

Presbytery of San Gabriel

MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

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Tuesday September 4, 2018

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PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember St. Andrews Presbyterian Church of La Puente in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, September 9, 2018.

ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Tuesday, September 4 - Commission on Preparation for Ministry 5:30 at San Marino Community

A REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA

Nathanael said to Philip, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." - John 1:46

September 4, 2018: Welcome to the Family

It's September, and we are looking forward to our Presbytery meeting on September 15th at Calvary Presbyterian Church in South Pasadena. As I have mentioned, this meeting will be a great celebration of ministry-the ministry of several of our churches as they are calling new pastors, the ministry of our presbytery as we receive new members,

and of course the ministry of these servants of the Lord as they come into the San Gabriel Presbytery family. The planning team for the meeting has worked hard to design the docket to be efficient and creative, so that there is enough time for the Presbytery to ask questions of the potential new members, and movement between subjects to keep your interest. We are trying to keep the other business as streamlined as possible-in fact, Lt. Daniel Menza from the Navy, whom I mentioned in an earlier column, had a slight conflict in timing, so he will be coming in November rather than September. We have managed the docket so that we still expect to end the meeting by lunchtime, and welcome all to stay for lunch to welcome our new members in a more relaxed manner. We expect to send the Presbytery packets out later this week.

Recently, the attendance at Presbytery meetings has been quite low, and this has raised some concern on the part of Presbytery leadership and staff. While I expect we will have more people in attendance because of church members coming in support of their pastor, we have wondered how to encourage more participation from our ruling and teaching elder commissioners. We are also aware that several Presbytery members have expressed a desire to develop better relationships within the Presbytery, and we continue to consider new ways to facilitate that. We are hoping to be more proactive in welcoming especially these new members of Presbytery, as some of our newer members have mentioned that they still feel detached from the Presbytery.

The Bible gives many accounts of how Jesus encounters people, and ways that they welcomed him, for good or for bad. Sometimes crowds greeted him like a rock star. Often he is seen eating with friends and strangers, church leaders and outcasts. On several occasions, he is observed by church leaders with a critical eye. On the occasion referenced in John 1:46, Jesus was just beginning his ministry, and he approached Philip, who then invited Nathanael to come meet Jesus. And, like many of us, Nathanael made a preliminary judgment on the new minister based on his background, yet he was open enough to give the new guy a chance.

How do we give these new folks a chance? I hope we will have some time at the meeting to share ways that our congregations welcome new members and new pastors. For pastors, we now have different ways by which a new pastor comes to a church, and this has caused some confusion. Most congregation members often assume that the pastor is called by the church and the church alone. With installed pastors, the congregation votes, and with temporary pastors, the session approves and presents the pastor. But it is the presbytery's responsibility to establish and dissolve pastoral relationships, and to be "Pastor, Counselor, and Advisor to Its Pastors and Congregations." So we often need to explain to church leaders that the pastoral covenant is like a three-legged stool, requiring the concurrence of church, pastor, and presbytery.

So we as a presbytery have the responsibility to authorize the pastoral leaders of our churches, to welcome the pastors as members of presbytery, and to support and encourage the healthy relationship between pastor and congregation (as well as care for the church during times of pastoral transition). We leave it to the congregational leaders to plan for welcoming their new pastor, and I always ask the church to take great initiative in receiving the new pastor and their family. I believe that how a pastor is first received into the church can set a tone for the whole pastorate, and a pastor's first call can set a tone for their whole ministry. Of course God can make anything happen as God wills it, but I want church leaders to fulfill their very important role in establishing a mutually caring and respectful ministry partnership.

And we as a presbytery have an important role in welcoming new members to the presbytery family. Several new ideas are being considered to help them get to know the presbytery. But as far as I know, any relationship needs time and energy to flourish, so I encourage you all to attend presbytery meetings, to make an effort to talk with others you don't know, and to come to ordination and installation services. There will be several

ordinations and installations scheduled this fall, and each represents a milestone in the life of the pastor and the congregation. As they are services of the presbytery, I hope all of us can attend these times of celebration for our pastors and our churches.

We at San Gabriel have been striving to plan meetings where we worship God, learn from each other and guests, and act as discerning leaders for the responsibilities entrusted to us for this place. In 2019, we are suggesting that two Presbytery meetings be held on Tuesday evenings, in order to address scheduling conflicts on Saturday mornings. I ask that you give us your feedback and ideas for building relationships and increasing Presbytery participation. You are the Presbytery, and without you we are lacking in the wisdom and grace that God intends for us.

I hope to see you on the 15th. And blessings on the pastors and churches as we welcome each other into new chapters of ministry.

Peace, Wendy

Vision and Strategy Team Resources:



Free Alpha Course Conference in Santa Monica

Are you interested in:

Reaching un-churched people in your community, and helping them to explore Christianity in a fun and meaningful way?

Attend a free Alpha-Conference:

Venue: Vintage Church, 1015 California Ave., Santa Monica, CA 90403

Date: 10 am Tuesday Oct 2 - Noon Wednesday Oct 3

The Alpha Course is a proven congregational development tool.

For more information contact: Jake Kim, Associate for Ministry Development for San Gabriel Presbytery at jakekim@sangabpres.org or visit https://www.vintagechurchla.com/alpha-con or www.alphausa.org

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.

Orientation Retreat

Course 1: Aging Defined

Course 2: Spirituality and Aging

Course 3: Aging in Context

Course 4: Spirituality & Organizational Theory

February 9, 2019

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



Continuing Education Credit

The Spirituality and Aging Program meets continuing education requirements for:

- BBS
- RCFE
- CAMFT
- BRN
- NHA
- Your denomination

To Learn More

Visit http://sccsa.ntswest.org and contact-us-at 626-765-9500 or info@ntswest.org

Co-Sponsors



New Theological Seminary of the West

We are people who are excited to be part of a new way of doing seminary – serving and building up faith communities by offering

a new theological education resource in Southern California. **New Theological Seminary of the West** offers graduate programs, lay leader education, continuing education for faith leaders, members, and clergy, programming for churches, and independent study options.

Learn more at: www.ntswest.org

At **HumanGood**, we strive to be more than just a provider of senior living communities. We are on a mission to help older adults reach their full potential. As a local nonprofit organization, we are



committed to the notion that better physical environments, better service, and better lifestyles lead to the rich, purposeful life everyone desires and deserves.

Learn more at: www.humangood.org

2018 REVIEW OF RECORDS

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

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 Business .545 cents per mile

Charitable 14 cents per mile

Quick Links

www.sangabpres.org www.synod.org www.pcusa.org www.pensions.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. Please go to our website: www.wpcpas.org

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

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



ITEMS OF INTEREST

Stewardship Kaleidoscope

September 24-26, 2018- St. Louis, MO

Register Here

What: Monte Vista Grove Homes Community-wide Fall

Event Includes a pancake breakfast, plant and used furniture, clothes, books, odd n' ends sale. Featuring live entertainment, a silent auction, and fun for kids!

When: October 6, 8-11am*

*Stores stay open until 12pm

Where: 2889 San Pasqual St. Pasadena, CA 91107

Why: To support Monte Vista Grove Homes in providing holistic, compassionate and loving Independent Living Care for retired ministers and missionaries who have served the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. for 20 years or more. Funds raised will also support the community-at-large in Assisted Living, Memory Care, and Skilled Nursing facilities

Save the Date - La Casa's Annual Fundraising Dinner

Thursday, October 11, 2018 6 P.M. LA/San Gabriel Hilton

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