

**PRESBYTERY OF YUKON**  
**FALL STATED MEETING/MEETING OF THE CORPORATION**  
First Korean Presbyterian Church, Anchorage  
October 6-7, 2017

*“You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it;  
the river of God is full of water;  
you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.”*  
Psalms 65:9

**FRIDAY, October 6, 2017**

**OPENING SERVICE OF WORSHIP**

Presbytery opened with worship at 9:02 am in the First Korean Presbyterian Church sanctuary, with Rev. Curt Karns delivering the message *‘What is God Doing in Your Life?’*

**OPENING PRAYER/CONVENE**

Rev. Alice Green was invited to come forward to lead in the opening prayer. At her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration in July, Alice announced that of all positions she held at the presbytery level, she never had the privilege of serving as moderator. On that basis and on the recommendation of the Leadership Team, presbytery **GRANTED** Rev. Green the status of ‘moderator emeritus’. Following the opening prayer, moderator Rev. Israel Nelson convened the fall meeting at 9:39 am.

**HOST CHURCH WELCOME**

First Korean PC pastor Rev. Johan Shin extended a warm welcome to presbytery.

**DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

The moderator declared a quorum, in accordance with G-3.0304, that ruling elders representing at least three churches and three teaching elders constitute a quorum.

Minister members present: 19

Elders present: 25

**MODERATOR APPOINTMENTS**

**Mileage** – elder Joseph Brock

**Resolutions** – Rev. Ian MacInnes-Green

**ADOPTION OF DOCKET**

Presbytery **ADOPTED** the docket, as amended. On the recommendation of the Leadership Team, presbytery **APPROVED** a motion giving the moderator the authority to adjust the docket as needed.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Guests, first time elder commissioners and ministers were introduced. Motion granting voice to corresponding members and guests presenting reports and providing expertise, was **APPROVED**.

**ROLL**

**Ministers of Word & Sacrament members present:**

Timothy Baranoski – <i>Army chaplain (as of Sat.)</i>	Leisa Carrick – <i>co-pastor, United Protestant Church</i>
Timothy Carrick – <i>co-pastor, United Protestant Church</i>	Piper Cartland – <i>pastor, Eagle River PC</i>
Sandy Faison, <i>honorably retired</i>	Alice Green – <i>honorably retired (Fri. only)</i>
Ellen Johnson Price – <i>temporary supply, Immanuel PC</i>	Luke Jones – <i>pastor, Jewel Lake Parish</i>
Curt Karns – <i>executive presbyter</i>	Dan Ketchum – <i>honorably retired</i>
Dean Knapp – <i>honorably retired (Fri. only)</i>	Ian MacInnes-Green – <i>member-at-large</i>
Neill McKay – <i>pastor, University Community PC</i>	Curtis Matz – <i>pastor, New Hope Church</i>
Israel Nelson – <i>honorably retired</i>	Elizabeth Schultz – <i>member-at-large (as of Sat.)</i>

Matt Schultz – *pastor, First Anchorage PC*  
Henry Woodall – *pastor, First Wasilla PC*

Johan Shin – *stated supply, First Korean Anchorage*

**Commissioned ruling elders (CRE) present:**

Leah Hathaway – *Jewel Lake Parish*  
Darlene Matz – *Kaktovik PC, New Hope Church*  
Beulah Nowpakahok – *Gambell PC*

Virginia Kasak – *Kuukpik PC*  
Richard Mauer – *Delta PC*  
Marjorie Poggas – *Jewel Lake Parish*

**Churches represented by a ruling elder (RE) commissioner:**

Anchor PC – *Clyde Kaneshiro*  
Eagle River PC – *Debbie Osslander*  
First Korean Anchorage PC – *Sun Heo*  
Gambell PC – *Merle Apassingok*  
Jewel Lake Parish – *Dennis Rogers*  
Olgonik PC – *Cora Akpik*  
Trinity PC – *Joan White*  
University Community PC – *Paula Long*

Delta PC – *Ann Geise*  
First Anchorage PC – *Chottie Angst*  
First Wasilla PC – *Bob Christensen*  
Immanuel PC – *Candace Arlian*  
New Hope Church – *Ron Illingworth*  
Savoonga PC – *Christina Alowa*  
United Protestant Church – *Joseph Brock*  
Utqiagvik PC – *Ida Olemaun*

**Other voting members present:**

RE Jan Burger – *Leadership Team*  
RE Sharon Rayt – *Stated Clerk*

RE Danna Larson – *Certified Christian Educator*

**Minister members excused (E)/absent (A):**

Isaac Akootchook – *honorably retired (E)*  
Henry Guinotte – *honorably retired (E)*  
James Nageak – *honorably retired (A)*  
Dianne O'Connell – *honorably retired (E)*  
Mary Ann Warden – *honorably retired (A)*

Patrick Bracken – *military chaplain (E)*  
Britt Johnston – *temporary supply, Anchor PC (A)*  
William Ng – *honorably retired (E)*  
Youl Rhee – *honorably retired (E)*

