

THE CHINESE CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
**THE MESSENGER**

JULY 2025 EDITION



**Editor's Note:**

June was indeed a joyful month as we celebrated CCC's 60th anniversary! This special edition highlights many behind-the-scenes stories about the organization and conduct of the celebrations. We praise the Lord for His blessings and for drawing us closer together through the memorable events.

Please continue to pray for our Church Planting. We hope that the testimonies from our Cantonese baptism candidates will serve as a reminder to pray for the growing faith of our young people.



**60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

• **Celebrating 60 Years of God's Faithfulness**  
**- A Memorable Thanksgiving Service**

By Elder Henry To

***Not to us, Lord, not to us but to Your name be the glory, because of Your love and faithfulness.***

***- Psalm 115:1***

We give all glory and thanks to God for the joyful and spiritually rich CCC 60th Anniversary Thanksgiving Worship Service, which was held on 8 June 2025. After more than a year of dedicated prayer and preparation, the day proved to be a deeply meaningful moment in the life of our church—a time of heartfelt worship, thanksgiving, reflection, and renewed commitment to unity & mission as we look to the future.

**A Journey of Faithful Preparation**

The lead-up to the celebration was marked by God's grace and the unwavering dedication of our church members and organising committee. Despite the large scale of the event, everyone involved—from organising committee and

volunteers to musicians and tech teams—worshipped and served together in unity and joy. It was a true picture of the Body of Christ working as one.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Organising Committee who faithfully oversaw every aspect of the program:

**Rev. Ying Yee, Pas. Anita Chan, Grace Yan, Jack Jiang, Aero Lin, Addz Leung, Frank Wang, Sammy Liu, Swee Yeo, David Chen and Henry To.**

Their work included video production, interviews, documentation, communications, printed programs, memorabilia, refreshments, AV & broadcasting, various worship elements, welcoming and more.

We also want to specially thank:

- The **pastoral team & church office staffs**
- 80+ **choir & musicians** and 60+ **children choir**
- The **singspiration team and band**
- The **camera and video crews**
- The **design and welcoming teams**
- The **app and website support teams**

Every person, every act of service—seen or unseen—played an important role in honouring God and blessing our congregation.

### **Worship Service Highlights**

Over 800 people gathered for the worship service, and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Many spoke of the joy, spiritual renewal, and deep encouragement they experienced. A particular highlight was the powerful sermon by Rev. Chris Chua, with clear and heartfelt interpreting that resonated across generations.

Despite the inevitable pressure leading up to the big day, only a handful experienced high stress—an encouraging testimony to the strength of teamwork and prayerful planning.

Though the event required significant resources—venue, food, printing, and gifts—it was unquestionably worth it. The shared joy, unity,

and renewed sense of purpose among the CCC family made it a truly worthwhile investment.

### **Looking Forward with Hope**

While there are always lessons for future events—such as improving volunteer recruitment, managing registration, and developing a clearer media strategy—we rejoice in all that God has done. This anniversary reminded us not just of where we've been, but where we are heading as a church family—rooted in Christ, united in mission, and trusting in God's faithfulness for the road ahead.

As we reflect on 60 years of grace, we give thanks for every hand that contributed to this celebration. Above all, we give praise to our Lord, who has sustained CCC across six decades—and who continues to lead us forward in faith, love, unity and mission.

**To God be the glory!**



### **Celebrating 60 Years of God's Faithfulness - Anniversary Dinner at Zilver**

*By Elder Edwin Choi*

On 15<sup>th</sup> June 2025, 505 people gathered at Zilver Chinese Restaurant in Chatswood to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CCC. It was a joyful and memorable evening filled with fellowship, laughter, and heartfelt gratitude to God. It is with great pleasure that we now share with you some of the behind-the-scenes stories from the planning and execution of this wonderful event.

#### **Dinner Venue**

*Planning for the event began eight months in advance, starting with the search for a suitable venue. This was not without its challenges: our original venue, King Dynasty, had closed down, and Zilver was undergoing renovations. It wasn't*

until late January that we were finally able to confirm the booking with Zilver.

