

## MINUTES

Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon

November 6-7, 2015

### CALL TO ORDER

The Presbytery of Grand Canyon of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held its November Stated Meeting at Community Presbyterian Church in Pinetop. Mary Lynn Walters, Moderator, opened the meeting at 3:00 p.m. with the lighting of the Peace Candle and prayer. Bob Schulz, Stated Clerk, reported that a quorum was present, consisting of at least 15 teaching elders and 15 ruling elders with at least 15 churches being represented.

Commissioners attending for the first time and other guests were welcomed. New minister member Kristin Rice (At-Large) was introduced. The Rules of Decorum and Debate and procedures for voting on the Gracious Dismissal Policy as a proposed amendment to the Presbytery of Grand Canyon Manual of Operations were approved.

### ROLL

#### Teaching Elders Present – 41

Berry, Thomas	Joynt, David	Muenich, Karen	Smallegan, David
Cameron, Stu	Keesecker, Joe	Munroe, Brad	Spence, Edward
Evans, Jonathan	Ledermann, Eric	Nielsen, Richard	Tilly, Mark
Freitas, Eneyas	Letizia, Gordon	Olagues, José	Uhley, James
Gephart, Al	Lineweaver, Thomas	Page, Kenneth	Watkins, Gale
Hartwell, Michael	Martin, Stan	Palmer, Terry	Wellington, Judy
Hawkins, Darren	McCabe, Norma	Poling, John	Wescott, Linda
Hawkins, Ron	Moe, Michelle	Proudfoot, Charles	Young, Patricia
Hicks, Mae	Moe, Kenneth	Rice, Kristin	
Hodgson, David	Moorefield, Susan	Saylor, Mary	
Japenga, Mike	Moser, Paul	Simmons, Robert	

#### Churches/Ruling Elder Commissioners Present – 45

Alpine - Linda Sonive	Mission del Sol - George Prohaska
Bethany - Lanny Trapnell	Orangewood - Keith Wetzel
Celebration of Life - Isabella Wahl	Payson Community - John Wilson
Crosswinds - Teri Conrad	Peoria First - Noel Crowl
Desert Palms - Betty Drew, Jane Linville, Jean Montgomery	Pinetop Community - Paul Elgin, John Marble
Emmanuel - Laurie Van Dyke	Pinnacle - Laurie Porter
Fort Defiance - Donna Etsitty	Prescott Trinity - Connie Palmrose
Fountain Hills - John Bivens, John Brockelman	Scottsdale - Tina Sedlock
Ganado - Custer Lowe	Sierra Vista - Cindy Michels
Gila Crossing - Anthony Hill	Sierra Vista - Glen Moss
Gilbert - Rocky Mackey, Pam Russell	Southminster - Doris Lewis
Guadalupe - Selena Keesecker	Sunnyslope - Willie Zunker
Heritage - Mike Clark	University - Lawn Griffiths
Horizon - Chuck Jarrell	Urban Connect - Lynn Augsburg
Kayenta - Milinda Benallie	Vah-Ki - Hershel Andrews
Lehi - Eugene Chiago	Valley - Gloria Gabler
Mesa First - Bill Lents	Westminster - Don Merritt
Mingus View - Susan Goe, John MacFadden	Yarnell Community - JerrieLea Hopf, Ron Hopf
	Yuma First - Lucy Boal, Melissa Irr

#### Commissioned Ruling Elders Present – 5

Mary Danforth	Lois Hildenbrand	Calvin Kelly
Danny Halwood	Paul Jones	

**Ruling Elder Leadership Team Members and Commission/Committee Moderators Present**

Kathryn Owens	Paul Rooker	Mary Lynn Walters
Rob Rhoades	Bob Schulz	Gloria Young

**Staff Members Present**

Beth Kath	Carolyn McBurney
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**Visitors Present**

There were 26 registered visitors present.

**Teaching Elders Excused**

Alvarez, Renato	Eckert, Peter	Martz, Robert	Selestewa, Sharon
Anderson, Fred	Eisenhower, LauraGrace	Mayes, Robert	Serchak, David
Anderson, Richard	Engstrom, Bud	Melendez, Hipolito	Serchak, Jo
Arbesman, Janet	Farwell, Barbara	Meredith, Ralph	Simms, Lowelle
Baer, Doug	Flahiff, John	Merwald, Alfred	Smith, Esther
Bailey, Linda	Fletcher, Tully	Miller, Jerry	Soderquist, Paul
Barcanic, Naomi	Fooks, John	Miller, Craig	Straatmeyer, Al
Baxter, Patricia	Forsberg, David	Moranville, Thomas	Swicegood, Terry
Bell, Arthur	Fowler, Douglas	Murman, Kimberly	Ulrickson, Paul
Berg, George	Fox, Charles	Northrup, Cathy	Valle, Paula
Bibiloni, Jose	Fulton, Helmi	Oppenhuizen, Kathleen	Van Arsdale, David
Bigler, Robert	Gray, Barrie	Parker, Gayle	Vautier, Grif
Blincoe, Robert	Hayes, William	Parker, Thomas	Vautier, Holly
Brahams, Harry	Hodgson, Deanne	Pfeffer, William	Vogel, Leslie
Bruening, James	Holland, Cheri	Phillips, Norman	Voth, John
Burtless , Stanford	Houdeshell, Donovan	Phillips, Beverly	Walker, David
Byall, Lowell	Jacobs, Lynn	Porter, Don	Wallace, David
Byers, Harold	Jennison, Cynthia	Pratt, Edward	Weir, Kyle
Campbell, Arthur	Joe, Victor	Pulido, Gloria	White, Frank
Citron, Suzanne	Johnson, Caleb	Rae, Robert	Wilcher, Jay
Clark, Bobbye	Jousan, Mike	Ramos, Gonzalo	Witt, Bill
Clark, Robert	Kesler, Jim	Ramsdell, Richard	Witte, Cathy
Cook, John	Kim, Myung Bae	Remer, James	Worsnop, Linda
Corazin, Nan Lyn	Mann, Melissa	Sabbagh, John	Wright, Douglas
Davis, Harrell	Kirk, Wayne	Sadongei, Martha	Wright, Eugene
Doh, Joseph	Kush, Gary	Saylor, George	Young, Alvin
Dulaney, Robert	Latty, Allan	Schenck, Jed	Zabriskie, Richard
Eaken, Lawrence	Lefebvre, Eugene	Schmitt, Gus	