**Churches not represented by a ruling elder commissioner:**

Atqasuk Chapel  
Fairbanks Korean PC  
Kuukpik PC

Chapel in the Mountains  
Kaktovik PC

**Other voting members excused/absent**

CRE Paul Bodfish – *Atqasuk Chapel (E)*  
CRE Matt Tinkelenberg – *New Hope Church (A)*

RE Miranda Rexford-Brown – *Leadership Team (A)*

**Guests/Presbytery office staff**

Rev. Hugh Anderson – *temporary supply, Atqasuk Chapel, Kuukpik & Olgonik PCs (Cascades Presbytery) [via Skype]*  
Rev. Mark Frey – *regional church consultant, Board of Pensions (Cascades Presbytery) [Fri. only]*  
Revs. Mary and Richard Koch – *Trinity stated supply co-pastors (beginning Oct. 23, 2017), National Association of Christian Congregational Churches*  
Tawny Alowa – *guest*  
Lucy Apatiki – *moderator-elect of Native Ministries*  
Meg Broste – *guest*  
Mary Kron – *Presbytery financial secretary*  
Dean Mielke – *Mission Development Certificate Program*  
Doreen Simmonds – *Yukon Presbyterians for Earth Care*  
Richard Wilson – *guest*  
Susan Jean Woods – *guest*

### REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK

The stated clerk presented the consent agenda. The vote to adopt was docketed for Saturday morning, giving commissioners sufficient time to review the consent agenda.

### BOARD OF PENSIONS REPORT

Regional church consultant Rev. Mark Frey provided an update.

### ELDER COMMISSIONER TESTIMONIES

#### **Eagle River Presbyterian Church** - RE Debbie Ossiander

The church has a new organist and new secretary on board. Despite the stress of longtime people leaving, the new employees are such a blessing. The congregation is raising funds to acquire a new organ.

#### **Delta Presbyterian Church** – RE Ann Geise

The congregation has approved the name change (as reflected above) and is working on updating articles of incorporation. Attendance has been good. Food and faith fellowship happen every Sunday after worship. The church sponsors community groups that support people with unmet needs. The exercise program, open to those outside the church is starting its fifth year. An artistic member is making a plaque which honors all who have contributed to the building.

#### **Olgonik Presbyterian Church** – RE Cora Akpik

Four elders try to rotate leading worship, but Cora is often the standby. The church is doing well, despite having no Sunday school or Wednesday evening service.

#### **First Presbyterian Church, Wasilla** – RE Bob Christensen

The congregation is continuing its vision of focusing upward, inward, and outward. Representatives of local community service groups staffed a mission fair, which piqued more interest. The congregation provides many services to the surrounding community. New members have joined, and the logos program for youth continues. Endowments have provided scholarships. The church's updated website now integrates the Presbyterian Foundation's planned giving framework.

*Rev. Dan Ketchum led in the prayer for these churches.*

### LEADERSHIP TEAM (LT) REPORT – Chair Rev. Piper Cartland

As the Leadership Team tries to live into presbytery's new structure, the team has had to meet much more often. Acting as the presbytery's board of directors/trustees, the team voted to unify the budget, which is a huge change from the past.

The LT recommended that presbytery amend its mission statement to better reflect its purpose. The amended mission statement was **APPROVED**, as follows (additions are underlined): *The Presbytery of Yukon seeks to bear witness in the world to the saving and transforming grace of God by caring for and connecting local ministries in the service of the triune God and of all God's creation.*

### STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT – RE Bob Christensen

The unified budget, which combines the per capita with the mission budget is a more accurate way of looking at what presbytery really does. The committee is looking beyond church gifts to future gifts by individuals through trusts, wills, etc.

### MORNING RECESS

Presbytery recessed at 10:45 am, reconvening at 11:00 am.

**FINANCIAL REPORT** – Mary Kron

The September 2017 financial statement and budget was presented. The corporation's finances, having been combined with the operating finances, are now reported on the regular, financial statement.

**BINGLE CAMP REPORT** – Rev. Henry Woodall, President of Bingle Camp Board of Directors

- The camp did not offer any camping programs in 2017, but other groups did use the camp for events throughout the summer. The Board plans to offer a camping program in 2018. Approximately 200 campers are needed, as well as college aged staff to serve as counselors. The staff hired will determine which camps are offered. A discipleship camp for middle and high school students will be offered May 27 - June 2, 2018. This camp's three components are: Upward – work and service to the camp and community; inward – study and discussion on what it means to belong and participate in a church; and outward – recreation, fellowship and outreach.
- Required maintenance was completed. Knox Retreat Center is fully winterized and available for rent year around for groups up to about 20.
- A new board of directors has emerged. Besides Henry, CRE Richard Mauer serves as the treasurer. The Board has been working hard at acquiring institutional knowledge and on what transpired last year.
- Several key things need to happen in the next several months: a financial review completed and camp staffing pattern set up.
- The website and Facebook pages have been updated. The Board's dream is to publish a regular newsletter.

