



Presbytery of Riverside

PO Box 1165
100 Cajon Street
Redlands, CA 92373-1165

Email: riversidepresbytery.info@riversidepresbytery.com

Website: www.riversidepresbytery.com

REPORT PACKET

FOR THE

STATED MEETING

of the PRESBYTERY OF RIVERSIDE

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2020

Hosted by

Calvary Presbyterian Church

4495 Magnolia Ave.

Riverside, CA 92501

(951)686-0761

Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Riverside
Assembly Docket for March 14, 2020
Calvary Presbyterian Church, Riverside

The Vision/Mission Statement of the Presbytery of Riverside: As the Presbytery of Riverside we are called to be: *Connected congregations in deep discipleship with Jesus Christ who are faithful and active witnesses to God's love, justice, and peace.*

Numbers on Side Denote Report Number and Appendix Number for Minutes

9.30 Registration

10.00 Gathering

Opening Prayer Claire Schlegel, Moderator

Greeting and Reading of Mission/Vision Statement Claire Schlegel, Moderator

Declaration of a Quorum Claire Schlegel, Moderator

Docket Approval Tom Rennard, Temp. Stated Clerk

Minutes Approval of November 16, 2019 Tom Rennard, Temp. Stated Clerk

Introductions Claire Schlegel, Moderator

New Ruling Elder Commissioners, Corresponding Members, Guests

Welcome from Host Co-Pastors Graise and Thomas

10:15 Worship Sanctuary

Moderator Schlegel moderates

1) 11:00 Presbytery Commission Jeff Mague, Commission Chair

11:15 Partners in Ministry Paul Knopf

2) 11:20 Property, Finance, Investment and Funds Development Andrew Parnell

11:30 Presbytery Mission Agency Appeal Rene Myers

11:45 New Worshipping Communities Nathan Sobers, Stonewall Ministries

11:55 Committee on Representation Wilson Kayange

12:10 Two-minute Announcement Time

All Presbyters Invited

12:15 **Lunch**

Vice Moderator Neuenschwander moderates

3) 12:45 Healthy Pastors and Congregations Commission

Scott Mason

Dismiss the Crestline Administrative Commission with deep thankfulness.

1:00 Personnel Committee

“Quiz the Staff”

4) 1:20 Nominations Committee

Susan Skoglund

1:25 Vital Congregations Initiative

Rob Stewart, Coordinator

5) 1:40 Presbytery Women of the Presbytery

Written Only

6) 1:40 Personnel Committee

Written Only

1:40 “How and where did we experience the Holy Spirit in this meeting?”

Presbyters

1:45 Motion for Adjournment, Closing Prayer

Neal Neuenschwander, Vice Moderator

Presbytery Commission Report to the Presbytery Assembly March 14, 2020

Jeff Mague, Chair

For Action

1. Recommends the Presbytery Assembly concur with an overture to the 224th General Assembly from the Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery entitled *REAFFIRM THE NEED FOR A PEACE TREATY FOR THE KOREAN PENINSULA*.

For Information

1. The Commission designated the proceeds of the Worship Service offering go to Family Promise of Riverside, a local affiliate of Family Promise, a national organization committed to transforming the lives of families experiencing homelessness.
2. The Commission concurs with a recommendation from the Property Finance Investment and Funds Development Committee regarding proceeds from the 1) Sample Trust (prior members of the Yucaipa Valley Presbyterian Church), 2) Crestline property, and 3) Fontana property.
3. Per instructions from the Presbytery Assembly at the November 2019 meeting, the Commission has designated Rev Nancy Richmond as the alternate Minister of the Word and Sacrament Commissioner to the 224th General Assembly.
4. The Commission is considering its recommendation to the Presbytery Assembly on the structure of the Presbytery Leader and Stated Clerk functions. Should the two functions be combined under one person, or have two people perform the duties? We plan on bringing that recommendation to the Assembly at the June meeting for a vote, and welcome feedback from the body regarding your thoughts on this.

