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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, December 3, 2017

We welcome to the pulpit today Rev. Jeff Hutcherson, the Pastor of Mission and Vision for SF Presbytery. It is also the First Sunday of Advent.

## Happy Birthdays

### December

Alson Lee  
John Chan  
Matthew Jew  
Sindy Ledermann  
Amoena Quan  
Diane Go  
George Yee  
Barbara Fong  
Jonathan Hee  
Jeannette Wei  
Alan Wong  
Camille Ho-Wong  
Ed Chin  
Jacqueline Jew  
Clare Noelle Toy

## Light the Night

Light the Night, a ministry of Cameron House, is open to the public every 3rd Sunday at 2pm at Cameron House.

- 12/24

We are also looking for clean socks, beanies, mittens or monetary donations for snacks as well.

To donate or sign up or for more info, contact: [lightthenightCH@gmail.com](mailto:lightthenightCH@gmail.com) for more info.

## Cameron House Basketball

### Team

Cameron House's ACBA (Asian Community Basketball Association) team has been practicing with coaches Steve Hung and Anson Ho. They are getting ready for the beginning of the season and hope that if you have time, you will come

out and warm-up the bleachers and cheer them on!

Game 1: Sunday, December 10

3:20 Start time vs. the East Bay Cardinals

Alameda Point Gym

1101 W Red Line Avenue, Alameda, CA 94501

Game 2: Sunday, December 17

3:20 Start time vs. the SF Associates

Alameda Point Gym

(The rest of the season's schedule will be released by ACBA after Christmas.)

The team will also join Light the Night for one of their services to the community in early December. Prayers appreciated for these young men as they gain and process valuable skills and life lessons!

## Online Giving

Some great news for our congregation. You can now make a gift online to support your church community! Click on the "Give Now" button at the bottom of the PCC home page [www.pccsf.org](http://www.pccsf.org). You select how you would like your gift to be made and which worshipping community you would like it to go toward. You can add a note if you want to dedicate the gift to someone special. For questions about how to give, see Tad Hopp. For questions about your gift, see Dave Soohoo or Winchell Quock.

## Tea Time for November/December

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.

12/3 Sabbath Sunday  
12/10 Birthday Cake & Donor's Treats  
12/17 Sabrina Shin  
12/24 Sharing of Holiday Goodies  
12/31 Sharing of Holiday Goodies

If you're interested in providing treats, please sign up with Mary Wong Leong. If you'd like to make a monetary donation towards tea time, see Dayton Leong. We also are in need of volunteers to help clean up after Tea Time. If you are available to help, please stay after Tea Time.

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## **Our Theme & Readings**

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### **December**

3 Isaiah 64: 1-9  
Psalm 80: 1-7; 17-19  
1 Corinthians 1: 3-9  
Mark 13: 24-37

10 Isaiah 40: 1-11  
Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13  
2 Peter 3: 8-15a  
Mark 1: 1-8

**Please email Tad Hopp at [tad.hopp@pccsf.org](mailto:tad.hopp@pccsf.org) if you would like to have someone added or removed from the prayer requests.**

### **Minute for Mission**

The Rt. Rev. Fonki Samuel Forba, moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Cameroon (PCC), recently issued a statement urging peace and dialogue in response to ongoing persecution and marginalization of the country's Anglophone population. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is an ecumenical partner of the PCC and has previously engaged in advocacy on the church's behalf. Conflict has arisen in Cameroon as the French-speaking majority continues to exert

power and authority over the English-speaking minority. Up to 17 protestors were killed by government forces Oct. 1 while celebrating the 56th anniversary of Cameroon's reunification in 1961, following colonial rule by France and England.

Forba said, "The deliberate deleting of the Anglophone culture, dignity and values amongst many other intentional political manipulations from the Plebiscite (Feb. y 11, 1961) to the Fouban Conference (May 20, 1972) are attempts to hide a historical fact that, once upon a time, two peoples mutually agreed to live together under international legal instruments."

Earlier this year, PC(USA) officials wrote a letter urging prayer as leaders of the Presbyterian Church in Cameroon and other Anglophone-majority denominations were summoned for court appearances. Penned by the Rev. Denise Anderson, co-moderator of the PC(USA); the Rev. Jose Luis Casal, director, World Mission; the Rev. Debbie Braaksma, Africa coordinator, World Mission; and Jeff Boyd, regional liaison for Central Africa, the letter read, in part:

"Please pray that Cameroon's public officials and judicial officers will deal justly, wisely and compassionately with the concerns being raised by Anglophone Cameroonians, so that a spirit of unity and cooperation may be restored and all of the country's citizens may enjoy fully their civil and human rights."

Foba's resistance to the persecution of the English-speaking population speaks to the direct manner in which they are being suppressed, through the use of military force and other measures.

"The government of the Republic of Cameroon needs to be reminded that one cannot contain a social and political consciousness

by military force,” he said, adding, “The PCC calls for the demilitarization of the two Regions, the cessation of arbitrary arrests and breaking into private homes, the release of all those in detention and a special disbursement of funds for hospital bills to heal the wounded, the sick and the dying.”

While falling short of calling the persecution a civil war or genocide, Foba called attention to the particularly brutal measures being taken that arise from a “family fight,” asking for an independent commission to investigate.

“By common sense, the superiority of the weapons employed for a ‘family fight’ is different from the weapons employed when fighting a foreigner with equal strength. The PCC calls for an Independent Commission to investigate the atrocities committed by the military and hold those who are guilty accountable according to the law enforced,” he said.

In an email relaying Foba’s letter, Boyd asked PC(USA) congregations to “join in the minute of silence in their worship services as this letter calls for PCC congregations to do” as a “sign of solidarity with those seeking peace and reconciliation through honest conversations.”