

Elders Board – Tim Law

With regrets, the Elders Board accepted the resignation of Pastor Calvin Fong who has served our church for almost 19 years. His last Sunday with our church is July 27, 2014. We are glad, however, to learn that God has opened a door for him to serve at a Baptist church in Saskatoon. We pray that God will continue to mightily use him and his family in the new place and give them strength and peace in the moving process in the coming months.

With the departure of Pastor Cal, the Elders Board has set up a transition committee headed by Brother John Chan to provide continuity to sustain, grow and transform the English Congregation in an effective way. The committee will subsume the existing English Core Group and will have additional members to help conduct its ministry.

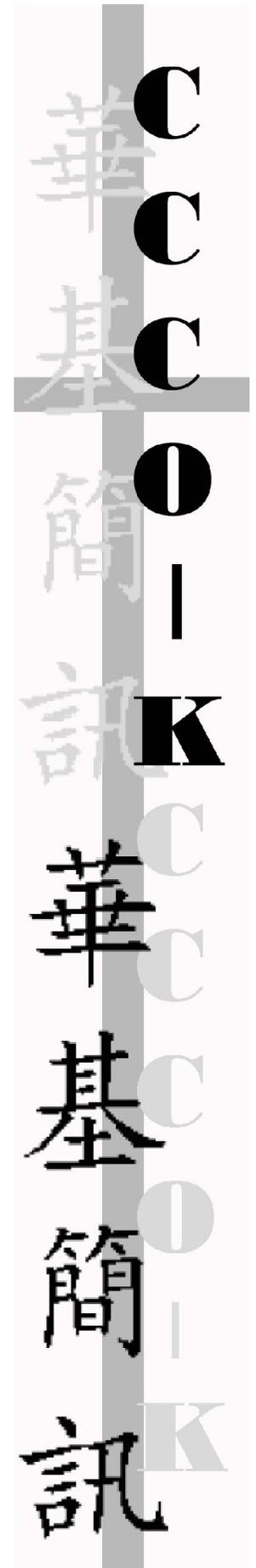
Two town-hall meetings are scheduled in June to discuss the two reports submitted for scrutiny at the Spring Congregation Meeting on the church planting initiative, one in English on June 1, and the other in Cantonese and Mandarin on June 15. The purpose of the meetings is to help us further understand the various issues related to the initiative. As we believe if the vision of the Elders Board on the timing of planting a church is right, God will affirm it in the congregations. Therefore we urge brothers and sisters to get more acquainted with the church planting initiative and continue to pray to seek God's will. It is planned a decision will be made in a congregation meeting to be held at an appropriate time.

The Elders Board has adopted a combination of education leave and special assignment for Pastor Joshua to take in the coming months. The education leave consists of 8 weeks for Pastor Josh to better equip to serve and to have spiritual renewal. The special assignment consists of 4 weeks for Pastor Josh to devote on the church planting initiative. The leave will start in early July and it may be broken into parts to accommodate Pastor Josh to participate in church activities that he has been heavily involved. Let us support Pastor Josh in prayer.

Youth Ministry – Pastor Joshua Wang

What a beautiful time of the year as we welcome the warmer weather and the new life that emerges in Spring! We rejoice in the new life that God has given us through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ! What a blessing it is to celebrate what the Lord has been doing in the lives of those that we minister to! God has been incredibly gracious to us the last couple of months!

In March, we had a powerful time at our 2014 Renewal Retreat from March 14-16th! We had 41 youth from CCCO participate along with 10 adults. In total we had 56 youth and 13 adults attend. In Sr. High we spoke about the theme of Surrender: stuff, sin and self. Jr. High focused on encountering God through prayer, time in the Word and getting to know Jesus more. It was incredibly encouraging to walk alongside youth who were in tears because they were overwhelmed with joy or convicted to make some major changes in life. Some youth were convicted that they



needed to share the gospel with her hurting friends; others needed to make changes in their relationships and some committed to deepening relationships in the fellowship. Daniel Wang shared regarding his experiences of the retreat in the recent CCCOK sharing edition. Many of the Jr. High students spent time in the Scriptures and were writing in their journals during free time!

Following the retreat, we had a very powerful time of sharing in the YF. Our youth group shared what God had been doing in their lives, convicting them of sin, transforming their hearts and some things they wanted prayer for. It was an incredibly emotional time of sharing and one that has brought them even closer to one another.

