

SEATTLE PRESBYTERY STATED MEETING

APRIL 30, 2019 | 5:00PM

JOHN KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SEATTLE PRESBYTERY STATED MEETING | JOHN KNOX PC | APRIL 30, 2019

- 5:00 Call meeting to order & prayer
 Welcome first time elders, guests, visitors
 Adopt agenda
 Approve minutes
 Stated Clerk Report
 Consent calendar
 Nominating Report
 Executive Board Report
 Co-Executive Presbyters' Report
- 5:30 Worship
 Commissioning Prayer for 2019 Triennium Delegation
 Thanksgiving for All Saints ([2018 Necrology Report](#))
- 6:15 Dinner
- 6:45 Holy Conversations
- 7:00 Small Group Discussions
- 7:15 Reports
 Colombia Partnership Update
 FPCS AC/Session
 COM - examination
 CPM
- 8:15 New Business
- 8:30 Adjourn & Prayer

For Information:

- *Ordination vote by ballot – On a vote to ordain a candidate to the ministry of Word and Sacrament, a vote by ballot shall be granted upon the request of any commissioner, without discussion or vote.” (Approved July 18, 2018)*
- *The presbytery may change any action taken by a subordinate body (Board, commission or committee) in the same way it may change any previous action by the presbytery by means of the motions to "Rescind" and to "Amend Something Previously Adopted." There is no time limit. A second is required, it is debatable, a 2/3rds majority is required without previous notice; a majority is required if notice is included in the call for the meeting.*

CONSENT CALENDAR

A single vote is taken on consent calendar items with no discussion. Any member may request that an item be removed; it is then discussed and action then occurs during the appropriate report. For clarity items appear in both places and are marked with an asterisk*.

1. (Stated Clerk) Approval of the [Minutes from the January 15 Meeting](#). (Available online only.)
2. (Stated Clerk) [Proposed Standing Rule for Approving Executive Board and Presbytery Minutes](#).
3. (Stated Clerk) [Plan for Determining Ruling Elder Commissioners Elected by Sessions](#).
4. (Stated Clerk) Amend the July 17, 2017 minutes to add Rev. Karen Breckinridge elected to the Property and Finance Committee.

STATED CLERK REPORT

1. Point of Order Previous Meeting, Continuance of a Breach – *“If a question of order is to be raised, it must be raised promptly at the time a breach occurs . . . The only exceptions . . . arise in connection with breaches of a continuing nature, in which case a point of order can be made at any time during the continuance of the breach. Instances of this kind occur when: a) when a main motion has been adopted that conflicts with the bylaws . . . in all such cases, it is never too late to raise a point of order since any action so taken is null and void.” (RONR 11th ed. p. 251).*

It has been discovered that following motions to elect were out of order, and are thus null and void:

The following conflicted with the constitutional requirement that commissions consist of ruling elders and teaching elders in numbers as equal as possible:

Rev. Becki Barrett, Overlake Park, Executive Board, Class of 2021
Rev. Lindsay Murphy, Mercer Island, Executive Board, Class of 2020
Rev. JP Kang, Executive Board, Class of 2021.
Rev. Kelly Wadsworth, Executive Board, Class of 2021
Rev. Leigh Weber, Vashon, CPM, Class of 2021.
Rev. Brenna Hesch, Seattle Community, CPM, Class of 2021
Rev. Jon Saur, John Knox, CPM, Class of 2021 (out of order when elected Oct. 16, 2018).

The following conflicted with the bylaw requirement for “three equal classes:”

Elder Glen Ferguson, Overlake Park, COM, Class of 2021.

The following conflicted with the constitutional requirement that committees consist of teaching elders and members of congregations in numbers as equal as possible:

Rev. Doug Early, Queen Anne, Nominating Committee, Class of 2021.
Rev. H.T. Lee, Overlake Park, Nominating Committee, Class of 2021.

Rev. Staci Imes, Woodland Park, Nominating Committee, Class of 2021 (also resulted in unequal classes)

The following conflicted with the standing rule (more properly a special rule) that prohibits a person from serving on more than one committee or commission except by permission of the Executive Board (the motion was from the floor, if made by the Board permission is implied)

Pattie Holt, St. Andrew, Nominating Committee, Class of 2021 (also resulted in unequal classes).

Please see the Nominating Committee Report & Elections for action regarding the above.

***2. Proposed Standing Rule for Approval of the Minutes**

The two decision making bodies meet quarterly and their minutes are sometimes required to execute an approved legal action. Waiting until the next quarter, until minutes are officially approved, is often impractical. The following resolution is recommended,

***Resolved*, That the following standing rule be adopted regarding the minutes of the Executive Board and the presbytery:**

Approval of the Minutes, Presbytery and Executive Board

The Stated Clerk will draft the minutes and distribute them, in the case of the presbytery, to the continuing members and the churches, in the case of the Executive Board, its members, for review and suggested additions, corrections or deletions. After ten days of the distribution and reviewing any suggestions, the moderator, vice moderator and immediate past moderator may approve the minutes.

3. Proposed Special Rule for Nominations and Elections -- *Resolved*, [That the attached proposed special rule be adopted](#) (a special rule governs a parliamentary procedure and may be suspended at any time by a 2/3rds vote) Summary:

- a. All those suggested to the Nominating Committee will normally be nominated.
- b. The committee will interview each nominee to ensure expectations, responsibility and commitment, and may make endorsements.
- c. Offices, commissions, and committees are elected in the order of listing in the bylaws.
- d. Those not elected to one open position may be nominated for another.
- e. A majority is always require to elect; if there are more than two candidates for a position, balloting continues until one obtains a majority with all remaining on the ballot (no run offs).
- f. When more than one position is open on a commission/committee, and more than one person obtains a majority, positions are filled by the longest open term filled to the largest number of majority votes, and so on.

