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## **In the Loop**

### **A Summary of the October 2023 English Commission Meeting**

Visitors: Rev. Grace Kaori Suzuki - Co-Moderator of the Presbytery of San Francisco,  
Kevin Feeley

#### **Committee and Other Reports**

1. San Francisco Presbytery
  - a. The presbytery leadership (Co-Moderators and Executive Partners) is working to connect with and visit the sessions of churches in the presbytery to reintroduce themselves, share what they do, and listen for ways in which to better support local churches' ministries.
  - b. Key initiatives of the presbytery include the antiracism task force, resumption of in-person Presbytery Day, analysis of the assessment conducted by Holy Cow! Consulting, and the Kaleidoscope Institute on Holy Currencies – a holistic model for stewardship and congregational vitality.
  - c. Rev. Grace Kaori Suzuki spent time with the Elders to learn about each of our connections to presbytery and listen for ways in which the Presbytery might support our ministry.
2. Mission and Evangelism
  - a. Cameron House – The EWC treasurer asked M&E to discuss mission giving to CH.  
**Action:** MSP to maintain the same level of giving as last year, \$7,500.
  - b. SRO Children in Chinatown - Jeanette Huie reported on a positive trend that there has been a significant reduction of children and their families living in SROs. CCDC received a grant to help relocate 180 SRO families to apartments. An additional 80 families are projected to benefit from this program.
  - c. Living Waters World Missions – A mission trip to Guatemala is tentatively scheduled for October 19-26, 2024. Mission volunteers will cover the cost of airfare plus \$700.
3. Resource
  - a. PCC has a combined active membership of 177: 111 English, 40 Mandarin, and 26 Cantonese.
  - b. Building Repair – There is no progress to report on repairs of damages along the northside of the building caused by construction of the Central Subway station.
4. Worship & Nurture
  - a. The committee is employing a different approach to planning and seeks to identify one major goal for an entire year, not just a series of short-term goals. Goals under consideration include congregational vitality, spiritual formation, prayer, spirituality, attendance, and music.
  - b. There was discussion about the “wordiness” of worship and the possibilities presented using other forms of expression such as movement.

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- c. Harvest Home Sunday - This used to be a joint activity with Cameron House where worshipers brought packaged foods that would be collected on behalf of the annual Harvest Home food drive for families in Chinatown. Since CH is no longer observing this practice, we can discontinue this theme in our worship calendar.
  - d. Advent is less than two months away and the planning team is developing the theme of *The Gift of Being Present – present with each other, embracing the presence of God.*
  - e. Attendance during September (in person in parentheses)
    - 1) 9/3 – 68 (33)
    - 2) 9/10 – 57 (28)
    - 3) 9/17 – 68 (33)
    - 4) 9/24 – 55 (29)
5. Nominating
- Presentation of the Slates of Nominees (See page 5)
- 1) Deacons
    - a) Nominees may be assigned to 1-, 2- or 3-year terms. As such, we anticipate facing the scenario of needing to fill 5-6 deacon vacancies annually.
    - b) **To Do**: Pastor Don will invite 2024 deacon nominees to join with the current Board of Deacons for training on October 22<sup>nd</sup> with Rev. Henry Wong.
  - 2) Nominating Committee
    - To Do**: Discuss why Nominating committee members are elected to one-year terms only and determine whether it is advantageous to stagger the terms to ensure the committee's continuity.
6. PCC/CH Partnership
- a. The Cameron House Board announced the appointment of Dr. Bhupendra Sheoran as Interim Executive Director.
  - b. Carl Jew was elected to the Cameron House Foundation Board for a three-year term.
7. Treasurer's Report
- a. Budget Notes
    - 1) The year-to-date deficit reduced by half in the past month.
    - 2) The 13-month CD recently purchased is projected to yield \$8,000 more in interest income compared to regular savings accounts.
    - 3) Stewardship – We're reminded that stewardship of financial resources includes making good use of what we have and not just growing our cash reserves.
  - b. Income to Expense Report for September and Year-to-Date 2023

	September 2023	Year to Date
Total Receipts (A)	\$23,503.08	\$157,672.26
Total Expenses (B)	\$17,082.45	\$164,301.79
<b>Surplus/Deficit = (A-B)</b>	<b>\$6,420.63</b>	<b>-\$6,629.53</b>

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### **Old Business**

The English Commission continued to reflect on the Mandarin Commission's actions and its short- and long-term implications for PCC.

