

THE NEWS

of San Fernando Presbytery

October 2010

*FOR A PRINTABLE VERSION OF THE NEWSLETTER,
PLEASE GO TO WWW.SFPRESBY.ORG*

NEWS

PRESBYTERY RECOGNIZES NORTH'S SERVICE AS EP

A moving celebration of the service of outgoing EP Jerry North capped the September meeting of Presbytery, held at First Presbyterian Church, Granada Hills. The agenda was jam-packed, and there was extended discussion of many issues. Two ministers were received into the Presbytery, a Candidate was examined, and three Inquirers were accepted. Attendees also voted on a proposal by ECG and the visiting International Peacemaker addressed the assembly.

San Fernando Presbytery welcomed two new ministers, Rev. Daniel Gilbert and Rev. Steve Miller. Daniel has been called as Pastor by the congregation of St. Stephen PC in Chatsworth. Steve will be serving as Associate Pastor at Westminster PC in Westlake Village. Candidate Christine Chambers, of New Covenant Presbytery, was examined and approved for ordination. She has been called to serve as Chaplain at Holy Cross Hospital. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry brought three applicants, Joel Drenckpohl, Mariela Gonzalez and Stephanie Kremmel. All three were approved as Inquirers.

In addition to the numerous agenda items that needed to be addressed, attendees had the opportunity to try out a new technology. Since Daniel Gilbert and Stephanie Kremmel could not be present for the meeting, the interviews were conducted using Skype, a video conferencing application. While the results were mixed, it may prove to be a useful tool for future interviews.

International Peacemaker Dayro Aranzales spoke to the assembly about the violence that continues to claim lives in his country. Dayro asked for assistance in the form of prayers and advocacy. The US government sends millions of dollars in military aid to Colombia, and many feel that this contributes to the multiple, ongoing conflicts that have ravaged the country for decades. Dayro encouraged Presbyterians to contact Congress, in the hope that pressure from the US government will improve the human rights situation in his country. For a first-hand report on the situation in Colombia from PCUSA mission workers, click here:

<http://calledtocolombia.org/?p=1408>



International Peacemaker Dayro Aranzales

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)



When the business portion of the meeting was over, the final item on the agenda was a recognition ceremony for retiring Executive Presbyter Jerry North. Rev. Jim Sillerud provided some laughs with a list of the top ten reasons Jerry won't miss his job. A book containing sentiments from well-wishers and a gift were presented by Elder Jean Jauck and Rev. Janelle Tibbetts-Vaughan. At the end of the ceremony, all those present gathered around Jerry while Rev. Ken Baker offered a prayer. Then attendees adjourned to the patio to enjoy a reception prepared by the Granada Hills congregation.

Left:
Former Executive Presbyter Jerry North views the cake prepared to celebrate his retirement.
Below:
Those attending September Presbytery gather for a photo with Jerry.



MEET ACTING EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER REV. KEN TRACY

While the Presbytery continues its search for a new Interim Executive Presbyter, Rev. Ken Tracy will serve as Acting Executive Presbyter for the next few months. Ken comes to us with a varied background. A lifelong Presbyterian, he attended Lancaster Theological Seminary with his wife, Carol.

Ken has had previous experience as an EP in Utah, where he also served as Stated Clerk. He has been called as Pastor to various churches, and served as Interim Pastor at our own St. James Presbyterian Church in Tarzana following the Northridge quake. He and his wife have also been called to mission work, travelling to Alaska to serve in two churches there. During that time he also held the post of Treasurer in Alaska Presbytery.

Ken retired early in order to better assume the role of primary caregiver for his wife. They live at Monte Vista Grove in Pasadena, along with two pugs and a cat. They have a son, Rob, who lives in Sacramento, and a daughter, Robin, in Salt Lake City.

DATES SET FOR TOWN HALL MEETINGS

The 219th General Assembly sent three items to the presbyteries for ratification. The Presbytery Council has scheduled three town hall meetings to study these items, before a vote is taken next year. Below is a schedule of these meetings.

