

Quarterly Newsletter

October 2015

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From the Senior Pastor

My mother passed away on May 24th of this year and I am thankful to the Lord for allowing me to be around her on the day that she was taken home. During the course of my life, God has used many people to shape me and to bless me. If it were not for my mother's nurturing and spiritual example, I would not be where I am today. My mother did not have much education, nor did she have many impressive talents. She was just a simple woman and did what she could to assist my father's small business and raise up seven children. She tried her best to be a godly woman and a faithful deacon in the church. Nevertheless, the Lord used the small things that she did faithfully and multiplied them to become huge blessings to the many people around her. From her I learned this lesson: Serve Him faithfully and do the best you can, and He will use what you have and what you give to accomplish something you can never imagine. Just like the young lad who offered his five loaves of bread and two fishes to Lord Jesus; he probably did not imagine that Jesus would use these few items to feed more than five thousand people! It is interesting to note that Jesus could have used stones and turn them into bread, just as He turned water into wine. However, He chose to use the

five loaves of bread and the two fishes. He wants to use us and He wants to bring us into the miracle; He wants us to be a part of the miracle. Many Christians want to see miracles from God, and it was no different for King David. When he was young, he volunteered to go fight against Goliath. The only weapon that David had for this critical battle was his sling and five small stones. God chose to use these simple items. David was skillful with the sling, but no matter the magnitude of his skills, David could never use a sling and a small stone to kill Goliath the Giant. It was by God's miraculous act through the flying stone that God's enemy was fatally wounded. Again we see here that David did his best and God completed the rest. Not only did David witness the miracle, but he was also a part of the miracle. Brothers and sisters, yes, God wants you to be a part of the miracle. Trust in Him, do your best, and He will complete the rest for His own glory.

-Pastor Albert Lam

Updates from Council

Praise God!!! Wow. The year 2015 is rapidly coming to an end, I am sure we have so much yet to do, however let us not forget to stop and offer up our deep gratitude of thanksgiving to our Lord Jesus Christ. There are many things that we can be thankful for. "... if there is anything worthy of praise, think continually on these things [center your mind on them, and implant them in your heart]." Phil. 4:8.

This past summer was filled with many exciting programs – including picnics, summer retreat and outreach events. Most notable ones are the sharing from various short-term mission teams!!! We had quite a few foreign short-term missions this

year – including Mexico and other regions in the world. In addition, we have over 30 youths participate with the one-week homeless mission. In summary – Lives Were Transformed!! Let's pray that next year – there will be more people willing to be part of the proclaiming of the Gospel worldwide. "Here am I, send me!!" (Isa. 6:8)

As many of you have read in the news about Syrian migrants, there are hundreds of thousands of Syrian migrants being displaced from their hometown. Many of them are Christians!! They were persecuted due to their relentless faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Many were martyred. I was in tears as I read one story after another.

These are our brothers and sisters in Christ. Let us not forget to lift up our cries to the Lord for His mercy and grace in that region. Pray that many countries will welcome them with open arms. Pray that many will come to know the Lord Jesus as their personal Savior. Pray that many will find strength and hope from the Lord.

It is with lots of prayers and anticipation that 2 congregations (Main Mandarin and Central Mandarin) are seeking for assistant pastors. Please keep the search committee teams in your prayers.

-Andrew Poon

Facility Updates

Pray for **Temecula Valley Campus** as they continue to seek for office and fellowship space.

New Beginnings at CBC

Let's welcome with warmth and enthusiasm!

Praise God for providing Central Youth with a seminarian intern, **Chong-Yang Gue**. He is currently studying at Westminster Seminary.



Praise the Lord for the newly baptized brothers and sisters from June through September! There were 7 from Main Campus Mandarin congregation, 14 from Central Campus and 1 from 4S Campus.

Welcome on board, **Pastor Ed Chiu**! We are so excited to have Pastor Ed as one of our CBC pastoral staff starting September 1, 2015. Pastor Ed's installation was held on September 13 during the Cantonese Worship Service, officiated by Rev. Albert Lam.





Ministry Updates

JUNE

First Annual **Lord's Grace Bible Fellowship** took place on June 7. Crossroads Fellowship won the Jeopardy type event, which involved trivia around 2 Corinthians!

JULY

The **evangelistic outreach**, a joint effort with Living Water Bible Church, had over 400 people attending. Around 30 people decided to accept Jesus as their personal savior.

Temecula Valley Campus had a good **evangelistic outreach** event where many students from mainland China heard the gospel. Pray for the Lord to continue to work in their hearts.



Many brothers and sisters were blessed through the **Family Retreat** at Murriet Hot Springs, with speakers Elder Liu, Pastor Zhang, Dr. Adamson Co, Pastor Jason Queen, Pastor Jason Ashimoto, Junko Cheng, Natalie Miller and Sandra Sladkey.

AUGUST



The **Annual Cantonese Picnic** was held at San Dieguito County Park. More than 140 brothers and sisters had great fellowship together and more than 20 newcomers joined for the fun day!

In order to better serve the Chinese seniors living in the 4S Ranch area, a **senior ministry committee** has been formed. This committee will also lead the seniors group, Yongzheng Fellowship. **Zhexin Yu** is the head of the committee, and committee members are **Betty Shi, Mei-Huei Jan, Ke Liang Lin** and **Simin Zhu**.

SEPTEMBER

After a long summer break, the Temecula Valley Campus **small groups** were very eager to resume their meetings. The sisters' small group and brothers' small groups have had wonderful fellowship this month.

Lord's Grace (main campus English congregation) organized and hosted the **Fall 2015 Apologetics Conference** with Alan Shlemon as the featured speaker.

