

ANNUAL REPORT 2011



Presbyterian Church in Chinatown
English-Speaking Worshipping Community
925 Stockton Street
San Francisco, California 94108

Telephone: 415-392-1500
www.pccsf.org

**Presbyterian Church in Chinatown
English-Speaking Worshipping Community
2011 Annual Report**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
The Pastor: The Reverend Kimberly Elliot	1-2
English Commission Reports:	
Mission and Evangelism Committee: Jeanette Huie	3-4
Resource Committee: Dave Soohoo	5
Worship and Nurture Committee: Eddie Kam	6
Board of Deacons: Barb Fong	7-8
Nominating Committee: Jeanine Lim	9
Treasurer: Winchell Quock	10-11
Clerk of Session: Eddie Kam	12
Session Reports:	
Building and Finance Committee of the Session	13
CH/PCC Partnership Statement	14-15
Other Reports:	
Children's Ministry	15-16
DINKS and SINKS Covenant Group	17
Grandmas and Grandpas Covenant Group	18
Healing Committee	18-19
High School Youth Fellowship	19
Ministry To and With Youth at Donaldina Cameron House	20-21
School of Discipleship	21
Wednesday Night Bible Study	22
Women's Fellowship	23
Young Adult Fellowship	24
Photo of Three Co-Pastors	24

REPORT OF THE PASTOR

“They set out, and there ahead of them went the star they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped they were overwhelmed with joy.” (Matt 2:10)

In this season of Epiphany we celebrate the ways that God has been leading us as a congregation in this past year. Not unlike the star that led the Magi, so God’s Spirit goes before us, and moves within us, to lead us to encounters with the presence of the Christ that can fill us with great joy.

I have experienced a great amount of joy in my time at PCC. I have been filled with wonder as I have been introduced to new cultural experiences, and most of all, developed a deep appreciation for the spiritual depth, kindhearted compassion and active faith of the people of PCC.

In my early conversations with the Pastoral Nominating Committee, I asked them why they felt God calling us to be in ministry together. They mentioned first a desire to deepen the spiritual experience of PCC. They articulated that the church is very good at being able to articulate its faith intellectually, but expressed a desire to go deeper in their experience of the Spirit of God – and for ‘spirituality of the heart’ (not just from the head, which is so often our emphasis as Presbyterians).

To this end, it has been my goal to facilitate opportunities for us to encounter the Spirit of God in experiential and embodied ways. One example was our Ash Wednesday service where we created a labyrinth in the center of the sanctuary. Taize singing was also introduced at this event, and as we walked the sacred spiral and sang together, the communion of our hearts spoke to the palpable presence of God’s Spirit among us. In a similar vein, it has been heartwarming to witness the congregation come forward to light candles on behalf of a loved one who has passed away during All Saints Day worship and participate in a special healing service during Advent with stations in the sanctuary for one on one prayer with a worship leader.

It has also been a delight to see the vibrant expressions of God’s movement among us as we have entered the sanctuary with Pentecost flames dancing or ‘gotten down’ with the hand motions to ‘Pharaoh Pharaoh’ (to the tune of ‘Louie Louie’). Although it does take time and coordination before worship on a Sunday morning, I have enjoyed leading the time with the children and am excited that the congregation has participated so enthusiastically – including being part of skits such as the climb up ‘Challenge Mountain’ or an obstacle course that reminds us of persistence. The youth did a great job acting in plays that proclaimed the Word of God to us in Advent 2010 and 2011. Hosting The Dubuque University Choir in May exposed us to new musical experiences during worship while also enabling us to give those students a taste of the City.

Another way we have been present to the movement of God’s spirit is through Adult Education. I have enjoyed the lively and thought provoking discussions we been having during The Discipleship Group which meets on Sunday morning. For the past several months we have been discussing the book ‘The Future of Faith’ by Harvey Cox. It highlights how Christianity is moving from an ‘age of belief’ (where we defined Christianity according to doctrine), and moving into ‘the age of Spirit’ which emphasizes a personal encounter with the living God; this being where Christianity is headed in the future. Partnering with this theme, we also studied the topic of Christian mysticism together at our Family Camp retreat – seeking to remove the fear

sometimes associated with this word in order to learn ways that we can access the deep peace of God in our daily lives.

Revitalizing the church's partnership with Cameron House has been another highlight of this last year. The PCC/CH partnership committee has continued to seek ways to embody our PCC/CH partnership statement that is life giving for both communities. One concrete step in this direction is through our youth programs. In addition to being the keynote speaker for the CH youth at Westminster Woods, I have also made a commitment to lead CH Friday night club devotions once a month. Laurene Chan and I have been excited to work together on this and to plan youth worship every other month involving youth from PCC & CH.

Our PCC/CH young adult programs are also blossoming as we find ways to partner together. The first ever CH Young Adult weekend retreat in August was a huge success (with over 30 YA's) One third of the program was dedicated to spiritual development and led by Scott Barlow and myself. I have also initiated a Wednesday night spiritual support group for young adults that continues to meet in the CH library. New this year was our 'Christianity 101 Class' for young adults, giving participants a bit more foundation in the building blocks of Christianity as they seek to deepen their faith. This class will continue to meet through the Spring of 2012.

Finally, through the initiation of Sabbath Sundays we have been able to enjoy God's spirit among us in intergenerational community. On the first Sunday of the month (also communion Sunday) we have agreed to not have any church meetings and instead have lunch together with time for intentional fellowship as we share 'table questions' to promote conversation. This has been a rich time of getting to know each other each and hearing how God is moving among us each month.

These events are just a portion of all that could be highlighted. I am grateful for the ways God's love has been present among us in 2011 and I look forward to following the light of God's presence as it leads us in 2012. As we continue to encounter the Christ Child among us, may we be filled with great joy!

