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PULSE

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Happy 25th Anniversary CampToons!

By Ben Law (Furball), Camp Toons Director



CampToons is our 6 weeks summer day camp program for those entering 1st to 8th. It has not always been for 6 weeks. It all started in 1993 by Pastor Jerry Wong (Gonzo) and Cynthia (Ping) Woo (Elmo) as an outreach to the neighborhood children instead of our usual 1 week summer VBS program. Our first year was our trial year to see how it would go. It was for 4 weeks, about 15 staff and about 50 children attended from 1st to 5th grade. As you can tell, it went well and we decided to do 7 weeks the following year. We also added the 6th grade group, our staff increased to 30, and enrollment averaged about 90 per week. We discovered that 7 weeks was too much for our staff and tried 6 weeks the 3rd year and discovered that was just right for our staff. Each year our numbers in campers and staff have increased. We now average 70 staff and over 200 campers each year. The first year was the only year that we passed out flyers around the neighborhood promoting CampToons. After that it was all through word of mouth from parents telling ▶





other parents and campers telling their friends.

Our staff consists of graduating 8th graders, high school students, college students, and post-college people. Many serve for years and some continue to help out after they stop serving (from driving, leading worship, subbing, and providing extra support for big activities.)

Our staff have camp names. The campers don't know our real name and they try to guess our real name throughout camp. We don't have academics as we want them to have fun by taking them out on activities off-site or doing activities on-site. We want the campers to be in a Gospel centered environment as for many this is the first time or only time they are exposed to the church. The rapport the counselors build with the children are genuine and the children see it which makes them want to return. Through this rapport we want to help them understand the Gospel more and to see it through our interaction with them. Our focus has changed over the years. Our priority first started as evangelizing to the children that attended and as our staff grew, the priorities changed. We are now focused on discipling our staff and helping them grow spiritually as they serve and our 2nd focus is evangelizing to the children and families. Last summer the summer Parenting series was started as a way to connect with the parents.

Over these years, families have been introduced to the church, over 300 children have been saved, campers have become go-phers, counselors and even directors, and we have had 3 extension sites (Visitation Valley, Oceanview, and Millbrae.) Only the Millbrae extension continues.

CampToons was never expected to go this long when it first started. We knew it would end sometime but God had other plans for this program. We serve each year as if it's our last year as we never know if this may be the last year. ■



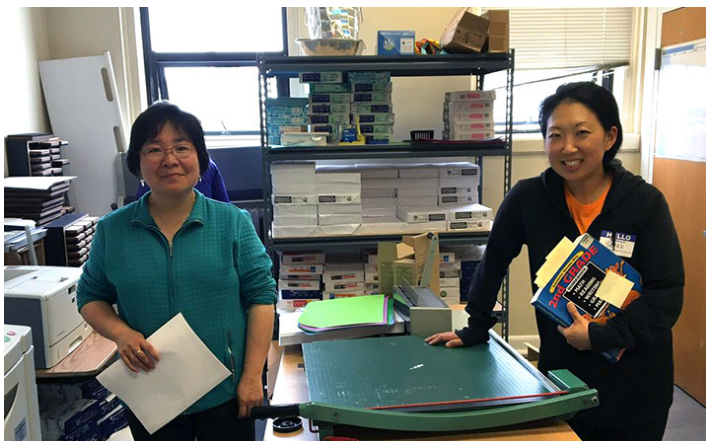
Serving Lawton Elementary School 2017

By Theo Low, Photos by Julie Tom and Richard Lee

Sunset Church's vision is to glorify God by making gospel-transformed disciples of all people, in our city and in the world. We reach out to our city through ministries like the Lawton School Project. Over the past few years we have been building our relationship with Lawton School by helping teachers and administrator prepare for the first day of school.

This year we had another great turn out with over fifty volunteers serving at Lawton School. This project allows for good conversations to happen throughout the day. One teacher expressed her gratitude for our help every year comparing it to cooking. She said, "You guys have changed the first day of school for us. It's like chopping vegetables. You've helped us do the chopping and now we're ready to do the cooking."

