

# St. Christopher's Christmas Newsletter

## 聖公會聖基道堂 聖誕通訊 2022 Issue #6

### One Heart, One Path, One in Christ

The Rev. Canon Dr. Philip Der



As Christmas is approaching, I would like share with you some highlights of St. Christopher's this year. 2022 has been a challenging year for St. Christopher's.

In preparation of the proposed church expansion, over 10 consultations with various groups were conducted and a special vestry was held in May to vote on this proposal. We had aimed for a 75% approval rate before proceeding with this project. As it turned out, the approval rate was 62% and therefore the church expansion project was postponed. Though the outcome was a disappointment

to many of us, we firmly believed that God's plan and timing is the best. Due to supply chain issues and a lack of construction workers after the re-opening,

postponing the project could be a good decision in retrospect. I am most grateful that the congregation remained united and trusted in the plan of the Holy Spirit. "One Heart!"

In fact, there were other more urgent needs that we needed to focus on. Since the launch of the St. Christopher's H.K. Newcomers

### 與主合一 同心同行

謝子樂法政牧師

聖誕將近，我藉此機會與大家分享過去一年的重要事工。對於基道堂來說2022年是一個挑戰性的一年。教會預備擴大7,500平方呎。經過十次不同的小組及公開諮詢會後，我們在五月舉行了特別教友大會決定這事宜。我們需要75%的贊成票才會進行這計劃。結果我們只得62%，擴堂計劃暫時要擱置。對於很多位都感到十分失望。但看到疫情後的重開，市場上有很多供應上及建築工人的短缺問題，延遲這計劃也不是一件壞事。我很感恩教會在這件事上保持團結，相信聖靈有更好的計劃！「同心」！



事實上，我們有很多更急的事工需要關注的。自從2021年五月起，聖基道堂就展開「移加」事工以歡迎香港新移居過來的朋友。我們曾主辦過

「多倫多住宿」、「找工作」、「工作面試」、及剛在11月4日舉辦第六次本堂及香港同時進行的公開講座「多倫多冬天懶人包」以幫助剛到步的，預備這裡的寒冬。參加人數由58人至180人不等，最高達270人報名。有些參加工作坊後，到了多倫多與我們聯絡。超過20位教友在這事工上參與，歡迎他們，提供住宿，膳食，家居用品，介紹工作，買冬天衣服，甚至與他們

Ministry in May 2021, we hosted six public workshops for these newcomers. Over the past 18 months, various topics were covered, such as finding jobs, interviewing skills. The most recent one was "How to prepare for Toronto winter?" on November 4, which was a hybrid Zoom and in-person event. Attendance at these workshops ranged from 58 to over 180 people, with over 270 registrations. Some people came to know about us through these workshops and contacted us when they arrived in Toronto. I am very proud that over 20 parishioners stepped up to the challenge in welcoming them, extending hospitality, and building friendships with them. These parishioners helped out by offering accommodations,



donating household items, providing job referrals, shopping for winter clothing with them, and even organizing a sight-seeing tour to Montreal and Ottawa for them. We held a Mid-Autumn festival celebration this September and 55 people celebrated their first Chinese Thanksgiving in Canada together. "One Path!"

"One in Christ." To be united in Christ, we ought to know God deeply. The Church completed the 12-week Emmaus "Knowing God" Bible Study series from the Anglican

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一起去滿地河及渥太華旅行。我們也在中秋節主辦慶祝會，有55人來參加渡過他們第一個中秋！「同行」！

全年主題的「與主合一」，自然要我們更深切的認識神。培育部採用了英國聖公會出版的「以馬忤斯－認識上帝」的12星期課程。我們共有9組參加，有90人參與。除此之外，我們的成人主日學維持相當高的出席率，頭三個月讀了以賽亞書，秋季又完成了啟示錄。大家對三位一體的神及神的話語都有進一步的了解。

