



MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

Presbytery of San Gabriel

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Monday, April 29, 2019

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PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember Praise Community Church of Covina in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, May 5, 2019

ON THE CALENDAR

Tuesday, April 30 - Justice, Peacemaking and Mission 12:00 at Knox, Pasadena

A REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

Revelation 5:11-12

Reflection: The End

We are living into the Easter season, and the question that faces us is, how do we live in response to the

We are living into the Easter season, and the question that faces us is, how do we live in response to the resurrection?

As we know, Christ rose in triumph after a humiliating betrayal and execution. When we say Christ has triumphed, what does that mean?

Too often broken people exploit their faith to justify violence. Crusaders, Nazis, the KKK, and various White nationalist militia claim Christianity as the basis for untold atrocities against Muslims, Jews, Blacks, and others. Anti-Semites use Christ's crucifixion as justification for their virulent and horrifying hatred against Jews-though they are just as quick to use the defense of Israel as an excuse to hate Muslims, from as long ago as the Crusades to now. Muslims strike back, most recently against Christians celebrating Easter mass in Sri Lanka. Sikhs get caught in the cross-fire as they have been mistaken for Muslims. Jews stay ever-vigilant, to the point of restricting the human rights of Palestinians living in Israel. Is this the way to defend one's faith?

This Sunday's lectionary passages (Acts 9:1-20, Psalm 30, Revelation 5:11-14, and John 21:1-19) give us guidance on how to live as people of the Resurrection. In the Acts story, an early Christian is directed to receive Saul, a Jew who was known to persecute followers of Jesus. Even though this Christian, Ananias, objects due to Saul's violence against Jesus' followers, Ananias is told to receive, bless, and care for this persecutor. His ministry heals Saul, who as Paul becomes one of the greatest evangelists for Jesus Christ. Psalm 30 reminds us how we are prone to stand on our own in good times, but we turn to God in our distress; as God answers our prayers, we are to praise God and witness to God's mercy. In the Gospel according to John, when the risen Christ appears to his disciples, he still bears the wounds of the crucifixion, but he does not direct them to wreak vengeance. Instead, Christ tells Simon Peter that if he loves him, Peter is to care for Christ's lambs.

And in Revelation, multitudes of angels, elders, and all creatures sing resounding praises to Jesus Christ as the lamb. Now the book of Revelation is perhaps the most intriguing and misunderstood book in the Bible, and it has been interpreted as countless sects, cults, and others attempt to foretell the end of the world, or to justify militaristic "evangelism," since Revelation uses military imagery in the vision of Christ's ultimate triumph.

I may never come close to understanding the Book of Revelation, but I have been inspired by the work of New Testament scholar Barbara Rossing. She wrote a book on Revelation with the sensationalist title "The Rapture Exposed" and developed a Bible study for the Horizons series from Presbyterian Women. Rather than get caught up in the sensationalist imagery, Rev. Dr. Rossing lifts up the unique characteristic of Revelation: that the ultimate hero, the only one worthy of all of heaven's worship, is a little lamb still bearing the marks of crucifixion.

Why would God lift up such a vulnerable image to represent the King of our worship? For the same reason that Jesus came not as a great military commander, but as a humble teacher, willing to give up his life for the sake of others, and who teaches us to forgive and show compassion beyond reason or our human sense of justice. The only way to break the cycle of violence is to refuse to respond to violence with violence, and the only way to lead as a Christian is to be servant of others, especially the outcast and oppressed in our society.

As followers of Christ, even when we are oppressed, we must find ways to transcend the violence of the world, and answer hurt with mercy. We are forgiven as we forgive others, in gratitude for the merciful judgment of Christ, who loves us so much as to lay down his life for our sake.

I am grateful for those who have given us living examples of peace and forgiveness in response to violence, be they world leaders such as Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr., and Nelson Mandela, or individual people of faith such as the survivors of the Emanuel AME Church shooting in Charleston, SC; the Amish community that showed compassion to the family of their children's killer in Nickel Mines, Pennsylvania; and the people of Billings, Montana, showing solidarity with their Jewish neighbors. Recently, people of all faiths visit faith communities under attack, including Muslims protecting their Christian neighbors in Egypt; Jews reaching out to Muslims after the attack on the mosque in Christchurch, New Zealand; and we who are invited to attend next week's service at Congregation Chabad of Poway, including the Muslim members of the

attend next week's service at Congregation Shabbat of Roway, including the Muslim members of the Escondido mosque who suffered from arson and yet now express support for their Jewish cousins. I remember Nancy Moore and the session of Shepherd of the Valley, who volunteered their support and protection for a local mosque after anti-Muslim threats rose up after the San Bernardino shooting in 2015. So we all can show concern and care, as Christ directs us.

Now despair may take us over, and we may ask that if these brave souls resisted violence, why do we continue to suffer from so much hatred? This may be a similar despair that tempted Jesus' friends when he was taken to be crucified. And yet, Jesus stopped Peter from doing violence, and showed forgiveness even on the cross. We are in such a liminal time, when we have the choice to respond to violence or any kind of hurt with revenge, or with mercy. Christ calls us to do the latter.

So even in the face of tragedy and betrayal, may we truly celebrate the risen Christ by living as agents of mercy and forgiveness and peace, as Christ teaches us.

