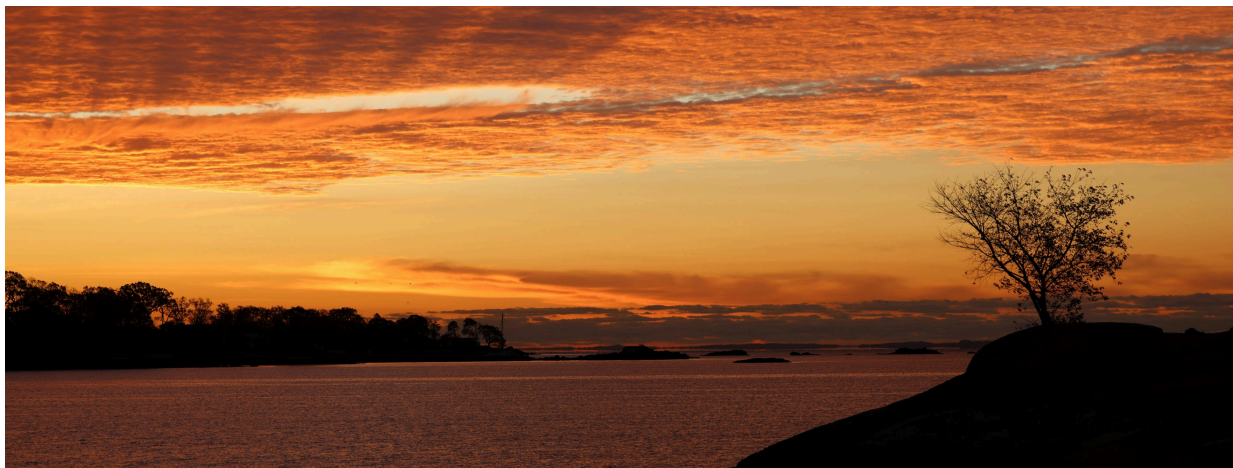


**From:** Presbytery of San Francisco office@sfpby.org  
**Subject:** November 2024 - PSF Newsletter  
**Date:** November 7, 2024 at 5:00 PM



## PRESBYTERY of **SAN FRANCISCO**

### NOVEMBER 2024 ANNOUNCEMENTS & INVITATIONS



(Photo Credit: Hans)

Greeting Friends of the Presbytery of San Francisco,

We hope you are well and thriving in your ministry and service.

As always, we welcome your contributions to our monthly newsletter. **If you want to submit something to the newsletter (e.g., have events, or announcements) please [click here](#)** and add all requests by November 28th, 2024. To view past newsletters, check out our [Newsletter Tab](#) on our website!

Blessings, Your PSF Staff Team: Karen, Leticia, Laura, Grace, and Caneisha

**NEXT  
PRESBYTERY  
MEETING**

**6 pm via Zoom**

**PRESBYTERY  
MEETINGS**

**CALENDAR**



# PRESBYTERY *of* **SAN FRANCISCO**

## **NEW CRE- CP PROGRAM COORDINATOR POSITION**

**Purpose:** To support the Education Working Group in coordinating the CRE-CP Program, supporting CRE-CPs, and CRE-CPs churches. The CRE-CP Program Coordinator may also fill the role of Teacher Assistant for up to 12 hours per class, including moderating the class and reading and commenting on all pre- and post-class assignments.

**Start Date:** January 1, 2025

**Weekly hours:** up to 5-10 hours per week as needed (part-time, non-exempt position). This position may be done in-office or may be done remotely with check-ins on the same day as staff meetings.

**Rate of Pay:** \$25-40 per hour and paid sick leave as required by law.

To learn more about the job description, [click here](#) to view the full PDF.

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## **Thank you, Elaine!**

Since the summer of last year, we have been honored to have Elaine serve as our administrative coordinator. Elaine has helped us welcome Leticia as our Stated Clerk, supported Marda and InHo during their transitions, and most recently passed information onto Grace, as she started her work with the Committee on Ministry, the Education Working Group, and the New Communities Working Group. Throughout all these transitions Elaine's kind personality and "can do" attitude, were a huge help and source of comfort and strength for the staff. Elaine's most recent achievement of helping PSF obtain an ORI number so we can run fingerprinting and background checks has been an immense leap in how we can support pastors and churches. With the Administrative Coordinator position closing on October 31st, we are sad to say, "goodbye" to Elaine. Thank you Elaine for all the ways you have served our presbytery. We are glad your work as a CRE and volunteer will keep us in close contact with you!!! Blessings, Karen and the PSF Staff



Dear Presbytery of San Francisco Community,

As Rev. Karen Thistlethwaite mentioned, I will be leaving the position of Administrative Coordinator at the end of October. It has been an incredible journey, and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to

work alongside you as you seek to share God's love within PSF. I want to express my heartfelt thanks to each of you for your support and collaboration over the past 17 months.

