



Good News for the Pews

February 1, 2017

A Quarterly for the English-Speaking Worshipping Community

Issue No. 10

Learning to Walk in the Dark

by Pastor Kimberly

Psalm 4

Even in the midst of great pain, Lord,
I trust you with all that is.

I will not refuse this grief, or close myself to this anguish.

Let the shallow ones pray for ease,
I pray for whatever you send me,
and I ask to receive it as your gift.

You have put a joy in my heart
greater than all the world's riches.

I lie down trusting the darkness,
For I know that even now you are here.”
(Steven Mitchell Translation/Paraphrase)



Psalms of Lament have not always been my favorite psalms, I must confess. At times, I have found them too dark or too depressing. But in recent days, when I have read these psalms, I have found them oddly comforting. It is as if the psalmist is able to mirror some of my own emotional experience, which, paradoxically, brings greater peace. The variety of emotions associated with walking in darkness are clearly, in the Hebrew tradition, considered to be a spiritual practice or they would not have been included in one of the most sacred treasure troves of spiritual poetry set to music: i.e. the Psalms. Author and pastor Barbara Brown Taylor refers to this journey as ‘Learning to Walk in the Dark’, in her book by the same title.

As I have been musing with that title, it occurs to me that the essence of ‘learning to walk in the dark’ may be in being comfortable with mystery – with the unknown. In our lives there is so much we would like to be able to control in order for things to turn out the way we would want them to be. Sometimes that is appropriate as we seek to make the world a better place. But sometimes, despite our best efforts, we are reminded that there are things larger than us that we cannot control. At the end of the day, we are called to yield to a larger plan, and it may be one that we would not have chosen. It may be part of God’s larger, inexplicable mystery that we, in our finite knowledge, simply cannot comprehend.

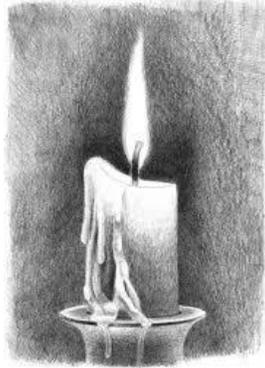
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Learning to Walk in the Dark *(continued from page 1)*

But God still comes to us in those moments and reminds us of the words of Psalm 139.

*“Even the darkness is not dark to you, O God;
the night is as bright as the day for darkness is as light to you.”*

Even in the midst of pain or fear or loss or grief, in the midst of our concern for the future – God is there. God meets us in the midst of the pain or fear or confusion and says “I am still here. I am with you in this”. Even in the depths of Sheol (sometimes translated as ‘hell’) God is there.



My personal pain right now, of course, is the loss of my beloved sister, Christie. I know that the healing on this journey will take some time. I trust that there will be learnings and pieces of wisdom that God will provide along the way, especially as I allow myself time for reflection. There are times when I have to be busy, of course, because there are a lot of details to do as we take care of her affairs. But there are also times when I know it is a spiritual practice to let the tears flow, as painful as it is may be, because I know that out of those tears are also born nuggets of God’s wisdom that can only come from being present to those dark places.

I am aware that as I hold this personal grief, there is also a collective grief for many right now in this time of leadership transition for our nation. Some are rejoicing while others are lamenting. For those who are lamenting, this time feels very dark. It is a time of uncertainty about what the future will bring. For those who are experiencing this, it may be important to remember the lesson of the Psalmist. It can be a spiritual practice to begin with the lament – simply naming what feels dark or painful, fearful or broken. In just ‘being with’ that emotion, it may yield a longing for the future, a new hope or a new idea that is actually birthed from the place of darkness – remembering that darkness is not always ‘bad’ – it is also the place of gestation where new life emerges.



