

# Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren

Business Book



50<sup>th</sup> Annual District Conference  
November 8-10, 2013

*Held at:*

**The Franciscan Renewal Center**  
5802 E Lincoln Drive  
Scottsdale, AZ 85253



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# Pacific Southwest District Church of the Brethren

## 2013 Annual Meeting Schedule & Agenda

November 8-10, 2013

All events are at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale, Arizona

### Welcome brothers and sisters to the 2013 Pacific Southwest District Conference Church of the Brethren

Welcome to District Conference... to Phoenix, the Valley of the Sun and the Franciscan Renewal Center. This is the 50<sup>th</sup> District Conference of the Brethren here in the Pacific Southwest District marking our long and vital history in the West. Our meeting comes at a time of challenge to the Brethren and indeed to almost all Christian denominations, but also at a time when a variety of bright sparks show hope in many directions. Let us join in thinking, discussion and prayer as we take up the work of our faith in the West and beyond. We take this opportunity to celebrate our longevity as a church, while joining as sisters and brothers to chart our journey into the future as a faith with roots and a faith with wings.



Jim LeFever  
Moderator

### Thursday, November 7, (All Ministers Pre-Conference Educational Event only)

6:00	<b>Dinner</b>	Dinning Room
7:00	History and Polity, Session 1	Guadalupe room

### Friday, November 8, (Registration, 10:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m., closed during lunch and worship)

9:00am	<i>continue</i> History and Polity, Session 2	Guadalupe room
10:30-11:30	Registration & Information Table open	Fr. Owen room
12:00 - 2:00	<b>Women's Fellowship Luncheon &amp; Meeting</b> Program on the conference theme	Meal - Dining Room Program - Br. Anthony room
1:00	<i>continue</i> History and Polity, Session 3	Guadalupe room
1:00 – 7:00	Registration Table Open	Fr. Owen room
6:00pm	<b>Dinner</b>	Dining Room

6:45pm	<b>Gathering Music</b>	Church
7:00	<b>Opening Worship</b> – Speaker: Moderator Jim LeFever	Church
8:00-8:30	Registration Table open	Fr. Owen room
8:00	Fellowship Time & Ice Cream Social Meet Jeff Carter, President, Bethany Theological Seminary	Br. Anthony room & Palm Court
9:30	Candlelight Labyrinth Walk: Pastor John Jackson “English & Spanish” Praying the Scriptures /Lectio Divina: Pastor Erin Matteson & Pastor Becky Zapata	Labyrinth Meditation Chapel

**Saturday, November 9, (Registration, 7:45 am – 12:30pm)**

7:00am	Sunrise Labyrinth Walk: Pastor Erin Matteson “English & Spanish” Praying the Scriptures /Lectio Divina: Pastor Sara Haldeman-Scarr & Licensed Minister Nohemi Flores	Labyrinth Meditation Chapel
7:30	Breakfast	Dining Room
7:45-9:15	Registration Table open	Fr. Owen room
8:30	Gathering Song	Church
8:45 – 10:15 <b>Business Session #1</b>	Call to order, greetings, welcome, prayer, roll call, seating of delegates, delegate dedication (p.7), and agenda approval Approve prior District Conference Minutes (Exhibit A: <a href="#">39-42</a> ) District Executive Report and Introductions of guests and youth cabinet (p.11-12) District Board Report (p.18-25) Video Introduction to the 2013 – 2014 Ballot (Exhibit B: <a href="#">43-49</a> )	Church
10:15–10:45	Insight Session #1	<i>Please attend the session you signed up for during registration</i>
10:45-12:00 <b>Business Session #2</b>	New Business: Ministry Investment Plan (p.51-60)	Church
11:30	Registration & Information Table Opens	
12:00-1:00	Lunch & Fellowship	Dinning Room
12:30	Registration & Information Table: <u>Closes for the rest of conference</u>	
1:00 – 3:30 <b>Business Session #3</b>	Vote on the 2013 – 2014 Ballot (Exhibit B: <a href="#">43-49</a> ) Reports: Program Committee Report (p.17) Standing Committee Report (p.16) Institutions with Brethren Beginnings (p.26-27) Annual Conference Agencies Report (p.28-36)	Church
	Adjournment	
3:45 – 4:45	Insight Session #2	<i>Please attend the session you signed up for during registration</i>
5:00 – 6:00	Insight Session #3	<i>Please attend the session you signed up for during registration</i>

6:00	Fellowship Dinner	Dining Room
7:15	<b>Gathering Music</b>	Church
7:30	<b>Worship</b> – A variety of persons from the district will share in leadership as we celebrate the ministries we share in as congregations in our district.	Church

### Sunday, November 10 (No registration)

7:00	Board Re-organization	Br. Anthony Room
7:30	Breakfast	Dining Room
9:45	<b>Gathering Music</b>	<b>Altar Ramada (outside)</b>
10:00 – 11:30	<b>Worship</b> Speaker: Jeff Carter, President, Bethany Theological Seminary <b>Consecration of Licensed Ministers</b> <b>Recognition of ordination anniversaries</b> <b>Installation of Leadership for 2014</b>	<b>Altar Ramada (outside)</b>
11:30	Lunch	Dining Room



Franciscan Renewal Center photo by peterjordanphoto.com



## Conference Theme: “A Church with Roots, A Church with Wings”

Perhaps never destined to be a large or powerful church, the Brethren nonetheless possess a unique history, witnessed with the lives of its members, that has made it relevant beyond its size. Furthermore, this historic active witness is especially relevant to our time. A time to which voices witnessing for peace, simplicity and togetherness are especially needed.

It seems in this time that the Brethren Church like many other churches is losing its grip on its message and is therefore faced with the real danger of simply drifting off into irrelevance.

If we are to continue to be relevant, indeed if we are to survive as a denomination, we must reclaim the conviction of our witness. We are called to be part of the ongoing struggle to do good in the face of apathy and injustice and all too often in the face of hostility.

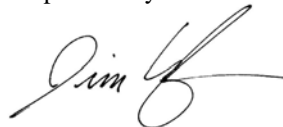
In Germany, a prayerful, spiritual people trying to lead simple, faithful lives stood boldly in the presence of hostile church and civil authorities. The same peaceful witness has been maintained against wars and conflicts here in the United States. Further, we have powerfully witnessed to the value of a simple, pious faith, in the face of excess wealth, greed and corruption.

Our resolve has been tested in the turmoil of the late twentieth century. In the face of depression, despotism, hot and cold war, the nuclear arms race, the struggle for civil rights, and against nationalism and poverty, the Brethren have repeatedly borne witness to

God’s call for peace, simplicity and human justice. We have done this with our hands, bodies and our labor, working alone, as churches, and in programs like Brethren Volunteer Service, Heifer Project and Brethren Disaster Relief services.

This is not a time to be timid. Let us embrace our history of passionate witness, agreeing to do so prayerfully, optimistically, passionately. It is in the very essence of the priesthood of all believers that there will be discussion and occasional disagreement about the nature of God’s calling. Our challenge is to support each other in witness, simply, in Christian love, accepting our different visions but remembering each day to recognize the individual faith in that witness. On this, our church depends.

We can, and must be... The Brethren a church passionate about Christ’s message of peace, love and redemption for a world mired in sin. It’s our message to carry to the world. ...and by so doing, we will continue to be the light on the hill, and we will without a doubt be peculiarly relevant Church.



Jim LeFever  
Moderator 2012-2013

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### Logo Interpretation

Both the title and the logo reference our long and vital heritage of Christian faith, thought and witness symbolized as the roots of our faith, and our determination to build a faith and a church that will serve an important witness long into the future, symbolized by the arising dove. The small, simple church at the center represents our historic “plainness” and simplicity as well as our determination to have an impact beyond the small size of our denomination.

The title of this year’s conference is in truth a paraphrase of an old quote describing the important inheritance parents and societies can leave their children. The full quote reads: “There are two lasting bequests we can give our children. One is roots. The other is wings.”

The most current citation (and so the one most known) is Hodding Carter Jr. however; he attributes it to the Reverend Henry Ward Beecher (a Presbyterian minister and brother of Harriet Beecher Stowe). He was also a noted abolitionist (supporter of John Brown) who also advocated for women’s suffrage, temperance, and evolution. He believed that Christianity should adapt itself to the changing culture of the times.

In adapting this paraphrase of Reverend Beecher’s quote, I neither approve nor reject his views as listed above. I simply hope to reflect the importance he gives to a solid cultural rootedness as the basis of a faith as well as his assertion that the ability to move boldly and freely into the future are equally important. In other words, we stand firmly on the rock of our faith while looking forward boldly and unafraid.





# Delegates' Dedication Litany

November 9, 2013

Moderator: Brethren in Christ, you have been called by your congregations to serve as delegates at this 49th District Conference of the Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren. It is an honor to serve in this position of trust, one of responsibility and dedication. Do you accept this 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 individual congregations we will share information on what has been discussed and decided at this conference. We will be positive and affirm the decisions that were made. We will support the District with our prayers and actions, knowing that the Spirit of God is with us and in us as we live as brothers and sisters, as Brethren in Christ.**



## **Pacific Southwest District – Church of the Brethren – 2013**

### **Officers of the District Conference**

Moderator.....	Jim LeFever, Glendale
Moderator-Elect.....	Erin Matteson, Modesto
Clerk.....	Karen Cosner, Modesto
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**

- A. Presentation of the motion:  
“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. 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 Classified and in Ascending Order of Precedence**

**A. Privileged and Incidental Motions:** motions that take precedence over any pending question although 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).

**B. Subsidiary Motions:** motions that are applied to other motions for the purpose of most appropriately disposing of them.

1. **LAY ON THE TABLE – TAKE FROM THE TABLE** (second, not debatable, not 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).

a. “I move to amend the motion by striking out \_\_\_\_\_.”

b. “I move to amend the motion by inserting \_\_\_\_\_ between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.”

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. Principal Motion:** a motion made to bring before the Conference, for its consideration, any particular subject.

**D. Main Motion:** (second, debatable, amendable, simple majority).

Object: 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, NRSV*

This will be my last report to the Pacific Southwest District Conference. Over the past five years, I have appreciated the leadership provided by our pastors and lay people. Our congregations are blessed to have a variety of skilled pastors and volunteer leaders who help sustain the ministry of the local church and district. On numerous occasions I have been astounded by the time and energy people give to one project or another with the congregation, district and denomination. Many people simply do the work of the church without recognition or appreciation for the endless hours "behind the scenes." As one person told me, "If we don't do it, who will?" I will miss my relationships with numerous brothers and sisters who have helped to make my job a little less stressful and far more enjoyable than many of my colleagues' experience.

The nature of my involvement with pastors and congregations has varied over the years. As my schedule allowed, I attended special events such as anniversary celebrations, ordination services or licensing services as well as installation services. I have been intentional about pastoral placement and meeting with search committees. Meetings, coaching, telephone conversations and e-mails consumed the majority of my time. Another major drain on my energy has been the legal process with the Central Evangelical Korean Church now in the appeal process. I was not prepared for the impact this situation has placed on my emotional, physical and spiritual life.

I have received numerous blessings from pastors and congregations over the many years of ministry in the Church of the Brethren. I have been extremely honored to work with some very fine administrative assistants with Joe Vecchio at the top of the list. Joe is a wealth of information and a tireless worker for the district. He is a dedicated employee who often goes beyond what is expected from his position. The assistance of Brenda Perez, secretary, and Ralph Carlton, bookkeeper, have been an additional blessing. I have been most pleased with the leadership of Dawna Welch, Youth Advisor, over the last couple of years. Dawna has injected new energy into the district youth program. In many ways, I could not have accomplished what I did

without the support, counsel and work habits from these fine people of integrity and professionalism. I also want to thank the support of Larry Woodruff, treasurer, and Don Fancher, Board of Administration chairperson, for their unrecognized volunteer time to the district. Other members of the Board of Administration have worked hard to improve the ministry of the Pacific Southwest District and we are a stronger and more dynamic place to live and worship as a result of their volunteer efforts.

My ministry as your District Executive was never easy and it was seldom boring. I am blessed to be married to Cindy because without her support and understanding of my travel and meeting demands, I would have resigned years ago. We are looking forward to our retirement years and the transition to the next chapter of our life. I will keep the Pacific Southwest District in my prayers as you move forward from here. May God watch over all of us as we "Continue the Work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together."

*Don Booz*

District Executive Minister



Don Booz

photo from Brethren.org

## District Youth Advisor Report

The youth of the PSWD are engaged and enthusiastic for the opportunities to “be the church” together. The evidence for this statement could be witnessed in their gathering at District Conference 2012 and the Spring 2013 Youth Rally in Modesto, Empire, and Waterford. Two dozen youth were in attendance at each event, and both events had the feel of a family reunion! I look forward to working with the 2013/2014 Youth Cabinet to plan more opportunities for the youth of this district.

Four youth have been called to serve on the 2013/2014 Youth Cabinet. Their names and congregations are:

- ! Rayna Harrison - La Verne
- ! Jake Hoover - La Verne
- ! Leilah Floyd - Glendale
- ! Mollie Montgomery - Bakersfield

We held our first planning meeting/retreat in September at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale, Arizona. During our time together we

planned activities for Youth at District Conference, planned opportunities for bible study, discussed ways to promote National Youth Conference 2014 and worshiped with Papago Buttes Church of the Brethren.

Youth attending the 2013 District Conference can expect another great year of fellowship and fun. Plus, unique opportunities for outdoor worship by the camp fire and candle lit walking prayer in the labyrinth! Housing arrangements have been made for Senior High Youth at the Papago Buttes Church of the Brethren but all other activities and meals will include Junior High Youth.

