

MINUTES

Stated Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo

October 19, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

Presbytery de Cristo of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held its October Stated Meeting at First Presbyterian Church of Globe. Pete Seiferth, Moderator, opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. with prayer.

The Rev. Bill Norton, Pastor, welcomed Presbytery to First Presbyterian Church. Speaking about the mission the congregation had chosen to focus upon, outreach to their town, he explained that the community was beginning to “see something different” as members offered rides to nursing home residents, helped with a community youth program, and assisted individuals facing challenges such as alcoholism. He said, “As you serve with the heart of Christ, you are given permission to speak.”

Sue Westfall, Presbytery Pastor/Stated Clerk, reported that a quorum was present, consisting of three Teaching Elder members and the Ruling Elder members present, with at least three churches being represented by Ruling Elders. Commissioners attending for the first time and other guests were welcomed. Corresponding members were introduced and approved for enrollment by Presbytery for this meeting. Presbytery approved granting privilege of the floor to corresponding members and visitors.

ROLL

There were 22 Teaching Elder commissioners and 35 Ruling Elder commissioners present, for a total of 57 voting members, as well as 10 registered visitors.

Corresponding Members Enrolled

Walt Dellow (John Calvin)

Churches/Ministers/Elder Commissioners

P=present/E=excused/A=absent; number after minister=occupational code; number before elder commissioner= # of commissioners for church

Ajo, Good Shepherd

A Rob Johnston (2)

Benson, Community

A Jon Hermes (101) (2) Liz Lopshire-Kading

Bisbee, Covenant

Vacant (2) Kathy Baker-Addy

Casa Grande, First

A Ben Seller (101) (3) Denny Honodel

P Bill Heinle (105) Peter Vogel

Cliff, Trinity

A David Goble (101) (2)

Coolidge, Community

P Ann Graham-Johnson (108) (2) Carolyn Gilbert

P Larry Graham-Johnson (108)

Douglas, First

A Carlos Montaño (101) (3) Laura Hoffman

Florence, First

A John Johnson (105) (2) BJ Brown Ferguson

E William Dean (109)

Globe, First

P Bill Norton (101) (2) Jim Clark
 P Edmund Lowe (109) Janie Cooper

Green Valley, Valley

P Lawrence DeLong (101) (3) Eloise Fredrickson
 A Diane Christopher (103) Jim Nelson
 E Joe Hawkins (109)

Miami, Divine Grace

P Melynda Foust (105) (2) Virginia Jason
 Barb Kanneguard

Safford, Shepherd of the Valley

P Robbin MacDonald (101) (2) Carol Peeler

San Manuel, Community

P Jeff Dixon (101) (2)

Sells, Papago United

A Myra Schouten (105) (2)
 A Hilbert Schouten (105)

Sierra Vista, Faith

E Virginia Studer (101) (2)

Silver City, First

P Bob Reese (101) (2) John Baumberger

Superior, Presbyterian Church

Vacant (1) Maxine Dalton

Tucson, Christ

P Steve Melde (101) (3) Tracie Couzens
 P Steve Brownson (105) Donna Keuhn
 E Joseph Skelly (109) Janet Rowe

Tucson, Immanuel

A John Tittle (101) (2) Joey Samoy
 A Larry Biehl (105)

Tucson, Korean Church

A Jung Sook Kim (101) (2)

Tucson, Mountain Shadows

E Rachel Srubas (101) (2)

Tucson, Northminster

P Andrew Ross (101) (5) Russell Amling
 P Kenneth Skodiak (103) Don Burig
 A Mary Beth McSwain (103) Marie Galloway
 P Pete Seiferth (103) Susan Naegle
 P John Cheek (103) Marshall Worden
 E Richard Rowley (109)

Tucson, St. Andrew's

E Jim Toole (101) (5) Carmen Morris
 E Carla Williams (103) Dick Kampa
 E Jennifer Wilcox Cummins (103)

Tucson, St. John on the Desert

A Lesley Abrams (105) (2) Jan Helm
 E Gary Gard (109) Howard Keefer

Tucson, St. Mark's

P Scott Opsahl (105) (2)

