

MINUTES

Stated Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo
October 12, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Presbytery de Cristo of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held its October Stated Meeting at First Presbyterian Church in Globe. Jim Nelson, Moderator, opened the meeting at 9:30 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. New minister member Craig Lindsey (Valley) was introduced. Corresponding members were introduced and approved for enrollment by the Presbytery for this meeting.

ROLL

There were 16 Teaching Elders, 23 Ruling Elder commissioners, 3 Commissioned Ruling Elders, and 4 Ruling Elder members of the Leadership Commission/Ruling Elder ministry moderators present, for a total of 46 voting members. There were 6 registered visitors.

Corresponding Members Enrolled

Simer, Kent (Montlure)

von Borstel, Kellie (Montlure)

Teaching Elders Present – 16

Christopher, Diane	Letts, Thomas	Munroe, Brad	Smith, Elizabeth
de la Torre, Valerie	Lindsey, Craig	Norton, Bill	Smith, Michael
Dixon, Jeff	Loew, Edmund	Pickens, Bailey	Ver Burg, Sara
Harrington, Alison	Melde, Steven	Smith, Bart	Voigt, William

Teaching Elders Excused

Barker, Lance	Cobb, Jim	MacDonald, Robbin	Seel, Robert
Bitar, George	Davies, John	McComb, Andrew	Seiferth, Peter
Brown, Kenneth	Dunham, John	Moore, Della	Shepherd, Don
Brown, William	Easley, George	Pennock, William	Srubas, Rachel
Buchanan-Barrow, Dorothy	Green, Thomas	Pike, George	St. John, Valerie
Buehler, William	Harris, Mary	Remer, Jim	Stevenson, John
Chanslor, Don	Hervey, Jim	Ross, John	Studer, Virginia
Chase, Lerry	Hunt, Edward	Rowley, Richard	
Clark, Walter	Jenson, Jim	Sankey, Lee	

Churches/Ruling Elder Commissioners Present – 23

Christ - Nancy Schneider, Dory Thompson,
Karl Ver Burg
Community Benson - Liz Lopshire-Kading
Divine Grace - Barbara Kannegaard
Faith - Sonja Vander Meulen
First Casa Grande - Pete Vogel
First Globe - Keith Gustafson
First Silver City - Ruth McPherson
Mountain Shadows - Madeline Bosma

Northminster - Bonnie Thompson
Southside - Josefina Ahumada
St. Andrew's - Mark Ness
St. Mark's - Catherine Lurvey, Irvin Richards
Superior - Barbara Hine
The Holy Way - Philip Hollis
Trinity - John Hill, Billie Holbrook, Will Tilley
Valley - Elizabeth Haynes, Marsha McDonald,
Carol Peeler

Commissioned Ruling Elders Present – 3

Abrams, Lesley Heinle, Bill Norton, Mary Jo

Commissioned Ruling Elders Excused

Russell, Monica

RE Leadership and Committee/Commission Moderators Present – 4

Larson, Cheryl Nelson, Jim Rowe, Janet Schulz, Bob

Staff Members Present

Houser, Sue Kath, Beth

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:

10/12/19 Commission Reports

1. Leadership Team Report

Action taken at the March 15, 2019 meeting

Approved, acting as the Presbytery’s Board of Trustees, the Certification/Resolution for Presbytery Guarantor for a PILP loan to St. Mark’s Presbyterian Church for the purchase and installation of a solar energy system.

Actions taken at the March 27, 2019 meeting

Ratified the action taken at the March 15, 2019 meeting at which a quorum was not present.

Approved modification of the percentage split of the combined Presbytery staff cost from 70% Grand Canyon/30% de Cristo to 68% Grand Canyon/32% de Cristo beginning in 2020.

Elected, on behalf of the Presbytery, the following as presented by the Nominations Committee:

<u>Administration Committee</u>	<u>Commission on Ministry</u>
2021 RE Jackie Jones (St. Andrew’s)	2021 RE Tracie Couzens (Christ)

Actions taken at the May 22, 2019 meeting

Approved submittal of an application for a PC(USA) 70047 grant for funding for the Presbytery de Cristo Macedonia Ministry.

10/12/19 Commission Reports

Elected, on behalf of the Presbytery, the following as presented by the Nominations Committee:

Nominating Committee
2021 TE Bill Voigt (HR)

Actions taken at the June 26, 2019 meeting

Approved designation of the offering at the August 24, 2019 Presbytery meeting for the Matthew 25 ministry and Frontera de Cristo.

