

**Presbytery of San Jose: Notice of Stated Meeting  
February 1, 2020**

**Northminster Presbyterian Church**  
[315 E Alvin Dr, Salinas, CA 93906](http://www.northminster.org)

Note: If you need childcare please call church office (831)449-2717 by January 28

**9:00 Opening Prayer** 2020 Moderator, Elder Frank Bernstein

**Welcome by Host Congregation** The Rev. Andy Rausch

**9:05 Presbytery Worship**

**9:50 Transition to agenda**

**10:00 Stated Clerk** The Rev. Erica Rader

Change in the Docket; Quorum call; Corresponding Members; First time attendees, Visitors

**New Business** (must be referred)

**Consent Agenda ( 1 items):**

1. Motion to approve the Minutes of the November 23, 2019 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of San Jose. **(pp.3-15 )**

**Reports and Announcements Received in Docket**

Report from Presbytery Council **(pp. 16-17)**

Report from Financial Affairs **(p. 21)**

Reports from Committee on Ministry **(pp.22-24)**

Clerk of Session information from Polity and Government **(p. 25)**

**10:05 Annual Update from Executive Presbyter** The Rev. Joey Lee

**10:15 Committee on Representation and Empowerment**

The Rev. Annanda Barclay

- 10:25 Committee on Ministry: Introduction of the Rev. Bill Lane**  
The Rev. Libby Boatwright
- 10:30 Peace & Justice Work Group**  
Second Reading/Vote for Overture to GA (pp.18-20)  
The Rev. Nan Swanson
- 10:40 Break**
- 10:55 Front Door Communities Update** The Rev. Paula Kelso
- 11:05 Sweaty Sheep (p.26-27 )** The Rev. Ryan Althaus
- 11:20 Mission & Outreach Work Group (p. 28)** The Rev. Margaret Boles
- 11:25 Church Health & Growth Work Group** The Rev. Robby Olson
- 11:35 Guiding, Planning, Safeguarding Sub-Committee**  
“Violence in Houses of Worship” Elder Jane Odell
- 11:45 Presbyterian Women Gathering (p.29)** Elder Rosaleen Zisch
- 11:50 Announcements, Joys and Concerns (open mic)**
- 11:55 Stated Clerk** The Rev. Erica Rader
- 12:00 Prayer and Adjournment** Moderator Frank Bernstein

**Save the Date 2020 Presbytery Meetings:**

May 2 Trinity San Jose

September 19 TBD

November 21 Covenant Palo Alto

**Clergy Boundaries Training (compulsory every three years for minister members)**

Saturday February 22 or

Thursday May 14

## **Presbytery of San Jose: Minutes of Stated Meeting**

**Saturday, November 23, 2019**

**Stone Church of Willow Glen**

1937 Lincoln Ave, San Jose, CA 95125

The Annual meeting of the Presbytery of San Jose was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by the Moderator, the Rev. Irene Pak Lee, who gave the opening prayer.

### **Presbytery Worship**

The Presbytery was gathered into worship, with a welcome from host church pastor, the Rev. Sammie Evans, who also gave necessary information for the day. Sermon for the day was preached on the story of the Prodigal Son, with Moderator Pak Lee giving the 5<sup>th</sup> and final interpretation of this story this year. She emphasized the meaning of prodigal—reckless extravagance—noting that the father was prodigal with his love to the younger son. But the father was not satisfied until both sons were home, she said.

Worship was closed with the serving of communion.

### **Stated Clerk**

The Rev. Erica Rader, Stated Clerk, welcomed attendees and affirmed the presence of a quorum.

- Change in the Docket: An addition to the Financial Affairs Committee report.
- Corresponding Members: The Rev. Nancy Vincent, Synod of the Pacific Executive, introduced by Joey Lee.
- First time attendees were introduced.
- Visitors were acknowledged.

### **Committee Chairs/Council Members Present**

Evelyn Wong, Personnel Chair	Carolyn Rosen, Synod Commissioner
Marcia Ludwig, Past Moderator	Lynn Viale, Council at-large
Nan Swanson, Past Moderator	Carol Holsinger, Council at-large
Barbara Rogers, Council at large	James Lee, Council at-large
Claudia Hamm, Nominating	Rosaleen Zisch, Presby. Women
Jane Odell, Safe Church Coordinator	Moderator

### **Teaching Elders, Present**

Arishvara, Vincent	Kim, Hardy	McAnelly, Anne
Bales, Jennifer	Kress, Karla	Matusiewicz, Stella
Boles, Margaret	Kuo, Ruth	Norman, Steve
Browning, Geoff	LeClaire, Sharon	Olson, Robby
Choi, Don	Lee, Fre	Rader, Erica
Day, Katie	Lee, Irene Pak	Rausch, Andy
Evans, Samantha	Lee, Joey	Watermulder, David
Franzen, Bryan	Macway, Evie	Woodsmall, Dennis

**Teaching Elders, Honorably Retired, Present**

Bartow, Jay	Kim, Insik	McCreath, David
Boatwright, Libby	Knowles, Steve	

**Teaching Elders Not Present**

Allen Stephanie Lutz	Granado, Sim	Sohn, Joseph
Althaus, Ryan	Hahn, Tae Jinn	Swanson, Erik
Baker, Debra	Hansen, Chris	Thorson, Martha
Barclay, Annanda	Hanson, Duncan	Tsai, Andrew
Barraca, Jason	Hejmanowski, Karin	Van Laar, Trevor
Bennett, James	Hoffman, Dan	Williams, Chris
Boyer, Tim	Lane, Bill	Wong, Andy
Burke, John	Lee, Jaeguen	Wong, Lindsay Woods
Crocker, Douglas	Logan, Molly	Yoon, I Sil
Day, Kevin	Minerva, George	
Drescher, Kent	Peake, Mark	
Esaki, Ted	Pearson, Marjorie	
Eschen-Pipes, Kathleen	Person, Brian	
Garner, Mike	Peterson-Iyer, Karen	
Gibson, Diana	Reyes-Chow, Bruce	

**Teaching Elders, Honorably Retired, Not Present**

Ahn, Dong Sung	Ignacio, Lemuel	Schell, Nancy
Bender, Jim	Joy, Judy	Schmidt, Lyle
Bland, Byron	Kelso, Paula	Smith, Kent
Bowles, Bob	Kim, David Kwang	Solis, Dick
Bracey, Dale	Kim, Kyung Jae	Spencer, Dick
Breeden, Edd	Kim, Young Han	Takarabe, Hei
Bristol, John	Koopman, Peter	Tan, Tiat Han
Burke, John	Kwon, Young Bai	Tyler, Lee
Choi, Samuel	Kwon, Young K	Venecia, Fred
Dosker, Richard	Lewis, Charles	Vilarado, Larry
Doyal, George	Longley, Jack	Wilson, George
Erickson, George	Lyke, Brian	Yeane, Darrell
Gardner, Thomas	Menser, Bruce	
Hansen, David	Momrow, Ed	
Hare, Sharon	Nelson, Jim	
Harrington, Nancy	Newcomer, Ben	
Harvey, Bill	Palmer, Marge	
Hsieh, Stephen	Rowlison, Bruce	

