
SOUTH CHINA COMMUNITY CHURCH



Rev. Paul Harwath, Pastor

August 2014

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

This has been a great summer for South China Community Church. Our Church Growth Committee has done a great job - attendance numbers are growing. The quality and quantity of the events have been fantastic! We have many people working hard, so let's give them some encouragement when we see them. If you feel called to help out with different events, don't feel that you need an invitation. You are wanted!!

If you are interested in music, we could use more people to help out on the first Sunday of the month with the contemporary worship service. We are trying to use newer Christian music; please let me know if you would like to help. Pastor Jim is leading a group that is learning the music from the musical "Godspell." If you like to sing, please come join us. - *God's blessing and love, Pastor Paul*



CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

President's Report:

Half of the year has gone by and so many wonderful things have happened to the church and its wonderful congregation. I continue to thank God for all of His continued blessings upon us and His church! The members of this church are outstanding! When a need arises, there are always those that use their talents, whatever they may be, to help out. We are truly a "Family of God" here at the South China Community Church!

I feel some of the greatest blessings have been the new faces in our church. Some may be just for the summer, but just the same, it is wonderful! Having the four baptisms in the past few weeks have made our services that much more of a blessing. It is great to see

people committing their lives to Jesus, to want to follow in His ways.

We have had some new ideas generated by the Growth Committee that I feel are worth mentioning. First, the "Name-Tag Sunday" went over well. It definitely does help us put names to faces. If you are anything like me, I need reminders, and sometimes I feel too embarrassed to ask.

The Summer BBQ went well; there were some new faces there. We had our first "Family Game Night" on August 20 from 6PM -8PM, with a Foosball table, Apples to Apples, Monopoly, and some games for younger children.

Communications and Outreach has been really busy this summer with advertising our events, organizing a table at "China Days," setting up and running the Rummage Sale, Cookie Walk, and Chicken BBQ (and so many more people helped with this), as well as the continued Turkey Pie Suppers. I am grateful that God has put that job in someone else's hands because there is no way I could do it.



There are so many things that have happened or are in the process of happening that I can't mention them all. Thank you to everyone who has helped with the events and the building of the church. Keep your eyes, ears, and heart open to upcoming events and new ideas. With God's will, the church and the people within it will continue to grow and prosper. - *In Christian Love, Paula Kimball-Vigue, President*

Missions & Benevolence:

At the end of the half year, we had expended \$713.11 for family food and \$47.33 for flowers, so we are currently within our budgeted funds to assist the two families with monthly food. As always, these purchases are supplemented by the donations from our

Church Family, and the committee members thank those who support this mission. We especially thank those who gave so generously for the birthday gifts for our third family. Also, thanks to Rosie and Angela for the grocery shopping and coordinating the pick-up of food by the families.

Thanks to Marge Kurtzman for organizing the school supplies and forwarding the Benevolence Fund cash gifts for the children's return-to-school clothes.



Good news! One of the families we help told Rosie that they feel they can handle expenses on their own, but have been told to let us know if their situation should change in the future. We will ask if Family #3, who has only been on the list for birthday and Christmas gifts, needs monthly food assistance. If not, we will contact the school for another needy family to help.

Please be aware of the "Any Soldier" donation can that Joan Ferrone has in Memorial Hall. We do owe our support to those who have given so much for us.

The Benevolence Committee thanks those who so generously responded to our request for donations to offset the unexpected expense for the special project "Bunk Bed/Mattress Fund." Our goal was met with "a bit to spare"! Again, you demonstrated the warmth and caring that is such an important part of our Christian Church Family. Thanks for your sharing & caring and "God Bless." - *Glenna Jordan, Deacon/Benevolence Chair*

Buildings & Grounds:

The old hot air furnace and 330-gallon fuel tank have been removed and are now ready to go to the recycling area. We have signed a contract with O'Brien Oil & Propane for this upcoming heating season: 2,000 gallons of propane @\$2.199/gal on an 11-month payment plan (\$399.82/month).

The handicap ramp and steps at the west end of Memorial Hall have a fresh new coat of paint; a 2nd coat is needed).

We will be taking out the 6% from the Meader Family Fund to spray foam the space under the sanctuary and build new storage shelves.

I recently read the Five Cardinal Rules for Life:
1) Make peace with your past so it won't disturb your present
2) What other people think of you is none of your business
3) Time heals almost everything; give it time
4) No one is in charge of your happiness except you
5) Don't compare your life to others and don't judge them; you have no idea what their journey is all about

And I would like to add one of my own:

6) Forget yesterday; remember its lessons

May peace be with you - *Sheldon Goodine, Chair*

Christian Education:

Currently there are no children for Sunday school, but I am hopeful. Marge Kurtzman and I have been cleaning up, tossing out and organizing the Sunday school rooms, so all will be ready if and when the time comes. May God bless us with new families with children. - *Joan Ferrone, Chair of Christian Education*

WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP



Women's Study Group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 11AM at each other's homes. Interested? Call Joan at 445-3118. Our

goal as women is to become more like God expects us to be through studying his word and reflecting His love by our actions. - *God Bless, Joan Ferrone.*

Communications & Outreach:

This summer has been busy with a number of fundraisers and attempts at attracting new parishioners/members.

