



EFOCUS

Volume I September 11, 2020

Weekly Missive

Decision 2020: PGC Task Force Report



[Click Here to Read](#)

You may have heard we will be having an election in November. I have ZERO desire to write about the election on November 3rd. With all due respect to what will happen November 3rd, I am more focused these days on the vote that will take place on November 14th.

Walk with me down memory lane.

The date was October 2019. The place was the sanctuary at First Presbyterian Church of Globe. The event was Presbytery de Cristo's stated meeting. The budget was being presented. For several years prior, Presbytery de Cristo had run a deficit budget, and their administrative reserves were not going to last forever. I had gone on record as saying we had two options: either a huge increase in per capita or seek a merger with the Presbytery of Grand Canyon.

Presbytery de Cristo chose option #3.

Instead of the dichotomy I had presented, Presbytery de Cristo discerned a third option. In its wisdom, and in very Presbyterian-like fashion, it asked their Leadership Commission to create a task force to study the situation and return with options for long-term sustainability. And, of course, if Presbytery de Cristo was going to study its options, we also had to study our options. Both presbyteries' leadership teams appointed their own task force to study options for 2021 and beyond.

The time has come to unveil those options.

The task force report found on our website (see above for link) presents three options. Option A is to become an Independent Presbytery decoupled from de Cristo. Option B is to revise the shared staffing plan with de Cristo in terms that would help them be sustainable. Option C is to become a "New Creation" Presbytery through a merger with de Cristo. The task force report includes per capita and staffing implications for each option and will be sent to pastors and clerks on Monday morning, for those who do not read this missive.

Because the report is sufficiently lengthy and the topic sufficiently momentous that due diligence requires thoughtful reflection, there will be two Zoom Town Hall meetings to describe and discuss the three options presented in the report. These Town Hall meetings will be an opportunity to delve deeper into the different options, ask questions, and be in dialogue together before our November 14 presbytery meeting when we will vote on which option we will choose for our life together. (Presbytery de Cristo's meeting is October 17, and they also will vote on three options.)

On behalf of the Leadership Commission and the task force, I ask that Sessions elect their commissioners to presbytery early enough that commissioners can read the report and attend one of the Zoom Town Hall meetings, which will be held at the following times:

Thursday, October 29 at 1:00 p.m. –

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83056443314?pwd=WnJiMUFlaEJBMVpwNmRKOTc1S1Rldz09>

Saturday, November 7 at 9:00 a.m. –

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87290122830?pwd=emdzNWJDcGVkME1YZjNqRk1vUUpSZz09>

As we move toward a season of discernment as a presbytery, I pray our dialogues will be seasoned with the Spirit's wisdom and God's grace as we seek to live as Christ's Body.

Grace out,
Brad Munroe

[For this and other missives, click here.](#)



Montlure Camp Fall 2020 Zoom Update September 12

Please join Montlure Camp to hear the latest on the impact of our mission and ministry, even in the midst of a global pandemic. You will hear from our Camp Director and our Council President as we discuss the challenges of covid-19, the success of our 2020 camp season, the overall direction of our program, the progress and work at our site in Greer, and the status of our ministry.

Join us at either 10am or 4pm on Saturday, September 12th. Please fill out the short RSVP form to let us know you will be attending, and to access the virtual meeting information. Information at the morning and afternoon sessions will cover the same material.

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/33Q6fiw>

Email camp@montlure.org for any questions.

QUESTIONS FOR THE BOARD OF PENSIONS?



Our representative [Kristin Leucht](#) will be holding "Virtual Office Hours" for people who have questions about the 2021 benefits or just questions about benefits in general.

If there are pastors, church administrators, personnel committee members who have questions about our 2021 benefits, I will be holding "virtual office hours". The office hours will be Tuesday Sept. 15 - 11a.m.-12 p.m.

Thursday Sept. 17- 4-5 p.m.

Wednesday Sept. 23- 3-4p.m.

If you would like to talk to Kristin, email her at (kleucht@pensions.org) and she'll send you a link for the meeting. She is also available by appointment if needed.



STEWARDSHIP TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

1- Representative Maggie Harmon will be hosting a workshop that looks at stewardship in the context of being in the midst of pandemic, and major social stressors. It's FREE and will offer some theory around how we approach our lives as more holistic experiences of stewardship and some practical tips that can be applied right now (even as we remain in virtual community or move to hybrid functioning). There are two sessions on different days, one morning, one afternoon - <https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/stewardship-pandemic-and-social-change/>

2- Stewardship Kaleidoscope will be online this year, three morning sessions over subsequent Tuesday's starting in late September. I have a number of scholarships available through the Foundation that will drop the cost from \$45 to \$25 for the entire program. If you have churches or groups you think would benefit from attending and could use the scholarship please just have them reach out to me and I will share the registration code. General registration is of course also available and you can get more information about this year's content at: <https://stewardshipkaleidoscope.org/>

Another Opportunity to Serve



Make plans to help load another truck bound for the Navajo Nation!
(Note change to RSVP contact)

From September 18-25

Friday, September 18th- 11am 10 strong volunteers to help unload Bashas' trucks.

Saturday the 19th- two shifts, 9 am-12 noon and 1 pm-4 pm 16 volunteers per shift

Monday - Friday (21st- 25th) two shifts per day 9 am - 12 noon and 1 pm- 4 pm., except Tuesday 22nd- three

shifts- 9 am - 12 noon, 1 pm- 4 pm and 5 pm-8 pm

We need 16 volunteers per shift.

