



ETC Monthly

Berkeley Chinese Community Church

柏克萊中華基督教會 March 19, 2017

From Pastor Sharon

Dear Ones,

The promise of new life is so welcome in the wake of all that has happened in our community, our nation, and the world. At BCCC we have mourned the loss of loved ones including Chet Wong, Louise Chan, Albert Zee and Arthur Wong. We are saddened by the lives interrupted by the continuing violence in so many parts of the world and nation including the local East Bay I-80 corridor. We are heartbroken by the devastation caused by weather-related disasters in so many parts of the nation and the world. We feel helpless at the news of open conflicts, war, and terror. Our souls long for God's affirmation of life. Easter, for Christians, is the spiritual Spring. Each year, we are reminded of Jesus' resurrection and rejoice that Jesus indeed lives again. We are gifted with the opportunity to celebrate God's steadfast love and hope for all of God's children and to rejoice in God's light guiding us to new life.

Berkeley Chinese Community Church, United Church of Christ, is bursting forth with signs of hope and new life as we experience the still speaking God in so many ways...

• We are in the middle of our *New Beginnings All Church conversations* as we come together to do the work of claiming identity, discerning God's call to mission and ministry by listening to each other to hear our hopes, dreams, disappointments and pain as church and community.

• *First Sundays* have always been special because it is Communion Sunday when we come to God's Table and remember Jesus, God in human form. But now, first Sundays are experienced as all-church bilingual Sundays when our English speaking and Cantonese speaking worshipping communities come together at God's Table as one congregation. First Sundays are also now a time of celebration and fellowship as the BCCC family gather after worship for lunch and for birthday celebrations to honor those in our community who have birthdays that month.

• Our *outreach and community activities & events* are ramping up to offer events and activities of interest to more of God's people in our community. Our All Church bilingual fellowship gathering to celebrate Chinese New Year on Saturday, Feb 4 became a community event with a Lion Dance and hulas and Chinese Seniors who came all the way from San Francisco to dance a New Year Dance and Chicken Dance. We were even on the front page of the Berkeley Times and the young families from Little

Beans preschool and the community joined us! Stay tuned as there is more to come as we continue to listen to and respond to our still speaking God.

• *Little Beans Preschool* - on weekdays from 8 am - 5:30 pm, students and teachers of the Preschool continue to fill the education building and grounds with sounds of joyful singing and learning through play.

• *BCCC is now "home" for Halau Hula 'O Kupukalau'ie'ie.* Kumu Analu (Andrew), founder and teacher of the Halau (School), and his students who sing and dance in our Social Hall Monday & Thursday Evenings, Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoons. They often join us and share their gifts of music and dance when we have programs and events for church and community like our Chinese New Year Celebration.

We have much to be thankful for this Easter Season as this BCCC community delights in and nurtures its amazing, life-giving spirit. Be a part of this new life! Come join us for the upcoming Holy Week events listed below; send in or bring to worship your Easter offering (offering envelope enclosed) and join in nurturing the new life bursting forth at BCCC!

- Sunday, April 9, Palm Sunday Services - 9:30 am, Cantonese; 11:00 am, English (Also All Church Clean up following the 11 am worship and a light lunch: come to worship in your work clothes and stay to help prepare the church for our Easter Celebrations.)
- Friday, April 14, 7 pm - Good Friday Candle-Light Service, sanctuary
- Easter Sunday, April 16 ...
 - o 10:30 am - Easter Egg Hunt for Children
 - o 11:00 am - All Church Bilingual Worship Service followed by Tea Reception to welcome new members!

May Easter 2017 bring true resurrection light, life and hope to you and yours!

Love & Blessings,





親愛的會員及親友，

當我們回想近來發生在社區和世界的事件，新生命的承諾是多麼的受歡迎啊。在柏克萊中華基督教會，我們哀悼失去了親愛的會友：Chet Wong 弟兄, Louise Chan 姊妹 Albert Zee 弟兄和 Arthur Wong 弟兄。我們為著世界和全國許多地區，包括在東灣 I-80 走廊，不斷發生暴力事件而傷痛。還有世界許多國家受到全球氣候造成的破壞。我們為各種衝突，戰爭，和恐怖的消息感覺無助。我們渴望神對生命的肯定，復活節對基督徒真是心靈安慰的泉源。每年，我們都被提醒，為主耶穌確實的復活而歡欣。為著有機會慶祝神的慈愛與盼望，和在神裏的喜樂，讓神的光引導我們進入新的生命。柏克萊中華基督教會-聯合基督教總會 (BCCC-UCC)，繼續努力和新的生命一齊進進，因為在許多方面體驗到神仍然在對我們說話。

