



Synod of the Pacific—The Ninety-fourth Stated Meeting  
 Riviera Hotel  
 2901 Las Vegas Blvd. South  
 Las Vegas, NV 89109  
 February 7 – 9, 2008

Moderator, Elder Judy Austin, called the Ninety-fourth Stated Assembly to order at 2:30 p.m. Elder Rachel Morse read Holy Scripture and offered prayer. A quorum of ten clergy commissioners and ten elder commissioners representing at least six presbyteries was present.

Clergy	Presbytery	Elders
Marianne Paul Joanna Dunn	Boise	Judy Austin William (Bill) Gigray
David Park (Absent) Bob Gillespie (Absent) Susan Carleton (Absent)	Cascades	Merle Bottge Donald Pope Eva Clarke (Alternate)
Dorothy Price Knudson Roger Fisk (Excused)	Eastern Oregon	Dale Lindsey Vacant
Dennis Falasco Coke McClure	Kendall	Joan Klein Myra Lively (Excused)
Al Fry Dana Boes	Nevada	William (Pat) Miller (Excused) JoAnn Poncho (Excused)
Ted Crouch Nancy Martin Vincent	Redwoods	David Burbank Patty Sanders (Excused)
Nancy Duff (Absent) Jong Choon Kim Dan Vraa (Absent)	Sacramento	Vacant Al Worley Donna Evens
Victoria Wells (Excused) James Shum (Excused) Walt Johnson	San Francisco	Rachel Morse Joan Fong Anore Shaw
Gregory Horn Ara Guekguezian	San Joaquin	Jacque Randolph Bruce Keith
Vacant Richard (Dick) Spencer John Kelso	San Jose	Diana Lim Ted Swift Leona Reif
Edward Eissabake David Kerr	Stockton	Kenneth (Ken) Robbins (Excused) Sandra Richardson (Excused)

OTHERS PRESENT

Synod Executive: Elder Robert D. Brink

Stated Clerk: Elder Joey Mills

Recording Clerk: Elder Kathryn Baker

Treasurer: Elder R. Ani Lele'a

Moderator Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Pacific: Elder Sheena Brooke (Excused)

Synod Staff: Ann Butterfield, Chuck Tillson; Patrice Alshuth; Elder Sally Hinchman (Sierra Mission Partnership), Rev. Rick Irish (San Joaquin), Elder Jane Odell (San Jose); Rev. Robert Conover (Redwoods) Rev. Joey Lee (San Jose), Rev. David Goebel (Boise), Elder James Kennedy (Kendall), Rev. Linda Toth (Eastern Oregon)

Presbytery Staff: Rev. Aleida Jernigan (Cascades),

Presbyteries/Mission Area Personnel Chairs: Elder John Brinegar (Cascades); Elder Linda Kelly (Sierra Mission Partnership), Elder Norm Cole (Kendall); Rev. Terry Barnhill (San Joaquin); Elder Mel Goertz (San Jose)

Others: Rev. Eric Chavez, Rev. Skip Herbert, Presbyterian Foundation, Rev. Linda Toth, General Assembly Council, Carmen Seigel (CPIP), Elder Mike Reyes, General Assembly Nominating Committee

Approval of the Agenda

Synod voted to approve the agenda as presented.

Report of the Stated Clerk – Elder Joey Mills

A training session for new PJC members has been held, and all attended. Three members completing their terms will continue in place throughout consideration of an objection to the stay. Two complaints are currently under consideration. Stephen Martin, a member of the PJC (Kendall), and family needs prayers. His wife is gravely ill.

Joey has met with the Stated Clerk Search Committee in preparation for the committee to learn about the job and its requirements.

Joey shared the following personal reflection from her cruise-vacation: “There is very little more entertaining than sitting quietly and watching people. Humanity is God’s most intricate, beautiful, and inexplicable creation. We are created in God’s image, which is to say that God creates, blesses and gives. We also have that capability. Needless to say that while Kathryn and I were on the cruise we had a lot of time to sit and watch, observe and judge. Whoops, did I confess to being judgmental? Not really, it was judgmental in the same way that you are making judgment calls when picking out fresh produce. Here is why...we saw people whose normal lives include taking care of themselves. They cook their own food, pick up after themselves and make their own bed, in other words, live normal lives like yours and mine. Some of these people were so appreciative of the service tendered from paid strangers and always remembered to say please and thank you. However, some of these people were not only unappreciative, they complained regularly about the service—it wasn’t fast enough, good enough, or it just wasn’t enough. We could only shake our heads about these people who could not be kind to those they considered beneath them.”