Pastor Kimberly Elliot



REPORT OF THE MISSION & EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

The super Mission & Evangelism (M&E) Committee – Scott Barlow, Ed Chin, Doreen Der-McLeod, Jeanine Lim Chan, Rev. Norman Fong, Shar Hall, Jeanette Huie, Cynthia Joe, Gilbert Lee and Marc Minemoto – faithfully met on the first Tuesday of the month and God’s spirit challenged the committee to provide opportunities for PCC members to live out their faith in service to others. **2011 was an active year for M&E!**

The words from Micah 6:8 have guided the work of the committee for years: “...And what does the LORD require of you; But to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

God was present . . .

- in the volunteers who cooked a hot, delicious dinner for 80 homeless men at the temporary Winter Shelter run by the SF Interfaith Coalition Committee
- at the Interfaith Prayer Circle for Peace and Justice rally and with the marchers along Market Street enthusiastically chanting for peace in the pouring rain
- with the 14 individuals of the Philippine Mission Study team who traveled safely throughout the Philippines experiencing a different culture, learned more about the Pipit Fund and returned home with unforgettable memories



- when PCC members sought to help survivors of the Northern Japan tsunami and over \$5,500 was collected and sent to Japan
- in our routine tasks of interpretation of three special offerings, signing up volunteers to read the Mission Yearbook of Prayer, collecting “2 Cents a Meal” during teatime, writing *Ragsheet* announcements and washing dishes after committee meetings
- as we planned the Alternative Giving Fair and made the decision to raise funds towards the purchase of a water buffalo through Heifer, International and the final tally was enough to purchase two water buffalos and three little piggys
- in every letter signed at our write-a-thon advocating for the rights of those unjustly incarcerated
- when PCC members purchased toys for children who live in a Chinatown SRO and then wrapped them in beautiful Christmas paper for the Super Sunday holiday party, and
- in our year-end funding decisions to churches and non-profit organizations.

Below is a list of M&E disbursements for 2011:

Presbyterian Network to End Homelessness	\$ 100
Winter Shelter Meal	\$ 183
Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights	\$ 400
Cameron House – Seniors’ mission trip	\$ 750
Cameron House - Summer scholarships	\$ 750
Mercy Beyond Borders	\$ 400
SafeHouse	\$ 300
Chinese Hospital	\$ 200
Fresno Interfaith Refugee Ministry	\$ 300
CCSF New Chinatown Campus	\$ 200
Inglesia Presby de la mission	\$ 250
Latinos Unidos en Cristo	\$ 250
General Nakar Church, Philippines	\$ 500
Photocopying, Postage	\$ 100

I must admit M&E is my favorite committee in our church. Join us and see why

Jeanette Huie, Chair

REPORT OF THE RESOURCE COMMITTEE

How has God been present in our committee.... Where did you notice God's life, the movement of God's spirit, the presence of God's joy and enthusiasm?

Our church's worship service is the gathering of the faithful to share the "Word of God" and grow in our faith and belief in God. Service to God and the church has been our calling both in and outside of worship service. We are challenged to lay aside our own needs so that we can serve the ways God has envisioned. Sacrifice and commitment are a reflection of Jesus' ministry to those in need.

Service in our church comes in various forms:

- Leadership through our Elders and Deacons supporting and caring for the children of God.
- The mission and ministry of our church to our Chinatown and global community.
- Our programs and initiatives that are supported and funded with our pledges and stewardship.
- The skills and talents of our membership that are used and developed to serve God and others.
- The business and challenges of the church as demonstrated with faithful witness and commitment.

Members of the committee are Lianne Leong, Terry Leong, Jean Low, Winchell Quock and Dave Soohoo.

Service and leadership are nothing new to our church and community. As a church, we have been blessed with members and individuals that were and are empowered to respond in the call by our baptism. Participation and immersion in the work of the church continues to add "muscle" to our faith journey.

Dave Soohoo, Chair

REPORT OF THE WORSHIP AND NURTURE COMMITTEE

“Praise Ye The Lord The Almighty The King of Creation.” Sing the first line of that hymn and imagine being in the sanctuary with joy and praise at the beginning of worship, charged and ready to experience the worship service with praise to our Lord. But worship is only one component that the Worship & Nurture Committee oversees. A lot of what is written was primarily planned and lead by Pastor Kimberly. The following are highlights from Worship & Nurture in 2011:

- We averaged 114 attendance in worship each Sunday, excluding trilingual services. More young adults and high school age youth are attending worship.
- During Lent, Kimberly’s theme was “To Journey with Jesus: Nourishment in the Desert”. Her question for all of us was, “How do we stay rooted and grounded during challenging times in our lives so that we can continue to blossom and grow and be the people God has called us to be?” We pondered what nourishes us on our Lenten journey and used the image of a tree to remind us of how we are rooted in God.
- We had a non-traditional Ash Wednesday service where Terry Leong created a spiral labyrinth in the sanctuary reminding us of our own journey of transformation as we walk with Jesus during Lent. Maundy Thursday had all of us act out the washing of each other’s hands just as Jesus served his disciples by washing their feet.
- For Lenten studies, Rev. Kimberly helped us to reflect on our ‘spiritual types’ using a book by Corrine Ware; how we know, experience and express our connection to God in different ways to promote greater understanding of our spiritual diversity in community.
- During our Family Retreat, Rev. Kimberly led sessions on "Christian Mysticism: Finding Shalom For Your Soul". Participants discovered ways they could be awoken to the mystery of God's presence in their lives and find greater peace.
- In the fall, Rev. Kimberly taught Christianity 101, a precursor to a seekers class with basic building blocks of Christianity for young adults. Those interested in church membership will attend a seeker’s class in 2012.
- To close the liturgical year with Advent, we resurrected Advent devotionals written by fellow members of the English worshipping community. Hope all of you found the devotions spiritually renewing.
- For the Advent season, Rev. Kimberly and a small worshipping planning team came up with ‘A Light in the Darkness’ theme where God’s light is something that we receive, and also something that we share with others. Throughout the season, worship was centered on Isaiah 61: 1-2.

