

# E-FOCUS-Presbytery at a glance



## Weekly Missive

### Voiced and Voiceless Mary and Elizabeth



Christmas begins in the Word.  
In the beginning was the Word.  
The Word was with God and was God.  
And the Word became flesh and dwelled among us.

But in the Mystery of God some words are not spoken:  
Zechariah is silenced and Joseph says nary a nary.  
In the Gospels the Patriarchy are forced to listen;  
the powerful endure the fate of those whose lives they too often control.

In the Gospels it is the Voiceless who spoke first and who spoke most clearly:  
Elizabeth, the very first "Christian," exclaimed,  
Mary, sang the song for the ages:  
The Reign of God inbreaking through social reversal.

Can *we* move beyond the need for #MeToo?  
What will it take to nurture a sacred silence among *we* who have everything?  
How can *we* give voice to the Voiceless?  
Will *we* listen to Elizabeth exclaim and Mary sing this Advent?

Awaiting Christ's Return,  
Brad Munroe



## IGNITE THE SPARK

The Rev. T. Denise Anderson is co-Moderator of the General Assembly and pastor of Unity Presbyterian Church in Temple Hills, MD. Together with co-Moderator Jan Edmiston, Denise has called the denomination, first, to examine our own ministry practices related to race and, second, be intentional in reaching across racial lines to “engage the conversation” toward exhibit the Kingdom of God to the world (the Sixth Great End of the Church). Denise’s workshop will discuss the perspective and practices needed, and the ideas and opportunities possible, for churches to cultivate best practices for multi-cultural ministry.

[REGISTER](#)

## Presbytery-wide Shoe Drive "Kicks" Off

A Presbytery of Grand Canyon and Presbytery of de Cristo are pleased to introduce a NEW SHOE drive for any congregations willing to participate. We invite YOU to bring a new pair of shoes (Youth or Adult) to the January 26-27 Presbytery meeting in Casa Grande. The shoes will be collected and distributed to any participating church for distribution to your church community. If your church is interested in receiving a portion of the shoes collected, click here for a form to complete and return to the Presbytery office.



[More information](#)



**You are invited to the Ordination and Installation of  
Emily Hooks as Associate Pastor at  
Desert Palms Presbyterian Church, Sun City West  
at 3 p.m. on Sunday, December 17, 2017.**

### Give to the Christmas Joy Offering

Every Christmas, we express our gratitude for the birth of our savior by supporting the Christmas Joy Offering (CJO), which equally supports the [Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions](#) and Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.

[Click for more information](#)



## Give Gifts that Count

As the Church reflects on the grace of God manifested through God’s gift of the birth of Christ, we encourage congregations to respond in gratitude. As a leader in your presbytery that has connection and influence with the congregations in your region, we want to encourage you to support those who are taking this offering, and raise awareness of the opportunity with those who aren’t. [Catalogue](#)

### TIDBITS: Highlights from Churches around the Presbytery

#### RESOURCES

- [This Week's PC\(USA\) News](#)
- [The Thoughtful Christian- Books, Resources](#)
- [Jobs- Southminster, First, Mesa, Memorial, UPC](#)
- [Weekly Calendar](#)
- [Presbyterian Women News](#)
- [Clerk's Corner](#)
- [Board of Pensions-December](#)
- [Offering plates, Hymnals, robes, Organs and other things to give away](#)
- [Presbytery-wide events](#)



- Genie Zavaleta, who is having serious health issues

Visit our website



## MISSION NEWS

### News from Leslie Vogel

This year has brought many vocational challenges along with deep satisfactions. I am ever grateful to God for the opportunities to work and serve with and through CEDEPCA, accompanying North Americans who want to learn more about how God is at work in Guatemala, and also accompanying Guatemalans who are willing partners in God’s work of bringing about God’s reign of justice and peace in a land where the very opposite are far too easily found.



[Read her report](#)

Check out everything happening with Montlure here and sign up for our monthly newsletter: <http://mailchi.mp/5b7a4783fb0b/smore-news-november-2017>

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## **A disaster overwhelms the local resources.**

We say that all disasters are local and all disasters are unique. Note that yes it takes outside resources to handle a disaster yet the local folks are most important in the response and they affect the ultimate outcomes. This is another reason why disaster preparation is most important.

- [Active shooter: How to Respond Booklet, Pamphlet, Pocket Card and Poster.](#)
- [Developing High Quality Emergency Plans for Houses of Worship](#)
- <https://www.dhs.gov/private-citizen>



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## News and Events

### **DECEMBER**

[Office closed December 22-25](#). Staff will work from home December 26-29.

### **JANUARY**

26- Ignite the Spark with T. Denise Anderson- [Register](#)  
26-27- Annual Stated Meeting of Presbytery, First, Casa Grande

### **MARCH**

[2-4 Good Day for the Blues Youth Weekend at Orangewood](#)

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