**ELDER COMMISSIONER TESTIMONIES**

**Utqiagvik PC** – pastor Rev. Joseph Reid

Blessings and joys include, but are not limited to, the whaling, nalukataq, singspirations, and how the community takes care of each other and the pastor. Challenges exist as well. Joseph is blessed to be part of this caring community.

**New Hope Church** – RE Ron Illingworth.

In answer to the question, of being surprised at what God is doing in the congregation, Ron reported on the number of leaders that God has raised up. The church is served by a part-time Evangelical Lutheran pastor. The pastor's wife has been commissioned to serve as a CRE to Kaktovik which has deepened their sister-church relationship. Matt Tinkelenberg was commissioned as a CRE to serve New Hope. A congregant, who had been pursuing the CRE equivalent thru the Methodist church; is now pursuing an M. Div. An alternative worship service is now offered on Saturday evenings. With the expected influx of airmen and families at nearly Eielson Air Force Base in the next couple years, there is a strong possibility that the congregation will grow.

**Kaktovik PC** – moderator CRE Darlene Matz

There are new faces in the congregation. Darlene and the presbytery exec alternate visiting the church monthly. There were three baptisms on Easter. More people came for the baptisms who aren't regularly seen in the church. Darlene considers these individuals as embers that need to be nourished. The biggest need is to accommodate younger families. With lots of children in town, they hope to start a Sunday school.

**Trinity PC** – RE Joan White

The congregation has been served by interim pastors the past three years. Even though the Pastor Nominating Committee worked diligently for 1.5 years to seek a candidate, God brought forth two local ministers to serve as co-pastors, Revs. Richard and Mary Koch. Under their leadership, the congregation is excited about the new possibilities under the Kochs' leadership.

*Rev. Sandy Faison led in the prayer for these churches.*

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Rev. Tim Carrick

The committee moderator reported that the committee is still seeking nominees to serve as commissioners to the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly (GA) and a Synod elder commissioner (class 2019).

SPECIAL PRIVILEGE

Rev. Alice Green asked to be excused from the remainder of the meeting. Presbytery **EXCUSED** Rev. Green with utmost appreciation for her many years of service to this presbytery.

LUNCH RECESS

Rev. Henry Woodall led in the prayer prior to the noon lunch recess. Presbytery reconvened at 1:20 pm.

MINISTRY COMMISSION (Part I) – Co-moderator RE Jan Burger

**Revs. Richard and Mary Koch:** Elder Burger introduced the Kochs, who will serve as Trinity's co-stated supply pastors, beginning October 23, 2017. The couple shared a bit about themselves and their favorite verse (Mary: Philippians 4:4-7; Richard: Matthew 6:33). Mary is a volunteer chaplain with the Hospice of Anchorage, and Rick serves as head chaplain of the Alaska Army and Air National Guard. As members of the National Association of Christian Congregational Churches, Rick and Mary are not seeking to join presbytery as temporary members at this time, until they have had a chance to study up on reformed theology and polity.

**Rev. Hugh Anderson:** Nearing the end of his contract, Hugh gave a brief report via Skype, on his work this past year with the churches in Atkasuk, Nuiqsut, and Wainwright. His time in the villages was tailor-made, based on each church's specific needs: leading officer, teacher, or CRE training and moderating session meetings. Rev. Anderson reported that he may still be available for specific contract work if there is a need. When asked if he had any thoughts on where presbytery goes in terms of continuing the work he began, Hugh reported that it is important to connect each congregation to a network, for the purpose of sharing ideas, resources, and trained people. The presbytery exec extended thanks to Hugh for his service in the arctic.

**2018 Minimum Terms of Call for Installed Pastors:**

The Ministry Commission spent considerable time on Thursday discussing proposed changes to the minimums. Presbytery **APPROVED** the minimums, as recommended by the Ministry Commission with a correction to the transposed cash salary figure: Terms of call as approved by the presbytery:

- **Minimum effective salary** for full-time service in 2018 is \$58,000. The Board of Pensions defines full-time service as 35 hours a week or more. Minimum effective salary for full-time service in 2018 is calculated as follows:
  - \$44,615 plus manse/utilities value of \$13,385, resulting in an effective salary of \$58,000 **OR**
  - An effective salary of \$58,000 divided appropriately between cash salary and housing allowance.

Effective salary for part time service may be pro-rated.

In addition to the minimum effective salary, other terms shall include:

- **Board of Pensions (BOP) core benefits:** medical/pension/death/disability coverage. Pastors' participation dues rate as a percentage of effective salary is 37%.
- **Vacation** - 4 weeks annually (does not accumulate).  
For bush pastors, every second year an additional 2 weeks' vacation and reimbursement for a round trip by published cheapest airfare to Seattle for pastor and immediate family who reside in the manse/housing. Bush pastors are those who reside at and serve congregations located on other than a year around road or scheduled rail transportation system.
- **Study leave (continuing education) benefits**  
2 weeks each year plus \$1,500 each year of reimbursable costs (may accumulate for a 3-year maximum of six weeks). May not be used at the end of the call.

