

2015 Pastors' Gathering



Rev. Theresa Cho

More than Words: Creating a Welcoming
Space for All Worshipers

SAVE THE DATE!

Wed. April 22 to Thurs. April 23

Noon to Noon



At the heart of intergenerational and innovative worship service is the desire to practice hospitality to all who may walk into worship service, from children to the elderly; from visitors to long time members; and from those who have been Presbyterians all their life to those don't even know what that really means. It is important to recognize that "hospitality" may look different to our visitors compared to our members. For our members, hospitality could mean familiarity in the order of worship and music. For our visitors, hospitality will mean how they were greeted, how they were directed when looking for the nursery, or how easy the worship service was to follow along. For our visitors, hospitality has to permeate through all aspects of our worship service, not just in the words of welcome in the beginning. Theresa will lead us to think about what worship has to do with practicing hospitality. Together, we will explore what it means to worship inter-generationally and innovatively — bringing in the arts and creativity — and how it benefits the entire church.

Theresa grew up in Reno, Nev. and graduated from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago with awards in preaching and theology. Since 2003, she has served as a pastor of St. John's Presbyterian Church in San Francisco, CA. She is active in all levels of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A., including youth conferences, women leadership conferences, Peacemaking Conferences, General Assembly Committees, and recently served as Moderator for the Presbytery of San Francisco. She also has had a variety of life experiences that include teaching children with special needs and working in a multi-racial urban congregation in Chicago and Seoul, Korea. All this contributes to her passion for child advocacy, creating inter-generational worship experiences, and urban ministry. Theresa is well known for bringing the arts and creativity into worship, which she shares through her blog Theresaecho.com.