



# MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

## Presbytery of San Gabriel

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Monday, April 1, 2019

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### PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember the Filipino Community Presbyterian Church of Arcadia in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, April 7, 2019

### ON THE CALENDAR

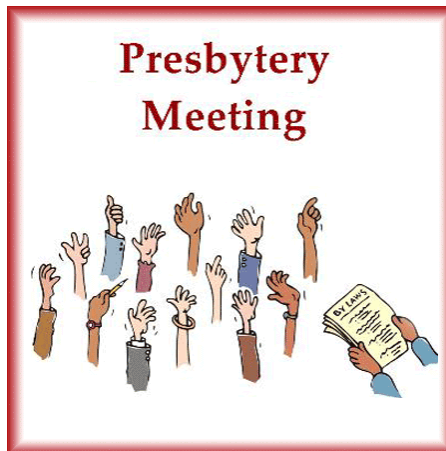
**Tuesday, April 2** - Commission on Preparation for Ministry 5:30 at San Marino Community

**Saturday, April 6** - Presbytery Meeting at Divine Light Presbyterian Church of El Monte. Registration 8:30 am Meeting 9:00 am.

**Lunch reservations** for the April 6, 2019 Presbytery Meeting at Divine Light Presbyterian Church of El Monte must be made no later than **Wednesday, April 3**. You can make your reservation by emailing [presby@sangabpres.org](mailto:presby@sangabpres.org)



- be sure to include your name, your church and the number of reservations you are making. The cost of lunch is \$8 and should be paid at the meeting.



## **Presbytery at Divine Light this Saturday: Welcoming and Homecoming**

We have a Presbytery meeting this Saturday morning. These meetings are a distinctive example of our Presbyterian tradition, and we are both critical of ways the meeting doesn't feed our souls, while we are also grateful for the inclusion and group discernment that it represents. It is also the opportunity to reconnect with other Presbyterians, and to welcome new leaders in our midst. So this Saturday, we will welcome three pastors. One, Papi Dhali, was ordained in the GKI, the Gereja Kristen Indonesia (Indonesian Christian Church). You may remember that the Dutch colonized Indonesia, and established the Dutch Reformed tradition there, so GKI is a Presbyterian partner denomination, and Rev. Dhali shares our theological and polity roots. He serves a church in Covina which is also interested in joining the Presbytery, and receiving Papi as a member of San Gabriel is the first step.

The other two are coming back home. Charles Campbell was ordained by San Gabriel Presbytery in 1992, but he is best known for his great work as pastor for worship and music at San Clemente Presbyterian Church, and as a coach for seminarians and pastors. He was most recently the interim at Goleta Presbyterian in Santa Barbara Presbytery, and has been called as pastor of Northminster in Diamond Bar. Larry Ballenger was ordained by us in 1977, and is so active already that some may have thought he was still a member! He returns from San Fernando Presbytery to serve as interim pastor for Arcadia Community Church.

The offering for this meeting will go to Eagle Rock Presbyterian Church, who holds a Sunday evening worship service and meal, which serves many homeless neighbors in the area. We are hoping that these offerings can be an opportunity to highlight and support mission work of our member churches, as a sign of our covenant as a presbytery.

Another sign of our work as a presbytery is to consider and vote on proposed amendments to the Constitution of the PC(USA), recommended by the General Assembly last June.

And finally but perhaps most importantly, we can pray together. For now, please pray for Mrs. Phyllis

Watts, mother of Rev. Dr. N'Yisrela Afriyie-Watts, who has pneumonia, and for Rev. Lauren Evans and Charlita Sevesind, who are recovering from surgery.

See you this Saturday at Divine Light Presbyterian in El Monte. You can find the packet [here](#). May we discern together, and encourage and welcome each other, as partners in Christ's way.

## PROPOSED GA AMENDMENTS

The Education Committee has prepared the materials below to help you learn about the eight proposed amendments to our Book of Order on which we'll be voting April 6.

