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今年復活節是我們教會正式成立了二十年。教會成立了一個特別小組，預備一切慶祝事宜。而今年的年刊亦加增了二十週年特刊這一部份。於是我翻閱教會多年來的年刊，發現最早的一本年刊是一九八六年年刊。那麼，年刊亦是經過了二十年的歲月了，使我不禁向神高呼「哈利路亞！」。

二十年前的這一本《五吋半乘八吋半》淺藍色的刊物，比現在的面積少一半，而每一篇文章都是由多位弟兄姊妹一筆一劃慢慢寫下的，沒有圖片，亦沒有相片，一切都是最基本的，就如我們教會初成立時一般，沒有自己的建築物，祇有二個團契，註冊會友祇有四十九人，但今天，二十年的今天，年刊進步了不少，在神的帶領下，稿件亦倍增，有插圖，亦有相片，而且用電腦中英文植字，一切均上軌道，教會亦日漸成熟，先有了自己的禮拜堂，更因人數的增加而擴建。

感謝神的帶領，願今年的年刊、特刊能令更多的人得著福音，亦求神帶領更多的朋友加入我們這個大家庭，又讓兄弟姊妹更加努力參與教會各樣的事工，也許在二十年之後我們已在不同的區域植堂。

最後，我節錄哥林多前書第十五章58節來互相勸勉：「所以我親愛的弟兄們，你們務要堅固不可搖動，常常竭力多作主工，因為知道你們的勞苦，在主裏面不是徒然的。」



This Easter we are celebrating the 20th anniversary of our church and a special committee has been formed to prepare and plan for this celebration. In this yearbook, we have added a special edition for the 20th anniversary of our church. I have read all the church yearbooks for the past twenty years and I discovered that the earliest edition was printed in the year of 1986. Indeed, we have had our church yearbooks for twenty years as well. Praise be to our God, “Hallelujah!”

Twenty years ago, the church yearbook was 5.5” by 8.5” with a blue cover – about half the size of the church yearbook today. Each article was hand-written by brothers and sisters of our church with no pictures and no photos. Everything was quite primitive – it was just like what happened at the beginning of our church. We did not have our own church building and only had two fellowships and forty-nine church members. Today, after twenty years, the quality of the church yearbook has significantly improved. Thanks to God’s guidance and provision, not only are the articles more than doubled, but also our yearbook has imbedded with church photos and clip arts. It also utilizes computer editing for both Chinese and English languages. Everything is now on track and our church has grown up as well – we had our own church building and we subsequently built the church extension due to an increase of our church members.

“**BCBC – Behold Christ, Being Church**” is the theme of 2006 as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of our church.

Behold Christ: Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith (Hebrew 12: 2)

Being Church: Being a church that is pleasing to God – to do what is good, and right and faithful before God (2 Chronicles 31:20-21)

Rev. Wong shared with us the principles of spiritual revival and being a church that is pleasing to God (2 Chronicles 31) “Doing what’s *good* and *right* and *faithful* before God.”

- *Determine to seek to the Lord, to seek His face, His love and His power. Psalm 105:4*
- *Be holy unto God in the grace of the blood of Christ, to walk in His light and to abide in His love. 1 Peter 1:13-16, 1 John 1:7, 1 John 3:23-24*
- *Serve the Lord our God faithfully and diligently. 1 Corinthians 15:58, 1 Peter 4:10*

God has provided us with this spiritual home so that we can spread the gospel, to build up the body of Christ and thus fulfilling the Great Commission. We praise God for His gracious provision and we must obey His commands.

“And I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.” Ephesians 3 16-20.

All knowledge, faith and gift are originated, rooted and established in the love of Christ. “And now these three remain: faith hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.” 1 Corinthians 13:13.

「為要藉着教會使天上執政的，掌權的，現在得知神百般的智慧」（弗3:10）

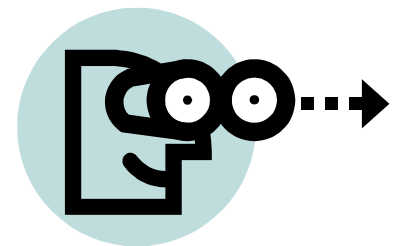
以上一節經文實在寶貴和奇異，神竟然擇選教會，在祂所創造靈界的天使、魔鬼眼前，彰顯祂的旨意和智慧！

今日許多人輕視教會，排斥教會，把個人與神的關係完全代替了基督教信仰，然而，保羅在以弗所書一至三章卻告訴我們，救恩和福音的最終目的，就是為要建立教會；在人類歷史中神是透過教會來完成祂的旨意；基督愛教會、為教會捨己；保羅為教會受苦、卻稱之為榮耀。所以教會是神所愛和珍重的，儘管每一所教會都有其軟弱之處，我們卻不可離棄教會，因為神永不放棄教會。

今年我們慶祝教會成立二十週年，可能有人會覺得我們祇不過是一個小城市中的一所小教會，無需要小題大做；我卻是心裏極其興奮和感恩，因為過去二十年間教會成長，是見證神的榮耀和恩典，我回想到以下的例子：

- 教會開始時並不是由於一些偉大的植堂策略，乃是因為一羣初信主的基督徒，願意向鄰居傳福音，從家庭式查經班開始
- 從教會成立至今，總共有一百二十多位弟兄姊妹在本會受浸
- 儘管我們來自不同背景、教育程度、脾性、語言、甚至膚色，每星期我們可以一同敬拜，彼此服侍，實在奇妙，這是見證主耶穌共通的生命
- 多年來教會一貫地採用不記名、不標榜，不施壓力的自由方式來收集奉獻，卻從未經歷金錢短缺，神感動弟兄姊妹樂捐地支持教會的常費、建堂、差傳等事工
- 在教會經歷攻擊、低潮的日子，神復興信徒恆切禱告，起來事奉，見證神豐盛的恩典

「但願祂在教會中，並在基督耶穌裏，得着榮耀，直到世世代代，永永遠遠，阿們！」（弗 3:21）



1980 新生命的開始

牧師和我在1980年聖誕受浸，成為多倫多東區華人浸信會的會友。

「若有人在基督裏，他就是新造的人，舊事已過，都變成新的了。」(林後五：17)

1981 異象的萌芽

在1981年的夏天，我們開始查經班。

星期日的上午，我們在多倫多東區華人浸信會參加主日崇拜，下午在賓頓市我們家有查經班。

「至於我和我家，我們必定事奉耶和華。」(書二十四：15)

1982 賓頓市福音工作開始

藉著浸聯會的介紹，我們認識位於賓頓市中心的第一浸信會。他們以愛心接待我們，願意開放教會。是年我們在第一浸信會開始星期日下午聚會。

「我們曉得萬事都互相效力，叫愛神的人得益處，就是按祂旨意被召的人。」(羅八：28)

1983 主呼召馮津牧師到賓頓市事奉

在這段開荒的日子，多倫多東區華人浸信會(我們的母會)看到這個城市的福音需要。在一九八三年復活節成立賓頓市福音堂。神差遣馮牧師到賓頓市事奉。

「神為愛祂的人所預備的，是眼睛未曾看見，耳朵未曾聽見，人心也未曾想到的。」(林前二：9)

1984-1986 建造的異象

一九八六年復活節，賓頓市華人浸信會正式成立。

我們一方面感謝第一浸信會弟兄姊妹的愛心接待，一方面又渴望儘快有自己的堂址。馮牧師與我們到處尋找，見到救世軍在Queen Street 有一間空置的禮拜堂，便與他們聯絡。後來因為出價錢不夠高，被另外一個商人投得。當時我們有點兒失望，但是仍然深信神的帶領。我們繼續祈禱仰望。

賓頓市發展迅速，地價開始直線上升。我們非常焦急。馮牧師到處聯絡，得悉地產發展商Bramelea Limited 有幾幅適合建築禮拜堂的地段出售。經過詳細的思想及禱告，教會決定購買位於Jordan Blvd. 和North Park Drive 的一幅地段。於一九八六年九月簽訂合約，以\$75,000一畝的價錢購入該幅地段，真是神的預備。當時我們建堂基金祇有三萬元左右。我們憑信心要求賣方六個月後才成交。他們一一答允。教會開始籌劃怎樣付款，需要向銀行貸款嗎？弟兄姊妹懇切禱告、仰望主，努力奉獻，結果我們無需貸款。於一九八七年三月十九日以現金買下堂址。

「神果真住在地上嗎？看哪，天和天上的天，尚且不足你居住的，何況我所建的這殿呢？惟求耶和華我的神垂顧僕人的禱告祈求，俯聽僕人今日在你面前的祈禱呼籲：願你晝夜看顧這殿，就是你應許立為你名的居所；求你垂聽僕人向此處禱告的話。你僕人和你民以色列向此處祈禱的時候，求你在天上你的居所垂聽，垂聽而赦免。」(王上八：27-30)

1987 神所賜的美地

在約旦街的另一邊，主賜給我們一畝美地，是何等奇妙！

建堂委員會定下一個兩年計劃，目標是二十萬元，加上貸款五十萬元，可建造七十萬元，於一九八九年夏天動工。對於我們小小的教會，這是一個極艱巨的工作。我們的禮拜堂，非常清楚是神的旨意建造聖殿作敬拜。

「萬軍之耶和華說：“你們要將當納的十分之一全然送入倉庫，使我家有糧，以此試試我是否為你們敞開

天上的窗戶，傾福與你們，甚至無處可容。”萬軍之耶和華說：“我必為你們斥責蝗蟲，不容牠毀壞你們的土產。你們田間的葡萄樹在未熟之先，也不掉果子。”萬軍之耶和華如此說：“萬國必稱你們為有福，因你們的地必成為喜樂之地！”」（瑪三：10-12）

1988 差派第一位宣教士梁耀文

在籌建的時間，每一分文都非常寶貴。建堂工作當然重要，但弟兄姊妹卻沒有忽略傳福音的工作，甚至海外差傳。於一九八八年秋天，差派第一對宣教士梁耀文夫婦到哥斯達尼加宣教。

「所以你們要去，使萬民作我的門徒，奉父、子、聖靈的名給他們施洗〔或作給他們施洗歸於父、子、聖靈的名〕凡我所吩咐你們的，都教訓他們遵守；我就常與你們同在，直到世界的末了。」（太二十八：19-20）

1989 哈利路亞！建堂動土

一九八九年四月一日動土，開始建築。感謝主，弟兄姊妹確信建造禮拜堂是榮耀神的工作。靠主的恩典，教會沒有作任何屬世的募捐，弟兄姊妹及一些華人教會樂意奉獻，看見建堂基金達到二十萬元的目標，怎能不讚美主。建築及各項購置預算是七十萬，除了建堂基金奉獻的二十萬元，需要向外貸款五十萬元。我們向多間教會機構及銀行聯絡，銀行貸款的條件非常嚴格，雖然有物業按揭，還要求會友個人擔保。感謝主豐富的預備，感動多個教會團體以低息貸款，結果我們無需向銀行貸款。我們特別感謝以下各機構與我們同工，完成主的使命。

McMaster Divinity College	\$ 330,000
Baptist Convention of Ontario & Quebec	100,000
Toronto Association of Baptist Churches	50,000
York Minister Park Baptist Church	25,000
	<hr/>
	<u>\$ 505,000</u>

禮拜堂的總面積是九千呎，如果招標請建築商承包，價錢非常昂貴，後來經過各方面的探討，決定聘請建築顧問，弟兄姊妹也參與一些非技術性的工作，以減低建築費。園藝的承包價錢很高，我們決定自己購買樹和草皮。這種勞動的工作非常透支體力，加上炎熱的天氣，真是要命。雖然是辛苦，但想到可以節省數千元，便默默地耕耘，在數天內種下幾十棵大樹及鋪好草皮。六個月建築工程完成，在一九八九年九月十七日開始早上崇拜。

「所以我親愛的弟兄們，你們務要堅固，不可搖動，常常竭力多作主工，因為知道你們的勞苦，在主裏面，不是徒然的。」（林前十五：58）

1993 按立梁耀文牧師

梁耀文宣教從士哥斯達尼加回來，按立為牧師。

1994 擴堂

因為經濟因素，在第一期建築工程，我們祇能有幾個小班房，在樓下用一些屏風間隔活動班房，作主日學之用。教會人數增長，班房不敷應用，於是在一九九三年計劃擴堂四千呎，建築費是三十萬元。弟兄姊妹奉獻十萬元，McMaster Divinity College 貸款二十萬元。是年九月動工。

「萬軍之耶和華阿，你的居所何等可愛！我羨慕渴想耶和華的院宇，我的心腸、我的肉體向永生神呼籲。如此住在你殿中的，便為有福。他們仍要讚美你！」（詩八十四：1、2、4）

1997 步入牧養行列

冠明於一九九六年完成神學訓練。我們清楚主的呼召，也有牧者及教會的印證，便踏上全職事奉，作神的工人。

「要收的莊稼多，做工的人少。所以，你們當求莊稼的主打發工人出去收他的莊稼。」（路十：2）

2000 差傳按立

馮津牧師全力投入福音廣播，在遠東福音廣播公司全時間事奉。差派李傳頌夫婦往緬甸為宣教士。冠明按立牧師。

「報福音傳喜信的人、他們的腳蹤何等佳美。」〔羅十：15〕

2002 獻堂感恩

神的子民忠心奉獻，在二零零二年八月付清貸款。是大喜的日子。感謝主！願榮耀頌讚歸與神。萬膝跪拜，萬口稱頌耶穌基督為主。

我們與神同工，建造賓頓市第一間華人教會。我們已經歷到建造神的殿的喜樂，深信主已悅納弟兄姊妹所獻上的一切。我們的生命都會過去，但是這座禮拜堂將繼續成為福音的燈臺，高舉十字架，照亮整個城市。

「我們在天上的父，願人都尊你的名為聖。願你的國降臨，願你的旨意行在地上如同行在天上。我們日用的飲食，天天賜給我們。赦免我們的罪，因為我們也赦免凡虧欠我們的人。不叫我們遇見試探，救我們脫離兇惡。」(路十一：2-4)

2004 神興起新的傳道人

冠明在下半年暫時離開教會進修，參加短宣到泰國探訪李傳頌宣教士。郭定傳道神學畢業，主呼召他加入牧養行列。符之恆弟兄在英文堂為實習神學生。

「所以弟兄們，你們務要堅固，不可動搖，常竭力多作主工，因為知道你們的勞苦，在主裏面不是徒然的。」(林前十五：58)

2005 新舊交替，一切都更新了

郭定傳道承擔國語事工，繼貝牧師三年任期完滿退任。符之恆傳道神學畢業，加入牧養行列，負責英語事工。麥牧師經過十多年事奉，正式榮休。李傳頌從泰國緬甸回來，被按立為牧師。

「坐寶座的說：“看哪，我將一切都更新了。”」(啟示錄二十一章5節)

2006 被觀察了二十年，仰望基督，活出教會

教會從正式成立至今二十載(雖然教會在1986年才正式成立，其實是遠在1981年在家庭查經班已開始萌芽)。至今當年的弟兄姊妹的下一代亦漸漸成長，在教會中事奉。近年來更喜訊紛紛傳來，成家立室，締結良緣。主啊，讓我們數算祢的恩典，在黑暗的世代，仰望基督，活出教會。求主賜福祢的子民，在地上藉著教會完成神的大使命。

雅比斯求告以色列的神說：“甚願祢賜福與我，擴張我的境界！常與我同在，保佑我不遭患難，不受艱苦。”神就應允他所求的。(歷代志上四：10)



當媽媽聽到我們將會有一個孩子的消息時，她是如此的欣慰。因為在許多年前，在我還沒有結婚的時候，我媽媽非常擔心我會成為一個天主教的神父。那樣的話，我家的姓氏就不能延續下去。對一所教會也是一樣，當神創立教會時，他希望教會能增長。當一所健康的教會在規模和預算上逐漸地成熟時，他的管理和牧教的能力也會增強。隨著教會的發展，教會亦會有自己的教堂。隨後教會一星期又一星期，一年又一年地順利運作，在自己的教堂裡愉快地敬拜。是這樣夠了嗎？

一九八一年的夏天，神引領我作為一個土地測量助理員來到喬治城(Georgetown)工作。當時我住在士嘉堡，尚沒有車，靠一個朋友開車送我去面試。當我被錄用後，我立即開始在喬治城尋找住處。我找遍了那個地方，但沒有結果。當我們開車路過一間浸信會的教堂時，我腦中突然閃過一個念頭。我找到了那家教會的牧師，告訴他我是中國浸信會的會友，我要在喬治城工作，需要一間房間住宿。就在那天晚上的禱告會中，他們為我禱告，並且一個家庭讓我住了進去。第二天牧師在喬治城的公車站接我，在路上他了解我的信仰情況後，他問我是否能幫助他們教會去扶助一個他們贊助的越南人小組，我高興地接受了邀請。從此我幾乎每天晚上下班後都去探訪。我非常的疲勞，每天晚上晚飯後，我從房東那裡借了單車去探訪。從體力上講我感到不願意去，然而每次回到家裡我充滿了喜樂。我開始了一個一星期一次的查經班。我們用廣東話，英語，越南語和荷蘭語交流。我說廣東話或英語，有人就輕聲翻譯給聽不懂的人。我們的查經班持續了整個夏天。

在夏天以前，我在多倫多東區華人浸信會(ETCBC)認識黃牧師和黃師母。那時他們住在賓頓市，每個星期天在東區華人浸信會作禮拜。在那個夏天的每個星期五的晚上，我在他們家裡吃飯，然後我們一起查經，非常的開心。我們彼此從對方身上學到了很多。

夏天以後，我告訴李帝平牧師，神已在喬治城和賓頓市動工。他聽後很興奮地說，東區華人浸信會應該繼續開展這項事工，去建立一所基址。後來賓頓市華人浸信會就這樣出現了。我絕對沒有想到，當初出自我有限信心而跨出的一小步，竟然帶出了今天的一所教會。

神期待著我們去完成宣教的大使命，祂熱切地盼望祂的兒女們能夠成長，並且數量增多。祂渴望每個基督徒都能成熟，並且領人歸向基督。同樣地，祂希望祂的教會走向成熟，數量增長。

在慶祝賓頓市華人浸信會成立二十週年之際，也正是我們教會將事奉與宣教提升到一個新層次的時候。過去我們教會已經培育了牧師們，在禱告和財務上支持了各種宣教的事工和宣教士們。我想我們應否再跨出更大的一步？我們不但要繼續去做我們已經做到的，現在更要為神的國度去另植一間教會。

在我們這個城市，仍然有許多尚未接觸到的中國人。賓頓市華人浸信會已經走向成熟，應去尋求四幅牆以外的需要。我們的教友們有著不同的恩賜。植堂將會幫助我們教友不再看見我們自己的需要，並能激勵我們去成長。我真的盼望透過這本年刊能夠看到這個異象。

讓我們同心合一地禱告，尋求我們主的心，去察驗和順服祂的旨意。我們賓頓市華人浸信會將蒙主的喜悅，去實現主在我們身上的美意。



親愛的弟兄姊妹們：

祝賀你們的二十週年慶典！時間過得真快，往事如昨日一般。還記得那時在賓頓市第一浸信會時悄悄欣賞你們的歌聲，盡情享受你們的美味佳肴，與馮牧師一起禱告，偶爾在你們當中講道的情景。

當你們隨著人數的增長購置了地皮建立你們自己的教會時的激動場景歷歷在目。回顧我們一起工作的十三年，看著孩子們在道德和身體、靈命和人際關係，以及教育方面的成長，我真不知如何表達我的感受。

感謝大家對我們的愛以及給我們特殊的權力讓我們愛你們及你們的孩子。謝謝你們給我們機會講道、教導、鼓勵、給予和接受，充滿喜樂和歡笑在一起享受美食。

尤其使我們感激最深的是你們對神的熱愛和虔誠。基于對神的愛，你們可以改變世界，因為神是活的，有權柄的神。

在你們慶祝這個重大的二十週年之際，我們祈求神賦予這個教會清晰，艱巨的烈火般的使命，燃燒在你們的骨子裡使你們懼怕如不服從就會內心枯竭。愿神也賜你們一個能激勵你們的異象和一個能指揮和控制每一個會眾的熱心和行為的戰略，使你們成為神強有力的軍隊，不休止地戰鬥。聽從神擴大疆域的挑戰，在你們的心以及家庭裡為具有不同倫理道德背景的鄰舍們留出空間，使他們充填你們英語會眾的人數。願神使你們心神不寧直到把福音傳給了賓頓市以及賓頓市以外每一個迷失的中國人及家庭。

BCBC的未來就像神的應許那樣光明。只有神能救我們的社會及當中的每一個人。非基督徒領袖們可以建造蜂房，但只有神能控制蜂蜜，而你們就是他的蜜蜂—BCBC!

敬賀賓頓市華人浸信會成立廿週年

李帝平牧師

1982年東(北)區華人浸信會因梁耀文弟兄趁暑期工作，在賓頓市開展了該地區查經班；繼而開展崇拜及設立福音基址；再成立教會。匆匆廿年，回顧一些為他們感恩的事：

- (一) 由小組查經→家庭查經→崇拜→福音基址→成立教會→建立自己的堂址；每一步都看到神的帶領及預備。「耶和華以勒」是賓頓市華人浸信會所經歷的。
- (二) 會友成為主任牧師—黃冠明牧師之得救，是他搬到賓頓市居住後所發生的。由得救→成長→事奉→奉獻→傳道→主任牧師，可以說他是在賓頓市華人浸信會土生土長。這真是神的恩典。盼望 神繼續使用他，帶領弟兄姊妹更向前走。
- (三) 差遣會友成為宣教士—梁耀文牧師夫婦、李傳頌牧師夫婦都是這教會中蒙召，被主差派成為海外宣教士，印證這教會是一所實踐差傳之教會。深盼日後有更多宣教士從這裏出去，是現代之「安提阿教會」。

感恩之餘，還有些微祈望—深感大多市移民日增，西北地區也發展非常，這是開設基址之地區。盼望您們能在這廣闊地區中植堂，正如先知以賽亞說：「要擴張您帳幕之地，張大您居所的幔子，不要限止；要放長您的繩子，堅固您的橛子。」(賽五十四2)

因工作緣故，離開賓頓市華人浸信會，不知不覺五年了。去年尾返回教會崇拜時，得到弟兄及黃師母提醒，二千零六年四月是教會建立二十週年，屆時特別慶祝。二十載不是一個短的日子，漫長歲月，世事變化也大，神的恩充滿在教會每一件事上。我們夫婦雖然居住在紐約，也時常來往紐約和賓頓市之間，一年都有三四次。每一次總不能忘記自己曾經和弟兄姐妹們一同事奉及崇拜的教會。每一次相見時，總是那麼親切，滿心感謝神，見到大兒子仍在教會敬拜及事奉，心中也感到安慰。過去幾年，神賜恩惠及平安給我們，目前我們的工作及起居都安定下來。神也保守我們在紐約信心聖經教會敬拜及事奉。

回顧過去二十年，起初，我們借用西人教會聚會，在馮牧師及師母帶領下，開始尋找自己的基址。那時候，教會人數不多，看見弟兄姐妹有愛主的心，對建立教會有熱心及信心，教會存款不多，又要差派及支持一對新婚夫婦去宣教工作，我們怎能購買或建築自己的教會呢？惟有依靠神的大能，賜給我們信心，挑旺弟兄姐妹對這事工熱心，努力堅持為尋找教會基址禱告。雖然遇到困難及失敗，我們仍不放棄。「神能照著運行在我們心裏的大力充充足足的成就一切超過我們所求所想的。」（弗三：20）。神終於為我們預備一塊地，並且價錢便宜。不多久我們僱用，建築商，弟兄姐妹一同參與建築自己的教會，是多麼美麗的回憶。願頌讚榮耀歸於神。同時在過去十幾年，神賜機會給我一直在理事會中以不同崗位事奉神，從建堂及擴堂我都樂於參與，蒙恩不少。

「你們務要堅固不可搖動，常常竭力多作主工，因為知道你們的勞苦在主裏面不是徒然的。」（林前十五：58）。所以弟兄姐妹們，神多方面印證，神不虧待人。神會賜福給在主裏忠心事奉的人，過去如此，現在、將來也如此。

現今我們教會的建築借款付清了，黃冠明弟兄奉獻作全時間主任牧師，傳道部建立了差傳基金支持不少福音機構，講國粵語的郭定弟兄奉獻作全時間傳道，英文崇拜也加了一位年輕的傳道。這兩位曾經是我們時時要禱告祈求神的。記得有一年教會有八位嬰孩同一年誕生，現在長大了，願神祝福他們能在各教會聚會及事奉。

教會建立了二十年了，對人來說，二十歲青年，正是年輕有為，在大學學習。教會仍然年輕，願我們堅守在主的道上，同有一個不屈不撓的心志，站立得穩，為所信的福音齊心努力。（腓一：27）「我們原是祂的工作，在基督耶穌裏造成的。」（弗二：10）。祇學習依靠祂的恩典去突破各樣難處，承擔祂所交託我們的使命，作祂忠心僕人，仰望那為我們信心創始成終的耶穌，倚靠那使我們有盼望的神，不但將諸般的喜樂平安充滿我們的心，而且藉聖靈的能力，賜下異象，同心合一，使教會興旺。神施恩的手必幫助我們，與我們同在，直到主再來，阿們！



回顧教會二十年

半百小子

二十年前我已經是教會的一份子，現在的半百小子當時當然只有三十多歲，俗語說：「男人三十一枝花。」當時我正是花樣年華，現在的我已經是「中厚腦實」的中年發福、記憶力大不如前了。趁著我還未到老人痴呆的時候，我要把二十年前的教會記下來，和現在作一比較，好叫我們在數算主恩的時候，看見神在賓頓市奇妙的作為，就把榮耀給天上的父神。