Tucson, Southside

A Alison Harrington (101) (2)

E John Fife (109)

Tucson, The Holy Way

A Ray Thomas (101) (2)

Tucson, Tortolita

A Tom Green (105) (2) Alicia Rowe

Tucson, Trinity

E Marney Wasserman (101) (2) Terry Dalke

A William Voigt (103) Alice Smedley

Other Ministers

A	Midhat Abraham (646)	E	Ralph Hensley (299)
E	Mark Adams (405)	E	James Hervey (299)
E	Lance Barker (299)	E	Edward Hunt (299)
P	George Bitar (791)	A	Michael Japenga (797)
A	Kenneth Brown (405)	E	James Jenson (299)
E	William Brown (654)	A	Gretchen Larson-Wolbrink (797)
E	Dorothy Buchanan-Barrow (299)	E	Della Moore (299)
E	William Buehler (299)	E	Bill Pennock (299)
A	John Carr (797)	E	George Pike (299)
E	Lerold Chase (299)	E	William Rhoades (299)
E	Paul Choi (299)	A	Luke Roske-Metcalf (501)
E	Walter Clark (299)	E	John Ross (299)
P	James Cobb (299)	E	Lee Sankey (299)
E	John Davies (299)	E	Robert Seel (299)
E	Ellen Dawson (641)	P	Don Shepherd (299)
P	John Dunham (299)	E	Joseph Skelly (299)
E	George Easley (299)	E	Michael Smith (299)
E	William Evans (299)	E	Valerie St. John-DeLong (299)
E	Norman Fedderly (299)	E	John Stevenson (299)
A	David Fife (701)	E	Ralph Strong (299)
P	Eneyas Frietas (791)	A	Nuhad Tomeh (797)
P	Stephanie Hamilton (641)	A	Patricia Toole (797)
E	James Hargleroad (299)	E	John Wall (299)
E	Roberta Hargleroad (299)	P	Brandon Wert (797)
E	Mary Harris (299)	P	Sue Westfall (304)
E	Ralph Hawthorne (299)	E	James Wilson (299)

Ministry for Leadership

Debbie Bouchard

Frank Bouchard

Ministry Moderators

Dorothea Bailey (PWP)

Staff Members Present

Beth Kath

Carolyn McBurney

AGENDA

Presbytery approved the agenda:

8:30 a.m.	Fellowship, Registration, Refreshment	
9:00 a.m.	Opening Prayer	Pete Seiferth
9:05 a.m.	Welcome and Arrangements "Joining God's Mission in Globe"	Bill Norton
9:20 a.m.	Establishment of the Roll Seating of Corresponding Members Introduction of First Time Commissioners and Guests Granting Privilege of the Floor Approval of the Docket Approval of Minutes – April 27, 2013 Stated Meeting August 17, 2013 Stated Meeting Approval of the Consent Agenda	Sue Westfall Pete Seiferth
9:45 a.m.	Worship with Communion – Ruling Elder Peter Vogel, preaching	
11:00 a.m.	Ministry for Witness and Outreach Report	Joey Samoy
11:15 a.m.	Committee on Ministry Report 2 nd reading and voting on Gracious Dismissal Policy	Marshall Worden
11:30 a.m.	Ministry for Leadership Report 2 nd reading and voting on revised Presbytery Bylaws	John Cheek
12:00 p.m.	Ministry for Service Report/Nominations	Dick Kampa
12:15 p.m.	Lunch	
1:15 p.m.	Youth Triennium Report	Steve Melde
1:30 p.m.	Middle Eastern Presbyterian Fellowship Admin Comm Report	Marshall Worden
1:40 p.m.	Maricopa New Church Development Admin Commission Report	Ken Skodiak
1:50 p.m.	YAV Report	Brandon Wert
2:05 p.m.	Ministry for Administration Report	Sue Westfall
2:15 p.m.	Synod Commissioners Report	
2:20 p.m.	Joint Presbytery Search Committee Report	Bill Ricker
2:30 p.m.	Transformational Leadership Presentation	Pete Seiferth
3:25 p.m.	Closing prayer	Pete Seiferth
3:30 p.m.	Adjourn	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the April 27, 2013 Stated Meeting and the minutes of the August 17, 2013 Stated Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo were **approved** as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

