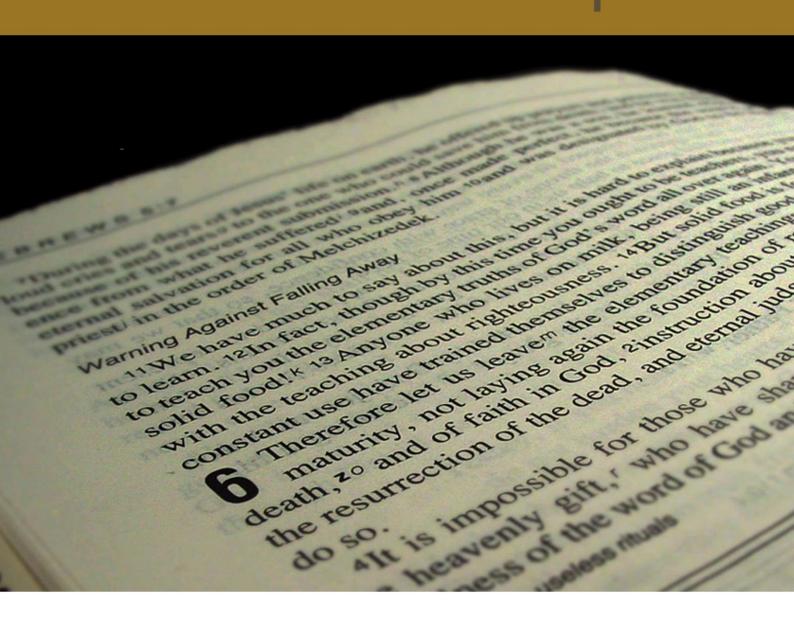


澳洲基督教播道會活石堂

Living Stone Evangelical Free Church of Australia

年報

Annual Report 2022-2023





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牧者的話 Words from the Pastors

粤語堂牧者分享

洪國智牧師

2023 年開始, COVID 疫症已慢慢地減退,信徒的生活陸續回復正常。大家經過三年多接近隔離的生活,現在要重新適應與人實體接觸的狀態。特別是求主幫助我們,能從習慣了的網上模式,慢慢地再次投入和回歸實體敬拜和團契生活。

今年是活石堂三十周年慶典,粵語堂的年題選用了《教會與播道會》,目的是希望信徒能明白教會的本質、架構和功用,以致更好的服侍這個基督群體。也透過認識播道會的歷史和傳承,讓信徒能被感動和鼓勵,效法先賢,努力廣傳福音,同樣以生命見證榮耀上帝。

感恩在這三十周年的日子,香港播道神學院院長郭文池牧師在 23/7 蒞臨活石堂崇拜 證道和主領專題講座《上帝的教會、播道會的傳承》,弟兄姊妹均受激勵,獲益良多。盼 望上帝的道銘刻在信徒的心裡,繼續更新轉化在生命的行動和實踐上。

今年選讀提摩太前書,盼望透過深入理解經文的內容和背景,讓信徒能經歷生命的轉化和更新。當中保羅特別強調真理上的教導,叮囑信徒提防假教導和假敬虔。事實上,當時以弗所教會充斥著假教師,他們教導人敬虔是要禁止嫁娶,戒絕某些食物,又強調一些不合真理的無稽教訓,誘導人追求外在敬虔和跟隨世俗。保羅的教導提醒今日的信徒,要離棄假敬虔,不被世俗影響和同化,並竭力追求真正內裡的敬虔,在言語、行為、愛心、信心、純潔等各方面,作信徒的榜樣。

另外,因著香港新移民和回流人士的增加,堂委會為著需要,開展了一個新的團契, 名為約書亞團,以能提供更適切的牧養,讓他們在澳洲能找到屬靈的家。堂委會也因應未 來的發展,開始了一個新的部門:小組牧養部,提供領袖和門徒訓練,希望能為教會栽培 更多組長和領袖,以應付未來的關顧需要。

盼望透過活石堂三十周年的慶典,回顧過去上帝的恩典和保守,也禱告祈求主賜予 新的異象,讓活石堂的未來能更好的行在上帝的旨意裡,在這黑暗的世代成為明燈,見證 耶穌基督。

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、部門和聚會/活動中 盡心竭力,願上帝親自報答他們的勞苦。

最後,祝願活石堂各弟兄姊妹有健康的身體,常常經歷主恩,以生命實踐主耶穌的 教導。

粤語堂牧者分享

張梅香傳道

司布真說:「神若呼召你為傳道,不要作賤自己去當皇帝!」他刻劃出事奉的珍貴。司布真又說:「準備自己,比準備講章更重要。」他道出了傳道人的生命素質之重要,他本身就是別人模仿的榜樣(徒廿28,35;提前四12;帖前二10),牧者最有力的影響並非他所講的道,是他所活出來的道。

牧者的職責乃將羊帶到青草地上與平靜的水邊,將人的需要與神豐盛的資源相銜接。 牧者的工作包涵領導、裝備與關顧三大範圍,沒有清楚的界線,也難定優先次序,只有時 間性的前後處理,沒有本質上輕重之分,都同樣重要。牧者需要成熟的生命質素一高「情 緒智能」(EQ:Emotional Quotient)。信徒期望牧者在動盪的情況有應變的能力;在面對 困難時不會有過份的焦慮;能夠有建設性的面對不如意的現實;能夠與別人持穩定與有意 義的關係;善於疏導他人情緒,保持平穩;能夠愛不可愛的肢體 等。換句話說,生 命是事奉的基礎,而事奉是生命的流露。你打球是因為你對這運動的熱愛,所以球賽中個 人的得失不該影響你的表現。純正的心志與美好技巧的結合也是每一個牧者應該擁有的條 件。只有心而缺乏技巧不成事;只有技巧而沒有心則不能持久。心志屬於生命的層面,技 巧則屬於工作的層面,兩者的結合便相得益彰。

三十年的活石堂是成熟的堂會,智慧與身量都已長成的成熟人。對於教會的本質、屬性、功能已非常明白。教會是基督的身子,身子只有一個,卻有許多肢體 (林前十二12-26),恩賜原有分别,職事也有分别。

牧者也是基督身子的肢體,因著聖職人員這職分,有領導的職責,憑著神所賦予的權柄,牧者引導會眾行在神的旨意中,以聖經的原則治理教會,執行聖禮(帖前五 12;來十三 17),是為了造就而不是拆毀(林後十 8;多二 15)。

大使命的目的乃使萬民作主的門徒,使牧者有裝備信徒的職責。目的是為了成全聖徒,各盡其職,建立基督身體(弗四 11-12)。牧者有責任將在基督裡的人培育成熟,滿有基督的樣式(西一 28)。因此,去年開始有兩組銳意門徒訓練課程與信徒學習生命教育,信徒靈命的成熟以預備作主僕人;今年,也開展領袖培育課程,為裝備信徒事奉的技巧。

牧者也有關顧的職責,這是從心底裡關懷照顧羊群,最重的擔子乃是為弟兄姐妹掛心、焦急(林後十 23-29)。這「掛心」就是「牽腸掛肚」,牧者們實在將心擺上來照料主所託付的羊群,為羊群警醒守望、為羊纏裹與醫治心靈的創傷、為受導者提供盼望出路,從而重拾他們生存的意義。

教會與信徒對傳道人的條件、期望確實並不一般,難怪神學家潘霍華在談及傳道人的呼召時提醒他們,要逃避這條路像是逃避「地獄的火」一般,語中帶出「事奉」這條路的嚴肅性,賜任務的主是可畏的。牧者在這條事奉的道路上有時會四面受敵、心裡作難,甚至遭逼迫。誠然,這職份的崇高本質卻不曾被貶低,世上有甚麼工作比傳揚基督榮耀的福音更偉大呢?有甚麼福氣比自己成為別人的祝福更有意義呢?這正正潘霍華談論事奉道路上的艱難與司布真描繪事奉的珍貴兩者之弔詭性一危險的任務。請會友為所有的傳道人多多禱告。

弟兄姊妹,任可事奉其實都是與神同工,我們不過是神手中的器皿,神能夠讓完全失去的熱情恢復,重新被點燃,沉睡的人生,再次燃起了火化。從屬世的眼光來看,事奉的選擇似乎是一個很大的犧牲。然而,這只是一個缺乏永恆焦點的短視判斷。今世所擁有的一切,只是短暫和會朽壞的東西。我們謹記自己真正的本像一乃火中抽出來的一根柴、被赦免的罪人、被醫治的病人、被領養的孤兒。本來就一無所有,何來犧牲!事奉神是殊榮、是恩典!教會、牧者和信徒彼此信任配搭,攜手共建活石堂,使成為社區照耀的明燈,造福社群。

讓我們記念那在世界各角落中有無數默默耕耘,忍辱負重的忠心牧者和信徒,當大家都注目燦爛的煙花,有否發現在路旁的一盞街燈,風雨不改地為遊子照明歸家路!將榮耀歸於神!

國語堂牧者分享

共勉同行

周立傳道

国语堂搬到小学进行崇拜已有一年半,随着疫情的基本结束,尽管不少弟兄姐妹都 选择在今年各地开放之际出行,参加实体崇拜的人数仍然由去年下半年的六七十人逐渐增 长至目前的八九十人,有时也超过一百人。看到弟兄姐妹的回归以及新朋友的来到,相信 都是神的手在动工。也感谢主保守各位弟兄姐妹的行程及平安。

随着实体崇拜的稳定,国语堂开始了敬拜队服事,每月一次练习及领诗;诗班也恢复了每月一次的实体献诗以及每月三次的集体练习,并且有专门的诗班培训;此外,粤语和国语一起的长青诗班也开始形成。崇拜中我们也加入了每月一次的"信仰宣告"环节,由会众一起读出播道会的七条基本信仰。同时,面对陆续的新朋友的来到,新的迎新及跟进事工策略和团队也建立起来,从而帮助新朋友融入国语堂的大家庭。从这些事工上的变化可以看到,国语堂的事工不是追求恢复到疫情前,而是在新的时期逐渐更新来祝福更多的人。

今年是活石堂三十周年庆,也是国语堂第十九个年头。在参与教会联合活动的同时, 国语堂自身也有一些团契性质的活动,包括圣诞活动、烘培班、两次迎新会、父亲节网球 烧烤聚会等。盼望国语堂会众更加彼此连结,更盼望各堂会弟兄姐妹在活石堂这个大家庭 中更加彼此相顾、共勉同行。

执笔之际正是国语堂两周内接连两位亲爱的弟兄安息主怀之后。尽管知道在主怀中好的无比的道理,但我们心中难免不舍。同时,英语堂 Samuel 弟兄起伏的身体状态也不断牵拉着各堂弟兄姐妹(包括国语堂会众)的心。这些事的发生对我们来说是不小的挑战,但也使大家更加拧成一股绳地回到神的面前来祷告和倚靠。神能化苦难为祝福,相信这祝福正在临到而立之年的活石堂。

在基督裡成長

許允文傳道

感謝主,今年的疫情逐漸好轉,實體崇拜的人數漸漸增加。很多原有的事工慢慢的 恢復,也有很多新的事工開始發展起來。非常感恩。

今年我們見證了神親自建立了我們的教會:

1. 對禱告的重視

主日禱告會,週三禱告會,每日微信禱告,小組組長群禱告,小組群裡禱告, 團契群裡禱告等。

2. 家庭小組

除了長者小組,家庭小組基本都恢復了實體聚會。疫情後大家更加珍惜彼此面 對面的團契和交流。一起查經(尼西米記、詩篇)、聚餐、代禱等。

3. 迎新團隊

隨著新來的朋友的增加,成立了迎新團隊。透過微信、電話、電郵、書信跟進, 探訪,主辦迎新團契等。

4. 長者事工

長青主日,長青詩班,長者聖誕茶敘,長者英語班。

5. 孩童事工

主日 Kids church, 週二新增一班 mainly music, Awana 重啟,親子教育講座。

6. 成人主日學。

主辦了不同性質的課程:禱告工作坊、信仰 Q&A、啟示錄、溝通關懷講座等

7. 新信徒栽培

繼續開《初信造就》,《認識基督》,《認識聖經》等課程給初信徒。

8. 主日崇拜

今年6月停止了現場直播,改為录播。在主日崇拜中,加了《信仰告白》這個環節,每月一次會眾一起朗讀播道會7個基要信仰。

9. 詩歌敬拜

敬拜隊成立。請外來講員培訓國語詩班。

10. 洗禮轉會

2022年11月和2023年5月總共有7位弟兄姐妹受洗以及8位轉會。

11. 團 契

聖誕晚會、燒烤團契、烘培班、網球、週五姐妹團契等活動。

12. 關顧

兩位弟兄今年與我們暫時告別,安息主懷。在他們身上,我們見證了主的信實。 感謝主,在我們侍奉主和弟兄姐妹時,祂讓我們經歷了祂的培訓和帶領,祂讓我們 學習如何彼此包容,彼此相愛,也讓我們時刻感受到祂的同在。求主繼續幫助我們,讓我 們不停的長大成人,滿有基督長成的身量(弗 4:13),也讓我們不停的為祂的榮耀而戰。 阿門。

EC Pastor's Report

Rev. John Gurusamy

I'm in the midst of doing a Series on TULIP and what I have found encouraging is the thought that God chose us before the creation of the universe (Eph 1:4). Before time and space, before the sun and the moon, before the planets and the solar system, God planned that He would call a people to Himself to be His sons and daughters.