***4. Plan for Determining Ruling Elder Commissioners Elected by Session (G-3.03) – Resolved, [That the attached plan](#) be adopted.**

G-3.03 – “The presbytery shall adopt and communicate to the sessions a plan for determining how many ruling elders each session should elect as commissioners to presbytery, with a goal of numerical parity of ministers of the Word and Sacrament and ruling elders. This plan shall require each session to elect at least one commissioner and shall take into consideration the size of congregations as well as a method to fulfill the principles of participation and representation found in F-1.0403 and G-3.0103.”

Book of Order 2011 Edition, pre NFoG: G-11.0101b – “Presbyteries facing an imbalance due to a large number of resident honorably retired minister members may, by presbytery rule, use active participation of honorably retired members as a criterion in determining balance.”

Arriving at parity is difficult in Seattle Presbytery because 45% of the members reside in two churches.

The attached plan considers the following:

- For the past two years, ruling elders have been underrepresented (see chart), more ruling elders are needed (previously 144)
- The traditional minimum of two commissioners per church has been maintained.
- The previous Book of Order process has been used for counting clergy; “active participation” is defined as serving on a commission, committee, task force or as an officer.
- The resulting number of “active” clergy is 163; commissioners elected by sessions should be equal.
- The number of congregational members is 12,301, divided by 163 teaching elders = 1 commissioner per 75 members.
- The largest two churches have been underrepresented. Based on the average members/commissioner ratio (75/1), Bellevue would have 41 commissioners and University would have 36.
- The target goal in this plan is to set the maximum number of members per commissioner at 250 resulting in a maximum number of commissioners per congregation of 12.
- Other statistics:
 Mean (average) members per commissioner = 75
 Median (midpoint) = 38
 Mode (most frequent amount) = 23.5
 Extremes (12/1 to 253/1)

5. Reports of Ordination and/or Installation Commissions

The Rev. Barbara Williams was ordained at Bethany Presbyterian Church January 30, 2019, to serve as a Chaplain, UW Medicine by the following administrative commission who are dismissed with thanks: Rev. Jane Pauw, Rev. Renee Notkin, Elder Tom Oines, *Bethany*, Elder Roger Lee, *Woodland Park*.

The Rev. Jordan Uomoto, was ordained at Bethany Presbyterian Church, January 27, 2019, to serve as Chaplain, UW Medicine, by the following administrative commission who are dismissed with thanks: Rev. Heidi Husted Armstrong, Rev. Doug Kelly, Rev. JP Kang, Elder

Whitney Broetje, *Bethany*, Elder Jerry Sera, *Japanese*.

The Rev. Jeny Carlson, was ordained at Mt. Baker Presbyterian Church, February 2, 2019, to serve as a temporary Associate Pastor at Northminster by the following administrative commission who are dismissed with thanks: Rev. Leland Seese, Rev. Dani Forbess, Rev. Leigh Weber, Elder Mary Lou Adams, *Mt. Baker*, Elder Antonio Rufin, *Northminster*.

The Rev. Zac Calvo, was ordained at Northminster Presbyterian Church, January 16, 2019, to serve as a the Pastoral Resident of Coastland Commons by the following administrative commission who are dismissed with thanks: Elder Loretta Pain, *Union*, Rev. Dani Forbess, Rev. Lindsay Harris Murphy, Elder Caroline Lu, *University*, Elder Alan White, *Mercer Island*.

The Rev. Tad Schuldt, was ordained at University Presbyterian Church January 18, 2019, to be installed by Missouri Union Presbytery as Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Boonville, MO, by the following administrative commission who are dismissed with thanks: Elder Loretta Pain, *Union*, Rev. Keith Tanis, Rev. Justin Beatty, Elder Mary Ehrlich, *Union*, Elder Rob Wallace, *Sammamish*.

The Rev. Charlie Shin was ordained at Wallingford Presbyterian Church March 17, 2019 to serve as Chaplain at Providence Elder Place by the following administrative commission who are dismissed with thanks: Rev. Jesse Mabanglo, Rev. Tiare Mathison, Rev. Jill Rasmussen-Baker, Rev. J.P. Kang, Elder Loretta Pain, *Union*, Elder Kari Kelly, *Wallingford*.

6. Annual Statistical Report – [submitted and linked](#). (Available online only.)

7. A Written Statement of Alleged Offense has been received and referred to an investigative committee.

***8. Correction to the July 17, 2018 minutes: Resolved, that the motion to approve the minutes, previously adopted, be amended to include the following: the Rev. Karen Breckenridge was elected by the presbytery to the Property and Finance Committee of the Executive Board.**

NOMINATING REPORT & ELECTIONS

[Nominating Committee Chart 4-25-2019](#) (See supplemental handout.)

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT

Authorized Delegated Actions Reported to the Presbytery:

1. Property Management Guiding Principles and Plan: The following resolution reported by the Property & Finance committee was approved as amended, "Resolved, That the [revised document \(linked here\)](#) be adopted for use by the board as a resource for guidance as needed, while recognizing that it is a work in process, and that the committee continue to develop and present to the board for its approval a long-term sustainable model for the missional use of property resources."

Background: The presbytery gathered feedback about the document, reflected on the survey data, reviewed the presbytery's properties and on stewarding property resources, and amended the previous draft.

