

**FALL GATHERING
DIOCESE OF LA AND THE WEST MINUTES
ST. ANDREW CHURCH, RIVERSIDE, CA OCTOBER 10-12, 2008**

Opening Prayer

- Opening Prayers for SOYO Meetings
- Troparion of St. John Chrysostom

Roll Call

Jenna Takes roll call.

- St. Mark, Irvine 1
- St. Luke, Garden Grove 1
- St. George, San Diego 3
- St. Andrew, Riverside 7
- St. Peter, San Dimas 2
- St. Raphael, Palm Desert 1
- St. Barnabas, Costa Mesa 2
- Holy Cross, Palmdale 3
- St. James, Anaheim 1
- St. George, Portland 1
- St. George, Phoenix 4
- St. Timothy, Fairfield 3
- Holy Resurrection, Tucson 3
- St. Michael, Fernando Valley 1

Treasures report

Katie Braun explained the balance in the account. She then went on to explain the importance of dues. Liz Mamey explains that the money helps benefit everyone. Some is donated; some is used to help the officers cover expenses for leadership training and other educational training and most is used to pay the NAC dues and Youth Workers fund dues.

Secretary Report

Jenna Badra read the minutes from the 2008 Parish Life Conference. Vince Stoyas moved to approve the minutes. Christian Beck seconds the motion. She continues to explain why credentials are so important.

Vice Presidents Report

Vanessa Kinan thanks everyone for coming. She explains the importance of having an active SOYO in our diocese. She then continues to explain that NAC is working on a committee called ATM. In this committee it will state the orthodox point of view on premarital sexual relations. Vanessa Kinan gives a list of suggestions for the churches to raise money for dues. Some examples: Car wash, Bake Sale, Basket collection, host a coffee hour

Presidents Report

Liz thanks everyone for coming and introduces the board: Fr. Joseph Purpura Fr. James Coles, Amanda Sahawneh, Katie Braun, Liz Mamey, Vanessa Kinan, Jenna Badra. Then Liz, talks about the outreach that we had earlier that day. She then thanks Kent Sammons for helping us set up the outreach.

Debriefing

- Fr. James Coles debriefing- Matthew 25: 31-46
- Asks everyone to share experience about talking with the people from the shelter

Bishops Address

HIS GRACE Bishop Joseph came to talk with the teens.

Father Joseph

- Oratorical
- Bible bowl

Chapter Reports

- **St. Luke, Garden Grove 1**
Swim and Study, Jam Session, Bake Sale, Movie Nights, Sports, bonfires, camping, beach outings
- **St. George, San Diego 3**
Each month one social event and one bible study, Bonfires, pool parties, weekend camp retreat, Hosted the Southern Deanery retreat, hosted Silent Auction
- **St. Andrew, Riverside 7**
Fundraising, Ice Cream Social, Summer Beach Camping trip
- **St. Peter, San Dimas 2**
Monastery visits, Book Discussion, Beach Days
- **St. Raphael, Palm Desert 1**

Soup kitchens, Camp St. Nicholas, Choir, Teen Epistle Readings, Monastery Visits

- **St. Barnabas, Costa Mesa 2**
Fundraising, OYO
- **Holy Cross, Palmdale 3**
Friday Night Vigil
- **St. James, Anaheim 1**
Bible Study, Activities, Bake Sales, Fundraisers
- **St. George, Portland 1**
Fellowship, Sunday school, Lebanese Child Sponsor
- **St. George, Phoenix 4**
Ice skating, Video game tournament, Lockin's
- **St. Timothy, Fairfield 3**
Softball, Snow Trip, Teen Discussions
- **Holy Resurrection, Tucson 3**
Community service, Fundraising, All Night Vigil, Choir

Old Business

- Bible Bowl winners were announced, Idaho Won Bible Bowl
- Leadership training
- Special Olympics
- October Youth month

New Business

- Orthodox unity Sunday-Encouraged Parishes to get together with all the different jurisdictions
- Otto- explained what OTTO stands for
- Camp St. Nicholas
- OYO- Orthodox Youth Outreach