Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren

Business Book



48th Annual District Conference November 11-13, 2011

Held at:
Hillcrest
2705 Mountain View Drive
La Verne, CA 91750

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Pacific Southwest District Church of the Brethren

2011 Annual Meeting

November 11-13, 2011 All events are at Hillcrest in La Verne, California

Welcome to the Church of the Brethren Pacific Southwest District Conference

I welcome you from the fertile farming valleys of California; from the beautiful Sonoran Desert of Arizona; from cool ocean breezes; from the shadow of the spectacular Sierra Nevada Mountains; from the cities, the suburbs, the villages, and farms. We welcome Rev. Eric H. F. Law, from Kaleidoscope Institute; Rev. Tim Harvey, Church of the Brethren Moderator; those from our institutions – University of La Verne, Hillcrest Homes, Camps Peaceful Pines & La Verne; and the national Church of the Brethren agencies – Mission and Ministries Board, Bethany Seminary, Brethren Benefit Trust, and On Earth Peace. We welcome the young who see visions; the old who dream dreams; female and male; rich, poor, and in between; those celebrating or grieving; those bodily-abled or disabled; those who understand English, Spanish, Korean, Braille, signing, texting, and other languages. **Together We're Better!** May our time together with Eric Law and others inform, inspire, chart the course of our Pacific Southwest District through our business decisions, and may we renew old friendships while making new friendships. We are one in Christ!

Karen Walters,

2011 PSWD Moderator

Friday, November 11, (Registration, 11:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m., closed during worship)

11:00am	Registration Table opens	
12:00 – 2:00	Women's Fellowship Luncheon & Meeting Speaker: Zandra Wagoner	#16 Maury Smeltzer Lounge
2:15 – 5:00	Workshop with Eric Law	#9 Meeting House
5 · 20 · · · ·	o : p:	#16 x 0 1 x
5:30pm	Opening Dinner	#16 Maury Smeltzer Lounge
7:00	Opening Worship led by Moderator Karen Walters	#9 Meeting House
8:30	Fellowship Time & Ice Cream Social (included with registration)	#16 Maury Smeltzer Lounge
9:00 - 10:00	Workshop Session #1 Please attend the session you sign	ned up for during registration
10:00	Registration Table closes for the night	

Saturday, November 12, (Registration, 8:00 am – Noon)

8:00	Registration Table opens		
8:30 – 10:45 Business Session #1	delegate dedication, and agenda approval		
11:00-12:00	Workshop Session #2 Please attend the session you signed up for during registration		
12:00	Lunch & Fellowship #16 Maury Smeltzer Lounge		
Noon	Registration Table: Closes for the rest of conference		
1:00 – 1:50 Business Session #2	Vote on the 2011 – 2012 Ballot (Exhibit A: 47) Approve prior District Conference Minutes (Exhibit B: 53, 56) Ministry Investment Plan – 2012 (Exhibit C: 57, 67) #9 Meeting House		
2:00 - 3:00	Workshop Session # Please attend the session you signed up for during registration		
3:15 – 5:45 Business Session #3	Query: Annual Conference Elections (Exhibit F: 70) #9 Meeting House Old Business: Committee developing a "Process for Dealing with Congregational Disagreements with Annual Conference and / or District Conference Decisions" Agency & Institution Reports (p.30, 40)		
	Adjournment		

6:00	Fellowship Dinner ULV President, Devoral	#16 Maury Smeltzer Lounge h Lieberman, Speaker
7:30	Worship with Eric Law	#9 Meeting House
9:00 – 10:00	Workshop Session #4	Please attend the session you signed up for during registration
	Fellowship Time	

Sunday, November 13, (No registration)

7:30	Board Reorganization Breakfast	#10 Galen Walker Board Room
9:30 – 11:00	Worship with AC Moderator Tim Harvey Preaching. Consecration of Licensed Ministers Recognition of significant ordination anniversaries Installation of Leadership for 2012	#9 Meeting House

Conference Theme: "Together We're Better"

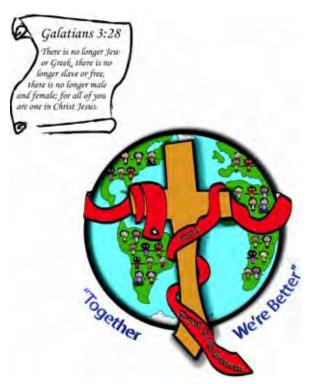
The scriptural theme I chose for our District Conference is Galatians 3:28: "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." Or to phrase it simply "Together We're Better." My choice of this theme is the result of lifelong learning. I was born in Indiana but grew up in Arizona. I learned that each geographic area had a different culture and sometimes even a different language. I have a Brethren Navajo sister who lived with my family during high school and college. I always marveled at how she could live with electricity, pool, and city traffic for 9 months and spend the summers in Nageezi with sheep, dirt roads and no running water, or electricity. When I graduated from college with degrees in math and engineering, I learned the male work culture was not yet willing to be invaded by a female. I, a city girl with female siblings, married a rancher/farmer's son and learned about a self-reliant culture. I have two biological sons - one autistic and brain damaged at birth and the other is at the other end of the spectrum. Neither is inferior or superior. Each of them lived in a different culture that I learned competed for special education elementary school funding. I helped raise 6 children and I learned male and female cultures are different. I learned in male culture, a nod was sufficient acknowledgment for a male friend but a long conversation was required for the girl's friends. I teach a Middle Sunday School class at my church and I have learned many things about hair and culture from my African students. Thanks to scholarships from our Pacific Southwest District. I accompanied 9 Anglo,

African-American, Hispanic, Middle Class and Low Income youth from my church to National Youth Conference. Each group had a different culture. Our Brethren youth have a different culture than our Brethren adults. At NYC, I learned that you can use text messages to communicate God's love in worship. At a recent workshop I learned that youth are more comfortable with a peer from a different culture than with older persons from their own culture. What message can be found in that for our church's future? I have learned that we are all created in the image of God and we have a lot to learn from one another. As I have traveled around our district from Live Oak to Tucson. I have learned something about the culture of the geographic area and that the culture of each church is different. We are not the same, but enriched by all. Our different perspectives help our district boards, commissions, committees, and task forces make the best decisions – for all. Our district is like our favorite chili whether con carne or vegetable, we all know our favorite ingredients and spices. All are needed. To run out of any ingredient or spice makes the chili not quite as good. My prayer for our district is that we provide support so each congregation may find a blend of people who respect others and share the love and message of Jesus with their community.

May we be one in Christ!

Together We're Better!

Karen Walters, Moderator



Logo Interpretation

The logo for the 2011 District Conference was designed by Qadir Holloway, an African American youth from the Papago Buttes Church of the Brethren. It is Qadir's artistic interpretation of Galatians 3:28 which is written on the open scroll representing the Bible. These words apply to the entire population of God's world. The Christian fish symbol, Icthus, in Greek, is on the ribbon encircling the world. It was used by Christians during the first few centuries AD to identify themselves as Christians and avoid persecution by drawing a half circle in the sand with a foot and waiting to see if another person was a Christian and completed the fish by drawing another half circle in the sand. If you look closely you will see different and diverse people represented on the earth with different skin colors, genders, even persons who use wheelchairs.

We are all imperfect humans. Imposed over all is the cross on which Jesus was sacrificed so we may all be one in Christ. The red ribbon which drapes across the symbolic cross and around the world represents our Pacific Southwest District of diverse people from around the world who are trying to live as Jesus taught.

Together we are better!

Delegates' Dedication Litany

November 12, 2011

Moderator: Brethren in Christ – young, old, female, and male – you have been called by

congregations in the San Joaquin Valley, the Sonoran Desert, the Sacramento Valley, urban areas, and rural areas to serve at this 48th District Conference of

the Pacific Southwest District. Do you accept the call?

Delegates: We accept the call placed on us by our congregations.

Moderator: Will you be faithful to the Word of God while celebrating the rich history of

our denomination and individual churches?

Delegates: We will honor our God as we honor those who came before us.

Moderator: Recognizing we are a living peace church, will you seek the leading of the

Spirit of Christ in all matters before us?

Delegates: We commit to seek the leading of the Spirit and to humble ourselves to

engage in the tension of community necessary for new birth.

Moderator: Will you treat one another with love, respect, and openness as together you

conduct the business before you?

Delegates: Even as we are from different cultures, we will work together as Brethren.

In our thoughts and words and deeds we will treat each other with

compassion, kindness, and patience.

Moderator: You have promised to be faithful to the Word of God while honoring those who

came before us by thoughtfully and prayerfully considering the decisions to be

made and treating one another with respect.

So let us all pledge together –

All: As we go back to our diverse congregations, we will share information on what happened here. We will be positive and affirm the decisions that were made and communicate them in ways that are helpful to our congregation's understanding.

We will support the District decisions in our actions and in our prayers, knowing that the Spirit of God is with us and alive in us as we live as Brethren.

Pacific Southwest District – Church of the Brethren – 2011 Officers of the District Conference

Moderator	. Karen Walters, Papago Buttes
Moderator-Elect	Jack Storne, Live Oak
Clerk	Laura Miller, Papago Buttes
Board of Administration Chair (ex-officio)	Don Fancher, La Verne
District Executive (ex-officio)	Don Booz

Note for the Delegates

The Annual District Conference is a mass meeting to which delegates and other interested persons from the member congregations come in business sessions and for purposes of worship, education and fellowship. The District Conference projects the program of the District, and approves new programs, constitutional changes and budget. Through its delegates, it interprets and promotes the decisions of the District Conference to the local congregations.

Note for the Non-Delegates

Non-delegates are urged to attend District Conference, including the business meeting. Non-delegates may discuss the business and make motions; voting is restricted to the delegates and officers. Wide participation at the business session adds inspiration and encouragement to the moderator, delegates, Board of Administration and staff. Pacific Southwest District has been noted for excellent attendance at the business session.

What May Be Done with Queries

- (1) A query may be accepted and passed on to Annual Conference.
- (2) A query may be sent back to the originating church or District Board, which means one of several things: *not important, Annual Conference has already answered it, not a proper query, etc.*
- (3) A query *may not* be changed by amendment.
- (4) A query may be added to, but care must be taken not to change the intent of the query. One way to add is to attach a similar query to the one being considered.

Rules of Order on District Conference Business

- (1) The moderator conducts business according to Robert's Rules of order, which will be the standard for any point not covered in the Constitution and By-Laws.
- (2) The moderator appoints tellers and timekeeper.
- (3) Nominations from the floor must have the prior consent of the nominee (see also IV.A below).
- (4) Length and number of speeches allowed are determined by the District Conference officers.
- (5) The election of officers is by ballot with a plurality vote, except the moderator-elect and the standing committee delegate(s), who are elected by a majority vote.
- (6) A quorum consists of sixty percent of the total elected delegates representing sixty percent of the churches of the District.

Pacific Southwest District - Church of the Brethren

Parliamentary Procedure at a Glance

(Based on Robert's Rules of Order Revised And Rules Governing Annual Conference)

I. The Five Essential Steps Through Which a Motion Passes

	"I move that"	
B.	Seconding the motion:	
	"I second the motion," or "I second it."	
C.	A written copy of the motion shall be given to the conference clerk.	
D.	Stating the question (by the moderator) and discussion of it:	
	"It has been moved and seconded that	.,. -•
E.	Putting the question to a vote:	
	"Are you ready for the question? All of those in favor of the motion	which is
	say 'Aye.' Opposed, 'No.'"	
F.	Announcing the result of the vote:	
	"The motion is carried (lost) and you have voted to (not to)	·"

II. Motions, Who Makes Them and How

A. Presentation of the motion:

- A. All members of the District Conference have the privilege of moving and discussing the business of the Conference.
- B. To make a motion, it is necessary to "obtain the floor" that is, to rise after the floor has been yielded and address the presiding officer by his/her official title (Brother/Sister Moderator). Give your name and the name of the congregation you represent as soon as you catch the eye of the moderator after addressing him/her.
- C. A motion is seconded without obtaining the floor or rising.

III. Some Rules of Debate

- A. All remarks must be addressed to the chair.
- B. All remarks must pertain to the immediately pending question before the District Conference.
- C. All remarks must be of an impersonal nature.
- D. Length and number of speeches are determined by District Conference officers.

IV. Nominations and Voting

- A. Nominations may be made from the floor. However, one must have the person's permission to present his/her name in nomination, have all the same written information provided by the other candidates to present to the conference clerk, and have copies of the ballot information to distribute to the delegates (*see page 14 below*).
- B. No member can be compelled to vote. Those not voting are not counted in deciding whether it is a majority, two-thirds, or unanimous. All blank ballots are ignored and, thus, not counted.
- C. Most votes are taken first by voice or by show of hands, except in case of motions requiring a two-thirds vote, when a rising vote is taken first.

V.	Motions Cla	assified and ir	ı Ascending	Order	of Precedence

A.		vileged and Incidental Motions: motions that take precedence over any pending question
	alth	ough not related to that question. Not debatable.
	1.	ADJOURN or RECESS
		Object: to dismiss a meeting or to provide for an intermission – "I move that we adjourn
		(recess) while (until)"
	2.	RAISE A QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE
		Object: to get the attention of the moderator at once, to ask a question, or to attend to some
		matter that cannot wait – "I rise to a question of privilege" (state your question).
	3.	POINT OF ORDER
		"I rise to a point of order" (state your point).
В.	Sub	osidiary Motions: motions that are applied to other motions for the purpose of most
	app	propriately disposing of them.
	1.	· · · · ·
		amendable, simple majority)
		Object: to lay aside business in such a manner that its consideration may be removed later
		- "I move that this matter be laid on the table."
	2.	PREVIOUS QUESTION (second, not debatable, not amendable, two-thirds majority)
	_,	Object: to stop debate and order an immediate vote – "I call for (or move) the previous
		question."
	3.	POSTPONE TO A SET TIME (second, debatable, amendable, simple majority).
	4.	COMMIT, REFER, or RE-COMMIT (second, debatable, amendable, simple majority),
		Object: to place the business in the hands of a few for later reporting to the Conference (for
		major changes) – "I move that this matter be referred to a committee of to be named _
		with instruction."
	5.	AMEND (second, debatable, amendable, simple majority).
	٥.	
		a. "I move to amend the motion by striking out" b. "I move to amend the motion by inserting between and ."
		, c <u>——</u> <u>——</u>
		c. "I move to amend the motion by adding between and"
		d. "I move to amend the motion by striking out and inserting"
		e. "I move to amend by striking out and substituting this (read or state the
		substitution."
	6.	POSTPONE INDEFINITELY (second, debatable, and amendable, simple majority).
		Object: to kill a motion – "I move to postpone this matter indefinitely."
C.		ncipal Motion: a motion made to bring before the Conference, for its consideration, any
	part	ticular subject.
D.		in Motion: (second, debatable, amendable, simple majority).
	<u>Obj</u>	<u>iect:</u> to introduce business for consideration –
	a.	"I move that"
	b.	"I move the adoption (acceptance, approval) of this report."

District Executive Report

"I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, I will tell of your wonderful deeds." Psalms 9:1

We have so much to be thankful for because we have been given so much: life, bodies, and abilities. What God has given us is to be held in trust. The implications of this trust are to be accountable to God for all that has been entrusted to us, and we are to be accountable to each other for our faithfulness to God. The unique skills and creative abilities of each of us are woven into the fabric of our life together as the body of Christ.

Our congregations are also blessed with a variety of leaders who help sustain the ministry of the local church. The district is also blessed with many volunteers who serve on committees and travel many miles to share their gifts and talents to the wider church. On numerous occasions I have been astounded by the amount of time and energy people give to one project or another within our congregations and district. Many people simply "do wonderful deeds" behind the scenes without a lot of recognition or appreciation for the endless hours of service and ministry.



All Ministers Retreat class on Emotional Intelligence

My travels in the district indicate to me that every person and congregation has a contribution to make to enrich our witness to the world. I have received numerous blessings from pastors and congregations as I meet and worship with you. The nature of my involvement with congregations varies. As my schedule allows, I attend special events, anniversary celebrations, ordination and licensing services or occasional pulpit supply. Most of my energy has been devoted to assisting and coaching pastors and congregations about their

relationship. The rest of my time is consumed with meetings, consultations, telephone conversations, e-mails and spending time "in the air" or traveling in my car. Not too long ago, someone said to me, "I don't think moss grows under your feet." But, to be honest, I haven't looked.



Seminario Biblico Anabautista Hispano (SeBAH) orientation: Spanish language training for licensed ministers

My ministry has been further blessed by the supportive staff of Joe Vecchio, Administrative Assistant, and Brenda Perez, Secretary. Both Joe and Brenda are dedicated employees who often go beyond what is expected from their position. A new person to our staff is Dawna Welch, Director of Youth, who will not be very visible at this District Conference because she will be working with our youth. Dawna is off to a great start and I am quite sure that you will begin to see or hear more about her activities as she leads our district youth program. At this point, I believe we have the right people in the right seats.

Further reflection: Not too long ago I was invited to participate in a "pots and pans" party. The purpose of the party was to entice people to buy new and better pots and pans. Since I enjoy cooking and since I was in the market to replace my dented and hospice care pots and pans, I decided to accept the invitation. When I entered the room the smell of delicious foods permeated the air. The food demonstrator had prepared a wide variety of "finger food" appetizers for us to taste. It was stated that she used the best and greatest pots and pans on the planet to prepare the food.

As we looked upon the table and just before we were invited to taste, the food demonstrator said, "There are three rules for eating this food and they are:

Number one: No double dipping; Number two: No reverse scooping; and Number three: Don't yuk someone's yum."

I now call this "The Yuk Factor" and it is the line we don't cross when we experience something or someone we don't like.

We are living in an intense time for the Church of the Brethren. Many church leaders are experiencing "The Yuk Factor" at some level. We, the Church of the Brethren, are so very diverse; and at times, even contradictory. We often clash over cultural differences, music preferences, peace witness, leadership styles, women in ministry, and a plethora of issues including the color of the new carpet in the sanctuary. Sometimes I want to shout, "Don't yuk someone's yum."

What you need to know is that I personally enjoy the differences within the Pacific Southwest District. I think our differences are our greatest blessing. I believe that we are called to live on this planet and to help make this a better place to be.

