

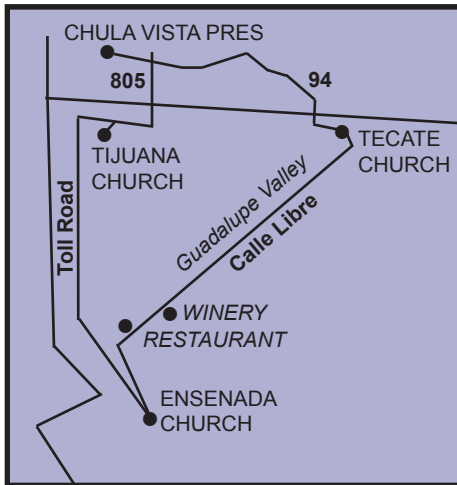
BAJA PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONS NEWSLETTER

Since 1970

Tijuana • Mexicali • Tecate • Ensenada • San Jose del Cabo

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Winter 2010

“Fruit of the Vine” Baja Day Trip to Visit Three Churches Plus Restaurant and Winery in Guadalupe Valley April 10



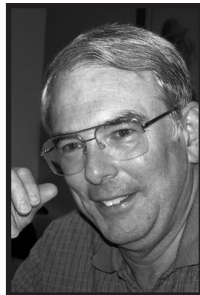
Mark your calendars for the **9th Annual San Diego Presbytery Baja Missions Tour**, Saturday, April 10. Tentative plans are to meet at Chula Vista Presbyterian Church to fill three 15-passenger vans, cross the border at San Ysidro and visit three Mexican Presbyterian churches -- **El Buen Pastor Church in Tijuana, La Nueva Jerusalem Church in Ensenada, and Bethel Church in Tecate.** Lunch (\$10/person avg) will be at Hacienda Garden Restaurant with a stop at Vinsiterra Winery (\$3.50, four tastings) between Ensenada and Tecate in Guadalupe Valley. Cross the border at Tecate and return to Chula Vista via 94 and Otay Lakes Road. To reserve your seat or indicate your interest in receiving more info as details are finalized for our “Fruit of the Vine Tour,” please contact BPM Board Secretary **Colleen Carr** at colleencarr@bajapresbyterianmissions.org Gracias!

Baja Missions Board Elects New Members and Shuffles Seats

With the new year, long-time Board Vice President **Gary Lorentzen** (El Cajon) has chosen to become a member-at-large. As a result, even longer-time Board Secretary **Jim Hancock** (Fletcher Hills) has accepted the VP position, and **Colleen Carr** (Coronado), who joined the board this past year, has agreed to be Secretary. Also, frequent visitor **Mary Hammond Cordero** (Chula Vista) was officially elected to the board in November. **Jack Shelver** (Faith) continues as Treasurer and **Bob Battenfield** (Fletcher Hills) as President. **Nicasio Rojas** continues as the representative of the Presbytery of the Northwest Border of the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico.



Gary Lorentzen



Jim Hancock



Colleen Carr



Mary Cordero

Bill Soldwisch Retires, Rachel Anderson Will Start Work in April



Also attending BPM board meetings each month is the **PCUSA Missionary assigned to Pueblos Hermanos, the bi-national San Diego-Tijuana project of Presbyterian Border Ministry.** Rev. Bill Soldwisch retired Nov. 30; the new missionary, Rev. Rachel Anderson, is in an immersion Spanish language program in Ensenada and is expected to start in April.

Baja Presbyterian Missions, an endorsed project of the Presbytery of San Diego, is your church's bridge to working with your brothers and sisters in Christ south of the border.

New Website in Works for Baja Missions

If this font looks familiar, it is Monaco, the one that usually appears in tiny type on your incoming emails, the one you can change by keying HTML. But it is a perfect way to introduce our new website, www.bajapresbyterianmissions.org. We don't have much there yet: it's "under construction" as they say.

Check back from time to time. We will post the minutes of our monthly meetings, our January and July newsletters, photos of mission tours and work projects, lists of our donor churches and of the pastors we support, our mission and history, and more.

Thanks to Colleen Carr, a graphic artist and website developer, for pushing us into the 1990s...

Would Your Church Like to Participate in Next Year's Baja Christmas Gift Program?

*First, a **BIG THANK YOU** to the churches that donated about 300 wrapped toys for our annual Baja Missions Christmas Gift Program. They were:*

**Chula Vista
El Cajon
Fletcher Hills
Graham Coronado
La Jolla*
Westmorland**

When we came up short just a week before Christmas, the La Jolla Mission Committee voted to donate cash to allow the committee to purchase the last 50+ gifts. Now that's the sort of "bailout" that makes a difference!

This year we provided names of the children in addition to age and sex which made the gift-giving more personal but also more critical that every child received a gift.

*Please contact **Gary Lorentzen** to learn more: garylorentzen@bajapresbyterianmissions.org*

Everyone's Talking "Mission" -- Send Some Our Way

Note to Mission Committees: if you are searching for a foreign mission program to support with your mission dollars, there are two right across the border in Baja California that need your help. Both work with Mexican Presbyterian churches.

• **Baja Presbyterian Missions** raises funds to build churches and supplement the pastors' salaries until the churches can become self-sufficient. Our construction fund is supported by the Taylor Memorial Trust invested with Presbyterian Foundation, but our operating funds are low and getting lower.

• **Pueblos Hermanos'** administrative funds are also low. Fewer mission teams visited Baja in 2009. Several donor churches chose to redirect their mission giving. The missionary is paid by PCUSA, but other overhead is donor-supported, including the Salud y Vida health worker and the Mexican co-director pastor.

Contact **Bob Battenfield** if your church can help either organization: bobbattenfield@bajapresbyterianmissions.org



Baja Presbyterian Missions, Inc. Executive Committee and Board Members

Mission Opportunities...Not Far From Home

Join us and take part in a wide variety of mission activities -- foreign mission activities -- not far from home!

Call (619) 469-6101 or email bobbattenfield@bajapresbyterianmissions.org for more information.

Visit our new website:

4 www.bajapresbyterianmissions.org

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Jim Hancock, Fletcher Hills PC
Colleen Carr, Graham Memorial, Coronado
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Doris Scoville, Presbyterian Women, Faith PC

Nicasio Rojas, Representative
Presbytery of Northwest Border,
National Presbyterian Church of Mexico
Rev Rachel Anderson, Missionary
Pueblos Hermanos, Presbyterian
Border Ministry, PC(USA)