

## MINUTES

Stated Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo

April 6, 2019

### CALL TO ORDER

Presbytery de Cristo of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held its April Stated Meeting at Valley Presbyterian Church in Green Valley. Jim Nelson, Moderator, opened the meeting at 9:00 a.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 commissioners, 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 19 Teaching Elders, 20 Ruling Elder commissioners, 3 Commissioned Ruling Elders, 3 Ruling Elder members of the Leadership Commission and 4 Ruling Elder ministry moderators present, for a total of 49 voting members. There were 24 registered visitors.

### Corresponding Members Enrolled

Mickie Choi (Riverside)

Robin Thomas (Synod of the Southwest)

### Teaching Elders Present – 19

Adams, Mark

Melde, Steven

Smith, Bart

Thomas, Raymond

Cheek, John

Munroe, Brad

Smith, Elizabeth

Tittle, John

Christopher, Diane

Pickens, Bailey

Smith, Michael

Ver Berg, Sara

Cummins, Jennifer

Ross, John

Soule-Hill, Jennifer

Voigt, William

Hamilton, Stephanie

Sigmon, Mack

Soule-Hill, Nathan

### Teaching Elders Excused

Medina, Mark

Srubas, Rachel

### Churches/Ruling Elder Commissioners Present – 20

Christ - Laura Cech, Doug Thompson

St. Andrew's - Jane Nott

Community Benson - Susan Adams

St. John on the Desert - Aardie Dearing

Faith – Rita Van, Fred Whitley

St. Mark's - Catherine Lurvey, Irvin Richards,

First Casa Grande - Larry Pazier, Pete Vogel

Diane Shifflett

First Silver City - Ruth Mc Pherson

The Holy Way - Gerry Pearson

Immanuel - Amanda Leachet

Tortolita - Michael Cummins

Northminster - Bonnie Thompson

Trinity – John Hill, Will Tilley

Southside - Douglas Larson

Valley - Donald Brooks, Gail Gesell, Carol Peeler

### Commissioned Ruling Elders Present – 3

Abrams, Lesley

Munroe, Laura

Russell, Monica

### Commissioned Ruling Elders Excused

Heinle, Bill

### RE Leadership Commission Present – 3

Nelson, Jim

Schulz, Bob

Winters, Bill

**RE Committee/Commission Moderators Present – 4**

Bosma, Madeline                      Larson, Cheryl                      Rowe, Janet                      Woods, Lori

**Staff Members Present**

Houser, Sue                      Kath, Beth

**AGENDA**

Presbytery approved the agenda.

**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:

4/6/19 Consent Agenda

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**1. Administration Committee Report**

**Actions taken at the January 10, 2019 meeting**

Approved recommending to the Leadership Commission the sale of the property of Community Presbyterian Church in Coolidge to Jesus Died for U Ministries for \$60,000, with the Presbytery attorney to handle the proper sale documents.

Received the financial review prepared by Denny Honodel on the Presbytery de Cristo fiscal year 2018 (February 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018).

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

**Action taken at the March 7, 2019 meeting**

Enrolled James Martin of First Presbyterian Church of Douglas as an Inquirer for the office of Teaching Elder.

**3. Mission Committee Report**

**Actions taken at the January 17, 2019 meeting**

Approved support of the following mission partners at their requested levels for a total of \$43,800:

Young Adult Volunteers	\$ 9,000
Presbyterian Campus Ministry	\$ 5,000
Montlure	\$ 2,400
Frontera de Cristo	\$ 5,000
Compañeros en Misión	\$ 2,400
Middle Eastern Presbyterian Fellowship	\$ 8,000
Papago United Presbyterian Church	\$12,000

Approved \$700 for the Rev. Kenneth Brown for a ministry to refugees/asylees.

4/6/19 Consent Agenda

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#### **4. Nominating Committee Report**

##### **Action taken at the January 11, 2019 meeting**

Approved the December 2018 Nominating Committee roster to be included in the January 25-26, 2019 Presbytery meeting agenda.

##### **Action taken at the March 15, 2019 meeting**

Approved nominees to be presented to the Leadership Commission:

RE Jackie Jones (St. Andrew's)	Administration	Class of 2021
RE Tracie Couzens (Christ)	COM	Class of 2021

#### **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:

4/6/19 Commission Reports

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#### **1. Leadership Team Report**

##### **Actions taken at the January 23, 2019 meeting**

Elected, on behalf of the Presbytery, Carol Peeler to serve on the Nominating Committee, Class of 2021.

Acting as the Presbytery's Board of Trustees, approved 1) accepting the recommendation from the Administration Committee to proceed with the sale of the property of Community Presbyterian Church in Coolidge to Jesus Died for U Ministries for \$60,000, and 2) authorizing Secretary Robert Schulz to work with attorney Pat Egbert and a title company to sign all documents necessary for transfer of title.

