2015 Fall Conference Minutes

The official Fall Conference for the Brush Creek USA Mission Center convened at 1:25 pm, on Saturday October 18, 2014. The conference sang CCS 592 “Hark! The Voice of Jesus Calling”, followed by a prayer of invocation by Evangelist Richard Switzer.

Brush Creek Mission Center President Joan Munter called the meeting to order.

Joan first called attention to the minutes from the 2013 BCMC Conference that were printed on page 5 in the 2014 booklet. Joan noted one error on page 8 of the booklet:

The priesthood call for Mary Chandler as listed in the minutes should be reported as Deacon, rather than Priest.

No other corrections were offered. The minutes were approved as amended.

Joan then called attention to the June 15, 2014 Special Conference minutes, printed on page 10 of the 2014 booklet. These minutes were approved as printed.

Joan offered appreciation to the Salem congregation, for providing their building, setting up, and enabling us to have our gathering here.

The conference sang together a new song CCS 582 “You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore”.

Joan then directed the attention of the conference to a priesthood call for Ann Schwengel to serve in the office of High Priest.

Joan shared: The High Priest is a minister of vision. This call has been made known repeatedly, but most strongly in the past couple of years. Joan asked Apostle Barb Carter to take the call to the World Church Leadership Council. She offers this call with no doubts about the divinity of the call.

Ann shared the discomfort of leaving her “small boat” (See CCS 582), but with the assurance that God goes with her, as she accepts the new call. Ann shared:

“I will strive to continue to grow in my role as a servant minister, as well as to continue to develop my discipleship to carry out the mission of this call.”

Joan invited others to share testimony of the divinity of this call. Testimonies were shared by Karen Witts, Louetta Smith, Marvin Kleinau, Chris Ober, Bill Morris, and Jane Knapp. The conference voted to support this call for Ann.
Ann will begin her studies and preparation, and we’ll plan an ordination service in the future.

Joan turned the chair over to Michele McGrath, Apostolic Assistant.

Michele brought greetings from Apostle Barbara Carter, who was at the Open Table Retreat this weekend. Charlie also says “hello” to loved ones and friends around BCMC. Our new President of Seventy Keith McMillan also sends his greetings.

Michele recognized the volunteer leadership of our BCMC. She referenced a book titled “Bi-Vocational Saints”, where others are starting to catch our long-held vision of bi-vocational ministers.

Michele read the official letters of appointment to the BCMC Conference.

- Joan Munter has been appointed by the First Presidency to serve as our BCMC President. Glenn Webb moved to support her appointment. A standing vote of support was offered.
- Michele read the official letter of appointment for Chris Ober as Financial Officer for BCMC. Jane Knapp moved. A standing vote of support sustained Chris in this role.

Joan asked for a vote to support the MCP counselors. The printed slate was approved.

Chris asked for a vote to support the MCFO counselors. The printed slate was approved.

Joan referred the conference to the printed reports in the handout, and encouraged folks to read each report.

Joan drew attention to the Mission Center appointments (bottom of page 1). Stan Morrison moved to accept the group as a block. Seconded & sustained.

Joan called attention to the Mission Center Council & Titus Team leaders, as printed on page 2 of the conference handout. We’ve added a 4th person to the Abolish Poverty team, in support of the future Open Table ministry. These changes will be effective immediately, without objection. Ray Sills moved to accept the group. Seconded & supported without objection.

Campground Board leadership:

- Campground Board President Dale Warren (appointed by MCP). Steve Cooley moved to sustain, seconded, sustained.
- Campground Board Treasurer Phil Rogers (appointed by MCFO). Glenn Webb moved to sustain Phil Rogers in that role, seconded & approved.

Campground board election:

- Nominations for seat #1 (Phil Webb): Daniel Collins, Steve Cooley, Phil Webb, expiring 2017. Phil Webb was elected.
- Nominations for seat #2 (Steve Cooley), expiring 2017: Steve Cooley. Steve was reelected.
- Nominations for seat #3 (vacant), expiring 2015: Daniel Collins. Daniel was elected.

