

Elders Board – K. Tim Law

Leadership Retreat

A one-day leadership retreat was held in February this year to discuss and pray for the staffing need of our church. In the discussion we identified discipleship of adults and family ministry are the key elements for our church. In order to meet the needs of these elements, some appropriate actions are taking place that include holding two Household Ministry Sundays and deciding on hiring an English Pastor, a full-time Youth Worker and a part-time Children Worker.

Calling an English Pastor

The Elders Board has reaffirmed the commitment to search for an English Pastor to meet the needs of the English congregation. A few members have already been appointed to form the Pastoral Search Committee to take on this critical task in consultation with the Transition Team. Elder Joseph Lam will lead the Committee and additional members may be appointed as necessary.

Before the English Pastor arrives, the Transition Team is still responsible to provide continuity to sustain, grow and transform the English ministry in an effective way. Their target group is adults, defined as post-secondary and above. The work for the children and youth ministry will be led by the Youth Worker and the Children Worker and is outside the Transition Team’s current mandate.

Hiring Ministry workers

We have decided to hire a full-time, 18-month term position, youth worker for overseeing all aspects of junior and senior high ministries (grades 7 through 12). This Youth Worker is aimed at replacing Pastor Josh who is in transition to head up the Renewal Church. We have also decided to hire a part-time (25 hours weekly), 18-month term position, Children Worker working alongside the Children and Youth Core Group to provide a vibrant Children’s Ministry (ages 0-12). The detailed descriptions on the qualifications and responsibilities for these positions have been posted on our church website (<http://www.ccco.on.ca/>).

The Youth Worker and the Children Worker will ultimately be supervised by the English Pastor when he/she has settled down in our English ministry. Meanwhile Pastor Joshua will supervise the day to day ministry of the Youth Worker and the Children Worker until he begins planting Renewal Church. Then Pastor Gary will provide the supervision until the English Pastor is ready to pick up this responsibility.

Children Ministry – Salina Yan

As we step into June the halfway mark of a year, we marvel in awe of God’s grace and provision in the past 6 months. So we look forward to the great thing that God will continue to show in and through his children who wait before HIM. “The LORD is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.” Lamentation 3: 26

Awana just wrapped up the 2014-15 terms with a closing ceremony celebrating the children’s achievement and the leaders’ tireless serving; and at the same time we were able to meet and connect with the parents. Roger Yip, our Awana commander, put together a slide show capturing many of the Awana special events and activities through the year. It is such a fulfillment to see the joy in all the kids’ face and to know that seeds of faith were being planted in their hearts. We have confidence that at the proper time a harvest will be reap if we do not give up.

We continue to follow the Children’s Desiring God’s curriculum for Sunday TOGETHER program. We pray that through such curriculum we are able to nurture the children’s spiritual growth with sound, solid theological biblical teaching.



We just celebrated Mother's Day with a special Sunday children program organized by Amy Kong and certainly will not forget to have another special Sunday program to celebrate Father's Day.

Karen Wong and the amazing youth teams have been wonderful in leading the Sunday children worship in music. "From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise ..." What could be more enjoyable to hear the song of praise coming from the children's mouth?

Looking ahead is the VBS in July. We just finished 2 sessions of training for the volunteers. We give thanks to God for an energetic team, which comprised of adults and youths. We pray that they not only live up and model Christian love to children but also are to experience God's greatness regardless of age as long as we have a heart to serve.

What's beyond seemed unknown and uncertain; yet through uncertainty we are called to look onto the creator who is certain of what's ahead. Just trust HIM.

"You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you. Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD, the LORD, is the Rock eternal." Isaiah 26: 3-4.

Missions Ministry – Frederick Cheung

We are happy to inform you that Michael Gong is going to Short Term Mission (STM) to a South East Asian country this summer. The country which he is outreaching cannot be disclosed. However, he will be outreaching students on campus in the undisclosed country. Please join us to pray for Michael for his summer STM.

Furthermore, we are supporting YF Ouje STM team again this year. We are trying to facilitate the preparation of YF Ouje STM in the prayers, finance and logistic level. We believe that you have already enjoyed their fundraising activities for the Sunday morning breakfast and bake sales. Please continue to support the YF Ouje STM team. There is a fast and prayer chain sign-up with their prayer requests posted on the CCCO noticeboard on the 2nd floor.