Let's pray for Lawton School: teachers, staff, and kids as they start their educational cooking this year. Pray for The Good News Club that will be starting up soon at Lawton School - that kids would hear the gospel and be saved. ■

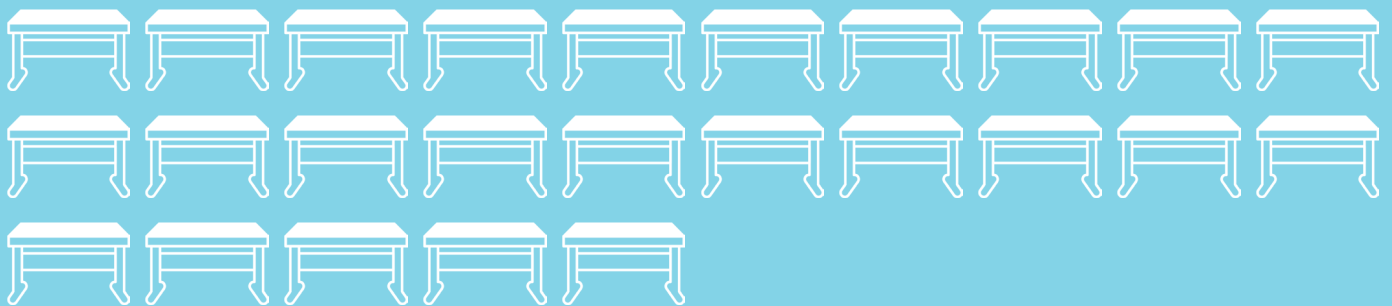


Serving Lawton By the Numbers

~50 people served from Sunset Church.



With the 50 people, ~25 classrooms were helped.



With your offering, we were able to donate \$1,200.00 to help teachers buy school supplies for the new year.



Sharing the Feast at Sunset's Cantonese Picnic

By Elgin Quan, Photos by Elgin and Wai Lam, Chinese translation by Marco Lo

Mix 260 adults young and old, 50 watermelons, 20 lbs. hotdogs, 20 lbs. hamburgers, several dozen roast chicken, homemade Korean style salad lavished into a large picnic area converging on Lake Elizabeth, Central Park, Fremont. Add 2 buses, driving south along I-280 for one hour, and you have a recipe for Joy, fun and fellowship.

"For I rejoiced greatly when the brothers came." 3 Jn 1:3-4
Joy is the serious business of heaven.

"When you give a feast, invite the poor, crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed" Luke 14:12-14. Invite the mandarin speaking, Cantonese speaking, English speaking. For the kingdom will consist of a great multitude from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages. Rev. 7:9

Salvation is a homecoming. Share the feast with the multitudes, with no strings attached. There is plenty of room in the Father's house. For where there is God, there, we are at home.

總共260名成人、長者及小孩，50個西瓜，20包熱狗腸，20包漢堡排，數十隻烤雞，自製的風格沙拉擺放在伊麗莎白湖，中央公園，弗里蒙特的大型野餐區。添加上2輛旅遊巴，沿著 I-280公路向南行駛一小時，合成一個開心，歡樂和團契的郊遊。

"有弟兄來證明你心裡存的真理，正如你按真理而行，我就甚喜樂。" 約翰 3 書1:3-4 喜悅是天上的重要事業。

*"你擺設筵席，倒要請那貧窮的、殘廢的、癱腿的、瞎眼的，你就有福了！" 路加福音14:12-14。*邀請普通話，粵語，英語。*"是從各國、各族、各民、各方來的，站在寶座和羔羊面前"* 啟7:9

救恩是歸鄉。與眾人分享盛宴，沒有附加條件。父的家裡有很多空間。在那裡有神，那裡，我們在家裡。 ▶



中文部郊遊

By Pastor Simon Cheng 鄭識文牧師, Photos by Wai Lam 林偉雄攝影

這次的教會郊遊真是老幼齊集，樂也融融！我們一共有超過260位的弟兄姊妹和親友參加了這次郊遊，其中包括有大約30位的新朋友。雖然郊遊的地點離開三藩市有一些距離，但並沒有減低長者們參與的熱情。教會特別安排一輛旅遊巴士接載了大約40位長者。

感謝50多位的得力助手為我們做出妥當的安排及預備豐富的食物。得知我們有個別的弟兄送出西瓜、葡萄和餐具用品，多謝他們捐贈。特別感謝Tyrone 和 Jerry 兩位負責策劃的弟兄。從選擇場地、召集幫手、安排車輛接送、預定食物、整理相關的保險事項、到清理場地等等，Tyrone 和 Jerry 都親力親為。我們亦看到大家都一同投入，互相幫助，充分表現了溢樂教會的精神。

不單是教會內的弟兄姊妹度過了愉快的一天，有不少的非基督徒朋友也很享受這次的聚會，並很期待下一次郊遊。相信在場的人還記得，我們260多人一起為一位朋友慶祝她的生日。她感受到大家的熱情，並願意更多地參加教會的主日崇拜。 ■



