

# MINUTES

Northwest Regional Board Meeting, October 16, 2009

The Northwest Regional Christian Church regional board gathered at First Christian Church in Tacoma on October 16, with Cheryl Williams, moderator, chairing the meeting.

Attending were:

Officers: Cheryl Williams, moderator  
David Moffitt, vice-moderator  
Lillian Moir, secretary  
Debbie Jennison, treasurer  
Sandy Messick, regional minister and president

Members:	Dixie Carringer	Barbara Reynolds
	Jim Harwood	Gary Shoemaker
	Jong Hong	Ronna Smith
	Debbie Little	

Absent were David Helseth and Lauri Clark Strait.

Sandy Messick opened the meeting with devotions based on the call to Abram in Genesis 12 and “Wangari’s Trees of Peace”, a story from Kenya.

## 1. Regional Minister’s Report

Sandy highlighted a number of items from her written report sent via e-mail to board members. These included the need for better communication and sharing what is happening in congregations via Northwest Passage, boundary training for clergy in the region and the May 2010 regional assembly. See the full report for additional details.

## 2. Moderator’s Report

Cheryl read the resignation letter from Carol Rawlings who had been serving on the board of the Washington Association of Churches.

The moderator also focused on stewardship efforts, including presentations on regional ministries with congregations by board members and the request that board members contribute to the annual stewardship fund, “Connecting with Mission.” Pledges need to be paid by the end of the year.

## 3. Budget Discussion

Debbie Jennison led the discussion and the subsequent cuts in various line items. The final budget of \$247,109 was approved unanimously by the board, although the expenses are expected to be \$6,899 over the anticipated income of \$240,210. Moved by Ken Colman and seconded by Ronna Smith.

Other discussion regarding the budget included:

- Sending a letter from Sandy to congregations on where the money goes, such as camps, new congregations and the search and call process.
- Joining the Pacific conference of the United Church of Christ in a session on boundary training for clergy, to be held in April, with a separate session in western Washington possibly in September. The board noted that the region needs parallel policies for lay volunteers, camp counselors, etc.
- Learning that a committee is in place to look at all issues related to location of the regional office.
- Approving unanimously the suggesting that congregations be encouraged to donate to field expenses of the regional minister to offset some of the costs and to enable other congregations may receive a visit. Moved by Gary Shoemaker and seconded by Ken Colman.
- Setting up a “Christmas in July” offering, with a DVD to be shown with a message from Sandy and activities of congregations, camp programs, etc.

The meeting was closed by Lillian who shared a prayer from the United Congregational Church of Southern Africa, one of the Global Mission Partners.