

An invitation

We invite you to prayerfully consider participating in AAWOL.
For more information, please contact us.

Mailing Address: AAWOL
c/o 819 Orange Grove Pl.
South Pasadena, CA 91030

Phone contact: (626) 799-0677
Website Address: www.isaacweb.org

AAWOL Coordination Team contacts:

Young: younglee@isaacweb.org
Bev: bebe1223@yahoo.com
Chloe: chloesun@les.edu
Debbie: dgin@apu.edu
Grace: gracechoikim@hotmail.com
Joy: joyluang@gmail.com
Kirsten: kirstenoh@gmail.com
Melanie: mchowaacf@aol.com
Tita: titavaleriano@hotmail.com

Graphics contact:
Cindy: ceeendy@gmail.com



What is AAWOL?

Asian American Women on Leadership (AAWOL) emerged out of a gathering of evangelical women in September of 2005. Through the retelling of our leadership journeys in subsequent meetings, the Holy Spirit worked in amazing ways to empower us and create an experience of healing and wholeness in community. The result was a God-given realization of the important needs for safety and creating legacy. In this process, it became clear that our stories resonated and intersected with the stories of many others. Out of the realization that these stories should be shared, and AAWOL was born and continues on...

Introducing the AAWOL Coordination Team



Beverly Chen, MSW, LCSW currently serves as Harvey Mudd's Assistant Dean of Student Emotional Health, an adjunct professor at Azusa Pacific University (APU), and has a private practice in Claremont. This native Californian loves the great outdoors.

Chloe Sun, PhD teaches Hebrew Scripture at Logos Evangelical Seminary (LES). Wife of a second-generation pastor and mom to a son, this Fuller Theological Seminary (FTS) graduate has an interest in Asian American Hermeneutics.



Deborah Hearn Gin, M.Div, M.Mus is a Haggard Graduate School of Theology faculty at APU who directs the MA in Worship Leadership and also serves on the board at Evergreen Baptist Church of LA (EBCLA). She was blessed to find and marry an Asian man who cooks, cleans & irons.

Grace Choi-Kim, a PhD candidate at Garret Evangelical Seminary and is also an adjunct professor at LES. She is a board member of ISAAC (Institute for the Study of Asian American Christianity). She and her husband are deeply involved in mission work in China and Mongolia and are parenting two girls.



Joy Huang, BA is responding to a call to attend seminary and has relocated to California to attend FTS. She and her husband live in Pasadena as she pursues her M.Div. She is also an intern at Evangelical Formosan Church of LA.

Kirsten Oh, M.Div is a PhD candidate, an adjunct faculty and a student chaplain, all at FTS. She has been involved in the United Methodist Church since being conceived and is currently an ordination candidate. She and her husband are newlyweds.



Rev. Melanie Mar Chow, M.Div graduated from FTS in 1993 and has served since as a campus minister for JEMS' Asian American Christian Fellowship. She is ordained by Evergreen-LA, an American Baptist church that assists she and her husband in raising their daughter.

Rev. Teresita "Tita" Valeriano, M.Div is an ordained Lutheran minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and is currently Campus Pastor at the University of Southern California. She is one of 12 children raised in the Philippines.



Rev. Dr. Young Lee Hertig earned her PhD at FTS, and is an ordained Presbyterian pastor. She currently teaches at APU, and is also VP of ISAAC's board and its SoCal Regional Director. She is an author and community organizer who is married and also has one daughter.

What is AAWOL's Mission?

AAWOL exists to gather the scattered evangelical Asian American women for leadership renewal and development. We believe that by creating sacred spaces, we can build a vital team for God's purposes. Through team building, seminars, and the documentation of the legacies of Asian American evangelical women (AAEW), AAWOL will collectively produce a leadership program that will renew and foster AAEW leadership for the church, campus and community at large.

What are the qualities of AAWOL?

A: Adaptive A: Accountable W: Worshipful O: Open L: Labyrinthine

Our digital age demands leaders who are adaptive to constant change and uncertainty. For quality leadership, the ability to adapt must be accompanied by accountability and advocacy. Without accountability, community building and deep trust among a team is difficult. Authentic accountability must be **rooted** in a common spirituality through a worshipful attitude. Advocacy must occur through partnerships, and the transformation of AAEW occurs through mentoring and empowerment from others along the journey. Through the common allegiance to a higher power beyond our individual selves, AAEW will interact with one another with open hearts, despite our labyrinthine context of a globalizing world.

What does AAWOL desire to offer?

-*Networking opportunities.* To gain solidarity for individuals and systems. Through supportive networks that provide a sense of togetherness, we will relate issues of shared heritage through information gathering and exploration of our rooted-ness by connecting with the legacies of AAEW, past and present.

- *Intentional mentoring.* To explore gifts and skills through "safe" generational/inter-generational mentoring relationships that also provide advocacy in areas such as the process of ordination, the church world and structures, "calling" to vocational ministry, conflict resolution, etc.

- *Training events/workshops/conferences/day retreats* – To build upon our biblical/theological foundations as AAEW in order to integrate our cultural uniqueness, intercultural ethics, and egalitarian partnerships. This will be accomplished through "immersion visit" reflections, connecting our church experience and our daily lives.

--*Bridging praxis and academia.* Through shared experiences, we create networks of communal learning to bridge seminaries and churches, male and female, etc. through relationships and technology.