

1 **Minutes of the**
2 **Sixtieth Annual District Conference**
3 **Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren**

4 **November 11, 2023**

University of La Verne, La Verne, CA

5 **I. Call to Order**

- 6 ● The meeting was called to order at 1:50 p.m. with prayer offered by Judy Stout.
7 ● Russ Matteson gave instructions to the delegates attending by Zoom.

8 **II. Introduction of the University of La Verne President**

9 Eric Bishop introduced Dr. Pardis Mahdavi, the new president of the University of La Verne.
10 Dr. Mahdavi welcomed the conference attendees to the campus of the University of La Verne.

11 **III. Establishment of Quorum: Laura Miller**

12 54 delegates were present and 19 congregations were represented. A quorum was established.

13 **IV. Dedication of Delegates: Judy Stout**

14 Judy Stout led the delegates in the Dedication of Delegates on page 8 of the Business Book.

15 **V. Introduction of Conference Leadership: Judy Stout**

16 Judy Stout introduced Paul Lovelace, Moderator-elect; Russ Matteson, District Executive
17 Minister; Laura Miller, Clerk; and Julia Wheeler, timekeeper. Russ Matteson explained the
18 rules for speaking.

19 **VI. Approval of Agenda and Minutes from the 2022 Conference: Judy Stout**

20 The 2023 agenda and minutes from the 2022 conference were presented.

21 **Erik Brummett (Live Oak) moved that Item 4D be removed from the agenda. Judy Stout**
22 **read the item. Phil Corr (Church of the Living Savior) seconded the motion.** Erik
23 Brummett explained that there have been conversations that indicate a reconciliation may be
24 possible.

25 **The amendment to delete 4D from the agenda was approved.**

26 **The amended agenda and minutes from 2022 were approved.**

27 **VII. Assignment of Committee to Certify the Accuracy of the 2023 Minutes: Judy Stout**

28 Gail Heisel, Janet Short, and Phil Corr were assigned as the committee to certify the minutes.

29 **VIII. Table Conversation**

30 The Table Talk items to be discussed were to introduce yourself to others, discuss your
31 takeaway from the worship services at this conference, and answer whether the workshops were
32 helpful for you in being the hands and feet of Jesus.

33 **IX. Introduction of Ballot: Paul Lovelace**

34 A. Paul Lovelace directed the delegates to page 53 in the Business Book. Paul corrected two
35 items: the year at the top of pages 53 and 54 and that Kim Boardman was not the
36 incumbent in the position of Standing Committee Alternate.

37 B. Paul Lovelace read the names of the nominees and their positions. There were no
38 nominations from the floor.

39 **Jacob Bruneli (San Diego First) moved and Susan Price (Empire) seconded that we**
40 **approve the ballot by affirmation. Approved.**