**Visitors**

**Presbytery Office Staff, Collette Lynner**

**Synod of the Pacific Staff** The Rev. Nancy Martin Vincent  
**Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos**, Mary Raecker, JoAnn Van Ballegooijen. Taelor Kim, Yeon Hong Min, Peggy Heath, Martha Wills  
**Stone Church, San Jose** Mary Jo Blazek, Rod Thorn, Lizanne Oliver, Gary Ruschke, Alice Thorn  
**Taiwanese Presbyterian, San Jose** Lisa Pien Hsieh, W. Ting Tsai  
**Gonzales** Florence Knowles  
**Westhope, Saratoga** Susan Brooksbank  
**Comunidad Latinoamericana, San Jose** Mike Matusiewicz  
**Covenant, Palo Alto** Natalia Tanojo

**Elder Commissioners Present**

**Aptos St. Andrew**

St. Clair, David  
Maack, Janet  
David Allshouse

**Gilroy**

None

**Gonzales**

None

**Los Gatos**

Kim, Susan  
Schultz, Ed  
Baker, Mark  
Damore, Kimberly  
Moriarty, Tammy  
Caselli, Gene

**Monterey, El Estero**

None

**Monterey, First**

Dickson, Dorothy  
Pina, Cory

**Mountain View, First**

None

**Palo Alto, Covenant**

Tanojo, Naomi  
Templeton, Bruce  
Tanojo, Hanafi  
Reynolds, Lizanne

**Palo Alto, First**

Jones, Paul  
Thornton, Mary Alice  
Noble, Lela

**Salinas, Lincoln Ave.**

None

**Salinas, Northminster**

None

**Salinas, St. Philips**

None

**San Jose, Evergreen**

Wolfe, Pat

**San Jose, Foothill**

Rowser, Sharon

**San Jose, Santa  
Teresa Hills**

None

**San Jose, Stone**

Ruth McCreath  
Mel Goertz  
Hurley, Nicholas  
Nelson, Steve  
Smith Michelle  
Lohman, Guy

**San Jose, Taiwanese  
Am.**

Sun, Pe

**San Jose, Trinity**

None

**San Jose, Westminster**

Notor, John  
Notor, Nan  
Ross, Neneth

**San Jose, Cornerstone**

None

**San Martin**

None

**Santa Clara, First**

None

**Santa Cruz, Bonny  
Doon**

None

**Santa Cruz, Trinity**

Cobery, Chuck

**Saratoga, Westhope**

None

**Sunnyvale**

Bentley, David  
Collins, Richard  
Pogue, Julie  
McMann, Lisa  
Vickrey, Barry

**Sunnyvale, Daesung**

Jung, Tae Hyung  
Min, Eric

**Watsonville, United**

Clark, Rachel  
Bilstad, Jolly

**Watsonville, Westview,**

None

## **Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda was approved, as follows.

2. Motion to approve the Minutes of the September 28, 2019 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of San Jose.
3. Motion from Stated Clerk to recognize this meeting as the Annual meeting of the Corporation of the Presbytery of San Jose and to re-approve the Rev. Joseph Lee as President and the Rev. Erica Rader as Secretary.

## **Reports and Announcements Received in Docket**

### **Presbytery Council**

Council met at the offices of the Presbytery on October 24, 2019

Council voted and approved that Communion could be served at the November 23, 2019 Presbytery meeting at Stone Church.

Council voted and approved the following nominations for the Nominating Committee:

- Jane Odell, class of 2022,
- Claudia Hamm, class of 2022
- Paula Kelso, class of 2020
- Lindsay Woods Wong, continuing member (class of 2020) as Chair

Council voted and approved a 1 year lease between Stone Church and Vivace (music program), which involves use of the sanctuary.

Council voted and approved that the Stated Clerk may determine the date in December 2019 or January 2020 for executing deed transactions with Vintage Faith (First Santa Cruz) as defined by the Dismissal Agreements and Lease Agreements. (Note: Settlement dates were not precisely defined in these multiple agreements.)

### **Financial Affairs Committee**

Chair, Sharon Rowser, reported the following from the Financial Affairs Committee:

- 1) The Presbytery/Cornerstone Sanctuary roof replacement has been completed. The bid increased to \$140,000 due to asbestos abatement and putting a layer of plywood with a underlayment and shingles installed. The roofer does contract work with the City so there is justified belief he is qualified and competent in this work. Cornerstone had agreed to our \$40,000 over two year repayment, beginning in January 2020. The committee agreed that Presbytery should absorb the additional costs.
- 2) The Committee approved Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos' request for funds to support their Korean-American ministry efforts. The committee approved a \$20,000 amount that will come from the Cypress Fund.
- 3) Treasurer's training will be held March 14, 2020 at the Presbytery Office;
- 4) As promised, the Committee included the status report on fossil fuel divestment in the Presbytery budget, which is now 99 percent free of fossil fuel investments.

### **Peace and Justice Task Force**

The Task Force reported its focus topic for the year as Human Rights for all God's Children, with sub-topics of housing, racism, environment, gun control and peace. Among the work this year: sponsoring trips to Borderlinks in Tucson, Arizona (immigration); and the Holy Land; Geoff Browning represented the TF at the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship Conference in Baltimore in September; the TF heard from Presbyterian Peacemaker Monique Misenga Mukana from Democratic Republic of the Congo; the TF worked with churches in the Presbytery.

### **The Rev. Nancy Martin Vincent, Synod Executive, Synod of the Pacific**

The Rev. Vincent brought greetings to the Presbytery, and described Synod services: among them a loan program. She noted that a "reason you should like us is we give you money."

### **Motions from Watsonville United Presbyterian for dissolution**

#### **Motion from Council**

The Rev. Robby Olsen spoke his gratitude for the care by the Presbytery community of the Watsonville congregation. No one wants to close a church, he said, but there is hope for future mission. He asked for prayers for folks in transition.

As requested by the congregation of United Presbyterian Church of Watsonville at a special called meeting on October 13, 2019, the Presbytery then considered the following motions:

- (1) The Session and Congregation of United Presbyterian Church of Watsonville request that the Presbytery of San Jose dissolve the church, with final worship on January 5, 2020. This motion was approved.
- (2) The Session and Congregation of United Presbyterian Church of Watsonville request that the Presbytery form an Administrative Commission to use the real estate and assets of UPC Watsonville to establish new ministry in Watsonville. This motion was approved.

