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通訊

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黃文雄長老夫婦 差遣禮拜

我們所敬愛的黃醫師回去花蓮門諾醫院接任院長了。12月21日(2003)下午一時半, 台福總會, 北美路加傳道會, 與柑縣台福教會為黃醫師舉辦差遣禮拜。

在差遣禮拜中劉富理牧師, 陳俊偉長老, 田英康長老勉勵; 顏鴻州醫師, 陳永成醫師贈送匾額; 黃醫師介紹門諾醫院並分享他的醫療傳道異象; 陳牧師亦以“回應呼召的人生”勉勵黃醫師及每一位在場的兄姐要有: 始終如一的被召生活, 進入人群的被召生活, 見證敬拜的被召生活。相信帶著神的應許, 及兄姐的禱告, 黃醫師在台灣的事業必定是行路有光, 生活有力。

附註: 黃醫師回台後有來信項兄姐問好, 說到他正忙於認識醫院各部門的人事物, 壽美姐開始結識新朋友, 作義工, 運動, 喜歡當地的海鮮, 水果。本堂景隆, 秀敏從高雄去探望他們, 他們覺得非常感動。感謝大家的關心及代禱。

本堂從去年12月 至今教會肢體合作 的回顧消息:

聖誕晚會 12/20/03

12月20日晚間7:30在敬拜團所帶領的聖誕詩歌聲中, 慶祝聖誕節晚會的節目正式開始。第一個節目是兒童部的詩歌舞台劇, 孩子們透過舞台的表演再一次向我們訴說耶穌的誕生。配以詩歌的頌讚, 讓我們再次感受耶穌誕生的喜悅。華語部由Candy Tarng 所編劇導演的舞台劇「展開清晨的翅膀」, 提醒大家參加主日崇拜的重要。表演中, 演員們逗趣及脫線的演出, 惹得大家笑聲連連。

最後, 我們的主角「主耶穌基督」在林政勳牧師的證道中上場, 林牧師提醒大家, 雖然聖誕節已經變成是商家一年中, 獲得最大利益的一個節日, 但是, 身為基督徒的我們, 在向親朋好友慶賀聖誕快樂的同時, 不能忘記這是一個慶賀父神的獨生子耶穌基督, 要為我們捨命而降生的日子, 因為這個日子, 你我才能在救贖的恩典上有份。感謝父神的慈愛, 感謝耶穌的捨命。

歡迎您, 進入 我們的大家庭

感謝主, 在聖誕的主日(12/21/03)有蔣毅, 彭櫻, Katherine Jaw 及 Jessica Chiu 受洗歸入主的名

下。他們是將那簡單又高貴的禮物, 接納在心中的人。他們的受洗見證如下:

蔣毅: 感謝主, 讓我在這特殊的時刻, 接受神聖的洗禮。
... 我是兩年前從中國大陸來美國, 我目前在附近的大學從事科學研究工作... 我經常在想科學到底是什麼? 科學只不過是人把上帝創造的一些奇妙的東西和經驗記錄下來。神創造世界, 我們對這個世界認識越多, 就越覺自己的無知, 及能力的有限。在半年前, 我還是個無神論者, 但今天我願意放棄過去的信仰, 全心歸於神的門下, 做一個基督徒。主阿, 願你饒恕我以前的罪過, 我願意永遠跟隨你, 願你帶領我享受更加豐盛的生命, 使用我的心志和肢體, 我要服事你及你的教會。

彭櫻: 今年的聖誕節對我來說, 意義非常, 因為我收到一個最好的聖誕禮物, 就是神的愛。在我大一的冬天, 我在上海唸書, 放寒假的時候, 我準備要回家。學校離火車站非常遠, 需要搭汽車到地鐵站, 再乘地鐵到火車站, 將近一小時的車程。那天, 我要乘早上7點的火車, 那年冬天非常冷, 又颳很大的風... 我五點半已經在站牌等車, 但我不知道我要乘坐的車是否已開走, 心裡非常焦急... 這時我看到一輛小型白色的 pick-up 開過來。開車的是一位中年婦女, 問了我的情形以後, 說她可以帶我去地鐵站, 我因此而能趕上火車, 當我問及她的姓名要謝謝她時, 他只告訴我, 她是一個基督徒。至今我想到這事, 我仍是非常感動, 因為我與她素不相識, 在那麼冷的天, 她看到我在冷鋒中等車, 她就停下來, 向我伸出援手。到今天我仍相信這是神的感動, 是神的愛, 和神的力量, 這是我親身的體驗。