	二十年前（一九八六年）	現在（二千零六年）
教會名稱	賓頓市福音基址	賓頓市華人浸信會
牧師數目	一位	四位
會友人數	四十九人	約二百人
崇拜聚會	借用第一浸信會	擁有現在堂址
聚會時間	星期日下午聚會	星期日上午聚會
團契數目	只有一個	超過十個
差傳基金	無	有差傳基金
支持宣教機構	無	十六個
支持宣教士數目	無	十四人
成人主日學	一班	分中英文部共九班
兒童主日學	一班	八班
兒童崇拜	無	有
聖樂部	未有	有
成人詩班	一班	有國語粵語共兩班
兒童詩班	一班	一班，三個英語敬拜小組
年刊	出版第一期	共出版二十期
年刊編排	手抄本	電腦排版
財務	只有常費	有常費、差傳基金、植堂基金
廚房部	未有	有



成長二十年的迦南團

黃光耀

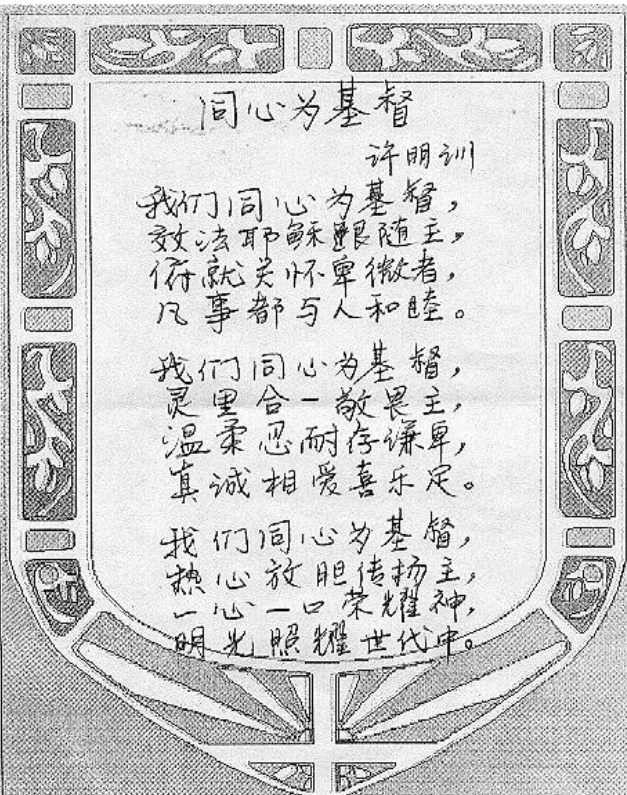
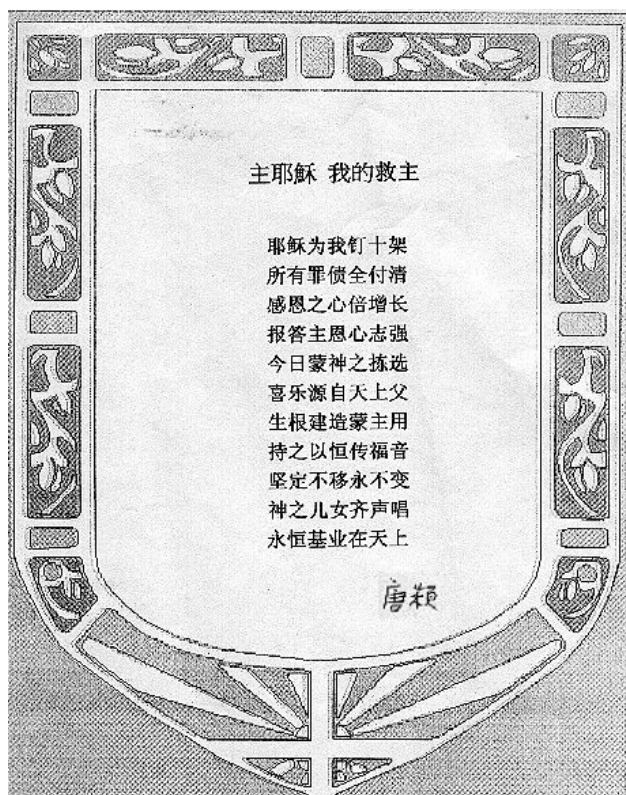
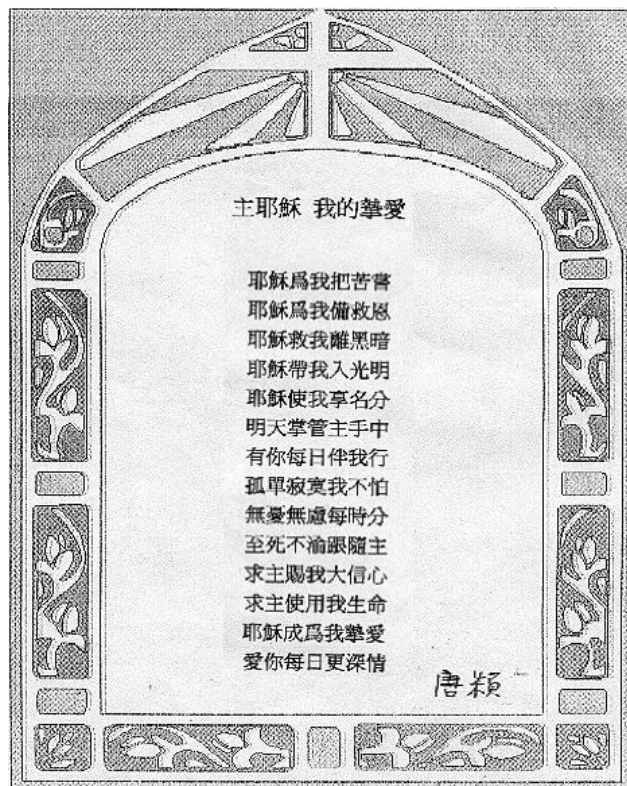
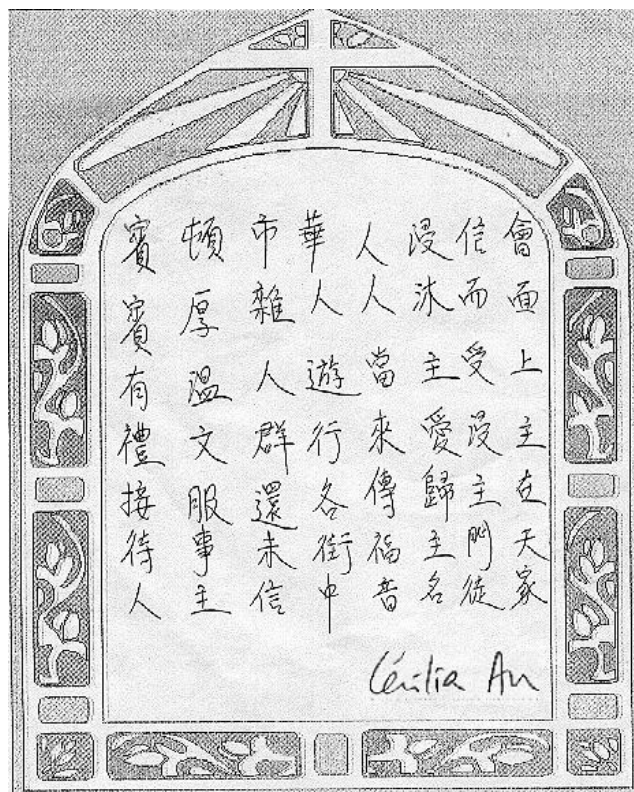
感謝神的帶領，今年是賓頓市華人浸信會成立二十年的紀念日，迦南團早在一九八四年五月已經成立，是當時唯一的一個團契，成立至今已二十二年。迦南團成立之時，稱為成人團契，現把迦南團歷年來的團長、主題和教會大事，表列如下：

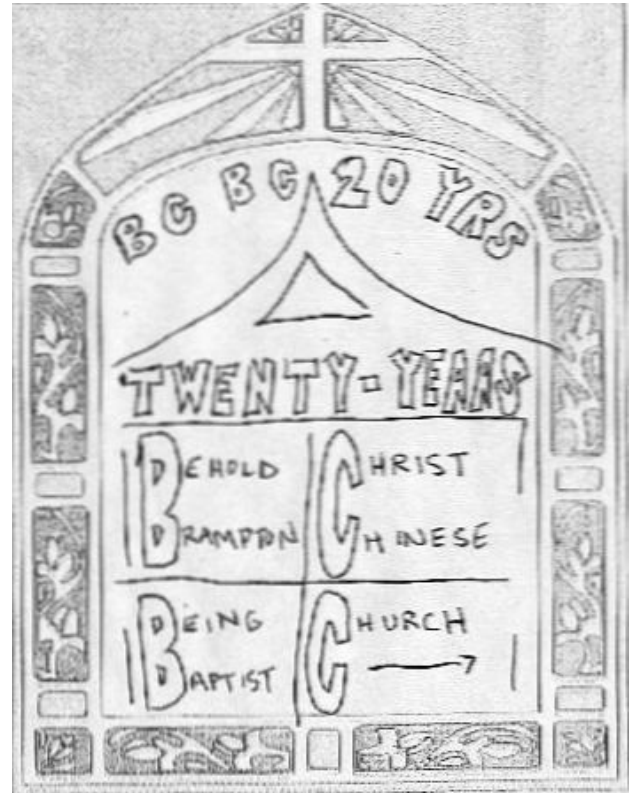
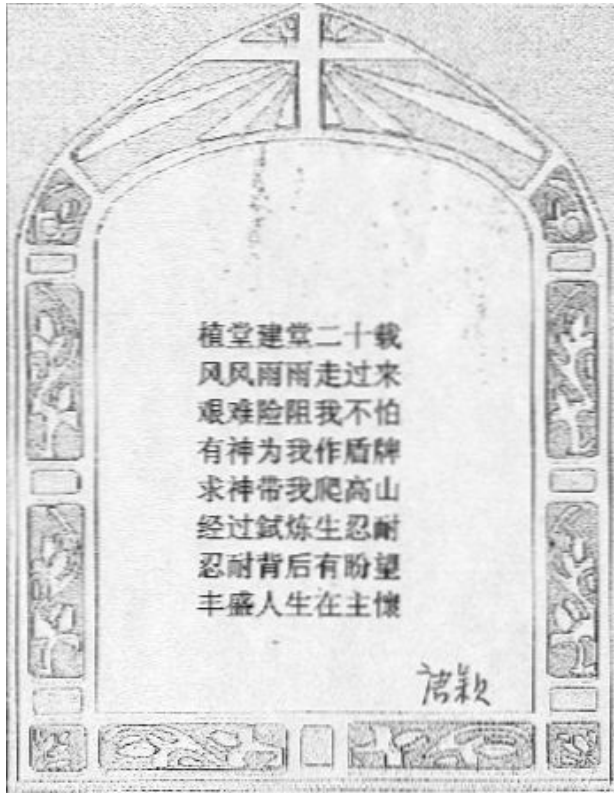
年份	團長	主題	教會大事
一九八四年：？	---	---	成人團契成立，第一次退修會
一九八五年：瞿忠信	---	---	教會增添八名嬰兒
一九八六年：關振鵬	建基磐石上	建基磐石上	教會成立，年刊第一次出版
一九八七年：姚錦榮	教會與我	教會與我	教會購地
一九八八年：姚錦榮	向下扎根	向下扎根	差派第一位宣教士梁耀文
一九八九年：周啟明	以神為樂	以神為樂	新堂啟用，青年團、就業團成立
一九九零年：韓國民			以琳團、少年團成立，各團契命名
一九九一年：韓國民	在聖經裏的更新	在聖經裏的更新	分中英崇拜，成立國語團、摩西團、聖樂部
一九九二年：黃慶聰	剛強壯膽	剛強壯膽	麥伯淳牧師加入牧養英文部
一九九三年：韓國民	務要傳道	務要傳道	計劃擴堂
一九九四年：周陳麗怡	從新得力	從新得力	按立梁耀文牧師
一九九五年：周陳麗怡	主、請差遣我	主、請差遣我	擴堂完成
一九九六年：姚錦榮	齊心努力	齊心努力	探訪部成立
一九九七年：姚錦榮			黃冠明全職事奉
一九九八年：黃光耀	彼此建立，效法基督	彼此建立，效法基督	使命宣言，首屆差傳年會
一九九九年：黃光耀	進深靈命，更新事奉	進深靈命，更新事奉	
二零零零年：姚錦榮	彼此勸慰、互相建立	彼此勸慰、互相建立	按立黃冠明牧師，差李傳頌、馮津牧師
二零零一年：姚陳偉儀	耶路撒冷...直到地極	耶路撒冷...直到地極	聖地之旅，大學就業團成立
二零零二年：吳秉權	行事為人與蒙召的恩相稱	行事為人與蒙召的恩相稱	獻堂感恩
二零零三年：姚陳偉儀	當拜主你的神，單要事奉他	當拜主你的神，單要事奉他	中文部分國語、粵語崇拜
二零零四年：黃光耀	與神同工，興旺福音	與神同工，興旺福音	南亞區世紀大災難
二零零五年：黃光耀	看哪、我將一切都更新了	看哪、我將一切都更新了	按立李傳頌牧師
二零零六年：黃光耀	仰望基督，活出教會	仰望基督，活出教會	二十周年紀念

二零零五年迦南團的重點放在學習聖經真道上，上半年研讀加拉太書，下半年查雅各書。迦南團在這一年特別有一個主題：「被主釋放、行得勝路」，用來點出這二卷經文的中心意義。讓我們在主裏一起成長，一起彼此進深、彼此建立。



感言精選





“His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms.” (Ephesians 3:10)

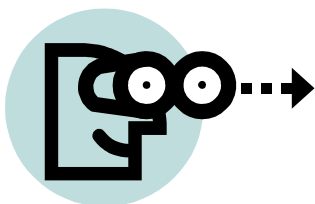
This is certainly one of the most precious and amazing verses in the Bible that God would choose the church to reveal His purpose and wisdom before the eyes of angels and devils!

Today many people despise and reject the church as they have solely equated personal relationship with God to be the totality of Christianity. Yet in the book of Ephesians, chapters one to three, Paul told us that God’s ultimate purpose of salvation and the gospel is to establish the church. Throughout the history of humankind, God has been using the church to accomplish His purposes in the world. Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her. When the apostle Paul suffered for the church, he attributed it to God’s glory, therefore God loves and treasures the church. Although every church on earth has her own weaknesses, we should never give up on the church because God will never give up on the church.

This year we are celebrating the 20th anniversary of our church. Some people may think that this is no big deal because our church is only a small church within a small city. Yet I am full of excitement and thanksgiving for the occasion. I consider the 20 years of our church history as testimonies of God’s glory and grace. I can think of the following examples:

- Our church was not started out of any grand plan of an outreach strategy. It was started by a group of new Christians who felt that they should reach out to their neighbors with the gospel by starting a home Bible study
- Since the inception of our church, there have been over 120 brothers and sisters baptized in our church
- Although our members come from different education backgrounds, with different temperament, languages and skin colors, yet every week we can all gather together to worship and serve one another. This is all because of the common lives we share in our Lord Jesus Christ
- Since the beginning, our church has adopted the policy of anonymous free-will offering without any pressure tactics. Yet we have never experienced any shortage of funds. God has blessed the church with many cheerful givers in supporting the various ministries, e.g. general fund, building fund and mission fund
- When our church was going through times of difficulty and depression, God raised up members to support the church in prayer and active services. All this testifies to God’s abounding grace in our church.

“To Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.” (Ephesians 3:21)



1980 The beginning of a new life

Ming and I were baptized in December of 1980 and became members of East Toronto Chinese Baptist Church.

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has gone, the new has come!”
(II Cor. 5:17)

1981 The beginning of a vision

Our church ministry was started as a Bible study group in the summer of 1981. Each Sunday after the morning Worship Service in Toronto, we had Bible study at our house in the afternoon.

“But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” (Joshua 24:15)

1982 The beginning of a mission in Brampton

The Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec kindly introduced us to First Baptist Church (Queen Street and Main Street) who opened their church building on Sunday afternoon for a Chinese Worship Service. During all these years of using their building facilities, our church did not have any formal lease agreement with First Baptist Church. They did not ask for any rent and our church just made a nominal love offering during the pioneer stage. This marked the beginning of a Chinese Baptist Church planting in the city of Brampton.

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him who have been called according to His purpose.” (Romans 8:28)

1983 The Calling of Rev. John Fung, our founding pastor

We were just starting off as a mission church in a small town with a handful of Christians. I was a new Christian and had absolutely no idea how difficult or how easy it was to call a pastor. Surely our Lord had prepared for us the best and He sent Rev. John Fung to serve in Brampton.

“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him.” (I Cor 2: 9)

1984 – 1986 A vision to build

In 1986, we registered with the Government for charity status and our church was named “Brampton Chinese Baptist Church”. We were grateful for the hospitality of First Baptist Church for the use of their building in all these years. However, it was our desire to have a church building of our own to further God’s kingdom. Rev. Fung really had a strong vision and quite often, he would ask us to drive around the city together and look for a church site.

We went to many places, looking at land and buildings. The price was very high due to the rapid growth of Brampton. We were very disappointed when the Salvation Army turned down our offer to buy their old church building on Queen Street and Mill Street (the old part of the city). Later we realized that God had prepared a bigger plan for His people. We continued to pray and wait on the Lord to guide us in our search for a church site.

Rev. Fung tried every available way and called every possible person for a potential church site. Finally the good news came. Rev. Fung connected with Bramelea Limited, the largest land developer in Brampton then. They were developing a huge division along North Park Drive and ten building lots had been reserved and designated for church buildings. We were

so excited and asked to see the lots. After much thought and prayer, we decided to buy the land at the corner of Jordan Blvd. and North Park Drive.

On September 12, 1986 we signed an offer to purchase the land at the price of \$75,000. This was well below the market price. A normal closing date will be 30 to 60 days, but because we had only \$30,000 (not enough money to close the transaction within a short closing date) we asked for a six-month closing which was extremely unusual for real estate transactions. Amazingly, Bramalea Limited accepted the offer. Our members prayed and offered generously toward the Building Fund.

“But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built! Yet give attention to your servant’s prayer and his plea for mercy, O Lord my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day. May your eyes be open toward this temple night and day, this place of which you said ‘My Name shall be there’ so that you will hear the prayer your servant prays toward this place. Hear the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive.” (1 King 8: 27 – 30)

1987 Beautiful land

The Lord gave us one acre of beautiful land on the other side of Jordan Blvd. at an incredible price of \$75,000. On March 19, 1987, we bought the land with cash. How beautiful! How wonderful!

What is next? Our church building committee proposed a two-year plan of raising \$200,000 within our congregation and financed a \$500,000 mortgage for a building budget of \$700,000. This was indeed a big and difficult task for a new church of less than 30 families. However, it was clear that it was God’s will to build a place of worship for His people.

“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, ‘and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit,’ says the Lord Almighty. ‘Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,’ says the Lord Almighty.” (Malachi 3: 10 – 12)

1988 Our first missionary, Stephen Leung

During the financing and planning stage of the building project, saving money was a very high priority for our members. When Stephen Leung asked for support to be a missionary to Costa Rica, we had to decide whether to support the mission now or not? Our members believed that overseas missions and the building project were equally important in the kingdom of God. In the fall of 1988, our church supported the first missionary Stephen Leung to Costa Rica.

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28: 19 – 20)

1989 Hallelujah! Construction began

On April 1, 1989 construction began. Our target for the Building Fund was \$200,000. Instead of resorting to fancy fundraising, we relied on the free will offering of our members. A few Baptist Churches in the Toronto Area also contributed to the Building Fund. We discussed our financial needs with a few commercial banks. Apparently the banks had a very strict security

requirement for church mortgages, such as member personal guarantees. Praise the Lord for His Provision, we were able to finance the project with low interest loans from church organizations (not banks).

We were very grateful to the following organizations for their financing:

McMaster Divinity College	\$ 330,000
Baptist Convention of Ontario & Quebec	100,000
Toronto Association of Baptist Church	50,000
York Minster Park Baptist Church	25,000
	<hr/>
	<u>\$ 505,000</u>

The total area of the church is 9,000 sq. ft. The construction costs estimated by all building companies were very expensive. Finally, we hired a project manager to assist us in construction. Our church achieved significant savings by being our own general contractor and contributing voluntary labour.

The quote for landscaping (planting trees and laying the grass) was very high. It was suggested that we purchase the trees and sod and provide the labour ourselves. Several of us visited a tree farm in Waterloo to hand picked the “big” trees and order the sod. We could not imagine that we really did it. We were exhausted and practically collapsed at the end. Because of the hot weather, we could not delay and had to lay all the grass and water them within 2 to 3 days. That was tough but we made it together!!

On September 17, 1989, we moved into our new building and had our very first Sunday Worship Service in the **Morning** in our new building. Praise the Lord!

“Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.” (1 Cor 15:58)

1993 Ordination of Missionary Stephen Leung

Missionary Stephen Leung was ordained after serving in Costa Rica for five years.

1994 Church building expansion

During the first phase of construction, we built a big sanctuary and only a few classrooms at an affordable budget with a plan for future expansion. The Fellowship Hall was partitioned into small classrooms for Children Sunday School. Shortage of classrooms eventually became a happy problem that our church had to deal with. In 1993, a building expansion became a real need. The plan was to expand another 4,000 sq. ft. with an elevator and classrooms of various sizes for \$300,000. Our members came up with \$100,000 and McMaster Divinity College re-financed the balance of \$200,000. The second phase of construction started in September of 1994.

“How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty! My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.” (Psalm 84:1, 2, 4)

1997 The beginning of full time ministry

Ming completed his seminary training in 1996. The calling to serve in full time ministry was confirmed by our church. Ming joined the pastoral team as an assistant to Rev. Fung in January 1997.

"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." (Luke 10:2)

2000 Mission and Ordain

Rev. John Fung was called by God to serve in Radio gospel ministry with Far East Broadcast and Keith Lee was called to serve in Myanmar as a missionary with GO International. This is also the year the church has confirmed to set apart Ming for pastoral ministry by ordaining him. So at the beginning of the year, the church held a celebration service of Commissioning (Rev. Fung and Keith) and Ordination (Ming). The church and many invited guests all rejoiced in this event.

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Romans 10:15)

2002 Building Dedication

Our church has been diligently paying down the mortgage over these years with faithful offering from His people. In August 2002, the final mortgage payment was made. It was a great celebration. We Praise You, O Lord, Your people desire to dedicate the building to the Glory of Your name. May Your name be lifted high! All knees shall bow and all tongues confess that JESUS IS THE LORD.

To our young people, this building is the inheritance from your parents. We all worked hard and built His Kingdom because of our love to Jesus. One day, you will be leaders of the church. I pray that you will continue to expand God's kingdom and pass on the Christian faith to many generations to come!

"Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation." (Luke 11:2 – 4)

2004 God called His Servant.

Ming took 6-month leave of absence for further seminary education and short-term mission experience. He also visited Missionary Keith Lee in Thailand. Conrad Kwok graduated from seminary and God called him to serve at our church. Ken Foo served the English congregation as an intern.

"Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." (1 Cor. 15:58)

2005 Everything is new.

Pastor Conrad Kwok continued his service in the Mandarin Ministry upon completion of Rev. Pei's three-year term. Pastor Ken Foo graduated from seminary and God called him to serve in the English Ministry. Rev. Metz took his honorary retirement after serving over ten years as an interim pastor at our church. Missionary Keith Lee was ordained after serving in Thailand and Myanmar for five years.

"He who was seated on the throne said, 'I am making everything new!'" Then he said, *"Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."* (Rev 21:5)

2006 20 years of BCBC.

This year we are celebrating the 20 year anniversary of church. Although our church was officially established in 1986, our ministry in this city started in 1981 as a home-based Bible study group. Our second generation is growing up and wedding bells are ringing in many families. Oh Lord, let us count your many blessings; Behold Christ and Being Church. Bless your people to accomplish your purpose in our lives.

"Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, 'Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my

territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain." And God granted his request." (I Chronicles 4:10)



Go. Multiply.

Rev. Stephen Leung

Mom sighed with great relief when she heard that we were going to have a baby! Before I got married many years ago, my mom worried so much that I was going to become a Catholic priest, and our family name would not be carried onto the next generation. In a similar fashion, when God initiates a church, He expects the church to grow, be fruitful and multiply. A healthy church grows gradually in size, in budget, and then grows stronger in the administrative and ministry structure. As adults purchase their own house, a church would have their own church building. The church would run smoothly week by week, year by year, happily worshipping in her own building. Is that what it is all about?

In the summer of 1981, God led me to Georgetown to work as a survey assistant. At that time, I lived in Scarborough and I did not have a car, so, a friend of mine drove me to the job interview. After the company hired me, I immediately looked for a place to stay in Georgetown. I searched everywhere in Georgetown but to no avail, but as we drove by a local Baptist church, it suddenly dawned on me intuitively to call the pastor of the church. I told him that I was a Chinese Baptist member, and I needed a room and board for me to work in Georgetown. That very night in their prayer meeting, they prayed for the Lord's provision, and one family offered to take me in.

The next day, the pastor picked me up at the GO bus station in Georgetown. On the way home, after he examined my faith, he asked me if I could help their church to follow up a group of Vietnamese whom they had sponsored. I gladly took up the invitation. Since then, I went on visitation almost every night after work and I was so tired. Every night after dinner, I borrowed a bike from my landlord and went on visitation. Physically, I felt unwillingly to go, yet every time I came home I was filled with joy unspeakable. I started a Bible study once a week and we used Cantonese, English, Vietnamese, and Dutch. In the Bible study, I said something in Cantonese or English, and they would whisper the translation to the people who did not understand. We went on with the Bible study for the entire summer.

Prior to that summer, I became acquainted with Ming and Sharon at East Toronto Chinese Baptist Church. At that time they were living in Brampton and worshipped at ETCBC every Sunday. During that summer, I had dinner at their home and we had Bible study together on every Friday night. It was so much fun and we learned so much from each other.

After the summer, I told Rev. T.P. Li what God had been doing in Georgetown and Brampton. He was enthusiastic and said that ETCBC should carry on the work and establish a branch church. That was how Brampton Chinese Baptist Church came about. I could have never imagined that one little step out of my comfort zone would lead to a new church today.

