



# GOSPEL PREACHED TO SAMARIA

**TRUE JESUS CHURCH IN CANADA  
CCC 30TH COMMEMORATIVE BOOK-2022**

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# FORWARD

## ENLARGE THE PLACE OF YOUR TENT

By Dn. K.C. Tsai

The Canadian Coordination Centre was established in October 1992, and it will be 30 years old by October 2022. As a Chinese saying goes, a man is steadfast at the age of thirty. When someone is 30 years old, he should have established the direction and goal in life, he should be walking steadily towards his goal. In the case of CCC, this is an opportunity to look back at the past and look forward to the future. It is a milestone for contemplation.

When CCC was first established, there were three churches with a membership of 200; currently, there are five churches, two prayer houses and two regular service locations; the number of believers is about 843.

According to the IA bylaw, if there are five or more churches in a country or a region, and the number of believers reaches more than 1,000, and it is able to be self-sustaining, self-pastoring, and self-evangelising, then it can be coordinated with IA to establish a General Assembly. Thanks to the Lord, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, CCC's threshold for establishing a General Assembly is not far away. The establishment of the General Assembly is something that the Holy Spirit will surely accomplish. However, the churches should prepare themselves: be able to keep the pattern of sound Words, to guide the believers to root deeply in the foundation of faith, to cultivate the mindset and ability of ministering workers. More importantly, to be able



to see the path of the Holy Spirit's work, feel that He is working there, and follow closely.

“Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes;

For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited. (Isaiah 54:2-3)

The growth of the church is not the expansion of a single point or a line, but the expansion of the area, like the wind blowing on the clear lake, stirring up ripples, and pushing away from a small point layer by layer, and so does the continuous expansion of the church.

The growth of the church does not only reside with the increase in the number of churches and believers, but also for all believers to have a complete and unified understanding of the Lord Jesus and His Word of life, as the Bible says: “And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;” (Ephesians 4:11-13). The ordained ministers and the holy workers in the church are all given by the Lord. The purpose is to equip and mobilize all believers to build up the body of Christ, which is the church: in order to grow

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up to the full stature, the church needs to pursue the unity of the Truth, and a deep understanding of Christ Jesus.

Before the Lord Jesus ascended to heaven, He told his disciples: “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

As the Lord foretold, we learned from the book of Acts that the Holy Spirit descended on Pentecost and established the church in Jerusalem, but He did not stop at this point. He walked in front of the church as the captain, brought the gospel to Samaria, sent Peter to Caesarea, into a gentile’s house, and repeatedly affirm to Peter, Yes, the Lord’s grace will also be given to foreigners; then, sent Barnabas and Paul out of the race barriers of the Jewish nation, through the word of mouth and letters, testified to the ends of the earth about the Word of life.

The Holy Spirit opens the way in the front, walks with his servants on the way, and ensures the effectiveness of the work at the end.

Before the Jordan River, Joshua told the people: “and they commanded the people, saying, “When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, and the priests, the Levites, bearing it, then you shall set out from your place and go after it. Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure. Do not come near it, that you may know the way by which you must go, for you have not passed this way before.”(Joshua 3:3-4)

**A**t that time, the people were instructed to pay attention to the departure of the ark. When the Ark begins to move, they must follow immediately, and they must be behind it and keep a distance of about nine hundred metres, to see the direction of the ark of the covenant, because the way that God led through the Ark is a way that they have not passed before. So they followed the ark of the covenant on the way across the Jordan River, and under the guidance of the Commander of the Lord army, they captured Jericho and started the countless battles in the land of Canaan, sieged cities and captured lands, and were invincible.

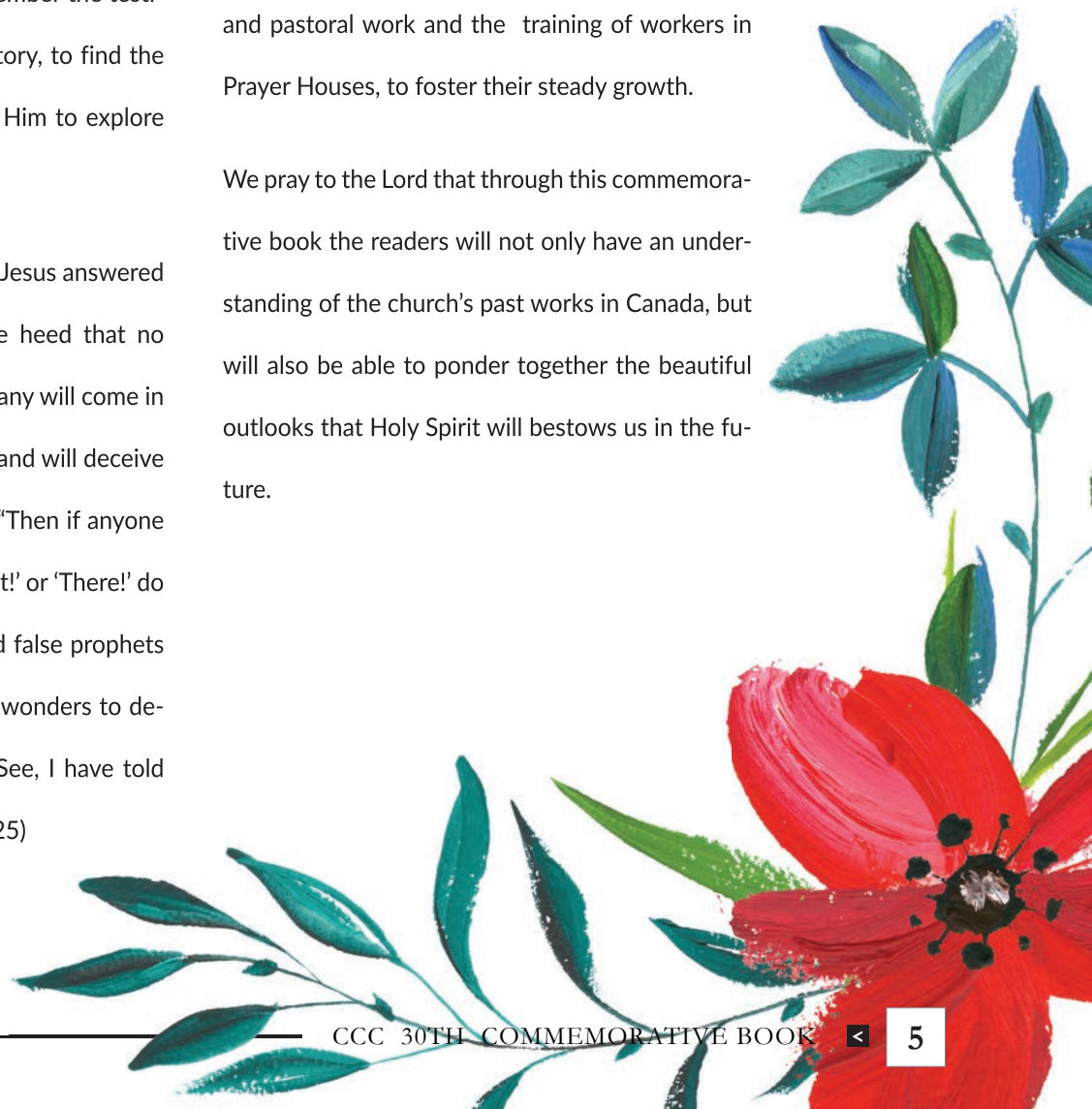
That is the way to expand to the four directions in Canaan! We also need to pay attention to where the Holy Spirit begins to work, and follow closely, see clearly the direction and speed of His guidance, He will lead the evangelical and pastoral ministry's development in all directions.

CCC's literary ministry department proposed to produce a 30th anniversary memorial magazine in early 2021, not to cherish the glory, nor sigh over the regrets of the past, but to remember the testimony of success and failure in history, to find the trail of the Holy Spirit, and follow Him to explore the new path.

**T**he Lord Jesus said: "And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many."(Matthew 24:4-5) and said: "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it. For false Christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand. (Matthew 24:23-25)

"I have told you " The Lord told us that the greatest disaster we will encounter in the end is the confusion of Truth. So, we hope that the churches will pay more attention to the in-depth interpretation of our core beliefs and cultivate believers to have a solid foundation in faith; pay attention to connection with members in remote areas, to cultivate their faith, and if the Lord's wills, gradually establish service locations, and encourage stable growth. We also hope to support the evangelical and pastoral work and the training of workers in Prayer Houses, to foster their steady growth.

We pray to the Lord that through this commemorative book the readers will not only have an understanding of the church's past works in Canada, but will also be able to ponder together the beautiful outlooks that Holy Spirit will bestows us in the future.





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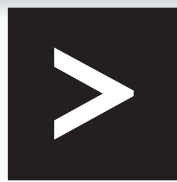
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# 01

## Words From the Shepherd

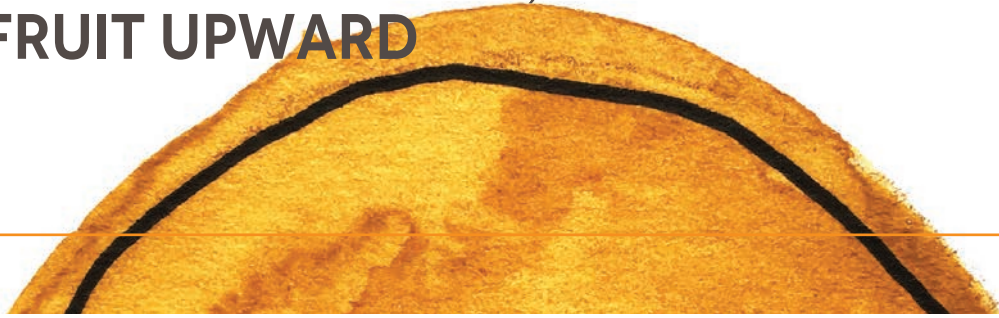


Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.  
Ephesians (1:23)





# TAKE ROOT DOWNWARD, BEAR FRUIT UPWARD



By Pr. Timothy Yeung

The great grace of the True God has led the development of the True Jesus Church in Canada. It has been 30 years since the establishment of the Canadian Coordination Centre. Standing at Thirty, the development of the True Church should have ambitious goals as recorded by the prophet Isaiah:

“And the remnant who have escaped of the house of Judah shall again take root downward, and bear fruit upward.” (Isaiah 37:31)

## **(1) To be rooted in the Truth**

Whether a tree can grow sturdy or not depends entirely on whether its roots are healthy and whether it penetrates deep into the ground to absorb water and nutrients. And it can stand upright in the wind and rain and survive for a long time.

So is the True Church. The foundation of the True Church is the truth of the Lord Jesus, and the teaching of the apostles. “Having been built on the foundation of

the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone” (Ephesians 2:20).

The church must pay attention to the teachings of the basic doctrines and help believers to deeply believe and understand the true way, so as not to follow the crowd in these last days: “that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness and deceitful plotting.” (Ephesians 4:14) Believers must stand firm in the true way so that they will not be influenced by worldly thoughts.

## **(2) Be rooted in Love**

“That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love” (Ephesians 3:17). Love, is the general outline of all doctrines. The church in the apostolic age was developed because all believers used love to live a life of fellowship. They did not distinguish each other, shared everything in com-

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mon, and looked after each other. "So, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved." (Acts 2 :46-47).

For the church to grow, it must be rooted in love. However, what is true love?

"The Elders, To the elect lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all those who have known the truth, because of the truth which abides in us and will be with us forever." (2 John 1-2). Love must be based on truth, otherwise love will be degenerated, distorted, and even become an excuse for sin; e.g., extramarital affairs, homosexuality. The love between them deviates from the Truth, and the indulgence of children, if they are not disciplined when they are young, they will also become spoiled. These so-called "loves" will only bring regrets in the end, and they will also face the judgment of God.

"Love is ... does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth" (1 Corinthians 13:6)

### **(3) Be rooted in Trusting God**

"Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, and whose hope is the LORD. For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes, but its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit." (Jeremiah 17:7-8).

Every believer will always encounter a time of trial in life, and the development of the church is the same; sometimes the problems that cannot be encountered within the church are difficult to solve; facing the Canadian national environment, the general public is indifferent to religion and has no interest in Christianity. The hostility of the people also makes evangelism even more difficult. However, we must never forget to rely on God. In times of heat and difficulties, all believers should rely on God with all their hearts, and rely on God as if they are rooted by a river.

"Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit." (Zech. 4 :6)

As long as all believers keep working hard to take root, keep rooting in truth, love, and relying on God, God will surely bless the True Churches in Canada, and they will be able to reach a higher level in the holy work and glorify the holy name of the Lord.

# VISION FOR CHURCH DEVELOPMENT



By Pr. Luke Hsieh

Thank the Lord, the Canadian Coordination Centre (CCC) has been established for 30 years. From exploring in the beginning to maturity at the moment, I have seen God's guidance and grace along the way. The churches across country have gradually grown up, new church branching out, and prayer centers established, which are all the wonderful work of God.

At this stage, we ask God to grant us the vision for future development:

## **1. Improve the spirituality of believers**

Can a believer's spirituality be closer to God? Can I read the Bible often and understand the will of God? Can you pray often and receive the guidance of the Holy Spirit? Can you often serve God and experience God's work? Attending church service

should not become a routine, and ESSC should not be a heavy burden. If spirituality be elevated, faith and service are both sources of joy.

## **2. Preaching the Gospel of Salvation**

The Lord Jesus commanded that the disciples were to bear witness for the Lord to the ends of the earth. We still do not have churches or believers in many areas in Canada, so we must continue to work hard to spread the gospel, equip believers to contribute to the gospel ministry, care for the truth-seekers and friends, and pray for the gospel ministry.

## **3. Promoting the unity of the church**

Every church is made up of believers from all walks of life, and everyone has different ideas and backgrounds. How can we let go of our own prejudices

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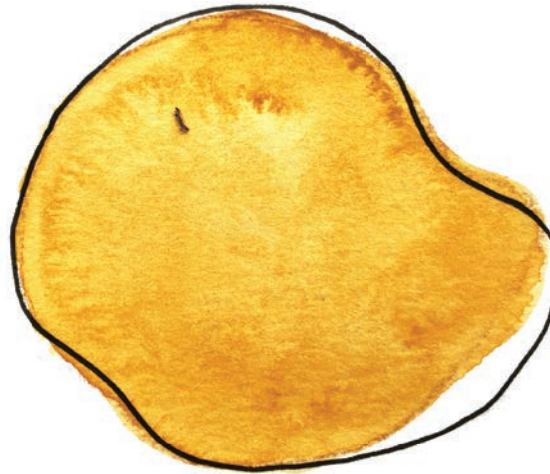
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and achieve the goal of unity under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and have the mind of Christ? Some church spent a long time discussing in the annual believers' meeting, but they failed to reach any agreement in the end. Everyone thinks he loves the Lord, but he can't communicate with other believers. So everyone needs to pray more.

#### 4. Preaching the truth on the Internet

Now is the age of information explosion on the Internet. Many people are searching for various information on the Internet. In the past, there were many messages criticizing the True Jesus Church on the Internet. There were misunderstandings and slander. We must communicate and correct those wrong information on the Internet and spread the Biblical truth as well as the position of our church. At the same time, multiple languages should be used to preach the salvation truth that we have received.