This is an amazing thought and it means that we as His people are secure in His love (Eph 1:4,5). May we be strong, rooted and grounded in His Sovereign unshakeable love.

EC's theme for 2023 is Captured by the Beauty of His Holiness. We preached through 1 Thessalonians, did a Series on Psalms, are currently exploring TULIP, will go through part of Hebrews, look at Missions and finish the year with Malachi.

The last few months has weighed on our hearts as Samuel Chau has been in ICU. We are learning to look to God in prayer as the whole church is praying fervently that God will do a miracle and heal Samuel.

There was grief mixed with hope as the Lord took home, In Jhong Rhee's dad and Jonathan Ip's dad. Both families are comforted knowing their loved one is in the Lord Jesus and so we will meet them again.

This year we started a Parents Support Group (PSG) as we have more families with young children and wanted to come alongside parents in encouraging and equipping them in parenting their children.

We give thanks to God for His work as Alice He and Alisa Chan got baptised in February and Sam Hung, Chris Ng, Carissa Wong and Kay Leen Choo got baptised in May.

After not being able to go away for some years due to COVID, this year we look forward with anticipation for EC Camp from 8-10 September.

May God who began a good work in us carry it on to completion on the day of Christ Jesus (Philippians 1:6)

活泉粤語堂

蔡美霞傳道

感謝神,三年疫情過去,教會的崇拜,團契生活開始回復正常。過去的一年,感謝神帶領了一些新的弟兄姊妹來參加事奉,以致福音探討小組和年輕夫婦小組得以成立。另外有一位姊妹送了一個琴給我們,同時神亦提供了司琴,指揮,以致詩班能夠成立,崇拜時的氣氛就好了很多。同時我們亦有一個新的網址,能令更多人知道我們的教會。

期望大家恩賜彼此配合,正如羅馬書 12:4 就像一個身體有許多肢體,各肢體都有不同的功用;5 照樣,我們大家在基督裡成為一個身體,也是互相作肢體... 7 服事人的,就應當照著恩賜去服事;教導的,就應當照著恩賜教導;8 勸慰的,就應當照著恩賜勸慰;把財物分給人的要真誠;領導的要殷勤;行善的要樂意。

感謝神,一個新的里程碑已開始,願大家同心合意,藉着禱告,遵守神的話語,為 聖潔的器皿,讓我們一起經歷神的同在和祂奇秒的作為。

活泉國語堂

重回正轨

陈玉转傳道

感谢神,活泉堂教会现在已经是回到疫情之前的聚会,国语堂目前还保留线上 Zoom的网上崇拜,但是弟兄姊妹基本上都回到了实体聚会。

感谢神,从去年的9月至今年的8月,我们看到这段时间神带领了不少的新朋友、新家庭和小朋友们来到国语堂,我们为此献上感恩。另外,有一些弟兄姊妹因为个人个别的情况,有一、两位弟兄姊妹没有回来教会参加实体聚会,或者是他们去了别的教会聚会;同时我们也有一些弟兄姊妹从原来的教会转到了活泉国语堂聚会。

国语堂的讲台信息从去年的 9 月开始分享了哥林多后书的信息,到现在我们已经开始学习旧约创世记的内容。目前我们正在学习有关亚伯拉罕信靠耶和华神、天父上帝的章节经文,从亚伯拉罕听从和顺服了耶和华神的呼召,离开了他的本地、本族和父家,往神所指示的地方去,最后他带着家人和仆人来到了迦南地。这地是耶和华神赐给亚伯拉罕和他的后裔的应许之地,因为亚伯拉罕对神的信心,所以神称亚伯拉罕为义了。我们知道亚伯拉罕不单是旧约以色列人的信心始祖,也是新约所有外邦信徒的信心始祖。盼望今天的我们都要学习亚伯拉罕对神的完全信靠,以及对神的话完全地听从和顺服。求神帮助我们每一位信徒去走这条信心之路直到将来见主的面。

另外,我们感谢神的带领,因为去年下半年国语堂来了一些年青家庭,所以从2023年1月份开始国语堂的小组也做了重组,以方便一些弟兄姊妹在家里招待小组聚会,我们为愿意开放他们的家的弟兄姊妹献上感恩,求神赐福教会的每一个家庭。我们求神帮助弟兄姊妹在灵命方面渐渐地有更多地成长和更新,以及追求圣洁的生活。我们求神加添更多得救的人给教会,兴旺福音;我们把一切的荣耀和颂赞都归于天上的父神,和拯救我们的救主耶稣基督,感谢圣灵保惠师在人的心里做感动的工作,把更多的人带到神的面前。

執事會主席之言

譚伯壯

今年對於執事會來說是忙碌的一年。我希望探索並定位執事會在我們教會中的角色, 教會中有多個不同語言、組別、年齡的會眾,甚至是不同地點的活泉堂。反思後,我們知 道擁有每個堂都會使我們變得更好,令我們如何能夠相互配搭,以促進整個教會的成長和 進步,這對我們來說是顯而易見且重要的。我們每堂都可以而且應該成為彼此的祝福。

我們一開始就設定了一些想要實現的目標,我將在下面概述這些目標。

- 1. 在上次年度年議大會上活泉堂的主席主席的呼籲後,我們希望可以更好地支持活泉堂,特別是他們的英語事工。然而,我們確實也有局限性,只能在何錦釗弟兄出門時從我們的英語堂派出一對夫婦來支持他們。
- 2. 更清楚地了解我們的財務狀況,無論我們是在盈餘還是赤字下運營,這是去年執事會工作的延續,我們已經基本實現了這一目標,我們的下一步將展開更多工作,包括預備經濟預算,並提高簿記和會計的一致性和連續性。
- 3. 隨著 Covid 限制的放寬,恢復所有活動,特別是我們的兒童事工。由於新冠疫情,我們的 AWANA 小組已經停止了幾年。在神的帶領下,許允文傳道接任了這個角色,並於今年六月重新開始了 AWANA。現在,我們再次能夠為從幼兒到金齡的會眾都可以牧養事奉。
- 4. 繼續去年在建築物重建方面所做的工作,探索建築設計和規劃方案,與會眾分享並 與區議會進行初步接觸。明年我們應該採取下一步措施。最重要的是,我們都記得,建築 教堂是為著建立教會。
- 5. 繼續上一年的工作,對我們的建築物進行改進和維修。感謝上帝的祝福,今年我們有王治康弟兄加入執事會,他在這項任務的委身是值得我們感恩的。
- 6. 為教會成立 30 週年做準備。感謝眾弟兄姊妹,包括劉家佑牧師和他的團隊組織這次的慶祝園遊活動,也感謝陳以勒弟兄主持晚宴的安排。我們希望活動能夠順利進行,我們會享受慶祝活動,但最重要的是,在慶祝和感恩中,讓我們聚焦我們未來的異象,找緊我們未來的使命。

願神使用這個教會更多的"三十年"!

Words from Chairperson of Board of Deacons

Barry Tam

This year has been a busy year for the deacon board. We started off wanting to explore and refocus on the role of the deacon board in our church with multiple congregations of different languages, demographics, age group, and with Living Spring, even different locations. From this it is evident and important for us to know that we are all very much better to have each of our congregations, and how we can complement each other for the growth and betterment of our church as a whole. Each of us can be and should be a blessing to each other.

We started off with a number of objectives that we wanted to achieve and I would outline them below.

- 1. To support Living Spring, especially their EC better, after the appeal from their chairman in the last AGM. However we do have our limitations and can only achieve to an extent in sending a couple from our EC to support them when David Ho was away.
- 2. Getting more clarity on our finance situation, whether we are operating on a surplus or deficit, this is a continuation of the work from the previous year's board, this we have largely achieved, our next step would be to start working on more up to date budget forecasts and working towards better consistency and continuity in our book-keeping and accounting.
- 3. With the relaxing of Covid restriction, resume all or activities, especially our children ministry. With Covid, our AWANA group has stopped for a few years. Through God's guidance Pastor yin Wearne has taken this role and recommenced AWANA in June this year. We now once again are able to serve from young children up to our senior golden age members.
- 4. Continue the work done from the previous year on building redevelopment, this we have taken on throughout the year, in exploring building design and planning options, sharing with members and making initial contact with Council. Next year should see us taking the next steps. Most importantly, let us all remember that church buildings are for building up the Church.
- 5. Continue the work from the previous year in making improvements and maintenance to our buildings. By God's blessings we have Vincent Wong on the deacon board this year, who has been absolutely devoted and to this task.
- 6. Preparing the church for our 30th anniversary. Thanks to a large number of brothers and sisters, including Rev Kelvin and his team for organising the fete, Emmanuel Chan for looking after the dinner on the night. We hope the events will come off well and we will enjoy the festivities, but most of all, amongst the celebrations and thanksgiving, let us keep in focus our future vision, and grasp our future mission.

May God use this church for many more "30 years"!

粤語堂 Cantonese Congregation

粤語堂堂委會主席之言

譚伯壯

今年是非常特別的一年。很多事情發生,也是充滿祝福的一年。我想分享以下幾點。

- 1. 隨著新冠疫情後國際旅行的放鬆,我們看到了一些來自香港的新移民家庭。這是神對我們過去十年左右老化教會的祝福,就像那些建立教會的肢體,讓新移民可以參加,對他們來說是祝福一樣。約書亞團契就是為此目的而成立的。另外,我們應該記住,我們的社區裡也有回歸者和現在的非信徒,這是主給我們收割的禾場,讓我們努力去分享福音。
- 2. 在我們進入 30 週年並準備慶祝我們的周年紀念之際,我們分享了美國宣教士如何來到中國,然後是香港,然後我們教會來到澳大利亞的歷史。我們教會創始人的勇氣和奉獻精神應該激勵我們所有人,因此,當我們開啟下一個 30 年的一頁時,願我們能夠秉承這種精神和傳統。傳統不是關於做事方式,而是關於順服上帝帶領,渴慕他的話語並傳揚他的名字。
- 3. 我們已與會友分享重建的異象,這個計劃還有一段路要走,但我們應該認識到時機的重要性,以及粵語堂可以發揮的作用。
- 4. 在過去的一年裡,有許多部門和團契不倦地事奉,但我們不能一一列舉,也不能說 出每一位事奉的成員,願一起為他們的事感謝主。
- 5. 我要感謝今所有堂委會成員,每一位成員都充滿愛心和委身。願神繼續使用並祝福 他們。
- 6. 感謝洪牧師和張傳道的事奉,他們都帶著牧者的心腸和關愛來事奉,願神大大使用 他們來祝福這個教會。

This has been a very special year. An eventful year yet a blissful year. I would like to share the following points.

