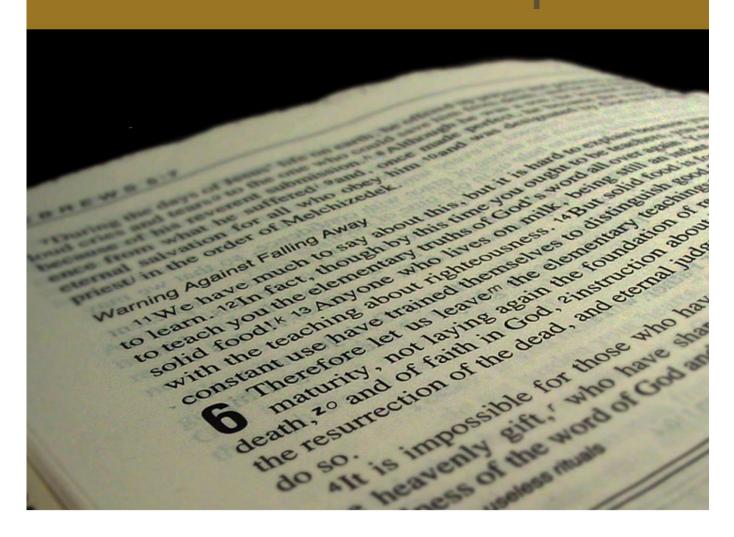


## 澳洲基督教播道會活石堂

Living Stone Evangelical Free Church of Australia

# 年報

Annual Report 2023-2024





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## 牧者的話 Words from the Pastors

## 粤語堂牧者分享

洪國智牧師

承接去年三十周年《教會與播道會》的主題,信徒若要讓教會真正成為教會 (Let Church be Church),能在世上作美好的見證,教會的合一是不能缺少的。所以,今年以《在基督裡合一的新群體》為年題。我們選擇整年研讀以弗所書,盼望透過深入理解經文的內容和背景,讓信徒能學習如何真實地活出合一的生命狀態。

當中以弗所書第四章提到,保羅呼籲基督徒在彼此的關係中體現謙卑、溫柔、忍耐和仁愛等美德。他指出教會內有恩賜領導力的重要性,裝備信徒按恩賜服侍,最終達致基督身體的成長。保羅強調,合一與成熟是不能分開的。信徒要追求屬靈生命的成熟,特別對基督的信仰和知識的統一,以及對耶穌品格的深入理解和實踐,真正的合一才能夠達成。

活石堂為著信徒屬靈生命的成長,這年參加了香港播道神學院和澳洲基督教播道會總會合辦的「信徒事奉裝備」證書課程。感謝主,粵語堂有三十五位弟兄姊妹參加。盼望透過這課程幫助信徒,能在聖經知識、事奉技巧、靈命培育上有進深的裝備,建立更同心合意的教會。

過去一年有不少的香港新移民和回流人士參加活石堂的崇拜,感恩各弟兄姊妹踴躍的關懷和接待,很多來賓已經融入教會的團契及小組,讓他們在澳洲找到了屬靈的家。另一方面,全澳洲華人教會正面對老化的情況,活石堂過去亦因應作出安排,開展了金齡事工「長青學府」的工作,由張傳道和領袖一起籌劃和帶領,現在已有很多弟兄姊妹和朋友參加,一起學習和同行。盼望透過這事工,建立更多信徒成長,也廣傳福音,活出新一頁的精彩人生!

在此也特別感謝過去一年不辭勞苦的領袖和信徒,在各個崗位、部門、聚會/活動中 盡心竭力的服侍和貢獻。感謝你們每一個的微笑和正面的分享,向基督群體和朋友展示了 上帝的愛,如何改變大家的生命,願上帝親自報答你們的勞苦。

願上帝在我們中間工作,讓教會群體充滿愛、接納和鼓勵的文化。願我們的言行充滿仁慈、溫柔和尊重。願我們每一天的生命都能討上帝喜悅。願一切榮耀頌讚歸予我們的 三一真神! 阿門。

## 粤語堂牧者分享

張梅香傳道

「但願他在教會中,並在基督耶穌裡,得著榮耀,直到世世代代,永永遠遠。阿們!」(弗三21)

二十一世紀的教會正面對跨代、跨界和跨文化的挑戰。教會在不同的世代,需要尋求神的旨意來回應時代的處境,不論是那種處境下,教會應肩起牧養信徒並堅立信仰團體,向社群分享及見證福音。

教會帶領信徒以聖經真理為共同的語言和共同價值觀,齊心尋求神的旨意,確立正確的方向與目標成為異象;然後,共同的表達成為行動,並且彼此負責作為實踐者來回應每時代不同的議題。故此,信徒更迫切需要連結起來,彼此對話從中得到啟發,發掘上帝賜給教會的多元恩賜,使我們能更靈活有彈性且富創意地來回應時代的挑戰!

「教會」就是個朝向應許並正竭力見證主再來的忠貞群體。這群體隱喻為「神的子民」、「基督的身體」及「聖靈的團契」。「神的子民」意謂神與選民立「約」的關係;「基督的身體」是信徒與基督的關係;「聖靈的團契」由聖靈引導和管理叫教會合一,聖徒彼此建立成長。十九世紀神學家士來馬赫認為「人是在群體中的個體,而群體是由個體組成的群體。」教會這群體彼此有着對方的存在,你中有我,我中有你,也各具其獨特性;恩賜各有不同,但都聯於一體——耶穌基督的教會。

保羅提到要「合一」(弗四 3),這不是說教會被呼召去「締造」的事,而是信徒在基督裡、在聖靈裡的「真實的實況」。「合一」不是我們要去努力打造一個組織或系統,試圖用人力維持合一的「表象」;「合一」是我們在基督耶穌裡已經發生的真實情況(reality),就是活出基督徒「真實」生命狀態。「你們若彼此相愛,眾人因此就認出你們是我的門徒了。」(約十三 35)「你不愛基督裏的弟兄,也應該愛弟兄裏的基督。」(約壹四 20)

當我們面對彼此間的差異,或許不同世代、不同神學傳統、不同區域所領受的恩賜,以及對福音的體會,都不會完全一樣;但是這些差異不應該成為相互的衝突點,相反地,應該被視為一個分享給彼此的禮物。我們每個人都領受了從上帝來的這禮物,我們需要承認、領受,並學習把禮物分享出去。個別的文化或是教會傳統,似乎都有一個傾向,就是覺得自己所領受的,才是最美最好的。但是儘管每種教會傳統都能見證福音,卻沒有哪一個傳統能夠說自己擁有全部的真理。事實上,基督徒不是一群有真理的人;我們是一群被真理所擁有的人。

因著福音我們放下個人,效法基督道成肉身的跨越,跨越世代的差異,跨越地理界線的限制,跨越不同領域的專業,跨越不同文化的差異,成為福音的使者,為要使世人與 上帝和好,成為在基督裡合一的新群體,一起經歷福音的創新和轉化。

# 國語堂牧者分享 活的石头

周立牧師

主乃活石。固然是被人所弃的,却是被神所拣选所宝贵的。你们来到主面前,也就像活石,被建造成为灵宫,作圣洁的祭司,借着耶稣基督奉献神所悦纳的灵祭。……惟有你们是被拣选的族类,是有君尊的祭司,是圣洁的国度,是属神的子民,要叫你们宣扬那召你们出黑暗入奇妙光明者的美德。(彼得前书 2:4,5,9)

主耶稣是活的石头,是有生命的石头。我们来到祂面前信靠祂,从而自己也就像有生命的石头,可以把从主而来的生命传递给更多的人。

今年是活石国语堂成立以来的第二十个年头。在过去的这么多年中,我们有很多会众听闻并接受了耶稣这有生命的石头作我们的中心,也有很多会众因着稳定的归属感而加入活石堂成为会友并与众弟兄姐妹们一起靠着耶稣这房角石勉励同行。而在过去的一年中我们也同样见证了洗礼和转会的景象,这实在是主持续的恩典!在这样的恩典中,去年我们国语堂委原本计划在今年办一次国语堂的营会,帮助国语堂会众与神与彼此建立更好的关系。后来,因着各方面的沟通,播道总会决定办一次粤语和国语联合的退修营,这不但包含了我们国语堂想办营会的意义,而且还能使不同教会的粤语和国语会众在疫情后建立更多的关系。所以,从去年至今年,我们国语堂积极参与了联合营会的筹备和推广。我自己也有份参与在这个仍在进行的筹备过程中,深深感受到来自不同教会的同工们彼此配搭及爱心服事是多么美好的一件事!盼望今年 11 月底至 12 月初的联合营会能祝福每一位参加的会众!

如上所说,国语堂因着耶稣这活石,承受了从主而来很多的恩典和祝福。于是,我们的属灵生命似乎进入了一种稳定状态。正面来说,我们因着主的恩典而有了稳定的信仰观念。但从另一个角度,我们可能缺乏了一些动力。我们似乎领受了耶稣这有生命的石头,但自己却不太像这有生命的石头、不太有从主而来的生命影响力。

稳定中也许需要突破。执笔之际,国语堂正在准备今年8月和9月开展社区外展的培训和实践,装备且鼓励弟兄姐妹们在小学及教会附近与人接触、介绍教会、推广活动、建立关系、见证信仰。盼望这次的尝试可以带出深远的意义、激发会众的勇气、挑旺起初的爱心、促成更频繁和更广泛的实践。相信在主的旨意中有最美好的带领和安排!

耶稣是基督,我们是小基督(像基督);耶稣是活石,我们是小活石(像活石)。 今年6月30日我被按立为牧师。感谢大家对我的接纳!也感谢主藉着大家的接纳给我的鼓励!我是软弱,但主是大能的。祂是有生命的石头,使我有生命并且可以靠着祂站立。我盼望和弟兄姐妹们同行,一起倚靠主,并像一块块有生命的石头"被建造成为灵宫……宣扬那召你们出黑暗入奇妙光明者的美德。"

## 疲惫中的恩典

許允文傳道

神在不同的阶段给予我们不同的恩典。今年的讲道以希伯来书为主,主题是'疲倦中的恩典'。这恰好是自己今年最需要的。

事奉经验多了,一些事情做起来快了些,所以就接了比以前更多的事奉,结果给自己制造了一个经常疲倦的状态。即便如此,神的恩典不因为我的愚蠢而减少,反而增多。 这是我不配得到的。

在儿童事工方面,在 mainly music 和 Awana 的责任多了些,但每次的事奉都很喜乐,与同工们一起事奉也非常愉快,自己也在事奉中成长了许多。今年因为兼任活石堂儿童事工的 coordinator,所以在整体儿童事工上必须更加上心,这包括设定异象、筹备儿童崇拜日、safe ministry training 和准备年底总会退休营的儿童节目等。多方面的责任的确很耗力,只能时常依靠神。

在长者事工方面,感谢神有机会与粤语堂的弟兄姐妹们一起同工。这也是一项很喜乐的事工。与长者们一起学习书法、美声等,非常的愉快,感到自己也年轻了许多。每周四的长者英语班虽然人数不多,但非常有意义,所以一直坚持下来。

在家庭小组方面,我带领的家庭小组增加了许多新的成员,虽然聚会很困难,但有些人不管多忙都会出席聚会,给了我很大的鼓励。在周五姐妹查经班里,我们完成了以赛亚书和约伯记。感谢神的带领,我们能够每个月一次到堡垒安老院去帮忙,非常的荣幸。

其他惯常的事项包括开会、探访等。发现很多琐碎的事非常费时费力,很多时候也会因为它们而产生一些负面的情绪。求主帮助我学习如何控制我的情绪,也帮助我更加认识到自己的承受能力和有限的体力。求神怜悯。

虽然自己在很多方面需要成长,也有很多不足的地方,但神总是不离不弃的管教和 塑造我,非常的感恩。再次意识到上帝的儿女实在有福。感谢赞美神!

## **EC Pastor's Report**

Rev. John Gurusamy

EC's theme for 2024 is "For Christ's Love Compels us". Often as people, we may act out of self-interest but in 2 Corinthians 5:14,15 we are taught to no longer live for ourselves but for Jesus. Hence, we decided on a theme that would remind us that Jesus love ought to motivate and drive us to live differently.

This year we did a Church and Churching Series – exploring what it means for us to be a church and do church together. We then studied 1 Peter, Ezekiel and Ephesians.

By God's grace, the OCT team have come up with various opportunities to serve the community and this has been a practical way to see the love of Christ compel us to serve beyond our walls.

We give thanks to God that Tim Ly and Anna Chau became members of Living Stone in May.

We are looking forward to EC Camp, 6-8 September at Lake Macquarie. We will look at how to be intentionally formed by apprenticeship to Jesus. By consciously practising the way of Jesus in our everyday life.

As we studied Ephesians, I was reminded of how salvation is a gift from God from first to last. For this reason, when we hear of people trusting in Jesus and see love for God's people, we can give thanks to God for this is His mighty work in them. (Eph 1:16,16)

Soli deo gloria.

## 執事會主席之言

譚伯壯

今年,我們繼續了去年開始的工作。

聘牧委員會進行了一個全面的過程,包括各堂會眾的成員,在與候選人進行一系列分享會後,建議聘請洪國智牧師為主任牧師。執事會已經審查了這一建議,隨後執事會與洪牧師進行了進一步的會議,並接受了這一建議。現在的任命將在年度會友大會之後召開特別會友大會,我們祈禱主會引導我們完成這個過程,他的旨意在當天成就。我們祈禱主任牧師的任命將導致對三個堂會眾和事工更合一。

我們成立了發展委員會。第一步是回到牧師團隊那裡,了解他們對教會未來異象的看法,並確保建築的發展是由異象帶動的。設計階段已經開始,並將繼續進行。我們現在將要求並尋求有關設計和規劃過程的專業意見,包括與市議會的接觸。一點需要注意的的是,我們以前的融資渠道可能不再可用,因為他們收緊了對教會的貸款條件,以最大限度地降低自身風險。我們正在進一步探索這條途徑,但是,如果無法做到這一點,它將嚴格限制我們為該專案提供資金的能力。

我們已開始將我們的 IT 系統置於一個更有條理的框架中。隨著我們教會的發展, IT 和 AV 的使用變得更加廣泛, 我們的敬拜、教導和每一個活動必要 IT 和 AV。

我們的財務仍然是一個主要問題,2023-24 年的財政報告顯示了我們的赤字。七月份的奉獻顯示出一些令人鼓舞的跡象,讓我們祈禱這種跡象繼續下去,我們的成員對教會的愛反映在我們的奉獻中。

願主繼續祝福和看顧我們的教會。

## Words from Chairperson of Board of Deacons

**Barry Tam** 

This year we have continued the work that we started last year.

