

## MINUTES

Stated Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo

January 26-27, 2018

### CALL TO ORDER

Presbytery de Cristo of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held its Stated Annual Meeting at First Presbyterian Church in Casa Grande. This was a joint meeting with the Presbytery of Grand Canyon. Moderators Bill Voigt, de Cristo, and George Prohaska, Grand Canyon, opened the meeting at 3:00 p.m. with prayer and the lighting of the Peace Candle.

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 approved for enrollment by the Presbytery for this meeting.

### ROLL

There were 22 Teaching Elder commissioners and 29 Ruling Elder commissioners, 4 Commissioned Ruling Elders, 2 Ruling Elder members of the Ministry for Leadership and 2 Ruling Elder ministry moderators present, for a total of 59 voting members. There were 20 registered visitors.

#### Corresponding Members Enrolled

Clayton Cobb (The Pacific)

Jean Martin (Kiskiminetas)

#### Teaching Elders Present – 22

Adams, Mark

Harrington, Alison

Sigmon, Mack

Studer, Virginia

Brown, Kenneth

Lloyd, Linda

Skodiak, Kenneth

Thomas, Raymond

Cheek, John

Munroe, Brad

Smith, Bart

Ver Burg, Sara

Christopher, Diane

Norton, Bill

Smith, Elizabeth

Voigt, William

de la Torre, Valerie

Reese, Robert

Song, SungMin

Elgin, Paul

Shepherd, Don

Srubas, Rachel

#### Commissioned Ruling Elders Present – 4

Brownson, Steve

Heinle, Bill

Munroe, Laura

Norton, Mary Jo

#### Churches/Ruling Elder Commissioners Present – 29

Community Benson – Bill Martin, Liz

Northminster - Martha Allen, Marie Galloway, Ray

Lopshire-Kading

Sammons, Bonnie Thompson

Community Coolidge - Carolyn Gilbert

Papago United - Rechanda Chavez

Faith - Fred Whitley, Monica Russell

St. Andrew's - Kevin Oxnam

First Casa Grande - Denny Honodel, Pete Vogel

St. Mark's - Jan McCoy, Diane Shifflett

First Globe - Linda Clark

Superior - Richard Hing

First Silver City - Sherrie Lavelle, Ruth McPherson

The Holy Way - Sherri Atleson, Robin Thomas

Immanuel - Gail Griffin, Anne Thornes

Tortolita - Annette Trask

Mt. Shadows - Cassi Fraley, Jayne Raffety

Trinity - Leone Mohnhey, Alice Smedley

Valley - Eloise Fredrickson, Jim Nelson, Carol Peeler

#### RE Leadership Commission Present – 2

Cheryl Larson

Bob Schulz

#### RE Committee/Commission Moderators Present – 2

Peggy Free (Nominating)

Jane Raffety (Mission)

**Staff Members Present**

Beth Kath Carolyn McBurney

**Teaching Elders Excused**

Abraham, Midhat	Cole, Harry	Hermes, Jon	Sankey, Lee
Barker, Lance	Davies, John	Hervey, Jim	Seel, Robert
Brown, William	Dunham, John	Hunt, Edward	Smith, Michael
Buchanan-Barrow, Dorothy	Easley, George	Loew, Edmund	St. John, Valerie
Buehler, William	Evans, Bill	MacDonald, Robbin	Stevenson, John
Carr, John	Fife, John	McComb, Andrew	Toole, Jim
Chanslor, Don	Foust, Jerry	Moore, Della	Wert, Brandon
Chase, Lerry	Green, Thomas	Pennock, William	Williams, Carla
Choi, Kunsoo Paul	Hamilton, Stephanie	Pike, George	Wilson, James
Chon, Myung	Hargleroad, Roberta	Remer, Jim	
Clark, Walter	Harris, Mary	Ross, John	
Cobb, Jim	Hawkins, Joe	Rowley, Richard	

**Commissioned Ruling Elders Excused**

Abrams, Lesley

**Teaching Elders Absent**

Akins, Steve	Goble, David	Medina, Mark	Sigmon, Amy
Bitar, George	Grover, Mat	Melde, Steven	Tittle, John
Cummins, Jennifer	Johnson, John	Montaño, Carlos	Toole, Pati
Fife, David	Letts, Thomas	Ross, Andrew	Seiferth, Peter

**Commissioned Ruling Elders Absent**

Larry Biehl

**Churches Absent**

Christ	Divine Grace	Korean of Tucson	St. John on the Desert
Community San Manuel	First Douglas	Shepherd of the Valley	Trinity Cliff
Covenant	First Florence	Southside	

**Staff Members Present**

Beth Kath Carolyn McBurney

**AGENDA**

Presbytery approved the agenda.

