

**PRESBYTERY OF THE CASCADES
MINUTES OF STATED MEETING
June 18, 2026**

A Stated Meeting of The Presbytery of the Cascades was held on June 18, 2026, on the Zoom Videoconference Platform. The Reverend Margaret Mitsuyasu, 2025-2026, Moderator of the Presbytery, was in the chair and the Reverend Paul Belz-Templeman, Stated Clerk, was present recording the proceedings.

Article VI.C. of the Presbytery's Bylaws states that the quorum for a meeting of the Presbytery, whether stated or special, shall be no fewer than the number of ruling elders required to represent at least ten percent of the congregations of the Presbytery, and an equal number of teaching elders of the Presbytery. At the time of the meeting, the Presbytery was composed of 86 congregations. Thus, the quorum for this meeting was 9 ruling elders representing 9 congregations of the Presbytery and an equal number of minister members.

111 presbyters registered attendance at the meeting. Presbyters in attendance were 58 minister- members of the Presbytery, 42 elder commissioners from 31 of the congregations of this Presbytery, and 11 elders enrolled as commissioners by virtue of Presbytery service. A list of the Presbyter's registering attendance is attached as **Appendix A**.

The meeting was convened on June 18, 2026, at 6:00 pm by Moderator Mitsuyasu. Moderator Mitsuyasu acknowledged that the meeting leadership and management team was gathered at the Presbytery Office Building which is located on the traditional homelands of the Chinook, Cowlitz, Clackamas, Kalapuya, and Atfalati people. Then Moderator Mitsuyasu opened the meeting with prayer.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Reverend Sue Keim, member of Presbytery of Inland Northwest was seated as a corresponding member.

CONSENT AGENDA & MEETING DOCKET

Without objection **the following 5 items were adopted from the consent agenda**

Allow Commission on Ministry Members Central & South Service on Both Commissions

Renew the suspension of Standing Rule J.2 in order that each Central and South Commission on Ministry members can be considered as members of both commissions for the 2026-2027 year.

Commissions to Award Grants-Leadership Commission, Trustees

Whereas, the custom of the Presbytery has been for the Board of Trustees and Presbytery Leadership Commission to award grants; and,

Whereas, authoritative interpretations of the Book of Order require specificity when entrusting commissions to act on behalf of presbytery;

Resolved, Authorize the Board of Trustees to consider Barnabas and Vitality Grants between presbytery meetings. The Board of Trustees may award grants at its discretion; and,

Resolved, Authorize the Presbytery Leadership Commission to consider Bisbee, Peacemaking, Technology, 1001 matching and Missional Innovation & Collaboration Grants between presbytery meetings. The Presbytery Leadership Commission may award these grants at its discretion.

Necrology Report

Receive the Necrology Report and thank God for the lives and ministries of these officers and servants of the church.

MINISTER	DATE
Richard Lang	March 10, 2026
Phillip Essex	March 29, 2024
Donald Reed Caughey	June 7, 2024
Dean Rowley	May 18, 2025
MINISTER SPOUSE	DATE
Phyllis Finney (The Rev. Jack Finney)	May 8, 2026

ELDER	CHURCH	CITY	DATE
Robert L. Thrush	First PC	Bandon, OR	March 31, 2026
Shirley Bankston	Lake Grove PC	Lake Oswego, OR	April 17, 2026
Gladys Elizabeth Fortmiller	First PC	Ashland, OR	May 4, 2026
Dr. William Joseph Sager	First PC	Ashland, OR	May 4, 2026

Equalization Formula

Adopt the 2026 – 2027 Equalization Formula. The 2026-2027 Equalization Formula is attached as **Appendix B**.

Designated Fund Division

Divide the funds in the New Ministries Team (“NMT”) Reserve Account #37135 into two equal funds, one for *Missional Innovation and Collaboration* and one for *New Worshiping Communities Team*.

Docket Approved

The Docket was adopted as amended.

The Report on Minimum Terms of Call was removed from the docket as the Commission on Ministry is waiting for more information from the General Assembly and Board of Pensions and hopes to establish the Minimum Terms of Compensation at a Special Meeting by August.

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ruling Elder Rebecca Jewel, Portland, Kenilworth, vice moderator of the Synod of the Pacific, reported on the May 2026 meeting of the synod.

Presbytery Leadership Commission

Chris Murphy expressed thanks for all ministers and sessions who submitted surveys noting that 175 ministers and 61 sessions had done so. Commission members Audrey Schindler and Eileen Sheelar gave highlights from the data and noted that the Commission had spent much time and will continue to spend more time working with the information.

The report of the Presbytery Leadership Commission can be found as **Appendix C**.

Associate Presbyter for Congregations and Clergy

The Reverend Clark Scalera presented his report as Associate Presbyter for Congregations and Clergy.

Warm Springs

The Reverend Jim Moiso, member of the Administrative Commission for Wam Springs, reported on the work of the Commission. Jim thanked the Board of Trustees for their work on the manse which will be completed by the end of June and noted the work of tribal member Danny Martinez and his crew that have gone out of their way to facilitate the remodel of the manse. He noted that a search is underway for a pastor and the church continues to bless the community by hosting a multilingual day care and food pantry.

Commission on Ministry

On behalf of the Commission on Ministry, Central/South, Co-Chair Vicky Brown, moved the following motion that was adopted:

Myrtle Creek, Tri-City Original Jurisdiction Administrative Commission

Create an administrative commission with original jurisdiction for Tri-City Presbyterian Church in Myrtle Creek, Oregon and authorize the moderator of presbytery to appoint members in consultation with the Commission on Ministry and Board of Trustees.

On behalf of the Commission on Ministry, Central/South, Co-Chair Bobbi Neason, moved the following motions:

Reedsport, United, Original Jurisdiction Administrative Commission

After discussion and amendment the following motion was adopted:

At the request of the session, create an administrative commission with original jurisdiction for United Presbyterian Church, Reedsport, Oregon to begin its work as soon as possible.

Instruct the moderator of presbytery to appoint members to the commission including a member of the Board of Trustees and the following people: Reedsport, United Ruling Elders Nicki Carper, Kathleen Miller, Leo Naapi, Nada Rose, Marlene Swift, Cindy Toney; and Teaching Elders Bobbi Neason (COM liaison) & Greg Wood (current Session Moderator). Staff for the commission will be Brian Craker & Amy Clements.

Instruct the commission to research and record any restrictions on the assets of the church, retain any major gifts or extraordinary income, and present a plan to the Board of Trustees for any extraordinary distributions of assets.

Empower Board of Trustees to Permit Sale

After discussion the following motion was adopted:

Empower the Board of Trustees to grant permission for United Presbyterian Church Reedsport, Oregon to sell the real property of the congregation.

The Report of the Commissions on Ministry reports are found in **Appendix D**.

Ruling on Meaning of "including"

A point of order was raised by Zane Buxton regarding the Reedsport, United Administrative Commission motion that the words "including a member of the Board of Trustees, and the following people..." limited appointments by the moderator those listed. The moderator ruled the point not well taken, stating that the moderator may appoint more than those named but must include those named when appointing members.

Elections

After reports from the Presbyterian Leadership Commission presenting nominations for the Nominating Committee, the Nominating Committee presenting nominations for all other positions, and the opportunity for nominations from the floor, the presbytery held elections by acclamation. Those elected are listed in **Appendix E**.

Moderator

Moderator Mitsuyasu thanked those who made the meeting possible, including commissioners, and expressed confidence in incoming moderator Gail Black.

Stated Clerk

The stated clerk thanked Moderator Mitsuyasu.

The report of the stated clerk is found in **Appendix F**.

Installation & Closing Prayer

Cam Birnie, Eric Lindsey, Dennis Smith and Gail Black were installed as officers of the presbytery by moderator Mitsuyasu who also closed the meeting with prayer.

Reports of the Board, and others who did not report during the meeting are found appended to the minutes.