The 2013/2014 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.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dawna Welch

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## Recognition of Ministers' Ordination Anniversaries

### 70 Years

Paul S. Hersch

### 55 Years

Robert T. Neher  
Galen R. Snell

### 45 Years

Gene F. Hipskind

### 65 Years

Robert E. Keim

### 50 Years

Thomas Deal  
Glenn R. Stanford  
Gene E. Wenger

### 35 Years

David Radcliff

### 60 Years

James E. Daughtry

### 30 Years

Catherine L. Laycook

—  
**Representing 565 years  
of service.**  
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## Deceased Ministers

Ralph B. Martin 9/3/2012  
James O. McAvoy 5/20/2013

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# Nominating Committee Report

## Committee Members:

Erin Matteson, Chair & Moderator-Elect  
Richard Hart  
John Price  
Karen Walters

### *Ex-Officio Members with vote:*

Clerk, Karen Cosner  
Moderator, Jim LeFever  
Board Chair, Don Fancher

### *Ex-Officio Member without vote:*

District Executive: Don Booz

*"And whatever you do, in word or deed,  
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus"...  
- Ephesians 3: 17a*

It has been a privilege to chair the nominating committee this past year. This group grounded itself in prayer and took the task of calling out the best leadership possible to serve our district well seriously. Part of our work meant intentionally seeking out diversity in a number of different ways, working at good representation from across the

district, across generations and gender, across cultures and ethnicities, and more. With thanksgiving I tell you that this group, working on your behalf, had no interest in "filling seats", but rather asked "who can bring something of value for the district to the table at this time, for the glory of God, and our neighbors good"? As we worked at that discernment, the good news is that we have a short list of additional names we can pass on for consideration in the future. I want to thank the committee for their commitment to the task, and those who answered the call for their willingness to serve Christ and the church in this way at this time in their lives. The prayers of the district will be with you as you begin your service. Finally, special thanks to Richard Hart for his years of service as he finishes his term. Please take the time to thank Richard, and all those finishing up service to the district at the end of this year. Their time and efforts really are a gift to all of us in the PSWD.

Respectfully submitted

Erin Matteson, Chairperson



2012 Board of Administration display at District Conference

## Nominations from the Floor at District Conference

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am willing to allow my name to be placed on the year \_\_\_\_\_ ballot as a nominee for the following position of service: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by: 1 <sup>st</sup> _____ 2 <sup>nd</sup> _____
--

**Personal Information:** *(make enough copies to be distributed to the delegates, about 100)*

Name:	Age (optional):
Congregation:	
Vocation:	
Church Experience:	
Vision Statement:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

## Suggestions for the Next District Conference Ballot

Dear Nominating Committee, for District Conference Ballot:		
I, _____, suggest that you consider: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small; margin-top: -10px;"> <span>your name</span> <span>your telephone</span> </div>		
Name:	Email:	
Church:	Tele:	
Position: <input type="checkbox"/> Moderator Elect <input type="checkbox"/> Nominating Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Program Committee <input type="checkbox"/> District Board <input type="checkbox"/> Hillcrest Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Camp La Verne Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Clerk <input type="checkbox"/> General Board, Elgin <input type="checkbox"/> District Board Youth / Young Adult		

Dear Nominating Committee, for District Conference Ballot:		
I, _____, suggest that you consider: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small; margin-top: -10px;"> <span>your name</span> <span>your telephone</span> </div>		
Name:	Email:	
Church:	Tele:	
Position: <input type="checkbox"/> Moderator Elect <input type="checkbox"/> Nominating Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Program Committee <input type="checkbox"/> District Board <input type="checkbox"/> Hillcrest Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Camp La Verne Nominee <input type="checkbox"/> Clerk <input type="checkbox"/> General Board, Elgin <input type="checkbox"/> District Board Youth / Young Adult		

## Suggestions for Board Appointments

Dear District Board of Administration, when you make Board Appointments this coming year,	
I, _____, suggest that you consider: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small; margin-top: -10px;"> <span>your name</span> <span>your telephone</span> </div>	
Name:	Email:
Church:	Tele:
Their skills and areas of expertise:	

Dear District Board of Administration, when you make Board Appointments this coming year,	
I, _____, suggest that you consider: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small; margin-top: -10px;"> <span>your name</span> <span>your telephone</span> </div>	
Name:	Email:
Church:	Tele:
Their skills and areas of expertise:	

# Standing Committee Delegate Report

Marlin L. Heckman

The Standing Committee of the 2013 Church of the Brethren Annual Conference began its meetings on June 26 in Charlotte, North Carolina to worship, share and review the business of the Annual Conference. Delegates were present from all twenty-three districts.

One of the parts of the Standing Committee agenda is a sharing time during which district delegates give a report of activity and concerns of the various districts of the church. In the sharing time I expressed appreciation for the stipend being offered to each church delegate from west of the Mississippi River to help with the expense of attending a conference in the East.

I then express the sadness felt by those of us in the Pacific West about the decision of last year's delegate body in regard to the rotation of future Annual Conferences. It is expected that there will not be any future conferences held in the West. A summary was presented of the history of Annual Conference in what was once known as the Pacific Region of the Church of the Brethren.

In reviewing the minutes of Annual Conference it was discovered that beginning in 1876, and every year for thirty years, there was a call presented to have an Annual Conference in California. Finally, in 1906, an annual conference was scheduled for Los Angeles for 1907. Between 1907 and 2009 Annual Conference was held in the Pacific Region eighteen times. The nine conferences in California/Arizona were: 1907 Los Angeles; 1928 & 1941 La Verne; 1951 San Jose; 1961 & 1996 Long Beach; 1973 Fresno; 1985 Phoenix; and 2009 San Diego. Conference was held three times each in Oregon and Washington, two times in Idaho and in 1923 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. We are glad conference was held in the West eighteen times in 102 years but we are sad that it may not ever happen again.

The Standing Committee sessions this year were held around tables for six or seven, as was the case last year and this year for the delegate body. As we get used to this process it is flowing better and more persons have an opportunity to share their thoughts with others without everyone feeling the need to be at a microphone.

An item of business relating to our PSWD concern for opportunities for involvement in the

wider church was the Query on More Equitable Representation on the Mission and Ministry Board. The answer presented by the Mission and Ministry Board in response to the query did not receive the needed two-thirds vote so it was returned to the Board for further work. The impact of the proposal on representation by smaller districts (mostly West of the Mississippi) was recognized and we received support from many in the East.

The first reading of Guidelines for Implementation of the Congregational Ethics Paper was made and the final report will be presented for adoption in 2014.

The committee dealing with the query on the Changing of Earth's Climate (query from PSWD) reported back, asking for an additional year for study.

There were some concerns expressed by Standing Committee on the Revision to Ministerial Leadership Polity and it was returned to the Board for presentation to next year's conference.

The Standing Committee and delegate body response to the Query on Biblical Authority was "that the 1979 Annual Conference statement on 'Biblical Inspiration and Authority' is still relevant and represents the position of the denomination today. We encourage its on-going study in personal and corporate settings."

Recognition of the new Church of the Brethren in Spain (Iglesia de los Hermanos) was approved with enthusiasm.

A resolution against Drone Warfare was adopted.

This year's Annual Conference had a different tone than the previous two years. The moderator worked to be sure everyone felt valued and that all points of view had an opportunity to be heard.

The concert by the La Verne Church of the Brethren Sanctuary Choir after the worship on Saturday evening was much appreciated. The choir had been on a tour of Pennsylvania and Virginia prior to Annual Conference.

Nancy Sollenberger Heishman, of Tipp City, OH, is next year's moderator.

David Steele, of Martinsburg, Pennsylvania, is moderator elect. (David was a pastor in Bakersfield at an earlier time.)

## District Conference Program Committee Report

### Committee Members:

Jim LeFever, Moderator, Chair  
Erin Matteson, Moderator-Elect and  
Worship Sub-Committee Chair  
Brenda Isaacs (Bakersfield)  
Berkley Davis (Pomona Fellowship)  
(until May 2013)

Deb Merrifield-Carothers (Circle of Peace, AZ)  
Tom Hostetler (La Verne)  
Kirsten Storne-Piazza (Live Oak)

### Ex-Officio Members of the Committee:

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

### On-Site Coordinators:

Cathy Iacueli & Deb Merrifield-Carothers

In 2012, 185 brothers and sisters met together for the 49th Pacific Southwest District Conference at the facilities of Hillcrest Homes in La Verne, California. We gathered under the theme “**P**eople **S**erving **W**ith **D**evotion” in meetings, insight sessions, shared meals and a myriad of random meetings in the corridors, beautiful grounds and the SERRV store to consider the Church's business, discuss plans and progress for the Church, and to once again re-establish the network of personal connections that make this such a unique district.

The 2012 Moderator was Jack Storne, from the Live Oak Church, who also stepped forward to assume the chairmanship of the Program Committee when circumstances unrelated to the committee's work necessitated Chair Annette Martin's resignation. We thank both Annette and Jack for their efforts on behalf of another successful conference. We also wish to recognize the invaluable contributions of District Executive Don Booz, and the District staff, Joe Vecchio, Brenda Perez and Dawna Welch.

The 2012 business included elections, the Ministry Investment plan, Resolutions on Church Planting and Revitalization and two changes to the By-Laws. Allowing time for open discussion, the conference's business was handled smoothly and expeditiously. The various business items to be considered were presented and freely discussed in insight sessions prior to bringing each to the floor. This system of presentation and discussion is widely credited with the smooth process of consideration and approval in the general meeting.

The post conference evaluation, while not without positive criticism, revealed considerable satisfaction for both the quality and outcome of the conference

and once again reflected satisfaction with Hillcrest as a host site.

Of special note looking forward to the 2013 conference was the By-law change approved which assigns the Chairmanship of the Program Committee to the incoming Moderator. The change was envisioned as placing primary responsibility for the organization of the conference on the Moderator, presumably the person most interested in the conference being a success. In this, the change has been at least partially successful. Once again, the support of the District staff as well as the hard work and good intentions of the remainder of the committee are to be recognized and appreciated.

This year, after a too long absence, the District Conference returns to Arizona being held this time at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale. To this end, the Program Committee has worked with the District Executive, the Executive Board and the Policy Board to insure that the conference will be a success. We especially wish to thank the D.E. and the Board for proposing and approving travel subsidies for those brothers and sisters who must travel significant distances. We hope this decision will contribute to the success of the Conference and that we will be able to carry similar assistance programs to future years.

The 2013 Conference will be the 50<sup>th</sup> Pacific Southwest District Conference and we will use this event along with the theme “A Church with Roots - A Church with Wings” to examine the strong and relevant traditions of the Church of the Brethren that have brought us to this time and place and to further consider how those same traditions can carry us into the future as a bold, dynamic, and meaningful faith.

Friday night's service will seek to center the arriving delegates and members into consideration of the Church's history. On Saturday, the service will focus on the voices, concerns and aspirations of today's PSWD and on Sunday, the message will be brought by Jeff Carter, incoming President of Bethany Theological Seminary and will consider the future of the denomination.

Please plan to join your brothers and sisters in Arizona. Bring your ideas, concerns and hopes, and be ready to listen to those of all assembled.

The Program Committee has enjoyed the challenge and process of bringing the conference into being and hope that it will be a meaningful opportunity to shape the future of the PSWD, the Denomination, and the faith.

Jim LeFever, Chair  
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: 2015 Karen Cosner (Modesto)

2015	Stephanie Acker (Pasadena)	
x2013	Mike Boeger (Live Oak)	
2013	Robert Burke (Bakersfield)	Youth / Young Adult
#2013	Paige Butzlaff (La Verne)	Youth / Young Adult
2015	Brenda Dickson (South Bay)	
2014	Richard Downhour (Papago Buttes)	
2014	Phyllis Eller (Pomona Fellowship)	
2013	Lois Frantz (Empire)	
#2015	John Gingrich (La Verne)	
2013	Sarah Henrichs (Circle of Peace)	Youth / Young Adult
#2015	Reba Herder (La Verne)	Section Rep. S.CA-E
2012	Mauricio Iacueli (Circle of Peace)	Section Rep. AZ
2013	James Isaacs (Bakersfield)	
#2014	John Jackson (Glendale)	Section Rep. S.CA-W
#2014	Norman Johnson (Waterford)	Section Rep. N.CA
2015	Karen Pierson (Living Savior)	Section Rep. Cen.CA
#2014	Elizabeth Rowan (Pasadena)	
2014	Mike Wolfson (La Verne)	(until November 2013)

### ***Ex-Officio with vote***

Moderator: Jim LeFever (Glendale)

Moderator-Elect: Erin Matteson (Modesto)

Clerk: Karen Cosner (Modesto)

### ***Ex-Officio without vote***

District Executive Minister: Don Booz

Treasurer: Larry Woodruff (La Verne)

Standing Committee Delegate: Marlin Heckman (La Verne)

## ***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:* John Gingrich (La Verne)

*Moderator:* Jim LeFever (Glendale)

*Moderator-Elect:* Erin Matteson (Modesto)

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



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

*Ministry Chair:* John Jackson (Glendale)

Elected Member, *Vice Chair:* Mauricio Iacueli (Circle of Peace)

Elected Member: Karen Pierson (Living Savior)

Non-elected Member: Jennie Bennett-Agostini (Live Oak) *(until August 2013)*

Non-elected Member: Bill Haldeman-Scarr (Pomona Fellowship) *(until April 2013)*

Non-elected Member: Tom Hostetler (La Verne) *(started April 2013)*

ex-officio members: District Executive Minister; Moderator; Board Chair

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

*Stewards Chair:* John Gingrich (La Verne)

Non-elected Member, *Vice Chair:* Mike Boeger (Live Oak)

Elected Member: Richard Downhour (Papago Buttes)

Elected Member: Norman Johnson (Waterford)

Elected Member: Elizabeth Rowan (Pasadena)

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

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## Board of Administration Report

It seems proper and fitting to begin by expressing appreciation to all the members of the Board and of the committees that serve the District. These good folk offer their time, their best judgment and effort, and their prayers.

At its January meeting, the Board spent the bulk of its time in a discernment process focusing on what we do to carry out the mandates of the District Conference. This time of retreat and reflection was led by Mike Wolfson. The process initiated at that meeting continues.

In April the Board was led by Stan Dueck of the denominational staff in an exploration of "Vital Ministry Journey." This program is very congruent with the concerns developed within this District. The fact that this journey begins and is focused on Bible study makes it very attractive. Also making it appealing is the opportunity for participants to study and share in a non-threatening group setting. It is hoped that every congregation will give serious consideration to participating in the Vital Ministry Journey.

At that meeting our Standing Committee representative, Marlin Heckman, articulated a concern he would be sharing with the Standing Committee. It is our concern about the decision not to have Annual Conference west of the Rockies in the future.

The Board has begun preparing for the National Youth Conference in 2014. One of the Board members affirmed that the NYC may be the best thing the Brethren do. We hope all congregations will encourage and enable their youth to participate in this creative spiritual experience.

