

**Minutes of the Stated Meeting
of the Presbytery of San Joaquin
November 22, 2008**

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA

Attendance:

Pastors: David Abdo, Noel Anderson, Ren Adams, Terry Barnhill, Lorna Bosavanh, John Bosavanh, Sandy Brown, Ken Crabtree, Marilyn Creel, Charles Castles, Steven Carter, Noel Daniels, Paul De Pledge, Bill Ekhardt, Thomas Elson, Chris Erdman, Jamie Evans, John Guterrez, Jaeshin Han, Rich Hansen, Bob Hewes, Jungkil Suh, Carl Knoch, Rich Latta, Tedd Lyons, Betty Martin, Kent Meads, Ron Owens, Ramon Palafox, Tom Parsons, Harry Phillips, Mary Raine, Alan Reutter, Lana Roberts, Jim Rogers, Randy Scheer, Kathy Schwan, Arlin Talley, Eric Thompson, David Votaw, Tony Winterowd, Gus Wright

Elders: Sue Benson Midge Barrett, Nancy Collins, George Clauson, Jim Clark, John Davis, Verna Den Hartog, Sandra Eaton, Bruce Elliott, Bryana Frembling, Mike Grand, Vreeland Jones, Mel Khachigian, Jungki Kim, Carlyn Lambert, Fred Leavitt, John Lynch, Albert Malsbary, John Massie, Julie McGuire, Anne Myers, David Nash, Sharon Overgaard, Dan Piper, Richard Ribarich, Ruth Smith, Lilace Turmon, Brian Vaccaro, Judy Vaccaro, Louise Wade, Joe Wilson, Naeyong Yi

General Council: Betty Braddy, Beth Downie, Stuart Conrad, Ara Guekguezian, Florence Ulrich

Corresponding Members: Jerilyn Dahlke (Sacramento), Skip Herbert (Sacramento)

Visitors: Phil Crantz, Terry Holland, Victor Tawadrose, Johnett Watt, Steve Raine, Richard Braddy

The presbytery meeting was opened with prayer at 9:15 am by Stuart Conrad and everyone was welcomed by host pastor, Steve Carter. Corresponding members were seated. A quorum was present. The docket was **approved** and the minutes of June 7, 2008, and September 4, 2008, were **approved**. The minutes of September 18, 2008, were **approved** with the addition of Bill Ekhardt being present. The *Consent Agenda* was **approved** as follows:

Actions of General Council, October 14, 2008, for information purposes only:

1. **Voted** to set Saturday, January 31, 2009, for the first presbytery meeting of year.
2. **Voted** to appoint a Committee of 14 members, including a chair and a clerk, with four three member sub-committees to work with each congregation. This committee is to bring to the Presbytery recommendations for action in response to the requests from First Presbyterian, Fresno, Fowler Presbyterian, First Presbyterian, Hanford, and Trinity Presbyterian, Clovis, to be dismissed to the Presbytery of the West of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.
3. **Voted** to authorize these four sessions to call their congregations to vote on dismissal.

Action of Finance and Property Commission, Sept. 23, 2008, for information purposes only:

1. Following a request by the Ministry Development Team which would enable Pastor Robby to proceed as needed with INS, Finance **voted** to pay \$500 a month to Ebenezer Presbyterian Church for the sole purpose of augmenting what they are able to pay their pastor for salary. These funds would come from Congregation Development Reserves for the time period of September 2008 through December 2009 for a total amount of \$8000.
2. The commission **voted** to give 10% to General Reserves from net proceeds from the sale of Presbytery properties, to be withheld to pay for administrative support, which is heavily relied upon in maintaining those properties.

Actions of COM, September 18, 2008, for information purposes only:

1. Steven Carter was examined and **voted** to be received to serve at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Fresno, beginning October 1, 2008. His terms of call are as follows: cash salary \$54,236; supplement for Social Security \$6656; total income

reported to IRS \$60,892; housing \$32,000; Board of Pensions \$27,405, paid vacation leave of 4 weeks annually; expenses \$4000; continuing education reimbursement allowance \$700.

2. It was **voted** to grant Phebe Shen's request to labor in the Bay area, outside the bounds of presbytery.
3. It was **voted** to approve at \$1500 grant to Noel Daniels to continue CLP training.

Actions of COM, October 14, 2008, for information purposes only:

1. Mary Raine was examined and **voted** to be approved for ordination and to be received to become the pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Coalinga. The terms of call are: salary \$30,000; housing (cost of living in the manse at \$900/month) \$10,800; total cash salary \$40,800; Board of Pensions 31.5%; utilities \$3500; business reimbursable expenses \$4000; 2 weeks study leave annually, cumulative up to 3 years; 4 weeks vacation, non-cumulative; moving costs \$4000. It was **approved** to do pulpit supply before ordination.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry - Beth Downie

It was voted and **approved** to advance Dino Rustin to Candidacy, following questions as to his sense of call to the ministry of word and sacrament.

Presbyterian Foundation - Skip Herbert

Presbyterian Foundation is celebrating 209 years this year, and Skip reminded us that the Foundation is still rock solid at this time. He also talked about what is taxable income and info being posted on the Foundation website.

