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**領袖訓練**

提前4:12, 提後2:2, 弗 4:11-12

**Leadership Training**



二零二三

2023 Year Book

**年報**

北約恩典福音堂

**GCGCNY**



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# Church Vision Statement

To glorify God  
as a cell-based church  
passionately multiplying disciples  
locally and worldwide

教會異象信約.

小組植根

門徒倍增

遠近宣揚

榮神頌恩

# Cell Vision Statement

Cell groups are here to glorify God as we grow spiritually and seek to fulfill the Great Commission through body life. To achieve this purpose each group member aims at practicing the following:

1. Love and accept one another unconditionally
2. Pray for one another
3. Be accountable to group members for Christian living
4. Serve and build up each other by using spiritual gifts
5. Learn and live out God's Word
6. Complete D & E
7. Lead people to Christ as a team
8. The things said in a cell are confidential and will not be shared outside the group except with zone pastor and zone supervisor

When the group reaches a steady 12, it will reproduce to multiply the blessing to others. As you grow and are led by God, you may begin to lead and shepherd a cell group.

## 小組異象信約

細胞小組的存在，是幫助我們靈命成長和履行大使命，以致神的榮耀得著彰顯。為達到這個目的，每組員需要實踐以下數項：

1. 無私的愛和接納
2. 彼此代禱
3. 在信徒生活上互相守望交代
4. 以屬靈恩賜彼此服侍和建立
5. 學習和活出神的話語
6. 完成建立裝備課程(D & E)
7. 以團隊方式佈道外展
8. 除了向區導及區牧外，小組中所分享的事情不可向非組員分享

當小組有十二人穩定出席時，小組會透過繁殖使更多人蒙福。隨著成長及神的帶領，每位組員都可以帶領細胞小組。

## Chairman's Report

*Hoytson Wong*



I sincerely thank for the opportunity to serve as chairman of Grace Chinese Gospel Church of North York. The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of our church's activities, accomplishments, challenges, and future direction.

This past year due to some staffs' retirement (Rev. David Lee) or transition to part-time employment (Rev. Danny Cheung and Pastor Michelle Kim), we added 3 new staff; Rev. Sunny Wong and Pastor Richard Wong were added to the Cantonese congregation, and Pastor Santos Chan was added to English.

Two board members, Simon Tse and Edwin Ge stepped down after many years of service. They were replaced by Edwina Luu and Angela Wang this past year.

Due to the pandemic, quite a few of our missionaries returned home from the mission fields they served, so our mission ministry as well as budget were scaled back. On the other hand, our local outreach has flourished, such as food bank ministry, local community services, etc., just to name a few.

For safety reason and following authority guidelines, our church implemented worship online only during the pandemic. After the imposed guideline was removed, we actively encouraged, beseeched members to return to in-person worship. So far, majority of the members has done so. However, for various reasons, quite a few members still stayed away or continued to attend online. Our prayer is that all will come back and worship in-person together. There is definitely nothing can be more important than having fellowship together. The following bible verses teach us how beneficial fellowship is to the believers; 1John 1:3,4,7; Acts 2:42; Heb. 10:24-25 and 2Cor. 13:14. Praise God! Our church, despite all the hardships caused by the pandemic, has achieved a balanced budget last year just like all the years past. After all the extraordinary spending, we still have a healthy reserve in our bank account. We thank God for his

bountiful provisions. We also must thank our brothers and sisters for their faithful donations to make that possible. May our Lord reward you all abundantly for your faithful and sacrificial service.

For a while, our church was short-staffed. But with the addition of new staff, the pendulum has swung the other way. We pray to God to give us wisdom and vision on how to utilize His rich provision. Was the Lord telling us to be bold and courageous to expand our horizon and take on new ministries? The prayer of Jabez would be a good lesson for us to ponder; "Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, "Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain." And God granted his request." 1Chr. 4:10.

One of the year highlight was the celebration of our church's anniversary. We originally planned this celebration as our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary on the year 2020. However, it was delayed because of the COVID. This celebration was memorable and significant because it showed how God has protected our church throughout her history. A video, soon to be released, was made to commemorate this historical event.

Another memorable celebration was the retirement party for our beloved Rev. David Lee. After decades of faithful service at our church, he retired due to health reason. We were sadden to see him go. But we were at peace knowing that unlike the secular world, retirement from pastoral ministry would not separate him from our church. We pray that Rev. Lee will continue to treat our church as his spiritual home. Our church has participated every year in the World Vision's 6K for Water, raising fund for some African countries. This past year's effort has netted a huge success by reaching a goal way over our expectation. Many thanks to our brothers and sisters' generosity and love for the needy people of the world. Praise the Lord for providing us with the opportunity to show his love and care to the world through us.

The COVID has caused havocs throughout the world. Our church was no exception; our worship attendance was reduced; many suffered COVID issues, especially the elderly members; mental health problems has increased significantly, just to mention a few challenges we have had to face. But

in spite of all these hardships/sufferings, God's protection and care came through in mighty way.

One favorable/desirable challenge we faced was the arrival of the Hong Kongers. The unsettled political situation in Hong Kong has led to the diaspora of the Hong Kong residents. Quite a few have ended up in our church. May God grant us the wisdom, love and resources so that we can help them to settle in our community.

Pandemic has forced us to increase spending in Information Technology, such as our internet broadband has to be upgraded in order to meet the demand of meeting online; Hackers' attacks has forced us to rebuild our websites etc., the implementation of this new technology has drawn in the service of some young members who were savvy in IT. Praise the Lord!

Our vision: "To glorify God as a cell-based church passionately multiplying disciples locally and worldwide." To hold closely to our church's vision, our goals for the future remain to be church planting and expand on mission ministry. To prepare us to take on these tasks/ventures, we must continue to multiply/develop more leaders. We thank all the members, volunteers, staff and leaders for their dedication and support to stride toward these goals.

#### Conclusion:

Thank you God, for your unwavering faithfulness and abundant provisions. Your grace sustains us through every challenge and blesses us with unexpected blessings. In gratitude, we acknowledge your constant presence in our lives, guiding us with love and wisdom. Amen.

## 主席報告

本人真摯地感謝能有機會擔任北約恩典福音堂的主席。本報告的目的是要概述我們教會的活動、成就、挑戰和未來方向。

去年由於有部分同工退休（李建國牧師）或轉為兼職（張家齊牧師和李明實傳道），我們新增了3名新同工；黃纘信牧師和黃汝良傳道加盟粵語堂，陳信行傳道加盟英語堂。

兩名董事會成員謝惠芳和葛非在事奉多年後辭任。位置於去年由劉吳雪瑩和汪洁所取代。

受疫情的影響，我們不少宣教士從所事奉的禾場返國，因此我們的宣教事工和預算都有所縮減。而另一方面，我們的本土外展活動卻發展蓬勃，僅舉數例，如食物銀行事工、社區服務等。

出於安全考慮並遵循權威指引，我們教會僅在疫情期間實施網上崇拜。在強制方針被取消後，我們積極鼓勵並懇求成員重返實體敬拜。到目前為止，大多數成員都依從。但由於種種原因，不少會員仍缺席或繼續在網上參加崇拜。我們祈求所有人都能回來並一起親自敬拜。絕對沒有什麼能比得上在一起團契更重要的了。以下聖經經文教導我們，團契對信徒是多麼有益處；約翰一書 1:3,4,7; 使徒行傳 2:42; 希伯來書10:24-25 和 哥林多後書13:14。

讚美神！儘管疫情造成了種種困難，我們教會去年還是像往年一樣達到了預算平衡。在撇除所有非常規支出之後，我們的銀行帳戶中仍然有健康的儲備。我們感謝神豐富的供應。我們也必須感謝弟兄姐妹們的忠心奉獻，使這一切成為可能。願主因你們忠心和犧牲的事奉而豐富地獎賞你們。

曾經有一段時間，我們的教會人手短缺。但隨著新增同工的加入，情況發生了逆轉。我們祈求神賜給我們智慧和異象，讓我們懂得如何善用祂豐盛的供應。主是否告訴我們要大膽、勇敢地拓展我們的視野並承擔新的事工？雅比斯的禱告是值得我們深思的一個很好

教訓。

「雅比斯求告色列的神說：『甚願你賜福與我，擴張我的境界，常與我同在，保佑我不遭患難，不受艱苦。』」神就應允他所求的。」 歷代志上4:10。

今年的亮點之一是慶祝我們教會的周年紀念日。我們原本計劃在2020年舉辦30週年慶祝活動，但因新冠疫情而延後。這次慶祝活動令人難忘且意義重大，因為它顯示了神如何在教會的整個歷史中保護我們。特為紀念這歷史事件而製作的一個視頻，即將發布。

另一個令人難忘的慶祝活動是為我們敬愛的李建國牧師所舉辦的榮休慶典。在我們教會忠心事奉數拾載後，他因健康原因退休了。他的離開讓我們感到難過。但我們有平安，知道跟世俗不一樣，從教牧事工退休的他並不會與教會分開。祈求李牧師繼續把我們教會當作他屬靈的家。

我們教會每年都會參加世界宣明會的「6K for Water活動」，為一些非洲國家籌款。去年的努力取得了巨大成功，達到了遠遠超出我們預期的目標。非常感謝我們的弟兄姊妹對世界上有需要的人們的慷慨和愛心。讚美主讓我們藉此機會向世界彰顯出祂的愛和關懷。

新冠病毒在世界各地造成了嚴重破壞。我們教會也不例外；僅述幾個我們必須面對的挑戰。我們的崇拜人數減少了；許多人遭受了新冠肺炎的困擾，尤其是老年成員；心理健康問題顯著增加等。但儘管經歷這些困境/苦難，神的保守和看顧還是大有能力的。

我們面對的一項有利/理想的挑戰是香港人的到來。香港政治局勢不穩定，導致香港居民流散海外。部分人最終來到了我們的教會。願神賜給我們智慧、愛心和資源，以便我們能夠幫助他們在我們的社區安頓下來。

疫情迫使我們增加資訊科技方面的支出，例如我們的網絡寬頻必須升級才能滿足線上會議的需求；駭客的

攻擊迫使我們重建網站等，這些新技術的實施吸引了一些精通IT的年輕成員事奉。讚美主！

教會異象：「小組植根，門徒倍增，遠近宣揚，榮神頌恩」。

為了緊緊抓住我們教會的異象，我們未來的目標仍然是教會植堂和擴展宣教事工。為了讓我們做好承擔這些任務/冒險的準備，我們必須繼續增加/培訓更多的領袖人才。我們感謝所有會員、義工、同工和領導者們為實現這些目標所付出的奉獻和支持。

#### 結論：

感謝神，感謝祂堅定不移的信實和豐盛的供應。您的恩典支撐我們度過每一次挑戰，並賜給我們意想不到的祝福。我們懷著感激之情，感謝您在我們的生活中與我們同在，用愛和智慧來引領我們。阿門。



## Senior Pastor Report

*Rev. Fanco Chan*

The theme for the church this year is "Leadership Training," we took the broad approach, meaning that all believers are considered leaders. This is because Jesus said we are the salt and light of the world, so we must be leaders in this dark age, leading people to know and follow the Lord, turning away from sin, and receiving eternal life. To fulfill this calling, believers must first be followers of Jesus themselves and maintain a good and healthy relationship with God so that our lives can glorify God and benefit others (1 Timothy 4:12). Secondly, we must understand that God has given each believer different gifts and positions, with the purpose of building up the church and leading people to the Lord through collaborative efforts, so believers need to recognize our gifts and serve according to them (Ephesians 4:11-12). Finally, leadership and discipleship cannot be separated; not only must individuals faithfully follow the Lord, but they must also consciously train the next generation so that this mission and execution can be passed on from generation to generation (2 Timothy 2:2).

In addition to believers collectively being leaders in the world, within our spiritual community, there are two types of leaders. The first type is leaders in terms of gifts and functions, including pastors, deacons, group leaders, and leaders of various ministries. Having been endowed with spiritual gifts from God is fundamental, but it's not enough; believers also need to serve faithfully. After accumulating experience, through the effectiveness of their service and growth in character, they gradually become recognized as leaders. However, as leaders, it's not only necessary to have the wisdom and ability to address current needs and issues but also to have foresight to prepare for future development and needs.

The second type is leaders in life, those who have faith and love and become examples for believers in speech and conduct, influencing and nurturing others through their lives and interactions. These leaders may not necessarily be leaders in ministry, but their influence is just as significant. They not only have knowledge of the truth but also have the wisdom to view the world through the lens of truth and handle life's challenges. They love God and

others and understand the importance of humility, waiting on and following God's guidance. As spiritual direction has become a hot topic in recent years, leaders not only give wise advice but also gradually learn to help others learn to listen to God, relying on Him rather than human opinions in facing difficulties.

As a church, through worship, Sunday school classes, disciple training, cell groups, workshop, and promoting spiritual disciplines, we systematically provide basic training to help believers learn and apply the truth. By encouraging service, helping believers identify their spiritual gifts, and using service to practice and enhance their spiritual gifts, we build character through serving alongside others. Through the guidance and mentoring of current leaders, we consciously train new leaders. By encouraging the formation of spiritual companionships, through mutual care and accountability, we promote spiritual growth. Through testimonies and sharing, we provide encouragement and comfort, leading hearts back to God. However, all of these efforts are external; if believers don't have a heart for pursuit, dedication, and perseverance, their knowledge may increase, but their spiritual lives will stagnate.

This year, we faced two challenges in terms of leadership. First is the transition of pastors. Pastor Moses Liu of the Mandarin congregation left at the end of the year, increasing the workload for Rev. Dali Ren. However, thanks to the collaboration of Rev. Chi Hung Siu and the deacons and group leaders, everyone is working together to build the church. Pastor Michelle Kim of the English congregation is transitioning to part-time due to retirement preparations, and we're grateful that after his internship, Pastor Santos Chan officially joined the ministry in October, serving alongside Rev. Ted Tham and the deacons. Rev. David Lee of the Cantonese congregation retired officially in July, and Rev. Danny Cheung will also transition to part-time next year due to retirement preparations; thanks to God's guidance, Rev. Sunny Wong arrived in September, and Pastor Richard Wong arrived in November. With this, the pastoral team has temporarily stabilized, but overall leadership still needs some time for adaptation and cohesion in the future to function effectively.

The second challenge is the lack of lay leaders among believers. With the impact of the pandemic



decreasing, although not all believers have returned to in person gatherings, over the past two years, God has added numbers to the church, and we see that attendance in all congregations is gradually increasing, with many newcomers. Additionally, with some cell leaders and ministry leaders stepping down due to age and family needs, there's a need for more leaders. However, training leaders and cell leaders doesn't have a short cut. Unable to catch up with the demand, each congregation is contemplating how to adjust and change to meet current needs. One direction is to delegate certain established tasks of leaders to those with spiritual gifts, which can not only lighten the burden and shorten the time for training newcomers but also encourage more people to support cell leaders and ministry leaders and share responsibilities. Besides practical work, this also includes emotional and spiritual support and care.

Finally, as we approach the church's 35th anniversary in 2025, pastors and leaders have begun seeking and waiting for God's guidance, exploring future directions. One possibility is church planting. However, regardless of the direction, as we face growth, the church must establish more leaders to meet future needs. We hope that all believers will rise up, actively engage in service, strive for growth, not to meet the church's ministry needs but because they feel the love of the Lord, hear His call, recognize their gifts, and missions. We pray that the Lord will make His will clear so that all believers can experience and grow together in unity. May the Lord preserve the church and all believers, so that we can be salt and light in the community, glorifying God and benefiting others.

**Colossians 1:28: "We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ."**



教會今年的主題是「領袖訓練」，我們選擇了廣義的取向，意思是信徒皆領袖；因為耶穌說我們是世上的鹽和光，所以我們要在這個黑暗世代作領袖，領人認識並跟從主，離開罪惡，得享永生。要能完成這個召命，信徒首先必須自己是一個跟從耶穌的人，並與神保持良好和健康的關係，以致生活言行能夠榮神益人(提前 4:12)；其次要明白神給每一位信徒不同的恩賜和位置，目的是透過群體配搭去建立教會和生命、領人歸主，所以信徒要認識自己的恩賜並按恩賜投入事奉(弗 4:11-12)；最後，領袖與門訓不能分割，不單個人自己要忠心跟從主，且要有意識地培訓下一代，讓這個使命和執行的人能夠一代接一代延展下去(提後 2:2)。

除了信徒群體當在世上為領袖，作為屬靈群體，我們當中也有兩種領袖，第一種是職能和恩賜上的領袖，這包括教牧、執事、組長及各事工的帶領者。蒙神賜予恩賜是基本的，但單有恩賜是不夠的，信徒也需忠心事奉，在累積經驗之後，因著事奉上的果效和品格上的成長，在被認受之下漸漸成為領袖。然而作為領袖，不單要有智慧和能力去處理當前的需要和問題，也必須有前瞻性，能為將來的發展和需要作預備。

第二種是生命上的領袖，就是那些有信心和愛心，並在言語行為上成為信徒榜樣的人，並透過生活與相交，以生命去影響和造就別人。此等領袖不一定是事工上的領袖，但其影響力卻不亞於事工領袖。他們不單對真理有認識，並能有智慧地按真理觀看世情和處理生活。他們愛主愛人，且懂得謙卑等候和跟從神的帶領。隨著屬靈導引成為近年熱話，領袖們除了會給別人智慧的意見之外，更多的慢慢學會幫助別人學習聆聽神，學習倚靠神而不是靠人的意見面對困難。

作為教會，透過崇拜、主日學課程、門徒訓練、細胞小組、講座，和推動屬靈操練，有系統地提供基本的培訓，幫助信徒學習和應用真理。透過鼓勵事奉，幫助信徒辨別自己的恩賜，並透過事奉去操練和提升恩賜，透過與人配搭事奉去建立品格。透過現役領袖的勉導同行，有意識地培訓新領袖。透過鼓勵組成屬靈伴侶，藉此關懷和問責，促進屬靈成長。透過見證分享，給予激勵和安慰，倡導人心歸向神。然而這一切都是外在的努力，信徒個人若沒有追求的心、沒有委身和恆心，知識縱使增長，生命卻會停滯不前。

今年我們在領袖層面上面對兩個挑戰，首先是教牧的轉變，國語堂劉強傳道於年尾離任，使任大立牧師的工作量將有所增加；但感謝神，有蕭智雄牧師及一班執事和組長同心協力，大家一起建立堂會。英語堂的李明實傳道因預備退休而轉為部分時間，感恩陳信行傳道實習後於十月開始正式成為同工，與譚紹南牧師及執事們一起配搭事奉。粵語堂的李建國牧師於七月正式退休，張家齊牧師同樣因預備退休將於明年轉為部分時間；感謝神的帶領，黃纘舜牧師於九月到任，黃汝良傳道於十一月到任。至此，教牧團隊算是暫時隱定下來，但整體領袖在未來仍需要一段日子彼此適應與磨合，始能有效運作和發揮。

第二個挑戰是信徒領袖的不足。隨著疫情影響消滅，雖然不是所有的信徒都回來實體聚會，但過去兩年裡神將人數加給教會，我們看到各堂人數都在慢慢增長中，當中有不少新人；此外，隨著部分組長和領袖因年紀及家庭需要而退下帶領職責，隨之而來的便是需要更多的領袖和細胞小組組長。然而培訓組長和領袖沒有速成捷徑，在無法追上需求之下，各堂都在思考如何作調整和改變以面對當前的需要，其中一個方向是盡可能將組長和領袖某些既定工作下放給有恩賜的人分擔，一方面可減輕負擔，縮短培訓新人的時間，另一方面也推動更多的人支援組長和領袖、分擔責任；

除了實質工作上的，也包括在情感及靈命上的支持和關愛。

最後，迎向 2025 年教會成立 35 週年，教牧與領袖們已開始尋找和等候神的帶領，探索未來的發展方向，其中一個可能性是植堂。然而無論方向如何，面對發展，教會必須建立更多的領袖以應付將來的需要。期望眾信徒起來、積極投入事奉、努力成長，不是為了滿足教會的事工需要，而是因為感受到主的愛、聽到主的呼召、辨識到自己的恩賜與使命。求主將祂的心意顯明，使眾信徒同心合意一起經歷，一起成長。求主保守教會和眾信徒，使我們能在社區中為鹽為光，榮神益人。

**歌羅西書 1:28**「我們傳揚祂，是用諸般的智慧，勸戒各人，教導各人，要把各人在基督裡完完全全的引到神面前。」



## Cantonese Ministry Report

*Rev. Fanco Chan*

The theme of the church this year is "Leadership Training." We have chosen a broad approach, meaning that believers are called to be leaders in the world as salt and light, leading people to know and follow the Lord in this dark ages. In terms of ministry, we have organized our activities according to the three theme scriptures for this year.

1 Timothy 4:12 indicates that believers need to have qualitative lives. Through worship sermons and cell group, we aim to help believers establish stable and healthy relationships with God and support one another in living holy lives.

Ephesians 4:11-12 highlights that believers are to serve according to their spiritual gifts. Through Sunday school, believers gain deeper insights into spiritual gifts and are helped to discover and develop their own gifts for ministry. Additionally, through Sunday school, believers learn about the meaning and journey of diaspora: God's guidance and shaping through the journey, to help us experience Him more, be transformed in life, glorify God and benefit others in our new home. We hope that through this, believers will realize that their arrival in Canada was not accidental and actively contribute as salt and light in the community. We are thankful to see more brothers and sisters stepping into service, especially those who join GCGC in recent years.

2 Timothy 2:2 emphasizes that building leaders is a conscious and deliberate process. We tried to organize disciple training again, but there have been difficulties in scheduling, so it will have to wait until next year. In Sunday school, we are intensifying training efforts by inviting those gifted and passionate about teaching ministry to join the team. By the end of the year, we started to meet at the end of each quarter to review and share together to enhance quality and team spirit. In small groups, pastors began to consider and plan how to reorganize; details can be found in the cell group report.

There have been significant changes among pastoral team this year. Rev. David Lee took a sabbatical leave at the beginning of the year, but due to an injury during his vacation, he still needs proper rest when he officially retires in July. Rev. Danny Cheung originally planned to retire this year as well, but considering the needs of the church, he agreed to temporarily postpone his retirement. Starting in November, he will serve as co-lead pastor with Rev. Fanco Chan. Rev. Chan is responsible for overall strategy and pastoral training, and Rev. Cheung is responsible for ministry operations. We are thankful that after nearly a year of searching, Rev. Sunny Wong joined in September, and Pastor Richard Wong joined in November. Rev. Cheung will take a sabbatical in January next year and return in April to work part-time. As we settled with staff arrangements, we are fully committed to the next stage to develop believers and ministry.

### Worship

**Darius Fok**

The theme for 2023 was "Leadership Training" (1 Timothy 4:12, 2 Timothy 2:2, and Ephesians 4:11-12). All believers are leaders, and pastors taught the congregation to reflect on how God molds us amid the pandemic; to discover our gifts and use them to serve one another in small groups or within the church; to reflect on how to improve and enhance personal spiritual qualities; and to remind believers that our lives have been illuminated by the light of the Lord Jesus and how to shine for Him.

The average Sunday attendance throughout the year was 167 people, with 44 units participating in the live broadcast, which was a positive trend compared to the previous year. Attendance increased while live streaming decreased. Worship messages continued to incorporate themes such as Poverty Sunday, 3 Missions Sundays, 2 Baptism, and Social Concerns Sunday. On 5/28, there was a joint worship service for the 33rd anniversary of GCGC, led by Rev. Fanco Chan, with the message titled "Professional Congregation."

Starting in June, members from the Hong Kong ministry participated in music ministry, and in September, the choir officially returned in person. Various departments of worship began to involve individual believers in serving, learning to serve one

another. Newly appointed Rev. Sunny Wong and Pastor Richard Wong began shepherding the Cantonese congregation in the second half of the year, while Rev. David Lee officially retired in July. Thanks to the Lord for coordinating various aspects, aligning time, and enabling believers to live out mutual love, growing together spiritually. May everyone continue to serve the Lord Jesus Christ with one heart in 2024 under the new theme "Be a Spiritual Community," growing together in the spirit as soldiers of the Lord.

## Discipleship & Equipping

**Rodney Ho, Ginny Zhou**

**Objective:** The chief objective of the D & E Ministry over the last few years is to foster an open atmosphere for learning the Word of God and by it to face the challenges of today's world with honesty.

The 2023 Cantonese Church Sunday School continues the focus on consolidating the development of biblical foundations and life applications in the previous year. It is also keen to encourage all believers to discover the gifts God has given them and use these gifts in building up the church. Therefore, we have launched a spiritual gift course, hoping to help believers understand and discover their own gifts through interactive Sunday school teaching. As a course for the whole congregation, it allows all brothers and sisters to understand that every believer has a gift and should use the gifts they receive from God to build up the church. Brothers and sisters also have a responsibility to recognize each other's gifts. The course also allowed brothers and sisters to share their testimonies of how they discovered and confirmed their gifts, and various departments had the opportunities to introduce the church's existing ministries, including children's Sunday school, social care, outreach, worship and prayer ministries. It is our hope that the church may function and grow organically with all its members faithfully using their gifts.

In addition, the 2022 "Theological Octopus" course is continued, aiming to allow brothers and sisters to reflect and explore theological issues together and experience the true direction of theology through life experience. The "Christian Ethics" course is a new initiative that attempts to resolve problems that

believers face today, addressing practical issues at the individual and community levels. Instructor Brother Mok provides students with helpful methods for resolving ethical problems (in considering principles/situations/motivations) using a Christian ethical framework based on God's commands. The first semester of the course discusses ethical issues related to "reproductive technologies," "marriage and sexuality," war, and justice. In the second semester, the course will continue to explore more ethical topics such as "Human Life", "Marriage and Sexuality", Politics, Economy and ChatGPT. The course provides a space for participants to explore together as a faith community how to live according to God's Word and truth in this generation.

Finally, the shortage of Sunday school teachers has been one of the reasons that has hindered the development of the ministry, but we believe that God has given the gift of teaching to His chosen people. Inspired and led by the Holy Spirit, Pastor Cheung has proposed the vision and direction for forming a team of teachers. The goal is to gather a group of brothers and sisters who have received the gift of teaching from the Holy Spirit. According to their different expertise and teaching styles, they will take turns in teaching D&E core courses with pastors in a coordinated manner, forming a cycle from Level 1 to Level 4, so that Courses at different stages may be conducted systematically and continuously.



### **Number of Students:**

#### Spring Course(March-May)

L1 EV	17
L2 Baptism	8
L3 Golden Age	14
L4 Spiritual Gifts	82



### Summer courses (June-August)

L1 EV	29
L4 Diaspora	62

### Fall courses (September-November)

L1 EV	13
L1 Life of Jesus	16
L2 Baptism	4
L3 OT History of the Return	36
L3 NT Book Background	25

### Winter courses (December-February)

L1 EV	15
L3 OT Survey	15
L3 1&2 Thessalonians	22
L4 Christina Ethics 1	47

#### **Level 1 – Gospel Class (I believe life is wonderful)**

The course is for catechumen friends. Through songs, testimonies, and discussions on faith, friends who seek the gospel can understand the gospel.

#### **Level 2 - Baptism class**

The course is intended for new believers. Help believers understand the basic beliefs of Christianity.

#### **Level 3 – The Golden Years: The Practice of the Gospel (Acts)**

The course is targeted at the elderly. The entire book of Acts tells the story of the beginning, growth, and spread of the church under the Holy Spirit, as well as Paul's missionary journey, etc. Learn about the work of the Holy Spirit and the development of the church from studying the Acts of the Apostles, and then reflect on how to continue to play the role and function of the church today.

#### **Level 4 – Spiritual Gifts**

The target is any believer. God has given gifts to every believer, but do we really need to use the gifts in order to serve? This course uses "groups of three to five" to understand, discover, and develop each person's gifts through reflection and mutual confirmation.

#### **Level 4 – Diaspora, the way back to home**

Whether it was decades ago or in recent years, we all immigrated or immigrated to Canada from our place of origin. The process varies from person to person. But have you ever thought about God's will in this? Where is home and hometown? Through the format of "small groups", let's explore God's will together. Learn to respond and try to deal with the pain that may occur during the process, and finally realize what a beautiful hometown God has prepared for us, and live a positive, joyful, and hopeful life.

#### **Level 1 – Life of Jesus**

Use stories and short videos to examine the life of the Lord Jesus and how he changed the lives of his disciples, helping new believers to understand the Lord Jesus more deeply.

#### **Level 3 - Old Testament Return History**

Learn about God's grace from the books of Ezra and Nehemiah, and how He led the Israelites to return and rebuild the holy city, temple, and holy people.

#### **Level 3 – New Testament Book Background**

By knowing more about the background of the New Testament books, it will be easier to understand the message of the texts. By contrasting and comparing contemporary and modern situations, we can appropriately obey God's Word in our own daily life.

#### **Level 3 – Old Testament Survey**

This course will start with comic videos and reflect and discuss the central ideas of the Old Testament books to help new believers understand the Old Testament easily. From it, you can gain a brief understanding of the relationship between God of creation and His chosen people, understand the background of Christ's salvation in the New Testament, and help you study each book more deeply in the future.

#### **Level 3 – 1 and 2 Thessalonians**

Among Paul's final letters in the New Testament, 1 and 2 Thessalonians belong to his early writings. "The Second Coming of Christ Jesus" can be said to be the main theme of these two books and the important message in the gospel. About one-fifth of the two books deal with the return of Christ and its relationship with believers and the world. Paul also sent messages of comfort, encouragement, hope, service to the Lord, and pursuit of holiness to believers in these two books.

#### **Level 4 – Contemporary Christian Ethics**

Help students understand some important principles and methods of Christian ethics, and through practical cases, students can have a deeper understanding and analysis of some ethical issues. Provide students with some guidelines for making judgments and choices when they need to make ethical and moral decisions.

#### **Development results in 2023 and outlook for 2024**

The D&E ministry team has been continuously creating an open atmosphere over the past few years, allowing everyone to study God's word and honestly face the challenges of today's world. The ministry is pleased to see students becoming more comfortable asking honest questions in class and seeking ways to follow God's Word in a variety of situations.

Second, the ministry is passionate about encouraging all believers to discover the gifts God has given them and to use those gifts to build up the church. We see that God has given spiritual gifts to the members of our church. We expect to see these gifts clearly demonstrated in the church to the glory of God.

In 2024-2025, the D&E Department has several key goals:

- 1) An open and free atmosphere will become the norm in all classes - open discussions between teachers and students will become a habit.
- 2) Establish a new team of teachers for the new generation of believers.
- 3) Facing the rapid pace of change in today's world, the D&E department hopes to play the role of research and development in the future.



#### **Evangelism**

**Winnie Ma**

In 2023, the Seeker Class resumed in person, with an average of about ten to twenty new HKers.

Between March and June, we held Alpha course on Wednesday evenings, with over twenty young people from Hong Kong participating. In June, we organized a three-day, two-night Alpha weekend camp. Though no one accepted Christ during this event, it sparked interest in the gospel among many friends.

Together with Peoples Gospel Church, on October 13th and 14th, we held the "Who Controls Life's Sunset and Sunrise?" evangelistic drama night. Brother Jack shared his testimony, and Rev Jim Tam shared a message. These gatherings were attended not only by members of Peoples Gospel Church and our church but also by brothers, sisters, and friends from various other churches. Over the two days, twenty-eight people made decisions to accept Christ.

In 2023, we had a total of 15 new friends accepted Christ, distributed as follows:

1. Visits/other: 14 people
2. Evangelistic meetings: 1 person

We have seen how marvelous God's grace is, as He has introduced us to many new arriving HKers this year. Thanks be to the Lord for showing us that the field of the gospel is indeed plentiful.

#### **Outreach**

**Rev.Danny Cheung**

Outreach Ministry in 2023:

1. Online Karaoke every Friday night.
2. In March, a "Beautiful Date" event co-hosted with Peoples Gospel Church, with over 100 ladies attending.
3. Starting from July, badminton and Karaoke events were held every fourth Monday night at the church, with a 10-minute gospel sharing each time.
4. Organized a 6K fundraising walk in September, raising over Can\$16,000 for water-deficient countries in Africa.

Praise God for the Outreach Department's efforts over the past few years, through various activities

such as online lectures, gospel gatherings, 6K walks, picnics, love feasts, Karaoke, and badminton, they have reached out to over 500 friends. Whenever there are evangelistic meetings or suitable gatherings at the church, the Outreach Department invites these 500 plus friends to join. The outreach team unanimously agree that through these of activities, they have shared the love of Christ with these friends and believe that the seeds of the gospel have been planted in their hearts. As Jesus said, "One sows and another reaps," this is indeed true (John 4:37).

### Prayer Ministry

Judy Hum

#### None of our prayers is wasted

Prayer is likened to incense in the Bible. In Exodus 30, God commands that an altar of incense be made for the tabernacle. And in [Revelation 5:8](#) and [8:3-4](#), we read that our prayers ascend to heaven like incense.

So how is prayer like incense? First, incense ascends upward naturally. It is as if a golden bowl of incense is being carried to the very throne of God in heaven. Second, God loves the sweet aroma of the prayers of his people. This means that if you are crying out to God in prayer, that very act is pleasing to God. He hears our prayers and none of our prayers is wasted.

The Lord Jesus told us to "pray always and not lose heart". We thank God for raising up a faithful group of prayer warriors who come every Sunday morning@8:30 and Tuesday evening@7:30 to pray for God's kingdom. The morning prayer meeting is in person while the evening prayer meeting is conducted online via zoom. The average attendance of the prayer meeting in 2023 is: 8 people for the morning prayer meetings and 16 people for the evening prayer meetings. Our WhatsApp prayer group continues to distribute prayer news every Thursday. At present, there are 99 people in this group.

