

Committee on Ministry
Report to the Presbytery of San José
November 19, 2016

Information

1. Approved a contract between the Stone Church of Willow Glen and the Rev. Jim Bender to serve as Transitional Pastor on a part-time basis (60%, 24 flexible hours per week on average). Terms of the contract are (all amounts designated per 12 months): Salary - \$30,670; Housing - \$20,418; IRA - \$10,000; Board of Pensions - \$64,088 (commensurate with pastor's HR status and BoP requirements). Reimbursable allowances (also per 12 months) are Professional Expenses - 1,200; Auto - \$600; Continuing Education - \$1,000; Vacation - one month per calendar year (including four Sundays) and Study Leave - two weeks per calendar year including two Sundays)
2. Received report from the Rev. David McCreath, Moderator of Commission to Install the Rev. Lindsay Woods and the Rev. Andrew Wong as co-pastors of Foothill Presbyterian Church, notifying COM that the Commission had duly completed its task and had been dismissed with the benediction at the end of the worship service.
3. Approved the request from the Rev. Dr. Margaret Boles, and the session of Covenant Presbyterian Church, to approve the Rev. Jenni Bales as part-time parish associate with remuneration.
4. Approved the plan for sabbatical for the Rev. Dr. Margaret Boles, beginning in July 2017.
5. Approved a motion from the PET working with Onnuri Presbyterian Church to find that, contingent upon the Financial Affairs Committee's determination that the PET's documentation is accurate and complete, the PET has met the requirements of the gracious dismissal policy, and to set Dec. 11, 2016 as the date for a meeting of the congregation.
6. A clergy retreat is being planned for March 27-28, 2017 at St. Francis Retreat Center in San Juan Bautista. Cost will be \$30/person for a shared room and \$60/person for a private room, with Presbytery funding the balance. More details will follow.
7. Voted to validate the ministry of Ryan Althaus with Sweaty Sheep, and to bring him before the presbytery to be examined for ordination to that ministry at the Feb. 4, 2017 meeting.

Action

1. The COM moves the ordination of candidate Trevor Van Laar as Minister of Word and Sacrament, and his installation as Pastor of Gilroy Presbyterian Church, beginning January 8, 2017.
2. Terms of Call: Salary - \$24,000; Housing Allowance - \$50,000; Pension and Medical - \$27,750. Reimbursable Allowances: Travel \$1,500; - Study Allowance - \$2,000; Social Security - \$6,000; Professional Expense - \$1,500. Total Effective Salary, Pension, Medical, Reimbursable Expenses - \$112,750
Study Leave: Two weeks per year; Vacation: One month per year (30 calendar days).

Paula Kelso, Chair

Trevor Van Laar
Brief Biography

Trevor Van Laar was born and raised on an almond farm in the Central Valley of California. He was blessed with loving parents and a church family who guided him toward Jesus. His first experience in ministry was in high school where he led his first bible study. After graduating from California State University, Fresno, Trevor began his ministry career at Mount Hermon Christian Camps and Conference Center where he served in multiple leadership positions over the course of a decade. Many long-time GPCers will remember that Trevor then served at Gilroy Presbyterian Church as the Director of Family Ministries from 2007-2012. He currently serves as Pastor Pro Tem at San Jose Christian Reformed Church.

Trevor is married to Cynthia (née Raff), who as it happens, grew up attending GPC! Together they have four beautiful children, ages 7-12: Noelle, Wyatt, Emma and Mackenzie. Trevor has an M.Div. from Western Seminary, and has been certified as ready for a call by the San Jose Presbytery. He is already an active member of the Gilroy community, serving most recently as an assistant co-chair of the Garlic Festival Gourmet Alley committee, and as a Facilitator for Leadership Gilroy.

Statement of Faith - Trevor Van Laar

I believe that the following statements are imperative to Christian faith:

God

I believe that there is one God, Creator of all things, infinite in being and perfection. God exists eternally in three Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit who are of one substance and equal in power and glory. God the Father is the source of all that is good. He initiates creation and redemption, which he accomplishes with and through his Son and the Holy Spirit.

Jesus Christ

I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, born of the Virgin Mary and sent to earth fully God, yet fully human to atone for the sins of the world. Jesus lived a life fully devoid of sin, was crucified, and was raised from death on the third day thus breaking the power of sin and death and delivering believers from death to eternal life.

Holy Spirit

I believe the Holy Spirit is the third person of the triune God who indwells all believers, empowers them to love, serve, witness and obey God, equips them with gifts, and transforms them to be increasingly like Christ.

Bible

I believe that the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, is God's written Word, revealing for all peoples his character and purposes. It is the final authority in all matters relating to belief and behavior. The Holy Spirit moved the human authors of the Bible so that what they wrote is inspired and fully reliable in all it affirms.

Humankind

I believe that humans were created in the image of God for fellowship with the creator but through voluntary action, became tainted with sin. Only by the grace of God, through the salvation of Jesus Christ, can humanity hope to again achieve true fellowship with our eternal Creator and fulfill the Creator's true purpose for our lives.

Salvation

I believe that through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, perfect atonement has been made for the sin of humankind. Salvation is offered freely and anyone who believes in him is redeemed by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and can experience salvation by faith through him.

Sacraments

I believe that the church celebrates two sacraments: the Lord's Supper and Baptism. These serve as outward signs of the inward realities that come from our relationship with God. Baptism marks the communion of an individual with Christ through participation in his death and resurrection and entrance into the covenant community. At the Lord's Table, we enjoy the spiritual presence of Jesus, celebrating the Lord's death and resurrection through a meal with the Body as we celebrate the new covenant and coming reign of Jesus Christ. In the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, we are given the signs of God's grace and sealed in everlasting covenant with God as a faithful people.

Life after Death

I believe that Jesus will return, bodily and visibly, to judge all humanity from all ages and to receive his people to himself. At that time, all who are judged righteous will enjoy a new heaven and a new earth with God our creator. The unrighteous will enter into eternal separation from the Lord.

Church

I believe that the Church is comprised of believers who are the Body of Christ by covenant of faith and belief in the Gospel; which includes believers from every people, tribe, nation, and tongue. The purpose of the Church is to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth, to comfort, shelter, nurture, and provide spiritual fellowship and worship for the children of God. Further, I believe that the church must always seek truth, promote social righteousness and exhibit the Kingdom of God to the world.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) Annual Report

As of November 16, 2016

INQUIRERS

Matthew Dimick	First Palo Alto
Steve Fainer	Los Gatos
Erik Khoobyarian ¹	Los Gatos
Tae Kim ²	Onnuri

CANDIDATES

Susan McDougall	Los Gatos
Chris McKee	Westminster
Valerie Weirauch ³	Sunnyvale

READY AND PENDING

Lisa Rose Battaglia	Monterey First
Krista Wuertz	Sunnyvale
Martin Jimenez	Watsonville
Trevor Van Laar ⁴	Gilroy

OTHER

Matt Stephan⁵
Karen Hastings Flegel⁶

- 1: Erik is to be moved to Candidacy at 11/19/16 Presbytery Meeting
- 2: Tae is currently a member of Onnuri but will need to find another home church if Onnuri leaves the denomination
- 3: Valerie is appearing before CPM and is requesting to be moved to "Ready and Pending" at 11/17/16 CPM meeting
- 4: Trevor is appearing before the Presbytery at its 11/19/16 meeting to be approved for ordination
- 5: Matt removed himself from the care process
- 6: Karen received and accepted a call to Grace Presbyterian Church in Walnut Creek, CA