**Churches/Ruling Elder Commissioners Excused**

Northminster	Palo Cristi	Verde Valley
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**Teaching Elders Absent**

Anderson, Mark	Evans, Lloyd	Kim, Kwang	Song, Seok Min
Avram, Wesley	Garcia, Joaquin	Lloyd, Linda	Stahmer, Bruce
Beard, Steve	Goad, Jessica	Miller, Joan	Tamayo, Erin
Brandfass, Gwen	Good, Bill	Ramirez, Julio	Turner, David
Brown, Kelsy	Harmon, Frank	Roberts, Margaret	Wintz, Susan
Bybee, David	Hart, Floyd	Schultz, Harris	Wintz, Michael
Cho, Yongho	Hilla, Andrew	Schumacher, Bruce	Wood, Patricia Cockrell
Crelin, James	Johnson, Bruce	Seller, Ben	
Doh, Helen	Kerber, Keith	Sexton, Kirk	

**Commissioned Ruling Elders Absent**

Annette Lewis Martha Lopez Loredo Sam Weinschenk

**Churches Absent**

Arizona Korean	Church of the Master	Lake Havasu	Salt River
Betania	Faith	Community	Springerville
Blackwater	Flagstaff Federated	Leupp First	Sun City-First
Central	Fort McDowell	Maricopa First	Tuba City
Chandler	Goodyear Village	Memorial	Wellton Community
Chinle Trinity	Indian Wells	Parker Valley	Wickenburg First
Christ	John Calvin	Sacaton First	Winslow

**AGENDA**

Presbytery approved the agenda:

**Friday, November 6, 2015**

3:00 p.m.	Call to Order, Lighting of Peace Candle, Opening Prayer	Mary Lynn Walters
3:05 p.m.	Welcoming First Time Commissioners, Teaching Elders, Guests	
	Enrolling Corresponding Members	
	Establishing a Quorum	
	Approving the Docket	
	Approving the Consent Agenda	
	Approving the Rules of Decorum	
	Receiving New Business	
	Being Greeted by our Host Congregation	Tom Berry
	Sharing the Peace of Christ	
3:20 p.m.	Commission on Ministry	
	Approval of Child Protection and Sexual Misconduct Prevention Policy	Bob Schulz
	Examination of Candidates	Lawn Griffiths
	Robert Felix, Jennifer Fraser, and Kelsey Woodruff	
4:20 p.m.	Break	
4:35 p.m.	Nominations – Commission, Committee and Team	Ed Spence
	Election of GA Commissioners and YAAD	Ken Page
5:50 p.m.	Triennium Information	Tom Berry
6:00 p.m.	Dinner	
7:00 p.m.	Worship and Celebration of the Lord’s Supper	
8:00 p.m.	Alpine Administrative Commission Report	George Prohaska
8:30 p.m.	Springerville Administrative Commission Report	Ed Spence
9:00 p.m.	Recess	

**Saturday, November 7, 2015**

8:00 a.m.	Reconvene	Mary Lynn Walters
8:05 a.m.	Presbytery Pastor Report	Brad Munroe
	Discussion of Presbytery Transformation Grant	
8:45 a.m.	Stated Clerk Report	Bob Schulz
	Sale of North Peoria Property	
	Establishment of NA Asset Evaluation Team	
8:55 a.m.	Leadership Team Report	Ken Page
	Dismissal of The Spring fellowship to ECO	

9:10 a.m.	Sunnyslope/Winslow Administrative Commission Report	Michael Hartwell
9:25 a.m.	Presentation of George Brooks Award: Hubert A. Ross, Sr.	John Bivens
9:40 a.m.	Break	
9:55 a.m.	Resources Committee Report	Rob Rhodes
	Presentation of the 2016 budget	
10:10 a.m.	Approval of Child Protection and Sexual Misconduct Prevention Policy	Ken Page
11:30 a.m.	Adjourn with Closing Hymn and Prayer	Mary Lynn Walters

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**GREETING**

The Rev. Tom Berry, Pastor, welcomed Presbytery to Pinetop Presbyterian Church. He explained that the congregation was pleased to have just completed renovations prior to the Presbytery meeting, including a new roof on the sanctuary.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Presbytery considered the Consent Agenda, presented as a record of actions taken on behalf of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon in accordance with the responsibilities granted to the various ministry teams, commissions, and committees under the Bylaws and/or Manual of Administrative Operations of the Presbytery. A series of actions by the Leadership Team on September 2, 2015 regarding concurrence with proposed overtures from Foothills Presbytery to the 2016 General Assembly were removed. The remainder of the Consent Agenda was approved, as follows:

11/6-7/15 Consent Agenda

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**1. Leadership Team Report**

**Actions taken at the August 5, 2015 meeting**

Approved a Mission Priority Funding Grant in the amount of \$14,000 for participation by up to 16 Teaching Elders in the Hearts and Minds cohort program, co-sponsored by Presbytery of Inland Northwest and the Whitworth Institute of Ministry, to encourage spiritual formation and biblical preaching and teaching.

