

Church 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2019

A. Location: Church sanctuary

B. Meeting Agenda & Minutes

- a. Elder Ke-Chieh (KC) Chu opened the meeting at 11:49 am. Senior Pastor Juta Pan led us in opening prayer.
- b. Elder KC welcomed new members. There were 103 new members added this past year, an increase from the previous year, across Chinese Ministry, Cross Bridge and Youth, and City Outreach Ministry.
- c. The congregation recited the membership commitment.

d. Church Leadership

- i. Twelve 2019 deacons
 1. Three completing service in 2019 are Tuanfeng Zhang, Ling Zhang, and Berhan Yeh. Berhan moved over the summer, and Phil Sailer has been fulfilling the remaining five months of Berhan's term.
 2. Seven continuing service in 2020 are Jason Lee, Samuel Chang, Hongwei Huang, Jianglin Liang, Zongkui Joe Ma, Stanley Wang, and Dazhi Wang.
 3. Two nominated for renewal for 2nd term starting 2020 are Charlene Tsang and Yanhua Yan. Three new deacon candidates were also nominated.
- ii. Five deacon candidates were nominated to serve a two-year term starting in 2020. Self-biographies were emailed to members.
 1. Charlene Tsang (Cross Bridge-returning)
 2. Yanhua Yan (Chinese Ministry-returning)
 3. Kueiyu Joshua Lin (Chinese Ministry-new)
 4. Ye Tang (Chinese Ministry-new)
 5. Ligong Xu (Chinese Ministry-new)
- iii. Eight 2019 elders
 1. Three completing service in 2019 are Yuguang He, Timothy Lu, and Loren Shih.
 2. Five continuing service in 2020 are Chaw-Bing Chang, Ke-Chieh Chu, Christopher Cheng, Paul Huang, and Jiyong Wang.
- iv. Two new elder candidates were nominated to serve a three-year term starting in 2020. Self-biographies were emailed to members.
 1. Ruike Wang (Chinese Ministry-new)
 2. Jian Zhang (Chinese Ministry-new)

e. Annual Report

- i. **Board of Deacons (Stewardship):** Ministries include property management and maintenance, church vans, parking and traffic control, kitchen, fire drill, and spring/fall cleaning.
 1. Completed projects include building 151 side door canopy installation, natural gas pipelines inspection and maintenance, classrooms and basement wall restoration, children's ministry cabinet replacement, driveway and parking lot repairs, and Chapel floor stripping and waxing. New carpets for hallway and lobby were replaced last week.
 2. Ongoing projects include children's playground maintenance, and resolution of basement leaks.
- ii. **Ministries**

1. **Cross Bridge Ministry** (formerly English Ministry): Six areas include ICF (college), Charis (young adults), eight Home Groups, Adult Sunday School, Life-on-Life missional discipleship, and retreats. Personnel changes: we said farewell to seminarian Joseph Wu in May 2019, and Pastor David Eng (College and Young Adult pastor) in mid-August 2019, after almost 10 years of service who moved to Vancouver, BC, Canada. New Minister Jeffrey Hwang started in late August 2019.
2. **Chinese Ministry (Fellowship)**
 - a. Fellowships/small groups play a vital role in organically connecting and building up the church
 - b. Equipped leaders with bible study tools and methods
 - c. Fellowship minister Pastor Yuegang Zhang ordained in August 2019
3. **Children's Ministry**
 - a. New Children's Ministry Intern: Brother Tony Ng
 - i. Serving 10 hours a week working alongside Pastor Bowman
 - ii. 3rd grade Sunday School teacher, Children's Worship preaching, etc.
 - b. Awana
 - i. New year started, 68 registered
 - ii. Need an Awana Core Leader for 2019/20
 - iii. Need new Awana Game Time leaders to give Hongwei Huang and Angie Bowman a break.
4. **Youth Ministry**
 - a. Summer missions trips to Chinatown, NYC and Brooklyn, NYC
 - b. Held first bubble tea outreach event with great turnout
 - c. Starting school year without second youth pastor, pray for (guys') pastor search, current staff, and more counselors.
 - d. God moving in youth ministry, retreats enriching youth, and 11 youth baptized this year
5. **City Outreach Ministry (COM)**
 - a. Celebrated ten year anniversary Easter 2019
 - b. Five COM fellowships
 - c. COM pastor transition: appointed two ministers to take over from Pastor Pan
 - i. Minister Hsiao-Dun Chang
 - ii. Minister Juan Chen
6. **Missions Committee**
 - a. Three committee members departing are Chair Pastor Sandy Liu, Treasurer Haiguo Wu, and Ruike Wang. Three new members joining are Lance Pan, Timothy Huang, and Rebecca Tsai. Advisor Pastor David Eng left, and Elder Yuguang He will step down. Pastor Yuegang Zhang will join as an advisor.
 - b. There are about 20 missionary families being sent and/or supported from CBCGB.
 - c. Nurtured missional focus, vision and unity in Missions Committee
 - d. Wrote standard operating procedures to strengthen policy functions
 - e. Adding vice chair role to assist new chairperson in 2020
7. **Social Concerns**
 - a. Goal is to accomplish the Great Commission through Vision and Priorities
 - i. Vision: Do Justice, Love Mercy, and Show the Radiant Life
 - ii. Priorities: vision setup, team rebuild, develop standard operating procedures for each activity

