

Presbytery of San Jose: Notice of Stated Meeting
Meeting Convened in Zoom
Preregistration required ([Register Here](#))
May 2, 2020 9:00 a.m.

9:00 Instructions and Opening Prayer **Moderator, Elder Frank Bernstein**

9:05 Scripture readings, Reflection from Executive Presbyter, Rev. Joey Lee

9:30 Transition to agenda – Stated Clerk **Rev. Erica Rader**
Change in the Docket; Quorum call; Visitors;
Voting instructions and process

9:35 Approval of Agenda **Elder Frank Bernstein**
(New Business must be referred)

Approval of Consent Agenda (8 items):

1. Motion to approve the Minutes of the February 1, 2020 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of San Jose. **(pp. 3-15)**
2. Motion to receive the reports in the docket into the minutes.
3. **Motion from Financial Affairs Committee:** Approve the 9 month lease including use of sanctuary between St. Andrew PC & Iglesias de Dios.
4. **Motion from Financial Affairs Committee:** Approve Westminster's renewal of Synod mortgage loan.
5. **Motion from Financial Affairs Committee:** Approval of the 24-year (6 four year renewals) cell tower lease extension between First Presbyterian Church of Santa Clara and Crown Castle.
6. **Motion from the Session of First Palo Alto:** Approve a concurrence from the Presbytery on OVT-031 to 224th GA "On the Inclusion of Inclusive Gender Options" **(p. 19)**
7. **Motion from the Session of First Palo Alto:** Approve a concurrence from the Presbytery on Overture OVT- 044 to 224th GA "On Promoting Human Rights in the Philippines" **(pp. 20-25)**
8. **Motion from the Session of First Monterey:** Approve a concurrence from the Presbytery on Overture OVT-013 to 224th GA "On Fossil Fuel Divesture" **(pp. 26-31)**

(Note from Polity and Government Subcommittee on Consent Agenda items 6-8, these are proposed concurrences on Overtures originated by other Presbyteries and must be approved exactly as given or rejected entirely)

Reports Received in Docket

Report from Presbytery Council (**pp. 16-18**)

Report from Financial Affairs Committee (**pp. 32-33**)

Report from Committee on Ministry (**p. 34**)

Annual Report from Polity and Government (**p. 35**)

Presbytery Statistical Report 2019 (**p. 36**)

2019 Financial Statements (**pp. 37-40**)

- 9:40 Treasurer's Update: Current Financial Position** **Rev. Edd Breeden**
- 9:45 Update from Financial Affairs** **Elder Sharon Rowser**
- 9:50 Peace and Justice Work Group** **Rev. Nan Swanson**
- 9:55 Mission and Outreach Work Group** **Rev. Margaret Boles**
- 10:00 Church Health and Growth Work Group** **Rev. David Watermulder**
- 10:05 Motion from Nominations Committee to approve these nominations:**
- 1. Rev. Robby Olson** (At-Large) Committee on Preparation for Ministry, (Class of 2021, completing an unexpired term)
 - 2. Rev. Andy Wong** (Foothill) appointed as Chair of Committee on Preparation for Ministry (previously elected as Class of 2021)
 - 3. Rev. Jennifer Bales** (Evergreen) Commissioner to Synod (2023, 1st term)
 - 4. Rev. Bob Bowles** (HR) Commissioner to Synod (Class of 2023, completing an unexpired term)
- 10:10 Prayer breakout rooms** **Elder Frank Bernstein**
- 10:20 Stated Clerk** **Rev. Erica Rader**
- 10:25 Prayer and Adjournment** **Elder Frank Bernstein**

Save the Date 2020 Presbytery Meetings: September 19 and November 21

**Presbytery of San Jose: Minutes of Stated Meeting
February 1, 2020
Northminster Presbyterian Church, Salinas**

Opening Prayer

Presbytery Moderator, Elder Frank Bernstein, opened the meeting with prayer at 9 am.

Welcome by Host Congregation

The Rev. Andy Rausch, Pastor of Northminster Presbyterian, welcomed the Presbytery, noting the joys of maintaining plumbing in an older building, and giving necessary practical information.

Presbytery Worship

Worship was led by the Rev. Bill Lane as liturgist and the Rev. Andy Rausch, preaching on the story of the woman at the well, where Jesus sought out conversation with a woman, an outsider. Andy asked, "Seriously?"

Irene Pak Lee, outgoing Moderator of Presbytery, installed 2020 Moderator Elder Frank Bernstein (Covenant, Palo Alto), asking installation questions and closing with the laying on of hands and prayer.

Stated Clerk

The Rev. Erica Rader attested to the presence of a quorum.

- Change in the Docket: None
- First time attendees and visitors were introduced.
- There were no corresponding members.

Committee Chairs/Council Members Present

Frank Bernstein, Presbytery Moderator	Lynn Viale, Council Moderator
Marcia Ludwig, Past Moderator	James Lee, Council at-large
Claudia Hamm, Past Moderator	Rosaleen Zisch, Presby. Women
Jane Odell, GPS Subcommittee	Moderator
Carolyn Rosen, Synod Commissioner	

Teaching Elders, Present

Althaus, Ryan	Browning, Geoff	Hoffman, Dan
Barclay, Annanda	Choi, Don	Kim, Taelor
Barraca, Jason	Day, Katie	Lane, Bill

LeClaire, Sharon
Lee, Fred
Lee, Irene Pak
Lee, Joey
McAnelly, Anne

Olson, Robby
Peake, Mark
Peterson-Iyer, Karen
Rader, Erica

Rausch, Andy
Van Laar, Trevor
Wong, Lindsay Woods

Teaching Elders, Honorably Retired, Present

Boatwright, Libby
Bowles, Bob
Breedon, Edd
Kelso, Paula

Kim, Insik
Kim, Kyung Jae
Knowles, Steve

Kress, Karla
Lewis, Charles
McCreath, David
Swanson, Nan

Teaching Elders Not Present

Allen Stephanie Lutz
Arishvara, Vincent
Baker, Debra
Bales, Jennifer
Bennett, James
Boles, Margaret
Boyer, Tim
Crocker, Douglas
Day, Kevin
Drescher, Kent
Esaki, Ted
Eschen-Pipes, Kathleen
Evans, Samantha
Franzen, Bryan
Garner, Mike

Gibson, Diana
Granado, Sim
Hahn, Tae Jinn
Hansen, Chris
Hanson, Duncan
Hejmanowski, Karin
Kim, Hardy
Kuo, Ruth
Lee, Jaeguen
Logan, Molly
Macway, Evie
Matusiewicz, Stella
Minerva, George
Norman, Steve
Pearson, Marjorie

Person, Brian
Reyes-Chow, Bruce
Sohn, Joseph
Swanson, Erik
Thorson, Martha
Tsai, Andrew
Watermulder, David
Williams, Chris
Wong, Andy
Woodsmall, Dennis
Yoon, I Sil

Teaching Elders, Honorably Retired, Not Present

Ahn, Dong Sung
Bartow, Jay
Bender, Jim
Bland, Byron
Bracey, Dale
Bristol, John
Burke, John
Choi, Samuel
Dosker, Richard
Doyal, George
Erickson, George
Gardner, Thomas
Hansen, David

Hare, Sharon
Harrington, Nancy
Harvey, Bill
Hsieh, Stephen
Ignacio, Lemuel
Joy, Judy
Kim, David Kwang
Kim, Young Han
Koopman, Peter
Kwon, Young Bai
Kwon, Young K
Longley, Jack
Lyke, Brian

Menser, Bruce
Momrow, Ed
Nelson, Jim
Newcomer, Ben
Palmer, Marge
Rowlison, Bruce
Schell, Nancy
Schmidt, Lyle
Smith, Kent
Solis, Dick
Spencer, Dick
Takarabe, Hei
Tan, Tiat Han

Tyler, Lee
Venecia, Fred
Vilarado, Larry
Wilson, George

Yeane, Darrell

Visitors

Presbytery Office Staff, Collette Lynner
Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos, Jeff Thompson
Stone Church, San Jose, Meredith Hurley
Gonzales, Florence Knowles, Susan Warner, Ken Bondell
Comunidad Latinoamericana, San Jose John Barraca
Westminster Presbyterian, San Jose, Olga Enciso Smith
I Church, Palo Alto, Kim Hoaja
Northminster, Salinas, Suzan Wurz
Daesung, Sunnyvale, Sook Cha

Elder Commissioners Present

Aptos St. Andrew
Mihn, Eileen
Billheimer, Myles
Adkins, Don

Gilroy
Kalpin, Lee

Gonzales
Rutledge, Kay

Los Gatos
Kim, Susan
Heacock, David

Monterey, El Estero
None

Monterey, First
Kalm, Kimberley
Pina, Cory
Unfried, Jordan

Mountain View, First
None

Palo Alto, Covenant
Marshburn, Jane
Van Camp, Willa
Tanojo, Hanafi
Reynolds, Lizanne

Palo Alto, First
Jones, Paul
Kinney, Pat
Noble, Lela

Salinas, Lincoln Ave.
Miranda, Joaquin

Salinas, Northminster
Gash, Jackie

Salinas, St. Philips
None

San Jose, Evergreen
None

San Jose, Foothill
Rowser, Sharon

**San Jose, Santa
Teresa Hills**
Elliot, Paul

San Jose, Stone
Ruth McCreath
Hurley, Nicholas
Nelson, Steve
Smith Michele
Thorn, Alice
Thorn, Rod

**San Jose, Taiwanese
Am.**
Sun, Pei
Wu, Steve

San Jose, Trinity
None

San Jose, Westminster
Barrons, Ross

San Jose, Cornerstone
None

San Martin
None

Santa Clara, First
None

**Santa Cruz, Bonny
Doon**
None

Santa Cruz, Trinity
None

Saratoga, Westhope
None

Sunnyvale
Bentley, David
Coleman, Bill
Sohn, Suzi

Sunnyvale, Daesung
Tael, Bai
Min, Eric

Watsonville, Westview
Rogers, Barbara

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Minutes of the November 23, 2019 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of San Jose. Moved/Seconded/Carried

Reports and Announcements Received in Docket M/S/C to receive the following reports:

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 to "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 Rule 2.17 lists when reports are to be delivered.

