

THE PACIFIC SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE

QuickConnect

Transforming Lives and Communities

March 2010

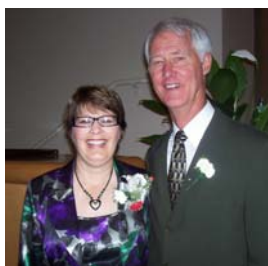


◀ Twenty-one persons participated in Journey to Mosaic XVI, February 25-28. Participants included individuals from sister churches in Turlock — English-speaking Turlock Covenant Church and Spanish-speaking Iglesia del Pacto Turlock as well as Alpine, Great Exchange San Francisco, and Renacer Covenant (San Jose). To register for future trips contact Nelly at nelly.bothi@pswc.org.

Pastor Glen Morden of Patterson Covenant reports, "Last Sunday we baptized four new believers! A friend of one person being baptized also made a decision to follow Christ and expressed interest in being baptized." ▶



Real Life Covenant Church (Whittier, CA) recently held their second "preview worship service", with the full service in both Spanish and English. 110 people were present. Eddie Ledesma serves as the church planting pastor.



On Sunday, February 28, Hilmar Covenant Church concluded a month of services honoring Bruce Metcalf as he concluded 28 years of service as Hilmar's lead pastor. The farewell banquet on Saturday included many light-hearted dimensions of Bruce's presence in their midst. Bruce is pictured here with his wife, Kristine. ◀

Also February 28, Foothill Covenant Church (Los Altos, CA) honored Jim Gaderlund at a banquet as he concluded 18 years of service as Foothill Covenant's pastor. The banquet program included a number of musical selections performed by the Gaderlund's sons. For the past 10 years Jim has also served as the volunteer coordinator of PSWC Spiritual Direction. He is pictured here with his wife, Pamela. ▶



Life Covenant Church (Torrance, CA) has been actively involved in ministry in Mozambique, Africa. To read more go to pswc.org.



Applications are now being accepted for Journey to Mosaic Squared, a three-week multiethnic leadership formation experience for 18-24 year olds desiring to grow in their "Kingdom vision". J2M2 will be held in Oakland,

July 10—July 31. Go to pswc.org and click the J2M logo for more information.



Reflections on Transition, part 2

David Nystrom is a preacher/teacher in the PSWC and Vice President of Academic Affairs at William Jessup University.

In a few months the PSWC will experience leadership change. After an extraordinary tenure Evelyn Johnson will step aside and Efreem Smith will step forth as Superintendent of the PSWC after confirmation at the 108th PSWC Annual Meeting.



**Celebration
2010
April 22- 25
Mission Springs**

March 20 is the last day to register at "early discounted prices". Go to

pswc.org, for a one-stop shop for both Celebration registration and Mission Springs housing. The 108th Annual Meeting will take place on Friday, April 23, including the vote to elect a new Superintendent.

Leadership change can be difficult even as it affords great opportunity. Those of us who are to be led often think the key issue is the character and quality of the leader. This is important, of course, but there is another issue that is no less salient. The first chapter of Joshua relates one story of leadership transition. After decades of extraordinary service, the mantle of leadership passed from Moses to Joshua. God had some clear direction for Joshua. "Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left." (verse 7) God also told Joshua to be strong and very courageous (verse 6). Let us pray for Efreem, that God would hold him close, that Efreem would follow close after God, and that Efreem would be strong in pointing out to us God's direction.

There is another component of a successful change in leadership. We should pray not only Efreem, but also for ourselves. The question "Are we the right sort of people?" is just as important as "Is Efreem the right sort of leader?" At the end of Joshua 1 the Reubenites promised that they would follow God's leading. They understood the importance of faithful followership as well as faithful leadership. May we seek God's face and thank God for Evelyn and for Efreem, and ask God to help us be the people who are ready to be led along the pathway God has laid before our feet.