

Olympia Presbytery

Stated Meeting Minutes

6:30 pm, February 12, 2026

Via Zoom

ROLL/ATTENDANCE	Attached.
CALL TO ORDER	The stated meeting was called to order by Moderator Kathy Marshall at 6:32.
WELCOME TO OPENING PRAYER	The opening prayer was offered by Moderator, Kathy Marshall. Recitation of purposes of meeting.
DECLARATION OF QUORUM	After consultation with the Stated Clerk, the Moderator declared a quorum.
APPROVAL OF DOCKET	After review of the stated purposes for this called meeting; and after suggesting that a minor change to be made to the agenda to accommodate a presenter; there being no additions, changes, or objections the agenda was APPROVED in the form of this docket.
INTRODUCTIONS & GREETINGS	Greeting to new presbyters and guests. Introduction of new commissioners.
ORIENTATION FOR CASTING VOTES	Presented by Rev. Shari Jackson Monson. Only commissioner members may vote. If you are not a commissioner member please go into your name setting and add an "x" and a hyphen before your name, so you will not be mistaken for a voting member. Review of buttons and features for voting, with simulated practice votes.
GRANTING VOICE	A call was made to any non-members present who may wish to speak at the meeting. The following persons requested to be granted voice: None.
WORSHIP & DEVOTIONAL	Presentation of recorded video by Rev. Matthew Benz-Whittington (Installed pastor at Westminster PC of Olympia) and Rev. Bethany Benz-Whittington (Validated Ministry), and Revs. Rachel and Josh Young (Co-Pastors at Lacey PC) was presented.
BREAKOUT ROOMS	Breakout meetings (6:54 to 7:05). Commissioners were sent to Zoom breakout rooms of 3-4 people each for the purpose of discussing a question related to the Devotional.
REPORTS	Personnel Committee – Rev. Shari Jackson Monson, for Chuck Guth (Chair). Presentation regarding proposed changes to the Associate Stated Clerk position.

MOTION: To elect Rev. Shari Monson to a second 3-year term as Stated Clerk; and to elect Glen Ferguson to a second 3-year term as Associate

Stated Clerk and adopt the proposal for changes to the Associate Stated Clerk position. (The motion having come from the committee, no second is necessary). **APPROVED.**

**OFFICER
INSTALLATIONS**

The Moderator invited former Presbytery Moderator, Rev. Robin Crawford (Retired), to lead installation of the following officers: Kathy Marshall (Moderator); Rev. Therin Fenner (Vice-Moderator); Rev. Shari Jackson Monson (Stated Clerk); and Glen Ferguson (Associate Stated Clerk).

**MODERATOR'S
MESSAGE**

Presented by newly installed Moderator, Kathy Marshall, Westminster Olympia PC. Hopes for the year. The Moderator also reminded the assembly of the True North Report that outlines core values and six initiatives, as well as April training with Arrabon, which reflects our common mission as Olympia Presbytery to coach congregations in their contextual mission, provide training for our minister members, and building leadership capacity for a new generation of leaders.

**TRANSFORMING
COMMUNITIES**

Rev. Taeler Morgan (Mission Cultivator) presented information on the Transforming Communities Workshop, scheduled for March 13 & 14 at Lacey PC. She also spoke to the Growing Forward Initiative. This is part of a starter initiative, which will be explained more at the March meeting. This is part of leaning into everything talked about in the True North Report. It is designed to help congregations fulfill their futures.

REPORTS CONT.

Nominating Committee – John Murphy (Chair). The Nominating Committee presented its slate of nominees to fill open positions on the Board of Trustees and the Leadership Council, as follows:

Rev. Garrett Starmer (Retired) to serve as a Trustee, Class of 2028.

Pat Williams (Ruling Elder, SOTH) to serve on the Leadership Council, Class of 2028.

MOTION: To approve the slate of nominees as presented. (The motion having come from the committee, no 2nd is necessary).
APPROVED.

GA 227 OVERTURE

Second Reading and vote for approval/disapproval. Prior to opening the floor on this topic the Moderator presented the following proposed special rules for vote of approval as to this meeting only:

SPECIAL RULES OF ORDER RELATING TO DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED OVERTURE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. For purposes of this meeting discussion will be conducted substantially in the following manner:

1. Questions/comments will be limited to 3 minutes per speaker. Time to be kept by Therin Fenner (Vice-Moderator) designated by the moderator for that purpose.
2. There will be a total of 15 minutes allowed for questions/comments from all persons, unless the body votes to expand the time for discussion the Overture.

3. No speaker may speak more than once until everyone has had the opportunity to speak first.
4. Special Rules 1-3 shall apply equally to discussion of proposed amendments, if any.
5. Breach of these Special Rules of Order will be handled consistent with Robert's Rules of Order, 12th Edition, Sections 61:1-21.

A RESOLUTION to approve the above Special Rules, as set forth above, was **APPROVED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

With the Special Rules of Order approved, Rev. Matthew Benz-Whittington presented the Proposed Gaza Overture on Behalf of Westminster Olympia PC, and lead the discussion (*Link to Gaza Overture presented in advance for convenience*).

MOTION: To approve the Gaza Overture as presented. Rev. Matthew Benz-Whittington/2nd. **APPROVED.**

It was moved and seconded to amend the Overture by striking the entire first paragraph of Rationale item No. 2, and the first word of the second paragraph of Rationale item No. 2.
The proposed amendment failed.

8:00 pm – Designated Meeting End Time.

MOTION: To extend the time of the meeting by fifteen minutes (To 8:15).
Larry Veith/2nd. **APPROVED.**

PROPOSED BYLAWS	First Reading of the proposed new bylaws was led by Kathy Marshall and Rev. Aaron Stewart. (<i>Link to Proposed Bylaws presented in advance for convenience</i>). The Second Reading and vote on approval/disapproval will be at the Stated Meeting on March 5, 2026.
RACIAL HEALING & RECONCILIATION	Rev. Lisa Woicik (Training Coordinator) and Rev. Aaron Stewart (Leadership Council) presented a report on the upcoming training on April 29 & 30 in Puyallup.
NEXT MEETING	The next stated meeting of the Olympia Presbytery is scheduled for 4:00 to 8:00 pm, March 5, 2026, at Fircrest Tacoma.
ADJOURNMENT	There being no additional business, it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting in prayer by the Moderator at 8:15 pm.

Attested this 12th day of February, 2026
By Glen Ferguson, Associate Stated Clerk