

Call to the Annual Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon
Saturday, January 16, 2010
Faith Presbyterian Church, Sun City

16000 N Del Webb Blvd. 623-974-3611

TO: Clerks of Session, Minister Members, Elder Commissioners and Other Presbyters
FROM: Richard E. Coffelt, Stated Clerk
DATE: January 2, 2010

The Presbytery of Grand Canyon is hereby called to meet for its Stated Annual Meeting on Saturday, January 16, 2010 at Faith Presbyterian Church, Sun City. Registration is scheduled to begin at 7:30 AM on Saturday, with the meeting to begin promptly at 8:30 AM.

Highlights for this Stated Meeting as reflected on the Tentative Agenda are the following:

- The Service of Worship will be led by Outgoing Moderator, Elder Glyndon Morris and Rev. Karen Muenich. The service will include the Installation of Rev. Karen Muenich as Moderator, and Celebration of the Lord's Supper.
- Election of Moderator-Elect Nominee Elder Gloria Young, Southminster Presbyterian Church, Phoenix
- Dedication of Mission Pledges
- Report of the Interim Executive Presbyter Rev. Dave Wasserman
- Elections to the 219th General Assembly (2010) of Two Elder and Two Minister Commissioners and a Youth Advisory Delegate
- Report of Council/Trustees and Reflections on 2009
- Report of the Ganado Administrative Commission
- Commissioning of our 2010 Native American Consultants Rev. Martha Sadongei and Rev. Norma McCabe
- Report of the Bills and Overtures Committee and Discussion and Voting on the Proposed Overtures to the 219th General Assembly (2010)
- Singing the Faith and Remembering the Baptized Saints Who've Gone Before Us
- Exploring the Meaning of Baptism
- Enrollment from Inquirer to Candidate of Erin Tamayo (Betania), and Megan LeCluyse (Mountain View)
- Evangelism and Church Development Report on the *Hitchhiker's Guide to Evangelism Workshop*
- Celebrating Ordination Anniversaries
- Annual Meeting of the Corporation to Elect New Officers for 2010

We look forward to your participation in the Annual Stated Meeting and the opportunity it provides to re-connect with one another, to celebrate community and to joyfully offer ourselves to God and be equipped for God's service in the world through Worship.

Please Note:

Cost for lunch will be \$6.00 per person.

Housing Available: Host families are available for Friday evening if requested by January 11th: Contact Roda Wright at 623-974-3611.

Childcare: Available if requested by Monday, January 11th. Contact Roda Wright at 623-974-3611.

Disability Accommodations: Contact Roda Wright at 623-974-3611.

For an excused absence: you will need to send a letter to the Stated Clerk, or you may send an e-mail to the following address at the presbytery office: carolynm@pbygc.org

Announcements: Announcements will be included in written form only in the packet of information distributed at the time of registration. Individuals who wish to lift up items for the attention of the presbytery as a whole are asked to **provide the announcement in a brief written form in advance of the meeting to Carolyn McBurney at carolynm@pbygc.org or by fax at 602-468-3824** in order that they may be included in a printed announcements insert in the packet distributed at the meeting. **(Announcements must be received by Tuesday, January 12th.)**

**Presbytery of Grand Canyon
Stated Annual Meeting**

January 16, 2010

Faith Presbyterian Church

16000 N. Del Webb Blvd., Sun City, AZ 85351
623-974-3611
www.scfaith.org

Directions to Faith Presbyterian Church

Faith Presbyterian Church is located in Sun City, just south of Bell Road at 107th Ave.

From North: Take I-17 South to the Loop 101. Travel West to Bell Road. Follow Bell Road West to Del Webb Boulevard (approx. 3.1 miles). Turn left (South) and follow Del Webb Boulevard to church on right (approx. 0.7 miles). Enter Faith Presbyterian Church parking lot from Del Webb Boulevard or Brookside Drive.

From South and East: Take I-10 West to the Loop 101 (West Valley). Travel North on Loop 101 to Grand Avenue/US-60 W. Follow Grand Avenue to Del Webb Boulevard (approx. 1.8 miles). Turn right (North) on Del Webb Boulevard and follow to church on left (approx. 2.0 miles). Enter Faith Presbyterian Church parking lot from Del Webb Boulevard (across from Burns) or Brookside Drive.

From West: Take I-10 East to the Loop 101 (West Valley). Travel North on Loop 101 to Grand Avenue/US-60 W. Follow Grand Avenue to Del Webb Boulevard (approx. 1.8 miles). Turn right (North) on Del Webb Boulevard and follow to church on left (approx. 2.0 miles). Enter Faith Presbyterian Church parking lot from Del Webb Boulevard (across from Burns Drive) or Brookside Drive. 16000 N. Del Webb Blvd is on the right.

Motel Accommodations

There are a limited number of host families available for Friday evening if requested by Monday, January 11. Contact Roda Wright at 623-974-3611.

The church has arranged very good rates from the following motels. Please mention "Presbytery of Grand Canyon" for the special rates below:

Motel 6 Sun City-Youngtown (\$59.99)

11133 Grand Ave, Youngtown.

1.87 miles from church

Phone: (623) 977-1318

www.hotel6.com

Best Western Inn and Suites of Sun City (\$99.99)

11201 Grand Ave, Sun City

1.88 miles from church

Phone: 800-780-7234

http://book.bestwestern.com/bestwestern/selectRoom.do;jsessionid=Jo4j5bbal813b39QBxK9KA**.h05bc

Quality Inn and Suites of the Sun Cities (\$79.99)

16741 N. Greasewood St., Surprise

2.41 miles from church

Phone: (623) 583-3500

http://www.choicehotels.com/ires/en-US/html/Availability?sid=iSXCg.HIO_hgl17.9

Days Inn and Suites, Surprise (\$76.49)

12477 W. Bell Rd.

2.44 miles from church

Phone: (623) 933-4000

<http://www.daysinn.com/>

Holiday Inn Express Hotel (\$119.00)

16771 N. 84th Ave, Peoria

2.65 miles from church

Phone: (623) 853-1313

<http://www.ihotelsgroup.com/h/d/ex/1/en/rates/phxpe?ias=y&availCheckCaching=n&requestid=227824>

Restaurants near the church.

