

## MINUTES

Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon

March 3, 2018

### CALL TO ORDER

The Presbytery of Grand Canyon of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held its March Stated Meeting at Pinnacle Presbyterian Church in Scottsdale. Carol Gerlach, Moderator-Elect, opened the meeting at 9:00 a.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. Corresponding members were introduced and approved for enrollment by the Presbytery for this meeting. New minister member Jerry Foust was introduced. There were 17 registered visitors.

Tom Lineweaver dropped off copies of a commentary he wrote about the Grand Canyon Affirmations developed by the Theological Task Force, which were on the agenda for discussion in the afternoon, and then he left the meeting.

### ROLL

There were 51 Teaching Elder commissioners and 50 Ruling Elder commissioners, 2 Commissioned Ruling Elders and 4 Ruling Elder Leadership Team members present, for a total of 107 voting members.

### Corresponding Members Enrolled

Mickie Choi (PILP)

Jean Martin (Kiskiminetas)

Sean Chow (West Jersey)

### Teaching Elders Present – 51

Albertson, Daniel  
Anderson, Mark  
Avram, Wesley  
Bailey, Linda  
Blincoe, Robert  
Brown, Kelsy  
Campbell, Mike  
Campbell, Sheryl  
Corbett, Larry  
Eaken, Lawrence  
Felix, Robert  
Fischer, Scott  
Foust, Jerry

Fraser, Jennifer  
Harmon, Frank  
Hartwell, Michael  
Hegeman, Peggy  
Hodgson, David  
Holland, Cheri  
Hook, Emily  
Japenga, Mike  
Jennison, Cynthia  
Keesecker, Joe  
Ledermann, Eric  
Letizia, Gordon  
Lineweaver, Thomas

Moe, Michelle  
Moser, Paul  
Munroe, Brad  
Nieto, Kelly  
Nieto, Michael  
Olagues, José  
Oppenhuizen, Kathleen  
Page, Kenneth  
Palmer, Theron  
Poling, John  
Proudfoot, Charles  
Ramos, Gonzalo  
Sadongei, Martha

Saylor, Mary  
Saylor, George  
Spence, Edward  
Tamayo, Erin  
Watkins, Gale  
Wellington, Judy  
Wescott, Linda  
Willett, Brandon  
Willett, Kristen  
Witte, Cathy  
Wood, Patricia Cockrell  
Worsnop, Linda

### Churches/Ruling Elder Commissioners Present – 50

Betania - Carlos Ramirez  
Bethany - Lanny Trapnell  
Celebration of Life - Elly Scheman  
Crosswinds - Teri Conrad  
Desert Palms - Carolyn Hayes, Kay Kernek, Jane  
Linville, Nora Timson  
Emmanuel - Brenda Safran

Faith - Betty Forsberg, Bob Gibbens, Linda Trovato  
Fort Defiance - Wallace Hanley  
Gilbert - Mike Gallagher, Thomas Lemme,  
Dave Peterson  
Guadalupe - Jimmy Molina  
John Calvin - Alan Hale  
Lehi – Eugene Chiago

Leupp First - Solomon McCabe  
 Memorial - Ted Keane  
 Mesa First - Carol Gerlach, Bill Lents, Jeanne Partida  
 Mingus View - Susan Goe  
 Mission del Sol- George Allman, Dennis Richards  
 Orangewood - Gloria Olsen, Bob Orf  
 Palo Cristi - Joan Fenton  
 Payson Community - Val Sullivan  
 Peoria First - Shannon Langston  
 Pinnacle - Susan Brown, Laurie Porter, Paul Rooker,  
 Beverly Roselieb, Jeff Smith

Prescott Trinity - Connie Palmrose  
 Sierra Vista - Glen Moss, Leonard Troxel  
 Southminster - Fred Warren  
 Sun City First - Mary McMartin  
 Tseyi Bidáá - Virginia Halwood  
 University - Molly Winkler, Mary Danforth  
 Vah-Ki - Bonnie Lyons  
 Valley - Bob Aldag  
 Westminster - Debby Holmes  
 Yarnell Community - JerrieLea Hopf  
 Yuma First - Sylvia Bruce