- **Moving expenses**
  - A. Moving to calling church in the Presbytery of Yukon
    - 1. Cost of transportation for family from place of residence to calling church.
    - 2. 3,000 lbs. of household goods & 2,000 lbs. of books moved at the most economical rate available.
  - B. Moving from calling church in the Presbytery of Yukon
    - 1. The lesser of:
      - a. The equivalent of cost of transportation for family to Seattle.
      - b. Half the cost of moving to the new location.
    - 2. The lesser of:
      - a. 3,000 lbs. of household goods & 2,000 lbs. of books moved to Seattle at the most economical rate available.
      - b. Half the cost of moving 3,000 lbs. household goods & 2,000 lbs. of books moved to the new location.
  - C. The moving and transportation costs for leaving may be prorated during the first three years in the Presbytery of Yukon.
- **Worker's Compensation** – full coverage
- **Medical Leave**  
10 days initially, accumulating at a rate of one (1) day per month of employment, up to 90 days, at which point long-term disability coverage takes effect.

#### EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER'S REPORT

The exec highlighted his written report (Appendix A).

In response to the exec's report, presbytery **APPROVED** Danna Larson's motion, that the Leadership Team consider ways our presbytery can take advantage of the emphasis of our co-moderators [PCUSA] on the study of racism and utilize the PCUSA resources available.

#### ELDER COMMISSIONER TESTIMONIES

##### **First Korean Anchorage PC – RE Sun Heo**

Rev. Johan Shin has been serving as the church's pastor since December, 2015. Most of the youth have left, and the session is searching for a youth pastor. The congregation is assisting a local Korean church in helping the homeless. Funds were raised for the Gambell building project.

##### **Kuukpik PC – CRE Virginia Kasak**

The church needs lot of prayer for the elders. The congregation is now offering an evening service, which includes singing to the Lord and a Bible story for the children. The village has been blessed with the landing of four whales. A few homeless live in the village.

##### **First Anchorage PC – RE Chottie Angst**

Elder Angst reported that God has provided many people with a true love of mission. The church is striving to increase its outreach in the city, by serving as a 'emergency cold weather' host church for families, supporting the Food Bank of Alaska and the downtown Hope Center which prepares people for the work world, and providing socks for the village of Gambell. For the past couple years, the congregation has sent out teams to assist with the Gambell building project. Praise was given to God for all the abilities He has provided to the people.

**Savoonga PC – RE Christina Alowa**

July was a bad month – there were a couple accidents, and Chris lost her brother. The congregation is growing fast, thanks to the support provided by visiting Gambell elders. The City of Savoonga has provided the church with 100 gallons of fuel every other month. The church still operates the village food bank.

*RE Wanda Slwooko led in the prayer for these churches.*

**AFTERNOON RECESS**

Presbytery recessed for a 15 minute break at 3:00 pm.

**REGIONAL MEETINGS**

The remainder of the afternoon was devoted to Native Ministries and Road System regional meetings.

**DINNER RECESS**

Regions recessed for dinner at the conclusion of their meetings.

**EVENING WORSHIP**

Presbytery gathered for worship at 7:00 pm, with music provided by Rev. Henry Woodall on the guitar. Scripture reading focused on Genesis 2:10-17 and Mark 1:16-20. Rev. Curt Karns served as liturgist with Rev. Neill McKay delivering the message *'The Life-Giving Waters'*. Rev. Johan Shin presided over the Lord's Supper, with First Korean Anchorage elders serving the elements. The \$1,040.14 offering was designated for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, specifically for Hurricane Relief, in response to the devastation caused by hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2017**

**SERVICE OF WORSHIP**

Presbytery gathered for worship at 9:00 am with RE Ida Olemaun delivering the message *'Restoration for God's People.'* Scripture focused on Habakkuk 2:14 and selected readings from Isaiah. Rev. Piper Cartland provided the piano accompaniment.

**RECONVENE**

The moderator reconvened the meeting at 9:40 am. New guests were introduced.

**ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Presbyters were provided with the opportunity to pull items from the consent agenda. There being none, Presbytery **ADOPTED** the consent agenda, as presented. Ministry Commission items appear under the second part II, of the commission's report. All other items appear in the Report of the Stated Clerk.

**REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK**

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Recommendations for Action from the Stated Clerk. APPROVED**

1. Approve the minutes of the February 24-25, 2017 stated presbytery meeting, as distributed.

**MATTERS OF INFORMATION:**

1. **Electronic Voting**

- Presbytery approved the Leadership Team's request to celebrate the Lord's Supper at its July 21-22, 2017 retreat.

## 2. Correspondence Received

- An invitation from the First Korean Presbyterian Church in Anchorage Administrative Commission (which serves as the session) to host the October 6-7, 2017 Fall Stated Meeting.
- Notification that the congregation in Delta Junction voted to change the name of the church to Delta Presbyterian Church. The church's name appearing in the articles of incorporation and registered with the PC(USA) differed.
- A committee composed of Jan Burger, Joseph Brock, and Bob Christensen completed a review of the 2016 financial records and found the records neat and in good order.