[Click here for a fun, interactive "Prezi" that walks through each amendment, the bottom line of what you really need to know, and lots more details if you'd like to go a little deeper.](#)

We won't have time to discuss all eight amendments in detail on April 6, but we do hope to have some lively discussion around key elements of our theology that informs our polity choices. Bring your most compelling questions! *(The Prezi may take a while to load at first. You may also choose to download it to your computer to access offline.)*

If you'd like to go straight to the source, we used two documents in compiling the Prezi information:

- [Proposed Amendments Booklet](#) issued by GA.
- [PC-Biz Website](#) for everything you could possibly want to know about every single proposal to GA...the ones that made it through committee and the ones that didn't.

See you on April 6,  
The Education Committee

## A REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA

oJesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us." *March 9:39-40*

### Reflection: Defective Faithfulness

In the last couple of weeks I have had conversations with two people in our presbytery who have experienced other Christian faith traditions. In one case, the person grew up Catholic, but has been Presbyterian for some 40 years. The other person is ordained Presbyterian but has been serving ecumenically in another Reformed denomination for 10 years. During these years of declining membership in all Christian churches in the United States, it has been somewhat comforting to know that people have chosen (or been led to) the PC(USA) to live out their faith. I remember several years ago, then-Stated Clerk Gradye Parsons informing a national gathering that over half of our membership did not grow up Presbyterian. We received this news with a sense of the vitality we gain from members new to the tradition, and also a responsibility to be more intentional about explaining why we believe and do the things that we believe and do. One of the fallacies of the PC(USA) is that we learn how to be Presbyterian by growing up Presbyterian-and even if we did, another fallacy is to assume that all Presbyterian churches are the same!

As a cradle Presbyterian, I understood that ecumenism was an integral part of our faith tradition. And yet, I realized that our ministry formation ensures that we focus rather intensely on our little Calvinist branch of the Christian family tree. This realization came a dozen years after my ordination. I was in a Doctor of Ministry program and was talking with my dissertation project advisor (the project which I never actually got going). My topic was a book of worship resources that could be useful to the PC(USA) because they would have been vetted as suitable in Reformed worship; they would welcome and celebrate the Holy Spirit (which, in my mind, is almost ignored in Reformed worship); and they would be rooted in different cultures, and would honor the cultures that contributed them. I once bemoaned the way churches misappropriate the gifts of the Black church while disrespecting the people; one friend who knows this from personal experience responded with "they love the fruit but hate the tree."

My advisor approved of my dissertation project topic, and like a good advisor, he asked me two challenging questions. The first was whether such a book could also help to lift up the sense of belonging for non-European Presbyterians (he shared how Black Presbyterians like him struggle with this-they are considered not Black enough because they are Presbyterian, and not Presbyterian enough because they are not White).

But it was his second question that has stayed with me: "Could there be a defect in the [Reformed] tradition?"

My first internal response was that this was some kind of heresy! But quickly I realized how my training had led me to believe that John Calvin had an answer for any situation we were to face in ministry, if we just dug deep enough-but perhaps that wasn't true. I was working for a seminary at the time, and I thought of this student who was a member of a PC(USA) church, but who was also attending another church and trying to get us to acknowledge the teachings of that church as properly Reformed, which they were decidedly not. This student was intellectually brilliant, African-American, a veteran with severe PTSD, and who had struggled with drug addiction and homelessness-and he was not getting a healing word from Calvinist theology.

Now even if we conclude that there may be some defects in our tradition, I'm not suggesting we reject it out of hand-one of my pet peeves is when we church folk take an "all or nothing" approach to evaluating something-or some people. I don't believe that any one church institution completely reflects or teaches about the Kingdom of God. I do believe that every institution has a vulnerability towards idolatry and self-preservation, and it is dangerous when any church claims to be the one true church. Just as we had four gospels in the New Testament, humanity is too diverse to know faith through any one expression. This is also true in the Jewish, Islamic, and Buddhist traditions-and even Jesus said that in his Father's house there are many dwelling places. But this diversity does not have to be a barrier to faithfulness, and our imperfections are not an excuse to stop serving our more than perfect God.

So we continue to be faithful, and trust the wisdom of those who have gone before us, while also being humble enough to know that in every generation we are called to renew and reform our tradition-and also to accept the fact that neither we nor any other church is the comprehensive manifestation of Christ's mission in the world. We strive for unity, but not by suppressing our varied gifts and perspectives. And until we can find unity without someone feeling the winner or the loser, we will have to settle for-and continue to work through-our defective faithfulness.