To the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!

Wendy

May 1st May Day March for Immigration and People Power:

The march is Wednesday May 1st from 3-6pm at MacArthur Park, 2230 W. 6th St. Los Angeles, CA 90057-3117. For more information here is the Facebook link:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/605992749887053/>

Witness to your faith that Jesus said that when we welcome the stranger, we welcome him. Contact Vanessa Martinez, Matthew 25 organizer, at 714.768.5714 or email her at soltero.vanessa@gmail.com

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

THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

MAY 2, 2019



★ PRAY FOR AMERICA ★

LOVE ONE

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

LOVE ONE ANOTHER. JUST AS I HAVE LOVED YOU.
JOHN 13:34

National Day of Prayer Service – Altadena Presbyterian Church

Date: Thursday, May 2, 2019, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Location: First Presbyterian Church, Altadena
2775 Lincoln Avenue, Altadena, CA 91001

Parking: Parking lot behind the Church

General: This is a free event. Invite others to come pray for our Nation!

For More Info: Becky Roberts, (805) 823-5452 / bjrobert70@gmail.com



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



**SATURDAY, May 18 at 4 p.m.
in Marwick Place
at Monte Vista Grove Homes
in Pasadena**

COME AND LISTEN as the Welsh Choir of Southern California present new and old Welsh music under the direction of internationally known conductor, Mari Morgan, originally from Wales and now living in New Jersey.

COME AND SING as Mari Morgan and the Choir lead everyone in singing some of the hymns set to Welsh tunes in the Presbyterian Hymnal, *Glory to God* and other Welsh and English hymns.

This free concert is open to all so please invite your family and friends to join you to LISTEN and to SING on Saturday, May 18 at 4 p.m. in Marwick Place at Monte Vista Grove Homes, 2889 San Pasqual Street in Pasadena, between South San Gabriel Blvd and El Nido Avenue.

For more information please contact Huw Christopher at huwchristopher@gmail.com or (850)209-6931

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

The ladies of Los Ranchos invite us to their Spring Gathering on May 4th. The topic is homelessness and they have lots of great information to share. Please think about getting a group from your PW to attend.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF THE PRESBYTERY OF LOS RANCHOS

WARMLY INVITE ALL MEN AND WOMEN TO

SPRING GATHERING

May 4th, 2019

9:30 am – 12:00 noon

Homelessness Demystified:

Strategic Directions & Missional Actions

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Participants Forum:** Attendees of the *Homelessness Demystified: Buffet of Educational Experiences* (02/02 – 05/04) share lessons learned and next steps.
- **Solutions That Are Working Panel: Century Villages at Cabrillo, Long Beach.** Affordable and supportive housing communities for over 20 years.
- **St. Mark's Presbyterian Church, Lomita: Outreach to Homeless.** Works directly with people living on nearby streets, moving them toward housing and jobs; while teaching life skills for the newly-housed to keep them from going back into homelessness.

WHERE:



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
OF ORANGE

First Presbyterian Church of Orange
191 N Orange St, Orange, CA 92866

Event Suggested donation \$10.

WE ARE COLLECTING ITEMS FOR CASA TERESA LAYETTE (NEW BABY ITEMS) - PLEASE BRING ITEMS TO EVENT.

Register Online with **Eventbrite** <https://tinyurl.com/pwpspring> (separate entry per person) *or* Mail Form Below. Registration will also be available at the door.

Registration donation per person is \$10 (includes Continental Breakfast)

Please make all checks payable to PWP

Number attending Event: * Amount enclosed:

**Please add additional attenders on a separate sheet. Registration will be available at the door.*

Print Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____

Church/Org _____ E-mail Address _____

Mail this registration form **by April 27** * to:

Janet Triplett, 5132 Casa Oro Drive, Yorba Linda, CA 92886.

Or phone her at 714-996-0946.

**Early registration enables seating for everyone attending*



Science 4 Ministers Conference

May 30th,
2019

8:30am-4:00pm

Azusa Pacific University

Segerstrom Science Center
675 East Foothill Blvd
Azusa, CA 91702

Topics:

Origins, Genetic Engineering, Gender Identity, and more

Registration: 8:00-8:30am

<https://formstack.apu.edu/forms/science4ministers>

Limited Available Spaces

For more information email CRIS@apu.edu

Sponsored by:



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



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

Westminster Presbyterian Church of Temple City

is seeking a Teaching Elder or Commissioned Ruling Elder to serve in a half time position to continue their transitional work beginning June 1, 2019. Any interested persons may forward Personal Information Forms to Huw Christopher, a member of the Administrative Commission for the Westminster Church, at wpctc2019@gmail.com or contact him for further information at this same e-mail address.

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

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.



EVENTS OF INTEREST

Board of Pensions - Benefits Connection

Helping Church Employers Align Benefits and Values

May 14 - La Canada

May 15 - Los Angeles

Visit pensions.org/benefitsconnections for details and to register

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.

STEWARDSHIP KALEIDOSCOPE

The Pulse of Generosity- Vital Signs of a Healthy Stewardship

September 30 - October 2, 2019

Catamaran Resort - San Diego

For more information and to register, visit www.stewardshipkaleidoscope.org

