

Southwest Conference United Church of Christ

2014 ANNUAL MEETING

March 28 & 29

Church of the Beatitudes & Beatitudes Campus





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Agenda: Thursday & Friday

Thursday, March 27

9:00	Boundary Training for Laity (ends at 4:00)	Church of the Beatitudes
10:00	Effective Church Websites)	Church of the Beatitudes
1:30	Email Newsletters for Churches)	Church of the Beatitudes
6:00	Moderator/Pastor Dinner)	Beatitudes Campus

Friday, March 28, Church of the Beatitudes

8:30	Nelson Hall open for Vendors to set up	Nelson Hall
9:30	Registration Opens	Narthex
9:45	New Delegate Orientation	Sanctuary
10:30	First Business Session	Sanctuary
	Welcome & introduction of guests	
	Results of written ballot - declaration of quorum	
	Nominating Committee Report	
	Financial Reports	
	Lay Academy	
	Mission Planning board	
	Cornerstone Fund	
	United Church Funds	
	Office Manager Report	
	Sabbatical Report	
	Moderator Report	
Noon	Lunch <i>(There will be a table for PSR alums or interested folks)</i>	Nelson Hall
1:00	Keynote Panel- Marriage Equality	Sanctuary
2:00	Workshops <i>(Return to Sanctuary at 3:30.)</i>	
	Movement for Marriage Equality: The New National Landscape	Sanctuary
	Search and Call: What Changed and Why	Chapel
	Strategies for Music Selection and Integration	Patio Room
	Open Table, The Model For Poverty Transformation	Lounge
	Aligning Investments with Justice	Room 14
	Effective Church Websites	Room 13
3:15	Break	
3:30	Business Session	Sanctuary
	Damond Jackson, SWC Intern	
	Ecclesiastical Council Report	
	Bylaw Change	
	Marriage Equality Resolution	
	JWM	
	EPIC	
	Earthwise Task Force	
	Announcements <i>(Those needing rides & those offering rides to the hotel - meet in Narthex after worship to pair up. Those wanting to march tomorrow morning with kids - sign up with Holly)</i>	
5:30	Reception for MPB members	Chapel
6:00	Dinner	Nelson Hall
7:15	Worship- <i>(bulletin in Annual Meeting book)</i>	Sanctuary
	Offering to benefit Youth/Young Adult Ministry	
	Preaching: Andy Lang	



Agenda: Saturday

Saturday, March 29, Beatitudes Campus and Church of the Beatitudes

(Buses start running at 8:30 from Beatitudes to the Campus)

- | | | |
|-------------|---|--------------------------|
| 9:15 | Morning Worship | Beatitudes Campus |
| 9:30 | Brief Business Session | Beatitudes Campus |
| | Campus Report | |
| | Ktizo acceptance into covenant membership | |
| | "Pray out" the folks to the Moral March | |
| 9:45 | Keynote | Beatitudes Campus |
| | Andy Lang | |

Workshops (Attend a workshop & lunch at either Beatitudes Campus or Church of the Beatitudes)

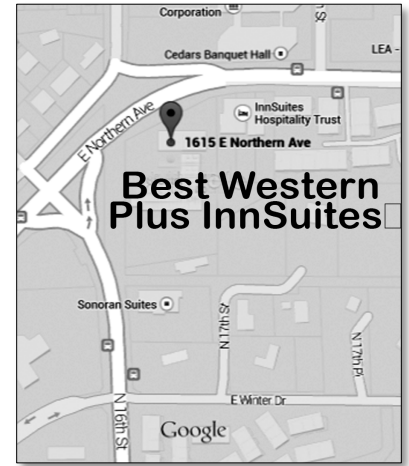
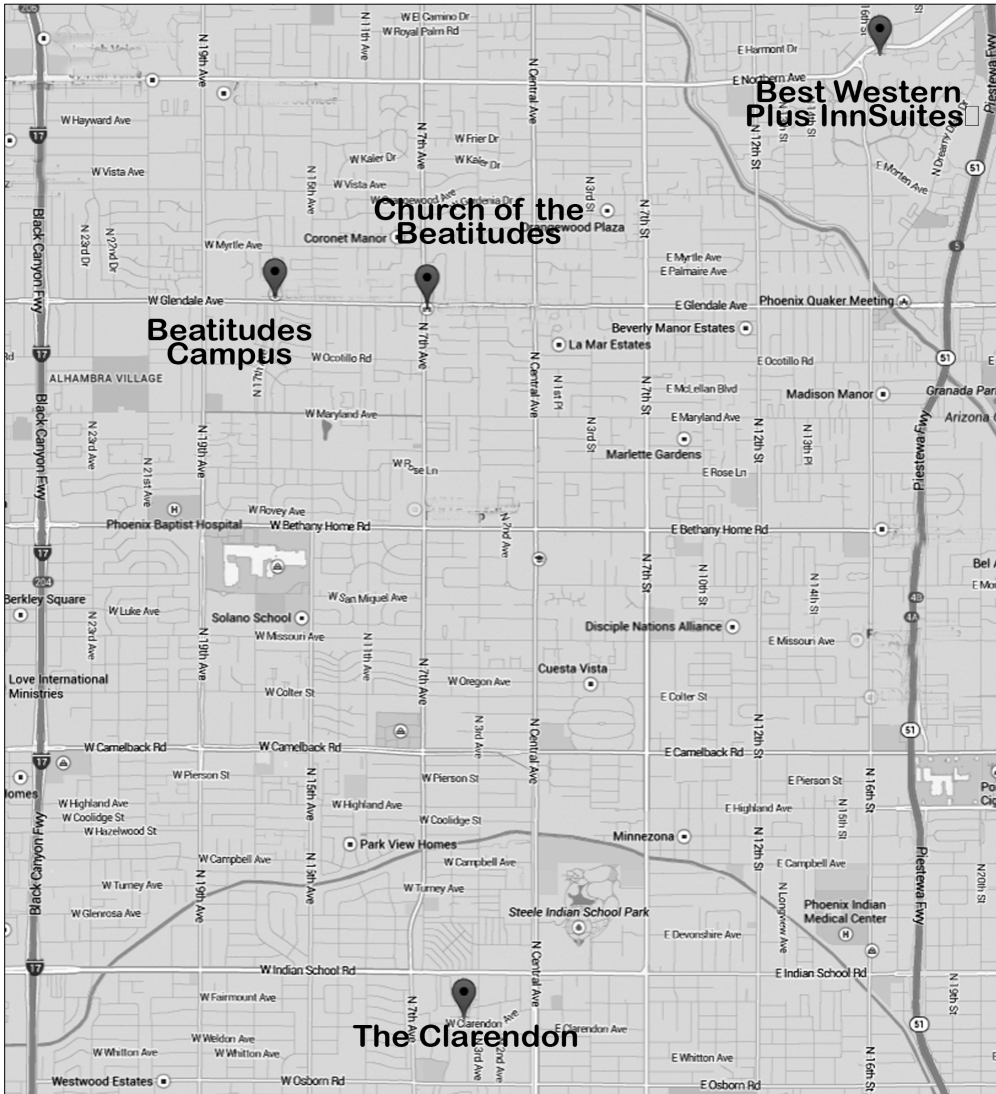
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| 10:45 | Workshops at Beatitudes Campus | |
| | The Art and Science of Dementia Care | |
| | Charting your Course Retirement Planning from A To Z | |
| 12:00 | Lunch at Beatitudes Campus <i>(Return to Church of the Beatitudes by 1:30)</i> | |

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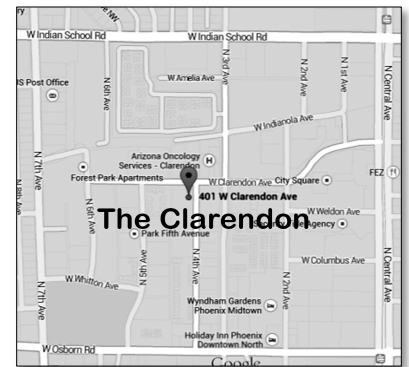
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| 11:15 | Workshops at Church of the Beatitudes | |
| | Evangelism 101 for ONA Congregations | Sanctuary |
| | The Role of Faith Communities in Suicide Prevention | Chapel |
| | Inspiration from Two Ancient Streams of Christianity | Patio Room |
| | Grassroots Ministry: Needlework for Nogales Children | Room 13 |
| | Advocacy at the Arizona State Capitol | Lounge |
| | Boundary Basics | Room 14 |
| 12:30 | Lunch at Church of the Beatitudes | Nelson Hall |
| 1:30 | Business Session <i>(Church of the Beatitudes)</i> | Sanctuary |
| | Youth/Camp Report | |
| | Conference Minister Report | |
| | Votes | |
| | Presentations | |
| | Gifts & passing of the gavel | |
| 3:00 | Worship with communion <i>(bulletin in Annual Meeting book)</i> | Sanctuary |
| | Offering to benefit Youth/Young Adult Ministry | |
| | Installation of officers and committee members | |
| 4:00 | Depart | |



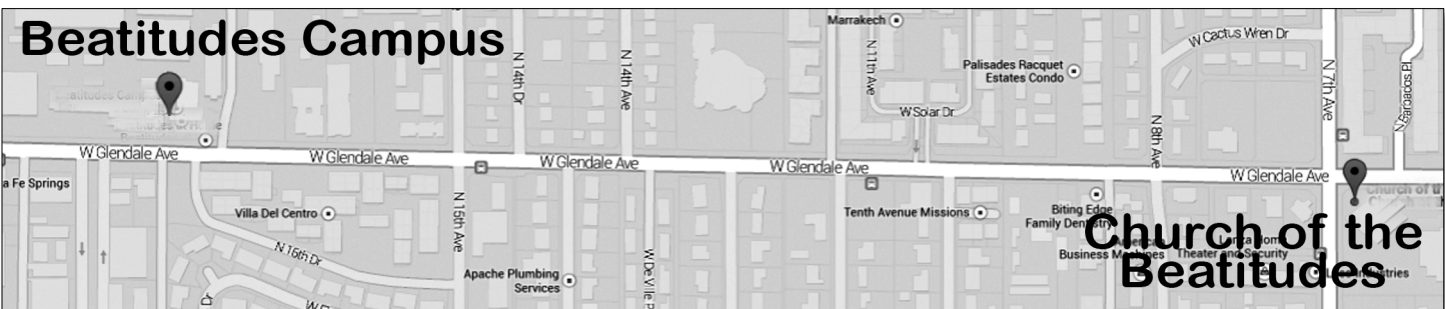
Area Map



Best Western Plus InnSuites
1615 E Northern Ave.;
Phoenix, AZ 85020



The Clarendon
401 West Clarendon Avenue,
Phoenix, Arizona 85013

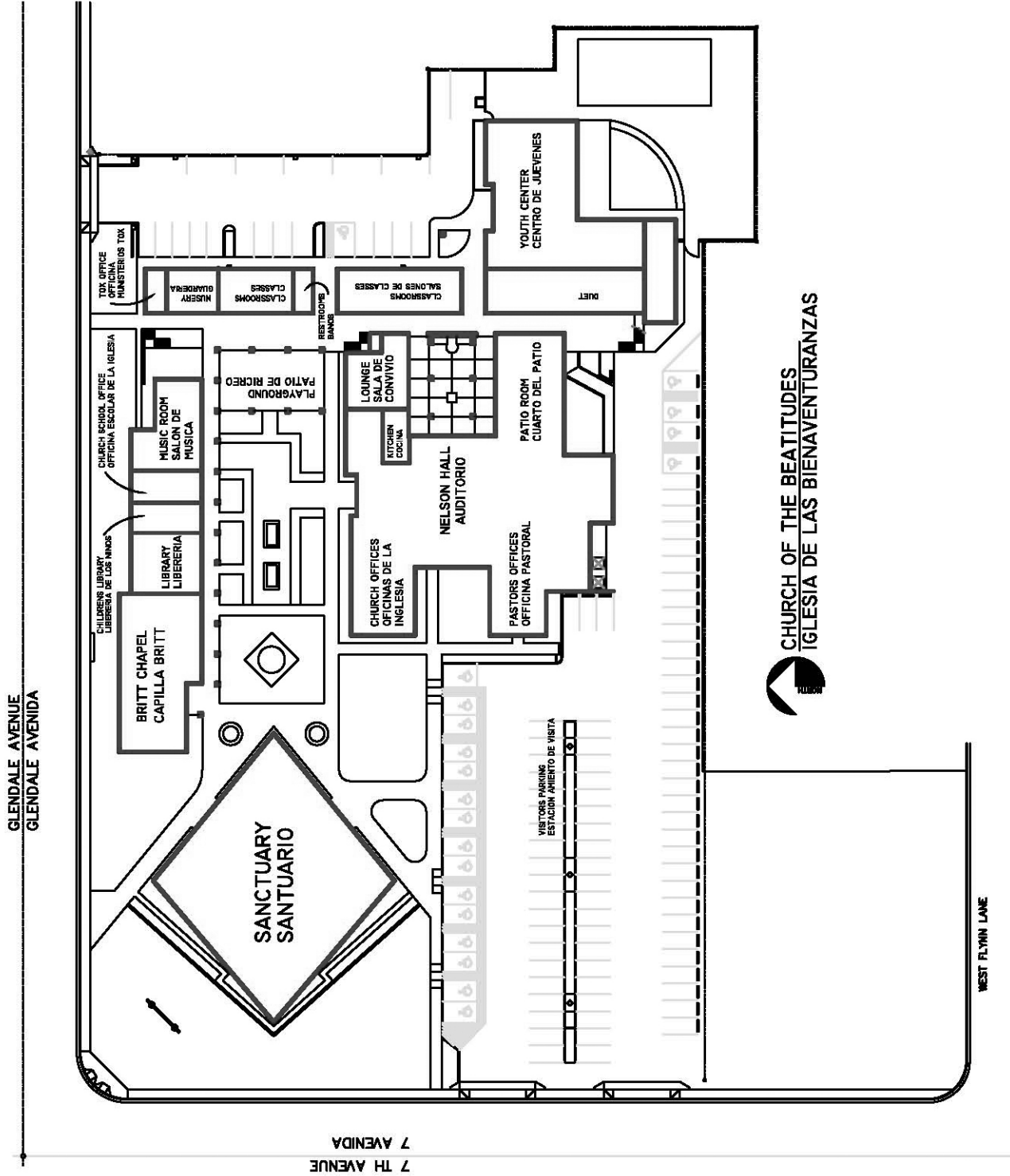


Beatitudes Campus
1610 W Glendale Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85021

Church of the Beatitudes
555 W Glendale Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85021

