

“Hope to Action”

Arizona Mission Center 2025 Conference
Saturday, 11/15/2025 – Sunday, 11/16/2025

Business Meeting Minutes

Moment of Blessing by Kyle Harper

Welcome by Blake Smith, MCP

- Housekeeping Items:
 - Zoom Participants Welcomed (Fully hybrid conference.)
 - Members online will use “raised hand” for voting.
 - Zoom attendees are welcomed to speak when they wish.
 - All of the meeting documents are online on the mission center website. There are limited copies of the budget to share. Each of the documents can be accessed via a QR code on the powerpoint slides as they are shown.

Call to Order and Invocation by Blake Smith, MCP

Chair turned over to Dena DeVormer.

Welcome - USA Apostles

USA Apostle Team Greeting - Video

USA Field Greeting by Dena DeVormer, FSM Team

- Shared thoughts on the theme of “Hope”.
- Prophetic Imagination - An Invitation from the First Presidency.
 - Prophetic Imagination is a vision of the possible!

- A study guide for Prophetic Imagination can be found on the church's website.
- The first presidency encourages members to share their thoughts on Prophetic Imagination.
- Baptism and Membership
 - Church leadership has been asked to discern about allowing church membership to people who were baptised before the age of 8 in another denomination. A part of this includes input from the church body and a survey to be completed by the membership.
 - Survey Deadline is Dec. 31, 2025
- Creative Abundance: A Transformative Way of Living
 - 2025 Goal: 10.1-11.1 million dollars
 - YTD July 2025: Approximately \$65,000 behind goal.
 - Do not be discouraged, this is a doable goal.
 - Worldwide Mission Endowments
 - Priority to explore and implement new sources of income.
 - Generosity Cycle
 - Oct 19-Nov 23
 - This is not the only time of year to extend generosity but we use this time for extra focus.
 - Theme: Living in the Flow of Grace : Embracing Creative Abundance (Presiding Bishopric has a video on this.)
 - Giving Tuesday
 - Dec 2
 - Theme is: Imagine
 - There is currently \$250,000 in matching funds available.
 - New eTithing Platform for 2026
 - Platform is: Kindred
 - Kindred offers users to give via Google Pay, Apple Pay, Venmo, and PayPal

- Kindred facilitates recurring gifts and tithes to multiple congregations and World Wide Mission Tithes all in one transaction.
- Using Kindred will mean reduced transaction fees for the church.
- Members will need to log in to the new platform to add your payment information. An email will come out when it is time to do this.
- Gathering Resources - <https://www.gathering.cofchrist.org>
 - New web location for Worship, Teaching, Study Tools, Sermon Prep Info, & “In the Know” sessions.
- Peace Forum: Seeds of Peace - October 16-18 2026
- Capital Projects Policy Update
 - Limit has been increased to \$20,000

Chair returned to Blake, Smith, MCP

Election of Secretary by Blake Smith, MCP

Amy Ziegenhorn was acknowledged as current secretary.

Kyle Harper nominated Amy Ziegenhorn to continue in the role.

Motion carried

Approval of Minutes from 2024

Blake Smith requested to add to the 2024 minutes - “Submitted by Amy Ziegenhorn”

The minutes were accepted as corrected.

Chair turned over to Dena DeVormer, FSM Team.

Fall Conference Sustaining of Leadership by Dena DeVormer, FSM Team

- **Mission Center President:** First Presidency recommends Blake Smith. (Letter of support shared.)

Motion to accept Blake Smith by Sara Tubbesing .

Motion carried.

- **Mission Center Financial Officer:** First Presidency and presiding bishopric recommend Don Woster. (Letter of support shared.)

Motion to accept Don Woster by Bill Dow.

Motion carried.

- **Invitation Support Minister:** Arizona Mission Center recommends Kyle Harper (Letter of support shared)

Motion to accept Kyle Harper by Beth Richardson.

Motion carried.

Team Reports

★ Youth Ministry Team - Shelby Williams

- All financial donations and in-person support is greatly appreciated by Shelby Williams and the mission center youth and she would like to see this grow.
- Youth Sharing by AZMC Youth Crew (Video)

★ Invitational Ministries Team - Kyle Harper

- Whispering Pines Ministries (egg-a-palooza, creepy campground, etc.)
 - These events are bringing in people who are not necessarily attending church on Sundays.
- New “Legends of Whispering Pines” Honorees:
 - Fran and Lloyd Booth for the gift of the Children’s Peace Pavilion.
 - Clarence “Doc” and Virginia Piepergerdes & Ron and Kay Sheridan for making the decision to encourage the church to purchase the Whispering Pines campground property for \$35,000.
 - Carolyn and Eldred Spain for being Whispering Pines historians and Eldred being the Camp Patriarch.

