



Good News for the Pews

November 2021

A Quarterly for the English-Speaking Worshipping Community

Issue No. 29



Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

“Glory to God Hymnal © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press.”

At the center of our Christian faith is a “both/and” conundrum: Jesus Christ died, Jesus Christ is risen, and Jesus Christ will come again. All three of these things are meant to be understood as simultaneously and literally true, but if we think about it for very long we realize that these ideas also seem mutually exclusive. How can we believe that Jesus has died, and that he is also alive now? How can we hold the notion that Jesus is present with us now, but that he will also “come again” at some future point? These ideas are clearly both/and ideas. Jesus both died and is risen. Jesus both ascended to heaven and is present with us today. Jesus is both present with us now and he will come again in the future. In some ways the best way to understand it is to not dwell on it. It just is.

Our English Worshipping Community (EWC) is approaching another “both/and” event, hopefully very soon. We will be worshiping both in person and online. We do not have a date set yet, as there is still work to be hashed out between the three Worshipping Communities here at PCC, but we are endeavoring to both safely prepare for a return to in-person worship and to continue to sustain our streaming worship and fellowship platforms. Now some members of our community have had opportunities to worship in other churches over the last few months. More than a few people have connected with me to share ideas of what they have experienced in other places. When I read between the lines what I understand clearly is that some folks are past ready to start coming back into our sanctuary. But I also have talked to some folks who remain hesitant. We have a pretty good vaccination rate here in the EWC, and by and large most of our folks have signaled that they will be willing to wear masks and maintain adequate physical distancing. But we also know, especially from our worship in Golden Gate Park this summer, that when we gather together, it’s going to be easy to forget our safety protocols. I don’t want to rain on anyone’s parade, but in the Park by the time the lunches came out, the masks were coming off, and the social distancing really just became socializing.

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From Pastor Don (*continued from page 1*)

Both in person and streaming worship going forward is going to require adjustments. Up until now we have only done one or the other. But what happens when we re-open when we know a lot of folks will simply be more comfortable staying home? I don't have this luxury myself, as I come to the sanctuary on Sundays to participate in worship, but I know from some of you that it feels quite nice to be able to 'tune-in' to worship through the Web, while wearing your robe and slippers, while drinking your coffee. If both in person and streaming remain options, certainly from time to time it's going to be easier for some folks to stay home. Also back in the February issue of *Good News for the Pews* I mentioned that our online services have allowed us to connect with folks far outside the Bay Area. As I ponder this development from my vantage point as a transitional leader, I see that we have some real shifting to do to sustain a "both/and" model. Our Elders and Deacons and our committee members are working hard to summon the future, but we are going to need more help. The reality is, even when we re-open, things are not going to return to how they were before. So we need to both sustain some of our old ways of doing things and we need to develop new ideas and new programs. And it's going to need to be both immediate and dynamic change and have long term sustainability. It's going to be both exhilarating and exhausting, both familiar and also new.

Now as most of you haven't been in the sanctuary for more than 18 months, it's hard to visualize what all of this is going to mean. It may mean that when the EWC first returns to in-person worship we won't have Tea Time in Fellowship Hall for a while. But our Zoom Tea Time will continue. It may mean that we'll have to shuttle into and out of the church building in a relative hurry to accommodate our sister worshipping communities while maintaining social distancing. It might mean that some folks leave the building but still socialize in Chinatown, or not. It will most probably involve some trial and error. We might do one thing one week and then upon reflection not do the same thing the next. We are going to need a lot of patience. We are going to need a lot of grace. And most of all we are going to need a lot resiliency: the ability to try something, see it isn't working well, and then going back to the drawing board, without getting upset. Mistakes are not wasted effort, or at least they don't have to be. They can also be opportunities to learn.

So let's prepare. Let's start thinking both about returning to church and continuing to sustain online connections. Let's be ready to both come back into our space and change our expectations about what that means. Let's be ready to both follow and to lead; to both sit back and to step forward. Let's be ready to both listen and to speak. But let us be consistent in acting with grace. Remember grace can be both the unmerited gift from God that sanctifies us, and it can be the way we act that is both considerate and thoughtful of others. We are going to be need to both reflect on the grace God has bestowed on us and to act in grace to each other. Christ has died; Christ is risen; and Christ will come again. Just as our faith is built on a both/and proposition, so our worshipping experiences will be in the coming season!

With both blessings and peace, Pastor Don

The following Covenant Groups and Committees meet to extend our ministry to one another and to the community. We welcome your interest and participation. Please check with contact persons or group leaders to confirm meeting time and place.

DINKS and SINKS Covenant Group

Focus: Fellowship/study for those with double- income no kids and singles-income no kids
Contact: Nancy Chee.
When: Quarterly

East Bay Covenant Group

Focus: Fellowship/study for those living in the East bay
Contact: Greg Chan
When: 3rd Sunday of the Month: 7:30

Wednesday Night Study Group

Focus: Study/fellowship group for adults
Contact: Dave Chan.
When: Every Wednesday evening; Potluck dinner at 6:45-7:45 p.m.; Program 7:45-9:00 p.m.

