



MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

Presbytery of San Gabriel

9723 Garibaldi Avenue, Temple City, CA 91780
Phone: 626.614.5964 Fax: 626.226.5767

Tuesday, May 28, 2019

IN THIS ISSUE

[PRESBYTERY MEETING AND DAY OF SERVICE](#)

[A REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA](#)

[MATTHEW 25 - AN INVITATION](#)

[WEAR ORANGE FOR GUN SAFETY](#)

[PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN - SUMMER CONFERENCE](#)

[BRAVE NEW FILMS](#)

[SUMMER CAMP 2019](#)

[2019 PRESBYTERY MEETINGS](#)

[EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES](#)

[EVENTS OF INTEREST](#)

PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember Shepherd of the Valley Presbyterian Church of Hacienda Heights in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, June 2, 2019

ON THE CALENDAR

Tuesday, May 28 - Committee on Representation and Nominations 12:30 at Shepherd of the Valley, Hacienda Heights

Stated Clerk, TE Diane Frasher will be out of the office the remainder of the week.

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE

JUNE 8 PRESBYTERY MEETING AND DAY OF SERVICE

9 AM MEETING FOLLOWED BY OUR DAY OF SERVICE AND LUNCH AT 12:30
PM

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN
540 E. VINE AVENUE, WEST COVINA

WELCOME INTERNATIONAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
WELCOME KRISTI VAN NOSTRAM, IMMIGRANT ACCOMPANIMENT
ORGANIZER

BE SURE TO WEAR YOUR WORK CLOTHES

WE WELCOME YOUR OFFERINGS OF CASH, \$5 OR \$10 GIFT CARDS,
SCHOOL SUPPLIES
FOR REFUGEES AND VICTIMS OF DISASTER

SEE FLYER FOR MORE INFORMATION (Click [HERE](#) to download the flyer)

A REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA

[Jesus said.] "Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses." *Mark 11:25*

Reflection: Forgiving, and Forgiven

I don't know if I've ever recommended a television show (probably because I didn't want to admit how much I watch TV), but every time I see this new show on CNN, "The Redemption Project," I feel the need to tell others about it. Since I don't do Facebook or Twitter, you are the ones I am telling.

Each week, the host Van Jones covers a case of "restorative justice." Restorative justice is a movement within the criminal justice system where an inmate meets with the victim of their crime, to understand better the impact of their crime, and to offer some information and remorse for the offense. The results of these encounters have been shown to reduce recidivism (committing another crime after release) and to provide more resolution for the victims.

On CNN's website, they point to several restorative justice programs, such as the [Insight Prison Project](#), the [Ahimsa Collective](#), the [River Phoenix Center for Peacebuilding](#), the [Restorative Justice Project at the University of Wisconsin School of Law](#), the [Healing Dialogue and Action organization](#) or the [Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice](#).

I actually knew of this last program, as the church was involved in this movement. Indeed, the Mennonite Church has been involved in the development of restorative justice across the nation. This reflects not only their emphasis on non-violent forms of rehabilitation, but also the prioritization of forgiveness as a sign and requirement of the Christian faith.

I have often thought that forgiveness is the hardest and most outstanding sign of our Christian faith. Too often Christians are not forgiving, even of the most minor offenses. And yet, we are repeatedly told that we are to forgive, even as a prerequisite for being forgiven ourselves. Whereas we know that we love because Jesus first loved us, there are several times when Jesus states that we are forgiven only as we forgive others. Indeed, this is in the prayer that Jesus taught us. Note that we pray "forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors"-so we are forgiven only as we forgive.

Every time I have seen "The Redemption Project" I end up in tears. I think it's because the agreement to have such a meeting seems to come from some desire for forgiveness, often rooted in the Christian faith of the victim. There is a desire to understand, or make something positive out of tragedy.

For myself, perhaps the most vivid example of forgiveness happened in response to the murder of five young children while at West Nickel Mines Amish School in Pennsylvania. Almost immediately after the massacre, in which the gunman killed himself, Amish neighbors went to visit his family, showing compassion and extending forgiveness to them. "I hope they stay around here and they'll have a lot of friends and a lot of support," Daniel Esh, an Amish artist and woodworker whose three grandnephews were inside the school during the attack, said of the family. At the killer's own funeral, there were almost as many Amish people attending as in his family. "It was deeply moving," said the minister at the funeral, speaking of the condolences expressed by the Amish to the family. "It was a display of Christ's love as I've never seen it." When asked why they were showing such forgiveness, the simple response was that Christ tells us to forgive.

This Christ-like forgiveness isn't always achieved on "The Redemption Project." Most recently, a woman, strengthened by her Methodist church, faced the man who killed her son Nathan while he was driving under the influence of drugs. She admitted that she wasn't yet capable of forgiving the driver, but at the end she said,

I hope to get to forgiveness one day. God forgives us every day. He asks us to do it all the time. If I'm able to get to forgiveness, then I can see Nathan.

I do believe that forgiveness is a sign of healing for a victim. But this woman reflects another outcome of forgiveness, because unresolved anger is like scales in our eyes, blocking our faith, and blocking all that God wants for us. Christ won for us liberation-from our own sins, but through forgiveness we are also freed from the impact of the sins of others. It's hard work to speak our truth and hear from those who have hurt us, but God calls us to it, gives us power to approach it, and it can neutralize the toxicity that so burdens our souls and our world.

