



Presbytery of San Gabriel

MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

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Monday, April 23, 2018

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PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember Alhambra True Light Presbyterian Church in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, April 29, 2018.

ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Associate for Ministry Development, TE Jake Kim will be out of the office this week.

Executive Presbyter, TE Wendy Tajima will be out of the office Wednesday - Friday this week.

**A REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER,
WENDY TAJIMA**

"... work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for God's good pleasure."

Philippians 2:12b-13

Reflection

This weekend we had a Presbytery meeting at Claremont Presbyterian Church, and we thank them for their warm welcome. The meeting did not have big surprises or conflicts, but we confirmed several transitions that have been discussed:

- we officially approved the sale of the former South Hills property in Pomona, which has been marketed for months;
- we approved Roger Shervington's retirement and prayed for him and wife Sandy as they are both facing health issues;
- we transferred out John D'Elia and Steve Yamaguchi as they are already serving churches in neighboring presbyteries;
- we commissioned the 9-person team going to Lima in May for a Living Waters for the World installation;
- we celebrated the positive resolution of the fraud faced by our Baldwin Park church;
- we heard updates on the move towards negotiations with Alhambra True Light if they are to be dismissed;
- we considered ways to support our veteran members of small churches who can no longer manage the property, and look ahead to serve underserved communities; and
- we heard about Pomona Hope's efforts to secure a new location for their Center Street Community Garden, and we gathered over \$1,000 for this important productive and green space in the city, in loving memory of Jonah Hwang (this includes at least one on-line gift; you can still give at saveourgarden.org).

But most of the meeting was dedicated to sharing knowledge about becoming better stewards of Creation, and witnessing to God's love and justice with neighbors as close as Pomona and as far as Peru. I think this was the most educational meeting we've had (other than WinterFest, of course)-I can tell by the number of people who followed up with questions about urban farming and food security (as mentioned by Claremont and Pomona), or PILP's Restoring Creation or Accessibility loans with reduced interest, or ways we can reduce landfill waste.

I am especially happy with a fresh way of looking at our vision as a Presbytery, which the Vision and Strategy Team will use to guide them as they consider how to support and form healthy congregations. They found the vision of the Presbytery-and the marks of a healthy congregation-in our existing mission statement, focusing on how we "work for the transformation of the valley by sharing our faith in Jesus Christ, becoming a mosaic of Godly diversity in a deeply divided society, and by demonstrating our faith by engagement in public life." In other words, how do we transform our communities by making disciples of Jesus Christ, by reflecting God's creativity in making us diverse but one, and by bringing the love of God into the world?

Early in the meeting, the Presbytery also voted to offer new 3-year contracts to Diane Frasher as Stated Clerk and myself as Executive Presbyter, effective on our anniversary of May 2nd. Thank you for your confidence and commitment, and I pray that we can continue to serve you well in the coming three years.

This moment prompted me to reflect on where we've been and where we might be

going. I found a summary of my first report to the Presbytery four years ago (I have been here four years, as the first year was an interim year). I listed four priorities for my work in San Gabriel:

1. To look at who we are now, and how to have our leadership better reflect our membership.
2. To identify gaps in our ministry coverage of the region in which we are responsible for proclaiming the gospel.
3. To assess our financial and property resources with the goal of ensuring they are aligned with our current needs and opportunities.
4. To make structural changes (such as coming out of a long sabbatical period) so we can focus on the needed work of Presbytery support and leadership.

Of course, we must continue the core part of our work as a presbytery, which is supporting and walking with our congregations as we all seek to follow God's call for this time and this place.

As I look back and consider future priorities, I see the following:

1. Our leadership does look more like our membership in race and ethnicity and age, as we have people of diverse backgrounds and younger leadership while we continue to rely on active and retired leaders to serve. The one area we are still lacking is ruling elder leadership. We Presbyterians are big believers in shared leadership among all of God's people, especially the importance of balancing ruling elder and teaching elder authority, but we still have far too few ruling elders in elected presbytery leadership.
2. With the departure of several churches, we need to look at the communities in the center of our Presbytery, and how we can better serve them. Several of our Presbytery leaders are considering this, including the ACs of Community West Covina and Baldwin Park, the Administration and Finance Committee, and the Vision and Strategy Team. We are starting to look at redevelopment for our existing churches and properties, while seeking to start new ministries.
3. We do have financial reserves and active participation from member churches to sustain the Presbytery, though we are using restricted funds in a way that is cautious but not sustainable long-term. We are also looking at new ways of managing property, to free up new and older congregations from the burden of maintaining buildings, and to provide some income, which lessens the financial need for our congregations to cover the costs of the Presbytery.
4. One of my first tasks was to work with others to rewrite the bylaws. In doing so, we created three committees (Justice Peacemaking and Mission, Education, and Vision and Strategy) that have provided great leadership for the Presbytery while also offering new entryways to leadership. Most of the members of these committees have never served on a Presbytery committee before. Looking at this last meeting, most of the new learning came from these committees. In addition, we utilize ACs more extensively, not as a weapon but as the best way for the Presbytery to commit gifted leaders to work more deeply with a congregation, and there are many examples of how the ACs have already helped congregations deal with issues that would have been too complex or painful to handle on their own.

