

MINI DIGEST

December 2020

– From the Board

Prayer

- Our vital breath especially in this extraordinary time of Pandemic.



Response

Set up Respond@ecbc.org for enquirers.



- Started live streaming of worship services since March using Vimeo, YouTube and Facebook + In-person service of up to 50 conducted according to BC Provincial pandemic guidelines.
- Zoom meetings taking the place of all preexisting ministry gatherings as well as creating new ones.
- ACM was successfully conducted via zoom on 26/7/20- new board and new spiritual council were formed.
- Personal connection, support and encouragement continue with the use of various social media platforms.
- All international mission trips are put on hold; redirecting more focus to local missions.
- Community care project started as an arm of outreach to provide care for the community at large and the church community.

Offering



- Our thanksgiving to God whose people continue to give faithfully in-person and online.
- Our gratitude to our congregation whose generosity of heart shines even brighter in this difficult time of stress and distress

Groundwork



- Upgrade our internet service with Telus Fibre Optic Internet in view of our increasing demand for internet usage.
- Appropriate signage in place on ground and pews to facilitate physical distancing and designed door for entrance and exit.

Reflection

We began this year with an emphasis on “Living Out True Love” without expecting the challenge of encountering Covid-19 pandemic. Despite of different constraints caused by Covid-19, we have many brothers and sisters who continue to share God’s love in tangible ways. Many participated in sewing masks and hats; delivering and distributing groceries; and other means of reaching out and helping those in needs.

We really praise God for our worship teams and tech teams who serve faithfully every week to ensure that we can successfully live-stream our Sunday Worship Services. We truly appreciate all the volunteers and staff for their willingness to learn new technology and tools to effectively equip and serve the church and the community.

With limited in-person gathering, we pray that God, the Holy Spirit, will continue to orchestrate the deep connection among brothers and sisters so that we do not lose our sense of belonging to our BIG FAMILY! We understand that church ministry will not be the same even after the end of pandemic. Even though we have to accept and adapt to the reality of the new normal, we know that God’s kingdom ministry will continue to blossom. In fact, we are witnessing tremendous growth globally in the areas of evangelism and discipleship.

We thank God for raising up many prayer warriors who are willing to stand the gap! In fact, since March, our church has over 70 prayer cell groups who meet regularly to pray. Hebrews 4:16 says *“Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”* We believe that our Almighty God will continue to work His miracles of healing and deliverance according to His sovereign will and timing. Let us hold firmly to our faith in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

“Trust in the Lord with all our heart and lean not on our own understanding; in all our ways submit to him, and He will make our paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6.

We look forward to the full in-person gathering of our community of love. Let’s anchor to the living hope we have in Christ! Continue to experience God’s transforming power in and through your life! We will press on and live out God’s true love!

Encouragement

Praise the Lord! New lives are being added to God's Kingdom in response to the gospel.

- Live streaming Worship Service makes attendance possible by more people, even by non-church goers.
- Some Bible Study groups are growing in number
- Brothers and sisters stay connected and are supportive of one another through various means.

Shepherding

- We celebrated the ordination of Pastor Chris Chu and Pastor Phil Yee on 27/9/20. We look forward to the same for Pastor Sunday Wu in the near future.
- We thank God for our pastoral team which has worked tirelessly and faithfully tending and feeding His sheep.
- Working together - with the support of our Spiritual Council and Board * of seven members with two invited observers

Shalom

Christmas is coming- glory to God and peace on earth. New year is arriving- the old to pass; the new to dawn. We wait expectantly for God's leading into a new horizon and a new vision.

Member of Board of Directors and Spiritual Council

Board

- Elder Jian Ping Jiang - Chair
- Elder Frank Hou - Vice Chair
- Deaconess Kathy Yung - Secretary
- Deacon Tony Hsu - Treasurer
- Deacon Dewey Young - Membership Committee
- Senior Pastor George Wong- Human Resources
- Deacon Andy Yang – Spiritual Council Chair

Spiritual Council

Pastoral Team

- Rev. George Wong
- Rev. Joseph Hsu
- Rev. Arthur Howard
- Rev. Philip Yee •Rev. Chris Chu
- Pastor Janice Chan
- Pastor Sunday Wu
- Pastor Bo Li
- Intern Pastor Clark Song
- Intern Pastor Iris Leung

Elders

- Elder Edwin Shu •Elder Daniel Siu
- Elder Cary Chien •Elder Frank Hou
- Elder Bridget Lang
- Elder Jian Ping Jiang

Deacons

- Kathy Yung •Gloria Bai
- Tony Hsu •Lily Chia
- John Ku •Andy Yang
- Xin Ma •Alex Wang
- Felex Liu •James Soo
- Hui Qu •Dewey Young
- Alex Ferguson •Tom Hsieh
- Jian Ping Zhu