Although I will be leaving this position, I will continue to serve as a faithful member of the Presbytery of San Francisco, on the Education Working Committee, and as the Commissioned Pastor for the Mandarin and Taiwanese Congregation at First Presbyterian Church of Burlingame. Please feel free to reach out to me at [eliang@burlpres.org](mailto:eliang@burlpres.org).

Let's continue to share God's love and peace. I have been praying and will continue to pray for PSF's bright future and God's guidance.

In Christ's Love,  
Elaine Liang



## PRESBYTERY *of* **SAN FRANCISCO**

### **JOB POSTING: NEW PART-TIME OFFICE ASSISTANT**

**Purpose:** This role is intended to be an at-large position and flexible enough to support the changes of a new Transitional Executive Presbyter and an evolving presbytery structure over the next three years. Online Zoom support, minute-taking, digital support, and a strong emphasis on verbal and written communication while working with a variety of people and teams will be essential skills for this position. This position will report to the head of staff and work collaboratively with all PSF staff, especially the Stated Clerk and Office Coordinator.

**Weekly Hours:** 16-20 hours per week (non-exempt) starting November 1, 2024.

**Hybrid Position:** Requires at least two days (eight hours-Tue/Th) in person at the PSF office.

**Rate of Pay:** \$25.00 per hour, eligible for sick leave as required by law.

To learn more about the job description, [click here](#) to view the full PDF.

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### **Commissioned Pastor Training Program**

Candidates for the upcoming Commissioned Pastor Training Program are now being accepted. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

**Announcing the 2025 -2026 Commissioned Pastor Course Offering**

We're excited to offer this foundational curriculum for the preparation of our next class of Commissioned Pastors (CPs), AKA Commissioned Ruling Elders (CREs), for Particular Pastoral Service. The individual classes are open to auditing and recommended for any and all church leaders for personal growth and development. The formal program for commissioning is open to ordained elders in all Presbyteries in the PCUSA. Candidates for commissioning must come under the care of a minister of word and sacrament, complete a minimum of 12 of the course offerings (three from each area of study), as well as any experiential learning requirements deemed necessary for the pastoral service that is being pursued.

**What are the course offerings?** \*Required for all CP candidates. Dates to be determined

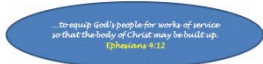
<b>Introduction for New Students</b>	<b>Pastoral Care and Ministry</b>
<b>Theology</b>	*PCUSA Church Polity
*Reformed Theology	Homiletics
Soteriology	Pastoral Counseling
Theological Diversity	Pastoral Self-Care
	Peacemaking and Conflict Resolution
<b>Practical Ministry</b>	<b>Biblical Studies and Comparative Religion</b>
*Leading a Multi-Cultural Church	*Biblical Exegesis
Spiritual Leadership Development	Post-Colonial Hermeneutics
Intergenerational Ministry	Overview of the Bible
Liturgy Development	Comparative Religions

**Commissioned Ruling Elder Applicants**

Contact CRE/CP Program Manager ([cre-cpprogram@sfbay.org](mailto:cre-cpprogram@sfbay.org)) or Reverend Dr. Karl Shadley ([revshad@gmail.com](mailto:revshad@gmail.com)).

**For more information**

[Commissioned Ruling Elder/ Commissioned Pastor \(CRE/CP\) Program – Presbytery of San Francisco \(presbyteryofsf.org\)](https://www.presbyteryofsf.org)



**Questions and Answers for the 2025 -2026 CRE/CP Program**

**When will this next slate of classes start?** Dates for each class are still being confirmed. We anticipate the first class starting in February 2025.

**Who is eligible to attend the classes?** Any church leader interested in furthering their understanding of the Christian faith may attend all classes by pre-registration as space allows. Only ordained elders in any Presbytery in the PCUSA may apply for consideration as Commissioned Pastor (CP), AKA Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE), for Particular Pastoral Service.

**What is the cost of each class and what are the requirements?** For individuals auditing the course, the cost is \$40/class and there are no class requirements, though there will be highly recommended readings before each class. For CP candidates, the cost is \$100/class and there will be pre- and post-reading and writing assignments. CPs are required to attend and complete all assignments for at least 12 of the classes offered. Pre-registration is required for all classes.

**What is the level of commitment for CRE/CP Candidates?** Approximately 15-30 hours/month for 12-16 months. This includes 5-10 hours of class preparation (usually readings), 10 hours of instruction, and 5-10 hours of post-class written and/or practicum assignment. CP candidates come under the care of their local Session, must be supervised by a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbytery in which they will serve, and may be required to participate in directed experiential learning that further prepares the candidate for a specific ministry area.