Welcome Brunch

By Linda Wong, Photos by Lucy Gee



The Welcome Brunch in July was held on a sunny Sunday morning after the morning English service. A great turnout of newcomers and visitors to our church gathered in the patio to meet with pastors, elders, and members of several small groups while enjoying a delicious brunch. It was delightful to meet new families with young children, families with older children, college students returning to the Bay Area for the summer, and young and older adults. Our church is so blessed with multi-generational diversity. I even met three multilingual French-speaking Canadians who were visiting San Francisco for the summer. They weren't expecting such a foggy summer experience, but being a San Francisco native, I told them their problem can easily be solved by driving about 20 minutes north, south or east of the Sunset district.

Initially when my small group was asked if we would like to help host and prepare food for the Welcome Brunch, I was hesitant because I'm one of those who couldn't boil water when I got married. But thankfully Will and our sons have better culinary skills, so they and other small group members handled the cooking. A total of three small groups pitched in to help with the event, so setup, food preparation and service went smoothly. Thank you to everyone who participated! It was fun and rewarding to get to know other small group members better as we served side by side. And it was a joy to meet the newcomers and visitors, connecting with them, answering questions and sharing our experiences. We played games and had meaningful conversations. I am thankful our church provides such a warm and welcoming opportunity to those who are seeking to know Christ or looking for a home church to come and experience our church family. ■



City Impact Conference 2017

By Elaine Chin, Photos by Gary Gin

In July, my husband, Richard and I joined the Sunset Church group of 20 at the City Impact Conference. It was a beautiful day of worship, fellowship, and service for the residents of the Tenderloin neighborhood. The Tenderloin is located near City Hall and is considered one of the worst neighborhoods in the city with a high crime rate, homelessness, and drug activity. Our morning session started with an introduction about the Tenderloin neighborhood and a bit of the history of the City Impact Ministry. This was my 3rd time at the conference, but each time I hear a new piece of the amazing story of God's calling of Pastor Roger Huang to the Tenderloin and our Lord's miraculous provisions. Richard and I worked in the kitchen for meal preparations to give to the volunteers doing the door-to-door food delivery and sit-down meals. There were 45 outreaches to the residents that day including serving food, washing feet, hosting building parties, giving fresh haircuts, clothing and medical assessments and so much more. The residents were loved and prayed for. These all were opportunities for starting conversations about the Gospel of Jesus. We ended our day with a message from Pastor Ben Houston of Hillsong about including ourselves in the things of God. Worship was led by Matt Redman! It was a wonderful day!

I really love the opportunity to live out the Gospel by participating (what little I did) in Biblical justice and am encouraged when surrounded by so many other believers doing the same. In the past, the Tenderloin was not a neighborhood I would typically visit, and the residents, I probably would try to avoid eye contact. After serving with this ministry, I see that they are not to be avoided, but each person is truly loved by God and needs to know the love of Jesus too. My takeaway of the day was just a phrase from Christian Huang that went something like this: When we see something and are moved by it, but do no action- that is emotion. When we are moved and do something- that is compassion. ■



Over thirty Sunset Church volunteers participated in the 2017 City Impact Conference to worship and serve the Tenderloin residents.



Our Sunset Team enjoyed interacting and playing bingo with the Cantonese speaking seniors at one of the Tenderloin buildings.

The highlight of the CI Conference experience was seeing the number of people doing what God would do. I saw God at work by witnessing His people helping people with need. From this experience, I learned to look at others rather than focus on myself. – **Rich Chin**

I was amazed by the incredible energy that flowed and grew throughout the event starting with the morning message, to the service activities, all the way through the evening worship. I could feel God's presence.

Molinda has been serving in the Adopt-a-Building ministry for over a year. I had the chance to share in the ministry with her and see her connection with the residents. I found that language was not a barrier for me when I had a common goal with the residents I was helping – winning the bingo game. I was rewarded with a thumbs up when one of the residents I was helping won. – **Warren Hom**

This was my first time attending the City Impact Annual Conference, and I found myself deeply touched and inspired by the amazing ministry that has been built over the past 30 years in the Tenderloin. Throughout the various testimonies, messages, and worship sessions during the event, I witnessed how God can impact and transform many lives through just a handful of individuals. On a personal note, I have been truly blessed by serving in the AaB ministry for the past year. I have witnessed God's faithfulness, grace, and guidance through every step of the way, and I have experienced how important it is to have a willing heart to do His work. I am hopeful and confident that God will continue raising up more people to serve in this ministry. – **Molinda Hom**

