



**PACIFIC
CROSSROADS
CHURCH**

**REVIEW OF THE 15
QUESTIONS**

Questions about Judicial Process (1)

1. Were you surprised by the severity of the punishment declared by the presbytery?
Yes, the Session tried to evaluate the possible levels of censure ahead of time and did not consider this level the most likely.
2. Were you given any advice/opinions by those in the presbytery prior to the judgement, that led you to believe they would NOT issue this severe a sentence?
No, the Session had no consultation from the Judicial Commission or Shepherding Committee regarding severity of censure.
3. Are you in agreement with the sentence?
The Session's disagreement is with the level of censure (deposition) and the process behind the investigation.

Questions about Judicial Process (2)

4. Can you tell us with certainty whether or not there was anything confessed by Rankin, in his four page letter, that was not previously known by you, and dealt with before you restored Rankin as pastor in early January?
The examples in Rankin's Statement of Fact were known by the Session. However, we don't believe the Session had correctly or effectively handled most of the issues.
5. Is there any way to know IF the presbytery was presented any information/complaints that you were not aware of (in early January?) OR are you sure there has been NO NEW INFORMATION presented to them?
No, we don't know what all was presented to the Judicial Commission. It is likely there were examples that were not known collectively to the Session.
6. Were there any occurrence's or complaints against Rankin's behavior that occurred in 2018 or 2019?
The Statement of Fact contained complaint prior to 2018. We do believe there were similar issues in more recent times.

Questions about Appeal Process (1)

1. Are you going to appeal either or both decisions? IF so, when will that be filed?

The Session provided a Complaint (formal process per BCO) against the process and level of censure.

2. What is the general basis of the appeal?

All complaints had the general themes:

1. The initial investigation was inadequate and not handled in a way that ensured justice to all parties involved.
2. The presbytery meeting where the censure was determined was improperly ordered, leading to a biased decision-making process that was not consistent with the BCO.
3. The level of censure applied was not consistent with the sins confessed to and was lacking in grace for a repentant sinner.

Questions about Appeal Process (2)

3. Is it true you must first appeal to this Presbytery and if so, how long do they have to respond?
4. If the Presbytery denies our appeal (which some of you have said is likely), what are the next steps and how long does that process take?

The Complaints started at Pacific Presbytery. They were denied there and then we forwarded complaint to PCA General Assembly Standing Judicial Commission (SJC).

5. Why would you believe that PCC can “win” this appeal at either the Presbytery or national level, and have the decisions overturned? OR what does the national appeal court have at their discretion to reverse this?

The recent SJC ruling provides the final ruling on the issue and defines the censure as Definite Suspension of 17 months.

Questions about Appeal Process (3)

6. Are the decisions of the national appeal court final, or can the presbytery then file an appeal on that?
7. IF the Presbytery can then appeal the overturned decision, how long would their appeal take?

The SJC's modification of the censure is the final ruling in this case.
Pastor Wilbourne has withdrawn from the Pacific Presbytery.

Questions about Attendance and Membership

1. How many membership withdrawals have occurred since February 16th?
2. What has been the church attendance for each Sunday since Feb 2nd ?

Unfortunately these questions are now confounded by COVID quarantine and delayed return to in-person services. We have seen membership and attendance drop in the last 18 months due to several issues, including those on both “sides” leaving following this judicial process.