



MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

Presbytery of San Gabriel

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Monday, August 5, 2019

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www.sangabpres.org

www.synod.org

www.pcusa.org

www.pensions.org

PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember Knox Presbyterian Church of Pasadena in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, August 11, 2019

ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

The CPM meeting scheduled for Tuesday, August 5 has been rescheduled until Tuesday, September 3rd.

Executive Presbyter Wendy Tajima will be out of the office July 24 - August 6.

REFLECTION FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'" *Matthew 25:31-35*

Reflection: Living Matthew 25

I am writing from Baltimore, a truly lovely town. It has been a great blessing that the PC(USA) is holding several events in Baltimore at this time-first, Big Tent which just finished, then the Mid-Council Leaders will gather here in October and of course General Assembly will be held here in June 2020.

I am actually here thanks to the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) Board, who invited a select group of presbytery executives and all the synod leaders to give their perspective on priorities for the PMA. Some of you may remember that my term on the PMA Board ended at the 2018 General Assembly, and I have greatly enjoyed moving from Board member to frequent participant in this year's trend of consultations.

The 2018 General Assembly affirmed the Matthew 25 movement, and Diane Givens-Moffett, the new President and Executive Director of PMA, has adopted this as the guiding vision for all that PMA does. She knows not to call it a program or initiative, because she's heard that the last thing the church wants is yet another new program that has to be discussed for possible adoption, implementation, or rejection, only to have the next GA move on to something else. But Matthew 25 is so indicative of Jesus' gospel that PMA is confident that it is a worthy challenge for all of us, at all levels of the church. So churches, presbyteries, and synods are also being invited to commit to being a Matthew 25 church as well.

(This actually has caused some confusion for us in Southern California, where the Matthew 25 movement has already been established, especially focused on immigrant welcome. You may remember that our keynote speaker at this year's WinterFest was Alexia Salvatierra, who is the leader of Matthew 25/Mateo 25 SoCal. Kristi Van Nostran is working on an invitation that addresses both Matthew 25/Mateo 25 SoCal, and Matthew 25 for PMA. The PMA version is much broader than Matthew 25 SoCal, but we are likely to continue to keep immigrant justice as the focus of our efforts.)

So Diane has developed a Bible study of Matthew 25 that I found very compelling, and I hope that she will come to Southern California to share it with us. I wanted to highlight just a couple of things as a preview.

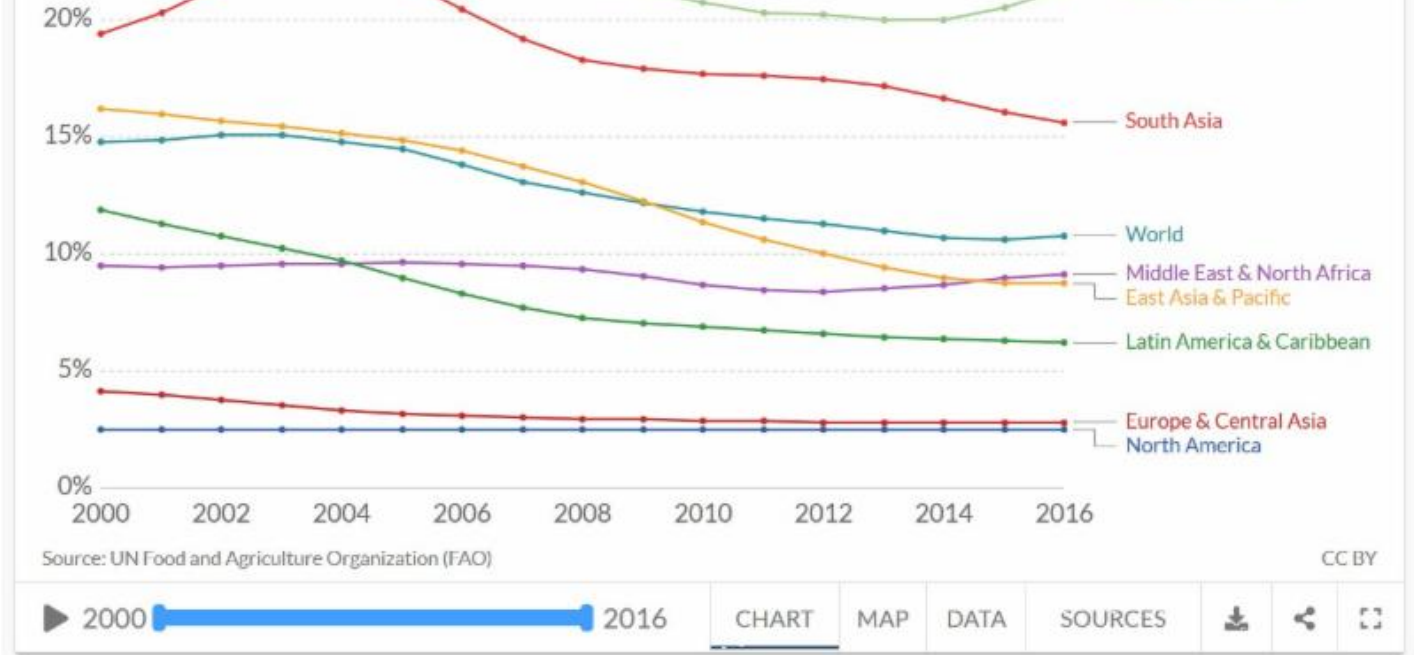
First is one of those things that are obvious if we read the whole scripture passage rather than cherry pick the most convenient parts. We North American Christians have a habit of privatizing our faith, so whenever there's a call to mission we tend to assume the call is to us as individuals. But the beginning of this passage clearly addresses "the nations"-so Diane pointed out that this is not just a call to each of us to feed the hungry or welcome the stranger, it is a call to the nations to do so. This is why we in the Reformed tradition do not limit our vision to our own personal efforts, but we call on the nations to address systemic injustice. Yes, we can give a meal to one homeless person on the street, and yes, we can have a food pantry at our church. But also, yes, we can call on our nation and all nations to eradicate hunger, knowing that it is possible with the resources of the earth, if we chose to distribute the food to all. The good news is that even in recent years, hunger and poverty have been reduced in countries like China, India, and Kenya, though there is a direct correlation between increases in hunger and conflict and impacts of climate change.

