



## Presbytery of San Gabriel

# MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

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Tuesday, February 20, 2018

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### IN THIS ISSUE

[WINTERFEST SURVEY](#)

[A REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA](#)

[COME SING TOGETHER - EXPLORE OUR NEW HYMNAL](#)

[HURRICANE RELIEF AND REGUILDING IN PUERTO RICO](#)

[ST DAVID'S DAY CELEBRATION](#)

[2018 PRESBYTERY MEETINGS](#)

[2018 PRESBYTERY MINIMUMS](#)

[EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES](#)

[ITEMS OF INTEREST](#)

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## PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember Trinity Presbyterian Church of Pasadena in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, February 25, 2018.



And today, please lift up First Presbyterian Church of Pomona, Pastor Adam Donner, the Hwang and Robinson families, and all who grieve Jonah Hwang.

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## ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

**Tuesday, February 20** - Committee on Representation and Nominations 12:30 at Shepherd of the Valley, Hacienda Heights

**Thursday, February 22** - Administration and Finance 2:30 at the Presbytery Center, Temple City

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# WINTERFest Survey

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

## A REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA

Just then some men came, carrying a paralyzed man on a bed. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus; but finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus. *Luke 5:18-19*

### Reflection

Today is the one-year anniversary of the death of Jonah Hwang. Jonah was an 8-year-old child of First Presbyterian Church of Pomona. On February 20, 2017, Jonah and his family were at a dinner at the home of some other church leaders, the Robinson family. Jonah was playing with five other kids in the living room when a man drove by and shot at the house. A bullet went through the wall and killed Jonah.

The police arrested the man who killed Jonah, but it's not clear why this happened. The man did not have a record of violence, yet he shot at this one house four different times (the other three times no one was at home). As a Pomona Police captain said, "We don't have a relationship or the motive. [Jonah's parents and their friends] are very good families. They go to the same church. Everyone involved is a teacher."

On Sunday their church, our church, held a service of lament. It's been a hard year, and the grief continues to weigh heavily on the families involved, their friends, and the church. For some, their faith in God has been severely strained. The church and friends are doing what they can; one person said, "The people of the church have been great. It's God I'm having trouble with."

For many reasons I love the story of the man whose friends carried him to Jesus. One of several unique aspects of this story is the place of faith. Unlike other healing stories when Jesus says that the faith of the person in need leads to their healing, here Jesus comments on the faith of the friends. So I have at times considered that for some of us, we may not need to be carried for physical disabilities; for some of us, we need to be carried by our community of faith when our own faith is weak.

While we all hope for the gift of faith—certainly Jonah's friends and family continue to wait for God to offer just a glimpse of hope or understanding of how such a horrible tragedy

could occur-perhaps this sharing of faith is another way that God shows grace even when we don't ask for it. If Jesus bears our sins to the cross that we may be free, then we as the body of Christ can hold up each other before the throne of grace and pray for comfort and a renewed faith in the face of unspeakable pain.

As we go through the season of Lent, I think of this as the time when we reflect on who we are, and who God is, and the great lengths God will go to save us. John Calvin's *Institutes of the Christian Religion* begins with the premise

Our wisdom, in so far as it ought to be deemed true and solid Wisdom, consists almost entirely of two parts: the knowledge of God and of ourselves.

The 12-Step version of this is, "There is a God, and I'm not Him."

When sitting with Jonah's friends, I confess I kept hoping to come up with some words that would help, but there are no words for this pain. All I could dwell on is that God's horizon is so much wider and farther out than we can understand, and to give thanks that our sister church is carrying these families in the meantime, holding them in their own broken hearts.

This tragedy is mirrored and magnified with the senseless killing of 17 people at a high school in Parkland, Florida. One of the responses of some of the survivors is a rejection of offers of prayer, because they see it as a way of avoiding action. As I consider the grief of First Pomona, and the burden our brother Adam Donner is carrying as their pastor, I offer prayer because I believe in prayer, and because I can think of nothing else to offer. I am grateful that First Pomona has in fact offered prayer, in many forms, while they also act-by helping the survivors in tangible ways; through worship and Bible study and partnerships with other churches; and by continuing their ministries in the community through Pomona Hope, their partnership with Syrian refugees, a community art space and garden, and community organizing.