Approved taking an offering at the November 6-7 Presbytery meeting to be dedicated to providing scholarship funding for Grand Canyon 2016 Presbyterian Youth Triennium participants.

Authorized a three-person task force (John Poling, Custer Lowe and Paul Rooker) to meet with the Board of The Spring fellowship to agree upon a Memo of Understanding based on the fellowship’s desire to become a congregation in the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO).

Elected these nominees on behalf of the Presbytery, as presented by the Operations Committee:

Congregational Resourcing

2015	Kaye Huckelberry (Yarnell)	2017	Shannon Langston (Peoria)
2015	Jane Linville (Desert Palms)	2017	Rev. Sharon Selestewa
		2017	Fred Warren (Southminster)

11/6-7/15 Consent Agenda

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**Actions taken at the September 2, 2015 meeting**

Approved, in the event the Session of Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church informs the Presbytery their church is seeking dismissal, that the Leadership Team, on behalf of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, appoint an Administrative Commission to dismiss Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church to another Reformed denomination after discernment and definition of terms for dismissal for the congregation. The process will conform to the current Presbytery Policy for Congregations Desiring a Departure from the PC(USA), using current interpretations of constitutionality developed through General Assembly PJC decisions and orders issued on related cases which are specific as to what must be considered in dismissal proceedings.

Elected TE John Poling to serve as the Leadership Team Moderator-Elect for 2015, and then as Leadership Team Moderator for 2016.

Approved a Memorandum of Understanding between The Spring and the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, as amended, reading as follows:

**Memorandum of Understanding**

This document will serve as a Memorandum of Understanding between The Spring Worshiping Fellowship and the Presbytery of Grand Canyon. The purpose of this MOU is to release The Spring from its affiliation with the Presbytery of Grand Canyon and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

This release has been initiated by The Spring and received by the Leadership Team of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon with love and prayers for a continued and successful ministry in service to Jesus Christ.

The Spring and the Presbytery of Grand Canyon have enjoyed a relationship of mutual support and recognition. There is neither animosity nor distrust by either party in this separation of affiliation. The Spring feels its theological and missional direction could best be served by affiliation with the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO), a Reformed body, and this release is contingent upon acceptance by ECO of The Spring as a worshipping community. The Presbytery of Grand Canyon will continue to include The Spring in its present insurance and other arrangements until that acceptance occurs.

The Spring has determined they wish to make a gift of the monetary investment made to them by The Presbytery of Grand Canyon for ministry and mission tasks. It is The Spring's hope to have this sum of \$12,350 applied to some other start-up worshipping entity, yet they attach no restrictions to this gift.

The Presbytery and The Spring wish to remain in good standing with each other – supporting in ministry and mission, and enjoying the warm relationship fostered by the love of Jesus Christ and desire to move His call to spread the message of redemptive love to all that would hear.

11/6-7/15 Consent Agenda

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**Actions taken at the October 7, 2015 meeting**

Acting as the Presbytery Board of Trustees approved the sale of the Winslow Presbyterian Church manse, as recommended by the presbytery's Resources Committee, property located at 145 Cochise Drive, Winslow, Arizona, (Desert View Estates #2 Lot 78) for the amount of \$70,000.

Acting as the Presbytery Board of Trustees authorized Stated Clerk Robert Schulz to act on behalf of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon in signing documents pertaining to the sale of the Winslow manse.

**2. Commission on Ministry Report**

**Actions taken at the August 25, 2015 meeting**

**Soderquist, Paul**

Revised the March 24, 2015 action to transfer the membership of the Rev. Paul Soderquist from the Presbytery of Prospect Hill to the Presbytery of Grand Canyon (At-Large), effective March 31, 2015 to change his status to HR, pending that action by the Presbytery of Prospect Hill.

**Johnston, Robert**

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. Robert Johnston from the Presbytery of Grand Canyon to the Presbytery of the West, Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC) effective August 25, 2015, resulting in renunciation of jurisdiction and removal from the Rolls, pursuant to *Book of Order* provision G-2.0509.

**Miller, Joan**

Validated the ministry of the Rev. Joan Miller as Pastor to St. Matthew United Methodist Church in Mesa, Arizona as a Validated Ministry Beyond the Jurisdiction, effective August 25, 2015.

**Fraser, Jennifer**

Approved the Stated Supply Pastor Agreement (previously approved May 26, 2015) between Jennifer Fraser and Gilbert Presbyterian Church as a position appropriate for offering a Call leading to ordination, dependent upon Jennifer's successful examination by our Presbytery at its November 6-7, 2015 meeting.

**Beghin, Emily**

Approved the request of Emily Beghin to be ordained on October 11, 2015, at Pinnacle Presbyterian Church, pending approval of her examination by the Presbytery of Detroit on September 22, 2015, with Administrative Commission members to be determined, and approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. Emily Beghin from the Presbytery of Grand Canyon to the Presbytery of Detroit, effective October 11, 2015, in order that she may serve as a Resident Minister at First Presbyterian Church in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**Olagues, José**

Approved the appointment of the Rev. Jose Olagues (HR) to serve as Moderator of First Presbyterian Church of Yuma, effective August 25, 2015.