Share of the population that is undernourished

This is the main FAO hunger indicator. It measures the share of the population that has a caloric intake which is insufficient to meet the minimum energy requirements necessary for a given individual. Countries with undernourishment under 2.5% are automatically given a value of 2.5%.

Our World
in Data





But I digress. Diane didn't get into world hunger statistics, but she did give a very helpful chart of the systemic ways our nation can respond to the needs of our siblings in Christ:

1. Treatment of the hungry (access to land)
2. Treatment of the thirsty (access to clean water)
3. Treatment of the stranger (new arrivals)
4. Treatment of the naked (vulnerable persons)
5. Treatment of the sick (access to health care)
6. Treatment of the prisoner (access to justice).

So yes, we can work person-to-person, and it's important that we learn to relate to individuals in need and see them as cherished children of God. But we can also work to advocate for systemic change. Amidst all the terror around us, we have seen proof that there can be systemic improvements in feeding the hungry, supplying water to the thirsty, caring for the refugee, defending the rights of the vulnerable, providing health care to all, and reforming our justice system.

This last weekend has seen the epidemic of gun violence exploding in more communities than we can keep straight. But there was also a time when global hunger seemed a permanent condition. There can be systemic change, for the sake of millions. We have also seen nations and even states that have been able to curb gun violence, if only the leaders have the will to confront it. So we must not lose hope. May we continue to work in faith, without fear of what the world might think. Instead, let us trust that if we do our part, God will magnify whatever efforts we offer.

In faith and in trust,
Wendy

Boundary Training Offered in Multiple Languages

The Synod of Southern California and Hawaii has arranged with Dr. Kibbie Ruth to hold several trainings to prevent sexual harassment and misconduct. The Commission on Ministry of San Gabriel Presbytery is requiring that any new pastor, or any pastor who for whatever reason has not been to a recent training, attend one of these trainings. In addition, the morning session of each day is designed to satisfy the new sexual harassment prevention training requirement of the State of California for all employers with five or more employees (this includes churches with staff of five or more).

The training is \$10 for the morning or \$15 for the whole day (including lunch), and you have the choice of three days

and locations. Each training will begin at 9 am and end by 3 pm.

- September 5 (Thursday), Union Church of Los Angeles, 401 E 3rd St., Los Angeles, CA 90013. Phone (213) 629-3876. Translation will be provided for Spanish, Korean, Taiwanese, Mandarin, and Arabic speakers.
- September 6 (Friday), Shepherd's Grove Presbyterian Church, 4445 Alton Pkwy, Irvine, CA 92604. Phone (949) 786-9627. Translation provided for Vietnamese, Korean, Taiwanese, and Indonesian speakers.
- September 7 (Saturday), Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, 588 Camino Manzanitas, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360. Phone (805) 498-4502. Translation provided for Spanish and Korean speakers.

Anyone is welcome to attend the training, but it is mandatory for San Gabriel Presbytery minister members doing public ministry who have not attended a recent training, and for the employees of any church with staff of five or more who have not arranged for such training themselves.

Click [here](#) for more information and links to on-line registration for the trainings.

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



God intends for the church and its ministries to be a safe place for all to encounter God and grow into lives of service and fulfillment. We are called to be a holy community.

PresbyterianMission.org

Learn to establish and maintain safe relationships and faith communities including prevention of child abuse.