Approved June 24, 2026 by the Presbytery
Leadership Commission--PBT

Paul Belz-Templeman
Stated Clerk

Appended Reports

- A. Attendance
- B. Equalization Formula
- C. Presbytery Leadership Commission
- D. Commission on Ministry
- E. Election Results
- F. Stated Clerk
- G. Board of Trustees
- H. Commission on Preparation for Ministry
- I. Personnel & Administration
- J. Transitional Executive Presbyter

June 18, 2026 Online Stated Meeting

Presbytery of the Cascades

RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS

Name	City, Church	Name	City, Church
Bayer, Ted	Bend, First	Taylor, Jill	Portland, Moreland
Brizee, Lori	Bend, First	Lowrey, Janet	Portland, Multnomah
Miller, Donna	Central Point, First	Black, Gail	Portland, Rose City Park
Montgomery, Anne	Cottage Grove, First	Lawrence-Moiso, Lea	Portland, Rose City Park
Campbell, Virginia	Dallas, First	Reinhardt, Linda	Portland, Rose City Park
Souders, Kathleen	Estacada, Springwater	Finley, Janice	Portland, Savage Memorial
Macfarlane, Chris	Hillsboro, Tualatin Plains	Houchen, Amy	Portland, St. Andrew's
Curtis, Bronwyn	Keizer, John Knox	Patin, Janet	Portland, Westminster
Jo Emmett, Mary	Keizer, John Knox	Berry, Nancy	Redmond, Community
Eckmann, Matt	Lake Oswego, Lake Grove	Lamb, Michael	Salem, Salem First
Knorr, Kelley	Lake Oswego, Lake Grove	Foster, Lucy	Salem, Westminster
Buck, Scott	Lincoln City, CBTS	Greenlee, Dianne	Salem, Westminster
MacDonald, Tom	McMinnville, First	Fraser, Sharon	St. Helen, Plymouth
Frey, Bob	Medford, First	Gage, Julie	Tigard, Rise
Frey, Sandi	Medford, First	Martin, Lynne	Trout Lake, First
Saxowsky, Denvy	Monmouth, Christ's Church	Hoffman, Rebecca	Vancouver, First
McBurnett, Diane	Monmouth, Christ's Church	Ortiz, Lyn	Vancouver, First
Keagle, Helen	Newport, First	Pierce, Mary	Vancouver, First
Smith, Dennis	North Bend, First	Keady, Karen	Walterville, McKenzie Valley
Brown, Sharon	Portland, First	Dobney, Mark	Warrenton, Pioneer
Jewel, Rebecca	Portland, Kenilworth	Helsabeck, Nan	West Linn, Emmanuel

MINISTERS OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Name	Name	Name	Name
Belz-Templeman, Paul	Friesen, Carley	Kokjer, Dean	Neel, Beth
Bales, Jenni	Garber, Debbie	Lewis, Maggie	Neel, Gregg
Berger, Pat	Garvin, Robin	Linder, Dawn	Nolen, Tom
Bowersox, Ann	Golbek, Amanda	Loving, Linda	Olson, Mark
Brown, Dwayne	Graham, Susan	McDougall, Susan	Parfrey, Eileen
Brown, Vicky	Grewe, Chris	Miller, Joan	Pate, Katie
Bullis, Tracie	Guevara, Rachel	Mitsuyasu, Margaret	Peters, Danny
Buxton, Zane	Hasenjaeger, John	Mixon-Weller, Paulette	Poole, Jerry
Crow, Beverly	Hovenkamp, Beverly	Moiso, Jim	Richman, Derek
Dunn, Joanna	Humphreys, Bill	Moon, Sandra	Russell, Bill
Emery, Dave	Ireland, Suzan	Mote, David	Scalera, Clark
Fowler, Dan	Jewel, David	Murphy, Chris	Schindler, Audrey
Frey, Mark	Keener, Kathryn	Neason, Bobbi	Sievert, Jeff (cont. next page)

Appendix A (Cont.)
June 18, 2026 Online Stated Meeting
Presbytery of the Cascades

MINISTERS OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT (Cont.)			
Name	Name	Name	Name
Sponaugle, Laurie	Tindall, Susan	Wilson, Mike	Wood, Greg
Stebe, Bob	Van Stelle, Sue	Winslea, Elizabeth	
Strader, Becky	Voss-Rothmeier, Kris	Winslea, Tim	

ATTENDING BY VIRTUE OF SERVICE			
By Virtue of Service	Committee or Commission	By Virtue of Service	Committee or Commission
Dee, Amy	Commission on Ministry	Baca, David	Presbytery Treasurer
Ziel, Sharon	Commission on Ministry	Nelson, Bill	Trustees
Sheelar, Eileen	Communications & Technology Team	Stewart, Bill	Trustees
Belt, Kate	Nominating	Missar, Charles	Trustees
Birnie, Cam	Nominating	Thornton, Larry	Trustees
Brenner, Connie	Nominating	Eckerd, Carole	Vice Moderator

GUESTS	
Name	
Clements, Amy	Presbytery Staff
Keim, Susan	Corresponding Member
Woodrow, Angela	Visitor

APPENDIX "

2026- 2027 EQUALIZATION FORMULA

This proposed Equalization Formula reports the number of Ruling Elder Commissioners that each congregation may send to presbytery meetings for the period after adjournment of the June, 2026, Stated Meeting through the end of the summer 2027 Stated Meeting. This formula aims to achieve numerical parity between Minister Members and Ruling Elder Commissioners who vote at meetings in accordance with G-3.0301.

The number of Ruling Elder Commissioners each congregation may send is listed below. Numbers are based on reported 12/31/25 membership. Every congregation receives 2 commissioners plus an additional commissioner for every 250 members.

Additionally, each congregation is invited and authorized to send a racial/ethnic elder commissioner in addition to those authorized based on the above formula in an effort to redress racial ethnic balance.

NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE ELDER COMMISSIONERS
BY CHURCH July 1, 2026, THROUGH SUMMER MEETING, 2027

Albany, United	2	Hillsboro, Orenco	3	Portland, Piedmont	2
Aloha, Reedville	2	Hillsboro, Tualatin Plains	2	Portland, Rose City Park	2
Ashland, First	2	Keizer, John Knox	2	Portland, Savage Memorial	2
Astoria First	2	Lake Oswego, Lake Grove	5	Portland, St. Andrews	2
Aurora PC	2	Lakeside, Community	2	Portland, Valley	2
Bandon, First	2	Lebanon, First	2	Portland, Westminster	4
Beaverton, Oregon Yedam	2	Lincoln City, CBTS	2	Prineville PC	2
Beaverton, Southminster	2	Malin, Basin Community	2	Redmond, Community	2
Bend, First	3	McMinnville, First	2	Reedsport, United	2
Brookings PC	2	Medford, First	2	Roseburg, First	2
Camas, St. John's	2	Mill City, First	2	Salem, First	2
Central Point, First	2	Milwaukie PC	2	Salem, Westminster	2
Clatskanie PC	2	Milwaukie, Oak Hills	2	St. Helens, Plymouth	2
Corvallis, First	3	Monmouth, Christ's Church	2	Tigard, Rise	2
Corvallis, Korean	2	Myrtle Creek, Tri-City	2	Trout Lake, First	2
Cottage Grove, First	2	Myrtle Point, First	2	Tualatin PC	2
Creswell, First	2	Newberg, First	2	Vancouver, Cascades	2
Dallas, First	2	Newport, First	2	Vancouver, Columbia	4
Eagle Creek PC	2	North Bend, First	2	Vancouver, East Woods	2
Estacada, Springwater	2	Pacific City, Nestucca Valley	2	Vancouver, First	3
Eugene, Central	2	Phoenix, First	2	Vancouver, Korean	2
Eugene, Peace	2	Portland, Bethany	2	Waldport, Community	2
Eugene, Westminster	2	Portland, First	3	Walterville, McKenzie Valley	2
Fairview, Smith Memorial	2	Portland, Grace	2	Warm Springs	2
Florence, Presbyterian Community	2	Portland, Hope Korean	2	Warrenton, Pioneer	2
Gold Beach, First	2	Portland, Kenilworth	2	West Linn, Emmanuel	2
Grants Pass, Bethany	2	Portland, Moreland	2	Woodburn, First	2
Gresham, Covenant	2	Portland, Mt. Tabor	2	Yachats, Community	2
Hillsboro PC	2	Portland, Multnomah	2		

Appendix C

REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERY LEADERSHIP COMMISSION

FOR ACTION

Redesignate Presbytery Designated Funds [[Consent Agenda](#)]

Divide the funds in the New Ministries Team (“NMT”) Reserve Account #37135 into two equal funds, one for *Missional Innovation and Collaboration* and one for *New Worshiping Communities*.

