

**Presbytery of San Gabriel
Report of the Commission on Ministry
September 16, 2017**

The San Gabriel Presbytery Executive Commission met on July 10, 2017, with a quorum present, and on August 28, 2017, without a quorum present. The following report reflects recommendations from the July meeting, plus recommendations approved by all but two members, voting via email.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PRESBYTERY APPROVAL

1. To recommend that TE Dean Thompson be received into membership upon his dismissal from the Presbytery of West Virginia.
2. To recommend that the Presbytery approve the call of Amberleigh Kirk “Ally” Lee to serve as Temporary Associate Pastor of Knox Presbyterian Church of Pasadena October 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018, pending approval for ordination. Ms. Lee’s terms of call are as follows:

Salary	\$27,073
Housing	\$26,500
Board of Pension Benefits*	\$6,429
Travel/Professional Expense	\$2,485
Study Leave Expense	\$925
Four weeks vacation	
Two weeks study leave	

NOTE: This call will require examination and approval for ordination, which will be conducted by CPM. * Medical benefits are covered by pastor's spouse; Board of Pensions benefits accounts for 12% of salary and housing, for pension and death and disability.

3. Upon approval for ordination, to recommend that Candidate Amberleigh Kirk Lee be ordained on October 15, 2017, at 3:00 p.m. at Knox Presbyterian Church. The ordination commission will be:
TE Jennifer Ackerman
TE Paul Boles
TE Mary Ellen Azada
RE Bong Bringas, San Marino
RE Maria Cacarnakis, Pasadena
RE Tom McGuinness, Knox
RE Fried Wilson, Moderator
4. To recommend that TE Larry Ballenger, HR, be named Temporary Supply Pastor and Moderator of Session for Community Presbyterian Church, El Monte, from June 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018. This is a Tentmaking Pastor position, as per the “Forms of Ministry” Policy from January 2015. The terms of call are:
Preaching \$150 per Sunday
Moderator 50 per Session meeting
The church will provide two weeks of vacation for the year, at \$150 per week
The church will provide one week of study leave at \$150 per week. In addition, the church will pay travel and registration expenses for the cost of an annual pastor’s conference.
A reimbursable allowance for pastoral care of \$500 per year.

5. To recommend that the Presbytery approve the call of Rev. Dongwoo Lee to serve as Associate Pastor for Korean Language Ministry of Pasadena Presbyterian Church beginning September 1, 2017, at the following terms of call:

Salary and Housing	\$61,000
Board of Pensions	\$22,265
Travel/Professional Expense	\$2,485
Study Leave Expense	\$925
Four weeks vacation	
Two weeks study leave (three weeks in 2017)	
One-time legal and processing fees for a Religious Workers visa, estimated at \$4,520.	

6. To recommend that TE Dongwoo Lee be installed as Associate Pastor for Korean Language Ministry of Pasadena Presbyterian Church, effective September 1, 2017. The installation service will be held at 3:30 pm on October 8, 2017, and will be moderated by RE Fried Wilson, Moderator of the Presbytery. Other installation commission members TBD.

7. To recommend that TE Michael Dawson be granted the status of Honorably Retired.

8. To recommend that Presbytery approve the following minimums for 2018:

Total effective salary:	\$53,745
Professional expenses:	\$2,550
Study expenses:	\$950.

Thanks to RE Steve Salyards, who calculated the minimums based on the 2.5% increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the LA-Metro area for this year.

FOR INFORMATION

1. Filipino Community United Presbyterian Church, Azusa, and Eagle Rock Presbyterian Church will participate in New Beginnings as they review and revitalize their ministries, starting this fall.

2. Shepherd of the Valley Presbyterian Church, Hacienda Heights, is seeking temporary supply pastoral leadership. Though they prefer one full-time pastor who can pastor proficiently in both Taiwanese and English, they have since drafted separate job descriptions for two part-time temporary pastors, one for each language ministry.

3. Claremont Presbyterian Church has elected an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. They are open to calling a non-ordained Director of Ministry if that fits the best candidate who may arise.

4. Taiwanese Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, Monterey Park, has elected a Pastor Nominating Committee and will begin the process to call a new installed pastor.

5. The administrative commission for Glendale Korean Presbyterian Church met on July 20; Revs. Dongwoo Lee and Ohgueon Kwon are co-moderators. The most critical issue is the property, which will be put on the market. The AC will help the church with a streamlined mission study and continued leadership development.

Dean K. Thompson – Statement of Faith

God

Why is there something instead of nothing? In faith, hope and love, our response is: “God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.” This world did not happen by chance, we confess. Rather, it is the magnificent and throbbing creation of a providing, ordering and caring Mind and Spirit. I believe in one personal God who has three distinct ways of acting and being. Our triune God is always and at the same time Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Presbyterians historically profess God’s sovereignty or rule. Thus, we resonate with a Nobel physicist’s wonderful testimony: “As a religious person, I strongly sense ... the presence and actions of a creative being far beyond myself and yet always personal and close by.”