Property, Finance, Investment and Funds Development Committee (PFIFD) Report

to the Presbytery Assembly March 14, 2020

Andrew Parnell, Chair

For Information

1. PFIFD approved the 2020 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Presbytery and the First Presbyterian Church of Redlands and gave Andrew Parnell, as President of the Board of Trustees, the authority to sign the document. No change from initial MOU, with a monthly rental payment of \$500.
2. **SB 1343 Compliance** – Insurance Board is offering free training through Praesidium and the Armatus portal. Visit www.insuranceBoard.org/email-address.

For Action

1. **Sample Trust** – Deposit of \$41,000 was made and a \$300 fee for legal review was made, as their was a concern that the trust might be contested. No restrictions by the trust.
 - a. No policy on how unrestricted gifts would be distributed.

Motion: *The Presbytery of Riverside tithe (10%) of the funds received from the Sample Trust to the community of Yucaipa [PFIFD recommends the Redlands Family Services Yucaipa Satellite facility], the remaining 90% to be placed in the unrestricted operating fund of the Presbytery of Riverside.*

2. **Crestline** – Third and final property of the Crestline property is now closed.

Motion: *The Presbytery of Riverside tithe (10%) of received proceeds from all Crestline properties to the community of Crestline, by supporting Rebuilding Together located in Blue Jay, California. The remaining 90% will be placed in the unrestricted operating fund of the Presbytery of Riverside.*

3. **Fontana**

Motion: *The Presbytery of Riverside tithe (10%) of received proceeds from Fontana to the community of Fontana [designating the tithe to build a home in Fontana by supporting Habitat Humanity, San Bernardino Area], placing the remaining 90% in the unrestricted operating fund of the Presbytery of Riverside.*

Presbytery of Riverside Healthy Pastors and Congregations Commission
December 5, 2019, Beaumont Presbyterian Church, 5:45 p.m.

ROLL: (A=absent, E=excused, all others present)

	<u>Class of 2020</u>		<u>Class of 2021</u>		<u>+Class of 2022</u>
ex	TE Becky Bane		TE Henry DeGraaff		RE Anand Dyal Chand
	TE Sam Roberts		RE Melodee Kistner		RE Peggy Hill
ex	TE Jesse Rose		TE Scott Mason		TE Julie Hodges
			TE In Yang	ex	RE Karen Keevil
					RE Sam Hynds

Staff: ex **Lee Ireland**, Temporary Executive Presbyter, on vacation; **Tom Rennard**, Temp. Stated Clerk

MISSION STATEMENT – “Connected congregations
in deep discipleship with Jesus Christ
who are faithful and active witnesses to God’s love, justice, and peace.”

OPENING PRAYER AND QUORUM

The opening prayer was led by the committee chair. There was a quorum (which is 7) present.

APPROVE DOCKET

An addition was made to the docket. We added first read of a revision to the HPCC leave policy to cover Minister Sabbaticals and Continuing Education accrued leave and financing.

APPROVE MINUTES

The minutes of the November meeting were read and approved with one correction the Christine Dickerson’s exit interview will be done after a Desert Pastors gathering.

UPDATE “Vital Congregations Initiative”

There was a good “roll out” of it at the latest Assembly and sign up for the cohorts is strong. We were commended by the General Assembly representative for the level of congregational and clergy participation in our presbytery.

CALLS / CONTRACTS

Approve Marilyn Gamm’s Temporary Covenant

It was **approved**, with the suggestion to the Chair that he call his counterpart in Missouri to see how long this special arrangement is expected to last. Rev. Gamm’s husband is the Executive of that presbytery and she has asked to avoid conflict of interest by keeping her membership in Riverside while serving a Giddings Lovejoy congregation in a temporary relationship.

Approve Nancy Richmond’s Temporary Covenant

It was **approved**, with the observation that she is not eligible for the called position, an arrangement that we might like to suggest to the Session that they change to a Temporary Supply arrangement. It was also noted that the form on the presbytery web site from which the Covenant was drafted is in need of update to reflect new language and Constitutional references, and that has been done by the Stated Clerk (Temporary).

