

A SMORGASBORD OF JESUS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2020 | MATTHEW 16:13-17 | PASTOR TIM VANG

CHURCH NEWS

Our beloved brother Benjamin Chu went to be with the Lord on September 24, 2020. The funeral service was held on October 2. Please remember this family in your prayers. May the Lord be with them in their time of grief.

Vacation for MCBC staff is as below:

- Rev. Freddy Lam – from October 2 to 4 (inclusive)
- Executive Officer Ms. Sinyi Chow – from September 29 to October 6 (inclusive)
- Administrative Assistant Ms. Tracy Chan – from October 9 to 14 (inclusive)
- Pastor Jason Yuan (Mandarin Division) – from September 29 to October 12 (inclusive)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Sunday School: The Rise of Israel's Monarchy

This course will go through the Books of 1 and 2 Samuel to examine the history of Israel's kingdom and its theological significance. Much emphasis will be given on the connection between the Jewish faith and Christian hope. Time: 11:15 AM - 12:30 PM. Co-Taught by: Anthony Wong and Pastor Freddy.

2. Church Office Reopening

Starting on September 21, the church admin office reopened during regular operation hours: Monday to Friday 9 AM to 5 PM. All doors of the church building will stay locked. Brothers and sisters can ring the doorbell at the west or north side entrance to access the building and drop off offerings into the offering box. For any other business, please contact the office in advance for arrangement. Please be reminded that mask wearing is mandatory inside the church building at all times (face shield is not a substitute for wearing a face mask or covering).

3. New Media Ministry

1. Our new church website (www.mcbbc.com) has been launched on September 2. We welcome brothers and sisters to browse and use it.
2. Both MCBC's new Facebook page and ED's new Facebook Group are now up and running! These are new ways for us to stay connected as a church family. You can find MCBC's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MCBC.FB/> and ED's new Facebook Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MCBC.ED/>.
3. At MCBC, we strive to communicate with our community in ways that best suit their needs. As a result, we've created a New Media Ministry Team who will oversee MCBC's various digital media platforms, and we need your help making this a reality! We're looking for those with a gift of video filming, video editing and/or writing, as well as graphic designers to help us captivate our audience visually and linguistically. If you are able to serve in these areas or have further questions, please contact Pastors Joanne, Catherine, or Freddy at newmedia@mcbbc.com.

4. Food with Thought

As the ongoing pandemic continues to loom over us, we hope you can see the needs of families who cannot purchase their own groceries because of job loss or decrease in income.

For we are called to "carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ" Galatians 6:2, MCBC has partnered with Urban Promise, a Toronto-based missions organization, to help provide grocery gift cards for those who cannot afford groceries for themselves or their families. This ongoing collaboration will hopefully alleviate some of the everyday stresses that may affect families because of the pandemic or otherwise.

Please purchase a No Frills gift card with an amount you wish to give and drop it off at MCBC on Thursdays between 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Upon arrival at MCBC ring the doorbell on the West or North entrance into the "Food with Thought" drop-box at the Welcome Desk in the main foyer. That box will be emptied and dropped off at Urban Promise every 3 weeks.

5. Pastoral Caring and Support

While all on-site gatherings are suspended, pastoral shepherding continues. Brothers and sisters, if you have any caring needs and/or prayer requests, feel free to contact any of our pastors in their respective divisions. We will do our best to render as much assistance and support as we can.

6. Four Ways of Offering

We can continue our obligation of offering (details at <https://mcbbc.com/en/give/>) while worshipping at a distance via:

1. E-Transfer
2. Paypal Giving Fund program: make offerings at <https://www.paypal.com/ca/fundraiser/charity/3450711>
3. Putting your offering into the offering (cash or cheque) into the collection box located at the church reception area during church office operation hours
4. Mailing in cheques to the church office (Please do not send cash)

7. Donation to Hospitals

Brothers and sisters are encouraged to make donations to individual hospitals according to their needs.