“Now that I am home I have pondered this situation and thought to myself, ‘This is like what happens between humanity and God. God offers all of us the very best gift possible – that of salvation in Jesus Christ and for some people that isn’t enough.’ Those people have to be “sure” that they are saved, they want to rethink what it takes to be saved and they want to be in charge of their own salvation. So they either turn away or demand of God certain requirements according to their own preferences. How sad! Just as life on ship was easy and relaxed, so are our blessings from God. Relax, accept, enjoy – and be counted as one of God’s chosen. Thanks for the time off to go on my second cruise. It was a great vacation.”

Elder Joan Fong assumed the Chair

Report of the Coordinating Council – Elder Judy Austin

Action items from the conference call of Dec. 28, 2007 include **MSC** that the Coordinating Council ask Mission Finance and Mission Personnel to review the Sacramento situation and it’s impact on the Synod of the Pacific and make recommendations to the Synod body for policy as we look to the future regarding Sacramento as well as our other presbyteries.

**MSC**/that the Synod of the Pacific offer to partner with the Presbytery of Sacramento to hire a professional Parliamentarian for future presbytery meetings and that the Synod would fund that position.

Judy asked the chairs of all committees to include on their agendas discussion about the advisability of going to two synod meetings per year as opposed to our current process of three meetings. A typical meeting costs between \$20,000 and \$25,000.

Council discussed a desire for each Mission committee to include a scriptural reference in their job description.

Joey relayed a request from Presbyterian Women in the Synod for permission to serve Holy Communion at their Synodwide Gathering in April. The Rev. Judy Wrought will be the officiant. The Coordinating Council approved the request.

Judy Austin re-assumed the chair.

#### Report of the Nominating Committee – Elder Diana Lim

##### Items for Information

1. In preparation for the May meeting, the committee is receiving names for consideration as Moderator and Vice Moderator nominees. Contact a member of the Nominating Committee with any recommendations.
2. Please remind your Presbytery Nominating Committee to elect commissioners for the Class of 2012. The term for Synod Commissioners begins July 1, 2008 and concludes June 30, 2012.
3. There are two vacancies on the Nominating Committee—one in the Class of 2009 and one in the Class of 2010.

##### Items for Action – the Nominating Committee recommended:

1. That Rev. Roger Fisk, Commissioner (Eastern Oregon) be assigned to the Mission Partnership Committee. **Synod voted to approve.**
2. That Elder Eva Clarke, Alternate (Cascades) be assigned to the Mission Finance Committee. **Synod voted to approve.**
3. That Elder Mel Khachigian (San Joaquin) be elected to the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission, Class of 2013. **Synod voted to approve.**
4. That the following persons be confirmed to serve on the Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Commission:  
Rev. Bruce Taylor (Nevada) to the Class of 2008 (unexpired term)  
Elder Stuart Robertson (Sacramento) to the Class of 2010  
**Synod voted to approve.**
5. That synod commissioners, Rev. Nancy Duff and Rev. Dan Vraa (Sacramento), be removed from the rolls for non-attendance at three or more synod meetings. **After discussion, synod voted to approve.** A desire was expressed that contact be made with commissioners and/or their presbytery regarding those who have not attended required synod meetings before they are removed from the synod commissioner rolls.

Diana recognized Mike Reyes, General Assembly Nominating Committee (GANC), who reported that 22 members of synod have been serving at GA level Four have been re-nominated, and he has received applications for vacancies and is working through the process. GANC will be meeting in March to work up the slate to be presented at General Assembly in June.

#### Report of the Director of Business Services – Ann Butterfield

##### Current Highlights

- Effective 2/11/08, Synod interest rates are decreasing by .50%. Our Investment rates are still extremely competitive, as we are looking for deposits and loan rates are within the market range. Synod Investment and Loan rates are as follows:

<u>Investments</u>		<u>Loans</u>	
- Custodial Demand	4.00%		
- 6 month MDC	4.50%	- Line of Credit	7.375%, before mission giving discounts
- 1 year MDC	4.75%	- Mortgage	7.125%, before mission giving discounts
- 2 year MDC	4.95%	- JM Muzzy	6.00%, before mission giving discounts
- 3 year MDC	5.15%		

- Excess cash of \$1MM, in addition to general operating cash and the Synod reserves, which is invested

in the New Covenant Funds balanced growth fund.