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Learning to Walk in the Dark (continued from page 2)

The curious thing about psalms of lament is that they follow a certain pattern or formula. Walter Brueggemann has outlined this in his book on the psalms. He notes that they always begin with an intimate address to God, followed by an expression of angst or complaint about whatever does not feel right, then the lifting up of a petition asking God to address the situation. The interesting thing about the formula for a psalm of lament, however, is how it ends. Ironically, no matter how gut wrenching the psalm has been, it always closes the same way – with some sort of declaration of praise and trust in God.

“The final stage of a psalm is ‘rejoicing and praise’. Without necessarily experiencing or voicing any resolution to the lament, in the end the psalmist rests in the intimacy of the relationship with God. There is a sense of confidence in being heard and held that moves into gratitude, and even praise.” (Walter Brueggemann).

Our theme for the liturgical season of Epiphany is ‘A Light in the Darkness’. We are using a different spiritual practice each week, including praying with the candles we decorated on January 8 and 15th. Another invitation to spiritual practice is to pray with the psalms of lament and notice a key line that stands out to you and copy that line to meditate with or create a simple melody to go with it that can become a sung prayer. (Some suggestions are Psalms 6, 13, 22, 55, 56, 88, 142).



Another idea is to write your own prayer or poem to God in using the formula listed above to create your own psalm of lament. Notice what is emerging deep within you as you write. What is it that you are hearing from God and that you are saying in and through this Psalm? If you are feeling angst about the state of our nation today or regarding a dark or challenging time in your own life, this prayer practice may be a helpful way to lift it up to God and bring it into the Light.

We can have confidence that God welcomes this form of prayer by noting the words of the poets who have gone before us. Psalm 6:9 states:

“The Lord has heard my supplication; the Lord accepts my prayer.”

No matter what our personal or collective darkness may be we can trust God is with us, and be comforted by the words of Jesus in John 16:33:



“These things I have spoken unto you, that in me you might have peace. In the world you shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; for I have overcome the world.”

May the peace of Christ, which passes all understanding, be with us all.

In God We Trust, Indeed!

by Amy Feng, Clerk, Mandarin Commission

We count our blessings every day, and the year 2016 is no exception. It has given us so much to be thankful for! The Mandarin Worshipping Community would like to first thank the English and the Cantonese worshipping communities for your continued support and prayers this past 3+ years while we were without a pastor. Our ministry remain strong because of who we have supporting us! (...and God, for sure!)

.....song comes to my mind



For, this is our Story, this is our Song, **Praising our Savior ALL THE DAY LONG!** This is truly our testimony: God's time, not our time. We give thanks to God that the Mandarin has found a part time missionary to serve our ministry: Missionary Israel Guo Hao.



Cathy and Israel Hao

The Mandarin financially has always operated based on faith, for we have never been wealthy, no surpluses at all, but we just trust in our Lord that He WILL provide (ever since the time of Rev. Kao!) Yet, back then, we were determined to hire a full time pastor all those years. This time around, we don't know why, but our hearts were one, that the Commission felt we should be 'responsible' stewards of the Church, and have decided on hiring a part time pastor.

Now, everything falls in place....God's plan, not ours: we see why now! Missionary Hao comes to us with a visa allowing him to ONLY work part time! We are so blessed that he is young (oh, so young! younger than my Michael! -- to those of you who have seen Jesse and Michael grow up in this church) He is full of energy, full of eagerness, full of God's truth and ideals to get started, and yet he brings calmness and maturity into our planning stages. We love how and what he preaches, everything straight from the Bible and with practical uses for our daily lives. The Bible is not just some theory, but comes alive now through his teaching!

*Christmas Sunday,
December 25, 2016
Caroling at May Lun Yuen*



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In God We Trust, Indeed! *(continued from page 4)*

December was such a busy month, and we more or less packed Israel's time to acquaint him to our members. Israel attended different fellowships while we celebrated Christmas, he presided at Jeremy's Dad's memorial service, preached 3 of the 4 Sundays, caroled with us at Mei Lun Yuen, made rounds to many members with visitations, and ended the year leading the youth with a Praise Worship Night on December 30th. My last minute planning didn't come through, otherwise, thanks to Mary Wong Leong's quick response to accommodate us, the youth almost spent New Year's Eve at Cameron House!



