

# THE NEWS

## of San Fernando Presbytery

September 2010

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### NEWS

#### **EP JERRY NORTH TO STEP DOWN SEPTEMBER 30**

After over a decade as Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery of San Fernando, Elder Gerald O. North will be stepping down from the post on September 30. Known to everyone as Jerry, his low-key presence and affable manner made him easily approachable. While the denomination has been grappling with divisive issues, Jerry has done his best to bring people together by encouraging dialogue and mutual respect.

During his time as EP, Jerry was deeply involved with church planting and church redevelopment, working closely with the Evangelism & Church Growth Committee. Four new churches were chartered during his tenure: one serving the Armenian community, two serving the Spanish-speaking community, and one reaching out to young adults in need of reconciliation.

Jerry is a long-time member of Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church. He served as Moderator of the Committee on Ministry before being called to the post of Executive Presbyter. In addition to spending more time on his boat, Jerry has said he plans to take a computer class once he's retired. And he may finally get around to restoring that VW Bug he bought a few years ago.

The Rev. Ross Purdy had this to say about the outgoing EP:

"Jerry has been my pastor, my friend, and an advocate for me and my congregation. He has piloted our presbytery with excellence through some exceptional journeys as well as some very difficult waters. His collegial style of ministry has encouraged our pastors and elders to embrace each other in unity while working for the common goal of the Kingdom. I am going to miss Jerry as my Executive Presbyter and I thank him for his wonderful spirit, friendship, and love. Well done, Jerry, God's good and faithful servant!"



Executive Presbyter Jerry North

## GRANADA HILLS CHURCH TO HOST SEPTEMBER PRESBYTERY MEETING

The next stated meeting of Presbytery will be hosted by First Presbyterian Church, Granada Hills. Commissioners will gather on Tuesday, September 28 starting at 3:00 pm. A report on General Assembly will be given, and those present will have the opportunity to attend workshops dealing with a variety of issues. These will include:

- **2010 International Peacemaker**
- **Jeremiah Initiative Q&A**
- **Stewardship Best Practices** with Elder David Lessley
- **Presbyterian Youth Connection - A Vision for Our Presbytery** with Rev. Richard Poole

At this meeting the Presbytery will also acknowledge outgoing Executive Presbyter Jerry North, who is retiring at the end of this month.

## NORTH'S NOTES

### ***Ecclesiastes 3:1-2***

*There's an opportune time to do things, a right time for everything on the earth:  
A right time for birth and another for death,  
A right time to plant and another to reap.*

### **The Message, Peterson**

As I write this article, I believe that we, together, have experienced the essence of these two verses in our presbytery over the past ten years. We have worked together in planting new congregations, helping existing congregations move through transformation, set long range goals for the presbytery, worked together on General Assembly issues, and most of all have been the Kingdom of God in the here and now (Luke 10:9). I am thankful to God for the opportunity and privilege to have walked side by side with you through the ups and downs of everyday life in the presbytery and our local churches. You have been a wonderful group of "sisters and brothers in Christ" to be associated with during this season of life within the church.

I want to give thanks to God for a truly gifted presbytery staff that keeps the day to day workings of the presbytery running smoothly. Pat, Marguerite, Wendy and Casey are remarkable persons to work with and to rub shoulders with day in and day out.

My ongoing prayer is that God will continue to bless your lives as individuals, our congregations and presbytery as we continue to be God's witness in the northwest areas of Los Angeles county in this new season.

Blessings,  
Jerry North

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Are you a caring, compassionate person?  
Are you looking for a way to help others?**

### **COMPANION HOSPICE CARE**

#### **VOLUNTEER TRAINING**

**Oct. 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th  
8:30 am to 1:00 pm**

**320 N. Halstead Ave., Suite 100, Pasadena**

**SF Valley training location may be added if enough people sign up.**

**Hospice care volunteers would visit homes in the SF Valley area  
to offer assistance to patients and their families.**

#### **RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

**Contact:  
Cecelia Rudar  
877 303-0692  
CeceliaR@CompanionHospice.com**

## **Churches Week of Action on Food October 10-17, 2010**

**The Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) has helped plan and produce a resource guide for this year's Churches Week of Action on Food as a way to help congregations make the connections between their local hunger work and care for the hungry, and international food issues. Join with churches, Christian organizations, and people of faith around the world in prayer, study, and action from 10-17 October.**

**For more information about and resources for the Churches Week of Action on Food visit:**

**<http://www.e-alliance.ch/en/s/food/2010-churches-week-of-action-on-food/>**

Presbyterian Women in the Presbyteries of  
The Pacific, San Fernando, and Santa Barbara

## FALL CLUSTER GATHERING PW USA MISSION EXPERIENCE

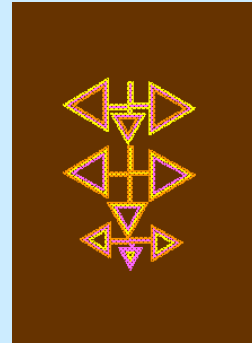


### Marjorie Boyer

Met with our Native American sisters in South Dakota as a representative of PW in the Synod

### Sallie Cuaresma

(Cherokee)  
Recently retired as the Associate for Native American Congregational Support, PCUSA



**Faith Presbyterian Church**  
**5000 Colfax Ave.**  
**Valley Village (North Hollywood)**  
**(818) 766-8103**

**Saturday, October 9, 2010, 9:00 a.m. registration**  
**(Program begins at 9:30 a.m.)**

Send registration (\$10, includes lunch) to:  
Florence Griffith,  
1924 W. 54th St., Los Angeles, CA 90062  
(323) 299-7528  
[tenjays@att.net](mailto:tenjays@att.net)

**NO LATER THAN October 1, 2010**

Include telephone number, name of your church and Presbytery.  
Make checks payable to PWP.

**Child care by reservation deadline: September 29, 2010**

**BRING SACK LUNCH**

#### Directions to Church:

From 101 (Ventura Freeway), exit Laurel Canyon, go north (under the freeway) to Addison, (second street, on right, north of Riverside Dr.) turn right on Addison to Colfax and the church is on the northeast corner, cross Colfax on Addison and turn left from Addison into church parking lot.

From 170 (Hollywood Freeway), exit Magnolia, go west to Colfax (second street), turn left (south) on Colfax to Addison (fourth street), left on Addison, left into church parking lot. There is a traffic signal at Colfax & Addison.

## **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.**

## **GOSPEL CONCERT October 3, 2010**

**Come and listen to First Presbyterian Church of Granada Hills' Gospel Choir. The Choir has grown in size and repertoire and will present its first concert, "Sing Unto the Lord" at 4:00 p.m. in our sanctuary. 10400 Zelzah Avenue, Northridge CA 91326.**

**Free!**

**Visit [www.fpcgh.org](http://www.fpcgh.org) for more information.**

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](mailto:cmaddren@sfpresby.org)