##### **Actions taken at the February 27, 2019 meeting**

Approved formally withdrawing from the PC(USA) Congregational Revitalization Initiative (CRI) pilot project; to send back printed materials, as requested by GA; and to return \$1,500 received from CRI.

Approved designating the offering at the April 6<sup>th</sup> Presbytery meeting for Triennial.

Received the Representation report from the Nominations Committee.

4/6/19 Commission Reports

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**2. Commission on Ministry Report**

**Actions taken at the January 10, 2019 meeting**

**Community Benson**

Approved, pending receipt of a letter from the Session, their request to delete the position of Designated Pastor from positions at Community Presbyterian Church in Benson and to confirm the previously approved Terms of Call for CRE Monica Russell, now as Temporary Pastor with terms to be reviewed and approved annually.

**Munroe, Laura**

Approved the extension of Laura Munroe’s commission as a CRE and approved her service outside the bounds at Banner Desert Hospital in Mesa, Arizona, while she participates in chaplaincy training, including authorization for her to administer the Sacraments and baptisms when requested; and approved requesting, should it meet Banner Desert regulations, that First Presbyterian Church in Mesa agree to include any baptized infants on its Roll of Baptisms to satisfy *Book of Order* requirements.

**Actions taken at the February 7, 2019 meeting**

**zumBrunnen, Craig**

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. Craig zumBrunnen (HR) from the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky to Presbytery de Cristo, effective February 7, 2019.

**Williams, Carla**

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. Carla Williams (HR) from the Presbytery of Grand Canyon to Presbytery de Cristo, effective February 7, 2019.

**Lloyd, Linda**

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. Linda Lloyd from Presbytery de Cristo to the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, effective October 22, 2018.

**Medina, Mark**

Approved renewal of the Transitional Pastor Agreement between the Rev. Mark Medina and Valley Presbyterian Church for a period of one year effective March 25, 2019, subject to 30 days notice for termination, on the following terms:

Salary	\$70,890	Pension/Medical	BOP dues as required
Housing Allowance	17,000	SECA Supplement	up to 50%
Professional/Ed Allowance	1,800	Vacation	Four weeks per policy
Mileage Allowance	.535/mile	Study Leave	Two weeks

**The Holy Way**

Received the report of COM’s Appreciate Inquiry visit to The Holy Way Presbyterian Church on January 27, 2019.

4/6/19 Commission Reports

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**Actions taken at the March 7, 2019 meeting**

**Smith, Elizabeth**

Appointed the Rev. Elizabeth Smith to serve as Moderator at The Holy Way Presbyterian Church until an Interim Pastor arrives.

**Harris, Mary**

Approved the request of the Rev. Mary Harris to remain a member of Presbytery de Cristo while she accepts a short-term position at a PC(USA) church in Woodstock, Illinois until the Interim pastor arrives.

**St. John on the Desert**

Received the report of COM's Appreciate Inquiry visit to St. John on the Desert Presbyterian Church on February 10, 2019.

**Community San Manuel**

Approved the following at Community Presbyterian Church in San Manuel:

- 1) a change in the pastoral position from a permanent installed position to a temporary position;
- 2) revised annual terms for the Rev. Jeff Dixon, based on a temporary position, of \$4,000 in housing allowance and a \$135/month 403b contribution.

Granted permission to the Community San Manuel Session, along with COM representation to include their COM liaison Jennifer Cummins, for discussion with Catalina United Methodist Church in Tucson and its governing body about a possible merger or federated church arrangement.

**3. Stated Clerk Report**

**REPORT ON REVIEW OF SESSION RECORDS**

The following Session records for 2018 were reviewed and approved:

January 25, 2019

Immanuel

Mountain Shadows

St. Mark's

**ANNUAL REPORT OF 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 year ending December 31, 2018. A copy of the audit/financial review is available for review in the Presbytery office with advance notice.

**APPROVAL OF PRESBYTERY MINUTES**

The minutes of the January 25-26, 2019 Annual Stated Meeting were approved with one correction to the spelling of a name.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**GREETING**

The Rev. Diane Christopher, Associate Pastor, welcomed Presbytery to Valley Presbyterian Church.

**PRESBYTERIAN INVESTMENT AND LOAN UPDATE**

Mickie Choi of PILP reported that a number of Presbytery de Cristo churches had received annual investment fund rebates, including: Faith, First Silver City, Mountain Shadows, Southside and St Mark’s. She presented information on several new PILP loan possibilities.