Rationale

The remaining funds in the New Ministries Team Reserve Account were designated by Presbytery from the sale of vacant properties. Because the New Ministries Team's original scope has now been divided into two distinct teams, the fund will be divided to provide clarity and ensure presbytery, its leaders and the teams understand the resources available in each area.

FOR INFORMATION

April 15, 2026, Presbytery Leadership Commission Actions

CATT grant to Vancouver, Eastwoods

Upon recommendation from Communication and Technology Team (CATT), permit Vancouver, East Woods, to redirect their CATT grant funds from addressing audio “dead spots” to addressing the audio dead spots *and* upgrading the lighting system.

Meeting Owl Video Conference Device

Purchase a “Meeting Owl” to be used for hybrid meetings of the PLC and other Presbytery bodies.

May 20, 2026 Presbytery Leadership Commission Actions

1001 New Worshiping Communities Grants

Award matching grants to four existing 1001 New Worshiping Communities

Westside Youth Collective (1001 Seed Grant)	\$10,000
Eastside Youth Collective (1001 Seed Grant)	\$10,000
Dancing with Joy (1001 Seed Grant)	\$10,000
Shalom Collective (1001 Investment Grant)	\$30,000

Cherry Park Property Proceeds Grant to Fairview, Smith Memorial

Awarded \$100,000 grant to Smith Memorial from the New Ministries Team Reserve Account

Note: this is not a typical New Ministries grant. PLC’s decision to award this one-time grant is informed by unique circumstances that merit an exception. This grant was given in recognition that when the Cherry Park Congregation closed it did not have the opportunity to consider a gift to another congregation from the proceeds of the sale of their property. The original grant request was to take funds from the sale of the Cherry Park Property. Since some proceeds from the sale of the Cherry Park property went into the New Ministries Fund, this was the simplest way to allow the Cherry Park membership to make a gift from the proceeds.

Rename and Clarify Purpose of New Ministries Team Personnel Fund

Rename the NMT Personnel Fund to the NWC Personnel Fund. The \$126,000 will stay designated for any New Worshiping Communities personnel costs for the next two years after which, in consultation with Reverend Aaron Morris, the fund may be redesignated.

Communication and Technology Team (CATT) Grant, Astoria, First

Upon waiver of the 4 year policy and the understanding that Astoria cannot have a grant for another 8 years, award Astoria, First, a \$2,900 CATT grant towards technology upgrades.

Appendix C

CATT Grant, Bandon, First

Award a \$3,000 CATT grant to Bandon, First, towards upgrading 30-year-old audio system including “Radio Shack speakers”.

Missional Innovation & Collaboration and New Worshiping Communities Teams

Pending approval by presbytery, authorize the MIC and NWC Teams to oversee use of their new funds, including the promotion and review of future grant applications, per current grant funding guidelines.

May 29, 2026 Presbytery Leadership Commission Actions

Permit Malin, Basin, to sell Tulelake manse.

Upon recommendation from the Board of Trustees, permit Malin, Basin to sell the real property known as the “Tulelake Manse” located at 724 Park Street, Tulelake, California.

Appendix D

COMMISSIONS ON MINISTRY

Since our last COM Report on April 25, 2025, the presbytery celebrated the retirement of these ministers and welcomed a new minister into our midst:

RETIREMENTS

- Scott Dalgarno -- A Retirement Information form follows in this report.
- Matt Gough

NEW MINISTER MEMBERS

- Dave Emery

Statement of Faith and Work History follows in this report on the next page.

Appendix D



Presbytery of the Cascades

503-227-5486

245 S Bancroft, Suite D

Portland, OR 97239

Retirement Information Form

Full Name:	Wayne Scott Dalgarno
Date of Retirement:	Dec. 1. 2025
Seminary:	San Francisco Theological Seminary
Date of Ordination:	November 1980
Presbytery of Ord:	Cascades

Work History (Indicate how long at each position):

While a seminary student I served First Presbyterian Church, Lakeview, Oregon as Student Supply Pastor (June 1975 – December 1976). I served in the same capacity at First Presbyterian Church, Myrtle Point (July 1977 – December 1977).

Grace Presbyterian Church, Portland, OR, Solo Pastor (October 1980 – August 1994).

First Presbyterian Church, Ashland, OR, Pastor - Head of Staff (September 1994 – August 2007).

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Eugene, OR, Interim Pastor (September 2007 – October 2008).

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Portland, OR, Interim Pastor (October 2008 – December 2010)

Wasatch Presbyterian Church, Salt Lake City, Utah, Pastor – Head of Staff (January 2011 – April 2021).

Southminster Presbyterian Church, Beaverton, OR, Pastor – Head of Staff (May 2021 – November 2025).

Service to governing bodies:

Cascades Presbytery: Charter Member Peacemaking Committee, Preparation for Ministry Committee, Commissioner to General Assembly, Albuquerque, 1996.

Utah Presbytery: Committee on Ministry.

Special honors, awards or accomplishments:

1st Place, Best Sermons 5 Competition sponsored by Harper Collins Publishers, 1992.

Frederick Buechner Writing Award through Christian Century magazine, 2021. Many poems, essays, sermons and translations published in The Sunday Oregonian, The Christian Century, Presbyterians Today, Presbyterian Outlook, Ministry Magazine, American Poetry Review, The Antioch Review, The Bellevue Literary Review, The Iowa Review, The Yale Review, The Adroit Review and other journals and magazines. "Third-Class Relics" (collected poems) MoonPath Press, 2025.

Family: Rev. Eileen Parfrey (spouse), Margaret (Maggie) Hubert (daughter), Scott Hubert (son-in-law) Astrid and Alyssa Hubert (granddaughters).

Retirement plans:

More writing and translating. Golf, biking, spending time with Eileen, Maggie, Astrid, Alyssa and Eileen's children and grandchildren.

Dave Emery Statement of Faith

I believe in God, creator of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. One God.

Human beings were created in the image of God to live in loving fellowship with God and each other. After creation, the first human beings disobeyed God and went their own way. As a result, they were alienated from God. So then, death, disease, darkness and evil entered the world. As a result, all of creation is in desperate need of redemption.

The nature of God, and the connection with human beings throughout history has been written down in the authoritative word of Scripture. We see there the words of the tradition, the rule of the kings, the words of the prophets and the stories of history that continue to inform our present revelation of God.

We see that this almighty and holy God did not abandon us to our own destruction but instead promised to provide a way to restoration and salvation. The incredible reality of this is that the word made flesh came and lived with us. This same Jesus, the Anointed One, took on the form of flesh and blood while being the Son of God. Although He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. Jesus lived among us teaching, healing, praying, and ministering to all people while in every way proclaiming that the kingdom of God is at hand.

Jesus walked with his chosen twelve disciples. In like manner, he came to make disciples of all who would listen, turn and follow him. During his ministry he was arrested and killed by hanging on the cross. He died, he rose from the dead, and he appeared repeatedly to his disciples. So, by encouraging them, and admonishing them not to be afraid he tasked them with witnessing and declaring the way to salvation for all.

We know that sin and alienation from God have been defeated. The forgiveness and eternal communion with God are available through Jesus Christ. Our own efforts and hard work do not reward us with salvation. It is through the amazing love and grace of God in the Son, Jesus Christ, that we live as new creations.

God's Holy Spirit works in us revealing that we need to be cleansed and forgiven of our sins. The mystery of this work of love is seen in our baptism. The Holy Spirit regenerates our hearts and permanently transforms us by the renewal of our mind, heart and soul. The Holy Spirit empowers us with gifts, guides us, comforts us, counsels us, and leads us into a communal life of worship and a missional expression of our faith. This then jointly establishes the church as the place that we strengthen our faith and are empowered to witness to the truth of the gospel.

The church is rooted and established in Christ. As the body of Christ we practice spiritual lives, experience Baptism and celebrate the Lord's Supper. The church is a global and local expression of living out the way of Jesus through love, peace, sacrifice, and healing as we embody the resurrected Christ, who lives in and through us, giving hope to a broken and hurting world. It is this powerful message of faith that keeps us waiting and expecting the day when all pain will end, all suffering will be over, and we will be in the eternal joy with our Lord Jesus Christ, the Anointed One.

