

Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren

Business Book

Justice and Peace Kiss Each Other

La justicia y la paz se besaron

Psalm 85:9-13

**Justicia
Paz**

**Justice
Peace**



**Love
Faithfulness**

**Amor
Fidelidad**

Matthew 13:1-52 Galatians 5:22-23

PSWD District Conference 2024

61ST Annual District Conference

November 8-9, 2024

Business on Saturday, November 9

**An In-Person & Virtual Conference
Held using internet formats like Zoom,
and meeting at Prince of Peace Church, Sacramento, CA
www.pswdcob.org/distconf**

Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	<u>1</u>
Business Meeting: Welcome & Agenda.....	<u>3</u>
Conference Schedule.....	<u>5</u>
From the Moderator: Logo & Theme.....	<u>6</u>
Dedication of Delegates.....	<u>8</u>
Officers of District Conference.....	<u>9</u>
○ Rules of Order on District Conference Business.....	<u>9</u>
○ Parliamentary Procedure at a Glance.....	<u>10</u>
District Reports:	
District Executive Minister.....	<u>12</u>
○ Recognition of Ministers' Ordination Anniversaries.....	<u>14</u>
○ MTC: Ministry Training Coordinator: EFSM, EPMC, SeBAH.....	<u>14</u>
Standing Committee Delegate.....	<u>14</u>
District Conference Program Committee.....	<u>16</u>
Nominating Committee.....	<u>16</u>
○ Form: <i>Ballot & Appointment Suggestions</i>	<u>17</u>
○ Form: <i>Nominations from the Floor</i>	<u>18</u>
Board of Administration	
● List of Board Members.....	<u>19</u>
● Board of Administration.....	<u>20</u>
● Ministry Commission.....	<u>21</u>
● Stewards Commission.....	<u>22</u>
○ Congregational Giving Chart.....	<u>24</u>
○ Audit Letter.....	<u>25</u>
● Board Appointments: Financial Appointments, Historical Committee, Shalom Team, Margaret Carl Trust, Investment Committee, Ministerial Ethics Committee, and more.....	<u>28</u>
Reports from Institutions with Brethren Beginnings:	
Hillcrest Homes.....	<u>29</u>
Casa de Modesto.....	<u>31</u>
Camp Peaceful Pines.....	<u>32</u>
Camp La Verne.....	<u>33</u>

continued on next page

Church of the Brethren Agencies of Annual Conference:

Eder Financial (Brethren Benefit Trust). [34](#)
On Earth Peace. [36](#)
Bethany Theological Seminary. [38-41](#)

Church of the Brethren, Inc.

Annual Conference Moderator. [42](#)
Church of the Brethren - Mission & Ministry Board.. [43-48](#)

Old Business Items: *None*

New Business Items:

Exhibit A: Approve the 2023 District Conference Minutes... [49-52](#)
Exhibit B: From the Nominating Committee: Ballot... [53](#)
Ballot Background Information. [54-56](#)
Exhibit C: 2025 Operating Budget & Church Planting Budget Proposals.. [57-60](#)
2026 Budget Parameters
Exhibit D: Action to Organize Iglesia del Salvador Viviente as a Fellowship.. [61](#)
Exhibit E: Action to Approve Dual Affiliation and DBA for the South Bay Congregation. [62](#)

List of District Conferences, Moderators, Locations. [63](#)
List of District Board Chairs and Executive Ministers. [64](#)

**Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren
2024 Annual Meeting — November 8-9, 2024
A Conference, held using internet formats like Zoom,
and meetings at Prince of Peace Church, Sacramento, CA.**

Welcome to the 2024 Pacific Southwest District Conference

Welcome to District Conference!

I am delighted we are able to have District Conference in Sacramento this year. We owe a big thank you to the Prince of Peace leadership and congregation for stepping up to the task. The Conference will be available online because some people cannot attend in person due to health, transportation or scheduling issues. I hope you will choose to come and share in the fellowship and group dynamic that happens more deeply when we are in person rather than online.

Our giving emphasis this year is the South Sacramento Interfaith Partnership Food Closet which the Prince of Peace congregation helps support. An offering will be taken during Saturday worship to help support this important work.