God expects us to carry on with the mission -- The Great Commission. It is His utmost desire that His children grow into maturity, be fruitful and multiply. He wants each Christian to be mature in faith, capable of leading others to Christ, and in the same token, He desires His church to mature and to multiply.

As Brampton Chinese Baptist Church celebrates her 20th anniversary, it is now the time for our church to advance to a higher level of service and mission. In the past, we have nurtured pastors, supported various ministries, missions, and missionaries both financially and in prayer. May I suggest that we go a step further? Not only should we continue to do what we have been doing, but also to consider at this time, planting another church for His kingdom.

There are so many Chinese communities around our city of Brampton, which are still un-reached by the gospel of Jesus Christ. BCBC has attained the level of maturity to look beyond the boundary of our four walls, as we have members endowed with different spiritual gifts. Planting a new church creates an opportunity for the whole church to participate and to fully exercise all the gifts we have. Planting a new church motivates all the members to set our sights beyond individual needs and stimulate personal growth. I do hope that this vision will go far beyond the pages of this booklet.

Let us unite our hearts and prayers, look to the heart of our God, be sensitive and obedient to His Will - - to fulfill His purpose and the mission of our existence, so that our church BCBC will be pleasing to Him.

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Congratulations on your 20th anniversary! How time flies! It seems like yesterday that I was sitting in my study room in First Baptist Church, Brampton, secretly drinking in the inspiration of your singing; savoring the sweet scents of your exotic foods downstairs; meeting with Pastor Fung for prayer, and speaking to your congregation on occasion.

How well I recall the excitement of your numerical growth to the point of your purchasing church property and constructing of your own facilities. And what shall I say about the 13 wonderful years we worked together in ministry, watching your children grow in wisdom and stature, in spirit, social relations and in education.

Thank you for accepting and loving us, for giving us the unique privilege of loving you and your children. Thank you for the privilege of preaching, teaching, encouraging, giving and receiving, and of course, always eating together, with joy and laughter.

One of the things we appreciate most is your love for and devotion to the Word of God. With such priority, you can change the world, for the Word of God is living and powerful.

As you celebrate this significant anniversary, our prayer is that God will fire you up as a church with an incendiary mission, clear and challenging, burning in your bones, so you fear being internally consumed if you do not obey it. May He ignite in your spirit a similar vision that drives and motivates you purposefully, and a strategy that commands and controls devotion and action on the part of every member and participant, so you become God's mighty army, to conquer and to continue conquering. Hear God challenging you to impact your neighbourhood and make space in your heart and family for neighbours of varying ethnic background, as they swell the ranks of your English congregation. May He make you totally uncomfortable and disturbed in your spirit till you are shepherding every shepherdless Chinese person and family in Brampton and beyond.

The future of BCBC is as bright as the promises of God. Only God can save our society and the individual members thereof. Non-Christian leaders can make the honey comb, but only God can make the honey and you are His bees -- BCBC!

Sincerely in Christ,
Bazil Metz
Kitty Metz



April 9, 2006

Brampton Chinese Baptist Church
1989 North Park Drive
Brampton, ON L6S 5X5

Dear Christian Friends,

On behalf of the Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec, I want to offer our warmest congratulations on the 20th anniversary celebration of your church. We are glad that you are part of our convention of churches and we value our partnership together. Your ministry and mission reach is extended as we join cooperatively.

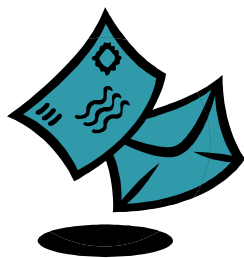
Your congregation is an important part of our vision of being a family of churches building Christ's kingdom. As you worship, care for one another and reach out into your community, you touch many lives with the good news of God's love. We will continue to pray for God's strength and fruitfulness in your ministries.

I regret that I am not able to be there in person to offer my best wishes. I trust that you will have a great time together as you celebrate.

"Peace be to the whole community, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." Ephesians 6:23

In Christian service,

Rev. Dr. Ken Bellous
Executive Minister



一. 前言

在思想教會異象之先，牧師們一起商討，祈禱求告主，讓我們明白神的旨意。我們對教會的基本信念是：

- 福音是上帝給世人的好消息。這福音是照聖經所記：耶穌為我們的罪而死，從死裏復活，使我們的罪得赦免，而且將聖靈賜給我們悔改相信的人。基督徒是被呼召作主的門徒。(林前15:3, 4; 路14:26, 27)
- 教會是上帝子民的群體。基督徒聚集敬拜神，彼此建立，行各樣的善事。(徒2:42; 弗2:10)
- 神的旨意是要教會增長和擴大。(太28:18 - 20)
- 神呼召我們是要傳福音，用諸般的智慧，不單用言語，也要有實際的行動。佈道事工策略應該注意未信者的疑問和需要。(太25:40; 徒10:38; 雅2:15-17)
- 作為華人教會，我們的首要責任是向華人傳福音，但也要注意福音的普世性。(徒1:8)
- 賓頓城市不斷發展，人口急劇增加，我們的教會必須訂下策略同時增長。

二. 我們的異象

成為一個增長和擴大的教會，是因為我們廣傳福音，從賓頓市開始，直到地極。

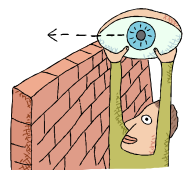
三. 策略

造就信徒

- 鼓勵信徒看重神的話語(聖經)，與主耶穌建立親密的關係。
- 幫助信徒發掘自己的恩賜，明白神在他們生命中的旨意。
- 善用資源，訓練信徒，參加事奉。
- 藉著事奉，造就信徒成為教會的領袖。

教會植堂

- 現在成立建堂基金，計劃在城市西面購買堂址。堂址最好是十畝以上，可建崇拜禮堂，教育樓，等等，如有需要可供社區服務。
- 當教會人數增加，本堂址地方不夠用，應該在新購買的土地興建新堂，新堂跟母會相似，有英文及中文會眾。
- 新堂是按需要分期興建。



教會有四重非常重要的身份，知道的人並不多，所以應該用心學習一下。這四重身份，記載在彼得前書第二章第九節，如下：

- 惟有你們是：
- 一. 被揀選的族類；
 - 二. 有君尊的祭司；
 - 三. 是聖潔的國度；
 - 四. 屬神的子民。

在啟五：10裏面也有同樣的話：「因為您曾被殺，用自己的血，從各族、各方、各民，各國中買了人來，叫他們歸於神，又叫他們成為國民，作祭司，歸於神，在地上掌王權。」
教會在地上的四重身份：

一. 被揀選的族類

申七：6；十：15；十四：2，這樣說：「因為你歸耶和華為聖潔的民，耶和華你神從地上的萬民中揀選你，特作自己的子民。」故此「教會」的原本意思，就是「被揀選出來的群體」，主耶穌的話很清楚地帶出這個意思。約十五：16：「不是你們揀選了我，是我揀選了你們！」

而且，主耶穌說：「我要把我的教會建造在這磐石上，陰間的權柄不能勝過他。」(太十六：18)。此處的「教會」就是當時的市議局，是被揀選出來的群體。

申命記中清楚地告訴我們，以色列民成為選民並沒有具備特殊的條件和功勞，純粹在乎揀選人的主和祂的主權，所以信徒也應該十分留意主耶穌的揀選，用謙卑、順服，退讓的態度過榮耀神的生活。

二. 有君尊的祭司

出十九：6這樣告訴選民：「你們要歸我作祭司的國度，為聖潔的國民，這些話你要告訴以色列民。」

啟五：10也清清楚楚地說信徒要在地上執掌王權，所以教會其實具有王權，而且是祭司的地位，站在神和人的中間，對人則代表神說話，把神的心意傳給人，對神便代表人向神祈禱，所以獻祭是敬拜，感恩和代求。這都是祭司的工作。

啟二十：6指出基督將來在地上要作王一千年。教會是基督的祭司，也要與基督一同作王一千年。因此，教會具備了王權，要與基督同作王一千年。故此，信徒應該清清楚楚地認識自己作王的身份，活出王的風度和榮耀，不要自貶身份。

三. 是聖潔的國度

「聖潔」在聖經裏面佔有很重要的位置，因為神是聖潔的。

申七：6：「因為你歸耶和華你神為聖潔的民！」

出二十二：21：「你們要在我面前為聖潔的人！」

聖潔最大的特點就是分別出來，所以彼前一：13-16，清楚地吩咐教會：- (1) 約束自己的心；(2) 謹慎自守言行；(3) 專心盼望主的再來；(4) 不要放縱私慾。

「那召你們的即是聖潔，你們在一切所行的事上也要聖潔，因為經上記著說：「你們要聖潔，因為我是聖潔的。」」

聖潔的原動力是神的話。主耶穌在分離的禱告中，這樣說：「求您用真理使他們成聖，您的道就是真理。您怎樣差我到世上，我也照樣差他們到世上。我為他們的原故，自己分別為聖，叫他們也因真理成聖。」(約十七：17-19)

教會是一個擁有真理的群體，是經過主寶血潔淨的國度。雖然因為人的軟弱，常常失去聖潔的見證，但是主的話，神的真理在那裏，那裏便可以重新聖潔。故此，主耶穌清清楚楚地宣告：「我要把我的教會建造在這磐石上，陰間的權柄不能勝過他。」

四. 屬神的子民

出十九：5：「如今你們若實在聽從我的話，遵守我的約，就要在萬民中作屬我的子民。」

申二十六：16-19很清楚地把神和祂的子民作類比。

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| (1) 今認耶和華為你的神 | (1) 耶和華今日照祂所應許的，也認你為祂的子民 |
| (2) 你要盡心，盡性謹守遵行神的律例、典章。 | (2) 使你得稱讚，美名尊榮超乎祂所造的萬民之上 |
| (3) 應許遵行神的道，聽從祂的話。 | (3) 使你歸耶和華你神為聖潔的民 |

教會不屬世界，所以，也不屬撒但，不在撒但的控制之下。故此，要遭魔鬼各方面的攻擊。但是，陰間的權柄，即撒但的權柄，不能勝過教會。啟十九：7、8指出羔羊婚娶的時候，新娘所穿的光明潔白細麻衣是聖徒所行的義。所以，這新婦就是教會。教會最後所得的寵愛是至高、至尊，至榮的。願我們今天認識自己的身份，也過榮耀尊貴的生活，直到主來。



「其次是…」～誰是下一位？

郭定傳道

當我在開始要準備這篇文稿之時，尼希米的史蹟就不斷的浮在我的腦海裡，我想可能是因為在這本書卷裡有著極為豐富又激勵人心的信息，而且更重要的是尼希米他個人事奉的態度與經歷，對於今日的教會來說是有著太多的地方值得我們去反思和學習的。

尼希米從主動發掘「需要」開始了他人生的另一個重要的里程碑(尼 1:2-3)

「我問他們那些被擄歸回…，和耶路撒冷的光景。…城牆拆毀、城門被火焚燒。」

反思的問題之一：

今日的問題不是在乎於我們看不到需要，而是我們對周圍需要的敏感性不高，其原因的根本乃是基督徒缺乏了那對生命的熱忱(passion)，而這熱忱正是我們尋求異象所需要的原動力！試想一個沒有異象的屬靈生命又如何可以結出許多的果子來呢？

尼希米在知道需要之後，他即刻向神禱告並等候在主的面前。(尼1:5-11「耶和華天上的神，大而…。求你記念所吩咐你僕人摩西…。使你僕人現今亨通，在王面前蒙恩。」)

反思的問題之二：

今日的問題不是在於我們沒有禱告，而是我們將禱告往往放在個人的行動之後，那也就是說缺乏了真正仰望的心！尼希米藉著禱告就已經領悟出神要重建耶路撒冷城牆的心意，因為神曾應許摩西祂必「將他們招聚回來，帶到我所選擇立為我名的居所」(尼1:9)，而當時耶路撒冷城的光景並不符合這「居所」的條件，神要重建的心意就透過了尼希米的禱告成為了異象。我們往往在個人的心意受到阻攔之後才倖倖然的來到神的面前尋求指引。在順服依靠的功課之上，這其實是本末倒置的！

尼希米在神賜下機會(尼2:2-4「王對我說：…你要求甚麼？」)之後便採取了行動，他暗中親自勘察，他在適當的時機之下與百姓分享了他屬天的異象和期望(尼2:17-18「以後，我對他們說：…來吧！我們重建耶路撒冷的城牆…」)尼希米沒有光說不練，他的行動乃是禱告的延伸！

反思問題之三：

今日的問題不是在於我們沒有計劃，甚至不是在於我們沒有尋求神的指引，而是我們往往沒有忠心的去執行神的心意，我們「坐」多過於「做」，我們「說」多

過於「禱告」！因此事工不是停滯不前，不然就是沒有實際的果效。

尼希米有熱忱、有禱告、有異象、有等候、有執行的事奉態度，所換得百姓的回應是：「我們起來建造吧！」於是他們奮勇做這善工。(尼2:18)

緊接著作者就用了非常詳細的記載來描述重建的經過，他不但指出了這些參與者的姓名甚至也更包括了他們在社會上的職業是什麼，另外這些人在神心意的重建工作當中他們實際負責參與了些什麼，都交代得很清楚，同時作者用了三個字(中文譯本)「其次是」將所有的人都連接了起來！一個人或一組人就這樣分工不斷的將這異象付之於現實，直到整個重建工程完成為止！

我們站在這年際的交替之間，無論是檢討過去或者是展望前面的日子，都不能不反思上面所看到的三個問題，盼望眾肢體之間彼此提醒勸勉，教會面對拓展西北區植堂的異象、廣傳福音至地極的使命尚未完成，許多的事工仍有待眾人的參與和推動，尼希米要重建耶路撒冷的城牆之時，堅定不移的信心在他回答那些嗤笑他們的外邦人的話裡就已經表露無遺了，他說：「天上的神必使我們亨通。我們作他僕人的，要起來建造…。」(尼2:20)

弟兄姊妹們！對神所託付的使命和異象，今天我們的回應是什麼？誰又是那下一位願意接過這持續建造責任的人呢？！

引言

去年的年刊，我寫了一篇文章有關我所熱愛的兩件事工——「敬拜和社會公義」。這兩件事工是密切相聯的。今年我想再分享我的另兩件熱愛的事工——「敬拜和傳福音」。同樣這兩件事工是密切相聯、缺一不可的。如果你敬拜，你會去見証。當你見証時，你就是在敬拜。

今年我們教會的主題是「仰望基督，活出教會」。當我們思想這個主題時，我們必須注意到，「仰望基督」——就是敬拜，「活出教會」——就是見証。為什麼活出教會如此的重要呢？為什麼我們要有教會呢？為什麼我們要去教會呢？去教會和去敬拜二者有很大的分別。敬拜的對象是神，因為神，我們才有敬拜。敬拜不單是音樂，不單是在禮拜天的早晨坐在敬拜禮堂。我們怎樣才能形成敬拜的生活模式呢？

在以賽亞書第六章，以賽亞和我們分享了他奇妙的敬拜經歷。他沒有Power Point，沒有詩歌本，沒有麥克風，沒有打印的程序表，沒有敬拜小組和風琴。讓我們來看以賽亞書6:1-8

背景

先讓我來提供一些背景資料，希望能有所幫助。烏西雅在他十六歲時成為猶大的國王，他作王五十二年。作為一個年輕人，他尋求神，他把他的國家轉向神，神就使他亨通（歷代志下26：5）。但是隨著年數的增加，他的聲譽遠揚，他變得很有權勢，最終他的驕傲導致他的沒落。烏西雅變得心高氣傲，以至於他想要在聖殿中燒香。聖殿的祭司們阻擋他，並且對他說，燒香是祭司的職份，而不是國王的。聖經告訴我們，烏西雅發怒。當他向祭司發怒時，額頭上突然發出大麻瘋（歷代志

下26：19）。烏西雅這個驕傲的有權勢的國王，最終成為一個癲瘋病患被隔離居住，渡過餘生。他的兒子約坦接續他作王。進入以賽亞書。

當烏西雅在西元739年死時，以賽亞已作了近十八年的先知。自所羅門年代以後，民眾還沒有經歷過如此的繁榮和強盛。許多人開始相信烏西雅，而不再相信神。所以當烏西雅死後，以賽亞看到了神的異象。他所看到的、聽到的、感到的和所做的，永遠改變了他的生命。那就是敬拜。

當我們敬拜時，我們看到真實的神（以賽亞書6：1-4）

以賽亞見到了神。在約翰福音中我們知道，以賽亞真正地看見了耶穌（約12：41）。以賽亞進入了天上的聖殿，來到了三位一體中第二個位格的神，主耶穌的面前。當我們敬拜時，我們必須認識到基督的神性。

進而以賽亞看到了主，坐在高高的寶座上。當我們敬拜時我們必須認識到，神不單是地球和宇宙的統治者和王，也是我們本身的王。烏西雅王死後，一些人感到不再能把握他們的前途。偉大的國王死了，人們開始擔心。但神向以賽亞應許，神依然高坐在寶座上。

以賽亞同樣認識到，主在寶座上，崇高和尊貴。當我們敬拜時，我們必須認識到，神是值得我們敬拜的。

最後以賽亞看到，祂的衣裳垂下，遮滿聖殿。當我們敬拜時，我們要知道祂的威嚴。以賽亞只看到神至聖的衣裳的邊緣，但它遮滿了聖殿。

以賽亞所看到的告訴了我們什麼呢？以賽亞提醒我們去問一個問題，這個神是

誰呢？我們所敬拜的是一個怎樣的神呢？等一下我們會看到，當以賽亞對神的形像有正確的認識時，他就能接受神的呼召。

我們的神是差遣的神，我們的神是那位開拓的神，我們的神決不滿足於自我封閉。祂差遣了耶穌基督，然後差遣了聖靈。現下祂差遣教會和每個基督徒到整個世界。所以，如果這是我們敬拜的神，那麼我們——祂的子民，應該去跟隨祂的引領。作為祂的教會，我們不應該滿足於自我封閉，我們應該去開拓，我們應該差遣人們出去。

當我們敬拜時，我們看到了真實的自己 (以賽亞書6: 5)

站在神的面前，以賽亞痛苦地認識到他自己的罪。以賽亞感覺到什麼呢？失敗！他感到了完全徹底的失敗。什麼時候是你最近一次面對神時，因為他的威嚴而讓你感到自悲呢？

「**禍哉！**」以賽亞是個先知，他對別人宣佈禍哉。現下他真面臨著自己絕望的無助。神的威嚴和聖潔徹底壓倒了他。事實上，他宣佈了對自己的詛咒，他有罪。

「**我滅亡了！**」此處的英文 (I am ruined) 並沒有真正地表達出原文的意思：「我完了，遊戲結束，完結，一切結束了」。我記得曾經問一群高中生，如果主耶穌走進我們的禮拜堂，他們會怎樣做？一個勇敢的學生舉手說，他可能和主耶穌互相擊掌。另一個說，他會跑過去和主耶穌擁抱。真的嗎？如果主耶穌在這個禮堂立刻出現的話，沒有人能夠站立。我們所有人只能面朝下俯伏，我們不可能站立。

「**因為我是嘴唇不潔的人，**」在這裡我們有趣地看到，以賽亞對他自己的嘴定罪。他是個先知，他用嘴來事奉神，從他的嘴裡講出神的話語。他認識到宣講神的話的重要責任，而他自己是多麼的不配去

做這個聖潔的事。作為一個傳道人，我感到有相同的罪。我有時問「主啊，我知道你饒恕我的罪，但是你能饒恕我的講道嗎？」

「**又住在嘴唇不潔的民中，**」以賽亞把自己稱為一個反叛的以色列人。他知道他並不比別人好。烏西雅在他晚年時，在信仰上失敗，整個國家也被他影響。約坦想重整信仰來引導這個國家，可是無人感興趣。以賽亞把自己歸入了那一類帶著罪惡的人。

「**又因我眼見大君王萬軍之耶和華。**」當我們看到真實的神時，我們會看到真實的自己。以賽亞知道他有罪，他在神公義的火焰中，任何罪的念頭、語言、行動、願望，在天堂裡暴露無遺。我不願輕視你的自尊，但是你不完善，我也不完善。因為我們的罪，我們和神隔離。我們沒有能力憑自己得到神。真正的敬拜將使我們因罪而絕望地下跪，並哭求我們絕對需要的一件東西，憐憫。

敬拜經歷了神的憐憫 (以賽亞書6: 6-7)

當以賽亞想到神要毀滅他時，他看到一個撒拉弗飛向他。在他手裡拿著從壇上取來的一塊紅炭。天使在做憐憫的事。以賽亞感到過失敗，現他經歷饒恕和自由。他的罪孽被除掉了。以賽亞的罪被釋放，他的內心得平安。神並沒有忽視以賽亞的罪，但在罪中，恩典臨到。以賽亞接受了神的恩典。不但他的罪孽被除掉，而且他的罪惡被赦免。這並不是因為以賽亞做了什麼，而是神以他的憐憫和恩典去潔淨他的罪。神對我們也是一樣。真正的敬拜總是經歷神的饒恕、憐憫和恩典。

敬拜引向宣教 (以賽亞書6: 8)

以賽亞經歷與神的同在，並且以一種全新的模式經歷了神。他看到真實的神，也在絕望中看到他的真我。然後他經歷了神的憐憫，並完全重整了他和神的關係。神預備好要使用以賽亞。

「我可差遣誰呢？誰肯為我們去呢？」神發出了神聖的呼召，去找一個信差，向一個漂流無定的國家傳揚祂的真理。

「我在這裡，請差遣我！」以賽亞懷著對神的感激，成為一個新的先知。請注意，他不是只說：「我就在這裡。」他將他自己的主權交給神，而不是將他的位置交給神，他完全順服神。然後神說：「去。」神命令他去傳福音。真正的敬拜就是我們去傳神的福音。事實上，敬拜的集會已經結束，應該開始事奉了。去事奉吧！

當我們走出去，我們敬拜。當我們歌唱讚美神，我們見證。當我們為敬拜神而活著，我們就讓人們看到神的愛、神的饒恕、憐憫和恩典，我們讓人們看到神的救贖。

結論

西敏寺信仰問答【Westminster

Confession】提出了一個問題：「人生命的最高目的是什麼？」答案是：永遠的榮耀神和享受神。在敬拜中我們尋求榮耀神，透過敬拜，我們被神呼召，將敬拜神擴展到每個生命，並領人歸主。這就是我們的見證和使命。傳福音是從敬拜神而來的，敬拜神又是傳福音的最終結果。想一想，傳福音是因為我們認識了神，認識了我們自己，因為我們經歷了他的憐憫，被呼召去事奉。當我們走出去，告訴人們神的愛、神的憐憫和饒恕時，如果他們接受基督，我們就帶他們來參與對神的敬拜。

敬拜是見證的序幕，不管這個見證是傳福音還是社會事奉。而見證又是共同敬拜神的預備和序幕。

當我們像以賽亞那樣敬拜時，我們就在講述祂的故事(His-story)。

「一切都是關乎祂的。」

走過六年宣教路

李傳頌牧師

我們踏上泰北、緬甸的宣教工場已經六年，剛完成第二期述職重返工場。初期我們在緬甸山區透過教學開荒植堂，當時帶著兩位本地同工一面服侍一面培訓他們，花了兩年時間才建立了一所教會。直到有一天，有一位同工問我在缺乏工人牧養的情況下，應否繼續佈道傳福音。她的問題提醒我培訓本地同工的重要，於是將那教會交託給他們，便開始籌備門訓中心訓練當地牧養工人；經過三年多的努力，他們在山區已經植了四十多間教會，未來我們主要是訓練他們的老師和將工作漸漸交棒，一切都在主耶穌的帶領下。

今天作宣教士比從前的確幸福得多，

從前的宣教士要坐船漂洋過海幾個月才到達宣教工場，今天坐飛機幾小時便可以了；從前的宣教士要騎馬上山，今天騎鐵馬(摩托車)便可以了；從前的宣教士要以書信傳遞，今天電話、電郵都很方便；但是無論從前還是今天，作宣教士要有跟從主的心志是永遠不變的。

十年前，當『華傳』在美國成立不久，便在多倫多開始加拿大辦事處的工作，內子美儀是『華傳』的同工，我很自然就成為義工了。有一次林安國牧師來多倫多領會時，特別邀請我們夫婦吃飯，閒談間他提到在緬甸有一少數民族，多年來受盡欺壓，現在對福音開放需要三百位宣教士幫

助他們歸向基督。林牧師問我們夫婦有沒有負擔去幫助他們信耶穌，我問林牧師那民族在那裡，他解釋完了我仍是一頭霧水，他就叫我放心只要跟從他一起走一次便可以了，就這樣開始了我們第一程的宣教路。

當我第一次去到那地方的時候，我發現有很多的東西是我們有而當地人是沒有的。我們在城市走的是柏油路，他們在山區裡走的都是泥濘路；我們講究日常生活的方便，他們連最基本的自來水和電力也沒有；然而這些都是我們城市人的生活習慣。我們每天為家庭和孩子們耗盡心思，他們每天卻在生命的邊緣掙扎。當我第一次走進山區時，路途巔波，每一程都是滿身泥濘，好不容易才有機會洗澡，但是洗澡完了相當難過，因為後來我才知道剛才的享受，是一群村民從山下挑水上來的結果。早期在我們工作的山區中，因為環境惡劣，三、四個月之內便死去六十多人，很多是小孩子，當我們晚上聽見從遠處傳來的哭泣聲，便知道第二天又要處理喪禮。

幾年後的今天，我又發現其實有很多東西是當地人有而我們沒有。我曾經幫助一個在山區的學校教學，當地有些學生是每天走路兩個小時來上學，下課時又走路兩個小時回家，星期一到星期六天天如此，星期日還來參加主日學和崇拜。有一次，我們的車輛進入山區時半路壞了，我和同行的同工走進附近的鄉村求助。因為天色已晚，那位家主雖與我們素未謀面，仍然熱情地留我們住宿一晚，並且為我們預備晚飯；天亮時又請我們吃過早飯後，幫助我們修理汽車，然後陪伴我們走了一段路才原路回去，那同工說這是當地人的鄉情。