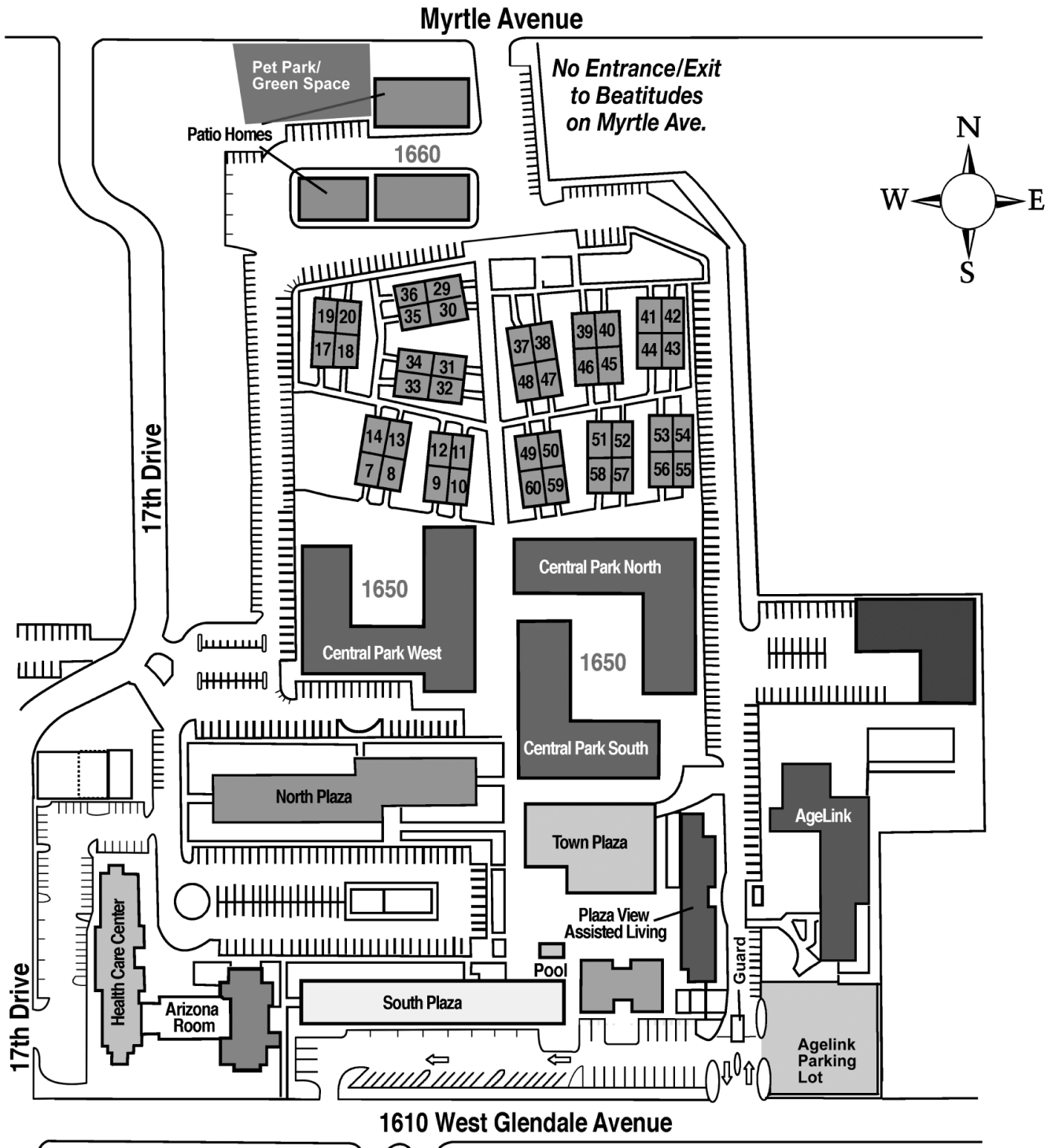


Site Plan: Church of the Beatitudes





Site Plan: Beatitudes Campus





Friday Evening Worship Bulletin

Welcome by host pastor

Rev. Dr. Don Longbottom

Introit: "Be Thou My vision"

Jazz ensemble

Opening Prayer

Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer

Hymn: "Bring Many Names" Verse 1

Reader

Hymn: "Bring Many Names" Verse 2

Reader

Hymn: "Bring Many Names" Verse 3

Reader

Hymn: "Bring Many Names" Verse 4

Reader

Hymn: "Bring Many Names" Verse 5

Reader

Hymn: "Bring Many Names" Verse 6

Reader

Scripture

Sermon:

Andrew Lang

Offering,

Andria Davis, Minister for Youth at CoB

Music: "Where All Are Welcome"

Blessing over the gifts:

Andria Davis

Hymn: "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

Benediction

Dr. Cary Meister, Moderator



Saturday Afternoon Worship Bulletin

Welcome:		Lori Ramsey, Moderator, CoB
Introit	"Mercy, Mercy, Mercy"	
Hymn:	"I'll Fly Away"	
Opening Prayer		Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer
Dialogue of Welcome (many voices)		
Scripture		
Hymn	"I Need You to Survive"	
Sermon		Rev. Damond Jackson
Offering		Alexandria Boice
Communion		Rev. Diane Thomas, Chair of CoCAM B Rev. Donna Cavedon, Chair of CoCAM A
Installation of new Board and Committee members		
Closing Hymn	"When the Saints Go Marching In"	
Benediction		Dana Bender



Biographies of our Special Guests

Andy Lang

Andy Lang has 18 years of experience as a communications professional in the United Church of Christ. He was a daily newspaper reporter and a Congressional public-relations specialist in Washington, DC, before moving to Cleveland to join the UCC's national communications staff in 1993.

Andy built the UCC's first churchwide website at ucc.org in 1994 and led the church's national web ministry until 2004.

Andy has been the Coalition's executive director since April 2011. In that capacity, he leads the UCC's Open and Affirming Program. His passion is to reach the nearly 4,000 UCC congregations that have not yet adopted an ONA covenant. He is a member of Plymouth UCC in Shaker Heights, OH.



John Jacob Dorhauer

John Jacob Dorhauer is a composer, arranger, educator, and performer from Chicago. He has a Master's Degree in Music Composition from Roosevelt University and is adjunct faculty at Elmhurst College and Roosevelt University. John is highly active as the creator and director for Heisenberg Uncertainty Players, a composers' jazz big band performing many of his original works. A two-time recipient of ASCAP Plus Awards, John has received commissions from Chicago Composers Orchestra, Riverside-Brookfield High School, Wredling Middle School, and Shout Section Big Band, and his music has been recorded/performed by Fifth House Ensemble, Orion Ensemble, eighth blackbird's Timothy Munro, and numerous other ensembles.

John Jacob Dorhauer is Conference Minister John Dorhauer's son.





Meet our Hosts: Church of the Beatitudes

Church of the Beatitudes was formed in 1954, and is located in north central Phoenix. Since the beginning, under the able leadership of Rev. Dr. Culver "Bill" Nelson, Church of the Beatitudes has had a history of caring for those who are on the edges of our culture and community, finding ways to bring service and hope to people who have been without. It is the bedrock upon which we stand.

Church of the Beatitudes is a community of faith-keeping and faith-seeking people grounded in stories and truths contained in the scriptures.

We are open to insights and interpretations of God revealed to us through new experiences, different faiths and diverse cultures.

Our purpose is to provide opportunities for the formation of Christian disciples through worship and spiritual enrichment, to offer the education and training for this discipleship and to encourage the practice of this discipleship in the world.

As an Open and Affirming congregation, Church of the Beatitudes affirms that every person has worth as a unique creation made in the image of God. We recognize, celebrate and give thanks for the many diverse gifts of God among us. We declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation, welcoming into the full life and ministry of the church persons of every race, culture, age, gender, sexual orientation, ability and economic status.



Our future is within our grasp. Our commitment is to rebirth our congregation in a manner consistent with the best of progressive theology and ethics. As a congregation we firmly believe the best is yet to be.



Meet our Hosts: Beatitudes Campus

A Ministry of Church of the Beatitudes United Church of Christ



The beginnings of Beatitudes Campus can be traced back to a nursing home visit by Rev. Dr. Culver “Bill” Nelson, founding pastor of Church of the Beatitudes United Church of Christ. The appalling conditions he witnessed compelled him to join forces with Rev. Dr. Everett B. Luther and other church visionaries to create a welcome alternative – an early model community for

retirement living and health care that did not exist anywhere in Arizona at the time. The founders dreamed of a "campus," borrowing the term from the educational community because of its sense of continual growth and vibrancy. The need for comfortable, caring, affordable, quality retirement living was so great, the young congregation agreed to build Beatitudes Campus before building their own church sanctuary.

When Beatitudes Campus was founded 50 years ago, it was conceived to be a place where older adults could live, learn and grow through all the days of their lives. Beatitudes Campus was one of the first to introduce the concept of continuing care in north central Phoenix. Today, we continue to be a center of excellence and we focus on the concept of living rather than aging. Beatitudes Campus offers a wide spectrum of services for older people including independent living, assisted living, skilled nursing, memory support and home care services. The campus offers a model of wellness that promotes soundness of mind, spirit and body. The campus uses a comfort-focused, person-directed approach to provide the most successful living experience possible, where the comfort of each person is everyone’s primary concern.

Beatitudes Campus offers memory support services, and serves older adults across the spectrum of memory loss and dementia, including Alzheimer’s disease. Through our excellent programs, skilled staff and award-winning training programs, our campus is dedicated to serving our residents, family members and those who reside beyond our walls.

OUR MISSION

The Beatitudes Campus is a faith-based community offering a wide spectrum of services for older people. Our heritage of Christian hospitality calls us to welcome people of all faith traditions and commits us to a model of wellness that promotes soundness of mind, spirit and body.

OUR PROMISE

Beatitudes Campus is a not-for-profit ministry of Church of the Beatitudes, a United Church of Christ congregation. Our heritage of Christian hospitality calls us to welcome all people. This includes outreach to Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist and other faiths, as well as those with no connection to a faith community. We value the diversity of all – regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, disability, marital status, or sexual orientation. Core values of compassion, accountability, respect and excellence drive every aspect of our community, and are what have made Beatitudes Campus a strong and respected leader in retirement living for more than 50 years.



Workshops

Search and Call: What Changed and Why

Presented by John Dorhauer, Conference Minister, Southwest Conference

The Ministerial Excellence, Support and Authorization (MESA) team in our national offices has reworked the entire Search and Call process. There are new church profiles, new clergy profiles, new online database systems, new protocols, 'snapshots' - all this and so much more. Want to know what happened and why? Want to know how this might affect your church in times of pastoral transition? Then this is the workshop for you.

Effective Church Websites

Presented by Bet Hannon, Bet Hannon Marketing

Having an effective website is crucial for churches and faith communities that want to grow and remain vital. But what makes a site effective? And how can smaller churches have a website on a budget? This workshop will cover essentials and best practices of effective websites for churches.

The Movement for Marriage Equality: The New National Landscape

Presented by Brendan Mahoney and Sheila Kloefkorn

Equality is in the air. With two historic decisions at the Supreme Court and with 17 states and DC now performing same sex marriages, Americans are realizing that gay and lesbian people want the same freedom to commit to long term loving relationships that heterosexual couples do. In states where marriages are being performed, communities are seeing positive impacts on their local economies and increased safety and security for their citizens. Faith communities are also stepping up in meaningful ways to support these advances. Learn about the history of the marriage movement, what is happening across America as our nation moves toward full equality for all people and how to get involved.

The Art and Science of Dementia Care

Presented by Dr. Maribeth Gallagher

Participants will learn how to provide sensory and spiritual experiences that may enhance opportunities for meaningful connection and pleasurable engagement for the person with dementia.. (At Beatitudes Campus. There will be an opportunity for a tour of the Beatitudes Campus at the end of this workshop.)

Charting your Course Retirement Planning from A To Z

Presented by Becky Black and Wynne Angell

This workshop will provide invaluable information and answer questions with helpful tips on how to move at the right time, protect your finances, and secure the fulfilling future you always planned! (At Beatitudes Campus. There will be an opportunity for a tour of the Beatitudes Campus at the end of this workshop.)

Grassroots Ministry: Needlework for Nogales Children

Presented by Grace Bunker and Tona Morales-Calkins

Faced with the consequences of US immigration law all around them (day laborers on street corners, bodies found in the desert, Operation Streamline, SB1070), a trio of women at Casas Adobes Congregational UCC decided to "do something." Gathering a few friends, they planned what to do next and looked for a group that was already involved in humanitarian aid to partner with. What happened as they worked to figure out and implement a sustainable, responsible, replicable approach will surprise you as it did us. We will walk through the creation of our ministry, its adoption by our church, how we build communities, and where we are headed next. Each participant will leave with enough information to create a successful ministry within his/her own church.

Boundary Basics

Presented by Donna Cavedon

Boundary Basics is an opportunity for a refresher class on issues that clergy face from time to time. This now includes digital age issues like Facebook, Twitter, email and other emerging challenges. Session is open to all and is geared to laity. (This class does not satisfy the Boundary Training requirement for clergy).



Workshops

Aligning Investments with Justice

Presented by Donald G. Hart, President and Chief Investment Officer, United Church Funds

United Church Funds uses its United Church of Christ assets in ways that promote social and environmental improvements in the corporations we invest in. Hear how United Church Funds social responsibility program's successes are aligning churches' money with their ministries.

Two UCC Pastors & Authors Share their Passion for Two Ancient Streams of Christianity

Presented by Kenneth McIntosh and Amos Smith, SWC pastors and authors

Kenneth McIntosh and Amos Smith respectively wrote and published "Water From An Ancient Well: Celtic Spirituality for Modern Life" and "Healing The Divide: Recovering Christianity's Mystic Roots." At this workshop Amos and Kenneth will share the inspiration and wisdom they have received from two ancient streams of vital Christianity: The Celts of Ireland and the Alexandrian Mystics of the Egyptian Desert. Catch the spark and may it ignite your faith! (Ken and Amos will address writing and publishing too as it comes up).

Evangelism 101 for ONA Congregations

Presented by Andrew Lang

Open and Affirming congregations can grow—provided they're serious about evangelism and willing to stand with the LGBTQ community as dependable allies. We will focus on the seven best evangelism practices for successful ONA churches.

The Role of Faith Communities in Suicide Prevention

Presented by Talitha Arnold, pastor at the United Church of Santa Fe

Studies show that ministers and congregations are often the first people someone turns to when dealing with mental illness or emotional distress, whether in their own life or with a family member, friend, or co-worker. It's important for faith leaders and communities to know how to respond and also be pro-active through education and pastoral care. Rev.

Open Table, The Model For Poverty Transformation

Presented by Berisha Black

This session will present a model to attendees for learning to translate the untapped vocational and life experiences and personal networks of members of your congregation, into tools our Sisters/Brothers in poverty can use to develop sustainability, while relationship with them transform your Church.

