



PRESBYTERY OF SAN GABRIEL

Monday, February 3, 2020

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www.sangabpres.org

www.synod.org

www.pcusa.org

www.pensions.org

ON THE CALENDAR

- Commission on Ministry meets on Monday, February 3 at noon, Presbytery Center, Temple City
- Personnel Committee meets on Monday, February 3 at 1:00 pm, Presbytery Center

Temple City

- Commission on Preparation for Ministry CANCELLED for Tuesday, February 4
- Administration and Finance Committee meets Thursday, February 6 at 2:30 pm, Presbytery Center, TC

PLEASE REMEMBER

Please remember Community Church in El Monte in the Prayers of the People in your worship service on Sunday, February 9, 2020.

AID FOR PUERTO RICO

Recently we mentioned the opportunity to help our family in Puerto Rico. Roberto Ramirez, who just completed his term as Moderator of the Presbytery, comes from the region most directly impacted, and was under care of the Presbiterio del Suroeste (Southwest Presbytery) before ordination.

If you would like to contribute, please make checks payable to "Presbiterio del Suroeste" and send to:

Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana
ATTN: Maribel Cardona
P. O. Box 229
Hormigueros, PR 00660.

Elder Cardona is treasurer of the presbytery and will handle the donation most efficiently.

Please keep PR in your prayers, and give generously.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER, WENDY TAJIMA

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Reflection: Familiar Strangers

I don't know if you have had the opportunity to watch any of the impeachment trial, but I have noticed that the sessions begin the same way: an unnamed chaplain prays on behalf of the senators and their proceedings, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. It is the same chaplain, and his prayers follow a similar pattern, and almost every time he ends with "In your _____ name, Amen." Each day he comes up with a new adjective: strong, majestic, amazing, etc.

I have prayed along with this man, but never took time to find out his name or more about his background or ministry, except for the purposes of this column. He is Barry C. Black, the first African-American and first Seventh-Day Adventist chaplain of the Senate. Presbyterian trivia: the last three Senate chaplains before Rev. Black were Presbyterians, most recently, of course, Lloyd Ogilvie, who was pastor of First Presbyterian in Hollywood before going to Washington.

But I digress. Again, if not for the sake of this column, I probably would not have found out this chaplain's name or anything about him, yet the repetition of his prayers made his voice, and his presence, somewhat familiar to me. In the words of psychologist Stanley Milgram, he has become a "familiar stranger."

familiar to me. In the words of psychologist Stanley Milgram, he has become a "familiar stranger." Dr. Milgram is better known for his research on obedience (a chilling insight into the human idolatry of authority), but he also did some research on urban anonymity. Specifically, he tested how well morning commuters come to recognize fellow commuters, even while never speaking with them. He also found that people might even wonder about the other commuters, but they do not interact with them (except when their routine is broken, as with a medical emergency).

I have been proud of the cultural diversity of our presbytery, but as I speak with different churches and even presbytery leaders, I have come to believe that we do not benefit from our diversity as much as we could. In some ways, we are familiar strangers—we might see each other at Presbytery meetings and nod and even shake hands or hug during the passing of the peace. But what do we know about each other? How well has our wisdom grown by sharing our different stories of faith, experiences of God's will, or views on our shared neighborhood? And do we wonder about each other's churches, sometimes even coming to certain conclusions based on stereotypes or uninterpreted glimpses into another's behavior?

One of the greatest blessings of my role with the presbytery has been the opportunity to visit our churches, and meet with the church leaders. I have heard stories and wisdom borne of experiences that I have never had, and they inspire and challenge me, and expand my appreciation of our awesome God. Just this past weekend, I had a conversation with Dr. Jenny Pak, the wife of Rev. Dr. David Pak, pastor of New Hope Church in Pasadena. Now many assume that Koreans are not supportive of women in leadership, yet David has not only spoken out consistently in support of women's ordination, I learned from Jenny of the ways he has taken pains to support her career. And she is an amazingly gifted person who is doing groundbreaking work in her own field, to the glory of God and the service of all of us. Now I have met Jenny before, but I had not until this weekend had the opportunity to sit down and learn about her own perspectives and transformative ministry.