We are thankful for 2011 as Worship continues to be a vibrant and a worshipful experience. We are challenged to break from the routines and traditions we have followed for years by experiencing worship in different ways, singing new as well as traditional hymns and Rev. Kimberly introducing new ways we can experience God in our midst. And through worship, retreats, studies and fellowship, we experience the gift of community and can express our common bond of our faith in Christ and our belief that we are called to be Christ’s arms, eyes and heart in carrying out our Church’s ministry.

There are so many who make worship happen; there’s a prayer list that keeps us informed of whom to pray for; Ragsheet announcements that keeps us current about our church life; Orders of worships you have in your hands that miraculously gets compiled, printed and assembled; Our wonderful organists who play every Sunday; liturgists, readers, ushers and those who prepare our monthly communion elements. As many of you have and currently play a role in the work of the Worship & Nurture Committee, we want to truly thank you. Our committee members are: Linda Lee, Pat Chan, Wayne Eng, Al Hall, Eddie Kam, Kim Stevens, Kevin Toy, and Rev. Kimberly. So in 2012, we ask you to consider joining our committee to help us continue to make Worship and Nurture for its members meaningful, spiritual, renewing and uplifting.

Eddie Kam, Chair

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DEACONS

The office of Deacon is one of sympathy, witness and service after the example of Jesus Christ. It is a ministry of caring, of compassion and of prayer. The 2011 deacons are: Naomi Chun, Barb Fong, Stuart Go, Shar Hall, Richard Jann, Kathy Tong, Kevin Toy, Jojo Woo and Susie Wong. Susie was termed out at the end of 2011 after serving two consecutive terms. Jon Hee has responded to the call and will join us in 2012.

“It has been a joy to experience the faith each deacon and congregation member exhibits when doing a task with enthusiasm and care. I feel God’s presence in each one of my fellow deacons through the compassionate way they share their talents and love.”

Deacons have organized our English congregation to foster service, worship and inclusiveness by:

- Organizing the sign-ups for ushers and readers during service and the sign-ups for tea time after service.
- By preparing the communal elements and assist with serving communion.
- By maintaining the current member and newcomer lists.
- By organizing and maintaining the name tags and the kitchen pantry supplies.

We are also on the Nominating Committee, Healing Committee and in 2012 will be on the Worship & Nurture Committee and the Mission & Evangelism Committee.

“When we reach out to others, all of us, not just the deacons, can show God’s love just by being there for each other.” “Through my work as a deacon, God has been present by guiding me on the right path...”

We have organized the members of the church in special events such as the send-off event for Rev. David Mote, the welcome meal event for Pastor Kimberly, as well as her one-year anniversary celebration, the Chinese New Year luncheon and the visiting Dubuque Choir meal. We have assisted Pastor Kimberly in her Young Adults seminar series, “Christianity 101” and organized the “Welcome, seniors” luncheon for graduating high school seniors on behalf of the English PCC community.

“God’s presence was in everyone this year as we were never short on help!! It was a collective power of our faith in action. People of this church continue to be willing to sign up for the many tasks. We only need to ask and people readily respond and volunteer. If that’s not the movement of God’s spirit, I don’t know what is.”

In 2011, the deacons represented our congregation’s collective empathy and compassion by:

- Sending out cards and emails of support and concern to those who are in need, in grief and in transition.
- Providing member outreach and visitations; providing outreach to newcomers.

- Preparing the monthly prayer list for the English congregation's reflection and prayer.
- Preparing meals for a family and individuals in crisis; Assisting a family during a memorial service.
- Acting as a resource for an individual in a family crisis.
- Preparing the list of recipient names for the children's Christmas cookie bag project & delivery of the cookie bags.

"This group has reflected God's presence with joy and enthusiasm as we work together. The way everyone pitches in to work on whatever is asked of us with care and thoughtfulness without grumbling is truly God's spirit moving among us. The individual calling, cards, prayers and helping people in need are ways in which we answer God's call to love our neighbors and strangers."

"God has opened my eyes and heart, especially to those suffering, to be more loving and thoughtful. The deacons do so much and I'm so proud to be part of this dedicated group."

Barb Fong, Chair



REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

After this, the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

(Luke 10: 1-2)

One responsibility of membership in this church is the election of officers who fulfill particular functions. The government of this church is representative, and no one can become an officer of this church except through election by the congregation. When I speak of church officers, I am referring to the offices of elder; deacon; and certain committee members, specifically the Nominating Committee and the Personnel Committee. The officers are laborers, and leaders whose ministry is understood not in terms of power, but of service, just as Christ’s ministry was one of servanthood.

Your Nominating Committee is responsible for discerning and inviting those persons who will be the officers and leaders of this English-speaking worshipping community. But remember, You, the members of this community, elect them.

The officers and leaders, by listening to the worshipping community, help set our vision, help determine our direction, and figure out how to design, operationalize and program the ministry and mission of this worshipping community.

Those who serve on the Nominating Committee have to know our members, understand the duties and responsibilities of church officers, and discern which members have leadership abilities, vision, and a willingness to get their hands dirty doing the work of the church. We develop a timeline to get our job done over the course of several months, solicit suggestions for nominees, discern who to invite to be nominated, decide how to issue the invitations, and prepare the nominee slate for election. Except for the last task, our deliberations are full of candor and are confidential, as we pray and deliberate over the nominations of potential church officers.

One new consideration this year for the Nominating Committee was the passage by the Presbyterian Church USA of what is known as 10(a). Whereas before, the Book of Order stated that we had to consider for each candidate “the requirement to live either in fidelity within the covenant of marriage between a man and a woman, or chastity in singleness,” the 10(a) change focuses ordination instead on an individual’s calling, gifts, preparation, and suitability for the responsibilities of the office, in joyful submission to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life.

In 2011, your Nominating Committee members – who were voted on in 2010 by this worshipping community – were Mary Wong Leong, Alton Chinn, Pam Jang, Kim Stevens, Naomi Chun, Doreen Der-McLeod and Jeanine Lim.

