

The Day After

Presbytery of the Pacific

11/9/2011

Covenant Presbyterian Church

PRAYING THROUGH THE TRANSITIONS

This Presbytery meeting marked several transitions in the lives of individuals and of churches:

- We received **Rev. Dr. Dan Newhall** and **Rev. Dr. Charles Marks**, both good friends to the Presbytery for decades. Both are Honorably Retired, but Dr. Marks is serving as interim of Westminster Presbyterian.
- Candidate **Scott Andrews** will be candidating at McVeytown Presbyterian Church in Pennsylvania this Sunday. If all goes as hoped for, his ordination was approved for **December 4, 2011, at 4 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood.**
- The Synod of Southern California and Hawaii concurred with the transfer requests of **First Presbyterian Church of Honolulu** to San Diego Presbytery and **Malibu Presbyterian Church** to Santa Barbara. This was our chance to honor our time together with Honolulu. We will mark Malibu's transition in a future Presbytery meeting.
- The Presbytery approved the recommendations of the Administrative Commission that was charged with exploring the request of **La Rambla Presbyterian Church** to merge with First Presbyterian San Pedro. The AC recommended that La Rambla be closed effective December 1, 2011. By La Rambla's request, the property and assets will be transferred to First San Pedro, except for the cash needed to provide La Rambla's pastor Rev. George Rittenhouse III a severance of three months.
- Rev. Dr. Mark Brewer, outgoing chair of General Mission Council, led the Presbytery in prayer for the Honolulu and La Rambla churches.

STATE OF THE PRESBYTERY

Rev. Linda Culbertson, General Presbytery for Pacific, put into context the transitions and challenges faced by our Presbytery and the whole church. She spoke of the need to be flexible, some initiatives in the coming year to increase evangelism and new church development, and ways that the Presbytery is working with nearly every church according to their particular needs. She distributed updates on the mission of the Presbytery and our churches, which are attached to this report.

THANKS TO HOSTS

Many thanks to Rev. Cathy Cummings Chisholm and the members and staff of Covenant Presbyterian Church, as well as non-parish minister members who volunteered as hosts. Thanks especially to Rev. Shin-Hwa Park for her beautiful sermon, and for Rev. Leonardo Wilborn's great musical leadership throughout the service. Veronica Sanchez-Morales

The Day After



Summarizes some of what went on at our Presbytery meetings. The minutes continue to be the official record of the meetings, but The Day After will provide a tool for sharing and reporting what happened. The Presbytery's website (www.pacificpresbytery.org) is another source of information about Presbytery meetings and other Presbytery events and activities.

catered, and is donating 25% of her proceeds to the Nicaragua fund. Extra food went to the clients of A Community Place, the social service arm of United Ministry at USC—where Rev. Diane Kenney serves. Thanks to all!

MISSION: THE GOOD NEWS IN ACTION

We continue to celebrate the many ways we share God's love through mission in the world. A few highlights:

- Presbytery approved a second-year UCRF grant to Westminster Presbyterian Church for \$11,050. Their first-year efforts with the Youth Program has resulted in, among other things, seven young men becoming members of the church.
- The Presbytery approved \$3,000 Lulu Stevens grants to each of the following churches, in recognition and support of the excellent continuing work they do in feeding their neighbors:
West Hollywood Presbyterian Church
Calvary Presbyterian Church (Hawthorne)
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Bel-Vue Presbyterian Church
Wilshire Presbyterian Church
First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood
Immanuel Presbyterian Church
Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church
- Ani Abiendu, a high school junior from Culver City Presbyterian Church, shared her excitement about the Youth Encounter planned for July 1-8, 2012.
- Our partner cooperative in Nicaragua has been awarded a \$20,000 grant from the PC(USA) Hunger Program to support their self-development work, thanks to support from Pacific Presbytery. The Nicaragua campaign has reached almost half of its \$50,000 goal.
- Pacific Presbytery goes back to New Orleans March 24-31, 2012. Go to www.pacificpresbytery.org for more information and the application packet.
- Several churches mentioned mission projects coming up:
 - ♥ South Bay has 25 workers and \$2,500 going to the Lynwood Habitat for Humanity worksite.
 - ♥ Brentwood is hosting a concert with the Roger Wagner Chorale to benefit Japan's recovery, Friday, November 18th, 8 p.m., at the church. Suggested donation is just \$10.
 - ♥ Bel-Vue's "Neighbors to Neighbors" program needs 400 toys for distribution December 10th. Contact Margaret Reed at (310) 639-7305 if you can help.
 - ♥ First Presbyterian San Pedro will give out 1,000 full Thanksgiving baskets, each feeding a family of six, on November 22nd starting 9 a.m. These baskets feed about 10% of the population of San Pedro!

COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION REPORT

Rev. Dr. Sunny Kang shared highlights from the survey of Presbytery leadership. The biggest deficits are in young leadership (under 35). This year there was an imbalance of men (56% over 44% women), and there were no Native Americans currently on committees or on staff.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- November 13, 3-5 p.m., Presbytery Resource Center: **Open House on Immigration** with Julia Thorne, Manager of Immigration Office, PC(USA). Come and meet Julia and ask questions about immigration concerns and/or the PCUSA's views on immigration reform.
- November 18, 8 p.m., **Roger Wagner Chorale Concert benefiting PDA-Japan**, Brentwood Presbyterian Church.
- November 19, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Covenant Presbyterian: **Boundary Training**, mandatory for all minister members and recommended for all church leaders and staff. \$25/person includes lunch. Register by e-mailing kgporter@pacificpresbytery.org
- February 14, 2012, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Covenant Presbyterian: **Congregational Leadership Seminar with Dr. Peter Steinke**, open to all clergy and congregational leaders. \$25/person includes lunch.

Facts and figures for 2012

Board of Pensions Update

Board of Pensions Dues in 2012: 32.25% traditional

Board of Pensions Dues in 2013: 33.0% traditional

New Regional Representative: Rev. Dr. Clayton Cobb, ccobb@pensions.org

New Presbytery Leadership for 2012

Moderator: Elder Thomas Fleming (Knox)

Vice Moderator: Rev. David Worth

Chair, General Mission Council: Rev. Shin-Hwa Park

Administration Committee: Diane Baxa (Immanuel; 2012); Rev. Harold Kidd, Rev. Paula Mann, Paul Nibarger (St. Peter's by the Sea), Rev. Amanda Riley (2014)

Committee on Ministry: Tom Keene (Pacific Palisades; 2012); Liz Cheadle (Brentwood), Rev. Christine Sage, George Wilde (St. Mark's) (2014)

Committee on Preparation for Ministry: Arlene Creitz (First Hollywood), Rev. Shelby Larsen, Rev. Neal Neuenschwander, Sandra Tufts (Westminster) (2014)

Mission Interpretation and Promotion: Kerry Allison, Rev. Enock DeAssis, Thomas Hartshorne (First Hollywood) (2014)

Committee on Representation: Lauren Culbertson (2014)

Leadership Development: Rev. Cathy Cummings Chisholm (2014)

Committee on Staff: Sally Vasen Alter (Brentwood; 2014)

Committee on Self-Development of People: Rev. Calvin Moore (2013)

Permanent Judicial Commission: Rev. Shelby Larsen, Rev. Stephen Smith (2017)

Per Capita

Presbytery	\$ 28.02
Synod	2.60
General Assembly	<u>6.63</u>
Total	\$ 37.25

Presbytery Minimum

Unchanged at **\$49,450** for full-time.

Consumer Price Index for LA increased 3.1% since 2009

General Assembly 2012

June 30-July 7, 2012

Pittsburgh, PA

Nominate commissioners by January 8, 2012—see www.pacificpresbytery.org for application

PRESBYTERY OF THE PACIFIC
2012 Meeting Dates

Presbytery Meetings

Date and Time	Host Church
Saturday, January 28, 2012, 9 a.m.	(to be confirmed)
Tuesday, March 13, 2012, 4 p.m.	_____
Tuesday, May 8, 2012, 4 p.m.	(to be confirmed)
Saturday, July 28, 2012, 9 a.m.	Church of the Redeemer
Saturday, September 22, 2012, 9 a.m.	Angeles Mesa
Tuesday, November 13, 2012, 4 p.m.	_____ @ Covenant

CPM	COM	GMC	Administration
January 21, 2012	January 18, 2012	March 3, 9 a.m.	January 26, 2012
February 18, 2012	February 29, 2012	August 11, 9 a.m.	February 23, 2012
March 17, 2012	March 28, 2012	December 1, 9 a.m.	March 22, 2012
April 21, 2012	April 25, 2012		April 26, 2012
May 19, 2012	May 30, 2012		May 24, 2012
June 16, 2012	June 27, 2012		June 28, 2012
July 21, 2012	July 25, 2012		July 26, 2012
August 18, 2012	August 29, 2012	Leadership Team	August 23, 2012
September 15, 2012	September 26, 2012	January 5, 6 p.m.	September 27, 2012
October 20, 2012	October 24, 2012	April 5, 6 p.m.	October 25, 2012
November 17, 2012	November 28, 2012	June 21, 6 p.m.	November 29, 2012
December 15, 2012		October 11, 6 p.m.	

