

Northwest Regional Christian Church Special Assembly  
May 21-23, 2010, Spokane, Washington

## Minutes

The Regional Assembly of the Northwest Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was convened at North Hill Christian Church in Spokane, Wash., on May 21, 2010. The assembly was opened by Cherilyn Williams, regional moderator. Attendance reached 184. Forty-one congregations were represented.

The assembly was hosted by three Spokane congregations: Country Homes, Covenant and North Hill, under the theme "Poured Out in Mission"

Opening worship featured an address by Eliacin Rosario-Cruz from Mustard Seed House in Seattle. An offering of \$1363 was collected for Gwinwood Conference Grounds at Lacey, Yakama Christian Mission at White Swan and Zephyr Conference Center at Liberty Lake. A Pentecost offering at the closing worship service for new congregations totaled \$1011.81.

In the business session on May 22, led by Cherilyn Williams, regional moderator:

1. **Greetings** were brought from the wider church, including:
  - The wider church represented by Rev. Ken Colman, Renton United Christian Church
  - Disciples' general minister and president, Rev. Sharon Watkins
  - Pacific Conference of the United Church of Christ, Mike Denton, conference minister
  - Washington Association of Churches, Alice Woldt, executive director
  - Church World Service, Lynn Magnuson, regional director
  - Disciples Seminary Foundation, John Rodenberg, development officer
  - Northwest Christian University, Bill Jennison and David Wilson, president
2. **Reports** presented by various groups are found in the assembly program book.

Of special note was Cherilyn's commendation of the Christian Women's Fellowship for its gift of \$15,000 to be used for the region's global mission partnership. The 2009 special assembly voted to become a global mission region.

In addition to her written report, Sandy Messick, regional minister, outlined several areas of work to strengthen, including:

- Area clusters and gatherings
- Support for pastors through a regional elders program
- Conversations between the Disciples' region and the Pacific Conference of the United of Christ on joint ministries
- Conversations with ecumenical organizations and other regions
- The region's global mission partnership, including a possible people-to-people pilgrimage

### **3. Nominating Committee Report**

Gary Shoemaker, committee chair, presented the list of candidates. The floor was opened for nominations to the board from the southwest and central areas. Moved by Gary Shoemaker, seconded by Redhawk Rice-Sauer and approved unanimously by the assembly that the following be regional leaders for the next two years:

#### **Executive Board**

|                                  |                           |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Board moderator:                 | Debbie Little, Bremerton  |
| Board moderator-elect:           | Stewart Sharpe, Kennewick |
| Mission Council Moderator:       | Wahab Baldwin, Seattle    |
| Mission Council Moderator-elect: | Terrie Roberts, Spokane   |
| Board Treasurer:                 | Debbie Jennison, Spokane  |
| Board Secretary:                 | Lillian Moir, Bellingham  |

#### **Regional Board Area Representatives**

|            |                           |                        |
|------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| East:      | Larry Burnley, Spokane    |                        |
| East:      | Ron Koontz, Coeur d'Alene |                        |
| Central:   | Ed Martin, Yakima         | (nominated from floor) |
| Northwest: | Marietta Tower, Seattle   |                        |
| Southwest: | Miguel Rivera, Tacoma     |                        |
| Southwest: | Sandra Kortam, Bremerton  | (nominated from floor) |

#### **General board Representative:**

Edie Rice-Sauer, Spokane

#### **Committees, Commissions and Task Groups**

|                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Nominating Committee Chair:     | David Helseth, Yakima       |
| Communication Chair:            | Tamalyn Kralman, Bellingham |
| Technology Chair:               | William Boyd, Seattle       |
| Property Chair:                 | Bill Jennison, Spokane      |
| Personnel Chair:                | Ken Colman, Renton          |
| Commission on Ministry Chair:   | Kathy Helseth, Yakima       |
| Commission on Ministry Members: | Steve Coleman, Mount Vernon |
|                                 | Bill Bailey, Seattle        |
|                                 | Barbara Davidson, Tacoma    |

Continuing members of the regional board and Commission on Ministry are listed in assembly the program booklet.

At the conclusion of the business session, the regional minister presented gifts of bells from the International Center of Bethlehem (Dar Annadwa) to Larry Burnley, Saturday speaker; John Bristow, leader of the Sunday Bible study; and Janie Selley, assembly planner and her committee members. Leaders of interest groups received their bells in their workshops.

Retiring board members who were honored were David Moffitt, Port Angeles; Barbara Reynolds, Olympia; and Laurie Clark-Strait, Coeur d'Alene. Transition team members who were recognized for their service were Edie Rice-Sauer, chair; Debbie Jennison, Spokane; Jo Gusftason, Seattle; Justin Umbright, Seattle; Miguel Rivera, Tacoma; Cherilyn Williams, Tacoma; Bill and Connie Robey, Puyallup; Wahab Baldwin, Seattle; and Laurie Clark-Strait, Coeur d'Alene.

Amber Saladino, the region's officer manager, was thanked for her work, especially for organizing on-line registrations for the assembly and other events. Cherilyn Williams and Edie Rice-Sauer were thanked for their work with the transformation and transition teams.

A litany for outgoing and incoming regional leaders was led by Cherilyn Williams, outgoing moderator.

Submitted by Lillian Moir  
Board Secretary