

MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

Presbytery of San Gabriel

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Monday, October 7, 2019

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www.sangabpres.org

www.synod.org

www.pcusa.org

www.pensions.org

ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Monday, October 7 - Commission on Ministry 12:00 at the Presbytery Center Personnel Committee 1:00 at Westminster, Temple City

Wednesday, October 9 - Education Committee 3:30 at Fuller Seminary

Thursday, October 10 - Administration and Finance 2:30 at the Presbytery Center

Saturday, October 12 - Synod of Commission of Assembly

PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember Grace Taiwanese Presbyterian Church of Temple City in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, October 13, 2019

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA

How can we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land? Psalm 137:4

Reflection: Digital Immigrants

I hope you had a meaningful and worshipful World Communion Sunday weekend. It was quite a busy weekend, including multilingual worship services, church gatherings, and a pancake breakfast. I had the opportunity to worship in Claremont with the four faith communities housed at the site of Claremont Presbyterian Church: Claremont, of course, and Emmanuel Hispanic, GPIB (which I think is Gereja Protestan di Indonesia Bagian Barat), and Claremont Korean Presbyterian. Claremont and Emmanuel are chartered member churches of San Gabriel Presbytery. GPIB is enrolled with the PCUSA as a "New Church Development." And Claremont Korean received seed funding as a possible new worshiping community.

Speaking of new worshiping communities, I also had the opportunity to attend the one-year anniversary of First Progressive Church Los Angeles, started by a couple of alums from SFTS-Southern California. It is a safe place for Asian-Americans to gather in an inclusive worship space. Though the focus is on welcoming people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, it seemed that many of the attendees were heterosexual couples, which the pastor confirmed. This was a reminder to me that when we welcome people who have been marginalized, there are others who love them who also want them to feel welcome, so how we connect with the marginalized can be a powerful witness to our understanding of God's love for the world.

Another group that is considered a new worshiping community is GKI-LA (Gereja Kristen Indonesia Los Angeles), pastored by Rev. Pipi Dhali, who recently joined our presbytery. GKI-LA, which is now worshiping at the Covina campus of their partner congregation, Praise Community Church (aka First Thai Presbyterian), hosted the Southern California meeting of NIPC (National Indonesian Presbyterian Council). Pipi invited me to greet them, and it was a glimpse into San Gabriel Presbytery life-Indonesian church leaders meeting with Sean Chow, a Chinese-American who is on our national staff; myself, Japanese-American; Praise pastor Peter Tan-Gatue, Filipino-American; on the site of Praise, which is largely a Thai church. Please note that this was actually a breakthrough, because there are significant cultural differences between northern Asians (Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Taiwanese) and southern Asians (Indian, but also Thai, Cambodian, Indonesian, etc.). So it was nice to have so many of us in one meeting. For you old-timers, it was also great to see NIPC honor the memory of Jack Makonda, who was a member of our presbytery and was honored for translating the Book of Order into Indonesian.

But the personal breakthrough for me was what I learned at the event. There was a training by a pastor who is also a therapist, and though most of the session was in Indonesian, some of the slides were in English. She seemed to be focusing on generational differences and church family ministries. One of the slides described "Digital Immigrants" and "Digital Natives." I think I have heard the term "Digital Natives" but never the former, and that really hit home for me.

The trainer described the challenges for Digital Immigrants, including: unfamiliarity with the technology, which leads to some level of fear dealing with it; unfamiliarity with the language associated with it; concerns about disruption of family life; and questions whether the risks associated with this new world outweigh its benefits.

People new to this country experience many of these feelings-they are surprised at how foreign American culture and systems can be; they feel constrained using the English language; their children born in the USA are influenced by American norms and sometimes are put in a leadership position due to their familiarity with English; and the disruptions in community, status, familial relationships, and other elements of life can lead people to wonder if they really are better off in the US than back home.

On the other hand, Digital Natives are born into this world, so they don't know anything else; not only are they comfortable with the technology, it's the normal way for them to communicate with each other; it is the only way they know to access educational, policy, and information resources; and there is a social system and etiquette for this way of relating digitally that is foreign to those disconnected to the technology.

I have heard parents worry that their children are addicted to their phones or they are failing to develop socially due to their attachment to the technology. The trainer at the NIPC gathering confessed that she sometimes thinks her child "loves her phone better than me."

