

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

4 **November 10, 2012**

**Hillcrest Homes, La Verne, California**

5 **I. Call to Order**

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

7 **II. Welcome**

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

11 **III. Appointments**

- 12 A. Timekeeper Karen Pierson was introduced. Parliamentarian Jerry Davis was introduced.  
13 Tellers Kirsten Storne-Piazza and Nohemi Flores were introduced.  
14 B. A committee to verify the accuracy of the 2012 minutes was named: Russ Matteson  
15 (Modesto), Linda Davis (Church of the Living Savior), and Richard Hart (Pomona  
16 Fellowship).

17 **IV. Introduction of Conference Officers**

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

20 **V. Opening Prayer**

21 Moderator Jack Storne led the attendees in prayer.

22 **VI. Quorum**

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

24 **VII. Dedication of Delegates**

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

26 **VIII. Approval of Agenda**

27 **The agenda was approved by consensus.**

28 **IX. Approval of 2011 Minutes**

- 29 A. In June 2012, the draft copy of the minutes was examined by the committee: Linda Davis  
30 (Church of the Living Savior), Joe Schechter (La Verne), and Pat Royer (Modesto).  
31 B. **The minutes of the 2011 District Conference were approved by consensus.**

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

- 33 A. Don Fancher directed the delegates to page 17 of the Business Book for his report. Don  
34 expressed appreciation to the members of the Board of Administration, Ministry  
35 Commission, Stewards Commission, Nurturing and Credentialing Committee, TRIM,  
36 SeBAH, Grant Review Committee - all who do the work of the District.  
37 B. There were no questions for Don Fancher.

- 1 **XI. Report from the District Executive Minister**
- 2 A. Don Booz showed a video about the Pacific Southwest District Board and some of its
- 3 ministries.
- 4 B. Don Booz thanked Joe Vecchio, Brenda Perez, Ralph Carlton, and Dawna Welch for
- 5 their work on behalf of the District.
- 6 C. Don Booz introduced the Youth Cabinet: Josalyn Romero (Circle of Peace), Joshua Roy
- 7 (Modesto), Jake Hoover (La Verne), Israel Rosas (Glendale), Mollie Montgomery
- 8 (Bakersfield), and Michael Terry (Live Oak). Dawna Welch and the Youth Cabinet
- 9 received a round of applause from the conference attendees.
- 10 D. Don Booz recognized the Board of Administration.
- 11 E. Don Booz spoke about effective leadership and showed a short video about children's
- 12 ideas about leadership. The pastors of the Pacific Southwest District Board were
- 13 recognized for their leadership.
- 14 F. Don Booz spoke about the Church Planting and Revitalization Committee (CPR) and its
- 15 upcoming insight sessions and the two proposed resolutions.
- 16 G. Don Booz spoke about the Ministry Investment Plan and the insight session that will be
- 17 held today. At the January 2013 board retreat, the board will work on strategic planning.
- 18 H. The delegates were directed to page 10 of the Business Book for a written report.
- 19 **XII. Introduction of the 2013 Ballot**
- 20 The delegates were directed to page 13 of the Business Book. Instructions for making
- 21 nominations from the floor were given. The nominees were introduced to the delegates by a
- 22 PowerPoint show.
- 23 **XIII. Proposed By-Laws Change for District Conference Program Committee**
- 24 A. Don Fancher directed the delegates to page 51 of the Business Book and gave a
- 25 background of the size and structure of the Program Committee. The change adds two
- 26 members and makes the district moderator chair of the committee.
- 27 B. A time was given for comments and questions.
- 28 C. **This comes as a recommendation from the Board of Administration. Approved, two**
- 29 **nay votes.**
- 30 **XIV. Proposed By-Laws Change for Nominating Committee**
- 31 A. Don Fancher directed the delegates to page 52 of the Business Book and gave a
- 32 background of the Nominating Committee. The change makes the moderator-elect chair.
- 33 B. A time was given for comments and questions.
- 34 C. **This comes as a recommendation from the Board of Administration. Approved,**
- 35 **unanimously.**
- 36 **XV. Resolution on Church Planting**
- 37 A. Don Fancher directed the delegates to page 53 of the Business Book and gave a
- 38 background on the resolution.
- 39 B. A time for discussion and comments was given.
- 40 C. **This comes as a recommendation from the Board of Administration. Approved,**
- 41 **unanimously.**
- 42 **XVI. Program Committee Report**
- 43 Moderator Jack Storne spoke about the challenges involved in planning a conference and
- 44 thanked the committee members who worked diligently on the conference planning. The
- 45 2013 conference will be held at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale, Arizona.

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

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

7 **XVIII. Election of Officers**

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

32 **XIX. Report on Annual Conference**

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

35 **XX. Standing Committee Report**

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

39 **XXI. Reports from District Related Institutions**

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

- 1 C. **Camp La Verne**: No verbal report. Their written report is on page 26 of the Business  
2 Book.
- 3 D. **Hillcrest**: No verbal report. Their written report is on page 24 of the Business Book.
- 4 **XXII. Resolution on Church Revitalization**
- 5 A. Don Fancher directed the delegates to page 54 of the Business Book. Don explained that  
6 this is a permanent body that is concerned with revitalization of existing congregations  
7 rather than trying to work ad hoc with a congregation that needs assistance.
- 8 B. Don Fancher answered a question about funding this resolution. At the present time, no  
9 one knows what will be involved, but if a large amount is needed, it would come to the  
10 conference in the future.
- 11 C. **This comes as a recommendation from the Board of Administration. The resolution**  
12 **was approved, unanimously.**
- 13 **XXIII. Ministry Investment Plan**
- 14 A. Don Fancher directed the delegates to pages 56-64 of the Business Book.
- 15 B. There was some discussion and questions were answered.
- 16 C. **This comes as a recommendation from the Board of Administration. Approved, one**  
17 **nay vote.**
- 18 **XXIV. Reports from Denominational Agencies**
- 19 A. A video was shown highlighting the denominational agencies: Bethany Seminary,  
20 Brethren Benefit Trust, Church of the Brethren, and On Earth Peace.
- 21 B. CoB General Secretary Stan Noffsinger spoke about ministries in Haiti, Spain, Sudan,  
22 and Brazil, as well as the upcoming junior high and older adult conferences. There are a  
23 lot of exciting things happening in the Church of the Brethren.
- 24 C. Bethany Seminary Executive Director of Institutional Advancement & Gift Planning  
25 Lowell Flory gave an update about Bethany Seminary and the changes being made  
26 because of advancing technology.
- 27 **XXV. Moderator's Closing Remarks**
- 28 Moderator Jack Storne thanked all of those who have worked on this year's conference and  
29 asked us all to remember in prayer those who will be taking office and working on next  
30 year's conference. Jack thanked the attendees for the honor of serving as Moderator.
- 31 **XXVI. Passing of the Gavel**
- 32 Jack Storne passed the gavel to Jim LeFever.
- 33 **XXVII. Adjournment**
- 34 Jim LeFever adjourned the conference at 3:47 p.m. with prayer.
- 35 \_\_\_\_\_
- 36 Minutes recorded by Laura Miller, Clerk
- 37 \_\_\_\_\_
- 38 In June 2013, the draft copy of the minutes was examined by the committee: Russ Matteson  
39 (Modesto), Linda Davis (Church of the Living Savior), and Richard Hart (Pomona Fellowship).