Appendix \$

Dave Emery **Education and Work History**

Education and Training

High School Diploma - Christian Academy in Japan, (1971-09-01 - 1973-06-12)

AA - Highline Community College, (1974-01-09 - 1976-06-14)

BA - Seattle Pacific University, (1976-09-04 - 1978-05-24)

MDiv - San Francisco Theological Seminary, (1978-08-21 - 1981-05-23)

DMin - Drew Theological School, (2003-09-03 - 2005-05-13)

Certified Crisis Intervention 2001

Certified Spiritual Leadership Clergy Going Deeper Program 2003

Trained Compassion Fatigue Specialist 2003

Work History

8/1/2023 - 8/1/2025 Transitional Pastor, Longview Presbyterian Church, Longview, WA

6/6/2021 - 7/31/2023 Transitional Pastor, Lacey Presbyterian Church, Lacey, WA

11/30/2020 - 5/8/2021 Transitional Pastor, Aberdeen Presbyterian Church, Aberdeen, WA

8/15/2018 - 11/13/2020 Transitional Pastor, Ashburn Presbyterian Church, Ashburn, VA

7/7/2016 - 6/22/2018 Pastor Solo, Fern Prairie United Methodist Church, Fern Prairie, WA

8/16/2013 - 7/22/2016 Transitional Pastor, Woodland Presbyterian Church, Woodland, WA

11/5/2008 - 1/4/2012 Spiritual Director/Chaplain, Bridge Disability Ministry, Seattle, WA

10/2/2005 - 8/25/2007 Transitional Pastor, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Trenton, NJ

5/14/1996 - 9/14/2005 Head Of Staff, Lakehurst Presbyterian Church, Lakehurst, NJ

8/21/1995 - 3/17/1996 Bridge Pastor, Clifton First Presbyterian Church, Clifton, NJ

9/4/1993 - 7/15/1995 Transitional Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, North Haledon, NJ

8/19/1991 - 8/1/1993 Transitional Pastor, Kirkpatrick Presbyterian Church, Ringoes, NJ

8/21/1986 - 4/1/1991 Solo Pastor, Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, Penrose, CO

7/7/1981 - 12/27/1986 Associate Pastor, Napa First Presbyterian Church, Napa, CA

Appendix \$

ACTIONS OF THE COMMISSION ON MINISTRY CENTRAL REGION

April 21, 2026 Commission on Ministry Central Actions

Community PC, Redmond, OR

Approved the Mission Study submitted by Community PC, Redmond, and approve their request to form a PNC.

Presbyterian Community Church, Florence, OR

Approved the Interim Pastor job description.

Aurora, Aurora PC

Received the Triennial Report submitted by COM liaison Jan Irish for the Triennial Visit conducted with fellow COM member, Michael Lamb, Pastor Cynthia O'Brien, and the session of Aurora PC on April 7, 2026.

Woodburn, First PC

Received the Triennial Report submitted by liaison Jan Irish for the Triennial Visit conducted with fellow COM member, Michael Lamb, Pastor Cynthia O'Brien, and the session of Woodburn, First PC on April 8, 2026.

Redmond, Community PC

Received the Triennial Report submitted by liaison Mike Wilson for the Triennial Visit conducted with fellow COM member, Brad Kent, Pastor Phil Brown, and the session of Community PC on April 19, 2026.

May 19, 2026 Commission on Ministry Central Actions

The Rev. Matt Gough

Approved amending the minutes of the COM-C meeting on April 24th, 2025, to include this action: Grant the Rev. Matt Gough retired status effective April 24, 2025.

Central Region Minister Compensation

Approved 2026 Minister Compensation for Central Region Pastors as found in the compensation report of this COM Report for the June 18, 2026, Stated Meeting of the Presbytery.

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ACTIONS OF THE COMMISSION ON MINISTRY NORTHEAST REGION

April 9, 2026 Commission on Ministry Northeast Actions

Rose City Park PC, Portland, OR – Summer Sabbatical for the Rev. Liz Leavitt (MSP)

Accept the sabbatical plan and position description for a sabbatical supply pastor as meeting presbytery standards; appoint the Rev. Beth Neel as moderator of session during the sabbatical term; and approve her contract to serve as the sabbatical supply pastor for 14 weeks starting June 1, 2026.

May 21, 2026 Commission on Ministry Northeast Actions

Warm Springs PC

Concurrence with the Warm Springs Administrative Commission on their job description for a part time transitional ministry position.

Triennial Visits

Received the Triennial Visit reports for:

Columbia PC, Vancouver—a visit was conducted there with the session and their pastoral staff, by COM-NE members Phil King, TE, and Joanne Seeger, RE, on April 28, 2026.

Savage Memorial PC, Portland—a visit was conducted there with the session and their pastor Chris Grewe, by COM-NE members Berni Mueller, RE, and Colin Eversmann, TE on April 15, 2026.

Eagle Creek PC – a visit was conducted there with the pastor, Erik Huget, Clerk of Session, Leala Harris and 3 elders, by COM-NE members Phil King, TE, and Jackie Putnam, RE, on May 17, 2026.

Northeast Region Minister Compensation

Approved 2026 Minister Compensation for Northeast Region Pastors as found in the compensation report of this COM Report for the June 18, 2026, Stated Meeting of the Presbytery.

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ACTIONS OF THE COMMISSION ON MINISTRY NORTHWEST REGION

April 23, 2026 Commission on Ministry Northwest Actions

The Rev. Dave Emery

Request the transfer of the Rev. Dave Emery from the Olympia Presbytery and enroll as a member of the Presbytery of the Cascades upon receipt of transfer. Work History and Statement of Faith were received.

Rise Church, Tigard, OR

The commission **concurred** in the request of the Rev. Laurie Newman and Rise Church, Tigard, OR, taken at a session meeting held on February 1, 2026, moderated by the Rev. Laurie Newman to dissolve the interim pastoral relationship between them effective February 28th, 2026.

Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, Lake Oswego, OR

A. The commission **concurred** in the action of Lake Grove PC, Lake Oswego, OR, taken at a congregational meeting held on April 12, 2026, moderated by the Rev. Graig Flach, to call the Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett to serve as their full time Head of Staff and Pastor [EOD # 101] beginning August 1, 2026, with annual terms as follows:

Salary	\$76,400	Housing	\$55,000
Professional Expense	\$3,600	Vacation	4 weeks
Continuing Education	\$3,000	Study Leave	2 weeks
Other		Other	
Full pension, medical, disability and death coverage under the Board of Pensions			
Three months sabbatical at full pay after six years of service			

- B. The commission **approved** the request to the transfer of The Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett from the Presbytery of Central Nebraska and enrolled as a member of the Presbytery of the Cascades upon receipt of transfer. History and Statement of Faith are in the meeting folder.
- C. The commission **approved to grant** The Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett permission to moderate the session until his installation.
- D. Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity requirements have been met.
- E. Sexual Misconduct Policy sign-off has been received.
- F. The commission would like to **appoint** The Rev. Susan Graham as moderator of session of Lake Grove Presbyterian Church until August 1, 2026.

First PC, Portland, OR

The commission **agreed to approve** the Associate Pastor job description as found in the meeting folder.

First PC, Portland, OR

The commission **agreed to renew** the Supply Covenant between First PC, Portland, OR, and the Rev. Brenna Dykman, as she continues to serve as their full time (40 hrs/week) Supply Pastor, [EOD # 108] beginning April 1, 2026, with annual terms as follows. This action in accord with action taken by the session on April 1, 2026 with the Rev. Aaron Morris serving as moderator.

Salary	\$41,600	Housing	\$41,600
403(B) Contribution	\$10,400	Social Security offset	\$6365
Professional Expense	\$3,500	Vacation	4 Weeks
Continuing Education	\$1,500	Study Leave	2 Weeks

Board of Pensions (check which apply): ☒ Medical ☒ Retirement (Pastor only medical selecting resulting in a contribution to 403(b))

Appendix \$

May 28, 2026 Commission on Ministry Northwest Actions

St. Andrew's PC, Portland

The commission **accepted the approval** the Interim Job Description submitted by the session of St. Andrews and provided feedback.

Clatskanie PC, Clatskanie, OR

The commission **agreed to concur** in the amendments to the yoke ministry contract originally dated July 27, 2023, between the Rev. Derek Richman and yoked congregations of Faith Lutheran Church and Clatskanie PC.