The pastoral Search Committee have conducted a thorough process involving members from all congregations, and after a series of sharing sessions with potential candidates, have made the recommendation to appoint Rev K C Hung as the Senior pastor. This has been reviewed by the Deacon Board, and subsequently the Deacon Board conducted further sessions with Rev Hung and accepted this recommendation. The appointment will now to an Extraordinary General Meeting after the Annual general Meeting, we pray that the Lord will guide us through this process and His will be clear on the day and be done. We pray that the appointment of a Senior Pastor will lead to a more integrated approach to the three congregations and our ministries.

The Development committee was formed. The first step was to go back to the pastoral team and obtain their views on the future vision of the church and ensure that the building development is driven by a spiritual vision. The design phase has commenced and will continue. We will now require and seek professional input on the design and planning process, including engagement with council. A very important point to note is that our previous financing avenue may not be available anymore due to their tightening of conditions on loans to churches to minimise their own risks. We are in the process of further exploring this avenue, however if this was not available it will place a strict limitation of our capacity to fund the project.

We have commenced to put our IT system in a more structured framework. This has become necessary as our church grows and the use of It and AV becomes much more extensive and our worships, teachings and every event.

Our finance remains a major concern, the 2023-24 results show the deficit that we have incurred. The offerings for the month of July showed some encouraging signs, let us pray that continues and our members' love of the church will be reflected in our offerings.

May the Lord continue to bless and watch over our church.

## 粤語堂 Cantonese Congregation

## 粤語堂堂委會主席之言

譚伯壯

今年對廣東話會眾來說是穩定的一年。

各項事工都如常運作。

令人鼓舞的是,我們有 35 名成員參加了香港播道神學院為我們提供的為期兩年的課程。我們祈禱我們的成員能夠繼續有長期的主,以更多地瞭解主的話語。這也鼓勵教會在未來探索更多類似的機會。

我們仍然定期看到來自香港的新移民。我們應該繼續積極迎接挑戰,接納更多新移民,讓他們覺得自己找到了屬靈的家;但這同時也帶來代際和文化差異方面對我們教會的關係產生影響。在這方面,我們必須擁有包容和開放的思想,讓上帝的愛和我們對彼此的愛克服這種差異。

每過一年,我們那些與我們相伴已久的弟兄姊妹就會再過一年。他們的需求將繼續 變化,我們需要注意如何以符合他們需求的提供適切的支持相交系統(團契、小組)。

有鑒於此,下階段應考慮檢討我們的主要職能,包括教導/教育、關懷、外展/傳福音。

This year has been a steady year for the Cantonese congregation.

All the various functions continue to operate.

It is encouraging to note that we have 35 members who have enrolled in the 2-year course offered to us by the Evangel Seminary in Hong Kong. We pray that our members will continue to have the long-term commitment to learn more about His Word. This should also encourage the church to explore more similar opportunities in future.

We still see newcomers on a regular basis from Hong Kong. Whilst we should continue to proactively embrace the challenge of receiving more newcomers and making them feel they have found their spiritual home; it also will have effects on our church dynamics in terms of generational and cultural differences. In this regard it is imperative that we all have inclusive and open minds and let the love of God and our love for each other overcome such differences.

Every passing year would see our brother and sisters who have been with us for a long-time age by another year. Their needs will continue to change and we need to be mindful of how we maintain our caring systems (fellowships, groups etc) in ways that match their needs.

With the above in mind, a review of our major functions of teaching/education, caring, outreach/evangelistic should be considered in the next term.

## 成人宗教教育部

陳國雄

成人宗教教育部 陳國雄

顧問:洪國智牧師,張梅香傳道,王治康

部長:陳國雄

部員:羅李鳳卿,何旭荃

"這律法書不可離開你的口,總要畫夜思想" 約書亞記一:8

感謝神在過去一年當中,我們可以實體上主日學,感謝各教師的努力,把他們所領受的與弟兄姊妹分享,亦感謝各職員的彼此配搭,好使每季課程能夠順利開始和完成,造就各肢體。

2023 年第三季: 傳道書 由魏振新主領

2023 年第四季: 耶穌與猶太教 由洪國智牧師主領 2024 年第一季: 既知生、也知死 由張梅香傳道主領 2024 年第二季: 基督教神學初探 由洪國智牧師主領

#### 圖書部 王治康

疫情後,過往一年教會圖書館還未恢復正常運作,沒有特別開放時間,但是卻仍讓 弟兄姊妹自助借書及還書。圖書館有人幫手登記並記錄。

因現今人多數在網上看資料。借書看的人不會多。借看英文書看的人更少。至於借用影音產品的,因網上多的是,更絕無僅有。

要恢復運作,便要招募人手。需要物色一些有心人。訓練他們圖書館的運作系統。有些弟兄姊妹捐贈了些圖書。會先讓這些新圖書館幫手將這些書安排編入系統,供人借閱。

若人手招募,訓練,安排並組織順利,圖書館可明年重新正常運作。希望能好好服 務弟兄姊妹。

## 成人詩班

梁梁玉玲

詩篇 95 篇一至二節:來啊,我們要向耶和華歌唱,向拯救我們的磐石歡呼,我們要來到他面前稱謝他,用詩歌向他歡呼。

蒙神恩典粵語堂成人詩班在 2024 年二月份開始,從去年每兩個月獻詩一次到今年可每月一次獻詩,詩班員都樂意參與事奉!感謝讚美主!

感謝神梁宏光弟兄(醫生)成為我們固定的司琴,祈求天父給梁醫生有健康的身體,繼續與我們一起事奉!

感謝天父,神亦賜予我們有特約指揮,李敬端弟兄,鄭吳婉雯姊妹及何德欣姊妹幫 助詩班員共同學習和事奉。

在去年三十週年堂慶,除與國語堂組成聯合詩班,在堂慶日獻唱共證主恩及參與堂慶歌曲「跨越」錄製外;在十二月感謝主再次有機會與國語堂詩班一起事奉神;在聖誕主日頌唱「耶稣明亮晨星」記念救主的降生。

今年詩班暫沒有安排大型獻唱活動,在靜待中等候神的引領和尋求神給詩班未來的 方向,我們仍繼續努力練習。

\*

練習時間: 每星期日上午八時十分至四十五分完結

獻唱: 每月第一主日

職員會: 梁梁玉玲,黎萬雪兒,馮周慧虹

司琴: 梁宏光弟兄, 陳余翠婷姊妹

詩班員: 陳余翠婷,陳錦逢,鄭錦銓,馮周慧虹,黎萬雪兒,何家琳,林桂雄,

梁樹權,梁梁玉玲,莫曾麗梅,陳冼佩芬,杜潔慧,唐永安,謝陳燕清,

黄秀君

特約指揮: 李敬端弟兄,鄭吳婉雯姊妹,何德欣姊妹

特約司琴: 鄭吳婉雯姊妹

禱告事項: 祈求天父供應更多有心參與聖樂事奉的弟兄姊妹

榮耀的音樂事奉,從地上操練學習的樣式,到天上永不止息的頌讚,

都是神所喜悦的!願我們各詩班員繼續努力,將最好的獻呈!

## 小組牧養部

陳錦逢

成員: 陳錦逢、李炳祥、李啓彦、洪牧師、張傳道

自去年初成立開始,小組牧養部主要有兩方面的工作進行:

A. 幫助成立新團契 (約書亞團) - 包括商討定位新團契的對象,如團友的文 化背景相近,職青或年輕家庭 (有在學的子女)。

B. 組長/領袖培訓 - 提供培訓給新團契組長、各小組組長、現有的團契小組組長。培訓有兩個方向, 一個是領袖訓練課程,主要是強調理念與技考。 另一個是門徒訓練課程,主要強調靈性生命。而領袖訓練課程,主要題目為 —

- 1. 團隊成員需要的質素
- 2. 僕人領袖
- 3. 認識自己
- 4. 發掘新領袖
- 5. 如何深入研讀聖經?
- 6. 關懷別人知多少?

感恩領袖訓練課程已於2023年11月中完成,共22位信徒參加。

因著 2024 年初要推動播道神學院與澳洲播道會總會合辦的《信徒事奉裝備》課程, 所以粵語堂決定暫緩開展門徒訓練課程,讓信徒可一起參加播道神學院的裝備。感謝主, 總共有 35 位信徒參加裝備課程,詳情如下:

第一季(3-4月):事奉人員的靈命成長-孫偉光牧師

第二季(5月):從聖經中看如何作主門徒-陳偉迦牧師

第三季(8-9月):從神學角度看事奉的裝備 – 郭文池院長

第四季(10-11月):衝突的處理-許志超博士

## 挪亞團

袁洪少媚,唐杜潔貞

團契宗旨是維繫教會伉儷的團契生活,增加彼此問候及關顧,確定信仰的意義及跟隨基督, 參與教會的事工及作基督的見證。

過往一年。聚會形式包括:

- 1. 團契大組聚會:
- -12/08/23:分享各組的過往一年的活動,回憶聚會的相片,看到神的旨意。有27人參加。
- -11/11/23: 慶祝完成研讀提摩太前書及年終感恩分享
- 當中團友分享在過往一年中,神的帶領及感恩的事情。有25人參加。
- -24/02/24:新春盆菜,有自制湯圓,唱詩及猜燈謎。當晚大家都非常開心,有43人參加。
- -13/04/24:公園郊遊及燒烤在 Lake Parramatta

在風和日曬的日子裏,享受神創造大自然之美。遊戲和午餐之後,大家互相交往,有26人參加。

2. 小組聚會每月一次

今年是研讀新約的以弗所書。小組每月查經之前,先由洪國智牧師帶領預查經文。

團友在小組聚會中保持聯絡、相交、代禱、查經、互通訊息、守望、互助等肢體生活。 曾麗梅姊妹與莫少根弟兄今年已回復帶領的小組。

現今小組共有9組,參加人數有89人。

3. 組長團契聚會

一年四次 9/3/2024,11/5/2024,13/7/2024 及 12/10/2024。報告每組的近況,互相祈禱。藉以支持組長。藉組長們的分享,得悉個別小組的運作情況和困難。

現今組長團契聚會模式已運作數年,大部分組長都願意加入新成員,以便更加達到組長團 契的目標。

顧問:洪國智牧師,張梅香傳道,李炳祥執事

聯絡人:袁洪少媚 文書:唐杜潔貞

## 保羅團

胡顏玉玲

安穩之中見到天父的恩典。弟兄姊妹得以一起生活在有形的團契中乃是福氣。

過去一年,保羅團每兩個月舉行一次,團友們恆常參與,加上3位新成員,每次聚會約25 人,大家都很享受聚會。目前我們有三個小組,每組每月舉行查經會並共享晚膳。

團契活動內容包括感恩、祈禱、敬拜的反思;通過訪談加深對團友的了解;分享詩歌和屬靈書籍,以及舉辦了一次聖經和常識問答比賽。這些活動旨在通過不同的方式,豐富團契的屬靈生命,促進團友間的友誼和聯繫,並幫助大家在信仰和生活中成長。

今年復活節主日,保羅團負責安排了粵語堂午餐,謝謝教會給我們機會服事全會衆。弟兄姊妹共聚,不在乎吃喝,在乎不同團契的聯繫和交誼。好多位其他團契弟兄姊妹真心的願意協力,看到弟兄和睦同居是何等的美。

感謝主一直帶領保羅團的方向,願主恩上加恩,感動並裝備我們在來年外展事工中回應祂的召命,成為祂的見證。

我們歡迎 40 歲以上的弟兄姊妹參加,共同分享在主裡親摯的關係,並從一起服事主中獲得的動力。

顧問: 黃張梅香傳道

職員/組長:胡兆廣,胡顏玉玲,陳鄧少屏,黃功顯,黃李少琼,譚伯壯,譚魏梅芳

## 約書亞團

李啟彦



### 感恩

約書亞團成立超過一年,參與朋友由最初 30 多人增加至 40 多位。感謝上主當中保守與帶領,引領新朋友加入,在團契及小組中彼此服侍與成長。期望藉著小組能作更貼身的關顧與牧養,弟兄姊妹得到造就。十分感恩,今年團契分別有 4 位弟兄姊妹受浸及 5 位願意轉會加入教會。



#### 週會及分組安排

#### A. 團契週會

團契週會安排在二月、五月、八月及十月的第三週六進行,避免與其他團契週會相撞亦配合 AWANA 兒童事工同步進行,讓家長可以安心參與團契活動,小朋友亦可參與活動一同成長。

以下是今年的週會主題,期望能適切團友當下的信仰歷程需要。

2月	召命、恩賜、事奉 (I) 洪國智牧師
5月	召命、恩賜、事奉 (II) 洪國智牧師
8月	河蟹之家 廖郭冠姿女士 (Cherrie Liu) 晨光關懷協會總監
10 月	基督徒如何關心和應對時代 余大峰傳道 五加 2 (FivePlus2)基督教網上平台之創辦人、主席及總幹事





#### B. 小組

#### 1. 查經小組

配合教會主題,今年查考以弗所書。各小組自行擬 訂小組聚會時間,可配合 Awana 及 TiC 等活動實體 查經,建立屬靈生命。



#### 2. 小組活動

除了查經外,不同小組各有不同類型的小組活動,當中有包括一同自駕旅行、海上假期、欣賞歌劇、上油畫班等。期望透過不同小組活動建立組員關係,增進彼此感情。



#### 3. 其他類型小組

除了恆常查經小組外,團契亦設立了不同類型小組,當中包括男士及女士小組、地區街坊組、媽媽組、行山組、足球球迷組等等。另外,今年有 10 多位弟兄姊妹分成兩組參與播道神學院信徒證書課程,一同接受裝備。

期望透過跨越查經小組的組合,讓弟兄姊妹可以以不同形式連繫,並且配合不同興趣或需要,增加接觸新朋友的機會,建立彼此關係,見證福音。



#### 期望

團契仍然處於成長階段,一方面我們需要更多彼此認識,建立進深關係,在此刻人生階段中,面對挑戰與困難時能夠互相支持,一同建立屬靈生命;另一方面,我們需要回應這個時代的需要,關顧從香港來的新舊移民,期盼以不同方式接觸新朋友,關懷他們的需要,與他們同行,踐行福音信仰。求主興起更多領袖,願意裝備,願意服侍,成為基督精兵!