Baptism on December 25, 2016

Israel's education well qualifies him to be our pastor, and in time, we hope the Reverend InHo Kim will guide him though taking the polity exam with the Presbytery. As I have introduced him at the Annual Congregational Meeting, he obtained his Masters in Divinity from Indonesia, and is here getting a 2nd Masters in Theology at America Chinese Evangelical Seminary located in Sunnyvale.

We have truly learned to Trust God in His time, not ours, His plan, not ours...all we need to is to humbly follow and walk with God: allowing Him to be our all! Glory be to God! Amen!



Thanksgiving, November 24, 2016

Surprisingly, Israel does not have a family portrait of Cathy, Israel and their baby Cecelia. Instead, here is a treasured picture: the Lue's with baby Cecelia!

In memory of Hai Ting Lue.

Come rain or shine, our PCC Food Pantry goes on! Ever since our opening on October 1, on Saturday from 1-2 PM our church volunteers serve about 125 very low-income seniors from Chinatown, North Beach and Polk Gulch. This mission is a partnership with Chinatown CDC, who started the food pantry to improve the nutrition of these vulnerable elders. It's a joy to see them fill their bags with fresh fruit and vegetables and lots of staples like potatoes and rice. Their eyes light up when there are extra large-sized sweet potatoes! The items vary depending on what the SF/Marin



Food Bank has in stock, and it's definitely seasonal. For example, in fall, our fruits were strawberries and oranges, now in winter there are pears and apples. There's always potatoes, onions and some kind of protein. Often we also give out both rice and eggs and on Thanksgiving weekend, each person got a whole chicken. Sometimes there's a surprise item, like brie cheese or cocktail sauce! It takes some creativity, but usually a use can be promoted -- did you know cocktail sauce is good for sweet and sour dishes?



The seniors live in seven buildings owned and operated by Chinatown CDC. They are a close knit community. It's not unusual for a senior to pick up food for their neighbor who can't make the walk. Some amazing seniors will pack back three or four bags! The Chinatown CDC resident services staff provide support to the seniors and help them make arrangements if they cannot pick up their food. When we make deliveries, there's always a neighbor waiting to help carry up the groceries, while calling to others to come down and help.

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PCC Food Pantry (continued from page 6)



I've especially enjoyed the camaraderie with the volunteers from our three worshipping communities. We have some fellowship time after setting up, before the pantry opens, when we can share lunch and catch up about each other's lives. Rev. Kaan and members of the Cantonese congregation make up the core of the team. There are five Cantonese young people who operate the registration desk and help translate around the distribution tables. Rev. Kaan sets up the tables and chairs and he and the youth's parents greet the residents and keep everything in

order. English and Mandarin congregation volunteers pitch in to do other jobs -- unload the food bank pallets, set up and distribute food, breakdown the cardboard boxes for recycling, and deliver packed grocery bags to some shut in seniors. With many willing hands, the tasks are done quickly and in good spirits. If you are interested in volunteering, please catch me at church or email me at susiewong58@aol.com. All are welcome!



Greetings in Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Christmas is the time to thank God for all His grace and amazing work done for us, especially for the Cantonese Worshipping Community in 2016. Last September we started the “Funds for Need” event. Thanks to our sisters and brothers from all three congregations, we had raised \$15,685 by mid-December. We also have approximately \$1000 pledged donation every month since last October. In addition to the funds received from fundraising, we also have steady income around \$1400 per month from our Food Pantry drive. All these really helped our financial hardship. We would like to thank you all for your strong support both financially and spiritually in all these years. Praise to God for He listens to our prayers.

We wanted to share with you our Christmas celebration last December. More than seventy people joined us in our Christmas Sunday service of worship. During the service, we heard the gospel message preached by Rev. Kaan, and Christmas hymns sung by the choir and Sunday School children. Everyone praised the Lord together.