Northwest Region Minister Compensation

Approved 2026 minister compensation for Northwest Region pastors, as presented in the Compensation Report included in this COM Report for the June 18, 2026 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery.

Appendix \$

ACTIONS OF THE COMMISSION ON MINISTRY SOUTH REGION

April 21, 2026 Commission on Ministry South Actions

Medford, First PC

Approved the short-term Bridge pastor job description as found in the meeting folder.

May 19, 2026 Commission on Ministry South Actions

South Region Minister Compensation

Approved 2026 Minister Compensation for South Region Pastors as found in the compensation report of this COM Report for the June 18, 2026, Stated Meeting of the Presbytery.

Appendix D		COMMISSION ON MINISTRY COMPENSATION REPORT						
Pastor	Hours	% Time	Church	Effective Salary	Professional Expenses	Study Leave	Vacation	Cont. Ed.
Central Region Churches								
Brandon Lewis	40	100%	United PC, Albany	\$102,390	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Cynthia O'Brien	20	50%	Aurora PC, Aurora	\$51,474	\$1,750	\$750	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Sharon Edwards	40	100%	First PC, Bend	\$90,426	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Steven Koski			First PC, Bend					
John Carrick	40	100%	First PC, Corvallis	\$99,576	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Young Han Hyun			Corvallis Korean					
Karen Hill	40	100%	First PC, Cottage Grove	\$111,616	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Vacant			First PC, Creswell					
Scott Crane	20	50%	First PC, Dallas	\$30,000	\$1,400	\$750	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Marta Ukropina	32	80%	Westminster PC, Eugene	\$64,576	\$5,000	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
David Ukropina	32	80%	Westminster PC, Eugene	\$81,264	\$5,000	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Jennifer Martin	40	100%	Central PC, Eugene	\$103,375	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Glenn Edwards	20	50%	Peace PC, Eugene	\$28,000	\$3,750	-0-	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Vacant			Presbyterian Community, Florence					
Maggie Lewis	20	50%	John Knox PC, Keizer	\$29,752	\$1,750	\$750	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Vacant			First PC, Lebanon					
Mark Olson	20	50%	Chapel by the Sea, Lincoln	\$39,165	\$1,750	\$750	Five Weeks	Two Weeks
Wendy Olson	20	50%	Chapel by the Sea, Lincoln	\$39,165	\$1,750	\$750	Five Weeks	Two Weeks
Matthew Johnson	40	100%	First PC, McMinnville	\$89,778	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
LaVonne Alexander	30	75%	Mill City PC, Mill City	\$45,444	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Steve Mitchell	13.2	33%	Christ's Church, Monmouth	\$24,200	\$1,130	\$495	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Kathy Keener			First PC, Newport					
Ken Hood	30	75%	Nestucca Valley, Pacific City	\$51,005	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Dawn Linder	30	75%	Prineville PC, Prineville	\$46,500	\$3,500		Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Phil Brown			Community PC, Redmond					
Kelly Wadsworth	40	100%	Westminster PC, Salem	\$105,381	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Greg Bolt	40	100%	Salem First, Salem					
Vacant			Community PC, Waldport					
Karen Keady	15	38%	McKenzie Valley PC, Walterville	\$4,500	\$300	\$300		
Cynthia O'Brien	20	50%	First PC, Woodburn	\$42,000	\$1,750	\$750	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Bob Barrett	40	100%	Community PC, Yachats	\$90,180	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Northeast Region Churches								
Charlotte Mace	40	100%	St. John's PC, Camas	\$75,300	\$8,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Erik Huget	14	35%	Eagle Creek PC, Eagle Creek	\$28,116	\$1,750	\$750	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Debbie Garber	20	50%	Springwater PC, Estacada	\$28,800	\$2,500	\$1,000	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Brad Busiek	40	100%	Smith Memorial PC, Fairview	\$87,589	\$3,600	\$2,400	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Josh Dunham	40	100%	Covenant, Gresham	\$62,640	\$3,500	\$1,500	Five Weeks	Two Weeks
Kelly Dickson	20	50%	Oak Hills PC, Milwaukie	\$49,563	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Christy Polk	40	100%	Oak Hills PC, Milwaukie	\$81,848	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Katherine Pate	40	100%	Milwaukie PC, Milwaukie	\$93,661	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks
Blair Cash (Pulpit Supply)			Grace PC, Portland					
Vacant			Kenilworth PC, Portland					

Appendix D									
Pastor	Hours	% Time	Church	Effective Salary	Professional Expenses	Study Leave	Vacation	Cont. Ed.	
Northeast Region Churches Cont.									
Brian Marsh	40	100%	Moreland PC, Portland	\$89,240	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Amanda Golbek	30	75%	Mt. Tabor PC, Portland	\$55,620	\$3,500	\$4,281	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Sarah Lewis	10	25%	Piedmont PC, Portland	\$17,160	\$1,750	\$750	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Liz Leavitt	40	100%	Rose City Park PC, Portland		\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Chris Grewe			Savage Memorial PC, Portland						
Gregg Neel			Westminster, Portland						
John Yu			Westminster, Portland						
Lindsey Groves			Westminster, Portland						
Warren Williams	12	30%	First PC, Trout Lake	\$20,645	\$500	\$65	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Margaret Mitsuyasu	40	100%	First PC, Vancouver	\$91,779	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Josh Rowley	40	100%	First PC, Vancouver	\$91,923	\$3,500	\$2,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Joyce Emery	40	100%	East Woods, Vancouver	\$105,175	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Matt Overton	40	100%	Columbia PC, Vancouver	\$126,150	\$3,500	\$3,000	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
John Yu	40	100%	Columbia PC, Vancouver	\$86,551	\$3,500	\$3,000	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Chris Montovino	40	100%	Cascades PC, Vancouver	\$94,164	\$4,425	\$1,500	Five Weeks	Two Weeks	
Sungmin Song	40	100%	Vancouver Korean, Vancouver						
Northwest Region Churches									
Paulette Mixon-Weller	30	75%	Reedville PC, Aloha	\$53,172	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Paul Davidson	40	100%	First PC, Astoria	\$60,057	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Kris Voss-Rothmeier	40	100%	Southminster PC, Beaverton	\$100,000	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Derek Richman	40	100%	Clatskanie PC, Clatskanie	\$81,150	\$4,250	\$2,000	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Rachel Guevara	30	75%	Hillsboro PC, Hillsboro	\$53,700	\$2,625	\$1,125	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Mark Rainey	40	100%	Orenco PC, Hillsboro	\$81,904	\$4,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Tracie Bullis	40	100%	Tualatin Plains PC, Hillsbor	\$86,200	\$5,000	\$3,000	Six Weeks	Two Weeks	
Susan Graham	40	100%	Lake Grove PC, Lake Oswego	\$103,854	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Christopher Murphy	40	100%	First PC, Newberg	\$72,000	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Joanna Dunn	40	100%	Bethany PC, Portland	\$116,300	\$3,965	\$1,910	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Andrew Wall	20	50%	First PC, Portland	\$33,000	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Aaron Morris	25	63%	First PC, Portland	\$62,086	\$2,234	\$542	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Heather Hellman			Multnomah PC, Portland						
Brenna Dykman	40	100%	First PC, Portland	\$99,965	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Joan Miller	40	100%	First PC, Portland	\$114,160	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Susan Tindall	40	100%	Valley Community PC, PDX	\$88,275	\$5,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
David Kim			Oregon Yedam, Portland						
Vacant			Hope Korean, Portland						
Vacant			St. Andrew's PC, Portland						
Peter Blank	10	25%	Plymouth PC, St. Helens	\$28,329	\$2,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Dave Emery	40	100%	Rise Church, Tigard	\$100,744	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Laurie Newman	40	100%	Tualatin PC, Tualatin	\$86,120	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Mark Dobney	26	65%	Pioneer PC, Warrenton	\$40,000	\$3,500	\$1,500	Three Weeks	Two Weeks	
Laurie Sponaugle	40	100%	Emmanuel PC, West Linn	\$81,789	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	

Appendix D				Effective	Professional	Study			
Pastor	Hours	% Time	Church	Salary	Expenses	Leave	Vacation	Cont.	Ed.
South Region Churches									
Dan Fowler	40	100%	First PC, Ashland						
Vacant			First PC, Bandon						
Bruce Jarvis	30	75%	Brookings PC, Brookings	\$56,036	\$2,625	\$1,125	Four Weeks		
Vacant			First PC, Central Point						
Vacant			First PC, Gold Beach						
Tom Berry	40	100%	Bethany PC, Grants Pass	\$76,309	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Buck Tohill	10	25%	Community PC, Lakeside	\$9,800					
Tannor Stradley	40	100%	Basin Community, Malin	\$57,600	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Mike Hubbard	40	100%	First PC, Medford	\$66,450	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Vacant			Tri City PC, Myrtle Creek						
Vacant			First United PC, Myrtle Point						
Eric Lindsey	40	100%	First PC, North Bend	\$73,981	\$3,000	\$1,000	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	
Dennis Smith	10	25%	First PC, North Bend	\$10,618					
Vacant			First PC, Phoenix						
Vacant			United PC, Reedsport						
Sue Van Stelle	40	100%	First PC, Roseburg	\$75,000	\$3,500	\$1,500	Four Weeks	Two Weeks	

ELECTIONS

All positions below, whether **Vacant** or with a nominee, are open to nominations from the floor at the time of election, provided the nominee is willing to serve and meets the qualifications for the position.
(Standing Rule J.3).

