
The Weekly RAG

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

Sunday, February 11, 2018

It is Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday.

Happy Birthdays

February

Robert Hee
Linda Choy Young
Stanley Wong
Anthony Wong
Timothy Chuck
Mei Yee
Norm Proctor
Patricia Chan
Rachel Wong
Sarabeth Leong
Ruth Leong
David Soohoo

Ash Wednesday – February 14

We will observe Ash Wednesday in the sanctuary in a service of contemplation. Terry and Lianne Leong will set up a labyrinth for us. Come enjoy a simple supper at 6:30 followed by the Ash Wednesday Service.

Terry and Lianne will be setting up the labyrinth on Monday February 12. Please contact Terry or Diane Go if you'd like to help.

Upcoming ACBA Games

If you want to spend a nice Sunday afternoon cheering on a hard-working, energetic team, come on out to the last couple of Cameron House basketball team games at the Alameda Point Gym! So far, the team is 3 - 2.

- Associates on Sunday, February 11th at 2:10 PM
- Taisho on Sunday, February 18th at 2:10 PM
- Play-offs the weekend of February 24 - 25, schedule TBD

Questions? Contact Anson Ho <anson@cameronhouse.org>.

Women's Fellowship

As our Valentine's Day gift for each of ten (10) SafeHouse residents, we will gather on Sunday, February 11, to put together the bags. This year we decided on something easier: to purchase \$10 Target Gift Cards and Valentine Candies. The cards will enable the residents to make their own personal-item needs. And thanks to Nancy Chee and Marie Chin for making bracelets (red beads, of course!) to include. Just purchase \$10 Target Gift Cards and/or Valentine Candies and bring on Sunday, February 11. Thanks for your participation. The residents very much appreciate being remembered on Valentine's Day. Contact Mildred (mildredhal@sbcglobal.net) if you have questions.

On Monday, February 19, WF will meet at Sabrina Gee-Shin's home for a Hot Pot (da been low) dinner and fellowship (6:30PM). We will all participate by bringing the ingredients to cook. If you would like to join us, please RSVP soon to Mildred and she'll forward details and more information for you.

Presbytery Meeting

All are invited to the next meeting of SF Presbytery on February 13th at Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church. Israel Hao Guo will be officially received by the Presbytery as the Commissioned Ruling Elder for the Mandarin Worshipping Community. All from PCC are invited to be a part of this special day for our community.

And then, mark your calendars for March 11th when Israel will be officially installed as the Commissioned Pastor for the Mandarin Worshipping Community. The service will begin at 5 and there will be dinner provided afterwards. Please join the Mandarin community as they celebrate this special occasion.

Regional Gathering of the Presbytery

Please join us March 7 for our next regional gathering of the Presbytery. We will be meeting at Sturge Presbyterian Church in San Mateo. We will begin at 6:30 PM with a potluck dinner so please bring a dish to share. This will be a time to sing together, pray together, and have fellowship time. All are welcome. We will end by 8:30 PM.

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 February

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.

2/11 Jean Chin & Richard Jann

2/18 Birthday Cake

2/25 Kathy Tong & Brad Woo

If you're interested in providing treats, please sign up with Mary Wong Leong or on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. 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

February

11 2 Kings 2: 1-12

Psalm 50: 1-6

2 Corinthians 4: 3-6

Mark 9: 2-9

18 Genesis 9: 8-17

Psalm 25: 1-10

1 Peter 3: 18-22

Mark 1: 9-15

Minute for Mission

Checkpoint, at the edge of the city, is where we disembark from the taxi with the Rev. Philip Obang, the general secretary of South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church. As private and public vehicles are not allowed beyond this point, we jump on the back of "boda bodas" (motorcycle taxis) to ferry us down below, the horizon monopolized by a city of white tents. POC3 is the largest of three UN Internally Displaced Persons camps on the outskirts of the city of Juba, the capital of South Sudan. Entering the camp I ask Rev. Philip, "How many refugees are in this camp?" He gestures widely with his arms, "Thousands!"

We receive an extravagant welcome by the women's choir that comes to escort us with song and dance, and we become quite the spectacle! Nuer United Church, a combined church of three congregations, often has upwards of 2,000 worshipers on a Sunday. Their numerous choirs and animated singing stand in stark contrast with the drab surroundings of refugee life. Here we find joy in the midst of sorrow.

Because of the ongoing civil war in South Sudan, the refugee crisis is one of the worst in the world. With a population of 12 million, 2 million people are displaced in camps inside the country while another 1.8 million are living in refugee camps in neighboring countries. Until there is genuine peace, the situation feels grim. A large percentage of those displaced hail from the Great Upper Nile region where Presbyterians have been active for more than 100 years. As mission

co-workers, we are inspired by the faith and perseverance of our South Sudanese sisters and brothers who work tirelessly to demonstrate God's kingdom of grace, love and mercy in the midst of such hardship and pain.