The City Impact Conference was a wonderful opportunity to worship God and to serve others. Christian Huang gave us a sobering perspective to consider. We are surrounded by people in need. The response to that situation can be 1) Lord, do something! 2) a teary emotional response of helplessness or 3) it's inconvenient for me to get involved now (I have too much on my plate/I have too many other issues to deal with). A counter to those responses could be 1) the Lord says—You do it (with My strength and guidance), 2) a compassionate response moving me to action (an example is Christ pausing to feed the five thousand in spite of his own demanding schedule), or 3) instead of focusing on inconvenience, visualizing an opportunity to be a blessing to others as I seek to glorify God. The Conference gave much for us to reflect upon and City Impact provides many opportunities for us to serve. – **Gary Gin**

Let's Worship Together "By Bringing God Our Finest" – Article 3

Article Series by Melody Gawliu



Worship Together 2017 Conference panel with Cass Langton, Dean Ussher, Luke and Anna Hellenbronth.

When you gather two couches full of Worship Pastors, what do you think they'll talk about? Worship of course! But these Worship Pastors at the Worship Together 2017 Conference didn't simply talk about music and what are the best keys to choose for congregational singing or how to light the stage to give people the concert experience. There were three truths that really struck me from the Worship Pastor Panel: 1) Everyone leads worship 2) We want to bring our finest to God 3) Pastor the person, then pastor the gift. I believe these truths can crossover to every person in the congregation and not just those considered on the Worship Team.

Everyone leads worship. This is the idea that everyone has a role they play in terms of leading worship and that each role is just as important as the next. We commonly think of the "worship team" as being only the musicians/singers but the panel wanted to stress that everyone including the person who does the projector slides help to lead worship; without the lyrics on the screen, the congregation would likely not be able to sing along. We are equally carrying the yoke of worship. We should fulfill our roles with the mindset that we are to be one team with one vision and one heart – all seeking to worship God. It made me think of how we're ALL called to worship God; not just the team on stage but everyone in the congregation too. It's just as important for us to be present in the room as it is for the music team to be present. We need to be present, not just physically but mentally and spiritually also! Which brings me to the next point...



We want to bring our finest to God. What does your finest look like? For musicians, it can mean practicing! One of the ways I see "practicing" for worship is that we refine our craft so that when it comes time to join in congregational worship, we can worship God alongside each other rather than worrying about hitting the right note or other technical issues – the focus is on the worship not the music. For all of us, bringing our finest is figuring out how we can bring our best worship to God. How am I preparing for congregational worship? Sleeping early? Praying? Have I been continuing to work on my relationship with God so I can worship Him in spirit and truth? In order for us to worship in spirit and truth (John 4:23–24), we must know who we are worshipping and why.

Pastor the person, then pastor the gift. I believe this is one of the most important reminders that I came away with from the panel. It is of the utmost importance for us to keep our times of worship Christ-centered and so we must place the priority not on merely developing our gifts, but on our relationships with God – the Giver of these gifts. As a worship leader, I endeavored to know how my fellow team members were walking with God and how we can walk together since we were leading worship together. We would spend time in the word, sharing about our relationships with God, sharing what God was doing in other areas we were serving through.

My prayer for all of us is that we would endeavor to bring our finest to God; that we would worship in spirit and truth. I pray that we would strive to know the walks of those worshipping alongside us by talking and meeting together and pointing each other to the Cross. Amen. ■

Cambodia Short-Term Missions Trip Reflections



Praise God for an amazing Short-Term Missions trip in Cambodia! Our 11-day missions trip was a fruitful and life-changing experience for our 16-member team. We learned more about ourselves and our loving God as we worked together in unity to demonstrate God's love and compassion to the poor, hurt and lost in Phnom Penh.

We went to Cambodia with a mission to share God's love and hope but we didn't expect to be blessed abundantly as we received so much love and encouragement in return from everyone we had the privileged to meet there from the young children to the faithful missionaries.

Thank you to our Sunset Church family and our supporters who prayed and supported us financially to make this trip possible. Sharing the gospel and caring for the people in Cambodia allowed us to see the Holy Spirit at work in amazing ways that we don't often get to see here at home.

We came home with a full and grateful heart, a clearer perspective of God's mission and a renewed appreciation of being able to participate in God's plan to share the gospel to all nations.