MATTERS CONCERNING CHURCHES

Palm Springs Presbyterian Church hired Bruce Myers as an Interim Pastor

Bruce begins his service on December 8th. Covenant will be forthcoming.

Hemet Presbyterian Church voted to call Earl Palmer as an Installed Pastor

The vote was 88 to 2 on November 24th. He begins his service on December 16th. It is anticipated that the HPCC will meet with him at their next meeting to validate the Call and make plans for an installation. The HPCC is using the provision in the Manual of Administrative Operations that allows the HPCC to elect an installation commission when the Call comes 60 days before the next Assembly. The Call was **approved**.

Crestline Administrative Commission

Of the two remaining properties, the former Preschool was purchased and the A-Frame (hoped for manse) has been put on the market. The Minutes book and Register have yet to go to the Presbyterian Historical Society and are being stored in a basement area of the First Presbyterian Church of Redlands.

New Beginnings Fontana Church

The property sold and the Minute book (no Register—lost) and pictures are awaiting mailing to the Presbyterian Historical Society.

Big Bear Presbyterian Church

An offer has been made to a potential Transitional Pastor. The Transitional Specialist is considering the Call. The Temporary Supply Pastor retires December 31st and it's presumed the Transitional Pastor would start January 1.

REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERY LEADER AND STATED CLERK – Lee Ireland, no reports

OLD BUSINESS

Christine Dickerson's exit interview

This will be conducted after a Desert Pastor's gathering. The Presbytery Leader and one other member of HPCC are in regular attendance.

NEW BUSINESS

Triennial Visits / Holy Conversations

The revised Manual of Administrative Operations gave clear responsibility to HPCC (with a representative from PIM) for Holy Conversations with each congregation once every two years. (These were formally called Triennial Visits.) Only one has been

completed (Beaumont). Discussion was initiated at possibly starting with churches which have Temporary pastoral relations.

Sabbaticals – Joshua Tsieh

A question came from a Clerk of Session if a planned sabbatical should be in the annual Terms of Call for a co-pastor. Another question came in if the presbytery has a policy for aggregated study leave to accommodate some seminaries' requirement to do a six-week residency for completion of their Doctor of Ministry. A suggestion revision of the presbytery's Leave Policy which currently covers disabilities and other leaves of absences was read, and will be brought in written form to HPCC next month.

CLOSING PRAYER / MOTION TO ADJOURN

There was closing prayer and the motion to adjourn was **approved**.

(Next meeting: Thursday, January 9, 2019 at 5:45 p.m. at Beaumont)

Congregations, A Conference Center, and Fellowships

Apple Valley Transformation Multi-Cultural Fellowship

Beaumont Presbyterian Church

Big Bear Presbyterian Church known as Bridge Presbyterian Fellowship

Big Bear Lake Big Bear Christian Conference Center

Community Presbyterian Church, Cathedral City

Stonewall Fellowship, Cathedral City

Palm Springs Korean Presbyterian Church, Cathedral City

First Presbyterian Church of Corona

New Beginnings Church, Fontana

First Presbyterian Church of Hemet

St. Andrew Community Presbyterian Church, Indio

Lake Arrowhead Community Presbyterian Church

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Ontario

Palm Desert Spirit of the Desert Fellowship

Palm Springs Presbyterian Church

Northkirk Presbyterian Church, Rancho Cucamonga

Upland Taiwan Presbyterian Church, Rancho Cucamonga

Community Presbyterian Church, Redlands

Inland Empire Presbyterian Fellowship-Taiwanese/Ethnic Chinese

First Presbyterian Church of Redlands

Bethany Presbyterian, Rialto

Ridgecrest Presbyterian Church

Calvary Presbyterian Church, Riverside

Magnolia Presbyterian Church, Riverside

Victoria Presbyterian Church, Riverside

San Bernardino Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church / Iglesia El Buen Pastor

