

## MINUTES

Stated Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo

April 21, 2018

### CALL TO ORDER

Presbytery de Cristo of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held its April Stated Meeting at Lily of the Valley Presbyterian Church in Agua Prieta, Mexico. Liz Lopshire-Kading, Moderator, opened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. with prayer. Mark Adams, U.S. Coordinator of Frontera de Cristo, welcomed everyone and introduced the Elders from Lily of the Valley.

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 12 Teaching Elder commissioners and 23 Ruling Elder commissioners, 3 Commissioned Ruling Elders, and 1 Ruling Elder member of the Ministry for Leadership present, for a total of 39 voting members. There were 9 registered visitors.

### Corresponding Members Enrolled

Randy Campbell (Santa Fe)

Sean Chow (West Jersey)

Mickie Choi (Riverside)

### Teaching Elders Present – 12

Adams, Mark

Grover, Mat

Melde, Steven

Seiferth, Peter

Brown, Kenneth

McComb, Andrew

Munroe, Bradley

Studer, Virginia

Cheek, John

Medina, Mark

Ross, John

Toole, Jim

### Churches/Ruling Elder Commissioners Present – 23

Christ - Fred Hubbard

Southside - Josefina Ahumada, Suzanne Rabe

Community Benson - Liz Lopshire-Kading

St. John in the Desert - Dave Tabb

First Casa Grande - Pete Vogel

St. Mark's - Catherine Lurvey, Jan McCoy,

First Silver City - Ruth McPherson

Irvin Richards

Immanuel - Gale Griffin, Carol Shurr

Trinity - Billie Holbrook, Alice Smedley

Northminster - Russ Amling, Ray Sammons

Valley - Judy Aguayo, Tommy Calhoun

Faith - Bill Brouwer, Monica Russell,

Cathy Nelson, Jim Nelson

Clara Beth Smith

### Commissioned Ruling Elders Present – 3

Abrams, Lesley

Biehl, Larry

Heinle, Bill

### RE Leadership Commission Present – 1

Bob Schulz

### Staff Member Present

Carolyn McBurney

**Teaching Elders Excused**

Abraham, Midhat	Davies, John	Loew, Edmund	Shepherd, Don
Barker, Lance	Dunham, John	MacDonald, Robbin	Smith, Bart
Brown, William	Easley, George	Moore, Della	Smith, Michael
Buchanan-Barrow, Dorothy	Evans, Bill	Norton, Bill	Strubas, Rachel
Buehler, William	Fife, John	Pennock, William	St. John, Valerie
Chanslor, Don	Green, Thomas	Pike, George	Stevenson, John
Chase, Lerry	Harris, Mary	Reese, Robert	Thomas, Raymond
Choi, Kunsoo Paul	Hawkins, Joe	Remer, Jim	Wert, Brandon
Clark, Walter	Hermes, Jon	Rowley, Richard	Williams, Carla
Cobb, Jim	Hervey, Jim	Sankey, Lee	Wilson, James
Cole, Harry	Hunt, Edward	Seel, Robert	

**Churches/Ruling Elder Commissioners Excused**

Mountain Shadows                      Tortolita

**Commissioned Ruling Elders Excused**

Norton, Mary Jo

**Teaching Elders Absent**

Akins, Steve	Elgin, Paul	Lloyd, Linda	Song, SungMin
Bitar, George	Fife, David	Montaño, Carlos	Tittle, John
Carr, John	Goble, David	Ross, Andrew	Toole, Pati
Chon, Myung	Hamilton, Stephanie	Sigmon, Amy	Ver Berg, Sara
Christopher, Diane	Harrington, Alison	Sigmon, Mack	Voigt, William
Cummins, Jennifer	Johnson, John	Skodiak, Kenneth	
de la Torre, Valerie	Letts, Thomas	Smith, Elizabeth	

**Commissioned Ruling Elders Absent**

Brownson, Steve                      Munroe, Laura

**Churches Absent**

Community Coolidge	First Douglas	Papago United	The Holy Way
Community San Manuel	First Florence	St. Andrew's	Trinity Cliff
Divine Grace	First Globe	Superior	

**AGENDA**

Presbytery approved the agenda for the meeting.

**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:

4/21/18 Consent Agenda

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**1. Administration Committee Report**

**Actions taken at the January 11, 2018 meeting**

Approved revisions made to the 2018 Budget by Bob Schulz and Bill Winters with the proviso that a strategic review be conducted before the creation of the 2019 budget.

4/21/18 Consent Agenda

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Affirmed members Linda Freeman, Denny Honodel and Janet Rowe to serve on the Combined Personnel Committee as representatives from Presbytery de Cristo.