In addition, we are trying to go through some evaluation on our current supported long-term missionaries. In the coming future, we will support some new missionaries and drop out some old ones to strategically position ourselves. Our strategies of supporting long-term missionaries have been updated in the CCCO Missions Policy and Guidelines.

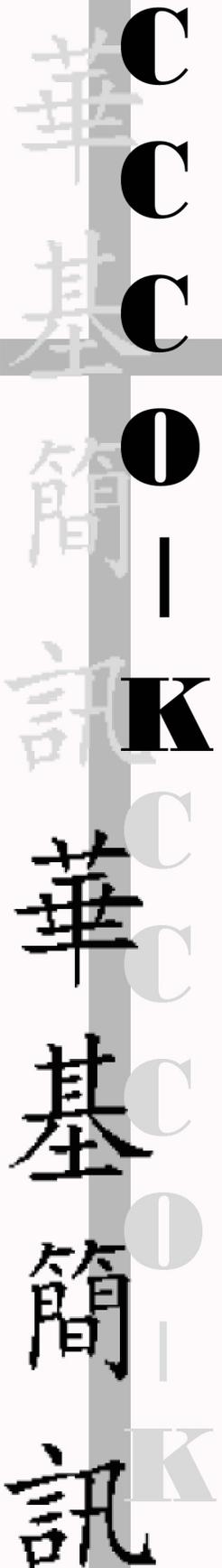
As you enjoy the sunshine and hot weather in this summer, please remember to spread The Word and show the love of Jesus to your friends. Give smiles to your neighbours!

Household Ministry – Pastor Francis Wong

"But as for me and my" household, we will serve the Lord." (Josh. 24: 15)

The Mission of the Household Ministry of CCCO is to encourage, equip and resource Christian families to nurture the spiritual growth of the children. Our vision is that CCCO will become a Family of families – the church as the Household of God, made up of all kinds of household, working together to pass on our faith and mission to the next generation. Sensing the needs of parenting training, both Salina Yan and Rev. Gary Tse have been providing training course and workshops since last year. The trainings were well received not only by Christian parents but also by people who have not attended church functions before. Seeing this great opportunity for outreach, the Elders Board has recently approved an additional outreach component to the Household Ministry. Our plan is to continue to offer the Parenting Course in the fall of 2015 and spring of 2016 with the hope to organize a Gospel camp for prospective parents in the summer of 2016.

Serving Together is the theme of the Second Household Ministry Sunday. The idea is to serve together as a household and serving one another within the Household of God. This will be divided into two parts. The first part is held on May 31. There will not be a Take-It-Home seminar. Instead,



we have compiled a list of service opportunities in CCCO. We encourage each household to consider taking up a service project and serve together. The second part will be held on September 27, 2015. It will be a time of sharing and celebration of the experience of serving together. Furthermore, we want to encourage the congregation to take a step further to serve in the community, e.g. volunteering at community organization, Operation Christmas Shoeboxes.

Cantonese Ministry – Pastor Francis Wong

May and June is the highlight of this year’s emphasis on evangelism. There were two outreach events in the city at the beginning of May. Both events were well-attended by CCCO members and their friends. A group of eight Christian singers from Hong Kong will lead a series of evangelistic meetings and music workshops from June 19 – 21. We have been encouraging brothers and sisters to pray for this event and to invite their non-Christian friends and relatives to attend. May God save many Cantonese speaking non-Christians!

The Cantonese service will be held at 9:30 AM to coincide with the English service during the months of July and August. There will be no Cantonese Sunday school classes during these two months.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the Cantonese Core Group members and the ministry areas that they are responsible for. Please direct all questions regarding the Cantonese Congregation ministry to these leaders in their respective responsibilities.

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| Rev. Francis Wong – Chairman | Wilson Hui – Cantonese Ministry Elder |
| Paul Leung – Secretary | Arvin Chung – Worship |
| Kitty Ma – Caring | Grace Wang – Prayer ministry |
| Vincent Leung – Sunday school | |

Mandarin Ministry – Pastor Gary Tse

The Mandarin congregation was united to live a life that put God’s Words as their prime of life in the last few months. We study the “40 Days of Words” by Rick Warren together, that we learn 6 Bible reading methods: Pronounce it, Picture it, Probe it, Paraphrase it, Personalize it, and Pray it to anchor our daily devotion and encounter with God to deepen our understanding and application of the Word of God.

