

Besides presenting the ministry updates from the various pastors, this New Year issue of *CCCO-Konnnect* also announces members of the new Elders Board and Deacons Board. May we spend time to pray for our pastors and elders and deacons and the many sisters and brothers who tirelessly serve the CCCO community so that renewal and regeneration are evident in 2012?!

Mandarin Ministry – Pastor Joshua Yu

In 2011, the Mandarin Ministry has been filled with so much of Lord's love and grace. Since it is impossible to enumerate everything, it would be good to list a few remarkable points and share them with you all for our mutual encouragement.

Gospel Outreach Ministry: Throughout 2011, the Mandarin Ministry has looked upon the Lord's Great Commandment as its primary priority over any of the other ministries. Specifically, the Ministry consisted of the ALPHA Course follow-up sessions in the first six months of the year and the second round of the ALPHA course which fell in the latter half of the year. What was even more heartening was that both events had over 40 faith-seekers attending, including a few who were later to become believers in the Lord. It merits a special mention that nearly everyone of the North Cell Group dedicated themselves to the year-round Gospel Outreach Ministry, without stopping even during the interval between the two events mentioned above. May the Lord remember their faithful offering brimming with love.

Developing Relationships in the Lord: In 2011, we organised a series of events aimed for the establishment of good relationships between our brothers and sister in the Lord. These events included a summer camping, two group prayer sessions for sharing and praising of God, which respectively fell in the first and second halves of the year, and the yearly dinner and evening gathering on Christmas Eve this year, attended by over 180 old and new friends, brothers and sisters of all the age groups. From last winter to this, bearing in mind the necessity of lunch after services each Sunday, quite a number of families, brothers and sisters have offered to take turns in offering simple but heart-warming food, free of charge. May the Lord bless these brothers, sisters as well as families.

Newcomers into Christ: This year, two groups of brothers and sisters joined the CCCO family. Easter this year saw Xuesheng Li, Qinfang Xu and Wen Wang baptised and Richard Wang, Helena Weng couple, and Jianwei Tang and Allina Ding couple and their son, Eric, transferred their membership to CCCO. On August 14, another batch of four seniors were baptised and they were sisters Shuzhi Wang, Shuzhu Wang, Suqin Tian and Lingbao Huang. All the seven brothers and sisters who were baptised had experienced the Lord's grace and therefore accepted the salvation by the Lord. The two transferred families found their spiritual home in CCCO after attending this church for about a year.

With the elapse of the Christmas season and the year 2012 just arrived, the Mandarin Core Group would like to pray and wish for the blessing of each and every part of the CCCO family so that they can walk with the Lord in the new year.



Cantonese Ministry – Pastor Francis Wong

The Second Cantonese Alpha Course was completed in December of last year. Thank God for leading a number of non-believers to the course. At times, the number of attendance dropped to 12 people, yet non-believers kept coming. Near the end of the course, there were more than 20 people attending every week. 2 of the participants accepted the Lord during the course; 1 of them was baptized at Christmas. Many thanks go to brothers and sisters who have prayed and served in different capacities, especially the kitchen staff and the AWANA workers. Although you may not have shared the Gospel directly, because of your faithful service, the Alpha was a success. Let's all share in the joy of the harvest! We are planning a series of follow-up meetings so that the seekers and new believers can continue to explore Christianity. Starting on Jan 20, these meetings will be held on Fridays, 7:30 PM.

This year the members of the Cantonese Core Group are: Kitty Ma, Grace Wang, Wilson Hui, Arvin Chung, Vincent Leung and Pastor Francis. (Leon Cheng is taking a leave of absence) In order to develop a new generation of leaders, we are actively seeking suitable brothers and sisters to join the core group ministry.

English Ministry – Pastor Cal Fong

Well, Happy New Year everyone! 2011 seemed to fly by like a flash and it's hard to believe 2012 is already upon us! I trust as you and your family have had a chance to rest, relax and reflect over the Christmas and holiday season you have seen the blessings of God over the past year and are eagerly anticipating 2012. I realize not everyone has had a year to remember but even in difficulties, challenges and trials I hope and pray that you have seen God's hand at work in your life.

As we close 2011 the English ministry has much to be thankful for. The Sunday prayer time has regularly seen 10 – 12 people gather together to pray for the church, our leaders, the various ministries and any other burdens God has lain on our hearts. We will continue this prayer time (11:15am – 12:15pm) in the coming term (January – March). H2O continues to be a blessing to our many college and career students. Their relationships with each other and with God have grown as they love God, love each other and serve in the name of Christ.

As we anticipate 2012 there are several key areas of focus we are looking at. First, our desire is to continue growing and developing our LIFE Group or small group ministries. We are thankful to have Baldwin Toye assist the ECG in identifying and discussing some of the key issues in this area and we are hoping that the LIFE Group ministry will also be a key part in helping the overall English ministry grow.

