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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, August 5, 2018

Today is the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost. It is also our End of Summer Service.

## Happy Birthdays

### August

Sarah Chuck  
Wayne Eng  
Jeanette Huie  
Cindy Lee Gong  
David Miller  
Karen Jin Soohoo  
Lindsey Sid Quock  
Brian Mark Fong  
Lauren Gayle Kam

## SRO School Supplies

The Mission and Evangelism Committee is once again organizing school supplies kits for elementary school children who live in SRO housing. This project depends on the generosity of this worshipping community. Today is the last day to bring your purchases to church

## Pride Service

Mark your calendars and make plans to join us for our second annual Pride Service at PCC. We will have 88 Keys join us once again to provide some special music for the service. Our guest preacher will be Rev. Scott Clark, chaplain and associate dean of student life at SFTS and also on the board of More Light Presbyterians. The service will be held on August 19th. Hope you are able to join us for what promises to be a very special service.

## Rides Needed

Cameron House Friday Night Club Members would appreciate a ride home if you are available to drive. Please contact Anson Ho if you are willing to volunteer.

## Save the Date

Women's Fellowship Retreat will be on October 27, 2018. Mark your calendars and make plans to be there.

## Tea Time for August

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.

8/5 Sabbath Sunday  
8/12 Jeanette Huie & Birthday Cake  
8/19 Luke Lyu & Diane Go  
8/26 Donor's Treats

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.

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## Lectionary Readings

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### August

#### 5

2 Samuel 11: 26 - 12: 13a  
Exodus 16: 2-4, 9-15  
Ephesians 4: 1-16  
John 6: 24-35

#### 12

2 Samuel 18: 5-9; 15, 31-33  
1 Kings 19: 4-8  
Ephesians 4:25-5:2  
John 6: 35, 41-51

## Minute for Mission

He was a man of few words. My visits often consisted of a monologue I carefully constructed around veiled questions, hoping he would offer up details about his life without getting agitated. But his responses were short — a few words uttered in a deep voice that got louder if he was irritated by the subject matter.

I met Robert after he moved into a nursing home. What little I knew about him I had learned from a brother who lived out of state. Robert's background included a career in graphic arts, working with his father in a commercial printing business, a failed marriage, depression, heavy drinking and excessive smoking. Robert had lived independently until his mental state deteriorated so much that a crossing guard saw him walking down a street without shoes on a snowy day and called the paramedics. That's how he ended up at the hospital and eventually was institutionalized.

By watching his habits, I learned that he had a sweet tooth. I also discovered that he loved classical music. Whenever I played a selection on my smartphone, he would close his eyes and hum the tune.

However, it wasn't until the day he died that I learned Robert had been an avid painter. As I kept the vigil by his deathbed, I offered companionship to his brother on the phone. In gratitude, he emailed me pictures of paintings by Robert he had kept after clearing out his apartment. Chicago streets and an elevated-train stop, a neighbor standing in an alley — even a self-portrait. As I looked at the images, I felt sad at the lost opportunity to offer him greater meaning during his last days by engaging with him in what was clearly his favorite hobby. It was that day I vowed to stop my veiled questions, to be more assertive, more inquisitive — even at the risk of pestering — so that dementia patients, like Robert, will not be buried and forgotten while still alive.