自2020年三月疫情爆發後，我們的外展活動，活力社，也在今年四月正式重開實體。首先是逢週四的乒乓球，接住有太極班，粵曲組。今年加添了每月一次的「煮得是福」烹飪班，由退休大廚及George Brown書院前講師，黎國榮師傅教導。每次有20-25人參加！



鄭國慶傳道在英文事工上，建立了一個更團結的英文堂領袖團隊。我們為他的工作及領袖們感恩。九月後，我們展開了少年主日學及逢週四下午的社區學生社。十月底也主辦了秋季化妝晚會，有43人出席！

正當我們預備在12月為救主基督的誕生而慶祝時，我們為聖基道堂一班熱心事主的領袖及團隊感恩。上帝既給予我們最大的禮物，就是祂的兒子耶穌成為人身，讓我們也「與主合一 同心同行」的事奉祂！祝大家聖誕快樂，新年進步！





## English Ministry

Pastor Melvin Tai

Christmas is here again. A time of joy, gifts-giving, partying, and shopping. Streets are filled with decoration.



After over 2 years of fighting with Covid, we are finally coming to the end of it. However the fight is not yet over, we still need to be vigilant when we finally meet up in person.

In the beginning of this year, we organized a bowling outing. 12 kids and 8 adults had lots of fun interacting. It was the first time for me to have a feeling of fellowship among brothers and sisters of St Christopher's parishioners and was indeed a good start.

Soon after, we have a lot of home visits, and I am blessed to have the opportunity to know the parishioners at a deeper, and personal level, sharing a meal together.

During the season of Pentecost, we did the Emmaus series during our English Fellowship prayer meeting as well as the youth group Compass. This series strengthens our knowledge of our Trinitarian God. By April, we re-opened for in-person English Worship at the Chapel. By October, we had our first monthly potluck and our weekly coffee time after the service. Members of the congregation are rostered to ensure that there are refreshments for those who gathered.



The Compass had a BBQ in the summer to mark the end of the term. We invited Hong Kong newcomers to join us for games and worship. More than 30 parishioners turned up to celebrate with us. This year we tried to launch the Christian Brigade Ministry, which is



an enrichment programme for our youth and a tool for outreach work to our community. We had numerous meetings and training, including a camping trip with 5 adults volunteers and 8 youths. We learned how to start a fire for outdoor cooking, as well as the practical application of rope work, especially in life-saving situations. However, due to the low interest, we did not have enough registration to launch the Christian Brigade Ministry. The entire plan was shelved.

In lieu of that, we started the youth Sunday School, which meets every Sunday before service. We will read 9 Books of the Bible together, as well as learning life skills such as financial management and how to handle relationships.



The two key activities in Autumn. First was the Fall Festival Costume Party on the 29th of October, organised by Stephen and the English Congregation. We had over 43 participants coming for the party. It was a lot of fun and we had opportunities to interact with our guests. The second was reviving the Community Student Club on Thursdays after school. This program is still in the teething period. Much attention, patience and prayer are needed to see it to fruition.



This year, technically, is my first-year experiencing the in-person encounter with the parishioners. I thank God for the warm friendship established.

As our mission statement says, we aimed to unite to reach up, reach in and reach out. And all these begin with having a strong healthy relationship among the parishioners.

We may not be fully out of the woods from Covid, but I can sense that the Lord is preparing us for something next year. I am excited to see how the Lord lead us in the coming new year. Merry Christmas to everyone!