In July, we had our first annual summer-folks cook out, open to the public as well as to our congregation. We had a great turnout, with ~10 people attending from the community.

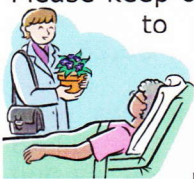
The food was wonderful—thank you, Chris Faris! We also had our talent show and ice cream social, also open to the public, and that was a blast! Thank you, Joan Ferrone, for the grand finale fashion show - it was a lot of fun!



In August, we set up a booth at China Community Days to let people know we are here for them. We also had our big annual yard sale, chicken barbecue and cookie walk, all a great success! We need these fundraisers to maintain the church's budget, so thank you to everyone who helped, donated, worked, and bought items! It always is a true combined effort. We brought in ~\$1200 on the rummage sale/cookie walk, and ~\$600 on the chicken barbecue. Thank you to Glenna and Theresa for organizing the cookie walk. People love it! Thank you to Sheldon, Ron Wallis and others for organizing the barbecue.

We've had many new people visiting our church this summer, even if they are just "passing through." Please make these people feel welcome; they often leave before we can introduce ourselves, but I hope they feel Christ's love through all of you.

Please keep our loved ones who are ill, unable to attend, and hurting in your prayers. Visit or send them a card when you can. I know it means a lot to them and sometimes in our busy daily lives (I'm consumed with it, too) we don't do all the things we should. We do love them as our church family and lift them up to the Healer.



Other events coming up this fall are a Harvest Dinner (open to the public) and our 3rd annual Dessert Auction in early November. Be thinking of desserts that can freeze well (for the holidays), although anything is more than welcome!

We are continuing with the Contemporary Worship Service held at 5PM the 1st Sunday of the month. We haven't had a big turnout, but hope more from the community will attend.

It's nice to learn some new modern songs. Pray that this will attract new younger people. With everything we are trying to do to gain new members and grow as a church, the Lord really spoke to my heart about "Spirit, not stuff." So I feel our first priority is to ask, "What are God's plans for our church???" Interesting question.....

Growth Committee: By the time you receive this newsletter, we will already have had our first "Game Night." We're trying this, probably once a month, to bring families and especially younger people into our church and enjoy some family (clean fun) time. It is open to the public, for all ages; games are provided or you can bring your own. We'll see how this goes! Sounds like fun and fellowship to me -always a good combo! With food, it's even better! The Growth Committee has several other great ideas, so keep watch for them! - *In Christ's love, Diane Rawson, Elder*



Worship Committee: First of all, the Worship Committee is still working on trying to coordinate music with the weekly message. We meet every Wednesday, currently at 4:30 PM. Anyone who wants to come to a meeting is more than welcome. Comments and suggestions are always appreciated. If there is a song that you would like as a hymn, please fill out a comment card or speak to me about it.

The contemporary service on the first Sunday evening of each month is still being held. I have to admit that I have not attended them recently because of other commitments, but it is always a good time... relaxed and full of joyous music. If you are able to come, please do, and bring a friend! We have a lot of fun praising the Lord with song! We also practice for the contemporary service following the Wednesday worship meeting, although during the summer this has not happened quite as much. We do plan on starting practice again very soon. For those of you who would like to join us, and can play an instrument or sing, please come! Thank you to Diane, who has kept things going over the summer.

I have asked for volunteers for the Offertory Scripture Readings and the Children's Message for 2015. It would be nice to have more



people come forward, especially for the Children's Message. If you have a way with speaking to children of all ages, please come and see me.

I am sure those currently on the list would love to have others join in. I will be creating a "draft" schedule by the end of September for people to look at.

The sanctuary is beautiful! Thank you to all who have dedicated their time and talents on the walls... tearing things out, putting up new, and painting. You have done an amazing job!

Some items to be considered for the future are a new camera for recording our services (the one we have is getting really tired and tends to put snow on the recordings), new numbers to post our hymns, and one or two new banners (to be either purchased or made) to go in the sanctuary. Donations towards these projects can be made and put into the offering plate. Just mention Worship, "camera," or "banners" so that Ron knows where to put the donation.

Many positive comments have been coming in from visitors and members about Pastor Paul's "positive and upbeat personality" and how he delivers the message in a way that is relative to what is happening and in terms that can be understood. I want to thank God that he had Pastor Paul apply for the position, and that our Search Committee was led to choose him for the job. He has been a great addition to our SCCC family in more ways than one!