With the approval of the above two motions, Council then moved that the Presbytery approve the following Administrative Commission members:

Elder Denise Martin (Gilroy) Chair  
The Rev. Sammie Evans (Stone, San Jose)  
The Rev. Dan Hoffman (Westview, Watsonville)  
Elder Lizanne Reynolds (Covenant, Palo Alto)  
Elder Charlie May (Trinity, Santa Cruz)  
Elder Cory Pina (First, Monterey)  
The Rev. Trevor Van Laar (Gilroy)

This motion was approved.

The history of UPC of Watsonville was distributed at the meeting. The Moderator prayed with gratitude for the faithful witness of UPC Watsonville.

**A Brief History of United Presbyterian Church of Watsonville,  
Prepared for Presbytery in November 2019 By Clare Taylor, Clerk of  
Session**

In December of 1860, when Pajaro (now Watsonville) was a village of only 480 people, eleven residents assembled to organize the First Presbyterian Church. After fundraising \$150 the lot at 112 Third St (now East Beach St) was purchased and for \$1,100 a new church building was erected. The manse was built in 1875 at a cost of \$1,500 which was the same amount as the annual salary of the Minister in the same year.

Over the decades our church has seen some common threads woven in our community. Serving the needs of our neighbors has always been a top priority with particular emphasis placed on providing food and shelter to those lacking. Sewing and quilting groups have been a mainstay of the social life of many congregants and friends. In 1880 the ladies of the church held an 'Apron Fair' to raise church funds. In 1888 a new church building was constructed and opened. In the early years, community socials, dances, concerts and craft sales were used to raise money and support was given to missionaries, temperance campaigns, orphanages, the YMCA and the employment of discharged soldiers. Over the years the church has continued to prioritize support to local missions seeking to meet the needs of the area, including displaced families and the homeless.

In 1902 a new social hall was built at the back of the church. In 1909 the Pastor of First Presbyterian helped to reorganize the Japanese Mission into the Japanese First Presbyterian Church of Watsonville with 14 members (now Westview Presbyterian Church). FPC celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1910 with a five day celebration. In 1925 the church was completely remodeled and enlarged. At this time a specially constructed organ and beautiful stained-glass windows were donated and installed. The church was in debt after the remodel was completed, at a cost of \$25,000. This led to significant disagreement among members. However, by 1930, after a series of fundraisers organized by the women of the congregation, the church was debt free. By this time the effects of the Great Depression were only beginning and giving fell by 50% as the church membership dropped to 230. By the late 1940s membership had further dropped and giving was down. The congregation was divided when it came to decisions about how to handle the changing times and, in particular, whether or not to merge the Board of Elders with the Board of Trustees.

In 1952, as a result of the divisions in the church 125 members broke away to form a new congregation named Chapel Hill. This split lasted 15 years and when the two congregations reunited on Easter Sunday in 1967, the church took on its new and current name of United Presbyterian Church of Watsonville. Consideration

was given to merging with the congregation of Westview as well as Chapel Hill, but they declined citing their special mission as a Japanese congregation in Watsonville, which continues to thrive today.

In 1971 church elders were instrumental in organizing the joint purchase of Green Valley Apartments (later known as Sunny Meadows Apartments) by UPC and United Methodist Church to meet the need for low income housing in the area. Church members organized and ran youth programs there for many years.

United Presbyterian Church prioritized Sunday school for the children of their congregation and community. In 1986 the session first began to explore the idea of running a childcare center in the church building to serve the community needs. In 1988 the church began monthly food distribution for local families in need, an activity that continues to this day, serving hundreds of individuals a month through Second Harvest Food Bank. After the Loma Prieta Earthquake in 1989 UPC became a satellite shelter which cooked and served food and housed people once a week for at least two years. The Salvation Army eventually took over the housing but members of UPC have continued to prepare and serve meals during the winter months ever since.

In 1991 the session voted to support a Hispanic congregation as a specialized ministry of the church. Now United Presbyterian Church supports the mission of Pastor Jerry Saldana's Spanish speaking Discovery Church and Central Christian School which both take place on UPC property.

United Presbyterian Church has cooperated with other local denominations as part of the Pajaro Valley Ministerial Association. Joint activities have included Unity Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday sunrise services. Vacation bible school has been a collaboration with Community Lutheran, United Methodist, and Westview Presbyterian Churches for over a decade.

After much collaboration between Pastor Bruce Rowilson and Pastor Robin Mathews of United Methodist Church the Sunny Meadows Apartments were sold in 2011 to Mid Pen Housing. UPC received \$3.5 million from this sale and used it to pay back a Presbytery loan and do significant maintenance on the manse on Trafton Street, leaving the church with around \$2 million.

In 2013 Pastor Robby Olson received a call to serve our congregation. From the late 2000s to 2016 UPC also employed a Faith Community Nurse (Ann Baker) and a Director of Spiritual Life and Outreach (Lynn Viale), as well an Office Administrator and Worship Director. In 2014 the Church reignited the vision for serving the community with childcare and significant strides were made toward this end, including the employment of a Director of United Preschool. Just as our efforts were coming to fruition the Pajaro Valley Unified School District announced plans to offer free transitional kindergarten and the need for the preschool was eliminated before it was able to open. Around this same time, in 2016, significant

budget cuts were made to help shore up the financial position of the church. UPC ended the preschool project and laid off our Faith Community Nurse. The Director of Spiritual Life also resigned in recognition of our financial position. Despite the roaring success of two food truck block parties with over 2000 people attending the second event, and participation in local events like National Night Out and the city of Watsonville annual holiday in the plaza event, membership was in decline and pledged giving was also falling. Despite having significant investment assets, we found ourselves operating at a deficit and in 2019; our investments are hovering around the \$1 million mark.

Pastor Robby continues to build relationships among different community groups by serving as Watsonville Police Department's Chaplain, coaching basketball at the Watsonville High School and serving as a Pajaro Valley Community Health Trust board member. In 2017 United Presbyterian Church became the inaugural location for the Warming Center Program of Santa Cruz to open a Watsonville location. UPC has hosted the Warming Center Program and their volunteers for two years, helping to provide emergency shelter to the unhoused of our community on the coldest and wettest nights of the year.

Now, 160 years and three buildings later, after years of prayer, and discussion, the session has come to believe that our calling as a congregation is not to spend nearly \$1 million over the next few years and then quietly close our doors. Rather, we believe God is calling us to set aside what is easiest and most comfortable, and take up a bold new direction. Our property and remaining resources will be entrusted to the Presbytery of San Jose as we trust in the Lord Jesus to bring about a new ministry that will outlast us in Watsonville.