**COMMISSION REPORTS**

Presbytery received the Commission Reports as a record of actions taken on behalf of Presbytery de Cristo in accordance with the responsibilities granted to our commissions under the Bylaws and Manual of Operations.

1/26-27/18 Commission Reports

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**1. Leadership Team Report**

**Actions taken at the October 25, 2017 meeting**

Approved \$6,000 from Ignite the Spark funds to increase the number of Presbytery de Cristo facilitators to be trained for our participation in a GA congregational renewal pilot project.

1/26-27/18 Commission Reports

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Elected, on behalf of Presbytery, the following persons, moving them from the former Committee on Representation which was combined with the Nominations Committee:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Nominations Committee</u>
2020	RE Russ Amling (Northminster)
2020	RE Sierra Yaminaka (Northminster)

Approved Presbytery de Cristo’s concurrence with any and all upcoming GA overtures for the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly.

Approved Presbytery de Cristo concurrence with a proposed GA overture from the Presbytery of Grand Canyon regarding a denominational review of Native American church facilities and related funding for improvements.

Approved, acting as the Presbytery’s Board of Trustees, support for the implementation of a solar power system at Northminster Presbyterian Church by Technicians for Sustainability and Technology Credit Corporation, pending legal review.

**Action taken at the November 29, 2017 meeting**

Elected, on behalf of Presbytery, the following persons:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Nominations Committee</u>
2019	TE Sara Ver Burg (MAL)
2020	RE Pete Vogel (First Casa Grande)

**2. Commission on Ministry Report**

**Actions taken at the November 2, 2017 meeting**

**Sigmon, Amy**

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. Amy Sigmon (At-Large) from the Presbytery of Scioto Valley to Presbytery de Cristo, effective November 2, 2017.

**Lloyd, Linda**

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. Linda Lloyd from the Presbytery of Grand Canyon to Presbytery de Cristo, effective October 22, 2017.

**Skodiak, Ken**

Approved the Terms of Call for the Rev. Ken Skodiak to return to serving as a full-time Associate Pastor at Northminster Presbyterian Church, effective January 1, 2018:

Salary and Housing	\$75,044	Pension/Medical	BOP dues as required
Study Allowance	2,000	Vacation	Four weeks per policy
Sabbatical	45 days	Study Leave	One week
(1 <sup>st</sup> 45 days taken in 2017)			

1/26-27/18 Commission Reports

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**Cheek, John**

In accordance with the previous action taken by the Commission on Ministry approving the retirement of the Rev. John Cheek effective August 2017, the Commission on Ministry, at the request of Northminster Presbyterian Church, approved the closure of the Associate Pastor position held by Rev. Cheek effective August 1, 2017.

**Cummins, Jennifer**

Approved the Terms of Call for the Rev. Jennifer Cummins to serve as Pastor to Tortolita Presbyterian Church, on a half-time basis, effective upon her installation to that position:

Salary	\$ 3,700	Pension/Medical	BOP dues as required
Housing Allowance	29,000	Social Security offset	\$2,989
Deferred Income	3,600	Vacation	Four weeks per policy
Continuing Ed Allowance	900	Study Leave	Two weeks
Ministerial Expenses	600	Mileage	vouchered

**Actions taken at the December 7, 2017 meeting**

**Pickens, Bailey**

Approved the Temporary membership of Candidate Bailey Pickens, under the care of the Presbytery of St. Augustine, as the selected Director of Presbyterian Campus Ministries effective December 7, 2017, pending reference checks.

**Smith, Elizabeth**

Approved the Temporary Pastor Agreement between the Rev. Elizabeth Smith and The Holy Way Presbyterian Church as their Pastor for Growth and Development on a part-time basis (approximately 20 hrs/week) for a period of one year effective January 1, 2018, subject to 30 days notice for termination, on the following terms:

Salary	\$22,500	Pension/Death/Disability	\$2,700
Travel/Prof Allowance	1,600	Social Security	1721
Continuing Ed	650	Retirement Savings	3,000
		Health Savings	2,625
		Vacation	Four weeks
		Study Leave	Two weeks

**Wert, Brandon**

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. Brandon Wert (At-Large), at his request, from Presbytery de Cristo to the Presbytery of New Hope, effective December 7, 2017.