11/6-7/15 Consent Agenda

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**Indian Wells Presbyterian Church**

Approved the Pastoral Agreement between Roger Keams and Indian Wells Presbyterian Church for pulpit supply for a period of one year effective May 10, 2015, 2015, subject to 30 days notice for termination, on the following terms:

Salary	\$2,600	Vacation	15 days
		Continuing Ed	7 days

**Sexual Misconduct Policy**

Recommended the proposed modification of the Sexual Misconduct Prevention Policy for approval by the Presbytery.

**Actions taken at the September 22, 2015 meeting**

**Hicks, David**

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. David Hicks from the Presbytery of Grand Canyon to the Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys, effective August 1, 2015, in order that he may accept the position of Interim Pastor to First Presbyterian Church in Pipestone, Minnesota.

**Manning, Marilyn**

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. Marilyn Manning (HR), at her request, from the Presbytery of Grand Canyon to San Gabriel Presbytery, effective October 1, 2015.

**Japenga, Michael**

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. Mike Japenga from Presbytery de Cristo to the Presbytery of Grand Canyon (At-Large), effective September 22, 2015.

**Merwald, Alfred**

Granted the status of Honorably Retired to the Rev. Alfred Merwald, effective February 25, 2014, as originally requested when he transferred to the Presbytery of Grand Canyon from John Knox Presbytery.

**Parker, Gayle**

Granted the status of Honorably Retired to the Rev. Gayle Parker, effective October 1, 2015.

**Beghin, Emily**

Approved the following Administrative Commission to Ordain the Rev. Emily Beghin at Pinnacle Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 11, 2015, at 2:00 p.m.:

Teaching Elders

Wes Avram  
 Larry Corbett  
 Kathy Oppenhuizen

Ruling Elders

Brent Hlyton (Pinnacle)  
 Carol Skewes (Fountain Hills)  
 Frank Walmsley (Gilbert)  
 Mary Lynn Walters (Memorial)

11/6-7/15 Consent Agenda

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**Chandler Presbyterian Church**

Approved the request of Chandler Presbyterian Church to seek a Designated Pastor for a one-year period.

Approved the MIF of Chandler Presbyterian Church, with the request that a document with amended demographic and narrative sections be submitted to COM within 90 days.

**Actions taken at the October 27, 2015 meeting**

**Rice, Kristin**

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. Kristin Rice from John Knox Presbytery to the Presbytery of Grand Canyon (At-Large), effective October 27, 2015.

**Walker, David**

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. David Walker (HR) from the Presbytery of Denver to the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, effective October 27, 2015, subject to approval of the membership committee.

**Khjeek, Estawri**

Acting as a commission on behalf of the Presbytery, approved the membership of the Rev. Estawri Khjeek in the Presbytery of Grand Canyon (At-Large), effective October 27, 2015, subject to approval of the membership committee, as recommended by the Commission on Preparation for Ministry and in accordance with *Book of Order* G-2.0505 and the Presbytery Bylaws and Manual of Administrative Operations.

**Japenga, Michael**

Approved the Pastoral Call of the Rev. Mike Japenga to serve as Designated Pastor to Chandler Presbyterian Church for a period of one year effective October 19, 2015, subject to 30 days notice for termination, on the following terms:

Salary	\$30,600	Pension/Medical	BOP dues as required
Housing Allowance	14,400	Vacation	Five weeks
Expense Allowance	3,000	Study Leave	Two weeks

**Davis, Harrell**

Approved dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Harrell Davis and First Presbyterian Church of Sun City at his request, pending congregational action, and granted Rev. Davis the status of Honorably Retired effective December 31, 2015.

**Courtney, Philip**

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. Phil Courtney, at his request, from the Presbytery of Grand Canyon to the Presbytery of Geneva, effective October 27, 2015.



11/6-7/15 Consent Agenda

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**Fraser, Jennifer**

Approved the following Administrative Commission to Ordain the Rev. Jennifer Fraser as Associate Stated Supply Pastor to Gilbert Presbyterian Church, dependent upon Jen's successful examination by our Presbytery at its November 6-7, 2015 meeting, with the ordination to take place at University Presbyterian Church on Sunday, November 15, 2015, at 3:30 p.m.:

Teaching Elders

Eric Ledermann  
Terry Palmer  
Gale Watkins  
Patricia Cockrell Wood

Ruling Elders

Gloria Gabler (Valley)  
Lawn Griffiths (University)  
Rocky Mackey (Gilbert)  
Mary Lynn Walters (Memorial)

**Moorefield, Susan**

Approved the following Administrative Commission to Install the Rev. Susan Moorefield as Pastor to Faith Presbyterian Church on Sunday, November 1, 2015, at 3:00 p.m.:

Teaching Elders

James Crelin  
Jim Meadows  
Charles Proudfoot  
Judy Wellington  
Pat Young

Ruling Elders

Jennifer Fraser (University)  
Debra Hepler (Ghost Ranch)  
Linda Trovato (Faith)  
Mary Lynn Walter (Memorial)

**3. Commission on Preparation for Ministry Report**

**Actions taken at the September 15, 2015 meeting**

Certified Hilbert Schouten ready to be commissioned by our Presbytery as a Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) and to refer Hilbert to the Commission on Ministry for their consideration.

Accepted the resignation of Tom Lineweaver as a member of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry.

