

Who Am I? Children Summer Camp



The theme of the CCM children's summer camp was "Who Am I?" which ran from July 3 to 27. Children learned to build their character by matching up this theme by exploring twelve topics: gratefulness, obedience, honesty, attentiveness, joy, diligent, creativity, forbearance, love, contentment, wisdom, and faith. More importantly, the children and the high school helpers had the opportunity to encounter Christian faith through this camp. By the end of the month, some of them were born again Christians, others re-established their faith, while some discovered a new way of life. Some had re-considered their future paths, and youths with anger issues softened their hearts. These outcomes were astonishing. God's works are deeper than ours, way beyond my expectation. There was an old saying of "It takes ten years practice to present a minute of glory!" Our staff (Qing Fu) and voluntary teacher (Maria) partner together concisely, actively, and joyfully... and kept the lesson contents flexible according to their daily response. Throughout the whole progress, they felt the amazing power of the Holy Spirit working alongside them. Addressing with a single class of students from the ages of 4 to 16 year olds (see Remarks), we experienced real challenges when putting together sharing messages! But God demolished my fear by granting me wisdom whenever I needed. After a month, some elementary and high school students accepted Christ as their own saviour. We have experienced the bible verse: "It is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes." (Romans 1:16) especially during the after-school personal evangelism class. It had also lead me to believe that strengths in a great number of people in intercession prayer is tremendous and powerful. (There were intercessors on both sides of the Pacific Ocean). In the past, I was on my own in preparing Vacation Bible School; praying, preparing and presenting lessons. This time around, I felt insufficient and in need of many people praying for me. I felt the empowerment of intercession prayer. "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect

in weakness." (2 Corinthians 12:9) As a result, I had experienced my faith gradually re-established.

On the last day, I missed these children and young people already. Each familiar face reflected a different life. A life with a precious soul, that God values, cherishes and created. Heavenly Father sees each one is unique; and has great potentials!

May God abide with the teachers, coworkers, students, helpers and intercessors everyday, leading everyone to live God's will. May God's grace and power fulfilled every step of their lives. The 2018 children's summer camp had come to an end, but the relationship between God and man is everlasting; because "Having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end." (John 13:1)

The Story after: "Who Am I?"

In August, three children aged 4 to 5 came with their mother joined the CCM July summer camp. They huddled up with me and recited the Bible verse they had learned in camp. My heart burst with joy, amazed that they could still remember what they had learned several weeks ago. May God's Word stored in their hearts and be their forever guidance.

Remarks: *There has been a change to hiring high school students as helpers in the children's summer camp as CCM did not apply for government funding for summer students this year.*



"The Heartfelt Thoughts" Newsletter Reporter



Maria Lam

In a blink of an eye, it has been three years since I was a CCM news reporter. In the beginning, it was for the purpose of reporting various CCM events. However, I had been witnessing, experiencing, and hearing God's grace and amazing plans within my peers and volunteers during their daily work. The amazing guidance from the Heavenly Father, or open heart sharing among others made me feel that CCM is a big family with true laughter and tears. I began to sense that my duty is not only to report CCM's latest news. If I am not touched with the content of the article first, how can I touch others who read it? Therefore, before I write, I would pray to God to first touch my heart, and write with my spirit. There's a saying of "I write with my heart." Now, I wonder if anyone can tell that it's never the same feeling again when they read my article?

TORONTO CCM CENTRE

Unit 3107 Oriental Centre, 4438 Sheppard Ave. E.
Scarborough, Ontario
M1S 5V9, Canada

Tel: (416) 291-3202
Fax: (647) 436-4768
Email: toronto@ccmcanada.org



Family Fun Day and CCM Roadshow



By the CCM staff and volunteers' team effort, the August 18 Family Fun Day and CCM Roadshow between 10:30am and 3:30pm had been successfully accomplished. On the 3rd level where CCM resides, everyone stood by their booths at 10:30am. Whether it be blood pressure monitoring, blood sugar check-ups, optical repair, games, silhouette portrait making and illustration, kidney health promoting activities, Toronto China Bible Church East Congregation... and exhibits from CCM's various ministries: Men's New World, Cancer Patients & Caregivers Mutual Support Group, Splendid Life, Women's New Era, The Boys' and Girls' Christian Brigade of Canada, Youth activities, etc.; everyone was actively talking to people streaming in, striving to showcase CCM's community services to those who usually don't set foot at CCM.

As for the Oriental Centre Stage show in the lobby, great programs came simultaneously between 1pm and 3:30 pm. There were shows by groups from CCM, including Stretch Delight, Tai Chi, Violin presentations by our instructor, Zumba, Children's trio, etc. In addition, we also invited Miriam (renowned guzheng musician) to perform, as well as Vocalists Jackie and Irene to sing Chinese International Oldies and Pop songs. Also, there was a full of vitality K-Pop dance by a Six-Korean Boy Band, and the graceful dance moves by our Social Dance instructor couple. Topping it off with prize draws, the close-packed and inspiring programs left spectators never a dull moment; earning continuous applause, attracting the attention of visitors in the centre to stop by, and enjoying to watch each presentation. Over 100 people learned about CCM's activities through these lively programs.