MIP	Other Events	Events for Clerks of Session
January 3, 2012	Peter Steinke Seminar	
February 7, 2012	on Congregational Change	
March 6, 2012	February 14, 2012, 9-4, \$25/person	Clerks' Training
April 3, 2012		January 14, 2012
May 1, 2012	New Orleans Trip	
June 5, 2012	March 24-31, 2012	Stats Reports DUE
July 3, 2012		February 10, 2012
August 7, 2012	Big Sunday	
September 4, 2012	May 4-6, 2012	Review of Minutes
October 2, 2012		May 5, 2012
November 6, 2012	General Assembly, Pittsburgh	August 25, 2012
December 4, 2012	June 30 – July 7, 2012	9-11 a.m.
	Nicaragua Youth Encounter	
	July 1-8, 2012	
	Synod Assembly (tent.)	
	October 26-27, 2012	

The Mission of Presbytery of Pacific

The Mission of the Presbytery of Pacific is to *assist congregations*:
be *effective* in meeting real needs of those in and around their community,
make great *impact* in transforming lives,
and grow in capacity to provide ministries that are *meaningful* to those serving
and served.

The Presbytery of Pacific accomplished this by:
investing in the people of God and congregations
leveraging resources: gifts, talents, human and financial,
and *advancing* the Kingdom of God.

The ministry of the Presbytery is focused in three main areas. It is estimated that about 60% of the staff time is spent on ministry to congregations, 30% with pastors and lay leaders, and 10% on ministry with entities outside of the Presbytery of Pacific.

1. Congregations

- Building Congregational Capacity: increase churches' ability to envision, develop and implement new ministries (ex. Acts 16:5, Development Team)
- Partnership Development: enabling cooperation for creativity and effectiveness (ex. Union & Bel Air)
- Creating Environments for Pastoral Accountability: help leaders move from maintaining institutions to leading adaptive change (ex. pastors' small groups)
- Engaging in New Opportunities: individualized coaching to see the work of the Holy Spirit (ex. First Inglewood, Westminster, Calvary Hawthorne)
- Asset Development: brokering new resources (ex. Bethany, UCRF, Lulu Stevens, Christ at the Door, advising on investments, loans and lease agreements)
- Administration: supporting congregational effectiveness in an ordered communal life and connecting with the larger church (ex. Stated Clerk Training, PJC)
- Cross Cultural Partnerships: assisting congregations through community changes and developing ministry partnerships beyond language, heritage and culture (ex. Calvary, Agape, Bel Air/Union)
- Consulting: assisting congregations with training, resources, and information (ex. Legal, Resource Center and Christian Ed consulting, Missions work)
- Mediation: conflict resolution and problem solving (ex. intervention and coaching)
- Helping Churches in Transition: exit strategies, assessment of mission, planning for future, identifying leadership models (ex. moderating Session, PNC support)
- Communication: facilitating sharing of information (ex. conferences, website, best practices)
- Empowering Lay Ministry: partnering with congregations for lay leadership development & training (ex. officer training)

2. Pastors/Lay leaders

- **Coaching**: Maximizing gifts and talents (self-reflection & discerning Holy Spirit)
- **Pastoral Counseling**: Guiding to wholeness (restoring and healing of the person)
- **Leadership Development**: Developing new servants & support existing leaders to increase effectiveness, make ministries meaningful and service impactful (discerning call and gifts)
- **Theological Foundation**: Building capacity for ministry (continuing education and development of new skills)
- **Creativity**: Fostering adaptation (updating pastors and congregations with latest trends and changes)

3. World (Outside of Presbytery of Pacific)

- National Partnerships (ex. New Orleans)
- International Partnerships (ex. Nicaragua)
- Local Service Opportunities (ex. Big Sunday/ShareFest, Hunger/Homeless Advocacy Network, Habitat for Humanity)
- Cooperative Ministries (ex. County USC Hospital Chaplaincy)
- PCUSA connectional ministries (ex. PDA, World Missions)

Presbytery of the Pacific is staffed to ensure that every congregation in the Presbytery is supported in fulfilling the vision they have discerned through prayer. While many present ministries are supported, Presbytery also guides and encourages congregations to transition into the future. Staff work to support, train, and coordinate the efforts of Presbytery volunteer leaders. In order to meet needs most effectively, Presbytery services are customized according to the requests of individual congregations.