Approved the creation of an Administrative Commission for the dissolution of the congregation of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Bisbee, at the request of their Session, and identified potential AC members with Bob Schulz and Brad Munroe authorized to ask others to participate if required.

Elected, on behalf of the Presbytery, the following as presented by the Nominations Committee:

Nominating Committee
2022 RE Madeline Bosma (Mtn Shadows)
2022 TE Bill Norton (First Globe)

Actions taken at the August 28, 2019 meeting

Approved permission, as requested by the Mission Committee, for Papago United Presbyterian Church to solicit funds from Presbytery churches in a capital campaign to help cover the escalating costs of their roof repair project, in addition to the 50K to 80K designated to the Mission Committee for use to repair the roofs.

Approved asking the Mission Committee to pick up insurance premiums for YAV, PCM and MEPF as part of the support provided to these Mission Partners.

Approved allocating \$1,500 from the connecting budget for Josefina Ahumada to attend the fall PC(USA) training for incoming presbytery Moderators.

Elected, on behalf of the Presbytery, the following as presented by the Nominations Committee:

Commission on Ministry
2022 TE Harry Cole
2022 CRE Monica Russell (Community Benson)
2022 TE Mack Sigmon (Trinity)

Administration Committee
2022 TE John Johnson (Florence)
2022 RE Steve Larson (Valley)
2022 CRE Mary Jo Norton (Superior)

Leadership Commission
2022 TE Marry Harris

Synod of the Southwest Commissioner
2022 TE Elizabeth Smith (Holy Way)

Committee on Preparation for Ministry
2022 CRE Bill Heinle (First Casa Grande)

Montlure Board
2022 RE Jasmine Diaz (First Casa Grande)
2022 RE Amber Trees (St. Mark's)

Presbytery Moderator-Elect
2020 TE Steve Melde (Christ)

10/12/19 Commission Reports

Approved reduction of the 2019 per capita for Community Presbyterian Church in Benson to match the current 55 members on the rolls, rather than the previously outdated reporting of 108 members.

Approved dedicating the offering at the October 12 Presbytery meeting to Papago United for its capital fund campaign for campus improvements.

Actions taken at the September 25, 2019 meeting

Approved, as recommended by the Administrative Commission for Covenant Presbyterian Church in Bisbee, support for an in-depth three-month analysis of the community and the potential for the church to become operational by dedicating \$10,000 from a Presbytery reserve account to fund monthly costs, Pastor Carlos Montaña's salary and property taxes; and approved suggesting to local leaders that if they could raise \$10,000 in support of the church by December 31, 2019, the Presbytery would match that amount with an additional \$10,000.

Elected, on behalf of the Presbytery, the following as presented by the Nominations Committee:

Committee on Preparation for Ministry
2020 RE Lew Riggs (Northminster)

Ordination Exam Reader
RE Russ Amling (Northminster)

2. Commission on Ministry Report

Actions taken at the April 4, 2019 meeting

Valley

Approved the Ministry Information Form (MIF) of Valley Presbyterian Church, deleting the requirement for Interim training and specifying that second tier candidates be provided with additional reports.

First Silver City

Approved the Mission Study of First Presbyterian Church in Silver City.

Faith

Received the report of COM's Appreciate Inquiry visit to Faith Presbyterian Church on March 19, 2019.

Actions taken at the May 2, 2019 meeting

Thomas, Raymond

Approved the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Ray Thomas and The Holy Way Presbyterian Church and the transfer of his membership from Presbytery de Cristo to the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee, effective April 21, 2019.

Voigt, William

Approved the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Bill Voigt and Trinity Presbyterian Church and granted him the status of Honorably Retired, effective May 3, 2019.

Periodic Visit Policy

Approved Chapter VIII – Periodic Visits for the COM Handbook, as edited by COM.

10/12/19 Commission Reports

Actions taken at the June 6, 2019 meeting

Cheek, John

Approved the Interim Pastor Agreement between the Rev. John Cheek (HR) and The Holy Way Presbyterian Church, on a half-time basis, for a period six months effective June 17 - December 31, 2019, subject to 30 days notice for termination, on the following terms:

Salary	\$16,500	BOP Pension/Medical	NA
Housing Allowance	14,400	Vacation	Two weeks
Study Allowance	400	Study Leave	One week
Supplemental Medical	3,300	PDA deployment	up to 10 days

Phillips, Paul

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. Paul Phillips (HR) from Presbytery de Cristo to the Presbytery of St. Andrew, effective June 6, 2019.

