

# OMINIBUS MOTION

STATED MEETING, PRESBYTERY OF LOS RANCHOS

MAY 16, 2009

Tustin Presbyterian Church

## Presbytery Council

The Presbytery Council met on Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, and reports the following actions:

1. Approved the Minutes of the March 21 meeting of Presbytery and of the February 24 meeting of Council.
2. Heard report on the Installation of Rev. Jason Ko as Pastor of Community Presbyterian Church, La Mirada and of the retirement service of Rev. Joseph Kho from the Formosan Presbyterian Church of Orange County.
3. Authorized the shared expenses for hosting Diana Butler Bass as special speaker in the presbytery, October 2-3. [This event was previously approved by Council.]
4. Received report from the Committee on Ministry which reviewed and approved all changes in Terms of Call of all ministers in the presbytery. [This function delegated to COM per provisions of Form of Government.]
5. Received request to have two Inquirer to Candidate examinations and two examinations for Ordination at the May presbytery meeting.
6. Approved up to \$1000 for scholarships for the Big Tent Event in June. (4 @ \$250 each). Money from Leadership Development portion of money in Sale of Property Fund.
7. Nominating Committee reported it is working on names for Ad Hoc Staffing Team should The Odyssey Group recommendations be adopted.
8. Approved the following motion from Property and Finance concerning Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, Costa Mesa (note time constraint):

### **Approve the continuing guarantee of PCUSA church loan from Loan Fund A as requested by PILP and the congregation.**

**Background:** Presbyterian Church of the Covenant has a Church Loan Program, loan with PCUSA. It is time for the periodic review and update on that loan. The church treasurer and finance committee have been putting the requested documents together for PILP, who administers the loan. PILP needs the application and documents by April 30, 2009. Therefore we need Council's approval to "recommend the review and revision in repayment schedule of GA loan, recognizing Los Ranchos role as guarantor."

The original loan was for \$350,000 for major building renovation in 1999. The current balance is approximately \$223,446 The note matures February 2020. Their current interest rate before this renewal is 4.95% their payment has been \$2,558.25. The church also has a PILP loan. The church does a Capital Campaign each year to raise the funds to fund the current year mortgage payments. They have always stayed current with their debt service.

Property and Finance Committee reviewed the application and current year financial statement and voted by e-mail vote to ask Council to grant approval and our continuing guarantee.

9. Heard reports from Presbyterian Men and Presbyterian Women.

10. Spent half an hour in conversations with Rev. Doug Rumford of The Odyssey Group regarding implications of their recommendations for Council. Several modification suggestions received and now included in the “Flipping the Presbytery” document. Also received draft of Standing Rules changes that will be necessary if TOG recommendations are adopted.
11. Approved docket for the May Presbytery Stated Meeting.

**Committee on Ministry**

1. Beginning conversation with The Odyssey Group (Report)
2. Approved **Frank Baresel** for transfer of ordination and membership in presbytery pending successful examination on the floor of Presbytery at its September meeting. Permission granted to circulate PIF.
3. **Ron Eckert** approved for membership (ministry previously validated) and ordination, pending successful examination on the floor of Presbytery at the May meeting. (Candidate Certified Ready to Receive a Call). Approved his Terms of Call.
4. Approved **Rev. Tom Erickson** as Interim Pastor (and Interim Contract) at Mission Viejo, effective April 1, 2009.
5. Approved all Changes in Terms of Call submitted to the Presbytery as of the day of April 16 meeting.
6. Discussed Pastoral Leadership at Westminster Hispanic during **Jose Matos’** cancer treatment.
7. Discussed Retired Pastors’ Luncheon and what was learned from HR pastors.
8. Approved transfer of Candidate Certified Ready to Receive a Call, **Deb Berger**, pending successful ordination examination and ordination. {She is being examined in Presbytery of North Dakota.}
9. Approved Installation Commission for **Rev. Jason Kho**, April 19, 2009.
10. Changed validation of **Rev. Jeanie Thorndike** to 645-Faculty (Azusa Pacific).
11. Approved renewal of Associate in Validated Ministry for **Rev. Mike Regele**
12. Approved Dual Status for **Rev. David Tomlinson** while serving Downey Moravian Church.
13. Approved Terms of Call of **Chris Pritchett** as Organizing Pastor of Cornerstone PC NCD.

Salary and Housing:	\$70,000
Pension/Medical:	\$22,050
Study Leave:	\$ 1,000
Travel:	\$ 3,000
Expenses:	\$ 500

Approved one year \$13,000 supplement from presbytery to help cover cost.

