



MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

Presbytery of San Gabriel

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Monday, November 25, 2019

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www.sangabpres.org

www.synod.org

www.pcusa.org

www.pensions.org

ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK



The Presbytery Office will be closed Thursday, November 28 - Friday, November 29 in observance of Thanksgiving.

Mission Advocate Wendy Gist and Asylum Accompaniment Organizer Kristi Van Nostran will be out of the office this week.

PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember Arcadia Community Church of Arcadia in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, December 1, 2019

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA

pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he grant that you may know the power of his inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love.

Ephesians 3:16-17

Reflection: Thanksgiving

It seems a long time ago since our Presbytery met but it was only last Tuesday! The meeting was the last meeting of the year, so the Presbytery reviewed this past year in several ways, and looked ahead to 2020. The meeting was full and the energy was good. Thanks to Trinity Presbyterian Church for their hospitality, and to Rev. Ally Lee for acting as substitute minutes clerk while Twila French continues to recover from her knee replacement.

As we looked back on 2019, we honored pastors and leaders who went home to glory this year, including Revs. Zac Bright, Robert Jacoby, Harriet Johnson, and Tom Duggan. We received the financial review from 2018, confirmed the roll of minister members, and thanked Presbytery leaders who have completed their terms. And we learned and acknowledged the indigenous peoples among us, including those who have lived in this Valley for 10,000 years. As San Gabriel Presbytery, we have connections with indigenous Taiwanese and Hawaiians, and specifically the Tongva people, who have been living throughout Southern California for the past 3,000-5,000 years.

We looked ahead to 2020 by electing new leaders and approving a new budget, and hearing a preview of WinterFest, which will be held at Arcadia Community Church February 8th. We got an update on the next anticipated installation for Living Waters for the World, at Asociacion de las Bienaventuranzas (Association of the Beatitudes, <https://asociacionbienaventuranzas.org.pe>), a community for children and adults with mental and physical disabilities in Lima, Peru. And for General Assembly next June in Baltimore, we elected TE Commissioner Jennifer Ackerman, TE Commissioner Alternate N'Yisrela Watts-Afriyie, and RE Commissioner Maria Cacarnakis, and voted to concur on an overture that confirms a presbytery's role in approving severance for departing pastors (along with the already-stated responsibility for approving terms of call).

Best of all, we welcomed new and old friends, including new Board of Pensions regional representative Rev. Kristin Leucht (kleucht@pensions.org), Rev. Tom Erickson and CRE Mickey Fenn of New Theological Seminary of the West, and the pastors and several elders from our two Indonesian fellowships, including Pastor Nova Winerungan of GPIB Claremont and Pastor Pipi Dhali of GKILA in Covina. We elected our 2020 vice moderator, RE Deborah Owens of Westminster Pasadena (TE Roberto Ramirez will become Chair of the Executive Commission and TE Karen Sapio becomes Moderator), and commissioned RE Sam Knottnerus to pastoral work as Family Ministries associate with Arcadia Community Church.

On the staffing front, RE Carl von Bibra reported that we are very close to announcing the new presbytery administrator, and he gave an update on the chaplaincy for retired Presbyterian church workers: Rev. Lauren Evans is cutting back her hours, so Rev. Diane Frasher is stepping in temporarily as chaplain for Monte Vista Grove Homes. In December we will meet with the House of Rest Board, and if they agree we will look to hire a half-time chaplain for Monte Vista Grove, and Lauren will continue quarter-time at Westminster Gardens and working on program development.

We also looked at a few specific situations, including reporting that the possible dismissal of Alhambra True Light Presbyterian Church will be considered at the Presbytery meeting on January 14, 2020, and getting feedback on a more comprehensive policy on pastoral compensation and paid leave that is being developed by COM. We heard from Joshua Marmol of Knox Presbyterian about their immigration ministry, including the church's support of Irma, who had to flee Honduras after experiencing persecution related to her work advocating for land rights and women's rights. Knox' personal, physical, and spiritual support of Irma was facilitated by Kristi Van Nostran, our immigrant accompaniment organizer (presbywelcome@gmail.com), who is also organizing the visitation ministry at Adelanto detention center.

Finally, we voted to move the three functions of the Vision and Strategy Team to:

- long-term strategy and vision for the Presbytery as a whole going to the Executive Commission,
- New Worshiping Communities leadership and partner congregations (who would work with COM as needed), and
- an expanded Education Committee, called EEE-Education, Equipping, and Empowerment (training, youth and leadership development, and resourcing to current congregations).

This new format will be piloted in 2020 and may come back as a bylaws amendment at the end of the year.

Prior to the meeting, I was feeling somewhat anxious; I don't know exactly why. So I was very pleasantly surprised at the spirit and participation of the meeting. It reminded me how gracious God is, and how there is so much to be thankful for-including God's mercies that we don't always see. I am very thankful that there is a spirit of love, and welcome, not only for new friends and ministries, but also when we anticipate the departure of a sister church. As the Alhambra elders at the meeting later affirmed, we are all still part of the larger Reformed church, and all of us are united-as CRE Sam Knottnerus says, "because Jesus made us family."

So as we connect with friends old and new, as we learn and work and serve and reach out to those we don't know, as we discern

and decide and lead, as we live and die, let us continue to do so in love, giving thanks in all things for Jesus Christ, who first loved us.

Happy Thanksgiving and as we begin Advent this Sunday, may our hearts be filled with wonder and gratitude for Immanuel, God with us.