Valley

Deferred action on the request of the Valley Presbyterian Church Session to designate Barbara Streng and Mark Horton as Parish Associates until a Senior Pastor is called and installed and the request is resubmitted, with this action not intended to preclude Barbara and Mark from serving the congregation as they currently have been authorized by the Session.

First Casa Grande

Approved the application of First Presbyterian Church in Casa Grande for a Church Revitalization Grant in the amount of \$10,000 from Restricted Account 3166 for establishing a community garden, with First Casa Grande to provide COM: 1) a plan for future expenses, and 2) a plan to engage metrics to measure the success of the program.

Pulpit Supply Honorarium

Approved a recommendation that the honorarium paid for those providing pulpit supply in the Presbytery be \$100 for one service and \$150 for two services.

Actions taken at the August 1, 2019 meeting

Lindsey, Craig

Approved the Pastoral Call of the Rev. Craig Lindsey to be Pastor to Valley Presbyterian Church and the transfer of his membership from the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse to Presbytery de Cristo effective October 1, 2019, pending congregational approval (approved August 11, 2019), on the following terms:

Salary	\$40,000	Pension/Medical	BOP dues as required
Housing Allowance	40,000	Vacation	Four weeks per policy
Travel Reimbursement	based on mileage	Study Leave	Two weeks
Continuing Ed Allowance	4,800		

Streng, Barbara

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. Barbara Streng (HR) from the Presbytery of Northern Waters to Presbytery de Cristo, effective August 1, 2019.

10/12/19 Commission Reports

Ahumada, Josefina

Approved the assignment of CRE Josefina Ahumada to serve as Commissioned Ruling Elder to Papago United Presbyterian Church, effective August 1, 2019.

Schulz, Robert

Authorized Stated Clerk Robert Schulz to preside at the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper during worship at Devine Grace Presbyterian Church on August 4, 2019.

First Douglas

Received a report on a COM Periodic Visit with First Presbyterian Church in Douglas on May 14, 2019.

First Silver City

Approved the Ministry Information Form (MIF) submitted by First Presbyterian Church of Silver City.

Mountain Shadows

Approved advising the Session of Mountain Shadows Presbyterian Church to review and/or create a personnel policy for the church and, once the policy is approved by the Session, to dissolve the current Personnel Committee and replace or restructure the committee's membership.

New COM Policy

Approved the following as a policy in the COM Handbook:

The Session shall have a process for clear, fair and objective annual performance reviews of the pastor(s) as well as other support staff, with the understanding that some Sessions may delegate staff reviews to the Senior Pastor as Head of Staff. The Presbytery will make resources available to facilitate the review process and, if requested, the Presbytery will consider offering assistance if the Session determines it does not have the skills to manage functional human resource processes. There will be a question on the Examination of Session Minutes form asking whether the minutes indicate the annual review(s) took place.

Actions taken at the September 5, 2019 meeting

Pulpit Supply List

Approved a policy of including Teaching Elder and CRE volunteers in good standing on the Presbytery's Pulpit Supply list; for others an endorsement from their home church Session will be required.

Rescinded a motion at the June 6, 2019 COM meeting recommending minimum Pulpit Supply honoraria because it conflicted with the recommended amounts already set in the COM Handbook, which are:

\$75 for preaching at one service for a church of fewer than 40 members;
\$100 for one service at a church of 40 or more members; \$150 for two services.

Approved the Presbytery de Cristo Pulpit Supply List, as amended.

Faith

Approved the Ministry Information Form (MIF) of Faith Presbyterian Church, pending Session approval of the MIF.

10/12/19 Commission Reports

Northminster

Authorized a COM sub-committee to score a Church Revitalization Grant application from Northminster Presbyterian Church for an outreach program to non-Christians which was reviewed favorably by COM on September 5, 2019 and, should the scoring indicate, to give final approval on behalf of COM so the grant funding may be distributed.

3. Stated Clerk Report

DISMISSAL OF GOOD SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In accordance with actions taken by Presbytery de Cristo on January 25, 2014, and the completion of subsequent details outlined in the Terms of Settlement including sale of the manse and resolution of funds owed on a PILP grant, a letter dated September 27, 2019 was sent by Stated Clerk Robert Schulz dismissing Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church in Ajo, Arizona to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church for their ecclesiastical authority and care, resulting in the church being dropped from the rolls of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and Presbytery de Cristo, effective September 27, 2019.