I also believe that we have the right people in the right chairs. At this District Conference, take some time to look around and make new friends. I think you will experience some of the most caring and creative people to walk this earth. I am thankful for this extraordinary time. It is a time for people to hear the Good News message of hope, healing, international and interpersonal peace, and an authentic witness to a vibrant faith and loyalty to Jesus Christ and his Church. May we covenant with one another to pray for God's direction and truth for the Church of the Brethren.

Don Booz

District Executive Minister

District Youth Advisor Report

I have thoroughly enjoyed traveling and meeting with Youth and Pastors of the PSWD. Eight wonderfully creative and energized youth have been called to serve on the Youth Cabinet. Their names and congregations are:

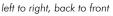
- Robert Burke Bakersfield
- Tuesday Thornton La Verne
- Maya Davis La Verne
- Kyle Carothers Circle of Peace, AZ
- Rehana Franklin Modesto
- Senna Akpovi Modesto
- Michael Terry Live Oak
- Mollie Montgomery -Bakersfield

Working with the newly formed Youth Cabinet has been its own reward. We held our first meeting/retreat at the end of August in Bakersfield, CA. During our time together we planned opportunities for Youth at District Conference, designed a District Youth logo and scheduled our next meeting to plan a district-wide Spring Fling!

Youth attending the 2011 District Conference, will gather and meet in the Youth Lounge for fellowship, study and fun! Housing arrangements have been made for Senior High Youth at the La Verne Church of the Brethren, but all other activities and meals will include Junior High Youth.

The Youth Cabinet will be present at District Conference and can be identified by specially designed t-shirts. I hope you will take the time to introduce yourself and get to know our new PSWD leaders!

Respectfully submitted, Dawna Welch



Youth Cabinet 2011 / 2012



Recognition of Ministers' Ordination Anniversaries

70 Years

William G. Willoughby

50 Years

Elvis C. Cayford Marlin L. Heckman William B. Wash

40 Years

Glenn J. Frazier John Grindler Katonah

25 Years

Bryan L. Boyer Ron E. H. Faus John Jackson Monty Keeling Carol A. Wise

Representing 215 years of service.

Deceased Ministers

Loren S. Bowman - 6/17/11 Donald W. Clague - 3/20/2011



Evening at the All Ministers Retreat in Scottsdale, Arizona

Nominating Committee Report

Committee Members:

Christi Bowman, Chair Thelma Keeling Richard Hart

Ex-Officio Members with vote:

Clerk, Laura Miller

Moderator, Karen Walters

Board Chair, Don Fancher

Ex-Officio Member with out vote:

District Executive: Don Booz

The Nominating Committee has been working diligently this past year to secure nominees for the ballot at the upcoming District Conference. We would like to thank those of you who accepted the call of nomination – you are appreciated more than you realize.

It has been my privilege to work with such a wonderful group of people on this committee; Karen Walters, Richard Hart, Thelma Keeling, Laura Miller, Don Fancher and Don Booz. We made a great team while prayerfully considering who we would nominate.

I have thoroughly enjoyed serving our District in this capacity.

Respectfully submitted, Christi Bowman, Chair

Standing Committee Delegate Report

Serves from July 2009 through July 2012

Annual Conference was held in Grand Rapids, Michigan from July 2-6, 2011. The theme chosen by Moderator Robert Alley was "Gifted With Promise: Extending Jesus Table." Moderator-Elect is Tim Harvey, who will represent the church this year, and conduct the 2012 Annual Conference to be held in St. Louis, Missouri July 7-11.

Standing committee met from June 28 - July 3 to prepare the business for Conference. The conference agenda was dominated by the combined items from last year, "A Statement of Confession and Commitment", and query "Language on Same Sex Covenantal Relationships." There was much discussion and debate on these items. Conference finally adopted the recommendation of Standing Committee, which stated, for the most part, that we (the church) are Not of one Mind on these issues, and the Districts are asked to continue in dialogue, and refrain from sending Conference Queries on this topic.

The Query from PSWD "Guidance for Responding to the Changing of Earth's Climate" was passed, after much debate.

Please contact me if you wish to nominate someone for a denominational office. You can also nominate "on line." You must have the nominee's approval and a short biography.

www.cobannualconference.org/nominationform.html

The positions open for election in 2012 are:

■ Moderator-Elect (1 person, 3-year term)

- Annual Conference Secretary (one person, 5-year term)
- Annual Conference Program and Arrangements Committee (one person, 3-year term)
- The Mission and Ministry Board (5-year terms)
 - One from Area 1 (Southern Pennsylvania, Middle Pennsylvania, Western Pennsylvania, and Mid-Atlantic. Atlantic Northeast ineligible.)
 - One from Area 2 (Northern Ohio, Southern Ohio, Northern Indiana, South/Central Indiana, Michigan, and Illinois/Wisconsin)
- On Earth Peace Board (one person, 5-year term)
- The Brethren Benefit Trust Board (one person, 4-year term)
- Bethany Theological Seminary Board Clergy (one person, 5-year term)
- Bethany Theological Seminary Board Colleges (one person, 5-year term)
- Committee on Interchurch Relations (one person, 3-year term)
- Pastoral Compensation and Benefits Advisory Committee - Ministry (one person, 5-year term)

Thank you for allowing me to represent the District on Standing Committee. It has been a pleasure to serve in this capacity.

Lucile Leard,

PSWD Standing Committee Representative lucile@dslextreme.com

Nominations from the Floor at District Conference

, am willing to allow my name to be placed on the year	
ballot as a nominee for the following position of se	ervice:
Nominated by: 1 st	
2 nd	
Personal Information: (make enough copies to be dist.	ributed to the delegates, about 100)
Name:	Age (optional):
Congregation:	<u>.</u>
Vocation:	
Church Experience:	
Vision Statement:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

Suggestions for the Next District Conference Ballot

Dear Nom	ninating Committee, fo	or District Conferen	ce Ballot:	
I,	your name		your telephone	, suggest that you consider:
Name:			Email:	
Church:			Tele:	
Position:	☐ Moderator Elect ☐ District Board ☐ Clerk	☐ Nominating Co ☐ Hillcrest Nomin ☐ General Board,	nee	☐ Program Committee ☐ Camp La Verne Nominee ☐ District Board Youth / Young Adult
Dear Nom	ninating Committee, fo	or District Conferen	ce Ballot:	
I,	your name		your telephone	, suggest that you consider:
Name:	-		Email:	
Church:			Tele:	
Position:	☐ Moderator Elect ☐ District Board ☐ Clerk	☐ Nominating Co ☐ Hillcrest Nomin ☐ General Board,	nee	☐ Program Committee ☐ Camp La Verne Nominee ☐ District Board Youth / Young Adult
	Sugges	stions for Bo	ard A _l	ppointments
Dear Distr	rict Board of Administ	ration, when you m	ake Board	d Appointments this coming year,
I,	your name		your telephone	, suggest that you consider:
Name:			Email:	-
Church:			Tele:	
Their skill	ls and areas of expertis	se:		
		ration, when you m	ake Board	d Appointments this coming year,
I,	your name		your telephone	, suggest that you consider:
Name:			Email:	
Church:			Tele:	
Their skill	ls and areas of expertis	se:		

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

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.

District Conference Program Committee



PSWD Board of Administration

 $\# = second\ 3$ year term, $x = unexpired\ term\ ending$



Thanks to all for your gift of service to the district. Special thanks to those who have completed their term of service as listed by year below.

Policy Board:

Chair: #2013 Don Fancher (La Verne) Vice-Chair: 2013 Marye Martinez (Modesto) Recording Secretary: Clerk: x2012 Laura Miller (Papago Buttes) 2011 Mike Boeger (Live Oak) (started May 16, 2011) x2011 2011 Thomas Dowdy (Imperial Heights) #2011 #2011 Lois Frantz (Empire) 2013 2012 John Gingrich (La Verne) Reba Herder (La Verne) Section Rep. S.CA-E 2013 Mauricio Iacuelli (Circle of Peace) Section Rep. AZ 2012 2013 James Isaacs (Bakersfield) John Jackson (Glendale) Section Rep. S.CA-W 2011 2011 Norman Johnson (Waterford) Section Rep. N.CA #2012 Janelle Keeling (Bakersfield) Mike Martin (Glendora) (through May 16, 2011) 2011 Karen Pierson (Living Savior) Section Rep. Cen.CA 2012 2011 Elizabeth Rowan (Pasadena) Sam Spire (Circle of Peace) 2013 x2011 Mike Wolfsen (La Verne) 2012 Richard Zapata (Príncipe de Paz/Santa Ana) Ex-Officio with vote Moderator: Karen Walters (Papago Buttes) Moderator-Elect: Jack Storne (Live Oak) Clerk: Laura Miller (Papago Buttes) Ex-Officio without vote District Executive Minister: Don Booz Treasurer: Larry Woodruff (La Verne) Standing Committee Delegate: Lucile Leard (Glendale)

Executive Board: (Chosen each year by the Policy Board)

Chair: Don Fancher (La Verne)

Vice-Chair: Marye Martinez (Modesto) Ministry Chair: John Jackson (Glendale)

Stewards Chair: Mike Martin (Glendora) (through May 16, 2011) Stewards Chair: Mike Boeger (Live Oak) (started May 16, 2011)

Moderator: Karen Walters (Papago Buttes) Moderator-Elect: Jack Storne (Live Oak)

District Executive Minister (Ex-Officio without vote): Don Booz

Ministry Commission: (Members chosen each year by the Executive Board)

Ministry Chair: John Jackson (Glendale)

Member: Bill Haldeman-Scarr (Pomona Fellowship)

Member: Janelle Keeling (Bakersfield) Member: Karen Pierson (Living Savior)

<u>ex-officio</u> members: District Executive Minister; Moderator; Board Chair

Stewards Commission: (Members chosen each year by the Executive Board)

Stewards Chair: Mike Martin (Glendora) (through May 16, 2011) Stewards Chair: Mike Boeger (Live Oak) (started May 16, 2011)

Member: John Gingrich (La Verne) Member: Norman Johnson (Waterford) Member: Elizabeth Rowan (Pasadena) Member: Richard Zapata (Príncipe de Paz)

ex-officio members: District Executive Minister, Moderator, Board Chair, Treasurer

Board of Administration Report

The work of any board or committee has been compared to "washing your socks." It's bad if you don't do it. But once you have done it, there is nothing to brag about. The Board has its share of "sock washing."

But much of importance does get done. The following reports some of the items of importance.

The Board approved the creation of a Church Renewal and Revitalization Committee. The primary responsibilities of the committee are:

- 1. Actively evaluates congregations for renewal or revitalization;
- 2. Assesses church vitality and makes recommendations for future ministry;
- 3. Studies possibilities for areas within the Pacific Southwest District where a Church of the Brethren might be planted;
- 4. Develop policies for establishment and development of new fellowships / congregations in the District:
- 5. Provide coaching supervision, counsel and accountability to all new church starts;
- 6. Encourage congregations to consider house church and "preaching points" that reach out to their communities (missional) seeking to offer God's love and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

The Board continued to struggle with the question of how best and most responsibly to make

use of the funds that have been entrusted to the District. Spend it on congregations now, or save it? This has been called the "elephant in the room" that everyone knows is there, but which everyone is a little reluctant to discuss. An effort was made to get the discussion on the table.

The Ministry Commission continues to work with persons who are exploring their calling to the ordained ministry. The Commission also oversees the training programs for licensed ministers, as well as support and training to ordained clergy.



August meeting of the Board of Administration

The Stewards Commission continues to wrestle with oversight of the financial affairs of the District. During the year, the chair of the commission, Mike Martin, found it necessary to resign. Mike Boeger was called to fill this

position. The Commission members and others were called together as a financial planning task group. The report from that group is found elsewhere in this booklet.

The Executive Board provided some assistance to the District Executive in selecting the Youth Coordinator. It is with pleasure that we welcome Dawna Welch to the District staff. Her efforts are already apparent at this District Conference.

The 2010 District Conference received a recommendation titled, "Process for Responding to Congregational Disagreements with Annual Conference and/or District Conference Decisions." After a lively discussion the Conference said, "Grounded in our Unity Statement and conscious of our theological and cultural diversity the PSWD Board (shall) appoint a five person study committee to develop a framework for conversation around areas of tension in a spirit of love and acceptance as we focus on Christ."

The Board exceeded its mandate just a bit. There were seven candidates for the task group that volunteered or were nominated, who had agreed to serve, and who were recognized to be persons of considerable ability. Those seven were constituted as the task group. They are: Linda Davis (chosen by the group as chair), Doris Dunham, Jeanine Ewert, Lois Frantz, Reba Herder, Tom Hostetler, and Sara Haldeman-Scarr. It is anticipated that their report will come to this Conference.

As Chair of the Board, I want to express my gratitude and appreciation to all the members of the Pacific Southwest District for your prayers and support. I need to express thanks to the members of the Board, the committees, and the task groups that work on behalf of the Pacific Southwest District. And most especially I want to express my respect and admiration for our District staff. Their commitment to God, their professional competence, and patience with the foibles of the Board chair are beyond ordinary expectations.

Don Fancher Chair, Board of Administration



2010 District Conference Officers under the Hillcrest tree

Ministry Commission Report

Ministry Commission:

John Jackson, chair Bill Haldeman-Scarr Janelle Keeling Karen Pierson

<u>ex-officio</u> members: District Executive Minister; Moderator; Board Chair

The Ministry Commission oversees and coordinates the work of the Nurturing and Credentialing Committee (NACC), Mentor Overseer, Training in Ministry (TRIM) & Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano (SeBAH) Coordinator, and works in concert with our District Executive to call, credential, and support our licensed/ordained ministers and their families.

We have recognized, professional education programs for our licensed ministers. Our TRIM and SeBAH (Hispanic) training programs are tailored for second career "students" for whom relocating to Bethany Theological Seminary would not be possible. We support our TRIM/SeBAH student with a grant that covers 75% of their costs of education. We are grateful to Jim Martinez for overseeing these two programs.

Additionally, all of our Licensed Ministers are supported by a carefully selected Mentor to help guide them in discerning their call. We are blessed to have Pastor John Price as our Mentor Overseer. Both Jim and John coordinate their work with our wonderful Nurturing and Credentialing Committee which make recommendations to the Ministry Commission about discerning a candidates calling into the Licensed or Ordained Ministry. Pastor Janet Ober has provided us with tremendous leadership as she chairs this committee.

Bethany Seminary also has our support. Currently we have one student at Bethany, Dylan Haro, who we are supporting with a grant of \$3,000 a year. If Dylan does not enter a recognized Brethren Ministry then the grant converts to a zero interest loan. This Bethany Grant is available to all qualified PSWD students who attend Bethany Seminary full time on site.

The "All Ministers Workshop" and the "Pastor/ Spouse Retreat" events not only support our clergy and their families, but encourage us "...to remain open, as we listen to one another and to the Holy Spirit, working to mutually support and encourage our various ministries." (PSWD Unity Statement as adopted by the 2007 District Conference.)

The "All Ministers Workshop" in 2011 was an unqualified success. Leadership, music, prayer, fellowship, meals, and fun all came together to make it a rewarding time. With over 40 in attendance it became a time of renewal and healing for many. Next year's "All Ministers Workshop" will be held in the same location, Franciscan Renewal Center, near Phoenix from Monday March 26 to Wednesday March 28, 2012. We already have Stephen & Kathryn Reid lined up to provide leadership.

Encouraging was the "Pastor/Spouse Retreat" held near Yosemite. While the attendance was not as high we had hoped, it was very much appreciated by all who attended. In 2012 the event will be held at the Serra Catholic Retreat Center in the hills above Malibu, CA. This event will be held from Monday June 4, to Thursday June 7, 2012. The retreat this year will include two worship services and daily times for meditative prayer. Of course the renewing of our pastors who serve our churches, chaplains, and their spouses is our emphasis for this event.

We are continuing to explore how PSWD might coordinate health care options for our pastors who are having trouble finding and/or affording adequate medical care.

At the "All Ministers Workshop" the ministers recited the 2007 Unity Statement part of which says - "Not focusing on our differences, but in the spirit of love and acceptance, we choose to focus on Christ." This is our goal and prayer for 2012.

Pastor John Jackson Ministry Commission Chair

The Ministry Commission extends our gratitude to those appointed by our commission:

NACC: Nurturing & Credentialing Committee:

#2013 Chair, Janet Ober

2012 Jerry Davis

#2014 Elizabeth Rowan

2015 Erin Matteson

x2011 Kate Spire (through 3/16/2011)

x2011 Elvis Cayford (started 3/16/2011)

Ex-Officio: Ministry Commission Chair,

District Moderator, District Board Chair,

District Executive Minister

Mentor Overseer: John Price

TRIM / SeBAH Coordinator: Jim Martinez

NACC: Nurturing & Credentialing Committee

The Nurturing and Credentialing Committee is the interview and review subcommittee of the District Ministry Commission, overseeing the credentialing process for all licensing and ordination candidates within the Pacific Southwest District. Our current membership is made up of Janet Ober, chair (La Verne), Elvis Cayford (Glendale), Jerry Davis (Pomona Fellowship), Erin Matteson (Modesto) and Elizabeth Rowan (Pasadena). Brenda Isaacs (Bakersfield) and Kate Spire (Circle of Peace) also served this past year but have completed their time of service. Our number often includes the District Executive Minister, Don Booz, and can include any member of the Ministry Commission and/or the District Moderator.

Since District Conference 2010, we have met twice: March 18 & 19 and September 23 & 24 to meet and discern with candidates for licensing and ordination. In September, we also reviewed annual reports from each of our licensed ministers and their mentors. This past year, we have implemented a new format for all our interviews, asking candidates to lead us in either devotions (licensing) or Bible Study (ordination) at the start of their interview. This has often been inspiring and has offered us wonderful insights into the spirits of each of our candidates.

The work of the NACC requires a great deal of prayer and preparation. We take very seriously our call to be a place of discernment and nurture for ministerial leadership within our district. I am grateful to all of you who serve as well as those who uphold us with your encouragement and prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Ober, NACC Chair

Mentor Overseer

As your district Mentor Overseer I am pleased to report that the district now has eighteen people in the licensing program of the PSWD. In the last year I have matched four licensees with mentors. I have also helped inform licensees and mentors of Ministry Commission requirements and reporting. I have not done as much checking on progress of the licensee and mentor as I had hoped to do. I know of no problems with mentors and licensees. I assist the Ministry Commission and the Licensing and Credentialing Committee in their duties regarding licensed ministers in our district.

