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編輯的話

陳梅

接下年刊編輯的任務之后，公司的工作突然忙碌起來，有時連靈修都保證不了，更不要說閱讀稿件了。可是，神的供應非常奇妙。雖然我這些日子常常是直到晚間才拖著一身的疲憊拿起稿件，但卻每每被作者的見證所感動，自己的心靈和身體也得到更新，充滿了力量。

夜深人靜的時候，看著弟兄姐妹的分享，心裡很溫暖。從每個人的見證中，都可以看到神在細微之處對他們的眷顧，以及他們被神觸摸之后如何用感恩的心來回應。有些人的文字也很簡單，一如他們在各種場合默默無聞的付出，質朴的話語流露了單純的信心和願意服事的決心。有些人的文字則著重於經文當中真理的詮釋，頗有深度。另外，有些人講粵語的，他們的見證雖然也都是漢字，卻有些地方看不懂。我還記得拿到潘弟兄的見證時，有點手足無措，就去請教 Leslie 粵語字匯。待渡過語言關后再讀，不由得深深地被字裡行間所流露的、他們夫婦赤誠的宣教之心所打動。

年刊編輯和教會中其他服事一樣，在幫助別人的同時，服事的人自己也得到了從神從人而來的建造。我們既有這許多的見證人，如同雲彩圍著我們，就當放下各樣的重擔，脫去容易纏累我們的罪，存心忍耐，奔那擺在我們前頭的路程。”（來 12:1）盼望每一位弟兄姐妹都可以隨時記下自己的屬靈經歷，好讓我們的生命成為神恩典的全記錄，在別人有需要的時候可以彼此勸慰，互相建立”。（帖前 5:11）

年刊工作人員

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協調	李凱能、周陳麗怡
排版、設計	蕭啓鈞

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“像主”與“像我”

黃冠明牧師

假若有人對你說：“我祇願意作信徒，不願意作門徒；我相信耶穌為我的罪釘死在十字架，我祇要上天堂便滿足了，無須再求別的…”你怎樣回應？

救恩是否祇是頭腦的接受（決志）？聖經中有沒有無須跟隨主的福音？基督徒能否得著赦罪而無生命改變？

聖經對以上的問題都是否定的。

2010年教會主題：“主，我願像你！”提醒弟兄姊妹生命必須在主內更新而變化，盼望在年終時我們能自省，在思想，品格，言語，行為上，比年初時更像我們的恩主。

除了“像主”以外，我們能否盼望別人“像我們”呢？使徒保羅在腓立比書 4:9 說：“你們在我身上所學習的，所領受的，所聽見的，所看見的，這些事你們都要去行”，我們的生命能否成為別人的榜樣？“像主”和“讓別人像我”，相信是彼此相關的！

平靜安穩，重新得力

郭定牧師

“忙”是當今許多人經常要面對的問題。

我們對“忙”似乎是又愛又恨，愛“忙”是因為許多人可以從“忙”的狀態裡得到一些在其他方面得不到的自我肯定，“忙”帶來了不被人論斷再是閒人那一點點的自我安慰，“忙”也會讓我們自己覺得不是一個不求上進的人…“忙”在今天的世代裡更變成了有希望有前景的代名詞！

但事實上，“忙”也時常會令人不安。

“忙”使得我們生活緊張，人與人之間原來該有的各種情感被壓縮，以致於彼此的關係也就自然地逐漸疏遠了。“忙”的腳步讓人變成了有如一顆在巨大機器裡的小螺絲釘一般，慢慢地失去了自主權，所以我們常聽到有人嘆息說：唉！人在江湖，身不由己啊…

“忙”令我們好像坐在遊樂場裡那部上下起伏又快速的過山車一樣，時而興奮時而驚嚇，但人坐在裡面似乎無計可施，只有等著什麼時候到了站，解開了綁在腰上的那條“安全帶”（忙）後才能真正地喘一口氣似的。

請仔細地看一看，“忙”這個字拆開來唸就是心的死亡（心在左邊，亡在右邊）。我們若生活在那無止無休的忙忙碌碌裡，是不是

很容易就失去了屬靈的洞察力、從而無法經歷到神在我們生命裡所預備的各樣恩典？想一想一個每天都已經忙碌到精疲力盡的人，又怎能靜得下來一顆原能體貼聖靈的心呢？！

開車在路上，我們每天都常被提醒，車子須要在時速的限制之內行駛，但是往往我們還是有意無意地超速，這其實是一種僥倖的心理，總是認為偶爾為之是件無傷大雅的事。同理，我們也是這樣告訴自己：沒關係，忙過這一陣子就會好一點了。讓我們來認清楚一個事實：有幾個人是真正可以突然在某一天“覺悟”過來而又歸回到一個平靜安穩的生活裡呢？“忙”隱藏在現代人的血液之中，有一天不忙起來就變得渾身不對勁，心裡就難免擔心嘀咕起來，是不是我努力的不夠呢？我要是不再忙的話，會不會很快地就被那不斷進步的社會所淘汰了呢？我們不忙那不就表示自己已經是落伍了嗎？

2009年我個人也被這個“忙”所困擾著，傳道人要常在主的面前禱告靈修，我顯然不夠，這不是我不想，而是我在“忙”著一些永遠也做不完的服事，但卻將原本一件更為重要的事給耽誤了下來…

以賽亞書 30:15 主耶和華以色列的聖者曾如此說：“你們得救在乎歸回安息；你們得力在乎平靜安穩。你們竟自不肯（but you would have none of it）。”

想要從神那裡獲得幫助和能力的話，首先我們要在這個匆忙的世界中放緩一下那急速的腳步。

事實擺在眼前，今天的世界是一個凡事講求效率要求快捷的世界，人們追求省時省力。進步的科技把地球變小了，超音速的飛機、國際網路…但是今天人們的工作時數又果真是減少了嗎？是不是在這種日趨便捷的環境中就得到了相對該有的休息呢？

不斷加速的生活步調使我們付上了極大的代價，其中當然包括了一些對生命而言是我們應該要珍惜的東西…每一天我們都要比前一天忙，永遠做不完的事，結果我們就不會再有時間和精力去培養或是享受一些友誼了，不單如此，另外我們還被常提醒到要注意周圍其他的人的需要，結果是搞得自己的身心靈都疲憊不堪。

心“亡”了是一件可怕的事，我們今天可能還是要停下來問一問自己的心，一個很實際的問題：“你無止境的在忙究竟是為了什麼？”。

神要我們得力歸向祂，是要我們先安靜下來，觀察並仰望祂的作為，我們生活的步調若快得像那飛馳中的跑車一般，又如何能顧及到在生命中真正重要的事呢？

我不知道你今天的情況如何？但我只知道一件事…你若真想要得到一個豐盛的生命，那你要有魄力的（更需要謙卑）先來到神這裡，求主的幫助安靜下來你的心，信靠祂，交出你那顆煩躁的心，交出你的主權，恢復與祂原來那親密的關係，因為你可能正在忙著許多其實在神看來一點也不重要的事情！

教牧人員

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國語牧師	郭定牧師

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Mandarin Pastor	Rev. Conrad Kwok

理事會職員

二千一零年

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副主席	李凱能
文書	周陳麗怡
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助道部	林霄、瞿錦榮
兒童部	張黃秋麗
聖樂部	區啓榮
總務部	趙國達 (代任)
探訪部	張百順、楊羅拔

Executive Board Members

2010

Chairman	King Kuk
Vice Chairman	Hoi Li
Secretary	Leslie Chow
Treasury	Xiu De Lin
Mission	Danny Chiu
Sunday School	Kwong Yiu Wong, Andrea Chan
Fellowship	Erwin Au
Children	Chow Le Truong
Music	Lawrence Kuk
General Services	Bai Shun Zhang
Visitation	Yuhua Wu

2009

Chairman	Jim Yu
Vice Chairman	Danny Chiu
Secretary	Kwong Yiu Wong
Treasury	Xiu De Lin
Mission	Alan Poon
Sunday School	King Kuk, Hoi Li
Fellowship	Lin Xiao, Denny Chiu
Children	Chow Le Truong
Music	Erwin Au
General Services	Danny Chiu (Acting)
Visitation	Bai Shun Zhang, Robert Young

二零零九年新會友名單**New church members in 2009**

在本會受浸加入教會的有：

Membership baptised in our church:

四月十二日復活節浸禮：

April 12 Easter Baptism:

范群英
李靜
李彭美娟
潘璠璦
王柔桑
王紅斌
于芳宇
張建陽

Fiona Fan
Jing Li
Rosita Li
Fan Yu Pan
Chelsea Wang
Hong Bin Wang
FangYu Yu
Zhang, JianYang

八月十六日福音基址浸禮：

August 16 Milton Baptism:

陳荔艷
汪映茹
蘇水林
嚴琪玲
甘愛玲

October 11 Thanksgiving Baptism:

十月十一日感恩節浸禮：

鄧繼君
楊玉琴
余昭慧
冉暉
吳莉萍
張力焯
張天雲
王兵
鞏步賢

Deng, Doris Jijun
Yang, Yuqin
Yu, Chiu Wai
Hui, Ran
Wu, Liping
Zhang, Liwei
Zhang, Tianyun
Wang, Bing
Gong, Buxian

轉會加入的有：

Membership transfer:

七月二十六日轉會加入：

July 27 membership transfers:

張仲水
王立霞
廖培均

Zhang, Zhong Shui
Zhang, Wang Li Xia
Jean Liao

十一月廿二日轉會加入：

November 22 membership transfers:

王榮
姚文宇
古大衛牧師
古玲
高晚嬰
周效宇
謝珂
陳曦
顧青

Wang, Rong
Yao, Wen Yu
David Cooke
Heather Ann Cooke
Warren Gao
Xiao Yu Zhou
Ke Xie
Xi Kevin Chen
Ku, Ching

新會友總數：廿五人

Total New members : 25

財政報告

Treasury Reports

Brampton Chinese Baptist Church - 2009 Receipts & Disbursements Statement 賓頓市華人浸信會 - (部門)收支報告

賓頓市華人浸信會二零零九一零年年刊

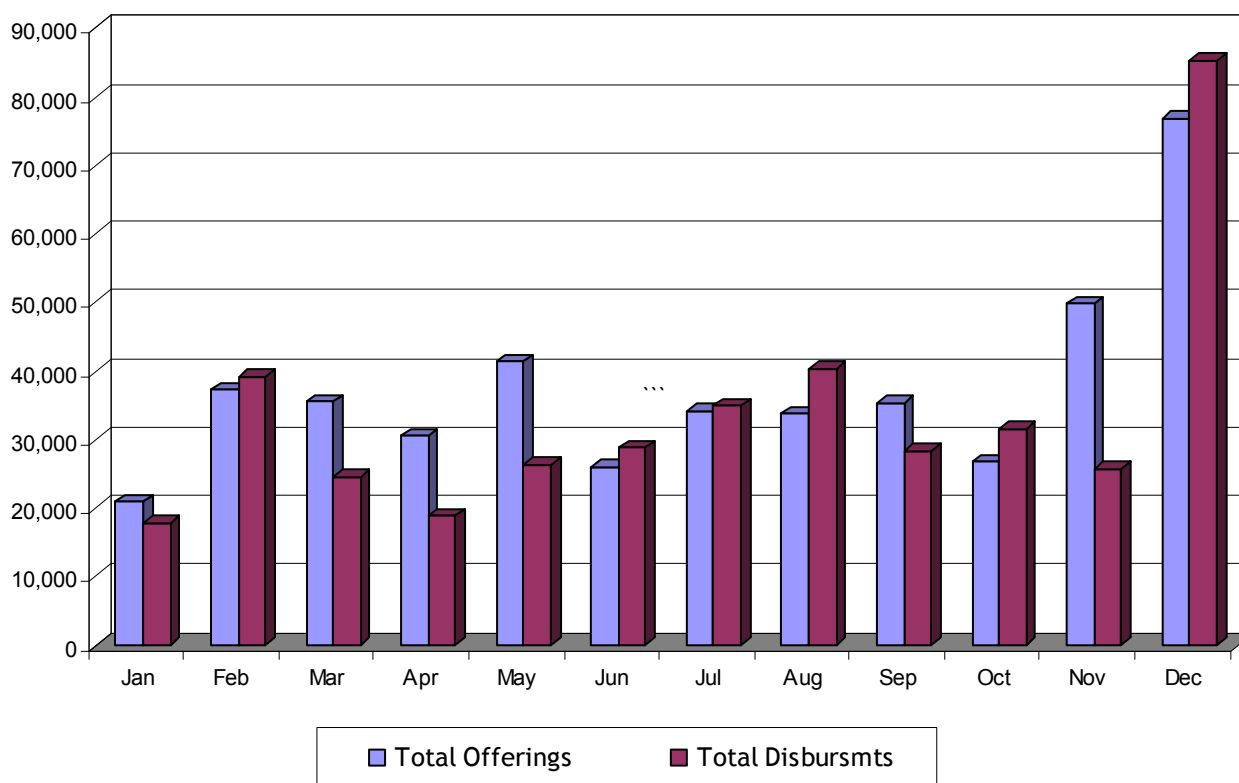
GENERAL FUNDS	常費			
RECEIPTS	收入	2009 ACTUAL	2009 BUDGET	2008 ACTUAL
Congregation offering	會眾奉獻	2,766.58		4,031.23
Individual offering	個人奉獻	319,724.49	406,948.05	304,465.31
Interest /Other Income	利息/其他收入	6,380.95		15,844.87
TOTAL RECEIPTS	總收入	328,872.02	406,948.05	324,341.41
DISBURSEMENTS	支出			
Wages & Benefits	薪津	182,758.19	213,548.06	194,258.62
General service	總務	45,841.88	66,400.00	39,131.58
Mission - General	傳道	10,130.88	22,700.00	9,520.11
Mission - Scholarship	傳道獎學金	-	3000	-
Fellowship	助導	11,397.86	17,000.00	9,340.17
General Administration	文書	2,506.77	7,000.00	825.34
Treasury - General	財務	9,993.63	11,500.00	6,583.16
Sundry	會務	13,146.99	14,250.00	6,942.18
Children Ministry	兒童	2,103.42	5,900.00	2,562.03
Education - Chinese	中文主日學	349.54	1,500.00	189.28
Education - English	英文主日學	465.17	9,450.00	739.48
Music	聖樂	18,068.03	24,300.00	856.70
Visitation	探訪	1,903.15	3,000.00	1,659.15
Bible (Recovery - Sales)	聖經	(535.00)	-	(629.00)
Benevolent payment	慈惠金	500.00	5,000.00	1,000.00
Allowance Transfer to Milton	美頓鎮補助	(1,500.00)	-	-
VBS	暑期聖經班	-	1,100.00	1,000.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	總支出	297,130.51	405,648.06	273,978.80
GENERAL FUND SURPLUS	常費盈餘	31,741.51	1,299.99	51,362.61
CHURCH PLANTING	植堂基金			
Church Planting Offerings	植堂奉獻	15,280.00	50,000.00	22,701.00
Church Planting Expenses	植堂支出	-	-	3,004.31
CHURCH PLANTING SURPLUS	植堂盈餘	15,280.00	50,000.00	19,696.69
MISSION FUND	差傳基金			
Mission Fund offerings	差傳奉獻	79,835.00	87,000.00	84,207.00
Mission Fund disbursement	差傳支出	88,950.00	87,000.00	84,995.65
MISSION FUND (DEFICIT)	差傳盈餘	(9,115.00)	-	(788.65)
MILTON OFFERINGS	美頓鎮奉獻			
MILTON - General	常費	27,050.87	-	-
MILTON - Building	植堂	3,010.00	-	-
MILTON - Mission	差傳	615.00	-	-
MILTON TOTAL OFFERING	美頓鎮總奉獻	30,675.87	-	-
MILTON CONGREGATION EXP	美頓鎮支出			
Milton - Speaker Fees	講道費	3,030.00	-	-
Milton - Church Rental	租堂	6,520.00	-	-
Milton - Insurance	保險	190.08	-	-
Milton - Other / Misc	雜項	4,101.50	-	-
Milton - Children Program Exp	兒童節目	1,701.69	-	-
TOTAL MILTON CONGREGATION EXP	美頓鎮總支出	15,543.27	-	-
MILTON Surplus (Decifit)	美頓鎮總盈餘	15,132.60	-	-
TOTAL SURPLUS	總盈餘	53,039.11	51,299.99	70,270.65

Brampton Chinese Baptist Church - Summary of Monthly Offering and Disbursement for the Year 2009

