



Presbytery of San Gabriel

MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

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Monday, April 2, 2018

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PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember Grace Taiwanese Presbyterian Church of Temple City in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, April 8, 2018.

ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Monday, April 2 - Commission on Ministry 5:00 at Trinity, Pasadena

Antiracism Training, led by Rev. Eric Law of Kaleidoscope Institute (Open to all)

April 14 (Sat) 9 AM to 12 PM

Monte Vista Grove Homes, Marwick Place

2889 San Pasqual St., Pasadena

Lunch is provided with RSVP. Please RSVP with Fried Wilson at

friedwilson@synod.org

A REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER,

It is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. *John 16:7*

Reflection

Happy Easter!

I pray that you had a promise-filling and inspiring Resurrection Day.

In fact, I had a full and meaningful Holy Week, and hope you did too. I witnessed churches trying new ways of experiencing Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. I went to a sunrise service on Easter morning, the first one I've attended since coming back to California 10 years ago (they don't seem as popular as when I was growing up, or still practiced in Hawai'i). This sunrise service was given by Pasadena Presbyterian Church, as they are experimenting with new ways of being intercultural in worship and ministry. It was very encouraging to me, partly because it was the best representation of the full PPC community gathered in one place. I mentioned that to a couple of PPC folks, and they said yes, and they experienced that same fullness at their Maundy Thursday supper.

I also attended a very productive meeting with the Vision and Strategy Team, who looked back on our presbytery's current mission statement to gain clarity in mission that I found excitingly helpful-I'm sure this will be discussed in the future. I also have had the opportunity to speak with churches who are seeking new pastors, and possible candidates for some of our churches. This weekend, I also prayed for a new pastorate with Rev. Yanchih "Yank" Lee, who started on Easter Sunday as co-pastor of Shepherd of the Valley.

Of course, we are reminded that beginnings often require something else to end, just as Jesus' saving death had to happen on Good Friday in order for him to be resurrected on Easter. So I also pray for churches and pastors in our presbytery who are facing transitions. On March 31, Rev. Roger Shervington retired from Eagle Rock Presbyterian Church, and Rev. James Peng retired from Shepherd of the Valley. As Shepherd of the Valley continues to seek a co-pastor for their English worship service, Rev. Nancy Moore contemplates her eventual departure. And Rev. Thomas Chen fulfilled his temporary pastor contract with Grace Taiwanese in March, and chose to return to his home in Nevada. So we now have eight churches seeking pastoral leadership.

Through these transitions, I trust that the church leaders continue and even further the ministry of the church, empowered by the Holy Spirit, as Jesus predicted so long ago. Even in his resurrected state, Jesus was transformed, and warned Mary not to cling to him. He would not remain in that form for long, as God's plan is not for the church to depend on any one human leader, but for all of us to serve together, gathered as Christ's body in the world.

I witnessed this in my own life, as the ministry of the Presbytery did not miss a beat in my absence. I have always believed that the goal of pastoral leadership is to help strengthen the body of Christ, so the ministry continues strong after a leader leaves-and that pertains to executive presbyters as well as pastors. So for those who led in my absence, thank you.

As for me, I am back from Africa, though my sleep rhythms are still off, and I don't have any coherent reflection on the trip, only snippets of thoughts and observations and learnings, such as:

- A scholar stated that of the 25 million Christians in her home country of India, 70% are

Dalit (untouchables). Though many converted to Christianity because they saw our faith as one of liberation that taught all people are created and loved by God, there are still vestiges of the caste system practiced within the church, which shows the ways we all struggle with external social pressure that threaten to distort our Christian values.

