

## MINUTES

Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon  
November 12, 2011

### CALL TO ORDER

The Presbytery of Grand Canyon of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held its Stated November Meeting at Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church. Gloria Young, Moderator, opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. with the lighting of the Peace Candle, followed by hymns, scripture readings and prayer. Tony Cook, Stated Clerk, reported that a quorum was present.

Commissioners attending for the first time and other guests were welcomed. Corresponding Members were introduced and approved for enrollment by Presbytery for this meeting. New minister members Jim Crelin (Sun City West) and Yong Suk Kim (Arizona Korean) were introduced.

Presbytery approved the following procedural motions: that the roll for this meeting be established by signing of roster sheets at the registration desk; that the Presbytery give the Moderator authority to grant privilege of the floor to persons for the purpose of reporting to this meeting; that the Moderator and Stated Clerk be empowered to make adjustments in the agenda during the meeting, as may be necessary, to provide for efficiency in reporting; and that written requests for absences received by the Stated Clerk be approved.

### ROLL

#### Corresponding Members Enrolled

Day, Kathleen (UCC)

Garcia, Joaquin (Presbytery of Mexico)

#### Teaching Elders Present - 66

Alvarez, Renato	Doh, Helen	Keesecker, Joseph	Proudfoot, Charles
Anderson, Mark	Doh, Joseph	Kilgore, Wilson	Pyke, Richard
Arbesman, Janet	Eaken, Lawrence	Kim, Yong Such	Sadongei, Martha
Atchinson, Glenn	Engstrom, Bud	Kirk, Wayne	Saylor, George
Avery, Debra	Evans, Jonathan	Lineweaver, Thomas	Saylor, Mary
Avram, Wesley	Evans, Lloyd	McCabe, Norma	Schenck, Jed
Baer, Doug	Garvin, Woody	McKewen, Jody	Schmitt, Gus
Baker, Brant	Gephart, Al	Meredith, Ralph	Simmons, Robert
Beard, Steve	Good, Bill	Miller, Joan	Spence, Edward
Bibiloni, Jose	Hartwell, Michael	Moe, Michelle	Tilly, Mark
Byall, Lowell	Hawkins, Ron	Muenich, Karen	Van Arsdale, David
Byrd, Nathan	Hawkins, Darren	Nielsen, Richard	Vogel, Leslie
Campbell, Arthur	Hicks, David	Noble, James	Wasserman, Dave
Citron, Suzanne	Hicks, Mae	Northrup, Cathy	Watkins, Gale
Claus, Bob	Hillman, Lorelei	Palmer, Theron	Wood, Patricia
Corbett, Lawrence	Jennison, Cynthia	Parker, Gayle	Worsnop, Linda
Crelin, James	Johnston, Robert	Parker, Thomas	

**Churches/Ruling Elder Commissioners Present - 53**

Arizona Korean Moon Sup Lee	Memorial Mary Lynn Walters
Bethany Lanny Trapnell	Mesa First Bob Gerlach
Celebration of Life Beverly Scheleigh	Mingus View Susan Goe
Chandler Jim Miller	Mission del Sol Melanie Zimmer, Kurt Boesen
Christ Scott Phillips	Mountain View Phil Cilliers , Gail Loeffel
Crosswinds Glover Rawls	Northminster Bob Brandt
Desert Hills Nan Campbell, Trudy Gray, Steve Woods	Orangewood Fred Norling
Desert Palms Jean Montgomery, Robin McFarland	Payson Community John Wilson
Emmanuel Tom Jenney	Pinnacle Bill Noyes, Paul Rooker
Faith Betty Forsberg	Prescott Trinity Dede Tilly
Fountain Hills John Bivens	Salt River Ray Salcido
Ganado Custer Lowe	Sierra Vista Cindy Michels
Gilbert Mike Gallagher	Southminster Cecil Patterson
Guadalupe Jimmy Molina	Sun City-First Ray Brodland
Heritage Jerry Muenich	Sunnyslope Willie Zunker
Historic First Barbara Petersen	University Molly Winkler, Lawn Griffiths
Horizon Chuck Jarrell	Vah-Ki Annette Stewart
John Calvin Betty Blunk	Valley Jack Schuler, Judy Lippmann, Miriam Schuler
Kayenta Milinda Benallie	Westminster Debby Holmes
Kingman Joan Johns	Wickenburg First Maralyn Kimmins
Lehi Eugene Chiago	Yarnell Community Joanne Burkhardt
Leupp First Ron Smallcanyon	Yuma First Lucy Boal, Suzanne Courtney

**Commissioned Ruling Elders Present - 6**

Danforth, Mary	Jones, Paul	Loredo, Martha Lopez
Jefferson, Audrey	Kelly, Calvin	Ragland, Reginald

**Council Members Present**

Cook, Tony	McBurney, Bruce	Reynolds, Craig
Lane, Beve	Orf, Bob	Rooker, Paul
Mackey, Rocky	Owens, Kathryn	Young, Gloria

**Staff Members Present**

Kath, Beth	McBurney, Carolyn
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**Visitors Present**

There were 32 registered visitors present.

**Teaching Elders Excused**

Anderson, Fred	Burtless, Stanford	Courtney, Philip	Flahiff, John
Anderson, Richard	Byers, Harold	Davis, Harrell	Fletcher, Tully
Bailey, Linda	Clark, Bobbye	Dickson ,Josephine	Fooks, John
Baxter, Patricia	Clark, Robert	Dulaney, Robert	Forsberg, David
Berg, George	Clark, Walter	Eckert, Peter	Fowler, Douglas
Bigler, Robert	Clarke, Dennis	Eisenhower, Laura	Fox, Charles
Borden, John	Conroy, Floyd	Ensley, Milton	Fredrick, John
Brahams, Hap	Cook, John	Exon, Ina	Fuehrer, Robert
Bruening, James	Corazin, Nan Lyn	Farwell, Barbara	Fulton, Helmi

**Teaching Elders Excused** (continued)

Goodenberger, Alton	Kimberlin, Kenneth	Phillips, Norman	Straatmeyer, Al
Gray, Barrie	Kush, Gary	Phillips, Beverly	Swicegood, Terry
Hayes, William	Latty, Allan	Porter, Don	Thom, Francis
Hodgson, Deanne	Lefebvre, Eugene	Pratt, Edward	Ulrickson, Paul
Hodgson, David	Manning, Marilyn	Prichard, Jack	Valle, Paula
Hood, Brandon	Martz, Robert	Pulido, Gloria	Van Dyke, James
Hubbard, Deborah	Mayes, Robert	Rae, Robert	Vautier, Grif
Illingworth, Davis	McIntosh, Constance	Ramos, Gonzalo	Voth, John
Jacobs, John	Melendez, Hipolito	Ramsdell, Richard	Wallace, David
Jacobs, Lynn	Miller, Craig	Remer, James	Wayne, Richard
Jarvis, Troy	Miller, Jerry	Rhoades, Francis	White, Frank
Jenkins, Charles	Moe, Kenneth	Robertson, John	Willett, Kristin
Joe, Victor	Moranville, Thomas	Rosson, Roland	Williamson, Donald
Johnson, Bruce	Moser, Paul	Sabbagh, John	Witte, Cathy
Johnson, Caleb	Olagues, José	Schlottzauer, Wesley	Wright, Douglas
Jones, Stanley	Oppenhuizen, Kathleen	Sexton, Kirk	Young, Alvin
Jousan, Mike	Page, Kenneth	Siekmann, Eugene	Zabriskie, Richard
Kim, Kwang	Park, Francis	Smith, Esther	Zelle, Trina
Kim, Myung Bae	Pfeffer, William	Stevens, Charles	

**Churches/Ruling Elder Commissioners Excused**

Fort Defiance Florence Davis	Gila Crossing Gloria Suchta
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**Teaching Elders Absent**