Church is the body of Christ, and only when it grows into an adult, it can fulfill God's will and commission and glorify God's name



By Pr. Tony Kuo

30 years since CCC first began

From afar before God we all came

Prospering the Gospel with one heart

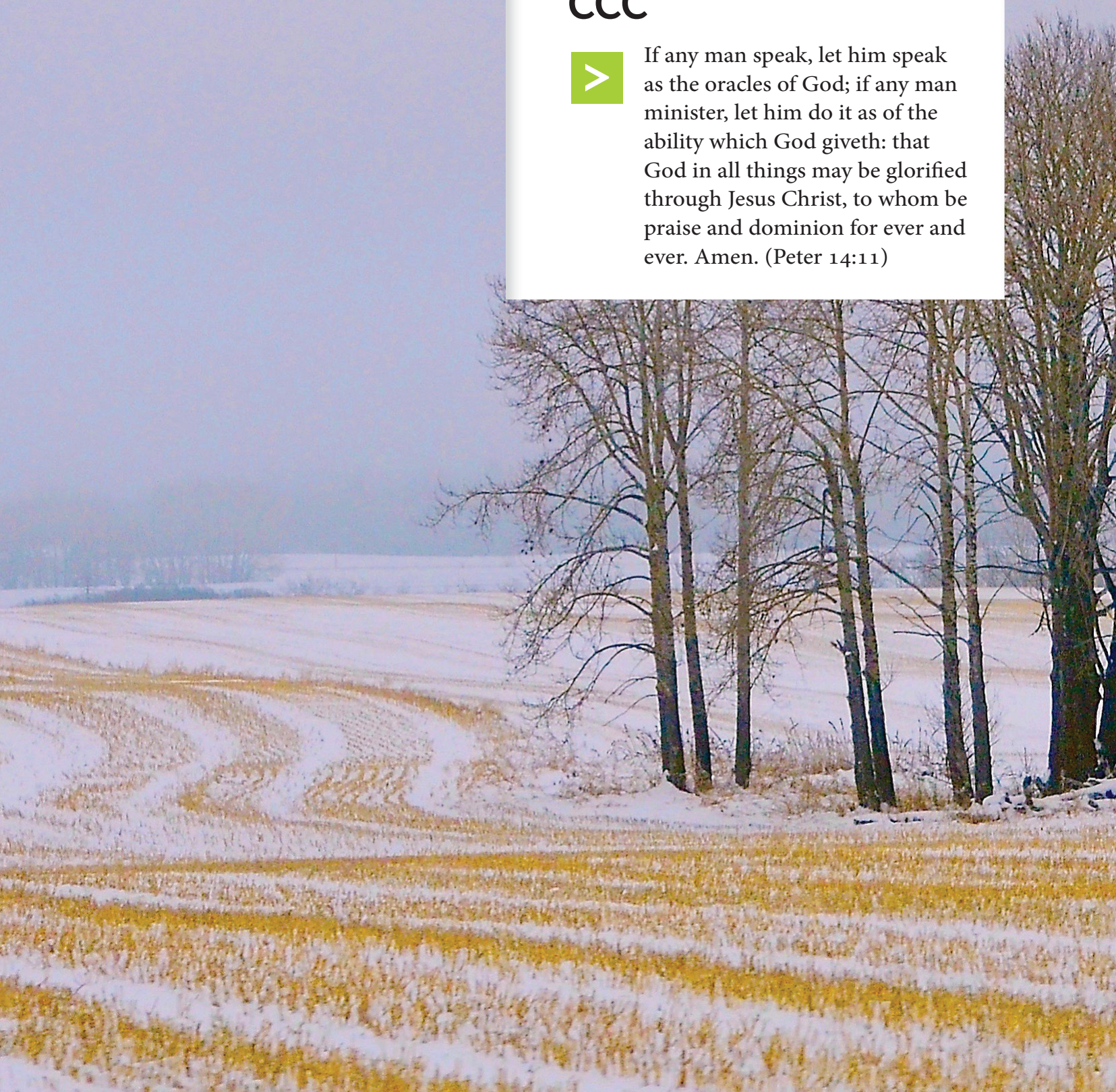
Fall short of His grace we must not

# > 02

## The Past 30 Years of CCC



If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. (Peter 14:11)



# History OF CCC



## The Evolution of the

### Canadian Coordination Centre

Initially, the True Jesus Church in Canada began in Toronto when our members immigrated and started family services there. In 1971, the House of Prayer was officially established in Toronto. As members increased in the following years, the Toronto Church dedicated its church building in 1977.

From the 70s to the 90s, the number of immigrants to Canada grew steadily; they mainly came from Hong Kong, Malaysia and Taiwan; and through waves of immigration also came along new members who settled in various regions in Canada. After the year 2000, a lot of members from China majority settled in Canada. At the unceasingly guidance of our almighty God, our churches in Canada have developed prosperously.

In order to effectively and efficiently utilize our human and financial resources, we had our first National Church Conference (NCC) held in Toronto in October, 1992, and thus the Canadian Coordination Centre (CCC) was officially established, based on the by-laws of the International Assembly (IA). The main work of CCC is to gather and share the resources with all our churches and houses of prayer in Canada so as to develop the holy work from coast to coast, including

integrating members' believes, proclaiming God's words, implementing God's entrustments; and arranging and training workers of the younger generations.

At the time, there was no full time preacher in Canada. Thank God for His providence, Bro. Timothy Yeung, after completing five-year-assignment involving pioneering gospels in numerous regions, he returned to Canada in 2006 to become a full-time preacher. In 2009, Pr. Luke Hsieh joined in the work to preach the gospel in Canada. In 2015, Pr. Tony Kuo had completed a four-year-course of Theological Training and Practicing; thus, he became the third full-time preacher. Pr. Kuo is the first local minister ordained in Canada. Intern preacher Berry Chiang is currently in training.

By the grace of God, we currently have five churches and two houses of prayer in Canada: Toronto (set up in 1971), Vancouver (1988), Edmonton (1990), Calgary (1994), Montreal House of Prayer (1994), Kitchener-Waterloo House of Prayer (2016) and Burnaby (2020).

Note: Informations are excerpted from the article -- The Historical Evolution and Development of the Canadian Coordination Centre

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# Introduction of the Organization CCC

## RA

### **The roles and responsibilities of the CCC and its Religious Affairs officer**

According to CCC's unified by-laws, the CCC Council is re-established at Canada's National Church Conference every two years. The CCC Council consists of five departments, among which are Religious Affairs (RA), General Affairs (GA), Financial Affairs (FA), Religious Education and Training Affairs (TA), and Literary Ministry Affairs (DLM). The Religious Affairs Director is also the Chairman of CCC.

### **The duties of the CCC are as follows:**

- 1.Executing the resolutions of the NCC.
- 2.Arranging personnel to assist in spiritual activities.
- 3.Responsibility for the financial reports.

4.Responsibility for purchases in relation to NCC functions.

5.Helping solve the problems encountered by the local churches and prayer houses.

6.Keeping records and minutes, general correspondence, safe custody of seals, archive properties belonging to CCC.

7.To deal with the ordination, hiring and assignments of preachers.

8.To appoint members of the By-law Committee.

9.Set up strategies and work plans.

10.Deal with daily matters.

11.To carry out proposals passed by CCC Council.

### **The duties of the Chairman are:**

1.To represent Canada as the chairperson.

2.To preside CCC Council meetings.

3.To attend True Jesus Church World Delegates Conference as a delegate.

4.To be responsible for the Religious Affairs Department.

### **And the duties of the Religious Affairs Director are:**

1.To plan the pastoral schedules and work assignments of Full-time Preachers and Volunteer Ministers.

2.To organize and coordinate all resources from all churches and houses of prayer and to assist the evangelical and pastoral work in each locality.

3.To be responsible for all other evangelical and pastoral matters.

### **Therefore, the work of the Religious Affairs encompasses:**

  
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- Being well informed of the local church work's advances, and challenges if any, by the preachers through their monthly work reports. Providing supports and advices to encourage.
- Encouraging church councils to identify and develop points of worship at members' residences where attending church services is inconvenient.
- Working with all local church councils to prepare an overall work plan for the year to
- come. Assigning domestic workers to as many sacred events as CCC's resources can afford, and forwarding the remaining worker requests to IA for assistance.
- Working with IA and USGA for CCC preachers' outbound assignments.
- Encouraging church councils to place emphasis on training programs in various capacities, so the continuation of church ministry is well maintained.
- Preparing a theme for each Spiritual Convocation, so all local churches can be edified through in-depth study on the same topic.
- Corresponding with IA and other GAs/CBs for various holy works.
- Writing reports and articles for CCC Newsletter, IA Newsletter and meetings.
- Convening CCC Council's monthly online meetings.

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## FA

### **Function of the CCC's Financial Affairs Department:**

1. To ensure all financial records and statements are in line with laws, regulations, and GAAP
2. To prepare the budget for auditing and NCC approval
3. To prepare the financial reports for auditing and NCC approval
4. To submit the annual information return to CRA
5. To remit source deduction to CRA



## **Introduction to the Religious Education and Training Affairs Department**

Thanks for the grace of God, the training department in the CCC is in charge of coordinating national training work for the development of holy work. It includes:

### **a. National Adult Theological Seminar**

This is a yearly event, members from all over Canada, sometimes include overseas participants like UK, US, Taiwan, join together in a one week intensive bible seminar. There is also wonderful fellowship between participants and they are very edified. During the pandemic, the 2020 and 2021 NATS is suspended and members are encouraged to join the online NATS host by USGA.

### **b. NYTS**

CCC used to but no more host NYTS, so we coordinate with all local churches and encourage youths in Canada to join NYTS in the US so that there are fellowship between the youths of the two countries

### **c. National Counselor Seminar**

For the past 5 years, NCS has been held for the training of ministers, full time preachers and their spouse, regarding counselling work. The past two years course were conducted online

### **d. National Youth Ministry Workshop**

The NYMW targets the local church youths coordinators so that they can be trained in terms of doctrine and practical youth ministry matter.

### **e. National Marriage Coordinator Workshop**

This event is to combine with the USGA one, so that all MCs can be trained and have fellowship with the MCs in the US

### **f. Bible Seminar**

This seminar is held in every local church yearly, usually conducted by a preacher sent by IA from Taiwan. The training department is to draft up a program for the seminar and encourage members to participate.

### **g. RETW**

Usually teacher in training will be sent to USA to be trained, however, when local church has a need, the training department and National RE coordinator will work together and facilitate such event

### **h. Theological Training Program**

TTP is the program to train full time minister. Thank God currently there is one TTP student ( Bro. Barry Chiang) being trained in Taiwan. By the grace of God, CCC is planning to recruit two more TTP students to fulfill the growing needs of the ministry in Canada.

## **V** LM

### **Literary Ministry Affairs Department:**

In the CCC organization, a literary ministry coordinator works for the LM Department, under which a work team and members selected from every church would participate in the nation-wide literary ministry work. The work includes: CCC publications (newsletters, testimony series, anniversary memorial volume), building and managing of the CCC website and the production of multimedia (i.e. Deacon Fritz Chen's testimonial videos), etc. Various team members work on different projects. The main purposes of the LM Department consist of internal edification of the members and the external evangelism.

The publication of the CCC Newsletters is made possible through online meetings every four months by the LM rep-

resentatives in respective churches. They discuss the date and the content of the newsletter and publish three times a year in both Chinese and English versions. The publications are available in print and also digitally online. The newsletter reports the progress of the holy work in all the churches, as well as their evangelical and pastoral plans. The website introduces the True Jesus Church, the basic work plans and information of each local church.

We hope that through the production of literary works, the members can reflect upon the words of God and also preach the gospel to truth-seeking friends, so that they can also join in the True Jesus Church and share the joy of becoming Christians.

## **V** GA

### **Function of the CCC's General Affairs Department:**

In general, the General Affairs department of CCC is to be responsible for all other general matters not pertaining to the other departments such as Religious Affairs, Training Affairs, Literary Ministry Affairs and Financial Affairs.

However, some of the day-to-day function of the General Affairs department are to keep records and minutes, handle day-to-day correspondences, coordinate and schedule the

monthly CCC meetings, process expense and vacation forms, and keep good archives of properties belonging to CCC.

Other responsibilities include the safe keeping of the Unified Bylaw and the management of books and publications published by the International Assembly. This would also include any local church or national policies and guidelines published by the CCC (i.e. wedding ceremony guidelines, parliamentary procedures, etc).

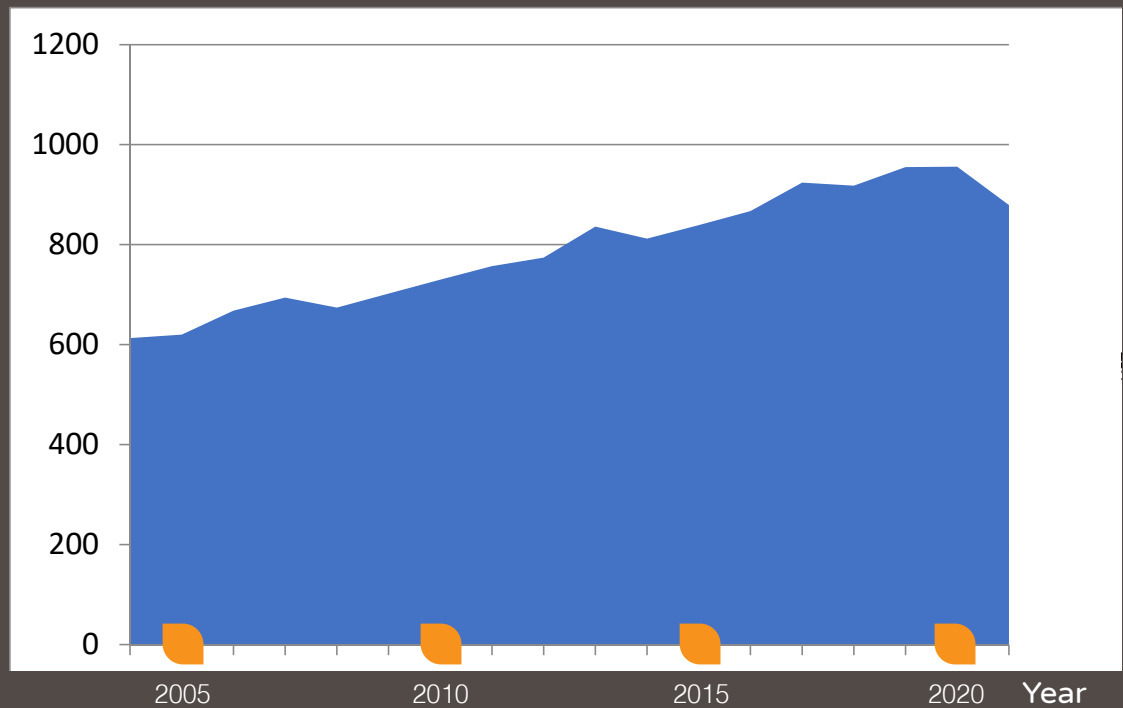


CHURCH  
MEMBERSHIP  
NUMBERS IN  
CANADA

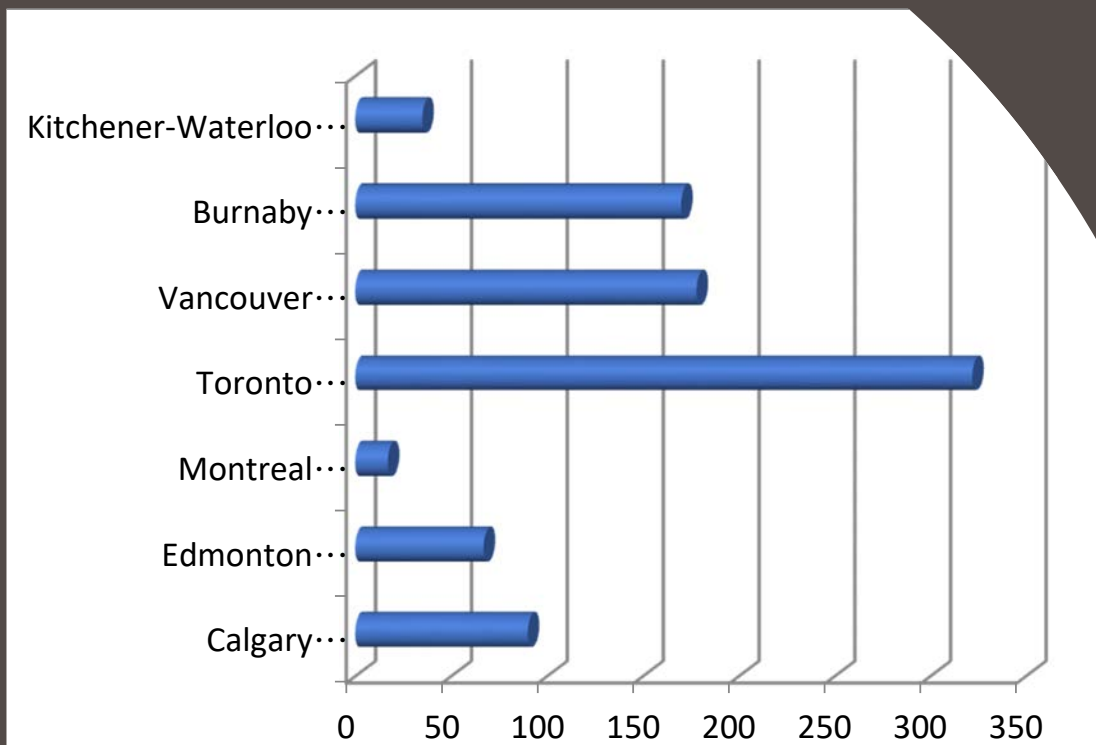
843

Statistics until the first  
half of the year 2022

# Historical Church Membership Numbers in Canada (2004-2021)



## Church Membership Numbers in 2021





NCC 2003



NCC 1997



NCC 2011



NCC 2016

# Religious Education Teacher Workshop

April 19-20, 2014  
True Jesus Church Vancouver



Sacred Music Workshop 2014



Bible Seminar 2009



NCC 2013



RETW 2017



NATS 2015



Sacred Music Workshop 2015



Family Life Education Workshop 2016



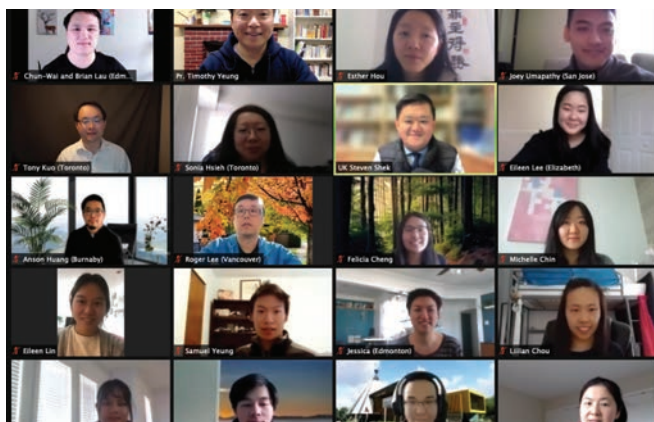
National Youth Ministry Workshop Toronto 2019