First Presbyterian Church of San Bernardino

San Bernardino Home of Neighborly Service

Grace Presbyterian Church, Temecula

Temecula Valley Arabic PC Fellowship

Little Church of the Desert, Twentynine Palms

First Presbyterian Church of Upland

First Presbyterian Church of Lake Elsinore known as Mountain View Church, Wildomar

Desert Hills Presbyterian Church, Yucca Valley

Healthy Pastors and Congregations Commission
January 9, 2020
Minutes and Report

ROLL: (A=absent, E=excused, all others present)

	<u>Class of 2020</u>		<u>Class of 2021</u>		<u>Class of 2022</u>
x	TE Becky Bane	x	TE Henry DeGraaff	x	RE Anand Dyal Chand
x	TE Sam Roberts	x	RE Melodee Kistner	x	RE Peggy Hill
x	RE Jesse Rose	x	TE Scott Mason	Ex.	TE Julie Hodges
		x	TE In Yang		
				x	RE Sam Hynds

Staff: **Lee Ireland**, Temporary Presbytery Leader for Mission and Vision; **Tom Rennard**, Temp. Stated Clerk

Mission Statement recited was by the Commission

The chair opened the meeting with prayer.

Approve Docket: We moved approval of Marilyn Gamm’s Transitional Pastor Contract with Trinity Church, University City, MO to the 2.6.20. meeting due to it being received so close to the meeting date. Otherwise, docket approved as distributed.

Vital Congregations Initiative (VCI) Update: Becky Bane told us the cohorts have begun and there’s a good feeling about the work that’s being done. Tom shared about the Pastor’s Cohort Group which is not VCI oriented but is being led by the VCI Coordinator Rob Stewart. A great first meeting.

Calls/Covenants

Voted to approve the Rev. Bruce Meyer’s Transitional Pastor Covenant with the Palm Springs Presbyterian Church.

Voted to approve the Rev. Andrew Parnell’s Temporary Pastor Covenant with the Bethany Presbyterian Church of Rialto.

Voted to approve the Rev. Thomas Rennard’s Transitional Pastor Covenant with the Bridge Presbyterian Fellowship of Big Bear.

Typographical corrections were made on the first and third covenants. Otherwise, approved as distributed to the Commission.

Matters Concerning Churches

Crestline Administrative Commission: 2 of the 3 Properties have been leased or sold and the third (the “Manse” A-Frame) is in escrow for sale at the asking price of \$179,000.

The First Presbyterian Church of Fontana (dba New Beginnings) was sold for approximately \$900,000 and the proceeds have been referred to the Property Finance Investments and Funds Development Committee for a recommendation of how to spend the proceeds.

Reports of the Stated Clerk and Presbytery Leader (both Temporary)

Tom informed the Commission that a minister member who is currently in good standing in the Classis of Albany, of the Reformed Church of America will be applying for minister membership in the presbytery next month. Lee informed the Commission that he will be leaving the employ of the Community Presbyterian Church of Cathedral City after Easter Sunday, 2020. In his presbytery work, he is looking for ways to connect congregations at the lay level with the presbytery. He suggested that doing the Vital Congregations Initiative for the presbytery may be one way. He informed the Commission that benefits will now be pro-rated for proportional time for minister members of the presbytery at the recommendation of the Personnel Committee. He initiated getting liasons for each of the 26 congregations for which the Commission has oversight with the Commission members. Each voting member took a certain number of congregations to liaison with, a list of responsibilities will be located and forwarded to new members of the Commission.

New Business

The Commission voted **to have the Presbytery Leader form a Task Force to keep churches open.** This may come out of the Presbytery Commission but the HPCC wanted some group to focus on keeping churches sustainable. We noted with appreciation that some congregations who were thinking of dissolving their relationship with the denomination have decided to stay in the Church.

Closing Prayer and Motion to Adjourn

The prayer was led by Tom Rennard and the **motion to adjourn passed.**

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 6, 2020 at Westminster, Ontario.

