



## Presbytery of San Gabriel

# MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

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Monday, August 6, 2018

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### PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember Community Presbyterian Church of El Monte in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, August 12, 2018.

### ON THE CALENDAR

Monday, August 6 - Commission on Ministry 4:00 at Trinity, Pasadena

Wednesday, August 8 - Justice, Peacemaking and Mission 11:00 at Knox, Pasadena

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

Every seventh year you shall grant a remission of debts. There will, however, be no one in need among you, because the Lord is sure to bless you in the land that the Lord your God is giving you as a possession to occupy. - *Deuteronomy 15:1, 4*

[Jesus said,] "For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me." - *Matthew 6:11*

**August 6, 2018: Poor People's Campaign**

Yesterday I was listening to a sermon from a UCC pastor about the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival. This movement is a renewed action to further the original Poor People's Campaign, founded 50 years ago by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

I was convicted by this sermon because one of the co-chairs of this campaign is Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis, a PC(USA) teaching elder in New York City, and I have failed to share her important work with San Gabriel Presbytery, while the UCC is doing so.

I don't remember if I mentioned that this summer's General Assembly was begun with a Bible study led by Rev. Theoharis, who is dedicated to eliminating the structural causes of poverty in the United States. Her book, *Always with Us?: What Jesus Really Said about the Poor*, was recommended by our former co-moderators to the denomination for book study this year. It is not a "how-to" book on working with the poor, but looks more at theological misunderstandings that Christians have used to turn away from God's repeated call to fight poverty.

Rev. Theoharis' co-chair for the Poor People's Campaign is Rev. Dr William Barber II, a Disciples of Christ pastor who has been the president of the North Carolina NAACP since 2006, the founder of "Moral Mondays," and one of the most important voices for human rights in the United States today. You can find a summary of the motivation of the Poor People's Campaign, and some key challenges to the ways all of us are dehumanized in the current world system, in its [Moral Agenda](#). And you can download a copy of an analysis of poverty in the United States, *The Souls of Poor Folk*, [here](#).

You probably know by now I like to use statistics to illustrate the scope of an issue, so here are the Poor People's Campaign's estimates of poor or low-income people in

our nation, based on a methodology called Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM).

43.5 percent of the U.S. population - or 140 million people - were poor or low-income in 2016. Our government does not provide information under the SPM on poverty and low-income status for all races, gender identities, or sexual identities. However, according to existing data from the SPM for 2016, the 140 million people who were poor or low-income include:

- 51.9% of children under the age of 18 (38.2 million children)
- 40.7% of adults between the ages of 18-64 (81.5 million adults)
- 42.5% of our elders over the age of 65 (20.8 million elders)
- 45% of women and girls (73.5 million people)
- 33.9% of White people (67.1 million people)
- 60.3% of Black people (25.9 million people)
- 65.1% of Latinx people (37.4 million people)
- 41.1% of Asian people (7.6 million people)

There is grossly inadequate information on the poverty and low-income status of First Nations, Native Americans, Alaskan Native, LGBTQIA and disabled people in this country.

But it has been estimated that Native Americans, people with disabilities, and transgender people experience poverty at double the rate of the general population.

The Poor People's Campaign has developed demands that reflect several interrelated concerns:

- Systemic Racism
- Poverty and Inequality
- Ecological Devastation
- War Economy and Militarism
- National Morality.

I share this information not to urge you just to join the Poor People's Campaign, but to consider how God is calling you and your church to eliminate poverty in your community. I, like others, have tended to assume that Jesus' comment "you always have the poor with you" means that there's no reason to attempt to eliminate poverty, but to simply be charitable. But rather than resigning ourselves to persistent poverty, God calls us to go outside our comfort zones in order to open our hands in generosity, that all people may live in safety and peace. As Elizabeth Ann Seton, founder of the Sisters of Charity, said: "Live simply, so that all may simply live."

Every Sunday we say the Lord's Prayer. I always consider how our tradition-unlike some others-uses the word "debts" in the phrase "forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors." Other traditions will replace this with trespasses or sins. I believe our use of this term is Biblical not only in the Matthean text, but more importantly it is a sign that Presbyterians have taken seriously God's call for debt forgiveness as a method of economic restorative justice. Are we willing to live this out, by giving not as an investment or a loan, but as a faithful response to God's call to share God's blessings with all people?

