

Present: 55 delegates from 20 churches. See delegate list. 116 registered attendance

## **Come Let us All Unite to Sing – God is Love**

### **Friday 01 February 2002**

#### **1.0 Gathering**

- 1.1 Ruth Suter welcomed the delegates and attendees to assembly in Bakersfield. She introduced the theme of Come Let Us All Unite to Sing – God is Love.

We joined together in prayer, using hymn #111 “O praise the gracious power” as our text.

Ruth made several introductions, including the assembly planning committee (Brenda and James Isaacs, Sheri Hostetler, Pat Plude, Gloria Newton, Brian Bauman), Doreen Martens (panorama editor) and Ty Buxman (conference secretary).

Ruth noted that much of the work of the weekend will be intermingled with worship and will focus on stewardship. She reminded us that today (2/1/02) is the formal first day of the new denomination of Mennonite Church USA (MCUSA) and stewardship will be an important agenda for both conference and denomination over the next years. By definition, a steward is one who manages the property, finances and affairs of another. Over the next years, we will learn how stewardship (i.e. our role as stewards) and first fruits giving fits with our faith journey as individuals, families, congregations and conferences.

Additional introductions were made, including John Sharp (a MCUSA historian), the delegates and the listening committee for this meeting. The listening committee will be Art Montoya, Jeremy Oswald, and Nemi James. All should feel free to reflect responses and thoughts to this committee.

Other work at this assembly will include celebration of the birth of MCUSA, financial reports, by-laws revisions, and reports and reflections from various committees and groups.

- 1.2 Brenda and James Isaacs identified Bakersfield Community Church of the Brethren as our hosts

Brenda introduced the pastors of the congregation, recognizing them as people who have collaborated and prayed together in developing ministry. We were welcomed to Bakersfield by Bill and Sara and introduced to members of their congregation.

- 1.3 Gathering the Community - Pat Plude

After introducing herself, Pat led us in several minutes of directed sharing as a way of getting to know each other better. We sang together hymn #293 “God Sends Us the Spirit”

#### **2.0 Praising God**

- 2.1 Sheri led us in a call to worship. She identified the intent to learn several new songs this weekend. This includes our theme song of “Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing”.
- 2.2 We joined together in worship, led by congregations from each of the regions in conference.

### **3.0 Hearing the Word**

3.1 Sheri introduced Peter Wiebe, who will be leading us in study of the scripture this weekend.

3.2 Jim Brenneman read from John 17:23, as a prayer for us. We read together Ps 8:1, 3-9.

3.3 Peter Wiebe led us in a study of the Psalm

We are here tonight to celebrate what God is doing, and to respond.

Peter relayed his discomfort with airports, including the process of going to a “final destination” through a “terminal”. Having traveled a lot lately, this led to a feeling of depression. On one flight, a steward invited him to look out the window to observe the glorious view of the sunrise. This simple act lifted his spirits, and he recommitted to identifying God’s gifts. He reminded us of the first pages of the Bible, when we read that God created the world for us. He gave it to us and put it in our charge. So we are not only a part of creation, but have a responsibility to creation.

But God is not content to leave man in the errors of his own ways. He is involved and His involvement was a great gift. This involvement included care in 40 years of wandering, the provision of preachers and prophets, the scriptures which reveal Himself, and finally He gave His Son and His even greater gift is the new life by which we participate in the resurrection. And yet none of these are God at His grandest. He then poured out His Spirit on us, making us one people, in fellowship with Him and each other. This is God’s greatest gift.

But the story continues. Peter described a time in 1939, when he invited Christ into his life, when he experienced the total joy of the personal experience of knowing Christ. And again in 1943, when was plowing on a tractor, he heard a voice calling him to be a preacher. Peter responded by saying “Your will be done”. And yet still, the story continues, because one day we will sit around the table in the banquet hall in heaven, and sit across the table from Christ.

This is the greatest story. This is our story. We have entered into it. And it demands a response. The entire story is a miracle... our own salvation is a miracle. Peter invited us to respond to this event of grace.

### **4.0 Responding to the Word**

4.1 Pat introduced a structure for our prayer time, based on the taize style. The songs are often repetitive, allowing us to spend time in meditation, silence, contemplation, and interspersed reading of scripture.

We sang and prayed together in response to Gods word spoken.

4.2 We joined together in the worship of giving and receiving an offering. Sheri reminded us that we would be sending a portion (10 percent) of the offerings received at this assembly to Mennonite Church USA.

4.3 Brian made several announcements, including the introduction of the silent auction, introduction of the prayer room available throughout the assembly, and invited all to an open house this evening at the Isaacs.