- 1. With the relaxation of international travel post Covid, we have seen a number of new migrant families from Hong Kong. This is a blessing from God to our aging membership over the last decade or so, just as the members who developed the church for new migrants to attend is a blessing to them. The Joshua Fellowship has been formed for this purpose. In addition, we should keep in mind that there are also returnees and current non-believers in our community, this is the field that our Lord has given to us for harvesting, let us strive to share the gospel.
- 2. As we enter our 30th year and prepare to celebrate our anniversary, we have shared the history of how the missionaries from EFC America have come to China, then Hong Kong, then our church came to Australia. The bravery and dedication of our church founders should be an inspiration to us all, so as we embark on our next chapter of another 30 years, may we uphold that spirit and the traditions. Traditions that are not about how things work or are done, but about submitting to God's guidance, longing for His Word and preaching His name everywhere.
- 3. We have shared the vision of redevelopment with our members, this project has got some way to go, but we ought to recognise the importance of its timing, and the role that the Cantonese congregation can play.
- 4. There are many departments and fellowship groups who have tirelessly serve in the past year, whilst we cannot name them all or each member who serve, please thank the Lord for their service.
- 5. I would like to thank all the committee members who served this year, every member served with love and dedication. May God continue to use and bless them.
- 6. I would like to thank Rev Hung and Pastor Cheung for their service, they both serve with a shepherd's heart and care. May God greatly use them to bless this church.

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

''惟喜愛耶和華的律法,畫夜思想,這人便為有福。''詩篇1:2

感謝神在疫情正在過去當中,我們可以在網上直播和實體都有主日學課程,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。

2022 年第三季:安慰的語言 由張梅香傳道主領

2022 年第四季:纠正常見的經文詮譯 由洪國智牧師主領

2023年第一季:羅馬書 由譚伯壯主領

2023年第二季:民數記 由潘張美端主領

圖書部 王治康

圖書館過去一年,由於新冠疫情,暫停服務。

崇拜部

黎萬雪兒

崇拜部成立的目的是希望透過提供一個和諧的環境、順利的程序讓參與者投入敬拜,領受神的話語,與神建立密切關係。在過去一年疫情改善,弟兄姊妹續漸返回教會現場崇拜,崇拜部亦作出相應的改動配合需要,在各個崗位上增加人手,協調各部的工作,讓流程順利,讓會眾能專心敬拜。

在詩歌敬拜方面,由敬拜隊帶領,感謝他們不停改進變化,加入樂器,改善敬拜氣 氛,帶領會眾投入敬拜上帝。近年有較年輕的人參加我們的崇拜,敬拜隊亦選擇不同年代 的詩歌配合會眾的年齡層。感謝神帶領更多人加入敬拜隊。成人詩班在沒有真正的指揮仍 然能夠繼續每兩個月獻詩一次,還可以在今年六月舉行一個聖樂主日,神的供應超過所想 所求。 現在粵語崇拜仍然保留網上直播,感謝 媒體事工的事奉,不但讓我們在教會進行崇拜,亦能讓未能親身來到教會的弟兄姊妹和朋友在網上參與。同時這也是教會的外展工作,通過崇拜的直播和錄影希望能夠接觸更多未信的人,讓他們認識基督。 媒體事工今年新置兩部投影機取代那老舊已殘的機器。

感謝神帶領更多人返回教會崇拜,各方面都需要更多事奉人員,包括抬椅、司事、 茶點。從今年六月重新設立場務統籌的崗位,去協調現場的需要和處理突發狀況。鮮花奉 獻亦重新設立。

感謝神帶領新移民信徒和新朋友來教會聚會,迎新關顧部亦相應安排弟兄姊妹在崇 拜接待他們。

願神幫助我們忠心事奉你,安排妥當崇拜現場事奉人員、環境、器材和流程,讓大家投入敬拜,牧者專心教導,神的靈充滿我們。

崇拜部:洪國智牧師(顧問),黎萬雪兒(部長),陳錦逢,陳記強,李啟彦,胡兆廣,梁樹權

成人詩班

黎萬雪兒

感謝神帶領詩班走出疫情,保守我們的健康,詩班員的出席練習和參與獻詩都能安定下來。

詩班現在沒有正式的指揮,選歌多是比較簡單和傳統的詩歌。詩班現時的水準其實可以唱一些難度高些、不同類型和較現代的詩歌。求神供應指揮和司琴,讓我們獻詩的水準和次數提升。感謝神讓我們同心事奉,保守詩班合一,在不足之處獻上我們能力上的最好。

現在詩班是每兩個月獻詩一次。

二零二二年詩班參與由敬拜隊主辦的聖誕報佳音晚會,獻唱詩歌。

感謝神在這有限的情況,賜予我們指揮李敬端弟兄和司琴鄭吳婉雯姊妹,讓我們在 今年六月有聖樂主日崇拜,用我們的歌聲代表弟兄姊妹讚美敬拜神,感謝神的供應,和唱 出我們感恩的喜樂。

工作坊:李敬端弟兄善用聖樂主日的詩歌練習,教導我們唱歌技巧、發聲用氣、和聲去幫助詩班提高水平。

感謝神這三十年賜與我們教會充充滿滿的恩典,我們會與國語堂組成一個聯合詩班, 在堂慶日崇拜中獻詩歌頌神。亦邀請了舊詩班員參與,共慶這大喜日子。

詩班亦參與堂慶詩歌「跨越」的錄制,共證主恩。

在過去一年我們看見神的信實,在缺乏中有豐厚的供應,感謝主!

練習:每星期日上午八時十分到四十五分

獻詩:雙月份第一個星期天和一些特別節日,如復活節及聖誕節。

職員會:黎萬雪兒、莫曾麗梅、鄭錦銓

司琴: 陳余翠婷

詩班員: 陳余翠婷、陳錦逢、鄭錦銓、馮周慧虹、黎萬雪兒、李秦美恩、何家琳、林桂雄、

梁樹權、梁玉玲、莫曾麗梅、冼佩芬、杜潔慧、唐永安、謝陳燕清、黃秀君

特約指揮:李敬端、鄭吳婉雯 特約司琴:鄭吳婉雯、梁宏光

迎新關顧部

陳記強

因為疫情關係,今年迎新部成員减少至六位弟兄姊妹,主要負責主日崇拜時歡迎及認識新朋友。主日崇拜實體參與人數已經由疫情時約60人回復至約130人。現時關顧工作主要都由各團契小组承擔責任。

迎新茶聚自從昨年 4/12 舉行過之後未有再舉行。希望今年 12 月可以舉行一次。求主仍然繼續使用部門的肢體在祂的聖工上。感謝主。

小組牧養部

陳錦逢

由於過去三年多的疫情對教會的團契小組的正常活動有着很大的限制,有些經常的聚會都被迫暫停,小組的計劃和發展都很難實施,所以今年堂委會經過多次討論如何提升對弟兄姊妹的牧養工作,大家認同可以成立新的小組牧養部來統籌安排弟兄姊妹參加教會團契形式下的各個小組,目的是讓弟兄姊妹能夠參加合適的小組來一起成長,接受栽培訓練去參與教會的不同事奉崗位,及可以去傳福音,做外展宣教的工作。

感謝主讓教會在今年 3 月份增添了約書亞團和小組,讓現有及近年來到教會較為年輕的家庭和信徒組成團契及小組,彼此認識,彼此勉勵,一同成長。

小組牧養部很希望尚未加入教會小組的弟兄姊妹可以盡快加入現存的小組或成立新的小組。有意入組的弟兄姊妹可以和小組牧養部的成員查詢及安排入組事宜。

另外,小組牧養部為了培育更多合神心意的領袖,也舉辦了領袖訓練課程,盼望信徒能對作領袖有更好的概念和技巧。

小組牧養部:

陳錦逢 (Ken Chan) 堂委 李炳祥 (Raymond Li) 執事 黃張梅香 (Francis Wong) 傳道 洪國智 (KC Hung) 牧師 李啟彦(K Y Lee) 堂委

傳道部

陳錦逢

今年傳道部的工作主要是舉辦公開講座和在不同的社交平台接觸認識教會以外的人。感謝 洪牧師安排基督教機構的專業人任為針對家長們的需要而舉辦多個有關子女成長的講座, 希望透過講座讓在社區附近的家長認識活石堂,吸引家長孩子們來到教會。

在接觸新朋友方面,洪牧師和傳道部成員在不同的網上社交平台和實體社交羣中去接觸不同的社羣,就他們在澳洲生活上的種種需要提供有用的資訊和幫助,當中有不少已信主的新移民家庭和回流澳洲的人仕,及他們的一些未信主的朋友,他們透過這個途徑來到了我們的教會。

除了以上兩個工作方向,傳道部沒有舉辦一般傳統的傳道活動,如街頭傳福音,佈道會等 等,因為這些外展傳福音工作是需要有傳福音訓練和裝備的信徒去参與,且願意在疫情下 去作某個程度上的個人接觸,我們認為目前並不是理想的時機。

傳道部希望在來年為弟兄姊妹提供傳福音的訓練和實踐機會,好讓弟兄姊妹先接受裝備,準備心志,在其所屬的教會小組中一起設定傳道的工作和目標,付於行動。傳道部亦會鼓勵弟兄姊妹一起参與基督教華聯會和其他誇教會的傳道事工,在我們的社區內接觸更多的人,向他們介紹教會的活動和不同的興趣小組,好讓他們認識我們的教會和有傳福音的機會。

傳道部成員:

嚴汪琦玲(Kali)姊妹 王周德芬(Chris)幹事 陳錦逢(Ken)堂委 黄張梅香(Francis)傳道 洪國智牧師

挪亞團

蕭錦添

團契宗旨是維繫教會伉儷的團契生活,增加彼此間的關顧,確定生命的目標,參與教會的事工及作基督的見證。

過往一年,新冠肺炎疫情息微,團契實體聚會開始復常。聚會形式包括:

- 1. 團契大組聚會:
- -13/08/22: 主題:父母與成年子女相處 延續篇 在網上舉行,張梅香傳道 用亙動模式分組討論。
- -12/11/22: 慶祝完成研讀哈該書、 瑪拉基書 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。
- -11/02/23: 新春團聚 張梅香傳道用 "羣策羣力"的訊息去勉勵團友 證道之後有分享教會計劃新牧養模式及檢討以後大組主題安排。
- -10/04/23:公園郊遊 Fagan Park 在風和日曬的日子裹,享受神創造大自之美。遊戲和午餐之後,漫游公園。 當日參加人數有 14 人。
- 2. 小組聚會每月一次

今年是研讀新約的提摩太前書。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。 因莫曾麗梅姊妹需要回港照顧孫兒,她與丈夫莫少根弟兄所帶領的小組今年開始暫停聚會。 現今小組共有8組,參加人數有82人。

3. 組長團契聚會

組長團契是支援及培訓組長的平台。藉組長們的分享,得悉個別小組的運作情況和困難。組長之間也彼此勉勵,互相守望,代禱關顧。

在過往一年,雖然安排了三次實體聚會,只有 08/10/22 一次聚會可以如期進行。而 11/03/23 的聚會因為只有少過半數組長可以出席,故該次聚會被迫取消。至於 08/07/23 的聚會,則改為參加香港播道神學院院長郭文池牧師的講道會。

現今組長團契聚會模式已運作數年,有需要重新檢討、改進,以便更加達到組長團契的目標。

挪亞團已成立三十年,團友多開始步入人生下半場,病痛與年齡俱增 ,身體日漸衰殘。加上生活上每天面對的困難,退休後生活的適應,婆媳相處,照顧兒孫及學習與成年子女相處等等,都需依靠主賜的力量去渡過。感謝神,祂的恩典是夠我們用的,因為祂的能力在我們的軟弱上更顯得完全。祂能轉危為機,讓我們從中經歷到祂的大能、信實、掌管和美意。

顧問:洪國智牧師,張梅香傳道,李炳祥執事

文書:袁洪少媚 聯絡人:蕭錦添

保羅團

胡顏玉玲

隨著 COVID 疫情的緩和,保羅團 2023 年正式回復實體聚會。第一次聚會訂為後疫情·新開始。後隨是一系列~感恩,祈禱,敬拜的進階;讓我們彼此學習與分享。

保羅團去年共有四個小組,今年初教會作出改動,為方便牧養,分為两個團契,即是約書亞團的成立。現在我們有三個小組,團友關係親摯。每小組每月定時有一次查經聚會,跟教會同步查及提摩太前書。另有合組聚餐和户外旅行去認識更多新朋友。

團契大组每雙月舉行。我們盼望團契大組成為教會裡一個平台,讓未入小組的弟兄姊妹並 新朋友同來,在靈裡彼此守望勉勵,在主裡一同學習真理,一同成長。

職員會由组長組成 (黃功顯,黃李少琼,陳鄧少屏,胡兆廣,胡顏玉玲,譚伯壯,譚魏梅芳)。張梅香傳道是我們的顧問,王治康弟兄是堂委會的代表。

感謝天父也多謝每位在保羅團一同服事的弟兄姊妹。

約書亞團

李啟彦



緣起

隨著近年從香港來的新移民人數增多,如何牧養及接待這批新移民成為急切需要。教會原有團契的牧養對象亦不盡相同,加上經過三年疫情,團契只能有限度地運作,大部分是透過小組方式關懷弟兄姊妹。所以,在牧養模式上需要更新轉化以配合新時代下的需要。

堂委會經過深入考量,仔細商討,如何在教會跨進 30 週年之時,回應上主對這世代的呼召,在疫情後的新常態中更新,訂立適合教會整體的牧養模式。經過與教會不同領袖商討後,在保留原有團契模式下,確立推動小組牧養模式成為發展方向。

配合教會牧養新方向,堂委會議決成立一個新團契以牧養一班較年輕、文化背景相近的弟兄姊妹。主要對象是有在學子女的年輕家庭或較年青夫婦及年青信徒。當中包括近年的香港新移民及已移居一段時間的弟兄姊妹。期望能作更針對性的關顧與牧養。

新團契名為約書亞團,期望學習約書亞帶領以色列人出埃及走到迦南應許之地,當中縱然 經歷不少困難與挑戰,但藉著對神的信心與仰望,跨過障礙,倚靠上主,經歷神的大能與 同在!

