

MONTE VISTA GROVE HOMES

PROUDLY PRESENTS:

# *"LIVING INTO HOPE"*

VIRTUAL CONVOCATIONS  
September – December, 2020

(Visit [mvgh.org/convocations](http://mvgh.org/convocations) to tune in to these programs.)



Jim Symons



Lynn Cheyney

## *"LIVING INTO HOPE"*



Karen Berns



Tom Erickson

**Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 4 pm**

We begin a new season of Convocations at Monte Vista Grove with a challenge that arises out of the crises of COVID-19, economic dislocation, and racial inequities – *LIVING INTO HOPE*. Jim Symons tells why this theme of hope has been chosen for our fall Convocations. Lynn Cheyney, Karen Berns, and Tom Erickson will explore the meaning of hope at this moment in our history, including the unique opportunity we have in this time of upheaval to make changes that will move us toward compassion and justice. Our four speakers are retired Presbyterian ministers living at Monte Vista Grove in Pasadena, California.

**Thursday, September 17, 2020**    ***NUALA RYAN, SSL (SISTERS OF ST. LOUIS)***    **4 pm**  
***"A SACRED JOURNEY OF HEALING."***



Nuala Ryan, born and raised in Western Ireland, at ages 8 and 15 was 'afflicted' by clergy sexual abuse. Years later, during her work at Lanterman Developmental Center in Pomona as the music therapist, she realized her own sacred journey of healing alongside the beloved and loving clients with whom she shared life, nurture and play. During her years of work at Lanterman, Nuala Ryan became the first woman Catholic chaplain. She retired in 2008 after 23 years of ministry and service.

**Thursday, September 24, 2020**    ***CHARLENE JIN LEE***    **4 pm**  
***"TEACHING AS LOVE: A LEGACY OF KATIE GENEVA CANNON"***



The dynamic presenter for our Sept. 24 Convocation is Dr. Charlene Jin Lee. As a practical theologian and activist, her work focuses on themes of identity, voice, and context in spiritual formation. She has taught spirituality and religious education at Loyola Marymount University and San Francisco Theological Seminary. Charlene is a member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and a co-mentor for the southern California cohort of RISE Together National Mentorship Network of Women of Color

in Ministry. She holds a Ph.D. in Christian Education from Union Presbyterian Seminary and an Ed.M. from Harvard University. The progenitor of Womanist theological ethics, Katie Cannon, the distinguished scholar, brilliant orator, and incisive truth-teller was, above all, an extraordinary teacher. She lived her ethical claims and theological convictions in her classroom and invited others to do the same. As deep calls to deep, students' own prophetic voices were called into existence and communities of mutual reverence emerged. Charlene Jin Lee honors Katie Cannon's enduring contribution to church and academy by sharing the pedagogical practices of her mentor who taught her to "do the work your soul must have."

Charlene Jin Lee is a practical theologian and community activist based in Los Angeles. She will speak on the Womanist ethics of her mentor, Katie Geneva Cannon, and our ongoing struggle for racial justice in America.

Thursday, October 1, 2020

**STEVE YAMAGUCHI**  
**"GIFTED TOKYO PASTOR"**

4 pm



Steve Yamaguchi shares from Tokyo where he serves as pastor of the Tokyo Union Church. He reflects on his journey from growing up in the '50s and '60s in a Japanese-American ghetto in south central Los Angeles to now serving at an international English-speaking congregation in Tokyo. Steve is a PC(USA) minister and reflects on his learnings from his sojourn as a non-white Presbyterian in a nearly all-white denomination.

Thursday, October 8

**JEAN OWEN AND NAN JOHNSON**  
**"WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL"**

4 pm



**Nan Johnson** has had a varied career in the East including 20 years as a Country Legislature in Monroe county, Rochester, NY: Professor of Political Science and Women's Law at University of New York: Trustee State University of NY. She and her husband moved to Pasadena to be close to their children. **Jean Owen** grew up in Pasadena and stayed!! She has been a teacher and consultant to Pasadena Unified School District, and a lifelong



member of Pasadena Presbyterian Church; Jean has participated in varied volunteer activities including being a Trustee at MVGH. She and Nan met at Villa Gardens where they both reside.