In April, we participated in No Other Name, a city-wide Good Friday celebration where 39 of our youth (PE and YF) attended. Our youth were impacted through a full day of worship, workshops and speakers. The youth were able to select which workshops were most relevant to them along with some powerful messages and a call to live out the love of Christ for their friends. The following Friday, we reserved some time in small groups to pray for each of these friends. The youth wrote their names on a variety of colored pieces of paper and we assembled a mosaic in the youth room to remind us to pray for these individuals and that the Lord is mighty to save.

We also had a relationship talk with the Pure Energy. We focused on the fruit of the Spirit and cultivating these characteristics in our lives prior to beginning a relationship. It is also wise to look for these characteristics in others when considering a relationship. Through shaping their lives based on the character of Christ, we pray that our young people will be able to prepare themselves for healthy marriages and that they would be able to model godly lives for their children.

Since our last update, the YF and Pure Energy have completed a few series. The YF completed our lengthy study in Romans; we went through chapter by chapter as it is a very important book that covers many fundamentals of Christianity. The youth studied and discussed many important doctrines like justification, sanctification and practical topics regarding principles of conscience, honoring God with our lives and Christian civil duty. We completed a series in Spiritual Formation where we cover material and give them homework based on the themes each week. Each day, youth are encouraged to read a selected Scripture passage and ask themselves reflective questions or various exercises. We had almost 15 of the youth that regularly committed themselves to the daily devotions with a handful of youth that completed all 7 weeks. The Pure Energy and the YF also finished the Courage series which focused on the story of Daniel. The themes included Standing Alone, Standing Firm and Standing out. It has been a great discussion series as it deals with many of the temptations that teens face on a daily basis.

In May our youth have begun three new series. The Pure Energy is working through a series entitled Amazing Grace. This series helps teens understand God's amazing gift of grace, the relationship between grace and works, why grace doesn't mean you should keep sinning, and how grace should impact your purpose in life. In YF, we began a series in 1 Peter. Since the beginning, there has been no shortage of suffering in the



world. Today is no exception when we are surrounded by death, illness in our families, financial troubles and stress. How can we navigate the difficulties of this fallen world? 1 Peter reveals many of God's promises for the persecuted church, He promises to be with us, to comfort us in our suffering and that He will use these trials for our growth and God's glory. In Sunday school, we began a series in James. This study highlights that every generation in the church seems to worry about people who enjoy what they hear in church but is alarmed when it doesn't seem to make a difference in their lives. For James, translating faith into action is the heart of his message. This genuine faith is the faith that justifies, the faith that saves, and the faith that is desperately needed today.

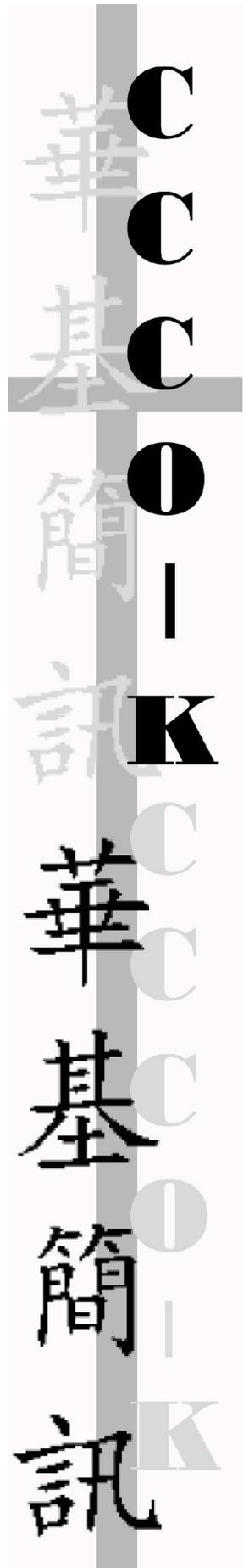
Recently, our youth have been hard at work arranging various aspects of our coffeehouse outreach. They are spending time in the evenings sending out e-mails, invitations, buying crafts, decorations and even food items in preparation for the event. It is encouraging to see the amount of attention they pay to detail and their desire to offer excellence to the Lord. Some have been preparing for sharing their testimonies, presenting music, drama or chairing the event. Please pray that the Lord would work in the hearts of their unbelieving friends and that we would continue to see His hand at work in their lives!