我今天能站在這裡, 不是我個人的力量, 乃是神的愛。最後, 我想用聖經的一句話作為結束“你的話是我腳前的燈, 是我路上的光”

Katherine Jaw:

我想受洗是因為我想跟神更親近。

Jessica Chiu:

我很高興在今天受洗接受主耶穌作我個人的救主。今年(2003)對我來講比較困難, 但我深深感覺到如果我轉向神, 祂會帶領我走正確的路。我感謝我的父母親, 及哥哥鼓勵我今天受洗。感謝神在我一生中所做的一切, 我知道神在每一個人生命中都有奇妙的作為, 今天我滿懷感謝接受祂做我的救主。

詩班消息

*詩班的年度聖誕讚美, 在許多熱心參與者的努力下, 圓滿完成任務, 感謝主! 詩班成員不足, 讓求好心切的指揮巽攻, 在選歌及練歌上大費苦心。她不但要帶大夥兒唱歌還要編寫伴奏樂團的譜, 伴奏純如除了練琴還有兩個年幼的子女需要照顧...; 詩班成員各個排除萬難,



盡最大努力，加上牧師長執兄姐一起的參與，增加了七、八位好手，各部“共和”，終能以美好的詩歌讚美表達我們對主的愛和感謝。哈利路亞！

* 好久不見的陳老師（現已是牧師）慧秋姐於1/25來柑縣教會探望大家，2/8神佑，麗菊回來，看到過去一起服事的同工回來，令人倍感主裡的溫馨。陳老師目前於台灣道生神學院擔任教會音樂系系主任，神佑將於3/1開始在花蓮門諾醫院做醫療宣教，願神賜下更多力量！

* 桂美在法國里爾以食糧及靈糧餵養會友，已有兩人報名要在復活節受洗，感謝主，請繼續為其宣教事工代禱。

* 四月九日的受難日晚上，詩班將以“古舊十架”帶領晚上的敬拜，歡迎有意在這方面服事的兄姐於每週日下午一時半，到大堂一起練習。

新春聯歡

二月七日晚上在教會過“春節”的感覺真好！迦南團契的獻詩，英語團契的敬拜讚美，何醫師的布袋戲——“阿成求婚記”，陳牧師的口琴一兩夜花，向高處行，還有長輩團契的日本舞，每個節目都讓人讚不絕口。田醫師更是渾身解數，使出最大力氣教大家跳了數支土風舞，讓大家過足了舞癮。會後還有大摸彩，獎品豐富，尤其是最後看著Helen師母高高興興地把電視抱回家，實在有夠羨慕。感謝邱媽媽及Cerritos小組，為我們精心製作肉羹；郭家暢遠地搬運肉包肉粽，張羅摸彩獎品，籌備這次晚會節目；感謝所有參與

俞傳道全職歡迎茶會

的同工，願神保守我們每位兄姐，在2004年更蒙福！

二月八日主日中午，教會歡迎俞傳道加入牧師室全職的事奉行列，特別舉辦了一個午餐歡迎茶會。感謝主，我們教會牧師的陣容更加堅強了。願恩惠慈愛永遠隨



「發現你的屬靈恩賜」

著我們所愛的牧長家庭，也讓他們成為我們蒙恩受教的導管。

你發現了你的「屬靈恩賜」了嗎？透過1/17日陳牧師的教導，你是否對「屬靈恩賜」有更深入的了解，並且知道自己的「屬靈恩賜」為何？

陳牧師在課程裡，先帶領大家查考聖經幾處述及屬靈恩賜的經文，分別是羅馬書12：6-8、哥林多前書12：8-11、以弗所書4：11、彼得前書4：10-11。當大家對屬靈恩賜的定義有清楚的認識，以及了解屬靈恩賜有哪些後，陳牧師開始要求兄姐們填寫四份「發現我的屬靈恩賜」問卷，有對自我了解的部分，也有請小組組員查驗的部分。席間，兄姐們熱切認真地想知道，神所給自己的恩賜到底為何，與小組同伴們熱烈討論的歡笑聲此起彼落。

最終，大家將所調查的結果全部謄寫在另一表格上，繳交給陳牧師，這些結果將會建入教會一套新系統的檔案裡。未來，陳牧師將為不同屬靈恩賜的兄姐們，另行開課裝備訓練，並邀請投入教會事奉操練，盼望這些恩賜能帶來教會質、量與組織的發展，並使兄姐們的靈命更上一層樓。你發現了你的