- In need of deposits from churches and related organizations – spread the word!
- 2007 Financial Audit is beginning.
- Budget planning for 2009 underway – plans for April consultation are almost complete and include use of the new grant-funding model that was approved in October.
- Staff Community Service with Christmas Cheer in Petaluma

#### **Challenges**

- Need for deposits into our Custodial and Mission Development Certificate accounts. We did have to borrow on the UB line-of-credit a couple of times in 2007.
- Benefits Service ended the year with a (\$78,000) deficit. We knew this was coming which is why we made a large change to the plans offered for 2008 (Blue Cross only). We expect this year to have a small deficit and then turn around for the future as our participation increases.

#### **Financial Picture –12/31/07 (papers attached)**

1. Review Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)
  - General Fund #100 (includes cash investments)
  - Other funds (Fund #200 - #401 Synod Services)
  - Funds held in trust (#600)
2. Review Revenue & Expense Statements
  - Income statements of the above funds/services
3. Review Budgeted Financial Statement (Mission Support & Operating Budgets)
  - Income statement (budget vs. actual) of the general fund #100 (notes on reverse)

#### **Notes to 12/31/07 Preliminary Budgeted Financial Statement**

#### **Mission Support Budget (Dept. 001)**

These budget categories represent revenue and expenses supporting the full Mission Partnership.

- Mission Support Revenue primarily includes Congregational Giving (Basic Mission Support) and finished the year at \$1,867,941 which is 97% of budget. This is not the 98% that is required in order for any part of the 13<sup>th</sup> block-grant check to be distributed. The other revenue consists of the GA Mission Partnership Allocation to synod which we pass on to presbyteries and mission units.
- Mission Support expenses consist of the block grants and compensation (for those participating in the synod personnel system) as well as mission partnership administrative and consultation meeting expenses. Total mission expenses ended the year \$163,542 under budget, primarily because payroll costs were down in two of the presbyteries/mission units. Synod did set aside the unspent Redwoods compensation funds (\$68,442) for use through 2009 as they bring in an interim AEP.
- Combining the revenue and expense situations, the total Mission Support deficit for the year was (\$743,077), which is better than projected; this deficit is taken care of from the Synod Operating Budget surplus.

#### **Operating Budget (Dept. 002)**

These budget categories represent revenue and expenses relating to the services and operations of the synod.

- Per Capita Revenue ended the year with all but two presbyteries paying 100%. This means that Synod did not receive over \$39,000 of its anticipated operating revenue. How do we handle this situation? This is up for discussion in your committee meetings tomorrow.
- Service Revenue and Investment Revenue combined is running \$32,883 ahead of budget. This is comprised of total Revenue from Services, and Investment Revenue - the excess cash invested in commercial paper and New Covenant Funds. Total earnings from our services were as follows: Benefits (\$78,514), Muzzy \$50,000, Loan/Custodial \$750,820, Interest net-revenue (\$20,273) and gains on Reserves Investment \$72,105; all for a total revenue of \$774,137, against our budget of \$741,254.
- Total Operating Expenses finished \$34,000 under budget. The only categories that have spent significantly more than budgeted are Permanent Judicial Commission and central office computer maintenance.
- The result is an operating surplus of \$733,568. When this is contributed to the Mission Support deficit of (\$743,077), we end 2007 with an overall net deficit of (\$9,508), which is

actually ahead of projections. We budgeted 2007 with a deficit of (\$152,302) to be funded from Synod reserves.

- Because the 2007 Audit will not be complete until April, 2008, there may be minor adjustments to the final 2007 figures.

Report of the Covenant Presbyterian Insurance Program – Carmen Siegel

Renewal packages will come out in April. Rev. Linda Toth thanked CPIP and thanked God for CPIP. The Pilot Rock (Eastern Oregon) church burned to the ground, and CPIP has been with the church throughout every step of the process.

Report of Campus Ministry Program – Cascades delegates

Merle Bottge, spokesperson, showed a PowerPoint presentation and briefly told of Cascades' five campus ministries.

