

The Day After

Presbytery of the Pacific

1/30/2011

Faith Presbyterian Church

A WAY FORWARD

The Presbytery had a spirited, substantial, and well-reasoned discussion of the Way Forward proposal. After deliberating on the proposal for over an hour, the Presbytery voted in a very close decision (81 for, 83 against) not to adopt the Way Forward proposal as a whole. The Presbytery then voted to adopt the Gracious Dismissal policy alone, as it was outlined in the Way Forward proposal.

Many people expressed great appreciation for the many hours of hard work that the Way Forward work group put into the proposal. The work also evoked more discussion of what it means to be a presbytery together, and how to lessen the tension that sometimes arises when discussing diverse viewpoints. Interest in our life together as a presbytery was demonstrated by the strong participation at three Town Hall meetings prior to the Presbytery meeting. Thanks go to the churches that hosted the Town Hall meetings: St. John's, First Gardena, and Immanuel.

And many thanks to the Way Forward work group: Rev. Dr. Don Barnes (Honorably Retired), Rev. Dr. Mark Brewer (Bel Air), Rev. David Carpenter (Brentwood), Rev. Dr. Lynn Cheyney (Westwood), Rev. Care Crawford (Bel Air), Rev. Dr. Judy Cuthbertson (St. Mark's), Rev. Dr. Drew Hulse (First, Honolulu), Elder Martha Kadue (Westwood), Rev. Paula Mann (At large), Elder Karen Prough (Pacific Palisades), Rev. Dr. David Stoker (First, Honolulu)

THE CONFESSION OF BELHAR

After a short discussion, the Presbytery voted in favor of adding the Confession of Belhar to the PC(USA) *Book of Confessions*. Several commissioners mentioned the historic and reconciling impact of including this Confession in the PC(USA) Constitution, as it is the first confession to come from the Christian Church beyond Europe or North America.

PEACE CENTER GETS FUNDING FROM LULU STEVENS

The Presbytery approved a \$15,000 grant to United University Church's peacemaking training among young people, including the Peace Camp, Peace Kids, and Youth Leadership Academy in Peacemaking.

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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.

THE PACIFIC PRESBYTERY FAMILY GROWS

Pacific Presbytery advanced **Joel Larson** (First Hollywood) and **Joshua Yee** (South Bay) to candidacy, and received four new minister members:

- **Rev. Kerry Grogan**, an ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), while she is pastor of Christ Church Uniting Disciples and Presbyterians in Kailua, Hawaii.
- **Rev. Dan Hagmaier**, new designated pastor of Pacific Palisades Presbyterian Church, transferring from Peace River Presbytery in Florida. Dan's installation service will be held in conjunction with the March 8, 2011, Presbytery meeting, which is already scheduled to be held at Pacific Palisades.
- **Rev. Dae Jung**, associate pastor of First Congregational Church, Los Angeles, a congregation of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches. Dae was an active and long-time member of Hudson River Presbytery in New York, and was getting homesick for the PC(USA).
- **Rev. Amanda Riley**, new parish associate with Brentwood Presbyterian Church but who is actively seeking a call in this area. Amanda was ordained by National Capital Presbytery but has most recently served as a member of Lake Huron Presbytery in Michigan.

NEW FORM OF GOVERNMENT WORKSHOP AND VOTE ON MARCH 8

The next Presbytery meeting will be on March 8, 2011, at 4 p.m. at Pacific Palisades. On that day, former Stated Clerk **Steve Smith** will lead a workshop on the New Form of Government at 2:30 p.m.

We will vote on all the other amendments on May 10 at Knox. *There are books published by the Office of the General Assembly on the New Form of Government and all the Amendments at the Presbytery Office; just come by the Resource Center to pick them up.*

LEADERSHIP FOR THE NEW YEAR

The following were elected into Presbytery leadership:

- General Mission Council:** Marney Wilde (St. Mark's, 2013), Member at Large (replace Barry Newpin, who had to resign)
Committee on Ministry: Penny Navidad (Wilshire, confirmed for 2013), Woody Woodruff (St. Peter's by the Sea, 2013)
Committee on Preparation for Ministry: Jim Rispin (Immanuel) (2012)
Administration Committee: George Bayz (Hollywood) (2013)
Mission Interpretation and Promotion: Rev. Kerry Allison (2011), Leslie Evans (Covenant, 2013)
Committee on Self-Development of People: Lee Gardner (Covenant, 2012, to replace Joan Morris, who had to resign)

DIE-HARD CLERKS STAY FOR TRAINING

Over 20 clerks of session and church leaders stayed after the Presbytery meeting to discuss processes, forms, procedural changes, theology, and tips on effective clerkship. Thanks to Steve Smith and Ann Turnock for their leadership. Blessings to our clerks, especially the new clerks, as they serve their churches so faithfully.

THANKS GO TO:

Faith Presbyterian Church, for their wonderful hospitality
General Presbyter Linda Culbertson for leading the reflections on the Scripture
Rev. Shin-Hwa Park for her courageous initiation into her term as Moderator
Rev. Dr. Mark Brewer for his service as Moderator and now Moderator of the GMC
Rev. Dr. Harold E. Kidd as he completes his three-year journey as Vice Moderator, Moderator, and Moderator of the GMC