If you are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee, or in being considered for the office of elder or deacon – or even if you have questions about the duties involved in those offices – please approach any member of the current Nominating Committee. We’d love to talk with you and maybe present YOUR name for consideration for the next slate.

Jeanine Lim, Chairperson

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow” is my personal response to our commission’s annual budget. While holding 2011 expenses to almost exactly what was spent in the prior year, we had a \$10,000 decrease in income for 2011, resulting in a deficit of about \$6000. But a look at the details shows we are still in good financial shape looking forward. If not for putting aside \$8300 towards a youth ministry position for the future, the 2011 budget would have a \$2000 surplus for a year in which the general economy was still in the midst of a recession. Our budget also “banks” \$2000/year towards the pastor’s future sabbatical fund expenses.

Your generous contributions enabled the commission to pay its allotted share of “common fund” church expenses to operate the building, pay our per capita assessment to support the administrations of Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly, and fulfill Pastor Elliot’s terms of call. In support of church Missions programs, we sent a tithe of \$17,000 to General Assembly, and a \$7500 contribution to Cameron House to support our ongoing partnership. The balance of expenses supported programs of the English ministries, which included purchasing Christian education materials and new “singing the faith ”hymnals, maintaining contacts with college agers away at school, purchasing uniforms for our joint basketball league programs with Cameron House, and subsidizing the Memorial Day family retreat at Westminster Woods to make it more affordable for more to attend.

In addition, special offerings were collected during the year: Japan earthquake relief (\$5619), One Great Hour of Sharing (\$2746), Peace (\$1191), Christmas Joy (\$1785), and the Heifer Fund (\$975). Your financial support and the sharing of time and talents (providing for teatime, leading worship, ushering, teaching church school, hosting covenant groups, working on committees, etc.) show how much we are invested in the work of the church and is part of what makes this PCC worshipping community a special group of people. Thanks be to God.

Winchell Quock

Presbyterian Church in Chinatown		draft	12-31-11	2011ebd12	
English Commission					
		2011 budget	month	YTD	% budget
	EXPENSES				
100B	Pastor Elliot's salary	\$39,000.00	3250	39000	100
101B	Pastor Elliot Manse	\$26,000.00	2166.74	26000	100
102B	Pastor Elliot Med/pension	\$20,805.60	1733.8	20805.6	100
110B	Pastor Elliot Bsn Exp	\$2,520.00	122.63	2017.09	80
111B	Pastor Elliot Cont Ed	\$1,000.00	0	155.72	15.5
112B	Pastor Elliot Veh Allow	\$4,000.00	33	332.06	8.3
	Pastor Elliot Subtotal	\$93,325.60	7306.17	88310.47	
113	Pastors Sabbatical fund	\$2,000.00	166.74	2000	100
114	Temporary pulpit supply	\$800.00	0	950	118
200	Bldg - common costs	\$33,750.00	2812.5	33750	100
300	Per Capita Assessment	\$3,780.00	0	3780	100
301	United Mission Support-GA	\$17,000.00	1416.74	17000	100
400	Mission/Evangelism				
	Cameron House	\$7,500.00	625	7500	100
	Committee expenses	\$5,000.00	3329	4627.82	92
500	Worship/Nurture				
	Retreta/conf/committee	\$3,750.00	177.4	3518.22	94
	Worship supply/elements	\$250.00	0	0	
	Technical/DVD	\$300.00	0	325	108
	Advent stoles/backdrop	\$200.00	0	0	
	Christian Ed (982)	\$3,000.00	159.26	2360.41	79
	Youth Ministry staff	\$8,300.00	0	8300	100
	Youth Ministry Expenses	\$1,200.00	0	0	
600	Resource	\$3,000.00	827.92	2628.72	88
	Deacons	\$500.00	35.6	114.41	23
B	Subtotal Expenses	\$183,655.60	16856.33	175165.05	96
700	Special Offerings		2209	13687.74	
701	Miscellaneous		90	17984.74	
702	Pastor Search Expenses		0	3111.25	
	TOTAL EXPENSES		19155.33	209948.78	
	RECEIPTS				
1	Interest		0	3303.59	
2	Pledge Offering		15330	158708.26	
3	Loose Offering		645.98	4379.63	
4	Per Capita		84	2749	
A	Subtotal Receipts		16059.98	169140.48	92
5	Special Offerings		2310	13330.74	
6	Memorial Donations		50	260	
7	Miscellaneous		0	22552.14	
8	Pastor Sabbatical Fund		166.74	2000	
	TOTAL RECEIPTS		18586.72	207283.36	
NET	Surplus/deficit (A-B)		-796.35	-6024.57	
	total receipts-total expenses		-568.61	-2665.42	

REPORT OF THE CLERK OF SESSION

First off, as your current Clerk of Session, I want to thank Terry Leong for faithfully serving as Clerk of Session for the previous 3 years before I took over this role in 2011. I ask for patience as I become more familiar in carrying out my duties as your Clerk of Session.

This is the statistical information about our English Worshipping Community between January 1 to December 31, 2011:

Membership status	Number	Females	Males
Active members as of 12/31/2010	134		
New members received, restored	0		
Members deleted from rolls	1		
Members transferred to other churches	1		
Members deceased	0		
Active members as of 12/31/2011	132	73	59
Average worship attendance	114		
Average church school attendance	10 - 15		

Our current active Ruling Elders are:

- Doreen Der-McLeod, Wayne Eng, Al Hall, Jeanette Huie, Eddie Kam, Jeanine Lim, Kim Stevens, David Soohoo, Winchell Quock

Our current active Deacons are:

- Naomi Chun, Barbara Fong, Stuart Go, Shar Hall, Jon Hee, Richard Jann, Kathy Tong, Kevin Toy and Joanne Woo

Committee Chairs

- Mission and Evangelism: Elder Jeanette Huie
- Resource: Elder David Soohoo
- Worship & Nurture: Elder Eddie Kam
- Nominating Committee: Elder Jeanine Lim
- Personnel Committee: Elder Wayne Eng