Report of the Presbyterian Foundation – Rev. Skip Herbert and Rev. Eric Chavis

Eric covers eleven presbyteries in Alaska, Washington, Idaho and Oregon. He welcomes invitations from presbyteries and congregations to tell about the Foundation. The Foundation exists for financial help and stewardship planning in presbyteries and in congregations.

Report of the 2008 Committee on Local Arrangements for General Assembly – Elder Jane Odell

Volunteers are welcome for short and long term assignments. There will be opportunity to sign up on the COLA website beginning in March. Plans are well underway for this good event that you won't want to miss. Chalices will be used in tonight's worship (two of four colors).

Report of the Synod Executive – Elder Rob Brink

As the June 2008 General Assembly meeting in San Jose rapidly approaches, I wonder how we Presbyterians will conduct ourselves as challenging issues and overtures are brought before the elected delegates for consideration. Based on our historical performance in dealing with difficult decisions, I have to confess I am concerned. After each General Assembly, one comment frequently heard is that the worship times were the highlight of the meeting. Yet it seems as if those very times of coming together with a common desire to worship the God who created and loves each and every one of us equally, have little or no connection to the business part of the meeting. What happens inside each of us that makes loving, caring, thankful brothers and sisters in Christ suddenly become angry, frustrated, agenda driven individuals during committee meetings and plenary sessions? At the risk of appearing presumptuous, I suggest that it is our unwillingness to submit ourselves unconditionally to the will of God. All of the challenges and issues we face have been the same concerns that Christians and religious leaders have struggled with since the serpent slyly convinced Adam and Eve that they did not need to listen to God—they could make their own decisions without God's help. It is at times like these that I hear my pastor's favorite saying ringing in my brain, "How's that working for you?"

However, I believe there is reason for hope if we are willing to do some hard work. Submitting to God's will requires actively listening. In his book "Contemplative Spirituality For The Over Achiever," author Fil Anderson describes the mistake most of us make in our prayer life. Anderson explains that we can't just bring our concerns to God in a quick prayer between meetings or some other activity that makes our lives a chaotic whirlwind of business. Submitting to the will of God means we have to be in conversation with God. That means we have to actively listen for God's response to all the concerns, requests for help, and answers to questions we bring God in prayer; and that my friends is a very hard thing to do in this culture of faster is better or required. When was the last time you sat silently for more than a minute listening for God to speak to you? Do you remember the first time you went to a retreat or simply got away by yourself somewhere and spent a day or two listening for God's side of the conversation? I remember my first time. The first thing I noticed was that I could not keep my mind from wondering; thinking of the things I had going on in my life. And then I remember thinking wow, this is really boring. We give so little time to listening to God that we are simply not very good at it. It takes practice! It takes commitment! It takes faith, and it requires trust on our part that God will speak to us. Probably not in the timeframe we expect, and there is a good chance the answer may be different than what we hoped for. Yet, if we are to be faithful disciples committed to God's will for our lives, we must begin, if we haven't already, the journey of active listening to the Lord of life.

In addition to having a real two-way conversation with God and being a patient listener, are there other things we can do to be effective Disciples of Christ as we live out the community we are called to be despite our differences? In a recent sermon entitled “The Journey Outward”, my pastor provided what I believe are some answers. He referred to them as the “Three Demonstrations of the Journey Outward.” The first is to **“love when you are confronted.”** Listen to what scripture tells us in Proverbs 15:1, *“A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”* (NRSV) Proverbs 25:15, *“With patience a ruler may be persuaded, and a soft tongue can break bones.”* Psalm 141:3, *“Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips.”*

The second demonstration is **“pray when you are insulted.”** In Matthew 5:44 as Jesus speaks in his Sermon on the Mount, he says, *“I say to you love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you, so you may be children of your God in heaven.”* When Jesus talked about the meek shall inherit the earth, he was not asking anyone to let people run over them. In biblical interpretation the condition of being meek was defined as bridled power. Jesus was teaching how to respond to insults and inappropriate behavior, not because you are insecure or a weakling, but because you understand that God will judge our individual responses. Thus love your enemy, don’t hit them over the head with the Book of Order.