Committee on Ministry

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 Northminster, Salinas, May 2 at Trinity SJ, Sept 19 at location TBD, Nov 21 at Covenant, Palo Alto.

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.

**(1) Report from Financial Affairs Committee
January 2020, Sharon Rowser, Chair**

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, San Jose 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. Presbytery will hold the title on the property. 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.

Additional to the Report from Financial Affairs: In answer to a question from the floor about the committee's authority to approve funding for the Trinity, Santa Cruz manse, Stated Clerk Erica Rader answered that the process is bound by Standing Rule 4.8 (Financial Affairs Committee, managing real property). Chair Sharon Rowser added that this was a decision about use of investments for furthering the mission of the Presbytery. The Presbytery's name will be on the deed.

There was an additional question about this as a purchase rather than merely managing. Joey Lee gave further explanation of the process that arrived at this decision, noting that funds came from the dismissal of another Santa Cruz church, Vintage Faith (First Presbyterian). Another factor is the availability of Trinity's cottage for another Presbytery ministry (Sweaty Sheep).

(2) Reports from Committee on Ministry, Libby Boatwright, 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 Vilardo, 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

**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 1, 2020 at 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

(3) Clerk of Session information from Polity and Government, Carol Holsinger, Chair

Clerks of Session were reminded to submit a Statistical Report for 2019. by February 10, 2020, with online information sites given.

Clerks were additionally reminded of the annual review of Session records by the Presbytery, to be held March 14, 2020 at Los Gatos Presbyterian Church. Review Checklists available from the Presbytery website. Clerks must bring both Minutes and Registers to the review.

An Open Forum for Clerks of Session will be held after the May 2, 2020 Presbytery meeting at Trinity, San Jose, during the lunch period.

Annual Update from Executive Presbyter, The Rev. Joey Lee

First let me say, "Gong xi, xin nien qui le," or Happy New Year, the year 4718, or 17, depending on which Wikipedia entry you believe, the Year of the Rat.

Wow, I cannot believe it is 4718 already. Time just seems to fly.

Let me also say what a fabulous presbytery we are. We are small, but we do great work. The dismissals have meant that we are no longer what some might call a midsized presbytery, but we are a small presbytery. Our membership is under 5000. We no longer have 4, but 2 commissioners to General Assembly.

At our recent Council meeting, moderator Lynn Viale asked a question that quickened my heart. She asked the members of council "How is your community blessed because your church is there?" And since in my mind "my church" is the presbytery, I thought about all the communities we serve. I wondered:

- How many meals, food pantries, food barrels, and food bags are collected and distributed? I'm sure it could be measured in tons.
- How many of the housing insecure are sheltered in our fellowship halls, basements and now parking lots?

- At a time when it seems our country no longer welcomes the tired, the poor, the huddled masses yearning to breathe free, our churches accompany the undocumented, we provide transitional housing for refugees, we offer ESL classes and other services.
- We visit the sick, those in prison, walk with the grieving, the lonely and the marginalized.
- We do service projects and take mission trips, near and far, to serve and perhaps more importantly, to learn
- We have pastors teaching in public and private schools, in colleges and universities.
- We have pastors counseling in hospitals, in hospice care, in private practice.
- So many of our church campuses have children, youth and adults in preschool, day care and schools.
- Our churches have worked with law enforcement for gun buy-backs, advocated for gun safety and walked with the victims of gun violence.
- We host elected officials to hear what they had to say, as well as voice our faith based concerns.
- We write, we march, we protest (it's in our name, we're Protestants), and we organize.
- And perhaps most importantly, we gather weekly to give thanks to God for the blessings in our lives and to pray, to pray for the world, our nation, our communities, our families, and for ourselves.

Upon reflection, I think we are a tremendous blessing to our communities because our churches are present and active. Are we getting everything right? Are all our programs and projects humming on all cylinders? Is everyone in our community aware of what we're doing? People, please.

But here's what I know. Christ calls us not to be successful, but to be faithful. And all that we do is an attempt to be faithful to our call. The Book of Order reminds us that "Christ calls the Church into being, giving it all that is necessary for its mission in the world." (F-1.0202)

And believing that the health of a presbytery is entirely based on the health of its congregations, we hope to be a resource and partner in ministry for your mission in the world. We hope to be strategic in our thinking, agile in our response and willing to risk, within reason, to the constantly changing context of our communities and our ministry.

I continue to give thanks to Almighty God for the ministry of the congregations of the Presbytery of San Jose.

Committee on Representation and Empowerment

The Rev. Annanda Barclay spoke of how the CORE is planning quarterly offerings for the Presbytery representing different communities. She invited people to email her with suggestions and questions.

Committee on Ministry: Introduction of the Rev. Bill Lane

The Rev. Libby Boatwright introduced the Rev. Bill Lane, as a new transfer to our Presbytery from Whitewater Presbytery in Indiana. Bill was ordained in Presbytery of San Jose and is returning “home.”

Peace & Justice Work Group

The Rev. Nan Swanson introduced a Second Reading/Vote for an Overture to GA “To Declare the Presbyterian Church (USA) to be a Sanctuary and Accompaniment Church.” Geoff Browning gave a survey of the reasons for wanting the overture, including that our Presbytery is a sanctuary presbytery. Meredith Hurley, Stone Church, spoke of that congregation’s experience as an accompaniment church.

Moved by Nan, seconded. Discussion followed. Motion carried.

The Presbytery of San Jose Overtures the 224th 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 223rd 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 222nd 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 222nd 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 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.

Front Door Communities Update

The Rev. Paula Kelso now is Director: This program supports and serves women, and some men, in downtown San Jose. The program is temporary in its location in the old First Presbyterian sanctuary (until the owner/developer begins work), but as long as it can stay there, it is doing what it does as well as possible.

- Lunch Bag program serves those who show up at the door three mornings a week. Is. 55:1. Doing what we talk about doing.
- The program is a respite, a sanctuary for the clients. It provides respect, the ability to make choices.

Support comes from the Presbytery, particularly Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos, and Stone Church, who provide volunteers and money.

Sweaty Sheep

The Rev. Ryan Althaus: Began his report via a video. He then explained that “Sweaty” is an allusion to doing, experience. Experiencing one another, worship and the divine. This is a developing community of Santa Cruz, using the Hunger Program, finding companionship. Getting a diverse group of people to participate in art . . . Grass roots,

volunteers. Working with special needs communities, sobriety, folks with mental illness. It includes a farm, a sailboat.

Mission & Outreach Work Group

The group is planning a trip to Peru, announced by Hanif Tanajo, David McCreath, Olga Smith –The group will go to learn what God is doing. Youth are included in the invitation.

Church Health & Growth Work Group

- The Rev. Robby Olson thanked the Session of the recently closed United Presbyterian Church, Watsonville, for partnering with the Presbytery in naming him an evangelist to Watsonville.
- CHGW hosted a new ministries conversation asking what does new ministry look like. The conversation was a beginning.
- March 16-17 is a Pastor's retreat at Via Maria del Mar in Santa Cruz.

Guiding, Planning, Safeguarding Sub-Committee

Elder Jane Odell presented information on the topic of "Violence in Houses of Worship." She said the committee saw a presentation that had good content in an incredibly boring presentation. A couple of takeaways: Churches should produce written plans for what to do "in case," and have law enforcement look at them. Churches also need to do training.

Presbyterian Women Gathering

Elder Rosaleen Zisch, highlighting the Suffragette theme of the March 28 gathering, held up a copy of *The Women's Bible*, by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, to highlight the place of "rebel" women. CA was the 8th state to allow women to vote.

Announcements, Joys and Concerns

Topics included Immanuel House, board gaming, a chili cookoff to fund showers for homeless folks, asylum accompaniment, and a social media workshop at the Presbytery office in March.

Stated Clerk

The Rev. Erica Rader thanked the Northminster Presbyterian Church for their hospitality and expressed gratitude for the leadership and service of outgoing Moderator Rev. Irene Pak Lee and new Moderator Elder Frank Bernstein.

Prayer and Adjournment

Moderator Frank Bernstein adjourned the meeting and gave the closing prayer.

Report of the Council of the Presbytery of San Jose

The Council met on April 16, 2020 6:30pm via Zoom

Devotion & Prayer was led by Jenni Bales

Portion of article by N.T. Wright was read and reflected upon, teaching how to sit with pain and be pastorally present.