4.4 Sheri offered a benediction from Paul’s letter to the Ephesians after which we sang “Come, Let Us Unite to Sing” as a song of sending

## Saturday 02 February 2002

### 5.0 We gather to worship

- 5.1 We joined together in singing and worship to celebrate our gathering. “Come, Let us all unite to Sing”.
- 5.2 Brenda led us in a reading of Ps 126. We responded to each phrase with “His Love endures forever”.  
We continued with songs of praise
- 5.3 Jim Brenneman led us in a reading from Isaiah 55.
- 5.4 Peter Wiebe led us in a study of this text.

Last night we talked about God’s gracious gifts to us, which demand a response. We will look at John 15 and Mark 12 for a model of response. In these passages, Jesus is at a banquet table with many of his disciples and those who have been healed. As usual, Martha is catering and Mary is left out. She is overwhelmed with emotion over the changes that have happened since Jesus came that she responds with an outpouring of love in the form of perfume. Judas responds with “this should not have happened, we could use the money in our church budget”. Jesus says “leave her alone...she has done a good thing, she has done what she could do”. There are five lessons we can learn from Mary’s response. 1) It is a response of love – without love, all we do is nothing. 2) Love is an expression of the total body, mind and soul. Mary must do something appropriate, not just write a note... the expression of love offers a feeling. 3) The response is beautiful since it was original with Mary. There is no comparison between gifts. Each individual and their gifts are good. 4) Mary broke the bottle, not dripped a few drops. Any response takes a totality of commitment to Christ. 5) Spontaneity – when you feel the movement of the Spirit, let it move at that moment, and move with it. Do not let the chance pass.

In response, we joined in singing the Amen Chorus.

### 6.0 We celebrate the work of our conference

- 6.1 Ruth led us in a prayer of gathering, using the prayer found in they Hymnal #670 as a guide. She introduced several individuals from the church (John Sharp – Mennonite History, Beverly Keck – Mennonite Mutual Aid) and the listening committee (Nehemiah James, Art Montoya, Jeremy Oswald).
- 6.2 Affirmation of Faith for a New Church – Duane Oswald  
In celebration of the formal beginning of Mennonite Church USA as of Feb 1, we read together “Affirmation of Faith for a New Church” based on Isaiah 54, 55, 61 and Luke 4. Ruth read a letter of commendation and welcome to MCUSA from the Mennonite World Conference.
- 6.3 We joined in worship of giving our gifts and offerings.
- 6.4 Presentation of the Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference (PSMC) edition of the Mennonite Church Peace and Justice Peace Mug – Jeremy Oswald  
Duane and Clare Ann Ruth-Hefflebower are recipients this year. They have been working in Indonesia for the past three years working in peace training and as country representative for Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) in Indonesia. We joined in a prayer of thanksgiving and blessing for Duane and Clare Ann.
- 6.5 Ruth presented two resolutions to the delegates.
  - 6.5.1 Celebration of the new Mennonite Church USA – Ruth presented a resolution (see Attachment A) for review by the delegates.

**Action #1:** To unanimously affirm the resolution in Celebration of the new Mennonite Church USA

6.5.2 Thanks to organizing committee – Ruth presented a resolution (see Attachment B) for review by the delegates.

**Action #2:** To unanimously affirm the PSMC Resolution of Thanks

6.5.3 Bylaws presentation

Ruth presented the “quick-fix” version of the bylaws, which were modified by the board last year. She reviewed this with the intent of asking delegates for ratification of these bylaws modifications. After some brief discussion, clarifications and typographical corrections, Ruth asked that we approved the by-laws changes.

C: Note that Mennonite Church USA is not identified in section 5, while the old denominations are still listed. R: We plan to do extensive work with these sections in the next year and therefore did not make any changes to section 5.

**Action #3:** To unanimously approve the bylaws modifications as presented (see attachment C).

#### 6.6 Missional Church Story – Steve Penner

Steve Penner related the story of his experience after hearing of the World Trade Center, and a few weeks later after hearing of the beginning of the bombing in Afghanistan. He relayed that several in the Fresno County area began to meet as a way to help process how to respond to these events. As a result, it became clear that there was a need for a public statement and witness. The group investigated several options for this, including billboard rental and newspaper ads. Finally, after much wrangling, a “Letter to the American People” was printed as a full-page ad in the Fresno Bee on Martin Luther King Jr. day. Over 250 signed this letter. Steve noted that the group has learned the value of community and discussion in the process, while asking throughout whether the words of the letter are something we will really do as individuals. It was a soulful experience of wrestling with how to be disciples of Jesus Christ.

#### 6.7 We returned from a break singing songs of worship and praise.

#### 6.8 Pastoral Leadership Committee – Ken Seitz

Ken introduced the purpose and the members of the committee. In addition, he introduced new pastors in the conference. Richard Cisco (Koinonia), Ed Bedrosian (Paso Robles, Interim), Mervin and Jane Dick (Mennonite Community Fresno, Interim).

Ken offered a prayer of thanksgiving and blessing for these pastors and for their congregations.

