

## Affordable Housing

Affordable housing is one of the most pressing problems in San Francisco. In the core of San Francisco's Chinatown, 40% of the residential units do not meet today's standards for decent and safe housing. The poverty rate in the Chinatown core is 3 times the citywide average, and the percentage of children in poverty is 5 times the citywide average. Every week, the members of this church commute to Chinatown to worship, shop, park, and eat in this community. How aware are we of the current conditions which surround us in this neighborhood?

At PCC, the Mission & Evangelism Committee organized several projects this year to educate and empower ourselves and others around the issues of homelessness, affordable housing, and poverty in our city. The following are a few highlights:

In February 2012, we cooked and fed a hearty meal to 70 homeless men through the Interfaith Winter Shelter program. The menu included meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetables, and home-baked cupcakes. We were lead by chef Doreen Der-McLeod, and assisted by the Cameron House



9<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' Club. Chef Kai Ng from the Sequoias donated mashed potatoes and gravy. The men really appreciated the cupcakes baked by our church members!

In August 2012, we organized "Affordable Housing and Homelessness Sunday." We were led in worship by Rev. Norman Fong. We followed up with special discussion questions during our Sabbath



Sunday lunch, featuring several community members who are experts in the field of housing and homelessness. We then offered tours of affordable housing in Chinatown, including Mei Lun Yuen, the Clayton Hotel, and the International Hotel.

In September 2012, we organized a School Supplies project. Members of our church purchased and donated pens, pencils, crayons, markers, binder paper, erasers, pencil sharpeners, folders, rulers, and gluesticks. The Mission and Evangelism Committee, aided by the Cameron House 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys' group, the PCC High School Fellowship, and other volunteers, packaged 200 individual school supplies kits for distribution to elementary students living in SRO housing. Special thanks goes to the API Social Workers group for donating bags for our school supplies kits.

In December 2012, as in past holiday seasons, we're collecting toys for distribution to children living in SRO housing.

Please join the Mission & Evangelism Committee as we continue to educate ourselves and serve the people in our city, particularly the Chinatown neighborhood. We meet at PCC on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.