

SOUTH CALGARY CHINESE EFC

南卡城華人播道會



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**ANNUAL REPORT 年報**

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**CHURCH BOARD:** Samson Lui (Chairman) 教會理事會: 呂承志 (主席)

2023 was filled with exciting challenges and success stories. The post-COVID era saw changes in people's attitude towards participating online, which meant some brothers and sisters have stopped attending in-person and I miss seeing their faces. Our average age is getting older and that brings changes to expectations and needs. The significant number of new immigrants flowing into our church put a tremendous strain onto our ministries, from children Sunday schools at capacity, to the lack of available rooms for the different groups and fellowships, to the coordination of everything in between causing tangible friction between teams. We also cannot disregard the impact that high inflation placed on many families.

In spite of these challenges, I am proud of how we came together and accomplished so much. The immigrant ministry has become a rock for many new comers, from helping them settle in Calgary to teaching them useful English skills. The worship ministry continued to thrive and expanded our knowledge of music and lyrics. The special needs ministry excelled, with many families joining and commenting how they have finally found people to walk with them. The children ministry is a pillar of our church and has fostered many youths that have become leaders themselves. The Manna ministry has offered tangible assistance to many families in need. There are many more and I don't have enough room to list every triumph.

This year we welcomed key pieces to our pastoral team (Wilson and Open), our ministry team (Claire and Vicky), and our office team (Elaine and Alice). Pastor Simon received much deserved recognition as our lead pastor for the Mandarin congregation. As our church continues to grow, we ask God to call the right leaders to join us (senior pastor, English lead pastor, operations officer). There may be other opportunities to come, too.

All these changes created pressure on our church and healthy conflicts on all ministry teams. Our church leaders had to respond decisively. Every step we took required team work and coordination. Team work is the one thing that the church board expects our leaders to demonstrate. We must recognize how our individual decisions may affect others. We believe God has put the right people on our team, and we must work together. Each one of us must be mindful and think how we can serve others, not how others can serve me. At SCCEFC, we move forward together.

As I look forward to 2024, I trust that God will guide us to grow stronger, both spiritually and physically. ✝

2023 充滿了令人振奮的挑戰和成功故事。在後疫情時代，人們對參與線上活動的態度發生了變化，這意味著一些弟兄姐妹停止了親臨現場，我懷念著與他們面對面的時光。我們的平均年齡不斷攀升，這為期望和需求帶來了新的變革。大量新移民涌入教會，給我們的事工帶來了極大的挑戰，從兒童主日學已達到容量上限，到各團契和小組苦於沒有可用的場地，各事務之間的協調也引起了團隊之間實質性的摩擦。我們也不能忽視高通貨膨脹對許多家庭的衝擊。

儘管面臨這些挑戰，我為我們如何團結一致、取得如此多的成就感到自豪。移民事工已成為許多新來者的支柱，不僅協助他們在卡城安家，還教授了他們實用的英語技能。崇拜事工不斷茁壯，拓展了我們對音樂和歌詞的認知。特殊需求事工取得了卓越的成就，許多家庭加入並表示他們終於找到了可以與他們同行的伙伴。兒童事工是我們教會的支柱，培養了許多年輕人成為了領袖。「嗎哪」事工為許多有需要的家庭提供了實質性的援助。還有很多其他的事工，但這裡無法一一列舉。

今年，我們迎來了牧師團隊 ( Wilson 和 Open )、事工團隊 ( Claire 和 Vicky ) 以及辦公室團隊 ( Elaine 和 Alice ) 的重要成員。向峰傳道因在國語堂的主任牧師身份而受到了應有的認可。隨著教會的持續發展，我們祈求上帝呼召適合的領袖加入我們，包括主任牧師、英語帶領牧師和運營官。還可能會有其他的機會。

所有這些變革給我們的教會帶來了壓力，也在所有事工團隊中引發了健康的衝突。我們的教會領導必須果斷應對。我們每邁出一步都需要團隊協作和協調。團隊協作是教會理事會期望我們的領導展現的關鍵品質。我們必須認識到個人決策可能對他人產生影響。我們相信上帝已經在我們的團隊中安排了正確的人，因此我們必須共同努力。每個人都必須謹記，思考我們如何服侍他人，而不是別人如何服侍我們。在南播，我們共同向前邁進。