Moderator Lynn Viale, Reflecting on Us as a Presbytery

The Presbytery of San Jose has a way of being in the world that Lynn calls “Generosity of Spirit.” Two things exemplify who we are right now:

Starting by saying ‘Yes’ when responding to the needs of the Presbytery. Yes to Robby Olson’s position as a community evangelist, to Ryan and Sweaty Sheep Ministries, to Trinity Santa Cruz’s Manse. We are the only Presbytery in the country declaring itself to be a Sanctuary Presbytery.

Working from a mindset of abundance rather than scarcity. Not just financial support, but God’s comfort, love, compassion, and joy flows into us and then out to the community. (Instead of hoarding our churches live abundantly and make sure there’s enough for everyone.)

Financial Affairs Report, Sharon Rowser

Meeting every other week instead of monthly to respond quickly to requests. Churches should know that avenues of relief exist, particularly for short-term financial issues. Reach out for short-term needs. The process is simple: Purpose/need for funding, what you’ve done to seek funding/fill the gap. Committee is compiling information on church activities to track as they apply for/receive relief funding. Diane Case is updating this database.

The committee scheduled two dates for Treasurers’ training meetings over Zoom.

Polity and Government Committee Report, Carol Holsinger

We will request three GA overtures to be placed on consent agenda of Presbytery meeting. The overtures have already received multiple concurrences already and ours will simply add support.

Churches have conducted statistical reports. Session records review will resume when COVID health orders are lifted

Nominations Committee Report, Lindsay Woods Wong .

Nominations will meet on April 20 to begin their work in seeking leaders for the November meeting elections. We have some open positions which will be brought forward for voting at the May meeting.

Review of docket items and format of Presbytery meeting over Zoom, Erica Rader

Council had a discussion about the Zoom format for the May Presbytery meeting. Most business will be on our consent docket.

People will be registering to attend; this will allow us to generate attendance record at the end of the meeting.

As for the content of our worship portion of the meeting, the Council encouraged us to include scripture reading, prayer, reflection but not to feel like we should replicate our in person worship.

Update, Joey Lee-

Report on the Presbytery's Covid-19 response

March 12, Erica Rader and Joey Lee issued a recommendation to stop public worship that was met with universal compliance. This happened before the County's Shelter-in-place order of March 16. Other Presbyteries did not have this level of cooperation. Here in San Jose, our original recommendation was to not meet until Easter but later, as news developed, Erica and Joey recommended following health guidelines issued by local counties and the State to shelter-in-place beyond the Easter holiday. Then, the Presbytery of San Jose offered advice on distributed/online communion, and on other opinions even before Louisville was able to give out constitutional recommendations. We have been operating slightly ahead of the curve and to remain ahead of the curve, we want to constantly ask, what's next? What do we need to respond to as a Presbytery? Can we learn from the adjustments we've made in the past few weeks?

This council meeting saw 100% attendance – could this be the way to meet in the future? Will it make sense to return to the way it used to be, if the same work can be done with greater participation and less effort?

The Presbytery consistently hears reports that more people are joining worship services online than attended church in person, before the outbreak. So when we return to in-person worship, will you stop livestreaming? What will you do to keep your gains?

Relief from Synod, Board of Pensions

For churches with Synod loans, the synod is granting deferrals on request. A 3-month extension will be added to the back of the loan. The board of pensions is granting release of pension dues for churches of less than 300, if their pastor is in the program. That is three months of relief that does not have to be paid back. Larger churches may be able to request a deferral.

Congratulations to Sweaty Sheep Ministries

Sweaty Sheep Ministries has been awarded the Walton Award by PCUSA (An annual award to a New Worshipping Committee from the generosity of Helen Walton in the amount of \$50K.)

Overture to 224th GA on On the Inclusion of Inclusive Gender Options (OVT-031)

The Presbytery of National Capital overtures the 224th General Assembly (2020) to approve the addition of inclusive gender options when gender information is collected by any entity in the PC(USA). This includes but is not limited to: session annual statistical reports, registration forms for any PC(USA) body or gathering, pastor information forms (PIFs), ministry information forms (MIFs), and other statistical measures.

Rationale

Our faith teaches us that God created all humanity in the divine image. As Genesis 1:26 proclaims, “Then God said, ‘Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness.’”

From that basic conviction about our universal human condition, the 223rd General Assembly (2018) approved the following statement of inclusion of transgender members of our church:

Transgender inclusion is lived out in our congregations and Presbyterian institutions in the following ways:

- Welcoming statements that specifically name transgender and gender non-binary people as included within the life of the church.
- Policies that are inclusive of transgender and gender non-binary people.
- Available facilities such as bathrooms that are either designated as gender neutral, or allow for transgender and non-binary people to use the facility that matches their gender identity.
- Worship, liturgy, and hymns employ language inclusive of all gender identities.
- Transgender and gender non-binary people’s pronouns are respected and used appropriately. (*Minutes*, 2018, Part I, p. 1051)

Therefore, we follow up on this recommendation and state that it is time to enact policies that are inclusive of transgender and people who identify as non-binary by counting them in all our roles across the PC(USA).

Supporting Document A

A sample template for gender options is found below, modified from a UCLA Law School document.

What is your gender identity? (Check all that apply)

Male

Female

trans male/trans man

trans female/trans woman

genderqueer/gender non-conforming/non-binary

different identity (please state): _____

<https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/geniuss-report-sep-2014.pdf>

Overture to 224th GA on Promoting Human Rights in the Philippines (OVT-044)

The Presbytery of San Diego respectfully overtures the 224th General Assembly (2020) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to do the following:

1. Direct the Stated Clerk, the Executive Director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, and the (Co-)Moderator(s) of the 224th General Assembly (2020) to call upon the president of the United States, Congressional leaders, and related executive branch agencies to promote human rights in the Philippines by
 - a. Urging the Philippine government to cease labelling the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP), United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP), humanitarian organizations, and other civil society organizations as “front organizations of local communist terrorist groups”;
 - b. Calling upon the Philippine government to live up to their duty to protect civil society and non-state actors, especially church leaders and human rights defenders;
 - c. Strongly urging the Philippine government, the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP), and related groups, to affirm the lives and human dignity of the urban poor, farmers, and indigenous peoples of the Philippines;
 - d. Supporting the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP) and the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP) in their advocacy for the peace process between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP);
 - e. Calling upon the Philippine government to uphold its obligations in agreements such as the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CARHRIHL) and international human rights standards such as the United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as well as the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.
2. Direct the Presbyterian Mission Agency, through its Office of Public Witness, to
 - a. Urge Congressional leaders and relevant Congressional committees to continue their investigations of how U.S. military spending is contributing to and supportive of the misuse of the Philippine Armed Forces in committing human rights violations;
 - b. Support lobby-advocacy efforts of U.S.-based organizations, such as the International Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines—United States (ICHRP-US), with U.S. Congressional and Department of State offices;
 - c. Support efforts between U.S. and Philippine legislators who seek to investigate human rights violations in the Philippines.
3. Direct the Presbyterian Mission Agency, through the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations, the Asia-Pacific Office of Presbyterian World Mission, and the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program to
 - a. Affirm and participate in the international ecumenical solidarity programs and plans such as the World Council of Churches;

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- b. Support the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP) as co-convener of the Ecumenical Voice for Human Rights and Peace in the Philippines (EcuVoice) and the Philippine Universal Periodic Review Watch (PUPRW);**
- c. Support the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to fulfill its reporting obligations and any follow-up actions from Resolution No. 41/2 at the 44th Regular Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (June 15–July 3, 2020). The UN HRC resolution:**
 - (1) Urges the government of the Philippines to take all necessary measures to prevent extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances, and to carry out impartial investigations to hold perpetrators accountable in accordance with due process and rule of law,**
 - (2) Calls upon the government of the Philippines to cooperate with the Office of the High Commission and mandates of the Human Rights Council, including by facilitating visits and preventing and refraining from all acts of intimidation or retaliation,**
 - (3) Requests the High Commissioner to prepare a comprehensive written report on the human rights situation in the Philippines and to present it to the Human Rights Council at its forty-fourth session, to be followed by an enhanced interactive dialogue;**
- d. Affirm the efforts of the International Criminal Court (ICC) to investigate the extrajudicial killings related to the war on drugs;**
- e. Resource lobbying-advocacy efforts and visits of Philippine organizations in the United States that advocate for addressing the human rights situation in the Philippines;**
- 4. Urge PC(USA) national agencies, mid councils, congregations and individual Presbyterians to**
 - a. Pray with and for the people of the Philippines;**
 - b. Learn about the history of the Philippines, as well as its contemporary realities;**
 - c. Support the ministry and witness of the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP) and United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP), as well as PC(USA) mission co-workers and volunteers through the Presbyterian Mission Agency and its Presbyterian World Mission Office of Asia-Pacific;**
 - d. Engage in advocacy with their respective legislators to support human rights in the Philippines.**
- 5. Direct the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly to share this action with our partners in the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP), the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP), and other related ecumenical and interreligious partners and conciliar bodies.**

Rationale

I. Red-Tagging of PC(USA) Partner Church and Ecumenical Council

On November 5, 2019, the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP) was included on the list of “front organizations of local communist terrorist groups” by the Department of National Defense (DND). The NCCP was one among a number of humanitarian and civil society organizations in the list that was presented by Major General Reuben Basiao, Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence during a committee meeting at the House of Representatives for the modernization of the armed forces. The presentation of Major General Basiao was in the context of the ongoing counterinsurgency program of the Philippines government against the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People’s Army-National Democratic Front (CCP-NPA-NDF), its history, organizational flowchart, and number of attacks nationwide. The front organizations were allegedly providing funds to the “Communist Terrorist Group” (CTG) through “International Solidarity Work.” While the NCCP decried its inclusion on the list, international partners rallied and supported the NCCP through statements of support and letters directly addressed to the Philippine president and to the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