**Actions taken at the October 20, 2015 meeting**

Approved advising COM that CPM met with Estawri Khjeek twice to review his credentials of membership in the Presbyterian Church of Iraq, education at the Evangelical School of Theology of Jordan and other documentation concerning his work and studies, as well as his written response to the six questions CPM requires of those from other denominations seeking membership and 1) found that Estawri meets the provisions of Form of Government G-2.0505 Transfer of Ministers of Other Denominations and 2) recommends that in accordance with G-2.0505(2) the Presbytery be requested to grant by a two-thirds vote an exemption from the examinations required of candidates for ordination.

Certified Candidate Brenda Horth of Community Presbyterian Church in Flagstaff as ready for examination by a Presbytery for ordination, pending a call.

11/6-7/15 Consent Agenda

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**4. Resources Committee Report**

**Actions taken at the August 19, 2015 meeting**

Approved that having completed the transition from our previous insurance carrier to Insurance Board, with the primary goal of the Insurance Review Team therefore being complete, to dismiss the Team with thanks.

Authorized Bob Shultz to contact our real estate agent, Earl Shroyer, to list the Morningstar property immediately in hopes of selling it concurrently with adjacent property (corner portion which was sold years ago, now fenced and up for resale).

Authorized Bob Schultz to have the Coronado property, currently rented to the County as a probation office, listed for sale as soon as can reasonably be accomplished due to pest control and other property management issues.

**Actions taken at the September 16, 2015 meeting**

Approved the sale of the Winslow manse, “as is” and as a separate transaction from the sale of the church, for approximately \$70,000.

**5. Stated Clerk Report**

**REPORT ON REVIEW OF SESSION RECORDS**

In addition to those previously reported, the following Session records for 2014 were reviewed and approved:

<u>August 15, 2015</u>				<u>October 3, 2015</u>
Faith Sun City	Mingus View	Orangewood	Urban Connect	Scottsdale
First Sun City	Mission del Sol	Sunnyslope	Westminster	

**REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION**

**Minutes of Service of Ordination – Rev. Emily Beghin October 11, 2015**

The Administrative Commission to Ordain the Rev. Emily Beghin met at Pinnacle Presbyterian Church, Scottsdale, on Sunday, October 11, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. and did ordain Rev. Beghin, following the guidelines set forth in the Directory for Worship (W-4.4). Members of the Administrative Commission were:

<u>Teaching Elders</u>	<u>Ruling Elders</u>
Wes Avram	Brent Hlyton (Pinnacle)
Larry Corbett	Carol Skewes (Fountain Hills)
Kathy Oppenhuizen	Frank Walmsley (Gilbert)
	Mary Lynn Walters, Moderator (Memorial)

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Lynn Walters

11/6-7/15 Consent Agenda

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### **RESPONSE TO PROPOSED DIRECTORY FOR WORSHIP**

As authorized by the Leadership Team on May 12, 2015, TE Gale Watkins recruited and headed a group to study GA-proposed changes to the *Book of Order* Directory for Worship and develop comments to be submitted to the 2016 General Assembly from the Presbytery. These are the comments submitted. Our thanks to Gale and his group for their review on behalf of the Presbytery.

Presbytery of Grand Canyon  
Comments on the proposed Directory for Worship  
June 11, 2015

Our overall impression: A robust theology of the sacraments comes throughout the document.

We appreciate the emphasis on being sent out (W-1.0101) which is found frequently in the document.

It is good to highlight the roles of deacons and ruling elders in leading worship (W.-2.0301).

Service for the Lord's Day — the celebration of the Lord's Supper is normative (W-3.0102), more than we find in the current Directory.

The elements of worship, and their order, are strongly Reformed.

We agree with the ways that the prayer for illumination is highlighted, especially that we need illumination when we hear the Word.

W-3.0303 - "The church's Bible"; we don't know what to make of that. This would restrict or limit the pastor's responsibility to select the translation for the particular day. We do appreciate the strong emphasis on the congregation's role in listening, which seems to echo Calvin's first note of the church.

W-3.0403 - The current language which includes "ordinarily" is changed. The proposed language "will be" is not flexible enough. There are rare circumstances in which we ought to say yes to non-members' request to present a child for baptism. We hope that some provision is made for exceptions.

W-3.0408 - Too much detail here. Having the newly baptized receive communion first is odd. Is this a holdover from Roman Catholic practice?

W-.0409 - Paragraph on who is invited; proposed language is helpful in encouraging baptism; but it doesn't tell us clearly what we ought to do.

Chapter 5 does a great job of tightening up the current language. The repetition of "God sends the church" communicates well. Placing evangelism prominently in the section on the church's mission is most welcome.

We appreciate the good work that our staff has done in streamlining the Directory. We are grateful for the way that it retains a distinctively Reformed understanding of worship.

**APPROVAL OF NEW SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY**

Stated Clerk Bob Schulz introduced the new Child Protection and Sexual Misconduct Prevention Policy, which had been reviewed and approved by the Leadership Team and COM. He explained that the policy now conformed to the recommended requirements of our insurance carrier, including provision for effective training throughout the Presbytery. The following was approved by greater than a two-thirds voice vote, adding the policy as Part 21 to the Presbytery's Manual of Administrative Operations:

**MOTION:** To approve the Presbytery of Grand Canyon Child Protection and Sexual Misconduct Prevention Policy.

**EXAMINATIONS OF ROBERT FELIX, JENNIFER FRASER AND KELSEY WOODRUFF**

Lawn Griffiths, representing COM, presented Candidates Robert Felix, Jennifer Fraser and Kelsey Woodruff for examination by the Presbytery for ordination as Teaching Elders.