顧問:洪國智牧師

組長:吳綺銘、譚始光、汪琦玲、嚴偉軒、陳潔蘭、李啟彦



## 友尼基團

張梅香傳道

友尼基團由 2023 新年度開始,團契以小組模式運作,不設職員會,減少行政,由牧者帶領組長們 (Tracey, Annie, Beatrice, Winnie) 一起籌備、策劃婦女工作,組長們對團契的發展方向和使命均有共識。在行政事務、活動設計及決策方方面面,皆建立於牧者與組長們之間的信任,並不以任務導向去完成工作,大家以關係導向以樂意事奉神來開展工作,採取多看、多聽來溝通、評估和回應撲面而來的不預期處境。



多年來團契的查經均以查考聖經經卷為主,今年採取新的學習模式,團契選用了中神延伸課程的「使徒信經」八課及「活出真我的價值」之其中四課。基督教是一個擁有二千年歷史的信仰。在傳承和傳揚這信仰的過程中,自然累積了許許多多內容豐富的屬靈產業,「使徒信經」就是其中之一。在探討使徒信經所有的內容,包括三位一體的信仰、耶穌基督的身份、工作及救贖、聖靈、教會、人生的終局。信徒藉著討論「使徒信經」更加了解自己的信仰;慕道朋友參與討論、發問幫助他們明白基督教寶貴的信仰。上帝的救恩,不該被簡化為治癒個人苦難的靈丹妙藥!基督的福音,不該被約化為個人得拯救、進入天國的保證!

活在「真我世代」(age of authenticity),一個強調「忠於真我」的時代中,真誠比美善更被稱讚。在今天這個時代,只要你敢愛、敢恨、敢說、敢做,就有機會出位,突顯自己的與眾不同、甚至使上帝可以退居幕後;為了迎合「真我時代」的需求,我們便把福音變小、變弱、變狹窄了。透過「活出真我的價值」的學習,自我察覺與自我檢視、如實的自我接納、鼓勵自我流露和真誠關係、使我們活出真我的價值。這個「真我」並不是放縱自己,任意而行甚至乎以真誠借詞傷害別人卻妄言此乃真我,哀哉!所以「活出真我的價值」的學習,讓我們重新認識上帝所造的人本有上帝的形象與樣式,信徒當活出與救恩相稱的行事為人。

除了以上「使徒信經」和「活出真我的價值」的學習,團契安排了兩次主題講座—「靈性修持」:靜·覺·誠·住。靜中得息、覺醒放下、誠實無偽和住在主內。探索每一個重點,配以自我省察練習及純淨的祈禱操練,聆聽上主在個人內心的呼喚與轉化,重尋人神關係之基本,正好與我們「活出真我的價值」的學習互相配答並予以操練。

團契也安排了不同內容主題的公開聚會,並設有兒童看顧,展開外展工作歡迎婦女 參加。內容較生活化和互動,有「入得廚房」之烹飪示範、「出得廳堂」作才德婦人、慶 祝元宵佳節、Woman 動起來吧!手工藝、健康小園子、戶外郊遊及團契祈禱會等。

友尼基團婦女工作關顧婦女身、心、社、靈各方面的需要。希望藉婦女事工的平台:彼此建立,一起走過困難,為對方打打氣、吐吐苦水,分擔彼此喜與悲,既可同哭也可同樂,互相體恤代禱;一起學習神的話語好能裝備事奉,在基督裡不斷成熟得豐盛的生命;傳福音領人歸主,以生活見證神,將信仰實踐在生活中。

## 長青學府

張梅香傳道

#### 「老年人要作異夢」(珥二28;徒二17)

長者要認知年老的真實,懷着感恩享受神賜長壽的恩典。老年是生命成熟的歷程,生命不因老化停止,生命是有機體,持續培養靈命增長使成為熟齡人,終身忠心地服事神。 老年人要注意言行舉止,活得有盼望有喜樂,不懷愜意,認知自己存活的價值和生命有著 影響力,能作晚輩的表率。為人晚輩要敬重長者如同自己父母,和顏悅色以禮相待老人, 人當尊重和愛護每一個具有上帝形象的彼此(創九 6)。教會要培育信徒使意識到神的恩典 蓋覆生命的每一階段。

長青學府有見長者的生理、心理、社交與經濟幾方面均下降,自身的社會調適不濟,造成與社會連結的阻礙。長青學府籍不同的活動,使屬於社會弱勢團體的長者可透過同儕輔導,族群依附 (ethnic affiliation) 發展個人和個人,團體和團體組合成高齡群體的互動,建立彼此守望和依靠的平台,使生活產生積極性,帶動正向的長者族群與大社會產生連結而不被邊緣化。長者保持學習精神,越是對周遭新事物保持好奇求知,事事感興趣,「用進廢退」常常好學不倦,與時俱進。長者保持參與新的活動,擴寬社交圈,既可補償職場失去的角色,還能發展同儕輔導,同齡人彼此關懷幫襯作伴。(帖前五11)另一方面,神既然留存金齡信徒的生命必有其美意,福音的大能運行於信徒的生活中,與聖靈同工建立關顧的團契,激發信徒關愛週邊的人繼續為主作工將福音廣傳。

#### 長青學府每周一均有不同活動,第五周一除外:

活動時間	活動項目	活動型式
(10:00-12:30)		
第一周一	書法班	中國書法
第二周一	躍動金齢	體能及智力鍛練:健身操及 各式棋藝。周六高爾夫球(室外)
第三周一	美聲學堂	以美聲學習中外歌曲
第四周一	「查經樂、樂查經」、 為慕道者開辦信仰探索班及 初信栽培班。	一步一步學箴言,認識基 督教信仰。

長青學府除了每週活動,也有每年七月的長者主日和事工介紹,也有十二月的聖誕感恩聚會。



## 媒體事工 Media Ministry

李啟彦

#### 與主結連 與人聯繫

「我是葡萄樹,你們是枝子。常在我裡面的,我也常在他裡面,這人就多結果子;因為離了我,你們就不能做什麼。」(約翰福音 15:15)

踏進資訊網絡年代,信息流通普及與廣泛,媒體訊息藉著網絡平台成為有效的傳播途徑,讓 教會弟兄姊妹彼此聯繫,亦成為有效途徑與不同人士接觸,將福音宣講。有效利用媒體網絡勢必成為新時代的重要宣講及連繫工具,實踐「與主結連 與人聯繫」。

#### 網上崇拜直播

隨著出席實體崇拜的人數已逐漸回復,但考慮到部分弟兄姊妹或因身體情況或回港等不同 原因而未能出席實體崇拜,其中亦有參與實體崇拜的新朋友表示,他們先透過網上崇拜接 觸及認識活石堂才決定參與實體崇拜,所以崇拜直播仍然發揮不能取代的功用。

根據紀錄,每週網上崇拜參與人數平均超過200多次,較高的幾堂崇拜有超過600多次瀏覽。有部份弟兄姊妹表示,他們會重温敬拜詩歌及講道訊息,建立屬靈生命。

另外,除了網上崇拜,我們亦有為其他聚會進行直播或錄影,例如浸禮、按牧典禮、團契週會、安息禮拜等,以便弟兄姊妹重温及分享。今年亦協助播道神學院信徒課程的課堂錄影。我們期望透過影像,繼續服侍在雪梨或不同地方的弟兄姊妹及新朋友,讓他們可以接觸教會,認識信仰。





#### 設備更新

教會跨過 30 週年,不少影音器材亦已老 化。今年已在教會大堂內更換一部新電視及 增添了無線咪以減少講臺前的咪線數目,減 低弟兄姊妹經過時的摔倒風險。感謝執事會 通過撥款,購置新的器材。感恩一眾弟兄 呼百應,特別抽出額外時間,選購相關器 材,並迅速安裝以上設備。另外,有會友奉 獻一套全新電子鼓,讓活石堂音樂敬拜更添 豐富樂韻!



#### 使用不同網絡平台

利用 Facebook 宣傳教會不同聚會,例如福音主日,亦會推廣活石堂與其他機構的合作活動,例如五加 2 平台及晨光關懷協會等。另外,製作福音主日宣傳單張,透過 Facebook, YouTube 及教會不同的 WhatsApp 群組分享推廣,鼓勵弟兄姊妹及新朋友出席。

#### 人手及培訓

十分感恩上主感動弟兄姊妹加入媒體事工,繼 上年增添了5位成員,今年亦有3位弟兄加入 服侍。

今年4月,教會邀請同心圓主領影音訓練工作坊,弟兄姊妹參與後獲益良多,未來將繼續培訓有心服侍的弟兄姊妹投入參與,藉著媒體服事上主。感謝隊內弟兄姊妹的無私付出,忠心服事,盼主紀念他們的勞苦,親自報答!



邀請大家禱告代求,求主感動更多弟兄姊妹願意參與及裝備,透過發展媒體事工,讓人連於元首基督,讓我們可以彼此聯繫,藉著網絡媒體將福音廣傳!

#### 崇拜直播及影音隊成員:

譚伯壯(Barry Tam)、吳啟宗(Kennex Ng)、何旭荃(Daniel Ho)、李永祥(Eric Lee)、胡兆廣(Kirkus Wu)、王治康(Vincent Wong)、梁國城(Peter Leong)、林蕓楓(Pacimen Lam)、劉立邦(Bronson Lau)、李瑞麟(Mark Lee)、沈何家琳(Karen Ho)、伍家榮(Frankie Ng)、陳紹基(Chris Chan)、韓健聰(Keith Hon)、李啟彥(K Y Lee)

**教會 YouTube channel 負責人:** 胡兆廣 (Kirkus Wu)、李啟彦 (K Y Lee)

教會 Facebook 負責人: 李啟彦 (KY Lee)

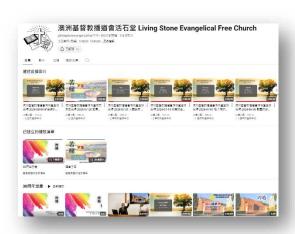
教會網頁負責人: 胡兆廣 (Kirkus Wu)

#### 鼓勵大家訂閱及瀏覽:

教會 YouTube channel:



https://www.youtube.com/@livingstoneevangelicalfree7779





教會 Facebook:



SCAN ME

https://www.facebook.com/www.livingstone.efca.org.au/

教會網頁:



https://www.livingstone.efca.org.au/ls/



## 國語堂堂委會主席報告

顏國華

感謝讚美神在過去一年的帶領與看顧。

籍著神的恩典,國語堂肢體參與事奉的熱情比以往更高,不少弟兄姊妹願意參與到各事奉團隊中去,如堂委、家庭小組、迎新團隊、崇拜讀經、電子設備、茶點等,愿神記念 他們的辛勞、添加他們力量。

過去一年,國語堂有著高質量的主日學和禱告會、專業敬業的詩班、激勵人心的敬拜隊,愿神繼續賜福他們、使用他們。國語堂也舉辦了多次分享會,以聚餐、茶點、燒烤、球類運動作為其形式,每次都很成功,發現其不僅有利於肢體間的相互交流、相互關懷、相互扶持,更是創造了機遇並成功地邀請了平時不參加教會的人來臨,期望今後加強此類活動的質與量,作為社區外展的工具,與眾人分享福音。

#### 國語堂堂委會:

周立牧師,許允文傳道,顏國華(主席),毛瑞平(副主席),白益平(文書),劉瑜, 姜健健,孟越,孙奇志,王伟,翟楊,陳敏

## 國語堂家庭小組

孫奇志

感謝主的恩典,在疫情結束之後國語堂家庭小組團契活動均已恢復正常。參與家庭小組團 契的弟兄姐妹人數有所增長,更有新朋友的加入。

2023-2024年 國語堂共有 12 個家庭小組。小組團契和事工總結如下:

- 1) 2023 年 12 月 9 日舉行聖誕福音晚會,鼓勵並邀請新朋友參加,以各小組為單位獻上詩歌,小品等表演來頌贊慶祝主耶穌的誕生
- 2)為了適應變化中的小組成員結構及更有利小組弟兄姐妹靈命成長,年初時牧者和各小組事工負責人討論 2024 年小組成員的調整和變更
- 3) 小組長同工禱告會每三個月一次,用《世界在等待的門徒》(The Radical Disciple. 作者:斯托得(John Stott)作為組長培訓教材
- 4) 小組長同工禱告鏈持續更新,每天有同工為家庭小組禱告
- 5) 2024 年開始填寫家庭小組聚會記錄,包括小組團契的時間,參與的肢體和團契的內容
- 6) 2024 年四月舉辦了一場小組長同工郊遊團契,加強小組長之間的溝通支持
- 7) 小組長及同工參與為 2024 年播道會退修營活動推動工作的討論