賓頓市華人浸信會 - 二零零九年每月收支報告

	Offerings				Disbursements			
	General Fund	Church Planting	Mission Fund	Total Offerings	General	Church Planting	Mission	Total Disbursements
Jan	12,831.69	1,270.00	3,990.00	18,091.69	18,013.12	-	-	18,013.12
Feb	14,628.90	5,265.00	4,455.00	24,348.90	20,721.64	1,640.00	2,166.66	24,528.30
Mar	24,496.59	2,471.00	5,108.00	32,075.59	26,113.64	1,106.22	5,833.33	33,053.19
Apr	25,684.51	3,632.00	6,126.00	35,442.51	22,325.38	-	2,329.02	24,654.40
May	17,616.73	1,543.00	5,594.00	24,753.73	23,394.33	258.09	9,083.33	32,735.75
Jun	19,267.47	1,059.00	3,302.00	23,628.47	25,398.75	-	833.33	26,232.08
Jul	31,232.92	1,065.00	5,060.00	37,357.92	27,284.79	-	11,583.33	38,868.12
Aug	29,677.40	2,281.00	12,541.00	44,499.40	21,617.28	-	833.33	22,450.61
Sep	25,623.66	847.00	7,911.00	34,381.66	27,079.88	-	583.33	27,663.21
Oct	19,602.78	563.00	4,783.00	24,948.78	21,834.51	-	833.33	22,667.84
Nov	28,699.54	770.00	9,392.00	38,861.54	18,013.71	-	833.33	18,847.04
Dec	59,134.35	1,935.00	15,945.00	77,014.35	21,181.77	-	50,083.33	71,265.10
Total	308,496.54	22,701.00	84,207.00	415,404.54	272,978.80	3,004.31	84,995.65	360,978.76
Interest, Other Income & Adjustment				15,844.87				
Total				431,249.41				360,978.76
SURPLUS								70,270.65

Monthly Offerings & Disbursements 每月收支



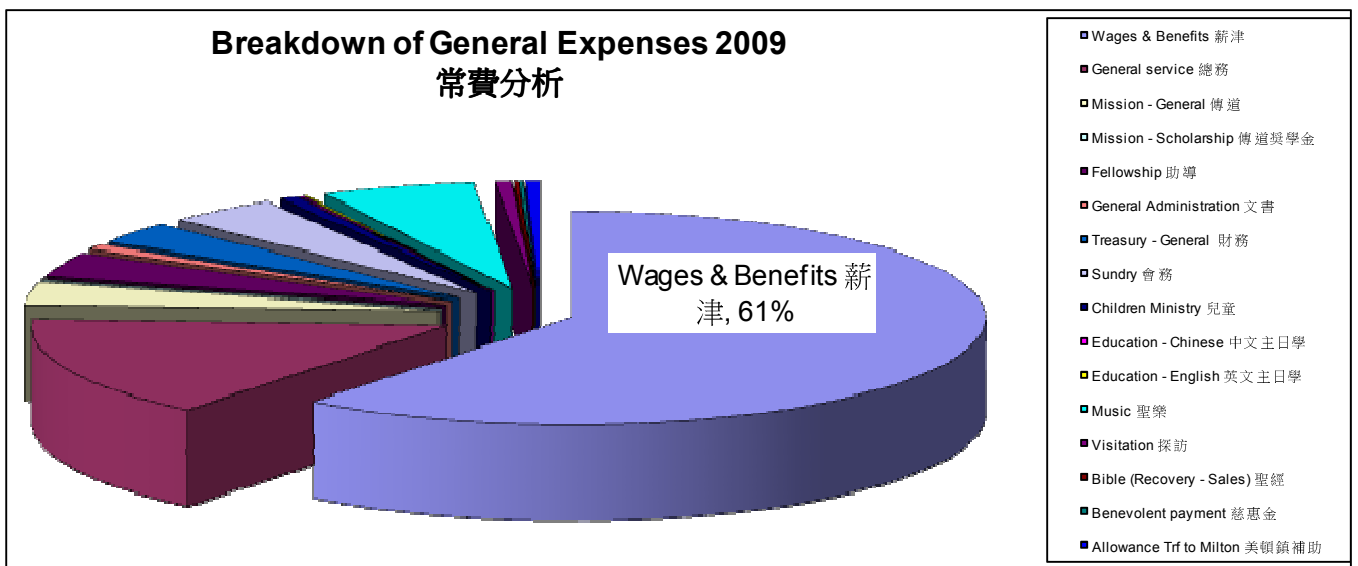
Brampton Chinese Baptist Church - 3 Year Budget & Actual Report

賓頓市華人浸信會 - 三年預算及實際財政報告

		2008		2009		2010
Departments		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Wages & Benefits	薪津	203,716.00	194,258.62	213,548.06	182,758.19	216,025.00
General Services	總務	56,745.00	39,131.58	66,400.00	45,841.88	57,335.00
Mission General	傳道	19,000.00	9,520.11	22,700.00	10,130.88	16,500.00
Mission Scholarship	傳道獎學金			3,000.00	-	
Fellowship	助導	17,200.00	9,340.17	17,000.00	11,397.86	17,000.00
General Admin.	文書	8,000.00	825.34	7,000.00	2,506.77	5,700.00
Treasury	財務	6,500.00	6,583.16	11,500.00	9,993.63	10,500.00
Sundries	會務	14,650.00	6,942.18	14,250.00	13,146.99	14,950.00
Children Ministry	兒童	4,650.00	2,562.03	5,900.00	2,103.42	4,700.00
Education (Chinese)	中文主日學	1,500.00	189.28	1,500.00	349.54	1,000.00
Education (English)	英文主日學	9,450.00	739.48	9,450.00	465.17	4,700.00
Music Ministry	聖樂	4,900.00	856.70	24,300.00	18,068.03	3,300.00
Visitation	探訪	3,000.00	1,659.15	3,000.00	1,903.15	1,650.00
Bible (Cost Recvy)	聖經		(629.00)	-	(535.00)	
Benevolent Fund	慈惠金	3,000.00	1,000.00	5,000.00	500.00	5,000.00
Allowance Trf Milton	美頓鎮補助				(1,500.00)	
VBS	暑期聖經班			1,000.00	-	
Milton Mission Fund	美頓鎮傳道					-
Special Projects	特殊項目				-	20,000.00
Total	總常費	352,311.00	272,978.80	405,548.06	297,130.51	378,360.00
Special Project Funds						
Church Planting Fund	植堂基金	50,000.00	22,701.00	50,000.00	-	50,000.00
Mission Fund	差傳基金	89,000.00	84,955.65	87,000.00	88,950.00	87,000.00
TOTAL	總支出	485,011.00	380,635.45	542,548.06	386,080.51	515,360.00

Breakdown of General Expenses 2009

常費分析



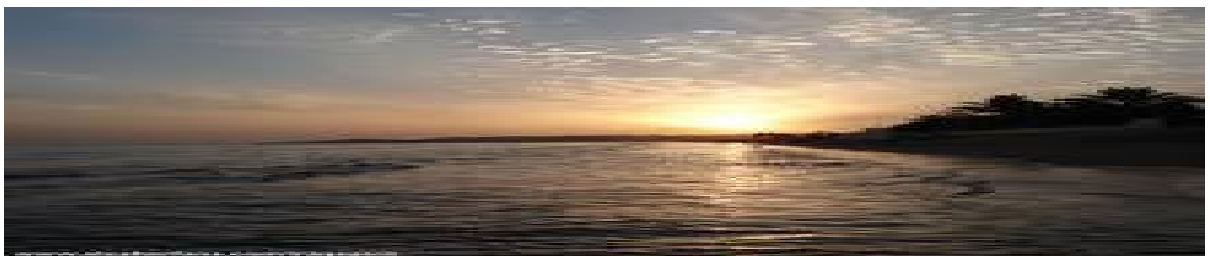
部 報 告

二千零九年教會大事回顧

黃光耀

月份	日期	活動
1	4	開始美頓市的福音工作：設立崇拜，訂立福音基址簡章。
	25	向加拿大浸信會聯會宣教部捐助為四川地震籌集的善款。
3	2-29	郭牧師授課於泰國伯特利聖經學院、晨曦會門訓中心，並帶領四位弟兄姊妹到泰國短宣。
	16-19	中學生春令會，分別於城北華人基督教會及多倫多華人基督教會舉行。
	28-4/4	教會大清潔。
4	10	受難節聯合崇拜。
	12	復活節主日聯合崇拜及浸禮，共八位弟兄姊妹受浸。
6	1	教會大清潔。
7	3-5	教會退修會—烈治鎮(約二百人參加) 主題：「承先啓後」 講員：李道宏牧師(中文)，麥高牧師(英文)
	11-20	五位弟兄姊妹到 Ouje-bougomou (OJ)參與短宣工作。
	26	三讀通過「賓頓市華人浸信會設立福音基址簡章。」
8	8	曾光華、陳莉梅之女曾錦婷的婚禮。
	15	南亞裔福音外展：慶祝獨立記念日。
	16	美頓市福音基址浸禮，五位慕道朋友接受浸禮加入教會。
	22	教會大探訪。

月份	日期	活動
8	23	社區同樂日燒烤午膳。
	30	本學年各大學、大專及中學畢業生午膳慶祝會。
9	20	慶祝建堂二十週年及古大衛牧師就職典禮。
	25-27	第十一屆差傳年會，主題：「成全聖徒，各盡其職」 講員：羅恩琳牧師、師母(兒童差傳分享)
10	11	感恩節主日聯合崇拜及浸禮，九位慕道朋友接受浸禮加入教會(五位賓頓市、四位美頓市)——感謝主！
	16-18	大多市首次國語培靈會，講員：孫約翰牧師
	23-25	大多市培靈會，粵語講員：蘇穎智牧師
	31	家庭同樂才藝表演晚會。
	28-11/20	黃牧師、師母到中國海南島短宣事奉。
11	30-12/4	郭牧師、師母，黃牧師、師母參加北美華福會議。
12	19	教會聖誕節聖樂分享會，主題：「神說」
	20	聖誕節聯合崇拜。
	24	聖誕報佳音。
	25	聖誕節聖樂崇拜聚會。



理事會主席：屬靈的恩賜和理事會

余子健

2009年教會的主題是成全聖徒，各盡其職。這是從以弗所書 4:12 而來。同樣在這第 4 章中，使徒保羅論述了從基督而來的屬靈恩賜（11 節－他所賜的，有使徒，有先知，有傳福音的，有牧師和教師）。原意說那些有屬靈恩賜的能夠去影响其他人，以至於「全身都靠他聯絡得合式，百節各按各職，照着各體的功用彼此相助，便叫身體漸漸增長，在愛中建立自己。」（16 節），「連於元首基督」（15 節）。

教會的理事會像一個身體，由許多不同的肢體(部門)所組成，不可能與其他部門隔絕而單獨作工。每個部門必須和其他部門在愛中彼此建立，以至在基督裏合而為一。因為神賜給他的信徒以忍耐、鼓勵、以及靈裏的合一（羅馬書 15:5），我們理事會的成員應該帶頭地經常通過溝通和關心，把這同樣的鼓勵帶給其他的會眾，并且把那些感覺在門外的帶到神的家裏，以達到在基督裏合而為一。

傳道部：從「看見」至「行動」

潘國麟

感謝神，在我參與差傳事奉的學習中，既有

一班親愛的同工的支持，也有牧師的帶領和指導，使我得以完成 2009 年的工作。除了參與計劃中既有的差傳項目，如初次舉辦的短宣訓練課程、南亞裔跨文化研討會、每年既定的差傳年會外，還有以下的三個項目。在這些事工中，神讓我有非常多的學習和感受。

1. 泰北事工

去年三月，我同三位英語堂的弟兄姊妹一同再往泰北及緬甸短宣，參與兒童英語聖經班的事奉。我看見神賜與他們愛心和活力，在這羣天真可愛的兒童身上彰顯祂的愛；我也看見當地確實很缺乏神的工人，尤其是對可參與屬靈培訓的同工需求殷切。神還給我們有另一個看見：

回顧過去

從 2000 年起，本教會與華傳合作，差派李傳頌弟兄一家為宣教士前往當地服事開荒。2005 年黃牧師探訪該區宣教工場，次年郭定牧師亦前往該區，直接參與了伯特利聖經學院和晨曦會門訓中心的教學和其他的宣教事工。繼而教會的弟兄姊妹也開始參與短宣工作，至今泰緬的宣教事工已成為本教會差傳的持續項目。在這段日子裡，神讓我們看到了對該區的華人和山地上的少數民族，特別是對下一代如兒童及年青人的傳福音、靈命塑造、門徒培訓以及生活照顧等各方面的需要。我們也見證了該區有許多學生中心和門訓中心被建立起來，惟「莊稼已熟，作工的人少」！

新的異象

近年來，我們看見神祝福並保守了這個稱為「福音金三角」的地方，使祂的福音得以持續擴展。福音金三角連接了緬甸、寮國，北至中國的雲南，西至越南，有如魚網分佈。因其地理位置便利，福音金三角已成為宣教及培訓門徒的中心。

我們最近由當地的同工得知，在清萊郊區的兩所大學裡，來自中國的留學生已有 600 多人；另外，來自泰國各地的泰人中，攻讀漢語系的學生亦超過了千人，大學生的福音工作可能成為另一需要。

神讓我們看到，這是一個極具潛力的福音禾場，我們可以制定固定的計劃支持當地的培訓事工，與當地的福音機構掛鉤，彼此配搭。這樣，我們每年派出的、前往泰北支援並配合當地兒童與學生事工的短宣隊伍，將不再是無的放矢的探訪，而是逐步實現差傳部兩年前所訂的計劃，並將資源集中使用。若這異象真是從神而來，那就願神祝福這項事工可以順利開展。

2. 魁北克— O. J. 原著民短宣體驗

感謝兩位姐妹同工及三位年青會眾的辛勞，他們組成了本教會的短宣隊，與多倫多的一間教會共同完成此次短宣。我們盼望在 2010 年可以在本教會自己組隊，激發更多年青會眾的宣教心志，做到薪火相傳。雖然我沒有參與這次短宣，但仍然從他們的分享中受到鼓勵。一位姐妹同工曾詢問當地一對華人牧師夫婦，「為何會留在那偏遠的地區，而不在多倫多事奉呢？」他們回答：「因為神給我們的恩賜少，所以我們留下來事奉土著社羣。」這使我感動和慚愧！如果說他們

有不足，不如說是我有不足----我沒有他們這樣的謙卑、順服、和宣教的熱忱！

3. 植堂事工

我們去年開始在美頓市植堂。雖然並無充足的經驗，但是福音基址與本教會一班同工的愛心、信心和努力，使我佩服。感謝神的恩典，使我有份參與。起初我因為職份的需要參與工作，但礙於語言不便、沒有受過裝備，我只是憑着願意的心跟隨牧師前往探訪和關顧國內來的移民、慕道者和基督徒。他們對福音的需要和渴求，還有預料以外的家庭輔導的需要等等，使得牧師們要很吃力地奔跑兩地，作屬靈教導的工作。作事務的我，只能在他旁邊呆着、看着，不能做什麼，這使我內心倍感慚愧和虧欠！

4. 自我反思

我不斷問自己，神已經讓我看見無論是在教會內還是在教會外，都滿是人的需要，我還可以逃避嗎？我還可以有藉口說我沒有這份恩賜、或說未準備好去面對人嗎？

在一次傳道部同工靈修聚會的禱告中，神藉着一位親愛的姐妹引導我，感動我要起來行動去裝備自己，為祂所用。神更藉著牧師、長者和弟兄姊妹的引證，鼓勵我們去接受全面的、基本的神學訓練。回想過去，就看見原來神已經一步一步地給我們帶領和準備，只看我是否有願意的心，踏出第一步！

其實在多年前，我就曾經在工作上很困擾，落入孤單和無助之中。我在禱告中求問神：「誰是老闆？誰可以給我支持？」神很清

楚地給了我答案：他是天上那位無所不能的老闆。這使我從淚水中得到釋放。從此，我將我的生活和事業看為我的生命裡的一部份，為主而活。在往後的日子裏，我不斷祈求神清楚地指示我，祂究竟在我餘下的生命中有什麼計劃，要我做什麼，要我去哪裏，但是祂總不給我答案。後來我才體會到，原來神早已吩咐了我，就如馬太福音 28:19-20 說：「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；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」。祂要我憑信心去每天一步一步地跟隨著祂！

親愛的弟兄姊妹們都很關心我們，擔心我在這個年齡的體力和能力可否應付全日制那麼緊密的神學課程。我也曾問過自己，但是我不能再拖延回應神的呼召了。既然我已將餘下的生命擺上，被主塑造，我就相信能力也是從神而來，我只管盡本份去做。最近我再次反思這個問題，又領受到好像神要我用一生來學習謙卑和順服的功課，連接受裝備也不可誇耀自己的能力，要全然倚靠祂，並經歷祂給我們的恩典！學院裏的學兄學姊的分享已經見證了這一點。

