

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

The Commission welcomed Dave Chan to his first meeting in 2023 as a ruling elder. Dave left the meeting early after being called away to resolve a security issue at the church.

**Committee and Other Reports**

1. San Francisco Presbytery
  - Elders were reminded to participate in a survey to identify the Presbytery's strengths and weaknesses, evaluate the transitional leadership model, and give feedback on the needs and future directions of churches in the presbytery.
2. Mission and Evangelism
  - a. Retreat – The committee will gather for a retreat on February 5 to engage in strategic thinking and philosophical/theological discussions on topics such as the IM4HI accompaniment ministry.
  - b. Food Pantry – 268 clients were served on a recent Saturday. One client expressed her gratitude by providing snacks for volunteers.
3. Resource
  - a. Membership – At the close of 2022, there are 114 active members in the community. We mourn the recent loss of Mei Yee.
  - b. Volunteer Recruitment – Some assignments are proving to be more difficult to fill such as Teatime hosting after suspending in-person worship and fellowship for nearly two years.
  - c. Building Improvements
    - 1) Dave Chan will be installing a tankless water heater to replace broken equipment.
    - 2) The HVAC system has been repaired.
4. Worship & Nurture
  - a. Guest Preachers - As we consider inviting guest preachers for special worship services, we should choose people with whom we already have a relationship or treat this occasion as an opportunity to form a new relationship that will follow with ongoing involvement.
  - b. Gifts of Women Worship - Pastor Don contacted Rev. Karen Thistlethwaite, San Francisco Presbytery's Executive Partner for Operations and Communications, who will be available to preach. Women's Fellowship will plan the service planned for April 16.
  - c. Teatime on Zoom – Participation has steadily declined as several regular attendees have returned to worshiping in person. Does Zoom teatime serve the same purpose as it did early in the pandemic?
  - d. Retreat – The committee will be discussing whether it's time again to gather for a family retreat.
  - e. Theme for Lent – “*Lookin' for Love in All the Wrong Places*” such as in fame and fortune was selected as the theme for this year, a nod to a country western song from the soundtrack of *Urban Cowboy*.

- f. Worship Attendance (In-person counts in parentheses)
  - 1) 12/4            57 (23)
  - 2) 12/11          63 (21)
  - 3) 12/18          83 (46)
  - 4) 12/24          N/A (69)
  - 5) 12/25          59 (38)
- 5. PCC/CH Partnership
  - Logistics
    - 1) Package Delivery – Pastor Don has an arrangement with Cameron House to use their address for package deliveries intended for the PCC. Arrangements can be made with Pastor Don on behalf of the church who will coordinate efforts with the CH staff.
    - 2) Parking at CH – PCC has a standing agreement that allows us to use the parking lot on Saturdays for the Food Pantry and Sundays for worship. Outside of these functions and hours, parking in the CH lot is prohibited. Special requests for parking must be approved by Nolan Chow, Office and Operations Manager.
- 6. Board of Deacons
  - a. Compassion Fund Annual Report - In 2022, the Board of Deacons authorized a one-time grant of \$1,000.00 to one requestor. The grant was mailed directly to the company to whom the requestor owed rent that was past due.
  - b. The deacons contributed to the Christmas Cookie Project, helping with baking, packing, and deliveries. The list of recipients was developed from this year's prayer lists.
  - c. They coordinated “card bombing” for December nonagenarians Al Sing Yuen, Jeannette Wei, and Fannie Wong.
  - d. Deacons hosted the celebration of the 10th Anniversary of Pastor Don's ordination, and the installation of Deacon Pat Chan and Elder David Chan.
  - e. Appreciation and blessings were extended to Rene Fong, who rotated off and a warm welcome back to incoming Deacon, Pat Chan.
- 7. Pastor's Report
  - a. Pastor Don has begun leading an eight-week study with the Wednesday Night Covenant Group on *Jesus, the Bible and Homosexuality*, a study that was recently completed by the School of Discipleship.
  - b. New Member's class – Planning is still in progress. The class will likely be designed for self-study and supplemented with periodic check-ins.
- 8. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Budget Notes
    - 1) End of Year Giving - 2 large gifts were made in December and the proceeds were placed in the Legacy Fund line item.
    - 2) The EWC invested \$100,000.00 in a 13-month Certificate of Deposit with interest of 3.15% and APR of 3.20%.