求神繼續帶領和使用家庭小組事工,讓更多的家庭在教會中紮根並堅定信仰。

## 國語詩班

指揮:毛瑞平弟兄

詩班長:袁 凌姐妹

「我要因祂歡喜快樂,至高者啊,我要歌頌祂的名!」詩9:2

國語詩班在疫情之後從2022年2月底開始逐漸恢復實體練詩,並且在同年的復活節開始獻詩。感謝主目前詩班事奉也已經恢復到正常的每月一次獻唱。雖然後疫情時代對詩班事奉還是有影響,比如有一部分的弟兄姐妹疫情後就沒有再回教會,國語堂搬去小學禮堂崇拜後練詩時間也必須做調整,但還是無法避免和成人主日學的衝突,等等,但神的恩典夠我們用,繼續保守弟兄姐妹的事奉熱情,願意擺上時間和精力來事奉神,并让自己的生命得改变。

培訓和提高詩班事奉能力和技能也是詩班事奉中不可或缺的一部分,2023年8月份國語詩班組織了一次專業培訓,弟兄姊妹從中都有不同程度得著和提高。

爲了讓更多有恩賜,願意參與詩歌事奉的 弟兄姐妹一同參與詩班事奉,經國語堂委 和牧者同意,今年三月有十位弟兄姐妹加 入到詩班,使每個聲部的成員都得到相應 的補充。

感謝國語堂弟兄姐妹、牧者為詩班事奉的 禱告和支持。至今國語詩班成立了已有十 一個年頭,回顧這十一年,也是大家一同 經歷神的十一年,哪怕在不能實體崇拜的



時候,詩班也沒有間斷事奉。錄音、錄像並剪輯成音像影片,這對於每個詩班成員來說都是人生第一次,但靠着神的帶領,我們做到了。感谢神對詩班的帶領和赐豐富無比的恩典。若不是耶和華建造房屋,建造的人就枉然勞力;若不是耶和華看守城池,看守的人就枉然警醒(詩篇127:1)。願神繼續帶領我們詩班,做到眾口一心,一起以音樂服侍神,歌頌讚美祂,傳揚祂的救恩。

詩班事奉日程安排:詩班獻唱是每月的第一個主日,練習時間是每月的第二,三,四個主日崇拜後 (11:30~12:30),若有其他重要活動獻唱(比如聖誕聯合崇拜),練習和獻唱時間會有調整。

## 英語堂 English Congregation

## **English Congregation Chairman's Report**

**Emmanuel Chan** 

The latter half of a trialling 2023 was marked by our church 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary events, the first EC camp in four years and our EC Christmas celebration. EC camp was held at CRU Lake Macquarie in September. It was a time of fellowship and mingling beyond Sunday service, while learning and sitting under God's word with guest pastor Simon Ball. Our Christmas celebration was also well attended and received. We sung carols, enjoyed a delicious dinner and participated in family-friendly skits.

Following on from our EC service review in mid-2023, in which we requested input from the congregation through an online survey, a point of emphasis was the need to care for members who have been serving for many years. We were concerned with burnout and feelings of insufficient support. In attempt to address this, we conducted a reset of roles where each ministry was assigned a coordinator and all serving members were given an opportunity to opt out and recommit if they chose to do so. This exercise proved to be a step of faith. It was encouraging to see the roster repleted after the reset but to also see different members step into new roles.

The theme for EC in 2024 is "For Christ's love compels us" and we have been challenged as a congregation to reflect the love of God by serving one another and reaching out to members of the community. The Women's Ministry was set up by by few women of EC on their own initiative to address the need for a platform for EC women to gather and connect outside of service. Events, including their attendance at EQUIP, have allowed the women of EC to pray and get to know one another more deeply. The congregation has also been encouraged to serve the wider community through events run by the OCT team. Members have come together for blood donations, food collection and also a planned nursing home visit. In addition to the usual Sunday bulletin, we now have a Whatsapp community group where news items and links are posted on a weekly basis allowing members to be updated and to access events more easily. We have been trialling an 11:15AM service time since June. The rationale behind this change is to allow for more time of fellowship after service and to cater for the increasing number of young children. At the committee level, we are planning to work more collaboratively with ministries like TiC and Children Sunday school in order to better support these ministries and the members serving within.

We give thanks to all of those who have served faithfully over the past year, especially the pastors, Connect Group leaders, KidsChurch leaders, TiC leaders, TNT leaders, OCT, crèche/nursery volunteers, musicians, prayers, Bible readers, chairpersons, greeters, service coordinators, and all

others who have volunteered their time and effort. We pray that Christ's love may continue to compel us to serve Him, each other and those outside the church.

EC Committee Team 2023-24:

Pastors: Rev John Gurusamy and Rev Kelvin Lau

Chairman: Emmanuel Chan Vice Chairman: Jonathan Ip

Members: Diana Chan (secretary), Chelsea Chan, Chris Chen, Sarah Fung, Grant Lian, Christina

Liang

## **PSG (Parents Support Group)**

Rev Kelvin Lau

#### **Team Members**

Kelvin & Esther Lau

#### What is Parents Support Group?

Launched last year, the Parents Support Group consists of parents of young children in EC, where we meet quarterly for mutual encouragement, learning and reflecting biblically, and prayer, in strengthening our marriages and parenting our children in Christ.

#### What have we done this year?

So far the group have met twice and have been well attended and received by the families. We have explored what it practically means for us to be Christian households, and how being followers of Jesus shapes our thinking and approach to our children's education.

It has been a good addition this year for us to have dinner together afterwards.

#### Thank God for...

- Volunteers who have come to supervise the children and that they played well together.
- Open and honest discussion and sharing.
- The families making an effort to attend.

#### Please pray for...

- That every family feels welcomed and supported, especially if they think they are not doing well enough.
- For the children to enjoy church and see God's love amongst us.
- The couples may grow in deeper love and knowledge of the Lord and of each other, that by grace they may put into practice what they have learned.
- A growing thankfulness and dependence on God in our parenting.
- The children to know that Jesus is the one who loves them most of all.

## **OCT (Outreach Catalyst Team)**

Rev Kelvin Lau

#### **Team Members**

Elizabeth Chan, Kevin Ho, Kelvin Lau, Jessica Liang, Max Wang, Bright Wen.

#### What are our goals?

- To plan and create opportunities for the congregation to be evangelists in their own context through existing social relationships.
- To support and encourage members of the congregation to consider and prepare for crosscultural missions, and for the congregation to partner with those who do so.
- To plan and create opportunities for the congregation to practically demonstrate God's love to the community.
- To support and encourage members of the congregation to be prayerful for the missionaries and mission organisations that our church supports.

#### What has happened this year?

We have refined our goals and have renamed ourselves as the Outreach Catalyst Team at the start of the year. This was well received by the congregation and as the name implies, the focus of the ministry is on the congregation members and for them to have opportunities to both speak and live out the gospel to the people around them.

By the grace of God, we have also expanded this year by providing the congregation with new opportunities to serve the local community. So far, we have organised a food donation drive for the Food Bank, and a visit to a local nursing where we plan to spend time and play music for the residents.

With much joy, we hosted a partnership event for an EC member who will be experiencing full-time cross-cultural mission in SE Asia for the next six months. We look forward to learning with her and from her, as we pray and encourage her during her time there.

Additionally, we were able to explore some possibilities for insight trips with Compassion Australia in both Thailand and Philippines. These trips are currently pending for early 2025.

#### For prayer

- Praise God for new team members!
- Give thanks to God for allowing us to be part of His work in bringing people to know and love Him.
- Praise God that many have grown in love and passion for Christ to be known and loved, and that many have preached and lived Christ to people around them.
- Pray that God will grant us wisdom and energy to understanding the members of EC as we continue to grow and adapt our strategies.
- Pray that EC will be loving and encouraging to each other, to our mission partners around the world, and to those who don't know God, that we will build each other up in Christ.
- Pray that EC will develop a heart of compassion and fervent prayer for the needy and the persecuted church.
- Pray that the team will grow in numbers, fervour and maturity for the years to come.

## **Young Adult Fellowship**

Rev. Kelvin Lau

#### YA Vision 2024

YA ministry's vision is to bring similar lifestage individuals (young adults), under God's grace and love, to openly partake in fellowship with one another. Thus creating a safe and accepting environment to explore and be challenged by the bible, ultimately growing deeper in faith and intimacy with God. This is to prepare and aid its members to join and serve the wider church as they transition out of highschool. Secondarily, YA provides opportunities to build new relationships and to continuously love and serve other church members, as a reflection/response to Christ's love and service to us.

#### YA Leaders and attendees

- Kin Lam
- Calvin Lai
- Chris Chen
- Christy Chan

We are thankful to God that there are around **18 Young Adults** participating in this ministry. Most are regular attendees, on both the Sunday morning fellowship and our monthly social events.

#### What have we done this year?

#### **Sunday Morning Fellowship**

YA has been blessed in 2024 with seven new members who have graduated from high school, and have now joined us since leaving TiC. With this growth in numbers, the leaders felt it appropriate to begin 2024 with a 3 week series on understanding the goals and purposes of YA. The rest of the Sundays leading up to August 2024 have been guided by responses to a Member Survey conducted in 2023, which helps the leaders understand what content to plan that can be most desired by the members.

As a quick summary of the year so far:

- YA Goals and Purposes
- Book Series: God's Big Picture, by Vaughan Roberts
- Bible Study: Ruth
- Topicals on Glorifying God in our Lives
  - Focus on Drugs and Alcohol
  - Focus on Relationships

#### **Monthly Socials**

An integral part of YA includes a monthly social, where we aim to have a more relaxed time for fellowship and strengthening our relationships with each other. YA have planned a variety of activities, including dinners, putt putt golf, bushwalking and night markets.

#### What is planned for the rest of the year?

For the remainder of 2024, the team will continue to plan for our Sunday fellowship and Monthly socials. Recently, YA is planning to have a Member run series focusing on the miracles of Jesus (with leader support) or further short series on books such as 2 Samuel or Daniel. We also plan to run at least one more topical bible study series, with the next area of focus being glorifying God in our careers.

YA will also work closely with other ministries to help identify a group of potential mentors and mentees, as well as those interested in a prayer triplet to support members' spiritual growth and contribution to Living Stone. This includes those who are interested in serving in the TiC team for 2025. It is planned to have Steve Lam come to speak with the YA cohort in 2024.

## A few things to pray for...

#### Thank God for...

- Growing the Young Adult ministry in both members and leaders.
- God's guidance and wisdom in helping the leaders discern what bible studies and series will be most helpful in achieving our goals.
- Fruitful socials, which have helped leaders and members deepen their relationships.
- Increased participation in discussions and helpful topicals.

#### Please pray for...

- Continued reliance on God for strengthening each member in their personal faith, and that this will move them to loving service in Living Stone.
- The leaders as they continue to prepare and plan for the rest of 2024, as well as content in 2025, that will be challenging and insightful for their spiritual growth.
- The Holy Spirit will be inspiring and moving members to faithful service within the Church.
- Members will be intentional in their efforts to grow in their relationships with each other, and seek to spur each other on towards love and good deeds.

## **TiC**

Rev. Kelvin Lau

## Together in Christ Vision

We want the youths to:

To know and love the lord

To care and value one another

To be equipped to trust (God) in a hostile world

(Be friends in encountering God together)

## **Team Members**

Sunday Group Leaders

- Year 6-7: Rachel Chen and Max Wang
- Year 8-9: Alisa Chan and Sam Hung
- Year 10-12 Boys: Nathan Cheung and In-Jhong Rhee
- Year 10-12 Girls: Jocelyn Lee, Esme Zhou and Carissa Wong

Other Leaders: Chris Yip Admin: Nathan Cheung Treasurer: Esme Zhou Coordinator: Steve Lam

## What have we done this year?

TiC has gone through a lot of change this year! After some deliberation with Kidschurch, we decided to take in the Year 6s as well as the new Year 7s. Praise God as they have settled in well, and also for raising up new leaders in order for this to happen! In addition, Christopher Fung handed over the role of Coordinator to Steve Lam, who has been growing accustomed to role with the help of Pastor Kelvin Lau.

## • Sunday Mornings

TiC opened the year with a few weeks of orientation outlining our vision for the Youth group and allowing the groups and leaders to get to know each other. With the success of Sam and Alisa' mixed group of Year 8-9 boys and girls, we decided to also run a mixed group for Year 6 and 7. Praise God that Max and Rachel have found this group to be working well and better allowing the youth to maintain previous friendships established in Kidschurch. TiC also continues to run combined breakfasts and sport events each school holiday, allowing youth from all groups to spend time with each other.

We recently finished our first Bible study series on the year on the book of Mark. The series was titled "The Lord is my \_\_\_\_\_" and explored the identity of Jesus, challenging the youth with the question of who Jesus is to them. It was fruitful for them to see that Jesus was the Servant King, calling his followers to take up their cross and live a life like him.

## • Friday Nights

Friday Nights have continued to run twice a month, with dinner prepared by English Congregation's Connect Groups on the first week of each month. This has been an encouraging way for the older members of EC to get involved and see how the youth group is doing. Praise God as many more youth have been attending and bringing their friends along!

We have continued to sing songs, play games, watch the leaders act in exciting skits and listen to Bible talks by various leaders. In particular, the youth were challenged by our series on the book of John – "Jesus: not nice, not easy". There was fruitful and deep discussion evoked by this serious which explored the demanding calls and statements made by Jesus. The youth have also enjoyed the regular time spent afterwards cooking and eating, playing sport and games.

TiC has also benefitted greatly this year from the support of parents. The Parents' Night at the start of the year allowed Steve and Kelvin to share their vision for TiC and parents to mutually encourage one another. It was especially heartwarming to have parents that have been involved with TiC longer encourage parents of new youth. Praise God as the commitment of parents and our partnership with them has helped youth attendance this year.