Let us as a church respond to God's command to pray and come together every week to pray for our church, our community and our world.

**"Give ear unto my voice; my prayers have been accepted before Thee as incense."  
(Psalms 141:1, 2)**

### Caring and Visitation

Liza Ki

We thank God that after Rev. David Lee retired at the end of June 2023, He led Rev. Sunny Wong to join our church in September and lead the Caring and Visitation Ministry. Deacon Enoch Chan had also joined our team earlier in April.

Rev. Wong is responsible for leading the Sunday worship service at McNicoll Manor, as well as arranging for speakers there every Sunday. The average attendance of the worship service is 15, and two of the attendees are residents from the long-term care centre on the second floor. Occasionally, patients from the hospital would be attracted to come as well. Many elderly believers have reduced mobility, and so they often can't go to church and worship with other brothers and sisters. But the Christian seniors at McNicoll Manor are very happy, because church is right on their floor, and for this they are thankful. We have about 14 to 15 seniors taking communion together and remembering the Lord's grace every first Sunday of the month. There are also four seniors who have reduced mobility or are sick and can't come to the worship service, so after the service is over, Rev. Wong would bring the communion elements to their rooms so that they could also take communion and remember the Lord Jesus' sacrificial love on the cross. One of the seniors has severe sight and hearing loss, and most of the time he would be sleeping or sitting silently in a corner. Yet when we say to him, "Jesus loves you," he would look very happy. When Rev. Wong brings communion to him, he would laugh with joy. From this we can see how different those who have the life of the Lord are.

At McNicoll Manor, besides having worship service every Sunday, the visitation team (consisting of ten brothers and sisters) still does visitations every third Tuesday of the month. In the past year, four seniors at McNicoll Manor passed away. Some were longtime neighbours of the residents, and so the brothers and sisters of the visitation team became their comfort. The visitation team led four seniors to Christ in 2023. On top of these seniors from McNicoll Manor, a total of seven seniors came to Christ in the past year. For one particular senior, his faith was very firm after he came to Christ, and although he became critically ill half a year later, he still did not forget God's grace and trusted firmly in the Lord to his dying day. Though we're sad to see some of the seniors we've come to know pass away, we know that there will be more companions joining the banquet in the Kingdom of Heaven, and we'll all rejoice in the Lord together one day. What a comfort!



We continue to have Moses Fellowship every fourth Tuesday of the month at McNicoll Manor, and we have celebrations on special holidays like Christmas and Chinese New Year. Starting from June 2023, we've also added a seniors' singing class on two Thursday afternoons every month. The seniors really like it, and they're especially engaged when they sing old hymns and popular songs from their youth.

Visitations to Yee Hong Centre also resumed in October 2023, and we go on the first Saturday morning of every month. Our team is led by Rev. Wong and consists of five brothers and sisters from our church, along with a couple from another church. Christian seniors will also take communion at our gatherings. For Christmas 2023, we had a big gathering with seniors from other floors, Yee Hong staff and volunteers, and brothers and sisters from different churches. We all had a great time celebrating the birth of our Lord together.

As for those who are newcomers to our worship services in GCGCNY, Deacon Enoch Chan will make the first contact and Rev. Wong is responsible for following up. Visits are arranged if needed. There are still some seniors who are sick and cannot go to church and need to be visited as well, and so we hope that more brothers and sisters can join the visitation team and serve more of those who are in need. Please pray for this.

**“Praise our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard; He has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping.” Psalm 66:8-9**



給康寧耆老中心的新住客的禮物 Gifts for new residents at McNicoll Manor

## Cell & Fellowship

Rev.Fanco Chan

In 2005, a group of faithful believers and leaders responded to God's call and united to establish the Peoples Gospel Church in Markham. Since then, another group of faithful leaders stayed in GCGC to continue developing the church and congregation. We praise God for their selfless sacrifices and dedication in serving and building up others. Over the past two decades, the structure of zone and cell has changed with the changes of individuals and families. Regarding the composition of cell leaders, there has been overall stability, but at the same time, there haven't been many new cell leaders. How to effectively train new cell leaders became a major theme this year.

After a period of reflection and discussion, coinciding with pastoral transitions, we planned to temporarily change the operation of small groups, hoping that these temporary changes will bring breakthroughs. In June, we introduced the plan to the ministry's deacons, in September to all group leaders, and in November to the entire congregation, collecting feedback and adjusting the plan during this period. Changes began at the end of the year upon new pastors report duty.

Overall, there are two aspects to the changes. First, restructuring all zones, changing the situation where some zone with only one cell due to demographic changes. After the restructuring, the entire congregation will be divided into six zones: Young Adults, Young Families (those with children under high school), Families (those with children in high school), Adults (families with children in college/university or with adult children merged with career zone. This is the biggest changes as they stayed in family zone in the past), Prime timers, and Seniors. The second change is that we will run in fellowship mode for one year as a transition, after which cell groups will be reorganized. This fellowship mode is convenient for new pastors to connect with people from various cells in one location and also promotes relationships and understanding among members within the zone. Additionally, each zone will hold Alpha or similar events every two years for harvesting, and during that time, cell leaders and members may be remixed according to the needs for cell multiplication. In the new setup, Rev. Danny Cheung will supervise Prime timers. Rev. Sunny Wong will supervise Young Families, Families, and Seniors. Pastor Richard Wong will supervise Young

Adults and Adult. It is hoped that through these changes and arrangements, members will be encouraged to participate more in serving, effectively enhance leadership development, and strengthen the outreach and coordination of cell groups.

We praise God and give special thanks to a group of faithful leaders who have served diligently over the past year: Ophelia Chan, Simon and Calina Li, Daisy Ho, Johnson Wong, Simon and Liza Ki, Alfred and Katherine Tam, May Ng, Judy Hum, Lena Chan, Conrad and Polly Chan, Enoch and Felicity Chan, KK and Aster Choong, Jonathan and Peki Ng, Kayson and Queenie Ko, Tony and Winnie Cheung, Elden and Synthia Leung, Leo and Kinna Lou, Michael and Queenie Lam, Andy and Katharine Lam, Jolina Cheung, Ginny Zhou.

教會今年的主題是「領袖訓練」，我們選擇了廣義的取向，意思是信徒在世上為鹽為光這個使命就是要在黑暗世代作領袖，領人認識並跟從主。事工上，我們按今年的三段主題經文作安排。

提摩太前書 4:12 指出信徒生命必須要有質素。透過崇拜講道和小組生活，推動信徒與神建立穩定和良好的關係，並透過三五成群推動信徒彼此支援，學習過聖潔生活。

以弗所書 4:11-12 指出信徒要按恩賜配搭事奉。透過主日學，讓信徒對屬靈恩賜有更深的認識，並幫助信徒發現和發掘自己的恩賜，好能嘗試發展和發揮恩賜。此外，透過主日學，讓信徒認識移民路上：神的帶領和模造，要使我们更多經歷祂、生命被模造、在移居地榮神益人；盼望藉此讓信徒認識自己來到加拿大並非偶然，能積極和主動地在社群中為鹽為光。感恩，下半年看到更多弟兄姊妹開始嘗試事奉，特別是最幾年來教會的。

提摩太後書 2:2 指出建立領袖是一個有意識的刻意工程。我們嘗試再次舉辦門徒訓練，奈何安排上出現困難，要待明年才可以。主日學上，我們加強培訓，除了邀請有恩賜和心志於教導事工的加入團隊，也在年底開始在每季結束時一起檢討和分享，以提升質素和團隊精神。小組上，同工們開始思考如何重整，詳情見細胞小組報告。

同工上今年有很大的變化。李建國牧師於年初放安息年假，但因休假期間跌傷，到七月正式退休時，仍須好好休息。張家齊牧師原計劃同樣於今年退休，但體諒教會的需要，暫時延後安排，並於十一月開始與陳訓民牧師一起出任共同堂主任，陳牧師負責整體策略和牧者培訓，張牧師負責事工運作。感恩，經過近一年的聘請，黃纘舜牧師九月到任，黃汝良傳道十一月到任。明年一月張牧師將放安息年假，四月回來後將轉為部分時間同工。至此，同工的安排將會隱定下來，全力以赴下一階段的信徒造就和事工發展。



2023 年粵語堂崇拜全年主題是「領袖訓練」(提前 4:12, 提後 2:2 及弗 4:11-12)。信徒皆領袖，牧者們教導會眾細想疫情中神是如何模造自己；找出自己的恩賜，在小組或教會裡，運用神賜給你的恩賜來彼此

服事；反思個人屬靈質素可如何改善和提升；提醒信徒生命已被主耶穌光照，要如何為主發光。

全年平均主日出席人數為 167 人和 44 單位參與直播時段，這與上年相比是正向的比例。出席人數增多，直播人次下降。崇拜信息內容仍加入扶貧主日，差傳主日(3)，浸禮(2) 和社關主日等。5/28 為恩典堂 33 週年聯合崇拜，由陳訓民主任牧師領會，信息內容為「專業會眾」。

6 月份開始有從香港人事工肢體參與聖樂事奉，9 月份詩班也正式重回崇拜中出席實體獻詩。崇拜各部門開始有個別主內加入事奉行列，學習彼此服事。新聘黃牧師和王傳道在下半年開始牧養粵語堂會眾，李牧師在七月正式榮休。感謝主使各樣事上彼此配搭，時間配合，信徒活出彼此相愛，一起在屬靈裏成長。願大家在 2024 年以新主題「成為屬靈群體」，繼續同心事奉主基督耶穌，一起在屬靈裏成長，作主精兵。



### 2023 年主日學

**目標：**D&E 的事工在過去幾年的主要目標是能夠在教學中締造一種開放的氛圍，讓弟兄姊妹在其中學習神的話語，並藉此誠實地面對當今世代的挑戰。

2023 年粵語堂主日學在繼續上一年著重鞏固聖經基礎和生活應用的發展的基礎上，亦熱衷於鼓勵所有信徒發現神所賜給他們的恩賜，並運用這些恩賜來建立教會。因此，我們推出了屬靈恩賜的課程，希望透過主日學的互動教學，幫助信徒認識和發現屬於自己的恩賜。作為一門面向全會眾參與的課程，它讓所有弟兄姊妹明白每一個信徒都有恩賜，並且都應該運用從神所領受的恩賜來建造教會。弟兄姊妹也有責任確認彼此的恩賜。課程中也讓弟兄姊妹分享他們如何發現並證實自己恩賜的見證，並讓各部門介紹了教會現有的事工，包括兒童主日學、社會關懷、外展、敬拜和禱告事工。我們希望教會能夠憑藉所有成員的恩賜以有機的方式運作和成長。

另外，延續 2022 年「神學八爪魚」課程，旨在讓弟兄姊妹一同反思並探索神學議題並透過生活經驗來體驗神學真實的方向，「基督教倫理」課程是一項新倡議，試圖解決信徒在個人和社區層面的實際問題。導師莫家華弟兄以神的命令為基礎的基督教倫理框架，向學員提供解決倫理問題的有用方法（考慮原則/情況/動機）。該課程在第一學期討論了與「生殖技術」、「婚姻與性」、戰爭和正義相關的倫理問題。在第二學期，該課程將繼續探討更多倫理話題，如「人類生命」、「婚姻與性」、政治、經濟與 ChatGPT。該課程為學員們提供了一個空間，讓他們作為一個信仰團體可以共同探索如何在這世代根據神的話語和真理來生活。

最後，主日學師資短缺的問題一直是事工發展受阻的原因之一，但我們相信神已經將教導恩賜賜給祂所揀選的信徒。在聖靈的感動和帶領下，張家齊牧師提出了組建教師團隊的異象和方向。目標是招聚一群從聖

靈領受教導恩賜的弟兄姊妹，按著他們各人不同的專長和教學風格，和牧者們以配搭的方式輪流教授 D&E 核心課程，從 Level 1 到 Level 4 形成循環，使不同階段的課程得以有系統地持續進行。

### 學生人數：

#### 春季課程 3 月-5 月

L1 福音班	17
L2 浸禮班	8
L3 金色年華	14
L4 屬靈恩賜	82

#### 夏季課程 6 月-8 月

L1 福音班	29
L4 流散、歸家路	62

#### 秋季課程 9 月-11 月

L1 福音班	13
L1 耶穌生平	16
L2 浸禮班	4
L3 舊約歸回歷史	36
L3 新約書卷背景	25

#### 冬季課程 12 月-2 月

L1 福音班	15
L3 舊約概覽	15
L3 帖撒羅尼迦前後書	22
L4 當代基督教倫理	47

#### Level 1 - 福音班(我信生命更精彩)

課程對象是慕道朋友。透過詩歌、見證、信仰探討，使慕道朋友能明白福音。(導師：馬徐韻妮，高冠山，陸景瑞，楊歐陽桂演、張敏儀)

#### Level 2 - 浸禮班

課程對象是初信信徒。幫助信徒明白基督教的基本信仰。(導師：吳黃月嫦、陳訓民牧師)

#### Level 3 - 金色年華：福音的實踐(使徒行傳)

課程對象是長者。整卷使徒行傳講述在聖靈之下，教會的開始、成長、擴散，及保羅的宣教旅程等等。從



研讀使徒行傳中認識聖靈的工作及教會的發展，從而反思今天當如何繼續發揮教會的角色與功能。(導師：李建國牧師、陳彩雲、霍潔玲)

#### Level 4 - 屬靈恩賜

對象是任何信徒。神賜給每一位信徒都有恩賜，但真的要使用恩賜才可以事奉嗎？本課程透過「三五成群」，一起藉反思和彼此確認去認識、發現、發展、發揮各人的恩賜。(導師：張家齊牧師、陳訓民牧師、何繼舜、周梓健)

#### Level 4 - 流散。歸家路

無論是數十年前或近年，我們都是從原居地移民或移居到加拿大的，過程因人而已。然而可有想過當中心的心意？何處才是家與鄉？透過「三五成群」的方式，一起去尋索神的心意。學習回應，並嘗試處理過程中或有的傷痛，最終認識到神為我們預備的一個何等美的家鄉，活出一個積極、喜樂、滿有盼望的人生。(導師：陳訓民牧師、張家齊牧師)

#### Level 1 - 耶穌生平

藉故事和短片去查考主耶穌的生平事蹟，和他如何改變門徒的人生，幫助初信主的信徒能更深認識主耶穌。(導師：吳黃月嫦、吳嘉駒)

#### Level 2 - 浸禮班

課程對象是初信信徒。幫助信徒明白基督教的基本信仰。(導師：陳訓民牧師、黃纘舜牧師、張家齊牧師)

#### Level 3 - 舊約歸回的歷史

從以斯拉記和尼希米記認識神的恩典，並祂如何帶領以色列人回歸、重建聖城、聖殿和聖民。(導師：張家齊牧師、黃纘舜牧師)

#### Level 3 - 新約書卷背景

藉多一些了解新約書卷的背景，以致較容易明白其經文信息。藉對照和比較當代與現代的處境，能恰當地遵行神的話語。(導師：何繼舜、莫家華、陳訓民牧師)

#### Level 3 - 舊約概覽

本課程會以漫畫影片出發，按舊約書卷的中心思想作反思和討論，幫助初信信徒輕鬆地認識舊約。從中略知創造的神與祂的選民的關係，明瞭新約基督救恩的背景，也幫助未來更深入研讀各書卷。(導師：吳黃月嫦、吳嘉駒、梁文標)

#### Level 3 - 帖撒羅尼迦前後書

最終新約保羅的書信中，帖撒羅尼迦前、後書是屬於他的早期寫作。「基督耶穌再臨」可以說是這兩卷書的主要論題，也是福音中重要的信息。前後兩書約有五分之一論到基督再臨之事，並其與信徒和世界之關係如何。保羅亦在兩卷書中向信徒發出安慰、鼓勵、盼望、事奉主和追求聖潔的信息。(導師：黃纘舜牧師、黃汝良牧師)

#### Level 4 - 當代基督教倫理

讓學員認識基督倫理學的一些重要原則與方法，並透過實際案例讓學員對一些倫理議題能有較深入的認知與分析。在需要做出倫理道德抉擇時，提供學員一些作判斷和抉擇的準則。(導師：莫家華、林在山、戴梁淑明)



#### 2023 年的發展結果和 2024 年的展望

D&E 事工團隊過去幾年不斷地營造一種開放的氛圍，讓大家學習神的話語，並藉此誠實地面對當今世界的挑戰。事工團很高興看到學生越來越習慣在課堂上誠

實地提出問題，並在各種不同的情況下尋求遵循神話語的方法。

其次，事工團熱衷於鼓勵所有信徒發現神所賜予的恩賜，並運用這些恩賜來建造教會。我們看到神已經將屬靈的恩賜賜給我們教會的成員。我們期望看到這些恩賜將在教會中清楚地彰顯出來，以榮耀上帝。

在 2024-2025 年，D&E 部有幾個關鍵目標：

- 1) 開放自由的氛圍將成為所有班級的常態 - 師生之間的公開討論將成為習慣。
- 2) 為新世代信徒建立新的教師團隊。
- 3) 面對當今世界變革的急速步伐，D&E 部門希望對未來能發揮研究與發展的功能。



## 傳道部

馬徐韻妮

在二零二三年，福音班回復正常實體主日學時間上課，平均有大约十至廿位香港新移民未信主朋友參加。

在三月到六月間，我們在星期三晚舉辦了啟發課程，有二十多位香港年青人參加，還有六月份舉行了三日兩夜的啟發週末營，雖然沒有人在這次啟發中信主，但卻令不少的朋友對福音產生興趣。

我們聯同萬民堂在 10 月 13 日和 10 月 14 日舉辦了「日落、日出誰管人生」話劇福音聚會，分別有 Jack 弟兄分享見證和譚品立牧師信息分享。兩個聚會不單止有萬民堂和恩典堂，還有來自不同教會的弟兄姊妹和朋友。兩日的聚會有廿八人決志信主。

在二零二三年，恩典堂共有 15 位新朋友信主，分佈如下：

1. 探訪 / 其他 14 人
2. 佈道會 1 人

我們看見神的恩典是何等的奇妙，神在這年中給我們認識了很多香港新移民。感謝主讓我們看見福音的禾場是十分大。

## 外展

張家齊牧師

2023 年的外展事工：

1. 逢星期五晚的網上 Karaoke
2. 三月份與萬民堂合辦的“美麗的約會”，超過 100 位女士參加
3. 由七月份開始，逢第四個星期一晚在教會舉辦羽毛球和 Karaoke 活動，每次有 10 分鐘福音短講
4. 9 月份推動 6K 步行籌款活動，為非洲缺水的國家籌得超過 Can\$ 16000

感恩外展部在過去幾年，透過不同的活動，有在網上的各類講座，有福音聚會、6K、一齊郊遊、享用愛筵、卡拉 OK 和打羽毛球，外展部接觸了超過 500 位朋友。碰到教會有佈道會或適合的聚會，外展部都會邀請這 500 多位朋友參加。外展部的同工們都一致應同，透過一連串的活動，已向這些朋友分享基督的愛，相信福音的種子已種下在他們心裡。正如主耶穌所說“那人撒種，這人收割”，這話可見是真的（約 4:37）

## 祈禱

譚紅秀

我們的祈禱沒有一個是浪費的

在聖經中，禱告被比喻為香。在出埃及記第 30 章中，上帝命令要為會幕建造一座香壇。在啟示錄 5:8 和 8:3-4 中，我們讀到我們的禱告如香升上天上。

那麼禱告如何像香呢？首先，香的煙是自然向上升，彷彿像一個承載著祈禱的金香爐被獻到神的寶座前。第二，神喜愛祂子民禱告的馨香之氣。如果你在禱告

中向神呼求，這個行為是神所喜悅的。這意味著，祂聽我們的祈禱，我們的祈禱沒有一個是浪費的。

主耶穌告訴我們要「常常禱告，不可灰心」。我們感謝神在教會興起了一群忠心的禱告勇士，他們每週日早上@8:30 和週二晚上@7:30 齊來為神的國禱告。星期日的祈禱會是實體的，而星期二的祈禱會是網上透過 zoom 進行的。2023 年禱告會平均出席人數為：早禱會 8 人，晚禱會 16 人。我們的 WhatsApp 禱告群組，每週四繼續分發禱告訊息，目前該群組有 99 人。

讓我們一同回應神，每週聚在一起為我們的教會、社區和世界祈禱。

「願你留心聽我的聲音！願我的禱告如香陳列在你面前！」。（詩 141:1, 2）



## 關懷及探訪

## 祁鍾翠蘭

感謝主，2023 年 6 月底李牧師退休後，神帶領黃牧師在 9 月份加入教會並帶領關懷及探訪事工。陳旭輝執事則在更早的 4 月開始加入這團隊。

黃牧師負責主領康寧耆老中心的星期日崇拜，也負責編排每個主日的講員。住客出席崇拜的平均人數是 15 人，當中有 2 位是從 2 樓長期護理院到來參加崇拜的。間中也有醫院的病人被吸引到來。年老的信徒在年老時行動不便，很多都因此不能到教會和其他弟兄姊妹一起敬拜神，在康寧的老信徒卻很高興，教會就在他們的樓層內，他們都為此感恩。每個月第一個星期的聖餐主日都有 14/15 位長者一起守聖餐，記

念主恩。另外有四位因行動不方便，或病了不能出席崇拜的，牧師都會在聚會完畢後，帶同聖餐到他們房間，讓他們都可以記念主耶穌十架犧牲的愛。其中有一位長者，他的視覺和聽覺已嚴重失靈，平日的時間多數都在睡覺，或默默無聲地坐在一角。但當我們和他說：「耶穌愛你」，他就表現得很高興。當牧師帶聖餐給他時，他就開懷大笑。從這看到有主生命的人是何等不一樣。

在康寧耆老中心，除每個星期日的崇拜聚會外，我們在每個月的第三個星期二仍由 10 位弟兄姊妹組成的探訪隊分組探訪。在過去一年，耆老中心先後有 4 位長者去世。有些是長者們的多年鄰居，探訪組的弟兄姊妹成為他們的安慰。探訪組在 2023 年帶領了 4 位長者決志信主。除耆老中心以外，去年共有 7 位長者決志。其中有一位長者在信主後信心很堅穩。雖然半年後病危，臨終前仍不忘主恩，堅心倚靠主。看到長者們的離世雖然心有不捨，但知道在天家又多一位同伴參加天國的筵席，我們將一起在主裡同歡，這是何等欣慰！

每個月的第四個星期二在康寧中心我們也繼續有摩西團契。在特別的節日如聖誕節和農曆新年都會有慶祝會。從 2023 年 6 月開始，每個月有兩個星期四下午增加了和長者有唱歌練習的時間。長者們都很喜歡，尤其是在唱一些古舊的聖詩和他們年青時代的金曲時，他們更是投入。

頤康探訪也在 2023 年 10 月重啟。每個月的第一個星期六早上，我們得到另一個教會的一對夫婦協助，加上我們教會 5 位弟兄姊妹由黃牧師帶隊。聚會中也和信主的長者守聖餐。在 2023 年的聖誕節更與其他樓層的長者一起聯合聚會，院方員工、義工、不同教會的弟兄姊妹和長者一起慶祝主的降生，很是熱鬧。至於每星期到來恩典福音堂崇拜聚會的新朋友，由陳旭輝執事初步接觸，黃牧師負責跟進，若有需要的會安排探訪。還有一些病患的和未能返教會的長者也需



要探訪。因此探訪組希望能有更多弟兄姊妹加入，服侍更多有需要的人。請為此代禱。

**“萬民哪、你們當稱頌我們的 神、使人得聽讚美他的聲音。他使我們的性命存活、也不叫我們的腳搖動。” 詩篇 66:8-9**



康寧耆老中心崇拜 *Worship service at McNicoll Manor*

## 細胞小組 / 團契

陳訓民牧師

2005 年，一班忠心的信徒和領袖回應神的呼召，同心合意往北建立萬民福音堂；此後，另一班忠心的領袖留在母會繼續發展堂會；我們為著每一位的無私犧牲和委身於事奉和建立信徒獻上感恩。在近廿年裡，區與組的結構隨個人及家庭的成長而有所變化，然而就小組領袖的組合而言，整體是穩定的，但同時新組長並不多，如何有效培訓新組長，成為了今年一個主要命題。

經過一段時間的反思與探討，適逢牧者的轉變，我們也計劃暫時改變小組運作，盼望短暫的改變能帶來突破。在六月的時候，先向事工會的執事介紹計劃，到九月向所有組長介紹計劃，到十一月向全會眾介紹計劃，期間收取回饋調整計劃；改變將會在年尾及明年初因應新同工到步後安排開始。

整體而言改變有兩方面。首先是重組所有區組，把過往一些因人口變動變成一區只得一組的情況改變，重

組後整個堂會分為六個區，分別是年青的（成青），有年幼子女的（幼家），有中學子女的（中家），有大學或成人子女的將與其他就業的合而為一（中青。這個是最大的改變，因以前有大學和成人子女的仍然是在家庭區之內），退休的（金齡），和年長的（長者）。第二個改變是未來將會先以團契模式運作一年作過渡，之後便會重組細胞小組。這個團契模式為方便新牧者在一個地點能接觸各小組的人，也能促進區內組員的關係和認識。此外，日後各區也會每兩年舉辦一次啟發等類的課程作收割，並於期間按小組計劃培增的需要重新編配組長和組員。在新組合裡，張牧師負責金齡；黃牧師負責幼家、中家和長者；黃傳道負責成青和中青。盼望藉這些改變和安排，推動組員更多的參與事奉，有效提升建立領袖，並增強小組的外展性和配搭性。

我們特別感謝過去一年忠心事奉的一群組長們：陳黃麗玲姊妹，李觀送夫婦，何嘉賢姊妹，黃志遠弟兄，祁潤康夫婦，譚慎誠夫婦，吳蔡純美姊妹，譚紅秀姊妹，陳寶雯師母，陳穎豪夫婦，陳旭輝夫婦，莊國強夫婦，吳嘉駒夫婦，高冠山夫婦，張于穎夫婦，梁展宇夫婦，陸景瑞夫婦，林在山夫婦，林傑豪夫婦，馬張敏芝姊妹，周梓健姊妹。

## Cantonese Congregation Testimonies

### 粵語堂見證

#### Testimony 見證

*Tat Kwan Wong 黃達琨執事*

My profession is a doctor. In the clinic, there are doctors, staff, and some university student volunteers. Recently, one morning when I returned to the clinic, I saw a third-year university student volunteer. I felt strange when I saw her because she was staring at the computer screen blankly. After observing her several times at different times, her performance remained the same. I couldn't bear it, so I said to her, "Are you still not awake? Do you know that everyone working in our clinic needs to be completely focused because any mistake we make can harm the patients." After saying this, I didn't feel like I had done anything wrong and went back to work.

An hour later, a staff who is responsible for managing volunteers came to me and said, "Do you know that after you spoke to that volunteer, she started crying? I tried my best to console her, and eventually, she stopped crying." When I heard this, I asked the staff, "What should we do in this situation?" The staff honestly said that I needed to talk to the volunteer. My immediate reaction was that I needed to go back and think about it first.

As I reflected on the situation, I felt that I hadn't done anything wrong because I am the lead physician of the clinic, responsible for ensuring that the clinic's service to patients remains at the highest level. Therefore, every staff member should maintain 100% focus, and there should be no room for error to prevent any harm to patients. Additionally, I thought to myself, I am a doctor, I am the supervisor, she is a subordinate, she is a volunteer. I have the authority to speak to her in this way. I also thought that her reaction seemed weak; I only said a few words, and she started crying. I felt like I was helping her grow and learn to be stronger, so she should reflect on her own. All these thoughts made me feel like I was in the right.

But as I continued to think, the Holy Spirit reminded me of how Jesus treated me. I realized that Jesus treated me with His love, grace, patience, and tolerance, so I should also treat others with the same attitude. I also thought, everyone in the clinic knows that I am a Christian. Would this volunteer desire to become a Christian because of my behavior? Would she want to be like me? The

answer was clearly no. So, I knew that the staff member was right; I needed to talk to the volunteer and apologize to her. At this point, I struggled a lot because of my pride and ego, but I understood that I could only seek help from the Holy Spirit.

Thankfully, God listened to my prayers, and the Holy Spirit helped me. I asked the staff who is responsible for volunteers to arrange for the volunteer to come to my office. When the volunteer came to my office, she looked frightened, probably thinking that I was going to scold her. I asked her to sit down and then said to her, "I have been reflecting on what I said to you this morning, and I realized that I was too harsh. I spoke too bluntly without understanding your feelings and experiences, and I offended you. I apologize for that, and I hope you can forgive me and accept my apology."

She looked surprised and remained silent after hearing this. I didn't say anything further; a minute later, she spoke up, saying, "Actually, I was wrong. You were right because I should be completely focused when I come to work. Otherwise, any mistake I make could harm the patients." I then invited her to help me understand her experiences and feelings behind this incident. After a brief silence, she told me, "I stayed up all night studying the night before because I had a major exam yesterday. After the exam, I planned to sleep, but I was still very nervous and couldn't sleep well, so I came to work this morning feeling tired. I thought about not coming, but I remembered my commitment to the clinic, and I felt responsible to fulfill my duty." After hearing her explanation, I said, "Apologizing to you was the right thing to do because I should appreciate your loyalty and sense of responsibility, even though you weren't feeling your best." After our conversation, her demeanor relaxed, and she left my office with a smile.

As I reflected on this experience and the teachings of Romans 12:1-2, God gave me three insights. Firstly, "brothers and sisters". I have blind spots, weaknesses, struggles, and shortcomings, so I need spiritual companions by my side to walk this path together. I need a safe environment where I can openly share my weaknesses, failures, and shortcomings, and where someone can accept and love me, speaking truthfully with love to help me grow. I'm grateful to have such spiritual companions in my workplace, family, and church. I don't know if you have such spiritual companions in your life. If you don't, I encourage you to pray and ask our Heavenly Father for one.

Secondly, Paul said, "I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy." It's wonderful that Paul didn't urge based on human logic but on God's mercy. Many times, we try to persuade people logically, but I've found that the greatest motivation in the universe is love. When I deeply experience and understand Jesus' unconditional love for me, my heart is moved, and I want to respond to His love and love Him. When I love Him, I want to do what pleases Him. Obedience to Jesus without this love relationship is burdensome and stressful, but obedience in this love relationship, living for Him, is joyous.

Thirdly, God is very merciful to me. I have believed in Jesus since I was young, it has been fifty years now, but I still struggle every day. My thoughts and actions still mimic the world's ways, so I need to learn to renew my mind and be transformed. I can't do it on my own; I need the Holy Spirit's help, relying on Him. Therefore, on the first Sunday of 2024, I made a resolution to ask the Holy Spirit to fill me doubly in the new year, to be more intimate with the Holy Spirit, to be more sensitive to His voice, and to be more obedient to His teaching and guidance. I invite you, brothers and sisters, to make this resolution for the new year as well. Let's pursue being doubly filled with the Holy Spirit this year. If each of us is willing to do this, we will surely experience God's healing, renewal, and revival in our personal lives, families, workplaces, and church.

Thank you all very much.