2. Colombia Partnership: Approved a request that a delegation from Colombia be invited to come to Seattle in July and that Executive Presbyter Rev. Gloria Ulloa be invited to preach at the July presbytery meeting; that the [Colombia Partnership Trip Application Form](#) be adopted for future trips to Colombia; that recent annual funding of \$20,000 for the Colombia Mission Partnership be continued for 2020 to enable higher levels of participation; and that a brief time be allotted on the April 30 meeting agenda for a task force report.

A fifth recommendation, that the partnership covenant Pacto De Hermandad Presbiterio De Seattle (PCUSA); Presbiterio De La Costa (Ipc), be renewed, was postponed until to the next meeting so revisions could be made.

3. New Worshiping Communities Task Force: Added a line item to the presbytery budget to support New Worshiping Communities in the amount of \$40,000 or more, to be funded from the Mission Asset Fund (or appropriate fund determined by staff), with the churches of the presbytery increasing the amount from that level of funding.

Approved the request for a platform to be established within the structure of the presbytery for communicating needs of the New Worshiping Communities; i.e. the website, meeting announcements, etc.

Removed Kenyan Community International Church from the list of New Worshiping Communities, at their request, since they are happily nested within Rainier Beach PC.

4. Adopted a 'Co-EP model' with equal compensation, revising the specific responsibilities of Rev. Scott Lumsden and Rev. Eliana Maxim according to the descriptions below, with a commensurate compensation increase for Eliana Maxim to \$85,656.32 (salary), 35,000.04 (housing); effective on March 19, 2019.

Background: With the growing and changing needs of the Seattle Presbytery the Personnel Committee recognizes that our current staff structure is insufficient to meet these needs. It has also been recognized that Eliana Maxim is currently taking on many tasks and roles that are commonly held by an EP, but is still being compensated as an AEP. It is the opinion of the Personnel Committee that establishing a Co-EP model would allow Scott and Eliana to function in roles that best serve the growing and complex needs of the Presbytery, and would provide fair compensation to Eliana for the roles and functions she is already serving in.

More information: [Eliana Maxim 2019 job description](#), [Scott Lumsden 2019 job description](#), [Draft budget with mid-year Co-EP model](#), [March 21, 2019 SeaPres Update from Scott Lumsden & Eliana Maxim](#).

5. Adopted the Seattle Presbytery PC70360 Flexible Benefit Plan Document, and the accompanied Service Agreement With MII Insurance Incorporated dba Further, as required by the Presbytery's flexible spending plan.

6. Reviewed and recommended the agenda, as amended, to the presbytery for the next meeting, and approved a request from Jonna Reeder of Frontier Fellowship to coordinate a dinner table discussion about global mission.

7. A proposal from Rev. Shannon Smythe to become a theologian in residence was referred to the Personnel Committee.

Reported For Information:

1. Granted \$1,000 to Wallingford Presbyterian Church for a tree removal and garden bed renewal project.
2. Approved the following monthly meeting schedule and honorarium rates for meeting support: February, May, September, November 2020;
 - General presbytery meeting support (assisting with pre-meeting events like stated clerk records review when clerk is unavailable, assist with setup & registrations for big meetings, etc.): \$100
 - Worship leading: \$150
 - A/V: \$150 (for entire meeting)
 - Photography/video: \$100 (for entire meeting).
 - Spf.io (language interpretation): \$25/hour (prep time before meeting to set up system with our meeting information/can vary & service during the entire meeting).
3. Approved the request to forgive \$3293.33 in per capita owed by Queen Anne Presbyterian Church.
4. Approved the request to forgive \$390 in per capita owed by Magnolia Presbyterian Church.

CO-EXECUTIVE PRESBYTERS' REPORT

From Scott:

As Presbyterians, we are part of a Christian tradition that understands the necessity of change. The Latin phrase, *ecclesia reformata, semper reformanda secundum verbum Dei* (the church reformed, always to be reformed according to the Word of God) is not just about our history; it's about who we are today as followers of Christ.

Instead of looking only to the past, as Reformed Christians we discern God's will in the present, and as faithfully as we are able, we seek to align ourselves to where God is leading us in future as well. Thus, every time we gather we open ourselves to God's Spirit who guides, comforts, confirms, corrects, and even surprises us as we seek God's will.

When it comes to church life however, we know this better in theory than in practice. In theory, it is easy to affirm that God is present and active in the body of believers, leading and guiding us toward God's future. In practice though, it is much harder to agree that anything we do actually needs to change, or be reformed; and even if we do actually agree that something needs to change, it's interesting (but not surprising) to see how quickly God becomes "unchanging" as we take steps to implement that change.

Many of the churches in this presbytery are in some stage on this continuum of change, so I understand why there is some angst. However, we miss what this unsettling situation has to

teach us if we think that this is only about the closing of churches (and the presbytery management of property). The struggle here is not about the end of churches, it's about the struggle of our congregations to live faithfully in the present and to reshape themselves for a sustainable and fruitful future.

Two Action Steps

Seattle Presbytery is taking two steps to respond to this challenge. First, it is opening itself up to learn and be surprised by what God is doing in PCUSA congregations across the country. Enabled by grants from the Presbyterian Foundation and Seattle First, the staff is convening a nationwide conversation with PCUSA congregations who have made meaningful changes from decline toward a more fruitful and sustainable future. We will then use these insights to enhance our current grant program to better support congregational revitalization, redevelopment, and new church development in our own presbytery.

Second, in keeping with this deep look at congregations, we will also evaluate our current presbytery properties with an eye toward the larger missional framework of the church (*The Great Ends of the Church*, F-1.0304), the missional goals of our congregations, and the needs of the communities in which they are located. The goal of this effort is to better align the management of our properties with the long term mission of the presbytery.

As always, if you have something to offer that would help us in these efforts, don't hesitate to share: share@seapres.org.