Advocacy at the Arizona State Capitol

Presented by Lauri Hasler, Jo Vredenburg, Robert Koth and Anne Schneider

Members of SWC congregations joined Arizona Unitarian Universalist members for the February 17th Day at the Arizona State Capitol for discussions with State legislators. Come and hear about our experiences and learnings. In this workshop UCC participants will discuss follow-up questions: Where do we go from here? What would you as individuals/churches like to see happen? What should we do to become faithful doers of justice? How can we bring about systemic changes and justice to a government that considers many of its citizens to be expendable?

Strategies for Music Selection and Integration

Presented by John Jacob Dorhauer

How do you select music for a particular worship service? How do you engage the members of your congregation in music without alienating anyone? And most importantly, what is music's function in the service? Finding the right music for the right context can be an overwhelming task, and addressing the diverse tastes of a diverse congregation adds further complications. In this seminar we will discuss strategies for effectively, appropriately, and creatively integrating music into the worship service in a wide array of contexts.



2013 Annual Meeting Minutes

Embodying Love

Annual Meeting SWCUCC April 2013

Friday, April 12, 2013

First Business Session

The 51st Annual Meeting of the Southwest Conference held at the Church of the Palms in Sun City, Arizona, was called to order by Moderator Jane Cheek. She welcomed all the delegates and visitors and then introduced the special guests;

Rev. Len Silvester and Judy Green Davis from our host church

Rev. Brady Abel, United Church of Sun City, host church on Saturday

Joyce Spaulding, local arrangements coordinator for Friday

Rev. Holly Millershank, Team Leader Ministerial Excellence, Support and Authorization UCC

Rev. John McCullough, President and CEO of Church World Service

Vy Nguyen and Kathy Dodson, Church World Service

Rev. Noel Anderson, Church World Service

Mr. Jake Pomeroy, Mr. Gordon Giles and Mr. Chuck Hollingsworth of Cornerstone Fund

Ms. Jaime Leopold and Mr. Brian Arthur, Arizona Center for Courage and Renewal

Nancy Brink and Annie Mellott, representing Chapman University

Ms. Lisa Seiwert, Ass't Admissions Director, Chicago Theological Seminary

Mr. Matt Wagner, United Church Funds

Dr. Peggy Roberts, CEO Beatitudes Campus, Phoenix

Rev. Curt Ackley, Parliamentarian

Southwest Conference Officers: Rev. Jane Cheek, Mr. Cary Meister, Mr. Alan Cochrane and

Mrs. Barbara Nordlund

Southwest Conference Staff: Mrs. Holly Herman, Mrs. Barbara Decker, Mrs. Peggy Ice, Rev.

Rock Fremont, Michele Mellott

Mr. Jason Crawley-AV Director for the meeting

Results of the written ballot were announced by Holly: 34 churches of the Conference were represented; and 151 people were in attendance at the opening session. She also announced that everything on the written ballots passed and a quorum was present. (Final attendance was 195 from 42 churches)

Nominating Committee report: Jane asked that delegates become aware of the reports inclusion in the program packet and that those persons would be elected tomorrow. Jane thanked the nominating committee for doing a great job.

Financial Report:

Treasurer Alan Cochrane stated that the figures and numbers in the financial report represented conference people and programs. 2012 ended with a surplus of 4K thanks to Jane Cheek's fundraiser idea. He explained how the decline in OCWM over the years resulted in the loss of Conference Staff and emphasized the necessity of finding new revenue streams. He explained that the Video Conferencing system is being funded by a 3 year grant. Last year we made a huge purchase (the conference office) and sold the property in Surprise-exchanging one asset for another- and when our buyer pays us off we will be mortgage free. Final budget for 2013 was approved and finalized by the Executive Board. The budget included raises for one full time staff and two part time staff. (no raises in prior 5 years) The Interim Conference minister will be paid out of the sabbatical reserve fund. For 2013 and the future the Disciples will pay \$1,000 per month rent. Salary was also raised for the bookkeeper because in 2010 her salary was cut by 25%. Alan asked the delegates to study the 2014 Top Line budget for the vote tomorrow. Jane expressed appreciation to Alan for his work.



2013 Annual Meeting Minutes (continued)

Staff Report: Holly Herman, SWC Office Manager, thanked the Executive Board for this opportunity to report on the work of the Conference staff. She reported on the great deal the Conference got on the new office building and that the common spaces are perfect for the programs the SWC wants to accomplish. The utilities, janitor, and landscaping services are covered by what the Disciples pay in rent. The building is presently used for worship by Ktizo and Footsteps, two new church starts, and our youth are regularly meeting there thanks to the good work of Michele Mellott. Many community groups that align with our values also are using the space.

Holly stressed our covenantal relationship with each other and that covenant is a promise that we will all work together with all in our Conference. The trend that she regrets is that our churches are becoming isolated and when putting themselves first, the first thing to get cut is the contribution to OCWM. Every time a church cuts back, we lose a staff person and less is able to be done. The core conference mission is happening but other mission is being reduced. John Dorhauer is the pastor to your ministers and conflict and crisis manager for your churches. He is the spokesman for the UCC in our communities. Conference staff trains and works with search committees. John works closely with COCAM that insures that we have qualified persons as pastors. Mission Planning Board members are the communicators back to the local churches. Holly's presentation received a standing ovation.

Beatitudes Report: Nancy Splain, Interfaith Outreach Ambassador for Beatitudes, remarked that since its founding in 1965 by the Rev. Culver Nelson, the Beatitudes Campus has been on the cutting edge of programs for seniors. Beatitudes is known worldwide as the place for seniors to live, love and grow. Nancy invited all to visit the campus and see the innovative programs in action there.

Justice and Witness Ministries Report: Laurie Hasler reported that the Justice and Witness Ministries team had been very busy this past year. Voter registration headed up by Phil Reller and Dave Mellott went well. The Immigrant Welcoming Conference was well attended as was the marriage equality rally. We continue to need to get our brand out. She was very appreciative of those who showed up for the environmental justice rally. Laurie attended a conference at Franklinton Center at Bricks. She also met with the Somos Americanas Group led by Daniel Rodriguez and it is her estimation that the work being done there is going to be very successful. The three resolutions currently being worked on for General Synod are at the justice display table and the workshop tomorrow will talk about how to work on justice issues with a biblical perspective. She stressed the importance of keeping Jesus in the work that is being done. She also reported that in Cleveland a number of boards have been combined and it is important to keep the national setting in our prayers so that the leadership continues to come from them. Laurie was presented with a plaque from NIN (Neighbors in Need).

Conference Moderator Report: Conference Moderator Jane Cheek reported feeling like Miss America taking her final walk with mixed emotions. As she positioned a tiara on her head, she noted that her report is in the program but she needed to speak to the seriousness with which she took the job of moderator. Her second feeling was one of connection. While not being able to visit all the churches in the Conference, she learned a lot about our churches and the people who inhabit them. Those learnings came through working with the Mission Planning Board and the e-mails that went back and forth. She felt that even though not always agreeing with everyone, there was a sincere effort to get together to worship and talk through differences. She further noted that we are all refugees from other systems.

"I feel hopeful and I hear you clapping and I know some of your stories. I know the celebrations and experiences that you have been through this year. Our amazing God knows all about us and still loves us. I pray for hope, peace and maybe a miracle or two in the UCC."

Jane further stated that six years ago she was led to serve the church in Prescott. John gave her a leadership role. In our denominations we can try things that others cannot. Church may look like a studio or a comfortable living room or a Starbucks or a McDonalds. What matters is that we are with God and where God is there is always hope and peace and an occasional miracle. It has been an amazing and challenging ride; you are my family and God likes to hear from us all.



2013 Annual Meeting Minutes (continued)

Crop Walk Report: Vy Nguyen expressed his gratitude for the support of the Southwest Conference to Church World Service. He offered special thanks to John, Holly and Barbara and to all those who will participate in the walk. He praised those communities for responding to hunger. He then introduced the Rev. Bill Ingraham of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Albuquerque who talked about ways to get churches involved in the walk.

Mission Planning Board Report: Jane Cheek reported that the Mission Planning Board has been operating for two years. The MPB member is a conduit of information from the SWC to their respective churches. They meet twice a year and additional cluster meetings are envisioned for the future by using video conferencing. The members give good information to the Conference about the activities of their churches. They also discuss and process the decisions of the Executive Board of the SWC. Jane reflected that this restructuring on the part of the SWC has worked very well and has been a good experience for all.

Cornerstone Fund report: Gordon Gilles, chair of the Cornerstone Fund introduced Jake Pomeroy and Chuck Hollingsworth. Gordon explained the work of the fund and asked those churches with whom Cornerstone has had a relationship with as investor or borrower to stand. He stressed the need for more investors and the exceptional investment opportunity that Cornerstone offers.

United Church Funds: Matt Wagner opened the report by saying that the mission of his group is to make sure that the Conference churches have the opportunity to invest their long term endowment resources. He talked about socially responsible investing- making sure that investments go to companies that are paying women the same as men, have responsible environmental goals, etc. They are a non-profit organization whose main job is to see that the churches in the UCC have the resources they need.

Introduction of Resolution: Rev. Curt Ackley introduced the resolution to be voted on at tomorrow's business session. He explained the purpose and the background of the resolution and asked delegates to read it thoroughly before the vote comes up tomorrow. He responded to questions from the delegates.

Program Session: Mr. Bob Wozak introduced the Circle of Trust Program. In the introduction he explained how people deal with change and some of the dilemmas pastors face when congregations request change and then in many instances resist change when it comes. The power point presentation was interspersed with a video presentation of Mr. Parker Palmer, CEO of Circles of Trust.

Friday evening worship service;

Ordination of Judy Greene Davis: Rev. John McCullough, speaker

Saturday Morning Business Session:

Rev. John Dorhauer opened the Saturday morning session by inviting us to listen to the song, *Waiting for the rain to come down*. The song spoke to the struggles a person goes through to make the right decision. John's reflections referred to the biblical text in which Jesus asks Simon the son of John, do you love me?

Cary Meister officially opened the Saturday session and recognized Pat Dilmore who was the local arrangements coordinator at United Church of Sun City.

Crop Walk announced that New Mexico raised 50.1% of the money raised at the mini Crop Walk this morning and the total raised was \$5,800. Best dressed group was from Yuma, the winning church was the Church of the Good Shepherd in Albuquerque, and the individual with the most pledges was Rev. Bill Ingraham.

Operation American Patriot: John introduced Tooraj Bakhtiari who worked on the sale of the Surprise land for the Conference. Tooraj told about his association with the Operation American Patriot whose goal is to fortify military and their families in thanks for their service to our country. Tooraj donated much of his commission in the Surprise transaction to OAP.



2013 Annual Meeting Minutes (continued)

Disciples of Christ: John introduced the Disciples of Christ Regional Minister Rev. Denny Williams. Rev. Williams brings greetings from the 4000 Disciples of Christ with whom we are partners and noted that it was the first time that he had attended one of the SWC annual meetings. Rev. Williams remarked that before we lived together as partners and now we are roommates as we share a common space. He welcomed our shared future as we all continue to embody that love of God.

Keynote Speaker, Rev. John McCullough of Church World Service.

The Rev. Noel Anderson introduced John McCullough and thanked Rev. Randy Mayer who mentored him. He explained his work with Church World Service.

Rev. McCullough shared some information about Church World Service and expressed appreciation to the members of the Southwest Conference for its stand in favor of immigration reform. He thanked members for placing water and medical kits in the desert for immigrants who have lost their way and for marching in high temperatures to make sure that folks are not discriminated against. He recognized that members have been very active in terms of public advocacy. He urged that members back up their stands by calling Congress to make sure that people in places of public policy understand what our values are.

Rev. John McCullough then proceeded to talk about the diversity of organizations that CWS represents and how he first became involved with the organization. He spoke of the organization's beginnings; their work with disasters worldwide; the rationale for and the change in the construction of the Board of Church World Service and how the organization decided to focus on hunger and poverty worldwide.

Rev. McCullough told stories of people who have been served by CWS and encouraged members to visit the CWS website. www.CWSGlobal.org

Rev. John Dorhauer presented a gift to Rev. McCullough and spoke about his history with CWS.

Second Saturday Business Session

Jane called the meeting to order at 1:15

The chair requested a change to the agenda-that the first item on the agenda, the Conference Minister Report, be moved to the last item on the agenda. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Camping Program Report:

Michele Mellott spoke about the importance of summer camp for youth and showed the video of Super Camp 2012. She also reported on the 2012 National Youth Event at Purdue. The plan for 2013 is to have two camps at the same time (June 16 -21) at Emmanuel Pines in Prescott. Brenda Hensley, Youth Director at Shadow Rock, is the Director of the SWC Super Camp and Michele Mellott is the Director of the Senior High Camp. She urged all to participate in Sow the Seed so that every child that wants to go to camp gets to. She suggested that youth/churches hold car washes, bake sales, sell youth stock or plant seedlings, etc. as money raising projects to get kids to camp. The Youth Program at General Synod begins on June 26 and continues through July 2. A Junior High Retreat to motivate students to go to camp will be held on June 19-20 at the Conference Office.

Vote on the resolution;

Rev. Curt Ackley explained the rules for voting on the resolution and responded to questions about the resolution. The resolution, moved by the members of the Good Shepherd UCC of Sahuarita, is as follows:

That the Southwest Conference of the United Church of Christ be asked to engage in a study to determine if ecclesiastical councils still meet the needs of our conference. If a change is deemed helpful then the executive board or other appropriate body be asked to present appropriate Constitutional and/or Bylaw Changes to the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Conference, for instance, empowering the Committee on Church and Ministry (Section A or B of both) to act on behalf of the Associations to approve Candidates for Authorization for Ministry Pending Call: this action may then be ratified by the Conference Executive Board.



2013 Annual Meeting Minutes (continued)

The motion was seconded by Donna Gentry, SCUCC

Motion Passed

Vote called for on the Topline Budget for 2014

Moved by Bill Albert, Desert Palm

Seconded by Howard Schenk, Church of the Palms

Motion Passed.

Vote called for on the nominating slate.

Linda McCarter made the motion to approve the recommendations of the nominating committee.

Seconded by Marsha Radke

Motion passed.

John asked those whose names who are on the slate to stand. John thanked them for their willingness to serve and gave words of installation.

Presentation of New Pastors –New pastors serving churches in the Southwest Conference were introduced:

Brady Abel – United Church of Sun City

Ken McIntosh – First Congregational in Flagstaff

Amos Smith – Church of the Painted Hills

Tyler Connoley – Silver City UCC

Sarah TevisTownes-AP Church of the Good Shepherd-Albuquerque

Wally Kuroiwa – Interim at First Congregational Phoenix

Introduction of Acting Conference Minister: John Dorhauer who will be away on sabbatical after General Synod announced that Rev. Jim Meadows will serve as acting conference minister.

