

Presbytery of San Gabriel

MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

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For the week of Monday, July 3, 2017

On the Calendar This Week

Tuesday, July 4 - The presbytery office will be closed in observance of Independence Day

Associate for Ministry Development, Jake Kim will be on vacation this week.



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PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember our Honorably Retired Teaching Elders in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, July 9, 2017.

BBQ Fundraiser for Peru Youth THIS SUNDAY

This Sunday, July 9, there will be a fundraising BBQ, Pool Party, and Silent Auction to raise funds for the youth work trip to Peru this summer. It will be at the home of one of our trip



participants in Sierra Madre from 4-7 p.m. Bring swimsuits for the pool—a lifeguard will be hired also. And bring cash or checkbook for the silent auction! To learn more and

to get the address for the event, contact Wendy Gist at gist.wendy@gmail.com.

This fundraiser is open to any and all, so if you want to invite a friend or two or ten, feel free. The suggested donation per ticket for this event is \$25 and we will happily accept your \$25 at the door. Just find Wendy Gist to pay when you get there. Thank you for supporting our youth going on the summer youth work trip to Peru! We appreciate your prayers as we prepare and as we travel. We also appreciate the financial support from the Presbytery, churches, and individuals.

A REFLECTION FROM THE EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER

Moses was eighty years old and Aaron eighty-three when they spoke to Pharaoh.

Exodus 7:7

Yesterday, Mideast Evangelical Church worshiped for the first time in their new home at 9723 Garibaldi Avenue in Temple City. They were welcomed by Grace Taiwanese Presbyterian Church, who have been worshiping at this location for about 20 years. Each first Sunday of the month, MEC has an intergenerational bilingual communion service, with simultaneous translation of the sermon. Grace worships (in Taiwanese) at 10:30 a.m., MEC (in Arabic) at 1:30 p.m. if you'd like to worship with them.

Thanks to the excellent translation, I was able to appreciate Rev. Maher Makar's sermon. As a Bible scholar, he provides Bible study as well as modern application.

As he considered Acts 7, when Stephen preached about Moses, Maher noted how the Bible uses "40 years" to represent a completion of a phase in one's life. So Moses' life was divided into three 40-year blocks. The first 40 years, Moses was raised and taught in the house of the Pharaoh. The second 40 years, after killing an Egyptian, he lived in Midian as a shepherd. The third and last 40 years was, of course, the Exodus.

Maher's message was that God chooses whom God chooses and when God chooses, and what we do in service to God's mission is not based on our skill and strength, but on God. So it's never too late to serve God, because God will make us able.

For several years I've been thinking about how things will change as the Baby Boomers move into retirement age. The Boomers (born 1946-1964) have been so dominant that they have recreated each phase of life in their own image. As one person said, "when the Boomers started to have children, it's as if they invented parenthood." Many of the recent changes in the church (for instance, praise music, and also the marginalization of the church) came from the Boomers' critical view of the traditional church.

We are now in a post-Christendom world, where about half of US Christians attend church. But as the Boomers age, some are becoming nostalgic for their roots-which include the church. Some are seeking new community and activities to replace their job and child-raising responsibilities. Some are considering the ultimate questions of life as they age. And some, who do not find their way back to church, are often met with grace and compassion by chaplains while in the hospital or hospice. So there

are new opportunities to proclaim the gospel to those who have never really experienced a life of faith, or walked away from it.

I have noticed a new awareness of the times when God calls individuals in their advanced age. The first time I heard this was in a Pentecost sermon given by Mark Lau-Branson. He noted the Jewish tradition of wanting to die in Jerusalem, even for those who lived all over the world. This resulted in Jerusalem being a kind of international retirement community, so when the Holy Spirit came down on Jesus' disciples and attracted the attention of the people, many of these early Christian converts were awaiting death. As noted by Maher Makar, Moses was 80 when God called him to confront Pharaoh. And we all know that Abram and Sarai embarked on their journey at the ages of 75 and 65, and did not bear Isaac until 25 years later.

As Maher said in his sermon, when God called Moses to confront Pharaoh, Moses probably thought, "Why come to me now? Why didn't YHWH come to me when I was 40, when I was strong and able?" But as God made so clear when speaking through the burning bush, God does not call us when we are ready to do great things with our own abilities, but God calls those whose abilities are doubtful, so that we must answer with faith, and our actions reflect God's glory, not our own. It is not up to us to decide when it's convenient to serve the Lord, it's up to the Lord to know when the time is right.