Local

Little Bite of Italy- 15462 N. 99th Ave.

623-972-8206

Lou's Tivoli Gardens- 14635 N. Del Webb Blvd.

623-974-8224

Bobbie's Café of Sun City- 10001 W Bell Rd. #135

623-972-7338

Sweet Rustico- 15472 N. 99th Ave.

623-972-5160

Chain

Arby's- 17032 N. 99th Ave.

623-933-9551

Pizza Hut-10050 W. Bell Rd, Ste 22

623-875-8776

Subway-10050 W. Bell Rd.

623-933-0383

Coco's- 9801 W. Bell Rd

623-972-9295

Starbucks-10001 W. Bell Rd.

623-583-1459

TENTATIVE AGENDA
 Annual Stated Meeting - Presbytery of Grand Canyon
Faith Presbyterian Church, Sun City
Community Presbyterian Church, Yarnell – Co-host
 January 16, 2010

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

7:30 a.m.
 8:30 a.m.

- Registration
- CALLED TO WORSHIP AND WORK**
- Being Called to Worship..... Bev Phillips
- Singing the Faith
- Lighting of the Peace Candle..... Glyndon Morris
- Convening Prayer

GATHERED IN GOD’S GRACE

8:40 a.m.

- Welcoming First-time Commissioners, Guests..... Glyndon Morris
- Enrollment of Corresponding Members
- Establishment of a Quorum
- Approval of the Agenda and Procedural Motions (C-1)
 - Approval of Proposed Procedures for Discussion and Voting on the Proposed Overtures to the 219th General Assembly (2010) (C-2)
- Reception of New Business
- Welcome by our Host Congregations:
 - Faith and Community, Yarnell..... David Van Arsdale and Paul Jones
- Electing our Moderator-Elect (C-3)..... Chuck Proudfoot
- Confessing our Sins and Receiving God’s Forgiving Grace..... Lowell Byall

ENCOUNTERING GOD’S WORD

8:55 a.m.

- Hearing Scripture
- Proclaiming God’s Word – Message by retiring Moderator, Glyndon Morris

REFLECTING ON GOD’S WORD

9:25 a.m.

- Exploring the Meaning of Baptism..... Lorelei Hillman
- Panelists – three to be named
- Singing the Faith

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

9:55 a.m.
 10:05 a.m.

- Installing our Presbytery Moderator for 2010, Rev. Karen Muenich
- Preparation for Ministry Rob Johnston
 - Enrollment from Inquirer to Candidate, Erin Tamayo, Betania PC, Phoenix
 - Enrollment from Inquirer to Candidate, Megan LeCluyse, Mtn. View PC, Scottsdale
 - Approval of Alternate form of Examination for Vickie Longenecker, Church of the Master, Mesa

10:35 a.m.
 10:40 a.m.

- Annual Meeting of the Presbytery Corporation (C-4) Art Campbell
- Nominations Committee Chuck Proudfoot
 - Approval of Committee Nominations
 - Election of Commissioners and Advisory Delegate to the 219th GA (2010) (C-5)
 - Youth Advisory Delegate (YAD) (by Ballot)
 - Elder Commissioners (By Ballot) (C-6)
 - Minister Commissioners (By Ballot) (C-7)

* 11:10 a.m.

- Report of the Ganado Administrative Commission Nan Campbell
- Return of Original Jurisdiction to the Session of Ganado Presbyterian Church

* 11:20 a.m.

- Report of Presbytery Council..... Art Campbell
- Reflections on 2009
- Consent Agenda (C-8)
- Report of the January 7th Meeting of Council/Trustees

* Orders of the Day
 (Continued)

- Introduction and Commissioning our 2010 Native American Consultants
 Rev. Norma McCabe and Rev. Martha Sadongei
- 11:45 a.m. - Dedicating our 2010 Congregational Pledges Dave Van Arsdale
- HALF-TIME: CELEBRATING IN OUR COMMUNITY**
- Noon - Lunch and Fellowship – Cents-Ability Offering
- * 1:00 p.m. - Report of the Interim Executive Presbyter.....Dave Wasserman
- 1:10 p.m. - Exploring: Conversing about our Presbytery’s Next Steps Rocky Mackey
- 2:00 p.m. **(BREAK TO MOVE FROM FELLOWSHIP HALL TO THE SANCTUARY)**
- * 2:10 p.m. - Discerning God’s Leading – Report of the Bills and Overtures Committee
 (C-9, C-10)
- Discussion and Voting on the Proposed Overtures to the
 219th General Assembly (2010)
- BEING RENEWED BY GOD’S PROMISES AND GIFTS**
- * 3:00 p.m. - Professing the Faith Bev. Phillips
- Remembering Baptized Saints Who’ve Gone Before UsLowell Byall
- Anthem “Wade in the Water” Faith Chancel Choir
- Remembering our Baptism
- Gathering Around the Lord’s Table..... Glyndon Morris and Karen Muenich
- Singing the Faith
- Response and Prayer
- COMPLETING OUR WORK TOGETHER**
- 3:30 p.m. - Evangelism and Church Development
 - *Hitchhiker’s Guide to Evangelism Workshop*.... Tom Lineweaver and Art Campbell
- Presbyterian Women – Spring Retreat..... Roberta Fogel
- Reflecting on the Year Ahead..... Karen Muenich
- Report on our 2010 Mission Pledges
- Committee on Ministry Shelly Moe
 - Celebrating Ordination Anniversaries (C-11)
- Reminder of Action at March 2010 meeting on Revisions to Sexual Misconduct
 Policy
- Unfinished Business Karen Muenich
- New Business
- Closing Procedures
- CONNECTING BEFORE THE BENEDICTION**
- Expressions of Thanks
- Next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery – March 19-20, 2010, Crosswinds PC, Phx.
- Singing the Faith
- Charge and Benediction, Adjournment..... Karen Muenich
- Fellowship as We Part Company