This was great learning for me-and I was not expecting to learn it at a presentation given in Indonesian at a Thai church! Isn't God's world grand . . .

Speaking of God's world, I was contacted by my friends in Hawaii, because there are 11 churches in the Hawaii Conference UCC looking for pastors. Often Presbyterians serve in the UCC because they are like the "state church" for

Hawaii (the original missionaries were Congregationalists). In my experience, the cultural fit is far more critical to pastoral work in Hawaii than denominational ties. If you are curious, please let me know (I am comfortable talking with people about their call, and keeping it confidential)-or if you would rather, you can contact Rev. Richard Kamanu at Rkamanu@hcucc.org. The PCUSA is in "full communion" with the UCC (as well as with the ELCA-Lutheran-and RCA-Reformed), so it is easier (but not automatic) for pastors from these denominations to serve in each others' churches.

As I write this column, it occurs to me that we continue to find more kinds of people with whom we are not familiar, not only due to ethnicity and language but also generation, gender identity, denominational heritage, theological conviction, mental and physical ability, and others that we cannot anticipate. I know that it can feel overwhelming if we see these differences as barriers. My hope is that we get to the point when we can accept each other for all of how we understand ourselves-and the more we learn about each other, the more we understand that our most important identity is that of child of God, partner in Christ's mission, and mere mortal empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Thankful for our partnership, Wendy

San Gabriel Presbytery will be electing commissioners to the 224th General Assembly in Baltimore at our November Presbytery Meeting. If you are interested in serving as a commissioner, please download the nomination form, complete it and return it by email as indicated.

Click HERE to download the Nomination Form



PRESBYTERY OF SAN GABRIEL NOMINATION FORM FOR PRESBYTERY REPRESENTATIVES

224th GENERAL ASSEMBLY BALTIMORE, MARYLAND JUNE 20-27, 2020

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☐ TEACHING ELDER

☐ YAAD (ages 17-23)

Ruling Elder nominees will be considered initially on the basis of the number of years since their congregation has sent a representative to the General Assembly. Young Adult Advisory Delegates must be between the ages of 17 to 23 on the first day of the GA, June 20, 2020. Consideration for all nominees include maintaining a balance of diversity, ability to participate fully in preparation before and through the entire GA, and active service to the denomination. If you are interested in being a Theological Student Advisory Delegate, please let Wendy Tajima know at wendytajima@sangabpres.org. All commissioners and delegates must be active members of the Presbytery or a member church, and their travel, hotel, and meal expenses are paid by the GA. Advisory delegates are voting members of committees, and have voice but not vote when the full Assembly meets.

NAME	E-MAIL	
ADDRESS		
CITY	ZIP CODE	
CELL PHONE	ALTERNATE PHONE	

CHURCH/CUF	RRENT MINISTRY				
DATE OF BIRT	H (YAADs only)	YEAR OF PRIOR GA REPRESENTATION, IF ANY			
PLEASE RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS: Please list areas of recent active ministry in your local church, the Presbytery, Synod, or General Assembly.					
You may add	other leadership roles and activities	in other venues (community, school, etc.).			
	ou like to serve as a commissioner/Y the larger church conversation?	AAD to the 224 th General Assembly? What gifts would			

By submitting this form, you are affirming that you are willing and able to serve if elected Please e-mail completed form to Janice Takeda at janice.takeda@gmail.com NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 11, 2019

Click **HERE** to download a copy of the flyer



Join us for a Special Evening

Turning Wine into Water

October 19, 2019, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

In South Pasadena

Support the Living Waters for the World ministry work of San Gabriel Presbytery.

Wine & water tasting, appetizers, & more. Updates on past & future systems in Peru.

Tickets: \$50.00 per person (suggested minimum donation).

This event has a maximum conscitu of (0 noonle

This event has a maximum capacity of 60 people.

RSVP (and/or questions) to Wendy Gist at gist.wendy@gmail.com

Please make your tax-deductible donation payable to San Gabriel Presbytery and

write "LWW Oct. 19 fundraiser" on the memo line.

Our goal for the night is to raise \$2500 for our next water system installation.

Please click **HERE** to download a copy of the flyer

SMCC Adult Spiritual Formation SUNDAYS, OCTOBER 6 – NOVEMBER 3 4:00 – 6:00 PM, FELLOWSHIP HALL

"Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless.

Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act." Dietrich Bonhoeffer





What does God expect from us when evil becomes the authority? How do we, as Christians, reconcile necessary actions against aggressive violence and our call to follow the Prince of Peace? Where is God in the face of unimaginable crimes against humanity? These were just a few of the bone-deep questions the entire world was forced to ask with the rise of Hitler and his "final solution." San Marino Community Church invites you to a five-week series that will address this dark period of world history through guest speakers, and film. Join us for five Sundays, 4:00 - 6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall:

- Oct. 6 Jeff O'Grady and Carol Spanier-Ladwig explore the interwar period beginning with the Treaty of Versailles and ending with WWII. This historical foundation provides insight into how the ground was made fertile for the eventual rise of the Third Reich.
- Oct. 13 Linda Mollno, from the College of Natural & Social Sciences, History Department at Cal State Los Angeles, will cover the further lead up to and beginning of WWII: specifically discussing the growth of nationalism and the rise of Aryan Supremacy in Germany.
- Oct. 20 Stephen Ford, U.S. History teacher at San Marino High School, will discuss the United States' involvement in WWII. Steven Antosy, San Marino resident and WW II veteran, will share his experiences as a soldier in the D-Day invasions of Normandy and the Battle of the Bulge, and who later covered the Nuremberg War Trials for the Allied Radio Network.
- Oct. 27 Ron White, distinguished historian, teacher, speaker, and best-selling author, is known for his passion for the lessons history presents for contemporary conversations. Dr. White will discuss the seminal document of the Christian response to the Nazi regime as he discusses The Barmen Declaration (1934).
- **Nov. 3** Film, Dinner and Discussion. This <u>extended afternoon</u> event will feature a screening of the film *Schindler's List*. Steven Spielberg's masterful drama won seven Oscars, including Best Picture, Best Director and Best Writing.

Want to be added to the email list? Contact pflynn@smccpby.com

San Marino Community Church • 1750 Virginia Road • San Marino, CA 91108
Call: 626/282-4181 • Visit: smccbpy.com/serve-give/give • Email: give@smccpby.com

Click **HERE** to download a copy of the flyer



Join us on November I & 2 for an exploration of the Enneagram, where we will discover a profound, elegant and compassionate map of the human psyche including both psychological and spiritual components. Put all this together and this will be our guide toward self-understanding and self-development.

Our presenter, Kathryn Grant, is a Certified Enneagram
Instructor, Accredited Professional with the International Enneagram
Association and an Associate of Jerry Wagner's at Enneagram Spectrum.
Having studied and taught since 1994, Kathryn brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to her teaching and consulting. She enjoys incorporating story and myth to help illuminate Enneagram wisdom. She holds degrees from University of Illinois, Urbana and Roosevelt University, Chicago.



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2019 Presbytery Meetings

November 19, 7:00 - 9:00 PM (Tuesday evening) @ Trinity, Pasadena

Presbytery Meeting dates for 2020

Tuesday, January 14 - 7:00 pm Saturday, March 28 - 9:00 am Saturday, May 30 - 9:00 am - GA Co-Moderator Rev. Cindy Kohlmann Saturday, September 26 - 9:00 am Tuesday, November 17 - 7:00 pm

2020 Presbytery Minimums

Pastor's Minimum Salary: \$57,685

Travel/Professional Expense Reimbursement: \$2,735

Study Leave: \$1,020

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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

La Verne Heights Presbyterian Church has an opening for a Bookkeeper. This is a parttime position. Click <u>HERE</u> to download a complete job description. Materials requested in the job description should be mailed to:

La Verne Heights Presbyterian Church 1040 Baseline Road La Verne, CA 91750

Calvary Presbyterian Church of South Pasadena is seeking a thoughtful, energetic, and creative candidate for our Children & Youth Ministries position. This is a full time, salaried position. Hours negotiable. Click HERE to download detail/job description.

For more information about our church please visit www.cpcsouthpas.org.

Please send a cover letter and resume to The Rev. Millason Dailey, millason@cpcsouthpas.org.



EVENTS OF INTEREST

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 Church-wide Gathering of Presbyterian Women! August 5-8, 2021 - St Louis, MO