我的職業是醫生，在診所中有醫生、職員，和一些大學生義工。最近有一個早晨回診所，看見一位讀大學三年級的義工，當我看見她的時候感到很奇怪，因她對着電腦螢幕發呆，經過數次在不同時間的觀察，她的表現仍是這樣，我實在無法忍受，便對她說：「你是否還沒睡醒，你可知道在我們診所做事必需要百分之一百地集中，因為我們任何的過錯都可以傷害到病人。」說後並沒有感到自己有任何問題，便回去繼續工作。

一小時後，有一位負責管理義工的職員來跟我說：「你可知道在你向那位義工說話後，她便開始哭起來了。我嘗試盡力地開解她，最後她停止了哭泣」。當我聽見這事後，便問那位職員，在這種情況之下我們可以作甚麼？那位職員很坦白地表示我需要與那位義工談談，我即時的反應是需要回去先想一想。

當我回去細想和反省，自覺自己沒有做錯，因為我是診所的主任，有責任確保診所對病人的服務能保持最高的水準，所以每一位職員都應該保持百分之百的集中，不可以有任何的過錯，帶來病人有任何傷害。此外，我又想，我是醫生，我是上司，她是下屬，她是義工，我是有權威和權柄這樣對她說話的。我又在想，她這樣反應似乎很懦弱，我只是說了數句，她便哭起來，我實在是幫助她成長，學習堅強，應讓她自己慢慢去反省。我的種種想法，讓我感到自己是對的。

但當我繼續去想的時候，聖靈提醒我，主耶穌是怎麼對待我，我發覺主耶穌是以祂的慈愛、恩典、忍耐和包容對待我，因此我也應該以同樣的態度對待身邊的人。自己又想，整間診所的人都知道我是基督徒，這位義工會否因為我這種表現而渴望成為基督徒呢？很想學我這樣呢？答案很明顯地是否定的。這樣，我便知道那位職員是說得對的，我必須要與那位義工傾談，向對方道歉。這時自己心裡有很大的掙扎，為著自己的面子、我的自我、我的驕傲，我實在無法向她道歉；我明白我只能求聖靈幫助。

感恩，神垂聽祈禱，聖靈也幫助我，於是請那位負責義工的職員來，安排那位義工到我的辦公室來。當那位義工來到我的辦公室時，她是懷著驚恐的表情來的，我想她必定是以為我將要大罵她一場。我請她坐下後，便對她說：「我在回想今早跟你說的話，自覺太嚴厲了，說話太過直率，沒有明白你的感受和經歷便對你作出判斷，我實在是得罪了你，傷害了你，我向你道歉，希望你可以在饒恕，希望你可以在接受我的道歉。」她聽後感到詭異而沉默，我也沒有再說話；一分鐘後，她才開聲說：「實際上我是有錯的，你是說得對的，因為我來上班是一定要百分之百的集中，否則因我們有甚麼過錯，便會傷害到病人。」我接著邀請她幫我明白這件事背後，她的經歷和感受是怎樣。她再次沉默一會兒之後便對我說：「前一晚我通宵讀書，因昨晚我有一個大考；大考完畢後我打算睡覺，但因我仍然很緊張，睡得不好，所以今早我仍然沒無精神；我曾想過不回來的，但我想到自己對診所所有委身，我有

責任盡上自己的本分回來。」我聽到她的說話後，她表示：「向你的道歉是對的，因我應該欣賞你的忠誠和責任感，及你雖然沒有精神卻仍然願意付上自己最好的。」在我們交談後，她的面容回復正常，體姿表現輕鬆，帶著笑容離開我的辦公室。

當我反省這個經歷和羅馬書 12:1-2 的教導時，神給我三個體會。第一個就是「所以弟兄們」，我有我的盲點，我有我的軟弱，我有我的掙扎和不足，我需要身邊有屬靈的伴侶和我一起走這條路，我需要有一個安全的環境，可以坦白地分享我的軟弱、不足、失敗，可以有人來接納我、愛我、用愛心說誠實話，以致幫助我成長。非常感恩，自己在工作場所，在家庭和教會能夠有這樣的屬靈伴侶。不知道大家有沒有這樣的屬靈伴侶，如若沒有，鼓勵你祈禱求天父給你一位這樣的屬靈伴侶。

第二個體會就是保羅說「我以神的慈悲勸你們」，很奇妙地保羅沒有說以人的邏輯勸你們；很多時候，我們會用邏輯來勸人當這樣做、那樣做，但我發覺宇宙最大的動力是愛心。當我很深刻的體會到、經歷到主耶穌對我完全沒有條件的愛的时候，我的心受感動，我要向主的愛有回應，我要去愛祂。當我去愛祂的时候，我就要做祂所喜悅的事情。沒有這個愛心的關係之下去順服耶穌，是一個重擔、是一個壓力、是一個負擔；但在這個愛的關係當中順服耶穌，為祂而活，是一個喜樂。

第三個體會是神十分憐憫我。我自小便信耶穌，至今已五十年，但每天都有掙扎，我的想法、我的做法仍然是效法世界，因此我也需要學習心意更新而變化，靠自己是做不到的，要靠聖靈的幫助，要依靠聖靈。所以 2024 年的第一個主日，我立了一個心志，希望在新一年自己能加倍地被聖靈充滿，更加的親密聖靈，更加敏銳地聽聖靈的聲音，更加順服聖靈的教導和指引。在此一問弟兄姊妹，在新一年有沒有立志呢？誠邀你與我一起去立志，今年，追求聖靈加倍的充滿自己。若我們每一個人都肯這樣做，在我們個人生命當中，在我們的家庭當中，在我們的工作場所當中，在

我們的教會當中，我們一定會經歷到神的醫治、神的更新、神的復興。多謝大家。

## Testimony 見證

**Kenrick Lau 劉政匡**

My name is Kenrick Lau, and my whole family has been attending Cantonese worship and fellowship for 29 years. Currently, I belong to the Adult Fellowship on Friday evenings.

I work in a telecommunications company, specializing in communication technology solutions. Initially, my immediate supervisor greatly appreciated my work abilities, but unfortunately, he was transferred after just six months. The new supervisor seemed to target me, criticizing all my work and implementing monitoring plans to control everything I did. Along with this, there were constant verbal attacks that took a toll on my mental and physical well-being. Despite my efforts to improve and pray to God for guidance, after a year, I couldn't bear the torment from the new supervisor anymore. I often suffered from insomnia and eventually fell ill, necessitating me to apply for sick leave.

During this painful period, I'm thankful for the spiritual support surrounding me. My Christian parents, relatives, and brothers and sisters in faith provided immense support. The pastor, leaders, and members of my cell group prayed for me, cared for me, and supported me. They frequently communicated with me, and mentors and pastors often provided guidance in private. Brothers and sisters from my parents cell group also regularly greeted me after Sunday worship. I am especially grateful to Rev. Chan, Rev. Lee, Rev. Cheung, Deacon Tat-Kwan Wong, and Deacon Rodney Ho for their care. Their support, encouragement, and understanding made me feel the love of God and the love of brothers and sisters, ensuring I didn't face my challenges alone. Without them, I believe I would have suffered a mental breakdown.

Reflecting on this painful experience, I've witnessed the miraculous work of God. Firstly, God had made preparations beforehand. Even though I took unpaid sick leave, I could apply for unemployment benefits, and I received free legal aid from a lawyer. My spiritual mentor called this a miracle because, during the time of my application, there was a decrease in cases due to the COVID-19 pandemic,

so I received official approval the day after submitting my application. Otherwise, I would typically receive responses such as: cases are backlogged and unable to handle yours at the moment, only one or two free legal consultations are available, or your case would have to wait for over a year to be processed, etc.

The second miracle was being able to receive free counseling from a professional social worker, along with medical assistance. The social worker mentioned that very few cases could return to work like I did without psychological shadows, usually rendering them unable to reintegrate into society. Only through a miracle could one return to work and find new employment.

The third miracle was finding my current job just a month after being considered to have resigned from my previous company. During the first online interview at this new company, the IT director immediately hired me after conducting a background check, without requiring reference check from past work. He even remarked that I was precisely the person they were looking for, as if the position had been tailor-made for me.

Through these experiences, God has molded me, allowing me to help others with similar experiences. I can now keenly understand the feelings of other unemployed brothers, sisters, or friends and actively care for and assist them. Additionally, I've learned to speak more appropriately, saying things like: "God loves you unconditionally, regardless of your job or status"; "God has always looked after you, both now and in the future"; "Feel free to talk to me if you need anything," etc. At the same time, I've learned to avoid saying unhelpful things like: "Get better soon", "When will you recover?", "Don't be unhappy all the time", etc.

I thank God for providing comfort and encouragement through the following scriptures:

- Romans 12:17-21: "17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. 19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: 'It is mine to avenge; I will repay,' says the Lord. 20 On the contrary: 'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his

head.' 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

- Philippians 4:6-7: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."
- 1 John 4:4: "You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world."

我名叫劉政匡 Kenrick，全家參加恩典福音堂粵語崇拜和團契已經 29 年，我現在屬於星期五晚的中青團契。

我在電訊公司做通訊科技方案工作，原本的頂頭上司十分欣賞我的工作能力，但是好景不常，他半年後就被調走了。後來的新上司事事針對我，說我所有工作都做錯了，要實行監督計劃管控我所有工作，加上諸般惡毒言語精神折磨我，使我身心疲累。我嘗試盡力改善，做好每一件方案，又向天父祈禱交託，但是過了一年仍然不堪新上司的折磨，常常失眠，到最後病倒了，要申請病假。

面對這個痛苦時期，感謝天父在我周圍有屬靈的支持。我有信主的父母、親戚和弟兄姊妹支持。當時粵語堂細胞小組的牧師，組長和各組員為我祈禱、關心我、支持我。細胞小組頻頻與我交通，導師和牧師們時常在私底下開導我。我父母所屬團契小組的弟兄姊妹們也常常在主日崇拜後問候我。特別要多謝陳牧師、李牧師、張牧師、黃達琨執事和何繼舜執事等的關顧。他們給我支持、鼓勵、體諒，令我感受神的愛，亦有弟兄姊妹的愛，不會孤單地面對困境。如果沒有他們，我相信我會精神崩潰。

回想這個痛苦體驗，我經歷到神的奇妙作為。首先，神早有預備。我雖然放無薪病假，卻可以申請失業救濟金，又讓我得到免費法律援助律師幫助。我的屬靈導師說這是神蹟，因為當時有新冠肺炎，申請個案減少，所以我遞交申請之後第二日就收到官方答應，否

則通常會收到以下回覆：案件積壓，無暇處理閣下個案；或只可提供一或二次免費法律諮詢，其餘自費；或閣下案件要等候一年以上方可處理等等。

第二個神蹟，是可以得到免費社工的專業輔導，更有醫生幫助我。社工說很少個案可以像我那樣能夠回復工作狀態，通常會有心理陰影，之後不能再投入社會去工作了，只有神蹟顯現，才可以重回工作，和找到新的工作。

第三個神蹟，是我被舊公司當作自動辭職後，一個月就找到了現在的工作。就在這新公司第一次視像面試時，人事部總監就立即雇用我，只做了背景審查，不需要以往工作介紹信，又說我正正是他要找的人，職位好像度身訂造似的。

透過這些經歷，神又模造我，讓我可以憑這些經歷去幫助別人。我現在能夠敏銳地體會到其他失業或待業的弟兄姊妹或朋友的心情，又主動關心和幫助他們。此外，也學會說一些較合宜的說話，例如：天父愛你，無條件愛你，無論你有沒有工作和地位；天父一向看顧着你，現在和將來都仍然會；有需要可以跟我傾談等等。與此同時，也要避免說一些沒有幫助的說話，例如：快啲好返(盡快康復)；幾時先好返(何時康復呢)；唔好成日唔開心(不要時常不快樂)。

感謝神藉以下經文給予安慰和鼓勵：

- 羅馬書 12:17-21 「<sup>17</sup> 不要以惡報惡；眾人以為美的事要留心去做。<sup>18</sup> 若是能行，總要盡力與眾人和睦。<sup>19</sup> 親愛的弟兄，不要自己伸冤，寧可讓步，聽憑主怒；因為經上記著：主說：伸冤在我；我必報應。<sup>20</sup> 所以，你的仇敵若餓了，就給他吃，若渴了，就給他喝；因為你這樣行就是把炭火堆在他的頭上。<sup>21</sup> 你不可為惡所勝，反要以善勝惡。」
- 腓立比書 4:6-7 「應當一無掛慮，只要凡事藉著禱告、祈求，和感謝，將你們所要的告訴神。神所賜、出人意外的平安必在基督耶穌裡保守你們的心懷意念。」

- 約一 4:4 「小子們哪，你們是屬神的，並且勝了他們；因為那在你們裡面的，比那在世界上的更大。」



## English Congregation Annual Report

### Pastoral Report

Rev. Ted Tham

#### 1 Samuel 16:7

***But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."***

Our 2023 church theme was "**Leadership Training,**" so during our Sunday Services we spent most of the year going through the life of a classic leader in the Old Testament, King David. We saw how God chose him not for his outward appearance, but for his heart. Leadership is "from the inside out," and as we sought to grow together in leadership training in 2023 we emphasized the importance of the inner life and having the heart of a godly leader. In the last-quarter of 2023 we also looked at how Jesus trained His future leaders of the Church, His disciples, through the use of parables from the Gospel of Matthew.

Some special events in 2023 included:

- Missions Conference (Jan 27-29, Pastor Johnson Hsu – adults; Kevin & Jessica Teh – youth).b Theme: *To move men, through God, by Prayer alone.* We also commissioned Kevin & Jessica as our missionaries to Japan that weekend & had a farewell gathering on Feb. 4
- Poverty Sunday (March 12, Rev. Ted - "Real Riches")
- Good Friday (April 7, Rev. Fanco - "Turning Point")
- Easter Sunday (April 9, Pastor Santos - "Faith in the Resurrection")
- Mission Sunday (April 30, Rev. Dr. Suraj Komaravalli (CBM India) - "Broken World to Witnessing Church")
- Mother's Day (May 14, Rev. Ted – "Rest and Family")
- Church 33<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary (May 28, Rev. Fanco – "Professional congregations")
- Baptism & New Members (June 11, Rev. Ted – "Baptised with Joy")
- Baptism: Marcus Chan, Michael Zhang
- New Members: Clarence Chan, Shervonne Chin, Karl Hui, Margaux Kan, Miga Kim, Julie Zhang
- Father's Day (June 18, Pastor Michelle – "Fathers Reflecting the Love of God")
- Outreach Sunday (July 2, Rev. Danny – "Sheep Without a Shepherd")
- Mission Sunday (July 30, Pastor Santos – "Love Your Stranger")
- Social Justice Sunday (Sept. 24, Rev. Tim Grieves (CGC Scarborough) – "Worshipping God in Exile")
- Thanksgiving (Oct. 8, Rev. Emad Botros (CBM Lebanon) – "The Church and the Gospel")
- Stewardship Sunday (Oct. 22, Pastor Michelle – "Costly Worship")
- Compassion Sunday (Oct. 2, Rev. John Park (Compassion Canada) – "Sheep without a Shepherd")
- Advent Sunday (Dec. 10, Mr. Joshua Mok – "Is the Great Commission Still Great?")
- Baptism: Nicole Yap
- New Members in 2023: Clarence Chan, Shervonne Chin, Karl Hui, Margaux Kan, Miga Kim, Julie Zhang, Priscilla Leung, Jeffrey Lou, Daniel Tse, Josh Wong
- Christmas Potluck (Dec. 22, various speakers & testimonies)
- Christmas Service (Dec. 24, Rev. Ted – "Christmas: From Worries to Worship")
- End-of-Year Service (Dec. 31, Pastor Michelle – "End with Renewing")
- Dr. Clement Yeung mini-series on book of Daniel (Feb. 19, Apr. 23, Jun. 4)
- English Congregation Lunches (May 7, May 28, Jul. 9, Aug. 27, Nov. 26)
- English Leadership Retreat (Jun. 10)

#### Staff:

We thank God for our Pastoral Team, including our Sr. Pastor Rev. Fanco Chan, Youth & Student Ministries & Discipleship Assistant Pastor Santos Chan, part-time Women's Ministry Assistant Pastor Michelle Kim, and part-time Production Team Technician & Administrative Assistant Mr. Wilson Kwong. We want to also give a special mention and thanks to our former Administrative Assistant Mrs. Mary Wei, who has been with us for many years but stepped down recently. As usual, the government blessed us with several funded summer interns, including Mr. Samuel Chan (student ministries) and Mr. Andy Luc (website).

#### Prayer Ministry:

Prayer is a real "ministry," as much as the many other ministries in our church. God says that His



church should be known as a “house of prayer” (Matthew 21:13). We want that to be said of GCGCNY English congregation! In 2023 prayer groups included two weekly congregational prayer meetings on Wed. evenings and Sun. mornings; Mon. morning (bi-weekly) and Thurs. evening (weekly) men’s prayer groups, women’s prayer gatherings, teen’s prayer meetings; a monthly prayer meeting for caregivers, and numerous regular prayer groups in fellowship and cell groups.

**Deacons:**

Our deacons are very much on the frontlines of spiritual warfare – leading the charge in various areas and taking a lot of “hits” through criticisms and persecutions. They have sacrificed so much for the sake of the gospel, and we thank God for their faithful and dedicated service in 2023, these included: Deacon Hoytson Wong (Vice-chair), Deacon Howard Chin (IT, Church Community & Membership), Deaconess Edwina Luu (Children), Deaconess Jessica Leung (Student & Women’s Ministries), Deacon Kevin Ho (Family), Deacon Xiao Wang (Worship, Media) and Deaconess Sylvia Szeto (Missions).

**Youth Ministry**

**Pastor Santos Chan**

**Genesis Youth Fellowship**

In 2023, Genesis has updated its mission statement to “empowering youth to discover, enjoy, and share a life with God.” In 2023, we saw God use the youth in Alpha and Softball Ministries to give the friends of our regular members an exposure to the Gospel and to an authentic Christian community. We saw God continue this work so that a quarter of the youth committed or rededicated their lives to God at our retreat.

We have also restructured our leadership so that Christians at every stage of maturity have an important role to serve and grow as a leader. We have also created space for adults with varying experiences, maturity, and availability to discover youth ministry and build friendships with youth. As a whole, Genesis has been empowering the youth to plan, invite friends, and lead outreach nights together. In the future, we hope to be able to lead congregation-wide moments to discover, enjoy, and share a life with God.

**Worship Ministry**

**Deacon Xiao Wang**

2023 has been a tremendous year of growth for the English Worship Ministry. Our main focus for the year was to grow in number of team members to have 3 consistent teams, and to develop the spiritual maturity of each of the team members through their service.

The three worship teams are currently run by James Relunia, Ronson Ng, and Xiao Wang and the following members:

- Team Xiao: Ethan Chen, Darren Ko, Payton Chan, Andy Luc, Wilson Kwong
- Team Ronson: Iris Ng, Erika Shoenebeck, Wendy Ng, Ethan Chan, Beatrice Woo, Kevin Lau, Ryan Chan
- Team James: Christine Relunia, Shervonne Chin, Marcus Chan, Simeon Wong, Justin Chiu



Genesis Retreat Main Session 創世紀青年團契退修會

The Tech ministry will be split into two separate ministries to lessen the burden of Wilson Kwong as well as provide better expertise in their respective areas:

- Wilson Kwong - Video / Livestream & equipment
- Simeon Wong - Audio / Sound & equipment

To grow the teams in their spiritual walks and their understanding of worship, each worship team has begun doing more focused devotions based on the sermon passage and topics at the beginning of each practice. This was introduced to provide the team with a better understanding of not only the theological (head) aspect of musical worship, but also our emotional (heart) response to God’s truths and helps the team explore how they can bring the

congregation to have a genuine emotional response as well. This will help provide discipling opportunities in the team to learn about the process of planning and preparing for Sunday Worship and the place of musical worship in our everyday life.

As we continue to grow, we are also looking to transition the worship ministry into a place for people of different spiritual maturity to serve and exercise their gift. A big focus going into 2024 is to shift the model of the worship ministry from a Believe -> Behave -> Belong model to a Belong -> Behave -> Believe model, allowing members of the congregation to participate and exercise their gifts regardless of their experience, maturity, biblical knowledge and commitment. The previous model of Believe -> Behave -> Belong emphasized on knowing what is right and wrong before serving so that we can do service in the correct way, before we can enjoy the ministry which we serve in. With the change to Belong -> Behave -> Believe model, our focus will shift to fostering a journey of serving and growing together, recognizing that God didn't call us to be perfect before serving, but that serving together is part of the journey of growing and transforming to becoming more Christ-like, through fostering relationships with more mature Christians, and leaders, by doing and imitating, leading to eventually growing to understand both in our head and our hearts. This will also allow the current mature members to have an opportunity to disciple the new members in various aspects of worship, and also develop deepening relationships and friendships and foster growth in their faith.

### Media Ministry

Xiao Wang

In 2023, the English congregation Website was completed by Andy Luc, overseen by Simeon Wong. As we move into 2024, we continue to seek more opportunities to use media as a way for the leaders and members of the congregation to connect and grow together in various formats.

We are continuously seeking someone to help lead and guide this ministry in the future.



Adult Leader Sam supervising water sports

### Discipleship & Equipping

Adults: Rev. Ted Tham

#### Hebrews 4:12

**For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.**

God's Word is powerful, and one of the mandates of all churches is to teach and share His Word to our needy and desperate world, where truth is a sparse commodity. We thank God for our discipleship and equipping (D&E) ministry in our English congregation. Through various venues, such as cell groups, discipleship groups and the weekly Sunday School the Word is being taught and disseminated throughout the congregation. In our adult Sunday School in 2023 we studied:

Jan-May:

Sat. mornings: Minor Prophets (Pastor Michelle)

Sun. mornings: Job: A Man of Heroic Endurance (Rev. Ted)

Jun-Aug:

Sun. mornings: Cross Cultural Mission and Evangelism (Danny Wong)

Hope in Hurtful Times - 1 Peter (Pastor Michelle)

Sep-Dec:

Sun. mornings: 2 Peter & Colossians (Rev. Ted, Robert Yeung, Pastor Michelle)

### **Youth: Pastor Santos Chan**

We have adjusted our schedule from 3 terms a year to 4 terms to match and partner with KLS. Now, the terms are Dec-Feb, Mar-May, Jun-Aug, Sep-Nov. By God's grace, we have updated our curriculum to be ready to use for every qualified teacher. God answered our prayers by sending new teachers and new teachers in training. Coming out of the pandemic, we have also transitioned away from one class for all youth in grades 7-12 to one class for grades 7-8 and one class for 9-12s. In 2023, we have learned the basics of the Christian faith, how to grow as a Christian, and what every book of the Old Testament and New Testament is about.

### **Evangelism**

#### **Andrew Leung**

In 2023, our congregation pursued evangelism in volleyball and softball. Volleyball ministry began partnering with a newly formed volleyball league (CCVL), with nine teams participating weekly on Saturday afternoons, attracting 60 to 80 attendees, the league intertwines sports and spirituality with team captains leading devotionals. It serves as a platform for outreach, bolstering attendance at GCGCNY and CGCS drop-ins, while auxiliary events such as online prayer meetings and special volleyball sessions have fostered community bonding. As of December 2023, the Discord server boasts over 425 users, with CCVL's inception contributing to its growth alongside an expanding core group. This year's adult softball team, Unchained, consists mainly of our university students from the previous year with a few experienced players joining. The team focused on sharpening on field skills while providing a space for seekers to fellowship with our community regularly throughout the week.



*Team Unchained. 2023*



*Volleyball Christmas Potluck 聖誕節排球隊聚餐*

### **Fellowship Ministry**

#### **Family Zone (Deacon Kevin Ho)**

Over the past year and a bit, the family zone leadership has had in the back of our minds the need for developing new leaders and shaping the ministry to allow for intergenerational development. 2023 we started the planning and transition into a new Adult Zone and moving towards setting up intergenerational cell groups. Starting with various family zone events to connect our existing cell groups, we started down this path. In 2024, the Adult zone will kick off with events designed to connect people and cell groups will be formed. Thank you to all the family cell leaders who have lead their groups through the challenges of the pandemic and into a new season for our members. Leaders: Kevin Ho, Hoytson Wong, Lillian Wong, Pastor Ted Tham, Pastor Michelle Kim, Edwina Luu, Andrew Leung.





April 9, 2023 – Easter Swiss Chalet – Zone Lunch  
復活節午餐於 Swiss Chalet



March 25, 2023 – Building Authentic Friendship Men's Workshop  
Our church hosted 50 men for a workshop on Building Authentic Friendships. We collaborated with churches from Stouffville, Markham, and Mississauga to enjoy breakfast, worship and a time of edification.

### Adult Zone:

#### **Career Cell (Mr. Kevin Lau)**

The career group has been a challenge this past year as various members of our group went through several life issues. But God has been gracious to us with our group growing closer through the struggles and more people sharing deeper and contributing to group discussions. We have completed Rick Warren's book, "*The Purpose Driven Life*" and have continued with outreach/activity nights such as bubble tea, board games, outdoor hikes, restaurants, mission nights, and even axe-throwing!

Prayer requests:

1. spiritual and physical growth
2. patience in dealing with each other
3. for the forming of the new cell groups

#### **Thurs. Night Cell (Mrs. Jennifer Yu)**

The young adult cell has evolved a lot since 2019. We went through 2 cell merges, had cell fully online and hybrid; so naturally we saw some faces come and go for various reasons.

Nonetheless, God used our cell as a catalyst for deeper discipleship amongst the pockets of those who grew closer to one another and also encouraged some to step up to become cell leader interns. Those who felt more integrated into our church due to the cell community went on to lead and serve in other ministries (Wednesday volleyball, Sunday worship, Rooted, etc)

Although we never got to multiply and only ever got larger with new faces every year due to the nature of the demographic, those who came for the first time always voiced that they felt welcomed and safe to be part of the community.



Cell Outing at Tinuno



Mystery Boardgame Event



*Last Cell Celebration/Send Off Event*

**Student Zone: (Jessica Leung)**

Though we started as leaders of different groups with many different visions, passions, and giftings, God was faithful to bring everyone together to have a united vision as we invest in the student population. Every term, God provides enough leaders for the students who sign up for discipleship groups. In every season God has been growing the leadership team to work together in unity, as God calls us to.

In one of the girl's discipleship groups, we have been praying over a student, inviting her to join our discipleship group, to be more connected to the church body in Toronto. Recently, she reached out to one of the discipleship group members for personal support. The two were able to deepen their friendship and this is another opportunity for her to remain connected and to encourage her to join a discipleship group. We continue to pray for her for the summer term.

Lastly, a newer member of our student zone has been attending cell and a boy's discipleship group. By God's grace, he came to faith as he saw members of his cell and discipleship group actively evangelizing and caring for him. He confirmed his faith in cell and discipleship group. This has been a great witness of God's faithfulness and work in the lives of our students! Besides these, there are many stories of God's faithfulness in leading a young ministry and young leaders. Though we are limited in our understanding and wisdom, God continues to provide for, protect, and nurture his people.



*Rooted Discipleship Group Photos*



*Student Zone Leadership*

**Missions Subcommittee**

**Sylvia Szeto**

**Matthew 9: 37-38**

**Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."**



We thank God for not only a wonderful harvest of souls throughout this world, but also allowing us to participate through our prayers, going out, supporting various missionaries and financial giving. Due to the sensitivity of the various areas we are involved with, we cannot list many here, but those we can mention include:

--Rev. Suraj Kamaravalli (CBM - India) who came and preached to us in April.

--Rev. Emad Botros (professor at the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary in Lebanon) who came and preached to us on the Thanksgiving weekend

--Rev. Joe Bridi (CBM - Lebanon)

--Kevin, Jessica & daughter Aria The who we commissioned and left for Japan in Feb.

--Johnson Hsu spoke at Missions Conference

--Pastor Eva Poon & Ida Yee went on short term missions over Christmas to Mexico

--Tim Phan has since retired from Ambassadors for Christ in March to be an intern at a local church.

- Credits for Living Waters Counseling still available. Many took advantage of this opportunity in 2023. Renewed for 2024.

- Presence Caregivers group still active (Rev. Ted participating)

- Church Social Concern Focus for 2023 was refugees & human trafficking.

Our English congregation promoted and supported the NIDA project (CBM Kolkata, India) which helps women exit the sex trade in the largest red-light district in Asia.

We also promoted fund raising for Undocumented Refugees hosted by some NW Toronto local churches and community organizations.

- World Vision 6K Walk for Water – 71 people from GCGCNY participated. \$16,298 raised for wells in Africa “

## Social Concern Subcommittee

Rev. Ted Tham

### Matthew 25:40

**“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’**

We have the privilege of being the hands and feet of Jesus as we share His love through good deeds. And in a very real way, when we serve others, we serve Jesus. The Community Service & Concern ministry at GCGCNY did much in 2023, and we thank God for the many lives touched.

### Highlights of 2023 include:

- Food Bank – we thank God for Joanne Chan’s sacrificial hard work these last 2 years. Her commitment will soon be over, and she is currently planning to delegate her roles to various leadership members and make a proposal to hire a Contract Program Administrator to replace the current Administration Assistant position.

撒母耳記上 16 章

7 耶和華卻對撒母耳說：「不要看他的外貌和他的身材高大，我不揀選他，因為耶和華不像人看人，人是看外貌，耶和華是看內心。」

2023 年教會的主題是“領袖訓練”，因此在整年的主日崇拜期間，我們花了大部分時間來查閱舊約中一位經典領袖大衛王的一生。我們看到神不是因為他出眾的外貌來揀選他，而是因為他的內心。領導力是「由內而外」的，當我們力求在 2023 年領袖訓練中一起成長時，我們強調內在生命和擁有敬虔領袖之心重要性。在 2023 年最後一個季度，我們也研究了耶穌如何透過使用馬太福音中的比喻來訓練祂未來的教會領袖，也就是祂的門徒。

2023 年特別活動包括：

- 宣教大會 (1 月 27 日至 29 日 · Johnson Hsu 牧師 – 成人；Kevin 和 Jessica Teh – 青年)。主題：*To move men, through God, by Prayer alone.* 那個週末我們還委任 Kevin 和 Jessica Teh 作為前往日本的宣教士，並於 2 月 4 日舉行了告別聚會
- 扶貧主日 (3 月 12 日 · 譚紹南牧師 - 「真正的財富」)
- 耶穌受難日 (4 月 7 日 陳訓民牧師 - 「轉捩點」)
- 復活節主日 (4 月 9 日 · 陳信行傳道- “復活的信仰”)
- 差傳主日 (4 月 30 日 · Suraj Komaravalli 牧師 (CBM 印度) - 「Broken World to Witnessing Church」)
- 母親節 (5 月 14 日 · 譚牧師 – 「休息與家庭」)
- 教會 33 週年紀念 (5 月 28 日 · 陳訓民牧師- 「專業會眾」)

- 浸禮和新成員 (6 月 11 日 · 譚紹南牧師 – 「帶著喜樂受洗」)
- 浸禮：Marcus Chan、Michael Zhang
- 轉會成員：Clarence Chan、Shervonne Chin、Karl Hui、Margaux Kan、Miga Kim、Julie Zhang, Priscilla Leung, Jeffrey Lou, Daniel Tse, Josh Wong
- 父親節 (6 月 18 日 · 李明實傳道 – “父親反映上帝的愛”)
- 外展主日 (7 月 2 日 · 張家齊牧師 – 「沒有牧人的羊」)
- 差傳主日 (7 月 30 日 · 陳信行傳道- 「愛你的陌生人」)
- 社關主日 (9 月 24 日 · Tim Grieves 牧師 (CGC 士嘉堡) — 「流亡中敬拜上帝」)
- 感恩節 (10 月 8 日 · Emad Botros 牧師 (CBM 黎巴嫩) - 「教會與福音」)
- 管家主日 (10 月 22 日 · 李明實傳道- 「昂貴的敬拜」)
- 扶貧主日 (10 月 2 日 · John Park 牧師 (Compassion Canada) — 「沒有牧羊人的羊」)
- 將臨主日 (12 月 10 日 · Joshua Mok 先生 – 「大使命仍然偉大嗎？」)
- 浸禮：Nicole Yap
- 轉會成員：Priscilla Leung, Jeffrey Lou, Daniel Tse, Joshua Wong
  - 聖誕聚餐 (12 月 22 日 · 不同講員和見證)
  - - 聖誕崇拜 (12 月 24 日 · 譚紹南牧師 – 「聖誕節：從憂慮到敬拜」)



- - 年終崇拜 ( 12 月 31 日 · 李明實傳道- 「以更新結束」 )
- - Clement Yeung 博士《但以理書》迷你系列 ( 2 月 19 日、4 月 23 日、6 月 4 日 )
- - 英語堂午餐 ( 5 月 7 日、5 月 28 日、7 月 9 日、8 月 27 日、11 月 26 日 )
- - 英語堂領袖退修會 ( 6 月 10 日 )

## 同工

感謝神賜給我們的教牧團隊，包括陳訓民牧師、青年及學生事工及門徒訓練助理陳信行傳道、婦女事工兼職助理李明實傳道、以及兼職製作組技術員兼行政助理 Mr. Wilson Kwong。要特別提及並感謝我們的前行政助理 Mary Wei 女士，她與我們共事多年，但最近離職了。像往常一樣，政府的資助讓我們獲得數位暑期實習生，包括 Samuel Chan 先生 ( 學生事工 ) 和 Andy Luc 先生 ( 網站 )。

## 禱告事工

跟教會中的許多其他事工一樣，禱告是一項真正的“事工”。神說祂的教會應該被稱為「禱告的殿」( 太 21:13 )。我們希望這是與恩典福音堂的英語會眾相提並論！2023 年，禱告小組包括每週兩次，分別在週三晚和週日早上舉行的會眾禱告會；男性禱告會、女性禱告會、青少年禱告會則分別於每兩週一次週一早上，和每週四晚間舉行；每月為關顧者舉行的禱告會，以及團契和細胞小組中的眾多定期禱告會。

## 執事

我們的執事們好像置身於屬靈爭戰的最前線——在各個領域帶頭衝鋒，因著批評和迫害遭受許多「打擊」。他們為了福音的原故付出很多的犧牲，我們感謝上帝，

感謝他們在 2023 年的忠心的事奉，他們包括：黃凱旋執事 ( 副主席 )、陳浩偉執事 ( IT、教會社區和會員 )、劉吳雪瑩女執事 ( 兒童 )、梁詠詩執事 ( 學生和婦女事工 )、何世賢執事 ( 家庭 )、王肖執事 ( 崇拜、媒體 ) 和司徒靜姬執事 ( 差傳 )。

## 青少年事工

陳信行傳道

### 創世紀青年團契

2023 年，創世紀青年團契將其使命信約更新為「讓年輕人了解、欣賞，並與神共享生命」。2023 年，我們看到神使用啟發課和壘球事工的年輕人，讓新朋友們接觸到福音和真正的基督徒群體。我們看到神讓這項事工延續，以至四分之一的年輕人在退修會中將自己的生命委身或重新奉獻給神。我們也重新制定了領袖模式，以便處於不同屬靈階段的基督徒都可以成為在事奉和成長裡的重要領導角色。我們也為到具有不同經驗、成熟度和空閒時間的成年人創造了空間去探索青少年事工並與青年建立友誼。總括來說，創世紀青年團契一直在讓年輕人共同規劃、邀請朋友和舉辦外展之夜。未來，我們希望能夠引領整個會眾去了解、欣賞，並與神共享生命。