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Cantonese Worshipping Community *(continued from page 8)*

Best of all, we witnessed the baptism of our new sister, Fanny Fong, and two other sisters and a brother - Amy Yuen, Mrs. Side-Ping Tong and Mr. Xin Qung Hwang, who transferred to our Cantonese Commission.



A luncheon and special program took place after the worship service. Catered food from a nearby Dim-Sum place was always delicious. Rev. Kaan gave us a short message about the true meaning of Christmas and the Good News of Jesus Christ, our savior and redeemer. Various performances followed after the lunch. Besides the Chinese Fan dance by Mrs. Lau Fung, children and seniors performances, we also had Elder Sharlene Hall's leading of singing with motion by the youth and her students in the adult English conversation class. Our new youth Karate class also performed individually with different levels during the party. All these really attracted much attention and loud applause. The last part of the party was the Christmas gifts drawing where more than thirty gifts were given out. Members, families, and friends all had a great time!

May God bless us all in 2017.



(This is the talk he gave at PCC on December 16 for Cameron House youth, about the pipeline protest at Standing Rock, North Dakota.)

I spent much of my time here at CH working in service, living and sharing in community, experiencing God's love in a multitude of ways. Much of the framework for how I see the world now, how I live my day to day life, and how I choose to be as a human being interacting with other human beings, came from this place. It's not something I was aware of at the time but came to understand much much later in life that many of my values - of community and compassion, forgiveness, humility, and above all things - Love - came from this church and from Cameron House and from all the people that I formed relationships with during my time here. So for that I am eternally grateful and blessed to be here this evening.

I am not an activist. Or at least I don't consider myself one. I think that's because growing up here in San Francisco as an Asian American male, during the time that I did, I didn't personally experience any sort of injustice. Not to say that it wasn't going on all around me because there seemed to always be something happening in my periphery, but that stuff never seemed to really affect me. One of the biggest things I can remember was in 1991, when Los Angeles police were caught on tape beating Rodney King, an African American male, and police acquittals and riot that followed. I can remember feeling that justice wasn't served but also not caring a tremendous amount. After all I'm not black. I'm Asian American. That kind of stuff doesn't happen to us.

I grew up in San Francisco, a city with a large Asian population, I went to a Chinese American church in Chinatown, I was involved with Cameron House, I went to Lowell, the most Asian school ever, and then to UC Davis, another largely Asian American school. I was even in an Asian American fraternity. So when people talk about living in a bubble, that was me. I was living in one. But even in this bubble there were clues

of injustice happening and issues worth fighting for. I remember Rev. Norman Fong many times, making announcements during the service of worship, being fired up about issues involving the Chinatown community and the low income immigrants living in SROs. And I remember the fight the Presbyterian Church had to ordain gay and lesbian pastors and Rev. Cal Chinn being one of the champions for that cause.

So as I got older and really began to form my worldview and as I began to make decisions about what was right and wrong, the type of person I wanted to be, I had already internalized the values and the lessons that I had learned being a member of this community. And slowly I began to piece things together about why it was important to stand for the rights of other marginalized groups and the interconnectedness of things.

Being Asian American places us in this weird place on the spectrum of racial equality. I think we can often very easily fool ourselves into thinking we don't experience injustice because of the social economic success that Asian Americans as a group have had. It's easy to say, "Well it doesn't involve us, it's not our fight," and to only speak out when we're personally affected. Positive things like Affirmative Action can be skewed negatively to pit us against other people of color and makes us feel like there's one pie we're all fighting for. But there's a quote from MLK that says "**Injustice** anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." The oppression of one group of people could very easily be the oppression of another group of people.