There has been a lot of great work and progress over the years, and much that needs to be done. I look forward to continuing to move forward with you as we seek to be ever more faithful servants of God in this valley.

Blessings,
Wendy

2018 REVIEW OF RECORDS

Saturday, May 4 10:00 am at Shepherd of the Valley Presbyterian Church, Hacienda Heights

Saturday, October 13, 2018 at New Hope Presbyterian Church, Pasadena

La Casa Open House



La Casa de San Gabriel
Community Center

**LA CASA DE SAN GABRIEL
PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE**

**Friday April 27, 2018
5:30-6:30 PM**

COME SEE WHAT OUR PRESCHOOLERS HAVE
BEEN UP TO THIS YEAR!
WE WILL HAVE A FEW COMMUNITY RESOURCE
BOOTHES AND FOOD FOR PURCHASE!

626-286-2144

www.lacasacommunitycenter.org

Third Annual Interfaith Solidarity March, April 29, 2-6 p.m.

This march is 1.1 miles, starting at Wilshire Boulevard (Jewish) Temple (3663 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles), with brief stops at St. Basil Roman Catholic Church and our own Immanuel Presbyterian Church, where Steve Yamaguchi now serves, and arrives at The Islamic Center of Southern California (434 S. Vermont Avenue). Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. at Wilshire Boulevard Temple, and speakers and community-building will form the program at the Islamic Center. For more information, email InterfaithMarchLA@gmail.com, or phone (323) 454-0557. Go to InterfaithMarchLA for more information, including flyers. The march is organized by

the Institute for Religious Tolerance, Peace and Justice, a nonprofit partnership of Los Angeles-area religious groups, including Immanuel. The march is situated in what is called the "Wilshire Cluster" of well-established religious groups from several Abrahamic faiths in what we now call Koreatown. My internship at Immanuel was one of the most important years of my life. While there, I first met Bob Linthicum, who was doing community organizing with the Wilshire Cluster.

Register Now for the POAMN Conference, June 5-8, 2018 at Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Center!

Download the full [conference brochure](#), complete and return the registration pages.

Or complete electronically [here](#).

SAVORING THE JOURNEY

"So that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord."

Acts 3:20

**2018 Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries
Network (POAMN) Conference**

June 5-8, 2018

Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Center, Zephyr Cove, Nevada

**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

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 Mimumum 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

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

Save the Date!

National Day of Prayer Event

Thursday, May 3, 2018, 7:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church, Altadena

Please join us for a National Day of Prayer Event on Thursday, May 3, 2018, 7:00-8:15 pm, at First Presbyterian Church, Altadena, 2775 Lincoln Avenue, Altadena, CA, 91001. This annual observance is open to people of all faiths in the community.

Every year, local, state, and federal observances are held from sunrise in Maine to sunset in Hawaii, uniting Americans from all socio-economic, political and ethnic backgrounds in prayer for our Nation. It is estimated that over two million people attended more than 30,000 observances last year. This year's theme is "Unity," which is based on Ephesians 4:3 "Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." With division, strife, discord, racial tension, mass shootings, and a turning away from God at an all-time high, life can seem despairing and overwhelming. But, there is something we can do! We can pray for our Nation.

No matter what side of the aisle we're on, let's come together to pray for God's help for our Nation. The theme "Unity" couldn't be more relevant for such a time as this.

The NDP Task Force states: "Our hope is that individuals, churches, and spiritual leaders in America, will humble ourselves and unify in prevailing prayer for the next great move of God in America. We can come together in clear agreement that this is our greatest need. We can become a visible union, standing together in prayer. We can pray more than ever before, and practice extraordinary prayer for the next great move of God in America that will catapult the message of the Gospel nationally and internationally." For questions and/or to RSVP, contact Becky Roberts (805) 823-5452 or bjrobert70@gmail.com.

**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

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