At the present time the litigation with Central

Evangelical Church continues. We are in the appeals process. This action continues to be pursued in order to affirm the priority of the polity of the Church of the Brethren.

As always, the Board truly wrestled with the responsible stewardship of the resources God has made available to us. How do we expend resources in the most productive way? How do we preserve the body of those resources for the future? The Ministry Investment Plan represents the best thinking of the Board on how to be most responsible.

As is always the case, much of the work of the District Board is carried out by the Commissions and the committees reporting to them. You have those reports.

On a personal note, it has been my privilege to serve you on this Board and for the past four years to serve as its chair. I have come to know and appreciate many members of the congregations of the PSWD. I grow in my wonder at our diversity. And even more I am impressed by our commitment to be brothers and sisters together in Christ. I am especially grateful to the persons who have served on the Executive Board. They are all gifted and devoted members of the Church. Additionally, I want to express appreciation to the members of the District staff.

It has been a special treat to get to know, and to work with, our District Executive Minister, Don Booz. I am awed by his scope of knowledge and skills, by his deep spirituality, and by his sometimes earthy humor. I know I am joined by you in wishing God's continued blessings on Don.

Don Fancher, Board Chair

## Ministry Commission Report

### Ministry Commission:

John Jackson, chair  
Mauricio Iacueli, vice-chair  
Jennie Bennett-Agostini (*until June 2013*)  
Bill Haldeman-Scarr (*until April 2013*)  
Tom Hostetler (*began April 2013*)  
Karen Pierson

ex-officio members: District Executive Minister;  
Moderator; Board Chair

The Ministry Commission is further refining and moving forward in the calling and supporting of pastors for ministry in the Church of the Brethren in the 21st Century.

Caring for our ordained (and licensed) pastors and chaplains serving our PSWD Brethren churches and institutions is our highest priority. They are on the “front line” of a rapidly changing world and face enormous pressures as servant leaders proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Often their very health and spiritual lives are challenged and compromised due to the extraordinary pressures they face. The Ministry Commission is committed to not only supporting their ministry, but also to their individual wholeness and health. This is why we hold a heavily subsidized annual Pastor/Chaplain retreat (spouses are fully invited and supported) to care for them physically, emotionally, and spiritually. It is our way of saying “thank you” for your service.

Secondly we are looking to the future and are supporting our licensed ministers who are in training. This includes TRIM, SeBAH, and Bethany Theological Seminary students. For our TRIM and SeBAH students we provide 75% support of their entire program, plus a mentor. TRIM and SeBAH students must make continual progress towards their educational goals, and their discernment of a call to the set-apart ministry. Our Bethany Theological Seminary students receive a \$3,000 grant/loan a year for their three years at seminary. It is a grant if they serve a Brethren Church, Brethren Institution, or a directly supported Brethren Ministry for three years. If the graduate chooses a non-Brethren institution / church or secular employment then it becomes a zero interest loan that must be paid back over six years.

The Ministry Commission has initiated a pre-district conference event for all ministers - called the All Ministers Pre-Conference Event. However, everyone is invited to attend. In cooperation with the Brethren Academy, there is an opportunity for our TRIM students to receive independent study credit

towards their graduation. Our ordained pastors and chaplains can also receive continuing education credit for their attendance. This course begins on Thursday evening (before conference) and ends on Friday Afternoon. In-between time there are three, three hour sessions of education and three meals. The event this year will be led by Jim Benedict (Pastor of Union Bridge Church of the Brethren) and will focus on Brethren pastoral leadership and identity.

Thank you to the Nurturing and Credentialing Committee, John Price (mentor overseer for our licensed ministers), and Jim Martinez (TRIM and SeBAH coordinator) for helping our potential and active licensed ministers to be intentional in their spiritual discernment of their call to ministry and in pursuing their academic requirements.

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  
#2014 Elizabeth Rowan  
2015 Erin Matteson  
x2016 Don Shankster  
2017 John Price

**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 serves as an advisory subcommittee to the District Ministry Commission. It supervises the process by which candidates for licensing and ordination are prepared and interviewed for ministerial leadership in the Pacific Southwest District. Furthermore, it provides a resource for mentoring and discernment for licensed ministers during their time of study and preparation. One of the things I have most appreciated in working with the NACC is the consistent ability to come together with open hearts, seek the Spirit, listen, and help discern direction for those God has called to special and set-apart ministry.

Our membership this year has consisted of myself,

Janet Ober, chair (La Verne), John Price (Empire), Elizabeth Rowan (Pasadena), Erin Matteson (Modesto), and Don Shankster (Papago Buttes). Ex-Officio Members have included the District Executive Minister, Don Booz, the District Moderator, Jim LeFever, the District Board Chair, Don Fancher, and various members of the Ministry Commission.

This year we have met twice, in February and October. We have conducted interviews with candidates for both licensing and ordination, as well as those seeking to move credentials from other denominations. We also reviewed the annual reports of licensees and their mentors in order to make recommendations regarding re-licensing. When appropriate, we worked with Mentor Coordinator, John Price, to suggest new mentors for those who needed them.

In December, I will, officially, end my time as a member of the NACC, having first stepped in to complete Belita Mitchell's term when she moved to Pennsylvania. Over all these years, it has been a joy and a privilege to serve on this committee. I have served alongside fine people and walked with gifted individuals who are equipping themselves for the creative and challenging work of ministry. The Pacific Southwest District has produced some great leaders during this time, not only for our district, but for our denomination. I am grateful to have been part of this process. I will continue to uphold the NACC and its work with my encouragement and prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Ober

Photo by John Jackson



Pastors Richard & Becky Zapata at the 2013 Retreat

## **TRIM: Training in Ministry**

### **SeBAH: Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano *Hispanic Anabaptist Seminary***

PSWD continues to have students enrolled in both the SeBAH - Hispanic Anabaptist Biblical Seminary and TRIM - Training in Ministry programs provided by our Denomination. Both programs are for members of PSWD who are interested in providing local church leadership and or beginning pastoral roles within the Church of the Brethren. Our hopes are that some of these students if not all of them will go on to peruse a Divinity of Ministry to become pastors for PSWD churches.

SeBAH students are enrolled in their fourth class, Theology of Pastoral Ministry. This class has three parts: biblical models, practical actions of pastoral ministry and pastoral leadership. Students do independent course work and usually have a visit from the professor at the conclusion of their course work as part of their final.

TRIM students work at their own pace taking classes offered on line through Bethany and other Brethren institutions along with independent studies that have been approved by their coordinator.

Jim Martinez

District Coordinator for TRIM & SeBAH

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## **Mentor Overseer**

The PSWD is fortunate to have many people seeking ministry through the licensing / credentialing program. The district continues to provide mentors for those in the program. However, we have more licensed ministers than qualified mentors. If you are an Ordained Minister in the Church of the Brethren and would be willing to be a mentor for a licensed candidate I would be pleased if you would contact me. Our district has done a great job in calling out people for the licensing and credentialing program. We have also done a great job in our Nurturing and Credentialing through the NACC Committee and Ministry Commission. We should be pleased with the quality and quantity of people preparing to serve us as Ministers of the Gospel. It is my pleasure to serve the district in this capacity.

With appreciation,

John E. Price, Mentor Overseer

## Stewards Commission Report

**Stewards Commission:**

John Gingrich, chair  
Mike Boeger  
Richard Downhour  
Norman Johnson  
Elizabeth Rowan

Ex-officio 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 very existence of the PSWD is to foster the growth and health of the churches in our district, thereby fulfilling the mission of the district. In order to do this, the district and the Steward's Commission has to focus on two concerns. The first is to encourage the vitality of the churches, and the second is to use the resources that we have to accomplish this goal. Naturally, the Steward's have to deal with financial matters that support the ministry of the district. You will notice that the Ministry Investment Plan that accompanies this report contains two aspects. The first is a description of the functions of the various parts of the budget. The second is the breakdown of the figures. The District Board is recommending these amounts be accepted by the delegates at this meeting. As chair of the Steward's Commission, I will be presenting these figures to you and will attempt to point out significant changes from

2012 and 2013 and try to answer any questions you may have.

Our financial situation is a rather unique one in the denomination. We have fewer churches than most districts, but we have investments of over five million dollars, due to the sale of churches that have closed. The major financial support for most districts comes from contributions of churches to the district. In the PSWD, the contributions of the churches are quite minimal, therefore the major portion of our income comes from the return on investments that we have. Each year we spend more money than we receive. Many of you are familiar with the graphs that have been shared in the past, indicating that eventually we will run out of resources. The Stewards and the District Board struggle with the financial realities that face us. Even though we have dwindling resources, we give significant grants to the ministries of a large number of churches. On the other hand, we know that if giving to the district remains at its present levels, our financial resources will be exhausted.

This is an important time of deliberation for PSWD. With the retirement of Don Booz, our District Executive, the Board of Administration will consider the best plan for the future. Many questions present themselves to the district at this time. For example, What are our staffing needs to have an effective district office? Where is the best location for the district office? How do we plan for the future financial needs of the district. What is the impact of grants to congregations whose future may be in doubt if things remain as they are today? These and other questions are what district leadership will deliberate over in the near future.

The Ministry Investment Plan presented to you represents the Board's proposal regarding the financial plan for 2014.

John Gingrich  
Stewards Commission Chair

## Grant Review Committee Report

### Grant Review Committee (GRC):

Mike Wolfson, Chair  
Elizabeth Rowan  
Mary Jo Swartz  
Jim Martinez

ex-officio 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 subcommittee of the Stewards Commission.) This year, the GRC received nine Grant Requests for 2014. Churches requesting grants for 2014 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. This year, we have recommended to the Stewards Commission that the following eight churches and one potential church to be included in the 2014 Ministry Investment Plan for a total of \$332,107:

- ! Circle of Peace, AZ: \$62,107 for pastoral support for new minister.

- ! Glendale, CA: \$36,000 for pastoral support for the continued growth of an urban multicultural church.
- ! Iglesia de Cristo Sion, Pomona: \$32,000 for pastoral support to facilitate 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.
- ! Pomona Fellowship, Pomona: \$38,000 for pastoral support in specific outreach ministries.
- ! Restoration L.A., Los Angeles: \$40,000 for pastoral support for rapidly growing urban congregation.
- ! Tucson, AZ: \$47,000 for pastoral support of a new minister.
- ! Waterford: \$35,000 for pastoral support focused at bringing the message to the local community.
- ! An additional pastoral support grant is being considered for \$40,000.

Members of the GRC will be available at District Conference to answer questions or receive input on the grant process.

Respectfully submitted

Mike Wolfson

Chair: Grant Review Committee

Business Session 2012



# **Pacific Southwest District – Church of the Brethren** **Giving to the District by Congregations, Individuals and Groups** **January 1 to December 31, 2012**

Church ID #	Name of Church	General Fund	*Per Capita Giving	*2012 Members
32-010	Bakersfield	\$2,000	\$24.10	83
32-145	Central Evangelical (Los Angeles)	\$0	??	unknown
32-025	Church of the Living Savior (McFarland)	\$800	??	unknown
32-028	Circle of Peace (Peoria, AZ)	\$1,400	\$17.72	79
32-270	Cornerstone Community (Reedley)	\$0	\$0.00	48
32-040	Empire	\$500	\$6.94	72
32-070	Glendale	\$800	\$18.60	43
32-080	Glendora	\$100	\$2.13	47
32-083	Iglesia de Cristo Genesis (Los Angeles)	\$650	\$9.85	66
32-037	Iglesia de Cristo Sion (Pomona)	\$300	\$4.92	61
32-150	Imperial Heights (Los Angeles)	\$200	\$3.08	65
32-090	Laton	\$500	\$10.64	47
32-100	La Verne	\$10,000	\$19.69	508
32-120	Live Oak	\$2,120	??	unknown
32-190	Modesto	\$2,000	\$9.05	221
32-193	New Harvest (Lindsay)	\$250	\$6.25	40
32-205	Papago Buttes (AZ)	\$580	\$9.35	62
32-210	Paradise Community	\$0	\$0.00	23
32-220	Pasadena	\$1,000	??	unknown
32-250	Pomona Fellowship	\$1,850	\$28.46	65
32-290	Prince of Peace (Sacramento)	\$450	\$5.11	88
32-322	Príncipe de Paz (Santa Ana)	\$450	??	unknown
32-280	Restoration L.A.	\$0	\$0.00	96
32-300	San Diego First	\$0	\$0.00	52
32-330	South Bay (Redondo Beach)	\$500	\$7.25	69
32-340	Tucson	\$1,200	\$40.00	30
32-350	Waterford	\$300	\$3.37	89
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>\$27,950</b>	<b>\$14.76</b>	<b>1893</b>

	Designated: New Life Newsletter	\$20
	Individual Giving	\$3,041
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>\$3,061</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>\$31,011</b>

\* The above per-capita calculation is based on the 2012 Statistical Information report listing membership on 12/31/12.

If the report was not received by the printing date, membership is listed as "unknown".





## 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.*

2013 Marty Farahat  
2016 *vacant*

2014 Barbara Brandt (Live Oak)  
2017 *vacant*

2015 Mike Wolfen (La Verne)

### ***District Disaster Response Coordinator***

Network Chair: Lyndall Frantz (Empire)

### ***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:***

2015 Larry Woodruff (La Verne)

2014 Marlin Heckman (La Verne)

2013 Joe Schechter (La Verne)

### ***Investment Committee***

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

Chair: At large-(2015) Elizabeth Rowan (Pasadena)

District Executive (*ex-officio w/o vote*)

Moderator

Stewards Chair (*ex-officio w/vote*)

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

### ***Ministerial Ethics Committee:*** (5-Year Term ending)

2016 Richard Hart (Pomona Fellowship)

2017 Russ Matteson (Modesto)

2013 Mary Kay Ogden (La Verne)

#2014 Joe Schechter (La Verne)

#2015 Deb Merrifield-Carothers (Circle of Peace)

*Alternates for District Executive Minister:*

#2016 Richard Hart (Pomona Fellowship)

*Ex-Officio:* (with vote), *Ministry Chair*

*Ex-Officio:* (without vote), *District Executive Minister*



Hillcrest Chaplain Tom Hostetler - "Opportunities abound for worship at all levels of service. Sharing and inspiration to meet a variety of needs, and the beautiful community and surroundings all work together to make Hillcrest a remarkable place."