Yours sincerely,

John E. Price, Mentor Overseer

TRIM: Training in Ministry SeBAH: Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano

This past year PSWD had four students enrolled in TRIM. We currently have two new students who have completed their orientation week at Bethany Seminary. We are equally represented having two students from Arizona, two from Southern California, and two from Northern California.

We are excited to announce that we had seven students go through a week long orientation for SeBAH. This is a training program for Spanish speaking prospective pastors. Our denomination has developed the SeBAH program with the Mennonites to fill the ordination training needs of our Spanish speaking brothers and sisters. To learn more about TRIM or SeBAH visit the PSWD web site.

Jim Martinez

District Coordinator for TRIM & SeBAH

Stewards Commission Report

Stewards Commission:

Mike Boeger, chair (started May 18, 2011) Mike Martin, chair (through May 18, 2011)

John Gingrich

Norman Johnson

Elizabeth Rowan

Richard Zapata

<u>Ex-officio</u> members: District Executive Minister, Moderator, Board Chair, Treasurer The duties of the Stewards Commission are:

- A. Aids and challenges the churches and other District groups to be faithful stewards of God-given resources;
- B. Promotes programs of general stewardship education and enlistment;
- C. Encourages support for the general work of the board, commissions, and Task Groups and for specific projects;
- D. Supervises the financial interests of the district;
- E. Safeguards and utilizes the property, assets and equipment of the District; and
- F. Recommends the annual budget.

The Steward's Commission continues to work with District staff, the Executive Board and the Policy Board, to improve the PSWD Financial condition. At the same time, we have continued to invest in our local churches. Toward this objective, the PSWD has invested over five million in the previous five years.

In this current year the Stewards Commission and the Grant Review Committee has approved approximately \$350,000 in grants, almost all of it in church programs or in support of the personnel at our local churches. In addition, a \$230,000 loan was requested and granted for five years at 5% interest for a solar project at our largest congregation.

Other than loans to our churches of \$544,585, as of July 1, 2011, an additional amount of approximately 3.4 million was invested with the Brethren Foundation, and approximately 2.98 million with Merrill Lynch. A projected return at 6% was agreed to by the Stewards Commission.

I encourage you to review the "MIP" Ministry Investment Plan. We continue to have much to be thankful for, and we together, with prayer, will continue the work of Jesus, here on earth, and at this time.

Michael E. Boeger PSWD Stewards Commission Chair

Grant Review Committee Report

Grant Review Committee (GRC):

Mike Wolfsen, Chair Felton Daniels Jerry Davis Jim Martinez Richard Zapata

<u>ex-officio</u> members: District Executive Minister, Board Chair, Stewards Chair, Moderator

The Grant Review Committee (GRC) has been appointed to review grant applications and grant reports and make recommendations to the Stewardship Commission. (The GRC is a sub-committee of the Stewards Commssion.)

Last year, thirteen churches were approved for 2011 grants, for a total of \$445,710. These grants fund programs for staff and congregational development, outreach, side-door ministries, and pastoral support. Each of the congregations submits a quarterly report to the GRC so that we are able to maintain continuity in communications throughout the year.

The GRC received twelve Grant Requests for 2012. Most of the churches requesting grants for 2012 were visited by members of the GRC to assure a clear understanding as to the nature of the requests and the needs for the funding. Out of these, nine have been recommended for inclusion in the Ministry Plan being presented at District Conference. The Proposed total for 2012 grants is \$340,405.

The churches included in the Plan for next year include:

• Bella Vista, Los Angeles: \$50,000 for pastoral support for growing urban congregation.

- Circle of Peace, Peoria, AZ: \$30,000 for layperson and minister training for the development of a missional church outreach.
- Glendale, CA: \$45,100 for pastoral support and programs for the continued growth of a multi-cultural church.
- Iglesia de Cristo Sion, Pomona: \$21,800 for programs and outreach focused at youth and families in a growing Hispanic fellowship.
- Imperial Heights, Los Angeles: \$42,000 for pastoral support focused at the rebirth of a multicultural church.
- Modesto: \$35,000 to support the many community outreach programs in place to promote Brethren values and church growth.
- Pomona Fellowship, Pomona: \$52,800 for pastoral support in specific outreach ministries.
- Príncipe de Paz, Santa Ana: \$18,705 for programs specifically designed to minister to the community surrounding this growing Hispanic church.
- Waterford: \$45,000 for pastoral support focused at bringing the message of love to the local community.

The GRC will be hosting a workshop at District Conference to let several churches share their experience with grants. Members of the GRC will also be available to answer and questions or receive input on the grant process.

Respectfully submitted Mike Wolfsen

Chair: Grant Review Committee

Pacific Southwest District – Church of the Brethren Giving to the District by Congregations, Individuals and Groups January 1 to December 31, 2010

Church ID#	Name of Church	General Fund	*Per Capita Giving	* 2010 Members
32-010	Bakersfield	\$2,000	\$24.69	81
32-140	Bella Vista (Los Angeles)	\$1,000	??	unknown
32-025	Church of the Living Savior (McFarland)	\$800	??	unknown
32-028	Circle of Peace (Peoria, AZ)	\$1,400	\$17.95	78
32-270	Cornerstone Community (Reedley)	\$0	\$0.00	63
32-040	Empire	\$0	\$0.00	67
32-070	Glendale	\$750	\$19.23	39
32-080	Glendora	\$250	??	unknown
32-083	Iglesia de Cristo Genesis (Los Angeles)	\$0	??	unknown
32-037	Iglesia de Cristo Sion (Pomona)	\$150	\$0.00	56
32-150	Imperial Heights (Los Angeles)	\$200	??	unknown
32-090	Laton	\$300	\$6.67	45
32-100	La Verne	\$10,000	\$20.41	490
32-120	Live Oak	\$1,060	\$12.47	85
32-190	Modesto	\$1,254	\$6.06	207
32-193	New Harvest (Lindsay)	\$0	??	unknown
32-205	Papago Buttes (AZ)	\$2,500	\$35.71	70
32-210	Paradise Community	\$0	??	unknown
32-220	Pasadena	\$1,000	\$45.45	22
32-250	Pomona Fellowship	\$1,650	\$23.91	69
32-290	Prince of Peace (Sacramento)	\$0	\$0.00	57
32-322	Príncipe de Paz (Santa Ana)	\$0	\$0.00	149
32-300	San Diego First	\$575	\$12.23	47
32-330	South Bay (Redondo Beach)	\$500	\$8.20	61
32-340	Tucson	\$600	\$23.08	26
32-350	Waterford	\$0	\$0.00	79
	Sub-Total	\$25,989	\$14.51	1791

Estate Bequests	\$4,777
Myrna Wheeler TRIM Fund	\$7,143
PSWD Women's Fellowship	\$800
Pomona Fellowship Women's Fellowship	\$200
Designated: Children's Disaster Services	\$485
Designated: New Life Newsletter	\$30
Individual Giving	\$4,829
Sub-Total	\$18,265

* The above per-capita calculation is based on the 2010 Statistical Information report listing membership on 12/31/10. If the report was not received by the printing date, membership is listed as "unknown."

GRAND TOTAL

\$44,254



Thank you!

The Policy Board thanks those who accepted appointments and task group assignments during the past year. Most appointments are for one year, longer appointments list the concluding year. The Executive Board aims at making appointments between District Conference and the end of the year so that appointees can begin their work in January. Please give us suggestions for next year with the forms on the information table, and on pages 14-15 above.

Financial Appointments

Treasurer: (authorized signatory) Larry Woodruff (La Verne)

Other Authorized Signatories: (yearly appointment) Ferne Schechter (La Verne), Mary Kay Ogden (La Verne)

Historical Committee

District By-Laws, Article III.K.2.

Marlin Heckman (La Verne), Ex-Officio: Board Chair, Moderator, District Executive Minister

Shalom Team (5-Year Term ending)

District By-Laws, Article III.K.1.

2011 Vern Jahnke (La Verne) 2012 John Lahman (Circle of Peace) 2014 Barbara Brandt (Live Oak) 2015 Mike Wolfsen (La Verne) 2013 Marty Farahat (Modesto)

The Board's 2011 Task Teams

Camps Constitution & By-Laws Committee Hispanic Association
Minister Training Pastors Retreat Planners Financial Planning Task Team

Standing Committee's Hearings on Special Response to AC

Thanks to the many people who made these meetings possible throughout the district

District Disaster Response Coordinator

Network Chair: Lyndall Frantz (Empire)

Ecumenical Council Representatives

Arizona Representatives Kate Spire and Don Shankster - Alternate: Karen Walters

Northern California Representative: Art Crane Southern California Representative: John Jackson

Margaret Carl Trust Fund Advisory Committee

Applications for Bibles, tracts, etc. are available from the PSWD Office.

Administrator: Robert Earhart, Trustee (La Verne)

Advisory Committee Members: 2011 Marlin Heckman (La Verne) 2012 Lowell Brubaker (La Verne) 2013 Joe Schechter (La Verne)

Investment Committee

Manages investments with our investment partners, based on performance assessments.

Chair: At large-(2012) Elizabeth Rowan (Pasadena)

At large-(2011) Jim Martinez (Modesto)

District Executive (ex-officio w/o vote)

Stewards Chair (ex-officio w/vote)

Treasurer-Larry Woodruff (La Verne) (ex-officio w/vote)

Ministerial Ethics Committee: (5-Year Term ending)

2011 Richard Hart (Pomona Fellowship)

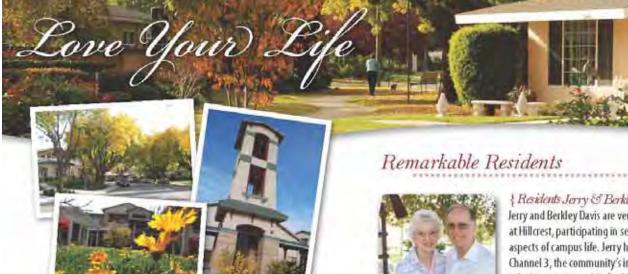
Alternates for District Executive Minister:
2012 Russ Matteson (Modesto)

2011 Richard Hart (Pomona Fellowship)

2013 Mary Kay Ogden (La Verne) Ex-Officio: (with vote), Ministry Chair

#2014 Joe Schechter (La Verne) Ex-Officio: (without vote), District Executive Minister

2015 Deb Merrifield-Carothers (Circle of Peace)



A Remarkable Brethren Community

- . In following our Brethren roots of Peacefully Simply Together
- · On-site Chaplain
- Three Brethren churches within 5 miles of Hillcrest
- University of LaVerne is walking distance from Hillcrest and offers low cost active senior audit programs
- The Interfaith Festival, Doctor's Symphony and shuttles to cultural art societies
- Community Gardens
- Great location, campus and weather
- · Hillcrest offers all levels of care! You will be welcomed with open arms and enjoy the love and comfort of lifelong friends!





{ Residents Jerry & Berkley Davis } Jerry and Berkley Davis are very involved at Hillcrest, participating in several aspects of campus life. Jerry heads up Channel 3, the community's in-house television station, while Berkley serves on the management team of the Hill-

crest gift shop and assists with the production of "Hillcrest Happenings," the community's resident newsletter. "There is more to do and learn here than one can imagine," says Jerry." "I think we made a good choice in Hillcrest!"



Resident Shantilal Blugat \ "Hillcrest, a model community for retirement: orderly not chaotic, unambiguously secure living with caring residents, friendly responsive associates and staff, top-rated physical facilities for swimming,

exercising, dining, and nursing & healthcare. You are in experienced hands at Hillcrest, why go somewhere else?"



{ Chaplam Tom Hofstedler } "Hill crest... what a great place to live and work! As chaplain, I am privileged to participate in the spiritual life of many of the residents and the community as a whole. Opportunities abound for worship

at all levels of care, bible studies, phone devotions, sharing and inspiration to meet a variety of needs and expectations. The care for neighbors, the interaction and activity of residents, the desire to learn and grow, and the beautiful facilities and surroundings all work together to make Hillcrest a remarkable place. Come and see!"



A Remarkable Retirement Community®

2705 Mountain View Dr., La Verne, CA 91750 909.392.4375 | www.LivingatHillcrest.org





DSS #191501662 Certificate of Authority #069



Executive Committee: Jerry Davis, Chair; Roger Hanawalt, Vice Chair; Tim Hepburn, Treasurer; Mary Kay Ogden, Secretary; and John Gingrich, Past Chair

Members: Kathy Duncan, Howard Hawkins, Karin Heckman-Nelson, George Magallon, Jack Meek, Steve Morgan, Lora Lee Russell, Michael Wolfsen, Matthew Neeley, and Donald Booz.

Statement of Financial Position	100	-25
For Fiscal Years ending June 30, 2009 and 2010	2009	2010
ASSETS		4 1 -
Current Assets Investments Long-Term	\$2,406,972 \$2,003,765	\$2,685,506 \$1,926,682
Assets whose use is limited Property and Equipment	\$16,101,377	\$16,122,595
	\$69,737,696	\$69,556,317
Total Assets	\$90,249,810	\$90,291,100
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		4 10 -
Current Liabilities Annuities payable	\$3,857,605 \$1,570,348	\$3,778,069 \$1,546,557
Long term debt Deferred revenue from advanced fees	\$44,232,918 \$21,013,453	\$43,371,772 \$21,192,296
Unrestricted net assets	\$8,800,266	\$9,996,064
Temporarily restricted net assets Permanently restricted net assets	\$3,662,385 \$7,112,835	\$3,418,492 \$6,987.850
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$90,249,810	\$90,291,100

Operating Budget

Fiscal Budget 2010/11: \$19,348,556 Fiscal Budget 2011/12: \$19,392,783

COMPLIMENTARY MEAL AND TOUR

If you are in the area and would like a personal tour of Hillcrest, along with a meal in one of our dining venues, please complete the information below. A marketing representative will contact you.

Name		
Address		
Phone Nui	nber	
Mail to:	Hillcrest, 2705 Mountain View Drive, La Verne CA 91750 or call 909.392.4375	,

- The University of La Verne has received high marks in both the U.S. News & World Report and Forbes' annual rankings. U.S. News & World Report listed La Verne 136th in its National Universities category, placing it 8th among private colleges and universities in California and 4th among those in Los Angeles County. Forbes also recognized La Verne as one of "America's Best Colleges" for this school year.
- A rising star on the La Verne campus has been the University's debate team. They were ranked 5th nationally and 29th in the world at the U.S. Universities Debating Championships. Additionally, they were awarded the opportunity to pursue debate in England traveling to London, Cambridge and Oxford, where they gained numerous awards and placed 26th at the prestigious Oxford IV and Gaborone, Botswana. Looking forward, the La Verne debate team is bidding to host the U.S. Universities Debating Championships in 2013 and will be holding an international debate training camp this July.
- The University of La Verne recently broke ground for a new residence hall on campus that
 will accommodate nearly 400 students and a corresponding parking lot with space for more
 than 300 vehicles. Residence hall construction is another step in the university's 10-year
 Master Plan for Campus Development; administrators anticipate the new facility will help
 attract additional prospective undergrad students who wish to thrive in an on-campus
 community.
- Springtime brought various events at the University of La Verne in honor of the grand opening of the Ann & Steve Morgan Auditorium. Dedication Week featured a multitude of speakers. Organizational consultant and author Warren Bennis lectured Monday on his newest book, "Still Surprised: A Memoir of a Life in Leadership." On Tuesday, members of the group of students known as the "Freedom Writers" joined author/teacher Erin Gruwell to discuss their high school class in Long Beach and its struggles with gang violence and poverty. Additionally, Robert Kennedy Jr., senior attorney for the National Resources Defense Council, spoke on "Our Environmental Destiny." Preceding the Dedication week events, best-selling author, radio host and educator Cornel West addressed a wide range of topics, including hope, race issues, and education.

As always, we welcome Brethren students with open arms and offer a1/5 tuition scholarship for the first year.

Julia Wheeler Church Relations (909) 593-3511 x 4686





Camp La Verne

Are you looking for....
An incredibly affordable retreat spot?
A rustic get-away?
A place where kids can be kids without electric gadgets?
Peace and quiet close to God and nature?

Find all this and more at Camp La Verne!

Camp La Verne is a wonderful resource available to our District. Summer or Winter, Springtime or Fall are all great times to be at camp. During the Summer groups up to 100 people can be accommodated in "fresh air" cabins and old time lodge. Hiking and canoeing at Jenk's Lake are available. During the Winter smaller sized groups stay in winterized cabins and enjoy the snow.



Camp La Verne is located in the San Bernardino mountains about an hour's drive from Redlands. At 6,000 feet elevation, Camp La Verne is a beautiful high mountain spot.

For three weeks every summer, Camp La Verne hosts church camps for kids in High School, Junior High and older elementary grades. Lead by experienced Program directors these camps are a really great way for kids to meet other Brethren kids from throughout the district!

Come join us at Camp La Verne!

The mission of Camp La Verne is to provide children and adults with space and time in the wilderness. When we gather at Camp we feel God's presence. We experience the

wonder of God's creation. Children live in the simple grace of nature. Adults are renewed in the palm of God's hand.

We offer Camp to rental groups that are involved in the work of Jesus. We host Camps for children and adults. We have three Summer camps and one Winter camp for the youth of our church and our neighbors staffed by volunteers with many campers sponsored by churches or receiving scholarships. We would be excited to have the members of your church join us!

This year we are very pleased to host an open house on July 31 for the children attending the La Verne Church of the Brethren Peace Camp and their families. The event is made possible by the Rodney Davis Memorial Fund. We are eager to introduce Camp to a new generation!

With our faithful volunteers, our generous donors, our hardworking, dedicated staff and camp board, with the wonder filled children and with the Grace of God we continue the work of Jesus by offering this simple place where we feel the power of God and witness the beauty and diversity of God's world. We would appreciate your thoughts and prayers and your continued participation this work.