Three Locations

Please select the **ONE** event location that best fits your needs. Each event is 9 am to 3 pm.

including prevention of child abuse, domestic violence, elder abuse, sexual harassment, professional misconduct and other abuses of power.

Teaching Elders are required to attend both morning and afternoon sessions. All others are required to attend the morning session and **strongly encouraged** to attend the afternoon session.

Event Facilitator . . .

Rev. Dr. Kibbie Ruth

Senior Consultant
Kyros Ministry,
San Mateo, CA.



For over two decades **Kibbie Ruth, MA, DMin,** has taught abuse prevention and intervention strategies, and consulted on cases throughout the country. Dr. Ruth concentrates on religious issues of abuse as the Founder and Senior Consultant of Kyros Ministry. She works with judicatories and congregations to establish safe relationships and faith communities, including prevention of child abuse, domestic violence, elder abuse, sexual harassment, professional misconduct and other abuses of power.

Registration is handled through [Eventbrite](#).

fits your needs. Each event is 9 am to 3 pm; lunch provided.

The registration fee for Teaching Elders/Ministers is \$15.00 and \$10.00 for all others. Payment may be submitted upon registration OR paid at the door. Payment details will be found on the registration page for each of the locations (links below, in the "REGISTER" boxes).

September 5 (Thursday)

**REGISTER: Sept. 5
Los Angeles**

Union Church of Los Angeles

401 E 3rd St., Los Angeles, CA 90013
(213) 629-3876

Translation provided for **Spanish, Korean, Taiwanese, Mandarin, Arabic** speakers

September 6 (Friday)

**REGISTER: Sept. 6
Irvine**

Shepherd's Grove Presbyterian Church

4445 Alton Pkwy
Irvine, CA 92604
Phone: (949) 786-9627

Translation provided for **Vietnamese, Korean, Taiwanese, Indonesian** speakers

September 7 (Saturday)

**REGISTER: Sept. 7
Thousand Oaks**

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

588 Camino Manzanas,
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
Phone: (805) 498-4502

Translation provided for **Spanish, Korean** speakers

Questions? [E-mail Fried Wilson](#) at the Synod office.

San Fernando Valley Refugee Children Center

Offering hope, comfort, and love to children seeking refuge from life-threatening violence.

The mission of the San Fernando Valley Refugee Children Center in North Hills is to be a healing embrace to the hundreds of unaccompanied children who have made the perilous journey from Central America to seek refuge in the San Fernando Valley. Our overarching goal is to reach out to these children and their families and offer our Center as a place of welcome and healing through partnerships with community organizations to provide for basic needs, services and resources including:

- Legal assistance
- Fun gatherings, field trips, potlucks, etc.
- Clothes, blankets
- Personal hygiene items
- School supplies
- Toys
- Emotional and spiritual support
- Financial assistance for basic care and/or referrals for medical, dental, vision needs

For more information about the SFVRCC click [HERE](#).

Support their work by attending their
"CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN" 3rd ANNUAL FUNDRAISER
Friday, August 9th, 2019 - 7:00 pm
Odyssey Restaurant - 15600 Odyssey Dr., Granada Hills, CA 91344

SPONSORSHIPS, TABLES, and TICKETS ON SALE NOW [HERE!](#)

San Fernando Valley Refugee Children Center's

CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN

3RD ANNUAL FUNDRAISER



Friday, August 9th, 2019 - 6:00pm
Odyssey Restaurant
15600 Odyssey Dr, Granada Hills, CA 91344

The PDF of the 2019-2021 Book of Order is now available. Click [HERE](#) to download a copy



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

Grateful Stewardship:

Strategies to help your church fund its mission

Maggie A.F. Harmon, esq.
Presbyterian Foundation
Ministry Relations Officer, Southwest

Thursday, September 19th
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Includes lunch

El Sueno, Westminster Gardens
1420 Santo Domingo Avenue
Duarte, 91010

All church leaders and pastors welcome!

Sponsors



PRESBYTERY
OF
SAN GABRIEL



Westminster Gardens
a human good community

Presbyterian Planning Calendar 2019-2020

Please note that the 2019-2020 calendar will not be available to ship until August 2019.

This 16-month calendar- **starting with September, 2019, and ending with December, 2020**-contains many planning aids for pastors and other church leaders. Includes lectionary for Sundays and special days, liturgical days, liturgical colors, resource information for PC(USA) programmatic emphases, updated synod, presbytery and Presbyterian Mission Agency staff directories, color foldout synod/presbytery and world maps.

Available August 2019.

2019 Presbytery Meetings

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



EVENTS OF INTEREST

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/>

Save the Date

The Board of Directors of Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church (USA), Inc. just cast a unanimous vote for the 2021 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women!

August 5-8, 2021 - St Louis, MO