Jesus Christ

I believe that God chooses to rule this world in special accordance with God’s own character, which is love. Thus, John 3:16 is at the heart and soul of God’s very personal sovereignty. “For God so loved the world,” God gave God’s own self. In Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, God and our human race are united in one personal existence. Thus, we believe that Jesus is incomparably the most significant event in the history of our human species. In Jesus—who is God’s own heart of flesh, the God-life on earth—our sovereign Creator accommodates himself/herself to us by crawling into the cradle of Bethlehem, climbing onto the cross of Golgotha, and breaking out of and defeating the annihilating abyss of evil and death. I believe that God’s sovereign rule is made known to us preeminently in the resurrection victory of Jesus, that Jesus is the risen Lord and Savior of all times and all places, and that to know God now in Jesus Christ is to know God forever.

Holy Spirit-Church-Scripture-Sacraments

The Holy Spirit is God’s power and presence in the world. The Spirit is especially known in prayer, worship and life’s deep experiences. To have God’s image in us is to have God’s Spirit breathing in us. Through God’s living breath, we are thus tinged by the sacred, suffused by the divine. Since the time of Christ’s resurrection and ascension, the Holy Spirit has also come to us as the Spirit of Christ. The Spirit’s power and presence are especially known in the Church, whose Head is Jesus Christ. By the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, the Church gathers around the Word and Sacraments. As the body of Christ, the Church is empowered, renewed, comforted, united, taught and guided by the Holy Spirit who is our faithful Advocate. The Spirit is free; and the Spirit is self-effacing in pointing us to the Father and the Son. The Spirit also enables our service and mission to the world as Christ’s body. Through the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments (God’s written Word), the Holy Spirit helps us find our way through life’s dangers, toils and snares. Serving as an extraordinary lens, God’s self-authenticating Scriptures find us and read us with great power. The Bible is a divine/human window, which, by the Spirit’s power, reveals God’s search for us and our search for God. The Church believes that the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord’s Supper confirm the Word of God and are gracious signs of God’s saving actions. Established by Christ, they are God’s life-saving presents to the Church. They wash us and feed us miraculously as signs and seals of the forgiveness of our sins and of our communion with Christ. Through the Sacraments, we pledge our allegiance to Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

DEAN K. THOMPSON -- BIOGRAPHY

Dean K. Thompson is President and Professor of Ministry Emeritus, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Thompson was born in Ironton, Ohio, July 30, 1943. He grew up in Huntington, West Virginia, and graduated from Marshall University in 1965. He received three degrees from Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, Virginia: B.D., 1969; Th.M., 1970; and Ph.D., Church History, 1974. He received the D.D. from Centre College, 2005, and from Hanover College, 2007.

During his seminary years, Thompson undertook formative internships at the East Harlem Protestant Parish, New York, 1966, and at First Presbyterian Church, Hickory, North Carolina, 1967-1968. Following his theological education, he served as pastor at Montgomery Presbyterian Church, Montgomery, West Virginia, 1973-1979; at Central Presbyterian Church, Austin, Texas, 1979-1984; at Pasadena Presbyterian Church, Pasadena, California, 1984-1995; and at First Presbyterian Church, Charleston, West Virginia, 1995-2004. Thompson served as the eighth president of Louisville Seminary from 2004 to 2010.

During his years of pastoral ministry, Thompson served as a member of the board of trustees and an adjunct professor at San Francisco Theological Seminary and Union Presbyterian Seminary, and as a visiting lecturer at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. He also served on the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Committee on Theological Education (COTE); and he was a trustee at the Montreat Conference Center, Montreat, North Carolina, 2010-2016. Major vocational commitments have included biblical/theological sensemaking, stewardship and fundraising, strategic planning, and justice and mercy activities such as civil rights and racial issues, and anti-war and anti death penalty concerns. The state of West Virginia presented Thompson its Martin Luther King Jr. Award for civil rights leadership in 2004.

Thompson is co-author of *Go Therefore: 150 Years of Presbyterians in Global Mission* (Presbyterian Publishing House, 1987), and *Virginia Presbyterians in American Life: Hanover Presbytery (1755-1980)*, and co-editor of *Essays on the History of the Household of Faith*, a collection of writings in honor of James Hutchinson Smylie in *Affirmation* (Fall, 1993). He is co-editor of a volume on mentoring, which will be issued soon by Eerdmans Publishing Company. Thompson's book in progress is *Profiles in Prophetic Leadership*. Grounded in lectures given at the Chautauqua Institute, the work will examine the lives of five incontestably great 20th century visionaries: Mohandas K. Gandhi, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Pearl Sydenstricker Buck, Reinhold Niebuhr and Martin Luther King Jr.

Thompson is married to Rebecca Azile McDaniel Thompson, a nationally recognized musician and conductor who specializes in choral work with children and youth. She was the founding director of the Los Angeles Childrens Chorus. The Thompsons live at Monte Vista Grove Homes in Pasadena. Their adult children are Nathan Brian Thompson, Takoma Park, Maryland, and Genevieve Thompson Apelian, Irvine, California.