The mission of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon is to celebrate and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ by:

- *nurturing each congregation and minister member,*
- *assisting and challenging each congregation to engage in ministry and mission with other congregations and denominations*
- *developing and redeveloping worship communities*
- *being a connectional, communicative link in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

Isaiah 43: 18-19

Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. (NRSV)

Procedural Motions

for the

January 16, 2010 Annual Stated Meeting

The Stated Clerk moves the following procedural motions:

1. That the roll for this meeting be established by signing of the Registration Sheets at the Registration Desk.
2. That the Presbytery grant to the Moderator the authority to grant privilege of the floor to persons for the purpose of reporting to this meeting.
3. That the Moderator and the Stated Clerk be empowered to make adjustments in the Agenda during the meeting, as may be necessary, to provide for efficiency in reporting.
4. That written requests for absences received by the Stated Clerk be approved.

***RULES OF DECORUM AND PROCEDURES FOR DEBATE AND VOTING ON PROPOSED
OVERTURES TO THE 219TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2010)
January 16, 2010***

MOTION: to adopt the following Rules of Decorum and Procedures for Debate and Voting on the Proposed Overtures to the 219th General Assembly (2010)

RULES OF DECORUM AND DEBATE for PROPOSED OVERTURES
(Based upon RONR 331)

1. Speeches limited to 2 minutes by those eligible to vote, alternating pro and con. There will be a pro and con microphone and those wishing to speak will line up behind the desired microphone and will be recognized on an alternating basis. The Stated Clerk will maintain a timer.
2. Each person may speak twice on a subject and may not speak a second time until everyone who wishes has spoken.
3. Remarks shall be confined to the pending question/issue/amendment.
4. Remarks shall not impugn another person or that person's motives.
5. All remarks shall be addressed to the moderator.
6. Remarks may not refer adversely to prior acts or discussion.
7. Reports or documents are not to be read or distributed.
8. Persons shall not disturb the assembly.

PROCEDURES FOR DEBATE AND VOTING (Approved by the Agenda Planning Committee)

1. An * Order of the Day has been established with fifty (50) minutes docketed for debate and vote on all overtures.
2. Beginning with an Order of the Day at 2:10 p.m. on Saturday January 16, 2010 the schedule with an Order of the Day for considering and voting on each overture is shown below. The order of the day will be observed should debate on an overture extend beyond the time allotted. Should debate and the vote on an overture be completed in a shorter time period then scheduled debate will proceed immediately to the next overture (s).
 - * 2:10 p.m. Overture #5 "On Taking the Lord's Name in Vain" with Voice Vote
 - * 2:20 p.m. Overture #1 "Restoring and Guarding our Diversity" with Voice Vote
 - * 2:30 p.m. Overture #2 "Amending the Process for Establishing Social Witness Policy
And Resolutions" with Voice Vote
 - * 2:40 p.m. Overture #3 "Key Christian Principles for Social Witness" and Voice Vote
 - * 2:50 p.m. Overture #4 "Strengthening the Role of Particular Churches" and Voice Vote
3. The written report of the Bills and Overture Committee is included with the Call to the January 16, 2010 Presbytery Meeting
4. A member of the Session of the Church submitting the original overture will be given up to 2 minutes to present the overture for consideration of the presbytery
5. The Convenor of the Bills and Overture Committee will be given up to 2 minutes to present the recommendation on the overture for consideration of the presbytery
6. Debate on each overture by commissioners will proceed in accordance with the above Rules of Decorum and Debate
7. Voting will be by a Voice Vote on all amendments
8. Presbytery could move to extend the time of floor discussion.

Brief Biographical Information
Nominee for Moderator Elect
Gloria J. Young

Gloria Young has been a member of Southminster Presbyterian Church since 1960. She is an ordained Elder and currently serves as the Clerk of Session. She has just completed her most recent term as an active elder, Class of 2009.

Gloria earned a Bachelor of Science and Master of Business Administration Degree from Arizona State University in 1995 and 2003, respectively. Employed by the State of Arizona, Department of Economic Security for forty-three years in many capacities, including Program Administrator, Family Assistance Administration, Program Administrator, Jobs Administration, Project Director, Research and Demonstration Project, Operations Officer, Rehabilitation Services Administration; she retired from State Service in 2003. In 2005 bored with retirement, she returned to the world of work. Currently she is currently employed as a Human Resource Analyst with the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation.

She has served Southminster Presbyterian Church in several capacities including Chair, Audit Committee, Ordained Deacon, and member of Budget and Finance, Personnel and Worship Committee(s) and the Southminster Presbyterian Social Service Agency Board.

At the Presbytery level she has served as the Moderator Presbyterian Women, Grand Canyon Presbytery, Vice-Moderator of the Committee on Ministry and as a member of the Social Justice and Peacemaking Committee. She currently serves on the Personnel Committee and the Planning Committee and the Review of Records Committee.

Nationally, Gloria is a member of Presbyterian Health Education and Welfare Association (PHEWA), a ministry of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Peace and Justice Ministries. She has served as a Co-Moderator and Treasurer of the Presbyterian Association for Community Transformation Network (PACT) a network of community-based ministries of compassion, justice, worship and witness. PACT is one of ten networks under PHEWA to address special concerns.