有一次我們在聚會中教導本地初信主的弟兄姐妹奉獻，下主日他們每人手拿一小點米，或一、兩個玉米來奉獻。有一位母親，平日煮飯用三水杯的米，到了星期

六只吃兩水杯的米，然後對兒子說今天少吃一水杯的米，因為明天要拿去奉獻給耶穌。結果當天收到六水桶的米，聚會完了分給有需要的家庭，以後每主日仍然收到三、四個水桶米。我的結論是，會吃飯的人都可以奉獻回應主的愛。

又有一次，我們因為要趕路而走一條捷徑進入一山寨，可以節省一整天駕駛摩托車的時間。但是那位帶路的同工告訴我，這段山路因為多年前的戰爭而埋有地雷，需要加倍小心，於是他走在前面，與我相隔兩、三公尺的距離，並且吩咐我小心跟蹤他的腳印而行，大約兩小時我們便平安到達。主耶穌對門徒說：「若有人要跟從我，就當捨己，背起他的十字架來跟從我。」（馬太福音第十六章第二十四節）從這位同工身上，我學會甚麼是跟從主和甚麼是捨己，因為每一個腳印都是用生命換取來的，走在上面好像走在主耶穌的腳印上。

還有一次，我們因為戰事要離開一個村莊，我問一位本地同工是否和我們一同離開，他婉言相拒說：「羊在那裡牧人當在那裡，到那兒都是一樣的。」原來生命的素質比所傳的道更重要。這些都是本地的弟兄姐妹有而我們沒有。

去年初，我們在當地舉辦教牧培訓、青年營及兒童聖經班，晚上還有培靈會，節目相當豐富，差不多有二百人出席，他們很多都是一家大小前來參加，我們也一家動員，配合一個醫療小組一起服侍。其間，我的小兒子被蚊蟲所咬受細菌感染，右手臂紅腫帶紫和發燒，同行的醫生建議我們提早下山就醫，當地的同工也特別為我們禱告。回家當晚，小兒子已經發高燒而且神情呆滯，第二天送他到醫院留醫觀察，醫生也不能肯定是那種細菌感染。我們打電話詢問在香港的一位醫生，她說最壞的情況是在肌肉下的筋膜發炎，可以導致肌肉壞死及休克（俗稱食肉菌感染），這

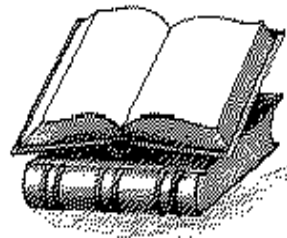
情況比較危險，要切除壞死的組織才能根治。我心中一寒，立即想起早前一位本地牧師因為車禍，右腿受食肉菌感染，動手術後從此右腳無力要用手杖幫助走路。次日早上，醫生替他做一個放膿手術及抽取組織化驗，要三天才有報告。這三天是最令人擔心，在抗生素治療下一直沒有好轉。試問一個只有兩歲的小孩子，一旦失去右手如何活下去，即或右手保得住卻像那位牧師的腳軟弱無力又如何是好。記得幾年前我在山區一個醫院服侍時，有一個父親帶著兒子來求醫，他的兒子因為意外跌傷，傷口因為沒有好好處理而發炎，來到醫院時傷口已經發紫及潰爛，醫生說需要立即切除右腿，否則性命難保，那位父親抱著兒子的腳在哭，即使手術成功情況穩定了，他仍然抱著兒子那只餘下大腿的腳一直在哭。我那時才明白那位父親的感受，自己也連續幾天禱告，求主醫治小兒子，甚至求主可以用我的右手與他交換。第三天化驗報告出來，醫生改用另外兩種抗生素一起治療，到了晚上發燒和手腫漸漸退了，又過了幾天便痊癒了，感謝天父。

幾個月前，我的哥哥因為肝癌離開世界，他是六月初發現十月中便去世。當我從東南亞趕回來看他時，那時他的精神尚可，我勸他趕快信耶穌並且問他：「按你現在的情況只有向天父求神蹟醫治，倘若

天父問你給祂一個合理的理由，然後給你多活一天，你如何回答呢？你又如何用這一天呢？」感謝神，他在生命最危險的一刻，願意悔改接受主耶穌作救主，將生命交托天父。他在醫院彌留期間，牧師再次為他禱告，求主加給力量、賜予平安，禱告完畢他竭力高呼：「有平安！」延至幾個小時之後便安然離世，享年四十二歲。其實，人生就好像走在地雷陣一樣，膽戰心驚，有些人正值壯年，事業有成，家庭幸福，卻因為突如其來的打擊，導致身體和心靈遍體鱗傷，甚至失去生命。可惜，今天很多人寧願依靠那沒有生命的財富，卻不依靠那賜生命的上帝。當生命面對危險時，正提醒我們一直以來所依靠的是誰。

生命不在乎我們要往那裡去，在乎我們跟從生命的主。雖然我哥哥最終能信靠耶穌進入天國，但是他來到神面前是一無所有的。我們將來在神面前有甚麼，在乎我們現在為祂擺上甚麼，我們又豈可空手回天家呢！一個真富足的人，不在乎他有些甚麼，而是在乎他能擺上甚麼，因為施比受更為有福。

我們到底是為誰燃燒自己呢？我們有甚麼？我們又能為主擺上甚麼呢？生命總有一個祭壇的。



當初，在大學唸書的時候，主已經呼召我作宣教士。我求主賜我一位可以同心同行的終生伴侶，好叫我們專心事主。後來，我和傳頌結婚二人成為一體，主為我們預備的恩典，超過我們所想所求的。回顧過去未出發作宣教的日子，主不斷的磨鍊我們的信心，讓我學習一心順服依靠主。

在生活上，我們並未缺乏過，在未作宣教士前，學會仰望神的供應。在過去六年的宣教生活，我學會了忍耐。首先是要忍耐學習泰文和普通話。如果知道學語言的目的是什麼，學習外語就不再懼怕。雖然說外語仍不流暢，但也會跟別人傳福音。每次人家問到自己有否參與傳頌的事工，實在不多參與，因他在山上，我跟孩子們在山下，但傳福音是每個基督徒的本份。當我明白神知道我所作的，無論大小，祂必看見，我也不介意作一位家庭主婦了。

在六年的宣教日子中，主的恩典何等豐富。孤寂的感覺是有的，但主時刻用祂的話語安慰我。我們由三人家庭增長至五位成員，我想主要是訓練我的耐性才會賜給我三個兒子。在教養孩子上，由於週圍的泰國人或華僑教育孩子的方法多數是縱容孩子的，自己未能接受，好像是孤軍作戰的我，每天讀聖經箴言書，從神而來的鼓勵和提醒好得無比。神更預備其他的宣教士與我分享他們怎樣教導兒女，最近一年，神又賜給我一位祈禱伴侶，她也是一位母親，有兩個年幼的女兒。我跟她每星期一起禱告外，更用我們有限的泰語向當

地人傳福音。

在家授課（home schooling）實在沒想到的，這是神的祝福，如果我在加拿大，我選擇在家授課的機會很低；相信在沒有選擇的情形下，仍甘心去行神所安排的路，不放棄不抱怨，這才是真正的信靠順服。能夠教自己的孩子，不單教學相長，更可以讓孩子自小學習父母的價值觀。雖然教養孩子是個挑戰，但我深信主的恩典夠用，神叫我管理祂的產業。

哥林多前書十二章十二至三十一節提醒我，每個肢體有不同的功用；在家庭也一樣，神把我們一家五口放在宣教工場上，也有祂的美意。透過孩子為我打開福音之門，與別人分享教養孩子的經驗。雖然我不能跟傳頌上山，神讓我看見自己在家的角色是要讓孩子明白父親的事奉，另一方面，讓傳頌上山時，不會擔心家人。雖然我沒有參與山上的事奉，能夠讓傳頌下山後，第一時間看見家人無恙及可以在家休息，就是我的責任了。

提到家，其實我們自結婚以來居住最長久的地方，就是泰國，難怪孩子都以泰國為家。在這六年的宣教生活中，最難過就是道別，但是將來在天家必定再聚；自宣教後認識了不少主內弟兄姊妹，他們為我們代禱，又用金錢和物質支持我們，神對我們的祝福，使我們更感到祂的真實。只要一家人可以一起踏上宣教路，一切經歷都是甘甜的。

教牧人員

Pastoral Staff

主任牧師：黃冠明牧師	Senior Pastor	: Rev. Ming Wong
國語牧師：郭定傳道	Mandarin Pastor	: Pastor Conrad Kwok
英語牧師：符之恆傳道	English Pastor	: Pastor Ken Foo
顧問牧師：馮津牧師	Advisory Pastor	: Rev. John Fung

理事會職員

Executive Board Members

二千零五年

2005

主席：關振鵬	Chairman	: James Quan
副主席：周啟明	Vice Chairman	: Colin Chow
文書：余子建	Secretary	: Jim Yu
財務部：林修德	Treasury	: Xiu De Lin
傳道部：趙國達	Mission	: Danny Chiu
主日學部：王陳非比、黎英祈	Sunday School	: Phoebe Wang, Joe Lai
助道部：姚陳偉儀、劉廣彰	Fellowship	: Amy Iu, Brian Lau
兒童部：周啟明〔代任〕	Children	: Colin Chow (Acting)
聖樂部：瞿錦榮	Music	: Denny Chiu
總務部：吳余華	General Services	: Yu Hua Wu
探訪部：李凱能	Visitation	: Hoi Nang Li

二千零六年

2006

主席：關振鵬	Chairman	: James Quan
副主席：余子建	Vice Chairman	: Jim Yu
文書：黃光耀	Secretary	: Kwong Yiu Wong
財務部：潘國麟	Treasury	: Alan Poon
傳道部：趙國達	Mission	: Danny Chiu
主日學部：王陳非比、劉廣彰	Sunday School	: Phoebe Wang, Brian Lau
助道部：姚陳偉儀、瞿錦榮	Fellowship	: Amy Iu, Denny Chiu
兒童部：周啟明	Children	: Colin Chow
聖樂部：區啟榮	Music	: Erwin Au
總務部：張國榮	General Services	: William Truong
探訪部：吳余華	Visitation	: Yu Hua Wu

二零零五年新會友名單

New members in 2005

在本會受浸加入教會的有：

三月復活節浸禮： 蔡碧雲
郭啟琿
譚梓毅
劉嘉芝
陳凡迪
余偉恩
羅越奇
孫曉東
孫凱
楊慧娟
蕭啟鈞
十月感恩節浸禮： 焦凡非
林志強

轉會加入的有：

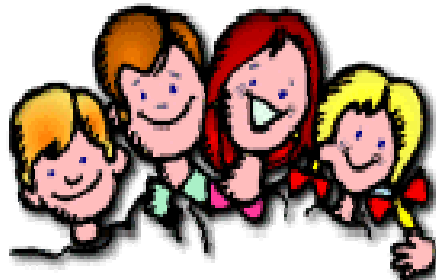
九月轉會加入： 符之恆傳道
湛詠湘

Membership through baptism in our church:

March 27 Easter Baptism: Vanessa Thai
Elaine Kwok
Ivan Tam
Sharon Lau
Fandi Chen
Michael Yu
Yue Qi Luo
Xiao Dong Sun
Kai Sun
Hui Juan Yang
Joseph Siu
October Baptism: Becky Jiao
Ken Lim

Membership transfer:

September transfers: Pastor Ken Foo
Ann Foo



二零零五年財政報告

Brampton Chinese Baptist Church Comparative Receipts and Disbursement 賓頓市華人浸信會(部門)收支報告

GENERAL FUND	常費		
RECEIPTS	收入	2005	2004
Congregation offering	會眾奉獻	2,379.82	2,870.49
Individual offering	個人奉獻	295,465.00	302,443.83
Building offering	建堂奉獻	945.20	3,160.32
Interest /Other Income	利息收入	353.10	2,411.58
TOTAL RECEIPTS	總收入	299,143.12	310,886.22
DISBURSEMENTS	支出		
General service	總務	33,700.59	41,156.76
Mission - General	傳道	3,594.30	11,783.18
Mission - Scholarship	差傳助學金	-	1,720.74
Fellowship	助導	10,770.41	10,526.99
General Administration	文書	1,417.67	1,645.02
Treasury - General	財務	6,150.95	6,810.18
Sundry	會務	9,517.76	11,302.75
Children	兒童	4,552.62	3,498.57
VBS Program	夏令兒童聖經班	(774.99)	1,184.03
Education - Chinese	中文主日學	335.42	1,192.71
Education - English	英文主日學	834.07	941.81
Music	聖樂	5,684.85	15,297.83
Visitation	探訪	528.66	69.13
Bible (Recovery - Sales)	聖經	(1,332.25)	(944.50)
Wages & Benefits	薪津	198,192.54	196,810.95
Benevolent payment	慈惠金	2,000.00	1,000.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENT	總支出	275,172.60	303,996.15
GENERAL FUND SURPLUS	常費盈餘	23,970.52	6,890.07
BUILDING OFFERING		13,193.00	-
MISSION FUND	差傳基金		
Mission Fund offering	差傳奉獻	88,079.00	80,270.00
Mission Fund disbursement	差傳支出	78,499.97	82,200.00
MISSION FUND (DEFICIT)	差傳盈餘	9,579.03	(1,930.00)
TOTAL SURPLUS	總盈餘	46,742.55	4,960.07

BRAMPTON CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH
Summary of Monthly Offering and Disbursement for the Year 2005
 賓頓市華人浸信會二千零五年每月收支報告

Month	Offering				Disbursement		
	General Fund	Building Funding	Mission Fund	Total Offering	General	Mission	Total
Jan	20,523.77	240.00	3,770.00	24,533.77	23,453.08	-	23,453.08
Feb	17,943.59	900.00	3,820.00	22,663.59	28,298.21	-	28,298.21
Mar	23,077.10	653.00	4,060.00	27,790.10	28,272.16	5,500.00	33,772.16
Apr	21,356.62	871.00	4,520.00	26,747.62	27,685.86	1,833.33	29,519.19
May	38,048.46	1,743.00	3,980.00	43,771.46	18,167.01	1,833.33	20,000.34
Jun	19,220.20	1,486.00	4,460.00	25,166.20	23,683.57	1,833.33	25,516.90
Jul	28,809.70	2,415.00	9,707.00	40,931.70	22,542.92	27,583.33	50,126.25
Aug	21,269.58	775.00	9,615.00	31,659.58	20,718.28	1,833.33	22,551.61
Sep	16,457.77	630.00	8,206.00	25,293.77	20,605.61	1,833.33	22,438.94
Oct	15,699.19	640.00	15,015.00	31,354.19	16,586.58	1,833.33	18,419.91
Nov	26,404.80	670.00	6,260.00	33,334.80	20,329.62	1,833.33	22,162.95
Dec	49,034.04	2,170.00	14,666.00	65,870.04	24,829.70	32,583.33	57,413.03
Total	297,844.82	13,193.00	88,079.00	399,116.82	275,172.60	78,499.97	353,672.57
Interest, Other Income & Adjustment				1,298.30			
Total				400,415.12	353,672.57		



二 千 零 六 年 財 政 預 算

Department	2004 Budget	2004 Actual	2005 Budget	2005 Actual	2006 Budget
Salary & Allowance	183,187.74	182,387.23	174,150.00	198,192.54	164,798.00
CPP & EI	5,668.08	8,340.10	6,000.00		7,709.32
Convention Pension	3,127.45	6,083.62	5,338.00		7,156.95
Mission General	15,200.00	13,503.92	12,800.00	3,594.30	18,000.00
General Services	48,220.00	41,156.76	38,075.00	33,700.59	43,575.00
Fellowship	18,820.00	10,526.99	19,847.00	10,770.41	18,050.00
General Administration	3,000.00	1,645.02	3,600.00	1,417.67	6,500.00
Treasury	6,700.00	6,810.18	7,000.00	6,150.95	7,500.00
Sundries	17,920.00	11,302.75	16,450.00	9,517.76	15,000.00
Education (Chinese)	4,200.00	1,192.71	1,500.00	335.42	1,500.00
Education (English)	2,700.00	941.81	2,150.00	834.07	2,200.00
Children Ministry	7,300.00	4,682.60	11,500.00	3,777.63	7,500.00
Music Ministry	15,150.00	15,297.83	9,650.00	5,684.85	5,000.00
Visitation	750.00	69.13	1,000.00	528.66	2,895.00
Benevolent Fund	3,000.00	1,000.00	3,000.00	2,000.00	3,000.00
Two LCD projectors					6,000.00
New Organ					15,000.00
20th anniversary renovation					33,120.00
Total	334,943.27	304,940.65	312,060.00	276,504.85	364,504.27
Special Project Fund					
Bible (Cost Recovery)		(944.50)		(1,332.25)	
Mission Fund	74,200.00	82,200.00	86,500.00	78,499.97	83,000.00
Building Fund			100,000.00		100,000.00
TOTAL	409,143.27	386,196.15	498,560.00	386,196.15	547,504.27

二零零五年教會大事回顧

余子建

教會主題：看哪，我將一切都更新了

月份	日期	活動
一月	至二月	由Alive 和 Rock 團契組織的食品募捐
		為國會議員禱告，阻止同性婚姻的提案
二月	6	教會會員投票將廣東話和國語的崇拜合併在一起
二月	至三月	CEF 的訓練課程「教孩子神的話語的基礎」
	13	教會會友一致通過符之恆傳道從二零零五年六月一日開始作為英語牧師助理--我們歡迎他和他妻子湛詠湘(Ann)，女兒(Mayah)
	14-15	中學生春令會，在烈治文山華人社區教會舉行
	25	受難節聯合崇拜
	27	復活節聯合崇拜和浸禮(十二位弟兄姊妹)，感謝主
四月	9	在翠豪酒樓慶祝鄔伯母生日 教會年度大掃除
五月	7	郭傳道，符傳道和黎皓光從天道神學院畢業，感謝神
	23	女皇公園(Queen' s Park)聚會，維護傳統婚姻制度
	28	聯合團契之夜
	29	為麥牧師和師母舉行的感恩午餐，感謝他們多年在教會的事奉
六月	5	符傳道的任職典禮 嬰兒奉獻典禮(十一個孩子奉獻給神)
七月	1-3	教會退修會—Ridgetown College(170多人參加) 主題：看哪，我將一切都更新了 講員：李定武牧師(中文)，Pastor Tony Costa(英文)
	30至八月1	國語團契露營
八月	2-12	暑期兒童聖經學校成功舉行
	14-17	Alive團契露營
	28	高中畢業生的告別午餐
九月	11	會友一致通過按立李傳頌成為牧師
	23-25	差傳年會--主題：「不能不說」(使4：20) 講員：李傳頌(中文)，Dr. Wafik Wahba(英文)
十月	9	感恩節崇拜和浸禮(2個弟兄姐妹)-- 感謝主
	31	家庭同樂之夜
十一月	27	李傳頌弟兄的按牧典禮
十二月	4	教會教友 通過二零零六--二零零七年理事會成員名單
	17	教會聖誕節慶祝聚會
	24	聖誕報佳音
	25	聖誕節聯合崇拜

組織架構

組織的架構是決定性的，因為它支持和幫助完成一個組織的目的和使命。我們都知道，人類的身體是由支撐身體各個工作器官的骨架連成一體的。沒有一個健康和強壯的骨架，身體的功能就無法發揮。同樣的，沒有一個良好的組織架構，教會和機構就不可能有效地工作。

管理完善的教會和機構其共同點是，他們把各種資源和恩賜集中運用在由聖靈引導的異象或目標上。透過集體的工作，有效運作的機構能夠達到遠超過任何個人希望單獨所能達到的效果。教會就是要去尋求神在他們身上的異象，去設定目標並找到方法（組織架構）去實現那個異象。

我們的神是有秩序的神

「因為神不是叫人混亂，乃是叫人安靜」（林前14: 33）。創世紀1: 1-2: 3 告訴我們，神的創造是一個組織架構的完美的例子。神創造的工作和秩序無不讓我們感到驚嘆。

我們由衷的讚嘆神在祂的創造中所運用的組織架構。從簡單的生命形式到複雜的人腦，在神的創造秩序中有如此多的智慧設計的痕跡。聖經中的神運用了組織架構來完成祂的許多目的。我們當中的許多人因為是靈性上的瞎子，以至於我們不能看到保羅在羅馬書1: 18-20所教導的。

摩西學習使用組織架構

摩西在帶領他人數眾多的民眾出埃及地時被出現的問題所壓倒。當他們才離開埃及地時，他們就極度地缺乏生命最基本的生存必需品。他們飢餓、口渴，就發怨言，對摩西非常的不滿意。人和家畜都需要食物和水。神有一個解決的方法。儘管

以色列民眾不順服，有40年的時間，神奇跡般地從天上為他們提供嗎哪（出16: 31）和水（出17: 6）。但是領導的問題依然非常的嚴重。出埃及記18: 17-24讓我們看到，以色列民眾是怎樣在摩西的領導下採用摩西岳父葉忒羅的建議，使用聰明的組織架構，解決了混亂的，看起來毫無希望的問題。這就是組織架構。

18:17 - 摩西的岳父說，你這作得不好。

18:18 - 你和這些百姓必都疲憊，因為這事太重，你獨自一人辦理不了。

18:19 - 現下你要聽我的話。我為你出個主意，愿神與你同在。你要替百姓到神面前，將案件奏告神，

18:20 - 又要將律例和法度教訓他們，指示他們當行的道，當作的事，

18:21 - 並要從百姓中揀選有才能的人，就是敬畏神，誠實無妄，恨不義之財的人，派他們作千夫長、百夫長、五十夫長、十夫長，管理百姓，

18:22 - 叫他們隨時審判百姓，大事都要呈到你這裡，小事他們自己可以審判。這樣，你就輕省些，他們也可以同當此任。

18:23 - 你若這樣行，神也這樣吩咐你，你就能受得住，這百姓也都平平安安歸回他們的住處。

18:24 - 于是，摩西聽從他岳父的話，按著他所說的去行。

對於他們所面臨的問題，以色列民眾在當時需要一個堅強和高效率的領導人。神要摩西成為那樣的領導人。他們不久就面臨因亞瑪力人的攻擊所遭受的幾乎滅絕的處境。但神奇跡般地把他們從敵人手中解救出來，並讓以色列兒女們獲勝（出17: 13）。

雖然神在對以色列人的考驗中保護和供應他們，神同樣要以色列人知道，祂是唯一的神，祂就是信心，祂提供保護和供應。神特別希望摩西作為一個領導人學會如何（運用組織架構）去領導。

摩西從這些困難和痛苦的經歷中學到了些什麼呢？從他早期領導的重要環節中，摩西絕對認識到組織架構的重要性。他學習到，有效率的領導人應去創建一個架構，使其為他們所領導的民眾帶來物質上和精神上的繁榮。摩西親手挑選有潛能的領導人，訓練他們，授權他們。他指定領導人去擔任法官的職份，來分擔他的工作量。摩西向我們表明，當更困難的問題或不安定的原素出現時，關鍵的領導人們依然能維持一定的控制，摩西擔當了最後法官的角色。所以，透過有效率的代表，一個領導人能大大提升他的效率，並且能更好地滿足那些要求其親自參與的人的需要。

教會中的架構

根據聖經，神已經在婚姻，父母，領導，教會和國家等領域製定了權威的架構。多少年來，這些架構已經證明在一個墮落的社會中，它在阻止罪惡和邪惡傾向方面是有效的。但是聖經並沒有對教會中的架構提供特別的指導方針。因此，這就為自由和適應留下了空間。

當保羅寫信給教會和傳道人時，他聰明地絕不具體指示教會應該是如何地構造。這就使得教會多年來在不同的文化中

能去適應和配合特別的環境，在環境中改造自己。一個有二堂聚會變成三堂聚會的教會要求有不同的架構。當一個教會增長，並且不再單一時，其架構能調整。一個教會從300人增長為2000人時，如果其組織架構不再適合，它能改變。組織架構不是神聖的，或固定不變的。如果它不再發揮功能，它應該被改變。

我們需要牢記的是，秩序的確定是由聖靈來控制我們，而不是我們控制聖靈。顯然神是有組織架構的神。當我們觀察宇宙或我們周遭的環境時證明了這一點。作為神的兒女，我們必須知道，神是永恆不變的，只有祂是唯一不變的。祂的計畫決不落空。而我們的計畫卻會落空，並且需要根據環境來改變。一個好的架構能使我們去完成由聖靈引導的異象或目標。一旦架構不再是這個情況，我們必須信靠又活又大的神，祂會在祂的兒女們身上動工，給我們新的架構去滿足我們前面的挑戰。

結束語

我們感謝神，二年前所採用修改後的理事會章程，使我們更有效地運作理事會和會友大會。同時我們感謝理事會成員，同工們和弟兄姐妹在過去幾年的合作和努力。我們需要去做更多的工作，靠著聖靈的引導去實現我們預期要達到的目標。

1. Kenneth Boas, Organization, bible.org.



趙國達

傳道部：信心與信心奉獻

有門徒問耶穌說：「我們為什麼不能趕出那鬼呢？」，耶穌回答說：「是因為你們的信心小；我實在告訴你們，你們若有

信心像一粒芥菜種，就是對這座山說：‘你從這邊挪到那邊。’它也必挪去；並且你們沒有一件不能作的事了。」（太十七

章，二十節)。芥菜種是種子中最少的一類，但主耶穌指出，只要有像芥菜種這樣微少的信心，神便可以使這微少的信心行出大事；凡合乎神旨意的事，無論困難有多大，都能做得到，若不合乎神旨意的事，無論付上多大的努力和代價，都不能成就。在教會多年的學習和事奉，特別在差傳部的事奉當中，我深深的體會到，神是信實的，他的應許永遠都不會落空。教會的差傳基金(Mission Fund)，不是在教會的常費(General Fund)中，而是在弟兄姊妹常費奉獻以外，憑著信心所奉獻的。我們教會支持十多間不同的福音機構，所支持的海內外宣教士也接近十個，在經濟環境不好的情況下，很多弟兄姊妹工作不穩定，甚至失業；信心奉獻的數目與差傳的預算開支相差很大，是否要將一些機構或某些宣教士的支持減低？或是拖欠著他們