41954 Jenks Lake Road West Angelus Oaks, CA 92305 909-794-2931 <u>clv@camplaverne.org</u> <u>www.CampLaVerne.org</u>





Pete and Linda with Lucile and Marion Leard Truck Donation



Camp Peaceful Pines

2301 Woodland Avenue Modesto, California 95358

www.camppeacefulpines.org

Camp Peaceful Pines was established in 1946 by the Church of the Brethren with the first buildings completed in 1947/1948. The camp was established for the purpose of outdoor Christian ministry and fellowship. That remains our mission.

What's new this summer? As we closed camp last summer the loggers for the forest service came in and harvested the blue marked logs. The logs had been previously sold thru a bidding process and the winning bid had a 5 year window to harvest the logs. As a result of the harvest there is a lot more "light" on the edges of camp.

In 2011 tent cabin #13 was rebuilt and the new structure is a vast improvement as to what was there before. Over the next few years we intend to replace the existing tent cabins with new structures similar to the rebuilt cabin #13.

The record snows of last winter have not come and gone without some consequences. This fall we will be replacing a portion of the dining hall/kitchen roof. In the repair process we will be structurally stiffening the structure so that roof repair is not an annual project.

This year we started a fund raising effort to build new cabins (not replacements) that feature more amenities such as bath rooms. We have preliminary approval from the forest service. Before construction begins we will need to show completed plans to the forest service and to Alpine County. The location of the new cabin(s) will be close to cabins 1 and 3. With the new cabins in place we will be able to start moving at least one or two of the bunk beds from most of our existing cabins to provide more room for the occupants and their luggage. Your input for the design of the new cabins is strongly urged. Please ask our camp superintendents for some design sheet graph paper.

Art and Shirley Crane our former camp superintendents have retired (after 18 years) and hopefully are back with us as campers. TJ and John Miller are our "interim" superintendents this year but unfortunately they will not be back with us for

the 2012 season. We will again be advertising and searching for new superintendents for 2012. The position does not pay a lot but it does provide room and board for the summer with "a little" income. We prefer a husband and wife team for the position. The time period is from the end of May to the first of September. It must be someone who has a love for camp and is moderately "handy" with their hands. Interested parties should contact TJ or John or a member of the camp board. We hope to get applications this fall so that we can commit to the position before the end of the year.

We have also acquired a new "Elliott" generator to work alongside our existing Generac generator. We normally alternate the days of operation. The new Elliott is substantially quieter.

The current camp board has initiated a program of increased maintenance and reinvestment into the facilities and we hope that it begins to show. The youth and adults will enjoy the new sand for the 3 volleyball courts. The horse shoe pits have been redone and hopefully soon will receive their own load of sand.

We are working on a program of revitalizing camp from the inside out. We know we are "rustic" but we want to eventually be "comfortably rustic."

We hope to complete the meadow restoration in the center of camp by summer's end.

We hope that your stay this summer will be pleasant and memorable and we look forward to your return next summer. We appreciate any comments and suggestions that will allow your camping experience a more pleasant one. Please fill out your end of camp appraisal forms.

Please feel free to contact me directly via email: garrypemail-ucd@yahoo.com or

Phone: 530-758-0474

Thank you for your support!!!
Garry Pearson,
Camp Peaceful Pines Camp Board Chair



"Seek the peace of the city where I have taken you, and pray to the Lord for it; for in its peace you will have peace."

- Jeremiah 29:7 (NKJV)

This passage is for all who long for the promised future — one of hope and peace. We are partners in bringing that future, and God asks that we respond to those we live near. **Seeking the peace of the city calls us to see what is around us** — who is being cast aside, who is hungry or naked or in prison, who is hurting and who is hurting them. Their justice is our justice and their peace is our peace.

Guided and inspired by the gospel of Christ, On Earth Peace works in partnership with congregations and local leaders to respond to Jeremiah's call. Here are four examples of this life-giving ministry.

An agency of the

Church of the Brethren

empowering people to

discern the things

that make for peace

The Agape-Satyagraha Youth Leadership Training program has opened new project sites serving youth in Illinois, Indiana, and Delaware, for a total of seven sites nationwide.



500 Main Street, P. O. Box 188 New Windsor, MD 21776-0188

> Phone: 410-635-8704 Fax: 410-635-8707

E-mail: <u>oepa@onearthpeace.org</u> Website: <u>www.onearthpeace.org</u>





Through the Ministry of Reconciliation program of On Earth Peace, congregations and church leaders learn faithful discernment and decision-making steps, as well as constructive ways of addressing conflict.

Rockford Partners for Excellence, led by On Earth Peace staff member Samuel Sarpiya, is addressing issues of racism, poverty, and violence in that Illinois city. They have transformed a middle school which had been one of the most violent and troubled in the city, and are now working throughout the surrounding neighborhood.



The International Day of Prayer for Peace campaign supports more than 100 congregations each year in their prayer witness for an end to violence, and in their peace-building work in their local communities.

These are just four examples of the many On Earth Peace programs which serve the church and the world. On Earth Peace continues to prepare and challenge youth, children, families, congregations, and community leaders to receive the peaceful, hopeful future God has in mind for us.

From Lancaster to La Verne, from South Bend to South Africa, church and community leaders are looking to On Earth Peace for guidance, spiritual grounding and training in violence reduction and peace-building. Thank you so much for your partnership in these ministries!

Madalyn Metzger Board Chair Bob Gross
Executive Director

Bob Strass



Greetings and God's peace to the moderator, delegates, and members of Pacific Southwest District!

Church of the Brethren Benefit Trust exists to provide retirement benefits, insurance products, asset management, and financial advocacy to the servants and members of our denomination. We thank you for allowing our ministries — Brethren Pension Plan, Brethren Foundation, and Brethren Insurance Services — to serve essential roles in the lives of your pastors, employees, and congregational members.

2010 was an industrious year for Church of the Brethren Benefit Trust — it was a time for listening and then acting based on our members' and clients' needs and concerns. When we were asked for more investment options for Brethren Pension Plan and Brethren Foundation, we rolled out a diverse lineup of new funds. When members requested robust online access to their accounts, we released the Brethren Pension Plan Web portal and started building Brethren Foundation's Web portal. When we were asked for better program interpretation and educational opportunities, we released new publications and workshops that are available to your district and congregation. We are thankful to be able to look back and see how feedback from the denomination helped us strengthen this important Brethren institution.

INVESTMENT OVERSIGHT

Despite the market's roller coaster ride during the first eight months of 2010, the year ended on positive notes for many of BBT's and BFI's funds thanks in part to the growth spurt during the last four months of the year. In the end, the S&P 500 Index finished the year up nearly 15.1 percent from Dec. 31, 2009.

This growth led to double-digit returns for the four equity funds in BFI's portfolio that are at least one year old; two of those four funds exceeded their respective benchmarks. Performance for two of the BFI bond funds was at 8.2 and 8.5 percent, with the benchmark closing the year at 6.6 percent. Even the Short-Term fund ended the year 1 percent above its benchmark.

We experienced growth in members and assets in Brethren Pension Plan, Brethren Foundation, and Brethren Insurance Services. New deposits from existing clients were brought into our investment system, which suggests that the work we're doing and the changes we're making are well received.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN PENSION PLAN AND EMPLOYEE FINANCIAL SERVICES

Brethren Pension Plan serves more than 4,700 current and former employees of Brethren congregations and organizations. Every month, 1,514 annuitants receive a monthly benefit in the form of a check or direct deposit.

On Oct. 1, 2010, 11 new investment funds were made available to active Pension participants, including the Treasury-Free Bond, Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities, High Yield Bond, Domestic Stock Value, Domestic Stock Core, Domestic Stock Growth, Small Cap, International Core, Emerging Markets Stock, Public Real Estate, and Commodities-Based funds.

With a second year of positive market performance following the terrible market decline of 2008 and early 2009, the Retirement Benefits Fund has hopefully begun a slow but steady return to fully funded status. At the end of 2008, the RBF — from which monthly annuity payments are made — was only 68.5 percent funded. Actuarial data received in March 2011 indicates that the RBF is now 82 percent funded. BBT continues to work to safeguard the fund to serve the denomination for years to come.

One way we work to undergird the Plan is through reinforcing its structure. A comprehensive study of the Plan began in May 2010; since then, three reports have been produced by our consulting firm, a BBT Board-created task force made up of Board and staff members has met to shape the future of the Plan.

EMPLOYEE FINANCIAL SERVICES

This ministry area includes the administration of the Church Workers' Assistance Plan and the Supplemental Income Fund for Equitable Annuitants. In 2010, a total of \$189,005 was granted to eligible participants of these programs. In addition, this ministry is responsible for providing educational sessions led by BBT staff; last year, the director led 33 educational sessions covering a variety of topics including retirement savings and personal finance.



BRETHREN FOUNDATION INC.

The Brethren Foundation ministry celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2010. BFI manages the funds of about 200 Church of the Brethren congregations and organizations that desire professional asset management assistance. BFI also writes and manages deferred gifts for about 200 individuals or families that are made to one or more Church of the Brethren congregations or not-for-profit organizations.

Late last summer, BFI added seven new funds to its lineup of investment options, including equity, bond, and other investment opportunities. BFI also shifted from monthly to daily valuation of invested assets and began offering secure email service for the transmittal or receipt of sensitive information in 2010.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN INSURANCE SERVICES

After shoring up product offerings, streamlining operations, and connecting with current and prospective employer groups across the country, the Brethren Medical Plan has begun to grow! As of May 1, 2011, the Brethren Medical Plan had welcomed five new employer groups into the Plan, with more anticipated to join throughout 2011. That's a 50 percent increase since May 1, 2010!

Significant enrollment increases have also occurred for both medical and ancillary insurance products, which include life and long-term disability insurance, a short-term disability plan, multiple dental and vision plans, Medicare supplemental insurance, and long-term care insurance.

To help foster a proactive partnership between employer groups and employees regarding health care, the Brethren Medical Plan offers a wellness component to its member organizations, which helps improve the overall health of a company's employees.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN CREDIT UNION

On April 1, 2004, BBT began serving as the administrator of Church of the Brethren Credit Union, which helped it expand from a small savings and loan institution to one that offered online banking, checking, and other products and services. Unfortunately, the economic downturn of 2008 adversely impacted the overall credit union industry, including CoBCU. While assets grew to an all-time high, loan volume greatly diminished. This meant that CoBCU was not earning enough to pay for its expenses, which required BBT to subsidize the Credit Union through its reserves.

In light of these facts, the CoBCU Board announced in March 2011 a proposal to merge with Corporate America Family Credit Union. This nationwide credit union offers 20 branches and 6,500 shared branching locations; educational opportunities and counseling; and new credit, savings, checking, and loan opportunities. CoBCU members voted in favor of this merger at the end of April, and the partnership is anticipated to be complete by June 1.

WE EXIST TO SERVE YOU

Thank you for your continued support and trust in the Board and staff of Brethren Benefit Trust. Our challenge, as issued by Church of the Brethren Annual Conference, is to serve all employees and members of, and affiliated with, the Church of the Brethren. It is an honor and a privilege for all of us to serve you; thank you for that opportunity.

Nevin Dulabaum President



Guided by its mission "to minister, proclaim, and live out God's shalom and Christ's peace," Bethany Theological Seminary seeks to provide educational resources for preparation of new ministry leadership for the Church of the Brethren and for ecumenical communions who value an Anabaptist-Pietist understanding of scripture and faith, for continuing education of ministry leadership, for enriching the gifts of lay leadership for the church and the world.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2010 - 2011

Sending Forth In May Bethany commissioned its largest class in over a decade, with twenty MDiv, MA, and Certificate of Achievement in Theological Studies (CATS) graduates.

Curricular Enhancement The faculty has been systematically evaluating curriculum with the intention of updating content, delivery systems, and the methodologies by which we assess student achievement. In the foreseeable future, we expect to see enhancements in curricular offerings, based on strategic plan objectives, in these areas:

- Missional church and evangelism from an Anabaptist-Pietist perspective
- Reconciliation ministries, including specific attention to congregational conflict transformation and congregational stress
- Making Bethany educational resources more available to more dispersed audiences, both through educational offerings in district and congregational locations and through webcasting or other electronic means

Financial Support In July 2011 Bethany opened the public phase of a financial campaign under the theme Reimagining Ministries as a way of providing needed support for initiatives growing out of our strategic plan and curricular review. Commitments from lead donors so far have been gratifying. Over the next three years, the curiosity, questions, counsel, passion, and financial commitments of many more supporters will be welcomed.

You are invited to support Bethany's mission and ministry by:

- calling young people, mid-career people, and people of vigorous retirement (repositioning) age into ministry;
- encouraging those who work in other professions or jobs to come to Bethany for a semester
 or an intensive for biblical study, and/or to think theologically about politics, economics, the
 meanings of terrorism, and the way of Christ's love;
- envisioning new forms of ministry for master-of-divinity-trained persons, such as mentors of lay leaders in small congregations, Academy student supervisors, or coaches of pastors new to the Church of the Brethren;
- advocating to include Bethany as a new or continuing ministry supported by your congregation's outreach budget;
- contacting the Seminary with your questions, ideas, and interests;
- remembering Bethany in your prayers.

Ruthann Knechel Johansen, president, and Carol Scheppard, chair, Bethany board of trustees

Bethany and the Pacific Southwest District: Partners in education

Students in graduate programs: 5 Students in the Brethren Academy: 5

Financial support: \$21,003.71 from your district and congregations, fiscal 2011

Thank you so very much for your prayers and continuing support of Bethany Seminary. To learn more about Bethany, visit our website at www.bethanyseminary.edu



To the Sisters and Brothers of the Pacific Southwest District,

Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. I give thanks to God for the work of the Brethren in your district, and pray that you will continue on in the faith of Jesus Christ with great boldness and assurance.

I want to extend my personal invitation for you to gather with the Brethren for Annual Conference in St. Louis, Missouri, July 7-11, 2012. We will convene the 226th recorded Annual Conference under the theme *Continuing the Work of Jesus*, with the theme verses of Matthew 28:19-20:

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.

What a magnificent calling this is! For over 300 years, Brethren have gathered in Spirit-filled community around the Bible, choosing to be the church described in the pages of the New Testament. Brethren chose this radical obedience to the Great Commission in the waters of the Eder River in Schwarzenau, being rebaptized as adult believers. Brethren have continued the work of Jesus by evangelizing neighborhoods around their meetinghouses; by being peacemakers at home and abroad; by responding to natural disaster and human need with disaster ministries, childcare, church planting and pastoral training; and in many more ways, too numerous to mention here.

Along the way, we have found that this calling is not easy, for the kingdoms of this world have their own motivations and goals. These are often attractive, and can distract us from our first calling. But as we follow Jesus, Brethren have discovered that our calling is not to make the institutions of this world more holy and righteous; our calling is to be the Kingdom of God in the midst of the kingdoms of this world.

As I visit among the congregations and districts of our denomination, I look forward to hearing stories of how the Brethren are *Continuing the Work of Jesus* in our congregations around the world. Along the way to St. Louis, we will be reminded of the way Brethren of years past continued the work of Jesus in their time. And I will strive to challenge all of us to greater faithfulness in the present. The world needs the testimony of Jesus. Brothers and Sisters, let us dedicate ourselves to Continuing the Work of Jesus.

Blessings in Jesus' name,

Tim Harvey 2012 Annual Conference Moderator



Dear delegates and attendees of the Pacific Southwest 2011 District Conference:

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ! The members of the Mission and Ministry Board and the staff of the Church of the Brethren are remembering you in prayer as you meet at district conference. And we invite your prayers for us, as we represent you in the church's worldwide ministries. Your faithful support makes these ministries possible.

The Mission and Ministry Board has been giving special attention recently to a new strategic plan for the decade. The goals established in this plan are big picture aspirations that are guiding our work over the long term. Let me tell you about them:

Brethren Voice: Equip Brethren to speak Christ's peace and love. How do we find our voice as Brethren? We begin with the study of Scripture. And we strengthen our Brethren understanding of faith. Then we speak clearly using a variety of media, equip congregations to speak publicly as well, and further the collective voice of the historic peace churches.

Church Planting: Cultivate a growing movement of emerging mission points and church planting. We are building a movement, extending the passion to congregations and districts, and providing a system of support for church planters. The aim is to support the emergence by 2019 of 250 diverse new starts, at least one-third of which are intercultural and urban.

Congregational Vitality: Strengthen joyful communities of Brethren disciples. Our task is to help congregations grow as communities that gather, call, form, and send disciples. Such congregations will follow Jesus in a uniquely Brethren way, call out the spiritual gifts of all members, and cultivate leadership.

International Mission: Grow the church around the world in partnership with brothers and sisters within the Church of the Brethren and beyond. We are nurturing relationships in places such as the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Brazil, Nigeria, Sudan, and India. At the same time we are deepening the commitment to global missions among Brethren in the US, providing experiences that broaden people's understanding of mission in today's world.

Service: Integrate faith and service, deepening our faith as we respond to human need. As a core value of our faith as Brethren, service works its way into discipleship as

followers of Jesus, in almost everything we do. It's visible in a host of opportunities, including disaster response, volunteer service, and workcamps. We seek to extend a culture of service to all Brethren—challenging everyone in the church community to engage in a week of service each year and a year of service in one's lifetime.

Sustainability: Assure that our vision is embodied in an organization that is sustainable, flexible, streamlined, and interdependent. The church's ministries, relationships, and resources all belong to God. We take seriously the responsibility to be good stewards of the good gifts that God has blessed us with. This new strategic plan is a part of that effort.

These are the goals that are leading us forward. We are excited about the way they grow out of longtime ministries yet also give us vision for work that awaits us. That future is rich with possibilities: How does our Brethren voice communicate clearly while also representing the diversity we desire? How do we best support the growth of churches in other countries so that they can flourish in their own settings? How can we be most effective in helping congregations be discipling communities? What are God's yearnings for the Church of the Brethren?

For a glimpse at the current ministries of the church, don't miss the pictorial annual report provided for your district conference. For more detailed information, see the narrative report in the Annual Conference Booklet. Both versions are available at www.brethren.org/annualreport. And if you'd like to read the board's strategic plan, go to the website and click on "Office of the General Secretary."

The strategic plan begins with a "preamble prayer" that expresses our desire for Christ to be at the center of all we do. Through humble service, simple words, and courageous proclamation, we are choosing to be not only hearers of the word of God, but doers.

Thank you for being dedicated and generous partners in our common mission. You inspire us! May God's shalom and Christ's peace be with you, my sisters and brothers.