Presbytery of Riverside Healthy Pastors and Congregations Commission
February 6, 2020, Beaumont Presbyterian Church, 5:45 p.m.

ROLL: (A=absent, E=excused, all others present)

	<u>Class of 2020</u>		<u>Class of 2021</u>		<u>+Class of 2022</u>
x	TE Becky Bane	x	TE Henry DeGraaff	x	RE Anand Dyal Chand
x	TE Sam Roberts	ex	RE Melodee Kistner	x	RE Peggy Hill
ex	RE Jesse Rose	x	TE Scott Mason	x	TE Julie Hodges
		x	TE In Yang		
				A	RE Sam Hynds

Staff: ex **Lee Ireland**, Temporary Presbytery Leader for Mission and Vision; **Tom Rennard**, Temp. Stated Clerk

MISSION STATEMENT – “Connected congregations
in deep discipleship with Jesus Christ
who are faithful and active witnesses to God’s love, justice, and peace.”

Mission Statement-read. Opening Prayer

Approved Docket as distributed.

Approved minutes with addition of staff names. A confirmation email was received from Karen Keevil confirming her resignation from the Commission.

Update Vital Congregations Initiative – Becky Bane. Distributed Year One Sample Calendar. Becky stressed mid council participation. There are 10 churches involved in the “January Track.” It will be a one-year process for the 10.

We will read the drop box of the presbytery packet once a link is sent.

Calls/Contracts

Sally Willis-Watkins was introduced. She gave us her background and sense of call. She is seeking transfer into the Presbytery. Lee will do a reference check and we’ll act on her request in the March meeting of HPCC. We read her statement of faith. The motion to recommend her for membership in the presbytery pending a PL reference check will be made in March.

Matters Concerning Churches

Crestline has sold or leased all of its buildings. Records are with the Presbyterian Historical Society.

Update of Big Bear was given by Tom Rennard, Transitional Pastor

Old Business

Sabbaticals and Accrual of Study Leave Policy: There was extended discussion. Suggested to use the Lilly Endowment as a model. Held over to future meeting.

New Business

Task force to keep churches open. Much work needs to be done on this. Synod funds are available. Much more thought and discussion is needed. Task force level at the Presbytery Assembly level rather than from the Commission. The view was expressed that it needs to come out of HPCC. How do we need to get young adults engaged in our churches?

Information on Budget desired. Extensive discussion on the health of the churches and their ability to attract people.

How much money does the presbytery have to fund current operations?

Closing Prayer and Motion to Adjourn

Location for Next Meeting: First, Redlands

PRESBYTERY OF RIVERSIDE

March 14, 2020

Stated Meeting at Calvary Presbyterian Church,
Riverside, CA

Committee on Nominations

Action items:

Place in nomination the following:

Permanent Judicial Commission Class of 2025

Amy Smith

The Reverend Curt Webster

Commission on Preparation for Ministry, Class of 2022

The Reverend Barbara Thursby

Committee on Representation, Class of 2022

The Reverend Rafik Ibrahim

Information:

We may have additional nominations by the meeting.

To: Presbytery of Riverside
From: Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Riverside
Respectfully submitted by Debbie Law, Moderator
Subject: March 2020 Presbytery Report

5

“But I will hope continually, and will praise you yet more and more.”

-Psalm 71:14 NRSV

During the spring months, our PWC’s will celebrate the 2020 Birthday Offering Of Presbyterian Women. In 1922 Hallie Paxson Winsborough challenged each member of the Woman’s Auxiliary of the Presbyterian Church in the United States to give a penny for each year of her life as a “birthday gift” for Miss Dowd’s School for Girls in Japan. Since then, Presbyterian Women, through the Birthday Offering have contributed to help improve lives at home and around the world. This year’s Birthday Offering recipients are: Center for Social Assistance to the Disabled, Family, and Children (Russia), GAP Ministries of Augusta, Georgia, Community Presbyterian Child Learning Center in Payson, Arizona, and Liberty Community Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. PWP Riverside joins Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA) in working together to continue Hallie’s legacy of giving, hoping and praising.