## Plans for rest of the year

Sunday Series- Bible Study series on 1 John and Deuteronomy Friday Nights – Talks on Romans Christmas End of Year Event

## Things to pray for

- Thank God for the year so far. For the large changes that have happened in TiC, such as the new Year 6s and 7s settling in.
- Thank God for the sacrificial work and love the leaders have for the youth, especially as most are now older full-time workers.
- Please pray for energy, wisdom, joy and perseverance for the leaders as they continue to serve.
- Please pray for future leaders to be raised up, so the skills, maturity and growth of current leaders can be passed down.
- Please pray for the youth, that they will be able to attend English Congregation Service, invite more of their friends to church also and ultimately know the Lord for themselves.
- Please pray for the parents that they would be able to continue partnering with the leaders and to continue to enable the youth to attend church.

# **Connect Groups**

Rev. John Gurusamy

Day	Group Leader	Location
Tuesday	Shared Leadership	Church
Wednesday	Agnes Rhee	Meadowbank
Thursday	Jean & John Gurusamy	Pennant Hills
Thursday	Grant & Estella Lian	Cherrybrook
Friday	John & Jean Gurusamy	Pennant Hills
Saturday	Christina Liang	Epping/Beecroft
Saturday	Kevin Ho	Kellyville

CG's are the adult small groups at EC. We meet to grow in our relationship with God and support, pray and care for each other as we seek to encourage one another to live a life pleasing to God.

Groups followed the sermon series looking at 1 Peter and Ephesians. In between, some groups listened and discussed Sam Chan's podcast Evangelism in a Skeptical World.

The CG leaders meet up quarterly for support, accountability and equipping. We have been looking at Leading Better Bible Studies by Karen and Rod Morris.

### Thanksgiving:

- We thank God for the opportunity to meet during the week for mutual support and encouragement in our walk with God.
- We give thanks to God for all CG leaders and hosts who enable this to happen.
- We give thanks that this year the groups have been better balanced in terms of numbers.
- We give thanks to God for CGs who have been able to serve the youth by cooking for TiC on a Friday night

# **Teaching and Training (TNT)**

Eric Chung

By its name "Teaching and Training", the goal of TNT ministry is to bring about knowledge of the Bible and theology to the members of the congregation to supplement teachings from the pulpit and Bible studies and fellowship in connect groups.

This year term, TNT has resumed full operation. Below are the classes held over last reporting year.

Term 3, 2023	+"Sipping Saltwater" by Steve Hoppe
Term 4, 2023	"The Bible Convictions of John Wycliffe" by Steven J Lawson
Term 1, 2024	"Praying with Paul" by D A Carson
Term 2, 2024	*A Survey of Church History (1500-1600)

<sup>\*</sup> A Ligonier Connect course. Ligonier Connect is an online Bible teaching from Ligonier Ministries.

Through studying the book about the life of John Wycliffe, and the Ligonier course, "A survey of Church History" during the reformation period, we are able to know how and why the reformation occurs and progress and also its influences in different part of Europe. All this knowledge helps us understand the doctrine we are upholding now.

In reading the booking "Praying with Paul" together, the writer, D A Carson presented to a framework of prayer. By practising in the class as well as in personal daily prayers, all attendees are much encouraged and strife to improve their prayer life.

From a more practical perspective, the book "Sipping Saltwater" helps us to deal with idolatry in our contemporary culture. The author not just plainly tells us but to guide us through discussions to find out idols of our own.

Thanks to the newly renovated classrooms D and E that TNT may have the convenience of meeting at church premises.

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

James 1:5

So, the initiative is on our side. We hope that TNT can be a channel for each member of EC to seek God, to learn more about God and so to grow in spiritual maturity.

May God bless us all!

<sup>\*</sup>Book club readings

# **Music Ministry**

Adrian Law

Praise God that we have been able to worship together through music, and for the gifted and willing members of our congregation who serve in this way! By God's grace, it has been my first full year as coordinator of Music Ministry, taking over from Emmanuel, and I have been encouraged by everyone's commitment.

We are keeping the structure of four songs during EC service, including one as a response after the sermon. Bands continue to choose their own songs, allowing for both new songs and repetition of familiar songs that fit a theme or preaching series. It has been a great encouragement to continue to sing "I Can Trust In You" and "Look Back With Thanksgiving", two songs composed by Emmanuel in 2023.

Going into 2024, we reorganised the bands, forming three bands with more members in each, down from four bands last year. This has given us a better spread of roles and instruments so that bands do not need to swap as frequently. It has also given us opportunities to work with different people from previously and try different arrangements of songs. Although bands faced some difficulty in organising times to practise due to more people being needed, we were able to be flexible.

With some members of EC expressing interest in band throughout the year, we are looking into remaking a fourth band to ease the rotation time. This will be a good opportunity for new joining members to learn from others and be trained in the ministry, and for those who have previously served to restart playing music.

After a successful EC camp band in 2023 consisting of many members, we are again organising people to take part in band. We are taking the structure and learnings from last year to simplify organisation with only one band for the duration of camp.

Moving forward, we will continue to seek opportunities to train members and allow them to play and jam together, as well as ensure that our musical equipment meets the needs of the ministry by communicating with bands and the PA team.

# 兒童事工部 Children Ministry

## **KidsChurch**

Jason Chung

By the grace of God, KidsChurch (KC) is now operating into its  $7^{th}$  year. KidsChurch is structured to encourage an "all-together" churching in which all children come together to sing praise and worship, followed by a children's talk. Discussion groups are split from K-2 and Year 3-6 for age-appropriate discussions where passages and applications are discussed further in depth.

In the year 2024, Together-in-Christ (TIC) groups adopted the year 6 children into their group, phasing them in early to encourage their continued attendance with high school ministries and English Congregation services. Hence, the numbers were slightly reduced last year. For 9:30am sessions, nursery attendance ranged from 3 - 7 whilst the kindergarten to year 6 group ranged from 20 - 30 children. 11:30am session remained stable from last year of 3 - 4 in nursery and 7 - 8 for kindergarten to year 5 group. This year saw a wide fluctuation in attendance, particularly during school holidays where attendance was significantly lower.

Our team numbers remain similar at 5-6 teachers. Additional helpers from members of the English Congregation joined on this year to assist in both sessions. It is encouraging to have the youth pick up children's ministry roles. The KC continues to remain short and we continue to pray for more teachers to help lead. With additional helpers, it is hoped to alleviate the teacher's load by distributing the discussion section to helpers. This would serve as an intermediary step towards teaching as well as benefit children by breaking them down into smaller groups.

We continue to use Sandy Galea's KidsWise curriculum. In 2024, we have continued our study in Old Testament books that are less well-known including Isaiah, Daniel and Zechariah. These studies have focused on providing children with a brief history of Israel through biblical narratives and passages as well as demonstrating the prophetic and visionary nature of these books which foreshadow the coming of Jesus, linking these to the New Testament.

A helper's meeting was held to thank the helpers for their service and to ensure all helpers were on the same page, understanding the importance and nature of their role. We hoped to empower helpers to take on more responsibility for the children and take an active role in guiding them. Some additional roles provided to them including welcoming in which kids are greeted as they enter the classroom and have their attendance marked. Other upcoming plans include leading discussions as previously described or games.

In 2022, we introduced the e-newsletter distributed via WhatsApp to a parents group. We continue to do this on a weekly basis, updating parents with the big idea, memory verse and content of the lesson that was taught. We hope this will enable conversation between parents and children at home about what they are learning and how this can be applied at home. This role has now been passed onto a member of EC outside of KC.

This year we also saw some increasing collaboration between the children's ministries including AWANA and Mainly Music. With the guidance of Yin Wearne and Pastor Kelvin Lau, several

meetings and discussions were taken to ensure teachers felt supported as they continued their service as well as potential transition plans to release teachers should they wish to. Additionally, with the expected biological growth from English Congregation, it is hoped that EC members will become more involved in the direction of the KC in the future.

As we approach the end of 2024, we thank God for the additional children and families he has brought into KidsChurch. We pray for the stability of their attendance, their faith and spiritual well-being as they navigate the challenges of a demanding and busy modern life. God has placed every person in KidsChurch for a reason and we pray He may bring to fruition His will through us.

# 兒童音樂活動 mainly music

# Tuesday mainly music

Ps. Yin Wearne Koh

Coordinator: Yin Wearne Koh

Song leading/Story telling: Trix Wong, Rianne Leung, Tina Yang, Yin Wearne Koh

Craft: Rianne Leung, Yin Wearne Koh

Welcome/Registration/Tea/Prayer: Annie Chan, Yanling Zhang, Dongjun Huang

PA/PowerPoint: Steven Yu, Yan Wen, Dongjun Huang

Time: 10 am to 12 noon.

Age: 0-5 years old

Program: song and rhythm, story, craft, outdoor play, refreshment

Objectives: develop the love of music, rhythmic skill, literacy skill, numeracy skill, motor skill and social skill. Most of all, learning about Jesus and about our identity in God.

For parents: a time to relax and interact with other parents. A time of encouragement in the love of Jesus.

On the average we have about 4 families. Although there are not many families, we thank God for the opportunity to minister to these families. A close friendship has developed among us. We pray that God will open the door for some of them to commit their life to the Lord.

Future plan: It has been feedbacked to us that many parents would like their kids to learn Chinese in mainly music. We are planning to include Chinese language learning elements into our songs and other activities.

## 星期四兒童音樂活動

譚魏梅芳

統籌: Rosa Tam 譚魏梅芳

歡迎: Amy Li, May Lau, Candy Yim

領唱遊: Rosa Tam, Ellen Chung, Dolphin Wong, Catherine Wu

投影音響: Richard Sin, Lee Lau, Amy Tam,

時間: 逢星期四早上十至十二時 服事對象: 0-5 歲孩童家庭。 內容: 唱遊, 故事, 手工, 戶外活動, 茶點

今年參加的家庭平均只有 3-5 個,雖然小孩子不多,感謝主整個團隊仍有熱熾服侍神的心,求神帶領這事工的前路。

## Awana

Ps. Yin Wearne Koh

Awana meets every 3rd Saturday of each month. Additional meetings are added whenever Joshua fellowship meets. On the average we have 30 clubbers attending, age from Kindy to Year 6. We are blessed with the opportunity to bring the Gospel to the kids. It is our prayer that each clubber will grow to love and serve Christ, and to become an approved workmen who do not need to be ashamed (2 Tim. 2:15).

Club meetings consist of three segments:

- 1. Council Time
- 2. Handbook Time
- 3. Game Time

We would like to thank the following brothers and sisters for their invaluable and faithful service in the Lord:

Pastor/Commander	Yin Wearne Koh
Secretary	Mabel Ye
Assistant Secretaries	Zoe Chen, Yimei Cai, Yanping Sun
Treasurer	Bronson Lau
Sparks Director	Sophia Lu
T & T Director	Bronson Lau
Game Director	Ping Choy
Leaders	Rosa Tam, Zoe Luo, Julia Ju, Kayleen Choo, Alfred Chen,
	Annie Xiong
Youth leaders	Kevin Chen, Audrey Yao, Mary Yao, Jasmine Zhang,
	Bernice Chan, Prudence Lee, Jonathan Yan, Austin Chan,
	Isaac Ye.

# 差傳部 Mission Department

李炳祥

感謝神。活石堂的弟兄姊妹對差傳的負擔和奉獻,並沒有因為疫情影響而減少或降低。 在2023年(由1月至12月)共收到差傳奉獻\$101,032,讓我們再次經歷到神豐厚的供應。

活石堂於 2023 年 10 月 15 日舉行了差傳主日粵語/國語聯合崇拜並邀請中國信徒佈道會總幹事杜偉雄牧師作講員,並以「教會使命重來歷」為主題分享差傳訊息。

## 2024年,活石堂支持的宣教士和宣教機構有:

- 海外基督使團 Helen 姊妹
- Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students Kian Holik
- Pioneers of Australia Simon & Danielle Ball
- 海外基督使團 麥恩盈姊妹
- Leaders Bridge (Daniel & Esther)
- 澳洲華人教牧神學院
- 悉尼宣教士聖經學院
- 中國信徒佈道會
- 華人福音普傳會
- 加拿大國際華人宣教協會
- 香港醫療關懷基金

今年我們也增加支持香港播道神學院在神學教育的事工

在過去一年,由數位弟兄姊妹組成的短宣隊繼續赴 Penrith 的短宣(每月第二個主日和第四個主日)。短宣隊在主日禮拜、成人主日學等方面積極事奉。 2023 年 9 月 3 日,Penrith 華人長老會的王玉海長老受邀在活石堂國語堂的主日崇拜中證道,給教會帶來了美好的教導和勉勵。

願 神繼續帶領使和用活石堂差傳部,讓我們在祂向普世宣教的事工上有份。

差傳部成員:洪國智牧師、古樂心牧師、周立傳道、陳玉轉傳道、李炳祥執事、劉捷理弟兄、梁樹權弟兄、黃東峻弟兄、Bright Wen 弟兄、陳以勒執事

# **Mission Department**

Raymond Li

Praise the Lord. For 2023 (from 1 January to 31 December), we received total mission offering of \$101,032. We again experienced God's abundant provision.

Annual Mission Sunday was held on 15 October 2023 with a combined Cantonese and Mandarin service. We invited the Secretary General of Chinese Christian Mission Australia, Rev. Dennis To to speak to our congregations.

For 2024 Living Stone EFCA continue to support the following:

- Helen, OMF International
- Kian Holik, Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students
- Simon & Danielle Ball, Pioneer of Australia
- Charissa Mak, OMF International
- Leaders Bridge (Daniel & Esther)
- Chinese Theological College Australia (CTCA)
- Sydney Missionary and Bible College (SMBC)
- Chinese Christian Mission Australia (CCMA)
- Gospel Operation International for Chinese Christians
- Chinese International Missions (Canada)
- Medicare Resources Limited, Hong Kong

We have also supported Evangel Seminary Hong Kong for their theological education ministry in Hong Kong.