Volunteer Leads

- Parish Associate: Rev. Norman Fong
- English Commission Treasurer: Elder Winchell Quock
- Christian Education/Church School Teachers: Nancy Chee, lead; Pat Chan, Marie Eng, Barb Fong, Diane Go and Kimball Wong
- English Commission Recorder (through 12/31/2011): Elder Mildred Hall
- Organist: David Miller, Mildred Hall
- High School and College Age leaders: Terry Chan and Scott Barlow

*Elder Eddie Kam
Clerk of Session*

REPORT OF THE BUILDING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Co chaired by David Soohoo (English elder, church treasurer) and Winchell Quock (English elder, English ministry treasurer), the Session's standing committee is charged with ensuring that we are good stewards of our church building and our financial resources. Other committee members from the English Commission are Cindy Joe, Al Hall, Shar Hall, Mildred Hall, Wayne Eng, and Terry Leong, with contributions from Peter and Annie Wong, and George Yee. Here are some highlights of 2011:

Church Budget/Repairs. Funded by a \$250 per active member contribution from each of the three language ministries, the 2011 church operational budget of \$63,000 that pays for insurance, electric/gas bills, garbage collection, janitorial service, elevator and heating equipment contracts – in short, the day to day needs of maintaining the church building – is estimated to be budget neutral. Remaining money from the church building remodeling fund were used to make rain damage repairs to the church sanctuary; at the same time the scaffolding was used to install retractable skylight covers on the south side of the roof so we could make the sanctuary more comfortable for our parishioners on sunny days and allow use of video projectors during the day. A youth group from Northminster Presbyterian Church in Sacramento helped us paint Pastor Elliot's office and the green church gates/handrailing as part of a work project. With assistance from Terry Leong, Scott Barlow, Winchell Quock and Naomi Chun to purchase, assemble and install furnishings, Pastor Elliot's office remodel was finally completed and "open for business".

Church Usage. November 2011 marks eight years since our building remodeling completion in 2003. Thankful for the blessings of having this resource, our goal is increasing the use of our earthquake-retrofitted and elevator/handicapped accessible building for the benefit of our community. Back to back to back worship, teatime/lunch, bible study groups, choir and fellowship activities for three language ministries make Sundays a happy juggling of room usage. On Sunday evenings, the Mandarin congregation continues to host a dinner and fellowship/worship for dozens of Chinese speaking restaurant workers, and there is a monthly Saturday karaoke fellowship for those inclined to share their vocal talents.

Other than the regular committee, bible study, commission meetings, and Women's Fellowship held during the week, the church building is underutilized. However, 2011 found opportunities to share the church building with the wider community. In February, we hosted a well received full-house meeting of the SF Presbytery, with a Chinese dinner as part of Linda Lee's ending her term as Moderator. On carnival day in May, the basement was the setting for a white elephant sale/fundraiser for the Cameron House high school seniors, who also presented a play and a dinner show in the fellowship hall. As part of our Cameron House collaboration, the church basement was used for the Cameron House BAP summer program, while the CYC (Chinatown Youth Center of SF) held summer workshops and support groups for immigrant high schoolers in the fellowship hall; these two groups really enjoyed using the space. In the fall, the sanctuary was the setting for Mimi Lai and students' annual music concert, and in the fellowship hall there was a fundraising dinner for Eunice and Gilbert Lee's Pipit Fund, and the December annual Christmas Party for over a hundred families of the APA Family Support Services. During the year, our facility was used for memorial celebration services for Stanton Tong and Franklin Fung Chow. And on two days a week, Advanced Pro Nursing's Hooi Heep began holding classes in our library to train immigrants for work as credentialed nurses.

Winchell Quock, Co-Chair

DONALDINA CAMERON HOUSE and PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CHINATOWN PARTNERSHIP STATEMENT

Ephesians 2:19-22

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

Partners in the Household of God

The relationship of Donaldina Cameron House (DCH) and the Presbyterian Church in Chinatown (PCC) can be described as partners in the household of God as written in Ephesians 2:19-22. Together, our household of God is built upon the work of generations of believers who have claimed the power of the gospel message as they have served their communities in Chinatown, the SF Bay Area, and the world. As we have served in the past, we continue in the present, open to the changing needs of the communities and being relevant to a new generation.

This shared ministry with its Christian perspective has a common vision, empowering others to fully participate and contribute positively towards a healthy society. DCH creates a safe and nurturing environment for children, youth, individuals, and families by providing counseling, peer group support, and crisis intervention enabling active involvement in the community through leadership development, education and advocacy. PCC welcomes all who desire a new life in Christ to join their spiritual community in worship, prayer, study and fellowship witnessing to the gospel of Jesus Christ and responding to God's call in the world.

In partnership, we create a stronger ministry that responds enthusiastically to the needs of the community and to Jesus' call for us to equip others in the faith. Through advocacy, service, and spiritual formation, we will act faithfully in the spirit of Micah 6:8 "to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with our God."

To venture forth together in mission we will:

- Strengthen our relationship through fellowship and community building
- Communicate regularly with energy, reflection, transparency and compassion
- Develop strategies and plans to address identified needs and ministries
- Implement them with a spirit of mutual cooperation and shared resources

Laurene Chan, Director of Youth Ministries, D.C.H. Elder, PCC

Di An Chen, Elder, PCC, Mandarin Commission

The Rev. Kimberly Elliot, Co-Pastor, PCC

Yulanda Kwong, MSW, Director of Social Services, D.C.H.

Irene Ng, Elder, PCC, English Commission

Monica Walters, Executive Director, D.C.H.

October 27, 2010

Faithful Partnership in Action

by Monica Walters, Executive Director, Donaldina Cameron House

(Adapted from the Fall 2011 issue of the *Cameron House Current*)

Throughout the past year the CH/PCC committee composed of representatives from the Cameron House management team and the Session of the Presbyterian Church in Chinatown crafted a Partnership Statement to define and guide our continued work together. This statement was formally adopted by the Cameron House Board of Directors as well as the Session of the Presbyterian Church in Chinatown and can also be found on both websites.

