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November 9, 2020

Greetings!

We are working hard to prepare for the Synod Assembly, Nov. 16 at 10 am via Zoom and are excited to be sharing this information with you!

LANGUAGE TRANSLATION: Our intention is to provide language translation services. Instructions for following the meeting using Korean to English and English to Korean, will be provided at the beginning of the meeting.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND PEOPLE: In preparation for our time together, we are asking you to engage in the following, so that we may acknowledge the lands and people appropriately while we meet from geographically diverse places and in virtual space:

- Research who the original inhabitants and stewards of the land are or were in your current location.
- Consider the following questions in your research:
    - Where are the original inhabitants now?
    - If they are no longer there, what happened to them?
    - If they are still present, how do I and the larger community interact with the native community?
    - How has the church contributed to where the original inhabitants are now?
    - In what ways has the Doctrine of Discovery informed or contributed to where my church is located?

You will be asked to type the names of native nations/peoples in the chat during the acknowledgement at the beginning of the meeting. We will also have a time of silence to consider and confess the ways in which the church has been complicit in the erasure of native peoples and their histories, cultures, and sovereignty.
To help you get started, we suggest the following resources by following these links:

- Native Land Map
- To research the history of the church, explore: https://history.pcusa.org
- PCUSA Digital Archive

OFFERING:

Our worship offering will go to Evergreen Life Services, a covenant partner of the Synod of the Sun. Attached is a most recent update regarding the impact of COVID-19 and recent hurricanes are having on the lives of their residents and staff. Please give directly and generously to the worthwhile ministry here.

PACKET: Follow this link to access the meeting packet in Dropbox, and please reach out if you have questions or concerns.

Blessings!

Valerie Young
Synod Leader
& Stated Clerk