### **New Business**

1. Examination of a Candidate for Membership
  - a. Kevin Feeley accepted an invitation to meet with the Commission to examine whether to become a member of PCC by way of Reaffirmation of Faith. He shared an overview of his life and faith journey that began in Chicago with Catholic school education and baptism. Kevin moved to San Francisco three years ago and joined our community for the past two years.
  - b. The Elders conducted their examination and asked questions to better acquaint themselves with the candidate.
  - c. **Action:** MSP to joyfully accept Kevin Feeley as a member of PCC by Affirmation. The Affirmation of Faith ceremony will be held at worship on October 29<sup>th</sup>.
2. November 5<sup>th</sup> Worship Service

The service will be held in Cantonese and English. At the present time, there isn't a plan to offer Mandarin translation unless the need arises.
3. Deacons' Request to Fund a Training Facilitator
  - a. **Action:** The Board of Deacons' motion to award an honorarium to Rev. Henry Wong, hospital chaplain, was approved. The original amount of \$170 to provide deacon training was revised upward to \$200.
  - b. Elders and others in our community have expressed interest in receiving training from a chaplain on hospital visitations and issues of death and dying.

### **Calendar Dates**

October 29 *Annual EWC Meeting*

October 29 *Special EWC Congregational Meeting*

~~October 29~~ *Consistory*

November 5 *Daylight Saving Time*

Nov. 5 *Communion/Sabbath Sunday*

Nov. 5 *Annual Congregational & Corporation Meeting*

Nov. 5 *170<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary*

Nov. 7 *M&E and W&N Committees*

Nov. 12 *Hunger and Homelessness Sunday*

Nov. 12 *Resource Committee*

Nov. 14 *Presbytery of San Francisco Meeting*

Nov. 19 *Stewardship Sunday*

Nov. 20 *Pastor Don – On vacation through Nov. 26*

Nov. 21 *English Commission (To be confirmed)*

Nov. 23 *Thanksgiving Day*

Nov. 26 *Board of Deacons*

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December 3 *First Sunday of Advent*  
Dec. 3 *Communion/Sabbath Sunday*  
Dec. 5 M&E and W&N Committees  
Dec. 10 *Second Sunday of Advent*  
Dec. 10 Resource Committee  
Dec. 10 PCC Session  
Dec. 17 *Third Sunday of Advent*  
Dec. 19 *English Commission*  
Dec. 24 *Fourth Sunday of Advent*  
Dec. 24 Board of Deacons (To be confirmed)  
Dec. 25 *Christmas Day*  
Dec. 31 English Consistory (To be confirmed)

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**Slate of Nominees**

09/27/2023

<b>Elders (Total of 9)</b>	<b>Continuing (5)</b>	<b>Class</b>
	Carl Jew	2024
	Winchell Quock	2024
	Dave Soohoo	2024
	Ed Chin	2025
	Heidi Wong	2025
	<b>Nominees (4)</b>	
	Dave Chan	2025
	Mildred Hall	2026
	Annie Wong	2026
	Kimball Wong	2026
<b>Deacons (Total of 8)</b>	<b>Continuing (3)</b>	<b>Class</b>
	Eunice Bejar-Lee	2024
	Pat Chan	2024
	Terry Chan	2024
	<b>Nominees (5)</b>	
	Diane Go	2024
	Shar Hall	2024
	Dayton Leong	2024
	Carole Chinn-Morales	2025
	Kathy Tong	2025
<b>Personnel Committee (Total of 3)</b>	<b>Continuing (2)</b>	<b>Class</b>
	Nancy Chee	2024
	Mark Fong	2025
	<b>Nominees (1)</b>	
	Ed Chin	2026
<b>Nominating Committee (Total of 3)</b>	<b>Nominees (3)</b>	<b>Class</b>
	Diane Go	2024
	Eddie Kam	2024
	Susie Wong	2024