If you would like to make donations to Markham Stouffville Hospital (MSH), here are two different ways:

1. Monetary donation: http://support.mshf.on.ca/site/TR?pg=teamlst&fr_id=1310
2. Material donation: Drop off your donation of medical supplies, including surgical masks, gloves, and/or hand sanitizers, into the drop box set up in the hospital's loading lot. Address of MSH is 379 Church Street, Suite 303, Markham, ON L6B 0T1.

CHURCH GATHERING ARRANGEMENT AND PANDEMIC PREVENTION MEASURES

(Updated September 17, 2020)

With reference to the Ontario government's ease of restrictions and York Region Public Health recommendations, the Board of Pastors and Deacons and the Church Council have the following updates on the church's situation and measures taken:

Church Physical Gathering Reopening Arrangement

The Cantonese Saturday in-person evening service will be run at a later date to be announced once available. During this time, Sunday service of all divisions will remain online.

The Committee will provide regular updates on the progress of the reopening arrangement. Brothers and sisters are welcome to communicate with the Committee via email: info@mcbc.com should they have any suggestions or questions regarding the reopening.

We earnestly pray for the Lord's wisdom, patience, and unity in overcoming the challenges and difficulties we are encountering during this reopening process.

Sunday Service Broadcast

Sunday Service will commence broadcasting at the designated times for all brothers and sisters to worship together. Broadcast links will be available by clicking on the buttons of the specific worship services on www.mcbc.com, which will remain available for replay during the rest of the day. Sermon audio recordings will also be available for review under Sunday Sermons of individual divisions' web pages. Live streaming of the English worship service will be available at <https://mcbc.com>. The weekly bulletin can also be downloaded at <https://mcbc.com/en/bulletin>.

- **Cantonese Morning Worship Service** 8:00 AM (live); (re-broadcasting also available)
- **English Worship Service** 9:30 AM (live); (re-broadcasting also available)
- **Mandarin Worship Service** 9:30 AM (live); (re-broadcasting also available)
- **Cantonese Noon Worship Service** 11:15 AM (re-broadcasting also available)

Pastoral Caring and Shepherding

While all on-site gatherings are suspended during this period where all of us are engaged in combating the pandemic, pastoral shepherding continues. Brothers and sisters, if you have any caring needs and/or prayer requests, feel free to contact any of our pastors in their respective divisions. We will do our best to render as much assistance and support as we can.

Methods of Offering

To fulfill our obligation of offering as Christians, brothers and sisters can offer via:

1. E-Transfer
2. Paypal Giving Fund program: make offerings at <https://www.paypal.com/ca/fundraiser/charity/3450711>
3. Putting your offering into the offering (cash or cheque) into the collection box located at the church reception area during church office operation hours
4. Mailing in cheques to the church office (Please do not send cash)

Instructions can be found at <https://mcbc.com/en/give/>

Also, the church would like to recommend the following for your family's safety and well-being:

1. If you or a family member exhibit any symptoms (cold, fever, cough, difficulty breathing, etc.), please contact your family physician immediately, or call Telehealth Ontario Hotline at 1-866-797-0000. Please rest at home and participate by watching the livestream of the worship service.
2. If you or a family member has just returned from outside of Canada, or if you have out-of-country family, friends, or relatives, who have recently arrived to Canada with you, please stay with your loved ones at home, and self-isolate/self-quarantine for 14 days.
3. Please cancel all non-essential travel outside of Canada.
4. Please regularly use water and soap or hand sanitizer with a sufficient alcohol level to sanitize your hands.
5. When coughing or sneezing, please cover your mouth and nose with your arm. Wear a face cloth/covering or a mask when possible.
6. Smile, nod, or wave to greet one another; refrain from shaking hands.
7. Earnestly pray for the Lord's mercy that the spread of the disease will be controlled; may the Lord heal the afflicted and bless those to have a full recovery, and may the Lord help those in times of trouble to overcome.

(These preventative measures are subject to change as the Canadian Government updates their recommendations. Please refer to <https://mcbc.com/en/> for the latest updates.)