## 敬拜事工

王曉

2023 年對於英文崇拜事工來說是一個快速成長年。我們今年的主要目標是增加團隊成員，建立三個穩定的敬拜小組，並通過他們的事奉來提升每位成員的屬靈成熟度。

目前，三個敬拜小組分別由 James Relunia、Ronson Ng 和 Xiao Wang 帶領，其成員如下：

- Xiao 團隊：Ethan Chen、Darren Ko、Payton Chan、Andy Luc、Wilson Kwong
- Ronson 團隊：Iris Ng、Erika Shoenebeck、Wendy Ng、Ethan Chan、Beatrice Woo、Kevin Lau、Ryan Chan

- James 團隊：Christine Relunia、Shervonne Chin、Marcus Chan、Simeon Wong、Justin Chiu

影音部分將分為兩個獨立部門，以減輕 Wilson Kwong 的負擔，並在各自的領域做得更好：

- Wilson Kwong – 影視與直播及器材
- Simeon Wong – 音響與聲控及器材

為了促進團隊成員的屬靈成長和認識敬拜，每隊敬拜小組在每次練習開始時，都會按講道經文和主題作靈修分享；這樣做不僅幫助團隊認識音樂敬拜的神學層面（理性），還幫助團隊理解我們對真理的情感回應（感性），並探索如何促進會眾能有真摯的情感回應；這也為團隊提供了門徒訓練的機會，學習如何為主日詩歌敬拜作規劃和準備，以及音樂敬拜在我們日常生活中的位置。

隨著我們的持續成長，我們也希望將崇拜事工轉變為一個能讓不同屬靈成熟度的人參與並發揮恩賜的地方。2024 年我們將改變策略，從「相信 > 更新 > 歸屬」的模式轉為「歸屬 > 更新 > 相信」模式。舊有模式強調在服事前先要了解正確與錯誤，以便我們可以用正確的方式服事，然後才能享受我們所作的服事。隨著模式的改變，我們的重點將轉向鞏固一起服事和成長的旅程，因認識到神並沒有要求我們在服事前需先變得完美，而是透過與更成熟的基督徒和領袖建立關係，透過一起服事和模仿，使服事成為成長和更新的過程，逐漸在理性的認知和感性的感同上都有長進並變得更像基督。這個模式改變能讓會眾無論他們的經歷、成熟度、聖經知識和委身度如何，都可以參與並發揮他們的恩賜；這也讓現有的成熟成員有機會在不同的崇拜範疇培訓新成員，在建立更深的關係和友誼之時，促進屬靈成長。

## 媒體事工

王曉

2023 年，英文堂網頁在 Simeon Wong 督導下，由 Andy Luc 完成了。邁進 2024 年，我們將繼續尋求更多機會，讓領袖及會眾能透過不同媒體和形式來彼此聯系並一起成長。

我們將繼續尋找能夠協助帶領這事工的人。

## 門訓與裝備

成人: Rev. Ted Tham

希伯來書 4:12

神的道是活潑的、是有功效的。比一切兩刃的劍更快，甚至魂與靈、骨節與骨髓，都能刺入剖開，連心中的思念和主意，都能辨明。

神的話語是大有能力的，所有教會的使命之一就是要向這個因渴求而絕望的世界教導和分享祂的話語，因為在這個世界上，真理已成為鳳毛麟角的事物。感謝神在英語會眾中開展門徒訓練和裝備（D&E）事工。透過不同的場所，例如細胞小組、門徒小組和每週主日學中，整個會眾都被教導和傳播主的話語。在 2023 年的成人主日學中，我們學習了：

一月至五月：

週六早上：小先知書（李明實傳道）

週日早上：約伯記：一個具有英雄能耐的人（譚牧師）

六月至八月：

週日上午：跨文化宣教與傳福音（黃達瑜）

痛苦中的期盼 - 彼得前書（李明實傳道）

九月至十二月：

週日上午：彼得後書與歌羅西書（譚牧師、Robert Yeung、李明實傳道）

## 青少年—陳信行傳道

為要配合與兒童事工的合作，我們已將日程安排從每年 3 個學期調整為 4 個學期。現在的學期分配為 12 月至 2 月、3 月至 5 月、6 月至 8 月、9 月至 11 月。感謝神的恩典，我們更新了課程給每位合格的教師使用。神回應了我們的祈禱，差遣了新教師和培訓中的新教師。疫情過後，我們也從 7-12 年級所有青少年一班制轉為 7-8 年級一班和 9-12 年級一班。2023 年，我們學習了基督教信仰的基礎知識、如何成長為基督徒，以及舊約和新約每一本書的內容。

## 傳福音

Andrew Leung

2023 年，會眾在排球和壘球方面奉行傳福音。排球事工展開與新成立的排球聯會 (CCVL) 合作，每周有九支球隊在周六下午參加比賽，吸引了 60 至 80 名參加者，該聯會將體育和靈性交織在一起，由隊長帶領靈修。作為一個外展平台，它增加了北約恩典福音堂和 CGCS 的偶訪人數，而線上祈禱會和特別排球活動等輔助活動則促進了社區聯繫。截至 2023 年 12 月，Discord 伺服器擁有超過 425 個用戶，CCVL 的成立以及不斷擴大的核心群體為其成長做出了貢獻。今年的成人壘球隊 Unchained 主要由去年的大學生組成，也有一些經驗豐富的球員加入。球隊專注於提高現場技能，同時為慕道者提供每周定期與我們的群眾交流空間。

## 團契事工

### 家庭區--何世賢

在過去的一年多時間裡，家庭區領袖們一直在思考培育新一代領導者及當中塑造世代交替間事工發展的需要。2023 年，我們開始規劃並過渡到新組成的成人區，並朝著成立各世代的細胞小組的目標邁進。我們透過各種活動將現有的家庭區小組連結起來，這條道

路就開始了。到 2024 年，成人區的成立將拉開序幕，提供專門設計的活動來加強小組間成員的連結。感謝所有家庭小組的組長們帶領小組度過了疫情大流行的挑戰，讓成員們進入了新的季節。組長：何世賢、黃凱旋、Lillian Wong、譚紹南 牧師、李明實傳道、劉吳雪瑩、梁子樂。



2023 年 3 月 25 日—建立男士聯誼工作坊

教會接待了 50 位男士參加建立聯誼工作坊。與 Stouffville、萬錦市和密西沙加市的教會合作，享受早餐、敬拜和彼此建立時光。

## 成年組

### 就業組-- Kevin Lau

就業組去年不停在面對挑戰，小組內不同成員都經歷了一些生活問題。但神對我們很仁慈，讓團隊在掙扎中變得更加緊密，更多人更深入地在小組中分享討論。我們已經完成了 Rick Warren 的書《標杆人生》，並繼續舉辦外展/活動之夜，例如珍珠奶茶、棋盤遊戲、戶外遠足、聚餐、差傳之夜，甚至扔斧頭！

代禱事項：

1. 靈命和身體的成長
2. 人際相處關係要和睦融洽，
3. 新細胞小組的成立

### 週四晚小組-- Jennifer Yu

自 2019 年以來，年輕成年細胞小組有很大的改變。我們經歷了兩次小組合併；聚會或是完全經由網上進

行或是網上實體混合；因此在種種因素下自然會影響到出席成員的隱定性。

儘管如此，神還是利用我們的小組作為催化劑，在成員中加深門徒訓練，並鼓勵一些人成為小組實習領袖。那些因小組社群受感動而覺得要更融入教會的人更加委身在其他事工中作領導和事奉（週三排球、週日崇拜、紮根等）

儘管我們從未有過繁殖，而只有每年因人口流動性質讓新面孔的加入使小組變大了，但那些初次來的人總會表示，在這社群中他們感到受歡迎和有安全感。

### 學生區

### 梁詠詩

儘管我們一開始是不同小組的組長，有著很多不同的異象、熱誠和恩賜，但當我們將寄望投放在學生身上時，神信實地將各人團結在一起，共同擁有一個合一的異象。每個學期，神都會預備足夠的領袖來照顧報名參加門徒小組的學生。在每個季節，神都會讓領袖團隊成長，讓他們團結合一地事奉，正如祂的呼召一樣。

在一個女門徒小組中，我們一直在為一名學生禱告，邀請她加入我們的門徒小組，好讓她能與多倫多的教會經常保持聯繫。最近，她向門徒小組的一位成員尋求個人幫扶。兩人加深了友誼，這是她能保持聯繫並受鼓勵加入門徒小組的另一個機會。我們繼續為她的夏季學期祈禱。

最後，學生區的一位新成員參加了細胞小組和男門徒小組。靠著神的恩典，當他看到他的細胞小組和門徒小組的成員積極傳福音和關懷照顧他時，他接受了這信仰。在細胞小組和門徒小組中都確認了他的信心。這是神在學生生命中的信實和作為的偉大見證！除此之外，還有許多神信實帶領年輕事工和年輕領袖的故

事。儘管我們的理解和智慧有限，神繼續供應、保守和培育祂的子民。

### 宣教小組委員會

司徒靜姬

#### 馬太福音 9 章 37-38

於是對門徒說：「要收的莊稼多，作工的人少。所以你們當求莊稼的主，打發工人出去收他的莊稼。」

我們感謝神不僅好好地將世界各地的靈魂收割，也讓我們透過祈禱、外出、支持不同宣教士和財務捐贈上的參與。由於涉及不同地域的敏感性質，我們無法在這裡盡列，但可以提及的包括：

Suraj Kamaravalli 牧師 (CBM - 印度) 四月來為我們證道。

Emad Botros 牧師 (黎巴嫩阿拉伯浸信會神學院教授) 感恩節週末來為我們講道

Joe Bridi 牧師 (CBM - 黎巴嫩)

Kevin、Jessica 和女兒 Aria 受我們差遣於二月前往日本。

Johnson Hsu 在差傳會上發言

潘何依華傳道和余婉玲在聖誕節期間前往墨西哥進行短期宣教

潘永恩今年三月從基督使者協會退休，在地方教會作實習。

### 社區服務及關懷

譚紹南牧師

馬太福音 25 章:40 節：

王要回答說：『我實在告訴你們，這些事你們既作在我這弟兄中一個最小的身上，就是作在我身上了。』’

當我們透過善行來彰顯耶穌的愛時，我們便有幸成為他的好門徒。當我們真心誠意服事他人時，我們就是在服事耶穌。我們感謝神，恩典福音堂的社區服務與關懷事工在 2023 年做了很多工作，感動了很多生命。

2023 年的亮點包括：

- 食物銀行 - 我們感謝神在過去兩年以來，陳黃月華的辛勤事奉。她的任期即將結束，目前正籌劃將職責委託給不同的領導成員，並提議以合約形式聘請一名項目主管來取代目前的行政助理職位。

- 活水諮詢中心去年的優惠服務仍然可用。在 2023 年曾經受惠的人於 2024 年更新了資格。

- Presence 關顧人員小組仍然活躍（譚牧師參與）

- 2023 年教會的社會關注焦點是難民和人口販運。

英文堂會眾推廣並支持 NIDA 計畫（印度加爾各答 CBM），該計畫幫助女性在亞洲最大的紅燈區擺脫性交易。

我們也推動多倫多西北部一些當地教會和社區組織為無證難民籌集資金。

- 世界宣明會 6K 水步行：來自恩典堂的 71 人參加。為非洲的水井開發籌集了 16,298 美元



## English Congregation Testimonies

### 英語堂見證

#### **Baptism Testimony 受浸見證**

**Marcus**

Hello everyone, my name is Marcus, I'd like to share my testimony with you today.

I was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome, a kind of autism, when I was 5. Unlike my peers, I wasn't driven by popularity or grades and I was instead very intrinsically motivated. Growing up with different values made it hard to find friends, and in Grade 1 or so, my parents began to take me to church in an attempt to solve this problem, but this was unsuccessful. Eventually, I stopped attending church completely, until Grade 7 when I started going to a more community-oriented youth group on Friday nights.

As I grew older, I developed various passions like computers, parkour, and stocks, and more. I engaged deeply with these interests because I believed they could lead me to a fulfilling life - they were my analog to grades and popularity. God was not a part of my life during this time. In Grade 11, I joined an extracurricular program for aspiring entrepreneurs and individuals wanting to make an impact. I pushed myself to excel in the program, driven by my competitive nature, but a part of me also wanted to prove myself despite my differences. Although the program had good intentions, the competitive environment influenced me negatively. I looked down on those not in the program, wanting to be superior to others. If I had weaknesses others didn't have, I needed to have strengths others didn't have. It was only fair.

With my heart more fixed on popularity and success, God decided the coming year was a season to discipline me. In that period, I faced a series of unfortunate events, facing failure after failure, breaking relationships and having relationships broken on me, and becoming increasingly confused about the state of my life. This all led up to university-program-choosing season, and at that point, I knew something in my life had to change.

Initially, I was drawn to my prestigious offers, driven by this desire for success. However, I felt called to a program I did not apply to called Knowledge Integration at Waterloo, an interdisciplinary arts and science program that allowed me to pursue my passions through the many electives I was allowed to take, while its core courses focused on transferable skills. In a step of faith, I applied to this

program after the deadline and was accepted, and I took the offer. Being in such a flexible program opened up many opportunities, and in my first year, I used my free time to start new initiatives in CCF and serve the fellowship.

Around a year ago, my faith began to grow. It was due to several factors: good conversations with my other Christian friends, playing softball here, and doing accountability and sharing journals with people close to me. Softball, in particular, was a place where I was exposed to so much of God's grace. Even though my anxiety led me to walk away on my own during breaks, the team made every effort to include me and make me feel welcome. Over the past year, I started considering baptism as the next step in my faith journey.

I was also met with a lot of challenges in this period. My mental health fell, with my anxiety being increasingly disruptive to my daily life and autism and ADHD continuing to reduce my self-esteem. Suddenly, I could look at others and feel terrible about the lack of direction and security brought upon by my neurodivergence, which never happened before. I felt like people could only see my strengths, but all my struggles were invisible. I felt alone and helpless, even considering deferring the baptism to another date. But after praying about it, I felt overwhelming peace, and I remained confident in my decision to be baptized at this time.

From all this, I understand that I am a sinner and I require Christ's blood, which was shed for me on the cross, to forgive my sins and grant me eternal life. I was captivated by my desire to overcome my weaknesses which resulted in my hubris and excessive ambition, and while I was led away for some time, God was good and brought me back to Him. As you know, I still struggle with my weaknesses: I still feel overcome by anxiety, I still feel crushing loneliness, and I'm still pretty overcompetitive. But I feel more at peace knowing that somehow, God is using this for good. In 2 Corinthians 12, the apostle Paul writes about a thorn in his flesh, which remained despite Paul begging God to take this away from him. Instead, God told him, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

In my testimony, I have spoken gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. I hope my story resonates with at least some of you, who might be feeling the same way, and I hope you will also be able to find your strength in Jesus.

Thank you for listening.



大家好，我叫 Marcus，今天想跟大家分享我的見證。我五歲時被診斷出患有亞斯伯格症，這是一種自閉症。與我的同齡人不同，我不被受歡迎程度或成績好壞所驅動，而是非常著重內在的動力。在不同的價值觀下成長，我很難找到朋友，而大約在一年級時，父母開始帶我去教會試圖解決這個問題，但沒有成效。最後，我不再返教會而直到七年級時，我開始在週五晚上參加了一個更注重以面向人群為導向的青年團體。

隨著年齡的增長，我對電腦、飛躍道、股票等產生了興趣。我深入研究因為相信它們可以讓我的生命過得充實——它們表彰了我的人氣和品位。在那段時間裡，神沒有成為生命的一部分。到 11 年級時，我參加了一個針對有抱負的企業家和想要產生個人影響力的課外課程。在我天生好勝的本性驅使下，我強迫自己在這個項目中表現出色，雖然與別人有不同之處，但我內心也很想證明自己。儘管這個專案的初衷是好的，但競爭環境卻對我產生了負面影響。我看不起那些沒有參與的人，看自己比別人優秀。若然我得到別人沒有的弱點，我就需要擁有別人沒有的優點。這很公平。

由於我的心更注重聲望和成功，神決定來年是懲教我的時候。在那段時期裡，我遭遇連串的不幸事件，一次又一次的失敗，一次又一次人際關係破裂，對自己的人生狀態越來越困惑。這一切延伸至大學課程選科季節，那一刻，我知道我必須改變生活中的某些事情。

最初，在渴望成功的驅使下，我傾向選擇一些有名氣的學科。然而，我卻感到被一個我沒有申請的科目所吸引，是 Waterloo 大學的 Knowledge Integration，這是一個跨學科結合藝術和科學的科目，在眾多可選修科中它讓我能追求到我的激情，而其核心課程則著重於可轉移技能。憑著信心，我在截止日期後申請了這個課程並被錄取。這個靈活的科目帶給我很多機會，就在第一年，我就利用空閒時間在校園基督徒團契（CCF）中自覺性事奉並策劃新項目。

大約一年前，我的信心開始成長。這是由於幾個因素：能與其他基督徒朋友說話投機，打壘球，以及在聚會時與好朋友們互動互勉，互相代禱並分享靈修心得。尤其是壘球，是我能盡顯神恩典的地方。儘管我會因為焦慮而在休息期間獨自走開，但團隊會盡一切努力包容我，讓我感到受歡迎。在過去的一年裡，我開始考慮受浸作為我信仰之旅的下一步。

這期間我也遇到了許多挑戰。我的精神健康狀況下降，焦慮日益擾亂我的日常生活，自閉症和過動症繼續推低我的自尊。我會因看著別人而突然之間受到神經分歧所帶來的缺乏方向和安全感到恐懼，這是以前從未發生過的。我覺得人們只能看到我的強處，卻看不到我的掙扎。我感到孤獨無助，甚至考慮延後受洗。但禱告之後，我感到無與倫比的平安，對這次受洗的決定仍然充滿信心。

這一切，讓我明白自己是一個罪人，我需要基督在十字架上為我流的血來赦免我的罪並賜給我永生。要克服自己弱點的渴望將我套牢，導致我狂妄自傲和野心勃勃，而當我迷了路，良善的神把我帶回他身邊。眾所周知，我仍然在與自己的弱點作爭鬥：仍然感到焦慮，仍然感到極度孤獨，而且仍然過於爭強好勝。但我感到更加平安，知道神正在好好的運用這一切。在《哥林多後書》第 12 章中，使徒保羅寫到他肉體上有一根刺，儘管保羅懇求上帝將這根刺從他身上拿走，但這根刺仍然存在。相反，神告訴他：“我的恩典夠你用的，因為我的能力，是在人的軟弱上顯得完全。”

在我的見證裡，我很樂意談論自己的軟弱，好讓基督的能力臨到我身上。我希望我的故事至少能引起在座中一些人的共鳴，他們可能也有同樣的感覺，而我希望你們也能夠在耶穌裡找到自己的力量。

感謝您的聆聽。

## Personal Testimony 個人見證 *Nicole Yap*

Hi everyone, for those of you who don't know me, my name is Nicole, and I am here today to share my testimony of how I came to Christ.

I was not raised in Christian home, nor did I come from a home where religion was very important. I came from a humble home and was raised by immigrant parents who just pushed me to study hard, go to university, and get a good job. They told me that by following this formula, I will have a good life. I was not concerned by things like faith and my exposure to Christianity was minimal and elementary.

As I grew older, especially in high school, I was surrounded by many friends who believed in Christ and called themselves Christian. During that time, I found myself wondering more about Christianity and if God is real. To me, He was this cosmic character who overlooked us and maybe had the power to do things? Despite my beliefs, I still asked them questions about their faith and some random questions I had such as "What's the difference between God and Jesus?" Although answers were given to me by my friends, I still found myself unbelieving and called myself an agnostic. Christianity was still unfamiliar to me, and I just felt this unexplained uncomfortableness.

Years go by and I graduate and finish University. I was almost through the goals my parents told me to accomplish. I started working full-time at a company and during this time, I remember feeling lost and thinking, "Is this it? Is this what my life will be from now on?" These thoughts caused me to have feelings of emptiness and an existential crisis, but I just brushed it off and continued.

Later, I met someone at my company who became a very instrumental person in my life. They encouraged me to attend Church and share in their faith. While I was a bit hesitant, I was not opposed to the idea, so I began to regularly attend Sunday service at a church in Toronto in November 2021. My first experience with Church really surprised me, and it was humbling. I realized all the stereotypes and outside knowledge that I have gathered while living my life were wrong, and I found myself being curious again. As I continued to attend Church, however, I did struggle to understand and connect to the sermons and messages being shared at times. I thought this was due to my lack of

knowledge and this pushed me to independently figure out what Christianity is all about and what does Christ mean to me.

The Church I was attending was far away from home at the time, so I asked around and was introduced to Grace Chinese Gospel Church. I started attending at the end of April 2022, and I was moved by the message being preached on the first day. I was welcomed by many friendly faces and the community here is very warm and supportive. I felt motivated to keep coming here and later, I was encouraged to sign up for an Alpha course, which is a course for non-believers, skeptics, and new believers.

During my time at Alpha, I was facing a tumultuous time in my life. So, to give some background, I am a CPA, and it is a profession that requires lots of studying and exams. There is a 3-day licensing final exam that all candidates need to write, and you have 3 tries to pass it. Honestly, I am terrible at taking exams and unfortunately, I found myself writing it for a third time and was feeling so much anxiety waiting for the results (there's a three-month waiting period by the way). I also had my relationship abruptly end and I was left heartbroken and grieving. And finally, I was facing extreme pressures at my workplace that left me feeling burnt out and unappreciated. In just an instant, I found myself feeling hopeless and my mental health took a huge nosedive. Despite these difficulties I was facing, I still took the time to attend the course as I found solace in talking to fellow church members.

I was still trying to discern what was being presented to me, but during one of the sessions, there was a quote that said, "Instead of trying to understand to believe, you should believe to understand." Although a very simple quote, I was profoundly impacted by it and I realized that the reason I struggled to understand was because I lacked faith. I did not have the heart because I kept thinking about how much head knowledge I was lacking.

After that, things started to click for me, but I still felt unsure about committing myself to Christ. However, to paraphrase something someone said in Alpha, "Being Christian is all about having a relationship with God and knowing him. The Bible shouldn't be looked at as a rule book of things you can or cannot do. Instead, you should realize that when you have

a relationship with someone, you don't desire to hurt them by doing things they don't like." It was such a simple explanation, and yet I didn't grasp it until that moment. At that moment, I felt as though everything made sense. After Alpha, I decided to become a believer.

The moment I decided to accept Jesus Christ into my life, I felt immediate inner peace. All my problems and worries were still there, but I felt a lot of hope and a ray of light in my heart. I felt a desire to keep learning more about the Gospel and sought after that. I learned about God's love and His grace, and since that day, I feel as though He has given me many blessings that show His love.

As I stand in front of you today, I wanted to share that I have passed my exams and got my CPA license. I got back together with my partner, and we have built a more solid relationship. At work, I prayed for being given a new role where I felt appreciated, and I now have a wonderful opportunity to work with a team that is more supportive and is a better fit. To me, this is a testimony of His faithfulness to us when we invite Him into our lives.

I am still learning, but one thing I have come to know is that I can place my rest and trust in Jesus Christ. His willingness to sacrifice himself on the cross to pay for my sins, is the ultimate expression of His love. I can be assured that I am forgiven for my sins and not only that, I have been given eternal life. There may be times where we can grow weary and we may struggle, but rest assured He has your best interests.

As I conclude for today, I have to say that I found purpose and feel more whole. There is more to life than the formula that was being pushed on to me. I hope that my story is able to relate to some of you. Thank you for listening.

大家好，向不認識我的人介紹，我的名字是 Nicole，今天我在這裡要分享我如何歸信基督的見證。

我不是在基督教家庭長大，也不是來自一個非常看重宗教的家庭。我來自一個謙遜的家庭，由移民父母撫養長大，他們鼓勵我努力向學，上大學，找一份好工作。他們告訴我若能遵循這個公式，我就會得著美好

的人生。我並不關心信仰之類的事情，而且我對基督教的接觸也是很少而且皮毛。

隨著年齡的增長，尤其是在高中時，我周圍有很多信主並自稱基督徒的朋友。在那段日子裡，我發覺自己想更了解基督教以及神是否真實。對我來說，他是個在俯視我們而或許有能力的宇宙人物？不管我的想法如何，我仍然會問他們一些有關信仰以及一些即興問題，例如“上帝和耶穌有什麼區別？”儘管朋友們給了我答案，但我仍然不置可否，並稱自己為不可知主義者。基督教對我來說依然陌生，然而我卻感到一種莫名的不舒服。

數年後我從大學畢業。我差不多達成父母要我實現的目標。我開始在一家公司全職工作而就在這段時間裡，我感到失落並思考：「就是這樣嗎？這就是我以後的人生嗎？」這些想法讓我感到空虛和危機感，但我只是把它置諸腦後，繼續向前。

後來，我在公司遇到一位成為我生命中非常重要的人。他們鼓勵我去教會並分享他們的信仰。雖然有點猶豫，但我並不反對這個想法，所以我從 2021 年 11 月開始便定期參加了多倫多一家教會的主日崇拜。第一次接觸教會的經歷確實讓我感到驚訝，也讓我感到卑微。我意識到在我日常生活中收集到有關教會的刻板印象和表面知識都是錯誤的，我覺得自己再次感到好奇。然而，當我繼續參加教會時，我確實對一些講道和訊息很難理解。我心想這是由於我缺乏知識，這促使我獨自去求證基督教的真諦以及基督對我的意義。

當時我參加的教會離家很遠，四處打聽後，經人介紹來到了恩典福音堂。我於 2022 年 4 月下旬開始參加，而第一天所宣講的訊息令我感動。我受到了許多友善面孔的歡迎，這裡的群眾非常熱情和樂於助人。我感受到會繼續來這裡的動力，後來我被鼓勵報名參加啟發課程，一個針對非信徒、懷疑論者和新信徒的課程。

在啓發課程期間，我面對人生中一段一波三折的日子。在此先簡述一些背景，我是一名註冊會計師，這是一個需要大量學習和考試的職業。所有考生都需要參加為期 3 天的執照期末考試，而您有 3 次嘗試取得合格的機會。老實說，我恐懼考試而不幸的是，我需要考第三次，而在等待成績期間我感到非常焦慮（順提一下，等待期為三個月）。此時我與伴侶的關係突然破裂，我感到心碎又悲傷。最後，我在工作場所面臨著巨大的壓力，這讓我感到精疲力竭和不受重視。在那一瞬間，我感到絕望，我的心理健康狀況急劇下降。儘管面對這些困境，我仍然花時間參加課程，因為在與教會成員交誼時我會感到安慰。

我仍在試圖明辨課程的內容，但在一次課堂中，有一句話說：「你要先相信才去理解，而不是試圖理解後才去相信。」雖然很簡單的一句，但我卻深受其影響，我意識到我之所以難以理解，是因為我缺乏信心。我沒有這個心，因為我一直在惦記著自己的頭腦知識還欠缺多少。

在那之後，事情開始變得順當，但我仍然不確定是否要將自己委身於基督。然而，套用啓發課程中某人所說的一句話：「成為基督徒就是與神建立關係並認識祂。聖經不應該被視為一本關於你能做或不能做的事情的規則書。相反，你應該意識到，當你與人建立關係後，你不會想透過做他們不喜歡的事情來傷害他們。」是這麼簡單的道理，而我卻要到那一刻才明白。那一刻，一切都顯得合情合理。在啓發課程之後，我決定成為信徒。

當我決定接受耶穌基督進入我的生命的那一刻，我立刻感覺到內心的平安。我所有的問題和憂慮都還在，但我心裡卻充滿了希望和一线光明。我渴望繼續去更了解並追求福音。我認識了神的愛和祂的恩典，從那天起，我感覺到祂給了我許多祝福並彰顯了祂的愛。

今天當我站在你們面前時，我想告訴大家我已經通過了考試並獲得了註冊會計師執照。我和我的伴侶重歸於好，並且建立了更牢固的關係。工作方面，我祈禱能得到一個被重視的新崗位而現在我得到一個絕佳的機會與一隊更支持我、更適合我的團隊一起工作。對我來說，當我們邀請祂進入我們的生命時，這就是祂對我們信實的見證。

我仍在學習中，但我漸漸明白到我可以將休息和信心放在耶穌基督身上。祂願意在十字架上犧牲自己來贖我的罪，這是祂愛的最終表達。我可以肯定我的罪已被赦免，不僅如此，我還獲得了永生。有時我們可能會感到疲倦，我們可能會掙扎，但請放心，祂會好好地看顧你。

在今天的總結中，我不得不說我找到了目標並且感覺更加完整。人生不應被局限於強加於身的生活公式。我希望我的故事能夠讓在坐一些人產生共鳴。感謝您的聆聽。

### **Testimony 見證**

**Michael Zhang**

I wasn't born in the church, but I had friends who were Christian. They invited me to gatherings such as small groups, banquets, and fellowship. Even before I came to know Christ, I knew what he was capable of through the power of community. However, at that time, it was all too overwhelming for me, and thus it intimidated me. I was reluctant to give any real consideration to who Jesus was and what Christianity meant. My girlfriend at the time would encourage me to learn about God and tell me about her Christian life, but I didn't give it enough thought.

I always believed that we were inherently 'evil'. Not in the exact sense that we are all sinners, but I did understand that we had too much capability to be bad. With this realization, I would always be slightly critical of myself; critical of my lack of motivation, aspiration, desires to do more. I also developed an inability to control my thoughts, which led to anxiety, and I would often blame a 'higher power' for this...

but then I would apologize to God, because I was scared of him.

In university, I was overweight, I was unmotivated, and I was anxious. I slowly became depressed. Around this time, big changes were happening in my life, and my depression worsened as I recalled on my lack of interpersonal relationships. My girlfriend always said that if my relationship took a turn for the worse, I should seek God. So for the first time in my life, with all that was happening, I decided to seriously think about God.

It was after work during one of my co-ops, at a bus stop. I was contemplating life a lot. I searched up about the Gospel, about Jesus, and about what makes someone a 'Christian'. I learned that to be saved, you only needed to acknowledge that you're a sinner, that Jesus came down to earth and died for our sins so that we could be saved, and was resurrected.

So I confessed. I confessed that I was a sinner, and that I wanted to come to believe in Jesus, that I have come to believe in him. I accepted that through his death, my sins would be forgiven and I would be granted eternal life with God. I recited a prayer of salvation, and took comfort in a feeling of relief at that moment. I rejoiced knowing that through Jesus dying on the cross, anyone could be saved. I felt that I had something to believe in and someone to rely on. Shortly after, I confided in a few of my friends the problems I had in my life, and they listened. Then, trying to seek community, they brought me to the university fellowship, and it was around that time that I felt more comfort.

Onwards to the end of university, my condition improved, but I felt like I started making excuses for Christ. I kept acknowledging my sins but failing on act on them. I didn't have that much time, but the time I did have I felt like I was wasting. After university, life started picking up and my friends gave me another push towards God.

In the past year, I felt like I have grown closer to God and learned more about him. The Christian community is coming together to love and feel the love of Jesus. I think the single most important thing is a desire to love and seek God yourself. You cannot be pushed to do so, and one of the most comforting things a friend has told me was: 'it's okay to say no'. While spiritual growth is something that God wanted for us as a community, God would be

happier when you do it willingly and lovingly, and not through a sense of obligation.

God has given me friendship, comfort, motivation, and desire to improve, more than I can ever be thankful for, and I will be eternally grateful. I wish my faith to grow more, throughout my entire life, and I want to follow Jesus Christ.

我不是出生在基督教背景的家庭，但我有一些基督徒朋友。他們邀請我參加小組、聚餐和團契等聚會。甚至在我認識基督之前，我就知道祂在透過團體力量的大能。然而，當時的一切對我來說太難承受，以至讓我感到害怕。我不願意認真去思考耶穌是誰以及基督教的意義。當時我的女朋友鼓勵我多去了解神並對我談及她的基督徒生活，但我卻沒有好好的去思量。

我一直相信人一生下來就是「性本惡」的。不是代表我們都是罪人，但我確實知道人要學壞非常容易。有了這個認知，我總是會對自己略有挑剔；批評自己缺乏動力、抱負、不求進取。我也無法控制自己的思維，導致了焦慮，我常常為此責怪那「更高的力量」……但後來我會向神致歉，因為我對祂有畏懼。

大學時，我體重超標，缺乏動力，很焦慮。我慢慢地變得沮喪。大約在這個時候，我的人生發生了巨大的變化，記得當時因為人際關係的匱乏，導致我的憂鬱症變得更加嚴重。我的女朋友常說，如果我的人際關係變差，我應該尋求神。因此，藉著發生的這一切，我在人生中第一次決定要認真去思考神。

那是在我的實習工作下班後，在一個公車站。我對人生沈思。我搜尋了有關福音、耶穌、什麼使人成為「基督徒」的信息。我了解到，人只需要承認自己是一個罪人，承認耶穌來到世上，是為我們的罪而死，然後復活，這樣我們就可以得到救贖。

於是我認罪。我承認我是一個罪人，我願意相信耶穌，我已經相信了他。我相信因著祂的死，我的罪得赦免，我將得到與神同在的永生。我作了救贖的祈禱，那一



刻我感到如釋重負。我很高興知道因著耶穌死在十字架上，任何人都可以得救。我感覺到我有可以信靠的事，知道有誰可以依靠。不久之後，我向一些朋友傾訴了我生命中遇到的難處，他們聆聽。然後，帶我加入了大學團契的群體，那是一段我感到舒適安穩的日子。

大學結束時，我的情況有所改善，但我覺得自己開始找藉口敷衍基督。我未曾間斷承認自己有罪，卻從來沒有付諸行動去悔改。我沒有那麼多時間，但實情是我將所擁有的時間都浪費掉。大學畢業後，生活開始好轉，我的朋友們再次推動我回到神處。

在過去的一年裡，我感覺自己與神有更多的親近和認識。基督徒朋友在主裏一同聚集並享受耶穌的愛。我認為最重要的事莫過於對愛的渴望和親自去尋求神。在這事上別人不能強迫你，一位朋友說得好：“你可以說不”，而這話使人感到舒服。雖然靈命成長是神盼望能在我們作為一個團體中所能成就的事，但當這些成就是透過你的自願、充滿愛心，而不是出於義務感而做成時，神會更喜悅。

神賜給我友誼、安慰、動力和進步的意願，超過我的所想所求，我將永遠感激不盡。盼望我的信仰，在我的整个人生中，能夠繼續成長，我願意跟隨耶穌基督。

## Mandarin Ministry Report *Rev. Dali Ren*

Our church theme for 2023 was "Leadership Training" which guided the Mandarin ministry throughout the year in the following aspects: to teach the biblical concept of leadership and the characters of a leader through peaching to begin with, then exhorted and guided brothers and sisters to respond to the Lord's calling, and to become influential people, acting as the light and salt of the world, sharing God's love, being a blessing to others and glorifying God's Name. We have made further improvement on the Sunday school training system. On top of the courses of evangelism, rooting for new believers, biblical study and spiritual exercises, we have conducted a missionary course for the first time, which prepared and equipped brothers and sisters for God's Great Commission and to become a church with missionary vision. The deacons committee also practiced community sensitivity, discerning the needs of this generation and the specific mission given to us by the Lord. The fact that large number of new migrants were flowing in from China had drawn our attention to start the new immigrant ministry. We also encourage brothers and sisters to participate in Sunday school, cell group meeting, evangelism and social concern services, and practice being a good and faithful servant, a wise steward.