**Lyman, Elizabeth**

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. Elizabeth Lyman (HR), at her request, from Presbytery de Cristo to New Castle Presbytery, effective December 7, 2017.

**COM Handbook revision**

Approved the addition of Chapter X – Dissolution of Church Pastoral Calls to the Presbytery de Cristo COM Handbook.

1/26-27/18 Commission Reports

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**3. Stated Clerk Report**

**REPORT ON REVIEW OF SESSION RECORDS**

In addition to those previously reported, the following Session records for 2016 were reviewed and approved:

October 21, 2017

First Globe	St. John on the Desert
First Silver City	Tortolita
Northminster	Valley

**ANNUAL REPORT OF 2016 and 2017 AUDIT**

As required by the *Book of Order* (G-3.0113) it is noted that the Administration Committee of Presbytery de Cristo received a report on the internal audit for the fiscal years ending January 31, 2017 and January 31, 2018. A copy of the audit is available for review in the Presbytery office.

**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 our ministry committees under the Bylaws and Manual of Operations. There was a question about an action listed in the Administration Committee's November 9, 2017 actions regarding asking Synod about its \$2 per capita increase for 2018. Brad Munroe reported he had sent a letter to the Synod but had not yet received a reply.

1/26-27/18 Consent Agenda

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**1. Administration Committee Report**

**Action taken at the October 11, 2017 meeting**

Affirmed support for, and recommended approval by the Leadership Commission, of a site-lease contract between Northminster Presbyterian Church and Technicians for Sustainability and Technology Credit Corporation, with the Presbytery responsible for honoring the contract if, for any reason, Northminster no longer managed the property.

**Actions taken at the November 9, 2017 meeting**

Approved the 2018 Budget, pending review by the Stated Clerk and Treasurer who might make minor adjustments totaling no more than 5% in the per capita calculations.

Instructed the Presbytery Pastor and Stated Clerk to write a letter to the Synod of the Southwest explaining repercussions of the \$2 increase in 2018 Synod per capita and invite discussion.

Received the report on the Presbytery de Cristo internal 2016 internal audit, with action on it to take place at the January 11, 2018 meeting.

1/26-27/18 Consent Agenda

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**Actions taken at the December 13, 2017 meeting**

Approved the following regarding New Covenant accounts:

- a. authorized Robert Schulz, Secretary of the Corporation, and Bill Winters, Treasurer of the Corporation, as Authorized Traders for all Presbytery de Cristo New Covenant Accounts;
- b. authorized Cheryl A. Larson, Richard L. Davison and George W. Curtis, Jr. as Authorized Traders for Presbyterian Campus Ministry New Covenant Account 112058.

**2. Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report**

**Action taken at the December 7, 2017 meeting**

Approved moving CRE trainee Josefina Ahumada (Southside) from the Seeker to the Learner stage.

**3. Mission Committee Report**

**Action taken at the October 19, 2017 meeting**

Approved spending up to \$500 for Gifts of Hope for the February 11, 2018 Mission Committee fundraiser to be held at Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Approved *Saints Alive! Meditations from the Gospel of John* as a fundraiser for the Mission event.

**4. Committee on Representation Final Report**

Presbytery de Cristo met on Saturday, October 21, 2017, at Valley Presbyterian Church in Green Valley, AZ. During the meeting, modifications to the Bylaws and Manual of Operations were approved. Chapter 9 of the Manual of Operations – Committee on Representation was deleted in its entirety and the responsibilities of that committee were added to Chapter 8 – Committee on Nominations.

A final meeting of COR was held on Monday, October 23, 2017 to discuss the disposition of its present members and the possibility of their accepting assignments on other Presbytery committees. Discussions were held with peace and harmony prevailing. Most members will possibly be assigned to the other various committees.

As this Committee's past Chairman, I want to say thank you to all of its members, Sierra Yamanaka, Laura Munroe, Madeline Bosma and Claude Smith, for their support. I want to thank the entire Presbytery for their faith in me and this committee's past.

Russell K. Amling, Chair  
Committee on Representation

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**APPROVAL OF PRESBYTERY MINUTES**

The minutes of the October 21, 2017 Stated Meeting were approved as presented.

**GREETING**

The Rev. Paul Elgin, Pastor, welcomed the Presbyteries to First Presbyterian Church in Casa Grande.