Below are some of the highlights that our Cambodia team was privileged to experience:

- Experiencing the joy of working together as a body of Christ to serve the children and seeing how each person rose up to use their God-given talents to serve God in Cambodia.
- Being greeted respectfully and lovingly with a "Good morning teacher!" each morning by kids eager to see us; some kids would arrive at 6am even though the program started at 9am!
- Sharing the gospel to hundreds of children and adults through vacation bible school, village walks, and other interactions.
- Witnessing the Holy Spirit at work to open hundreds of hearts to receive Jesus; the harvest is ripe in Cambodia, but who will go to reap what has been sown by those who have gone before us?
- Sharing practical parenting tips with local parents and reminding them that grace and love is from God and that's how our homes should be.
- Teaching English phrases to eager-to-learn elementary students and teaching computer skills to teachers and school staff. ►



- Encouraging the missionaries who are already overseas to continue faithfully in the work that God has put before them by listening to their stories of God's providence, sovereignty, and by praying with and for them.
- Encouraging the local pastors to continue making disciples in their communities.
- Praying with families in local villages such as a village built on what is known as "the garbage river."
- Bringing a smile to a young lady in the Pleroma Home (who is recovering from sex trafficking) and seeing the delight in her eyes after making a bag out of a t-shirt.



- Seeing the delight in the teachers' eyes as they savor fresh ripe durian! They love durian over there! When we asked the kids, "who loves durian?", almost all 100+ students raised their hands!
- Seeing the proud smiles on the children wearing their new "Jesus loves you" T-shirts; many wear torn, tattered, and oversized clothes.
- Witnessing a surprised joyful look from a barefooted child when he received a new pair of shoes that we bought to show how God provides for us so we can provide for others.
- Seeing a mother's eyes light up in pride and happiness when her daughter showed the frame she decorated and her picture inside as a reminder that Jesus loves her.
- Being inspired by the faithful missionaries who left their homes and families to serve the people of Cambodia.
- Getting the opportunity to meet with IJM Cambodia staff to learn about their mission to fight for justice on behalf of the poor and defenseless.
- Gaining a bigger vision of God's mission and growing a heart like Jesus full of compassion for the poor and lost across the world.



以下是我們今年柬埔寨短宣隊有機會體驗到的一些重點：

- 短宣隊員體驗肢體一起團隊合作的快樂，為孩子們服務，看到每個隊員如何起來，發揮上帝賦予的恩賜在柬埔寨服務上帝。
- 孩童恭敬的用“早安老師”這首歌來歡迎我們！每天早上，孩子們都渴望看到我們；儘管每日活動從上午九點開始，有些孩子早上六點半就到達學校！ ▶

- 通過暑假聖經學校，探訪附近鄉村民居，和其他接觸的機會，向數百名兒童和成人分享福音。
- 舉辦家長班，與當地父母們分享實用的教育子女技巧，並提醒他們，恩典和愛是來自神的，我們的家都應該相親相愛，學習寬恕和接納，正如神的愛寬恕接納我們罪人一樣。
- 向好學的小學生教授英語短句，並向教師和學校工作人員傳授電腦技能。
- 聆聽幾位當地宣教士的分享到他們如何領受神的旨意，主權。並與他們禱告，鼓勵他們繼續忠心完成神給予他們的使命。鼓勵當地童工繼續在社區建立門徒。
- 為當地村莊里的家庭禱告及祝福他們，雖然他們生活在“垃圾河”之上。
- 為女兒之家Pleroma Home (從性販賣中被救出的受害者) 的女孩帶來微笑，當我們將一些小T恤成小肩袋時，看到她們眼中充滿快樂。
- 看到老師眼中的喜悅，因為他們品嚐新鮮的榴蓮！那裡的人都愛吃榴蓮！當我們問孩子們，“誰喜歡吃榴蓮？”，幾乎所有100名學生都舉手！
- 許多人普遍穿著破舊和不襯身的衣服。當換上我們所帶來新的“耶穌愛你”的T恤後，可以看到他們充滿著感恩的笑容。
- 當一個赤腳的孩子收到一雙我們新買給他的鞋子，從他臉上看到一個驚喜的表情，神如何賜福給我們，我們也可以轉送給別人。
- 當母親看到她女兒將她裝飾好的相框和她的照片時，她的眼睛流露出自豪和歡樂，提醒耶穌愛她。
- 受到幾位離開家園和家屬，為柬埔寨人民服務的忠實傳教士的啟發。
- 有機會與柬埔寨“正義使命團 IJM”工作人員會晤，了解他們代表窮人和手無寸鐵的弱勢群體爭取正義的使命。
- 看到聖靈的工作，打開 百多個人的心來接受耶穌；柬埔寨的莊稼已經熟了，但是誰去收割那些在我們前面已經散了種子而要收的莊稼呢？



The younger children love to be held and play with our team.

