

BERKELEY COVENANT CHURCH
MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING — 30 September 2006 (unapproved)

Chair Peter de Laveaga called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Thirty-two members and five friends signed the attendance roster. Pastor Andrew led a time of singing.

PASTOR ROYCE'S DEPARTURE — Pastor Royce told us of the process that led to his being called to be the senior pastor at East Bay Free Methodist Church. He would begin serving there in January 2007. He said this was a difficult time to leave service at BCC as his personal relationships with us were maturing. Peter led us in prayer for Royce and Terri.

MINUTES — We approved the minutes of the 25 June 2006 annual meeting with these corrections:

- In the leadership team report, insert the word “*good*” before “things are coming to BCC”.
- In the paragraph on the pastoral search committed, change “warned as” to “warned *us*”.

PASTORS' REPORTS — **Pastor Andrew** referred us to his annual report. He repeated his assessment that good things were coming to BCC. Despite missing Pastor Al Tizon and anticipating the loss of Pastor Royce, he remained excited about what God had been doing and was still doing. He mentioned the following:

- **Seeds:** People were caring for one another in our **small groups**.
- **College students** expressed their loyalty to BCC by becoming members even after Pastor Al had announced his plans to leave.
- **Youth group:** Corrie Tizon's friends were persisting in coming even after she left.
- There isn't such a thing as an “interim church”.

Pastor Royce listed three strengths of BCC:

- BCC is a sending church, strengthening and encouraging Christians who go to serve elsewhere.
- BCC has several young families with children.
- BCC has an active ministry with college students and other young people.

He mentioned some points relating to our current transition:

- **Children's ministries** were in good hands with Laurie Fiddes and Vicky Brodt.
- He was giving a list of **administrative tasks** to Nimota Abina, receptionist.
- Glen Woodfin would be taking leadership of the Gold **music team**, while Philippe Wingender would continue to lead the Blue team in Leanne Wydick's absence. There now had been five recent departures from the Gold team.
- Prayers were needed for our most **elderly** members. The memorial service for Alice Berggren was to be announced.

CHAIR'S REPORT — Peter mentioned the following:

- The 2005-06 **board retreat**, held at the home of Bruce Wydick's parents, had been a rewarding time of bonding. Instead of having someone cook for them, the elders cooked for one another.
- Peter found it a great encouragement when the **new members** joined BCC, expressing hope in BCC's immediate future despite Pastor Al's departure.
- God was doing good things for **Royce**, not at BCC's expense.
- The **leadership team** were considering how to accomplish necessary tasks with our reduced staff: should we hire part-time workers or an interim copastor?

TREASURER'S REPORT — Larry summarized a few points from his written report (bound with the annual report):

- 2005-06 had ended with a net deficit of around \$10,000 (as compared to an \$18,000 deficit projected at the June 2006 annual meeting). He said this relatively **small deficit** should not be considered unusual. In answer to a question, he explained that this operating deficit meant the church's net worth shown in the balance sheet (the "retained earnings") was reduced by that amount as the 2006-07 books were opened.
- **Mustard Seed Preschool** had completed 2005-06 "fantastically". Their net income was \$45,000 above the plan. Some of their surplus had been spent.
- Larry said thanks were due to God, for again meeting our needs faithfully!

Larry answered questions:

Q: How is the treasurer's **job** going? Larry: The first part of the 2005-06 year was discouraging, as both Larry and Sarah Jorgensen (receptionist and bookkeeper) learned the tasks. Laurie Fiddes began as bookkeeper in Spring 2006 and is now enjoying the job somewhat.

Q: What is preschool budget line 6090? Larry: The Mustard Seed Preschool committee used some of the **surplus** for bonuses and some for a contribution to Little Sprouts Preschool. They contributed \$12,000 to a capital improvement fund shared with BCC, twice their annual pledge.

Q: Are preschool scholarships also paid with some of the surplus? Larry: Yes, based on need.

Jo Ann Moseley (member of the preschool committee) pointed out the committee's practice is to be prudent by paying for these extra items at the end of the year after the money is in hand, rather than to take a risk by pledging the money before it arrives.

