

MINUTES

Special Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo
July 18, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Presbytery de Cristo of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held a Special Called Meeting via Zoom for the purpose of considering three motions proposed by CPM, COM and Leadership. Josefina Ahumada, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Arvada Liston opened with prayer.

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. One corresponding member was approved for enrollment by the Presbytery for this meeting.

ROLL

There were 21 Teaching Elders, 39 Ruling Elder commissioners, 5 Commissioned Ruling Elders, 2 Ruling Elder members of the Leadership Commission and 1 Ruling Elder ministry moderator present, for a total of 68 voting members. There were 14 registered visitors.

Corresponding Members Enrolled

Yates, Sharon (Synod of the Southwest)

Teaching Elders Present – 21

Adams, Mark	Elgin, Paul	Munroe, Brad	Toole, Jim
Burig, Don	Grover, Mat	Norton, Bill	Voigt, Bill
Christopher, Diane	Harris, Mary	Pickens, Bailey	Williams, Carla
Cummins, Jennifer	Johnson, John	Rico, Renée	
de la Torre, Valerie	Lindsey, Craig	Srubas, Rachel	
Dunham, John	MacDonald, Robbin	Smith, Bart	

Teaching Elders Excused

Harrison, Alison Smith, Elizabeth

Churches/Ruling Elder Commissioners Present – 39

Christ – Nancy Schneider, Doug Thompson	Papago United - Arvada Liston
Community Benson - Liz Lopshire-Kading	Southside - Dorsett Edmunds, Susan Halversen
Covenant - Margot Walker	St. Andrew's - Louise Davis, Greg Lantz, Kathy Lokale, July Markham, Jane Nott, Katie Vidal
Divine Grace - Barbara Kannegaard	St. John on the Desert - Lou Bowers
Faith - Sonny Coble, Sonja Vander Meulen	St. Mark's - Carol Dieckmann, Naja McKenzie, Irvin Richards, Diane Shifflett
First Casa Grande - Denny Honodel, Peter Vogel	Superior - Rita Betti
First Florence - John Guy	Tortolita - Michael Cummins
First Globe - Micah Wheeler	Trinity Tucson - Leone Mahoney, Will Tilley
First Silver City - John Baumberger	Valley - Judy Aguayo, Liz Haynes, Jim Nelson
Immanuel - Joy Hagar, Debby Johnson, Ed Vander Woude	
Northminster - Rachel Doerr, Marie Ruiz, Liz Sellers	

Commissioned Ruling Elders Present – 5

Abrams, Lesley	Munroe, Laura	Russell, Monica
Heinle, Bill	Norton, Mary Jo	

RE Leadership Commission Present – 2

Ahumada, Josephina Schulz, Bob

RE Committee/Commission Moderators Present – 1

Bosma, Madeline (Nominating)

Staff Members Present

Kath, Beth McBurney, Carolyn

AGENDA

Presbytery approved the agenda which included Rules of Decorum and Debate and Procedures for Voting in a Zoom 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:

7/18/20 Consent Agenda

1. Administration Committee Report

Actions taken at the January 9, 2020 meeting

Approved a St. Andrew's solar project plan by "Technicians for Sustainability" and recommended its approval by the Presbytery Board of Trustees (Leadership Commission).

Received the Presbytery financial report for year ending 2019 which indicated 1) all expense categories were less than budgeted, reducing the year end deficit, and 2) 95 percent of Per Capita payments had been received.

Approved a request from Faith Presbyterian Church to prepay an existing PILP loan and secure a new loan for \$243,000 at 4.5% and monthly payments of \$2,460 over 10 years.

2. Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report

Actions taken at the May 7, 2020 meeting

Approved recommending that the Leadership Commission approve an alternate Theology ordination exam for Candidate Joy Church (Faith) to be administered by the Presbytery of Grand Canyon's CPM.

Approved a recommendation to the Presbytery to advance Inquirer George Vander Meulen (Faith) to Candidate, pending completion of his psychological examination.

Approved Theology ordination exam questions for Grand Canyon Candidate Martha Lopez Loreda, with the exam to be administered in Spanish by Mark Adams and Josephina Ahumada.

7/18/20 Consent Agenda

3. Nominating Committee Report

Actions taken at the January 17, 2020 meeting

Approved the nomination of TE Craig Lindsey (Valley) to serve on the Commission on Ministry, Class of 2022.

Approved the nomination of Rose Anderson (Mountain Shadows) to serve on the Montlure Board.

Actions taken at the February 21, 2020 meeting

Approved the nomination of RE J. J. Johnston (Mountain Shadows) to serve on the Administration Committee, Class of 2020.

Approved the nomination of RE Carolyn Maycher (Trinity) to serve on the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Class of 2020.

