



# CENTRAL PACIFIC DISTRICT

*Northern California • Nevada • Utah • Hawaii • Guam*

## DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINEES – ENCOUNTER 2020

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### **Sandy Kang**

**Director of SJCAC Children's Ministry & Gateway Preschool Academy**

**DEXCOM term: Second Term**



Sandy was born in Korea and spent most of her childhood in the heart of Los Angeles. Upon completing her studies in Social Welfare at UC Berkeley, she pursued an MA in Religious Studies at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. There, she met her life partner, Ted, who together raise four beautiful daughters.

Since joining SJCAC in 2002 as Alliance missionary candidates, they are now leading the church. She currently directs the Children's Ministry and Gateway Preschool Academy. Her ministry passion is to empower young leaders, families, and women. She loves the great outdoors and coffee shops.



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## **Frank Harding**

### **Central Pacific District Treasurer**

#### **DEXCOM term: Second Term**



Frank is a native Californian, born and raised in Los Angeles. He served in the Air Force in Vietnam in 1964-65. After returning home he attended UCLA from 1972-1976. He served in many volunteer political organizations over the years, worked in the legislature and was appointed by two past Governor's to senior positions in state government. He worked in banking, real estate finance and real estate investing for private and public pension funds for a number of years.

While a member of Gateway Fellowship Church in Sacramento Frank served on the Board and he and his wife, Brenda, successfully directed a food distribution effort that eventually served 8,000+ meals per month to the needy. He and Brenda are currently members of The Pointe Church of Antelope. Frank was chosen by Dexcom as CPD Treasurer in August of 2018.



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**Joshua S. Blair**

**Lead Pastor of The Rising**

**DEXCOM term: Second Term**



Joshua has been in full-time ministry for 20 years in Canada, Poland, and the U.S. He currently serves as the Lead Pastor of The Rising Church ([www.therisingutah.com](http://www.therisingutah.com)) in South Jordan, UT. Joshua and his wife Lora who have been married almost 21 years have three children; Leia (18), Beckham (16) and Lexi (14). Joshua loves soccer (Chelsea Football Club and Real Salt Lake), hiking, mountain biking, and fishing.



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**Jesse Richardson**

**Lead Pastor Sierra Bible Church**

**DEXCOM term: Second Term**



Jesse Richardson has served as the Lead Pastor at Sierra Bible Church in Truckee, California, since 2017. After delivering him from a broken home, God transferred Jesse from darkness to light, calling him to ministry from a young age. In 2000, he received his ministry training from the Horizon School of Evangelism and emerged as a teacher and pastor at Horizon San Diego. Jesse then went on to become a youth pastor at Sierra Bible Church for 9 years, then associate pastor

for 3 years before accepting a position as lead pastor.

Through his internship program, he has personally taught and trained several lay leaders, some that have become full-time pastors, who now have kingdom impact from the West Coast to the Midwest. Through the grace of Jesus Christ and the consistent preaching of the Word, Jesse has been used by God to create a culture of discipleship and service at Sierra Bible as well as evangelism and outreach to the Truckee/Tahoe community.

This is Jesse's second year serving on the board at Dexcom and counts himself blessed to assist the CPD. Jesse has been married to his wife Alli for 16 years and has four energetic children.



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## **J J Spurling**

### **Lead Pastor Kapahulu Bible Church**

**DEXCOM term: First Term**



J Spurling has served with the C&MA for 20 years in churches in Florida, New York, and now Hawaii. Before you ask, yes his first name is just the letter “J.” He also served as an international worker with the Alliance in Paraguay and then as the Missionary in Residence at Nyack College. Currently J is serving as the lead pastor at Kapahulu Bible Church in Honolulu.

J is a graduate of both Nyack College and Columbia Biblical Seminary. He met his beautiful wife, best friend and golfing buddy at Columbia International University where she completed her B.S. (Bible and Psychology) and M.A. (Theology). They have two incredible kids, Jeffrey (15) and Jasmine (13).



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## **Carlos Palacios**

### **Lead Pastor Cristo Salva Church**

**DEXCOM term: First Term**



His full name is Carlos Orlando Palacios, and he was born on September 4, 1970, in El Salvador. He has been married for 31 years to his wife, Mercedes. They have three children named Alex, Mario, and Karla, and two beautiful grandsons.

God saved him at the age of 9 and he was baptized at 13 years old. Since that moment, he has been preaching the gospel. He arrived in the United States in 1988, and in 1997, the Lord called him into ministry. It was not until 1999 that he began leading a church in Yuba City in Northern California. After 10 years, the Lord moved him to shepherd in a small city called Durham, and finally by his sovereignty will, the Lord called him to be part of the Alliance Family in 2016.

Carlos and his wife started a church called Templo Bethania in Paradise, where Paradise Alliance Church graciously opened their doors for the congregation to meet.

They are currently pastoring in the city of Chico, in the Cristo Salva Church. He is passionate about what the Lord is doing in the Alliance Family. Most importantly, he is grateful for the opportunity to be part of CPD, and its vision to expand God's kingdom. Serving and working with all of the Alliance Family has been a blessing and a great delight for him and his family.



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**Jonathan Lau**

**English Pastor San Francisco Chinese Alliance Church**

**DEXCOM term: First Term**



Jonathan Lau has been serving at San Francisco Chinese Alliance Church since 2004, first as a youth pastor and currently as an English pastor. Born in Southern California, Jonathan came to know Jesus as Lord and Savior back in middle school. He followed Christ into full-time pastoral ministry right after college. He has a passion to see people discover and realize the full implications of the Gospel in their lives. Jonathan and his wife, Vincci, were married in 2006 and have 4 children.



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## **Manar Awabdeh**

### **Director of Arab American Learning Center**

**DEXCOM term: First Term**



The Lord called Manar and her husband Raed to serve and proclaim the Gospel to the Arabic and Muslim community and all people. Manar migrated from Jordan. Manar completed her AA degree in Early Childhood Education at the American River College and her BA degree Counseling Psychology and Bible Theology at Williams Jessup University. She did while laboring in ministry and raising four children!

In the year 1997, the Lord opened the door to begin a Bible Study in their home. The Bible Study grew to become an Arabic church plant in Sacramento.

Since then, Manar Awabdeh has been serving alongside her husband for many years in the Arabic Church of Sacramento. She is truly a partner in the ministry with him.

Today, there are hundreds of Arabic Refugee newcomers settled next door to the Arab American Learning Center, and the Arabic Church of Sacramento to hear the Good News of the Gospel, which will bring them Healing, Sight, Hope, and Freedom.