#### **Ticket Selling and Seating Arrangements**

For the first time, tickets were sold both online and later via cash. Initial concerns about filling all 40 tables quickly faded as over 70% of tickets were sold between mid-March and mid-April. By the end of April, all tickets were sold – well before the Early Bird period ended. In May, we faced the blessed challenge of needing two additional tables and began the complex task of arranging seating. Thanks to our incredible seat allocation team, they managed and fulfilled a wide range of requests, relationships, age groups, and language preferences, we were able to finalise the seating one week before the event – even as many team members were also deeply involved in the Anniversary Worship Service preparations.

## Change of Master of Ceremonies (MC)

The final planning phase for the dinner took place throughout May and the first half of June. A last-minute change in the MC line-up – due to Carrie Jiang falling ill – saw Karen Woo step in with just four days' notice, doing a fantastic job alongside Jack Jiang. Together, they brought warmth, energy, and professionalism to the evening.



## New and Old Friends

It was heartwarming to see such a diverse crowd: visitors from other churches, former CCC ministers and members returning after many years, and even new attendees who had only joined CCC within the past month – all coming together to celebrate.

## Games and Speeches

One of the highlights of the evening was a restaurant-wide game of Kahoot, which sparked friendly competition, interaction and much laughter.

Elder Sammy Liu and Rev. Ying Yee delivered inspiring speeches, reflecting on CCC's growth under God's guidance over the past 60 years and encouraging us to remain faithful in the years ahead.

## Celebrating Spirit and Gratefulness

Throughout the night, guests enjoyed a lavish banquet, table prizes, a special cake-cutting ceremony, and a final lucky draw. The night was filled with joy, and the spirit of unity and celebration filled the room.

We give all glory and thanks to God for His steadfast love and guidance over the past 60 years. Our prayer is that CCC will continue to faithfully fulfil the Great Commission – bringing the Gospel to the unreached in Sydney and beyond.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who made the evening possible: to my wife for her unwavering support, to the MCs for their excellent work, and thank-you to the seating team and to those who arrived at the restaurant as early as 3:30pm to ensure everything was set up perfectly. We are so blessed that all congregations were involved in making this a success...it truly reflects how all parts of the body came together and united in bringing glory to God.

**Detur Gloria Soli Deo – Let glory be given to God alone!**



## • Embedment with God's will

By Frank Wang

**Author Introduction:** Frank Wang is a member of our church. The video production and interviews played in the 60th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service were collaboratively completed by Frank and the video production team.

He came to CCC as a newly baptised Christian at end of 2009. During the 20-year career in Sydney, he work on numerous prime-time TV programs with Australian three major TV networks as an editor and producer. Before moving to Australia, he was a journalist and freelance writer for Chinese magazines and newspapers.



### Journey Through Time

When the grainy photos from the Church Archive appeared in front of me, I felt like traveling through time. The people in the photos used to be in the same place as we are now, listening to sermons in the main hall, mingling in the hall during lunch, and developing fellowships at house parties. It set off my journey of learning about our church and building my faith.

### Discovering Our Roots

After being assigned the task of making playback videos for the anniversary worship, I immediately dove into all available materials. It was a surprise to learn that when the church was established in 1965, the Chinese population in Australia nationwide was just over 27,000. The four founding families envisioned a need for all Chinese expatriates to congregate under one church to serve God. Their vision has been fully achieved with God's blessings throughout the past 60 years.

### God's Guiding Hand Through History

To show the 60-year history of Chinese Christian Church within 10 minutes, I embedded historical events into our church's developments. When news footage played alongside church photos, it all made sense. I felt for those fellow Chinese people when the White Australian policy limited their lifestyle in Sydney, when the Indonesian Army torched their shops in East Timor, when Hong Kong was handed over without its people's consent, and when students from China were shocked by brutal crackdowns. As those events threw fear, chaos, and turmoil into us Chinese,

our Almighty God always saved and guided them. As Psalm 121:7 says, *"The Lord will keep you from all kind of harm. He will watch over your life."*

### Vision Fulfilled in Video

Through this research, I learned that CCC has three slogans describing our vision: "Growing in Christ, Serving in Love, Reaching the world with Gospel." With that knowledge in mind, I carried out my editing process for the videos, which had working titles like "History of CCC," "People of CCC," and "Missionaries." I wasn't satisfied with those dull and plain titles. When the service program was finalized, a thought came to me effortlessly: "Why not name those three videos with the slogans?" I did, and they matched perfectly! The "History of CCC" became **"Growing in Christ"** "People of CCC" became **"Serving in Love"** and "Missionaries" became **"Reaching the world with Gospel"** I was ecstatic. I was convinced that God had been working with me on this task, which was blessed through the whole process.

