

THE NEWS

of San Fernando Presbytery

July 2010

NEWS

COMMISSIONERS WILSON AND HILL TRAVEL TO GA

GA Commissioners Rev. Andy Wilson and Elder Deb Hill are heading to Minneapolis, Minnesota for the 219th General Assembly. This year GA is being hosted by the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, with the support of the Presbytery of Northern Waters. It begins on Saturday, July 3 and closes Saturday, July 10.

Commissioners will be conducting their business at the Minneapolis Convention Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota, but there will be events at other venues as well. Westminster Presbyterian Church, listed in the National Register of Historic Places, is offering an open house, a tour of the church, and various opportunities to hear live music.

It will come as no surprise that GA will be considering overtures on ordination standards and Middle East policy. There will also be overtures dealing with a variety of other issues, including the Proposed New Form of Government, the US presence in Afghanistan, the Belhar Confession, and the role of Christian Educators. If you'd like to learn more about the overtures mentioned above, or if you'd like to follow the General Assembly as it conducts its business, go to:

www.pcusa.org/ga219/



Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis

ST. JAMES CELEBRATES MEMBERS OVER 90

By Jan Bruszak, Church Secretary, St. James Presbyterian Church

On Sunday, May 16, 2010 the congregation at St. James Presbyterian Church honored 14 members who are 90 or older in 2010. Those honored were Cy Battison, Walt Faner, Dick Hammerle, Pat Hammerle, Margie Hartman, Ione Haugh, Darrell Huston, Sibyl, Jones, Pauline Lica, Ruth Lowell, Lucille Murphy, Barbara Pearce, Dick Smith, Nikki Smith.

Former pastor Don Maddox was invited back to preach, in the absence of Steve Smith. They were honored during the worship service and following worship a lunch of homemade stew, salad and rolls was served. Each table had a "birthday" cake and balloons.

During lunch some members of our handbell choir played and a short bio was read about each honoree.

HENKEN CALLED TO MINISTRY IN SOUTH AMERICA

Clearing the last hurdle before her ordination, Candidate Sarah Henken was examined and approved by Commissioners on Tuesday, June 29 at a called meeting of San Fernando Presbytery. Later this year she will start her new job as Regional Liaison for the Andean Region for Presbyterian World Mission.



Candidate Sarah Henken

La Paz will be her base of operations, but in addition to Bolivia, Sarah will also be serving in Colombia, Venezuela and Peru. And this is not the first time she has travelled to South America. When she first came under care, Sarah worked in Argentina as coordinator for PCUSA's Young Adult Volunteer Program. Later she served in Colombia as part of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship's accompaniment program.

Sarah's excitement about her new ministry was visible at the called meeting. "God's mission is indeed active both here in our community and around the world," she has written. "We are partner's in Christ's service, journeying together into God's future."

MISSION TEAM TRAVELS TO PERU

By Wendy Gist, Mission Advocate, PSF & PSG

From May 18-31 I was in Peru with a mission team from Presbytery of San Gabriel (PSG). We went to Peru representing PSG after more than a year of discernment, training, and prayer.

Two years ago during General Assembly a promotional video from Living Waters for the World (LWW) was shown. LWW, a mission resource of the [Synod of Living Waters](#) of the [PC\(USA\)](#), trains and equips mission teams to share the gift of clean water with communities in need through the use of a simple, sustainable water treatment system and educational programs. PSG commissioners came back from GA wanting to get involved, so this is where this journey began.

Six of us were trained at Clean Water U, LWW's simulation school, at Calvin Crest in October 2009. We were equally split among the 3 courses offered and learned to lead teams to build relationships with in-country partners, help partners install the water system, and teach health, hygiene and spiritual education to communities.

PSG did not have an established international partnership, so the next task was to discern where God was calling us. Our team did a lot of research, emailing, praying, and discussing to discern where we felt called. In the end we all agreed that Peru felt like the place. Then our work began anew as we communicated with PC(USA) missionaries in Peru to set up a trip and to hopefully find an initial partner.