Deacons and group leaders encouraged brothers and sisters to return to in-person gatherings, and as a result the Sunday Service attendance had been increased from nearly 100 at the beginning of the year to more than 120 at the end of the year and most cell group meetings resumed in-person. Over 100 new friends came to the church last year. In order to help these new friends to be better assimilated into church so as to receive pastoral care they needed, we decided to establish the New Canada Fellowship, led by the couple Kai-yuan Chen and Xiang-Ying He, assisted by Ying Gan and Yi Wang. Ever since its first gathering on August 18, the group grew rapidly, and by the end of the year, there were more than 30 people participating steadily.

From January to April, we invited Brother Yue Gong from the Canadian Campus Gospel Fellowship to preach a series of evangelical sermons titled with "A Good Medicine", "A Path" and "A Lifetime of Hope", which were the sequel of the sermon "A Key", the message he preached in the 2022 Christmas

Evangelical gathering. We had once again conducted the in-person Alpha course led by Rev. Siu and Mrs. Siu, along with more than 20 faithful co-workers, and ran from September to November. More than 30 seekers participated, and 16 decided to believe in the Lord. The theme of the 2023 Christmas Evangelical Gathering was "Light and Peace". More than 250 people participated, and 8 friends made their decision of converting. Last year, a total of 30 people decided to believe in Jesus. In the baptisms on June 18 and December 3, a total of 21 people were baptized and 8 were transferred.

### **A brief review:**

#### 1) Discipleship and spiritual formation:

- Sunday School: Other than Alpha course, there are 4 more courses provided. Overall attendance is about 120 in total, both in-person and online.
- Baptism and membership transfer:

First baptism (June 18, 11 people): Pei-Liang Xue, Liang-Di Sun, Zhi-Jun Wang, Jun-Hong Xu, Bo Gao, Xue Cheng, Yi Zhou, Di-An Pan, Ryan Yi, Hao-Jun Lin, Cindy Song)

Membership transfer (June 18, 2 people): Ci-Wei Su, Jian Chen).

Second baptism (December 3, 9 people): Xiao-Zhou He, Fu-Lan Zhang, Xiao-Hua Ye, Guang-Bin Chen, Jin Wu, Yi-Zhe Tang, Chu-Ting Cao, Hao-Zhe Xu, Jessica Song);

Membership transfer (December 3, 6 people): Xiao-Wu Yi, Kai-Yuan Chen, Xiang-Ying He, Fei-Jun Huang, Guo-Guo Xu, Wen-Juan Li).

Third baptism (December 3, 1 person): Ya-Hong Sun.

#### 2) Outreach and Evangelism Ministry:

- Alpha course: September 10th - November 26th, every Sunday from 11:15AM-12:45PM at church, with more than 40 seekers participating and 25 co-workers. A total of 16 people made a decision to believe in Christ, and 2 people confirmed their belief in Christ.
- Community evangelism: Once a month, led by Deacon Yan Jin-Hua, some brothers and

sisters held evangelical signs at the intersection and distributed evangelical booklets in the community.

- An Evangelical Sunday Worship in December 24, with the theme of “Light and Peace” preached by Rev. Ren; more than 250 people attended, and 8 people decided to believe in Jesus.

### 3) Cell group and fellowship ministry:

- Cell groups were running well. We had 2 new groups established this year: The Hannah group, a sister group on Thursday morning; Xin-Jia Fellowship, which focused on new immigrant ministry.
- Meng Wang, the deacon of cell group ministry, discussed with Rev. Ren and Rev. Siu how to reconstruct the cell groups based on the current situation of each group, to give more support and to develop a suitable training plan to leaders; A one-day cell group ministry workshop had been planned on February 24, 2024.

### 4) Mission:

- From June to August, a Sunday school course “Introduction of Missionary” was held; 9 Chinese pastors and missionaries from the Greater Toronto Area were invited to give lectures.
- The 2024 Mission Annual Conference will be held on January 26, 27, and 28. The speaker is Rev. Lu Zi-Feng, Director General of the Overseas Chinese Mission (COCM), and the theme is “New Macedonia’s Voice.”
- The Mandarin Short-Term Mission team of 4 people (Rev. Ren, Mrs. Ren, Helen Wu, Vivian Li) had been set up to prepare for COCM Mandarin Easter Student Camp in UK from March 25 to April 2, 2024.

### 5) Pastoral staff

Mandarin Ministry Committee and the Executive Board reviewed with Pastor Liu Qiang his first year

of service as the assistant pastor in Mandarin Congregation. Considering both the requirement of Mandarin ministry and his personal and family need, we agreed with Pastor Liu that in December 31, 2023, at the end of his one-year term, he will no longer serve as the assistant pastor in Mandarin Congregation, and will be looking forward to his new direction in ministry. We are grateful to Pastor Liu and his family for their service in the Mandarin Congregation, and may the Lord lead and bless them on the way ahead.

6) In 2023, there are 10 deacons in Mandarin Ministry Committee: Angela Wang (vice chairman, and Children’s Ministry), Paul Zhang (Christian Education, and IT/AV), Richard Liang (Sunday Service-Usher and Welcome, secretary), Zhong-Fa Pan (Membership), Vivian Li (Worship Team), Daisy Ma (Missionary), Esther Yan (Evangelism), Simon Song Yan (Building), Meng Wang (Cell Group), Bao Mali (Social Concern).

- Daisy Ma resigned as a deacon in September because she will no longer be participated in our church. Rev. Ren had taken over the Missionary Ministry.

### Deacons’ ministry reports:

**Vice Chairman and Children’s Ministry** by Angela Wang: Starting from March 2023, I served as Children’s Ministry deacon, mainly in Senior class (children of Gr. 4-6). Through WeChat group, I had been keeping a good connection with Mandarin parents from time to time, communicating about children’s growth.

1) From September to December, we held 6 workshops of positive discipline parenting training led by Pastor Eva. 35 parents and 6 co-workers participated. The feedback was very good, and parents are looking forward to more learning opportunities in the future to equip themselves.

2) In September, Pastor Eva organized a P2P, passport to purity workshop, 4 families participated.

3) During the summer vacation, Pastor Eva visited 4 Mandarin families and organized a Family Fun Day at the beach.

4) In November, Pastor Eva organized Harvest Carnival providing children a better activity on Halloween.

5) Beginning in December, in order to cooperate with the new immigrant ministry of Xin-Jia Fellowship, Mrs. Ren set up the children's fellowship on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Fridays to make the fellowship available on every Friday.

6) In 2023, 7 sisters from Mandarin Congregation served in the children's ministry (Linda Zhang, Helen Wu, Rovena Wu, Amy Cao, Li-Yan Zhao, Vivian Ren, and Angela Wang) and attended in the staff training organized by Pastor Eva. Lots of gains. I pray that the Lord will remember everyone's hard work, and I also hope that more brothers and sisters will join the team to serve the children in the future and experience Lord's grace together.

#### **Christian Education, IT/AV** by Paul Zhang

a) Sunday School: helps brothers and sisters to study the Bible, to connect and to grow in the truth. Summary of ministry over the past two years:

1) Resume in-person class, respond to needs

- More and more new friends who are willing to learn about Christianity are being invited to Mandarin Sunday School

- Alpha courses

- Evangelical class: The Gospel of Mark, Pursuing the Path of Life

- New Believers' Education Class: Abundant Life, Simple Bible Overview

- Brothers and sisters desire to establish a personal relationship with the Lord, connect with each other, and grow together

- Devotional Bible Study Class

- Teachers and co-workers: reduced burden; more time to pray for students and accompany their spiritual growth

- Balancing between teaching and group sharing

2) Team establishment and structure improvement

- Give thank to teachers and co-workers who joined the team;

- Need more co-workers.

b) IT/AV Ministry

Appreciations to

1) David Feng, Jason Chen, Jia Guo, Xiao-Hua Pan, Zhao-Hong Dan, and Tao Wang; for their faithful service to ensure that Sunday worship and special gatherings proceed smoothly;

2) Worship Team: Cooperate with co-workers; help improve the audio and video control process

3) Church IT/AV Department for their Support and help, for planning and implementing the improvement projects

4) Helen Wu, worship team, speakers: cooperate with co-workers; prepare PPT

#### **Sunday Service-Usher and Welcome** by Richard Liang

1) Usher: In June 2023, the Mandarin Congregation resumed the Monthly Lunch on the first Sunday of each month, and Usher team were responsible for rice cooking. New team members in 2023: William Zhao, Nancy Hou, Yan Xu, Jin Wu etc.

2) Welcoming: 7 brothers and sisters served to follow up on new friends. We organized a meal gathering to welcome new friends and introduce them to the appropriate cell groups. In 2023, 112 new friends attended in-person Sunday Service in Mandarin Congregation.

We welcome more people to join us to serve the Lord.

#### **Membership Ministry** by Zhong-Fa Pan

1) Baptism and Membership Transfer

- Preparation for baptism
- Filling and draining of water in baptism pool
- Editing and binding of certificates
- Issue membership certificates

2) Membership Meeting

- Notified and provided conference information
- Counted the number of people signing in
- Distributed, collected and counted ballots

### 3) Picnic

- Promotion and ticket sale
- Information updating
- Event organization
- Lunch arrangement

### 4) Church dinner, 3 times

- Ticket sale
- Arranged for ordering/distributing lunch and post-meeting cleaning, etc.

### 5) Enforcement of the church policy

- Supervised and implemented the Mandarin WeChat group rules
- Further implementation of existing procedures, such as further measures for Yu-Lan He's violations

### 6) Attended meetings

- Attended 3 quarterly meetings
- Gathered and sent feedback to the conference

## **Worship Team** by Vivian Li

### 1) The growth of the Worship Team

- Three new choir members joined the choir family
- Young drummer and guitar player joined the team

### 2) Special Event

- Participated in joint service worship team twice
- Introduced new forms of worship on Good Friday service
- Invited cell groups to join in Christmas Evangelical service Worship, ended up with a good result

### 3) Worship Team Fellowship started in September 2023

- Raise up co-workers to establish and manage the worship team together
- Review and summarize experiences to inspire and coordinate services
- Feedback and comments of improvement to IT/AV team for a better quality of worship

### 4) For team member recruitment, the basic requirements are as follows:

- Gifts in music: singing, musical instruments, etc.
- Commitment: two hours of practice every Thursday night, and arrive one hour early on Sunday morning for preparation

## **Local Evangelism** by Esther Yan

### 1) Local Evangelism

- About two hours on the first Saturday of every month at intersections, bus stops, supermarkets, etc.
- Distributed leaflets which contains the message of gospel, church introduction, or Christmas poster, etc.

- Results: Some came to church, some attended Alpha course and some converted to be Christian

### 2) Alpha courses:

- Participated in the prayer group of Alpha course which brought more than 10 people to believe in Christ
- Conducted one Alpha course in November 11 at home, 8-9 people attended.

## **Building Ministry** by Simon Song

- 1) Replaced a faucet in the women's restroom on the north side of church building

- 2) Installed tiles on the drywall near the countertop and hand dryer in the south bathroom to avoid water damage. The damaged drywall behind the men's restroom has been repaired.

- 3) Engineers found out that the entrance to our church parking lot is considered a flood zone and requires special permit from the city for any renovations. The intervention of structural engineers is also required for further renovation. As a result, the project of adding a handicapped ramp and widening the entrance near the electrical distribution room had been suspended due to the limitation of the budget.

- 4) The bottom part of the safety bollard at the entrance has been treated with rust prevention.

- 5) Some damaged white drywall in C20 classrooms had been repaired and painted, but the murals on it will not be able to repair.

- 6) Replaced the blower motor on the rooftop unit above the food bank.

- 7) With the help of Brother Gang Xue, the burnt chandelier bulb in Sanctuary A was replaced before Christmas.

- 8) At the end of January, the air conditioner on the roof of Sanctuary B broke down. It had been fixed by replacing a circuit board.



9) After many efforts, a trash bin key lockbox was installed in the lobby. From now on, there is no need to run around to get the trash bin key.

### **Cell Group Ministry** by Meng Wang

1) Discussed with Rev. Ren and Rev. Siu about the development plan, needs, and training for cell group ministry.

2) Organized the cell group leader's meeting, which made a space for leaders to share their cell group's situation, their visions and needs.

3) Conducted a discussion about the function of cell group.

4) Explore how to implement the Alpha courses in joint group meetings

### **Social Concern** by Mary Pao

1) Attended the following meetings:

- Grace Community Food Share (GCFS) Operation Meeting
- Caring for GCSF Client
- Social Concerns Committee Meetings
- JMISC meetings

2) Participated in the following ministries:

- Food bank Saturday ministry.
- Mandarin speaking clients caring
- Thanksgiving service user's party
- client's intake etc.
- Christmas services user's party
- Christmas Gifts baskets for Clients Event

3) 2023 Social Concern Committee Quarterly Report

- Mandarin Congregation - Winter Report supports Living Hope, New Hope global ministry.
- Fundraiser - The Bekaa Valley provided primary health care services to Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese.

2023 年教会的主题是“领袖训练”。国语堂主要从这几方面围绕这个主题推展一年的事工：首先是通过讲道来教导圣经的领袖观和领袖特质，劝勉和引导弟兄姐妹接受主的拣选和呼召，成为有影响力的人，作世上的光和盐，使人蒙受主的爱和祝福、荣耀主的名。我们也进一步完善主日学培育系统，在慕道、初信培育、圣经教导和属灵操练等课程之上增加培训课程，第一次开设了宣教主日学、教导弟兄姐妹们接受神的使命、学习成为宣教导向的教会。执事会也操练群体的分辨，察辨时代的需要和主给我们的具体使命，留意到有很多新朋友从中国来，决定开始新移民事工。我们也鼓励弟兄姐妹参与主日学、小组、传福音和社关等方面的服事，操练作忠心良善的仆人和管家。

执事们和组长们通过各种方式鼓励弟兄姐妹重回实体聚会，参加实体主日崇拜的人数从年初的近 100 人增加到年底的 120 多位，大多数小组也恢复了实体聚会。去年有超过 100 位新朋友来到教会。为了帮助新到加拿大的朋友们更好融入教会、得到关心和牧养，国语堂事工会决定成立新加团契，由陈开元、何向颖夫妇牵头，甘樱和王羿姊妹协助，在 8 月 18 日开始聚会后很快就发展壮大，稳定参加的到年底有 30 多位。

1-4 月间，我们邀请加拿大校园福音团契的龚悦弟兄接续 2022 年圣诞福音晚会的主题信息“一把钥匙”在主日主讲了三堂关联的福音信息，题目分别是“一剂良药”，“一条道路”和“一生盼望”。9-11 月间，我们再次开办了启发课程，在教会实体进行。20 多位同工在萧师母和萧牧师带领下，尽心竭力服事，有 30 多位慕道友参加，有 16 位决志信主。2023 年圣诞福音晚会的主题是“光明与平安”。超过 250 位弟兄姐妹和朋友们参加，有 8 位朋友决志。去年总共有 30 位弟兄姐妹决志信主。在 6 月 18 日

和 12 月 3 日的洗礼中，共有 21 位弟兄姐妹受洗，8 位转会。

#### 国语堂事工简要回顾：

##### 1) 门徒栽培和培灵：

- 主日学：除启发课程外，还开设了 4 班主日学，实体和网上每周约 120 人参加。

- 洗礼和转会礼：今年第一次洗礼在 6 月 18 日举行，11 位弟兄姐妹受洗（薛培良，孙良娣，王志军，徐俊红，高波，程雪，周易，潘迪安，易容恒，林昊骏，宋睿馨）同时有两位姊妹转会（苏辞蔚，陈健）。

12 月 3 日举行第 2 次洗礼，9 位弟兄姐妹受洗（何孝周，张福兰，叶晓华，陈光斌，吴瑾，唐一哲，曹楚婷，徐浩哲，宋睿洁）；同时有 6 位弟兄姐妹转会（易晓武，陈开元，何向颖，黄飞骏，徐果果，李汶娟）。

12 月 31 日为孙雅虹姊妹举行了点水礼。

##### 2) 外展和传福音：

- 启发课程：9 月 10 日-11 月 26 日，每周日 11:15-12:45 在教会进行，有 40 多位慕道友参加，服事的同工有 25 位。共有 16 位决志信主，2 位再次确定信主。

- 社区布道：阎金花执事每月一次带领一些弟兄姐妹在社区举牌和发福音单张。

- 12 月 24 日在教会举行圣诞福音主日，主题是“光明与平安”，任牧师讲道；250 多位参加，8 位决志信主。

##### 3) 小组和团契事工：

- 各小组状况良好。今年新成立了两个小组：周四早上的姊妹小组，哈拿小组和专门为新移民的新加团契。

•小组事工执事王勐弟兄在和任牧师、萧牧师探讨了如何按各小组实际情况调整小组架构、加强对小组长的支持、发展合乎需要的小组同工培训计划，决定明年2月24日举行一天的小组事工研讨会。

#### 4)差传：

•6-8月开办了“宣教浅尝”的主日学，邀请了大多市9位华人牧者和宣教士主讲。

•2024年的差传年会在1月26、27和28日举行，讲员是基督教华侨布道会(COCCM)总干事吕子峰牧师，主题是“新马其顿呼声”。

•国语堂组织了4人短宣队（任牧师，任师母，吴海倩，李伟）预备在2024年3月25日到4月2日到英国参加COCCM举办的复活节学生营的服事。

#### 5)教牧同工

•国语堂执事会和教会董事会与刘强传道总结评估了他作为国语堂助理牧者第一年的服事和国语堂牧养事工的需要，了解了个人和家庭的意愿，同意刘传道在2023年12月31日一年任期结束后不再担任国语堂助理牧者、寻求新的事奉方向。我们感谢刘传道和他一家在国语堂的服事，愿主带领祝福他们前面的路。

6)2023年国语堂执事会有10位执事：汪洁（副主席，兼儿童事工），张文东（教导培育，兼IT/AV），梁大照（崇拜-接待和迎新，兼文书），潘忠发（会友），李伟（诗班），马晓琴（差传），阎金花（传福音），宋严（楼宇），王勐（小组事工），包玛利（社关）。

•马晓琴姐妹在9月因不再参加本教会而辞去执事职位，任牧师兼管差传事工。

#### 執事事工报告：

汪洁（副主席，兼儿童事工）：2023三月开始，我开始担任儿童事工的执事，主要在Senior 4-6年级服事，也使用国语堂KLS家长微信群和家长们不定期的连接、沟通关于孩子们的成长。

1) 9-12月国语堂举办了六次由潘传道带领的正面管教工作坊（35位组员，六位同工）。有很好的反响，家长们也在反馈表中提到希望将来还能有这方面的学习机会，装备自己。

2) 9月份潘传道组织了圣洁身心退修营（P2P passport to purity）的工作坊，总共有四家家庭参加。

3)暑假期间，潘传道探访了四个国语堂家庭，并组织海边家庭快乐日的活动。

4)11月的时候，潘传道组织了丰收嘉年华会，带领孩子们在万圣节有更好的活动。

5)12月开始，为了配合新加团契的新移民事工，任师母牵头新增了第二、四、五的周五的儿童团契，这样每周五我们都有儿童团契。

6)去年我们国语堂有七位姐妹参与儿童事工的服事（张晨，吴海倩，吴媛，曹艺，赵立彦，任师母，汪洁），并参加了潘传道组织的同工培训，有很多的收获。求主记念大家的辛劳摆上，也盼望未来有更多的弟兄姐妹参与到儿童服事，同蒙主恩。

#### 张文东（教导培育，兼IT/AV）

主日学，帮助弟兄姐妹学习圣经、在真理中连结和成长。过去两年的事工总结：

1)疫后重启、回应需要

•越来越多愿意了解基督信仰的新朋友被邀请来到国语堂

- 启发课程
- 福音班：马可福音·追击人生路
- 初信造就班：丰盛生命·简易圣经纵览
- 弟兄姐妹渴望与主建立关系·彼此连结·陪伴成长
- 灵修读经班

•教师和同工：减负；有更多时间为学员祷告、陪伴成长

•教学和小组分享并重

## 2) 建立团队、完善架构

- 感谢参与服事的教师和同工
- 需要更多、欢迎加入同工

**影音事工：感谢**

1)冯宇、陈杰、郭嘉、潘小华、但召红、王涛弟兄·尽心尽力保证主日崇拜及特别聚会平稳流畅进行

2)敬拜小组：配合同工；帮助改进影音控制流程

3)教会 IT/影音部：支持帮助国语堂；筹划和实施改进项目

4)Helen、敬拜小组、讲员：配合同工；准备 PPT

**梁大照 (崇拜-接待和迎新，兼文书)**

1)招待事工：2023 年 6 月份国语堂恢复每个月第一周的主日爱宴·招待小组负责煮饭。2023 年招待小组新增：赵伟列·Nancy 侯·许燕·吴瑾 等弟兄姊妹

2)迎新事工：有 7 位弟兄姊妹负责跟进新朋友·2023 年·我们组织了一次欢迎新朋友的聚餐·为新朋友介绍适合他们参与的小组。2023 年·我们的记录显示有 112 位新朋友参加了国语堂的实体崇拜。

欢迎弟兄姊妹参与迎新/招待的侍奉·为主做工。

**潘忠发 (会友事物和群体生活)**

## 1)浸礼和转会

- 浸礼的准备
- 浸礼池注水和放水
- 证书的编辑和装订
- 颁发浸礼、转会证书

## 2)会友大会

- 通知并提供大会信息
- 统计签到人数
- 派发、收起和统计选票

## 3)野餐

- 推广和售票
- 信息更新
- 组织现场活动
- 安排午餐

## 4)教会聚餐·3 次

- 售票
- 安排订购/派发午餐和会后清洁等

## 5)执行纪律

- 监督并执行“国语堂微信”群规
- 进一步落实现有的规程·比如对何玉兰的违反行为的进一步措施

## 6)参加会议

- 出席三堂的季度会议
- 汇聚、反馈信息给大会

**李伟 (诗班)**

## 1)诗班继续壮大

- 三位新诗班员加入诗班大家庭
- 年轻的鼓手和吉他加入



## 2) 特别崇拜

- 两次参与带领三堂联合崇拜
- 受难节尝试新形式 诗歌 纯音乐
- 圣诞节邀请小组加入敬拜效果好

## 3) 2023 年 9 月诗班团契

- 兴起同工一同建立管理诗班
- 回顾总结经验 激励搭配服事
- 技术交流 把最好的献上

## 4) 同工招募 · 基本要求如下

- 有音乐恩赐：歌唱，乐器等
- 可以委身：每周四晚两小时练习，周日早上提前一小时到达预备

## 阎金花 (传福音)

### 1) 传福音

- 每月第一个周六约有俩小时在十字路口，巴士站，超市等
- 与兄弟姐妹分发福音小册子，中英文单张，教会简介，圣诞宣传海报等
- 果效：有决志的，有参加启发的，有参加敬拜的

### 2) 启发课程：

- 参加教会第三期启发祷告组的服侍，有十多位决志
- 11月11日在家开办了启发，有8-9个慕道友参加

## 宋严 (楼宇·兼社关)

1) 更换了北侧女洗手间的一个有故障的水龙头

2) 南侧洗手间靠近台面和干手器周围的 drywall 都贴了瓷砖，以避免水损坏。男洗手间后面损坏的 drywall 已修复。

3) 工程师发现我们教堂停车场的入口处被视为洪水区，需要获得市政府的特别许可才能进行任何翻修。还需

要结构工程师的介入。因此，增加残疾人坡道和拓宽配电室附近的入口将花费更多。项目暂停

4) 入口处的安全护柱底部已进行防锈处理

5) C20 教室一些损坏的白色墙壁被修复和粉刷，但不会修复壁画

6) 更换了食品银行上方屋顶单元的鼓风机电机

7) 在薛刚弟兄的帮助下，于圣诞节前夕更换了 A 礼堂烧坏的吊灯灯泡

8) 1 月底，B 礼堂房顶的空调坏了，已经修好，换了一个电路板

9) 经过多方努力，在大堂安装了垃圾箱钥匙 lockbox。今后负责倒垃圾的弟兄姐妹不用再为了钥匙跑来跑去了

## 王勐 (小组事工)

1) 与任牧师和箫牧师商量有关小组建设的计划，需求，培训等

2) 协助任牧师和箫牧师召集小组长聚会分享各组现状，期望和需求

3) 讨论小组的功能

4) 探寻启发课程在联合小组聚会的推行

## 包玛利 (社关)

1) 参加会议：

- 恩福食物银行(GCFS) 运营会议
- 对食物银行受众的关爱
- 社会关注小组会议
- 理事会会议

2) 参与事工：

- 食物银行周六事工。

- 普通话受众关怀
- 感恩节服务用户聚会
- 受众的提取量等
- 圣诞服务受众聚会
- 受众圣诞礼物篮活动

### 3)2023 年社关关注委员会季度报告

- 国语堂 - 冬季报告支持, 新希望 ( Living Hope ) 全球事工。
- 募捐款活动 - 贝卡谷地为叙利亚难民和弱勢的黎巴嫩人提供初级卫生保健服务。

## Mandarin Congregation Testimonies

### 國語堂見證

#### Baptism Testimonial 受洗見證

June 18, 2023

*Di-An Pan 潘迪安*

Hello everyone, my name is Di-An Pan, and I am the son of Zhong-Fa Pan and Qing-Hua An. You may still remember that Zhong-Fa Pan was the person who spoke so softly on stage that one could barely hear him even sitting in the front, so I would speak out loud today.

My parent immigrated to Canada when I was one year old. Within a couple of years, they became Christian and got baptized one after another. Therefore, I was blessed enough to grow up in a Christian family. Because of that, the path that led me to a believer was not the traditional way: from an atheist to a Christian. It's hard for me to tell the differences of my life before and after my converting. I need to be more sensitive to God's guidance in my life.

From a non-believer's point of view, I have been living a lifestyle of a Christian: say grace before meals and pray before bed, read the Bible, do tithing, and going to church every Sunday. Don't get me wrong, all of these things are very important, but deep down in my heart, I know that doing these is not enough to make me a true Christian.

I remember that I believed in Christ when I was a child, but my faith was not firm and my understanding was limited. As I grow older, I saw a lot of things that God has done in my life, but I was still too young to fully understand them. It was so until I turned to 18 and got into the university. Life changed a lot from high school to university, which gave me a chance to start a new lifestyle. As you know, in high school, if you were absent or don't study well, the teacher will contact your parent right away. But that's not the case in the university. You have to study on your own. The teacher only cares about whether you have taken the final examination. So my challenge for the first year was to improve my time management skill and to change my lifestyle so that I could focus on studying. The few years of my high school was during the time of pandemic when schooling was conducted online, and most of my time was spent in playing video games. I was well aware that it is no easy task to completely change my lifestyle that I have had for so many years, to adapt rapidly to the heavy work

load and countless examinations, I would even call the 4 years of university study a period of underlying depression, but to get out from the video games addiction was even harder. Therefore during university I decided to cease my lazy high school studying manner and inspired myself to focus on studying and stay away from games, video and other fun activities.

Other than joining the Christian fellowship, the only thing I did in campus was studying. I persevered because I knew that the upcoming few years will be important for me and I knew what is the right thing to do. I read Bible and prayed often. I asked God to help me whenever I'm in need. As I looked back on all the ups and downs, it was clear that God has been guiding me all the time, as Psalm 119:105 says: "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."

One of my experience I had was on my calculus final examination. My professor was well known in setting the final exam test paper exactly the same as the practice test paper. He told everyone that examination is same as practice. That was a 3 hours exam. and I had spent half of the time trying to solve a single problem which had never been tested in the practice exam.. When the exam was over, I checked with other classmates and no one was able to solve that problem. I was extremely worry that the result of this exam would bring down my overall mark and this made me so nervous. Later on, I clicked into a link which I had saved from a previous fellowship the content of which was about the difference between the peace from God and the earthly peace. So I prayed to God, prayed for inner peace and felt much better afterward. When the report was out, I knew that I should be grateful to God. Thank Him for strengthening me to get rid of the unreal fun. Thank Him for helping me to focus on my academy and enrich my ability in solving problems.

Back to the key point. What does it mean to truly be a follower of Christ? My understanding is to tightly embrace Christ in my heart, to believe in Him wholeheartedly, not only recognizing Him to have resurrected from the death, but also need to accept Him as my personal Savior, not only spiritually but deep in my soul.

Thank you all.

大家好，我叫潘迪安，我是潘忠發和安慶華的兒子。大家有可能還記得潘忠發就是那個在臺上說話很小聲，我坐在前面都聽不見的那個人，所以我今天要大聲一點。

我的父母在我一歲時候移居加拿大，他們在一兩年間相繼地信了主並接受洗禮。因此我很幸運能夠在一個基督徒家庭中長大，也正因為這樣我信基督的方式不像傳統方式那樣：從無神到有神。所以我感覺不到擁有信仰後生活發生的重大變化，於是我不必更加敏銳的去感受基督在我生命中的帶領。

在日常生活中我都過著非信徒認為的基督徒生活方式：在吃飯前和睡覺前祈禱，讀聖經，十一奉獻，每個星期天都去教會。請不要誤會我的意思，所有這些事情都非常重要，但在內心深處我知道做這些事情還不足以讓我成為一個真正的基督徒。

記得我小時候就相信基督，但小時候信仰不堅定，理解能力有限，隨著年齡的增長，我看到了很多神在我生命中所做的事，但由於年齡的關係，我無法完全理解。直到十八歲那年我進入了大學，高中和大學之間的巨大變化開啟了我新的生活方式。大家都知道在高中，如果你逃課或是不好好學習，老師會聯繫父母。但在大學不是這樣，學習全靠自己。老師只關心你是否參加了期末考試。所以對我來說第一年的困難是徹底改變我以前的生活方式以及培養如何進行時間管理和集中注意力學習的能力。要知道高中的那幾年，因為疫情的原因在家上課我的大部分時間都在玩遊戲。我深知要迅速地調整我多年的生活方式，完成這四年繁重的學業和數不清的考試不是件容易的事，甚至我把大學稱為潛在抑鬱症的四年。然而改掉這幾年養成的遊戲習慣更不容易。所以在大學期間，我一改高中不好好的學習的習慣，勵志只專注學業而沒有遊戲、視頻或有趣的活動。

我除了參加校園團契生活之外唯一的事情就是學習。我堅持是因為我知道未來的幾年都與現在有關，也知道何為有益處的事情。我讀聖經禱告，在堅持不下去的時候祈求上帝給我幫助。當我回顧所有的起起落落時，很明顯能感受到上帝一直在引導我，正如詩篇 119:105 說：你的話是我腳前的燈，是我路上的光。

其中一個例子是在我的微積分期終考試，我的教授以期終考試與練習考試相同而聞名，他告訴所有人考試與練習相同。這是一個 3 小時的考試，我花了 1 個半小時試圖解決一個問題，因為這個問題並不在練習裡。我考完問了大家，也沒人知道怎麼解。我非常擔心我的考試會影響我好不容易保持的總分以至內心慌亂不安。後來我點擊了一個鏈接，內容是幾周前我在大學團契時，瞭解到的來自上帝的平安與來自屬世的平安不同。所以我向上帝祈禱，祈求得到內心的平安，禱告之後我感覺好多了。當成績出來時，我知道我應該感謝神。感謝主給我力量，擺脫那不真實的樂趣；感謝主幫助我認真對待學業才讓我有能力解題。

那麼回到主要問題，真正成為基督的跟隨者意味著什麼？我悟道是要把基督牢牢地放在心裡，用心相信祂，不僅要承認祂從死裡復活，還要承認祂是我的救主，這不僅僅在精神上更是在靈魂深處。

謝謝大家。

## Testimony of salvation 受洗見證

December 3, 2023

Mido 曹楚婷

Dear brothers and sisters, I am Mido, and I would like to share my salvation testimony and hope that my experience could be inspiring for you.

