

Presbytery of San Gabriel

MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

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Monday, February 12, 2018

IN THIS ISSUE WINTERFEST SURVEY ASH WEDNESDAY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY A REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA HURRICANE RELIEF AND REGUILDING IN PUERTO RICO ST DAVID'S DAY CELEBRATION 2018 PRESBYTERY MEETINGS 2018 PRESBYTERY MINIMUMS ITEMS OF INTEREST

PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember Pasadena Presbyterian Church of Pasadena in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, February 18, 2018.

ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Monday, February 12 - Personnel Committee 1:00 at Westminster, Temple City **Thursday, February 15 -** Justice, Peacemaking and Mission 11:30 at Knox, Pasadena

Associate Stated Clerk/Administrator, Twila French will be out of the office this week.

The Presbytery Office will be closed on Monday, February 19 in observance of Presidents Day.



If you attended Winterfest in January, <u>would you please take 5</u> <u>minutes to fill out this feedback survey</u>? Your input will help the Education Committee make plans for additional education opportunities throughout the year and in the future.

<u>Ash Wednesday 2018 -</u> <u>Volunteer Opportunity</u>

As you might imagine, Ash Wednesday is a very busy day at LAC+USC Hospital!

Christians around the world observe Ash Wednesday by confronting their mortality and receiving an ash cross that reaffirms their repentance from sin and their belief in the



Gospel. Because of their illness or a 12 hour shift, many Christians are bound to the hospital grounds and unable to receive this blessing. Last year, the chaplains and community volunteers shared this blessing with over 1400 people at LAC+USC!

—This Is Where You Come In —

If you are interested in helping us out, we would love it! Basically the ashes are offered all day long to patients, their families and hospital staff, but the peak demand is in the morning, between 9-noon. Both clergy and laity welcome to lend a hand. I can't think of a better way to celebrate love this Valentine's Day!

If you are interested to joining us from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m, or if you have questions, please email me at <u>Elizabeth.GibbsZehnder@gmail.com</u>.

A REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA

Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. *Isaiah 58:12*

Reflection

This coming week is the beginning of Lent. It's been mildly amusing hearing pastors wonder whether they need to adjust their plans this year, since Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day and the Western Day of Resurrection falls on April Fools' Day. (The Orthodox Church celebrates Easter on April 8th.) I know of several churches who will hold their Ash Wednesday service in the evening; I thought some might consider moving it to earlier in the day, so folks can take their ashen foreheads out to Valentine's dinner. Millason Dailey mentioned that last year, Calvary Presbyterian in South Pasadena held their Ash Wednesday service VERY early in the morning. They had a terrific idea to hold a Mardi Gras party at a local restaurant late at night, and then at midnight they walked to the church to commemorate Ash Wednesday. Celebrating the party nature of Mardi Gras right before the beginning of Lent reminds me of the many ways the Bible warns us about the "shiny objects" of the world distracting us from the profound connection of faith and obedience that God calls us to. For some of us, it is easy to get distracted by our culture of materialism and self-indulgence, especially in affluent societies like the United States. Because of this, many practice some form of fasting and self-denial for Lent. But we are reminded that God does not want a show of sacrifice as much as our commitment to follow God's will for justice and care for the hungry and the oppressed:

Is not this the fast that I choose:

- to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free,
 - and to break every yoke? (Isaiah 58:6)

Each year, the PC(USA) produces a Lenten devotional. You can purchase the 2018 version, focusing on the prophets and Jesus as bearers and the fulfillment of God's will for justice and restoration, at the newly-consolidated PCUSA Store <u>here</u>. There are certainly countless opportunities for our churches, as the body of Christ in the world, to call for and live into Jesus Christ's ministry of justice, restoration, and reconciliation. Just as we can point to the empty nature of worldly self-indulgence, if we honestly assess our brokenness and need for grace, we can appreciate the miracle of Christ's victory over death, knowing that God will go to any length to save us even from disasters of our own making. So as we enter into the season of Lent, as we contemplate the great gift of Jesus being willing to give his all for our sake, perhaps we can adopt Lenten practices not only of sacrifice but also identifying ways we can further Christ's ministry of reconciliation.