成團

感謝上主感動洪牧師帶領,加上有三個家庭願意承擔籌組新團契及組長工作。經過諮詢及邀請合適的弟兄姊妹加入,約書亞團在2023年3月25日舉行成團禮,出席人數超過40人,當中包括執事會主席譚伯壯弟兄及副主席李炳祥伉儷,感謝他們的鼓勵及支持,與我們一起見證活石堂新團契的誕生!



週會及分組安排

A.團契週會

團契週會安排在五月、八月及十一月的第一週六進行,避免與其他團契週會相撞。今年的週會主題在成團禮當日由團友從不同主題中揀選,期望能適切團友當下的信仰歷程需要。

5月	夫妻點先可以長相廝守?		
8月	仔女成長點先至全面?		
11月	唔想做「耶膠」?馬太福音的攻略		

感謝 Awana 同工們可以額外安排 Awana 在團契週會同步進行,令參與團契的家庭中有超過 10 位小朋友可以參加,並且可讓新朋友整個家庭有機會同時各自參與聚會。期望可以彼此配合,發揮教會中不同事工的協同效應。

B.小組

1. 查經小組

為了讓弟兄姊妹彼此更多認識,互相了解,所以在初期我們每次查經都是隨機分組的,為 往後分組建立基礎。因為是隨機分組,所以會透過 zoom 查經,亦避免實體查經中需要照 顧小朋友。

自8月起,我們開始固定分組,按地區、子女年齡等準則分成三組。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. 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。

期望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,讓未信者認識我們,建立關係;我們可以關懷他們,實踐信仰, 見證福音。

期望

團契正處於成長階段,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,面對挑戰與困難時互相支持,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

有見及此,團契招開了特別會議,與團友分享友尼基團契的處境,希望多些姊妹能 起來加入職員會分擔工作,很可惜沒有積極的回應。接着,年中團契聯絡人及團契職員先 後離職,感恩即使在職員的短缺下,事工竟然也能運作如常,我們實在要感謝神豐富的恩 典!

然而,在達入 2023 新年度的開始,留任的職員將是一位。在人看來,婦女事工像似再受衝擊。然而,換一個思維方式來想,這可能是事工的轉捩點,若持續昔日的經驗,形式拘泥不變的活動,無法應付今日的任務和明日的挑戰,能夠將負面的經驗轉化提昇為有建設的出路,婦女事工需要再進步,發展模式需要被更新。

首先,明白婦女事工存在的意義何在?這直接影響事工的發展方向和使命。無論領袖和參加的婦女均需瞭解事工的意義,才會懷着同一目標,發揮神賜與女性尊貴的職分一「救助者」,建立女性的自我價值。在母親角色上一盡心養育子女、在妻子角色上一照管家務和安定家庭;在職業女性上一貢獻所學專長,促進社會、協助家庭經濟;在教會事奉各崗位上一樂於服侍,推動基督教信仰的各類事工。

身兼數職的婦女,如何在繁重的擔子中、或遊走於不同角色中,仍可游刃有餘呢? 我想或可藉婦女事工的平台:彼此建立——起走過困難,為對方打打氣、吐吐苦水,同分擔喜與悲,既可同哭也可同樂,彼此體恤代禱;好能裝備事奉——起學習神的話語,彼此擊掌鼓勵,在基督裡不斷成熟得豐盛的生命;傳福音領人歸主—婦女信徒的朝氣蓬勃、笑逐頻開,自帶基督的馨香光彩照人,婦女信徒的相愛溫暖,不期然吸引非信徒來尋道、慕道;又願意被栽培作領袖—滿有喜樂服侍周遭的人讓他們得幸福,以生活見證神。

其次,團契嘗試以小組模式運作,不設職員會,減少行政,由牧者帶領組長籌備、 策劃婦女工作,讓組長有更大的靈活性、更多時間和更好地照顧個別婦女不同的需要。現 時團友有 31 人,只佔教會婦女的極小數,教會還有許多的年長和年輕婦女未有參加;婦 女事工更需調整有向外發展的視野,積極邀請信徒或非信徒的婦女參加,婦女事工實在還 有很多方面有侍改善和更新。因此,婦女工作需要你的參與支持。

姊妹們,今天我們仍有機會事奉主是漠大的恩典,神賜給我們尊貴無比的身分和職事,為著榮耀主名,作為稱職的「救助者」。不在於我們的能力,乃在於主的召命,說真的,我們其實無權選擇退卻,重要的是我們願意被神去使用,不是出於勉強,乃是出於甘心,透過事奉我們才能成長、成熟去守護我們所愛的人和愛我們的人。 有你的參與,婦女事工會做得更好,讓更多婦女、家庭、丈夫、職場和教會蒙福,且讓人稱羨,並得那永不衰殘的榮耀冠冕。

長青學府

張梅香傳道

葛理翰牧師說:「回顧我一生被教導如何面對死,卻未被教導如何面對年老。」說 真的我們的確很少被教導如何面對年老。

一般人以為老就老是自然不過的事,無須想太多,老就將就一下吧!這可能也是我們對老的迷思。社會科學學者的國內外研究文獻有關「老年」議題,從老年人生理、心理與社會方面的聚焦議題,特別在「成功老化」的研究發展尤為快速,探討長者如何轉變與調適老化過程而成功渡過晚年。

就人老了老了會如何?中國人期盼的老年生活可能是「老有所養、老有所依、老有所為、老有所樂。」西方人則追求生命的幸福感和生活的滿意度。然而,難道這些是老人所追求的老年生活和滿足嗎?社會科學觀點之老年理論在回答現象及行為背後成因的問題;聖經中的老年觀超越於回應人問的問題,而直接告訴人當如何看待生命,人當如何活命!

高齡化教會的挑戰是如何幫助金齡信徒成功老化,他們在各種境遇中能倚靠上帝的說話站立得穩,在遲暮之年那最後的一程,抓住愛他們的上帝,把握機會參與擴展天國的國度(約九4)。牧者需教導有關基督教信仰的「老年觀」和生命教育的培育,且要成為對教會整體信徒的教導,當人懷有生命為一整體性的向度時,年輕人不會歧視老人,老人也不會輕視年輕人,年歲的差距不構成隔閡,且能和陸共處和共事。教會與牧者需要為金齡信徒創造這樣的環境,金齡事工不在於舉辦文娱活動,活動可以是他們實踐基督團契的生活場所。

教會金齡事工一「長青學府」是教會外展事工。一般來說,教會長者事工是「為長者而做」,金齡事工概念是「為長者而做」也「由長者來做」,由一群擁有健康、才幹、時間的金齡人仕負責,這可是一隊無可估量的基督精兵,是教會珍貴的產業。事工的目的「向內建立信徒,向外傳揚福音」。金齡信徒向內彼此建立發揮同濟輔導的關顧,向外傳揚福音維持與社會的連結。

老了不是將就,老去是「屬靈操練」,人的無力感是恩典的開始,在生、心俱感疲憊,力有不逮時,成熟的靈命對創造的神心存敬畏,珍惜生命,心懷盼望,因為有「神的形象和樣式」,這尊貴的身分來支持金齡信徒圓滿終身,活得氣象萬千,臻至老而不衰。

信徒高齡化可以不是教會的負擔,而是神賜給教會的挑戰,更是上帝所賜的禮物。 弟兄姊妹在夕陽落山之前,努力奔跑追逐時間,在黃金歲月時仍繼續發現生命的美好,在 歸家路上不斷學習,並透過不同的平台回應神的召命,拓展天國,傳揚福音,為主作見證。 關懷今日的老人,就是關懷明日的自己,等待你來參加/參與長青學府。

長青學府每月的星期一均有不同活動,第五周一除外:

每月活動 活動時間 (10:00-12:30)	型式	目的
第一周一	主題講座	透過活動平台接觸未信長
	(充實長者相關知識)、才藝興趣	者,建立長者社交平台及
	班 (將開辦:書法班、插花班,	體會教會生活
	手工藝班,乒乓球、棋藝)	
第二周一	IDMC Discipleship Training	培育同工領袖
	(銳意門徒訓練)	
第三周一	才藝興趣班-美聲學堂、高爾	透過活動平台接觸未信長
	夫球(室外)	者
第四周一	「查經樂、樂查經」——步一	認識基督教信仰
	步學箴言作智慧人。為慕道者	
	開辦信仰探索班及初信栽培	
	班。	

金齡事工不是工作乃是使命!

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,信息流通廣泛與普及,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。教會把握過往幾年在疫情下發展運用媒體網絡,實踐「與主結連與人聯繫」的方向。

網上崇拜直播

隨著疫情減退,出席實體崇拜的人數日漸上升,但考慮到部分弟兄姊妹因不同原因及需要 而未能出席實體崇拜,所以堂委會決定維持崇拜直播,繼續讓在雪梨或不同地方的弟兄姊 妹及新朋友可以接觸教會,認識信仰。 根據紀錄,每週網上崇拜參與人數平均超過 200 多次,最高的數堂有超過 400 多次。有部份弟兄姊妹會重温敬拜詩歌及講道訊息,亦有澳洲以外地區人士收看,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,例如 團契週會、主日學、安息禮拜等,以便弟兄姊妹重温及分享。 其中由郭文池牧師主講的專題講座《上帝的教會播道會的傳 承》錄得超過 1000 次收看紀錄。

30 週年堂慶詩歌製作

敬拜隊創作活石堂 30 週年堂慶詩歌 《跨越》,我們製作了粵語版及國語版的音樂專輯並上載到教會YouTube 頻道上供弟兄姊妹分享。現時亦正籌備及製作粵語堂弟兄姊妹的同唱版本, 匯聚各人的獻唱畫面,一同透過詩歌向上主頌讚,留下印記!





設備更新

教會踏進 30 週年,不少影音器材亦已老化。自上年年尾,矩陣式影音切換器 (Matrix Switcher) 出現問題,導致未能正常投影。再加上兩部已使用超過十多年的二手投影機亦已明顯退化,其中一部更在崇拜中突然死機。感謝執事會通過撥款,購置新的器材。當中特別鳴謝李炳祥執事迅速安排,可以快速地訂購新的投影機。感恩一眾弟兄一呼百應,特別抽出額外時間,選購相關器材,並迅速安裝以上設備,恢復正常崇拜中的投影及直播畫面,以及教會其他聚會的使用。

不同網絡平台宣傳

利用 Facebook 宣傳教會不同聚會,例如福音主日,推廣給 facebook 的使用者。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機構。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。

人手加增

十分感恩上主感動弟兄姊妹加入媒體事工,今年增添了 5 位弟兄姊妹加入,在崇拜中服侍。未來將繼續培訓有 心服侍的弟兄姊妹,期望更多人可以參與,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!