Presbytery **approved** the Consent Agenda as a record of actions taken on behalf of Presbytery de Cristo in accordance with the responsibilities granted to the various ministry teams/commissions/committees under the Bylaws of the Presbytery:

10/19/13 Consent Agenda

1CA

Committee on Ministry

Actions taken at the May 2, 2013 meeting

Approved appointment of a committee for discussion of Gracious Dismissal with one congregation in the Presbytery.

Approved the request from the Session of Valley Presbyterian Church for permission to call a Congregational Meeting for the purpose of electing a Pastor Nominating Committee.

Approved the appointment of CRE Lesley Abrams to serve as the Moderator of Session at St. John of the Desert Presbyterian Church, effective May 2, 2013.

Actions taken at the June 13, 2013 meeting

Approved adoption of the June 2013 revised policy “Honorarium for Pulpit Supply and Appointed Moderators” with the Presbytery’s recommended compensation for occasional pulpit supply preachers and appointed moderators of sessions. (See Pages 7-8 for a copy of this policy.)

Approved a proposal for a new Associate Pastor position for Northminster Presbyterian Church, subject to approval at a congregational meeting.

Approved dismissal of the Rev. Terry Swicegood to the Presbytery of Grand Canyon Presbytery, effective June 13, 2013.

Approved a twelve-month extension, until April 30, 2014, of the contract of the Rev. Larry Graham-Johnson as Temporary Pastor at Community Presbyterian Church in Coolidge, with no change in terms.

Approved a twelve-month extension, until June 30, 2014, of the appointment of the Rev. Melynda Foust as Temporary Pastor, part-time, to Divine Grace Presbyterian Church in Miami, with no change in terms.

Approved a three-year extension of the commission of Lesley Abrams as CRE at St. John of the Desert in Tucson. Approved extension of the present contract until January 14, 2014, at which time new terms are to be discussed.

Actions taken at the July 18, 2013 meeting

Approved the request of Mary Beth McSwain to be ordained on September 23, 2013, at Northminster Presbyterian Church, pending approval of her examination by Presbytery de Cristo, with Administrative Commission members to be determined.

Actions taken at the September 5, 2013 meeting

Approved the following Administrative Commission to Ordain Mary Beth McSwain at Northminster Presbyterian Church, Tucson, on Sunday, September 23, 2013:

Teaching Elders

Andrew Ross (Northminster)
Pete Seiferth (Northminster)
Ellen Dawson (Pres. Campus Ministry)
Rachel Srubas (Mountain Shadows)

Ruling Elders

Marshall Worden (Northminster)
Eloise Fredericksen (Valley)

Approved the Ministry Information Form (MIF) for the position of Associate Pastor at Valley Presbyterian Church in Green Valley.

Ministry for Leadership

Action taken at the July 10, 2013 meeting

Approved the Ministry Information Forms for the joint presbytery positions of Presbytery Pastor and Associate Presbytery Pastor/Stated Clerk.

Action taken at the August 14, 2013 meeting

Approved new Bylaws for submission to the Presbytery, with a first reading to be at the August Presbytery meeting and discussion/voting at the October Presbytery meeting.

Action taken at the September 11, 2013 meeting

Approved that the Presbytery grant the title of Executive Presbyter Emeritus of Presbytery de Cristo to the Rev. Marguerite Bowden Reed (posthumously), the Rev. Dr. Robert Seel, and the Rev. Dr. Lee Sankey. This title is honorary, in appreciation of their service, and is granted without executive responsibility or authority and without honorarium.

Middle Eastern Presbyterian Fellowship (MEPF) Administrative Commission

Approved the formation and responsibilities of a Steering Committee for the Fellowship.

