

Minutes of Olympia Presbyter  
Thursday, Sept 15, 2022 - 2-5pm  
Online via Zoom

STATED MEETING The Presbytery of Olympia met on Thursday, September 15th at 2 pm via video conferencing call for its September stated meeting.

ROLLS Those present are listed below:  
HR = Honorably Retired PA Parish Associate TEMP= temporary Member of Presbytery

| ATTENDANCE | <u>Minister/Teaching Elder</u> | <u>Membership</u>    | <u>Present</u> |
|------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
|            | 1. Abreu Rosario, Ofe          | Bethany              | P              |
|            | 2. Alger, David                | HR                   | P              |
|            | 3. Asher, John                 | Shepherd of the Hill | P              |
|            | 4. Ballast, Haley              | Hagar's CC           | P              |
|            | 5. Brown, Dave                 | HR                   | P              |
|            | 6. Buescher, Barlow            | HR                   | P              |
|            | 7. Bursch, Jeff                | Shelton              | P              |
|            | 8. Chen Miksovsky, Angela      | Buckley              | P              |
|            | 9. Crawford, Robin             | HR                   | P              |
|            | 10. Emery, Joyce               | Bethany              | P              |
|            | 11. Emery, Dave                | Lacey                | P              |
|            | 12. Fenner, Therein            | Westminster Oly      | P              |
|            | 13. Finley, Ken                | HR                   | P              |
|            | 14. Greene, Martha             | HR/PA UPPC           | P              |
|            | 15. Guertin-Anderson, Katie    | VM                   | P              |
|            | 16. Guth, Chuck                | Aberdeen             | P              |
|            | 17. Jackson Monson, Shari      | TEP/Stated Clerk     | P              |
|            | 18. Kearny, Dexter             | Longview             | P              |
|            | 19. Kearny, Liz                | Longview             | P              |
|            | 20. Kirkpatrick, Tom           | HR                   | P              |
|            | 21. Kisanga, Joseph            | Umoja                | P              |
|            | 22. McKnight, Nicole           | VM                   | P              |
|            | 23. Moffitt, Mike              | University Place     | P              |
|            | 24. Monroe, Tad                | Immanuel             | P              |
|            | 25. Morgan, Taeler             | Packwood             | P              |
|            | 26. Paine, Lesley              | At Large             | P              |
|            | 27. Paine, Tom                 | Tenino, Lakewood     | P              |
|            | 28. Sikes, Ken                 | Manitou              | P              |
|            | 29. Spencer, Katie             | FPC Puyallup         | P              |
|            | 30. Spencer, Kelly             | VM/Pres staff        | P              |
|            | 31. Stewart, Aaron             | UPPC                 | P              |
|            | 32. Watkins, Sue               | FPC Puyallup         | P              |

33. Woicik, Lisa At Large P

| <u>CREs present</u> | <u>Location</u> |   |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|
| Kathy Johnstone     | Mineral         | P |

| <u>Church</u>                    | <u>RE Commissioner(s)</u>                         |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Fircrest                         | Cindy Crooks<br>Hattie Fender                     |
| Harrison Square                  | John Swenson                                      |
| Lacey                            | Jerry Katt  |
| Lakewood                         | Dave Van Arnam                                    |
| Little Church on the Prairie     | Glenn Groefsema                                   |
| Longview                         | Ron Marshall                                      |
| Milton, Mission Woods            | Ruth Moore<br>Steve Whitaker                      |
| Olympia                          |   |
| Westminster - Olympia,           | David Ammons<br>Bill Culliton<br>Dorothy Culliton |
| United Churches                  | Linda Gaines<br>Isaac Jung<br>Eunice Robb         |
| Pacific Beach, Chapel by the Sea | Lee Marriott<br>Margaret Tegenfeldt               |
| Puyallup FPC                     | Patricia Grossie-Walton<br>Phyllis Smith          |
| Shepherd of the Hill             |   |
| Shelton                          | Gary Sarver                                       |
| Tacoma: Bethany                  | Cynthia Flores<br>Michael Grindle                 |
| Immanuel                         |   |
| Skyline                          | Robin Derby<br>Pat Nelson                         |
| Trinity                          | Don Blagsvedt<br>Aya Clark                        |