REPORT ON REVIEW OF SESSION RECORDS

In addition to those previously reported, the following Session records for 2018 were reviewed and approved:

April 6, 2019

First Casa Grande The Holy Way
St. Andrew's Trinity

May 16, 2019

Faith

August 24, 2019

Faith (thru May 2019) Tortolita
St. Mark's

SYNOD REVIEW OF PRESBYTERY MINUTES

The Synod of the Southwest Executive/Stated Clerk, the Stated Clerks of the Presbytery of Sierra Blanca and the Presbytery of Santa Fe and the Stated Clerk/Associate of Presbytery de Cristo and the Presbytery of Grand Canyon met in Phoenix on August 23, 2019 and reviewed the minutes, rolls and registers of Sierra Blanca, Santa Fe, Grand Canyon and de Cristo. The Minutes of Presbytery de Cristo covering January 26, 2018 – October 13, 2018 were approved without exception.

10/12/19 Commission Reports

**SUMMARY OF STATISTICS REPORTED BY PRESBYTERY DE CRISTO
TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR 2018**

MINISTERS

Ministers on Roll 12/31/17	85
Gains	
Received from Presbyteries	2
Ordained	1
Received from Denominations	0
Restored	0
Total gains	+ 3
Losses	
Deaths	0
Dismissed to Presbyteries	6
Dismissed to Denominations	0
Other Removals	0
Total losses	- 6
Ministers on Roll 12/31/18	82

INQUIRERS/CANDIDATES

Inquirers on Roll 12/31/18	0
Candidates on Roll 12/31/18	2

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Active Members 12/31/17	5,156
Gains	
Certificate	93
Youth	22
Reaffirmation	153
Other	0
Total gains	+ 268
Losses	
Certificate	32
Death	140
Other	233
Total losses	- 405
Active Members 12/31/18	5,019
Male	1,976
Female	3,043

BAPTISMS

Children	30	Adult	10
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AVERAGE ATTENDANCE 3,181

FRIENDS OF CONG 1,273

ADULT MEMBER AGE

25 + under	233
26 – 40	379
41 – 55	546
56 – 70	1,194
70+	2,215

COMPOSITION

Asian	68	Hispanic/Latino	79	White	3,058
Black/African American/African	134	Native American	18	Multiracial	23
Middle Eastern/North African	8				

FINANCIAL STATISTICS

Annual Income	\$9,951,297	Annual Expenses	\$9,804,873
		Mission Expenses	986,565
		Personnel Expenses	5,676,140
		Facilities Expenses	1,571,333

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:

10/12/19 Consent Agenda

1. Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report

Actions taken at the June 6, 2019 meeting

Approved the transfer of Joy Church, a Candidate under care of the Presbytery of San Francisco, to the care of Presbytery de Cristo's CPM, effective June 6, 2019.

Enrolled George Vander Meulen of Faith Presbyterian Church as an Inquirer for the office of Teaching Elder, effective June 6, 2019.

Approved the recommendation from examiners Bill Heinle and Mark Horton that Christopher Woodard, a Candidate under care of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, be recorded as passing the alternative Church Polity ordination exam administered by Presbytery de Cristo on May 2, 2019, at the request of Grand Canyon's CPM.

2. Mission Committee Report

Action taken at the March 21, 2019 meeting

Received the financial report indicating that \$10,700 had been received in pledges to date.

Actions taken at the May 16, 2019 meeting

Received the financial report indicating that \$21,250 in mission support had been received from twelve contributing churches.

Approved a \$1,000 grant to the Tucson Borderlands YAV Emergency Medical Fund.

Approved setting August 15 as the time limit for receiving cost information on a Papago United repair project so that a decision could be made on a Mission donation.

3. Nominating Committee Report

Action taken at the June 21, 2019 meeting

Approved the updated list of current commission/committee membership, including open positions needing to be filled.

Action taken at the September 20, 2019 meeting

Approved the updated list of incoming commission/committee membership, including open positions needing to be filled.

APPROVAL OF PRESBYTERY MINUTES

The minutes of the April 6, 2019 and August 24, 2019 Stated Meetings were approved as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

GREETING

The Rev. Bill Norton, Pastor, welcomed Presbytery to First Presbyterian Church in Globe.

ELECTION OF COMMISSIONERS TO 224th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The following nominees were presented to serve as our representatives to the 224th General Assembly to be held in Baltimore, Maryland from June 20-27, 2020. All had submitted applications which were published with the call to the Presbytery meeting. Each was given the opportunity to address Presbytery for five minutes. Voting took place via written ballot to elect one Teaching Elder commissioner, one Ruling Elder commissioner and one YAAD. Those serving as counters were Josefina Ahumada and Bill Heinle.

