

## Standing Committee Delegate Report

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If you haven't been to a Church of the Brethren Annual Conference, you would have a treat if you could attend. We have wonderful music, inspiring Worship services and lots of insight sessions for learning about the different agencies within the denomination.

This year we have been challenged by New Business that makes us sit up and listen. The issues we faced were queries on: Child Abuse Prevention, Annual Conference Schedule, Reverse Membership Trend, Update on Annual Conference Polity and a Recommendation Regarding Christian Churches Together.

The Unfinished Business has been carried over from last year or earlier. They are: Doing Church Business, Becoming a Multi-Ethnic Church, Brethren Medical Plan Resolution, and a report from the Review and Evaluation Committee with a new mandate.

Over the next several issues of New Life, I will be writing a request to you and your congregation

to look into and discuss several topics that need some serious work. Our Pacific Southwest District has some challenges to work on, too.

The Standing Committee has the job of going through all the business and makes the recommendation to the Delegates as to how to handle the query. Then each Standing Committee is required to go to the business meetings of Conference and participate again in voting on the recommendation we brought originally. Standing Committee has hours of discussion and debate before we are ready to make a recommendation to the Conference delegates. And then there is another opportunity for discussion and debate from the floor of Conference before the vote is taken.

Watch for the next several issues of New Life and my challenge to you and your congregation.

Roma Jo Thompson,  
PSWD Standing Committee Representative