Sincerely,

Stanley J. Noffsinger General Secretary



May 2011

Re: Brethren Disaster Ministries Report to District Conferences

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As a new well was being drilled in Haiti by Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM) after the devastating earthquake of January 12, 2010, an unexpected surge of water gushed up from underground. This remarkable fountain of water – known as an artesian well – provided the proverbial "cup of cold water" just as the cholera epidemic started, not only saving lives, but bringing hope when desperately needed. The new freshwater well, along with a supply of 200 water filtration buckets, each providing safe water for three families, can be credited with largely sparing Haitian Brethren and their neighbors from the deadly cholera outbreak.

The Haiti earthquake response has transitioned from emergency relief to long-term sustainable recovery, including reconstruction and agricultural production. Brethren Disaster Ministries has as one of its goals the construction of 50 homes for earthquake survivors during 2011. Many of these 3-room, earthquake-resistant, cement block homes have already been completed. Construction of the future ministry center and Haiti Church of the Brethren headquarters is nearing completion.

Workcamps organized by BDM are nourishing the valuable relationship between U.S. and Haitian Brethren. BDM has collaborated with Eglise des Freres Haitiens (the Haitian Church of the Brethren), Global Mission Partnerships, Church World Service and IMA World Health throughout the earthquake response.

In the US, one of the most violent spring storm seasons in decades claims hundreds of lives and caused billions of dollars in damage. In the tornado-stricken South, BDM is supporting long-term recovery planning in North Carolina, and collaborating with the Virlina and Shenandoah District response in Pulaski, Virginia. These areas may develop into BDM rebuilding sites.

Children's Disaster Services (CDS) care givers responded in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, one of the hardest hit areas, providing a safe and comforting setting for the young children of families impacted by the storms.

Teams of Brethren Disaster Ministries volunteers are currently putting their faith into action in response to massive flooding in Tennessee. New rebuilding projects were opened in Ashland City in January and in Brentwood in June of this year. BDM completed its Hurricane Katrina reconstruction project in the St. Bernard and Orleans Parishes of Louisiana in early June, nearly six years after the storm devastated the Gulf Coast. A long-term rebuilding project along the Tippecanoe River in Indiana was completed in January.

(continued)

Continuing the work of lesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.

A unique opportunity arose after a tornado struck a Sioux Reservation near Dupree, South Dakota last fall. BDM joined other voluntary agencies and FEMA in securing and winterizing temporary housing prior to the cold winter for Native Americans living in impoverished conditions. Also, following a devastating tsunami in the US territory of American Samoa, BDM led an ecumenical effort to rebuild homes.

All together in 2010, 141 homes in the US were restored by 1,531 volunteers who gave more than 9,852 workdays at an estimated value of \$1,646,858.

In February, Children's Disaster Services volunteers in California organized a Rapid Response to a large apartment fire in San Bernardino that displaced approximately 200 people. The CDS team of 8 cared for 30 children in a safe setting that allowed them to play and express their feelings.

Five CDS workshops trained 107 volunteers in 2010, and so far this year 103 have been trained. Seventy-two of these were trained in workshops sponsored by the Hawaii VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster). CDS staff worked with the National Commission for Children and Disaster subcommittee on sheltering, resulting in a document that is congruent with our work and will shape the work of all organizations working with children in shelters.

The Emergency Disaster Fund enables the Church of the Brethren to bring relief, hope and healing to the most vulnerable survivors caught in emergency situations and disasters at home and around the world. EDF allocations totaling \$1,360,000 supported this work in 2010. In the United States, this included the disaster recovery programs of BDM and faith-based partners, covering 20 states and American Samoa. Internationally, in addition to the Haiti Earthquake Response, the EDF supported efforts following floods in Pakistan and Guatemala; the earthquake and tsunami in Chile; food crisis in southern Sudan and Niger; violence and unrest in Kyrgyzstan; and a mudslide that engulfed several villages in Uganda.

This year, the EDF has provided grants for emergency relief and recovery following the catastrophic earthquake and tsunami in Japan, civil unrest in Libya, the US severe spring storms, Tennessee flood recovery, and additional grants for Brethren Disaster Ministries' comprehensive Haiti Earthquake Response.

It is the supporters of Brethren Disaster Ministries who make it possible for this ministry to be a fountain of hope – just like the artesian well in Haiti – to many people around the world. We thank God as we celebrate the faithful dedication of all our volunteers, the financial support, and the prayers of many.

In Christ's Service.

Roy Winter

Roy Winter, Executive Director

On behalf of BDM Staff - Judy Bezon, LethaJoy Martin, Betsy Mullich, Jane Yount, and Zachary Wolgemuth

Brethren Volunteer Service Annual Report

Summer 2011

Sharing God's Love through Acts of Service

Working for Peace Advocating Justice **Caring for Creation Serving Human Needs**

Here are a few of the exciting and important things happening in BVS



- 72 new volunteers
- 5 orientation units
- 131 volunteers total



BVS Retreat for domestic volunteers from Units 289 & 291 held at Dixon Valley Camp, Ill. (Spring 2011)

Currently, BVS has ...

- volunteers from age 19 to 79
- volunteers in 10 different countries
- volunteers in 16 different US states and Washington, D.C.

Brethren Volunteer Service earns award for Volunteer Group of the Year



(Left to right) Dan McFadden, BVSer, Rebecca Rahe, & FAC exec. dir., Kathy Reid

The Family Abuse Center, a domestic violence program for six counties in central Texas, awarded BVS the 2011 Volunteer Group of the Year. BVS currently has two volunteers serving at the center located in Waco, Texas, and has had 6 volunteers serve there since our first volunteers arrived in August of 2009. In May the director of BVS, Dan McFadden, was honored to accept the award on behalf of Brethren Volunteer Service at the center's annual banquet. BVSers volunteer as resident advocates, the "front line" service providers at the 24-hour shelter. The volunteers assist men, women, and children that are victims of domestic violence, who need to have a safe and healing environment in the shelter.

BVSers also answer 24-hour hotline crisis calls, provide meals, and cover the front desk as needed along with various other duties in the shelter. The center provides three meals a day, individual and group counseling, case management, legal assistance, and access to community resources that empower the survivors to start new lives.

The Family Abuse Center contacted BVS in July of 2009 when their new executive director, Kathy Reid, asked to start the partnership. Kathy Reid, a past employee of the Mission and Ministry Board, and past executive director of the Association of the Brethren Caregivers, says that FAC "Loves our BVSers!"



The BVS team: Back row: Dan McFadden, Jeremy McAvoy, and Don Knieriem Front row: Katherine Boeger, Dana Cassell, and Callie Surber

BVS team gets fresh faces

The BVS team has recently added two new members to its numbers: Katherine Boeger and Jeremy McAvoy. Both Katherine and Jeremy began their positions in early 2011. Together, they make up the new recruitment team for BVS. Katherine Boeger began her new position as coordinator of recruitment and service advocacy for Brethren Volunteer Service and Global Mission Partnerships on February 15. Katherine comes from Oroville, Calif. She is a graduate of San Diego State University where she achieved a B.S. in business administration with an emphasis in human resource management and a minor in psychology. Katherine brings over 15 years of experience in a variety of fields including marketing and sales, human resource management, and farming. She is a member of Live Oak (Calif.) Church of the Brethren in Live Oak, Calif., where she has been actively engaged by serving as a delegate for Annual Conference, on the church's search committee, and as the chair of the nurture commission on the board.

Katherine has been a dedicated member of the Church of the Brethren since 1980 and has worked with Brethren Disaster Ministries in Citronelle, Ala., and Lake Charles, La., responding to Hurricane Katrina as well as working with Christian Peacemaker Teams in Colombia. Katherine also has volunteered at a work camp in Nigeria.

Jeremy McAvoy joined the team as the Volunteer Assistant for Recruitment on March 7. This is Jeremy's second year with BVS after serving for a year with Brethren Disaster Ministries, where he rebuilt houses in northern Indiana. Jeremy studied at Butte College in northern California. He has been a member of Live Oak Church of the Brethren for 10 years and served on the steward's commission during that time.

Katherine and Jeremy have been encouraging others to experience the blessings of service. They also have been asking Church of the Brethren members to lift others up in this ministry as well, by sharing BVS with their home congregations. Their beginning recruitment efforts have been concentrated within the church, in hopes that BVS will provide an outlet for all Brethren to serve.

New projects in BVS over the past year

- Mendenhall Ministries, Mendenhall, Miss.
- *SnowCap*, Portland, Ore.
- East Belfast Mission, Belfast, Northern Ireland
- Sisters of the Road, Portland, Ore.
- Highland Park Elementary School, Roanoke, Va.
- Reconcile International, Juba, Sudan
- Asian Rural Institute, Tochigi-ken, Japan
- Immanuel Baptist Church, San Salvador, El Salvador
- *The Abbe Pierre Emmaus Center*, Esteville, France
- Delivering Innovation in Supportive Housing-(DISH), San Francisco, Calif.

WFC named BVS's 2011 Partner in Service

The World Friendship Center in Hiroshima, Japan, is the recipient of BVS's 2011 Partners in Service Award. The award recognizes an individual, project, or congregation that has demonstrated exceptional commitment in partnering with BVS to share God's love through acts of service.

The World Friendship Center has been serving and advocating for peace since 1965 and has been a BVS project since 1982. BVSers have been serving as



Current BVSers, Larry and JoAnn Sims (center), at a press conference on behalf of the World Friendship Center

co-directors, managing and operating international guest services since 1982. English classes are taught and peace is promoted through a variety of community based peace activities, classes, and stories from Hibakusha (atomic bomb survivors). Through their efforts, peace is encouraged and bridges of international understanding are built. BVS is proud to recognize the World Friendship Center for its non-wavering commitment to service and peace.

Brethren Volunteer Service is a Ministry of the Church of the Brethren

www.brethrenvolunteerservice.org
1451 Dundee Ave, Elgin, IL 60120

bvs@brethren.org
800-323-8039

Pacific Southwest District

Process for Responding to Congregational Disagreements with Annual Conference and/or District Conference Decisions

4 Background

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- 5 At the 2004 Annual Conference, the delegate body passed a paper originating from the South/Central
- 6 Indiana District about how congregations can disagree with Annual Conference decisions yet remains in
- 7 unbroken fellowship with the sister congregations. The concern of the paper was, "How can the Church
- 8 of the Brethren speak with one voice and yet respect dissenting views?" More specifically, the paper
- 9 addressed how districts should respond to situations when a congregation disagrees with Annual
- 10 Conference decision(s).
- 11 Each district is encouraged to develop a framework for processing a congregational disagreement with
- 12 an Annual Conference action before a potential disagreement develops. The 2004 Annual Conference
- paper recommended that each process should be flexible enough to allow for the wide variations of each
- case, yet specific enough to offer accountability and direction. The Pacific Southwest District Board of
- Administration agreed that such a process needs to incorporate District Conference decisions as well.
- 16 The 2010 PSWD District Conference received a proposed document to be used in this district that had
- 17 been approved and forwarded by the Board of Administration at its August 28, 2010 meeting. The
- board recommended adoption of the proposed policy statement. However, discussion on the floor of the
- 19 conference resulted in a variety of questions being raised about the paper, and an amendment to delete
- 20 most of the contents of the paper was proposed but then withdrawn. A substitute motion was then
- 21 proposed and adopted, which read as follows:
- 22 "Grounded in the Unity Statement and conscious of our theological and cultural diversity, the Pacific
- 23 Southwest District Conference will appoint a five-person study committee to develop a framework for
- conversation around the areas of tension, in a spirit of love and acceptance as we focus on Christ, and
- report to the District Conference 2011."
- 26 The District Conference further directed the Board of Administration to appoint a committee. The
- 27 committee consisted of: Linda Davis, Jeanine Ewert, Tom Hostetler and Sara Haldeman-Scarr, Doris
- 28 Dunham, Lois Frantz and Reba Herder. PSWD Board Chair Don Fancher, Moderator Karen Walters and
- 26 Dulliani, Lois Frantz and Reba Herder. I SWD Board Chair Don Fancher, Woderator Raich Waters and
- 29 District Executive Don Booz, served ex-officio. This paper, with its explanatory material and policy
- 30 recommendation, was formulated by the committee over a series of meetings and e-mails during the
- 31 past year.

2 Introduction

- In 2007, the Pacific Southwest District unanimously approved a Unity Statement, declaring:
- "On this 300th anniversary of the founding of the Church of the Brethren, we remember the words of Jesus:
- "Let me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples when they see the love you have for each other." (John 13: 34, 35; The Message)

- Recognizing we are a living peace church, and that God is constantly revealing, we commit to humble ourselves, and to engage in the tension of community necessary for new birth.
- Not focusing on our differences, but in the spirit of love and acceptance, we choose to focus on Christ.
- We purpose to remain open, as we listen to one another and to the Holy Spirit, working in love to mutually support and encourage our various ministries. "
- 45 The Unity Statement provides a vision for our district which recognizes that all are welcome at the table.
- 46 We seek to be faithful to this call, even in times of differences, acknowledging that we do not seek
- 47 uniformity, but conversation with one another as we seek the mind of Christ.
- Matthew 18:15-20 has been the primary model for settling differences among the Brethren for nearly three centuries. The text suggests a multi-step process. First, the two opposing persons talk over their disagreement face to face (18:15). Second, if there is no resolution, then a third impartial person is brought in to hear the two sides as a mediator (18:16). Third, if the issue is still not resolved, then the situation is taken to the church for their action (18:17a). Fourth, Jesus says, "...if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector." At this point in the text, we recognize a tension within the Body of Christ as it has been experienced in the Church of the Brethren. Some see within this passage an expectation that the church's answer be accepted, with serious implications for dissension. Others see an expectation that even when there is not agreement, we do not disengage in relationship, but work even harder at love and mercy, as in Jesus' attitude toward others. (18:17b).
- The Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5:1 through 7:27, was accepted by the early Brethren as "ethics" for today and was not restricted to some future time. This includes strong teaching to be merciful to one another (5:5-7), to work at peacemaking (5:9), to pursue reconciliation as a top priority (5:21-26), to show love to those who are mistreating us (5:38-48), and to judge others with grace (6:14-15, 7:1-5).
- In 2008, Annual Conference approved a Resolution Urging Forbearance. That Resolution is germane to this discussion. Parts of it read:
- Forbearance is a biblical concept. The Greek words in the New Testament translated as forbearance carry meanings of patience, self-control, restraint, mercy, long-suffering, and the refusal to threaten (Eph. 4:2; Col. 3:13; Eph. 6:9, 2 Cor. 12:6). Forbearance does not jeopardize or denigrate individual conviction, but it does place boundaries on the quality and character of individual responses. Forbearance does not require one to accept what another believes, but it does require one to listen and try to understand what another believes without demeaning, personal attacks, or acting to disenfranchise the other person.
- Brethren have grown in the practice of forbearance. We accept Annual Conference positions as invitations to agree rather than mandates to obey. For instance, we affirm that all war is sin (see the updated Church of the Brethren Statement on War, 1970) and that killing other human beings is unacceptable. We respect those who do not agree and continue in fellowship with them. We preach and teach peace without separating ourselves from those who choose military service or otherwise question the official position of the denomination.

The Good Samaritan story teaches us that the measure of our faithfulness is not correct precept or behavior but loving action. It is not whether others behave or think in ways that are right in our eyes which makes them acceptable as our neighbors, but whether we prove to be neighbors to them. In the ministry of reconciliation we are called to love and care for each other before we are called to correct one another. Before we are conservative, liberal, evangelical, progressive, or any one of the many labels we put on one another, we are children of God and brothers and sisters in the church. We are people who love and follow Jesus. We seek to continue his work peacefully, simply, and together. This is what we have to offer to one another and to the world. This is our gift as Brethren.

Therefore, in the process of dealing with differences with Annual or District Conference decisions we are guided by the following resolutions contained in the "Resolution Urging Forbearance":

- that we commit ourselves to forbearance which recognizes and respects differences of opinion and differing degrees of spiritual insight. We will show deference in disputable matters (Romans 14:1) while practicing prayerful study and conversation in core beliefs;
- that we agree to see our differences, not as discord, but as the blessing which can come when we openly discuss our disagreements, address our conflicts, and share our faith perspectives;
- that, with our forebears, we continue to treasure both faithfulness to truth and openness to new light;
- In all circumstances, we will embrace our commitment to one another as brothers and sisters in Christ as equally important to our other theological beliefs (1 Corinthians 13:1-8; Ephesians 4:32);
- that we pledge ourselves on matters where we are not of one mind to let the Holy Spirit draw us together to be of one heart.

97 PSWD Policy for Dealing with Congregational Differences

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- Disagreement with Annual Conference and/or District Conference decisions may exist in many or most congregations. We recognize that differences may exist without contention, however. Where differences exist, continued dialog may take place within the normal structures of district and denominational life. Conversation is encouraged between persons and groups who may see issues from different perspectives, so that they may better understand one another. The purpose of a district response to congregational disagreements with Annual Conference and/or District Conference decisions is to provide direction, support and conciliatory action.
- We have strong agreement that Annual Conference is our highest governing authority. We do not see it as a legislative body that makes mandatory laws to govern individual and congregational behavior. It is, rather, a delegate body that gives the representative voice of the community at the time the issue is being discussed. It strives for unanimity, but does not require it. Therefore, when differences arise, we recognize those differences, affirming where we agree while at the same time confessing where we do not agree.
- 111 3. Process for dealing with congregational differences with Annual Conference or District Conference decisions.
 - A. When district leadership becomes aware that a congregation has taken action or is acting in opposition to an Annual Conference and/or District Conference decision in a way that threatens the overall unity and ministry of the district, the congregation will be invited to participate in a discernment process in the spirit of Matthew 18:
 - The District Executive will ask to meet with the pastor and/or other congregational leaders in an effort to understand the nature of the disagreement; whether the disagreement has caused brokenness within the congregation; whether any steps have already been taken to facilitate conversation and reconciliation; whether there is willingness on the part of the congregation for wider dialog.