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Perceptions of Asians in America may have changed somewhat in the past 50 years or so but they used to lynch the Chinese immigrants the same way they would lynch African Americans. The same government that wants to have a Muslim registry today is the government that interned Japanese American citizens during WWII. The government that's currently dropping bombs over millions of innocent civilians in the Middle East is the same government that dropped bombs over the people of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia in the 60s. The people who now blame Mexicans over the loss of American jobs are the same people who mistook Vincent Chin for Japanese and murdered him in for that exact reason.

The Dakota Access Pipeline wasn't the only issue that I cared about from this past year but my decision to go to Standing Rock came as a result of the culmination of all the anger, bitterness and frustration I felt from everything that had happened in 2016 - from the exposed racial injustice and police brutality, to bathroom bills and discrimination against the LGBTQ community, to continued gentrification and mistreatment of the homeless population in San Francisco. And while I cared immensely about all these things, my last straw was hearing about the acquittal of the Bundy's who had forcefully taken over a federal wildlife refuge in Oregon. Comparing that story to what was going on in North Dakota, where indigenous people were being attacked with dogs, mace, and rubber bullets just for peacefully protecting their own land and water. They were fighting to stop an oil pipeline from being built that citizens of Bismarck just an hour north of the Standing Rock reservation, deemed too dangerous to go through their city, but was safe enough to pass under a Native American water supply. In the past year there have been over 220 pipeline spills (this number was pulled from an article back in October) and just this past week about 2 hours away from Standing Rock, a pipeline burst, leaking 176,000 gallons of oil into the environment.

So I booked the 5 hour flight to Minneapolis and drove another 8 hours to the Oceti Sakowin Camp, just north of the Dakota Sioux reservation. My goal was to support the cause and help the camp as best I could. I was planning to be there for just two days but in those two days I was anticipating standing in the frigid water of the frontlines shouting and protesting, possibly being shot or maced. I brought my camera and had plans to take photos, to document the injustice and to bear witness to our government selling out its people for corporate interests. I went out there, basically looking for a fight. What I found, instead, was the exact opposite.

Now, protests were going on and there were people out at the frontlines each day but my experience was different. Upon arrival, I drove up to the pantry, which was housed in a large military style tent, to drop off some food I was donating. I met a woman named Sarah, a white ally from North Carolina, who appeared to be drowning in a sea of canned food. She said she needed help sorting all the donations in order for the kitchen volunteers to have an easier time picking out ingredients. So I spent the rest of that day, well into the night, helping her organize the pantry. It gave me an opportunity to meet and interact with all the newly arriving people who were dropping off supplies as well as talk to many of the members of the camp who had been there, some days, some weeks, some months.

In the evening, tribal elders came and spoke to us. I expected rousing speeches damning DAPL and cursing the Obama administration for not doing anything. I expected tribal members to be yelling out in anger. But instead everyone stood around quietly and respectfully listening. Burning sage was brought around for people to cleanse their spirits. The elders spoke of peace and wanted to ensure that there were no acts of violence or retaliation toward the police. They spoke about connection that we have with the Earth, the water, and the
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Mni Wiconi - Water is Life (cont. from p.11)

nature all around us. They talked about forgiveness despite the centuries of living under white colonialism. And they spoke of hope, that Standing Rock would be a new beginning for all the indigenous tribes.



These are young members of multiple tribes that were gathered along the main road just outside camp.

The next morning, as I was considering heading to the frontline, we were called into a prayer circle to start the day. One of the elders mentioned that there many projects to take on within the camp and reminded all of us to think about our reasons for being there to ensure that we were being productive. I remembered my goal to support the cause and help the camp as best I could. So instead of spending the day protesting on the frontline, I chose to stay in camp and spent my time helping to build a sweat lodge for the community, continuing to organize the pantry, and helping to prepare dinner.