Gloria has two sons and five grandchildren each of whom are a joy and delight.

AGENDA
PRESBYTERY OF GRAND CANYON CORPORATION
ANNUAL MEETING
January 16, 2010

Call to Order With Prayer Rev. Art Campbell

Election of Officers Rev. Art Campbell

Nominees

President Elder Glyndon Morris

Vice President Rev. Karen Muenich

Treasurer Elder Shirley Randolph

Secretary Elder Richard Coffelt

Executive Secretary Rev. Dave Wasserman

Report on Status of Full Audit Rev. Dave Wasserman

Adjournment with Prayer Rev. Karen Muenich

**ELECTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND ADVISORY DELEGATE
TO THE 219TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2010)**

The 219th General Assembly (2010) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) will be held from July 3-10, 2010 in Minneapolis, MN. Based upon the total number of congregational and minister members the Presbytery of Grand Canyon is entitled to send two minister and two elder commissioners to the 218th General Assembly. The presbytery is entitled to send one Youth Advisory Delegate. In accordance with the Bylaws, the following four Ministers of Word and Sacrament and four Elders were placed in nomination for election as Commissioners by the Nominations Committee at the November 14, 2009 Stated Meeting:

Minister Commissioner Nominees

Tom Lineweaver
Mary Saylor
David Van Arsdale
Trina Zelle

Elder Commissioner Nominees

Barbara Conti (Desert Hills)
Annabelle Smallcanyon (First, Leupp)
Ronald Fox (Mingus View)
Bob Orff (Orangewood)

After opportunity was given for nominations from the floor, the nominations for Commissioners to the General Assembly were closed.

Election of two Minister Commissioners and two Elder Commissioners to the 219th General Assembly is to take place at the January 16, 2010 Stated Meeting from among those four Minister Commissioner Nominees and four Elder Commissioner Nominees listed above. The Bylaw provisions call for all minister and elder nominees to submit written statements to the Nominations Committee regarding their confession of faith and knowledge of current issues before the denomination. In addition they are asked to answer questions related to their relationship with Jesus Christ and its effect on their life; what they believe to be the role of the church in today's world; and finally why they wish to serve as a General Assembly Commissioner. Documents C-6 and C-7 contain the written statements of the above nominees.

The election to take place at the January 16, 2010 Stated Meeting will be held in accordance with Section B-6.0229 (e) (f) (g) and (h) as outlined:

- e. Each nominee will be given a maximum of three minutes to speak to their written statements. Questions of the nominees from the floor shall not be permitted (emphasis added).
- f. The election of minister commissioners, elder commissioners and for youth advisory delegate shall be by secret ballot after the presbytery has had an opportunity to hear the nominees in person.
- g. Any nominee who receives a majority of votes in the first ballot shall be elected as commissioner. Whatever number of commissioners is to be elected, that number is elected providing those with the highest number of votes receive a majority of the ballots cast. If an insufficient number receive a majority of the ballots cast, then there will be a run-off election between the next ranking candidates whose votes total at least a majority of the ballots cast. Candidates ranked lower than these are eliminated from the run-off.
- h. Alternate commissioners shall be chosen from those nominees who do not receive a majority vote.

Note Regarding Youth Advisory Delegate Nominees: In November a letter was written to Clerks of Session with copies to Pastors/Moderators inviting nominations for Youth Advisory Delegates, with election of nominees to take place at the January 16, 2010 meeting. While the Nominations Committee has heard informally and unofficially that there may be additional nominees, as of the date that information must be posted with the Call to the Meeting, one nomination has been received by the Presbytery Office. Therefore information concerning Youth Advisory Delegate Nominees will be included in the Packet Papers distributed at the January 16, 2010 Stated Meeting.

**ELDER COMMISSIONER NOMINEES
TO THE 219th GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2010)**

Barbara Conti (Desert Hills Presbyterian Church)

A brief biography:

After working more than 20 years in private industry as a management trainer and organizational development consultant, I retired when we moved to AZ. After joining Desert Hills Presbyterian Church, we became active right away by serving as greeters and ushers for worship services.

I worked with the junior high youth on Wednesday nights with our Children's Director for several years. I served on our Board of Deacons for three years – the last year as moderator. I am a Stephen Minister and Stephen Leader. I am also an Elder for Leadership Development on our Session.

My confession of faith:

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior. I believe in one God who is manifested in Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. I believe in the Trinity, the virgin birth, the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sins and life everlasting.

Knowledge of current issues before the denomination:

In a world that is becoming increasingly secular and immoral, the issues facing our denomination are serious. My view is that the two extremes (liberal and conservative) are becoming so intolerant of one another that it is leading to an exodus of individuals and churches.

It appears to me that the hierarchy of our denomination is moving in the direction of increased power and authority over local congregations. This type of organizational structure doesn't work in for-profit organizations, and it isn't working very well in our denomination either.

Some of the major issues I see facing our denomination are:

- Ordination standards for church leadership
- The definition of marriage
- Political and social agendas promoted by the denomination's lobbyists
- The lack of key Christian principles to guide our denomination and congregations
- The process for forming social policy
- The definition of the ministerial purpose of the church
- The erosion of power and authority in local congregations rather than encouraging and empowering them.
 - For example, the statement "The members of a congregation put themselves under the leadership of the session and the higher councils (presbytery, synod, and General Assembly)" in nFOG G-1.0103.

My relationship with Jesus Christ and its effect on my life:

I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior in a public profession of faith when I was about twelve. My parents raised my sister and I in the church, regularly attending Sunday services, Wednesday evening youth group, and vacation Bible school.

It wasn't until after I retired and began serious Bible study that I now feel that I developed a personal relationship with Christ. It was in learning about the character of God and having the Holy Spirit speak to me through Scripture that I feel like I really came to know Christ.

