



**INTRODUCING THE NOMINEE  
STATED CLERK  
PRESBYTERY OF SAN JOSE  
THE REV. ERICA RADER**

A member of the Presbytery of San Jose, Erica serves on the Committee on Ministry, and chairs the Transitions sub-committee. She is a Parish Associate with the Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos, where she preaches regularly and participates in weekly worship leadership, teaches and develops curriculum for children and family ministries, was leader of the annual Women's Retreat and provides pastoral care as needed. She is currently employed by Fuller Seminary, Bay Area Campus, as Director of Strategic Engagement and Regional Campus Director, including leadership development and administration (coordinating student services and central resources, accounting and budgeting).

Says Alice Thorn, search committee members chose Erica Rader as their nominee, because they heard in her answers to interview questions that she is a woman of deep faith, has an ability to analyze and resolve questions, is compassionate, and understands that all issues involve relationships. She is experienced in the "nitty gritty" of paperwork and deadlines.

Barbara Rogers says, "Erica is qualified for the Stated Clerk position from both a pastoral and organizational perspective."

Lynn Viale, also a search team member, went farther, "Erica is a creative, compassionate team player, with great organizational skills, and the ability to identify and solve complex issues."

"Erica is very gifted in organization and information analysis while also being very approachable and pastoral," says Jason Barraca.

Members of the search team: Jason Barraca, Mark Peake, Barbara Rogers, Lynn Viale, Alice Thorn (Chair).

## **The Reverend Erica Rader- Nominee for Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of San Jose**

After years of wondering and inquiry, Erica came to faith in Jesus shortly before her thirtieth birthday. The tipping point in her faith journey was experienced through a blind date with her future husband Dave as he expressed his faith in Jesus and encouraged her to pray about her questions. Erica prayed and discovered that her faith began to grow. After Erica asked Dave to marry her and they began a family, her experience of motherhood and postpartum depression deepened her faith. She began attending a mothers' group at Menlo Park Presbyterian Church and experienced a calling to ministry that surprised her. Erica attended Fuller Seminary in Menlo Park for six years while on staff at Menlo Park Presbyterian, and was undercare of the Presbytery of San Francisco. Her staff roles included Director of Women's Ministry and Community Life and Minister of Care and Recovery.

Discerning a call to continue her ordination process and needing to complete requirements, Erica left Menlo Park Presbyterian after her MDiv graduation in 2010. She completed a unit of CPE at the Palo Alto VA and a pastoral internship with Mission Bay Community Church in San Francisco supervised by Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow, a church position that she sought to broaden her experience. In 2011 Erica accepted a call as Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church Evanston and stayed in Chicagoland for three years. Erica returned home to the bay area in and began serving in admissions and administration for Fuller Seminary Bay Area.

Erica transferred her membership to the Presbytery of San Jose in 2016. She actively serves as a Parish Associate at the Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos, where she worships with her family. Currently Erica serves on the Committee on Ministry, chairing the Transitions Subcommittee. Serving on COM has been an experience that helped Erica discern a calling to a deeper engagement in serving our Presbytery through the role of Stated Clerk. Her experience in Transitional Ministry training this summer also helped her discern a calling to help support our churches as we respond to changing times.

As Stated Clerk, Erica desires to be a servant leader who faithfully leads through collaboration and relationships. She will seek to prayerfully listen to God's leading and the input of the community to respond with the support and processes needed to help our people and churches respond to our mission. She has a pastoral heart and a strategic mind, as both her theology and business equipping come together to help her serve. Erica's marketplace experience includes corporate treasury (managing cash, financial instruments, bank relationships and contracts) as well as internal audit and business analytics. In addition to a MDiv from Fuller Seminary, Erica has earned an MBA from the University of Chicago and a BS in Commerce (Finance) from Santa Clara University.