

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” ~Romans 8:28

***Your Synod Executive/Stated Clerk
Search Committee:***

Hagar Benitez, Los Ranchos

Paul Kim, Los Ranchos

Suzanne Malloy, Santa Barbara

Michael Mudgett, San Diego

Art Ross, Pacific

Susan Skoglund, Riverside

Jim Stueck, Moderator,
Santa Barbara

Wendy Tajima, San Gabriel

Carole Wheeler, San Fernando

The Search Committee expresses gratitude to the oversight graciously provided by Susan Krummel, Director of Mid Council Relations for OGA.

The Synod of Southern California

and Hawaii

January 1, 2017

Introducing

Rev. Mark Hong



the incoming

Executive/Stated Clerk

of the

***Synod of Southern California
and Hawaii***

Background:

Mark has served in congregations in the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii since 1982, when he served as Director of Education at Downey Presbyterian Church in Los Ranchos Presbytery. Since then, he has served as Director of Education at Korean Hope Christian Church; Associate Pastor at Wilton Presbyterian Church (KPCA); Associate Pastor at Korean Good Shepherd (San Gabriel); Head of Staff at Faith Presbyterian Church of Torrance (Hanmi); and Head of Staff at Shin Il Presbyterian Church (Los Ranchos).

Mark grew up in Southern California, where he received his B.A. in Behavioral Science at Cal Poly Pomona, and his M.Div at Fuller Theological Seminary.

For the past 34 years, Mark has been involved in Korean-American ministry, ministering to Korean-speaking, first-generation immigrant congregations as well as to English-speaking, next generation Korean Americans and multi-ethnic congregations.

Mark has been blessed with a variety of experiences with middle governing bodies. In addition to his congregational ministries, Mark has served in various capacities in Los Ranchos, San Gabriel and Hanmi presbyteries. He has been a member on multiple committees, including Congregational Development, COM, investigative commissions, Synod Assembly and the General Assembly Council, and served as Acting Stated Clerk for Hanmi Presbytery.

Mark has also served as a member of Synod Council and Synod Executive Councils and was an Overture Advocate at the 2014 General Assembly. He was a member of the Hanmi Executive Commission, and Moderator of the Hanmi Administrative Commission. Mark brings with him cross-cultural sensitivity and cross-generational skills, a listening ear, and an even-keeled presence.

Candidate Comment:

“When synod engages presbyteries in partnership, then it truly functions as what it was created to be: not as a hierarchical entity, but as partners in missions to the world.”

“Synod can play a vital role of promoting mutual dialog and sharing of knowledge and experiences, which would further bring benefit to all.”

*~Rev. Mark Hong
Candidate for SE/SC*

Comments from the Search Committee:

“Mark, a leader with strong faith listens well, is a facilitator with a non anxious presence, a bridge builder with experience across all levels of the church.”

~ Susan Skoglund, Riverside

“Mark has shown broad knowledge of the Church, relational leadership, and spiritual maturity, and he feels called to this position. His ability to listen and communicate, and his faithfulness and restraint even in complex situations are admirable.”

~Wendy Tajima, San Gabriel

“I have known Mark for many years and have had the privilege of working with him on many projects. He has shown me that he is an encourager with sensitivity to diverse individuals and situations.”

Jim Stueck, Moderator, Search Committee