"23" ADULT EDUCATION — Karen Davidson said that the adult classes were taking a break, waiting for God to provide a teacher. Some had suggested a regular time of prayer during the "23" hour (9:00 a.m. each Sunday); a leader was needed.

YOUTH MINISTRIES — Linda Nouem reported the following:

- She had gotten to know the youth in the **junior high and high school groups**.
- The **tutoring** program, originally on Tuesdays and Thursdays, was now on Thursdays only.
- Volunteer **helpers** were welcome.

LOCAL SOJOURNERS — Allison de Laveaga reminded us that the Local Sojourners were working to keep BCC in touch with **local ministries**. On October 3 Tom Cowley (Allison's father) would present a seminar on his book, *A Biography of Jesus*, at Allison and Peter's home.

WORLD SOJOURNERS — Ann Moriarty reported that their meeting on the previous Thursday had been a good time of prayer. She said the church profile (developed by the pastoral search committee, based in part on a congregational survey) indicated that BCC rated world mission as an important purpose. The World Sojourners wanted to be more of a support for our missionaries, and to provide opportunities for **encouragement and communication** between BCC and our missionaries. The World Sojourners had addresses and missionary letters available so we could contact our missionaries. She said that most of BCC's world mission outreach had come from individuals, not from committees and a structure.

PASTORAL SEARCH AND TRANSITION — Ann reported from the search committee:

- She had not been worried, but felt peace during BCC's transition period.
- She didn't know how long the pastoral search would take. They expected to issue the completed church **profile** during October. The committee would soon receive some resumés to consider.

Q: Is the church profile private? Ann: No. They will announce it when it becomes available.

Q: How many BCC pastors have been chosen from outside the Covenant? A: Only Pastor Al, to our memory.

Q: What will be the effect of Pastor Royce's departure? Will Pastor Andrew be doing the preaching?
Peter: The leadership team (Peter, Joshua Moritz, and Pastor Andrew) will be discussing the immediate future. I (Peter) anticipate that Andrew will preach no more than twice per month. The board has affirmed that Andrew will continue on staff even after the hiring of a senior pastor. I don't know whether we will seek a third member for the pastoral staff.

Comments by others:

- There is strength in BCC. We can still move; we need not just wait.
- BCC moved ahead during the transition before Pastor Max Lopez-Cepero came in 1987.
- Ann: What is the best way for the pastoral search committee to communicate with the church?
A: Via email broadcasts; monthly announcements during Sunday worship; and printed matter.

STEWARDS REPORT — John Kroeker mentioned that window coverings for the sanctuary had been intended at one time; help and leadership were needed to make the project go forward. Another project (also needing leadership) might be to install cushions on the pews or to replace the pews with chairs.

Larry Cool reminded us that the Stewards had overseen the renting of the **1540 Ada Street** house to Leslie Sanders, Dean Scrimgeour, Philippe Wingender, Adrienne Wollitzer, and one other person. Larry thanked God for the blessings of housing and of outward ministry afforded by this house.

LIBRARY — Carole Cool encouraged us to enter and to use the library. New books were being added from time to time. Discarded and duplicate books were occasionally offered for sale.

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE — Steve Blankespoor said they had drafted a mission statement and a **procedures** document. He, Carole, and Melissa Moritz (the members of the committee) had been meeting with Andrew and Royce and had been praying for them. They had been meeting every six weeks as a committee.

Their goals were to support the pastoral staff, to facilitate communication, and to establish a procedure for an annual review. The committee were available to relay affirmations to the staff. They could also be contacted in case of a conflict that could not be resolved directly.

Peter reminded us that Steve (as church vice chair) was chair of the committee. Peter announced that the board had appointed Melissa to fill the board seat on the committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Carole and Jeanne Pfeuffer would lead the monthly Pray-the-Bay **prayer meetings** while Mary Rhodes was in Austria.
- Vicky Brodt asked us to inform her of **bulletin announcements** by Friday each week.

Pastor Andrew closed the meeting in prayer at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Davidson, Secretary