

PRESBYTERY OF YUKON

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

DECEMBER 2, 2023

A special called meeting of the Presbytery of Yukon convened via videoconference (Zoom) on Saturday, December 2, 2023 at 10:00 am.

ROLL & QUORUM

Current Presbytery membership (active ministers + enrolled elder commissioners + Commissioned Pastors (CPs) whose commission includes voting at Presbytery):56

Number of minister members present: 12

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| Rich Mauer – Delta Junction | Joseph Reid – Utqiagvik |
| Dean Knapp – Retired | Ellen Johnson-Price – Immanuel |
| Elizabeth Schultz – Executive Presbyter | Matt Schultz – First Anchorage |
| Seung Hyun Yoo – First Korean, Anchorage | Luke Junes – Jewel Lake Parish and Trinity |
| Tim Carrick – United Protestant | Erika Bergh – University Community |
| Leisa Carrick – United Protestant | Seongjin (Paul) Ryu – Fairbanks Korean |
| Kiyounng Seo – Member at large | Blake Severson – Eagle River |

Number of Commissioned Pastors (CPs; Commissioned Ruling Elders) present..... 1

- Matt Tinkelenberg (New Hope)

Number of elder commissioners enrolled and present (representing 8 churches)..... 8

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Bob Christensen (1st Wasilla) | Jill Jefson (Jewel Lake Parish) |
| JinHee Dickerson (Fairbanks Korean) | Nancy Baisinger-Davis (Eagle River) |
| Winifred Findley (1st Anchorage) | Ron Illingworth (University Community) |
| Barb Brown (United Protestant) | Joan White (Trinity) |

Number of elders as organizational officers or Leadership Team members 2

- Doreen McNeill (stated clerk)
- Jan Burger (moderator)

Total members present..... 23

Percentage of members present.....41%

The moderator declared a quorum. In accordance with G-3.0304 and Presbytery of Yukon bylaws, a quorum for a meeting of the Presbytery, shall be not be less than 10% of enrolled members and no fewer than three (3) teaching elders (Ministers of Word and Sacrament) and three ruling elders; the ruling elders representing three different congregations. For the purposes of parity, the number of eligible voting ruling elders shall be at least equal to or greater than the number of eligible voting teaching elders (Ministers of Word and Sacrament) on the current roll including only those honorably retired teaching elders (Ministers of Word and Sacrament) who have attended at least one stated meeting during the previous two years.

The agenda was limited to Ministry Commission recommendations that the presbytery examine and vote on membership in Presbytery of Yukon for three pastors who recently began service churches in the Presbytery of Yukon.

CLERK'S REPORT

The clerk announced that she received a letter of alleged offence and an Investigative Committee is in the process of being named, according to the Presbytery of Yukon by-laws and the Book of Order.

AGENDA

Ministry Commission co-chair, Ron Illingworth, introduced the three candidates to be examined for membership in the Presbytery of Yukon.

1. Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) pastor, **Rev. Erika Bergh** as a temporary member of the Presbytery of Yukon with voice and vote in presbytery meetings while she is supply pastor at University Community Presbyterian Church in Fairbanks
2. Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) pastor and member of Western Reserve Presbytery, **Rev. Blake Severson** as a full member of Presbytery of Yukon. Rev. Severson is currently interim pastor at Eagle River Presbyterian Church.
3. Korean Presbyterian Church Abroad (KPCA) pastor, **Rev. Seongjin Ryu** as a temporary member in the Presbytery of Yukon with voice and vote in presbytery meetings while he is supply pastor at Fairbanks Korean Presbyterian Church.

Rev. Erika Bergh

Rev. Bergh read her Statement of Faith, and was questioned by presbytery members. It was moved and seconded that the examination be closed. Motion was APPROVED with no opposition. Reverends Bergh, Severson, and Ryu were moved to the waiting room.

Following discussion, it was moved and seconded to **approve Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) pastor, Rev. Erika Bergh as a temporary member of the Presbytery of Yukon with voice and vote in presbytery meetings while she is supply pastor at University Community Presbyterian Church in Fairbanks. Motion was APPROVED with no opposition.**

Reverends Bergh, Severson, and Ryu were returned to the Zoom meeting room and Rev. Bergh was congratulated.

Rev. Blake Severson

Rev. Severson read his Statement of Faith, and was questioned by presbytery members. **It was moved and seconded that the examination be closed. Motion was APPROVED with no opposition.** Reverends Severson, and Ryu were moved to the waiting room.

Following discussion, it was moved and seconded to **approve Rev. Blake Severson as a member of the Presbytery of Yukon with voice and vote. Motion was APPROVED with no opposition.**

Reverends Severson, and Ryu were returned to the Zoom meeting room and Rev. Severson was congratulated.

Rev. Seongjin (Paul) Ryu

Rev. Ryu read his Statement of Faith. He was questioned by presbytery members, with translation by Seong Hyun Yoo. **It was moved and seconded that the examination be closed. Motion was APPROVED with no opposition.** Rev Ryu was moved to the waiting room.

Following discussion, it was moved and seconded to **approve Korean Presbyterian Church Abroad pastor, Rev. Seongjin Ryu as a temporary member in the Presbytery of Yukon with voice and vote in presbytery meetings while he is supply pastor at Fairbanks Korean Presbyterian Church. Motion was APPROVED with no opposition.**

Rev. Ryu was returned to the Zoom meeting room and congratulated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CP Debbie Melton is recovering in Arizona from a heart attack.

The February Presbytery meeting will be February 9 and 10, 2024

A newsletter is being put together, to go out next week

Elizabeth Schultz is asking if congregations have prayer requests to put into the newsletter.

A list of Christmas eve service times would be useful (and whether they are live stream or YouTube).

CLOSING

Luke Jones closed in prayer and Moderator Jan Berger concluded the meeting at 11:40 am.

Submitted by Doreen McNeill

Stated Clerk, Presbytery of Yukon