
The Weekly RAG

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

Sunday, December 10, 2017

We welcome to the pulpit today Tad Hopp. It is also the Second 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

Teatime Conversations

Our English Worshiping Community (EWC) discussions on our values, vision and concerns continues on Sundays Dec. 10 and 17. The English elders (EC) invite you to help us hear what is important in the life of EWC by using the question sheet we started last Sunday. [link](#) This Sunday we will focus on questions #5-8, beginning right after teatime. Please plan to stay until 2:00. We will have char sui bau available. If you are unable to attend please send your written responses to any of the questions to an elder or to Tad. On Sunday the 17th, the EC will present a summary and notes and invite additional comments.

Women's Fellowship

Monday, December 18, 6:30PM - Let's celebrate Christmas at our annual Potluck Dinner at Jean Chin's. Bring enough food for 4-6 persons. Suggestions: appetizers, salad, vegetables, meat entrees, or any other item you wish. Desserts are also welcome. Please RSVP to Jean so she can prepare enough rice (jycflowers@yahoo.com).

In addition to bringing food, we ask that you purchase Gift Cards from Safeway, Trader Joe's or Whole Foods, or from Blik or FLAX, art supply stores. (Purchase cards in \$10.00 denomination. If you wish to spend more, buy several at \$10.00 each.) These cards will support resettled refugee girls who are involved in The Vision Project, a program of the International Rescue Committee (IRC). (Churches in SF Presbytery, including ours, have supported IRC and its programs.)

Any questions, contact Mildred (mildredhal@sbcglobal.net).

Moving Back!

The workers are busy finishing up so we can be back in the church for worship on December 24. But, we'll need help to move back those items that have been in storage. We're expecting to move many items back starting Thursday December 14. We anticipate needing a work party to help on Sunday December 17. We expect to move chairs back into the sanctuary beginning Monday December 18. Dave Chan would like a leader to take on each of a list of tasks. The tasks are posted on the What's New page www.pccsf.org/whatsNew Talk with Dave Chan or Dave Miller if you're available to help and if you'd like to take leadership on one of the tasks.

The Adaptive Leadership Adventure

The English Commission has decided to participate in an educational discernment process that will be sponsored by our Presbytery. The process is being led by two Presbyterian Pastors--Rev. Jim Kitchens and Rev. Deborah Wright, who have formed an organization called "PneuMatrix". PneuMatrix's goal is to help churches adapt to changes that are taking place in many Christian arenas so that they can respond more effectively to God's call.

San Francisco Presbytery has agreed to work with PneuMatrix for one year and PCC was approached by one of the leaders to participate in this program.

Some highlights of this program are:

- Eight churches are participating together for one year

- Each church has its own Adaptive Leadership team of eight to ten members, including two active elders.

- Each team is being led by one of the PneuMatrix consultants and will meet once a month except for Christmas and Easter for a total of ten meetings. The first and last meetings are being held with the other church teams.

- The team is reading the book "**Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory**" by Tod Bolsinger. **Anyone who is interested is also encouraged to read the book along with the team.**

- There will be three phases to this process. The first phase lasts over 3 months and includes learning what the concept of Adaptive Change are all about. This phase is structured to allow sufficient time for reflection and discernment about the life of our congregation.

- We will be receiving more information concerning the content of the middle and last phases but we anticipate that we will be able to generate some concrete goals to share with and to consider together in our Worshipping Community.

The initial launch and orientation happened on September 6th

Our English Worshipping Community team members include Ed Chin, Eddie Kam, Josh Chuck, Mark Fong, Norma Chan, Rachel Wong, Sing Quan, Pastor Kimberly Elliot, and Diane Go. Our consultant is Jim Kitchens. So far, we have had meetings as follows: September 6th (Launch meeting), October 22nd, November 13th.

The cost for the program is \$1,000, which includes having Rev. Kitchens and Rev. Wright available for consultation during the second year after completion of the ten sessions.

Please join us for our update on January 7th during Sabbath Sunday lunch.

Please continue to be in prayer for our team.

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 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. 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 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.

12/10 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.

Our Theme & Readings

December

10 Isaiah 40: 1-11

Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3: 8-15a

Mark 1: 1-8

17 Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11

Psalm 126

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

John 1: 6-8, 19-28

Minute for Mission

In the first six months of a new program to fight hunger, Presbyterians nationwide have responded with commitment and action.

The [Presbyterian Hunger Program \(PHP\)](#) has announced that more than 70 Presbyterian churches have become Hunger Action Congregations since the initiative was announced last summer. "Presbyterian congregations are tirelessly feeding people, and many are acting to address the root causes of hunger," said Rebecca Barnes, PHP coordinator. "In response to the covenant launched on June 1, already 72 churches have become Hunger Action Congregations. Thirty-five of those are certified, which means they do activities in all six designated areas."

The six designated areas of action are hunger alleviation, development assistance, hunger education, lifestyle integrity, corporate and public policy witness, and worship. The application lists activities that churches can check off. Churches can also list other ways they are addressing hunger and poverty in the six designated areas.

The designated Hunger Action Congregations are from 28 states. Barnes says surveys have shown that more than 90 percent of PC(USA) churches have their own program or participate in other anti-hunger and/or anti-poverty work. All of those churches, she adds, are eligible to become Hunger Action Congregations.

PHP leaders say hunger is still a growing problem in the world.

“The number of hungry people in the world is on the rise again, affecting 815 million people last year — 11 percent of the global population,” said Andrew Kang Bartlett, PHP’s associate for national hunger concerns. “Conflicts, displaced peoples and climate change have contributed to this increase.”

Kang Bartlett credits the work of churches in addressing the issue.

“The good news is faithful people in the U.S. and around the world see addressing hunger and its causes as central to their discipleship,” he said. “Individuals, churches and organizations are realizing that they must join forces if they are to make progress in these challenging times.”