Berry, Thomas	Kerber, Keith	Selestewa, Sharon	Wintz, Michael
Blincoe, Robert	Murman, Kimberly	Song, Seok Min	Wintz, Susan
Bybee, David	Ramirez, Julio	Turner, David	Young, Patricia
Gregory, Kelly	Reinhold, Ruth	Uhley, James	
Hart, Floyd	Roberts, Margaret	Vautier, Holly	
Johnson, Sarah	Schumacher, Bruce	Weir, Kyle	

**Commissioned Ruling Elders Absent**

Blackwater, Richard	Davis, Roger	Halwood, Danny
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**Churches Absent**

Alpine Community	Flagstaff Federated	Mohawk Valley	Springerville
Betania	Fort McDowell	Palo Cristi	Tuba City
Blackwater	Goodyear Village	Parker Valley	Verde Valley
Central	Indian Wells	Peoria First	Wellton Community
Chinle Trinity	Lake Havasu	Pinetop Community	Winslow
Church of the Master	Maricopa First	Sacaton First	

**AGENDA**

Presbytery approved the agenda:

9:00 a.m.	Call to Worship and Lighting of Peace Candle Opening Hymns, Scripture Readings and Prayer	
9:20 a.m.	Welcome First Time Commissioners, Guests Introduce New Minister Members Enroll Corresponding Members Establish a Quorum Approve the Docket and Procedural Motions Receive New Business Approve the Consent Agenda Greeting from Host Congregation Greet One Another with the Peace of Christ	Gloria Young Kathryn Owens        Bill Good
9:35 a.m.	Stated Clerk Report	Tony Cook
9:45 a.m.	Native American Ministries Consultant Reports	Martha Sadongei, Norma McCabe
9:55 a.m.	Retirement of Kate Wilmoth, Director Interchurch Resource Center	Melynda Foust
10:00 a.m. *	Report of the Presbytery Council - Budget & Finance Committee Report – 2012 proposed budget & per capita - Native American Ministries Committee Report – Young Adult Volunteer proposal - Council & Committee on Ministry Report – Discernment Team for Kingman	Karen Muenich
10:15 a.m.	Bills & Overtures Committee Report - Overture to the 220 <sup>th</sup> General Assembly: Immigration Reform	Bob Orf
10:30 a.m.	Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report	Rob Johnston
10:50 a.m.	Stewardship, Mission, & Communication Development Report	Chuck Proudfoot
10:55 a.m.	Budget and Finance Announcement	Doug Baer
11:00 a.m.	Theological Presentation “What it means to be Reformed, always being Reformed as it applies to Science”	Dr. Wentzel vanHuyssteen, Princeton Seminary
Noon	Prayer, Lunch & Fellowship	Terry Palmer
1:00 p.m.	Celebrating the Church in Mission - Campus Ministry at Northern Arizona University - Domestic Violence - Phyllis Tickle Event - Camp Montlure Scholarships	Kathleen Day Joan Fenton Melynda Foust
1:15 p.m.	Prayers of the People	Terry Palmer
1:25 p.m.	Nominating Committee Report	Bruce McBurney
1:30 p.m.	Committee on Ministry Report	Kathryn Owens
1:35 p.m.	Interim Executive Presbyter Report	Dave Wasserman
1:45 p.m.	Report of the Desert Hills Administrative Commission - Requested Item of New Business - Discussion, Debate, Vote	Ron Hawkins Larry Corbett
3:20 p.m. *	Implementation Team Report	Debra Avery
3:30 p.m.	Motion to Adjourn following Worship Scripture & Meditation Celebration of the Lord’s Supper	Brant Baker Brant Baker and Bill Good
4:00 p.m.	Closing Hymn, Charge & Benediction * Order of the Day	Bill Good

## **GREETING**

The Rev. Bill Good, Pastor, welcomed Presbytery to Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Presbytery APPROVED the Consent Agenda and its addendum, which are combined as follows:

11/12/11 Consent Agenda

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## **Council/Trustees Report**

Stated Meeting October 13, 2011

The Council/Trustees of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon met for its stated August meeting at the Presbytery office. The meeting was called to order by Karen Muenich, Council Chair, at 10:40 a.m. with prayer. A quorum was present. Karen welcomed those attending in place of committee chairs, as well as other guests.

## **PRAYING FOR OUR CONGREGATIONS**

Karen Muenich led devotions based on Psalm 96, reflecting on how to discern what our “new song” was to be. Updates and prayer requests were given and each of our congregations was lifted up in prayer.

## **COUNCIL/TRUSTEES MINUTES APPROVED**

The minutes of the August 18, 2011, meeting of the Council/Trustees were approved as presented.

## **CHANGING CONTEXT FOR PRESBYTERIANS (Fellowship & NEXT Church initiatives)**

Council discussed emerging changes in the church, what the implications were for our Presbytery, and what God was calling us to do. Council broke into small groups, followed by a lengthy discussion as a full Council. Tom Lineweaver joined this part of the meeting to share about the Fellowship meeting in Minneapolis and a local meeting. Discussion included a wide range of concerns regarding the ways in which we are divided and the ways in which we are united, and whether changes were needed to respond to the concerns and sense of urgency that some have expressed. There was agreement that, rather than anticipating answers, at this point our leaders need to be listening. The following was approved:

**MOTION:** That the Council Moderator invite a small group of Council members to meet with a group of pastors and laity, followed by a larger meeting including any Council members who want to attend.

There was a break for lunch, with a prayer of thanksgiving offered by Karen Muenich.

## **INTERIM ASSOCIATE EXEC/STATED CLERK REPORT**

Tony Cook presented a proposed overture to GA on Immigration Reform from the Session of Guadalupe Presbyterian Church. A group of five Hispanic pastors from fellowships and congregations in the Presbytery had been meeting to explore ways to address immigration issues affecting Hispanic congregations. There was a request to post the overture on the web. The overture was scheduled to be presented to the November Presbytery meeting by the Bills and Overtures Committee and the following was approved:

**MOTION:** That Council endorse the Immigration Reform overture as presented.

**TREASURER REPORT**

Paul Rooker presented the September financial statements. To date Presbytery had received roughly half the income compared to the previous year and the level of giving was down, with a current deficit of \$15,335.57.

**INTERIM EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER REPORT**

Dave Wasserman presented a handout with Fall Key Initiatives. Renato Alvarez was at national Hispanic conference. Martha Sadongei reported that Vah Ki was hosting southern churches for the annual camp meeting and that Cook School was having an event celebrating their 100 year anniversary.

**GA NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Tully Fletcher, a member of the GA nominating committee (GANC), reported that the Synod of the Southwest was underrepresented on the 29 committees at the GA level. Tully shared that: terms are generally 6 years; the GANC accepts applications from across the national church; self-nominations are accepted as well as recommendations from both pastors and lay people; the deadline is January 3 to submit an online application; and the GANC meets in March to select a slate to take to GA for elections.

**BUDGET AND FINANCE REPORT**

Doug Baer presented two budgets. Both budgets were to be emailed to Council after the meeting. The first was the standard 2012 Budget, with an overview given by Dave Wasserman, and the following was approved:

**MOTION:** To approve the 2012 budget as presented.

A transitional budget which had been developed to fit the Presbytery’s proposed new structure was also presented for the Council’s information.

Proposed 2012 per capita was reviewed and the following was approved:

**MOTION:** To change per capita for 2012 to \$29.00 per person, with the following breakdown:

	<u>2012</u>	<u>(former 2011)</u>
Presbytery	<b>\$18.37</b>	\$19.00
Synod	<b>4.00</b>	5.00
General Assembly	<u><b>6.63</b></u>	<u>6.50</u>
Total	<b>\$29.00</b>	\$30.50

Doug announced that the Board of Pensions had approved a 1.5% increase over two years for health care benefits of staff, resulting in a \$2,152 increase in the 2012 budget.