Women's Fellowship

Focus: Study and fellowship
Contact: Mildred Hall
When: 3rd Monday of the month

Young Adult Wellness Check

Focus: Fellowship and Q&A with Pastor Don and young adults (18-29ish)
Contact: Pastor Don
When: 3rd Thursday of the month

Standing Committees

Mission and Evangelism –

Contact: Jeanette Huie & Ed Chin
First Tuesday of the Month: 5:30 PM

Worship and Nurture –

Contact: Dave Miller
First Tuesday of the Month: 7:00 PM

Resources

Contact: Dave Soohoo
Second Sunday of the Month: after worship, time may vary

English Commission

Contact: Pastor Don, Carl Jew
When: 3rd Tuesday of the Month: 7:00PM

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Covenant Groups and Committees (*continued from page 3*)

Cantonese Commission

Contact: Pastor Ronnie
When: 3rd Sunday of the Month

Mandarin Commission

Contact: Pastor Guo
When: 4th Sunday of the Month

PCC Full Session

Contact: Pastor Don, Pastor Ronnie, or Pastor Guo
When: Quarterly; Generally on Second Sundays

PCC Building and Finance

Contact: Pastor Don, Pastor Ronnie, or Pastor Guo
When: As needed

Submitted by Pastor Don

WANTED: YOUR READING EXPERIENCES

by Gilbert Lee

Some of you may know in the 60's when I was about 12 years old, our one family living room TV died. Our frugal immigrant Dad looked at the broken TV, looked at our living room shelf of encyclopedias, and gave us kids a look that said "look at all that free entertainment; have fun kids". Ah, the good old days! That did spark a love of reading though.

I think it would be an interesting sharing experience for a future "News in the Pews" to compile your responses to the question "What book besides the Bible has most influenced you or has been most meaningful?" Besides a few sentences why your choice was important, you could include what stage in your life you were in, any take-aways from the book that still affect you. You may describe a second book if you feel so moved. More for us to digest!

I know it may be a real struggle to be brief to convey your personal enthusiasm. Let us see how this works out! Send responses to ----- gilbert@pipitfund.org

Peace in Christ.
Gilbert

* 我的見証——粵語堂：林連碧

回想當初從香港移民來美，一直忙於工作、照顧女兒，每天都在生活上只是忙忙碌碌的打拼，從沒有想到甚麼宗教，或是思想過甚麼信仰的問題。

在數年前，偶爾走在華埠街頭，突然有人遞上一份宣傳單張，原來是由教會開辦的免費英語會話班，我因著好奇心，按地址找著「三藩市中華基督教長老會」，並即時報名參加了每禮拜六的英語會話班。

第一次走進課室時，看到何老師 (Elder. Sharlene Hall) 對每個學生充滿耐心；每次教導都是細心地糾正英語發音、寫作、串字等，亦會引用不少生活上應用的會話句子來教導我們，她也提醒鼓勵我們要經常聽、講、寫和讀。

每週課後的半小時「靈修」，除了牧師短講生活百味外，我尤其喜歡唱詩的時間。後來，鍾瑞瑛長老邀請我參加詩班，因為詩詞實在多次的感動我，於是決定加入了教會詩班，亦參加主日崇拜。

到了 2018 年決志認罪悔改，公開見証承認主耶穌是我的救主，接受教會洗禮，成為基督的信徒。日後在一切事上，都要靠賴主的引領和安排。

2020-2021 年，在疫情下我除了參加主日網路粵語敬拜外，每週三也參加由簡牧師主領的網路查經班，在這一年多的日子，我已經從聖經的真道上，學習了不同的課題：「教會增長十二課」、「聖經-生命經書」、「新約概覽」、「我們的信仰-基督教和天主教的教義分別」、「耶穌生平-傳道歷程」等，幫助了我更多明白和了解上帝的道。

感謝天父，雖然過往的日子，我未曾認識主，但祂是有憐憫、有恩慈的，祂竟然寬容忍耐等候我，直到如今，祂已賜下救恩，赦免我一切罪污，使我可以再主耶穌基督的愛裡。在此感恩，願榮耀頌讚歸於我們的天父 上帝，阿們！

Lin-Pik Lam was baptized in Christmas 2018 >



* The English translation is on the next page

My Personal Testimony

by Lin-Pik Lam

Member of Cantonese Worshiping Committee

When I first immigrated to the United States from Hong Kong many years ago, I had been busy working for a living and taking care of my daughter. I never had a chance to think about religion or faith since I was working so hard every day.

A few years later, when I was walking on the streets of Chinatown, I was given a leaflet, “Free English Conversation Class” provided by The Presbyterian Church in Chinatown. Being curious, I enrolled in the class held every Saturday.

When I walked into the classroom for the first time, I met our teacher, Elder Sharlene Hall, who was very patient with each student. She always carefully corrected our English pronunciation, writing and vocabulary. She also instructed us on how to improve our daily conversational skills as well as encouraged us to learn the language by listening, speaking, writing and reading as frequently as possible.

Pastor Kaan led a half hour devotion after each class. Besides listening to Pastor Kaan’s short talk, I was especially interested in singing hymns. I was invited to participate in the vocal practices later. Finally, I join the Cantonese Choir and attended the Cantonese Sunday worship every week.

In 2018, I decided to confess my sins and accept Jesus Christ as my own savior. I was baptized and became a member of Cantonese Worshiping Community. God has guided me in all of my daily life since then.



The Choir

During the pandemic time in 2020-2021, I have participated in the Bible Studies online every Wednesday led by Pastor Kaan, and joined the Cantonese virtual Sunday worship. I have learned from Bible studies, from different topics, such as “Twelve Lessons for Church Growth”, “Bible - Life Scripture”, “Overview of the New Testament”, “Our Faith - The Difference Between Christianity and Catholicism” and “The Life of Jesus - Missionary Journey”. All these studies really help me to understand God’s ways.