May we be forgiven, as we forgive those who have hurt us. And as we do so, not only are we freed of the hurt, but the world will see the power of Christ in our lives, and the hope he puts in our hearts.

Peace,
Wendy



Matthew 25 - An Invitation

As the Presbyterian Church, we are living into hope - expressed by the vision and call to congregations and mid councils to become a Matthew 25 Church.

The vision for Matthew 25 is to multiply Jesus' call to radical and fearless discipleship by partnering with mid councils and congregations to embrace one or more of these three focuses:

- **Building congregational vitality** by challenging people and congregations to deepen their faith and get actively and joyfully engaged with their community and the world.
- **Dismantling structural racism** by advocating and acting to break down the systems, practices and thinking that underlie discrimination, bias, prejudice and oppression of people of color.
- **Eradicating systemic poverty** by working to change laws, policies, plans and structures in our society that perpetuate economic exploitation of people who are poor.

You are invited and encouraged to join the vision and movement of Matthew 25. Visit presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/become-a-matthew-25-church for more information on how to engage.

To learn more about Matthew 25 SoCal click [HERE](#).
To learn about the current Matthew 25 SoCal projects and initiatives in the Greater LA County area click [HERE](#).

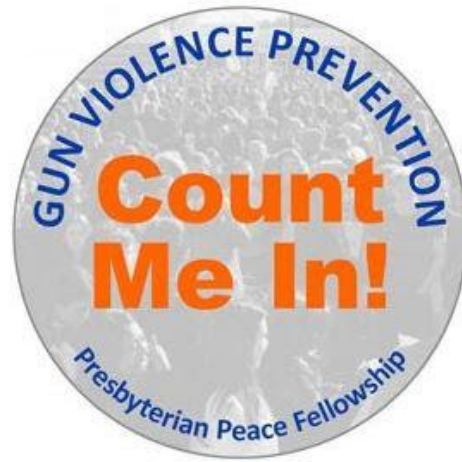
Wear Orange for Gun Safety! June 7-9

*--Make a plan for your congregation to wear orange on Sunday, June 9
--Make / find an orange stole for your pastor(s) to wear in worship*

Join Everytown for Gun Safety and [WEAR ORANGE](#) June 7-9

Orange is the color that Hadiya Pendleton's friends wore in her honor when she was shot and killed in Chicago at the age of 15 - just one week after performing at President Obama's 2nd inaugural parade in 2013.

Since then orange has been the defining color of the gun violence prevention movement. New York gun violence prevention advocate Erica Ford spearheaded orange as the color of peace through her work with her organization, Life Camp, Inc. Whether it's worn by students in Montana, activists in New York, or Hadiya's loved ones in Chicago, the color orange honors the more than 90 lives cut short and the hundreds more wounded by gun violence every day.



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

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii

2019 Summer Conference

Love Your Neighbor

July 19 - 21, 2019

Chapman University ~ Orange, CA

with

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Nordquist

*Keynote Speaker, presenting on the 2019 - 2020 Horizons Bible Study
Love Carved In Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments*

Susan Jackson-Dowd

Executive Director, Presbyterian Women Inc.

Rev. Ann Hayman

Dean, 2019 Summer Conference

Plenary - Breakout Sessions - Mercado - Worship

*Registration is now available from
PWP and PWC Moderators, and
PWS's Digital Platforms*

Leadership Grants are also available



Click [HERE](#) to download complete schedule and a registration form

Click [HERE](#) to download a scholarship application - The deadline for scholarship applications is May 31st!

Would you like to hold discussion series on social justice issues? What better way to begin a thought-provoking discussion than with a powerful film.



Brave New Films offers their films as tools to help educate and move people to action. They create feature-length documentaries and short films that cover a variety of topics including mass incarceration, immigration, gun violence, and numerous other topics of domestic and international concern.

Visit their website for faith communities at <https://bit.ly/bravenewfaith>, take a look at the films they have to offer, and share it with others so they can schedule screenings. Their films are free to show in any setting and are accompanied with discussion guides. All they ask is for you to let them know when and where you show the films and provide feedback so they can improve their content over time.

Questions? Email Tahil Sharma, Faith Outreach Manager, at tahil@bravenewfilms.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



2019 Presbytery Meetings

June 8, 9:00 AM - Work Day @ West Covina Ministry Center
September 14, 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon @ Puente de Esperanza, La Puente

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 an Administrative Assistant for Finance and Personnel

1111 N. Mountain Avenue, Claremont
909 624-9693

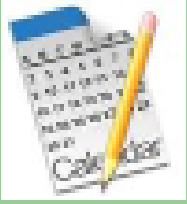
This Bookkeeping position is a Part-time and Exempt Position
Click [HERE](#) for a complete job description.

Westminster Presbyterian Church of Temple City is seeking a Temporary half-time Teaching Elder or Commissioned Ruling Elder

WPCTC is looking for an enthusiastic pastor who has the drive and motivation to lead a small congregation into action. WPCTC has been hard at work with their current transitional pastor to create a vision of revitalization and a strategy to engage with their surrounding community. The half-time position is temporary for now, but may grow into a permanent pastor position, if by God's grace the revitalization efforts work. See the full job description [HERE](#). 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

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.



EVENTS 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

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

Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network National Conference

October 15-18

Laws Lodge, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary

for more information contact Pat Baker at pat@sapctucker.org or 678-438-3673

Or visit <https://www.poamn.org/>