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

Ed Spence reported that a job description for a Hispanic Ministries Consultant was being formulated. The committee was also starting to think about the search for a new permanent Executive Presbyter.

**MISSION FUNDS DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

Bob Orf reported on Mexican border ministry changes and, as a result, recommended postponing action until things become clearer. A new funds development proposal was expected from Martha Sadongei for Native American Ministries.

**DESERT HILLS ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION UPDATE**

Mary Lynn Walters reported on behalf of the Commission. They met with the Desert Hills Resource Team several times and were to meet again October 22. The Commission had received a proposal that was unsatisfactory and responded with two options for Desert Hills to consider. Council members were asked to hold open the possibility of a special meeting on October 26 at 1 p.m. Prayers were offered by Trina Zelle for the two groups working on this.

**UPDATE FROM IMPLEMENTATION TEAM**

Deb Avery gave an update on the team’s progress, including a proposed Implementation timeline to be presented at the November presbytery meeting. Work on the Presbytery Bylaws and Operations Manual was to begin. Timeline highlights included:

- January 5 Plan presented to Council
- January 27 Plan presented for approval at Presbytery meeting
- Nominating begins work on filling positions
- February 9 Bylaws presented to Council
- March 10 Bylaws presented for approval at Presbytery meeting
- March - June New council and teams retreat and begin training
- June 9 Celebration of new structure at Presbytery and potential election of EP Search committee

**NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES REPORT**

There was a proposal from NAM to participate in the GA’s Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program. A recent visit by Roger Dermody and Linda Valentine from the GA Mission Council raised the possibility of creating positions for Young Adult Volunteers to work with Native congregations. Brandon Wert, coordinator from deCristo, was to oversee work with southern congregations. It was felt that Gila Crossing and Sacaton both had very active youth ministries that would benefit from the help of two YAVs. The churches would need to provide matching funds. NAM would contribute to the funding and was hopeful that Council would assist, with a goal of March 2012 to guarantee funding for the program. The following was approved:

**MOTION:** That Council endorse the Presbytery’s participation in the Young Adult Volunteer program for 2012-2013 and secure funds for two volunteers, and that Council authorize the NAM committee and staff to seek funds for this project (including the budget, reserve funds, grants from Synod and General Assembly, and direct appeal to our churches).

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORT**

Kathryn Owens reported that since the Clergy Spouse ministry had not been in effect for almost two years, COM recommended the following which was approved:

**MOTION:** That Council authorize the repurposing of Restricted Account #22106 from “Clergy Spouse Fund” to “Minister Emergency Fund.”

Kathryn also reported that Kingman Presbyterian Church had indicated its desire to leave the PC(USA). Breakdowns of two versions of a straw vote taken by the congregation were: 72 to leave vs. 8 to remain; and 67 to move to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church vs. 11 not to move to the EPC. The Committee on Ministry recommended formation of a Discernment Team, and the following was approved:

**MOTION:** Based on the actions taken in June 2011 and in response to the declared interest of the Session at Kingman Presbyterian Church, the Committee on Ministry and Council recommend to the Presbytery the following:

- That Grand Canyon Presbytery enter into a season of discernment with the Kingman Presbyterian Church concerning its congregational membership in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.);
- That the Presbytery affirm its commitments during this season of discernment, as follows:
  - A commitment to full disclosure of its actions,
  - A commitment to a season of prayer,
  - A commitment to discover a way for the Kingman Presbyterian Church to remain in the PC(USA) or, if not possible, to part company as reconciled brothers and sisters in Christ;
  - A commitment to offer respect to all persons involved, demonstrating the love and justice of Jesus Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and
  - A commitment to ensure that all voices be heard and nurtured;
- That the presbytery appoint a Discernment Team of no fewer than seven members to fulfill the responsibilities of inquiring of all members as to their knowledge of the reasons for this desired departure, their understanding of the implications of departure from the PC(USA) and their individual desire to do so. The Discernment Team shall engage in dialogue with the Session concerning the substantive reasons for this departure and to interpret the PC(USA)'s life, ministry and beliefs to the congregation. When all the members have been consulted, the Discernment Team will then bring a report with recommendations to a meeting of the Presbytery for its action;
- That the Presbytery empower the Discernment Team with the authority to call a gathering of congregational members as it deems necessary;
- That the Presbytery instruct the Stated Clerk to communicate these actions to the Session in writing;
- That the Moderator, Moderator-Elect, Chair of Council, Stated Clerk/Interim Associate Executive Presbyter and Interim Executive Presbyter be authorized to appoint the Discernment Team as soon as possible to begin its work.

### **EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES REPORT**

Tully Fletcher requested time at the November presbytery meeting to discuss a Montlure scholarship fund established several years ago which had been almost depleted. He also announced that NAU Campus minister Kathleen Day had been invited to speak at Presbytery about the work being done at NAU.

After discussion it was decided to postpone the following actions requested by the committee regarding the Interchurch Resource Center until the January Council meeting:

1. To create a Presbytery staff position for the Resource Center to replace Kate Wilmoth (non-staff), who will be retiring at the end of the year.
2. To form a Presbytery Resource Center Board to sustain the work of the Center for use by our own congregations since support from other denominations has dwindled.

The following was approved:

**MOTION:** That the Council Moderator appoint two members of Council to be a short-term task force to research the status of the Resource Center and then report to Council in January with recommendations for future action.

#### **STEWARDSHIP, MISSION AND COMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

Chuck Proudfoot reported that the committee would not be making a presentation at the November Presbytery meeting since the time allotted on the docket was not considered sufficient. He said there was concern on the part of the committee that they are not receiving the time at Presbytery meetings needed to do their work. Stewardship felt that their long-range planning was being made difficult. Discussion included how the committee, as well as others, would no longer exist under the new structure and individual committee reports would therefore decrease at Presbytery meetings. Instead, entire Presbytery meetings would be planned around a central theme with presentations devoted to that area. The following was approved:

**MOTION:** That the SMCD Committee have one hour of docket time at the September 2012 Presbytery meeting, either in one block or as one-half hour of discussion and one-half hour of sermon during worship.

#### **ADJOURN**

The motion was made to adjourn and the meeting was closed in prayer at 3:10 p.m. by Karen Muenich. The next meeting of the Council/Trustees was scheduled for January 5, 2012, at the Presbytery office.

#### **Council/Trustees Report**

Stated Meeting October 26, 2011

The Council/Trustees of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon met for a special meeting at the Presbytery office to receive a report from the Desert Hills Administrative Commission. The meeting was called to order by Gloria Young, substituting for Council Chair Karen Muenich, at 1:00 p.m. with prayer. A quorum was present. Council and Commission members were introduced.

#### **DESERT HILLS REPORT**

The Administrative Commission gave Council an update on the meeting with the Desert Hills Resource Team on October 22, then presented suggested financial terms for the departure of Desert Hills from the Presbytery. Council members discussed the proposal, asked questions, and gave the Commission general feedback. Because of the short time between this meeting and the October 28<sup>th</sup> call to be sent for the November Presbytery meeting, it was agreed that the Commission could finalize their report and have it sent out separately on Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry distributed a memo informing Council of their upcoming request at the November Presbytery meeting for a waiver for one of our candidates for ministry.

#### **ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the motion was made to adjourn and the meeting was closed in prayer at 2:20 p.m. by Gloria Young. The next meeting of the Council/Trustees was scheduled for January 5, 2012, at the Presbytery office.

**Committee on Ministry Report****Actions taken at the September 27, 2011 meeting****Jennison, Cynthia**

Approved the Stated Supply Agreement between the Session of Lehi Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Cynthia Jennison on a part-time basis for a period of one year beginning July 17, 2011, subject to 30 days notice for termination. Compensation is to be \$10,400 annually, with no pension or medical benefits.