呢？當想要用人的方法去解決問題的時候，也是神工作的開始；感謝天父賜給我們教會有好牧者、好師母，和一班在神面前忠心禱告的勇士們，無論在私禱或在教會的禱告會上，常常記念主所交托我們教會的差傳責任，甚至是流淚的向神呼求重新建立弟兄姊妹的信心，繼續耐心地等候和仰望神奇妙的作為；神就是這樣藉著弟兄姊妹像一粒芥菜種的信心，成就了他要成就的事。在二零零五年結束的時候，差傳部不單可以應付所有的開支，而且還有剩餘，哈利路亞！讚美主！願將一切的榮耀都歸於我們的天父。

親愛的弟兄姊妹，您們在神面前所呈上的奉獻和對差傳事工的負擔，天父是一一知道的，願神加倍地祝福你們，阿們。

中文主日學部

王陳非比

在這歲首年終之際，當我們回顧過去這一年的事工時，心中不能不充滿着感恩與讚美！我們看到聖靈如何賜給弟兄姊妹謙卑受教、愛慕學習的心，因此每主日都有四、五十人提早來到，安靜地學習；也看到神怎樣裝備、供應忠心的教師們，將他們在主裡所學習，所領受的詳盡地教導出。

主日學部也幾次與兩位中文牧者開會檢討，覺得雖然參加主日學的人數有改進，但未能做到『不是老師就是學生』全教會總動員來學習；並且留意到很多在教會年日已久的會友，並不參加主日學。為了鼓勵“老”會友們仍能抱著「學無止境」

的心態繼續學習，在靈命、知識上都不斷長進，主日學部也應有適合不同程度的課程。於是經過不斷地禱告和思考，設計了一個三年的課程，期望能配合教會所領受的異象，在真理、靈命上培育信徒，使在生活實踐上能為主作美好的見證，神學上能捍衛真理，並且經過訓練後能為教會造就更多的領袖，為神的國度塑造更多的精兵。

這個三年計劃，在不久的將來會以佈告板的形式展示給大家；主日學部請求大家為這計劃代禱並參與。

感謝神給我們又一年的時間來事奉他。我們再一次經歷到，神為我們預備的太大超過我們所求的。

英語團契：

英語團契的事工需要導師。現在我們有 Adult, Rock, Alive 和 Faith 四個團契定期的聚會。通過禱告，尋求神的引領，現在的導師是：

Adult - 符之恆傳道

Rock - 符之恆傳道

Alive - 姚祈心 (9-12年級)

Faith - 林明科和趙園碧 (6-8年級)

中文團契：

今年我們有兩次聯合團契，讓講國語的和講廣東話的弟兄姊妹能更深入的互相了解，來共同完成教會的事工。各個團契通常是兩個星期聚會一次。兩個廣東婦女團契一個月聚會一次，每次通常有十至十二個姊妹參加。國語婦女團契有十至十五

個姊妹參加每月一次的聚會。不同的細胞小組依然經常的聚會，來加深我們對聖經的理解，使我們與神更親近。國語長者團契的參加人數下降，原因是有些成員回國。

今年的退修會是在位於倫敦市 (London) 和溫莎市 (Windsor) 之間的 Ridgetown College 舉行的。我們提供了從教會到營地的交通車。對於新的地點和交通車，組委會收到了好的和正面的回應。所以我們在相同的地方預定了二零零六年的退修會。二零零五年退修會的中文和英文講員是李定武牧師和 Pastor Tony Costa。講道的信息和討論會非常的鼓舞和激勵人。許多人受益。人們再一次把他們的生命交給神，並且重新思考生命的價值。我們再一次感謝退修會的核心小組成員全身心的事奉主。使退修會不但在操作，而且在屬靈上取得成功，實在是他們的努力成果。

探訪部

李凱能

主耶穌說：「我實在告訴你們，普天之下，無論在甚麼地方傳這福音，也要述說這女人所行的，作個紀念。」(太二十六：13)

她是誰？

她是伯大尼的馬利亞。

她作了甚麼事呢？

主耶穌說：「她在我身上作的是一件美事。」(太二十六：10下)

人世間所作的事，可稱為美事的有多

少呢？人所說的美事和主所說的美事，相信一定有很大的分別。在馬太福音書二十六：6-13；馬可福音書十四：3-9和約翰福音書十二：1-8都有記這個故事。

在此願與兄弟姊妹分享伯大尼馬利亞的美事。

一玉瓶極貴的香膏 — 這香膏是哪種香膏，是從一種東印度稀有植物的根莖提煉出來的芬芳油膏，甚為昂貴。瓶子是原封的，打破瓶頸之後，便不能回復原狀，也不能再作其他用途。

經上說的極貴，這香膏的價值是三十兩銀子，為當時的三百個銀圓，等於一個普通工人的一年的工資。

你願意將你一年的工資去買芬芳的油膏，澆在主的身上嗎？

你願意將你自己獻上，當作活祭嗎？這是神所喜悅的！

主說：「她所作的是盡她所能的。」(可十四：8上)

兄弟姊妹們，讓我們一同盡所能去傳福音，為主作工，作主的好傭人。

兒童部



周啟明

每星期在主日崇拜及主日學進行的同時，在教會樓下亦有各項兒童部活動的進行。在九時三十分至十時三十分，有兒童詩班練習時間。十一時開始是兒童崇拜，之後有分組兒童主日學。每星期參加兒童崇拜從嬰兒到第六班的小朋友，有四十多五十人，要照顧教導這麼多的孩子，實在不是一件容易的事。

在二零零五年頭，教會與萬國兒童佈道團(Child Evangelism Fellowship, 簡稱CEF) 合作開始了一個專為向兒童為福音對象的訓練課程，內容包括怎樣向兒童傳福音、教兒童讀聖經、背聖經的方法、以至到簡單的兒童心理都有所探索，對於參加課程的十多位成年人與及青少年，都有莫大的幫助。

除了每星期的崇拜及主日學以外，另一個兒童部的主要活動便是暑期聖經學校(Vacation Bible School, 簡稱VBS)。今年的VBS是一個新的嘗試：由以前五個週日晚上的安排，改為連續兩星期全日日營的方式。這樣的安排好處是可以有更多的時間，能對兒童有多點了解及認識，進而可以向他們更深入的講解聖經。今年參

加VBS的四十多位兒童，除了自己教會的以外，亦有來自社區及其他教會的。兩星期的工作需要極多的人力資源，完全是神的恩典，整個教會的年輕人差不多都全體動員參加這個VBS的工作，另整個活動能完滿完成。VBS不單是幫助了參加的兒童，在身心靈上得到益處，對於負責的青少年也是一個學習事奉及作領袖訓練的機會。

兒童部的目標是希望從少就能把福音的種子播種在小孩的心田裡，另他們能在主的愛裡成長，日後能成為神與人都喜愛的基督徒。兒童部的工作，並不是一個人或一小組人可以完成。每星期兒童部都需要有十多人在不同的崗位上忠心事奉，參予兒童事工的弟兄姊妹，都是本著愛神愛人的心，用心機、時間、耐心及愛心教導兒童。在人看來這是一件吃力不討好的工作，但一週復一週的老師們都把自己擺上。看著以前的主日學生，今日能清楚明白接受福音，成為一個好基督徒，相信便是最大的回報。您對兒童工作有負擔，願意加入這事奉的行列嗎？

我相信被神呼召作為教會理事來事奉是一個恩典，雖然我在聖樂部並沒有做很多的事(除了買鋼琴之外)，但我感到從教會的運作過程我學到了很多東西。透過會眾中所發生的事情，讓我們有趣地見證到，神是如此的祝福，讓我們有能力來處理我們的問題。

總之，聖樂部在過去的一年，隨著另外一架鋼琴的來到，我們再一次的被神祝福。那架鋼琴得到了很好的使用。同時英

語會眾使用了新的中英文詩歌本，並從中受益。經過了幾個月的摸索，我們終於找到了我們可愛的兒童詩班的帶領者。你可以說，過去的一年是一個有新變化的一年。隨著符傳道的到來，我們在敬拜中受教導。

為著過去幾年的經歷我感謝神，並期待神在新的一年里繼續引領我。



總務部 — 彼此配搭

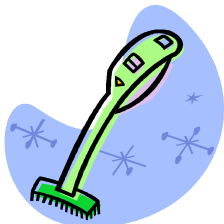
吳余華

每個人的恩賜各不相同，每個人的事奉也各不相同，但每個人的事奉都是為服侍神，榮耀神，造就人。每個人事奉的果效也不一樣，但每個事奉主的人都應在事奉中不斷成長，這也會使事奉更有果效。

二千零五年教會的總務事工中儘管有各種各樣的困難，有人手缺乏的困難，也有時間安排上的困難，但感謝主的帶領和各樣的預備，感謝主讓弟兄姐妹在這個平凡的總務事工中能有份參與，並且生命在

事奉中不斷成長。特別是要感謝主揀選一些弟兄姐妹站出來做帶領和組織的工作，也特別感謝主帶領一些平時沒有太多機會參與教會事奉的弟兄姐妹能通過總務的事奉知道教會各項事工的重要。

願神祝福所有愛他並忠心事奉他的人！



暑期聖經班

李凱能

零五年的暑期聖經班在賓頓市華人浸信會來說是一個大進步。

1. 所有暑期聖經班的工作人員都辦理了「無犯罪紀錄」(Police Record Check)。教會在這一程序的辦理上都有一段時間的考慮，直到現在，都是在自願的情況下去處理。這一次在暑期聖經班事奉的年青人都願意踏出第一步，是順從的行動，也有領導的作用。

2. 多年來暑期聖經班都是連續五晚在六時至九時舉行的，今年暑期聖經班嘗試在兩週內，每天從早上八時到下午四時(主日及週末除外)。不單在程序上的編排，而且在內容的準備都要細意的計劃。每個參與事奉的青年人都表現出很大的動力，

真不容易，感謝主！不但參加的兒童感到高興快樂，就是他們的家長也都對主十分感恩！

3. 參與事奉的青年人，很多都曾是暑期聖經班的學生。今天看到他們努力的投入，對神的回應，我們都對主耶穌基督感恩，希望他們繼續努力，在神的國中成為有用的工人。

4. 今年暑期聖經班的經費有限，藉著每個參與事奉的兄弟姊妹的悉心籌劃，使到每一個兒童都一生受用。

5. 感謝主！給我們有機會去事奉祂，讓我們在祂的事工上有份。

摩西團

呂林森治

感謝神，我心裏充滿著感激和感恩！信靠主耶穌是我一生中最美好的祝福。每一天我要親近主，思想主的恩典。我常銘記聖經的教導：「祂對我說：“我的恩典殼你用的。因為我的能力是在人的軟弱上顯得完全。”」(林後十二：9上)。人的生命中有順境也有逆境，但是主耶穌必與我們同渡過。凡事相信祂、倚靠祂，將心裏要的告訴祂，祂必幫助。祂是信實、公義的主。

感謝主，賓頓市華人浸信會，是一間很好、好榜樣的教會。牧師、傳道、領袖

及弟兄姊妹都同一個心志，事奉主，關心會友的需要，尤其是對我們這些年長的姐妹，關懷與幫助。我們才能在每個主日到主的家，同心敬拜主。求主祝福他們美好的家庭，身心健康來事奉主。這是主喜悅的。蒙主恩得平安。



讓我們再次同心在神面前感謝祂的恩典，並不是什麼特別的事情發生在團契當中，而是在過往一年，承蒙神的保守，帶領和祝福，我們能完成了既定的項目，達到互相關懷和在屬靈裡得以互相學習的機會。

最能感恩的，是我們可以繼續事奉我們的長者「摩西團」，在八月舉行了「摩西以琳同樂日」；並於聖誕聯歡日與他們合演話劇節目，使我們能學習到他們做事的認真，投入和耐性，在互相交通之中，得到從神而來的喜樂。故此，與摩西團合團已成為以琳團每年的優先項目。

藉着聖靈的帶領和導師們的指導，在十一月內的「以琳退修日」中，思想2006年教會的主題，我們也擬定了團契在今年的主題為「彼此服侍，活出主愛」。我們願意在弟兄姊妹當中，更以彼此服侍之心，願意付出的，使互相關顧得以進深，並且能在實務生活中活出主愛，繼而關心

到團契之外的需要。故此，在今年的聚會主題，也會較集中於一些現實生活的專題上作分享，並以小組形式進行靈修和互相代禱，藉此盼望神藉着聖靈的感動，使團友們達到互通及共通的意念，祈求各弟兄姊妹也為我們代禱。

踏入2006年，將為本教會二十周年紀念和感恩，回顧教會在過往的年歲裡，神給了保守和成長，為了這樣，也帶出了我從個人上的反思，在以往的稀虛歲月裡，究竟自己處於如何的境況之中？我願以以下四句感言，這是從一位很好的弟兄，也是我的師長賜給我的，願我們也一同思想和共勉之。

『翻過浪濤洪滔滔，
人生路途低與高，
回眸一看鬚髮白，
將來怎去見耶穌。』



國語團：心意更新

白石

感想神揀選我這個最不配的人來事奉祂，讓我在2005年下半年擔任國語團團長。這對於我是一個很大的挑戰。藉著這個事奉，神讓我學到了許多功課，也讓我在靈命上得到了成長。

在這一年，我們的團長松炎弟兄回了天家，安息主懷。在遺體告別儀式上我們雖然因捨不得松炎弟兄離開我們而心中悲傷，但神在那裡展示給我們的卻是平安和永生。我們知道松炎弟兄將去那裡，我們

也知道有一天我們會在永生裡與松炎弟兄相見。在墓碑揭幕儀式上，在那風和日麗的冬日下午，神向我們眾弟兄姐妹展示出那美麗彩虹盡頭的陽光普照和沒有眼淚，再一次讓我們看到了我們做基督徒的福份——永生的盼望。松炎弟兄在他患病的日子裡所表現出來的意志和對神的信心，影響了許多弟兄姐妹，在他最後的錄影中，他的笑容是那麼燦爛，他在世上為神做了美好的見證。在他患病期間，眾弟兄姐妹日

夜為他禱告，為他及他的家人提供關懷與幫助。神的愛在那裡再一次得到了大大的彰顯。

這一年，我們又增加了六位國語團契的弟兄姐妹，他們是：焦非凡，林志強，孫凱，楊慧娟，羅越奇，孫曉東。

像往年一樣，在八月份我們組織了傳統的團契露營在SIBBALD POINT PROVINCIAL PARK。同工們精心安排，內容豐富多彩，弟兄姐妹們邀請了許多慕道朋友參加。在露營中，我們盡情享受神所創造美好的大自然，學習神的話語，分享在主裡的愛，彼此交流，也讓慕道的朋友有機會了解我們基督徒，並聽到了福音。

感謝主，在這一年裡我們團契有更多的家庭開放自己的家給家庭查經小組。我們每月一次或兩次查考馬太福音。家庭查經小組的活動使我們的靈命得到了提升。也為慕道朋友提供了一個輕鬆的參與環境

和了解聖經的機會。

我們的團契聚會每季有不同的主題。每一次採取不同的形式和內容來學習神的話語，為彼此禱告，分享見證，並提供實用的講座，凝集弟兄姐妹，吸引慕道朋友。教會是我們屬靈的大家庭，團契是我們屬靈的小家。在這個小家中，我們有共同的語言和相似的背景，團契使弟兄姐妹和慕道朋友之間聯繫緊密，互相幫助，彼此鼓勵，在靈裡面共同成長。

年底，我們組織了聖誕節火鍋愛宴。這是一次別開生面的聚餐。同工們周密安排，精心采買。豐富的菜肴，井然有序的過程，熱鬧祥和的氣氛，使來聚餐100多位弟兄姊妹和慕道朋友不僅飽享了美味佳肴，而且也飽享了節日的歡樂和在主裡的愛。



黃鄔瑞雲師母

姊妹團契(粵語)

最近幾年主給我機會在浸信聯會姊妹事工(Baptist Women)及華人浸信會姊妹退修會事奉。藉此認識其他教會的姊妹及她們的事奉，聽到關於姊妹團契的事工及見證，深受感動。經過祈禱、安靜，與團契部長姚陳偉儀姊妹商討，分享心裏的負擔，希望開始姊妹團契。

教會非常支持姊妹事工，在二零零四年一月誕生姊妹團契，每月第一個星期三早上聚會。在去年我們多開另一個時間，讓在日間工作的姊妹可以參加，就是每月第三個星期六下午。感謝主的恩典，團契生活幫助大家認識真理、學習聖經，彼

此關心，互相代禱。每次聚會都有聚餐，分享大家用愛心預備豐富的菜肴。請記念在這十二位團友中，有些是慕道的。求主幫助她們決志信耶穌。讓我們一起學習神的話語，靈命成長，彼此發掘屬靈的恩賜，互相服事。歡迎姊妹參加，聚會時間及地點如下：

1. 每月第一個星期三上午十時在教會；
2. 每月第三個星期六下午五時，在團友家。

鄔伯母的八十一歲大壽感恩

鄔氏家族

親愛的主內兄弟姊妹：

謝謝您們參加鄔伯母的八十一歲大壽，與我們一起感恩。更感謝您們的禮物、祝福，以及精彩的表演節目。願榮耀歸主！

蒙福頌

吳秉權

滿頭銀髮白如雪
步履輕盈身子健
蒙神恩典八十載
屢歷艱辛平安過
喜見兒孫樂十架
跟隨主步標竿前
恭賀鄔伯母八秩開一，作於二零零五春

祝賀感恩歌

團契獻詩

恭祝你福壽與康寧，
慶賀你生辰快樂。
時時跟主同行，
歲歲得主恩典，
主愛你，恭喜你。
感恩天父賜好家庭，
女婿愛主傳福音。
時常得主保佑，
子女又咁忠心，
感謝神，讚美主！

橋

家人獻詩

父母親從小撫育我，
栽種愛惜幼樹苗，
維護照料牽我手；
父母親延伸天父愛，
甘心獻身像道橋，
禍困凶險我不怕過。
頌讚親恩彷彿無邊大海洋，
惟願你我孝順，祝福雙親康泰。
父母親延伸天父愛，
甘心獻身像道橋，

禍困凶險我不怕過，
父母親年紀雖漸老，
一生獻身像道橋，
容讓你我在上面輕輕鬆鬆再走過，
再經過，不分風雨渡過！

鄔伯母的祝福

1. 你要專心仰賴耶和華，不可倚靠自己聰明，在你一切所行的事上，都要認定祂，祂必指引你的路。（箴三：5、6）
2. 不要自以為有智慧，要敬畏耶和華，遠離惡事。（）
3. 世人哪，耶和華已指示你何為善。祂向你所要的是甚麼呢？祇要你行公義、好憐憫、存謙卑的心，與你的神同行。（彌迦書六：8）
4. 要孝敬父母，使你得福，在世長壽，這是第一條帶應許的命令。（弗六：2、3）
5. 不要以惡報惡。眾人以為美的事，要留心去作。（羅馬書十二：17）
6. 你要盡心、盡性、盡力、盡意，愛主你的神，又要愛鄰舍如同自己。（路加福音十：27）
7. 要常常喜樂，不住的禱告，凡事謝恩，因為這是神在基督耶穌裏向你們所定的旨意。（帖撒羅尼迦前書五：16-18）
8. 生氣卻不要犯罪。不可含怒到日落。（弗四：26）
9. 殷勤不可懶惰，要心裏火熱，常常服事主。（羅馬書十二：11）

願主祝福你們！

農曆新年到處聽到拜年恭賀的說話。想起小時候父母親教導我們向不同的人說不同的拜年賀語：恭喜發財(人人皆可)，添丁發財(小心不要亂講，祇適用已婚之人)，龍馬精神、生意興隆、萬事如意……等。

最近回香港過年，聽到有人恭喜我青春常駐。心裏想一定是新潮流、新賀語。大概女士們喜愛艷麗多過一切罷！怪不得美容、減肥的生意如此興隆。在林林總總的拜年賀語中「萬事如意」應該是老少咸宜。誰不想樣樣事都如自己的意思？真是拍案叫絕的妙語。但是再三思想，卻有不寒而慄的感覺。可不是嗎？假如小偷萬事如意，你我再加上更高度的防盜系統，亦逃不過被光顧。那些不法之徒若能萬事如意，真是不堪設想，社會秩序一定大亂。

讓我向大家拜年，分享聖經的話語，

恭喜弟兄姊妹：

萬事如意——神的旨意(「我的神啊，我樂意照祢的旨意行，祢的律法在我心裏」詩篇第四十篇第八節)；

八福臨門，福杯滿溢

(「虛心的人有福了，因為天國是他們的，哀慟的人有福了，因為他們必得安慰，溫柔的人有福了，因為他們必承受地土，飢渴慕義的人有福了，因為他們必得飽足，憐恤人的人有福了，因為他們必蒙憐恤，清心的人有福了，因為他必得見神，使人和睦的人有福了，因為他們必稱為神的兒子，

為義受逼迫的人有福了，因為天國是他們的。」馬太福音書第五章第三節。)

暇思

姚錦榮

我是一個不作甚麼詳細計劃的人，一切都順其自然，不喜歡轉彎抹角，更沒有豐富的想像力，很容易被別人或環境所影響。自幼就讀教會學校，對於聖經故事耳熟能詳，對於善惡非常之敏感，盡量做到去惡從善，但這並不能使我成為一個好孩子，一切倚靠自己的良知和自律，不能成就自己想要做的事。在羅馬書第七章保羅也覺無奈的說：“因為立志為善由得我，祇是行出來由不得我，故此，我所願意的善，我反不作；我所不願意的惡，我倒去作。”相信大家都有同感。今年我有兩三個月在家休息，以為所做的手術已完成了，一切都會趨向正常。誰知還有不少地方要自己體會及適應，更加要理解。信主也是一樣，並非一信就萬事如意，一帆

風順，更需要學習交託和追求，尋找主的心意。雖然有時處於逆境，但主賜那出人意外的平安更會環繞那尋求祂的人。

聖誕節在慶祝會中欣賞弟兄姊妹們的精彩傑作，那十個童女的話劇給我很大的感動。這比喻記載在馬太福音書第二十五章中仿似直接問我準備迎接主未？我是個十分蒙福的人，因我常以“船到橋頭自然直”作我的座右銘。那五個愚拙挑燈等新郎的人，其中一個一定有我在內，因為我十分自信，不是相信我自己可以做到，而是相信有人替我排除困難。年幼時，家境不大好，但我並沒有為衣食而感到不安，一切好像有人安排。到了年紀漸長也沒有因找工作而徬徨，甚至出國讀書又有人幫

助，連結婚、移民也不用操心，一切都是安然渡過。最近雖然經歷多次手術，亦很快復原。這一切都自有安排，撫心自問，那安排者是否特別對我偏愛呢？如果那個我所倚靠的，在我一生中，默默地幫助我的，就是那位我要等候的新郎。倘若我就是五個愚拙的童女中的一個，我不敢想像

我的光景會如何？祂會對我說：「我不認識你，以後的事，你自己打算吧！」我想和大家分享一段經文：「眼睛就是身上的燈，你的眼睛瞭亮，全身就光明。你的眼睛若昏花，全身就黑暗。你裏頭的光若黑暗了，那黑暗是何等大呢？」（馬太福音第六章二十二、二十三節）。

你們在那裏？

摩西園：趙歐陽璧

偶然勾起一樁幾乎忘記了許多年前的往事。

記不起是那一個年份的事。倘若有長者昔日居住在香港的話，他必定不會忘記，香港曾經發生過一件大事——「香港大逃亡潮」。許多大陸同胞，經各方面途徑，逃亡往香港，有從海上，有從陸路。

當年的報紙，天天大字標題刊載，圖文並列，講述當時現場的情況，十分哄動。那時我還年輕，不太關心與自己無關的事情。一個電話響了，是我表兄打來的。他問我和我父親有沒有興趣往新界看看逃亡的情形（當時父親與我同住）。我表兄在香港是做體育用品及獎品生意的。他與當時英軍駐守香港的軍營有生意往來，有多年的關係。當日有一個美國記者由沖繩島來港想拍攝一些大陸逃亡的實際情況及收集資料。由軍營內的主管引介我表兄陪他同往。我父親也想去看看。我一時興起也答應同去。兩部汽車都掛上美國國旗，向新界方進發。還未到石湖墟，馬路上沿途已擠滿了人群，警察、民安隊員，甚為混亂。有的尋找或接應逃亡來的親友，又有善心的人任及多個慈善團體，各人帶來許多食物準備救濟難民。他們都很熱心，擔擔抬抬了許多一包、一袋的食物及一瓶瓶水，向停在馬路旁的一輛輛無上蓋的貨車拋擲上去。車上的都是已到達境內而被捕獲的

難民，等待政府原車遣走，因為這是當時的政策——「即捕即解」。

當時因為人太擠擁，我們的車也被迫祇好慢駛。我們在車廂內探頭外望，祇見人頭湧湧，一車一車的塞滿了被抓的難民，困站在車斗內，神情十分慌張、迷惘，疲乏，面帶菜色，赤足、衣衫襤褸破爛，有的手足及頭都沾滿了泥濘，接到食物狼吞虎嚥的往嘴裏猛塞。那種可憐又淒慘的情形，使我也不禁落淚。那時我才知道人間竟有如此悲慘的事。我自然地呼求主，求主施憐憫，為他們禱告。他們都是人，都是我的同胞，有他們的親人，為了自由、為了飽腹，為了求生存，才如此不顧一切冒著生命的危險和死亡，作出生死存亡的決定，——「逃亡」。他們經過多天的攀山涉水，費盡不少氣力、挨餓、日曬雨淋，還要時刻躲避民兵的搜捕，在恐懼中，萬分辛苦才能逃到境內，尚未聯絡到親友，又被香港警察捕捉，遣返大陸，多可憐、多淒慘，多無奈啊！

