



PROUDLY PRESENTS:

# WINTER CONVOCATIONS

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH 2022  
(Visit [mvgh.org/convocations](http://mvgh.org/convocations) to tune in to these programs.)

Thursday, January 6, 2022

4 PM PT

**A YEAR AFTER THE JANUARY 6TH INSURRECTION:  
REFLECTIONS ON OUR DIVIDED NATION  
PETER WEHNER**



Peter Wehner is Vice President and Senior Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C. He is a contributing opinion writer for the *New York Times* and a contributing editor for *The Atlantic* magazine. He served in the Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and George W. Bush administrations. His book, *The Death of Politics: How to Heal Our Frayed Republic after Trump*, was published in 2019.

Thursday, January 13, 2022

4 PM PT

**THE LIVING LEGACY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JUNIOR  
AS PRESENTED BY GERALD RIVERS.**



Gerald Rivers grew up in Compton, California, studied at the Sheenway Arts Repertory in Los Angeles, and earned an Associates of Arts Degree in Theatre Arts from Los Angeles City College. As a classically trained theatre actor, he has performed with The Georgia Shakespeare Festival, the Hippodrome State Theatre in Florida and many other regional theatres. He has dedicated his life to keeping alive the spirit and inspiration of Dr. King with recognition from the King family, NAACP, SCLC, and was invited to Washington D.C. at the Dr. King Memorial Dedication where he spoke at the Convention Center, the King Memorial and on the steps of the Lincoln

Memorial. This connection with Dr. King has led him to a life of service working with people of all ages in schools, prisons, and detention facilities in Atlanta, New York, Oregon, and Los Angeles. In his Convocation talk with us he will share Dr. King's commitment to inclusive community with passion...."Now is the time...and the time is always right to do right.

Thursday, January 20, 2022

4 PM PT

**BRIDGES: THE PEOPLE CHANGING AMERICA  
REV. DR. JIM MILLEY**



Rev. Dr. Jim Milley has served 5 years as a missionary in Ethiopia, 2 years at the Presbyterian Center in Louisville KY, 10 years at La Canada Presbyterian Church, and now 9 years as the Executive Director of Bridges.

As Jim describes, "My time in Ethiopia showed me that God raises up very effective leaders from among many types of people, not just the highly educated and the relatively wealthy. There was only one ordained pastor for every 200 congregations, and the church grew from 1 M to 2 M people during the 5 years that I had the privilege to participate. This experience has impacted the formation of Bridges. Bridges aims to empower many leaders from the many cultures and communities across America. Bridges has now provided supportive services to over 130 leaders who focus on befriending and serving people who are not part of any existing congregation." You can find "Bridges: The People Changing America" by Jim Milley on Amazon. Jim and his wife Debbie have 3 children and live in Glendale, CA.

Thursday, January 27, 2022

4 PM PT

**THE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF THE CHURCH  
DR. DOUGLAS STRONG AND DR. MICHAEL PAULUS**

Dr. Douglas Strong and Dr. Michael Paulus will discuss "The Digital Transformation of the Church" on Thursday, January 27 at 4:00 pm. Dr. Strong and Dr. Paulus co-led a grant-funded project (with the same title) that explored how churches and congregational leaders can adapt effectively to the new realities of online worship and Christian formation.



Dr. Douglas M. Strong is the Paul T. Walls Professor of the History of Christianity and (previously) the founding Dean of Seattle Pacific Seminary. An ordained United Methodist clergyperson, Dr. Strong graduated from Houghton College (BA) and Princeton Theological Seminary (MDiv; PhD). He is the author of four books and multiple scholarly articles.

Michael Paulus is dean of the library, assistant provost for educational technology, and director and associate professor of information studies at Seattle Pacific University. Dr. Paulus's administrative, teaching, and scholarly interests focus on the future of information and communication technologies, especially their impact on higher education, libraries, work, and ethics. He is co-editor of *AI, Faith, and the Future*, a collection of essays reflecting on Christianity and artificial intelligence (forthcoming in 2022 from Pickwick Publications)



Thursday, February 3, 2022

4 PM PT

***MUSIC WRITTEN AND COMPOSED BY AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSICIANS  
MR. PERRY HAYES***



A native of Los Angeles, Mr. Perry Hayes has been a musical professional for over thirty-five years. His talents include bass-baritone vocalist, pianist, organist and choral director. At age seventeen, he began directing the choir at Bel-Vue Presbyterian Church. Since then, Mr. Hayes has served as Music Director at several Los Angeles Churches. Perry Hayes has recorded with notables such as Barry Manilow, Wynton Marsalis, and Dianne Reeves. He's toured nationally and internationally with the Pacific Symphony, the San Diego Symphony and the L.A. Philharmonic, performing at several concert halls in Europe and Japan.

In the mid-90s, Mr. Hayes joined the Spirit Chorale of Los Angeles, completing three European tours and recording four CDs with them. Since 2006 he's been Music Director at Park Hills Community Church in Windsor Hills, and also serves as Music Director/Conductor for The United Male Chorus of Los Angeles. In 2014, Mr. Hayes was given a commendation from the City of Los Angeles for his musical service to the people of Los Angeles. Mr. Hayes resides in Los Angeles with his spouse, Raymond Benevides. In his spare time he enjoys tennis and interior design.

Thursday, February 10, 2022

4 PM PT

***AN IRISH VALENTINE  
READ BY NANCY MACKY AND TOM ERICKSON***



William Butler Yeats, 1923 Nobel Prize-winning Irish poet, wrote some of the most profoundly moving poems in the English language. Many of his lines are used commonly by people who have no idea where they came from, such as "Things fall apart." He beautifully expressed many loves: of Ireland, nature, friends, children, the human spirit. Reading a selection, Tom Erickson and Nancy Macky will bring an Irish Valentine to Monte Vista Grove residents to savor and sigh over.