I learned years ago at Cameron House that spending your time in service is a reward in itself. That setting aside ego, and acting with humility for others without expectation of reciprocity is the most fulfilling thing you can do. I think those of you who have volunteered your time as a Daycamp leader or Club leader know what I'm talking about. Spending my time at Standing Rock peacefully gathering with others in prayer gave me an opportunity to learn more about the history of Native American people and the significance of the fight to stop the Dakota Access Pipeline. It gave me an opportunity to fully understand what we were all protecting. That "MNI WICONI - WATER IS LIFE." We are all water. It flows through us and connects all of us. And without it we are dust.

Notes:

- . Daniel is the son of KeFen and ShuMin Lee; they are active in the Mandarin worshipping community.
- . Submitted to Shar Hall for her column, *A View from the Pew—featuring items from YOUR point of view*

“GETTING TO RESOLUTION”—Turning conflict into collaboration---

by Stewart Levine

by Shar Hall

This book was really helpful and easy to read/understand about how to listen/talk to one another when there is disagreement/conflict.

1. **STORIES – TELLING/LISTENING** --Full attention, listening with 2 ears, 2 eyes and 1 heart
--No feedback (1 quiet mouth) until it's your turn to speak
2. Listen and **think preliminary vision of resolution**
3. **Saying and articulating** difficult gut wrenching things usually unexpressed that keep us locked in the past. Everything said and unsaid must be out on the table—**full disclosure—no info withheld**
4. **Agree in principle** – letting go of what you desire that will not work—letting go of ego concerns and fears. **Focus on what will work for everyone with a mindset of abundance—everyone can win without need for a loser**
5. **Crafting a new agreement—putting specifics and details onto agreement in principle.**
6. **Ten Essential Elements – the items that must be discussed to create a vision and map for getting the wanted results:**
 - a. Intent and vision – Big picture of you want— the clearer & more specific, of desired outcomes, the more likely to succeed
 - b. Roles – duties, responsibilities and commitment of everyone
 - c. Promises –of action steps. Specific commitments tell you if the actions get the desired results
 - d. Time & value—all promises have “by when”-time agreement becomes effective
 - e. Measurements of satisfaction—evidence that you’ve achieved your objectives must be clear, direct and measurable to eliminate conflict about whether you accomplished what you set out to do
 - f. Concerns and fears –Unspoken difficulties need to be expressed and fear behind them addressed
 - g. Renegotiation—no matter how optimistic and clear, it will be necessary to renegotiate promises and conditions of satisfaction because things change
 - h. Consequences—know the consequences of breaking promises and what will be lost to the people, the organization if project not completed
 - i. Conflict resolution—Conflict and disagreements WILL arise—agree to an attitude of resolution with an agreed process
 - j. Agreement?? Reflect on previous nine elements, if all agree, then move forward to resolution.

BE WILLING TO LEARN, HAVE THE COURAGE TO CHANGE AND THE COMPASSION TO FORGIVE

BE PRESENT, LISTEN TO WHAT’S SAID, SPEAK YOUR TRUTH

ALLOW YOURSELF TO BE INFLUENCED BY WHAT YOU HEAR

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“GETTING TO RESOLUTION” *(continued from page 13)*

LISTEN INTENTIONALLY AND CAREFULLY

ASK QUESTIONS FOR CLARITY – REPEAT BACK TO EACH OTHER WHAT YOU HEARD

RESOLUTION IS AN OUTCOME: THE DESIRED RESULT GIVES LIFE AND HOPE TO NEW BEGINNINGS

TOYS for the PHILIPPINES

by Gilbert Lee

Eunice was sending Christmas toys to her father's church even in the late 80's when she worked in the UAE. As Pipit fund expanded we were sending to more churches where Christmas meant festive food but no actual toys.

For several years it's been a tradition for Sinks & Dinks to pack the toys for shipping. In the summer Nancy Chee and Gilbert Lee began announcing Toys for the Philippines. Because the toys go by ship taking 5-8 weeks, collections were needed by October. On October 8 about 12 of us gathered in Eunice and Gil's garage bringing donations from storage.