好不容易到達石湖墟，因我們和九龍巴士公司有些關係，因此我們的汽車可以直駛入巴士公司的停車場內，從後門可以出到田間小基路。再經過許多迂迴曲折的小泥路，才能到達梧桐山山腳下。向上走，許多難民已逃到此處停留，希望能接觸到親友，有的等候機會潛入市區。有些在田

中，伏在籬笆旁仍未敢走到馬路，因為在馬路上便會被捕。有些難民光著上身，露出腫脹的肚子，據說是因為多天無食物，祇好飲田間低窪的泥水。

我們分頭上山，約定時間會合。我和父親帶著戚然的心情向前走，眼見許多難民徘徊在山頭，躲躲藏藏，等待親友來救援，一聽見‘差人’來了，年青的一個個立刻撲通、撲通的跳進用來灌溉菜田的水池中，為了逃避警察的搜捕，如此的情形要潛下水中，每天不下十數次。

我們首先碰到一個年輕少婦，背著一個才出生四個月的嬰兒。她看到我們不像是警方的人，才放心和我們交談。她到達山上已有三天，還未遇見到找她的親人，帶來餵養嬰兒的奶水已飲完，正在焦急，不知怎麼辦，看見她的嬰兒已奄奄一息，口唇都變得瘀黑色。因為當時香港政府立例：‘凡收藏及接濟難民的都要罰款及坐牢六個月’，因此她向山上的村民求助，討點水喝，也沒有人敢接濟她。她說她是有香港身份證的，她從內地出發前已通知家人帶她的身分證來接她。（我記不起當時政府是否還未准內地人到香港，因此她要偷渡）我問她能否相信我，把她的兒子交給我，讓我先把他送到他的外祖父家，然後再通知她香港的父親在指定的範圍內去找她。嬰兒的服飾，一看便知是從大陸來的，我要替他換上像本地人的衣服，才能帶他進入市區，於是我和父親立即折返石湖墟買衣服及食物。在途中，我們又遇到四個大約十四五歲的小姑娘，她們衝到我們面前，要求我們帶她們到香港市區，其中祇有一個長相可以冒充香港人，另外的三個，一看便知是從大陸來的，不能全部幫助她們，心中也很難過。

帶著衣服及食物匆匆趕返現場，替孩子換過全部衣服，裹了大毛巾，女孩子也換過恤衫，牛仔褲，戴上大草帽，抱了嬰孩下山，直走進巴士公司停車場。各人已

齊集在巴士公司內上車，避過在馬路上警察的視線。我的表兄也帶了三個年青男孩，其中一個跌傷了腳，腳踝腫得很厲害，他在山上已渡過了多天。巴士公司的職工，也很熱心的幫助，有些脫了上衣，遞送鞋子，甚至有些人連褲子也送給他們。石崗是軍營範圍，表兄熟識路途，我們捨大路不走，避過多個檢查站，經石崗，繞路進入市區。石崗內祇有一個檢查站，經過時，美國記者從車窗探頭出外，說了幾句話，他們見車上掛著的美國國旗，沒有詳加查問，我們輕易地過了關，心頭好像放下了大石。我們車上的女孩子和男孩子都沒有身分證，若然出事，實不堪設想。

返抵九龍市區時，已是夜幕低垂，華燈初上。我們按址到砵蘭街找到了一間小型士多店，見到一位白髮老翁來。我們道明來意，把嬰孩交給他。他接過後，真是悲喜交集，老淚縱橫。他說每天一早派人去找她母子，但找不著。他怎樣也料不到由我這個素未謀面，也不認識的陌生人，無條件帶給他的孫子。我相信他老人家已焦急了多天，盼望了多時矣！他多謝又感謝！我又猜不著那媽媽為甚麼這樣放心及相信把兒子交給我。我實在想不透……我囑咐祖父立即找醫生替孫兒檢查身體並餵奶給他喝。

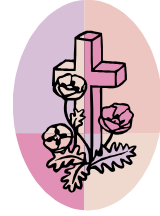
道別後，還要帶女孩到九龍城街市附近一棟唐樓，著她上去找她的舅父。我還給她三十元應用。我們在樓下等，知道她找到舅父，然後把我的電話號碼給她，著她有需要時隨時可找我，我們才放心離開。勞碌了一整天，雖還未吃晚膳，但救了兩個人入境，平安找到他們的親人，都有點安慰。究竟我做了一件善事，還是一件壞事；是犯了法而且是冒了坐牢的危險，我實在有點摸不清楚。在人道立場上，當時我沒有考慮過甚麼。嗷嗷待哺的嬰兒，在沒有蔽體保暖的衣服，在沒有遮蔽下受風雨侵襲，逗留在山上，還能支持多久？至於女孩子們在山上，隨時會遇到壞

人的粗暴，又會隨時被帶著警犬不斷在山頭巡邏的警察遞捕。我做對了還是做錯了？我實在不知道。一個星期後，再探訪老伯，知道他按著我們的指示，已把嬰兒的母親接來了。祖孫三代已經團聚。我們趁機會向他們傳福音。過了一段時間，我帶了一些小孩子的玩具，再去那間小士多店，想去探望他們，可惜舊樓已被拆卸，預備重建。我再沒有他們的消息了。那個小女孩也沒來電話找我。

這件事已經過了多年，我已淡忘了。

計算起來，現在那嬰兒也該近四五十歲了，那女孩子可能已當了祖母了。至於表兄所帶返市區的三個青年，他首先送那個跌傷腿的就醫。後來還聘用他們在他自己的公司工作，除了安排他們的膳宿外，更替他們匯款到內地接濟他們的家人。問題解決了，感謝神！

回憶起這件前塵往事，心中默默地問：「你們在那裏？你們都好嗎？接受了主耶穌為個人救主嗎？」



我將要盲，誰可救我？

趙敏明 (Margaret Chiu)

「耶穌問他說：你要我為你作甚麼？他回答說：主啊，我要能看見。耶穌對他說：你可以看見，你的信救了你了。」(路十八：40-42)

「造物主啊，您曾說當我決定跟隨您，您就伴我行人生路，地上有您我二人的腳印。但我最需您的時候，您竟然離我而去，地上祇見我一人的腳印。」

造物主說：我愛你，永不離棄，當您失意時，我是揹著你走人生窄路，地上的腳印是我的不是你的。」

自我出生到五歲時，我的視力仍然是正常的，可是到了六七歲開始就要配戴近視鏡。從此以後我的視力有很大的毛病，因為每隔一兩年就要換上新的眼鏡，後來還有散光。情況越來越嚴重，到了中年再加上有「老花」。因為我的近視度太深，以致驗光師已不能為我配製眼鏡，眼科醫生建議我改戴「隱形眼鏡」。甚而用「隱形眼鏡」也要不時更換度數深的鏡片。在一九九八年末，我的眼科醫生替我詳細驗視力，發覺他用盡所有的鏡片，我祇能勉強看到投射在牆上最大的三行英文字母。

原來那時我的近視度已是接近一千七百度。

為了尋求治療，我在加拿大先後見過三位眼專科醫生，甚至回到香港見過兩位眼科醫生，兩地的專家都是認為我的視力問題是因為「白內障」，遲一些施手術後便會恢復正常視力了。以前人都說「白內障」要等「熟」了才可以施手術。那我祇好繼續在視野矇矓下耐心等待。

在這段日子，我周遭的景物都是日漸矇矓。在接受手術前半年時，白天陽光普照時，我連交通燈的顏色也要很接近才看得到。天色灰暗時，就要靠坐在我身旁的媽媽把遠遠的情形預告，好讓我作準備。下雨天路面的水把光線折射，幾乎分辨不到行車線，祇有跟隨前面車輛的兩旁小紅燈走。回想五年來在這樣的情形下駕車，都是平安，不是神的手親自引路，是甚麼！還有我有一位基督徒的上司，她為我爭取到特別的彈性上下班時間，使我免遇強光或昏暗的困擾。她更為方便我工作，特別要求公司購置一個電腦軟件，把影象放大十六倍。為著不易摔倒，祇好穿平底膠鞋，

行路時如履薄冰，免得發覺不到凹凸不平的路而滑倒，上下梯級，看不清分界，不單要靠扶柄，而且還要靠人在旁扶持。為著不使眼睛過勞，看電視、報紙、書刊是可免則免，接收資訊就要靠耳朵了。因為視力太弱，同事們的樣貌看不清楚，惟有緊記他們的聲音來辨認是誰跟我說話，同時要整天臉上都是掛著笑容，免得別人跟我打招呼也不曉得回應。

有一位好友知道我的眼疾情況，建議我去見一位對眼退化很有經驗的眼專科醫生。他在醫院裏，用注射色素及眼後拍照方法替我檢查，發現我的眼底出血，而這情況已持續了很多年。這種情形的成因是因為我的眼球受深視影響而把圓的眼球拉長了，引致血管壁也因拉長了而變得薄了，血就從微絲血管薄的地方滲出來，它凝固後停留在瞳孔中心部份，嚴重的可以弄瞎了眼睛。這位眼專科醫生告訴我，在美國剛開始了對這症狀的治療方法，不過目前的治愈機會祇有百份之十三。眼專科醫生叫我回家考慮後待覆診時才把決定告訴她。我的內心很惶恐，很大壓力，知道祇有把事交託神，向祂禱告，求祂醫治。到了覆診時，醫生替我檢查後，告訴我眼底出血的情況穩定，我竟然可以暫時不用嘗試那個新的治療方法。如是者每三個月覆診一次，大約過了三年半，每次的檢查結果都是差不多，直至最後一次，她告訴我一個極好的消息——我的眼底出血竟然停止了，可以排期做白內障治療的手術。這三年半我並沒有服用任何藥物，是神憐憫我，醫治我。

在二零零四年二月才輪候到我前往見做白內障手術的眼專科醫生。他告訴我，我要等一年半後才輪到我做一隻眼睛的白內障手術。我真是十分失望。我把這件事向神禱告，求祂解決。過了約三個月我獲得通知，可以提早做手術。在七月他為我

做了右眼的白內障手術。感謝主！我立時為此獻上感謝。手術非常成功，我的右眼視力恢復正常。但問題又來了，因為左眼仍是有接近一千七百度的近視，於是視力不平衡，時常感到暈眩、想嘔吐，行路不能成一條直線，下梯級分不清楚是踏在那一級。覆診時，醫生見我有如此的危險，便願意設法為我盡快安排做左眼的手術。於是他帶我到登記處安排做手術，怎知那負責的職員，剛接到通知，有一個在兩星期後要做手術的病人剛取消了，於是醫生就把這一個手術期編給我。七月底他替我做了左眼的手術，也是十分的成功。眼專科醫生說，我的眼治療手術這麼複雜，很易會視網膜脫落，但竟然毫無受損。當然經過這麼多年來習慣了模糊的視覺感受，現在仍需要很小心的去調節及適應

事實上，在這麼多年都是牧師和師母的關懷和主內弟兄姊妹及好友的照顧，到較遠的地方，無論是辦私事、購物，診病都有接送。當然他們的代禱及慰問都是神的愛在他們身上顯出來。這五年來是我人生最黑暗的日子。

在其他人眼中，我的生活受很多的限制，但我內心很是平靜，並沒有愁眉苦臉，也沒有自怨自艾，更不因此而大發脾氣，不是我有修養，祇是神保守我的心懷意念，讓我有平安的心緒。祂使我多留在家中，專心的思想神的話，省察自己的行為，從順服中學習事奉祂，敬拜祂。憑著信心，學習忍耐，在禱告中倚靠神。使我在遇到難處時、危急時不紛亂，首先想到的是「祇要信，不要怕」和「專心仰賴耶和華」及恆心禱告。我知道神有祂的計劃，祂會適時的成全祂的心意。

「因為知道你們的信心經過試驗，就生忍耐。但忍耐也當成功，使你們成全完備，毫無缺欠。」（雅一：3、4）

松炎走後，淚水、思念伴著我；問題、困擾也隨著我。我深信，天堂是一個好得無比，美得無比的地方，但我內心深處仍希望他能活在地上，盡他做父親、做丈夫、做兒子的責任和義務。

當一個人眼睜睜地看著與自己朝夕相處的伴侶被癌症一點點地侵蝕，一條鮮活的生命被折磨得一天天消瘦，最後只剩下皮包骨的時候，那種刻骨銘心的悲傷，那份缺乏回天之力的無奈，是任何人的勸說和安慰都無法抹去的。直到松炎昏迷的日子，我仍在痴痴迷迷地期待著神跡的出現，他的走，無情地摧毀了我心中最後的期盼。我不住地問：“神啊，您愛我們嗎？神啊，您的美意是什麼？”我不停地想，為什麼松炎會再次患癌症？不是每一次的檢查結果都沒問題嗎？為什麼這一次神不醫治？從理智上，我好像應該離神而去，但從情感上，我又做不到，因為我仍然愛神，愛教會。我知道，松炎也是那麼愛神、愛教會、愛自己的親人。

在整理遺物的時候，我找到松炎寫的一些東西，願意在此跟大家分享。

二零零一年三月，松炎被診斷為淋巴瘤，下面是他寫給天父的一封信：

“我親愛的天父神，我是多麼希望還能夠留在這個世界上再過一些年頭，等我兒子凡頓長大幾歲，能夠把父母親先送走，能夠多陪黃英幾年。死亡我並不害怕，主啊，只要是您的旨意，我甘願前往。但是我的神啊，我還是得向您懇求，給我更多的時間來為您作美好的見證，做一個更好的信徒，員工，父親，丈夫，兒子及其他角色。神啊，請聽我的呼求和祈禱。我萬能的神，保護了我四十年的神啊，請寬容我的一切罪過，讓我有機會重新來過。神啊，天上的萬能主宰，我生命的施救者，

憐憫施恩于我吧！奉主耶穌基督的名求，阿們！”

當我一個月前第一次讀到這封信時，一個人關在房間裡大哭了一場。松炎求生的願望那麼強，那麼愛自己的親人，松炎的禱告那麼情詞迫切。回想起來，神真是應允了他，多給了我們四年多的時間在一起。

二零零四年一月，松炎被推選為國語團契的團長，下面是他在二零零四年第一次團契時的發言節選：

「……作為新一任的團長，我深感自己能力有限，靈命不足，但我願意做神手中的器皿，讓他磨造。近一段時間，我常常在思考這個問題：假如我明天離開這個世界，我有多大把握可以進天堂？得到榮耀的冠冕？如果我們的信仰僅僅停留在只是相信有神，而沒有將自己生命的主權交給神，沒有真正活出基督的樣式，那麼恐怕我們真地會失去與天國的緣份。……將來有一天，我們每一個人都要向神交賬，神要親自審核我們。在現實生活中，審計員由於時間和資源的限制，只能採取按比例抽樣來審核，所以有些做假賬的人就抱著僥倖的心理，想蒙混過關。但神這位審計員不一樣，神有的是時間，因為他是自有永有，而且更厲害的是，神是無所不能，無所不知的。所以我們想蒙混過關的可能性等于零。……」

那天團契我也在場，好像對松炎講的話沒有太大的回應。但當他真地離開了這個世界，再一次讀到他的這番話時，我的心不禁一驚，難道他有先知先覺？其實不是的，只因為他經歷過生死的考驗，所以想得更深遠。

二零零五年十二月，松炎在多倫多總

醫院做了一個長達十二個小時的大手術，下面是他手術幾周後讓我代他給團契的口信：

「親愛的弟兄姐妹：大家好！在過去的幾個月裡，我由於生病住院很少參加團契，但是每一次團契我都十分掛念大家。有時候，我不明白為什麼我們向神求平安，神卻允許苦難降臨。現在，當我躺在病床上的時候，我似乎明白了，神的美意就在于，讓我們更加依靠他，更加親近他。在這次大手術的前後，我真是一步一步地經歷神的信實與慈愛，他帶領我又一次走過死陰幽谷。現在，我仍有很多疼痛，但這些無非都是人可以忍受的，相信神一定會為我開一條出路。請大家繼續為我們禱告。感謝弟兄姐妹對我和我家人的照顧和愛心。謝謝大家！在這次與病魔作戰的過程中，我們就像一個大家庭，一同經歷了神的同在，願一切的榮耀，頌讚都歸給神。」

那次團契，我代表松炎，也代表我自己，還有兒子，真誠地向團契表示感謝，向我們在天上的父神表示感謝。

松炎愛神，因為神先愛他。一九九七年三月，神帶領我們一家來到這個教會。二零零零年一月，松炎和我受洗成為神的兒女。二零零一年三月，松炎經歷第一次患癌症，神賜下百般恩慈與憐憫，施行神跡奇事，醫治了松炎，而且神也改變了我們的生命。我們夫妻之間的恩愛與尊重，松炎與凡頓之間的溝通與理解，我們在世上的工作，在教會的事奉，我們與神之間的關係都變得越來越美好！松炎愛教會，因為教會的牧者，弟兄姐妹和朋友們那麼愛他。二零零四年九月，松炎第二次患癌症，這一次病魔來勢洶洶，短短的兩個多月，松炎前後三次住院，病痛折磨得他無法進食，體重陡降二十多磅。病情發展太快，我們似乎有點措手不及。但是教會的牧者和弟兄姐妹像天使一樣及時來到我們身邊，一起流淚、一起禱告、一起唱詩，

給了我們許多鼓勵，安慰和幫助。有姐妹為我們煮菜，有弟兄為我們接送兒子打球。松炎在多倫多總醫院住院的一個月裡，由於我不敢開車上高速，眾弟兄姐妹就每天輪流排班接送我和兒子去看松炎，大家甚至多次為我們捐款，在經濟上支持我們。我們深知，每個家庭都有每個家庭的重擔，有的家庭日子非常拮据，但是弟兄姐妹是這樣地愛我們，他們是在省吃儉用幫助我們，為此，我們懷著感恩的心跪在神的面前哭求，許願，並把這份愛當作珍貴的活教材教育我們的兒子凡頓。

二零零五年，從一月到四月，松炎出院在家休養，同時做化療，口服含嗎啡的止痛藥。他疼痛的程度一直增加，止痛藥的劑量也一直增加。這期間，我不用每天跑醫院，也常常請假在家陪他。松炎手術後可以正常進食了，我們在一起花時間做好吃的；一起讀經、禱告、唱詩；一起討論將來的事，共同度過了一段值得我永遠回憶的幸福時光。松炎最喜歡的經文是《哥林多後書》4：16-18節，「所以，我們不喪膽。外體雖然毀壞，內心卻一天新似一天。我們這至暫至輕的苦楚，要為我們成就極重無比永遠的榮譽。原來我們不是顧念所見的，乃是顧念所不見的；因為所見的是暫時的，所不見的是永遠的。」松炎最喜歡的詩歌是「走進新的一天」，每天早上醒來就唱。復活節，我們的兒子受洗成為基督徒，當凡頓在台上作見證時，我看到了松炎臉上露出的燦爛笑容。四月九日，松炎還支撐著去翠豪酒樓參加了鄔伯母的生日宴席，那天恰好也是我們兒子十四歲的生日，松炎開心極了。

四月底，檢查結果表明胰腺再次發生腫瘤，醫生懷疑極有可能已經全身擴散，但需要進一步檢查。當時我只知道傻哭，但是松炎卻表現得出奇地平靜果斷。他首先將車賣了，接著將他買的RRSP全部取出。五月中旬，懷著強烈的求生慾望，我們踏上了回中國的飛機，決定去接受基因

療法。但是經過一個多月的治療以後，效果並不理想。六月底，松炎在身體極度虛弱的情況下，堅持要回來，他拉著我的手說：「黃英，我真想活著回去再看一眼牧師，師母和弟兄姐妹們。」我深深地被他的牽掛所感動，於是咬牙開始學習打針，因為那時松炎已經每天要靠注射嗎啡來止痛。六月廿六日，松炎奇跡般地回到了加拿大，弟兄姐妹們在機場給了我們一個盛大的歡迎，感謝主，松炎的願望實現了。六月廿八日清晨，我捧著一把鮮花躡手躡腳走進了病房，生怕把松炎吵醒了，不想他卻大聲地說：「老婆，生日快樂！」看到我嚇了一跳的樣子，他還孩子般地沖著我笑。在遭受劇烈疼痛的情況下，松炎的頭腦仍然這麼清楚，不僅準確地記得我的

生日，而且還能準確地對前來探望他的每一個人詢問不同的家事，真讓人驚訝不已。我只能這樣解釋，他心中實在是裝滿了對人生的愛與留戀。七月七日凌晨兩點，帶著滿心的愛和戀，松炎去了天家……

至今，我仍然不明白，為什麼神不給松炎更多的年日在地上存留？為什麼神沒有垂聽我們眾人的同心禱告？但是有一點我卻很清楚，那就是我更需要神，我兒子更需要神，我們離不開教會。感謝神，賜給了我一個有情有義的丈夫；感謝神，賜給了凡頓一個嚴厲的慈父。更感謝神，讓松炎活過，愛過；也讓我可以在經歷苦難後，能挺起下垂的手、發酸的腿；讓我和兒子心中有盼望，將來會與松炎再見。

Our Vision

Rev. Wong, Rev. Metz, Pastor Kwok, Pastor Foo

I) Preamble:

Before we develop a vision statement for our church, the pastors gathered together to discuss and pray for God's vision. We affirm the following as essentials for our church:

- The Gospel is the good news that Jesus Christ died for our sins and was raised from the dead according to the Scriptures, and that as reigning Lord he now offers the forgiveness of sins and the liberating gifts of the Spirit to all who repent and believe. Christians are called to be disciples of Jesus. (1 Cor. 15: 3,4; Luke 14: 26,27)
- The church is the community where Christ's followers gather to worship God, to build up one another and to do good works in Jesus' name (Acts 2:42; Eph 2:10)
- God's will for His church is to grow and multiply (Mt 28:18-20)
- We are called to proclaim the Gospel both in words and actions (Mt 25:40; Acts 10:38; Jas 2:15-17). Our evangelistic efforts will be focus on the questions and needs of non-Christians.
- As a Chinese church, our immediate responsibility is to reach out to the Chinese-Canadians yet recognizing the universal scope of the Gospel (Acts 1:8)
- In response to the projected population increase of the City of Brampton, our church needs to make strategic plans **now** for church growth and multiplication.

II) Our Vision Statement:

To be a church that grows and multiplies as we proclaim the Gospel to the people in Brampton and beyond.

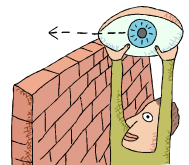
III) Strategy:

Building up members:

- Encourage believers to take God's word seriously and have closer relationship with Jesus
- Help believers to discern God's purpose and gifts in their life
- Equip believers with resources and training for ministry
- Use ministry as mentoring opportunity to build up leaders

Future church planting:

- Set up building fund **now** to acquire property for future church plant in the west side of Brampton. The site is to be large enough (10 acres or more) to accommodate worship sanctuary, education building and other community services as needed.
- As our congregation grows out of our existing church building, we shall establish a new church plant on the new site. The church will be similar to the mother church with English and Chinese (Cantonese/Mandarin) congregations.
- The new church building will be built in stages as needed.



The church has four fundamental identities, which are unfortunately less known, but nonetheless deserving careful meditation. These identities are recorded in *1 Peter 2:9* as follows:

“But you are:

- I. A chosen people,
- II. A royal priesthood,
- III. A holy nation,
- IV. A people belonging to God...”

The same message is found in *Revelation 5:10* “You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.”

The identities of church on the earth:

I. A Chosen People.

It is said in *Deuteronomy 7:6, 10:15, and 14:2* “For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession.” So the original meaning of church is “A people chosen out of all peoples,” which is clearly interpreted by Jesus in *John 15:16*, saying, “You did not choose me, but I chose you...” Jesus further says “And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it” (*Matthew 16:18*). Here the church is the city council, then an elected body.

It is clearly stated in *Deuteronomy* that the Israelites had no merits in special qualities and works, because all these came from the will of the Lord. Therefore believers must be mindful of the election of Jesus Christ by living a humble, submissive, receptive life that glorifies the Lord.

II. A Royal Priesthood

Exodus 19:6 thus tells the selected “You will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.”

Revelation 5:10 clearly says that the believers have been made to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth. They will stand between God and men and speak to the people on behalf of God to pass His will to them; and they will speak to God on behalf of men in prayers, worships, thanksgiving and petition. All these are the works of the priesthood.

Revelation 20:6 points out the “Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.” Therefore, the church has the authority to reign with Christ for a thousand years. The believers, consequently, must be self-conscious of this identity, to get out of self-depreciation, and to live in a glorious and majestic life.

III. A Holy Nation

The Bible stresses the importance of being holy because God himself is holy. It also states: “For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession” (*Deuteronomy 7:6*).

To be holy is to be sanctified, so Peter reminds the church that “Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy” (*1 Peter 1:13-16*).

The power for holiness is the Word of God. In his departure prayer, Jesus says: “Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified” (*John 17:17-19*).

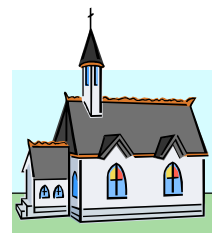
The Church is a group of people possessed with the truth, a kingdom cleansed with the blood of Christ. Despite that our human weakness erodes our testimonies to the holiness, still, wherever the Word of the Lord prevails, there is holiness. This is why Jesus declared, “On this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”

IV. A People Belonging To God

“Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession” (*Exodus 19:5*), and *Deuteronomy 26:16-19* makes it clear a comparison between God and his people.

1. You have declared this day that the LORD is your God and that you will walk in his ways.
“And the LORD has declared this day that you are his people, his treasured possession as he promised.”
2. You will carefully observe them with all your heart and with all your soul.
“He has declared that he will set you in praise, fame and honor high above all the nations he has made.”
3. You will keep his decrees, commands and laws, and that you will obey him
“You will be a people holy to the LORD your God, as he promised.”

The church is not with the world, nor is it with Satan, nor under his control. Therefore, Satan will attack it on all sides. However, the authority and power of Satan will not prevail over the church. It is said in *Revelation 19: 7-8* “Let us rejoice, be glad and give him glory, for the wedding of the lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. Fine linen, bright and clean, was given for her to wear.” This bride is the church and her favor from God would be the most high, most majestic, and the most glorious. We must know our identities and live a glorious life until the coming of our Lord.