Thanks to our heavenly Father. Although I didn’t know God before, He has been waiting for me to answer His call with tolerance and patience because He is a compassionate and gracious God. He has forgiven all my sins by grace so that I can always live in the love of Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my Lord. May the glory and praise go to our God. Amen.

Minute for Stewardship – EWC Nominating Committee by Nancy Chee

Each year, the Nominating Committee of the EWC is tasked with the work in searching for members to serve in various works of our church - specifically in the offices of Deacons and Elders.

The Book of Order outlines the work of Deacons as those called to the ministry of “compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress” (G-2.0201).

The charge in the Book of Order to ruling elders is work in discerning God’s Spirit and governance of God’s people - “lead the congregation in ministries of personal and social healing and reconciliation in the communities in which the church lives and bears its witness” (*Book of Order*, 2009–11 version, G-10.0102g).

Everyone is called to participate “in God’s mission to care for the needs of the sick, poor, and lonely; to free people from sin, suffering, and oppression; and to establish Christ’s just, loving, and peaceable rule in the world” (*Book of Order*, F-1.0302d).

For those being nominated this year, each has responded to this calling from God to serve. You, as the community, will be entrusting to them, the care and work to make decisions that equip and strengthen our community. It is not all for us to just

elect them, but to support them fully and work together as the community in Christ.

In Corinthians 12: 4-8: “Now, there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them for everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.”

With joy, for the first time in several years, the Nominating Committee is able to fully fill our slate of nominations for both Deacons and Elders for the coming year. We will be presenting them and voting for their acceptance in our Annual English Worshiping Community meeting on October 31st.

We thank the Nominating Committee of years past and for the future. Prayers for those who will guide us as our community moves forward in the coming year and into God’s work and mission for the future.

Your Nominating Committee for this year includes Mary Wong-Leong, Lianne Leong, Jerrick Woo, Jeanine Lim as the Deacon Representative, and myself, Nancy Chee as your Elder Representative.

Thank you!

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP: THE DEACONS

When I think about the Deacons and what we have done, the first thing that comes to mind is our attempts to communicate with everyone during the COVID pandemic. We have done with by telephone, emails, and U.S. mail.

Two of us have attended S.F. Presbytery meetings and report to the Commission. We have all become used to Zoom meetings led by Eddie Kam, which we held monthly throughout the last 1-½ years. We even had a great Deacons training by Zoom, led by Pastor Don. Rene Fong is the deacon who is responsible for sending you an eCard for your birthday. Thanks, Rene.
by Ruth Wu

This year, the Deacons created a Deacons Compassion Fund. The purpose of this Fund is to give support to members of the PCC community who are lacking in money for pay for basic needs. If you need financial assistance, please contact one of the current Deacons or any of the 3 pastors. Your inquiry will be confidential. As of today, one person applied for financial assistance. It was approved. The person was certainly appreciative of this gift.

In September, several of us registered for a webinar for deacons, sponsored by our national church office. The participants were laypeople and pastors. They used these words to describe deacons. They are flexible, connectors, companions, imaginative, humble and resourceful.

Once a Deacon, always a Deacon. And so when we needed help with contacting friends and members on our Roster List, the following 10 non-active Deacons stepped up to the plate. They are Pat Chan, Norma Fong Chan, Terry Chan, Marie Chin, Wayne Eng, Shar Hall, Richard Jann, Mary Wong Leong, Dayton Leong, and Jojo Woo. Together, with their help, we strive to become a community of believers, to grow spiritually with mutual love, care, and prayers.

When we send e-Cards and snail-mail note cards for congratulations, get-well, and sympathy, we also send our prayers. Prayer is one of the most powerful and active things we can do. We rely on God and our spiritual family to help us deal with life's struggles. We are blessed to be your prayer companions.

Deacons:
Carole Chinn-Morales, Rene Fong, Jackie Jew, Eddie Kam, Jeanine Lim, Irene Ng, and Ruth Wu.
by Irene Ng

Minute for Stewardship

Spotlight on the Personnel Committee

There's a popular song in a Broadway musical that begins by asking a question: *Five hundred twenty-five thousand, six hundred minutes, how do you measure a year?* Today's Minute on Stewardship, we focus on the question, *how do you measure the past year of interim ministry? Is it measured in Zoom meetings attended, or emails and text messages sent?*

Pastor Don just completed his second annual performance review with the Commission that involved updating his portfolio from a year ago; a portfolio that includes samples of work such as sermons, teaching curriculum, letters to the church community, and monthly progress reports.

To create a more complete picture of Pastor Don's ministry, the personnel committee tried something new this year and conducted interviews with his peers from outside of the worshiping community.

- One of his peers described Pastor Don's area of strength, "He has an 'outsider eye' which is helpful for long-term congregations moving through change."
- Another colleague observed that "He isn't afraid to bring up issues and talk about them, even conflict-ridden issues with the Session and congregation."
- A third person said, "Pastor Don is accepting of Chinese culture and has an ability to adapt. He likes being in the community."

The annual performance review is designed to gather information to take inventory of how Pastor Don's time and talents are spent and aligned with the duties of his role. The process allows us to focus on the "person" of personnel committee work to support the ongoing nurture and development of Pastor Don as a Minister of Word and Sacrament while he serves at the Presbyterian Church in Chinatown.