Robert Felix, Candidate under care of Valley Presbyterian Church, spoke about his sense of call to a ministry involved with film media. Robert had received a call, approved by COM, from an upstart media ministry called Lights he was developing to provide sermons and other teaching materials to small churches. After fielding a number of questions from the floor, Presbytery approved arresting his examination.

Jennifer Fraser, Candidate under care of University Presbyterian Church, answered several questions about her Statement of Faith. When asked why she wanted to become a Teaching Elder in the PC(USA) rather than another denomination, Jennifer responded that she was aware of the difficulties faced by our denomination but those were far outweighed by the history of loving care she had experienced through her home church and pastors. She had received a call to serve as Associated Stated Supply Pastor at Gilbert Presbyterian Church. Presbytery approved arresting her examination.

Kelsey Woodruff, Candidate under care of Valley Presbyterian Church, read her Statement of Faith and spoke about her faith journey. Kelsey had transferred as a Candidate from the Presbytery of San Francisco after she and her family moved to Scottsdale. She had received a call from Valley to serve as their part-time Associated Stated Supply Pastor. Kelsey fielded several questions from the floor and Presbytery then approved arresting her examination.

All three Candidates were escorted from the room and the following were unanimously approved:

**MOTION:** To sustain the examination of Robert Felix and proceed to ordination.

**MOTION:** To sustain the examination of Jennifer Fraser and proceed to ordination.

**MOTION:** To sustain the examination of Kelsey Woodruff and proceed to ordination.

Robert, Jen and Kelsey were welcomed back into the room with applause. They were joined by family and Presbytery friends as Tom Berry, Pastor at Pinetop, gave the charge and offered a prayer of thanksgiving.

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Ed Spence presented nominations. There being no nominations from the floor, the following were approved:

<p><u>Treasurer</u> 2018 Barbara Zubler (Gilbert)</p> <p><u>Leadership Team</u> 2018 Mary Danforth (CRE) 2018 Kimberly Murman (TE) 2018 Gloria Young (Southminster) 2018 Mary Lynn Walters (Memorial)</p> <p><u>Commission on Ministry</u> 2018 Robin McFarland (Desert Palms) 2018 Susan Moorefield (TE) 2018 Connie Palmrose (Trinity) 2018 Bruce Porter (Pinnacle) 2018 Mary Saylor (TE) 2018 Hilbert Schouten (VahKi) 2018 Lanny Trapnell (Bethany) 2018 Mary Lynn Walters (Memorial) 2018 Paul West (Palo Cristi)</p> <p><u>Resources</u> 2018 Chuck Proudfoot (TE) 2018 Paul Rooker (Pinnacle)</p> <p><u>Congregational Resourcing</u> 2016 Joseph Doh (TE) 2018 Carol Anderson (First Mesa) 2018 Eneyas Frietas (TE) 2018 Kaye Huckleberry (Yarnell) 2018 Jane Linville (Desert Palms)</p>	<p><u>Montlure Board</u> 2018 Pam Russell (Gilbert)</p> <p><u>Operations Committee</u> 2017 Jackie Poling (Horizon) 2018 John Corey (Chandler) 2018 Bill Lents (First Mesa) 2018 Jay Wilcher (TE)</p> <p><u>Commission on Preparation for Ministry</u> 2017 Ben Seller (TE) 2017 Judy Wellington (TE) 2018 LaBerta Collins (Salt River) 2018 Mike Japenga (TE) 2018 David Joynt (TE) 2018 Gordon Letizia (TE) 2018 Kathy Oppenhuizen (TE)</p> <p><u>Permanent Judicial Commission</u> 2016 Gloria Pulido (TE) 2020 Dick Coffelt (Valley)</p> <p><u>Synod Commissioner</u> 2017 Bev Fletcher (Faith) 2017 Shelly Moe (TE) 2017 José Olagues (TE)</p>
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**ELECTION OF COMMISSIONERS TO 222<sup>nd</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Moderator-Elect Ken Page presented the following nominees for our representatives to the 222<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly to be held in Portland, Oregon from June 18-25, 2016. All had submitted applications which were published with the call to the Presbytery meeting and each was permitted to make a three minute presentation. Voting took place via written ballot to elect two Teaching Elder commissioners, two Ruling Elder commissioners and one YAAD. Dick Coffelt, Dave Martinez, George Prohaska, Paul Rooker and Barbara Zubler served as counters.

<p><u>Teaching Elder Commissioner</u> Chuck Proudfoot (Community Payson) Ed Spence (HR) Gale Watkins (Westminster) Catherine Witte (US Public Health Service/ Indian Medical Center)</p> <p><u>Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD)</u> Sophia Horen (Mission del Sol) James Irr (First Yuma)</p>	<p><u>Ruling Elder Commissioner</u> Carol Gerlach (First Mesa) Mary Lynn Walters (Memorial) Cheryl Williams (Gilbert)</p>
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Results, as announced later in the meeting, were: TEs Chuck Proudfoot and Gale Watkins, with Ed Spence as alternate; REs Carol Gerlach and Mary Lynn Walters, with Cheryl Williams as alternate; and YAAD Sophia Horen, with James Irr as alternate.

#### **YOUTH TRIENNIUM PLANNING**

Tom Berry reminded presbyters that the 2016 Presbyterian Youth Triennium was from July 19-23 at Purdue University, with registration ending December 19. He encouraged everyone to have youth sign up for the event and it was noted that scholarship funding was available through the Presbytery.