Affirmed members Denny Honodel, Bill Miller and Mary Jo Norton to serve on the Combined Finance Committee as representatives from Presbytery de Cristo.

**Actions taken at the March 8, 2018 meeting**

Approved changing the Presbytery de Cristo fiscal year to match the calendar year (Jan-Dec), with 2018 adjusted to be an 11-month financial year (Feb-Dec).

Tabled action on a COM request to merge Fund 2205 and Fund 3166.

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

**Action taken at the February 1, 2018 meeting**

Approved Monica Russell (Faith) as prepared to serve as a Commissioned Ruling Elder, with her name to be forwarded to COM for consultation regarding a commission within the Presbytery.

**Actions taken at the April 5, 2018 meeting**

Approved a recommendation to the Presbytery that Inquirer Stephanie Quintana-Martinez (Southside) be moved to Candidate, subject to her completion of her psychological assessment and the Presbytery background check.

Approved authorization for Stephanie Quintana-Martinez to take all required ordination exams.

Approved authorization for Candidate Laura Munroe (St. Andrew’s) to take Bible Content and the other ordination exams as she is ready to do so.

**3. Mission Committee Report**

**Actions taken at the January 18, 2018 meeting**

Approved the disbursement of additional funds coming in late from 2017 church pledges, with each of the eight Presbytery mission partners to receive an equal share by January 31, 2018.

Approved moving 2017 Presbytery endowment fund earnings of \$3203.85 and \$3,000.00 from reserves to the budget line for church mission pledges.

Approved 2018 funding to our mission partners at the following levels, with any additional funds to be considered for special projects:

Presbyterian Campus Ministry	\$4,000	Frontera de Cristo	\$1,500
Middle Eastern Presbyterian Fellowship	\$8,000	Montlure	\$1,500
Papago United Presbyterian Church	\$8,000	Companeros en Mision	\$1,500
Korean Presbyterian Church of Tucson	\$1,500	Young Adult Volunteers	\$3,000

4/21/18 Consent Agenda

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**Action taken at the February 15, 2018 meeting**

Reviewed proceeds from the Alternative Gift Market with disbursements to be as follows:

- \$3,030 from gift sale to be distributed as designated, with each of the eight Mission Partners to receive from \$340 to \$490;
- \$1,310 from pie sale to be distributed equally among the eight Mission Partners;
- an extra gift from Mountain Shadows' Ash Wednesday offering to be divided equally among the eight Mission Partners.

**Action taken at the March 15, 2018 meeting**

Reviewed the 2018 Mission Committee budget, with an updated total of \$42,826.

**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:

4/21/18 Commission Reports

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**1. Leadership Team Report**

**Actions taken at the January 24, 2018 meeting**

Approved a review of recent Presbytery budgets to check for receipts for a past year's expenses which were received after the close of the year, and to correct the process so that actual income and expenses are recorded within a given year.

Reviewed the 2018 connection budget and approved its presentation to the Presbytery for approval.

Reviewed the current process for determining concurrence for GA submitted overtures and approved continuing with that process for 2018, with plans to consider an alternative process for the next General Assembly meeting in 2020.

Approved the formation of an Administrative Commission to discern and initiate further process, if needed, in response to reported actions of Shepherd of the Valley Presbyterian Church in Safford regarding dissolution and sale of its building to a local church.

Approved, acting as the Presbytery's Board of Trustees, authorization for the Presbytery de Cristo attorney to prepare legal documents to prevent the outright sale of the church property by Shepherd of the Valley Presbyterian Church without inclusion of the Presbytery in the process.

4/21/18 Commission Reports

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**2. Commission on Ministry Report**

**Actions taken at the February 1, 2018 meeting**

**Hargleroad, Roberta**

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. Bobbie Hargleroad (HR) from the Presbytery of Denver to Presbytery de Cristo, effective February 1, 2018.

**Reese, Robert**

Validated the ministry of the Rev. Robert Reese as a chaplain at Casa de la Luz hospice for 2018.

**Papago United**

Approved sending a note of thanks to Bill Pawson of the EPC for his concern about the congregation of Papago United Presbyterian Church, but informing him the Presbytery would pursue other options for providing pulpit supply to the church.

**Southside**

Received the report of COM’s Appreciate Inquiry visit to Southside Presbyterian Church on November 20-21, 2017.

**Pulpit Supply List**

Approved the 2018 Pulpit Supply List.