盼望大家禱告代求,求主感動更多弟兄姊妹參與及找到下一階段具體發展方向。期望透過 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)、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: 李啟彥(K Y Lee)

教會網頁負責人: 胡兆廣(Kirkus Wu)

鼓勵大家訂閱:



教會 YouTube channel:

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

教會 Facebook:

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



國語堂 Mandarin Congregation

國語堂堂委會主席報告

顏國華

自從去年將主日崇拜移至小學後,各種器材和用品都需每週搬運,因此產生了一些新的事奉崗位。感謝神感動了我們當中不少的弟兄姊妹,願意奉獻他們的時間精力來事奉,其中包括了器材組、司事迎新組、茶點組、獻金點算組以及橫幅、座椅等,剛開始時人手短缺之窘迫已經得到很好的改善。

隨著疫情結束,主日原有的各項事工也已陸續實體化,鼓勵會眾過"面對面"的 教會生活,完全實體形式的主日學、主日禱告會、詩班獻唱及練習、團契、長者事工等都 已正常進行。

今年也新建立了敬拜隊,愿神親自帶領敬拜隊用琴與歌來贊美我們的大君王。 因應新朋友逐漸增多,新組建了迎新團隊,負責在周間跟進及探訪,感謝神賜給國語堂有 這麼多肢體熱心迎新事工,愿神繼續保守這支團隊。

展望明年,愿神壯大我們的事奉隊伍,讓我們一起在事奉中相互配合,共同成長, 同心合力在社區華人中傳福音。

國語堂堂委會:周立傳道,許允文傳道,顏國華(主席),白益平(文書),姚洪波,姜健健,劉瑜,毛瑞平,孟越,孫奇志,王偉

英語堂 English Congregation

English Congregation Chairman's Report

Emmanuel Chan

The theme for English Congregation in 2023 is "Captivated by the beauty of His Holiness" and we have indeed witnessed as a congregation, not only God's sovereignty and faithfulness, but also the distinction and strength shown by our members who have endured immense trials. As a fairly young congregation, we have been confronted by the inevitably of suffering in life, with a number of members dealing with severe illness and loss in the family over a span of a few months. Although there has been mourning and uncertainty, these trials have undoubtedly united the congregation in prayer and hope. We have been reminded that "if one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it." (1 Corinthians 12:26). Likewise, we have also celebrated the joys of marriage and growing families within our congregation. It is our hope that we will continue to grow as a church family, in love and care for each other, as we press on, being moulded and captivated by God's Holiness.

Emerging from Covid related restrictions, there has been an emphasis this year on community building within the congregation. EC lunches have been held on the fourth Sunday of every month after service. These lunches have been well received and attended, and we give thanks for the faithful team involved in its planning. The Christmas event of 2022 required significant planning and execution and was deemed a great success. It was highlighted by a nativity scene involving both children and adults of EC. The event was certainly a celebration and there were newcomers who attended. We again give thanks for the efforts of the members who were involved.

Our evolving congregation has seen an increase in the number of young families. Headed by Rev Kelvin, the "Parents Support Group" is a new ministry that was introduced in February 2023 to connect parents within EC, and to also provide support and education.

Within the EC committee, there has been a strong focus on evaluating existing practices at Sunday service. The objective of this exercise was to identify potential areas for improvement in facilitating corporate worship. We sought input from the congregation and an online questionnaire was devised and distributed. Questions were related to sermon topics, worship music, use of the service bulletin and church social events. There was a total of 28 respondents and the feedback was generally positive and encouraging. Many expressed a desire to receive more teaching on how to live as a Christian in our society. We give thanks for the TNT team and their efforts in providing reliable and faithful teaching, much of which is centred on social issues, and continue encouraging members to attend on Sunday mornings. Some members expressed a desire for a greater sense of church community. We are thankful for our various church groups,

including Connect and YA groups and encourage members to stay connected and to grow in fellowship within such groups. We also look forward to a weekend away together in September for our first EC camp in four years. We are excited for a time of fellowship and mingling beyond Sunday service, while learning and sitting under God's word. In regard to changes to Sunday service, Jonathan Ip and his team have been working on a digital webpage that will function as both a bulletin and an EC event calendar. Moving forwards, the EC committee hope to provide greater support for brothers and sisters who are serving. We also ask for God to instil in our congregation a passion for Him, such that our Sunday church service and its running may reflect our reverence and awe towards our God.

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, MAG leaders, crèche/nursery volunteers, musicians, prayers, Bible readers, chairpersons, welcomers and ushers, and all others who have volunteered their time and effort. We pray that we may look heavenward as we continue to serve God and our church family.

EC Committee Team 2022-23:

Pastors: Rev John Gurusamy and Rev Kelvin Lau

Chairman: Emmanuel Chan Vice Chairman: Jonathan Ip

Members: Diana Chan (secretary), Chelsea Chan, Sarah Fung, Grant Lian, Gordon Liang and

Mick Leung

PSG (Parents Support Group)

Rev Kelvin Lau

Team Members

Kelvin & Esther Lau

What is Parents Support Group?

Launched at the start of the 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 parenting their children.

What have we done this year?

So far the group have met twice and have been well attended and received by the families. It was a blessing to be able to share and understanding one another's struggles and joys in loving and nurturing our children, and in particular for the parents to reflect on their partnership and relationship. The discussion topics have been shaped and informed by the book "Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles that can Radically Change your Family" by Paul Tripp.

Thank God for...

- All the EC families embracing this new opportunity.
- Volunteers who have come to supervise the children and that they played well together.
- The insight and learning amongst the couples.
- Open and honest discussion and sharing.

Please pray for...

- Every family feeling welcomed and supported, especially if they feel like they are not doing well enough.
- The couples may grow in deeper love and knowledge of the Lord and each other, that by grace they may put into practice what they have learned and agreed to with one another.
- A growing thankfulness and depending on God in our parenting.
- The children to know that Jesus is the one who loves them most of all.

Young Adult Fellowship

Rev. Kelvin Lau

Team Members

Triplet Mentors: Emmanuel Chan, Kin Lam, Jono Ip, Elizabeth Chan, Rachel Chen, Jessica

Liang, Judith Wong, Emma Ngai, Jean Gurusamy & Matthew Kan

Sunday Morning: Calvin Lai, Jerry Leung & Kin Lam

What have we done this year?

This year the focus of the ministry was on encouraging and building up school leavers of the past couple years. Given the flow-on effects of covid disruptions of previous years, this cohort in particular experienced a heightened sense of disconnectedness with both God and the church. With this need in mind, the group met on Sunday mornings before service and studied Judges and 1 Samuel, and organised friendship building opportunities regularly. By God's grace the members have been growing in faith and love together.

We have also continued the mentoring triplets where volunteers from EC who are no longer in the YA life stage meet with two assigned YA members at a time, place and schedule that works for them. The purpose of these triplets is so that members can build relationships with others as well as having someone older that they can gain godly wisdom from. We praise God that the desire to commit to these triplets from the young adults are continuing, and that this need is met by more volunteers from EC.

Thank God for...

- All the mentors and the triplets.
- Calvin, Jerry and Kin in faithfully teaching God's word and being lived examples.
- Regular and joyful attendance and participation from the members.
- The members' desire to know and care for one another.
- New team members who are already keen and willing to join next year!

Please pray for...

- Clarity on format for Sunday Morning for next year.
- The members and mentors to be humble, loving and open with one another.
- A growing resilience and perseverance through stress and pressure for the members.
- That members can love being at church and in fellowship with one another.
- A consistently suitable location for the Sunday Morning group to meet.
- Those amongst the group that are not yet believers, that they may love Christ and be part of His people.

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 7-8: Alisa Chan and Sam Hung

Year 8-9 Boys: Samuel Chau, Chris Chen and Nathan Cheung Year 9-12 Girls: Christy Chan, Jocelyn Lee and Esme Zhou

Year 10-12 Boys: In-Jhong Rhee and Max Wang

Other Leaders: Jerry Leung and Steve Lam

Admin: Nathan Cheung Treasurer: Esme Zhou

Coordinator: Christopher Fung

What have we done this year?

Praise God for another year of TiC! With many leaders leaving us from the year before and current leaders having changes in their lives, God has provided stability and returning leaders to help out.

• Sunday Mornings

We began our year in typical fashion with a few weeks of orientation outlining our vision for the Youth group and exploring expectations for the youths. This year brought a change in structure on Sunday Mornings – changing from combined time at the start of youth group to going straight into our grade groups as to give enough time for each group to pray and share with each other and to complete a Bible Study. We have retained our combined breakfasts each school holiday giving us an opportunity to come together as a big group.

Our study series that we have just completed titled "Unbelievable Jesus" (Matthew and Acts) explored Jesus and the many unbelievable things that happened to him, unbelievable things he did

and unbelievable qualities about him. This gave us an opportunity to reflect on whether we believe in Jesus and what it means if we choose to follow him.

• Friday Nights

Praise God for more youths attending on Friday nights which are running twice a month now. On Friday nights, we have dinner together once a month, sing praise together or play a game together, listen to a talk and spend time fellowshipping after. We have just finished a series reading through Philippians together with the aim of showing that the youths can read through the Bible themselves.

Two special events that we have also had was Parents Night and Youth Run night. Parents Night provided us with the opportunity to kick off the year with orientating the parents and the youths to our program and Youth Run night gave the youth the opportunity to help run a segment in our Friday night program. We had the pleasure of hosting Pastor Eshwan from Voice of the Martyrs who shared on this night on "Why does God allow Christians to suffer?". Pastor Eshwan graciously shared about his personal experiences and many youths were asking challenging and genuine questions to him after his talk which was very encouraging for all.

Plans for rest of the year

Sunday Series- Psalms and TBA Friday Nights – Relationships (Family, Friendship, and Dating) and James Christmas End of Year Event

Things to pray for

- Thank God for the year so far. As mentioned above we have had greater attendance on Friday Nights and new youths at TiC.
- Thank God for all the work the leaders do, for their effort and sacrifice in showing God's love to the youth and each other.
- Please pray for energy, wisdom, joy and perseverance for the leaders as they continue to serve.
- Please pray for deliverance for some of the leaders who are suffering during this season.
- 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	John & Jean Gurusamy	Cherrybrook
Friday	Mick & Judith Leung	Turramurra
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.

Most groups followed the sermon series which looked at 1 Thessalonians, Psalms, TULIP and later in the year Hebrews and Malachi.

We had Delia Gray conduct some CG training in March and Charissa Mak in August.

We thank God for all CG leaders and hosts who enable God's people to gather together during the week for mutual support and encouragement in our walk with God. Do pray for us that the groups can be better balanced in numbers for the coming year.

Teaching and Training (TNT)

Eric Chung

TNT is a training ministry for adults in EC. TNT stands for "Teaching and Training" aimed at building up Bible knowledge that will complement their learnings from small group Bible studies and preaching from the pulpit.

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

Term 3, 2022	The Secular Creed, Baptism class
Term 4, 2022	*Why We Trust the Bible
Term 1, 2023	Confronting Christianity, Baptism Class
Term 2, 2023	*Exploring Islam

^{*} A Ligonier Connect course. Ligonier Connect is an online Bible teaching from Ligonier Ministries.

You can see that, except "Why We Trust the Bible", most topics are to equip brothers and sisters with the values from the Bible stand firm against the secular trend. This is especially important for young adults transitioning from studying to full time working.

Venue continues to be a major issue with TNT as more and more church activities are scheduled in the morning. We are trying to: use pastors' office, skip the week when venue isn't available or make up with online meetings.

Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.

Rev 1:3

We are glad to have Alice He joining TNT ministry as a committee member. With her on board, we hope that the ministry can be more focussed on younger generation.

Music Ministry

Emmanuel Chan

Praise God that He has continued to sustain and provide for our music ministry! We give thanks for our faithful band members and their dedication in serving the congregation through song leading. Our music ministry has evolved with younger band members taking on more initiative and ownership.

Upon request from the EC committee, we are now singing four songs during Sunday service. There is an emphasis on song choice, and we often have a theme song for the sermon series.

We have invited all band members to be involved in the upcoming EC church camp to encourage community and fellowship within the ministry. We also had a large jam session involving members from different bands in May 2023.

This is my final music ministry report as Adrian Law has taken on the role of the coordinator of the music ministry at the start of 2023.

MAG

Team Members

Chelsea Chan, Gabrielle Chan, Kelvin Lau, Kevin Ho, Vincent Lui, Daniel Ng, Bright Wen.

What are our goals?

- 1. EC as missionaries (Friendship evangelism)
- 2. Raise awareness of missionaries that EC is supporting
- 3. Instil a welcoming and engaging congregational culture

What has happened this year?