#### **STATED CLERK REPORT**

Bob Schulz reported that a parcel of land owned by the Presbytery at 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Pinnacle Peak in North Peoria had been sold after an issue with an easement had been resolved. He reminded presbyters about deadlines for various annual reports and said the Presbytery was working on a system for electronic review of records. Bob also reported that a Native American Asset Evaluation Team had been formed to visit churches and evaluate building conditions for needed repairs.

#### **DISMISSAL OF THE SPRING FELLOWSHIP**

Ken Page announced that a Memo of Understanding had been agreed to by the Leadership Team and The Spring (see p. 5) in order that the fellowship could pursue membership as a congregation in the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO). The Spring had voluntarily returned all monies donated to the fellowship by the Presbytery, totaling \$12,350, which had been deposited half into 22615 Mission Growth Account and half into 22610 Emergency Reserve Account. Co-pastor Gayle Parker had requested, and been granted, the status of Honorably Retired member of the Presbytery. Co-pastor Tom Parker retained his Presbytery membership under Validated Ministry based upon his position at Fuller Theological Seminary Southwest.

#### **WORSHIP**

The Rev. Tom Berry delivered the sermon. The Revs. Berry and Shelly Moe presided over the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Special music was provided by Pinetop Presbyterian musicians. The offering collected during the worship service, totaling \$650.68, was dedicated to Triennial scholarships.

The Cents-ability collection, a program of the Presbyterian Hunger Ministry, took place at dinner and totaled \$55.00.

#### **FINAL REPORT OF ALPINE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION**

George Prohaska reviewed the written report presented by Commission members Tom Berry, Stu Cameron Jeanette Miller, Jean Montgomery, Cecil Patterson, George Prohaska and Ed Spence. After working through the steps outlined when the Commission was formed in 2013, they had discerned that there was no viable remnant from the congregation wishing to remain in the PC(USA) and the Presbytery should move forward with the process of dissolving the congregation so it could re-form as a community church. The following was approved, with regret:

**MOTION:** That the Alpine Community Presbyterian Church be dissolved in accordance with the *Book of Order*, G-3.301 and G-4.0205; and

That the church will be responsible for the following approximate costs related to this process:

\$4,500	Appraisal costs
2,000	Shared costs for the Commission's work
500	Cost of copying church records
<u>1,000</u>	Cost to transfer property to Alpine Community Church
\$8,000	Total Settlement (approx.)

**FINAL REPORT OF SPRINGERVILLE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION**

Ed Spence reviewed the written report presented by Commission members Tom Berry, Stu Cameron Jeanette Miller, Jean Montgomery, Cecil Patterson, George Prohaska and Ed Spence. After working through the steps outlined when the Commission was formed in 2015, they had discerned that there was no viable remnant from the congregation wishing to remain in the PC(USA) and the Presbytery should move forward with the process of dismissing the congregation. The following was approved, with regret:

**MOTION:** That the Springerville Community Presbyterian Church be dismissed from the PC(USA) in order that it may become a member of the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO) when the way is clear;

That the Rev. David Smallegan, the church's pastor, be allowed to transfer to ECO when the way is clear;

That the church will be responsible for the following approximate costs related to this process:

\$40,000	Proceeds to be designated as follows: \$25,000 to Montlure Camp Ministries and \$15,000 for any expanded PC(USA) ministry/mission in the Springerville region
\$ 4,800	Appraisal costs
2,000	Shared costs for the Commission's work
2,500	Cost of copying church records
<u>1,000</u>	Cost to transfer property to Springerville Community
\$50,300	Sub-total Settlement (approx.)
- <u>4,800</u>	Appraisal costs already paid
\$45,500	Net total Settlement (approx.)

**RECESS AND RECONVENE**

The meeting was recessed with prayer by Moderator Mary Lynn Walters on Friday evening at 8:40 p.m. and reconvened in prayer by Moderator Mary Lynn Walters on Saturday, November 7, at 8:00 a.m.

**PRESBYTERY PASTOR REPORT**

Brad Munroe reported that funding was available through the PC(USA) for a Transformation Grant for congregational renewal. He asked presbyters to discuss what skills development or leadership training would be most helpful in their home churches, using a written survey to collect individual responses.

**FINAL REPORT OF SUNNYSLOPE/WINSLOW ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION**

Michael Hartwell reported on behalf of Commission members Melinda Brown, Teri Conrad, Michael Hartwell, Ken Moe, José Olagues, Paul Rooker and Barbara Walker. The combined Commission had worked on requests from both the Session at Sunnyslope Presbyterian Church and the Session at Winslow Presbyterian Church to close due a decline in membership. The Commission's discernment process had confirmed that there was no viable remnant in either church and their recommendation was to dissolve both congregations. The following were approved, with regret:

**MOTION:** That the Sunnyslope Presbyterian Church be dissolved, effective December 31, 2015.

**MOTION:** That the Winslow Presbyterian Church be dissolved, effective December 31, 2015.

Michael offered a prayer of thanksgiving for the life and ministries of Sunnyslope and Winslow, as well as for those members seeking to settle into homes within new congregations. Disposition of the assets of each church was to be handled according to the Presbytery of Grand Canyon policy regarding proceeds of the sale of church property when a congregation, at the request of its Session, is being dissolved. (See August 15, 2015 Presbytery minutes, p. 6.)