Staff responsibilities are:

- General Presbyter: mission coordination, consulting, congregational development
- Stated Clerk/Associate GP: ecclesiastical coordination, communication, mission
- Christian Education Resource and Training/Data Management: Resource Center, new media, officer training, database support
- Office Manager/Bookkeeper: manages funds, disbursements, office management
- Executive Assistant: secretarial support, coordination of presbytery meetings
- Mission Advocate (12 hours/week): coordinates mission partnerships, networks
- Pastor Nurture (12 hours/week): care for pastors and families
- Director of Financial Services (8 hours/week): accounting oversight, support to Administration Committee

Presbytery of the Pacific has other ministries that are not reflected in the budget. UCRF and Lulu Stevens are restricted funds supporting new congregational ministries in urban contexts and to serve the disadvantaged. Presbytery of Pacific is investing \$200,000 in young leaders through Christ at the Door. Presbytery of Pacific has developed a new community partnership using a former church property to generate new revenues for ministry support.

Presbytery of the Pacific
Presbytery Mission Action Update
October 2011

1. **New Orleans Network:** Trip booked for March 24-31, 2012. It will be Pacific Presbytery's 4th trip to New Orleans. This network is looking to deepen the Presbytery's relationship with the people of New Orleans by networking with local non-profits to address the environmental and economic justice issues that have surfaced as a result of Hurricane Katrina. The team is also considering planning a disaster-response trip to Joplin, Missouri.
2. **Hunger/Homelessness Network:** Just forming, it will be producing a newsletter in the early fall and a concert in the summer of 2012. This network will be promoting Home for Good (a Los Angeles-based initiative to end homelessness), raising awareness of issues of homelessness, supporting our churches with food banks and connecting them with resources and support. Opportunity to partner with Bel-Vue Presbyterian Church for a toy drive in early December to serve their community in East LA.
3. **Habitat for Humanity:** Over a dozen Pacific Presbytery churches have participated and continue to work on the Presbytery initiative to build three houses in Lynwood. Churches have provided everything from funds, short-term work teams, to on-going commitments of labor and expertise.
4. **Mission Partnership with the COPEMULNAGTLE Cooperative,** a micro-credit loan cooperative serving four rural villages northwest of Leon, Nicaragua. Our partnership is facilitated by CEPAD, an ecumenical council of churches based in Managua. Pacific Presbytery sent its fourth large group delegation in July 2011, mostly young adults. The mutually-discerned work projects of the Presbytery and the Cooperative are an office space for the Cooperative (nearly completed), an international Youth Encounter in July 2012, clean water for the villages (testing their water wells, networking with other non-profit water groups, and discerning with the Cooperative which water system would be most effective), and seeking to alleviate the suffering of people dying from CKD (chronic renal failure) in epidemic proportions. Pacific Presbytery has formed a Nicaragua Planning Team as an "umbrella" committee for the delegations we send, other networks forming out of the partnership, and Presbytery-wide fundraising to fund the partnership.
5. **PC(USA) Nicaragua Network:** Pacific Presbytery is one of the founding presbyteries of this network that formed in early 2011. Its goal is to connect all PC(USA) churches in mission in Nicaragua with each other, making their witness in Nicaragua stronger and more effective. This group will be sponsoring a PC(USA)-wide webinar on water issues in Nicaragua in October.
6. **"Nica CKD" Network:** Just formed as a result of the July trip in 2011. Their mission is to find the cause of CKD (chronic renal failure) in rural villages located close to sugarcane plantations in Central America. They are networking with other agencies and foundations to raise awareness and end the suffering, including the World Health Organization, the World Bank, documentary film producers, the Nicaragua Sugar Estates, foundations in Nicaragua working with other communities struck with CKD, labs and water groups throughout Nicaragua, and CEPAD.
7. **Youth Encounter:** A team of Nicaragua and Presbytery youth will mutually plan, via Skype, a youth encounter on Christian Faith and the Environment in July 2012. Ten youth will travel from Pacific Presbytery and ten youth from the Presbytery's partner communities to an ecologically sustainable CEPAD farm in Matagalpa, Nicaragua, to fellowship, worship, and have Bible studies together, as well as learn about environmental issues in Nicaragua and the United States. They will engage in mission projects together (e.g., tree planting and building water filters) and discern what they are called to do together to be witnesses for God's justice and peace in the world.
8. **Future Mission Network Goals:** Greening churches, Immigration, and mission in Africa.