



MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

Presbytery of San Gabriel

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Monday, February 11, 2019

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PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember the West Covina Ministry Center in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, February 17, 2019

ON THE CALENDAR

Wednesday, February 13 - Education Committee 3:30 at Fuller Seminary

The Presbytery Office will be closed on Monday February 18 in observance of Presidents' Day.

ATTENTION WINTERFEST ATTENDEES:

Thanks for being part of a wonderful day of worship, learning, and fellowship on February 2. Would you please take [this 5-minute survey](#) to give the Education Committee some feedback from the day? Thank you!

A REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA

Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given to me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. - *2 Corinthians 12:7-9*

I noticed that last week I boasted of the joys of serving San Gabriel Presbytery. While I have been so grateful for the great things happening in many of our churches and in the life of the Presbytery, there was a little voice in the back of my mind worrying that I was starting to think we were causing the good things to happen-and what does that mean to those who are facing challenges?

As it happens, I had the opportunity to do some good soul work last week. In meeting with the leaders of one church, I became aware of how vulnerable I am to a particular sore spot for me, the pain of rejection. This awareness came around the same time that I was walking with another colleague dealing with their particular sore spot.

You know what I mean by sore spot-we all have particular places of woundedness, and many of us live our lives making sure to protect them. But since we like to be seen as strong and whole, we often hide our wounds, so others aren't aware. I've seen that some of the biggest blow-ups in churches happen when those wounds are unwittingly opened, and rather than speak to our hurt, we react, often with a response that is less sacred but less real, which leads to further misunderstanding. Unlike just about any institution in our lives beyond our own family, church is a place where we are most vulnerable, where more of our personal lives and families are known, where we are encouraged to confess our sins and weaknesses, and where we seek the ultimate spiritual connection with our God and with each other. I believe this is the reason that abusive behavior in the church is so damaging-and I would suggest that not only pastors, but all church leaders should be aware of the great responsibility we have to treat each other with care.

Now my guess is that we all have at least one sore spot. We may have several places of woundedness, but some are worse than others, so much so that it impacts our life decisions. I have always believed that an essential part of my sense of ministry is the fact that I've always felt like an outsider, not being totally and exclusively committed to any one group. Honestly, my work in the church is the only time I have felt so committed, but even so I am-we are-in a church tradition that allows for openness of thought and connection with the world. But even more honestly, I might have chosen to put myself on the margin rather than risk having others push me out there.

Another tendency I have, which I think I share with many if not most Presbyterians, is the "fix it" attitude we take to any challenge we face. Because we Presbyterians like to proclaim the gospel in deed as well as word, and we have been and tend to be leaders by personality, we are prone to believe we can take on whatever comes up in our lives and our churches. In fact, we have to remind ourselves that the mission God calls us to is not what is feasible or reasonably doable by ourselves; we are called to let ourselves be used by God, who can do much more than we can imagine.

So why all the true confessions? I found myself in a situation where it seemed that some church leaders were finding much more excitement and support from outside the Presbytery, and I felt like I should be doing something to compete, but any attempts wouldn't work. So my attempts to fix it fell short, and I anticipated a day when we-or I-would be rejected. How do I deal with this?

There will always be times when we feel helpless to make things work the way we want, and sometimes we can't even understand why things are happening the way they do. As uncomfortable

as it feels, the answer to these situations is not to simply turn away, or reduce the issue to something we can easily fix. Perhaps we need to live in the brokenness, and remember that we are not in fact in charge . . . and pray. Let us live in humility, and take those reminders that while God has given us much in resources and responsibility, we are but wounded servants. We are not able to do all by ourselves, yet under God we are able to do and experience great things.

I think you can tell this is not an easy topic for me to discuss. My guess is I'm not the only one to struggle with confronting our limitations. We as Presbyterians live in the tension of having a strong sense of purpose in God's world, while having to remind ourselves that we are helpless without God. So we live in total gratitude that God is with us, and goes to great lengths to show us grace every day.

Peace,
Wendy

The **Peace-ing It Together** conference is coming up on Feb. 23 at Knox Presbyterian Church in Pasadena. The planners are very excited about the day and hope you will be able to recruit people from your church and wider community to come! Please post the flyer, forward it, and get the word out. We hope to have a large group in attendance.

Thanks for letting others know about this exciting and important event! We hope to see you on Feb. 23rd.