Submitted by Carl Jew

MISSION STUDY STEWARDSHIP MINUTE

by Eddie Kam

As most of you are aware, on our PCCSF website, we're described as a family-oriented church active in the community, fully embracing the spirit as described in our mission statement that states: "**Biblically grounded, we act faithfully in the spirit of Micah 6:8 "to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God."**" And this year, our English Commission adopted the recommendation from the Matthew 25 Taskforce to become a Matthew 25 Worshipping Community that states, "As a Matthew 25 Worshipping Community, this means we have committed ourselves to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities to act boldly and compassionately to serve people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor." During this interim period, we continue as a community to discern where God leads us through our Mission Study and the future PNC discernment of the call of a new pastor-needing to be careful to "not put the cart before the proverbial horse."

Well, in many ways it seems like our Mission Study work has been done for us; yet, it's a dimension for the Mission Study team to integrate with what we are developing in the Mission Study report. And with more clarity of where we strongly sense and discern God's call for all of us in our present times, it will challenge, yet affirm and help define how we can be a more viable, visible, active, and an effective serving church community.

The Mission Study process has progressed in writing much of the report, in sections which are required by the

presbytery, including a history, membership and financial data and analysis, and description of current programs. We've conducted two Town Hall meetings to listen to your feedback for those who attended. We are at the juncture of doing community analysis and interviewing those in the community whom we have shared close relationships with like Cameron House and with the Cantonese and Mandarin worshipping communities, to see how we can work and be a supportive body to each other in God's ministry. We will have a focused age-group Town Hall meetings in the 4th quarter this year, and encourage more of you to attend. We hope to be near completing our work and to present the final Mission Study Report with the English Commission by the 1st quarter of next year and if approved, then shared with all of you.

Christian Stewardship refers to the responsibility that Christians have in maintaining and using wisely the gifts that God has given us. Usually, we understand it as our financial giving or our time, but it also includes the gift of your voice, thoughts and opinions, to know and feel you have a part in shaping our church community's future. So, please make sure your voice is heard by participating in our gatherings.

While it's been a long process, the Mission Study team, comprised of Chris Chan, Nancy Chee, Di An Chen, Mark Fong, Cindy Joe, Jeanine Lim, Eleanor Wong, Pastor Don and myself, continues to remain faithful to the task in front of us. Your prayers provide us the energy to complete this meaningful and necessary process.

Worship and Nurture Committee Minute for Stewardship by Dave Miller

I'm Dave Miller and I speak to you on behalf of the Worship & Nurture Committee. Other committee members are Nancy Chee, Mildred Hall, Ed Kam and Pastor Don.

As our worship responsibility, we're tasked with providing you meaningful opportunities to experience God and to acknowledge and celebrate God's love and grace. In our nurture responsibility we want to ensure that all of you have the opportunity to build, study, renew and enhance your faith.

Your contributions to PCC enable us to purchase worship planning materials and sanctuary decorations including the lovely flowers arranged by Jean Chin and the banners behind the pulpit purchased by Nancy Chee. We also pay for Zoom licenses as well as fees to allow us to use copyrighted music in our streaming worship.

Recently, we've developed a plan for "Both/And" worship – both in-person and on-line. We want to make sure you have a great worship experience whether you're in the sanctuary or in your home.

We meet each month at 7 pm on the first Tuesday. We have lively discussions about what went right and what went not so right in worship. We look ahead to ensure all the pieces are in place to provide a meaningful worship experience for you. We get a report from the covenant groups who provide nurture to our members.

We'd love to have you join us. Perhaps you have some insight into how worship could work better for you. Perhaps you want to share what keeps you in a covenant group or what pushes you away from one.

You're welcome to join us for a specific amount of time – say three months – or to join us for a single meeting to see what goes on at our Worship & Nurture meetings.

Contact any of us on the committee if you'd like to know more about what we do and if you'd like to get a Zoom link for the next meeting.

The Mission and Evangelism Committee

by Jeanette Huie

The Mission & Evangelism Committee started the year with discussions about becoming an active anti-racist congregation and exploration of PCUSA's Matthew 25 Initiative. We end the year as an official Matthew 25 Congregation! This will shape our discussions and decisions in the coming years.

The committee's 2021 activities are sorted into three areas:

For our members –

- Educational resources (see list at end of article)
- Volunteer opportunities
- Teatime guest speakers: Malcolm Yeung, Satsuki Ina & Lam Hong Le
- Reminders to vote during election season
- Nov. 14 Worship service: Hunger & Homelessness Sunday

In the community –

- Weekly Food Pantry for seniors and adults with disabilities
- Anti-Asian Hate Rallies
- Ping Yuen block party seeking racial unity
- Solidarity in the Struggle Jesse Jackson rally and banquet
- IM4HI Vigils – Lam Hong Le deportation hearing
- SRO Families - gift cards for school supplies
- Ping Yuen children – Christmas gifts
- SF Interfaith Coalition winter shelter meal (in January 2022, to feed 69 homeless men)
- Financial contributions to non-profit organizations

For the church worldwide

- One Great Hour of Sharing, Peace & Global Witness and Christmas Joy Offerings

Below is more information on some of our activities this year:

Food Pantry Update

We have stayed opened every Saturday this year, even on holiday weekends! 221 people are enrolled in our food pantry with the majority living in SRO buildings. PCC receives grant funds to maintain the food pantry and relies on many volunteers for its weekly operation.