很奇妙，我原本在差傳部的事奉是要學習去用宣教的熱情去激勵大家，現在反倒被親愛的弟兄姊妹所激勵和支持，差派到神學院這裡來學習。我願意在靈命上重新被神塑造，成為祂合用的瓦器。藉此感謝你們的愛心，願我們一同分享神賜給教會這豐盛的恩典。

願與親愛的弟兄姊妹們共勉，讓大家都經歷「知」→「情」→「意」→「行」的感動，一同起來行動，彼此配搭，各盡其

職，讓教會成為有活力、有行動的差傳教會。願一切榮耀、頌讚都歸於神！

主日學部（中文）

谷景雲

作為中文主日學部長，我的工作是輕省的。讚美主，我們的牧師和師母們一直非常熱心地繼續帶領去年開始的課程。感謝神為我們的主日學預備優秀的師資。我聽到一些非常好的評語。

雖然我沒有實踐過，但有一些有趣的想法，一直在我的腦海中盤旋。既然我沒有機會和新任主日學部長分享，我現在就和你們分享。

邀請到好教師帶領主日學一直以來都是一項挑戰。一些好的老師忙得沒時間去備課，他們用他們的知識教學。有些老師多年來都堅持用相同的程序教學：同樣的格式和內容。

更多時候，我聽到一些對傳道人或老師的讚美說話，在這些時候，我總是問：是什麼讓他或她這麼優異。有幾點是共通的：

- 教訓清楚明確
- 主題發人深省或是與我們自己或家庭有密切的關係
- 用相關的例子簡單帶出主題
- 有時候老師更非常風趣

所以，我想像自己成為他或她。但是單憑想像力並沒有幫助我成為一個好老師。所以我買了幾本笑話圖書，試圖使自己風趣。我甚至還借了笑話圖書給其他人。笑話書是用

了，但我仍然不幽默或風趣。我選擇的目標是否正確？還是我是在做不可能的事？一定有什麼事情我是可以改善的！

客席講師是可以相當獨立的－他們來傳遞信息，然後他們離開。然而教師／學生的關係，或者更確切地說，學習，是一個對所有參與者一起成長的過程。我曾試用電子郵件，聚會，電話交流等去建立一個學習的關係。這是非常費時，但作為一個好的學習夥伴，承諾是基要條件。

通常，當我準備課程時我會研究書籍，在互聯網上找資料，有時甚至參加研討會，但到最終在教室內教導的，通常只是我收集或吸收的資料的一小部分。可是我的知識卻比前增長！做個好老師是一種福氣。

教學是一種福氣。學習是一種福氣。學習團隊裏的每個成員都要迎接挑戰。靠著神的恩典，我們都應該教導如可學習，學習如可教導，彼此幫助對方在神的話語裏成長，在我們的日常生活中榮耀神的名！

親愛的主，

感謝您給我們屬靈家庭裏的權利。為所有盡忠耗費自己的時間，精力和愛，以神的話語充實我們的教師們感謝你。為致力於學習及挑戰靈命增長的同學們感謝你！感謝你給我們工具與資源。求你繼續天天豐富我們－有你的愛去學習，有你的智慧去與人分享你的話語，有耐心在靈裏成長！

謝謝主。阿們！

主日學部（英文）

李凱能

首先，我要向所有熱心承擔 BCBC 主日學工作的老師和同工表示感謝。我們祈禱神在各個方面保守及獎賞他們的愛和付出。

英語主日學目前分為三個班：7－8年級，9－12年級，及成人班。雖然他們在學習神的話語的深度和廣度上的要求有所不同，但他們有一點是相同的——就是他們都需要在這部門承擔工作的兄弟姐妹們的誠心侍奉。

今年，有一個在成人班引進的名為“真理問題”的系列受到了很好的反應。以下是關於“真理問題”的簡單介紹：

關注家庭出版的“真理問題”是一部 DVD 小組課程，由 12 節 Del Tackett 博士教授的 1 小時課程組成。這部關於家庭的課程是從聖經的角度看人生的啓始點。每節課都細致地探討以基督徒的世界觀來對待日常生活的適當性和重要性。

1 - 真理學：什麼是真理？

“真理問題”以真理的定義開頭：真理是事物客觀規律的反映。這個絕對及恆久的真理曾經是耶穌在世時他的使命的中心，如今也繼續成為現世宇宙征戰的焦點。

2 - 哲學和倫理學：誰的立場？

真理不是一個簡單的學術上的概念。我們認識真理的途徑直接取決於我們的生活方式。不僅如此，我們對於對錯的理解也直接取決於我們的世界觀：宇宙是神創造的還是一個封閉的立方體？

3 - 人類學：人是誰？

聖經告訴我們人是神按自己的形象造的，但由於犯罪而跌到。另一方面，現代心理學聲稱人之初性本善，隻有受到社會或制度上的壓迫才變壞。這一課探究兩種觀點的含義。

4 - 神學：神是誰？

永生，按照耶穌所說，是以親密的，個人的，和相關的方式去認識神。或許隻有因為這樣的與神的關係，我們才開始在聖靈光照下看清我們自己，從而由內而外地改變我們。

5 - 科學：什麼是真的？

科學，對自然界的系統研究”，揭示了無數的智慧創造的証據。然而達爾文的理論卻把誠實探究自然的科學扭曲成傳播無神論的機器。

從對分子生物學和化石的仔細研究中顯示進化並不是証明了的事實。同時，歷史証明了包括作為社會哲學的達爾文主義在內的思想，一定會有把神排除在外的丑陋的後果。

6 - 歷史：誰的歷史？

過去(the past)有沒有客觀現實和意義？或者如同后現代主義哲學所稱，過去是否主要地存在於我們的頭腦中？這一課討論歷史的意義如同神的故事，並且告訴我們為什麼記住歷史那麼重要。

7 - 社會學：神的烙印

我們在自然界觀察到的規律在神所創建的社會系統中更加明顯：家庭、教會、社區、政府、勞工，還有神和人的統一。生活是從三位一體的大自然造物主流露出來的一連串的關係，同時反映出大自然造物主的屬性。

8 - 神秘主義：我是孤獨的嗎？

讓這個無限的，永恆的創世者居住在每個個體的心裡是可能的嗎？

這個代表了基督徒信仰核心的偉大奧秘的意義，在細查社會領域的最深處時我們將予以詳盡地考察。

9 - 政府：誰的法律？

在所有的社會范疇，政府是神給予對罪惡進行懲罰和對善良給予保存的司法權，如果它超出它的權限，它最有可能出錯。當官的必須時時記住他是在神的主權之下，否則將是一場浩劫。

10 - 美國的試驗：墊腳石

美國在世界歷史中很獨特。在這片陸地上有一個秉持聖經為世界觀的民族有機會建立起一個為把國家保持在神規定的界線裡的政府系統。第十課是跟隨這個實驗的歷史，來探討當神被遺忘時，自由發生了什麼。

11 - 勞工：被造的去創造

與許多現代流行的觀點不同，勞動不是一個“詛咒”。神本身是活躍和具有創造性的。他叫人類來分享他的活動和創造中的樂趣。勞工、經濟學和創造性文科對於增添創世者的榮耀都有其角色。

12 - 社區和參與：神所關心的，我呢？

基督徒的生命的道德准則和意義可以歸納成對神和鄰舍的愛這條戒律。這條戒律是信徒為貧困者作出自我犧牲和他們個人參與我們文化的動力的源頭。

我想在此向我們的瞿錦榮弟兄表示真誠的感謝，感謝他為帶領這個主題所作出的貢獻和投入。我們計劃在將來的幾年裡把這個主題帶給 9 年級到 12 年級的班級。真理問題”可以成為建立我們年輕一代靈命的開始，並且引領他們變得更象基督的樣子。我們也需要從我們的兄弟姐妹那兒得到更多的支持來：

做好榜樣— 以身作則，

參與侍奉— 神國的一部分，並且

從我們的錯誤中學會— 寬恕。

作為結束語，讓我們一起來努力建造神的國，並且記住保羅對提摩太的教導：「不可叫人小看你年輕，總要在言語，行為，愛心，信心和清潔上，都作信徒的榜樣。」

團契部

林霄

今年團契部未能安排各團契聯合活動，惟有期諸來年。不過每一個團契在其各自聚會活動中均以聖經教導，彼此互相鼓勵為相聚時的中心。早幾年已有兄弟姐妹們願意特別安排時間到神學院校進修去裝備自己為神所用，今年又有潘國麟弟兄和潘陳倩平姊妹夫婦二人在年終前放下工作，到香港建道神學院以兩三年的時間攻讀神學，裝備自己，預備以後在聖靈的帶領下到禾場事奉主。據聞余鄧愛玲姊妹亦於數年前在神學院校外課程部辛勤力學，預備畢業後在教會的青少年中事奉主。感謝主，讚美主！兄弟姐妹們受到聖靈的感召，奉獻為主所用。

今年的夏令退修會於七月三日至五日，仍假貴湖大學烈治鎮校舍（University of Guelph Ridgetown Campus）舉行。英語講員邀得曾在美國北加羅連拿州浸信會（North Carolina Baptist Church）多年來帶領青少年工作的麥高牧師（Rev Timothy McCoy）主領說英語的兄弟姐妹的聚會。目前他在安省暨魁省浸信聯會（Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec BCOQ）屬會中負責青少年事工牧者聯繫。中文部的講員由李道宏牧師領會。他曾在美國行醫近二十年，後全職事奉主。現在他在華人福音普傳會（簡稱「華傳」）中事奉，專注第二代宣教事工。他有頗多關於這個專題的著作。這次他所用的專題是「為主贏回下一代」。在幾堂的信息中他給予兄弟姐妹很多切實的指導，期望教會領袖們能就這些教導迅速回應，大力推動本堂的青少年事工。在此我再次籲請尚未參加團契的兄弟姐妹們，願你們參加團契，我相信在其中一定能獲得教導、激勵，彼此接納和服事。

願天父神引領我們天天前進！

探訪部（國語）

張百順

主耶穌給我們的大使命就是要向萬民傳揚福音，要讓他的門徒進入失喪的人群當中，多與他們接觸，去關心他們，把基督的愛帶給他們。

主耶穌『走遍各城各鄉，在會堂裏教訓人，宣講天國福音，又醫治各樣的病症』（太九:35）祂親自作了我們探訪的良範。祂探

兒童部

二零零八年的突出的挑戰與機遇

張黃秋麗

我記得當我的女兒們開始學習走路時，他們走不遠就會跌下來。他們拖著我的手時會好得多，這樣我就可以安全地引導他們到他們要去的地方，並帶領他們遠離危險的地方。不過，當他們到了某個年齡，他們就需要獨立行走。我不得不放開她們的手，這樣他們就可以自由走動，體驗自由的快樂，但仍然可安全地到達目的地。

學習與神同行卻有所不同。神要我們握著祂的手，絕不放鬆。事實上，祂希望我們每一步都越來越依賴祂。我非常感恩，可以在兒童部事奉，這是我握著神的手走的第一步，讓他來帶領我。否則，我就不能體驗到與神同行及被祂帶領走祂為我預備的道路。約書亞 3:15-16，神沒有把約旦河水分開，直至以色列人首先把他們的腳踏在水中。這是因為神要他們行第一步，今天神也希望我們行出第一步。這和我教女兒行走的方式完全相反。若我單靠自己，肯定是沒有辦法安全到達祂為我計劃的目的地。

在過去的每一年，我都體驗到新的祝福和靈裏的更新。明年將是另一個在神掌握中的學習階段。我相信如果我牽著神的手，在神所定的時間下，我的下一步將是堅實穩定的一步。「神造萬物，各按其時成為美好，又將永生安置在世人心裡。然而神從始至終的作為，人不能參透。」（傳道書 3:11）。神的時間和我們的時間不一樣，我確信神的時

訪彼得和他的岳母，醫好了他的岳母的熱病。（太八:14~15）。祂探訪稅吏馬太，對他呼喚說『跟從我來』。（太九:9）。祂探訪馬大、馬利亞，和拉撒路。（路十:38~42）祂探訪稅吏長撒該。（路十:9~10）。除此以外，祂還差遣門徒，出去作逐城、逐村和逐家的探訪。（太十:5~14）。可見主耶穌十分重視教會的探訪工作。

感謝主，他讓我們教會的弟兄姊妹在探訪和關顧的事工上有份。在過去的一年中，主垂聽了我的禱告，差派了多倫多短宣培訓中心的彭師母來我們教會做了友誼布道和福音探訪方面的培訓，緊接著我們眾弟兄姊妹就對以前曾經來過我們教會的 50 多個家庭做了大探訪。

牧師師母和弟兄姊妹也以經常性的外出探訪來傳達教會的愛，明瞭眾會友們的光景，並堅固弟兄姊妹主裏的信心和愛心。

「各人不要單顧自己的事，也要顧別人的事」（腓 2:4）。關心我們的家人、鄰舍、同事、朋友，領他們歸主，這是主耶穌給我們的命令。求主興起每一位弟兄姊妹，挑旺我們的愛心，能開我們的眼看到周圍的需要，特別是當新的朋友踏進我們教會的時候，我們能以主人的姿態熱情接待他們，與他們交朋友！

間是盡善盡美的，而當我降服在神的時間下，我將得到釋放。我祈禱神給我屬靈的眼睛，這樣我就可以從祂的角度更好地認識事物。願神不斷地擴張我及提升我到新的增長水平，幫助我謹守自律以至能在兒童部忠心事奉。

2009年兒童部事工在神的祝福下平穩運作。感謝神，祂為我們安排並激勵所有的弟兄姐妹自願地，耐心及忠實地事奉。

嬰兒室仍由唐穎姊妹管理。為她忠實地奉獻她的時間和對孩子們無條件的關愛而感謝神。我非常感激她在嬰兒室上的付出。願神祝福她，賜她豐盛的智慧。

一年級到六年級的兒童崇拜已增至大約四十至四十五個孩子。幼稚園崇拜亦由八名增至十三名兒童。神是美好！今年，祂賜給我們更多的忠心的弟兄姐妹在每個星期天早晨事奉兒童部。這是我們最大的需要，祂知道我們的需要又按著祂的信實施予！感謝神，祂賜恩典和憐憫給所有歸向祂的人。

在夏天的時候（六月至八月）兒童詩班休息。我們安排孩子們參加廚藝及手工藝工作坊。非常感謝所有帶領烹調，烘烤及手工藝班的姐妹們。兒童詩班在九月的第一週恢復練習。

遺憾的是 2009年暑期聖經班因為人手短缺和正在進行尋覓英語堂牧師而被取消。但令人興奮的，我們於十月卅一日有一個美好而難忘的家庭同樂夜活動。我們有超過八十五人參加，整晚節目是由超過廿五個不同年齡組合的小組表演。古大衛牧師帶領我們祈禱

之後有一個短講，但出乎意料的是，古師母用她美麗的聲音為我們獻唱聖詩。此外，古牧師及師母帶領一群青少年和我們玩遊戲和唱歌。同往年一樣，我們在聚會前共進晚餐，聚會後共進茶點。孩子們似乎十分開心，尤其是當派發糖果袋的時候，他們尖叫著，笑著，跑來跑去地互相比較糖果袋內的東西。感謝神有一群忠心的弟兄姐妹奉獻時間來準備和事後清潔。感謝神有一個美好的夜晚。

教會的聖誕慶祝會在十二月十九日舉行，在降臨節主日，兒童詩班在瞿鄭凱恩姊妹的指揮下獻唱，表演出色。在此向瞿鄭凱恩姊妹表示感謝。

兒童事工的前線是屬於所有的教師，講員和助手們，他們投入時間，恩賜和心力給我們的孩童——就像愛自己孩子的父母，引導他們，教育他們，幫助他們學習神的話語。這就是為何我們如此重視那些將他們生命奉獻在兒童部的兄姊們。神給孩子們的禮物就是透過老師們而得到神的愛。我們用實用訓練去裝備孩童在靈裏成長。

我祈禱神帶領我們一步一步地行在祂的旨意中，因為學習在神的手中行走是與神建立密切關係的第一步。祂希望我們信靠及感到祂的同在，而且我相信祂為我們每人都預備了一個偉大的目的和計劃，我們隻需要開我們的耳朵去聽祂的聲音，和調校我們的心對正神的意志中心。在以賽亞書 30:21，祂承諾“你或向左或向右，你必聽見後邊有聲音說：“這是正路，要行在其間”。”

