

**Minutes**  
**Classis California South**  
**Thursday, May 12, 2011 6:30 p.m.**  
**Location: The River CRC, Redlands, CA**  
**Chairman of the Day: Pastor Jose Munoz**  
**Vice Chairman: Pastor Rudy Gonzalez**  
**Stated Clerk: Will Verhoef**

1. Words of welcome were spoken by host Lead Pastor Scott Elgersma. He then offered a prayer. Worship was led by a praise team from The River Church.
2. The River CRC, which is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a CRC (also the first CRC in California), played a sight-sound presentation about its history and current ministries. Classis Chairman Jose Munoz offered words of congratulations and led in a prayer of thanksgiving.
3. Chairman Jose Munoz calls the meeting to order
  - a. Stated clerk Will Verhoef conducts a roll call of the delegates with the following results:

Delegates from Organized Churches

Chino, CrossPoint CRC: Tim Spykstra, Henry Mersma, Mario Perez  
Fullerton, Orange Korean CRC: Yun Kim, Kyung Lee, Jung Cho  
Fullerton, Faith Community: Edward Kim, Kevin Lee, Phil Roh  
Irvine, Urim CRC: no representatives  
La Puente: Hanaro CRC: Il Yong Kang, Bong Chul Jung, Young Choi  
Las Vegas, Yung Kwang: no representatives  
Las Vegas, Grace Valley: no representatives  
Moreno Valley, Oasis Community: Al Breems, Byron Meyers, Darryl Hill  
City of Orange, Korean American CRC of Orange County: no representatives  
Redlands, The River CRC: Scott Elgersma, Dale Vander Tuig  
Riverside, Hope Community CRC: Ross Lyberger, Paul Andringa, Jim Grandia  
San Diego, San Diego CRC: Adam Stout, Don Boss, John Palmer  
San Diego, Trinity Fellowship CRC: Jose Munoz, James Noell, Charles Grandt  
San Marcos, Crossroads CRC: Mark Vermaire, Vic Varvel, Rebecca Ligtenberg  
Santa Ana, Hmong CRC: no representatives  
Tustin, First Harvest Chapel: no representatives  
West Covina, Good News Chapel: Jimmy Han  
Westminster, Korean CRC of Orange County: no representatives

Delegates from emerging churches?

Moreno Valley, Grace: Rudy Gonzalez  
Fontana, Friendship Community: Reggie Norman

A motion was made and passed to seat, by way of exception, Interim Pastor Adam Stout of the San Diego CRC.
  - b. The Form of Subscription was signed by first-time delegates.
  - c. Chairman Jose Munoz welcomed a number of guests
4. Pastor Mark Vermaire, our regional trustee on the CRC Board of Trustees, gave a report highlighting the recent resignations of Ms. Beth Swagman (Safe Church Ministry), Rev. Jerry Dykstra (Executive Director of the CRC), and Ms. Sandy Johnson (Director of Denominational Ministries). He also referenced the Board's adoption of the Diversity Task Force report and responded to questions. He mentioned that he is completing six years on the board, the last two as chairman. Chairman Munoz thanked Mark for his report and work on the Board during a very challenging time.

5. Rev. Mark Vermaire, pastor of Crossroads CRC of San Marcos led a much delayed discussion on church discipline. (Several years ago the Crossroads CRC Council had asked for such a discussion.) Discussion centered on whether the sort of church discipline that the Church Order calls for is still workable and effective in our current culture. A number of delegates contributed pros and cons to the discussion. A motion passed delegating to the Classical Executive Team the decision as to whether the topic ought to be continued for our fall meeting possibly encouraging an overture recommending that the Church Order section on discipline be revised in light of our contemporary culture.

6. Jen Visser spoke and showed a sight-sound presentation on behalf of Camp Dunamis

7. Election of Region 6 (Classes California South, Central California, Greater Los Angeles, and Pacific Hanmi) Calvin Seminary Board member was held. Results of the vote: Mr. Hyung Jung Kim 19 votes, Dr. Ronald Vander Molen: 5 votes. These votes will be reported to the denominational office and added to the votes from the other three classes to determine who the next member of the Calvin Seminary Board from Region 6 will be.

8. Rev. Henry Karsten, Christian Reformed World Missions Regional Mobilizer, made a presentation that included both his words and a sight-sound presentation.

