

**In the Loop**  
**A Summary of the March 2023 English Commission Meeting**

**Committee and Other Reports**

1. Mission and Evangelism
  - a. A highlight of the past month was the M&E retreat during which the members had more time delve into being a Matthew 25-focused community.
  - b. Food Pantry Ministry – Although Pastor Kaan has been missed, the food pantry has continued to do well. Jeanette Huie, Susie Wong and other volunteers have stepped up to fill in where there are gaps in coverage.
2. Resource
  - a. Church Treasurer – The committee recommended that Dave Soohoo, as PCC Treasurer, not use his personal email account to handle church business. The official and new address is [treasurer@pccsf.org](mailto:treasurer@pccsf.org).
  - b. Kitchen Duty - The three commissions have agreed to rotate monthly responsibility for washing kitchen towels. More information on the EWC's assignment will follow.
  - c. Membership - David and Kathy Lee have initiated a request for letters of transfer to 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church, Berkeley. Upon completion of the transfer, EWC's revised membership will be 111.
3. Worship & Nurture
  - a. Communion – The committee recommended to the Commission to celebrate Communion on Easter Sunday. No further action was needed after the Commission had voted in February to give W&N discretion to make the decision.
  - b. EWC Retreat - Feedback was overwhelmingly in support of having an EWC retreat. We decided to schedule it for Labor Day weekend to allow time for planning.
  - c. Communications - Based on the click-tracking of the Saturday emails, 175 opened the email and 70 downloaded the Weekly Rag out of a maximum of 240 on the email distribution list.
  - d. Attendance during February (in person in parentheses)
    - 1) 2/5 80 (43) Communion, Congregational Meeting
    - 2) 2/12 60 (23)
    - 3) 2/19 67 (28)
    - 4) 2/22 50 (20) Ash Wednesday
    - 5) 2/26 69 (18)
4. Deacons
  - a. The Deacons provided support to Covenant Presbyterian Church for Marius Nungesser's Celebration of Life that was held on February 6th.
  - b. Care packages will be sent to college students in March.
5. Interim Pastor's Report
  - a. Pastor Don completed his study of *Jesus, The Bible, and Homosexuality* by Jack Rogers with the Wednesday Night Fellowship group.

- b. He will be delivering the Good Friday homily at First Chinese Baptist on April 7<sup>th</sup> for the Chinese Christian Union community worship. All are welcomed to worship in person that evening.
  - c. Pastor Don reported that Rev. Steve Hong of the Chinese Congregational Church (CCC) has resigned. Rev. Hong will become Designated Pastor for Ygnacio Valley Presbyterian Church on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.
6. Treasurer's Report
- a. Budget Notes – After two months into 2023, we are operating with a deficit; however, we expect to catch up later this year.
  - b. Income to Expense Report for February and Year-to-Date 2023

	February 2023	Year to Date
Total Receipts (A)	\$11,347.62	\$31,571.22
Total Expenses (B)	\$17,806.00	\$39,733.93
Surplus/Deficit = (A-B)	-\$6,458.38	-\$8,162.71

## New Business

1. Immigrant Accompaniment
  - a. Carole Chinn-Morales summarized the rationale that helped M&E decide to recommend to the Commission to participate in immigrant accompaniment.
  - b. Immigrant accompaniment was first introduced to us in a sermon from Rev. Deborah Lee of IM4HI who challenged our community to accept a call to help asylum seekers. The M&E decision-making process included interviews with other churches and individuals engaged in the work, recalling the Cameron House and church legacy of helping newcomers, and referencing our biblical foundations in Micah 6:8 and Matthew 25.
  - c. Susie Wong provided an overview of the IM4HI Nueva Esperanza Accompaniment Team (NEAT) expectations. Nueva Esperanza means *new hope*.
  - d. The Commission followed up with questions and identified areas of concern. We agreed that no decision on whether to launch this new venture would be made at this meeting.
  - e. **Action:** Given that there are 8 prospects who have expressed interest in serving on an accompaniment team, M.S.P. to approve M&E's request to participate in training provided by IM4HI NEAT, the next step of the exploratory process before making a commitment.
2. Special Congregational Meeting
  - a. The Nominating Committee completed their task and presented a full slate of nominees to serve on the Designated Pastor Nominating Committee (DPNC).
  - b. **Action:** The Nominating Committee's motion to authorize a special congregational meeting to elect the DPNC was passed unanimously.
  - c. **Action:** April 2 was chosen as the date of the congregational meeting by unanimous consent. Subsequent Sundays conflicted with Easter and Gifts of Women Sunday.

## Calendar Dates

April 2	<i>Palm Sunday</i>
April 2	Communion & Sabbath Sunday
April 2	<i>One Great Hour of Sharing Offering</i>
April 2	Special Congregational Meeting
April 4	M&E and W&N Committees
April 6	<i>Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00 pm</i>
April 7	<i>Good Friday Service at First Chinese Baptist Church at 7:00 pm</i> Click to <a href="#">join Zoom</a> <b>NEW</b> Meeting ID: 978 2996 404 Password: 3624139 YouTube Live <a href="https://youtu.be/zctjjNDxtY8">https://youtu.be/zctjjNDxtY8</a>
April 9	<i>Easter Sunday</i>
April 9	<i>One Great Hour of Sharing Offering</i>
April 16	<i>Gifts of Women Sunday</i>
April 16	Guest Preacher: Rev. Karen Thistlethwaite, Partner for Operations and Communications, Presbytery of San Francisco
April 16	Resource Committee (rescheduled meeting date)
April 18	English Commission
April 23	Board of Deacons
April 24	Pastor Don – On vacation through April 30
April 30	Guest Preacher – Rev. David Brown
May 2	M&E and W&N Committees
May 7	Communion & Sabbath Sunday
May 9	Presbytery of San Francisco
May 16	English Commission
May 21	Resource Committee (rescheduled meeting date)
May 28	Board of Deacons
May 29	Memorial Day Holiday
May 31	<i>Interim Ministry Contract Expires</i>