Peace,
Wendy

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

Legacy of Caring... Fall 2019

Support Presbyterian Chaplaincy at LAC+USC Medical Center

Pray Lift up this ministry in prayer

- Your prayers for patients, families, staff and chaplains support and sustain this important work of caring
- Add Presbyterian Chaplaincy to your prayer list

Give Continue the legacy

- Your donations and financial partnership make this ministry possible
- Contact Amy at the Presbytery of the Pacific (310) 670-5076 to find out more about one time and sustaining contributions

Remember Interfaith Memorial Service for Unclaimed Dead

- Wednesday, December 4, 2019 10:00 a.m.
- Los Angeles County Cemetery (3301 East First Street, Los Angeles, 90033)

Acts of Kindness Share handmade blankets with patients

- December 17, 2018 volunteers from many faith communities share handmade blankets with hospital patients.
- You can create blankets - Blankets can be knit, crochet, sewn or quilted, 36" x 36"/48"
- You can help distribute the blankets on Tuesday, December 17 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- Contact Elizabeth at the Dept. of Spiritual Care at (323) 409-4715 or egibbszehnder@dhs.lacounty.gov

Gather Hygiene Kits for homeless patients

- These are shared with homeless patients from the chaplain's office, Angel Interfaith and the LAC+USC Emergency Department
- A gallon zip lock bag filled with a washcloth, bar of soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, comb, tissue, body lotion, hand sanitizer & socks.
- Contact Raquel at Angel Interfaith Network at (323) 409-6923 or office@angelinterfaith.net

To find out more about how you can be a part of this important ministry, please contact Rev. Elizabeth Gibbs Zehnder, Chaplain at Elizabeth.GibbsZehnder@gmail.com

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

San Fernando Valley



SAN FERNANDO VALLEY REFUGEE CHILDREN CENTER, INC.
15435 RAYEN STREET
NORTH HILLS, CA 91343
TEL: (747) 529 – 4783

E-MAIL: SFVRCC@GMAIL.COM

Looking for Donations!

At the moment, the SFVRCC currently assists about 200 minors and their families (80 families) who have immigration active cases. These families would really appreciate the following donations:

- Donate electronic gift cards that will buy groceries, i.e., Ralphs, Superior, any amount is welcome.
- Donate electronic gift cards that will buy clothing i.e., Target, Walmart, any amount is welcome.
- Donate school and art supplies from our SFVRCC Amazon Wish List at <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3HDK9KDWB8NYG>
- Donate Tap Cards, purchase them at <https://www.taptogo.net/TAPPurchase>
- Donate hygiene/toiletry kits
- Financially donate to our organization where you can also find a breakdown of your dollar work <https://www.noestassolonorthhills.org/donate-now.html>

For further questions you may contact:

Amanda Escobar Romero, Social Service Department Coordinator

aeromero.sfvrc@gmail.com

Mairym Medina-Sanchez, Immigration Legal Service Department

mmedina.sfvrc@gmail.com

Frida Ramirez Aldapa, Operations Coordinator

fraldapa.sfvrc@gmail.com

Mayra Medina-Nunez, Associate Executive Director

mavramn.sfvrc@gmail.com

Fred Morris, Executive Director
fced@aol.com

Thank you!

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

G. F. Handel's

Messiah

19th Annual Concert

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST ~ 4PM

***SOUTH PASADENA
COMMUNITY CHORUS***

Calvary Presbyterian Church
1050 Fremont Avenue, South Pasadena
626-799-7148

Mike Wilson, Director
A free will offering is taken

VIVALDI'S
Gloria!

CHOIR & ORCHESTRA CONCERT
Sunday, December 8
4:00pm - 5:15pm, Sanctuary

Stay for TREELIGHTING following the concert!



Choir Concert

Sunday, December 8, 4:00 - 5:15 pm, San Marino Community Church, 1750 Virginia Road, San Marino, Sanctuary

Plan to attend a Christmas concert featuring a 70-member choir and orchestra, performing the exciting Vivaldi *Gloria*, as well as some beautiful carols with orchestra. The concert ends with a carol singalong. Admission is free. A freewill offering will be received. All are welcome. Plan to stay afterward for the annual courtyard tree lighting. Contact PGreen@smccpby.com.





RISE

WINTER CAMP

BIG BEAR LAKE CHRISTIAN CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER

Junior High and High School Students

March 20 - 22

Register at bblccc.com/march-madness

Email bigbearlakechristianconference@gmail.com



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

Pastor's Minimum Salary: \$57,880
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 position titled Communications and Office Administrative Associate. This is a Full-Time position - 36 hours per week. Benefits according to the Personnel Policy. Resumes should be sent to Shelly Ulrich at shellyulrich55@gmail.com. Click [HERE](#) to download a complete job description.

La Verne Heights Presbyterian Church has an opening for a Bookkeeper. This is a part-time position. Click [HERE](#) 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



Choir Concert

Sunday, December 8, 4:00 - 5:15 pm, San Marino Community Church, 1750 Virginia Road, San Marino, Sanctuary
Plan to attend a Christmas concert featuring a 70-member choir and orchestra, performing the exciting Vivaldi
Gloria, as well as some beautiful carols with orchestra. The concert ends with a carol singalong. Admission is free. A
freewill offering will be received. All are welcome. Plan to stay afterward for the annual courtyard tree lighting.
Contact PGreen@smccpby.com.

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

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