Blessings,

Wendy Gist
Mission Advocate for Hunger, Poverty, and Peacemaking Issues
Presbytery of San Gabriel

Click [HERE](#) to download a copy of the flyer

PEACE-ING IT TOGETHER

How Individuals and Congregations Can Bring More PEACE Into Our World

Feb. 23, 2019 at Knox Presbyterian Church, 225 S. Hill Ave., Pasadena 91106

8:30 a.m. registration, 8:50 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Lunch included at no cost

**Are you looking for things you can do that make a difference?
Come to the Peace-ing It Together conference for answers!**

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Sara Lisherness: Senior Director for Compassion, Peace & Justice; Presbyterian Mission Agency
Rev. Emily Brewer, Executive Director, Presbyterian Peace Fellowship

Presentations, workshops, and resource tables will focus on:

1. ADDRESSING VIOLENCE

- ✓ Engaging Congregations in Preventing All Forms of Gun Violence: Virginia Classick, Co-Chair, Gun Violence Prevention Task Force, Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles
- ✓ Responding to Local Violence: Rev. Kyle Joachim, Silverlake Presbyterian Church (PC)
- ✓ Responding to Local Violence: Christa Wallis, First PC of San Bernardino

2. BUILDING PEACE THROUGH INTERFAITH RELATIONS

- ✓ The Guibord Center's dinner & dialogue program: Lisa Patriquin, Tahil Sharma & Samia Bano
- ✓ Azerbaijan's Model for Religious Tolerance and Peaceful Coexistence: Nasimi Aghayev, Consul General of Azerbaijan in Los Angeles
- ✓ Christian-Muslim Study Groups: Carole Wheeler, First PC of Newhall & Jamshed Yazdani, Newhall Unity Center

3. TAKING ACTION FOR IMMIGRANTS

- ✓ Matthew 25 ministries: Rev. Dr. Matt Colwell, Pastor, Knox PC
- ✓ From Visitation of Detainees to Post-Release Assistance: Merilie Robertson, Woodland Hills PC & Beryl Smith, St. Mark PC, Los Ranchos Presbytery

4. HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING

- ✓ Jill Shook, Exec. Director, Making Housing and Community Happen
- ✓ Lori Gay, President & CEO, Neighborhood Housing Services of LA County
- ✓ Rev. Walter Contreras, Neighborhood Housing Services of LA County
- ✓ Amie Quigley, Director, Community Outreach, First PC of Hollywood

5. DISMANTLING AND RE-BUILDING: THE CHURCH CONFRONTING RACISM

- ✓ Rev. Denise Anderson, Coordinator for Racial and Intercultural Justice, Presbyterian Mission Agency

There is **no cost to attend** this conference, but **please RSVP** to: PeaceConfSoCal2019@gmail.com so we know how many lunches to have available.

Thanks to the following supporters: Synod of Southern CA & Hawaii JPIC; the Presbyteries of San Fernando, San Gabriel, Riverside, Los Ranchos, and Pacific; and First Presbyterian Church of Encino

All in attendance will be entered into the drawing to take home the quilt commissioned for this conference.

Conference Program

8:30 - 8:50 Coffee and Registration
8:50 - 9:30 Opening Worship - reflection by Rev. Denise Anderson & music by Zehnder
9:30 - 10:00 "When Did We See You?" based on Matthew 25 - Sara Lisherness
10:00 - 10:10 Break

10:10 - 11:10 Interfaith Peacemaking: Panel of different approaches
Nasimi Aghayev - Consul General of Azerbaijan in Los Angeles
Lisa Patriquin, Tahil Sharma, and Samia Bano - The Guibord Center
Carole Wheeler - First Presbyterian of Newhall
Jamshed Yazdani - Newhall Unity Center

11:10 - 12:10 "Dismantling and Re-building: The Church Confronting Racism" - Denise Anderson
12:10 - 12:50 Lunch
12:45 - 1:00 Music by Zehnder to bring us back together

Breakout groups

This is your chance to go more in depth with speakers on the topic that most interests you.