*[Written questions about women's suffrage are welcomed, even encouraged.....Please email your questions about women's suffrage to Jean at [msmudbath@aol.com](mailto:msmudbath@aol.com), and they will be answered on October 8th.]*

Thursday, October 15

**KERRY ENRIGHT**

4 pm

**PASTOR OF KNOX CHURCH, DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND**  
**“A NEW ZEALAND PERSPECTIVE ON LIVING INTO HOPE”**



The Reverend Dr Kerry Enright is a Presbyterian Minister in New Zealand with Maori (indigenous) and British ancestry. After practicing law, he undertook theological study in his own country and at Princeton, and served in congregations. For ten years he was the equivalent of the PC (USA) Stated Clerk in his Church. He then served in the Assembly of the Uniting Church in Australia and was responsible for international partnerships and development before taking up the role at Knox. His wife Dr Mavis Duncanson is a Public Health Physician and is Director of the Centre for Child and Youth Epidemiology at the University of Otago. They have three adult children.

New Zealand's experience of COVID-19 has been marked by strong political and public health leadership with widespread national support. Clear, consistent and active national decision-making and communication has generated respect, even when there have been mistakes prompting sharp criticism. Community transmission, although always a risk, has been halted at least for a time. This outcome arises from the particular history, culture, locality and political evolution of the country. The talk will highlight qualities of empathy, thoughtfulness, care and compassion that have been very evident among key leaders in facing tough challenges.

Thursday, October 22

**STEVE BELL**

4 pm

**“CONVERSATION WITH A LIFER”**



Steve Bell, JD, incarcerated for 17 years, will discuss a few myths about prison, the huge problem of illiteracy among prisoners, its effects on public safety, and the work of the Prison Library Project, of which he became director in 2018.

Thursday, October 29

**MICHAEL GENOVESE**

4 pm

**LMU POLITICAL SCIENCE PROF. ON AMERICAN PRESIDENCY**  
**“IS THIS ANYWAY TO ELECT THE WORLD’S MOST POWERFUL LEADER?**  
**SPOILER ALERT: NO!”**



Michael A. Genovese received his BA from Saint Mary's College, and his PhD from the University of Southern California (1979). He holds the Loyola Chair of Leadership and serves as the President of the Global Policy Institute at Loyola Marymount University (LMU). The author of over 50 books, Genovese frequently serves as a political commentator on CNN, the BBC, CNNi, and local news stations. In 2018, he received the DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD from the American Political Science Association, and is only the fifth person in the over 100 years' history of the Association to win the award. He was made a Fellow at the Queen's College, Oxford University in 2006.

Thursday, November 5

**JAMES LEE**

4 pm

**INTERNATIONAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY PRESIDENT**

***“THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY: A ‘GLOBAL’ PERSPECTIVE”***



No community is an island. In order for churches to bear witness to the Gospel effectively in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, global partnership is essential. Churches in the Global South are experiencing tremendous growth and vitality. A successful model of theological education will need to include conversation and mutual learning from one another across the globe. This presentation will share an overview of recent developments in theological education and explore how global partnership will benefit and enrich all of us.

Thursday, November 12

**AMIE QUIGLEY**

4 pm

***“THE CHURCH AS A REFUGE: CHRIST’S CARE FOR FRIENDS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS AND GRAVE DISABILITIES.”***



Amie Quigley is the Director of Community Outreach and Urban Mission at First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood. In her role, she oversees the Lord’s Lighthouse, the Hollywood Healthcare Partnership, and the Hollywood Winter Refuge shelter. These ministries offer friendship, discipleship, and connections to housing and health services. Urban Mission also partners with numerous local ministries such as Youth First, Jews for Jesus and Fuente de Vida.