Elders on Leadership Council

John Bosshart, Cornerstone, Trustee  
ErrolLynne Marsh, First Pres Puyallup, Trustee

Elders Chairing Standing Committees

Kathy Marshall, Westminster - Olympia, Ruling Elder

Guests in Attendance

Kathryn Dahl, Bethany PNC, guest  
 Paul Davidson, guest  
 Reverend Rob Hagan, guest  
 Kurtis (Bo) Helmich, Skyline, Candidate  
 Jennifer Houston, guest  
 Nate Humphreys, guest  
 Jan Leng, Bethany, guest  
 Carolyn Lowry, Bethany, guest  
 Robert Mumford, Longview  
 Woodall Preston Jr., Bethany, guest  
 Virginia Priest, Bethany, guest  
 Kurt Sample, Lakewood, guest  
 Gene Sanders, Bethany, Ruling Elder  
 Michael Syverson, Bethany, RE

Total 27 congregations were represented.

**OPENING** The meeting was opened at 2:00 pm by Dexter Kearny. Prayers included acknowledgement of the death of Lesley Paine's mother, Isobel Blair. It was noted that the meeting was being recorded.

**WELCOME** New commissioners were introduced. Katie Spencer (Puyallup), Don Blagsvedt (Trinity), Aya Clark (Trinity)  
 Privilege of voice was granted to: Nate Humphreys inquirer and Christopher 'Ofe' Abreu Rosario (Bethany Tacoma)  
 Joyce Emery asked to give voice to members of the PNC for Bethany.  
 Commissioners have voice: Kathryn Dahl, PNC, Fay Garrett, PNC, Virginia Priest from Bethany, Carolyn Lowry, PNC, Jan Leng, interested presbyter of Bethany  
 Pam Anderson requested privilege of voice to Members of the Sound View Board if they come: Jennifer Houston, Nancyrose Houston  
**MOTION:** To approve privilege of voice for these listed names. Motion was made by Sue Watkins, Laura seconded the motion. *Motion passed* unanimously.

**QUORUM** The Stated Clerk declared there was a quorum present after giving online meeting instructions.

**DOCKET and**  
**CONSENT AGENDA** **MOTION:** To approve the docket and consent agenda. *Motion passed*, 40 yes, 0 no.

**REPORTS** The Transitional Executive Presbytery reported the following:

1. The **August hybrid presbytery** was well attended and enjoyable.
2. Walk through **the new website** tool for connection. Rev. Craig Goodwin, who is joining our presbytery as a member at large, has graciously given permission to use his professional photography on the new website.

The Treasurer's Report was made by ErrolLynne Marsh, who spoke for the treasurer.

1. Olympia Presbytery is **\$30,000 behind budget**. \$20,000 of that is a grant that has not come from the PCUSA. The rest is per capita giving.
2. Investments fluctuated down. Cash flow is tight. Checking is below the minimum amount. Asked Morgan Stanley for a distribution to come into checking.
3. The **2023 budget** will be discussed at the December meeting.
4. Cynthia Stelle, the bookkeeper, is a good **resource** for congregations.

The Stated Clerk reported the following:

1. Report of the **Permanent Judicial Commission** [See attachment]At the March 2022 Olympia Presbytery meeting, State Clerk Kari McFarland notified the presbytery of an accusation against a minister member. Steps were taken, guided by the Book of Order's Discipline section. This is the outcome and decision: The Rules of Discipline give the Church direction in The Preamble (The Principles of Church Discipline)
2. The Investigative Committee has been guided by this to provide support in this difficult case. They and the Permanent Judicial Committee did faithful work.
3. The Stated Clerk read the charge and censure. Minister member will receive supervised rehabilitation in coordination with the Executive Presbyter. The censure ended with Dexter Kearny reading a prayer written by Rev. Bob Bidwell for this occasion.