**Shepherd of the Valley**

Authorized a transfer of responsibility for the discernment process for the dissolution or dismissal of a church to the Administrative Commission established by the Leadership Commission of Presbytery de Cristo to address property issues for Shepherd of the Valley Presbyterian Church; and authorized the COM liaison for the church to work with the Administrative Commission.

Appointed the Rev. Jennifer Cummins to serve as Moderator of the Shepherd of the Valley Session, effective February 1, 2018, until the Administrative Commission established by the Leadership Commission assumed jurisdiction.

**Actions taken at the March 1, 2018 meeting**

**Medina, Mark**

Approved renewal of the Interim Pastor Agreement between the Rev. Mark Medina and Valley Presbyterian Church for a period of one year effective March 25, 2018, subject to 30 days notice for termination, on the following terms:

Salary	\$72,890	Pension/Medical	BOP dues as required
Housing Allowance	18,000	Vacation	Four weeks per policy
Continuing Ed Allowance	4,800	Study Leave	Two weeks
Travel Allowance	.535/mile		

**Cheek, John**

Approved renewal of the Temporary Pastor Agreement between the Rev. John Cheek (HR) and First Presbyterian Church of Silver City, on a part-time basis (10-13 days/month), for a period of eight months effective May 1, 2018, subject to 30 days notice for termination, on the following terms:

Salary	\$150/day
Housing Allowance	555.55/month

4/21/18 Commission Reports

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**Cummins, Jennifer**

Approved, in accordance with actions taken at the August 3, 2017 COM meeting, an installation date of March 4, 2018 and approved the following Administrative Commission to Install the Rev. Jennifer Cummins as Pastor to Tortolita Presbyterian Church on Sunday, March 4, 2018, at 9:30 a.m.:

Teaching Elders

Brad Munroe (Pres Pastor)  
Pete Seiferth (Northminster)  
Carla Williams (HR)

Ruling Elders

Chuck Brown (Tortolita)  
Lee Harbers (St. Andrew's)  
Liz Lopshire-Kading (Community Benson)

**Validation of Ministries**

Approved the annual Validated Ministry forms for Mark Adams (Frontera de Cristo), Georges Bitar (Middle Eastern Presbyterian Fellowship), Valerie de la Torre (Grand Canyon University professor) and David Fife (Casa de la Luz hospice chaplain).

**COM-administered Restricted Accounts**

Approved a sub-committee of Brad Munroe, Bill Ricker and Eloise Fredrickson to develop specific parameters for administering COM grant requests and have a proposal for COM at the April 5 meeting.

Approved requesting that Restricted Fund 3166 - Church Revitalization and Restricted Fund 2205 - Mustard Seed Grant be merged, if approved by the Administration Committee, with COM to be permitted to define a process for distribution of the resulting fund.

**Southside Grant Request**

Approved a request for Jennifer Cummins, COM liaison to Southside, to consult with Pastor Alison Harrington regarding Southside's \$4,000 congregational revitalization grant request.

**Actions taken at the April 5, 2018 meeting**

**COM-administered Restricted Accounts**

Approved a request from Southside Presbyterian Church for a one-time distribution of \$4,000 to be taken from restricted fund line item 3166 (Church Revitalization), with Southside required to produce an after-action report for COM on what they have done and what they have learned regarding challenges and best practices for their proposed ministry.

Approved a recommendation to the Administration Committee to merge restricted fund line item 2205 (Mustard Seed Grant) into restricted fund line item 3166 (Church Revitalization).

Approved a recommendation to the Administration Committee to define the restricted fund line item 3166 (Church Revitalization) as follows: "Purpose: to equip, nurture, and support church leaders to empower their congregations to experience renewed vitality and extend the invitation to participate in God's Church through Jesus Christ."

Approved a Church Revitalization Application Form (Restricted Fund 3166) for use in distributing funds from restricted fund line item 3166 (Church Revitalization).

**Valley Presbyterian Church**

Approved a request that Brad Munroe and Josefina Ahumada communicate with the Valley Administrative Commission regarding the AC's role and boundaries as related to establishing original jurisdiction.