1:00 - 2:00 Breakout Session #1 (please choose one)

A. Addressing Violence – in the Sanctuary

Engaging Congregations in Preventing All Forms of Gun Violence: Virginia Classick
Churches Responding to Local Violence: Kyle Joachim and Christa Wallis

B. Addressing Immigration Issues – in the Atrium

Matthew 25 Ministries: Matthew Colwell

From Detainee Visitation to Post-Release Assistance: Merilie Robertson & Beryl Smith

C. Housing and Homelessness Issues – in the North House Dining Room

Jill Shook, Lori Gay, Walter Contreras, and Amie Quigley

D. Modeling Religious Tolerance & Peaceful Coexistence – in North House Lounge

Nasimi Aghayev, Consul General of Azerbaijan

E. Interfaith Dialogue – in the North House meeting room

The Guibord Center's Dinner and Dialogue Program: Lisa Patriquin, Tahil Sharma, Samia Bano
Muslim-Christian Study Groups: Carole Wheeler & Jamshed Yazdani

2:00 - 2:15 Break

2:15 - 3:15 Breakout Session #2 (please choose one)

A. Addressing Violence – in the Sanctuary

Engaging Congregations in Preventing All Forms of Gun Violence: Virginia Classick
Churches Responding to Local Violence: Kyle Joachim and Christa Wallis

B. Addressing Immigration Issues – in the Atrium

Matthew 25 Ministries: Matthew Colwell

From Detainee Visitation to Post-Release Assistance: Merilie Robertson & Beryl Smith

C. Housing and Homelessness Issues – in the North House Dining Room

Jill Shook, Lori Gay, Walter Contreras, and Amie Quigley

D. The Church Confronting Racism – North House meeting room

Denise Anderson

3:20 - 4:00 "Trimming the Wicks: Ready to Act" – Rev. Emily Brewer, Presbyterian Peace Fellowship

On February 14, 2018, a former student entered the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida with an AR-15-style semi-automatic weapon. In 7 minutes he killed 17 students and adults. In February of 1893, Presbyterians first participated in the Universal Day of Prayer for Students, lifting to God the lives of children, teenagers and young adults. In February of 2019, these two anniversaries coincide in a way that calls the church to take seriously the steps needed to protect students and all of us from the crisis of gun violence in our nation.

[Download the Worship-Action Kit for Feb. 17](#)

MONTE VISTA MUSINGS

"TIME'S UP! GOD'S REIGN IS HERE"

A fresh look at the historical Jesus & His impact on the 21st Century
Monday, February 25, 2019

Guest Speaker: Jim Symons

B.A. Williams College, M. Div. and D. Min., San Francisco Theological Seminary



In 2019 the vast majority of young people in Western Society avoid church, shrug off Jesus, and ignore God's reign. Jim's response takes a new look at how Jesus engaged and trained followers 2000 years ago by focusing on "the Son of the Human Being." This suggests compelling and creative ways to proclaim the immediacy of God's reign today. Jim has been a Presbyterian pastor in five states and New Zealand, and has taught at Warren Wilson College, University of Arizona and The Evergreen State University.

Please RSVP to Katie Blackmore
Wellness & Event Coordinator
kblackmore@mvgh.org or 626.796.6135 ext. 510

Marwick Place at MVGH,
2889 San Pasqual Street
Pasadena, CA 91107



*Complimentary event
including wine and appetizers*

Refreshments: 6:00-6:30 PM
Program: 6:30-7:30 PM

Resources from the Presbyterian Hunger Program for Lent and beyond

Tread Lightly for Lent - 2019 Daily Reflection-Action Calendar can be found [HERE](#)

Promote Eco-Palms - find information, resources, and order palm fronds at [Eco-Palms](#)

Promote One Great Hour of Sharing - information and resources at [OGHS](#)

Considering Our Treasure: A Reflection on Embracing God's Economy

Dive deeper into Luke 12:34 as you use this resource for learning, reflection, study, and action. Consider (alone or with a group) God's economy, where your treasure is and where it is being spent, and how your resources reflect God's love for creation.

Find the downloadable resource [HERE](#)

PowerPoints (Info about PHP's work, Hunger Action Congregations, Earth Care

Congregations, and more) are available at [PHP PowerPoints](#)

2019 Presbytery Meetings

April 6, 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon @ Divine Light, El Monte
June 8, 9:00 AM - Work Day @ West Covina Ministry Center
September 14, 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon @ Puente de Esperanza, La Puente
November 19, 7:00 - 9:00 PM (Tuesday evening) @ Trinity, Pasadena

2019 Presbytery Minimums

Pastor's Minimum Salary: \$55,840
Travel/Professional Expense Reimbursement: \$2,645
Study Leave: \$985

2019 Mileage Reimbursement Rates:

Business .58 cents per mile

Charitable 14 cents per mile

Quick Links

www.sangabpres.org

www.synod.org

www.pcusa.org

www.pensions.org

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Claremont Presbyterian Church is seeking to hire a Nursery Supervisor

This is a Part-time Non-Exempt Position

This position provides childcare services to the members, friends, and visitors of Claremont Presbyterian church. Click [HERE](#) for a complete job description.