### 1. Worldview and beliefs before believing in the Lord

Before my belief in the Lord, I was an atheist and had a very vague understanding of myself and God. My worldview was based on atheism and was in lack of a clear guidance in morality and lifestyle. Sometimes upon encountering certain unexplained supernatural phenomena, I would wonder whether there really is a master dominating the universe.

### 2. The path to believing in the Lord

#### a) Initial contact with the gospel

My faith journey began when I was in college majoring in art history. After having an in-depth knowledge of many famous paintings, I found that a lot of their theme display sources of inspirations from the biblical content. This sparked my curiosity about Christianity. At the time, I thought the biblical stories were just imaginative legends, including stories of the Virgin Mary's barren pregnancy, the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the calling of Matthew, and the Last Supper. However, through the footage of art history, I started to realize that Christianity is an extremely important foundation in Western culture. This realization aroused my strong interest in Christianity and drove me to study the content of the Bible in depth to better understand the core teachings of this religion. I discovered that there is profound wisdom and human thinking behind these seemingly magical stories. My curiosity about Christianity had ultimately stimulated me to take my first step in the faith.

#### b) Friendship with Christian friends

During my study for master degree in the United States, I met many classmates who are Christian, among them is a black lady who became my best friend. Her family has been troubled by drug addiction for a long time. However, she showed extraordinary optimism and tenacity, growing out of the mud unsullied and eventually became an excellent art teacher. I can feel the power of Christian faith through her life story and the support for me. Not only is this friend optimistic and cheerful, but she is also very helpful. I remember one rainy day, when she saw pedestrians on the road without umbrellas, she

would take the initiative to let them get into her car and drive them to their destination.

Her behavior made me realized deeply the profound influence that Christian faith can bring, allowing people to remain kind and optimistic in the face of adversity.

Through getting along with more Christians, I found that most of them are more kind-hearted than other people. This belief load them up with power and allows them to become salt of society, allowing this society to have more power to suppress corruption and evil, and to become more beautiful. They are feeling peaceful from within and this aroused my further curiosity about Christianity. I wanted to go more deeply to explore what it was behind that made this group of people such wonderful beings and that made Christian faith to play such a positive role in them.

c) Immigrate to Canada and participate in fellowship and Alpha course

I just landed in Canada in November last year, and have been feeling confuse since arrival. The uncertainty of the future makes me nervous, and I am eager to find out the direction ahead. Reflecting on my life over the past 30 years, I know that I have made many wrong decisions. Now I am eager to become a better person and pursue a new self. Therefore, I felt great need to be rescued.

Here, I would like to express my special thanks to Kaiyuan and Teacher He. Because of my acquaintance with them, I was invited to Xinga Fellowship to have Bible study together and listen to God's words, which touched me greatly. I am also very grateful to my daughter Beibei, it was her believe in the Lord from the beginning that had persisted me in coming to the church for fellowship and the Alpha course. As a matter of fact, I had a lot of doubts about the Bible and God at the beginning, because God is invisible, and it was difficult for me to rationally prove whether He really exists. However, when I started to try to believe in God, I experienced some new feelings in my prayers and this reflected on myself more deeply. With the support from the Christian friends around me, in particular with the prayers in the fellowship, I found a new direction in life. So I decided to accept Jesus as my Savior during the one-day Alpha camp.

3. The transformation after accepting the Lord as Savior

Faith brought me with a miraculous experience. Especially when I pray to God, I can feel God's caring love. My heart is more peaceful and I rejoiced so much more than before. My perspective in life as a whole has also changed. Changed from a used to be pleasure and satisfaction pursuer to the present me, who would now focus more on giving full play to the grace God gave me when he created me, to accomplish everything I can to the best of my ability in order to glorify God. As Pastor Ren mentioned in the baptism class: "Face the eternal life, and live the present life at the same time." This quote inspired me and made me understand that only by moving in the direction guided by God and with a heart that glorifies the Lord can I have a sense of mission to do things better. In my life, I want to be a blessing to more people and make this world a better place. My mentality become more humble, I no longer regard my achievement are the result of my wisdom and diligence, but admit that they are the grace from God. His grace enables me to fulfill the purpose He has on me. I have found the meaning of life through faith, and my heart is filled with more peace and joy. I feel no more anxiety while handling affairs, because I firmly believe that God will give me the best arrangement. As long as I utilize the gifts He has given me with my full potentiality, everything will work out to be better.

May my life be a testimony that glorifies God and bless others. Amen.

亲爱的弟兄姐妹们，我是 Mido，我想分享一下个人的得救见证，希望我的经历能够激励和鼓舞你们。

1. 未信主之前的世界观与信仰

在我未信主之前，我是一个无神论者，对自己和神的认识都相当模糊。我的世界观以无神论为基础，对道德和生活方式缺乏清晰的指引。遇到一些无法解释的超自然现象，我偶尔会思考是否真的存在一个宇宙的主宰者。

2. 信主的过程

a) 初次接触福音

我的信仰之旅始于我大学主修艺术史的时候。我深入了解了許多名画之后，发现很多作品都以圣经的



内容为题材和灵感来源。这引发了我对基督教的好奇。当时，我以为圣经中的故事只是富有想象力的传说，包括圣母无孕怀胎、耶稣基督的复活、马太的蒙召，以及最后的晚餐等故事。然而，透过艺术史的镜头，我开始意识到基督教是西方文化中一个极为重要的根基。这种认知让我对基督教产生浓厚的兴趣，驱使我深入学习圣经的内容，以更好地理解这个宗教的核心教义。我发现，这些看似神奇的故事背后蕴含着深刻的智慧和人性的思考。对基督教的好奇最终引导我迈出信仰的第一步。

#### b) 与基督徒朋友的交往

在我赴美读硕士的经历中，遇到了许多基督徒同学，其中有一位黑人女生成为了我最好的朋友。她的家庭长期陷入毒瘾的困扰，然而，她却展现了非凡的乐观和坚韧，出淤泥而不染，最终成为一名出色的美术老师。她的生命故事和对我的支持，让我深感基督教信仰的力量。这位朋友不仅乐观开朗，而且非常乐于助人。我记得有次下雨天，她看到路上的行人没有带伞，会主动让他们上自己的车并送到目的地。她的行为让我深刻领悟到基督教信仰所能带来的深刻影响，使人在逆境中依然能够保持善良和乐观。

通过与更多基督徒的相处，我发现绝大部分都比普通人更为善良。这种信仰赋予了他们力量，让他们成为社会中的盐，让这个社会有更多抑制腐败和恶的力量，拥有更多的美好。他们的内心更加平静安宁，这使我对基督教产生了进一步的好奇。我想深入了解，是什么样的力量让这群人成为如此美好的存在，使得基督教信仰在他们身上发挥着如此积极的作用。

#### c) 移民加拿大，参加团契和启发课程

我是去年 11 月刚登陆加拿大的，来了以后一直感到迷茫，未来的不确定性让我感到焦虑，我渴望找到前方的方向。反思过去 30 多年的人生历程，我意识到自己做过许多错误的选择。现在我很渴望成

为一个更好的人，追求新的自我。因此，我感到自己非常需要被拯救。

在这里，特别感谢开元和何老师，因着与他们的相识，所以来到了新加团契，一起查经，聆听神的话语，让我触动很大。也很感谢我的女儿贝贝，是她一开始就信主，才让我坚持来教会参加团契和启发课程。其实我一开始对圣经和神有着许多疑惑，因为神是看不见的，我在理性上难以论证他是否真实存在。然而，当我开始尝试相信神的时候，我在祷告中感受到了一些新的东西，对自我的反思也更加深刻。透过周围基督教朋友的支持，尤其是在团契中的祈祷，我找到了人生的新方向。于是在启发一日营的时候决志信主了。

#### 3. 决志信主后的转变

信仰给我带来了神奇的体验，尤其是在我对神祷告时，我都能感受到神的关爱。我的内心比以前更加平安，更加喜乐。我对整个人生的看法也发生了改变，以前更追求自我的愉悦与满足，现在更专注于发挥神创造我时给我的恩典，将我所能做的事情做到极致，以此来荣耀神。正如任牧师在受洗课上所提到的：“朝向永生，兼得今生。”这句话启发了我，让我明白只有朝着神指引的方向，因着荣耀主的心，我才能够带有使命感的把事情做得更好。今生我愿成为更多人的祝福，让这个世界变得更美好。我的心态也变得更加谦卑，不再认为自己之所以做得好，是因为自己的智慧和勤奋，而是明白一切都是神赐予的恩典。祂的恩典使我能够发挥祂所赋予的目的。通过信仰，我找到了人生的意义，有了更加平安喜乐的心。在做事情时，我不再感到焦躁，因为我深信神会给我最好的安排。只要我用祂赐予的恩赐，发挥出最大的潜力，一切都会有更好的安排。

愿我的一生，成为荣耀神和造福他人的见证。阿门。

## Transfer testimony 转会见证

December 3, 2023

Yi Xiaowu 易晓武

Hello brothers and sisters, I am very happy that I am going to become a formal member of Grace Chinese Gospel Church of North York. To be honest, this is a belated transfer. Four years ago, in September 2019, I started participating in worship and cell group fellowship at GCGCNY, and I have never left, and will not leave. This is the real church of grace and shelter for our family. My wife Linda and my eldest son Ryon were also baptized here in June, so logically I should have been transferred long ago. However, there was one procedure which I need to go through prior to the transfer and that was to go back to the church where I was baptized to request for the transfer in person. Although I was pretty sure that this would be granted but wanted to make it official. So I took advantage of the summer vacation this year to return to my home town for the first time since the epidemic. I met the deacons of my baptize church, made my transfer request respectfully and got their immediate acceptance and blessings. I am deeply grateful for God's grace and blessing, feeling that this is a one church world, the church of Lord Jesus. This love embraced feeling is so wonderful, we have the unique love from our Lord where ever we go.

Due to the government's policies and regulations on religious activities in my home town country, there were certain degree of inconvenience in our worship, service and dedication. However, thanks to God's grace, despite all kinds of difficulties, there is no obstacle to stop Him wherever God wants to revitalize. He will protect and lead every brother and sister who is willing to serve and preach the gospel for Him, and bestow them with peace.

In contrast, the environment of GCGCNY is totally different. It owns large and beautiful sanctuary and gymnasium. We sing as loud as we wish to without worrying complaints from others. Offering is justifiable, open, and tax deductible, making it more of blessing than only just offering. Thank and praise the Lord that Canada is a country with religious freedom. One can feel how valuable freedom is after experiencing unfreedom. Pastors of our church preach well, the adult Sunday school is well run, Grace high school ministry does a good job in guiding the youth, KLS takes good care of the children, and all the brothers and sisters in the

church are excellent. I especially want to give a thumb up to the "cell based" of our church. I am in Brother Paul and Sister Sarah's freshman group. Brothers and sisters in the group are really close to each other like family members. We talk about trivial things in daily living, talk about difficulties we encountered at work and mock at each other in regard to the growing children. In the group, we can relax totally without any pretense, speak freely to each other without worrying about making any wrong statement. More importantly, everyone cares for each other, encourage each other of spiritual growth, and works together on the path of the Lord. How wonderful this is!

Lucky for myself, I am actually a slow-witted person, but am able to receive just the right assistance at the right time on the path of life. I used to think it was my good luck, but now I know it is God's love and care. The greatest luck is to know God and have trust in Him, and to keep growing in His church. Thank you and praise the Lord.

弟兄姐妹们大家好，很高兴，我要转会成为北约恩典福音堂的正式会友了。但说实话这是一次晚到的转会，在4年前，2019年9月开始，我就参加恩典堂的崇拜和小组团契，然后一直没有离开，如今也离开不了了。这是我们全家真正的恩典堂和庇护所，我的妻子Linda和大儿子Ryon也于6月份在这里受洗，按理我早该转会了。但是还有一道手续，就是我要回到受洗的原教会当面申请，虽然知道他们肯定会同意，但这程序不能省略。于是趁今年暑假，疫情后第一次回到原居地，郑重向原教会的执事们提出申请，执事们当即允许并给予祝福，我深深地感谢神的恩典和赐福，感受到天下教会只有一家，就是主耶稣的教会，这种被爱环绕的感觉真奇妙，无论我们走到哪里，我们得到是主所给予的无差别的爱。

因为原居地政府对宗教活动的政策与法规，以至我们在崇拜，事奉与奉献上都会遇到某程度的不便，不过感谢神的恩典，虽然有各种困难，但神在哪里要兴起，任何阻拦都阻拦不住的。他更会保守带领每一位愿意

事奉，愿意为他传福音作工的弟兄姊妹，赐平安给他们。

相比之下，恩典福音堂的大环境是不一样的，有大而漂亮的礼堂，还有体育馆，而且唱歌唱得多大声都可以，放声高歌也不怕有人投诉。奉献名正言顺，大大方方坦坦荡荡，奉献了还能抵扣税，所以奉献不单是付出，更是福分。感谢赞美主，加拿大是有宗教自由的。经历过不自由，更能感觉到自由的可贵。咱们教会的牧师们讲得好，成人主日学办得好，恩典飞扬团契对青少年引导得好，KLS 对孩子们照顾得好，教会里的所有弟兄姐妹们都很好。我特别想夸一夸咱们教会的“小组植根”，我在 Paul 弟兄和 Sarah 姐妹的新生组，组里的弟兄姐妹们真的亲如一家人，生活里鸡毛蒜皮的事说一说，工作中遇到的困难聊一聊，孩子们成长的烦恼互相吐吐槽，在组里，就是全身心地放松，不需要任何假装，有问题就提有话直说，不用担心说错什么话。更重要的是，大家在一起互相关心互相提醒灵命的成长，在主的道路上携手共进。这是何等的美好！

很幸运，我本来是个稀里糊涂的人，在人生的道路上总是能恰到好处地得到帮助，以前认为是自己运气好，现在才知道是神的爱护和眷顾。最大的幸运就是认识主和信靠主，在主的教会里不断成长。感谢赞美主。



## K L S Children Ministry Report and Testimonies

*Rev. Eva Poon*

### **Setting an Example – 1 Tim. 4:12**

Our church theme for 2023 was Leadership Training. Maybe because I grew up in a non-Christian family and was influenced by the world, I associated leadership with power, superiority and pride. Also, I thought only the elite are qualified to be leaders. With that in mind, as a children's pastor, I wondered how to share this theme with the children without excluding the those who do not believe they can be leaders, or do not want to be leaders. Yet the Lord spoke to me through the theme verse, 1 Timothy 4:12. I was reminded that leadership among God's people is not about being stronger or smarter than others. Rather, His desire is for His children to grow into spiritual maturity, so that we can "set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." This verse gave me a sense of direction in how I serve the Lord in 2023. Among the children, we studied the examples of Joseph and Jesus, encouraging the children to imitate them in their words, their behaviours, their relationships with God, people and themselves. Among the KLS Team, we discerned the will of the Lord together at team meetings and at the annual Training Day, and encouraged one another to seek the Lord in all we do, learning to invite children to experience God together in KLS Classrooms. And with families, through Positive Discipline Parenting Workshops and Passport to Purity Retreats, we encouraged and equipped parents to be the example their children needed, to lead their families, to co-journey and grow in faith together. What a joy and privilege it is to witness the children, the team, as well as parents growing together, becoming the examples and leaders God can use as channels of blessings! Please take time to read the rest of this section, and you will see how God trained up leaders among the children, the parents and within our team! God is so good! To God be the glory!

**Ministry Committee:** Chair: Pastor Eva Poon, Vice-Chair & Secretary: Edwina Luu, Members: Angela Wang, Felicity Chan, Tracy Chui and Vera Ho.

**Core Group Members:** Preschool group with Edwina Luu, Vera Ho. Junior group (G. 1-3) with Felicity Chan, Vivian Ren. Senior group (G. 4-6) with Angela Wang, Helen Wu.

### **KLS testimony**

*Edwina Luu*

God is our Alpha and Omega! He is the beginning and the end! (Rev.22:13) Our amazing Lord is the same God in the Bible who reveals His glories and to establish His kingdom in all the earth. The theme for 2023 is Leadership Training. As I reflect on the journey God paved for me since 2000 in GCGCNY until 2023, God has been the same, constant, true, humble, and amazing Lord we worship. He has been shepherding me from someone who was learning about their own identity to becoming a leader whom He trained for His purpose.

I remember the time when I first came to church to do some volunteer work in summer camp as part of my high school expectations, invited by a friend from school. During that season of my life, it was also the most heart-breaking and traumatic time for my non-Christian family and I as well. God brought me into a community where I could be sheltered by His love, grace, counsel, and mercies. I also was saved and received His salvation in which I am so thankful each day. Since then, God continue to shape me for who I am today. From being a volunteer, I became an assistant counsellor, then counsellor. Later, I became an assistant teacher, then a teacher. God also led and developed me in children's ministry on Sundays by teaching and leading fellowship for children on Fridays and Saturdays, supporting our pastors and interns. I remember that at one point in my life, I was literally at church for all 7 days! I pursued education in university as that was what God was prompting and calling me to do. While studying, throughout highschool and university, He led me to grow in various roles to become a leader in this ministry while I was also being transformed into being a student leader to an adult leader as a young adult with my peer group.

When I was a child, I was always introverted, shy, not courageous, not brave, and not confident. Who would have known that I could become a servant of God whom he entrusts me with His children? It is definitely by His grace! He has built me to become a spiritual champion and this is one of my missions for the children I teach and for our next generation. I

was led and taught by Him through His Word and blessed by the people He has surrounded me. 2023 is a significant year for me personally, as God challenged me to follow Him in a new direction which I again, would never have imagined. He is a God full of surprises because I have no idea what He has instore for me but only to walk by faith and to follow Him humbly as His disciple. He led me to become a vice chair for children's ministry and to serve for our Church Board. If I knew this was coming in 2000, I would totally be flabbergasted and not believe that this is possible!

This testifies and shows how God is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. This is my faith journey of God's purpose, plan, and faithfulness in my life in children's ministry. I am in awe each day as he continues to shepherd, trains, and molds me as a leader to serve His people from someone who barely knew Him in the beginning. He is the Alpha and Omega as He's been there at the start and will be until the end!



March 2023 – Passport to Purity Retreat for Cantonese Families 粵語家庭P2P 退修會

### KLS testimony

**Katharine Cheung**

Thanks for the invitation from Pastor Eva, to let me to have this opportunity to share how my family has been helped and blessed by God through the children's ministry. These blessings are countless so I will only share three of the events and experiences here.

In the Halloween evening in 2019, Pastor Eva led a carnival at church, allowing brothers and sisters to accompany with their young children in joining. The program of the night included: to make clear the origin and signification of Halloween, singing hymns, introducing the gospel, and various interesting booth

games. She encouraged us to invite non-Christian families to join. By explaining the origin and meaning behind, parents and children realized that Halloween is not an event which is worth participating in and to celebrate. This also gave them the chance to hear the gospel, a rare chance to have the complete gospel spread to the entire family in a relaxed environment. A calling was made and I am grateful that many children, including my daughter, accepted Jesus as their Savior. I still remember how they lined up to go out one after another to confirm the decision. I personally think it difficult to explain the gospel to children in words which are really easy for them to understand. I believe this is only the beginning of relationship establishment they have with Him. It will be a long and continuous journey until they can truly come to understand their faith and learn to build up their relationship and experience with God. But I am very, very grateful to God for allowing them to make this start on that day, and I am convinced that God will surely lead them to grow in faith.

Another activity was the "Positive Discipline Parenting" course launched during the pandemic. There were 12 lessons in total and I have benefited greatly from it. The course provided us with a lot of positive teaching methods and tools and help us to learn how to have more positive and effective communication with our children. My feeling is that it is not just about learning how to teach and communicate with children correctly, it also gives me the opportunity to reflect on my own and to grow, so that I can learn how to accompany my daughter to grow together. I am not the only one who has benefited from this course in deed. From other parents' sharing, it looked like every family is benefited. The tools introduced in the course are by no means single tracked. Depending on the different models of each family, the practicality and application level of the tools would vary accordingly. Since this course is suitable for all families, it become a good opportunity to reach out to non-believers' families. Conducted in small groups, the course gives everyone more time to share, help to familiarize with each other, discuss, learn together, and grow together. In particular, the hope was to bring the gospel and God's grace into their homes.

My third sharing is the P2P (Passport to Purity) retreat. This is a camp to help children's transition into adolescence. The recommended age is 10-12 years old. This camp not only did help them to understand the physical and psychological changes brought about by their growth, but also helped them to recognize the differences about the sexes from a Christian perspective, so that they can learn to



respect each other. During the camp, they were given guidance and advice on dating and marriage. It included games, classes, testimonial video, and other links... It's definitely a day full of fun. I strongly encourage parents with age-appropriate children to attend. While participating, it is recommended that father would pair with son and mother would accompany daughter in the lesson in order to establish deeper communication and trust in the parental relationship. In view of various need from different families, we were grateful that some brothers and sisters were willing to accompany and assisted other children in the camp. For me, this camp was a great experience, since it had a distinct content which were explained systematically, and was quite comprehensive. The content summarized many areas that I am not clear about, and covered topics that even I have not been able to mention to my daughter. The sex education courses currently being conducted in their schools, as well as the views and understanding of sex among students, have far exceeded what parents can agree with and imagine! As a Christian parent, I think this camp is a must to attend. The definitions and indoctrination of sex given to our children by schools and society today are getting further and further away from what we believe in. But thankfully, God still look after us and let our church to hold the P2P camps. This will help our next generation to view and understand sex from a perspective in consistence to the teaching of Christ.

In short, the above aspects highlighted the help and blessings that God has let my family to experience in children's ministry. I am very grateful and cherish the service and help the church is providing to us today. I would like to express my special thanks to Pastor Eva and all the brothers and sisters who serve in children's ministry. Because of your faithful dedication, parents can participate in various activities and servings with peace of mind. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Time flies and our children are growing up so rapidly. My daughter is now 13 years old and is now joining the English congregation instead of the children congregation. Looking back, children's ministry played a huge role and impact on my daughter's growth. As parent who believes in the Lord, I absolutely hope that my daughter can take it more seriously in knowing the Lord Jesus and to establish a close relationship with God. If we were to wait until our children to grow into teenagers, it may become very challenging task just to bring them back to church! I hope that each of our families can grasp and cherish all the wonderful resources and

blessings God has given to our church, to seize every opportunity that allows them to establish relationship with God during our children's childhood and let them take root in the Lord as early as possible. May the Lord bless every family!



*September 2023 – Passport to Purity Retreat for Mandarin Families*

### **KLS testimony**

***Richard Liang***

Thanks to God, my son Doron and I, together with three other families from the Mandarin congregation, had attended an event led by Pastor Eva on a weekend in September 2023, the P2P (Passport to Purity) retreat which was a very relaxing, enjoyable and wonderful family time.

The retreat was very considerably arranged, allowing us to play games and listen to P2P course recordings while at the same time, sensitive but vital topics such as peer pressure, sex, dating etc were explored under a relaxed atmosphere, in addition to God's mind in these aspects, these seemingly difficult topics were turned into much easier communications.

These are essential topics for teenagers to be aware of, and for parents to provide effective guidance, yet I have never had any in-depth interaction with my children over this topic prior to this retreat.

That was also a pleasant time full of parent-child interaction. We dined and played games together, feeling relax and the enhancement in family bonding.

Finally, the parents prepared gifts for their children thoughtfully, encouraging and blessing them. P2P retreat is a good start, its reference materials also provide information for parents and children in future communications. I believe God will bless each of our families through this retreat. Recommendation is made to Parents with teenage children to attend together.



**潘何依華傳道**

### 作個好榜樣--提摩太前書 4:12

我們教會 2023 年的主題是領袖訓練。也許是因為我成長在一個非基督教家庭，受到世界的影響，我把領袖與權力，優越感和驕傲連結在一起。另外，我認為只有菁英才有資格成為領導者，而作為一名兒童牧者卻存著這種心態，我猶疑應該怎樣將這個主題跟兒童分享，特別是那些不相信自己可以成為領袖，又或不想成為領袖的孩子。然而主卻透過提摩太前書 4:12 的主題經文對我說話。我被提醒，上帝子民中的領導能力並不是指他比其他人佳或聰明。相反，主的願望是讓他的孩子在靈命上成長，以便我總能“在言語、行為、愛心、信心、清潔上，都作信徒的榜樣”。這節經文讓我在 2023 年向事奉主有了方向感。在孩子當中，我們研讀約瑟和耶穌所作的榜樣，鼓勵孩子效法他們的言語，行為，與神、與人和與自己的關係。在 KLS 團隊裡，我們在團隊會議和一年一度的培訓日中一起去辨別主的旨意，並彼此鼓勵在我們所做的一切事情上尋求主，邀請孩子們在 KLS 教室裡一起經歷神。在家庭方面，透過正面管教工作坊和聖潔身心退修營，我們鼓勵並裝備父母成為孩子所需要的榜樣，帶領他們的家庭在信仰靈程上同行，一起成長。見證到孩子，團隊和父母一起成長，成為神可以用來作為榜樣的領袖和祝福的渠道，是多麼的喜樂和榮幸！請花些時間閱讀本報告的其餘見證分享部分，你將看到神如何在孩子、家長和我們團隊中培養領導者！主你是多麼的美好！榮耀歸於上帝！

事工會: 主席潘 - 何依華傳道 · 副主席及文書 - 劉吳雪瑩 · 委員 - 汪潔、陳張筱敏、徐凡和何陳健慧。

核心小組: 學前班成員 - 劉吳雪瑩、何陳健慧。低班 (G.1-3) 成員 - 陳張筱敏、任陸維敏師母。高班 (G.4-6) 成員 - 汪潔、陳吳海倩。



May 2023 - KLS Training Day 兒童事工培訓日



June 2023 - Positive Discipline Parenting Workshop for Cantonese Families 粵語家庭正面管教工作坊



July 2023 - Outdoor Fun at Treetop Adventure Park 戶外同樂日



## KLS 見證

劉吳雪瑩

「神是我們的阿拉法和俄梅戛！他是首先的，也是末後的！」（啟 22:13）我們奇妙的主就是聖經中所記載的同一位上帝，祂彰顯了自己的榮耀，並在全地建立了自己的王國。2023 年的主題是領袖訓練。當我反思在恩典福音堂從 2000 年到 2023 年神為我所鋪設的旅程時，經歷到我們所敬拜的神是同一個沒有變的，真實的，謙卑的，奇妙的主。他一直牧養著我，從一個正在了解自己身分的人，到成為一個他心意所訓練的領袖。

我記得第一次來教會當夏令營志願工作，是我高中課程必需的一個環節，當時是受到學校朋友的邀請。在我生命中的那段日子，對我和我的非基督教家庭來說，是一段心碎和創傷的時刻。神把我帶進一個社群，在那裡我可以得到祂的愛、恩典、輔導和憐憫的庇護。我接受了救恩，得到了救贖，每天都充滿了感恩。從那時起，神繼續塑造我成為今天的我。我從一個志願者，成為助理輔導員，跟著是輔導員。後來我當了助教，然後又當了老師。上帝也使我透過在星期五和星期六教導和帶領兒童團契，去支援我們的教牧和實習生，引導和培養我在主日服侍兒童事工。我記得在我生命中的某個時刻，我可說差不多整整 7 天都在教會裡！我進入大學接受教育，因為這是上帝驅使和感召我去做的事情。在整個中學和大學學習期間，他帶領我在各種角色中成長，成為這個事工的領袖，亦從一個學生領袖轉為青年同儕中的成人領袖。

小時候，我總是內向，害羞，無膽量，不勇敢，沒有自信。誰會知道我可成為上帝的僕人，祂將祂的孩子託付給我？這絕對是靠著祂的恩典！祂讓我成為一個靈命領導者，這是我對我所教的孩子和我們下一代的使命之一。透過他的話語，我得到祂的指引和教導，並受到祂放在我周圍的人的祝福。

2023 年對我個人來說是重要的一年，因為上帝挑戰我跟隨祂走向一個我從未想像過的新方向。祂是一位充滿驚異的神，因為我不知道祂為我預備了什麼，我只能憑著信心去行，並作為一個謙卑地跟隨祂的門徒。祂帶領我成為兒童事工的副主席，並為我們的教會理事會事奉。如果在 2000 時我知道這些事會發生，我一定會目定口呆，不相信這是可能的！

這證明神是萬王之王，萬主之主。這使我經歷到神在我兒童事工的旨意，計劃和生命中的信實的信心之旅。我每天都敬畏著祂，因為祂繼續的牧養和訓練我，並將我塑造為一個領導者，使我從一個最初幾乎不認識祂的人來事奉祂的子民。祂是阿拉法和俄梅戛，因為祂從開始直到末了都存在！



August 2023 – KLS Beach Day 陽光與海灘日

## KLS 見證

張鏞

感謝潘傳道的邀請，讓我有機會在此分享一下神怎樣藉著兒童事工帶給我家庭的幫助和祝福。因不能盡述，所以在此分享其中的三件事件和經歷。

在 2019 年萬聖節的時候，同一晚上潘傳道帶領在教會舉辦了一個嘉年華會，讓弟兄姊妹能夠帶同幼年的孩子參與。當晚節目包括有：講解萬聖節的來由和其意義，唱詩，介紹福音，還有很多有趣的攤位遊戲。她更鼓勵我們邀請其他還未認識主的家庭一起參加。藉講解其節日背後的來源和意義，讓家長和孩子們一起認識到萬聖節不是一個值得參與和慶祝的活動。更藉此讓他們也有機會聽到福音。這活動不只能夠讓小朋友們在一個輕鬆的環境下聽福音，更難得的是連同家長們，是整個家庭一起聽到完整的福音，當天還作出呼召。感恩有很多小朋友都走出去決志相信耶穌，我的女兒也是其中一個。我還記得他們是一個跟著一個排着隊出去的。對我個人而言，向小朋友講解福音是有一定困難；因為不知道他們是否真正明白，也不知道怎樣用他們能夠明白的言語，理解的程度去講解。我相信這是他們認識神和與神建立關係的一個開始。到他們真正能夠認識自己的信仰和建立個人與神的關係，還是要往後的日子繼續去學習和經歷的。但我非

常非常感恩神讓他們在當天願意作出這個開始，也深信神必然會引領他們信心的長成。

另一個活動是在疫情期間開辦的 " 正面管教課程 " 。總共有 12 課。自己在當中也得到很大的益處。課程當中給予了我們有更多正向的教導途徑和工具，幫助我們學習怎樣和兒女有更正面和有效的溝通。在我的體驗中，不單是學習怎樣正確地去教導兒女及溝通。更是帶給自己有反省和成長的機會，從而學習怎樣陪同女兒大家一同的成長。在這課程受惠的，當然不只我一家。從其他家長的分享中，能夠看見對每個家庭都有受益。課程中所介紹的工具，絕不是單一的。所以因應每個家庭不同的模式，工具的實用性和應用程度上也有不同。固這課程適合所有家庭參加，所以亦是一個很好的機會能夠接觸到還未認識主的家庭。課程是用小組形式進行的，從而幫助大家能有更多時間去分享，彼此認識，討論，一同學習和一同成長的機會。當然更希望能夠將福音，神的恩典帶進他們的家中。

第三個想和大家分享的，就是聖潔身心退修營(P2P)。這是一個幫助由兒童轉變去青少年階段的一個營會。建議年齡是 10-12 歲左右。這營會不單幫助他們明白自己生理和心理因成長過程中所帶來的變化，更是從基督信仰的角度去幫助他們明白兩性之間的差異。讓他們能夠認識彼此的不同與及學懂尊重。營會當中也會給予他們對拍拖和婚姻的教導與及勸戒。其中包括有遊戲，課堂，影片見證，還有其他的環節...。絕對不是沉悶的一味上堂。我非常鼓勵家長們帶同適合年齡的子女去參加。營會提議由同性別的父母帶著子女參加，從而達到能夠建立和子女有更深入的溝通和信任。亦因應各家庭有着不同的需要，感恩教會也有一些弟兄姊妹願意陪同非子女的孩子，在營會中作協助他們。這營會對我而言，是一個很好的經歷，因其內容很清晰，且有系統地去講解，比較完整化。內容能夠概括了很多自己也不清晰的領域，甚至乎一些還未對女兒提及的話題。現正在他們學校裡所進行的性教育課程，與及同學間對性的看法和理解，已經遠遠超過家長們能夠認同和想像的地步！作為一個基督徒

家長，我覺得這個營會是必須要參與的。今天學校和社會所給予我們孩子對性的定義和灌輸，與我們信仰所持守的卻是越走越遠。但感恩，神仍然看顧。讓我們教會能舉辦 P2P 營會。從而幫助我們的下一代能夠從合乎基督定義的教導下去看待和認識性，和對此持守着一個合乎基督的定位。

簡略地，以上這幾方面都是神讓我家庭在兒童事工中所經歷到的幫助和賜福。非常感恩和珍惜教會今天能給予我們的服侍和幫助。在此特別要多謝潘傳道以及所有在兒童事工裏服侍的弟兄姊妹們。因着你們忠心的付出，能讓家長們可以安心的參與各樣活動和服侍。衷心的多謝你們。

時間飛逝，我們的孩子成長得太快了。我的女兒現已 13 歲了，現已進入了英文堂，不再是兒童部了。回望過去，兒童事工對我女兒的成長，有着重大的角色和影響。作為一個信主的家長，絕對希望女兒能夠認真地認識主耶穌，與及同神建立緊密的關係。若待他們成長到青少年期間才開始的話，可能只是想帶他們一起返教會也已經成為一個非常挑戰的任務！但願我們每個家庭都能夠把握和珍惜神賜給我們教會這一切美好的資源和福氣。趁着孩子們還在兒童階段，就好好把握每一個能讓他們與神建立關係的機會，盡早扎根在主裏。願主祝福每個家庭！

## KLS 見證

梁大照

感謝神，我和兒子 Doron，還有國語堂其他三個家庭在 2023 年 9 月份的一個週末參加了由潘傳道帶領的聖潔身心退修營(P2P :Passport to Purity)，非常輕鬆愉快美好的親子時光。

潘傳道退修會的安排設計非常體貼，讓我們在玩遊戲，聽 P2P 課程錄音的同時，以輕鬆的氛圍和孩子們探討同儕壓力、性、約會等這些敏感但至關重要的課題，以及神在這些領域中的心意，使得這些看似棘手的話題變得容易溝通。這些課題青少年需要認知，父母也需要對孩子有有效引導，然而我正在參加這次退修會之前從來沒有和孩子在這些課題深入交流過。

這也是一段充滿親子互動的愉快時光，我們一起用餐，一起玩遊戲，不僅讓我們放鬆心情，還促進了親子關係。最後家長精心預備了禮物送給孩子，對孩子勉勵、祝福。聖潔身心退修營是個好的開始，當中的參考材料也為家長和孩子在以後的交流中提供了參考，相信神透過這次退修會對我們每個家庭都有祝福，推薦有青少年孩子的家長和孩子一起參加。



October 2023 – Harvest Carnival 豐收嘉年華會



November 2023 – Positive Discipline Parenting Workshop for Mandarin Families 國語家庭正面管教工作坊

## Mission Ministry

Liza Ki

The 2023 Annual Missions Conference took place on January 27–29. The theme was “Mission - Begin with Prayer.” The speakers for the Cantonese congregation were Rev. Keith Lee and Pastor Faith Pang; the speakers for the English congregation were Pastor Johnson Hsu and Timothy Phan; and the speaker for the Mandarin congregation was Rev. Samuel Fang. We thank the Lord for their sharing and encouragement on these three days. During the conference, brothers and sisters from the English congregation set up posters throughout the small gym with the photos, prayer letters, and updates of the different missionaries our church supports, so that brothers and sisters could go on a “prayer walk” and know more about them and their needs and lift up those who are on the front lines in prayer.