For several weeks, we have been preparing for our annual mission trip to Ouje-Bougoumou! This year, we received an abundance of applications and unfortunately we are not able to bring everyone as we need to provide as many spaces as we can for the Cree youth! Please pray for us and consider joining our annual prayer and fasting campaign as we pray for the Holy Spirit to work in the lives of the youth!

As always, you can find weekly updates on cccoyouth.com and feel free to ask any questions or how you can be involved & praying! Please pray for CCCO, that we would care for those in our spheres of influence, caring for them, strengthening marriages, families and our next generation!

Children's Ministry – Salina Yan

Discussions with respect to the need of our next generation have been building up momentum in our church. One of them is the leadership conference in early April hosted by the Elders Board, a direct dialogue with all areas of ministry leaders especially the core teams and also concerned brothers and sisters. It was a positive step forward for C&Y ministry with one of the three sessions being directed to open discussion on how the present status of the children attending the various children ministries would cause a rippling effect to the church: PE, YF, H2O and congregations. We hope that through such open discussion some actions would form to take a further look into the needs in CM that have not been addressed and met to date. Without a pastoral staff heading the CM, nor a recognized role in the Board representing CM, this year CM programs have just been running under a team of faithful coordinators from the different children programs.



From choosing the class curriculum, recruitment (for leaders, helpers and teachers), scheduling, planning, being a teacher themselves, connecting with parents, building relationship with children, all coordinators have been serving very hard to fulfill their roles for the glory of God's kingdom. We've been dreaming to have our own CM pastoral staff to lead, direct, train and shepherd in this ministry for the sake of the most precious future generation and their parents. We pray that the discussions brought up in the leadership conference can let our church to take a fresh look again into the fundamental needs in CM. This is a quote from an article: "Just because you call your church a family church doesn't make it one... I think our actions speak louder than words..." Therefore, we pray that actions will follow that the ideas brought up would not slowly wither after the leadership conference discussions.

There won't be VBS this summer, so most of the CM programs will round up by the end of June and resume again in September. There will be one class on Sundays in July and August during worship time (10:00am) for kindergarten to grade 2 children. Many of the leaders and teachers have been serving tirelessly and faithfully every week throughout the school terms despite their own personal work and home commitment; pray that God will grant them a restful summer to be renewed and refreshed.

Missions Corner – Frederick Cheung

Praise the Lord! Summer is here, and there are many missions work going around.

Thanks for the visit of Shaun Liu at the beginning of May. He is our supported Theological Scholar. Thanks for his sharing with us about his studies in Regent College in Vancouver. May God grant him the wisdom and the persistence to study well and build closer relationship with God.

Our supported missionaries Janet Holden and her son Jonathan Holden are going to visit us on the Sunday of July 13th. Jonathan is going to be our guest speaker on that Sunday English Worship Service. We are sure that he is going to give us many updates for their school ministry in Angola, Africa.

Our CCCO member, Hillary Ma, has joined the Power To Change to have a STM in Toronto this summer. The STM period is between May 1st and June 30th. Her target group is to outreach the working class people in Toronto. Furthermore, she is also looking for a summer job in Toronto, so please pray for her.

In addition, the Missions Department is going to (again) support YF Ouje STM trip which is held between June 28th and July 6th. There will be more than 20 YFers and adult leaders to go. There will be many preparations, such as the write-up testimonies, worship practices and other logistics issues. We urge you to support the YF Ouje STM trip in prayers and in finance. There will be fund raising campaign from the YF in the church in June. Please use the church offering envelope by specifying "YF Ouje STM" on the envelope to support this STM trip.



Last but not the least, the CCCO Missions Department wish you having a wonderful summer. While you are enjoying the summer shine, please remember to share God's love and the salvation message with your neighboring friends.

Cantonese Ministry – Pastor Francis Wong

Opportunities of Spiritual Growth

Spiritual growth is the foundation of all other ministries. Recently, we promoted daily quiet-time through the pulpit, sharing from a brother and a sister and the ordering and distribution of the quarterly devotional guide *Our Daily Bread*. It is our prayer to help brothers and sisters to establish a habit of daily devotion.

