

Presbytery of San Joaquin
Thursday, September 20, 2007
First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA

Attendance:

Pastors: Noel Anderson, Terry Barnhill, Lorna Bosavanh, John Bosavanh, Sandy Brown, Charles Castles, Clark Cowden, Marilyn Creel, Arcesio Cruz, Bill Ekhardt, Tom Elson, Chris Erdman, John Guitierrez, Jae Han, Rick Irish, Carl Knoch, Adam Knudson, Tedd Lyons, Mgrdich Melkonian, Aahmes Overton, Ron Owens, Ramon Palafox, Lou Paradise, Lana Roberts, Jim Rogers, Bill Rudy, Karl Schafer, Randy Scheer, Sharon Stanley, Jung Kil Suh, Kurt Teng, Arlin Talley, Eric Thompson, David Votaw, Chuck White, Gus Wright

Elders: Russ Adams, Midge Barrett, Verna Den Hartog, Billie Dibble, Sandra Eaton, Barb Grunwald, Terry Holland, , Ronnie Hendrickson, Gail Kaulfuss, Andrea McKenzie

General Council: Scott Henderson, Stuart Conrad, Carol Harrison

Visitors: Bob Collier, Noel Daniels, Teresa Daniels, Wilma Holden, Anne Myers, Dino Rustin

The Moderator, Rev. Rick Irish, opened the meeting with prayer at 4:10 pm. Rev. Jeff Chandler, pastor of the host church, welcomed the presbytery, and we opened the meeting with the singing of a hymn.

Moderator's moments: Rick Irish spoke on meditating through the gospel of Luke

Stated Clerk's moments:

Minutes from June 21, 2007, meeting and the docket for this meeting were **approved**. The Consent Agenda was also **approved**:

Actions of COM for information purposes only:

1. Ordination commission for Robert Rose was dismissed with thanks.
2. Rev. Kent Meads was approved as interim pastor at Dinuba Presbyterian Church.
3. It was voted to dismiss with regrets the Rev. Clark Cowden to the Presbytery of San Diego.
4. Ordination commission for Stephen Good was dismissed with thanks.
5. Ordination commission for Adam Knudson was dismissed with thanks.

Actions of Finance and Property Commission for information purposes only:

1. Approved renewing Calvin Crest amortized loan of \$1,036,705 for Cedar Lodge.
2. Approved request for an additional \$1600 be added to the Congregation Development budget for CLP training for LifeSpring NCD.
3. Approved the statement requested by the Bank of the West for Trinity Presbyterian Church in Clovis.
4. Approved a construction loan of \$125,750 with Synod for Orange Cove Presbyterian Church.
5. Approved agreement with Boys and Girls Club to take over the Ivanhoe Youth Center.

6. Approved freezing for two years the money received from the sale of the Avenal manse to cover any expenses related to the Avenal property.

New book by Chris Erdman is available for purchase.

Presbytery office has moved, so please mail to : 438 S. Locust St., Visalia, CA 93277.

We are not using the PO Box anymore.

Motion from Finance and Property to reduce per capita from \$24.75 in 2007 to 24.50 in 2008. Motion was **approved**.

The Calvary Administration Commission:

Matter has been resolved and the building sold. Presbytery received 60% of proceeds and Calvary received 40%. A meeting will be held with Calvary members with a vote to close the church. A celebration of their history of ministry will be held at presbytery meeting on December 1, 2007.

Council: Stu Conrad

Council recommended that the Personnel Committee appoint a Search Committee for a new Interim Evangelist Presbyter/Stated Clerk. It was voted and **approved**.

CPM: Beth Downie

The Presbytery examined Ruth Musson for ordination. It was **approved** to ordain. There was a motion for Synod of the Pacific to concur with the CPM request to grant a waiver for Ruth Musson to use an alternative method to satisfy the Theology Exam in accordance with the BOO G14.03136. Motion **approved**.

Presbytery took a break for Dinner at 5:10 pm and resumed at 6:00 pm with worship.

Worship was led by Dusty Ellington, who talked of his work in Cairo and of his love and support of the PC (USA).

COM: Bill Rudy

There are three new CIFs being circulated for: an Associate at Northminster Pres in Bakersfield, a Head of Staff at Westminster Pres in Fresno, and a Head of Staff in Coalinga.

Missional Ministries:

Dusty Ellington discussed Mission Challenge '07 and asked for support and mission giving. A motion was made to tithe on the net proceeds from the sale of Calvary with the money going to Foreign Mission. It was voted and **approved**.

Calvin Crest:

Scott Henderson talked of the challenges that Calvin Crest is facing at this time. They are working on an "It's Time" mission, updating the facility and everyday living at Calvin Crest.

Mission Support Assistant, Terry Barnhill, discussed the mission work that he is doing.

LifeSpring:

Rich Latta discussed the opening of LifeSpring on October 7th at 5:00pm. David Votaw asked for prayer and gifts for LifeSpring's launch.

Investigative Committee:

Clark Cowden presented the charge against Rev. Stephen Wing, formerly associate pastor of Bakersfield First Presbyterian Church, of sexual misconduct and read the Investigative Committee's resolution: "After careful consideration of all the materials read by the Investigative Committee, and after listening to the witnesses interviewed by the IC, it is the recommendation of the committee that Rev. Stephen C. Wing be excluded from his ordination for a period of two years, commencing on July 12, 2007. During his exclusion, he shall continue therapy, and be mentored by a member of the Committee on Ministry. The Rev. Wing's return to ministry is contingent upon the Committee on Ministry's positive evaluation that the therapy and mentoring have been actively pursued and that sufficient progress has been made to warrant restoration. If, during two year period, the Committee on Ministry and the therapist agree, he shall be reinstated."

Rick Irish led *prayer* for all our Mission Outreaches.

Clark Cowden gave farewell moments and remembrances of his past nine years with us the Presbytery.

Personnel: Terry Barnhill

Terry presented a motion to dissolve the relationship as of September 25, 2007, between the Presbytery of San Joaquin and Clark Cowden as Stated Clerk and Evangelist Presbyter. It was voted and **approved**.

Personnel brought a motion to have Rick Irish serve as a Acting Interim EP/Stated Clerk, beginning September 25, 2007. It was voted and **approved**. Rick resigned his position as Moderator as of September 25, 2007. It was voted and **approved** to elect Vice Moderator Stuart Conrad as Moderator, effective September 25, 2007.

Nominating: Ken Crabtree

It was voted and **approved** to add Vince Correll to the Personnel committee for the 2008 term.

Seven members were proposed for the EP Search Committee. A motion was proposed to change the number from seven to nine. It was voted and **approved**.

The nine members approved were: Rev. David Abdo, Rev. Jeff Chandler, Rev. Chuck Shillito, Rev. Tony Winterowd, Rev. Karl Schafer, Ms. Marta Gomez, Ms. Sharon Overgaard, Mr. Mel Khachigian, and Ms. Beth Downie.

One minute messages were given.

Terry Barnhill and Rick Irish presented Clark Cowden with a farewell gift, and the floor was opened to give special thanks to Clark for his dedication and service.

Rick Irish closed the meeting with prayer at 9:15 pm