**Johnson, Sarah**

Approved the following Administrative Commission to Install the Rev. Sarah Johnson as Associate Pastor to Pinnacle Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 16, 2011, during morning worship:

Teaching Elders

Mary Saylor (Emmanuel)

David Turner (Valley)

Kristin Willett (Pinnacle)

Ruling Elders

Phillip Cilliers (Mountain View)

William Noyes (Pinnacle)

Kate Wilmoth (Interchurch Resource Center)

Gloria Young (Presbytery Moderator)

**Good, William**

Approved the appointment of the Rev. Bill Good to serve as Moderator of Fort McDowell Presbyterian Church, effective September 27, 2011.

**McKewen, Joe**

Approved an Administrative Commission, to be named by COM moderator Kathryn Owens, to Install the Rev. Joe (Jody) McKewen as Pastor to Church of the Master Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 9, 2011, at 3:00 p.m.

**Actions taken at the October 25, 2011 meeting****Byrd, Nathan**

Approved moving the Rev. Nathan Byrd to the category of Ministry Beyond the Jurisdiction following his move out of our Presbytery effective January 1, 2012.

**Crelin, James**

Approved the request of the Rev. Jim Crelin to labor outside the bounds to perform a wedding in Florida.

**McKewen, Joe**

Approved the following Administrative Commission to Install the Rev. Joe (Jody) McKewen as Pastor to Church of the Master Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 30, 2011, at 3:00 p.m.:

Teaching Elders

Larry Eaken (John Calvin)

Terry Palmer (Gilbert)

Mary Saylor (Emmanuel)

Ruling Elders

Kathryn Owens (Bethany)

Jim Miller (Chandler)

Grace Mossman (Gilbert)

Mary Rubin (Church of the Master)

Gloria Young (Presbytery Moderator)

**Kim, Yong Suk**

Approved the transfer of Rev. Yong Suk Kim from the Presbytery of Seoulnam, Presbyterian Church of the Republic of Korea (PROK), and the call of the Arizona Korean Presbyterian Church to Rev. Kim as Pastor, pending receipt of a Certificate of Good Standing in the PROK, congregational approval, and final approval of the terms of call by COM.

**Preparation for Ministry Committee Report**

**Actions taken at the June 21, 2011 meeting**

**Candidate Transferred Out of Presbytery**

Candidate Erin Tamayo of Betania Presbyterian Church was transferred to the Presbytery of the Pacific at her request.

**Actions taken at the September 20, 2011 meeting**

**Candidate Removed from the Roll**

Candidate Julie Miller of Christ Presbyterian Church was removed from the Roll at her request.

**Actions taken at the October 18, 2011 meeting**

**Certified Ready to Receive a Call**

Candidate Megan LeCluyse of Mountain View Presbyterian Church was certified Ready to Receive a Call.

**Stated Clerk Report**

**REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS**

**Minutes of Service of Installation – Rev. Sarah Johnson October 16, 2011**

The Administrative Commission to Install the Rev. Sarah Johnson met at Pinnacle Presbyterian Church, Scottsdale, on Sunday, October 16, 2011, during the morning worship service and did install Rev. Johnson as Associate Pastor, following the guidelines set forth in the Directory for Worship (W-4.4). Members of the Administrative Commission were:

Teaching Elders

Mary Saylor (Emmanuel)  
David Turner (Valley)  
Kristin Willett (Pinnacle)

Ruling Elders

Gloria Young, Moderator (Southminster)  
Phillip Cilliers (Mountain View)  
William Noyes (Pinnacle)  
Kate Wilmoth (Crosswinds)

Respectfully submitted,  
Gloria Young

**Minutes of Service of Installation – Rev. Joe McKewen October 30, 2011**

The Administrative Commission to Install the Rev. Joe (Jody) McKewen met at Church of the Master Presbyterian Church, Mesa, on Sunday, October 30, 2011, at 3:00 p.m. and did install Rev. McKewen as Pastor, following the guidelines set forth in the Directory for Worship (W-4.4). Members of the Administrative Commission were:

Teaching Elders

Larry Eaken (John Calvin)  
Terry Palmer (Gilbert)  
Mary Saylor (Emmanuel)

Ruling Elders

Gloria Young, Moderator (Southminster)  
Kathryn Owens (Bethany)  
Jim Miller (Chandler)  
Grace Mossman (Gilbert)  
Mary Rubin (Church of the Master)

Respectfully submitted,  
Gloria Young

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVIEW OF SESSION RECORDS**

The Review of Records Committee of the Presbytery Council held several review opportunities for 2011. The following Session Records were reviewed on the dates indicated:

*September 16, 2011 at Pinnacle Presbyterian Church*

Mingus View Presbyterian Church, Prescott Valley

Records approved without exception

First Presbyterian Church, Mesa

Records approved without exception

Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church

Records approved without exception

Betania Presbyterian Church

Records approved with the following exceptions:

- No record of annual financial audit
- No examination of Elders-elect
- No record of Ordination/Installation of officers
- No record of Continuing Education for Session

Ganado Presbyterian Church

Records approved with the following exceptions:

- Certificate of Baptism not recorded
- Record of persons baptized incomplete

Community Presbyterian Church, Springerville

Records approved with the following exceptions:

- Commissioner to other governing body not identified
- No record of annual financial audit
- Composition of Session not recorded
- Annual statistical report not included
- Certificate of Insurance not reflected in minutes
- No examination of Elders-elect
- Register of Elders incomplete
- Register of Deacons incomplete

11/12/11 Consent Agenda

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*October 22, 2011 at the Offices of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon*

Church of the Master Presbyterian Church, Mesa

Records approved with the following exceptions:

- No record of financial audit
- No record of examination of Elders-elect
- No record of continuing education for Session

Christ Presbyterian Church, Goodyear

Records approved with the following exception:

- No record of examination of Elders-elect

Desert Palms Presbyterian Church, Sun City West

Records approved without exception

*November 1, 2011 at Westminster Presbyterian Church*

First Presbyterian Church, Peoria

Records approved without exception

Sunnyslope Presbyterian Church, Phoenix

Records approved with the following exceptions:

- Quorum not identified as present
- Composition of the Session not recorded
- Annual statistical report not included

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Phoenix

Records approved with the following exceptions:

- Composition of the Session not recorded
- Annual Statistical report not included
- Mission Statement not included within a 3- year period

Community Presbyterian, Yarnell

Records approved without exception

*November 5, 2011 at Gila Crossing Presbyterian Church*

First Presbyterian, Leupp

Records approved with the following exceptions:

- No record of annual financial audit
- Mission statement not included within a 3-year period
- No record of examination of Elders-elect
- No record of Ordination/Installation of officers

11/12/11 Consent Agenda

10CA

Gila Crossing Presbyterian Church

Records approved with the following exceptions:

- Quorum not identified as present
- Meeting not closed with prayer
- Minutes not properly signed
- Celebration of the Lord's Supper not recorded
- Record of persons baptized incomplete
- Record of members received incomplete
- Record of members dismissed incomplete
- Death of member/elder not recorded
- Proper transfer on church rolls not shown
- Record of marriages performed incomplete
- Record of Elders/Deacons elected incomplete
- Action regarding previous review of records not taken
- No record of annual financial audit
- No record of joint annual meeting with Board of Deacons
- No record of annual reports of other organizations
- Annual statistical report not included
- Mission Statement not included within a 3-year period
- Certificate of Insurance not reflected in Minutes
- No record of Examination of Elders-elect
- No record of Ordination/Installation of officers
- No record of Continuing Education for Session
- Baptized Members (Persons) Roll incomplete
- Active Members Roll incomplete
- Inactive Members Roll incomplete
- Affiliate Members Roll incomplete
- Proper transfer on rolls not shown
- Death of member/elder not recorded
- Register of Marriages incomplete
- Register of Elders incomplete
- Register of Deacons incomplete

Mission del Sol Presbyterian

Records approved with the following exception:

- No record of annual financial audit

Palo Cristi Presbyterian, Paradise Valley

Records approved without exception

Sierra Vista Presbyterian, Yuma

Records approved with the following exception:

- Certificate of Insurance not reflected in Minutes

Verde Valley Presbyterian, Cottonwood

Records approved with the following exceptions:

- Certificate of Insurance not reflected in Minutes
- No record of examination of Elders-elect

**REPORT OF THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION**

(full text of Decision found on pp. 22-27 of these Minutes)

The Permanent Judicial Commission of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon held a Censure-only Hearing in the matter of The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) versus the Rev. Richard Pyke, Minister of Word and Sacrament, and issued its decision on September 30, 2011. At a Pretrial Conference of July 24, 2011, Richard Pyke plead guilty to two charges of sexual misconduct and sexual abuse in the misuse of office or position. The Order of the Permanent Judicial Commission in this matter reads as follows:

THIS PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION, ACTING AS A COURT OF THE CHURCH, THEREFORE IMPOSES THE CENSURE OF TEMPORARY EXCLUSION FROM EXERCISE OF ORDAINED OFFICE as follows:

Whereas, you, Richard Pyke, have been found guilty of the offenses of:

1. Committing the offense of sexual misconduct in January 1984 while in a counselor/parishioner relationship with the accuser and did engage in a sexual relationship with her. Further, you did commit sexual abuse pursuant to D-10.0401 (C) (2) in the misuse of office or position. These actions are in violation of the Scriptures and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) particularly in regard to First Corinthians 6:12-20, First Thessalonians 4:3-6, and the Book of Order, G-6.0106b and W-4.4003c,d,e,f,g and D-10.0401 (C) (2).
2. Committing the offense of sexual misconduct in the Summer of 1980 in that you, while in a relationship with the accuser, engaged in sexual relations with her. The inappropriate sexual relationship continued through November of 1980. Further, you did commit sexual abuse pursuant to D-10.0401 (C) (2) in the misuse of office or position. These actions are in violation of the Scriptures and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) particularly in regard to First Corinthians 6:12-20, First Thessalonians 4:3-6, and the Book of Order, G-6.0106b and W-4.4003c,d,e,f,g and D-10.0401 (C) (2).

And by such offenses you have acted contrary to the Scriptures and the *Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*; now, therefore, the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, in the name and by the authority of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), does now declare you temporarily excluded from the exercise of any ordained office in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for a period of five years, unless you choose to voluntarily make a public acknowledgement of guilt and of the harm to victims, who will remain unnamed unless they consent, and of repentance on the floor of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, in which case the period of temporary exclusion shall be for two years and shall also include refraining from performing any music in any church, chapel or other Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) facility within the bounds of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon for like period.

**Dates Session Records Last Submitted for Review to the Presbytery of Grand Canyon  
In Accordance with Form of Government G-3.0108 (as of 11/5/11)**

Central	11/09/88	Kingman	06/17/10
Fort McDowell	03/01/89	Parker Valley	06/17/10
Blackwater	05/10/89	Community, Payson	09/10/10
First, Sacaton	01/18/94	Community, Pinetop	09/10/10
Salt River	01/18/94	Alpine Community	10/09/10
Maricopa First	07/28/94	Chandler	10/09/10
Bethany	09/29/01	Orangewood	10/09/10
Goodyear Village	01/19/02	University	10/09/10
Arizona Korean	09/20/02	Valley	10/09/10
Guadalupe	09/21/02	First, Wickenburg	10/16/10
First, Tuba City	08/16/03	Flagstaff Federated	10/16/10
Indian Wells	08/16/03	Gilbert	10/16/10
Kayenta	08/16/03	Trinity, Prescott	10/16/10
Vah Ki	10/25/03	Faith	10/30/10
Crosswinds	04/29/04	Mohawk Valley	10/30/10
Community, Wellton	11/19/05	Pinnacle	10/30/10
First, Yuma	11/19/05	Betania	09/16/11
Memorial	02/05/08	Community, Springerville	09/16/11
Emmanuel	09/27/08	First, Mesa	09/16/11
Historic First	09/27/08	Fountain Hills	09/16/11
Southminster	09/27/08	Ganado	09/16/11
Trinity, Chinle	09/27/08	Mingus View	09/16/11
Lake Havasu Community	10/11/08	Christ	10/22/11
Fort Defiance	09/18/09	Church of the Master	10/22/11
Mountain View	10/10/09	Community, Yarnell	10/22/11
Desert Hills	10/24/09	Desert Palms	10/22/11
Lehi	10/24/09	First, Peoria	10/22/11
Scottsdale	10/24/09	Sunnyslope	10/22/11
Winslow	10/29/09	Westminster	10/22/11
Celebration of Life	05/08/10	Gila Crossing	11/05/11
Horizon	05/08/10	Leupp	11/05/11
John Calvin	05/08/10	Mission del Sol	11/05/11
Heritage	05/22/10	Palo Cristi	11/05/11
Northminster	05/22/10	Sierra Vista	11/05/11
First, Sun City	06/17/10	Verde Valley	11/05/11

Clerks of Session are reminded that:

1. G-3.0107, G-3.0108 and G-3.0204 provide that each Session shall keep a full and accurate record of its proceedings, which shall be reviewed annually by the Presbytery. Session minutes are to include the minutes of any meetings of the congregation and all joint meetings with deacons and trustees.
2. The Clerk of Session Handbook (Pages 29-34) sets forth the Presbytery of Grand Canyon requirements for maintaining Session records.
3. The Synod of the Southwest requires documentation in Presbytery minutes of the Review of Records of congregations' minutes, including an annual listing of the church sessions that have submitted their records to the Presbytery for review, and whether the records were reviewed without exception, with exceptions noted, or not approved, and a listing of church sessions that did not submit records for review.

### **STATED CLERK REPORT**

Tony Cook read the Order portion (see p. 15 of these Minutes under the Consent Agenda) of the Report of the Permanent Judicial Commission on its Decision in the matter of The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) versus the Rev. Richard Pyke. In response to the portion of the order calling for a public acknowledgement of guilt and harm to the victims, Richard Pyke appeared and made a statement. A point of order was raised as to the adequacy of his statement. The Stated Clerk responded that the matter would be referred back to the PJC for their review. (The full text of the PJC Decision is included at the end of these Minutes, pp. 22-27.)

### **NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES REPORT**

Martha Sadongei and Norma McCabe, our NAM Consultants, gave an update on the ministries at each of our diverse Native American congregations.

### **RECOGNITION OF KATE WILMOTH**

Kate Wilmoth was recognized for her service as the Director of the Interchurch Resource Center, a position she had held since 1987. Retiring at the end of the year, Kate was thanked for her devotion to developing the center into a valuable collection of Christian education materials for supporting members across a number of denominations.

### **COUNCIL REPORT**

Karen Muenich introduced several budget items which were approved:

**MOTION:** To approve the proposed 2012 budget.

**MOTION:** To reduce the Presbytery per capita to \$18.37 for 2012.  
(Total per capita to be \$29, with Synod of \$4 and GA of \$6.63.)