- 我們現正處於教會新里程的會談，一起做探討會友們認同的前題，從透過彼此交換意見，聆聽我們共同的夢想和期望。從而辨別神對教會的呼召，使命，和事工。
- 每月第一個主日是聖餐主日，我們來到神的聖桌前紀念主耶穌道成肉身。目前這是全教會的雙語聖餐主日，英語和粵語崇拜的弟兄姊妹相聚一起，像一個合而為一的身體來到神的聖餐桌前。每月這一個主日也是慶祝和團契的機會，崇拜後有午餐，交誼團契祝賀在該月生日的弟兄姊妹及朋友。
- 我們的外展部，為了提供活動給社區的朋友，在二月十一日(星期六)慶祝農曆新年，有醒獅表演，夏威夷舞蹈，和從三藩市到來演出新年舞及雞舞的華人耆

英長者。Little Beans 學前幼兒園和社區的年輕家庭也有參與，甚至被刊登在柏克萊時報的頭版。請繼續關注將來的活動，因為我們仍在聆聽和回應對我們說話的神。

- Little Beans 學前幼兒園從星期一至星期五，上午 8:00 至下午 5:30，學生和教師繼續在教育樓和場地以歡樂歌唱，透過遊戲學習。
- 柏克萊中華基督教會現已是 Halauhula 'O Kupukalau'ie'ieKumuAnalu(Andrew)Hala 學校租用的場地。他們使用我們教會副堂學習唱歌和跳舞。上課時間是星期一，星期四晚上，週六上午和主日的下午。他們經常在我們的活動中與我們分享夏威夷音樂和舞蹈。

我們在這復活節節期有很多要感恩的地方，因為柏克萊中華基督教會致力關懷社區，和培育生命的精神，是這教會生命重要的活力！請來參加我們在下列出即將到來的聖週活動；請在復活節崇拜攜同你的奉獻，或用郵寄出(附上奉獻捐封)主日，4月9日，棕樹節主日，上午 9:30，粵語崇拜，上午 11:00，英語崇拜 (全教會大打掃在英語崇拜後舉行，將提供有簡便午餐。請穿著工作便服來敬拜及留步協助清潔教會預備慶祝復活節)。

- 週五，4月14日，晚上7時，耶穌受難日燭光聚會
- 復活節，4月16日... 上午 10:30 兒童尋彩蛋遊戲
上午 11:00 全教會雙語復活節崇拜，崇拜後將有茶聚歡迎新會友！

願 2017 年的復活節為你和你和家人帶來真正復活的光輝，生命，和盼望！

愛與祝福，

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pastor Sam'.

From the Moderator

Darlene Hamady

On Sunday morning the English worshipping community has changed its discussion focus. Instead of subscribing to the Wired Word, we now focus our discussions on the UCC daily devotions (ucc.org/dailydevotions). Just as we decided to change, UCC Daily Devotions began to list discussion questions for the Monday devotion. The devotion on Monday, March 6, 2017 was called "The Mercy Seat" by Kenneth L. Samuel based on Chronicles 21: 15-16. We discussed how we experience "our" place of worship, our church sanctuary and how "our" worship has evolved into a "place".. is it for socialization? as sometimes indicated by all the talking that goes on between people who may have not seen one another in a while (it happens because our church is a commuter church-we all live a distant from the church) or is the sanctuary a quiet place for really worshipping God? - as outlined in our bulletin: Where we first gather together - and have Singspiration and Pass the Peace.

Then we "Approach God" with the Unison Prayer of Confession and a Time of Silent Prayer followed by the Unison Assurance of Grace. Then Pastor Sharon leads a pastoral prayer for the worshipping community followed by our Lord's Prayer. With a hymn of preparation, we prepare ourselves to "Listen to God" and hear the scripture on which the sermon is based. We listen and hear God speaking to us. With our weekly, monthly or whatever we can give, - we "respond to God" and dedicate our gifts with song and prayer.

There was another devotion last week called "Chicks in Danger" by John A. Nelson, based on Matthew 23: 32-39. A wreath hung on the front door of a church came to be the home of a family of finches. The pastor posted a sign to direct people to use another door. It worked for a while. But one day a worshiper didn't see the sign and you can imagine what happened upon the door being opened!

"Somewhere along the way Jesus' desire to shelter you, as would a mother bird, got overwhelmed by the press and strain of your life!"

Coming to church or seeking God in the out of doors (as suggested by one member of our discussion group) like taking a walk or going to a special place in

that state of mind can be a blessing and a comfort. Such sanctuaries can be a holy place any time when we need to find God.