- 1 C. The following people were elected to the PSWD 2024 positions:
 2 1. Norma Sexton, Moderator-Elect
 3 2. Shawn Carothers, Standing Committee Representative
 4 3. Kim Boardman, Standing Committee Representative Alternate
 5 4. Jose Rudy Amaya, Nominating Committee
 6 5. Janice Shaw-Morgan, Program Committee
 7 6. Michael Monson, Northern California Policy Board Representative
 8 7. Jim Lefever, Southern California West Representative
 9 8. Jonathan Chubb, Policy Board at large member
 10 9. Arnaldo Mendoza, Policy Board at large member
 11 10. Madison McMillen, Youth and Young Adult Policy Board Representative
 12
- 13 **X. Report from Eder Financial: Nevin Dulabaum**
 14 Nevin Dulabaum gave a report on the services provided by Eder Financial. Nevin answered a
 15 question about the adoption of the name “Eder.”
- 16 **XI. Report from Bethany Seminary: Lori Current**
 17 Lori Current gave a report on the services provided by Bethany Seminary and the Bethany
 18 BOLD program. Lori shared that the number of students at Bethany has increased.
- 19 **XII. Welcoming Salvador Viviente: Russ Matteson.**
 20 A. Russ invited Phil Corr, Henry Roblero and his wife Laura Roblero, and Iris Berumen
 21 (translator) to the podium.
 22 B. Phil Corr explained that the McFarland church had the need for a Spanish congregation. La
 23 Iglesia del Salvador Viviente met with Phil about working with the Church of the Living
 24 Savior congregation.
 25 C. The English congregation welcomed the Spanish congregation to their facility at a council
 26 meeting.
 27 D. Salvador Viviente has grown greatly. Pastor Henry shared greetings with the delegates.
 28 E. Gilbert Romero offered prayer for Pastor Henry and Laura.
- 29 **XIII. Standing Committee Representative Report: Don Shankster**
 30 A. Don Shankster directed participants to page 15 in the Business Book. He explained that
 31 Annual Conference 2023 met in July in Cincinnati and that the Standing Committee
 32 members shared things that were happening in their districts.
 33 B. Highlights of Don’s report include:
 34 1. A change in polity was made on nominations from the floor for the conference ballot.
 35 2. There are new guidelines for continuing education for pastors.
 36 3. A cost-of-living adjustment for pastors was approved.
 37 4. A Resolution to Lament the Doctrine of Discovery was adopted by the conference.
 38 5. Moderator Madelyn Metzger will lead the next conference.
 39 6. Nominating committee is already working on the next conference. Don asked for
 40 suggestions for the positions of Moderator elect, Mission and Ministry Board areas 4
 41 and 5, Program Committee, Bethany Seminary, and On Earth Peace. Submit
 42 nominations to the Annual Conference office. Send email address and a reason for
 43 making your nomination.
 44 7. Standing Committee will meet on Zoom in December and January.
 45 C. Don thanked the District Conference for allowing him to serve the last six years as our
 46 representative.

- 1 **XIV. Church of the Brethren Inc. Report: David Steele**
2 A. David Steele, General Secretary, expressed appreciation for the ways we provide
3 ministries in our local congregations and communities.
4 B. There is a video report available on the website that can be shared with local
5 congregations.
6 C. Highlights of David Steele’s report include a report on the visions and work of the Church
7 of the Brethren Inc., the many grants available, global missions and service ministries, and
8 the Part time Pastor/Full time Church program.
- 9 **XV. Policy Board Report: Erik Brummett**
10 A. Erik reported that Russ Matteson finally got to take his sabbatical this year.
11 B. Erik spoke about the District’s Know to Grow Program, in which Jeff Glass can help
12 congregations learn about their neighborhoods.
13 C. Erik explained that the District’s Youth Ministry Program was eliminated in 2022. Greg
14 Davidson Lazsakovitz was contracted to survey the district on youth issues this year. Greg
15 shared three recommendations:
16 1. We need to focus our District resources on equipping congregational leaders to build
17 their youth and children’s ministries.
18 2. It is important to youth that there is one great youth event at a district conference, as
19 well as an event in each region.
20 3. We need to prioritize communication with the congregations.
- 21 **XVI. Ministry Commission Report: Norma Sexton**
22 A. There is a written report on Page 21 of the Business Book.
23 B. Since that report was written, the Nurturing and Credentialing Committee met in
24 September and held several ordination interviews, two licensing interviews, and one
25 commissioning interview.
26 C. Ordination anniversaries are listed on Page 14 of the Business Book. Certificates will be
27 presented to those celebrating anniversaries in 5-year increments. There is a total of 555
28 years of service represented by these ministers.
- 29 **XVII. Stewards Commission Report: Jonas Funderburk**
30 A. There is a written report on Page 22 of the Business Book.
31 B. Jonas thanked the other members of the Stewards Commission for their work.
32 C. The table for congregational giving is on page 23.
- 33 **XVIII. Business Item: Budget Report**
34 A. The conference attendees were directed to Page 58 – 61 of the Business Book.
35 B. Erik Brummett introduced the Operating Budget proposal and the Church Planting Support
36 Budget.
37 C. The recommendation for the Operating Budget is \$477,521.
38 D. The recommendation for the Church Planting Support Budget is \$89,250.
39 E. **There was a recommendation from the Policy Board to approve adoption of the**
40 **Operatintg Budget and Church Planting Support budget as presented. Approved,**
41 **unanimously.**
- 42 **XIX. Business Item: Recommendation for 2025 Operating Expense Maximum of \$495,000**
43 **There was a recommendation from the Policy Board to approve the adoption of the 2025**
44 **Operating Budget. Approved, unanimously.**
- 45 **XX. Program Committee Report: Judy Stout**

