

2025 National Gathering of
Asian Presbyterian Women
April 25- 27, 2025
Mercy Center, Burlingame, CA
Hosted by the Northern CA Chapter

Welcoming the Stranger

"Let mutual love continue. Do not forget to entertain
strangers, for by doing so, some people have
entertained angels..."

Hebrews 13:1-2



Asian Presbyterian Women— it's time again for our Triennial Gathering!

In our diverse and interconnected world, the idea of "welcoming the stranger" holds greater significance than ever. This concept invites us to examine our perceptions of those we label as "the other" and to foster inclusivity and compassion in our communities.

We will have the opportunity to share our personal experiences of being seen as "the other," guided by thought-provoking questions that will help us explore themes of identity and empathy. This sharing aims to cultivate a deeper understanding and connection among all participants.

Join us in community at the beautiful grounds of Mercy Center as we reflect, discover, and learn together.



Keynote Speaker

Rev. Laura Mariko Cheifetz is a biracial Asian American queer ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA) who has served previously in racial and gender justice advocacy, religious publishing, reproductive justice, and theological education in the Midwest, East, and Southeast. Beginning in February, she will be the Transitional Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery of San Francisco. Born in California, raised in eastern Oregon and western Washington, she is a double "pastors' kid." Laura is a graduate of North Park University (MBA, '11), McCormick

Theological Seminary (M.Div. '05), and Western Washington University (BA in Sociology, 2000). She is the co-author and editor of "[Church on Purpose: Reinventing Discipleship, Community, & Justice](#)" (Judson Press) and co-editor and contributor to "[Race in America: Christians Respond to the Crisis](#)" (Westminster John Knox Press), and a contributor to the documentary series "[Trouble the Water: Conversations to Disrupt Racism and Dominance](#)." She serves on the advisory team for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and the board of PANAAWTM (Pacific Asian North American Asian Women in Theology & Ministry). She lives with her partner and their rescue dog in Oakland, CA.

Workshop Leaders



Rev. Deborah Lee has been a key figure in the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity since 2009, becoming Executive Director in 2018. With over 30 years in faith and social justice, she focuses on popular education, community organizing, and advocacy across issues like race, gender, economic justice, anti-militarism, LGBTQ inclusion, and immigrant rights.

Rev. Lee, ordained in the United Church of Christ, is an engaging preacher and speaker on immigration, human rights, and the role of faith communities in social justice. She has received numerous awards, including recognition from the United Nations Association of the East Bay and the Yuri Kochiyama Impact Honoree title from the Advancing Justice Asian Law Caucus in 2019.



Rev. Neneth Ross, originally from the Philippines, moved to the U.S. in 1985. Raised in various denominations, including the United Church of Christ of the Philippines, Catholicism, and Baptist, she has actively engaged with diverse churches throughout her life.

In May 2013, she earned her Master of Divinity from Fuller Theological Seminary while working full-time as an elementary school teacher for nearly 20 years in a diverse community.

Currently, Rev. Neneth is the Associate Pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church in San Jose, where she integrates ministry into daily life. Her mission focuses on guiding others in faith, serving unhoused individuals, partnering with local organizations, and initiating international mission programs.



Rev. Ruth T. West is an ordained PC(USA) Minister of the Word & Sacrament and Spiritual Director. She has a Masters of Divinity (MDiv), an MBA, a Diploma in the Art of Spiritual Direction, and a Certificate in Trauma & Spiritual Care.

Currently, she serves as Associate Dean at San Francisco Theological Seminary (University of Redlands) and is in the dissertation stage of her doctoral studies. Ruth contributed to the spiritual direction textbook, *Kaleidoscope: Broadening the Palette in the Art of Spiritual Direction* (chapter 2). She was the Lead Liturgist for the 225th General Assembly of the PC(USA) and served as Preacher at the 226th General Assembly in July.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

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April 25- 27, 2025 Mercy Center, Burlingame, CA, <https://mercy-center.org/>

\$300 – Full registration \$100 - Commuter Rate (Saturday only with lunch and dinner)

Full Registration Details:

Lodging- Fri. and Sat. nights in single-occupancy rooms (twin bed, chair, desk). Shared single-gender bathrooms are located on all floors. **Meals**- Fri: Dinner; Sat: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner; Sun: Breakfast, Lunch

Schedule- Check-in: Fri. at 2 PM; Gathering starts: Fri. at 5 PM; Concludes: Sun. at 12 PM

Flight Information: Please book departures after 1 PM on Sunday. The San Francisco International Airport (SFO) is 4 miles from Mercy Center. Please indicate on your form if you need a ride to and from the airport and email your flight information.

Registration and Payment must be received by March 22, 2025.

If you have questions, contact apwnoca@gmail.com

Send your completed form with your payment to:

APW, C/O Jeanette Huie, 5080 Kearney Avenue, Oakland, CA 94602

You will receive an email confirmation of your registration and payment.

-----Cut here and send with your payment to **Jeanette Huie** -----

Registration and Payment must be received by MARCH 22, 2025.

Write your check payable to APW

Please check: \$300- FULL TIME PARTICIPANT \$100- COMMUTER (Sat. w/ L & D)

I will need a RIDE FROM and TO SF AIRPORT

Please print clearly

Name _____ Pronouns _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

CELL # _____ HOME PH# _____

EMAIL _____

Church & Presbytery _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT

Name: _____ Ph #: _____