assembly Location: Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church, Denver, CO
October 6-8, 2026	POPS Pastors Retreat Del Oro Conference Center, Nevada City, CA
October 9-10, 2026	Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#27) Location: Sierra Presbyterian Church, Nevada City, CA
January 22-23, 2027	Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest Meeting (#28) Location: Covenant Presbyterian Church, Orange, CA

### Hosting Opportunities

Moderator Constance reminded the member churches that opportunities were available to host the Presbytery in 2026 and to host Discovery Workshops as well.

### 25-40 Adjournment and Closing Prayer

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

Moderator Constance closed the 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest in prayer at 12:40 pm.