February 17, 2022

4 PM PT

***THE CHURCH AS A RADICALLY INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY  
THE REVEREND MIKE KINMAN, RECTOR, ALL SAINTS CHURCH, PASADENA, CA***



Mike Kinman is a follower of a revolutionary Jesus, spouse, parent, Episcopal priest, and the Tenth Rector of All Saints Church, Pasadena – a large, multi-ethnic urban Episcopal parish, which strives to balance deep spirituality and bold social action. All Saints is a community actively living out its values of Radical Inclusion, Courageous Justice, Joyful Spirituality and Ethical Stewardship. Mike believes God gives the church the ministry of reconciliation, which requires us to meet Christ in those among us who are most marginalized, oppressed and targeted and allow their voices and concerns take center place in community life. He has a Bachelor of Journalism degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a Master's of Divinity from Berkeley Divinity School at Yale. Mike will share with us his vision of radical inclusion for the church and for each of us.

Thursday, February 24, 2022

4 PM PT

***A CONVERSATION ON WHITE PRIVILEGE  
REVEREND CATHERINE HUGHES AND DR. PEGGY MCINTOSH***



Today's Convocation will be a conversation between two co-presenters. Rev. Catherine Hughes, a Monte Vista Grove Resident who actively participates in Pacific Presbytery Churches and has served on various commissions. Rev. Hughes is an engaged member of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus.

Dr. Peggy McIntosh, is Senior Research Scientist of the Wellesley Centers for Women, and founder of the National SEED Project on Inclusive Curriculum. An activist and speaker who is well known for her publication, "Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack of White Privilege."



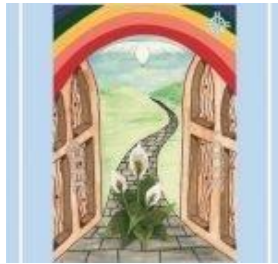
Our two presenters will be in conversation with one another during this hour, without the usual Q&A. Attendees will be encouraged to write down *comments* evoked by the conversation and bring those comments to small group discussions to be scheduled for March, April, and May.



Thursday, March 3, 2022

4 PM PT

### **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**



**“I know the plans I have for you.”** *Jeremiah 29: 1-14*

Today people from Pakistan, Hong Kong, and hundreds of other places in the former British Empire now live in the British Isles. Cultures and languages collide. Can refugees, migrants and hosts follow the admonition of the prophet Jeremiah 29: 7? “Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.” Christian women in Britain, Northern Ireland and Wales ask us to trust the plans God has for us all.

Thursday, March 10, 2022

4 PM PT

### **CHRISTIAN WITNESS IN THE MIDST OF CONFLICT REVERENDS SCOTT AND ELMARIE PARKER**



In recent years, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq are known to most Americans as countries dominated by political and religious conflict, war, and violence. The Parkers will tell us of a small but faithful Christian community trying to bring hope and healing to the Middle East. Beginning their third four-year term of service, the Parkers reflect on the 186 years of PC(USA) involvement in the region. In the midst of the current violence engulfing the region, PC(USA) partners work to aid thousands of displaced families of all religious creeds, providing food, water, clothing, basic medications, and providing education to students whose schools have been lost or destroyed. Scott serves with the Middle East Council of Churches as a writer in residence. He’s been asked to lead MECC efforts in responding to children traumatized by the unrest and war in Iraq and Syria and now seeking refuge in Lebanon. He has developed a play-based program—“Strong Kids, Strong Emotions”—that seeks to develop emotional and spiritual resiliency in these refugee children in Beirut.

As regional liaison to Iraq, Syria and Lebanon, the heartbeat of Elmarie’s work is to deepen and strengthen relational ties between the church in her region and the church in the U.S. and develop practical ministries that are birthed from these relationships. Both Elmarie and Scott served as parish pastors prior to this call, and both are Fuller Theological Seminary graduates.

Thursday, March 17, 2022

4 PM PT

**INTRODUCTIONS OF NEW RESIDENTS  
BILL & NANCY TIBERT and DAVID & RUTH THOMAS**



The Monte Vista Grove community is enriched every time new residents choose to make their home here. Today we welcome two new couples, Bill and Nancy Tibert (pictured) and David and Ruth Thomas. After they share some of their stories we will have an opportunity to respond with questions and affirmations.

Thursday, March 24, 2022

4 PM PT

**JESSICA VAUGHAN  
PASTOR, SAN MARINO  
PRESBYTERIAN**

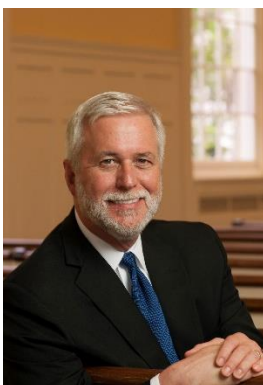


**LOWER  
COMMUNITY  
CHURCH**

Thursday, March 31, 2022

4 PM PT

**THE CENTER WILL HOLD  
THE REVEREND DR. M. CRAIG BARNES**



Craig was raised on Long Island, New York. After graduating from The King's College and Princeton Theological Seminary, he received a Ph.D. in the History of Christianity from The University of Chicago.

He has served as a pastor to three congregations including The National Presbyterian Church in Washington D.C. He also served as the Meneilly Professor of Pastoral Ministry at Pittsburgh Seminary while also serving as the senior pastor of Shadyside Presbyterian Church. In 2012 he was elected president of Princeton Theological Seminary.

He has eight published books (soon to be nine...his latest book *Diary of a Pastor's Soul*, will be published this May. He also served as an Editor at Large and frequent contributor to *The Christian Century* for many years.