Actions taken at the March 20, 2020 meeting

Approved the nomination of RE Sue Hallchurch (Mountain Shadows) to serve on the Leadership Commission, Class of 2022.

Approved the nomination of George Van Otten (Faith) to serve on the Montlure Board, Class of 2021.

Action taken at the April 6, 2020 meeting

Approved the nomination of Cameron Mitchell (St. Mark's) to serve on the Montlure Council, Class of 2020.

Action taken at the June 19, 2020 meeting

Approved the nomination of RE Diane Shifflett (St. Mark's) to serve on the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Class of 2022.

7/18/20 Consent Agenda

3. Mission Committee Report

Actions taken at the January 16, 2020 meeting

Approved the following pledge allocations and expenses, with two mission partners needing to submit their 2020 funding requests. A total of \$53,299 was available, determined by using both reserve and current pledges less other obligations:

Tucson YAVs	\$12,000	
Middle Eastern Presbyterian Fellowship (MEPF)	10,000	
Presbyterian Campus Ministry	6,000	
Frontera de Cristo	8,000	
Montlure Presbyterian Church Camp	2,000	(pending paperwork)
Compañeros en Misión	2,000	(pending paperwork)
Papago United PC	<u>10,000</u>	
Total	50,000	
plus other obligations	+ <u>8,674</u>	
Total obligations	\$58,674	
Total funds available	\$53,299	
Shortfall	\$ 2,225	

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:

7/18/20 Commission Reports

1. Leadership Team Report

Actions taken at the February 26, 2020 meeting

Approved expansion of the Vision 2020 task force’s commission to include the creation of 2-3 specific proposals, with rationale for each proposal, to be presented to the Leadership Commission no later than the May 27, 2020 meeting.

Approved designating the April 25, 2020 Presbytery meeting offering for Cross Street Homeless Ministry which serves out of Southside Presbyterian, host of the meeting.

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

<u>Commission on Ministry</u>		<u>Committee on Preparation for Ministry</u>	
2020	RE Barbara Pollack (Trinity)	2020	TE Renée Rico (Faith)
		2022	Carolyn Maycher (Trinity)
<u>Administration Committee</u>			
2020	RE J. J. Johnston (Mountain Shadows)		

7/18/20 Commission Reports

Approved concurrence with all the 224th General Assembly overtures presented.

Approved insertion of a donation link for Papago United's capital campaign on the Presbytery website

Actions taken at the March 18, 2020 meeting

Approved recommending that worship services at Presbytery de Cristo churches be canceled for three weeks (March 22, March 29, April 5), to be updated as soon as new conditions of the coronavirus are available.

Approved offering one-year, interest-free loans to churches in need of help with their payroll, in consultation with the Administration Committee, based on the funds available in the New Worshipping Community or Congregational Renewal accounts.

Approved payment by the Presbytery for a one-year Zoom subscription for churches that cannot afford it, at an approximate cost of \$200 per subscription.

Approved support of Brad Munroe's plan to establish twice weekly Zoom meetings for pastors to provide a place for updates and discussion.

Approved authorization for Stated Clerk/Secretary of the Corporation Bob Schulz to sign documents on behalf of all Commissions and Committees, including documents requiring multiple signatures, for final processing of polity or financial matters until normal operations are resumed following Coronavirus restrictions.

Actions taken at the March 25, 2020 meeting

Approved authorization for Brad Munroe and Bob Schulz to issue the mandatory cancellation of church activities in geographic areas that may be designated as "Shelter in Place" by various levels of governmental authority.

Approved the Combined Personnel Team timeline, as suggested by the 2020 Vision Task Force, for discussion of staffing options 1, 2, and 3, noting the time might need to be extended due to Covid-19.

Approved postponement of the April 25, 2020 Presbytery meeting and authorized staff to reschedule it to a May/June timeframe acceptable to Southside PC or potential other locations if necessary.

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

Leadership Commission
2022 RE Sue Hallchurch (Mtn Shadows)

Approved concurrence with 224th GA Overtures 43 thru 49, 51, and 52.

Actions taken at the April 29, 2020 meeting

Approved Guidance for Reopening, as amended.

Approved concurrence with 224th GA Overtures 53 through 56.

7/18/20 Commission Reports

Actions taken at the May 27, 2020 meeting

Approved calling a special called Presbytery meeting on July 18, 2020 to be held via Zoom teleconference for the purpose of considering two CPM motions regarding an Inquirer and a Candidate.

Approved unanimously (three-quarter vote required), on behalf of the Presbytery, a request from CPM to allow an alternative ordination exam on Theology for Candidate Joy Church (Faith) to be administered by the Presbytery of Grand Canyon’s CPM.

Approved postponing a decision on adding a mandatory requirement prohibiting congregational singing to the Guidance on Reopening until more information could be presented at a special called Leadership meeting on June 1, 2020.