**ADOPTION OF NEW GRACIOUS DISMISSAL POLICY**

Ken Page introduced the Gracious Dismissal Policy, the draft of which had been posted prior to the meeting, for approval by the Presbytery. Discussion of the policy was governed by the Rules of Decorum and Debate, also posted prior to the meeting. This policy was the result of the work of a six-person committee appointed by the Leadership Team, as directed at the March 7, 2015 Presbytery meeting, to review the original policy proposed by the Sessions of ten Grand Canyon churches, with the goals of refining a policy with the best potential for approval by the Presbytery and addressing possible PC(USA) constitutional issues.

Ken explained that the committee had included two representatives of the ten churches, Steve Beard and Bob Simmons, but they had resigned and the committee finished its work without them. Remaining members of the committee were Ken, Al Gephart, Laurie Porter and Martha Sadongei. Their goal was to achieve a policy which was constitutional, including the trust clause, with the terms of each dismissal to be determined on a case-by-case basis, based on a full fiduciary review, and with the outcome to reflect not only the mission of the church but also the mission of the Presbytery.

Ken stressed that, in addition to being constitutional, the policy was designed to allow a pathway through a difficult process as sisters and brothers in Christ. He added that the committee did not want the policy to be construed as punitive and the Presbytery desired to have a dismissed church depart as a viable congregation.

The draft policy as distributed included notations from Stated Clerk Bob Schulz highlighted in blue to indicate simple proposed amendments he had received, and with which he concurred, for substitute wording for clarity.



The following was approved:

**MOTION:** To approve the draft document as distributed, with the exception of:

- XIV. The Presbytery Vote, and
- XVII. Presbytery Use of Property.

A motion was proposed to amend the wording of XIV. The Presbytery Vote regarding the proposed number of votes needed for approval of dismissal terms presented to the Presbytery by an Administrative Commission. The proposal was to require “a majority” instead of “two-thirds” of those present and voting. A hand vote was taken, with 48 votes to keep “two-thirds” and 36 to change to “a majority,” and thus the amendment failed and the original wording for XIV. The Presbytery Vote remained as follows:

If two-thirds of those present and voting vote in favor of the motion, the congregation shall be dismissed/dissolved in accordance with the financial transactions and other provisions approved by the Presbytery.

Under XVII. Presbytery Use of Property, an amendment was proposed to change “given to the Presbytery Endowment for support of racial ethnic ministry and new church development” to “split between 22610 Emergency Reserve Account and 22615 Mission Growth Account.” This was suggested by Presbytery Treasurer Paul Rooker so that the Gracious Dismissal Policy was in agreement with existing Presbytery policy regarding proceeds of the sale of church property. The following was approved:

**MOTION:** To amend the proposed amendment to the Gracious Dismissal Policy entitled XVII. Presbytery Use of Property to read:

If the group choosing to leave the PC(USA) does not buy the church property, the Presbytery shall (1) use the property as a new church development or mission station, or (2) sell the property on the open market, the proceeds from which shall be split between 22610 Emergency Reserve Account and 22615 Mission Growth Account.

Consideration returned to approval of the entire draft Gracious Dismissal Policy, as amended above. Voting took place via written ballot, with Dick Coffelt, Dave Martinez, George Prohaska, Paul Rooker and Barbara Zubler serving as counters. Results, as announced later in the meeting, were 88 for and 1 against. The following was approved:

**MOTION:** To adopt the Gracious Dismissal Policy – Charitable, Viable, Responsible, Missional and Relational which will become revised Part 17 in the Presbytery of Grand Canyon Manual of Administrative Operations.

#### **APPROVAL OF 2016 PRESBYTERY BUDGET AND PER CAPITA**

Rob Rhoades, Chair of the Resources Committee, presented the proposed 2016 budget. He explained that congregations would now be given three mission investment options which were designed to give more influence over mission giving and emphasize connectional mission support. Per capita for 2016 was increasing from \$31 to \$34, less than a 10% increase but necessary due to decreasing income.

The budget shortfall for 2015 was anticipated to be \$66,047, which would need to be drawn from the 22610 Emergency Reserve Account unless investment income filled the gap. The projected shortfall for 2016 was \$77,539. Part of the budget shortfall was due to churches that were not remitting any per capita. There were 19 Grand Canyon churches in this category for 2015 (as of this Presbytery meeting).

Rob acknowledged that Resources would be considering stronger measures to reduce Presbytery spending, including evaluation of the shared staff plan with Presbytery de Cristo. The following were approved:

**MOTION:** To approve per capita for 2016 of \$34.00, with a breakdown of: \$22.88 for Presbytery; \$7.12 for GA; and \$4.00 for Synod.

**MOTION:** To approve the 2016 Presbytery of Grand Canyon budget.

**PRESENTATION OF GEORGE BROOKS AWARD**

John Bivens, representing the Peace and Justice Network, presented the annual George Brooks award to Hubert Ross, a member of Southminster Presbyterian Church since birth. In 1981 he co-founded Career Leadership Development, an outreach ministry to provide internships for outstanding achiever junior and senior high students. He had been an active volunteer with this group since its beginning, in addition to serving in a number of capacities at Southminster and with other organizations.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Pinetop congregation was thanked for its hospitality. The motion was made to adjourn and the meeting was closed in prayer by Mary Lynn Walters at 10:30 a.m. She encouraged presbyters to read the Synod report that was posted with the Presbytery meeting call materials. The next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery was scheduled for January 29-30, 2016, to be held jointly with Presbytery de Cristo at First Presbyterian Church in Casa Grande.

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Robert Schulz, Stated Clerk/Associate

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Date