As individuals and as church and presbytery, we acknowledge that we are imperfect, yet as we seek to be faithful to God and give ourselves to be servants in Christ's mission, God can do wondrous things through us.

In faith,  
Wendy

# Update from SGP Tapestry

'Suh' SGP (millennial speak for *What's Up SGP?*),

You may be wondering what all this Tapestry talk is about. Tapestry is a cooperative of youth ministries among churches in the San Gabriel and Riverside presbyteries. It was formed by several youth pastors and directors about 7 years ago out of a desire and need to build a cohesive presence of youth at different exciting and faith-filled Jr. & Sr. High activities in the Southland. The PC(USA) is a connectional church and the benefit to live into that model is that it offers gifts of student spiritual formation each and every year.

This year, July 2019, happens to be a PC(USA) Youth Triennium year. Although the Tapestry team is not formally shepherding this trip, there is a contingent of youth in San Gabriel Presbytery who will be attending. It is an amazing way for young people to experience the Church as a denomination and learn about the many ways the Presbyterian Church lives out its faith across the country and the world. Ask about ways you may be able to help sponsor a student to attend this transformative experience.

While some are away at the Youth Triennium many others will be gathering that same week for the Tapestry Sacred Activism Week (July 15-19). This is an opportunity for our teens to really dive into what it means to serve our communities in faithful mission partnership. Each day they will learn about a different social justice activity, dive into it and get their hands dirty, and then come together afterward to spend time praying for the work they just became part of for that day. To learn more about this experience please contact Rev. Becca Bateman ([bbateman@smccpby.com](mailto:bbateman@smccpby.com)) or Rev. Brian Gaeta-Symonds ([brian@claremontpres.org](mailto:brian@claremontpres.org)).

A couple final thoughts... As you consider what your church is doing for Vacation Bible School this summer, please check in with the Tapestry team, as they may be able to provide some VBS Coaching (may include some resources). And, pray for our youth. They are up against some difficult pressures, challenges and choices. We want to make sure they know their church family is with them 'hundo p' or as the rest of us might say 100%.

With Gratitude,  
SGP Tapestry

Rev. Brian Gaeta-Symonds  
Co-Moderator of SGP Tapestry  
[brian@claremontpres.org](mailto:brian@claremontpres.org)

Rev. Becca Bateman  
Co-Moderator of SGP Tapestry  
[bbateman@smccpby.com](mailto:bbateman@smccpby.com)

Rev. Jake Kim  
Associate for Ministry Development  
[jakekim@sangabpres.org](mailto:jakekim@sangabpres.org)

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

BIG BEAR LAKE CHRISTIAN CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER

# SUMMER CAMP 2019

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	JUNE 30 - JULY 6
HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP	JUNE 30 - JULY 6
MIDDLE SCHOOL	JULY 7 - 13
HIGH SCHOOL	JULY 7 - 13

BBLCCC.COM  
1-877-285-0119



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



## FIRST CALL, FIRST STEPS

### A Terms of Call Seminar for Presbyterian Students

Sponsored by Board University

TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2019

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

490 E. WALNUT BUILDING, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room

Led by REV. CLAYTON COBB, Church Consultant

Remote participation available

Theological perspectives  
on benefits, compensation, and call

Financial realities of pastors, including

- Financial health
- Fair cash compensation
- Effective Salary
- Housing allowance
- Healthcare

Considerations for structuring terms of call

- Terms of call as covenant
- Components of terms of call
- Navigating the conversation

Please [RSVP](#) by April 11, 2019

A complimentary meal will be provided

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

## National Asian Presbyterian Women

Dear Sisters in Christ,

The triennial gathering of National Asian Presbyterian Women will be held April 26-28 in Laguna Woods, California hosted by APW Southern California, The theme is "Rise, Shine, Your Light has Come." The keynote speaker will be the Rev. Wendy Tajima, Executive Presbyter of San Gabriel Presbytery. The workshop leaders will be Rev. Mary Ellen Azada, Executive Director, Fuller Seminary Careers and Personal Development, Rev. Eun-hyey Lok, Director of Outreach of the Asian American Christian Counseling Service, and Charlene Jin Lee, Ph.D., Interim Pastoral Associate, Brentwood Presbyterian Church.