#### 6.9 Stan introduced the conference ministers

##### 6.9.1 Al Whaley – Arizona

Al identified that some of the congregations in Arizona are struggling. The Black Mountain congregation has withdrawn from conference. Prescott has closed, and Good Shepard is very near to closing. He also asked for continued prayer for Sunnyslope and Good Shepard (as a potential restart).

Al identified an interest in developing a formal prayer team for conference. Please talk to Al if you are interested.

##### 6.9.2 Jeff Wright – Southern California

Since our last gathering as conference, Irene Mendoza spoke at Nashville about the power of the Anabaptist vision to unite and JKI Maranatha in Reseda (who planted a new church in Ventura last year) planted another congregation which meets at the Indonesian consulate building in Los Angeles. LA Faith Chapel is working to develop

three new congregations. African Mennonite Mission Partnership (AMMP) is a partnership of 15 congregations working to promote mission between congregations in the US and Africa. First Mennonite Upland is beginning to grow (99 years old this year). Mennonite Voluntary Service (MVS) which recently sold a house in Downey is holding \$100,000 from the sale in trust for use in the launching of new Voluntary Serviced units in Southern California. We are also looking to greater MCUSA involvement in the region, with several denominational meetings planned for Southern California in the near future.

Joe Manickam told us about a relationship developed with Stuart Murray Williams, who is an urban church planter in the UK. As a result, Joe and Jeff recently traveled to England for a visit and study. Some of the resulting themes of this visit include: the UK is a post-Christian society with a need for peace teachings, multiculturalism is a reality in the UK, community/congregations are providing a new “home”, work at moving anabaptism from a theological exercise to a practical/livable lifestyle is happening, and discussions of how to integrate pentacostalism with anabaptism are beginning. Implications of these themes are that our society/understandings of Church and Christianity are only a generation behind what is being experienced in the UK now. We can utilize their experiences as a test bed for our planning and growing. Joe reminded us that in Matt 9, while we are instructed that the harvest is plentiful, Christ’s first command was to pray.

#### 6.9.3 Brian Bauman – Northern California

Brian thanked the pastors (including interim pastors) for attending assembly. He thanked all who attended this assembly in Bakersfield, those who give financially to conference and for leaders. He also thanked everyone for their prayers recently for his family. Brian shared his family experiences over the past few months, with his daughter becoming ill and being diagnosed with Lupus. He expressed that he has needed and relished our prayers and that knowing the prayers of this conference were being lifted up reminded me of the importance of this community, and the importance of being part of a community of faith. We joined in prayer for Brian, Nancy and Megan.

Pastor Femi Fatumbi offered a prayer for our conference ministers.

#### 6.10 Stan introduced the Isaacs and Haldemann-Scarrs (pastors of our host congregation), to talk about the ministries going on here in Bakersfield.

James and Brenda described some of the joint ministries that Bakersfield Anabaptist Ministries (BAM) and the Bakersfield Community Church of the Brethren are beginning, including a ministry at a local convalescent home. They asked for continued prayer for the ongoing ministry. Sara shared of a post 9/11 joint concert, which provided an atmosphere of ministry to the spirit for individuals and the congregation.

Pastor Doris Greer offered a prayer of blessing for these congregations. She asked that we all stand and raise our hands toward Brenda, James and Sara as a sign of our participation in the prayer.

#### 6.11 Panorama Update – Doreen Martens

Doreen reminded us that the Panorama is a way for us to tell our stories. She encouraged all of us to participate by contributing notes, stories, ideas, etc.

#### 6.12 Financial Report – Myrna

Myrna presented the 6 month financial report for this fiscal year (see attachment D). She noted that we are basically in the same place financially as we were the previous year. She asked us all to stand together and hold hands of a symbol of our unity and the fact that we are all working together as a single conference with the finances.

#### 6.13 Secretaries Report – Ty

Ty reminded all to review the minutes and we would be approving them in June.

We joined together for lunch.

### **7.0 We proclaim God's Word and Acts**

After sharing the noon meal,

#### 7.1 Report from the listening committee:

We are enjoying the worship, the relaxed atmosphere and worshipful atmosphere. We would like to have more time for fellowship.

We recommend that attendees make attempt to work at meeting with others during the year since we are all close, but often don't see each other except at assembly. Between-assembly-connections would go a long way towards helping us feel more connected.

We should have a youth portion of the assembly.

We note with appreciation the conference ministers and their work and ministry among us.

7.2 Jeff introduced Pastor Jorge Argueta. His congregation (Fuente de Vida) has been an emerging congregation for a number of years and is starting to show signs of growth. His son is now sick (with kidney failure) and is looking for a transplant. The good news in this is how the broader church has stepped in to assist with prayer and finances. Financial concerns include lost wages as well as the medical costs. Originally MMA did not have a mechanism to help out. But after persistence, MMA spearheaded a request from congregations for financial and prayer help. This has been successful. We thank Beverly (our MMA rep) for her work. We offered a prayer of thanks for shared resources and petition for healing and peace for the Argueta family.