PEACEFULLY. SIMPLY. TOGETHER.  
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DSS #191501662 | COA #069





### President's Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge

The University of La Verne will join President Obama's Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge for the 2012-13 academic year. The President's Interfaith Challenge emphasizes interfaith cooperation and community service as an important way to build understanding between different communities and contribute to the common good.

With the full support of President Lieberman, La Verne will take part in this initiative. Zandra Wagoner, University Chaplain, will lead this effort and she will work closely with the student-led Better Together Campaign to create opportunities for our campus community to build interfaith engagement while also positively contributing to the common good. Zandra attended a White House sponsored gathering in Washington D.C. in July 2012. She represented La Verne on a panel of institutions who are joining the Campus Challenge for 2012-13.

### 17 Summer Service Volunteers this year

La Verne has added some new placements, expanding our partnerships with new faith communities and community agencies. Two of our students are placed with the Baha'i community of Rancho Cucamonga assisting with community programs for youth and older adults. We also have a student placed with Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE), a Los Angeles based agency working with the interfaith community to create economic justice in the region. We are looking to expand our offerings next summer to include other faith traditions as well. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to gain leadership skills, contribute positively to the community, and to immerse themselves in a cross-cultural, interreligious experience.

### La Verne Debate Team Ranks 8th in Nation Following National Championship

If hosting the 2013 United States Universities National Debate Championships for the first time wasn't exciting enough for La Verne's award-winning debate team, making it through to the semifinal round and placing 8th in the nation helped. In April the, University of La Verne welcomed 46 colleges and universities across the globe to its campus for one of the most anticipated debate competitions of the year. By Sunday afternoon, La Verne had advanced to the Top 8, surpassing schools such as Harvard, USC, UCLA, Duke University, UC Davis and Hawaii Pacific University, among dozens of others.

### University of La Verne President Presents on Citizen Alum at AAC&U

A national initiative that promotes the engagement of university alumni in their communities, Citizen Alum reimagines the role of alumni as "doers" rather than just "donors". As an institution that outlines the importance of civic engagement and lifelong learning in its mission statement, the University of La Verne plays an important role as one of only 20 selected campuses around the country spearheading this joint venture. At the AAC&U annual meeting, President Lieberman gave a president's perspective on the importance of promoting ongoing civic engagement post-graduation. Citizen Alum was officially launched at a White House meeting, "For Democracy's Future – Education Reclaims Our Civic Mission," in January 2012. It is an affiliated program of the American Commonwealth Partnership (ACP), born at the University of Michigan. Since then, the University of La Verne has launched its own "listening project," which can be seen on its alumni website. The project, calls for alumni to share their involvement in their communities, in order to generate a momentum of inspiring stories geared toward promoting the Citizen Alum project. To date, more than 50 alumni feature stories are published online.

As always, we welcome Brethren students with open arms and offer a 1/5 tuition scholarship for the first year.

Zandra Wagoner, University Chaplain (909) 448-4446

**We send warm greetings and God's abiding peace to the moderator, delegates, and members of Pacific Southwest District!**

### **To serve — not to be served**

On the road to Jerusalem, the disciples James and John asked Jesus for a favor: to award them “the highest places of honor in your glory — one of us at your right, the other at your left” (Mark 10:37, The Message). Jesus brushes off the request, but after the other disciples hear about James and John's brazenness, they become irate. How dare they ask Jesus for such a favor?

Jesus rallies the disciples. “‘You've observed how godless rulers throw their weight around,’ he said, ‘and when people get a little power, how quickly it goes to their heads. It's not going to be that way with you. Whoever wants to be great must become a servant. Whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave. That is what the Son of Man has done: He came to serve, not to be served — and then to give away his life in exchange for many who are held hostage’” (Mark 10:41-45).

Are we here to serve — or to be served? Is the key to the kingdom of heaven obtained through worldly might or humble service? Church of the Brethren Benefit Trust is firmly on the side of servitude. BBT provides a 70-year old retirement program, insurance products, asset management services, and financial education to the Church of the Brethren, not for profit but for the good of our brothers and sisters. We follow Christ's example through our dedication to helping Brethren — and employees of Brethren organizations — plan for the future. We serve our members and clients so that they may serve others.

### **Investments**

One of BBT's primary responsibilities is the general oversight of assets under its supervision. BBT has a comprehensive set of investment guidelines that reflect BBT's effort to properly fulfill the organization's fiduciary responsibility in the management of these assets, as well as its commitment to the ethical and social values of the Church of the Brethren.

As socially responsible investors, we seek a competitive financial return on our investments, and the good news is that we have consistently achieved this goal. For example, over the last 10 years, the returns for the Retirement Benefits Fund (the pool of money that pays out benefits to Brethren Pension Plan retirees) were 7.98 percent (gross), compared with 7.1 percent for the S&P 500 Index and 5.3 percent for the Barclays Capital U.S. Government/Credit Bond Index over the same time period.

BBT maintains a three-pronged approach to investing member and client assets in a socially responsible manner. Through shareholder initiatives, refusing to invest in companies that don't adhere to Brethren guidelines, and offering a fund that invests in under-resourced communities, BBT uplifts Annual Conference principles through its investments.

### **Church of the Brethren Pension Plan**

Now in its 70th year, Church of the Brethren Pension Plan serves more than 4,850 current and former employees of congregations and denominational organizations. In 2012, about 1,600 annuitants received a monthly benefit through this retirement program.

From an investment return perspective, 2012 was a good year for Brethren Pension Plan. As of Dec. 31, 2012, total Active Lives accounts were up by more than \$13.3 million over the previous year's balance. Plan members are offered an array of up to 16 investment options to suit their diversification needs.

2013 marked a major transformation for Brethren Pension Plan — the introduction of a new Web portal, daily valuation of account balances, and a variety of other enhancements for members and Plan administrators that enhance their overall retirement planning experience.

### **Employee financial services**

BBT serves employees across the denomination through programs like the Church Workers' Assistance Plan, which is a benevolence program that offers grants to active and retired church workers with severe financial need. The Plan is funded by congregations that contribute the equivalent of 1 percent of their staff's salaries, as well as by congregational donations. In 2012, this program distributed \$128,937 to 24 individuals.

### **Brethren Insurance Services**

Starting afresh — that's how 2013 began for BBT's medical and ancillary insurance ministry. As part of BBT's new Employee Benefits department, Brethren Medical Plan completed its last year as a self-insured plan in 2012 and became a fully insured program on Jan. 1, 2013. Seven Church of the Brethren organizations are enrolled in group medical coverage through Brethren Insurance Services, which offers three plan designs that are part of the Blue Cross Blue Shield provider network. In total, this ministry is serving 1,103 members through Brethren Medical Plan and our ancillary insurance products, which include vision, dental, life, long-term and short-term disability, retiree life, and Medicare supplement insurance.

We also continue to offer Long-Term Care Insurance to all members of the Church of the Brethren, employees of Church of the Brethren-affiliated agencies, organizations, colleges, and retirement communities, and their families and friends.

### **Brethren Foundation Inc.**

For more than 20 years, BFI has provided asset management for Church of the Brethren-affiliated organizations and deferred gifts options for all Church of the Brethren members. Assets under management at the end of 2012 were an all-time month-end high of \$157,712,160, an increase of \$19,307,562 (14 percent) over the total under management on Dec. 31, 2011, of \$138,404,598. At the end of 2012, BFI was managing assets for nearly 400 clients.

Online account management is being used by more than one-third of BFI's clients as of the end of 2012. Clients using the online client portal are able to generate custom reports and typically have access to monthly statements by the third business day of the next month. Printed statements are in the mail by the eighth day of the following month for those who still receive statements in this manner.

### **Serving you — today and tomorrow**

The horizon holds many promises for our members and clients. BBT will be able to serve its Pension Plan members and administrators in a radically new way once the transition to a new record-keeping system is complete; Brethren Foundation clients are anticipated to have access to eight new funds designed to provide greater diversification opportunities; and Brethren Insurance Services members will continue to receive hands-on support from our friendly staff and enroll in a variety of competitively priced insurance products.

Service is a core component of the Church of the Brethren, and BBT strives to demonstrate an ethos of service through its long-term plans and day-to-day interactions with members and clients. We are grateful to each person, congregation, and organization we serve for the opportunity to exceed expectations. We exist to serve, and so we welcome input and counsel from our participants and the church at large as we work faithfully to uphold your trust.



Karen O. Crim, Board Chairwoman  
May 15, 2013



Nevin Dulabaum, President





## 2012-2013 - LIVING OUT GOD'S SHALOM AND CHRIST'S PEACE

Ruthann Knechel Johansen, President

Lynn Myers, Chair of the Board of Trustees

*Bethany Theological Seminary equips spiritual and intellectual leaders with an Incarnational education for ministering, proclaiming, and living out God's shalom and Christ's peace in the church and world.* – MISSION STATEMENT

### Revised Curriculum

Bethany faculty completed a restructuring of the curriculum, to be implemented in fall 2013, including

- hiring Denise Kettering-Lane for the newly expanded full-time faculty position in Brethren studies and hiring Debbie Roberts for the new half-time faculty position in reconciliation studies;
- creating flexibility in both degree programs by 1) allowing MDiv students to focus their ministry studies credits in a specific area of interest and 2) enabling all students to combine elective credits for a selected emphasis;
- introducing a portfolio option in addition to the thesis sequence in the MA program;
- adding two required courses—intercultural theory, to accompany the required intercultural experience, and an intergenerational course, exploring issues and approaches in ministry across generations.

### Reimagining Ministries Campaign

- As of April 30, 80 percent of the \$5.9 million goal had been raised in gifts and pledges.
- During 2012-13, approximately 35 meetings will be held, for a campaign total of more than 60.
- The goals of preparing students for multiple forms of ministry, new courses in evangelism and conflict management, and increased access to Bethany's resources continue to be met through the curriculum revisions above and development of a Seminary Associates program, individuals prepared by Bethany to offer educational opportunities and provide information about the Seminary throughout the denomination.

### Personnel

- Jeff Carter of Manassas, Virginia, was selected as the Seminary's tenth president, beginning July 1, 2013.
- Russell Haitch was promoted to professor of Christian Education and director of the Institute for Ministry with Youth and Young Adults.
- Malinda Berry, instructor of theological studies, received her doctorate from Union Theological Seminary.
- Faculty and staff were present denominationally and professionally through numerous sermons, workshops, lectures, district conferences and insight sessions, professional event leadership, international presentations, and published works.

### Additional Highlights

- Eleven MDiv degrees, one MA, and a Certificate of Achievement in Theological Studies were granted in May.
- A capacity crowd attended Bethany's fifth Presidential Forum, "The Bible in Our Bones: Telling and Living the Stories of Our Faith."
- Ruthann Johansen's tenure as president was recognized with a community celebration, during which the new fully funded Ruthann Knechel Johansen Endowment for Theology in Literature was announced.

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## BETHANY AND THE PACIFIC SOUTHWEST DISTRICT: PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

- Students in graduate programs: 4
- Students in the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership: 7
- Financial support: \$20,877 from your district and congregations during fiscal 2012-13 to date

### *You can also support Bethany Seminary by*

*remembering Bethany with prayer and personal and congregational support • calling persons of all ages into ministry • encouraging those in other professions to take Bethany courses • envisioning new forms of ministry for Bethany graduates, such as mentoring lay leaders, supervising Academy students, or coaching pastors new to the Church of the Brethren.*

*To learn more about Bethany, visit our website at [www.bethanyseminary.edu](http://www.bethanyseminary.edu)*





## Church of the Brethren

District Conference 2013

Sisters and Brothers of Pacific Southwest District;

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ! I trust that you are experiencing the riches of the presence of the Lord as you labor together in your District for the fulfillment of God's Reign. My prayer during this year is that we will be inspired in our walk together to "**Live as Courageous Disciples**", sharing the good news of Jesus through word and action.

As a means of reflecting during this year on the challenges of living a courageous discipleship, I have extended the invitation to focus on studying the Apostle Paul's **Letter to the Philippians** as a window into the brave and faithful life of one of Jesus' early followers. A reading of this book and the background story of Paul's missionary journeys as recorded in the book of Acts reveals how Paul partnered with other leaders in trust, modeled his life after Christ's example, enthusiastically shared the good news of Jesus, passionately pursued a costly discipleship, and rejoiced in the midst of all circumstances. How might we aspire to live an equally radical and committed Christian life? What would such courageous discipleship look like in the midst of our lives and our faith communities?

During this coming year I am eager to learn how the study of scripture is enabling you to hear the voice of Jesus challenging you to grow in courage both personally and corporately as the body of Christ. In addition, if there are persons in your congregations or districts who have taken up the challenge of memorizing portions of the book of Philippians (or all of it!), please share the news with me.

As we look forward to the 2014 Annual Conference in Columbus, Ohio beginning Wednesday, July 2 and concluding with worship on Sunday, July 6, let us be in prayer for one another. May God's Spirit make it possible for us to hear Jesus' call through scripture to "live as courageous disciples" by word and action and give honor and glory to God by joyfully serving our neighbors.

"If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus...." (Philippians 2:1-5)

Your servant in Christ,

Nancy Sollenberger Heishman  
2014 Annual Conference Moderator

*Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.*

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# Church of the Brethren

***“For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”  
Matthew 18:20 (NRSV)***

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ!

District Conference is a significant event for each of the 23 districts of the Church of the Brethren, and the 2013 Pacific Southwest District Conference is no exception. You have gathered in this place as the body of Christ to tend to the business of the church, to fellowship with one another, and to spend time in worship and praise.

Christians throughout the world gather much as you have here today. Brethren gatherings this year have included the Asamblea, held in the Dominican Republic in February; the 66th annual Majalisa of the Ekklesiyar Yan’uwa a Nigeria (EYN) in April; and the Jilla Sabha of the Church of the Brethren in India in May. The varying cultures, dialects, and theologies of each of these contexts lead to music and worship styles very different from what we may be accustomed. But as a part of the larger body of Christ, we are enriched by the cultural gifts we share with one another. Despite our differences, we share a deep faith in Jesus Christ, choosing to live out that faith within the context of the Church of the Brethren.