The process of developing the statement stimulated great ideas about ways that we can build stronger communities through our collaborative work. Our commitment to this faithful partnership is clear, and we summarized that pledge with enthusiastic agreement. We look forward to the continued ways in which we can make this partnership statement full of faith and life!

REPORT OF THE CHILDREN’S MINISTRY – “A Little Community in Christ”

“I’m sending a note to Cody to remind him to come to church” says Tully as he writes care notes to others as part of a Sunday school activity.

This year has continued to be full of activities for a changing children’s community in Christ. Kids continue to grow and this year certainly saw a step up of our children into high school, leaving some smaller middle and elementary classes but certainly not with less energy. Sunday school classes vary from 2 to 12 kids for any given Sunday and with ages from 3 to 13. It has always been a challenge of a commuter church not knowing who will be attending classes but like the adults, Sunday is a time for building of a “little” community in Christ. They gather to learn about God through reading the Bible, arts and crafts, and for teachers, direct challenging questions (“Who is God?”). And at Tea Time, it’s time to catch up with friends which we may see only on Sundays, chit chatting like little adults, playing games or running around the floor (as boys do) enjoying the time they have together.

“Are we going to walk the labyrinth?” as they remind me during the Memorial Day Weekend Retreat and “yeah to tie dye T-shirts!” Take a child out of the city and you have another adventure with children. It was a wonderful time as always to be among the redwoods of Westminster Woods, experiencing God through nature – walking among the trees, playing in the playground, art and crafts, a few short lessons and smores at campfire. So much snacks and sugar...so little time!



And “what’s a Heifer?” and “do we get to eat the cookies too?” as we embarked on Christmas projects. Along with the adult community, the children learned about alternative giving and how they were able to collect and pool their “cow box” money to purchase trios of rabbits, chicks and honeybees. To help the children think about others, these donations would be for families in need from other countries through Heifer International. Our annual Cookie Project saw two dozen bags of assorted home made cookies (made by our many bakers) packaged by the children and delivered by deacons and elders to those who needed a little touch of care and support during the Christmas season.



Sunday School Class

Cookie Project



Throughout the years, we see Christ growing our children through the nurturing of adults and with one another. Many thanks for the dedicated teachers each year who give of their time, energy, creativity and boat loads of patience! Teaching is challenging and children may not appreciate what you say or do now, but with seeds planted, some time in the future, they will get it. And if one does, it is so worth the sacrifices now. As one college student away for school said to his mother, “I am glad to have learned about Christ in this loving community”. Celebrate our children!

*Nancy Chee
Children’s Ministry*

REPORT OF THE DINKs and SINKs COVENANT GROUP

Several years ago, a group of us came together with a common thread – no kids. On one hand, we were faced with the age old questions of “when?” or “why aren’t you going to have kids?” Growing up in an Asian culture, families included having children and they were often expected to care for their elder parents. But certainly that thought has changed here and in Western cultures. But deeper questions are the concerns of “who would take care of us as we got older?” Or “how do we plan for the future?” So the name of our covenant group – Double Income with No Kids (DINKs) and later adding Single Income with No Kids (SINKs).

We have met through the years, discussing many of the issues around getting older (health, cancer) and planning for the future (estate planning, living trusts, advance directives and Social Security). These are certainly issues everyone faces but for DINKs and SINKs, it is also about not having children to leave these decisions behind to. Meeting quarterly through the year, it is also a time for food, fun and fellowship including armchair travel, appreciating fine wines and this year to meet and greet Pastor Kimberly (and asking her why she loves the color purple!).

For whatever reason or another that we did not have children, what we did have was time and other passions which were channeled in service to Christ. This year found us collecting, sorting and packing books, toys and clothing to the Philippines for Christmas. Others dedicating time and energy to volunteerism whether aiding in overseas medical work or closer to home through our church, Cameron House, Presbyterian Woman and in the larger Chinatown community.

As a community, we share in joys and blessing and also support one another through personal illness, loss of family members or with work and life changes. We are thankful to be able to grow (old together), share and support one another as sisters and brothers in Christ.

*Nancy Chee
For DINKs and SINKs Covenant Group*



REPORT OF THE GRANDMAS AND GRANDPAS COVENANT GROUP

This unique small group started some ten plus years ago in the East Bay. Currently we meet every third Wednesday of the month, starting our sessions at 3:00 p.m. with a coffee klatch. Members take turns bringing scrumptious desserts! Ruth Leong is our hostess, and she lovingly welcomes our group into her warm home.

There are 17 of us from four other church groups with members coming from as far as Mt. View, Alameda, Half Moon Bay, San Rafael, and from the many neighborhoods in San Francisco. We look forward to being together to share friendship, catch up with each other as well as study the Bible with time for open discussions.

Through the years, our studies have included books of various genre, sharing memorable scripture passages, learning Hebrew and using a Presbyterian Bible study series! This year, with the Rev. Dr. Harry Chuck as our discussion leader, we used two Horizons Bible Studies “Journeys Through Revelation” and “Confessing the Beatitudes.” These studies have afforded many opportunities for lively participation.

Nearing the end of one study project, we are open to suggestions for our next study material. Everyone is welcome to suggest interesting study materials and we generally choose from a majority consensus.

At the closing of each session, we share our joys and concerns and pray with, and for each other. Truly, where two or three are gathered, we find Christ in our midst and in each other. Our lives are enriched by participating in the sacred circle.

This group welcomes new members and one doesn't need to be a grandparent to join.

Helen Y. Ong

REPORT OF THE HEALING COMMITTEE

The Healing Committee is made up of representatives from Cameron House and the English Commission of the Presbyterian Church in Chinatown and works to continue the healing for individuals, groups, and the community after the sexual abuse perpetrated by a former pastor and director of Cameron House and also by a former church elder.