The SERRV shop will again be at District Conference so come prepared to shop.

We will also enjoy the presence of our 2025 Annual Conference Moderator, Dava Hensley. Since we are not having breakout workshops this year, the best way to hear more from Dava is to stay over for the Sunday worship at Prince of Peace Church. Dava will be preaching at that service and we would love to have you share that time with her.

How can the church, as God's Kingdom on earth, help people to find good soil? How can we, each congregation, provide good soil? These questions will be the focus of Friday night worship, Saturday worship and in discussion with all of us together. Saturday's worship and discussion time will be led by Jennifer and Nathan Hosler, co-pastors of the Washington DC Church of the Brethren. Both of them are also on the denominational staff.

Come! Enjoy the fellowship of your brothers and sisters in Christ from around the district. Come also to learn ways to better serve others and to share the hope of Christ to the lost.

Paul Lovelace
2024 District Moderator

Moderator@pswdcob.org

2024 Pacific Southwest District Conference — Business Meeting Agenda

Saturday, November 9

1. Call to Order and Opening Prayer
2. Roll call and establishing of a quorum
3. Approval of 2024 Agenda and 2023 Minutes (p.[49](#))
 - A. Name a Committee to review the 2024 minutes
4. Business Items
 - A. Election of leadership (pp.[16-17](#) & pp.[53-56](#))
 - B. 2025 PSWD Operating Budget & Church Planting Budget Proposals (pp.[57-60](#))
 - C. 2026 PSWD Budget Parameter (pp.[57-60](#))
 - D. Action to Organize Iglesia del Salvador Viviente as a Fellowship (p.[61](#))
 - E. Action to Approve Dual Affiliation and DBA for the South Bay Congregation (p.[62](#))
5. Reports
 - A. Church of the Brethren, Inc. (pp.[42-48](#))
 - B. Annual Conference Agencies (pp.[34](#))
 1. Eder Financial (pp.[34](#))
 2. On Earth Peace (p.[36](#))
 3. Bethany Theological Seminary (pp.[38](#))
 - C. District Policy Board (pp.[19-28](#))
 - D. District Program Committee (p.[16](#))
 - E. Standing Committee Delegate (p.[14](#))
 - F. District Executive Minister (pp.[12-14](#))
6. Consecration of Moderator and other 2025 District Leadership
7. Adjournment

Friday, November 8th

- 8:30 a.m to 3:00 p.m. - Set up Exhibits
- 10:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m. - Ministers Ethics Workshop
- 3:00 p.m to 7:00 p.m. - Registration / Check in
- 5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. - Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. - Worship
- 8:15 p.m. - Ice Cream Social - Sponsored by Eder Financial

Saturday, November 9th

- 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. - Business Session #1
- 10:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. - Keynote Session #1 - Jenn and Nate Hosler
- Worship, Presentation, Conversations, Sharing
- 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. - Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. - Business Session #2
- 2:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. - Keynote Session #2 - Jenn and Nate Hosler
- Worship, Presentation, Conversations, Sharing
- 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. - Consecration of New Leadership

Sunday, November 10th *Not officially part of Conference, but all are welcome to attend*

- 10:00 a.m. - Worship at Prince of Peace
COB Annual Conference Moderator Dava Hensley preaching



Chapter 5 returns to the reasons to depend on God's grace, through the sacrifice of Jesus the Christ for their salvation. Although Paul reminds them in verses 19-21 that we are to live lives focused on God, not on worldly pleasures, the apex is verses 22-23, the fruit of the Spirit. It is in the growth of these fruits that the Kingdom of God grows among God's people. This is the primary focus for people of Grace, to deal with each other in the Kingdom and the world outside by growing in the fruits of the Spirit.

Chapter 6 then, is the closing of the letter.

We are saved by God's grace. We are called to live in the Spirit of God. The Spirit calls us to deal with each other according to the fruits of the Spirit. God's Kingdom on earth flourishes when we practice 'love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness faithfulness, gentleness and self control' in our relationships with others.