Recently we had a meeting of the advisory team for Rev. Lauren Evans, our new Chaplain for Retired Church Workers. I always enjoy talking with Lauren about her ministry, because as Rev. Doug Edwards points out, we have the opportunity to look anew at ministry with retirees. Due to our longer lifespans (I believe Board of Pensions said that our retirees live on average into their 90s), we can expect to live 20+ years after retirement. So retirement is not just an ending, but a whole new chapter for life and ministry.

Doug mentioned that the most important factors in our well-being in retirement are community, purpose, and health. As church families, and as the Presbytery family, we have the opportunity to welcome retirees into community. As Presbyterians, we know God calls us for God's purpose-and we understand that the nature of that call can change over time. While we often think we can't control health concerns, we do know that community and purpose do have positive impact on one's health. Conversely, we are challenged to be a welcoming community and to support one's evolving call, even as health considerations may affect the ease with which we can put someone into areas of responsibility.

In the coming years, I believe there are growing opportunities for outreach with older adults. And as we open up to God's call in unexpected times, may we be reminded that God calls all of us, not when we are ready, but when God ordains it. And as God calls us forward, may we respond with faith, because as God told the 90-year-old Sarah, "Is anything too wonderful for the Lord?"

Trusting in our wondrous God, Wendy

With the summer heat upon us, thoughts of January's Winterfest are far, far away, but not for the Education Committee! We are already working on plans for speakers and workshops, and we need your help. Please give us your thoughts and ideas in this 5-minute survey that will help us make Winterfest 2018 a timely, invigorating event. Deadline is July 15. Click **HERE** to take the survey.

David and Josey, home from Cuba in August

Our own David Cortes-Fuentes and Josey Saez Acevedo will be in Southern California, August 7-28. They have some engagements to let folks know about life in Cuba, as they are fully involved at the Matanzas Theological Seminary.

You are welcome to the following events, but they also have available times to visit other churches or organizations. Contact Karen Sapio at karensapio@claremontpres.org to schedule them for a visit.



Sunday August 13: Worship at Trinity Presbyterian near Sierra Madre 3740 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Pasadena 91107 (626) 351-8823

Wednesday August 9 or August 16 Possible evening event at Pasadena Presbyterian (details TBA) 585 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena 91101

Sunday, August 20

- David worships at Claremont Presbyterian and Emmanuel Presbiteriana
 1111 N. Mountain Avenue, Claremont 91711
- Josey worships at La Verne Heights Presbyterian

1040 Baseline Road, La Verne 91750

-David and Josey at Westminster Gardens Vespers, 3:00-4:30 p.m.

1420 Santo Domingo Ave, Duarte 91010

-David and Josey at Dinner and Program at Calvary Presbyterian, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

1050 Fremont Avenue, South Pasadena 91030

(626) 799-7148

Sunday August 27: Solana Beach Presbyterian Church, north San Diego 120 Stevens Avenue, Solana Beach 92075 (858) 509-2580

Grant Money Available to Qualified Groups from Self-Development of People (SDOP) Committee

Do you know a group of economically disadvantaged people who are running or starting a project Presbyterian Committee on the

Self-Development Of People

economically disadvantaged people "People Investing in People"

or business whose goal is to make a positive difference in their own lives and the lives of others in their community? Based on our One Great Hour of Sharing contributions we have grant money available for appropriate projects. The application deadline for

this year's grant funds is Sept. 15, 2017.

The following criteria (and more) are used by the SDOP Committee when evaluating whether a project is valid for funding.

- 1. Presented, owned, and controlled by the group who will benefit directly from it.
- 2. Addresses long-term correction of conditions that keep people bound by poverty and oppression.
- 3. Describes, in detail, the project's goal, its objectives, the way the direct beneficiaries will be involved in all stages of the project, and the methods to be used to achieve the goal and objectives.
- 4. Is sensitive to the environment while accomplishing its goal(s) or objectives.

The joint Presbytery of San Fernando and San Gabriel Presbytery SDOP Committee is seeking grant applicants. Members of the committee representing SGP are Young Lee Hertig, Walter Contreras, Doug Edwards, and Wendy Gist.