Members of Healing Committee for 2011 were: Scott Barlow, Doreen Der-McLeod, Pastor Kimberly Elliot, Shar Hall, Jon Hee, the Rev. John McEvers-Anderson, chair of CH Board, Monica Walters, CH Executive Director, and Jeannette Wei. Carole Chinn-Morales, a member of the CH Board, will be joining the committee in 2012.

We continue to work with survivors and their families and with the General Assembly Mission Council to provide resources that survivors can access for their own recovery and journey forward. We also have annual training for church officers and church school teachers for education on preventing sexual and other forms of abuse.

This year the Healing Committee formed the Healing Arts Project Task Force which is planning for the installation of a commemorative art piece at Cameron House which will acknowledge the hurt that has happened and celebrate the healing that has taken place as we move “out of the darkness and into the light.” The Cameron House Board and the English Commission have

hurt that has happened and celebrate the healing that has taken place as we move “out of the darkness and into the light.” The Cameron House Board and the English Commission have provided seed money for this project and we are anticipating an unveiling celebration some time in 2012.

Members of Healing Arts Project Task Force: Pastor Kimberly Elliot, Shar Hall, Jeanne Tate-Choy, and Heidi Wong (Chair). Brad Woo will be joining the task force in 2012.

We ask for your continued prayers for victims of abuse and their families, for those who have come forward and for those who still struggle alone.

Scott Barlow, Chair

REPORT OF THE HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

We have a group of five to ten high school youth meeting weekly. At this time a majority of them are sophomores and freshman.

The group meets weekly for Bible study, studying the famous Old Testament stories, James, church history. We participated in the Christmas play. We had various fellowships at the homes of members of the group. We also have a high school basketball team participating in the CCU summer league.

I have felt God’s presence in the many discussion questions they ask such as “What does the Bible say about homosexuality”, “What is Christian dating”, “Why do bad things happen to good people”? The questions asked and willingness to be challenged is inspiring and bids well for the future of our church.

As we look forward to the New Year, we anticipate participating or overseeing the Christmas gift giving for the SRO children. We hope to have a High School Church retreat sometime this year.

As our church youth mature we look forward to seeing them growing in their faith and continuing discussions on what it means to be a church member.

Terry Chan, Facilitator



REPORT ON MINISTRY TO AND WITH YOUTH AT DONALDINA CAMERON HOUSE

As I juggled getting a hot breakfast ready for sons Ian and Tully, preparing their lunch for school, and putting away the dishes from the night before, husband Corey was taking care of the compost, recyclables and waste. It was garbage day, which meant there was an extra thing to take care of in an already fully-scheduled morning. Fortunately, the boys are at an age where they can take care of a lot of things themselves. They had already fixed their beds, changed their clothes, and were now brushing their teeth. The words “partnership” and “teamwork” came to mind as I was flitting about the kitchen. Feelings of gratitude for the ways each family member pitched-in to make this household work warmed my morning body. Those same feelings of gratitude for many in our faith community overwhelmed me as I reflected on the “partnership” and “teamwork” that has been lived out this past year in the working relationship between Donaldina Cameron House and the Presbyterian Church in Chinatown.

The openness, faith, leadership, modeling and stewardship of many members has slowly helped to transform the youth’s feelings of the Presbyterian Church in Chinatown from “*Why* do I have to go *there?*” to “Hey, let’s go to church and be with the people there. They’re cool, and they’re hella supportive of what we do! They care about us!”



Here are just *some* of the ways the faith and partnership between PCC and CH has supported and nurtured the youth of the Cameron House community:

- Elder Terry Chan coordinated and led weekly Sunday afternoon High School Bible Study and Fellowship, and sent weekly emails of encouragement and information to an email list of approximately 25 youth and their parents, volunteer leadership and staff
- Almost every other month, youth and young adults led the community in worship, and shared from the pulpit their experiences with faith and God in this community

- Members of Women's Fellowship were key and instrumental in working with the Senior Commission SHINE to carry-out the White Elephant Sale at the annual Cameron Carnival
- Church families came out to the Asian Community Basketball Association (ACBA) and Chinese Christian Union (CCU) games to cheer for and support the youth teams whether it was towards victory or defeat
- Members served as coaches, spiritual leaders and fellow team mates in the CCU Basketball League
- Before the first week of summer programming at Cameron House, the community of faith gathered to lay hands on and commission the summer volunteers
- Members joined with Cameron House alumni and Presbytery pastors to volunteer their time cooking for hundreds of summer high school volunteers and Friday Night Club participants
- Pastor Kimberly served as keynote speaker and offered Spiritual Direction for the annual Westminster Woods Youth Camp in August; after Camp - wanting to nurture a stronger relational tie with the church - monthly Friday Night devotions were planned and held by the Pastor and Cameron House youth staff, of which the December Advent devotion took place in the Sanctuary
- Family Retreat and Tea Time conversations
- Prayer

Laurene Chan, English Elder and Director of Youth Ministries at Donaldina Cameron House

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL OF DISCIPLESHIP

This covenant group gathers every Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. in the church library. It is a group of young and older adults with varying backgrounds.

It is an open learning environment that challenges and promotes the exploration and study of our faith, God and the church through Bible study, books and current issues.

Earlier this year, we studied Paul's first letter to the Corinthians and are currently reading and discussing Harvey Cox's "THE FUTURE OF FAITH". We really dig in, discuss and at times, question or disagree, but are always willing to listen and appreciate each other's points of view.

God's spirit truly was working in and through us, as different individuals took on the preparation and leading class discussions — some times with lots of anxiety but often feeling the joy and enthusiasm from the affirmation of the class.

The sharing and listening that happens in this class has taught us that we can face the opportunities that challenge our faith and witness for God in our local community and the world.

What we learn encourages us to put our faith into action whether we work, go to school, volunteer or re-create in our daily lives.