During the past year, the short-term mission team continued the trips to Penrith (on the second and fourth Sundays of each month). The team has been actively serving in the are of Sunday worship and Adult Sunday School. On 3 September 2023, Elder Darren Wang from Penrith Chinese Presbyterian Church was invited to preach at the Sunday service of the Mandarin Congregation of Living Stone Church, bringing wonderful teaching and encouragement to the MC members.

Pray that God will continue to guide us and let us be part of HIS mission in spreading the gospel to all nations. Amen.

Members: Rev. K C Hung, Rev. John Gurusamy, Pastor Robin Zhou, Pastor Charlotte Chen, Lee Lau, Daniel Leung, Don Huang, Bright Wen, Emmanuel Chan, Raymond Li

# 物業部 Property Department

Vincent Wong

In the past financial year from July 23 to June 24, a number of church renovation and maintenance works have been carried out and completed. The followings highlight the major items.

The most recent one is the construction of the covered disable access ramp to the middle hall. It provides a compliance access into our church and finish all the works under the Development Application in more than 10 years ago. It also creates a larger outdoor covered area at the entrance of the church.

In the beginning of 2024, the cracked walls in the chapel were repaired. The foundation was strengthened and the cracks on the walls were repaired with reinforcements added.

The classrooms with the garage type doors were renovated in the second half of 2023. The doors were replaced and painted. The flooding damaged floors were repaired and the internal walls were painted. It creates a better space for the group gathering and study.

The other building maintenance works completed included the repair of the leaking roof, the rocking entrance stairs, the blocked female toilet, the damaged flooring due the leakage water from the water dispenser, the opening door to the ventilation access at the back of the office and the locks for the door into the chapel.

The decay branches of the big tree in the middle of the yard were cut. The parking space marks were renewed.

Apart from the building renovations, the audio and video system in the middle have also been renewed. New projectors and screens were installed with new cables. The television screen in the middle of the hall was also replaced. The light in the parent room was replaced. The support to the electricity cables between the main building and the classroom building were strengthened.

A number of routine maintenance works and services have also been commissioned in the passed year. The air conditioners have been serviced. A fire audit has been carried out. The frequencies for the routine cleaning have been increased to include the cleaning of the fallen leaves in the channels. A new gardener is engaged to carry out the routine landscape and shrub trimming works.

Thanks to the help from a number of brothers and sisters for the smooth execution of the works.

# 活泉堂 Living Spring Church

# 粤語堂事工

關國輝

# 與主同行

回顧活泉堂過去的一年,粵語堂在神的引領和保守下,不斷成長。感謝祂在不同的時段裡,將祂所揀選的人安置在教會中,使我們在人數和人力資源上,都能有適當的增長和調配。各事工上各崗位,也有不少不同年齡的弟兄姊妹在不同時段投身在其內,這是可喜可賀及神樂見的。

彼得前書2章9節 "然而你們是們蒙揀選的族類,是君尊的祭司,是聖潔的國家,成為神特有珍貴產業的子民,為要叫你們宣揚祂的美德---祂召你們離開黑暗,進入祂奇妙的 光 明 。 ( 環 球 聖 經 譯 本 ) -------詩歌'恩典太美麗'中一句 "能事奉祢是最尊貴",對那些曾投身在事奉主的道路上的弟兄姊妹,此句歌詞的意思,他們想必心領神會。

現今商業社會,經常聽到或談到 要有"高質素的服務"。.... 然而耶和華 神要求我們 怎樣去事奉祂呢?

以下申命記十章 12 至 13 節 清楚表明神對我們的要求…… "現在,以色列啊,耶和華你的神對你有什麼要求呢?無非是要你敬畏耶和華你的神,走 祂的一切道路,愛祂,全心全意事奉耶和華你的神,遵守耶和華的誠命和規定,就是我今 天吩咐你的,為要使你得到益處。"(環球聖經譯本)

事奉的本意並不是指身體的活動,事奉是屬靈生命的流露。我們藉與祂同行,一面 向祂學習,一面探求祂對我們所定的旨意,使我們一生都走在祂旨意中。

事奉的真諦就是生命的事奉,也就是遵行祂的道.... 遵守祂的誡命。我們的生命到甚麼地步,我們的事奉也就只能到甚麼地步。(上兩段文節錄自李定武牧師的《討神喜悅的事奉》)。

約翰福音 四章 35 節 "你們不是說'還有四個月才到收割的時候'嗎? 留心聽!我告訴你們:舉目向田觀看,莊稼熟了,可以收割了。"(環球聖經譯本)

馬太福音 28 章 18 至 20 節 耶穌上前來,對他們說: "天上地上一切權柄都賜給我了。所以,你們要去使萬民做我的門徒,給他們施洗,歸入父、子、聖靈的名下, 我吩咐你們的一切,都要教導他們遵守。記住,我時刻都與你們同在,直到現世時代的終結。"(環球聖經譯本)

### 但願我們都能在耶和華 神所吩咐的道路上攜手踏步

# 國語堂事工

劉盧秀玲

回首過去一年的活泉國語堂,內心充滿著感謝,感謝神一切的恩典。

在 2023 年 12 月,陳玉轉傳道正式離任;國語堂弟兄姊妹不斷的禱告,一同學習順服神的帶領,等候神安排合適人選。過去七個月,弟兄姊妹都一同操練信心和忍耐,感謝神,我們一起經歷了,神保守祂的教會及與我們同在。

## 屬靈的果子

感謝神的恩典,國語堂在去年 11 月有一位弟兄,一位姊妹,受洗加入教會。 也在去年底舉辦的聖誕報佳音的音樂會當天,有一位姊妹決志信主。而在今年 6 月,一個主日崇拜之後,聖靈感動,一對夫婦也一同決志接受主耶穌成為他們個人生命的救主。弟兄姊妹能親嘗基督同在的見證,令我們感到鼓舞和興奮。願榮耀歸給我們的父神。

想起保羅的教導。《林前 1:30》「但你們得在基督耶穌裡、是本乎神、神又使基督成為我們的智慧、公義、聖潔、救贖。」一切本乎神。

## 生命的成長

國語堂主日學繼續學習《彼得前書》,感恩在今年 6 月完成;求主讓弟兄姊妹能把基督的道理生活化,學以至用,得著屬靈生命的滋養。

今年增加了每月網上「預查小組」。除了協助帶領查經者,也希望三個家庭小組的查經進度能夠統一;也同時希望預備查經資料方面,讓帶查經者,可以事前一起討論,彼此學習, 並且有團契交通的機會。

去年 11—12 月期間,我們舉辦了首次網上「啟發課程」;而 2024 年 7 月,會在教會實體 進行第二次「啟發課程」,求主使用。

## 團契与小組

感謝神,家庭小組由今年2月有了更新;事工委員會通過,小組組員以抽籤形式變動重組。 每月第一次在家庭進行團契並查考《羅馬書》,而每月第二次的聚會則是兩組合併在教會 進行,採用《與情緒共舞走出人生低谷研討系列》一書,作為專題討論形式進行。求主保 守並使用小組,成為關顧、牧養,福音的門。在此感謝組長領袖們,及所有願意把家居開 放的肢體,求主紀念他們的勞苦及忠心的服侍。

#### 服侍的裝備

感恩在今年國語堂,有一位姊妹願意參予青少年小組導師服侍。另外也有新成員加入帶領 小組查經。願神賜他們信心和愛心;在服侍中有成長,有喜樂。

感謝神,澳洲教牧神學院 CTCA,今年分派了一位將在2024年年中畢業的神學生,從今年二月份來到國語堂實習半年;也是活泉堂多年未曾看見的情況。求主使用他,一起建立基督的教會。

### 敬拜的安排

今年每週敬拜的事宜,也都平穩運作,感謝神的保守和帶領。

# **Youth Sunday Fellowship**

David Ho

It has been a fruitful year with God's grace for the Youth Sunday fellowship. Even though the size of the youth group is steady, we have one more leader joined the team to lead Bible study, Helen from MC who is a high school teacher. She brings with her professional teaching skills and knowledge to the group. She is a big help to share the roster and leading Sunday Bible study.

Helen has started teaching the Old Testament and helped the youths to apply that in a Christian life.

I have come across Alpha Australia and found the Alpha Youth series. It is useful and suitable for our youths to explore life, faith and meaning. I have used a series of interactive sessions which are online teaching materials. Hopefully, this will give our youths a better understanding of faith in following Jesus.

We thank God for His provision and pray that our youths can strengthen their faith in the journey of growing up as God's servant.

# 財政報告 Financial Report

# LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

ABN: 86 157 676 479

Financial Report For The Year Ended 30 June 2024

# LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

ABN: 86 157 676 479

# Financial Report For The Year Ended 30 June 2024

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**Detailed Statement of Financial Position** 

Detailed Income & Expenditure Statement

# LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED ABN: 86 157 676 479 COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Your committee members submit the financial report of Living Stone Evangelical Free Church of Australia Incorporated for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

#### **Committee Members**

The names of committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Barry Pak-Chong Tam (Chairperson) Emmanuel Chan (Vice Chairperson) Raymond Ping Cheung Li (Treasurer) Tony Guohua Yan (Financial Secretary) Jonathan Nai Ming IP (Secretary) Vincent Chi Hong Wong

#### **Principal Activities**

The principal activities of the Association during the financial year were:

holding Christian services and programs for members and engage in outreach to preach the gospel.

#### Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

#### **Operating Result**

The deficit for the 2024 financial year amounted to \$72,124.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the members of the committee.

Barry Pak-Chong Tam (Chairperson)

Tony Guohua Yan (Financial Secretary)

Barry Tam

Dated this 14th day of August 2024

# Living Stone Evangelical Free Church of Australia Incorporated ABN: 86 157 676 479 Income & Expenditure Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2024

	2024 Consolidated \$	2023 Consolidated \$
INCOME		
Interest received	2,840	54
Offering Income	807,622	773,466
Fund Income	95,916	106,533
Other Income	3,298 <b>909,676</b>	1,192 <b>881,245</b>
EXPENDITURE	W	
EXPENDITORE		
Audit fees	2,105	5,800
Bank charges	297	593
Utilities expense	35,067	30,393
General Church keeping & Admin expenses	44,523	53,805
Worship speaker fee	19,650	15,900
Depreciation expense	54,608	46,174
Rental expense	19,926	20,736
Renovation Expense	3,000	0
Salaries and wages	619,869	584,284
Salaries and wages - Superannuation	67,944	61,371
Service leave	34,655	5,991
Missionary fund expense	67,750	79,875
Other Support Donation expense	1,000	0
Prior Year Prepayment Adjustment expense #	11,406	0
	981,800	904,922
Net Current Year Surplus/(Deficit)	(72,124)	(23,677)
Movements in other Funds:		
Mission Fund	(20,343)	(12,691)
Development Fund	(7,822)	(13,966)
Benevolence fund	(50)	(20,000)
Adjustment for Dev fund historical payment ***	361,062	0
Retained Surplus at the beginning of FY23-24**	599,938	650,273
Retained surplus at the end of FY23-24	860,660	599,938

<sup>\*\*</sup>Including the General Fund and Planting Fund

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Development fund historical payment adjustment 30/6/24 LST GJ000017

<sup>#</sup> Including \$11390.97 prior year prepayments (#12200) clearance adjustment LST GJ000016

# Living Stone Evangelical Free Church of Australia Incorporated ABN: 86 157 676 479 ASSETS AND LIABILITES STATEMENT AS AT 30 June 2024

	2024 Consolidated	2023 Consolidated
	\$	\$
ASSETS	Ψ	Ψ
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	354,276	380,944
Prepayments	0	11,391
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	354,276	392,335
NON CURRENT ACCETS		
NON-CURRENT ASSETS	12 506	0
Work in progress renovation	12,596	1.064.000
Property, plant and equipment TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	1,054,736 <b>1,067,332</b>	1,064,099
TOTAL NON-CORRENT ASSETS TOTAL ASSETS	1,421,608	1,064,099 1,456,434
TOTAL ASSETS	1,421,000	1,430,434
LIABILITES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Employee provisions	131,300	104,237
Accrued Expenses	0	4,500
Other Current Liabilities	11,962	(2,335)
Superannuation Payable	17,509	16,638
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	160,771	123,040
NON CURRENT HARMITIES		
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES  Mortgage loan-BFS	1 260	1 602
Interest-free loans from members	1,260 50,000	1,693 50,000
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	51,260	51,693
TOTAL LIABILITIES	212,031	174,733
NET ASSETS	1,209,577	1,281,701
11.7.552.15		2,202,702
MEMEBERS' FUNDS		
Retained surplus **	860,660	599,938
Benevolence Fund	4,751	4,701
Missionary Fund	146,821	126,478
Development Fund	197,345	550,584
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS	1,209,577	1,281,701

<sup>\*\*</sup>Including the General Fund and Planting Fund

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

### Living Stone Evangelical Free Church of Australia Inc ABN: 86 157 676 476

Statement of Changes in Reserves For the year ended 30 June 2024 30 Jun 2024

	Development Fund	Mission Fund Reserve	Benevolent Fund	General Fund **	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 30 June 2022	537,894	112,510	4,701	650,274	1,305,379
Income: Offerings	12,691	93,842	0	774,712	881,245
Less: Expenditure	0	(79,875)	0	(825,048)	(904,923)
Balance at 30 June 2023	550,585	126,477	4,701	599,938	1,281,701
Income: Offerings	7,822	88,094	0	813,760	909,676
***Adjustment for Dev fund historical payments	(361,062)			361,062	0
##Adjustement for FY22-23 Financial report open bal deficien	су		50	(50)	0
Less: Expenditure	0	(67,750)	0	(914,050)	(981,800)
Balance at 30 June 2024	197,345	146,821	4,751	860,660	1,209,577

<sup>\*\*</sup>Including the General Fund and Planting Fund

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Development fund historical payment adjustment 30/6/24 LST GJ000017

<sup>##</sup> Adjustment for the Financial report FY 22-23 opening bal of Benevolence fund LSP not matching with the book