7.3 Closing of the silent auction – Brian identified the winners of the silent auction. He also informed us of the intent to continue this practice at future assemblies.

7.4 We gathered into round table discussion groups with the following topics:

For Pastors Only (led by Pastoral Leadership Committee members Jim Brenneman and Minka Van Der Zwaag), First Fruits Living (led by Art Montoya, Sheilagh and David Rice), Making Peace after 9/11 (led by ClareAnn and Duane Ruth-Heffelbower), PSMC Structures and Policies (led by moderator Ruth Suter) and First Fruits Funding (led by conference treasurer Myrna Schwartz, conference minister Jeff Wright and MCUSA moderator elect Duane Oswald).

### **8.0 We present offerings, give thanks and adjourn in God's name**

We gathered for singing and worship and the celebration of communion.

**PSMC Resolution: Celebration of the New Mennonite Church USA**

February 3, 2002

Jim Schrag, Executive Director  
Mennonite Church USA  
PO Box 347, 722 Main Street  
Newton, KS 67114

We, the delegates, other church members and guests gathered here in Bakersfield, CA on February 1-2, at the Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference 2002 Winter Assembly, express our deep appreciation to all who have made and will continue to make Mennonite Church USA possible. We especially celebrate today's "birth" day, February 1, 2002, of our new denomination.

We thank the Integration Exploration, Vision & Goals, Integration, US and Canada Country Committees for their years of visioning and discernment. We thank and acknowledge the Transformation Team for their commitment and dedication to the detailed strategy and tactical development work that has shaped the organizational structures and functions we are celebrating today. We thank the Executive Board, Constituency Leaders Council and the Membership Committee for their prayerful listening, leadership and attention to process – may their efforts over the past several years inform and inspire us all to follow faithful and respectful ways to address current and future issues of faith and life in Mennonite Church USA.

Finally, we commit ourselves as a member conference and congregations to ongoing prayer for Mennonite Church USA and its vision of healing and hope. We give thanks to God and pray that wisdom and strength come to our new denomination and its leadership through the guidance of the Holy Spirit today and into the future.

Passed by the PSMC Board of Directors  
February 1, 2002, Bakersfield CA

Affirmed by the PSMC Delegates  
February 2, 2002, Bakersfield CA

## **PSMC Resolution of Thanks**

February 3, 2002

**To:** Winter 2002 PSMC Assembly Planning Committee  
Peter Wiebe  
Workshop Facilitators  
PSMC/CAL Assembly logistics and promotional volunteers  
Bakersfield Community Church of the Brethren

We, the delegates, other church members and guests gathered here at the Winter 2002 Assembly of the Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference, express our deep appreciation to all who have made this gathering possible.

We thank the Bakersfield Community Church of the Brethren for hosting us; the Winter 2002 Assembly Planning Committee for their vision and commitment to combine work into a worship service that glorifies God's reign; Peter Wiebe for his inspirational keynote sermons; the workshop facilitators for their thought-provoking and educational sessions; and the PSMC/CAL office and volunteers for their gracious service and attention to the logistical and promotional details. Without these individuals and efforts this Assembly would not have been possible.

We will all be challenged to remember this Assembly's theme – "Come Let Us All Unite to Sing: God is Love" as we return to our respective homes. May God's grace be near to us all in the upcoming days and weeks.

Passed by the PSMC Board of Directors  
February 1, 2002, Bakersfield CA

Affirmed by the PSMC Delegates  
February 2, 2002, Bakersfield CA

Bylaws of  
Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference

ver 2/1/2002

Article I. Offices

Section 1.01 Name. The name of the corporation shall be PACIFIC SOUTHWEST  
MENNONITE CONFERENCE.

Section 1.02 Principal Office. The principal office of Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference  
(hereafter "Conference") shall be located at Box CAL, 1539 East Howard St., Pasadena, CA  
91104. The Board of Directors may change the address of the principal office. Any such change  
shall be noted in these Bylaws, but shall not constitute an amendment to these Bylaws. The  
principal address was updated on 9/24/99.

Section 1.03 Affiliation. The Conference shall be a member of Mennonite Church USA, or its  
successor.

Article II. Members

Section 2.01 Eligibility. The Members of the Conference are churches. There shall be two  
classes of member churches: "Member Churches", which shall be entitled to one voting delegate  
for each 25 members of the church or fraction thereof, and "Associate Member Churches" which  
shall not be entitled to voting delegates. Member Churches and Associate Member Churches  
may be admitted by the Delegate Body, upon recommendation by the Board, upon application in  
the form prescribed by the Board. All member churches of the Pacific District Conference of the  
General Conference Mennonite Church located in the states of California and Arizona, and all  
member churches of the Southwest Mennonite Conference, as of the date of incorporation of

Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference, become Member Churches of Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference.

