



PRESBYTERY OF SAN DIEGO

SPIRITUAL. MISSIONAL. RELATIONAL.

Friends,

A mentor once told me that it is not the job of the Presbytery Executive to determine the destination of the presbytery. It is our priority to steer to the destination that the collective presbytery has determined. The last several years the Presbytery of San Diego has determined and reinforces our shared vision. Our values being relational, spiritual, and missional. These are lived out by our three main priorities which are church planting, church revitalization, and being missionally focused. It has been the Presbytery that has set the destination, my focus is to be a guide shaping our path.

The Executive Council has approved several recommendations that will reshape our structure and how we operate to be more in alignment with who we desire to be. For the past few months, I have had conversations with committees and individuals about these changes. Now these recommendations will be presented to the Presbytery at our meeting in September. Some will be for a vote, but the structural recommendations will be simply for a first read with a vote in November.

You can find on the Presbytery website these proposed changes. I realize that there are more than a few and it may be overwhelming. The scope includes changes to Cyclical SD, Ecclesiastical Committee, Human Resources Committee, a redesign of the Stated Clerk position, and recommendations for committees in which they will work through. As you read through them all, you may have questions or wish to discuss some concerns. I invite you to reach out to me, my desire is to make this as transparent of a process as possible.

Blessings

Sean

Regarding Ruling Elders

The Presbyterian Church (USA) website has an excellent series of articles for Ruling Elders. Published from 2023 through 2024, "Regarding Ruling Elders" offer insights for those in service as Ruling Elders. The current issue, by Valerie Izumi, is entitled "Use Me, God." You can read more by following [this link](#).

Special Worship Services for Those Experiencing Memory Issues.

Point Loma Community Presbyterian Church is pleased to announce a new pre-recorded worship service especially designed for people experiencing memory loss and cognitive change. Each service is approximately 12 minutes long, and consists of a choir hymn, inspirational message from a retired pastor, The Lord's Prayer, and calming visual imagery. The services were thoughtfully and lovingly created by our Ministry team and in consultation with Alzheimer's San Diego.

We invite you to share these special worship services with your communities, loved ones, and people you know who may benefit. The services may be found here: [Worship Service](#)

Pre-Presbytery Meeting Events in September and November

Best Practices from the Discernment and Church Vitality Committee

Pre-Presbytery Conversation

September 19th 1:45 pm

El Cajon, CA

Get ready for a faith-fueled explosion of ideas and inspiration at Presbytery 🚀.

Yes I said at Presbytery! Our September Presbytery meeting is approaching fast, and together we're about to light it up with some ideas that you can take

home and have a real impact on your church family.

It's time to tap into the incredible power of all our church's success stories, breakthroughs, and game-changing strategies. 🙌. Together we will be sharing what is really working in today's world!

Join us for the "Church Best Practices Gathering" meeting, where we'll dive deep into the stories that have transformed church health and ignited growth.



💧 Did your outreach program set your community on fire?

🎵 Has your worship experience take your congregation to new heights?

📖 Is your discipleship strategy creating sustainable church growth?

Come together and let's share your victories, big or small, and let's fuel each other's faith and creativity. Let's get past the business and into building the Kingdom. Together I believe we can unlock the potential of our churches and amplify our impact in our communities. 🏰

This is more than a meeting; it's a catalyst and invitation for divine innovation and transformation. Your story may be exactly what someone else needs to hear. We can't wait to see how God moves as we exchange our success stories. ✍️

Join us at the "Church Best Practices" meeting and bring your A-game – together, we'll set the world on fire with God's love and grace. 🌍💧

Stay fired up, and we'll see you there!

Accents Pre-Presbytery Conversation

November 14th Lunch at 12:30 pm (location TBD)

Conversation at 1:45 pm (Christ United Presbyterian Church)

The developing reality of globalized diversity poses new challenges and opportunities not only in our communities but also in our pews, for both established churches as well as for new worshiping communities.

Three questions are worth reflecting on:

How can we grow to be a church that welcomes strangers, immigrants and refugees?

How can the church life of our congregations and mid councils be meaningful and inviting to people from diverse backgrounds and cultures such as refugees

or immigrants?

How can Euro-culture congregations divest from institutional power in order to move from practices of welcome toward practices of mutuality and solidarity in relation to New Worshiping immigrant Communities?

REV. RAFAEL VIANA is the organizing pastor of On The Way, a Hispanic congregation with 12 different nationalities represented. Together with his wife he started a second NWC called Casa Brasil, a community formed by Portuguese speakers. He is a coach for the 1001 New Worshiping Communities program. He is also pursuing a Doctorate in Ministry with the Puerto Rico Evangelical Seminary.

REV. GAD MPOYO is the organizing pastor of Shalom International Ministry, a cross-cultural New Worshiping Community formed by immigrants and refugees. He is also the Southeastern Associate for 1001 New Worshiping Communities.

More on the [Accents program](#).

Boundaries Training - October 24

Spaces are filling fast for this training offered by the Synod. It is mandatory training for active pastors and CREs. [Flier with link for registration](#).

YAAD - Young Adult Advisory Delegates to GA

Are you interested in becoming a YAAD for the San Diego Presbytery? If you are please reach out to Sean Chow or Jaime Nelson.

Each presbytery may elect to be a Young Adult Advisory Delegate to the 226th General Assembly a young adult who will be between the ages of 18 and 23 years old on June 25, 2024 **and** who is

- an active member of one of its congregations, **or**
 - a participant in a New Worshipping Community or an immigrant fellowship that has a relationship with the presbytery. [**Please note** that
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this is recent change in the Standing Rules to enable more opportunities for those ages 18-23 to respond to the call to serve as YAAD.]

Save the Date

Leadership Day

February 17th at Faith Presbyterian Church