The Adult Small Groups and Young Adult Fellowship began the “40 Days of Words” in January to learn, to share and to encourage each other in daily devotions to God. The Senior Group began the study in May, and they have enjoyed it through learning some effective ways of studying the Bible and the helplessness feeling of how to study the Bible was gone. It really helped us to experience the presence of God and encouraged us to apply the Bible in our daily life.

In the beginning of January, the Pulpit was teaching the theme: “Word of God” through the systematic study of the Gospel of John. The Word became flesh, Jesus proclaimed the message of “I am” the Bread of Life, Light of the World, The Gate of the Sheep, Good Sheppard, Resurrection and Life, the Way, Truth, and Life, and the True Vine. Through the pulpit, we had a fresh understanding of the identity, work, proclamations, redemption, and testimony of our Lord Jesus Christ through the lens of the Gospel of John. It helped us to realize and understand God’s providence in our daily life and lesson on relying on the Words of God.

In April, we had a city wide devotional meeting by Rev. Luke Zhang, and it really strengthened our spiritual life. A CCI Evangelistic Meeting was held at our church on May 1st, with 260 attendants, 7 people raised their hands to indicate their will to accept Christ as their personal savior. These events



how amazing the Lord has been. One of our youth accepted Christ in response to a simple gospel message while others returned to Him.

Please pray for the 15 youths selected for this year’s YF Mission Trip to Ouje–Bougoumou. We are praying that the facilities will be at maximum capacity filled with Cree youth. May the Lord accomplish His purpose for this mission trip.

As always, weekly updates are available on www.cccoyouth.com. We encourage you to join us in prayer for the children, the youth and their parents!

Renewal Church Planting– Pastor Joshua Wang

God’s limitless provision

Early on, we resolved as a launch team that the church Sunday service itself was not our goal, but rather cultivating a lifelong discipleship culture. While our main focus has not been logistics and searching for a building, God has provided for us in gracious ways! A church in a rapidly growing diverse area of the city is willing to provide us space for free should we require it. This location is strategically placed and accessible by major bus routes. One of our dear brothers has a colleague who operated a professional music studio and has gifted us with a significant amount of quality equipment as well. Transformation and discipleship is the most essential step, and yet often overlooked in favor of immediate details. With great gratitude we know that He looks after the little things. We praise God that everything is His and there is no doubt that He can provide everything needed for His purpose.

The Long Journey of Discipleship

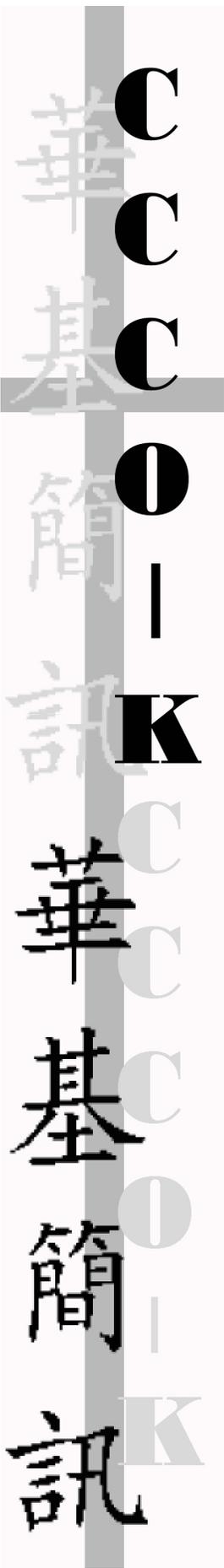
In speaking with experienced church planters, coaches and C2C, each of them identified some key components to focus on. Our launch team prioritized discipleship in order to grow in gospel fluency, developing a love for others and becoming people on mission. For the first eight weeks, we engaged in daily reading and reflection in an effort to cultivate a practical understanding of the gospel. While most of us are quite familiar with the gospel, many of us came to a sobering realization that we had not properly understood it; subconsciously we had based our justification on our sanctification and were not experiencing the fullness of the gospel. After years or even decades of sermons, studies and groups, it seems that there were still challenges to naturally express the good news in everyday conversation and circumstances.

In order to be fruitful disciples that are mission focused, we need a greater grasp of the transforming gospel. If we could get this right, it will change our perspectives and priorities in such a way that we actually become good news to people around us. Our goal, as distant as it may seem; is to become living displays of God’s love that share and demonstrate the gospel in everyday life to our neighbors, colleagues and friends.

This first eight weeks impacted us in such a way that our tentative plan was to repeat this process and pray for more brothers and sisters to join us in that journey in the Fall.