Section 2.02 Rights and Duties. Memberships are non-assessable. Memberships may not be assigned. The Board shall maintain a record of Member Churches which shall be open to inspection by the representative of any Member Church during normal business hours at the principal office of the Conference, upon five days written notice to the Board stating the reason for the inspection. Member Churches of the Conference shall not be liable, solely because of such Membership, for the debts of the Conference. The voting power of a Member Church is exercised by delegates designated by the Member Church. Each Member Church is entitled to one delegate for each twenty-five of its members, or fraction thereof. Such delegates shall be members of the Member Church. All ordained or licensed ministers, whose ministerial credentials have been recognized by the Conference, and who are under assignment to a Member Church or Associate Member Church, are voting delegates at meetings of Member Churches in addition to any voting delegates a Church may have by virtue of the number of its members.

Section 2.03 Termination. Any Church's membership shall terminate on the occurrence of any of the following: 1. voluntary resignation approved by a majority of the members of a Member Church, following a process consistent with Matthew 18:15-20 conducted by the officers of the Conference and the Member Church; 2. dissolution; 3. a vote by two-thirds of the Board to terminate the Membership after 90 days written notice to the Member Church of the Board's intention to so act, and ratification by the delegate body at the next meeting of delegates. The Board shall adopt and publish to the Member Churches a policy regarding termination of Memberships which shall be followed until amended by the Board, which amendments shall be

published to the Member Churches 90 days prior to use of any changed provisions. Publication to the Member Churches shall be in writing distributed by first class mail, and shall be deemed received when mailed to the address of the Member Church on the official records of the Conference.

Section 2.04 Meetings. Meetings of the Member Churches shall be held at such place as may be determined by the Board from time to time. The Member Churches shall meet annually at a time set by the Board, for purposes of electing Directors and transacting such other business as may properly come before the meetings. Notice of the annual meeting shall be given to the Member Churches in writing at least 90 days prior to the meetings by first class mail. Special meetings of the Member Churches may be called by the Board and shall be called by the Board within 45 days upon written request by 25% or more of the Member Churches for the purposes set out in such request. Notice of such special meetings shall be sent by first class mail to all Member Churches at least eight weeks prior to such meeting, and within seven days of receipt of the written request for such meeting specified above. Notice of a meeting may be waived in a writing signed by all Member Churches. All Member Churches entitled to votes at the time meeting notices are sent shall be entitled to vote at such meeting unless they have dissolved or voluntarily resigned.

Section 2.05 Notices. Notices to Member Churches shall be in writing and, either posted electronically (with electronic notice to Member Churches), or mailed by first class mail to the address shown on the Conference records, unless other methods of notice are provided in these Bylaws. The notice shall include the date, place and time of the meeting, list those matters to come before the meeting, and name any nominees for offices. Mailed notice is deemed given

when mailed. The transactions of any meeting, however called or noticed, shall be valid if, either before or after the meeting, all Member Churches sign a written waiver of notice, a consent to holding of the meeting, and a copy of the minutes of the meeting.

Section 2.06 Quorum. The delegates present at a duly noticed meeting of the Member Churches constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business. The quorum shall not be lost by the withdrawal of delegates prior to adjournment. Any meeting may be adjourned by a majority vote of the delegates present. There shall be no proxies.

Section 2.07 Ballots. Election of Directors shall be by written ballot. Any other vote may be by written ballot at the discretion of the Chairperson of the meeting, or upon request by five percent or more of the delegates present.

Section 2.08 Conduct of Meetings. The Moderator shall preside at meetings of the Member Churches. As directed by the Moderator, or in the Moderator's absence, the Assistant Moderator shall preside. If the Assistant Moderator is also absent, the Board shall appoint another person to preside. The Secretary of the Board shall act as Secretary of all delegate meetings of Member Churches. In the Secretary's absence the Chairperson of the meeting shall appoint a substitute. Robert's Rules of Order as amended from time to time shall govern the meetings of Member Churches to the extent they do not conflict with the Articles of Incorporation, these Bylaws or law. The Chairperson shall appoint a parliamentarian to advise the chairperson and tellers to receive and count ballot votes at any meeting of Member Churches.

### Article III. Board of Directors

Section 3.01 Number of Directors. The Conference shall have 12 Directors, except as determined by the Board and ratified by Delegates. The Directors shall constitute the Board of Directors

("Board" herein).