Introduction.

For last year's yearbook, I submitted an essay about two of my passions – "*Worship and Social Justice*." Both of these ministries are vitally linked with one another. This time around, I hope to again share another two of my passions – "**Worship and Evangelism**." Again, these two ministries are vitally linked with one another. You cannot have one without the other. If you worship, you will witness and when you witness you worship.

This year our church's theme is "**Behold Christ, Being Church**." With this theme in mind one has to notice that "Beholding Christ" – is to worship, and "Being Church" – is to witness. What is it about being church that is so important? Why do we have church? Why do you come to church? There is a large difference between attending church and coming to worship God. Worship is directed to God alone and worship is only possible because of God alone. It's not just about music and it involves more than just sitting in a pew on a Sunday morning. So how can we cultivate a lifestyle of worship?

In Isaiah chapter 6, Isaiah shares with us his wonderful worship experience. He has no power point, no hymnbooks, no microphones, no printed bulletins, no worship team or organ. (Isaiah 6:1-8).

Background.

Before we continue, let me provide you with some helpful background information. Uzziah became king of Judah at the age of sixteen and he reigned for fifty-two years. As a young man, his heart beat for the things of God and he was able to turn the nation and all the peoples back to the Lord. The scriptures tell us that as long as he sought the Lord, God gave him success (2 Chronicles 26:5). However, as he grew older his fame spread and he became very powerful and his pride eventually led to his

downfall. Uzziah became so arrogant that he attempted to burn incense in the Temple. The Temple priests confronted him and reminded him that this was the duty of the priests and not the king. The scriptures tell us that Uzziah became angry and while he was in rage at the priests, leprosy broke out on his forehead (2 Chronicles 26:19). King Uzziah, the prideful and powerful king, lived in isolation as a leper for the rest of his life and his son, Jotham, took the throne. Then enter prophet Isaiah into the scene.

Isaiah had been ministering as a prophet for nearly eighteen years when Uzziah died in 739 BC. The people had not experienced so much prosperity and power since the days of Solomon. Many had begun to place their trust in Uzziah rather than in God. So when Uzziah had died, Isaiah had a vision of God. What he saw, what he heard, what he felt, and what he did forever changed his life. It was WORSHIP.

When we worship we see God for who He really is (Isaiah 6:1-4).

Isaiah saw the Lord. In the Gospel of John we are told that Isaiah had actually seen Jesus (John 12:41). Isaiah was given access to the throne room of heaven and entered into the presence of the Second Person of the Trinity, Christ the Lord. When we worship, we MUST recognize the Lordship of Christ.

Next, Isaiah sees the Lord who is *seated on the throne*. When we worship, we must recognize that God is the ruler and king over not just the earth or the entire cosmos, but King over us as well. King Uzziah had died and some people may have been feeling uncertain about their future. People were worried that the great king is dead and God wanted to assure Isaiah that He was still on the throne.

Isaiah also recognizes that the Lord is seated *high and exalted*. When we worship, we must recognize that God is worthy of our worship.

Finally Isaiah sees that *the train of His robe filled the temple*. When we worship, we must acknowledge His majesty. Isaiah saw only the hem of God's royal garment, but it filled the heavenly temple.

What do these images that Isaiah sees tell us about God? Isaiah's vision reminds us to ask the right questions – who is this God? As we will see later, when Isaiah has the right picture of God he is able to accept all that God has called him to be and do. What kind of God do we worship?

Our God is a sending God. Our God is one who is always reaching out. Our God is never content to remain self-contained. He sent Jesus Christ, and then He sent the Holy Spirit, now He sends the church and every Christian into the entire world. So if this is our God that we worship, then we His people should attempt to follow His lead and example. As His church, we should not be content to remain self-contained, we should always be reaching out and we should always be sending people forth.

When we worship we see ourselves for who we really are (Isaiah 6:5).

Standing in the presence of God, Isaiah became painfully aware of his own sinfulness. What did Isaiah feel? Failure! He felt like a complete and utter failure. Being in the present of God's glory was too much for Him. When was the last time, you were truly in the presence of God and felt truly woeful, not because of how sinful we are, but because of how AWESOME He is.

“Woe to me.” Isaiah was a prophet who was pronouncing woe on everyone else and he is now faced with the hopelessness of his own desperation. Seeing the purity, the holiness, the majesty of God overwhelmed him and he actually pronounces a curse upon himself. He is doomed.

“I am ruined.” there is not an English word to really express the true meaning of these words. “I am finished, game over, the end, it's all over”. I once remember asking a group of high school students what they would do if Jesus walked into our church service. One brave soul raised his hands and said he probably would give Jesus a high five and another said they would run and hug Jesus. Seriously? If the Lord Jesus Christ were to appear visibly in this sanctuary right now, not one of us would be left standing. We would all be flat on our faces. There is no way we would be able to stand before Him.

“For I am a man of unclean lips.” It is interesting to note that Isaiah's sense of conviction centres on his mouth. As a prophet, his mouth was his ministry. Out of his mouth came the pronouncements of God, for he recognizes the awesome responsibility he has to proclaim God's words and how unworthy he was to do such a holy thing. As a preacher, I feel this same conviction. I sometimes ask: “Lord, I know You forgive my sins, but can You ever forgive my sermons?”

“And I dwell among people of unclean lips.” Isaiah was identifying himself with the rebellious people of Israel and he knew he was no better than anyone else. Uzziah had failed spiritually at the end of his life and the country followed his lead. Jotham was attempting to lead with spiritual integrity but no one was interested. Isaiah counted himself as part of a people and part of a race that reeked with the smell of sin.

“And my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty.” When we see God for who He really is, we will see ourselves for who we really are. Isaiah knew that he was doomed as he was standing in the blazing heat of God's righteousness, and every sinful thought, word, action and motive was laid bare for all the heavens to see. I hate to trample on your self-esteem but you are not OK and I am not OK. Because of our sin, we are separated from God and do not have the power to get to God on our

own. True worship will always drive us to our knees in despair due to our sin and lead us to cry out for the one thing we desperately need – mercy.

Worship Involves Experiencing the Mercy of God (Isaiah 6:6-7).

Just when Isaiah thought God would destroy him, his eyes focus in on one of the seraphs hovering towards him and in his hand, a red-hot coal taken from the altar. The angel is sent on a mission of mercy. Isaiah had been feeling like a failure but now he will experience freedom and forgiveness as his guilt is taken away. Isaiah's sense of condemnation was relieved and his conscience is appeased. God did not ignore Isaiah's sin and that is where grace comes in. Isaiah received God's grace. Not only had his guilt been taken away but his sin had also been taken care of as well. It was not because of anything Isaiah did or said, but God in His mercy and grace chose to cleanse him of his sin and so too with us. True worship always leads to the experience of God's forgiveness, mercy and grace.

Worship Draws Into Ministry (Isaiah 6:8).

Isaiah is basking in God's presence and has now experienced God in a fresh and new way. He has seen God for who He really is which lead to the despair of seeing himself for who he really was. He then experienced God's mercy in a way that totally rearranged his view of his relationship with God. God is now ready to use Isaiah.

“Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” God issues a holy “help wanted” advertisement for a messenger to proclaim His truth to a wandering nation.

“Here am I. Send me.” Isaiah is a new prophet with a new appreciation of the God he serves. Notice he does not say, “Here I am”. He gives God his availability, not his location. As he submits his will to God's will, then God says:

“Go”. God commissions him into service to give the message. Real worship always commands us to go to give the message. In essence, now that the worship *meeting* is over, now is the time for the worship *service* to begin – go and serve.

As we go out, we worship. As we sing His praises, we are witnessing. As we live our lives as worship to God we are showing people God's love, forgiveness, mercy and grace. We are showing people God's redemption.

Conclusion.

The Westminster Confession poses the question: “What is the chief and highest end of man?” The answer: “To glorify God and to enjoy God forever.”

We seek to glorify God in worship and through our worship we are called to extend the worship of God to all life and to bring others to this same worship of God. This is our witness and mission. Evangelism arises from worship and worship is the end result of evangelism. Think about it...evangelism comes out of seeing God for who He is, and seeing ourselves for who we are, experiencing His mercy and then being called to serve. Then when we go, we show people God's love, we tell people about His mercy and forgiveness, and if they accept Christ we bring them to join our worship to God.

Worship is the prelude to witness, whether witness is through evangelism or service in social settings. Witness is a preparation, a prelude to the formal corporate glorification of God that takes place in worship.

When we worship like Isaiah did, we tell HIS-story.

“It's all about HIM”,
Pastor Kenneth Foo

People may often perceive missionary work as difficult and tedious, but in my view, it is God's blessing. A calling from God is an essential pre-requisite to work as a missionary, and if a couple is called to serve in ministry it is a double blessing in God's Kingdom.

I have learned a great deal in my six years as a missionary, and I also discovered that I have yet much to learn. Amongst the knowledge I gained, I have learned to be patient, particularly through the process of learning the languages of both Thai and Mandarin. Learning foreign languages is not difficult if one's purpose is to spread the gospel. Please pray continually for my linguistic education, as I have yet to achieve complete fluency in any language (even that of my own native tongue). I am entirely grateful that God has provided me with many teachers to instruct me in the areas of language as well as local customs.

As you may know, our mission is located in Myanmar, Thailand. Officially, I am not

involved in the ministry very often, but I do see my neighbors and people around me daily. I know they all need to know the Lord Jesus. I understand my duty as a wife and a mother and I enjoy this responsibility. As a Christian, I must preach the gospel to those I meet, even if I am not directly involved in the ministry.

God has graciously given me three wonderful boys, I think, in order to train my patience. If I were in Canada, home schooling would be the last option for the education of my kids. But in Thailand, I have no other option but home schooling because we want to stay together, and we do not want to send our kids to boarding school in their young age. God has called us as missionaries and He will take care of us. We have no lack in anything, but we always have more than what we need.

I am glad that God has provided me with a prayer partner. We meet every week when possible, not just praying but going out and preach the gospel.

An Open Letter to Our Children



Pastor Wong and Sharon

Dear Winnie and Gabriel:

The year 2005 was a special year for our family. Let us count the many blessings from our Lord.

Gabriel, you started your first Co-op job in May and worked to finance your education and that was amazing!

Winnie, our heart was full of thanksgiving as you walked up the stage to receive your graduation certificate in June. Our Lord has indeed carried you through those tough study days.

Grandma came to Canada in the summer of 1980. For twenty-five years, she has given her time, her love and indeed her life to help taking care of you. Therefore, honor your grandma as it is the right thing to do, for her life has blessed both of you in so many ways, and you can speak Chinese because of your Grandma.

As we step into another stage of our life, we see the need of moving closer to our church. We have been praying for such a house and our Lord is amazing in answering prayer. Finally, in September, we moved to a house just fifty steps away from our church, although we did not expect it to be that close. Dad can save so much time from travel as he can now come home for lunch with Grandma. What a treat that is! After seventeen years of living in the previous house, this move has prompted us to throw away so much stuff, literally, stuff and junk that have been piling up in our house over the years, and what a joy it is to be junk free!

Christmas of 2005 was very special to both of us, and yes, it is the 25th anniversary of our baptism. Our faith in Jesus Christ has set our path onto a new direction of how we live our lives. The values that we teach you are life principles that we learn from the Bible. Treasure therefore God’s Word, and follow the Lord Jesus in everyday of your life. “Do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with your God because that is the source of abundant life.”

Our family has gone through many ups and downs over the past twenty-five years. Oh Lord Jesus, you are so good to us and we thank God for calling us into ministry in 1997. This is the beginning of 10th year of our ministry at BCBC. Praise the Lord!

Love,
Dad and Mom

BCBC 2005 Major Events

Jim Yu

Church Theme: Behold, I make all things new (Revelation: 21:5)

January to February		Annual food drive organized by the Alive and Rock Fellowships
		Prayers for members of parliament to block the same-sex marriage bill
February	6	Church members voted in favor of combining the Cantonese and Mandarin worship
February to March		CEF in-house training on “foundation for teaching the word of God to children”
March	6	Combined Cantonese and Mandarin worship started
	13	BCBC Members unanimously approved Pastor Ken Foo as Assistant English Pastor commencing June 1, 2005- Our welcome to him and his wife Ann and daughter Mayah
	14-15	Teens Conference- Richmond Hill Chinese Community Church
	25	Good Friday Joint Worship
	27	Easter Sunday Joint Worship and Baptism (12 brothers and sisters) Praise our Lord!
April	9	Celebration of Mrs. Wu’s birthday at Kingsley Chinese Restaurant Annual Church clean-up
May	7	Graduation ceremony for Pastor Kwok, Pastor Foo, and Chris Lai at Queensway Cathedral - Praise our Lord!

	23	Defend marriage rally at Queen's Park
	28	Joint Chinese fellowships night
	29	Thanksgiving and appreciation lunch for Rev. and Mrs. Metz for all the years of service to our Lord and at our church
June	5	Commissioning of Pastor Ken Foo Baby dedication (11 children were dedicated to God)
July	1-3	Annual Retreat - Ridgetown College (Over 170 attended) Theme: Behold, I make all things new, Revelation 21:5 Speakers: Rev. Ting W. Lee (Chinese); Pastor Tony Costa (English)
	30- Aug 1	Mandarin Fellowship camping retreat
August	2-12	First ever VBS day camp successfully held
	14-17	Alive Fellowship Camp
	28	Farewell lunch for high school graduates
September	11	Membership unanimously approved our brother Keith Lee for pastoral ordination
	23-25	Annual Mission Conference- Theme: "For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard" Acts: 4:20 Speakers: Pastor Keith Lee (Chinese); Dr. Wafik Wahba (English)
October	9	Thanksgiving worship and Baptism (2 brothers and sisters)- Praise our Lord!
	31	Family Fun Night Outreach
November	27	Ordination ceremony of brother Keith Lee
December	4	Church membership approval of the executive board for 2006-7
	17	Church Christmas Celebration
	24	Christmas Caroling- Visitation to families
	25	Christmas Day Joint Worship

The Importance of Structure and Organization

James Quan

Structure and Organization

Organizational structure is crucial because it supports and facilitates the purposes and mission of an organization. We all know that the human body is held together by the skeleton which supports all the working parts of the body. Bodily function is not possible without a healthy and strong skeleton. Likewise, churches and organizations cannot function properly without a sound organizational structure.

A successful church is one that knows God's vision and uses a good organizational structure

to mobilize various talents and resources to focus on and accomplish that vision.

Our God is a God of Order

The Bible tells us that "For God is not a God of disorder but of peace." (1 Cor. 14:33) Everything must be done in harmony and with order. We cannot help but be amazed at the organization and structure that God used in His creation as described in Genesis 1:1-2:3. There is ample evidence of intelligent design in His created order, from the simplest life form to the complex human brain. God uses structure and organization to accomplish his many purposes. The human race, however, is often too

spiritually blind to see the truth of Paul's teaching in Romans 1:20.

Moses Learned to Use Structure and Organization

Moses was overwhelmed by the problems of leading a huge number of his people out of Egypt. Shortly after they had escaped from that country they were in dire need of the most basic necessities of life to survive. They suffered from hunger, thirst, and they grumbled against the leadership of Moses. Food and water were needed not only for the people but for their livestock as well. Miraculously for 40 years God provided the Israelites with manna from heaven (Ex.16:31) and water (Ex. 17:6) despite they were often disobedient (Ex. 16).

However, there still existed a very serious problem of leadership. Exodus 18:17-24 shows us how the Israelites, through the use of wise organizational structure, solved a chaotic and seemingly hopeless situation under the leadership of Moses with advice from his father-in-law, Jethro. It was all about organization and structure.

17. Moses' father-in-law replied, "What you are doing is not good.
18. You and these people who come to you will only wear yourselves out. The work is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone.
19. Listen now to me and I will give you some advice, may God be with you. You must be the people's representative before God and bring their disputes to him.
20. Teach them the decrees and laws, and show them the way to live and the duties they are to perform.
21. But select capable men from all the people - men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain - and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens.
22. Have them serve as judges for the people at all times, but have them bring very difficult case to you; the simple cases they

can decide themselves. That will make your load lighter, because they share it with you.

23. If you do this and God so commands, you will be able to stand the strain, and all these people will go home satisfied."
24. Moses listened to his father-in-law and did everything he said.

For all the problems they were facing the Israelites needed a strong and effective leader at that time and God intended for Moses to be that leader. They soon faced imminent destruction from attack by the Amalekites but God delivered them miraculously from their enemy (Ex. 17:13).

Although God had protected and provided for them throughout their ordeal, He also wanted the Israelites to know that He is sovereign, He is faithful, and He provides and protects. God especially wanted Moses to learn how to lead his people using structure and organization in time of need.

What had Moses learned from all his difficult and painful experiences? He learned that an effective leader must create an organizational structure that nurtures the physical and spiritual well-being of those he leads. Moses accomplished that by hand-picking potential leaders, training them and empowering them. He appointed the leaders to serve as judges and to share his workload but was still in control. He demonstrated to us that a key leader, through effective delegation, can multiply his or her effectiveness and better meet the needs of those he leads.

Structure in the Church

According to Scripture, God has instituted authority structures in the areas of marriage, parenting, leadership, the church and the state. Over the years, these structures have proven to be necessary in a society of fallen people. However, the Bible does not provide specific guidelines about structure in the church, thus leaving room for freedom and adaptation.

When Paul wrote to churches or pastors, he wisely never dictated in detail how the church should be structured. This allows the church, over the years and across different cultures, to adapt to fit the specific environment in which it finds itself. A church with two congregations expands to three congregations requires a different structure. As a church grows and becomes more complex, the structure can adjust. Organizational structure is not sacred or set in concrete. If it doesn't work anymore, it should be changed.

We need to be mindful that order or structure in a church should be defined by the Spirit's control of us, not our control of the Spirit. Clearly, God is a God of structure and organization when we observe the cosmos or our own surroundings. Only He is unchanging, His plans never fail, but ours do and need to change according to circumstances. Structure is good insofar as it enables us to accomplish the goals and objectives of our God-inspired vision. Once that is no longer the case, we

must call upon Him to give us new structures to meet the challenges before us.

A Final Note

We thank God that the revised structure of our Executive Board, adopted two years ago, had resulted in serving Him, our ministries and members more effectively. While our Executive Board and Membership meetings were conducted much more efficiently and smoothly, our Membership meetings were often poorly attended. We need the guiding of the Holy Spirit as well as your prayers and input on how to encourage all our members to participate in the affairs and ministries of His church.

Finally, I would like to extend my appreciation for the faithfulness, cooperation and efforts exhibited by our Board members, co-workers, brothers and sisters in the last two years. Let us continue to press on toward the goal that God has called us to achieve through the Holy Spirit.

Reference: Kenneth Boa, *Organization*



Mission Department – Faith and Pledge

Danny Chiu

The disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, "Why couldn't we drive it (the demon) out?" Jesus replied, "Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." (Matt 17:20). The mustard seed is a small seed, but Jesus pointed out that as long as one has the faith as small as mustard seed, God will do great things because of this faith. If it is in God's will, no matter how difficult and big the task is, God can make it happen. If it is not in God's will, no matter how hard one tried and with a big price, God will not make it happen.

After serving in our church for many years, especially serving in the Mission Department, I deeply experience that God is faithful and His promise will never fail. The Church Mission Fund is separated from the Church General Fund. This is the offering that our brothers and sisters donated with faith on top of the regular offering. Our church supports more than ten different gospel organizations, and we supported approximately ten missionaries. In this bad economic situation, a lot of brothers and sisters' work is not stable and some of them are even unemployed. There is a big gap between the pledge offering and the mission budget's need. Should we reduce the support of some organizations or the support to some missionaries? Or perhaps we defer the

support payment. When we try to solve the problems in our own ways, it is the time God starts to work.

Thank God for providing good pastors, their wives and a group of faithful prayer warriors. They regularly pray for our church mission responsibility in their private prayers or at the church prayer meeting. They even burst into tears to ask God to rebuild the faith of brothers and sisters, continue patiently to wait for and to look up to God's answer to our

prayer. Because our brothers and sisters have this mustard seed faith, God had answered our prayer. At the end of 2005, not only we can cope with all expenditures, but also we have surplus in the Mission Department. Hallelujah! Praise the Lord! May all the glory be unto God.

Dear brothers and sisters, our God knows all about your offerings and the burden of the church mission work. May God bless you. Amen.

Chinese Sunday School

Phoebe Wang

In the beginning of the New Year, we are filled with grace and praise in reminiscence of our work in Christ in the past year. We witnessed the work of the Holy Spirit in our Bible School as He prepared and humbled the hearts of brothers and sisters whose attendance reached forty-to-fifty. We also witnessed the work of the Lord when He equipped the dedicated teachers and enabled them to utilize the gifts imparted to them in Christ.

At the same time, we need to review the work of the Chinese Bible School teachers because we were not successful to involve everyone, either as teachers or as students to participate in the Bible study. Even though the number of students had increased, we saw fewer long-time

church members' participation. To encourage the understanding of continuing study in the Word of God, which is crucial and integral to the growth in spirit and knowledge, we designed our Sunday school courses for different levels. After unceasing prayers and discussion, we developed a three-year program to complement the vision of the church, to prepare the church members with truth and spirit so that they will be able to testify to the glory God. We also hope to equip more church leaders and soldiers of Christ for the kingdom of God.

We will publish the three-year program on the bulletin board and we hope to have everyone's prayer and participation in this project.

Fellowship Department

Brian Lau and Amy Lu

Thank the Lord for giving us another year to serve Him. Once again, we experienced that our God's provision was greater than what we asked for.

English Fellowship:

We are always in need of counselors for the English fellowship ministries. Currently we have Adult, Rock, Alive and Faith fellowships, which meet regularly. With much prayers and waiting for God's guidance, presently counselors are:

Adult – Pastor Ken Foo
Rock – Pastor Ken Foo
Alive – Andrea Iu (Grade 9-12)
Faith – Mark Lin and Janny Chiu (Grade 6-8)

Chinese Fellowship:

We had two joint fellowships this year which allowed the Mandarin and Cantonese congregations to get to know each other better and carry out many church ministries together. Different fellowships are regularly meeting bi-weekly. Two Cantonese Sister Fellowships (morning and evening) meet once a month and each fellowship attracts 10 to 12 sisters regularly. The Mandarin Sister Fellowship which meets once a month has an attendance of 10-15 regulars. Different cell groups are still meeting frequently to increase our Bible knowledge to allow us to draw closer to our Lord. The attendance for our Senior Mandarin fellowship has dropped due to some members returning to China.

This year's Summer Retreat was held in Ridgetown College between London and Windsor, Ontario. We had provided bus transportation from BCBC to the site. With the trial of a new location and bus transportation, the committee received well and positive feedback, which encourages us to book the 2006 summer retreat for the same location. This 2005 retreat speakers were Rev. Ting W. Lee and Pastor Tony Costa for Chinese and English respectively. The sermons and workshops were very inspiring and encouraging, and many people gained the benefits. Most had re-focused their life to God and evaluated their value of life. Once again, we thank our retreat core team that we serve our Lord whole-heartedly, and their willingness cannot be neglected to make this a successful retreat not only operationally but also spiritually.

Visitation Department

Hoi Nang Li

Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her." (Matt 26:13).

Who is she? She is Mary in Bethany. What did she do? Jesus said, "She has done a beautiful thing to me." (Matt 26:10). How many things are called beautiful things in the world? The beautiful things a person said could be quite different from what Jesus said. This story was recorded In Matt 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9 and John 12:1-8.

I would like to share with brothers and sisters about this beautiful thing done by Mary in Bethany. An alabaster jar is an expensive perfume – this alabaster perfume is a fragrant oil refined from one kind of East Indian rare

plant's rhizome. The jar is intact but after breaking the bottleneck, it cannot be restored to the original condition and it has no other use. According to the Bible, the alabaster perfume is very expensive – this perfume is worth 30 silver coins, which was about 300 silver dollars at Biblical times, and it was equal to an ordinary worker's one-year wages. Are you willing to spent one-year salaries to buy the fragrant perfume to pour on our Lord?

Are you willing to offer your body as a living sacrifice? This is pleasing to God, for the Lord said, "She did what she could." (Mark 14: 8). Dear brothers and sisters, let us try our best to spread the Gospel together, to work for our Lord and to be a good servant of our Lord.



Every week during the Sunday worship and the Sunday school time, the Children Department has organized various children activities in our church. Between 9:30 am to 10:30 am is children choir practice time. Starting at 11:00 am is children worship and after that, we split into Children Sunday classes. Every week the attendance of the children worship are around forty-to-fifty children ranging from babies to the sixth grade. It is not an easy task to look after so many children.

At the beginning of 2005, the church started a training class with the help of Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF). The curriculum of this class includes how to spread gospel to the children, to teach Bible to the children, to teach the methods to memorize Bible, as well as children psychology. This class offered a great help to those who attended (more than 10 adults and youth).

Besides the children worship and the Sunday school in each week, another major event of the Children Department was the Vacation Bible School (VBS). This year we had a new attempt for the VBS. Instead of five evenings in a week, we changed it to continuously two weeks day camp program. The advantage of such arrangement is having more time to know and to understand the children so as the teachers can explain the Bible in great depth. This year there were more than 40 children participating in VBS. Besides

our church, VBS students also came from the community and other churches. Two week of job requires a great deal of human resources. It was God's grace that almost all the youths in our church participated in this VBS work and made this a successful event. VBS not only had helped the participated children in growing, it was also a great opportunity for the youth to learn to serve and for leadership training.

The goal of the Children Department is to sow seeds of the Gospel in children's heart when they were young. If they can grow in the love of God, they will be able to become Christians in the future in the favor of God and the people. It is not just a one person's show or one team's work in the Children Department. Each week the Children Department requires more than ten people loyally to serve on different posts. The brothers and sisters, who serve in the Children Ministry, love God and others. They spend their time, their patience and their love to teach the children. For others, this job may seem to be heavy and not a good job, but week after week, the teachers offer themselves. Today, when they looked back to those students they taught, who had clearly accepted the gospel and become good Christians, and that, I believe, is the biggest return of their effort. Do you have a burden in the Children Ministry and are willing to serve in this Ministry?

