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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 6, 2018

We welcome to the pulpit today Tad Hopp.

### Happy Birthdays

#### May

Kimberly Elliot  
Adam Lam  
Desi Ng  
Mildred Hall  
David Chan  
Justin Wong  
Heidi Wong  
Pamela Jang  
Stuart Go  
Lianne Leong  
Pauline Hee

### Good News for the Pews

The latest issue of Good News for the Pews is available on the PCC web site.

The quarterly newsletter is published by the English-speaking worshipping community with information for all in our worship family. If you know someone who is not on our email list and might like to learn more about us, please forward this message to them. Here are some highlights for this issue:

- . A joyous celebration of the commissioning of Israel Hao
- . Clerk of Session Membership report for year-end 2017
- . Our adaptive leadership team has embarked on a journey
- . You can read the newsletter at:  
<http://www.pccsf.org/documents/201805PCCNewsletter.pdf>

If you don't have the link handy, you can always navigate to the What's New page at [www.pccsf.org](http://www.pccsf.org) You'll find a link there.

## Lectionary Readings

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### May

#### 6

Acts 10: 44-48  
Psalm 98  
1 John 5: 1-6  
John 15: 9-17

#### 13

Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26  
Psalm 1  
1 John 5: 9-13  
John 17: 6-19

### Living Water World Missions

Mission and Evangelism organized a mission team to install a clean water system in Guatemala with Living Water World Missions (LLWWM) in 2015. We had a wonderful experience working with the project leaders and the people of San Marcos, Guatemala. This year LLWWM seeks to raise funds to continue their work to provide clean water. Mission and Evangelism asks church members to Celebrate Mother's Day by donating to LLWWM.

Set aside the money that you would spend on beverages other than water from May 1st until Mother's Day May 13th, and donate that money to Living Water World Missions

Or make a donation of any amount that God leads you to give in honor of all of our mothers.

Please write checks payable to PCC with LLWWM on the memo line. M&E will collect this offering on Sunday May 13, 2018

### Regional Presbytery Gathering

Our next gathering of the Western Region of the Presbytery will be held on Wednesday, May 30th at Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church in SF. The gathering will take place from 6:30 to 8:30 PM.

## 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.

5/6 Sabbath Sunday

5/13 David Chan

5/20 ?

5/27 Jojo & Jerrick Woo

## Norman Fong to receive Distinguished Alumni Award

YOU ARE INVITED:

Rev. Norman Fong will be awarded the San Francisco Theological Seminary Distinguished Alumni Award of 2018 during the Commencement Exercises

### Commencement Exercises Saturday, May 19, 2018 • 9:30 am

First Presbyterian Church  
72 Kensington Road  
San Anselmo, California

Dear family & friends,

It is a real honor for me to be recognized by the church for my work in the world. If you're busy, please don't bother but if you're free, come as I share this honor with so many of you, my colleagues & friends in community & the church.

Norman

## PCC Crafting Day

Calling all crafters and interested bodies!  
Needing some way to unwind this Memorial Day weekend. Want to serve and play?

Then join us for an afternoon of crafting at PCC Saturday, May 26th from 2:00 to 5:00 in Fellowship Hall.

Activities we plan to have are rubber stamping, card making, origami folding, bearing and jewelry making, coloring, ladder yarn necklace making (crocheting), and board games for those who don't craft but want to hang out with us.

We will have snacks during the afternoon.

If you are interested in coming, please RSVP to Diane Go by Sunday, May 20th.

Please also contact Susie Wong if you are interested in helping with Food Pantry on the 26th.

## Minute for Mission

Mangos taste so good that many consider them the world's best fruit. But they have more qualities than flavor alone. The mango is one of the few tropical fruits that grows well on low-fertility soils and where there is a long dry season. Mangos are sold in local markets throughout the tropical world but can also be processed into dried fruit, drinks, pickles and chutney. Mango wood burns well and makes good charcoal.

Because of the ideal climate over much of the western part of the island, Madagascar is a major producer of mangos. But most mangos currently grown in Madagascar are seedlings of low quality that were not planted and have received no horticultural attention. There is enormous potential for improving mango production by growing selected grafted varieties. Grafting allows the opportunity to choose varieties that are highly productive and disease-resistant, with large, low-fiber fruit of superior taste. And grafted trees begin bearing fruit earlier than seedling trees. By growing grafted commercial-quality mangos, farmers can improve their lives by increasing their income and contributing to families' food security.

Madagascar is also one of the poorest countries in the world, with some of the highest chronic childhood malnutrition. Fianganon'i Jesoa Kristy eto Madagasikara (FJKM), the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) partner denomination in Madagascar, believes that as Christians, we should help our neighbors both spiritually and physically. Reducing poverty and improving food security are important components of FJKM's outreach efforts, and growing mangos and other fruits fits well with FJKM's strategic vision. FJKM's Fruits, Vegetables, and Environmental Education (FVEE) Project, supported by funding from PC(USA) sources, is very involved in developing fruit in Madagascar.

As the elevation at the capital city of Antananarivo is too high for mangos to produce good crops, FJKM looked to find a location more to the west at lower elevation for its mango efforts. In 2015, with the help of local FJKM pastor Niaina Raoelison, a growing spot was identified at Mahatsinjo Maevatanana, less than four hours from the capital.

In October 2016, Harifidy Andriamanantsoa, pastor of the Mahatsinjo FJKM church (and wife of Niaina), led a dedication service preceding the placement of a stone to mark the project's commitment to establishing a fruit center. The new president of FJKM, pastor Irako Andriamahazosa Ammi, preached from Ezekiel 36:30: "And I will multiply the fruit of the tree and the produce of the field, that you may not receive again the disgrace of famine among the nations."

About a month later, construction began on a two-story multipurpose building where a nursery worker could live upstairs and a large room downstairs could be used for conducting training. This building was completed and dedicated in May 2017. In January 2017, a temporary nursery was installed. By June 2017, about 270 fruit trees had been planted, including 60 mango trees belonging to 23 selected varieties.

An irrigation system was installed at the fruit center early this year. The system provides drinking water for the center and the nearby village of Ambararata. Fruit trees and native trees will also be planted at local schools and public places in the Mahatsinjo community.

This year, training will begin at the fruit center to help local farmers and church groups learn to grow mango trees and to propagate them by grafting. A mango revolution is in progress in Madagascar; the FJKM church in partnership with the PC(USA) is working to make sure that Madagascar's subsistence farmers fully benefit from the potential of superior mango varieties that they can propagate themselves. These programs are possible because of the collective effort of many organizations, including the Presbyterian Answer to Hunger (PATH) Committee of Central Florida Presbytery that has supported the FVEE project for many years with funds collected from the 2 cents a meal program at Presbyterian

churches. Others include Park Lake Presbyterian Church in Orlando, Florida; First Presbyterian Church in Tuscaloosa, Alabama; and Decatur Presbyterian Church in Decatur, Georgia. The Watersheds Foundation has provided generous ongoing support, and ECHO in North Fort Myers, Florida, helped tremendously in the process of getting grafted mango trees of selected varieties from Florida to Madagascar.