As an example, the opening of the Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang has been emotional for some of us. There have been hopes for reunification of the Korean Peninsula, and I imagine that the idea of reconciliation in Korea is not just a geopolitical act but also a family one, including for many Korean Christians. You may know that the Presbyterian Church in Korea started over 130 years ago, mostly in the north, centered in Pyongyang. But many (or most) Korean Christians had to flee to South Korea to avoid persecution. So many of our Christian Korean brothers and sisters have family roots in North Korea. Following Isaiah's prophecy of God's saving will for Israel, the Presbyterian/Reformed Church in Scotland, the United States, Taiwan, Korea, and elsewhere helped to support the cause of sovereignty for people who faced oppression from outside forces. I believe that this yearning for restoration of nation, church, and family is strong in the heart of Korean Presbyterians, and I pray for the shalom that comes when God's saving will is realized. I pray that God shows us how we all may be reunited, in spite of past hurts and threats of violence, through the peace of God which surpasses all our understanding.

So as we enter into the season of Lent, may we all see God's light even in times of darkness, and may we also resist the shiny objects of the world, that we may hold to the eternal power of God's grace, for ourselves, for our families, our churches, even to all the nations.

In faith, Wendy



Transforming Loss: Finding Potential for Growth is designed to assist counselors and others working with bereaved persons, the tools to support and encourage transformative growth and will supply self-help advice for the bereaved themselves. The presentation will highlight factors associated with resilience and post-traumatic growth factors.

After the program, a local panel of grief professionals will provide further information and local resources and be available to answer any questions.

You're invited to attend our local program and panel discussion. There is no cost to attend.

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

Registration/Continental breakfast: 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Teleconference: 8:30 - 10:45 a.m. Local panel discussion: 11:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Huntington Hospital

Braun Auditorium 100 W. California Blvd. Pasadena, CA 91105

Call 626.397.5000 for directions, or visit http://www. huntingtonghospital.org/Find-Us/Maps-Parking.aspx Parking is \$6

Information at hospicefoundation.org/professionals

VITAS Healthcare 800.93.VITAS VITAS.com



Local panel:

- Rev. Alice Parsons Zulli, FT, BCPC, Chaplain, Adventist Health Glendale Director, Beyond Loss Bereavement Support & Services
- Jennifer R. Levin, MFT PhD Grief therapist, Therapy Heals
- Suzie Kline, PhD, NP, LAc Manager of Integrative Oncology at Huntington Hospital Cancer Center
- Pierre-Etienne Vannier, MSC, CHT Mind-Body Practitioner & Program Development Specialist

RSVP to Hanan Salim at Huntington Hospital Senior Network by March 16, Hanan.Salim@ huntingtonhospital.com or 626.397.5951

Free of charge; open to the public.

Free continuing education credits area available through the Hospice Foundation of America. Instructions will be provided to healthcare professionals at the conclusion of the program. Attendance required for CEs.

B-20507

Hurricane Relief and Rebuilding in Puerto Rico - Summer 2018

Would you like to help with the relief effort in Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria? International Mission Partnerships and Crosscultural Training (IMPACT) is taking applications for



a trip this summer. IMPACT is a local faith-based organization that trains and sends out mission groups each year to places where they have local contacts. IMPACT will be partnering with All Hands and Hearts or World Renew this summer to put together a clean-

up and recovery trip to Puerto Rico. The cross-cultural training dates are June 25-28 and it takes place in Southern CA. Directly after training the group will travel to Puerto Rico and is scheduled to return on July 10. Applications are being accepted now and are due Feb. 10, so don't delay. For more information about IMPACT and to apply go to: https://www.impact-theglobe.org/