## 在主裏一起成長

楊嘉佩

我們生活在一個動盪的時代，看見世界各地有很多戰亂的地方，令人覺得很迷惘，對前景沒有信心，加上三年的疫情，使我們對生命有所反思，價值觀亦有所重整。深感到人的軟弱無助，令我想記以賽亞書40章8節的一句話：「草必枯乾，花必凋殘；唯有我們上帝的話必永遠立定」。

過去三年看到弟兄姊妹對上帝的話語有熱切的追求，無論是退修會，成人主日學，小組查經出席人數比起三年前多，非常感恩。

2022/2023聖基道堂的全年主題「與主合一，同心同行」。目的是提高教友對三位一體真神的認識，與主建立密切的關係，與上帝同行，靠着聖靈活出基督的生命。在四月我們舉辦春季退修會，這是我們第一次實體聚會亦有幾位教友及講者在 Zoom 平台參與。主題是「愛就是力量」，由聖約翰修院王愛美姑娘帶領我們默想及討論，藉着經文，祈禱，默想「蒙主愛的路」，「有主同行的路」及「喜樂的路」復活後我們用以馬忤斯新旅程之「認識上帝」的課程，共十二星期完成。這課程幫我們深入探討聖父、聖子及聖靈，每星期牧者的講道都配合課程內容，各小組用多元化的形式在網上舉行，有教導，分享短詩，討論，默想等。





我們共有九組參與這課程。大多數對這課程有好的評估。在十一月我們為初信及慕道者安排一個信徒培育課程 - 以馬忤斯信仰新旅程之「培育篇」，由王啟元帶領。

成人主日學在一月至四月之間在網上舉行，研讀以賽亞書下半部，40章至66章。疫情之間教友對於研讀聖經十分有熱衷，成人主日學的出席率比疫情之前增加很多倍，教友對於舊約聖經有更多的認識及興趣去追求，明白讀舊約新約聖經都同樣重要。下半年的成人主日學在九月開始，研讀啟示錄，全年課程是由陳兆康篇寫課及主領，李鍾維明和劉李國健兩位協助講解圖文並茂看到上帝救贖的計劃和恩典，帶給我們傳福音的逼感。

牧師帶領的週三研經組，其他各小組及團契都繼續他們恆常的聚會，彼此鼓勵，靈命進深。

在此特別感謝子樂法政牧師，鄭國慶傳道的帶領，陳兆康弟兄的悉心栽培教導，默默耕耘的各

小組組長及為我們翻譯大齋期和將臨期小冊子的教友。願上帝幫助我們把祂的話常種在心裡把福音傳揚，常存基督悲天憫人的心，與主內兄弟姊妹同心同行。活出基督的生命。



## 5th Annual Ping Pong Relay broke another target

Canon Philip Der



St. Christopher's hosted their 5th annual Ping Pong Relay on September 24 to fundraise for FaithWorks' 16 charitable organizations. Despite of the pandemic lockdown, Ping Pong Relays carried on virtually via Zoom in the last 2 years. With gradual re-opening, the Relay this year is a hybrid model with 26 people in attendance and 5 on Zoom. To add to the fun, the organizers split participants into women and men teams, each prepared with their cheering slogans. It was a "fierce" but friendly competition in 4 categories of ingenious Ping Pong games. We challenged each other with different tricks and encouraged them by financial sponsorship.

The higher the scores the higher the donation. Fundraising is important but having tons of fun and fellowship with each other was the best of all. We raised over \$6,000 on the day of the event and including the amount we asked for sponsorship before the day of the Relay, the total amount is \$35,870. God once again did another amazing work through St. Christopher's 2022 Ping Pong Relay. Praise be to God!



(Cont'd from p.2 - Canon Der)

Church in England after Easter. 90 people from 9 small groups participated in this program. In addition, our adult Sunday school after Sunday worship maintained a good attendance and completed the studying of the book of Isaiah and Revelation. We deepened our understanding of the Trinity and the Word of God.

Our outreach program, YEAH Club, officially re-opened for in-person participation in early April. We resumed some regular activities such as Ping Pong on Thursdays, Tai Chi classes on Saturday, and Chinese opera group. A new activity was added this June, and that is a monthly cooking class, led by Mr. Kwok Wing Li, a retired chef and former George Brown culinary instructor. Each cooking class was attended by 20-25 people who have a keen interest in cooking and the menu tasting was a great attraction.

