
SOUTH CHINA COMMUNITY CHURCH



Rev. Paul Harwath, Pastor

February 2015

PASTOR'S MESSAGE



I have been giving the matter of the time change for worship services much thought and prayer. I do believe I have come to the conclusion that it would not be proper to choose any other time except that which was voted on and passed twice by the congregation. I also believe that it is important that we give this option a good try. If this opportunity does not work as the congregation hopes, I believe you are all wise enough to make appropriate changes. This change will bring opportunities and I know we can make the best of them. - *With Much Love & In Christ, Pastor Paul*



CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

President's Report:

I have agreed to accept the position of President until my Council term ends in December 2015. Thank you for your confidence in me; I will need your help throughout the year for sure!

I've thought about all our recent efforts to "grow" our church. Some have worked, some have not, but overall I do see growth occurring, not only in numbers, but in spiritual matters. The spiritual growth is what we need to focus on and the rest will come. We need to tell new people we meet, new or old friends, relatives - everyone we know - to "come and see." Invite people to "come and see" what the love of God through our Savior Jesus Christ is all about. May our church be a haven of acceptance "just as you are" and as the Holy Spirit moves, changes within each heart

can take place. May we all work together to increase the Kingdom of Heaven and bring new people into this wonderful Kingdom.

We are truly blessed to have a minister who strives to make the Word real to us and who is a "reality" person, making Scripture understandable and vibrant. We are also blessed to have Chris with his many talents of putting faith to music as he leads us in the musical part of our worship. May God continue to work through these two leaders. During this upcoming season of Lent, may we reflect on what Jesus gave up for us and reflect on what we may be willing to give to help others grow or be blessed. - *In Christ's service, Diane Webber-Rawson, Elder*

Missions & Benevolence:

If you have read the January 25, 2015 Annual Report and my 2014 Missions & Benevolence happenings, there isn't much I can add. It was heartwarming and a reflection of your willingness to serve others that was obvious as we reviewed the year and witnessed your response to the various missions that we presented to you during the year.

As you have read in the bulletin, the Benevolence Fund is currently assisting two families (3 adults & 6 children) with monthly food and other perishables. Since our budget for 2015 has been reduced, we



need your continued support with the donation of non-perishable foods, juice, paper/plastic products or personal supplies. We also appreciate your response to birthday gifts and I'm sure the January "Birthday Boy" was pleased with his gifts. No more birthdays on the list until later in the year.

Since the first of the year, I have delivered 4 bags of good used clothing to the Homeless

Shelter and Rosie tells me there is always a need for personal supplies for the children & adults, as well as art supplies for the children: sketch pads or construction paper, paints, a variety of sizes of paint brushes.



As always, please be aware of the Special Projects such as the "Adopt a Platoon" donation can that Joan Ferrone has in Memorial Hall. We do owe our support to those who have given so much for us and this is an easy way to help. Also, those who knit the beautiful prayer shawls for cancer patients - keep up the good work.

Again, the Benevolence Committee thanks those who so generously respond to our request for donations to our various missions. Thanks for your sharing & caring and "God Bless." – *Glenna Jordan, Deacon/Benevolence Chair*

Buildings & Grounds:

The work in the old hot air furnace area is now complete. Adequate shelving has been built and totes purchased that will last for a long time. We still have some electrical work that needs to be done.

My last report stated that 2014 would be my last year, but as no one has come forward to take over this important position, I have consented to finish the last year of my three year-term: a total of 12 years in this position. Hopefully, we can find someone to take over this important responsibility.

This year's budget for property maintenance is \$2000. It looks like most of this budget will be used up for snow removal. We are very limited on projects this year, but will strive to keep the building and grounds neat and clean inside and outside. - *Keep God's truth in your head and his love in your heart, Sheldon Goodine, Chair*



Christian Education:

The year began with a new member in the Sunday school class. Welcome Dilan! Although attendance is sporadic, averaging five each week, we occasionally have a full class of eight. The children also bring friends, to our delight. Any time a child chooses to learn about the word of God makes me happy and makes this all worthwhile. Most of all, it pleases God.

We are reading about the life of Joseph and next week will show a DVD, *Joseph & His Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

As much as we enjoy and feel privileged to teach, I am asking for teachers to help out next fall. If our class continues to grow in number, we will need to separate into age appropriate groups. My thanks to Maggie Wallis (Aunt Maggie) who works with the youngest child, and Pastor Jim, the Bible story teacher. - *God Bless, Joan Ferrone, Christian Education Chair*

Communications & Outreach:

My goals for this year are to continue clear communications via the website, newsletters, e-mails, and the use of the flock list (prayer list). Local advertising will be cut back a little due to budget constraints, but all church programs, special events and fundraisers will be advertised. Florida churches are having the same problems we are with low attendance of children/teens with most congregations comprised of the elderly. That's fine for now, but we want to pass on the torch of faith to a new generation! If anyone has ideas to draw them in, let us know! Deacon Bernie Welch is the co-chair for this committee until I return in April (thank you, Bernie!).



In the spring, we will re-focus on creating the updated directory with photos, so be sure we have your correct contact information.

Thank you for letting me serve in this position. My term ends December 2015 - if anyone is interested in this position, please speak to me when I return and we can discuss what the

responsibilities are. Praise to God who is forever with us and works in us as we "run to him with willing feet" (that's from one of my songs)! - *In Jesus' love, Diane Webber-Rawson, Elder*

Worship Committee:

I did not expect to be writing this article for the newsletter. I did not expect to be the Worship Committee chairperson. But when Pastor Paul suggested I think about serving on the Worship Committee, I knew that I needed to accept the opportunity and do my best to continue its work. Thank you for your positive vote on my candidacy at the Annual Meeting and your patience during the transition. I hope you will always be comfortable bringing any suggestions or concerns about our worship service to me – and of course positive feedback is always most welcome too!