Stated Clerk

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION REPORT

Minutes of Service of Ordination – Rev. Mary Beth McSwain September 23, 2013

The Administrative Commission to Ordain Mary Beth McSwain met at Northminster Presbyterian Church, Tucson, on Sunday, September 23, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. and did ordain Rev. McSwain, following the guidelines set forth in the Directory for Worship (W-4.4). Members of the Administrative Commission were:

Teaching Elders

- Andrew Ross (Northminster)
- Pete Seiferth (Northminster)
- Ellen Dawson (Pres. Campus Ministry)
- Rachel Srubas (Mountain Shadows)

Ruling Elders

- Marshall Worden (Northminster)
- Eloise Fredericksen (Valley)

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Seiferth, Moderator

RECORDS REVIEW REPORT

The Session Record Committee met on Saturday, September 14, 2013 at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Tucson for training on Presbytery de Cristo’s updated Session Record Review Checklist.

The following churches’ 2012 Session records were reviewed on September 14, 2013, and approved without exception:

Benson	Holy Way	St. Andrew’s
Bisbee	Miami	St. John on the Desert
Christ	Northminster	Superior
Covenant	Safford	Trinity
Faith	Shepherd of the Valley	
Florence	Sierra Vista	

The following churches’ 2012 Session records were reviewed on September 14, 2013, and approved with exception(s) noted:

Casa Grande	Mountain Shadows	Tortolita
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APPROVAL OF GUIDELINES FOR PULPIT SUPPLY/MODERATOR

This policy was **approved** as part of the Consent Agenda:

**Presbytery de Cristo
Honorarium Policy for
Pulpit Supply & Presbytery Appointed Moderators**

Pulpit Supply

As a Presbytery, we recognize that as we gather together, worship becomes a central part of the expression of who we are as God’s people. Further, we acknowledge that those who lead worship are both highly trained and skilled professionals. Therefore, it is incumbent upon churches to compensate fairly those who lead worship. In the absence of a pastor, a church may invite others to fill the pulpit. The Presbytery therefore has the following policy regarding compensation for visiting preachers:

In the absence of a pastor, churches may invite anyone they wish to fill the pulpit. However, those invited to preside over the sacraments (baptism and communion) must be an ordained Teaching Elder or other Elder approved by the Presbytery for administering the Sacraments at the church in question.

Guest preachers should be informed of what aspects of the worship service they will lead.

Honoraria for preaching shall be offered. Presbytery de Cristo recommends a minimum of \$75 for one service in a church of fewer than 40 members, and \$100 for one service in a church of 40 or more members and \$150 for two services. These are recommended minima and the Presbytery encourages that churches do consider a fairer level of compensation when able to do so.

The church should incur any additional expenses such as travel, meals or lodging. The Presbytery recommends mileage be reimbursed at the current IRS rate for mileage or a base rate not less than the current rate reimbursed by Presbytery de Cristo.

Presbytery de Cristo maintains a list of PC(USA) pastors available for pulpit supply. This list and the current IRS rate for mileage reimbursement are available from the Presbytery office.

Presbytery Appointed Moderators

The calling to be a Teaching Elder (“Minister”) in the PC(USA) is a high calling. Ministers are professionals who provide a professional service of leadership to churches. Often Ministers take on additional duties that are not part of their call but are, nonetheless, a service to the church as a whole. Usually these additional duties are not compensated. While the ministers may not expect compensation, compensation should be offered.

Therefore, recognizing their service to the larger church, Presbytery de Cristo offers the following recommendation for compensation for those assigned the task of moderating session of churches other than the ones they serve:

Honoraria may be offered to those non-ministers (*i.e.*, Ruling Elders) moderating session meetings. Honoring the time involved to moderate session meetings and the expert leadership moderators bring to the session, the Presbytery recommends an honorarium between \$25 and \$50 be given to the guest moderator.

Churches should reimburse for expenses incurred by the moderator of the session he/she is serving, including Teaching Elders appointed for the task, for lodging, meals and mileage. The Presbytery recommends mileage be reimbursed at the current IRS rate for mileage or a base rate not less than the current rate reimbursed by Presbytery de Cristo.

