

St. Christopher's Christmas Newsletter

聖公會聖基道堂 聖誕通訊 2021

Root in Christ, Live in Spirit

The Rev. Canon Philip Der

"For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. ... And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6

As we are about to celebrate the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ, I would like to share with you the highlights of St. Christopher's in the past year. This is the second year of our discipleship theme on "Root in Christ, Live in Spirit." While many suffer from the pandemic lockdown, many members of St. Christopher's continue to take this golden opportunity to strengthen our spiritual root in Christ. Thanks to our Nurturing department, especially our chair Clara and instructor Ricky, who helped launch the Adult Sunday School on every Sunday afternoon from January to April and from September



to November. We are grateful for the Zoom technology allowing us to enjoy studying the scripture in the comfort at home. The attendance had been steady with an average of 30 adults on most Sundays.



In addition, from April to June, we launched the church-wide small group campaign on Alpha program. Thanks to Pastor Melvin's leadership. There were 7 groups and 92 people participated in this basic Christianity course. It was wonderful to revisit our faith from understanding the Trinity to the healing power of God.

During the pandemic, caring ministry has become even more important than ever. Under the leadership of Cat Ho, our 15 caring members and group leaders provided pastoral care to every member. We also hosted two workshops in the fall to sharpen our pastoral skills.

This year marks our 30th Anniversary. Thank you to our warden, Violet, for chairing the organizing committee to celebrate our milestone! We wish to invite 30 members to give their testimonies either verbally or in writing. On September 19, Bishop Andrew Asbil came to officiate and preach on our Anniversary celebration. The same afternoon, we also had a virtual online celebration with games, hymn singing, and slide show to recap our history and potential future ministries. Meanwhile, in October and November, we also launched "Reflection and Looking Forward" small group discussion to discern how the Holy Spirit has led us, and where the direction of our future ministry will be. As we are the hands and feet of Jesus Christ, the feedback from our members shows us that we need to focus on e-ministry, reaching younger generation, and preparing the influx of new immigrants from Hong Kong. We also share the Richmond Hill Church expansion plan as our drawings are about to be finalized. We continue to seek God's guidance in this 7500 sq ft extension to add a gym, a chapel, offices, and a kitchen. This facility will enhance our outreach ministry to the community.

Speaking about outreach, we are indebted to our Mission department, especially our chair Winnie and YEAH club chair Marilyn. Their unceasing passion in sharing the love of God reach many. During the pandemic lockdown, we continue to have a chat group with outreach members, weekly Praise Dance and 2 Mandarin classes on Saturday. We thank our instructors Liza and Yue for their hard work. In addition, we hosted several public lectures on Zoom for our community. We anticipate a significant number of immigrants from Hong Kong in the coming years, therefore we hosted 3 video conferencing information sessions about living in Toronto and finding employment. Over 250 people registered for the latter workshop. A handful of people who newly arrived from Hong Kong have joined our worship.

I praised God for the dedication of our church wardens, Benita and Violet, church leaders and our members. Together, we witness God's extravagant love and generosity. The 4th Annual Ping Pong Relay in October, we surpassed our goal of \$24,500 and set a record of reaching over \$37,000 for the Diocesan FaithWorks' 15 charitable organizations. The more we give, the more we experience God's blessing. May this Christmas bring you joy and peace through the birth of Christ! Merry Christmas!



「因有一嬰孩為我們而生，有一子賜給我們。... 他名稱為奇妙、策士、全能的神、永在的父、和平的君。」
以賽亞書9:6

正當我們預備慶祝救主耶穌的誕生，我也與大家分享過去一年聖基道堂的事工精彩環節。「主裏扎根 靈裡處世」是我們第二年著重門徒訓練的全年主題。當很多人因疫情留在家中感到困倦時，聖基道堂有不少的兄弟就珍惜這黃金時候去增進我們在基督裡屬靈的根基。感激培育部，特別是部長劉李國建及導師陳兆康，在1月至4月，又9月至11月主辦逢星期日的成人主日學。多謝Zoom的科技，使我們安坐家中，也可以享受研讀上帝話語的甘甜。參加人數由25至40人。