SSC Vancouver 2015



NCC Ordination 2015



National Youth Ministry Workshop 2021

Workshop of Service Leaders 2022 ▶



A scenic landscape featuring a calm lake in the foreground, a dense forest of evergreen trees in the middle ground, and snow-capped mountains in the background under a clear blue sky. In the lower-left foreground, a wooden dock extends into the water, with two small rowing boats (one red and one white) moored to it. The water is still, reflecting the sky and the surrounding landscape. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

# > 03

## Vine and Branches

- > He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved. (John 15:5)





# TORONTO

The history of the establishment of Toronto Church started from a family service in 1971, and in 1979, it was formally registered with the government of Ontario. From the beginning of the church establishment process to the next few decades, the believers of the Toronto Church witnessed the miraculous and wonderful guidance of God. The following is a brief introduction to the establishment of the Toronto Church:

### **Historic Development of Church**

The first service in Toronto began in 1968 when Dn. Zacchaeus Wong and his family immigrated to Toronto one after another from Ipoh, Malaysia. In the following years, brothers and sisters from all over the world including France, U.K., and Hong Kong, had also immigrated to Toronto. Then came many firsts: the first sacrament was held on Octo-

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ber 30th, 1973; the first baptism was held on August 12th, 1975; in October 1977, the believers purchased the first place of worship together - 40 Homewood Avenue. This address was the apartment building where services were held at that time.

### **Registration With The Government As a Church And The First Spiritual Convocation**

After the arrival of Deacon (later ordained as Elder) Holy Mount Huang and his family in Toronto in 1978, the number of believers continued to increase, and the Church officially registered with the Ontario government the following year. The first Evangelical Spiritual Convocation was held immediately after on September 1st - 3rd, 1979. A total of 20 local church members and 12 truth-seeking friends participated in this event.

### **Relocation of Place of Worship**

Starting from 1980, due to the increasing number of believers, the apartment could not accommo-

date. Therefore, the place of worship was relocated to Deacon Huang's house at 310 Dundas Street. During the same year in September, the Church began renting another church's secondary chapel to hold Tuesday, Friday, and Sabbath services. Finally, on May 30th, 1984, the Church purchased the first chapel at 369 Harbord Street in Toronto at a price of 121,200 CAD. On June 8th, the services began to take place in the new chapel, and the dedication ceremony was held on July 27th-29th to offer the new chapel to the Lord.

### **Toronto Church Today**

Thank God for His continuous guidance with love and grace that has been leading the Church to grow prosperously. Many believers had been immigrating to Toronto from China, Taiwan, Malaysia, Hong Kong and other places, and His gospel continues to spread in Toronto. The chapel on Harbord Street in the early 90s was gradually unable to accommodate all the believers, so the Church was actively seeking a more suitable chapel. Thanks to God's



gift, guidance, and blessing, the church later successfully purchased a place of worship at 69 Sunrise Avenue. After about two years of renovation, the original auto shop was converted into a chapel for place of worship. During the renovation, brothers and sisters experienced the manifestation of God's will and the gift of blessings. Many fellow brothers and sisters sacrificed and dedicated their weeks and holidays willingly to come to the church to add some finishing touches to the project. For example, the 80-year-old solid wood pews in the chapel were purchased through an auction from another church. In order to make the pews suitable for use for the church, brothers and sisters took time and effort to refurbish the pews by disassembling, cutting, repainting, and reassembling the pews. In addition, the church's pulpit, offering box, bookshelf, flower stand, and white board stand were also made from these pews. Moreover, the garden was also thoughtfully designed, arranged and planted by fellow brothers and sisters. In 1996,

the Church was officially relocated to 69 Sunrise Avenue and dedicated the church on July 1st. As (2 Sam 23:4) said: "And he shall be like the light of the morning when the sun rises, a morning without clouds, like the tender grass springing out of the earth, by clear shining after rain." The Church was full of vigor and vim, blessed by the Lord, and also came with His entrustment. The 50 or 60 people then, have now grown to nearly 250 believers in the Greater Toronto Area. At the beginning of 2016, a prayer house was established in the Kitchener-Waterloo area, which is about 100 kilometers west of Toronto, with about 30 members.

### **Church Expansion Plan**

Thank God, the number of believers has continued to increase in recent years. In order to spread the gospel of God in the Greater Toronto Area, the Church started preparing for an expansion plan some ten years ago. It was in accordance with the commission entrusted by God, which is recorded

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in Isaiah 54:2-3, to enlarge the place of the tent to spread the holy name of the Lord. In order to accommodate the Church's expansion plan, training the workers needed for the future expansion is a significant task. Therefore, about eight years ago, the Church decided to start with the regional family services, and held Friday evening services at the home of a believer in the northeast end of Toronto so that through these services, various holy workers were able to be trained. Over the past few years, we have witnessed the Holy Spirit's abidance, adding gifts and strength to the workers, and the workers have received much comfort and growth in both ministry and spirituality.

In 2015, the Toronto Church successfully purchased a vacant lot on 14th Avenue in Markham and planned to build a chapel there. However, due to the impact of global pandemic, the construction of this church had been slowing down. With the improvement of the pandemic situation, the construction of the church has gradually returned to normal. Nevertheless, the immediate challenge is the completion of the preparation stage of church construction including the coordination of construc-

tion funds, government review and approval, builder bidding and screening, and etc.... We ask God to guide the Church with grace according to His will so that fellow brothers and sisters can be united in the holy work of church expansion. We pray that God can abide with the Toronto Church in the chapel construction so that we can all be edified spiritually and give all the praise and glory to God.



# A FEW STORIES OF OUR TORONTO CHURCH



Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations. (Psalms 100:4-5)

Starting from one or two years ago, the Toronto Church chapel became filled with members on Sabbath services. With the wave of immigration, many members immigrated to Canada to be reunited with their family. The original capacity of 120 seats were of course, insufficient for over 200 members to sit in. Even though we were very fortunate to have our neighbor across the street 'Canadian Tire Co.' (A famous retail chain in Canada) lend us their parking lot for a short while during service, however,

"branching out" was an action that required immediate attention and must be carried out. Thus, the Toronto church established the "Church expansion building committee" to prepare everything, to look for a suitable location and complete the Holy Work of "expanding the church" as soon as possible.

The Toronto Church is desperately in need of branching out and purchasing a new chapel and this brought back memories of mine from around thirty years ago, looking at how

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the Toronto Church was first established with all of her stories behind.....

When I recall leaving Taipei around 1977, I left with blessings and expectations from our members. I actually recall having the heart of “marching forth and conquering” for the LORD and was in haste to erect the banner of the Lord (Psalms 60:4), to spread the Seed of the Gospel on this vast land of Canada.

I clearly remember the border agent of the immigration office and her friendly attitude. With a beautiful smile on her face, she reached out her hand to welcome the arrival of me and my children. A greeting of “Welcome to Canada” brought me great confidence about what was to happen and believed that it was according to the will of God. Would there be any border agent in any country who would be so friendly and welcoming to a stranger who was travelling at that time? Usually, they would have quite a fierce attitude and try to look for your faults, or they would assume that you came to Canada for other reasons. Therefore, being treated so kindly by the border agent upon arrival

in Canada left me flattered and made me feel as if I was in paradise! This attitude would only happen in heaven and maybe for the first time on earth!

After I walked out of the airport, I told my husband how the immigration border officer was so friendly towards us, he replied with a glance that meant: “Don’t make a fuss out of it” and said: “The population of Canada is very small (at that time there was only around twenty-three million Canadians nationally), meaning that there would be even less kids. You brought in three kittens and puppies (he was referring to our kids), of course they would be happy!” Thus, “humans” here can be referred to “endangered species”, as every life is considered precious and honoured. This was the first impression Canada left on me after I set foot on this land.

**E**ven though my husband arrived a month ahead of me in Toronto, but he was busy with work, looking for a house to live in, looking to purchase a car, so he actually had not attended service at the Toronto Church yet. It was not until after our arrival that we dressed up nice

and well and went to Toronto church on a chilly yet sunny morning. Suddenly was aroused within me. How could “She” be so small? So simple?

However, upon our arrival, tears filled Dn. Zacchaeus’ eyes and he repeatedly said: “Hallelujah, thank God!”. His third daughter sister Julie was shedding tears and proudly said to the other sisters there: “Look! The three young children that Lord Jesus had told me to teach, here they are before my eyes, you have seen them! Not one of them is missing! I am not dreaming!”

Even though this elderly deacon and his whole family greeted us so warmly and sincerely, but when I glazed around the “Chapel”, I found that it was only an apartment on the second floor right next to their (Dn. Zacchaeus’) home address (40 Homewood Ave.) It was such a tiny space that only fitted a dozen chairs or so, leaving no space for people to walk between the seats.

**A**s a person who has been accustomed to having service in a spacious and beautiful chapel in Taipei and as a woman who



focused so much on the materialistic side of worshipping God, this tiny chapel left me speechless! In my disappointment I remembered the verse in (Haggai 1:4): “Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this temple to lie in ruins?” Ah! Our 2,000 square feet house located on the outskirts of Brampton seemed so luxurious compared to the church. I was ashamed and felt guilty, I should have been thankful to God for allowing us to have a place of worship upon arrival in Canada, yet I was not content and was even picky, such a “small of faith” and “materialistic” young girl I was!

Later on, I found out that this chapel they were currently using for service was offered by Dn. Zacchaeus’ family. I rebuked my disappointment towards this small chapel even more after this incident. I dearly miss their beautiful footsteps of loving the Lord. Dn. Zacchaeus was called by the Lord in 1979 and we were reluctant to see him depart. His kind smile, his earnest attitude in asking the True God to bless the assembly every Sabbath

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Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, (Ephesians 3:20)

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day is still deeply embedded in our memories until this day.

When I recall the time when my husband was still deciding whether to immigrate to USA or to Canada, I found that God has already started to guide our footsteps. The Lord had arranged for Dn. Paul Wong (Houston Church) to be in the same row as my husband on the flight to Los Angeles. Due to the long flight, my husband and Dn. Paul (complete strangers at that time) started to greet each other and chat. Dn. Paul Wong, out of his fervency as an evangelist started to try to preach “The Gospel that leads to Salvation” to my husband only to find that they were fellow members of the True Church from Taiwan and Malaysia! How wonderful is the arrangement of the Lord to have two members sit beside each other! When I come to think of this, if God had not moved them to break the silence and start to have a conversation, they would have remained as complete strangers. Such a marvellous “encounter”, struck my husband who has been an “old lamb” that had been lost for 40 years. (Since the time he has been baptized with his mother while he was still



a young child, he has resisted going to church). From this we can see the authority of God in guiding His sheep back to having service at church.

**A**fter Dn. Paul Wong found out that my husband had an intention of immigrating to North America, he then especially encouraged him to come to Canada because Canada was really in need of more members to carry out the Holy Work of God. He also told my husband that both of his parents and his siblings were in Toronto, he believed that if we chose to immigrate to Canada, it was the will of God.

I could not comprehend how our process of immigration to Canada was so smooth. The Embassy granted my husband a working visa and a permanent resident card. In a short time frame of three months, we finished all of our application for our immigration to Canada. The boss who hired my husband thought that the immigration office in Mississauga intended to make things difficult for our immigration application. Not only did they phone him often, they also asked his wife to go to the office and she told us



afterwards how annoying things were at the immigration office.

Earlier on my husband and I made an agreement that out of both the USA and Canada, whichever country first granted our immigration application, then that country would be the one God had arranged for us. Since everything was in place, my husband—a “stubborn sheep” did not dare say anything else, he packed his luggage and directly came to Canada from Pennsylvania.

Originally, the company named: ‘Du Pont’ had agreed to hire my husband to work there and was in the process of applying for his immigration status. They had offered better salary and benefits compared to the Canadian company. In the States there were also fellow co-workers he was familiar with back in Taiwan who would also potentially be coming into the States to work and live there. This was the reason why he was so reluctant to immigrate to Canada since the country seemed so unfamiliar to him. Yet the will of God was for us to immigrate to Canada, since it was His will, He had His ways of



doing so. Dn. Paul Wong was sent by our Heavenly Father to encourage us and caused my husband to be strengthened in his faith, as our Heavenly Father knew that my husband wholeheartedly wanted to accomplish his “American Dream”.

**N**ext year (1978), Brother Tuck-Lee (also son of Dn. Zacchaeus Wong), sister Winnie (the daughter of Dn. Zacchaeus Wong) and the my in-laws came to Toronto. Another year later, Brother Michael Yaw and his family from United Kingdom. A few months afterwards, Brother Cheng from Sabah church also suddenly arrived. He was talented in English, Mandarin and Cantonese which was the reason why many of the translation Holy Works were given to him.

In just a few years’ time, God had prepared many soldiers for the potential Toronto Church. Joy and thanksgiving filled the chapel of His church, the members attending the Sabbath services no longer only consisted of the “Wong family”, Dn. Xu (Now in Edmonton who was studying at the University of

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“ Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift (2 Corinthians 9:15)

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Toronto at that time) and Sister Zhong (97 years old now).

At that time, Dns.Nornie Wong (not yet anointed), was moved by the Holy Spirit, comprehending that the time of the Lord had come and suggested that with the number of members we had at that time, could apply to be registered as a church according to the Ontario government. At that time, she was working in the Legislative Court of Ontario, which was why such an application that required much time and effort could be handled. If it were not for her, we would have gone around in circles as we were completely clueless about the laws of Canada as new immigrants.

However one day, she suddenly sadly told us that the name “True Jesus Church” has already been registered ahead of us by another church. Even so, we persisted using the name of our church and we fasted and prayed for this matter so that God could open a way for us. In the end, on September 17th, 1979, we were finally able to be registered under



the name ” True Jesus Church (Apostolic Faith) Canada”. Thank God!

While we were thankful at that time, we decided to rent the conference hall in our local Holiday Inn to prepare our first Spiritual Convocation. The International Assembly send Elder John Yang, Dn. Tsai and Dn. John Lo to assist in this Holy Work. At that time, brother Toby was deeply moved while listening to the sermons, a family of four was successfully baptized into the Name of the Lord.

**A**fterwards, while we were all rejoicing over the successful registration of the church, our neighbors suddenly filed a complaint against us to the department in charge, claiming that our hymnal worship and prayers affected their peaceful lives. Because there was nothing much we could do, we could only close our “Chapel”.