From Eliana:

Part of our constant change is the reality of pastoral transitions.

Currently, our presbytery has 6 churches in various stages of such transitions, with another 2 soon to embark on this journey as well. Although this can be a stressful or anxious time for a congregation, it is also a time of expectant hope and self discovery. Many of these churches are seizing the opportunity to review how and where God may be calling their congregations in this next season of ministry, and how they can faithfully serve their communities.

Please keep all our congregations in your prayers, particularly for those who are discerning their future pastoral leadership. Please also keep our COM members in prayer as they come along the various sessions and Pastoral Nominating Committees on these journeys.

5:30 WORSHIP

Presbytery worship is not meant to duplicate the Lord's Day service. Rather it is intended to gather presbyters into a time of prayer, praise, and nurture in preparation for the work all have been called to in serving the presbytery. As such, there are components of the usual order of worship that will not be included.

UNITY

Welcome

Rev. Shari Monson

Song

Cantad al Señor (O Sing to the Lord) (GTG 637)

6:45 HOLY CONVERSATIONS

7:00 SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

7:15 REPORTS

COLOMBIA PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Doug Early: Colombia Partnership Trip 2019

From Congregation to Communion

I will readily admit that when I was first approached about the possibility of participating in a Seattle Presbytery delegation to Colombia I was as excited about visiting Colombia itself for the first time as I was about doing whatever it was that we would be doing. I took seriously that this would be a work-trip; but knew it would be a lot more exciting work than much of what I do. At the same time, from the moment I realized I would actually make the trip, I prayed that it would have an impact on me as a pastor in general, as the pastor for my congregation specifically, and that the experience might somehow impact the larger Seattle Presbytery as a whole. I have been around long enough to understand the importance of work done in the name of the Presbytery benefitting the entire Presbytery.

In light of the above, I won't waste much time or space on the impact my experiences have had on me as a pastor and my congregation. I will state simply that it is difficult to think of any area of my life as a person and pastor that has not been positively impacted. Further, our congregation is discerning new ways of being the church in our particular situation that we might not have discerned if I had not been able to share stories of experiencing the churches, ruling and teaching elders of the Presbytery of the Coast as I have. Traveling to Colombia has allowed me to see the way whole congregations, and the Presbytery, do things in entirely different ways than I have seen here. Being with other pastors of vastly different backgrounds and histories and being with their congregations in their specific contexts provides an opportunity for seeing God at work in ways that we might not come upon otherwise, or maybe not for years.

This is where I believe the benefits for Seattle Presbytery as a whole come in. One of the fascinating dynamics we have seen at work in the Presbytery of the Coast is the way in which the entire Presbytery is integrated in relationships across congregations and geography. They live out the connectionalism that defines our polity in a wide array of personal and congregational relationships. They work in combined ministries and separate ministries with a true sense of being one body. This holds true for ruling elders as well. The depth and breadth of relationships between ruling elders across congregations and geography provides a communion and solidarity vital to everything they do. In addition, as we in the Seattle area struggle with the tremendously high cost of living and shrinking congregations, we must learn ways of far more earnestly equipping and allowing congregations to be the church without the need for full-time, fully-supported teaching elders. Our sisters and brothers in the Presbytery of the Coast are living this reality now, and doing powerful work in the name of Christ. I know that my own enthusiasm for the possibilities we have in the Seattle Presbytery

for similar deep and rich connectionalism has been stoked greatly by witnessing the church in Colombia.

I also want to convey how profoundly important our sisters and brothers in the Presbytery of the Coast find our face-to-face visits. A year ago January, optimism and energy filled many of the Christians in Colombia. The peace accords had been signed and the hard work of reconciliation had begun in earnest. This year, I found many of those same friends discouraged and tired. With the election of conservative President Duque a few months prior to our visit, much of the work of peace-making had been sabotaged by the President himself. In the midst of that stark reality, and the significant needs of hundreds of thousands of Venezuelan immigrants beginning to overwhelm the capacity of the country to provide, over and over again, I found our sisters and brothers in Colombia saying to us how thankful they were that we were there with them, in their homes, their places of work and worship; it helped them know that they truly were not alone. In a world where more and more nations find themselves led by autocrats seeking to control information and relationships, including our own, being in connection with the church around the world is vital for the health and wholeness of the Body of Christ.

As I have been thinking about writing this report, I have struggled with the language to use to describe the essence of my time spent in Colombia and my time spent here with sisters and brothers from the Presbytery of the Coast. The traditional language of a “mission” trip fails miserably to convey the substance of our time together; as well, it connotes a northern colonialism that we want to forswear entirely. The language I seek needs to communicate the focus on being with one another as equal members in the family of God and the Body of Christ – worshipping together, sharing and learning from each other, praying with and for one another. I have landed upon two words that seem to me to express both the life we have in the partnership with the Presbytery of the Coast and the transformation it brings, at least as I have experienced it. We began as a congregation – a gathering of brothers and sisters in Christ to be the body at work together; we are becoming even more so a communion, deeply united by the Spirit and sharing in the life of Christ together even across continents.

Ben McConaughy: Presbyterian Peace Fellowship Delegation Trip 2019

The Presbyterian church has a 150-year history in Colombia, and the Presbyterian Church of Colombia (IPC) has been one of the principal religious advocates for peace in that country, including working for the peace accords that were signed in 2016 by the government and the primary rebel group (the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC). In January I had the privilege to participate in a trip to Colombia organized the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship. The goal of our trip was to gain a deeper understanding of the status of the implementation of the peace accords in Colombia, to listen, to learn, and to come home to advocate on behalf of the Colombian people. The delegation included Rev. J. Herbert Nelson, Stated Clerk of the PCUSA, Emily Brewer, the Director of PPF, and pastors and lay leaders from across the country.