「屬靈恩賜」了嗎？錯過這堂課的兄姐們，若也想知道自己的「屬靈恩賜」為何，歡迎與牧師室聯絡。

週五課後輔導班

1/23起本堂於每週五下午5點在交誼廳開始課後輔導班。大哥哥姊姊幫助小弟弟妹妹把學校課業做好，讓我們的下一代有平衡的教會生活。在孩子心目中教會的活動，不只是有趣好玩

，教會也關心他們的學校功課。小學生可能週末沒有功課，我們鼓勵他們拿書來閱讀，或者拿他比較不會的科目來，我們也可以教他。希望有更多家長投入這個工作，讓我們的孩子在這屬靈的大家庭中得到幫助。孩子的家長可以一起來為他們準備簡單的晚餐，做完功課，吃飽飯，他們就能參加晚上的團契，在團契中更認識神。如果您有意要參與這個服事，請與Andrea



2003台福冬季英語青年退修會

Chen聯絡。

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2003台福冬季英語青年退修會12/29-1/1在Forest Home in San Bernardino舉行。主題是“萬王之主”講員是Evergreen San Gabriel Valley的Jojo Ma牧師。他講到5種與萬王之主的關係：在主裡喜樂，敬拜主，與主同受苦難，信靠主，與主同復活。牧師的講道大大地激勵了我們；小組的活動，團體遊戲都讓我們有機會認識別的教會的會友，並且成為好朋友。一起在除夕的夜晚迎接新年的到來，跟往常不一樣，我們在今年第一件事，就是敬拜主。會後，大家都期待在7/3-5總會夏令會時，再相見。

普世豐盛生命中心

很高興在2/15看到周牧師回到我們當中，她以“更新變化的宣教”（徒13：1-12，16：6-10）與我們分享宣教的重要：每一個人都需要救恩，都需要擁有基督的生命，只有與主相連結，我們才能夠迎接神的榮耀。她用心的宣教熱誠，激發起我們要更多關心我們的骨肉之親，不只是周圍的親友，還有遠在異地的同胞。普世豐盛生命中心正負起這樣一個宣教使命，讓我們以各種方法來支持這宣教工作。請為以下事項代禱：

1. 莫斯科華人教會十週年慶，將於5月1-4日舉行福音營，接著舉行3天的培靈會，求聖靈震動該區。
2. 2月底韓國教會要整修教堂，不能再租借給我們使用，求主預備主日敬拜的地方。
3. 莫斯科周圍國家有4個地方可開拓，求主開路。
4. 匈牙利正在籌備暑期學生福音營，希望北美青年組隊參與協助。
5. 今年是匈牙利教會的宣教年，目標是向當地未信者傳福音，求主賜予同工智慧，領人歸主。

離開了才知道可貴

6. 本中心台灣分部需要有一位對發展台商事工有負擔之主的工人，求主預備。

我搬家，搬得很遠。有一個月之久，我沒有來到我的娘家柑縣台福教會及每個星期三早上的老年團契。我像一隻迷途的羔羊，失去方向，找不到所屬的羊群。

回想在這個教會裡，我領受到許多溫暖體貼的關懷。尤其在“老年團契”裡，大家因為年長，已別無所求，只希望健康快樂，全心愛主。別看我們每個星期三早上在做緩慢的運動操，在跳連前後左右都分不清潔，只是團團轉的舞，可是我們不會覺得無聊，也不會灰心。反而一旦離開了，就特別懷念這種悠閒，無牽無掛的生活樂趣。

我們還常有關於健康保養方面的醫療常識教育，彼此毫無保留的交流人生經驗，更有林政勳牧師娘不厭其煩的教導，耐心帶著我們背聖經，不停把天父的話語，澆灌在我們這些隨時就會忘的年長人身上。

我多麼懷念這團體，我要唱“我願再回到我的故鄉”——我懷念的柑縣台福教會。我在這裡受洗、成長。我珍愛它。

Elder Huang Farewell Ceremony.