Pastor Melvin Tai has built a stronger leadership team in our English congregation. We are grateful for his work and our leaders. A Youth Sunday school and a Community Student Club, an after-school program for high school students was started in the Fall. We organized the Fall Festival Costume Party at the end of October and over 40 people came for a fun gathering!

As we are about to celebrate the birth of our saviour Jesus Christ in December, we give thanks for the wonderful leaders and ministry teams of St. Christopher's. God has given us the greatest gift by offering His Son, let us uphold "One Heart, One Path, One in Christ" to serve Him in the coming year! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



希望我可以把小小的經歷，分享給每位踏入聖基道堂的朋友。



2022年7月，爸爸與世長辭。心裏很難過。但感恩的是，在爸爸臨死前一個月，他和媽媽正式受洗成為基督徒。除非有奇蹟出現，親友難以相信，至高無上，火氣十足的爸爸竟然洗禮。

未信主之前，爸爸銀包帶著佛像咭，我叫他返教會，媽媽提醒我字典裏面有個字叫 Impossible，沒可能。

路加福音 18:27 “耶穌說：「在人所不能的事，在神都能」”

回想三年前踏入聖基道堂，我相信是天父的安排。起初我和媽媽對基督教都存有很多疑問，但是天父一步一步的向我們顯現。爸爸病重，天父派來教會的牧者和姐妹弟兄為我們祈禱，陪伴渡過每一個難關。

我向爸爸傳福音，他鬧我講耶穌。他是一個不容易被說服的人，我亦知道自己能力有限，就只好每天印聖經的經文，放在床頭給他看，希望他可以直接看到天父的話語。偷偷地看見他沒撕爛，反而把經文放在抽屜裏。我問他：「世上萬物設計精細，怎可能一個大爆炸做成？我們住在一個大圈浮在太空中，怎能不相信有創做宇宙的神？」

馬太福音 7:7 “你們祈求，就給你們；尋找，就尋見；叩門；就給你們開門。”我和爸爸一起禱告，希望天父給他福氣可以尋見。

回看一生，爸爸看見天父的恩典，接受洗禮成為基督徒。爸爸，我們在天上再見。

慈悲的天父，希望所有來到聖基道堂的朋友，都可以尋見祢為他們預備的恩典，阿門。

### 今年感恩的數字      Thanksgiving Numbers in 2022

**\$4,432.25**

Raised for Richmond Hill Food Bank

**\$4,432.25**

Raised for North York Harvest Food bank

**\$35,835**

Raised in Ping Pong Relay for Diocesan FaithWorks

## 今年感恩的數字 Thanksgiving Numbers in 2022

**10**

No. of small groups

**159**

No. of Small group and Adult Sunday school participants

**289**

No. of people registered for the 3 Hong Kong Newcomers workshops



**5**

No. of baptism

Ashton & Albert's baptism  
on Nov 20

**\$41,184**

Total amount we raised to support other ministry partners

**26**

No. of charitable organizations we sponsored

**70**

No. of Samaritan Purse Christmas Shoeboxes



## 聖誕慶祝活動

12月18日(日) 聖誕歌述福音崇拜  
早上9時 - 北約克堂(粵語)  
早上11時 - 烈治文山堂(中英文)

12月25日(日) 聖誕日聖餐崇拜  
早上9時 - 北約克堂(粵語)  
早上11時 - 烈治文山堂(中英文)

歡迎邀請親友來參加實體及網上直播  
崇拜, 請登入 [www.stchris.ca](http://www.stchris.ca)

## Christmas Celebration

Sunday, Dec 18 Christmas Carol Gospel Service  
9 am - North York Church (Cantonese)  
11 am - Richmond Hill Church (Cantonese & English)

Sunday, Dec 25 Christmas Day Holy Communion  
9 am - North York Church (Cantonese)  
11 am - Richmond Hill Church (Cantonese & English)

Please invite friends and join us for in-person or live-streaming online at [www.stchris.ca](http://www.stchris.ca).



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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