2020 年度 12 月長執簡訊

禱告



禱告是我們基督徒的屬靈呼吸，在新冠肺炎疫情肆虐的時刻更是需要禱告。

事工報告



- [建立 Response@ecbc.org 的 email](mailto:Response@ecbc.org) 系統，回覆各樣的詢問
- 依據 BC 省對於疫情中宗教集會的規定，教會自三月已開始同時以網路線上直播與 50 人以內實體聚會的形式進行主日崇拜
- 教會也以 Zoom 會議的形式繼續進行原有的各項聚會，並開展了新的事工。
- 年度會友大會已於 7/26/2020 透過 Zoom 召開，新一年的董事會與長執屬靈議會也已開始運作。
- 弟兄姐妹彼此的連結、扶持、鼓勵，仍透過各樣網路社交媒體平台繼續進行中。
- 所有海外短宣的計畫目前皆暫停，改為聚焦在支持本地的宣教事工。
- 在疫情中，教會也已展開社區關懷事工，關懷對象包含教會內的弟兄姐妹以及教會所在地附近的社區居民。

奉獻



- 感謝神帶領弟兄姐妹繼續以各樣方式金錢奉獻支持教會的事工。
- 感謝弟兄姐妹在疫情這艱難的時刻裡，仍以慷慨的心，金錢奉獻支持教會的事工。

教會基礎建設



- 教會光纖網路完成升級，以因應疫情中網路使用的需要

- 教會建築物內部因應疫情，在人群社交距離與動線上，都已有著清楚的標示。

反思



我們從今年開始就著重強調“活出真愛”，而沒有想到會遇到 Covid-19，新冠肺炎，這個疫情的挑戰。儘管新冠肺炎造成了不同的限制，但我們許多兄弟姐妹繼續以實際的方式去分享上帝的愛。許多人參加了縫製口罩和帽子的活動，運送和分發食品雜貨，以及用其他的方法去幫助有需要的人。

我們非常感謝神，給予我們的敬拜讚美團隊和技術團隊，他們每週都忠心事奉，以確保我們能夠順利直播主日崇拜。我們衷心感謝所有同工願意學習新科技和工具，使之有效地為教會和社區提供服務。在有限度的實體聚會中，我們禱告上帝，聖靈，繼續保守兄弟姐妹之間建立深厚情誼的關係，使我們不會失去對這大家庭的歸屬感！我們知道，即使在疫情結束後，教會的事工也將不再一樣。即使我們必須接受並適應這新常态的現實，我們卻知道上帝的國度將會繼續蓬勃發展。實際上，我們目睹了全球性的福音事工和門徒訓練的領域上，產生了巨大的增長。

我們感謝上帝興起了許多代禱勇士，堅守在破口之中！事實上，自三月以來，我們教會就有超過 70 個的禱告小組，他們定期聚會祈禱。希伯來書 4:16 說：「所以，我們只管坦然無懼的來到施恩的寶座前，為要得憐恤，蒙恩惠，作隨時的幫助。」我們相信，我們全能的上帝將繼續按照祂的主權和時間，施行醫治和拯救的神蹟。讓我們堅定地相信我們的主—救主耶穌基督！

「你要專心仰賴耶和華，不可倚靠自己的聰明，在你一切所行的事上都要認定他，他必指引你的路。」箴言三 5-6

我們期待著我們這愛的群體回到全面實體聚會的日子。讓我們定睛在基督裡那活潑的盼望吧！繼續在你生命中或透過你的生命去經歷上帝更新的能力！我們將繼續前進，實踐活出上帝的真愛！

感恩

讚美主!



- 在疫情中，上帝仍將得救的人加給教會
- 線上崇拜的形式使更多的人，包含不去教會聚會的人們，可參加聖道堂的主日聚會
- 一些查經班的人數有了增長
- 弟兄姐妹仍透過各樣方式彼此連結與扶持

教牧消息

- 我們慶賀朱雅恩傳道與茹威立傳道在 9/27/2020 正式按立為本堂牧師。我們也同樣期待吳欣迪傳道不久之後的按立。
- 我們感謝神帶領教牧同工們忠心地餵養上帝的群羊

感謝主！長執屬靈議會成員與董事會的七位成員及兩位受邀的觀察員一同在教會中配搭事奉

平安

聖誕佳節即將到來，榮耀歸神，平安充滿全地！新年也將來臨，我們期待上帝帶領聖道堂領受新的異象，進入新的境界！

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楊斐中執事

長執屬靈議會

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- 徐久明牧師
- Rev. Arthur Howard
- 茹威立牧師 朱雅恩牧師
- 吳欣迪傳道 曾小容傳道
- 李柏威傳道
- 宋慶文實習傳道
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- 白淑霞執事 王品鑫執事