

## Ministry Commission Report

**Ministry Commission:**

Norma Sexton, chair  
Julia Wheeler, vice-chair  
Gail Heisel, secretary  
David Flores  
Jeremiah Irizarry

*ex-officio*: District Executive Minister; Moderator

It's been a privilege to serve another year as chair of the Ministry Commission. A great big 'THANK YOU' is due to my commission members listed above. "The Ministry Commission gives counsel and guidance to all ministerial matters in the District" (from the District By-Laws, 2018 ed.) This encompasses the ordained, commissioned and licensed ministers in our District. This year we expanded the scope of grants to pastors available through the Ministry & Improvement Funding program. Previously the \$500 grants were intended to be used by a pastor for the hiring of a leadership coach. However, very few pastors sought this funding. This was expanded to increase funding up to \$1000 and include the use for a spiritual director or therapist. With the expansion of Ministry Resiliency Grants we saw greater usage by our pastors.



In response to concerns of Pastors with families, this year's Pastor-Spouse retreat was expanded to include children. This event was held at the Asilomar Conference Center in Pacific Grove. Leadership was provided by Julie Wheeler and Cheryl Crane. Also, David Flores provided musical entertainment on his guitar. Activities included group sand castle building and creating a 'quilt' of gifts and talents.

Praise God for the blessing of the abundance of ministers in training in our District! We celebrate the graduations from Bethany Theological Seminary of Amanda Bennett and Julia Wheeler. Amanda received her ordination in June following her ordination interview by the Nurturing & Credentialing Committee (NACC). This sub-committee hopes to soon receive ordination paperwork for review & in-person interviews for Julia and several other licensed ministers that have completed their courses of study. We currently have 16 persons licensed and engaged in training programs. I appreciate the service of the persons on the NACC that perform the licensing and ordination interviews of applicants and annual reviews of licensed ministers. I want to recognize the service as chair of NACC by Peggy Redman and of Gilbert Romero as our Ministry Training Coordinator.

Norma Sexton, 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 [14](#).

**SeBAH and EPMC Report.** . . . . . Gilbert Romero  
See Ministry Training Coordinator report on page [14](#).

**NACC: Nurturing & Credentialing Committee:**

2023 Peggy Redman, Chair

x2022 Becky Zapata

#2024 John Katonah

#2025 Susan Boyer

2026 Gary Pierson

**Ex-Officio:**

Ministry Commission Chair, District Moderator

Invited Guest: District Board Chair

*ex-officio* without vote on all district committees:

District Executive

**NACC: Nurturing & Credentialing Committee**

The NACC Committee 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. In the past we met twice a year, in the fall

and in the spring. Covid moved us to Zoom meetings last year, which still continues. Now we can do interviews in a more flexible manner. Our meetings include interviews for those entering the licensed ministry, an annual progress review of all licensed ministers in their movement towards ordination, especially their education requirements, and interviews of those who have completed their training and are ready to receive a call to ministry as a commissioned or ordained minister. At our Fall Meeting we make recommendations based on our annual progress review. Ministry Commission then reviews our process and recommendations and make the final decision on each case before them. It is an honor and privilege to be a part of this process as we bring new people into our district to serve as licensed and ordained ministers among us.

Peggy Redman, NACC Chair