

BERKELEY COVENANT CHURCH
MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING — 30 January 2005 (unapproved)

Chair Rich Rhodes called the meeting to order at 1:11 p.m. Twenty-five members and four friends signed the attendance roster, counting three friends who were admitted to membership during the meeting. A time of prayer followed.

MINUTES — We approved the minutes of the 12 September 2004 quarterly business meeting.

NEW MEMBERS — The recommendation to accept new members was presented by the board. It was M/S/C (for each in turn) to accept the following into membership: Ingrid Ximena Bill-Zubieta, Vicky Brodt, Candace Martinez, and Lynn Wollitzer.

TREASURER'S REPORT — Treasurer Peter de Laveaga presented his written report. He said that the church's finances were about the level he expected. He expressed some **concern**, because although November and December were historically the biggest months for giving, this year there had been no end-of-year appeal (because it was the middle of the fiscal year). The 2004-05 fiscal year's offerings were buoyed by a large one-time gift in July, so that we were currently \$12,561 in the black. He said he expected some of our expenses to be below budget.

STEWARDS — John Kroeker reported several items: The clothes **dryer** in the apartment had a new exhaust system; there was a new **refrigerator** in the church kitchen; and a new type of waterproofing had kept the **tower** relatively dry. Others mentioned that the balcony **speakers** were now working and that the fireside room had a new **carpet**.

INTERCESSORS — Rich reported the following:

- The shepherds were now called the *intercessors*.
- They were **meeting** on the first Monday evening of each month.
- **John Kolasa** had joined them.
- They had formed subgroups to pray for **special needs**.
- Peter announced that the board had appointed **Jeremy** to the intercessors.

It was asked whether any **answers to prayer** could be reported. Rich answered that some situations were confidential, but that there were signs of hope. Another person reported that Pam & Steve Stanley's relationship had grown stronger during the hardships of Pam's medical problems.

LOCAL SOJOURNERS — Allison de Laveaga said they had been meeting on the third Thursday of each month. The past quarter centered around the **advent dinner**, the hosting of the dinner by small groups had gone well. She said they were sensing a change of direction, to involve **local ministry** in connection with an existing ministry, such as Harbor House, Martin Luther King Middle School, or Mustard Seed Preschool.

WORLD SOJOURNERS — Ann Moriarty reported the following:

- They included Carole Cool, Ann and Kent Moriarty, and Rich Rhodes.
- They were excited about Gary and Mary **Gates**'s visit the past Sunday 23 January as a ministry to the Gateses and to us.
- During February, Father Ben Beltran would bring a troupe of thirteen **youth dancers** from the Smoky Mountain slum of Manila, Philippines, to Berkeley. He might speak at BCC on Sunday 13 or 20 February. Hosts were still being sought to house the dancers.

SEEDS — Andrew Wollitzer said that they would be working on **caring** for the small group leaders. They would launch a monthly meeting for this purpose on Sunday 6 March.

PASTOR'S REPORT — Pastor Al thanked us for our support during his (essentially completed) Ph.D. program. He said this had been a hard quarter but he listed rays of hope:

- Alice and Nick Fawzi's **wedding**;
- A new committee carrying out **acts of mercy** (such as meals): Sharon Colbert, Carole Cool, Jo Ann Moseley, and Evelyn Kroeker.
- The **membership orientation weekend** reminded Al of the ways BCC had touched people now and over the decades.
- There seemed to be an increased **awareness of newcomers** when they visit.
- **Unchurched youth** in the youth groups were growing in curiosity about God.
- The **Uncharted Waters class** about discipleship after college.
- **Father Ben** Beltran's coming visit.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT — Royce reported the following:

- The **Joyful Noise youth choir** were beginning to work together. Five people volunteered today to replace the two adult helpers who didn't come today.
- **Crazy Club** was going on.
- BCC can help with Mustard Seed Preschool through the **Family Nights**.
- Jeremy had taken another job so was no longer serving the **front office**. Sarah Jorgensen would begin full-time work in the front office beginning 1 February. Starting 1 May, Peter would train Sarah as church bookkeeper.

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE'S REPORT — Andrew reported the following:

- He said **junior high** group was a "neat time". The group had grown since last year; now there were eight to ten kids. Volunteer staff were requested; just showing up would make a difference.
- Pastor Al reported that the **high school** ministry was partnering with Young Life in a Tuesday evening club. This was an opportunity to have a group of a more effective size and also to learn about reaching unchurched kids. He noted that not all our high schoolers were involved in the group and wondered how to minister to all of them.
- Pastor Al said that after four kids went through the **confirmation** curriculum incompletely, discussions were held with parents, and the decision was made that there would be no formal confirmation this time.
- A **youth program director** was sought (somewhat like Laurie Fiddes's role as children's program director).
- Andrew said his youth ministry limited his involvement in **college ministry**. Tom Burnett, Alice and Nick Fawzi, Joshua and Melissa Moritz, and Bruce and Leanne Wydick were anchoring the college ministry. The students and their groups had grown in depth if not in numbers.

- The **Uncharted Waters conference** on 29 January had good quality and was received well.
- A small **supportive group** had spontaneously gathered around one of the students in need.
- A **study series** on the Apostles' Creed was coming.

GIFT TO PASTORS — Rich presented a collective gift from the congregation for Al, Royce, Andrew, and their wives. He said that gift certificates would also be presented to Jeremy and to Sarah.

BYLAW AMENDMENT — Peter presented (in writing) the following bylaw amendment recommended by the stewards: to amend Article IV (Board of Elders), Section 4 (Responsibilities), subsection q to read

Secure congregational approval for the following: (1) call of all full-time ministerial staff; (2) the annual budget; and (3) any non-budgeted expenditures exceeding 2% of the annual expense budget; (4) total non-budgeted expenditures in one fiscal year exceeding 5% of the annual expense budget.

The amendment had also been presented in writing at the 27 January board meeting. The amendment would be considered at the next quarterly congregational business meeting.

COMMITTEES AND DELEGATES

- We appointed the following to the **nominating committee**: (from the board) Larry Cool and Royce; (non-board) Carole Cool, Jim Hager, and Melissa Moritz. We appointed Andrew as alternate in case Jim could not serve.
- We appointed Allison as a delegate to the annual meeting of the **Pacific Southwest Conference**. She would serve with Royce, our conference liaison.
- We appointed Pastor Al and Janice our delegates to the **Covenant annual meeting** in Keystone, CO, June 22-24, with Royce as alternate.

Pastor Al closed the meeting in prayer at 2:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Davidson
Secretary