

Presbytery of San Joaquin
Thursday, June 21, 2007
Fresno Interdenominational Refugee Ministries (FIRM)
Fresno, California

Attendance:

Pastors: Ren Adams, Terry Barnhill, Lorna Bosovad, John Bosovad, Charles Castles, Clark Cowden, Ken Crabtree, Paul De Pledge, Jamie Evans, Rich Hansen, Bob Hewes, Rick Irish, Adam Knudson, Rich Latta, Mgrdich Melkonian, Roger Minassian, Ron Owens, Louis Paradise, Tom Parsons, Alan Reutter, Lana Roberts, Jim Rogers, David Rose, Bill Rudy, Karl Schafer, Randy Scheer, Dan Schwan, Kathy Schwan, Chuck Shillito, Sharon Stanley, Jung Kil Suh, Arlin Talley, Gus Wright

Elders: Russ Adams, Jim Clark, John Davis, Billie Dibble, Verna Den Hartog, Sandra Eaton, John Eaquibel, Dick Frasch, Ronna Hendrickson, Larry Ingoldsby, Lana Jackson, Chuck Kinney, Anne Myers, Daniel Piper, Gregg Wilkenson

General Council: Stuart Conrad, Ruth Smith, Florence Ulrick, Vince Correll

Visitors: Wilma Holden, Terry Holland, Jonett Watt

The Presbytery meeting was opened at 4:10 pm by Moderator Rick Irish. Our host pastor, the Rev. Sharon Stanley, welcomed the presbytery to FIRM's facilities.

Missional Leadership:

Moderator's moments:

Rev. Rick Irish

The Rev. Rick Irish shared about the question, "Why are we here?" and mentioned the importance of relationships in all that we do. He encouraged focusing on the question, "What is God doing here?" followed with a time of silence and contemplation.

The Presbytery needs a host for our final presbytery meeting of the year (either the last Thursday of November or the first Saturday of December). Please contact the presbytery if you are interested in hosting.

Stated Clerk/Evangelist Presbyter's moments:

Rev. Clark Cowden

Consent Agenda:

Motions from the Stated Clerk:

1. To approve the minutes of the April 12, 2007 presbytery meeting.
2. To seat corresponding members who are present.

From COM:

1. Voted to accept Gus Wright's resignation as Pastor of the Coalinga Presbyterian Church as of May 31, 2007.
2. Voted to concur with Bill Rudy's resignation from the Dinuba Presbyterian Church as of June 3, 2007.
3. Approved Frank Pinon and Andy Garcia of the LifeSpring NCD for CLP training.

From Finance and Property:

1. Voted to allow First Presbyterian Church of Visalia to receive a loan of \$1,000,000 for construction of the "210 Project".
2. Approved a lease/purchase option with Luke and Shawna Jacobs of Life Church for the church building in Avenal with a price of \$175,000.
3. Approved the amended Budget for 2007.
4. Approved consolidating and refinancing Ebenezer Presbyterian Church's GA loans, totaling less than \$100,000, with a Synod Muzzy Loan
5. Reviewed and approved Presbytery of San Joaquin's Audit Report for 2006.
6. Approved renewal of loan for Westminster Presbyterian Church, Fresno
7. Voted to move accounts from New Covenant Funds to the Dodge and Cox Balanced fund.

Number 2 under Finance and Property was removed from the consent agenda. A motion was made to approve the remainder of the consent agenda. *The motion was approved.*

A motion was made to move up the COM report prior to worship. *This motion was approved.*

A motion was made to approve the revised docket. *The motion was approved.*

The Stated Clerk announced that the ordination of Stephen Good took place on June 10, 2007, at the Northminster Presbyterian Church in Bakersfield, and the ordination of Adam Knudson took place on June 17, 2007, at the University Presbyterian church in Fresno.

The Stated Clerk announced that the presbytery office has moved to 438 S. Locust St in Visalia.

Personnel – Stated Clerk election

Pastor Terry Barnhill

Motion to re-elect the Rev. Clark Cowden to the position of Stated Clerk for a period of one year, beginning July 1, 2007. *Motion was approved.*

Calvary Administrative Commission

Rev. Ron Owens

A settlement has been reached, but papers are still being signed, so full information will be shared at the September presbytery meeting.

