

2009 Annual Report

Introduction

2009 was indeed an eventful year. We again witnessed God's marvelous provision and protection. With His guidance and under the wise direction of the Board, we have been able to achieve a significant amount of ministry. The Board of the year, which included the Senior Pastor who is an ex-official member, were Chair Person Po Kin Wong, Vice-chair and Head of Personnel Committee Irene Kwan, Secretary Eric Hom, Treasurer and Head of Finance Committee Raymond W. Chan, and other members Peter Cheung, Meggy Lau, and Kenny Wong. This annual report incorporates contributions from the following (Personnel Committee and Finance Committee do not have contributions):

- Worship Committee : Pastor Raymond Chan (-Oct 31)
Rev. Lancelot Tong (Nov-Dec)
- Education Committee : Kenny Wong
- Evangelism Committee : Peter Cheung
- Fellowship and Caring Committee : (Vacant- served by Pastor Stephen)
- English Ministry Committee : Meggy Lau
- Mission Committee : (Vacant- served by Peter Cheung)

This portion of the report serves to highlight key developments that should remind us to be thankful to God's blessings. Detailed report from each Committee Chair is to follow.

- We began 2009 knowing that we needed to seek God for both an English pastor (Pastor Paul resigned at the end of 2008) and a Senior Pastor (Pastor Raymond notified the Board in the Oct 2008 Leaders Retreat of his decision to leave in November 2009). We fixed our gaze on the Great Shepherd and through a lot of hard work of all concerned, our new Senior Pastor, Rev. Lancelot Tong, assumed his position in September. Our search for the English pastor continued with renewed faith and vigor.
- In October, we sent off Pastor Raymond and Magdalen with mixed emotions. We trust that just as God has led them to serve here all these years, He will continue to guide them in their future ministry. Brothers and sisters had a great time acknowledging God's blessings through them.
- 14 people were baptized in 2009 to witness to the grace and power of our life-changing God and His blessings to people who commit to Him. In addition to the 20, we also welcomed 6 transferees into our family. (Baptism: Eric Choi, Kon Chung Chow, Betty Chan Fong, Jackie Fong, Rosanna Hung, Maggie Kwan and Qiong Yong Xie; Sally Chew, Candy Fang, Amy Leung, Sok Yiu Wong-Leung, Florence Wong and Ming Fong Wong. Special Baptism: Yan Chee So; Transfer: Lily Li, Ruby Liu, Miu Ling Lam, Heng Wei Lu, Miranda Tong and Tao Ying Wei)
- We carried on the good tradition of Chinese New Year celebration and the annual church picnic to have fellowship together and witness to friends and neighbors.
- This year we moved the luncheon from Thanksgiving to Christmas in order to bring the Christmas message to the fullest. The luncheon was held at Express of China on 12/20/2009.
- After a couple of years of emphasis and teaching, we began to see some results in our attitude towards honoring God through worship. Though there was still room for improvement, generally attendances were more punctual, servers were more aware of the gravity of the ministry, and the congregation settled down to a reverential attitude more readily. • God has also honored our efforts in "Honor God, Build Fellowship, Love One Another, Serve Community." From those who were baptized and applied for transfer, we could see that the Join Joy Fellowship had grown and been nurtured. At the same time, we have seen the Goodness Youth Fellowship having received committed guidance from counselors and consequentially establishing a regular attendance.
- Dr David Pao and Mr. Brian Toy led the Chinese and English retreat respectively from 8/13-8/16. Unfortunately the space limitation prevented more people from attending. For those who were able to attend, the retreat provided excellent teaching and inspiration.

- With the experience gained in 2008, we made further integration of our Thursday evening class ministry with evangelism. On two days after two of the quarters of instruction, we held musical events that blended popular song singing with Gospel music. 6 people committed to faith and many more heard the unadulterated Gospel of Christ.
- Our experience with audio visual equipment and information technology told us that these were inevitably entwined and no longer possible to be supported from within the Worship Committee. Therefore, a new AV Unit is set up directly responsible to the Secretary of the Board to provide AV support to all functions.