"I am thankful to have this opportunity to join Cambodia STM. It was a blessing to have close contacts with the Pleroma school kids and the Village kids. It was a joy to see how happy and willing they wanted to learn and receive Christ.

On a different note, it was heart wrenching to see the Pleroma Home Girls who had been abused physically and emotionally. They were once hurt but now they are saved. I am amazed to see how God worked through us to bring about His love and grace to the people we encountered in Cambodia. I am also inspired by the devotion and dedication of each and every team member in our group. May God bless them." – Karen Mach ▶

It's a blessing to be a blessing, because as a blessing, one also gets blessed. This is what I have come to learn. It may not be materials, it may not be "things" one gets blessed with. But one does get blessed with life, and more life. Maybe that's what Jesus meant when He said that through Him we would have life, and life abundant (Jn 10:10). When we become a part of the fulfillment of the great commission, we get to participate in what God is doing, and send opposition to what Satan is doing. Because we know that the enemy's purpose is to steal, kill, and destroy, but Jesus came that we may have life, and life to the full (Jn 10:10). With that being said, I think God poured me out, and filled me up at the same time. How do I describe the student's smiles in words, or their joyful screams and shouts whenever the team entered the school? How do I put into words their hugs, or their high fives as they cherish the human contact. Or the fact that even though they grow up with little to almost nothing, they live as though they have everything. Seeing this, and learning from them, they have taught me to be grateful, and to cherish what, and who I have, not look at what I don't. That love does not have to be communicated with words, but through commitment, loyalty, trust, respect, and an openness that can only happen from being present to children.



Greg (top) & Eric (bottom) with their class enjoying a fun photo moment.

As I reflect on this trip, I am amazed that the Holy Spirit truly was moving among our team. It's a testimony to the Holy Spirit's work in and among us that there was no division. Sure, some people clung closer to one another, but overall, we all mingled amongst ourselves, and no one (I believe) felt left out. That out of God's provision, and His sovereign grace, He handpicked each member to be a part of this life-changing mission trip; Even as we are over a month back from our trip, we all still keep in contact, our message thread still buzzes almost everyday and it is nothing short of miraculous.

Lastly, the big one is faithfulness. This is personal to me as I was seeking a word or more from our Lord. I'd like to believe that He was singing over me "be faithful." God through His word does not command us to be fruitful servants, and that should be a good thing, a sigh of relief. But rather, God through Jesus commands us to be faithful servants with what He has given us. Whether it's little, or much, Jesus (just) commands us to be faithful, and as long as we are faithful, (through His grace), Jesus will provide the fruit. What a sigh of relief, maybe. We met a lot of missionaries; some who should be retired and not in Cambodia, others, just graduated college, and yet, the theme I came to find was that they were all faithful in following God's call over their life, even if they didn't know what that exactly looked like. They just knew that God was calling them to Cambodia to work with the students, and rescued sex traffic victims, and they have their boots on. They surely don't know what tomorrow, or next month holds, and that's great, because God doesn't give us the whole map, but gives us enough to walk for the day He has graciously given, but more importantly, to trust in Him. It's like what Tolkien said, "*Not all who wander, are lost*".

I take heart in that quote, because I am learning that even though I don't know what's going to happen a year from now, I have a supernatural confidence and peace, when I say I don't know, but I trust in the One who does hold my future. All I do need to know is that God has called me to be faithful where He has placed me, for the good of others, and to glorify the name of Jesus. To be present in the here and now, not there and later. Take heart, you who wander, for not all who wander, are lost. Be faithful, as the One who is faithful will carry us to completion, and promises to always be with us, to the end of the ages. – Greg Gee



Polly (l), Rosanna (r) along with the team helped to paint the school's desk and chairs to prepare for the new school year.