Catching Up

Darlene Hamady

Congregational Meeting

At our Congregational meeting on February 12, 2017 after the 11am worship service, the congregation passed the proposed budget for 2017. No other business was brought up or discussed.

PAAM Pre-Valentine's Day Worship



On Sunday, February 12, 2017, at 4pm at the First Samoan Congregational Christian church UCC DOC Alameda in Oakland, a special "Pre-Valentine's Day Worship" service was held. The theme was "Showing Our Love for God, and For Each Other-based on John 4:12. It was an enjoyable evening of music-a Valentine evening worship led by youth and young adults from the host church First Samoan, and Wellspring UCC, who came all the way down from Santa Rosa!

It was so inspiring to see youth and young adults so excited and passionate about their faith and to see them express it in song, words, and dance movements. The Dul Tones from First Congregational Church of SF also performed, paying tribute to the youth. The evening concluded with First Samoan Church's generous hospitality in providing a meal for all.

Arthur T. Wong Celebration of Life

On February 25, 2017 a Celebration of the Life of Arthur T. Wong (March 7, 1925-December 14, 2016) was held at BCCC. Arthur was the husband of Lily Wong and the brother in law of Rose Lee. He and his wife Lily raised 2 daughters and a son-Gail, Stephanie, and Scott. Being a proud member the "Flying Tigers" during WWII, his memorial service began with a moving U.S. military Honor Guard Presentation of the American flag to the family.

Art and his wife, Lily, were very active members of BCCC years ago. Many family and friends were in attendance and many loving memories were conveyed and exchanged. At

times, it was like a family reunion- a BCCC family reunion-as many who had been raised at BCCC were able to reunite and share memories. In fact Pastor Sharon has proposed a "homecoming" of these 2nd generation BCCC'ers for later this year. The celebration of Arthur's life continued in the fellowship hall where a reception was held to allow the family more time for visiting. Arthur will be dearly missed. His wife Lily still resides in Fremont Hills Assisted Living Facility in Fremont, CA.

March 12, 2017 Church Council Meeting

- At our meeting on March 12, 2017 it was suggested and agreed upon that we will publish the ETC on a bi-monthly basis so that we are able to publish articles about events that have occurred and upcoming events can be announced.

- The former choir room has been cleared of clutter and will be renovated for future usage. The choir robes will be placed in storage in closets in the office.

- On Saturday, March 18, 2017, Roger and Vicky Jennings, and Edward Lai will attend a Community Disaster Preparedness Training at Le Conte Elementary School in Berkeley. On March 29, 2017, all available and interested parishioners are invited to attend a Webinar presentation on Nonprofit Disaster Preparedness. We will gather at church to view this presentation from 10am -11:30am. Over lunch, we will discuss what we've learned with the intent to develop a disaster preparedness plan for BCCC and include its tenants.

- Our next New Beginnings Conversation #4 will take place after the 11am worship service on Sunday, March 26, 2017. Based on our past conversations -which have been very positive and insightful-we will now venture into exploring what we feel God is calling us to do for mission work. How do we all together live out God's call for us as a church? Something to really ponder...

• **Some dates to keep in mind:**

April 2: Birthday celebration and fellowship lunch with Kick-off of Crop Walk - more information on p.5

April 9: Palm Sunday/All Church Clean up-come to church in work clothes! More details to come!

April 14: Good Friday Service

April 16: Easter Sunday

April 22: Follow up meeting for New Beginnings facilitators and leaders

April 30: Crop Walk

Senior Center Programs for March

3/21 Speaker: Alan Wang, former reporter for ABC News Channel 7, will do a presentation on Hepatitis B. He made a film called, "Be About It" will be shown at the senior center. 10:30 am. Lunch Entrée: Salt & Pepper Pork.

3/28 Speaker: Andrew Tang, from Berkeley Chinese Community Church. His presentation is on "Trees". 11:00 am. Lunch Entrée: Lemon Chicken.

4/4 Speaker: Joyce Wong will talk about her experience working for Ambassadors in different countries. 10:30 am. Lunch Entrée: Curry Chicken.

4/11 Speaker: Linda Lei, Asian Art Docent, will talk about Tomb Treasures, 10:30 am. Lunch Entrée: Baked Pork Ribs.

4/18 Speaker: Rev. Ken Yamada, will talk about his trip to India, 10:30 am.

Lunch Entrée: Roast Chicken.

4/25 Speaker: Chris Loo, former FBI Agent, will talk about his experience, 10:30 am.

Lunch Entrée: Curry Mei Fun.