#### FIVE MINUTE BREAK

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| INTRODUCTION         | Dexter Kearny welcomed everyone back at 2:36 p.m. and introduced Taeler Morgan, Gather Tacoma, who led worship. |
| WORSHIP              | The theme was "Reclamation"   |
| LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT | Liz Kearny offered the land acknowledgement of the Cowliz People's important role.                              |

## LITURGY

Dexter Kearny's welcome liturgy came from the PCUSA website.  
*Simple Gifts* performed by Muriel Anderson on YouTube  
 Confession Prayer by Ken Sikes  
 Song of Assurance of Forgiveness. There's a Wideness in God's Mercy  
 by Nate Macy on YouTube  
 Joyce Emery read John 21:1-19  
 Sermon by Rev. Taeler Morgan , Pastor of Gather Tacoma  
 Invitation to the Lord's Table by Taeler Morgan and Ken Sikes  
 Telling the communion story one line at a time (The Words of Institution)  
 The Elements  
 The Doxology  
 Three Questions for You was answered in the chat  
 Benediction

## CPM

**Commission on Preparation for Ministry**

Dexter Kearny invited Liaison Mike Moffit (UPPC) to speak for CPM and **Inquirer Nate Humphreys**, under care of Westminster PC. Nate met the CPM on 14 September about moving to candidacy. He earned a dual degree from Columbia Theological Seminary, an MDiv and an MA in Practical Theology with an Emphasis on Pastoral Care. He won a scholarship for the Best Paper Showing Sound Theological Scholarship.

Nate was welcomed to speak by the Moderator.

Following questions by presbyters, the moderator closed debate. Nate was placed in a breakout room.

The **MOTION** came from CPM: To approve Nate Humphreys as a **candidate for Ministry of Word and Sacrament** in the PCUSA.

No Discussion

42 yes. *Motion passed* unanimously.

Nate answered the two official questions in the affirmative as he moved from inquiry to candidacy. A prayer was offered, and Nate was received as a candidate. Applause.

Mike Moffitt led the virtual laying on of hands.

LEADERSHIP  
COUNCIL

Update from the **Reset Group** by Barlow Buescher

The Reset Group is bringing in voices to move forward with Native People and the camp.

Update from **the Church Discernment Task Force** about **Skyline** Presbyterian Church

Joyce Emery ( Bethany) Moderator of the CDTF [formed by the Leadership Council in May] made a report about the task force work to this point.

The 3 focus points:

1. Caring for members (Bo Helmich contract through 12/31/2),
2. Building management (4.2 acres in Tacoma maintained by Billy Shillinglaw, held in trust by the presbytery, \$5,500/mo to maintain),
3. The relationship with neighbors around Skyline

There is no income stream.

The Task Force asked the Presbytery to **end its work** and **constitute an Administrative Commission** with the authority and powers in a motion coming in the report from COM. The major work is to decide what to do with the property and to formally close the church with the PCUSA and end the incorporation with the State of Washington.

REQUESTS FOR  
PROPOSALS

The Task Force asked the Presbytery to share broadly a [Requests for Proposals](#) from the public and presbytery at large. From online. Moderator Dexter Kearny thanked the task force.

COM

Commission on Ministry Report by Ken Sikes

**MOTION:** To form an Administrative Commission to **dissolve the congregation of Skyline Presbyterian Church** and to take appropriate care of the membership rolls, to provide pastoral care for the membership and faithful adherents as they discern where their new church home will be.

The Pastor for Realignment will serve as an ex officio member of the AC through Dec 31, 2022.

Additional duties:

1. To consider whether, and when, to order an appraisal for market value sales analysis and income analysis,
2. To consider incoming proposals and make recommendations to Presbytery in the first quarter of 2023.
3. Ultimately, make recommendations about the property.
4. Close the congregation at the next presbytery meeting by a simple motion.
5. Attend to all financial issues as necessary.
6. Attend to all the judicatory issues as required.
7. And to recommend a separate AC for the purpose executing the proposal chosen.

All expenses associated with the work of the AC come from the proposed sale of a presbytery property or another feasible way of covering the cost to Presbytery.

If requested by the AC, the Leadership Council may add two additional members to the AC.