- One Albanian Orthodox priest shared how they have faced resistance from Muslims. When building a church, the Muslims threw stones at them-which the Christians then used as part of their building material! A lovely rendering of 1 Peter 2:4-10.
- Tanzania's official national language is Swahili, but English is also predominant, and the World Council of Churches conducts virtually all their business in English. I looked at the 1,000 attendees from all over the world, and I would guess that at least 75% of them are not native English speakers. I realized that the prevalence of English made Tanzania feel less foreign to me than countries that are more similar to the US, but where English is not dominant. I became aware of the role language plays in identity and security, and while I was straining to stay alert in the conference (the sessions went from 8:30 in the morning to 9:00 at night), I could only imagine how tiring it would be if English was not my first language. I also reflected on how spoiled we English-speakers are at this moment in history, when English is the closest thing there is to a universal language, and how difficult it may be for our immigrant church members, who must adopt a foreign language and culture.
- I did have a chance to go to Ngorongoro Crater on safari (yes, they really use that word). What an incredible experience! I have never before felt as I did there, like I had been transported to the Garden of Eden, where God's order is lived out in peace.

Perhaps I will continue to "process" my experiences and learnings, and can speak of my own transformations in future columns.

In the meantime, God's blessings be upon you this Eastertide. May the joy and power of Christ's resurrection continue to encourage and embolden us as we proclaim in word and deed the saving grace of our Lord.

Peace and new life to you,
Wendy

Consider the Conversation

Living well....Dying well



Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Westminster Gardens, Packard Hall
1420 Santo Domingo Ave., Duarte, 91010

Choose Your Time: 8:30 - 10:30am or 5:30 - 7:30pm
Free Parking, Continental Breakfast or Evening Appetizers

Video excerpt followed by facilitated discussion



RSVP by April 13th to: Hanan.Salim@huntingtonhospital.com
For more information: San Gabriel Valley End of Life Care Coalition 626-397-5951

Meet us in St. Louis Meet us at Stewardship Kaleidoscope September 24-26, 2018

Looking for ways to transform how your church or judicatory views stewardship? This year's Stewardship Kaleidoscope conference will help you think about generosity in a whole new way! Stewardship Kaleidoscope is an annual event offering keynote speakers and workshops to renew your mind, and worship experiences to renew your spirit. There will also be plenty of time for incredible networking opportunities with others passionate about generosity and giving. Since you've attended a previous Stewardship Kaleidoscope event, we thought you'd want to be among the first to know about this year's transformative event. [SEE MORE](#) and [REGISTER HERE](#)

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

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

www.synod.org

www.pcusa.org

www.pensions.org

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Church Administrator

Pasadena Presbyterian Church, 585 East Colorado Boulevard, Pasadena is seeking an individual to be responsible for efficiently administering the office operations in order to provide a welcoming and well run church, for the church members, staff and visitors. The current office operations staff includes a full-time facilities director, a full-time bookkeeper, a full-time administrative assistant and a part-time administrative assistant. This position will assist the Personnel Committee as the primary resource person for human resources matters. He/she will also work closely with the bookkeeper to ensure that financial statements are accurate and timely.

Qualifications include:

- 5+ years of supervisory experience including experience in the area of Accounting and Human Resources
- Experience working in a non-profit organization, preferably a church
- Strong working knowledge of office computer systems: Outlook, Excel, Word, PowerPoint, church accounting software, database software and willingness to learn new systems.

Compensation: \$65,000 - \$75,000 based on experience and ability with medical coverage included.

To apply: Submit resume, and cover letter pdf format to the attention of the Personnel Committee at ppchr@ppc.net. Please go to our website: ppc.net for a detailed job description. Applications will be received until the position is filled.

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.

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

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



ITEMS OF INTEREST

DON'T BLOW YOUR BUDGET

Practical Advice That Works

Linda Neuenburg

April 14th @ 5:30

Babysitting is available

9723 Garibaldi Ave, Temple City, CA 91780

Click on the following video link for more information:

<https://youtu.be/ZoID-aaEC28>

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

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

Save the Date - La Casa's Annual Fundraising Dinner

Thursday, October 11, 2018 6 P.M.

LA/San Gabriel Hilton