

Congregational Meeting

October 7, 2012



Purpose of Meeting

- ◆ Present Terms of Dismissal from the PCUSA
- ◆ Begin a time of prayer
- ◆ Begin a time of discussion

Agenda

- ◆ Background
- ◆ Goals of Mediation
- ◆ Preparation and Context
- ◆ Highlights of Dismissal Agreement and License Agreement
- ◆ Schedule
- ◆ Questions
- ◆ Prayer

Background

- ◆ In July 2011, the Fremont Session recommended that the congregation seek dismissal from the PC(USA) and to affiliate with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC)
- ◆ In October 2011, pursuant to the Presbytery's Dismissal Guidelines, Fremont congregation voted to seek dismissal from the PC(USA) and to affiliate with the EPC
- ◆ In January 2012 Sacramento Presbytery voted to consider whether there was schism within Fremont's congregation; Fremont appealed that action to the Synod
- ◆ In May 2012 Sacramento Presbytery rescinded the January action and the dismissal negotiation resumed with the assistance of a mediator
- ◆ Mediation discussions conclude and agreement is reached between representatives from Fremont, Presbytery and those wishing to stay in the PC(USA)

Background

Goals

- ◆ Result is God-honoring
- ◆ Result reflects well on Christians to the community
- ◆ Relief is provided to those who desire to change denominations (to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church – EPC)
- ◆ Care is provided to those who want to stay in the PC(USA)
- ◆ Agreement is accepted by both the Fremont congregation and by the Sacramento Presbytery

Mediation Team

Donald Baird

Marty Boersma

Patti Dusel

Mark Eshoff

Ken Moody

Carol Skinner

Nancy Clegg

Rich McCormac

Anna Neimann-Perrine

Tom Tripp

Jay Wilkins

Bob Yule

Joe Cavness

Carter Mosher

John Simpson

Mediator: Timothy Pownall

Preparation and Context

- ◆ Difference between secular mediation and faith-based mediation
- ◆ Biblical foundations
- ◆ Spirit-led focus

Dismissal Agreement

- ◆ Allows Fremont to retain property and name
- ◆ Provides a special gift to the Sacramento Presbytery
- ◆ Provides for pastoral transitions
- ◆ Provides care and support in form of meeting space for a new PC(USA) worshipping community

Dismissal of Fremont

- ◆ Fremont will be dismissed from the PC(USA) to the EPC with all property
- ◆ Fremont will retain its name, state and federal ID numbers, and corporate records
- ◆ Fremont will have all church record books, registers and minute books copied by the Presbyterian Historical Society

Special Gift to Presbytery

💧 \$50,000 annual cash payments for 10 years \$500,000

OR

💧 Lump sum cash payment by June 27, 2013 \$325,000
(a discount of \$175,000 for paying early)

Option is at the sole discretion of Fremont

Pastoral Transitions

- ◆ Presbytery will support Don's transfer to the EPC
- ◆ Presbytery will support Dan's plan to stay in the PC(USA) temporarily and then transfer to ECO (Evangelical Order of Covenant Presbyterians)
- ◆ Both will remain at Fremont

Care for Those Staying in PCUSA

- ◆ Maintain existing relationships
- ◆ Worship on Fremont campus
- ◆ Opportunity to form new worshipping community, perhaps chartering a new Presbyterian church (NPC)

The process for starting a new church in the PC(USA) can be found at www.pcusa.org under the title “Starting New Churches: A Process of Discernment”

- ◆ New church will worship in Chapel under a 10-year License Agreement (valued at \$500,000)

License Agreement

- ◆ Use of the Fremont Chapel for 10 years for Sunday worship (11:15 am or later)
- ◆ Office space for pastor/secretarial staff
- ◆ Meeting/classroom space twice a week
- ◆ Additional use on a first come/first served basis under the normal fee schedule
- ◆ Use will be consistent with current Fremont facility guidelines

Schedule

DATE	EVENT
9/26/2012	Fremont Session recommends approval
9/27/2012	Presbytery Committee on Ministry recommends approval
10/7/2012	Congregational Meeting to present, discuss and pray
10/16 - 10/21/2012	Congregational Forums for questions and discussion
10/28/2012	Congregational Meeting to discuss, pray and vote
11/10/2012	Presbytery Meeting to vote on the motion to establish a new church, and to vote on the Dismissal Agreement
12/28/2012	Effective Date

Discussion, Prayer and Decision

- ◆ Upcoming Forums

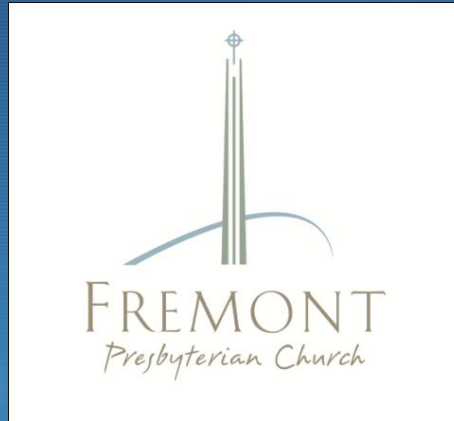
- ◆ Tuesday, October 16 - 7:30 pm
- ◆ Thursday, October 18 - 11:00 am
- ◆ Sunday, October 21 – 10:15 am
- ◆ Sunday, October 21 – 12:30 pm

- ◆ Upcoming Congregational Meeting (to vote on terms)

- ◆ Sunday, October 28 – 2:00 pm

Questions

Prayer



Congregational Meeting

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