In 2023, our church supported the following missionaries:

	Missionaries	Church Members	Mission Field	Mission Agency
1	Timothy Phan (retired from his position in May)		Universities in Toronto	AFC
2	Mr. and Mrs. M	√	North Africa	Africa Inland Mission
3	Victor and Grace Chang		Toronto	Africa Inland Mission
4	Emad Botros		Lebanon	Canadian Baptist Ministries
5	John Chan		Global	Canadian Baptist Ministries
6	Lewis and Felain Lam		Germany	Canadian Baptist Ministries
7	Suraj Komaravalli		India	Canadian Baptist Ministries
8	Joe Bridi		Lebanon	Canadian Baptist Ministries
9	Edward and Silvia Mok	√	Panama	Grace to Chinese
10	Wendy and KK Kwan		Tijuana, Mexico	GO International Canada
11	Fanson Lee		São Paulo, Brazil	GO International Canada
12	Kevin and Jessica Teh	√	Japan	OMF-International Canada
13	Misa		North Asia	OMF-International Canada
14	Dee		East Asia	OMF-International Canada
15	Cindy Lai		Cambodia	OMF-International Canada



16	Joseph Wong		Chinese Diaspora & Brazil	SEND International of Canada
17	A and Y	v	S.E. Asia	Serving In Mission
18	Tony and Fiona Tsang		Lima, Peru	World Team
19	Joanna Yee		Rahab Ministry	Youth Unlimited
20	Nicholas Chang	v	Homeless youth in Toronto	Youth Unlimited

In 2023, our church supported the following mission organizations:

1. Association of Gospel Churches
2. Far East Broadcasting
3. Toronto Chinese Evangelical Fellowship (Church members: Caleb and Wendy Tang)
4. Toronto Short Term Mission Training Centre

In terms of mission education, the Mandarin congregation held a Sunday school course in June to August called “A Taste of Missions,” inviting ten pastors from the GTA to teach a condensed version of the Perspectives course. At the same time, the English congregation held a Sunday school class called “Cross Cultural Mission and Evangelism,” which was taught by Danny Wong. Also, from July 16 to October 22, four brothers and sisters from Cantonese congregation attended the Perspectives Chinese online course held by Perspectives Chinese In Canada (PCIC), and all successfully completed.

Starting from September, on the first and second Sundays of each month, we would invite the mission agencies from which our church-supported missionaries are sent to set up booths, in hopes that through the materials displayed there, brothers and sisters could know more about the mission agencies and missionaries and be motivated for missions.

In terms of short-term missions, our church sent out Pastor Eva Poon and Ida Yee as a short-term mission team to Mexico on December 18–27. During that time, aside from doing gospel visitations with missionaries Wendy and KK Kwan, they also held a four-day children’s camp, so that the local Chinese children would know the true meaning of Christmas.

**“May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us, that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.” Psalm 67: 1-2**

## 差傳事工

祁鍾翠蘭

2023 年差傳年會在 1 月 27 至 29 日舉行。主題是「差傳 – 從禱告開始」。粵語堂講員是李傳頌牧師和彭徐雪冰師母；英文堂講員是 Johnson Hsu 和潘永恩；國語堂的講員是方師正牧師。為各講員在這三天帶來的分享和鼓勵感謝主。在差傳年會期間，英語堂的弟兄姊妹在細運動場內設置攤位，擺放了各宣教士的相片、代禱信和家書等，讓弟兄姊妹可以多了解我們教會支持的宣教士的情況和需要，可立即為他們祈禱，為在前線打仗的肢體守望。

在 2023 年我們教會支持的宣教士如下：

	宣教士	教會會友	宣教工場	所屬差會
1	潘永恩 (於 5 月退休)		本土大學	基督使者協會
2	M 先生夫婦	v	北非	非洲內地會
3	陳偉鑿夫婦		多倫多不同族裔	非洲內地會
4	Emad Botros		黎巴嫩	加拿大浸信會差會
5	陳欣懿		環球	加拿大浸信會差會
6	林奕勝夫婦		德國	加拿大浸信會差會
7	Suraj Komaravalli		印度	加拿大浸信會差會
8	Joe Bridi		黎巴嫩	加拿大浸信會差會
9	莫家華夫婦	v	巴拿馬	恩霖中華
10	黎詠婷及關海山		墨西哥 - 蒂灣那	華人福音普世差傳會
11	李楚帆		巴西 - 聖保羅	華人福音普世差傳會
12	Kevin Teh 夫婦	v	日本	海外基督使團
13	Misa		亞洲	海外基督使團
14	Dee		東亞	海外基督使團
15	黎倩怡		柬埔寨	海外基督使團
16	黃建磐		散居華人及巴西	加拿大國際差傳協會
17	A & Y 夫婦	v	東南亞	國際事工差會
18	曾光華夫婦		秘魯 - 利馬	世界宣教使團
19	伊韻嫻		剛合事工	Youth Unlimited
20	張家睿	v	多倫多街頭流浪青年	Youth Unlimited

在 2023 年我們教會支持的宣教機構有：

1. 福音堂聯會
2. 遠東廣播
3. 多倫多飲食業福音團契 (教會會友：鄧家昌夫婦)
4. 多倫多短宣中心

差傳教育方面：國語堂在 6-8 月之間開設了「宣教淺嘗」的主日學，邀請了 10 位大多市華人牧者教導一個簡縮版的「宣教新視野」課程。英文堂同期開設了

「跨文化宣教與佈道」的主日學課程，由黃達瑜講授。粵語堂有 4 位弟兄姊妹自 7 月 16 至 10 月 22 日，報讀了由「宣教心視野」學會舉辦的「宣教心視野」中文網上課程，並順利完成。

從 9 月份開始，每月的第一和第二個主日我們都會邀請教會支持的宣道士所屬的差會到來擺設攤位，希望藉著展出的資料增加弟兄姊妹對差會及宣道士的認識，宣教的心志被激勵。

短宣方面：教會的潘何依華傳道和余婉玲姊妹組成短宣隊在 12 月 18-27 日到墨西哥宣教。期間除了與當地宣道士黎詠婷和關海山夫婦一起作福音探訪外，也為當地小朋友舉辦了 4 天兒童營。讓當地華人小朋友認識聖誕節的真正意義。

“願神憐憫我們、賜福與我們、用臉光照耀我們。好叫世界得知你的道路、萬國得知你的救恩。” 詩篇 67：1-2



差傳佈告版 The Mission bulletin board



墨西哥短宣  
Mexico short-term mission

## Community Service and Concern

Contributed by Conrad Chan, Rev. Tham, Enoch Chan, Mary Pao, Joanne Chan

**“The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow.” Ps. 146:9a**

When the disciples asked Jesus what would be the sign of His coming and of the end of the age. Jesus replied that many would come in His name, and would hear of wars and rumors of wars; nation would rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom (Matthew 24). We saw an unprecedented number of major wars erupting around the world in 2023. As Ukraine is still resisting Russian invasion, using similar rhetoric of the Russian invasion, Azerbaijan launched a large-scale military operation in Armenia. In October, Hamas threw a surprise brutal attack against Israel. This provoked a large-scale retaliation from Israel and led to the humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip. People are still struggling with stubborn high inflation and high interest rates in this broken world. It makes lives very difficult and unbearable to many disadvantaged communities.

At the beginning of 2023, the committee decided to focus on raising the awareness of human trafficking, refugees and immigrants because of the large number of people who were being displaced and had arrived in Canada due to wars and political unrest. The committee decided to sponsor some more organizations that focus on helping immigrants, refugees, and victims of human trafficking. We sponsored the NIDA project in Kolkata, India, which helps the victims of human trafficking in Asia's largest red-light district. They teach women how to start their own businesses in hairdressing and sewing to help them escape their former lifestyles. Other organizations we supported in 2023 included Rahab Ministry in Toronto which ministers to women in the massage parlors, and the New Hope Children's Center in Honduras which helps orphans and children in poverty.

### Grace community Food Share

-With brothers and sisters' kind and generous donations with their talent, time and funding; we were able to run twice a month food support service for roughly 30 registered families, which included about 75 individuals.

-General attendance was around 70% of the

registered number, which was quite consistent with research on other food bank services in general.

-We have about 40 volunteers helping us to run the program, with our part time Administrative assistant.

-We have seen the high rent in Toronto has been a major contributory factor to our applicants lowered disposable income- no matter they are Visa students; recipients of public assistance; seniors that cannot get the Old Age Pension because they are not in Canada for 10 years yet; parents who do free-lance insecure jobs and of course for those who came to Canada very recently. However, with the support of both fresh produces, canned or dried food and miscellaneous items from us; they feel being cared for and supported.

-These are the quotes from some of our services users: “your food bank played a crucial role in meeting my basic needs, especially during my period of financial insecurity” “your dedication and hard work have been instrumental in allowing us to witness the work of God through the provision of food to those in need”.

-We had been able to share the gospel more formally in our Thanksgiving Brunch by having Rev. Ted came and share a message;

-Our three congregations had participated in our Annual Christmas Gift Drive and sent out somewhat personalized greeting cards and gifts to our service users.

-Other times were through our Caring team members’ empathetic listening and personal sharing of their testimonies.

-The compassionate fund policy was approved by the board that could provide immediate relief from very difficult situations of the service users.

Finally, we want to let you know we received some good news from our service users, that they would not be coming anymore because their expenses had been decreased as they got subsidized housing; started receiving the Ontario Disability Support Program with more money and found a job, for two of them!

We thanked God for all the provisions for us and our service users; as those who comes to know Him through this ministry. Some Food Bank clients attended a Mandarin cell group and Sunday school. One of them was baptized after attending the Alpha program.

We thank God for Joanne Chan, who has served faithfully as our Food Bank leader for several years, but she will be finishing her 2-year service term in 2024, and we are looking for God's guidance for another coordinator.



*NIDA (Indian for “Voice”) Christian Ministry is serving women & children victims of slavery and prostitution in the red-light brothels of Kolkata.*

*NIDA ( Indian for “voice” ) 基督教事工為在加爾各答紅燈區遭受奴役和賣淫的婦女和兒童提供服務*

### General Ministries

We are still continuing to encourage brothers and sisters to support and pray for Open Door Ministries. In 2023, we brought in information of Christians being persecuted in India and Nicaragua and asked the congregations to pray for them.

Grace Community Services (GCS) has regular senior club programs on Monday to provide support to seniors in our church communities. Programs contain workshops, physical exercises and field trips to help seniors understand and maintain healthy lifestyle.

In December GCS started the “Community Buddies” program that provides supportive companionship and meaningful conversations with neurodiverse clients. This will help improve communication skills.

Do pray for this cooperation opportunities with GCS. The church is providing donations to GCS and we need brothers and sisters to help and participate in various programs so that we could witness the Lord in our lives in these meaningful interaction with the program participants.

Our annual participation in the fund-raising event World Vision Global 6K Walk for Water to support the third world poor families and children raised more than \$15,000 in 2023. Over 71 people from GCGCNY participated, who promoted and generously supported this event.

We have held a fund raising for Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) in the west end of the city, refugee center in a plaza in Etobicoke. There were immediate needs and brothers and sisters had responded with financial help.

Our partnership with Living Waters Counseling Services through the CAP-M program that helps fund needy persons with mental health issues was well used in 2023 as people continue to experience stresses after the pandemic.

#### Looking ahead:

The committee decided to sponsor some more organizations that focus on helping immigrants, refugees, and victims of human trafficking in 2024. In addition to financial support, we would encourage our church members to participate in these ministries and help in person.

***“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ ‘The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’  
Matthew 25:37-40***



*Christmas gift bags were donated by the church cell groups and were to be distributed to users. 由教會不同細胞小組捐贈的聖誕禮物袋將會發出到受眾處。*

## 社區服務及關懷

撰稿人：陳穎豪、譚紹南牧師、陳旭輝、包瑪莉、陳黃月華。

「耶和華保護寄居的，扶持孤兒和寡婦。」詩 146:9a

當門徒問耶穌他的降臨和世界末了的預兆是什麼。耶穌回答說，許多人會冒祂的名而來，並會聽到戰爭和戰爭的風聲。民要攻打民，國要攻打國（太 24 章）。在 2023 年，我們看到世界各地爆發了數量空前的重大戰爭。當烏克蘭仍在抵禦俄羅斯的入侵時，阿塞拜疆利用類似俄羅斯侵略的言論對亞美尼亞發動了大規模軍事行動。十月時，哈馬斯對以色列發動了一次殘酷的突襲。這引發了以色列的大規模報復，並導致加薩地帶陷入人道危機。在這個破碎的世界裡，人們還要落在持續的高通膨和高利率中掙扎。許多弱勢群體的生活因而變得非常困難和難以忍受。

在 2023 年初，戰爭和政治動盪導致大量人民流離失所並抵達加拿大。委員會決定專注於提高對人口販賣、難民和移民等問題的關注，並決定贊助更多專注於幫助移民、難民和人口販賣受害者的組織。我們贊助了印度加爾各答的 NIDA 項目，該項目幫助亞洲最大紅燈區的人口販賣受害者。他們教導女性如何在美髮和縫紉方面創業，幫助她們擺脫以前的生活模式。我們在 2023 年支持的其他組織包括為在按摩院內提供服務的女性之多倫多拉合事工，以及幫助孤兒和貧困兒童的洪都拉斯 New Hope Children's Centre。

## 恩福食物銀行

-在弟兄姊妹善心慷慨地在他們的才華、時間和資金上的奉獻下；我們能夠每月兩次為到大約 30 個登記家庭，約 75 位成員，提供食物支援服務。



-出席人數佔報名人數約七成左右，比對其他食物銀行服務的調查研究，在總體上來說，這是個較為穩定的比率。

-我們有大約 40 位義工，聯同我們的兼職行政助理一同營運這項目。

-我們留意到多倫多的高租金是導致我們的申請者入不敷出的主要因素 - 無論他們是簽證學生；領取綜援者；來加拿大不到十年以至不合資格領取老年金的長者；沒有隱定收入，做自由工作的父母，當然對於最近來到加拿大的人來說更是如此。然而，在我們提供的新鮮農產品、罐頭或乾糧食品以及其他雜貨的支援下，他們感到被關心和得到幫助。

-以下是我們一些服務受眾的引言：「貴食物銀行充分滿足我的基本需求，特別是在我經濟困難的期間」。「你們在提供食物給有需要的群眾上所表現出的奉獻與辛勤，實在讓我們見證到神彰顯出來的作為」。

-在感恩節的餐聚上譚牧師為我們在傳福音上分享訊息；

-三堂會眾參加了我們的年度聖誕禮物贊助活動，向我們的服務受眾發送一些細心合意的禮物和賀卡。

-在很多場合中，我們的關懷團隊成員會用同理心來傾聽受眾們的個人分享見證以表達關懷。

-愛心基金政策已獲得董事會批准，可以立即緩解服務受眾的困境。

最後，我們想分享從兩戶服務受眾那裡收到的好消息。他們將不再需要我們的服務了，因為政府的住房補貼；受惠於安大略省殘疾人支持計劃 (Ontario Disability Support Program)；找到工作等等情況下，以至收入增加，支出減少。

我們感謝神為我們和我們的服務受眾一切的供應；就像那些透過這個事工認識他的人一樣。一些食物銀行的受眾參加了國語堂細胞小組和主日學。其中一位在參加啟發課程後接受了洗禮。

我們為著陳黃月華感謝神，她多年來一直忠心地食物銀行中事奉並作領導，但她將於 2024 年離任，結束兩年的事奉任期，我們正在尋求神的指引來尋找另一位協調員。



Children are helping too  
兒童亦幫忙



Food Bank Operation. 食物銀行的運作



Volunteer Appreciation 感謝一眾義工



## 一般事工

我們仍然繼續鼓勵弟兄姊妹支持 “敞開的門” 事工並為他們禱告。2023 年，我們得知印度和尼加拉瓜基督徒遭受迫害的信息，並請會眾為他們祈禱。

恩福社區服務 (GCS) 於週一定期舉辦長者好友營，為教會社區的長者提供支援。項目包括工作坊、身體鍛煉和旅行觀光，幫助長者了解和維持健康的生活方式。

在 12 月期間，GCS 開始了「社區老友記」項目，為受到神經多樣性症狀影響的人士提供互相支持和有意義的保護。這將有助於提高溝通技巧。

要為著這個能夠與 GCS 一同合作的機會祈禱。教會正為 GCS 提供捐款，而我們需要弟兄姊妹幫助和參與各種項目，以至我們能在與參與者的互動中見證到主在我們生活中的意義。

我們每年都參加由世界宣明會舉辦的全球 6K 水步行籌款活動，為第三世界貧困家庭和兒童籌集資金，而 2023 年我們籌得超過 15,000 美元。恩典堂有 71 人慷慨地參與這善舉。

我們在城市西端怡陶碧谷的一個廣場難民中心為加拿大心理健康協會 (CMHA) 舉辦了籌款活動。弟兄姊妹們為著這迫切的需要，提供了經濟援助。

我們透過 CAP-M 計畫與 Living Waters Counseling Services 合作，資助有心理健康問題的貧困人士的項目在 2023 年得到了很好的發揮，因為很多人在疫情後仍然面對著壓力。

### **展望未來：**

委員會決定在 2024 年贊助更多一些專注於幫助移民、難民和人口販運受害者的組織。除經濟上的支援，我們將鼓勵會友們親身參與這事工。

“義人就回答說：『主啊，我們什麼時候見你餓了給你吃，渴了給你喝？ 什麼時候見你做客旅留你住，或是赤身露體給你穿？ 又什麼時候見你病了或是在監裡，來看你呢？』 王要回答說：『我實在告訴你們：這些事你們既做在我這弟兄中一個最小的身上，就是做在我身上了。』” 馬太福音 25:37-40

## Membership & Community Report

*Howard Chin*

2023 was a hectic year after the Covid Pandemic. In person worship, Sunday School, Fellowship, Meals together, Social gatherings & Cell groups resumed in person meetings. Therefore the congregations were eager to see each other again and often. We would also encourage groups to plan intentional inter congregation get togethers so we can mingle with groups from other congregations.

Tri Congregation Luncheons

Jan. 22 Chinese New Year (Postponed from Christmas 2022)

May 28th GCGC Church Anniversary 33 Years

June 24th Church Picnic postponed to Jun 22nd 2024 due to rain

Aug. 27th & Nov. 26 Membership Meeting

### **English Baptism & Membership**

**June 11, 2023:**

**Baptism:** Marcus Chan, Michael Zhang

**Membership:**

Margaux Kan, Julie Zhang, Miga Kim, Clarence Chan, Karl Hui, Shervonne Chin

**Dec 10, 2023:**

**Baptism:** Nicole Yap

**Membership:**

Pricilla Leung, Jeffrey Lou, Daniel Tse, Joshua Wong



### **Cantonese Baptism & Membership**

**June 4, 2023**

**Baptism**

Yat Chuen Chung · Vera Lee · Jasmine Chak · Jenny Chan · Deborah Yan · Annie Yang · Tinny Yuen · Jake Chan · Edmund Fok · Frank Ng · Marvin Siu · Gbee Tsui ·

**Membership :** Queenie Yu

**Dec 24, 2023**

**Baptism:** Yin Har Lau

**Membership :** Joseph Cheng, Andy Lam, Shirley Ng, Begonia AuYeung, Lai Yiu Ng ( baptized on Sep 26)

### **Mandarin Baptism & Membership**

**June 18, 2023**

**Baptism:** Xue Peiliang · Sun Niandi · Wang Zhijun · Linda Xu · Jenny Gao · Cheng Xue · Zhou Yi · Pan Dian · Ryon Yi · Edward Lin · Cindy Song ;

**Membership:** Susan Su · Jane Chen

**Dec 3, 2023**

**Baptism:** He XiaoZou, Zhang Fulan, Ye Xiaohua, Chen Guangbin, Wu Jin, Tang Yizhe, Cao Mido, Xu Paul, Song Jessica

**Membership:** Yi Xiaowu, Chan Andrew, He Michelle, Huang James, Xu Guoguo, Li Helena

**Dec 31, 2023**

**Baptism:** 孙雅虹 Yahong Susie Sun

## 教會生活及會友

陳浩偉

2023 年是新冠疫情之後繁忙的一年。敬拜、主日學、團契、聚餐、社交聚會和細胞小組都恢復實體進行。因此會眾間渴望再次能夠經常見面。我們也鼓勵各堂多規劃聯合聚會，好讓會眾能與不同堂的弟兄姊妹相互認識交流。

### 三堂聯合午餐會

1月22日農曆新年(2022年聖誕節的延後)

5月28日北約恩典福音堂成立33週年

6月24日教會野餐因雨延至2024年6月22日

8月27日、11月26日會員大會

### 英語堂浸禮及轉會

**June 11, 2023:**

**浸禮:** Marcus Chan, Michael Zhang

**轉會:** Margaux Kan、Julie Zhang、Miga Kim、

Clarence Chan、Karl Hui、Shervonne Chin

**Dec 10, 2023:**

**浸禮:** Nicole Yap

**轉會:** Pricilla Leung、Jeffrey Lou、Daniel Tse、

Joshua Wong



### 粵語堂浸禮及轉會

**第64屆浸禮2023年6月4日**

**浸禮:** 鍾溢泉、鍾李淑冰、卓欣霖、陳智玲、甄德嘉、楊春盤、袁雅妍、陳敏浩、霍明輝、吳浩賢、蕭宇軒、徐英澤

**轉會:** 余淑妍

**第65屆浸禮2023年12月24日**

**浸禮:** 劉燕霞

**轉會:** 鄭瀕恩、林本智、吳秀玲、歐陽桂芬、吳禮堯(浸禮9月26日)

### 國語堂浸禮及轉會

**2023年六月十八日**

**浸禮:** 薛培良、孫年娣、王志軍、徐俊紅、高波、程雪、周易、潘迪安、易容恒、林昊駿、宋睿馨

**轉會:** 蘇辭蔚、陳健

**2023年十二月三日**

**浸禮:** 何孝周、張福蘭、叶曉華、陳光斌、吳瑾、唐一哲、曹楚婷、徐浩哲、宋睿潔

**轉會:** 易曉武、陳開元、何向穎、黃飛駿、徐果果、李汶娟

**2023年十二月三十一日**

**浸禮:** 孫雅虹



## **Building Committee Report**

**Jackson Wong**

For the building department, 2023 was a busy year. Not only because a lot of projects and maintenance works were postponed during the pandemic years, but also because our heavenly Father blessed us abundantly and unexpectedly. I am truly grateful for having the energy and good health to serve, while at the same time experiencing and witnessing His abundant provision.

In January, most of the hallways and rooms were freshly painted by TYJC (Toronto Youth Job Corps). Not only did we save a lot since there was no cost to the church except the paint, but it also provided the youth with some basic training skills in painting for them to get hired in the future. However, since they were all trainees, a lot of supervision was needed. After that, we replaced some of the rooms (the conference room, S12, and S13) with new vinyl planks because the carpet was old and stained with paint anyway. The exterior church cross, which was painted with red primer only for all these years, was eventually painted white with new LED light installed. It greatly enhanced the aesthetic appeal of the building and increased visibility for worshippers.

The most complicated project that was completed in 2023 was none other than the renovation of both the north and south side washrooms. It was made feasible because of an unexpected grant through GCS that got approved in late 2022. It involved removing all the old tiles, countertops, partitions and replacing all the toilets with automatic flush valves. The new quartz countertops are much more durable and mould and bacteria resistant, hence creating a more hygienic environment for everybody. During the renovation, contractors had to overcome the challenge of the difference in water pressure by installing smart toilets at the south side washrooms instead of the regular tankless toilets. On top of that, trenches had to be dug to install a trap primer that adds water to floor drain traps to prevent sewer gases from entering the building. The issue of frequent bad smells in the south-side hallway was resolved once and for all.

In addition to the above, another project collaborated with GCS was the replacement of all the old fluorescent lighting (except gyms and kids corner) with LED panel lights. Coupled with the installation of motion sensors in all the hallways, we

could now save a lot of energy and maintenance costs.

Looking forward to 2024, we will enhance our worship experience by installing acoustic material in Sanctuary A to reduce noise and reverberation. Automatic sliding doors will be installed at the north and west entrances to allow hands-free entry and exit, making them more accessible for individuals with disabilities, the elderly, or those carrying heavy items. Please continue to pray for those who serve in the building department and for future projects to be completed on time.

**2 Corinthians 9:8 And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.**

## **樓宇部報告**

**黃曼中**

對樓宇部來說，2023年是忙碌的一年。不僅因為疫情期間許多工程和維修工作被推遲，還因為天父賜給我們出人意料的滿滿祝福。我真的很感恩能有精力和健康的身體來事奉，同時亦能經歷和見證到他豐盛的供應。

一月份時，多倫多青年就業團 (TYJC) 將大部分走廊和房間都粉刷一新。教會除了油漆的支出外沒有任何其他成本，因此我們不僅節省了開支，而且還為年輕人將來就業提供了一些基本的漆工技能培訓。不過，由於都是練習生，所以需要大量的監督。之後，我們將一些房間 (會議室、S12 和 S13) 內的髒舊地毯換上新的塑料地板。教堂外部多年來只塗有紅色底漆的十字架，最終被塗成白色並安裝了新的 LED 燈。它大大地提升了建築物的美感，和耀眼的能見度。

2023年完成的最複雜工程莫過於南北側洗手間的改造裝修。這項計劃之所以能成就，全賴恩福社區服務 (GCS) 在 2022 年底獲批得的一筆意外撥款。裝修包括拆除所有舊瓷磚、檯面、隔間，並安裝全新



自動沖洗閥廁所。新更換的石英檯面更為耐用、防黴、防細菌，從而創造出更衛生的環境。在南側洗手間安裝智慧馬桶，而不是常規的無水箱馬桶的過程中，承包商除了必須克服水壓差異的挑戰外，還必須挖溝安裝存水彎管設施，以防止下水道氣體倒灌進入建築物。自此之後，南側走廊常出現異味的問題得以一勞永逸的解決。

除此之外，與恩福社區服務 (GCS) 合作的另一個項目是將所有舊的螢光燈 (運動場和兒童區除外) 更換為 LED 面板燈。再加上在所有走廊安裝動感探測器，我們可以節省大量能源和保養成本。

展望 2024 年，我們將在 A 禮堂內安裝隔音材料以減少噪音和混響，增強我們的崇拜體驗。北入口和西入口將安裝自動滑動門，以免提進出，方便殘疾人士、老年人或攜帶重物的人進出。請繼續為樓宇部門的事奉人員禱告，並祈求未來的專案能夠準時完成。

哥林多後書 9:8 “神能將各樣的恩惠，多多的加給你們，使你們凡事常常充足，能多行各樣善事”



Conference room before renovation 會議室裝修



Conference room after renovation 會議室裝修後



North washroom before renovation 北廁裝修前



North washroom after renovation 北廁裝修後



South washroom before renovation 南廁裝修前



South washroom after renovation 南廁裝修後



Praise God for His work in the AV/IT department!

When I look back at the church AV/IT work pre-pandemic, I am surprised each time when I compare to what He has accomplished since our return to in-person service.

Prior to the pandemic, I would estimate that the average age of each component of our AV/IT infrastructure to be over 10 years old. Everything from the networking equipment, church computers, audio mixers, speakers, amplifiers, etc - they were all testing their limits, if not having gone past their best-before dates years earlier. Today, four years after the start of the pandemic, we have essentially replaced almost every piece of equipment that, God-willing, will last us at least another 10 years for the equipment that represents the infrastructure of GCGCNY's AV/IT ministry.

I am thankful and grateful for the work and support of the small but mighty AV/IT team, which has helped make all of this possible even possible. Wilson Kwong, Kevin Ho, Simeon Wong, Howard Chin and multiple summer interns from English service; Darius Fok, Kevin Yeung, Kayson Ko from Cantonese Service; and David Feng and other brothers working in the background from Mandarin service (apologies to anyone whom I have missed naming) all have helped tremendously in giving of their time, effort and expertise to create the new and updated AV/IT systems we have today.

God has truly blessed GCGCNY through the AV/IT ministry. In the coming months, you will begin to see the visible fruits of all the work from the efforts that have been put in to-date. Updated homepages for each congregation, improved main sanctuary sound quality, just to name a couple, that should improve the work and testimony of every church ministry. So stay tuned, and I trust you will see for yourselves, the improvements that we have invested in, over the last three years into our AV/IT systems to make all this possible.

However, this is not all just one and done. Continual care and maintenance of all the equipment is critical to maintaining that it will function properly every week, and will meet and exceed its life expectancy. I ask of all church members, and brothers and sisters who use the equipment, whether it be for Sunday worship,

Sunday School, cell group or fellowship, or outreach ministry, to use all of our equipment with care. If you are unsure of how to work the equipment, please ask a member of the AV/IT team for some training; if something gets accidentally damaged while using it, please inform the AV/IT team ASAP, so that it can be repaired or replaced for the next user; and please do not remove any equipment from where you find it, without prior approval of the AV/IT team - the equipment is placed there for a reason, and for the use of every brother or sister who have approval to be there and to use that equipment.

On behalf of the AV/IT team, thank you for your continued support of our efforts to maintain and improve the AV/IT ministry at GCGCNY. We are truly blessed by your continued support, and to be able to use the efforts of the AV/IT ministry to glorify God and to further spread His Good News to all those who have yet to hear and receive it. May God continue to guide the AV/IT ministry and bless it to His glory!

### 影音/科技部

*李海文*

讚美神在影音/科技部的工作！

每當我回顧疫情前教會的影音/科技服務跟實體後的分別時，每次的比較都讓我驚訝地看到神在當中的作為。

在疫情之前，我估計影音/科技的基礎設施組件的平均壽命都超過 10 年。從網路設置、教會電腦、混音器、揚聲器、擴音器等等器材，就算不是已經遠遠超過它們的最佳使用日期，它們的功能亦都已是介乎極限。今天，在疫情爆發四年後，我們基本上更換了幾乎所有設備，若蒙神允許，這些代表北約恩典堂影音/科技事工的基礎設施及設備將能夠繼續使用至少 10 年。

我要感謝影音/科技部團隊，雖然是個小小的團隊，然而卻是能夠提供強勁的工作及支援，讓這一切變得精益求精。Wilson Kwong、何世賢、Simeon Wong、陳浩偉，以及多位來自英語堂的暑期實習生；

粵語堂的霍紹琪、Kevin Yeung、高冠山；馮宇和其他在國語堂幕後工作的兄弟們（若有名字遺漏者，謹此致歉）都在時間、精力和專業知識上竭力的付出，創建了我們今天所擁有嶄新和更新的影音/科技系統。

神透過影音/科技的事工在真正地祝福北約恩典福音堂。在未來的數月中，您將會開始看到迄今為止，所有付出的努力所帶來的明顯成果。僅舉幾例，每個堂會的網頁得以更新，主禮堂的音響質素改善，這些都應該會改善教會每個事工中的工作和見證。因此，請繼續關注，我相信您會親眼看到我們在過去三年中對影音/科技系統的更新改進，成就了這一切的可能。

然而，這一切並不會是個一勞永逸的結局。對所有設備及器材而言，持續的保養和維修能確保它們周期性的正常運作以至能達到並超過其預期壽命的期限，這至關重要。我呼籲所有使用這些設備器材的教會成員和弟兄姊妹們，無論是主日敬拜、主日學、小組或團契、或外展事工，都要小心使用我們所有的設備。如果您對設備不確定如何操作，請向影音/科技團隊成員尋求一些培訓；如果在使用過程中意外損壞物品，請盡快通知影音/科技團隊，以便盡快維修或更換，以方便下一位使用者；未經影音/科技團隊事先批准，請勿將任何設備從它們擺放的地方移走 – 因為這些擺放的位置都有其特定的原因，並且方便讓每一位獲准使用的兄弟姐妹們在該處提取使用這些設備器材。

謹代表 影音/科技團隊感謝您對北約恩典福音堂的影音/科技部門在維修和改善等事奉上的

努力持續地支持。這是真正的祝福，盼望大家能夠利用影音/科技事工的努力來榮耀上帝，

並進一步向所有尚未聽到和接受的人傳揚他的福音。願神繼續帶領影音/科技事工並在其榮耀裡得到祝福！

Thank God, as the pandemic ends, attendance at the three congregations has further increased compared to 2022. Brothers and sisters have been actively participating in various church activities. We have many new friends who have recently come to Canada. Brothers and sisters are grateful and joyful, welcoming them to join us.