我再次為所有努力幫助兒童部的弟兄姐妹們

感謝神。願尊崇和榮耀歸與神，因為“無論做甚麼，都要從心裡做，像是給主做的，不是給人做的”（歌羅西書 3:23）。阿們。

兒童詩班

瞿鄭凱恩

「你們要向耶和華唱新歌，全地都要向耶和華歌唱！」《詩篇》96:1。

這是我們兒童詩班今年的主題。每一周，我們的目標是要學一首新歌，或者是‘老歌新唱’。合唱是基督身體合一的一個好例子，是參與者以平等身份敬拜神的機會，沒有人獨顯身手，也沒有人被冷落。這節詩篇祇是說要向神歌唱，而沒有說要唱得多麼優美。然而，詩班不僅僅是唱詩。詩班員練唱其實是學習過一個與神同在的人生。怎樣將詩班的原理應用到我們的屬靈生命？

聆聽。你聽到了甚麼？可能是外面的風聲、是街上交通嘈雜聲？是建築物周圍人們的走路聲？是寂靜？真有寂靜嗎？在詩班裏，第一個原則就是「聆聽」。這條原則沒有明確規定聽誰的或聽甚麼。這條原則不是講順服，而是講儆醒。聆聽是知道周圍環境。當我們聆聽時，我們學習辨認聲音、周圍人或事物的出現和運動。為了唱得好，我們必須聆聽 — 知道周圍人的發聲；知道怎樣和聲。

聽音是辨音的第一步。年輕的撒母耳和以利在聖殿事奉時學習聆聽。當他夜間聽到呼喚時，他以為是以利在叫他。他還太年輕，分辨不出那是上帝的聲音。但是他能感到那時

呼喚的重要和緊迫，因為他在聆聽。如同撒母耳去以利那裏尋找帶領一樣，孩子們也會來到你們父母、導師、老師面前尋找帶領。這個時候，你們會指導孩子直接與神對話嗎？

詩班的第二條原則是「清晰地發每一個字的母音和音節」。唱詩是以音樂的形式交流。為了讓人能聽到所傳遞的信息，清晰地傳達很重要。要做到這點，每位唱歌的人必須懂得每個字每個音節的音符、節奏和時間。作為基督徒，「神的愛」這個信息，應當在我們的生命中清楚地體現出來。我們個人必須知道神的愛，並自信地，有意識地將神的愛展現出來 — 無論我們認為是小事還是小事上。

在《列王記上》第十九章裏，以利亞觀察、等候並聆聽神。來了一陣碎石的大風，接著是地震，再接下來是烈火；但是神沒有出現在其中。最後，神微聲講話，因為以利亞在聆聽，他立刻認出神的顯現，馬上用外衣蒙上臉，向神走去。正是在日常生活的嘈雜聲中，當我們聽到神的聲音並親近祂時，神就會教我們唱新歌來歌頌祂。

「音樂的目的和終極目標不是別的，祇是榮耀神，復興靈命。」巴哈。

聖樂部

區啓榮

感謝神，等了很久之後，我們終於收到了新的風琴。風琴音質很好，讚美主的時候氣氛

更加莊嚴，人也更加起勁。希望我們能盡用神給我們的所有樂器。

七月份，Jane and Wilson Li 從新澤西州來到本教會，講解詩班員的角色和應有的態度。我們也學會一些歌唱的技巧。同時，成人詩班也錄製了第一張 CD。

2009年，我們唱了二套合唱組曲。在復活節，我們唱「耶和華同在」慶祝耶穌基督的復活。我們可從不同的聖經人物身上，看見因祂的同在而帶來的生命的改變，例如彼得，亞利馬太的約瑟，在井旁的婦女。因耶和華的同在，我們得著饒恕、喜樂和滿足。這套音樂組曲提醒我們，神的恩典拯救了我們的生命。

神很祝福我們，這次有美頓市福音堂與我們一同慶祝聖誕。他們還有幾位個弟兄姊妹參加我們的詩班，一同唱音樂話劇組曲「神說」。我們的弟兄 Tony Tsang 在美頓市與他們一起練習。我們隻集合練習幾次，但效果很好。詩班員很喜歡唱詩讚美神，特別是將聖誕節的好消息唱出來，與我們的鄰居分享。我們每一個人都需要神對我們說平安。在這套音樂話劇組曲中，神提醒我們，祂知道我們所有的恐懼，但祂的兒子耶穌基督帶給我們希望和信心。這是詩班的新嘗試，以普通話作話劇，詩班員則以英語唱歌。有司琴伴奏，有音響及燈光各樣的配合，各人都都很盡力，組曲可說是很成功，讚美主。

總務部

神的家

趙國達

「你看父賜給我們是何等的慈愛，使我們得稱為神的兒女；我們也真是他的兒女。」（約翰一書 3:1 上）。因著神的大愛，我們被稱為神的兒女；當神的兒女們聚集在一起的時候，就進入到耶穌基督的身體 - 教會，教會又被稱為神的家。「各人要照所得的恩賜彼此服事，作神百般恩賜的好管家。」（彼得前書 4:10）。每一個信徒都有一分神所賜的恩賜，為要在神家裏彼此配搭，在不同的崗位上，作忠心的好管家。

感謝天父，在過去的兩年當中，我能在總務部與弟兄姊妹一同事奉，讓我親身地見證到不少弟兄姊妹，不隻在一個事奉崗位，而且在多個職份上，不求自己的益處，隻求別人的益處；不求人的讚賞，隻求神的喜悅，盡自己的所能默默無聲地做好份內的事。這樣的事奉態度，真是值得我們學習。讓我們彼此勉勵，讓每一位在神家的弟兄姊妹，都能找到自己的事奉崗位，並且盡心、盡意、盡性地愛主、愛神的家。懇求主耶穌基督的愛不斷地幫助和激勵我們，讓每一位神家的人，都能成為忠心的好僕人。

摩西團

黎林惠明

摩西團在父上帝的恩手祝佑下又渡過了一年。創團之一的團友區棠伯於零九年返回天家，眾團友一方面在人情中感到哀慟，另一方面為他回到主懷感謝神。我們每個月能有一次額外的靈糧，端賴上主的福氣和祂的忠心僕人——黃牧師的付出。不能或缺的當然是那些愛心司機，他們不辭辛勞地接送各團友出席聚會，每一位團友也都期待著月會的來臨。我們歡迎教會的長者與我們一起數算神的恩典，一起為教會事工和有需要的弟兄姊妹祈求，讓我們金色的年華仍然映照神的榮耀。我們中間還有些團友不認老，仍然參加每月一次的頤康福音隊與住院的耆老問安。你們若有意參加摩西團，可以聯絡黎林惠明、陳邱彩嫦，或鄔伯母以便安排交通接送。我們是在每月最後的一個星期三上午十時至十二時在教會聚會，在聚會後我們便到附近的食肆共享美食。

頤康福音隊

黎輝宇、岑區莉莉

福音隊在黃牧師和郭牧師的帶領下，在每月的第二個星期三到密市頤康護老中心四樓，和住院的眾長者分享福音。每次聚會開始前大家先作禱告，然後由隊員領短詩，接著由牧師將上主的話語鼓勵和安慰眾人。有些時候我們會因應節日作出特別活動，例如在受

難節及復活節、感恩節和聖誕節，隊員們彼此配合，用預先製作好的小手工，講述有關的信息。雖然沒有鋼琴技巧精湛的隊員，但仍有隊員願意特別撥出時間苦練，使負責領詩的隊員更有信心。我們在一般程序完畢後，並不立刻結束聚會，而是隨即分別到各長者旁閒聊問安。二零一零年，有些隊員因故暫時不能參與事奉，但是因著上主的眷顧，將會有另外一些弟兄姊妹加入。我們仍然盼望弟兄姊妹定期或不定期地在隊中一起事奉主，服侍各長者。願尊貴、榮耀，頌讚歸與慈愛的神。阿們。

以琳團

一成員

學習、長進、領受、分享，和分擔。

我們以琳團大約有十個家庭。我們每個月有兩次聚會。每次聚會中，都有美好的時間。每一成員都熱烈的投入，使團契生活充滿歡欣，融洽。每年約有二十多次的聚會，當中有 Pot luck 聚餐、查經、祈禱、分享，和關顧等。

與主親近祂憐憫，愛恩深處勝親朋。

主的恩典是足夠我們的需要。在曠野糧食缺乏，祂的子民沒有食物之時，耶和華就賜下嗎哪。在我們今天物質豐富的環境中，給與我們美好的食物。每次在星期六聚會的時候，每個家庭都以精湛的廚藝來預備食物，

使我們飽食之餘，也感覺到神為我們所預備的是何等的豐富，使我們每次謝飯禱告時，無不內心感謝神。

在多麼美好的晚餐作前奏，之後團契聚會（大約晚上七點）正式開始。在我們團長與靈修部的弟兄合作下，決定選用張道明牧師的「基要真理」為我們在團契中作為學習神話語的課題。每一個家庭都得分配一個課題，先作自我學習，再在團契靈修時段裏，帶領各人進入主題，加以研究、解釋、分析，和解答問題。在整個靈修時段，各人態度認真，耐心追求，從問題中明白神的話語。每一次的查經、學習，都得到領受，從領受到享受，從分享到分擔，一一把我們主耶穌活現在各人眼前。每一次團契聚會、靈修，真如我們同在一個工作坊中，獲益良多。也正因為我們對神的話語認真，神就在團契中復興我們，把愛玲姐妹以多年的訓練成為可作主工之材。又再興起國麟弟兄與夫人共同以三年的時間在神學院受訓，加上把昭慧姐妹帶進短宣工作行列，好讓她多多的親近主，體驗主耶穌的同在。在我們團契中，多麼美，多麼善，多麼快樂，多麼享受。兄弟姊妹們，假如你還未屬於任何團契，又或從未參與團契，我們以琳團以神的愛心來邀請你參加，不但可以分享神之愛，也可以一同在聖經（神的話語）上扎根，同享主恩。我們團契除了在成員家中聚會，更有安排到公園外遊，活動多姿多彩，不論身、心、智也得益不少。

以琳團適合各年齡的人仕，由四十至八十歲

不等，正如每年都有與摩西團合團一樣，唱歌，歌聲嘹亮美妙，分享、見證更令你耳目一新，在長者身上有無限的學習課題。在談論到健康之道，我們不其然地感謝神。同時在他們的見證中，真知父神愛我們比人愛子女更深。

在我們以琳團更加可以看到我們在主內合一及分擔。很不幸地有一位團友得到癌病，本是一件十分可怕的事情，當事人固然擔心，無所適從，但在各團友的關心下，不斷的禱告、安慰、探訪、問候，感覺到神之愛的同在，於是就把擔心和憂慮，一切交給神，由神來帶領，把失望、絕望、傷痛、漸漸轉為有依靠。不但病者感到神之愛，神的同在，更可看到各團友在整個過程中，各人自有美好的見證。終於，病者在痛苦中，與主同行，得以渡過。手術後也很快康復。想起神恩浩大，也祇有祂萬能之手，萬事都在祂的掌握之中。微小的我，還怕甚麼？

喜事，喜事！今年有一對成員昭慧和大鈞終成眷屬，結成夫婦，看著這一對新人，團員各人心中喜悅之情，不下於我們自己親生兒女結婚一樣，同樣感受到神給他們的祝福。在團契中有新受浸的兄弟姊妹，也有在主裏多時的兄弟姊妹，各人打成一片，在導師夫婦領導下，學習真道最適切。我們誠心邀請你們參加，共享主恩。

請與我們以琳團團長劉廣彰弟兄聯絡。

呂底亞團

黃鄔瑞雲

本團成立了好幾年。最初的目標是讓一些在周日的上午可以有時間參與查經、公禱和團契交通的姊妹聚在一起。後來約在兩年前定名為呂底亞團以效法當日腓立比教會初成立時的信徒，特別是一群姊妹熱心服務教會。我們為了方便能有不同時間的聚會之姊妹，分別在每月的第一個星期三上午十時三十分至正午十二時於教會聚集，每次聚會由姊妹輪流領查經。會後有各姊妹在家預先準備的膳食一同享用增進交通時間；另一組則在每月的第三個星期六下午五時輪流於不同的姊妹家中聚會，會後亦有晚膳，分享生活經驗。兩組的聚會分別由黃師母及姚陳偉儀作統籌。我們每年都根據一個主題查經。零九年的主題是根據本團的團訓：聖靈所結的果子，經文選自加拉太書五章二十二節。本組有好幾位姊妹都參加頤康福音隊，甚至有一位姊妹為了充實自己彈奏鋼琴的技巧，特別在聚會前提早半小時到教會由另一位團友指導彈鋼琴的技巧，以便能在福音隊中短詩時間作伴奏。我們衷心向教會中的姊妹邀請你們來與我們一起同頌主恩。

迦南團

姚錦榮

感謝神讓我仍然可以在團契中有所事奉，更

感謝祂給我好幾位同工，一同策劃團契的工作，讓我藉著在崗位上的親身經歷，在靈裏大大的得益。相信同工們亦有深刻的體驗。今年團員的出席率很高，可見團員對團契生活的嚮往。感謝神的恩典，增添了永權和春梅夫婦在我們中間，使團契生色不少。大家同享契合生活，互相切磋，互相勉勵，在主裏彼此交流，互訴心聲。

今年我們查考的經文取自雅各書，我們挑選這本書是因為這書既講論信心，又建議應當附諸行動，相輔相成。二章十七節：「這樣，信心若沒有行為就是死的。」這句話成為我的當頭棒喝。我信主很久了，年紀漸長，自覺坐的時候日漸增多，而起身行動越來越少。常常自怨自憐，自覺年紀越大越無用，做什麼事都提不起勁來，手腳又慢，記性又差，身體處處不舒服。誰知這一切問題的解決良方盡在這書裏。神不是叫我信自己，而是要我信祂、倚靠祂，不是叫我單單聽道，而是要我起來行出來。靠自己就像對著鏡子看自己的面目，不義、邪惡、貪婪、嫉妒、爭競、詭詐、驕傲，完全顯露出來。靠著祈求禱告靈修才是開啓倚靠神的動力之源。一年很快過去，轉眼明年又來，若不找著神的應許，就只是身體日漸衰殘而已，惟獨找到上頭來的智慧，內心在主裏就一天新似一天。

神的回應

摩西團 趙歐陽璧

多年前，每逢星期四的上午，我都會帶一些慕道朋友往梁國光博士家中聚會，每次都有已信主的或是慕道的朋友參加。

梁博士憶述，有一次喬宏叔（當年他仍在世）對他說，他近來覺得神好像離他很遠，便向神禱告，求神給他一些事，讓他釋懷，請神回答他。不久之後，喬宏叔自己駕車前往錄音室。快要到錄音室時，不知為何，汽車突然向前衝去，眼看就要撞到錄音室的牆壁。他本人當時好像被提起。奇怪！沒有剎車，車卻停了。他被嚇得滿頭大汗，平靜下來後，下車視察，看見車頭與牆之間距離剛可以伸入一隻手掌。錄音室的牆壁特別厚重堅實。如果撞個正著，則後果不堪設想。他立即感謝神！這是神的回應。我們聽完此見證，深受感動。

那一晚臨睡前，我禱告時，不知為甚麼，忽然也作同樣的禱告：「神啊！我知道祢與我同在，看顧我、保守我，但是我常軟弱，信心不足，懷疑祢是否真正的常與我同在，請您也給我一些經歷，讓我能增加信心，剛強站立。」禱告完，我安然入睡。幾天後，是星期日，我到教會聚會。那間教會借用一所學校作臨時聚會點。聚會完畢，我和往常一樣，午膳後便到兩家超級市場購物。用過晚膳後，由女兒駕車返家。途中我忽然發覺，手上戴著的手鐲不見了，但我沒有因驚恐而大聲喊叫，免得驚嚇正在駕車的女兒。我安靜地細心想想，撫摸頸項，發覺同一款式的

頸鍊仍在，證明那天我是戴著一套飾物出門的。一入家門，我立即致電教會負責雜務的鍾弟兄，告知他我遺失了一隻怎樣款式顏色的手鐲，請他聯絡學校的校役，讓他們打掃的時候，留意一下能否找到手鐲。接下來的一個星期裏，我沒有向鍾弟兄詢問。到了星期日，又和往常一樣地去教會。我見到鍾弟兄，他沒有向我提及手鐲的事，我也沒有問他。學校也沒有回覆。我心裏想，那天我還到過幾處地方，手鐲不一定遺落在教會。到了晚上，鍾弟兄來電話，說今天聚會後，他留在教會--學校禮堂--等朋友。因為閒著無聊，看見有幾個孩子在鋼琴邊玩樂，便走過去，竟然發現鋼琴上面有一隻手鐲，和我失去的相似，於是就放在口袋裏帶走。我把手鐲的形狀及顏色向他複述一次，果然那就是我所遺失的手鐲。主啊！這真奇妙。手鐲留在那裏已有兩個多星期。那個禮堂被木板隔成多個房間，平時木板挪開，方便人們出入。人們由校門進入禮堂，經不同的通道去往學校教室和辦公室。學校是公眾地方，每天有不少學生及其他人出入。手鐲放在鋼琴上，小孩子可以隨時拿來玩耍或取去，或者路過的成年人也可能順手牽羊地拿走。手鐲不是用塑膠製造，而是由白色的玉珠及紅色的珊瑚珠互串而成的。雖然它不是太名貴，但也頗精緻，又與頸鍊搭配成一套飾物。我遺失了手鐲的事，我沒有告訴女兒，所以連她也不知道。我祇是託鍾弟兄去留意找尋，就算是有人看見手鐲也不知道是我的。奇妙的是，鍾弟兄在等候朋友時，那幾個小孩在鋼琴旁玩耍吸引了他，他才走過去，於是就看到手鐲。一件飾物放在那裏兩個多星期，仍然會物歸原主，那不算是奇蹟？一點兒也不是巧合，乃是神給我的回應！