Originally from Princeton, NJ, Amie has a background in theater. After receiving an AB in English from Duke University, she did postgraduate studies in Greek at Oxford University and recently completed an MDiv from Fuller Theological Seminary. She currently serves as the Chair of the Homeless Task Force for the Presbytery of the Pacific and on the Executive Board of the Faith-Based Advocacy Council for the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health. Amie is a Candidate for Ordination in the PC(USA).

Thursday, November 19

**NEW RESIDENTS INTRODUCTION**

4 pm

Dianne Whiting, Libbie Patterson, Alan & Olivia Reutter



We will introduce and welcome our newest residents of Monte Vista Grove Homes: Dianne Whiting, Libbie Patterson, and Alan & Olivia Reutter. Sponsors are assigned to all new arrivals and will conduct the interviews. Please join us as we welcome these new friends to the Grove campus.

Thursday, November 26

**NO CONVOCATION TODAY**



Thursday, December 3

**KRISTY VAN NOSTRAN**

4 pm

**IMMIGRANT ACCOMPANIMENT ORGANIZER, SAN GABRIEL & L.A. PRESBYTERIES**

Kristi was raised in the Presbyterian Church. During her six years in El Salvador as a mission co-worker with the [Joining Hands Network](#), Kristi Van Nostran worked to bring people to a common table and create a network to support ongoing efforts around justice and food sovereignty. Now she is working with two Southern California presbyteries to once again walk alongside her Central American brothers and sisters. We welcome Kristi Van Nostran to share her experiences in Central America and her work with immigrant accompaniment in Southern California!



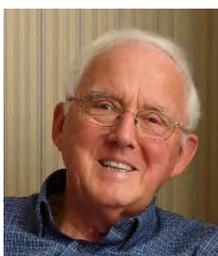
Kristi with Marisol, an asylum seeker from Honduras, currently hosted by Kristi.

Thursday, December 10

**HERMAN WAETJEN**

4 pm

**SAN FRANCISCO THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY NEW TESTAMENT PROFESSOR  
"THE ORIGIN AND CULMINATION OF THE MORAL ORDER OF INTEGRATION"**



Herman C. Waetjen, Dr. theol. (Eberhard-Karls University of Tübingen, Germany) taught in the School of Religion of the University of Southern California, and subsequently as the Robert S. Dollar Professor of New Testament at San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo and the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. After teaching at the Seminary and the Graduate Theological Union for thirty-four years, he retired in 1996 but has continued to teach into the present time. He is the author of four books: *The Letter to the Romans: Salvation as Justice and the Deconstruction of Law*, *The Gospel of the Beloved Disciple: A Work in Two Editions*, *Praying the Lord's Prayer*, and *A Reordering of Power: A Socio-Political Reading of Mark's Gospel*. He is married to Mary S. Waetjen who taught at Madrone High School in San Rafael for 19 years and is now retired. They have three children: Thembisa, Elaine and Dave.

Thursday, December 17

**CHRISTMAS MUSIC  
WITH TENOR JONATHAN MACK**

4 pm



Our December 17 Christmas Holiday Convocation will be provided by the popular vocalist Jonathan Mack. His festive presentation will feature Holiday Classics and the Music of Irving Berlin. Jonathan will be accompanied on the piano by son Shannon Mack, a gifted choral music director and composer, Glendale United School District.

After graduating from USC in 1974 with a B.A. in French horn and a M.A. in voice, Jonathan became an apprentice artist at Santa Fe Opera. He then received a Rockefeller Grant which took him to Central Europe singing concerts and Opera for four years. After returning to L.A. in 1985, Jonathan began the first of 18 seasons with L.A. Opera, while pursuing work in the sound studios, recording television and motion picture soundtracks. He also served as vocal instructor at U.S.C., Chapman University, Whittier Coley and the University of La Verne

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS