

Called Meeting October 23, 2010
Community Presbyterian Church
222 W. El Pintado
Danville, California 94526

Minutes

1. Call to Order

This meeting was called by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of the West to examine the ministers of Community Presbyterian Church, Danville, California. These ministers are all ministers in good standing with the San Francisco Presbytery, PCUSA.

These ministers, officers, and congregation have petitioned the Presbytery of the West to be received and are working through the dismissal process from the San Francisco Presbytery, PCUSA. Community Presbyterian Church voted to affiliate with the EPC by a congregational vote of 1069 to 50, and their executed reception documents have been received by the Stated Clerk and have been found to be in order.

A team of representatives from the Presbytery of the West had previously examined the Elders of Community Presbyterian Church in advance of the meeting.

Moderator David Baer called the meeting to order at 8:30am, the meeting being held at Community Presbyterian Church.

2. Declaration of Quorum

There was a quorum present as per the Book of Order, 16-12, states that two Ministers and four Elders from at least two congregations shall constitute a quorum of the Presbytery. In attendance were:

Rev. David Baer	FamiliesAlive	Minister
Rev. Marc Huebl	Covenant Community Church	Minister
Dr. Jim Coleman	Bear Creek EPC	Minister
Mrs. Connie Badgley	Pioneer Presbyterian Church	Elder
Rev. Bob Badgley	Pioneer Presbyterian Church	Minister
Mr. Ron Bengelink	1 st EPC Kent (formerly 1 st EPC Renton)	Elder
Rev. Dave Brogren	Heritage EPC	Minister
Dr. Jim Barstow	1 st Presbyterian Church of Roseville	Minister
Rev. Nancy Duff	1 st Presbyterian Church of Roseville	Minister
Rev. Scott Downing	San Ramon Presbyterian Church	Minister
Dr. Shawn Robinson	Clayton Community Church	Minister
Rev. Rick Nylund	Clayton Community Church	Minister

online attendance were:

Mr. Bob Maier	Parker EPC	Elder
Mr. Lester Farwell	Faith Evangelical Church	Elder
Mr. Ken Roberts	Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church	Elder
Dr. Cecil Matthews	Cherry Hills Presbyterian Church	Elder
Rev. Guy Boyer	Valley Community Church	Minister
Rev. Bob Mossman	Cornerstone Community Church	Minister
Rev. Dan Weidman	at present, without call	Minister

3. Morning devotional and Time of Prayer

Dr. Scott Farmer, Pastor, Community Presbyterian Church, Danville, California, welcomed the members of the Presbytery and let a morning devotional from Matthew 6 about not being anxious about the things of life, nor what life brings our way. Rather, that we are to be first and foremost seeking God's kingdom, even in our ministries.

Mr. Ron Bengelink, 1st EPC Kent, Washington, and Rev. David Brogren, Heritage EPC, Santa Maria, California, led the Presbytery in prayer for the day's matters at hand, asking God's blessings on all that would transpire.

4. Adoption of Docket

The Docket was adopted as presented by Moderator's consent.

5. Recognition of Guests

Moderator Baer welcomed the guests from Community Presbyterian Church who were in attendance observing the meeting.

6. Report of Ruling Elder examinations

Dr. Shawn Robinson spoke on behalf of the Presbytery of the West officer examination team that examined the Elders of Community Presbyterian Church, Danville, CA, for reception into the EPC/Presbytery of the West. He said that the Elders of Community Presbyterian Church were well prepared and found them all to be qualified to be received by the Presbytery of the West.

Dr. Robinson reported to the Presbytery that the officer examination team's unanimous recommendation to the Presbytery of the West to receive these Elders be approved. The Presbytery supported this recommendation and **sustained a motion to receive the Elders of Community Presbyterian Church.**

The reception of the Deacons and the membership will be conducted through an Administrative Commission on November 2, 2010. The Administrative Commission will then install the officers, ministers, and declare Community Presbyterian Church to be a Particular Church of the EPC, Presbytery of the West, at a worship service scheduled in the near future.

7. Examination of Ministers

Dr. Jim Coleman, Chair, Ministerial Committee, told the Presbytery that the Ministerial Committee has interviewed and examined all six of these ministers who are seeking to transfer their ordination credentials into the Presbytery of the West, EPC, and recommended them to come before the Presbytery to be examined.