I have heard compelling reasons for Christians to give to the poor in front of them (eg, Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker movement), or to fight for systemic change (eg, Liz Theoharis and William Barber and the Poor People's Campaign). I don't know that there is one perfect answer for all of us. Like all our responses in faith and obedience, it is up to us to discern God's guidance for ourselves and our churches. I do believe

that God will use us as long as we turn to God in humility and openness whenever we pray. May it be so.

May God continue to bless you, as you bless others,  
Wendy

## SACP Brochure

### 2018 Spirituality & Aging Certificate Program



A course integrating  
faith and practice for those  
working with and caring for  
the older members of  
our community

Programs for older adults often rely on outdated models that do not reflect current cultural trends or an incomplete understanding of the deeper issues faced by persons in the later stages of life. Frequently, what's both lacking and needed is attention to spirituality in the aging process.

In the Spirituality & Aging Certificate Program, participants gain an understanding of the essential role spirituality plays in the aging process and how attending to the spirituality of older adults can enhance the efficacy of health care and congregational services for them. The certificate program is designed to increase awareness of spirituality in aging and empower participants to engage older adults spiritually in a holistic manner that is sensitive to spiritual formation and human development.



The Certificate Program on Spirituality & Aging will be offered starting in September 2018 with a retreat, followed by four courses, held monthly on Saturdays from 9 am to 1:30 pm. The program location is determined by registration.

<b>Orientation Retreat</b>	September 8, 2018
<b>Course 1: Aging Defined</b>	October 13, 2018
<b>Course 2: Spirituality and Aging</b>	November 10, 2018
<b>Course 3: Aging in Context</b>	January 12, 2019
<b>Course 4: Spirituality &amp; Organizational Theory</b>	February 9, 2019

To contact us, and for continuing education and other information, please see the reverse.

# New Webinar Series: Faith over Fear

## *Addressing Myths and Misperceptions about Muslims*

Please join our partners, [Shoulder to Shoulder](#), on August 9th at 1:00pm EST for a "[Faith Over Fear](#)" Webinar on [Messaging: Addressing Myths and Misperceptions about Muslims in your congregations and communities](#). This webinar will be the first of a "Faith Over Fear" Webinar Series.

This first webinar, *Messaging: Addressing Myths and Misperceptions about Muslims* will be facilitated by Shoulder to Shoulder and partners, Guthrie Graves-Fitzsimmons with ReThink Media, Aneelah Afzali with The American Muslim Empowerment Network at the Muslim Association of Puget Sound, Arsalan Bukhari with the Council of American Islamic Relations and Rev. Terry Kylo from Neighbors in Faith on **Thursday, August 9 at 1 pm ET/10 am PT**.

Click [here](#) to register!

Please share with the networks in your church and community!

**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](mailto: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](mailto:Liz@Daley.name)

## **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](#)

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**2018 Presbytery Meetings**

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

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**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

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**Quick Links**

[www.sangabpres.org](http://www.sangabpres.org)

[www.synod.org](http://www.synod.org)

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### **Church Administrator**

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1757 North Lake Avenue, 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 church members, staff and visitors. This position has responsibility for facilities operations, maintaining the church calendar, scheduling events and the use of church space. He/she will work closely with the accountant to ensure that financial statements are accurate and timely. The person in this position will also assist the Personnel Committee in Human Resource matters.

Qualifications include:

- 3-5 years of supervisory experience including experience in the area of accounting and administration;
- 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: \$42,500 - \$47,500 based on experience and ability with medical coverage included.

To apply: Submit resume, and cover letter in pdf format to the attention of the Personnel Committee at [admin@wpcpas.org](mailto:admin@wpcpas.org). Please go to our website:

[www.wpcpas.org](http://www.wpcpas.org)

for a detailed job description. Applications will be received until the position is filled.

### **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](http://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](mailto:iglesiapresbyterianemmanuel@gmail.com)



## ***ITEMS OF INTEREST***

### **Save the Date - La Casa's Annual Fundraising Dinner**

Thursday, October 11, 2018 6 P.M.

LA/San Gabriel Hilton