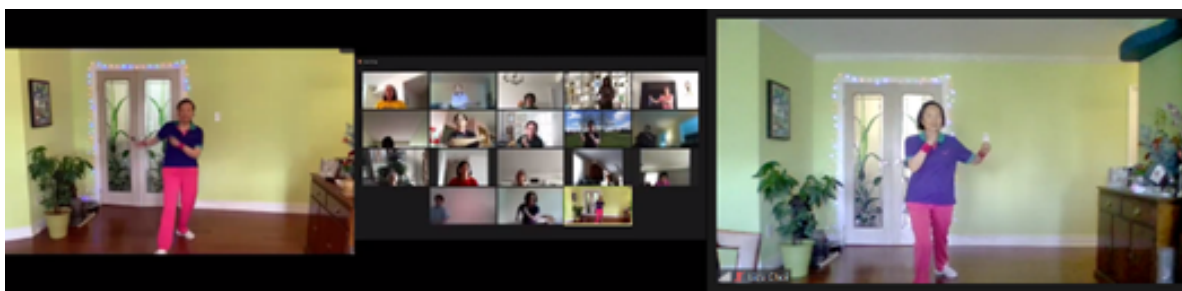


除此之外，又從4月至6月，我們展開全堂「啟發課程」小組運動。多謝鄭國慶傳道的領導，共有7組或92人參與這基督教基本信仰的課程。能夠重溫神學問題如「三位一體的神」到「祈禱醫治」等，都對我們信仰的根基有隱固的幫助。

在這瘟疫的陰霾下，關懷事工更是需要，以關心教友們的身心靈。在關懷部長何李少文的引導下，15位關懷員及組長們分工慰問每一位教友。在下半年，我們主辦了兩個工作坊以增進大家關懷的技巧。

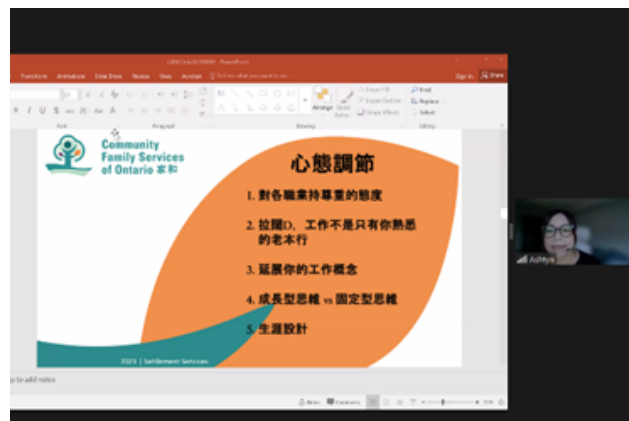
今年也是教會的30週年堂慶。多謝堂長余夏萍領導堂慶慶祝委員會！我們盼望邀請到30位教友寫及講見證。在9月19日，

安侍彼主教蒞臨主持堂慶感恩崇拜及講道。下午有網上慶祝，包括遊戲，唱詩，幻燈回顧及前瞻等。在10至11月，我們有「反思及展望」的小組討論來探索聖靈過去怎樣引領我們，將來事工又會怎樣發展。我們是耶穌的手和腳，教友們的回應給了我們來年要專注在電子事工，年青一代，及預備香港新一批的移民潮。我們也分享烈治文山堂擴堂計劃。我們繼續尋求神的引導，這7500 平方呎的加建，使我們有運動室，小聖堂，辦公室及廚房。這會大大增進我們外展的聖工。



講到外展，我們感謝傳道部的努力，特別是部長溫張梅芳及活力社社長楊嘉佩。她們對分享上帝愛的熱誠接觸多人。在疫情下，我們繼續與外展成員保持聯絡及分享福音，每週六有讚美操及兩堂普通話班。多謝蔡唐月娥及孫悅兩位導師的悉心教導。我們也舉辦了幾次公開講座，以表示對社區的關懷。正當我們期待會有大批的香港移民會來，我們先後與香港同步舉辦了三次講座，題目由「移居多倫多」到「在多倫多找工」等。最後一次超過250人報名。有幾位已抵達大多市，並加入了我們的崇拜。

我讚美神給我們一班忠心事主的堂長，龐琬文及余夏萍，教會領袖及教友。我們一起見證上帝廣濶的愛及慷慨。在十月舉行的第四屆乒乓球接力，我們為教區信心工作的15個慈善機構籌款。捐獻超越\$24,500的目標，更創下歷史新高過\$37,000。我們體會到施與得越多，上帝的祝福就更多！願主耶穌誕生的喜樂和平安在這聖誕中臨到你家！祝聖誕快樂！



Message from Pastor Melvin

This is another season of the Christmas, and the cloud of Pandemic has been covering over us for almost 2 full years now. And we are about to see the silver lining behind this dark cloud, with the promise of life going back to normal.

