## **THE WEEKLY RAG**

For the United Ministries of the Presbyterian Church in Chinatown and Donaldina Cameron House

December 28, 2025

### **Sundays at PCC**

Sermon: Christmas does not end with peace and quiet—it moves quickly into danger, fear, and flight. This Sunday, we turn to Matthew's story of the Holy Family fleeing to Egypt and ask what it means to live faithfully when fear is real and justified. Rather than denying fear, this sermon explores how God transforms fear into movement, protection, and justice. In a world still shaped by Herods, we listen for Emmanuel—God with us—and consider how fear, grounded in love, can become fuel for hope and action.

### January 4

Rev. Norman Fong will be leading worship on Jan. 4, Epiphany Sunday. Please note that we will not celebrate communion.

### January 11

On Sunday January 11 the Cantonese and English Communities will come together to Ordain and Install our Elders and Deacons, and to celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper! Members of the community are invited to wear red as we give thanks for the Holy Spirit who calls, equips, and sustains our elders and deacons for ministry.

#### Teatime hosts are needed!

Click on the link below to sign up for 2026 Sundays. See Mary Wong Leong if you have questions.



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### **Service Opportunities**

#### **FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS:**

Click on the appropriate link to sign up to volunteer: Thursday Pantry at PCC

Saturday Pantry at PCC

Thursday Pantry at Cameron House parking lot: 10:15-11:45am. Email **foodpantry@pccsf.org** if you can volunteer.

## Today's Hymns and Scripture Passages

Opening
O Come, All Ye Faithful
133 in Glory to God

Meditation

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

129 in Glory to God

Closing
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
119 in Glory to God

Hebrews 2: 10-18 Matthew 2: 13-23

## TEATIME Announcement

This Sunday, Dec. 28 during Teatime we will recognize the outgoing leaders from our Worshiping Community: Elders, Deacons, Personnel Committee, Nominating Committee that are completing their terms. A light lunch will be served.



## **Prayer List**

Prayers of gratitude and joy on the marriage of **Marcus Wong and Carmen Sun** on December 6. Congratulations to Peter and Annie, too!

Prayers of strength and resilience for **all immigrants**, detained or deported, or about to be deported, or who are just trying to lead their lives here, but in an atmosphere of fear and anxiety. Prayers for ourselves to continue to welcome our neighbors, and to resist otherizing anyone.

Prayers for all those unhoused and unstably housed, meeting challenges without community, especially during this rainy season. May we find ways to be supportive of efforts to minister to these folks.

Prayers for anyone who has lost a loved one this year, and specifically for **Whittney and Elijah's friend**, **Tanisha**, who lost her mother on December 7th.

Prayers of thanksgiving for **Whittney Tom** being accepted into UC Berkeley's Executive Master of Business Administration for Healthcare, starting in July next year.

Prayers for PCC, English worshipping community, as we seek guidance for the new year. May we reflect upon our ministries, find deep renewal, and be open to the leading of the Spirit. Happy New Year, everyone!

## **Online Giving to PCC**

Click on the church logo to be directed to the PCC Donate page. The 2026 per capita payment has increased to \$45.00. If you have any questions, contact EWC Treasurer Winchell Quock.



### Hello from Jeannette Wei

Jeannette loved the booklet of birthday greetings we recently sent - Thank you all for participating and writing birthday greetings. She says "Hello and hugs to you all!"

## **2026 Mission Trips**

The Mission & Evangelism Committee is looking at possible Mission Trips for next year.

February 2026: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) has recently set up a site on the island of Maui. It is a Congregational Church led by a Presbyterian Pastor. The site will be commissioned on February 22nd, so we would try to go around then. Click HERE for more information about the site.

April/May 2026: PDA in Oroville, CA

Fall 2026: Oroville or Maui?

Contact Scott Barlow if you are interested: sbgencon@aol.com. 415-710-9759.



## STAY WITH ME

by T. Denise Anderson Inspired by Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 18"x24" Acrylic on canvas board

I used to think my mother was cheap. When we'd go on road trips, she'd spend the night before preparing food for the trip. I thought it was because she didn't want to spend money on fast food. She didn't. But her reasons had nothing to do with a drive-thru.

My mother was a Black child in the U.S. in the 1950s and 60s. When they went on road trips, they had to leave in the dead of night with everything they'd need for the trip. For Black folks, there was no casual stopping along the way. If you stopped at the "wrong" place, you might not make it home. Her elders taught her what they had to learn themselves, often the

hard way. My mom grew up in the Steel Belt, but the family had moved there after leaving the Jim Crow South during the Great Migration for greener (and ostensibly safer) pastures. Her preparations were vestiges of a circumspect upbringing designed to keep her safe.

I was well into adulthood when I realized my family had been refugees in their own country.

The story of the Holy Family's flight to Egypt takes new significance as I consider not only the experiences of dear ones around the world, but also my own ancestors. My piece focuses on a parent's desperate grip of their child's hand as they escape a despot's fiery wrath, possibly in the dead of night. The colors subtly recall the Pan-African, Palestinian, and Sudanese flags.

I remember those left behind, and the lower part of the composition depicts the anguish of mothers whose children were not spared. Rachel still weeps (Matthew 2:18).

Our fears aren't unfounded. Salvation may have arrived, but the world still isn't safe. How will we remember Rachel's children as we resist and rebuild?

—rev. t. denise anderson