**Commissioned Ruling Elders Present – 2**

Danny Halwood Lois Hildenbrand

**Ruling Elder Leadership Team Members and Commission/Committee Moderators Present – 4**

Kathryn Owens Jan Palmer Bob Schulz Craig Weber

**Staff Members Present**

Beth Kath Carolyn McBurney

**Teaching Elders Excused**

Anderson, Fred	Fox, Charles	Melendez, Hipolito	Serchak, Jo
Arbesman, Janet	Fulton, Helmi	Meredith, Ralph	Smith, Esther
Baer, Doug	Gard, Gary	Merwald, Alfred	Soderquist, Paul
Baxter, Patricia	Gephart, Al	Miller, Jerry	Stahmer, Bruce
Bell, Arthur	Gray, Barrie	Miller, Craig	Straatmeyer, Al
Berg, George	Hayes, William	Moe, Kenneth	Swicegood, Terry
Bruening, James	Hicks, David	Moranville, Thomas	Tilly, Mark
Burtless, Stanford	Hicks, Mae	Muenich, Karen	Uhley, James
Byall, Lowell	Hodgson, Deanne	Murman, Kimberly	Ulrickson, Paul
Cameron, Stu	Houdeshell, Donovan	Northrup, Cathy	Valle, Paula
Campbell, Arthur	Jacobs, Lynn	Parker, Gayle	Vautier, Grif
Citron, Suzanne	Joe, Victor	Parker, Thomas	Vogel, Leslie
Clark, Bobbye	Johnson, Caleb	Phillips, Beverly	Voth, John
Clark, Robert	Jousan, Mike	Phillips, Norman	Walker, David
Conklin, Ann	Joynt, David	Pratt, Edward	Wallace, David
Cook, John	Kesler, Jim	Pulido, Gloria	Weir, Kyle
Corazin, Lyn	Khjeek, Estawri	Ricardo, Betty	White, Frank
Davis, Harrell	Kim, Kwang	Rice, Kristin	Winkelpleck, Judy
Day, Kathleen	Kim, Myung Bae	Roosa, Stephen	Witt, Bill
Doh, Joseph	Kush, Gary	Sabbagh, John	Wright, Douglas
Dulaney, Robert	Latty, Allan	Schenck, Jed	Wright, Eugene
Engstrom, Bud	Lefebvre, Eugene	Schmitt, Gus	Young, Patricia
Evans, Lloyd	Malsack, Bob	Schultz, Harris	Young, Alvin
Farwell, Barbara	Martz, Robert	Selestewa, Sharon	Zabriskie, Richard
Fooks, John	McCabe, Norma	Serchak, David	

**Churches/Ruling Elder Commissioners Excused**

Flagstaff Federated Kayenta Trinity Prescott

**Teaching Elders Absent**

Berry, Thomas	Doh, Helen	Miller, Joan	Turner, David
Brandfass, Gwen	Fletcher, Tully	Ramirez, Julio	Vautier, Holly
Campbell, Kristina	Garcia, Joaquin	Roberts, Margaret	Wilcher, Jay
Cho, Yongho	Goad, Jessica	Schumacher, Bruce	Willerton, Sherry
Coffman, Renee	Hawkins, Darren	Seller, Ben	Wintz, Susan
Crelin, James	Kerber, Keith	Song, Seok Min	Wintz, Michael

**Commissioned Ruling Elders Absent**

Calvin Kelly	Annette Lewis	Martha Lopez Loreda	Hilbert Schouten
--------------	---------------	---------------------	------------------

**Churches Absent**

Arizona Korean	Chinle Trinity	Goodyear Village	Pinetop Community
Betania	Church of the Master	Heritage	Sacaton First
Blackwater	Fort McDowell	Indian Wells	Salt River
Central	Ganado	Maricopa First	Tuba City
Chandler	Gila Crossing	Parker Valley	Wellton Community

**AGENDA**

Presbytery approved the agenda.

**COMMISSION REPORTS**

Presbytery received the Commission Reports as a record of actions taken on behalf of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon in accordance with the responsibilities granted to our commissions under the Bylaws and/or Manual of Administrative Operations of the Presbytery:

3/3/18 Commission Reports

---

**1. Leadership Team Report**

**Actions taken at the February 7, 2018 meeting**

Approved an application for a Synod \$7,500 Seed Grant to secure a meeting location for a New Worshipping Community in the Queen Creek area and to purchase supplies for those gatherings.

Approved the “Grand Canyon Affirmations” developed by the Theological Task Force and approved presenting the Affirmations to the Presbytery at its March 3, 2018 stated meeting.

**2. Commission on Ministry Report**

**Actions taken at the January 23, 2018 meeting**

**Hastings, William**

Approved the transfer of membership of the Rev. William Hastings (HR) from the Presbytery of Southern Kansas to the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, effective January 23, 2018.

**Weir, J. Kyle**

Granted the status of Honorably Retired to the Rev. Kyle Weir, effective February 1, 2018.

3/3/18 Commission Reports

---

**Mission del Sol**

Approved a Mission Study developed by Mission del Sol, with a congregational meeting to be called to elect a PNC.

**Trinity Prescott**

Approved election at the March congregational meeting of a team to develop a Mission Study, with the Session to work with COM to develop a plan for an accelerated transition followed by election of a PNC.