**ELECTION OF MODERATOR-ELECT**

Bill Voigt placed Jim Nelson’s name into nomination. There being no nominations from the floor, the following was approved:

**MOTION:** To elect RE Jim Nelson as the Presbytery Moderator-Elect for 2018.

**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>Administration Committee</u>
2018	RE Liz Lopshire-Kading (dC Moderator)	2020	RE Janet Rowe (Christ)
2018	RE Jim Nelson (dC Mod-Elect)		
2019	RE Bill Winters (dC Treasurer)	<u>Class</u>	<u>Nominations Committee</u>
2020	TE Ken Skodiak (Northminster)	2018	RE Ruth McPherson (First Silver City)
		2019	RE Don Burig (Northminster)
<u>Class</u>	<u>Commission on Ministry</u>	2020	RE Russ Amling (Northminster)
2020	RE Russ Amling (Northminster)	2020	TE Sara Ver Burg (MAL)
2020	TE George Bitar (Mideastern Fellowship)	2020	RE Pete Vogel (First Casa Grande)
2020	RE Don Burig (Northminster)	2020	RE Sierra Yamanaka (Northminster)
2020	TE Pete Seiferth (Northminster)		
		<u>Class</u>	<u>Mission Committee</u>
<u>Class</u>	<u>Commission on Preparation</u>	2020	RE Laura Munroe (St. Andrew’s)
2020	RE Ruth Akins (Faith)	2020	RE Sherwin Coopmans (Mtn Shadows)
2020	TE Diane Christopher (Valley)	2020	TBA Bailey Pickens (PCM)
2020	TE Valerie St. John (Valley)		
2020	TE Carla Williams (HR)	Class	Montlure Council
			Sue Schmelz (Immanuel)

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CORPORATION**

The Presbytery meeting was recessed and the Annual Meeting of the Corporation was called to order. The following was approved:

**MOTION:** To elect the 2018 Presbytery de Cristo Corporation officers:

President	RE Liz Lopshire-Kading
Vice President	RE Jim Nelson
Treasurer	RE Bill Winters
Secretary	RE Robert Schulz

The Annual Meeting of the Corporation was adjourned.

**BOARD OF PENSIONS REPORT**

Clayton Cobb, our BOP representative, reported that by offering “a la carte” benefits selected by the employer, 2,300 lay persons were added to BOP benefits plans. A 403(b) option had been added. Medical copays could be reduced by participating in the Call To Health plan.

The Optima prescription plan was requiring almost all generics. Clayton explained the Board was moving to electronic communications to save money, and he was available to those needing help using the website. He was planning his annual BOP retirement seminars.

**NEWS/UPDATES**

Karl Ver Burg, a member of Christ PC in Tucson, reported on the installation of solar panels as part of their effort to be good stewards, both financially and environmentally.

Bailey Pickens, the new Director of Presbyterian Campus Ministries at the University of Arizona, was introduced. She was enthusiastic about beginning her work with the students there.

Bob Schulz and Brad Munroe explained that all presbyteries were considering whether to concur with overtures being proposed for the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly due to a *Book of Order* change requiring the concurrence of at least one presbytery for consideration of an overture.

Clyde Parks spoke about assessments he was doing of conditions at the Native American churches within the Presbytery of Grand Canyon. He showed photos of properties in serious need of extensive repairs. His assessment process was being used as a model in the overture being proposed by Grand Canyon to the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly calling for evaluation of Native American property nationwide. Presbytery de Cristo’s Leadership Team voted, on behalf of the Presbytery, for consensus on this overture.

**MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Jayne Raffety thanked churches for their pledges, totaling \$22,986, to the unified mission budget. Another \$3,203.85 had been received as a percentage of 2017 interest on the Presbytery’s endowment fund and there was a reserve transfer of \$3,000. The following was approved:

**MOTION:** To approve the Presbytery de Cristo 2018 Mission Budget, with distributions as follows:

Compañeros en Misión	\$1,500.00
Frontera de Cristo	1,500.00
Presbyterian Campus Ministry	4,000.00
Borderlands YAV	3,000.00
Papago United Presbyterian Church	8,000.00
Montlure Presbyterian Church Camp	1,500.00
Middle Eastern Presbyterian Fellowship	8,000.00
Korean Presbyterian Church of Tucson	1,500.00
Emergency fund	<u>189.85</u>
Total	\$28,189.85

**WORSHIP**

The Rev. Paul Elgin delivered the sermon based on John 1:14. The Revs. Paul Elgin and Judy Wellington presided over the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper. Special music was provided by First Casa Grande musicians. The Moderators for 2018 were installed, RE Liz Lopshire-Kading for de Cristo and TE Judy Wellington for Grand Canyon. The 2017 Presbytery Moderators, Bill Voigt for de Cristo and George Prohaska for Grand Canyon, were recognized and thanked for their service.