Once again, I have continued to seek help from many people this year, and am very appreciative for all the help and support given by the members of the committees and the congregation. I would not be able to do my job without it and the support from our Lord above. Thank you! Speaking of which, I have done this for almost three years, which means

my term is almost over and this position becomes open. If you love bringing music to the message and have ideas for making this church's service even better, please come forward. I would love to show you what is required to be the Worship Chair and have someone assume the position.

In closing, I wish to acknowledge our God's hands in every aspect of Worship. I thank Him for blessing me with such a wonderful church family and for blessing all of our efforts as we continue to build His church. Thanks to everyone who has been using their gifts and talents to praise God each and every day and for a wonderful 2014 year so far. I am looking forward to all of the ways God plans on using our talents in the future. - *In Christian Love, Paula Kimball-Vigue, Elder of Worship*



Finance & Stewardship:

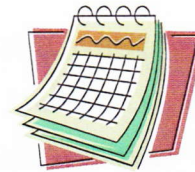
South China Community Church began 2014 with a budget of \$63,035. At the end of the July, account balances were:

Checking Account:	\$6644.57
Savings Account	3857.44
Memorial Fund:	53,415.90
Faith Ames Music Fund:	2103.42
Meader Family Fund:	36,289.69

As of July 31, 2014, our total inflows were \$43,265.78; total outflows were \$41,703.15 (remember that the inflows include \$8,000 from the Memorial Fund that we borrowed to balance the budget). Projected year-to-date revenue/expenses are \$36,770.42. Overall, our expenses are about 66% of our budget – a bit high; we should be around 58%. The Rummage Sale and Chicken BBQ this month netted ~\$1,800.

We are ~\$1,000 ahead with our pledge income and loose offerings are right on target, thanks to you! The Church Council would like to thank you for your faithful weekly contributions. We appreciate your generous support! If you would like to find out how you are doing with your personal pledge, please

see Ron Emery for details. Thank you for entrusting me with this important responsibility. - *Respectfully, Janet Preston*



ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:

How do you catch a unique rabbit?
Unique up on it

How do you catch a tame rabbit?
Tame way, unique up on it

How do you get Holy Water?
You boil the Hell out of it

What do you call a boomerang that doesn't work?
A stick

What do you call Santa's Helpers?
Subordinate Clauses

What do you call four bullfighters in quicksand?
Quattro sinko

What do you get from a pampered cow?
Spoiled milk

What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?
Frostbite

What lies at the bottom of the ocean & twitches?
A nervous wreck

What kind of coffee was served on The Titanic?
Sanka

Why did Pilgrims' pants always fall down?
Because they wore their belt buckle on their hats

- ✦ COMMUNION: SEPT 7 - OCT 5 - NOV 2
- ✦ CONTEMPORARY SERVICE @5PM

- ✦ MEN'S STUDY GROUP - 6:30PM, 2ND & 4TH
TUESDAYS: SEPT 9 & 23 - OCT 14 & 28 - NOV 11 & 25

- ✦ WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP A - 11AM, 2ND & 4TH
WEDNESDAYS: SEPT 10 & 24 - OCT 8 & 22 - NOV 12

- ✦ WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP B - 6PM, EVERY OTHER SUNDAY: AUGUST 31 - SEP 14 & 28 - OCT 12 & 26 - NOV 9 & 23

- ✦ CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS, 6PM, 2ND WEDNESDAY: SEPT 10 - OCT 8 - NOV 12

- ✦ KOINONIA (FAMILY NIGHT), 6:00PM
3RD WEDNESDAY: SEPT 17 - OCT 15 - NOV 19

- ✦ AUGUST 23, 5- 6:30PM: TURKEY PIE SUPPER

- ✦ AUGUST 24: GROWTH COMMITTEE MEETING AFTER CHURCH SERVICES

- ✦ AUGUST 31 (5TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH): PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND DONATIONS

- ✦ SEPT 7: COMMUNION + SERVICE TIME CHANGES TO 10:30AM FOR FALL/WINTER

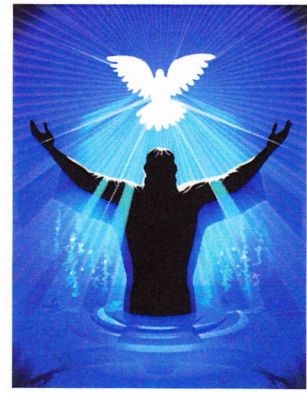
- ✦ SEPT 7: MEMORIAL HALL RESERVED BY DARLENE ZIMMERMAN, 2-4PM

- ✦ SEPT 27, 5-6:30PM : TURKEY PIE SUPPER

- ✦ DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER: NOV 16

*“What we have seen and heard
we proclaim to you also, so that
you, too, may have fellowship
with us; and indeed our
fellowship is with the Father,
and with His Son Jesus Christ.”*

- 1 John 1:3



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