



Presbytery of San Gabriel

MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

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Monday, June 25, 2018

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PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember Emmanuel Hispanic Presbyterian Church of Claremont in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, July 1, 2018.

ON THE CALENDAR

Tuesday, June 26 - Vision and Strategy 12:00 at B-Man's BBQ, Duarte



The Presbytery Office will be closed on Wednesday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day.

A REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA

But strive first for the kingdom of God and His righteousness. - *Matthew 6:33*

June 25: Kindom Building for the 21st Century

This scripture verse was the guiding scripture for the 223rd General Assembly in St. Louis, which concluded this last Saturday. It's hard to describe the experience of this past week. It is remarkable how fast the tone and decisions of the Assembly have changed in the past few years. This Assembly seemed unlike any other before; even Stated Clerk J. Herbert Nelson II remarked that "even if I'm a one-term Stated Clerk, we're going to try something different."

If I had to pick my Top 5 takeaways from this General Assembly, they would be:

1. **Activism:** Perhaps the most visible change—certainly to those outside the Church—was the activism that highlighted this GA. Hundreds of GA attendees marched from the Convention Center to the Justice Center, the city jail in downtown St. Louis. The Stated Clerk presented a check for over \$47,000, raised by donations from the GA attendees, to [The Bail Project](#), a non-profit that funds bail for select individuals. There was some education about the impact of the cash bail system, where individuals with minor offenses such as unpaid parking tickets are put in jail because they cannot afford to pay the bail. Because of backlogs in the court system, people may wait for months or even over a year before they are even seen by a judge, which undermines the concept of "innocent until proven guilty."



Presenting \$47,000 for bail for people awaiting court hearings for minor offenses; note the sign reflecting the overall tone of the GA: "The church should be in the streets!"

Earlier that day, a smaller group gathered to speak out on immigrants' rights. Two areas featured at this rally were Southern California, highlighting the various support activities we participate in, and New Hampshire, where an Indonesian community and Presbyterian church has sustained many deportations, which have been suspended only due to a temporary order by a judge in Boston.

2. **Spending:** This GA seemed to be so happy to enact multiple new initiatives that they did not pay attention to the repeated reminders of the cost of their actions. In some cases, they disputed the estimated cost implications, but at the end of the GA, when the final financial reports were considered, many commissioners commented that they were not properly informed of the financial implications. While the process for informing them (initial estimates made for

each overtone, updated as each recommendation was revised, summary statements made more than once a day), the impact was not understood, or muted by comments about the wealth of the denomination and the need to share our resources. It also became clear that many commissioners do not understand where funding for these initiatives comes from. By the end, over \$1 million was added to the per capita budget, and over \$2 million was added to the mission budget, none of which will be covered by per capita. There was a task force formed to look seriously at the per capita system.

3. Fossil Fuels: Several individuals walked from the Presbyterian Center in Louisville to St. Louis in order to raise support for divestment from the fossil fuels industries. After some debate, the GA opted for the recommendation of Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI), the PC(USA)'s process for active engagement with corporate boards which is enabled as long as we hold some small amount of investment in those corporations. They are to report back on their progress in 2020.

4. A Corp: The biggest controversy coming out of the last General Assembly- and the most tense moments of this Assembly-related to the way administrative services and control over the assets of the denomination are managed. The mission of the PC(USA)-implemented through the Office of the General Assembly and Presbyterian Mission Agency-are represented in civil law by the one corporation called "Presbyterian Church (USA), A Corporation" or "A Corp" for short. The administrative services of this corporation have been managed by the Mission Agency, as it is a much larger institution than the Office of the General Assembly. Due to concerns over mismanagement and unfair cost recovery assigned to the other users of these services (Office of the General Assembly, Presbyterian Women, and Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program), the management of "A Corp" was moved to a separate board. This action was promoted by what one staff leader called a "public rebuke" of the Mission Agency, which was unfortunate, as the actual target of the dispute was the Mission Agency Board, not the staff, but this was not made clear to the Assembly.

5. People: On the other hand, the Mission Agency did present a new leader, Rev. Dr. Diane Givens Moffett, who fulfilled the expressed hopes of the church for many years. Rev. Dr. Givens Moffett was affirmed with widespread and enthusiastic acclaim. She made an immediate positive impact at the Assembly, demonstrating her inspirational speaking skills, and reflecting her broad experience in innovative ministry that bridges race, migrant status, and community.