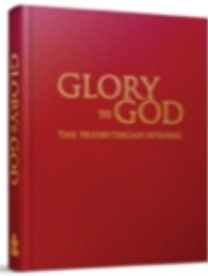
Lent is the season when I am most aware of how limited we are-frail, mortal, and broken by sin and fear. And yet, God sends us Jesus, who loves us even to the point of death-and who calls us to love others in like fashion. May we open up our hearts, our prayers, our resources, our lives, in order to show God's love to all who need to know the peace of Jesus Christ-in our churches and in the world around us.

On a totally different note, I want to share that I have been given the opportunity to attend the World Council of Churches Conference on Mission and Evangelism as part of the delegation from the PC(USA). The conference is in early March in Tanzania, so I will be out of the office and possibly out of communication for the first half of March. I'm sorry I didn't say anything earlier but I wasn't sure it was going to happen. I am very excited about this opportunity; I have always wanted to go to Africa but this will be my first trip. Of course the continent is huge so one trip to one country will barely scratch the surface, but I am most grateful to be able to experience even this much. James Lee, member of our Presbytery and President of International Theological Seminary, visits Africa regularly, as several of our partner churches in Africa send students to ITS. He recently shared that:

According to a recent Pew Research study, by 2050, the number of Christians in North America and Europe will account for only 25 percent of the world's Christian population. Sub-Saharan Africa will account for close to 40 percent, Latin America 23 percent, Asia-Pacific 13 percent.

Surely, as we reflect on who we are as individuals, as local churches, and as the global church, we see that while yes we are small and fallible, Christ who calls us can do amazing work through us. To God be the glory.

[CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD A COPY OF THE FLYER](#)



## Come, SING TOGETHER

### Explore our New Hymnal

*Hymn Studies! A Saturday St. David's Day Celebration! Convocations!*

#### 1. *Two Tuesday Hymn Studies*

*"Glory to God: Reflections on the New Presbyterian Hymnal"*

- topical reflections on *Glory to God* hymnal
- guided singing and your choices of hymns

**Tuesday, March 6 and 13**      Rebecca Thompson      4:00 pm

#### 2. *St. David's Day Celebration, Special Music by Côr Cymraeg*

- Includes singing from our *Glory to God* hymnal, following the Welsh tradition of Gymnanfa Ganu

**Saturday, February 24**      Huw Christopher      2:00 pm

#### 3. *Two Thursday Convocations*

*"Hymns in Glory to God: Favorites, Surprises, and Everything in Between"*

**Thursday, March 15**      Eric Wall, Austin Seminary      4:00 pm  
Includes our Hymnal Dedication

**Thursday, June 7**      Rebecca Thompson      4:00 pm

All Sessions are at Marwick Place  
**Monte Vista Grove Homes**  
2889 San Pasqual Street, Pasadena, California

**Coming to MVGH**  
**Eric Wall, Sacred Music Professor**  
**To Present and Dedicate**  
**The New GLORY TO GOD Hymnal:**  
**Favorites, Surprises, & Everything in Between**  
**Thursday, March 15 at 4:00 PM**  
**In Marwick Place**

Eric Wall, Assistant Professor of Sacred Music and Dean of the Chapel at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, will be here at Monte Vista Grove Homes on March 15 as Convocation speaker. At Austin Seminary, Eric is the seminary musician who oversees the seminary worship life. He also teaches courses related to church music and worship. Eric serves as Conference Center Musician for Montreat Conference Center in North Carolina, where he spends the summer season overseeing the music for Summer Worship, directing the summer staff choir, and offering concerts and lectures. From 1998 to 2015, he was Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church, Asheville, North Carolina.

Eric has contributed to Call to Worship, the journal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Office of Theology and Worship, to The Christian Century, and to the Hymn Society's journal The Hymn. He regularly serves the larger church by providing music and planning leadership for a variety of conferences and gatherings and by serving as a music and worship consultant for other Presbyterian churches. He has taught as an adjunct professor at Columbia Theological Seminary. He holds memberships in the Presbyterian Association of Musicians, The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada, and the American Guild of Organists (Dean of Western North Carolina Chapter, 2009 - 2011). He received a Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance in 1991 and a Master of Music in Choral Conducting in 1993, both from Florida State University.

His knowledge of and appreciation/passion for congregational song helped energize and fortify every worship service. Through his respect for the old and his enthusiastic embracing of the new, congregants came to experience Glory to God, not only as a "new hymnal" but also as a beloved book. Glory to God connects us with and affirms our past, while giving sound to new vision and challenges facing the church in the 21st century.