- b. The social concerns ministry has been involved in a number of initiatives to serve the local and global community, including SCM Education (joint conference with Missions Committee), ESL, Operation Mittens, Summerbridge, China Orphanage Project, Philippines and Honduras STM, Local Volunteering, Boston House, Boston Rescue Mission, Feed My Starving Children, Habitat for Humanity, Rosie's Place, and disaster relief.

8. Caring Ministry

- a. Stephen Ministry - helping those experiencing different life hardships
 - i. Total of 123 brothers and sisters completed 50 hours training, caring for over 400 individuals the past 17 years
 - ii. Currently 44 Stephen Ministers actively serving, regularly meeting twice a month.
 - b. MER (Marriage Enrichment Retreat) Ministry entered 17th year
 - i. Hosted level 1 retreat spring 2019, plan to host level 2 retreat November 2019
 - ii. Two more retreats (Mandarin and Cantonese) hosted by other churches in the New England area.
9. **Spiritual Formation:** This includes four areas: diversified Chinese adult Sunday school courses, continuous collaboration with CES for advanced enrichment programs and workshop, vocational ministry training for young professionals, and small group mentorship.

10. Community Outreach Committee (COC)

- a. Includes six ministries: Mandarin evangelistic meeting ministry, Evangelism Explosion (EE) ministry, Suburban Campus ministry, Andover region outreach, NEWS camp, and parachurch ministers and organizations

11. Church Building Expansion Advisory Board

- a. Established CBE Advisory Team (CBE-AT) led by Elder Loren Shih, created questionnaire survey to understand facility needs.
- b. Sending survey to elders and staff, ministry leaders and ministries in progress. Results will be shared with congregation.
- c. CBE-AT and CBE Design Team will work together to finalize the church building expansion requirements, serving as the basis for CBE phase 2 and 3 design proposal.
- d. Design proposal accepted by church leaders will be used to hire professional design/build company for detailed design and construction.

f. Staff

- i. Senior Pastor Transition
 - 1. Appreciation of Pastor Caleb Chang's 7 year of service. He transitioned to ministering in Tallahassee, Florida.
 - 2. Pastor Juta Pan, with more than 20 years experience at CBCGB and who pioneered COM, started as our next Senior Pastor.
- ii. Recent Hires
 - 1. Weihsin Chau - Administrative Director
 - 2. Miranda Huang - Administrative Assistant (CB, Youth, and Children), replaced Michael Xu
- g. **Attendance:** Chinese Ministry attendance has been declining over the past 4-5 years, with a peak in 2015. Cross Bridge attendance has been stable. City Outreach Ministry attendance has markedly increased over the past few years.