In response to a proposal to expand the presbytery's Native American ministries within the Gila River community, sponsored by the Session of Gila Crossing, by using two college graduates who are part of the General Assembly's Young Adult Volunteer program (approximately \$7,500 host funding needed for each volunteer), the following was approved:

**MOTION:** To endorse the Young Adult Volunteer proposal for 2012-2013  
and allow a funding appeal to raise \$15,000.

Based on the September 2011 request of the Session of Kingman Presbyterian Church to the Presbytery Council indicating a desire to leave the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and seek affiliation with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, the following was approved:

**MOTION:** To form a Discernment Team for Kingman Presbyterian Church with the following provisions as recommended by the Committee on Ministry:

- That Grand Canyon Presbytery enter into a season of discernment with the Kingman Presbyterian Church concerning its congregational membership in the Presbyterian Church (USA);

- That the Presbytery affirm its commitments during this season of discernment, as follows:
  - a commitment to full disclosure of its actions,
  - a commitment to a season of prayer,
  - a commitment to discover a way for the Kingman Presbyterian Church to remain in the PC(USA) and, if not possible, to part company as reconciled brothers and sisters in Christ,
  - a commitment to offer respect to all persons involved, demonstrating the love and justice of Jesus Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit,
  - a commitment to ensure that all voices be heard and nurtured.
- That the Presbytery appoint a Discernment Team of no less than seven members to fulfill the responsibilities of inquiring of all members as to their knowledge of the reasons for this desired departure, their understanding of the implications of departure from the PC(USA) and their individual desire to do so. The Discernment Team shall engage in dialogue with the Session concerning the substantive reasons for this departure and to interpret the PC(USA)'s life, ministry and beliefs to the congregation. When all members have been consulted, the Discernment Team will then bring a report with recommendations to a meeting of Presbytery for its action;
- That the Presbytery empower the Discernment Team with the authority to call a gathering of congregational members as it deems necessary;
- That the Presbytery instruct the Stated Clerk to communicate these actions to the Kingman Session in writing;
- That the Moderator, Moderator-Elect, Moderator of Council, Stated Clerk/Interim Associate Executive Presbyter and Interim Executive Presbyter be authorized to appoint the Discernment Team as soon as possible to begin its work.

#### **BILLS AND OVERTURES COMMITTEE REPORT**

Bob Orf introduced a proposed overture to the 220<sup>th</sup> General Assembly regarding immigration reform. The overture, endorsed by the Bills and Overtures Committee, was submitted by Guadalupe's Session and had the support of Betania and First Yuma. Pastoral leaders from our Hispanic congregations and fellowships spoke of their own experiences as immigrants. It was noted that approximately 2% (40,000) of PC(USA) members are Hispanic. The following was approved:

**MOTION:** That the Presbytery of Grand Canyon overture the 220<sup>th</sup> General Assembly regarding immigration reform.

#### **COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY REPORT**

Rob Johnston and George Saylor explained the committee's request for the Presbytery to grant an exception to the educational requirements for ordination for Candidate Rebecca Harrison, who did not complete an undergraduate degree before enrolling at Fuller Seminary. The motion, which would have required a three-quarters vote, was defeated in a standing count of 78 for/35 against.

**STEWARDSHIP REPORTS**

Chuck Proudfoot, SMCD, reminded presbyters of the importance of mission giving. This was reinforced by Doug Baer, Budget and Finance, who reported that giving was down. All were asked to check on their individual church’s remittances to Presbytery. There was then a break as everyone gathered to tape a short segment for a new Presbytery video.

**CONTINUING SERIES ON REFORMED FAITH FUNDAMENTALS**

Dr. Wentzel van Huyssteen, professor of Theology and Science at Princeton Theological Seminary, gave a presentation on “What it means to be Reformed, always being Reformed as it applies to science.” Citing archaeological cave drawings, he spoke of man’s innate spirituality.

**MISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

After a break for lunch, the group reconvened and had an opportunity to hear updates on several ministries. Kathleen Day spoke about the outreach at Northern Arizona University sponsored by the PC(USA), Disciples of Christ, United Methodist Church and United Church of Christ. Joan Fenton, our Domestic Violence Educator, spoke about the very real problem of domestic abuse in our midst and distributed resource materials. Melynda Foust, representing the Educational Ministries Committee, explained that a scholarship account which had enabled a number of young people to benefit from Montlure’s summer camp experience was nearly depleted and in need of donations. She also reminded presbyters about the Phyllis Tickle event on Saturday, February 4, at Mission del Sol, co-hosted by Grand Canyon and deCristo, bringing the author of *The Great Emergence: How Christianity Is Changing and Why* to help us explore how to grow our churches and ministries as the culture shifts around us.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Bruce McBurney presented the following nominations, which were approved:

<u>Committee on Ministry</u>		<u>Preparation for Ministry</u>	
2013	Kathryn Owens	2014	LaBerta Collins (Salt River)
2014	Grace Mossman		Mary Danforth (Parker Valley)
	Kate Wilmoth		George Saylor (Chandler)
	Peggy Roberts		Brett Wingate (Historic First)
	Bob Schulz		
<u>Moderator Elect</u>		<u>Nominations</u>	
2014	Bob Schulz	2014	Renato Alvarez
			Bruce McBurney (Mission del Sol)
			Barbara Walker (Mesa First)
<u>Montlure Council</u>			
2014	Theresa Asher (University)		
	David Butterworth (Mtn View)		

Bruce announced the Nomination Committee’s proposed representatives to the 2012 General Assembly, with voting to take place at the January meeting to elect two minister and two church/elder commissioners from the following slate:

<b>Minister Nominees</b>	<b>Church/Elder Nominees</b>
Debra Avery	John Calvin
Lorelei Hillman	Maricopa First
Tom Lineweaver	Mingus View
Ken Page	Sun City First
Pat Young	Valley

### COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORT

Kathryn Owens introduced two items necessary due to changes in the *Book of Order* and the following were approved:

**MOTION:** That Commissioned Ruling Elders (formerly Commissioned Lay Pastors) be granted a vote at Presbytery meetings, counted as Elders elected from the Congregation (BOO G-3.301).

**MOTION:** To retain former categories of pastoral positions (Parish Associate, Designated, Interim, Stated Supply) until such time as COM proposes new categories for Presbytery approval.

### INTERIM PRESBYTER REPORT

Dave Wasserman commented on the joy of getting to know the Presbytery's diverse membership, most recently in working with the Hispanic representatives who crafted the immigration reform overture. He announced that Kayenta had completed thirty years of loan payments and presented them with a copy of their loan document so they could have an official mortgage-burning ceremony.

### DESERT HILLS ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION REPORT

Ron Hawkins, Chair, asked members of the Commission to introduce themselves, including their areas of expertise with finance and real estate. They answered various questions from the floor, such as their methods of determining property value and structuring the second mortgage to be held by the Presbytery. Ron explained that Desert Hills desired a continuing relationship with Leupp. When asked whether the Commission's recommendations could be viewed as precedent setting for future departures, the Commission stated its belief that each request, as well as financial terms, would have to be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Two motions to amend the Commission's report were introduced, and discussion followed. There was a motion to close debate on Motion 1, which passed. Motion 1 was defeated by voice vote. There was a motion to close debate on Motion 2, which passed. Motion 2 was defeated by voice vote.

Returning to the main motion, the question was called and a motion to close debate passed. The following was then approved by voice vote:

**MOTION:** To approve the following terms for dismissal, as recommended by the Presbytery's Desert Hills Administrative Commission:

1. DHPC will cover all out-of-pocket costs incurred by the Discernment Team and the Administrative Commission that are the result of their decision to withdraw from the PC (USA) (mileage, postage, appraisal costs, title search, etc.).
2. DHPC will cover the cost of transferring historic records (Session Minutes, Church Register, etc.) and the cost of copying any Presbytery records that are needed to make the church's records complete.

3. DHPC, subject to bank approval, will assume full responsibility for the existing mortgage, and see that the Presbytery is released of any and all responsibility for the \$1.129 Million mortgage, and pay the Presbytery \$800,000 in exchange for the Presbytery transferring title to the property to a new (or amended) Desert Hills non-profit corporation, owned by church members. Thus the total cash benefit to the Presbytery will be just under \$2 Million. The \$800,000 payment will be made as follows: at least \$300,000 will be paid initially, with the balance to be paid over a period not to exceed 10 years at a to-be-determined interest rate. The balance will be secured by a second mortgage held by the Presbytery with commercially typical provisions including prohibitions on increasing the amount of the existing mortgage without the Presbytery's consent.
4. DHPC will cover the legal, administrative and bank costs of reworking the bank loan as well as any potential bank required changes in loan terms.
5. DHPC will indemnify the Presbytery for liability claims that might arise from operations by DHPC while it was part of PC (USA) or its predecessor denomination.