MAG has continued to evolve this year, with much deliberations on how best to encourage the members for evangelism through their daily lives and social circles. It has been a challenging journey with much dead ends but also significant learning for the team. We have held two EC Events so far and plan to have two more this year, with the focus of providing opportunities for members to invite friends and to connect with others in an open and warm atmosphere. By the grace of God we hope to reorientate and focus on our set goals, to be more prayerful and come to terms with not trying to overdo and overreach on what the members themselves must do.

Monthly Mission Prayer segments during EC service have been discontinued this year. To better serve the congregation and the various missionaries and agencies that EC partners with, we have

invited congregation members to pray in their Connect Groups and to develop a more outward culture in those settings.

Looking forward to 2024, we want to change our name from MAG (Mission Action Group) to something that will better represent our purpose and activities.

For Prayer

- Praise God for the addition of a new team member!
- Give thanks to God for allowing us to be park of His work in bringing people to know and love Him.
- Praise God many have grown in love and passion for Christ to be known and loved, and that many have preached and lived Christ to their neighbours.
- 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 God will give MAG wisdom and strength to do work that is pleasing in His eyes, and that the team will love and honour each other better and better.
- 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 God will continue to support, grow, and work through His church all over the globe to glorify His name.

兒童事工部 Children Ministry

KidsChurch

Jason Chung

With the grace of God, KidsChurch (KC) is now operating into its 6th 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.

Following the COVID pandemic, KC saw a decline in numbers down to less than 20. However, God has blessed our ministry with a significant influx of new families and children since January 2023. This has seen the number of children increase to about 5-7 in nursery and 30-35 children in kindergarten to Year 6 during our 9:30am session. Biological growth of congregations

have also resulted in gradual increases in our 11:30am session of 3-4 in nursery and up to 7 from kindergarten to year 6.

Our team numbers remain stable at 5-6 teachers with the outlook of 1 to 2 new teachers coming on board for the rest of the year. Given the significant increase in the number of children attending, the KC team remains very short and we continue to pray for more teachers to help lead. We thank God for the many helpers that have willingly volunteered to facilitate and supervise. However, we continue to request teachers, whether experienced or not so that the children can be broken down into smaller discussion groups.

We continue to use Sandy Galea's KidsWise curriculum. In 2022, we have been reading the books of John, Jonah, Genesis, Exodus and will be moving to Leviticus. In 2023, we have continued in this order and have studied some generally less taught books including Ruth, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs and Ecclesiastes. As difficult as these may be, we trust God will make children receptive to these messages and enable teachers to bring out the truths in a child-friendly way.

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. As we approach the end of 2023, we thank God for bringing more families and children into KidsChurch. God has given us the privilege of more children to disciple and bring into his family. We pray for wisdom and energy as we reach out to these new families, more leaders to care and grow a new generation of children and pray for guidance in the coming year that we may see His church flourish.

兒童音樂活動 mainly music

Tuesday mainly music

Coordinator: Yin Wearne Koh

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

Welcome/Registration/Tea: Annie Chan, Yanling Zhang

PA/PowerPoint: Steven Yu, Yan Wen

Time: 10 am to 12 noon.

Age: 0-5 years old

Program: songs, 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 by the message about Jesus.

Tuesday mainly music started in Feb 2023. On the average we have about 7 families. Most of them come from Christian families, two of them from Catholic background.

We thank God for the opportunity to minister to these families. A close friendship has developed among us. We often pray for one another and share our lives with one another.

星期四兒童音樂活動

統籌: Rosa Tam 譚魏梅芳

歡迎: Amy Li, Catherine Wu, May Lau, Susan Liang, Candy Yim

領唱遊: Rosa Tam, Grace Wu(left in 4/2023), Ellen Chung

投影音響: Richard Sin, Lee Lau, Amy Tam, Connie Tsui

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

今年參加的家庭由十個左右下降至不足十個,原因是家長開始工作或學習,孩子長大了去幼兒園,或是照顧小孩的祖父母回國去......等等。雖然工作人手有短缺,但神亦召來一些人手補上不足。

現時工作: 我們仍然繼續為兩位 mainly music 媽媽每月有兩次的福音性查經, 亦維繫著另外兩個媽媽, 其中三位媽媽已决志信主, 很感恩分別有一位帶了孩子返兒童主日學及有三個小孩返 Awana。

禱告未來:

求主賜下接班人手,可以減輕帶唱歌的年長姊妹負擔。亦求神給我們機會接觸更多未信主的家庭。

Awana

Ps. Yin Wearne Koh

We thank God that Awana was able to restart on 17th June 2023. We meet 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
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
Youth leaders	Alfred Chen, Kevin Chen, Audrey Yao, Mary Yao, Jasmine
	Zhang, Bernice Chan, Prudence Lee, Jonathan Yan.

差傳部 Mission Department

李炳祥 Raymond Li

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 2022年(由1月至12月)共收到差傳奉獻\$110,202,讓我們再次經歷到神豐厚的供應。

隨着疫情的改善和各團契事工的重啓,活石堂於 2022 年 10 月 16 日舉行了差傳主日粵語/國語聯合崇拜並邀請華人福音普傳會新任總幹事鄭鷗牧師作講員,並以「宣教的漣漪效應」為主題分享差傳訊息。

2023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

隨著差傳奉獻收入增加,差傳部於今年同時增加了3項一次性的支助:

- Serving in Mission (Lorenzo & Liliana)
- 海外基督使團 譚健生牧師,師母
- World Share

在過去一年,隨著疫情的緩解,數位弟兄姊妹組成的短宣队也完全恢復了實體赴 Penrith 的短宣 (每月第二個主日和第四個主日)。短宣队在主日崇拜、成人主日學等方面積極事奉。2022年11月6日,Penrith 華人長老會的王玉海傳道受邀在活石堂國語堂的主日崇拜中證道;2023年6月11日國語堂周立傳道在 Penrith 的教會的主日崇拜中證道。兩位牧者都給對方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

Praise the Lord. The brothers and sisters support in Mission funding did not diminish or reduce during the pandemic. For 2022 (from 1 January to 31 December), we received total mission offering of \$110,212. We again experienced God's abundant provision.

With the easing of the pandemic restrictions and the resuming of various fellowships and ministries, Mission Sunday was held on 16 October 2022 with a combined Cantonese and Mandarin service. We invited the new CEO of Gospel Operation International for Chinese Christians, Rev. David Ou Zheng to speak to our congregations.

For 2023 Living Stone EFCA continue to support the following:

- Helen, OMF International
- Kian Holik, Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students
- Simon & Danielle Ba,, 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

With the increase of Mission Fund support, we have established 3 one-off supports during this year :

- Serving in Mission (Lorenzo & Liliana)
- Rev. Jason & Hiwin Tam, OMF International
- World Share

In the past year, as the Pandemic subsided, the short-term mission team formed by several brothers and sisters fully resumed the in-person trips to Penrith (on the second and fourth Sundays of each month). The team has been actively serving in Sunday services, adult Sunday school, etc. On November 6, 2022, Pastor Darren Wang of Penrith Chinese Presbyterian Church was invited to preach at the Sunday service of Living Stone Church, Mandarin Congregation, and on June 11, 2023, Pastor Robin Zhou of MC was invited to preach at the Sunday service of the church in Penrith. Both pastors brought wonderful teaching and encouragement to the other church.

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 Wan, Emmanuel Chan, Raymond Li

物業發展部 Property Development Department

Gordon Liang

In the past year by the grace of God, new deacons joining the board have brought additional expertise particularly within the building industry allowing the property development position to be created. This position was created to intentionally focus upon the long term redevelopment of the church site rather than the current everyday focus of the property maintenance portfolio.

Past efforts to understand the physical needs of each congregation and long term visions for each congregation have been built upon in the last year. This has informed the exploration of various redevelopment options for the church site. The design efforts have culminated in the design of 3 options which have been informed by the church's long term vision and various constraints.

As a summary, it was determined that any redevelopment should be limited to the rear of the site in the area of the existing classrooms. This was considered to be the most cost effective and practical location for redevelopment. At a minimum the designs were required to provide an additional hall for a second service and classrooms to replace those that would be demolished. The 3 designs range in size from a small school hall type building to a larger 2 storey building with new amenities.

These 3 designs were presented to all three congregations for feedback. Feedback received on the online form and family meeting has been overwhelmingly supportive and positive.

Following further development of the designs a pre-lodgement meeting was held with The Hills Shire Council in July where design requirements and constraints for the development were discussed. The meeting was positive and the Council appeared to be supportive of our proposal for redevelopment.

With Council's feedback in mind we will develop the concept designs further for comment by our church members before we settle on a design and move forward to the next stage of approving the design process and engaging external consultants. Further details will be available in the near future as the designs and vision are refined.

I thank those who have engaged with the design and feedback process to date and encourage all members to be thoughtfully and prayerfully engaged in the process of redevelopment.

物業維修部 Property Maintenance Department

Vincent Wong

The church buildings are getting old and require maintenance. The following maintenance works have been carried out in the past year:

1. Reinstatement of the decking behind the classroom building

The decking was seriously damaged in a storm and flooding. It was dangerous to walk on and fenced off for sometime. Reinstatement of the decking was carried out in December 2022 and completed in early January 2023. The works were carried out by church members. It only required the costs for the materials.

2. Drainage discharge improvement.

The access path in front of the toilets and the classroom building area were subject to flooding under heavy rain. It was due to the poor discharge in the drainage of the areas. Improvement works including adding a head wall discharge outlet, installing a larger discharge pipe from the manhole between the classroom building and discharge headwall and adding a discharge pipe under the new decking were carried out in February 2023.

3. Painting of the church hall.

The church had not been painted for over 10 years. Repainting of the wall for the church main hall was carried out in January 2023. The window curtains were also replaced with new curtain. The works were carried out by church members.

4. New timber flooring on the church main hall and middle hall.

The existing timber flooring of the main hall and middle hall required polishing. It was considered more cost effective to lay new timber flooring on top. New timber flooring was therefore laid at a reasonable cheap price in January 2023.

5. Repair of the Air Conditioners

The air conditioner on top of the door of the disable toilet did not work. It was realised that the remote controller was at fault and was therefore replaced.

The two air conditioners in the chapel were not working. They were replaced in July 2023.

6. Replacement of the projectors and change the switch and cable system

There had been a number of faults in projectors in the main hall. They were too old for repair. The switch system also needed to be renewed. New switches with HDMI system were bought and installed. New projectors were also bought and installed. However, they are only temporary installed with the current support system at the moment. To have performance to their full capacity, new support arrangement would be required. Study on the new support system is still in process. It will be carried out after the way to form the new support system is determined.

7. Repair of the flood lights

The external flood lights did not work and they were replaced or repaired in March 2023.

The proposed church refurbishing works under the approved DA in 2010 were not fully completed. The remaining work is a disable ramp to the entrance to the middle hall. It is now proposed to complete it. After a review of the proposed arrangement, a slightly modification of the layout and arrangement is required for better use of the completed area. A construction amendment submission is required. The works is scheduled to start soon after obtaining the approval to the proposed construction amendment.

It is also proposed to modify and renovate the existing classroom for group gathering activities. However, it was identified a number of BA non-compliance items in a BA and fire compliance study that are required to be rectified if a DA submission is made. To avoid the DA submission, the modification is now limited to replacement of the garage door with proper window and door and the making good of the wall and floor only. No modification of the internal configuration is to be carried out. It is planned to be carried out later this year.

There are cracks on the walls of the chapel. The cracks are considered due to the differential settlements in the footings. The cracks are deteriorating. A specialist company has come to inspect the cracks and a remedial proposal is to be submitted for the consideration of the deacon board.

活泉堂 Living Spring Church

粤語堂事工

趙岑彩鳳

感謝神!過去一年見到神奇妙地為粵語堂预備了一班成熟、愛主、滿有不同恩賜的弟兄姊妹,可以在各方面互相配搭,服侍教會。其中還有不少是最近一年才加入活泉堂的,有司琴、指揮、主日學教師等。在今年的四月,舉辦了第一次的新舊人認識活動 「活泉一家親」,讓大家更快投入這個屬靈的家。

神的恩典確是多過我們所想所求的!求神繼續帶領, 讓活泉堂成為 Kellyville 區的燈臺, 讓更多朋友能夠認識主耶穌, 得著最好的福氣。 阿們!