Third Annual St. David's Day Celebration at Monte Vista Grove Homes in Pasadena

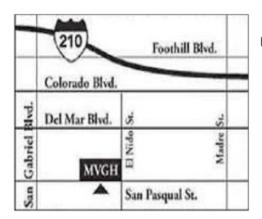
Come Learn about Wales as we sing to the Glory of God from *Glory to God* (the new Presbyterian hymnal) following the Welsh tradition of a *Gymanfa Ganu*

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2018 at 2 p.m. in Marwick Place

Special Music by Côr Cymraeg De Califfornia

(Welsh Choir of Southern California)

A Tê Bach (of Welsh and British goodies) will follow



Directions to Monte Vista Grove Homes at 2889 San Pasqual Street, Pasadena, California 91107

Park on San Pasqual Street or El Nido Street or on the Campus and look for signs for the *St. David's Day Celebration*

For more information please contact Huw Christopher (850) 209-6931 or huwchristopher@gmail.com

<u>St. Davids Day</u>

2018 Presbytery Meetings

April 21, 2018 @ Claremont Presbyterian Church

June 2, 2018 - Including Day of Service @ Westminster Gardens, Duarte September 15, 2018 @ Calvary Presbyterian Church, South Pasadena November 10, 2018 @ First Thai Presbyterian Church, Covina

2018 Presbyery Minimums

Pastor's Miminum Salary: \$53,745 Travel/Professional Expense Reimbursement: \$2,550 Study Leave: \$950

2018 Mileage Reimbursement Rates:

Ministry .545 cents per mile Business .545 cents per mile Charitable 14 cents per mile

Quick Links

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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

PRAISE BAND WORSHIP LEADER - SUNDAY MORNING

Calvary Presbyterian Church in Riverside, CA, is looking for a talented singer/musician and worship leader for our Sunday 8:45 a.m. Contemporary worship service, The Gathering. Coordinating with the pastors, Worship Leader selects all songs for this service to compliment the scripture texts. Also directs Praise Band including two vocalists and one pianist/vocalist; leads monthly 2-hr. practice; and 30-minute warm-up on Sunday morning before worship. Ideally, Worship Leader would have 3+ years of experience leading praise worship and band, play guitar or other instrument, and have experience working with and encouraging other musicians to create spirit-led, inspired praise worship. We are a vibrant downtown church with 30-40 people in this service. Paid position. Send details to Debbie Neal at church@calvarypresch.com

Open Position - Director of Outreach

Claremont Presbyterian Church is seeking a Director of Outreach. This is a full time position.

Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor's degree and three

years' experience working in a church, nonprofit, or similar organization. Some post-graduate work preferred. Salary will be commensurate with experience.

<u>To apply:</u> Submit resume, cover letter, and three current references in pdf format

to <u>claremontpresapnc@gmail.com</u>. Applications will be received until the position is filled.

Click <u>HERE</u> for a complete job description.



ITEMS OF INTEREST

Transitions. . .Making Marriage Work A Four-Week Enrichment Course with Lisa & John Massaro Tuesdays, February 6 - 27 6:30-8:00 pm San Marino Community Church The cost for this 4-week program is \$50 per couple, which covers a copy of Dr. Gottman's Book, *Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work*, plus two workbooks. Please visit <u>https://smcc.breezechms.com/form/Marriage</u> to register. **Deadline to register is January 28.**

St. David's Day Celebration

Saturday, February 24 2:00 pm Marwick Place - Monte Vista Grove Homes Come Learn about Wales as we sing to the Glory of God from *Glory to God (the new Presbyterian hymnal)* following the Welsh tradition of a *Gymanfa Ganu*

2018 Mosaic of Peace - A Presbyterian Peacemaking Conference in Israel/Palestine.

April 29 - May 12, 2018 Apply online at presbyterianmission.org/mosaic through November 15, 2017 For more information visit presbyterianmission.org/mosaic or call 800-728-7228 x5805

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