展望 2024 年，我堅信上帝將引領我們在屬靈和實質層面變得更加堅強。✝

Respectfully submitted,

Samson Lui

**CANTONESE CONGREGATION:** Jayson Tam (Lead Pastor) **粵語堂:** 譚子舜牧師 (帶領牧者)

2023 年度是新冠疫情後全面復常的一年，從七月起，我們便正式停止主日崇拜網上直播，絕大部份的團契或小組，甚至是活愛中心和太極班，都恢復了實體聚會，但是教會週三祈禱會、英文班、及部分主日學課程則仍然維持在網上進行，以為參加者提供更大的便利性。傳福音和培育門徒是教會的使命，二者唇齒相依、缺一不可：初信者若沒有門徒群體可歸屬，便沒法成長；門徒群體若沒有生生不息地加入初信者，信仰的承傳便斷絕。所以，以下我概述這兩方面事工在 2023 年度的發展。

傳福音方面，我們除了化整為零地推動各小組或事工單位舉辦「小型啟發課程」之外，我們仍以「三福」作個人佈道的工具，不得不提的，還有這年我們舉辦了兩次佈道會——三月份與同心圓合辦的「平安佈道音樂會」，以及十二月份我們自家製作的「窩心過聖誕」，兩場培道會合共帶領了 13 位新朋友決志信主，加上其他佈道事工我果子，我們合共有 25 名新肢體他完成了初信成長八課課程的有位。另外，教會在九月份與同心圓首度合辦了「杜拜短宣」，我們粵語堂共有 6 位肢體參加，身體力行到當地服侍華人、非洲人、和巴基斯坦人。

培育門徒方面，教牧團隊繼續全力推動牧區及小組化的牧養架構，其目的是建立糖糰豆的團契關係，彼此生命敞開、互相問責。在年中，我們便從美國請來梁廷益牧師，為我們主講了幾場有關「教會小組化」的專題講座。直至本年度止，我們共成立了三個牧區——青年牧區、夫婦牧區、成人牧區，他們雖難免萬事起頭難，但整體仍在努力作出改進，並且經歷到質和量的長進。主日學(還有近年推出的週間學堂)也是我們主要培育門徒的平台，在 2023 年，我們共推出了 23 個主日學課程，平均上課人數共 144 人。在當中的「組長訓練」

和「門訓者成長小組」是我們重中之中，因為這兩個課程是我們培育牧養人手的「發電廠」。其次，我們還有那些外間機構所提供的查經班或研經課程——四海查經、生命之道、建道無牆教室、和 Bible Study Fellowship，粵語堂不少弟兄姊妹都透過這些平台，增進了對神話語的認識。最後，在 2023 年，我們共有 14 人轉會加入粵語堂。✝

The year 2023 was a year of full recovery after the COVID-19 pandemic. Starting from July, we officially ceased online broadcasting of Sunday worship. The majority of fellowships or small groups, including the Fountain of Love and Tai Chi classes, resumed physical gatherings. However, Wednesday prayer meetings, English for Fun classes, and some Sunday school courses continued to be conducted online for the convenience of participants.

The mission of the church is to evangelize and disciple, with both aspects being interdependent. Without a disciple community for new believers, growth is hindered. Similarly, without the continual addition of new believers to disciple communities, the transmission of faith breaks down. Therefore, I will outline the developments in these two ministry areas in the year 2023.

Concerning evangelism, apart from promoting "mini Alpha" by various small groups or Pastoral zones, we continued to use the "EE3" as a tool for personal evangelism. Noteworthy events included two evangelistic meetings: the "Peace Evangelistic Concert" in March, co-organized with the One Heart Circle, and our in-house production, "Heartwarming Christmas," in December. These events collectively led to 13 new friends making decisions for Christ. Including other evangelistic efforts, a total of 25 new believers completed the "Growth in Eight-Lessons" new believer's follow up course.

Additionally, in September, the church collaborated with the One Heart Circle for the first time in organizing a "Dubai Short-term Mission." Six members from the Cantonese congregation participated, serving the Chinese, African, and Pakistani communities in Dubai.

In discipleship, the pastoral team continued to promote a pastoral structure at the Pastoral zone and small group to foster a sticky fellowship, with transparent life sharing and mutual accountability. In the middle of the year, Pastor Leung Ting Yick was invited from the United States to speak on several topics related to "church small groups." By the end of this year, three Pastoral zones—Youth zone, Couples zone, and Adult zone—had been established. Despite facing initial challenges, they are making efforts to improve and experiencing both qualitative and quantitative growth.

