



Presbytery of San Gabriel

MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

9723 Garibaldi Avenue, Temple City, CA 91780
Phone: 626.614.5964 Fax: 626.226.5767

Monday, July 2, 2018

IN THIS ISSUE

[LUNCH WITH REV. DR. ANDREA ZAKI](#)

[ON THE CALENDAR](#)

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

[IMMIGRATION SUNDAY](#)

[INTERNATIONAL PEACEMAKERS](#)

[PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FALL GATHERING](#)

[2018 REVIEW OF RECORDS](#)

[2018 PRESBYTERY MEETINGS](#)

[EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES](#)

**SYNOD OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND HAWAII
INVITES YOU TO
A CONVERSATION AND LUNCH WITH
REV. DR. ANDREA ZAKI
PRESIDENT OF THE PROTESTANT COMMUNITY OF EGYPT**



FRIDAY, JULY 6, 2018
10 AM-NOON, LUNCH NOON-1:30 PM
MIDEAST EVANGELICAL CHURCH
SAN GABRIEL PRESBYTERY CENTER
[9723 GARIBALDI AVENUE](#)
[TEMPLE CITY, CA 91780](#)

Please join leaders from the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii to a special time of conversation and learning with Rev. Dr. Andrea Zaki, President of the Protestant Community of Egypt and General Director (CEO) of the Coptic

Evangelical Organization for Social Services (CEOSS), the largest socioeconomic development organization in Middle East and Northern Africa. Dr. Zaki is perhaps the best known of all Middle Eastern Presbyterians, and a respected leader in the global church. Dr. Zaki will bring us the most recent updates on the Christian Church in the Middle East in general, and in Egypt in particular.

PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember Ground Floor of Claremont, one of our 1001 New Worshiping Communities in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, July 8, 2018.

ON THE CALENDAR

Monday, July 2 - Commission on Ministry 4:00 at the Presbytery Center
Friday, July 6 - Lunch with Andrea Zaki 10:00 at the Presbytery Center



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

Ministry Associate Jake Kim will be on vacation this week

A REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA

Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." - *Matthew 22:37-40*

July 2, 2018: Simple Faith

We Presbyterians have always valued education as a gift from God, and a source of empowerment and freedom from poverty. We have also been rather prideful of being better educated than the general population, and we have held to rather strict education requirements for those seeking to become ministers of word and sacrament, as we prioritize an educated clergy. What's more, our polity, guided not only by the Constitution but also hefty case law from hundreds of years of ecclesiastical court decisions, has become so complicated that I often joke that it takes a master's degree to understand it.

So as a cradle Presbyterian, I have appreciated the complexity of what one of my seminary professors called a "sophisticated" theology. We know that the Bible

speaks through multiple voices to tell the holy story of God and God's people, and it's often said that people can use Scripture to justify anything. And our seminal theologian, John Calvin, was never known for simplicity of thought or faith. Our recent General Assembly, like all others before it, revealed to participants the broad and diverse ministries and interests of the PC(USA), which was a joy to many and bewildering to others.

One characteristic of educated people is a tendency towards tolerance for different ideas. This is usually considered a good thing-our Presbyterian penchant for argument (I often joke that for us, arguing IS a spiritual discipline) reflects our belief that disagreement is not a sign of division, but an opportunity to learn. However, when I used to work with victims of domestic violence, we knew that this attempt to understand multiple views in education also leads to a higher-than-usual tolerance for abuse. Our brain can explain away just about anything, and sometimes we can be victims of "analysis paralysis"-which has the side effect of helping us avoid any definitive action.

In the midst of all the complexity of faith that we enjoy in the Presbyterian Church, it's important once in a while to be clear on the core of our faith. For instance, Jesus affirmed the greatest commandment, and added a close second, making it clear that this is the overarching dictate for our faith. In fact, it's one time when Jesus and the church leaders agree on some theological concept.

Another important priority in Scripture, attested to by its frequent mentions throughout the Old and New Testaments, is the call for economic justice and care for the poor, the outcast, and the oppressed.

I mention this because in the midst of news overload, we may either gloss over situations that are too difficult to accept, or we may even seek some rationalization for actions that Scripture would read to be against the will of God. I believe we are facing this as we continue to hear of our government's failures regarding immigration. First, we reversed our historic (albeit imperfect) commitment to help refugees seeking asylum from intolerable conditions abroad. Then the government chose to criminalize asylum-seekers, many of whom followed our legal steps for applying for asylum, only to be searched, imprisoned, and have their children taken from them. This has led to a judicial theatre of the absurd, as toddlers are left to argue their case for asylum alone before immigration court judges, after being separated from their parents. Now that the government claims to have reversed this practice, and faced with a court order to reunite the families, there has been shocking inaction in returning the children to their traumatized parents.

As opinionated as I am, I try not to dictate to people what exactly is "right" or "wrong." And perhaps it seems redundant for me to express concerns over this incomprehensible callousness against families who are fleeing rampant and vicious violence. But I cannot be silent as this government acts against our own laws and claims as a just society by failing to reunite the families that have been so ruthlessly separated. And this is, of course, only the tip of the iceberg. People who have lived legally in the United States for many years thanks to their Temporary Protected Status (TPS), having fled natural disasters in countries such as El Salvador and Haiti, are in danger of being deported as their status is being taken away. And now that the oft-challenged "travel ban" has been upheld by the Supreme Court, some individuals may not even be able to visit family in the United States.

