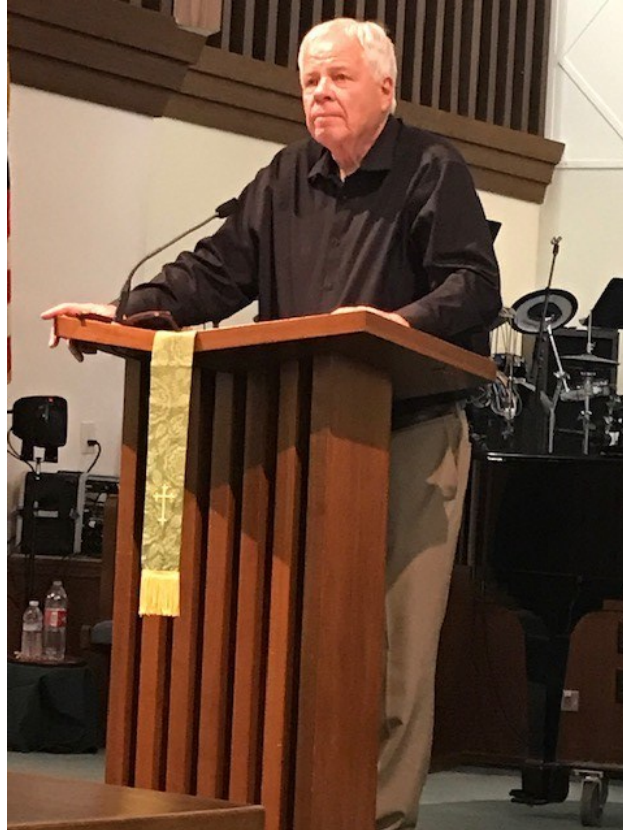




PRESBYTERY OF SAN DIEGO

SPIRITUAL. MISSIONAL. RELATIONAL.



We are blessed with strong presbytery leadership. At the February 2020 presbytery meeting, our outgoing moderator, Rev. Fairlight Lower, installed elder Wells Lyman, Esq., as the new moderator of the Presbytery of San Diego. Congratulations Wells. And thank you Fairlight for your sacrificial and creative leadership throughout 2019. Wells Lyman has been practicing law since the 1970s. He's a former vice president of the California State Bar Association and former president of the San Diego County Bar Association. He's a musician by heart, a Christian by calling, and a harmonica player by avocation. He knows that being a strong leader means first being a good follower. It's something he learned while serving in the U.S. Army in Vietnam, where he received two bronze star, a purple heart as well as other decorations. Wells is first and foremost a follower of Jesus Christ. And as a follower of Jesus, we can expect Wells will be an exemplary leader of this presbytery, taking his cues from his Lord and Savior. Welcome aboard Wells. Rev. Dr. Mike Wallman was installed as our vice moderator. And Rev. Fairlight will serve as the chair of the presbytery's executive committee.

REFLECTIONS

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LIVING WHOLEHEARTEDLY

By Michael Mudgett, Executive Presbyter
Presbytery of San Diego

Here's something that's changing the spiritual temperature in my life. I'd like to share it. My wife challenged me in January to pick a word for the year and apply it to my life. I did, and I am. It didn't take long to choose a word. It's the adverb, **wholeheartedly**.

I had been thinking about Caleb and his assignment to reconnoiter the Promised Land with 11 others and then report their findings to Moses. (Numbers 13-14). When the other 10 got cold feet and spread a false report to quash the people's resolve to take the land, Caleb countered the naysayers. He stood up and said, "We should go up and take the land for we can certainly do it."

I love his resolve. His enthusiasm. His wholeheartedness. It didn't keep the people from wanting to stone him. But he never wavered. (Num. 14:10ff).