Approximately 25 volunteers are needed each week. The disposable gloves and masks for volunteers are provided by the City through Chinatown CDC.

This year PCC also received \$1,700 from SF Presbytery and the committee used these funds to supplement the bags of food with Chinese food products. During Chinese New Year we purchased and distributed 180 bottles of oyster sauce and for Thanksgiving in a few weeks, we will give away lop cheung.

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The Mission and Evangelism Committee (*continued from page 12*)

School Supplies for SRO Families

With safety concerns in mind, the Committee again voted to provide Target gift cards instead of school supplies. Your donations were more than enough to provide 153 \$20 gift cards! Distribution took place in August before the first day of school. We also gave the kids a notebook and pen (80 notebooks were donated by the Masonic Avenue Target). Chinatown CDC staff contacted all the families and helped us distribute. Their working relationship with the families is a big help in getting the gift cards to the right people.

Financial Contribution

M&E voted to contribute \$500 to Chinatown CDC's 2.0 Feed + Fuel Campaign. Through this program, 3,300 Chinatown SRO residents received hot cooked meals from participating restaurants over a 15-week period. This program helped many small restaurants in Chinatown survive and kept restaurant workers employed.

The Meaning Behind Mission & Evangelism

The first-ever M&E Committee Retreat took place via zoom in May. We concluded that Evangelism is not about growing the church but sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

The Latin word for Mission, *missio*, means “the act of sending”. The Greek word for Evangelism means “good news”. So Mission & Evangelism can mean “the sending of God’s love into the world”.

For the Future

The committee will be mindful of keeping PCC’s online community engaged in mission. Before 2020, it was much easier to take sign-ups and receive school supplies and gifts in the fellowship hall during teatime. We realize that some members will continue to worship virtually even once the building opens for in-person worship.

We were introduced to a very interesting document, “Facing Racism: A Vision of the Intercultural Community”. This is actually the churchwide antiracism policy that was adopted by PCUSA in 2016.

For now, the committee is digesting the information and will keep as a resource for potential events.



Matthew 25 calls all of us to act boldly and compassionately to serve people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor. The M&E Committee is fully committed to understanding what that means for the EWC and to implement Matthew 25 goals in our plans and work.

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The Mission and Evangelism Committee (*continued from page 13*)

Resources provided this year (if you missed any of these in the Ragsheet, some links are provided)

1. The Atlantic – *Reparations for Black Americans*
[The Case for Reparations by Ta-Nehisi Coates - The Atlantic](#)
2. Jon Osaki video, “Reparations”
3. Presbytery workshop with Crossroads Antiracism Organizing & Training
4. Presbytery Book Study – *What Lies Between Us*
5. To report a hate crime: Stopaapiphate.org
6. YouTube Video: “We Need to Talk About Anti-Asian Hate” produced by Eugene Lee Yang
7. Interview - Race in America: Allyship. Go to www.washingtonpost.com and type Allyship in the search box.
8. Bystander intervention tools: www.ihollaback.org
9. Petition – <https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/direct-pardon-for-lam-hong-le>
10. Mission Yearbook of Prayer – www.presbyterianmission.org/yearbook
11. Mission Crossroads magazine –
www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/world-mission/mission-crossroads

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Jeanine Lim, Ed Chin, Doreen Der-McLeod, Shar Hall, Rev. Don Hammond, Clinton Huey, Jeanette Huie, Cindy Joe, Carole Chinn Morales and Susie Wong

Upcoming Events – November 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022



Sunday, November 7 Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, November 14 Hunger and Homelessness Sunday

Monday, November 15 Women's Fellowship Bible Study

Sunday, November 28 First Sunday of Advent

Friday, December 24 Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 25 Christmas

Sunday, January 9 Installation of Deacons and Elders

Friday, January 14 Interfaith Winter Shelter Meal

Presbyterian Church in Chinatown
Volunteer Acknowledgements 2021

In light of the pandemic, we continue to be thankful for the services and contributions that our volunteers add to our church's ministry and mission giving their time and service to their faith and their community.

Thank you from the English Commission!

General Church Responsibilities

Annie & Peter Wong
Irene Ng - Newsletter editor
Jeanette Huie - Ragsheet editor
David Miller - Webmaster and Email
Winchell Quock - English Treasurer
Mary Wong Leong-Clerk of Session
Nancy Chee - Clerk of Session
David Soohoo - PCC Treasurer
Stuart Go - Photographer
Rev. Donald P. Hammond
Rev. Norman Fong
Rev. Greg Chan

Mission Study Team

Nancy Chee
Eddie Kam
Chris Chan
Mark Fong
Cynthia Joe
Laurene Chan
Eleanor Wong
Di An Chen
Jeanine Lim

Tea Time Hosts

Sabrina Gee-Shin
Diane Go
Linda Lee
Rev. Greg Chan

Worship & Nurture Committee

David Miller (Chair)
Eddie Kam
Nancy Chee
Mildred Hall

Personnel Committee

Carl Jew (Chair)
Terry Leong
Cynthia Joe
Sabrina Gee- Shin
Rene Fong

Mission & Evangelism Committee

Ed Chin (Co-Chair)
Jeanette Huie (Co-Chair)
Susie Wong
Jeanine Lim
Doreen Der-McLeod
Sharlene Hall
Cynthia Joe
Clinton Huey
Carole Chinn-Morales

Resource Committee

David Soohoo (Chair)
Wayne Eng
Stuart Go
Jackie Jew
Lianne Leong
Terry Leong
Winchell Quock
Annie Wong