We wish a Happy Birthday to our brothers and sisters:

March Birthdays

3/2 Tricia Wong	3/15 Vyolet Chu
3/3 May Ng	3/15 Jessie Yip
3/7 Raymond Leung	3/20 Bernice Yuen
3/9 Doreen Wong	3/20 Glenn Granada
3/11 William Wong	3/20 Ivy Chow
	3/23 Wing Wong

April Birthdays

4/3 Jessica Vass	4/4 Vem Chuang
4/4 Amy Kao	4/5 Kovick Chan
4/7 David Louie	4/7 Diamon Pon
4/9 Everett Louie	4/10 William Chan
4/10 Joyce Chung	4/10 Celli Su
4/25 Derrick Wu	4/27 Mary Ng
4/28 Cedric Young	4/29 Rev. Wr'near Wilcox

Praises and Prayers

Mabel Low



Praises for the March 5th birthday luncheon for Jessie Yip which was hosted by her daughter, Sandy. Jessie celebrated her 96th birthday and she has been enjoying many celebratory events over the past few weeks. Jessie wears her years well and she is highly admired by the BCCC family. A very Happy Birthday to this great lady!!

Praises that John Ho has recovered nicely from his knee operation. He is getting around very well which proves that old adage "you can't keep a good man down". We're glad that the operation was such a success.

Praises that Pat Wong is now able to leave her care facility and will soon be moving to El Cerrito Royale, an assisted living facility. After March 25th, which is when Pat is expected to move, we're sure that she would love to hear from you.



Prayers for the family of Andrew Jong who recently passed away. Andrew, better known as Andy, was the son of Liz and Francis Jong, long time faithful BCCC members and Andy and his siblings, Bendrew, Christine and Daniel grew up in the church. A Celebration of Life gathering will be held in the Tilden Room at the UC Student Union on Sunday April 2, 12n - 2:30 pm. To emotionally support the family, please share memories and photos of Andy via email to:

remembering.andyjong@gmail.com

Prayers for members of our BCCC family who are suffering from colds and lingering coughs and other ill-

nesses, some that linger for weeks. We pray that all those experiencing physical problems will be well soon.

Prayers for other members who are experiencing challenging personal situations. The Lord knows the needs of all and we pray that he will comfort and care for each one in their time of need.

As we are in the midst of the Lenten season, let us observe this holy season as a time of **Reflection, Repentance and Rejoicing**. We wish for all a very Blessed Easter!



CROP HUNGER WALK
ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

APRIL 2nd

CROP WALK 2017 (4/30/17)

COMES TO BCCC

(following
11 am worship;
April Birthday Celebration;
& Fellowship Lunch)

- **TAIKO DRUM**
- **INFORMATIVE DVD**
(about the Crop Walk)
- **PREPARATIONS**

**(to participate as donor or walker
so we can end hunger one step at a time!)**

Questions?

Contact...

Vivian Yee (vivian1115@gmail.com)
Tricia Wong (wongtricia38@yahoo.com)
or
Vicky Jennings (vjennin@gmail.com)

ETC Monthly March 19, 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
19 C: Rev. James Shum E: Rev. Sharon MacArthur	20	21 Senior Center	22	23 Romeo/ Juliet Lunch Fellowship 12:00 pm	24	25 All Church Fellowship Cantonese Fellowship: Yijin/Tai Chi exercise class 5 pm, pot- luck dinner 6:30 pm
26 C: Pastor Brian Cheung E: Rev. Sharon MacArthur	27	28 Senior Center	29	30	31	April 1 Their Angels 11 am Cantonese Fellowship: Yijin/Tai Chi exercise class 5 pm, pot- luck dinner 6:30 pm
2 All Church Bilingual Holy Communion Service, Rev. Sharon MacArthur	3	4 Senior Center	5	6	7	8 Cantonese Fellowship: Yi- jin/Tai Chi exercise class 5 pm, potluck dinner 6:30 pm
9 C: Elder Peter Chang E: Rev. Sharon MacArthur	10	11 Senior Center	12	13	14 Good Friday Bilingual Candle light Service 7pm	15 Cantonese Fellowship: Yijin/Tai Chi exercise class 5 pm, potluck dinner 6:30 pm
16 All Church Bilingual Easter Service, Rev. Sharon MacArthur	17	18 Senior Center	19	20	21	22 All Church Fellowship, potluck dinner 6:30 pm
23/30 C: Pastor Brian Cheung/TBA E: Rev. Sharon MacAr- thur/Rev Sharon MacArthur	24	25 Senior Center	26	27 Romeo/ Juliet Lunch Fellowship 12:00 pm	28	29 Cantonese Fellowship: Yijin/Tai Chi exercise class 5 pm, potluck dinner 6:30 pm

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