The 60-year civil war in Colombia resulted in hundreds of thousands of deaths, 85,000 disappearances, many hundreds of thousands of wounded, rapes, threats, intimidations, land thefts, and the displacement from their homes of nearly 8 million men, women and children. Our group met with victims of violence and displacement, rebel groups who have laid down their arms, representatives of the Colombia “Truth Commission,” the UN Mission that is overseeing the implementation of the agreement, the FARC representatives of the joint body

that is overseeing the implementation of the group, NGO's involved in advocating for peace, and a forum of 75 Christian, Muslim, Buddhist, and political and social leaders.

While there is universal desire for peace in Colombia, our trip revealed significant challenges in implementing the accords. The political party currently in power -- which was elected after the signing of the accords -- actually opposed their approval. It has been slow in implementing the agreements and is now advocating removal of some of the cornerstones of the accords. <https://www.presbypeacefellowship.org/what-colombian-president-duque-is-threatening-in-his-most-recent-threat-to-peace-accords>. Paramilitary groups have seized control of significant parts of the country previously controlled by FARC and are stifling political and social change in those areas. The process of reintegrating FARC into civil society has slowed dramatically. The trauma experienced by the victims of war remains unhealed. Assassinations (and threats of assassinations) of civil and religious leaders stifle social change.

Yet we saw that the will for peace remains strong. I was inspired by the work our brothers and sisters in the IPC have done to bring healing to the victims of war and to former combatants who have renounced violence. The PPF has a robust "accompaniment program" of volunteers who walk alongside Colombians, (<https://www.presbypeacefellowship.org/colombia/accompaniment-program>), and throughout our trip we were told our presence was a tremendous source of encouragement to the Colombian people. If you are interested in getting involved, the next round of training for accompaniers will be in Montreat, North Carolina, from October 11-14.

As a result of our trip, our understanding of the competing narratives and tensions was enhanced, and we intend to advocate within the United States and at the United Nations on behalf of the causes of peace, justice and reconciliation in Colombia. PPF recently signed a letter urging President Duque of Colombia to timely implement the existing accords and to continue peace talks with other guerilla groups. And Stated Clerk J. Herbert Nelson has stepped up advocacy with letters to President Duque and to the US Ambassador to Colombia asking for the full implementation of the existing accords:

In the last two decades, we have supported and accompanied the Presbyterian Church of Colombia in their task as peacemakers walking together with displaced and threatened communities. Our primary concern is to continue to accompany the Colombian church in this task because the voice of the vulnerable often is not heard by those in power . . . The people that have suffered most from this decades-long conflict continue to be those on the margins of society: the millions of displaced persons and the landless rural poor. Their collective support for the peace process should be a compelling reason for your government to demonstrate a sincere commitment to building upon the progress that has been achieved.

See the full text here:

http://www.pcusa.org/news/2019/4/9/stated-clerk-urges-colombias-president-commit-peace/?fbclid=IwAR0B9nvAdrass5GBs0Z_0QO67tDz1tpJtHusZEhtHJmJfeTQu5CKIAdbIW4/

Finally, we offered to facilitate the work of the Colombian Truth Commission as it gathers information within the United States from victims and perpetrators of violence who have fled Colombia to live here. If you know of persons who fled the violence in Colombia, you can refer them to Emily Brewer (Emily@presbyterianpeacefellowship.org) to engage them with the fact finding process in the aftermath of the accords.

FPCS AG/SESSION REPORT

Ministry Update:

Each Sunday a congregation of 20-30 people – an multi-cultural, socio-economic mix of members and regular attenders, tourists, and homeless and street folks – continues to gather for worship at FPCS. We engage in a lively communal preaching of the Word, are assured of our belovedness in Christ, and are challenged to be the beloved community. This is followed by a homemade lunch and warm conversation together.

Over half the congregation, led by Pastor Heidi Armstrong, participated in a three-week experiment after worship around the biblical literature and practice of lament. The Bible is filled with examples of God's people in the midst of a crisis or chaos telling the truth about their situation to God. They didn't bury their feelings or act like it was no big deal. They didn't put a smiley face on things. They cried out to God. They let God have it! Ultimately, lament helped them get to a place of deeper trust in God – and, in our time of transition, we found it to be a life-giving practice for us, too.

We are grateful that many of the 100 folks who have been experiencing homelessness and have found temporary shelter in our church basement at "Compass @ First Presbyterian" are finding more permanent housing and a sustainable way forward in their lives. Meanwhile, it's a great privilege to host a Bible study on Wednesday evenings and build relationships with our continuing guests.

Property Update:

The Session/AC has signed a Purchase and Sales Agreement that includes a Confidentiality Statement. At this point, therefore, we're not at liberty to say anything about the sale. But we can say that we are trying to find a new home for many items from Seattle First, so check with EJ Lee if you're interested in anything from the building (stained glass windows, organs, etc.).

Legal Update:

On February 21, 2019, the Washington Court of Appeals, Division I, denied the former elders' motion to modify a ruling by the court commissioner. The commissioner's ruling had denied the former elders' motion to enjoin the sale of the church property. After their motion to modify failed, the former elders did not seek further review. This meant that the Court of Appeals' order became final in March and that the sale could proceed.

On April 12, the Court of Appeals notified the parties that oral argument in the consolidated appeals filed by the Schulzes and the former elders will be held on June 7, 2019, at 9:30 a.m. (barring a request for continuance).

We appreciate your continuing prayers.