謝美智

Our beloved Elder Huang went back to Taiwan to become the Chairman of the Hua-Lien Hospital. On December 21st, 2003 EFC General Assembly, Luke's Ministry, and EFCOC prepared a ceremony for Dr. Huang to send him off to Taiwan with their blessings. Pastor Felix Liu, Elder Chen and Elder Tien gave a word of encouragement. Dr. Yang and Dr. Chen presented the farewell gifts. Dr. Huang introduced the hospital and shared with us his medical missions and visions. Pastor Chen gave a message "Answer to your calling in life" as a word of encouragement to all that attended. We

believe that through God's promises and the prayers of our brothers and sisters, Dr. Huang's ministry in Taiwan with be fruitful and filled with blessings.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION 12/20/03

Our Christmas Celebration began with worship team's Christmas music on 7:30 pm, 12/20/03. Children's play was the first major program telling us of Jesus' birth with delightful and joyous praises. Mandarin group had the play "Extending The Wings in the Morning" directed by Candy Tarng. It reminded us of the importance of Sunday worship service. There were numerous funny scenes drew laughter out of the audience.



The main message "The Lord Jesus Christ" by Rev. Daniel Lin challenged us to remember the true meaning of Christmas. Even though the world has turn Christmas season to be the most profitable time of the year, we Christians should know why we celebrate Christmas, to remember the coming of the Only Son of God to save the world. Because of His coming, you and I can have a part in God's eternal salvation plan. Thank God for His great love and for Jesus' laying down of his life for us.

Baptism

Praise the Lord, we had 4 brothers and sisters baptized on 12/21/03. They received the simple but noble gift into their hearts. These are the testimonies that they

spoke about that day.

JIANG YI: Thank you Lord for this special moment that I am now baptized. I came to USA from Mainland China 2 years ago. I'm a scientist in research at present time in the neighboring University. I always wonder what science really is. Science is only a document that record God's creation and what human being has been experienced in this world. God created the world, the more we learn about this world, the more we see our own limitation and ignorance. 6 months ago, I was an atheist, but now I am willing to give up the way I was and became a Christian wholeheartedly.

Lord, please forgive my sin; I want to follow you forever. Please guide me to enjoy the abundant life you provide me. Use my mind and body to serve you and your church.

PENG ING: It is a meaningful way to celebrate Christmas this year, because I had received the best gift. That's God's love. I was in Shanghai studying as a freshman in College. I was on the way home for winter vacation; I had to take bus to subway then subway to train station, almost one hour just to get on the homebound train.

I was supported to take 7 o'clock train in a cold winter morning. It was freezing cold, the wind keep on blowing. I was waiting for the bus since 5:30 on the station when I saw a mid-aged

woman driving a white pick-up. She asked me about my destination. I was fortunate to catch the 7:00 am train because of her. When I asked her name in order to thank her, All she told me was she was a Christian.

Every time I think about this incidence, this stranger touched me. In the middle of coldness, she saw my need. I know it must be God who moved her heart. It is God's love and His way of saving me out of difficulties.

I want to quote a verse "Your word is the lamp to my feet and a light for my path". Psalm 119:105. It is the Lord who gives me strength to stand and speak before you today. He is to be praised.

KATHERINE: I'm getting baptized because I can be closer to God.

JESSICA: Today is very special for me. I'm getting baptized and have received Jesus Christ as my savior. This past year is very difficult for me. I just think turning to God, He can lead my life to the right way. I thank my parents and my brother for Encouraging me to get baptized. Without them I don't think I'll be up here today.

I thank my Lord for all He has done in my life. And I just think God can make Wonders in everyone's life. I'm very grateful today for having Him as my savior.

CHOIR

*The Christmas Annual Celebration was a success, thanks to everyone's participation and hard work. Praise the Lord! Due to a shortage of people participating in choir, our director worked especially hard in song selection and practicing. Not only does she need to lead everyone to sing, she also has to create the songs. As to our pianist, Annie, besides practicing piano, she has two little children to take care of. Though it was really difficult, we managed to gathered the help of pastors, deacons, brothers and sisters; and we had a good time. Thank the Lord for this. Hallelujah!

*It has been a long time since we saw Teacher Chen (now a Pastor) and Mrs. Chen. On January 25th, they came to OC to visit us. February 8th, Dr. & Mrs. Shenyiou Lin came back. It was very heart warming to see the co-workers again. Teacher Chen is currently the Director of the music ministry in Tao-sheng Seminary in Taiwan. Dr. Lin will begin to serve at the Hualien Mennonite Christian Hospital in Taiwan for medical missions with Dr. Luke Huang. May God grant them strength!

*A sister in France is doing compassion ministry, feeding the hungry. There are already 2 people registered to get baptized on Easter, praise God! Please continue to pray for the missions.