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

**Action taken at the January 16, 2018 meeting**

Enrolled Michael Hegeman of Pinnacle Presbyterian Church as an Inquirer for the office of Teaching Elder, effective January 16, 2018.

**Action taken at the February 20, 2018 meeting**

Certified RE Loretta Blackwater as prepared to be commissioned by our Presbytery as a Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) and to refer Loretta to the Commission on Ministry for their consideration when the appropriate pastoral setting is available.

**4. Stated Clerk Report**

**REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION**

**Minutes of Service of Ordination – Rev. Emily Hook December 17, 2017**

The Administrative Commission to Ordain Emily Hook met at Desert Palms Presbyterian Church, Sun City West, on Sunday, December 17, 2017, at 3:00 p.m. and did ordain the Rev. Emily Hook, following the guidelines set forth in the Directory for Worship (W-4.4). Members of the Administrative Commission were:

Teaching Elders

David Hodgson  
Eric Ledermann  
Kimberly Murman

Ruling Elders

Charlie Green (Desert Palms)  
Jean Montgomery (Desert Palms)  
George Prohaska (Mission del Sol)  
Molly Winkler (University)  
Barbara Zubler (Gilbert)

Respectfully submitted,  
George Prohaska

**REPORT ON REVIEW OF SESSION RECORDS**

The following Session records for 2017 were reviewed and approved:

January 26, 2018

Mingus View                      Sierra Vista

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Presbytery considered approval of the Consent Agenda as a record of actions taken on behalf of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon in accordance with the responsibilities granted to the various ministry committees under the Bylaws and/or Manual of Administrative Operations of the Presbytery. There was a request to remove the Operations Committee report of February 13, 2018 regarding GA overture concurrence. Discussion of this item was scheduled for discussion at the end of the meeting. The remainder of the Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

### 3/3/18 Consent Agenda

---

## **2. Congregational Resourcing Committee Report**

### **Actions taken at the February 9, 2018 meeting**

Approved selection of Shannon Langston as Chair and Jane Linville as Vice Chair of CRT for 2018.

Agreed to amend the Mission Grant application to include the July 1 mid-year mission funding and its May 15 deadline for applications.

Agreed to follow up with grant recipients after six months to 1) check how the grant money was utilized and 2) report this information to the Presbytery via EFocus.

Agreed to start an online list of the missions with which our church communities are involved in order to share information and connect congregations so they might combine resources and/or support one another.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

## **GREETING**

The Rev. Wes Avram, Pastor, welcomed Presbytery to Pinnacle Presbyterian Church. Wes explained the congregation had many participants in the classes offered through the Fran Park Center for Faith and Life. Pinnacle was also in a new partnership with Princeton Theological Seminary, hosting a program called XPTS West. Presbyters were invited to go on a walking tour of the church campus after lunch, including the new kitchen under construction.

## **IGNITE THE SPARK REVIEW**

Sean Chow, GA Western Region Coordinator for 1001 New Worshipping Communities (NWC) training, gave a summary of his presentation at the previous day's Ignite the Spark program. He reported there were now 432 New Worshipping Communities. Attendees were 78% new to the PC(USA), 64% under the age of 40, and ethnically diverse. Sean explained that many of the NWC core concepts involved a need for adaptation to cultural change, a model that established churches should also consider.

### **PRESBYTERIAN INVESTMENT LOAN PROGRAM UPDATE**

PILP representative Mickie Choi reported that investment fund rebate checks for 2017 had already been distributed to Crosswinds, Pinnacle and University. She reminded presbyters to consider the mortgage and other loans with no fees or points available through PILP.

### **WORSHIP**

The Rev. Frank Harmon delivered the sermon based on 1 Corinthians 1:10-17. The Revs. Wes Avram, Kelsy Brown, Sean Chow and Frank Harmon presided over the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Special music was provided by Pinnacle Presbyterian musicians. The offering collected during the worship service, totaling \$695, was dedicated to the fund for our New Worshipping Communities.

### **ANTHEM NEW WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY REPORT**

Kristin and Brandon Willett reported on their new family-centered church in Anthem. Activities for kids, such as a summer VBS type of camp, and a child-friendly worship service had attracted young people. The Willetts had been inventive in their community outreach and had initiated meaningful programs, including a monthly Gratitude Project meeting to focus on being intentionally thankful. Their recent move to a room at a new retirement center had created a unique opportunity for intergenerational worship.

### **THEOCADEMY REPORT**

Martha Sadongei reported on this Synod-sponsored program to train our Native American church members in what it means to be a Presbyterian. Classes were being offered in three of the Synod's presbyteries. While it was hoped that some of the students might pursue becoming a Commissioned Ruling Elder, participants were reporting that their Sessions were empowered because of the training.