## 3. Leadership Team (Board of Directors) Report

- May 2, 2017 teleconference
  - Appointed Piper Cartland as Corporation president, Miranda Rexford-Brown as Vice-President, Sharon Rayt as Secretary, and Joseph Brock as Treasurer.
  - Adopted the document signatory resolution *authorizing and empowering the corporation officers to sign any and all documents, conveyances, earnest money agreements, escrow instructions, closing statements, mortgages, hypothecations, promissory notes and any such other instruments in writing of whatsoever kind or nature that may be deemed necessary and proper to sell, convey, mortgage, encumber, and manage any property owned by, on behalf of the corporation, and to affix the corporate seal thereto as may be required.*
  - Designated check signers and representatives with Merrill Lynch trading and fund/security distribution authority.
  - Appointed Israel Nelson as moderator of the Property Committee
  - Directed Leadership Team members Ron Illingworth, Curt Karns, and Henry Woodall to confer with the Bingle Camp Board about finding a way forward.
  - Accepted the invitation of the Gambell session, to host the fall 2018 presbytery meeting, if the way be clear (construction completed).
- May 22, 2017 teleconference
  - Approved a motion to schedule next summer's Leadership Team meeting at Bingle Camp.
- July 21-22, 2017 Retreat
  - Approved a recommendation that presbytery amend the presbytery's mission statement as follows: *The Presbytery of Yukon seeks to bear witness in the world to the saving and transforming grace of God by caring for and connecting local ministries in the service of the triune God and of all God's creation.* [Additions are underlined.]
  - Approved the following recommendations:
    - Have a unified budget and eliminate per capita at the per capita level;
    - Calculate a per member cost, based on a total budget figure.
    - Develop a chart, showing the actual \$\$\$ amounts at different percentage levels of giving for congregations, e.g., 25%, 50%, 75%, 100%, etc. with a minimal level of giving at 10% of the church's income.
    - Provide each church with a pledge form
    - Establish better communication with the churches.
    - Consolidate the corporation and operating financial records. Two sets of records have created confusion, especially among granting agencies.
  - Approved the concept of the denominational leaders support group (PCUSA, ELCA, UMC, Episcopalian, and Orthodox Church), of forming a common 'lay academy' for teaching quality classes to adults. This is not intended to replace the movement by the indigenous people to raise up indigenous leaders.



- August 26, 2017 teleconference
  - Personnel Committee appointments: Merle Apassingok (class 2019), Rhonda McKay (class 2020), Sandra Haldane (class 2020)
  - Designated Psalms 65:9 as the theme verse of the 2017 Fall Stated Presbytery Meeting. *“You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.”*
  - Proposed that elder commissioners address the following question in their reports: *Tell how God has provided enrichment to your church in ways you did not anticipate.*
  - Approved the recommendation that presbytery approve the proposed investment earning distribution plan.

### RULING ELDER TESTIMONIES

#### **Anchor Presbyterian Church** – RE Clyde Kaneshiro

This 17 member congregation has strong roots, but trying to survive. An unforeseen blessing is that there is forgiveness in the midst of animosity within the congregation. Pastor Rev. Britt Johnston is calling on the congregation to interact with folks; some of those attending the meal after Sunday worship are homeless. The pastor is trying to revive a Bible study.

#### **Jewel Lake Parish** – RE Dennis Rogers

The congregation strongly supports several food ministries. Members volunteer at the weekly Food Bank of Alaska mobile food pantry, as well as supporting Lutheran Social Services (LSS) food pantry. Over 3,400 pounds of food and over \$1,000 was donated their food pantry in Spenard. The congregation also participates in the Souper Bowl offering

#### **Atqasuk Chapel** – no report

#### **University Community Presbyterian Church** – RE Paula Long

Church membership has increased by ten. The church is located close to the University of Alaska and seeking to draw in students, started offering a breakfast on Sunday mornings. The endeavor was not successful. A small youth group is active in mission by fundraising for homeless youth at the *Door*. Other ministries supported by the congregation includes: area food bank, Souper Bowl, Love INC, Fairbanks collection center for operation Christmas Child, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance - raising over \$1,000 for hurricane relief, and beginning in November providing meals and lodging for homeless families for a one week period on a rotating basis under the Family Promise program. A breakfast is provided on Easter and Thanksgiving, with people coming in droves. The facility is used by the boy scouts, Alcoholics Anonymous, Sweet Adelines, and the summer and winter arts festivals.

*Rev. Joseph Reid led in the prayer for these churches.*

### REGIONAL MINISTRY REPORTS

**Native Ministries** – Rev. Joseph Reid presented a brief history of the reconciliation event and the event's impact. A Power point presentation highlighted the proposed ecumenical *Listening Way* healing ministry, a faith-based strategy for addressing restoration and recovery from social ills in Native Alaskan communities. Millions have been spent on addressing social ills affecting North Slope communities to no avail, but never has the approach been faith-based. Purpose and outline of the 'Listening Way' ministry:

- In partnership with the Presbytery of Yukon, North Slope Borough, City and Tribal governments, and the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation (ASRC), the partners in a covenant relationship will create the Listening Way Program.
- Through this program, persons and young adults in each village will have access to the 'Listening Way' training and be able to serve their fellow community members in times of need.