主啊！您是又真又活的神。您洞察人心，知我軟弱，需要扶持，加添我的信心，垂聽我的禱告。這又怎不令我甘心俯伏敬拜祢！

以基督的心為心

李振宇

使徒保羅在腓立比書二:5 勸勉信徒「當以基督的心為心」。

甚麼是基督的心呢？在英文 King James Version (KJV) 版本中，希臘原文「vovs」被忠實地譯為「The mind of Christ」，即基督的思維與心思意念。「你們當以基督耶穌的心為心，Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus。」(腓二:5)「誰曾知道主的心去教導祂呢？但我們是有基督的心了。For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ。」(林前二:16)

聖經告訴我們，當我們悔改歸向神，接受主耶穌來到我們生命裏，我們就藉著聖靈重生；聖靈既內住，我們就有了基督的心。

「我也要賜給你們一個新心，將新靈放在你們裏面。又從你們的肉體中除掉石心，賜給你們肉心」(結三十六:26)；「你們受洗歸入基督的，都是披戴基督了」(加三:27)。

「披戴基督」之意，就是穿上新人，在主裏有更新的心志。以弗所書四:23 詳盡地詮釋道：「又要將你們的心志改換一新，並且穿上新人；這新人是照著神的形象造的，有真理的仁義和聖潔。」

當我們重生得救後，就有了基督的心；我們的心志藉著主的話語和真理而更新變化，能夠察驗何為神善良、純全、可喜悅的旨意

(羅十二:2)。「因為神賜給我們，不是膽怯的心，乃是剛強、仁愛、謹守的心」(提後一:7)。「謹守的心」在 KJV 版本中譯為「a sound mind」，就是優秀卓越、明哲聰慧的思維，能曉得主的真理，能體貼順服神的心意，叫人不單顧自己的事，也能顧念天國的事----福音的事工。

「因為他心怎樣思量，他為人就是怎樣」(箴二十三:7)。「你要保守你心，勝過保守一切，因為一生的果效，是由心發出」(箴四:23)。「心裏所充滿的，口裏就說出來。善人從他心裏所存的善，就發出善來...」(太十二:34b-35)。基督徒重生得救後，有了基督的心，有了主的思維，就會漸漸與主耶穌相似。他不僅有真理、仁義和聖潔的性情，更有主耶穌柔和憐憫、恩慈良善、謙卑虛己的樣式，在生命中結出聖靈的果子，彰顯登山寶訓所描繪的天國子民的美德佳行。他的生命中流露出主豐盛的生命，從榮耀到榮耀，屬靈生命不斷地成長更新。

脫去舊人，穿上新人 — 屬靈生命成聖過程

信徒得救是本乎恩，也因著信，藉著基督的寶血，救恩已經一次性地成就在信祂的人身上。然而，信徒屬靈生命的成長，卻是一個漸進的過程。從初生的屬靈嬰孩，到滿有基督長成的身量，不是一蹴而就的，而是漸漸成長的。(參閱彼前二:1、2；林前十三:11；來五:13-14)

「你們學了基督，卻不是這樣。如果你們聽過祂的道，領了祂的教，學了祂的真理，就要脫去你們從前行為上的舊人，這舊人是因私慾的迷惑漸漸變壞的；又要將你們的心志改換一新，並且穿上新人；這新人是照著神的形象造的，有真理的仁義和聖潔」(弗四:20-24)；「因你們已經脫去舊人和舊人

的行為，穿上了新人；這新人在知識上漸漸更新，正如造他主的形象」（西三:9-10）。基督徒屬靈生命的成長，就是要不斷地脫去舊人的思想行為，不再隨從肉體而行；從積極方面講，就是穿上新人，在思想行為上不斷地藉著主的道、主的真理而更新和變化。使徒保羅在加拉太書第五章裏很詳細地詮釋了甚麼是顯而易見的、順從肉體情慾的舊我所結的果子，以及甚麼是與其相對的、順服聖靈的新生命所結的果子。

基督徒屬靈生命得勝、得力的秘訣，在於其思想行為的更新。靠著聖靈得生，靠著聖靈行事，就可以不放縱肉體的情慾。聖經在這方面的訓誡教導著墨甚濃，顯示出順著聖靈而行的重要性。

思想中屬靈的戰場

「你要保守你心，勝過保守一切」（箴四:23）。「上帝所賜出人意外的平安，必在基督耶穌裏保守你們的心懷意念。」（腓四:7）。我們的心懷意念非常重要，故此，我們要在主裏恆切、儆醒地保守它。信徒屬靈爭戰的戰場就在心思意念中，仇敵魔鬼常用謊言詭計來攻擊信徒，扭曲神的真理。魔鬼也常用引誘試探來迷惑信徒，用恐懼、猜疑、焦慮、挫折感等思想來攻擊信徒的心思，使信徒灰心喪志，懷疑神的真道，也懷疑神的慈愛信實，從而遠離了神。因此，信徒需要用主的真理作為心裏的力量，穿戴上神所賜的全副軍裝，靠著聖靈的大能抵擋仇敵，才能站立得住。（參閱弗六:10-18）

身心靈全人的救恩

「願賜平安的上帝親自使你們全然成聖。又願你們的靈與魂與身子得蒙保守，在我主耶穌基督降臨的時候，完全無可指摘」（帖前

五:23）。這裏提到信徒靈、魂、體（身心靈）三方面的救贖。在重生得救時，我們已經得贖。神使我們那沉睡的、因罪而與神隔絕的靈甦醒，恢復了我們與神的關係。祂為自己的名引導我們走義路，羔羊的寶血就是神與我們立約的憑據（參閱林前十一:25）。我們也得著聖靈的印記，就是永生基業的確據（弗一:13-14）。

我們的身體在主基督再來時，將得到完全的救贖

「不但如此，就是我們這有聖靈初結果子的也是自己心裏歎息，等候得著兒子的名分，乃是我們的身體得贖」（羅八:23）。「我們卻是天上的國民，並且等候救主，就是主耶穌基督，從天上降臨。祂要按著那能叫萬有歸服自己的大能，將我們這卑賤的身體改變形狀，和祂自己榮耀的身體相似」。（腓三:20-21）

我們的魂（即「心」，知識、思維、情感、意志的總和）的成聖，是一個漸進的、不斷的、成長的過程，也就是使徒保羅在腓立比書二:12 提到的「作成我們得救的工夫。」相關的教導還有雅各書一:21-22 提到的信心與行為的並行，「脫去一切的污穢和盈餘的邪惡，存溫柔的心領受那所栽種的道，就是能救你們靈魂的道。聽道也要行道。」可見一個人的信心是與他的行為並行的，而且信心因著行為才得成全。

結語

「你看父賜給我們是何等的慈愛，使我們得稱為上帝的兒女。」（約壹三:1a）。「上帝的神能已將一切關乎生命和虔敬的事賜給我們，皆因我們認識那用自己榮耀和美德召我們的主。因此，祂已將又寶貴又極大的應許

賜給我們，叫我們既脫離世上從情慾來的敗壞，就得與上帝的性情有分。」(彼後一:3-4)

書籍分享

大吾透

我家兒女初長成 — 作者李陳永鈿師母

教養孩童是一門很大的學問，而且更是一份好有挑戰性的行業，有人跟「書」教，有人跟「豬」教（天生天養），更有人指出，現今父母對孩子們溺愛的程度，會造成孩子日後多「脂」多「糖」的危機。（溫室長大）

《我家兒女初長成》，作者李師母是跟「聖經」教，由嬰兒、幼兒、兒童及至青少年，在各不同的階段，寫出多方面健全成長重要的因素，詳細分析不同年齡，不同個性的需要，帶出德、智、體、群、美五者並重。多次引用聖經去指導父母，用各樣方式及方法去教導兒女。李師母更以我們在中西文化，不同的環境，對於生活忙碌的父母，應要以什麼態度引導子女，以致管與教能夠合一。用樹從小屈的方法，去裝備子女們作一個合神心意的器皿。作者在本書內有多方面的啟發。

一生愛主的第二代-作者李道宏牧師

回想到一位姐妹曾跟我說：我真羨慕你，因你是第三代基督徒，而你女兒是第四代，真是一個蒙福的家庭。我一直以來，都沒有把我是第幾代基督徒放在心內，只深知我有一個愛主的母親。但經過這次的談話後，我有點兒驚慌，更加有點兒恐懼。我女兒的子女，我的孫兒們會不會敬虔的接受這個

「福音棒」，把神的福音一代一代的傳下去，願神憐憫。

當編輯把《一生愛主的第二代》交給我時，我不拒絕的把它看完。這書是作者李道宏牧師在《愛主第二代系列》的第三本書，指出第二代信仰問題的存在，再一次印證以聖經的原則教導孩子的重要性，作者用很多啟發及思考問題引導父母們。

李牧師指出，為什麼父母絕不能給孩子們有選擇宗教的自由，父母要在家裡做屬靈的教育，而不是把責任交由教會的主日學。引導他們更深認識神的救恩，夫妻在家的角色是家庭的基石。提醒我們不要作個失職的父母親。

「學壞三日，學好十年」，家長們要及早幫助孩子們，建立一些能互相在主裡造就的朋友。「十年樹木，百年樹人」，第二代的心田需要父母們鬆土、撒種、耕耘、維護，好叫神的話能落在好土裡，扎根成長。

在孩子成長過程上，父母們都著意為子女有平衡的 IQ (Intelligent Quotient 智商)、EQ (Emotional Quotient 情商) 發展，絞盡腦汁用各類不同的方法去培育他們。那麼 SQ (Spiritual Quotient 靈商) 又怎樣呢？我們作家長的，會否在這方面，要花上九牛二虎之力去提升兒女們的靈商呢？

作者更進一步將孩子們分為「以撒型」、「雅各型」、「以掃型」，從他們的長短處和屬靈的取向，去了解他們，用不同的方法，重新把他們帶回神的面前。你的孩子屬那一類型？請在書內尋找答案。

在教養孩子的事上，神如何使我們生命成長，以致更加成熟。盼望從這書裏能讓父母

們，看重傳遞福音接力棒的重要性。

讀經的藝術

陳梅

費戈登 (Gordon Fee) 所著《讀經的藝術》，曾被指定為神學生的必讀書目。書中描述了人們讀經時常有的困惑和誤解，以及如何走出不當解釋聖經的誤區，讓真理按照本來面目呈現在人們眼前。

費戈登認為，解經不是牧者和神學生的專屬工作，而是每個人都應當花時間學習的一種思維方式。我們讀經的時候其實就已經開始了解釋聖經的過程，試圖跨越時空文化的差異去理解聖經作者想表達的原意。有些差異容易跨越，對經文的解釋也就正確，比如，今天我們再讀提後 4 章 13 節時，沒有人會去幫保羅拿外衣。而有些差異就不那麼明顯，最明顯的例子就是，使徒時代教會的行為是否是今天教會的規範？即便是同樣信奉使徒信經的主流傳統宗派，對這個問題的回答也都不盡相同。

從上面的例子可以看出，聖經永遠的適用性和歷史特定情境之間存在著張力。歷史特定情境的產生是因為神選擇人作為代言人，人描述啓示時會受到語言環境的限制。如果沒有意識到這一點，我們就會自然而然地認為，“基於我所用譯本的經文的字面描述，我得到的理解是正確的。”所以，正確的解經的確需要一些神學教育，疑難經文的解釋則更需要依賴受過神學訓練的學者和牧者。聖經是神的話語，正確的解經會使人得著鼓勵和安慰，由衷地讚美神。而另一方面，有些經文學者們有超過 40 種解釋！這也提醒我們，人是有限的，無法用理性圓滿地解釋

神的作為。所以，我們應當謙卑俯伏在造物主的腳前，用基督信仰來跨越未知的地帶，與神相連。

雖然費戈登的信仰背景屬於五旬節派，但是他更像是一個綜合各家之長的學者。他甚至對五旬節派的一些基本教義持反對態度，解經的嚴謹、信仰的平衡、對神的敬畏都不遜於福音派的學者。《讀經的藝術》倘若潛心閱讀，定受益匪淺！

教養下一代

黃師母

教養兒女常常犯的錯誤

1. 惹兒女的氣
2. 在心情煩躁，生氣的時候說了不應該說的話
3. 對兒女偏心
4. 放任的教養，在處分懲罰及親子關係沒有取得平衡
5. 與兒女無法溝通
6. 家有浪子(浪女)，灰心失望
7. 不能向兒女道歉
8. 關心孩子的身体健康，讀書的成就，卻沒有為孩子的靈命健康來操心，為他們守望禱告
9. 將兒女與其他孩子比較
10. 沒有將神的道，聖經教訓兒女
11. 言語，行為與教導不一致，沒有作好榜樣

聖經教導作父親的，不要惹兒女的氣，恐怕他們失了志氣，只要照著主的教訓和警戒，養育他們。(弗 6:4；西 3:21)

從聖經看父子關係

雅各（創 37 章）

雅各愛約瑟過於愛他的衆子、因為約瑟是他年老生的、他給約瑟作了一件彩衣。約瑟的哥哥們見父親愛約瑟過於愛他們、就恨約瑟、不與他說和睦的話。（創 37:3-4）

父親偏愛兒子，造成兄弟嫉妒不和，父親實在要負上很大的責任。

以利（撒下 2:12 -30)

祭司以利兩個兒子犯罪，神責備以利，尊重兒子過於尊重神。兒女犯罪是不對，自己要負責任。如果父母容讓兒女犯罪，沒有好好管教，神要嚴厲責備父母。

大衛（撒下 14:28 – 18:33)

押沙龍住在耶路撒冷足有二年，沒有見王的面。（撒下 14:28）.....這樣押沙龍暗中得了以色列人的心。（撒下 15:6）.....有人報告大衛說、以色列人的心、都歸向押沙龍了。大衛就對耶路撒冷跟隨他的臣僕說、我們要起來逃走，不然都不能躲避押沙龍了，要速速的去、恐怕他忽然來到、加害於我們、用刀殺盡合城的人。（撒下 15:13-15）.....王就心裏傷慟，上城門樓去哀哭，一面走，一面說：我兒押沙龍阿，我兒，我兒押沙龍阿，我恨不得替你死，押沙龍阿，我兒，我兒。（撒下 18:33）

大衛王與兒子押沙龍，實在是人間慘劇的父子關係，父子間不能溝通，同住耶路撒冷足有二年，卻沒有見面。父子關係破裂，兒子取得以色列人的心，要謀奪父親的王位。大衛王逃走。兒子押沙龍最後敗亡，父親大衛王傷慟哀哭，悲痛欲絕。

浪子的比喻（路 15:11-32)

家有浪子有誰不悲哀？不灰心失望？父親等候小兒子悔改，重返家園，歡喜快樂，大事慶祝，大兒子卻嫉妒父親對小兒子無比的愛。父親語重心長，恩慈勸導。從父親我看見聖靈的果子：仁愛，喜樂，和平，忍耐，恩慈，良善，信實，溫柔，節制。天下有這樣的父親，值得我們學習。

神向我們所懷的意念

黃佩乾

最近常常為居住的問題困擾，因為我們已到達空巢的階段。大兒子 Ken 已於早幾年前結婚，成家立室。現在連二兒子 Jason 也有了自己的居所，準備今年內結婚。我們應該為他們的成長和自主而快樂才是。但兩個兒子的居所也離我們比較遠，互相探訪也需時，以至我們也興起搬遷的意念。

其實我們一家人從香港移民加拿大已有二十年，從第一天踏足加國便在賓頓市居住。兩個兒子的教育和兩夫婦的工作，都離賓頓市不遠。而我和丈夫正鴻參加教會也有八年了，回望這二十年，可見神一步一步的帶領，無一缺乏。雖然也有逆境的時候，因神常與我們同在和帶領，我們非常感恩。如詩篇二十三章四節說：「我雖然行過死蔭的幽谷，也不怕遭害，因為你與我同在；你的杖，你的竿，都安慰我」。我們並且享受團契的生活，主內的兄弟姊妹們常常互相交通，研經和旅行，令我們有一份歸屬感。既然我們離開原居地移民到此地都是求平安，現在神已賜平安給我們，為何還要為這事煩惱呢！我有信心相信在適當的時候，神自然會有祂的安排。