Before the birth of Christ, in the 420 years between the time of Malachi to the appearance of John the Baptist, the Lord has been silent. The Jews also suffered under the rule of foreigners (Romans) who installed an Edomite as their king (Herod).

It was in this climate of spiritual darkness and political turmoil that our Lord brought forth hope and light into the world. Like what Simeon said, "He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel!"

We may still experience the overcast from this pandemic, our English congregation hardly has any meaningful ministry. Our fellowship has yet to pick up and our prayer meeting participation still low. But the faithful ones are still meeting bi-weekly to pray and read the scripture.

For Compass, we had 3 outings, including a movie matinee. We look forward to more outings, giving ourselves opportunity to bring a friend. Sunday School has finally reopened early October, and we hope to invite our neighbours' kids to join us too, for a time of fun and learning. We are also planning to launch the Christian Brigade to serve the youth in our neighbourhood.



Let this season serve to remind us of the joy that the first Christmas brings, and the hope we have that our Lord will be coming again. Let us bring forth this hope to others through our fellowship, through Compass, and our Sunday school. Let us start by coming together for in-person worship this Advent and allow the hope of Christ to flow in and through us, to our friends and community, in schools as well as in the office. Dear friends, Merry Christmas to you and your family!



活力社一年的回顧

楊嘉佩

在疫情嚴峻時, 我們非常掛念活力社各會友, 特別是長者們。不論是教友或一些社區的人士, 都需要人關心。在互相傾談中, 減輕憂慮, 保持身心靈健康。在這不明朗的時段, 我們憑著信心, 學像基督, 去關顧別人, 靠著上帝的帶領, 踏步向前。我們有用WhatsApp的平台, 聯絡福音粵曲班各組員。大家分享粵曲及聖詩, 又互訴近況, 彼此鼓勵。

自去年開始亦與太極班及乒乓球組的朋友, 每月有兩次在Zoom平台聚會, 每次有設定主題, 讓大家發表不同意見, 或抒發內心的疑慮, 彼此支持; 除增進大家感情外, 在靈命方面亦有所成長。

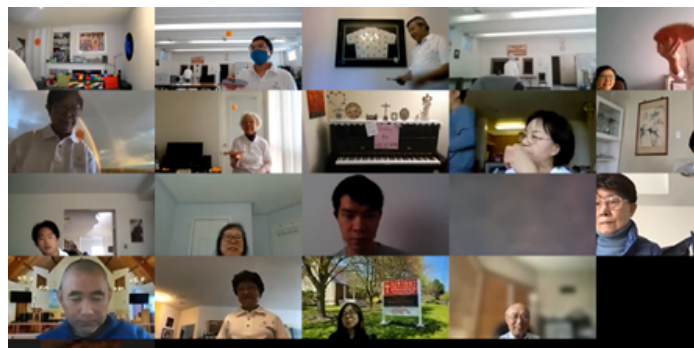

很感恩的透過Zoom平台, 我們可以讓住在不同地區, 不分年齡層的人士提供服務, 例如在疫情限制期間, 開辦了讚美操班及普通話班。在此再一次多謝我們義務導師及外展關懷員, 用心地去聯絡各學員, 同時亦做傳福音的工作。



在2021年活力社共舉行了五次社區座,其中包括在二月邀請約克區警官講述「交通安全」及「防止罪行」事項,五月份中醫教授講解「湯水與健康」,七月份耆暉會舉辦「防止虐老」工作坊。十月我們與耆暉會又合辦了關於「授權書」的講座。以上講座都受到社區人士歡迎,參加人數約30至60不等。

不同人士飲完以下兩條湯水的反應

- 1. 桑葉, 菊花, 龍眼葉, 蘆根, 竹蔗, 雪梨干, 決明子, 南北杏, 冬菇, 杞子
■ 功用: 清熱, 化痰, 潤肺
- 2. 當歸, 川芎, 黑木耳, 杞子, 甘草, 黑胡椒, 懷牛七, 麥冬, 八角, 玉竹, 花旗參鬚, 桂皮, 桔紅, 月桂葉, 香菇, 冰糖, 鹽
■ 功用: 溫熱, 補血, 潤燥



另一興奮事是今年我們在網上為教區「信心工作」15個機構籌款的乒乓球接力, 以幫助有需要人士。如謝法政在前文所提, 所籌得款項遠超我們定下的目標。看到組員們, 特別是外展活動的非教友, 同心合力去募捐及支持是項活動, 十分感謝。感恩!