***Credit to Ellen Jane Cox, Betty Lewis, Donna Erickson, Jolly Bilstad, and Pastor Robby Olson for source material and contributions.***

### **Committee on Ministry**

Incoming Chair of COM, the Rev. Libby Boatwright, introduced Candidate Taelor Kim. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry completed a final assessment of Candidate Kim on October 17, 2019 and certified her ready to be examined for ordination. The Committee on Ministry therefore brought a motion that Presbytery approve the ordination of Taelor Kim to a stated supply position at Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos.

The Rev. Boatwright began the Examination for Ordination with a question about sacraments and about the ministry at PCLG. She then asked for questions and comments from the floor. After a period of questions and answers, Taelor Kim was excused from the room and the Presbytery voted. Motion carried unanimously.

The Ordination service will be held on December 15 at 2:00 pm at Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos. Presbytery voted to approve appointment of the Ordination commission by COM with the Rev. Irene Pak Lee as Moderator.

Prayer was then led by the Rev. David Watermulder with a gathering of friends surrounding Taelor Kim.

**Committee on Preparation for Ministry**

The chair of CPM, the Rev. Katie Day, brought recommendations from the committee for two actions: to move Neneth Ross and Wan-Ting Tsai from Inquiry to Candidate Status. The Rev. Day then asked for questions from the floor to each, reminding Presbyters that questions could be on faith story and life journey, but not theology. The Rev. Day began by asking each to share life journey and sense of call. There was opportunity for questions or comments from the floor. The Presbytery then voted that Neneth Ross be accepted as a Candidate for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament effective October 17, 2019. The Presbytery also voted that Wan-Ting Tsai be accepted as a Candidate for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament effective October 17, 2019.

**Colinspire Conference Report**

The Rev. Sammie Evans (Stone, San Jose) reported that 17 folks traveled to this Conference held at the Montreat Conference Center, with significant support from the Church Growth and Health Task Force. Participants experienced education around justice issues like that of Flint, Michigan which after several years still does not have lead free water. The Rev. Evans said that worship gatherings were deeply appreciated.

**Polity and Government**

Elder Carol Holsinger, chair of the Council subcommittee on Polity and Government introduced the second reading of revised Presbytery Standing Rules. A motion to approve the Standing Rules as Revised carried unanimously without further comment.

The Rev. Nan Swanson then presented a first reading of an Overture to the General Assembly asking it to declare the Presbyterian Church (USA) to be a Sanctuary and Accompaniment Church. The Overture originated in this Presbytery and will be voted on at the next meeting, February 1. If the Overture is approved, one other Presbytery must concur. The Stated Clerk then would submit it to GA, where it would go to a committee.

**Committee on Nominations**

Elder Claudia Hamm presented the slate of nominations as prepared by the Committee. There were no nominations from the floor, and the slate was approved unanimously.

**Moderator of Presbytery**

Frank Bernstein for 2020 (elected in 2018)

**Vice-Moderator/Moderator Elect**

Nan Swanson for 2021(new nomination)

**Council - at-large Nominations**

Jason Barraca	TE (Lincoln Ave.)	Class of 2022	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Jenni Bales	TE (Evergreen)	Class of 2021	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**Continuing Members of Council:**

Hardy Kim	TE (Sunnyvale)	Class of 2021	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Lynn Viale (chair)	RE (Gilroy)	Class of 2021	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Karen Peterson-Iyer	TE (At-large)	Class of 2020	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
James Lee	RE (Daesung)	Class of 2020	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Carol Holsinger	RE (Covenant)	Class of 2020	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**Committee on Ministry (COM) Nominations**

Lizanne Reynolds	RE (Covenant)	Class of 2022	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Andy Rausch	TE (Northminster)	Class of 2022	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Mark Peake	TE (First, Monterey)	Class of 2022	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Chris Hasegawa	RE (First, Monterey)	Class of 2022	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**Continuing Members of COM:**

Jane Odell	RE (St. Andrew)	Class of 2021	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Alice Thorn	RE (Stone)	Class of 2021	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Martha Wills	RE (Los Gatos)	Class of 2021	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Libby Boatwright (Chair)	TE (At-large)	Class of 2021	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Woody Moore	RE (Foothill)	Class of 2021	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
George Minerva	TE (At-large)	Class of 2020	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Frank Bernstein	RE (Covenant)	Class of 2020	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Dennis Woodsmall	TE (First, Santa Clara)	Class of 2020	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) Nominations**

Ruth Schlotzhauer	RE (Los Gatos)	Class of 2022	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Bruce Reyes-Chow	TE (First, Palo Alto)	Class of 2022	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**Continuing Members of CPM:**

Katie Day (Chair)	TE (First Monterey)	Class of 2021	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Andy Wong	TE (Foothill)	Class of 2021	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Margie Bowles	RE (Los Gatos)	Class of 2020)	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Nan Notor	RE (Westminster)	Class of 2020)	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)

**Financial Affairs Committee Nominations**

Sammie Evans	TE (Stone)	Class of 2022	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Myles Billheimer	RE (St. Andrew)	Class of 2022	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**Continuing Members of Financial Affairs:**

Sharon Rowser (Chair*)	RE (Foothill)	Class of 2021	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Ruth McCreath	RE (Stone)	Class of 2021	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Charlie May	RE (Trinity, Santa Cruz)	Class of 2021	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
David Burgess	RE (Westminster)	Class of 2020	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)

\*motion to set aside Standing Rules to serve an additional year as chair

**Nominations for Committee on Nominations**

Jane Odell	RE (St. Andrew)	Class of 2022	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Claudia Hamm	RE (Stone)	Class of 2022	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Paula Kelso	TE (HR)	Class of 2021	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**Continuing Members of Committee on Nominations:**

Bob Bowles	TE (HR)	Class of 2021	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
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Carlo Panighetti	RE (Los Gatos)	Class of 2020	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Lindsay Woods Wong(Chair)	TE (Foothill)	Class of 2020	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**Personnel Committee Nominations**

Jim Bennett	TE (At-large)	Class of 2022	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Steve Knowles	TE (Gonzales)	Class of 2022	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
David McCreath (Chair)	TE (HR)	Class of 2022	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Don Choi	TE (At-large)	Class of 2021	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Denise Martin	RE (Gilroy)	Class of 2020	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**Continuing Members of Personnel:**

Sandy Petznick	RE (St. Andrew)	Class of 2021	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Evelyn Wong	RE (First, Palo Alto)	Class of 2020	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)

