

Denominations



CPC Visits EPC 92nd Meeting of the Presbytery of the West 1st Presbyterian Church of Fresno on February 4-5, 2011

As visiting guests, CPC Pastors Scott Farmer, Dick Sanner, Bill Haslim, Elders Rhea Serpan and wife Pat, Karen Nelson and husband Gary, Debra Prince and Director of Planning, Lee Camp, observed the EPC 92nd meeting of the Presbytery of the West held

at 1st Presbyterian Church of Fresno, February 4th and 5th. They received a warm welcome by the Moderator- Rev. David Baer, Stated Clerk- Mark Huebl, and approximately 100 attending presbyters. There was a special time of prayer for CPC before matters of business began.

A FULL presbytery agenda confirmed continued growth of the EPC as transitional pastors were examined and approved for EPC membership in full standing, churches seeking affiliation- accepted, candidates coming under care - received and a number of motions presented and approved. The Presbytery of the West now represents

50 churches (14 new churches since Feb. 2009) with 6 churches on the horizon to transition as members. The Friday morning devotion led by host church 1st Presbyterian Church of Fresno; spoke to our purpose to make the invisible Jesus, visible, by our actions just as Jesus made God visible in how he lived His life among us. Being filled with the Holy Spirit equips us to make Jesus visible to the world. The third of seven of the EPC "Essentials of Our Faith" affirms that the Holy Spirit, "indwelling our hearts, gives new life to us, empowers and imparts gifts to us for service. He instructs and guides us into all truth, and seals us for the day of redemption." Each action item on the agenda was introduced by a time of prayer, seeking wisdom from the Holy Spirit, and giving thanks for God's provision.

Visiting the EPC Presbytery of the West was an enjoyable experience. It was a time of continued learning about the EPC denomination and being in fellowship with EPC presbyters as CPC continues to journey through the Gracious Dismissal Process with the Presbytery of San Francisco.

EPC Presbytery of the West Meeting Highlights

Engage 2025 A year ago – a dream. Today – a reality!

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- 10 church planting teams sent out by EPC churches to some of the 220+ unengaged locations of the Muslim world by 2025.
- Partner with at least 6 churches to make this happen.
- The first family prepares for transition to South Sumatra. First short term mission trip is planned for June 2011, to assist and learn what it means to minister to South Sumatra.

The Presbytery of Pacific Update– On Track!

- Approves overture to the 2011 General Assembly (June 22-25 Hope Presbyterian Church, Cordova, TN) to form the Presbytery of the Pacific - California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Hawaii, Nevada and Idaho (west of H/W US-93).
- Meets the financial resources to support intended contributions for 2012 of \$148,875. Excess funds will go towards church planting, seminary scholarships and communication technology for video conferencing.

- Exceeds the minimum requirements for a Presbytery (Demographics): a number of large churches -1000 plus members, double the requirement of requiring 12 organized churches and five times the composite membership base of 2,500.
- Leadership/position requirements identified and nominations requested before March 31, 2011

Local Mission Outreach

- Celebrated the work of The Neighborhood Church, Littleton, Colorado (Dr. Eugene Scott) successfully linking ministry and service with the local high school that also serves as their church home.
- Stories shared of faculty and students coming to Christ as a result of intentional outreach, introducing church ministry to the people.
- The Presbytery of the West approves The Neighborhood Church as a mission church (previously a mission group).