Transferred in to SWC: Jane introduced Rev. Howard Hinman from Albuquerque. Rev. Hinman is a Hospice Chaplain with Presbyterian Health Systems

New ordinations:

Rev. Judy Green- Davis, called as Associate Pastor to Church of the Palms

Rev. Brian Gruhn, called to 2nd Church UCC in West Newton, Massachusetts

Church anniversaries:

Yuma, Oro Valley, Sun Lakes, Shadow Rock

Ordination Anniversaries:

Norman G. Helm 50 years

Arthur Ellerseick 50 years

Ralph Earle 50 years

Culver Nelson 60 years

John Dorhauer 25 years

7x7 Churches:

Good Shepherd Albuquerque, 1st Congregational Tucson, Yuma, Casas Adobes, Desert Palm, Sun Lakes

Certificate of Appreciation:

Highest OCWM contributor to the SWC-The Good Shepherd UCC Sahuarita (\$29,300)

Highest contribution per member-South Mountain Community (\$146 per member)



2013 Annual Meeting Minutes (continued)

Open and Affirming:

Footsteps Ministries, UCC of Prescott, and Silver City UCC. Our oldest and youngest churches became ONA on the same day.

Gifts and Passing of the Moderator's Gavel:

John thanked Holly MillerShank for being with us and presented her with a gift.

John thanked Jane Cheek for her two years of service noting that there were moments of deep joy and satisfaction and times for wrestling with challenges that no volunteer should have to deal with. Thanks to Prescott for sharing her. Jane responded by saying, "I have a deep and abiding respect for John. It has been a pleasure to give back and I appreciate his trust in me".

Jane presented the gavel and medallion to Cary.

Southwest Conference Minister's Report: John opened his remarks by saying that last year he said "Prepare to fail; take some risks in this time of change. Learn and try something else. My message this year comes in one word, **play**. Don't you doubt that the Holy Spirit is alive and among us." John read six quotes from a book by James Carse and then explained the difference between infinite and finite games. Finite players play within boundaries. Infinite players have been messing with boundaries for a long time. Some churches are beginning to mess with those boundaries. They are doing this for the sake of the mission for which they were birthed. John mentioned other churches in the conference that are playing the game in a new way that allows them to perceive things differently. John declared that he has asked himself why he is doing this business. The answer was that he had to play this game because it is the game that he wants to play. Infinite players prepare themselves to be surprised by the future. They don't control this game and they don't control its outcomes. The infinite player believes that the spirit is calling us to do something new. He advised, "stay open to the spirit in a way that your vulnerability is exposed. The Holy Spirit (she) invites you to play with some of the boundaries. You play this game well and I am honored to play it with you."

John then named some who have played this game admirably well. He pointed to Lisa Roger who is the creator of the logo and asked her to stand. He then spoke to Michele Mellott whom he named as offering her husband, Butch, to this Conference as a gifted and joyful player. He said Butch played the game in such a way that his gift made it possible for the game to go on.

He thanked Barbara Decker and Holly Herman for the ministry they carry on and thanked all the delegates for the opportunity to serve in their name and on their behalf.

Announcements:

Moderator Cary Meister then offered thanks to the churches that have hosted us for this annual meeting and offered thanks again to local arrangements chairs; Pat Dilmore and Joyce Spaulding. He announced that our annual meeting next year will be at the Church of the Beatitudes.

He then moved that the meeting close at the end of worship today and the vote passed unanimously.

Circles of Trust Session #2

Jamie Leopold, M.C., a Courage and Renewal Facilitator, opened this session by telling a little about her background and the work she does with various groups and the Circle of Trust. She spoke of the retreats that are conducted from one to three days each season. They provide participants with an opportunity to find the inner stillness where God can dwell with us. She told of clearness communities and invited all to watch the video of Parker Palmer who told about their community of solitude that gives each individual an opportunity to explore their life and bring both vigor and calm to the challenges that face us all.

Worship Service led by the youth of the Conference with Holly MillerShank preaching.

Meeting Adjourned.



Conference Minister Report

June of this past year marked my 5th anniversary in the Conference. So much has happened in that time - it boggles the mind to think of it.

I want to point out some of the highlights of the year just past.

Three of our churches negotiated a painful split: Church of the Beatitudes in Phoenix, Valley Community Church in Silver City, and Desert View in El Paso. From each of those well-established and historic faith communities there emerged three new church starts: Ktizo UCC, Silver City UCC, and Peace UCC. All of these settings had similar dynamics, and it is wise to note them.

These were not traditional new church plants. It has been a long practice for healthy churches to branch out and birth new churches. A good many of our current churches started from the healthy root system of an already existing congregation. These new communities were all birthed in the cauldron of irreconcilable conflict that left the churches - new and old - believing that for the good of all, a negotiated split was the best option.

In all of these settings, there was a common thread in the lines that were drawn in the conflict. While in all settings some of the particulars varied, there was a general sense in which they each encountered the same challenge: how do you pastor/serve a church in which some of the members are convinced that the tried and true methods of the Institutional church remain the best pathway forward to growth and success, and in which other members believe that the tried and true methods are stale and no longer promise growth or success?

At some point, these conversations led to divisions that could not be reconciled. Each of these three churches chose a pathway of negotiated settlements between an existing and a forming congregation, dividing the shared missional assets and memberships between the two.

While this was unfolding, I took my first sabbatical as your Conference Minister. I have been deeply intrigued by the onset of postmodernity and what it is doing to affect dramatic changes in the life of the church as we know it. I conducted research during the sabbatical on those changes. I interviewed what I called innovators, all over the country, and tried to learn what they were doing, why, and how it was changing the landscape of the church as we know it.

The sabbatical was pure gift. I won't write at any length here about my discoveries. Suffice it to say they were deep, profound, and transformational. I needed the time away to renew my spirit - and that happened. But I also needed the time in deep research discovering what is happening to the Body of Christ. I come away from that time with what I believe is a far better grasp of what is and will be unfolding for the sake of the gospel. I hope we get a chance to talk about that some time.

There is going to be more upheaval in the life of the church. There will be more change - abrupt and immediate in some settings, less hasty and more gradual in others. I write about this because it is something that, from the wider lens through which I look at the Conference level, this strikes me as that upon which our attention must focus. Like every organization that will face dramatic change, the Church can either be passive and let things unfold as they will, or proactive - choosing wisely the kind of change that is not only born of intellect, will, ingenuity, risk, and hope - but sets the bar for others to follow.

At our Board retreat this year, we set a number of long range and short term goals. Among them was the promise to birth one postmodern new church start in the first year, two additional postmodern churches in the second year, and three of them in the third year. This would result in a minimum of six postmodern church



Conference Minister Report (continued)

starts in the SWC at the end of that three year cycle. Ktizo, Rebel and Divine, Sacred Space, Silver City, and perhaps one or two others in their infancy stages are already popping up across the face of the Conference and moving the calendar forward for us in new and exciting ways. And while there is already much to celebrate in these new pathways for the faith, there is quite a bit more for us to pay attention to for the health and vitality of our churches and the gospel that we preach.

I'm going to stop right there on this topic. There is much more to be said - but this is a report surveying the important events in the last year. We await much more about this in the years to come. I move on for now to a few other items of note in the year just past.

Your Moderator Cary Meister and your Committee on Ministry A Chair Donna Cavedon flew with me to Portland, Oregon, for three days of meetings with representatives from all of the Conferences of the Western Region, our UCC Office of General Counsel, and the leaders of the MESA staff. We were asked to pilot an innovative way of reviewing pastoral authorization post-ordination, and explored our collective commitment to the creation of a Regional Pastoral Review Board. This Board, if created, would review all questions regarding ongoing authorization for ministry once an ordination, commissioning, or licensing has taken place. All regions left that meeting with strong support for the concept, and have asked their Boards to review the draft materials and green light ongoing conversations. The deadline for the vote from those Boards is April 1, 2014. We will keep you informed about further developments.

In January of this year, the loan we held on the Surprise property that sold to a developer last year was paid off - the result of which being that we were able to pay off fully the mortgage on the Conference Offices. We now own that building free and clear. We have now been in that building almost two years, and it continues to amaze us how fortunate we were to have found this place; and how much of a community resource/partner we are becoming because of the building. The groups who meet in here are numerous and varied. In addition to the Disciples of Christ and Southwest Conference/U.C.C.-related meetings (for example, Youth and young adult ministries; the Lay Academy, Duet volunteer breakfasts, Administrative Assistants' Day) other users include David's Hope, a local not for profit that seeks to restore good relationship and job preparedness to returning ex-cons; Q-high prom night; weddings; an FBI community team that is seeking to develop strong ties with neighborhoods in the greater Phoenix area; a Buddhist meditation group; two new church starts; Coronado Historic neighborhood meetings, and so, so many others. We are also the landlords for our beloved tenant, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Arizona. This has been a major step forward for us - and being rent/lease free in a building that generates both revenue and respect with our neighbors is a true blessing.

Finally, I can't tell you how moved I am by the response collectively to the work of justice that together our churches make possible. From the environment, to marriage equality, to immigration and beyond - we are becoming known in our respective communities as the go-to people for justice. You have demonstrated outside the governor's mansions, walked in the streets, stood side by side with our sister and brother immigrants in prisons, court-rooms, and desert lands, performed gay marriages over and over and over again. You are a beautiful, beloved people living out your hope to embody God's unconditional justice and love.

I know that I am probably leaving something important out, but those are the highlights of what was a very good year in the Southwest Conference. Thank you each and all for the role you played in making our shared mission possible.

Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer, Conference Minister, Southwest Conference UCC



Conference Moderator Report

If you had asked me ten years ago whether I thought I would be asked to be Moderator of the UCC Southwest Conference ten years later, I would have answered your question with a gaze of “Who, me? Why?” (It was about this time that the Yuma UCC was just getting started.) I’m still asking myself those questions, and now that it’s time to pass the Moderator’s medallion on to your next Moderator, Dana Bender, I still don’t know the answer to those questions.

But no matter. What I do know is this: we are much stronger working together than alone, and it can be a tremendous amount of personal growth and fun, while working to make the Southwest Conference ever-more responsive to the needs of its covenant partners and provide leadership on a regional level.

I must thank Southwest Conference Minister Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer and past-Moderator Pastor Jane Cheek of First Congregational Church UCC, Prescott, for their encouragement and tutelage. It was a pleasure to work with all of the Executive Board members. I feel that we worked very well together as a board, as everyone worked for the benefit of the group rather than their individual interests. So I will miss you all.

Here are some highlights of the past twelve months, from a Moderator’s perspective.

The Southwest Conference Office building and staff are working well. The building has begun to fulfill its function of birthing new churches and providing a friendly space for community groups.

General Synod in Long Beach, which I was able to attend as Conference Moderator, was an incredible experience. I had always been impressed with the respectful way that speakers are treated at General Synod. However, I had no idea what an intense experience it would be overall. We got up early to worship, breakfast, and caucus as a conference delegation, attended business meetings, resolution meetings, lunched and dined together at some of Long Beach’s best and worst restaurants, attended evening worship services that sometimes lasted past ten at night, and spent a lot of time getting to know each other on the long bus trips from our hotel at the Long Beach Airport to the Convention Center. We got to participate in a march in support of immigration reform. We were treated to readings of newly-written poems by the Southwest Conference’s Poet Laureate, Jack Evans. I also was able to attend a meeting of Conference Moderators from around the country for a day before General Synod began.

We survived John Dorhauer’s well-earned sabbatical because of the superhuman abilities and skills of conference staff Holly Herman and Barbara Decker and because Rev. Jim Meadows so ably filled in as Conference Minister during John Dorhauer’s sabbatical. I was glad to see John when he returned refreshed and sharing some of the ideas and findings that will be a part the book he is writing on his sabbatical journey and the future of Christianity in a postmodern age.

I also was honored to attend the Western Regional Committee on Ministry Conversation meeting in Oregon last November which produced a proposal for a regional structure and procedure for ministers’ fitness reviews, made necessary because of a shrinking pool of potential fitness reviewers in the existing conferences. I think I was the only lay person in the group, which was an interesting experience, and helped me better understand what ministers, both congregational and conference, face in their lives and careers.

That is what happened. But where are we going? I’d like to mention several areas that seem to be gaining steam and about which you’ll hear more at this year’s annual meeting.



Conference Moderator Report (continued)

First, regionalization. In all components of the UCC (congregation, association, conference, region, nationally), we are facing the necessity and challenge of doing more with less and less. But it is also an opportunity to work with our covenant partners to develop new structures, such as the proposed UCC Western Region fitness review teams mentioned above.

Second, covenant. We have always had a covenantal relationship among the different entities of the UCC. But at times it has played a poor second fiddle to our proclamation of autonomy as congregations, associations, or conferences. It is in part being revitalized by our need to work together with fewer resources, but it is also a good thing in itself. It is the other side of the UCC coin, with autonomy on the obverse and covenant on the reverse (numismatists will hopefully appreciate that one; if you're not a coin collector, substitute heads and tails). You will be hearing more of this at this annual meeting.

Third, EPIC. Again, you'll be hearing more about EPIC at the annual meeting. The acronym (and we know how addicted the UCC is to acronyms) stands for educate, participate, innovate, and communicate. A group of representatives from around the Southwest Conference met January 17-19 this year and produced a three-year plan for implementation of EPIC. We are most grateful to Rev. Gloria Smith, Pastor of Encanto Community Church in Phoenix, who volunteered her expertise in planning and who kept us on task and on time (most of the time; occasionally we got a little rambunctious as when we marched into the sanctuary at First Congregational UCC in Phoenix to sing the Doxology to welcome the church's new pastor, Rev. James Pennington, just before his first service there--our planning group was meeting in a room that First had graciously allowed us to use for the last day of the planning session).

Fourth, to improve communication throughout the Southwest Conference, I hope that we will be able to expand the videoconferencing system so that no Southwest Conference congregation is more than an hour's drive away from a conference videoconferencing site. While events such as this annual meeting provide an opportunity for everyone from around the conference to meet face to face, videoconferencing does bring us together at the designated sites and we get to see and talk with each other. These events that bring us together are crucial to our covenant relationship.

All that remains of this report is to bid you farewell as Moderator and thank you for the opportunity to have worked, worshipped, and spent time with all of you who I had the privilege of being with. I thank the Executive Board for being such a thoughtful, caring, efficient, and fun-loving group. I thank the Mission Planning Board for their commitment and sacrifice so that we have a time when every congregation in the Southwest Conference can come together to work for a conference that meets the needs of its covenanted congregations and to keep the conference on track to achieve its mission. I thank all of the congregations where I received an extravagant welcome when I worshipped with you. And most of all, I thank each one of you in the UCC for all that you do to bring about peace, love, and justice for all because God is still speaking. May we always be open to the call and calling of the Holy Spirit.