**Committee on Representation and Empowerment (Re-established 2019)**

Ruth Fong	RE (Los Gatos)	Class of 2022	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Annanda Barclay (Chair)	TE (First, Palo Alto)	Class of 2022	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Nina Mundi	Deacon (Stone)	Class of 2021	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Fred Lee	TE (TAPC)	Class of 2020	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Jae Lee	TE (At-large)	Class of 2020	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**Tri-Presbytery Self-Development of People Committee**

Xiwei Wu	RE (Foothill)	Class of 2022	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
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**Continuing Member of Self-Development of People Committee**

Ruth Kuo	TE (At-large)	Class of 2021	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
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**Other Committees and their members**

**Synod Commissioners**

Nan Notor	RE (Westminster)	Class of 2022	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Katie Day	TE (First, Monterey)	Class of 2021	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Carolyn Rosen	RE (Los Gatos)	Class of 2021	(1 <sup>st</sup> term)
David McCreath	TE (HR)	Class of 2020	(2 <sup>nd</sup> term)

**Permanent Judicial Commission Nomination** (Each member serves one six-year term)

Ned Finkle	RE (Los Gatos)	Class of 2024
Mark Peake	TE (First, Monterey)	Class of 2024

**Continuing Members of PJC**

Stephen Stock	RE (Los Gatos)	Class of 2022
David Burgess	RE (Westminster)	Class of 2020
Diana Gibson	TE (At-large)	Class of 2020
Barbara Rogers	RE (United, Watsonville*)	Class of 2020

\*transferred to Westview 1/2020

**Investigative Committee Pool** (Each member serves one 6-year term)

Barry Vickrey	RE (Sunnyvale)	Class of 2024
Annanda Barclay	TE (First, Palo Alto)	Class of 2024
Evie Macway	TE (Santa Teresa Hills)	Class of 2024
John Burke	TE (HR)	Class of 2022
Gene Caselli	RE (Los Gatos)	Class of 2022

## Minutes of November 23, 2019 Stated Meeting

Andy Wong	TE (Foothill)	Class of 2022
Julie Lasher	RE (Los Gatos)	Class of 2020
Bob Bowles	TE (HR)	Class of 2020

### Ordination Exam Readers

Andy Rausch	TE (Northminster)	Class of 2020
Katie Day	TE (First, Monterey)	Class of 2020 - alternate

### **Nominations for General Assembly**

Voting for Commissioners and a Young Adult Advisory Delegate to the coming General Assembly was by written ballot. Hanafi Tanojo (Covenant, Palo Alto) was elected Ruling Elder Commissioner; the Rev. Anne McAnelly, St. Andrew, Aptos) was elected Minister Commissioner; Nolan Carlen (Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos) was elected Youth Advisory Delegate. The Rev. Sammie Evans (Stone, San Jose) is alternate Minister Commissioner and Naomi Tanojo (Covenant, Palo Alto) is alternate Youth Advisory Delegate.

### **Downtown San Jose Commission Update**

The Rev. Jenni Bales and the Rev. Bryan Franzen presented an update following the closing of First Presbyterian, San Jose, by announcing a partnership with Westminster, San Jose to form an urban ministry using proceeds from the sale of First's building. The expansion of downtown San Jose in coming years will encompass Westminster. An Education building will be renovated for this ministry. Historically, Westminster was the first "daughter church" of First Presbyterian.

### **Announcements, Joys and Concerns**

Gonzales celebrated 135 years of ministry in this place. Even when PG&E turned off the power, they met, and were on the local news to boot.

Sunnyvale is to host a gun buyback 8 am Feb 29 as announced by Hardy Kim. Information to be made available.

### **Stated Clerk**

The Rev. Erica Rader

The Stated clerk expressed gratitude for all those who served the Presbytery in 2019 and especially for the Stone Church of Willow Glen for their hosting of our meeting and for our moderator Rev. Irene Pak Lee for her excellent and faithful leadership.

### **Prayer and Adjournment**

Let it be known that with a full docket the Moderator still brought us to an early end. The meeting was duly adjourned and closed with prayer by the Moderator, who expressed thanks for the privilege of being Moderator.

## **Report from Council of the Presbytery of San Jose**

Council met on January 16, 2020, moderated by Chair Elder Lynn Viale.

### **"Work Groups" and how they relate to Council**

The Presbytery's Standing rules – 4.21, 4.28.6 – define role of the council.

The Presbytery's Task Forces have been converted "Work Groups" because their work is considered ongoing. Three or more congregations must be represented in a Work Group. Membership in a local Presbyterian church is required to sit on a work group; sessions confirm the standing of work group members each year. Three work groups are currently meeting: Church Health & Growth, Mission & Outreach, Peace & Justice. New work groups and task forces will be created by Council as warranted.

The chairs of Committees and Sub-Committees are voting members of council. Work Groups are expected to identify a liaison within their group to visit/report to council. At one time council appointed At-Large members to liaise with Task Forces, but the reporting process was not well defined or adhered to and Stated Clerk became de-facto liaison. Improved communication with council facilitates things like allocation of resources during budget talks. Standing Rules 2.17 list when reports are to be delivered.

### **COM**

November 2019 amendments to Standing Rules grants COM the authority to approve contracts. Minister terms of call will be reported in one report, once/year.

### **Nominations Committee**

Lindsay Woods-Wong moved to elect Carol Holsinger to chair Polity and Government subcommittee. Seconded, passes.

Lindsay Woods-Wong moved to elect Jane Odell to chair GPS subcommittee. Seconded, passes.

### **GPS Subcommittee**

Three members of GPS participated in webinar "Confronting violence in houses of worship" which was extremely helpful but quite dull. Feb 1 report at Presbytery will be on this information.

### **Review of Meeting dates under new Standing Rules**

Motion approved to change the Sept Presbytery meeting to Sept 19

New Council Meeting Dates: April 16, Aug 27, Oct 27.

New Presbytery Meeting Dates & Locations: Feb 1 at Northminister, May 2 at Trinity SJ, Sept 19 at location TBD, Nov 21 at Covenant.

**Administrative Commission on Watsonville: Erica Rader**

AC Watsonville meets for their initial meeting on Feb 6. AC Watsonville will be managing a well-maintained property with existing tenants and funds in reserve.

**Discussion on how to address Strategic objectives: Joey Lee**

Considering how the purpose of the church hasn't changed in 2000 years, Council should favor strategic thinking and adjustments over long-range strategic planning. In good times, the council provides resources related to the health of its congregations, supports presbytery-wide ministries and links congregations together. What do we need to do to make sure every congregation is thriving? In bad times, remaining adaptive and agile means that the council will "never let a good crisis go to waste".... adopting postures and taking actions to further the work of the church. The Council can be the sounding board for new ideas and a transparent entity to take advantage of any disruption that comes down the pike.

