

Approval of DBA for Pasadena Congregation
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Background

For many years the congregation at Pasadena made an annual decision to continue in operation. In 2019 they began to explore the possibility of working to launch a Spanish language congregation alongside the English language congregation. They had begun a relationship with a husband and wife team who were at Fuller Seminary and came from Columbia who were interested in doing this work. Juan Pablo Plaza and Adriana Rios were soon joined by a classmate from Chile, Fernanda Navarrete, and as the pandemic began they started the work of building a Spanish language congregation using the name Conexion Pasadena.

2020 and 2021 were very challenging for the small and aging Pasadena congregation and by the fall of 2021 they turned over the operation of the church facility and the finances to the pastoral team of the Spanish language group. The English language group ceased meeting in late 2021 and the work of the congregation continues with the Spanish language church.

In addition, the pastoral team is operating in the United States with R-1 Visas which allow them to provide leadership for a church. Those Visas are connected to their work as part of the Pasadena Church of the Brethren, and so it is important that the Pasadena congregation continues to exist.

The District Executive Board had provided approval for the Spanish language group to use the name Conexion Pasadena. However, due to the needs related to the visas and ongoing commitments of the Pasadena congregation with tenants, it has been determined that it would be best to have this group be the continuation of the Pasadena congregation and file a DBA (Doing Business As) for the name Conexion Pasadena. Bank accounts will have the DBA added so checks can be written to the Pasadena COB or to Conexion Pasadena.

Action of the the Pasadena COB leadership team:

The Leadership Team of the congregation, meeting on September 6, 2022, voted to ask the District to approve the name Conexion Pasadena as the DBA for the Pasadena COB.

Action of the Pacific Southwest District Executive Board:

The Executive Board of the Pacific Southwest District, meeting on September 9, 2022, approved the request for consideration by the Pacific Southwest District Conference on November 12, 2022.