In recent months I have become more keenly aware of another distinct difference between people of faith in the U.S. and those in many other parts of the world. Not all can come together with the freedom we experience in the American church. It is a freedom I must admit that I take for granted.

As our sisters and brothers in the EYN have gathered for worship in recent months, they have done so wondering if their discipleship would exact acts of violence against them. And for good reason. As of mid-May, at least 167 Nigerian Brethren including several pastors have been killed in terrorist violence perpetrated by the extreme Islamist sect Boko Haram. Just days after the first of these attacks, EYN met for their Majalisa (annual meeting), considering the theme “Reclaiming Our Heritage as Peace Church in Such a Time Like This.” What faith these church members embody as they seek peace across faith barriers – even as they face violent attacks against their churches!

I recently had the privilege of representing the Church of the Brethren at an annual remembrance of those who lost their lives as a result of the Armenian genocide of 1915-1923. As you may remember, it was the plight of the Armenian people that moved the Brethren to respond in our first overseas relief effort. Today the Armenian Church considers the 1.5 million people killed in the genocide as martyrs, but lovingly refers to them as “faithful witnesses,” even to death. They were a people unwilling to forsake their faith in Jesus, even though doing so could save their lives.

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I wonder, is my faith in Jesus so well grounded and formed that I would be willing to join the Armenian people in their walk away from empire toward the kingdom of God? Would we as a church be willing to walk (quite literally) and live under oppression and persecution alongside our Nigerian sisters and brothers, risking life instead of forsaking our Lord? I pray to our God that we would!

So as you gather to worship in a place relatively devoid of fear or intimidation, I hope and pray that you take every opportunity to deepen your faith, enrich the community, proclaim peace, and give thanks to God as you grow in stature as faithful witnesses and radical, compassionate disciples of Jesus Christ.

May God, Christ, and Holy Spirit be with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Stanley Noffsinger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Stanley" and last name "Noffsinger" clearly distinguishable.

Stanley J. Noffsinger  
General Secretary

Copies of our full color report have been provided for distribution at your District Conference. And please check out our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/churchofthebrethren](http://www.facebook.com/churchofthebrethren)



# Church of the Brethren

May 2013

## Brethren Disaster Ministries Report to District Conferences

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM) truly touches the lives of disaster survivors in positive ways. We hear it in the tearful thanks from a tornado survivor in Indiana. We feel it in the hug from a little child in a shelter in New Jersey. We see it in photographs of the smiling faces of Haitian earthquake survivors.

### Home Rebuilding

The extraordinary efforts of 1,295 BDM volunteers at 8 different response sites in 6 states enabled 70 disaster-stricken families to return to newly repaired and rebuilt homes in 2012. This was accomplished by 75,368 hours of volunteer service valued more than \$1.6 million. Disaster recovery from floods in Upstate New York and tornadoes in Indiana has continued this year, and plans for long-term recovery following Hurricane Sandy are underway.

To help carry out its disaster recovery work, BDM held 2 Disaster Project Leadership Workshops in which 25 new project leaders were trained.

### Children's Disaster Services

Major disasters like Hurricanes Sandy and Isaac led the headlines in the fall of 2012. The Hurricane Sandy response in New Jersey and New York was the largest of 5 Children's Disaster Services (CDS) responses this past year. Other CDS responses include wildfires in Colorado and Oklahoma, a tornado response in Ohio, and Hurricane Isaac in Louisiana. In total, 75 trained CDS volunteers cared for 772 children last year. Following the April 15 Boston terror attack, CDS volunteers with additional special training served at the Red Cross Family Assistance Center.

At each location, children received special care designed to encourage expression and help them feel safe after traumatic events.

### US Drought Relief Initiative

The extreme drought that devastated regions of the US in 2012 challenged BDM to find new ways of responding. BDM started the Farm Relief Initiative last year, which provides grants to enable churches to assist farmers in their community who have been adversely affected. In light of continuing drought, BDM is extending this initiative through the 2013 growing season.

(Continued on next page)

*Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.*

Brethren Disaster Ministries, 601 Main Street, P.O. Box 188, New Windsor, Maryland 21776-0188  
410-635-8731 800-451-4407 Fax: 410-635-8739

## Haiti Earthquake & Hurricane Response

The conclusion of BDM's disaster recovery programs in Haiti at the end of the year was cause for celebration - highlighted by 162 homes built or repaired in response to the 2010 earthquake and 2008 hurricanes. In 4 years, more than \$1.9 million in ministry expenses have provided emergency food, temporary shelters, permanent homes, medical care, clean water, sanitation, jobs, and agricultural recovery for Haitian families.

## Other International Responses

In response to the severe drought and food crisis stretching across Africa's Sahel region, BDM has supported relief in several communities in the region. Response efforts included both short-term humanitarian assistance and longer term drought mitigation. The larger international response has seen some success as 2012 ended with reduced drought and improved food security.

BDM also funded the purchase of supplies for rebuilding the village of Lafon, South Sudan after a fire, and aided emergency assistance for vulnerable families displaced by violence and political unrest in parts of Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

## Financial Activity

BDM project expenses for 2012 totaled \$615,265, including \$267,346 for US home rebuilding and CDS responses, \$260,972 for the Haiti earthquake response, and \$86,947 for other international relief.

The important mission of Brethren Disaster Ministries is made possible by the invaluable talents and gifts of our many committed volunteers and supporters. This support, by God's grace, will allow us to carry out our mission today and touch many lives in the months ahead.

In Christ's Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roy Winter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Roy Winter, Executive Director

On behalf of BDM Staff - Elizabeth Mullich, Jane Yount, and Zachary Wolgemuth

# Brethren Volunteer Service Annual Report

Summer 2013

## 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 things happening in BVS!*

### In 2012:

- ! BVS hosted four orientation units in Gotha, Florida; Chicago, Illinois; and New Windsor, Maryland
- ! 51 new volunteers entered the program
- ! 125 total volunteers served throughout the year

Photo by Kendra Johnson



*The 2012 fall orientation Unit #299 gathers for a picture at the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, Maryland, before heading out to work in the New Windsor community.*

### Currently, BVS has 90 volunteers...

- ! ranging in age from 18 to 77 years
- ! placed in 15 different US states and Washington, D.C.
- ! serving in 12 countries: Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, El Salvador, France, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Japan, Northern Ireland, South Sudan, and the USA

## 2013 BVS Partners in Service Award

BVS is happy to present its 2013 Partners in Service Award to its network of **healing communities**. The award typically recognizes an individual, project, or congregation that has demonstrated exceptional commitment in partnering with BVS to share God's love through acts of service.

**HOPEWELL**

*A therapeutic farm community for adults with mental illness.*

BVS currently has project partnerships with three healing communities:

**CooperRiis** in Mill Spring, North Carolina; **Gould Farm** in Monterey, Massachusetts; and **Hopewell** in Mesopotamia, Ohio. These organizations are recovery-based, therapeutic communities for adults living with mental illness or emotional distress. They provide compassionate, respectful environments and aid the residents in moving toward more independent living situations through participation in meaningful work, recreation, and community life.



Gould Farm, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2013, stands as the longest-running BVS project site, with more than 100 volunteers serving there since the 1960s.

Virgil Stucker, executive director of CooperRiis, will accept the award on behalf of the three communities at the BVS Luncheon to be held July 1 at the Church of the Brethren Annual Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina.





## Over the past year, BVS has celebrated several milestones. Check out our numbers!

**5** Callie Surber marked her fifth year as BVS orientation coordinator in September of 2012. Callie previously served as a BVS volunteer (from Unit #254) for three years, teaching at the EYN Comprehensive Secondary School in Kwarhi, Nigeria.

**25** In April of 2012, Kristin Flory celebrated her 25th year coordinating BVS's European program in Geneva, Switzerland. Prior to joining the staff, Kristin was a BVSer in Unit #134 and served for six years in several German and Austrian projects.

**40** Current and former volunteers gathered in September of 2012 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of BVS presence in Ireland and Northern Ireland. Roughly 160 BVS'ers have served with over 40 organizations in the region.



Photo Courtesy of Kristin Flory

*Former and current volunteers gather in Belfast for the 40th Anniversary of BVS in Ireland and Northern Ireland.*

**65** 2013 marks the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary since the enactment of BVS by Annual Conference. Approximately 7,000 volunteers have entered BVS since the Program began in 1948.

**300** In February of 2013, the 300<sup>th</sup> BVS orientation unit took place at Camp Ithielin Gotha, Florida. Volunteers were called to Japan, Honduras, California, Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois.



Photo by Kendra Johnson

*Kristin Flory was recognized for her service at the 2012 BVS Annual Conference Luncheon. She is pictured here with BVS director Dan McFadden and alumni Micah and Lacy Loucks.*



Photo by Kendra Johnson

*Unit #300 joined the St. Petersburg congregation for worship and a potluck during the winter orientation in Florida.*

## BVS is excited about the many organizations that have added or returned as projects in the past year:

- ! Abbé Pierre Emmaüs Center - Esteville France
- ! Africa Inland Church, - Torit, South Sudan
- ! Arche Community - Ravensburg, Germany
- ! Camp Eder - Fairfield, Pennsylvania
- ! Centro de Intercambio y Solidaridad - San Salvador, El Salvador
- ! Companion Ministries - Kansas City, Kansas
- ! ENABLE - Richhill, Northern Ireland
- ! FESCO Family Shelter - San Francisco, California
- ! Glebe House - Kilclief/Strangford, Northern Ireland
- ! L'Arche Community - Chicago, Illinois
- ! National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund - Washington, D.C.
- ! New Community Project - Harrisonburg, Virginia
- ! San Diego Friends Center - San Diego, California
- ! Skyridge Church of the Brethren & Camp Brethren Heights - Kalamazoo/Rodney, Michigan
- ! Spanish Catholic Center - Washington, D.C.
- ! Tabor Community Services - Lancaster, Pennsylvania
- ! Youth Initiatives - Downpatrick/Belfast, Northern Ireland

**Six of these projects have BVS'ers currently serving with them!**



Photo by Kendra Johnson

*BVS'ers Amber Buck (left) and Hollie Pilcher assist Cliff Kindy with the garlic harvest. BVS was excited to spend a few days at the Kindy farm in North Manchester, IN during the 2012 summer orientation.*

*Brethren Volunteer Service is a Ministry of the Church of the Brethren*  
[www.brethrenvolunteerservice.org](http://www.brethrenvolunteerservice.org)  
[bvs@brethren.org](mailto:bvs@brethren.org)  
 1451 Dundee Ave, Elgin, IL 60120  
 800-323-8039





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

**November 10, 2012**

**Hillcrest Homes, La Verne, California**

**I. Call to Order**

Moderator Jack Storne called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**II. Welcome**

Tom Hostetler, Hillcrest chaplain, welcomed us to Hillcrest on behalf of Matthew Neeley and the staff. Tom introduced the Hillcrest newsletter and the many activities available to Hillcrest residents.

**III. Appointments**

A. Timekeeper Karen Pierson was introduced. Parliamentarian Jerry Davis was introduced. Tellers Kirsten Storne-Piazza and Nohemi Flores were introduced.

B. A committee to verify the accuracy of the 2012 minutes was named: Russ Matteson (Modesto), Linda Davis (Church of the Living Savior), and Richard Hart (Pomona Fellowship).

**IV. Introduction of Conference Officers**

Board of Administration Chair Don Fancher, Moderator Jack Storne, Moderator-Elect Jim LeFever, District Executive Minister Don Booz and Clerk Laura Miller were introduced.

**V. Opening Prayer**

Moderator Jack Storne led the attendees in prayer.

**VI. Quorum**

A roll call was taken. A quorum was declared to be present.

**VII. Dedication of Delegates**

The Delegates' Dedication Litany (page 6 of the Business Book) was read.

**VIII. Approval of Agenda**

**The agenda was approved by consensus.**

**IX. Approval of 2011 Minutes**

A. In June 2012, the draft copy of the minutes was examined by the committee: Linda Davis (Church of the Living Savior), Joe Schechter (La Verne), and Pat Royer (Modesto).

**B. The minutes of the 2011 District Conference were approved by consensus.**

**X. Report from the Pacific Southwest District Board**

A. Don Fancher directed the delegates to page 17 of the Business Book for his report. Don expressed appreciation to the members of the Board of Administration, Ministry Commission, Stewards Commission, Nurturing and Credentialing Committee, TRIM, SeBAH, Grant Review Committee - all who do the work of the District.

B. There were no questions for Don Fancher.

**XI. Report from the District Executive Minister**

- A. Don Booz showed a video about the Pacific Southwest District Board and some of its ministries.
- B. Don Booz thanked Joe Vecchio, Brenda Perez, Ralph Carlton, and Dawna Welch for their work on behalf of the District.
- C. Don Booz introduced the Youth Cabinet: Josalyn Romero (Circle of Peace), Joshua Roy (Modesto), Jake Hoover (La Verne), Israel Rosas (Glendale), Mollie Montgomery (Bakersfield), and Michael Terry (Live Oak). Dawna Welch and the Youth Cabinet received a round of applause from the conference attendees.
- D. Don Booz recognized the Board of Administration.
- E. Don Booz spoke about effective leadership and showed a short video about children's ideas about leadership. The pastors of the Pacific Southwest District Board were recognized for their leadership.
- F. Don Booz spoke about the Church Planting and Revitalization Committee (CPR) and its upcoming insight sessions and the two proposed resolutions.
- G. Don Booz spoke about the Ministry Investment Plan and the insight session that will be held today. At the January 2013 board retreat, the board will work on strategic planning.
- H. The delegates were directed to page 10 of the Business Book for a written report.

**XII. Introduction of the 2013 Ballot**

The delegates were directed to page 13 of the Business Book. Instructions for making nominations from the floor were given. The nominees were introduced to the delegates by a PowerPoint show.

**XIII. Proposed By-Laws Change for District Conference Program Committee**

- A. Don Fancher directed the delegates to page 51 of the Business Book and gave a background of the size and structure of the Program Committee. The change adds two members and makes the district moderator chair of the committee.
- B. A time was given for comments and questions.
- C. **This comes as a recommendation from the Board of Administration. Approved, two nay votes.**

**XIV. Proposed By-Laws Change for Nominating Committee**

- A. Don Fancher directed the delegates to page 52 of the Business Book and gave a background of the Nominating Committee. The change makes the moderator-elect chair.
- B. A time was given for comments and questions.
- C. **This comes as a recommendation from the Board of Administration. Approved, unanimously.**

**XV. Resolution on Church Planting**

- A. Don Fancher directed the delegates to page 53 of the Business Book and gave a background on the resolution.
- B. A time for discussion and comments was given.
- C. **This comes as a recommendation from the Board of Administration. Approved, unanimously.**

**XVI. Program Committee Report**

Moderator Jack Storne spoke about the challenges involved in planning a conference and thanked the committee members who worked diligently on the conference planning. The 2013 conference will be held at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale, Arizona.

