

The Presbytery of Denver | Stated HYBRID Assembly | May 23, 2023
 Zoom | First Presbyterian Church in Brighton

MINISTERS	Jan 24	Feb 21 Special	Mar 28	May 23
Adams, Joel	P		P	P
Aguilar, Claudia Rubalcava				
Amo, Evan	P			P
Anderson, John E.				
Aylor, Richard	P		P	P
Beal, Clover	P		P	
Bell, Diana				
Bell, John	P		P	
Blackstock, Steven			P	
Boucher, Susan			P	
Bretz, Paul				
Buchanan, Amelia				
Buckley, Blair			P	P
Cameron, Heather	P	P	P	P
Cearley, Cynthia			P	
Cooper, Dee	P	P	P	P
Cummins, Ian				
Darbonne, Wayne	P		P	P
Davis, Katie Robb	P		P	
Davis, William	P		P	
Dempsey, Whitney	P	P	P	
Doehring, Carrie			P	P
Douglass, Joanna	P		P	P
Emig, James				P
Fenn, Julia	P			
Friesema, Doug	P	P	P	
Fry, Sheri	P		P	P
George, Mark				P
Gifford, Lynn Bell	P			
Girgis, Raafat	~			P
Graber, Kim	P		P	P
Heil, David	P	P	P	P
Herrington, Leta	P		P	
Huff, Ruth McCollum	P	P		P
Irwin-Jordan, Rebecca	P			
Kim, Eunjoo	P		P	
Kim, Johann				
Kitchen, Patricia				
Koerner, Sandra				
Lyons, Barbara Lefevre	P			

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Marshall, Peggy	P			
McWilliams, Frances				
Meeks, Mark	P	P	P	
Parsons, Carol				
Peerbolte, Bethany	P		P	P
Pettit, David	P	P		P
Poos-Benson, Stephen			P	P
Rabideau, Mark				
Reeves, Katherine				
Rodriguez, Fernando	P	P	P	P
Rosewall, Ann	P	P	P	
Ross, John				
Sandahl, Cody				
Sausville, gretchen	P		P	P
Scheiber-Sjostrom, Anne			P	
Shaw, Kenny	P		P	P
Shrumm, Don	P	P	P	P
Smith, Olivia Hudson	P	P	P	
Smith, Patrick	P		P	P
Smith, Sandy	P			P
Spotts, Chris		P	P	P
Spurlock, Justin	P	P	P	P
Steinbacher, Paula	P		P	
Stuart, James				
Swaney, Julie				
Syrdal, Matthew	P	P		
Taylor, Ashley Seaman				
Traylor, Charles				
Troxler, Loye	P	P	P	P
Van Deren, David	P			
Vanderborgh, Susan				
VanderWal, Jill	P		P	P
VanderWal, Scott	P			
Van Oort, Harlan	P	P	P	
Velasco, Lemuel	P			P
Warntjes, Jordan	P			P
Westfall, Louise		P	P	P
Whitehead, Jason	P			
Wigger, J. Bradley				
Wilson, Gretchen Hope	P	P	P	P
Wright, David	P			P
Yu, John	P	P	P	P

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RETIRED-Ministers	Jan 24	Feb 21 Special	Mar 28	May 23
Angus, Lawrence				
Avery, Lester F				
Avery, William Leslie				
Bailey, Clover	P			
Baird, John				
Barley, Kenneth				
Barrett, Phil				
Baxter, Steven				
Becker, David				
Beitzel, Christine	P			P
Blackstock, Dwight	P	P	P	P
Bock, Paul				
Bollinger, Richard				
Calhoun, William				
Casberg, Sylvia				
de Bree, Thomas				
Dhonau, Donald				
Dixon, Miriam				
Flory, Robert	P	P	P	P
Gallegos, Gary				
Gilliland, James				
Granath, Rolfe	P			P
Grimm, Larry				
Groff, Kent				
Grothe, Lance	P	P	P	P
Gwaltney, Robert				
Hampel, Robert				
Hanner, Alfred				
Hartman, David				
Henderson, Randi				
Heuer, Holly	P			
Hogue, David (entered		P	P	P
Hole, Jonathan				
Jacobsen, Martin				
Johnson, Robert				
Kane, Russ	P			
Kelly, Jerry				
Kingsbury, Nancy				
Kugler, Burton				
Lafollette, Robert				
Lindsey, Suzanne				

