

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 liaisons 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.