This week, for the first time, I attended the meeting of the Worship Committee.

This group meets each week to choose hymns for the service and discuss any other issues related to our worship service. It was a learning experience for me to see how the plan for the service comes together, how each person contributes his/her ideas and skills to create a meaningful worship experience. Seeing the process in progress really brought home to me the fact that our services and worship opportunities do not just happen, but are the work of many.

In business news, I will purchase the new DVDs and sleeves as soon as the snow stops long enough for me to go into town. Fortunately, we have enough DVDs to last for a number of weeks. No further news on the new camera yet.

Many thanks go to all those helping me in my transition, especially Sheldon and Paula, who are very patient and very generous with their time. And many, many thanks to the Lord for always holding my hand and for walking with me as I learn this new role! - *In Christian Love, Cheryl Baker*

Readers Wanted!



Interested in reading some good Christian books and joining an informal discussion about them? Our group usually meets on Sunday evenings, but our numbers are dwindling of late and we're considering alternatives. Our most current book has been David Jeremiah's "What in the World is Going On?" If you have any ideas and/or want to be part of a fun group, please see Emily Schroeder (or e-mail buffywg@yahoo.com or call at 445-3571). Thanks!

Finance & Stewardship:

As Deacon of Finance, I continue to learn and adjust as to how we do things. We have adopted a modest budget for this year. Thank you for your interest, questions, and support at the Annual Meeting. Our biggest expenses so far this year are sanding and SNOW PLOWING! There is not much we can do about that.

I want to thank you all once again for your very generous pledges. Based on your pledges, we are anticipating a significant increase in income in that area. While it might come with a decrease in loose offerings, it is helpful to know and be able to plan ahead. If you ordered envelopes for your pledge offerings, you should have found an "Initial Offering" envelope at the front of the box. This initial offering is separate from the amount you pledged and is a contribution to help cover the cost of purchasing the envelopes. The cost to us amounts to about \$2 per box.

The Council voted to purchase a computer for Paul. We allocated \$250 for the purpose and received a very generous donation of another \$200 toward the cost. So he now has a laptop to use in his work!



We have closed the savings account and moved the funds from it into the Memorial Account to pay back part (\$3,858.57) of the

\$8000 we borrowed last year to balance the budget. Our balances as of Jan 31 are:

Checking Account	\$ 4202.92
Memorial Funds	58,892.59
Meador Fund	34,134.37
Faith Ames Fund	2,118.95
Total	\$ 99,348.83

Thank you for all your loving support of our wonderful church! - *Respectfully, Janet Preston, Finance Chair*



P----pray
U----until
S----something
H ----happens

And on the lighter side:

I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.

When chemists die, they barium.

Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.

I know a guy who's addicted to brake fluid. He says he can stop any time.



How does Moses make his tea? Hebrews it.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Then it dawned on me.

This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.

I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.

They told me I had type-A blood, but it was a Type-O.

Why were the Indians here first? They had reservations.

We're going on a class trip to the Coca-Cola factory. I hope there's no pop quiz.



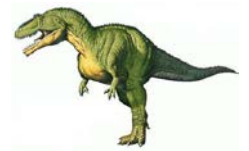
I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.

Did you hear about the cross-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?

Broken pencils are pointless.

I tried to catch some fog, but I mist.

What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus.



England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.

I used to be a banker, but then I lost interest.

I got a job at a bakery because I kneaded dough.

Haunted French pancakes give me the crêpes.

Velcro — what a rip off!



A cartoonist was found dead in his home. Details are sketchy.

Venison for dinner again? Oh deer!





Easter Bible Verses: Living Easter Lessons

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life (NIV)

John 11:25-26

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this, Martha?" (NLT)

1 Peter 1:3

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation (NLT)

1 Corinthians 15:17

And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! (NJKV)

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. (NKJV)

1 Corinthians 15:42-44

So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. (NIV)

Web site:

<http://christianteens.about.com/od/christianholidays/a/Bible-Verses-For-Easter.htm>

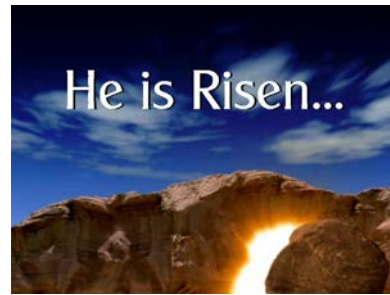
- † COMMUNION: MARCH 1 - APRIL 5 - MAY 3
- † MEN'S STUDY GROUP - 6:30PM, 2ND & 4TH
TUESDAYS: MARCH 10 & 24 - APRIL 14 & 28 -
MAY 12 & 26
- † WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP A - 11AM, 2ND & 4TH
WEDNESDAYS: MARCH 11 & 25 - APRIL 8 & 22
- MAY 13 & 27
- † WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP B - 6PM, EVERY OTHER
SUNDAY: MARCH 1, 15 & 29 - APRIL 12 & 26 -
MAY 10 & 24
- † CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS, 6:30PM, 2ND
WEDNESDAY: MARCH 11 - APRIL 8 - MAY 13
- † KOINONIA (FAMILY NIGHT), 6:00PM
3RD WEDNESDAY: MARCH 18 - APRIL 15 - MAY
20
- † MARCH 29: PALM SUNDAY
- † APRIL 5: EASTER SUNDAY
- † MARCH 29 & MAY 31 (5TH SUNDAY OF THE
MONTH): PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND
DONATIONS
- † **DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER: MAY 17,
2015**



March 8, 2015 = Daylight Savings Time! Don't forget to "Spring Forward"

“And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.”

- Luke 24:2-3



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