Dr. Cary Meister, Moderator, Southwest Conference UCC



Committee on Church and Ministry “A”

Report to 2014 Southwest Conference Annual Meeting (Actions taken between March 2013 – February 2014)

Committee Members:

- Rev. Dr. Donna Cavedon, Church of the Red Rocks, Sedona, AZ, Chairperson
- Rev. Ken Heintzleman, Shadow Rock UCC, Phoenix, AZ
- Rev. Jayne Hubbard, Black Mountain UCC, Scottsdale, AZ
- Mr. David Huisjen, Casas Adobes UCC, Tucson, AZ
- Mr. Dan Mullen, Shepherd of the Hills UCC, Phoenix, AZ
- Ms. Lisa Roger, First Congregational Church, Phoenix, AZ
- Rev. Bill Ingraham, Church of the Good Shepherd, Albuquerque, NM
- Pastor Jessie Sustaita, Iglesia Congregacional La Trinidad, El Paso, TX
- Mr. Pete Norum, First Congregational Church, Prescott, AZ
- Rev. Tina Squire, Community Congregational Church, Tombstone, AZ
- Mr. Larry Trent, Rincon Congregational Church, Tucson, AZ
- Ms. Diana Winston, Scottsdale Congregational Church, Scottsdale, AZ
- Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer, SWC Conference Staff
- Ms. Barbara Decker, SWC Conference Staff

Report from the Chairperson of COCAM A, Donna Cavedon:

The work of COCAM A is transparent again in this year's report. The Committee members are dedicated and take care in every situation that comes before us. These situations are wide and varied and given great weight. We are fortunate to have John Dorhauer's guidance and Barbara Decker's presence at each meeting. A healthy dose of humor from this group is also helpful.

There has been much dialogue surrounding the idea of Ecclesiastical Councils this year: Are they needed? Why do we need to attend? Aren't they just a rubber stamp after COCAM A's recommendation? Why is it so hard to get enough people to go to make a quorum? These are good questions and observations.

This issue was raised at one of our meetings and all of the different sides of the issues were looked at honestly. The conversation led us to affirm the need for these Councils. No, no one needs one more meeting in their lives, yet the importance of these Councils is significant. Councils provide local churches an opportunity to gather together and to get to know each other a bit better. More significantly, however, is the task of knowing the candidate who wishes to be ordained on behalf of the United Church of Christ. (I am using Ordination in this example since many of the Ecclesiastical Councils in the Southwest Conference are for ordination but this is equally true for Ecclesiastical Councils for Commissioning and Privilege of Call.)

Your presence and your vote on an individual is NOT a rubber stamp of the recommendation made by COCAM A. Perhaps you, as a gathered body, see or hear something from the candidate that raises a concern for you about this person's fitness for ministry. This is an important step in the process and not to be taken lightly. In fact, it was not long ago that an Ecclesiastical Council met after COCAM A recommended a person for privilege of call. Someone at that Council heard what none of us on the committee had picked up on—blatant plagiarism on the part of the candidate. What would have happened if that had not been realized?



Committee on Church and Ministry “A” (continued)

By gathering as an Ecclesiastical Council you, too, empower the individual as well as the process, and help to make our churches and ministries healthy and strong. Please encourage one another to attend Councils in your areas—take a plane or train or go for a car ride to get to them. I'll bet you will be surprised by what you learn and be empowered by the Spirit's presence.

COCAM A acted on behalf of the Southwest Conference and the wider church in the following actions:

I. Transfer of Ordained Ministerial Standing from the Southwest Conference

- Bruce Turner Florida Conference
- Brian Gruhn Metropolitan Boston Association, Massachusetts Conference
- Steve VanKuiken Chicago Metropolitan Association, Illinois Conference
- Lorraine Cenicerros Central Association, Southern California/Nevada Conference

II. Transfer of Ordained Ministerial Standing to the Southwest Conference

- Sarah Tevis-Townes Rhode Island Conference
- Charles Aurand NE Association, Iowa Conference
- Patti Aurand NE Association, Iowa Conference
- Susan Garet Central Association, Southern CA/Nevada Conference (retired)
- Susan Princehouse Central Pacific Conference (retired)

III. Persons in Discernment

- James McCaffrey removed for lack of communication with COCAM A
- Michael Curry approved for discernment for ministry

IV. Ecclesiastical Councils

Approved for Ordination pending a call

Andria Davis

Approved for Privilege of Call (POC) none

Update on previous Ecclesiastical Councils Privilege of Call (POC) approvals

- Rock Fremont's POC extended for one year
- Jaci Meade Scott's POC terminated for lack of a call in 3 years
- Amanda Petersen POC resulted in a call and standing

V. Ordinations

- Judith Green-Davis, Church of the Palms
- Teresa Cowan Jones, Casas Adobes Congregational Church
- Lorraine Cenicerros, Church of the Red Rocks

VI. Licensing

- Diane Schrecengost's license ended when she retired from Assistant Pastor/Director of Care Ministries at Desert Garden United Church of Christ
- Jessie Sustaita's license renewed for another year as Pastor of Iglesia Congregacional la Trinidad



Committee on Church and Ministry “A” (continued)

- Luis Gonzalez’ license was renewed for another year as Pastor of Camino Nuevo (a.k.a. TOX Ministries)
- Jane Cheek’s license renewed for another year as Pastor of First Congregational Church, Prescott, AZ

VII. Installations/3-Way Covenants

- Sarah Tevis Townes installed as minister of Christian Education and Community Life, Church of the Good Shepherd
- Patti Aurand installed as pastor of Shepherd of the Hills United Church of Christ
- Delle McCormick installed as pastor of Rincon Congregational Church
- Judy Green Davis installed as Associate Pastor of Church of the Palms

VIII. Services of Recognition of Specialized Ministries

- Ken McIntosh service of recognition as licensed Pastor of First Cong. Church, Flagstaff
- Amanda Petersen, 4-way covenant as Director of Pathways of Grace, Shepherd of the Hills UCC, SWC
- Elizabeth Johnson, 4-way covenant as Minister for Support of Clergy and Congregations, Shepherd of the Hills, SWC

IX. Services of Commissioning None

X. Leave of Absence

- Rebecca Delzell placed on leave of absence for one year at her request
- Karen MacDonald placed on leave of absence for one year at her request
- Larkin Rossitter taken off leave of absence and is now retired
- David Weaver’s leave of absence renewed for 4th year
- Kyle Kneen’s leave of absence renewed for 4th year
- Ute Molitor placed on leave of absence for one year at her request

XI. Ordained Ministerial Standing (OMS) Terminated None

XII. Commissioned Ministerial Standing Terminated None

XIII. Ordained Ministerial Standing Reinstated

Joyce Buekers’ clergy standing was reinstated and a 4-way covenant approved with Rev. Buekers, the Harp Foundation, Church of the Beatitudes, and SWC

XIV. Ecclesiastical Endorsement for Board Certified Chaplain None

XV. Other Actions and Activities

- **BOUNDARY TRAINING**
None offered in 2013. Lay, Active and Retired Boundary training conducted March 27, 2014
- **FITNESS REVIEWS**
Conducted one fitness review which affirmed the clergy person’s fitness for ministry. Concluded a fitness review performed on behalf of another Association



Committee on Church and Ministry “A” (continued)

▪ NEW POLICIES

New Guidelines for the *Transfer of Ministerial Standing* have been proposed by the national setting of the United Church of Christ. COCAM A adopted the new policy that, upon transfer of Ordained Ministerial Standing, the file of the transferring pastor is copied and forwarded to the receiving body. (12-12-13)

The national setting of the United Church of Christ has prepared a document, *The Marks of Faithful and Effective Ministers*, to provide a lens for reflecting upon a person's formation, gifts and growth both before authorization and throughout one's ministry. This document can be accessed at <http://uccfiles.com/pdf/THE-MARKS-OF-FAITHFUL-AND-EFFECTIVE-MINISTERS.pdf>). COCAM A prepared and adopted its own protocols for implementing the Marks of Ministry in the Southwest Conference. (12-12-13)

XVI. Church Anniversaries

- 40 years Church of the Painted Hills
- 40 years St. Paul’s United Church of Christ
- 60 years The Church of the Beatitudes United Church of Christ
- 70 years Encanto Community Church

XVII. Milestone Ordination Anniversaries during 2014

- 25 years Ken Heintzeman
- 25 years John Herman
- 50 years John Allen
- 50 years Robert Carlson
- 50 years Lewis Crawford

XVIII. Deaths

Walter Dickerson	Phoenix, AZ	1/4/13
Rendall Davis	Tucson, AZ	9/6/13
Karen Ballou	Albuquerque, NM	10/8/13
David Boxrud	Sun City, AZ	12/15/13
Edward Blumenfeld	Sparta, TN	12/19/13



Committee on Church and Ministry “B”

Committee Members:

- Ms. Mary Benin, Shepherd of the Hills United Church of Christ
- Rev. Ric Brightman, First Christian Church UCC/DOC
- Ms. Margaret Douglas, Oro Valley United Church of Christ
- Rev. Sharon Littrell, St. Paul’s United Church of Christ
- Rev. Diane Thomas, Faith Community Church, Chairperson
- Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer, SW Conference staff
- Ms. Barbara Decker, SW Conference staff

Report from the Chairperson of COCAM B, Diane Thomas:

Throughout the past year, the members of COCAM B have been visiting with members and congregational leaders of local churches in the Southwest Conference. (See list below.) The purpose of these visits is to reach out to local congregations and to become acquainted with our Southwest Conference congregations.

The members of COCAM B spend time with folks from congregations talking over joys and celebrations as well as challenges and concerns. We have developed some standard questions that often spark enthusiastic conversations. It has been gratifying for our committee members to participate in these conversations about our relationships with other congregations as well as the Southwest Conference.

The past year has taught us that many of our congregations are experiencing the same challenges and concerns, involving aging church populations, financial stress and declining attendance.

Yet at the same time there is a great deal to celebrate as well. We found a creative and exciting spirit among the congregations of our conference. Many of our congregations are exploring alternative worship experiences, expanding their mission by reaching out into local communities, and working together to support and sustain the various ministries of our conference and other UCC churches. An example of this was last year when the four local congregations in Northern Arizona joined together to have a gospel hymn sing on a Sunday afternoon at the Church of the Red Rocks in Sedona. The clergy of these four congregations have begun to meet on a regular basis to offer support for our northern Arizona congregations and toss around ideas for new opportunities to join together for other events.

All of these visits with local congregations have enabled COCAM B members to inform people about the Southwest Conference and to establish very real connections between local congregations and the conference. We found that in some cases, local congregations have not always felt that sense of connection. It’s all about the **interdependence** that we are striving to achieve as the Southwest Conference.

In addition to meeting on a yearly basis with leaders and members of local congregations, COCAM B has also been involved in several support consultations when called upon. This committee is a resource to our churches.

The work of COCAM B continues to evolve and develop as it enters its third year of existence.

It has been a gratifying experience for our members to establish ongoing covenant connections with the congregations in the Southwest Conference.



Committee on Church and Ministry “B” (continued)

**Church Visits by COCAM B Members in 2013:
(Churches not listed will be receiving a visit in 2014.)**

Black Mountain United Church of Christ	Mary Benin
Casas Adobes Congregational Church	Margaret Douglas
Church of the Painted Hills	Margaret Douglas
Church of the Red Rocks	Diane Thomas
Community Congregational Church, Tombstone	Margaret Douglas
Desert Palm United Church of Christ	Mary Benin
Desert View United Church of Christ	Ric Brightman
Faith United Community Church, Dewey	Mary Benin
First Christian UCC/DOC	Margaret Douglas
First Congregational Church, Flagstaff	Diane Thomas
First Congregational Church, Prescott	Diane Thomas
First Congregational Church, Tempe	Mary Benin
Marshallese Ministry of Tucson	Margaret Douglas
Oro Valley United Church	Margaret Douglas
Rincon Congregational Church	Margaret Douglas
Scottsdale Congregational Church	Mary Benin
Shadow Rock United Church of Christ	Diane Thomas
Shepherd of the Hills United Church of Christ	Margaret Douglas
Silver City United Church of Christ	Ric Brightman
South Mountain Community Church	Mary Benin
Sun Lakes United Church of Christ	Mary Benin
The Good Shepherd United Church of Christ	Margaret Douglas
United Churches Fellowship, Nogales	Margaret Douglas
Yuma United Church of Christ	Margaret Douglas



Justice Witness Committee

It is hard to believe that 2013 is over. It seems like nothing happened and then it seems like so much happened.

We continue to work with our brothers and sisters for immigration reform in these United States of America. We need to step up our efforts to get it back on the front burner. Rev. Randy Mayer, Rev. Noel Andersen, and Daniel Rodriguez plus many more are to be commended for the wonderful job they have done. We would also like to thank Larry Trent for all of the work he does for our Justice and Witness Ministries where immigration is concerned.

Justice LED is still something that I would like to see occur in our conference as well as OWL training. These things will hopefully get started sometime this year, 2014.

Justice and Witness Ministries chairperson is now working together with Jo Vredenburg of Desert Palm and Rev. Robert Koth of First Phoenix on different bills going through the legislature. We partnered with the Unitarian Universalists recently to learn about lobbying for what is right. We will continue this fight.

Thank you to all in this wonderful conference. We are led by a truly Amazing God.

Blessings to all as we continue in our fight for human rights, dignity and equality for all of our brothers and sisters regardless of their color, culture, origins, sexuality and all else that people use to divide. There is no room for the hatred we must endure so let us work together to end it.

In God's Service,

Ms. Lauri Hasler, Chair, Southwest Conference UCC Justice Witness Committee



Lay Academy

It has been another exciting year for the Southwest Conference Lay Academy.

We have enjoyed record attendance at 4 of our sessions so far this year, and have in fact grown our total attendance year-over-year.

We have a fair amount of die-hard Lay Academy "Groupies" who have faithfully travelled all over our conference to attend

our programs, but we have also picked up and retained several new attendees along the way. Our session in Las Cruces was attended by someone from every region of the conference, and thanks to a very generous donation at the beginning of this year, we have been able to provide 2 scholarships to every session.

Lay Academy SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE

At the end of each session we send out a survey to gauge our attendees' feedback, and have been able to refine and shape our future sessions based upon that feedback. We've discovered that "Personal Enrichment" and "Fellowship" are the two most popular reasons that people attend the Lay Academy, and that has given us a mandate to focus on creating intimate spaces of extravagant welcome, a top-quality use of time, and to continue offering more interesting and challenging topics.

I'd like to give a special shoutout to Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer, Rita Bourgeois, Conference staff and the congregations of each and every church that have hosted us throughout the year for all their efforts and support; First Christian Church of Las Cruces, Desert Garden in Sun City West, and Casas Adobes Congregational Church in Tucson.

Most of all, I'd like to thank our attendees themselves, without whom, there would be no Lay Academy to speak of.

Our fifth and final Lay Academy of Year Three will be a prayer retreat led by Rev. Sue Joiner at Church of the Red Rocks in Sedona, AZ on May 16-17, and you can register today at our new URL - www.LayAcademy.org.