Tuesday, October 26, 7:00 pm

New Form of Government

Faith Presbyterian Church, Valley Village

Saturday, November 20, 1:00 pm

Proposed Amendments to the Constitution, Ordination Standards

Panorama Presbyterian Church, Panorama City

Following November Presbytery Meeting

Thursday, January 27, 7:00 pm

The Belhar Confession

First Presbyterian Church, Granada Hills

The General Assembly has prepared booklets on each of the amendments. Interested parties may visit the Presbytery Office to pick up copies. The booklets are also available in electronic form on the Presbytery web site:

<http://www.sfpresby.org/>

SFTS CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY





San Francisco Theological Seminary celebrated the 20th anniversary of its Southern California Campus on Saturday, September 25, 2010 at the Pasadena Presbyterian Church. At 3:00 pm, the seminary hosted an open house to showcase the current location at 54 N. Oakland Street, Kirkhouse Building, 2nd Floor. In three digit temperatures, the service began at 4:00pm. The Rev. Dr. Kikanza Nuri preached, speaking about ways to keep the soul healthy.

During communion, the sacrament was celebrated using English, Korean and Spanish languages. At points during this part of the service there was translation and at other times such as during the Lord's Prayer, different languages were spoken at the same time. Following the worship service all were encouraged to gather for dinner. Rev. Dr. Laird J. Stuart, who is Interim President of SFTS, attended with other staff from the Northern California campus in San Anselmo.





ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are Sun-Rich!

How can we harvest our sun-wealth to:

-  *Create new jobs?*
-  *Save money?*
-  *Strengthen Our Communities?*
-  *Create a cleaner, healthier Los Angeles?*

Are you interested in

-  *Financial solutions for your home or church?*
-  *Solar installation for your house or church?*
-  *How to save money using a roof top space for a commercial enterprise?*
-  *How Los Angeles is helping?*

Jeffrey Richardson
CEO of Imani Energy
will address these and other questions
Sunday, November 14, 2:00 p.m.
Faith Presbyterian Church, Valley Village
5000 Colfax Avenue

RSVP to Merilie Robertson at mrobertson@pacbell.net
Sponsored by the
Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Work Group
Presbytery of San Fernando

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Westlake Village

Invites you to the installation of....

Rev. Steven B. Miller

We are excited to have Rev. Steven B. Miller joining the staff of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Westlake Village, as Associate Pastor of Discipleship. Please help us celebrate with Steve and his family on Sunday, October 24. We begin with a joyous worship and installation service at 4:00 pm in the Sanctuary, followed by a light meal and reception in the Fellowship Center. All are welcome!

Westminster Presbyterian Church
32111 Watergate Rd., Westlake Village
818-889-1491
www.WPCWestlake.org

SIMPLE GIFTS

for a

CHRIST-CENTERED

CHRISTMAS

Looking for a way to boost mission support without impacting a tight church budget?

Regardless of whether you have a sizable mission budget or are agonizing over cutting mission giving, Alternative Giving is an easy way to encourage mission support. An Alternative Christmas Giving program offers an opportunity for your members to give simple, but thoughtful, gifts for mission as part of their Christmas shopping.

What is Alternative Giving?

Alternative Giving is a form of gift giving where the donor makes a donation to a charitable organization instead of buying a tangible gift for the recipient. The organization then provides an "alternative gift" certificate or card for the recipient telling them of the project supported through the gift.

Why Alternative Giving?

Some people feel that Christmas has become too commercial, and they don't want or need more 'stuff'. For others the work of a mission organization or project is dear to their heart. Alternative Giving is a practical solution to the dilemma of wanting to give a gift to someone special whose gift preferences are unknown or when material gifts seem trivial or inappropriate.

Medical Benevolence Foundation has materials to help you promote Alternative Giving in your church, both at Christmas and throughout the year. For more information contact Molly Wyenberg: mwyenberg@mbfoundation.org, 800-547-7627, ext. 120 or visit the Medical Benevolence Foundation website at www.mbfoundation.org.

Women of the Presbytery!

You are invited to meet with us on....

**Saturday, November 6
Faith Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Hall
5000 Colfax, Valley Village
11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**

Please join us for....

Lunch

**"PW the Best Kept Secret"
(a skit by The Rev. Sylvia Karcher)**

and....

**A conversation about rebirthing
Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of San Fernando.**

Our vision is modest as we hope to renew our Presbyterian Women connection within the Presbytery by means of two luncheon meetings a year, each with a meaningful program.

For further information or to make reservations please contact Carole Wheeler by phone or Email. 661-259-4615 or carolewheeler@pacbell.net

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