



Synod of the Pacific—The Ninety-ninth Stated Meeting
Mercy Center, Burlingame, CA
October 8-10, 2009

E-MAIL INFORMATION PIECE

This resource is intended to help you as you report to presbytery. The material contained herein is not complete and is intended only as a reminder of activities. Please be sure to check written reports and your own notes for details and for results of actions taken.

The Synod meeting was convened at Mercy Center on Thursday afternoon by Moderator Rev. Al Fry as he shared his thoughts on Psalm 96 and opened in prayer.

Executive Rob Brink reported that the constituent presbyteries of the Sierra Mission Partnership, Stockton, Nevada and Sacramento, have decided to dissolve the SMP effective Dec. 31, 2010. The three presbyteries have each established working groups to effect the necessary changes as they become independent presbyteries. Rob also reported on the closure of the Covenant Presbyterian Insurance Program (CPIP) and our Synod's involvement in trying to resolve the ongoing issues related to that closure. He also spoke of the nFOG report coming to the 2010 General Assembly, and the proposed changes reflecting the possibility that synods could choose to reduce their structures. Rob concluded his report by mentioning the preliminary report from the special GA committee studying the issues of civil union and Christian marriage, which concludes in part, "We cannot agree." The full report is worth reading on the PCUSA website.

The Synod elected Rev. Joanna Dunn (Boise) as their new Moderator, and Rev. Edward Eissabake (Stockton) as Vice Moderator, and were installed during worship on Thursday. During that worship service, the sacrament of Communion was celebrated and an offering of \$707 was received for the Presbyterian Disaster Fund, to be designated for recovery work in American Samoa.

Stated Clerk Wendy Warner reported on the status of all open judicial and civil cases, noting particularly that the Roseville/Fair Oaks civil case is projected to be heard by the CA Supreme Court in October/November. Both of these churches have asked to negotiate property settlements, and the Synod negotiating team from council is in conversation with them. Wendy also reported that at the 2010 GA there will be an even greater reliance on computers than in the past, an issue for presbyteries as they elect their GA commissioners.

Highlights from our presbyteries:

Boise Presbytery shared an moving video about their Camp Sawtooth which told about the rebuilding of Greely Hall as well as improvements made to the chapel. They are committed to investing in all of their local camps as important tools in bringing young people to Christ.

San Joaquin Presbytery is excited about an NCD in Bakersfield which is primarily a Hispanic outreach. They have also been working with Calvin Crest Camp as plans are being made for the first training for Clean Water U West! A new dining and meeting facility is being constructed to help facilitate this and other camp programs.

San Jose Presbytery constituted a new congregation in June, The Onnuri Church of San Jose which is a Korean congregation. Their home is in the refurbished facility of the Calvin church which had closed. There were over 500 in attendance at the inaugural service!

Redwoods Presbytery reports that the 'relative happiness in Redwoods is high'!

Don't forget to check out PacificMissinExchange.org for opportunities to give to our Synod mission efforts! The Synod meeting was adjourned on Saturday morning with thanks to Rev. Al Fry for his leadership as Synod Moderator for the past year.