Council/A Listening Team for Future Discernment

Rev. Rick Irish

Rev. Irish invited people to volunteer or suggest possibilities to serve on this team.

Nominate the Nominating Committee

Elder Vince Correll

Elder Vince Correll made a motion to nominate George Marsh (Class of 2007) from Trinity Clovis and Louise Armstrong (Class of 2009) from Fresno First to serve on the nominating committee. *Motion was approved.*

Committee on Ministry

Rev. Bill Rudy

On Sept 15, 2007, a Seminar on the Prevention of Sexual Misconduct, beginning at 8 a.m., will be held at the Hanford church, which is required for pastors who have not taken the seminar yet. Churches are encouraged to pay the \$60 for their pastors. It is also for other staff, elders, and congregation leaders.

Motion to approve the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Gus Wright and First Presbyterian Church of Coalinga, effective June 30, 2007, *was approved.* If anyone knows someone for an interim pastor at Coalinga, please contact COM or the presbytery office.

Motion to approve the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Bill Rudy and First Presbyterian Church of Dinuba, effective June 3, 2007, *was approved.* Rick Irish shared on behalf of the Dinuba Administrative Commission, how they are seeking to move forward, with hope, through some difficult times. Please keep them in your prayers.

Nominating Committee

Rev. Ken Crabtree

Motion was approved to nominate Rev. Karl Avakian to the Mission Support Team, and Mr. Dick Brennan (Class of 2009-1) of Northminster Bakersfield to the Finance and Property committee. People are needed from Bakersfield to serve on the Mission Support Team.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Elder Ruth Smith

Robert Rose was presented for examination for ordination. Following examination, a *motion was made and approved* to arrest the examination and Robert's family left the room. A *motion was made and approved* to ordain Robert Rose and to endorse him to the Air Force chaplaincy.

Worship

The presbytery took a break for dinner at 6:15 p.m. and resumed meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Missional Reflections

Rev. Rick Irish

Scripture (1 John 4) and conversation regarding fear and anxiety.

Missional Leadership, continued

Outreach Team Developer

Rev. Tom Parsons

Tom shared about his brand new ministry in the presbytery. He is working for the LifeSpring New Church Development in southeast Fresno/Clovis/Sanger, bringing together prayer, people, and financial resources

Missional Support Assistant

Elder Terry Barnhill

Terry presented the first mission brochure for the presbytery.

Committee on Ministry, continued

Rev. Rich Latta

The Rev. Rich Latta, on behalf of COM, presented Sue Ritter from Visalia to be examined to be a Commissioned Lay Pastor at the First Presbyterian Church of Visalia. A *motion was made and approved* to approve Sue's commission for three years, giving her authority to perform baptisms, communion, and weddings. Her commission would also include moderating session meetings at the request of the moderator, and voice and vote at presbytery meetings.

Missional Ministries

Rev. Dusty Ellington, a member of our presbytery and a GA missionary to Egypt, will be here October 5th thru 12th as part of Mission Challenge. We'll be setting up times and places for people to hear him.

Rev. Rich Latta gave an update on the LifeSpring New Church Development.

Rev. Jim Rogers gave a report on the presbytery's Freeze Relief effort, which included disbursing the \$10,000 grant we received from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Thank you to the congregations within the presbytery from whom we received another \$11,000, for a total of \$21,000! The team is in the process of applying for a \$50,000 from PDA to set up a process to meet the need the next time a freeze happens.

Scott Henderson shared about the ministry of Calvin Crest, where the summer season has started this week.

The presbytery revisited item #2 that had been removed from the consent agenda. A *motion was made and approved* to approve the lease/purchase option to Luke and Shawna Jacobs of the Life Church for the church building in Avenal.

One Minute Messages:

Kathy Schwan shared that the Lemon Cove church is putting in an outdoor basketball court.

The church has received a donation of \$40,000 which has been a real blessing.

Terry Barnhill shared about the ongoing need for Freeze Relief efforts.

Sharon Stanley shared again that Pastor Saikon will be here from Laos for the next five months. He would love to meet with congregations to share what God is doing in Communist Laos.

The meeting was closed in prayer at 8:30 pm.

Next meeting of Presbytery will be on Thursday, September 20, 2007, 4-9 pm, place not yet determined.