The third demonstration is **“forgive when you are rejected.”** Perhaps the greatest demonstration of forgiveness in the entire history of the world can be found in Luke 23:34 when Jesus said, *“Father, forgive them; for they know not what they are doing.”* In this one statement, Jesus showed Christians the depth our ability to forgive must reach.

Imagine a General Assembly where we took the necessary time to listen to God. How would the dynamics of General Assembly, or even our own life, be different if we demonstrated love when we were confronted; prayed when we were insulted; and forgave when we were rejected.

In her book “Mastering Your Inner World, Your Doorway to Creating an Empowered Life,” author Ghislaine Mahler looks at living together with diversity in this way: In a chapter entitled, Light and Dark - We need it all, Mahler says, *“We live in duality, it is everywhere: black and white, yin and yang, left and right, day and night. It is all around us, and in us as well.”*

*“Mastering our inner world does not mean we completely eliminate the dragons, the negativity, the doubt, the challenges. There will always be more dragons showing up, more challenges to overcome, more negativity to transform. Remember, it is only by entering the darkness that we can see the light. It is only by facing the dragons in our inner-lives that we can reach our kingdom.”*

*“What mastering our inner-world means is that at any time, we become more and more efficient at rapidly shifting from the dark to the light. It means we don’t wallow in self-pity and discouragement but swiftly see where we have a choice. This is the most empowering moment, when once again, we choose to keep moving to fulfill our vision. We continue growing and expanding beyond our comfort zone, as we are faced with growing challenges. All of this is part of our human experience.”*

What is the journey outward away from the same old ways of dealing with diversity in the church? How do we demonstrate love to those with whom we disagree? I believe the answer lies in one word. The most important contribution that Christianity has given to the world is grace. Can we demonstrate the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ in the way we act as we journey outward toward God’s will for humanity?

I pray it may be so.

Copies of the most recent revision of the Manual of Operations were distributed.

### Worship

The synod recessed for dinner. Joey Mills offered prayer. Following dinner the synod community joined in worship. Scripture was read, the Word preached, remembrance through the necrology report observed, and the Eucharist was celebrated. Those participating included Elder Jane Odell, Rev. Joey Lee, Elder Joey Mills, Elder Diana Lim, Rev. Aleida Jernigan and Elder Kathryn Baker.

Friday, February 8, 2008 – The synod committees met until their work was completed.

Saturday, February 9, 2008

Judy Austin reconvened the synod with reading of Holy Scripture and prayer offered by Joey Mills at 9:10 a.m.

Report of the Administrative Manual Task Group – Elder Meryl Bottge, Elder Bill Gigray

The Administrative Manual Task Group moved that the commissioners of the Synod of the Pacific of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) adopt the “Synod of the Pacific Administrative Manual (February 2008),” as the official Bylaws, policies and procedures of administrative operations of the Synod of the Pacific as therein set forth; and the commissioners hereby repeal such policies and procedures of administrative operations in conflict herewith. **Synod voted to approve.**

It was moved and seconded that synod issue a thank-you to Donna McClain for her work on the Administrative Manual. **Synod voted to approve.**

Report of the Committee on Representation—Elder Rachel Morse

*Items for Information*

1. The committee plans to send a letter to presbytery clerks and nominating committees to
  - a. Inform them what COR’s responsibilities are;
  - b. Encourage diverse makeup reflective of all God’s creation;
  - c. Ask for assistance in obtaining information concerning the makeup of committees, councils, commissions, and task forces.
2. The committee plans to create an introductory and/or orientation piece on what COR’s responsibilities are and how we carry that out.

Report of the Mission Partnership Committee—Rev. Ara Guekguezian

*Items for Information*

1. Approved the release of \$12,942 of 2008 Mission Partnership Emerging Needs funds so that we do not exceed the cap of \$30,000 in this fund.
2. Approved transfer of \$2,942 from the above released funds to the 2008 line item for Long Range MP Task Force to offset any expenses they incur prior to their dismissal after the April 8, 2008 consultation.
3. Approved \$1,000 for the Western Area Staff Conference planning team, using Churchwide Program Participation funds.
4. Applications for Hilda V. Thompson Medical Ministry funds have gone out to presbyteries and it is posted on the synod website. Applications are due March 31.
5. Discussed the implications for reducing the number of synod meetings from three to two per year. The committee believes good communication would become even more important: the synod website and electronic newsletter, for example. The committee does not believe it would have any impact on the work of Mission Partnerships.
6. A booth has been reserved for the 2008 General Assembly, and synod is making plans for the display board, flag, banner, and giveaways.
7. Approved a revised draft of the statement for the 2009 Mission Yearbook.
8. Brainstormed ideas for how to use the Heisermann funds and developed several possibilities:
  - Domestic Violence Consultation
  - Strategic Planning Training Resources
  - Vital or Healthy Congregations Systems Convocation
  - Ethnic Congregations (perhaps including CLP training)
  - Working with bordering synods and presbyteries on projects related to neighboring communities that cross boundaries.
  - Developing a process for presbyteries to work with congregations considering leaving the denomination.