剛巧黃牧師在崇拜講道時講及耶利米書第二

十九章四節至十四節，講題是神向我們所懷的意念。我們應該對教會有歸屬感，不應因小小的原因而離開它。頓時令我感到聖靈的感動，明白這是神的美好安排。而且對神的信心也上了一課。

因耶和華說：「我知道我向你們所懷的意念，是賜平安的意念，不是降災禍的意念，要叫你們末後有指望」(耶 29:11)。再一次神的話語藉着黃牧師，堅強了我們的信心。

退修會 — 出入營辦理手續

以琳團一成員

退修會乃我們賓頓市華人浸信會每年一次的大型項目，主要的目的是為信徒帶來機會與主親近，更供應資深的講員給我們在主的話語上學習。在退修會三天之中，有食、有住，在各方面都要有充足的預備方可確保各信徒在營內得到滿意的照顧，也因此教會動用很多人手與物力來作準備。三數個月的人事安排與工作，終於在六月尾各人乘車進入營地。

為主作工，不是牧師們的獨力工作，每個信徒都有各人的承擔，在努力合作之下才能使工作做好。感謝神為我們組成了一班愛主的兄弟姐妹，使我們在工作上合作愉快。各人在營中也覺享受。

當我收到各人入住營內房間的名單後，立刻把它放進電腦軟件之中，分別印成不同分類的編排，作好準備，以便在營中使各人登記入住時順利，確保各人拿到正確的房門鑰匙。連續三年都擔任這項工作，深知工作的

困難點在那方面，因為大小事在營中是辦之不完的。感謝神，因祂知我能力有限，安排了劉學軍給我很大的幫助，工作才得以順利進行，還要一提的是，各營友對我們入營登記部體諒，幫助及合作。終於三天的退修會完成，各人離營時，也很細心，一一歸還所領出的鑰匙，一點兒也沒有出錯，學校方面也對我們教會大加讚賞。

我願意把這三天內的工作和感受與大家分享，將我個人與主的關係作一簡短的見證：

首先 — 當我需要別人幫忙的時候，每一個人都是一口應承，因為他們都覺得這是主耶穌的事工。在這事上我看到我們主內的兄弟姐妹愛主甚深，十分願意為主工作。也因此使我在這份差事上更覺得力，不但不感覺壓力，反而覺得輕鬆。

其次 — 在營地內，很多人向我問候，擔心我辛苦。其實辛苦是有一點，但弟兄姊妹一句關懷的說話，使我深感主在看顧，不但沒有辛苦的感覺，反覺工作有樂趣。

抱歉 — 在人與人之交往中，時常都有不愉快的事情發生，例如房間分配得離洗手間較遠，使用時不方便；或有些房間不夠清潔，要求更換。在我能力範圍內我都盡力去解決；又大會不希望營友提早離營，希望各人能體諒籌備委員的難處。

見證 — 每當我接受別人給我好處的時候，雖然心裏知道這是出於神的恩典和看顧，心裏總覺得有些不配。然而當我有機會為主作工時，心中就充滿力量，不論辛苦與否，內心那團火長久不熄。為主作工，身心愉快。

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Editorial

Mei Chen

After I assumed the role of the editor for the church year book, my company's workload became quite hectic all of a sudden. Sometimes I could hardly find time for my own spiritual renewal, let alone reading the submitted articles. But God is a wonderful provider. Even though I was tired and was reading the articles late at night in those busy days, the author's testimony had moved me, renewed my spirit and filled my body with strength.

When it was quiet at night, I felt really good after reading the stories shared by our brothers and sisters. From each testimony, I could see God was looking after them in every way and felt their grateful responses when they were touched by God. Some people's writing styles are as plain and simple as their styles of making contribution in many unnoticeable occasions. Their simple words reveal their purity in faith and their willingness to serve. Some people's writing emphasized the true meaning of the verses from the Bible and showed a lot of depth with annotated explanation. In some articles, I could not understand some Cantonese colloquial phrases even though the Cantonese-speaking authors wrote them in Chinese. I still remember how helpless I was when I received Allan Poon's testimony. I had to consult Leslie Chow on some Cantonese phrases. Having overcome the Cantonese language barrier and read his article again, I could not help myself but being deeply moved by the couple's passion in ministry that was pouring out of his words and sentences.

Editing the year book is similar to providing other services in the church. When you help other people, the service provider himself/herself is also being developed by other people and by God. "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." (Hebrews 12:1). I hope that every brother and sister will be able to remember his/her spiritual experience all the time so that our lives will become a full record of the Grace of God. "Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up" when other people are in need (Thessalonians 5:11).

“Like Christ” and “Like Me”

Pastor Ming Wong

If someone said to you, “I just want to be a believer, not a disciple. I believe that Jesus died for my sins on the cross. All I want is to be in heaven when I die, I don’t need anything else,” how would you respond?

Is Salvation all about intellectual assent—making a decision? Does the Scripture teach a non-discipleship gospel? Can a Christian receive a pardoning of sins without any change in his/her life?

The Scripture’s answer to the above questions is “No!”

Our 2010 church theme, “O Lord, I want to be like you!” is to remind our brothers and sisters of the necessity of a transformed life in Christ. It is our hope that as we review ourselves at the end of this year, we can honestly say that in mind, character, words and deeds we are more like our Lord than at the beginning of the year.

In addition to the idea of “Like Christ”, how about the desire for others to be “Like me”? The apostle Paul said in Philippians 4:9, “Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice.” Can our lives be held up as an example for others to follow? I believe the ideas of “Like Christ” and “Like me” are related.

To Renew Energy by Being Quiet and At Rest

Pastor Conrad Kwok

Many people nowadays are simply “busy”. We love being busy and hate it as well, because being busy gives some people affirmation that is hard to obtain elsewhere. It comforts people with the idea that they are not idle, and it makes people feel that they are making progress. “Busy” becomes synonymous to “hopeful”.

In fact, being busy is often unsettling. It strains the tension of our lives, squeezes the room for human feelings, and distances people from each other. Being busy makes many people feel like being a small screw of a huge machine, losing their control of life. We often hear people say: “Once you’re in the real world, you lose yourself.”

Being busy is like riding a rollercoaster with sudden excitements and shocks, but the person on it is totally out of control until the rollercoaster stops when he can unbuckle and take a breath.

At a closer look, we see that the Chinese character “busy” consists of “heart” and “death”. Does it mean that being endlessly busy we can easily lose our spiritual perception and fail to see many graces of God in our lives? How can an exhausted person quiet down to experience the Holy Spirit?

When we drive, we are constantly reminded to drive within the speed limit; however, we often speed thinking that it does not matter to do so once in a while. By the same token, we often tell ourselves that things will be fine after this busy period of time. Let’s examine a fact: how many people can suddenly become still and quiet? Being busy is a need deeply rooted in modern people’s psyche, for being not busy for even a day makes us won-

der if we have failed our day. We wonder if we will be abandoned by society if we do not keep ourselves busy. Does it mean we lag behind if we are not busy?

In 2009, I was misled by this “business”. Pastors must often focus on prayer and spiritual progress, which I apparently lacked, not because I didn’t want to, but because I was busy with worldly matters that could never be completed. I delayed what was originally more important.

Isaiah 30:15 says: “For thus saith the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not.”

To receive the power and help from the Lord, we must slow down in this busy world. The fact is that this world seeks efficiency, speed and economy. Technology has shrunk the globe, with supersonic airplanes, the internet and the like. Have they actually reduced the working hours? Are we really getting the much needed rest?

The accelerated pace of life has cost us a great deal, including what we should value as part of our spiritual life. We get busier everyday, probably too busy to have time to nurture and enjoy friendship. We are constantly reminded to pay attention to the needs of others, driving our minds and bodies to exhaustion.

The death of heart is a dreadful thing, so we should stop to ask ourselves a practical question: “What are you so busy for?”

God wants us to go back to Him to get energized. We must first rest, observe and look up to His work. How can we pay attention to what is really important in life if we are as busy as the cars flying by.

I am not sure what your life is like today, but I know one thing: if you really want a rich life, you should have the courage and humility to come to God first for his help to rest your heart. Trust in God, submit your restless heart, surrender your authority and restore

the intimate relationship with God. You could very well be busy with what God considers meaningless!

Annual English Pastor’s Report

Pastor David Cooke

Dear Brothers and Sisters in our Lord:

It is a great joy to begin my ministry with you as your new English Pastor, as of August 1st, 2009. This has been a tremendously busy and exciting time for my family and me - moving into a new home, getting acquainted with so many new faces, and adapting to the BCBC culture. It has been a steep learning curve. I appreciate all the encouragement and patience you have shown me, and I am deeply thankful to our Lord for His gracious provision at every step. Heather and I are delighted to be here and to raise our children, Joshua and Abigail, within this wonderful church family. As we move forward together, I will be seeking God’s perfect will for the future of our congregation, while leaning heavily upon your continued prayers and support.

As I started my pulpit ministry, I decided to set our focus on the “Four Pillars of the Church”: Teaching, Fellowship, Ordinances, and Prayer. Not only were these pillars absolutely essential to the health and growth of the early New Testament church (see Acts 2:42), but I am convinced they remain the surest recipe for spiritual success in our church today. Christ had said, “I will build My church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Matt. 16:18 KJV). If we want to see BCBC truly flourish and grow, then we need to allow Christ to build His church His way - we need to follow His blueprint, and these four pillars are foundational!

It is my vision to see these pillars built strong and firm in our English congregation, but for

that to happen, every member has an important part to play. So what can we do?

Firstly, we need to grow in God's Word. We must seize every opportunity to learn, study, and mature in the teaching of the Scriptures. We must absorb the whole counsel of God. Whether it is through our Sunday services, small group studies, Bible conferences and retreats, or through personal devotions, we need to know Christ better and understand what it means to live a new life in Him.

Secondly, our fellowship needs to be sweet. We need to open up our homes, lives, and hearts to one another. Our bonds of love must be tightened as we bear one another's burdens and consider the needs of our brethren above our own.

Thirdly, we must celebrate and esteem the importance of Christ's two ordinances - Believer's Baptism and the Lord's Supper. The Lord has given us these sacraments to vividly portray the wonder of God's grace in our lives.

Finally, we must devote ourselves to seek God's face earnestly and unceasingly in prayer. We should be grounded in our individual, personal prayer times with God; we should be praying with our spouses and children; and we ought never neglect the gathering of our church family for prayer.

As we exert every effort to build up these four pillars of Teaching, Fellowship, Ordinances, and Prayer, not only can we expect the blessing of God to fall upon our church, but we can also expect to draw closer to Christ. As Charles Spurgeon once said, "There is in Christ what man wants. As bread meets his hunger, as the cup meets his thirst, so Christ meets all the spiritual wants of mankind. And the soul that would live, and the soul that would rejoice, must come to God's provision for his living and his rejoicing, and that provision is to be found in Jesus Christ crucified."

Moving ahead into 2010, we anticipate an exciting year of growth, opportunity, and ministry. There are many things in the works; here are just a few: 1) Our website team has been building a brand new online presence for our church, which we hope to release shortly. 2) We are co-ordinating a new Thursday night ESL ministry with Nadeem and Jamila Qazi. 3) We are promoting a special men's retreat at the end of February, focusing on spiritual growth. 4) We have invited Daniel Muller from New Covenant Forum on March 21st to explain the Passover festival from a Jewish perspective. 5) We are making plans for our summer retreat, with John Bennett from The Faith Mission booked as our English speaker. 6) We are planning an exciting "Day of Creation" event August 22nd geared to motivate and equip our youth, led by Richard Fangrad of Creation Ministries International. 7) Our Vacation Bible School plans are well underway with the theme for our children being "Just Like Jesus".

Let us pray that the Lord would bless all our plans, impassion our hearts with His vision, and transform His people at BCBC more and more into His glorious likeness.



Departmental Reports

2009 Major Events

Kwong Yiu Wong

Month	Day	Events
Jan	4	Started Milton afternoon Worship Service.
Feb	25	Respond of the C.B.M. Sichuan Appeal with a donation.
March	2-29	Pastor Kwok teaching in Bethel Bible Seminary and Dawn Operation Discipleship Training Centre, together with 4 brothers and sisters for North Thailand Mission Trip
	16-19	Teens Conference – Richmond Hill Chinese Community Church and Toronto Chinese Community Church
	28-4/4	Church Cleanup
April	10	Good Friday Joint Worship
	12	Easter Sunday Joint Worship and Baptism (8 brothers and sisters) Praise our Lord!
June	1	Church Cleanup
July	3-5	Annual Retreat - Ridgetown College (around 200 attended) Theme: Generation Speakers: Pastor Jeff Lee (Chinese); Pastor Tim McCoy (English)
	11-20	5 brothers and sisters join with other churches for a short term mission trip to Ouje-bougomou (OJ), Quebec native.
	26	Approval to the Chinese version of constitution for the Milton Gospel Mission after 3 readings.
August	8	Wedding - Sarah Tsang and Matthew Bergeon
	15	Celebrating the Independent Day of India and Pakistan. About 20 South Asians came to the meeting and about 10 members from our church.
	16	Baptism at Milton Gospel Mission (5 brothers and sisters).
	22	Church Visitation.

Month	Day	Events
August	23	Community BBQ
	30	Graduation Ceremony
Sept	20	Celebrating 20 th Anniversary of Building Dedication and the Induction Service of Pastor David Cooke.
	25-27	11 th Annual Mission Conference. Theme: Prepare God's People For Works Of Service Speakers: Rev John Loh and Mrs. Loh
Oct	11	Thanksgiving worship and Baptism (9 brothers and sisters) - Praise our Lord!
	16-18	The T.C.E.M.F. Mandarin Revival meetings. Speaker: John Sanford
	23-25	The T.C.E.M.F. Revival meetings. Cantonese Speaker: Rev. Patrick So Wing-chi
	31	Family Fun Night Outreach
	28-11/20	Rev. Wong and Mrs. Wong Mission trip to Hainan, China.
Nov	30-12/4	Rev. and Mrs. Kwok, Rev. and Mrs. Wong attending a CCCOWE Conference in Pennsylvania, USA.
Dec	19	Church Christmas Celebration (Music Skit - God Speaking)
	20	Christmas Joint Service
	24	Christmas Caroling
	25	Christmas Day Worship



Church Ministries

Spiritual Gifts and the Executive Board

Jim Yu

In 2009 our church's theme was to prepare God's people for works of service. This was taken from Ephesians 4:12. In the same chapter 4, the apostle Paul also discussed spiritual gifts from Christ (v.11- It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers). It was intended to say those with spiritual gifts would be able to train others so that "from him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." (v.16), "with Christ as the head of this body" (v.15).

The Executive board of the church exemplifies the body, with the many different parts as ligaments (or ministries), where one cannot work in isolation from others. Each executive board ministry/member must work together with other members in love in order to have unity in Christ. Since God gives endurance, encouragement, and a spirit of unity to his followers (Romans 15:5), we, as executive board members, should show our leadership by bringing this same encouragement to others: reaching out to the congregation members through regular communication and care, and bringing those feeling out of place into God's family to achieve unity in Christ.

Mission Department: From "Seeing" To "Taking Action"

Alan Poon

Thank God for giving me the opportunity to participate and learn how to serve in mission-

ary work; with the pastors' leadership and guidance and with the support of a group of dear colleagues, we continued to complete all the objectives in 2009. Other than participating in the existing planned missions, we piloted the training sessions for short-term missions and the South Asian cross-cultural training seminars. In addition to the annual mission conference, we did the following three missions, through which God had broadened my exposure and learning experience:

1. Northern Thailand Mission

Last March, I was fortunate to join three fellow brothers and sisters from the English congregation to serve the English Holy Bible classes for the children in Northern Thailand and Myanmar. I saw their God-given compassion and vitality displaying His love to these lovely innocent children. Also, I saw the real shortage of God's servants in this region, especially those who could provide spiritual training. God also let us see a different scenario.

Review of the Past

In 2000, our church co-operated with the Gospel Operation International in sending Brother Keith Lee (now Rev. Lee) and his family over there to serve and pioneer missionary work. In 2005, Rev. Ming Wong visited the same district. The following year, Rev. Conrad Kwok went there to teach in the Bethel Bible Institute and the Operation Dawn Disciples Training Centre as well as serve in the missionary. Subsequently our fellow brothers and sisters also began participating in some short-term missions. Today the Thailand and Myanmar mission has become an ongoing mission event in our church. During these mission periods, God had let us see the need of local Chinese people and the minority people from the mountain area, especially their younger generation - their children and youths: the need to spread the Gospel to them, the need to mould their spiritual lives, the need to train disciples and the need to

take care of their lives. We also had witnessed the establishment of many student centres and training centres. “The crops are ready for harvest but we don't have enough workers to reap the crops!”