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY REPORT

Recommendations:

1. **Rolling Bay Presbyterian Church/Erin Grayson: Having received evidence that Certified Candidate Erin Grayson has fulfilled the educational requirements of the Constitution of the Church, *Be it Resolved*, That Erin Grayson proceed to ordination by an Administrative Commission to be designated by the Moderator, and service as Temporary Associate Pastor at Rolling Bay Presbyterian Church upon successful examination by the Presbytery.**
 - a. "The presbytery shall examine each . . . candidate who seeks membership in it on his or her Christian faith, views in theology, the Bible, the Sacraments and the government of this church." (G-3.0306). The examination shall also include, but not be limited to, a determination of the candidate's ability and commitment to fulfill all requirements as expressed in the constitutional questions for ordination and installation (W- 4.4003).
 - b. When a motion to end the exam is approved by a 2/3rd vote, the candidate will exit; the presbytery will "discuss and discern," and vote.

Clerk's note: It is the presbytery moderator's duty (not CPM or COM) to rule a question out of order if he or she believes it is outside the bounds of the exam. Any member may rise and immediately appeal a ruling by the moderator. A second is required. Debate ensues. No member may speak to the appeal more than once, except for the moderator, who may respond with additional reasons for the ruling. A majority or a tie sustains the moderator's decision.

[Seattle Presbytery Exams Process](#) (available online)

Erin Grayson: Statement of Faith

I believe in God the Creator in whose image we were made. God who knit us together, calls us by name, guides us, and holds us fast.

I believe in the God of Grace who welcomes us back even when we fall away in brokenness. God who rescues us from despair, offers restoration, and gives us hope.

I believe in the God of Compassion who cares about creation so much that God would dwell among us. God who recognizes the human condition, weeps and rejoices with us.

I believe in the God of Peace that passes all understanding, who guards our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. God who blesses those who are peacemakers, and calls us children of God.

I believe in the God of Faith who yearns for our devotion and hears our prayers. God who is always near, promises that even though we see dimly now, we can trust that someday we will see face to face.

I believe in the God of Mystery: Father-Mother God, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. God who offer new birth from above, and washes us clean with living waters at our baptism.

I believe in the God of Justice who commands us to love as we loved. God whose mercy is abundant, radically welcomes us to the table and bids us to make room for our neighbors.

I believe in the God of Resurrection, who gives us the gift of his Son so that we can know that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from God's love.

I will praise the name of the Lord every day, meditate on the eternal wisdom of God's Word, giving thanks to God who creates and who radically welcomes us to the table of the abundant feast; God who rescues and restores, giving us hope; God who sees and hears, and knows us better than we know ourselves; God who is trustworthy, who resurrects, and who loves God's creation beyond measure.

Erin Grayson: Bio

Erin Grayson is a Certified Candidate Ready for a Call under the care of the Presbytery of Southern New England. She graduated from Yale Divinity School in 2015 with an Mdiv and a Certificate in Reformed Studies. While at seminary, Erin completed her level one CPE unit at Yale New Haven Hospital where she attended to cancer patients and their families at Smilow Cancer Hospital. In addition to her supervised ministry internship, Erin was offered a solo pastor stated supply (student) position at a chapel affiliated with the church where she completed her supervised ministry. Erin currently serves the Bainbridge Island community as a volunteer chaplain at the Bainbridge Senior Living Houses and Island Rehabilitation where she leads worship and offers memorial services on request. She also enjoys teaching classes at her church home, Rolling Bay Presbyterian. Erin is an active member of the Bainbridge Island/North Kitsap Interfaith Council and a founding board member and chair of Justice Revival, a nonprofit organization committed to upholding the human rights of all people in the name of faith (www.justicerevival.org). Over the past 21 years, Erin and her husband Tony have moved all over the US and across the globe in support of Tony's government service career. They are happily settled in the Pacific Northwest now that Tony has retired from government service. Erin writes about her life experiences having moved so frequently on her website, www.erinkgrayson.com. She feels called to reach people with the message of God's love wherever they are, in new and creative ways. Writing has become a way to practice such a ministry! Erin and Tony have three great kids, Aiden (19), Corinne (16), and Caleb (13). They enjoy traveling together, and will make their second "home exchange" this summer when they travel to France.

2. Central Kitsap Presbyterian Church/Rev. Tyler Kirkpatrick:

Resolved, That the presbytery determine that Rev. Tyler Kirkpatrick, currently serving in a temporary relationship with the session of Central Kitsap Presbyterian Church, is eligible according to G-2.0504c to serve as the next installed Pastor at Central Kitsap Presbyterian Church;

- a) That the presbytery establish (requires a 3/4 vote per G-2.0505) an “installed pastoral relationship for an indefinite period” between Rev. Tyler Kirkpatrick and Central Kitsap Presbyterian Church, according to the following terms: Effective Salary \$82,223 (cash salary and housing portions to be determined by the session), SECA \$6,290, \$7,000 expense allowance, full Board of Pensions Benefits, four (4) weeks annual vacation; two (2) weeks annual study leave;
- b) That Rev. Kirkpatrick be installed by an Administrative Commission to be designated by the Moderator.

3. Southminster Presbyterian Church/Rev. Aaron Willett: Eligibility of Rev. Aaron Willett to serve as an Installed Associate Pastor of Southminster Presbyterian Church – (requires a 3/4ths vote per G-2.0504c.)