Newcomers to Lords Grace fellowshipped with deacons and small group leaders at the **Lord's Grace Welcome Dinner**.

On September 28th, the **Yongzheng Senior Fellowship** had a community outreach in a 4S Ranch park, where nearly 120 seniors attended to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival.

Fong and **Spring Ng** are taking a break from serving as leaders of the **4S Yongchuang gospel small group**. Through prayer and discussion, the pastors decided to make this group a gospel fellowship group. New leaders are **Wenzhong & Jenny Zhao** and **Hao & Pei-Ju Meng**.

NEXT-GEN MINISTRY UPDATES

In June we had a combined local youth missions trip working among **San Diego's homeless**. We had over 37 youths from main, central, and 4S youths.



Children's Ministry interns, **Krysten Fan**, **Mary Qin** and **Sophia Huang**, made the **Junior Bible Quiz** a success for the Friday night summer program. Great Job to all!

Over 130 children and 80 co-workers participated in an unforgettable **VBS** from July 13 to 17. Praise the Lord, we had 60 kids who attended the full-day program.



Praise God for our Central **Carmel Valley Youth fellowship**. We have more new comers, especially high schoolers. Please pray for this outreach post, as we are reaching out to the Carmel Valley area. Please see **Pastor Yan**, if you have any questions.

The main campus and 4S youth ministry held **discipleship Bible studies** for jr high and high school guys and girls throughout the summer.

Main Campus Children's Worship finished "**Godly Character**" for the summer quarter and just started the new theme for the year as "how to grow in Christ as His disciple". Children continue to do their spiritual journal to reflect what they have learned from God's word.



On Aug 28, Central Campus held a **Friends U-Nite (FUN) Night** event at several locations. This is an out-reach event that is completely led by the students. There were many non-believers who had the opportunity to listen to the Gospel. Praise God!! and Pray that the seed was planted for their salvation.



In August, 11 youths from main campus and 4S campus were baptized.

This past summer we had amazing **college interns** for the youths (main campus and central campus). Lets give a shout out to **Ethan Soo Hoo**, **Michelle Wang**, **Hannah Tang**, **Sean Chang** and **Joseph Poon**!! They planned out many fun events, disciplined many youths and personally have grown much from the experience.

Praise God for the **summer CBC college fellowship** – we had over 20 returning college students joining fun fellowship programs at **Pastor Caleb's** house. Please continue to pray for all our CBC college students – may God keep them and bless them!!



Praise God for the **Mid-week summer theological seminar** for the youths and college students!! Awesome job by **Simon Kuang**, for taking on an exemplary role to encourage young minds to go deeper into God's Word!

Doxa Fellowship - central campus college fellowship started reaching out to college students at Community College, UCSD, SDSU and USD. Please continue to keep our college students in prayer.



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Our **7th annual Bible Challenge** just started in Sept. This is a Bible memorization program where Central campus and Main (Jr. High) will be participating. This year we will cover the book of Mark with the theme "Living the Mark". Pray that many youths and college students will be pumped up for God's Word. Checkout the quizlet!!
<https://quizlet.com/92359636/2015-bible-challenge-flash-cards/>
(thanks, **Simon Kuang**!!)

AWANA kicked off on Sept. 18 and nearly 130 kids/parents/coworkers came for the orientation on the first night. Great to see some VBS kids back and parents staying to join the adult fellowship.

Praise God for the **One Voice** event on Sept. 18th. Many of our youths helped in the planning for the event. This year we are encouraging all the youths to stand up for their faith at the "SYATP" (see you at the pole) school event.

MISSIONS UPDATE



Our first **Tijuana** Cantonese Short Term Mission VBS was held from August 3-7, over 60 kids and youth came to the weeklong VBS - many heard the Gospel for the very first time! Praise the Lord, 9 youths and many kids accepted Christ through VBS. Many parents and grandparents came to celebrate during our closing ceremony as well!

The brothers and sisters who went on the various summer service trips to **Far East Asia and the Americas** experienced God working in their midst.

Upcoming Events

- ♦ **Oct. 24: College Application Seminar** will be an outreach event where parents and high school students are encouraged to invite their non-believer friends. For info: Emily Xu emilykxu@gmail.com, Holly Jing hollyjing@gmail.com, Andrew Poon andrewgloria@gmail.com
- ♦ **Oct. 23-25: Doxa college retreat** at Big Bear. For info: pastor Caleb pastorcaleb@cbcscd.com
- ♦ **Oct. 30-Nov. 1:** Rev. James Hung from Vancouver Chinese Christian Short-Term Mission Training Center will be speaking for the **Cantonese Evangelistic Meeting** at the main campus.
- ♦ **November Thanksgiving Dinner & Sharing:** 11/14– Main Campus English; 11/21– Main Campus Cantonese; 11/22– Central Campus; 11/25– Main Campus & 4S Mandarin
- ♦ **Dec. 18-20: Cantonese Winter Retreat** at Murrieta Hot Springs Christian Conference Center
- ♦ Cantonese Thanksgiving Sharing and Dinner: Saturday, November 21, 2015
- ♦ **Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Celebration.** All adults, youth and children are welcome to come and join this evening of worship and praise in remembrance of the birth of our Savior, Lord Jesus Christ. The event will be held in Cantonese and English.

Comments or Feedback?

If you have any comments or feedback, please email either Pastor Albert Lam (pastoralam@gmail.com) or Andrew Poon (andrewgloria@gmail.com).

Translators– Sue Lam, Emily Xi
Editors/Publishers– Corina Sun, Ellen Shih

CHINESE BIBLE CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO
12335 World Trade Dr, Ste 2, San Diego, CA 92128
858-675-8777 www.cbcscd.com