Sunday school (including the recently introduced weekday school) remains a crucial platform for discipleship. In 2023, a total of 23 Sunday school courses were offered, with an average attendance of 144 people. "Group Leader Training" and "Disciples Growth Groups" are particularly emphasized, serving as the "power plants" for nurturing leaders. Furthermore, there are Bible study classes or courses offered by external organizations, such as 4C Bible Study, Word of Life, SPCL Bible Classroom, and Bible Study Fellowship. Many brothers and sisters in the Cantonese congregation have deepened their understanding of God's Word through these platforms. Lastly, in 2023, a total of 14 individuals transferred and joined the Cantonese congregation as members. ✝

Respectfully submitted,

Jayson Tam

**ENGLISH CONGREGATION:** Randy Rohrick (Lead Pastor) 英語堂: Randy Rohrick (帶領牧者)

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:13 NIV

It is a little overwhelming for me to think that as you read this report I have retired! Overall, I have served as pastor for 42 years and have been with you for close to three and a half years. It has been an enjoyable and rich time.

As I reflect on 2023, I continue to see God’s faithfulness in the midst of a growing South E Free. Each congregation has grown in unique ways. In the Cantonese congregation I have seen a great influx of immigrants that have been helped by a caring and serving people. In the Mandarin congregation I have seen them consistently staying the course in leading people to a new faith in Jesus. It has been a pleasure to work with Pastor Simon and Pastor Jayson as co-lead pastors. Both these men work hard and are diligent in doing their best to first walk with God and then shepherd and lead God’s people. In our English congregation, the main growth I have witnessed, is in the development and Christ-likeness of leaders.

Our EMOT, Stephen Pun, Glenna Fung, Ren Tung and James Pan have served faithfully and with a strong desire to see our congregation make a difference in the world we live in. Stephen always challenges us to walk closely with the Lord. Glenna has a heart to see newcomers find their way and become connected with others. Ren has a passion to reach out to those in need that they may see Christ in our love and message. And James has done an outstanding job of nurturing our worship teams. I am so thankful to serve with this team.

I have also seen others from our congregation take on leadership roles with maturity and a sense of joy. Caleb Lok and Ashley Kwok have served on our CB with excitement and a clear love for Jesus and our church. Andrew Li is heading up our Church Pastoral Search Committee and Lynda Huang is heading up our Church Nomination Committee, both with a sense of expertise and strong leadership skills. I have appreciated Byron Woo, who serves as our elder and prays and assists others in their spiritual path. Alison Chow and Ren Tung continue to lead a team to help others in need through our Manna program.

There are so many others who faithfully serve Jesus and his people in our English congregation. Many of those who serve, will bring their kids along and make it a family affair!

Now let me tell you about how blessed we are with our English staff.

Pastor Adriel has given so much of himself in serving our youth and parents. It is only fitting that the last half of this year he has been on a well deserved sabbatical. I know he has been missed but will return soon in 2024. Adriel has a unique way of encouraging, others including our staff. We too look forward to having him back. A special thank you goes out to our lay leaders who stepped up and provided leadership during Adriel’s absence.

Then there is Pastor Calvin who I have seen develop in his leadership skills by leaps and bounds in this past year. His confidence, communication and overall involvement in many ministries has proven to be invaluable to us.

I will also include comments in regard to our children’s pastor, Crystal. In the last year I met with a number of our small groups and asked them why they choose to call South Efree their home. Many expressed their appreciation of children’s ministry. She loves our children and seeks to work with our parents and teacher/ helpers to always improve what is already an effective ministry. And besides all this, she makes an effort to connect with all our staff and make us feel important and appreciated.

Let me also mention our admin team headed up by the amazing Nora, our computer expert, Gordon and diligent Sam who keeps our place in great condition. I hope we all take time to let them know how important their behind their scenes work is instrumental in the function of our church.

Here are some bullet highlights of 2023:

- Sermon series included Next Level Living (Mtt. 5-7), Supremacy of God (I/II Thessalonians), Christ, Church and Culture and a Christmas focus. Calvin, Adriel, Stephen and myself participated in preaching.
- Staff Retreat in May
- District Conference and Teaching Time at Okotoks in June
- Summer VBS
- Congregational Retreat in September
- Missions month with varied speakers

I give a special word of thanks to our Church Board. Samson, Ray, Caleb and Ashley have shown an “all in” attitude as they have faithfully given their best to lead our church. They have a strong desire to see us move forward and continue to grow and mature in Christ. We are blessed.

And finally, I say a special word of love and gratitude to my wife, Cheryl who is a “behind the scenes” person and has served to help me on every level of ministry. She is a gift to be sure.