The committee recommends that Rob contact his associates in neighboring synods to see where there are shared interests.

9. Brainstormed ways to address the shortfall in per capita and the problems related to congregations that are withdrawing or considering withdrawing from the PCUSA. The committee thinks that in the short term, the synod can offer pastoral care providers for affected presbyteries. The synod can also seek to provide factual information and education related to per capita shortfalls and the implications to the synod and its work. If necessary, Emerging Needs funds may be used for these pieces. In the long term, the committee believes that we need to partner with GA and other synods

in developing and adopting a process for divorce similar to what was done after the 1983 reunion. A proposal might be developed for action at the 2010 General Assembly. The Heisermann funds might be helpful here.

10. Mission Partnership the submits the following budget for 2009 (to be acted upon in May)

• Mission Interpretation Expense	\$ 8,000
• Synod Consultations	\$20,000
• Churchwide Program Participation	\$ 2,500
• Emerging Needs	<u>\$10,000</u>
	\$40,500
• Support of Presbyteries & Constituent Orgs	\$ 2,000

It was moved and seconded that the moderator be empowered to appoint a task force to investigate and develop suggested guidelines to address how presbyteries may work with congregations seeking dismissal from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

The following amendment was moved and seconded: That the task force members may include individuals who are not synod commissioners—those who presently have been engaged in these types of issues. **Synod voted to approve the amendment.**

**Synod voted to approve the motion.** Judy Austin asked that commissioners email her if they are interested in serving on the task force or with names of others who might be considered. She will work with the Mission Partnership Committee to form the task force.

Report of the Mission Personnel Committee—Elder Don Pope

*Items for Information*

1. The search committee for the Evangelist Presbyter is underway with a good committee who are committed to finding a qualified candidate. They are considering splitting the combined position to two positions – Evangelist Presbyter/Associate Synod Executive/Stated Clerk.
2. A new covenant contract for Rick Irish came before the committee. It names the position as Interim Evangelist Presbyter/Associate Synod Executive/Stated Clerk with a minimum of 40 hours per week being an exempt synod employee and a part-time exempt employee of the presbytery; the contract to run as a nine month extension to the original contract beginning Sept. 25, 2007 to Sept. 25, 2008. **MSC/to approve the offered contract.**
3. The Snake River Mission Area reorganization plans were shared with the committee, and the committee looks with excitement and anticipation to January 1, 2009 There will be a time of celebration at the October 2008 meeting of synod, which will be held in Boise, ID.
4. Rob Brink has a Sabbath Sabbatical scheduled for July and August 2008 and the month of March in 2009. Personnel issues will be covered by staff in the Petaluma office as well as Don Pope and Joey Mills. It was MSC/that the synod give the Sabbath Sabbatical education money to Rob for his sabbatical.
5. San Francisco Presbytery is opening a position called Director of Healthy Congregations and shared the job description with the committee. It was **MSC/that the synod offer a shared equity loan according to the current personnel policy to this new position, assuming there are available funds.**
6. Changes to the Synod Personnel Policy were discussed **MSC/that we recommend to synod that these changes will be brought to the May synod meeting for approval.**
7. Reports from Personnel Chairs:
  - a) Sierra Mission Partnership: Linda Kelly, expressed appreciation for the devotion shown to all in the partnership by Sally Hinchman. SMP is beginning to look at forming a mission statement.
  - b) Snake River Mission Area is excited about the reorganization process and looking forward to January 1, 2009
  - c) Cascades: John Brinegar, They are evaluating the presbytery since the restructuring several years ago.
  - d) San Jose: Mel Goertz, they have just completed reviews of Jane Odell and Joey Lee and have no personnel problems. Looking for a new administrative assistant for Joey, they are considering promoting from within.