"When we toured the Pleroma School and I heard about a team from Hong Kong who came last year to paint God's creation story on the walls and then I saw how our team members, Rosanna and Karen, prepared all the craft and classroom supplies and continuously serve all the classrooms, it reminded me of being an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work. Regardless of our talents, age, social status; it's about our heart and our care for others that is dedicated to God as his "utensil". God is great and He always provides the best to us!" – Polly Leung ▶

We arrived at the Pleroma Home for Girls and were briefed on the background of the home and the girls. This wasn't just a regular home; it's a sanctuary for girls who are rescued and recovering from sex trafficking and other horrible forms of abuse. These girls are not only recovering physically and mentally, but more importantly, the Pleroma Home for Girls is helping them recover spiritually by sharing with them the love of Jesus Christ and the Gospel message. As we ascended the stairs into the living room, a flood of girls appeared and I fought back a flood of tears realizing that these young girls didn't look any different from my cousins and nieces. They were just kids, but that had already experienced horrific unfathomable things.

One girl in particular caught my attention during an activity as she suddenly stood up, stooped her head, and walked out. After a little while, she re-entered the living room and walked into her room. I watched as she stood there in the darkness staring blankly at the wall. Suddenly, she looked up and we made eye contact and I smiled warmly at her. Not wanting to interrupt her, I moved my attention back to the activities happening around me. Soon after, she came out of the room and stood next to me elbow-to-elbow. I didn't say a word because I had the feeling that she just needed to stand there and so there we stood in silence watching everything around us.

After about five minutes, she took a step forward and turned towards me. She looked at my shirt and pointed at the Cross in the middle and I said "yes, that's the Cross" and I wondered what was going through her mind but I didn't have to wonder long as she held her arms out and began to motion being bound to the cross. "YES," I exclaimed, "YES! Jesus died on the cross. Jesus died on the cross for YOU." Keep in mind that she didn't really speak English and I certainly do not know how to speak Khmer. She then pointed at the Khmer script on my shirt and I said "YES! Jesus loves you! It says Jesus loves you." She then pointed at my toes and made a painting motion and I sheepishly said "Yeah, my nails are painted. Purple is my favorite color." She then cupped her hands around her mouth and leaned over and whispered things to me. She'd look at me for a reaction and then laugh and so I would laugh. I know I will never know what she said that day but I know that I will never forget our conversation.



"She just needed to stand there and so there we stood in silence watching everything around us"

At a later time, I spoke with local missionaries who told me they were impressed by my experience. They opened my eyes to the story of that girl: About two years ago, she was found by a Christian couple deep in the forest alone (likely left for dead). She had been obviously abused and was completely vacant; she wasn't able to recognize that there were people around her and didn't talk or eat. They believe she might have been abandoned or sold by her parents to the workers in the forest and those workers likely gave her food if she would do them "favors." The missionaries told me that it was amazing that the girl opened up to me so quickly because it took a long while for her to open up to anyone even at the Home. They said it was "interesting" and that "there's something about [me] that they can't explain. A sort of peace about [me] and God is doing big things with [me]." To hear this encouraged me and to be honest, I'm still processing everything that happened overseas.

We want to encourage you to take time to talk to members of our Cambodia STM Team and hear what God did in Cambodia while we were there and what He had already been doing way before we even arrived. God has been doing big things overseas especially in Cambodia and we encourage you to be a part of God's plan to expand His kingdom not only in Cambodia but elsewhere overseas and even here in the States. To find out more on how God can use your gifts, talents, and resources to obey God's command to "go and make disciples of all nations" we encourage you to talk to someone in leadership at Sunset Church so they can get you connected. We encourage you to not only ask Cambodia STM members but also each other 1) What is God doing "over there" (overseas, school, work, with your family, etc) 2) How is God and the Gospel impacting you 3) What now? (What are you going to do now with all of this?)

Together we can reach the lost, provide for those in need, share the Gospel message and God's love.

To God be the glory forever. Amen. – Melody Gawliu



Sunset Profile: Eddie Hong



Eddie with his lovely wife, Wan Wan and their son, Samuel.

Q: Tell us a little about yourself, your family, your background and your spiritual journey.

I was born in Hong Kong. I immigrated to San Francisco 50 years ago. I graduated with a B.S. Chemical Engineering from UC Berkeley, a MBA from UCLA, and an Advanced Management Development from Dartmouth College. My corporate career was in international banking, aerospace, healthcare industries for 28 years (last 10 years as General Manager in China), and latest 15 years as Financial Strategist and helped 2,000 people in wealth management. I married WanWan from Taiwan 40 years ago, who helped me in our financial ministry and served together in Bible Study Fellowship, BSF. We are also blessed with our miracle son, Samuel, after 15 years of prayers. He is now 22 years old, working in New York.

I received Jesus Christ as my personal Savior around 10 years old during summer retreat in Hong Kong, baptized at Missionary Alliance Church in 1969, met Wan-Wan at Basic Youth Conflict seminar in 4/76, married on 12/25/76, and lived a roller coaster spiritual journey until I joined BSF, which helped regulate my spiritual growth 11 years ago.

