



Presbytery of San Gabriel

MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

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Monday, May 14, 2018

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PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember Arcadia Presbyterian Church of Arcadia in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, May 20, 2018.

ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Tuesday, May 15 -

Committee on Representation and Nominations 1:30 at Shepherd of the Valley, Hacienda Heights

Vision and Strategy 4:00 at La Verne Heights

Presbytery Executive Commission 6:00 at Pasadena Presbyterian Church

At our June 2nd Presbytery Meeting/Day of Service we will be collecting items to make up the kits for Angel Interfaith Network

and baskets for Door of Hope.

Shopping List for June 2nd
San Gabriel Presbytery
Day of Service

**Angel Interfaith Network
Toiletry Bags**

- q toothbrush
- q toothpaste
- q soap
- q socks
- q wash cloth
- q deodorant
- q travel size shampoo
- q travel size lotion
- q comb (bonus)
- No razors*

**Door of Hope
Housewarming Baskets**

- q Laundry Basket (to hold kit)
- q dish soap
- q garbage bags
- q glass cleaner
- q all-purpose cleaner
- q bathroom cleaner
- q unscented laundry detergent
- q Pine-sol
- q sponges - large and small
- q cleaning rags
- q dust pan with hand-sized broom

Thanks!!

Please bring new items to our Presbytery meeting by 10:00 am on
Saturday, June 2, 2018,
at Westminster Gardens in Duarte

A REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

Reflection

Some of you may know that I argued long and hard with God before becoming ordained.

Among the countless (and I mean countless) reasons I should not be a pastor was my intense stage fright. Even during seminary, my voice would shake if the Scripture passage I was to read was long, and every time I gave a practice sermon in preaching class, the first comment from the professor was a very concerned "Wendy, are you feeling all right?"

I figured I would not be ordained because in order to be ordained, you have to preach at least one time, and that was one too many. I imagined beginning my first sermon with the Jerry Seinfeld joke that when polled, the fear expressed by most Americans was that of speaking in public, even ahead of the fear of dying. So, Seinfeld reasoned, at any given funeral, more people feared giving the eulogy than lying in the casket. In my one and only sermon, I would tell the joke (which would bomb, of course), give a stultifyingly dry sermon, and walk out of the pulpit saying to God, "See?! I told you I couldn't do it!"

Well, my first sermon was a miracle of the community of faith surrounding me with love, which is how I ended up where I am now-no great preacher by any length, but still trying. However, it was my SECOND sermon when I had the nightmare preaching experience I thought would kill off my ministry career. I was asked to fill the pulpit for a friend of mine who was serving a Japanese-American church in the Bay Area, a church whose stubbornness caused their large young adult group to break away and start their own fellowship; a church whose insistence on focusing exclusively on Japanese people severely limited their future ministry. My friend and I thought that I could say a prophetic word to these stiff-necked people because as a guest preacher, I could get away with it.

I focused on Acts 1:8, the very last words of Jesus upon his ascension and just before the day of Pentecost (which we will be celebrating this Sunday-I hope with the Pentecost Offering; click [here](#) for more information). My main point was that Jesus didn't just say "you will be my witnesses to the ends of the earth" but that he first directed them to witness on his behalf in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria. I especially focused on Samaria, who I consider to be estranged cousins of the Jews of Judea, children of the Northern Kingdom of Israel who were subjugated by the Assyrians and then rejected by the Judeans as traitors and half-breeds. History shows us how invaders will use rape as a form of violence that changes the ethnic legacy of a conquered region, and this is how I think of the hybrid nature of Samaria. Unfortunately, as I interpret the legend of La Malinche in Mexico, the conquered are sometimes demonized as enemy sympathizers.

In his final words, I suggested that Jesus is telling his followers to first reconcile with

estranged neighbors before going out to the rest of the world. By reconciling with those closest to us, we can be effective witnesses to the reconciling love of Jesus Christ.

This thought comes to me on the day that the United States government opened its embassy in Jerusalem. As I write this column on Monday morning, 52 people have reportedly died in protests of this embassy move. Mainline Christian churches, including the Presbyterian Church (USA), have denounced this move as being premature, since it was understood that the resolution of Jerusalem would occur as part of the shalom, or fulfillment, of peace talks among the Jews, Muslims, and Christians who all see Jerusalem as a holy city.

When President Trump announced his decision to move the embassy to Jerusalem in December 2017, leaders of the Orthodox, Coptic, Episcopal, Lutheran and other churches in Jerusalem sent an open letter, saying:

Our land is called to be a land of peace. Jerusalem, the city of God, is a city of peace for us and for the world. Unfortunately, though, our holy land with Jerusalem the Holy City, is today a land of conflict.

Those who love Jerusalem have every will to work and make it a land and a city of peace, life and dignity for all its inhabitants. The prayers of all believers in it—the three religions and two peoples who belong to this city—rise to God and ask for peace. . . . We are certain that [the embassy move] will yield increased hatred, conflict, violence and suffering in Jerusalem and the Holy Land. . . . As the Christian leaders of Jerusalem, we invite you to walk with us in hope as we build a just, inclusive peace for all the people of this unique and Holy City.

I have often believed that Jerusalem is the nexus of God's peace for the world. If the children of Abraham cannot learn to live together in peace, what kind of witness do we have for the rest of the world of the reconciling power of our love for our Lord?

While I am gravely concerned for our nation's role in disrupting the cause of peace, I always take comfort in the many times I have been wrong when discounting the power of God to overcome our shortcomings. Take a little thing like my fear of public speaking, to the utter miracle of our Presbyterian Mission Agency finding a new Executive Director in the Rev. Dr. Diane Givens Moffett in the midst of turmoil and distrust in the church—God can certainly do what we cannot do for ourselves. So I always pray that God's will is much larger and more righteous than my fears.

So I close with Paul's letter to the Philippians, a letter written from prison, when all might seem lost:

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (4:4-7)

Praying for peace on this Pentecost, for all nations,
Wendy

2018 REVIEW OF RECORDS

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

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

A neighbor of the Presbyter Center and good friend of Playfactory Preschool is looking for assistance. His name is Dave and he needs someone to do welfare checks and change compression bandages. Dave's daughter lives far enough away to make this difficult. Her name is Kris Ackerman. Her email address is kackerman@asc4sales.com and her phone # is (562) 221-7589. Please give her a call if you can be of assistance.

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 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

Emmanuel Hispanic Presbyterian Church

1111 No. Mountain Ave., Claremont, CA, 91711 is looking for a Temporary pastor, or Student Pastor , half time, who would like to offer his or her leadership in the work and growth of our ministry to the hispanic people in the area where we are located.

The position requires preaching on Sunday morning, conducting a Bible study every Friday evening, some visitation, and cooperating with other activities of the

church.

Salary according to experience and preparation.
Please send your resumé to Zoila A. García, Emmanuel
Hispanic Presbyterian Church, 1111 No. Mountain Ave.,
Claremont, CA 91711. Or to
iglesiapresbyterianemmanuel@gmail.com

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

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.

LASan Gabriel Hilton