**XVII. Margaret Carl Trust Fund Advisory Committee Report**

Marlin Heckman gave a background of the Margaret Carl Trust Fund. Margaret was a member of the Santa Ana Church. In 1945 she wrote her will to establish a trust with the income to be used for the distribution of Bibles and the abolition of alcohol and tobacco. Since 1987, over \$200,000 has been used for the purchase of Bibles. The committee is accepting requests from churches for funds to purchase Bibles.

**XVIII. Election of Officers**

- A. There were no nominations from the floor.
- B. **John Jackson (Glendale) moved and Chris Senkler (Glendora) seconded to approve the ballot as a slate. Approved, five nay votes.**
- C. **The slate ballot was approved with two nay votes.**
- D. The following people were elected to 2013 Pacific Southwest District Board positions:
  - 1. Erin Matteson (Modesto), Moderator-Elect
  - 2. Karen Walters (Papago Buttes), Nominating Committee
  - 3. Karen Cosner (Modesto), Clerk
  - 4. Program Committee:
    - a. Tom Hostetler (La Verne), (3-year term)
    - b. Deb Merrifield-Carothers (Circle of Peace), (2-year term)
    - c. Kirsten Storne-Piazza (Live Oak), (3-year term)
  - 5. Board of Administration:
    - a. Mauricio Iacueli (Circle of Peace), Arizona Representative
    - b. Karen Brandt Pierson (Church of the Living Savior), Central California Representative
    - c. Stephanie Acker, (Pasadena)
    - d. Brenda Dickson, (South Bay)
    - e. John Gingrich (La Verne)
    - f. Robert Burke (Bakersfield), Youth/Young Adult Representative
    - g. Paige Butzlaff (La Verne), Youth/Young Adult Representative
    - h. Sarah Henrichs (Circle of Peace), Youth/Young Adult Representative
  - 6. Roger Hanawalt (La Verne), Brethren Hillcrest Homes Board
  - 7. Karin Nelson (La Verne), Brethren Hillcrest Homes Board

**XIX. Report on Annual Conference**

A DVD about Annual Conference was shown. Stan Noffsinger, CoB General Secretary, invited everyone to attend next year's Annual Conference in Charlotte, NC.

**XX. Standing Committee Report**

Marlin Heckman directed the delegates to page 12 of the Business Book for his written report. Marlin highlighted a query and apologized for inappropriate comments that were made at the conference. A time was given for questions.

**XXI. Reports from District Related Institutions**

- A. **University of La Verne Report:** Janice Shaw-Morgan gave a report about University of La Verne. Their written report is on page 25 of the Business Book.
- B. **Camp Peaceful Pines:** No verbal report. Their written report is on page 27 of the Business Book.

C. **Camp La Verne**: No verbal report. Their written report is on page 26 of the Business Book.

D. **Hillcrest**: No verbal report. Their written report is on page 24 of the Business Book.

**XXII. Resolution on Church Revitalization**

A. Don Fancher directed the delegates to page 54 of the Business Book. Don explained that this is a permanent body that is concerned with revitalization of existing congregations rather than trying to work ad hoc with a congregation that needs assistance.

B. Don Fancher answered a question about funding this resolution. At the present time, no one knows what will be involved, but if a large amount is needed, it would come to the conference in the future.

C. **This comes as a recommendation from the Board of Administration. The resolution was approved, unanimously.**

**XXIII. Ministry Investment Plan**

A. Don Fancher directed the delegates to pages 56-64 of the Business Book.

B. There was some discussion and questions were answered.

C. **This comes as a recommendation from the Board of Administration. Approved, one nay vote.**

**XXIV. Reports from Denominational Agencies**

A. A video was shown highlighting the denominational agencies: Bethany Seminary, Brethren Benefit Trust, Church of the Brethren, and On Earth Peace.

B. CoB General Secretary Stan Noffsinger spoke about ministries in Haiti, Spain, Sudan, and Brazil, as well as the upcoming junior high and older adult conferences. There are a lot of exciting things happening in the Church of the Brethren.

C. Bethany Seminary Executive Director of Institutional Advancement & Gift Planning Lowell Flory gave an update about Bethany Seminary and the changes being made because of advancing technology.

**XXV. Moderator's Closing Remarks**

Moderator Jack Storne thanked all of those who have worked on this year's conference and asked us all to remember in prayer those who will be taking office and working on next year's conference. Jack thanked the attendees for the honor of serving as Moderator.

**XXVI. Passing of the Gavel**

Jack Storne passed the gavel to Jim LeFever.

**XXVII. Adjournment**

Jim LeFever adjourned the conference at 3:47 p.m. with prayer.

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Minutes recorded by Laura Miller, Clerk

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In June 2013, the draft copy of the minutes was examined by the committee: Russ Matteson (Modesto), Linda Davis (Church of the Living Savior), and Richard Hart (Pomona Fellowship).

# Pacific Southwest District – Church of the Brethren

## 2013 – 2014 Ballot

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

### Moderator-Elect

Vote for 1 Two year term

	Eric Bishop, La Verne - SE

### Nominating Committee

Vote for 1 Three year term

	Joe Schechter, La Verne - SE

### Program Committee, District Conference

Vote for 1 Three year term

	Linda Hart, Pomona Fellowship - SE

### District Board of Administration

#### At-Large Representative

Vote for 5 Three year term

	Michael Boeger, Live Oak - NC (unexpired term)
	Lois Frantz, Empire - NC (incumbent)
	Marye Martinez, Modesto - NC (incumbent)
	Jim Totzke, Cornerstone Community, Reedley - CC
	Clark Youngblood, Circle of Peace - AZ

### District Board of Administration

#### Southern California East Representative

Vote for 1 Three year term

	Becky Zapata, Principe de Paz, Santa Ana - SCE

### Youth & Young Adult Representatives

Vote for 3 One year term

	Robert Burke, Bakersfield - CC (incumbent)
	Rayna Harrison, La Verne - SE
	Sarah Henrichs, Circle of Peace - AZ (incumbent)

### Brethren Hillcrest Homes Board Nominees

Vote for Three year term


### Camp La Verne Trustee Nominees

Vote for 1 Three year term

	Marlyn "Lyn" Sylva, La Verne - SE

### University of La Verne Trustee Nominees

At this time, ULV is asking churches and district executives to forward names directly to the ULV Nominating Committee for consideration. Six positions (17%) continue to be reserved for CoB representatives.

**Pacific Southwest District - Church of the Brethren**  
**Background Information for the 2012- 2013Ballot**

Candidates are listed by office, alphabetically by last name.

Descriptions of each office are condensed from the PSWD Constitution: [www.pswdcob.org](http://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.



**Eric Bishop:**

*Age:* 47

*Congregation:* La Verne  
Church of the  
Brethren

*Vocation:* College  
administrator  
and teacher.

advisor and Sunday School teacher. District: District Conference Parliamentarian, Standing Committee alternate, district conference delegate. National: Annual Conference Programs & Arrangements Committee, National Youth Conference Advisor, Messenger Magazine Managing Editor, Director of News Services, High School Workcamp leader, annual conference delegate.

*Vision Statement:* My vision is a church where all of God's children have a voice in the life and activity of the church and our differences are set aside when we are doing God's work.

*Church Experience:*

Local: Church Moderator, Personnel Commission Chair, Executive Committee, Christian Education Committee, Worship leader, High School youth

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**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.



**Joe Schechter:**

*Age:* 87

*Congregation:* La Verne  
Church of the  
Brethren

*Vocation:* Retired general  
surgeon

Deacon, Former local Church Moderator & Board Chair, PSWD Ethics Committee, and Carl Trust Fund -Advisory Committee, Former PSWD Moderator, Former Hillcrest Board Chair, Former LaVerne College Board member, Former General Board member, and former Association Brethren Caregivers Board member.

*Vision Statement:* Continuing the work of Jesus, Peacefully, Simply and Together.

*Church Experience:*

Member of local Envisioning Commission,



## Ballot Background Information, Exhibit B

**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.



**Linda Hart:**

*Age:* 74

*Congregation:* Pomona Fellowship Church of the Brethren

*Vocation:* Retired Special Education Teacher

*Church Experience:* Have been member of the Church Board and all the commissions, currently serving on the Music and Worship Commission. Volunteer in all aspects of the life of our church.

*Vision Statement:* To show/live Gods love in word and deed. To see the church become a place of love, service and acceptance and to continue the work of Jesus, peacefully, simply and together.

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**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.

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**PSWD Board of Administration: Southern California East Representative** (vote for 1 (three year term))  
Board members elected as sectional representatives need to reside in the section they represent, and must be a member of a Church of the Brethren congregation within the district for at least one year prior to election and must have demonstrated leadership ability.



**Becky Zapata:**

*Age:* 52

*Congregation:* Principe de Paz Church of the Brethren, Santa Ana

*Vocation:* Wife, mother of two teenagers, licensed minister, psychologist, current SeBAH student.

*Church Experience:* Local: Co-pastor at Principe de Paz CoB since 2009. District: NYC coordinator 2010, District Conference delegate. National: Church Plant training at Bethany Seminary 2009..

*Vision Statement:* To reach as many Hispanic children as possible in the name of Jesus and show them how to become Jesus lovers.

## Ballot Background Information, Exhibit B

**PSWD Board of Administration: At-Large Representatives.....** Vote for 5 (three year term)

Board members must be a member of a Church of the Brethren congregation within the district for at least one year prior to election and must have demonstrated leadership ability.



**Michael Boeger:**

*Age: 71*

*(unexpired term)*

*Congregation:* Live Oak  
Church of the Brethren

*Vocation:* Businessman

*Church Experience:* 40+ years in the Live Oak Church of the Brethren. Current Board Chair; Current member Policy Board PSWD On PSWD Stewards Commission.

*Vision Statement:* My vision is for the PSWD to advance peace; in the world, in the Church of the Brethren nationally, and within the district. The 20 plus churches in our district need to interrelate with each other and with other Brethren Institutions.



**Lois Frantz:**

*Age: 64 (incumbent)*

*Congregation:* Empire  
Church of the Brethren

*Vocation:* I am a retired  
school teacher and still  
substitute often. I still  
love the children and

miss being with them on a daily basis. I am a care giver for my 90 year old father (who is still able to live in his own home and still drives) and babysit one of my two year old grand daughters once per week.

*Church Experience:* I have been on the District Board for three years and have enjoyed helping to guide our district. I am the Children's Church teacher for our local congregation and I am church secretary for our congregation.

*Vision Statement:* As we guide our district in the coming years, I pray we can be a beacon to the underprivileged in our local areas and as a district.



**Marye Martinez:**

*(incumbent)*

*Congregation:* Modesto  
Church of the Brethren

*Vocation:* I spent over 24  
years in education as  
an elementary teacher  
and/or principal. Since

I retired the majority of my time has been involvement in service-both at my church and district and educational associations.

*Church Experience:* Since joining the Modesto Church of the Brethren I have served on witness and fellowship and recreation commissions. Help run the SERRV Gift Shop-ordering, scheduling events, traveling and setting up at District Conference and other church and peace and justice fairs. Currently, I am the deacon chairperson which includes membership on the church board. My focus ministry is grieving and assist pastors with the arrangements for memorials. I am part of the policy board and serve as vice-chair of the executive board.

*Vision Statement:* It is important to have people on our board who are committed to doing the work of the District. I am one of those people. I have good organizational skills and can effectively communicate ideas and processes that are necessary in doing the work of the District. I am a good listener and have the ability to see the whole picture and be mindful to represent all views of our individual congregation and its members. I also see a continued need to inform all members of PSWD what is going on at the District level.

## Ballot Background Information, Exhibit B



### **Jim Totzke:**

*Age:* 69

*Congregation:* Cornerstone Church of the Brethren (Reedley)

*Vocation:* MA, from Mennonite Brethren Seminary, Fresno, CA,

1976 Missionary to Japan 5 years (Mennonite Brethren) Pastored three Mennonite Brethren congregations for a total of 18 years. Pastored Cornerstone Church of the Brethren for 14 years. First time 9 years; then after 13 years called a second time as pastor, thus far 5 years.

*Church Experience:* Mennonite Brethren Pacific District: Board of Faith and Life (parallel to Policy Board) four years two as chairperson, 1996 to 2000. Church of the Brethren PSWD: PSWD Ministerial Ethics Committee 1993 to 1995; 2009 served out a one year unexpired term on the PSWD Policy Board. Fresno County Drug and Alcohol Advisory Board 1990 to 1994.

*Vision Statement:* Having served on the Policy Board for a year, I again see the opportunity to participate in bringing its influence, ways of support and wisdom to congregations and pastors, who day after day seek to be faithful to Jesus Christ in a world trying to ignore, recreate or just plain push Him out.



### **Clark Youngblood:**

*Age:* 66

*Congregation:* Circle of Peace Church of the Brethren

*Vocation:* I have recently retired after ministering as profes

sor of theology at Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, AZ. for 31 years. Grand Canyon University, originally a Southern Baptist school, is a private, non-denominational Christian Liberal Arts university.

### *Church Experience:*

Local Church Experience: – Sunday morning Adult Bible Study Teacher at Circle of Peace Church of the Brethren (2011 – present) – Member of Pastoral Search Committee for Circle of Peace Church of the Brethren (2012-2013) – Member of “Mighty Men” Men’s Group at Circle of Peace Church of the Brethren (2010 – present) – Chair of Evangelism Committee, Circle of Peace Church of the Brethren (July, 2013 – present) – Occasional Preaching and Worship Leading, Circle of Peace Church of the Brethren

### District Experience:

– Occasional Preaching at Tucson Church of the Brethren and Papago Buttes Church of the Brethren – Mentor for a Church of the Brethren Licensed Minister – Member of PSWD Church Planting and Revitalization Committee ( 2012) – Church of the Brethren ordination pending (currently hold Southern Baptist ordination).