Shar Hall

REPORT OF THE WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday Night Bible Study group is Presbyterian Church in Chinatown's longest continuously running non-gender specific community groups. Originally, the group met at various homes of the participants, but more recently (1980's) the group has met mainly at the home of Nancy Chee and David Chan. During the early 2000's, the group has been known as the Mamas and Poppas and Brothers and Sisters covenant group, a name given to be inclusive of people of all ages, gender and family status. More recently, the group renamed itself the Wednesday Night Bible Study, hoping to be more inclusive. As with all communities, the dynamics of the group changes depending on its participants. Currently, the group includes individuals that are greater than 45 years old, however, we welcome people of all ages. Common traits among the participants include individuals that eat, sleep, talk and believe in God. Our current attendance is about 11-13 people each Wednesday. We meet for study and fellowship beginning with a potluck dinner starting around 6:30 p.m. and study that usually ends around 9:00 to 9:30 p.m.



We started the year 2011 by finishing our exercise study of Qigong (Chi Gong) led by Joana Woo. Qi or life energy, energy flow (think air, gas, relationships between water, energy, and spirit) is coupled with Gong (work, practice, skill, achievement, service) to help the practitioner to cultivate and balance life energy. Our three to four month study included static training (standing still for up to 45 minutes with a mind empty of thought), controlled slow movement, meditative training and finally attempting to push our teacher only to be repelled by her Qi.

Our next study involved re-reading a book many of us read over 30-40 years ago, *The Bible Speaks to You*, by Robert McAfee Brown. Although somewhat dated in the examples given, this book still has some relevancy today. Brown explains to us that we can use the Bible in basically four different ways: 1) allegorically, 2) literally, 3) critically, and 4) as a living book addressed to us (personally). His book emphasizes us to look at the Bible as a living book addressed to us.

We took a break from reading when we started a video series called "Introduction to the New Testament" by Bart D. Ehrman and The Teaching Company. This is a critical study of the New Testament which puts the writings into perspective of when they were written and the events happening at the time.

Our next study involved a book-video combination called *Crazy Love* by Francis Chan. Chan wrote the book for those who want more Jesus. His view of the Bible seem to me to be more literal and serving to answer all your questions. Basically, he wants us to love God and Jesus (used interchangeably) to the point of obsession and beyond.

Our final study of the year (and continuing into 2012) is another book called *Speaking Christian* by Marcus Borg. This book is quite appropriate after studying *Crazy Love*, as Borg explains to us why Christian words have lost their meaning and power. He attempts to give us a way to restore our literacy in speaking Christian.

So why do the current members of this covenant group continue to participate with Wednesday Night Bible Study? Answers include 1) love the fellowship with a smaller group of people that is missed on Sundays, 2) the community of a smaller group, 3) study and expanding our knowledge, learning what others know, 4) challenge to our faith, especially when we study something so different to our beliefs (*Crazy Love*), 5) learning about each other and our faith, 6) and building a community.

TL

REPORT OF THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP (Presbyterian Women)

The Presbyterian Women's (PW) Purpose is shown on the wall at the entrance of the PW Fellowship Hall (2nd floor of our church). Women's Fellowship (WF) is part of that churchwide organization and follows the purpose in planning monthly gatherings, and we welcome participation by all women.



Many of our members have answered God's call to serve PW at different levels of the church. We are blessed with and celebrate these faithful women as they lead PW in the Presbytery of SF: Hilda Aladeen, Patricia Chan, Jeanette Huie, Cynthia Joe and Mary Wong Leong. Serving PW in the Synod of the Pacific is Doreen Der-McLeod. And Jeanette Huie is a nominee for new triennium (2012-2015) on the Churchwide Coordinating Team (CCT) as Asian American Member at Large. The election for the CCT will take place at the Churchwide Gathering of PW in July, 2012.

Women's Fellowship plans its programs to include Horizons Bible Studies, published annually by PW; and Irene Ng, Doreen Der-McLeod, and Linda Lee have led us through interesting study sessions in Joshua, Revelation and The Beatitudes. Guest speakers have shared their knowledge of women's health, benefits of Chinese herbs in foods, financial management and experiences on PW global mission trips. We planned the annual worship to Celebrate the Gifts of Women and invited a guest preacher for the service. In October we held our retreat at Ruth Wu's home with the theme, Health and Wellness for Busy, Dedicated Women. Our potluck dinner for the Advent/Christmas season was hosted by Jean Chin. This was a time when many more women joined in for the fellowship, a hands-on project, and singing Christmas carols. We're thankful for Ruth and Jean who offered hospitality in their homes and for those who cooked dinners for monthly gatherings.

We supported PW by our attendance at quarterly gatherings, annual retreats and triennium gatherings. Along with attending PW gatherings, we gave financial support with our second- and third-mile giving for mission as well as the Birthday and Thank offerings; these two offerings are specific to PW to fund special projects chosen by a Celebration Giving committee.

Our mission support included participation in Cameron Carnival (white elephant sales and bakery); creating special Valentine's Day gift bags in support of SafeHouse (a program of the Tenderloin Network for women coming out of prostitution); and support to the Homeless Ministry of Old First Presbyterian Church in San Francisco by giving white socks for men and women to add to their inventory for distribution during the year.

Looking ahead, several members will be attending the Churchwide Gathering of PW in Orlando, Florida in July, 2012. The attendees will receive financial support from PCC and WF scholarship funds.

We invite you to visit the church's website at www.pccsf.org and click on Worship, then Women's Fellowship to view our recent group photo. We also encourage going to www.pcusa.org/pw for information on everything PW.

Mildred Hall, Moderator

REPORT OF THE YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

The Young Adult Study Fellowship meets once a month, usually the first or second Sunday, after worship. It is open to anyone from the age of 18 up. The group has been meeting since the fall of 2010 and focuses on biblical/theological topics.

We have discussed topics such as the differences between Christian denominations, immigration, had sessions on voting with the Rev. Norman Fong, and met with Pastor Kimberly to talk about “Christianity 101.”

In 2012 we will be focusing on worship and hope to plan a worship service at some time this year.

Scott Barlow

CO-PASTORS



The Rev. Ronnie Sze-Yan Kaan, The Rev. David Pan and The Rev. Kimberly Elliot