PWP will hold and invites all to their 2020 Spring Gathering, *All Things Hold Together* on Saturday, April 4 at 10:00 am at Redlands First Presbyterian Church. Our Keynote speaker is Susan Skoglund, past Moderator of Presbyterian Women in the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii. Recognizing PW in the Presbytery is the link between our PW in the Synod and our PWC’s, Susan will share the strength of our links and to the greater Churchwide. Registration is \$10 and includes lunch. For more information, contact your PWC moderator.

Beaumont PWC: In February, PWC gathered to hear a guest speaker from the Edward Dean Museum; learning the rich history of the area. At this time, PW is reviewing their fund-raising efforts and their covenant commitment.

Calvary PWC: PWC will meet on May 6th to hear Gail Timilione, USA Mission Experience Ambassador. Gail will share her experiences to the Finger Lakes Region of New York, her visits to the Susan B. Anthony home and Harriet Tubman House and tell about the hospitality shown by the many PWC’s she met.

Hemet PWC: PWC along with the Hemet FPC Men’s Group had a successful Fall Household Sale in November. It also included baked goods and homemade soup, and barbeque on the Patio. The PWC also held a successful Christmas Bazaar in December. The Craft Group and the Sewing Group worked diligently to provide all the craft and handmade items. The Men’s Group also served barbeque on the Patio. PWC is now preparing for the Spring Clothing Sale.

Redlands PWC: PWC gathered in October to hear keynote speaker, Gail Timilione, USA Mission Experience Ambassador. The Gathering dedicated the 2019 Thank Offering and also included an installation service for their new PWC Coordinating Team. PWC will gather on May 2nd to dedicate the 2020 Birthday Offering.

San Bernardino PWC: On May 9th, PWC will meet for their Spring Gathering to dedicate their 2020 Birthday Offering. Their guest speaker will be Kristi Van Nostran, Immigrant Accompaniment Organizer for San Gabriel and Pacific Presbyteries.

Victoria PWC: Victoria Women met to discuss the PW Eco-justice Initiative and joined PWC’s in the Presbytery in supporting both in prayer and financially, the Vine Street Community Park (First Presbyterian Church of Redlands).

Acting faithfully to care for God’s creation, Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery is supporting the creation of the Vine Street Community Park (First Presbyterian Church of Redlands). In collaboration with PW in the PC(USA)’s Eco-justice Initiative and with donations from our PWC’s, we will help with the purchase of plants for the community project.

In March, PWP Riverside will join F.A.N.’s *Beyond Pink and Blue*, a one-day conference exploring/expanding our understanding gender/gender identity through a faith-based lens. We will join our PW Synod kin in May for the 2020 PWS Spring Gathering, *Love Abides: Within the Intersections of Love and Identity*, with keynote speaker Rev. Larissa Kwong Abazia and our Fall Gathering in September with keynote speaker Lynn Miller, author of the 2020-2021 Horizons Bible Study, both held at Westminster Gardens in Duarte, CA.

PWP Coordinating Team 2017 – 2019

Debbie Law (Moderator, FPSB); Nancy Richmond (Vice Moderator, Victoria); Carol Valentine (Secretary, FPSB); Lou Jolliff (Treasurer, HemetFP); Grace Baldwin (Search, RedlandsFP); Judy Strahan (Mission, BeaumontFP); Alice Munde (Racial/Ethnic, RedlandsFP); Kelsey Law (Hunger, FPSB); Nancy Horstmann (Justice/Peace, FPSB); Judy Strahan (Newsletter, BeaumontFP)

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT TO PRESBYTERY ASSEMBLY
MARCH 14, 2020

The Personnel Committee has completed the following personnel reviews:

Rev. Lee Ireland, Presbytery Leader

Rev. Tom Rennard, Stated Clerk

Rev. Rob Stewart, Vital Congregations Initiative Coordinator

Grace Baldwin, Chair Personnel Committee