4/21/18 Commission Reports

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**3. Stated Clerk Report**

**REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION**

**Minutes of Service of Installation/Ordination – Rev. Jennifer Cummins March 4, 2018**

The Administrative Commission to Install the Rev. Jennifer Cummins met at Tortolita Presbyterian Church, Tucson, on Sunday, March 4, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. and did install Rev. Cummins, following the guidelines set forth in the Directory for Worship (W-4.4). Members of the Administrative Commission were:

Teaching Elders

Brad Munroe (Pres Pastor)  
Pete Seiferth (Northminster)  
Carla Williams (HR)

Ruling Elders

Chuck Brown (Tortolita)  
Lee Harbers (St. Andrew's)  
Liz Lopshire-Kading (Community Benson)

Respectfully submitted,  
Liz Lopshire-Kading

**REPORT ON REVIEW OF SESSION RECORDS**

The following Session records for 2017 were reviewed and approved on January 26, 2018:

Divine Grace                      First Casa Grande                      Immanuel

**APPROVAL OF PRESBYTERY MINUTES**

The minutes of the January 26-27, 2018 Annual Stated Meeting were approved, with two corrections to the Roll of Elder Commissioners present.

**WORSHIP**

Members of the Frontera de Cristo team led the worship service. Jocabed Gallegos, Miriam Maldonado, Marina Forero and Rosendo Rubio shared reflections on their ministry based on Mark 5:21-43. The Revs. Sean Chow and Ken Brown presided over the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Special music was sung in Spanish. The offering collected during the worship service was dedicated to Frontera de Cristo's 2018 capital campaign.

**IGNITE THE SPARK REVIEW**

Sean Chow, GA Western Region Coordinator for 1001 New Worshipping Communities (NWC) training, gave a summary of his presentation at the previous day's Ignite the Spark program. He explained it could be beneficial to incorporate core NWC values into the life of established churches. One of these was putting less emphasis on being an "attractional" congregation seeking to bring people inside the church walls. Instead, he said, take the risk of going out into the world around us where we might not feel as comfortable.

**PRESBYTERIAN INVESTMENT LOAN PROGRAM UPDATE**

PILP representative Mickie Choi reflected on the PILP program which had started granting loans in 1860. Mickie asked presbyters to remind their congregations that loans could be refinanced and were available for rehabilitation of facilities. She noted that Presbytery de Cristo had helped strengthen PILP by investing in the loan program.

**PRESBYTERY PASTOR REPORT**

Brad Munroe reported on the upcoming congregational revitalization initiative. Grand Canyon and de Cristo were two of the five presbyteries participating in the pilot program developed by the PC(USA) to serve as a catalyst for the wider denomination. It had been dubbed the “Thrive Project” and was to be launched at the joint August Presbytery meeting.

**STATED CLERK REPORT**

Bob Schulz reported that 70 proposed overtures had been sent to the presbyteries for review prior to the June 2018 General Assembly meeting.

**YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEER REPORT**

Alison Wood, Tucson Borderlands YAV Site Coordinator, reported that the program had provided 100,000 service hours since it started in Tucson. The lives of the YAV volunteers had also been transformed as they participated in various Tucson area ministries.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Bob Schulz presented nominations on behalf of the committee. There being no nominations from the floor, the following were approved:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Administration</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Synod Commissioners</u>
2020	Fran Westra (St. Mark’s)	2019	TE Andrew McComb (HR)
		2019	RE Ruth McPherson (First Silver City)
<u>Class</u>	<u>Mission</u>		
2020	Judy Aguayo (Valley)		

**EXAMINATION OF BAILEY PICKENS**

COM Moderator Josefina Ahumada presented Bailey Pickens, a Candidate under care of the Presbytery of the St. Augustine, for examination by our Presbytery for ordination as a Teaching Elder. COM had approved Bailey’s employment as Director of Presbyterian Campus Ministries in Tucson as a Validated Ministry of the Presbytery, pending her successful examination and her subsequent ordination.

Bailey read her Statement of Faith and fielded a number of questions from the floor about the Statement and her ministry experience. Presbytery approved arresting the examination and she was escorted from the meeting. The following was approved:

**MOTION:** To sustain the examination of Bailey Pickens and proceed to ordination.

Bailey was welcomed back and Brad Munroe gave the charge and offered a prayer of thanksgiving.

**SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION REPORT**

John Cheek gave information on progress of the AC which was formed by action of the Leadership Team Commission on January 24, 2018, in response to reported actions of Shepherd of the Valley Presbyterian Church in Safford regarding dissolution and sale of its building to a local church.



**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Lily of the Valley congregation was thanked for its hospitality. The motion was made to adjourn and the meeting was closed in prayer at 3:05 p.m. The next Stated Meeting of Presbytery was scheduled for August 25, 2018, to be held as a combined educational event with the Presbytery of Grand Canyon at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Tucson.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the April 21, 2018 Stated Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo were approved by the Presbytery at its Stated Meeting on August 25, 2018.

S/Robert S. Schulz

Robert S. Schulz, Stated Clerk/Associate

August 2, 2018

Date