This red tagging by the Philippine government is part of a nationwide militarized counterinsurgency campaign that is aimed against activists and progressives, under Executive Order 70. The NCCP member churches such as the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP), Iglesia Filipina Independiente (IFI), and the United Methodist Church (UMC) are targets of this campaign. Human rights and environmental defenders, as well as the communities and individuals that they serve, are also targets. The war on drugs is worsening the plight of the poor, resulting in the killing of thousands and leaving their surviving family members with few legal options in local and national courts. Meanwhile very few members of law enforcement and the Philippine National Police (PNP) have been investigated in their roles in this war on drugs. Those who are defending the lands, sometimes the ancestral domains of indigenous peoples, from the development of mines and dams, are having to deal with the Philippine military that uses their might to protect the interests of international companies. Farmers, who seek to provide food for their families during their low seasons while working in feudal systems, are imprisoned or killed, while the lawyers who seek to represent them are murdered. Meanwhile the Philippine government has ordered the additional deployment of both Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) to suppress the violence and terror in these agrarian communities.

In red tagging the NCCP, the Philippine government has implicated, by association and membership, its member churches including the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP). This is not the first red-tagging accusation for UCCP. This accusation defies the open lines of communication previously promoted through dialogues between UCCP and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and Philippine National Police (PNP) leaders, under several previous presidential administrations.

Under the current administration of Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, this red tagging of churches and church leaders emboldens the government to silence dissent. Many UCCP church leaders have already experienced threat, harassment, and intimidation, as well as vilification, filing of trumped up cases, and unlawful arrests.

II. Ecumenical Solidarity

The UCCP is a seventy-two-year-old denomination with mission heritage from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The 217th General Assembly (2006) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) approved Item 7-11 (see <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/1383>) and recognized this denial of human rights in the Philippines through the crackdown and killing of UCCP church leaders. The 218th General

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Assembly (2008), in approving Item 11-31 (see <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/2123>), affirmed new measures of solidarity with Philippine church partners in light of numerous and well-documented human rights violations against church leaders and civil society groups. The global ecumenical community has expressed prayerful solidarity with Philippine church partners out of grave concern of human rights violations in the Philippines. The Central Committee of the World Council of Churches, meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, on June 15–21, 2018, among several actions similar to what is being requested in this overture, adopted an action of solidarity, urging the government of the Philippines to “end the culture of impunity, order the investigation of all killings, and drop the Department of Justice’s petition to declare activists as terrorists” as well as the “resumption of formal peace talks between the government of the Philippines and the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP)” (see document # GEN PUB 05.04 at : <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/central-committee/geneva-2018/situation-in-the-philippines>). The Executive Committee of the World Communion of Reformed Churches adopted actions in 2012, 2013, and 2015 urging that human rights be honored, and that justice and peace pursued in various focus areas in the world, including the Philippines (see Minutes of the WCRC Executive Committee: 2012, p. 164; 2013, p. 151; 2015, pp. 15, 202).

In addition to the solidarity through PC(USA) General Assembly actions, the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations (PMUN) can provide support by including the Philippines in its reporting mechanisms and facilitating Philippine delegations. At the upcoming 44thth Regular Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council meeting in June 2020, for Resolution No. 41/2, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights will prepare a report based on data submitted by various organizations. Starting with this overture, the PMUN draws attention to the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP) report that was already submitted to the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights. The NCCP report included examples about these UCCP church leaders:

III. Real-Life Examples of Christian Leaders Experiencing Violence and Harassment

Bishop Modesto Villasanta, Bishop Emeritus of the UCCP, has been harassed by the military on various instances for his ministry and advocacy for the Lumad (collective term for indigenous people of the island of Mindanao). In November 2017, Bp. Villasanta along with Fr. Raymond Ambray and other members of the Friends of the Lumad in Caraga were subjected to threat, harassment, and intimidation by Col. Andres Centino, Brigade Commander of the 401st Brigade of the Philippine Army during a meeting of the Municipal Peace and Order Council (MPOC).

In November 2017, Perfecto Hoyle, a lay pastor for the UCCP, was shot by two masked men in his front yard. This incident occurred in a village in Kicharao, Agusan del Norte, where the 29th Infantry Battalion of the Philippine Army was encamped at the time of the shooting. Hoyle was known to be a staunch advocate of peasant rights, advancing the interests of the farmers in their area. He was a member of a peasant organization, UMAN (Peasant Union of Agusan Del Norte).

In September 2018, Rachel Mariano, wife of UCCP Pastor Bill Mariano, handed herself over to the court to prove her innocence of the charges levelled against her. Rachel was charged with different counts of murder related to an encounter between the AFP and NPA in Quirino, Ilocos Sur, in October 2017. The trumped-up charges were filed by the 81st Infantry Battalion of the 7th Infantry Division of the AFP based in Ilocos Sur. Since the fabricated charges were non-bailable, she was incarcerated in the provincial jail for close to a year and was only freed after a year had passed. Rachel is a human rights defender working as the health program desk coordinator of Community Health, Education, Services and Training in the Cordillera Region (CHESTCORE).

There was also the unlawful arrest in June 2019 of seven civilians, some of whom are members of the UCCP and IFI in the remote area of Buenavista Himamaylan, Negros. Included was Pastor Jimmy Teves, UCCP Licentiate Pastor, who together with a co-pastor has been serving seventeen UCCP

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local churches. According to verified reports from the UCCP Office of the Bishop of West Visayas Jurisdiction, the seven were arrested on trumped-up charges of murder and frustrated murder. They were arrested without the benefit of a genuine preliminary investigation that is required by law. Their arrest happened within months of the killings of other activists, including fourteen killings on one day and seventeen killings over six days. The Negros Occidental and Oriental regions are included in a memorandum order that supports the “immediate deployment of additional forces of both PNP and AFP, to suppress violence and acts of terror.”

In addition to those situations, the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP) is aware of and responding to these specific cases:

Although Rachel Mariano was released from prison, her family continues to fear for their lives because of red tagging. Members of the 2nd Civil-Military Operations Company under the 7th Infantry Division of the Philippine Army made regular unannounced visits to Rev. Mariano. A soldier claiming to serve with the 81st Infantry Battalion has asked for his home address. This same individual has accused him of being a member of the New People’s Army. Rev. Mariano is very involved in a community organization called Defend Ilocos, known for its campaigns against destructive mining. Their daughter, Jennybeth, has also experienced red tagging on social media. She is the secretary-general of Anakbayan Ilocos, a regional student-led progressive organization.

In September 2019, UCCP Bishop Hamuel Tequis of the Southeast Mindanao Jurisdictional Area received a charge of human trafficking of Lumad children, based on a complaint issued by the Philippine National Police (PNP) and Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). Along with two colleagues from Save our Schools Network, they accompanied the children from UCCP Haran to the General Santos City Airport. Under the custody of the DSWD, the children were subject to intimidation and harassment by police authorities for three days. Authorities also prevented their parents from securing their children and subjected these parents to harassment. Save Our Schools Network provides an alternative school environment for Lumad (a collective word for indigenous peoples in Mindanao) students who have been forcibly displaced from their communities because of militarized violence. For many years now, UCCP Haran provided a venue for the schooling of some hundreds of Lumad children and a home for displaced Lumads.

Both Rev. Rosing Doydora and her husband Reynaldo are facing separate charges of murder, and her husband is in jail. She is a UCCP church worker from the Bukidnon Area Conference. Since 2010, they have been active with a farmer’s organization, NAMAKA, with anti-illegal logging and anti-quarry campaigns focused on protecting human rights and the environment. Due to military operations in the same region as NAMAKA, the couple has been implicated for supporting the New People’s Army (NPA).

In eastern Visayas, UCCP church workers and their ecumenical colleagues are investigating the impact of climate change on their human rights. El Niño has replaced harvests of rice, abaca, corn, and coconut, with drought, disease, and displacement. Las Navas, located in Northern Samar, now suffers from zero abaca production. Farmers who only knew this livelihood, are left with little or no government assistance in seeking alternative sources of income. In November 2019, there were reports of a bomb in Las Navas, as well as forced entry and strafing of homes. School has also been suspended. The military claims that one specific farmer was a commander of the New People’s Army, the armed counterpart of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

In the UCCP South Luzon Jurisdictional Area, several church workers who are actively serving as pastors of local churches, face trumped-up charges. The Reverend Dan P. San Andres currently serves as an administrative pastor and chairperson of the Christian Witness and Service of the UCCP North Bicol conference. He has been accused of double murder charges in Ragay, Camarines Sur. The Reverend Elena Del Valle serves as an administrative pastor in Palawan. She has been tagged as a supporter of the CPP-NPA-NDF. The Reverend Luisito Saliendra is an administrative pastor and

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chairperson of the Evangelism and Church Development Committee, of the Southern Tagalog Conference. He was charged with attempted murder. The Reverend Edwin Egar is an administrative pastor and chairperson of the Christian Witness and Service committee of the Batangas Associate Conference. He was charged with attempted murder.