Committee on Ministry
June 13, 2013

WORSHIP

Ruling Elder and Moderator-Elect Peter Vogel delivered the sermon, lifting up the Bible as the foundation of all we are called to be and do both corporately and individually. The Rev. Bill Norton presided over the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper. Special music was provided by First Presbyterian of Globe musicians. The offering collected during the worship service was dedicated to the Ministry for Witness and Outreach to be used to benefit the Presbytery’s ministry partners.

MINISTRY FOR WITNESS AND OUTREACH REPORT

Joey Samoy narrated a slide presentation with highlights of the mission work within the Presbytery, as well as the 2014 projected budget to be requested by MWO:

<u>Mission Partner</u>	<u>2014 request</u>	<u>2013 budget</u>
Companeros en Mission	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Frontera de Cristo	17,000	11,200
House of Neighborly Service	9,000	4,796
Korean Presbyterian Church, Tucson	9,800	6,400
Montlure Presbyterian Church Camp	5,000	5,000
Middle Eastern Presbyterian Fellowship	32,000	32,000
Papago United Presbyterian Church, Sells	24,000	24,000
Tucson Presbyterian Campus Ministry	28,000	27,600
Tucson Borderlands YAV programs	11,200	5,000
W. New Mexico U. Campus Ministry	7,650	7,650

Joey reported that the amount budgeted for 2013 was underfunded by \$2,173. The offering taken during worship contributed nearly \$800 towards closing that gap. A letter had been sent to de Cristo churches with an application to become 2014 mission partners. The resulting pledged income was to be reconciled with budget needs in developing the budget presented to Presbytery at the January 2014 stated meeting.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORT

Ken Skodiak introduced a motion to address a concern brought to the Committee regarding Tortolita Presbyterian Church. He noted that the decision to propose forming an Administrative Commission came after a number of hours of discussion and prayer. The following was **approved**:

MOTION: To approve the creation of a three-member Administrative Commission to come alongside Tortolita Presbyterian Church as it seeks to address issues of disorder and issues of disturbing the peace, unity, and purity of the church, with the Administrative Commission members to be named by: the Moderator of the Presbytery, Pete Seiferth; the Moderator of the Committee on Ministry, John Johnson; and the Presbytery Pastor/Stated Clerk, Sue Westfall. If judged necessary by the Administrative Commission, it shall have the authority to act as the Session.

Marshall Worden presented the proposed “Policy of Commitment To Pursuing Reconciliation with Member Churches Seeking Gracious Dismissal from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)” (Gracious Dismissal Policy) for second reading. The policy had been developed by the Presbytery as suggested by the 2008 General Assembly. It was noted that the policy would apply to the Administrative Commission already formed to work with Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church in Ajo.

It was clarified that when the Session of a church decided to leave the denomination, it was up to the pastor(s) whether to leave the PC(USA) and it was up to individual members whether to leave or remain in the denomination as special members of Presbytery de Cristo. The following was **approved**:

MOTION: To receive and adopt the Gracious Dismissal Policy as presented, with the changes noted in the final draft of the document dated October 4, 2013.

MINISTRY FOR LEADERSHIP REPORT

John Cheek presented the proposed Bylaws for the Presbytery (as revised by the Ministry for Leadership 10/4/13) for second reading. A motion was made, but never approved, to adopt the Bylaws.

There were a number of suggestions as to content, such as: defining which motions require a super majority; changing language to refer to COM and CPM as commissions; and clarifying rules about voting by email, which is not allowed by Roberts Rules or the PC(USA).

Two amendments to the original, failed motion were approved and are presented here for the record. The first amendment, regarding Article VI, was to specify that there be four stated Presbytery meetings per year. The voice vote was inconclusive and a hand vote resulted in 26 for and 18 against. The second amendment requested that the vote on adopting the Bylaws be postponed until the Presbytery’s Manual of Administrative Operations was fully developed since the revised Bylaws mentioned that document a number of times. The following was **approved**:

MOTION: To commit the revised Bylaws back to the Committee for Leadership for revisions, including the changes discussed at the October 19, 2013 Presbytery meeting, and to request that the Committee for Leadership bring the resulting proposed Bylaws back to the Presbytery at a time when the new Manual of Administrative Operations is also ready for consideration.