Ministry Statistics

- Similar to previous years, statistics are given with the context of the previous year. It appears that the number in attendance grew in the English service, due in no small part to children graduating from children worship and the tireless efforts of our parents making sure their children come to worship early. We trust that those who fear the LORD will be blessed. Meanwhile, total attendance in our Chinese services remain below 200, though the number of people taking baptism was increased over 2008, suggesting that our evangelistic efforts were beginning to bear fruits. To be able to co-labor with God is a tremendous privilege and honor. We should seize the opportunity and devote ourselves to the work of the Gospel, for we know that our labors in the Lord will not be in vain (1 Cor 15:58)
- Sunday School and Prayer Meeting attendance remained steady; there is obviously a need to work on.
- In 2009, there was no large scale evangelistic meeting organized. In stead two smaller meetings were held. It was quite well attended. In addition, our Adult Fellowship held its annual evangelistic meeting with Rev. Lancelot Tong as speaker. Three people committed to faith.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">□ Adult Sunday Service weekly average :
Chinese-<u>192 (2008: 196)</u> · English-<u>41 (40)</u>□ Sunday Newcomers total (with visitor card) : <u>48 (93)</u>□ Sunday School class offered per quarter : <u>4 (3)</u>□ Adult Sunday School quarterly average : <u>32 (30)</u>□ People baptized : <u>14(12)</u> ; Transferees <u>6 (5)</u>□ Weekly prayer meeting attendance : <u>14(13)</u>□ Commitments in evangelistic meetings : <u>6 (6)</u>□ Attendance in Summer Retreat : <u>103 (65Chinese, 38 English) (79)</u> |
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Looking Forward in 2010

- In 2010 we will continue to move forward according to the direction set in 2008: “Honor God, Build Fellowship, Love One Another, Serve Community.” We continue to shape our worship liturgy to focus our devotion to God on every Sunday morning.
- We will direct our efforts to building fellowship in 2010 with a specific focus on the younger population. In this regard, we will invest resources to building up the English College Fellowship as well as the Goodness Youth Fellowship.
- We will provide more learning opportunity on Sunday so that members at various levels could attend worship, go to Sunday School, or participate in youth leadership training on Sunday.
- We will strengthen our visitation program so that members and new comers receive equal attention and will be visited during a certain period.
- We will redouble our efforts to seek a faithful servant to minister to our English congregation, in particular our youths.

(This report was drafted by Pastor Raymond Chan and edited by Rev. Lancelot Tong)

Worship Committee

*Chairperson: Pastor Raymond Chan (Jan 2009 – Oct 2009),
Reverend Lancelot Tong (Nov 2009 – Dec 2009)*

Committee Members: Nelson Yuk, Raymond Cheng, Sandy Wong, Tina Tsang

Main Duties

- To plan and coordinate worship services
- To promote a worshipping atmosphere during services
- To provide support and training to ministry helpers
- To build up and promote music ministry

Events and Highlights

- In addition to the regular Sunday services, we planned and organized special services including Good Friday, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas.
- Introduced Response Hymns to the two Chinese Worships.
- We organized a gathering in June with song leaders and MCs to obtain some feedbacks about Response Hymns.
- Encouraged brothers and sisters to participate in BASS conference by consolidating specific sessions relevant to Worship.
- In order to form a solid and systematic Church Choir, we published a manual for Choir operation as a guideline for future training.
- In order to run the two Chinese Worships on time, we published a Worship timing guideline for MCs and others who speak behind the pulpit. The guideline includes the time allocated for different segments under different scenarios, such as Holy Communion week and outside speaker week, etc.
- We continued to identify ways to improve the flow of Worship. For example, we collected data over a period of time and prepared a guidance of time management for various scenarios.
- We organized specific training session for MCs and others who speak behind the pulpit to educate Worship helpers on the true meaning of Worship and re-emphasize the focus on God.
- We have eliminated the position of weekly scripture reader and the task has been taken over by MCs to improve the flow of Worships.
- To encourage more brothers and sisters to serve and/or manage the workload of existing Worship helpers, we continued to recruit new helpers for different positions including ushers, audio/visual technicians, worship team members, MCs and special service planners.

Looking forward in 2010

- Identify and develop new MCs and Worship team leaders.
- Identify and develop new committee members and recruit chairperson.
- Organize Music theory training.
- Evaluate and modify as needed the current worship planning approach.
- Continue to recruit new helpers and provide training for new and existing helpers. In particular, we will provide more training to music ministry helpers on technical aspects and encourage them to attend outside related conferences.

Education Committee

Department Head: Kenny Wong

Committee member: Simon Lee, Mary Law and Albert Mung(Observing member)

Main Duties:

- To cultivate people by building Biblical literacy, character and leadership
- To facilitate a learning culture by promoting training and learning through different sources.
- To promote praying culture through private and corporate praying meeting.