The common denominator for these UCCP church leaders is their commitment to serving vulnerable communities, such as farmers and Lumads, in their vision for a society that is centered on human rights, peace, and justice. Such acts are not only out of their sense of welfare and patriotism but are deeds inspired by and integral to their Christian faith. They are expressions of their faithfulness to the UCCP’s Statement of Faith. And these very communities are the ones who stand to benefit from sustainable livelihoods and adequate social services such as health care and education. These concerns are the core of the ongoing peace process between the Philippine government and the Communist Party of the Philippines. Both UCCP and NCCP leaders also actively support these peace talks.

IV. International Response

International governments, nongovernmental organizations, and faith institutions alike have called attention to the human rights violations occurring in the Philippines. On February 28, 2019, members of the House Foreign Affairs committee called on U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to raise human rights concerns with the government of President Duterte around the Philippine government’s assault on civil society, media freedom, and human rights. The letter concluded, “the United States must not be silent in the face of democratic regression in the Philippines.” Later that year, U.S. Senators brought to light a portion of the Philippine government’s injustices through proposing Senate Resolution 142 to employ the Global Magnitsky Act in order to place sanctions on those in the Philippine government and security forces responsible for the arrest and continued detention of Philippine Senator Leila De Lima. De Lima, an internationally recognized human rights defender and vocal critic against the extrajudicial killings of Duterte’s War on Drugs, was arrested in 2017 on trumped-up drug-trafficking charges. However, these sanctions would barely scratch the surface of the government-sponsored injustices occurring throughout the nation.

The Philippine military and state forces insist on cracking down on church leaders and human rights defenders for their work. Backing up those who support this crackdown is the United States military who also provides the training and ammunition. Since 2016 the US Department of State and Department of Defense have provided close to \$550 million in defense funding to the Philippines and have increased joint military exercises with the nation’s armed forces. When this information is viewed in tandem with the reality that many of these extrajudicial killings, including those cited above, occur by the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the U.S. is condoning and even supporting these actions.

V. Final Word

Previous General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) have acknowledged and resolved to take action regarding the human rights violations in the Philippines. These critical issues cannot be meaningfully resolved in a mere decade or two. The PC(USA) must continue what it started by advocating for the U.S. government to cease funding the violent actions of the Philippine Armed Forces and by standing alongside the church’s siblings of faith in the Philippines as they fight for the rights and dignity of themselves and the people of their country.

Overture to 224th GA “On Fossil Fuel Divesture” (OVT-013)

The Presbytery of Monmouth overtures the 224th General Assembly (2020) to:

1. Recognize that fossil fuels have been used by humans to create a better world for many people and that the time of their usefulness is now over.
2. Recognize that divestment from fossil fuels is a viable approach to the climate emergency, which thousands of other institutions have used to hold the fossil fuel industry accountable for their inadequate responses to this emergency.
3. Commend Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) for their ongoing work with shareholder engagement to hold these industries accountable to the just and equitable values that Presbyterians seek to uphold.
4. Call on the PC(USA), The Presbyterian Foundation, the Board of Pensions, and the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program, Inc., to divest from the fossil fuel industry, using the Carbon Underground 200 and the S&P Global Industry Classification Standard’s list of publicly traded companies engaged in coal, oil, and gas exploration, extraction, and production as the criteria to identify which companies are considered to be fossil fuel companies.
5. Proscribe (stop) any new investments in fossil fuel industry securities.
6. Instruct the Presbyterian Mission Agency, through MRTI, to correspond through form letter to all fossil fuel companies and presbyteries in which they are headquartered of the action and the theological and moral rationale for this decision.
7. Encourage the Board of Pensions and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation to actively seek out and invest in securities of companies whose predominant focus is in renewable and/or energy efficiency.
8. Direct the Presbyterian Mission Agency, through MRTI, to monitor the Board of Pensions and Presbyterian Foundation on actions to divest/invest and to report to the 225th General Assembly (2022) on their progress in implementing Recommendations 4-7.

Rationale

Presbyterians, and all people of faith, are always called to serve the earth. This is God’s call for all humanity from the very beginning (Genesis 2:15). While fossil fuels have allowed us to create a better world for many, we now know its impact on creation and future generations is threatening the life we know and cherish. As we confess that failure, we must listen to and engage with the people in frontline communities who are already experiencing climate change, to better understand the human toll climate change has taken and will continue to take on God’s children.

Here are just a couple of their voices:

“Every time there's an investment in fossil fuels, we in Africa have never been the winners of that investment. So yes this fight is about climate change but it's about decolonization and survival too” (Coumba Toure of Trust Africa).

“There’s 5.9 hours of sunlight on average every day in Puerto Rico [which is a lot]. But there’s no [infrastructure for] solar or wind. Fossil fuel companies want to make money from oil here—and that’s colonialism” (Dr. Ediberto Lopez of el Seminario Evangélico de Puerto Rico).

Everything else we do as people of faith to rationalize the need for immediate and categorical divestment takes root in this context and the way our church already acts in the rest of the world. To that end, we offer the below rationale for divestment from fossil fuels from frontline communities, according to the science, and in line with previous Presbyterian policy.

We cannot continue to invest in the past while at the same time investing in the future.

Moral Rationale

“Then the LORD said to Cain, ‘Where is your brother Abel?’ ‘I don’t know,’ he replied. ‘Am I my brother’s keeper?’” (Gen. 4:9).

“... ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me’” (Mt. 25:40).

“The moral rationale that undergirds the divestment movement is driven by this logic: climate change is harming our planet and many who inhabit it; fossil fuels are a large driver of the climate problem; and alternatives to fossil fuels exist that can provide the core energy requirements of modern societies. Therefore, profiting from products that drive this damage is morally wrong, and divesting from these products is a moral obligation.”¹

This quotation is from a 2019 statement in favor of divestment by GreenFaith, an international and interfaith environmental nonprofit that has been the lead on faith-based divestment movements. This is the moral foundation of the movement to divest from fossil fuels that has been present in the PC(USA) since 2013. This morality is guided by the biblical call that we humans are created by God to serve the earth and other people as a way to love God. We are called to love God with our whole hearts. Where our treasure is there our heart will be also (Mt. 6:21).

We have watched as MRTI has faithfully sat at the table of fossil fuel companies, speaking boldly to companies that have lied to the world about climate change and fossil fuels. Still, their faithful witness has garnered slow promises that do not yet address the suffering and injustice implicit in climate change.

And so, it is our unequivocal commissioning to leave the table and divest from the fossil fuel industry, allowing us to reinvest in renewable energy and climate solutions. In doing so, we live out our chief end “to glorify God and enjoy God forever.”²

Scientific Rationale

Human use of fossil fuels has spurred economic and social growth, literally fueling the industrial revolution. However, burning fossil fuels has already raised the average temperature of the earth by 1°C (1.8°F). The latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change³ (IPCC) shows the extent of the damage we will cause to creation if we allow the earth’s temperature to rise by 1.5–2°C, the targets agreed to by all nations of the world under the Paris Agreement of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change⁴. Even at 1.5°C of warming, we can expect to see the extinction of more than 300,000 species of animals, have an ice-free Arctic in most summers, expose 14 percent of people to extreme heat waves (especially in the Global South), expose 250 million people to severe drought, and raise sea levels by at least 1.3 feet.

The increase in global temperature is already causing more frequent heat waves, higher sea levels, more severe droughts, and more frequent heavy rainfall events, resulting in billions of dollars in damage through flooding, wildfires, intense hurricanes, and droughts. These climate disasters have also impacted organisms and ecosystems while reducing crop yields and quality, increasing undernourishment, and damaging human health. Climate change migration is presently a fact of life for people of the Carteret Islands of Papua New Guinea; Shismaref, Alaska; and Isle de Jean Charles, Louisiana—all of whom are preparing to relocate due to the above-mentioned climate change impacts. Sea level rise is projected to reach at least 0.8 feet by the end of 2100 and as much as 6 feet if we do not take significant measures to reduce climate warming.⁵

Knowing we must keep climate to 1.5°–2°C of warming sets limits to how much fossil fuel can be burned. We have about ten years after the 224th General Assembly (2020) to stay within these warming limits. However, the fossil fuel industry’s own estimates⁶ show that burning the proved reserves of fossil fuels will release almost three times the carbon budget at 2°C⁷ and an astounding five times the 1.5°C budget—CO₂ that will remain in the atmosphere for hundreds of years. Despite these dire realities, oil and gas production is increasing, and PC(USA)’s money has helped allow oil and gas companies to spend more than \$114 Billion in 2017⁸ to acquire new deposits of oil and gas that we can’t afford to burn.

The fossil fuel industry often places new refineries and petrochemical plants in poor communities of color who lack the resources to stand in the way. This form of environmental racism drives some of the highest rates of cancer and disease in the country. A predominantly African American South Philadelphia community, for example, surrounds the Philadelphia Energy Solutions (PES) refinery. That plant was already Philadelphia’s biggest single air polluter before it recently exploded, sending toxic fumes into the surrounding community of people who cannot afford to move away from them. A 2017 report⁹ said the PES complex was responsible for 72 percent of the toxic air emissions in Philadelphia, a major factor in the city’s childhood asthma rate, which is more than double the national average, as well as causing a range of other health effects including headaches and cancer.¹⁰ Marathon Oil [one of PC(USA)’s GA⁹ investments¹¹], which recently spent \$1.9 billion to expand their refinery in a Detroit suburb, purchased property from nearby white neighbors in the path of the refinery’s pollution clouds, leaving communities of color to suffer.¹²

While we sit at the table trying to convince these companies to change their ways, they continue to perpetuate sins against humans and all creation. We currently profit from these scientific realities and sins against our neighbor. In the face of this climate emergency, we must stand firm in a bold witness with people who have been hurt by the fossil fuel industry—we must divest.