- The program will provide Listening training, which consists of 50 hours of training for each ‘listener’ over a 6-week period. The goal is to have eight village ‘Listening Way’ centers staffed by an average of six ‘listeners’ (two paid and four volunteers) available at any time.
- Except for initial listener training, all operations of the centers will be done by village citizens. Funding will have been provided through the State, North Slope Borough, local village corporations, and the Arctic Slope Community Foundation.

Elders Merle Apassingok, Ida Olemaun, and Molly Pederson spoke from their heart about the detrimental effects of what happened a long time ago and the necessity for approaching recovery from a faith-based perspective.

The exec spent time outlining the new program. It is not about experts, but using people who care. God calls us to love, and love is about covenant, to say that I am there with you, no matter what. Success may depend on the people attending presbytery and going back to the villages. The Native Ministries region presented two motions which will help move the program forward:

- Presenter elder Merle Apassingok: After discussion and approving a motion striking the first sentence, Presbytery **APPROVED** the following motion, as amended: *That the moderators of the Native Ministries region and the Property Committee of the Presbytery be empowered to negotiate and, if appropriate, to enter into a contract with the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, the North Slope Borough, and any other entity that can support this effort.*

*The contract they are to negotiate is for the establishment of Listening Way Centers in the North Slope churches, the St. Lawrence Island churches, and the Anchor Presbyterian Church, Anchorage regarding two things:*

- *First, make our buildings available for this program, and*
  - *Second, on how to recruit staff for the implementation of this program.*
- Corporate resolution presenter elder Molly Pederson: *That the Presbytery of Yukon appoint a committee authorized to form a nonprofit corporation. The purpose of the corporation will be to pursue a ministry of faith-based healing from the generational trauma experienced among the Alaska Natives in our presbytery. Members of this committee will include Merle Apassingok, Molly Pederson, Lucy Apatiki, Dorothy Bekoalok, Curt Karns, Ralph Duerre, Bob Christiansen, and Dave Matthews (who represents other denominations). We understand that this corporation will begin by partnering with the North Slope Borough and the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation and may continue with other entities, to address issues of substance abuse and addiction. Early efforts to address these issues will include at least these programs:*
  - a. *Listening Way*
  - b. *12-step facilitation*
  - c. *Healing services in the villages.*

Presbytery **APPROVED** the motion, as presented.

Rev. Curt Karns and Lucy Apatiki gave thanks to God that the moment is just right, with the right people at the right time. Rev. Israel Nelson gave a heartfelt thanks to God for his recovery.

#### LUNCH RECESS

Rev. Matt Schultz led in a prayer, prior to the 12:20 recess. Presbytery reconvened at 1:15 pm.

REGIONAL MINISTRY REPORTS (continued)

**Road System** – Rev. Matt Schultz reported back on the discussion by the road system. Since meeting via skype isn't suitable, non-face-to-face meetings will be held via teleconference. Commissioners discussed collaborating on elder/deacon training and sharing pulpits.

GAMBELL NEW BUILDING PROJECT

Project director Dennis Berry reported that it has been a joy to work on this project. The plan is to complete construction next summer. Volunteer coordinator Danna Larson reported that this past summer six teams, representing folks from Texas, Georgia and seven Presbytery of Yukon churches participated in the building project. Danna extended gratitude to the 43 volunteers, the 10-11 people from the Gambell community, and a few local children who worked on the project. Volunteers Ralph Duerre, Richard Wilson, Neill McKay, Henry Woodall, Dan Ketchum, Beulah Nowpakahok, and Dennis Berry were invited to speak about the experience. Gratitude was extended to all who have supported the project in any way.

MINISTRY COMMISSION (Part II) – Co-moderator Rev. Henry Woodall

**Examinations for Membership:**

- **Rev. Timothy Baranoski**, who serves in a validated ministry as an active duty U.S. Army chaplain stationed at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, wishes to transfer his membership from the Cumberland Presbyterian Church to the Presbyterian Church (USA). The Ministry Commission met with Timothy prior to presbytery and recommended that he be examined for membership. Chaplain Baranoski read his statement of faith and shared a favorite verse from I Kings 19:11-12, before responding to questions from the floor. Timothy was ordained in May 2011 by the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Presbytery **APPROVED** a motion to close the examination. The chaplain was escorted out of the room prior to discussion. The Ministry Commission previously approved a recommendation that the Greek and Hebrew requirement be waived and to encourage him to take Greek and Hebrew classes. The Ministry Commission moved that Rev. Timothy Baranoski be received as a member of the Presbytery of Yukon, in accordance with G-2.0505a2, that a minister of another Reformed church who has been ordained for five or more years may be granted an exemption for some of all of the examinations required of candidates for ordinations by a two-thirds vote of the Presbytery. Motion was **APPROVED** [pending Timothy's transfer from Nashville Presbytery, Cumberland PC, due to occur in late October.]