The conference will be at the Geneva Presbyterian Church in Laguna Woods. Rooms will be available at the Laguna Hills Lodge about a mile away. If you are flying in, please come to Orange County (SNA). Transportation will be provided from there to the conference site. We will begin with registration and dinner on Friday and end with lunch on Sunday.

The registration of \$50 includes four meals (Friday dinner, Sat. lunch and dinner, and Sunday lunch). If you stay at the Lodge, a light breakfast is included. Each room has a small refrigerator, microwave and coffee maker. There is a shopping center nearby. Scholarships will be available.

Please invite others to join us and share the registration information. If you have any questions please contact me or Rev. Mei-Hui Lai.

In Christ,

Janice Takeda, NAPW Moderator

Phone (626) 961-5642 email [janice.takeda@gmail.com](mailto:janice.takeda@gmail.com)

Mei-hui Lai (424)303-9825 [mei-hui.lai@pcusa.org](mailto:mei-hui.lai@pcusa.org)

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





## ***Need a grant for your grassroots group?***

**Our Presbytery's Self-Development of People (SDOP) Committee may have grant funds for you.**

**You could be eligible for a grant from the Self-Development of People (SDOP) Committee of our Presbytery.**

- Are you involved in a community growth project based on human dignity and self-reliance?
- Are you a working partner in a low-income, grassroots group searching for long-term solutions to systemic problems that keep people poor and oppressed?
- Is your project or program controlled by those who *benefit* from the collective effort?
- Does your program empower those involved in the project?
- Can you tell us why you need additional funding?

If you can answer "yes" you may be eligible to apply for a grant from the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People (no denominational connection is required).

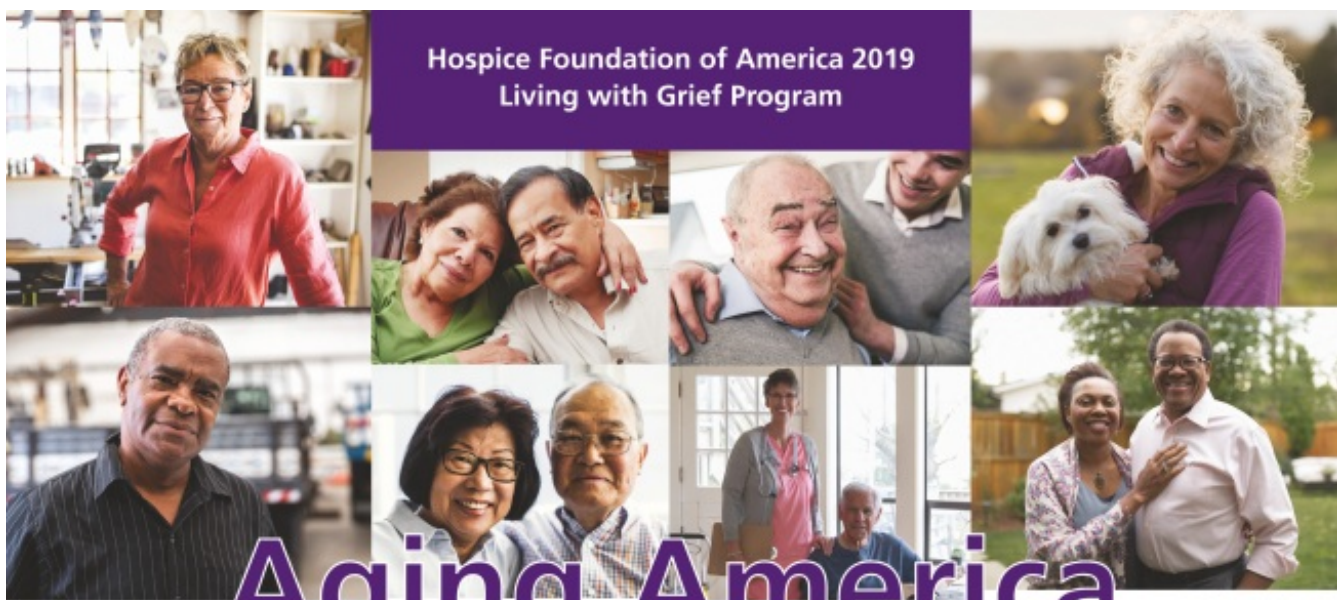


**For more information about grants through our Presbytery's SDOP Committee contact Wendy Gist at [gist.wendy@gmail.com](mailto:gist.wendy@gmail.com)**