I'd like to close with some very exciting news, which fulfills an EPIC goal from our strategic planning meeting. Because of our growing success over the last three years, we will be increasing the number of sessions from 5 to 6 in Year Four! We will also organize a clergy event that complements each Lay Academy, giving clergy the opportunity to break open the same information presented to the Lay leaders from around the Conference.

Our topics for Year Four so far are: "Liberation Theology 101", "Religions of the World in our Backyard", "God & Science", "Was Paul Misunderstood?", and "Lost Scriptures: Books that Didn't Make it into the Bible."

Stop by our Lay Academy table to learn more about Year Four and to find out how you and your church can get involved and promote the Lay Academy within your congregations.

Rev. Rock Fremont, Coordinator, Southwest Conference UCC Lay Academy



Youth and Young Adult Ministry

It's been a busy year with the youth and young adults of the Southwest Conference United Church of Christ. Besides our monthly gathering times of first Fridays for young adults, second Saturdays for high school youth and third Fridays for junior high youth at the conference office, we have had many activities and outreach mission projects.

In March 2013 we hosted a booth at Magellan's My Fest at Tempe Beach. My Fest is a celebration of many organizations that help at risk youth and children. We were one of only a few churches in attendance. Hopefully more churches will come on board.

In April the youth were major players in the Annual Meeting closing worship.

In May we had a lock in for Junior High youth to get ready for camp. Camp program staff led the lock in and helped the Junior Highers get excited for their summer adventure.

June was our Stellar Camp in Prescott. Second graders up to graduated high school youth gathered for the week long camp in Prescott Arizona at Emmanuel Pines campground. We had 9 high school program staff, 7 college-aged program staff, 19 counselors, 4 deans, 6 directors, and 2 nurses helped to make camp for 100 campers. We enjoyed an evening of star gazing with professional astronomers from Prescott who brought their telescopes to our camp. Annie Lloyd from Phoenix brought her drumming circle and entourage up to camp to lead us in a very moving drum experience under a full moon.

In July the youth attended the National General Synod in Long Beach, California. This was a really good experience for the youth to witness the United Church of Christ in all of its glory. We were lucky that the General Synod was on the west coast this year.

In August we visited the Bat Cave, went on a haunted tour of downtown Phoenix and spent a night at the "haunted" San Carlos hotel. We also had a white elephant gift exchange as we prepared to send our graduated senior high youth off to college and welcomed our incoming high school freshmen.

In September we toured Sea Life in Tempe. Susan Unmacht and Elias Gonzalez hosted a Day of the Dead craft making night at the Southwest Conference office. We made cigar box shrines! Very cool!

In October we slept in cardboard houses on a very cold baseball stadium field at Cardboard City benefitting Family Promise. Six churches from the Southwest Conference joined together. We also had a pet blessing at the Conference office. Pets were blessed, a beagle led a howling prayer and a miniature horse from the neighborhood enjoyed some hay.

In November we raised funds for the Southwest Conference by goofy golfing at Castles and Coasters, not just one night, but two! We had an Undie Run on Black Friday to support Rebel and Divine. The following morning we made our second annual trip to Ironwood Pig Sanctuary near Piccacho Peak. Five hundred pigs received new blankets to keep them warm this winter.

In December we had our Open House Christmas party for all ages and on New Year's Eve the high school youth safely locked in again at the Southwest Conference office.



Youth and Young Adult Ministry (continued)

Over the 3-day MLK, Jr. weekend, a group of 18 people did mission work at Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Kanab Utah. We drove to Kanab with a group from Albuquerque and one youth from Tucson. It was a glorious trip. We can be very proud of the group and leaders that attended. The animals were cared for, the leadership from Best Friends were exceptional teachers and the drive time proved to be excellent bonding time. Here's hoping we see each other again at camp this year!

We have formed a new Youth/Young Adult Ministry Team. This team will help with more regional events around the Southwest Conference, take on planning and organizing for major events like Thanksgiving Alive and winter and spring mission trips. Members are Kelly Kahlstrom, Matt Baugh, Andria Davis, Chuck Aurand, Alexandria Boice, and Leah McCullough and SWC staff persons, Holly Herman, John Dorhauer and myself.

It is with great gratitude that I want to thank all the youth leaders, helpers, counselors, deans, directors, parents and churches that support our youth and young adult activities.

Yours in Christ,

Ms. Michele Mellott, Youth/Camp Director, Southwest Conference UCC



Beatitudes Campus Report

When Beatitudes Campus was founded by Rev. Dr. Culver “Bill” Nelson and the congregation of Church of the Beatitudes, it was conceived to be a place where older adults could live, learn and grow through all the stages of their lives. Fifty years have passed and our commitment to serve older adults in our community is as vibrant as ever. We are very grateful for our continuing strong partnership with Church of the Beatitudes. Our alliance with the church, from the very beginning, has been transformational for older adults. The church and the campus are bound together by our shared call to serve others in faith. With the full and valued support of that community of faith, we have been able to serve not only the people who call Beatitudes Campus home, but we have been able to open the doors and share our successes with the world. Our founders created a vision so big and so vibrant that it will never truly be finished. Each generation takes up that dream, fine tunes it to meet the circumstances of the day and moves it forward. Our enduring mission to serve older people and their families is at the core of the Beatitudes Campus, and we continue to commit to a model of wellness that focuses on soundness of mind, spirit and body. Although the “ways” we serve have changed over time, the “whys” have not.



Beatitudes Campus has accomplished much this past year. Our efforts and programs earned national recognition when we were awarded the prestigious Public Trust Award for advancing public trust and confidence in aging services from LeadingAge, a national advocacy membership group. The campus was the subject of a 16-page feature article in The New Yorker magazine about our approach to caring for some of our most vulnerable people – those living with the realities of Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of memory and thinking disorders. Beatitudes Campus garnered much attention surrounding our award-winning Comfort First™ dementia care and education program from the Public Broadcasting System, National Public Radio, local television and national radio and newspapers. Beatitudes Campus will be launching the online Comfort First™ dementia care education modules in 2014.

Beatitudes Campus has seen amazing growth in Beatitudes at Home, which began in 2010. This program provides non-medical, in-home companion and personal care services across the campus as well as for older adults in the greater Phoenix area. Last year, Beatitudes Campus launched a new program, Beatitudes Home Health, which serves older adults living at the campus and in the broader community. This new service provides Medicare-certified, licensed home healthcare, including skilled nursing, nursing aid and social work, as well as occupational, speech and physical therapy.

The Beatitudes Community Garden, which is resident inspired and managed, has grown by leaps and bounds. Located on an abandoned alleyway on the east side of the campus, it has transformed into an oasis, with a vegetable garden, an orchard of dwarf trees, a flower garden and waterfall. Much of the food (250 pounds) harvested last year was donated to St. Vincent de Paul and St. Mary’s Food Bank. This past year, the garden received a grant from the American Public Gardens Association to expand and buy supplies for the garden.

In 2011, Beatitudes Campus introduced its signature fundraising event, Power of the Purse. Since its inception, Power of the Purse has raised nearly \$300,000 to serve older adults, provide life-changing support through renovation projects, and help provide quality housing and healthcare for older adults who have outlived their assets, including those living with Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of dementia.



Beatitudes Campus Report (continued)

This past year, nearly 400 guests enjoyed a festive afternoon of fabulous food and fashionable purses. This year's event – the Fourth Annual Power of the Purse – will be held on Sunday, October 12, 2014.

In January 2014, Michelle Just was elected President and Chief Executive Officer at Beatitudes Campus by the Board of Directors. Michelle formerly was senior vice president of health services at the campus. She succeeds Peggy Mullan, who has held leadership positions at Beatitudes Campus for 24 years, most recently as President and CEO since 1997. Michelle has a passion for working with older people, a commitment to Beatitudes Campus and a desire to make a difference in the lives of our residents and in the field of aging services. Michelle is nationally recognized as an innovator in aging services, and she is the perfect person to lead us in our mission.

Beatitudes Campus is grateful for the support and confidence that our community of faith has in us. This community has been part of making our success possible, and, more importantly, this community will be instrumental in building our next generation of success as well.

We invite you to visit and experience Beatitudes Campus and feel the sense of a vibrant community. Please contact Rev. Peggy Roberts, senior vice president of Spiritual Life at Beatitudes Campus (phone 6702-995-6109 or email proberts@beatitudescampus.org).

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Peggy Roberts, Senior Vice President of Spiritual Life at Beatitudes Campus



Arizona Ecumenical Council

This has been a difficult year for the AEC. They have been without a Director for over a year. They are struggling to maintain a financial base to support their mission. The leaders of the Council spent the first part of the year working with a consultant, who helped them identify a strategy for moving forward. There were hard choices to be made, including an option to bring an end to the Council.



After months of meetings with key leaders, the Council voted to spend 2014 reimagining its purpose. They will spend this year organizing listening visits and brainstorming sessions with ecumenical partners throughout Arizona. They will look for clarity around mission and purpose. They will try to identify what the current capacity for funding is. They will also try to build and maintain a structure that both can be sustained by the funding capacity and can support the mission.

At a January meeting of the Board, current President Bishop Eduardo Nevares submitted his resignation. John C. Dorhauer was elected to serve out his term. Nancy Splain, a member of Shepherd of the Hills UCC, has been a Board member throughout the re-visioning process and has contributed greatly to the work being done in this time of transition.

Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer, President, Arizona Ecumenical Council



New Mexico Conference of Churches

New Mexico Conference of Churches

serving the ecumenical ministries of more than 600,000 New Mexicans



Dear Friends,

As we enter the New Year, we at the New Mexico Conference of Churches would like to take a moment to thank you for your support during 2013.

It was an exciting year for the Conference, as we welcomed the Episcopal Church in Navajoland into full membership, celebrated the successful conclusion of the PEP program, and expanded our work with the New Mexico Faith Coalition for Immigrant Justice with the selection of a new grant writer, Mary Beth Howe and program director, Justin Remer-Thamert. We also welcomed the Rev. Melissa Madara to the team as NMCC Communications Director for 2013-2014. In the fall of last year we launched our Congregational Vitality Series, co-sponsored by Called Back to the Well and the Bosque Center, and had an exciting day with the Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber. Your financial support of NMCC made all of this – and much more - possible.

In the coming year we look forward to two visits from Diana Butler-Bass as part of the Congregational Vitality Series. We will also be working closely with the Ecumenical Institute for Ministry to support the needs of lay and ordained congregational leaders. We will be hosting the annual retreat of the State Ecumenical Executives from across the country as well as the National Workshop on Christian Unity. And, of course, as the legislative session gets going in Santa Fe, and Congress begins its work in Washington, D.C., we will be advocating on your behalf with those who are most vulnerable.

Please watch for our monthly email news blast for more information about how you can be a part of these events. If you are not yet on our mailing list email us at nmchurches@gmail.com.

I hope you will continue to support the New Mexico Conference of Churches in 2014 as we seek to faithfully live Jesus' prayer that we all might be one, and I hope to see you at one of the many gatherings throughout the year.

Blessings for the New Year,

The Rev. Dr. Donna L. McNiel
Executive Director



Chapman University

Greetings from your newest and closest United Church of Christ university!

I am very blessed to serve with the United Church of Christ students here on the Chapman campus.

We have just under 100 UCC and Disciples students with us this year and our recruiting for 2014-15 looks very strong. Now we are in the wait and see mode—see who actually chooses to come to Chapman. Now that we are far more selective (over 14,000 applications for about 1,400 spaces) it means that we are accepting students who often have many options for their college careers.



We are pleased to announce that CJ Simonson of Scottsdale Congregational just completed his degree and will receive his diploma in May. And Rachel Anderson of Shadow Rock in Phoenix is in her junior year.

We are quite busy putting the details together for Founders Day, March 13-15. John Dominic Crossan will be offering 5 lectures and our Saturday worship will feature preacher Julian DeShazier of Chicago. Worship will use over 25 students leading worship, offering music and serving. If you have never attended Founders Day, please come some year!

Our office is sponsoring a trip this summer, a religious studies travel course called Celtic and Contemplative Spiritual Tradition. We will have nearly a week in Iona, Scotland, have two days with the labyrinth in Chartres, France and then spend a week at Taizé. No, you may not have my job!

If you know of strong students in your church, please talk to them about Chapman and put them in touch with me or Cisa Payuyo, Associate Director of Church Relations. Our goal is to build leaders who maintain strong connections to the church and to God.

Thank you for being our partners!
Peace,

Rev. Nancy Brink, Director of Church Relations, Chapman University
brink@chapman.edu
714.628.7246



Pacific School of Religion

Pacific School of Religion and its Acting President Steven Sterner send greetings to the Southwest Conference of the United Church of Christ.

Graduates of Pacific School of Religion continue creating transformational change wherever they are: existing faith communities, businesses, families, not for profit organizations, and in public life and institutions. Pacific School of Religion educates and empowers leaders to call the world to live and teach the values of the Gospel.



It's been an exciting year at Pacific School of Religion; we are embracing a new phase of our call to be transforming and transformed. Building on and continuing our call to educate leaders for the existing and emerging church, our new vision calls us to offer spiritual and theological grounding for leaders in the secular world of social transformation as well. As we move forward with our new vision plan, we answer that call.

Certificate in Spirituality and Social Change (CSSC)

We are very excited to announce PSR's new Certificate in Spirituality and Social Change (CSSC). Rooted in praxis and reflection, the CSSC offers specialized training to equip leaders for transformative work - the type of work that calls for a deep spiritual grounding in a process of mutual learning and empowerment. Collaboration among non-profit organizations, social innovators, and faith communities is a crucial aspect of this certificate. The faculty is currently working on a plan for a Master of Arts in Social Transformation to be offered in the Fall of 2015.

The Center for Social and Spiritual Transformation

PSR is proud to launch the Center for Spiritual and Social Transformation (CSST). This new Center is PSR's "hub" for an engaged spirituality, drawing on the insights of social innovators, community activists, faith leaders, and theological educators to shape and sustain the work of changing the world for the common good – a world where all can thrive and flourish.

The Center will provide a space for spiritual renewal and theological reflection, serve as a hub for innovative collaborations between social justice organizations, faith communities and social entrepreneurs, and promote pioneering scholarship at the intersection of theological education and social transformation.

The Center began its work in earnest in late 2013. Programs and initiatives include:

- An inaugural symposium, Extraordinary Callings, on March 7-8, 2014, featuring Dr. Cornel West will catalyze and inspire new partnerships and networks for spiritual leadership and social change.
- Distinctive partnerships among educators and social innovators are already shaping courses, workshops, projects, and collaborative visions for a better world.