### A Collaborative Blessing

During the process from the end of 2024, Elder Henry fully supported me, understanding and appreciating my work. I worked closely with Hans, Tony, Roy, Bill, and Bruce. With their camerawork, the playback and celebration videos were well done.

May God use these videos and us to expand His kingdom, as it says in Chronicles 16:24:

***"Declare his glory among the nations, and his marvellous works among all the peoples."***



Swatow elders from Chinese Presbyterian Church  
四位來自華人長老會的潮州長老



Education service for the church hall  
紀念堂開幕儀式



Students and teachers in CCC's First Sunday school  
第一屆主日學的師生



The Mandarin Service grew rapidly  
國語堂的規模迅速擴大



April 2004, CCC organised short term mission to Qinghai and Yunnan  
4年4月開始，教會每年差派出一隊會友到中國最偏遠地區。



# CHURCH PLANTING UPDATES

## MACQUARIE PARK CHURCH PLANT - Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Where can I read the church planting plan? Is the plan set in stone?

You can view or download the full plan here:

<https://tiny.cc/MQPCHURCHPLANT>

All plans are subject to God's leading. This plan serves as a **guide**—a thoughtful way to move forward, but not a rigid blueprint. We will continue to listen to the Spirit, adjust as needed, and stay faithful to God's mission.

### 2. What stage is the property search at now?

The Church Planting Committee (CPC) has identified a promising venue, but no commitment has been made. We're still in the early stages of forming the core teams. While **property is important**, we're reminded that **a church is built on people, not buildings**. That said, facilities and finances do enable ministry and community engagement.

### 3. How will the church plant be funded?

The Board of Elders (BOE) [can confirm the following funds are readily available for use for church planting purposes, further fundraising will be initiated as required:](#)

- **General Fund:** \$75,000 set aside for church planting.
- **Future Development Fund:** \$3.9 million available to lease or purchase a property.

### 4. What kind of property are we looking for? Will we lease or buy?

We are open to either **leasing a community hall** or **renting/buying a commercial property** that meets the criteria outlined in the plan (dual-language worship spaces, Sunday School rooms, accessibility, etc.). Each type of property offers its own advantages and disadvantages. The CPC has performed detailed research into the property market in the MQP area and found potential suitable properties but the church has decided to gather the core teams over the next

2 - 3 months before we commit to a property later this year.

### 5. Who will lead the new church?

- **Rev. Jeff Wang** will lead the Mandarin congregation.
- **Rev. Winston Mah** will lead the English congregation.

Both pastors remain accountable to the BOE and will oversee their respective language ministries.

### 6. What will happen to their current roles at Milsons Point?

Initially, both Ministers will continue in their current roles at Milsons Point. As the church plant gains momentum, they will work with the BOE and Pastoral Team to gradually shift more of their time and energy to the church plant. The BOE has also initiated the search for an additional **Mandarin pastor** for Milsons Point. We anticipate this search may take time, but we are trusting God to provide.

### 7. What are the challenges of reaching Macquarie Park residents?

Macquarie Park is home to a **young, tech-savvy, and transient population**—students, young professionals, and new migrants. Many have little exposure to Christianity and live in apartment complexes, making outreach difficult.

Our strategy includes building **authentic relationships**, hosting **hospitality events**, doing **prayer walks**, and building a strong **online presence** to meet people where they are.

### 8. Has the pastoral team thought about how to shift the congregation's mindset from property to people?

Yes. Through sermons, vision events, prayer points, and intentional communication (like this FAQ), we've been shifting focus to people.

During Missions Month, we've taught on God's compassion for the lost, our role as Christ's messengers, and the urgency of gospel mission.

### 9. How can we invite people to church if we don't have a venue yet?

We believe that some community engagement can begin through small groups, prayer walks and meeting strangers, and hospitality in homes. Over time, these groups will hopefully grow and form the relational backbone of the church. When a venue is found, God willing they will already be part of the community.

### 10. How will we reach young, tech-savvy residents?

We are building a strong **digital and social media strategy**, including:

- **Instagram, Facebook, WhatsApp, WeChat** for updates,
- **Google Ads and SEO** for discoverability,
- Exploring **TikTok and Reels** to creatively share the gospel.