Second, we are continuing to work on our Sunday worship ministry. Chung Kan, from the ECG has helped spearhead this area and we are thankful for his work in this.



ON THIS NOTE I WANT TO GIVE A HEARTFELT THANKS TO CECILE TOYE WHO HAS SERVED IN THE WORSHIP MINISTRY AS WORSHIP LEADER, TEAM LEADER AND CO-ORDINATOR. AFTER MANY, MANY YEARS OF PASSIONATE, FAITHFUL SERVICE CECILE WILL BE STEPPING DOWN FROM ACTIVE WORSHIP LEADING TO FOCUS ON OTHER MINISTRIES. ON BEHALF OF THE ECG, THE WORSHIP MINISTRY AND THE MANY WORSHIP LEADERS, MUSICIANS AND P.A. MEMBERS THAT HAVE SERVED WITH HER THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE, LOVE, DEDICATION AND DINNERS (!) THAT YOU PROVIDED!!! Thanks Cecile!

The English ministry did not run an ALPHA Course in 2011 but we are anticipating a few opportunities to do so in 2012. Some of the planning is still on-going and so I hope to have another update in the near future. However, the ECG would like to spend some time developing the outreach ministry. Of particular focus are young families as we would like to see if God will lead more young families to make CCCO their church home.

The ECG is also planning an English ministry retreat in May, 2012. We are finalizing the site and other details and will have information available in January. For now, mark May 25 – 27, 2012 as our retreat weekend.

May God continue to show Himself to you as we enter this New Year.

Youth Ministry – Pastor Josh Wang

Praise the Lord that brothers and sisters were generous in donating gifts that we distributed to our community friends at St. Luke's. AWANA, Pure Energy and YF worked together to prepare over 100 individual gift with travel mugs, socks, toothbrushes, gum, candy, mittens, cards, gift bags and more. On the December 28 a group of young students helped distribute these gifts in person to the St. Luke's lunch club. Our friends at St. Luke's were very excited and it was awesome to be a part of it. Over the last few months, our young people have helped serve at Jericho Road a couple of times, the Ottawa Mission and more. These experiences not only help in developing a heart for serving others, but also teach thankfulness.

I've had the pleasure of working with the Billy Graham Association the past couple of years and they've invited me to be a part of their leading planning committee for Rock the River 2012. This is a massive outreach effort that aims to have thousands of children, youth and university students hear and accept Christ. This is a journey where our Jr. High and Sr. High students will partake in several city-wide discipleship efforts to lead up to this weekend. Please consider this in your prayers in the months leading up to Rock the River.

Our youth continue this new initiative for them to share testimonies and help plan/facilitate studies in our fellowship. Our desire is to provide guidance and work with these young people as they teach from the book of Philippians. Christ provided an amazing model of discipleship as He work with and through His disciples all the time. I pray that the Lord would continue to fan the flame of their faith as they see Him work through their peers and live amongst this fellowship! As they mature, may they disciple those younger than them. About 15 of our youth have committed to be a part of a leadership team to help plan our Getaway retreat in March. They dedicate time to serve in worship, promotion, registration, small groups and recreation.



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Our Jr. High youth have been continuing to work through Trek material which is a continuation of the AWANA program. Our Pure Energy team has also increased as Anders has joined a team of Oscar, Sylvia, Jon, Manson, Jean and Esther See Mold in ministering to this precious group. Pure Energy has been incredibly responsive in follow-up questions and e-mails and often reply to bonus questions regarding the week's lesson. I've been encouraged by the depth of the responses and the PE team is always amazed at the maturity these young people display.

A couple of weeks ago, our youth really responded to the Holy Spirit and began to pour out their hearts to one another during our Sunday school lesson. They prayed and committed to continue to pray for one another throughout the week. The Lord is really building strong relationships in the fellowship as they learn to trust one another and carry each other's burdens. It's encouraging to see several youth hold daily Scripture reading and prayer as a high priority. May the Lord continue to raise a generation that is passionate for Him and may we challenge ourselves to model this faith and build them up.

Elders Board – Pastor Francis Wong

The portfolio of the 2012 of the Elders and Deacons Boards are as follows:

Elders Board:

Chair/Cantonese Core Group: Rev. Francis Wong
 Co-chair: Oscar Cheung
 Secretary: Lapkin Ip
 Shepherding Elder: Tim Law
 English Core Group/Community Ministry Core Group: Rev. Calvin Fong
 Mandarin Core Group: Pastor Joshua Yu
 Children and Youth Core Group: Pastor Joshua Wang

Deacons Board:

Chair: Oscar Cheung
 Treasurers: David Zhou, Michael Wang
 Property: Tim Lee
 Membership: Charles Ma
 Communication: Michael Wang
 Personnel: Linda Ma (Appointed by the Board to chair the Personnel Committee)

The Joint Board will have a retreat on Jan 14 to wait on God and to explore the future direction of the church. Please pray for us!