**SECOND READ and VOTE**

**The Presbytery of San Jose Overtures the 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2020)**

**To Declare the Presbyterian Church (USA) to be a  
Sanctuary and Accompaniment Church**

**Recommendation:**

Recognize and celebrate the many ways that the Presbyterian Church (USA) has spoken out on behalf of immigrants, refugees and their children including the many statements and resolutions included in the document “Summary of Presbyterian Policy”:

[http://oga.pcusa.org/site\\_media/media/uploads/oga/images/summary\\_of\\_presbyterian\\_policy\\_around\\_daca\\_and\\_dapa\\_\(002\).pdf](http://oga.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/oga/images/summary_of_presbyterian_policy_around_daca_and_dapa_(002).pdf) ;

Recognize and celebrate the resolution “Stop the Separation of Families” passed by the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly (2018) (<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000471>);

Recognize and celebrate the resolution “Reaffirming the Ministry of Sanctuary by Congregations” passed by the 222<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly (2016) (<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000195>);

Recognize and celebrate the resolution “On Affirming Principles of Sanctuary in Response to the Global Escalation in the Number of Displaced Person/Refugees” passed by the 222<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly (2016) (<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000194>);

Recognize and celebrate the history of many churches of the Presbyterian Church (USA) who declared themselves “Sanctuary Churches” in the 1980s risking prosecution and imprisonment for the sake of those who were fleeing for their lives from the wars in Central America;

Recognize that sanctuary is one way that Presbyterians continue to live out the Gospel call to love our neighbor and welcome the stranger and thereby some again risk prosecution and imprisonment by providing sanctuary to those in need;

Recognize that just as offering sanctuary to those in need is one way our churches are living out the Gospel of Christ, so too accompaniment of immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees is yet another way our churches are seeking to live out the Gospel by helping them as they struggle through the maze of immigration laws, detentions and the fear of deportation;

We do hereby declare the Presbyterian Church (USA) to be a Sanctuary and Accompaniment Church that supports and encourages its congregations, mid-councils and members to support immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers and their children and resist efforts by the government to separate families;

And be it further resolved that the Presbyterian Church (USA) stands ready to assist its congregations in discerning their own calls to become “Sanctuary and Accompaniment” mid-councils and congregations in equipping them to serve as places of welcome, refuge, accompaniment and healing for those targeted due to their immigration status or other differences, while taking into consideration local contexts, capacity and the results of congregational discernment.

### **Rationale:**

This overture builds on the work of previous General Assemblies mentioned above. While those overtures affirmed and celebrated the efforts of the Presbyterian Church (USA), this overture seeks to take the next step by declaring our denomination a “Sanctuary and Accompaniment” church.

We are admonished by scripture to welcome the alien and stranger among us: “When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.” (Lev 19:33); “I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” (Mt 25:35c). [There are no less than 22 verses enjoining us to welcome the stranger and alien among us.](#)

Romans 12:13 reads, “Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.” The Greek word for “stranger” here is *xenos*, the root word for xenophobia. Similarly, the Greek word for “hospitality” is *philoxenia* or love of the stranger. In other words, there can be no hospitality without love of the stranger, love of the other, love of those who are different from us.

The history of immigration policy in the United States is tainted with the sin of racism and xenophobia. Several administrations have struggled and failed to reform our broken immigration system. Some of their enforcement practices have been harmful to immigrant communities, such as the “Secure Communities” policy that disincentivized immigrants from reporting or cooperating with law enforcement. Yet this administration has exceeded the others with a shocking disregard for the wellbeing of children and the separation of children from their parents as well as the separation of families in our own communities. Consequently, our undocumented friends live in fear of deportation, separation from their families, and possible impoverishment when the family breadwinner is detained and/or deported.

Many of our churches have declared themselves Matthew 25 churches. Sanctuary and accompaniment are ways of addressing systemic poverty and racism which are fundamental to being a Matthew 25 church. While sanctuary usually refers to a person living within a church or on the church campus, accompaniment refers to all the ways that people are helping immigrants in order to prevent the need for sanctuary. Sanctuary can be a disaster for the person or family that goes into sanctuary. All of their normal connections with their family change; all of their normal connections with the community cease. For these reasons, accompaniment is preferable to sanctuary when possible. Accompaniment may include, among other things, helping them find housing, medical care, a pro bono attorney to navigate the legal system, education, support services, transportation, etc.

Matthew 25:35 says “I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” The situation on the border and throughout our country demands that the Presbyterian Church (USA) speak out with urgency. As we witness our borders being closed to asylum seekers, forcing them to return to the dangerous places they have fled, we remember that Jesus and his parents were themselves refugees from Herod’s murderous intentions (Matt 2:13-23).

By declaring the Presbyterian Church (USA) a Sanctuary and Accompaniment Church, we are publicly declaring that we will not be silent and we will not stand by while families continue

## Overture to General Assembly

to be separated and while refugees are turned away. By declaring our denomination a Sanctuary and Accompaniment Church, we are heeding our charge as followers of Jesus Christ to act in ways that support the stranger in our midst and to treat our neighbors as ourselves. By declaring our denomination a Sanctuary and Accompaniment Church, we create a witness that is public and we become a truly confessing church.

Most importantly, we share the Gospel of Jesus Christ by making his body visible in the world. The situation at our border demands that we no longer hide our light under a bushel. It is time to raise our lamps and make clear our intention to stand with Christ who is the very stranger in our midst.

**Report from Financial Affairs Committee  
January 2020**

**Committee Approvals:**

One-year lease between Westminster PC and StandUp for Kids

One-year extension of lease between Westhope PC and Grace Valley Church for use of the sanctuary (previously approved tenant use)

Three-year extension of lease between Trinity PC and Indonesian Church of San Jose for use of sanctuary (previously approved tenant use)

Committee approved the purchase of a manse with Trinity Santa Cruz. The manse will be used by Trinity's pastor and will be maintained by Trinity and Presbytery will hold the title on the property. The funding will come from a combination of sources: \$200,000 from Trinity, \$414,000 from Vintage Faith dismissal funds, and up to \$400,000 from Presbytery. As additional consideration, Trinity will also provide their cottage for the exclusive use of Presbytery's Sweaty Sheep urban ministry. Currently it is rented to a third party for rental income.