For more information: www.psrtransformation.org



Changemaker Fellowship Program Continues in 2014-15

In 2013-14, the PSR Board of Trustees created the Changemaker Fellowship Program as one way of living into our new vision. Approved by the Board in April, our new vision states that PSR will equip leaders who are compelled by their own spiritual formation and practice, who are rooted in Christian theological traditions, and who have the skills to lead justice-driven change in churches, institutions, communities, and individual lives. In this pilot year, PSR provided **one year of free tuition at PSR to 14 promising students of color. Each fellow received 24 free credit hours at PSR in addition to faculty mentorship and immersion learning experiences.**

We will continue this program in 2014-15, by welcoming 15 new fellows, at least 10 of whom will be students of color. The presence of the CMF fellows has transformed the communal and academic life of PSR this year; for the first time in our history a majority of the entering class was composed of people of color. The CMF program brought a strong cohort of social change/justice seeking leaders to campus.

PSR Immersion Update: You Can Join PSR Students and Faculty on Immersion Experiences

Immersive Learning changes the lives of students and faculty and communities. Whether in PSR's two-week local, national and international immersion courses, year-round short-term experiences, self-designed and hybrid immersions, semester-long serving and learning opportunities off from Holy Hill... lives are changed.

There are courses at PSR in every discipline with contextual components and community-driven research. There are students building new relationships and ministries throughout the Bay Area... and far beyond. PSR faculty travel around the world to teach and learn, and serve and lead in faith communities and networks of social change.



Nominating Slate

CLASS	CONTINUING MEMBER	NOMINEE	ASSN	CHURCH	CITY
<u>MODERATOR</u>					
2015	Dana Bender		CAZ	Shadow Rock	Phoenix
<u>MODERATOR-ELECT</u>					
2016		Rev. George Ault	NAZ	Church of the Red Rocks	Sedona
<u>TREASURER</u>					
2016		Phil Ward	CAZ	First Congregational/Phoenix	Phoenix
<u>SECRETARY</u>					
2015	Rev. Rich Doerrer-Peacock		CAZ	South Mountain	Phoenix
<u>EXECUTIVE BOARD (At-Large)</u>					
2015	Rev. Gloria Smith		CAZ	Encanto	Phoenix
	Rev. Ernie Dunn		NNM	St. Paul's	Rio Rancho
	Rev. Jim Meadows		CAZ	First Congregational/Phoenix	Phoenix
2016		Rev. Tyler Connoley	SNM/EP	Silver City UCC	Silver City
		Rob Cass	SAZ	Community Congregational	Tombstone
<u>COMMITTEE ON CHURCH AND MINISTRY- Section A</u>					
2015	Rev. Tina Squire		SAZ	Community Christian	Tombstone
	Rev. Ken Heintzelman		CAZ	Shadow Rock	Phoenix
	Larry Trent		SAZ	Rincon UCC	Tucson
	Rev. Donna Cavedon		NAZ	Red Rocks	Sedona
2016	Rev. Bill Ingraham		NNM	Ch. of the Good Shepherd	Albuquerque
	Pastor Jessie Sustaita		SNMEP	La Trinidad	El Paso
	Diana Winston		CAZ	Scottsdale Cong. UCC	Scottsdale
	Rev. Jayne Hubbard		CAZ	Black Mountain	Scottsdale
2017	Pete Norum		NAZ	First Congregational UCC	Prescott
	David Huisjen		SAZ	Casas Adobes	Tucson
		Rev. David Buss	SAZ	Rincon UCC	Tucson
		Lori Ramsey	CAZ	Beatitudes	Phoenix
<u>COMMITTEE ON CHURCH AND MINISTRY- Section B</u>					
2015	Rev. Diane Thomas		NAZ	Faith Community	Dewey
	Mary Benin		CAZ	Shepherd of the Hills	Phoenix
2016	Margaret Douglas		SAZ	Oro Valley UCC	Oro Valley
	Rev. Sharon Littrell		NNM	St Paul's UCC	Rio Rancho
2017	Rev. Ric Brightman		SNMEP	First Christian	Las Cruces
		Cindy Walley	CAZ	Encanto	Phoenix
<u>NOMINATING COMMITTEE</u>					
2016		Alan Mong	SNMEP	Silver City UCC	Silver City
		Anita Curtis	NNM	St. Paul's	Rio Rancho
		Rev. Albert Wallace	SAZ	Yuma UCC	Yuma
		Debe Knaack	CAZ	First Congregational/Phoenix	Phoenix
		Barbara Nordlund	CAZ	Scottsdale Cong. UCC	Scottsdale
		Sandy Znetko	NAZ	First Congregational/Flagstaff	Flagstaff
<u>PERSONNEL COMMITTEE</u>					
2015	Andy Vera		SAZ	Church of the Painted Hills	Tucson
2016	Rev. Dalene Fuller Rogers		SNMEP	First Christian DOC/UCC	Las Cruces
2017		Robert Kittrell	SAZ	Casas Adobes	Tucson
		Ron Shilling	CAZ	Scottsdale Congregational	Scottsdale



Proposed Change to Bylaws of the SWC

Proposed Change to Bylaws of the Southwest Conference

From the SWC Executive Board

Proposed Bylaw Change to:

Article III Responsibilities of the Southwest Conference

Section G. COMMITTEES

Number 9: Committee on Church and Ministry, Section A

Add paragraph 3 to read:

3. Oversight actions that result in the change of ministerial authorization by the Southwest Conference (SWC) Committee on Church and Ministry A (CoCAM A) are subject to appeal. The appeal will be made to and heard by the Executive Board (EB). The only grounds upon which an appeal can be made will be regarding whether CoCAM A materially departed from the process adopted by the SWC so as to guarantee consistency of policy implementation, control access to confidential and sensitive material, promote information sharing, and minimize politicization of an ecclesiastical authorization matter. Only the minister under review whose authorization status changed as a result of the Committees deliberations may file the appeal. An appeal must be filed within 30 days of CoCAM A's decision. The EB must undergo a full orientation to the process prior to hearing the appeal. Only those members of the EB who are present for the orientation and for the entirety of the hearing for the appeal may vote on the outcome of the appeal. Possible outcomes of the vote include: affirmation that the process used was sufficiently consistent with the one adopted by the SWC; acknowledgement that the process used was in a sufficient way not the one adopted for use by the SWC. If the latter, the EB will direct CoCAM A to reconsider the action, without materially departing from the adopted process, policies, and procedures of the SWC.



2013 Church Contributions

#	Name	Address	OCWM (Basic)	OGHS	CF	NIN	Strength	World	Per Capita	Tvl	Sp/Word	Sow/Seed
15	Iglesia Sin Fronteras	El Paso, TX										
30	First Cong'l Flagstaff	Flagstaff, AZ	1,000.00	654.00	385.00	220.00	117.00	80.00	700.00	70.00		
35	Good Shepherd UCC	Sahuarita, AZ	27,000.00	3,810.00	1,321.00	1,800.00	809.00	3,330.00	2,868.78	285.48		
50	Desert Heritage	Mesa, AZ	875.00	1,093.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		1,100.00			
55	Not Yo Mama's Church		120.00	45.00	0.00	20.00	45.00		20.00	25.00		25.00
60	United Churches Fellowship	Nogales, AZ	1,000.00	60.00	85.00	122.00	59.00	270.00	320.00	32.00		
70	Oro Valley UCC	Oro Valley, AZ	8,000.04	1,090.00	40.00	145.00	249.00	1,500.00	1,127.49			
75	TOX Ministries	Phoenix, AZ	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00					
80	Encanto Community Church	Phoenix, AZ	4,869.68	234.00	150.00	226.00	40.00	1,136.26	470.00	47.00	1,055.10	45.00
85	KTZO		7,000.00	691.00	832.00	590.00	530.00	100.00		307.00		
90	First Cong'l Phx	Phoenix, AZ	12,000.00	916.00	578.00	509.00	215.00		3,070.00			
95	Rebel & Divine (Footsteps)	Phoenix Office	697.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00					
100	South Mountain	Phoenix, AZ	2,711.25	95.00	0.00	105.00	100.00		262.50	26.25		100.00
110	Church of the Beatitudes	Phoenix, AZ	3,168.50	1,512.32	3,541.74	858.50	537.00	2,800.00	3,000.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
115	Shadow Rock UCC	Phoenix, AZ	14,750.00	527.00	540.00	348.00	121.00	1,354.00	3,049.99			
120	Shepherd of the Hills	Phoenix, AZ	9,000.00	2,372.00	879.69	1,408.00	0.00	6,090.00	3,200.80	319.20		
130	First Samoan Cong'l	Phoenix, AZ	2,100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		700.00	70.00		
140	West Cong'l Church	Phoenix, AZ	600.00	126.00	125.00	22.00	58.00		477.00	53.00		
150	First Cong'l Prescott	Prescott, AZ	1,840.00	911.00	1,864.00	665.00	300.00	325.00	1,200.00			
155	Faith United	Dewey, AZ	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	774.00		37.00		
157	Black Mountain	Scottsdale, AZ	500.00	286.00	241.00	122.00	138.00		625.25	45.75		
158	Cong'l Church of the Valley	Scottsdale, AZ	1,500.00	554.00	128.00	260.00	0.00		720.00		2,900.00	
160	Scottsdale UCC	Scottsdale, AZ	16,656.00	647.00	502.00	605.00	230.00		1,350.00			
170	The Ch of the Red Rocks	Sedona, AZ	20,409.00	2,780.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	1,323.00	5,856.00	588.00		500.00
180	Sierra Vista	Sierra Vista, AZ	0.00	1,637.00	610.28	385.00	123.00		765.00	85.00	30.00	
185	Church of Palms	Sun City, AZ	14,513.00	2,864.00	3,335.05	2,080.00	500.00		3,170.00	317.00		1,000.00
190	United Church of Sun City	Sun City, AZ	10,008.00	1,209.00	1,290.00	792.00	298.00	2,187.00	2,520.00	252.00	466.00	363.00
193	Desert Garden	Sun City West, AZ	5,080.00	95.00	2,397.00	1,450.00	0.00		2,600.00	260.00		
195	Sun Lakes	Sun Lakes, AZ	8,501.08	1,285.00	800.00	400.00	425.00	25.00	1,440.00	144.00	300.00	425.00
200	First Cong'l Tempe	Tempe, AZ	500.00	407.00	639.60	422.00	302.00		630.00	63.00		
205	Desert Palm UCC	Tempe, AZ	17,000.04	1,526.93	2,227.00	914.00	653.00	1,502.00	2,189.50	219.50	1,011.00	601.00
207	Marshallese Tempe	Tempe, AZ	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00					
210	Community Cong'l	Tombstone, AZ	700.00	865.24	710.00	625.00	0.00	145.00	300.00		120.00	
220	Casas Adobes Cong'l	Tucson, AZ	13,999.97	1,555.00	1,670.75	2,249.00	603.00	90.00	2,810.03		120.00	310.00
223	Church of the Painted Hills	Tucson, AZ	5,150.00	996.53	828.12	610.32	405.17		900.00	75.00		50.00
240	Rincon	Tucson, AZ	14,500.00	2,142.33	1,977.00	1,292.00	877.00	5,000.00	2,390.00		500.00	927.03
245	Marshallese Tucson	Tucson, AZ	637.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00					
260	First Cong'l UCC-Alb	Albuquerque, NM	9,000.00	872.00	1,030.00	1,046.00	516.00	245.00	2,000.04	300.00		
270	Church of the Good Shepherd	Albuquerque, NM	23,158.36	2,348.00	1,378.00	1,919.00	311.00	1,760.00	1,790.00	179.00	50.00	50.00
280	Iglesia Cong'l Unida	Albuquerque, NM	532.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		125.00	39.96		
290	United Church of Angel Fire	Angel Fire, NM	774.00	1,027.55	0.00	0.00	0.00					
308	First Christian	Las Cruces, NM	1,500.00	775.00	545.00	368.50	0.00		600.00	60.00		
310	United Church of Los Alamos	Los Alamos, NM	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		1,500.00			
315	St Paul's UCC	Rio Rancho, NM	1,000.00	87.00	176.00	112.00	122.00		520.00	25.00		
318	United Church of Santa Fe	Santa Fe, NM	0.00	2,000.00	1,474.00	0.00	0.00	915.00	2,790.80			
323	Silver City UCC	Silver City, NM	465.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00					
325	Desert View UCC	El Paso, TX	930.00	274.00	564.00	243.00	69.10	234.18	480.00	48.00	60.00	
330	Iglesia Cong'l la Trinidad	El Paso, TX	60.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		160.00			
400	Yuma UCC	Yuma, AZ	2,296.58	286.00	163.00	50.00	65.00	65.00	240.00	24.00	17.00	17.00
	Personal Contributions		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.15			300.00	120.00
			269,102.82	40,645.90	33,537.23	22,998.32	8,827.27	31,274.59	60,408.18	3,947.14	7,101.45	4,583.03



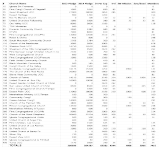
2014 Pledges

#	Church Name	2013 Pledge	2014 Pledge	14 Per Cap	Trvl	SW Mission	Sow/Seed	Members
15	Iglesia Sin Fronteras	0	0	0				0
30	First Cong'l Church of Flagstaff	1000	1050	830	83			83
35	Good Shepherd UCC	27000	28000	2850	285			300
50	Desert Heritage	900	1200	1200				154
55	Not Yo Mama's Church	0	100	120	12	25	25	12
60	United Churches Fellowship	1000	1000	280	28	22	22	28
70	Oro Valley UCC	8000	9000	1180				118
75	TOX Ministries	500	0	0	0			
80	Encanto Community Church	3380	3380	680	68	732		68
85	KTIZO	7000	8000	810				81
90	First Congregational UCC/Phx	12000	12000	2310	231			231
95	Rebel & Divine	455	800	0				248
100	South Mountain Community Church	2769	2784	200	20			20
110	Church of the Beatitudes	3000	3000	3000				678
115	Shadow Rock UCC	14750	14520	4480	0			448
120	Shepherd of the Hills Congregational	9000	9500	2620	262			262
130	First Samoan Cong'l Christian Chuch in Az	2100	2100	700	70			70
140	West Congregational Church	600	600	490	49			49
150	First Congregational UCC/Prescott	1000	1000	1280				128
155	Faith United Community Church	0	0	410	41			43
157	Black Mountain Community	500	565	560	56			63
158	Cong'l Church of the Valley	1500	1500	690				69
160	Scottsdale Congregational UCC	16173	15328	1250		2900		121
170	The Church of the Red Rocks	20000	19500	5900	590			590
180	Sierra Vista Community UCC	0	0	850	85			85
185	Church of Palms	14513	14446	3140	314	1000	1000	314
190	United Church of Sun City	10000	10000	2400	264			277
193	Desert Garden United Church of Christ	0	0	2620	262			262
195	Sun Lakes United Church of Christ	8500	8500	1450	145	300	425	145
200	First Congregational Church/Tempe	0	1000	630	63			63
205	Desert Palm UCC	17000	18000	2190	219	1000	600	219
207	Marshallese Ministry UCC/Tempe	100	200	200				100
210	Community Cong'l	700	700	300		120		69
220	Casas Adobes Cong'l	14000	14000	2910				291
223	Church of the Painted Hills	4800	4800	900		75	50	93
240	Rincon Congregational Church	14500	16000	2480		1000	500	248
245	Marshallese Ministry inTucson	600	600	0				190
260	First Congregational UCC/Alb	9000	9000	2000	300			214
270	Church of the Good Shepherd	20400	22234	2090	209	50	50	209
280	Iglesia Congregacional Unida	500	500	140	40	60		14
290	United Church of Angel Fire	400	300	300				
308	First Christian, Las Cruces	900	1500	625	63			125
310	United Church of Los Alamos	3000	3000	1500				274
315	St. Paul's UCC	1000	1500	350	170	150	150	35
318	United Church of Santa Fe	0	0	2490	249			249
323	Silver City	720	500	200	20	50	50	20
325	Desert View UCC	930	400	220	22			48
330	Iglesia Congregacional la Trinidad	60	60	200		100	60	19
400	Yuma UCC	1770	2000	240	24	24	24	24
	TOTALS	256020	264167	62265	4244	7608	2956	7451