We can be proud of San Gabriel's many contributions in this General Assembly, including Tom Taylor, who was unanimously affirmed for another term as President of the Presbyterian Foundation; Bong Bringas and my participation in the search committee for Diane Givens Moffett; Commissioner Bear Ride's leadership as vice moderator of the committee on Mid-Councils; and Young Adult Advisory Delegate Sophia Alecci's leadership on the YAAD Council, and as an eloquent and thoughtful speaker on the floor of the Assembly. Sophia spoke three times, and each time she made a discernable impact on the decisions made. One Teaching Elder Commissioner revised his point because "My comment was what the YAAD (Sophia) just said."



Sophia Alecci and the YAAD Council presented gifts to the GA Co-Moderators. The YAADs raised \$1,600 which was split to \$533 each to PDA for Cindy Kohlmann, who has advocated for refugees and for her Boston churches in the 20-foot snow storm in 2015; to Puerto Rico relief for Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri, a Puerto Rican native; and for use by the Stated Clerk. Following the lead of the YAADs, a freewill offering was taken as participants left the closing worship.

Ruling Elder Commissioner Deborah Owens was an astute participant in her committee on Peacemaking, Immigration and International Issues. And the overture which San Gabriel concurred with-On Responding to the Current Syrian Crisis-was passed unanimously by the Middle East committee and approved by consent agenda. This reflected another historic change in the GA, as the Middle East was NOT a hot-button issue for once; the Stated Clerk noted that this was the first time that all Middle East concerns were decided on by the full Assembly in 34 minutes.

This General Assembly seemed a defining moment for the PC(USA). With such bold actions, I pray that God will continue to guide and provide as the Church seeks to be obedient to actions that are bigger than we are. And as we continue to seek to be a more inclusive church, may we take time to listen to the voices of all our members, and members to be.

Blessings,
Wendy

Presbyterian Women

The Synod PW Fall Gathering will be October 6th at Westminster Gardens. If you didn't attend the recent Spring Gathering, you missed a great time! Thanks to the ladies of Diamond Bar: Northminster for hosting a lovely day. There were about 75 in attendance and we commissioned almost 30 people who will be attending the National Gathering in Louisville. Besides a short business meeting and a great lunch, we made about 50 sani-pantis and cut out fabric for many more.

BTW, it's not too late to register for Louisville. The deadline is July 7th. You can download a form at www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering.

2018 REVIEW OF RECORDS

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

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

September 15, 2018 @ Calvary Presbyterian Church, South Pasadena
November 10, 2018 @ First Thai Presbyterian Church, Covina

2018 Presbytery Minimums

Pastor's Minimum 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 OPPORTUNITIES

La Verne Heights Presbyterian Church is looking for a Children's Ministry Summer Intern

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- * Teach Sunday school as assigned by the Children's Ministry Director;
- * Spend time interacting with children on Sunday mornings;
- * Plan and lead special activities/events for children and families throughout the summer;
- * Work with adult volunteers;
- * Other duties as assigned.

Please click [HERE](#) for a complete Job Description

La Verne Heights Presbyterian Church
1040 Baseline Rd., La Verne, CA 91750
909 593-1017
www.lvhpc.org

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.

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

This year the Office of Hispanic/Latino-a Intercultural and Congregational Support is hosting a Pastoral Leadership Development Seminary in Mexico City on July 18-22.

Would you help us share the word with Hispanic and Latino-a leaders in your Presbytery and consider supporting them so that they can have a time for continuing education and network with other leaders in the PCUSA?

During the event, leaders will have the opportunity to engage in Intercultural Reading of the Bible and our guest speaker Dr. Hans De Wit* will guide them in this popular and contextual method of reading the bible within their diverse faith communities as well as within their presbytery as a tool to encounter people from different cultures and build bridges of understanding so we may intentionally give steps toward becoming the beloved community that we are called to be in the

Gospel.

The cost to attend is \$450.00 which includes 4 nights of a shared hotel room, one dinner, 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches, a guided tour to Teotihuacan and materials. For more information and questions, contact Marissa Shearon at marissa.shearon@pcusa.org or 502-569-5385.

Save the Date - La Casa's Annual Fundraising Dinner

Thursday, October 11, 2018 6 P.M.

LA/San Gabriel Hilton

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