Criteria Rationale

The criteria this overture calls upon the denomination to use to define which companies are fossil fuel companies, and thereby, which will go on the divestment and proscription list, are of vital importance. The first criterion, the Carbon Underground 2001³, compiled and maintained by Fossil Free IndexesSM, identifies the top 100 coal and the top 100 oil and gas publicly traded reserve holders globally, ranked by the potential carbon emissions content of their reported reserves. This is the approach that has been most commonly used by institutions seeking to divest. By identifying the publicly traded companies with the largest reserves, divesting from these companies has the most immediate impact.

The second criterion is the S&P Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS®)¹⁴ listing of publicly traded companies engaged in coal, oil and gas exploration, extraction, and production. The GICS was designed in response to the global financial community’s need for accurate, complete, and standard industry definitions. The GICS structure consists of 11 Sectors, 24 Industry groups, 69 Industries and 158 sub-industries. Used for financial indices such as the S&P Oil & Gas Exploration & Production Select Industry Index, the GICS Industry categories Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels

(101020) and Energy Equipment & Services (101010) capture the entire industry. Using this criterion prevents proscribing investment in companies selling petroleum products while still profiting from companies engaged in exploration, extraction, and production, such as oil rig producers and independent fracking companies.

The third criterion calls for divestment. The Board of Pensions has consistently argued that they cannot divest without undermining their fiduciary responsibility to pension holders. However, more than 1,000 institutions—who must also uphold fiduciary responsibility—have already divested, representing more than \$11 trillion worldwide.¹⁵ Clearly it is possible (and one might argue necessary) to divest from fossil fuels and still be responsible for the investments of pensioners.

In 2017, the IPCC reported we have about ten years after the 224th General Assembly (2020) to make major changes, including a 45 percent reduction in CO₂ emissions by 2030 and reaching net-zero emissions by 2050 to stay within 1.5°C of warming¹⁶. PC(USA)’s Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) committee currently uses a set of criteria that fail to respond prophetically to the urgency of climate change. MRTI’s methodical approach is unnecessarily time consuming when there is little time left to act. MRTI has carefully constructed an evaluation rubric consisting of 20 environmental metrics, 12 social metrics, and 12 governance metrics (with several subcategories in some of these). Such an environmental, social, and governance (ESG) evaluation is the cornerstone of modern socially responsible investing. The 222nd General Assembly (2016) charged MRTI with identifying these metrics in 2016. The 223rd General Assembly (2018) approved the metrics and identified an initial list of nine companies to consider, of which only six are oil and gas companies¹⁷. MRTI may deliver a list of proposed divestments to the 224th General Assembly (2020)—six years since the 221st General Assembly (2014) first considered divestment. There is no certainty that MRTI will consider any additional companies post 2020 because such a move would require a mandate from General Assembly. In fact, current MRTI efforts will not even provide a clear idea which of these companies are moving towards a low-carbon future and which are not until 2023, making further significant action unlikely before the 226th General Assembly (2024) meeting¹⁸. Additionally, the MRTI approach includes no proscription of investment in other fossil fuel companies, so PC(USA) funds divested from one oil company could be reinvested into another. Finally, The MRTI process is too slow to make the changes we need now to protect creation.

PC(USA) Policy Rationale

“He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6:8).

The PC(USA) has a long history of divestment and, in particular, of categorical divestment. The church has divested from five industrial categories—military-related products, tobacco companies, alcohol corporations, gambling businesses, and for-profit prisons. The church has also divested from particular corporations that have contributed to human rights abuses in specific times and places.

In 1984 when the PC(USA) adopted its policy on divestment¹⁹ it provided for “divestment of holdings in a particular firm or class of firms is both part of the normal management of funds and potentially an occasion for Christian witness to God’s call for justice and the renewal of society”. However, in its implementation of this policy, the PC(USA)’s Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) has developed a policy for divestment from an entire industrial category (class of firms). The paths to categorical divestment and the forms it has taken have thus diverged in each case. Such flexibility has allowed the church to appropriately respond to different industries and the various social and environmental problems each creates.

The 194th General Assembly (1982) of the United Presbyterian Church in the USA, for example, instructed the church to divest from corporations involved in military activities. Between 1982 and 1998, the General Assembly refined this industrial category to include (1) the five biggest military

contractors to the U.S. government, (2) companies that receive at least 50 percent of their sales from military contracts and are among the 100 highest-earning military contractors, (3) the top five earning companies engaged in foreign military sales, and (4) corporations that produce weapons that can lead to mass civilian casualties. MRTI began recommending these measures after ten years of shareholder engagement.

The General Assembly instructed the church to divest from all tobacco companies in 1990. The overture to divest called upon MRTI to “develop annually a list of corporations ‘whose primary business is tobacco and are known as such.’” In 1996, the General Assembly directed MRTI to use the Investor Responsibility Research Center, the American Lung Association, and Corporate Campaign, Inc. to define what qualifies as a tobacco company. From these guidelines, twenty-one corporations were identified. MRTI did not conduct any shareholder engagement prior to the General Assembly’s decision to divest.

Neither the General Assembly nor MRTI has ever called for divestment from alcohol or gambling corporations. However, the Board of Pensions and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation have their own policies, which govern divesting/proscribing investments in all domestic and international alcohol and gambling corporations.

The General Assembly voted in 2003 to call for the abolition of all for-profit prisons, jails, and detention centers. In 2012, the General Assembly instructed MRTI to “report on the feasibility of affecting the corporate practices of Corrections Corporation of America (CCA), the GEO Group, and any other publicly traded corporation that directly manages or operates for-profit prisons and/or detention centers.” MRTI determined, “while efforts could be made through shareholder advocacy (where stock is owned in a publicly traded company), such efforts might improve some prison conditions, but would not address the fundamental contradictions identified by the 215th General Assembly (2003).” The General Assembly therefore voted to divest from all publicly traded for-profit prison companies.

The denomination has chosen to divest from each of these entire industrial categories in the first place because the very nature of these industries has been seen as harmful to the spiritual and biological life of God’s creation.

This overture to categorically divest from the fossil fuel industry would take a prophetic stance to protect God’s creation and ensure a sustainable energy future for the church and God’s world.

Endnotes

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10. Frank Kummer 2019. *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. Philadelphia refinery that caught fire is city's biggest single polluter. <https://www.inquirer.com/science/climate/philadelphia-refinery-fire-pollution-history-20190624.html>.
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15. <https://gofossilfree.org/divestment/commitments/>.
16. Ibid.
17. Ibid
18. https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/mrti-shares-first-round-of-general-assembly-environmental-compliance-scores/?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Presbyterian+Church+USA+Weekly+News&utm_campaign=Presbyterian+Church+USA+Weekly+News+%7C+Sep+04-10+2019&fbclid=IwAR1GsHB6vEJUlhx_9gGqcWN9Tkma2U8uBhF410dLP71kt6ly-xnBB3XZqc
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Report from Financial Affairs Committee
April 2020

Action items:

- Recommends approval of nine-month lease including use of sanctuary between St. Andrew PC & Iglesias de Dios Santa Cruz
- Recommends approval of Westminster PC Synod loan renewal
- Recommends approval of the 24-year cell tower lease extension between First Presbyterian Church of Santa Clara and Crown Castle.

Committee Approvals:

- Five-year lease between Presbytery and Immanuel House.
- The Presbytery's fund application to the Synod Anne Penke Committee.
- One-year rental agreement between Westhope United PC & Google Commission.
- Two-year lease between Northminster PC & Paradigm Adult Services
- Deferral of payments of Presbytery loan to Santa Teresa Hills until September, and credit for interest paid to date.

Items for information:

- The March 14th Treasurers' Training was cancelled due to concerns About COVID-19.
- Two Zoom meeting for Treasurers' on April 25th and May 20th. The meetings will be 10am-11am. Information has been sent to churches.
- The Committee began meeting every 2 weeks starting in March so that we can stay abreast of financial changes and respond quickly to requests for support during this crisis. Churches are encouraged to explore all avenues for support if they are experiencing financial hardship, and they can turn to the Presbytery for assistance, if needed.
 - Churches requesting financial assistance from Presbytery should provide the committee their current and previous year financial statements, an explanation of their shortfall, and any steps they've taken with a plan for repayment, and how soon they need the funds. The committee will review all requests on a case by case basis.
- Synod have agreed to defer loans payments for 3 months upon request and the term of the loan will be extended for those 3 months. Interest will not be charged during the 3 months.