Section 3.02 Qualifications. All Directors except the initial Directors shall be members of Member Churches. The Directors shall hold office for the term of two years, and until their successor is elected. Directors may serve no more than three consecutive full elective terms. The Conference is divided into three geographic regions: the State of Arizona, Northern California and Southern California. Northern California is that part of the State of California north of a line drawn from Point Conception to the intersection of the thirty-fifth Parallel and Interstate 5 and thence easterly along the thirty-fifth parallel. Southern California is that part of the State of California south of such line.<sup>1</sup> Churches not located in California or Arizona applying for membership will be assigned by the Board, in consultation with the church, to one of the three regions as part of the membership process. Two Directors shall be members of Member Churches of the State of Arizona region, two Directors shall be members of Member Churches of the Northern California region and two Directors shall be members of Member Churches of the Southern California region. Two Directors shall be appointed by the Board for two year terms, each from a different one of the regions described above, to balance the Board. In the event that a Director ceases to be a member of a Member Church of the region from which they were appointed or elected, their office becomes vacant.

Section 3.03 Nomination. Nomination of Directors shall be in the manner prescribed by the Board from time to time. The method of nomination shall be published to the Member Churches.

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<sup>1</sup> The thirty-fifth parallel approximately follows a line connecting the intersection of Interstate 5 and State Route 99 with the point of intersection of California, Nevada and Arizona. It touches the south side of Mojave and is a few miles north of Barstow California. The line is angled south of the thirty-fifth parallel to properly align with the north-south inclinations of the coastal communities.

The Board shall provide a method by which Member Churches may nominate Directors, except as provided in the transitional provisions below.

Section 3.04 Election. Six Directors and the four officers, who are also Directors, shall be elected at annual meetings of the Conference. Nominations presented by the Board shall be included in the notice of meeting published to Member Churches. Delegates may cast one vote for each vacancy. There shall be no cumulative voting. The Board may designate certain nominees for certain vacancies. The persons receiving the highest number of votes for each vacancy are elected to the Board. Run-off elections shall be used to resolve ties. Directors shall serve without compensation. The Conference may reimburse Directors for actual expenses incurred in performing their duties. Appointed Directors shall be selected as provided above.

Section 3.05 Meetings. A regular meeting of the Board shall be held without notice on the dates and times set by the Board from time to time at such place as the Board may determine. Any officer or any two Directors may call a special meeting of the Board by giving personal notice to each other Director orally at least ten days before the special meeting or by giving written notice mailed fifteen days prior to the time scheduled for the special meeting. Such notice shall include the purpose of the meeting. The actions taken at any meeting of the Directors shall be valid without notice if, either before or after the meeting, all Directors sign a written waiver of notice, consent to the meeting, and the minutes of the meeting. The Moderator shall preside at meetings of the Board, or, in the Moderator's absence, the Assistant Moderator shall preside. If the Assistant Moderator is also absent, the Board shall designate a Chairperson. A majority of the Directors then serving constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A majority of the Directors present may adjourn a meeting to another time, with notice being given to Directors

not present at the time of the adjournment. Such notice may be given in person or mailed ten days before the meeting.

Section 3.06 Removal. Except as provided in the transitional sections below, the Board may remove a Director who has been declared of unsound mind by final order of a court, who has been convicted of a felony while serving on the Board, or who has failed to attend three consecutive meetings of the Board, by a vote of two-thirds or more of those Directors present at the meeting. The Board may, by a vote of two-thirds or more of the other Directors present at the meeting, remove a Director without cause. Notice of intention to move for such removal without cause must be given to all Directors in writing mailed two weeks prior to the time scheduled for the meeting at which such action is proposed to be taken. The Member Churches may remove a Director without cause by a two-thirds vote to do so of the delegates present at a special meeting of Member Churches called for that purpose as set out in section 2.04. Any such removal by the Member Churches shall disqualify a person from being a Director for a five year period.

Section 3.07 Resignation. A Director may resign by giving written notice to an officer of the Conference. Resignations shall be effective upon receipt, unless such resignation would leave the Conference with no Director, in which case it shall not be effective until another Director has taken office.

Section 3.08 Vacancies. Vacancies on the Board shall exist upon death, resignation or removal of a Director, upon a Director's ceasing to be a member of a Member Church, upon increase in the authorized number of Directors or upon the failure of the Member Churches to fill a vacancy at an annual meeting. A majority of the Directors remaining in office, or the sole remaining Director, may fill such vacancies by appointment.

## Article IV. Officers

Section 4.01 Number and Titles. The officers of the Conference shall be Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Moderator is the chief executive officer of the Conference. Officers also serve as Directors, and are subject to the provisions of Article III of these Bylaws regarding Directors except as specifically altered in this Article IV. No person may hold more than one office. No more than two officers may reside in any one of the three regions described above in Article III. The officers shall be elected for two-year terms by the Delegates at the annual meeting.

Section 4.02 Duties of the Moderator. The Moderator shall preside at all meetings of the Board or the Member Churches, and shall be the chief executive officer of the corporation, having supervision, direction and control of all its activities, subject to the control of the Board. The Moderator is hereby granted the right to vote or execute a proxy to vote shares of stock, bonds, debentures or other evidences of indebtedness of other corporations held by the Conference. The Moderator shall have such other and further duties as may be required by law, these Bylaws, the Articles, or as may be assigned by the Board. The Moderator is a non-voting ex officio member of all committees of the Conference.