The Children's Ministry booth, located by the stage—introduced CCM's Spring and Summer camp, Family Growth Group (Walk with You), Family Reading Club, Children's Creative Drawing classes, as well as Balloon twisting, Face painting, Charity sale, etc.—attracting many people to join. CCM mobilized many volunteers and material resources prior to and on the day of the event. What's the big idea? It is for serving the neighbours and promoting CCM's services, which ultimately is for achieving the CCM's mission: "To bring the Church to the people, then bring people back to the Church," and show everyone Jesus' love through serving the community.



Footprints of Love 2018 Walkathon



The Annual Walkathon has been completed with success at Milliken Park, Scarborough on September 8. The sky was clear. Over 160 people came from all over the city joined the event—some came in wheelchairs, some in canes, some with baby strollers, and some came with a passionate heart and joy. Although it was a breezy day, the hearts of the participants and staff were enthusiastic.

The registration volunteers arrived early in the morning to collecting the forms, counting the donations, burying their heads to sum up all the donations as accurately and efficiently as possible. And the brothers responsible for acoustics, banners and venue also arrived early to set everything in place. A group of youths and others with a heart to serve, stood by the wind for two hours, holding signposts to direct traffic—indeed, that's not an easy task!

There were warm-up exercises prior to launch: Tai Chi, Stretching, whatever was needed. Group photo was taken, and a Church praise team leading everyone to singing praises to God. Pastor Maureen Chung, chair of CCM's advisory committee, shared an inspiring message and encouraged everyone to help those in need while we are still able. On closing before launch, brothers from Men's New World sang their composition "Song of Initiation" and led everyone to start the walk, adding an uplifting spirit of going forward. Marching on and on until everyone reached the finish line. When the winner team for the highest fundraising amount was announced, Stretch Delight team jumped for joy as it beat other teams by a narrow margin! This year's walkathon closed with complete success.

In fact, there were timeless efforts of preparation, such as setting up a donation web page; promotion; registration; communication; seeking sponsors; purchasing souvenirs; recruiting, arranging first aiders, photographers, volunteers for various posts; getting the necessary materials and signing posts, etc.—as the result of teamwork. Members of the planning committee started meeting early this year to assign work as scheduled. At the same time, a family health booklet—Hook... Hide... High... How?? was established—the content explained the harms from cannabis, gambling and becoming addicted; preventive tips; and management strategies. A huge effort was put in by the planning committee in editing to publishing. They were thrilled once the booklet came out on schedule! God's grace is really abundant. What seemed like an unreachable target was accomplished with \$80,000 in donations! This will support CCM to serve over 20,000 attendees through different community services and urban mission. Once again we have experienced God's loving kindness and abundant supply! Hallelujah!

Loved and be loved, serve and be served?!

NT STM

Every summer holiday, Pastor Dorcas Ma (a missionary sent by CCM stationing at Chiang Khong Christian Education Center in northern Thailand), her coworkers and students look forward to meeting up with CCM's short-term mission team, whom flies over the Pacific Ocean to be soaring into the education centre to teaching English and run English summer camps for a month.

Elsa Chan (co-worker) has been leading a team of youths (aged 16 to 24) for the past seven summers. She is willing to face the hardships of travelling in a sizzling hot temperature at northern Thailand for one whole month. Leaving comfy Toronto to an education centre that does not have air-conditioning—don't they dragged the scorching 40-plus heat? And the challenge of a fully packed schedule from morning to evening for seven days a week. Besides, there is the nuisance of mosquito bites, sleepless nights due to hot weather conditions, washing your own laundry, and eating foreign food every day! Adjusting to foreign culture, cooperating with teammates, sharing meals and living together, resolving unforeseen difficulties, adjusting mutually with respect, etc. These young people are just asking for troubles! Notwithstanding these, the hardships are worth it because they understand the philosophy of the education centre. Using education, the Christian faith is spread: Living is serving, serving is living. Life inspiring life, life building life.

Most of the students at the education centre are day students, some are boarders. There is also an orphanage and a church, together forming a 3-in-1 Christian organization, everyone is a gospel prospect from Kindergarten to High school! These kids came to school daily because their parents want them to receive high-quality education. In addition, they benefit from the English lessons and Gospel messages designed by the big brothers and big sisters who came there annually for a month. They are really blessed people!

The Short-term mission team members' spiritual lives in North America were not fully carried out. However, flying afar to implement Jesus' Great Commission has brought them deep and wide reflections in their lives and expanded substantially on their personal growth! Team members wrote journals and communicated with intercessors. Coming back to Toronto, most of these returning youths have experienced more in depth the acts of God and the meaning of expanding God's Kingdom.