- e) San Jose: Joey Lee, staff, is enjoying new position. He likens it to drinking water out of a fire hose—more than you want sometimes.

*Information Addendum*

2008 ELECTED STAFF SALARY/HOUSING

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>HOUSING</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
BRINK, ROBERT D.	\$106,870.00	\$	\$106,870.00
CARLSON, DAVID R.	\$ 27,247.68	\$ 48,756.32	\$ 76,004.00
CONOVER, ROBERT	\$ 26,801.00	\$ 40,500.00	\$ 67,301.00 (P/T)
GOEBEL, DAVID	\$ 2,987.00	\$ 24,571.00	\$ 27,558.00 (P/T)
HINCHMAN, SALLY J.	\$ 84,685.00		\$ 84,685.00
HURST, GERALD	\$ 36,800.00	\$ 30,475.00	\$ 67,275.00
IRISH, RICHARD	\$ 31,806.00	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 67,806.00
KENNEDY, JAMES	\$ 31,934.00		\$ 31,934.00 (P/T)
LEE, JOSEPH S.	\$ 45,550.00	\$ 48,000.00	\$ 93,550.00
MILLS, JOEY	\$ 25,865.00	\$	\$ 25,865.00 (P/T)
ODELL, JANE	\$ 86,379.00		\$ 86,379.00
OLSON, JAY	\$ 35,824.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 70,824.00
TORRENS, GARY*	\$ 49,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 79,000.00
TOTH, LINDA W.	\$ 23,808.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 28,808.00 (P/T)

\*effective 02/01/08

FOR INFORMATION—PRESBYTERY STAFF (2008)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>HOUSING</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
ANDERSON, HUGH D.	\$35,550.00	\$30,000.00	\$ 65,550.00
JERNIGAN, ALEIDA	\$32,550.00	\$33,000.00	\$ 65,550.00
MAHON, JOHN	\$46,140.00	\$19,410.00	\$ 65,550.00
PALMER, CRAIG	\$55,986.00	\$45,000.00	\$100,986.00

Vice Moderator, Joan Fong, assumed the chair.

Report of Mission Finance Committee – Elder Judy Austin

*Items for Information:*

1. Capital Advances Review: San Anselmo, Sleepy Hollow, Joan Fong reported that the church's session is open to the idea that monies they re-pay would go to the Muzzy fund but no monies have yet been paid. Moraga, Moraga Valley continue to ignore phone calls.
2. Report on Davis, Cal Aggie Property: Action was taken by the Between-Meetings Subcommittee to enter into a deed of trust encumbering the Davis, Cal Aggie property to secure a loan to Cal Aggie Christian Association; to enter into a First Addendum to the Ground Lease for Cal Aggie; and to authorize R. Ann Lele'a to execute such documentation as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this resolution.
3. Proposal from Anne Penke Memorial Fund Committee (APMFC). They would like to come under the umbrella of the synod. The synod would be the holder of records and continue to provide financial services and reporting. There will be no additional cost to the synod.
4. Loans approved between meetings – Fortuna, Church of the Redeemer, Change in terms. For purposes of replacing their roof, we divided their loan amount into two loans – a Muzzy loan and a low-interest insurance loan. Original Muzzy loan was approved in August, 2007.
5. The Committee approved request by Westminster House to release \$1.6 MM collateral so they can re-structure their existing debt as outlined in the WH formal request, dated Jan 4, 2008.
6. It was MSC to approve the following loans:

<b>E1</b>	San Jose, Immanuel PC – San Jose	\$104,187.32	RNW AMOR
Purpose: Renew Amortized Loan – Co-Pastors equity share			
Term: 5 Years		Amortization: 10 Year	

Monthly Payments: \$1,243.53 P&I	Initiation Fee: ½ %
Interest Rate: 7.625% - Rate is subject to change	Security: First Deed of Trust & Title Insurance (already on hand)
Subject to: None	
Waivers: None	