New Vision

In recent years, we have seen God's blessing in the region nicknamed the “the Golden Triangle for the Gospel” to allow the Gospel to continue to spread there. Its close proximity to Myanmar and Laos, China's Yuannan in the North and Vietnam to the West made it the centre for great missionary work and training disciples.

Recently, we also learned from our local co-workers that the two universities in suburb of Qinlai had more than 600 students from China. In addition, over 1,000 Thai students studied the Chinese Language there. Spreading the Gospel to these university students may become a necessity.

God has shown us that this region has great potential for the Gospel. If we have a fixed plan to support local training, to develop partnership with local missionary organizations and to promote collaboration, then we can have an annual Northern Thailand short-term mission servicing the local children and students properly. In this way, we are no longer just sending a short-term missionary team there without any specific targets but gradually implementing the plan set up by the Mission Department 2 years ago and consolidating our resources. If this vision is really coming from God, then may God grant us blessing for a successful growth.

2. Quebec - Short-term Mission for Oujé Natives

Thanks for all the hard work of two sisters and three youths who formed the short-term mission team jointly with members from a church in Toronto. Together they completed the mission. We hope that we will be able to form our own team in 2010, to motivate many more youths to join the short-term mission and to continue passing the burning torch forward. Though I did not join the mission, I was greatly encouraged. I heard the following story from

the mission sharing session. One of our sisters asked the Chinese reverend and his wife, “Why are you serving in this remote area and not in Toronto?” They answered, “We stayed to serve the aboriginals here because we are less-gifted”. The answer had moved me and shamed me! Rather than saying that they were inadequate, it was more fitting to say that I was the one who was inadequate for I did not have their humility, obedience and passion for the mission.

3. Milton Mission - Church Planting

Last year we began implementing the church planting plan in Milton. In spite of some deficiencies, I was amazed to see the Gospel foundation site and the love, the persistent faith and the diligent work of a group of co-workers from the church. Also I thank God for His grace in allowing us to participate in this mission. At first, I participated because of my role in the Mission Department. I was limited by my language skill and my knowledge in theology. Armed with only my willingness, I followed my pastors to visit and attend the needs of immigrants from China, the needs of those who were seeking the Gospel and the needs of local Christians. In addition to seeing their thirst for the Gospel, we were surprised to see the dire need for family counselling. Thus our pastors were making quite an effort to travel between the two cities and provide spiritual guidance while I stood by their sides looking shocked, feeling ashamed and guilty and not doing much other than looking after some trivial business.

Self Reflection

I continued to question myself: God had shown me the needs of people both from inside and outside the church. How could I still avoid facing those needs? How could I still excuse myself by saying, “I don't have the gift and I am not ready to deal with people face to face”? In one of the mission workers fellowship meetings, I was so thankful for God's guidance through the prayer of a dear sister, which moved me to start taking action to equip myself for His work; God, through the testimonies of pastors, elders, brothers and sisters, had encouraged me to enroll in a comprehensive and fundamental training in

Theology. In reflecting on what did happen, I realized that God had already guided and prepared us each step of the way. The only thing that mattered was whether we would be willing to take the first step!

Many years ago I was puzzled by my working life. I was so lonely and helpless. In my prayers, I asked God, “Who is the boss? Who can give me support?” God answered me clearly. I still had the Almighty God from Heaven. This had liberated me from my tears and sufferings. From that point onward, I only viewed my career as one part of my life and wanted to live for the Lord. Later on I prayed to God regularly asking for clear direction on my life: What is His plan for the rest of my life? What would He like me to do? Where would He want me to go? But He did not give me an answer. Later on I realized that God had already commanded me so just as what was said in Mathew 28:19-20, “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of 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”. He wanted me to base on faith and follow Him step by step everyday!

Out of concern and worry, many dear brothers and sisters advised me, “At this age of your life, are you able to handle physically and mentally the rigorous and intensive full-time study in theology?” I had also raised the same question myself. But I could no longer delay my response to God's calling. I had placed the rest of my life in God's hands so that He could mold and shape me. I believed that capabilities come from God and I just had to do my best. Recently I have thought about the same issue again. It seems to me that God still wants me to learn how to be humble and obedient in my life, to keep on equipping myself, not to boast about my abilities but to lean on Him completely and live in His grace! Actually my classmates have already provided such testimonies when they shared their experiences.

In serving the Mission Department, I was supposed to learn to encourage everybody to have a passion for missionary work. But to my surprise, I was encouraged and supported by my dear brothers and sisters to go study in a

theology school, and willingly let Him renew and mold my spiritual life into His useful vessel. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your love and kindness. May we share the abundance of His grace given to our church.

My dear brothers and sisters, let us encourage each other to experience and be moved by going through the following stages: “Knowing” → “Feeling” → “Thinking” → “Taking Action”. Let us rise, take charge, help each other, and perform our duties so that our church becomes a dynamic and action-oriented missionary church. May all the glory and praise be to God!

Chinese Sunday School 2009

King Kuk

As the Chinese Sunday School Executive Board member, I was not working hard at all. Praise to our Lord for our pastors and their wives, who have been very much enthusiastic in continuing the curriculum they started last year. Thank God for the excellent resources we got for the programs. I have heard some very good feedback in response to the programs.

Although I didn't practice, there were some interesting thoughts that circled in my mind from time to time. Since the ideas did not go anywhere, and I did not share it with the new Sunday School Department head, I just want to share them with you now.

It was always a challenge to get good teachers for engaging Sunday School programs. Some good teachers are too busy to prepare for lessons; they ‘wing it’ with what they know. Other teachers have been following the same program for years, and they are still sticking to the same format and content.

More often than not, I hear compliments about a good preacher or teacher, and at these times I always asked what made him or her so good. Several points do always come through:

- The lesson is clear.
- The topics are thought provoking, engaging, or relevant to our family, or to ourselves.
- The delivery is simple with relevant examples.
- Sometimes, the teacher is even funny or entertaining.

So, I imagine myself be just like him or her. But simply having a vivid imagination is not helping me to be a good teacher. So I bought a few joke books. I tried to be funny. I even loaned out the joke books; the joke books were well used, but I am still not funny or entertaining. Did I pick the right objectives? Or am I just trying to do the impossible? There must be something I can improve!

Guest preachers can be quite independent; they come and deliver a message, and then they leave. However, the teacher/student relationship, or more correctly, studying, is a growth process together for all participants. I tried emails, gatherings, and phone call sharing to establish a learning relationship. It is very time consuming, but commitment is fundamental to be a good study partner.

Normally, when I prepare for lessons I study books, read articles on the internet, and sometimes even attend seminars, but what I end up delivering in class is usually only a fraction of materials I collect and/or absorb. At the end, I know more than before! Trying to be good is a blessing.

Teaching is a blessing. Learning is a blessing. There are challenges for each member of the study team. With God's grace, we should all teach to learn and learn to teach, helping each other to grow in the Word of our Lord and glorify His Name in every day of our lives!

Dear Lord,

Thank you for the privileges in our Church family. Thank you for all the dedicated teachers consuming their time, energy, and love to enrich us with Your Word. Thank you for all

the students committed to learn and challenge the growth in depth of knowledge of Your Word! Thank you for giving us the tools, the resources. Please continue to enrich us with Your love to learn, Your wisdom to share Your Word intelligently, and patience for us to all grow spiritually, daily!

Thank you, Lord. Amen!

English Sunday School 2009

Hoi LI

First of all, I would like to express my deepest appreciation and thanksgiving to all the Sunday school teachers and helpers for their faithful commitment to the kingdom of God in BCBC. With love and devotion, we pray that our Lord will bless and reward them in many ways.

The English Sunday School is currently divided into three classes: Grade 7-8, Grade 9-12 and Adult. Their needs in God's Word are different in terms of the depth and scope, yet they all have one thing in common - the need for committed and motivated brothers and sisters to help serve faithfully in this ministry.

A series titled The Truth Project was introduced to the adult class this year and received a very positive feedback. The following is a brief introduction to The Truth Project:

The Truth Project from Focus on the Family is a DVD-based small group curriculum comprised of 12 one-hour lessons taught by Dr. Del Tackett. This home study is the starting point for looking at life from a biblical perspective. Each lesson discusses in great detail the relevance and importance of living the Christian worldview in daily life.

1 - Veritology: What is Truth?

The Truth Project begins by defining truth as "that which corresponds to reality." This absolute and eternal truth, at the heart of Jesus'

mission on earth, continues to be the focal point of the Cosmic Battle in our own time.

2 - Philosophy and Ethics: Says Who?

Truth is not simply an academic concept. The way we think about truth has a direct bearing upon the way we live our lives. What's more, our understanding of right and wrong is directly dependent on our worldview: Is the universe God's creation or a closed cosmic cube?

3 - Anthropology: Who is Man?

The Bible tells us that man was created in God's image but fell from innocence through sin. Modern psychology, on the other hand, asserts that man is inherently good and behaves badly only under the influence of social or institutional pressure. This lesson explores the implications of both views.

4 - Theology: Who is God?

Eternal life, according to Jesus, is knowing God in an intimate, personal, and relational way. Such knowledge, which is possible only because of divine revelation, transforms us from the inside out as we begin to see ourselves in the light of His majesty and holiness.

5 - Science: What is True?

Science, the "systematic study of the natural world," brings to light innumerable evidences of Intelligent Design. But Darwinian theory transforms science from the honest investigation of nature into a vehicle for propagating a godless philosophy. (Part One)

A careful examination of molecular biology and the fossil record demonstrates that evolution is not a "proven fact." Meanwhile, history shows that ideas, including Darwinism as a social philosophy, have definite consequences - consequences that can turn ugly when God is left out of the picture. (Part Two)

6 - History: Whose Story?

Does the past have an objective actuality and significance? Or does it, as postmodernist philosophy asserts, exist primarily inside our heads? This tour considers the meaning of history as God's story and shows us why remembering is so important.

7 - Sociology: The Divine Imprint

The order we observe in the natural realm is even more apparent in the social systems God has established: family, church, community, state, labor, and the union between God and man. Life is a series of relationships that flow out of and reflect the Trinitarian nature of the Creator.

8 - Unio Mystica: Am I Alone?

Is it possible for the infinite, eternal Creator to dwell within the heart of an individual? The implications of this great mystery, which represents the very core of the Christian faith, are explored at length in this examination of the most intimate of the social spheres.

9 - The State: Whose Law?

Of all the social spheres, the state, to which God grants the power of the sword for the punishment of evil and the preservation of the good, has the greatest potential to go awry if it oversteps its authority. The civil magistrate must always remember his place under the sovereignty of God - otherwise, havoc will ensue.

10 - The American Experiment: Stepping Stones

America is unique in the history of the world. On these shores a people holding to a biblical worldview have had an opportunity to set up a system of government designed to keep the state within its divinely ordained boundaries. Tour #10 follows the history of this experiment and explores what happens to freedom when God is forgotten.

11 - Labor: Created to Create

Contrary to a great deal of contemporary

popular opinion, work is not a "curse." God Himself is active and creative, and He calls man to share in the joy of His activity and creativity. Labor, economics, media, and the creative arts all have a role to play in magnifying the glory of the Creator.

12 - Community and Involvement: God Cares, do I?

The ethical law and the meaning of the Christian life are summed up in the commandment to love God and one's neighbour. This command is the source of the believer's motivation for self-sacrificial service to the needy and their personal involvement in our culture.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to our brother Denny for his contribution and devotion in leading this program. We plan on bringing the same program to the grade 9-12 class in the coming years. The Truth Project can be a good starting point to build up the spirit of our young generation and lead them in becoming more Christ like. We will need a lot of support from our fellow brothers and sisters to:

1. Be the good example - walk an extra mile,
2. Be involved in ministry - part of God's kingdom, and
3. Learn from our mistakes - forgiveness.

In closing, let's work together to build up the kingdom of God, and remember Paul's teaching to Timothy:

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity." -1 Timothy 4:12

English Fellowship Happy 2009!

Denny Chiu

As I reflect on the past year, I see God provid-

ing us, our Church, many opportunities for new growth and new purpose. I thank God for providing us with a new pastor, David, to help lead and shepherd our English congregation. I also thank God for the opportunities to reach out to the South Asian community here in Brampton. It is my hope that with these new changes and opportunities, we as a fellowship will be able to embrace and tackle what God has put before us.

We have also been blessed this year by having Pastor Lee come speak to us at summer retreat on raising up the new generation. His game time and messages were definitely insightful and fun!

As a fellowship department, we continually struggle with fostering small groups within the university and career groups. This isn't just a problem with our church but with many churches as a whole. We can only pray for God's guidance here, as this is the age group of exploration and opportunities, with many people always on the go and looking for different direction.

Finally, our family is expecting our first little one! I definitely praise God for that :)

See you next year.

Chinese Visitation

Baishun Zhang

The great commission of our Lord Jesus Christ is to proclaim the Gospel to all people and let his followers enter the lost people to give them care and love.

"Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness" (Matthew 9:35). He set us an example of visitation. He visited Peter's mother-in-law and cured her fever (Matthew 8: 14-15). He visited Matthew, the tax collector and asked him to "follow me" (Matthew 9:9). He visited Martha, Mary

and Lazarus (Luke 10: 38-42) He visited Zacchaeus the chief tax collector (Luke 19: 1-10). Besides, he sent out his disciples to visit villages and households (Matthew 10: 5-14). We can see that Jesus focused on the visitation work.

Thank God for allowing our brothers and sisters to take part in the visitation and caring work of the church. God heard our prayers and sent Mrs. Peng to give us training on friendly preaching and visitation. Afterwards, our brothers and sisters visited over 50 families.

Our pastors and their wives often make visitations to spread the love of the church, learn about the lives of church members, and strengthen the faith and love of brothers and sisters.

“Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.” (Philippians 2:4). Our Lord Jesus Christ commanded us to care for our families, neighbors, co-workers, friends and to lead them to Christ. We ask the Lord to help us to warm our loving hearts and open our eyes to the needs around us, especially when new friends first set foot on our church. Let us warmly welcome them and make friends with them.

English Visitation and Outreach

Robert Young

This department was created to be available to assist in any visitations or outreach activities during the year. Another area of responsibility is running the BBQ's for the church.

The BBQ

The BBQ was quite successful in that it brought many new faces from the community to the church and made them aware of us and our willingness to serve them.

The teens and young adults performed most

of the work as they so often do for activities put on by the church, especially by the English congregation. It was also wonderful to see so many of the youth greet and fellowship with the passer-bys.

One of the main purposes of the BBQ is to “serve” the community and to ensure that they know we are here and would like to give this gift back to them.

Outreach

We didn't have many opportunity to visit new comers, at least not from our guest book. Only one English couple came again after being contacted through the guest book over that last year. It was far more advantageous just to watch for new faces. In this I would remind all members that we need to greet any and all new faces that we see attending our church and ensure that they feel welcome before settling down to catch up with our old friends.

Children Department Learning to Walk in God's Hand

Le Truong

I remember when both of my daughters first learned to walk, they wouldn't get very far without falling. They fared much better when they reached up and took my hand, so I could guide them safely where they needed to go, and steer them away from dangerous places. However, as they got to a certain age, they needed to walk independently. I had to let go of their hands so they could walk freely and experience the joy of freedom, but still reach their destination safely.

Learning to walk with God is somewhat different. He wants us to reach up to His hand and never let go. In fact, His desire is that we become more and more dependent upon Him for every step. I am so grateful that in serving in the Children's Department, I took my first step holding on to His hand, enabling Him to guide me. Otherwise, I would not have been

able to experience walking with Him and being led along the path He had planned out for me. In Joshua 3:15-16, God didn't part the waters of the Jordan River for the Israelites until they first put their feet in the water. That's because God wanted them to make the first step, just as God expects us to make the first step today. This is quite the opposite of the way I taught my daughters to walk. There is definitely no way I can just head off on my own and still expect to arrive safely in the place he has planned for me.

With each passing year I experience new blessings and renewal of my spirit. Next year will be another stage of learning in His hand. I believe if I keep my hand in God's hand I will have a solid hold on my next step under His timing. "God has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end" (Ecclesiastes 3:11). God's timing is not the same as ours, and I truly believe that God's timing is always perfect and that it is liberating when I surrender to it. I pray that God will give me the ability to see with spiritual eyes, so I can better understand things from his perspective. May God continually stretch me and move me into new levels of growth, and help me be disciplined enough to be faithful and devoted in serving in the Children's Department.