現時疫情逐漸轉好, 我們教堂會逐步恢復各項實體活動。在11月中, 逢週六早上有連師傅帶領楊家太極二十四式。雖仍要遵守各防疫措施, 但大家都抱着興奮的心情來參加。

聖誕節臨近, 我們將在12月18日(六)分別在上午的讚美操班及下午普通話班中舉行聖誕節慶祝事宜。由老師及各學員一起策劃; 藉着此普世歡騰的日子, 與各人同分享基督降世拯救世人的信息, 一同歡樂, 讚美上主。

回顧2021年活力社的工作, 我感受到上帝所賜予的, 是超過我們所想所求。但願來年有更多人能夠參加活力社外展關顧, 以及傳福音的事項。只要我們有一顆熱切的心, 上帝定會作我們腳前的燈, 帶領我們每一步, 加給我們意想不到的力量。



聖基道堂於1991 年在北約克區Delhi Ave 植堂，至今我們在烈治文山 Crosby Ave 及北約克 Finch Ave E 慶祝三十週年堂慶。感謝上主給我們的帶領及祝福。願大家繼續努力傳揚福音，服務社群。以下是我們堂慶慶祝活動：

1. 九月十九日 堂慶崇拜

在疫情中，我們以網上及實體進行堂慶崇拜，有洗禮和聖餐，由Andrew Asbil 主教親臨主禮。

2. 九月十九日 堂慶網上慶祝會

由於疫情午餐慶祝會改為當日下午網上慶祝活動。節目包括讚美操，教友見證分享，詩歌，有獎遊戲，謝法政回顧及前瞻，教友感恩分享等。



3. 紀念品:

- 印有聖基道堂徽的白色有領T恤
- 相片冊的主題是聖基道三十年的主旨「向上，向內，向外，一起活出主愛」

4. 三十位教友的見證分享

從六月開始，我們邀請三十位教友分別在崇拜中，網上錄影，在週刊文字分享主題 - 「聖基道堂與我回憶，趣事，成長，心中話」。

5. 反思及展望

在九月至十一月，各小組反思及探討上帝要我們關注這社區的需要和聖基道堂事工的發展。

St. Christopher's Church 30th Anniversary Celebrations

Violet Sae

St. Christopher's Anglican Church was planted in 1991 at Delhi Ave in North York. This year we celebrate our 30th anniversary at Crosby Ave in Richmond Hill and Finch Ave E in North York. We give thanks to God for His guidance and blessings in our parish. May we continue to spread the gospel and serve our community.

1. September 19, 2021 **Anniversary Service**

During Covid restriction, we were able to have hybrid live-stream and in-person service with baptism and holy communion on September 19 presided by Bishop Andrew Asbil.

2. September 19, 2021 **Anniversary Celebration Zoom Party**

Since we were not able to have luncheon party during Covid-19, a Zoom party was organized in the afternoon. The program included praise dance, sharing of

parishioners, hymns singing, games with prizes, reflection and visioning by Canon Der and thanksgiving chat by parishioners.

3. **Memorabilia :**

- White polo shirts with our church logo are available.
- A photo book is published to capture our 30 years of St. Christopher's spirit of "Reach up, Reach in and Reach out"

4. **30 Parishioners' Sharing**

Starting in June, we have 30 parishioners share their thoughts throughout the year by in-person or taped video during morning service or writing on bulletin. Theme: "St. Christopher's and Me – memorable/funny encounter, growth or heart-felt words".

5. **Reflection and Looking Forward Sessions**

Sessions were conducted in all small groups and townhall meetings in the months of October to December. We explored what God is calling us to do in this community through our reflection and discussion in the ministry of St. Christopher's.

腳前的燈 路上的光

劉李國建

今年是疫情下過的第二個冬天了。近日疫情看似放緩但仍然反覆，社會上經濟復甦仍需假以時日，看來寒冬還需一段日子才會過去。目前大家仍需遵行社交距離的守則，所以實體的研習活動暫時未能恢復舉行。幸好我們尚可以利用網上的平台繼續進行培育工作。

成人主日學在春季研讀但以理書，在秋季以賽亞書。兩書時代背景有百多年的差距，但都是記述民族在經歷困難的時刻的歷史。在政局雲譎波詭，兵凶戰危的環境裏，上主的慈愛、公義和信實始終如一。

但以理生在亡國被擄的年代，神賜他智慧和才能，在異國得到巴比倫王尼布革尼撒的信任，身居要職，但他自始至終奉耶和華為至高的主，當尼布革尼撒強逼他違背神的旨意時，雖然面對死亡，但以理仍持守他所信的道，立下好榜樣。