Action taken at the June 1, 2020 meeting

Approved adding a requirement to prohibit congregational singing to the Guidance on Reopening, with a revised document to be distributed.

Action taken at the June 5, 2020 meeting

Approved denying a request from First Presbyterian Church in Globe to be exempted from the prohibition on congregational singing in church services, with the Leadership Commission to continue to monitor medical information on Covid-19 and singing and review the prohibition at the next commission meeting.

2. Commission on Ministry Report

Actions taken at the January 9, 2020 meeting

Cheek, John

Approved renewal of the Interim Pastor Agreement between the Rev. John Cheek (HR) and The Holy Way Presbyterian Church for a period of one year effective January 1, 2020, subject to 30 days notice for termination, on the following terms:

Salary & Housing	\$70,000	Pension/Medical	BOP retirement dues
Study Allowance	6,000	Vacation	Three weeks
		Study Leave	One week
		PDA assignment	Two weeks

Smith, Elizabeth

Approved renewal of 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 for a period of six months effective January 1, 2020, subject to 30 days notice for termination, on the following terms:

Salary & Housing	\$11,750	Pension/Death/Disability	\$1,410
Travel/Prof Allowance	800	Social Security offset	898.88
Continuing Ed	325	Retirement Savings	1,500
		Health Savings	1,312.50
		Vacation	Two weeks
		Study Leave	One week

7/18/20 Commission Reports

Pickens, Bailey

Approved the Temporary Pastor Agreement between the Rev. Bailey Pickens and St. Mark’s Presbyterian Church as their Pastor for Faith Formation on a part-time basis (approximately 20 hrs/week) for a period of one year effective January 1, 2020, subject to 30 days’ notice for termination, on the following terms:

Salary and Housing	\$26,000	Pension/Death/Disability	\$3,020
		Social Security offset	1,989
		Vacation	Four weeks
		Study Leave	Two weeks
		Personal Day	One Sunday

Congregational Renewal funding

Approved \$20,000 from the Congregational Renewal restricted account (line 3166) for use by Covenant Presbyterian Church in Bisbee.

Actions taken at the February 6, 2020 meeting

Montaño, Carlos

Approved the Pastoral Agreement between the Rev. Carlos Montaño (HR) and Covenant Presbyterian Church in Bisbee, on a part-time basis, effective February 1, 2020 on the following terms:

Salary	\$18,500	Pension/Medical	NA
Housing Allowance	7,500	Vacation	Four weeks
Auto Allowance	3,500	Study Leave	Two weeks
Study Allowance	500		

Russell, Monica

Approved renewal of the Temporary Pastor Agreement between CRE Monica Russell and Community Presbyterian Church in Benson on a part-time basis for a period of one year effective January 1, 2020, subject to 30 days notice for termination, on the following terms:

Salary	\$ 5,500	Pension/Medical	NA
Housing Allowance	14,000	Vacation	Four weeks
Lodging Allowance	3,900	Study Leave	Two weeks
Travel Allowance	2,900	Hospitality Allowance	\$500
Professional Development	2,000	Professional Expense	250
Phone Allowance	900		

Papago United

Received the report on the COM Periodic Visit to Papago United Presbyterian Church on November 24, 2019.

Actions taken at the April 2, 2020 meeting

Smith, Elizabeth

Approved the terms of a severance agreement between the Rev. Elizabeth Smith and The Holy Way Presbyterian Church through the end of her service on June 30, 2020, with her last day on campus to be April 26, 2020 and permission given to use accrued vacation and continuing education time, with a lump sum payment to be made representing salary through June 30, 2020.

7/18/20 Commission Reports

Grover, Mathew

Approved a request from the Session of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church to change the status of the Rev. Mat Grover from Temporary Pastor to an installed position, pending a vote of the congregation on calling Mat and his terms, with a service of installation to be scheduled.

Annual Review Recommendation

Approved the recommendation of "Pastoral Evaluation as Dialogue and Discernment" as a resource for our churches to use for annual personnel reviews.

Actions taken at the May 7, 2020 meeting

Smith, Elizabeth

Approved revised terms of severance for the Rev. Elizabeth Smith to end her ministry at The Hoy Way Presbyterian Church on May 9, 2020, with the period from April 27, 2020 through May 9, 2020 consisting of her use of accrued vacation and paid study leave time, and the previously agreed upon financial compensation for the period from May 9 through June 30, 2020 to be paid by The Holy Way to Rev. Smith in the form of a single lump sum payment.

Chon, James Myungwon

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. James Chon (At-Large), at his request, from Presbytery de Cristo to Eastern Korean Presbytery, effective May 7, 2020.

BOP Shared Grant

Approved submittal of an application on behalf of one of our Honorably Retired pastors for a Shared Grant through the Board of Pensions for medical expenses, with matching funding to be provided by Presbytery de Cristo and the Synod of the Southwest.