**Members of the AC:**

Robin Derby, Skyline  
 Ed Tropp, Skyline  
 Sue Watkins, FPC Puyallup  
 Martha Greene, UPPC  
 Dennis Fulton, Bethany

Following a time for questions and debate the **MOTION**: listed above was approved.

Yes 39, No 0 *Motion passed.*

Barlow Buescher offered a prayer, giving thanks for Skyline and seeking comfort for those mourning.

'2023 COVENANT Introduction of the coming '**2023 Covenant with Olympia Presbytery for Presbyters**' by Ken Sikes

The Mission and Vision Design Team tasked COM with this. It's a work in progress. It will come in Email to all TE and REs. Please respond by the end of the year.

Dexter Kearny thanked the COM. No questions for COM.

BREAK Until 4:15

HELLOS &  
 GOODBYES

(continuation of COM Report) by Ruth Moore  
 Katherine Nicols, Validated music ministry, retired  
 Welcome Joseph Kisanga, Umoja Tacoma  
 Katie Spencer, installed for a designated term, FPC Puyallup  
 Kelly Spencer, transferred from Indiana, Serving as Administrative Assistant and on the preaching circuit  
 Haley Ballast, Hagar's Bridge Pastor, she is a member of the Seattle Presbytery, and is serving outside bounds  
 Robin Crawford, Bridge Pastor, Westminster Chehalis  
 Christopher Abreu Rosario for ordination as Minister of Word and Sacrament, from San Francisco to Bethany, pending examination

ORDINATION EXAM Christopher Abreu Rosario  
 Ofe read his statement of faith. Michael Grindle, chair of PNC, spoke for Bethany. Examination of Ofe, as prescribed in G-2.0104 Gifts and qualifications. Link to Statement of Faith below.

Following questions from the presbytery the examination was ended. Ofe was placed in a breakout room.

**MOTION:** to approve candidate for ordination: Vote: 40 Yes 1 No. *Motion passed.*

**MOTION:** To form the ordination commission. Any discussion. Vote: 38 Yes 0 No *Motion passed.*

MOTION TO  
EXTEND DOCKET

David Ammonds made a **MOTION** to extend the docket by twenty minutes. Second by Sue Watkins. Vote: 39 Yes 1 No. *Motion carried.*

Ofe welcomed back

Ruth Moore offered a prayer for Ofe and Bethany.

INVITATION

The **ordination** will be 2 October at 4pm at Bethany.

PERSONNEL

Kathy Marshall

You met Rev **Kelly Spencer as new Administrative Coordinator.** Grateful that she had come into Olympia Presbytery.

**MOTION:** Olympia Presbytery to extend the Temporary Executive Presbyter /Stated Clerk contract, starting in 2023, month to month, with 60-days notice by either party.

Comes from Personnel, supported by the Leadership Council, does not need a second.

Vote: 37 Yes 0 No *Motion carried.*

Shari thanked Personnel for their good work on the **updated policies** approved today in the consent agenda.

HAGAR'S

Hagar's Community Church Guide Team Update

Haley Ballast is the Bridge pastor.

Shared a flier to generate ideas. *7 Ways Your Church Can Support Hagar's.* See Link below.

ADJOURN

**MOTION:** To adjourn this meeting after prayer came from Liz Kearny. Second from Sue Watkins. Vote: 29 Yes 0 No. *Motion passed.*

CLOSING

Dexter Kearny offered the closing prayer "as our work is done" and the Benediction.



ADJOURNMENT 5:17 pm Recording stopped.

ATTACHMENTS [Update from the Reset Group](#)  
[Church Discernment Task Force](#) script by Joyce Emery  
[2023 Covenant with Olympia Presbytery for Presbyters](#)  
[Christopher Abreu Rosario's Statement of Faith](#)  
[Formation of Ordination Commission](#)  
[7 Ways Your Church can Support Hagar's](#)

Report of the Permanent Judicial Commission available to members of Olympia Presbytery by request to the Stated Clerk.

SUBMISSION Respectfully submitted by Lesley Blair Paine, Recording Clerk,  
Shari Jackson Monson, Stated Clerk, updated with links 14 November  
2022.