Though God speaks judgment against those who rebelled against Moses, God speaks to Moses about Caleb and says: "[B]ecause my servant Caleb has a different spirit and **follows me wholeheartedly**, I will bring him into the land he went to [Hebron and environs], and his descendants will inherit it." (Num. 14:24)

This wholeheartedness is remembered in Deuteronomy 1:36, where it says "[Caleb] will see the [Promised Land], and I [Yahweh] will give him and his descendants the land he set his feet on, because he followed the Lord wholeheartedly." And in the brief narrative in Joshua 14, which recalls this event, the word wholeheartedly is used three times to describe how Caleb followed God.

To follow God wholeheartedly means to follow God to the fullest extent. It implies loving God

with your whole heart, mind, body, and strength. Jesus said to love him is to obey his commands. To follow Jesus wholeheartedly is to live life abundantly. (John 10:10b)

I want to follow Jesus wholeheartedly, every day. During my daily quiet times, I think about the phrase, “he followed God wholeheartedly,” and let it fill my mind and heart. It recalibrates how I think. It makes a difference in how I live and experience life.

My friends, let’s follow our Lord Jesus Christ wholeheartedly. In doing so, we incrementally change our world into the Kingdom of God, all to God’s glory.

So ... what’s your word for the year? Are you living it wholeheartedly?

Remembering:

Rev. George Walker Smith went to his eternal home on February 15, 2020. He and his wife, Elizabeth Irene started a Presbyterian Church in Golden Hill which later became Christ United Presbyterian Church. He was the first African American elected to office in the city of San Diego where he served as the board member of San Diego Board of Education for 16 years.

On Friday, March 6 at 11:00 a.m., CUPC will host the memorial service for the Rev. George Walker Smith. Complimentary valet parking will be offered. This event is open to the public. In lieu of flowers, feel free to donate to the Joyce L. Yeldell/D’maj T. Smith Memorial Fund (San Diego Foundation #4425) as well as UNCF. It is recommended that you arrive early.

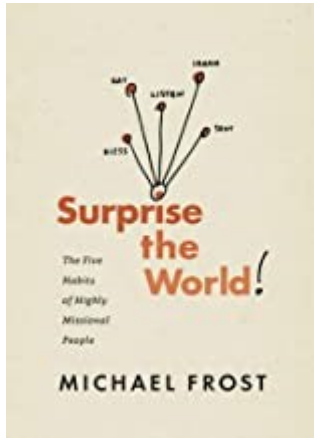


This year’s Stewardship Kaleidoscope conference will be held in Cincinnati from September 21–23. This annual conference offers education,

worship experiences and amazing opportunities for growth in stewardship and generosity. Keynote speakers will include Bob Sitze, Denise Anderson, and Jon Wolf. There will be over 40 workshops offered at the conference. Registration opens March 1st. Learn more at StewardshipKaleidoscope.org



Good Reading



Surprise the World! The Five Habits of Highly Missional People by Michael Frost is a great book to renew enthusiasm for evangelism in our congregations. Frost exhorts us to live “questionable” lives – that is, lives that intrigue the world around us enough to ask why we have such love, such hope, and such joy. We live these lives through the Five Habits Frost commends to us, forming the acronym BELLS: Bless, Eat, Listen, Learn, and Sent. Simple and practical, this easy read is worth diving into and trying this method of sharing our faith.

–Rev. Dr. Tracey Davenport

Opportunities to Help

Here are two needs that you or your church might be able to assist with.

BIBLES WANTED

Do you have extra Bibles not being used? New Day Urban Ministries could use Bibles in both English and Spanish to give to their clients. If you would like to make a Bible donation, call the presbytery office and speak with either Jennifer Sedgwick or Kari Shenk, 619.224.2490 ext. 100 or 109, respectively.

CHAIRS NEEDED

The chairs used by members of the South Sudanese American Presbyterian Fellowship (SSAPF) are old and ready for the bin! They could use from 60–100 chairs in good condition. Of course, a donation to cover the cost of new chairs would be greatly appreciated. The type of chair needed looks like the one in the photo to the right. If you have chairs to donate or would like to contribute to buy SSAPF new chairs, please call the presbytery office and speak with either Jennifer Sedgwick or Kari Shenk, 619.224.2490 ext. 100 or 109, respectively