Nominating Committee

Nancy Chee
Lianne Leong
Mary Wong Leong
Jeanine Lim
Jerrick Woo

Elders

Mildred Hall
David Miller
Annie Wong
Nancy Chee
Ed Chin
Jeanette Huie
Carl Jew
Winchell Quock
David Soohoo

Matthew 25 Task Force

Rev. Norman Fong
Diane Go
Clinton Huey
Linda Lee
Ivy Yee Sakamoto

Deacons

Ed Kam (Chair)
Jeanine Lim
Carole Chinn-Morales
Jackie Jew
Rene Fong
Ruth Wu
Irene Ng

Deacons+ Members

Pat Chan
Terry Chan
Norma Fong Chan
Wayne Eng
Marie Chin
Shar Hall
Richard Jann
Dayton Leong
Mary Wong Leong
Joanne Woo

Sanctuary Decorations

Jean Chin
Nancy Chee
Susie Wong

Worship Production

David Chan
Nancy Chee
Joe Tanizawa
Terry Leong
Norman Proctor

Liturgists

Eddie Kam
Linda Lee
David Miller
Marie Chin
Laurene Chan
Rev. Norman Fong
Susie Wong

Presbyterian Church in Chinatown
Volunteer Acknowledgements 2021

Worship Planners

David Miller
Linda Lee
Diane Go
David Chan
Nancy Chee
Norma Chan

Musicians

David Miller
Mildred Hall
Gordon Jeong
Josh Hee
David Chan
Laurene Chan
Caitlin Gong

Readers

Scott Barlow
Susie Wong
Eunice Behar-Lee
Chris Chan
Rev. Greg Chan
Jonathan Y. Chan
Liane Chan
Norma Chan
Terry Chan
Elaine Chan-Scherer
Carole Chinn Morales
Ed Chin
Marie Chin
Josh Chuck
Naomi Chun
Douglas Clark
Wayne Eng
Mark Fong
Rene Fong
Diane Go
Stuart Go
Tim Go
Mildred Hall
Sharlene Hall
Josh Hee
Clinton Huey
Samantha Hum
Pamela Jang
Gordon Jeong
Jackie Jew
Keith Jew
Eddie Kam
Lauren Kam
Ryan Kam
David Kono
Dayton Leong

Readers (continued)

Jeanine Lim
Winchell Quock
Lindsey Quock
Sabrina Gee-Shin
Kyle Shin
David Soohoo
Joe Tanizawa
Whittney Tom
Kathy Tong
David Wong
Heidi Wong
Jordan Wong
Kimball Wong
Vivien Wong
Mary Wong Leong
Jerrick Woo
Jo-Jo Woo
Ruth Wu
Jim Caldwell
Jeannette Wei

Healing Committee

Laurene Chan
Rev. Greg Chan
Elaine Chan-Scherer
Jeanne Choy Tate
Rev. Donald P Hammond
Shar Hall
Brad Woo

Food Pantry Volunteers:

Kathy Amendola
Scott Barlow
David Chan
Jeanine Lim
Jonathan M. Chan
Jonathan Y. Chan
Pat Chan
Nancy Chee
Jean Chin
Marie Chin
Mark Chung
Collins Dubois
Wayne Eng
Amy Feng
Sherman Gee
Caitlin Gong
Cindy Lee Gong
Rev. Don Hammond
Pastor Guo Hao
Benji Huey
Clinton Huey
Jeanette Huie

Food Pantry Volunteers (continued)

Rev. Ronnie Kaan
Eddie Kam
Lauren Kam
Peggy Kam
Ryan Kam
Thomas Kong
Loi La
Michele La
Alson Lee
Linda Lee
Debbie Leung
Terry Leong
Vivian Leung
Matthew Lew
Jasen Lo
Jamie Lue
Jeremy Lue
Xin Zhen Luo (Jenny)
Oy Ling Mah (Raina Choy)
David Nguyen
Carrie Phillips
David Sakamoto
Ivy Yee Sakamoto
Cuzy Solis
David Soohoo
Ivy Truong
Ella Vo
Shirley Wing
Annie Wong
Eleanor Wong
Jingkay Wong
Johnny Wong
Kimball Wong
Vivien Wong
Darren Wong
Susie Wong
Julie Yu

**Presbytery, Synod,
General Assembly**

Diane Go
Ruth Wu
Linda Lee
Rev. Greg Chan
Pat Chan
Mildred Hall

Building Work Crew

Scott Barlow
Wayne Eng
Winchell Quock
Terry Leong
David Chan

Veterans Day - Stories of Those Who Served

by Jackie Jew

Veterans Day occurs on November 11 every year in the United States in honor of the “eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month” of 1918 that signaled the end of World War I. It’s a little-known fact that soldiers of Chinese descent have served in the American military since at least the Civil War, even for the Confederacy.

When Congress passed the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, Chinese Americans were deemed unfit to be citizens. They were not able to own a home or business; however, they were allowed to serve in the military.

Many of our parents served in the US military during WWII, as many as 20,000 Chinese Americans, nearly 1 in 5 of the total Chinese Americans, and 40 percent without citizenship. Chinese American men and women were involved in every theatre of WWII and sacrificed their lives defending American ideals, despite facing legalized discrimination.

