

District Conference Program Committee Report

Committee Members:

Russ Matteson, Chair (Modesto)
Annette Martin, Member (Glendora)
Brenda Isaacs, Member (Bakersfield)
Karen Walters, Moderator
Jack Storne, Moderator-Elect

Ex-Officio Members of the Committee:

Board Chair, Don Fancher
District Executive: Don Booz
District Youth Advisor, Dawna Welch
PSW Women's President: Virginia Diaz

On-Site Co-Coordinator:

Linda Hart

The 2010 District Conference was held at Hillcrest Homes in La Verne, and featured Ted Swartz of Ted & Co. as the keynote speaker. There were 182 persons registered for the conference. Evaluations of the conference were positive, and there was strong affirmation for the welcome we received at Hillcrest. The staff at Hillcrest was most accommodating and we have had good conversation with them that we believe will make District Conference in 2011 at Hillcrest even stronger. We extend our thanks to 2010 Moderator Felton Daniels and Program Committee member Sara Haldeman-Scarr, who served six years on the committee, who both completed their service on the committee at the 2010 District Conference.

The Program Committee had expenses of \$277 greater than income for the year. It is the goal that District Conference and the workings of the Program Committee in planning would be revenue neutral or slightly positive. Program Committee covers the cost of Moderator travel throughout the district, as well as expenses for the Program Committee to meet, and the costs of booklets, resource leadership and facilities used at the District Conference. Program Committee continues to use conference calls to conduct a significant portion of our business which helps to keep costs lower.

The theme for the 2011 District Conference is "Together We're Better" and draws on Galatians 3:28 for its inspiration. Moderator Karen Walters and the committee hope that this theme will help us explore how our congregations can become more intracultural communities that share the good news of Jesus.

The 2011 District Conference will feature Rev.

Eric H. F. Law as our Keynote presenter. Rev. Law is an episcopal priest who serves as the director and founder of the Kaleidoscope Institute which works to train leaders in building inclusive, diverse communities where no person or group is disadvantaged. He will lead the Friday afternoon workshop, offer workshops on Saturday, and preach at Saturday night's worship. We are also pleased that Annual Conference Moderator Tim Harvey will join us on Saturday and be our preacher in worship on Sunday morning.

We are pleased to begin working with the new District Youth Advisor, Dawna Welch, and look forward to her leadership on the youth aspect of the conference program. With this staff addition there will be housing provided for High School youth at District Conference as part of their registration.

Also new in 2011 will be an online registration system for the conference that will have folks complete the registration process and offer the ability to pay on the internet. We hope this will facilitate a smoother registration for those attending conference.

The Program Committee has worked at the question of finding the best locations and ways to host District Conference over the past few years and will bring to the 2011 Conference a recommendation regarding the rotation of District Conference locations. In 2012 we will return to Hillcrest Homes for a third year, and we are making plans for 2013 at a facility in the Phoenix, AZ, area.

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