



MONDAY MORNING UPDATE

Presbytery of San Gabriel

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Monday, December 9, 2019

IN THIS ISSUE

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

[BLANKETS TO THE BORDER](#)

[WINTERFEST REGISTRATION](#)

[WHAT HAPPENS TO WORSHIP MUSIC](#)

[LEGACY OF CARING](#)

[LOOKING FOR DONATIONS](#)

[WINTER CAMP](#)

[2019 & 2020 PRESBYTERY MEETINGS](#)

[2020 PRESBYTERY MINIMUMS](#)

[EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES](#)

[EVENTS OF INTEREST](#)

Quick Links

www.sangabpres.org

www.synod.org

www.pcusa.org

www.pensions.org

ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Tuesday, December 10:

Presbytery Executive Commission - 6:00 at San Marino Community

Wednesday, December 11:

Education Committee - 3:30 at Fuller Seminary

PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember Village Presbyterian Church of Arcadia in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, December 15, 2019

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues.

1 Corinthians 12:27-28

Reflection: Christ among Us

During this Advent season, we contemplate the power of love that God demonstrated in the birth of Jesus Christ. We call Jesus Immanuel, or "God with us," and marvel at the idea that God would stoop to come to earth, not just as a visitor, but as one of us, born of a woman, fully human as well as fully divine. Advent allows us to reflect back, but also to anticipate the fruition of God's promise to restore God's people, when Jesus comes again.

So God came first as the baby Jesus, but there is diverse speculation on how Jesus will come again. At least in this in-between time, Jesus told his disciples that he is here, in the least of us, and in the Holy Spirit. The apostle Paul tells the church repeatedly that we are the body of Christ, each of us a member with individual gifts that contribute to the working of the body as a whole. This leads to some of us to believe that Jesus will not come again as an individual or any kind of outside force, but the kingdom will be realized when all of God's people fulfill our calling as members of one global, diverse, blessed, saved, healed, and healing body.

In our little part of that global body called San Gabriel Presbytery, we are blessed with the presence of so many people with varied gifts. And though sometimes it seems that Paul's instruction leads us to believe that each of us are given one calling each, for life, I have witnessed the Holy Spirit gifting us differently at different times in our lives, and sometimes with multiple gifts at once, as our calling requires it.

So as we give thanks for God coming down to earth in the baby Jesus, let us also take seriously what Jesus said about being present among us even now. Personally I am grateful for the opportunity to work with so many volunteers, and with Presbytery staff, who bring their varied gifts and perspectives to the service of you and God's will for this valley.

If you reviewed our recent representation report, you may have noticed that we have just under 100 volunteers who have been elected to various leadership roles in the presbytery's ministry, and we have made progress these last few years in the leaders reflecting the membership of the presbytery. One thing that the Committee on Representation and Nominations often does is to speak with potential leaders not about filling a particular slot, but what they feel called to, because again our calling and giftedness are not always reflected in our "day jobs" or how the world has shaped us-or what our church bylaws demands.

Likewise, our staff sometimes practice different gifts. So Lauren Evans, who was first ordained as a solo pastor in Florida and then became a parish associate at La Verne Heights Presbyterian Church, has gained additional training in the spirituality of aging, and is now doing her practicum in a master's program in counseling. She has done great work as our inaugural Chaplain for Retired Presbyterian Church Workers, and expanded her ministry to include the residents of Monte Vista Grove Homes. She realizes that she is now over-committed in her multiple roles, so we, along with the Chaplaincy Committee of Monte Vista Grove, have invited Diane Frasher to fill in as chaplain there. Diane continues as our Stated Clerk, but she has always demonstrated a pastoral, caring side to her ministry, and she has moved into this temporary assignment with joy. She will continue in this substitute role while we meet with the House of Rest, who has funded this position, and if we are granted another year of funding, we will open the position for a half-time chaplain for Monte Vista Grove.

And as you know, Twila French, who took on the role of Bookkeeper a few years ago, is getting ready to end her time as Presbytery Administrator and Associate Stated Clerk, to continue on in 2020 as half-time Bookkeeper. As the Presbytery has embarked on a sustainability plan that works with our congregations to utilize Presbytery properties in different ways, the role of Bookkeeper has expanded and become more complex. In the meantime, we continued to seek a staff person who would coordinate our administrative and ecclesiastical tasks as a presbytery, and has some ability to work with property issues as well.

We are delighted to announce that Rev. Ally Lee, a minister member of the Presbytery, will join the Presbytery staff as Administrative Presbyter and Associate Stated Clerk. Though she is already doing some cross-training (and she ably filled in at our November 19th Presbytery meeting), Ally officially starts her new position on January 1, 2020. She will also continue at Knox Presbyterian as temporary associate pastor, but she will be working half-time in each ministry. Ally has fulfilled many of the administrative roles at a congregational level for Knox, so she is already familiar with church records and statistics, and polity. Also, she will support CPM as Twila did, and since she was under care of our presbytery, she knows that process well. Thanks be to God, she also oversaw property management for Knox. Her experience will be stretched, as we have recently faced a string of break-ins and vandalism at the Presbytery Center; please pray for us as it feels very violating to have this happen.

We are indeed blessed to know the presence of Jesus Christ, as that little baby, prophet, healer, teacher, and savior-but also we know Christ through the people we meet. I am so grateful for all the volunteers and staff who serve Christ through this Presbytery. I ask for your blessings on the staff-Diane, Twila, Ally, Lauren, and always our mission staff Wendy Gist and Kristi Van Nostran-now and throughout the new year.

Continued Advent blessings,
Wendy



BLANKETS TO THE BORDER

Uncommon Good, is collecting WARM CLOTHES, BLANKETS & TOILETRIES for asylum-seeking families at the border.

Please bring donations to one of the locations below by Sunday, December 15th

Uncommon Good
211 W Foothill Blvd.
Claremont, CA 91711
M-F 9am-5pm or
Sat. 9am-1pm

**Claremont
Presbyterian
Church**
1111 N Mountain Ave
Claremont, CA 91711

Contact Kristi Van Nostran with questions, (360) 521-4096
PresbyWelcome@gmail.com



Register Now for Our Annual Winterfest Event!

We are excited to welcome Charlene Jin Lee as our plenary speaker, as well as many gifted leaders from San Gabriel Presbytery who will offer workshops on a variety of ways our churches can engage the world. The cost is \$10/person.

All churches who register five or more participants by January 31 will receive the sixth registration for free and a complimentary resource bundle.

Register at: <https://knoxpresbyterian.breezechms.com/form/Winterfest2020>

What happens to worship music when Adam Tice and Sally Ann Morris meet?

Two brilliant writers of contemporary, thought-provoking texts and tunes inspire!

Save the dates:
February 21-23, 2020

Specific Program information-free and open to all, will follow

Explore the fine art of hymn writing: you'll be singing, writing, listening, crying and laughing and making new friends. Listen to and learn from the remarkable contributions Adam and Sally have already given us in *Glory to God*, and that's just the beginning!

Sally and Adam were featured presenters at the 2019 Montreat Worship and Music Conference in Montreat, North Carolina. Plan to join us at Calvary as we bring a taste of Montreat to Southern California.

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 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

mayramn.sfvrc@gmail.com

East Mission Foundation Director

Fred Morris, Executive Director
fced@aol.com

Thank you!



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
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

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](#)

Learn more about Pomona Hope and find a full internship description and application [HERE](#). Applications due April 13, 2020, with preference given to applications arriving by January 31, 2020!

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

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