Sierra Mission Partnership Resource Center - Jeri Dahlke

The Resource Center is part of a network, and if you have any questions, they will help you find the answer. The catalog on the website lists their kits, DVD, CD's, and books available to any church in our presbytery.

Worship began at 10 am with Rev. Rich Hansen preaching on "Living in the Tension" with Matthew 11:16-19 as his text.

The meeting resumed at 10:50 am

Constitutional Amendments - Jim Rogers

The proposed ecumenical statements and proposed amendments were discussed separately and voted on by written ballot. The voting was as follows:

08-A	Vows of Membership – Affirmative		
	Yes 80	No 4	Abstained 2
08-B	Ordained Officers - Negative		
	Yes 8	No 74	Abstained 4
08-C	Replacing the word "sympathy" with the word "compassion" – Affirmative		
	Yes 78	No 8	Abstained 0
08-D	General Assembly Mission Council Name Change – Negative		
	Yes 17	No 63	Abstained 6
08-E	Non-Geographic Presbyteries – Affirmative		
	Yes 73	No 11	Abstained 2
08-F	Presbytery Membership of Certified Christian Educators – Affirmative		
	Yes 73	No 13	Abstained 0
08-G	Synod Membership on Permanent Committees – Negative		
	Yes 3	No 81	Abstained 2
08-H	Five Ordination Examinations – Affirmative		
	Yes 73	No 10	Abstained 3
08-I	Certified Christian Educators – Negative		
	Yes 3	No 80	Abstained 3

- 08-J** Alternative Forms of Resolution – **Affirmative**
Yes 79 No 3 Abstained 4
- 08-K** Ecumenical Statement with the Roman Catholic Church on ratifying a common agreement on Baptism - **Affirmative**
Yes 72 No 11 Abstain 3
- 08-L** Ecumenical Statement with the Episcopal Church on adopting an agreement - **Negative**
Yes 9 **No 74** Abstain 3
- 08-M** Ecumenical Statement with the Korean Presbyterian Church in America on adopting a Covenant relationship agreement - **Affirmative**
Yes 83 No 1 Abstain 2
- 08-N** Ecumenical Statement with the Moravian Church on adopting a Covenant Partnership agreement - **Affirmative**
Yes 55 No 27 Abstain 4

Interim Evangelist Presbyter/Stated Clerk's Report - Rick Irish

Rick reported on four churches that are in the process of leaving the PC (USA), which will result in a loss of about a third of the members in the presbytery. A committee is meeting with these churches and will bring recommendations in the next few months. He expressed the grief and heartache related to it and reminded everyone to focus on the Kingdom and the King! The Presbytery will be looking at new ways of doing things and a new direction in 2009.

Calvin Crest - Tony Biasell

The Clear Water Purification System is taking off great and they are very excited. They thank everyone for continuing help, prayers, and support.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at noon and was called back to order at 1:10 pm by the Moderator

General Council Report - Sandy Brown

General Council has been working with the churches that have decided to leave and talking with Calvin Crest about the financial issues they are currently having.

Committee on Ministry - Noel Anderson

Mary Raine was examined for ordination and **approved**. It was **voted** to receive her transfer from San Fernando Presbytery upon her ordination on November 30, 2008, to begin as the pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Coalinga, on December 1, 2008. A service of installation will be held on December 7, 2008, at 4 pm. The members of the installation commission are Rick Irish, Sandy Brown, Jim Clark, Verna Den Hartog, and Jennifer Smith.

COM is recommending a 5% increase for 2009 salary packages. Presbytery's salary minimums have been increased to:

\$37,821 (in the presbytery <i>less than</i> 5 years)	[Salary and housing]
\$39,711 (in the presbytery <i>more than</i> 5 years)	[Salary and housing]
Full Board of Pensions dues (31.5%)	
\$4,000 Professional expenses	
\$ 700 Study allowance, cumulative up to 3 years	
2 weeks Study leave annually, cumulative up to 3 years	
4 weeks Vacation, non-cumulative	

Mission Support Team - Tom Parsons

Arcesio Cruz showed a slide show on how his church has grown, and what they have going on at Nuevo Amanecer in Bakersfield.

Rich Latta spoke about LifeSpring moving to a new location in January, and asked the churches to help with some items for the NCD.

Property & Finance - David Nash

David addressed the economy and its affect on our investment accounts and reaffirmed the financial stability of the Presbytery's accounts.

To cover what would otherwise be a new deficit in 2009, the Presbytery would have to actually raise the Presbytery's portion of per capita about \$7.15, which the committee was reluctant to do. Therefore, the commission recommended an increase from \$14.04 to \$15.58, which would bring the total of all per capita to \$27 and voted to take an additional \$5 per member out of Congregation Development Reserves to ease the burden on our member congregations and enable a balanced budget for 2009. It was voted and **approved**.