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- 3) Pastor Don shared an observation that our financials are “outside of the norm” and much stronger compared to other congregations in the presbytery.
- 4) Sabbath Sunday Lunch – The monthly fellowship meal will be free of charge. The additional cost will be offset by an increase to the Resource committee's annual operating budget.  
**To Do:** The “2 Cents a Meal” program, now called Cents-Ability, will be reactivated. The hunger program was originated by Presbyterian women in 1976.
- 5) Offering Envelopes – As more and more people convert to the online giving platform, the need for printed envelopes continues to decline.

b. Income to Expense Report for December and Budget Year 2022

	December 2022	2022 Fiscal Year
Total Receipts (A)	\$25,633.05	\$258,513.07
Total Expenses (B)	\$21,880.82	\$209,568.24
Surplus/Deficit = (A-B)	\$3,752.23	\$48,944.83

**Old Business**

CROWN/Koinonia Sports

- a. Dave Soohoo conferred with past coordinators of the sports programs and reported on the work and support needed to participate in the summer league.
- b. **Action:** The motion to reengage with CROWN sports this year failed.
- c. **Action:** The motion to reengage with Koinonia sports this year failed.

**New Business**

- 1. PCC EWC T-Shirts - M&E decided to create a T-shirt that can be worn anytime, but specifically to identify ourselves as the English Worshiping Community of the Presbyterian Church in Chinatown at community-facing events. There have been several public events where we might have had the opportunity to identify ourselves as PCC English Worshiping Community members demonstrating our faith through collective action. Some examples are: IM4HI Pilgrimage to San Quentin and Yuba City Jail; PCC Saturday food pantry program; PCC Sunday worship at Stow Lake.  
**Action:** MSP to approve the design and production of T-shirts as recommended by M&E.
- 2. Elder Assignments and Other Responsibilities for 2023 (Partial List)

<b>COMMISSION COMMITTEES</b>	<b>2023 ELDER ASSIGNMENTS</b>
Mission & Evangelism	Ed Chin
Resource	Winchell Quock, Dave Soohoo, Annie Wong
Worship & Nurture	Dave Chan, Mildred Hall, David Miller
Nominating	Carl Jew
PCC/Cameron House	Ed Chin

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Personnel	Carl Jew
<b>PCC SESSION</b>	
Pastor Nominating	Heidi Wong
Treasurer	Dave Soohoo
Building & Finance	Winchell Quock, Dave Soohoo
Child, Youth, Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy Task Force	Carl Jew
<b>OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES</b>	
Treasurer for the EWC	Winchell Quock
Secretary of the Commission	Carl Jew
E-Communications	Dave Miller
Webmaster	Dave Miller
Worship Design Team	Mildred Hall, Dave Miller
Worship Tech Team	Dave Chan
Organist	Mildred Hall, Dave Miller
Church Office Volunteer	Annie Wong
Sabbath Sunday Meals	Annie Wong

**To Do:** There are other opportunities to serve that are open to all in the worshipping community.

- 1) Rag Sheet Editor
- 2) Representative to Presbytery of San Francisco

### Calendar Dates

February 13	Pastor Don – On study leave through 02/19/23 to attend the PC(USA)'s Transitional Ministries Educational Consortium
February 17	S.F.I.C. Winter Shelter Meal
February 19	Guest Preacher: Rev. Leslie Veen
February 20	<i>President's Day Observance</i>
February 21	Presbytery of San Francisco
February 22	<i>Ash Wednesday Service</i>
February 26	<i>First Sunday of Lent</i>
February 26	Board of Deacons
February 28	English Commission
March 5	<i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>
March 5	<i>Communion &amp; Sabbath Sunday</i>
March 7	M&E and W&N Committees
March 12	<i>Daylight Saving Time begins</i>
March 12	<i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>
March 12	Resource Committee
March 12	P.C.C. Session
March 19	<i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i>
March 21	English Commission
March 26	<i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i>
March 26	Board of Deacons