Thankfully, hope was not lost, under the wonderful guidance of God, the manager of the senior condo in which my in-laws lived in (he was also a Christian)

was willing to grant us usage of the recreational hall free of charge as a place of worship we could use for our Sabbath services. He had presumably seen the needs of our church. Thank God!

Not long afterwards, we were able to rent the side chapel of the “United Church” on the intersection of College and Bathurst. Thank God! Brother Liu had found the horizontal frame we placed in the grass containing the name “True Jesus Church” while he was taking a walk after his meal. He could not believe what he saw and found his way upstairs to where we were and confirmed that this was the True Church he has been going to in Taiwan. He was joyful and excited since he had already been in Canada for seven or eight years, he was “lonely” because he could not find the True Jesus Church here. Finally, God has led him home into the fold. Such a wonderful grace had caused him to always be grateful.

I could not remember anymore which brother brought out this suggestion and said: Why do we not consider purchasing our own chapel? For many years we have been suffering and toiling and we



have been trying to escape from the feeling and bondage of “This chapel does not belong to us”. Who would have thought that such a sentence was approved and supported by all the members? Out of one heart, we prayed to God and asked Him to guide the way for us.

Not long afterwards, we found that 369 Harbord St. which was a Hungarian Church at that time, was listed for sale. After our church board members went to check out the place, they felt that even though the space was small, it had all of the functions we needed and was not in need of any renovations, we could move in directly. The basement could be used for both RE classes and a kitchen, so it was really fit to be purchased. After a few discussions, each person lay aside their opinions and submitted under the will of God. In the end, we decided to give an offer of 200,000 Canadian dollars. All the related documents, certificates were prepared by brother Cheng and ready to go. We decided to hand in our offer on the following day.

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Around nine o'clock on Sunday, while I was preparing breakfast for the kids at home, my husband came downstairs after waking up. I was wondering why he would get up so early as he would usually sleep in until noon on Sundays. After coming downstairs, he immediately said: "I don't know why, but I can't fall asleep!". At the same time, he called brother Cheng and asked if he was willing to add in 1,200 Canadian Dollars to the offer? Brother Cheng then replied: "There's not enough time, all the documents have been printed, Dn. Ho has also signed, I am about to change my clothes and drive to the location and hand in the offer at 10 o'clock." My husband hung up and felt a bit disappointed and thought God would guide everything.

Wonderfully, brother Cheng who was faithful and loving towards the Lord was moved by the Holy Spirit and quickly rushed to reprint all of the documents and rushed to have Dn. Ho sign them again. He then drove quickly to the location where they were accepting offers. Thank God! The result was that we won the offer by that additional 1,200 CAD and due to the timing of handing out our offer.

The Almighty God, controls all! He listens to our prayers and knows our needs. On that day, we finally laid aside our seven years of wandering. The tears of joy and gladness

were on the faces of all the members. Oh Lord! We sincerely praise, thank and all honour to Him! From this day on, we could finally have our own home, we could finally be calm in our hearts and freely worship Him on His Sabbath Day! At that time, it was 1984 May and on July the 28th on the same year, we dedicated the Chapel. When the Holy and Sovereign Banner of the Lord- "True Jesus Church" was hung across the sky in Canada, we felt proud and felt a sense of accomplishment. May all the Glory and Praise be onto our True God in Heaven!

**D**uring the beginning of the 1980s, the immigration wave brought in many members from all around the globe. Dn. Apollos Lee and Dn. Tsai both immigrated from Taiwan and Malaysia, Pr. Philemon also immigrated over on year 1995. We were comforted to see a batch of Holy Workers come, they could lead sermons and schedule events as these were all naturally given to them to be taken care of, we were able to finally catch our breath.

Indeed! God's Spirit moved us all and our members started out in different directions to find a suitable spot. On January, 1993, the inflation was very severe and house pricing were raising. The Toronto Church purchased 69 Sunrise Ave. for 530,000 Canadian Dollars (the location of our present day Toronto Church, a Volvo repair shop at the time of purchase).

Even though we did not have more funds on hand other than purchasing the repair shop, but we first purchased this potential chapel because this was reasonable under an era where real estate prices were inflating.

Due to the lack of sufficient funds, we often felt lacking in power and felt that the completion of the chapel in the project was “far away”. Thankfully due to the encouragement of Dn.Tsai, our hearts were “stirred up” again. I clearly remember he enthusiastically said: “I firmly believe that we can complete this Holy Work, I have never seen a True Church project that went unfinished.”

Thank God! During our difficult times we worked together. As for the pulpit, pews etc. which were needed after the completion of the work on the new chapel, brother Mike, Bill, Pingxian planned on ahead to save up for the church. They labored for the church and together with the youths, sacrificed their Sunday time and completed all these items with their hands, how touching this was! The blueprint of the chapel was amended a few times and finally was set. The contract project was taken care by Dn.Lee and everything moved forward with order.

Hallelujah! We are thankful for the abidance of the Holy Spirit, our new chapel was finished in 1995. The total ex-

pense of renovating and constructing the new chapel was 281,500 Canadian dollars. We held our first service on December the 24th and we dedicated the chapel on July 7th the next year. Our new chapel was magnificent, wide and spacious. The Glory of our God shone upon every corner, our members could feel the abidance of God. Hallelujah! May all the honor and glory be on to “Our God who is most holy”!

Looking back at these 35 years, I have seen the Toronto Church start out from “point” and grow into “shape”. Even though on the way, there has been full of thorns and obstacles, but the eyes of our Lord have never turned away from us. The Holy Spirit has been our ever-present help, allowing us to march forward courageously, achieving the scale of our present-day Toronto Church.

Countless hymns or thanksgiving cannot express even a little portion of His Grace. We only hope that the Lord will continue to lead and cause our Toronto Church expansion project to be successfully carried out! We hope that the “branched out church” can be born as soon as possible, to glorify the Holy Name of our True God and spread His Gospel far and wide! Amen! (By Shiow Yeuh Hwang )



# YOUR PATHS DRIP WITH ABUNDANCE

On May 14th, 1992, my wife and I brought our two kids to Toronto by flight. We rented a car and stayed at a hotel for half a year. Eventually, we settled down at our current house in Newmarket for the past 30 years. Thinking back to when I was 40 years old, I was like a newborn calf. Even though I had a wonderful anticipation to immigrate to Canada, I didn't develop a complete plan on the things ahead.



Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever. (Psalms 23:6)

Living in a completely new environment, I had to rely on God's mercy and care in terms of serving in the church, in my own career and for my family's finances. During every difficulty, God has rewarded and provided for us in ways we do not expect. Therefore, I deeply experienced the abundance of God; all that He provides exceeded what I asked and expected. These 30 years in Toronto were likened to what David had written in a psalm, "You crown the year with Your goodness, And Your paths drip with abundance." (Psalm 65:11)

When I first came to Toronto, the church had around six to seventy believers. The church was located at 369 Harbord Street, the first floor, in which the worship service was held could contain 60

people to sit. The basement had a small kitchen and a dining space, boards could be placed at the corner to form RE classrooms. There was only a wooden door separating the chapel from the noisy street outside, and the outer pews were located just in front of the door. In winter, whenever someone comes to church late and opens the door, the cold breeze will enter the chapel causing everyone to shiver, and people will turn their heads to see who had come.

There were often youths playing hymns on the piano beside the pulpit during Sabbath lunch break, the soft melody would attract other youths to come and sing the hymns together in parts, thus forming a lovely hymnal fellowship. The church board which consisted of 12 people

will conduct meetings frequently around the dining table in the basement. On the surrounding sides of the walls were groups of families sitting and waiting, family members would support each other from behind when the conversations escalated.

The church decided to purchase a garage located at 69 Sunrise Avenue in December of 1992. The new chapel was dedicated on July 1st, 1996, not only was the chapel 10 times larger than the old one; there were strong and elegant pews made of oak placed where the service is conducted. These pews were timeless reminders of Jesus' preparation and reward everyday.

After the purchase of the garage; following some time for the application and public hearing, it was finally the time to design

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and renovate. At the time of construction, the church board was frequently concerned with the method of acquiring the pews in the chapel, because the locally made pews will certainly require a large budget, while ordering from overseas is difficult and complicated. However, in surprise the agent who proxied for the church's purchase of the garage revealed news: a Portuguese church that was about to be constructed into an apartment building; had its inner equipment and furniture prepared to be auctioned. She recommended that we first look into it, as we might find useful things.

The church board members agreed to inspect together. The chapel was very old, many of its items can be counted as antiques, the only items that could

be reusable were only a few chandelier lamps and the chapel pews.

The pews looked very old and dirty, they were also very long and asymmetric, it will require six to ten people to carry one pew in order to transport. Every pew is nailed to the ground with screws, underneath the pews are stuck with aged and hardened bubble gums. The agent said we can probably obtain all the pews for five thousand dollars (CAD). After holding a meeting, we decided to discard the option of the chandelier lamps and purchase the pews with a maximum of two thousand dollars.

**T**he day of the auction was on Sabbath, the church sent brother Micheal as a representative. He returned to the church on lunch

break having purchased all the pews with a total of one thousand five hundred dollars on agreement.

We rented a truck on Sunday to transport the pews. Many brothers and sisters arrived early in the morning to help loosen the screws and carried the pews on the truck together. It took four round trips for the truck to transport all the pews to the basement of the new chapel. The cost of renting the truck was four hundred and eighty dollars, in which together with the pews; the total amount had not exceed the original two thousand dollar budget.

Following the purchase, on every Sunday, many youths and seniors will work together on organizing the oak wood pews - this lasted for the whole year. Removing all



the wooden boards, scratching off the gum pieces, using potions to clean the dirty parts, grinding each and every board with sandpaper, and finally varnishing it. Brother Tham drew where each pew would be placed and measured the required length of every pew so that coworkers could saw and combine the wooden boards. Brother Chang designed the 3D model of the podium and along with a few more helping hands, they used the boards from the pews to make the podium. During this time preacher Philemon Tsen (曾腓利門傳道) came to Toronto from Sabah, and joined in furnishing the church. He participated in skillfully making the table for Holy Communion, the offering box, the white board, the small podium for sharing testimony, and the shelves for putting bibles. All the materials were acquired from the oak wood pews.

In the middle of 1995, the chapel renovation was almost complete. After paving on the carpet, the brothers and sisters carried all the pews and furnitures to their respective places . In December of 1995, all the church's service and fellowship was transferred from 369 Harbord to 69 Sunrise. The time labouring and toiling together were of much joy to many youths.. When finding naive kids stepping on top or on the back of the pews, they will dearly instruct them to enter this chapel that was renovated together with a more godly attitude, and with a heart full of thanksgiving.

**T**he dedication held on July 1st, 1996, was not only to dedicate a new chapel, but to celebrate the unity and hard work of the 120 brothers and sisters during the process of renovation. Many believers came from different places

to attend and to witness the plan and reward of Lord Jesus.

Though the chapel is indeed beautiful, the people who worship and fellowship together are even more so.(By Dn. K.C. Tsai)





# REFLECTION AND TESTIMONY

**3** 2 years ago, with my wife and my 15-month-old son, Andrew, we moved to Canada from Hong Kong where we grew up. It was the first time we set foot in Canada. At that time, we did not have any relatives or friends in Toronto. It was a frightening experience to settle in a foreign city with no support from friends and family and with very limited funding. Moreover, we came with our young son along with us, Andrew who was at the time 15 months old. We decided to settle in Toronto because of the better job opportunity and more so there is an existing church. I remember Elder John Yang encouraged us to go to a city with a TJC church. At that time, only church in Canada was in Toronto.

Through the connection of Hong Kong Church, we were able to find an accommodation with an elderly sister, Sister Chung, in Toronto. She was already in her seventies at that time. She welcomed us into her home and showed the neighbourhood in Scarborough where

“ The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger,  
and plenteous in mercy. (Psalms 103:8)

the house was located. She even took us to the church by bus and subway. From Scarborough, it would take about an hour and half and several changes: from bus to underground and bus again. Sister Chung was a very strong and independent sister. She insisted on attending church regularly and wherever possible she would take public transportation and not to be a burden on others.

Toronto Church was in the downtown area at 369 Harbord Street. Not too far away from the U of T library. The church building was small and sit only 50 people. Needless to say, the Toronto church members wel-

come us into their community right away. There were about 40 members at the time, made up of brothers and sisters who came from Taiwan, Malaysia and Hong Kong. We were blessed with four ministers: Elder Holy Mount Huang, Dn. H.K. Ho, Dns. Nornie and Dn. Apollos Lee. Even with such a small congregation, sermons would be given in one of the three languages: Mandarin, English or Cantonese and translated into the other two. During the early 1990s there was another wave of immigrants who arrived from Taiwan. Another Deacon was added to the list of ministers, Dn. KC Tsai and family arrived in 1990.

Immediately after I arrived in Toronto, I started looking for a job. We had very little money with us. We would have to return to Hong Kong if I could not find a job in six months. Before coming to Canada, I never had to look for a job as I was offered a research position and a job right after university. It was a frustrating experience looking for the first job. Everywhere I went, they would ask for Canadian experience. All my qualifications I obtained in the UK had to be re-evaluated. Altogether I sent out no less than 100 application letters. But no reply for the first couple of months. One Saturday, we arrived at the church early and chatted with Dns. Nornie.

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We told her about our situation and our anxiety in looking for a job. She encouraged us to pray for it. We told her that we were even fasting in prayer so that we could settle in Canada. She made announce and asked the members to pray for us after service. Thank God. The first job opportunity came on the same day. It was still in the summer, after dinner my wife went out walking with my son. She met a lady from next door who was also out walking with her little girl and they started having a conversation. The lady realized that I was looking for a job and suggested I contact her husband who has a small computer company on Hwy 7. In the following Monday, I went up to the computer store and was immediately offer a job. Thank God, the salary was sufficient to

cover our expenses. In the next couple of months, I worked as a salesman and was able to sell a couple of computer systems. At the same time, I had a number of interviews. Then, a couple job offers came. These were professional jobs that would pay a decent salary. Thanks God. I accepted one of the offers in the electricity utility company. Last year, I was able to retire from this company after 30 years of service.

During these past 30 years, we have witnessed the grow of the Toronto Church. With many members arriving from mainland China, birth within the church and new members baptized into the church. Toronto church has grown to over 300 members.

By 1990, as the church population grew the building at

Harbord Street could no longer accommodate all the members. There was no place for RE classes. Before we arrived, there was very few young children at the church. All a sudden the need to have RE classes arose. During spiritual convocation the church was over capacity. I remember one brother even raised concern of the floor loading with the additional people in the building – an old building. We had to find a bigger place. With only 50 members at the time, we had very little money – less than 100K. An ordinary detach home would sell for 300K at that time. With the influx of immigrants, church buildings were in hot demand. Also, the local government was very reluctant to allow new religious buildings.

It sounds like an impossible task, but we understood that it was what God want us to do. We could see the church expanding rapidly with the new immigrants and newborn. We definitely need a new building.

**W**e all believed that God would provide and started weekly prayer sessions after sabbath service. The whole church congregation was united. We all participated in saving up money and make plagues to the new building. We engaged all the resources to look for a new church building.

There were many factors to consider when we look for a new church building: location, affordability, size, cost of renovation and future growth of the

church. I remember that one Friday after evening service, we got all the members together to talk about what are the basic requirements for this new building. I remember one RE teacher said that we would need 4 classrooms, someone else said we would need a library, a chapel that can sit 200 and have room to expand. One older member stood up to say that the church must look grant to glory God. The list of requirements kept on growing. My heart sank as I felt that we could not fulfil even half of the requirements. We had so little money and so few people.

It turned out my faith was not strong enough. After a year of searching, we were able to acquire the property at 69 Sunrise Ave for 500K. This used to be a garage but with the zoning

allowed for a place of worship.

It was a Power of Sale and was significantly below market price.

However, major renovation had to be done to turn this into a church building. Amongst the


members there were opposing opinions, most like the building for its location and the potential, some felt that it was a dirty

industrial site and not fitting for worship. After a few weeks of arguing, everyone agreed that it was the time we had to move

out of the neighbour at 369 Harbord Street, the neighbors were getting progressively hostile, mainly due to the parking

issue. Then the question came, how do we find money to close the building. At this time, we could feel the love of our brothers and sisters from all over the world. Donations keep pouring

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in. We were still short of money. Dn. Apollos Lee decided to visit the churches in UK to ask for help. Without any hesitation the TJC members in the UK gave significant donation and an interest free loan. In the end, we were able to pay for the building and renovation. Within the next few years, we were able to pay off all the mortgages and loan. Praise God. God would prepare.

