

**Proposal to Endorse Just Coffee/Café Justo
Synod of the Southwest**

Whereas, the flow of people across our borderlands seeking a better life and the horrific increase of division and death in our borderlands in the last decade is a sign that “justice is not flowing like a mighty stream”;

Whereas, Christians are called to incarnate the gospel and to “do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God” here in the midst of the sufferings of the world;

Whereas, many coffee farmers no longer are able to “plant their vineyards and eat from their fruit” and thus are migrating north in large numbers;

Whereas, the Synod of the Southwest is geographically located in the borderlands;

Whereas, Just Coffee is a positive response to the immigration crisis creating just relationships between farmers and consumers,

- a) providing the families of Salvador Urbina and El Aguila, Chiapas and El Pinal Veracruz hope and the opportunity to stay on their lands eating the fruits of their labor instead of migrating north
- b) providing US consumers the opportunity to buy high quality coffee at fair prices and thus allowing justice to flow from their coffee pots;

Whereas, the Presbytery de Cristo has already endorsed Café Justo with 24 of its 30 churches participating and many churches in the Grand Canyon, Santa Fe, and Sierra Blanca Presbyteries also partner with Café Justo/Just Coffee;

Whereas, the 110 families of Just Coffee/Café Justo network have the goal of increasing their sales in order to include all the families of their communities;

Therefore, the Synod of the Southwest

- 1) Will endorse Just Coffee/Café Justo as a partner in doing justice;
- 2) Will request the Stated Clerk to write a letter to sessions commending all churches participating with Just Coffee/Café Justo and encouraging non-participating churches to prayerfully consider partnering with Just Coffee/Café Justo;
- 3) Will invite Just Coffee/Café Justo to have a table at each synod meeting and will request that Just Coffee/Café Justo develop interpretive materials for the table and a graph that gives an update on the sales and the impact of Synod of the Southwest’s partnership;
- 4) Will provide through partnership with Frontera de Cristo educational and relational activities to continue exploring the connection between “Coffee, Migration and Faith” by:
 - a) Promoting delegations each year to visit the Just Coffee/Café Justo roasting facility and to pray and reflect with the cooperative members.
 - b) Promoting the “Coffee, Migration, and Faith” Border to Border Delegation Sponsored by Frontera de Cristo and Commissioning at least one representative from the Synod to participate.
 - c) Promoting participation of the Synod in “A Taste of Chiapas” at Mountain View PC in Scottsdale AZ on January 31, 2009;
- 5) Will commission someone to write an article about Synod of the Southwest’s partnership with Just Coffee/Café Justo and submit it to Presbyterians Today.