Tom Lineweaver suggested and led a time of prayer where Desert Hills and the Presbytery were lifted up and encouraged to bless one another and depart in peace.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION TEAM UPDATE**

The Implementation Team presented a timeline for developing and initiating the new Presbytery structure, with a plan to be presented for approval at the January Presbytery meeting. A vote is planned on updated Bylaws at the March meeting and the new system is to be launched at the June meeting.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Fountain Hills congregation was thanked for its hospitality. A motion to adjourn the meeting following the worship service was approved.

#### **WORSHIP**

The Rev. Brant Baker delivered the sermon. Communion was served. Brant and Bill Good participated in the service, and special music was provided by Fountain Hills Presbyterian musicians. At the conclusion of worship the meeting was closed in prayer at 3:45 p.m. by Bill Good.

The next Stated Meeting of Presbytery was scheduled for January 27-28, 2012, to be held as a joint meeting with Presbytery deCristo at First Presbyterian Church in Casa Grande.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Presbytery Council, acting on its delegated authority, approved the Minutes of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon Stated Meeting of November 12, 2011, at the Council meeting on January 5, 2012.

S/Tony Cook

Tony Cook, Interim Assoc. Executive/Stated Clerk

January 5, 2012

Date

**THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION  
of  
THE PRESBYTERY OF GRAND CANYON  
of  
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

**DECISION  
(Corrected October 12, 2011)**

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

v.

Reverend Richard Pyke  
Minister of Word and Sacrament

Case 2011 – 1

**----- JURISDICTION -----**

This is a Disciplinary case which has come before the Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC) as a result of accusations submitted against Richard Pyke, a Minister of Word and Sacrament and a member of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon

The Permanent Judicial Commission finds that it has jurisdiction, that the charges against Rev. Pyke were filed with the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon within the required time limits.

**----- HISTORY -----**

The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon received by personal delivery Statements of Alleged Offense against Rev. Pyke from two accusers. The first was received on October 15, 2010 and the second on October 22, 2010. In accordance with the By-Laws of the presbytery an investigating committee was appointed on October 25, 2010. The investigating committee (IC) held its convening meeting on November 4, 2010 to begin its work.

During the investigation the investigating committee determined that were probable grounds to believe the alleged offenses had been committed by the Rev. Pyke. In accordance with Rules for Discipline D-10.0202h the IC initiated an Alternate Form of Resolution (AFR) with concurrence of the accusers, accused and their advocates. A mediation agreement was reached and signed on January 5, 2011. The next day the accused called the chairperson of the IC indicating unwillingness to abide by the agreement. While there was an initial attempt by the mediator to determine whether the accusers might be willing to engage in another meeting, it became clear to the IC that it would be unwise to attempt to continue the AFR process. Therefore the IC advised the accusers and Rev. Pyke that it would be proceeding to file charges.

11/12/11 Permanent Judicial Commission Decision

2PJC

Two Charges dated April 15, 2011 against Rev. Pyke were filed with the presbytery Stated Clerk. A Pretrial Conference was established for May 6, 2011. On May 2, 2011 Rev. Pyke requested of the Clerk of the PJC that he be heard on a request for counsel. The Moderator of the PJC granted the request and a conference call was held telephonically with the parties present. Rev. Pyke stated that he had been unable to locate counsel and did not have the resources to retain one. He further stated that he was uncomfortable attending the pretrial conference without counsel. The prosecuting committee did not have objection to the appointment of counsel for Rev. Pyke before the pretrial conference took place. The parties agreed to waive the 30-day pretrial requirements of D-10.0405 so that counsel could be appointed for Rev. Pyke. By Pretrial Order dated May 19, 2011 Elder Cecil Patterson, Southminster Presbyterian Church was appointed counsel for Rev. Pyke.

A pretrial conference was held on July 24, 2011 with all parties present. Amended Charges dated July 18, 2011 were filed by the Prosecuting Committee and had previously been provided to Rev. Pyke and his counsel. The amended charges were read by the moderator and he was advised of his rights. Rev. Pyke stated that he would plead guilty to Count One, the offense of sexual misconduct while in a counselor/parishioner relationship with the accuser, and Count Two, the offense of sexual misconduct while in a relationship with the accuser. The prosecuting committee presented a proposal for censure to which Rev. Pyke agreed of two years temporary exclusion from office and the prohibition from performing any music in any church, chapel, or any other Presbytery (U.S.A.) related facility or program within the bounds of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon for two years. A Censure Hearing only was established for September 18, 19, or 20, 2011 depending upon the availability of members of the PJC.

Subsequently a Conference Call was held on August 12, 2011 to hear a request from Rev. Pyke's Counsel that the case be continued beyond the September dates due to Rev. Pyke's pending surgery and recovery time. Following review of availability with the parties and the accusers the Permanent Judicial Commission was called to a Censure-only Hearing in the matter of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) v. Rev. Richard Pyke on Friday, September 30, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.

----- **CHARGES** -----

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) charges Richard Pyke, a Minister of Word and Sacrament, with the following offenses:

1. On or about January 1984 and continuing, you, Richard Pyke did commit the offense of sexual misconduct while in a counselor/parishioner relationship with the accuser and did engage in a sexual relationship with her. Further, you did commit sexual abuse pursuant to D-10.0401 (C) (2) in the misuse of office or position. These actions are in violation of the Scriptures and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) particularly in regard to First Corinthians 6:12-20, First Thessalonians 4:3-6, and the Book of Order, G-6.0106b and W-4.4003c,d,e,f,g and D-10.0401 (C) (2).
2. On or about summer of 1980, you, Richard Pyke, did commit the offense of sexual misconduct in that you, while in a relationship with the accuser, engaged in sexual relations with her. The relationship continued through November of 1980. Further, you did commit sexual abuse pursuant to D-10.0401 (C) (2) in the misuse of office or position. These actions are in violation of the Scriptures and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) particularly in regard to First Corinthians 6:12-20, First Thessalonians 4:3-6, and Book of Order, G-6.0106b and W-4.4003c,d,e,f,g and D-10.0401 (C) (2).

**--- VERDICT ---**

At the Pretrial Conference of July 24, 2011 Rev. Richard Pyke plead guilty to the above charges and as a result, a Censure-only Hearing is being held this date by the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon. Rev. Pyke, through his counsel, Cecil Patterson, reaffirmed his guilty verdict before the full commission at the commencement of the Censure Hearing pursuant to D-11.0402d.

**--- CENSURE HEARING ---**

The Permanent Judicial Commission proceeded to the Censure Hearing. Mr. Fullerton, for the prosecuting committee, made opening remarks. He sought to introduce Rev. Michelle Moe as an expert witness on clergy sexual misconduct. Mr. Patterson objected on the basis of insufficient and untimely notice, in that the witness filing by the prosecuting committee did not provide any basis for Rev. Moe's expert status. Mr. Fullerton responded that the Rules of Discipline did not require additional disclosure. The Moderator allowed Mr. Fullerton to elucidate additional information about Rev. Moe's past training. Mr. Patterson then reiterated his objection. The Permanent Judicial Commission recessed and considered the issue. Based upon the principles of church justice in D-1.0101 and D-1.0102, the Commission determined that justice in this matter is best served by excluding the testimony of Rev. Moe as inadequately disclosed in advance of the hearing.