This special form of discipleship training has brought their spiritual lives a big step forward!

After a month, it may seem that the short-term mission team were worn out when they came back. In reality, they had received abundantly of what they gave and laboured—their relationship with God, prayer life, spiritual life, language skills, ability to express themselves, communication skills, interpersonal relationships and adjustment to foreign culture have all grown in a flash. Young people! They have a long life ahead, and this sort of growing tends to impact their entire life! Therefore, these short-term mission team members have been shown mercy; they are blessed people chosen by God.

In August, the northern Thailand short-term mission team returned safely to Toronto! This year is the most challenging of the seven years that the team had travelled to northern Thailand! There were members whom were hospitalized; some experienced mood swings... We say, "no pain, no gain." Having gone through hardships, excitement, hectic moments and challenges in a month's short-term mission, these young people have grown up! Transformed! Even their faces are not the same anymore!



God is More Than Enough

Nathan Cheng



From beginning as a volunteer for the children ministry's "Walk With You" in 2015, to serving as a summer student in 2017, and as this summer's Youth ministry coordinator, my story at CCM Centre (Toronto) is one that recounts God's grace, love, and many blessings. Particularly, having coordinated *Youth Connected 2018*, God truly revealed His overflowing provision. The Holy Spirit was at work, performing great things amongst the youth and my team.

This year, the theme for *Youth Connected* was: Senior Care. The goal was to empower youth to step out of their comfort-zones and leap into the community by serving the elderly. Throughout the camp, they gained better understanding of how the elderly experience day-to-day life, and many difficulties that they face (as well as blessings). As well, they came to realize that they too, eventually would grow old! The week's climax lay on the fourth day, where the youth visited a senior home and applied what they learned in the past week through a set of performances and gift-giving time.



I admitted that the camp had challenges, but I will declare God's endless supplication and provision throughout the past month. An outstanding number of youth registered for the camp this year. Praise God,, my team and I were had the opportunity to testify

Christ's love to 23 teenagers. Whenever someone had doubts about my faith and God, I assured them this: the Holy Spirit works in us. Just like a caterpillar turns into a cocoon, and from a cocoon into a butterfly, I was privileged to witness the spiritual transformation of many young people. The beauty and majesty of God's grace and mercy shines through the changed lives of these teenagers. From being an introvert and full of mistrust, to being full of joy and laughter; from being passive and insecure, to being confident and willing to serve; from hiding behind the monitor, to being a leader on the forefront... These were not changes that could have been shaped by us – rather, it really was by the grace and power of the Holy Spirit that these teenagers have grown into stronger men and women of God. Oh how wondrous that is indeed!

Not only did God gave us sufficient strength, but also in necessary resources. From concerning about not having enough materials and worrying about the budget – to hearing that “we had more than enough” materials collected and ready to use, my mind immediately remembered how God



provides all, and that my cup overflows (Psalm 23). When my role began in early July, I was still putting together a team. It was clear that if more people did not come on board, it would be difficult to handle the number of youths we had registered. Through faith and prayer, God answered my needs. More and more people came forward to join me on this mission field. I want to take this opportunity to thank them: Elsa, Mary, Josephine, Mark, Ryan, Eunice, Jasmine, James, John, and Janice. Without your faithfulness in God, and tremendous serving heart in caring for our youth – this camp would not have been successful. I would like to encourage you all: God is able... No! He is *more* than able. All you need is faith, and lean on His understanding. We are imperfect and downcast, but through Him we can still find peace and fulfillment. ... Hallelujah!

Thanksgiving & Prayers



🙏 Thank the Lord for guiding the center's summer's children and youth outreach programs. Let's experience how God takes control in everything, how He has mercy and love! Praise the Lord!

🙏 Please pray for December 22 Christmas musical concert. May God use this musical concert to lead the non-believers to hear God's gospel message.

🙏 Please pray for the development of the center's children and youth ministry, as well as the caring ministry. There are great needs of services, but we are understaffed. Ask God to provide us fitting workers and volunteers, who have the heart to serve in these ministries.

The Latest News



Special Events

**“Splendid Life” Come and See
Every Wednesday 1:15pm—3:15pm**

**Small Town Mission Sharing
Oct 6 (Sat) 2pm-3:30pm**

**Differentiating Cults Training
Oct 6 (Sat) 3:45pm-5:30pm**

Interest Class

Mandarin Class - Monday 1:30– 2:30pm

Watercolor Class - Wednesday 10:00am– 12:00pm

Children Choir - Saturday 2:00– 3:15pm



**** Please call CCM Centre for details****

Support for Toronto CCM Centre

Thank you your support for Toronto CCM Centre: Tax deductible receipt will be issued for donation of \$20 or above. Please send donation to: www.ccmcanada.org (Support Us Tab), or contact us at Tel: (416) 291-3202

or Email us at Toronto@ccmcanada.org.

May God Bless You!