We hope to appoint a **Marketing Officer** as part of the Launch Team to lead this digital outreach.

### 11. What's the timeframe for finding a property? What's the backup plan?

There is **no fixed deadline**, as we want to form our teams well before committing to a venue. In the meantime:

- CPC will continue to monitor property listings,
- We may consider **short-term rentals** (e.g., school halls),
- Ministry will continue in homes and public spaces as needed.

### 12. If someone joins the Core Team, will Milsons Point be left short?

We're taking this seriously. Milsons Point leaders and planters are working together to ensure **key ministries remain supported**. The BOE understands that there is a cost both in relationships and in ministry personnel that come with planting a church, but we also believe that sending some of our people on mission also provides opportunities for new people to step up and grow in leadership.

### 13. What if I want to support the church plant but not join it?

That's wonderful! You can support by:

- **Praying** regularly for the people, leaders, and outreach,
- **Giving** financially toward the plant,
- **Encouraging** those stepping out in faith,
- **Serving** at Milsons Point to release others.

### 14. What's the commitment if I join the Core or Launch Team?

- **Core Team:** 3-year commitment to shape the vision, values, leadership, and foundations of the church.
- **Launch Team:** 2-year commitment (from launch) to serve, build community, and support ministries.

Core Team will meet weekly for training, prayer, and community engagement. Launch Team training will begin in a later phase and will join the core team in the weekly meetings at that point.

### 15. How will the new church be different from Milsons Point?

**The DNA will remain the same**—gospel-driven, Christ-centred, and prayer-dependent. However, Macquarie Park Church will be shaped to **engage its local demographic** more closely. While CCC Milsons Point is a network church, **Macquarie Park Church aims to be a church in the community, for the community.**

### 16. How do I express interest or ask more questions?

On 13 July, there will be an opportunity to express your interest in a survey. The survey will be made available via the CCC app.

In the meantime, you may also speak directly with:

**Rev Jeff Wang** (Mandarin Planter)  
[jeff.wang@cccmilsonspoint.org](mailto:jeff.wang@cccmilsonspoint.org)  
0403 086 635

**Rev Winston Mah** (English Planter)  
[winston.mah@cccmilsonspoint.org](mailto:winston.mah@cccmilsonspoint.org)  
0403 113 657

### 17. If I express interest in the church plant, what happens next?

One of the planters will have follow-up conversations with you.



## BAPTISM TESTIMONIES

### Introduction:

On the 20 April 2025, we had the privilege of witnessing 7 young people publicly declared their faith in Christ. We praise the Lord for these young people's commitment to the Lord. We pray that they will continue to grow in their faith and knowledge and love of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Below, you will find 3 of their personal testimonies. The remaining 4 will be published next month.

### Jed Chan

Hi, I'm Jed. My full name is Jedidiah and the following personal testimony will shed light on how Jesus has worked in my life and why I have decided to publicly declare my faith in Christ.

To begin, I have been blessed to be born into a Christian family, rooted at CCC my whole life, along with growing up in a Christian school. This essentially sealed a sort of Christian "safety bubble", as I quickly absorbed from many influences most of the knowledge about God and the bible, or so I thought... In my earlier years, I practically took on attending church as the only time I needed to check in and say "hi" to God during the week without grasping much of what it actually meant to worship God.

Although I didn't really struggle with plainly believing in Jesus and the truth that comes from the bible, I often found it difficult resonating with sermons, while prayer also felt more like a routine than a real connection with God. During Sunday School, I remember me and my friends being quite disruptive with short attention span, often mucking around rather than sitting still and listening to God's word.

As I transitioned into high school, more responsibilities started creeping into my life and in the midst of slowly growing busier, I had to reflect on what truly mattered to me. Going to church and youth group became more of a conscious decision than an obligation as they both became places of refuge that provided clarity and strength. Additionally, God slowly opened my eyes to see the power of prayer whether it was finding parking spots during very

busy market Sundays or extending my Dad's life in his battle against cancer. In my senior years, I began to take Christianity a lot more seriously, realising the vast distance of how far we have all fallen short of God's glory, yet, in despite of this we can be assured of forgiveness through Jesus' sacrificial love and resurrection from the cross to redeem us from our own impurities.