The **Presbytery Leadership Commission** nominates the following persons to serve on the Nominating Committee:

Nominating Committee

Class of 2027 - Elect 1

Vacant

Class of 2028 - Elect 3

Ted Envela, Ruling Elder, Salem First PC, Salem

[C]

Katie Pate, Teaching Elder, Milwaukie

[NE]

Vacant

Class of 2029 - Elect 4

Dwayne Brown, Teaching Elder, HR

Elected Incumbent

[C]

Nancy Berry, Ruling Elder, Community PC, Redmond

Elected Incumbent

[C]

Rachel Guevara, Teaching Elder, Hillsboro PC

[NW]

Milt Plocher, Ruling Elder, First PC, Corvallis

[C]

The **Nominating Committee** nominates the following nominees for election to service:

Officers & Chairpersons

Letters in brackets indicate region of presbytery [C]= Central, [NE] = Northeast, [NW] = Northwest, [S] = South.

Moderator-Elect

Class of 2027

Ruling Elder, Dennis Smith, First PC, North Bend

[S]

Vice Moderator – Northwest Region

Class of 2028

Cam Birnie, Ruling Elder, First PC, Portland

[NW]

Vice Moderator – South Region

Class of 2028

Eric Lindsey, Teaching Elder, First PC, North Bend

[S]

Chair, Nominating Committee

Class of 2029

Dwayne Brown, Teaching Elder, HR [C]

Chair, Board of Trustees^

Class of 2029 (Class of 2027 as Chair/Corporate President)

Mark Olson, Teaching Elder, Chapel by the Sea, Lincoln City [C]

^Elected annually as required in bylaws

Chair, Commission on Ministry, Central /

South Class of 2027/2029

Bobbi Neason, Teaching Elder, Retired (2029)	Elected Incumbent
Vicky Brown, Teaching Elder, Retired (2027)	Appointed Incumbent

Chair, Commission on Ministry, Northeast (COM-NE)

Class of 2029

Dan Vetter, Ruling Elder, Westminster PC, Portland	Elected Incumbent
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Chair, Commission on Ministry, Northwest (COM-NW)

Class of 2029

Amy Dee, Ruling Elder, Valley Community PC, Portland	Elected Incumbent
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Chair, Committee on Representation (COR)

Class of 2026

Vacant

Chair, Personnel and Administration (P&A)

Class of 2029

Zane Buxton, Teaching Elder, HR	[C]
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Commission and Committee Members

Presbytery Leadership Commission – Executive Board / At Large Member

Class of 2029 – Elect 1

Ann Bowersox, Teaching Elder, HR	[C]
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Synod Commissioner

Class of 2029 – Elect 1

Greg Bolt, Teaching Elder, Salem First PC, Salem	Elected Incumbent	[C]
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Board of Trustees

Class of 2027- Elect 1

Dana Gale, Ruling Elder, Hillsboro PC, Hillsboro	[NW]
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Class of 2028- Elect 1

Bill Nelson, Ruling Elder, Portland, First	Appointed Incumbent	[NW]
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Class of 2029 - Elect 4

Mark Olson, Teaching Elder, CBTS, Lincoln City	Elected Incumbent	[C]
Liz Leavitt, Teaching Elder, Rose City PC, Portland	Elected Incumbent	[NE]
Lindsey Groves, Teaching Elder, Westminster PC, Portland	Elected Incumbent	[NE]
Angela Woodrow, Ruling Elder, Columbia PC, Vancouver		[NE]

Commission on Ministry, Central – South

Class of 2027 - Elect 1

Kim Ostitis, Ruling Elder, Aurora

[C]

Class of 2028

Debbie Miller, Ruling Elder, Ashland, First

Appointed Incumbent

[S]

Class of 2029 - Elect 4

Steve Roe, Ruling Elder, Bethany PC, Grants Pass

Elected Incumbent

[S]

Bobbi Neason, Teaching Elder, HR

Elected Incumbent

[S]

Greg Wood, Teaching Elder, HR

[C]

Vacant

Commission on Ministry, Northeast

Class of 2027 - Elect 2

Bill Wheeler, Ruling Elder, Vancouver, Columbia

Appointed Incumbent

Vacant

Class of 2028- Elect 2

Jackie Putnam, Ruling Elder, Portland, Savage

Appointed Incumbent

Bernie Mueller, Ruling Elder, Fairview, Smith Mem.

Appointed Incumbent

Class of 2029 - Elect 4

Bill Russell, Teaching Elder, HR

Elected Incumbent

Dan Vetter, Ruling Elder, Westminster PC, Portland

Elected Incumbent

Phil King, Teaching Elder, MAL

Elected Incumbent

Vacant

Commission on Ministry, Northwest

Class of 2028 - Elect 1

Vacant

Class of 2029 - Elect 4

Derek Richman, Teaching Elder, Clatskanie PC

Elected Incumbent

Kathy Huddleston, Ruling Elder, Southminster PC, Beaverton

Elected Incumbent

Steve Parker, Teaching Elder, HR

Elected Incumbent

Amy Dee, Ruling Elder, Valley Community PC, Portland

Elected Incumbent

Commission on Preparation for Ministry

Class of 2029 - Elect 4

Tom Nolen, Teaching Elder, Validated Ministry

[NW]

Sandra Moon, Teaching Elder, Validated Ministry

[NE]

Vacant

Vacant

Committee on Representation (COR)

Class of 2029 - Elect 3

Chauncey Handy, Teaching Elder, Validated Ministry

Elected Incumbent

[NE]

Vacant

Vacant

Personnel and Administration (P&A)**Class of 2029 – Elect 3**

Zane Buxton, Teaching Elder, HR
 Roberta Schlechter, St. Andrew's PC, Portland
 Vacant

[C]
 [NW]

Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC)**Class of 2032 – Elect 3**

Nani Cagney, Ruling Elder, Central PC, Eugene
 Barbara Campbell, Teaching Elder, HR
 Jeff Sievert, Teaching Elder, HR

[C]
 [NE]
 [NW]

With gratitude for service to come, on behalf of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry, the **Nominating Committee** nominates the following readers of Standard Ordination Exams for 2026-2027:

Ruling Elders- Elect 2

Vacant*
 Vacant*

Teaching Elders- Elect 2

Graig Flach, Teaching Elder
 Audrey Schindler, Teaching Elder

THANK YOU!!

The Presbytery of the Cascades would like to express our deepest gratitude to the following members who have completed their terms of service:

Chris Murphy, Chair of the PLC and former Moderator
Eileen Sheelar, PLC-EB At Large
Ted Envela, Chair of Committee on Representation
Arlene Pate, Danny Peters, Commission on Preparation for Ministry
Pat Berger, Nominating Committee
Barbara Peebles, Amy Clements, Trustees
Jan Irish, Beverly Hovenkamp, COM-C/S
Joanne Seeger, COM-NE
Sharon Ziel, COM-NW
Milt Plocher, Personnel & Administration
Carole Eckerd, South Region Vice Moderator
Amy Delaney, NW Region Vice Moderator
Ron Atwood, Jennifer Butler, John Huenink, Permanent Judicial Commission

Thank you for your faithful and dedicated service over the years. Your contributions have left a mark on the presbytery, building up our community and enabling us all to serve the mission of Christ in our region with more intention, focus, creativity, imagination and love!