Mr. Fullerton then introduced the first victim, who gave her Victim Impact Statement pursuant to D-11.0403e. Her impact statement noted how she and Rev. Pyke had first met at age 13. She subsequently had sought counseling from him as a campus minister while at ASU, which contact turned into a sexual relationship during which time Rev. Pyke assured her that she could trust him because he was a minister. Rev. Pyke later terminated the relationship, but would remind the victim of the relationship in a way that was harmful to her and led to loss of trust in the Church, feelings of confusion and humiliation, loss of self esteem, and loss of fellowship. These feelings and thoughts had continued throughout the intervening 27 years, recurring even during the last year.

Mr. Fullerton then introduced the second victim, who gave her Victim Impact Statement pursuant to D-11.0403e. Her impact statement noted that they had met when she was 15. She then met him again when she was in her early 20s at her sister's wedding. She was then pursued by him in a pattern of seduction, ultimately leading to an inappropriate sexual relationship without any inquiry by him as to her feelings. Rev. Pyke assured her that he was a minister and would not hurt her. The relationship terminated shortly thereafter, but Rev. Pyke abused her by mocking her and making sexual innuendos at meetings that both attended. These actions caused loss of sense of self, loss of faith and self esteem. She also fell into despair, self-loathing and even self-hatred and has felt shame and isolation from the Church. She was motivated to come forward when she learned Rev. Pyke was seeking a new position in the Church.

Mr. Patterson, for Rev. Pyke, stressed that only the two specific instances alleged were before the Commission and that other incidents that may have been mentioned should not be considered. He emphasized that Rev. Pyke is Honorably Retired and that many folks had benefitted from his ministries. He proffered letters from some of those during the ASU campus ministry period when the admitted violations occurred. He emphasized that Rev. Pyke had moved on and was now 75 years old and was older, wiser and more respectful. He urged the Commission to respect the stipulated censure agreed by the prosecuting committee and the accused.

Mr. Fullerton, in closing, emphasized the nature of the offense and urged the Commission to respect the stipulated censure. The stipulated censure is:

1. That the Reverend Richard Pyke shall be temporarily excluded from the practice of ministry for a period of two years.
2. That the Reverend Richard Pyke shall be barred from performing any music in any church, chapel, or any other Presbytery, USA related facility or program within the bounds of the Presbytery of the Grand Canyon for two years.
3. That printed documentation of the offense and censure be placed in the accused's file maintained by the Presbytery of the Grand Canyon, and that upon the expiration of the temporary exclusion, that the accused acknowledge the offense and censure in completing any pastor's information form.

PJC member Pulido asked Mr. Fullerton if Rev. Pyke was participating in therapy and expressed concern that the condition not continue. Mr. Fullerton explained some of Rev. Pyke's therapy and deferred to Mr. Patterson. Mr. Patterson asked Rev. Pyke to talk about his therapy, if no cross examination would occur, to which Mr. Fullerton consented. Rev. Pyke then spoke about participating in a 12-Step program for the last year and a half and about a number of trainings that he had attended on clergy sexual misconduct and training on boundaries.

The Permanent Judicial Commission then recessed to consider the matter privately in accordance with D-11.0403.

**--- FINDINGS OF FACT ---**

By a unanimous vote, the Commission accepted the plea of guilty on Count #1.

By a unanimous vote, the Commission accepted the plea of guilty on Count #2.

The Commission finds that the offenses were committed, that the offenses represent a misuse of the office of minister of Word and Sacrament, and that the offenses have resulted in continuing harm to the victims.

The Commission further finds aggravating circumstances in that the accused built upon a relationship that had started when the victims were youths and the accused used his position as minister of Word and Sacrament to establish a relationship of trust to facilitate an inappropriate sexual relationship.

The Commission further finds that the accused, Rev. Richard Pyke, did not exhibit an understanding of the full effects and ramifications of his actions in this matter.

The Commission finds that the Stipulation Regarding Recommended Censure proffered in this matter does not fully reflect the seriousness of the admitted offenses, does not accomplish the goals of Church discipline of "making clear the significance of membership in the body of Christ," does not achieve fully "correct or restrain wrongdoing in order to bring members to repentance and restoration," and does not fully uphold the dignity of those who have been harmed by the offenses.

In order to address these concerns, the Permanent Judicial Commission drew from the concept of "voluntary acts of repentance" in D-12.0103d to help better achieve the goals of D-1.0101 and D-1.0102.

The Permanent Judicial Commission then returned to open session and the Moderator, in open meeting, presented the findings and censure of the Commission in this matter, as follows:

11/12/11 Permanent Judicial Commission Decision

5PJC

## ----- ORDER -----

THIS PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION, ACTING AS A COURT OF THE CHURCH, THEREFORE IMPOSES THE CENSURE OF TEMPORARY EXCLUSION FROM EXERCISE OF ORDAINED OFFICE as follows.

Whereas, you, Richard Pyke, have been found guilty of the offenses of:

1. Committing the offense of sexual misconduct in January 1984 while in a counselor/parishioner relationship with the accuser and did engage in a sexual relationship with her. Further, you did commit sexual abuse pursuant to D-10.0401 (C)(2) in the misuse of office or position. These actions are in violation of the Scriptures and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) particularly in regard to First Corinthians 6:12-20, First Thessalonians 4:3-6, and the Book of Order, G-6.0106b and W-4.4003c,d,e,f,g and D-10.0401 (C) (2).
2. Committing the offense of sexual misconduct in the Summer of 1980 in that you, while in a relationship with the accuser, engaged in sexual relations with her. The inappropriate sexual relationship continued through November of 1980. Further, you did commit sexual abuse pursuant to D-10.0401 (C) (2) in the misuse of office or position. These actions are in violation of the Scriptures and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) particularly in regard to First Corinthians 6:12-20, First Thessalonians 4:3-6, and the Book of Order, G-6.0106b and W-4.4003c,d,e,f,g and D-10.0401 (C) (2).

And by such offenses you have acted contrary to the Scriptures and the *Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*; now, therefore, the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, in the name and by the authority of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), does now declare you temporarily excluded from the exercise of any ordained office in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for a period of five years, unless you choose to voluntarily make a public acknowledgement of guilt and of the harm to victims, who will remain unnamed unless they consent, and of repentance on the floor of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, in which case the period of temporary exclusion shall be for two years and shall also include refraining from performing any music in any church, chapel or other Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) facility within the bounds of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon for like period.

The Presbytery of Grand Canyon shall place printed documentation of the offense and this censure in your personnel file maintained by the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, and that upon expiration of the period of temporary exclusion, that you shall acknowledge the offenses and censure in completing any pastor's information form.

The Presbytery of Grand Canyon shall send a copy of this decision to the Executive Presbyter, Stated Clerk, and Chair of the Committee of Ministry of each presbytery in which you may reside during the period of this censure so that they may provide ministry to you as a member of the church.

This censure was followed by intercessory prayer in accordance with D-12.0104a.

**--- POST CENSURE MATTERS ---**

Mr. Patterson asked whether the Commission would provide a more detailed explanation of the statement to the Presbytery. The Moderator responded that the basic requirements would appear in the Commission's order, but that repentance is personal and that the Commission declined to provide a formulary for Rev. Pyke to follow.

There being no further business, the Commission retired to prepare this written Order.

**--- MEMBERS PARTICIPATING ---**

Elder Eric Hiser, moderator, Elder William Noyes, clerk, and members Elder Rochelle Mackey, Rev. Gloria Pulido, and Elder Patti Shelton participated for the Commission. Rev. Marilyn Manning, last class, participated in the hearing as an alternate, but did not participate in the decision. Rev. Larry Eaken, Elder Robert Luna, Rev. Brant Baker, and Rev. Peggy Roberts, member(s) of the Commission, were not present and took no part in the proceedings.

**--- SEPTEMBER 30, 2011 ---**

Dated this 30th day of September 30, 2011

Corrected October 12, 2011 with unanimous consent of the participating PJC members

S/Eric L. Hiser

Eric L. Hiser

Moderator, Permanent Judicial Commission

S/William E. Noyes

William E. Noyes

Clerk, Permanent Judicial Commission