

In the Loop
A Summary of the March 2021 English Commission Meeting

Committee Reports

1. Mission and Evangelism (M&E)
 - a. Doing Justice – M&E formed a task force to study whether to recommend joining the denomination's Matthew 25 effort to build congregational vitality, dismantle structural racism and eradicate systemic poverty. The task force chaired by Linda Lee includes Rev. Norman Fong, Diane Go and Ivy Yee-Sakamoto.
 - b. Loving Kindness –
 - 1) Over 215 participants are enrolled in the PCC Food Pantry. On any given Saturday, 163 clients come in person and 20 are served by home delivery.
 - 2) The committee approved a disbursement of \$500 from the mission budget to support the CCDDC Feed & Fuel Chinatown 2.0 program that provides hot meals prepared by local Chinese restaurants to Single Room Occupancy (SRO) hotel residents and creates a steady stream of revenue for restaurants and reduces risk of close contact among SRO residents who share communal kitchens.
2. Resource
 - a. Janitorial Services – The current arrangement of one cleaning per month will continue until further notice.
 - b. Fiber Optic System – AT&T is balking at the projected cost of \$66,611.52 to install a fiber optic communications system at the church. In comparison, Comcast estimates the installation will cost \$10-15,000.00.
 - c. Muni Station – The Municipal Transit Authority (MTA) will be conducting final inspections of the church property on April 1st with Pastor Don in attendance. Attention will be directed towards unresolved issues such as easement concerns and reinstallation and painting of a gate.
 - d. San Francisco Department of Environment – The annual benchmarking report is due on April 1st and tracks the church building's energy use. Previously the report was assigned to an outside contractor. To save \$345 in contractor fees, this year's report will be prepared in house with the help of Stuart Go, Terry Leong and Wayne Eng.
3. Worship & Nurture (W&N)
 - a. Ash Wednesday – 30 worshipers attended the online service which approximates the number who ordinarily attended in person.
 - b. Virtual Worship – Based on an informal tally, 75 devices connect to the PCC YouTube channel for worship each week. Taking into account that a number of devices share multiple viewers, the average attendance is estimated to be 88 per week.
 - c. Holy (Maundy) Thursday – On April 1st, the special service of worship and reflection will feature the voices and insights of seven women in our congregation as they read and reflect on the Seven Last Words of Christ.
4. Mission Study Team (MST)

The MST is planning to host a second community focused event possibly in May.
5. PCC/CH Partnership
 - a. The CH Learning Hub program is seeking additional space to increase its capacity to help students with virtual learning and inquired about the availability of the church basement.
 - b. The Healing Committee met with the Presbytery of San Francisco and will be meeting with the CH Board in March.

Treasurer's Report

1. The month of February ended with a positive variance of \$3,845.61. After two months into the 2021 fiscal year, the budget is essentially at the break-even point.
2. The Compassion Fund has received \$1,300.00 after 2 months of the giving campaign. The Board of Deacons reported that one request for emergency assistance has been approved to date. The details of which will remain confidential per Compassion Fund policy.

New Business

Examination of Candidates for Membership - Pastor Don provided the elders with an orientation to the Book of Order, section G-1.03, The Membership of a Congregation, and the duty of elders to examine candidates for membership.

- a. The Commission welcomed Jonathan Y. Chan and Whitney Tom as candidates seeking entry into active church membership.
- b. **Action:** Upon completion of the Inquirers class conducted by Pastor Don, a review of their respective statements of faith and completion of the oral interview with the commission, it was MSP to joyfully approve Jonathan Y. Chan and Whitney Tom for membership to the English Worshiping Community of the Presbyterian Church in Chinatown.
- c. As a postscript to the proceedings, the Commission was awed by the extraordinary experience of welcoming a new member (let alone two) to the church on the anniversary of the Mayor of San Francisco's stay-at-home public health order and year-long closure of the sanctuary for in-person worship and fellowship. God does work in mysterious ways.

Calendar Dates

- April 1 Holy (Maundy) Thursday
- April 2 Good Friday
- April 4 Easter Sunday
- April 5 Pastor Don on vacation through April 11
- April 6 M&E and W&N Committees
- April 11 Guest Preacher: Rev. Norman Fong
- April 11 Resource Committee
- April 11 Mission Study
- April 18 Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday
Guest Preacher: Jeannie Kim
- April 20 English Commission
- April 25 Board of Deacons
- May 4 M&E and W&N Committees
- May 9 Resource Committee
- May 9 Mission Study
- May 11 Presbytery of San Francisco
- May 18 English Commission
- May 23 Board of Deacons
- May 30 English Consistory
- May 31 Memorial Day Holiday