

**Minutes of the
Forty-Fourth Annual District Conference
Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren**

October 12-14, 2007

La Verne Church of the Brethren, La Verne, CA

The Pacific Southwest District supports the life, growth, and witness of Church of the Brethren congregations within its boundaries for the building up of the body of Christ, through nurturing its congregations toward healing and wholeness, consciously lifting up joys and sharing in pains of its members and congregations, building inter-congregational and denominational relationships, within the faithful witness of Scripture, recognizing that the statements of Annual Conference reflect the consensus of our larger community of faith.

(Some Scriptures that undergird and direct the above thinking are: Ephesians 4:11-16; Galatians 6:1-10; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; 1 Corinthians 12; Romans 12, Matthew 5-7; Luke 15; and John 15.) Mission Statement from District Conference, 1996

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order with prayer.

II. Announcements, Appointments, and Introductions of Special Guests: Timekeeper: Mariza Naylor; Parliamentarian: Eric Bishop; Head teller: Larry Woodruff; Translators: Alfredo and Carrie Cesar; Committee for Review of 2007 Minutes: Everett Deidiker; Emily Bosley; Karen Wolff.

III. Quorum

There are 25 churches represented and 70 delegates present; a quorum was declared to be present.

IV. Delegate Dedication: The delegates were dedicated. (Page 6 of the business book.)

V. Opening Prayer: John Price offered prayer.

VI. Approval of 2006 Minutes

Karen Walters, Richard Downhour, and Annette Martin have reviewed the minutes of the 2006 Pacific Southwest District Conference and verified that the minutes are correct. *The Minutes were approved by consensus.*

VII. The Brethren Youth Heritage Team

Kelsey Boardman, Edward Cesar, Sheree Frison, and Marion Frison of the Brethren Youth Heritage Team presented a skit.

VIII. Agency Reports

A. University of La Verne and Hillcrest Reports

Julia Wheeler, University of La Verne, gave a brief report. Charles Cable, Hillcrest Retirement Community, gave a brief report.

B. General Board, BBT, and Bethany Reports

Steve Mason, (Brethren Benefit Trust) and Lowell Flory (Bethany Theological Seminary) reported on national denominational agencies and directed us to read reports in the business book (pages 36-48), and presented a PowerPoint presentation on the five agencies: Association of Brethren Caregivers, Bethany Theological Seminary, Brethren Benefit Trust, General Board, and On Earth Peace. James Brunk spoke briefly about his experience at Bethany Theological Seminary.

- 1 **IX. Reports from Pacific Southwest District**
- 2 **A. District Board Report**
- 3 Board Chair Jim Davis gave a report from the Pacific Southwest District Board and directed us
- 4 to pages 18-28 of the business book for written reports.
- 5
- 6 **B. District Executive Minister's Report**
- 7 1. Bryan Boyer gave a report on his last four and a half years as District Executive Minister
- 8 and gave highlights of some of the recent activities (page 10 of the business book).
- 9 2. **Center for Brethren Studies Report**
- 10 Doris Dunham gave a report of Center for Brethren Studies (CBS) and the Credo
- 11 program. She directed us to page 13 of the business book for a full report.
- 12
- 13 **C. Approval of Reports**
- 14 **Sharon Sparks / Gilbert Romero moved and seconded to approve the Agency, District,**
- 15 **General Brotherhood Board, BBT, and Bethany, District Board, and District Executive**
- 16 **Minister reports. *Passed.***
- 17
- 18 **D. District Conference Program Committee Report**
- 19 1. Sara Haldeman-Scarr reported on the activities of the District Conference Program
- 20 Committee and directed us to read page 15 of the business book for a full report. Annual
- 21 Conference 2009 will be held June 27-July 1, 2009, at the Town and Country Center in
- 22 San Diego. District Conference 2008 will be held November 7-9, 2008, in Fresno.
- 23 2. **Willard Olwin / Janet Hart moved and seconded to accept the Program Committee**
- 24 **Report. *Passed.***
- 25
- 26 **X. Auditor's Report**
- 27 Larry Woodruff distributed auditor's reports on request.
- 28
- 29 **XI. Closing of the Panorama City Church of the Brethren**
- 30 **The District Board recommends approval for the Panorama City Church of the Brethren to be**
- 31 **closed. The property has been sold and the assets were turned over to the PSWD. *Passed,***
- 32 ***unanimously.*** John Price offered prayer over the closing of the Panorama City Church.
- 33
- 34 **XII. Presentation of Proposed Unity Statement**
- 35 A. Jim Davis presented the proposed Unity Statement (page 61 of the business book).
- 36 B. **The District Board recommends approval of the Unity Statement. *Passed, unanimously.***
- 37
- 38 **XIII. Budget for 2008**
- 39 A. Bill Johnson spoke about the proposed budget for 2008 (beginning on page 57 of the business
- 40 book) and explained the investments and grant requests.
- 41 B. **The District Board recommends approval of the 2008 Budget. *Passed, unanimously.***
- 42
- 43 **XIV. Election of Officers**
- 44 A. The ballot is on page 48 of the business book. The Standing Committee Delegate, Roma Jo
- 45 Thompson, is moving out of the district and a question was raised as to how she should be
- 46 replaced. Joe Vecchio answered that Lucile Leard is the alternate and will take Roma Jo's place.
- 47 The district board can appoint another alternate.
- 48 B. **Willard Olwin / Barbara Ober moved and seconded to accept the slate of board officers.**
- 49 ***Passed.***

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2 **XV. Recognition of Bryan Boyer as District Executive Minister**

3 Mary Kay Ogden recognized Bryan Boyer for his hard work as DE for the last four years and seven
4 months. Bryan received a standing ovation from the conference attendees for his hard work.

5

6 **XVI. Presentation of Revised Constitution and By-laws**

7 A. Paul Lovelace presented the recommendation from the board regarding the revision of the
8 constitution and by-laws (page 62, Exhibit F of the business book) regarding the structure of the
9 District Board. A period of time was allowed for questions.

10 B. **The District Board recommends approval of the revision of the constitution regarding the
11 restructure of the board. *Passed.*** (One no vote)

12

13 **XVII. Report From the Moderator**

14 Mary Kay Ogden gave a short report and expressed thanks for those who worked hard over the last
15 year.

16

17 **XVIII. Passing of the Gavel**

18 The moderator's gavel was passed from Mary Kay Ogden to John Price.

19

20 **XIX. Report from the Moderator-Elect**

21 John Price presented a gift to Mary Kay Ogden. John spoke briefly about the 300 year anniversary of
22 the Church of the Brethren and presented the logo for the 2008 District Conference: "From... To..."

23

24 **XX. Motion to Adjourn**

25 **Willard Olwin / Norma Sexton moved and seconded to adjourn the District Conference. *Passed.***

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28 The 2007 Pacific Southwest District Conference was adjourned at 5:03 pm.

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Minutes recorded by Laura Miller, Clerk

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34 In January 2008, the proof copy of the minutes was examined by the committee: Everett Deidiker;
35 Emily Bosley; Karen Wolff.