Valley Presbyterian Church

6947 E. McDonald Dr, Paradise Valley

RSVP to Sharon Yates at Synod of the SW-sharon@synodsw.org - 520-791-9600

Faith Communities called to help bridge gap with Law Enforcement



FEMA

As our nation grapples with frayed relationships between law enforcement and some of our communities, while simultaneously navigating the uncharted coronavirus era, the leadership of the faith community is needed more than ever. It is clear, changes are needed in the ways in

which police officers and citizens interact. However, public servants cannot make the necessary changes by themselves – they need the help of the community at large.

[Find out how your congregation can help](#)

INTERNATIONAL PEACEMAKER VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM

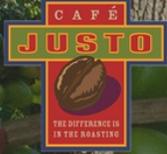


The Presbyterian Peacemaking Program makes it possible for leaders from our partner denominations and partner organizations around the world to visit the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) each year to interpret issues of peace and justice. Since 1984 approximately 300 International Peacemakers from 60 countries have been hosted by Presbyterians. These visits have informed Presbyterians, opened hearts and minds, touched lives, established relationships and inspired new ministries. By sharing stories of their work and witness, the peacemakers help us understand peace and justice concerns around the world and provide insights that can inspire us to greater faithfulness. Their visits broaden our sense of God's

inclusive family and help equip us to build a culture of peace and nonviolence for all God's children.

Due to the global Covid-19 pandemic, the Peacemaking Program is unable to welcome International Peacemakers in-person this year. Instead, the Peacemaking Program will hold a 2-week International Peacemaker Virtual Symposium featuring a number of our past international peacemakers. The Symposium will feature a schedule of online interviews, panel discussions and presentations with peacemakers who have visited us in the past. This will be a chance to catch-up on their lives, be updated on their work and hear from them on many of the challenging topics of our day.

E Focus will provide a complete schedule as soon as it becomes available. You can also check www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/peacemaking/international-peacemakers.



Coffee, Conversation, & Compassion

Sept 17 de Septiembre:
Clase de Cocina: Como Los Tamales Casi Dividio la Iglesia
Cooking Class: How Tamales Almost Divided the Church

Sept 24 de Septiembre:
Loteria de Frontera de Cristo: Play Virtual Mexican Bingo with us:
Have Fun and Learn About the Life and Ministry of Frontera de Cristo

Email "conversation" to office@fronteradecristo.org
to get the Zoom link



Please keep these people in your prayers:

The family and friends of Rev. Cecil Corbett who entered the Church Triumphant on September 6. A live stream Memorial service will be held, date pending

The two presbyteries as they discern a path forward (see missive above)

Presbytery Mission Funds at Work



A volunteer helps some of the children with their school work.



Early elementary aged children enrolled in CPCLC engaging in play after the day's school work is done.



Space in the old sanctuary building is utilized as a classroom for the school-aged children enrolled in CPCLC.

Community Presbyterian Church, Payson AZ partners with Community Presbyterian Child Learning Center (a mission of CPC) to help support its families during this time of remote learning. CPC has provided space in its former sanctuary building and internet access, so that school-aged children enrolled in the Learning Center have a place to do their school work. "If we did not do this, parents would have to choose between employment and their child's education," said Rev. Tricia Tedrow, pastor of CPC. With a grant from the Congregational Resource Team, CPC is able to provide internet access for the school year, as well as provide healthy foods for snacks and meals (when needed).

Want to help our Navajo Sisters and Brothers?

The Presbytery of Grand Canyon has started a Navajo Nation Relief Fund. You will find a link on the Presbytery website, where you and your church family can make donations. You will be asked to create a profile for future giving. This site is safe and maintained through the Presbyterian Foundation. Tell your friends! Thanks for your continued love and care!



[Click here to give](#)

NOTE TO CLERKS OF SESSION

Due to the pandemic, we have not only stopped worshipping in the normal fashion, we are zooming everything we possibly can to stay connected. We have decided we are not going to review any session books during the remainder of 2020. However, we are strongly encouraging each Clerk of Session to keep the books up to date. We know this might be somewhat more complicated, as sessions are also meeting by zoom in most cases. Our plan is to begin reading books the first quarter of 2021 and to schedule regional locations around the state for these reviews to minimize travel time and keep the groups small in number. We will be maintaining social distancing and there are no plans to eliminate the need for masks anytime soon. We will be sending out details as we approach 2021.



In the meantime, if you have questions, please continue to contact [Carol Gerlach](#) or [Jeanette Miller](#) to get answers to your questions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

12- Montlure Zoom Event

OCTOBER

29- [Town Hall Meeting via Zoom](#)- 1 p.m.

NOVEMBER

7- [Town Hall Meeting via Zoom](#)- 9 a.m.

17- Presbytery meeting via Zoom

[Presbytery calendar](#)

RESOURCES

[Leadership Minutes](#)

[This Week's Presbyterian News](#)

[Presbyterian Women of GC](#)- (Scroll to PW tab)

[Arizona Faith Network Events](#)

[Presbyterian Older Adult Network](#)

[Latest from the Board of Pensions](#)

[Presbyterians Today](#)

[Synod PW- Loaves and Fishes](#)

ACTIVE SHOOTER PLAN FOR CHURCHES

Take a Look! Several new Job postings to explore! Feel free to share with friends!

JOBS- New Posting- 5/1

MARKETPLACE

Visit our website

STAY CONNECTED



Presbytery of Grand Canyon |602-468-3820 | Fax- 602-468-3824 |pbyoffice@gmail.com
|www.pbygrandcanyon.org