My growing relationship with Christ has resulted in a peace of heart and mind that I have never experienced before. I was always restless and striving to achieve. I first felt the wonder of God at the birth of my son and His presence upon the death of my father. I knew beyond a shadow of a doubt that God would provide when my husband lost his job the year after we moved here and unemployment was running out -- and He did.

I know that God has a plan for my life, and I feel honored to be able to serve Him. My faith and knowledge of God gives (and has given) me the confidence and energy to sustain me through the death of a very dear friend a year ago and through the recently diagnosed disease my husband has to live with.

He will work all things to His good. There's a peace that comes from knowing that God truly loves me, forgives me, and provides for me.

What I believe the role of the church is in today's world and how I have been involved:

My vision of the role of the church today is one where churches are strong fellowships of love for one another that reach out into their communities to bring people to Christ. This is best done in demonstrating love and kindness and the joy in knowing where you will spend eternity.

This model involves the empowerment of local congregations by the presbytery to grow and flourish so they can partner with fellow congregations that need help. This help might be in the form of joint mission trips or community projects. It might be coming to the aid of a pastor whose home has burned or building the pastor a badly needed new home. Partnerships could also originate to support new fellowships of believers, to share Bible studies, or dialogue about controversial issues. This model leaves the moral and ethical responsibility on the individual believer and their congregations.

I have worked to make my vision of the role of the church a reality in the following ways:

- As a Deacon caring for the needs of our congregation
- As an Elder integrating new members into our congregation and developing the leadership of all members
- As a Stephen Minister walking alongside those experiencing life's challenges
- As a Stephen Leader growing our lay ministry with coordinating continuing education
- Tutoring in the "Downtown Urban Community Kids" program at Historic First Presbyterian Church
- Working at the Ecumenical Chaplaincy for the Homeless and as a Board Member
- Was part of a mission trip to establish a relationship with a sister church in Maxwell Mearns outside Glasgow, Scotland
- Financially support a Compassion International child as well as several charities for the poor

Why I wish to serve as a General Assembly Commissioner:

This is an area where I feel called by God to serve. He has blessed me with many opportunities and gifts. I have been trained in team building, leadership, consensus, conflict management, negotiation, and change management. It is time for me to use my gifts for His work.

This is a critical time in our church-at-large. Just as I feel that God is calling Desert Hills Presbyterian Church to take an active role in creating change in our denomination, I feel called by God to take an active part in the discernment process both within my local church, in our presbytery, and within the PC (USA).

I believe our denomination is worth fighting for; thus, I've become an advocate for change and improvement. My hope is that we can focus on our belief in Christ as a unifying force to find a way to live together with our differences.

Ronald Fox (Mingus View Presbyterian Church)**A brief biography:**

I was Baptized & Confirmed in the Presbyterian Church, Sunbury, Pa. After graduation from Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg, PA in 1958, I entered the US Navy and became a Naval Aviator. I served with the Pacific Fleet and was based at Barbers Pt. Hawaii where I met a school teacher, Maizie Sakata, who was to become my wife of over 44 years. After the Navy, I became a Captain for TWA and retired after 32 years in 1996. We spent 7 years traveling America in our motor home and then settled in Dewey, AZ. We had our membership transferred from The Presbyterian Church of Toms River, NJ and became members of the Mingus View Presbyterian Church in Prescott Valley, AZ. I am currently an Elder, Chairman of the Mission & Stewardship Committee and Lay Commissioner to the Presbytery.

Your confession of faith:

My confession of faith is essentially the creed we often say in church, "The Apostle's Creed". I believe in Jesus the Christ as my personal savior, One God, One Spirit, One Baptism and the Holy Scriptures as the inspired word of God. I believe in the Reformed Faith as practiced in our denomination.

Knowledge of current issues before the denomination:

I am knowledgeable of the issues before our church having attended all of the meetings of the Grand Canyon Presbytery for the past three years

Describe your relationship with Jesus Christ and its effect on your life:

Jesus is part of Maizie's and my life. We attend church regularly and participate in all areas of church life. I look at my children and grandchildren and know they would not be here were it not for an unseen encouragement during a life threatening event in my life before they were born. I know I can count on Christ to be there, so for me the relationship is personal and real.

What do you believe the role of the church is in today's world and how have you been involved?

I believe the role of the church has been what it has always been- to help with a better understanding of our relationship with God and God's role in all our lives. The church can do this by doing the things Jesus taught us through scripture- to care for the poor, befriend the friendless and help the weak among us. I have personally been involved in various mission work, administering communion to shut-ins, working with food bank distributions, Christmas stockings for the Navajo children, and other mission work.

Why do you wish to serve as a General Assembly Commissioner?

During the years of participating in all kinds of work in the church from Deacon, President of the Presbyterian Men's Club, Officer of the Presbyterian Mariners, Elder and Lay Commissioner to the Grand Canyon Presbytery. I would be humbled and excited to attend the 219th General Assembly. I would be privileged to be part of the process in making our church more relevant in people's lives.

Robert C. Orf, Jr. (Orangewood Presbyterian Church)**A brief biography:**

I was born in Enterprise Alabama, the oldest of five children. We lived mostly in California and Colorado, where I graduated from The University of Colorado- Boulder with a degree in History. I met my wife Lynne, whose home was Rochester, MN. and we were married in Boulder upon my graduation. We have three children and five grandchildren. Two of our children live in the Phoenix area, with three grandchildren, and my daughter and her family, with two children, live in Las Vegas, NV. I began my 42-year career in the heating and air conditioning industry in Southern California, where Lynne also began her career as a kindergarten teacher. After a few years in Freehold, New Jersey, we moved our family to Arizona, arriving in Phoenix in 1976. I retired in August, 2007, from Johnson Controls, Inc, which acquired my company (York International Corporation) in 2005. At the time of my retirement, I was Regional Branch Manager, responsible for the wholesale distribution of our York residential and light commercial heating and air conditioning products through factory owned centers in California and Arizona. I am currently serving on several committees at Orangewood Presbyterian, and have recently been elected to a three-year term as Elder, my second. For hobbies, I enjoy golf and photography.