- 2. If the District Executive discerns that there is need for a wider dialog with the congregation, meetings will be encouraged in order to complete a more thorough study of the Annual Conference or District Conference action and the congregation's disagreement, asking questions such as: what is the issue being addressed? What can the congregation affirm about the decision? Where does the congregation differ with the decision? Where is there common ground? What does the congregation believe is missing from the decision? What alternative would the congregation propose? The meeting(s) might include the District Executive, Standing Committee representative, District Board of Administration member(s) and/or members of the Shalom Team.
- 3. If needed, the District Executive may seek the services of resource persons outside the district, including trained mediators and/or agencies within the denomination, e.g., Ministry of Reconciliation (MOR).
- 4. As soon as it is helpful, the District Executive may:

- a. arrange for a mediator, such as: the Shalom Team or Ministry of Reconciliation (MOR), to create a listening session to provide a safe space for individuals across the district to gather to voice and hear different perspectives and to encourage each other in their walk with Christ.
- b. call for the larger district to participate in a day of prayer and fasting to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit
- 5. A study of the topic may be offered as an insight session at District Conference.
- 6. After thorough discussion, the congregation may present a query to the District, asking for a re-consideration of the subject of disagreement.
- 7. The congregation may place on file a statement describing their disagreement with Annual Conference or the district, their process for deciding on a different position, and their position.
- 8. If needed and/or after all attempts at conversation between the congregation and district representatives are unable to bring reconciliation regarding the area of disagreement we ask participants in this process to reaffirm their intent to be faithful to the call to love and care for one another, even in times of differences, acknowledging that we do not seek uniformity, but forbearance and continued conversation with one another as we seek the mind of Christ.
- B. When district leadership becomes aware that relationships between congregations are being adversely affected by an Annual or District Conference decision, many or all of the previous steps may be taken with each congregation.
 - 1. The District Executive will ask to meet with the pastor and/or other congregational leaders in each congregation (separately) in an effort to understand the nature of the disagreement; whether the disagreement has caused disaffection between the congregations; whether any steps have already been taken to facilitate conversation and reconciliation; whether there is willingness on the part of the congregations for wider dialog.
 - 2. If the District Executive discerns that there is need for a wider dialog, meetings will be encouraged within the separate congregations in order to complete a more thorough study of the relationship between the congregations, asking questions such as: what is/are the issue(s) being addressed? What can each congregation affirm about the other(s)? Where do the congregations differ with one another? Where is there common ground? What possible solutions would each congregation propose? These meeting(s) might include the District Executive, Standing Committee representative, District Board of Administration member(s) and/or members of the Shalom Team.
 - 3. The District Executive in conversation with the leaders of each congregation may choose to hold meetings between the congregations for extended conversations around the issues being addressed. Trained mediators may be invited to facilitate the meetings.

4. The District Executive, in conversation with the leaders of each congregation may determine that further efforts are necessary for mediation between the congregations. Trained mediators may be invited to design and facilitate the process.

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- 5. Throughout the entire process, the intent should be careful listening and respectful conversation that might lead to common understanding, even if agreement is not reached.
- 6. If mediation between congregations is unable to bring reconciliation regarding the area of disagreement, we ask congregations to reaffirm their intent to be faithful to the call to love and care for one another, even in times of differences, acknowledging that we do not seek uniformity, but forbearance and continued conversation with one another as we seek the mind of Christ.
- C. If a congregation is engaged in activities that create liability concerns, or represent threats to the ministry of the district, the Board of Administration may bring the concern and specific recommendations to District Conference for action.
 - 1. Actions taken by District Conference should fall within the Pacific Southwest Constitution and By-laws and the polity of the Church of the Brethren.
 - If appropriate, an acknowledgment should be made that the congregation continues supporting the larger church in other aspects of its life while disagreeing with Annual Conference on the particular matter.
 - 3. The Annual Conference Standing Committee continues to serve as the appeals body.
- Finally, in cases of disagreement, we are called to "listen to one another and to the Holy Spirit, working in love to mutually support and encourage our various ministries." (from the PSWD Unity Statement)

Submitted on October 14, 2011 by the committee: Linda Davis, Jeanine Ewert, Tom Hostetler, Sara Haldeman-Scarr, Doris Dunham, Lois Frantz and Reba Herder. Ex-officio members: PSWD Board Chair Don Fancher, Moderator Karen Walters and District Executive Don Booz.

Action of the Pacific Southwest District Executive Board on October 18, 2011: We recommend the committee's work for adoption by the Pacific Southwest District Conference on November 12, 2011.

Pacific Southwest District – Church of the Brethren 2011 – 2012 Ballot

Candidates are listed alphabetically by last name. O Incumbent=Nominee is finishing an elected term to the same position.

Moderator-Elect Vote for 1 Two year term	At-Large Representative Vote for 4 Three year term
James (Jim) LeFever, Glendale- SW	Richard Downhour, Papago Buttes - AZ
James (Jim) Ler ever, Giendaie-Sw	
	Phyllis Eller, Pomona - SE
Nominating Committee	Elizabeth G. Rowan, Pasadena - SW (incumbent)
Vote for 1 Three year term	Mike Wolfsen, La Verne - SE (incumbent)
John E. Price, Empire- CE	
Standing Committee Representative, Annual	
Conference	
Vote for 1 Three year term	Youth & Young Adult Representatives Vote for 3 One year term
Marlin Heckman, La Verne - SE	Paige Butzlaff, La Verne - SE (incumbent)
	Nohemi Flores, Cristo Sion - SE (incumbent)
Alternate Standing Committee Representative,	Julie Park, Glendale - SW
Annual Conference	Curic 1 arris, cicinanic 2 in
Vote for 1 Three year term	
Don Shankster, Papago Buttes - AZ	
	Brethren Hillcrest Homes Board Nominees
Program Committee, District Conference	Vote for 1 Three year term
Vote for 1 Three year term	Steven F. Johnson, La Verne - SE
Berkley Davis, Pomona - SE	
District Board of Administration Northern California Representative	Camp La Verne Trustee Nominees
Vote for 1 Three year term	Vote for 1 Three year term
Norman Johnson, Waterford- NC (incumbent)	
	University of La Verne Trustee Nominees
Southern California West Representative Vote for 1 Three year term	At this time, ULV is asking churches and district
John Jackson, Glendale- SW (incumbent)	executives to forward names directly to the ULV Nominating Committee for consideration. Six positions

(17%) continue to be reserved for CoB representatives.

Ballot Background Information, Exhibit A

Pacific Southwest District - Church of the Brethren Background Information for the 2011 - 2012 Ballot

Candidates are listed by office, alphabetically by last name.

Descriptions of each office are condensed from the PSWD Constitution: www.pswdcob.org

Moderator-Elect (vote for 1): The two year term begins immediately. In addition to being an officer of District Conference, the Moderator-Elect serves on the District Board of Administration.



James (Jim) LeFever:

Age: 63
Congregation: Glendale
Vocation: Architect.

Church Experience:
Working backward: I'm currently the Moderator of the Glendale church where

I've been a member for approximately 18 years. During the past 18 years I've served on the board and on various commissions. Prior to coming to California, I was a member of the Celebration Fellowship in Maryland suburbs of Washington DC. I volunteered and served as a BVS'er with the California Migrant Ministry from 1970 to 1973. I was baptized and accepted into membership at the University Park Church of the Brethren, also in suburban Maryland, in the mid 1960's.

As a side note: Both my parents come from traditional Brethren families. Both raised in the Pennsylvania church, my father Don LeFever and mother Faye met at Elizabethtown College. Father was one of the first Project Heifer cowboys and in my youth was active on a variety of committees working to end the segregation of schools and communities then current in suburban Maryland. Mother was the daughter of one of the first seminary educated pastors in the brotherhood, John Graham, who served the church in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia for many years. His first

years were served as an itinerant pastor, driving from fellowship to fellowship in what was at the time a remarkably modern Model A Ford.

Vision Statement: Today's Church of the Brethren is facing both its ultimate test and its best opportunity here on the Pacific Rim. The Church's has traditionally been rooted in fertile rural soil and that tradition can be seen here in the West where nearly all the congregations are planted not far from what was once farm land. While our rural heritage was and is strong our greatest challenges and opportunities now lay in more urban, faster paced, less traditional, more skeptical communities.

Today's Brethren Church finds its best hope for relevance and success in its unique and powerful roots. Our strength is found in combining the pious traditions of our Anabaptist forbearers, our love of peace, simplicity and justice, the optimistic faith of the New Testament and the understanding that works speak louder than words. Speaking in honest, relevant terms ours is a voice equally capable of cutting through the noise of a secular society and the honeyed promises of the modern mega churches.

In short the risks of today are obvious and genuinely threatening, but the opportunity to speak the truth and make a difference has never been so clear or so real. It's there that the future of the Church resides.

Nominating Committee (vote for 1): The three year term begins immediately. Members may not serve successive terms. Nominating Committee presents to the District Conference a ballot for each vacancy.



John E. Price: Age: 65 Congregation: Empire Vocation: Farmer & Pastor

Church Experience:
I have been the pastor of the Empire Church of the Brethren since 1998.
I have served on the

district board. I have been Moderator for the PSWD. I have served on PSWD Committees. I am currently responsible for mentors for our licensed ministers.

Vision Statement: My "vision" is for God's people to live lives that produce such fruit that others want to be a part of who we are. We do this by living a Godly life in community. That is in a community of faith, our church, and in the community at large where we offer ourselves to the benefit of others. I actually believe that we live as Christians to Glorify God and help others in their life struggle. Whether they become like us or not. We, as did Christ, should be giving ourselves away as evidence of our Christian love for one another.

Standing Committee Delegate (vote for 1) & **Alternate** (vote for 1) are elected by the District Conference to serve a 3 year term representing the district on Annual Conference Standing Committee, and are eligible to serve one additional term. When a Standing Committee Delegate is not able to complete the term, the alternate completes the term to provide continuity, assuming the replaced delegate's term limits.



Delegate

Marlin L. Heckman:

Age: 74

Congregation: La Verne
Church of the Brethren
(since 1972)

Vocation: Retired
Academic Librarian

Church Experience: Local Church: Church Board member, chair; Assistant Moderator; Nominating Committee; Church Historian; Deacon; Annual Conference Delegate (1978, 1993, 2009). District: Board of Administration member, chair; Acting Executive Minister (PT) 1984, 2001; Standing Committee Delegate; Nominating Committee; Historical Committee; Hillcrest Board member. Denomination: Church of the Brethren Historical Committee, member, chair.

Vision Statement: That the congregations of the PSWD will work together to bring to fruition the denominational tag line: Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.



Alternate Delegate

Don Shankster:

Age: 60 (as of May)
Congregation: Papago
Buttes Church of the
Brethren
Vocation: Pastor

Church Experience: Pastor, Arizona Ecumenical Council, District Board (N. Ind), Moderator and Standing Committee Delegate. (Southeastern district).

Vision Statement: I look for the church to be the embodiment of God's love in Christ Jesus, working for justice, living with mercy, and walking with Christ. **Program Committee, District Conference** (vote for 1): The three year term begins immediately. The Committee is responsible for planning the District Conference program, obtaining leadership, and making all necessary arrangements for the conference, in cooperation with on-site representatives.



Berkley Davis: Age: 74
Congregation: Pomona
Fellowship Church of
the Brethren
Vocation: Retired

Church Experience: BVS, Sunday School Teacher, Church Board Member,

Church Moderator, Mission to Navajos, PSWD Board Member, PSWD Nominating Committee.

Vision Statement: My hope is that young people today and in future generations would know the love, grace and forgiveness that comes through faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior; that they might live out that faith in service to others for the glory of God; and that they may grow in appreciation of our unique Brethren heritage, especially the services of feet washing and anointing.

PSWD Board of Administration: The term begins immediately. The purpose of the Board is to manage and administer the religious and business activities of the District, as authorized by the District Conference.

PSWD Board of Administration: Northern CA Representative Vote for 1 (three year term)



Norman Johnson:

Age: 84 (incumbent)
Congregation: Waterford
Church of the Brethren
Vocation: Educator Ret.,
Construction, Real
Estate Agent and
Educator

Church Experience: Youth Pres. Dist. Youth Pres. Hi and Co Youth Leader, CPS camp and

Elgin CPS office, Pastor South Modesto CoB, adult Sunday school teacher, Sunday School Sup., Church Board Chair, Church Moderator, Policy Board member, District and Annual Conference delegate.

Vision Statement: By practicing Christ's message of love, compassion, and forgiveness we will remain a unified church body respecting each other as we focus on the good created in each of us.

PSWD Board of Administration: Southern CA West Representative Vote for 1 (three year term)



John Jackson:

Age: 53 (incumbent)
Congregation: Glendale
Church of the Brethren
Vocation: Pastor

Church Experience: Chair of the PSWD Ministry Commission since 2008.

Vision Statement: "Not focusing on our differences, but in the spirit of love and acceptance, we choose to focus on Christ." – Taken from the PSWD 2007 District Conference Unity Statement.

PSWD Board of Administration: At-Large Representatives Vote for 4 (three year term)



Richard Downhour:

Age: 21, give or take
50 years
Congregation: Papago
Buttes Church of the
Brethren, Scottsdale,
AZ

Vocation: Semi-retired from 44 years of sales of

life and health insurance and employee benefits

Church Experience: As a believer, I spent my early years in the Methodist Church in Indiana, married Shirley Hood from this denomination, and joined it around 1970. I have served mostly as a Steward in the local church and in Property & Finance for 12 years on the district board. I was involved in the management and sales of several PSWD church facilities during that time.

Vision Statement: I would love to see the PSWD reverse its shrinkage in numbers and thrive and be an example of a better way to live out the Christian faith.



Phyllis Eller: Age: 80
Congregation: Pomona
Fellowship Church of
the Brethren
Vocation: Homemaker,
volunteer

Church Experience: Presently I am chair of Steward and Outreach

Commission, a deacon and minister of caregiving. In the past I have served on other commissions, am a former PSWD board member and served on the COBACE steering committee.

Vision Statement: My vision for the PSWD is to support the congregations in finding more ways to show and share God's love through Christ in our churches and communities.



Elizabeth G. Rowan:

Age: 74 (incumbent)
Congregation: Pasadena
Church of the Brethren
Vocation: Pastor,
Pasadena COB 10
years, Adjunct Prof.
Univ. of La Verne, 30
years

Church Experience: Pastor, teacher.

Vision Statement: To seek and do the will of God for PSWD.



Mike Wolfsen:

Age: 68 (incumbent)
Congregation: La Verne
Church of the Brethren
Vocation: Retired

Church Experience: PSWD: Policy Board, Grant Review Committee,

Shalom Team, La Verne CoB past Board Chair, current Stewards Chair, Middle School Sunday School teacher.

Vision Statement: To work with one another in a way that reflects God's love for us and to address our issues in a way that reflects the courage of Jesus.

PSWD Board of Administration: Youth & Young Adult Representative . . . Vote for 3 (one year term)



Paige Butzlaff:

Age: 18 (incumbent)
Congregation: La Verne
Church of the Brethren
Vocation: Student and
babysitter

Church Experience: Church's Peace Camp

Leader (Twice), Ran a Pre-K Sunday school class, Serve on Church's Christian Education Committee.

Vision Statement: I hope the Policy Board will be able to make the right decisions concerning important issues throughout the district like different church's membership, declining youth participation, and the overall budget throughout the district of PSWD. With the grace of God and cooperation of all Policy Board members, including myself if chosen to serve on the board, we will proactively use our leadership to not only voice our opinions but take action to fix or provide alternatives to situations.



Nohemi Flores:

Age: 22 (incumbent)
Congregation: Iglesia de
Cristo Sion, Church of
the Brethren

Vocation: Student at Mt. SAC, Musician/ Singer, and Personal Assistant

Church Experience: Church Board Personal Assistant; Licensed Minister; Community Volunteer; Sunday School Teacher; Play the flute, or bass guitar, or piano in some of my local churches, like: Eden Mission(Korean Congregation), Iglesia de Cristo Sion, band: SalvaZion, and Missio Dei (Pomona Fellowship).

Vision Statement: To become the future leaders with hope, wisdom, patience, and love. Also, to embrace the diversity with our neighbors, community, and family. Unity.



Julie Park: Age: 18 Congregation: Glendale Church of the Brethren Vocation: Student.

Church Experience: Accolade.

Vision Statement: I hope that God can use me as a helpful tool and representative of the youth.

Brethren Hillcrest Homes Board of Directors Nominees (vote for 1)

The three year term begins in accordance with the policy of Hillcrest.



Steven F. Johnson:

Age: 50
Congregation: La Verne
Church of the Brethren
Vocation: Insurance.

Church Experience: Church Board, Executive Committee, Property Commission.

Vision Statement: Hillcrest is home to many friends and family members. I will strive to maintain the quality of life residents have come to enjoy living at Hillcrest.

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

4 November 13, 2010

Hillcrest Homes, La Verne, California

5 **I.** Call to Order: Moderator Felton Daniels called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. Prayer was offered by John Jackson, and those who have passed away during the last year were remembered.

7 II. Announcements, Appointments, and Introductions of Special Guests and Others

The Policy Board Chair, Moderator-Elect, Moderator, Clerk, and District Executive Minister were introduced. The timekeeper was Lois Frantz. The tellers were Karen Pierson, Nohemi Flores, Larry Cole, Cheryl Crane, and Nancy Deal. The parliamentarian was Karen Walters. The committee to review the 2010 minutes was named: Kate Spire (Circle of Peace), Linda Davis (Church of the Living Savior), and Pat Royer (Modesto).

- 13 **III.** Quorum: There are 22 churches represented and 71 delegates present. A quorum was declared to be present.
- 15 **IV.** <u>Dedication of Delegates</u>: The Delegates' Dedication Litany was read (Page 6 of the Business Book).

17 V. Approval of 2009 Minutes

- A. A committee of Lois Frantz (Empire Church of the Brethren), Kate Spire (Circle of Peace), and Linda Davis (Church of the Living Savior) had reviewed the minutes of the 2009 Pacific Southwest District Conference and verified that the minutes are correct.
- B. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes from the 2009 Pacific Southwest District Conference. Approved.

23 VI. Approval of Agenda

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- A. The agenda (pages 3 and 4 of the Business Book, plus an updated workshop handout) was presented.
- B. Cady Laycook (South Bay) moved and Sandi Boeger (Live Oak) seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Approved.

