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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, April 8, 2018

Today is the Second Sunday of Easter.

### Sabbath Sunday

Join us after worship in Fellowship Hall for our Sabbath Sunday lunch. We will practice singing a song from Godspell. We will engage in an activity to get to know each other a little better. And, we will get an update from the commission and the Adaptive Change group.

### Happy Birthdays

#### April

Joshua Chuck  
Terry Leong  
Henry Solomon Wong  
Henry Lew  
James Caldwell  
Hilda Aladeen  
Kathy Tong  
Martha Yick  
Mikayla Wong  
Dayton Leong  
Alfred Hall  
Christopher Chan

### Women's Fellowship

W.F. will meet in the PCC Fellowship Hall MONDAY, APRIL 16, for dinner and study of Hope in Sabbath Rest. "Sabbath rest is more difficult to maintain in America. Yet, if we keep what Sabbath we can, we find our hope rebuilt." Let's discuss together as we look at Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews. Read Lesson 7 in your study book. And, in addition, or if you do not have study book, read these scriptures: Hebrews 11:1-3; 3:1-19; Psalm 95; Hebrews 4:1-11 and 6:9-12.

Dinner? Want to bring Dessert? Let Mildred know. Otherwise, come at 7:30 ready to discuss with Linda leading us.

### Tea Time for April

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.

4/8 Sabbath Sunday  
4/15 Birthday Cake & Donor's Treats  
4/22 Al & Shar Hall  
4/29 Gilbert & Eunice Lee

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.

### Celebrate the Gifts of Women

Our worship on April 29 will be led by Women's Fellowship in their annual celebration of the gifts women provide to our church and world.

### Online Giving

Scan this to give on-line



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### Lectionary Readings

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#### April

**8**  
Acts 4: 32-35  
Psalm 133  
1 John 1: 1-2:2  
John 20: 19-31

**15**  
Acts 3: 12-19  
Psalm 4  
1 John 3: 1-7  
Luke 24: 36b-48

## **Minute for Mission**

The Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson II, Stated Clerk of the PC(USA) Office of the General Assembly, is asking Presbyterians to join in prayer in response to the plight of migrants from sub-Saharan Africa.

Videos recently broadcast on CNN show the torture of migrants from sub-Saharan African nations. Men are whipped and burned, begging their families for ransom. With increasing political instability in Libya, forced labor and other forms of human trafficking are growing.

In recent years, young women and men from sub-Saharan African nations have arrived in cities like Agadez, Niger, where, with the help of profit-making agents, they embark on a dangerous journey across the desert to Libya. Once they are in Libya, the next step is a precarious voyage across the Mediterranean Sea to reach Europe.

In the past, these migrants might have found temporary work in the informal Libyan labor market. But the ongoing instability has created a situation in which some become hostages and are forced into slavery or trafficked into prostitution. Despite these dangers, people continue to set out on the journey, hopeful that they won't fall victim in their quest to find a better life.

The migrants are not unlike the millions who left Europe more than 100 years ago on boats destined for Ellis Island.

In 2016, the world became aware of thousands who died when boats carrying migrants capsized in the Mediterranean. Less well-known have been those who died of thirst and exposure from failed attempts to cross the desert.

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) partners in the region, including the All Africa Council of Churches, have called on governments around the world to stop slavery in Libya, but they realize it is only the first step in addressing larger issues. There is a need for comprehensive immigration reform, as well as programs that respond to the negative effects of climate change, increased efforts to provide quality education and employment for youth, and governmental reform that promotes democracy, human rights and economic development.

“As we attempt to deal with the many social and political challenges facing our own nation, including issues of basic necessities for so many, we dare not forget God’s call to care for those in other lands who struggle against all odds for dignity and daily bread,” Nelson said. “We must also respond to this crisis that is bringing exploitation and death to millions of our African sisters and brothers. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray and act now on behalf of those who are victims of this growing tragedy.”