

Southern Association Fall Meeting
October 16, 2016
Community Congregational Church, Pacific Beach
2088 Beryl St.
San Diego 92109-3403

Churches Present: (10) Alpine Community, Community Congregational of Chula Vista, Escondido UCC, La Jolla Congregational, Mission Hills UCC, Community Congregational Church of Pacific Beach, Pioneer Ocean View UCC, Community Church of Poway, United Church of the Valley, University City United Church

Delegates Present: 27

2:30 PM Registration and Social Time

3:00 PM Welcome- Moderator (Elvin Harrison) led in Opening Prayer

Special Music Ministry by vocalist Kim Walker, a friend of Elvin's, gave soulful renditions of "I'm Still Here by the Grace of God", and "His Eye is on the Sparrow".

Clergy Recognition: David Shaw, Chair of the Church and Ministry Committee

5 years: Kelli Parrish Lucas

10 years: Fiatoa

15 years:

20 years:

25 years: Elvin Harrison

40 years: Steve Meinike

45 years: Richard Freeman

55 years: Lee Fredrich, Hugh

60 years: David Plank

Disaster Preparedness Presentation: Jane Renninger Conference Disaster Response Team
Coordinator

Jane has been the Volunteer Coordinator since 2005. The Guidance Team Interfaith Council for Disaster Preparedness has been restored. Fires, Earthquakes, Health Crisis, Terrorist Attacks, Tsunami, Safety from shooters, cyber-attacks, education and training is needed in churches. Each church should have a Disaster Response Team. Each church pre-school should have a Disaster Response Team. The National UCC website has templates for a Disaster Response Preparedness Team (DRPT). DRPT printed packets were handed out at one per church. University City United Church (UCUC) has had an active DRPT since 2010. There are 16 team members that meet twice a year. The Team has assembled emergency supplies such as food, water, tents, and medical supplies, has conducted safety drills and evacuation drills. Each member is in charge of the phone tree for their neighborhood. There is a map that shows

where congregant lives. To plan an evacuation drill for the church let people know through the church newsletter what month but not which Sunday the drill will occur. Everyone cooperated in the drill. UCUC held a DRPT forum for the neighborhood with a speaker from the Red Cross. Coordinate with neighboring churches for drills. Know where members live so they can be helped in a crisis.

There is a growing threat from Cyber-attacks and active shooters. Law Enforcement Agencies recommend that churches be vigilant, not passive. Jane recalled a time at UCUC when a man walked in and started shouting at the preacher. Fortunately the man was taken out of the church before there was an incident. Educational programs in the church could include topics of issues of domestic violence, terrorism, and threats based on theology.

“If you see something, say something”. Develop communication procedures that will keep the church safe. Pay attention to the behavior of people that attend church services. Surveillance cameras could be placed around the church. 51% of church fires are arson. A workplace violence policy is needed.

40,000 websites are breached every day, does your church have Cyber Insurance? To protect your church change passwords frequently, and clear the cache. For more information check out the Homeland Security, Red Cross, County, and UCUC websites.

Have an Endowment set up at the church to help finance emergency supplies. Have a representative from N.A.M.I. come to the church to give information on helping people with mental illnesses.

On October 27 at La Mesa LDS church an Interfaith Council Disaster Response Training will take place.

Business Meeting

A quorum was established. The minutes from the Spring Meeting in February were approved, **MSC**. The Transfers of Standing of Courtney Mys and Steve Swope were accepted, **MSC**.

- **Treasurer Bob Poor:** Budget Presentation. The proposed budget sheet for 2017 was handed out. The 2017 Budget for the Southern Association was approved, **MSC**.
- **Moderator:** Elvin Harrison written report
- **Church and Ministry:** David Shaw
 1. There is a change of IRS rules for part time church employees, called the Fair Labor Standards Act. A report from Church West Insurances Services of 2 pages was handed out describing the new rule. Part time staff are non-exempt and will need to use time cards. If someone makes \$47,000 or less they are non-exempt. It is best to go to an hourly wage. Church West is sponsoring an H.R. event on October 25 at College Avenue Baptist Church from 9am-3pm.
 2. The Conference is looking at requiring Commissioned, Ordained, and Licensed Ministers to do C.E.U.s. There will be more discussion on the topic at the Spring Annual Meeting.

Conference Update: Rudy Van Graan

1. Rudy brought greetings from the Conference Office personnel. The work load of the Conference is divided up. Felix is the Conference Minister and works with the Eastern Association. Libby works with the Central and Northern Associations, and also in the “Communities of Practice”, a support group for Chaplains. Rudy works with the Southern Association, Youth and Volunteer Ministries, P.A.M., and Samoan Ministries. Rudy emphasized that churches need to be in Covenant, to work as one team sharing prayer concerns and happenings.
2. A new edition of the Manual of Ministry (MOM) is being produced. New church profiles will need to be done for each church. The profile would include the mission and vision for the church and will need to be updated every 3 to 5 years. The Authorized Ministry 21 Conference in San Antonio is where the new MOM will debut. There will be 4 events from the National Office in different parts of the country to introduce the new edition of MOM. The event in Denver in September is the closest one to us.
3. There will be a Transitional Ministry retreat in February 2017 to discuss what is Transitional Ministry.
4. Churches in Transition:
 - La Mesa: Paula Elizabeth is serving as Interim Minister.
 - Alpine: They are continuing their search for a new Minister. Pam Price asked for assistance for Call Agreements. There are Call Agreement templates online.
 - Murrieta: starting a search for an Interim Minister. The D.O.C. is in charge of the search.
 - La Jolla Congregational: Pastor Sam Greening has resigned as of Oct.16 due to family issues. Jackie Ritz is the moderator for the church and will be searching for an Interim Minister.
 - Pacific Beach UCC is in transition. There will be a church meeting on Oct. 23 to call Elvin Harrison as the settled Pastor or begin a search committee.

Offering: will go to the Scholarship Fund for M.I.D.s, and seminary students.

Closing Prayer: Dick Duncan