**COMMISSION ON MINISTRY REPORT**

Lori Woods noted the annual pastor Salary Review was distributed at the registration desk. Churches were encouraged to submit a salary report to the Presbytery office if their information was missing. The following was approved:

**MOTION:** To receive the 2019 Annual Salary Review of Ordained Pastors for years 2018-2019.

The following ordination anniversaries for 2019 were celebrated:

<u>60 Years</u> (1959) Edward Lowe	<u>40 Years</u> (1979) David Goble	<u>15 Years</u> (2004) Pati Toole
<u>50 Years</u> (1969) Jim Cobb Tom Green	<u>35 Years</u> (1984) Andy Ross	<u>10 Years</u> (2009) Bill Norton
	<u>20 Years</u> (1999) Della Moore	

**PRESBYTERY PASTOR REPORT**

Brad Munroe reported he was rewriting the materials being used for the Thrive Project. The Presbyterian Mission Agency had objected to revisions made to Congregational Revitalization Initiative (CRI) resources and de Cristo had withdrawn from CRI.

Brad reported the Combined Personnel and Finance teams for de Cristo and Grand Canyon had reviewed the shared staff plan in place since 2014. The most recent renewal was in effect through the end of 2019. Staff members had kept track of their hours over a three-month period resulting in 32% spent on de Cristo and 68% spent on Grand Canyon. This closely mirrored the percentage of churches in each presbytery since Grand Canyon had lost a number of congregations. It had been agreed to change the current 30% de Cristo/70% Grand Canyon split for financial support of staff cost and administrative expenses to a 32/68% split. Brad suggested that a merger of the two presbyteries might be a good thing to consider but not in the foreseeable future.

Brad was asked about the fire which had completely destroyed the historic First Presbyterian of Sacaton.

**YAV REPORT**

The 2018-2019 Young Adult Volunteers (YAVs) with the Tucson Borderlands YAV program each spoke during the meeting. Tanner Kohfield talked about working with Community Home Repair Projects of Arizona, learning about construction, and himself, as he served others. Dakota Kohfield shared about her often discouraging experiences working at the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project. Ryan Mullenex spoke about working with clients at the Food Bank of Southern Arizona.

**STATED CLERK REPORT**

Bob Schulz reported that the recent fire that destroyed an abandoned, and therefore uninsurable, sanctuary in Grand Canyon was a good reminder for all churches to assess their property. He noted the Leadership Commission, acting as the Board of Trustees, had approved the sale of the Community Coolidge property for \$60,000.

**NOMINATION OF GA COMMISSIONERS**

Bob Schulz reported that Nominations was presenting the following persons, under the procedure outlined in the Presbytery Manual of Operations, as nominees to serve as commissioners at the 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in July 2020:

Teaching Elders            Elizabeth Smith  
   Sara Ver Burg

The following churches were to be asked to submit a nominee to attend GA:

Ruling Elders            First Silver City  
   St. Mark's  
   Trinity

Voting to select one Teaching Elder commissioner, one Ruling Elder GA commissioner and one YAAD was scheduled for the August Presbytery meeting.

**WORSHIP**

The Rev. Diane Christopher delivered the sermon, based on 2 Corinthians 5:16-21, and presided over the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Special music was provided by Valley Presbyterian musicians. The offering collected during the worship service, totaling \$559, was dedicated to Youth Triennium. The Cents-ability collection, a program of the Presbyterian Hunger Ministry, took place at lunch and totaled \$24.85. The following young people from our churches were commissioned during the service to represent the Presbytery at the July 16-20, 2019 PC(USA) Youth Triennium at Purdue University:

Gracia Alley	Taria Flenory	Maddie Matanane
Paula Alley	Dean Friskey	Bridget Mitchell
Peter Alley	Sagan Friskey	Kean Nordbrock
Jose Aviles	Blanca Garcia	Angela Seddo
Emily Beck	Patricia Garcia	Ellie Standifer
Emily Bittman	Aiden Hamilton	Genny Standifer
Darby Cech	Gavin Hamilton	Peace Tenge
Leslie Courville	Leah Harroun	Abigail Tittle
Tommy Cullop	August Knight-Rubino	Christina Wyatt
Nia Flenory	Albereo Knight-Rubino	

**RECOMMISSIONING OF CRE**

Laura Munroe was commissioned during the worship service to continue her service as a Commissioned Ruling Elder in her role as a participant in the chaplaincy training program at Banner Desert Medical Center in Mesa.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mark Adams was asked to give an update on conditions at the border crossing in Douglas regarding migrants trying to cross over from Mexico. He reported that most people crossing there were from Guatemala and Honduras and they traveled in caravans for safety from cartels.

There being no further business, the Valley congregation was thanked for its hospitality. The motion was made to adjourn and the meeting was closed in prayer at 2:10 p.m. The next Stated Meeting of Presbytery was scheduled for August 24, 2019, at Mission del Sol Presbyterian Church in Tempe.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the April 6, 2019 Stated Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo were approved by the Presbytery at its Stated Meeting on October 12, 2019.

S/Robert S. Schulz

Robert S. Schulz, Stated Clerk/Associate

October 12, 2019

Date