During a more recent time, I have realised God's unconditional love for all people on a mission trip to an Aboriginal community in Queensland. While my mum and I experienced loss at the end of 2024, looking back I have come to realize that even in moments of grief and uncertainty, God's care, provision, and purpose remains steadfast. It is precisely in difficult times like these, when hope feels out of reach, I have come to realize that I cannot navigate life on my own. Through it all, God's presence has shown me the importance of placing him above all else, trusting in his plan rather than relying on my own strength. Mark 13:31 says "*Heaven and Earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.*" The verse reassures me that regardless of the circumstances, God's truth remains unshaken.

While there is still room for improvement regarding my Christian habits, I believe that the holy spirit - rather than my own resolve - will guide me towards the light and set me on a straight path. Hence, as a Christian I am thoroughly encouraged and challenged to be more like Jesus, to reach out to others and act with a servant-heart, to deny myself and take up my own cross to follow him.



## Natalie Cheng

I was born into a Christian family and have been attending CCC ever since. As I grew up learning more about Christianity through Sunday schools and weekly family bible study, I was interested in hearing about the bible and how Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins because of his great love for us.



I wouldn't say that I was a believer in Christ right from the start. I had always thought it was enough to be knowledgeable about the bible stories and parables. Going to church every Sunday and reciting the Lord's prayer every night felt like a routine that I had to follow. Sunday school was fun because I got to hang out with friends, play games, and learn more stories about God's miracles, but a part of me still feels like there should be something more than this.

As I grew older, I felt like I had a lot of responsibilities and expectations that I had to keep up with. Big changes started happening in my life and I almost couldn't keep up with them. In the end, I stopped going to youth group as I felt that I could use the time to study instead. It wasn't until year 10 that my friends invited me to their youth group. It felt like it was more of a rediscovery of my journey in my faith toward God that I had left behind. I could feel God's unconditional love reaching out to me even when I turned my back on him countless times. The work of the Holy Spirit led me back on the right path. It opened my eyes to see that God has never forsaken me no matter how many sins I have committed. He blessed me with a healthy body and a supportive family and friends. I realised that in all the difficulties I experienced, I was never alone. This thought has always helped me to pull through even when it felt like it was impossible.

Baptism is a public declaration of my commitment to let Jesus be the Lord of my life. I have died to sin and received a new life by the grace of God. I feel peace and comfort knowing that Jesus is always with me. My faith journey has just started. I would also like to thank my friends and family who have been supportive and put my faith in the right direction with the help of the Holy Spirit.

*"The grass wither and the flower fall, but the word of our God endures forever"* - Isaiah 40:8

## Sophia Cheng

Being born in a Christian household, I've always been exposed to the teachings of the bible from an early age. I attend church every Sunday and have regular Bible readings with my family, pray every night and attend scriptures at school. Honestly, I believed that doing all these practices meant I was a Christian, that the more I did meant the better Christian I was.

It didn't really hit me until I reached high school. With the transitioning to a new school with none of my friends attending, I was lost. I felt overwhelmed with responsibilities that came with being older and the self pressure to do well in my school. Attending church felt more like a burden and I began to drift away from God. I stopped praying and I stopped believing.

However, overtime, I've learnt to let go of some of the worries. I made friends that I still treasure to this day and I've learnt to have more fun as a teenager. But I am really grateful for that one friend that encouraged me to start praying again. They didn't attend church themselves, nor were they super devoted to God. Yet, they always encouraged me to start talking to God again and perhaps I would feel better. And it did.

I started talking about my worries, minor inconveniences I felt annoyed or stressed about in my daily lives. I then talked about struggles, things I felt that were beyond my control and caused so much frustration. I talked about my hopes, what I wanted to achieve in the future and what I wish to happen in my life. It felt liberating knowing I could talk about anything without judgement. I started to slowly accept God back into my life.

I still struggle with finding the motivation to attend church every Sunday, especially early in the



morning and one far away from my home. I still struggle with finding the time to devote myself to the Lord and I still feel guilty each time I pray to God, only to ask for help and not because of other reasons.

But I'm glad to know that the amount of time I spend studying the bible or the number of times I pray to God doesn't matter. For I know that he loves me unconditionally, he loves all my flaws and imperfections and that he is always going to be with me and guide me.