If we claim to love God, we must follow God's will for mercy towards the stranger and the oppressed. And if we love our neighbor as ourselves, we cannot push our neighbors away with specious fears of being "invaded" or "infested" by families seeking peace for their children.

In the face of these challenges to humanity, many of us want to respond. As with other disasters, we can follow the guidelines given by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA):

- **Give:** You can give financial support to local families taking care of unaccompanied minors in Southern California through the UCARE Coalition with CLUE (Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice)-you can send to the Presbytery and we will forward to them. Also, PDA receives gifts [here](#) which they then channel back to local ministries.
- **Act:** See the related article on ways you can act as God leads you. And you can learn from [PDA's site](#), which provides some resources on responses to the border crisis as well as to the travel ban.
- **Pray:** Always, pray. If you don't know what to pray for, David Gambrell from the Office of Theology, Formation and Evangelism offers the following prayer:

Reconciling and redeeming God,
we pray for children and families
separated at the U.S. border.

Protect those who are vulnerable,
deliver those who are in danger,
and encourage those who are afraid.

Change the hearts and minds of those
who establish these cruel policies.

Give wisdom and compassion to those
who are called to implement them.

Help us, in our words and actions,
proclaim this good news to all:
that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from your love
in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Indeed, let us remember and take comfort in the sure knowledge that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. And better, let us not separate our concern and love for God's hurting children in our midst.

Praying that the peace of Christ invade all our hearts,
Wendy

Immigration Sunday

Immigration and immigrant rights are very hot topics right now. We are hearing and seeing a lot on these subjects everywhere we turn. July 1, 2018 the PC(USA) celebrated Immigration Sunday. I would guess that many of us never heard of Immigration Sunday or knew it was on the calendar before today. However, with all that's going on in our country (and world) currently I think it's time we make note of it and get educated. The PC(USA) has a wealth of information and resources through various offices. A list of some of them is below.

The Office of Immigration Issues <http://oga.pcusa.org/section/mid-council-ministries/immigration/> has lots of information and resources available. The Office of Public Witness has put together a comprehensive toolkit on Ending Family Separation to help groups discern and take action. It can be found at: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/opw/2018/06/19/end-family-separation-decriminalize-migration-grassroots-tool-kit/>

The Mission Yearbook has a Minute for Mission for Immigration Sunday and other worship resources posted at: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/yearbook/July-1-2018/>

Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, Rev. J. Herbert Nelson, II, issued a statement in response to the executive order issued on June 20, 2018 regarding family separation at the U.S. border. You can read it at: <http://www.pcusa.org/news/2018/6/28/stated-clerk-issues-statement-executive-order-rega/>

Immigration Sunday, while on the calendar July 1, 2018, can be celebrated any Sunday that works for your congregation. Take time to look over all the information and resources our denomination has to offer and plan a Sunday focused on immigration and immigrants this year.

Are you interested in learning about root causes of poverty and injustice? Would you like to share in mending the brokenness that exists in our world?

The Presbyterian Peacemaking Program brings leaders from partner organizations to interpret issues of peace and justice each year. By sharing stories of their work and witness, these International Peacemakers help us understand peace and justice concerns around the world.

Come hear firsthand from both an International Peacemaker and a Mission Co-worker who represents the PC(USA) in Haiti. Together Fabienne Jean and Cindy Correll will share stories of connection and partnership between the PC(USA) and ministry partner FONDAMA.

Fabienne and Cindy will be in Southern California from September 22-26.

Please contact Liz Daley at Liz@Daley.name to schedule a visit.



Fabienne Jean is the coordinator of Hands Together Foundation of Haiti. Known by its Haitian Creole acronym FONDAMA, the network is part of an initiative of the Presbyterian Hunger Program. Her role is to work with the member organizations to

find lasting solutions to the problems that impoverish the population of Haiti. The member organizations serve their individual communities in promoting agriculture, environmental improvements, clean water, and education. The organizations address root causes of the country's poverty such as land-grabbing, food imports, and climate change by creating campaigns to reduce their harmful effects.

Cindy Correll worked as reporter and editor for The News Leader in Staunton, Va., until leaving to serve as a Mission Co-worker with PC(USA) in 2013. She serves as a companionship facilitator with the Presbyterian Hunger Program's Joining Hands network in Haiti.

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/peacemaking/international-peacemakers/>

International Peacemaker from Haiti coming to Los Angeles in September

The Presbyterian Peacemaking Program brings leaders from partner organizations to interpret issues of peace and justice. The Presbytery of San Gabriel is hosting an International Peacemaker and a Mission Co-worker from Haiti. Together Fabienne Jean and Cindy Correll will share stories of connection and partnership between the PC(USA) and our Haitian ministry partner FONDAMA, an organization working to find lasting solutions to the problems that impoverish the population of Haiti including; land-grabbing, food imports, and climate change. Fabienne and Cindy will be in Southern California from September 22-26.

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/peacemaking/international-peacemakers/>

If you would like them to speak at your church contact Liz Daley. Liz@Daley.name

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 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

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.



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



Copyright © 2016. All Rights Reserved.