I look forward to my new advisory role in 2024. This will include continuing to work with EMOT and CB and a few teaching/preaching times. ☩

「願賜盼望的上帝在你們信靠他的時候，以一切喜樂和平安充滿你們，藉著聖靈的大能使你們充滿盼望。」  
羅馬書 15:13

當你閱讀這份報告的同時，對於我已經退休的事實可能會感到有些不知所措！總體來說，我擔任牧師職位已經有 42 年了，而我在這裡已經近三年半。這段時光充滿了愉快和豐富的回憶。

回顧 2023 年，我繼續見證上帝在南播的的信實，每個堂會都以獨特的方式成長。在粵語堂，我看到了大量移民的湧入，而這些人得到了一群充滿愛心和服務的人的幫助。在國語堂，我看到他們堅定地引導會眾走向對耶穌的信仰。能夠與 Simon 牧師和 Jayson 牧師牧師一同擔任帶領牧者是一種榮幸。這兩位牧者都非常努力，先與上帝同行，然後牧養和引導上帝的子民。在英語堂，我所見證的主要在於領袖的發展和基督樣式的形成。

我們的 EMOT ( Stephen Pun、Glenna Fung、Ren Tung 和 James Pan ) 忠心地服事，渴望看到我們的教會在我們所處的世界中產生影響。Stephen 總是鼓勵我們與主親密同行。Glenna 渴望看到新來賓找到自己的方向並與他人建立聯繫。Ren 熱衷於幫助有需要的人，讓他們透過我們的愛和信息看到基督。James 在培養我們的敬拜團隊方面表現出色。我感恩能夠與這個團隊一同服事。

我還看到我們教會的其他成員擔任領導角色，展現出成熟和喜樂。Caleb Lok 和 Ashley Kwok 在我們的 CB 中充滿激情，對耶穌和我們的教會充滿愛。Andrew Li 正在領導我們的聘牧委員會，而 Lynda Huang 則正在領

導我們的提名委員會，兩者都具有專業和堅強的領導能力。我感激 Byron Woo，他作為我們的長老，為我們的靈命道路禱告並協助其他人。Alison Chow 和 Ren Tung 繼續帶領團隊，通過我們的「嗎哪」事工幫助有需要的人。

在我們的英語堂中，還有許多其他成員忠心地事奉耶穌和他的子民。許多事奉者會帶著他們的孩子一起來，使事奉成為一個家庭的事務！

現在，讓我告訴你我們有多幸運，擁有我們的英語堂教牧。

Adriel 牧師在為青年和家長服事方面付出了很多。今年下半年，他理所當然地休息了一段應得的假期。我知道他被掛念，但他將在 2024 年復職。Adriel 有一種獨特的方式來鼓勵其他人，包括我們的教會。我們也期待著他的回歸。特別感謝我們的平信徒領袖，在 Adriel 缺席期間挺身而出，提供領導。

然後是 Calvin 牧師，我看到他在過去的一年中在領導技能方面取得了飛躍性的進步。他的自信、溝通和參與各個事工的整體投入對我們來說都是無價的。

我還要提到我們的兒童牧師 Crystal。去年，我與一些小組會面，問他們為什麼選擇將南播視為他們的家。許多人表達了對兒童事工的感激之情。她愛我們的孩子，努力與父母、老師和義工合作，不斷改進已經是有效事工的內容。除此之外，她努力與我們所有的工作人員保持聯繫，讓我們感到重要和受到賞識。

我還要提及我們的行政團隊，由出色的 Nora、我們的電腦專家 Gordon 和勤奮的 Sam 領導。我希望我們都能花點時間讓他們知道，他們在幕後的工作對我們教會的運作至關重要。

以下是 2023 年的一些亮點：

- 講道系列包括 Next Level Living ( 馬太福音 5-7 章 )、神的至高 ( 帖撒羅尼迦前後書 )、基督、教會和文化以及聖誕節焦點。Calvin、Adriel、Stephen 和我參與了講道。
- 5 月份的教牧退修會
- 6 月份在 Okotoks 的區會和教學時間
- 夏季的 VBS ( 兒童暑期聖經班 )
- 9 月份的教會全體退修會
- 在宣教月邀請了不同的講員。

我向我們的教會理事會表示特別的感謝。Samson、Ray、Caleb 和 Ashley 展現了「全然投入」的態度，他們忠心地獻上了最好的來領導我們的教會。他們渴望看到我們不斷向前發展，在基督裡不斷成長和成熟。我們是蒙福的。