*Vision Statement:* I am a member of the Church of the Brethren by choice. For the better part of my life, I was a Southern Baptist. Like Southern Baptists, Church of the Brethren focus on the Gospel message of salvation by God’s grace through faith in Jesus Christ. However, the working out of the Gospel is through discipleship obedience to all the Jesus taught. This means that the total Gospel includes emphases on living out all the implications of the Gospel including the Brethren emphases on peace, reconciliation, ecology, and social justice. That is one reason I have been a member of the Church of the Brethren for the past five and a half years and am completing requirements to receive Church of the Brethren ordination. However, I have a deep concern for the fact that the Church of the Brethren is in decline rather than growing. I think part of this decline is the lack of an intentional, biblical evangelism. The population is growing, and churches in metropolitan areas should also be growing. Therefore, my vision for the PSWD is that the churches become more evangelical while not sacrificing that which is distinctively Church of the Brethren – such as peace and social justice. It should not be “either-or” but rather “both-and”.

**PSWD Board of Administration: Youth & Young Adult Representative.** . Vote for 3 (one year term)  
Youth members must be at least 15 years old and less than 24 years old as of December 31 of the year elected.



**Robert Burke:**  
*Age: 19 (incumbent)*  
*Congregation:* Bakersfield Church of the Brethren  
*Vocation:* I am currently a student at Bakersfield college.

*Church Experience:* I served as a young adult representative last year.

*Vision Statement:* I hope to bring the voice of the youth of the church to a welcoming audience.

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**Sarah Henrichs:**  
*Age: 20 (incumbent)*  
*Congregation:* Circle of Peace Church of the Brethren  
*Vocation:* I am a full time junior in college waiting on approval

for admission into a Masters Counseling Program.

*Church Experience:* I was raised in the Brethren Church and have been loved and nurtured in the Circle of Peace Church Family for 20 years. My life has been enriched because of the many generations of believers who have modeled how to walk in Jesus's footsteps with love and grace in spite of all their human flaws. I have been fortunate to participate at multiple work camps and to attend National Youth Conference. All these experiences and opportunities have been amazing. I learned a lot about the real me and learned what it really means to serve the Lord along with serving others. Also through these experiences I realized what a blessed life I live and how to cherish life and the people in it. I have already served one year on the board and with your support, will hopefully serve another.

*Vision Statement:* Look at my Church Experience. It answers both.



**Rayna Harrison:**  
*Age: 16*  
*Congregation:* La Verne Church of the Brethren  
*Vocation:* I am a junior at Upland High School.

*Church Experience:* I have attended the La Verne Church of the Brethren for the last 14 years. I was introduced to the church when my best friend from pre-school asked me to go with her. I felt welcomed and loved so my whole family joined. I was baptized into the church at the age of 11. My mother is now the kitchen coordinator for the church, so I get the chance to work with her quite often and feed our congregation. The stories told in the kitchen and the things I have learned are priceless to me. I also try to be very active in all youth activities. I have attended district conference twice and other PSWD youth conferences. This summer I am attending EYC (Exploring Your Call) at Earlham College in Indiana.

*Vision Statement:* Given the opportunity to be on the district board as a youth representative I would do my absolute best to represent the youth in the best way I know how. I am anxious to learn more about our church and help in any way I can. I have always been interested in how the PSWD churches work together at the higher level and this position will give me the chance to explore those relationships. I love working with people, coming up with solutions, and creating ways to get more people involved. I love my church and would be truly honored to be on the board as a youth/young adult representative.



**Camp La Verne Trustee Nominee.** ..... (vote for 1)  
The three year term begins in accordance with the policy of Camp La Verne.



**Marlyn “Lyn” Sylva:**  
*Age:* 65  
*Congregation:* La Verne  
Church of the Brethren  
*Vocation:* Retired Non  
Profit Youth Executive  
(Girl Scouts, Boys &  
Girls Clubs of

America, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America);  
High School Teacher; Girl Scout for 52 years &  
troop leader for 7; Boy Scout Leader (8 years) &  
Ventura County Council BSA High Adventure  
Team member for 3 years; Big Sister mentor for 9  
years; Three adult children; 3 grand children.

*Church Experience:* Camp La Verne volunteer  
director; made cabin drapes for newly winterized  
cabin; grant writer researching grants for camp  
repairs, etc.

*Vision Statement:* I would like to assist Camp  
La Verne in providing the safe, nurturing  
environment for youth of all ages to enjoy Camp  
La Verne as they experience the wonders of God’s  
creation in such a beautiful, natural setting.



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## **INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT**

### **To the Board of Directors Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren**

We have reviewed the accompanying statement of financial position of **Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren**, a nonprofit organization, as of December 31, 2012, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of Organization management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is to expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements.

Our responsibility is to conduct the review in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our report.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2011 were audited by us, and we expressed an unqualified opinion on them in our report dated August 1, 2012, but we have not performed any auditing procedures since that date.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Suchan &amp; Associates'.

**Suchan & Associates  
An Accountancy Corporation**

**Ontario, California  
August 8, 2013**

# Pacific Southwest District 2014 Ministry Investment Plan

## 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.

We are committed to developing leadership within the district while continuing our support for pastoral ministry grants. The following 2014 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 2012 reflect actual income and expenses. The figures for 2013 reflect the anticipated income and expenses based on the first five months of 2013. The figures for 2015 to 2016 reflect the projected income and expenses for those years.

It is the hope of the Board of Administration that the 2014 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 3, 2013, approved the Ministry Investment Plan for consideration by the Pacific Southwest District Conference on November 9, 2013.



## Pacific Southwest District 2014 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  
Love  
Service*

*Peacemaking  
Simplicity  
Diversity*

*Social Responsibility  
Fiduciary Responsibility  
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.

<b>Contribution Income</b>	<b>2012 Actual</b>	<b>2013 Anticipated</b>	<b>2014 Proposal</b>	<b>2015 Projected</b>	<b>2016 Projected</b>
Individuals	3,041	14,000	4,000	5,000	5,000
Congregations	27,950	30,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Closed Congregations	0	0	0	0	0
Groups	0	0	0	0	0
Children's Disaster Services	0	200	300	400	500
Other	20	140	160	160	170
<b>Total Contribution Income</b>	<b>31,011</b>	<b>44,340</b>	<b>29,460</b>	<b>30,560</b>	<b>30,670</b>

### 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 the District is able to support a variety of ministry needs and projects.

<b>Investment Income</b>	<b>2012 Actual</b>	<b>2013 Anticipated</b>	<b>2014 Proposal</b>	<b>2015 Projected</b>	<b>2016 Projected</b>
Checking/Money Market	2	3	6	13	19
Notes Receivable Interest	26,102	24,387	24,003	22,322	21,092
Investment Funds (5%) return	571,825	265,786	235,126	202,059	207,435
Sale of Church Property	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	1,722	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600
<b>Total Investment Income:</b>	<b>599,651</b>	<b>291,776</b>	<b>260,735</b>	<b>225,994</b>	<b>230,146</b>

## 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, and other ministry events, provide for effective ministry in the local congregation.

<b>Participation Income</b>	<b>2012 Actual</b>	<b>2013 Anticipated</b>	<b>2014 Proposal</b>	<b>2015 Projected</b>	<b>2016 Projected</b>
District Conference	19,096	21,000	21,000	22,200	23,200
Events	1,267	1,350	4,600	1,900	2,200
Side-Doors Ministry	2,720	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Participation Income:</b>	<b>23,083</b>	<b>22,350</b>	<b>25,600</b>	<b>24,100</b>	<b>25,400</b>
<b>TOTAL MINISTRY INCOME:</b>	<b>653,745</b>	<b>358,466</b>	<b>315,795</b>	<b>280,654</b>	<b>286,216</b>

## 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.

<b>Congregational Development Ministry</b>	<b>2012 Actual</b>	<b>2013 Anticipated</b>	<b>2014 Proposal</b>	<b>2015 Projected</b>	<b>2016 Projected</b>
Side-Doors Ministry	3,316	0	0	0	0
Web Site Development	193	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Vital Ministry Journey	0	0	3,500	0	0
Ministry Support Grants <i>(one-time grants empowering congregations to develop new ways of reaching out to their communities)</i>	298,822	337,820	332,107	301,711	210,000
<b>Total Congregational Development Ministry:</b>	<b>302,331</b>	<b>338,820</b>	<b>337,607</b>	<b>303,711</b>	<b>212,000</b>

## Pastoral Leadership and Support Ministry

The Ministry Commission supports and challenges our PSWD Ministers (licensed and ordained) to a Gospel Ministry that embraces growth in education, health, ethics, active spiritual discernment, and salvation.

All our Licensed Ministers will be engaged in an approved, active educational/discernment process that leads them towards ordination or a return to vital lay ministry. These approved educational activities include TRIM, SeBAH, and Bethany Theological Seminary (along with other properly credentialed seminaries). It also includes ministers education events sponsored by the Ministry Commission.

All our pastors, chaplains, and other encouraged ministers are called to gather not only at District Conference, but also our annual Pastor's Retreat (including their spouses) to the benefit of their Biblical, spiritual and physical health. The overarching goal of this Pastor's Retreat is to support the 2007 Unity Statement passed unanimously by the District Conference of that year.

PSWD has in place administrative procedures and polity that assure the proper New Testament calling of pastors and those discerning their call in ministry for the Church of the Brethren.

PSWD holds our licensed and ordained ministers to the highest level of ethical behavior with accordance with the Annual Conference paper on Ethics in Ministry and Relationships.

The Ministry Commission advocates and promotes effective ways for our licensed and ordained ministers to fulfill their calling to be spiritually/physically healthy and thus have a greater opportunity to be successful in their ministries.

<b>Pastoral Leadership and Support Ministry</b>	<b>2012 Actual</b>	<b>2013 Anticipated</b>	<b>2014 Proposal</b>	<b>2015 Projected</b>	<b>2016 Projected</b>
Training in Ministry (TRIM)	3,364	3,600	6,000	6,000	6,000
Seminario Biblico Anabautista Hispano (SeBAH)	5,958	7,000	8,800	8,800	8,800
Bethany Theological Seminary Student Grants/Loans	3,000	6,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Pastors Retreat	8,946	16,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Minister's Workshop	13,310	12,500	10,000	10,000	10,000
Other District Workshops	0	3,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Professional Growth Subsidy (PSWD Events)	0	3,100	4,000	4,000	4,500
Minister's Ethics Training(2014 only)			2,000		
<b>Total Pastoral Leadership and Support Ministry:</b>	<b>34,578</b>	<b>51,200</b>	<b>58,800</b>	<b>56,800</b>	<b>57,300</b>

## 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.

<b>District Empowering Ministry</b>	<b>2012 Actual</b>	<b>2013 Anticipated</b>	<b>2014 Proposal</b>	<b>2015 Projected</b>	<b>2016 Projected</b>
District Conference	19,379	34,000	22,000	23,000	28,300
Ministry Commission	1,891	7,300	5,800	5,800	5,800
Stewards Commission	0	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100
Board of Administration and Work Groups	23,099	20,000	22,500	20,300	21,300
Nurturing and Credentialing Committee (NACC)	2,120	4,000	5,000	3,000	3,000
Shalom Team	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Resource Materials	150	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Inter-Cultural Ministry	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
National Youth Conference (NYC)	0	0	40,000	0	0
Youth Cabinet Travel	1,670	5,500	5,500	5,800	5,800
<b>Total District Empowering Ministry:</b>	<b>48,309</b>	<b>75,900</b>	<b>105,900</b>	<b>63,000</b>	<b>69,300</b>

## 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.

<b>Partnership and Property Ministry</b>	<b>2012 Actual</b>	<b>2013 Anticipated</b>	<b>2014 Proposal</b>	<b>2015 Projected</b>	<b>2016 Projected</b>
Denominational Assessment	1,586	1,600	1,700	1,700	1,700
Standing Committee	2,568	2,000	2,500	2,500	2,500
University of La Verne	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Ecumenical Councils	1,600	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Council of District Executives	(764)	1,300	1,000	1,000	1,000
Property	304,124	122,201	46,200	46,300	11,300
<b>Total Partnership and Property Ministry:</b>	<b>314,114</b>	<b>133,101</b>	<b>57,400</b>	<b>57,500</b>	<b>22,500</b>

## 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.

<b>Service Ministry</b>	<b>2012 Actual</b>	<b>2013 Anticipated</b>	<b>2014 Proposal</b>	<b>2015 Projected</b>	<b>2016 Projected</b>
Disaster Response	5,077	6,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Children's Disaster Services	196	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
<b>Total Service Ministry:</b>	<b>5,273</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>



## **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.

<b>District Operating Ministry</b>	<b>2012 Actual</b>	<b>2013 Anticipated</b>	<b>2014 Proposal</b>	<b>2015 Projected</b>	<b>2016 Projected</b>
Office Space and Utilities	36,871	38,422	39,948	42,000	44,200
Equipment and Maintenance	7,819	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500
Supplies/Printing/Publications	16,019	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500
Postage and Mailing	2,903	3,000	4,000	4,400	4,800
Insurance	8,493	8,750	9,250	9,800	10,100
Audit and Professional Fees	20,620	18,800	21,600	25,600	22,100
Staff Salaries	207,321	210,260	213,203	223,100	229,800
Staff Benefits and Retired Church Workers' Fund	45,509	43,300	47,318	51,800	56,300
Staff Travel/Professional Growth	50,008	53,200	52,100	52,100	52,100
New Life/Publications/ Email Newsletters	4,265	5,520	5,600	5,600	5,600
<b>Total District Operating Ministry:</b>	<b>399,828</b>	<b>399,252</b>	<b>411,019</b>	<b>432,400</b>	<b>443,000</b>
<b>TOTAL MINISTRY INVESTMENTS:</b>	<b>1,104,433</b>	<b>1,009,273</b>	<b>980,726</b>	<b>923,411</b>	<b>814,100</b>

## Summary of Ministry Income and Ministry Investments

<b>MINISTRY INCOME</b>	<b>2012 Actual</b>	<b>2013 Anticipated</b>	<b>2014 Proposal</b>	<b>2015 Projected</b>	<b>2016 Projected</b>
Contribution Income (p. <a href="#">53</a> )	31,011	44,340	29,460	30,560	30,670
Investment Income (p. <a href="#">53</a> )	599,651	291,776	260,735	225,994	230,146
Participation Income (p. <a href="#">54</a> )	23,083	22,350	25,600	24,100	25,400
<b>TOTAL MINISTRY INCOME:</b>	<b>653,745</b>	<b>358,466</b>	<b>315,795</b>	<b>280,654</b>	<b>286,216</b>

<b>MINISTRY INVESTMENTS</b>	<b>2012 Actual</b>	<b>2013 Anticipated</b>	<b>2014 Proposal</b>	<b>2015 Projected</b>	<b>2016 Projected</b>
Congregational Development Ministry Investments (p. <a href="#">55</a> )	302,331	338,820	337,607	303,711	212,000
Pastoral Leadership and Support Ministry Investments (p. <a href="#">56</a> )	34,578	51,200	58,800	56,800	57,300
District Empowering Ministry Investments (p. <a href="#">57</a> )	48,309	75,900	105,900	63,000	69,300
Partnership and Property Ministry Investments (p. <a href="#">58</a> )	314,114	133,101	57,400	57,500	22,500
Service Ministry Investments (p. <a href="#">58</a> )	5,273	11,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
District Operating Ministry Investments (p. <a href="#">59</a> )	399,828	399,252	411,019	432,400	443,000
<b>TOTAL MINISTRY INVESTMENTS</b>	<b>1,104,433</b>	<b>1,009,273</b>	<b>980,726</b>	<b>923,411</b>	<b>814,100</b>

<b>PROJECTED YEARLY INCREASE/DECREASE IN PSWD NET ASSETS</b>	<b>2012 Actual</b>	<b>2013 Anticipated</b>	<b>2014 Proposal</b>	<b>2015 Projected</b>	<b>2016 Projected</b>
	(450,688)	(650,807)	(664,931)	(642,757)	(527,884)

# Board of Administration Strategic Plan Statement

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## Introduction

At the 2012 District Conference, a question came from the floor requesting a “strategic plan” for the District. At every Board of Administration meeting this year, the topic has been discussed and reviewed. The purpose of this paper is to provide District Conference with an overview of the Board’s vision for the future from both a faith and business perspective.