以賽亞時代的猶大國，要面對四周列強的虎視眈眈，更承受北方強大凶殘的亞述帝國的欺凌，對外猶大國該如何自處呢？國內作為上帝的選民，有權勢的雖然守節獻祭給耶和華，但卻欺壓弱小無依的，施行暴虐，顛倒黑白是非，他們會蒙祝福嗎？

以賽亞書和但以理書成書於二千多年前，但書中闡明的道與我們今天所處的年代、社會以至於日常生活，仍是息息相關。感謝陳兆康弟兄悉心為我們設計課程，預備教材和筆記，並詳盡地把聖經相關的經文為我們解釋，幫助我們明白歷史發展的脈絡，和神為我們預備救

贖的計劃。感謝各位導師的用心和各位弟兄姊妹的參與，同學包括友堂的朋友和在外地的教友。大家能聚在一起學習神的話語，互相分享，是神的恩典。

在四月至六月期間，在鄭國慶傳道的統籌下，全堂各小組採用了啓發課程的啓發新世代系列作研討。我們重溫了信仰的一些基要認知，用小組討論的形式分享大家的意見和經歷。在五月啓發課程的退修會上，共有65位教友出席，參加討論和反思。希望課程能在小組引起深化的研討，讓大家對信仰有 更深的認識。也希望在課程中累積了經驗，可以為明年外展的啓發課程籌辦工作，打下基礎。

培育部還有恆常的小組及團契活動等，及將臨期與大齋期的靈修日誌翻譯，在疫症期間繼續進行。在世事紛亂的年代，在疫情蔓延的不安中，讓我們一起緊抓着神的話語和應許，作生活的指南，並把基督的愛彰顯在自己的行事為人中。感謝謝子樂法政牧師的指導和鼓勵，培育的事奉工作在大家隔離的日子，得以繼續開展。

聖誕將至，讓我們同心感謝基督的愛，在黑暗中帶給我們希望，安慰和亮光。祈求上帝賜大家身心的平安！



今年感恩的數字

Numbers we give thanks in 2021

We raised:

\$18,514.50

Rev. Robert Reid Memorial fund

\$3,578

Richmond Hill Food Bank

\$5,387

North York Harvest Food bank

\$1,260

Primate World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF)

\$37,411

Ping Pong Relay for Faithworks from only 12 players

\$76,000

Total amount we raised to support other ministries.

39

Number of charitable organizations we sponsored

145

Average Sunday Attendance online and in-person

70

Number of Samaritan Purse Christmas Shoeboxes to the Third World

聖誕慶祝活動



12月11日(星期六)

電話報佳音

聖基道團契主辦

Christmas Celebration Events

Saturday, December 11

Telephone Caroling by St. Christopher's Fellowship

12月12日(星期日)早上11時

中英文福音聖誕歌述崇拜

在烈治文山堂或www.stchris.ca

Sunday, December 12 at 11 am

Gospel Carol Service

Richmond Hill Church or at www.stchris.ca

12月15日(星期三)晚上7時

藍色聖誕崇拜

由烈治文山同工團契主辦

Youtube Premiere –

tinyurl.com/RHBlueChristmas2021

Wednesday, December 15 at 7 pm

Blue Christmas Service

Richmond Hill Ministerial Fellowship

Youtube Premiere –

tinyurl.com/RHBlueChristmas2021

12月18日(星期四)活力社聖誕慶祝

早上11時 – 讚美操

下午2時 – 普通話班

在網上舉行

Saturday, December 18 Yeah Club Christmas celebration via Zoom

11 am – Praise Dance

2 pm – Mandarin Class

12月25日(星期六)早上11時

聖誕日中英文聖餐崇拜

在烈治文山堂或www.stchris.ca

Saturday, December 25, at 11 am

Christmas Day English and Chinese

Holy Eucharist Service

Richmond Hill Church and www.stchris.ca

12月25日(五) 下午2時半至3時半

全堂聖誕聯歡會

在網上舉行

Friday, December 25, 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Church Christmas virtual celebration



疫情期間 主日崇拜 Sunday Worship

11 a.m. 中英語崇拜在烈治文山堂 English /Cantonese service at Richmond Hill Church
www.stchris.ca 現場直播



聖公會聖基道堂
St. Christopher's Anglican Church

聖公會聖基道堂 St. Christopher's Anglican Church

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