#### Consolidated-Living Stone Evangelical Free Church of Australia Inc ABN: 86 157 676 476

Statement of Fund Movements For the year ended 30 June 2024 30 Jun 2024

Fruits, Manchau funde	Living Stone	Living Spring	2024 Consolidated	2023 Consolidated
Equity -Members funds General Fund **	ş	\$	\$	\$
Opening	695,636	(95,698)	599,938	650,274
Income	712,136	101,624	813,760	774,712
Adjustment for Dev fund historical payments ***	361,062	***************************************	361,062	was a <b>f</b> state of
Adjustment Benevolence fund LSP Report bal ##		(50)	(50)	
Expenses	(830,563)	(83,487)	(914,050)	(825,048)
Closing	938,271	(77,611)	860,660	599,938
Mission Fund				
Opening	126,478	0	126,478	112,510
Income	88,094	0	88,094	93,842
Expenses	(67,750)	0	(67,750)	(79,875)
Closing	146,822	<u>0</u>	146,822	126,478
Development Fund				
Opening	361,062	189,523	550,585	537,894
Income	2,273	5,549	7,822	12,691
Adjustment for Dev fund historical payments ***	(361,062)	0	(361,062)	
Expenses	0	0	0	
Closing	<u>2,273</u>	<u>195,072</u>	197,345	550,585
Benevolence Fund				
Opening	4,751	(50)	4,701	4,701
Income	0	0	0	
Expenses	0	0	0	
Adjustment Benevolence fund LSP Report bal ##		50	50	
Closing	<u>4,751</u>	<u>0</u>	4,751	4,701
Total Closing balance of Members funds	1,092,117	117,461	1,209,578	1,281,702
Total Opening Balance	1,187,926	93,774	1,281,700	1,305,379
Total Income less Expenditure	(95,809)	23,686	(72,123)	(23,678)
Total Closing Balance	1,092,117	<u>117,461</u>	1,209,578	1,281,702

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Including the General Fund and Planting Func \*\*\* Development fund historical payment adjustment 30/6/24 LST GJ000017

<sup>##</sup> Adjustment for the Financial report FY 22-23 opening bal of Benevolence fund LSP not matching with the book

#### Note 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### **Financial Reporting Framework**

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act NSW 2009 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. The association is a not-for-profit entity. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity as the users of the financial statements are able to obtain additional information to meet their needs.

#### Statement of Compliance

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with Associations Incorporation Act NSW 2009 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, and the basis of recognition and measurement specified by all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations.

#### **Basis of Preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical costs. They do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

#### (a) Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the entity is exempt from income tax under Div. 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

#### (b) Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

Properties comprising Land and Buildings which are stated at costs by the adoption of the cost model, as the association applied for such cost recognition under the AASB 116: Property Plant and Equipment, less accumulated depreciation (for Buildings) and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Leasehold improvements and office equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Leasehold improvements are amortised on a straight-line basis over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate
Buildings	2.5%
Building improvements	2.5%
Leasehold improvement	2.5%
Office equipment	20 - 34 %
Furniture & Fixtures	15 - 40 %

#### (c) Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, the committee reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in the income and expenditure statement.

#### (d) Employee Provisions

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee provisions have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

#### (e) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

#### (f) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

#### (g) Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from donors. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets.

All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

#### (h) Revenue

The association is first required to determine whether amounts received are accounted for as Revenue per AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers or Income per AASB 1058: Income of Not-for-Profit Entities.

Funding arrangements which are enforceable and contain sufficiently specific performance obligations are recognised as revenue under AASB 15. Otherwise, such arrangements are accounted for under AASB 1058, where upon initial recognition of an asset, the association is required to consider whether any other financial statement elements should be recognised (for example, financial liabilities representing repayable amounts), with any difference being recognised immediately in profit or loss as income.

#### Revenue and Other Income

Revenue from the sale of goods

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

Operating Grants, Donations and Bequests

When the Association receives operating grant funding, donations or bequests, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the Association:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant;
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement; and
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Association:

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards;
- recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions); and
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

#### Other Income

#### Contributed Assets

The Association receives assets from the government and other parties for nil or nominal consideration in order to further its objectives. These assets are recognised in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards.

On initial recognition of an asset, the Association recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions).

The Association recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

#### Capital Grants

When the Association receives a capital grant, it recognises a liability for the excess of the initial carrying amount of the financial asset received over any related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions) recognised under other Australian Accounting Standards.

The Association recognises income in profit or loss when or as the Association satisfies its obligations under the terms of the grant.

#### Interest Income

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

#### (i) Leases

At inception of a contract, the Association assesses if the contract contains or is a lease. If there is a lease present, a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability is recognised by the Association where the Association is a lessee. However, all contracts that are classified as short-term leases (lease with remaining lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets are recognised as an operating expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

#### **Concessionary Leases**

For leases that have significantly below-market terms and conditions principally to enable the Association to further its objectives (commonly known as peppercorn/concessionary leases), the Association measures the right of use assets at cost on initial recognition.

#### (j) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.

#### (k) New and Amended Accounting Policies Adopted by the Association

AASB 2021-2: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure of Accounting Policies and Definition of Accounting Estimates

The entity adopted AASB 2021-2 which makes some small amendments to a number of standards including the following: AASB 7, AASB 101, AASB 108 and AASB 134.

The adoption of the amendment did not have a material impact on the financial statements.

#### Note 2 Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors

		2024	2023
		\$	\$
Other debtors			-
			-
Note 3 Property, Plant and I	Equipment		
		2024	2023
		\$	\$
Building improvements		417,245	365,395
Less accumulated depreciation		(157,896)	(146, 135)
		259,348	219,260
Office equipment		44,342	43,615
Less accumulated depreciation		(35,767)	(30,445)
		8,575	13,170
01 1 5 11		044 400	044 400
Church Building		844,406	844,406
(Accumulated depreciation)		(455,541)	(434,431)
		388,865	409,975

Furniture and fixtures	38,863	38,863
(Accumulated depreciation)	(36,913)	(36,705)
	1,950	2,158
	8	
New Office	536,555	536,555
(Accumulated depreciation)	(164,662)	(151,248)
	371,893	385,307
Air Conditioners	34,470	29,207
(Accumulated depreciation)	(28,878)	(27,497)
	5,593	1,709
Banners	3,035	3,035
(Accumulated depreciation)	(2,749)	(2,678)
	286	357
Kitchen & Library	53,603	53,603
(Accumulated depreciation)	(22,781)	(21,441)
	30,822	32,162
	1,067,331	1,064,099

NFP entities holding non-cash-generating assets at cost will determine recoverable amounts using current replacement cost in AASB 13 and would require consideration of obsolescence and the intention to dispose and scrap the assets.

The committee got a valuation report of a Registered Valuer company in 2021 on the market values of the church properties at 5-7 Castle Hill Road, West Pennant Hills, NSW, 2125 and Church office at 14 Castle Hill Road, West Pennant Hills, NSW, 2125 by reference to the sale values similar residential properties in the adjacent areas at \$2.10 million and \$700,000 respectively. The Committee is of opinion that there is no indication of asset impairment as the properties remain to be occupied, maintained and used for church activities in the foreseeable future.

#### Note 4 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2024 \$	2023
Cash at bank - unrestricted	354,276	380,944
Cash at bank - restricted		S=
Total cash on hand	354,276	380,944

#### Note 5 Events After the End of the Reporting Period

Other than the following, the committee is not aware of any significant events since the end of the reporting period.

The war in Ukraine, Gaza conflicts and related events take place at a time of significant global economic uncertainty and volatility, and the effects are likely to interact with and exacerbate the effects of current market conditions. Many sectors / jurisdictions are already facing the impacts of rising commodity prices and increased raw materials costs, as a result of surging consumer demand as the COVID-19 pandemic eases. Supply-chain bottlenecks, arising from the effects of the pandemic, continue to persist, and are heightened by labour shortages and trade friction. These conditions may be significantly exacerbated by the wider effects of the war in Ukraine, Gaza conflicts increasing inflationary pressures and weakening the global post-pandemic recovery.

At the time of reporting, it is difficult to estimate the financial effects and impacts to the operations attributable to either the war in Ukraine, Gaza conflicts or COVID-19. Accordingly, the amounts recognised in the financial statements have not been adjusted to reflect such events.

# LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED ABN: 86 157 676 479 ANNUAL STATEMENTS GIVE TRUE AND FAIR VIEW OF FINANCIAL POSITION AND PERFORMANCE OF INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION

We Barry Pak-Chong TAM and Tony Guohua YAN, being members of the committee of Living Stone Evangelical Free Church of Australia Incorporated, certify that:-

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of Living Stone Evangelical Free Church of Australia Incorporated during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending on 30 June 2024.

Signed:

Barry Pak-Chong Tam (Chairperson)

Dated:

14 August 2024

Signed:

Tony Guohua Yan (Financial Secretary)

Dated: 14 August 2024

# LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED ABN: 86 157 676 479 INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Living Stone Evangelical Free Church of Australia Incorporated (the association), which comprises the assets and liabilities statement as at 30 June 2024, the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the certification by members of the committee.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the association as at 30 June 2024 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act NSW 2009 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the association to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act NSW 2009 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### Key Audit Matter - Properties Carrying Values and Impairment Charges

Without qualification to the opinion expressed above, we draw attention to Note 3 to the financial report, which describes the properties comprising Church building, building improvements and the New Office with total net book value of \$1,020,106 (2023: \$1,014,542) as compared to total assets of \$1,421,608 (2023: \$1,456,434) as at 30 June 2024 and 2023 respectively. In accordance with AASB 2016-4: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Recoverable Amount of Non Cash-Generating Specialised Assets of Not-for-Profit Entities, which clarify that the recoverable amount of primarily non-cash-generating assets of not-for-profit entities, which are typically specialised in nature and held for continuing use of their service capacity, is expected to be materially the same as fair value determined under AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement, with the consequence that:

- (i) AASB 136 does not apply to such assets that are regularly revalued to fair value under the revaluation model in AASB 116 Property, Plant and Equipment and AASB 138 Intangible Assets; and
- (ii) AASB 136 applies to such assets accounted for under the cost model in AASB 116 and AASB 138.

In accordance with AASB 136: Impairment of Assets for Not-For-Profit (NFP) entities only, the association shall assess at the end of each reporting period whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. If any such indication exists, the association shall estimate the recoverable amount of the asset. We have enquired and confirmed with the Committee that there is no indication of asset impairment as the properties remain to be occupied, maintained and used for church activities which we observed during our audit site visits.

### Responsibilities of the Committee for the Financial Report

The committee is responsible for the *preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view* in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act NSW 2009 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and for such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the *preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view* that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee is responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

# LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED ABN: 86 157 676 479 INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design
  and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to
  provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than
  for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the
  override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are
  appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the
  association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether
  the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Auditor's signature:	
Name of the Director:	Lawrence Chan, Registered Company Auditor #301846
Name of firm:	Theway Accounting Services Pty Ltd.
Address:	Suite 702, 105 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000
Website:	www.thewayaccounting.com.au

#### Living Stone Evangelical Free Church of Australia Incorporated ABN: 86 157 676 479 Detailed Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2024

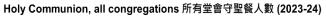
Detailed Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2024		
	2024	2023
	Consolidated	Consolidated
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSET		
LST Cheque acct	229,886	266,983
LST Online acct	1,472	3,243
LSP Business One	44,079	32,955
LSP Business Cash reserve	879	27,435
LSP Term deposit #6500	50,961	50,328
LSP Term deposit #9032	27,000	
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	354,276	380,944
OTHER ASSET		
Prepayments	0	11,391
Total Other Assets	0	11,391
FIXED ASSET		
Church Buildings at costs	844,406	844,406
Accumulated Depreciation - Church Buildings	(455,541)	(434,431)
Fence at costs	11,858	11,858
Accumulated Depreciation - Fence	(11,858)	(11,858)
Building Improvement at costs	404,649	365,395
Accumulated Depreciation - Building Improvement	(157,896)	(146,135)
Kitchen & Library at costs	53,603	53,603
Accumulated Depreciation - Kitchen & Library	(22,781)	(21,441)
New Office at costs	536,555	536,555
Accumulated Depreciation - New Office	(164,662)	(151,248)
Furniture & Fixtures at costs	38,863	38,863
Accumulated Depreciation - Furniture & Fixtures	(36,913)	(36,705)
Machinery & Equipment at costs	33,472	32,744
Accumulated Depreciation - Machinery & Equipment	(25,292)	(20,232) 10,871
Computer at costs Accumulated Depreciation - Computer	10,871 (10,476)	(10,213)
Music/AV Equipment at costs	817	817
Accumulated Depreciation - Music/AV Equipment	(817)	(817)
Banner at costs	3,035	3,035
Accumulated Depreciation - Banner	(2,749)	(2,678)
Air Conditioner at costs	34,470	29,207
Accumulated Depreciation - Air Conditioner	(28,878)	(27,497)
Portable Classroom at costs	45,812	45,812
Accumulated Depreciation - Portable Classroom	(45,812)	(45,812)
WIP - Work in progress Renovation work	12,596	0
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS	1,067,331	1,064,099
TOTAL ASSETS	1,421,608	1,456,434
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
PROVISION FOR SERVICE LEAVE	131,300	104,237
ACCRUED EXPENSES	0	4,500
GST COLLECTED	223	1,157
GST PAID	(12,801)	(14,992)
PAYG WITHHOLDINGS PAYABLE	7,965	11,501
SUPERANNUATION PAYABLE	17,509	16,638
FRC CAMP FEE PAYABLE	15,160	0
Other Payable	1,415	0
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	160,771	123,040
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
MORTGAGE LOAN - BFS	1,260	1,693
INTEREST FREE LOAN FROM MEMBERS	50,000	50,000
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	51,260	51,693
TOTAL LIABILITIES	212,031	174,733
NET ASSETS	1,209,577	1,281,701
EQUITY		
BENEVOLENCE FUND	4 754	4 704
DEVELOPMENT FUND	4,751 197,345	4,701 550 584
MISSION FUND	146,821	550,584 126,478
GENERAL FUND - RETAINED EARNINGS	932,783	623,616
GENERAL FUND - CURRENT YEAR EARNINGS	(72,123)	(23,678)
TOTAL EQUITY	1,209,577	1,281,701