I wish we all could learn more from and about each other, and we have received consistent feedback that we want to build relationships within our presbytery. We have tried to support this through presbytery work days, mission projects, youth ministry, leadership opportunities, and presbytery meals. But while people want to have better relationships, we don't seem to have the time it takes to just sit and "talk story," as they say in Hawai'i. I think there are other barriers, including language and awkwardness in making connections with people "who once were far off." But we are called to become one in Christ's church, rooted in our shared love and gratitude for Christ's life-giving grace.

This Saturday is Winterfest, our annual training day. The focus for the day is learning to connect better with each other, and cultivate community that is richer than the collection of our individual backgrounds. I hope to see you there, as I have immense respect for our plenary speaker, Dr. Charlene Jin Lee. When she and I worked at San Francisco Theological Seminary, people of all races would tell me how she changed their lives. I pray that her short time with us will bring us more insight and glimpses into God's kin-dom as well.

You can still register for Winterfest at [HERE](#).

Christ is our peace. May we share that peace with each other and our world.

Blessings,
Wendy



Winterfest 2020: Churches Engaging the World

Arcadia Community Church
121 Alice Street

Register Now for Our Annual Winterfest Event!

Why Come to Winterfest 2020?

As one of the most ethnically diverse presbyteries in the country, our churches are already engaging the world within our own doors. This year's plenary speaker, Charlene Jin Lee, will help us think about how we can grow in our multicultural engagement both inside and outside our churches. Don't miss this important conversation!

Bring a group of leaders from your church to take advantage of all the workshop topics - everything from justice topics like creation care and immigration, to practical training like appreciating volunteers and learning how to be a new elder or clerk. **Churches who register five people will receive the sixth registration free, and the first six churches will also receive a complimentary resource bundle. Register now!**

Cost is \$10 and covers lunch catered by Little Green Forks .

Arcadia Community Church is located at 121 Alice Street. Registration opens at 9:00 am with coffee and pastries provided.

Register by using this Link:

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



*'Lord, when did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?
When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'*

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me.'

Scripture has been fulfilled right here at LAC+USC Medical Center!

On Tuesday December 17, 2019, volunteers from around Los Angeles County, including Rev. Sue Fisher, Hagar Benitez, Donna and Rick Huff, joined the Spiritual Care Team at LAC+USC Medical Center and shared blankets with over 500 patients. Each of the blankets was handmade with love and prayer, many of them by knitters, crochet-ers and quilters from Presbyterian churches, including Culver City, Palisades, La Verne Heights, St. Peters by the Sea and Covenant.

We went in teams of three to give the gift of a handmade blanket to each person in the hospital that day. Entering the patients' rooms, blankets in our arms, we were met with smiles and tears of gratitude. In that moment, we didn't know the name of the person who invested time, energy and prayer into the creation of the blanket. In the same way, when we gave the blankets, the volunteer team didn't know the

patients' name or the details of their illness or the struggles they face. But, when we spread the blanket across their bed, it becomes a sacred transaction, an opportunity for us to join together and care for our siblings in the human family, an opportunity for us to celebrate that our God, in the person of Jesus, has drawn near and we have seen our Lord!

May the blessings of comfort and health be with you in 2020

If you knit, crochet, quilt or sew we welcome your donations for 2020! Blankets need to be handmade (knit, crocheted, quilted or sewn) and prayed over - and at least 36"x36".

- Rev. Elizabeth Gibbs Zehnder serves as Presbyterian staff chaplain at LAC+USC Medical Center. The Presbyterian Chaplaincy is made possible through the Consortium funded by the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii, the Presbyteries of the Los Ranchos, Pacific, San Fernando and San Gabriel (thanks to San Marino Community Church).

To find out more about this ministry and how you can be involved, please contact her at 123EGZ@gmail.com.



Border Trip

*Pacific & San Gabriel Presbyteries, Peacemaking Program, and Presbyterian World Mission are partnering to coordinate a **study seminar trip to the Southern Border (Tijuana) February 29-March 1, 2020.** [Click here for more information on the border trip.](#) Please share the flyer with anyone in your congregation who might be interested in this opportunity.*

Immigration & Refugee Task Force Gathering

Wednesday February 12, at 7pm

Covenant Chapel - Resource Center

Covenant Presbyterian Church
6323 W 80th St, Los Angeles, CA 90045

An intimate gathering of praying, hoping, lamenting and learning together about the current state of migrants in detention and at the border, led by our Immigrant Accompaniment Organizer, Kristi Van Nostran. Also lots of options for immigration ministry for your church in 2020.

CONTACT

KRISTI VAN NOSTRAN

Immigrant Accompaniment Organizer

at PresbyWelcome@gmail.com or

(360) 521-4096 for more information

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**

Calvary Presbyterian Church, South Pasadena

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.

Listening for the Heartbeat of God: Celtic Spirituality with J. Phillip Newell

Copyrighted Material
J. PHILIP NEWELL

Monday, February 24, 2020

Monday, February 24, 2020

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

The Church of Our Savior in San Gabriel



LISTENING FOR THE
HEARTBEAT OF GOD

A Celtic Spirituality

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Listening for the Heartbeat of God - a spirituality for today, modeled on the vital characteristics of Celtic spirituality throughout the centuries. The emphasis is on the goodness of creation and of humanity made in the image of God. John Philip Newell, formerly Warden of Iona Abbey in the Western Isles of Scotland, writes, teaches and leads international pilgrimage weeks on Iona. He is the co-founder of Heartbeat: A Journey Towards Earth's Wellbeing, established to expand sacred vision, deepen spiritual practice, nurture reflective community, and enable action for change.

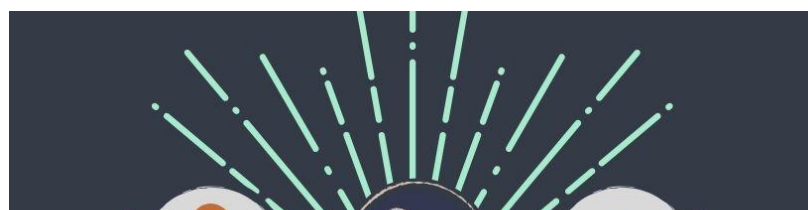
Register: <https://stillpointca.org/retreats>

Accompaniment Training coming to Los Angeles in March

The road to peace looks different in different parts of the world - but no matter where you are, it helps to walk the road together. Presbyterian Peace Fellowship has been invited to walk with community leaders in the [Iglesia Presbiteriana de Colombia](#) and the [Centro de Atencion al Migrante "Exodus,"](#) sending accompaniers to the U.S. Mexico border and to northern Colombia. Accompaniers listen, learn, and return home to share stories of peacebuilding. Are you interested? Click [HERE](#) for more info about accompaniment.

Accompaniment begins with a long weekend of training and discernment in the U.S. At this three-day gathering, people who are interested in accompaniment gather to train in non-violence and anti-racism, engage with accompaniment principles, learn about the contexts in which we have been invited to practice accompaniment, and spend time in discernment and reflection. You organize your own travel to the Learn & Discern event; all costs are covered while you're there (lodging and food).

Anyone who is interested in accompaniment is welcome to learn and discern in community with PPF! Are you called to accompaniment service? [Click here](#) to find out more about the next Learn & Discern training weekend on March 20-23 in Los Angeles, how to apply, and requirements to serve.





Presbytery Meeting dates for 2020

- Saturday, March 28 - 9:00 am at Korean Good Shepherd in Rowland Heights
- Saturday, May 30 - 9:00 am - GA Co-Moderator Rev. Cindy Kohlmann
at Iglesia de la Comunidad in Los Angeles
- Saturday, September 26 - 9:00 am at San Marino Community Church
- Tuesday, November 17 - 7:00 pm at Westminster PC in Pasadena

2020 Presbytery Minimums

- Pastor's Minimum Salary: \$57,685
- Travel/Professional Expense Reimbursement: \$2,735
- Study Leave: \$1,020

2020 Mileage Reimbursement Rates:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| Business 57.5 cents per mile | Medical 17 cents per mile | Charitable |
| 14 cents per mile | | |

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Westminster Presbyterian Church in Pasadena, CA has an immediate for a full-time Custodian.

Daily duties include (but not limited to):

Minor building maintenance and repairs, attention to yardwork and landscaping duties, maintain general exterior and interior appearance of the Church and property, creating and following a general maintenance routine, the ability to lift up to 100 lbs, ensuring the general safety and cleanliness of the building and property. Assisting with Church services and special events. Click [HERE](#) for a complete job description. Please send resumes Westminster Church via email to admin@wpcpas.org, attn.: Trina

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](#). 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