最後，我要向我的妻子 Cheryl 表達特別的愛和感激之情，她是一位「幕後人」，在事工的各個層面都幫助了我。她確實是一份保貴的禮物。

我期待在 2024 年擔任新的顧問角色，繼續與 EMOT 和 CB 合作，並進行一些教學/講道時間。✝

With love and respect,

Randy Rohrick

**MANDARIN CONGREGATION: Simon Xiang (Lead Pastor) 國語堂: 向峰傳道 (帶領牧者)**

我謹代表國語堂教牧同工、執事和事工委員會向各位會友提交以下報告。

2023 是國語堂『更深認識神』、『更深經歷神』、『更多事奉神』三年年度事工計劃系列的最後一年。回首過去，我們更加體會主耶穌說過的“我的恩典夠你用”這句話的意思。我們真實地經歷到，在平靜安穩之時，主的恩典帶來鼓勵，鞭策我們不至懈怠；在波濤洶湧之時，主的恩典帶來力量，讓我們有勇氣繼續向前行。

在過去一年，我們經歷到主耶穌的許多奇妙帶領與供應，使國語堂的事工中有很多值得感恩的地方，我選擇一些在這裡和各位弟兄姐妹分享。

**四海讀經會**：本學期我們學習『因信稱義的救恩』，所研讀的書卷是『羅馬書』和『雅各書』。『四海讀經會』採用系統研經的方式帶領學員按卷研讀聖經，學員除了每週一要參與聖經應用問題討論和聽老師講解聖經之外，在週間還需要抽時間閱讀講義，並完成課程作業。雖然需要投入很多時間和精力，但是，參與『四海讀經會』的學員們都很喜樂，因為神的話語真的能夠賜給人力量。學員們的熱情鼓勵了在其中服事的同工們，讓他們更加委身于在讀經會中組織、帶領與教導，心中也充滿了感恩。

**夏季集體露營**：今年國語堂繼續舉辦集體露營活動，目的是邀請新朋友來接觸教會，讓他們有機會來體驗教會生活中弟兄姐妹彼此相愛的美好。我們今年選擇了位於 Golden, BC 小鎮旁邊的露營地作為集體露營的場地，為了傳福音，我們特意留出很多名額供新朋友來參加。因著國語堂參與服事的弟兄姐妹全心全力地擺上，今年的集體露營活動給所有參與者留下了深刻印象，其中有不少新朋友被邀請來參加國語堂隨後舉辦的『啟發課程』，並繼續參加國語堂主日崇拜。作為國語堂福音事工的其中一環，集體露營達到了美好果效。

**夏季戶外敬拜**：今年國語堂特意邀請了恩道神學院中文部的神學生們來負責安排敬拜帶領，在今年的程序設計中特別加強了戶外敬拜元素，讓所有參與者體驗到在大自然中盡情敬拜的喜樂。今年的戶外敬拜在各方面的組織上都很挑戰，因為參與敬拜帶領的人數較多，在音響設置上就比較複雜。因為參加本次戶外敬拜的人



數很多，飯食供應和兒童看顧都不容易安排。靠著主的恩典，加上國語堂服事同工能夠同心合意，今年的戶外敬拜從各方面看都非常完美，主的恩典真的夠我們用！

**國語啟發課程：**今年是國語堂第二年單獨舉辦啟發課程，同工們在策劃和組織上越來越有經驗。非常感恩的是，國語堂的弟兄姐妹都踴躍參與並積極邀請家人朋友來參加，讓負責組織的同工們非常感恩，因為感受到弟兄姐妹傳福音的熱情和樂意服事的心。眾人的接納、包容與肯定對服事的同工來講就是最有力的鼓勵，因著大家齊心協力興旺福音的心志，很多人在本次啟發課程中決志信主。同時，啟發課程前後一共十周的事奉，為南播教會培養了許多忠心參與服事的同工。

**泥土音樂佈道會：**感謝主讓國語堂今年有機會邀請到在華語教會中非常知名的泥土音樂團隊來卡城舉辦音樂佈道會，在卡城國語教會中帶動了傳福音的浪潮。我們原本計劃邀請他們在南播教會舉辦一場佈道會，不過泥土音樂的同工比我們更有信心，他們提出要在一個週末在卡城連辦三場音樂佈道會！結果，三場佈道會場場爆滿，每場佈道會都有接近二十人決志信主。通過籌辦這樣的佈道會，讓我們再次見證到福音的大能。同時，我們深切體會到，福音仍然是切合人心需要的好消息，不管在哪一個年代，唯有主耶穌的救恩才能夠使饑渴心靈得到安慰。