- 1 A. The attendees were directed to Page 16 of the Business Book.
 2 B. Judy recognized members of the Program Committee who worked on this year's
 3 conference and Julianna Pitruzzello for her work with registration.
- 4 **XXI. DE Report: Russ Matteson**
 5 A. Russ directed the conference attendees to a written report on pages 12 and 13 in the
 6 Business Book.
 7 B. Russ thanked those who work behind the scenes: Carlos Padilla on sound, Joseph Guthrie
 8 and Edward Cesar on Zoom and cameras, and Iris Berumen on translation.
 9 C. He thanked those who worked on Policy Board and Executive Board.
 10 D. Russ recognized the ministers who passed away this year.
 11 E. The pastors in the room who are serving congregations were recognized with a standing
 12 ovation.
 13 F. Gilbert Romero was recognized for his work with the training programs.
 14 G. Kimberly Rouse was recognized for her work as Administrative Assistant.
 15 H. Russ pointed out some items in the conference packets that might be of interest to
 16 attendees.
 17 I. Russ explained that upcoming highlights for 2024 include working with Greg Davidson
 18 Laszakovits's recommendations and using the Know to Grow program.
 19 J. Russ invited everyone to pray for our District and the churches in our District.
- 20 **XXII. Moderator's Closing Thoughts: Judy Stout**
 21 A. The 2024 District Conference will be November 8 and 9 in Sacramento at the Prince of
 22 Peace Church.
 23 B. Judy expressed her appreciation for the Administrative Assistant, the Policy Board, and
 24 those who serve in leadership on the committees.
 25 C. Judy enjoyed her visits to the congregations in our District.
- 26 **XXIII. Passing the Gavel**
 27 A. Judy Stout passed the gavel to Paul Lovelace.
 28 B. Paul Lovelace and Norma Sexton were consecrated as Moderator and Moderator-Elect.
- 29 **XXIV. Moderator's Remarks: Paul Lovelace**
 30 A. Paul Lovelace spoke briefly about the different gifts we bring to the work of Christ and our
 31 churches.
 32 B. Paul shared his theme for next year: Justice and Peace Kiss Each Other, based on Psalm
 33 85:9-13 and Galatians 5:22-23.
- 34 **XXV. Adjournment**
 35 Judy Stout adjourned the meeting at 4:37 p.m.
- 36 _____
 37 Minutes recorded by Laura Miller, clerk
- 38 _____
 39 In April 2024, the draft copy of the minutes was examined and given preliminary approval by
 40 committee member Gail Heisel (La Verne), Janet Short (Pomona Fellowship) and Phil Corr
 41 (Church of the Living Savior).

Pacific Southwest District – Church of the Brethren

November 2024 – November 2025 Ballot

Candidates are listed alphabetically by last name.

CVCA=Central Valley California, SOCA=Southern California, AZ/NV= Arizona & Nevada

Incumbent=Nominee is finishing an elected term to the same position; Unexpired Term=finishing another person's term.

Moderator-Elect

Vote for 1 Two year term

	Don Shankster, Papago Buttes - AZ/NV

Program Committee

Vote for 1 Three year term

	Cheryl Crane, Prince of Peace - CVCA

Nominating Committee

Vote for 1 Three year term

	Barbara Brandt, Live Oak - CVCA

District Board of Administration Youth & Young Adult Representatives

Nominating Committee was unable to find Youth /
Young Adult representatives for this ballot.