**For more information about Self-Development of People, visit [www.pcusa.org/sdop](http://www.pcusa.org/sdop)**

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

Hospice Foundation of America 2019  
Living with Grief Program



# Aging America

## Coping with Loss, Dying and Death Later in Life

Aging America: Coping with Loss, Dying and Death Later in Life addresses the rapid rate of aging in America and the anticipation of Medicare to include 80 million enrollees by 2040. The panelists will integrate their expertise to deliver an in-depth discussion on innovative programs and new approaches to support older adults dealing with loss.

**After the program, a local panel of grief professionals will provide further information and local resources and be available to answer any questions.**

**You're invited to attend our local program and panel discussion. There is no cost to attend.**

**Date:** April 17, 2019

**New Location:**

Westminster Gardens  
1420 Santo Domingo Ave.  
Duarte, CA 91010

**Hours:**

**Registration/Continental breakfast:** 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

**Teleconference:** 8:30 - 10:45 a.m.

**Local panel discussion:** 11:00 - 11:30 a.m.

**RSVP to:**

Hanan Salim at Huntington Hospital Senior Network  
by April 12, Hanan.Salim@huntingtonhospital.com or  
626.397.5951

**Local Panel:**

- Lisa Bricker, Family Caregiver, Alzheimer's and Dementia Placement Specialist, Gently Guided LLC
- Katrin Koutassevitch, LCSW, Psychotherapist
- Rev. Brian O'Rourke, MonteCedro Chaplain, By Your Side Volunteer Coordinator
- Patricia Tager, RN, Director, Care Coordination, Methodist Hospital of Southern California

**VITAS**  
Healthcare  
800.93.VITAS  
VITAS.com



Information at [hospicefoundation.org/professionals](http://hospicefoundation.org/professionals)

# REDEFINE YOUR LIMITS



COULD YOU MAKE A NEW IMPACT ON...  
... your life?  
... your church?  
... the world?

LIVE THE MISSIONAL EDGE  
impact-theglobe.org

Summer Applications Due Now  
Apply Online!

## Make an IMPACT this summer

Join an International Mission Partnerships And Cross-cultural Training (IMPACT) delegation. Mission opportunities include hurricane relief work in Puerto Rico and the USA, work with children and youth in Honduras and Romania, medical service in Haiti, and more.

For information about trips go to: <https://www.impact-theglobe.org/current-trips>

Applications are due ASAP and training begins June 17th.

## 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](#)

Grace Presbyterian Church of Los Angeles has approximately 40 copies of Hymns for the Living Church that they are willing to donate. If you are interested, please contact the presbytery office at [presby@sangabpres.org](mailto:presby@sangabpres.org)

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

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

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

[www.pensions.org](http://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.

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

## **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!

## **SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (Undergraduate) | LONG BEACH**

Grace First Presbyterian Church (GFPC) in Long Beach invites young adults to the M.E.G.U.M.I. Project. Megumi is a Japanese word for "grace" and it is also the acronym for Mutual Empowerment Grace-First Urban Ministry Internship Project. The MEGUMI project hopes to bring together a cohort of four young adults ages 18-25 for an 8-week summer internship spanning from June 9 to August 4, 2019. The MEGUMI Project summer internship will provide a broad and thoughtful experience in ministry by exposing interns to a wide range of ministries at GFPC such as: worship leadership; leading activities for children, youth, and adults; pastoral visitation; leading retreats for various age groups; and more.

For a full description of the internship and to learn how to apply click [HERE](#).

Applications due April 1, 2019.



## ***ITEMS OF INTEREST***

### **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](http://www.presbyterianyouthtriennium.org)

for more information.