Our next eight weeks emphasized life on mission. As you may have observed in your life, people don’t always seem to enjoy being “evangelized.” Our truths are not immediately accepted in a postmodern climate. Our friends and neighbors may not immediately show up to our church gatherings but we remain convinced that people will be drawn to the gospel when they see it in action.

How can we live in such an intentional way with people around us that help create opportunities for them to experience the gospel with us? This happens when we commit to relationships, shared meals, hobbies and time spent together. We have noticed that unchurched youth join YF after someone has taken the time to develop a meaningful relationship with them. Once they begin



participating in community they often find God along the way, evangelism and friendship go hand in hand. In this process, we have challenged one another to take tangible steps in building more significant relationships with unchurched friends and praying for them together. The demands of modern life leave us with little margin, but we are being shaped to see opportunities for incarnational ministry in the daily rhythms of life, interactions with neighbors, colleagues and hobbies.

Our hope is that life together can become a reality due to proximity and mission, perhaps we can gradually move toward a non-commuter church model, where a significant amount of brothers and sisters would consider living and rooting ourselves into a community. It is our desire to be a multigenerational English speaking church for all people. We pray that our life on mission can become a regular rhythm as we would enjoy ministry together, not out of obligation; but out of a deep grasp of the gospel and friendship with each other.

Spiritual and training Retreat

During the first weekend of June, our launch team will take part in retreat in Quebec. A family graciously offered their cottage to us and Pastor Josh’s coach will guide us through some foundational discipleship sessions. We praise God that this coach has recently planted a church in Ottawa that has multiplied into three congregations in the last five years. He continues to emphasize that allowing God to shape a group can yield tremendous fruit!

If you have any questions, feel free to ask Pastor Josh or any member of the launch team: Manson Yan, Vincent Wong, Caleb Hui, Ivan Huor, Oscar Cheung, and Lapkin Ip. We are thankful that dedicated brothers and sisters (and spouses) are participating in this process without formally being launch team members.

English Adult Ministry – The Transition Team

A NEED FOR CHANGE

(From the Transition Team – John Chan, Levia Chan, Tim Lau, Eric Pan, Baldwin Toye, Cecile Toye, Vincent Wong, Manson Yan, Andrea Yu, Allison Yu and Andy Zhu)

INTRODUCTION

The English Adult Ministry at CCCO has now existed for more than 20 years and this has been possible only because of God’s grace and provision. It has evolved over time, the congregation demographics have changed, the ministry direction and priorities have changed, and we have been led by three different English pastors. With the changing demographics in CCCO and the ever increasing number of English-speaking adults of Chinese descent in Ottawa, the need for a strong and growing English Adult Ministry has become more evident.

After the resignation of Pastor Cal over a year ago, the Transition Team was formed with the purpose to “sustain, grow, and transform” the English Adult Ministry. The energies of the Transition Team have focussed on “sustaining” the needs of the Ministry during these past months but the Team has also had the opportunity to reflect on and evaluate the state of this vital Ministry. The decision by CCCO in November 2014 to proceed with the planting of a new church has also elevated the urgency to assess the impact of this decision on the future of the English Adult Ministry.

The English Adult Ministry will not grow or bear fruit without a desire for on-going improvement with the guidance and leading of the Holy Spirit. As we move forward and discover together what the Lord has in store for us, we have recognized that there will be opportunities and challenges ahead and that change in the way we do things is required.



2015 – 05/06

This is a summary of what the Transition Team sees is crucial for the English Adult Ministry to evolve further, grow in obedience to the Great Commission, and adapt to our changing environment and demographics. It centres on the needs and direction of the overall Ministry rather than just focussing on individual programs or activities.

VISION

A Biblically-based ministry committed to living out the Great Commandment and the Great Commission through Worship, Discipleship, Evangelism, Service, and Fellowship.

TARGET GROUP

The target group for the English Ministry are English speaking **adults** (i.e., anyone who has completed High School). They are expected to be predominately culturally North American Asians but not exclusive of this demographic.