Section 4.03 Duties of the Assistant Moderator. The Assistant Moderator shall preside over meetings of the Board and the Member Churches in the Moderator's absence, and shall have such other duties as may be assigned by the Moderator from time to time. The Assistant Moderator serves as Acting Moderator during the Moderator's incapacity, as determined by the Board.

Section 4.04 Duties of the Secretary. The Secretary shall keep, or cause to be kept, at the principal office of the Conference, minutes of the meetings of the Board and the Member

Churches, and shall perform such other and further duties as may be required by law, these Bylaws, the Articles, or as may be assigned by the Board.

Section 4.05 Duties of the Treasurer. The Treasurer is the Chief Financial Officer of the Corporation. The Treasurer shall keep or cause to be kept adequate and accurate written books of account of the properties and business transactions of the Conference. The books of account shall be open to inspection by the Directors, or their designee, at all times. The Treasurer shall deposit all money and valuables received by the Conference in such depositories as may be designated by the Board in the name of and to the credit of the Conference. The treasurer shall disburse the funds of the Conference in accord with the instructions of the Board and shall render accounts of all such transactions and the financial condition of the Conference to the Board on a monthly basis. The Treasurer shall perform such other and further duties as may be required by law, these Bylaws, the Articles, or as may be assigned by the Board. The treasurer may be bonded at the discretion of the Board.

Section 4.06 The Executive Committee. The Officers of the Conference form the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have charge of the affairs of the Conference when the Board is not in session. The Moderator is chair of the Executive Committee. The actions of the Executive Committee shall be presented to the Board for ratification or nullification by a majority vote at the meeting of the Board following such action. The Executive Committee serves as the Personnel Committee. All paid staff persons of the Conference are responsible to the Moderator. Hiring and retention of staff persons and setting of terms and conditions of employment shall be determined by the Board upon recommendation by the Personnel Committee.

## Article V. Standing Committees

Section 5.01 Standing Committees. There shall be Four Standing Committees of the Conference: Pastoral Leadership, Peace and Justice, Congregational Nurture, and Church Development. Each Standing Committee shall be chaired by a member of the Board, appointed by the Board and ratified by the Delegate Body. Each Standing Committee shall have three members in addition to the chairperson, one from each of the three regions of the Conference. Members of the Standing Committees are appointed by the Board for three year terms and confirmed by the Delegates at the annual meeting. The initial members of the Standing Committees shall be appointed to staggered terms so that one person is appointed each year. Members of Standing Committees may serve no more than three full consecutive terms. Standing Committees may hold meetings by telephone, and the actions taken at such a meeting shall be valid if all members of the committee sign a copy of the minutes of the meeting.

Section 5.02 Pastoral Leadership Committee. The Pastoral Leadership Committee shall be available to churches and pastors in their church-pastor relationships, offering its counsel, support, and service in whatever ways may serve the best interests of all concerned. The Committee shall counsel with congregations seeking pastoral leadership and with pastors seeking to serve congregations. The Committee shall relate to all persons credentialed for ministry by the Committee.

In cooperation with congregations the Committee shall examine candidates for ministry, particularly in pastoral, chaplaincy and missionary service. The Committee shall, in its discretion and on behalf of the conference, grant credentials for ministry. These credentials are of three types:

- a. Commissioning--calling a person to a particular ministry task, usually limited both in time and geographically.
  
- b. Licensing--licenses for ministry are granted to persons who are testing their call to ministry. Licenses are for a maximum of two years, and may be renewed at the discretion of the Committee.
  
- c. Ordination--recognition by the Conference and a congregation of a person's lifetime call to ministry. Ordination is permanent unless revoked by the Committee.

The Committee shall assist in ordinations, and in services marking the beginning of a person's ministry in a congregation. The Committee shall provide opportunity to pastors, and others credentialed for ministry, for personal growth and professional improvement. The Committee shall, on behalf of the Conference, manage issues of the discipline of persons credentialed for ministry, including revocation or non-renewal of licenses and ordinations.

Section 5.03 Peace and Justice Committee. The Peace and Justice Committee shall encourage the study and practice of the biblical teachings of love and nonresistance in the congregations of the Conference and assist them in the application of this teaching, particularly as it applies to social and/or justice issues. The Committee shall cooperate with the corresponding organizations of the General Conference Mennonite Church, the Mennonite Church, Mennonite Central Committee, and with other area conferences in efforts and programs witnessing to the belief in the way of

love in human relationships. The Committee shall give attention to conflict resolution within and among Member Churches in consultation with the Pastoral Leadership Committee.