國語堂事工

卢秀玲

回首過去一年,也是新冠高峰的過後,國家邊境重啟;活泉國語堂的弟兄姊妹都陸續分批回家探望親人;教會運作方面,恢復崇拜後的茶點,讓兒童、青少年,國、粵兩堂的肢體,有機會彼此問安及交通。

感謝神,去年底帶了不少新朋友來到教會,包括一些帶幼兒的年輕家庭;也有的是剛搬遷到 Kellyville,由其牧者介紹的;有的是本堂肢體帶來參加的。

就著幾位年輕家庭在育兒方面的需要,去年 10 月 30 日舉辦了連續四次的親子工作坊,一同討論、分享及分憂,藉此建立友誼。

2022年12月18日,下午舉辦了聖誕報佳音的音樂會,大概參加人數 80-100人,同領主恩,讚美感謝我們的救主耶穌基督降生。

新網站亦啟航了,加入國語堂崇拜講道分享上載,並提供了照片更新。

感謝神,由2023年2月開始,家庭小組孕育並分枝多一個小組,現階段還在適應期, 目的是希望避免因人數太多而肢體交流機會減少,及家居擠擁而造成家主的壓力。求主保 守帶領,使用小組成為關顧、牧養的團契,也同時成為福音外展的門。感謝所有願意把家 居開放的肢體,他們實踐了為主熱情款待肢體的佳模。感恩組長的勞苦忠心,願主賜福他 們的付出。

神是那供應者,當我們缺乏崇拜影音人手,神帶來了新力軍;當我們缺乏兒童主日學老師,神也填補了。感謝神在 2017 年建立這屬靈的家,福音救贖的教會,縱然前面的路不易走,但主已經得勝了。

希望"我們的愛心、在知識和各樣見識上多而又多,使我们能分辨是非〔或作喜愛那 美好的事〕,作誠實無過的人、直到基督的日子(腓一10)。"

2023-24 祈願活泉國語堂,能順著神的心意發展;求主修補破口;各人都能存堅穩的信心,彼此相愛及真誠勸勉,順服並遵守神的話語;讓天父陶造,謙卑地成為主良善又忠心的僕人;好讓這屬靈的家,能盛載更多天父上帝的憐憫、恩典及大能。阿門!

兒童事工 Children Ministry

Angela Ruan

Thanks to God for His grace and providence, the Sunday School saw a big increase in number in 2023, with nearly 20 children who attends fairly regularly. Children with ages ranging from 3 to 10. Number of children per week go from 7 to 14. To cater for this increase we have added one

more class to a total of 3 classes for children of different age groups. We are thankful that when there is a need, God quickly answered our prayers and had given us two more teachers for the new class.

Our challenge is that some of the parents are quite new to this church or to the Christian faith, and although we now have a big number of children who can be considered regular attendees, not every child attends weekly. Making it challenging when planning for lessons, also to build solid relationship with each child and to keep nurturing their progress and growth in Christ.

Therefore next year we would like to look at ways that can encourage the parents who are new to church to come more regularly. May God give us wisdom and resources to carry it out.

Youth Sunday Fellowship

David Ho

With God's grace that we have completed the first year of Living Spring Youth Fellowship. We have five teenagers who have participated consistently on Sunday morning. We have finished studying the Book of Mark for four terms till mid-2023. We have also done some Christian-related topical study so we can learn to apply our Christian faith in our daily lives.

God has shown His love to us by providing some temporary leaders to help this youth fellowship. Chris Chen, Matt and Pastor Yin Wearne, from Living Stone Church, who have filled in for me during my break. Ashlee Wang, from Mandarin congregation Living Spring Church, has also lent a hand to lead Bible study in the Fellowship.

We will keep praying for this fellowship to grow especially in strengthening our faith, to be more Christ-like, and love one another as what Jesus has shown us. We will pray for the teenagers to grow up as young adult with strong faith who will live out a life to glorify God. Amen.

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 2023

LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

ABN: 86 157 676 479

Financial Report For The Year Ended 30 June 2023

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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 2023.

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)
Chi Hong Wong
Gordon Liang

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.

Barry / am

Significant Changes

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

Operating Result

The deficit for the 2023 financial year amounted to \$23,678.

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

Barry Pak-Chong Tam (Chairperson)

Tony Guohua Yan (Financial Secretary)

Dated this 21st day of August 2023

LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED ABN: 86 157 676 479 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Not	e 2	023 \$	2022 \$
INCOME		Ψ	Ÿ
Interest received		605	48
Offering Income	7	84.758	702.448
Fund income		95,882	119,022
		81.245	821,518
EXPENDITURE		,	,
Depreciation expense		46,174	44,061
Audit fees		5,325	5,135
Bank charges		313	310
Utilities expense		4,259	3,274
Administration expenses		60,261	55,904
Rental expense		20,736	5,774
— Service leave		5,991	10,747
— Worship expenses		18,656	18,518
— Benevolence expenses		-	50
Mission fund expenses		79,875	48,750
— Insurance		17,678	13,061
Salaries and wages - superannuation		61,371	54,787
Salaries and wages	5	84,284	546,570
	9	04,923	806,941
Net current year surplus	(23,678)	14,577
Movements in other Funds:			
Development Fund	(12,691)	
Mission Fund		13,966)	
RETAINED SURPLUS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		26,913	612,336
RETAINED SURPLUS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	5	76,578	626,913

LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED ABN: 86 157 676 479 ASSETS AND LIABILITIES STATEMENT AS AT 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
ASSETS		•	•
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	380,944	432,895
Prepayments		11,391	11,391
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		392,335	444,293
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	3	1,064,099	1,058,491
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		1,064,099	1,058,491
TOTAL ASSETS		1,456,434	1,502,784
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee provisions		104,237	98,246
Accrued Expenses		4,500	4,500
Other Current Liabilities		(2,335)	34
Superannuation Payable TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		16,638	12,932
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		123,040	115,712
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Mortgage loan - BIF		1,693	1,693
Interest-free loans from members		50,000	80,000
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		51,693	81,693
TOTAL LIABILITIES		174,733	197,405
NET ASSETS		1,281,701	1,305,379
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Retained surplus		576,578	626,914
Benevolence Fund		4,701	4,701
Missionary Fund		126,478	112,510
Development Fund		550,584	537,894
Planting fund TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		23,360	23,360
TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS		1,281,701	1,305,379

LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

ABN: 86 157 676 479

Statement of Changes in Reserves For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Development Fund	Mission Fund Reserve	Benevolent Fund	Planting Fund	General Fund	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 30 June 2021	535,278	68,973	4,751	23,360	658,439	1,290,801
Revaluation increments						
Income: Offerings	26,734	92,288	0	0	702,496	821,518
Less : Expenditure	(24,119)	(48,750)	(50)	0	(734,021)	(806,941)
Balance at 30 June 2022	537,894	112,510	4,701	23,360	626,914	1,305,379
Income: Offerings	12,691	93,842	0	0	774,712	881,245
Less : Expenditure	0	(79,875)	0	0	(825,048)	(904,923)
Balance at 30 June 2023	550,584	126,478	4,701	23,360	576,578	1,281,701

LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

ABN: 86 157 676 479

Statement of Fund Movements For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Living Stone	Living Spring	2023 Consolidated	2022 Consolidated
GENERAL FUND	\$	\$	\$	\$
Opening	738,916	(112,002)	626,914	658,439
Income	684,670	90,042	774,712	702,496
Expenses	(727,949)	(97,099)	(825,048)	(734,021)
Closing	695,636	(119,058)	576,578	626,914
DEVELOPMENT FUND				
Opening	350,411	187,483	537,894	535,278
Income	10,651	2,040	12,691	26,734
Expenses	0	0	0	(24,119)
Closing	361,062	189,523	550,584	537,894
MISSIONARY FUND				
Opening	112,510	0	112,510	68,973
Income	93,842	0	93,842	92,288
Expenses	(79,875)	0	(79,875)	(48,750)
Closing	126,478	0	126,478	112,510
BELEVOLENCE FUND				
Opening	4,751	(50)	4,701	4,751
Income	0	0	0	0
Expenses	0	0	0	(50)
Closing	4,751	(50)	4,701	4,701
PLANTIGN FUND				
Opening	0	23,360	23,360	23,360
Income	0	0	0	0
Expenses	0	0	0	
Closing	0	23,360	23,360	23,360
TOTAL CLOSING BALANCE	1,187,926	70,414	1,258,341	1,305,379
TOTAL OPENING BALANCE	1,206,588	98,791	1,305,379	1,290,801
Total Income less Expenditure	(18,661)	(5,017)	(23,678)	14,578
TOTAL CLOSING BALANCE	1,187,926	93,774	1,281,701	1,305,379

LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED ABN: 86 157 676 479 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

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 Deprec	
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

LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED ABN: 86 157 676 479 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

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 and Other Income

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 (eg, financial liabilities representing repayable amounts), with any difference being recognised immediately in profit or loss as income.

Revenue and Other Income

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 Grant

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 has adopted the temporary relief under AASB 2018-8 and measures the right of use assets at cost on initial recognition.

(j) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED ABN: 86 157 676 479 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

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 2022-3: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Illustrative Examples for Not-for-Profit Entities accompanying AASB 15

AASB 2022-3 amends the Australian illustrative examples for not-for-profit entities accompanying AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers to illustrate how AASB 15 applies to the recognition and measurement of upfront fees. The amendments do not change the requirements of AASB 15.

The Basis for Conclusions also document the Board's decision to retain the accounting policy choice on an ongoing basis for NFP private sector lessees to elect to initially measure a class of ROU assets arising under concessionary leases at cost or at fair value.

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

AASB 2020-3: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Annual Improvements 2018–2020 and Other Amendments The Entity adopted AASB 2020-3 which makes some small amendments to a number of standards including the following: AASB 1, AASB 3, AASB 9, AASB 116, AASB 137 and AASB 141.

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

AASB 2021-7a: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Effective Date of Amendments to AASB 10 and AASB 128 and Editorial Corrections

AASB 2020-7a makes various editorial corrections to a number of standards effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022. The adoption of the amendment did not have a material impact on the financial statements.

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Other debtors		7
		7
Note 3 Property, Plant and Equipment		
	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Building Improvements	365,395	326,355
Less accumulated depreciation	(146,135)	(137,686)
1	219,260	188,669
Office equipment	43,615	30,873
Less accumulated depreciation	(30,445)	(29,390)
ii a	13,170	1,483
Church Building	844,406	844,406
(Accumulated depreciation)	(434,431)	(413,321)
	409,975	431,085
Furniture and fixtures	38,863	38,863
(Accumulated depreciation)	(36,705)	(36,415)
The State of Grant State of St	2,158	2,448
New Office	536,555	536,555
(Accumulated depreciation)	(151,248)	(137,835)
(totalinated depressation)	385,307	398,720
Air Conditioners	29,207	29,207
(Accumulated depreciation)	(27,497)	(27,070)
	1,709	2,136
Banners	3,035	3,035
(Accumulated depreciation)	(2,678)	(2,589)
	357	446
	357	446

LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED ABN: 86 157 676 479 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Kitchen & Library	53,603	53,603
(Accumulated depreciation)	(21,441)	(20,101)
	32,162	33,503
	1,064,099	1,058,491

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

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Cash at bank - unrestricted	380,944	432,895
Cash at bank - restricted	_	-
Total cash on hand	380,944	432,895

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 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, 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 attributable to the church's operations or offertories which sustain the operations. Accordingly, the amounts recognised in the financial statements have not been adjusted to reflect such events, which have resulted in increase / decrease in value of the fund's investment assets on the date of issuing the audit report.

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 2023.

Signed:

Barry Pak-Chong Tam (Chairperson)

Dated:

21 August 2023

Signed:

Tony Guohua Yan (Financial Secretary)

Dated: 21 August 2023

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 2023, the income and expenditure statement, statement of changes in reserves and statement of fund movements 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 2023 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 \$1,014,542 (2022: \$1,018,475) as compared to total assets of \$1,456,434 (2022: \$1,502,784) as at 30 June 2023 and 2022 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

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.