We appreciate the faithful services from the church pastors and administrative staff. In 2023, Rev. Sunny Wong and Pastor Richard Wong joined our pastoral team. May the Lord bless them and their families in their life and service in the church. Brothers and sisters gathered together to celebrate the retirement of Rev. Lee, thanking him and his wife for their faithful service in the church over the years. Pastor Liu Qiang ended his service in the Mandarin congregation at the end of 2023. We thank Pastor Liu for his past service in the church.

感謝神，隨著疫情結束，三堂的實體聚會人數比較 2022 年進一步回升。弟兄姊妹積極回到教會參加各項活動。我們更有很多新近來到加拿大的慕道朋友和弟兄姊妹來到我們當中。三堂和兒童部的同工和弟兄姊妹感恩又歡喜，歡迎新朋友加入教會生活。

感謝教牧及行政同工的忠心事奉。2023 年，黃纘舜牧師和黃汝良傳道加入教牧團隊，願主祝福他們和家人在教會的生活和服事。另外，三堂的弟兄姊妹一起聚餐，慶祝李建國牧師榮休，感謝李牧師和師母過去多年在教會的忠心服事。劉強傳道在 2023 年底結束在國語堂的事奉，感謝劉傳道過去在教會的服事。

### 二零二三年主日崇拜講員 2023 Sunday Worship Speakers

粵語堂 Cantonese	陳陳訓民牧師 Rev. Fanco Chan 張家齊牧師 Rev. Danny Cheung 李建國牧師 Rev. David Lee 李傳頌牧師 Re. Keith Lee 莫家華弟兄 Brother Edward Mok 任大立牧師 Rev. Dali Ren 譚紹南牧師 Rev. Ted Tham 葉大銘牧師 Rev. George Yip 蕭智雄牧師 Rev. Chi Hung Siu	廖張嘉蔚傳道 Pastor Connie Liu 黃纘舜牧師 Rev. Sunny Wong 潘何依華傳道 Pastor Eva Poon 曾光華宣教士 Pastor Tony Tsang 黎詠婷宣教士 Pastor Wendy Lai 鍾建平弟兄 Brother KP Chung 黃汝良傳道 Pastor Richard Wong 陳華恩牧師 Rev. Jonathan Chan 林奕勝牧師 Pastor Lewis Lam
英語堂 English	Rev. Ted Tham 譚紹南牧師 Rev. Fanco Chan 陳訓民牧師 Pastor Michelle Kim 李明實傳道 Mr. Santos Chan 陳信行傳道	Pastor Eva Poon 潘何依華傳道 Rev. Danny Cheung 張家齊牧師 Dr. Clement Yeung Pastor Johnson Hsu
國語堂 Mandarin	任大立牧師 Rev. Daniel Ren 蕭智雄牧師 Rev. Chi-Hung Siu 劉強傳道 Pastore Moses Liu 陳訓民牧師 Rev. Fanco Chan 潘何依華傳道 Pastor Eva Poon 張家齊牧師 Rev. Danny Cheung 叶大銘牧師 Rev. Dr. George Yip	陈启方牧師 Rev. Qifang Chen 方師正牧師 Rev. Shizheng Fang 龚悦弟兄 Steven Gong 宋胜牧師 Rev. Sheng Song 余亚弘牧師 Rev. Yahong She 廖少舫牧師 Rev. Stephen Liu

### 會友消息 Membership News

### 崇拜出席人數 Worship Attendance

	最少 Minimum	最多 Maximum	平均 Average
粵語堂 Cantonese	132	197	162
國語堂 Mandarin	78	138	108
英語堂 English	89	135	111
兒童 Children	24	66	46
康寧耆老中心 Tendercare	15	27	20

祷告会 Prayer Meeting (周出席人数 Weekly Attendance)	平均 Average
粵語堂 Cantonese (Sunday Morning & Tuesday Night)	Sunday 8, Tuesday 16
國語堂 Mandarin (Manday to Saturday)	23
英語堂 English (Sunday, Monday, Wednesday & Thurs)	16

### 浸禮 Baptism / 轉會 Membership Transfer

國語堂 Mandarin	<p><b>浸禮 2023 年 6 月 18 日:</b> 薛培良, 孙年娣, 王志军, 徐俊红, 高波, 程雪, 周易, 潘迪安, 易容恒, 林昊骏, 宋睿馨</p> <p><b>Baptism on June 18, 2023:</b> Xue Peiliang · Sun Niandi · Wang Zhijun · Linda Xu · Jenny Gao · Cheng Xue · Zhou Yi · Pan Dian · Ryon Yi · Edward Lin · Cindy Song</p> <p><b>轉會 2023 年 6 月 18 日:</b> 苏辞蔚, 陈健</p> <p><b>Membership Transfer on June 18, 2023</b> Susan Su · Jane Chen</p> <p><b>浸禮 2023 年 12 月 3 日:</b> 何孝周, 张福兰, 叶晓华, 陈光斌, 吴瑾, 唐一哲, 曹楚婷, 徐浩哲, 宋睿洁 <b>Baptism on December 3, 2023:</b> He XiaoZou, Zhang Fulan, Ye Xiaohua, Chen Guangbin, Wu Jin, Tang Yizhe, Cao Mido, Xu Paul, Song Jessica</p> <p><b>轉會 2023 年 12 月 3 日:</b> 易晓武 · 陈开元 · 何向颖 · 黄飞骏 · 徐果果 · 李汶娟</p> <p><b>Membership Transfer on December 3, 2023</b> Yi Xiaowu, Chan Andrew, He Michelle, Huang James, Xu Guoguo, Li Helena</p> <p><b>浸禮 2023 年 12 月 31 日:</b> 孙雅虹</p> <p><b>Baptism on December 31, 2023:</b> Yahong Susie Sun</p>
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粵語堂 Cantonese	<p>浸禮 2023 年 6 月 4 日： 鍾溢泉 · 鍾李淑冰 · 卓欣霖 · 陳智玲 · 甄德嘉 · 楊春盤 · 袁雅妍 · 陳敏浩 · 霍明輝 · 吳浩賢 · 蕭宇軒 · 徐英澤</p> <p><b>Baptism on June 4, 2023 :</b> Yat Chuen Chung · Vera Lee · Jasmine Chak · Jenny Chan · Deborah Yan · Annie Yang · Tinny Yuen · Jake Chan · Edmund Fok · Frank Ng · Marvin Siu · Gbee Tsui</p> <p>轉會 2023 年 6 月 4 日：余淑妍</p> <p><b>Membership Transfer on Jun 4, 2023 :</b> Queenie Yu</p> <p>浸禮 2023 年 12 月 24 日：劉燕霞</p> <p><b>Baptism on Dec 24, 2023 :</b> Yin Har Lau</p> <p>轉會 2023 年 12 月 24 日：鄭瀨恩, 林本智, 吳秀玲, 歐陽桂芬, 吳禮堯(浸禮 9 月 26 日)</p> <p><b>Membership Transfer on December 24 2023 :</b> Joseph Cheng, Andy Lam, Shirley Ng, Begonia AuYeung, Lai Yiu Ng (was baptized on Sep 26)</p>
英語堂 English	<p><b>Baptism on December 10, 2023:</b> Nicole Yap</p> <p><b>Membership Transfer on December 10, 2023:</b> Pricilla Leung, Jeffrey Lou, Daniel Tse, Joshua Wong</p>

### 婚禮 Weddings

粵語堂 Cantonese	n/a
英語堂 English	n/a
國語堂 Mandarin	August 3, 2023 周易 & Donita

### 出生嬰兒 Newborns

	女嬰 Pink	男嬰 Blue
粵語堂 Cantonese	n/a	n/a
英語堂 English	n/a	n/a
國語堂 Mandarin	n/a	n/a

### 兒童奉獻 Child Dedications

粵語堂 Cantonese	n/a
英語堂 English	n/a
國語堂 Mandarin	n/a

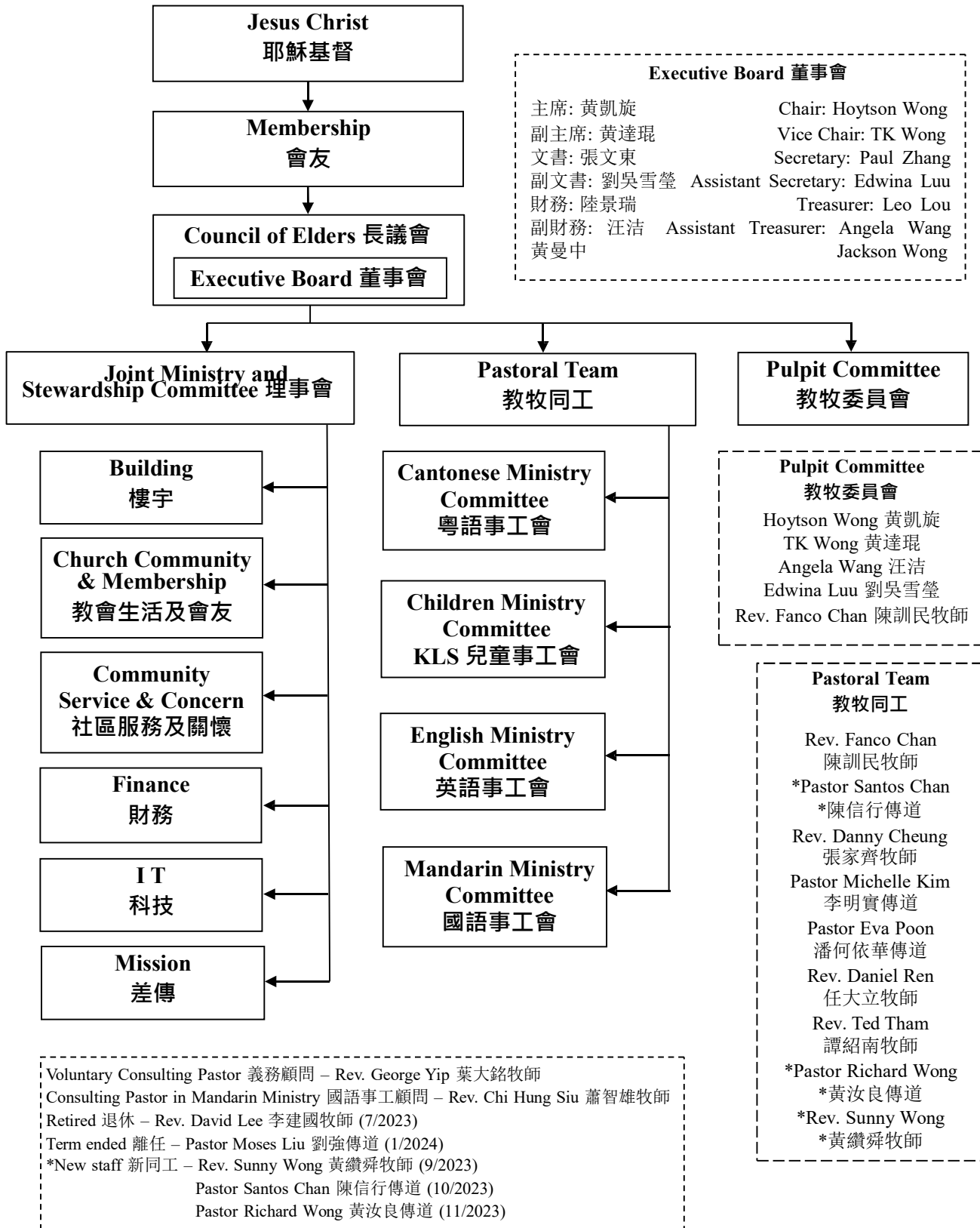
### 去世 Deceased

粵語堂 Cantonese	n/a
英語堂 English	n/a
國語堂 Mandarin	March 30, 2023 赵孟龙 Dec. 20, 2023 蔡梅



# 北約恩典福音堂 2023/6-2024/5 年行政架構表

## Grace Chinese Gospel Church of North York Organization Chart 2023/6-2024/5



## ## Board of Director 董事, \* Team lead 組長 (Deacon: Term/year 執事:任/年)

(Board of Director: 1 year term, start from June. Elder: 3 years term, start from June. Deacon: 2 years term, start from April.)

(董事一年一任, 六月開始. 長老三年一任, 六月開始. 執事兩年一任, 四月開始.)

Ministry Committee 事工會	Cantonese 粵語	English 英語	Mandarin 國語	Children 兒童
Chair 主席	Rev. Fanco Chan 陳訓民牧師	Rev. Ted Tham 譚紹南牧師	Rev. Dali Ren 任大立牧師	Pastor Eva Poon 潘何依華傳道
Vice Chair 副主席	TK Wong # 黃達琨(5/1)	Hoytson Wong # 黃凱旋(5/1)	Angela Wang # 汪洁(1/1)	Edwina Luu # 劉吳雪瑩(5/1)
Secretary 文書	Firman Lee 李海文(2/1)	---	Richard Liang 梁大照(3/2)	---
Worship 崇拜	Darius Fok 霍紹祺(3/1)	Xiao Wang 王曉(2/1)	---	Preschool 學前
Worship Team 敬拜小組	---	---	Vivian Li 李偉(3/1)	
New Comer Follow up 新朋友跟進	---	---	Richard Liang 梁大照(3/2)	
Discipleship & Equipping 門訓及裝備	Rodney Ho 何繼舜(1/1)	(Non-deacon-rep.) ?	Paul Zhang 張文東(1/2)	Junior 低班
Evangelism 傳福音	Winnie Ma 馬徐韻妮(5/1)	(Non-deacon-rep.) Andrew Leung 梁子樂	Jinhua Yan 閻金花(3/1)	Senior 高班
Prayer 禱告	Judy Hum 譚紅秀(4/2)	(Non-deacon-rep.) ?	---	
Caring & Visitation 關顧及探訪	Liza Ki 祁鍾翠蘭(3/2) Enoch Chan 陳旭輝(1/1)	---	---	
Cell 細胞小組	---	---	Meng Wang 王勳 (1/2)	Edwina Luu 劉吳雪瑩(5/1)  Vera Ho 何陳健慧(1/1)  Tracy Chui 徐凡(1/1)  Angela Wang 汪洁(1/1)
Youth Ministry 青年事工	---	(Non-deacon-rep.) ?	---	
Family Ministry 家庭事工	---	Kevin Ho 何世賢(3/2) Edwina Luu 劉吳雪瑩(5/1)	---	
Men's Ministry 男士事工	---	Kevin Ho 何世賢(3/2)	---	
Women's Ministry 婦女事工	---	Jessica Leung 梁詠詩(1/1)	---	
Media Ministry 媒體事工	---	Xiao Wang 王曉(2/1)	---	
Children 兒童	Vera Ho 何陳健慧(1/1) Tracy Chui 徐凡(1/1)	Edwina Luu 劉吳雪瑩(5/1)	Angela Wang 汪洁(1/1)	
Pastor 教牧	Rev. Danny Cheung 張家齊牧師 Rev. Sunny Wong 黃纘舜牧師 Pastor Richard Wong 黃汝良傳道	Pastor Michelle Kim 李明實傳道 Pastor Santos Chan 陳信行傳道		

Joint Ministry & Stewardship Committee 理事會	Cantonese 粵語	English 英語	Mandarin 國語
Building 樓宇	* Jackson Wong # 黃曼中(2/1)	(Non-deacon-rep.) ?	Simon Song 宋严(2/1)
Church Community & Membership 教會生活及會友	Kayson Ko 高冠山(5/1)	* Howard Chin 陳浩偉(5/1)	Johnson Pan 潘忠發(1/1)
Community Service & Concern 社區服務及關懷	* Conrad Chan 陳穎豪(5/1) Enoch Chan 陳旭輝(1/1)	(Non-deacon-rep.) ?	Mary Pao 包瑪利(1/2)
Finance 財務	* Leo Lou # 陸景瑞 (2/1)	Hoytson Wong 黃凱旋(5/1)	(Non-deacon-rep.) ?
IT 科技	* Firman Lee 李海文(2/1)	Howard Chin 陳浩偉(5/1)	Paul Zhang 張文東(1/2)
Mission 差傳	* Liza Ki 祁鍾翠蘭(3/2)	Sylvia Szeto 司徒靜姬(1/1)	Rev. Dali Ren 任大立牧師
JMSC Chair 理事會主席	Rev. Fanco Chan 陳訓民牧師		
JMSC Vice Chair 理事會副主席	# Paul Zhang 張文東(1/2)		
Secretary 文書	Firman Lee 李海文(2/1)		

## Church Calendar 2023 教會行事曆

Theme: Leadership Training 領袖訓練

(1 Tim. 4:12, 2 Tim. 2:2, Eph. 4:11-12) (提前 4:12, 提後 2:2, 弗 4:11-12)

Jan 1, Sun	<b>New Year's Day Joint Worship</b> 元旦聯合崇拜
Jan 22, Sun	Chinese New Year 農曆新年
Jan 22, Sun	Church Lunch 教會聚餐
Jan 27-29, Fri-Sun	<b>Mission Conference</b> 差傳年會
Feb 20 Mon	Family Day 家庭日
Mar 5, Sun	<i>Congregational Membership Meeting (Elect Deacon)</i> 選執事
Mar 12, Sun	<b>Poverty Sunday</b> 扶貧主日
Apr 7, Fri	Good Friday 受難日
Apr 9, Sun	Easter Sunday 復活節
Apr 16, Sun	<i>Ministry Committee Dedication</i> 執事奉獻禮
Apr 30, Sun	<b>Mission Sunday</b> 差傳主日
May	<i>Leader Appreciation Month</i> 領袖欣賞月
May 14, Sun	Mother's Day 母親節
May 22, Mon	Victoria Day 維多利亞日
May 28, Sun	<b>33<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Joint Worship</b> 卅三週年聯合崇拜
May 28, Sun	<b>Membership Meeting</b> 會友大會 (Elect Elder & Director)
May 28, Sun	Church Lunch 教會聚餐
Jun 4, Sun	<b>Baptism</b> 浸禮 (Can 粵, Man 國)
Jun 11, Sun	<b>Baptism</b> 浸禮 (Eng 英)
Jun 18, Sun	Father's Day 父親節
Jun 18, Sun	<i>Board Dedication</i> 董事會奉獻禮
Jul 1, Sat	Canada Day 國慶日
Jul 9, Sun	<b>Outreach Sunday</b> 外展主日
Jul 30, Sun	<b>Mission Sunday</b> 差傳主日
Aug 7, Mon	Civic Day 公民日
Aug 27, Sun	Church Lunch 教會聚餐
Sep 4, Mon	Labour Day 勞動節
Sep 10, Sun	<b>Social Justice Sunday</b> 社關主日
Sep 16-17, Sat-Sun	Mandarin 24 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary 國語堂成立廿四週年
Sep 30, Sat	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation 全國真相與和解日
Oct	<i>Pastor Appreciation Month</i> 教牧欣賞月
Oct 9, Mon	Thanksgiving 感恩節
Oct 15, Sun	<b>Stewardship Sunday</b> 管家主日
Oct 15, Sun	<i>Fire Drill</i> 防火演習
Oct 29, Sun	<b>Mission Sunday</b> 差傳主日
Oct 31, Tue	Children Harvest Carnival 感恩嘉年華會
Nov 11, Sat	Remembrance Day 國殤紀念日
Nov 26, Sun	<i>Membership Meeting</i> 會友大會
Nov 26, Sun	Church Lunch 教會聚餐
Dec 3, Sun	<b>Baptism</b> 浸禮 (Can 粵, Man 國)
Dec 10, Sun	<b>Baptism</b> 浸禮 (Eng 英)
Dec 25, Mon	Christmas Day 聖誕節
Dec 26, Tue	Boxing Day 節禮日

**GRACE CHINESE GOSPEL CHURCH OF NORTH YORK**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED December 31, 2023**



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## **Independent Auditor's Report**

To the Executive Church Board and Congregation of **Grace Chinese Gospel Church of North York** *Qualified Opinion*

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of GRACE CHINESE GOSPEL CHURCH OF NORTH YORK (the "Church"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023, and the statement of funds activities and statement of cash flows for the the year then ended and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section of my report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Church as at December 31, 2023, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

### ***Basis for Opinion***

In common with many charitable organizations, the Church derives revenue from donations the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Church. Therefore, I was not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to recorded donation receipts, assets and funds. My audit opinion on the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023 was modified accordingly because of the possible effects of this scope limitation.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Church in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Canada, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my qualified audit opinion.

### ***Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Church's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Church or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Church's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Church's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Church to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Oakville, Ontario  
May 6, 2024

*CMR WONG*

**CMR Wong Chartered Professional Accountant  
Licensed Public Accountant**

**CMR Wong Chartered Professional Accountant**  
 1200 Speers Road, Unit 12 • Oakville • Ontario L6L 2X4  
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**GRACE CHINESE GOSPEL CHURCH OF NORTH YORK**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT DECEMBER 31**

	General Fund	Building Fund		<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>~ ASSETS ~</b>					
<b><u>Current assets</u></b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 458,189	\$ 458,392	\$ 916,581	\$ 803,569	
Investment (Note 3)	2,120,142	-	2,120,142	2,118,867	
Accounts receivable	109,729	-	109,729	137,643	
Prepaid expenses	13,130	-	13,130	12,361	
	<u>2,701,190</u>	<u>458,392</u>	<u>3,159,582</u>	<u>3,072,440</u>	
<b><u>Property, plant and equipment</u></b>					
at cost less accumulated amortization (Note 4)	<u>46,104</u>	<u>1,343,991</u>	<u>1,390,095</u>	<u>1,435,312</u>	
	<u>\$ 2,747,294</u>	<u>\$ 1,802,383</u>	<u>\$ 4,549,677</u>	<u>\$ 4,507,752</u>	
<b>~ LIABILITIES ~</b>					
<b><u>Current liabilities</u></b>					
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 19,374	\$ -	\$ 19,374	\$ 13,486	
CEBA Loan	-	-	-	30,000	
Food Bank deferred revenue (Note 6)	95,205	-	95,205	83,520	
Short term mission deferred revenue (Note 7)	170,085	-	170,085	146,683	
	<u>284,664</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>284,664</u>	<u>273,689</u>	
<b>~ DESIGNATED FUNDS ~</b>					
General fund	2,462,630	-	2,462,630	2,414,699	
Building fund	-	1,802,383	1,802,383	1,819,364	
	<u>2,462,630</u>	<u>1,802,383</u>	<u>4,265,013</u>	<u>4,234,063</u>	
	<u>\$ 2,747,294</u>	<u>\$ 1,802,383</u>	<u>\$ 4,549,677</u>	<u>\$ 4,507,752</u>	

Note: The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**Approved on behalf of the Board:**

Hoytson Wong  
Hoytson Wong (May 6, 2024 17:50 EDT)

\_\_\_\_\_, Director

Leo Lou  
Leo Lou (May 6, 2024 17:16 EDT)

\_\_\_\_\_, Director

**GRACE CHINESE GOSPEL CHURCH OF NORTH YORK**  
**STATEMENT OF FUNDS ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31**

			<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>		
<b>Receipts:</b>				
Offerings -				
General	\$ 1,089,294	\$ -	\$ 1,089,294	\$ 967,924
Building	-	14,060	14,060	15,581
Special - Food bank (Note 6)	9,918	-	9,918	12,753
Special - Short term mission (Note 7)	1,135	-	1,135	1,500
Other receipts -				
Facility usage fee	71,280	88,586	159,866	144,435
Miscellaneous	36,727	-	36,727	34,140
Interest income	101,124	-	101,124	39,043
Government subsidy (Note 8)	17,696	-	17,696	22,200
	<u>1,327,174</u>	<u>102,646</u>	<u>1,429,820</u>	<u>1,237,576</u>
<b>Expenditures:</b> (Note 12)	<u>1,279,243</u>	<u>119,627</u>	<u>1,398,870</u>	<u>1,173,582</u>
Net receipts for the year	47,931	(16,981)	30,950	63,994
Fund balance, beginning of year	2,414,699	1,819,364	4,234,063	4,170,069
	<u>2,414,699</u>	<u>1,819,364</u>	<u>4,234,063</u>	<u>4,170,069</u>
Fund balance, end of year	<u>\$ 2,462,630</u>	<u>\$ 1,802,383</u>	<u>\$ 4,265,013</u>	<u>\$ 4,234,063</u>

Note: The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



**GRACE CHINESE GOSPEL CHURCH OF NORTH YORK**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31**

			<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	General Fund	Building Fund		
<b><u>Cash from (to) operation:</u></b>				
Net receipts for the year	\$ 47,931	\$ (16,981)	\$ 30,950	\$ 63,994
Adjustments for non-cash item				
Amortization	14,123	119,627	133,750	128,795
	62,054	102,646	164,700	192,789
Accounts receivable	27,914	-	27,914	(78,689)
Prepaid expenses	(769)	-	(769)	(1,264)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	5,888	-	5,888	- 1,605
Deferred revenue	35,087	-	35,087	41,920
	130,174	102,646	232,820	153,151
<b><u>Cash from (to) investing activities:</u></b>				
Investment	(1,275)	-	(1,275)	(113,866)
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	(5,487)	(83,046)	(88,533)	(25,920)
	(6,762)	(83,046)	(89,808)	(139,786)
<b><u>Cash from (to) financing activities:</u></b>				
CEBA loan	(30,000)	-	(30,000)	-
	(30,000)	-	(30,000)	-
Net cash generated (applied) for the year	93,412	19,600	113,012	13,365
Cash and cash equivalent, beginning of year	364,777	438,792	803,569	790,204
Cash and cash equivalent, end of year	\$ 458,189	\$ 458,392	\$ 916,581	\$ 803,569

Note: The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**GRACE CHINESE GOSPEL CHURCH OF NORTH YORK**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED December 31, 2023**

The following notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**1. Organization**

Grace Chinese Gospel Church of North York is a Christian church that promotes the Gospel of Jesus Christ, provides worship services to Christians.

The Church is registered under the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act. The church is a member of the Association of Gospel Churches (AGC). The entity is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act (Canada), as such, is exempt from income taxes.

**2. Summary of significant accounting policies**

a) Revenue -

- i. Offerings are accounted for on cash basis. Pledges are not recorded as receipt until the pledged contributions are received.
- ii. Facility usage fees are accounted for revenue when the facility is used for services provided mainly by other registered charities.
- iii. Retreat and EQ fees are accounted for revenue when the fees payment are received for covering the cost of the service provided by church's ministry.
- iv. Government subsidies are due to COVID-19, including the wage and rent subsidies as well as the forgiveness of the loan.

b) Fund accounting -

To ensure observance of limitations and restrictions placed on the use of resources available to the church, the accounts of the church are maintained in accordance with the principles of fund accounting. The resources for various purposes are classified for accounting and reporting purposes into funds established according to their nature and purpose. Transfers between funds are made when approved by the Board. The assets, liabilities and fund balances of the church are reported in three balancing funds as follows:

- i. General fund is for general operating purposes.
- ii. Building fund, which represents resources for expansions, and church renovations.

c) Restricted contributions -

General and Building funds are restricted by donors for particular general operating purposes or for building expansion and renovation respectively. For the grant received with specified restrictions, such amounts received will be netted against the specified expenditures incurred during the year, excess amount of grant received will be recorded as restricted fund.

d) Donated materials and services -

Contributions, to the extent recognized in the fund accounts, are recorded at an approximation of their fair market value, the church is dependent upon the ongoing support of volunteers, the value of which has not been quantified in these financial statements.

e) Cash and cash equivalents -

Cash equivalents include all highly liquid investments with original maturities 90 days.

f) Property, plant and equipment -

Property, plant and equipment are recorded at cost commencing in 1998. Amortization is recorded over the

Equipment	- 30% on a declining balance basis
Building	- 4% on a straight line basis
Furniture and fixtures	- 20% on a declining balance basis

**GRACE CHINESE GOSPEL CHURCH OF NORTH YORK**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONT'D)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED December 31, 2023**

**2. Summary of significant accounting policies**

g) Financial instruments -

The entity's financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivable, prepaid expenses, accounts payable and accrued liabilities and deferred revenue. Unless otherwise noted, it is the deacon board's opinion that the entity is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from those financial instruments. The fair value of these financial instruments approximate their carrying value, unless otherwise noted.

**3. Investment**

Investments of \$2,120,142 (2022 - \$2,118,867) is recorded at cost plus accrued interest, which approximates the market value of these investments. The investments consist of a portfolio of Guaranteed Investment Certificates with maturity dates ranging from April 2024 to December 2024 and interest rates from 3.5% to 5.9%

**4. Property, plant and equipment**

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated Amortization</u>	<u>2023 Net book Value</u>	<u>2022 Net book Value</u>
Building	\$ 3,021,113	\$ 1,678,721	\$ 1,342,392	\$ 1,378,529
Equipment	180,495	159,121	21,374	23,871
Furniture and fixtures	105,633	79,304	26,329	32,912
	<u>\$ 3,307,241</u>	<u>\$ 1,917,146</u>	<u>\$ 1,390,095</u>	<u>\$ 1,435,312</u>

**5. Financial instruments**

The church is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments and has a comprehensive risk management framework to monitor, evaluate and manage these risks. It is the deacon board's opinion that the church is not exposed to significant currency risk. The following analysis provides information about the church's risk exposure and concentration as of December 31, 2023.

Credit risk

Credit risk arises from the potential that a counter party will fail to perform its obligations. The church is subject to credit risk through receivable. The church's management does not expect any financial loss on the December 31, 2023 receivable balance.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The church is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of its receipt of funds from its members and other related sources and accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of change in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: currency rate risk, interest rate risk and other price risk. It is management's opinion that the church is not exposed to significant current rate risk and other price risk. The church is mainly exposed to interest rate risk.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument might be adversely affected by a change in the interest rates. In seeking to minimize the risks from interest rate fluctuations, the church manages exposure through its normal operating and financing activities. The church is exposed to interest rate risk primarily through its fixed interest rate on cash and cash equivalents. The church manages this risk through investing in fixed-rate deposits and plans to hold the deposits to maturity.



**GRACE CHINESE GOSPEL CHURCH OF NORTH YORK**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONT'D)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED December 31, 2023**

**6. Food Bank Deferred Revenue**

Total designated offering for food bank received during the year was \$21,602 (2022 - \$31,166) and the total expense for food bank was \$9,918 (2022 - \$12,753). There is cash balance of \$95,205 (2022 - \$83,520) designated for the ministry of food bank as at Dec 31, 2023.

**7. Short Term Mission Deferred Revenue**

Total designated offering for short term mission received during the year was \$24,537 (2022 - \$25,006) and the total expense for short term mission was \$1,135 (2022 - \$1,500). There is cash balance of \$170,085 (2022 - \$146,683) designated for the ministry of short term mission as at Dec 31, 2023.

**8. Government Subsidies**

The government subsidies consists of CSJ grant for a total of \$17,696 (2022 - \$22,200) and no more government wage subsidy due to COVID-19 during the year (2021- \$57,644).

**9. Building expense**

During the year, there was \$10,000 (2022 - \$20,000) anti-hate security grant received from the government of Ontario that was netted against the cost of security and equipment purchased.

**10. Comparative figures**

Certain comparative prior year's figures have been reclassified to conform to current year's presentation.

**11. Approval of financial statements**

The financial statements were approved by the Executive Board and authorized for issue on April XX, 2024.

**GRACE CHINESE GOSPEL CHURCH OF NORTH YORK**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONT'D)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>12. Expenditures</b>		
a) <u>General Fund</u>		
Administration	\$ 6,388	\$ 4,321
Association dues	10,559	9,724
Building	165,225	127,798
Cantonese ministry	14,001	6,504
Cantonese worship and Sunday School	3,115	2,101
Children ministry	2,608	2,341
Children worship and Sunday School	4,905	3,041
Community Outreach	-	120
Contingency	1,916	138
English ministry	10,362	7,918
English worship and Sunday School	2,648	1,589
Finance	16,250	14,983
IT and TV	29,075	18,739
Mandarin ministry	19,200	11,161
Mandarin worship and Sunday School	2,076	1,627
Mission	78,410	67,307
Short term mission (Note 8)	1,134	1,500
Non-refundable GST	9,986	7,453
Salaries and benefits	800,495	732,539
Social concern ministry	53,400	-
Food bank (Note 7)	9,918	12,753
Special events	13,069	2,380
Theological student assistance	10,380	8,750
Amortization	14,123	10,699
	<u>\$ 1,279,243</u>	<u>\$ 1,055,486</u>
b) <u>Building Fund</u>		
Amortization	\$ 119,627	\$ 118,096
	<u>\$ 1,398,870</u>	<u>\$ 1,173,582</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 1,398,870</u>	<u>\$ 1,173,582</u>