

## MINUTES

Stated Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo  
October 15, 2016

### CALL TO ORDER

Presbytery de Cristo of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held its October Stated Meeting at The Holy Way Presbyterian Church in Tucson. Linda Freeman, Moderator, opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. with prayer and the lighting of the Peace Candle. She introduced the Presbytery staff.

Bob Schulz, Stated Clerk/Associate, reported that a quorum was present, consisting of eight Teaching Elder members and eight Ruling Elder members, with at least eight 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 the Presbytery for this meeting.

### ROLL

There were 20 Teaching Elder commissioners and 27 Ruling Elder commissioners, 5 Commissioned Ruling Elders, 3 Ruling Elder members of the Ministry for Leadership and 4 Ruling Elder ministry moderators present, for a total of 59 voting members. There were 6 registered visitors.

### Corresponding Members Enrolled

Rachel Eggebeen (ACSWP)

Ray Schulte (Center for Parish Development)

### Churches/Ministers/Elder Commissioners

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

#### Benson, Community

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

#### Bisbee, Covenant

E Carlos Montañaño HR (101) (2)

#### Casa Grande, First

E Harry Cole (105) (2) Pete Vogel

P Bill Heinle (107)

#### Cliff, Trinity

A David Goble (101) (2)

#### Coolidge, Community

- John Johnson (101) (1)

#### Douglas, First

Vacant (2)

#### Florence, First

E John Johnson (101) (2)

#### Globe, First

E Bill Norton (101) (2)

#### Green Valley, Valley

Vacant (3) Jim Nelson

P Diane Christopher (103) Marie Valade

A Paul Phillips (103)

#### Miami, Divine Grace

E Valerie De La Torre (797) (1) Barbara Kannagaard

#### Safford, Shepherd of the Valley

Vacant (1)

<b>San Manuel, Community</b>		
P	Jeff Dixon (101)	(1)
<b>Sells, Papago United</b>		
	Vacant	(3)
<b>Sierra Vista, Faith</b>		
E	Virginia Studer (101)	(2)
<b>Silver City, First</b>		
-	John Cheek	(2)
		Sherrie Lavelle Ruth McPherson
<b>Superior, Presbyterian Church of</b>		
E	Mary Jo Norton (107)	(1)
<b>Tucson, Christ</b>		
P	Steve Melde (101)	(2)
P	Steve Brownson (107)	
		Kenda Parkey
<b>Tucson, Immanuel</b>		
P	John Tittle (101)	(2)
		Gale Griffin Amanda Leachet
<b>Tucson, Korean</b>		
A	Sungmin Song (108)	(2)
<b>Tucson, Mountain Shadows</b>		
P	Rachel Srubas (101)	(2)
		Pamela Schultz Marilyn Skonecka
<b>Tucson, Northminster</b>		
A	Andrew Ross (101)	(4)
P	Kenneth Skodiak (103)	
P	Pete Seiferth (103)	
P	John Cheek (103)	
		Don Burig Susan Naegle Bonnie Thompson Sally Wiger
<b>Tucson, Southside</b>		
E	Alison Harrington (101)	(3)
		Josefina Ahumada Sarah Roberts
<b>Tucson, St. Andrew's</b>		
A	Jim Toole (101)	(4)
A	Mat Grover (105)	
	Vacant	
<b>Tucson, St. John on the Desert</b>		
P	Lesley Abrams (107)	(2)
		Ardie Deering John Deering
<b>Tucson, St. Mark's</b>		
E	Bart Smith (101)	(2)
		Jane Coffey Kerstin Miller
<b>Tucson, The Holy Way</b>		
P	Ray Thomas (101)	(2)
P	Elizabeth Smith (791)	
		Sharon Groves Ellen LaCroix
<b>Tucson, Tortolita</b>		
P	Jennifer Cummins (191)	(2)
		Dennis Larson
<b>Tucson, Trinity</b>		
P	Jerry Foust (105)	(2)
A	William Voigt (103)	
		Janet Hooper Alice Smedley

**Validated Outside a Congregation**

A	Mark Adams (405)	A	Alberto Cordova (751)
P	George Bitar (791)	A	David Fife (701)
A	Kenneth Brown (405)	P	Brad Munroe (304)
E	William Brown (644)		

**Member-At-Large**

A	Steven Akins (797)	A	Thomas Letts (797)
E	John Carr (797)	P	Robert Reese (797)
A	James Myungwon Chon (797)	A	Patricia Toole (797)
P	Stephanie Hamilton (797)	E	Brandon Wert (797)