3. Stated Clerk Report

REPORT ON REVIEW OF SESSION RECORDS

The following Session records for 2019 were reviewed and approved:

January 24, 2020

First Casa Grande

Mountain Shadows

Northminster

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF INSURANCE COVERAGE

As required by the *Book of Order* (G-3.0112) it is noted that Presbytery de Cristo, through annually renewed policies issued by the Insurance Board, has property and liability coverage to protect the presbytery's facilities, programs, staff, and elected and appointed officers, current policy period 1/1/2020-12/31/2021.

**SUMMARY OF STATISTICS REPORTED BY PRESBYTERY DE CRISTO
TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR 2019**

MINISTERS

Ministers on Roll 12/31/18	82
Gains	
Received from Presbyteries	5
Ordained	0
Received from Denominations	0
Restored	0
Total gains	+ 5
Losses	
Deaths	2
Dismissed to Presbyteries	3
Dismissed to Denominations	0
Other Removals	0
Total losses	- 5
Ministers on Roll 12/31/19	82

INQUIRERS/CANDIDATES

Inquirers on Roll 12/31/19	2
Candidates on Roll 12/31/19	3

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Active Members 12/31/18	5,019
Gains	
Certificate	86
Youth	31
Reaffirmation	91
Other	0
Total gains	+ 208
Losses	
Certificate	71
Death	132
Other	150
Total losses	- 353
Active Members 12/31/19	4,800
Male	1,976
Female	2,824

BAPTISMS

Children	21	Adult	8
----------	----	-------	---

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE 3,203

FRIENDS OF CONG 1,604

ADULT MEMBER AGE

25 + under	220
26 – 40	367
41 – 55	482
56 – 70	1,100
70+	2,111

COMPOSITION

Asian	35	Hispanic/Latino	84	White	2,938
Black/African American/African	110	Native American	19	Multiracial	29
Middle Eastern/North African	8				

APPROVAL OF PRESBYTERY MINUTES

The minutes of the January 24-25, 2020 Annual Meeting were approved as presented.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY REPORT

Bill Heinle presented Inquirer George Vander Meulen to be examined with respect to his Christian faith, forms of service and sense of Call. He fielded several questions from the floor. There was a motion to call the question. George was placed in the Zoom waiting room for the vote and, as recommended by CPM, the following was approved:

MOTION: To enroll Inquirer George Vander Meulen of Faith Presbyterian Church as a Candidate for Teaching Elder.

George was welcomed back into the meeting. A prayer was offered for George for his continued journey towards becoming a Teaching Elder.

EXAMINATION OF LAURA MUNROE

COM Moderator Bart Smith presented Laura Munroe, a Candidate under care of the Presbytery, for examination for ordination as a Teaching Elder. COM had approved Laura's employment as Hospice Chaplain and Bereavement Coordinator for Hospice Family Care of Tucson as an ordainable Validated Ministry of the Presbytery, pending her successful examination and her subsequent ordination.

Laura read her Statement of Faith and fielded a number of questions from the floor. She was complimented on her Statement and asked about her sense of call to hospice ministry. Presbytery approved arresting the examination and Laura was placed in the Zoom waiting room for the vote. The following was approved:

MOTION: To sustain the examination of Laura Munroe of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and, upon the recommendation of the Committee on Ministry, to approve her as ready for Ordination.

Laura was welcomed back into the meeting and Brad Munroe gave the charge and offered a prayer of thanksgiving.

SUSPENSION OF BYLAWS REGARDING PRESBYTERY MEETINGS

Josefina Ahumada introduced a motion from the Leadership Commission on suspending the rules for Presbytery meetings due to the restrictions on social gatherings caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. The following, requiring a two-thirds vote, was approved:

MOTION: To suspend the rules defined in Bylaws, Article II – Meetings, Paragraphs 2.01 and 2.02 until such time as the Covid-19 pandemic allows a return to meetings as defined.

ADJOURNMENT

In the tradition of the annual Matthew 25 offering, Presbyters were encouraged to make monetary contributions or take personal hygiene or cleaning items to collection stations for Compañeros en Misión and Frontera de Cristo.

There being no further business, the motion was made to adjourn and the meeting was closed in prayer at 10:30 a.m. The next Stated Meeting of Presbytery was scheduled for October 17, 2020, at St. Mark's Presbyterian Church in Tucson or via Zoom. The Big Event educational opportunity was scheduled for August 22, 2020 via Zoom.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July 18, 2020 Stated Meeting of Presbytery de Cristo were approved by the Presbytery at its Stated Meeting on October 17, 2020.

S/Robert S. Schulz

Robert S. Schulz, Stated Clerk/Associate

October 17, 2020

Date