Section 5.04 Congregational Nurture Committee. The Congregational Nurture Committee shall assist the congregations of the Conference in their programs of Christian Education, age specific ministries, worship, and family ministries. The Committee shall cooperate with the corresponding organizations of the General Conference Mennonite Church, the Mennonite Church, Mennonite Central Committee, and with other area conferences in their efforts to provide such assistance to congregations. The Committee shall be responsible for worship at Delegate Sessions.

Section 5.05 Evangelism and Church Development Committee. The Evangelism and Church Development Committee, in cooperation with Member Churches of the Conference, selects and prepares church planters and assists them in establishing new churches of the Conference. The Committee shall cooperate with the corresponding organizations of the General Conference Mennonite Church, the Mennonite Church, and with other area conferences in the work of establishing new churches. The Committee also assists with the further development of existing churches. The Committee shall examine churches applying for membership in the Conference and recommend acceptance or rejection to the Board. The Committee shall also provide resources to congregations in the area of evangelism, assisting congregations of the Conference in their efforts to bring new persons to faith in Jesus Christ and commitment to His church.

#### Article VI. Miscellaneous

Section 6.01 Amendments to the Bylaws. These Bylaws may be amended by the Board at any regular or special meeting of the Board, providing that notice of intention to move the

amendment of the Bylaws has been given in writing to all Directors 14 days prior to the meeting by personal delivery or by mailing such notice by first class mail. Such notice shall include the text of the proposed amendment. All amendments to the Bylaws must be presented to the Delegate Body for approval at the next meeting of Member Churches, and shall be valid until rejected or modified by the Delegates at such meeting.

Section 6.02 Notices. Unless otherwise stated in these Bylaws, any notice may be given orally or in writing. If provision is made for mailing of notice, that notice is deemed given at the time of mailing to the address listed in the records of the Conference, postage prepaid. It is the responsibility of Member Churches to give written notice of change of address to the Secretary.

Section 6.03 Appointment of persons to churchwide positions. The Board may appoint persons to positions on churchwide bodies as representatives of the Conference, subject to ratification by the Delegate Body, and may reimburse such persons for the actual expenses incurred in such representation.

Section 6.04 Fiscal Year. The Fiscal Year of the Conference shall end June 30. The Board may change the fiscal year from time to time and such shall be noted in these Bylaws, but such change shall not constitute an amendment to these Bylaws.

PSMC  
STATEMENT OF NET REVENUES - BUDGET VERSUS ACTUAL  
For the six month period ended December 31, 2001

REVENUES	Budget Amount	Actual Amount	Variance Amount	Var %
Restricted income				
Urban Ministry Dev - SCA	9,600	4,800	4,800	50.0
Urban Ministry Dev - NCA	12,000	6,000	6,000	50.0
Assembly Income	5,000	0	5,000	100.0
Congregations Contribution	88,500	35,823	52,677	59.5
Unrestricted Interest	11,000	7,248	3,752	34.1
Loan - Restricted Interest	9,000	1,352	7,648	85.0
Individual Contributions	9,291	2,825	6,466	69.6
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	144,391	58,048	86,343	59.8
 EXPENSE				
Mission				
Native Ministries	3,300	1,650	1,650	50.0
CAL/Ctr for Anabapt. Ldshp	3,700	1,850	1,850	50.0
Urban Ministry Dev - SCA	9,600	4,800	4,800	50.0
Urban Ministry Dev - NCA	12,000	6,000	6,000	50.0
Administrative Support	1,500	1,818	-318	21.2
Peace & Justice Issues	1,000	0	1,000	100.0
Conf. Mission Team	1,500	1,102	398	26.5
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	32,600	17,220	15,380	47.2
Pastoral Leadership				
AZ Conference Minister	27,217	13,608	13,609	50.0
AZ Travel & Office Expense	3,000	479	2,521	84.0
NCA Conference Minister	27,217	13,608	13,609	50.0
NCA Travel & Office Expense	3,000	1,210	1,790	59.7
SCA Conference Minister	30,217	15,108	15,109	50.0
Pastoral Leadership Committee	3,700	1,085	2,615	70.7
PSMC Retreat Ministries	1,000	0	1,000	100.0
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	95,351	45,098	50,253	52.7
Conference Administration				
Insurance	1,340	0	1,340	100.0
Board Meeting Travel	4,000	2,231	1,769	44.2
Panorama	4,000	1,000	3,000	75.0
Bookkeeping/Office Expenses	3,000	1,234	1,766	58.9
Assembly Materials	1,000	303	697	69.7
Assembly Expenses	2,000	0	2,000	100.0
MC-USA Delegate Support	1,100	400	700	63.6
Other Admin. expenses	0	1,732	-1,732	0.0
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	16,440	6,900	9,540	58.0
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Total net revenues	0	-11,170	-11,170	0.0
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Net restric. assets releas				
Interest - Native American	0	130	130	0.0
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	0	130	130	0.0
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	0	130	130	0.0
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