District Board of Administration At-Large Representatives

Vote for 5 Three year term

	Bill Himes, La Verne - SOCA
	Gail Heisel, La Verne - SOCA
	Marvin Ramos, Príncipe de Paz - SOCA
	John Keeling, Bakersfield - CVCA
	Carlos Padilla, Glendora - SOCA

Pacific Southwest District - Church of the Brethren Background Information for the 2024 - 2025 Ballot

Candidates are listed by office, alphabetically by last name.

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

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



Don Shankster:

Age: 73

Congregation: Papago Buttes

Vocation: Retired Pastor

Church Experience:

Pastor of Papago Buttes Church, PSWD Nurturing

and Credentialing Committee, Arizona Faith Network (ecumenical council in Arizona), PSWD Stand-

ing Committee delegate which included serving on the Policy Board, Nominating Committee of Annual Conference, and the Standing Committee Covenant Writing Task Team.

Vision Statement:

My vision is for the members of the Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren to become so filled with the Holy Spirit that Jesus' love, compassion and humility radiate out through us in ways that build up the community of God.

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.



Barbara Brandt:

Age: 79

Congregation: Live Oak

Vocation: Retired Teacher

Church Experience:

I have been actively involved in the Live Oak

congregation since our retirement here in 2000. I have served as a Deacon, currently as Deacon Chair, and am the church clerk. I also play the organ for our worship services. In the past I was also active as a Sunday School teacher and youth leader.

Vision Statement:

My vision for the District is that we continue to spread God's love to all and encourage acceptance of a diverse community.

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.



Cheryl Crane:

Age: 63

Congregation: Prince of Peace

Vocation: Retired Elementary School Teacher

Church Experience:

In local congregation I have been Sunday School teacher, Chair of Education Committee, Deacon, worship leader, Board Chair, and Treasurer., I currently play piano, lead songs during worship, and provide occasional children's messages. At the

district level, I have served on the policy board for 4 terms at different times and been moderator. This year I have been working with the program committee to help plan district conference which will take place at my church.

Vision Statement:

Just as we are called to be in fellowship and worship in congregations, the district provides a larger fellowship body to help support and encourage local congregations. Churches in the district have opportunities to work together to make a bigger impact serving God than in just one church.

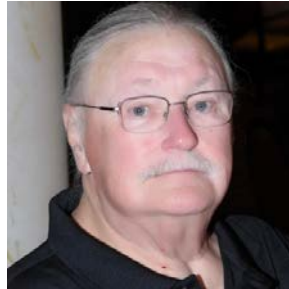
PSWD Board of Administration: The term begins immediately. The purpose of the Board is to manage and administer the religious and business activities of the District, as authorized by the District Conference.

PSWD Board of Administration: 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.



Gail Heisel:
Age: 64
Congregation:
La Verne
Vocation:
Retired School Counselor
Church Experience:
La Verne Church of the Brethren: Peace & Justice Commission, District Conference delegate (24-25), Annual Conference delegate (22-23), SWPOC Facilitator; PSWD: Board Vice-Chair, Policy Board, Executive Committee, Ministry and Stewards Commissions.
Denomination: Program & Arrangements Committee, Gun Violence Prevention Action Team.

Vision Statement:
My vision for the PSWD is that we continue the work of Jesus, peacefully, simply and together, offering unconditional acceptance to all of God's children. "Together" does not mean that we will always be in agreement, but we must strive to treat each other with respect regardless of differing theological perspectives.



Bill Himes:
Age: 72
Congregation:
La Verne
Vocation:
I am currently a retired classroom Science teacher. I taught for almost 40 years in mostly a Title 1, predominantly Hispanic Junior High School.