Music Ministry



Denny Chiu

I believe it is a privilege to be called by God to serve in the capacity as a member of the Church Board. Although I have not accomplished much during my role in the music department (well, other than purchase pianos), I feel that I have learned a lot in terms

of how our church operates. It is interesting to see the many things and issues that go on amongst our congregation, and it is such a blessing to witness how God enabled us to tackle all our problems and challenges.

In any case, back to the ministry of music department. We have been blessed once again this past year with the arrival of another new piano! It has definitely been put to good use. The English congregation has also retired the English hymnals in favor of new Chinese/English hymnals in the pews.

Finally, after months of searching, we have found new leaders for our beloved children choir. You can say that the past year has been a year of some fresh change – with the arrival of our new Pastor Ken Foo, who taught us very valuable lessons on authentic worship. I thank God for the experience of the past couple years, and I look forward to where He will lead me next.



General Services

Yu Hua Wu

Each person has his/her own spiritual gift and thus each person serves at different positions. However, every one's service is for God, to glorify God and to build up one another. The effect of each one's service is not the same, but each one should continue to grow in serving God and this will make the service more effective.

Although we had different kinds of difficulties in General Service Department in 2005 (e.g. not sufficient manpower and hard to arrange time), we thank the Lord's guidance

and all kinds of preparations. Thank the Lord to bring brothers and sisters to serve in General Service Department and that their life continues to grow in serving God. Special thanks to the Lord for bringing those brothers and sisters who can lead and organize the tasks, and also bringing those who did not serve before, and now know more about the importance of the church ministry through working in the General Service Department.

May God bless all those who love Him and serve Him faithfully!

Jireh Fellowship 2005

Hanky Kwok

In 2005, there were countless of blessings to thank our Lord Jesus Christ. We were blessed with the opportunities of fellowship Bible study; building closer loving relations between brothers and sisters; and seeing the children of our fellowship growing in stature, more mature and healthier.

In 2005, we were following a textbook "Experiencing God" by Henry Blackbaby and Claude King as our Bible study guide. The

literature guided us to share many experience with God individually. There were moments when people were fear of the unknown future, depressed when experiencing failure, worried for their children, or concerned about unemployment. We all shared how our Lord had given us faith, hope, love and courage to be a soldier of Christ. All of us were somewhat being transformed to what God would like us to be rather than what we want to become. We

still need more transformation by God's grace to be more Christ-like.

Also during the year, we had a few outings for the children and the adults to enjoy the grandeur of the great outdoor. We enjoyed the annual sugar-shack event at St-Catharine and the visit to Sandbanks Provincial Park. They allowed the children to learn the glamour and beauty of the nature created by the Lord for us and provided brothers and sisters to share precious moments together in spring and summer season. Thank be to our Lord for providing us with wonderful weather in both outings.

We also had Keith Lee and his family, who came back to Canada from their mission field in Thailand to be with us. We rejoiced especially that Keith was ordained as a pastor in our church in November. We were

privileged to have him participating in our fellowship, to have him and his family shared his missionary works in Thailand as well as many wonderful works our Lord had done in the past years. He also shared with us his upcoming plan in the near future in Thailand.

Finally, it is a great blessing that brother Chris Lai in our fellowship is serving our Lord at another church in Mississauga. He is presently working with the youth and preaching the love of God to the youth.

For this year 2006, we will attempt to finish our Bible study guide "Experiencing God", sharing our love not only within our fellowship but also spreading the God's love to others, analogous to spreading of fire from a little spark of flame. We look forward to be transformed in the way that God wants us to be – in the likeness of Christ.



Women Fellowship (Cantonese)

Sharon Wong

A few years ago, I was invited to serve on the Board of Baptist Women and Joint Chinese Baptist Church Women-Retreat-Planning Committee, through which I got to know many Christian women. Many of them shared their experience of women's ministry at their church and I was touched by their testimony. It is wonderful to see Christian women sharing their faith and growing spiritually through fellowship. With the passion and burden of starting a women fellowship, I waited upon the Lord and prayed for guidance of the Holy Spirit. I shared this burden with Amy who is now the Fellowship Ministry leader.

Praise the Lord; we started our very first fellowship meeting in January of 2004. On the first Wednesday of each month, we have approximately ten women, meeting at 10 am in

the church for Bible study, sharing and prayer followed by lunch.

To expand the women ministry, we started an additional home-based group in 2005. We meet at 5 pm in different homes on the third Saturday of each month. Working women will be able to join the Saturday group.

Please remember the women fellowship in your prayer. There are several seekers among the twenty members in our group. Through Bible study and connecting with other Christian women, our faith in Christ is growing together in our spiritual journey.

Welcome to the Women Fellowship:

1. First Wednesday of each month, 10 am at church, followed by lunch.
2. Third Saturday of each month, 5 pm home-based, followed by dinner.

Birthday Thanksgiving Dinner

Mrs. Wu's Family

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Thank you very much for celebrating with our family for Mrs. Wu's Eighty-first birthday. Your thoughtful gifts, your blessings and your marvelous program dedicated to her are just wonderful. What a beautiful family celebration we have. Praise the Lord and may all glory be unto God.

The song that was dedicated to our mother and grandmother carried such a profound and deep meaning of love from our mother and from God. Let us all honor our parents and our God.

Bridge (Song)

From the time that I was a child,
my parents care for me,
held my hand along life's way,
Bestowed God's love on me.
As a bridge they give themselves,
to make safe the way for me,
Their love is like sea that has no shore,
All they ask is love,
respect and nothing more,
They give God's love to me,
as a bridge they humbly serve,
to make safe the way for me,
Though they're growing older,
as a bridge they humbly serve,
Always giving themselves to carry us along the
way, going on, never minding the storms.

Blessings from God's Word are so very precious. The following Bible verses are blessings from Mrs. Wu to her grandchildren:

- 1) *Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. (Proverb 3: 5-6)*
- 2) *Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil. (Proverb 3:7)*
- 3) *He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)*
- 4) *"Honor your father and mother" which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth. (Ephesians 6: 2-3)*
- 5) *Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. (Romans 12: 17)*
- 6) *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and love your neighbor as yourself. (Luke 10: 27)*
- 7) *Be joyful always; pray continually; give thank in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ. (1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18)*
- 8) *In your anger do not sin. Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry. (Ephesians 4: 26)*
- 9) *Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. (Romans 12: 11)*

May God bless you!



Song Yan's passing away left me not only in tears and constant thinking of him, but also with puzzling questions and confusions. Despite my conviction that heaven must be the most wonderful place, deep in my heart, I'd rather see him living with us as a dutiful husband and father.

Never would I be able to erase the memory of witnessing so sorrowfully and hopelessly my life-long husband being worn down by cancer to the last breath of life in all skin and bones, not even with the most comforting words. I wished aimlessly for miracles even when Song Yan was in coma, but that wish was smashed relentlessly by Song Yan's inevitable departure from us. Many times I wondered if God still loved us, and what his good pleasure is. I was repeatedly asking why God did not cure him this time while most of the previous test results had turned out good. Rationally I should have gone astray from the path of the Lord, but emotionally I could not because of my love for God and the church. I knew Song Yan would also love God, the church and his loved ones.

In going through his remains, I found what Song Yan wrote before, which I'd like to share with you: In March 2001, when Song Yan was diagnosed with cancer, he so prayed to God in a letter:

"My heavenly Father, how I wish I could remain in this world longer, till my son grows up, till I can take care of my parents' funerals, till I have spent enough time with my wife. I'm not afraid of death, and I will meet death at your will. But I still want to pray for more time so I can testify to your presence, and be a good follower of Christ, a good husband and father. God, please heed my prayer. Almighty God, thank you for protecting me for forty years, please forgive my sins, and allow me to renew my life. Almighty God, the giver of my life, please show mercy on me. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen!"

When I first read this letter a month ago, I wept alone in my room. I was touched by Song Yan's strong will to live and his true, affectionate feelings spelt in every word of the letter. Now I know God granted his prayer by giving us four more years together.

Here is a January 2004 excerpt from Song Yan's speech after he was elected leader of the Mandarin Fellowship:

"I feel the limit of my capabilities as a leader and my immaturity in spiritual growth, but I am willing to be that vessel of the Lord so He will mould me to His use. I've been contemplating this question: How likely would I enter Heaven for the crown of glory should I leave this world tomorrow? I think we might lose our admission to the Kingdom of God if our belief only demonstrates in thought but not reflected in our complete submission to the Lord in Jesus Christ... Ultimately, we all will be accountable to God, who will audit us. In our earthly life, auditors have to randomly select whom to be audited, giving some the hope for chances to get by without being audited. But God as the auditor would take a completely different approach, for He is timeless, eternal, omnipotent, and omniscient. Our chances of getting by is zero..."

I was in that fellowship but paid little attention to his words. But when I read them after his departure, I was alarmed by his comments. Did he foresee his coming fatal illness? No, he did not. I gathered he could say that because he had experienced the test of death. And he could think farther.

In December 2005, Song Yan endured a twelve-hour operation at the Toronto General Hospital. Here is what he asked me to pass on to the fellowship:

"Dear brothers and sisters: How are you doing? In the past months, I attended few fellowships because of my treatment at the hospital, but I never stopped missing you all. Sometimes I am baffled as to why I get suffering when I pray for peace. Now when I

am hospitalized I realized that God wants me to get closer to him, to be more committed to him. I've experienced the faith and love of the Lord after this surgery, for God has again led me through the shadow of the valley of death. I'm still in constant pain, but it's bearable. I know God will pave my path. Please continue praying for me. I thank brothers and sisters for their care and love for my family. Thank you all. In my fight against the devil of illness, we act like one family in the presence of God. May all the glory and praise go to the Lord."

On behalf of Song Yan, my son and myself, I expressed our sincere gratitude to the fellowship and to our heavenly Father.

Song Yan loved God because he was abundantly loved. In March 1997, God led our family to this church. In January 2000, Song Yan and I were baptized into the name of Christ. In March 2001, Song Yan experienced the first attack of cancer and was cured by the miraculous power of God's love and mercy. Our life was tremendously changed as well. We had more love and respect to each other as husband and wife, there was better communication between Song Yan and Fandi, and we got closer to God through our participation and involvement in the church. Song Yan loved the church because he found brotherly love in the pastors and brothers and sisters. In November 2004, Song Yan was diagnosed with cancer for the second time, which came so suddenly and strongly. In the short two months, he was hospitalized thrice and could hardly eat and drink. His weight dropped 20 pounds in a short period of time. We were at a loss in front of the dramatic deterioration of his health. At this time, brothers and sisters from the church came to us like angels, offering help and comforts. Some helped us cook, some helped with driving our son to soccer games. During the month when Song Yan was in the Toronto hospital, brothers and sisters rotated to drive me to the hospital because I was unable to drive on the highway. Even though many of our brothers and sisters were not well off, they managed to help us financially. With thanks we knelt in front of

God, promising that we would educate our son Fandi with the love we received.

From January to April 2005, Song Yan was released home for further treatment. His pain increased, so was the dosage of painkillers. During this time, I could stay with him more often at home. Song Yan resumed to normal eating after the surgery so we could cook, read the Bible, and pray together. Song Yan particularly loved 2 Corinthians 4: 16-18, "Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." The song he liked best was "Entering a New Day", which he would sing every morning after getting up. On Easter Day when our son was baptized and shared his testimonies on the stage, I saw Song Yan's broad smile. He even dragged himself to the birthday party of Mrs. Wu and he was so happy because that was also our son's fourteenth birthday.

At the end of April, Song Yan was diagnosed with signs of new cancerous tumor and the doctors suspected that it had already spread to more parts of the body, which they were yet to confirm. I could do nothing but crying, but Song Yan was extraordinarily calm. He first sold his car, and then withdrew all his RRSP deposit. In mid-May, with strong will to be cured and live, we flew back to China for the genetic treatment. We were disappointed with the results a month later. Song Yan insisted on coming back to Canada. He held my hand, saying, "Huang Ying, how I want to go back to have a last look at our pastors and our brothers and sisters." I was so moved by his thought so I managed to learn to give injection because Song Yan needed morphine injection regularly to curb the pain. On June 26th, Song Yan returned to Canada miraculously and received a moving welcome at the airport by brothers and sisters. Song Yan's wish came

true. On the morning of June 28th, I walked on my tiptoes with a bouquet of flowers, trying not to wake him up. But he scared me by shouting “Happy Birthday, my wife!” and returned to me a childlike smile seeing the way I was scared. Song Yan was lucid even in excruciating pain and could remember my birthday and recognize and greet everyone who came to see him. We were amazed. I could only interpret this as: he was filled with love for life. At 2:00 a.m. on July 7th, with love and longings, Song Yan was taken back to the Lord ...

I still find it hard to understand why Song Yan was not allowed in this world longer. I wonder why God apparently turned away from our prayers. But I’ve been confirmed more than ever that I need God more, my son needs Him more, and we cannot leave the church. I thank the Lord for giving me a loving and considerate husband, for giving Fandi a strict yet loving father, and for giving Song Yan the time to live and love. Moreover, we thank God for enabling me to raise my dropping hands and stand on my exhausted legs. With God’s promise, my son and I have the hope that we will be united with Song Yan when the time comes.

The Psychological Effects of Partially Supervising Children

Oliver Poon

Children are bratty, screaming, annoying little critters that snap at the smallest things. Putting that common stereotype aside, children really aren’t able to cause any more trouble than you allow them to – or teach them to. There is absolutely no doubt that children are capable of running around screaming their heads off, but that’s only natural for them to be energetic, curious, rebellious, and quite daring. It is primarily up to the leaders to seize control over their group, but at the same time allow their group to have the freedom of enjoyment.

Although I am not a leader, teacher, or assistant with a group of children, it is blatantly obvious that patience is stressed upon – especially for the leaders and teachers. Personally, patience is one of the virtues I have the least of – especially patience with people, children especially. Frustration comes almost immediately when complicated situations arises with people, with anger following shortly. However, through this experience of helping out with VBS, in whatever small fashion I’m

capable of, my patience has been tested frequently and through it, I know that I have grown and became more rational and tolerant.

There were many times where I could’ve simply yelled at a troublesome child, but something held me back – telling me to wait and be patient with them. What stopped me weren’t simple conceptions such as “they’re only children, they don’t know any better” or “boys will be boys”; believe me, they *do* know better and are *fully* aware of what they’re doing. What really prevented me from becoming angry was that I remember being exactly as they were – a troublesome menace to society – almost as if God was reminding me that I wasn’t much better than them when I was young, or even sometimes in the present. Dealing with children is very much like dealing with a donkey – the harder you pull, the harder they pull back – and if the child is losing, they always have their “last ace up their sleeves”, a *far* more piercing scream than you could imagine.

Since our church began to organize annual VBS programs, I had always wanted to lead or teach the kids in attendance. This year, I finally had received the opportunity to lead a fantastic team known as The “French Peas” along with Fandi Chen. We named the team the “French Peas” because they are an energetic bunch of peas in the VeggieTales movies. Our team was composed of seven year olds who were very energetic.

The whole two weeks were full of activities, yet at the same time interesting. We had lots of fun learning about key principles and peoples in the Bible such as Joseph, The Lord’s Prayer, Psalm 23, and the Ten Commandments. The kids were fast learners and knew all the answers to every question. We also did sidewalk chalk (with some crazy hopscotch), played indoor games, made lots of

crafts, and many other activities. With only two boys (both named William), and five girls, our team was far from hyperactive. They were very co-operative in everything from chanting: “When I say ‘French!’ you say ‘Peas!’...FRENCH....PEAS!”...to playing Stella Ella Ola, and indeed, the French Peas were very good to lead.

One boy knew ALL the answers. The other boy is very quiet (He did not say he needed to go to the bathroom before we went to the park...go figure). The youngest girl was very cute but did not really focus. In addition, the other four girls just adored me and hung on to my every word! (Really! Ha ha!) Yep, French Peas rule over all the rest! In addition, hopefully, next year will be as interesting as this year!

VBS and Me

When I was growing up, I always enjoyed VBS. I liked everything about VBS, from singing songs to learning about the Bible. Now that I am fourteen, I have volunteered to help out in VBS rather than just attending it when I was younger. I do not think I enjoy it that much, in terms of always having to watch the kids and correcting them when they are being disobedient. I still do like to help in VBS because I know that I am trying to teach the Word of God to little children and hopefully they might be learning and taking it seriously.

After this week of VBS I felt extremely tired because I had to watch the kids and make sure they don’t do anything wrong. I also felt worried during the week because what if I lose one of the kids in my group, then I would be done for. To be honest, I was quite worried before VBS started, worried about if the kids

would listen to me, worried about if I can teach them things that are important rather than useless things, worried about if I would be a good leader and if I could lead them on the right path.

I hope I have accomplished at least a little bit of that, and I will try to work harder and harder everyday starting from next week. I hope at the end of VBS, that I may also learn from this experience by helping out little kids and teaching them from the Bible.

This experience will also help me in the future when I will be doing something similar to VBS. I hope that I will learn from my mistakes after VBS is finished, so that I can make VBS even better for next year. This means that I have to be better and give it my all and always ask for God’s help when I need it.

VBS and Me

Elaine Kwok

My role in this year's 2005 Vacation Bible School is to act as a team leader. Each day I would have to stick with the kids for eight hours (including our one hour break) and to help them out when needed such as with crafts, sports, making sure they go to the right area for the next activity etc. This role as well as everyone else's role is not a simple task to complete (kids can be very hard to control when they are hyper).

All of the workers have to arrive at the church at 8:00 AM and leave at around 5:00 PM. Many of the workers including me started to get restless because of all the long hours (you could see people sleeping!). At the end of

the week we had a V.B.S. staff meeting for all the volunteers and a topic was brought up about why we are helping out in V.B.S. We were reminded that we were here to serve God by doing V.B.S., not only to get community hours or for other personal reasons. Thinking about this fact, I felt differently toward helping out with V.B.S. We were here to serve God and to let the kids learn more about God's Word.

I was surprised to see that many of the kids attending this year's day camp were not from inside our church but from outside our church! I pray that God gives us strength and will use us all to change these kids' lives!

VBS and Me

Sharon Lau

Hello. My name is Sharon Lau. I am going to write about Vacation Bible School. I love VBS. It was quite a crazy but interesting experience. Children are the beautiful flowers that cover our attractive green earth. Well ...they sort of are ... except they run around, scream and they go to the washroom every five minutes. Even though they annoyed me and scared me, I still had fun.

During VBS, I was a teacher. I taught the children about the story of Joseph. They also learned Psalm 23 and the Ten Commandments. The kids usually listened, but when they did not, we would have to send them to...Vivien, the mean-and-scary aunty. After they visited with Aunty Vivien, they listened to us again.

I learned some great things throughout VBS. I learned patience, because there are always unexpected events, like some washroom "incidents". I learned that naptime is a good

way to get the kids to be quiet. In addition, I now feel the pain that parents feel and I understand why they have so many gray hairs. I can even see more gray hairs on my head than before.

Other than break and 4:30 PM (when VBS is over), I have to say my favorite time of day is playing games. We did so many fun activities like "Sheep, sheep, Joseph", hide-and-seek. It was funny how the 5-year-old children never get tired of hiding behind bags, against the wall, and they are invisible no matter what. The simplest things can amuse them.

This was a wonderful time, and we all learned a lot about little children, but I think we are all ready to sleep in and rest. Thank you for reading my report about Vacation Bible School, and have a very nice day. Remember, Jesus loves you.

VBS and Me

Gerald Li

When I first signed up to help in VBS this year, I was honestly worried about it because the ALIVE fellowship was doing it alone without much adult supervision. The ALIVE fellowship has a reoccurring tendency to procrastinate a little and be unprepared. Therefore, I was quite anxious about the success of this year's VBS. However, with the help and guidance of Uncle Li and Vivien, we were able to prepare for VBS successfully and actually be ready for the kids.

During the first week of VBS, the programs ran quite smoothly but sometimes got a bit rough. Many people got sidetracked and lost focus on their jobs and did not perform their duties. Nevertheless, with the occasional reminder from Vivien, many of us were able to remain focused. I believe that the leaders demonstrated great skill in controlling their

groups. It is most encouraging to see so many young people be able to undertake such a huge task. I believe they will become even greater leaders in the future.

What I have really enjoyed about this year's VBS was the energy that the children have in them. It is great to see that children of such a young age can be so smart and cunning, that they understand the stories that we tell them, and can comprehend the messages that we give to them.

I think that this year's VBS was a magnificent success. I truly believe the children really enjoyed it, and so did the leaders and helpers that participated in it. I hope that next year the VBS will run as well as this year's VBS.

VBS and Me

Phong Lu

It all started in July when Uncle Li and Vivien entrusted us with doing VBS. I wanted to help because I want to spread the gospel to little children. I decided to go to the meetings, and after the meetings, we finally started to do things such as decorating rooms, making crafts and getting everything prepared. I was told to do craft, (which I did not choose to do) and I started making and coming up with craft ideas with Xuan. And let me tell you this. It is not pretty, but we do get along sometimes. Because I am artistically challenged, I prefer to let Xuan do all the hard craft drawings and detailed work. I just like to be a helper, and I do the easy things such as gluing and pasting things.

The younger kids are LOUD and I mean LOUD, and they make us lose our voices and make us go crazy sometimes. The older kids

are better behaved because they listen and they know how to keep themselves under control. I should expect a little more from the older kids. All the things I do are fun and I like it because I would rather do crafts than to teach for I would lose my voice trying to shout over the little kids voices. I hope that this week we would not have to shout as much because I already had a sore throat. We all have to pitch in and do our part because if we did not then we would have a very nasty and possibly precarious situation (i.e. kids running all over the place, screaming).

What the kids learned over the last two weeks were the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, Joseph and Psalms 23. I hope the kids will remember what the teachers and the leaders have taught them and through this, I hope that they will become better Christians.

When I first signed up to help with VBS, I thought, *“ha-ha...yes, easy volunteer hours! Nothing could be sweeter.* As a visionary, I have always been able to accurately plan out and teach my lessons. I figured this would be a cinch.

I pictured myself walking into the room as a messiah; the kids listening to my every word as I taught them the lesson.

So I waltzed into the room and instantly, several of the parasite kids immediately latched onto my legs while other kids (the more aggressive ones) began bashing me in the stomach with their hands.

I laughed, and attempted to pry off the breathing tourniquets around my legs. And stopped laughing: you see, these kids were stuck to me tighter than...bubble gum on the bottom of your new shoe (pretty lame metaphor).

O-k-a-y...I then turned my attention to the other children who were still attacking me. I had used reverse psychology on my brother dozens of times and I easily applied the same methods on my attackers.

“Trust me, I don’t care. It doesn’t hurt. Keep hitting me,” I smirked as I waited for them to give up, bored by my complacent reaction to their assault.

So of course, instead, they laughed and dug in with their fingernails.

I sputtered. “Whu-a?? Hey-OW! Hey, girl, when was the last time you cut your fingernails-OW!”

I attempted to back away, when I was reminded of the extra 70 pounds I had accumulated around my legs. I fell to the ground with a mighty plop crash.

The kids, instead of helping me up, began to kick me in the face and stomach like a gang fight!

As I whimpered threatened them, my partner, Sharon came in and saved my life.

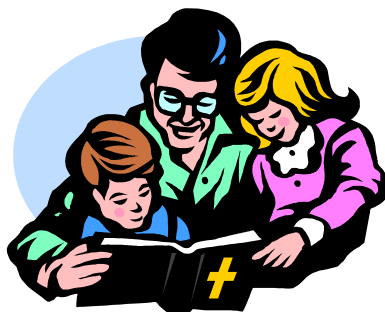
“Th-thanks,” I shakily babbled. I pointed to one kid who had actually sat against the wall quietly during the entire ordeal. “Why can’t you all be like HIM?! SERIOUSLY!”

I figured the kids would be pretty cowed by my outburst, but of course instead they laughed.

I was confused. “Why are they laughing at you, kid?” I was actually a little afraid to hear the answer.

“I ... have...to....go...to...the...bathroom -RIGHT-NOW!” Me: “???.....!!! HURRY UP! WHY DIDN’T YOU SAY ANYTHING?!!!”

Anyway, this 5 minute experience really summed up VBS so far. I can’t wait until it is over next year! I am revolted by and scared of love kids!



When I initially volunteered for VBS, I thought it would be in every way just like last year, ...a breeze. There would be little preparation needed with short hours to work with. I could not have been more incorrect. It was only until later that I found out that VBS started at 8:30 AM and ended at 4:30 PM!

As Amanda and I walked into the team leader's room, we could already see kids running around, blabbering amongst themselves about something. There were the kids that could behave and control themselves, and there were the ones who would *di sang di gue*. Anyways, as we commenced our story telling there were these kids who kept interrupting us. "What's your name, are you a girl or a boy?"

These were the highlights of the past days of VBS:

There was the kid who laughed for no apparent reason and could not stop and he would laugh at everything you would say.

Next up was the kid who asked the "weird" questions during storytelling.

During story telling ...

"So we are talking about a person named Joseph". I say "Who are we talking about, what is your name"? He would say.

There was the kid who was under the spot light. He could not be anymore annoying. (I am not saying it was always a bad thing, and it was somewhat funny). He would always keep on talking and blabber. He would always "spill the beans" and reveal what came next to the story.

There was the kid who could not stop washing his hands and ended up washing his hands 5 times. These events did not make me angry, that much, in fact I had fun with these kids.

This year's VBC required a lot more preparation and the hours were long. Even though if I would be exhausted and tired at the end of one day, the next day I would be energetic again.



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Figure 2: 1988 - Summer Retreat

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Figure 3: 1989 - Future Church Site for BCBC

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圖 十六：二零零五年、鄔伯母的八十一歲大壽



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Figure 17: 2005 – Retreat at Guelph University

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Figure 18: 2005 – Retreat Speakers

圖 十九：二千零六年、農曆新年



Figure 19: 2006 – Chinese New Year

圖 二十：二千零六年、二十週年堂慶晚宴



Figure 20: 2006 – “20 years of BCBC” Banquet