Besides 12 Balikbayan boxes (shipping boxes 24" x 24"x 24") of donated toys there were six boxes of school supplies and books, mainly from Cameron House's clean up of the Theological Library (children's books) and the September Friends of the SF Public Library sale. Books were designated to start a library in a new church development on the Pacific coast fishing town of Dinahikan. Toys would be shipped to two delivery sites: Central Luzon Calamba, for Mother Bejar's Sucol Church and shared with Bambang UCCP church 3 miles away. Four boxes would go to the Pacific coast area where Pipit Board Member Rev. Nath Romaquin would distribute to General Nakar, Langgas, Infanta and Dinahikan churches.

Sinks & Dinks packed and taped the 18 boxes in less than an hour. The shipping company truck pulled up early as we were halfway done. We went around the corner to Kirin for dinner, came back for dessert as the driver loaded the final box. It was a fulfilling productive night. (Note: Faye & Marise Bautista, our nieces helped that night also. Because they're going home for Christmas they'll be helping there too!).

Part 2 - CHRISTMAS EVE PARTY

The boxes were in our pavilion when we arrived December 9. Three scholarship youth classified 300 toys -- boys from girls, plus some for a squatter settlement nearby. Estela also prepped bags of candy and apples, a fruit many kids never tasted.

How does Santa wear a fur suit in tropical Philippines? If you're Estela Bejar you find paper aprons with Santa suit print, plus antlers. Acclimated scholar elves got red fur hats.



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TOYS for the PHILIPPINES (continued from page 14)

Word got out to try to wear either red or green to lunch. The Christmas Eve lunch was staged "Kamayan Style", 4' banana leaves covered the tables, portions of food spaced along, and we stood and ate side by side with hands, country style. (leaves are folded & thrown away afterwards; compostable)



Before lunch I'd read stories to kids and noticed a girl in a red & white striped dress listening closely. I was told Bernadine was from another neighborhood and her aunt brought her. Later by the kitchen I saw Bernadine pitching in by drying dishes with Eunice.

About 150 kids were lined up, boys & girls to receive toys & candies. Scholar elves were passing out to boys and Estela to girls. I whispered to Estela the girl in striped dress had helped with dishes and we should pick something nice for her.

Amongst all the teddy bears and dolls was one stuffed tiger. We told her it matched her dress. She skipped away hugging her new friend. When she left she asked if we have this party every year? We hope she comes!



Part 3: SUNDAY, JANUARY 08

Josh Chuck, in Thailand, was visiting here in Sucol, so we planned to take our last toys to the squatter community then. Landless families have settled by abandoned railroad tracks in most towns in makeshift housing. Imagine handpushed carts with benches on those tracks, with Rev Ivie Francisquette holding an umbrella to shade 85 year old Mother Bejar, both seated with a big box of toys at their knees. Behind is another cart with 2 more big boxes joyfully pushed or ridden atop by 15 enthusiastic church youth.



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TOYS for the PHILIPPINES (continued from page 15)

Every 50 feet we stop and crowds gather. Kids and mothers with babies line up, get a toy and we move on. A lot of families greeted Mother Bejar as ex-principal of the high school. Our "scholar elves" had made 120 bags of small toys with candies, plus we had about 80 stuffed toys, backpacks & kids books. Sometimes we had to demonstrate to kids a hand puppet they received. California Raisin dolls, passé in the U.S., got a new life in the camp.



Unlike the feeding of the 5,000, we ran out after an hour of pushing & stopping. We turned the carts around and pushed Mother 1/2 mile back to the car. Then we followed the youth through alleys back home. Poor kids had gotten toys, Rev. Ivie, recently appointed, knew more about her new parish, and the youth together had reached out to their neighbors. A pretty good day. Thanks to all PCC toy donors and Praise to God!

