

**Minutes of the
Fortieth Annual District Conference
Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren**

September 19-21, 2003

Fresno, California

The Business Meeting was opened with singing and praising God.

- I. The meeting was called to order by Acting Moderator, Myrna Wheeler, and Honorary Moderator, Bill Wagoner.
- II. Myrna led the delegates in the Dedication Litany. (Business Book, blue sheet) The congregation and delegates gathered sang “O Lord, our Lord, how majestic” in response.
- III. Myrna then announced the appointments for this conference.
- A. Parliamentarian: Vera Mae Gephart, Pomona Fellowship
- B. Timekeeper: Joanne Wagoner, La Verne
- C. Tellers:
1. Peggy Redman, Pomona Fellowship, Head Teller
 2. Steve Agostini, Live Oak
 3. Milton Ewert, Modesto
 4. John McAvoy, Live Oak
 5. Myrna Rae Roberson, Pomona Fellowship
- D. Committee to Review the 2003 Minutes:
1. Marvin Belcher, Bakersfield, Convener
 2. Don Brewer, Church of the Living Savior-McFarland
 3. Linda Davis, Church of the Living Savior-McFarland
- IV. Appreciation was expressed for those who made the banner with the conference theme. Hillcrest Homes was thanked for sponsoring the ice cream social to be held following the evening service. Myrna then introduced those on the platform, followed by introductions of guests.
- V. Doris Dunham, Clerk, and David Hurlbut, Moderator-elect, called the roll of congregations and counted delegates. Eighty-nine (89) delegates responded to the roll call. The Clerk declared that a quorum was present. (Note: Quorum equals 60% per the by-laws. Total number of delegates possible was 125. Sixty percent equals seventy-five [75]. Roll call data attached.)

Code	Section	Church	Total Possible Delegates	Roll Call	Delegate Cards turned in
32-010	CC	Bakersfield	4	4	4
32-140	SW	Bella Vista (LA)	4	4	4
32-145	SW	Central Evangelical (LA)	4	0	0
32-025	CC	Church of the Living Savior (McFarland)	4	4	4
32-028	AZ	Circle of Peace (AZ)	4	3	3
32-032	CC	Community Brethren Church (Fresno)	6	5	6
32-036	AZ	Community Church (Mesa, AZ)	4	4	4

	Code	Section	Church	Total Possible Delegates	Roll Call	Delegate Cards turned in
1	32-270	CC	Cornerstone Community (Reedley)	4	1	1
2	32-040	NC	Empire	4	4	4
3	32-045	NC	Fellowship in Christ (Fremont)	4	2	4
4	32-070	SW	Glendale	4	2	3
5	32-080	SE	Glendora	4	4	4
6	32-083	SW	Iglesia de Christo Genesis (LA)	4	2	0
7	32-150	SW	Imperial Heights (LA)	4	4	2
8	32-090	CC	Laton	4	4	3
9	32-100	SE	La Verne	6	6	6
10	32-110	CC	Lindsay	4	1	1
11	32-120	NC	Live Oak	4	4	4
12	32-109	NC	Modesto	5	4	4
13	32-200	SW	Panorama City	4	0	0
14	32-205	AZ	Papago Buttes (AZ)	4	4	4
15	32-210	NC	Paradise	4	0	1
16	32-220	SW	Pasadena	4	3	3
17	32-250	SE	Pomona Fellowship	4	4	4
18	32-290	NC	Prince of Peace (Sacramento)	4	2	2
19	32-322	SE	Principe de Paz (Santa Ana)	4	4	4
20	32-300	SE	San Diego First	4	4	4
21	32-330	SW	South Bay (Redondo Beach)	4	0	0
22	32-340	AZ	Tucson	4	4	4
23	32-350	NC	Waterford	4	2	0
24			Totals:	125	89	87

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26 VI. Motion to approve the agenda as presented. M/s/c: Willard Olwin/Joe Miguel

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28 VII. Minutes from 2002 District Conference: Approved by the committee appointed to review the
 29 minutes (Vera Mae Gephart, Paula Stanley, and Lois Brandt).

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31 VIII. Election: John Price, chairperson of the Nominating Committee, presented the ballot and introduced
 32 the nominees present. Following prayer for discernment, the delegates cast their ballots. The
 33 following persons were elected to serve the district:

- 34 A. Moderator-elect: R. Jan Thompson, Community – Mesa, AZ
- 35 B. Nominating Committee: Lucile Leard, Glendale, CA
- 36 C. Program Committee: Vicki Minyard, Pomona Fellowship, CA
- 37 D. Clerk: Doris Dunham, Bakersfield, CA
- 38 E. Hillcrest Homes Board Nominee: Steve Johnson, La Verne, CA
- 39 F. District Board of Administration, At-Large:
 - 40 1. Sara Davis, La Verne, CA
 - 41 2. Gale Howell, Fellowship in Christ - Fremont, CA
 - 42 3. Don Mitchell, Imperial Heights, CA
 - 43 4. Olga Rios, Bella Vista, CA

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45 IX. Prayer Concerns: Myrna asked that those gathered for conference remember in prayer the following
 46 persons, for their specific needs: Gene Hipskind, Bonnie Kline-Smeltzer and family, Don Vermilea,
 47 and Marcia Scott and family.