- The Presbyterian Board of Pensions is offering up to 3 months dues relief to churches with membership under 300 and one pastor, and up to 3 months dues deferral for larger churches.
- Committee recommends that all churches made an effort to complete the 571-L business property tax filings in a timely fashion. Information is available on the Presbytery website.
- Presbytery received the Anne Penke Funds

Sharon Rowser, Chair

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

Items for Docket: None

Information Items:

1. Rev. Nancy Schell (HR) passed away on Sunday February 16, 2020 and a Service of Witness to the Resurrection at Westminster on March 1, 2020 was attended by many who gave thanks for her life and ministry.
2. The Annual Report of Terms of Call for Clergy Serving Congregations will be mailed on May 8th to Moderators and Clerks of Sessions at the addresses that we have in our directory. We do not distribute this electronically, but requests can be made by any commissioner for this report to be mailed to them by contacting Presbytery staff.
3. COM has approved the following agreements in February, March, and April 2020:
 - a) Stated Supply Pastor Agreement between session of San Martin Presbyterian and the Rev. Michael Garner was approved with amendments starting January 1, 2020, for a period of 12 months.
 - b) The Rev. Han Ho Kim was approved to have permission to labor outside our bounds on February 10, 2020.
 - c) Request for transfer of membership of the Rev. Tom Coop (HR) was received from Northeast Georgia Presbytery on March 26, 2020
 - d) Parish Associate Agreement dated February 4, 2020, between the Rev. I Sil Yoon and the Rev. Margaret Boles was approved.
 - e) Stated Supply Pastor Agreement between session of Evergreen Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Jenni Bales was approved.
 - f) Parish Associate agreement between session of Northminster Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Bill Lane was approved on March 10, 2020.
4. Exit interview with Rev. Katie Day, Associate Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Monterey and COM members Lizanne Reynolds, Andy Rausch, and George Minerva took place on March 18, 2020 via ZOOM. Rev. Day has taken a new call in the Greater Atlanta Presbytery.
5. Martha Wills was approved to be the COM liaison to serve the PNC for Trinity Presbyterian, Santa Cruz.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Boatwright
COM Chair

**Polity and Government Sub- Committee
Annual Report to the Presbytery of San Jose
May 2, 2020**

February 8, 2019 (with a little followup after the fact)

Statistical Reports were filed for all churches in the Presbytery of San Jose.

March 16, 2019 (with a little followup after the fact)

Session Records Reviews were completed for all churches in the Presbytery of San Jose.

June 1, 2019

Presbyters were reminded of several items that can increase their church's compliance with the Session Records Review which is done annually.

November 23, 2019

After much preparation by Polity and Government, the Presbytery of San Jose adopted revised Standing Rules.

November 2020

Polity and Government and the Stated Clerk encouraged Clerks of Session to complete the Clerk's Annual Questionnaire as distributed by the national church.

January 2020

Polity and Government reviewed for form the Overture to the 224th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Declaring the Presbyterian Church (USA) to be a Sanctuary and Accompaniment Church.

January 2020

Polity and Government considered drafting a policy template for a grievance process for lay employees to be included in the Manual of Operations and decided that this is out of the purview of the presbytery.

February 10, 2020 (with a little followup after the fact)

Statistical Reports were filed for all churches in the Presbytery of San Jose.

March 14, 2020

Reading Session Records was postponed due to the coronavirus. The Session Records Review form was updated in January.

May 2, 2020

Clerks of Session Open Forum scheduled after the Presbytery of San Jose regular meeting was postponed due to the coronavirus.

2019 Presbytery Statistical Report

Presbytery San Jose
Address 890 Meridian Way, San Jose, CA 95126
Phone 408-279-0220 **Fax** 408-279-5261
Email info@sanjosepby.org
Web Site www.sanjosepby.org



Membership			
Prior Active Members	4203	Adjusted membership	4211
Gains		Losses	
Certificate	47	Certificate	25
Youth Professions	19	Deaths	78
Professions & Reaffirmations	101	Deleted for any Other Reason	236
Total Gains	167	Total Losses	339
Total Ending Active Members	4039		

Baptisms		Average Weekly Worship Attendance	2436
Presented by Others	34	Female Members	2439
At Confirmation	10	Friends of the Congregation	790
All Other	12	Ruling Elders on Session	225
		Do you have Deacons? Yes / No	22 / 4

Age Distribution of Active Members		People with Disabilities	
25 & Under	357	Hearing impairment	157
26 - 40	523	Sight impairment	45
41 - 55	674	Mobility impairment	189
56 - 70	1031	Other impairment	119
Over 70	1391		
Total Age Distribution	3976		

Christian Education			
Birth - 3	73	Grade 7	39
Age 4	43	Grade 8	56
Kindergarten	33	Grade 9	26
Grade 1	46	Grade 10	39
Grade 2	37	Grade 11	33
Grade 3	40	Grade 12	34
Grade 4	57	Young Adults	142
Grade 5	46	Over 25	726
Grade 6	44	Teachers/Officers	228
		Total Christian Education	1742

Racial Ethnic			
Asian/Pacific Islander/South Asian	611	Native American/Alaska Native/Indigenous	62
Black/African American/African	107	White	2935
Middle Eastern/North African	17	Multiracial	100
Hispanic/Latino-a	117		
		Total Racial Ethnic	3949

Financial Data			
Annual Income	12,931,312	Mission Expenses	898,703
Annual Expenses	11,997,166	Personnel Expenses	7,344,007
		Facilities Expenses	2,094,229

**Presbytery of San Jose
2019
2019 Year End Statement of Financial Activity (1)**

	Mission Program (2)	Ecclesia Program (3)	Total Program (1)
REVENUES (4)			
(5) Per Capita	-	149,785.00	149,785.00
(6) Congregational Mission	245,000.00		245,000.00
(7) Pooled Investment	66,026.00	28,000.00	94,026.00
(8) Synod and GA Funding	20,179.00		20,179.00
(9) Immanuel House	15,758.00		15,758.00
(10) Cornerstone Rent	42,000.00		42,000.00
(11) Other Income	189,669.00	1,560,014.00	1,749,683.00
TOTAL REVENUE	578,632.00	1,737,799.00	2,316,431.00
DISBURSEMENTS (12)			
(13) Connections			
(14) Per Capita GA & Synod		63,113.00	63,113.00
(15) Justice & Mission	62,728.00	840.00	63,568.00
Total Connections	62,728.00	63,953.00	126,681.00
Resources			
(17) Scholarships	7,613.00		7,613.00
(18) Vision Grants/Chrch Grwth	73,570.00		73,570.00
(19) Other Projects	33,771.00	9,431.00	43,202.00
Total Resources	114,954.00	9,431.00	124,385.00
(20) Ministries			
(21) Staff and Benefits	246,248.00	159,071.00	405,319.00
(22) Office and Facilities	98,125.00	51,048.00	149,173.00
Total Ministries	344,373.00	210,119.00	554,492.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	522,055.00	283,503.00	805,558.00
NET REVENUE	56,577.00	1,454,296.00	1,510,873.00

1 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES, the Profit and Loss, lists the revenue (income) and the disbursements (expenses) of the organization for the last fiscal year.

2 MISSION/PROGRAM Budget, the revenues come from the Basic Mission Giving of our congregations with some assistance from Presbytery investment income and supports the general mission staff and programs of the Presbytery.

3 ECCLESIASTICAL Budget, the revenues come from the Per Capita of our congregations with some assistance from Presbytery investment income and growth and these support the operations of the Presbytery.

4 REVENUE, the income of the Presbytery is divided into broad categories for better understanding.

5 PER CAPITA, this is the Presbytery's portion of the amount paid by the individual congregations based upon the number of members on their roles at the time of the previous year report.

6 CONGREGATIONAL MISSION, this is the Presbytery's portion of the Basic Mission Giving from the churches of the Presbytery.

7 POOLED INVESTMENT, some of the returns from Presbytery's investment pool are used to help fund the budget of the Mission and Ecclesiastical Program.

8 SYNOD AND GA FUNDING, Synod of the Pacific has extra income from their Savings and Loan program, and they share some of their excess with each of the Presbyteries in the Synod. There are a few endowments set up at the Synod (Anne Penke) and the GA (Walker) that send income to the Presbytery and some of our expenses are part of the GA funding programs (i.e. Hunger, Peace).

- 9 **IMMANUEL HOUSE**, this is a pass-through account, the money that comes in for IH is given for their work.
- 10 **CORNERSTONE RENT**, Cornerstone pays the equivalent of their share of the cost of insurance, taxes, and utilities.
- 11 **OTHER INCOME**, this represents the amounts from the "interest" on the dismissal money used for various Community Mission Projects, Congregational Renewal Projects, Per Capita assistance, and also includes the net gain or loss of investments for the year.
- 12 **DISBURSEMENTS**, the expenses of the Presbytery are divided into three areas based upon our vision statement. We are seeking to build **connections** between churches and the community, we are seeking to provide needed **resources** to congregations, and we are seeking to help individual **ministries** as well.
- 13 **CONNECTIONS**, the various ways the Presbytery supports congregations and their work of ministry to the communities where we live.
- 14 **PER CAPITA GA and Synod**, this is our annual assessment paid to the GA and Synod.
- 15 **JUSTICE AND MISSION**, the budgeted expenditures of the Mission and the Peace & Justice task forces.
- 16 **RESOURCES**, Resourcing congregations for greater effectiveness.
- 17 **SCHOLARSHIPS**, scholarships are available for adults and youth from the churches of the Presbytery for camps, conferences and further religious education.
- 18 **VISION GRANTS/CHURCH GROWTH**, a variety of grants are available for projects at your church to improve the quality of the church's program and ministry.
- 19 **OTHER PROJECTS**, including the resources of Hunger and Safe Church Advocates, representation and empowerment, Stewardship Training, the Media Center support, COM and CPM committees, Emergency Assistance and the like.
- 20 **MINISTRIES**, mobilize (Assist) relationships between Teaching and Ruling Elders within our bounds so they can work together for the greater good of the Kingdom of God.
- 21 **STAFF AND BENEFITS**, providing the Exec Presbyter, Stated Clerk, Admin, Accountant, and Treasurer to help the ongoing work of the Presbytery.
- 22 **OFFICE AND FACILITIES**, carrying on the work of the Presbytery including rent, maintenance, supplies, equipment, payroll services, auditing, insurance, utilities, etc.