Turning to Mathew 13, we see a whole chapter of parables of God's Kingdom on earth. The parables of the mustard seed and the yeast, (vs. 31-33) tell us that no matter how small we may be or feel, God and use us to make a great difference.

The parable of the weeds, (vs.24-30), shows the Kingdom to be a place filled with both wheat and weeds. The parable of the net, (vs.47-50) shows the Kingdom to be filled with fish of all kinds. In both parables, it is the angels who sort the wheat from the weeds, the good fish from the bad fish. We do not have the vision to see people as God sees them, so the angels will do the sorting. That means the Kingdom is a very messy place, filled with grain and weeds, filled with good fish and bad fish, and we cannot tell the difference.

Even with all this seeming chaos, the parables of the hidden treasure, (vs.44), and the parable of the pearl, (vs.45-46) the Kingdom is beyond price. We should gladly give everything to be in that kingdom.

District Conference is going to focus on the first parable, the parable of the sower. This parable can look very different in our modern society than it did in Jesus day because we have grown in our understanding of people and how the soil they are in can be changed. The crowds of Jesus' day would not have been able to understand a call to help people change their apparent nature. Indeed, it is only with the advent of psychology and counseling and especially 12 step programs and other group therapies that we have been able to see people have the strength to turn from many kinds of behavior and to seek wholeness. People can learn to seek good soil. How can the church, as God's Kingdom on earth, help people to find good soil? How can we, each congregation, provide good soil?

These questions will be the focus of Friday night worship, Saturday worship and in a workshop for all of us together. Saturday's worship and workshop time will be led by Jennifer and Nathan Hosler, co-pastors of the Washington DC Church of the Brethren. They are both also on the denominational staff.

Paul Lovelace, Moderator

Moderator@pswdcob.org

Delegates' Dedication

November 9, 2024

Moderator: We gather here today in person and online to conduct the business of the Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren. We are gathered to be the body of Christ.

Delegates: We are here today representing the Church of the Brethren in Arizona, California, and Nevada. We are the body of Christ. The hands and feet, the eyes and ears, the heart and lungs - all parts of the whole.

Moderator: Together we are a body that worships, a body that ministers, a body that works, a body that rejoices in the wonder of serving and loving God together.

Delegates: We commit ourselves to work together to deal effectively with the business before us as we seek to minister to a world that needs Jesus.

Moderator: As the body of Christ, let us lift up each other. Let us listen to each other with the heart and mind of Jesus.

Delegates: We will gladly listen to each other and support our Sisters and Brothers as we seek to continue the work of Jesus.

Moderator and Delegates: Let us dedicate this day to being the body of Christ as we work together doing the work of Jesus.

Justice and Peace Kiss Each Other

La justicia y la paz se besaron

Psalm 85:9-13

Justicia
Paz

Justice
Peace



Love
Faithfulness

Amor
Fidelidad

Matthew 13:1-52 Galatians 5:22-23

PSWD District Conference 2024

Pacific Southwest District – Church of the Brethren – 2024

Officers of the District Conference

Moderator..... Paul Lovelace, Pomona Fellowship
Moderator-Elect..... Norma Sexton, Prince of Peace
Clerk..... Laura Miller, Papago Buttes
Board of Administration Chair (ex-officio)..... Jeremiah “Jay” Irizarry, Empire
District Executive Minister (ex-officio)..... Russ Matteson

Note for the Delegates

The 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.

Participation of 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 to the larger church, 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 Bylaws.
- (2) The moderator appoints tellers and timekeeper.
- (3) Nominations from the floor must have the prior consent of the nominee (*see next page, bottom section*).
- (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 fifty percent of the total elected delegates representing fifty 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)

8. 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.
Stating the question (by the moderator) and discussion of it:
“It has been moved and seconded that _____.”
- D. 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.’”
- E. Announcing the result of the vote:
“The motion is carried (lost) and you have voted to (not to) _____.”

9. Motions, Who Makes Them and How

- A. All attendees 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 are recognized by the moderator after addressing him/her.
- C. A motion is seconded without obtaining the floor or rising.

10. 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.

11. 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 18*).
- 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.

12. 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.”