- Scott and Barbara Soby for being board chairs during a very difficult time for Whispering Pines and after the tragic loss of the caretakers
- Tom and Judy Bradish for serving for Whispering Pines for 13 years.
- Brinks and Nancy Austin for their financial, spiritual and emotional leadership through the covid shutdown and rebuilding after the fire.
- Dick and Diana Hansen for Dick's hours of expertise, hard work and dedication to Whispering Pines.
- Kevin and Robyn Harper for being the exact people we needed to keep Whispering Pines a-float during very trying times.

Whispering Pines Board Report by Kevin Harper

Many positives were shared - Kevin's full report letter is available in the online bulletin.

- A few things to note:
 - Whispering Pines will need continued financial generosity moving forward.
 - Kevin is still working with the construction company to make sure everything has been completed correctly since the fire.
 - New chairs have been purchased in order to ease needs for events. Seating for 150 people is available in both the chapel and the dining hall now without need for moving furniture.
 - Kevin would like to see monthly church activities planned at Whispering Pines. This will help the church body be fully invested in keeping the grounds in good working order.
 - A long plumbing line on the grounds is being replaced very soon.
 - Kevin is asking members to meet the kids where they are: at camp!
 - Kids attending camp need counselors, drivers, etc.

Whispering Pines Financial report by Kathy Knight

Full Financial Report is available in the online bulletin.

- The few dangling items in the insurance claim should be completed by the end of the year.

- The campground is currently in a good financial place.

Motion to accept the 2024 Financial Inspection Report by Paul Williams.

Motion carried.

Leadership Recognitions by Blake Smith, MCP

All Arizona church leadership was recognized for their contributions with a special recognition of Diana Hansen for her service as Mission Center President. Her husband, Dick was also acknowledged for his support during her time as Mission Center President. Flowers and tickets to zoo lights were given to Diana to enjoy with her family.

Whispering Pines Board Elections by Blake Smith, MCP

Current WP Board Members:

Kathy Knight – 2025 – Term expires December 31, 2025

John Henry - 2020 - Term expires December 31, 2025

Jacqueline Vuckovic - 2020 - Term expires December 31, 2025

Jacob Hansen – 2023 - Term expires December 31, 2026

Jason Russell – 2018 – Term expires December 31, 2026

John Bear – 2021 – Term expires December 31, 2026

Kevin Harper - 2016-2018 & 2019 - Term expires December 31, 2027

David Berger - 2021 - Term expires December 31, 2027

Mike Piedimonte – Term expires December 31, 2027

Blake Smith - 2025 - AZ Mission Center President - Ex officio

Donald Woster - 2023 - AZ Mission Center Financial Officer - Ex officio

Nominations – 3-year term to expire December 31, 2028

Kathy Knight – 2025

John Henry - 2020

Jacqueline Vuckovic - 2020

The nominations were accepted as recommended.

Financial Report by Don Woster, MCFO

The full financial reports voted on below are available in the online bulletin.

2024 Audit Report

Motion to accept the 2024 financial audit report by Brian Tubbesing

Motion carried.

General Reports

Note: We are currently under budget for 2025.

2026 Budget

Motion to accept the 2026 budget by Bill Dow.

Motion carried.

Other Financial Business

There is \$2,873 budgeted in the Health Ministry Fund for 2025. Don Woster recommended that we move that money to the Spectacular fund due to higher need in that area of the budget to balance 2025.

Motion to move the \$2,873 in the Health Ministry Fund to the Spectacular Fund in the 2025 budget by Jeanne Dotson.

Discussion:

- The Health Ministry Fund has not been used in many years.
- The Spectacular fund was \$2,074 over budget in 2025.
- Blake cautioned us to come up with a more sustainable plan to cover increased needs for Spectacular in the future.
- Moving this money will not delete the fund from the budget, it will just deplete it for this year.

Motion carried.

Note: There is currently an expected \$8,000 deficit for Spectacular in the budget for 2026 that was approved. We need to have a plan to cover the \$8,000.

Other Business by Blake Smith, MCP

None.

Adjournment by Blake Smith, MCP

Hymn, "Go, My Children" CCS 650

Closing Prayer of Blessing by Paul Williams

Minutes respectfully submitted by, Amy Ziegenhorn