For more information, to talk about a potential project, or to get an application contact Young (younglee@isaacweb.org), Walter (mcymusa@aol.com), Doug (Doug.Edwards@thebegroup.org) or Wendy (gist.wendy@gmail.com).

Meaningful and Important Ways to Support Refugees in our Area

There are a myriad of opportunities available to help refugees in our area. There are ways for our congregations and for us as individuals to get involved. Several options are listed below. Please consider how you can engage with this marginalized population that is in great need.

- 1. Adopt-A-Family program through Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project. Become a sponsor for an individual or family. Sponsorship will help pay for the refugee's legal representation costs. Sponsors will meet the family and have the opportunity to maintain a relationship with them. Total cost involved (payment plan available) will most likely be between \$3000 and \$5000. For more information contact Guillermo Torres at gtorres@cluejustice.org.
- 2. Central American Youth Conference 2017 is looking for volunteers to help plan the event. The conference will be held during the first week of December and will take place at Cal State L.A. Last year the conference brought together approximately 600 refugee youth from 12 schools for workshops and more. For more information contact Alexander Sanchez at 213-383-7484 or asanchez@homiesunidos.org.
- 3. San Fernando Valley Refugee Children Center at 15435 Rayen St., North Hills, CA 91343 can use our support. This center now has about 130 refugee children registered with them and they are doing their best to link them to legal, medical, spiritual, and counseling services. While building relationships with the kids they also provide material support, take them on excursions, and hold special events for the kids and their sponsors. We can support this center by collecting toys, books, school items, personal hygiene supplies, food, and bus tokens. For more information contact the Center at 747-529-4783 or Amanda Romero at amandaromero92@yahoo.com or (818) 400-2891.

Installations

The Rev. Walter Contreras will be installed to the Spanish Language Ministry of Pasadena Presbyterian Church on July 23rd at 2:30 p.m.

The Rev. John Moon will be installed to Korean Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, on August 6th at 4:00 p.m.

We wish them both God's blessings in their new/continued ministries.

Spirituality & Aging Certificate Program Fall 2017



A course integrating faith and practice for those working with and caring for the older members of our community

Older adult programming often fails to adequately address the spiritual concerns

that arise in the aging process. Designed to address this gap, the Spirituality and Aging Certificate Program empowers participants with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively address spiritual needs during the aging process where they work, worship, or volunteer.

Participants explore the bio-psycho-social-spiritual aspects of aging, with an emphasis on how spirituality informs and can enhance the aging process. Through the classes, readings, assignments, and interaction with their peers and the professors, students develop a wholistic perspective on aging and form a plan to put the knowledge and skills gained into action.

The Spirituality and Aging Certificate Program includes an orientation retreat, followed by four classes, held on Saturdays from 9 am-1:30 pm on the dates below. The course location is determined by registration.

Orientation Retreat Aging Defined Toward a Spirituality of Aging Aging in Context Spirituality and Organizational Theory September 16, 2017 October 21, 2017 November 18, 2017 January 20, 2018 February 24, 2018

Continuing education credit is available for BRN, RCFE, and NAB, as well as to meet denominational requirements.

For more information, call 626-765-9500, email info@ntswest.org or visit http://sccsa.ntswest.org

Brought to you by . . .





Music Scholarships

Puente de Esperanza (formerly known as First Presbyterian Church of Rosemead) has a great plan to introduce themselves to the La Puente Community! In addition to parenting classes, the church is continuing to use the "CaliCenter/La Puente" program name that was



developed under the El Monte Initiative, with a new Summer Music Program for the

community!

They will be working with Barrio Music, a non-profit that is utilizing the "El Sistema" approach to teach classical music to low-income children. If you are interested, go to barriomusic.org to learn more about them. (El Sistema is the famed program teaching impoverished youth in Caracas, Venezuela—the most famous local proponent is Gustavo Dudamel.)

We are looking for sponsors to help establish a scholarship fund for the Summer Music Program. Any amount you can give will help and bless children discover new talents and gifts through music. You can send your checks payable to First Presbyterian Church of Rosemead (write CaliCenter on the memo line) and send to:

Puente de Esperanza

15302 Francisquito Avenue

La Puente, CA 91744.

We thank you for your generosity!

June 2017 Stated Clerk's Corner - Church Record Review

We will have the last review of the year at Northminster Presbyterian Church of Diamond Bar on September 23, 2017 at 10:00 AM. We look forward to meeting in that location in the fall. With only 10 congregations cared for in the spring, the fall meeting will have a large group of congregations in attendance. Once again, please contact the Stated Clerk at statedclerk@sangabpres.org if you plan to attend the fall review in order to make adequate arrangements to support the large attendance.