Teaching Elder Commissioner

Elizabeth Smith (The Holy Way)
Sara Ver Burg (At-Large)

Ruling Elder Commissioner

Ruth McPherson (First Silver City)
Irvin Richards (St. Mark's)
Will Tilley (Trinity Tucson)

Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD)

Leslie Courville (Christ)

GA commissioner election results were: TE Elizabeth Smith, RE Ruth McPherson and YAAD Leslie Courville. Alternates were TE Sara Ver Burg and RE Irvin Richards.

MONTLURE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CAMP UPDATE

Kellie von Borstel, Camp Director, reported registration was up in 2019 for the second year in a row. Over 100 volunteers helped out with overnight camp for junior and senior high, as well as at the traveling day camps held every week in June. They were using Wilderness Ranch in 2020. Montlure Council President Kent Simer announced they had received verbal approval from the U.S. Forest Service to return to using the camp in Greer. The remedial actions necessary, however, would cost at least \$150,000.

WORSHIP

The Rev. Bill Norton delivered the sermon based on 2 Timothy 3:1-17. The Rev. Bill Norton and CRE Mary Jo Norton presided over the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Special music was provided by First Globe musicians. The offering collected during the worship service, totaling \$633, was dedicated to the capital fund drive at Papago United in Sells. The Cents-ability collection, a program of the Presbyterian Hunger Ministry, took place at lunch and totaled \$3.56.

RECOMMISSIONING OF CREs

Lesley Abrams (St. John on the Desert) and Bill Heinle (First Casa Grande) were commissioned during the worship service to continue their service as Commissioned Ruling Elders. Brad Munroe led a prayer of thanksgiving for their gifts of ministry among their congregations.

PRESBYTERIAN CAMPUS MINISTRY UPDATE

Bailey Pickens reported she considered this a season of rebuilding the ministry, letting go of old activities and trying new things to interact with millennial students. A Christian student center for refugees had been opened and she had started a Bible study at the request of a student.

PRESBYTERY PASTOR REPORT

Brad Munroe reported he had developed a church officer training booklet that was available on the website for pastors to use. His Thrive congregational revitalization resource was also available for churches to engage in thoughtful dialog about adaptive change. He announced an educational event being held by the Insurance Board on January 18, 2020 at First Casa Grande.

2020 BUDGET PRESENTATION

Brad Munroe began discussion on the 2020 budget. Copies of the budget approved by the Leadership Team commission had been distributed at the registration table. There was a projected deficit of \$29,105. Deficits over the years had been covered by the operating reserve which now stood at only \$71,413.

Brad outlined possible solutions to prevent draining the reserve, including a drastic increase in per capita, reassignment of designated funds to the operating reserve, and serious staff cuts. On a longer term basis, he suggested consideration of a merger with the Presbytery of Grand Canyon at some time in the future. Comments were made from the floor concerning the pros and cons of raising per capita, its effect on mission giving and our mission partners, and the need for the level of staff currently employed.

Janet Rowe presented a motion on behalf of the Administration Committee to increase Presbytery’s portion of per capita. There was an approved amendment to correct the amount of the actual increase and the following amended motion was approved after a hand count to verify the original voice vote:

MOTION: To increase Presbytery de Cristo’s portion of per capita by \$5.90 in an effort to provide a balanced 2020 Presbytery de Cristo budget.

Per capita for 2020 was thus established as:	Presbytery	\$31.42
	Synod	5.75
	GA	<u>8.95</u>
	Total	\$46.12

STATED CLERK REPORT

Bob Schulz reported the Presbytery budget process was going to be moved up to June/July to be able to notify churches about per capita earlier in the year. Staff salary increases were also going to be established earlier. He noted that a new de Cristo web page was being designed and would soon be launched.

MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT

Cheryl Larson reported that \$38,515 in mission giving had been received thus far in 2019, with an estimated \$2,000 additional anticipated through dividends. Mission requests totaled \$43,000.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the First Globe congregation was thanked for its hospitality. The motion was made to adjourn and the meeting was closed in prayer at 3:10 p.m. The next Stated Meeting of Presbytery was scheduled for January 24-25, 2020 to be held as a joint Annual meeting with the Presbytery of Grand Canyon at First Presbyterian Church in Casa Grande.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the October 12, 2019 Stated Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo were approved by the Presbytery at its Stated Meeting on January 24, 2020.

S/Robert S. Schulz

Robert S. Schulz, Stated Clerk/Associate

January 24, 2020

Date