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Lodwick, Robert				
Lowell, Deanna				
Mares, Joseph	P			P
McDonald, J. Edgar				
McGinness, Heidi				
Melting, Marquita				
Minear, John				
Mooney, Timothy				
Muldrow, Elizabeth				
Neal, Laurel Smith				
Neal, Thomas Fitz				
Ngatia, Jemimah				P
New, Rebecca				
O'Lane, John				
Olthoff, Terry	P	P	P	P
Oram, Robert				
Park, Augustine				
Piper, Annie				
Piper, John				
Plummer, Stuart				
Purvis-Smith, Terry	P	P	P	
Purvis-Smith, Ginny	P	P	P	
Raath, Ethan			P	
Ritterson, Jane				
Ross, Robert J.	P			
Sanders, William	P		P	P
Schlenker, Janet				
Sewell, Rodney				
Shaffer, Patricia				
Smidt, H. John				
Smith, Parker				
Song, John				
Spear, Bruce	P			
Stewart, Richard				
Taylor, Bruce	P		P	
Thwaites, Edward				
Vestal, B. Clarke				
Vickstrom, Mark				
Warming, Patricia				
Wehrman, Karen				
Wolf, Pamela				
Woodson, Joseph				
Wright, John				

Corresponding Members (1)

Candice Sweet (Synod of Rocky Mountains)

Others Voting Member (5)

Tu Bui
Rob Habiger
Teddie McConnell
Pat Queen
Sandy Safford

New Worshiping Communities

George Wilson (Ebenezer)
Josphat Ombacho (Neema)

Others Present/Visitors (16)

Cassie Bennett
Amy Biewenga
James Briggs
Steve Cearley
Dave Goss
Julia Henderson
Joe Henderson
Beth Hewlett
Deanna Heyn
Kiersten Hill
Judy Jensen
D'nelle Macaluso
Larry Musgrave
Amanda Osenga
Brontë Shedden
Karen Yarberry

SUMMARY

Ruling Elders Present **38**
Ruling Elders Absent
Ministers present (including retired) **45**
Ministers absent (excluding retired)
Corresponding Member **1**
Other Voting Members **5**
(Others Present) Visitors **18**
Total Present 107

Call to Order and Establishment of a Quorum: The meeting came to order at 6:03 p.m. Moderator John Yu and Stated Clerk gretchen N. Sausville were present. A quorum was established. John shared that the Assembly would be using a timed docket.

Welcome and Introduction of Corresponding and new Ruling Elders

John welcomed the corresponding members and asked them to introduce themselves

including their home Presbytery. New ruling elder commissioners were asked to introduce themselves identifying the congregation which they represent. John reminded the Assembly who is eligible to vote and that New Worshiping Community representatives would have the opportunity to advise the Assembly, by casting an Advisory Vote before the Assembly voted on each motion.

Land Acknowledgement and Prayer

Elder Julia Henderson from The First Presbyterian Church of Brighton opened the Assembly with a Land Acknowledgement and prayer.

Voting Process with AHA Slides | Beth Carlisle

Beth, with assistance of Bronteë and the technology team, explained the voting process with AHA Slides. Practice questions were used for folks to engage AHA Slides in person and online.

Preliminary Business (Omnibus Motion)

The Assembly **approved** the following:

1. The Docket as distributed, with such changes as may be announced at the start of the assembly.
2. Enroll the Corresponding Members that are introduced and grant them permission of voice on the floor. The names and presbytery of membership of such persons must be written on the attendance roster or given to the Stated Clerk.
3. The minutes of the Stated Assembly on March 28, 2023 as posted on the Presbytery website with a spelling correction of *Policy* to *Polity*, an added heading for clarity *Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the PC(USA) Approved by the 225th General Assembly (2022)*, and any changes in the attendance roll that may be required.
4. Received the reports contained in the Assembly packet.
5. Received the Stated Clerk's Report: The 2022 Minutes of the Presbytery of Denver were approved by the Assembly of the Synod of the Rocky Mountains on April 25, 2023, with no exceptions or comments. Safe Hiring Solutions, a subsidiary of our insurance carrier Brotherhood Mutual, will now be handling our background checks. The Colorado Council of Churches is developing a Land Congregational Survey initiative. They are developing Spirit-led discernment processes to offer to faith communities with regards to buildings, properties, and ministries.
6. Change the date of the August 2023 Presbytery Assembly to Saturday, August 19, 2023.
7. Affirm that the corporate officers for 2023 are: John Yu (President), Pat Queen (Vice President), gretchen N. Sausville (Secretary), and Susan Pilcher (Treasurer). *Background: This action reaffirms the authorization of persons by Presbytery to function as Presbytery's agents according to the articles of incorporation. Such authorization is often required at times of signing legal documents. This action is taken annually or at times of change in officers.*

Generative Activity: "Sound Body Expression" - Dee Cooper & gretchen Sausville

It was shared that people come to presbytery meetings for a variety of reasons, whether it be work, worship, inspiration, or connection. Connection was explored with one another through *presencing*- a way of communicating what is going on with those gathered in the moment. *Presencing* is a way people place their voices in the room, how they see others and how others see them. The invitation was to notice, as individuals, what was being felt or thought, and to make a sound that matched what was being noticed in their bodies and spirits. This sound was shared with neighbors in person and online. This was a way that we connected, communicated, and noticed one another.