Our commissioners to the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly were commissioned: RE Eloise Fredrickson (Valley) and TE Bart Smith (St. Mark’s), as well as YAAD Michael Tuohy (Immanuel). The offering collected during the worship service, totaling \$636.85, was dedicated to Montlure Presbyterian Church Camp. Following the benediction the meeting recessed until Saturday morning.

**NECROLOGY REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2016**

<b>Teaching Elder</b>	James Hargelroad		
<b>Ruling Elders</b>	Bisbee	Covenant	Bill Martin
	Casa Grande	First	Rilla Ailes Carolyn Maastricht
	Sells	Papago United	Georgia Chavez
	Silver City	First	Margaret Atchison Sharon Gonzalez
	Superior	Superior	Maxine Dalton
	Tucson	Immanuel	George McGee Pat Seib
		Mtn Shadows	Marty Kreiling
		Northminster	Joan Fox James Larsen
		St. Andrew’s	John Barrett James Evans
			Rena Lude Donald McGaughey
			Jasper Melton John Schrader
			Sandra Smith John Turner
			Ella Waltz Frank Williams
		St. Mark’s	Robert Svob
		The Holy Way	Jim Antell Perry Heath
		Trinity	Bruce Dusenberry Frank Whiting
			George Zellar

**PRESBYTERY BUSINESS MEETING**

The business meeting of Presbytery de Cristo was called to order by Moderator Liz Lopshire-Kading at 8:00 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF 2018 BUDGET**

Bob Schulz reported there was another anticipated budget deficit, although at \$18,475 it should be less than the actual 2017 deficit of \$24,826. The proposed 2018 budget had been distributed with the call to the meeting. There was an approved motion to call the questions and the following was approved:

**MOTION:** To approve the proposed 2018 Presbytery de Cristo 2018/2019 annual budget as recommended by the Administration Committee.

**RECONVENE**

The combined meeting was reconvened in prayer by Grand Canyon Moderator Judy Wellington on Saturday, January 27, 2018, at 8:45 a.m. Presbytery Pastor Brad Munroe had presbyters split up into groups to discuss the Seven Vital Signs of Healthy Congregations.

**MONTLURE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CAMP UPDATE**

Kellie von Borstel reported that planning was under way for summer camp, including three traveling day camps at Orangewood, a location in the East Valley, and First Casa Grande. Montlure's 501(3)(c) status was being renewed.

Presbytery de Cristo and the Presbytery of Grand Canyon joined together for a Montlure corporate meeting. It was noted that Page 1 of the Articles needed to be updated with the current corporate officers. The following were approved:

**MOTION:** To approve the Restated Articles of Incorporation for Montlure Presbyterian Properties, Inc.

**MOTION:** To approve the Bylaws of Montlure Presbyterian Properties, Inc.

**STATED CLERK REPORT**

Bob Schulz reported that a list of the number of Ruling Elder Commissioners for each church for April 2018 to January 2019 was distributed with the call to the meeting.

**PRESBYTERY PASTOR REPORT**

Brad Munroe reported the Combined Personnel and Finance Teams, along with the Leadership and finance committees from both presbyteries, were going to be meeting to discuss what to do about the combined staffing plan after 2019.

Both Grand Canyon and de Cristo had been asked to participate in a PC(USA) pilot program on Congregational Revitalization. Representatives from both presbyteries were attending training sessions.

Mark Adams reported there had been a reigniting of the Presbyterian Border Regional Outreach (PBRO) program involving two Mexican states and three U.S. states.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the First Casa Grande congregation was thanked for its hospitality. The motion was made to adjourn and the Presbytery de Cristo portion of the meeting was closed in prayer at 11:45 a.m. The next Stated Meeting of Presbytery was scheduled for April 21, 2018 at Frontera de Cristo in Douglas.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the January 26-27, 2018 Annual Stated Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo were approved by the Presbytery at its Stated Meeting on April 21, 2018.

S/Robert S. Schulz  
Robert S. Schulz, Stated Clerk/Associate

April 21, 2018  
Date