

Christian Church (DOC) PSWR Search Committee

2018



Ben Bohren

Rev. Dr. H. Ben Bohren has nearly fifty-one years of ministry as of September. During that time Ben served: 8 years as Regional Minister-President, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Northern California-Nevada; nearly 8 years as the Director of Church Relations for the National Benevolent Association; 10 years as Director of Church Relations at Chapman University, Orange CA. He also served 9 years in pastoral ministry as senior minister at First Christian Church, Orange, CA; 10 years as pastor at First Christian Church, Lebanon, KY; and 2 years as student minister at Wintergreen and Beech Grove Christian Churches, Nelson County, VA. Ben is a graduate of Lynchburg College and Lexington Theological Seminary and has additional course work at Claremont School of Theology. He retired to Palm Springs, CA nearly five years ago and holds dual membership at First Christian Church, North Hollywood and Redlands United Church of Christ. In retirement, Ben is in his fifth year as a Mission Specialist Consultant for the National Benevolent Association working with XPLOr, a young adult ten-month internship which he helped create and launch and is now the key recruiter for this life-changing program.



Janette Jara

Janette Jara is a young Latina woman who serves and is a member at FCC North Hollywood. She serves as the Chairperson for Young Adult Ministries, as well as an Adult Leader for the Youth Immersion Ministry. She has served for two years as a Counselor and most recently as a Co-Director at Loch Leven Camp. Being the daughter of two immigrant parents, she has a passion for the important social justice work that is happening in our Region. She is incredibly honored and humbled to be invited to serve in this Search Committee



Judy Hong

I was born in Seoul Korea on Feb. 23, 1971. I grew up in the fourth generation Christian family & my father passed away now but he was a pastor. I am serving as deacon, accompanist & praise team leader in the Vision of Jesus Church. I am a PSWR board member to represent NAPAD.



Siobhan “Shobie” Lopez

Siobhan works as the Administrative Assistant at Disciples Seminary Foundation in Claremont. She completed her Master of Divinity degree from Claremont School of Theology in 2016. She serves Iglesia Cristina Del Este De Whittier (DOC)/East Whittier Christian Church (DOC) as Co-Pastor for their English Ministry along with her husband, Gabriel Lopez. She is also an active member of the Christian Church Disciples of Christ Pacific Southwest Region in such ministries as Disciples Women, and the Youth Immersion Ministry as well as the General church such as with La Obra Hispana and the General Youth Ministry. Siobhan also holds a deep passion for those individuals and groups who are “in the shadows of the open table. People who are often overlooked or forgotten,” and works in partnerships to extend the table.



Rogelio Martinez

Rogelio and Liz Martinez, we have been married for almost twenty years, we have two sons, college, and high school students, we all serve in Casa de Oracion de Fullerton where we are Pastors since 2012. I graduated from Azusa Pacific University with an M.Div degree and currently enrolled in CST at their M.A in Religion degree. I am an ordained Pastor in Disciples of Christ. I have had the privilege of being involved with disciples of Christ for the last twenty years. I have served as an Associate Pastor in Casa de Oracion y San Diego, current Pastor at Casa de Oracion de Fullerton, and last year on Easter God gave us the honor and blessing to my wife and me to plant a new church in Riverside; Iglesia Nueva Vida. I served two terms as moderator of our Convencion Hispana del Pacifico; I am currently serving as their Treasurer.



Larry Morris

Mr. Larry J. Morris III is concurrently in seminary, he is pursuing his Master of Divinity and Master of Theology at Claremont School of Theology. Larry serves as the Incubate Program Associate for the National Benevolent Association of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and as Director of Youth and Family at University Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in San Diego, CA. Larry’s passions and experiences include knowing God and making God known through worship and justice.



Ed Ramolette

Ed Ramolette is Co-Chair of the Pro-Reconciliation Anti-Racism (PRAR) committee for the Pacific Southwest Region. He also an adult leader with the Youth Immersion Ministry (YIM) and a member of the Camp and Conference Committee (CCC) for Loch Leven. He attends All Peoples Christian Church in L.A. Ed works with Shakespeare Center Los Angeles as a Producer of the their Will Power to Youth program. Ed lives in the Echo Park community of Los Angeles with his wife Cisa Payuyo and their pup Moe.



Clifford "Rip" Rippetoe

Rip Rippetoe answered a call from God and became a licensed pastor with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Spring of 2009. Rip served as Elder, Vice Chair of the Congregational Board, Chair of Congregational Board, Youth Leader, Pastoral Relations Team member, and Chair of the Daycare/Kindergarten Crisis team. He served as the Interim Renewal Pastor during the Co-Sr. Pastors sabbatical June through August 2009, and then as the Associate Pastor at the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He then relocated to Louisville, Kentucky and served as a Service Pastor at the Middletown Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) from 2013 -2016. He has since moved to San Diego and serves as a ministerial intern at Pacific Beach Christian Church in Pacific Beach, California. He currently services on the Regional Board as the Personnel Chair.