Instructions were given to the Presbyters regarding dividing into two Examination Groups to conduct concurrent examinations of the ministers of Community Presbyterian Church.

A. Examinations of ministers Dr. Scott Farmer and Rev. Ben Joyce.

The Presbytery examined these ministers in the areas of theology, sacraments, faith in Christ, calling to ministry and the nature of the office of a Minister of the Word, polity, the Reformed Tradition, the Bible, service, ordination, spiritual journey and their exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

The Presbytery also determined if their exceptions to the Westminster Confession and Catechisms (aka the Westminster Standards) were allowable or not.

Dr. Farmer's and Rev. Joyce's current Terms of Call for 2010 from Community Presbyterian Church were reviewed by the Ministerial Committee and the Stated Clerk and provide for adequate salary, housing, education allowance, medical and retirement, as well as standard vacation and study leave, being found to be in order.

Their signed Ministerial Obligation Forms are on file with the Stated Clerk.

1. Dr. Scott Farmer, Pastor, Community Presbyterian Church, answered questions as per Book of Government requirements and stated his exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

The Examination Group sustained a motion to arrest the examination.

After discussion, the Examination Group sustained motions to:

recommend to the Presbytery the allowance of Dr. Farmer's exceptions to the Westminster Standards;

recommend to the Presbytery the terms of call for Dr. Farmer;

and,

recommend the reception of Dr. Farmer into the Presbytery of the West.

2. Rev. Ben Joyce, after prayer, gave a brief exposition and devotion from Matthew 7:13-14, about being sure to enter through the narrow gate because it is the only one that leads to eternal life. He said this Gate is Jesus Christ, and that it is our call to proclaim this salvation to all we meet.

Rev. Joyce, Associate Pastor of Adult Equipping, answered questions as per Book of Government requirements and stated his exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

The Examination Group sustained a motion to arrest the examination.

After discussion, the Examination Group sustained motions to:

recommend to the Presbytery the allowance of Rev. Joyce's exceptions to the Westminster Standards;

recommend to the Presbytery the terms of call for Rev. Joyce;

and,

recommend the reception of Rev. Joyce into the Presbytery of the West.

The Examination Groups gathered again as a body of the whole and stated their recommendations regarding Dr. Farmer and Rev. Joyce.

The Presbytery then sustained motions to allow Dr. Farmer's and Rev. Joyce's exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

The Presbytery then sustained motions of approval for the terms of call for Dr. Farmer and Rev. Joyce.

The Presbytery then sustained motions to receive Dr. Farmer and Rev. Joyce as members in full standing into the Presbytery of the West.

Dr. Farmer and Rev. Joyce were returned to the room and the Presbytery gathered around them being led in prayer by Dr. Jim Barstow, 1st Presbyterian Church of Roseville, Roseville, California. At the conclusion of the prayer, the Presbytery welcomed these ministers into the Presbytery of the West.

B. Examinations of Rev. Bill Haslim and Rev. Cathy Burkholder

1. Rev. Bill Haslim, Associate Pastor, Student Ministries, Community Presbyterian Church, presented a devotion from God's Word reading Matthew 7:24-27, telling the Presbyters that Christ desires us to have an ongoing intentionality of our actions which causes us to keep building on Christ's teachings every day of our lives. Prayer was given.

Rev. Haslim answered questions as per Book of Government requirements and stated his exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

His signed *Ministerial Obligation Form* is on file with the Stated Clerk.

The Examination Group sustained a motion to arrest the examination.

After discussion, the Examination Group sustained motions to:

recommend to the Presbytery the allowance of Rev. Haslim's exceptions to the Westminster Standards;

recommend to the Presbytery the terms of call for Rev. Haslim;

and,

recommend the reception of Rev. Haslim into the Presbytery of the West.

2. Rev. Cathy Burkholder, Associate Pastor of Congregational Care, Community Presbyterian Church, expounded Matthew 6:19-21, about having our treasurers stored up with God in heaven and not on the earth. After prayer, she asked the Presbyters, “What does our heart treasure, and where is it found?” Rev. Burkholder encouraged the Presbyters to not let earthly things distract us from our devotion to God.