Church Experience:
I have been active with many service orientated activities in La Verne CoB. I was a member and chairperson of the Peace and Justice Commission for several years allowing me board member status. I have been active in racial justice, including immigrant rights, and gun violence efforts of the CoB. I am a current member of the Vitality Commission for the PSWD policy board.

Vision Statement:
I see the District's function is to further the vision of Jesus by supporting nurturing programs to enable the churches in the district to spread the Word, especially through their good works as is the Brethren tradition.

Ballot Background Information, Exhibit B



John Keeling:

Age: 72

Congregation:
Bakersfield

Vocation:
Retired clinical laboratory
scientist

Church Experience:

I am the church treasurer and have served as moderator and leadership team chair.

Vision Statement:

I see the District's main purpose as enabling the local congregation by providing needed resources.



Carlos Padilla:

Age: 62

Congregation:
Glendora

Vocation:
Retired.

Church Experience:

I am the head financial officer for my church, run audio visual for church services, set up sound system for annual conference in La Verne.

Vision Statement:

To bring as many people to Christ and to fulfill God's will for me.



Marvin Ramos:

Age: 25

Congregation:
Príncipe de Paz

Vocation:
Desiring to become a
Pastor in the future.

Church Experience:

Current church youth leader.

Vision Statement:

I'm here to serve however I can and be a representative for my local church.

PSWD Board of Administration: Youth & Young Adult Representative. Vote for 1 (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.

Nominating Committee was unable to find Youth / Young Adult representatives for this ballot.

Pacific Southwest District 2025 Operating Budget and Church Planting Support Budget, and 2026 Operating Expense Maximum

In the pages that follow you will find the proposed 2025 PSWD Operating Budget, the 2025 Church Planting Support Budget, and the recommended 2026 Operating Expense Maximum from the Policy Board.

2025 PSWD Operating Budget

In the spreadsheets that follow is the proposed 2025 District Operating Budget. The Policy Board is recommending a budget expense of **\$484,667**. This is an increase of \$7,000 from the 2024 District Operating Budget, and lower than the 2025 Operating Expense Maximum set at last year's District Conference.

Some significant notes regarding the proposed budget:

- Most areas are flat or slightly down, reflecting our experience over the years since things were disrupted by the pandemic.
- Property and liability insurance costs are up by \$5000 annually.
- Staff compensation is where the largest increase in the budget is found. This reflects a 5% increase for non salary scale employees, and the COLA of 3.3% and an experience step for the District Executive. It also includes anticipated increases to health insurance.

The anticipated deficit for 2025 is **\$251,367**. This is the lowest projected deficit in the last 10 years, and would be close to the actual deficit we experienced when things shut down in 2020 with the pandemic. It is also below the operating deficit target of \$300,000 that the Policy Board established in 2016 and has reaffirmed over the years.

The change that leads to this result is an increase in interest received based on loans to congregations. We are providing significant loan support to Circle of Peace for their new building, loan support for church facilities in Los Banos and Las Vegas, and we also have new loans in the \$100,000 to \$150,000 range with several congregations. Having our money in helping churches grow is where it should be. The loans represent investment in repairs, remodeling, expansions that will allow churches to grow their reach into their neighborhoods. It also means we have significantly reduced our amount invested with Eder Financial, and the needed return on the remaining investments needs to be close to 10% to cover the anticipated deficit.

2025 District Operating Budget Notes

Commitments

Ministry Partnership Funds - Key in this area are funds to support vital ministry in communities whose mission is with those who are on the economic margins. This is where the highest portion of this budget is expended. \$45,000 is marked for this work in 2025.

Ministry Training and Minister Support - Our work with providing training for those called into ministry continues to grow, and as some students finish their work other students are just beginning. It is a vital partnership - the district support of ministry training - that seeks to ensure we have strong pastoral leaders for the years to come. \$33,200 is allocated for this in 2025.

Congregational Mission and Transition Support - The work of our District staff represented in the Operating Ministry portion of the budget plays key roles in helping congregations in connecting to resources, supporting Boards and pastors, and working with congregations in pastoral transitions or evaluating future steps in ministry. \$262,032 is allocated for this support in 2025.