**Presbytery of San Jose
2019
Year End Financial Balance Sheet (1)**

	Mission Program (2)	Ecclesia. Program (3)	Total Program (1)
ASSETS (4)			
(5) Cash Accounts			
(6) Bank & Savings Accts	77,175.00	810,125.00	887,300.00
(7) Synod Cash Accts	117,939.00	128,914.00	246,853.00
Total Cash Accounts	195,114.00	939,039.00	1,134,153.00
(8) Investment Accounts			
(9) Synod (MDC) Accts	200,283.00	1,701,001.00	1,901,284.00
(10) Presbyterian Foundation	1,200,483.00	1,725,739.00	2,926,222.00
(11) Brokerage Acct		9,742,139.00	9,742,139.00
(12) Credit Lines Out		94,381.00	94,381.00
Total Investment Accts	1,400,766.00	13,263,260.00	14,664,026.00
(13) Fixed Assets			
(14) Real Estate (book value)			
(Imm House & Meridian)		1,502,492.00	1,502,492.00
TOTAL ASSETS	1,595,880.00	15,704,791.00	17,300,671.00
LIABILITIES (15)			
(16) Restricted Funds			
(17) Special Funds	182,189.00	3,857,683.00	4,039,872.00
(18) Scholarship Funds	720,000.00	-	720,000.00
(19) Evergreen Funds	613,960.00	-	613,960.00
(20) Reserve Fund		4,187,579.00	4,187,579.00
(21) Cypress Ave. Funds		1,530,000.00	1,530,000.00
(22) Dismissal Receipts to date	-	2,667,340.00	2,667,340.00
(23) Office Operations	19,982.00	-	19,982.00
Total Restricted Funds	1,536,131.00	12,242,602.00	13,778,733.00
(24) Unrestricted Funds			-
(25) Real Estate	-	1,502,492.00	1,502,492.00
(26) Cash Equivalents	59,749.00	1,959,697.00	2,019,446.00
Total Unrestricted Funds	59,749.00	3,462,189.00	3,521,938.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,595,880.00	15,704,791.00	17,300,671.00

Notes:

- 1 **STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**, the Balance Sheet, does not indicate anything related to income and expenses but summarizes the assets and liabilities (obligations) of the organization.
- 2 **MISSION/PROGRAM**, this column includes the locations of the assets owned by the Presbytery directly related to the Mission/Program.
- 3 **ECCLESIASTICAL PROGRAMS**, this column includes the locations of the assets owned by the Presbytery directly related to the Ecclesiastical/Program.
- 4 **ASSETS**, the assets are defined as any real asset, like a bank account, the value of investments, the book value of real property and the like.
- 5 **Cash Accounts**, these monies are in bank and savings accounts and in "demand" accounts at the Synod. They are to help meet the short-term obligations of the Presbytery, i.e. day-to-day cash flow.
- 6 **Bank & Savings Accts**, are the balances of various bank and savings accounts, currently located at Bank of the West.

- 7 **Synod Cash Accts** are the balances of various deposits with the Synod of the Pacific in Custodial Funds that receive interest. These include accounts where the money is deposited "on demand" just like a savings account. (Note: These accounts are available to local PCUSA churches in the Synod but not to individuals.)
- 8 **Investment Accounts**, these accounts include longer term investment (MDCs) available through the Synod, mutual funds, ETFs, Bonds, and some additional investments.
- 9 **Synod (MDC) Accts**, are similar to CDs which pay a higher rate of return depending on the length of time the money is invested. This is a product of the Synod of the Pacific; and is available to Presbyteries and local churches in the Synod but not to individuals.
- 10 **Presbyterian Foundation (NCF) Accts**, are mutual funds invested by the New Covenant Funds. The Growth fund invests in stocks of the S&P 500 companies with the Socially Responsible guidelines of the General Assembly. The Income Fund includes government bonds and similar fixed income opportunities. You can see information about these investments on their website; NewCovenantFunds.com
- 11 **Brokerage Acct**, The Stock portion of the Brokerage account is invested in S&P 500 vehicles SPY, SPYX and SUSA. The Bond portion of the Brokerage account is invested in a variety of corporate bonds available on the open market; laddered out over an 8-10-year time horizon.
- 12 **Credit Lines Outstanding**, in certain extraordinary circumstances the Presbytery has loaned monies at interest for specific projects that seemed beneficial. Presbytery encourages churches who are looking for loans to take advantage of the Synod Loan Program and their various different interest rates and loans.
- 13 **Fixed Assets**, this includes property assets that include real property, in the case of the Presbytery, Real Estate holdings.
- 14 **Real Estate**, The Presbytery owns the property known as the Immanuel House ministry and the property at Meridian Way where the offices are located, and Cornerstone Church currently resides.
- 15 **LIABILITIES**, the liabilities show how much of the assets are allocated to specific projects. For example, your home bank account might have 5,000 in it. But some of that money is specifically earmarked for the upcoming insurance payment and future property taxes so you cannot spend all of the money in the checking account. The Presbytery has obligations as well.
- 16 **Restricted Funds** have been set aside for specific projects, with the expectation that they will be used in the future for those purposes.
- 17 **Special Funds** set aside to pay for programs in the future, like the Youth Triennium, Camperships, Christian Education projects, Cong Development, Representation, Justice & Mission, COM projects and some potential creative ministries the Presbytery is exploring at this time.
- 18 **Scholarship Funds**, the proceeds of these funds, primarily coming from the sale of the Corralitos Camp property and set aside at the time by a vote of Presbytery, are used for scholarships for people within the Presbytery to attend camps and conferences.
- 19 **Evergreen (Property)**, this is money from the sale of their church property, and it produces income to help the Evergreen church with some of its ongoing expenses.
- 20 **Cypress Ave. Funds** came from the sale of the Cypress Ave Property and were set aside at the time for Korean American ministries.
- 21 **Dismissal Receipts to date**, these funds have come from the settlement agreements of the dismissal of churches in our Presbytery. The proceeds of these investments will fund per capita, community mission, and congregational renewal through grants to churches in our Presbytery. See the criteria and the application forms under the Financial Affairs Committee on the Presbytery website; sanjosepby.org.
- 22 **Reserve Fund**, with an ongoing combined Mission Program and Ecclesiastical Program Budget of 750,000, the reserve monies are designed to produce enough Return on Investment (ROI) to cover approximately 1/4 of the annual budget if so needed.
- 23 **Office Operations**, these monies are available for expenses related to the office of the Presbytery.
- 24 **UnRestricted Funds**, these funds are monies that have not been earmarked for a particular purpose or project and the purchase (book) value of the properties of the Presbytery.

**The Presbytery of San Jose
Ministry Funding Electronic Application Form**

Vision of Ministry Funding Program:

Helping Congregations in the Presbytery do the work of God’s kingdom with connections, resources, ministries and hope. This program is administered by two Presbytery Work Groups, Church Health & Growth and Mission & Outreach. The full policy and this form in Word can be found at:

<http://www.sanjosepby.org/committees/financial-affairs-ministry-forms/>

Instructions to Clerk of Session:

Please complete this form and note that submission of this request attests that this application has been endorsed by the Session and that Session understands that Project funds shall be used for the purpose(s) described in this application and that any excess funds shall be returned to the Presbytery. Session will submit a report at the end of this grant period summarizing their experience. If Application is for a “Connection” project then a second form should be submitted separately by the second church.

Email completed document to Diane Case, Presbytery Accountant rdtkcase@comcast.net

AND to the appropriate Presbytery Work Group Chair:

Church Health & Growth Work Group Chair, Rev. Dave Watermulder david.watermulder@gmail.com

Mission & Outreach Work Group Chair, Rev. Margaret Boles semfemmb@aol.com

1) Applicant Church Name:

2) Project (working) Name:

3) Clerk of Session, Name and Email:

4) Project Contact, Name and Email:

5) Type of Project:

Select ONE: () **Church Health & Growth Project-** Explores new ways to express the love of Christ within our churches or provide health, vitality, care or revitalization for the church community.

 () **Mission & Outreach project** –Increases the service of our churches to meet the physical, spiritual, social, or emotional needs of our greater San Jose community or otherwise develops our mission capacity.

6) Breadth of Project:

Select ONE: () “Connections/ Two or more Congregations” max \$ 6,000

() “Resource/ One Congregation” max \$ 2,500

() “Mobilize/ One leader” max \$ 500

7) Amount requested:

8) Have you previously received grant funding for this project? If so, when?

9) Date approved by Session:

10) Project Summary:

Please provide a maximum of ten-line project summary: including the identified need, the proposed actions to be taken, timing of the project, other sources of funding if any, who you will be working with, and how you believe this project will further the ministry of the Presbytery of San Jose.