STRENGTHS OF THE CURRENT MINISTRY

- Numerical growth in the English congregation in recent years primarily from the ‘young’ adult sector (college, university, co-op students, young careers)
- Strong and vibrant career small group
- A good proportion of the congregation who grew up in CCCO or are members are involved actively in CCCO ministries both within and outside the English Adult Ministry
- A focus on teaching and discipleship has been adopted in Sunday school and small groups
- A key group of individuals committed to leadership and passionate about the vision

WEAKNESSES OF THE CURRENT MINISTRY

- Much of the numerical growth in the English congregation Sunday attendance in recent years is related to the number of university or co-op students coming to Ottawa. They, however, are only “transient”, usually leaving Ottawa following the completion of their study/work term or upon graduation.
- As a result of the “transient” nature of many newcomers and/or Sunday attendees, there is a difficulty in increasing the number of those who actively serve in the English Adult Ministry.
- The university fellowship has been struggling due to low attendance and a lack of participation. Most out-of-town and local university students do not join the CCCO university fellowship. For various reasons, many students, especially those from out-of-town, have chosen to be involved in a campus-based fellowship instead. Furthermore, some current leaders will be graduating this year.
- There has been little emphasis on evangelism in the English congregation over the years.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Calling of an English Pastor who shares the same vision and who will be crucial to growing the congregation. Key areas to focus on are leadership development and strong biblical teaching. After the decision to move forward with Renewal Church and some challenges in finding suitable volunteers, a Pastoral Search Committee has been appointed by the Elders Board to address this need and will begin the search process shortly.
- There is a need to continually develop new leaders who exhibit a deeper level of commitment and who are passionate about ministering to others in the English congregation. They would form the basis of the Ministry Team (a group of lay leaders who will work alongside the English pastor). This is an urgent need with the decision to plant a new church.
- Re-evaluation of all ministries in the English Adult Ministry to develop priorities as the church plant decision will diminish the number of established or potential leaders to form the Ministry

Team.

- A need to grow a congregation of people who not only attend the Sunday service but also love it, want to “be the church” (i.e., disciple and train others), and who desire to minister to one another.

CHALLENGES

- As the demographics of the English congregation has changed over time, the older adults (especially those who have been in attendance for many years) feel excluded or neglected in a community that is perceived to be geared towards those who are younger. There is a need to go beyond focusing on the “next generation”.
- Following the decision to plant Renewal Church, rightfully or wrongfully, some older adults are considering leaving CCCO as a result of these past concerns that were not addressed by the leadership of CCCO.
- Motivating and equipping older adults to become involved in the teaching, discipleship, evangelistic, and caring ministries of the English congregation. Many are currently not involved in any ministry; some might be involved in other ministries but not in the English Adult Ministry. It is recognized that some have never been properly discipled or involved in any adult ministry and/or are not properly equipped to do so.
- Many of the younger adults in the English congregation have been called or invited to participate in the church plant initiative. This will have an impact on the English Adult Ministry as outlined in the Impact Report. For example, all the current worship team leaders have indicated they will be moving to Renewal Church.
- There are many ministries within CCCO in need of people to serve but there are only a limited number of people willing or equipped to serve. Some of these people have indicated a commitment to Renewal Church and this will result in even fewer people available to serve in CCCO. A church wide and cross-ministries strategy is needed to ensure different ministries will not be “competing” with one another for people to serve. The allocation of limited leaders/resources needs to be balanced, so ministries are not neglected or have to compete for these leaders/resources. The impact of the church plant initiative on CCCO cannot be underestimated and it will no longer be feasible or realistic to continue all current ministries to the same extent.
- The current church structure of CCCO along with the inherent cultural differences that are present within a multi-lingual and multi-cultural church has resulted in challenges that hamper sustainable growth within the English congregation.

WHERE WE GO FROM HERE

We ask that all who attend and care about the English Adult Ministry to pray that we are united and fully aligned with this Vision. The Transition Team believes that to achieve this Vision, discipleship needs to be the key building block for the English Adult Ministry.

“Christianity without the living Christ is inevitably Christianity without discipleship, and Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ.”

(Dietrich Bonhoeffer, from The Cost of Discipleship, Chapter 2 ©1937)

The calling of an English pastor who shares the same vision as outlined above and who is equipped to lead and build up the English Adult Ministry will be a crucial step in moving this Ministry forward. It is recognized, however, that we cannot rely on a single individual. Just as important is that each member of the English congregation has to be engaged and discover the role that they may play to build up the Body. This begins with asking if one is a disciple of Christ and if not, if one is willing to be discipled.

There will be many challenges ahead for the church as a whole and much uncertainty. We believe that if we work together as one body under the direction and prompting of the Holy Spirit, the English Adult Ministry can grow and mature as God designed it.