Blessings, Diane M. Frasher Stated Clerk

2017 Presbytery Meetings

Saturday, June 17 - San Marino Community
Saturday September 16 - First Presbyterian Church, Rosemead
Saturday, November 4 - Monte Vista Groves Homes, Pasadena

2017 Presbytery Minimums

Pastor's Minimum Salary: (Full Time) \$52,435 Travel/Prof. Expense Reimbursement: \$2,485

Study Leave: \$ 925

2017 Mileage Reimbursement Rates:

Quick Links

www.sangabpres.org
www.synod.org
www.pcusa.org
www.pensions.org

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Worship Band Leader

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- * Play in and lead the worship band
- * Recruit and lead volunteer musicians and singers from the congregation, providing instruction and coaching for improvement in skill and musical ability
- * Select both new and familiar congregation-friendly songs, and prepare easy to follow charts for choir and band members
- * Provide 'road maps' to songs for band members
- * Prepare slide presentations for service and upload to projection in sound booth.
- * Interface with sound technician regarding equipment details and needs
- * Participate in worship leadership as assigned, e.g. Scripture readings, prayers
- * Assist in pre-service set up and post-service tear down
- * Lead weekly band rehearsal
- * Perform other duties, as assigned
- * Work collaboratively with the Music Director
- * Consults with other ministry leaders regarding stage setup.

TERM:

* 15 hrs/wk, salaried. \$15/\$20 per hr. Benefits as per current personnel policy

JOB CONDITION AND ENVIRONMENT

* Physical demands required related to set up and tear down of music-related equipment.

QUALIFICATIONS

- * Must be able to clearly communicate a personal commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and demonstrate this relationship through his/her life and testimony
- * Steadfast, mature and consistent display of a Christlike attitude and character
- * Must embrace and model the mission of LVHPC
- * Proficiency and skill in: music fundamentals (theory, dynamics, rhythm and harmony); playing guitar and/or piano; singing; writing and arranging basic music/chord charts
- * Functional knowledge of audio equipment and production

- * Practical, relatable insight and use of Scripture in a worship service
- * Strong interpersonal skills
- * Proven ability to work well as part of a team
- * Ability to lead and empower volunteers
- * Ability to relate well with people of all ages
- * Minimum of two years' experience participating in or leading a band
- * An AA degree, degree in progress, or certificated program

Email resume to <u>mjedmond@verizon.net</u>
La Verne Heights Presbyterian Church
1040 Baseline Road, La Verne, CA 91750

Director of Children's Ministries

San Marino Community Church (1750 Virginia Road, San Marino, CA 91108) is seeking a part time director of Children's Ministries to direct and support the spiritual formation and Christian education of children (birth -5th grade) and to administer related programs. The director works in collaboration with the Associate Pastor for Family Ministries. (20 hours/week). See the full job description at http://smccpby.com/resources/jobs.



ITEMS OF INTEREST

Big Tent Event July 6 - 8 St. Louis, MO

Visit http://oga.pcusa.org/section/churchwide-ministries/big-tent-2017/

Angel Interfaith Network Fundraiser

Louise Inouye and the Presbyterian Women of First Presbyterian Church of Altadena are planning an Angel Interfaith Network Fundraiser on August 19, 2017 and you are invited! Reservations are \$35 and must be made by August 10. Contact Alice Young weekdays between 9 AM and noon for more information at (626)791-4271.

Stewardship Kaleidoscope

September 25-27, 2017
St. Pete Beach, Florida - TradeWinds Island Grand Resort visit www.stewardshipkaleidoscope.org for more information

National Church Planter's Conference - Exponential 2017 Oct. 2-5 in Southern California. If you would like to attend at the lowest price of the year \$99, please contact Jake Kim, Associate for Ministry Development at

jakekim@sangabpres.org. This special pricing is available until June 17, before prices go up. Exponential is an enlightening, encouraging, and energizing event for church planters & their teams, and those considering planting a church. https://exponential.org/events/2017west/

APCE Annual Event
Deep & Wide - Boundless Hospitality
January 31 - February 3, 2018
The Galt House, Louisville, KY
Visit www.apcenet.org for more information

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