14. Approved a six-month extension of Interim Contract for **Rev. David Watson** at Trabuco:

Salary and Housing:	\$80,000
Pension and Medical:	\$25,200
Medical Reimbursement:	\$ 3,000
Dental:	\$ 675
Auto/Travel:	\$ 1,000
Professional	\$ 1,000
Covenant Group:	\$ 700
Study Leave:	\$ 1,000

15. Approved the Administrative Commission to ordain **Jonathan Moore**, May 17, 4 p.m. at Laguna Beach.

**Property and Finance**

Continues to pursue sale of El Siloe and Southgate properties.

**Committee on Preparation for Ministry**

Annual Consultations for Candidate **Cedarle Dang** and Inquirers **Susan Lubushkin** and **Benjamin Jara** were approved by CPM, continuing them in the process. A summary of the consultations will be sent to their session and seminary (where appropriate).

CPM approved the following Policy for Dissolving the Covenant Relationship/Removal from Rolls.

**REMOVAL FROM ROLLS**

**CPM 11**

GUIDELINES OF THE COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY  
The Presbytery of Los Ranchos

**POLICY FOR DISSOLVING THE COVENANT RELATIONSHIP/REMOVAL FROM ROLLS**

This policy addresses a growing concern in this Presbytery with persons under care who fail to correspond with their liaison, fail to respond to inquiries from CPM or fail to make reasonable progress toward ordination. After the CPM and the Inquirer or Candidate have engaged in a process of discernment of his/her call to ministry, the Inquirer or Candidate may wish to withdraw indefinitely from the process. Unfortunately, when the person under care is not responsive, it is not possible for the CPM with the Inquirer and Candidate in the process of discernment of his/her call to ministry,. Therefore, after a period of discernment and assessment, the covenant relationship may be dissolved by Presbytery, upon the recommendation of CPM, under the following circumstances:

I. Release from Covenant Relationship at Request of Inquirer/Candidate

Inquirers and Candidates under the care of the Presbytery of Los Ranchos may request or be given a release from Covenant Relationship. If no charges are pending against the individual and there is no information suggesting grounds for deletion, the Committee on Preparation for Ministry may recommend to Presbytery that the person's name be removed from its role of active Inquirers/Candidates by 'Release from Covenant Relationship'. The records of such individuals will be maintained for at least 10 years without additional review by the committee. An individual so released may, at any time, request restoration to covenant relationship status and, if granted by the presbytery, would resume their standing (or its equivalent) as of the date of their release.

II. Dissolving the Covenant Relationship

A. Dissolution Before Final Assessment

1. Failure to meet annual contact expectation

- To remain in the covenantal relationship, “under care”, annual consultation using Form 3 and Form 4 is expected.
- Inquirers/Candidates shall go no longer than two years without either an annual consultation, which is recorded in the CPM minutes, or an interview with CPM.

2. Lack of contact

- When the Inquirer/Candidate does not respond to contacts by the CPM liaison, the liaison should request help from the home church of the Inquirer/Candidate, either through the Pastor, Session liaison or church secretary.
- If an Inquirer/Candidate has not responded to CPM’s contacts for one year, a letter will be sent to his/her last known address and to his/her church of membership, advising of the intent of CPM to remove him/her from the roll of Inquirer or Candidate at the next committee meeting.

3. Failure to progress toward ordination over a three year period

- If CPM deems that an Inquirer or Candidate has not made reasonable progress toward ordination in the last three years, then it will review the Inquirer or Candidate’s progress toward ordination. The Inquirer or Candidate will be given at least a 30 days notice of the committee’s intent to review their status of “being under care.” The individual’s home church will be copied on this notice.
- In reviewing the case, CPM could determine conditions under which the individual could continue in the process or could determine to remove the name from the roll of Inquirer or Candidate.

B. Dissolution After “Certified Ready to Receive a Call”, for failing to meet regular contact expectation.

All Candidates who have completed Final Assessment are expected, at a minimum, to

- have an annual consultation, using Form 3 and Form 4, with his/her CPM liaison
- meet with CPM every three years to discuss and gain guidance for her/his sense of call, activity in a local church, steps followed to pursue a call and personal circumstances that are affecting the pursuit of a call.

C. Re-entry following dissolution

- If an Inquirer/Candidate who is removed from the process later decides to re-enter the process, the minimum requirements will be completion of Form 1, completion of Form 2A/B—for those withdrawing as Inquirers—or Form 5A/B—for those withdrawing as Candidates, a vocational assessment and a meeting with CPM.
- CPM will evaluate each case individually and may impose additional requirements.

**No Other Committee Reports Were Received**

**END OF OMNIBUS MOTION**