Here are some of the unsung heroes from our own PCC families:



Howard W. Eng was born in San Francisco, CA on 6/10/23. When the call to serve his country arose he jumped at the opportunity and enlisted on 11/9/42 at age 19 with the Army Air Corps. He was commissioned as a Flight Officer serving as a navigator and was assigned to the Mighty 8th Air Force/547th Bomb Squadron at Grafton-Underwood, England. He survived 28 combat missions over enemy targets, primarily in Germany. His aircraft, the “Blinkin’Betsy”, was hit by an enemy anti-aircraft over Leipzig, Germany and he was seriously wounded, landing him in a hospital for several weeks. After recuperating, he returned to the U.S. to teach navigation, as well as research and development on the subject. In 1947, he received training on Counterintelligence and served as a Special Agent in Shanghai, Nanking, and Hong Kong. After an honorable discharge, Howard attended U.C. Berkeley where he met future wife, Helen Fong. Together they graduated and began their marital journey. They lovingly raised 4 children: Willard, Robin, Shari, and Michael. Their lives were full, careers challenging, travels abundant, and family always the focus. Howard and Helen passed in August 2020, just eight days of each other; they loved doing things together till the very end.

-submitted by Shari Eng Phillips



Edward B. Fong (1921 - 2015) was born and raised in San Francisco Chinatown and inducted into the United States Naval Service in 1944. He was proud to serve in the military and chose the Navy for its reputation of “seeing the world.” He was stationed aboard the USS Henry Tucker in the Asiatic Pacific. He served for two years as an Electrician’s Mate, Second Class, where he worked to maintain the ship’s electrical systems, and, importantly to the crew, the ice cream machine. Prior to enlistment, he trained in an electrician’s program for two years at Mare Island Naval Shipyard in Vallejo, California. During his Naval service, he met the love of his life, Priscilla Lee, at Cumberland Presbyterian Church in San Francisco Chinatown. Edward spent his post service career as a civil draftsman for the City of San Francisco. Ed and Pris had four daughters and nine grandchildren. He was a master tinkerer and could build and fix anything. He loved swimming, cycling, and cooking. He also volunteered for many years at Cameron House’s food pantry. Edward lived a fulfilling, long and happy life. He passed away at the age of 93. According to his last wishes, Edward had a full Military Funeral Honors.

-submitted by Barb Fong

Veterans Day - Stories of Those Who Served *(continued from page 17)*



My dad, **Thomas Jing Quock**, enlisted in the Navy and was stationed at Coyote Point near Burlingame. After being honorably discharged, he married my mother Nellie Tom in December of 1946 in our original 2nd floor sanctuary of what was then the Chinese Presbyterian Church.
- submitted by Winchell Quock



Yong Leung Jew (1915-2014) was born in Hoiping, China and immigrated to the US at age 9. He represented the third generation of men from the Jew family to live and work in Chico, CA where he received a 10th grade education. Upon leaving high school at age 15, he worked as a cook under the tutelage of his father, the executive chef at Richardson Mineral Springs Resort. At age 20, Yong returned to China to meet his bride for the very first time on their wedding day and consummate an arranged marriage to Gan Hai Wong, age 18; a marriage that would last 75 years. Yong was called to active duty towards the end of the war in March 1945 at age 29 despite being married with a child. He served for 16 months and was stationed at Fort Lewis, WA where tens of thousands of soldiers reentered the country and were discharged before returning to civilian life. Honorably discharged in August 1946, Yong left the Army with a rank of Tech 5 (Corporal) as a cook and was paid \$7.00 for each month of military service. Most importantly, the War Brides Act of 1945 cleared the path for my mother and brother, James, to be reunited with my father and legally immigrate to the US in 1948 despite severe immigration quotas against Chinese aliens. Three more siblings (Donna, Helen, Ken) would be born before my time would come to experience life as an American-born Chinese in Gum San, the Gold Mountain.

-submitted by Carl Jew



SUN LAI (aka, Crawford Hing, his paper son/military service name), loved and believed in his adopted country. Although he was already in his 30's and only spoke limited English, he dutifully enlisted in the U.S. Army when he was needed and brought with him cooking skills to feed and nourish the troops through many hardships and eventual victory. Participating in the liberation of Guam and the Philippines as well as the Okinawa Campaign, Sun attained the rank of Staff Sergeant and was awarded the Philippines Liberation Ribbon, Asiatic Pacific Service Medal, American Service Medal, WWII Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal and, most recently, the Chinese American World War II Congressional Gold Medal for his service. After the war, he became a naturalized citizen, married, settled in San Francisco, raised a family and continued as a chef in the restaurant industry. Sun Lai's children, Howard & Amy, were active participants in the Cameron House and PCC community during their youth and both pursued careers in community service. Their families continue to honor and revere Sun for his lifelong sacrifices, support and love for them and for this country.

-submitted by Amy Lai Huey

(continued on page 19)

Veterans Day - Stories of Those Who Served *(continued from page 18)*



Evan Leong was born in Sacramento, California on April 22, 1916. He was getting his degree in geology at the University of California at Berkeley when the United States was forced into WWII in the end of 1941. In May of 1942 he married his high school sweetheart Marion, a native of San Francisco. Shortly after his graduation from Berkeley in 1942, he enlisted in the United States Army Air Force, where he was sent to school at Yale. He became what was known as a ninety-day wonder and was later commissioned as a Lieutenant in the USAAF. He liked to say that he was also a Yale man. The picture you see was taken when he was on leave, probably in 1945. Evan in his uniform, wife Marion and daughter Judith (about 16 months). Sadly, the Congressional Gold Medal presented to him on October 9, 2021, was twenty years after his passing.