VII. Report from the Pacific Southwest District Board

Board Chair Don Fancher gave a brief report and directed us to read the report on pages 17-25 of the Business Book. Don thanked the members of the board for their contributions and thanked those whose terms of service have been completed. Don reported that several workshops are planned to explain business items before the vote.

33 VIII. District Executive Minister Report

District Executive Minister Don Booz showed a video with statistics and directed us to page 10 of the Business Book for his written report. The District's pastors and chaplains were recognized and thanked with a round of applause. The four pastors who passed away over the last year were remembered. Don mentioned that many people in our denomination have noticed the District's Unity Statement that was passed in 2007. Don thanked the staff for their hard work and his wife Cindy for her understanding.

40 IX. <u>Introduction of Business Items</u>

A. Don Fancher and Mike Martin introduced the "Ministry Investment Plan" and directed us to Exhibit C on pages 52-62 of the Business Book. A time was given for questions and

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answers.

- B. Don Fancher introduced the "Process for Dealing with Congregational Disagreements with Annual Conference and / or District Conference Decisions," and directed us to Exhibit E on pages 64 and 65 of the Business Book. Don explained that this is a process and that conclusions are not spelled out. A time was given for questions and answers.
- C. Don Fancher introduced the "Resolution for a Call to Stewardship Education" and directed us to Exhibit D on page 63 of the Business Book. A time was given for questions and answers.
- D. Don Fancher introduced the "Guidance for Responding to the Changing of the Earth's Climate" query, directed us to Exhibit F on page 66 of the Business Book and explained that the query was received from Circle of Peace, Peoria, AZ.
- E. Thelma Keeling introduced the 2011 Ballot and directed us to Exhibit A on pages 44-47 of the Business Book. The procedure for nominations from the floor was explained.

X. <u>Program Committee Report</u>

Russ Matteson, chair of the Program Committee, thanked Karen Clobes and Neil Fancher from Hillcrest for their work and directed us to page 15 of the Business Book for his report. Felton Daniels thanked Sara Haldeman-Scarr for six years of work on the Program Committee.

18 XI. <u>University of La Verne Report</u>

Julia Wheeler spoke about the different colleges that are under the umbrella of University of La Verne, including the colleges of law and education and the satellite locations. Julia explained that a search committee has been formed to replace the retiring president and that a full-time chaplain is being sought. She also spoke about the summer service worker program.

XII. Standing Committee Delegate Report

Lucile Leard directed us to page 12 of the Business Book for her report. Lucile reported that the Standing Committee will be holding hearings in January about two controversial topics.

XIII. <u>Election of Officers</u>

- A. Thelma Keeling presented the 2011 Ballot to the delegates and the floor was opened for additional nominations. A potential nominee had just finished two full terms and was not eligible for reelection. There were no nominations accepted from the floor.
- B. Tom Deal (Modesto) moved and Jeanine Ewert (Modesto) seconded to accept the nominees on the ballot. Approved.
- C. The following people were elected to the PSWD 2011 Board:
 - 1. Jack Storne (Live Oak), Moderator-Elect
 - 2. Richard Hart (Pomona Fellowship), Nominating Committee
 - 3. Brenda Isaacs (Bakersfield), Program Committee
 - 4. District Board of Administration Policy Board:
 - a. Lois Frantz (Empire)
 - b. James Isaacs (Bakersfield)
 - c. Marye Martinez (Modesto)
 - d. Sam Spire (Circle of Peace)
 - e. Reba Herder (La Verne) (SoCA East Representative)
 - f. Don Fancher (South Bay) (2nd Term) (SoCA West Representative)
 - g. Paige Butzlaff (La Verne), Youth and Young Adult Representative
 - h. Christopher Bache (La Verne), Youth and Young Adult Representative
 - i. Nohemi Flores, (Cristo Sion), Youth and Young Adult Representative
 - 5. Chris Hartzell (Bakersfield), Camp La Verne Trustee (2nd Term)
 - 6. Jack W. Meek (La Verne), Brethren Hillcrest Homes Board
 - 7. Michael G. Wolfsen (La Verne), Brethren Hillcrest Homes Board

XIV. Resolution for a Call to Stewardship Education

- A. Karen Walters directed the delegates to page 63 of the Business Book. Time was given for discussion.
- B. Kate Spire (Circle of Peace) explained that the intent of the query is very good as part of the reality of our lives, and that our faith walk should have an impact on the way we handle our money. Kate Spire explained that she has spoken with the author of the paper and was invited to make an amendment to the paper.
- C. Kate Spire (Circle of Peace) moved and Mauricio Iacuelli (Circle of Peace) seconded to amend the title to read "Resolution for a Call to Education on Faith and Finances." The amendment was approved by a raised-hand vote.
- D. A time was given for discussion on the resolution. This comes as a recommendation from the Policy Board. **The resolution was approved as amended.**

XV. Query: Guidance for Responding to the Changing of Earth's Climate

- A. Don Fancher directed the delegates to page 66 of the Business Book. Time was given for discussion. This comes as a recommendation from the Policy Board.
- B. The query "Guidance for Responding to the Changing of Earth's Climate" was approved for consideration by the Annual Conference meeting in 2011 in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

XVI. Ministry Investment Plan

- A. Don Fancher and Mike Martin presented the Ministry Investment Plan and recommended its adoption. This comes as a recommendation from the Policy Board. Discussion was held.
- B. Susan Boyer (La Verne) moved and Jerry Davis (Pomona Fellowship) seconded to increase the 2011 Ministry Investment Plan expenses by \$5000 for University of La Verne Campus Ministry. Approved.
- C. A time was given for discussion of the amended Ministry Investment Plan. This comes as a recommendation from the Policy Board.
- D. The Ministry Investment Plan was approved as amended.

XVII. <u>Process for Dealing with Congregational Disagreements with Annual Conference and / or District Conference Decisions</u>

- A. Don Fancher directed the delegates to page 64 of the Business Book, Exhibit E. This comes as a recommendation from the Policy Board.
- B. Sara Haldeman-Scarr (San Diego) moved and Mary Kay Ogden (La Verne) seconded that the statement be amended by striking out line 18 and all that follows and inserting: "grounded in the Unity Statement and conscious of our theological and cultural diversity, the Pacific Southwest District Conference appoints a five-person study committee to develop a framework for conversation around the areas of tension in a spirit of love and acceptance as we focus on Christ and report to the District Conference 2011."
- C. After much discussion, it was determined that this should be a separate substitute motion. Sara H-S withdrew the amendment.
- D. Sara Haldeman-Scarr (San Diego) moved and Karen Cosner (Modesto) seconded to present a substitute motion that would use the beginning of the original paper, but strike line 18 and everything following and substitute the following: "grounded in the Unity Statement and conscious of our theological and cultural diversity, the Pacific Southwest District Conference appoints a five-person study committee to develop a framework for conversation around the areas of tension in a spirit of love and acceptance as we focus on Christ and report to the District Conference 2011."

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- E. A verbal vote was too close to call. A raised-hand vote was held on the substitute motion.

 The substitute motion passed, replacing the original paper by a vote of 38-28.
 - F. The substitute motion which was just passed was then discussed. A question was asked as to who should appoint the committee. Cady Laycook (South Bay) moved and Doris Dunham (Bakersfield) seconded to amend the motion to read "...the Pacific Southwest District Conference directs the Policy Board to appoint a five-person committee..." The amendment was approved.
 - G. The amended substitute motion was approved.

XVIII. Reports

A. National Youth Conference

Becky Zapata gave a report on National Youth Conference. She thanked the District for the opportunity to be a co-director of the Pacific Southwest District's efforts to facilitate participation in National Youth Conference. One hundred attendees represented our District. Becky challenged everyone to begin planning for the 2014 NYC now and to support youth from other congregations if there are no youth from one's own congregation.

B. Reports From Denominational Agencies

Lowell Flory (Bethany Seminary) and Jay Wittmeyer (Mission & Ministry Board) reported from the Denominational Agencies. A video was shown highlighting the CoB Denominational Agencies.

20 XIX. Moderator's Closing Remarks

Felton Daniels thanked the conference attendees for the opportunity to serve as the Moderator. Felton also thanked Hillcrest Homes for hosting the conference.

23 XX. Passing of the Gavel

Felton Daniels passed the gavel to Karen Walters.

25 XXI. Adjournment

The PSWD 2010 District Conference was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Laura Miller, Clerk

In August 2011, the proof copy of the minutes was examined by the committee: Kate Spire (Circle of Peace), Linda Davis (Church of the Living Savior), and Pat Royer (Modesto).

Introduction

The writer of Ephesians, writing to a collection of churches near Ephesus, acknowledges the challenges of the time and encourages the young churches to embrace their one faith, one hope, and one God. Hear again these familiar words,



I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 4:1 - 6 (NRSV)

Written nearly two thousand years ago, the encouraging words from Ephesians prove helpful as the Pacific Southwest District seeks to strengthen congregational life and extend Christ's message to the world. It is not by accident that the writer stresses the word "one" seven different times in the above passage. After all, seven is a number of perfection and wholeness. Building upon the oneness of faith the writer of Ephesians calls on the church to grow in spiritual depth and numeric participation as it extends the gift of God's grace to others. The church, in this instance, is both local and global. We, as the Pacific Southwest District, are connected to one another as a particular family of faith on the west coast. We are also connected to the wider Church of the Brethren.

In 2011, we are committed to developing leadership within the district while continuing our support for pastoral ministry grants. The following ministry investment plan utilizes the Pacific Southwest District's Mission and Vision Statements and our Core Values. Following each narrative, the investment plan specific to the particular ministry area is presented. The figures for 2010 reflect actual income and expenses. The figures for 2011 reflect the anticipated income and expenses based on the first five months of 2011. The figures for 2012 to 2014 reflect the projected income and expenses for those years.

It is the hope of the Board of Administration that the 2012 ministry investment plan, accompanied by a narrative, will create a living financial document that reflects the district's faith and future ministry together.

Action of the Pacific Southwest District Board of Administration:

The District Board of Administration, meeting at the Hillcrest Retirement Community, La Verne, California, on August 27, 2011, unanimously approved the recommendation for consideration by the Pacific Southwest District Conference on November 12, 2011.

Pacific Southwest District 2012 Ministry Investment Plan

This ministry investment plan communicates how the Pacific Southwest District uses the financial resources entrusted to us by God to do the work we believe we are called to do. A ministry investment plan is a communication tool, not an administrative tool. A ministry investment plan does not provide a line-by-line breakdown of where money goes, although that information is also available. A ministry investment plan tells our story and interprets our mission. It reminds us of what we do, and why we do it.

In 2010, the Board of Administration approved several statements which are intended to help guide the decision making and direction of the Pacific Southwest District. These include:

Unity Statement

PSWD District Conference, 10/13/2007

On this 300th anniversary of the founding of the Church of the Brethren, we remember the words of Jesus:

"Let me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples - when they see the love you have for each other." (John 13: 34, 35; The Message)

Recognizing we are a living peace church, and that God is constantly revealing, we commit to humble ourselves, and to engage in the tension of community necessary for new birth.

Not focusing on our differences, but in the spirit of love and acceptance, we choose to focus on Christ.

We purpose to remain open, as we listen to one another and to the Holy Spirit, working in love to mutually support and encourage our various ministries.

Mission Statement

PSWD District Board, 1/9/2010

To support congregations in their calling to serve, baptize and teach in the name of Jesus Christ.

Vision Statement

To be a visible community of faith supporting and engaging a variety of Christ-centered ministries.

Core Values

Christ-likeness Peacemaking Social Responsibility
Love Simplicity Fiduciary Responsibility
Service Diversity Ecumenism

Ministry Income

The Pacific Southwest District has three sources of income: contribution income, investment income and participation income (essentially in and out).

Contribution Income

Individuals and congregations are given the opportunity to contribute and support the PSWD ministry investment plan. Throughout the year, individuals financially support by purposeful giving of their financial resources. Although such financial gifts can never be assumed, we do anticipate a certain amount of individual giving based on previous years. Several bequests are also received throughout the year. Congregations are given the opportunity to contribute to the ministry investment plan through the yearly congregation outreach planning process.

Contribution Income	2010 Actual	2011 Anticipated	2012 Proposal	2013 Projected	2014 Projected
Individuals	7,292	8,000	8,000	9,000	9,000
Congregations	25,989	24,000	24,500	23,000	23,000
Closed Congregations	205,812	0	0	0	0
Groups	1,000	600	600	600	600
Children's Disaster Services	485	1,100	900	800	800
Other	363	400	400	400	400
Total Contribution Income:	240,941	34,100	34,400	33,800	33,800

Investment Income

The sale of churches has allowed PSWD to be blessed with financial resources unlike any other district in the denomination. However, it is not our desire to continue to sell church property. By utilizing the best financial advice from Brethren Benefit Trust and Merrill Lynch, the District is able to support a variety of ministry needs and projects.

Investment Income	2010 Actual	2011 Anticipated	2012 Proposal	2013 Projected	2014 Projected
Checking/Money Market	25,146	200	200	100	100
Notes Receivable Interest	16,842	24,086	27,040	24,093	21,258
Investment Funds (6%) return	675,179	349,305	325,893	290,758	243,900
Sale of Church Property	25,000	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	1,265	1,500	1,500	1,600	1,600
Total Investment Income:	743,432	375,091	354,633	316,551	266,858

Participation Income

Participation occurs all year long in a variety of ministry settings. At our annual District Conference, congregations minister to one another, delegates conduct the business of the district, and all participants are empowered for the work of ministry. Ongoing regional training in church growth ministry and Brethren History and Polity classes are made available for lay and credentialed ministers. Special events like the Pastor/Spouse Retreat, Ministers Workshop, Preaching Seminar and other ministry events, provide for effective ministry in the local congregation.

Participation Income	2010 Actual	2011 Anticipated	2012 Proposal	2013 Projected	2014 Projected
District Conference	21,302	21,400	20,500	22,000	21,000
Events	8,390	4,005	2,000	2,450	2,450
Side-Doors Ministry	1,650	5,830	680	0	0
Total Participation Income:	31,342	31,235	23,180	24,450	23,450
TOTAL MINISTRY INCOME:	1,015,715	440,426	412,213	374,801	324,108

Ministry Investments

Congregational Development Ministry

Ministry Support Grants and loans provide financial assistance to PSWD congregations in order to carry out the Great Commission and achieve congregational growth. The District has made a commitment toward church growth using the good gifts of the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us. We have a fiduciary responsibility to use our financial resources with intention and accountability.

Congregational Development Ministry	2010 Actual	2011 Anticipated	2012 Proposal	2013 Projected	2014 Projected
Side-Doors Ministry	15,178	6,272	1,568	0	0
Web Site Development	1,922	5,106	5,000	5,000	5,000
Spring Event	7,793	0	0	0	0
Ministry Support Grants (one-time grants empowering congregations to develop new ways of reaching out to their communities)	86,183	395,180	340,405	300,000	300,000
Total Congregational Development Ministry:	111,076	406,558	346,973	305,000	305,000

Pastoral Leadership and Support Ministry

Our current and future pastors and ministerial leaders are our greatest commodity. The PSWD pastoral team serves as our representatives to the community, district, denomination and the world. In turn we expect our ministers and pastors to strive to be faithful servants as they work in and with the world around us. Education for our licensed ministers is a top priority. PSWD is one of the pilot districts to participate in a Spanish speaking training (Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano - SeBAH) certificate program sponsored by Bethany Theological Seminary in cooperation with our denomination and the Mennonites. The Ministry Commission has also provided funds for grants and/or loans for all Bethany Theological Seminary students. Retreats, workshops and professional growth events continue to be an appreciated major focus. PSWD is now known to be a District that invests in the education and professional development of our pastors and ministers.

Pastoral Leadership and Support Ministry	2010 Actual	2011 Anticipated	2012 Proposal	2013 Projected	2014 Projected
Training in Ministry (TRIM)	1,731	5,008	8,200	9,700	9,700
Seminario Biblico Anabautista Hispano (SeBAH)	0	8,900	7,700	8,500	8,500
Bethany Theological Seminary Student Grants/Loans	701	12,000	6,000	8,000	8,000
Pastors Retreat	5,555	8,000	10,000	11,000	11,000
Ministers Workshop	0	12,500	15,000	16,500	16,500
Other Workshops	0	4,500	5,000	5,500	6,000
Professional Growth Subsidy (PSWD Events)	430	3,100	3,300	3,600	4,000
Total Pastoral Leadership and Support Ministry:	8,417	54,008	55,200	62,800	63,700

District Empowering Ministry

The District depends on a wide variety of volunteers who serve on commissions and committees who carry out the mission, vision and core values of PSWD. The Board of Administration coordinates the District ministry investments and oversees the general operations of District ministries. In the 2011 ministry investment plan, the formation of a PSWD District Youth Cabinet reflects our commitment to develop future leadership. District Conference seeks to provide direction and council to all of the PSWD ministry investments.

District Empowering Ministry	2010 Actual	2011 Anticipated	2012 Proposal	2013 Projected	2014 Projected
District Conference	20,701	22,000	25,000	22,000	25,000
Ministry Commission	4,091	1,100	5,800	6,040	6,340
Stewards Commission	184	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Board of Administration and Work Groups	16,022	15,500	15,600	16,000	16,000
Nurturing and Credentialing Committee (NACC)	1,171	5,000	5,000	3,000	3,000
Shalom Team	1,099	2,700	2,000	2,000	2,000
Resource Materials	0	3,700	3,900	4,100	4,100
Inter-Cultural Ministry	(1)	2,000	2,100	2,100	2,100
National Youth Conference 2010 (NYC)	34,423	0	0	0	0
Youth Cabinet Travel	0	5,000	5,500	5,800	5,800
Total District Empowering Ministry:	77,690	60,000	67,900	64,040	67,340

Partnership and Property Ministry

PSWD has a long tradition of continuing financial support of outreach to the wider church and affiliated institutions. Our involvement in the denomination requires an in-kind contribution through staff involvement and leadership in the denomination and ecumenical participation.