Rev. Burkholder answered questions as per Book of Government requirements and stated her exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

Her signed *Ministerial Obligation Form* is on file with the Stated Clerk.

The Examination Group sustained a motion to arrest the examination.

After discussion, the Examination Group sustained motions to:

recommend to the Presbytery the allowance of Rev. Burkholder’s exceptions to the Westminster Standards;

recommend to the Presbytery the terms of call for Rev. Burkholder;

and,

recommend the reception of Rev. Burkholder into the Presbytery of the West.

C. Examinations of Rev. Dick Sanner and Rev. Mark Wollan

1. Rev. Mark Wollan, Associate Pastor of Small Groups and Men’s Ministries, after a brief prayer, presented a devotional to the Presbytery from Matthew 7:21-23 about how Jesus desires us, even as officers in the church, that our personal commitment to Christ is always more important than whatever spectacular ministry may or may not happen through us.

Rev. Wollan answered questions as per Book of Government requirements and stated his exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

His signed *Ministerial Obligation Form* is on file with the Stated Clerk.

After discussion, the Examination Group sustained motions to:

recommend to the Presbytery the allowance of Rev. Wollan’s exceptions to the Westminster Standards;

recommend to the Presbytery the terms of call for Rev. Wollan;

and,

recommend the reception of Rev. Wollan into the Presbytery of the West.

2. Rev. Dick Sanner, Associate Pastor of Missions, shared a devotional from Matthew 5:17-20 about how this text puts Law and Gospel into perspective. Rev. Sanner said that as

followers of Christ, we are in relationship with Christ and God because of grace, but we are still to live out the heart and intentions of the Law.

Rev. Sanner answered questions as per Book of Government requirements, and stated his exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

His signed *Ministerial Obligation Form* is on file with the Stated Clerk.

After discussion, the Examination Group sustained motions to:

recommend to the Presbytery the allowance of Rev. Sanner's exceptions to the Westminster Standards;

recommend to the Presbytery the terms of call for Rev. Sanner;

and,

recommend the reception of Rev. Sanner into the Presbytery of the West.

8. Presbytery Action for Reverends Haslim, Burkholder, Wollan, and Sanner

Upon concluding the concurrent examinations, the Examination Groups returned to meeting as a whole and stated their recommendations regarding Reverends Haslim, Burkholder, Wollan, and Sanner.

The Presbytery then sustained motions to allow Reverends Haslim's, Burkholder's, Wollan's, and Sanner's exceptions to the Westminster Standards.

The Presbytery then sustained motions of approval for the terms of call for Reverends Haslim, Burkholder, Wollan, and Sanner.

The Presbytery then sustained motions to receive Reverends Haslim, Burkholder, Wollan, and Sanner as members in full standing into the Presbytery of the West.

Reverends Haslim, Burkholder, Wollan, and Sanner were returned to the room and the Presbytery gathered around them being led in prayer by Dr. Scott Farmer, Community Presbyterian Church and members of the Presbytery. At the conclusion of the prayer, the Presbytery welcomed these ministers into the Presbytery of the West.

9. Installation Commission

A motion was sustained to constitute an Administrative Commission to install these ministers, examine the Deacons of Community Presbyterian Church, install the officers of Community Presbyterian Church, and receive the membership of Community Presbyterian Church with declaration that it is a Particular Church of the EPC, at a worship service on or around February 9, 2011.

The membership of this commission is:

**Ministers Dr. Shawn Robinson, Clayton Community Church, Clayton, CA,
Rev. Scott Downing, San Ramon Presbyterian Church, San Ramon, CA;
Elders Brenda Ameli, Clayton Community Church, Carl Weisinger, San
Ramon Presbyterian Church, Christian Larsen, Fair Oaks, Presbyterian Church, Fair
Oaks, CA, and alternate N. Scott Urqhart, 1st Presbyterian Church of Greeley, CO.**

Community Presbyterian Church is still awaiting dismissal action from the San Francisco Presbytery, PCUSA, which will be voting on their dismissal at its November 6, 2010 meeting.

10. Adjournment

Moderator Baer expressed appreciation to the hosting efforts of the folks at Community Presbyterian Church and how their efforts helped the success of the meeting. After requesting a motion for adjournment, which was supported, Moderator Baer dismissed the Presbytery with prayer.

Moderator

Stated Clerk