The 2009 Budget was presented and **approved** as follows:

INCOME:	
Mission Pledges	104,775
Designated mission pledges	
Interest Income	5,000
Dividend Income	15,000
Per Capita	187,000
TOTAL INCOME:	
	311,775
EXPENSE:	
<i>Calvin Crest:</i>	
<i>Calvin Crest support (restricted)</i>	35,000
Solar Purification	
Total	35,000
<i>Committee on Ministry (COM):</i>	
Mileage	
Counseling	
Copy costs	
Postage and mailing	
Other Presbytery expense	
Total	1,645
<i>Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM):</i>	
Mileage	
CPM Retreat / Visitation	
Counseling	
Telephone	
Copy costs	
Postage and mailing	
Other	
Total	6,860
<i>Congregation Development Team:</i>	
Mileage	
Resource Center (Joint Project)	3,500
Conferences	
Parish Papers & Other Resources	

Other	
Total	4,900

Finance and Property:

Mileage	
Audit	
Property liabilities (taxes, discing, etc)	
Insurance - Property & Liability	
Legal services	
Depreciation	
Misc Presbytery Expense	
Property expenses:	
Total	19,000

General Council:

Mileage	
Presbytery meetings:	
Commissioner expense	
Office supplies	
Moderator's expense	
Internet for Churches	
Total	3,570

Ministry Development Team:

Mileage	
Postage and mailing	
Other Presbytery Expense	
Restricted monies:	70,000
Ivanhoe Outreach (restricted)	
Hope Now for Youth (restricted)	
Intervarsity - Mike Karim (restricted)	
Medical Benevolence Fund (restricted)	
Witnessing Ministries- India (restricted)	
Refugee Resettlement / FIRM (restricted)	
Corcoran Ministry Support (restricted)	
Subtotal	70,525

Hispanic Sub-committee:

Pastors' Conference	
Family Camp	
Joint Services	
Women's Encounter	
Couple Encounter	
Subtotal	5,250

Ministry Development Team Total

Nominating:

Mileage	140
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Permanent Judicial Commission:

Mileage	140
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Personnel:

Mileage	
EP Search	
Clerk & Staff salaries	
Clerk worker's compensation	
FICA	
Clerk travel & professional expense	
Clerk & Staff payroll fees	
Presbytery Ofc Staff supplement salaries	
Payroll Fees - Other	
Total	23,000

Presbytery Office:

Space costs	
Telephone/Internet	
Postage/mailing	
Office supplies	
Cleaning & Maintenance	
Training	
Subscriptions/Literature	
Insurance - Property & Liability	
Insurance - Workers Comp	
Accounting service	
Equipment lease	
Equipment maintenance	
Equipment purchase	
Bank charges	
Interest expense	
Other office expenses	
Total	41,000

Stated Clerk:

GA Per Capita	
Synod Per Capita	
Total	66,257

Tfr from designated

TOTAL EXPENSE
TOTAL INCOME
CREDIT / DEFICIT

35,000
312,287
311,775
(512)

Synod Representative - Betty Braddy

Betty reported that Wendy Warner is the new Stated Clerk of the Synod of Pacific, which is reducing their meetings from three to two each year starting in 2010, due to budget constraints. She also reported that over 90% of our churches are enrolled in CPIP.

Nominating Committee - Ken Crabtree

The following nominees were presented and approved.

2009 Moderator – Rev Noel Anderson

Moderator-Elect – Ruth Smith,

Stated Clerk - Rick Irish, Term: Sept 25, 2008 - Sept 25, 2009

Committee on Ministry
George Marsh (2011-2)
Randy Scheer (2011-1)
Verna Den Hartog (2011-1)
Ron Owens (2011-1)
Bill Eckhardt (2011-1)
Lilace Turmon (2011-2)
Committee on Preparation for Ministry
Jeff Chandler (2011-1)
Scott Henderson (2011-1)
Tony Winterowd (2011-1)
Adam Knudson (2011-1)
Finance and Property
Richard Braddy (2011-2)
Verna Den Hartog (2011-2)
David Nash (2011-2)
Ken Crabtree (2009-1)
Permanent Judicial Commission
Archie Smith (2014)
Karl Schafer (2014)
Personnel Committee
Terry Barnhill (2011-2)
Vince Correll (2011-2)
Calvin Crest Board
Rick Lemberg (2011-1)
Brent Stopelsford (2011-2)
Colin Warnes (2011-2)

Installation of the Moderator and Moderator-elect:

Noel Anderson was installed as the new Moderator, and Ruth Smith was installed as the Moderator-Elect.

Annual Corporation Meeting – Stuart Conrad

The presbytery took a break at 2:37pm from the presbytery's meeting to convene the annual meeting of the corporation. Per our Policies and Procedures, the Moderator, Noel Anderson, was **elected** President, the Stated Clerk, Rick Irish, was **elected** Secretary, and the Chair of Finance, David Nash, was **elected** Treasurer. The meeting of the corporation was adjourned.

The Presbytery of San Joaquin reconvened at 2:40 pm. Sandy Brown presented Stuart Conrad with a plaque in appreciation for his service as Moderator in 2008.

After One Minute Messages, the meeting was closed in prayer at 2:47pm by Stuart Conrad.

Next meeting of the Presbytery of San Joaquin will be Saturday, February 7, 2009, from 9am to 3pm at First Presbyterian Church in Hanford.