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!**

[Click HERE to download a copy of the flyer](#)





## Transforming Loss: Finding Potential for Growth

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.huntingtonhospital.org/Find-Us/Maps-Parking.aspx>

Parking is \$6

Information at [hospicefoundation.org/professionals](http://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](mailto: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 Cross-cultural 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/>



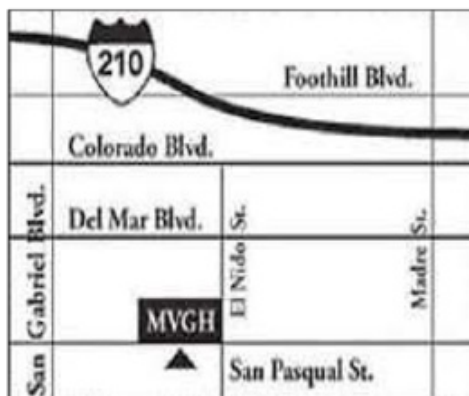
Third Annual  
**St. David's Day Celebration**  
at Monte Vista Grove Homes  
in Pasadena

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 California**  
(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](mailto:huwchristopher@gmail.com)

[St. Davids Day](#)

## 2018 Presbytery Meetings

April 21, 2018 @ Claremont Presbyterian Church

June 2, 2018 - Including Day of Service @ Westminster Gardens, Duarte

## 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

Charitable 14 cents per mile

Business .545 cents per mile

### Quick Links

[www.sangabpres.org](http://www.sangabpres.org)

[www.synod.org](http://www.synod.org)

[www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org)

[www.pensions.org](http://www.pensions.org)

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

#### **SUNDAY MORNING NURSERY CARE SUPERVISOR**

Trinity Presbyterian Church, 3740 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Pasadena, is seeking a caring, compassionate individual who has experience caring for children newborn to four years to supervise and coordinate our Sunday morning nursery care. We are committed to providing exceptional care for our little ones. If have a background in childcare and you are patient, kind and enjoy caring for children, we hope you will contact us about this position.

The Nursery Care Supervisor is responsible for providing age-appropriate care which includes: feeding, changing diapers, escorting to the bathroom, maintaining a safe environment, putting children down for naps, holding, or sitting with and cheerfully interacting with children through games, stories and play. The NCS is also responsible for maintaining a tidy environment in our nursery.

Hours are 9:30 - 11:30 every Sunday morning with worship being held from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. with occasional opportunities to work for additional special events.

Compensation is \$25/hour.

Qualifications:

- experience caring for children ages 0 - 4
- must be dependable



- ability to supervise teenage nursery care assistants
- satisfactory completion of a background check
- CPR training for infants and children is highly desirable (church is willing to pay for certification course)
- Must be current with immunizations and tb testing

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Rev. Cyndie Crowell in the church office at 626-351-8823 or call 626-676-6767.

### **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](mailto: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.

To apply: Submit resume, cover letter, and three current references in pdf format to [claremontpresapnc@gmail.com](mailto:claremontpresapnc@gmail.com). Applications will be received until the position is filled.

Click [HERE](#) for a complete job description.

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## **ITEMS OF INTEREST**

### **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***

### **The Many Faces of Dementia: It's Not All Alzheimer's Disease**

A one day conference designed to bring together health care professionals, clinical researchers, residential care facility and community agency administrators, and providers in the greater Los Angeles area, who provide care for persons with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

Friday, March 16, 2018 - USC Radisson Hotel

Click [HERE](#) to download a copy of the registration flyer

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

April 29 - May 12, 2018

Apply online at [presbyterianmission.org/mosaic](http://presbyterianmission.org/mosaic) through November 15, 2017

For more information visit [presbyterianmission.org/mosaic](http://presbyterianmission.org/mosaic) or call 800-728-7228 x5805

### **PRESBYTERIAN OLDER ADULT MINISTRIES**

#### **SAVORING THE JOURNEY CONFERENCE**

"So that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord." Acts 3:20a

JUNE 5-8, 2018

ZEPHYR POINT PRESBYTERIAN CONFERENCE CENTER

660 HWY 50, ZEPHYR COVE, NV 89448

Click [HERE](#) to download the conference flyer