It was a building that was structurally sound but in need of much repair and major work was required. Although the site was zoned for both commercial use and place of worship, we had to compile with all the planning requirements laid out by the government to turned it into a church building. Once again, there were difference in opinion as to how to renovate the building. The site plan and the building design had to be changed multiple times. After a couple years of bitter argument, we reached a consensus, and the plan was approved by the government departments and a building permit was granted.

With God's guidance we were able to select a contractor who had experience with structural work and experience with similar building renovation. The overall price of renovation included some major structural modification (removing two of the columns and opening a set of stairs to the basement) was around 300K and indeed a very reasonable price. During the process of renovation, Dn. Lee put aside his business and spent all days at the building site to make sure the contractor would keep to the schedule and following the plans. After a year of intense work, the building was completely renovated in late 1995. Thank God it was a beautiful building. We got everything we asked for and more. The number of Classrooms, offices, library, size of the chapel etc. God has provided us something better than our expectations.

**T**he church building was only an empty shelf. We needed benches and a pulpit that would match the design of the building. These were very expensive even back in 1995. I remember that one linear foot of bench

was 160 dollars and only one carpenter in Waterloo still make benches like that. It would be tens of thousands if we had the benches built. Right at this time, Bro. Michael Yaw saw an ad in the newspaper that a church in the downtown Toronto area was hosting a content sale. The church had to close after almost a hundred years. Amongst the items for sales, there were benches that made of solid oak. When we looked at them, we were delighted because they were all solidly built using good quality hard wood. But they were dirty and of different sizes. We decided to put in a bid in the auction. Once again Gods grace was with us. We were able to acquire all 30 over benches for 1500 dollars. It was a fraction of what they worth. At the end of the auction, the owner wanted to renegotiate the deal, they realized that they could get more money out of the benches.

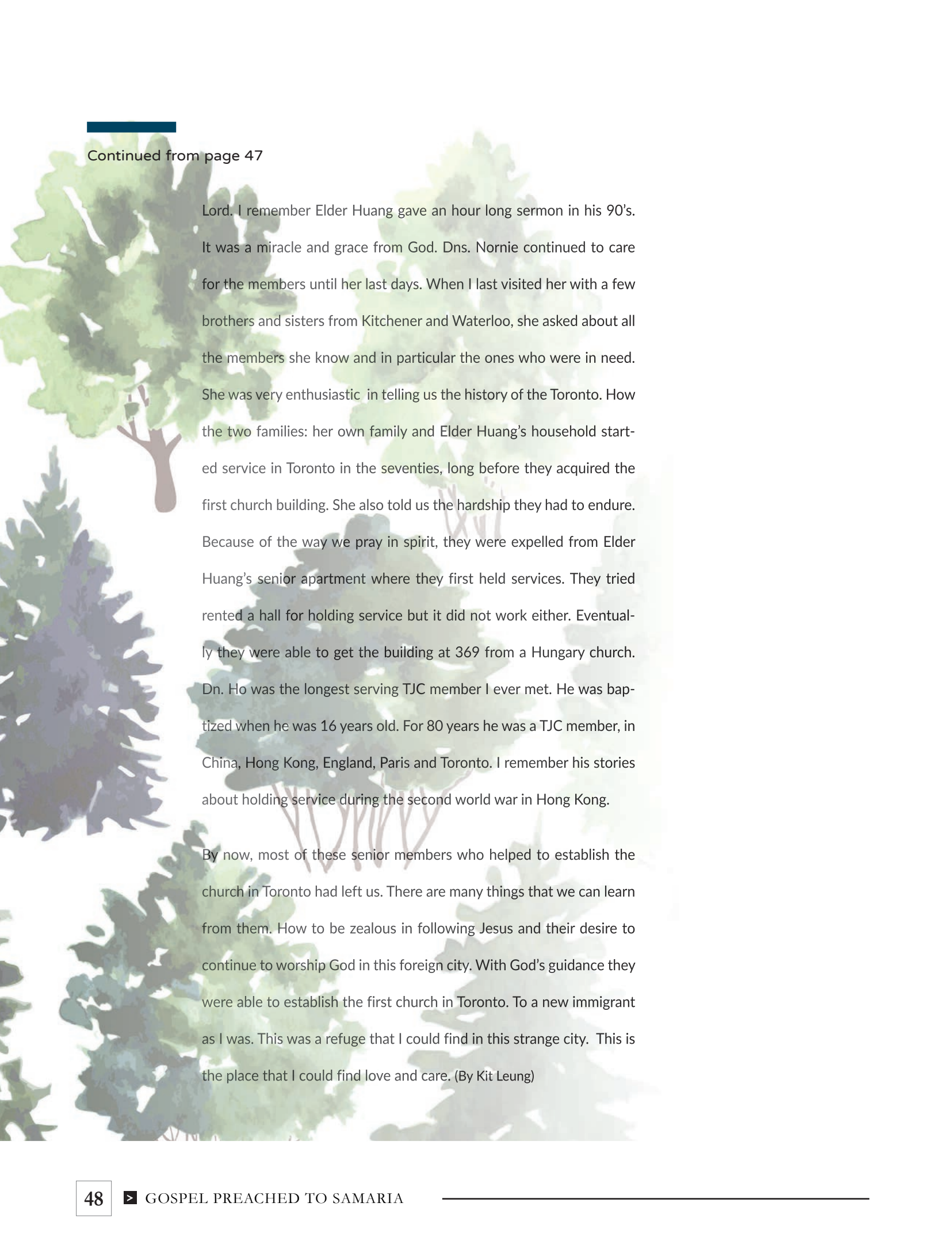
In the subsequent weeks and months. Many of our church brothers and sisters spent much time at church to rebuilt the benches. Thank God, we had a couple of brothers, Bro. Michael Yaw and Bro. Bill who were very handy and were able to provide directions. The process of rebuilding the benches

includes cleaning and stripping the old paint off these benches, cut them to the right dimensions and jointing the pieces together. All these works were dirty, dusty and required a lot of patience. I remember seeing a group of youth who showed up everyday after work to work on the benches. It was a moving picture to see all the brothers and sisters working diligently together. In the end, we were able to fill the church with the benches and were able to build the pulpit and a table for holy communion. The building was dedicated to God in 1996. To this date, the benches still look great and feel solid. Whenever I sit on the benches, I could see the image of brothers and sisters working on them. Thank God.

Not just that we were given a beautiful building that meet our needs for many years, God taught us a lesson of how to work together. God's grace is enough for us.

In the 1990's, Toronto church was known for its senior members. At one point we had several that were approaching 100 years: Elder Huang, Sis. Chung, Dns. Nornie and Dn. Ho. All these senior members devoted their whole life serving the

Continued



Continued from page 47

Lord. I remember Elder Huang gave an hour long sermon in his 90's. It was a miracle and grace from God. Dns. Nornie continued to care for the members until her last days. When I last visited her with a few brothers and sisters from Kitchener and Waterloo, she asked about all the members she know and in particular the ones who were in need. She was very enthusiastic in telling us the history of the Toronto. How the two families: her own family and Elder Huang's household started service in Toronto in the seventies, long before they acquired the first church building. She also told us the hardship they had to endure. Because of the way we pray in spirit, they were expelled from Elder Huang's senior apartment where they first held services. They tried rented a hall for holding service but it did not work either. Eventually they were able to get the building at 369 from a Hungary church. Dn. Ho was the longest serving TJC member I ever met. He was baptized when he was 16 years old. For 80 years he was a TJC member, in China, Hong Kong, England, Paris and Toronto. I remember his stories about holding service during the second world war in Hong Kong.

By now, most of these senior members who helped to establish the church in Toronto had left us. There are many things that we can learn from them. How to be zealous in following Jesus and their desire to continue to worship God in this foreign city. With God's guidance they were able to establish the first church in Toronto. To a new immigrant as I was. This was a refuge that I could find in this strange city. This is the place that I could find love and care. (By Kit Leung)



OUR STORIES



ESSC in Holiday Inn 1979



Sabbath Day Service 1980



Batism 1980



Former Chapel

8 2'92



TRUE JESUS CHURCH 多倫多教會舊會堂  
369 HARBORD STREET, TORONTO



現在的多倫多教會會堂

TRUE JESUS CHURCH  
69 SUNRISE AVENUE,  
NORTH YORK



Choir 1997



Choir 1999





Church Dedication 1996



WSSC 2004



WSSC 2004



WSSC 2004



CYC 2004



Choir practice 2005



Baptism



Picnic 2005



Youth Fellowship 2005



Evergreen Service 2006



SSC 2014



Jungle Cat World 2017



20th Anniversary 1999



College Youth Class 2004



ESSC 2003



ESSC 2006



ESSC 2009



ESSC 2012



ESSC 2015



ESSC 2018



Baptism Site



Yee Hong Center in 2012



RE Year End Special Service 2013



Gospel Tea Gathering 2013



WSSC 2017

2018 College Youth Spiritual Convocation  
Toronto Church, February 17-19, 2018



CYSC 2017



Living Water Workshop 2019



Baptism Site 2017



Baptism 2020



RE Cuting 2018



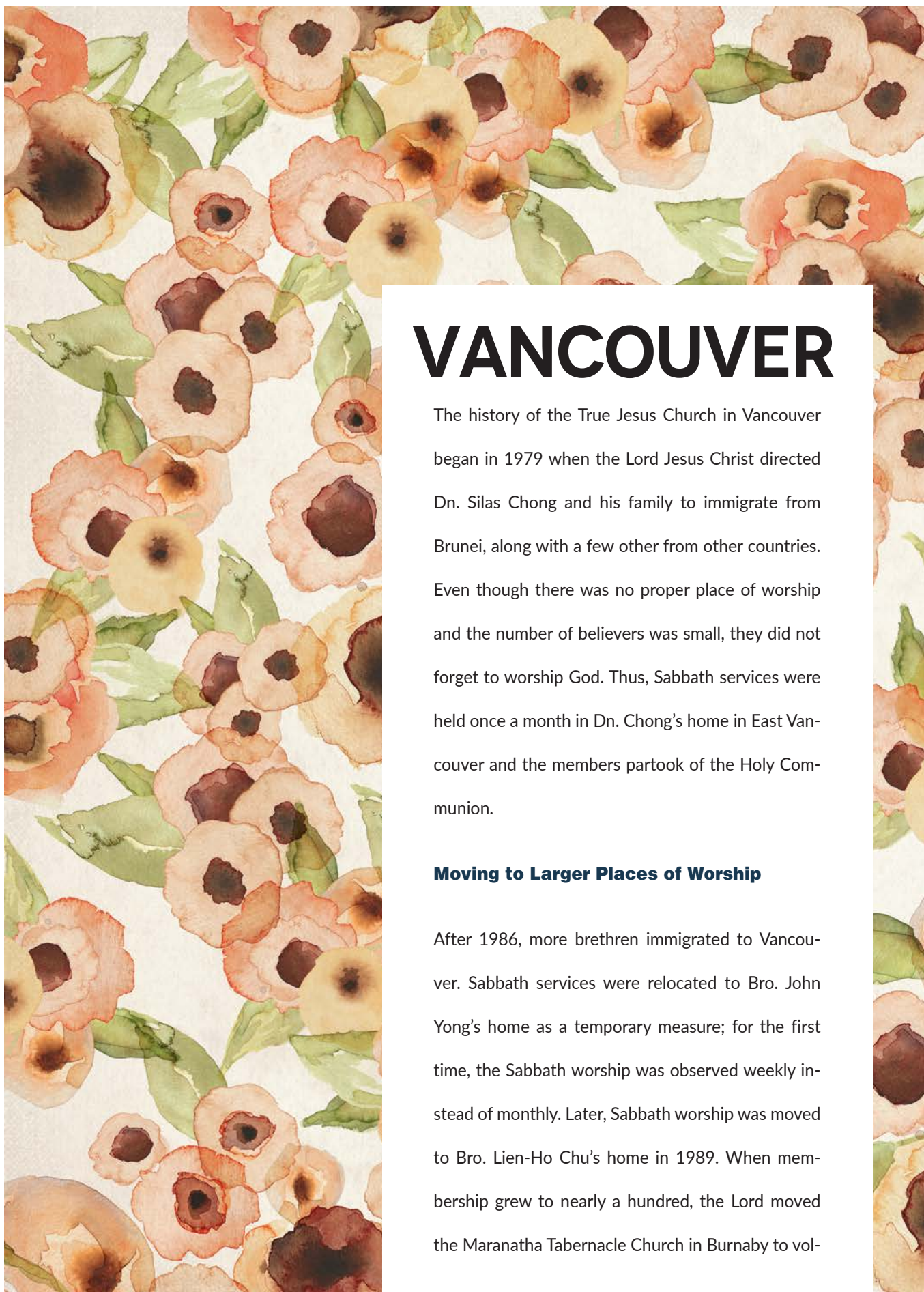


2019 New Year Special Service  
多倫多 2019 新年特別聚會



RE Year End Special Service 2020

◀ AGM 2020



# VANCOUVER

The history of the True Jesus Church in Vancouver began in 1979 when the Lord Jesus Christ directed Dn. Silas Chong and his family to immigrate from Brunei, along with a few other from other countries. Even though there was no proper place of worship and the number of believers was small, they did not forget to worship God. Thus, Sabbath services were held once a month in Dn. Chong's home in East Vancouver and the members partook of the Holy Communion.

## **Moving to Larger Places of Worship**

After 1986, more brethren immigrated to Vancouver. Sabbath services were relocated to Bro. John Yong's home as a temporary measure; for the first time, the Sabbath worship was observed weekly instead of monthly. Later, Sabbath worship was moved to Bro. Lien-Ho Chu's home in 1989. When membership grew to nearly a hundred, the Lord moved the Maranatha Tabernacle Church in Burnaby to vol-

untarily share their chapel with the church for four hours each Sabbath. This was at the time the church established a church building committee.

### **Election of a Church Building Committee**

When members saw how the Lord had blessed the Vancouver church, how membership had grown, and how the church brethren worshipped in harmony, the idea to have a church building took hold. In September 1990, the Vancouver members elected a church building committee to oversee the purchase of a building. The approved budget was \$500,000.

### **Prayers Answered**

Finally, in the spring of 1993, the church building committee found a church at 4580 Gothard Street in Vancouver. The asking price was above \$1,000,000, far beyond the original approved budget. Praise the Lord, the congregation approved the purchase, even though the church lacked the resources to own it. The church signed the sale and purchase agreement and took possession of the building on September 30, 1993. The first Sabbath service held in the church building was on November 6, 1993. The church dedication was held on July 10, 1994.

### **Expansion of the Church**

More than a decade later, the membership of Vancouver church was beginning to exceed building capacity. Hence, the church expanded into the Surrey area. Family services were held at Bro. Julian Chiang's home starting in 2006 every Friday night. The members in Surrey began renting a chapel and had Sabbath worship once a month in the mornings. Eventually, the members began to have Sabbath worship in Surrey for the whole Sabbath every other week. The process beginning from holding family services to having full day Sabbath worship took a span of 5 years. Presently, we purchased a chapel in Burnaby.

### **From the 2020 Pandemic to 2022**

Thank God for His wonderful guidance on new Burnaby chapel purchase and the renovation afterwards, we started service in the new chapel in the beginning of 2022. About half of the members in the Greater Vancouver area attend services in the new Burnaby Chapel, and the other half members would attend services in the original Vancouver chapel. Occasionally, the church will hold various events, so that both church members can have combined service and fellowship together.

May the Lord continue to lead and guide all the members of Vancouver church and Burnaby church, as well as the development of the holy work of both churches. May all glory and honour be unto God's holy name. Amen.