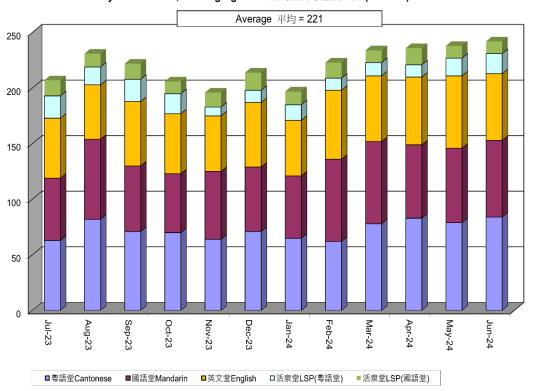
# Living Stone Evangelical Free Church of Australia Incorporated ABN: 86 157 676 479 Detailed Income & Expenditure Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2024 2024

Detailed Income & Expenditure Statement for the Year		
	2024	2023
	Consolidated	Consolidated
INCOME	\$	\$
INCOME		
CHURCH OFFERING - LST CANTONESE	306,309	274,257
CHURCH OFFERING - LST ENGLISH	248,920	252,027
CHURCH OFFERING - LST MANDARIN	153,693	157,512
CHURCH OFFERING - LSP CANTONESE	48,871	34,096
CHURCH OFFERING - LSP MANDARIN	49,560	55,395
FLOWERS OFFERING	270	180
OFFERING INCOME	807,622	773,466
BENEVOLENCE FUND	0	0
DEVELOPMENT FUND	0 7,822	0 12,691
MISSIONARY FUND	88,094	93,842
Senso contrata de contrata de la contrata del contrata del contrata de la contrata del la contrata de la contrata del la contrata de la contr	50000 00000 01	
FUND INCOME	95,916	106,533
INTEREST INCOME	2,840	54
PHOTOCOPY INCOME	39	30
OTHER DONATION	3,259	1,162
TOTAL INCOME	909,676	881,245
EXPENDITURE		
ACCOUNTANCY FEES	630	475
AUDIT FEE	1,475	5,325
BANK CHARGES	430	313
INTEREST EXPENSES	(133)	280
CLEANING EXPENSES	10,550	9,810
COUNCIL FEE	3,589	3,614
ELECTRICITY	5,745	4,259
TELEPHONE	2,899	4,040
WATER	980	802
TRAINING & CONFERENCE	400	0
ANNIVERSARY EXPENSE	5,419	0
GIFTS	783	470
MEMBERSHIP FEE	371	660
COPY RIGHT	2,027	2,008
PRINTING AND PHOTOCOPY	3,251	3,819
Advertising Expense	1,781	0
Together-In-Christ - TIC	388	563
EC Camp	1,432	0
Christmas Love Feast	0	1,616
INSURANCE	21,854	17,678
CHURCH KEEPING - GENERAL	18,120	34,859
DEPRECIATION	54,608	46,174
RENOVATION EXPENSE	3,000	0
RENTAL - W PENNANT HILLS P.S.	7,488	7,800
RENTAL - WILLIAM CLARKE COLLEGE	12,438	12,936
EXTERNAL SPEAKER - LST CC SERVICE	3,350	2,550
EXTERNAL SPEAKER - LST EC SERVICE	750	1,650
EXTERNAL SPEAKER - LST MC SERVICE EXTERNAL SPEAKER - LSP CC SERVICE	3,200	2,700
	5,900 6,450	4,650 4,350
EXTERNAL SPEAKER - LSP MC SERVICE		
SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCE	67,944 308,937	61,371 295,375
WAGES & SALARIES	310,932	288,909
SERVICE LEAVE	34,655	5,991
MISSIONARY FUND EXPENSE	67,750	79,875
OTHER SUPPORT OFFERING EXPENSE	1,000	0
PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENT PREPAYMENT EXPENSE #	11,406	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	981,800	904,923
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(72,123)	(23,678)

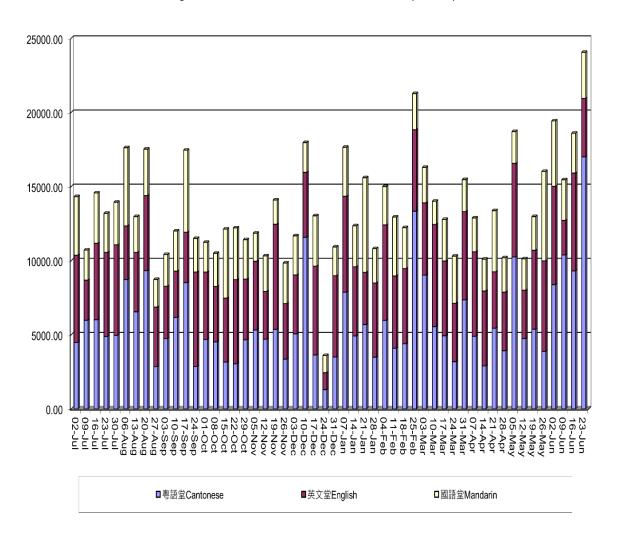
# Including \$11390.97 prior year prepayments (#12200) clearance adjustment LST GJ000016

# 統計 Statistics

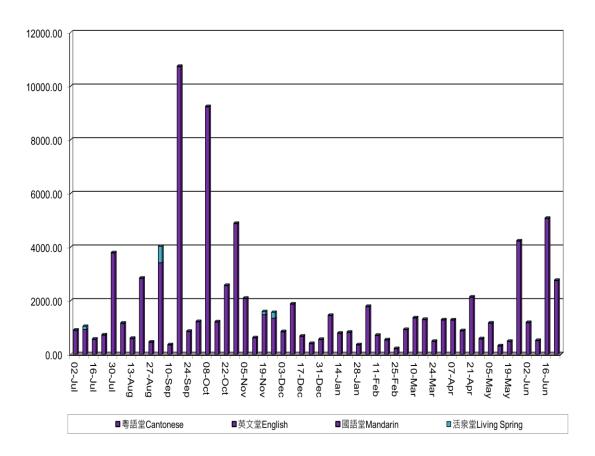




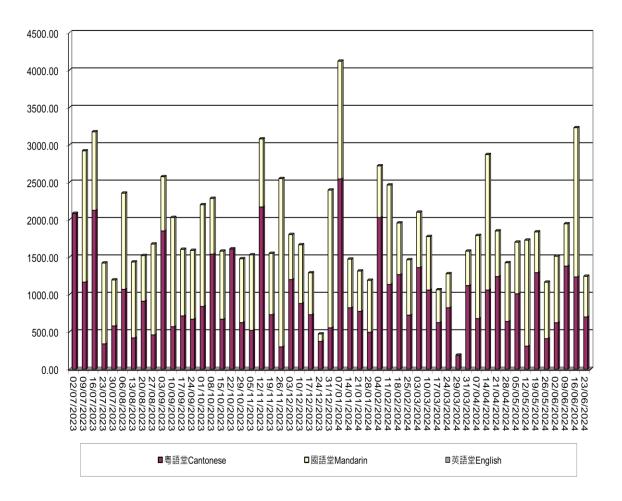
## Living Stone General Fund Contribution 經常費奉獻 (2023-24)



## Mission Fund, all congregations 所有堂會差傳基金 (2023-24)



## Living Spring General Fund Contribution 活泉堂經常費奉獻 (2023-2024)



# 活石堂架構 Living Stone EFCA Church Structure

#### 教牧團 Pastoral Team

粵語堂 Cantonese 洪國智牧師 Rev. K. C. Hung

張梅香傳道 Pastor Francis Wong

國語堂 Mandarin 周立牧師 Rev. Robin Zhou

許允文傳道 Pastor Yin-Wearne Koh

英語堂 English 古樂心牧師 Rev. John Gurusamy

劉家佑牧師 Rev. Kelvin Lau

活泉堂 Living Spring 蔡美霞傳道 Pastor Michelle Tsoi (部分時間 Part-time.

Up to 12/5/2024 離任)

陳玉轉傳道 Pastor Charlotte Chen (部分時間 Part-time.

Up to 31/12/2023 離任)

### 執事會 Deacon Board

### 執事 Elected Deacons

主席 Chairperson 譚伯壯 Barry Tam

副主席 Vice Chairperson 陳以勒 Emmanuel Chan 文書 Secretary 葉乃銘 Jonathan Ip

司數 Financial Secretary 類國華 Tony Yan

司庫 Treasurer 李炳祥 Raymond Li 執事 Deacons 王治康 Vincent Wong

澳洲基督教播道總會代表 Delegates of Fellowship of Evangelical Free Church of Australia

姚洪波 Jeff Yao

#### 差傳部 Mission Department

負責人 Person in charge 李炳祥 Raymond Li

物業部 Property Department

負責人 Person in charge 王治康 Vincent Wong

總務部 General Affairs Department

負責人 Person in charge 陳以勒 Emmanuel Chan

兒童事工部 Children Ministry

負責人 Person in charge 許允文傳道 Pastor Yin-Wearne Koh

活石堂粵語事工委員會

傳道人Pastor 洪國智牧師 Rev. K. C. Hung

張梅香傳道 Pastor Francis Wong

主席 Chairperson 譚伯壯 Barry Tam 副主席 Vice Chairperson 李炳祥 Raymond Li 文書 Secretary 王治康 Vincent Wong

委員 Members 陳錦逢 Ken Chan, 黎萬雪兒Winnie Lai, 李啟彥K Y Lee

### **English Congregation Committee**

Pastor Rev. John Gurusamy, Rev. Kelvin Lau

Chairperson Emmanuel Chan
Vice chairperson Jonathan Ip
Secretary Diana Chan

Members Chelsea Chan, Chris Chen, Sarah Fung, Grant Lian and Christina

Liang

## 活石堂國語事工委員會

傳道人Pastor 周立牧師 Rev. Robin Zhou

許允文傳道 Pastor Yin-Wearne Koh

主席 Chairperson顏國華 Tony Yan副主席 Vice Chairperson毛瑞平 Ray Mao文書 Secretary白益平 Robert Bai

委員 Members 姜健健 Jim Jiang, 劉瑜 Lisa Liu, 孟越 Manny Meng, 王偉

Wendy Wang, 孫奇志 Christina Sun, 翟楊 Iri Zhai, 陳敏

Anna Chen

### 活泉堂 Living Spring Church

### 堂委會 Church Committee

傳道人Pastor 蔡美霞傳道 Pastor Michelle Tsoi (部分時間 Part-time.

Up to 12/5/2024 離任)

陳玉轉傳道 Pastor Charlotte Chen (部分時間 Part-time.

Up to 31/12/2023 離任)

主席 Chairman 何錦釗 David Ho
副主席 Vice chairperson 蘇智峰 Terry So
文書 Secretary 阮靈蓓 Angela Ruan
司庫 Treasurer 趙岑彩鳳 Hayley Chiu
司數 Financial Secretary 蘇智峰 Terry So

委員 Members 劉盧秀玲 Ling Lau, 徐東南 Michelle Xu, 藺琳 Lin lin

## 事工負責人 Ministry Responsibilities

# 澳洲基督教播道會活石堂

Living Stone Evangelical Free Church of Australia



## 本會歷史簡介

本會為一華人基督教會,始於一九八七年,當時有不少香港人播道會會友移民澳洲,後決定在悉尼 (Sydney)成立「澳洲華人基督教播道會」。一方面可以讓僑居悉尼的播道會會友參加同宗派背景之教會, 但更重要是在悉尼向僑胞廣傳福音,同時也歡迎其他福音派背景的弟兄姊妹加入,同心合意興旺福音。

#### A brief history of Living Stone Church

The church is a Chinese protestant church established since 1987. At that time, there were many migrants from Hong Kong who were members of Evangelical Free Churches in Hong Kong decided to establish the "Evangelical Free Church of Australia". The church may serve two purposes. Firstly, migrants from members of churches in Hong Kong may join together and worship our Lord in a church of familiar practices. Secondly, we may spread the gospel to the growing Chinese community in Sydney area. We also welcome brothers and sisters of other denominations to join and work together for God's Kingdom.

#### 本會特色 Characteristics of the church

- 1. 福音信仰 (Evangelical) 持定純正福音信仰。 Evangelical – bible based, Jesus centred doctrine.
- 2. 強調政教分離 獨立 (Free) 是表示教會的宣講不應受國家的控制,兩者是獨立的。 Free Free from state control and
- 3. 強調地方教會的自主性 自由(Free)是代表個別地方教會有獨立自主的權力,強調個別地方教 牧、長執積極參與和推動地方教會的發展。 Freedom to individual member churches.

## 教牧同工 Ministers

活石堂 Living Stone 粤語 Cantonese: 洪國智牧師 Rev. K. C. Hung

張梅香傳道 Pastor Francis Wong

國語 Mandarin: 周立牧師 Rev. Robin Zhou

許允文傳道 Pastor Yin-Wearne Koh

英語 English: 古樂心牧師 Rev. John Gurusamy

劉家佑牧師 Rev. Kelvin Lau

辦公室幹事 Office Administrators

顏甄雪暉姊妹 May Yan、楊婷姊妹 Tina Yang、王周德芬姊妹 Chris Wong

教會地址 Church Address: 5-7 Castle Hill Road West Pennant Hills NSW 2125 Australia

教會電話 Church Phone: (02) 9980-5203

辦公室地址 Office Address: 14 Castle Hill Road West Pennant Hills NSW 2125 Australia

辦公室電話 Office Phone: (02) 9980-5201

網址 Web Site: www.livingstone.efca.org.au 電郵 Email: livingstone@efca.org.au