Upcoming Events

by Linda Lee and Susie Wong

- February 7 Tuesday, SF Presbytery meets at Lafayette Orinda PC
- February 24 Interfaith Homeless Winter Shelter Program at Unitarian Church, cooking dinner for about 100 men seeking shelter there that night
- March 1 Lent begins with Ash Wednesday Service (and supper) at PCC
- March 19 Sunday, Tentative date for English Worship Discussion following worship with lunch and discussion
- April 9 Palm Sunday begins Holy Week. One Great Hour of Sharing offering will go to Presbyterian missions that share God's love with our neighbors-in-need by alleviating hunger and eliminating its causes, by providing relief to those who are suffering from natural disasters, and by empowering people who are poor and oppressed to seek justice, build stronger communities and economic equity.
- April 13 Maundy Thursday Supper and Service at PCC
- April 16 Easter Sunday: Christ is Risen! One Great Hour of Sharing offering
- April 23 Sunday, Celebrate the Gifts of Women Worship Service
- May 6 Saturday, Cameron House Carnival at Cameron House
- May 26- 29 Memorial Day Retreat at Westminster Woods (all ages welcome): "Plugging Into What's Important- Disconnect to Connect"

Elders for the Class of 2019

by Eddie Kam, Clerk of Session

Worshipping Community	Names
Cantonese	鍾瑞瑛 Ra Chani Lu
English	Jeanette Huie, Linda Lee (2 nd term), Susie Wong (2 nd term)
Mandarin	李宗光 Nicolas Li, 劉僑光 Jeremy Lue, 李曉飛 Paul Li

Deacons for the Class of 2017 and 2019

Worshipping Community	Names
English	Pat Chan (2017); 3 vacancies for Class of 2019

Nominating for 2017 (members serve for 1 year and can renew their term twice, for a total of 3 years)

Worshipping Community	Names
Cantonese	李俊英 James Li, 麥愛玲 Raina Mark
English	Joanne Woo, Edward Kam, Sing Quan (Elder Representative)
Mandarin	李樹民 Shu Min Lee, 徐張彩鳳 Tesha Shu, 徐文霓 Grace Hsu

Personnel for 2017 (each year a member rolls off and new member serves a 3 year term)

Worshipping Community	Names
Cantonese	李郭麗珍 Amy Kwok Li, 劉鳳 Fung Lau
English	Norman Proctor
Mandarin	國語堂堂會 九位現任長老 All 9 Active Elders of the Commission

For those who will be serving in 2017:

Elders	Deacons
Nancy Chee	Pat Chan
Diane Go	Stuart Go
Jeanette Huie	Richard Jann
Linda Lee	Dayton Leong
Sing Quan	Desmond (Desi) Ng
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Jeanette Huie, Elder, Class of 2019

I was born and raised in San Francisco and for 33 years lived in walking distance of PCC. I attended the Cameron House youth program as a high schooler and joined the church in 1973. My brief experience as a daycamp leader sparked my interest in recreation programs and I earned a Bachelor's degree in Recreation Studies at SF State. After a few years of working at the Chinatown YWCA (where the Historical Society is now located) and Cameron House, I returned to school and learned typesetting and graphic arts and worked in this field for about 12 years. The printing and graphic art industry changed so rapidly and that caused me to seek a job again in the non-profit sector. I've been working at Chinatown CDC since 2007 in their Resource Development Department, primarily coordinating the fundraising events and public relations materials.

I was an Elder many years ago and look forward to serving again. At PCC, I am active in Women's Fellowship and a member of the Mission & Evangelism Committee. I'm also serving on the Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women SF and the Cameron House Board of Directors but will term off the Cameron House Board in September. If you're interested/curious about being a board member, give me a call!

In my free time, I like to take weekend trips and find leash-free places for Katie to run. I enjoy baking, socializing over a game of mah-jong, watching sitcom re-runs late at night, and shopping in an actual store (vs. online). I don't enjoy exercising but I go to a free zumba class at Joe DiMaggio Playground on Tuesdays.



Jeanette and Gilbert in Paris, 2014