**OUR  
STORIES**



ESSC 1992



ESSC 1993



Church Exterior 1994



ESSC 1995 ▶



NCC 1993



Church Renovation



Church Playground Renovation

Visit from Indonesian Brethren 2018





Holy Worker Workshop



Day Trip 2018



Minister Ordination 2005



WSSC 2016



RE Year End Special Service 2015



ESSC Baptism Site 2018



◀ Baptism 2021



RE Outing 2019



NYMT 2022



Baptism 2015



Day Trip with Brethren of Burnaby Church 2022





# BURNABY

## **The Establishment of Burnaby Church**

*March 5, 2005* - During the Vancouver Church Board's discussion relating to CCC's assisting-preacher's annual report, the late Pr. Philemon Tsen suggested for Vancouver Church to branch out. The Church Board unanimously agreed to establish a new church. An advisory committee was created shortly after, and began to visit the various family service areas to explore their interest in the branching of the church.

*October 22, 2005* - The Church Board set up the "Church Expansion Steering Committee" with Dn. Peter Look as the coordinator, responsible for the establishment of the new church. The goals of the committee were to: 1. apply for a "Church Building Fund" from the government; 2. draft the Committee's charter; 3. train

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Continued from page 65

workers for the establishment of the new church;  
4. search for properties suitable for the new church.

*September 2006* - Began Friday evening services at Bro. Julian Chiang's residence in Surrey.

*September 12, 2006* - Received approval from the Canada Revenue Agency for accumulating "Church Building Funds."

*October 2007* - Service location moved to the Surrey Urban Mission located on 104 Ave.

*July 2009* - Through EGM approval, the Surrey House of Prayer was established.

*October 2009* - Service location moved to an open office space located at Unit 103 14727 108 Ave., Surrey.

*May 2010* - Began monthly Sabbath services at the new location. In October, Sabbath services increased to twice a month.

*March 2011* - Began having all Sabbath services completely in Surrey, with Vancouver Church arranging the holy workers.

*September 2011* - Service location moved to Amazing Grace United Church, located at 12740 102 Ave., Surrey.

*August 4, 2012* - Vancouver Church assisted the Surrey Family Service in holding its first Annual General Meeting, and passed the proposal to register as "True Jesus Church in Surrey" with the government.

*September 20, 2012* - BC Registry approved the registration as "True Jesus Church in Surrey."

*May 2018* - Through the AGM at Vancouver Church, a Church Building Committee was established, with Bro. Anson Huang as the chairman and Bro. Tim Liang as the vice chairman.

*September 2018* - Bro. Lawrence Chin learned that the Anglican Church located at 7772 Graham Avenue, East Burnaby was being sold privately. The property covered an area of 21,000 square feet, with an asking price was \$3.8 million.

*September 23, 2018* - Members of the Vancouver Church Board and the Church Building Committee

“But the LORD is the true God, he is the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation. (Jeremiah 10:10)

visited the site, and believed it was a suitable location for the branching out project.

*September 29, 2018* – The Vancouver Church Board and the Church Building Committee held a meeting to discuss the purchase of the new chapel.

*November 10, 2018* – Vancouver Church held an EGM and approved the purchase of the chapel for a counter-offer of \$3.5 million.

*June 8, 2019* – Six months after negotiations began, the purchase deal had stalled and came close to falling apart due to a lease issue between the seller, Anglican Church and the residing tenant, a Montessori school. The seller had sought for a buyer that would continue the lease with the tenant and considered selling to another party. By God’s grace when all seemed lost, through prayer, a casual coffee chat, and a handwritten letter to the selling church party, all parties ultimately worked towards a solution. Vancouver Church held an EGM and approved to pay a sum of money for the Montessori to end its tenancy thus allowing for the purchase and full use of the church facilities.

*October 20, 2019* – Through Canadian Coordination Center (CCC), notified the International Assembly of the True

Jesus Church (IA) to assist in fundraising. Also encouraged local members to contribute willingly, raising funds through offerings and pledges.

*October 26, 2019* – AGM was held in Surrey, and approved the name change to “True Jesus Church in Burnaby.”

*October 28, 2019* – The government approved the name of the church to be changed to “True Jesus Church in Burnaby.”

*December 2, 2019* – Bank approved loan of \$1.75 million and the loan documents were signed.

*December 21, 2019* – AGM was held at Vancouver Church to select the new Church Board members of both Vancouver Church and Burnaby Church.

*January 3, 2020* – Thank God for moving the hearts of members to contribute earnestly. In addition to local contributions, there were many donations and loans from churches across Canada as well as overseas, and enough money was raised to complete the sale.

*January 4, 2020* – Officially took over possession of the church located at 7772 Graham Avenue, Burnaby.

Continued

Continued from page 67

*February 2, 2020* – Through the decision of the joint council, a Renovation Project Team of three people was established, with Bro. Lawrence Chin as the team leader.

*February 29, 2020* – The lease with Amazing Grace United Church ended, and the last service was held in Surrey.

*June 17, 2020* – Through the architects hired by the church, the design drawings were submitted to the City of Burnaby for approval.

*July 31, 2020* – The last day of the Montessori as the lease term ended.

*October 15, 2020* – The City of Burnaby approved the architect's design and renovations began.

*November 19, 2020* – A structural problem was discovered during the construction period. Two pillars on each side of the chapel were severely rotted, and a structural engineer was needed in identifying the solutions.

*February 23, 2021* – The architectural design was updated based on the structural engineer's instructions, and renovation work restarted and is ongoing.

*June 2021* – As the BC government relaxed the gathering restrictions of COVID-19, gatherings of up to 50 people were allowed. Burnaby Church, with assistance of the Church Council and many brethren, quickly organized the Fellow-

ship Hall and set up seats, podiums, and AV equipment to be used for in-person service. According to the Care Group area arrangements, members were divided into three groups, attending services at allotted times.

*July 7, 2021* – The first Wednesday Evening Service was held, with 39 members attending.

*September 2021* – In response to the government's further relaxation of gathering restrictions, the maximum number of people in each service was increased to 70.

*September 22-26, 2021* – The very first Autumn Evangelical Service and Spiritual Convocation was held, with Holy Communion in two sessions.

*October 30, 2021* – Burnaby Church held its first Annual General Meeting.

**W**e pray that the Lord Jesus will continue to lead us. If He is willing, we expect to complete the renovation works in early 2022 and begin holding services in the main chapel, glorifying His name!



## 5 LOAVES AND 2 CHURCHES

**H**allelujah! In the name of Jesus Christ, I share about the wonderful giver of grace and maker of miracles that is Jesus Christ, whom we have experienced firsthand in the Vancouver region. We all may be familiar with the timeless story of when Jesus fed the five thousand followers with nothing more than 5 loaves and 2 fish. It is recounted in various detail in the following passages (Matt 14:13-20; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:12-17; John 6:1-14). After John the Baptist was martyred, Jesus was pursued by the multitudes to hear of his teachings and witness his miracles of healing. They came in the hundreds and thousands, all seeking to find and perhaps experience Jesus Christ first hand. When it got late in the day, the apostles were worried for the people (and perhaps themselves)

as they were in a remote place and there was little food for such a vast number of people. They even suggested to Jesus to send the people away back to the towns so they could get food for themselves. Jesus indicated there was no need to leave and asked what available food there was, of which only 5 loaves of barley bread and 2 fish of offering were found from a young boy. After a prayer of thanksgiving, this mere inconceivable amount was more than sufficient to feed all five thousand of them with leftovers to spare! This miracle witnessed and experienced by all was a testament then and still now of how Jesus provides sufficient blessing and charts an impossible way when there is a spiritual need for all those who call upon Him.

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Vancouver and Surrey churches (Greater Vancouver area) had been seeking a suitable church building location to expand to for over a decade. While renting a secondary location from another church was a satisfactory but temporary solution, we all knew and yearned for a permanent chapel of worship. When the current building in Burnaby came into consideration by mere chance from a brother's friend (a whole other testimony on it's own), many thought it a great opportunity to purchase at last. It was however not without struggles as the existing Catholic parish owners/seller had a complicated lease and a challenging relationship with their existing tenant, a Montessori school joined to the church which was looking to stay. Not unlike the multitude of people who yearned to go after Jesus Christ even as He was departing to a remote and deserted place, we too were yearning to pursue after this goal of finding a permanent church for worship of our own. Mark 6:34 "And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So he began to teach them many things." And many things He did teach us as a congregation. After much prayer and fasting and a long standstill in negotiations and

many a times thinking almost all was lost, the first miraculous turning point manifested. It was purely by God's grace that allowed a friendly conversation at a McDonald over coffee with Pr. Yeung and the owners and a warm letter in hand to all the parties that finally broke the stalemate. This resulted in the contract at last being inked and signed by all three parties. Just as the multitudes wanted to pursue Jesus Christ then as He heard their calls and need for healing through miracles, Jesus too heard our prayers for this spiritual need for the establishment of another church in this region to share in His gospel. He heard our call and graciously provided a miraculous way for our complex contract chapel purchase to work. Even the purchase price, which was actually lower than the market price (unheard of in the very hot Vancouver real estate market at the time) was a huge blessing on it's own.

**W**e can be reminded of Matthew 19:26 stating, "...With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." This was yet further again experienced by the brethren in the Vancouver/Surrey region. As we signed the contract of purchase on Oct 4, 2019, the newly agreed arrangement by the

sellers called for an expedited completion date of Jan 3, 2020 (immediately after the new year). We agreed upon this for the sake of the contract to be signed (our original request was to complete the purchase later in August 2020 giving us more time to fundraise), however by faith we agreed and proceeded. This meant we now had to come up with the \$3.875M dollars total to complete the purchase of the chapel in under 3 months. We had already shored up just over \$1M over the many years of saving into our building expansion funds. We also had a chartered bank that agreed to lend us \$1.5M. However, we still needed to fundraise close to \$1.25M at the time and that large number was both daunting and at times seemed impossible! This was not very different from the impossible task of feeding five thousand. In context, it seemed almost impossible for us to acquire this amount, which meant we would need to fundraise almost \$400K a month to hit that number in three months.

**T**he miracle of love and necessity over the next three months manifested itself in what would be a true outpouring of love from brothers and sisters locally and from around the world. Announcements by the councils and general assemblies in Canada, US, UK and Taiwan, was made and the word was spread around

the world. Just as Jesus Christ provided an impossible way to feed the five thousand, soon too we began to receive the impossible; with incoming donations from individuals and churches throughout the world. Even many churches who donated, also chose to loan (interest free) substantial amounts (6 digits) to help contribute to our total required amount. To say this was generous is an understatement and we are over grateful for their love. The sheer outpouring of love from so many churches and individuals truly moved us all, especially the financial team in charge of overseeing the collection. I can personally say I was almost touched to tears. People gave out of love and sacrifice for the sake and needs of the church. As we prayed and fasted, the more came in. At the beginning of December we were a few hundred thousand shy but by the December end, we had surpassed the fundraising amount. God provided a way and fed the five thousand with leftover to spare! Just as the boy who gave his heart and offered all his 5 loaves and 2 fish of offering, it felt the same that so many brethren and churches were giving substantial amounts (perhaps everything they could muster) to help and it proved all the difference.

On January 3rd, 2020 we took ownership of our new chapel in Burnaby, which is now called True

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Continued from page 71

Jesus Church Burnaby. What we had experienced and witness was no small testament of the miracles that Jesus provides. John 6:14 “Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, ‘This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world.’” It was this day that God provided Vancouver and Burnaby brethren the impossible, a way for us to be fed spiritually with the establishment of a new church. On this day he fed us with 5 barley loaves and 2 churches.

Note: Jesus’ blessings and providence continues daily with this ongoing project. TJC Burnaby was recently donated from another church their pews which would have cost substantial budget to purchase new. What we ask God provides!

Emmanuel.(By Anson Huang)



## RENOVATION PROGRESS

Thank God for His mercy and loving kindness to His sheep. As the members are growing rapidly at True Jesus Church Vancouver - the place of worship we had was no longer enough. All the members, with one heart, prayed for this matter to God. He listened to the prayer of His sheep and prepared another place for worship in Burnaby. Through His guidance, all the members united to purchase the Church at 7772 Graham Ave, Burnaby BC. On January 3, 2020, we finalized the purchasing process and received the key. God also provided Burnaby Church one used grand piano and two other upright pianos.

Praise God that in June 2020, Burnaby Church started renovations. The renovations started with the Fellowship Hall, kitchen and the washrooms. One of our brothers has talent with renovations, so he has been helping with the renovation project of Burnaby Church. Also, some members at Burnaby Church have willingly given



their hands to maintain lawnmowers at the Church since June 2020. Many members participate in this area.

Another wonderful blessing from God came in June 2020 - the government allowed us to have religious gatherings in Church. Thus all the RE Teachers conducted cleaning for the classrooms and arranged the students for E1, E2 and J1 to come in person at Burnaby Church. In-person RE classes continued until November 2020.

In July 2020, the blessings continued. A church of another denomination donated pews to our Burnaby Church. Members, ranging from younger to older ages, were of one heart and helped to move the pews. At the end, everyone was smiling, joyful and we all ate together.

In the month of September 2020, Burnaby Church also received contributions from members of one hundred chairs for Fellowship Hall.

Starting November 2020, the renovation of Burnaby Church officially started. At the same time, there was one truth-seeker who was skilled in upholstery, so he helped the Burnaby Church to reupholster the donated pews. This project is still ongoing as of right now. Even though we have had some challenges during the renovation, we can see that God has guided this renovation project and also united the members' hearts to be one in order to build His house.

At this moment, the Fellowship Hall, kitchen, washrooms have all been renovated completely. The Chapel, roof, and pews are ongoing renovation projects.



We all truly feel the many blessings that God has bestowed to Burnaby Church since we purchased the Church. We are all very thankful to Him in everything (I Thess 5:18).

May God keep guiding and uniting the members at Burnaby Church as one body in the spirit (Ephesians 4:4) to build His Holy Temple.

Amen.



In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I would like to share my experience during the first church service in the chapel of Burnaby Church.

A couple of years back, we were asked to pray for the acquisition of a new church. Considering the amount needed and after situations, we felt the need of God's intervention to help us through our joined prayers. And He accepted the desires of our hearts and blessed us with our new church: Burnaby Church. "Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your hearts." (Psalms 37:4)

The first service eventually arrived, and both Burnaby and Vancouver members were elated to see the new chapel. The turnout of the service was

successful. The gathering was edifying to all that were present and I was touched that we all worshipped in one faith. The smiles on everyone's faces warmed my heart as we admired the new chapel. Our prayers and hymn singing created joy in my heart, and made me realize even more God's love and mercy to us.

Lastly, I would like to thank everyone involved in the church renovation project for putting in their best efforts in caring for the house of the Lord. God has truly blessed our family to be a part of True Jesus Church. May he continue to lead us and help us grow our faith in our beliefs. I give back all the praise, glory, and honour onto His holy name.

Hallelujah, Amen.

OUR STORIES





ESSC 2022



ESSC 2021



Lunch Time 2022



ESSC May 04, 2022



Choir 2022



Day Trip 2022



ESSC Lunch Time 2021



Beulah Fellowship -BBQ 2021





# EDMONTON

## **The LORD Will Provide**

Genesis 22:14 “And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, ‘In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided.’”

True Jesus Church has members who have been residing in the city of Edmonton since the early 1960’s. Under the guidance of the Lord, the members began to gather for service at Deaconess Lydia Tsui’s place. In the late 1980’s members began to immigrate from different parts of South East Asia to Edmonton, thus, the number of members increased. Subsequently, the International Assembly began to send ministers to pastor the members, and encouraged them to establish a house of prayer.

Philippians 4:19 “But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

In 1990, Edmonton House of Prayer was established. As more members immigrated to Edmonton, truth-seekers baptized, the membership grew to forty. In 1991, Edmonton Church was established. In the same year, the place of worship was moved to another member’s basement to accommodate increased membership.

**P**raise the Lord! Edmonton Church continued to grow, and required a bigger place of worship, a Church Building Committee was set up. This Committee members began to gather information on church buildings that were on the market for sale. Some weekends, some committee members drove around the city to view the church buildings that were put on sale. The asking price of listed church building at that time was between \$200,000 to \$600,000. The Financial Affairs Officer then, met with the church’s banker to discuss about getting a pre-authorized loan, and we were turned down. Due to the financial constraint of the church, it was difficult to find a church building that was within our affordability.