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK

FOR ACTION

A.) SUSPEND STANDING RULE J.2 [Consent Agenda]

Action: Renew the suspension of Standing Rule J.2 in order that each Central and South Commission on Ministry members can be considered as members of both commissions for the 2026-2027 year.

Rationale

Initially adopted for the 2025–2026 year, this effective measure will sustain the efforts of both commissions, given that regional residency alone does not provide sufficient personnel to accomplish their respective mandates. Commissions on Ministry Central and South are effectively combined as one body doing the work of two regions.

The portion of [Standing Rule J.2](#) that will be suspended is “each regional Commission on Ministry shall consist of persons exclusively from the region which it serves. In general, and as far as is practicable, there shall be no nominations which would result... in having any person hold more than one major elected position in the presbytery.”

B.) AUTHORIZE BOARD AND LEADERSHIP COMMISSION TO AWARD GRANTS [Consent Agenda]

Action: Whereas, The custom of the Presbytery has been for the Board of Trustees and Presbytery Leadership Commission to award grants; and,

Whereas, Authoritative interpretations of the Book of Order require specificity when entrusting commissions to act on behalf of presbytery;

Resolved, Authorize the Board of Trustees to consider Barnabas and Vitality Grants between presbytery meetings. The Board of Trustees may award grants at its discretion; and,

Resolved, Authorize the Presbytery Leadership Commission to consider Bisbee, Peacemaking, Technology, 1001 matching and Missional Innovation & Collaboration Grants between presbytery meetings. The Presbytery Leadership Commission may award these grants at its discretion.

Rationale

This language provides proper authority for the Board of Trustees and Presbytery Leadership Commission to continue the existing practice of considering and awarding grants in a timely fashion throughout the year on behalf of the presbytery.

C. NECROLOGY REPORT [Consent Agenda]

The following are the names, as reported to the Stated Clerk, of deceased presbyters since the April 24/25, 2026 meeting of Presbytery. (Clerks of Session are reminded to inform the Stated Clerk as soon as possible after a death occurs so that the clerk's report might be made to presbytery in timely fashion. It is not necessary to wait until the filing of a congregation's Annual Statistical Report to notify the presbytery office. Necrology Report forms can be found on the website.)

MINISTER	DATE
Richard Lang	March 10, 2026
Phillip Essex	March 29, 2024
Donald Reed Caughey	June 7, 2024
Dean Rowley	May 18, 2025
MINISTER SPOUSE	DATE
Phyllis Finney (The Rev. Jack Finney)	May 8, 2026

ELDER	CHURCH	CITY	DATE
Robert L. Thrush	First PC	Bandon, OR	March 31, 2026
Shirley Bankston	Lake Grove PC	Lake Oswego, OR	April 17, 2026
Gladys Elizabeth Fortmiller	First PC	Ashland, OR	May 4, 2026
Dr. William Joseph Sager	First PC	Ashland, OR	May 4, 2026

Action: Thank God for the lives and ministries of these officers and servants of the church.

D. 2026 – 2027 EQUALIZATION FORMULA [[Consent Agenda](#)]

Action: Adopt the Equalization Formula for 2026-2027 as shown in Appendix A.

Note that unless otherwise amended, the Equalization Formula permits every congregation to send an additional racial-ethnic elder commissioner (in Presbyterian parlance, racial/ethnic refers to anyone who is not white) in addition to the number found in the formula.

FOR INFORMATION

1.) Report on Investigating Committees

- a) The Investigating Committee (2026-01) formed May 13, 2026, to investigate allegations against a Minister of the Word & Sacrament has begun its work.

2.) UPCOMING MEETINGS OF THE PRESBYTERY *The January and June 2027 meeting dates may change

DATE	FORMAT	REGION	Site
October 23-24, 2026	In-Person	South	North Bend, First
January 27, 2027*	Online	N/A	N/A
April 16-17, 2027	In-Person	Northwest Region	TBD
June 23, 2027*	Online	N/A	N/A

- 3.) Ministers may update or submit **biographical information** [here](#). The information is useful when writing memorial letters, which at some point will be necessary.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FOR ACTION

1.) PERMISSION TO SELL PROPERTY

NOTICE: *The Board of Trustees will meet on June 11 to consider a request from Reedsport, United to sell the church building. More information about this process may be forthcoming depending on the action of the Trustees and will be uploaded to the folder by June 12, 2026.*

FOR INFORMATION (Actions taken on behalf of Presbytery)

May 21, 2026 Board of Trustees Actions

Award Barnabas Grants

Eugene, Westminster, \$8,000 to assist in with the replacing of the lower roof of their sanctuary, including the installation of under-laid insulation. The total cost of the project is \$75,000.00, with the congregation contributing \$67,000.00.

Portland, First, \$8,000 to assist with sidewalk maintenance as several sidewalk locations do not meet city code and present safety hazards. The total cost of the replacement is \$13,500 to 25,000, with the congregation contributing \$5,500 to 17,500.

Milwaukie

Award: \$8,000 to assist with lead paint remediation, repairs and repainting. Repairs include partial replacement of cedar siding, reframing and/or replacement of windows, and complete replacement of an exterior security door. The cost of this project increased by \$100K as the true scope of the project was revealed. The total cost of the project is \$133,000 with the congregation contributing \$125,000.

Portland, Mt. Tabor Loan Renewal

Approved renewal of application for existing Synod Loan (line of credit up to \$300,000) for Mt Tabor Presbyterian Church.

Portland, Mt. Tabor Lease to Crema Coffee

Permit lease for space between Portland, Mt. Tabor and Crema Coffee through March 31, 2031.

Recommend Sale of Malin, Basin Community Manse

Recommended that Presbytery Leadership Commission (PLC) permit Malin, Basin, to the sell the manse in Tulelake, California which was acquired in the merger with Tulelake. (PLC permitted the sale, on behalf of Presbytery, at the May 29 special meeting).

Elect Corporate Secretary

Pursuant to Presbytery of the Cascades Bylaws Article VII.B, the Board of Trustees elected David Jewel as Presbytery of the Cascades Corporate Secretary, Class of 2027.

Update Financial Account Authorized Individuals

Adopted resolution to remove any previous signers and designate current officers and staff as signers on the Presbytery's financial accounts.

COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

FOR INFORMATION:

Don Choi, Candidate

On May 20, 2026, the CPM met with Candidate Don Choi and conducted an annual review. Growth objectives were reviewed and renewed for the coming year with Don as he remains in the process.

Melissa Temple, Candidate

On May 27, 2026, the CPM met with Candidate Melissa Temple and conducted an annual review. Growth objectives were reviewed and renewed for the coming year with Melissa as she remains in the process.

Explanation of the Process

The *Book of Order* outlines a process for individuals seeking to become a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA). This process requires a minimum of two years and contains eighteen separate steps. It involves a covenant between the individual, the session of the individual's home congregation, the presbytery's Commission on Preparation for Ministry [CPM], the presbytery of call, and the presbytery of care. At any time during the process, an individual may request to be removed from the covenant relationship. Specific details can be found in the *Book of Order* [G-2.06](#).

Applicant Process: The individual must be a member of a congregation for at least six months. The individual informs the session of their desire to pursue ordained ministry. The session notifies the CPM, who then meets with the session for orientation on the inquirer/candidacy process. The session meets with the individual and makes a recommendation to CPM. This recommendation, along with the individual's application, references, and a psychological assessment is shared with the CPM. The CPM then interviews the individual and makes a recommendation to presbytery to enroll the person as an inquirer.

Inquiry Process: This phase of the process is a time for exploration of the vocation of ministry and the sense of one's call to ordained ministry. Each person is assigned a liaison from the session of the home congregation and from the CPM. Once enrolled as an inquirer, an annual consultation is held for as long as the individual remains in the candidacy process with goals set in five key areas: education for ministry, spiritual formation, interpersonal relations, personal growth and professional development.

Candidacy Process: After a minimum of one year, the inquirer can request to be moved to the candidacy phase of the process. The individual again officially meets with the session of the home congregation which makes its recommendation to CPM. CPM also meets with the individual, reviews the progress made in the inquiry process, and receives the individual's one-page Statement of Christian Experience. CPM then makes its recommendation to presbytery to enroll the individual as a candidate. The individual appears before Presbytery, shares their Statement of Christian Experience and responds to questions presbytery members might have about the individual's faith journey. This phase lasts a minimum of one year. During this time, the individual is given permission to take the five ordination examinations required by our denomination.

