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# The Weekly RAG

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

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**Sunday, May 7, 2017**

Pastor Kimberly is away this weekend We welcome to the pulpit Tad Hopp.

## Happy Birthdays

### May

Kimberly Elliot  
Cuzamil Solis  
Adam Lam  
Desi Ng  
Mildred Hall  
Dave Chan

## Post Carnival Jewelry Sale

Most of us are so busy helping out at Cameron House Carnival and often times do not get a chance to walk around and shop. The Jewelry Committee for CH Carnival will have items for sale on Sunday, May 7 from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm at PCC, 2nd Floor, Women's Fellowship Hall. 100% of jewelry sales and labor are donated to help support Cameron House's Youth Ministries including summer and after school programs.

## 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.

5/7 Sabbath Sunday

5/14 Dayton & Mary Wong Leong

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.

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## Our Theme & Readings

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### May

7 Acts 2: 42-47

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2: 19-25

John 10: 1-10

14 Acts 7: 55-60

Psalm 31: 1-5, 15-16

1 Peter 2: 2-10

John 14: 1-14

## Koinonia Retreat

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

The Koinonia Retreat registration deadline is Sunday, May 7th!

Come join us for a weekend of fun, relaxation and community in the beautiful surroundings of Westminster Woods. We will be exploring this year's theme of "Plugging into What's Important: Disconnect to Connect" during the Memorial Day Weekend, May 26th-29th. For questions, information and registration, contact Diane Go (phone 650-992-1678) or email [go\\_diane@yahoo.com](mailto:go_diane@yahoo.com).

## 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

## **Chinatown Rising Documentary Film Seeking Support**

Harry Chuck and Josh Chuck are currently producing a documentary film, called 'Chinatown Rising.' Through interviews with activists on the frontlines of advocacy efforts, along with never-before-seen film footage captured by Harry throughout several decades, they tell the story of activism in 1960s and 70s San Francisco Chinatown. If you would like to watch a three-minute trailer, find out more about this important project, and how you can support, please visit: <http://kck.st/2pCqaLP>

## **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 footsteps, 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 beekeeping. 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.”