**聖誕慶祝會：**國語堂舉辦的聖誕節慶祝聚會越來越受到弟兄姐妹的喜愛。今年的聚會在各個方面都有很多突破，首先是報名參加的人數有突破。我們原本計劃 300 人參加，結果在開放報名兩天之後，報名人數就已經超過了原定計劃。經過籌備同工的努力，到最後有超過 400 人來參加平安夜晚宴。這超過 400 人就像一家人圍坐在一起歡慶聖誕，實在是神的恩典和祝福。除了參加人數之外，本次聖誕慶祝會各團契在參與度方面也有很大的突破。每個團契獻上的節目都非常精彩，而且充滿活力與熱情。弟兄姐妹們透過有創意的形式，將心中對主的愛呈現出來，讓今年的聖誕聚會非常有感染力。今年的聖誕聚會還有一點特別感恩，那就是各方面都組織得井然有序，這是因為有同工在背後默默付出。因著同工們甘心付出，無論是節目組織、食物準備、場地安排、音響燈光、迎賓接待，每一個環節都安排得特別周到，真的要感謝主的恩典！感謝主將許多有恩賜有才幹，又忠心愛主的弟兄姐妹帶來南播教會參與各個方面的服事，當我們願意善用神所賜的恩賜才幹，為著興旺福音的緣故，各司其職、彼此配搭的時候，教會的事工就會越來越興旺。

**國語堂 2024 年事工展望：**國語堂在 2024 年將開始一個新的三年年度事工計劃系列，2024 年年度主題為『追隨耶穌，燃亮福音熱情』，2025 年的主題為『走出曠野，承接聖徒職分』，2026 年為『不再執迷，認清教會使命』，盼望藉著這個三年計劃，帶領國語堂會眾再次以福音為起點，重新認識蒙神揀選呼召成為基督門徒的使命，從個人的復興帶動整個教會的復興。

感恩有南播這個充滿愛與恩典的教會大家庭，在這樣一個信仰群體裡，我們可以彼此鼓勵、相互扶持、同走天路。深願主耶穌的恩惠平安與南播教會每一位弟兄姐妹同在，讓我們繼續以生命影響生命，一同為主做最美好的見證！✝

I hereby submit the following report on behalf of the pastoral team, deacons, and ministry committee to the members of the Mandarin Congregation.

2023 marked the final year of the three-year annual ministry plan series for the Mandarin Congregation, focusing on "Deeper Understanding of God," "Deeper Experience with God," and "More Serving for God." Looking back, we have truly experienced the meaning of Jesus' words, "My grace is sufficient for you." In times of calm, the grace of the Lord brings encouragement, preventing us from becoming complacent. In times of turbulence, His grace provides strength, giving us the courage to press on.

Over the past year, we have witnessed many miraculous leadings and provisions from Jesus, enriching the ministry of the Mandarin Congregation. I would like to share some highlights with all our brothers and sisters here.

**4C Bible Study:** This semester, we studied the theme of "Salvation by Faith" through the books of Romans and James. The 4C Bible Study adopts a systematic approach to guide participants in studying the Bible book by book. Apart from participating in weekly discussions on practical applications and listening to teachers explain the Bible, participants also spend time reading lecture notes and completing assignments during the week. Although it requires a significant investment of time and energy, participants in the 4C Bible Study find great joy because the Word of God truly empowers them. The enthusiasm of the participants encourages those serving in the study, leading them to wholeheartedly organize, lead, and teach. Their hearts are filled with gratitude.

**Summer Group Camping:** This year, the Mandarin Congregation continued to organize group camping activities, aiming to invite new friends to connect with the church and experience the beauty of the love among brothers and sisters. We chose a campsite near the town of Golden, BC for the camping event. In order to share the gospel, we intentionally reserved many spots for new friends to join. With the wholehearted dedication of the Mandarin Congregation members, this year's camping event left a deep impression on all participants. Many new friends were subsequently invited to join the Mandarin Congregation's Alpha course and continue attending Mandarin Sunday worship. As part of the Mandarin Congregation's evangelistic efforts, the group camping achieved wonderful results.

**Summer Outdoor Worship:** This year, the Mandarin Congregation invited theological students from the Ambrose Seminary to lead worship. The program design this year emphasized outdoor worship elements, allowing all participants to experience the joy of worshipping freely in nature. Organizing the outdoor worship was challenging in many aspects due to the larger number of worship leaders and the complexity of sound system setup. Given the high attendance, arranging meals and childcare was also challenging. Through the grace of the Lord and the united efforts of Mandarin Congregation volunteers, this year's outdoor worship was perfect in every aspect. Indeed, the Lord's grace is sufficient for us!

**Mandarin Alpha Course:** This year marked the second year of the Mandarin Congregation independently hosting the Alpha Course. Those serving in the planning and organization have gained more experience. We are very grateful that Mandarin Congregation members actively participated and enthusiastically invited family and friends to join. Those responsible for organizing the course felt very thankful because they sensed the passion for evangelism and willingness to serve among brothers and sisters. The acceptance, inclusivity, and affirmation from everyone are the most powerful encouragement for those serving. Through the joint efforts of everyone, the church's ministry has thrived over the ten weeks of service, cultivating many dedicated service workers for South Calgary Chinese Evangelical Free Church.