9. Reflecting, Envisioning, Planning

a. Peter Holwerda, CRC Home Missions Regional Director gave a report on behalf of the West Coast Ministry Team. He is retiring on June 30 and reflected on what has happened in the West Coast Region. He made the following points: 1. The West Coast Region moved from an agency field to a Regional Ministry Team. 2. It moved from Home Missions planting churches to church multiplication. 3. From one route to leaders raising up leaders. 4. From Lone Ranger to LEAD Teams for ministry leaders. 5. From ~~pastors job to better together~~. At the end of Peter's presentation the chairman invited Will Verhoef to offer a prayer which he did.

b.. A discussion on our current vision, mission, and values was led by Neville Koch and Will Verhoef. Will reviewed some of our history since 1998 when classis decided on certain values including ~~a commitment~~ to avoid a burdening effect of bureaucracy and busy work by streamlining any and all teams in their work and reporting.+ Discussion, led by Neville, centered on whether our three evening only meetings a year accomplish our mission of ~~accountability~~, encouragement, and shared ministry for the churches of the classis.+ Comments that followed: keep meeting evenings only, have one extended meeting a year, why not have an additional evening meeting so that we meet quarterly, thanks to those who were responsible for streamlining the meetings, the Puritans focused on prayer and critiquing sermons to great success, hate to go backward, continue to focus on worship and prayer- core values, remember the key value is the local church so make sure that leaders don't get taken away from their most important work, Classis GLA after going for more and longer meetings is moving back to shorter, fewer and streamlined meetings, classis meetings are important but please, no more and be as efficient as we can be, build in more opportunity for community-building, be aware of Koreans among us who can't understand English well and make accommodations.

c.. A presentation on classical ministry shares was made by Classical Treasurer Dave De Koekkoek and Rudy Gonzalez. Dave first presented his report on 2010- classical ministry shares received and expenses incurred. He then made the following points: 1. the forecasted loss of \$17,000 for 2010 became ~~only~~+a \$3900 loss. 2. Four of six funds absorbed loss. 3. Home Missions and West Coast Regional Ministry are in the negative by \$4000 each. 4. Fourth quarter giving increased- one church gave two years worth of shares. 5. Not all churches understand the concept of ministry shares, i.e. denominational and classical shares. Rudy then made some points. They included the following: Learnings and implications: 1. ministry share participation increased as classis leadership addressed the issue. 2. ministry shares participation strengthens classis ministry. Next steps: 1. Dave De Koekkoek, treasurer, will coordinate one collection point for ministry shares, i.e. denomination or classis. 2. Dave will send out language appropriate ministry share notices. 3. Phil Dubois will coordinate site visits to promote and increase ministry shares participation. Rev. Ron Chu challenged delegates with the idea that each church make a

contribution to ministry shares no matter how large or small as a sign of its commitment to the shared ministries of classis.

10. Team, Committee, and Functionary reports.

a. Stated Clerk Will Verhoef referenced his written report. He highlighted the fact that Minister Delegate Cor Pool to Synod 2011 is being replaced (because of the recent death of Cor's wife Kathy) by first alternate Jose Munoz.

b. Neville Koch presented the Classical Executive Team report. Classis approved the following motions: 1. that Mr. Steve Wunderink, pastor of Grace Valley CRC in Las Vegas, NV be nominated to synod as the alternate synodical deputy for Classis California South. 2. the request of the Council of Crosspoint CRC, Chino, CA that Rev. Tom Van Land be emeritated (retired) on June 30, 2011 for reason of having reach retirement age. 3. the request of the Council of The River CRC, Redlands, CA that Rev. William Verhoef be endorsed for a pre-retirement in-service pension distribution effective June 30, 2011. 4. the request of the Council of Trinity Fellowship CRC, San Diego, CA that Rev. Don Hekman be endorsed for a pre-retirement in-service pension distribution effective June 30, 2011. Neville also reported on actions that the CET took in light of news that Home Missions would terminate grant funding for Rev. Mirtha Villafane after June 30: 1. It endorsed the appeal of Classis GLA concerning that action. 2. If the appeal failed, it committed to finding funding, with Classis GLA, for the remainder of this fiscal year and then work on funding for her after January 1, 2012

d. Leadership Development Team- no report.

e. Classical Credentialing Team- no report.

f. Multi-ethnic conference in June- announced by Rudy Gonzalez. He mentioned that travel subsidies were available and encouraged anyone still interested to contact him: [rgonzalez@crcna.org](mailto:rgonzalez@crcna.org)

g. Classical Counselor reports

- 1) Interim Pastor Adam Stout reported for the San Diego CRC. He reported that he will serve the San Diego CRC for several months working closely with the previous interim pastor Rev. Bob Walter who comes in 10 days each month. The church is moving toward calling its next pastor. A Bible study had been started that includes a majority of non-church members. Praise God for his work in this church and community!
- 2) Rev. Tong Park reported for Orange Korean Church of Fullerton. He reported that the congregation had decided to call one of its associate pastors to the Senior Pastor position: Rev. Yun Kim. Rev. Kim is following the Church Order Article 8 colloquium doctum process for becoming ordained in the CRC. He will travel to Grand Rapids, MI for the KIM within the next month. Praise God for answered prayers concerning the pastoral search for the Orange Korean Church.

11. Chairman Munoz adjourned the meeting by thanking the host church, making some closing remarks and offering a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Will Verhoef, Stated Clerk  
Classis California South