At the mean time, the Church Board also considered renting a venue to hold the services, and asked a sister to gather information on it. The sister mentioned the church situation to a colleague who was the Treasurer of a local Community Hall; she told her husband about it, too. Her husband immediately told her that on his way to work, there was a church building listed for sale. The sister informed the Church Building Committee, and they quickly contacted the real estate agent for more information, and also asked to view the building. The real estate agent mentioned that the building had been listed for over a year, and no buyer was interested. The church building was in pristine condition, and can sit 115 members with one meeting room. The Church Building Committee and members were satisfied with it. The asking price was \$139,900 including all the chairs and poppets, and we had around \$141,000 in the account. After a couple of negotiations, the owners agreed to sell it for \$115,000 excluding the chairs and poppets. At the end, we used about \$121,000 (purchase price and legal fees) to close the deal. Praise the Lord! God had been

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Continued from page 79

guiding Edmonton church in the search of a new place of worship, and He literally brought it to us within our affordability!

On April 17, 1998, we moved into the chapel and found that the previous owners gave us all the chairs and poppets for free. We did not have to spend much money in purchasing anything else, and were able to use it immediately. On July 4, 1999, we dedicated the chapel to God.

In December of 2012, the Lord provided us another opportunity to purchase a residential house behind the chapel, again within our financial affordability. The house becomes the residence of our preacher, and it is where we hold the religious education classes as well.

God never stops providing for Edmonton Church! This year, 2021, we are preparing a church building expansion project. This expansion will give Edmonton church a multi-purpose room, religious education classrooms, and other amenities.

Philippians 4:19 "And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

May all the glory and praises be unto the Lord God in heaven! Emmanuel! (By Dn. Nathanael Lee)



## Taking Possession of Its Additional Church House

Thank God that in December, 2012, Edmonton church took possession of its additional church house.

The church has been praying for expansion for quite a while, and God has provided. The house is right behind the church, is well kept, and has a large yard for more expansion in the future. We are already starting to use the house. RE classes are currently being held there on Saturdays, the working youth fellowship has been moved into the house, and the guest rooms have been prepared for visiting workers. May God bless this house so that it could be use to further His holy work.





OUR STORIES





BBQ 2007



Day Trip 2015



Biking Outing 2015



Alberta Youth Fellowship 2015



RE Outing 2017



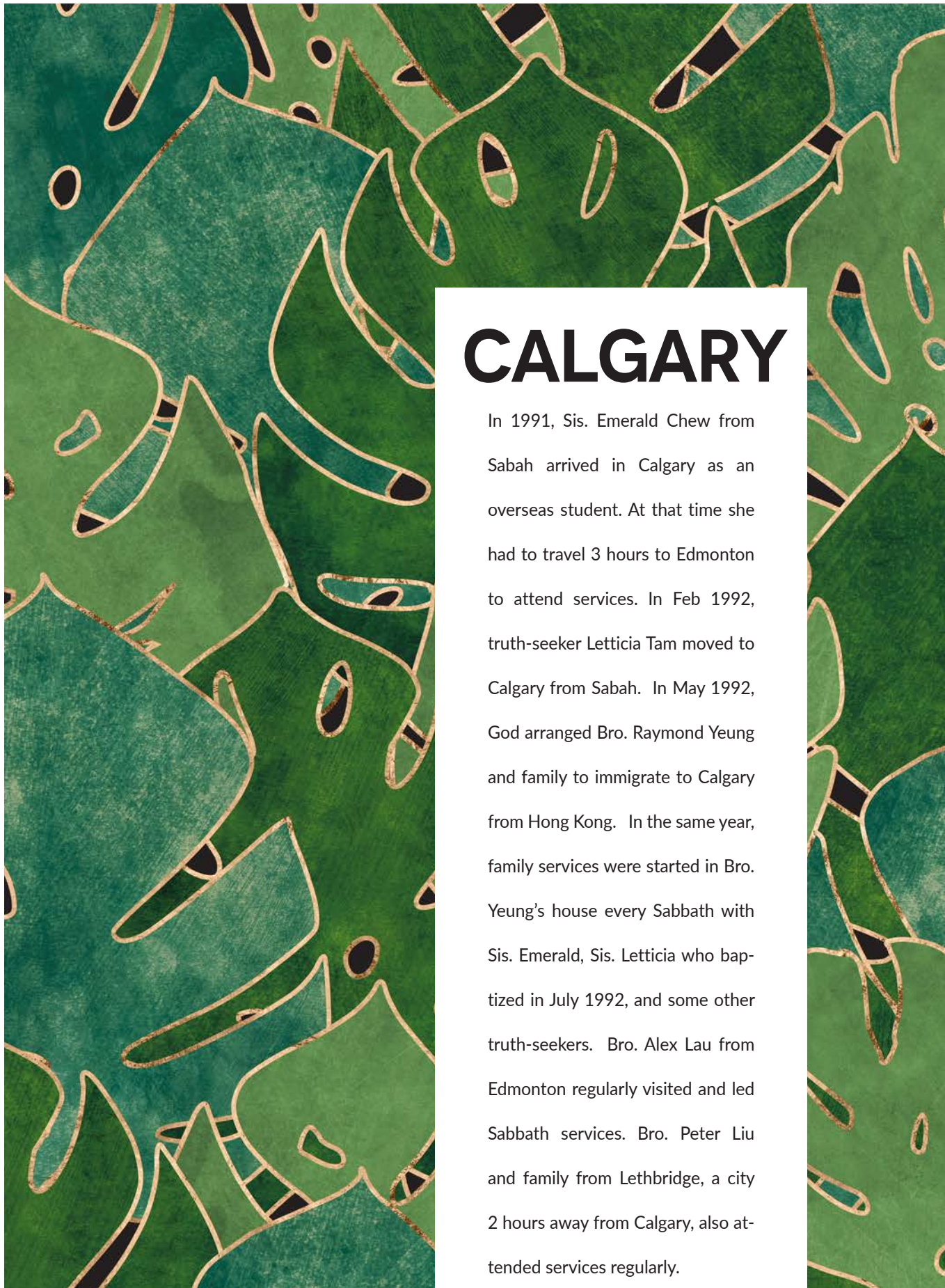
RE Outing 2021



Church Re-opening 2020



Baptism 2021



# CALGARY

In 1991, Sis. Emerald Chew from Sabah arrived in Calgary as an overseas student. At that time she had to travel 3 hours to Edmonton to attend services. In Feb 1992, truth-seeker Letticia Tam moved to Calgary from Sabah. In May 1992, God arranged Bro. Raymond Yeung and family to immigrate to Calgary from Hong Kong. In the same year, family services were started in Bro. Yeung's house every Sabbath with Sis. Emerald, Sis. Letticia who baptized in July 1992, and some other truth-seekers. Bro. Alex Lau from Edmonton regularly visited and led Sabbath services. Bro. Peter Liu and family from Lethbridge, a city 2 hours away from Calgary, also attended services regularly.



Thank God, during 1992 to 1994, many truth-seekers were baptized. At that time, because there was no church in Calgary, most of the truth-seekers would go to the nearby churches to be baptized. Bro. Elvis Tam and family of 4, Bro. Peter Chung, and Bro. Anthony Wong were baptized in the cold lake water of Edmonton. Bro. Patrick Ho and family, and Sis. Debbie Thien also move to Calgary in 1994.

Thank God by 1995, there were over 20 members and the Calgary house of prayer was officially established and registered with the government and CCC. In 1997, the first NCC in Calgary was held in the basement of Bro. Yeung's house. In July of the same year, a bungalow of \$176,900 was purchased and used as a chapel for worship.

However, the church growth wasn't always smooth. There was a period of time where a few families moved away from Calgary and students returned to their home countries. However, thank God, after that period was passed, God gradually increased the number of members in Calgary again. Some members immigrated from Sabah, Taiwan, Singapore, and China. As the economy grew in Calgary, some members from other Canadian cities also moved to Calgary. By 2009, there were over 40 members in Calgary.

Calgary church officially registered with CCC as Calgary church in 2013 and by the grace of God, a chapel and a church house was purchased in June 2016 at a cost of CAD\$1,750,000. Calgary church is greatly touched by the love of the brothers and sisters all over the world for their supports and prayers in this matter.

Continued

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After the church renovation was completed, the church expanded and membership increased. Under the guidance of Holy Spirit, we added more church board members to cover the needs of church work. It increased from three people (Religious Affairs, General Affairs, Financial Affairs) to five. The RA department split into pastoral and evangelical departments, the GA into administration and information, while the FA remained the same. In the beginning, we were unsure whether this was a proper move. However, the proposal was passed through voting in the Annual General Meeting. Thank the Lord Jesus for His guidance, other than church work, board members could now better care for believers and meet the needs of the church. Also, our increased offerings quickly paid off church loans and we reduced the amount from a million dollars to only ten thousand. We were also near to paying off all the funds that were borrowed from our members. Everyone worked in one heart for the new church. The church also started to promote holy work in the southern town of Lethbridge. Different team captains led various seminars and workshops. The Evangelical Department also resumed the gospel tea gatherings, which are still ongoing. Everything is a blessing of our Lord Jesus and in accordance to His providence beyond our expectations.



## PURCHASING CHAPEL

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Since 2008, members from different parts of the world have been moving to Calgary. With the constant increase of numbers, the former service space has become insufficient. All the while, we have been searching for a new chapel and praying about this matter. From 2010, we have viewed many churches for sale, but with no result. We have also considered rebuilding at the former address, or purchasing a land to build from scratch, but have been unsuccessful. Members could only continue to pray to ask for God's guidance.

In April 2016, we had found out that a church near the city centre area was planning to sell, along with its church house next door, at the price of \$1,85 million dollars. The total land

area is about 9800 square feet. The main church building is a 3,600 square foot by-level, and the chapel can seat about 100. The basement includes 3 classrooms, a kitchen, 2 washrooms, and a common area. The church house next door is a bungalow, the upper floor includes a living room, a kitchen, a bathroom and two bedrooms. The basement suite comprises a bedroom, a living area and a kitchenette. It is suitable for a preacher's residence.

After viewing both buildings, the Church Council and the Church Building Committee evaluated that other than the fact that these were older builds, all conditions were met for the use of Calgary Church. Therefore, we requested the seller not to put their property on the market, but to accept

a private sale. The final agreed purchase price was \$1.75 million dollars.

At that time, the Calgary Church Building Fund had \$200,000 dollars, and the estimated sale price of our former church building was \$450,000. The bank approved for a loan of \$990,000, and the down payment is \$760,000. The closing date for the newly purchased chapel was set on June 30th, which only left 1.5 months to collect \$560,000 (because the former church had not yet been sold).

Thank the Lord, we experienced a great miracle from God as we set foot into the Jordan River: funds just kept flooding in. In a matter of a few weeks, local members and all Canadian churches helped Calgary Church to collect \$600,000 in the forms of offering and loans without interest.

Churches and members from all over the world also offered generously. The purchase of the new chapel was closed on June 30th, and it fulfilled the dream that Calgary members have had for many years. What amazing grace of God this is!

As for our former church, it was sold only 4 days after being put on the market, at the price of \$494,000, and higher than our expectation. Neighbours were all amazed by it. If not for the grace and guidance of God, this would not have been possible in a time of low economy in Alberta. We thank God for listening to our prayers, and for shining His holy Name in Calgary.

Because the seller church was renting our newly purchased building for two months, we moved in after doing renovation works.

Continued

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In retrospective, Calgary grew from a House of Prayer to a Church, from a residential church house to an official new church chapel in the overflowing abundant grace of God. May we guide many to come before the Lord in His grace, may the members love each other, and the Church grow stronger and bigger.

We also ask you to continue to pray for us, as we will also remember to pray for all the churches that are working to expand, build and spread out. May all the glory and praise be onto the true God in heaven! All the blessing to all the brothers and sisters who have helped Calgary purchase this church! May God remember your love!



Chapel Renovation 2017

# DEDICATION 2017

April 30, 2017, an exciting and long-awaited day for God's people in Calgary. After 20 years, from the initial family services, the purchase of a small house of prayer, to the acquisition of a bigger chapel, Calgary Church has finally become a holy and well-adorned bride ready to be offered to the Lord. We are very thankful that for four consecutive days starting from April 27, the Holy Spirit has guided us smoothly through the evangelical service, spiritual convocation, water baptism, foot washing, Holy Communion and the church dedication. TJC members nation-wide from Toronto, Vancouver, and our neighbouring Edmonton participated in the events. There were also brothers and sisters from Australia, United States and Taiwan visiting us, for a total of 120 attendees all in all. Everyone gathered in the church with reverent and thankful hearts, and joyfully offered the holy and elegant chapel to our dear Lord Jesus. We thank and praise the Lord for His grace by preparing human and financial resources over the past years. By His blessing we could purchase a suitable place, renovate




and dedicate it to God. During this period of time, members were also compelled to pray, serve and offer together as one. "Unless the Lord builds the house, they labour in vain who build it; unless the Lord guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain."

Thank God, we had 13 truth seeking friends who came to the evangelical services, a baby newly baptized into His Name, and a total of 112 members partaking the Holy Communion. On April 30, the Dedication Ceremony began with the words of encouragement of Preacher Tony Kuo,

who has been pastoring the two churches in Alberta for the past few years. He exhorted the members to repay God's great blessing by serving Him and spreading the Gospel in one accord. Then, the congregation sang hymn 171 "The Church Has One Foundation" to proclaim that Lord Jesus is the only foundation and the Head of the Church. Preacher Luke Hsieh led the congregation in a prayer of understanding, offering our worship in spirit and truth to the Lord of abundant grace. Immediately after, the Calgary Youth Choir presented "True Jesus Church". On this special day, we sang this hymn with a multitude of feelings. The only

Continued





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True Church is a holy bride of God bought with the precious blood of Jesus, it is shining in God's glorious light. As we watched some of the sisters in the congregation tear up, we held in our own emotions and offered our singing praises. Preacher Timothy Yeung spoke about "Offering the Temple to God" and explained the function of the temple, which is a place for worship, prayer and spreading of the Gospel. He encouraged us to also individually build up our spiritual temples. The three church board members reported about the developmental history of the church, the process of building the chapel, and the finances. Lastly, Elder Jonathan Chou exhorted us using Psalm 84:1-7, teaching us to love the temple, to draw near to God and uplift the Name of God in Calgary. He also led the congregation to kneel and pray before the heavenly Father in reverence, sanctified the church, and offered it to the most holy and beautiful Lord Jesus Christ. He then blessed the congregation to feed

on the words of God as spiritual food, to be bestowed spiritual gifts and power, to build the house of God together, and to attract more to come to the temple of God and receive salvation. We thank the choir members of Vancouver Church for specially flying here to attend the ceremony and to present wonderful hymns "You Raise Me Up" and "My Lord is My Shepherd". The Calgary Youth Choir also joined them to present "God Abides"; the bright and beautiful sound expressed the meaning of the song: a church where the living God abides, and where the foundation of truth, love, life, peace and light are found. Every blessing purposed by God is found in Christ Jesus. Thank God! Finally, the congregation sang Hymn 115, and the Dedication Ceremony came to a perfect end!

"And the temple which I build will be great, for our God is greater than all gods. But who is able to build Him a temple, since heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain Him? Who am I then, that

I should build Him a temple, except to burn sacrifice before Him?" Indeed, we cannot build a temple for the great master of heaven and earth. The people in the ancient days had to burn incense and offer sacrifices to worship God, and now we come to church to worship, pray and spread the Gospel. From the physical temple, what we can see that is more important is to build up the spiritual temple on each one of us. As it says in the Bible: "You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." May God guide and transform every one of us to be acceptable corner stones!

Thank God for guiding Calgary that it is able to offer its new holy temple in the very memorable 100th year of establishment of True Jesus Church. After the church has been blessed and offered for God's use, this also means that Calgary Church will enter into a period of striving to preach the Gos-

pel. May God be with us and move more to come here! Meanwhile, we must build a steadfast spiritual temple in one accord! "The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad" (Psalm 126:3). May the Lord be pleased with our offering, may He always give us grace and watch over us, so that we can carry our missions out and spread His Name. May all the glory be onto our Lord Jesus, Hallelujah, Amen!