2009 Children's Department is running smoothly under God's blessing. Thanks be to God for His planning and for inspiring all our Sisters and Brothers to serve willingly, patiently, and faithfully.

The Nursery room is still coordinated under the care of Sister Tang Ying. Praise the Lord for her faithful dedication of her time and her unconditional love towards all the children. I have certainly appreciated all the things she has done in the Nursery. May God bless her and grant her a wealthy understanding, rich in wisdom.

Senior Worship has increased to a larger group of about forty to forty-five children from grade one to grade six. JK & SK Worship also increased from eight to thirteen children. God is so good! This year He gave us more and more committed volunteers who miraculously

served every Sunday morning. That is our biggest need; He knows our need and faithfully answered! Thank God for His grace and compassion, which He shows to all of us who turn to Him.

In the summer time (June to August) we have no Children's Choir. We organized kids in the kitchen program and craft workshops. Many thanks to all our sisters who operated the cooking, baking, and craft time. The Children's Choir resumed on the first week of September.

Unfortunately, 2009 VBS (Vacation Bible School) was cancelled due to a shortage of helpers and the ongoing search for an English pastor. But more excitingly, we did have a wonderful and memorable Family Fun Night event on October 31. We had more than eighty-five people attend; the entire program of the night was put together by many different age groups performing more than twenty-five performances. Pastor Cooke led us with an opening prayer and a short speech, but more surprisingly, Mrs. Cooke presented a hymn to all of us with her beautiful voice. Also, Mrs. Cooke and Pastor Cooke led the teenage group to perform the games and singing. As with the previous year, we had dinner beforehand and served refreshments. Both boys and girls seemed to have so much fun, especially when the time came to hand out the prizes and loop bags—they were screaming, laughing, and running around to compare their candy bags with each other. Thank God for all our Sisters and Brothers who dedicated their time to prepare and cleanup at the end of the event. Praise the Lord for a wonderful night.

The church's celebration of our Lord's birth was on December 19th, but our Children's Choir only sang on the Advent Sunday, under the direction of Sister Janice Chiu. It was superb. I would like to extend a word of thanks and appreciation to Janice.

However, the front lines of our Children's Ministry belong to all our Teachers, speakers, and helpers. They invest time, talents, gifts, and their hearts into the lives of children—much like parents who love their children, guide them, teach them, and help them to

learn God's word. That's why it's important to value and treasure the people who share their lives in the Children's Ministry. It is a gift to the kids who receive God's love through all teachers. We equip them with practical disciplines for spiritual growth.

I pray that God will guide all of us to walk in His will step by step, because learning to walk in God's hand is the first step to building a close relationship with God. He wants us to trust and sense His presence, and I believe He has a great purpose and plan for each one of us—all we need do is just to open our ears to hear His voice, and align our hearts in the center of His will. He promises in Isaiah 30:21-22, "Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it.'"

Once again, I thank God for all the Brothers and Sisters who helped diligently in Children's Department. May His name be honoured and glorified, because "Whatever we do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the LORD, not for men," (Colossians 3:23). Amen.

Music Department 2009

Erwin Au

Thank the Lord, after a long and patient wait we have finally received our new organ. It sounds great and adds a warm and solemn tone to our worship. We hope to make good use of all the instruments that the Lord has given us.

In July, Jane and Wilson Li from New Jersey, New York, gave us a presentation regarding our role and attitude as choir member, and also taught us some new vocal techniques. Our Adult Choir recorded their very first CD at that time as well.

We sung two Cantatas during the year of 2009. In Easter, we celebrated the resurrection of Jesus Christ by singing In The Presence Of Jehovah. We could see the lives changed in His presence through the examples of biblical characters such as Peter, Joseph of Ari-

mathea, and the woman at the well. In the presence of Jehovah, we found forgiveness, joy, and fulfillment. Once again, this musical reminded us that our lives are saved by God's grace.

We were blessed to have a joint Christmas celebration with Milton Gospel Mission. Together with our choir, we sang a dramatic musical titled God Speaking. Our brother Tony Tsang practiced with them in Milton. Though we only had a few opportunities to practice together, they went very well and the end result was great. Our choir members really enjoy singing and praising God, particularly singing out the good news during Christmas time to our neighbours. We all need God to speak peace to us, and this dramatic musical reminded us that God knows all our fears, and His only son Jesus brings us hope and confidence. It was a new trial to present the drama in Mandarin along with the joint choir singing in English. Along with the coordination from the pianist and A/V control, I would say it was well done. Praise the Lord!

The House of God - General Services

Danny Chiu

"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" (1 John 3:1a). We are called the children of God because of the love of God; when we gather, we enter the body of Christ—the church, which is called the house of God. "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms" (1 Peter 4:10). Every believer is specially gifted by God so that he/she can collaborate with each other in their different positions to maintain good stewardship for the Kingdom of God.

Thank God for allowing me to witness the selfless service and dedication of brothers and sisters in their own positions. They served only to please God, not to seek any praise from people. They focused only on their duties. We should all learn from such

Church Fellowships

Canaan Fellowship Group

Arthur Iu

With God's blessing, I am still able to serve in the fellowship. I especially thank Him for providing me several good fellow Christians with whom we planned a schedule of events together. From my affiliation of the post, I gained work experience and my spiritual life also benefits greatly. I believe that my fellow Christians have similar profound experience.

The member's attendance rate was very high last year. Obviously members yearned for fellowship life. Last year, we are blessed to have Alfred and Chun Mui Shin joining us. Our fellowship life became quite colorful. Everybody shared harmoniously. We compared notes with each other and encouraged each other mutually. In Christ we exchanged our inner thoughts from our hearts and souls.

Last year we studied the Bible from the Book of James. We chose this book because of its coverage on both faith and deeds (they complement each other). "In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead" (James 2:17). These words struck me as a severe warning.

It has been a long time since I believed in the Lord. Now I am getting older and older. I am sitting down more and more and yet my getting up and walking around are becoming fewer and fewer. I often become grumpy and feel sorry for myself. As I age, I feel useless. I have no energy to do anything. My hands and feet move slowly. My memory is no good. My

body aches everywhere. It turns out the solutions to all the problems are prescribed in the book of James!

God does not ask us to just believe in ourselves but to also believe in Him and rely on Him. God does not ask us to just "merely listen to the word" but to "do what it says". (James 1:22). Relying on oneself is like examining oneself in a mirror. The reflection will reveal your own wickedness, evil, greed, jealousy, competitiveness, cunning and pride. We must rely on praying, reading scripture and leaning on God for strength.

One year's time can be gone very quickly. All of a sudden, next year will be here. If we have not found God's promise in the mean time, then our bodies will just become feeble and weak. The only way is to seek the wisdom that comes from Heaven. Then your heart and soul will be refreshed and renewed in Christ day after day!



Articles, Sharing, Testimonies

Bringing Up The Next Generation

Sharon Wong

The most common mistakes parents make are to:

1. exasperate our children;
2. say angry, hurtful words to them when we are irritable;
3. show favouritism among children;
4. fail to balance between love and discipline;
5. fail to communicate with them;
6. lose hope with prodigal sons and/or daughters;
7. never say sorry to our children;
8. focus only on their health and academic achievements but ignore their spiritual development and prayers;
9. compare them with other children;
10. not take every opportunity to teach them God's Words and the Bible and
11. not set an example in language and action consistent with the teaching.

The Bible teaches fathers in these verses:

“Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4)

“Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.” (Colossians

3:21)

Bible's View on the Relationship Between Father and Son

Jacob (Genesis 37:3-4)

“Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons because he had been born to him in his old age and he made a richly ornamented robe for him. When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.”

Favouritism among children causes jealousy or even hatred among siblings.

Eli (1 Samuel 2:12-30)

The priest Eli's two sons were wicked men who had no regard for the Lord. “Why do you honour your sons more than me?” asked the Lord. Children who sin and do evils will be judged accordingly. God will also judge parents who fail to bring up their children in the instruction of the Lord and rebuke them from sins.

David (2 Samuel 14:28-18:33)

Absalom lived in Jerusalem two years without seeing the king's face. (2 Samuel 14:28)..... Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel. (2 Samuel 15:6).....A messenger came and told David, “The hearts of the men of Israel are with Absalom.” Then David said to all his officials who were with him in Jerusalem, “Come! We must flee, or none of us will escape Absalom. We must leave immediately, or he will move quickly to overtake us and bring ruin upon us and put the city to the sword. (2 Samuel 15:13-15).....The king was shaken. He went up to the room over the gateway and wept. As he went, he said: “O my son Absalom! My son, my son Absalom! If only I had died, instead of you - O Absalom, my son, my son!” (2 Samuel 18:33)

King David's relationship with his son Absalom was a real tragedy. There was absolutely no communication. How could a father not see his son for two years while living in the same city? There was a complete breakdown of the relationship. Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel and schemed to take over the father's throne. A battle of life and death began resulting in the escape of King David. Finally the revolt failed and Absalom died. Winning over his son was no good news to David. He was devastated over the death of his son. What a family tragedy!

The Parable of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32)

Who wouldn't despair and lose hope with a prodigal son? This father waited patiently and never lost hope. Finally the younger son repented and came home. The Father was overjoyed and put on a big celebration. The older son was jealous and angry. Not only was the father not discouraged, he patiently pleaded with him to take joy in the return of his lost brother.

I can see all of the fruit of the Spirit in the father: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control. Every word of the father was so beautifully spoken. May we all learn from this parable!

Walk a Few More Steps!

Hoi Li

Every Sunday, when I look at the parking lot in BCBC, it is full. Many brothers and sisters are parking their cars along the streets and across the road near the recreation center. Obviously, this means we need more parking spaces, but this is impossible. Not to mention that we have cars blocking the fire access route or occupying the parking area for special needs.

How should a mature Christian response to such situation? What should church leaders be

doing to make room for newcomers when they drive into the parking lot with no room to reverse? How do we save space for seniors so that they can come into BCBC without a lot of challenge?

I recalled my job in a large manufacturer plant, and its parking lot could accommodate roughly one thousand cars, and every shift there would have around six to seven hundred workers leaving and entering the plant within half an hour. You can imagine how busy the traffic was. And even if you were driving to work right on time, you would easily be fifteen to twenty minutes late for the time clock, because it would take time to walk a few more steps to get to the time clock at the entrance. It is not my intent to ask brothers and sisters to come early to have a parking space close by. Instead, I would encourage mature brothers and sisters, and church leaders to walk a few more steps and park along the streets and save the spaces for our seniors, newcomers, families with infants, etc.

I admire the young adults in the English service when they come in early and park along the street to save room for those that come in late. I also applaud our Sunday school classmates who come early and park across the street to make rooms for others.

What a small token to show your love and care to others, and our Lord will repay you with more than you can think of.

So, do we have any parking issue?

Yes, if we are not considerate.

Or, no, if we are willing to walk few more steps.

I would like to take this opportunity to challenge church leaders to lead by example, and show your love and care to newcomers and seniors. "Walk a few steps more."

Are We on The Right Track?

Hoi Li

Early in 2009, one simple thought came to my mind: if I can co-teach with young adults and focus on one Sunday school class, would it provide a stable learning environment for that class, and would it help cultivate our next generation of Sunday School teachers?

Eighteen months have passed, and it appears quite positively in some areas that young adults are willing to,

1. take up challenge in Sunday School teaching;
2. prepare, learn and teach;
3. grow deeper in God's word;
4. find different ways to communicate a simple message;
5. share their experience in the class and
6. be a faithful servant.

It is so true that if our young adults are willing to do anything for our mighty God, He will not only provide all the basis, but will also bestow His many blessings.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage our Sunday School teachers to partner or co-teach with our young adults and to pass on

1. God's teaching - preparation in God's teaching;
2. our faith - eternal salvation of children;
3. our life style - not gold and silver, but a gentle and quiet Spirit;
4. our values - Right and Wrong and
5. our love - Love in the heart—Light in the

mind.

We do not expect to see results in one or even two years; it may take many years to develop and shape our next generation.

Please come and join our team, we need you to work together to glory our Lord.

Please pray with us for more young adults to have the servant's heart, and for more teachers to pass their life experience with God to your next generation.

I hope in the next year book, there will be some articles from young adults to share their learning in Sunday School teaching.

2009 VBS

Hoi Li

Only three teenagers signed up to be VBS helpers in early 2009. That is not enough to handle 40 children for 8 hours a day for two weeks - mission impossible.

We requested a special prayer item in our regular prayer meeting for around two months, and at the same time informed all fellowships that 2009 VBS might not be happening because of the shortage of helpers.

By early April, the final decision went to BCBC Executive Board and all fellowship leaders that 2009 VBS would be cancelled, with the plea to please pray for 2010 VBS.

It was the first time we have had to cancel the VBS in the last ten years. It is time to reflect the objectives of the VBS.

Has the program gained enough support from our members?

Is the program providing good teaching and fun to our children?

Is the program geared to train up our young teenagers to learn more love and care?

Is the program earning enough pastoral support?

If the program is good, why is there no member support?

If the program is good, why did only three helpers sign up?

Please pray for 2010 VBS and encourage more young teenagers to join the team. Pray also for their parents, as their support is very critical.

Please pray for our pastors - their involvement in planning, implementation, prayers and support are very important to the VBS children, helpers, parents, and members.

Do we have all the elements to make our VBS successful?

A grade 12 student makes a good candidate for a teenager VBS helper. He/she can work in a summer job to earn some cash before going university/college. Is there anything wrong with that? Would their parents have any input on that?

Parents, what would you say?

Young teenagers, what would be your decision?

Who are you serving? A very challenging question to ask.

We are asked to serve and to give like Jesus. Are you willing?

Conscious of God's Thoughts about Us

Therese Wong

Recently, I am often troubled by problems of living arrangements because we have reached a stage of the "empty nest". Our older son Ken got married a few years ago. Now even

the younger son Jason also has his own house and prepares to get married within the year. I should be happy now because my children have grown up and become independent. However, our sons' homes are far away from ours and we need to spend a lot of travel time among visits. Thus, the idea of relocation has risen in my mind.

My family immigrated to Canada from Hong Kong over 20 years ago. From the first day of our entry to this country, we have been living in Brampton. The schools attended by my sons and the places of work for my husband Paul and I were not far from Brampton. Paul and I have been attending the church for eight years. Looking back at the past twenty years, The Lord took care of us as His sheep; we did not lack anything good. Although we had bad times, we are thankful to God because He was often with us and led our ways. As in Psalm 23:4 "Yes, though I go through the valley of deep shade, I will have no fear of evil; for you are with me, your rod and your support are my comfort". We also enjoy the fellowship life with a sense of belonging through sharing, bible studies and travels with brothers and sisters. We left our country of origin to immigrate here only to seek peace, and God gives us peace. Therefore, why should we have to worry about this matter? We truly believe that God will make the appropriate arrangements when at the right time.

Coincidentally, in one of the Sunday worship sermons, Rev. Wong talked about Jeremiah 29 : 4 - 14 "Conscious of God's thoughts about us". We should have the sense of belonging with the church and should not leave it due to minor issues. Suddenly I was moved by the Holy Spirit, understanding that this was God's beautiful arrangement and I have learnt another lesson on the faith of God.

As in Jeremiah 29:11, “For I am conscious of my thoughts about you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you hope at the end.” Once again, God’s words through Rev. Wong have strengthened my faith to Him.

Speak to Me

Hoi Li

An old Chinese saying describes a singer who could not pitch a high note as: “leading an ox up a tree”. If you can picture that saying, it would be very funny, yet it is so true. An ox is a very big animal and up the tree is almost - mission impossible.

I was in a similar situation at Christmas time, when singing “Speak to Me” to beg for a message from God through the Christmas noises. The music and lyrics were written to reflect our societal views of the Christmas season, which ignores the real meaning of the birth of our Lord.

First of all, I would like to express my appreciation to the music leader, co-coordinator, choir members, actors, lighting arrangement crew, computer program, and many others. I am thankful for their faithfulness, support and hard work in making such a meaningful event to our Lord.

If I were asked which part of the event I liked the most, my answer would be:

I enjoyed every Sunday practice;

I enjoyed everyday driving when listening to that music CD;

I enjoyed the shower room off tone lyrics;

I enjoyed the same lyrics played back from my son and daughter;

I enjoyed every moment, every note and key.

Did I do everything right at the start or at the end?

No, I had loud noise and off key/notes many many times.

What did I learn in this event?

In the course of the whole event, I felt the fruits of the Holy Spirit from our brothers and sisters all around me: - “the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.” (Galatians 5:22)

I believe it is the process that helps keep you close to God, grow deeper in God, and cherish your relationship with God.

Would you like to use your best to praise our Lord (no matter what) until He comes again?

Come and join the choir, and sing the wonderful note to praise our God.