Background from By-Laws: The Pacific Southwest District (District) was formed to promote the work and mission of Jesus Christ through the Church of the Brethren, to enhance the worship of God and the witness of our denomination to the saving grace and love of God, and to glorify God through the Church. The Board of Administration (Board) was formed to manage and administer the religious and business activities of the District as authorized by District conference.

## The Faith Journey

Each Board meeting begins by prayerfully considering our role as servants of the District and asking for God’s guidance in providing leadership. We strive to do our work for the glory of God and our neighbors’ good. In that spirit over the past years, Board has adopted these statements:

- ! Our Mission: To support congregations in their calling to serve, baptize, and teach in the name of Jesus Christ.
- ! Our Vision: To be a visible community of faith, supporting and engaging a variety of Christ Centered ministries.
- ! Our Values: Christ-likeness, Love, Service, Peacemaking, Simplicity, Diversity, Social Responsibility, Fiduciary Responsibility, Ecumenism.

As we address the future of the District, we have continued to search for ways to develop further in being a listening, praying, and serving people. “In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”(Matt. 5.16) The Board is convinced that our vitality in living our faith in our lives, congregations and District will pave the road ahead.

We are recommending that congregations in Pacific Southwest District embark on defining their “Vital Ministry Journey”. That ministry should reflect vital congregations as being centrally related to God’s love and blessing. Each local congregation is part of the Body of Christ and called to live and act as a sign and instrument of God’s kingdom (1 Cor. 3.6). Vital congregations develop a passionate and clear sense of identity. These churches know who they are, what they believe, what they value, where they are going, and how they will get there.

## The Business Side

The business of the District addresses how we go about funding church planting, ethics, education, funding, licensing, ordination, property, pastoral placement, relationships with other institutions, training, and the organization of District-wide activities.

Over the past years, The District Board has pursued a path of using the proceeds from the sales of churches to support church growth and District program. This has been a strategic effort to support existing churches and where possible to start new churches. And over time, we have learned many lessons through our opportunities for growth. Our approach has been a consistent expression of faith in action.

The Board of Administration recognizes that from a financial perspective:

- ! Over the past twenty years, some churches have fallen in membership or dissolved.
- ! Church grants have yielded mixed results.
- ! Churches under financial stress have not been able to contribute to the District.
- ! The District is seen by some as having more than adequate funding from property sales.
- ! The alternatives for long term solvency remain the same as they have for twenty years:
  - " If churches grow and become more vital, they will be able to increase financial support of the district.
  - " If additional churches fail, District operations may be funded by the sales of property.
  - " If the status quo continues, beginning in 2020 District funding at current levels will no longer be sustainable.

The Board has confirmed that the support of church vitality and growth will continue to be key elements in the direction of the District. Programs to support vitality and growth will be reflected in the preparation of the annual three year Ministry Investment Plan presented to the District Conference for approval.

## Ending thoughts

We recognize that our world has been shifting for some time in ways that are requiring structures and systems to shift and change if they are to not only survive, but thrive again. At all levels (national/regional/local) the church is among those structures that must recommit to its' purpose and mission, yet explore new ways of being and doing church.

In our District we affirm that there remains a deep need in our world for communities of faith focused on serving their God and their neighbors. The concepts of living peacefully, simply and together still resonate strongly with people around us who are worn with the burdens of life. As a Board, we want to focus on bringing our light into the world, rather than retreating from it. We want to continue to work at helping one another understand how the world is shifting, and how each local congregation can be vitally alive and growing in the unique context in this time and place.

While we encourage the growth opportunities now moving forward in many congregations, and look forward to those to come, we also know that using savings for on-going operations cannot continue indefinitely. But we also know that with our District Executive's resignation, a significant time of reassessment of district staffing and district office facilities are in order and directly before us. In light of this we move forward with the following immediate strategic plan:

We will continue to actively encourage the vitality and growth of our congregations investing in that work for at least the next two years. We will move into the process of reassessing district structure, facilities and the hiring of a new District Executive.

After any transitions regarding staff and facilities are complete, the Board, with the new District Executive, will reassess where we are as a district, and reaffirm or propose a new focus and direction for the next 3-5 years ahead.

## 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
1969. ....	Bakersfield. ....	October 10-12. ....	Edward K. Ziegler
1970. ....	Phoenix First. ....	October 9-11. ....	Jerry Davis
1971. ....	Modesto. ....	October 15-17. ....	Harold D. Fasnacht
1972. ....	La Verne. ....	October 13-15. ....	Duane Wyles
1973. ....	Fresno. ....	October 11-13. ....	Paul E. Miller
1974. ....	Pasadena. ....	October 11-13. ....	John W. Hunter
1975. ....	Empire. ....	October 10-12. ....	Ida S. Howell
1976. ....	Long Beach. ....	October 15-17. ....	Marvin A. Belcher
1977. ....	McFarland. ....	October 7-9. ....	D. Eugene Lichty
1978. ....	University of La Verne. ....	October 13-15. ....	Norman N. Glick
1979. ....	Modesto. ....	November 9-11. ....	Arthur M. Baldwin
1980. ....	Phoenix First. ....	October 24-26. ....	LaVon Rupel
1981. ....	Fresno. ....	October 16-18. ....	C. Wayne Zunkel
1982. ....	Pomona Fellowship. ....	October 15-17. ....	Barbara Enberg
1983. ....	Empire. ....	October 14-16. ....	Irven Stern
1984. ....	South Bay. ....	November 9-11. ....	Galen Snell
1985. ....	McFarland. ....	November 8-10. ....	Dwayne Brubaker
1986. ....	Imperial Heights. ....	October 17-19. ....	Robert E. Keim
1987. ....	Prince of Peace, Sacramento. ....	October 16-18. ....	Jerry Davis
1988. ....	Long Beach. ....	October 7-9. ....	W. Donald Clague
1989. ....	Modesto. ....	November 3-5. ....	Richard L. Landrum
1990. ....	Phoenix First. ....	October 12-14. ....	Sherlo Shively
1991. ....	Glendale (CA). ....	October 11-13. ....	Harold J. Forney
1992. ....	Waterford. ....	November 13-15. ....	Donald E. Fancher
1993. ....	La Verne. ....	October 8-10. ....	Myrna L. Wheeler
1994. ....	Fresno. ....	November 11-13. ....	Pat Royer
1995. ....	County of San Diego. ....	October 6-8. ....	Lowell Brubaker
1996. ....	Modesto. ....	October 11-13. ....	Milton H. Ewert
1997. ....	Pomona Fellowship. ....	October 10-12. ....	Peggy Redman
1998. ....	South Bay / Imperial Heights. ....	September 18-20. ....	Jerry Davis
1999. ....	Phoenix First. ....	October 8-10. ....	Karen Walters
2000. ....	Sacramento / Live Oak. ....	October 13-15. ....	Belita Mitchell
2001. ....	Bakersfield. ....	October 5-7. ....	Sherlo Shively
2002. ....	La Verne. ....	October 4-6. ....	George Sparks
2003. ....	Community Brethren, Fresno. ....	September 19-21. ....	Bill Wagoner, Honorary Myrna Wheeler, Acting
2004. ....	Pomona. ....	October 29-31. ....	David Hurlbut
2005. ....	Modesto. ....	October 7-9. ....	R. Jan Thompson
2006. ....	Papago Buttes. ....	October 27-29. ....	Joe Schechter
2007. ....	La Verne. ....	October 12-14. ....	Mary Kay Ogden
2008. ....	Community Brethren, Fresno. ....	November 7-9. ....	John Price
2009. ....	Sacramento. ....	November 6-8. ....	Jim Martinez
2010. ....	Hillcrest, La Verne. ....	November 12-14. ....	Felton Daniels
2011. ....	Hillcrest, La Verne. ....	November 11-13. ....	Karen Walters
2012. ....	Hillcrest, La Verne. ....	November 9-11. ....	Jack Storne
2013. ....	Scottsdale, AZ. ....	November 8-10. ....	Jim LeFever

# 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. . . . .	Glenn Stanford ( <i>interim</i> )
1995. . . . .	R. Jan Thompson. . . . .	Gene Hipskind
1996. . . . .	Tom Bryant. . . . .	Gene Hipskind
1997 – 1999. . . . .	Jonathan Shively. . . . .	Gene Hipskind
2000 – 2001. . . . .	Ernest Snyder. . . . .	Gene Hipskind
2002. . . . .	Sara Haldeman-Scarr. . . . .	Gene Hipskind
		Richard Hart ( <i>interim</i> )
2003. . . . .	Sara Haldeman-Scarr. . . . .	Richard Hart ( <i>interim</i> )
		Dean Kieffaber ( <i>interim</i> )
		Bryan Boyer
2004 – 2006. . . . .	Paul Lovelace. . . . .	Bryan Boyer
2007. . . . .	Jim Davis. . . . .	Bryan Boyer
2008. . . . .	Bill Johnson. . . . .	Bryan Boyer
		Richard Hart ( <i>interim</i> )
		Mary Kay Ogden ( <i>interim</i> )
		Randy Yoder ( <i>interim</i> )
		Don Booz ( <i>December</i> )
2009. . . . .	Myrna Wheeler ( <i>through July</i> ). . . . .	Don Booz
	Thomas Dowdy ( <i>began in August</i> ). . . . .	Don Booz
2010. . . . .	Thomas Dowdy ( <i>through January 9</i> ). . . . .	Don Booz
	Don Fancher ( <i>began January 9</i> ). . . . .	Don Booz
2011 – 2013. . . . .	Don Fancher. . . . .	Don Booz



## Activity Locations

See also Schedule on pages [3](#), [5](#)

- ! Registration – Fr. Owen room (Halle building)
- ! Exhibits – Fr. Owen room (Halle building)
- ! Worship Friday & Saturday, Business – Church
- ! Worship Sunday – Altar Ramada (outside)
- ! Ice Cream Social – Br. Anthony room (Halle building) & Palm Court
- ! Prayer – Meditation Chapel or Healing Garden
- ! Visiting & Relaxation – Rose Court, Palm Court, Pool, Jacuzzi
- ! Meditative Walk – Labyrinth or Meditation & Health Walk
- ! Hospitality on Saturday – Br. Anthony room (Halle building)

## Meal Locations

- ! **Conference Meals** – Dining Room (*pre-paid with Registration*)
- ! Coffee, Tea (When dining room closed) – Coffee & More Room (Portiuncula building)
- ! Soda, Bottled Water – 3 Vending Machines throughout property

## Insight Sessions:

- ! Serra room (Piper Hall building)
- ! Tekakwitha room (right of Meditation Chapel)
- ! St. Agnes room (upper right parking area)
- ! St. Barbara room (upper right parking area)

## Age Group Activity Locations

- ! Child Care – Room F (Konfara building)
- ! K-5th – Room H (Portiuncula building)
- ! Jr High & Youth – Sr. Luca room (upper right parking area)

Franciscan  
Renewal  
Center



Smoke Free Campus  
Buildings close at 9:00pm



No Parking in Staff marked curbs and spaces

## Locations: Left → Right / West → East / Top → Bottom

Meditation & Health Walk  
Labyrinth – Walk on Friday evening & Saturday morning  
Sr. Luca room – Youth Activities  
Altar Ramada – Sunday Worship Outside  
St. Barbara room – Insight Session  
St. Agnes room – Insight Session  
Meditation Chapel – Lectio Divina on Friday evening & Saturday morning  
Guadalupe room – All Ministers' Pre-Conference Educational Event  
Tekakwitha room – Insight Session  
Rose Court – Visiting & Relaxation  
Portiuncula building– Coffee & More / Children's K-5 Activities  
Swimming Pool & Jacuzzi  
Serra room (Piper Hall building) – Insight Session  
Room F (Konfara building), – Child Care  
Palm Court – Relaxation / Visiting / Ice Cream Social  
Fr. Owen room (Halle building) – Registration / Exhibits / Serrv  
Br. Anthony room (Halle building) – Friday Women's Event / Relaxation / Visiting / Ice Cream Social  
/ Sunday Board Reorganization / Saturday Hospitality  
Church – Friday & Saturday Worship / Saturday Business  
Dinning Room – All meals  
Healing Garden  
Meditation & Health Walk

