

The Korean Church of Boston 70th Anniversary Symposium

Invitation for the Symposium

The Korean Church of Boston (PCUSA) looks back on the past as we welcome our 70th anniversary in 2023 as an immigrant church planted in the United States, and we thank God for God's great love bestowed upon us. Therefore, we have prepared events to commemorate our 70th anniversary under the title, "Gratitude", and a meaningful symposium as below:

Two Tales of a City upon a Hill:

- **Unlocking the Past for a Better Future Together:
Stories of Native Americans & Korean American Churches**

2023. 4.24-26

The Korean Church of Boston (PCUSA)

32 Harvard St. Brookline, MA 02445

First, all of us give thanks in our hearts as we remember that there were Christians in Korea and the mission of the Kingdom of God blossomed, due to the sacrifice of the American missionaries who brought Christianity to Korea.

Moreover, we give thanks because in God's mercy, Korean-Americans with the second, third, and fourth generations are flourishing in the United States as a Christian community even in the midst of the difficult reality.

Therefore, we want to remember God's great love as we listen to the story of the mission in Korea which took place under difficult struggles, and remember the sacrifice of the missionaries who brought the gospel.

Moreover, we planned this symposium hoping that Korean-American immigrants will build diversity and unity in this land as Christians, and that their lives will reveal hope and light.

During this symposium, we will reflect on the past history of the Protestant Mission from multiple angles, and cover the two aspects of the history of the mission that we face—a history of dark pain and the fruit of the gospel mission. The dark historical reality of mission that was revealed in the history of the Native-Americans and the need for reconciliation, and the changes and revival as the fruits of mission. We will work in depth with these two aspects, and we hope to as we encounter the stories of missional history that we hear again.

We hope that during the symposium we will re-envision the future from a new perspective, and find thanksgiving and hope for the Korean-American Christians who still live with many conflicts and struggles (racism, etc.) in the United States.

Please join us for our 70th Anniversary Symposium in April!

The Korean Church of Boston

Registration: www.eventcreate.com/e/kcboston

FAQ: kcbweb70@gmail.com

KCB 70th Anniversary Symposium

Two Tales of a City upon a Hill:

- Unlocking the Past for a Better Future Together:
Stories of Native Americans & Korean American Churches -

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.”
(Matthew 5:14)

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Two Tales of a City upon a Hill

As the title implies—alluding to both John Winthrop's 1630 sermon and the 1859 novel by Charles Dickens—this symposium is about about the two sides of the ramifications of the history of the Pilgrims who once settled in Plymouth.

On the one hand, their descendants dispossessed the Native Americans, which is the dark side. On the other hand, they also sent many missionaries around the world, Korea being one of their chief beneficiaries, and we may call it the bright side.

Again, on the dark side, Korean Americans have had to endure deeply rooted racism in the U.S., reminding us that one can tell two different tales about every corner of American history. As Korean Americans, we must reckon with the complexity of American immigration history to be good neighbors and citizens.

Short Bio of Keynote Speakers & Moderator

Dr. Jane Hong (Occidental College, History of American Colonialism and Racism)

- Associate Professor of History at Occidental College.
- A historian of U. S. Immigration and engagement with the world, with a focus on Asia after World War II.
- Author of *Opening the Gates to Asia: A Transpacific History of How America Repealed Asian Exclusion* (University of North Carolina Press, 2019)

Dr. Paul Cha (Hong Kong University, History of American Mission in Korea)

- Paul S. Cha is Assistant Professor of Korean Studies at the University of Hong Kong and is currently a visiting scholar at the Harvard-Yenching Institute.

- Author of *Balancing Communities: Nation, State, and Protestant Christianity in Korea, 1884-1942*, he has written widely on the history of Korean Protestantism.

Dr. Eunil David Cho (Boston University, Pastoral Theology)

- *The Rev. Dr. Cho is a practical theologian whose research in pastoral theology, spiritual care, and congregational studies especially among immigrant and refugee communities, engages the fields of narrative theories and therapy, psychology of religion, sociology of religion, and migration studies.*
- *Dr. Cho currently serves as the Co-Director of the Center for Practical Theology at Boston University School of Theology. He is also an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA).*

Elder Elona Street-Stewart

- Co-Moderator of the 224th General Assembly (2020) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the synod executive of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies.
- Elder Elona Street-Stewart, a member of the Delaware Nanticoke people, has been engaged for four decades in grassroots and national advocacy on social equity, Indian education, family empowerment and public policy.

Elona Street-Stewart, Delaware Nanticoke, is a ruling elder and active community volunteer in Saint Paul, MN. She is the Synod Executive for the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, having already spent over 20 years as synod program staff for racial ethnic ministries and community empowerment, half of that included time as deployed administrative staff for Dakota Presbytery. Elona has served the PCUSA on racial justice matters in mission development, denominational policies, and education programs since 1980 on a variety of committees including the Council on Church and Race, Advocacy Committee on Racial Ethnic Concerns, Presbyterian Women, Relocation of the General Assembly Agencies, and Self Development of People. She has facilitated grass root collaborations and national advocacy on racial equity, Indian education, family empowerment and public policy.

Elona was elected as Co-Moderator of the 224th General Assembly, PCUSA, along with Rev. Gregory Bentley in June 2020. Macalester College conferred an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters for Elona in June 2021. Her DelMarVa roots and Bachelor of Science in Anthropology enliven her passion for church and national history.

Rev. Samuel Son

- The Presbyterian Mission Agency's manager for Diversity and Reconciliation
- Contributor to Cultural Weekly, Presbyterian Today, and others.

Symposium Schedule

Time	24 Monday	25 Tuesday	26 Wednesday
9am-12 pm		Session III: 9am-10:30am Keynote Speaker: Dr. Jane Hong Panel Discussion: 10:30am-12pm (4 Keynote speakers/ Moderator)	Discussion Session: 9am-11am Group discussion
Lunch		Lunch	Lunch
1pm-5pm		Group Tour: Option 1 & Option 2: *TBA	Dismiss
Dinner: 5:30pm-7pm	Banquet	Dinner	
Evening 7-9:30pm.	Session I: 7pm-8pm Keynote Speaker Elder Elona Street-Stewart Session II: 8pm-9:30pm “History of American Mission In Korea” Keynote Speaker: Dr. Paul Cha	Session IV:7-8pm Keynote Speaker: Dr. Jane Hong Session V: 8-9:30pm “Practicing Korean American Theology for Such a Time as This” Keynote Speaker: Dr. David Eunil Cho	

*Session Title will be updated later