Louise Sloan-Goben

Louise is Associate Minister at First Christian Church of North Hollywood and has been serving this congregation for 23 years. She attended Chapman University where she received two degrees, a B.A. in 1978, and an M.A. Clinical/Community Psychology that she received in 1980. Louise is a graduate of the Claremont School of Theology where she received her M.Div. in 1987. In addition to serving at First Christian Church, Louise is an Instructor with the Institute for Spiritual Healing and Aromatherapy. She is also an Certified Practitioner of Healing Touch, a complimentary health treatment modality. Louise teaches World Religions at Los Angeles Pierce College as an instructor. Louise also served on the search committee that called Sharon Watkins as General Minister. Louise is married to the Rev. Galen Goben and together they have 3 sons, Christopher, Jeffrey and Neill. They live in North Hollywood.



Carol Warsaw

My name is Carol J. Warsaw and I'm married to Sylvester for 39 years. We have 2 adult sons, 1 daughter-in-law & 2 grandchildren. I am a member of Returning To The Lord Christian Church, where my husband is the Pastor. I have served as the Co-Facilitator for Disciples Women for 6 years and have also served on the Regional Board. I am humbly grateful for this opportunity to serve on this search committee.



Lydia Yang

Lydia is currently attending her second year at Chapman University majoring in Health Sciences with an emphasis in pre-med and minoring in Psychology. At Chapman she works in the Church Relations Office as a student worker and is a part of the Disciples Leadership Board (DLB) for Disciples on Campus. For the past three years, Lydia has served both PSWR NAPAD Youth Winter Retreat as a core committee member and Jan Camp as a counselor. In 2016, she was selected to join the HELM Leadership Fellows Program and received the 2017 MLK Jr. Scholarship. In high school, Lydia served on the Youth Leadership Team (YLT) for two years and has been attending FCC North Hollywood for the past 12 years as her home church. Throughout both middle school and high school, Lydia was a part of her school's orchestra and was the Claremont High School's Orchestra Manager her junior year and the Orchestra Captain her senior year



Joi Robinson (Alternate)

Dr. Joi Robinson is a student at Claremont School of Theology beginning her second semester. She previously served as the Nominating Committee Chairperson on the Regional Board of the Pacific Southwest Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and currently serves as Second Vice Moderator. Additionally, she works as Coordinator of Coaching for Hope Partnership for Missional Transformation in Indianapolis, IN.



Tom and Cathy Perring (Acting jointly as Chair, with one vote)

We have been involved with various ministries in the church over the years, as co-leaders and individually. Together we have served as co-Vice Moderators of the Board and co-Chairs of the Elders at First Christian Church, Orange (FCCO). We have co-directed and counselled numerous high school summer camps at Loch Leven.

Currently at FCCO, Cathy chairs the Buildings and Grounds team. She also serves as a Storyteller in the Children Worship & Wonder program. Cathy was active in the PSWR as a youth and has served on the Regional Disciples Women Board. She helped with the leadership of two regional Miracle Day/Week events. One of her expressions of, and connections with, God is through movement and dance, including dancing at two General Assemblies (1981 and 2017) as well as local and regional church services. She served on the Program, Planning and Arrangements (PPA) Committee of the National Church (2015-2017) and currently she is a national Worship & Wonder program trainer for Disciples Home Missions Family and Children's Ministries.

Tom's connection to God is through music. At FCCO, Tom is involved with music leadership during Sunday worship. He has led music at youth, young adult, women's and men's weekend retreats, and coordinated and led music at PSWR regional assemblies, and Chapman Founder's Day celebrations. Tom has served on the PSWR Camp and Conference Committee, as member and Chair of the Outdoor Ministry Committee, and on the Regional Board. One of his most valued positions is his election as an "Honorary Disciple Woman" by the PSWR Disciples Women. Nationally, Tom served as the First Vice-Moderator of the Assembly from 2015-2017. In addition to bringing the "worshipful work" to all meetings (General Board, Administrative, Moderator), he was the chair of the PPA which planned the worships for the General Assembly in 2017.

Specific to the search process, Tom served on the successful search committees for 2 managers at Loch Leven (Tina Carter and Sloan Hamilton), the Director of Church Relations at Chapman University (Nancy Brink), and the General Minister and President of the DOC (Terri Hord Owens). Cathy was a member of the FCCO Senior Pastor Search Committee in 2012-2013.