Sharon Rowser, Chair

**2019 Annual Report of Activities  
Committee on Ministry, Presbytery of San Jose**

NEW VALIDATED MINISTRIES

Rev. I Sil Yoon, Lecturer, Santa Clara University  
Rev. Martha Thorson, Marriage and Family Therapy Practice

ORDAINED

Rev. Taelor Kim

SUPPLY/TRANSITIONAL PASTORS

Rev. Ted Esaki, El Estero Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Jenni Bales, Evergreen San Jose  
Rev. Jason Barraca, Lincoln Avenue, Salinas  
Rev. Annanda Barclay, First Presbyterian Church, Palo Alto  
Rev. Larry Vilaro, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Santa Cruz  
Rev. Mike Garner, San Martin Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Evie Macway, Santa Teresa Hills Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Erica Rader, Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos  
Rev. Edd Breeden, Bonny Doon Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Taelor Kim, Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos

INSTALLED PASTORS

Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow, First Presbyterian Church, Palo Alto

TRANSFERRED MEMBERSHIP/PERMISSION TO LABOR

Rev. Jaeguen Lee to Presbytery of San Jose  
Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow to Presbytery of San Jose  
Rev. William Lane to Presbytery of San Jose  
Rev. Martha Thorson to Presbytery of San Jose

HONORABLY RETIRED

N/A

NECROLOGY

Rev. Charles Rawlings, April 15, 2019

PASTOR EMERITUS

Rev. Sharon Hare, First Presbyterian Church of San Jose

POLICIES

Consulted with Polity and Government and Stated Clerk on Standing Rules amendments approved November 2019.

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEES

Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church has an APNC to conduct a search for an Associate Pastor.

Trinity Presbyterian Church of Santa Cruz has a PNC to conduct a search for a pastor.  
Santa Teresa Hills Presbyterian Church has a PNC to conduct a search for a pastor

EVENTS

Clergy retreat for active ministers, April 30-May 1, 2019

**Presbytery of San Jose  
Committee on Ministry  
Report to Presbytery February 2, 2020**

Next meeting of COM is February 10, 2020 at Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos at 6:30

COM has approved the following agreements in December and January:

1. Terms of Call for Rev. Stephen Knowles beginning February 1st 2020 -Gonzales Community Presbyterian Church for a period of three years as designated pastor.
2. Evangelist Agreement between the Presbytery of San Jose and the Rev. Robert E. Olson, III beginning February 1, 2020 for a period of two years.
3. Stated Supply Associate Pastor Contract and Covenant between The Presbyterian Church Of Los Gatos (PCLG) and the Rev. Erica Rader beginning January 1, 2020 for a period of one year.
4. Transitional Pastor Agreement between the session of Santa Teresa Hills Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Evelyn Macway for a period of six months beginning February 1,2020.
5. An amendment to the Parish Associate Agreement between Geoff Browning and First Presbyterian Church of Palo Alto for a period of six months from January 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020.
6. Contract for Ted Esaki as Stated Supply at El Estero was approved.
7. Composition of Fit interview teams for Sunnyvale's two Associate applicants was completed.
8. Yo Sup Sohn's Sabbatical plans were approved for January 18-February 22, 2020.
9. An exit interview re: Annanda Barclay was completed with the session of First Presbyterian Church of Palo Alto on January 15, 2020.

Action Items for Presbytery meeting: None

## Upcoming Events for Clerks of Session

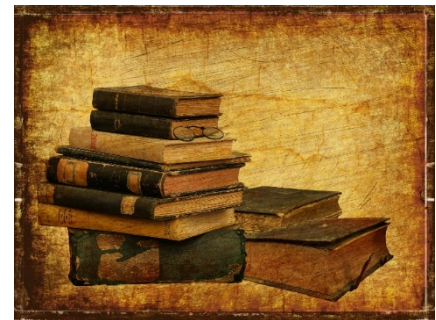
### January/February 2020 - Statistical Report



Each church is required to submit a Statistical Report for the previous year. The deadline is February 10, 2020. Information is available at <http://oga.pcusa.org/section/churchwide-ministries/stats/statistical-reporting-faq/> Please contact Stated Clerk, Erica Rader, at the Presbytery Offices or chairperson of the Polity and Government Committee, Carol Holsinger, if you have any questions. (Contact information below.)

### March 14, 2020, 9:30-11:30, at Los Gatos Presbyterian Church Review of Session Records

Each church is required to have their session records reviewed by the presbytery. Please download and complete the Session Records Review Checklist from the presbytery website (<http://www.sanjosepby.org/forms/>, then scroll down to Clerks of Session). Please be sure to use the form that has been revised on 2020-01-16. Bring your session meeting and congregational meeting minutes (sorted chronologically) AND your church register which contains information on membership, elders and deacons, baptisms, etc.



### May 2, 2020, following the Presbytery meeting at San Jose Trinity Clerk of Session Open Forum



Clerks of Session are invited to a Forum to discuss various aspects of the job. We will consider how the presbytery can provide assistance to each of our clerks. Pick up lunch after the presbytery meeting and join us in the designated space for our discussion. Feel free to let us know in advance if you have particular questions.

Contact information:

Erica Rader, 408-279-0220, [erica@sanjosepby.org](mailto:erica@sanjosepby.org)

Carol Holsinger, 650-326-3146, [pcusa@holsingerharps.com](mailto:pcusa@holsingerharps.com)

**ABOUT SWEATY SHEEP:**

- ◆ **Who:** *Sweaty Sheep* is a volunteer lead community partner seeking to enhance the missions of our non-profit community partners by providing relevant and intentional recreational opportunities to help overcome social, economic, situational and faith divisions.
- ◆ **Why:** *Because everyone deserves to smile and play... and as individual pieces of a perfect whole, our coming together in diversity is the only way we may all grow!*
- ◆ **How do I get involved:** *We are still new and growing... there is no staff, just a growing network of individuals who would like to share their passion for play with diverse folks. Let us know if you would like to host an event, have ideas for new ways to play, or want to share a passion for compassion in a unique way!*



**Thanks to our partners:**



**JOIN THE FUN:**

**Here are the Details:**

**Dates:** Sunday Feb 9th 3pm- Friday Feb 14th 11am  
**Cost:** Suggested donation \$100-300  
**Place:** Zephyr Camp and Conference Center, NV  
[www.zephyrpoint.org](http://www.zephyrpoint.org)

**\*Several private cabins are available onsite... Contact us ASAP for details and reservation.**

- ◆ **Included:**
  - ◆ Daily Yoga and Mindfulness
  - ◆ Heated lakeside Cabin (rooms 2-4ppl)
  - ◆ Basic Bedding/twin beds (you may want to bring your own if you are picky!)
  - ◆ Various activities (games, movies, art, etc...)
  - ◆ Opportunities for ALL attendees to host activities (art, workshops, hikes, snowplay, yoga... So bring your passions!
  - ◆ Breakfast & Snacks (Bring some to share too!)
  - ◆ The cabin has a commercial kitchen that participants can use.
- ◆ **Not Included:**
  - ◆ Lunch & Dinner (there is a full buffet on-site, grocery/restaurants nearby and commercial kitchen in the cabin)
  - ◆ Ski lift tickets (We are less than 3 miles from Heavenly Ski Resort and will have a variety of options throughout to ski both xc and downhill)
  - ◆ Transportation to the resort (parking is included & we can help arrange carpooling)