Partnership and Property Ministry	2010 Actual	2011 Anticipated	2012 Proposal	2013 Projected	2014 Projected
Denominational Assessment	1,513	1,500	1,700	1,700	1,700
Standing Committee	704	950	1,000	1,000	1,000
University of La Verne	5,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Ecumenical Councils	0	600	1,000	1,000	1,000
Council of District Executives	450	500	500	600	600
Property	149,579	14,250	13,700	3,700	3,700
Total Partnership and Property Ministry:	157,746	22,800	22,900	13,000	13,000

Service Ministry

The vision statement of PSWD requires us to be a visible community of faith supporting and engaging a variety of Christ-centered ministries. Ongoing ministry and service to those in need is the cornerstone of the gospel. We are asked to reach out to those who require our assistance and encouragement.

Service Ministry	2010 Actual	2011 Anticipated	2012 Proposal	2013 Projected	2014 Projected
Disaster Response	3,875	5,800	6,000	6,000	6,000
Children's Disaster Services	375	1,100	1,100	1,200	1,200
Peace and Justice Center	12,000	0	0	0	0
Total Service Ministry:	16,250	6,900	7,100	7,200	7,200

District Operating Ministry

The District staff includes Don Booz, District Executive; Dawna Welch, Youth Advisor; Joe Vecchio, Administrative Assistant; and Brenda Pérez, Secretary. Together, the staff represents a strong team of diverse talents and gifts. The District staff is known throughout the denomination as innovative and creative leaders who faithfully support the Church of the Brethren tradition while setting pace for creative approaches to ministry. In various ways, the staff continues to insure the efficient and proper support of our pastors and congregations.

District Operating Ministry	2010 Actual	2011 Anticipated	2012 Proposal	2013 Projected	2014 Projected
Office Space and Utilities	33,145	35,783	37,462	39,797	41,414
Equipment and Maintenance	17,991	6,500	7,000	7,200	7,400
Supplies/Printing/Publications	13,089	12,500	12,500	12,500	13,700
Postage and Mailing	5,661	5,000	4,000	4,400	4,800
Insurance	10,427	9,854	9,100	9,800	10,600
Audit and Professional Fees	12,623	20,000	28,600	23,600	29,600
Staff Salaries	270,247	184,594	189,460	195,144	200,998
Staff Benefits and Retired Church Workers' Fund	74,283	44,208	42,100	44,990	48,140
Staff Travel/Professional Growth	47,256	50,300	50,400	47,400	47,500
Youth Director	0	14,000	21,000	21,630	22,279
Youth Director Travel	0	10,500	10,500	10,500	10,500
New Life/Publications/ Email Newsletters	3,890	4,900	5,000	5,000	5,000
Miscellaneous/Contingency	(508)	270	4,000	4,000	5,000
Total District Operating Ministry:	488,104	398,409	421,122	425,961	446,931
TOTAL MINISTRY INVESTMENTS:	859,283	948,675	921,195	878,001	903,171

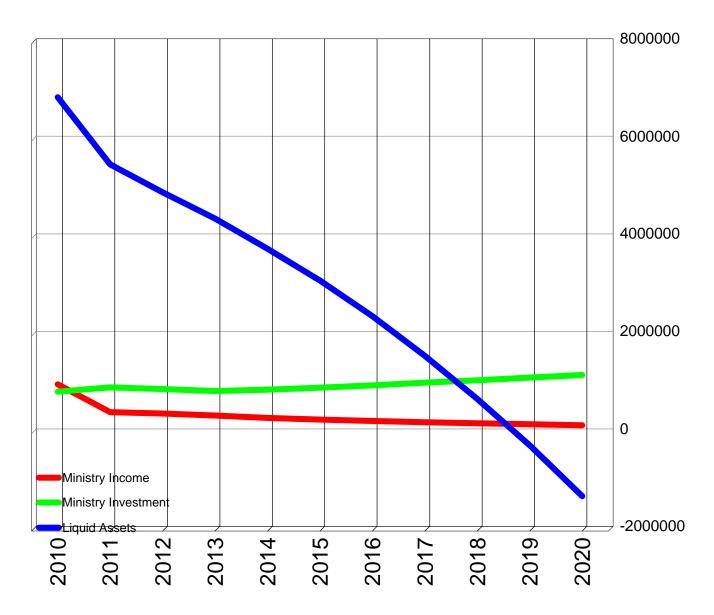
Summary of Ministry Income and Ministry Investments

MINISTRY INCOME	2010 Actual	2011 Anticipated	2012 Proposal	2013 Projected	2014 Projected
Contribution Income (p. 59)	240,941	34,100	34,400	33,800	33,800
Investment Income (p. 59)	743,432	375,091	354,633	316,551	266,858
Participation Income (p. 60)	31,342	31,235	23,180	24,450	23,450
TOTAL MINISTRY INCOME:	1,015,715	440,426	412,213	374,801	324,108

MINISTRY INVESTMENTS	2010 Actual	2011 Anticipated	2012 Proposal	2013 Projected	2014 Projected
Congregational Development Ministry Investments (p. 61)	111,076	406,558	346,973	305,000	305,000
Pastoral Leadership and Support Ministry Investments (p. 62)	8,417	54,008	55,200	62,800	63,700
District Empowering Ministry Investments (p. 63)	77,690	60,000	67,900	64,040	67,340
Partnership and Property Ministry Investments (p. 64)	157,746	22,800	22,900	13,000	13,000
Service Ministry Investments (p. 64)	16,250	6,900	7,100	7,200	7,200
District Operating Ministry Investments (p. 65)	488,104	398,409	421,122	425,961	446,931
TOTAL MINISTRY INVESTMENTS	859,283	948,675	921,195	878,001	903,171

PROJECTED YEARLY INCREASE/DECREASE IN PSWD NET ASSETS	2010 Actual	2011 Anticipated	2012 Proposal	2013 Projected	2014 Projected
	156,432	(508,249)	(508,982)	(503,200)	(579,063)

Projected Decrease in PSWD Liquid Assets



The 2012 ministry investment plan represents the proposed financial commitments of the Pacific Southwest District. The District is committed to meeting the obligations of this ministry investment plan by contributing \$508,249 from investment assets in 2012.

The projected three-year ministry plan reflects the faith and commitment of the Pacific Southwest District. More importantly these commitments articulate the District's mission, vision, and core values for ministry and embody the District's understanding of itself in relation to God's call. However, given the current liquid assets and projected ministry investments (income and expenses), the Pacific Southwest District will ultimately deplete its financial resources if ministry income and ministry expenses remain the same.

Recommendation for Bella Vista Name Change

History and Background

Over the past 20 years, the Bella Vista Church of the Brethren has been known in the surrounding neighborhood as a "drug and alcohol rehab church." Occasionally the parole department has released women and men to the care of the church. In the past, very few people in the neighborhood have attended the church. However, the church is now known as a family oriented congregation with community people beginning to attend the church. The July-August "Accelerate Tutoring Program" had 60 neighborhood elementary and middle school attendees.

At the May 15, 2011 church council meeting, the decision was made to change the name of the Bella Vista Church of the Brethren to "Restoration – Los Angeles."

Rational for Recommendation

The name change will put "space" between the "old community reputation" with a name that the "new neighborhood church members" helped choose. This change will add a "dba" (doing business as) name as an alternate to the church's corporate name "Bella Vista Church of the Brethren" which is registered with the California Secretary of State. The deed and corporate papers will remain the same using "Bella Vista Church of the Brethren." Bank accounts will have the dba added, so that checks can be written to either Bella Vista Church of the Brethren or Restoration LA.

Action of the Bella Vista Church of the Brethren:

The Bella Vista Church Council Meeting on May 15, 2011 voted to pass the name change recommendation to the Pacific Southwest District.

Action of the Pacific Southwest District Board of Administration:

The District Board of Administration, meeting at the Hillcrest Retirement Community, La Verne, California, on August 27, 2011, unanimously approved the recommendation for consideration by the Pacific Southwest District Conference on November 12, 2011.

Recommendation for District Conference Date and Locations

History and Background

Program Committee has been working for the past several years on ways in which to simplify the planning and organization of the Pacific Southwest District Conference. We have intentionally allowed for more time to focus and "reflect the full call to be a place for business, worship, education, and fellowship. We envision District Conference being an event that equips attendees to return to their congregations with both renewed vision and skills for ministry." (Program Committee Vision Statement, 2006)

One part of moving in this direction involved finding a consistent date on which to hold the District Conference, and to look for facilities to host District Conference that could handle much of the work that had been done by volunteers from nearby local congregation(s). This decision was made because most of our congregations do not have the facilities or membership to host a District Conference. However, concerns about travel expenses to locations that are not near major airports have been raised by delegates in the past few years.

The 2009 District Conference approved a recommendation that established the second weekend of November as the date for District Conference. District Conference in 2009 and 2010 were hosted at a hotel and at Hillcrest, respectively, with positive responses to this kind of arrangement by most of the attendees. Hillcrest has been very receptive to hosting us and have been wonderful partners to work with in planning the conference. The District Conference will be hosted at Hillcrest again in 2012.

Current Understanding

Pacific Southwest District Constitution and By-Laws, Article II/F:

"District Conference is held annually in October or November as determined by the District Board of Administration. The location of the meeting is determined by District Conference, alternating in the northern and southern areas of the District when possible."

Rational for Recommendation

The Program Committee has considered several options, and believes that it is best that we move to a rotating location schedule that seeks to utilize hotels, conference facilities, and other locations that are near major airports. We would continue to move the conference throughout the District while recognizing the location of the membership within the District, and where the travel centerpoint is located.

Recommendation

For the above reasons we recommend that the date and location for District Conference schedule be the following:

Pacific Southwest District Conference will be held annually on the weekend including the second Saturday of November.

The location of the District Conference as determined by the Program Committee and will, when possible, follow a rotating schedule in the district by meeting:

2 years at a site in the Los Angeles/Southern California area;

1 year at a site in the Phoenix, Arizona area;

2 years at a site in the Los Angeles/Southern California area;

1 year at a site in the Sacramento/Northern California area.

Action of the Pacific Southwest District Board of Administration:

The District Board of Administration, meeting at the Hillcrest Retirement Community, La Verne, California, on August 27, 2011, unanimously approved the recommendation for consideration by the Pacific Southwest District Conference on November 12, 2011.

Query: Annual Conference Elections

- 2 Whereas: Brethren have always strived to be a people guided by Romans 12: 2: "Do not be conformed to
- this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will
- of God what is good and acceptable and perfect." As such, we avoid the political machinations and
- 5 maneuvering of our present culture;

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- 6 Whereas: The Church of the Brethren structures itself as congregationally-based denomination with
- 7 representative leadership carefully and prayerfully called to give voice to members, congregations,
- 8 districts and our denomination as a whole;
- 9 Whereas: Our highest decision-making body, Annual Conference, has had the wisdom to state that gender
- equality will be considered in all elections for denominational leadership [Goals for Annual Conference
- Elections and Appointments (Adopted by the 1979 Annual Conference)] "to provide for fair and
- equitable participation by all of our people men, women, various ages, racial and ethnic minorities,
- rural and urban segments of our church";
- Whereas: Even with this wise guidance, successful attempts to bring nominations from the floor have repeatedly thwarted the election of qualified female candidates;
- Whereas: We affirm with the Apostle Paul that "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female; for all of [us] are one in Christ Jesus.";
- 18 Whereas: Our voting record has shown that men are more likely to be elected than women for
- denominational offices, such that, over the last thirty years, women have been elected as Moderator Elect
- only six times and are usually elected when running against another woman;
- 21 Whereas: The Church of the Brethren has a defined process as stated in the conference rules, published
- yearly in the conference booklet, the functions of the delegate body are to elect the officers of the Annual
- 23 Conference, elect or approve members of church agency boards and elect the members of special
- committees and commissions authorized by the church. These elections are made from nominations
- presented to the delegate body by the Standing Committee;
- 26 Whereas: The 2011 Report on the Process of Calling Denominational Leadership describes Standing
- 27 Committee's selection of potential leaders for the Annual Conference ballot as careful and prayerful;
- 28 **Therefore:** we, the members of the La Verne Church of the Brethren, gathered in Church Council meeting
- on August 21, 2011 unanimously ask the Annual Conference through the Pacific Southwest District:
- 30 How will Annual Conference ensure that our ballot preparation and election process support and honor
- gender equality in all elections?

Eric Bishop, Moderator Mary Kay Ogden, Church Board Chairperson Edwin Cahill, Church Clerk

Action of the Pacific Southwest District Board of Administration:

The District Board of Administration, meeting at the Hillcrest Retirement Community, La Verne, California, on August 27, 2011, unanimously approved the query for consideration by the Pacific Southwest District Conference on November 12, 2011.

Pacific Southwest District – Church of the Brethren Locations / Dates / Moderators of District Conferences

1964	La Verne	August 28-30	R. Truman Northup
1965	Modesto	October 15-17	Marvin Belcher
1966	Forest Home	October 14-16	Leland A. Nelson
1967	Fresno	October 13-15	Lowell K. Brubaker
1968	Long Beach	October 11-13	R. Truman Northup
	Bakersfield		
1970	Phoenix First	October 9-11	Jerry Davis
	Modesto		
1972	La Verne	October 13-15	Duane Wyles
	Fresno		
1974	Pasadena	October 11-13	John W. Hunter
1975	Empire	October 10-12	Ida S. Howell
	Long Beach		
	McFarland		
	University of La Verne		
	Modesto		
	Phoenix First		
	Fresno		
	Pomona Fellowship		•
	Empire		
	South Bay		
	McFarland		
	Imperial Heights		
	Prince of Peace, Sacramento		
	Long Beach		
	Modesto		
	Phoenix First		
	Glendale (CA)		
	Waterford		
	La Verne		
	Fresno		•
	County of San Diego		
	Modesto		
	Pomona Fellowship		
	South Bay / Imperial Heights		
	Phoenix First		
	Sacramento / Live Oak		
	Bakersfield		
	La Verne		
	Community Brethren, Fresno		
2003	Community Breamon, 1 Tesno	September 19 21 · · · · · · · · ·	Myrna Wheeler, Acting
2004	Pomona	October 29-31	
	Modesto		
	Papago Buttes		
2007	La Verne	October 12-14	Mary Kay Orden
	Community Brethren, Fresno		
	Sacramento		
	Hillcrest, La Verne		
	Hillcrest, La Verne		
	Hillcrest, La Verne		
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Pacific Southwest District – Church of the Brethren

PSWD Board of Administration Chairs District Executive Ministers

	Board Chair	Executive Minister
1964 – 1965	Jacob T. Dick	Glen H. Bowlby
1966 – 1967	Arthur M. Baldwin	Glen H. Bowlby
1968	Herbert W. Hogan	Glen H. Bowlby
1969 – 1971	Herbert W. Hogan	R. Truman Northup
1972 – 1973	Forrest V. Groff	R. Truman Northup
1974 – 1977	J. Calvin Keeling	R. Truman Northup
1978 – 1981	W. Donald Clague	R. Truman Northup
1982 – 1983	S. Loren Bowman	R. Truman Northup
1984 – 1985	Marlin Heckman	Irven & Pattie Stern
1986 – 1989	James Walters	Irven & Pattie Stern
1990	Janice Fralin	Irven & Pattie Stern
1991	Roger Richer	Irven & Pattie Stern
1992	Todd Hammond	Irven & Pattie Stern
1993	Gregg Moser	Irven & Pattie Stern
1994	R. Jan Thompson	Glen Stanford (interim)
1995	R. Jan Thompson	Gene Hipskind
1996	Tom Bryant	Gene Hipskind
1997 – 1999	Jonathan Shively	Gene Hipskind
$2000 - 2001 \dots$	Ernest Snyder	Gene Hipskind
2002	Sara Haldeman-Scarr	Gene Hipskind
		Richard Hart (interim)
2003	Sara Haldeman-Scarr	Richard Hart (interim)
		Dean Kieffaber (interim)
		Bryan Boyer
$2004 - 2006 \ldots$	Paul Lovelace	Bryan Boyer
2007	Jim Davis	Bryan Boyer
2008	Bill Johnson	
		Richard Hart (interim)
		Mary Kay Ogden (interim)
		Randy Yoder (interim)
		Don Booz (December)
2009	Myrna Wheeler (through July)	Don Booz
	Thomas Dowdy (began in August)	
2010	Thomas Dowdy (through January 9)	Don Booz
	Don Fancher (began January 9)	Don Booz
2011	Don Fancher	Don Booz

Activity Locations

- -7- Registration Meeting House Lobby
- -8- Exhibits Meeting House
- -9- Worship & Business Meeting House
- -6- Relaxation / Visiting Café & Fireside Lounge
- -12- Prayer Quiet Room
- -1- Meditative Walk Labyrinth

Meal Locations

- -16- <u>Conference Meals</u> Maury Smeltzer Lounge (*pre-paid with Registration*)
- -15- Mountain View Dining Room 7:30-9:00am / 11:00-1:00pm / 5:00-7:00pm (additional cost)
- -6- Café 11:00am-2:00pm on Friday & Saturday (additional cost)(closed Sunday)

Workshop Locations

- -4- Pinecrest Upstairs Multi-Purpose Room
- -5- Aquatic / Fitness Center
- -10- Galen Walker Board Room
- -11- Chapel
- -13- Maple Court Upstairs Activity Room
- -17- Birch Court Activity Room
- -18- Mountain View Conference Room

Age Group Activity Locations

- -14- Child Care Private Dining Room
- -3- K-5th Pinecrest Downstairs Multi-Purpose Room
- -2- Jr High & Youth Resident's Service Center Activity Room



No Parking at green marked curbs and spaces (for residents and loading)

Locations: West → East / Left → Right

- -1- Labyrinth Meditative Walk
- -2- Resident's Service Center Activity Room Jr High & Youth
- -3- Pinecrest Downstairs Multi-Purpose Room K-5th
- -4- Pinecrest Upstairs Multi-Purpose Room Workshops
- -5- Aquatic / Fitness Center Workshops
- -6- Café & Fireside Lounge Relaxation / Visiting
- -7- Meeting House Lobby Registration
- -8- Meeting House Exhibits
- -9- Meeting House Worship & Business
- -10- Galen Walker Board Room Workshops
- -11- Chapel Workshops
- -12- Quiet Room Prayer
- -13- Maple Court Upstairs Activity Room Workshops
- -14- Private Dining Room Child Care
- -15- Mountain View Dining Room
- -16- Maury Smeltzer Lounge Conference Meals
- -17- Birch Court Activity Room Workshops
- -18- Mountain View Conference Room Workshops



