

## Ministry Commission Report

**Ministry Commission:**

- Tom Hostetler, chair
- Clark Youngblood, vice-chair
- Cindy Slaughter, secretary
- Katherine Boeger Knight
- David Flores
- Norma Sexton
- Joanne Wagoner

*ex-officio* members: District Executive Minister;  
Moderator; Board Chair

The Ministry Commission is so grateful for the work of the various sub-groups that do their work on our behalf - the Nurturing and Credentialing Committee and those who are working in ministry training. The NACC works with integrity and is dedicated to a careful review of all the materials and the deliberate interviews of all those who are candidates for licensing or ordination. Special thanks to our District Executive Minister, Russ Matteson for the many hours, prayers and miles expended on behalf of the ministers and churches of our district, and to Gilbert Romero, our new Ministry Training Coordinator for handling not only matters related to TRIM, SeBah, EFSM/EPMC, but advocating for all of our Latino ministers and new church projects. Please review their reports.

This year the Commission approved the recommendations from NACC to license Margie Berumen, Rigo Berumen and Luz Roman. We are excited about their ministries and look forward to what the Spirit will do in their midst.

The Ministry Commission employs a person to evaluate the psychological readiness for ministry for all licensing candidates. The person who was doing that for our district has retired. The Commission reviewed and approved a proposal to use psychologist Melissa Hofstetter for "Readiness for Ministry" Testing. She is in private practice, an ordained minister in the Mennonite Church USA and an adjunct professor at several schools who has been involved in readiness testing.

The Commission reviewed and adopted some changes to the process for licensing ministers in regard to the tools that are used for annual reporting, in order to streamline the process.

The Commission planned and coordinated the Pre-Conference Ministerial Workshop and Insight Session with Josh Brockway.

A letter was written reminding ministers of their obligations to access and undertake ongoing education

and training for Continuing Education Units, which they must have for the next Ministerial Review in 2020.

The Pastors and Spouses Retreat was expanded this year to include any minister and spouse in the District who wished to attend. The leader was Macrina Wiederkehr, a well known author, spiritual guide and a Benedictine monastic of St. Scholastica Monastery in Fort Smith, Arkansas. In her retreats, seekers are guided through experiences of silence, contemplation, and faith sharing. Many of her retreat themes come from her writings. She also draws extensively from literature and poetry and enjoys creating rituals.

In addition, we received updates and approved placements for recent ordinations and re-licensing for eight currently licensed ministers.

Tom Hostetler, Chair  
PSWD Ministry Commission

The Ministry Commission extends our gratitude to those appointed by our commission:

**TRIM Supervisor Report.** . . . . . Russ Matteson  
See District Executive Minister report on page 15.

**SeBAH, EFSM, EPMC Report.** . . . . . Gilbert Romero  
See Ministry Training Coordinator report on page 15.

**NACC: Nurturing & Credentialing Committee:**

- #2022 John Price, Chair
- #2021 Don Shankster
- 2020 Susan Boyer
- 2019 John Katonah
- x2018 Peggy Redman

**Ex-Officio:** Ministry Commission Chair,  
District Moderator, District Board Chair,  
District Executive Minister

**NACC: Nurturing & Credentialing Committee**

The NACC is a sub committee of the Ministry Commission we provide guidance and legwork in the licensing and ordination process for the Pacific Southwest District. We oversee the process in licensing and guide licensees toward the goal of ordination. We meet twice a year, in the fall and in the spring. Our fall meetings include interviews for those entering the licensed ministry, interviews of those who have completed their training and are ready to receive a call to ministry-ready for ordination, and the annual progress review of all licensed ministers in their movement towards ordination, especially their education. Our spring meeting this year included four

*District Board of Administration: continued*

interviews with the result of recommendations for licensing of three candidates to licensed ministry within our district. All of the candidates are pastoring new church starts. It is an exciting time for the Pacific Southwest District as we begin new ministries in communities where we have not had a presence. Again we looked at how the candidates report their progress

for the year attempting to eliminate duplicate information. We are so blessed to have wonderful committed people moving into ministry positions within our District. God is blessing us with the movement of His Spirit among us.

John E. Price, NACC Chair

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