MINISTRY FOR SERVICE REPORT

Dick Kampa presented nominations. There being no nominations from the floor, the following were approved:

<u>Ministry for Leadership</u>	<u>Presbytery Moderator-Elect</u>
2014 RE Charles Ashton (Valley)	2014 TE Stephanie Hamilton (Montlure)

Dick asked for suggestions for nominees for the one Teaching Elder and one Ruling Elder to serve as Presbytery de Cristo commissioners to the 2014 General Assembly, as well as one YAAD.

PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH TRIENIUM REPORT

Steve Melde reported that the representatives from Presbytery de Cristo had joined with more than 5,000 teens at the July event at Purdue University where it was evident that young people are excited and enthused about their faith and the church.

MIDDLE EASTERN PRESBYTERIAN FELLOWSHIP (MERF) REPORT

Reporting for the MERF Administrative Commission, Marshall Worden reflected on the growth of the Fellowship, which had celebrated its fifth anniversary in August. The Commission was pleased that a steering committee had been formed from within the membership of the Fellowship and the group was beginning to take on the functions of a session. Marshall expressed thanks about the ongoing stories of lives of refugees being blessed by the Fellowship, led by George and Mary Bitar.

MARICOPA NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Ken Skodiak reflected on the role of the Administrative Commission, which had moved into a PNC and then a support group for The Wells church plant, led by Pastor Eneyas Freitas. Eneyas gave an update on the opportunities and challenges the ministry was facing in Maricopa.

YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEER (YAV) REPORT

Brandon Wert introduced three YAVs working within the Presbytery. Heather Gavish spoke about her work with the Iskashitaa refugee network in Tucson, helping people start backyard gardens to provide food for their families and earn money from selling their extra produce. Kathryn Schmidt spoke about her work with Borderlinks, with emphasis on education and immigration justice work. Amy Beth Willis spoke about her work with Cross Streets Ministries, serving weekday breakfast as a community outreach at Southside Presbyterian Church in Tucson. All three young women explained that they were grateful for the opportunity to actively profess their faith “by doing” in the mission field.

MINISTRY FOR ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Sue Westfall reported it was estimated that 2014 per capita would be \$35. She reported that the transition to the new joint staffing plan was going well. She noted that there had been problems with the forwarding of mail to the Phoenix office and asked presbyters to let her know if they experienced problems with mail or had any other concerns. She announced that the Presbytery had granted the title of Executive Presbyter Emeritus to the Rev. Marguerite Bowden Reed (posthumously), the Rev. Dr. Robert Seel, and the Rev. Dr. Lee Sankey in appreciation of their service. Sue thanked the First Globe congregation for their thoughtful hospitality, including the “taste of Globe” menu at lunch.

SYNOD COMMISSIONER REPORT

John Dunham, retiring Moderator of Synod, reported on recent activities in which he had participated, including a Native American consultation in Flagstaff and a border worship service. He said the Synod was anticipating the report of its Revisioning Task Force.

JOINT PRESBYTERY SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

Bill Ricker reported that the Search Committee had divided into two teams, one for Presbytery Pastor and the other for Associate Presbytery Pastor/Stated Clerk. They had completed CIFs and posted the jobs. The original 16 applications for the Presbytery Pastor position had been reduced to 3 candidates. There had been no applications for the Associate/Clerk position as of yet.

ADJOURNMENT

Speaking on transformational leadership, Pete Seiferth emphasized the importance of trusting God – not the world around us – for the vision and plan to lead us into a future filled with hope. There being no further business, the motion was made to adjourn and the meeting was closed in prayer at 3:25 p.m. by Pete. The next Stated Meeting of Presbytery was scheduled for January 24-25, 2013 as a joint meeting with the Presbytery of Grand Canyon to be held at First Presbyterian Church in Casa Grande.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

These minutes of the October 19, 2013 Stated Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo were approved by the Presbytery at its Stated Meeting on January 24, 2014.

S/Sue Westfall

Sue Westfall, Presbytery Pastor/Stated Clerk

January 24, 2014

Date