Your confession of faith:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of all things-One God in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. I believe Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was born, suffered, died, and rose again and is alive today. I believe by his crucifixion, as atonement to God for our sins, we receive eternal life. I believe Christ will return to lead mankind to eternal and just reward. I believe in the Bible as the inspired word of God, and seek to understand and apply the teachings to my daily life. I believe in the spiritual power of prayer and forgiveness.

Knowledge of current issues before the denomination:

I am familiar with the issues facing the denomination in ongoing study: evangelism, globalization, church unity, justice and peace, interfaith and ecumenical dialogue. Specific issues facing our denomination are changes to the Book of Order in the qualifications for ordination of minister, and establishing a definitive position on abortion and right-to-life. These issues now provide a great opportunity to strengthen and demonstrate the love of Christ among us. I have not taken one side or the other on either of these issues, but have prayerfully studied both perspectives in the current debate.

Describe your relationship with Jesus Christ and its effect on your life:

As is true of the majority of Presbyterians today, I was not raised in the denomination. However as the oldest child in a family of five children in a very close Roman Catholic family, my relationship with Jesus Christ began at a very early age. I attended parochial schools until my senior year in high school, which included both secular education and religious instruction. I believe that my relationship with Christ is a very personal one, and it has guided me throughout my professional career and my in family life. It is strong and is continuing. I chose the Presbyterian Church because I believe in this form of government, and how this denomination fosters a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. My life has been enriched by my relationship with Christ.

What do you believe the role of the church is in today's world and how have you been involved?

The role of the church is to engage, inspire and equip believers to spread the word of Christ throughout the world and at home. I believe this was the role of the church in the time following Christ's ministry on earth, and is equally true in today's environment. Reflecting the love of God among all men is the role of each of us. As an organized group of believers, our local congregation at Orangewood Presbyterian contributes to denomination mission programs, and efforts in Mexico and Central America, and has responded to needs in

our local community. I participate as an active member of our Outreach Team, which was formed to address three perceived issues:

- 1) We have had shrinking membership for the past 10 years.
- 2) We have an aging congregation, most members over 60 years of age.
- 3) We live in a world where many people don't "seek out church" on their own.

Our team has conducted community and congregational assessments, such as a survey of our members, and interviews with numerous individuals and organizations in our local community. During the coming year, we will present our findings to the congregation, and move forward with improving and increasing the way Orangewood participates in the local community. Our team initiated several "experiments" where we bring Orangewood members into the community: I am participating in a water ministry weekly, which has distributed bottled water and peanut butter sandwiches to the homeless; serve on a committee that has begun a "community garden" project on our church property, and join other members in supporting the Desert Mission Food Bank as a volunteer helping with food distribution to those in need in our local community. I also attend regularly the Sunnyslope Community Youth and Family Partnership meetings in North Phoenix, and convey information to our caring congregation membership.

Why do you wish to serve as a General Assembly Commissioner?

Shortly after moving to Phoenix in 1976 and joining Orangewood, I was appointed to a presbytery committee during a difficult time in the life of our congregation. This committee of six members assisted the interim ministry of Dr. Mark Koehler and successfully resolved serious conflict in our congregation. I was then elected elder, and served on various committees, including a Pastor Nominating Committee. I have just been honored again to serve as Ruling Elder at Orangewood. My 33 year experience here, some as a ruling elder and all as an active member of our congregation, has allowed me to share the vision of a diverse celebration of ministry. As Vice President of Sales, Western Region of Unitary Products Group, York International Corporation during my professional career, I was called on often to make decisions where opposing viewpoints were presented. The process of resolution to decision began then with equal opportunity for each side to explore the positions of the other, and come to an understanding that the final decision was to be in the best interest of our company as a whole, our employees and the customers we served. Once the decision was made, we moved on to other important issues.

I believe my experience would be helpful as we, as Presbyterians face difficult issues, resolve them in love and compassion, and move on to the mission of spreading the word of our Lord.

I am honored to be nominated as a commissioner to the General Assembly, and if elected, will listen closely for the Holy Spirit to guide me as the work of this 219th General Assembly unfolds. If it is God's will, I look forward to participating actively in the direction of our denomination.

Annabelle Smallcanyon (First Presbyterian Church, Leupp)

(Note: At the time of posting the call to the January 16, 2010 Presbytery Meeting, Annabelle Smallcanyon's written statement had not yet been received in the presbytery office. Her statement will be posted as soon as it becomes available.)

MINISTER COMMISSIONER NOMINEES
TO THE 219th GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2010)

Tom Lineweaver

(Note: We hold Tom and his family in our prayers on the passing of his father. Tom's written statement will be posted as soon as it becomes available.)

Mary Saylor

A brief biography:

I grew up on a dairy farm in a small town in northern Ohio. Our family life largely revolved around the church. I received degrees in music and Christian Education from Wheaton College (IL) before attending Fuller Theological Seminary (CA). At Fuller I met George Saylor to whom I have been married for 33 years. For the past four years I have served Emmanuel Presbyterian Church in north Phoenix. Before coming to Arizona I served churches in Montana, Massachusetts, and Indiana.

My confession of faith:

As a young child I embraced the faith of my parents and grandparents and early came to believe that I was a beloved child of God. I have faith that God's grace has been revealed to me in Jesus Christ, and that through his life, death, and resurrection I am forgiven and reconciled to God. I have faith that the Holy Spirit empowers me and all believers to know and do the will of God. I have faith that God's call for me includes the ministry of word and sacrament. I confess that I am a sinner saved by grace, and by that grace I call myself a Christian and seek to live as a follower of Jesus Christ.