Events & Highlights:

- Sunday school term duration was changed from 3 months to 4 months starting Jan 2009. This provided enough time for teachers to complete classes and also reduce the number of teachers required.
- A systematic series of Sunday school syllabus was used in 2009. That consisted of Theological and Christian life series in each term, also included EBS and Path to Growth.
- A new concept “Inviting Sunday School” was introduced in teaching Sunday school. A pilot class has been running with positive feedback using this model since the last term.
- Attendance of Sunday school increased 8% as compared to 2008. Weekly average attendance increased from 32.6 to 35.5.
- A 4-session seminar on “Christian Mental Health” organized together with ACES and GEFC was conducted on 7/26 to 8/2. Average 60 attendances in each session.
- We conducted 2 book club sharing meetings in 2009 with 2 cancelled due to tight church activities from September to December.
- Prayer meeting is still not strong enough.
- We continued to practice Bible reading with two Bible reading plans in 2009.
- We have conducted two library open events to introduce new books and to recruit more library members.

Evangelism Committee

Chairperson: Peter Cheung

Committee Members: Pollyana Leung, Daniel Ho (resigned as of Sep 21), Eddie Chan, and Fernando Kwan

Main duties

- Promote and organize evangelistic events to bring people to Christ.
- Oversee and support various outreach ministries including Tutorial classes for the adults, Chinese School on Saturdays and weekday after-school Student Center.
- Outreach to middle and high school youths bringing them to Christ and guiding them to be more Christ-like.

Events and Highlights

- Gospel lunch on Apr 19
 - Showing DVD testimony of Paul Wong.
 - Members from various fellowships helped in both preparation of event and hospitality.
 - More than 10 new friends and relatives of brothers and sisters attended.
- Pastoral writings on evangelism were provided to educate congregation on the matter between Jul and Aug.
- 「愛·不太遲」 evangelistic meeting on Aug 22
 - Flyer distribution at Chinatown was arranged and 6 participated.
 - Sermon by Pastor Raymond Chan.
 - Members from various fellowships helped in both preparation of event and hospitality.
 - Between the 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. sessions, attendance was over 160, mainly new comers, and 1 accepted Christ.
- 「當作甚麼可得福？」 evangelistic meeting on Nov 21 (Adult Fellowship)
 - Flyer distribution at Chinatown was arranged and 14 participated.
 - Testimony by Betty Fong and sermon by Rev. Lancelot Tong.
 - Members from various fellowships helped in preparation of event
 - Over 50 non-believers attended and 3 accepted Christ.
- Caroling on Dec 20
 - 36 (including one over 70 year old and two under 10) participated and visited Tai Ping Housing Complex in Chinatown (泰平旅館) and Chinese Hospital (東華醫院) bringing message of Jesus Christ with songs and gifts.
 - Responses were positive; brothers and sisters were encouraged.

Tutorial for adults

- Spring 2009
 - Classes offered: Chinese ChangJie Input & Daily Practical English (Citizenship class cancelled due to no enrollment)
 - Teachers: Nora Chung & Doris Ma
 - Helpers: Danny George, Cecelia Leong, Pauline and Louis Lam
 - Andy Chu shared his testimony at the celebration held at end of term.
- Summer 2009
 - Classes offered: Vocational English (Interview), Digital Photos, Conversational English, Daily Practical English (Citizenship class started but cancelled after transferring the student enrolled to another class.)
 - Teachers: Nora Chung, Doris Ma, Danny George, Wendy Lui, Pearl Yee
 - Helpers: Cecelia Leong, Antonio Trink, Judy Choy (substituted for Pearl's class when she was away)
- Classes in recess since Sep.

- Students were invited to various church events including gospel lunch, 「愛·不太遲」 musical evangelistic meeting, church picnic as well as Christmas luncheon.

Chinese School

- Acting principle: Pastor Stephen Mak. Teachers 2009-2010: Miu Ling Lam, Patrick Lee, Percy Cheng, Lisa Lee, Rebecca Lau, Debbie Sum. Teachers 2008-2009: Magdalen Chan, William Ho.
- 41 students during 2008-2009, 6 graduated in Jun 2009. 31 students for 2009-2010 from kindergarten through grade 6. Mandarin is getting more popular which may contribute to the decrease of students in our school which is conducted in Cantonese. As a result, grade 2 and 3 are combined as one class.
- Parents’ meeting in April was well attended and had received good comments.
- 34 students in Summer School (up from 23 in 2008) in 2 classes with good participation. Teachers were Patrick Lee and while Elite Kwong arranged food from Food Bank. More than 30 energetic volunteers helped out and budget was financially balanced. Graduation ceremony was held on Aug 2.
- Students and parents were encouraged to attend church activities including picnic, Thanksgiving worship and Christmas luncheon (17 families attended).