Campground Endowment Fund Committee: 3 expiring offices in 2014:
Nominations: Stan Morrison, Andy Anderson, Karen Witts, Dan Martin, Donna Bryant. Three persons (highest votes) were elected: Andy Anderson, Dan Martin, Stan Morrison.

Ministries Endowment Fund Committee: 5 expiring positions for 2014, one for 2015.

Nominations: Tammy Austin, Ernest Rumple, Ray Sills, Richard Switzer, Lori Manker, Karen Witts.

For the 2015 slot: Karen Witts

All others fill the 2014 positions.

Old Business:

On behalf of, and after talking with the initiating parties, Chris Ober moved to “postpone indefinitely” the 2013 motion to fund a Graceland Scholarship. Glenn Webb moved. Seconded. Approved to postpone indefinitely.

New Business:

Joan Munter called to our attention: 2015 Mission Initiatives Coordinator Position.

- Ann Schwengel moved to continue this position, seconded, approved.
- Brad was acknowledged for his work in this area

Announcements:

- Donna Savage was acknowledged for her hard work on our e-Bridges newsletters
- Joan asked each congregation to take home the SPEC T-Shirt fund-raising jars.
- Joan reminded us of the importance of our Spiritual Practices, and referenced the recent e-Bridges article by the Peace Titus Team, about the ABC prayer for people.

Chris Ober called to our attention: 2015 Proposed Budget, as printed in the conference booklet.

- Richard Switzer moved to consider. Seconded.
- Chris explained that the MI Coordinator numbers have been adjusted to better reflect real costs, when compared with prior budgets.
- The annual BCMC Audit cost is listed separately this year, as information for the conference.
- We’re expecting a $12,000 net carryover from 2014 funds, to start with 2015.
- Implementing this budget will result in lower congregational assessments for 2015.
- Discussion followed. Richard Switzer moved to accept as presented. Budget approved.

Chris Ober called our attention to “Disbursal of Funds” proposal (page 18-19)

- Donna Bryant moved to consider, seconded.
- Marvin Kleinau moved to accept the proposal as printed, seconded. Approved.

Other New Business: None
Announcements:

- Since the 2013 Fall Conference, Joan reports:
  - 2 superannuations have occurred: John Etcheson & Karen Switzer
  - John Etcheson has submitted an e-Bridges article for the next edition, providing an understanding of the honor of superannuation.
  - 10 Ordinations have occurred across BCMC congregations since the 2013 Fall Conference
    - Carrie Ragan – Priest
    - Earl Manker - Deacon
    - Lori Manker - Elder
    - Dean Collins - Elder
    - Nathan Mack - Priest
    - Bob Bridgeman - Deacon
    - Rhiannon Bridgeman - Priest
    - Ian Savage - Priest
    - Karen Zimmerman - Priest
    - Kaylene Scott - Priest
- Joan pointed out the printed schedule of planned 2015 Calendar Dates
  - Why the name change of Yuletide to Hydration? A time of renewal, refreshing, rehydration.
  - February 7: tentative Open Table workshop, based on Kirtland event this weekend.
  - Camp and Reunion dates & directors announced.
  - Mike Hodge expressed concern about Junior High camp starting July 4 (holiday). Would like to start July 5-11, but folks showing up early for reunions interfere with youth camp schedules & activities.
  - 2016 June Reunion dates will need to move due to World Conference 2016, scheduled for June.
  - Steve Cooley – be aware that folks who use the campground from outside the church are a great financial support. They help pay for campground expenses. We need to go “out of our way” to make their experience a blessing that they want to repeat.
  - ACTION: publish when the campground is in use by various groups. Make our folks aware NOT to intrude on their camp. Mike: the campground is booked from June through August.
  - Watch e-bridges, as we announce reunion guest ministry for 2015.
  - Marvin Klein asked to meet with Evangelists up front after adjournment.

Daniel Collins moved to adjourn. Seconded and approved.

The conference closed with CCS 650 “Go My Children, with My Blessing”

Brad Bryant, Secretary Pro Tem