The First ESSC in U of C (1994)



The First Baptism in Calgary 1996



Family Service



RE Year End Special Service 2013



Br. Derrick Baptism 2011



Youth Fellowship -Paintball 2011



Picnic 2011



Sis. Fanny (Baptism) 2009



ESSC 2014



Family Service ( William & Yun' s House) 2014



Bro. Steven & Sis. Ellen Ma (Baptism) 2006



Youth Fellowship 2014



BBQ 2007



RETW 2015



Bro. Hudson (Baptism) 2009



Sis. Aria (Baptism) 2021



Gospel Tea Gathering 2022



Gospel Tea Gathering 2018



Bro. Jireh (Baptism) 2019



Sis. Helen (Baptism) 2019



Sis. Hanelle (Foot Washing Service) 2020



Family Service 2013



Gospel Tea Gathering 2020



Lethbridge Family Service 2018



Sis. Amelia (Foot Washing Service) 2017



ESSC 2022



Oct 2022



# MONTREAL

The Montreal House of Prayer is located on Canada's east coast in the Province of Quebec. While Canada is known as a bilingual country, English is still the predominant language, apart from New Brunswick being the only province officially registered as bilingual and Quebec as the only province that is officially French. Therefore, the French language is a necessary tool and is important when spreading the gospel in this region.

As early as the end of 1980s, students from Indonesia and Taiwan continuously came here to study; they later either moved to other provinces or returned to their homeland for work after graduation. Under the guidance of Dn. K. C. Tsai from Toronto, the members set up a House of Prayer on March 19th, 1994. Prior to this, there were only two families and six students, such as the Huang sisters and brothers. Listening to the recorded sermons gospel cassette tapes be-



came a way to worship on Sabbath Day. After setting up the House of Prayer, membership grew to more than 20. Elders and deacons from Toronto Church took turns to be there to edify them while the persons-in-charge and the brothers took turns to lead the services. During this period, the Church had also been taken care of by CCC, Taiwan General Assembly, and US General Assembly in order to have the members take root in their faith. By the year 2000, there were ten households that immigrated from Taiwan.; also students from Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and Toronto also came to study. However, mobility is great among students due to their studies, so the number of members remained in the range of 30-40. Thank God, although holy work wasn't prosperous at the beginning when the Church was established, the spiritual lives of the members were especially well taken care of. The joy in the spiritual fellowship and a strong understanding towards God has become a memory that is worth treasuring.

2000 to 2010 was a crucial period for the Church from 2010, as the young members who grew up there confronted with school and employment. Due to the local governmental regulations and lack of work experience, young members faced a great ordeal when looking for their first jobs. As a result, the first wave of emigration began with the youths. The outflow of young members directly resulted in a gap of holy workers in the years to as there was a lack of the middle-aged workers to pass on their experience. Furthermore, prior to the registration of the House of Prayer, there was a lack of trust among some

members and the board members, causing verbal and behavioural damages to the entire Church. For a year or two, members were divided and kept Sabbath services separately at two different locations, only reuniting after CCC intervened. The after effects of this incident, especially to the youth, is immeasurable. May God have mercy on them, and may He lead them so that all members can have spiritual wisdom to discern the conspiracy of the Devil. May God also strengthen them with faith to overcome this ordeal. Thereafter, the average number of members dropped to 20-30 from the peak of 30-40.

At the same time, the board members also began the preparation to apply for the status of government recognized Non-Profit Organization (NPO). Thank God that, in 2008 the federal government had granted them the status of an NPO thereby able to issue receipts. However, due to the lack of legal experiences in the related regulations, they did not obtain the status of being a NPO recognized by the provincial government of Quebec. In 2012, with the help of some NPOs from other Christian denominations, they were able to obtain the NPO status.

During the period from 2013 to 2014, the Province of Quebec had loosened up immigration criteria and more members from China began immigrating there. In 2013, a household had moved in from Fujian, China, adding to the number of members. Some of the younger members got married and three babies were born in which all received water baptism.

Continued

Yet, due to economic recession some members moved to places such as Toronto, USA, France or back to Taiwan. During this period of time, the average number of members was less than 20.

From 2015 to 2019, the House of Prayer received a few young members from China; they either came here to study in the universities or sought out a way to immigrate here by means of their professions. There was also a household of members who immigrated here from Fujian, China; they had located our House of Prayer through members from other Christian denominations. Including the regular truth seekers, the number of people during every Sabbath service has increased up to 20-25. Despite the negative influences caused by past incidents, with the addition of these new members, the Church was able to have a new beginning. Again, more young members came from China. At the encouragement of the preachers, a new time of worship was added to regular Sabbath service: Bible Study Fellowship held in the city center on every Friday evening. We can see that God is leading the gospel work continuously in this place.

2020 saw major changes as the world braces for the COVID-19 pandemic. As local government issues a stop to gatherings, Montreal House of Prayer shifted its Sabbath services to an online Bible study. This in of

itself became a test of faith as participating members dwindled due to this new format. While maintaining learning was possible through online meetings, most of the social aspects were no longer available, affecting members who were more socially inclined.

**E**ven as the pandemic came to its end, Montreal House of Prayer saw new difficulties in finding a suitable place of worship as COVID has changed the members' perspective on what is considered a safe space for holding service. As Sabbath services were once held in member's homes, many became hesitant to return to the former format, resulting in a continued online Sabbath service as the board members sought out a new location for services.

Furthermore, with the Quebec government tightening on religious and language liberties, this affected both the availability of spaces that could be legally used as worship space and on members' willingness to continue to stay in the province of Quebec.

Note: some informations are excerpted from the article -- The Historical Evolution and Development of the Canadian Coordination Centre  
@Author/Pr. Timothy Yeung @SPIRIT Issue 474 @ No. 2017.03

OUR STORIES



Bible Seminar 1994



Choir 1995



Sabbath Day Service 1997



Sabbath Day Service 1999



RE Year End Special Service 1999



Olympic Stadium 1994



Sabbath Day Service 2000



Bro. Charles Farewell 2006



Camping 2008



Sacred Music Seminar 2009



Apple Picking 2009



ESSC 2010



Sacred Music Seminar 2013



ESSC Baptism 2018





ESSC 2015



ESSC 2018



Baptism 2018



ESSC 2013



BBQ 2015



New Year Special Service 2018



◀ New Year Special Service 2019



# KITCHENER WATERLOO

Kitchener-Waterloo currently consists of nine families and two students (38 members in total). It took a long 16 years for this House of Prayer to set up.

In 2000, both families of Bro. Jim Chiam and Bro. Matthew Chen moved to Cambridge, Ontario and settled down there because of their children's education and job transfer. Though the distance is long, these two families had been attending Sabbath services in Toronto Church for over a decade, rain or shine. At the end of 2005, Bro. Jack He moved his whole family to Cambridge because both his wife, Cindy Jing, and her sister studied there. Also in 2006, Sis. Grace Xu and other sisters total four of them moved here because of work. However, among members who dwelt in

the area only a handful of them had driver's license; so they car-pooled to observe every Sabbath day. Still, they could not transport all members in this area to Toronto Church; as a result, they rented a larger vehicle for this purpose. Nevertheless, the problem wasn't resolved because even the rented vehicle could not take all members to Toronto Church, so some members still had to go there by taking the public transportation which would take three hours just one way. Henceforth, under the arrangement of Toronto Church, members in this area began to hold family service and Sabbath worship of their own.

A few years later, because of the financial crisis in 2008, one after another, some sisters began to move away from this place; also because of work, Bro. Chen moved to Portland in June 2009. Therefore, both family service and Sabbath worship were no longer held in this area. Until mid-2011, because of

work, Bro. Victor Liu and his whole family moved and settled down here. At the end of that same year, one after another, Sis. Rose Ye and Bro. Chen and family also moved back to this place. Starting from 2014, Sabbath service was held once a month at Bro. Liu's place. And from 2015, Sabbath service increased to twice a month. At this time, members were hoping to set up a House of Prayer in this area because the number of attendance was constantly maintained at 30 plus people.

**O**n February 20, 2016, Toronto Church in a general meeting officially passed a proposal to set up a House of Prayer in this area; in the same year in March, the church board of Toronto Church set up a task force in Waterloo area, and so they began the process of applying and registering the Church with the Ontario government. In the same year in July, Ontario government had approved the appli-

cation as an NPO; followed after, in mid-September, the federal government also approved the registration as an NPO.

The area where Kitchener-Waterloo House of Prayer located is also known as the Silicon Valley of Canada because many international enterprises and high-tech companies are setting up offices and factories in the adjacent cities. Furthermore, there are three universities and one vocational school located there. May the establishment of Kitchener-Waterloo House of Prayer allow brothers and sisters who study here or work here to attend services with convenience. Even more, with great expectation, besides study or work, brothers and sisters can help one another both spiritually and in life so that they can strive for expanding the gospel together!

Kitchener-Waterloo Prayer House

# Dedication





“And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit.” (Eph 2:22)

**P**raise be God’s name! On the morning of Sept 16, 2018 at 10:00 am, the True Jesus Church on 23 Campbell Ave in Kitchener, Waterloo, Canada and with the guidance of Pr. Kuo and Dn. Tsai, we held our church dedication. In attendance were local members, as well as approximately 100 brothers and sisters from Toronto TJC and three from Michigan USA. Everyone witnessed this grand and sacred moment.

The ceremony began with the congregation singing Hymn 113 “Offering up the Chapel” (Chinese hymn book). As everyone stood and bowed their heads, Pr. Kuo led a prayer of understanding to praise and thank the True God in Heaven: We asked God to help us to preach the gospel of salvation, to promote God’s grace and salvation, and to ask that this dedication ceremony may gain God’s favour. Pr. Kuo stated that God’s arrangement has been very wonderful. It just so happens that the brothers and sisters of this prayer house live in Waterloo, Guelph, Cambridge or Kitchener, with the prayer house being in a central location. The members are spread out in four directions from the church, so they cover



the entire region like a net. The preacher referred to Matthew 4:19 where Jesus says “I will send you out to fish for people.” and

encouraged us to spread the gospel of salvation, since we have been saved through the True Church.

Pr. Kuo then read Dn. Chen’s message on the “Commemoration of Church Dedication”.

Dn. Chen hopes that we can once again be determined to pursue continuous improvement in our faith. He asks that the heavenly father give us enough faith, love and spiritual wisdom, to work together in one heart to build up the church according to God’s will. He encouraged us: “Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the chief cornerstone. In Him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit.” (Eph 2:20-22)

Next the Toronto church youth choir sang two hymns to praise God: “How Great Thou Art” (Hymn 464) and “Glorious is Thy Name” (Hymn 475).

Continued

“On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided.”  
(Genesis 22:14)

**O**n behalf of the KW house of prayer, brother Jim then introduced the history of the KW prayer house. He spoke about how this prayer house, made up of 8 families and a total of 35 members, came to be through a long span of 16 years. From the beginning of the year 2000, two families settled in the city of Cambridge. In 2005, some members started moving to Kitchener, but from 2008-2009, many of them, one by one, moved away. However, in 2011, more families moved back to the west end, and by 2014, family service started at Bro. Victor’s house - these services carried on for 2 years. Finally, on Feb 20, 2016, Toronto church approved the proposal to establish a prayer house in the west end in the AGM. In the same year, both the Ontario and federal governments approved the application for establishing a prayer house. During the process of branching out, the KW prayer house received much care and support from the brothers and sisters in

Toronto church. Thank God! May God remember them for their love and concern!

Next, sister Cindy gave a reflection on “The life of growing up in TJC in the west end” and shared her own journey in her faith. She said, “Through the last 10 years of trials and hardships, we were truly able to call True Jesus Church our home, to grow spiritually together. With regards to the difficulties we’ve experienced, when I see my own children grow up in the Lord from toddler to teenager, it causes me to reminisce, many feelings well up inside me...” And her tears began to fall uncontrollably. Several moments passed, then choking with emotions, sister Cindy continued, “On the winding path to Heaven, everyone needs a spiritual companion who can encourage and help us, so that we all can travel further. In the establishing of this prayer house, “What was deemed impossible by man, God through His grace, mercy, love and care helped us to succeed!” As Sister Cindy’s testified, we felt God was in our midst. She said, “At West end service, everyone must become a soldier. Whether you are an adult or a child, both young and old participate in holy

work.” Our core strength and team spirit come from God’s love that binds us together. As sister Cindy said, “Everyone must become a soldier.” - The young and old doing holy work together is our daily reality when we serve. Sixteen years have gone by in a flash. Thank God! Thank God for his preparation! We especially thank God for preparing us! The Lord will provide.

“My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.” (Isaiah 56:7)

In his sermon, Dn. Tsai said that the prayer house has a very strong bond amongst its members because there is a feeling of home. He hopes that as the membership grows, we will not lose this feeling of home.

**B**efore the dedication, Dn. Tsai read two verses: “Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honour God with your bodies.” (1 Cor 6:19-20). And again, we were encouraged with Eph 2:20-22: God wishes to dwell in our bodies. Our bodies

were bought at a price with Jesus’ precious blood. Despite the cost, He was still willing to live in us. Therefore, today we are going to offer this chapel, but more importantly we are offering its members. Every one of us must offer up our bodies and hearts to the Lord, offer the temple of our hearts, for it is not just about this building. Dedication does not mean our work is done. Rather, it means that our work has only begun!

Next, in the name of Jesus Christ, Dn. Tsai dedicated the chapel (while the congregation knelt down) and offered up a prayer. His prayer was as follows:

“In the name of Jesus’ holy name, I dedicate this chapel. You who have created all things, our omnipotent true God - Our dear Lord Jesus Christ, Your righteousness shines like the sun, Your love is everlasting! We want to continuously praise You for Your grace, and to always ask for Your forgiveness and Your protection. From the Bible we know that You have made the path of salvation very clear to us, through the Old Testament prophets and Your disciples in the New Testament. Especially in the end days, You have given the truth and salvation to

Continued



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us in the True Jesus Church, so that we can establish Your church in all parts of the world and proclaim Your moral excellence. Now that we are in Canada, You have never ceased to raise up the holy work. Today, in Kitchener-Waterloo, You are rewarding the many brothers and sisters who love You, for they are here to serve You with all their hearts and with all their strength. For the purpose of establishing a prayer house, they have put in a lot of effort and resources. They have offered up their body and mind, and have prepared a chapel in this place to worship and praise You together. They are here to serve You and to declare Your moral excellence!

And now, with a devout and reverent heart, we offer up this chapel to You! So that we may use it for service and worship, as well as share the truth of Your salvation with our friends, family and everyone in this region.

Lord, we know: all of the heavens cannot contain You, let alone this lowly temple that we offer to You. But You know that we are genuinely, willingly and humbly offering this chapel to you. Not only that, we also offer every one of our bodies and minds to You.

We want to wholeheartedly serve You, may Your grace spread unceasingly, may Your love allow us to love one another, so that together we can establish a church that glorifies You.

We kneel before you and sincerely offer this chapel to You. May You always watch over this chapel and those who worship in it. May every form of holy work always glorify Your holy name.

May all the glory be unto Your name! Hallelujah! Amen.”

After the dedication, Dn. Tsai blessed the congregation (who were standing, with heads bowed in silent prayer) in the name of Jesus Christ.

Thank God for His guidance and blessing! Emmanuel!


Following the benediction, the Kitchener-Waterloo choir offered hymns of praise. Brothers and sisters from 8 to 90 years old sang together to praise God - Hymn 415 “Give of Your Best to the Master” (we should offer up ourselves as living sacrifices)

The children and youth sang next - Hymn 224 “Cleanse Me of God” - there was no piano accompaniment, no violin, no guitar, just a pure, sincere sound. There was absolute silence as the audience


watched with their eyes and listened with their hearts - the atmosphere and the clarity of the sound brought together every emotion in that very moment, combined with a song that glorified God and benefited everyone. Pr. Kuo led the congregation in a hymn - 115 “Around the Throne of God in Heaven”. To end, there was a prayer with laying of hands by the ministers. Thank God, our Abba Father in Heaven!

May the kingdom, power, glory and praise be unto your holy name!

Note: For a live recording of the church dedication, please visit: <https://youtu.be/AKTWeCHEiDI>



Luke 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,



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COORDINATOR/WRITOR/EDITOR/ WEN-TING  
FAN, TOM BONG, JIAOJIAO CHEN, ALEX CHEN,  
RACHEL CHANG, STEVEN MA, MICHAEL CHEN,  
HAN JOU KU, YANGBIN WENG, AND LYDIA  
CHANG

ART DESIGNER/WENDY CHEN

HOW TO REACH US/[ca.tjc.org](http://ca.tjc.org)/416-755-6052  
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