### **PRESBYTERY PASTOR REPORT**

Brad Munroe reported on the upcoming congregational revitalization initiative. Grand Canyon and de Cristo were two of the five presbyteries participating in the pilot program developed by the PC(USA) to serve as a catalyst for the wider denomination. It had been dubbed the "Thrive Project" and was to be launched at the joint August Presbytery meeting.

### **THEOLOGICAL TASK FORCE AFFIRMATION DISCUSSION**

There was a time of table discussion about the twelve Grand Canyon Affirmations developed by the Theological Task Force at the request of the Leadership Team. The Affirmations were presented not as a list of "essential tenets" but as an invitation toward seeking a shared, wide and generous orthodoxy. The goal of the discussion was to engage in respectful theological dialogue even when there was disagreement. Each table reported on their discussion. Much appreciation was expressed for the work of the Task Force on a well-written, thoughtful presentation which included key components of our confessions and historical roots. There were several concerns expressed and the written comments from each table were collected as feedback for the Leadership Team.

### **COMMISSION ON MINISTRY REPORT**

Bob Aldag noted the Annual Salary review distributed at registration. The following was approved:

**MOTION:** To receive the Annual Salary Review of Ordained Pastors for 2016-2017.

There was a time to celebrate those pastors reaching the following ordination anniversaries:

**10 Years – 2008**

Yongho Cho  
Sharon Selestewa  
Linda Worsnop

**15 Years – 2003**

Bobbye Clark  
Estawri Khjeek

**20 Years – 1993**

Patricia Baxter  
Karen Muenich

**25 Years – 1988**

Mark Anderson

**30 Years – 1988**

Jim Crelin  
Darren Hawkins  
David Joynt  
Ben Seller  
Beverly Phillips

**35 Years – 1983**

Joaquin Guzman  
Gale Watkins  
Susan Wintz

**40 Years – 1978**

Joseph Doh  
Larry Eaken  
George Saylor

**45 Years – 1973**

Hipolito Melendez  
Charles Proudfoot

**50 Years – 1968**

Art Campbell  
Larry Corbett  
Victor Joe  
Gordon Letizia  
Ralph Meredith  
Ed Spence

**55 Years – 1968**

George Berg  
Lowell Byall  
Bruce Schumacher

**60 Years – 1958**

Eugene LeFebvre

**65 Years – 1953**

Tom Moranville

**QUEEN CREEK NEW WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY REPORT**

Emily Hook reported on her fledgling outreach in the Queen Creek/San Tan area, where since 1995 the populations of the two towns had been doubling every five years and the average age was 29. Emily had received a presbytery Seed Grant to help with the cost of weekly gatherings. A discernment team was being formed to help plan for the future.

**CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON CONSENT AGENDA**

There was discussion of the following which had been pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion:

**1. Operations Committee Report**

**Actions taken at the February 13, 2018 meeting**

Approved whether to move Overtures 029-034 and Overture 038 forward to Presbytery for voting, as follows:

029	Move forward	033	Move forward
030	Move forward	034	Move forward
031	Do not move forward	038	Do not move forward
032	Move forward		

There was a question about whether the Presbytery was fulfilling its responsibility under G-3.0302 to see that the guidance and communication of General Assembly were considered and any binding actions were observed and carried out. It was noted that the Manual of Administrative Operations of the Presbytery designated consideration of GA overtures to our GA commissioners.

It was clarified that the understanding of “concurrence” in this context was to signify an overture was worthy of discussion at General Assembly and not whether the Presbytery agreed with the overture. It was suggested the Presbytery could possibly assign an advocate for those overtures receiving our concurrence. One visitor made a statement about Overture 29.

It was noted that a lack of concurrence from Grand Canyon would not leave any of the overtures without the required concurrence of at least one other presbytery. It was noted it was not practical to table this discussion until the next Presbytery meeting because August would be past the deadline for reporting concurrence. It was noted that to change the procedure for future consideration of overtures would require a revision to our Bylaws and/or Manual of Operations. There was a voice vote, followed by a hand count registering 56 for and 17 against, and the following was approved:

**MOTION:** To accept the report provided by the Operations Committee and our Commissioners to the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly regarding Overtures 029-034 and Overture 038.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Pinnacle congregation was thanked for its hospitality. The motion was made to adjourn and the meeting was closed in prayer at 3:00 p.m. The next Stated Meeting of Presbytery was scheduled for August 25, 2018, to be held as a combined educational event with Presbytery de Cristo at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church in Tucson.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Presbytery Leadership Team, acting on its delegated authority, approved the Minutes of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon Stated Meeting of March 3, 2018 at the Leadership Team meeting on April 11, 2018.

S/Robert Schulz  
Robert Schulz, Stated Clerk/Associate

April 11, 2018  
Date