Thus, between May 18th and 31st we met with 6 communities in and around Ayacucho, Peru, some of them Presbyterian Church communities. We shared with them how God wants everyone to have access to clean water and Jesus Christ is living water for our bodies and souls. We also shared what the water system does, how it works, the estimated costs to run and maintain the system, and for what purposes one uses the clean water. There was always time for questions and answers as well and occasionally a shared meal.

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Each place we visited was special and the need for clean drinking/cooking water was evident. With the program in place, the church that holds a Bible Institute for hundreds could stop boiling water for all the participants; the church that houses an elementary school could supply clean drinking water for all the students, their families, and the church members' families; the small communities could have clean water for every man, woman, and child changing their health situation dramatically. Our hope is that once the work with our initial partner is well underway, the partnership within Peru will expand and we will help bring clean water to more communities there.



Mission Advocate Wendy Gist (far right) meets with local residents in Peru

The trip was exciting and impactful. We look forward to going back again to continue building relationships and creating a Clean Water Covenant with a Peruvian partner. And then, God willing, we will bring a water purification system with us and train our local partners to build and maintain the system, so they can have clean water. After that, communication and follow-up trips with our Peruvian partners will make sure that the installed systems continue to run effectively and efficiently and that more partnerships are developed. It's a great ministry to be a part of!

For more information on Living Waters for the World you can visit their website at: <http://www.livingwatersfortheworld.org/index.php> and/or you can contact me via email at: MissionAdvocate@sfpresby.org