Knowledge of current issues before the denomination:

My knowledge of current issues facing our denomination is quite general and I confess to a need for much further study before undertaking the task of being a commissioner. But I have followed the discussion taking place in the church, particularly as that discussion relates to the reports from the seven special committees and task forces to be presented to the GA. I am especially interested in the impact a new form of government might have on our church and am especially concerned about the divisions that exist in our church and the impact of the coming GA on the future of our denomination.

Describe your relationship with Jesus Christ and its effect on your life.

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior. Through Jesus I am reconciled to God and know the freedom of forgiveness of sin. Because of Jesus I live with the knowledge that I am a beloved child of God, chosen and called to be a follower of Christ. Knowing that I belong to God through Jesus Christ shapes my identity, guides my actions, and compels me to live according to the love and justice of the gospel.

What do you believe the role of the church is in today's world and how have you been involved?

I was reared in the church and became a Presbyterian as an adult. An understanding of the role of the church as expressed in the "Six Great Ends of the Church" was one of the things that drew me to Presbyterianism. Even though they were written a century ago, I believe these six principles adequately and eloquently express the role of the church today: the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth; the promotion of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world. As a pastor, preacher, teacher, and worship leader, and as a participant in community outreach and mission, I have been guided by these principles during my 25 years of ministry.

Why do you wish to serve as a General Assembly Commissioner?

The prospect of serving as a commissioner to GA is daunting and exciting. I have never attended a meeting of the General Assembly, and I understand from those who have served as commissioners that the work is no small commitment in terms of time and energy and is both exhausting and exhilarating. Serving as a commissioner is another way in which I can fulfill my ordination vows to be a faithful servant of the church. I am prepared to give my best efforts to such a task and have my session's blessing and support for such an undertaking. I would consider it an honor to serve as a commissioner if elected.

David Van Arsdale

A brief biography: I was born into a household of an ordained pastor and trained Christian Educator ... and there is no day when I can remember not being connected to the church. My earliest memories go back to playing in the church by crawling under every pew from the front to the back. When I responded to my Dad's inquiry as to my whereabouts, I jumped to my feet and noted that I had thoroughly dusted the floor.

Following college and seminary, I was ordained to the ministry in 1972 and Faith Presbyterian Church in Sun City is my seventh position as pastor. The churches I have served represent wide and diverse settings, from theologically conservative to liberal, from a church packed with children to now a congregation with no children.

My wife, Ellen, and I have been married forty-one years and we have three sons. Mark is married and the parent of two sons and lives with his family in Anchorage, Alaska, where he is a high school science teacher. Joel is married and the parent of two daughters and lives with his family in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, where he is a business consultant. Adam is single and a professor of Anthropology at Wellesley College, outside of Boston. Ellen is the Parish Nurse at Desert Palms Presbyterian Church in Sun City West.

Your confession of faith: My personal faith begins with an unqualified trust in and allegiance to a sovereign God, in whom I live, move, and have my being. All that I am belongs to God and my purpose in life is to praise and enjoy God forever. I have come to know God's love through the ministry, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Jesus shows me the way of faithful discipleship. In Christ I know personally God's acceptance of me, the grace and forgiveness that comes from God, and the promise of God's gift of eternal life. Through the Holy Spirit I know that God is my constant companion. I can declare my Christian belief because the Lord has met me and I have met God.

I see my calling to ministry as making real the Good News of Christ's mission. Ministry calls forth qualities of energy, enthusiasm, flexibility, sensitivity, leadership, compassion, and sincerity. Pastoral service in a congregation compels me as the spiritual leader to share in members' life journeys, to assist people to articulate their faith in appropriate and meaningful ways, to empower effective evangelism and recruitment of new members to the community of faith, and to model a deep and tested faith in one's everyday life. I am a pastor first, and through that ministry I firmly believe those I have served have assisted me in my spiritual growth and helped me to become a better minister to people's needs. It has also helped to have a good sense of humor as one helps people to treasure their life in the Christian faith during these challenging times. Ministry, for me, is centered in compassionate pastoral care and supportive attention to congregational members and those of the extended church family. *"Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."* (I Corinthians 13:4-7)

Knowledge of current issues before the denomination: I was very surprised, yet, in some ways, very pleased, when I was asked to be a nominee as a Minister Commissioner to the 219th General Assembly. I have been a member of Grand Canyon Presbytery for just over four years, and often GA Commissioners have served in a Presbytery for many years. Yet, the more I thought about the nomination, I offer a unique experience and knowledge about the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) at all governing levels of the governing bodies. I have served at the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly in various committee responsibilities. I am completing two years as a member of the Presbytery Council of Grand Canyon Presbytery and the Chairperson of the Mission, Stewardship, and Communications Development Committee.

The major issues confronting the church are many and complex. Christians are continually tested by the economic disparity between the rich and poor. Much of the world lives in poverty where human life is tested daily and the struggle for mere survival is all that matters. The Gospel of Christ cannot ignore human need and the church is called to respond and minister through its agencies, congregations, and individual members.

Describe your relationship with Jesus Christ and its effect on your life: Long before I loved God, God loved me! As a child of God, I center my life in Jesus Christ through a deep personal relationship with God. I seek to affirm God's love for the world and all people through Jesus Christ. I serve God through my calling as a pastor with a profound and compassionate commitment to be faithful.

Where do I stand in my basic faith and doctrine? I consider my theological stance to be in the mainstream of evangelical and reformed tradition. My personal faith begins with an unqualified trust in and allegiance to a sovereign God, in whom I live, move, and have my being. All that I am belongs to God and my purpose in life is to praise and enjoy God forever.