2025 Church Planting Support Budget

There are currently five active Church Plants in the district (Las Vegas, Los Banos, McFarland, Pasadena, and Waterford). **The budget for church planting in 2025 is \$92,500.** This is an increase of \$3,250 over 2024. These funds are used in a variety of ways depending on the needs of the various projects including church resourcing, utilities and facility cost assistance, and tax support.

The funds for this come from the proceeds of sales of former district properties (primarily New Harvest Lindsay and Koreatown).

Action Item: The Policy Board recommends to the District Conference the adoption of the 2025 Operating Budget and the 2025 Church Planting Support Budget as presented.

2026 Operating Expense Maximum

The recommendation for 2026 of \$495,000 is a \$10,000 increase over the 2025 budget. The Board will work hard to keep focused on priorities and to bring back a strong plan that prioritizes needs and works to be fiscally responsible. The Board has previously indicated that \$500,000 in operating expenses feels like a maximum outlay, and so we will need to evaluate that number and how we are using resources as we move forward beyond 2026.

Action Item: The Policy Board recommends to the District Conference that the expense maximum for the 2026 Operating Budget be \$495,000.

Pacific Southwest District Church of the Brethren Income & Expense Summary - Proposed 2025 Budget

		2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Budget	2025 Proposed
Contributions Income	4100	29,527	26,317	23,875	24,375	32,300	30,300
Interest and Other Income	4200	89,690	91,905	64,923	64,377	108,100	191,800
Participation Income	4600	2,713	10,118	10,643	17,514	12,400	11,200
Total Operating Income		121,930	128,340	99,441	106,266	152,800	233,300
Congregational Development Ministry	5005	49,108	32,251	24,832	13,661	46,750	47,500
Pastoral Leadership & Support	5300	8,641	23,096	35,709	30,483	35,000	33,200
District Empowering Ministry	5500	19,366	10,802	21,128	35,793	36,200	34,850
Partnership & Property Ministry	5700	10,501	18,156	18,219	17,563	18,400	18,185
Service Ministries	6300	0	5,822	4,279	6,363	6,800	6,800
District Operating Ministry	6500	293,132	334,696	320,769	301,138	334,371	344,132
Total Operating Expenses		380,748	424,823	424,936	405,001	477,521	484,667
Operating Deficit		-258,818	-296,483	-325,495	-298,735	-324,721	-251,367

Budget

Exhibit C

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST DISTRICT OF THE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN										
2020-2025, District Budget Overview										
Power Church Report Levels		PC	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025		
1	2	3	4	Line #	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Proposed
INCOME				4000						
MINISTRY INCOME				4010						
CONTRIBUTIONS INCOME				4100						
				4110	2,790	2,077	750	2,075	2,000	2,000
				4120	26,637	24,240	23,100	22,000	30,000	28,000
				4125	0	0	0	0	0	0
				4126	0	0	0	0	0	0
				4700	0	0	0	0	0	0
				4135	100	0	25	300	300	300
				4140	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal Contributions Inc.				4100	29,527	26,317	23,875	24,375	32,300	30,300
INVESTMENT INCOME				4200						
				4210	25,162	6,336	5,687	4,292	3,000	1,000
				4301	34,309	31,453	28,583	29,681	74,650	160,350
				4400	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
				4550	220	24,116	654	404	450	450
Subtotal Investment Income				4200	89,690	91,905	64,923	64,377	108,100	191,800
PARTICIPATION INCOME				4600						
				4610	1,850	6,075	6,554	9,207	8,000	7,600
				4630	863	4,043	4,089	8,307	4,400	3,600
Subtotal Participation Income				4600	2,713	10,118	10,643	17,514	12,400	11,200
TOTAL INCOME					121,930	128,340	99,441	106,266	152,800	233,300
EXPENSES				5000						
MINISTRY INVESTMENTS				5001						
CONGREGATIONAL DEV MIN				5005						
				5020	2,241	1,871	882	2,317	1,750	2,500
				5180	46,866	30,380	23,500	11,344	45,000	45,000
				5100	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal Congregational Dev Min				5005	49,108	32,251	24,382	13,661	46,750	47,500
PAST'L. LDRSHP & SUPPORT				5300						
				5310	245	477	232	1,000	1,000	1,000
				5315	3,020	2,649	3,584	3,976	4,000	4,000
				5320	4,400	5,565	3,939	4,774	5,000	5,000
				5325	606	12,930	23,915	18,541	18,000	18,000
				5330	0	1,225	3,240	2,042	2,500	2,500
				5335	300	0	500	0	500	500
				5336	70	0	0	0	3,000	1,200
				5338	0	250	300	150	1,000	1,000
				7943	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal Past'l. Ldrshp & Support				5300	8,641	23,096	35,709	30,483	35,000	33,200
DISTRICT EMPOWERING MINISTRY				5500						
				5520	1,945	2,089	10,341	15,964	10,000	10,000
				5540	546	458	2,851	331	2,750	2,000
				5560	0	3,237	0	1,725	1,000	500
				5600	2,589	1,271	5,911	8,572	9,500	9,600