2015 Top Line Budget

Final 2014 Approved Budget for Southwest Conference UCC					
Income	2012 Actual	2013 Budget	2013 Actual	Final 2014 Budget	2015 Top Line
OCWM (Pledged)	265,477	255,000	269,103	264,167	270,000
Per Capita (Pledged)	68,498	62,000	60,628	62,265	62,000
Annual Meeting	18,877	20,000	17,957	18,000	18,000
Interest(Banks, Conerstone, UCF)	3,869	4,000	3,651	4,000	4,000
Undesignated Use/gifts to conference	22,470	20,000	16,031	18,000	18,000
Miscellaneous Revenue	8,623	0	4,722	0	0
Fundraisers	0	10,000	4,937	12,000	12,000
Strength Contribution	5,521	6,000	3,731	5,000	5,000
Transfer from New Church Starts Reserve	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Transfer from Undesignated General Fund	0	4,752	4,752	0	
Rental Income	3,675.00	14,000	16,026.00	18,000	15,000
Conference Income	407,010	405,752	411,538	411,432	414,000
Committees for Conference Ministries	3,710	5,450	3,762	6,950	7000
Conference Life and Ministries	34,932	34,750	34,117	36,470	36000
Church & Ministry Operations Programs	2,756	3,500	3,936	3,750	4000
National & Regional Expense	4,610	5,000	7,541	5,000	5000
Mission	76,560	73,200	75,402	75,041	75000
Administration & Communication	38,277	33,950	34,111	37,400	38000
Building & Equipment Operation	30,054	28,500	25,214	27,500	28000
Called Ministerial Compensation & Benefits	107,809	113,715	113,233	113,927	116000
Office Staff Compensation & Benefits	103,551	107,548	107,437	105,587	107700
Conference Expenses	402,259	405,613	404,753	411,625	416700
Total Income Less Expenses	4,751	139	6,785	(193)	-2700



2014 Budget

Detailed Expenses	2012 Actual	2013 Budget	2013 Actual	2014 Budget	Adj etc
Committees for Conference Ministries					
Church Growth & Development Committee	925	750	1525	1000	
Justice Witness Ministries Committee	470	750	37	500	
Youth/Young Adult Ministry Team	0	250	25	750	
Youth program Misc. Exp	209	250	0	200	
Stewardship/Mission Interpretation	181	200	0	0	
Mission Planning Board/Executive Board	1925	2500	2175	4000	
Financial Oversight & Endowment Committees	0	0	0	0	
Nominating Committee	0	250	0	0	
Personnel Committee	0	500	0	500	
Total	3,710	5,450	3,762	6,950	
Conference Life and Ministries					
Annual Meeting	14061	15000	14448	15000	
Conference Minister's Discretionary Fund	491	500	165	500	
Staff Development & Travel	0	250	51	200	
Conference Minister's Expenses	12430	10000	11611	12000	
Youth Ministry/Camp Travel	0	250	0	200	
Search & Call	0	200	0	0	
Contract Workers	7950	7800	7800	8320	Webmaster \$160/week
Small SWC-sponsored Events	0	750	42	250	
Total	34,932	34,750	34,117	36,470	
Church & Ministry Operations Programs					
Committee on Church & Ministry Meetings	1273	2500	2697	2500	
COCAM Issues/Training Boundary/Polity	1483	1000	1239	1250	
Total	2,756	3,500	3,936	3,750	
National & Regional Expense					
Council of Conference Ministers (Dues)	1110	1500	1454	1500	
General Synod Reserve Expense	3500	0	0	3500	
General Synod Expense (Actual)	0	3500	6087	0	
Total	4,610	5,000	7,541	5,000	



2014 Budget (continued)

Detailed Expenses	2012 Actual	2013 Budget	2013 Actual	2014 Budget	Adj etc
Mission					
National contribution (25% OCWM)	66369	63750	67276	66041	25% of OCWM
Campus Ministry/Conference Pledge	1200	1200	975	1000	
Pacific School Of Religion	250	250	188	250	
Arizona Ecumenical Council	4591	4500	4500	4500	
New Mexico Conference of Churches	3000	3000	3063	3000	
Ecumenical Delegates' Expense	-100	500	110	250	
Interchurch Resource Center	1250	0	-710	0	
Total	76,560	73,200	75,402	75,041	
Administration & Communication					
Accountant Tax Preparation	300	300	300	300	
Accounting/Payroll Service	12000	13,200	13200	13,200	
Books for Office Use	258	200	211	200	
Miscellaneous	166	500	462	500	
Bank Fees	1330	1000	1021	1000	
Audit Reserve Funding	2000	2000	2000	2000	
Office Supplies	3025	3500	3409	3500	
Postage	3093	3500	2877	3000	
Telephone & Internet	3032	3500	3592	3500	
Legal Expenses	0	0	0		
Copier	5011	5500	5581	5500	
Fax Machine..Net of Income	109	250	0	0	
Other Printing	453	500	258	500	
Advertising/Promotion	0	0	1200	1200	
Sabbatical Reserve	7,500	0	0	3,000	
Total	38,277	33,950	34,111	37,400	
Building & Equipment Operation					
Insurance (Property/Liability/Auto/Work Comp)	4605	5000	5859	6000	
Furnishings & Repair	596	1000	170		
Computer/Office Equipment & Repair	4173	3000	3813	2000	new SWC laptop
Office Rent/Mortgage	7294	0	0	0	
Utilities	8032	12,000	8353	12,000	
Property Maint. (Landscape, janitor, upkeep)	4112	6000	6651	6500	
Building Reserve	0	0	0		
Car Maintenance	1,242	1,500	368	1,000	
Total	30,054	28,500	25,214	27,500	



2014 Budget (continued)

Detailed Expenses	2012 Actual	2013 Budget	2013 Actual	2014 Budget	Adj etc
Called Ministerial Compensation & Benefits					
Conference Minister					
Base Salary	45,000	48500	48500	48500	
Housing	25,000	25000	25000	25000	
		0	0	0	
Wage Sub-Total	70,000	73,500	73,500	73,500	
Called Ministerial Benefits-CM					
Health/Dental	21,504	21500	21,814	22000	
Pension/Life & Disability Ins(Pen 14% Dis 1.5%)	10,850	11392	11,104	11104	
Professional Expenses (Bks, Subs, CE)		500	0	500	
Continuing Education	100	1,200	1,192	1,200	
Social Security Offset (7.65%)	5,355	5623	5,623	5623	
Benefits Sub-Total	37,809	40,215	39,733	40,427	
Total Called Ministerial Staff	107,809	113,715	113,233	113,927	
Office Staff Compensation & Benefits					
Office Administrator	39462	41184	41434	41184	(36 hrs/w @ 22/hr)
Asst to Conference Minister	30726	32032	32282	32032	(28 hrs/w @ 22/hr)
Camp Leadership	7000	8000	8000	8000	
Salary Camp Assistant	2,750	2,000	1,350	0	
0	0	0	0	0	
Wage Sub-Total	79,938	83,216	83,066	81,216	
Staff Benefits					
Health/Dental	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	
Pension/Life & Disability Ins(Pen 14% Dis 1.5%)	10,243	10731	10,731	10731	15.5% of Salary
Employer Fica (7.65%)	5,370	5601	5,640	5640	7.65% of Salary
		0		0	
Total Staff	103,551	107,548	107,437	105,587	



Scholarship Request for Travel to SWC Annual Mtg.

_____ I would like to apply for a mileage travel scholarship at the rate of \$.14 per mile up to a maximum of \$125. I drove _____ miles.

OR

_____ I drove a car-pool and would like to apply for a travel scholarship of up to \$200 for actual travel expenses. My gas receipts are attached and total \$_____.

OR

_____ I flew to Annual Meeting and would like to apply for a travel scholarship to offset my plane fare up to \$125. My ticket receipt is attached and totaled _____.

Name: _____

Address _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Send this form plus any required receipts to:

Southwest Conference UCC
917 E Sheridan,
Phoenix, AZ 85006



Volunteer Opportunities

DO YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR SERVING IN THE CONFERENCE?

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Local Church: _____

Please indicate where you would consider serving on behalf of the Southwest Conference:

- as a member of the Mission Planning Board
- on the Executive Board (Position: At Large or Officer)
- as a General Synod Delegate
- as an Annuitant Visitor
- as an Office Volunteer
- on a Ministry Team (please indicate which Team)
 - Justice and Witness Ministries
 - New Church Growth & Renewal
 - Youth & Young Adult

On an elected committee (please indicate which committee)

- Nominating
- Personnel Committee
- Committee on Church and Ministry 'A'
- Committee on Church and Ministry 'B'

Other area of interest _____

Please return this form to: Southwest Conference UCC, 917 E Sheridan, Phoenix, AZ 85006

Because the committees are formed to be diverse in composition, not everyone who volunteers for a committee may be asked to serve in the next round of nominees, but it helps future nominating committees to know of your interest. Ministry Teams are not elected, but rather recruit members based on interest. Your names will be passed on to the chairs of those committees.

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO COMPLETE THIS QUESTIONNAIRE!



SWC Annual Meeting 2014 Evaluation

Please rate the following elements of the 2010 Annual Meeting on a scale of 1 – 4:

1 = Poor 2 = Fair 3 = Good 4 = Excellent

Please continue comments and suggestions on the back if necessary.

FACILITIES

Hotel Accommodations	1	2	3	4
Church of the Beatitudes	1	2	3	4
Beatitudes Campus	1	2	3	4

Comments: (Please identify hotel, if you make a comment) _____

WORSHIP SERVICES

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

Comments: _____

MEALS/Snacks

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

Comments: _____

PROGRAM

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

Comments: _____

BUSINESS SESSIONS

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

Comments: _____

THIS YEAR I ESPECIALLY LIKED: _____

NEXT YEAR I WOULD LIKE TO SEE: _____

Your Name: _____

Your Church: _____

Please return to the Southwest Conference staff at the end of the annual meeting or mail to:

Southwest Conference UCC, 917 E Sheridan, Phoenix, AZ 85006



Communication

STAY CONNECTED • GET INFORMED

Southwest Conference United Church of Christ

Website: www.uccswc.org

Events and news from the Southwest Conference, our churches, the national UCC, a church directory, resources for clergy and church lay leaders, adults & youth, and more.

E-newsletter: *In the Loop*

Delivered to your inbox – news to keep you connected.
To subscribe, on the SWC home page select:



Southwest Conference facebook page

On the SWC home page select:



Southwest Conference radio show

On the SWC home page select:



United Church of Christ

Website: ucc.org

UCC email newsletters: Choose only the emails (below) that you would like to receive at:
http://act.ucc.org/site/PageServer?pagename=UCC_Signup

Keeping You e-Posted:

UCC's weekly, coordinated e-zine distributed each Tuesday.

Stillspeaking Daily Devotional:

Brief uplifting thought, prayer and scripture to begin your day.

Weekly Seeds:

Devotions on Sunday's lectionary readings distributed each Monday.

Justice and Peace Action Network:

Legislative alerts on public policy; news and event opportunities.

Congregational Vitality:

Tips, resources and events for vital congregations.

OGHS Updates:

News from UCC's One Greater Hour of Sharing; disaster updates.

Called Out:

News from the UCC's office for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns.

UCAN Stop AIDS E-News:

News from the UCC HIV and AIDS Network.



In Appreciation and Recognition

SWC Officers 2013-14

Dr. Cary Meister, Moderator, Yuma UCC, Yuma, AZ

Dana Bender, Moderator Elect, Shadow Rock UCC, Phoenix, AZ

Alan Cochrane, Treasurer, Church of the Beatitudes, Phoenix, AZ

Rev. Rich Doerrer-Peacock, Secretary, South Mountain Community Church, Phoenix, AZ

The Southwest Conference, United Church of Christ, expresses its grateful appreciation to the officers named above and also to ...

- The Planning Committee: Dr. Cary Meister (SWC Moderator), Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer (Conference Minister), Rev. Dr. Don Longbottom (Pastor, Church of the Beatitudes), Rev. Peggy Roberts (Chaplain, Beatitudes Campus), Lorin Gossie (Local Arrangements Chair), Pat Ezerski (Beatitudes Administrator), Holly Herman (SWC), Peggy Ice (SWC), and Barbara Decker (SWC)
- Andria Davis, Church of the Beatitudes Youth Director and coordinator of Annual Meeting Youth Event
- Pastor Jane Cheek (New Delegate Orientation), and Lisa Roger (graphic design)
- Lori Ramsey (Beatitudes Moderator) and David Price (Beatitudes Moderator-Elect)
- Rev. Damond Jackson, SWC Intern for New Church Development and Saturday afternoon Preacher
- Host churches, Church of the Beatitudes and the Beatitudes Campus, "UCC Store" minders, AV technicians, custodians, all the cookie bakers, servers, drivers, singers, poster makers, and go-fers that make the Annual Meeting run smoothly
- Joe Kane, Campus Catering Service, and all the servers and kitchen staff
- Office helpers: Doris Joppe, Dick Kenyon, Donna Gentry, Patty Lantrip, Kitty Byrne, Barbara Nordlund, Jim and Carol Gross
- Mr. Mark Clark, Parliamentarian
- All the nominees who have graciously agreed to serve the SWC in the coming years
- All the workshop presenters—thank you, thank you!
- Our SPECIAL GUESTS: Andy Lang (Director, UCC Coalition) and John Jacob Dorhauer (musician, songwriter)
- Joel Rinsema, Church of the Beatitudes Music Director and coordinator of Jazz Ensemble
- The SWC Youth and SWC Delegates and Visitors who participated in the Arizona Moral March on Saturday

All of YOU who attended the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Southwest Conference.

Without you there is no Conference!

Sincere apologies to anyone inadvertently missed. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU!!