**Clay Music Gospel Concert:** We thank the Lord for giving the Mandarin Congregation the opportunity to invite the well-known Clay Music team to hold a gospel concert in Calgary. They ignited a wave of evangelism in the Chinese churches in Calgary. We originally planned to host a concert at South E Free, but the Clay Music team, with greater confidence, proposed to hold three concerts in Calgary over a weekend! As a result, all three concerts were full, with nearly twenty people making decisions for Christ at each event. Organizing such a gospel concert allowed us to witness the mighty power of the gospel once again. We deeply feel that the gospel is still the good news that meets the needs of the human heart. Only through the salvation of Jesus can thirsty souls find comfort.

**Christmas Celebration:** The Christmas celebration hosted by the Mandarin Congregation is becoming increasingly beloved by brothers and sisters. There were many breakthroughs in various aspects of this year's event. Firstly, there was a breakthrough in the number of registrations. We initially planned for 300 participants, but after two days of open registration, the number had already exceeded the original plan. With the efforts of the organizing team, more than 400 people attended the Christmas Eve banquet. These over 400 people, like one big family, gathered together to celebrate Christmas, truly a grace and blessing from God. In addition to the number of participants, each fellowship had a significant breakthrough in involvement in this Christmas celebration. Every fellowship's program was fantastic, full of vitality and enthusiasm. Through creative presentations, brothers and sisters expressed their love for the Lord, making this year's Christmas celebration very impactful. A special thanksgiving for this year's Christmas celebration is the well-organized aspects in all areas, thanks to the silent contributions of the volunteers behind the scenes. Through the voluntary contributions of them, whether in program organization, food preparation, venue arrangement, sound and lighting, every aspect was meticulously arranged. We truly thank the Lord for His grace! Thanks to the Lord for bringing many brothers and sisters with gifts and talents, who are also devoted and love the Lord, to participate in various aspects of service in South E Free. When we are willing to use the gifts and talents given by God for the prosperity of the gospel, each in their own role and in cooperation with each other, the church's ministry will become more and more prosperous.

**Mandarin Congregation's 2024 Ministry Outlook:** In 2024, the Mandarin Congregation will embark on a new three-year annual ministry plan series. The theme for 2024 is "Following Jesus, Igniting Passion for the Gospel," 2025 is "Leaving the Wilderness, Taking Up the Ministry of the Saints," and 2026 is "No Longer Deluded, Recognizing the Mission of the Church." It is hoped that through this three-year plan, the Mandarin Congregation will once again start with the gospel, reacquaint themselves with the mission of being chosen and called by God to be disciples of Christ, and lead the congregation towards revival.

We are thankful for having South E Free, a church family full of love and grace. In such a community of faith, we can encourage and support each other as we journey together on the way to heaven. May the grace and peace of Jesus be with every brother and sister in South E Free. Let us continue to impact lives with our lives, bearing the best witness for the Lord! ✝

Respectfully submitted,

Simon Xiang

**CHILDREN MINISTRY:** Crystal Sun (Director) 兒童事工：黃愛晶 (事工主任)

Ministry Highlights

1. **Orange Conference:**

During the end of April, Crystal, Leone and Claire went to Atlanta to attend a family ministry conference called the Orange Conference. The workshops were very inspiring and gave them strategies and practical tools to bring back to our church to use.

2. **VBS:**

We hosted our biggest VBS ever with 142 children registered for the Twists and Turns VBS that was on July 17 - 21, 2023. We included a full day kindergarten VBS camp along with the Grade 1 - 6 camp. The children learned that having Jesus as their Savior is the game changer as they live through the twists and turns of life. Our leaders

took the time to explain the gospel to their small group of children and many accepted Jesus as their Savior! Thank you to the 57 faithful brothers and sisters in Christ who served as teachers, leaders, decorators and helpers. We are thankful that some kids, who did not go to church before, are now joining us for fellowship at Agapeland. May the Lord bless and grow the connections that were made during this gospel camp!

### 3. **Summer Students:**

This summer we were blessed to have Zechariah Wang and Nathan Law as our summer students. They were able to increase their experience in organizing fellowship gatherings for teens and retreats, lead assemblies and other volunteers during the VBS camp, and grow their administrative skills. Along with their work, Pastor Adriel and Crystal met with them weekly in the spirit of discipleship through reading, sharing and prayer.