Certified Candidacy Process: Once the individual has passed those examinations, has taken a field experience and clinical pastoral education credit and is close to graduation from a Presbyterian seminary [or granted an exemption from the CPM on a case-by-case basis], the candidate appears before the CPM to be examined as certified ready to receive a call. This final assessment of the individual reviews all pertinent information from the

entire candidacy process. The individual is also required to produce an exegetical paper and preach before the commission a sermon based on that text as well as defend a one-page Statement of Faith. CPM then is granted the power by operating procedures of Cascades Presbytery to approve a person certified ready to receive a call. When a candidate becomes certified, they are given permission to circulate a Personal Discernment Profile [PDP] and pursue a call to which they can be ordained.

Once a call has been extended to a validated ministry, the individual must appear before the presbytery to be examined on their Statement of Faith. This is the final step in the “trials for ordination” and is ordinarily conducted by the presbytery in which the call has been issued. Once examined and approved for ordination, the presbytery of call then ordinarily sets the time and place for the candidate’s service of ordination.

Anytime during the process, an individual may request to be removed from the covenant relationship. Anyone wishing to pursue ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament or who has questions concerning the inquirer/candidacy process is encouraged to email: contactus@potc.org

Personnel & Administration Committee

At its June 8, 2026, meeting, the committee voted to report the following actions to Presbytery and seeks Presbytery approval if needed:

2027 Personnel & Administration Budget Request

The committee decided to ask for \$2,000 for the committee budget for the next fiscal year.

Rationale: While the committee has not used the majority of its budget in the current year, and doesn't feel the need for the current amount of \$3,500, there are several staff support functions anticipated for next year.

2027 Staff Cost of Living Adjustment

The committee voted to set the 2027 COLA for the staff at 3.5%, based on the information provided us.

Hybrid Workspace

The committee voted to strongly encourage the PLC-EB (and the Trustees) to develop plans for a space in one of our metro-area churches to serve as a working space, so that the staff model can shift from all remote (except for some face-to-face meetings) to a hybrid model that involves two days per week in the "office."

There are clear signs from the staff review and goal setting process, that effective working relationship within the staff and service to the congregations of the presbytery would be enhanced by a return to more shared office time.

FOR INFORMATION

Sick Leave

To clarify the sick leave policy of the presbytery, the committee determined that travel to be with members of a staff person's extended family to be present in time when health care is needed is a legitimate part of sick leave. And reaffirmed the policy's statement that "extended sick leave arrangements may be approved by the Personnel & Administration Committee on a case-by-case basis."

An upcoming task before us is the review of position descriptions based on the results of the PLC-EB restructure findings.

Respectfully submitted,
Zane K. Buxton (chair)

Transitional Executive Presbyter

While I don't typically write a report for our online meetings, I wanted to include an important update regarding the congregational and minister surveys that were completed earlier this year.

While there will be much shared from PLC-Executive Board (PLC-EB) members during the meeting, since I will be out on vacation, I wanted to take a moment to offer a HUGE thank you to the 175 minister members who participated in the Minister Survey, which represented just under 55% of our minister members. We had a majority of our active ministers, CRE's and Validated Ministers participate, which was especially helpful in getting an additional accurate glimpse into the things areas they are most excited and hopeful about, as well as areas of current and future concern.

In addition, we want to offer another HUGE thank you to the 61 POTC Sessions that participated in the Congregational Survey. That represented 70% of our POTC churches and gave us incredible insights into the current life of our congregations, sharing things each church is most proud of, things they are most excited for, common areas of concern, and suggestions of how the Presbytery could be most helpful into the future.

Our team has read and reviewed every survey submission and shared lengthy summaries with the PLC-EB. The PLC-EB recently had a day-retreat at the end of May working through those survey summaries and used that critical input as they began a prayerful process of discerning what this could and should mean for our future as a Presbytery. We expect to finish up the Mission Study phase of our Presbytery transition in the coming months and will then begin to move into the more active stages of our transition. But we could not have gotten to where we are without your participation. Please return our heart-felt thanks to your pastors and Sessions for their candid input!

While more full survey results will come soon, we want to offer the following highlights from each survey:

Congregational Survey Highlights:

- COVID was a major positive reset for many of our congregations!
 - Many when through re-evaluation of priorities, focus on mission identity and facilities
- Over 50% take pride/identity in outward-facing service & outreach
- 60% shared hope in future growth (many citing exciting current growth)
- 1/3 shared pride/accomplishment in pastoral transition/new pastoral leadership relationship process in last 5 years.
- Major concerns from our churches focused on three areas:
 - Future Sustainability
 - Christian Relevance (Cultural, Generational)
 - Unclear Vision/Struggle to Adapt to changing times/needs
- Congregations reported a strong connection to Presbytery.
(3.7 average on 5-point scale)
- Congregations gave clear sense of needs/resources from Presbytery in the future.
- **Ultimately, the survey reflected both realism and hope—and a strong desire for deeper partnerships across the Presbytery, as well as practical support and critical resources from the Presbytery to help our congregations navigate current and future challenges.**

Cont. next page

Ministers Survey Highlights:

- Our active ministers/CREs/Validated have a strong sense of purpose in their calling and prioritize community engagement/outreach as a part of their calling.
- Outward-facing service is a shared value ministers have with their congregations or ministries they serve in.
- Regarding future growth, they are more concerned with depth of relationship/spiritual direction over numerical growth.
- Major concerns from ministers focused on three areas:
 - Limited Time/Capacity leading to Burn-out
 - Aging Congregation/Volunteer Shortages
 - Persistent Financial/Facilities Strain
- Overall, our ministers report a moderate connection with the Presbytery (3.3 average on a 5-point scale).
 - Active & Validated reported ~3.5 average connection with Presbytery
 - HR/At-Large reported a 2.95 average connection with Presbytery
- Most ministers noted a lack/loss of significant relationships with colleagues in the Presbytery, and a strong desire for more intentional relationship building opportunities led by the Presbytery.
- Belief that a clarity of mission/purpose of the Presbytery will be helpful to ministers at all levels into the future.
- **Overall, the survey revealed we are a Presbytery filled with faithful leaders who continue to serve with resilience, creativity and hope—while also seeking deeper support, clearer direction, and stronger companionship in ministry.**

Transitional Timeline for the Presbytery

As a reminder, I was hired as the TEP specifically because of my expertise in Transitional Ministry and Organizational Development, so a major component of my work has been to assess and study the form and function of our Presbytery in alignment with the identified current and future needs of our churches and propose appropriate mission/vision clarification and restructuring if needed. Once this work is deemed complete, we will begin to draw the transitional timeline to a close and live into our new priorities and structure. When I was hired, the timeline was expected to take between 4-5 years, due to our size and complexity as a presbytery, and it appears that timeline will be on target.

Here is a summary of the remaining major steps in our transitional timeline:

- **Summer-Fall 2025:** Presbytery to vote on PLC Restructure Proposal, if passed, begin implementation of new PLC structure and leadership training.
- **Fall 2025-Spring 2026:** PLC begins new focus on Mission/Vision/Value/Purpose of Presbytery, reports to Presbytery in Spring 2026.
- **Spring 2026-Fall 2027:** PLC begins study on current and emerging needs of our churches, restructuring entire presbytery, including reevaluating current regions, commissions/team, and update staffing plan accordingly. Review/Revise/Update all by-laws of Presbytery, bring into alignment with current needs and restructuring plan.
- **Fall/Winter 2028:** Bring Restructuring Plan and Updated By-Laws to Presbytery for introduction and review. Solicit feedback from Presbytery.
- **Spring 2028:** Present updated Restructuring Plan, By-Laws, and updated staffing plan to Presbytery for vote. Elect Search Team for new Executive Presbyter.
- **Summer 2028:** Implement new presbytery-wide structure, begin living into our new structure and priorities.

We look forward to sharing and engaging more with you in the coming months, and we ask for your continued prayers as the PLC-EB works to discern the best path forward that will meet the needs of our congregations and minister members for years to come.

Blessings!
Brian Craker