Student Center

A. Total no. of students:	14 students Elementary School	
	<u>7 students Middle School</u>	
	21 students Fall Semester	2008

	16 students Elementary School	
	<u>6 students Middle school</u>	
	22 students total Spring,	2009

- B. School Calendar
- . Fall Semester 2008 - Classes started from 8-25-08 to 1-16-09
 - . Spring Semester 2009 – Classes started from 1-21-2009 to 6-09-2009.

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| 2008 Fall | 2 tutors, 3 volunteers |
| 2009 Spring | 3 tutors, 1 volunteers |
| 2009 Fall | 3 tutors, 1 volunteers |

- D. 2010 Outlook
- We have enrolled 28 students in Fall, 2009. If we can enroll 35 students in Spring, 2010, we should hire one more tutor.

Youth ministry

- Advisers: Pastor Stephen Mak, Vivian Mak, Edward Zhao, Cecilia Leong, Kwan Mo Wong, Louis Lam.
- 5-6 youth attended worship regularly and 15-25 at Goodness Fellowship. Members are from grade 6 through 12 with majority between 8th and 10th. Meeting 1:00-2:30 on Sun with first week for birthday celebration, Bible study on 2nd and 4th while 3rd week will be topical study/workshop. We are still in great need of advisers. Please contact Pastor Stephen or Vivian if you are interested.
- Many members volunteered at the Summer Chinese School and VBS. The one who put in most time had 200 hours in total.
- Outreach activities with attendance of over forty like movies, field trip to Stanford University and barbeque had taken place during Easter, summer, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Looking forward in 2010

- Consider co-hosting evangelistic meeting with Chinese Christian Herald Crusade.
- Provide training and resources to brothers and sisters so as to increase awareness and practicing personal evangelism.

Fellowship and Caring Committee

Chairperson: Pastor Stephen Mak

Committee Members: Christine Chee, Mary Liang

Synopsis of Responsibilities

- Serves as a bridge to all Fellowships, Bible Study Groups, Couples Fellowships and small groups, coordinating inter-relational interactions like outings and seminars. It also helps in forming new small groups and fellowships.
- Offers a warm welcome to newcomers, channeling them to various appropriate groups like VBS, fellowships and other Bible study groups.
- Provides relevant training and workshops for care workers of fellowships and co-workers
- Plans and orchestrates Newcomers' Luncheon and Baptism.
- Ministers care to new friends and church members through visits.

Review on Work Done

- Our thanks to Join Joy Fellowship, Family of Grace Fellowship, Young Adult Fellowship, Peninsula Couples Fellowship, Evergreen Fellowship and Adult Fellowship for taking a roster in providing snacks and drinks after Sunday Services, promoting interactions among members. Our thanks also go to Pollyanna Leung as the coordinator.
- We thank Mary Liang, Christine Chee, Mr. & Mrs. Jason Wong, Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Wong, Mr. & Mrs. David Luk and Eddie Chan for taking their time out in making caring visits. The Adult Fellowship members also have been actively involved in visits to members and new friends every Wednesday.
- Thanks to Jason Wong, the coordinator of the September Church outing and the help from various fellowships. We had a very successful day with much fun and fellowship.
- In the past year, we had three Newcomers Welcome Luncheons. In April, there was a joint gospel luncheon with Evangelism Department. Some ten new friends turned up in the October luncheon meeting. Our thanks to Christine and Mary for planning and organizing the events. In addition, we had a Christmas Luncheon in December with the whole Church.
- We had two baptism ceremonies in the past year. The Caring Department had provided the preparation of gifts and baptism robes and assisted in the baptism ceremonies.
- In the past year, Adult Fellowship in conjunction with Join Joy Fellowship, Family of Grace Fellowship, Peninsula Couples Fellowship, Evergreen Fellowship and Young Adult Fellowship had joint meetings to promote unity in home church fellowship.

Looking forward in 2010

- Encourages and supports various fellowships and small groups to actively care for their own members.
- Organizes training and workshops on visits, caring of members and friends
- Promotes joint fellowship functions, organizes church picnic and promotes deeper understanding and fellowship among all fellowships and groups.
- Holds regular Newcomers Welcome Meetings to promote deeper understanding and involvement of new friends in the church.
- Promote active participation of new friends in church life through fellowships.