- h. **Finance:** General Fund contributions have declined over the past 4 years, partially due to independence of Metro South church. Missions funding has increased (2016-2019). Budget allocation: \$1.85M total. Top three expenses: Personnel 61%, Stewardship Council (property maintenance and management) 14%, and COM 6% (major component is facility rental cost).
- i. Looking Forward (Near-Mid-Long-Term Strategies)
 - i. Elder KC reviewed the vision and mission statements.
 - ii. Near-term projects: rebuild pastoral team, increase cross-ministry communication and collaboration, bring in the younger generation to get more involved
 - iii. Mid-term projects: church building expansion, modernizing AV system, strengthening family ministry, strengthening the integration of local mission, social concern and caring, and cross-culture mission
 - iv. Long-term projects: emphasize missions training, equipping the saints, developing capability for evangelism through digital and social media
- j. **Congregational prayer** in small groups: be a living testimony to the glory of Christ, be a disciple of and make disciples for Jesus Christ, be united in mind and heart in spiritual warfare, love each other, care for and reach out to the needy and poor in spirit, be part of missions and pray constantly for the missionaries near and far
- k. **Exhortation** by Pastor Juta Pan - Two reflections on the 50th Anniversary Jubilee celebration and events
 - i. What is the long ranging impact from this weekend's meetings and celebration?
 - 1. cf 2008 Olympics in Beijing, opening and closing ceremony, lasting impact?
 - 2. Reminder for us all to ponder and meditate on this. We hope our recollections will result in strategy/plans for moving forward. We are not finished, and need to continue to understand what God's will is for us as a church as we move forward.
 - ii. What do we expect our church to be like 10 years from now? How can we prepare today to march towards that goal? Once we know our goal, we can strategize how to get there from here.
 - 1. cf 20th birthday celebration fellowship counselor challenge: What kind of person would you like to be when you're celebrating your 30th birthday? How will you prepare?
- I. Other Comments**
 - i. (Elder KC) Report before Q&A - Let us show our appreciation to those who had worked very hard to prepare and organize CBCGB 50th Anniversary Celebration.
 - ii. Annual meeting presentation and Annual Report will be made available through electronic media and on the church website. Members should not distribute to non-members, because of sensitive information/materials.
- m. Q&A and Discussion**
 - i. Q. Church building expansion started 6 years ago, was approved and phase 1 completed, but later phases have been delayed and ministry needs have changed. Should we still use previous phase 2 and 3 plans? What's the involvement of the congregation to determine next steps?
 - 1. A. We have lost some momentum in church building project, but still more space needed. The CBE project has been approved by a special membership meeting in 2012. So, the phase II and phase III of the CBE were still in the plan. CBE Advisory team trying to pull requirements from Sunday School, youth, children's program, etc. to work with CBE design team and push church building expansion forward. Members will be a part of this process and an informational session will be planned.
 - ii. Q. It is hard to find out who's in charge of various ministries/teams to get in contact when necessary. Could this information (perhaps names and emails, not necessarily phone numbers) be published on the church website?
 - 1. A. Contact info and responsibility areas are usually printed in bulletin inserts the first

few Sundays of the year. Will consider publishing on church website.

- iii. Q. Choir conductor seems to switch often. What can the church do to make this person more permanent to provide long-term leadership?
 - 1. A. We've been trying hard to find choir director/conductor, not easy. We are not ignoring the position, and need to find someone both willing and qualified.
- iv. Q. Ask that the building expansion add large room to store/archive history of the church.
 - 1. A. Possibly archive things electronically instead of using a physical space.
- v. Q. Is there a plan to make all of the 50th anniversary yearbook articles (electronic version) and The Pulse magazines bilingual (Chinese and English translations) for those who cannot read Chinese or English?
 - 1. A. Very good question. For the sake of unity, we should have English translation. However, lack of manpower and short timeline were issues for the yearbook, but not an excuse. The translation effort will continue and the results will be posted on the church website.
- n. Elder KC adjourned the meeting at 1:09 pm.

C. Addendum

- a. **In a congregational vote on the same day, the motion to approve the following five deacon candidates to serve a two-year term starting in 2020 and the following two elder candidates to serve a three-year term starting in 2020 was passed.**
 - i. **Deacons:**
 - 1. **Charlene Tsang**
 - 2. **Yanhua Yan**
 - 3. **Kueiyu Joshua Lin**
 - 4. **Ye Tang**
 - 5. **Ligong Xu**
 - ii. **Elders:**
 - 1. **Ruike Wang**
 - 2. **Jian Zhang**