Resolved, That Rev. Aaron Willett, currently serving in a temporary relationship with the session of Southminster Presbyterian Church, be determined to be eligible according to G-2.0504c, to serve as the next installed Associate Pastor;

- a) That the presbytery establish (by 3/4th vote) an “installed associate pastoral relationship for an indefinite period” between Rev. Aaron Willett and Southminster Presbyterian Church, according to the following terms (¾ time position): Effective Salary \$14,069 (Cash salary) & \$25,300 (Housing), SECA \$3,088, \$1,200 expense allowance, \$533 study leave, full Board of Pensions Benefits, four (4) weeks annual vacation; two (2) weeks annual study leave;
- b) That Rev. Willett be installed by an Administrative Commission to be designated by the Moderator.

Authorized Delegated Actions Reported to the Presbytery:

1. Granted \$5,000 to Woodland Park Presbyterian Church to support the church with costs related to staffing during the pastor’s maternity leave.
2. Approved the request of the Steel Lake session to change Rev. Colleen Chinen’s status from part-time to full-time Transitional Associate Pastor for Programs effective February 1, 2019.
3. Approved the request of the Marcus Whitman session to reduce terms of call to ¾ time for Pastor Robin Caudillo effective February 1, 2019.
4. Approved the request of the University PC Session to continue allowing Rev. Gary Barckert and Rev. Bruce Baker to serve in temporary relationships as Parish Associates at University Presbyterian Church, accountable to and under the supervision of the session.

5. Approved the request of the University PC Session to extend of the Temporary Pastor roles of the Rev. Ken Sunoo, JJ Kissinger, and Bianca Quezada through February 2020 under their current terms of employment.
6. Approved the request of the Rolling Bay Presbyterian Church session to hire Erin Grayson as a temporary, part-time, associate pastor at Rolling Bay Presbyterian Church, pending examination for ordination and membership in the presbytery.
7. Granted Southminster Presbyterian Church \$3,100 to support Rev. Aaron Willett during a pastoral parental leave.
8. Approved the Interim Pastor Contract between the session of Newport Presbyterian Church and Rev. Dr. Vonna Thomas.
9. Approved the dissolution of the call between Rev. Roger Harwerth and Newport Presbyterian Church effective January 31, 2019.
10. Granted Madrona Grace Presbyterian Church \$3,000 to support consultation with Hope Partners Mission Focus Consulting.
11. Granted Rev. Tom Dabasinskas (Validated Ministry, Associate Pastor @ Highlands Community Church) \$450 to participate in Transitional Ministry Workshop @ Menucha on Feb. 11-14, 2019.
12. The work of the following ministers engaged in validated ministries outside the congregation was reviewed per G-2.0502:

Jeff Keuss
Erin McArdel
Sandy Hackett
Katherine Douglass
Mansour Khajehpour
Scott Lumsden (EP)
Martha Bennett
Nicole Chilivilis
Dave Hackett
Lynn Baab
Michael Rogers
Geoffrey Wanyoike
Marta Bennett
Tom Dabasinskas
Mara Forster-Smith
Linda Conyers
Charlie Scoma
Mike Langford
Arleigh Champ-Gibson
Lauden Kangele
Mollie Mana'o

Michelle Todd

13. The status of the following members-at-large was reviewed:

Jan Dittmar
 Tyler Easley
 Todd Holdridge
 Andrea Saccoccio
 Chris Delmar
 Deanna Drake
 Doug Ranney
 Janine Moriarty

14. The following persons have not responded to a required annual review and are reported as no longer engaged in a validated ministry; they "shall not have voice or vote in meetings of the presbytery, except when the matter under consideration pertains to his or her relationship to the presbytery . . . after three yearsthe presbytery may delete that person's names from the roll of membership."

Bruce Baker
 Kolinus Buntaran
 Mei Hui Chen-Lai
 Kendy Easley
 Erin Walsh Griggs
 Toshio Hayashi
 Pat LeBaron
 Jeffrey Towne

15. Granted Rev. Florence Mesler Honorably Retired status.

16. Renewed the contract pastoral relationships between the session of First Taiwanese Presbyterian Church and Pastors Livingston Chen and Angela Miksovsky for one year.

17. Approved the request of Magnolia Presbyterian Church Session to renew Rev. Justin Beatty's contract to serve as Temporary Associate Pastor for Youth. Contract extended through May 2020.

18. Upon recommendation from a COM exam team, granted permission to the Indonesian Presbyterian Church session to allow Rev. Simon Chou (ECC retired minister) to guest preach on Sundays.

19. Approved to include following as a COM policy:

Minister Transfer Requests/PIF: Ministers seeking transfer to Seattle Presbytery must have a current PIF in circulation with CLC.

Rationale:

- a. A PIF cannot be posted without an attestation that the minister is in good standing (no charges filed or pending).

- b. PIF include all the information needed for member records.
- c. Ministers seeking to be received as a member-at-large should be open to seeking a call, which means a PIF in circulation. If they refuse, released from ministry (G-2.0507) is more appropriate, as is the case with current members-at-large.

20. Granted Rev. Debbie Blane (HR, Sammamish PC) \$1,150 to participate in a 2019 summer continuing education program facilitated by the Underground Seminary. Grant application sponsored by Sammamish PC.

21. Granted \$1402.98 to John Knox Presbyterian Church to help with their Holy Cow mission study.

22. Allocated up to \$4,000 from the COM benevolence budget for the replacement or repair of a vehicle for Rev. Lauden Kangele (City of Glory/new worshipping community), to be administered by the New Worshipping Community Task Force.

23. Rev. Daniel Triller, former in a temporary pastoral relationship with BelPres, was dismissed to Yellowstone Presbytery to accept a call as Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Dillon, MT.

COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY REPORT

Authorized Delegated Actions Reported to the Presbytery:

1. Inquirer Laughton (Lottie) MacAulay, member of Mercer Island Presbyterian Church, was interviewed, examined, and received as a candidate by the Commission on Preparation for Ministry on March 5, 2019 as authorized by the bylaws (since the 2013 revision). The commission examined Laughton (Lottie) with respect to her Christian faith, forms of Christian service undertaken, and motives for seeking the ministry.