**Honorably Retired**

E	Midhat Abraham (299)	E	Edward Hunt (299)
E	Lance Barker (299)	E	James Jenson (299)
E	Dorothy Buchanan-Barrow (299)	E	Young Youl Lee (299)
E	William Buehler (299)	E	Edmund Lowe (299)
E	Don Chanslor (299)	E	Elizabeth Lyman (299)
E	Lerold Chase (299)	E	Robbin MacDonald (299)
E	Walter Clark (299)	E	Della Moore (299)
E	James Cobb (299)	E	Bill Pennock (299)
E	John Davies (299)	E	George Pike (299)
E	John Dunham (299)	P	James Remer (299)
E	George Easley (299)	E	Richard Rowley (299)
E	William Evans (299)	E	Lee Sankey (299)
E	John Fife (299)	P	Robert Seel (299)
E	Tom Green (299)	P	Don Shepherd (299)
E	Jerrold Groves (299)	E	Michael Smith (299)
E	James Hargleroad (299)	E	Valerie St. John (299)
E	Roberta Hargleroad (299)	E	John Stevenson (299)
P	Mary Harris (299)	E	Carla Williams (299)
E	Joe Hawkins (299)	E	James Wilson (299)
E	James Hervey (299)		

**Commissioned Ruling Elders**

P	Larry Biehl (107)	P	Laura Munroe (107)
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**Leadership Commission Present**

Charlie Ashton	Bob Schulz
Linda Freeman	

**Committee/Commission Moderators Present**

Russ Amling (COR)	Peggy Free (Nominating)
Tommy Calhoun (Administration)	Harriet Marsh (Preparation for Ministry)

**Staff Members Present**

Beth Kath	Harry Tuck
Carolyn McBurney	

**AGENDA**

Presbytery approved the agenda:

9:00 a.m.	Call to Order, Lighting of Peace Candle and Opening Prayer	Linda Freeman
9:05 a.m.	Welcoming First Time Commissioners, Teaching Elders, Guests	Linda Freeman
	Enrolling Corresponding Members	
	Establishing a Quorum	
	Approving the Docket	
	Approving the Consent Agenda	
	Approving the August 20, 2016 Presbytery Minutes	
	Receiving New Business	
	Welcome and Arrangements	Ray Thomas
	Sharing the Peace of Christ	
9:15 a.m.	Worship and Celebration of the Lord's Supper	
	Commissioning of CREs Lesley Abrams, Steve Brownson and Bill Heinle	
10:30 a.m.	222 <sup>nd</sup> General Assembly Commissioner Reports	
11:15 a.m.	Triennium Presentation	
Noon	Lunch & Montlure Update	
1:00 p.m.	Middle Eastern Presbyterian Fellowship AC Report	Rachel Srubas
1:15 p.m.	Administration Committee Report	Tommy Calhoun
	Presentation of 2017 Presbytery Budget	
1:30 p.m.	Nominations Report	Peggy Free
1:40 p.m.	Focus on YAV Ministry	Allison Wood
2:00 p.m.	Mission Committee Report	Jayne Raffety
	Presentation of 2017 Mission Budget	
2:20 p.m.	Stated Clerk Report	Bob Schulz
2:30 p.m.	Presbytery Pastor Report	Brad Munroe
2:45 p.m.	Adjourn with Prayer	Linda Freeman

**APPROVAL OF PRESBYTERY MINUTES**

The minutes of the August 20, 2016 Stated Meeting were approved as presented.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**GREETING**

The Rev. Ray Thomas, Pastor, welcomed Presbytery to The Holy Way Presbyterian Church. Chartered in 1985, the congregation was still using their site's original ranch house for group meetings. The sanctuary was built in 1999. Ray explained that Holy Way had a number of mission interests, including the local food bank and middle school as well as close ties to Papago United Presbyterian Church in Sells. Presbyters were invited to share the Peace of Christ with one another.

## **WORSHIP**

The Rev. Ray Thomas delivered the sermon based on Mark 1:14-15. The Rev. Elizabeth Smith and CRE Lesley Abrams presided over the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Special music was provided by the Holy Way Chancel Choir. The offering collected during the worship service, totaling \$313.55, was dedicated to the Youth Triennium.

## **COMMISSIONING OF CREs LESLEY ABRAMS, STEVE BROWNSON, BILL HEINLE**

Lesley Abrams, Steve Brownson and Bill Heinle were commissioned during the worship service to continue their service as Commissioned Ruling Elders; Lesley to St. John on the Desert in Tucson, Steve to Christ in Tucson, and Bill to First Casa Grande. Linda Freeman led a prayer of thanksgiving for the gifts each has shared within the congregations they serve.

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

RE Robin Thomas, who was assigned to the Theological Issues and Institutions Committee, reported it was good to play a part in a General Assembly representing 1.5 million members and 9,000 churches within the denomination. A new Directory for Worship and updated Child Protection Policy were approved, and the Belhar Confession was added to our *Book of Confessions*.

YAAD Erin Cech, one of 140 Young Adult Advisory Delegates from presbyteries across the nation, served on the Peacemaking and International Issues Committee. She reported that their days were very long and she appreciated the friendships she made.