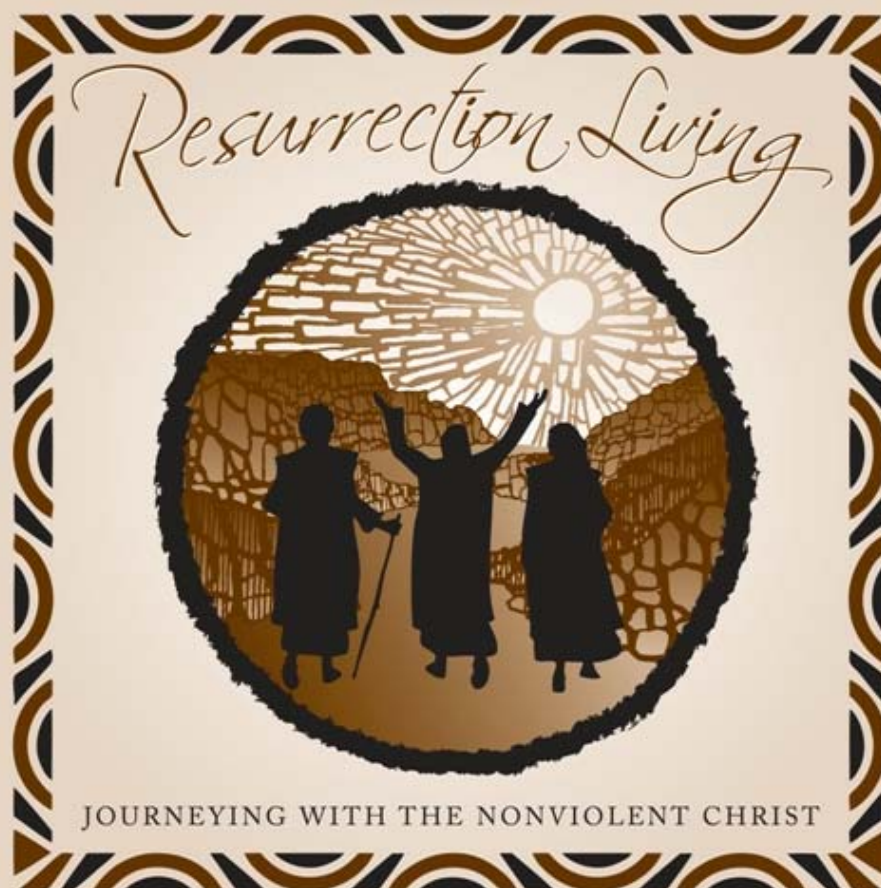
In peace,
Wendy Gist

NORTH'S NOTES

"What is God's vision for us?" This question is asked of the churches involved in the Jeremiah Initiative. I think it applies to all of our churches in the presbytery, as well as to the committees that serve the presbytery. In our rapidly changing times and culture, it is so important to be discerning God's vision and plan for us. Gone are the days of ongoing stability within our communities, churches and families. We need God's Word for the here and now in order to deal with life here and now. As we move through this summer season, may we take time as congregations, committees and families to spend time in Bible Study and Prayer, listening to hear God's Word for us today. In Genesis we find that Abram listened to and acted on the word and vision of God for his family and him. May we do likewise in a world that is desperate for a Word of direction and assurance from our God.

Blessings,
Jerry North
Executive Presbyter

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The [Presbyterian Peacemaking Program](#) is pleased to announce the publication of a journal resource on nonviolence. [Resurrection Living: Journeying with the Nonviolent Christ](#) is designed as a journal to help individuals explore the theology and ethics of nonviolence and ways to practice it in their daily lives. It invites users to engage in prayerful reflection on Scripture, documents of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and the writings of theologians and practitioners of nonviolence through the ages. The fifty-two entries may be used individually or in community on a daily or weekly basis. Ideas for using the journal in various settings are included. However the journal is used, at its heart is an invitation to ponder, "What does it mean for me to follow the nonviolent Christ today in the place where I live and around God's world?"

You can order by following the link below.

<http://store.pcusa.org/2435810007>

There's still time to sign up for the....

Presbyterian Women
Summer Conference

July 16-18, 2010

Chapman University

**Registration forms are available
on the Women's Page of the Synod website.
Go to:**

www.synod.org

THE LATE REGISTRATION FEE IS BEING FORGIVEN!

**For more information, contact:
Carole Wheeler
661-259-4615
carolewheeler@pacbell.net**

PEACEMAKING OFFERING

The Peacemaking Offering was created in 1980 to support the efforts of the PCUSA to live out a deeper commitment to peacemaking as part of our faithfulness to God. It is one of four special offerings designated by the General Assembly.

Most churches receive the offering on World Communion Sunday, which this year is October 3, but congregations may choose whatever Sunday works best for them.

Each congregation is encouraged to retain 25 percent of the offering to use for local peacemaking ministries within the church and community. Another 25 percent is allocated to presbyteries and synods, and 50 is used by General Assembly through the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program.

In accordance with the action of the 217th General Assembly, congregations are encouraged to consider directing all or part of their share to helping those with HIV/AIDS.

OPPORTUNITIES

**Interim Pastor
and
Youth Director
South Bay Presbyterian Church (SBPC)
Torrance, CA**

SBPC is located in Torrance and is looking for a full/part time Interim Pastor and Youth Director with a minimum of four years experience.

SBPC started as a New Church Development in 1989 and became a chartered church member in 1992 in the Presbytery of Pacific (U.S.A.). SBPC is a multi-ethnic church with an Asian majority congregation.

For more information:
email: contact.sbpc@sbcglobal.net

**CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP LEADER
Trinity Presbyterian Church
Camarillo, CA**

This is a part-time position leading a contemporary worship band.
The position will require 8-10 hours per week and pays \$20-25 per hour.
For full position description and to apply, e-mail:

[Jeff Kempton](mailto:jkempton@trinitycamarillo.org)
at
jkempton@trinitycamarillo.org.

www.trinitycamarillo.org

The News of San Fernando Presbytery is published monthly by the Communication & Church Support Committee, Areta Crowell, Chair. Submissions and comments should be sent to Casey Maddren, Editor. E-Mail: cmaddren@sfpresby.org