### 4. **Increase in Children:**

Agapeland reached its maximum number of children in most of the fellowships on the first week that registration was opened. The leadership group decided to increase the number of children per fellowship and we still ended up full for the Shooting Star and Faith Knight fellowships. The maximum number is influenced by the room size as well as the ratio of teachers to children. This has been a big challenge as we want to accept everyone but we cannot because of our limiting factors. Sunday ministries also increased with many new children attending. Please help us to pray for more brothers and sisters to serve and for wisdom to know how to proceed in the future. Please also pray for the existing leaders as we take time to recruit and train teachers.

### 5. **Special Needs:**

- a. Sunday School - Sensory Teens (N002) reopened in Jan. 2023. Currently, we have three teens and one child in our sensory rooms with one-on-one aides. Also, we have eleven children with special needs who are able to participate in our typical Sunday School. Seven of these children need and have supporting aides. Training, strategies and tools were provided to those who serve as aides and teachers to give them skills and encouragement as they support children with special needs at our church.
- b. On Oct 13-15th, thirteen SN families from the Mandarin and Cantonese congregations had a blessed retreat in Kananaskis. About twenty brothers and sisters from other fellowships went to the camp to support with child care on 14th, so that the parents can have a peace of mind to spend their time sharing, in devotion and strengthening their relationship with God.

### 6. **Playgroup:**

In June we held another playgroup for moms and their babies. It was a great opportunity for mothers to fellowship and also a chance for them to get to know the Children Ministries at SCCEFC. We plan to continue offering playgroup gatherings in 2024. ✝

## 事工亮點

### 1. 橙色大會 (Orange Conference) :

四月底，Crystal、Leone 和 Claire 參加了亞特蘭大的橙色大會，這是一個家庭事工研討會。精彩的工作坊不僅激發靈感，還提供了策略和實用工具，以便帶回教會應用。

### 2. 兒童暑期聖經班 (VBS) :

我們舉辦了迄今最盛大的 VBS，有 142 名兒童在 2023 年 7 月 17 日至 21 日期間參與了"Twists and Turns"主題的 VBS。我們不僅包含了全天的幼兒園 VBS 營，還有 1 至 6 年級的兒童營。孩子們在生活的曲折中領悟到，擁有耶穌作為救主是改變遊戲的關鍵。感謝 57 位忠心的弟兄姊妹，他們在教學、領導、場地佈置和協助方面付出。許多孩子在小組中聽到福音，並有許多人接受了耶穌為救主！感謝上帝，一些之前未曾參與教會的孩子現在融入 Agapeland 的團契。願主賜福和加強在這福音營期間建立的關係！

### 3. 暑期實習生：

今年夏天，我們有幸擁有 Zechariah Wang 和 Nathan Law 擔任實習生。他們不僅在組織青少年團契和退修會、帶領 VBS 營的集會和協調其他義工方面積累了經驗，還提升了他們的行政技能。除了工作，牧師 Adriel 和 Crystal 每週與他們一同閱讀、分享和禱告，進行門徒訓練。

### 4. 兒童數量增加：

Agapeland 在開放註冊的第一週就達到了大多數團契的兒童最大數量。面對房間大小和教師與兒童比例的限制，事工小組決定增加每個團契的兒童數量，但 Shooting Star 和 Faith Knight 仍然滿額。這是一個巨大的挑戰，因為我們希望接納每一位孩子，但由於限制，我們無法做到。星期天的事工也迎來了許多新的兒童。請幫助我們為更多的弟兄姊妹祈禱，為更多的服侍者祈禱，並祈求智慧，以了解未來的發展方向。同時，請為現有的領袖禱告，因為他們花時間招募和培訓教師。

### 5. 特殊需求事工：

a. 主日學-青少年 ( N002 ) 於 2023 年 1 月重新開放。目前，我們在感覺室內有三名青少年和一名兒童，並配有一對一的助手。此外，我們有十一名有特殊需求的兒童能夠參加我們典型的主日學，其中七名兒童需要並有支援助手。為那些擔任助手和教師的人提供培訓、策略和工具，以提高他們支持特殊需求兒童的技能和信心。

b. 在 10 月 13 日至 15 日期間，來自華語和粵語教會的十三個特殊需求家庭在 Kananaskis 度過了一個豐盛的退修會。約有二十位來自其他團契的弟兄姊妹於 14 日前往營地，協助照顧孩子，讓父母可以安心分享、默想並加強他們與神的關係。

### 6. 母嬰小組：

六月份，我們再次舉辦了一個給媽媽和嬰兒的母嬰小組。這是母親團契的絕佳機會，也是讓她們認識南播兒童事工的機會。我們計劃在 2024 年繼續提供母嬰小組聚會。✝

Respectfully submitted,

Crystal Sun