TE John Cheek was a member of the Mission Coordination Committee where he reported that strong positions were voiced but there was also an openness to hear one another. John had attended the 2008 GA as an observer and felt that the overall tone was much better in 2016. John noted that while YAADs took part in voting within their assigned committees, they were granted voice, but not vote, on the floor of plenary sessions. He felt the YAADs were a valuable addition to the proceedings and consideration should be given to allowing them to vote at GA.

## **TRIENNIUM REPORT**

Steve Melde, one of three adult advisors, reported that twenty-one of de Cristo's young people had attended the August 2016 Youth Triennium, the PC(USA)'s largest gathering. More than 5,000 young people participated in the week-long event, sharing worship and fellowship in what Steve called a truly "mountain top experience."

## **MEPF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION REPORT**

Rachael Srubas reported that over the past eight years our Middle Eastern Presbyterian Fellowship (MEPF) had developed into a vital worshipping community for the Arabic speaking people of Tucson. She introduced Pastor George Bitar as well as several members of the Administrative Commission overseeing the Fellowship. Packets were available to encourage donations to the ministry.

## **IGNITE THE SPARK**

Ray Schulte from the Center for Parish Development, an ecumenical Christian renewal organization, reviewed discussion from the Ignite the Spark event on October 14. He explained that our congregations

need to become discerning communities which exist to participate in God’s mission everywhere, not just within the walls of the physical church, by empowering people to each give of their individual gifts.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Peggy Free presented nominations. There being no nominations from the floor, the following were approved:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Leadership Commission</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>PJC</u>
2018	RE Cheryl Larson (Tortolita)	2023	TE Alison Harrington (Southside)
2019	TE Mary Harris (HR)	2023	RE Jane Nott (St. Andrew’s)
<u>Class</u>	<u>COM</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>CPM</u>
2019	RE Marie Galloway (Northminster)	2018	TE Bob Reese (At Large)
2019	TE Elizabeth Lyman (HR)	2019	CRE Lesley Abrams (St. John)
2019	RE Jim Nelson (Valley)	2019	TE John Cheek (Northminster)
		2019	CRE Bill Heinle (First Casa Grande)
<u>Class</u>	<u>Mission Committee</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>COR</u>
2018	RE Bonnie Thompson (Northminster)	2019	RE Russell Amling (Northminster)
2019	TE Steve Akins (Validated)		
2019	RE Dick Kampa (St. Andrew’s)		
2019	RE Jane Raffety (Mountain Shadows)		

**MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Elizabeth Smith reported that the Committee was overseeing a unified mission budget which now covered eight Presbytery mission partners: Compañeros en Mision, Frontera de Cristo, Korean Presbyterian Church in Tucson, Middle Eastern Presbyterian Fellowship, Montlure Presbyterian Church Camp, Papago United Presbyterian Church in Sells, Presbyterian Campus Ministry at the U of A, and Tucson YAV (Young Adult Volunteers). The Mission Committee was increasing its focus on personal involvement by our churches, seeking true mission partnerships rather than just monetary giving. The committee was contacting each congregation’s Mission chair and starting a “Mission Corner” in Las Noticias. They were also planning a meeting with a speaker to advise each mission on how to tell their stories while creatively seeking funding.

**MONTLURE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CAMP**

Representatives from the Montlure Board were available during lunch to update commissioners about the status of the Greer site and discuss possible alternatives for the future of the camp.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Tommy Calhoun reported that the budget deficit was \$14,000 as of August 31, 2016, with \$113,000 in reserve accounts. In order to address this deficit the Administrative Committee was suggesting a \$2.00 increase in per capita as part of the proposed budget for 2017, to be presented for approval at the January annual Presbytery meeting. This resulted in a total 2017 per capita of \$37.00. A copy of the proposed budget was distributed with the call materials for this meeting. It included provision for a three percent raise for Presbytery staff, as recommended by the Combined Presbytery Personnel Team. Tommy noted that the Presbytery faced the continuing challenges caused by significant loss of membership over the past five years.

**STATED CLERK REPORT**

Bob Schulz reminded presbyters that each Presbytery committee was required to have its own Manual of Operations and these would then be added to the Presbytery's Manual of Operations as appendices. He noted that the duties of the Mission Committee were being revised and would be presented to the Presbytery for approval in January.

**PRESBYTERY PASTOR REPORT**

Brad Munroe expressed his thankfulness that the members of Presbytery de Cristo were connectional and representative of the body of Christ.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Holy Way congregation was thanked for its hospitality. The motion was made to adjourn and the meeting was closed in prayer at 1:30 p.m. The next stated meeting of Presbytery was scheduled for January 27-28, 2017, at First Presbyterian Church in Mesa to be held as a joint Annual Meeting with the Presbytery of Grand Canyon.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the October 15, 2016 Stated Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo were approved by the Presbytery at its Stated Meeting on January 27, 2017.

S/Robert S. Schulz

Robert S. Schulz, Stated Clerk/Associate

January 27, 2017

Date