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST DISTRICT OF THE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN											
2020-2025, District Budget Overview											
Power Church Report Levels				PC	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
1	2	3	4	Line #	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Proposed	
				<u>NURTURING/CREDENT.COMM</u>	5630	11,101	0	1,350	6,612	7,000	7,500
				<u>RESOURCE MATERIALS</u>	5650	185	274	675	89	750	750
				<u>INTER-CULTURAL MINISTRY</u>	5660	500	261	0	0	1,500	2,000
				<u>NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE</u>	5670	2,500	2,500	0	2,500	2,500	2,500
				<u>Youth Activity & Cabinet Expense</u>	5680/7	0	712	0	0	1,200	0
				Subtotal District Empowering Min	5500	19,366	10,802	21,128	35,793	36,200	34,850
				PARTNERSHIP & PROP. MIN	5700						
				<u>DENOMINATIONAL ASSESSMENT</u>	5710	1,430	1,280	1,264	1,251	1,500	1,300
				<u>STANDING COMMITTEE</u>	5720	306	306	2,860	2,536	3,400	3,400
				<u>UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE</u>	5725	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
				<u>ECUMENICAL COUNCILS</u>	5730	250	250	250	0	500	500
				<u>COUNCIL OF DIST EXECS</u>	5740	385	360	0	405	600	585
				<u>PROPERTY & LEGAL</u>	5800	4,130	11,960	9,845	9,370	8,400	8,400
				Subtotal Partnership & Prop. Min	5700	10,501	18,156	18,219	17,563	18,400	18,185
				SERVICE MINISTRIES	6300						
				<u>DISASTER RESPONSE</u>	6310	0	5,822	4,256	5,032	6,500	6,500
				<u>CHILDREN'S DISASTER SERV</u>	6320	0	0	23	0	300	300
				<u>Other Dist Service Opportunity</u>	6350	0	0	0	1,331	0	0
				Subtotal Service Ministries	6300	0	5,822	4,279	6,363	6,800	6,800
				DIST. OPERATING MINISTRY	6500						
				<u>OFFICE SPACE & UTILITIES</u>	6520	17,357	20,907	20,604	19,687	19,200	19,700
				<u>EQUIPMENT & MAINTENANCE</u>	6600	650	6,038	3,489	426	2,000	2,000
				<u>SUPPLIES/PRNTG/PUBLICAT'N</u>	6650	4,937	5,188	5,292	2,304	3,500	2,600
				<u>POSTAGE AND MAILING</u>	6670	1,703	1,084	1,830	1,312	2,100	2,000
				<u>INSURANCE</u>	6680	15,750	16,280	17,830	17,830	17,800	23,000
				<u>AUDIT AND PROF. FEES</u>	6700	26,039	41,925	25,483	33,664	32,500	32,500
				<u>STAFF SALARIES</u>	7000	180,016	185,043	180,637	162,290	179,025	186,397
				<u>STAFF BENEFITS & RCWF</u>	7100	32,643	31,846	31,748	31,699	43,746	45,435
				<u>STAFF TRVL-PROF GROWTH</u>	7500	11,178	24,653	33,660	31,646	31,200	30,200
				<u>NEW LIFE/PUB ETC & Misc.</u>	7750	2,859	1,732	196	281	3,300	300
				Subtotal Dist. Operating Ministry	6500	293,132	334,696	320,769	301,138	334,371	344,132
				Subtotal Ministry Investments	5001	380,747	424,823	424,485	405,001	477,521	484,667
				TOTAL EXPENSES		380,747	424,823	424,485	405,001	477,521	484,667
				EXCESS INCOME\EXPENSES		(258,817)	(296,483)	(325,044)	(298,735)	(324,721)	(251,367)

