

Empowered by God's Love Through Christ, We Welcome, Celebrate and Serve our Community

In the Loop

A Summary of the October 20, 2020 English Commission Meeting

Committee Reports

1. Mission and Evangelism
 - a. *Doing Justice* – The committee studied various San Francisco and California propositions on the November ballot and will publish its recommendations in the Rag Sheet.
 - b. *Loving Kindness* – The Presbytery Partnership Working Group announced a second round of funding to support the work of food distribution. Jeanette Huie is taking the lead to apply for a maximum grant of \$500. The previous grant funds were used to purchase touchless thermometers, compost bags and floor coverings.
 - c. *Loving Kindness* – The annual CCDC Super Sunday celebration at Christmas is canceled this year. However, planning is in progress for a modified version of the Christmas Gift Project for Single Room Occupancy (SRO) children.
 - d. *Loving Kindness* – The Food Pantry has exceeded its capacity of three cohorts of 65 for a total of 195 clients and is preparing to expand to a fourth cohort to accommodate the increasing need of new applicants and transfers from other programs. The Cantonese Commission received a grant to purchase and distribute face masks.
 - e. *Walk Humbly with God* – Toni Eby, Director of Safehouse, will be the guest preacher on November 22 – Hunger and Homelessness Sunday.
2. Resource
 - a. Sanctuary – New computer hardware was purchased in preparation for a return to the sanctuary to livestream worship services. Three cheers for Nancy Chee and Dave Chan for sacrificing space at home since March 2020 to store equipment and broadcast virtual services. Hip, Hip, Hurray!!!
 - b. The kitchen freezer failed at some point last month and went unnoticed due to the ongoing closure of the building. Frozen foods spoiled and seeped onto the kitchen floor. Dave Chan discovered the smelly, maggot-filled mess and spent several days cleaning up the kitchen. The freezer's compressor may have failed and a replacement part is needed. The refrigerator was unaffected.
3. Worship & Nurture
 - a. *Worship* – The committee received plenty of positive feedback on Pastor Don's sermons of the past month and the San Francisco Presbytery's World-Wide Communion service.
 - b. *Worship* – The committee decided it should schedule a block of time to do envisioning work on strategic questions such as what might worship look like 1-2 years from now, or will we need a music director, or will we need to purchase additional worship technology.
 - c. *Nurture* – The Wednesday Night Covenant Group is continuing to study the book of Acts and using *Into the World, The Acts of the Apostles* by Carol J. Miller.
 - d. *Nurture* – The national Presbyterian Women is experiencing what many churches have experienced in that older members can no longer participate and few new and younger members have joined.
 - e. *Nurture* – Norma Chan has requested permission to offer taiji class on Zoom for the church community. The proposal and starting date are under development.

Empowered by God's Love Through Christ, We Welcome, Celebrate and Serve our Community

- f. Budget – The committee is requesting an increase of \$500.00 for 2021 to off-set increased costs for music-related purchases.
4. Mission Study Team (MST)
All are encouraged to participate in the online survey in preparation for the October 24 listening session sponsored by the MST.
5. Nominating
The committee has prepared its slate of nominees for election at the annual EWC meeting. However, there are two unfilled slots to achieve a fully staffed Board of Deacons.
6. PCC/CH Partnership
The CH/PCC Healing Committee event planned for November 14 will include a presentation of the video, *Our Healing Journey*, followed by a Q&A session. Satsuki Ina, psychotherapist, and Evan Leong, documentary filmmaker, will be in attendance.
7. Research Project
 - a. Doreen and Bruce Der-McLeod have graciously accepted the invitation to serve as Co-Representatives of the EWC for the Imagining Church research project sponsored by Princeton Theological Seminary.
 - b. Derek Wu, seminarian research assistant, is assigned to the Presbyterian Church in Chinatown. Over the course of the next few months, he will be conducting interviews and focus groups with members of our community and observing a variety of Zoom gatherings.
 - c. **To Do:** Pastor Don will confer with the co-pastors to assess whether the Cantonese and Mandarin worshipping communities are willing and able to participate in the study.

Treasurer's Report

1. For the month of September, there was a surplus of \$483.66 and for the year-to-date budget, there is a positive variance of \$4,302.00.
2. **To Do:** Committee requests for the 2021 fiscal year need to be submitted to Dr. Winchell Quock prior to the November 17th Commission meeting.

New Business

1. EWC Annual Meeting on October 25
The agenda is under development and will include reports on nominations, budget and Interim Minister's compensation package, and elections.
2. PCC Session
 - a. The Commission continued its discussions on the current status of the Session and areas of improvement such as translation services, administrative support for the moderator, and Robert's Rules of Order.
 - b. The Session and its three Commissions are weighing a current proposal to add a new budget line item for 2021 designated for Missions that will be funded by \$100 monthly contributions from each worshipping community.
3. Harvest Home Project
 - a. Daisy Fung reached out to Pastor Don to coordinate the annual food drive for Cameron House social services clients. In lieu of food donations, cash donations will be accepted this year to purchase gift cards to support those who are experiencing food insecurity.

Empowered by God's Love Through Christ, We Welcome, Celebrate and Serve our Community

- b. **To Do:** Pastor Don will check with the co-pastors and others to determine how many members of the church community may need supplemental assistance from the Harvest Home project.

Calendar of Events

- November 1 PCC congregational meeting
- November 3 M&E and W&N Committees
- November 8 Resource Committee
- November 8 PCC Session
- November 10 San Francisco Presbytery meeting
- November 14 PCC/CH Healing Journey Gathering
- November 17 English Commission
- November 18 Pastor Don on study leave (November 18 – 24)
- November 22 Hunger & Homelessness Sunday – Guest Preacher: Toni Eby, San Francisco Safehouse with worship support from Mission & Evangelism
- November 22 Board of Deacons
- November 26 Thanksgiving
- November 27 Holiday for Pastor Don
- November 29 First Sunday of Advent
- November 29 English Consistory