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

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 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

Dated this 21st day of August 2023

LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA ABN: 86 157 676 479

Detailed Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2023

	2023 Consolidated	2022 Consolidated
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSET		
CHEQUE ACCOUNT - WESTPAC	299,938	350,123
WESTPAC ONLINE ACCOUNT Westpac Business Cash Reserve 032-173 726519	3,243 27,435	5,568 27,159
Westpac Term Deposit	50,328	50,045
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	380,944	432,895
OTHER ASSET		
PREPAYMENTS	11,391	11,391
INTEREST RECEIVABLE	0	7
TOTAL OTHER ASSETS	11,391	11,398
FIXED ASSET		
Church Buildings at costs	844,406	844,406
Accumulated Depreciation - Church Buildings	(434,431)	(413,321)
Fence at costs	11,858	11,858
Accumulated Depreciation - Fence	(11,858)	(11,858)
Building Improvement at costs	365,395	326,355
Accumulated Depreciation - Building Improvement	(146,135)	(137,686)
Kitchen & Library at costs	53,603	53,603
Accumulated Depreciation - Kitchen & Library	(21,441)	(20,101)
New Office at costs	536,555	536,555
Accumulated Depreciation - New Office	(151,248)	(137,835)
Furniture & Fixtures at cost	38,863	38,863
Accumulated Depreciation - Furniture & Fixtures	(36,705)	(36,415)
Machinery & Equipment at costs	32,744	20,002
Accumulated Depreciation - Machinery & Equipment	(20,232)	(19,616)
Computer at costs	10,871	10,871
Accumulated Depreciation - Computer	(10,213)	(9,774)
Music/AV Equipment at costs	817	817
Accumulated Depreciation - Music/AV Equipment	(817)	(817)
Banner at costs	3,035	3,035
Accumulated Depreciation - Banner	(2,678)	(2,589)
Air Conditioner at costs	29,207	29,207
Accumulated Depreciation - Air Conditioner	(27,497)	(27,070)
Portable Classroom at costs	45,812	45,812
Accumulated Depreciation - Portable Classroom	(45,812)	(45,812)

LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA ABN: 86 157 676 479

Detailed Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	Consolidated	Consolidated
	\$	\$
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS	1,064,099	1,058,491
TOTAL ASSETS	1,456,434	1,502,784
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
PROVISION FOR SERVICE LEAVE	104,237	98,246
ACCRUED EXPENSES	4,500	4,500
GST COLLECTED	19,556	787
GST PAID	(33,392)	(7,673)
PAYG WITHHOLDINGS PAYABLE	11,501	6,921
SUPERANNUATION PAYABLE	16,638	12,932
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	123,040	115,713
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
MORTGAGE LOAN - BIF	1,693	1,693
INTEREST FREE LOAN FROM MEMBERS	50,000	80,000
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	51,693	81,693
TOTAL LIABILITIES	174,733	197,406
NET ASSETS	1,281,701	1,305,379
EQUITY		
BENEVOLENCE FUND	4,701	4,701
DEVELOPMENT FUND	550,584	537,894
MISSION FUND	126,478	112,510
GENERAL FUND - RETAINED EARNINGS	600,256	612,336
GENERAL FUND - CURRENT YEAR EARNINGS	(23,678)	14,578
General Fund Planting fund	23,360	23,360
TOTAL EQUITY	1,281,701	1,305,379

LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA ABN: 86 157 676 479

Detailed Income & Expenditure Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Detailed income & Expenditure Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2023 2022		
	Consolidated	Consolidated
	\$	\$
INCOME	*	*
CHURCH OFFERING - CANTONESE	280,104	264,749
CHURCH OFFERING - ENGLISH	251,407	194,845
CHURCH OFFERING -ONLINE TRANSFER CC	28,634	37,605
CHURCH OFFERING - MANDARIN SERVICE	167,089	161,544
CHURCH OFFERING -ONLINE TRANSFER mc	45,818	43,279
CHURCH OFFERING- COMBINED SERVICE	235	0
OTHER INCOME	641	427
OFFERING - FLOWERS	180	0
OFFERING INCOME	774,107	702,448
BENEVOLENCE FUND	0	0
DVELOPMENT FUND	12,691	26,734
MISSIONARY FUND	93,842	92,288
FUND INCOME	106,533	119,022
INTEREST INCOME	605	48
TOTAL INCOME	881,245	821,518
EXPENDITURE		
Accountancy fees	475	0
AUDIT FEE	5,325	5,135
MEMBERSHIP FEE	660	311
BANK CHARGES	313	310
CHURCH KEEPING - PROPERTY DEPT	0	24,119
CHURCH KEEPING - GENERAL DEPT	30,626	8,747
CLEANING EXPENSES	9,810	7,020
COUNCIL FEE	3,614	3,420
DEPARTMENTAL EXPENSES	50,823	49,062
AWANA CLUB	0	100
Elderly Ministry	538	0
Adult Religious Education Dep	460	0
ENGLISH WORSHIP	0	321
OUTREACH	993	801
SUNDAY SCHOOL - CHILDREN	582	0
Christmas Love Feast	1,616	921
FEFCA	0	17
GA-OTHERS	1,255	1,220
TOTAL DEPARTMENT EXPENSES	5,444	3,380
DEPRECIATION	46,174	44,061
ELECTRICITY	4,259	3,274
GIFTS	470	277
INSURANCE	17,678	13,061

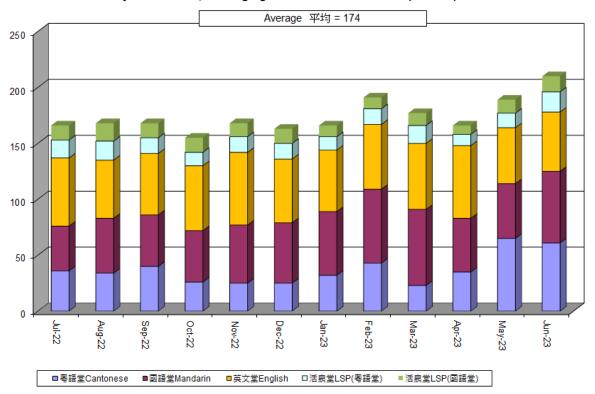
LIVING STONE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA ABN: 86 157 676 479

Detailed Income & Expenditure Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2023

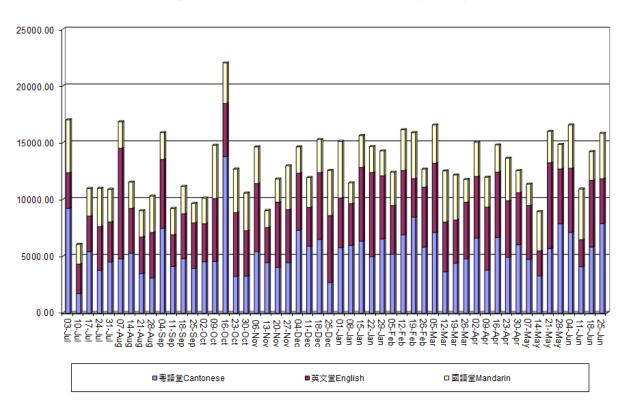
	2023 2022	
	Consolidated	Consolidated
	\$	\$
INTEREST EXPENSES	280	252
POSTAGE	35	22
PRINTING & PHOTOCOPY	3,819	3,054
	72,715	64,002
CHURCH RENTAL		
RENTAL - W PENNANT HILLS P.S.	7,800	1,779
RENTAL - WILLIAM CLARKE COLLEGE	12,936	3,995
CHURCH RENTAL	20,736	5,774
TRAINING & CONFERENCE	0	395
STATIONERY	186	14
TELEPHONE	4,040	4,443
WATER	802	450
	5,028	5,301
WORSHIP EXPENSES:		
Baptism Expenses /Flowers	282	285
REFRESHMENT	465	0
COPY RIGHT	2,008	1,733
CHIN SERVICE - EXTERNAL SPEAKER	7,200	7,575
ENG SERVICE - EXTERNAL SPEAKER	1,650	1,500
EXTERNAL SPEAKER - MANDARIN	7,050	7,425
WORSHIP EXPENSES	18,656	18,518
SUPERANNUATION	61,371	54,787
ALLOWANCE	295,375	271,291
WAGES & SALARIES	288,909	275,279
SERVICE LEAVE	5,991	10,747
BENOVELENT EXPENSE	0	50
MISSIONARY FUND	79,875	48,750
	85,866	59,547
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	904,923	806,941
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(23,678)	14,578

統計 Statistics

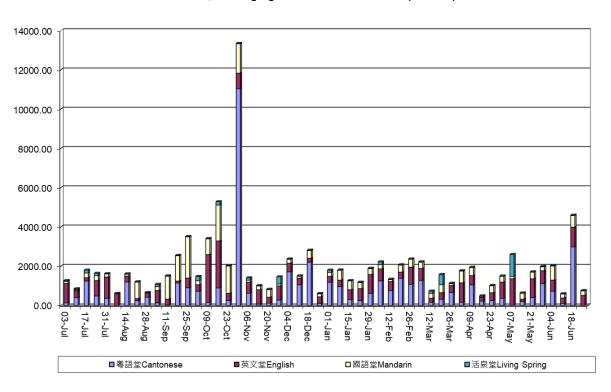
Holy Communion, all congregations 所有堂會守聖餐人數 (2022-23)



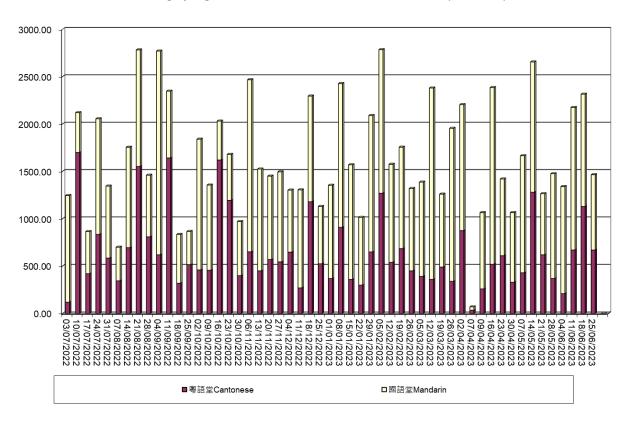
Living Stone General Fund Contribution 經常費奉獻 (2022-23)



Mission Fund, all congregations 所有堂會差傳基金 (2022-23)



Living Spring General Fund Contribution 活泉堂經常費奉獻 (2022-2023)



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 周立傳道 Pastor 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)

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

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

司數 Financial Secretary 顏國華 Tony Yan 司庫 Treasurer 李炳祥 Raymond Li

執事 Deacons 梁耀恆 Gordon Liang, 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

物業發展部 Property Development Department

負責人 Person in charge 梁耀恆 Gordon Liang

物業維修部 Property Maintenance 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

活石堂粤語事工委員會

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 文書 Secretary 王治康 Vincent Wong

委員 Members 陳錦逢 Ken Chan, 黎萬雪兒Winnie Lai,李炳祥Raymond Li, 李

啟彥KYLee, 蕭錦添 Tim Siu

English Congregation Committee

Pastor Rev. John Gurusamy, Rev. Kelvin Lau

Chairperson Emmanuel Chan
Vice chairperson Jonathan Ip
Secretary Diana Chan

Members Chelsea Chan, Sarah Fung, Gordon Liang, Mick Leung and Grant

Lian

活石堂國語事工委員會

傳道人Pastor 周立傳道 Pastor Robin Zhou

許允文傳道 Pastor Yin-Wearne Koh

主席 Chairperson 顏國華 Tony Yan 文書 Secretary 白益平 Robert Bai

委員 Members 姚洪波 Jeff Yao, 姜健健 Jim Jiang, 劉瑜 Lisa Liu, 毛瑞平 Ray

Mao, 孟越 Manny Meng, 王偉 Wendy Wang, 孫奇志

Christina Sun

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)

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

主席 Chairman 何錦釗 David Ho 文書 Secretary 劉盧秀玲 Ling Lau 司庫 Treasurer 趙岑彩鳳 Hayley Chiu

司數 Financial Secretary 空缺 Vacant

事工負責人 Ministry Responsibilities

粵語事工 Cantonese Ministry 趙岑彩鳳 Hayley Chiu 英文事工 English Ministry 何錦釗 David Ho 國語事工 Mandarin Ministry 劉盧秀玲 Ling Lau

兒童事工 Children Ministry 阮靈蓓 Angela Ruan

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: 周立傳道 Pastor 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

活泉堂 Livng Spring 中文 Chinese: 蔡美霞傳道 Pastor Michelle Tsoi

陳玉轉傳道 Pastor Charlotte Chen

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

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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

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