**When and where are classes offered?** Classes are offered monthly, usually on the second weekend but with some exceptions. Most classes will be offered by Zoom from 7PM-9PM on Thursday and Friday evenings and in-person (available on-line for long-distance participants) 9:00AM-4:30PM on Saturdays unless otherwise stated. In-person classes will be held at the Presbytery of San Francisco Education Center at 545 Ashbury Ave, El Cerrito and at other locations in the San Francisco Bay Area as determined by the needs of the class members and instructors.

**Where do I get more information?** Registration, updated class schedule, application forms, instructor bios, and more can be found at [Commissioned Ruling Elders \(CRE/CP\) Program – Presbytery of San Francisco \(presbyteryofsf.org\)](https://www.presbyteryofsf.org). Contact the CRE/CP Program Manager or Karl for more information.

CRE/CP Program Manager ([cre-cpprogram@sfbay.org](mailto:cre-cpprogram@sfbay.org)) or Rev. Dr. Karl Shadley ([revshad@gmail.com](mailto:revshad@gmail.com)).



## Celebrating 100 Years at Sturge Presbyterian Church

Together, we celebrate with Sturge as they mark 100 years in ministry.

Alyse Dinapoli of the San Mateo Daily Journal wrote, “Places of worship were important gathering spots for San Mateo’s Japanese immigrant population in the early 20th century, though it would take awhile before Japanese Christians could feel connected to a faith community. Most Japanese were practicing Buddhists, and worshipping at a non-Japanese church wouldn’t have been a particularly comfortable — or even permitted — experience in the early 1900s...

[READ THE REST OF THE ARTICLE HERE.](#)



## Scholarship Funds Put to Good Use: Ethnic Concerns Conference

Congratulations to the 15-plus people who were able to attend the ECC Conference with the help of COM and the Leadership Development Funds. **If you are a pastor and need funds to attend a conference, please apply to COM. Also, if you are an elder, deacon, or youth**

please apply to MVL (general leadership development) or the partnership working group (peacemaking and hunger funds). To learn more about the Ethnic Concerns Conference [Click Here](#)

## Synod of the Pacific Gathering & Assembly 2024



This fall we had two gatherings with our friends and colleagues in the [Synod of the Pacific](#). At the Executive Presbyter and Stated Clerk Gathering, we shared resources, discussed how our presbyteries operate, and how we can support each other. Then we gathered at Zephyr Point with delegates from each presbytery to discuss synod business. At the we also learned about the [mission grants](#) that Synod gives towards emerging needs, medical ministry, and projects shared between presbyteries. Relationship building, discovering new ideas, good fun, and spiritual nourishment were part of both gatherings s and we look forward to joining our Synod siblings again next year.

## Clergy and Leaders of Color Conference 2024

Presbytery of San Francisco joined the Presbytery of San Jose and Redwoods Presbytery at Zephyr Point for a time of rest, restoration, support, and fellowship. A huge “thank you”



to everyone who helped plan this fantastic event. If you would like to help with the planning or participate in this event for 2025, please contact [office@sfpby.org](mailto:office@sfpby.org).

## Volunteer Co-Chair Brunch: 2025



Thank you for chairing or co-chairing a committee, working group, or team in 2025. We look forward to celebrating the new year and talking with you about:

- how you can access money from the budget (voucher requests)
- setting up meetings on the PSF calendar
- setting agendas
- staff and admin support
- resources, goals, and more...

**When:** Jan. 29, 2025

**Time:** 10:30 am-12:30 pm

**Register Here:** <https://presbyteryofsf.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2601758>

Thanks for helping us get a good count for brunch. If you need help registering, please

email [office@sfpby.org](mailto:office@sfpby.org)

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## Celebration Team Volunteers Needed

There are so many great things happening in our Presbytery and especially in our churches and we want to celebrate with you! We have heard back from a couple people and would like to gather a few more. If you would like to be part of a team that celebrates and spreads the good news, please contact [office@sfpby.org](mailto:office@sfpby.org).



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## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please join us in regular prayer for our churches and worshiping communities. Feel free to pick a church to pray for each day of the week, pray for them all at once, or create a rhythm that is right for you.

- [Miriam Song's Church](#), Oakland
- [St. John's Presbyterian Church](#), Berkeley
- [Valley Presbyterian Church](#), Portola Valley
- [Sojourner Truth Presbyterian Church](#), Richmond
- [Delta Community Presbyterian Church](#), Discovery Bay
- [Immanuel Presbyterian Church](#), Fremont
- [Elmhurst Presbyterian Church](#), Oakland
- [Community Presbyterian Church](#), Pittsburg

As traditional executive partners, we are also honored to pray for specific concerns, celebrations, or other needs. [Click here to share a prayer request.](#)

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