**CONTACT: RYAN ALTHAUS**  
[ryan@sweatysheep.com](mailto:ryan@sweatysheep.com)

**443-223-7334**

**JOIN SWEATY SHEEP'S SNOWY SABBATICAL:**

*A Therapeutic Learning  
 Retreat to Address Mental  
 Illness & Disability  
 Division & Stigmatization*



**Regardless of how hard try to be inclusive; for so long as we live within the limitations of labels or allow mis-perceptions to promote prejudice we will never achieve authentic acceptance.**



[www.sweatysheep.com](http://www.sweatysheep.com)



**WHAT TO EXPECT?:**

These retreats are learning experiences and experimental in nature, thus *we encourage all participants to ditch expectations* and open themselves to interaction and the co-creation of an authentic and deliberative time of growth and mutual evolution. Expect laughter, tears, sharing and playing, art and games, dialogue and questions, and the formation of new friendships...

But expect it will be a little messy! Unscripted and designed, this retreat will serve to create a template for future work. It is not a polished and perfected endeavor! So come with an open mind and open heart and EXPECT both mind and heart to be actively engaged.

**What do these Retreats 'look like?'**

**We invite you to view a video of one of our past Tahoe Learning/Therapeutic Adventure Retreats:**

**<https://youtu.be/CWOS8EcaioQ>**

**MENTAL ILLNESS?:**

Depression, Anxiety, Bi-Polarity, etc, etc... There are many labels and stigmas associated with Mental Illness in our community. Those misperceptions easily inhibit the authenticity and inclusivity of the larger community for individuals experiencing them.

Mental Illness can mean and can be triggered by many things. It is something that most individuals experience periodically throughout their lifetime in response to stress, situations, trauma, nutritional deficiencies, or transiency. Given our chemistry, genetics, and lifestyle some individuals are simply preconditioned to be more susceptible to, or show the symptoms of these 'illnesses.'

**OUR MOTIVATION:**

To create a safe and snowy winter wonderland which we may walk together in route to healing and de-stigmatizing Mental Illness and Disability!

In recognition of the gifts and wisdom each individual possesses in the mutual evolution of our the larger community, we seek to use this safe, creative, and serene setting as a space of which to cultivate life-giving and life-changing relationships that reveal the inner-beauty of each unique participant (or snowflake!)



**OUR MISSION:**

We believe in the POWER OF PLAY and seek to further our mission of 'utilizing arts and recreation to overcome social, economic, and faith barriers in the creation of a more cohesive community.

"We learn more through an hour of play than a lifetime of conversation" -Plato.  
...we are on a mission to play our way to compassion and community.



We value vulnerability and authenticity... We value relationship and intention... We value YOU!

**OUR AUDIENCE**

**You!!!**

Each of our 20 rooms will house both individuals living with mental illness or disability, whose passion lies in using their experiences to help educate others about ways of which to support, include and be aware of the various implications; gifts; and needs of their community.

So... We invite anyone (Community leaders, 'normal' neighbors, Pastors of any faith tradition, friends, and family interested in Mental Illness) who can come with an open mind, open heart, and desire to share about their own/learn from others experiences



We believe in Unity through (not in spite of) diversity!



## MISSION OUTREACH WORKGROUP Partnership Pilgrimages

Our workgroup has committed to travel every other year to meet our partners in Mission in other countries. It is our hope that these trips will open possibilities for congregations in our presbytery to **Go and See** what God is doing in the world.

Partnerships imply that we share in exchanging ideas and that we pray for one another. On the years when we do not travel, we receive our friends from the countries that we have visited so that they can see what God is doing in the Presbytery of San Jose.

In 2016 we traveled to meet our brothers and sisters in **Indonesia**.

In 2017 we received our friends from **Indonesia** and they visited with congregations in our Presbytery.

In 2018 and 2019 we took trips to assist our neighbors in **Puerto Rico** and invited our friends from **Puerto Rico** to visit with us in San Jose.

### **2020 - TRIP TO PERU**



**We are planning a trip to Peru in October of this year.**

**If you would like more information, please contact**

**Rev. Margaret Boles**

[semfemmb@aol.com](mailto:semfemmb@aol.com) - 650-494-1760

## *PWP Annual Gathering*

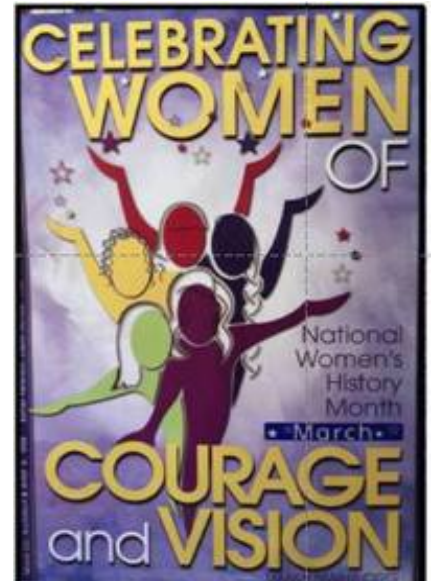
*"Now Is The Time"*

*March 28, 2020*

*2PM to 4PM*

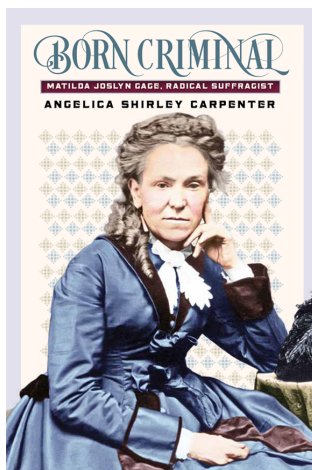
*Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos*

*16575 Shannon Road, Los Gatos*



*Our Special Program celebrates the passage of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote...Stepping into the past in order to move forward !*

At this Gathering, Author Angelica Shirley Carpenter will share the story of Matilda Joslyn Gage, from the book **Born Criminal**. We will also have displays & History San Jose guests who will tell the local history about suffrage. Plus we'll look at some of our Presbyterian Women who led a similar campaign within the church.



### **Born Criminal: Matilda Joslyn Gage, Radical Suffragist**

*In 1893, a deputy sheriff knocked on Matilda Joslyn Gage's door in Fayetteville, New York. He had come to arrest her. "All of the crimes which I was not guilty of rushed through my mind," she wrote later, "but I failed to remember that I was a born criminal—a woman." Her crime: registering to vote. The verdict: guilty as charged*

*Come to celebrate and bring a friend! Questions? RSVP - [rmgzisch@gmail.com](mailto:rmgzisch@gmail.com)*