*On April 9th, the choir will present "The Old Rugged Cross". Those of you who are interested in participating in the choir, please be at the main sanctuary next Sunday to practice.

Spring Celebration

On February 7th, we had a great time at church! Ja-Nan Cell Group presented some wonderful hymns. The English fellowship lead us in worship. Dr. Ho's wonderful puppet show "The Proposal of Ah-Chen". Pastor Chen performed a harmonica solo. The senior fellowship lead us in Japanese dance. Every show was great! Dr. Thien taught us many different folk dances, which was very fun! At the end, we had a raffle ticket drawing with nice presents. The grand prize, 20" TV, was won by Helen! Conspiracy....

Thanks to Mama Cho and Cerritos Group, we had a lot of yummy food to eat. We thank all the workers who helped out. May God watch over us and let 2004 be a year of blessing!

Pastor James Yu's Welcome Celebration

On the afternoon of February 8th, we welcomed Pastor James Yu as a full-time minister. Praise the Lord! We now have a stronger pastoral group. May the grace of God always be with us and our pastors. We pray that they will bring us leadership and blessing.



Have you discovered your spiritual gifts? After the workshop on 1/17, do you have a deeper understanding on spiritual gifts and understand what your spiritual gifts are?

During the workshop, Pr. Chen led the group by reading several passages concerning spiritual gifts. Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:8-11, Ephesians 4: 11 and 1 Peter 4:10-11. After the definitions for spiritual gifts and types of spiritual gifts are understood, Pr. Chen invited the group to fill out 4 surveys on discovering the spiritual gifts. In this process, brothers and sisters were eager to know what their spiritual gifts are.

After knowing each other's spiritual gifts, everyone filled out a form indicating what their spiritual gifts are. These results will be put into a database in our church, and will be used for trainings and ministries to help the members grow deeper in the Lord. Have you discovered your spiritual gifts? If you missed this opportunity but want to know more about your spiritual gifts, please contact the pastoral staff.

Starting January of 2004, our church started a Friday after school program. The main goal is to provide a place for our youth

Friday After School Program

to do their homework and to get help from older brothers and sisters in our church. It is our goal to give our next generation a balanced Christian living. Church activities are not all about fun, we care for their school work too!

And as for our little ones (elementary school) who don't have homework over the weekends, we would like them to bring a book they want to read and join us, or we can help them with their weaker subjects in school. Of course, parents are more than welcomed to be involved in this program; in fact, we need more parents to help us as we help our younger ones in this big family.

The program starts at 5:00pm in fellowship hall. The moms and dads of those who come will help us out by taking turns in preparing a simple dinner. After homework are done, and tummy filled, they will join different fellowship and programs to spend the night knowing God. If you are interested in joining or helping out, please contact Andrea Chen at (714)642-8608 or efcandrea@hotmail.com

Over the winter, the English speaking youth joined the EFCs around southern California for our annual winter retreat at Forest



2003 All EFC English Youth Winter Retreat

Home in San Bernardino. The theme this year is "The Lord of the Kings - The Fellowship of the King" taken from the hit movie The Lord of the Rings. Our speaker is the intern pastor from Evergreen San Gabriel Valley, Jojo Ma. He mentioned five important points regarding those who are in the fellowship of the King: Rejoice in the King, Worship the King, Suffer for the King, Trust in the King, and Resurrect with the King. The youth were captured and enlightened by His message. The group activities were also very exciting.

Through the small groups and games, we met many from other EFC churches and became good friends. One special event that took place was the youth gathered together to partake the communion to usher the New Year. Different from the rest of the world, the first thing we did for this year was worshipping our God. All the youth are now looking forward to the Summer All EFC retreat in San Diego to see each other again. The Lord's presence was surely there.

I moved to a distant place. For one month I had not returned to my home of EFCOC for worship or Wednesday fellowship. I was like a lost sheep in the wilderness, couldn't find my way back.

Looking back in time I found many tender cares and heartwarming moments in EFCOC, especially with Senior Fellowship. We the seniors only hope for good health to love the Lord, and we exercise slowly and sometimes off the beats. I missed the carefree times we once shared in life. There are also numerous health education and tips to keep us in good shape.

The exchange of life experiences and Mrs. Lin's teaching, bible verses memorization and bible studies all enriched our senior living.

I miss this group of people. I will sing of "Coming back to my home". I was baptized here, and grew in my spiritual walk. I will treasure it always.

WHEN MOVE