- **Rev. Elizabeth Schultz** is a member of the Presbytery of New Brunswick and seeks to transfer her membership to the Presbytery of Yukon as a member-at-large. Elizabeth read her statement of faith, shared a story and identified a favorite verse from Isaiah 58:12, before responding to questions from the floor. She has deep ties to Alaska and returned to Alaska when her husband was called to serve as pastor of First Anchorage PC in 2013. Even though Rev. Schultz is doing a lot of faith based work as the Community and Non-Profit Liaison for the Governor's office, she is not seeking to have her work certified as a validated ministry at this time. Presbytery **APPROVED** a motion to close the examination. Elizabeth was escorted out of the room prior to discussion. The Ministry Commission moved that Rev. Elizabeth be received as a member-at-large. Motion was **APPROVED**.

Rev. Henry Woodall led in a prayer for Rev Baranoski and Rev. Schultz.

**Ministry Commission Report (as it appearing on the consent agenda)**

- Pastoral changes/agreements:
  - Concurred with the action of the Utqiagvik PC session to renew and revise the agreement with Rev. Joseph Reid, for the period March 23, 2017 – March 23, 2018. The full-time position was changed from interim pastor to stated supply. Terms of compensation:

Cash Salary.....	\$60,000
Manse valuation .....	\$23,143

Utilities .....	Paid
Workman's Compensation .....	Full coverage
Sick leave/ Short term disability .....	*
Board of Pension core benefits .....	Provided
Vacation .....	4 weeks/year**
Work outside the church .....	Allowed
Study Leave Time .....	2 weeks/year**
Study Leave Reimbursement .....	\$1,500/yr***
Vehicle .....	Gas & maintenance provided

\* Presbytery minimum

\*\* Every second year, an extra 2 weeks and reimbursement for round-trip airfare by published cheapest airfare to Seattle.

\*\*\* May accumulate for up to 3 years

- Concurred with the action of the Anchor PC session to renew Rev. Britt Johnston's covenant agreement for another year, to expire May 31, 2018. Contract hours average 12/week. Duties include preach, perform weddings and funerals, call upon members, visitors, and those who are sick, participate in presbytery work, and moderate session meetings. Compensation:
  - Reimbursement of expenses up to \$3,300 annually, with up to \$1,040 of that allowed for giving to the poor and needy.
  - Other allowable expenses shall be travel, books, continuing education, equipment used in ministry. All reimbursements to be accompanied by written receipt, signed by the recipient.
  - Vacation and study leave: up to 8 weeks per year.
- Concurred with the action of the Trinity PC session to enter into a covenant with Revs. Richard and Mary Koch, to serve as co-stated supply pastors, for the period of October 23, 2017 – February, 2018. Terms of the agreement are still being worked out. The agreement may be renewed annually for up to 12 months.
- Concurred with the action of the Fairbanks Korean Administrative Commission (which serves as the session), to extend an agreement to Rev. Ki Chun Lee, for the purpose of providing interim ministry support. The agreement will run from September 1, 2017 – August 31, 2018, when it may be renewed if necessary. Compensation
  - Salary and Housing ..... \$1,500/month + manse/utilities
  - Workman's Compensation .....
  - Vacation..... 1 week/quarter include 1 Sunday
  - Auto expense reimbursement
  - Moving expenses.....To be determined

- Moderator appointments

- Trinity Presbyterian Church: Rev. Ellen Johnson-Price appointed acting moderator until Revs Richard and Mary Koch begin their service as stated supply co-pastors.
- Fairbanks Korean Presbyterian Church: Rev. Ki Chun Lee

- Commissioned Ruling Elder three year commission renewals:

- Virginia Kasak (Kuukpik PC)
- Darlene Matz (Kaktovik PC, New Hope Church).
- Richard Mauer (Delta Presbyterian Church)

- Miscellaneous

- Ron Illingworth and Rev. Ellen Johnson were appointed readers for the fall 2017 senior ordination exams.
- Vacancy Church Report [excludes churches served by a: CRE, temporary supply, stated supply, or installed pastor(s)]

Church	Status	PNC	Moderator
Chapel in the Mtns	Not seeking a pastor	None	RE Mark Wartes
Savoonga PC	Not seeking a pastor	None	Rev. Leisa Carrick
Olgonik PC	Not seeking a pastor	None	Rev. Hugh Anderson (thru 10/31/17)
Fairbanks Korean PC	Interim pastor	None	Rev. Ki Chun Lee
Trinity PC	Vacant until Oct. 23, 2017	n/a	Rev. Ellen Johnson-Price (temporary)

- Received the resignation of CRE Cody Ryu, who pastored Fairbanks Korean PC until September 1, 2017. Cody has relocated back to Washington to be with his family.
- At the request of the Olgonik PC session, approved a motion granting REs Maxine Nayakik, Chalmers Panik and Cora Akpik a limited CRE commission which would enable them to officiate the sacraments, especially the Lord's Supper. The three elders received training in worship and sacraments from Rev. Hugh Anderson.

#### STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE – RE Bob Christensen

The proposed budget for 2018 was presented. Motion to postpone the expenses' discussion until after the income projections' discussion was **APPROVED**. Discussion on income projections ensued, before expenses were discussed. Bingle Camp Board President Rev. Henry Woodall recommended that the line item for Bingle Camp Operations be increased by \$21,500; more finances are needed to put the presbytery owned-camp on a good foundation. Motion to increase line 28 'Bingle Camp Operations' from \$8,500 to \$30,000 was **APPROVED**. The 2018 budget as amended - \$368,126, was **APPROVED** (Appendix B). The Leadership Team was directed to determine how to add the extra amount in the held funds. The new percentage amount will be posted.

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Part II) – Rev. Tim Carrick

Since the committee is still working on seeking nominees for the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly, nominations and elections was **POSTPONED**. A special presbytery teleconference will be called before the December 18<sup>th</sup> commissioner/YAAD reporting deadline

#### YUKON PRESBYTERIANS FOR EARTH CARE – Doreen Simmonds

- Doreen addressed a 222nd General Assembly committee about the Doctrine of Discovery and Turtle Island
- She reported on last fall's Standing Rock protest.

#### RULING ELDER TESTIMONIES

##### **Gambell Presbyterian Church – RE Merle Apassingok**

The congregation has been the recipient of many blessings: those who assisted with construction of the new church and those ministers who participated in the church's praise and worship services. Visitor musicians helped lead music during worship. CRE Beulah Nowpakahok baptized four children in August. Communion was celebrated on World Communion Sunday, with communion taken to the two oldest people in the village. Fellowship meals continue to be held after the worship service. Bible studies will begin after fall harvest and

Wednesday services have started again. Sunday school is again taught by Charlene Apangalook, which she has done for many years.

**Immanuel Presbyterian Church** – RE Candace Arlien

There have been many blessings and a couple losses this past year. Former interim pastor Rev. John Carey and elder Roberta Lott died. The congregation continues to support Nunaka Valley Elementary, by providing breakfast for teachers on the first and last day of school, a clothing drive at Christmas and a complete Thanksgiving dinner for 3 – 4 families. Deacon Rozann Kimpton is raising her two great-grandchildren and was awarded the '2017 Alaska Angels in Adoption Award.'

**Fairbanks Korean Presbyterian Church** – AC member Rev. Curt Matz.

The Administrative Commission (AC) acts as the church's session. CRE Cody Ryu left at the end of August, and Rev. Ki Chun Lee began serving as an interim pastor September 1, 2017. The congregation is still facing challenges.

**United Protestant Church** – RE Joseph Brock

Connections are important. A group from the congregation flew to Savoonga to participate in leading VBS. The congregation also assisted St. Michaels Catholic Church in Palmer with their Vacation Bible School. Pastor Tim preached a sermon in Japanese this summer while visiting their sister Presbyterian Church in Saroma, Japan. Pastor Leisa is cancer free 10 years after her breast cancer diagnosis. A young woman raised up in the congregation will be running the Iditarod in 2018.

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Mileage:** Joseph Brock reported that the committee approved one request for reimbursement.

**Resolution:** Rev. MacInnes-Green

*Melissa holding onto name tags until cards were filled out.*

*According to the docket we gathered Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>.*

*'What is God doing in Your Life?'*

*Israel, Sharon, Jan – chartered flights from midtown and east Anchorage*

*Opening prayer by Rev. Alice Green, Moderator Emeritus and 19 years in Savoonga*

*Johan Shin welcomed presbytery at the First Korean Church in Alaska, with information where we can go and how to get there*

*More time spent discussing \$\$\$ - surprise, surprise*

*Leadership's new design is set in jello – still working, reconfiguring*

*Mary and Rick returning*

*Hugh teleported in for this year-end report*

*Moderator continues to apologize for time management – working fast, lax, and loose – continuously ahead of schedule.*

*Why keep trying*

*Three services in their languages: Korean, Inupiat, [Yupik], and of course English*

*As noted in the elders reports.*

- 1. We do not always agree but we still come together to do the work of God's hands, feet, mind, and soul*
- 2. Ecumenical ties throughout God's realm*
- 3. Providing food and shelter as needed*
- 4. Asking for prayers for others, members & communities*
- 5. WOW*
- 6. Straightening out new names and leaders*
- 7. Giving of Souper Bowl – football teams Patriots vs/ Falcons, who cares*

Presbytery of Yukon  
October, 2017 Fall Stated Meeting

*Regional*

*Native – collective Listening Way*

*Road system leaders were all elsewhere – due to the lack of time constraints by our moderator*

*Gambell vacation and work time this summer – you too can come to Gambell*

*Timothy and Elizabeth welcome*

*Standing Rock*

*This is my report and sticking to it.*

ADJOURN

Rev. Leisa Carrick led in the prayer for the last churches reporting and the closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Sharon Rayt  
Stated Clerk