Action to Organize Iglesia del Salvador Viviente as a Fellowship

In the spring of 2022, Pastor Henry Roblero, Associate Pastor Tony Blanco, and members of their families began to meet in a home for Bible Study and worship. The group had been part of another church in McFarland, but had chosen to leave that group. As the group grew in number they needed more space to gather and so Pastor Tony reached out to the Church of the Living Savior (he had attended there when he was a child) to see if there might be space available to rent.

In the summer of 2022 Iglesia del Salvador Viviente began to meet at the Church of the Brethren and the two churches (English and Spanish) began to talk about ways they could work together. Salvador Viviente moved from some classrooms to the fellowship hall and in summer of 2023 to shared use of the sanctuary.

During this time, through the invitation of the Church of the Living Savior, the Pacific Southwest District entered the conversations with leadership of the group regarding what it would mean for them to be a part of the Church of the Brethren. In the fall of 2023 they were recognized as a project and in December the pastors were licensed by the district. The project has a vital and growing ministry in McFarland and the surrounding community. They have a strong relationship and welcome to the Zapotec community in the area, and through partnership with the Living Savior congregation and the Margaret Carl Trust they were able to secure some Bible resources that have recently been translated into the Zapotec language.

Salvador Viviente has partnered with the county to serve as a food distribution ministry for their area and are serving 1000 people a month. Worship is a lively experience with a strong and multigenerational praise team and a vital prayer ministry and strong preaching.

The church family has continued to grow and develop and they are ready to be organized as a Fellowship by the District Conference as they continue to serve Christ in McFarland and the surrounding community.

Action Item: The Policy Board recommends to the District Conference to organize Iglesia del Salvador Viviente (McFarland) as a fellowship.

Action to Approve Dual Affiliation and DBA for the South Bay Congregation

About 16 years ago the South Bay Church of the Brethren began renting space to a church plant called Journey Evangelical Covenant Church. Soon the two groups began to worship together and then began to partner in ministry regularly. They worked out understandings of how they would operate in partnership, each church having its own board and most items needing to be voted on by both boards and both congregations in Council meetings. They have been one church operating with two structures for many years. The former pastors (both Brethren and Covenant) talked often about being one church with two denominational parents and heritages. With the arrival of a new lead pastor in 2023 conversation began in earnest in the local church and with the respective denominational districts about how to be one church with one structure and one membership. The Executive Board and Policy Board have received the request from the congregation to approve them as a dually affiliated church, with connection to both the Church of the Brethren and the Evangelical Covenant Church. Additionally, they have been operating using the name Journey South Bay Church, and are asking for our recognition of them using that DBA for their ministry.

Action Item: The Policy Board recommends to the District Conference to authorize the South Bay congregation in its affiliation with Journey Evangelical Covenant Church to operate under the dba “Journey South Bay Church” as a dually affiliated congregation.