What do you believe the role of the church is in today's world and how have you been involved? The role of the church in the world today is to be welcoming as it reflects the spirit of Christ's acceptance and forgiveness, as we live out our mission and ministry; build through growth and evangelism a diverse faith community that witnesses to our oneness in Christ across all human boundaries; provide a place for people to find comfort in a loving community, as well as offering a challenging prophetic spirit that seeks to mend the hurts in our community and in the world; present through an inquiring spirit, the reassurance of God's grace and love in our lives and our world, leading us to new avenues of service and discipleship; celebrate with joy, happiness, and humor through the tremendous gifts of Christ's love in the life of the congregation.

Why do you wish to serve as a General Assembly Commissioner? When I came to Faith Presbyterian Church in Sun City in November 2005, I was able to continue to serve for three remaining years as an "At-Large" member of the General Assembly Council (GAC) and I spent a total of six years on the Mission Support Services Committee (budget, finance, Trustees) of the GAC. In those years I became knowledgeable of the General Assembly issues, process, people, and much of the inner workings of our national church structure.

There is still another level of experience I believe I could offer to this next General Assembly. I have been ordained 38 years and I have genuinely come to love and respect the wide diversity of ministries and mission in our church from the ministry of small congregations, to mission in the inner city, to ministry with senior adults, to mission in the far reaches of our world. I have traveled and viewed Presbyterian mission both in the United States and in West Africa.

Trina Zelle

A brief biography: I was raised by parents who were deeply engaged in ministry through the Presbyterian Church and deeply committed to caring for the poor and marginalized of our own community. Initially they served as fraternal workers in the French Cameroon followed by my father's entrance into ordained ministry a few years later. I graduated from the College of Wooster majoring in Religion and then answered my own call to ministry, receiving a Master of Divinity from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities in 1980.

Since that time, my ministry, along with that of my husband's, has taken me from Minnesota to Connecticut to Hawaii to Texas to Phoenix, raising our four children – now grown and scattered across the United States - along the way. After ending up in the second place where I had instructed God not to send me, I learned to stop issuing orders to the Creator of the universe and start appreciating the opportunities that kept unfolding in unlikely places. Currently I serve as interim head of staff at University Presbyterian Church in Tempe and as director of the Arizona Interfaith Alliance for Worker Justice, Arizona's only worker rights center.

Your confession of faith: I am grateful for the faith with which I have been graced (because it isn't really "my" faith), best articulated by Paul's affirmation in Romans 1:16: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith. . . " as well as his later statement in Romans 8: "I am convinced that neither death, nor life. . . nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." This faith has been formed and informed by members of the community of faith who have gone before me, by my family and those I have encountered throughout my life's journey, and by my own experiences of loss, redemption, and resurrection.

Knowledge of current issues before the denomination: Most of what we term "current issues" have been roiling the waters of the Church for more than a generation. The overview of Grand Canyon Presbytery's history presented to the current Council by former moderators this past November was edifying as to the cyclical nature of issues confronting the presbytery and the denomination. This begs the question: what critical issues are being ignored as we battle and maneuver over the same two or three controversies at assembly after assembly? For me, the answer is glaringly obvious – we are paying insufficient attention to the spiritual and material needs of the growing immigrant population in our midst. We are not being church to the most vulnerable among us, and we are neglecting what has always been the true common ground for the Presbyterian Church – the call to mission, both in our midst and around the world.

Describe your relationship with Jesus Christ and its effect on your life: Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior. He is also present with me in every moment of my life. Not only do I love Jesus and I also like him – the one whom scripture reveals as full of wisdom, compassion, ironic humor and intensity; whose life, death, and resurrection both convicts and redeems me. The impact of my lifelong relationship with Jesus Christ has been a reduction of the anxiety to which I am prone – because no matter where I go, he is with me. This has freed me to step out and take risks I otherwise might not have taken, knowing that ultimately there is only One whose opinion about me matters and that One accepts and loves me beyond measure.

What do you believe the role of the church is in today's world and how have you been involved? The role of the church remains what it has always been – a transformative presence in a broken world whose members are given the opportunity to learn on a daily basis what it means to live out their lives in God's presence. My earliest memory of church involvement goes back to the day when my father was preaching at our local church as a lay guest preacher. I couldn't have been more than two or three and, slipping from my mother's grasp, began running up and down the aisle. My father scooped me up in his arms and held me as he continued his sermon. It was my first and still vivid pulpit's eye view of the worshipping community of faith.

Within the context of ordained ministry, I have served a number of churches in solo and associate capacities; in collaboration with PCUSA governing bodies, have established three faith based nonprofit organizations;

served on a variety of committees including: Committee on Ministry (Southern New England, Tres Rios), Committee on Preparation for Ministry (Twin Cities Area Presbytery), Christian Education Committee (Chair – Tres Rios), Social Justice and Peacemaking (Chair – Grand Canyon), the Executive Presbyter Search Committee (Tres Rios), the Synod Border Task Force (Synod of the Southwest); and served on numerous event planning teams, including the chairing of this year's event to be held in Phoenix, "Crossing Borders/Encountering God." Despite its many critics – and I have been just that from time to time – the PCUSA continues to offer hope and transformation to those at the edge of mainstream consciousness and meaningful ministry opportunities to those at its center.

Why do you wish to serve as a General Assembly Commissioner? I would be honored and delighted to serve as a commissioner primarily because nearly thirty years of parish ministry, specialized ministry, committee work and presbytery involvement has led me to value and trust our system of governance with its reliance on the wisdom of the gathered body. I also know that our future as a faithful expression of Christ's love for the entire world depends upon decisions that we make today and I believe that my own experience could be of use in that decision making process.