Trinity Presbyterian Church is seeking to hire a part-time (5-10 hours per week) Music Director.

Responsibilities include playing and conducting the music for Sunday worship services and rehearsing and directing the adult choir at weekly rehearsals.

Click [HERE](#) to download a copy of the complete job description.

Teacher for Children: Music and Arts

Claremont Presbyterian Church is hiring an Intern for Children: Music and Arts. This is a paid internship that amounts to 2-5 hours per week.

Click [HERE](#) to download a copy of the complete job description.

OUTREACH DIRECTOR (full-time) | POMONA HOPE

Pomona Hope is a community-driven, faith-based, non-profit organization in the city of Pomona that works particularly with at-risk youth and their families to work together toward personal and community transformation. Pomona Hope hosts an After School Program for K-12 students, a Summer Enrichment program as well as parenting classes. The Outreach Director is a full-time salaried position, applicants must be bilingual in Spanish and English. Responsibilities include directing and overseeing all volunteer and intern recruitment and retention and developing all aspects of parent outreach. Please click the link

[HERE](#) for a full job description (*position opening in March 2019*).

SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (Undergraduate) | POMONA HOPE

Pomona Hope's 10-week summer internship is an opportunity for undergraduate students to participate in urban ministry and gain professional experience while working with K-12 youth in the city of Pomona. Summer Interns live together on-site to develop relationships with each other and their immediate neighborhood. Interns facilitate Summer Enrichment with Pomona Hope, a 5-week program for K-12 students, by teaching daily workshops, planning field trips and mentoring High School volunteers. Interns also partner closely with First Presbyterian Church of Pomona's weekly youth ministry and annual Vacation Bible School. Learn more about Pomona Hope and find a full internship description and application [HERE](#). Applications due January 30, 2019!



ITEMS OF INTEREST

"TIME'S UP! GOD'S REIGN IS HERE"

A fresh look at the historical Jesus & His impact on the 21st Century

Join us on February 25th at 6pm for a FREE evening of appetizers, wine, and great discussion at the Monte Vista Grove Homes Musings Event! Jim Symons, former Presbyterian pastor in five states and New Zealand and teacher at Warren Wilson College, University of Arizona and The Evergreen State University, will share a fresh look at the historical Jesus & His impact on the 21st Century. In 2019 the vast majority of young people in Western Society avoid church, shrug off Jesus, and ignore God's reign. Jim's response takes a new look at how Jesus engaged and trained followers 2000 years ago by focusing on "the Son of the Human Being." This suggests compelling and creative ways to proclaim the immediacy of God's reign today.

Event Details:

When: Monday, February 25, 2019

Time: Refreshments: 6:00-6:30 PM

Program: 6:30-7:30 PM

Where: Marwick Place at MVGH,
2889 San Pasqual Street
Pasadena, CA 91107

Please RSVP to Katie Blackmore
Wellness & Event Coordinator
kblackmore@mvgh.org or 626.796.6135 ext. 510

White Privilege Conference

The 20th White Privilege Conference will be in Cedar Rapids, IA, March 20-23, 2019. The White Privilege Conference (WPC) is designed to examine issues related to diversity, equity, power, privilege, supremacy, and more. While exploring and challenging these concepts, WPC offers solutions and team building strategies to #MakeItHappen. The WPC is open to everyone and invites diverse perspectives to provide a comprehensive look at issues of privilege, including race, gender, sexuality, class, disability, and other intersections of identity. The WPC is unique in its ability to bring together local students, youth, educators, faculty, activists, social workers and counselors, healthcare workers, spiritual communities, nonprofit and corporate arenas. #WPC20IA is bringing together a network of local and national leaders, learners and practitioners to engage each other and work together to address tough issues. This community-driven collaboration provides the foundation and resources necessary to disrupt and (possibly) change systems of oppression.

[#WPC20IARegistration is open now.](#)

To receive a 15% discount, select the non-profit rate and use the code PRES2019 at the end of the registration process

Presbyterian Youth Triennium

"Here's My Heart"

July 16-20 2019

Perdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Registration will open in late 2018 and conclude in May 2019

Visit www.presbyterianyouthtriennium.org

for more information.