1 X. Report of the District Executive Minister: Bryan Boyer, who was installed at the Friday night
 2 worship service, made opening remarks. He talked of challenges and his hopes for the district. He
 3 thanked Richard Hart and Dean Kieffaber for their work as Interim District Executives during the
 4 Search process. He introduced those who have been licensed in the past year: Doris Dunham
 5 (Bakersfield) and Deborah Weldon (Lindsay); those whose ordinations have been recognized: James
 6 Isaacs (Bakersfield); and pastors new to the district, Russ and Erin Matteson (Modesto). Bill
 7 Haldeman-Scarr, TRIM Coordinator, presented a certificate of TRIM completion to Sharon Sparks
 8 (Glendora). Bryan made ministerial recognitions for service:

9 65 Years W. Russell Burriss	55 Years Robert E. Keim	40 Years Glenn R. Stanford
10 60 Years Harold W. Duncanson	50 Years James E. Daughtry	Gene E. Wenger
11 Leland B. Emrick	Robert C. Walker	35 Years Gene F. Hipkind
12 Paul S. Hersch	45 Years Robert T. Neher	30 Years John Park
13 Ralph B. Martin	Galen R. Snell	
14 15 16 Deceased Ministers: Fred W. Butterbaugh (9/13/02)		

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 18 XI. State of the District Report: Sara Haldeman-Scarr, Board Chair, introduced the printed report
 19 (Business Book, pp. 11-21). She made additional comments and had others help with specific
 20 portions of the verbal report. R. Jan Thompson reported for Nurturing and Credentialing Committee;
 21 Elizabeth Acevedo for Church Life Commission; Jeff Glass and Carol Bowman for Congregational
 22 Life Team, Area 5; Roma Jo Thompson for the Leadership Commission; Jeff Wright and other staff
 23 members for Center for Anabaptist Leadership; and the clowns, *Sugar* and *Love*. A prayer of
 24 consecration was held for the new church plants in South Los Angeles and Diamond Bar.
 25 Don Mitchell reported for the Mission and Church Planting Commission and Bryan Boyer, District
 26 Executive Minister, presented grant funds to the South Los Angeles church plant leaders.

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 28 XII. New Business Item: Valley View Closure: Recommendation, that the 2003 District Conference,
 29 meeting in Fresno, recognize the closure of the Valley View Community Church of the Brethren
 30 based on its vote to disband. M/s/carried: PSWD Officers/Joe Miguel

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 32 XIII. Motion from the PSWD Board of Administration: To ask the 2003 District Conference, meeting in
 33 Fresno, to authorize the Board of Administration to sell the Valley View property, when and if
 34 appropriate. Passed Dean Kieffaber, offered a prayer for the contributions that the Valley View
 35 congregation has made in the past and for healing in the time of closure.

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 37 XIV. New Business Item: 2004 PSWD Budget: The proposed budget was presented by Richard
 38 Downhour, Stewards Commission Chairperson. (Business book, pp. 55-60) He made explanatory
 39 comments on several items. Discussion followed. The budget was adopted as presented.

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 41 XV. New Business Item: One Year Extension of the Five-Commission Structure: The 2003 District Board
 42 of Administration asks for a one-year extension of the five-commission system to further explore
 43 the benefits of the board configuration. Passed

- 1 XVI. Report of the Program Committee: Joe Miguel reported for the committee. He introduced the
- 2 members of the committee. The district conference in 2004 will be at Pomona Fellowship Church
- 3 of the Brethren and in 2005 at Modesto Church of the Brethren.
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- 5 XVII. Motion to accept all of the reports: M/s/c: Willard Olwin/Barbara Ober
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- 7 XVIII. Adjournment of the 40th Annual Meeting of the Pacific Southwest District: Bill Wagoner and
- 8 Myrna Wheeler declared the adjournment of the meeting following the last two focus sessions.
- 9 The gavel was passed to Moderator, David Hurlbut.
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- 11 Minutes recorded by Doris Dunham, Clerk.
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- 13 Minutes reviewed by: Marvin Belcher, Convener, Don Brewer, Linda Davis.