English Ministry Committee

Chairperson: Meggy Lau

Committee Members: Magdalen Chan, Jeffrey Lam, Stephanie Mung

Ministry

We grew as a congregation for another year without an English Youth Pastor. With God's mercy and grace, we have been able to schedule outside speakers for the Sunday worship. We also were able to continue with the high school and college fellowships as well as maintaining the youth Sunday School classes. In addition, we were able to start 2 courses of adult Sunday School class. A new Sunday School class for the college students was also started in 9/09.

External Growth--Outreach

We were able to do outreach through helping out in VBS, coordinating Summer Retreat and special fellowship activities. Two members also went on a short-term mission trip to Arizona in the summer.

Internal Growth—Serving

More youth participated in serving as ushers, AV monitors, pianists, etc. More adults also participated in different areas.

Urbana

The highlight of the year was that 6 members attended the Urbana Mission Conference in St. Louis in 12/09. It was such an inspiring event. All of the 6 members who attended were excited to share their experience with others as well as making personal commitments to God.

Children Ministry

Children Director: Elite Kwong

Nursery & Children Workers:

Nursery Workers:

- Sue Kwong, Ruth Wong, Ida Yip, Janette Chen; Jocelyn Lam; Maggie Shek.

Sunday school teachers:

- P-K to Elementary Coordinator: Jenny Wong; Suesu Leung; Karen Lam
- K : Karen Lau; Samantha Guo
- 1-2 Grades : Christine Chee, Rowena Yuk
- 3-4 Grades : Donald Lee, Stephanie Mung ; Jeffrey Lam
- 5-6 Grades: Sandy Lee, Wendy Chan
- Children Worship Coordinator/Teachers: Elite Kwong; Connie Kwong ; Ellen Zhou; Adeline Chan; Sandy Kwong

Events and highlights

- Total no. of children: 34 Children total in 2008-2009 (3 Nursery, 4 P-K, 8 K, 19 Elementary)
- Besides regular Sunday school and children worship, we have the following ministries in 2009:
 - ◇ January to December: Bible Verse Treasure Box (with 52 Bible Verses) was passed out to children/parents to encourage them to memorize God's Word in their hearts.
 - ◇ VBS (7-27-09 to 7-31-09) One Week - Total: 72 students & youths came to join our VBS.
 - ◇ We had a 6th grade Graduation Ceremony for Students promoted from 6th to 7th grade during English Worship, followed with a "Breakfast Fellowship" to connect these children and their parents with the English cong.
 - ◇ August – December, 09: Children Shoe Box Ministry launched with good response. Our target 60 shoe boxes as Christmas Gift for needy children around the world. Praise God, we rec'd. 62 boxes.

Looking forward in 2010

- We have a **VISION** to reach out the in church children and the non-church children through **Fellowship**.
- **GOAL:** To bring unsaved children to Christ & practice their faith and growth in Christ. Thus, we propose to change the time & schedules as below:
- **Proposal for Change Of Time & Schedules for Children Department, 2010:**
 1. Traditionally, SFEFC children department programs now as:
 - Duration Time: 10 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
 - Sunday school: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
 - Break: 11:00 a.m. –11 a.m. - 15 min. (Restroom; Snack; Play)
 - Sunday Worship: 11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
 2. Propose to Change Time and Schedules in the future as:
 - Duration Time: 10 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. (approximation)
 - Sunday school: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. (including break)
 - Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m. - 11:25 a.m.
 - Light Lunch: 11:25 - 11:45 a.m.
 - Fellowship: 11:45 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Mission Committee

Chairperson: Peter Cheung

Committee Members: Amy Chan, Fanny Cheng (resigned as of Mar 1), Joni Wu

Main duties

- Develop training, conferences and programs to increase the awareness and commitment in the area of mission.
- Identify and administer the support to missionaries and seminary students.
- Act as the liaison between the Church and the missionaries to provide them with encouragement and caring.
- Organize short-term mission trips.

Events and Highlights

- Meggy Lau and Samuel Mak joined the short-term mission team of the Youth Summer Mission Project (YSMP) with Chinese Baptist Fellowship of the US and Canada (美加華人浸信會聯會) Jul 11-18 to Sales, AZ. They made contacts with local Indian Reserve residents and shared the Gospel with the kids and adults through worships, games and activities.
- Rev. Lawrence Fung (馮永樑牧師) of Gospel Operation International (華人福音普傳會) preached for us at Mission Sunday on Jun 14.
- Planned cultural exchange trip to Yunnan, China for Oct was canceled due to low participation.

Looking forward in 2010

- Plan to arrange two short term trips. Panama Chinese Baptist Church (Rev. Wei) and one for the youth most likely in U.S.
- Arrange mission seminar in Feb, encouraging participation in global mission. Seek for new opportunity to support additional missionary.