Worship: Evan Amo, Jemimah Ngatia, Tu Minh Bui, Lemuel Velasco, Louise Westfall, George Wilson, and John Yu

In the Spirit of Pentecost, worship was woven throughout the Assembly as the Word (Isaiah 55:8-11, Romans 11:33-36) was shared and Amazing Grace was sung in many different tongues including Korean, Kikuku, Spanish, Twi, and Vietnamese.

Lead Presbyter Report | Dee Cooper

Dee shared the great excitement about the ways in which Denver Presbytery is living into being a Matthew 25 Presbytery. The Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) released a video and commercial that is in national syndication on PBS, CNN, and other channels about the PCUSA and Matthew 25. At the end of the commercial there is an invitation for viewers to connect with local Matthew 25 congregations. Yard signs for Denver Presbytery Matthew 25 congregations were distributed as an additional way they could be recognized.

Agency Review Task Force (ARTF) | Rob Habiger

Rob invited folks to still consider filling out a PDF about gifts. He further thanked SLDC members who were on hand to answer any questions or connect with individuals about serving.

Servant Leadership Development (Committee on Representation) | Sarah Pascoe

Sarah reported that at the February Assembly the leaders of the Ministry Relations Committee Core Team were elected, however Rev. gretchen Sausville was no longer able to serve in that capacity as the Stated Clerk. The Servant Leadership Development Committee brought forth the following motion.

Motion: *To elect Joanna Douglass to the Ministry Relations Committee as leader for the Resources and Discovery Team. Approved.*

Generative Time | John Yu & Chris Spotts

John and Chris led the Assembly through a generative time with a lens of the Presbytery's Mission, Vision, and Values and Matthew 25. One of the tenants of

Matthew 25 is eradicating systemic poverty. Chris shared about the discernment process for The First Presbyterian Church of Brighton and their decision to sell a parcel of land to the Brighton Housing Authority in order to build low income housing. An NBC Today Show segment was viewed by all, about how communities of faith are living into being the body of Christ as they eradicate systemic poverty. There was an expanded discussion time together using the Committee of The Office of General Assembly Equity Minded Decision Prompts before the motion to sell the parcel of land was voted on..

Visionary Leadership Development- Finance and Property | Pat Queen

Motion: *The Visionary Leadership Commission recommends to the Assembly to approve First Presbyterian Church of Brighton's request to sell 5.822 acres of their property to the Brighton Housing Authority for not less than 90% of the assessment for \$1,150,000 payable in 2 installments. **Approved.***

Generative Activity | John Yu

John led the Assembly in a word cloud activity using AHA Slides and the question, *what do you love about springtime in Colorado?*

Treasurer's Report | Sue Pilcher

Sue reported that she had a written report in the Assembly Packet and referenced the financial summaries.

Visionary Leadership Development | Finance and Property | Pat Queen

Pat reported that the rationale for the following motions are related to cash flow, and that she and Sue were available for any questions. It was also noted that the following motions go together, but must be voted on separately.

Motion 1: The Visionary Leadership Commission recommends that the Assembly approve a line of credit be established with PILP at a rate of 5.4% (variable) for the amount of \$200,000 to cover cash flow issues. **Approved.**

Motion 2: The Visionary Leadership Commission recommends that the Assembly approve the required collateral for the line of credit be the Denver Presbytery Grant Street Proceeds fund invested with Gill Capital Partners currently valued at \$3,165,243. **Approved.**

Stated Clerk Report | gretchen Sausville

The Church Leadership Connection (CLC), the call system for pastors and congregations, has an updated platform that the leadership would begin training on.

Rev. Richard Aylor, Pastor of Church of the Hills in Evergreen, to be installed on Saturday June 3, 2023 at 2pm.

Partnership of Zimbabwe and Denver Presbyteries | Joann Goss & Julia Henderson

The PZDP delegation (listed) was commissioned for service to Zimbabwe with a liturgy of praise and thanksgiving and the laying on of hands led by Joann and Julia.

*Dee Cooper | Lead Presbyter
Kim Graber | Nakai Task Force from St. Paul
Rob Habiger | Central Fund from Central PC
Celeste Habiger | Mission Partnership from
Central PC*

*Deanna Heyn | Zimbabwe MP and Orphan
Center from New Hope PC
Josphat Ombacho | Central Fund and Mission
Partnership from Neema*

Adjournment & Closing Prayer

Moderator John Yu led the closing prayer. The Assembly adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Rev. gretchen N. Sausville, Stated Clerk