

"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

In the Loop

A Summary of the English Commission Meeting of September 2023

Committee and Other Reports

1. Mission and Evangelism
 - a. SRO School Supplies Project – A total of \$2,430.90 was collected in donations and \$3,625.00 was spent to purchase 145 gift cards for SRO kids. The remaining cost was covered by the M&E budget.
 - b. S.F. Interfaith Council (SFIC) – A walkathon is planned to raise funds for the Winter Interfaith Shelter program. The committee agreed to be an event sponsor at a cost of \$500.
 - c. Matthew 25 Summit: An Invitation to Innovation – The Presbyterian Mission Agency will be hosting the inaugural conference on January 16-18, 2024, at the New Life Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. The committee will fund two \$199 scholarships to cover the registration fee for persons who wish to attend this gathering of mid-councils, congregations, and individuals to dialogue, learn, and grow with others through exploration of eradicating poverty, dismantling structural racism, and building congregational vitality.
2. Resource

Stewardship presentations during worship will begin on October 8 and conclude on December 3.
3. Worship & Nurture
 - a. Retreat Observations
 - 1) Participants enjoyed Rev. Veen's session that utilized movement inspired by scripture.
 - 2) Several people found the labyrinth walk meaningful; Pastor Don said that such a walk was created for people who are unable to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem.
 - 3) More time and opportunities to pray were requested.
 - 4) Total cost for the retreat was \$6,500. About \$5,200 was received in registration fees leaving about \$1,300 to be funded by the W&N budget.
 - b. Presbyterian Women
 - 1) The Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of San Francisco are looking forward to their first in-person gathering on October 7th since the Covid pandemic prevented them from getting together.
 - 2) Planning for the 2024 Presbyterian Women Churchwide Gathering (CWG) in St. Louis is well under way with Jeanette Huie as CWG Chair and Linda Lee as CWG Plenary Work Group Chair.
 - c. Worship Attendance during August – in person in parentheses
 - 1) 8/6- 62 (36)
 - 2) 8/13-60 (28)
 - 3) 8/20-65 (42)
 - 4) 8/27-63 (20)

"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

4. Treasurer's Report

a. Budget Notes

- 1) \$100K was withdrawn from a low interest yielding Synod account and transferred to a certificate of deposit that yields 4.9% annually.
- 2) Line item 301 – United Mission Support (GA) – Of the total amount budgeted, approximately 85% is distributed to San Francisco Presbytery, 11% to General Assembly and 3% to Synod.

To Do: Pastor Don will reach out to the Synod for information about how church contributions earmarked for the Synod are used. Marda Quon Stothers may be a resource to answer questions regarding use of funds by the presbytery.

b. Income to Expense Report for August and Year-to-Date 2023

	August 2023	Year to Date
Total Receipts (A)	\$27,009.90	\$134,169.18
Total Expenses (B)	\$22,809.08	\$147,219.34
Surplus/Deficit = (A-B)	\$4,200.82	-\$13,050.16

Old Business

Mandarin Commission Decision

- a. There was extensive discussion about the implications and consequences of the Mandarin Commission's decision to withdraw from any joint worship where Pastor Don is one of the leaders.
- b. **Action:** MSP for the Commission to gather the EWC at teatime on 10/08/23 for a listening session in response to the recent action taken by the Mandarin Commission.

New Business

1. Immigrant Accompaniment

- a. Motion: To approve the Mission and Evangelism Committee's recommendation to go forward with participating with the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity (IM4HI) Nueva Esperanza Accompaniment Teams program and forming a PCC English Worshiping Community accompaniment team.
- b. Discussion

Questions were asked about the time and extent of this commitment. Will this first attempt at accompaniment be handled and evaluated as a pilot program or is the commitment ongoing? What have we learned from other congregations' experiences who formed accompaniment teams?
- c. **Action:** The motion was passed unanimously.
- d. **To Do:** Once the team is launched, M&E will give monthly reports about accompaniment to the Commission as they do with other programs such as the food pantry.

"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

2. World Communion Sunday
The bilingual worship service will have one sermon delivered by Pastor Don and interpreted verbatim into Cantonese. There will be a time of fellowship including lunch graciously prepared by Eunice Bejar Lee and music selections presented by both worshipping communities.
3. DPNC
The elders met in closed session with Rev. Dr. Janet Bower serving as moderator and entertained a motion presented by the DPNC.

Calendar Dates

October 17 English Commission
October 22 Board of Deacons
October 29 Annual EWC Meeting
October 29 *Special EWC Congregational Meeting*
October 29 English Consistory

November 5 *170th Church Anniversary*
Nov. 5 *Bilingual Worship and Communion Service*
Nov. 5 *Annual PCC Congregational & Corporation Meeting*
Nov. 5 *Daylight Saving Time*
Nov. 7 M&E and W&N Committees
Nov. 12 *Hunger and Homelessness Sunday*
Nov. 12 Resource Committee
Nov. 19 *Stewardship Sunday*
Nov. 21 English Commission
Nov. 23 Thanksgiving Day
Nov. 26 Board of Deacons

December 3 *First Sunday of Advent*
Dec. 3 *Communion/Sabbath Sunday*