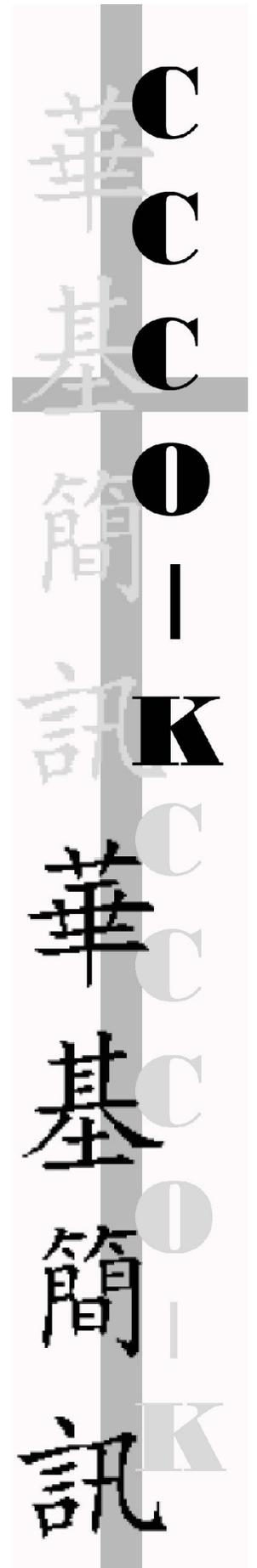
Thank God for the many opportunities to grow in the truth of God's Word. Ambrose Seminary Foundation of Ministry Course on the First 1500 years of Church History was attended by 6 brothers and sisters from CCCO. The Word of Life Course is in its 4th course. Over 30 participants from CCCO studied the Book of Numbers together with 200 some brothers and sisters from other Chinese churches in Ottawa every Thursday night over the course of eight weeks. Among the participants from CCCO are two sisters who came to know the Lord only in recent months. Last but not least, the Joint Cantonese Devotional Meetings will be held on June 20 – 21 at EACO. The speaker this year is Rev. Johann Lai. Please see the poster on the bulletin board at the entrance for details.

Formation of the Evangelistic Team

Sensing the continuous need for preaching the Gospel to the Cantonese speaking people in Ottawa, a group of brothers and sisters has formed an evangelistic team recently. Our goal is to mobilize the Cantonese congregation for the work of evangelism through prayer, referral and visitation. We plan to have monthly evangelistic visitations and prayer meetings.

Exploration of Weekday Service

In the Cantonese congregation, there are about 10 brothers and sisters because of their work schedule cannot come to the Sunday service regularly. The Cantonese Core Group is exploring the viability of a worship service on a weekday evening for this group of people.



English Ministry—Pastor Calvin Fong

Well, as many of you are probably aware the main news, both personal and from the English ministry, is that God has led my family and me to a new ministry opportunity in Saskatoon, SK. While we are excited about the new challenge that lies ahead and thankful for the opportunity to be close to Michelle's family we leave with mixed feelings as our love for CCCO makes this an emotional time of change. However, we also know that with change comes opportunity and we trust God will continue to guide us as we know He will continue to guide and bless you.

In light of this change and as the church considers church planting there are exciting days ahead! I believe God will use this time to reveal Himself to you in new and amazing ways. I pray that you will join together in prayer and in service as you seek God for where He is leading the church and shaping the English ministry.

At the beginning of 2014 the ECG identified leadership development/succession and LIFE Group ministries as the focal points for the year. This has not changed though there will be additional focus on leadership training and development. Whether or not CCCO plants a new church we need to disciple new believers and our coming generations and give them opportunities to serve and discern God's will for them.

Elder John Chan has graciously offered to help lead a transition team for the English ministry in light of my departure and as the church and English ministry looks ahead. This team will look after the day to day needs as well as envision and discern God's leading. He will be joined by the current English Core Group; Levia Chan and Andrew Wong, and will seek input and service from others as well. The ECG and Elders Board are working on this so stay tuned for more news!

From the pulpit we are finishing up a series of messages from the book of Nehemiah. It has been a most interesting journey to see how God placed a vision in Nehemiah and used him to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem and more importantly, to rebuild the lives of His people. It has been our prayer that we can be a people of vision like Nehemiah and the people of God as we too seek to discern and live God's vision for us.

In Sunday School we are finishing our study of John Piper's "A Hunger for God". We have learned much regarding fasting, prayer and the Christian life. We have been challenged, encouraged and at times have disagreed but it has been good to discuss and share with one another. Sunday School will take its usual summer break in July and August.

As this may be my last CCC-OK update again let me take this opportunity to thank you and express my appreciation for the past 19 years. It has been a true blessing to be a part of this church family for so long. My last Sunday will be July 27th and our family anticipates making the move to Saskatchewan in mid-August. Please know that our prayers and thoughts will be with you and we anticipate seeing God do incredible things in you and through you as you look to Him for the future.

