
The Weekly RAG

For the United Ministries of the Presbyterian Church in Chinatown and Donaldina Cameron House

Sunday, April 30, 2017

Pastor Kimberly is away for her sister's memorial service. We welcome to the pulpit Tad Hopp.

Happy Birthdays

April

Dayton Leong
Alfred Hall
Christopher Chan
Susan Zavertnik

May

Kimberly Elliot
Cuzamil Solis

Homeless Supplies Needed

It's that time of the year when Deacons are replenishing items for the homeless. If you have: white tube socks (not too thick), backpacks, pop up can goods and granola bars, we'll gladly accept them. A large bin will be available at Tea Time for your donation.

Tea Time for April/May

The Deacons would like to give special thanks to the following people for taking the time to provide treats for Tea Time for everyone to enjoy.

4/30 Kathy Tong & Bradford Woo

5/7 Sabbath Sunday

If you're interested in providing treats, please sign up on bulletin board in social hall. If you'd like to make a monetary donation towards tea time, see Dayton Leong.

Our Theme & Readings

April

30 Acts 2: 14a, 36-41
Psalm 116: 1-4, 12-19
1 Peter 1: 17-23
Luke 24: 13-35

May

7 Acts 2: 42-47
Psalm 23
1 Peter 2: 19-25
John 10: 1-10

Donations for Cameron House Carnival

The Bakery Carnival Committee at Cameron House is requesting monetary donations to purchase dessert items through designated bakeries to compensate for this year's low inventory of baked goods due to Public Health Dept. restrictions. Please write checks payable to Cameron House and note "2017 Bakery Carnival Donation"

Koinonia Retreat

Save the Date for our Koinonia Retreat (formerly Memorial Day Weekend Retreat)!

Come join us at Westminster Woods on [May 26th-29th](#) for a weekend of fun, relaxation and connecting with God, nature, and each other! This year's theme is "Plugging in to What's Important: Disconnect to Connect" which we will present through a variety of session activities that all can participate in. For questions and information, contact Diane Go (phone 650-992-1678 or email go_diane@yahoo.com)

The final deadline to register is May 7th.

New Good News for the Pews

The latest issue of Good News for the Pews is available on the PCC web site.

The quarterly newsletter is published by the English-speaking worshipping community with information for all in our worship family. If you

know someone who is not on our email list and might like to learn more about us, please forward this message to them.

You can read the newsletter at:

<http://www.pccsf.org/documents/201705PCCNewsletter.pdf>

Trouble hearing in Worship?

Some worshippers have trouble being fully engaged in worship because they can't hear everything clearly. If you have trouble hearing, try one of the Telex headsets from the box in the back row. If you're a reader, be sure to speak slowly with enough volume

Donate to Healthy Women, Healthy Families

Presbyterian Women and World Mission co-sponsor the Mother's Day Project to support the Healthy Women Healthy Families (HWHF) program of the PC(USA). This program assists global partners by providing grants to fund education, health services and community development activities in impoverished communities. Your donations will empower women and protect children by supporting vital programs and services such as prenatal care, primary education, food security initiatives and trauma healing.

During teatime, Women's Fellowship will have Mother's Day cards available in exchange for a donation to Healthy Women Healthy Families. Recommended donation: \$3.00 per card or any amount you choose. Every little bit helps! Together we are helping to make a difference in the lives of women and children across the globe.

Minute for Mission

A Sierra Leone resident recently said that the drive from Kenema to the Liberian border is like riding six hours inside of a concrete mixer. Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) delegates visiting the region agreed with this

assessment after making the trip on the all-dirt road.

For those who are used to traveling on paved, two- to four-lane roads, driving on unmaintained dirt roads can be a major reality check. But for the people living in the remote villages, this is their daily life. The best way to get from village to village is by motorbike. People walk for miles from village to marketplace and back in daylight and darkness. It's what they do.

The delegation found villages in Liberia had made great progress in cooperation with the [West Africa Initiative](#) (WAI). Currently, 17 groups connected with WAI serve approximately 4,000 direct beneficiaries. WAI, which was established in 2008, is helping communities become self-sufficient through agriculture and business development and work toward common societal goals, not merely individuals or villages.

Wellkerma Village, outside the city of Monrovia, suffered great losses during the country's war and the recent Ebola crisis. Many men in the village were killed, leaving the women to step up and put their words into actions. "We have done well with your support. The farms here are well managed," said Pala Beyan, one of the women who is a village leader. "Our source of life here is farming. Through WAI, we have been able to not only organize ourselves but help other villages. For the first time, we have unity among villages."

"People will come to us, seeking to join, but we may not always have the ability to help them," said Daniel Nurpah, one of the village leaders. "All we can do at times is encourage them. Many are following in our footprints, observing what we are doing and

then putting that into practice in their own villages.”

Wellkerma, like many villages in Liberia, grows corn, peanuts and various fruits and vegetables. Many of the residents, through WAI training, have begun working in bee-keeping. Some individuals have begun to profit from the work.

The town of Ganta is believed by many to be the breadbasket of Liberia. The delegation visited a village that has seen growth in many areas thanks to the hard work of both men and women.

“I am a widow with 11 children and I began working on my own garden from what I learned with the WAI training,” said Jannet Kollie. “We are able to eat from the garden and sell some of the vegetables for money.”

“I believe that all of the hope you have given us is changing lives,” said James Gbozee. “I have five children who were not in school. Now, I can send all of them to get an education. Lives are changing and if you come back, you will see the difference.”

[Presbyterian Disaster Assistance](#), [Self-Development of People](#) and the [Presbyterian Hunger Program](#) are jointly responsible for WAI in Sierra Leone and Liberia. Representatives from the ministries say they are encouraged by what they saw at all five Liberian villages over the course of the week. “I am inspired to see how far you’ve come with this program,” said Luke Asikoye, PDA international associate. “You have suffered, but you have strength and have broken through the wall and [have] not only helped improve your situation, but are making strides to improve education.”