— submitted by Terry Leong



My Dad, **Mack Pong** was proud to serve during WWII in the 407 Air Service Squadron; a part of the 14th Air Force; better known as the Flying Tigers in China. This all-Chinese-American group was established because of their ability to speak Chinese and interact with Chinese soldiers and civilians. They served in the CBI- China Burma India theatre to provide support for the air offensive in China. He cherished his time in the service because it created lifelong friendships and the chance to travel out of Chinatown.

He lived one block down from CH at 769 Sacramento Street. Being a veteran provided many opportunities; the GI Bill; veteran home loans and job opportunities. He organized Army reunions and maintained relationships with his buddies throughout his life. His brother Joe Pong was also in the same squadron and brother, George Pong was in the 15th Air Force in Italy.

— submitted by Tom Pong



William K. Tom wrote this many years after the war was over: “One of the most haunting effects of the end of the war was the bonds of attachment which had to be broken with the men with whom I served and considered my brothers. We all scattered across our country to pick up the pieces of our youth to achieve the primary goal of our ultimate destiny. We might never see each other again. If it hadn’t been for our post-war reunions, I would have spent the balance of my life wondering about the fate of my friends. Of course, not everyone attended these reunions, so there is an ongoing emptiness in my heart, forever pondering.”

William K. Tom (1924-2019) was born in Isleton, CA. His parents were poor immigrants who barely survived in a segregated community as unskilled farm laborers. William, aka Bill, entered the Army when he turned 18. It was then, via the Army, he became proficient in English, was fed with regularity, and received his first set of new clothing – an Army uniform. Via the Army, he attended MIT in Boston in the Army Specialized Training Program (ASTP) and then medics’ training before departing for the war in Europe. Although he served with the medical units associated with the 3rd, 7th, or 9th Army, he considered himself a loyal rifleman of the 17th Airborne. He was actively involved in the 17th Airborne Association, was the editor of their newsletter, and was the hospitality chairperson at their final reunion in 2007.

— submitted by Jackie Tom Jew

Veterans Day - Stories of Those Who Served *(continued from page 19)*



Jack Wong enlisted into the US Army on Sept. 1, 1942. He served overseas in the European Theatre assigned to Gen. Patton's Third Army Group as a Radio Intercept Operator. He was a participant in the Normandy Invasion on Omaha Beach and the Battle of the Bulge where his company received a Presidential Citation. He was awarded a Service Stripe, Three Overseas Service Bars, American Campaign Medal, European African Middle Eastern Theatre Ribbon with Silver Battle Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and WWII Victory Medal. He was honorably discharged as a Technician 5th Grade. He later settled in Greenville, MS, marrying Fannie Sit and raising two children.

-submitted by Fannie Wong's son, Ronald

When Congress declared Chinese Americans unfit to be citizens, their acts of military heroism, bravery, and sacrifice were minimized and went unrecognized. On September 12, 2018, a Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) was finally awarded to the Chinese-American Veterans of World War II for their dedicated service and for having the courage and loyalty to step up in the face of discrimination.

All the veterans in the article, as well as the fathers of Greg Chan, Terry Chan, and Kimball Wong, are all Congressional Gold Medal recipients with connections to PCC. If you'd like to read about the experience of accepting a CGM, please see Kimball Wong's article published in the previous issue of *Good News for the Pews*.

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News from the Pews by Pat Chan

Here are some news from our PCC family and friends.

Congratulations to Dana and Char Jung. They are so happy to have a new grandson. Daughter Stephanie gave birth to Jeremy Dana on October 15, 2021.

Belated Congratulations to more college graduates.

- . Mikayla Wong graduated from UC San Diego. She has a B.S. in Applied Math and a B.S. in Psychology. Mikayla is the daughter of Heidi and Anthony. Proud grandmother SuLee Tom, shared this with me.
- . Aleisha Lew graduated from UC Irvine with a B.A in drama. She is the daughter of Lorna Wong and Jerry Lew. We want to wish these young ladies all the best in their future.
- . Kim Stevens shared with me that baby Arlo is not sleeping well so therefore she and Angel are really sleep deprived. We pray that Arlo will be sleeping better soon. Oldest daughter Finley is enjoying her time in preschool.
- . Miao and Ed Toy are empty nesters. Son Calvin is in his second year at UCLA. Daughter Stephanie is a freshman at UC San Diego. We pray for their health and safety at school.

Georgette Huie, sister of Jeanette, is moving back to San Francisco. She's been on a road trip from Connecticut. She just visited Jeannette and Jim a few weeks ago. Georgette really recommend for us to take a tour of Canyonlands, Arizona. I have seen pictures and it looks like really awesome scenery. We can't wait to see Georgette and hear about her road trip. She hit a lot of sights.

Shar Hall is getting ready to move into The Sequoias next month. She is packing and getting rid of her stuff. She will definitely bring her toaster oven and coffee maker. Shar will have many dinner companions: Ruth, Irene, Harriet, Cindy, Wesley Woo and several other Cameron House alumni. We want to wish Shar well in her new transition and adjustment in living in a smaller place.

I am back working at the seven elementary schools that I am responsible for. I am still chasing parents for their child's vaccination records. I don't know if I have to start collecting the COVID records. We do have a space on our data base to add the dates to the student's records. Students are really good about wearing their masks all day long. Schools have extras in case they need a new one during the day.