Bio: I grew up on Mercer Island with my younger sister, Riley and my parents, Keri and Rob. My entire extended family also lives in the Pacific Northwest, so I feel a close tie to the area (rain and all!). After high school, I moved to New Hampshire to attend Dartmouth College. I played volleyball at Dartmouth and graduated with a major in Anthropology/Archaeology and double minor in Religion and Jewish Studies. I met my now-husband, Jack, on my Freshman dorm and we were married last September! While in college, I began to seriously discern a call to ministry and tested that call through youth ministry internships at Mercer Island Presbyterian Church and National Presbyterian Church in Washington, DC. In my senior year of college, I was accepted to Princeton Theological Seminary and awarded a Presbyterian Leadership Award scholarship.

After college, I spent the summer in Spain hiking the Camino de Santiago. I began classes towards my MDiv at PTS in the fall of 2017. So far, my seminary journey has been enriching

and call-affirming. My two field education placements (CPE at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and a church placement at First Presbyterian Church of Hightstown) have worked in tandem with classroom learning to deepen my faith and refine my sense of call. I am currently pursuing a certificate in Theology, Ecology and Faith Formation in addition to my degree. My ministry interests mostly center around preaching and pastoral care. I am passionate about ministry with adults and older adults and helping them discern their unique calls to ministry. I care deeply about pastoral care during life transitions (birth, death, diagnosis, marriage, divorce etc). I also love preaching sermons and writing liturgy that speak to their particular context.

[Link to Lottie's candidacy essay.](#) (Available online only.)

2. Inquirer Scott Gronholz, member of Bethany Presbyterian Church, was interviewed, examined, and received as a candidate by the Commission on Preparation for Ministry on April 2, 2019 as authorized by the bylaws (since the 2013 revision). The commission examined Scott with respect to his Christian faith, forms of Christian service undertaken, and motives for seeking the ministry.

Bio: No bio submitted.

[Link to Scott's candidacy essay.](#) (Available online only.)

Reported For Information:

1. On April 2, 2019, commission groups A & B combined into one group. Liaisons will be reassigned at the May 7 CPM meeting.

2. Changed CPM process/protocols regarding documentation submission requirement: *(bolded, underlined text indicates change)*

*Page 12: Submit an electronic copy of Form 3 (if annual consultation), and the Essay and Statement of Faith to your CPM Advisory Group Chair at least **2 weeks** prior to your appointment with CPM.*

3. Annual consultation was held on April 2, 2019 with Haley Ballast, John Knox PC, and she was approved to continue as a candidate.

8:15 NEW BUSINESS

8:30 ADJOURN & PRAYER

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of the Lord's saints...

2018 Seattle Presbytery Necrology		
Name	Church Name	Role
Kenneth Kander	Mercer Island	Deacon & Elder
Robert Hilliard	Mercer Island	Elder
Mary Loise Davis	Mercer Island	Deacon & Elder
Doris Guidinger	Mercer Island	Deacon
Barbara Barbee-Pelzel	Mercer Island	Deacon & Elder
Anne Corley	Mercer Island	Deacon & Elder
Frank Don Sharp	Calvary	Deacon
Lois Olson	Calvary	Deacon
Jan Neupert	West Side	Deacon & Elder
Jerry Thornell	West Side	Deacon & Elder
Shirley Laudan	West Side	Deacon
Joyce Coleman	West Side	Deacon
Everett Gee	Steel Lake	Elder
Robert P. Summers	North Point	Elder
Charlotte Fergusson	Magnolia	Elder
Earl Collins	Magnolia	Deacon
George King	Magnolia	Elder
Leslie Robert Deibert	Magnolia	Deacon & Elder
Robert Gaston	University	Deacon
Beth Shilvock	University	Elder
Janet C. Thompson	University	Deacon
Richard Verver	University	Deacon & Elder
Betty Szeden	University	Deacon & Elder
Katherine Parker	University	Deacon
David Moneymaker	University	Deacon & Elder
Diane Wilson	University	Deacon
Verneil Aitken	University	Deacon
Doug Jonas	Rolling Bay	Elder
John Momii	Japanese	Elder
Richard Nishioka	Japanese, Honorably Retired	Teaching Elder
Walter Edmiston	Southminster	Elder
Marguerite Johnson	Southminster	Deacon

Thomas Roush	Bethany	Deacon
Annette Mayor	Queen Anne	Elder
Martha J. Halvorsen	Trinity	Deacon
Bonnie Reese	Seattle First	Elder
Margarita Suarez	Lake Burien	Elder
Beth Williams	Lake Burien	Deacon
Mary Nolting	Lake Burien	Deacon & Elder
Wally Meyers	Lake Burien	Elder
Tom Escott	Overlake Park	Deacon
Ruth Riley	Overlake Park	Deacon & Elder
Jean Duffy	Bellevue	Deacon
Helen Elizabeth McCaslin	Bellevue	Deacon
Ken Moon	Bellevue	Deacon & Elder
Amy Rausch	Bellevue	Elder
David Rensvold	Bellevue	Elder
Suzanne Scott	Bellevue	Elder
Joanne Stubbs	Bellevue	Deacon
Robert Whitford	Bellevue	Elder
Al Damon	Honorably Retired	Teaching Elder
Melvin Unruh	Honorably Retired	Teaching Elder
Gordon Schweitzer	Honorably Retired	Teaching Elder
Richard Gatchel	Honorably Retired	Teaching Elder