Q: What are your hobbies or interests?

I love Bible study, writing, Gospel music, and helping others in spiritual and financial matters. I also enjoy cruises, movies, swimming and table tennis, although I haven't played in decades.

Q: If you can go anywhere and do anything, where would you go and do?

Cruise around the world, while leading or sharing Bible study on the cruise—Cruise evangelism and discipleship.

Q: What ministries are you involved in? Why are you passionate about it? How can others get involved?

Sunset Men's Ministry, Parents Place Cell Group, and Bible Study Fellowship, BSF. Knowing God and making Him known is my passion. God's Word is living, active and relevant to my daily life, and I depend on His Word for my spiritual survival. Also served in helping others in financial matters as my work ministry.

Q: How do you see God working in your life?

Bad news is that I was doomed as a sinner (Romans 6:23a), and I still have a sinful nature, and have disgraced God, hurt others and myself.

Good news is that God loves me, sacrificed His Only Son to die and pay for the penalty of my sins, forgave me, restored me, and now leading me to live a new life in my Lord Christ Jesus (Romans 8:1-2).

Daily news is that I still struggle with daily reality of life (Romans 7:15-25), but by God's grace and mercy, I sinned less, I confess and repent when I sinned, and I am totally dependent on Christ's resurrected power and Holy Spirit's guidance to live a holy life God has called me to live.

Urgent news is that I am challenged to offer my life to God as an instrument of righteousness (Romans 6:13), a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, transformed by the renewing of my mind to do God's good, pleasing and perfect will (Romans 12:1-2), to spread the Gospel and prepare for Christ's imminent return. God wants to bless me, my family, my church and people He sent to me. Without Christ, I can do nothing. God is my refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble (Psalm 46:1). Thank God for His abounding love and faithfulness, as He promised His relationship to all His believers: ►

Jesus lives in us,
 He is with us,
 He provides for us,
 He guides through us,
 He rules above us,
 He is accessible to us,
 His blood covers over us,
 His truth stands below us,
 His comfort rests alongside us,
 His work goes before us,
 His love story is about us,
 His blessing comes after us,
 His plan is ahead of us,
 His righteousness stands in front of us,
 His protection surrounds around us,
 His holiness surpasses us,
 His light shines out of us,
 His wrath goes past us,

His compassion aims at us,
 His sacrifice was made because of us,
 His punishment disappeared behind us,
 His knowledge is beyond us,
 His Way dwells into us,
 His Spirit rests upon us,
 His presence is with us,
 His anger dissipated from us,
 His power displays through us,
 His wisdom reveals inside us,
 His beauty displayed before us,
 His grace bestows on us,
 His blessings multiplies upon us,
 His glory worshipped by us,
 His greatness is proclaimed by us,
 His joy and peace sustain within us, and
 Nothing can separate His love between us.

Q: What is something that people would be surprised to know about you?

Physically, I have hearing loss in both ears since childhood due to firecrackers, so often I may not be able to hear you.

Spiritually, I am much worse a sinner than others think I am. I cannot accept myself for who I was and who I am. By God's mercy and love, He accepted me as I was and as I am. Who am I not to accept myself when God accepted me, and forgave my sins and shame? Thank God for His grace and pity on such a wretch as I was. I can only give thanks, praises, honor and glory to Him who is worthy and deserving.

Q: What Bible verse has been the most impactful to you in your Christian Journey? Why?

2 Corinthians 5:17-21: "17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. 21 God made him who had no sin to be sin[b] for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

God gave me new hope to live for Him, and He is faithful to deliver me to Himself until that final day when I will meet Jesus face to face, and ask Him "Why do you make such as wretch as me your treasure?" Amen! ■

Upcoming Events 近期活動



- C 9/24 Prayer Sunday 禱告主日
- C 10/1 Lead Pastor Candidate Visit 帶領牧師候選人到訪
- E 10/28 Legacy Workshop
- E 10/29 Mixer Lunch
- C 11/11 Thanksgiving Event 感恩節聚會
- CE 11/12 Baptism
- CE 11/19 4th Quarter Members' Meeting
- E 11/26 Mixer Lunch
- E 12/1 Worship & Prayer Night
- E 12/9 Christmas Party
- C 12/10 Prayer Sunday 禱告主日
- C 12/16 Christmas Event 聖誕節聚會



C = 中文部活動 E = English Event