<b>E2</b>	Portland, FPC Menucha – Cascades	\$194,512.96	RNW AMOR
Purpose: Renew Amortized Loan – Original use of funds: Private residence			
Term: 5 Years		Amortization: 15 Year	
Monthly Payments: \$1,761.96 P&I		Initiation Fee: ½ %	
Interest Rate: 7.125%, after mission giving discount of .50% Rate is subject to change			Security: First Deed of Trust & Title Insurance (already on hand)
Subject to: 1) Original application with church & presbytery approval signatures			
Waivers: None			

<b>F1</b>	Lake Oswego, Lake Grove PC – Cascades	\$1,700,000	SLOC
Purpose: Fund enhancement to the church sanctuary			
Term: 2 Years		Amortization: None	
Monthly Payments: Interest Only		Initiation Fee: ½ %	
Interest Rate: 7.375%. after mission giving discount of .50% Rate is subject to change.			Security: First Deed of Trust & Title Insurance
Subject to: 1) Original presbytery approval signature 2) Certified resolution reflecting church approval by congregational vote and Clerk of Session approval signature 3) Receipt of signed construction contract 4) Staffs review of construction contract 5) Purchase performance & payment bond 6) Verification of at least 10% cash on hand of total project cost			
Waivers: None			

<b>F2</b>	Pleasant Hill, St Andrews PC – San Francisco	\$1,700,000	SLOC
Purpose: Finance construction of new activity center (fellowship hall)			
Term: 2 Years		Amortization: None	
Monthly Payments: Interest Only		Initiation Fee: ½ %	
Interest Rate: 7.375% after mission giving discount of .50% Rate is subject to change.			Security: First Deed of Trust & Title Insurance
Subject to: 1) Original application with church & presbytery approval signatures 2) Receipt of signed construction contract 3) Staffs review of construction contract 4) Purchase performance & payment bond. 5) Presbytery guarantee of loan payments			

Waivers: None			
<b>F3</b>	McMinnville, FPC - Cascades	\$740,592	SLOC
Purpose: Finance renovation of existing, dated church facilities			
Term: 2 Years		Amortization: None	
Monthly Payments: Interest Only		Initiation Fee: ½ %	
Interest Rate: 7.125%. after mission giving discount of .75% Rate is subject to change.			Security: First Deed of Trust & Title Insurance
Subject to: 1) Original application with church & presbytery approval signatures 2) Receipt of signed construction contract 3) Staffs review of construction contract 4) Purchase performance & payment bond			
Waivers: None			

*Items for Action—the Committee moved:*

1. That synod send approximately \$35,000 to presbyteries proportional to their block grants with a warning letter that in the future the 13<sup>th</sup> check may not be forthcoming. The \$35,000 represents the remainder of their 2007 budgeted block grants. **Synod voted to approve.**
2. That synod approve changes to 2008 budget that will reduce the anticipated draw from reserves to \$53,278 from \$75,615. **Synod voted to approve.**
3. That synod absorb a loss due to the expected shortfall of unpaid per capita for 2008. Future anticipated shortfall of per capita will affect the amount available to the partnership table. **Synod voted to approve.**

Judy Austin re-assumed the chair.

Report of General Assembly Council – Rev. Linda Toth

The GAC Manual of Operations will be presented to GAC for approval. Commissioners were encouraged to go to [www.pcusa.org/gac](http://www.pcusa.org/gac) to see the DVD “GAC Overview...Offering the Word a Visible Witness of Jesus Christ.

Report of the Stated Clerk Search Committee – Elder Donna Evans

The process of revising the Stated Clerk Position Statement is underway so that it corresponds more clearly with the new administrative manual. A strategy for advertising for the position is being developed. Commissioners are asked to let committee know if they know someone or is interested themselves in the position. Preliminary work will be complete and on the website by April 1 along with an application, information, details, etc. The committee anticipates having a candidate for synod to vote on by the October meeting.

Announcements by the Stated Clerk—Elder Joey Mills

Joey expressed her understanding of discomfort about the vote regarding Sacramento commissioners. It was moved and seconded by commissioners who had voted in the affirmative that the action be rescinded and that Joey will follow-up with the commissioners and/or presbytery giving a date for response.

Joey expressed thanksgiving for the work of the commissioners and for their excitement and commitment in doing the work of the synod.

Next meeting: May 8 – 10, 2008 at the Zephyr Point Conference Center

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 11:00 a.m.  
Respectfully submitted,

*Joey Mills*

Elder Joey Mills, Stated Clerk

Kathryn Baker, Recording Clerk