

# MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

# **Presbytery of San Gabriel**

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Monday, February 25, 2019

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### PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember the First Presbyterian Church of Altadena in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, March 3, 2019

#### ON THE CALENDAR

Tuesday, February 26 - Committee on Representation and Nominations 12:30 at Hacienda Heights, Shepherd of the Valley

- Presbytery Executive Commission 6:00 at San Marino Community

Thursday, February 28 - Vision and Strategy 12:00 at B-Man's in Duarte

Associate Stated Clerk/Administrator, Twila French will be out of the office this week.

## **ATTENTION WINTERFEST ATTENDEES:**

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

# A REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.- Psalm 139:1

I am reminded that February is Black History Month, and I've wanted to recognize it in a column before the month runs out! Wikipedia gave some background, including the reason for February. The historian Carter G. Woodson introduced its precursor, Negro History Week, in 1926 for the second week of February. That is the week that marks the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln (February 12) and Frederick Douglass (February 14). Dr. Woodson noted that African-Americans and their contributions were not recognized in the history curricula of our schools, and he hoped that African-Americans could gain strength as they learned more about their history.

The reason I've been reminded about Black History Month this year is the sad irony that the pervasiveness and deep roots of anti-Black racism have shown up so vividly these days. The issue has shown itself most recently with the violent hatred of a Coast Guard officer who proudly calls himself a "white nationalist," and the self-hatred that is demonstrated in the possible staged hate crime where a Black man reportedly chose to use a noose in his hoax. This last action reflects conflict with a tragic element of Black history, that of lynching.

Another conflict with history has been demonstrated by too many political leaders who have perpetuated demeaning stereotypes through blackface, seemingly ignorant of the pain this causes African-Americans who know how effectively blackface taught America the negative stereotypes that haunt our nation through unconscious bias. This bias is so insidious that it has led to the abhorrent frequency of innocent African-Americans being reported to the police for simply living their lives, or by those who think "I don't see color" is the solution to racism. I guess they think it's a compliment to not acknowledge one's race. But this is no more a compliment than if they say they can't tell that you are a woman.

Perhaps you might think it's a step up to pretend not to see the color of one's skin. But that implies that color must mean something negative. The fact is, people of color are not ashamed of our color, or feel disabled because of our skin color. We just wish others could see our color and have a positive response, with some appreciation for the cultural gifts, traditions, values, experiences, wisdom, music, food, and so many other offerings different cultures bring to God's big table in the church. And that's why Black History Month is important to me-it's the annual reminder that there is more I can learn about why I'm glad that African-Americans are, and continue to be, and continue to grow, in influence, in the United States-and in the Christian church.

I am so happy that our presbytery is joining with the National Black Presbyterian Caucus Southern California Chapter (NBPC-SC) to explore a new ministry in our neighborhood, a possible new church that welcomes all but celebrates and utilizes the gifts and traditions of the Black church to communicate the love of Christ and the power of the Gospel. Our Vision and Strategy Team will be focusing their efforts on this, and I ask your prayers as we take steps to deepen and broaden Christ's mission through this work. VST Chair Jonathan Hughes and I participated in NBPC-SC's annual meeting last week, and presented this project idea, which was received well by the members.

As we go forward with this new ministry, we give thanks for the legacy of South Hills Presbyterian Church, which will provide the seed funding for this work. I would also ask for your prayers for Char and Don Sevesind, who were long-time leaders of South Hills. Char is struggling to recover from the first of two planned surgeries, and Don has been a great support, as he has been in many ways for our presbytery. And speaking of great support, please continue to pray for Twila French, who is away this week for a long-planned time away, a week after her mother's passing.

There is much that we can learn about each other, to our benefit and growth in faith. Perhaps we can take a moment or two before February 28 to learn about Blacks, including their history in the Presbyterian Church and the moments when we Presbyterians stood with our African-American sisters and brothers. And perhaps we can go on through the year and learn about our varied histories and cultures, called together by Christ.

And on a day-to-day basis, I ask that you see yourself, and each other, and every person you meet, for who God made in you-each of you, for all that you are. A while ago I came across this covenant, and occasionally use it for church members to offer to each other. The last time I used it I tried to find a source so I could properly cite it-the only source I found was, coincidentally, as the covenant of the national organization of Blacks in Government (<a href="www.bignet.org">www.bignet.org</a>). Yet another reason to give thanks, and to share in the wisdom and love that God offers for and through all of us.

A Covenant for All God's Children
I regard myself and you
As being created in the image of God
I see your beauty, I sense your power
I celebrate your potential
I support your prerogative to sing your song
I share your pursuit of the high quality of life

I will tell you the truth, and I will have your trust I will listen to you with my heart And I shall speak to you with my smile

I shall care enough to confront you And to comfort you

In you I see God, and in God I see you You are my friend, and I love you.

Blessings, Wendy

Click <b>HERE</b> to	download a	copy	of the fly	/er
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## Help La Casa De San Gabriel Community Center

Raise funds to support the early childhood education program!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD 4PM-8PM

> Wendy's 1201 E. Valley Blvd. Alhambra, CA 91801



# 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 <a href="PHP PowerPoints">PHP PowerPoints</a>

## **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. Clicke <u>HERE</u> 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.

Contact - Trinity Presbyterian Church of Pasadena - 626 351-8823

### 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 <u>HERE</u> 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 #MakeltHappen. 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 <a href="https://www.presbyterianyouthtriennium.org">www.presbyterianyouthtriennium.org</a>
for more information.

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